



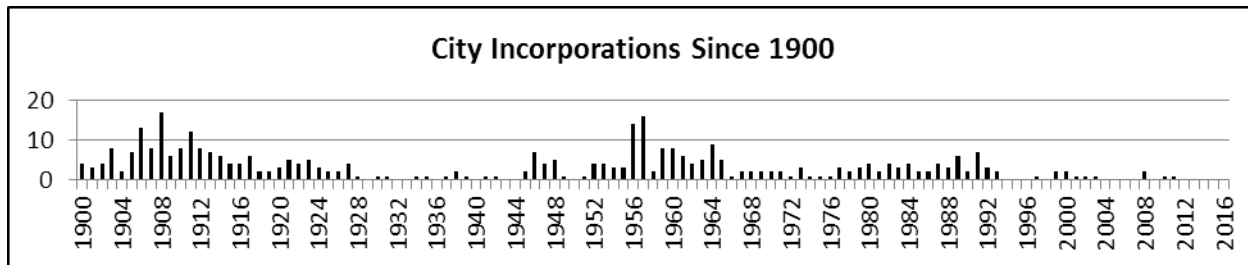
CITY FACT SHEET

Senate Governance and Finance Committee, September 2016



California has 482 cities, including the City and County of San Francisco.

City Incorporations – New city formation has slowed in recent decades. Four cities have incorporated since 2004: Menifee (2008), Wildomar (2008), Eastvale (2010), and Jurupa Valley (2011). The chart below shows how many new cities formed annually since 1900.



Approximately 32.7 million Californians live in cities (83.4% of the state’s total population).

City Populations (source: [Department of Finance](#))

California: 39.3 million

| Largest (% of state population) | | Smallest | | Fastest Growing (since 2015) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------|-----|------------------------------|--------|
| Los Angeles | 4 million (10.3%) | Amador | 190 | Vernon | +72.1% |
| San Diego | 1.4 million (3.5%) | Vernon | 210 | Oroville | +11.9% |
| San Jose | 1 million (2.7%) | Trinidad | 367 | Biggs | +7.2% |

Governance - City councils serve as the legislative branch of city government by creating laws, adopting ordinances and resolutions. Most city councils have five or seven elected members. The city council is led by a mayor, however, the duties of the mayor vary. Under a **council-manager** government (also known as weak or ceremonial mayor system), the mayor serves as an equal with the city council members and executive functions of the city are performed by a city manager. Under a **mayor-council** government (also known as a strong mayor system), the mayor has significantly more authority and may be responsible for more administrative and management duties. Cities can elect other city officers, such as an auditor or attorney.

Powers – Cities that rely on state law for their powers and responsibilities are called **general law cities**. Many use the council-manager form of government. The California Constitution lets **charter cities** govern their own municipal affairs under locally adopted charters that control their powers and structures. Several use the strong mayor form of government. There are 361 general law cities and 121 charter cities.

Services - Whether living in general law or charter cities, city residents receive a variety of municipal services including police, fire, libraries, parks & recreation, roads, public transit, street trees, lighting & landscaping, water, sewers, and planning & development.

- **Full service cities** provide these services themselves.

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- **Partial service and contract cities** rely on special districts and counties to provide many of these services to their residents.

City and County Relationship - A city governs and provides services for residents only within their city limits. Every city lies within a county. Counties provide countywide services (jails, probation, district attorney, assessor, elections, clerk, recorder, and animal control) and state mandated social and health services to all city residents within their county. Some counties have many cities within their boundaries and other counties have no incorporated cities. San Francisco is California's only consolidated city and county.

Cities in Counties

California cities: 482

| Counties with the most cities | | Counties with the fewest cities | | Highest % of county population in cities | |
|-------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|---|--|------|
| Los Angeles | 88 | Alpine | 0 | San Francisco | 100% |
| Orange | 34 | Mariposa | 0 | Orange & Solano | 96% |
| Riverside | 28 | Trinity | 0 | Santa Clara | 95% |

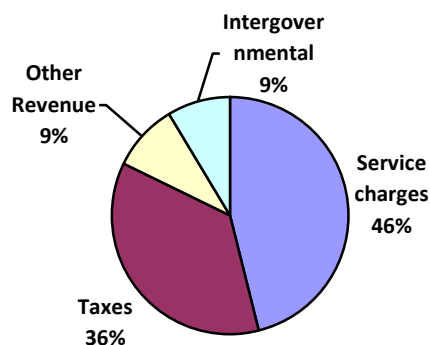
Total 2013-14 City Revenues (excluding San Francisco; source: State Controller)

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Service charges (e.g. building permits, utility rates) | \$ 28.4 billion |
| Taxes (e.g. Property and sales & use taxes) | \$ 22.2 billion |
| Other Revenue | \$ 5.7 billion |
| Intergovernmental Revenues (e.g. state and federal transfers) | <u>\$ 5.3 billion</u> |
| | \$ 61.5 billion |

Total 2013-14 City Expenditures (excluding San Francisco; source: State Controller)

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Public protection (e.g. police, fire, EMS) | \$ 15.5 billion |
| Public utilities (e.g. water, gas, electric) | \$ 12.8 billion |
| Transportation (e.g. streets, highways, airports harbors, transit) | \$ 10 billion |
| Other expenditures | \$ 9.1 billion |
| Health & sanitation (e.g. waste disposal) | \$ 6 billion |
| General government | <u>+ \$ 5.5 billion</u> |
| | \$ 58.9 billion |

City Revenues



City Expenditures

