Shasta County, California

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Coordinates: 40°35'N 122°24'W

Shasta County, California (/ˈʃæstə/ SHAS-tə) is a county in the northern portion of the U.S. state of California. As of the 2010 census, the population was 177,223.[1] The county seat is Redding.[2]

Shasta County adjoins the Oregon counties of Klamath, Jackson, and Siskiyou. The county occupies the northern reaches of the Sacramento Valley, with portions extending into the southern reaches of the Cascade Range.

Points of interest in Shasta County include Lake Shasta, Lassen Peak, and the Sundial Bridge.

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History [edit]

Shasta County was one of the original counties of California, created in 1850 at the time of statehood. Parts of the county's territory were given to Siskiyou County in 1852, and to Tehama County in 1856.

The county was named shortly after Mount Shasta, the name is derived from the English equivalent for the Pastes people, the name of a Native American tribe that once lived in the area, but they were ethnically cleansed from the area in the 1850s.[3] The name of the tribe was spelled in various ways and the present version was used when the county was established. Everybody felt Shasta was within the county, but it is now part of Siskiyou County, to the north. Its 1,911 square miles (4,949 km²) in size is roughly the size of Delaware.

Geography [edit]

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 3,847 square miles (9,960 km²), of which 3,775 square miles (9,776 km²) is land and 72 square miles (186 km²) (1.9%) is water.[4] Mountains line the county on the east, north and west. The Sacramento River flows out of the mountains to the north, through the center of the county, and toward the Sacramento Valley to the south.

Flora and fauna [edit]

According to Mike Lee Jepson the biota of Shasta County were not explored in a scientific manner until just before the year 1900. Up until the 1920s the Southern Pacific Railroad Company owned vast tracts of natural grasslands; however, during the 1920s the railroad sold much of its grassland holdings, leading to the rapid clearing of brush and large scale conversion from habitat to agricultural uses.[5] Shasta County has extreme forests, which cover over one-half the land area with commercially productive forest systems.[6] Shasta County has the largest commercial redwood cut and replanted and mixed conifer cut annually as well as douglas fir forest. Common trees found include White pine,[7] California Black Oak and California Buckeye.[8]

Adjacent counties [edit]

- Siskiyou County - north
- Modoc County - northeast
- Lassen County - east
- Plumas County - southeast
- Tehama County - south
- Trinity County - west

National protected areas [edit]

- Shasta-Trinity National Forest (part)
- Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (part)

Politics [edit]

Voter registration statistics [edit]

Population and registered voters [show]

Cities by population and voter registration [edit]

Cities by population and voter registration

[show]	

Overview [edit]

Shasta at one time favored the Democratic Party in Presidential elections. It went Democratic in all but one presidential election from 1932 to 1976, and was one of the few counties in the state to be won by George McGovern. However, since 1980, it has become one of the most Republican counties in the state in Presidential and congressional elections. The last Democrat to win a majority in the county was Jimmy Carter in 1976.

Transportation [edit]

Major highways [edit]

- Interstate 5
- State Route 36
- State Route 44
- State Route 89
- State Route 151
- State Route 273
- State Route 299

Public transportation [edit]

Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) provides service in and around Redding. One route operates to Burney via State Route 299.

Amtrak Coast Starlight serves Redding Station once a day in each direction. [citation needed]

Airports [edit]

Redding Municipal Airport has scheduled passenger flights. Other (general aviation) airports within the county include Benton Field (near Redding), Fall River Mills Airport, and Shingletown Airport.

Crime [edit]

The following table includes the number of incidents reported and the rate per 1,000 persons for each type of offense.

Population and crime rates [show]

Cities by population and crime rates [edit]

Cities by population and crime rates

[show]	

Demographics [edit]

2011 [edit]

Population, race, and income [hide]

Places by population, race, and income [edit]

Places by population and race

[show]	

Places by population and income

[show]	

2010 [edit]

The 2010 United States Census reported that Shasta County had a population of 177,223. The racial makeup of Shasta County was 153,726 (86.7%) White, 1,548 (0.9%) African American, 4,950 (2.8%) Native American, 4,391 (2.5%) Asian, 271 (0.2%) Pacific Islander, 4,501 (2.5%) from other races, and 7,836 (4.4%) from two or more races. Hispanics or Latino of any race were 14,876 persons (8.4%).[10]

Population reported at 2010 United States Census [show]

2000 [edit]

As of the census[11] of 2000, there were 163,256 people, 63,426 households, and 44,027 families residing in the county. The population density was 43 people per square mile (17 / km²). There were 68,296 housing units at an average density of 18 per square mile (7 / km²). The racial makeup of the county was 91.62% White, 0.8% Black or African American, 2.8% Native American, 1.9% Asian, 0.2% Pacific Islander, 1.7% from other races, and 3.0% from two or more races. 5.5% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race. 15.7% were of German, 12.3% English, 11.2% Irish, 9.8% American and 5.2% Italian ancestry according to Census 2000. 94.0% spoke English and 3.4% Spanish as their first language.

There were 63,426 households, out of which 31.7% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 53.0% were married couples living together, 11.0% had a female householder with no husband present, and 30.6% were non-families. 24.7% of all households were made up of individuals, and 10.2% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.57 and the average family size was 2.98.

