Sonoma County, California

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Sonoma County (/səˈnoʊmə/ sə-NOH-mə), officially the **County of Sonoma**, is a county in California. As of the 2020 census, the population was 488,863.[1] The county seat is Santa Rosa.[2] Sonoma County is part of the San Francisco–Oakland–Berkeley, CA Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Sonoma County was one of the original counties of California, established by the California Legislature on February 18, 1850.[3] It was one of 27 counties established at the time of California's admission to the Union. The county was named for the Native American Sonoma people who inhabited the area before the arrival of Spanish colonists. The Sonoma people were a tribe of the Southern Pomo people, who had lived in the area for at least 3,000 years.[4] The Spanish colonists established the Sonoma Mission, the last and northernmost of the Spanish missions in California, in 1823.[5] The Spanish also established a military outpost, the Presidio of Sonoma, and a civilian town, the Pueblo de Sonoma, around the mission. The Spanish colonists also established a few ranchos in the area, including the Rancho Petaluma, Rancho Cotate, Rancho Santa Rosa, Rancho Sotoyome, Rancho Mayacama, Rancho Cabeza de Vaca, Rancho Huichica, Rancho Nacasio, Rancho Los Guilicos, Rancho Agua Caliente, Rancho Sonoma, Rancho Carne Humana, Rancho Cuaca, Rancho Nacional, Rancho Molinos, Rancho Chiquito, Rancho Ojo de Agua de la Coche, Rancho Huichica, Rancho Cabeza de Vaca