

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

Sacramento County is situated a little north of mid-state, between the Pacific Ocean and the Sierra Nevada Mountains. It includes the cities of Sacramento, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, and Rancho Cordova, and spans nine hundred and ninety four square miles. The major waterways and water features include: the American River, Sacramento River, Cosumnes River, Mokelumne River, the Delta, Folsom Dam, Lake Natoma, and Nimbus Dam. Sacramento County is the seat of State government and home of the State Capitol.

Sacramento is one of eleven charter counties in the State of California. A charter county is one which adopts its own charter for the conduct of county business. The Board of Supervisors provides general government to the unincorporated portion of the County, in accordance with its charter, and is responsible for a variety of services to both incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Sacramento County performs two types of services for its residents: Countywide services such as Health Care and Social Services; Courts, District Attorney and Public Defender; Auditing and Assessment Services; and Municipal Services (or city-type services) such as Sheriff's Patrol; Fire Protection; Park Services; Planning and Land Use Control; Public Works functions—Roads, Building Inspection, Subdivision Review, Street Lighting, and Animal Control, to name a few. The municipal services provided to the unincorporated area are of a very high standard and are comparable to the level of service received by cities of the same size and scope. However, in light of the shifting fiscal dynamics of incorporations, the county's ability to provide municipal-level services is becoming more difficult. Both the Sheriff's and Public Works Departments are among the largest in California and offer very sophisticated services.

The 2005-06 Budget for Sacramento County is \$4.4 Billion. The budget is composed of numerous funding sources that provide financing for various activities. The General Fund finances countywide activities. Special funds that finance municipal (all services which a new city could, or must, legally assume) include the Library Fund and the Building Inspection Fund. The Library Fund is financed by property taxes, state subventions, interest earnings, fees and service charges. The Building Inspection Fund is essentially an enterprise fund supported solely by construction permit fees and service charges.