In the county, the population was spread out, with 25.1% under the age of 18, 8.2% from 18 to 24, 25.3% from 25 to 44, 25.2% from 45 to 64, and 15.2% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 39 years. For every 100 females there were 99.1 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 97.2 males.

The median income for a household in the county was $34,335, and the median income for a family was $40,481. Males had a median income of $35,959 versus $23,753 for females. The per capita income for the county was $17,730. About 11.3% of families and 15.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 21.0% of those under age 18 and 7.3% of those age 65 or over.

Government and politics [edit]

Shasta County government [edit]

Shasta County Sheriff [edit]

The sheriff provides prison administration and coroner services for the entire county and patrols, investigates, and coroner services for the unincorporated portions of the county.

Municipal police [edit]

Redding and Anderson have municipal police departments.

Annual events [edit]

- Kool-Aqua Nites (April): A classic car show
- Rodeo Week Festivities (May)
- Art Fair and Fiddler's Jamboree (May)
- Whiskeytown Regatta (May)
- Watershed Festival (May)
- Strawberry Festival (May)
- Shasta Energized Celebration (May)
- Redding Exchange Club Air Show (June)
- Shasta District Fair (June)
- Fall River Valley Century Bike Ride (July)
- Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration (July)
- Burney Basin Days (July)
- Lake Shasta Bass Festival (Aug)
- Intercontinental Fair, Fall River Valley (September) The Shasta County Fair
- Stillwater Pow Wow (September)
- Wash To Zoot Alzheimer's (September)
- Big Bike Weekend (October)
- Fall River Valley Arts Christmas Parade (December)
- Pale Cedro Honey Bee Festival (September)

Education [edit]

High schools and below [edit]

- 43 elementary schools
- 10 junior high schools
- 8 high schools
- 35 private schools

Colleges and universities [edit]

Shasta County has four colleges and universities:

- Shasta College, Redding: 2 year, fully accredited
- Simpson University, Redding: 4 year, fully accredited
- National University, Redding: 4 year, fully accredited
- Shasta Bible College: 4 year

Housing [edit]

- Median price for a house in about $183,000 as of early 2014.[12]
- Median rental rate is $700/month.[citation needed]

Points of interest [edit]

- Lassen Peak
- Lassen Volcanic National Park
- Shasta Lake
- Shasta Caverns
- Lassen Peak Observatory
- Iron Mountain Mine, one of the nation's most toxic water sites
- Sundial Bridge/Turbine Bay, an architectural beauty and natural habitat area surrounded by urbanization.
- Burney Falls
- Whiskeytown Dam and Lake, with John F. Kennedy Memorial

Communities [edit]

Cities [edit]

- Anderson
- Redding
- Shasta Lake

Census-designated places [edit]

- Bella Vista
- Big Bend
- Burney
- Cassel
- Cottonwood
- Fall River Mills
- French Gulch
- Happy Valley
- Hat Creek
- Keswick
- Lakehead Lakeshore
- McArthur
- Mittry
- Montgomery Creek
- Mountain Gate
- Old Station
- Pale Cedro
- Round Mountain
- Shasta
- Shingletown

Unincorporated communities [edit]

This section needs expansion with: adding ccc's, ccc's, place cities. (July 2009)

- Coleville
- Centerville
- Dana
- Igo
- Oak Run
- Ono
- Platina
- Whitmore
- Wildwood

Population ranking [edit]

The population ranking of the following table is based on the 2010 census of Shasta County.[13]

† county seat

Rank	City/Town/etc.	Municipal type	Population (2010 Census)
1	Redding†	City	89,861
2	Shasta Lake	City	10,164
3	Anderson	City	9,932
4	Cottonwood	CDP	2,963
5	Burney	CDP	3,154
6	Bella Vista	CDP	2,761
7	Shingletown	CDP	2,283
8	Shasta	CDP	1,771
9	Palo Cedro	CDP	1,269
10	Mountain Gate	CDP	843
11	Mittry	CDP	727
12	Fall River Mills	CDP	673
13	Lakehead	CDP	461
14	Keswick	CDP	451
15	French Gulch	CDP	346
16	McArthur	CDP	339
17	Hat Creek	CDP	309
18	Cassel	CDP	207
19	Montgomery Creek	CDP	163
20	Round Mountain	CDP	155
21	Big Bend	CDP	102
22	Old Station	CDP	51
	Redding Ranchería[14]	AIAN	34
	Roaring Creek Ranchería[15]	AIAN	34
	Montgomery Creek Ranchería[16]	AIAN	12
	Big Bend Ranchería[17]	AIAN	9

See also [edit]

- List of school districts in Shasta County, California
- National Register of Historic Places listings in Shasta County, California
- 2014 Shasta County Wildfires: Carr Fire, Hirz Fire, Delta Fire

Notes [edit]

1. Originally, Mount Shasta was within the county, but it is now part of Siskiyou County.
2. ^ Percentage of registered voters with respect to total population. Percentages of party members with respect to registered voters follow.
3. ^ Percentages of ethnic minorities with respect to total population are reported as property crimes.
4. ^ Other = Some other race or two or more races
5. ^ Native American = Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander + American Indian or Alaska Native
6. ^ Data unavailable

References [edit]

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10. ^ ^ ^