Santa Clara County, California

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Santa Clara County, officially the **County of Santa Clara**, is a California 58th consolidated county, with a population of 1,781,642 in the 2010 census. The county is the most populous in the San Francisco Bay Area and the 6th most populous county in California. The county's seat is **San Jose**, the 10th most populous city in California and the 11th most populous city in the United States. Santa Clara County is the southern anchor of the San Francisco–Oakland–San Jose, which is a component of the larger San Jose-San Francisco-Salinas combined statistical area, which is the fourth-largest combined statistical area in the United States. California's first capital was in Santa Clara County, at the Santa Clara Pueblo.

Home to Silicon Valley, Santa Clara County is a center for high technology and innovation and is home to the highest GDP per capita in the world. Santa Clara County is also home to Stanford University, a leading institution for higher education, research, and technology. The county is home to 15 Fortune 500 companies, the most in any California county. Santa Clara County has the highest median household income of any county in California and the third highest median household income among counties with more than 65,000 people.

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History [edit]

Santa Clara County was one of the original counties of California, formed in 1850 at the very beginning of the American period. It was one of 27 counties established at the California Statehood. It was one of 8 counties formed by the Act of February 18, 1850. It was one of the 8 counties formed by the Act of February 18, 1850. Santa Clara County has been known as the "Garden of Santa Clara" and "Silicon Valley" in recent years. The county's name is from the Spanish Franciscan Mission Santa Clara de Asís, which was named for Saint Clare of Assisi. The Santa Clara Pueblo was the first capital of California, from 1777 to 1779. The Santa Clara Valley has been known as the "Garden of Santa Clara" since the 1850s, and agriculture has since been displaced by the technology industry. The Santa Clara Valley was called the "Valley of the Heart's Delight" due to the abundance of fruit trees in the valley. The Santa Clara Valley was also known as the "Valley of Paradise" and "Garden of Paradise" in the 19th century.

The first large technology company to be based in the area was Hewlett-Packard, founded in a garage in Palo Alto in 1939. Hewlett-Packard's first headquarters building is now a California Historical Landmark. Hewlett-Packard's first headquarters building is now a California Historical Landmark. Hewlett-Packard's first headquarters building is now a California Historical Landmark