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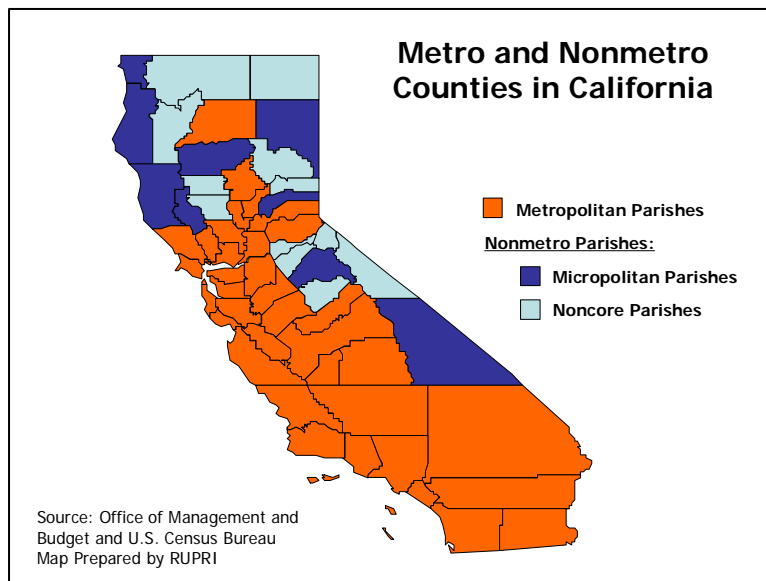
## Demographic and Economic Profile

# California

Updated July 2006

### Metro and Nonmetro Counties in California

Based on the most recent listing of core based statistical areas by the Office of Management and Budget (December 2005), 37 counties in California are part of metropolitan areas, and 9 counties are part of micropolitan areas. The micropolitan category defines counties that include an urban area with a population of 10,000 to 49,999 plus surrounding counties that are linked through commuting ties. These areas often represent important economic and trade centers in rural areas. The remaining 12 counties in California are considered noncore counties. Using these classifications and the population estimates for 2005, 97.7 percent of California residents live in metropolitan areas, 1.6 percent live in micropolitan areas, and 0.7 percent live in noncore areas.

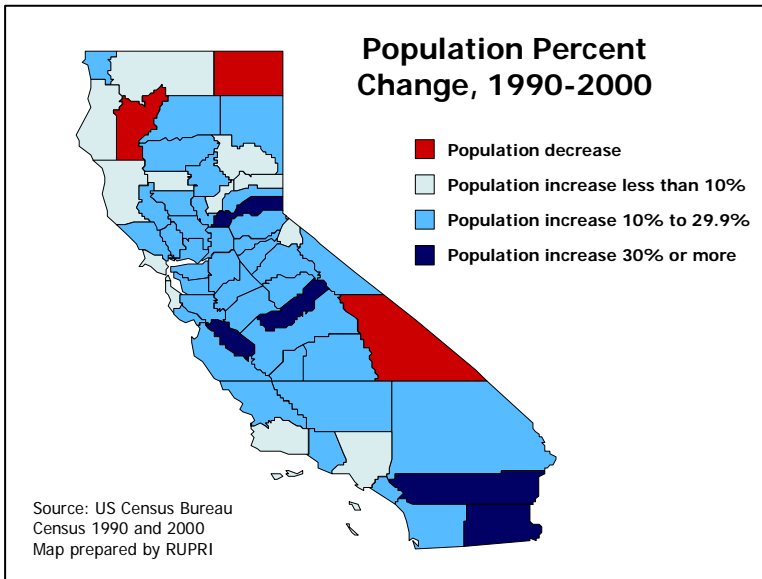


## Population

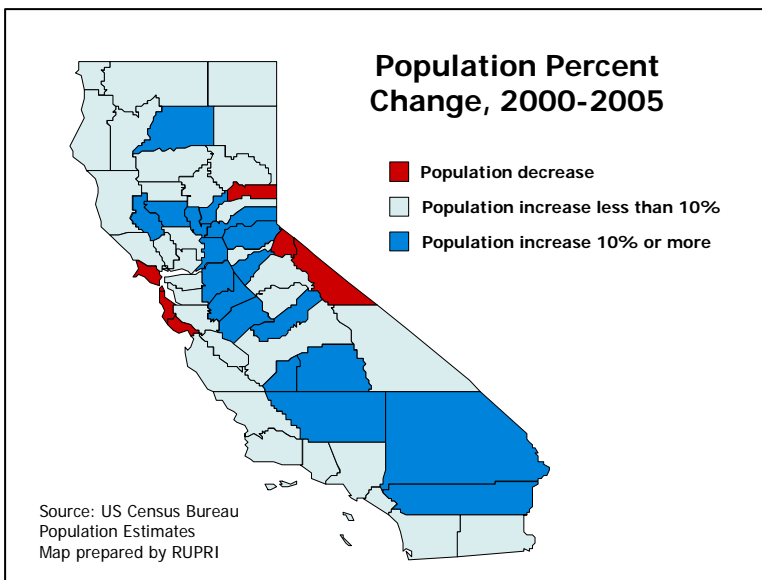
California's population in July of 2005 was 36,132,147, up 6.7 percent from the 2000 Census. During the 1990s, the population in California increased by 13.6 percent. Nationally, population increased 13.1 percent during the 1990s, and 5.3 percent from April 2000 to July 2005. The population growth in California's metro areas outpaced the nonmetro areas during both time periods.

Percent Change in Population		
Area:	1990-2000	2000-2005
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
<b>California</b>	<b>13.6%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>
Metropolitan	13.7%	6.7%
Nonmetropolitan	11.5%	5.7%
Micropolitan	11.5%	5.3%
Noncore	11.7%	6.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



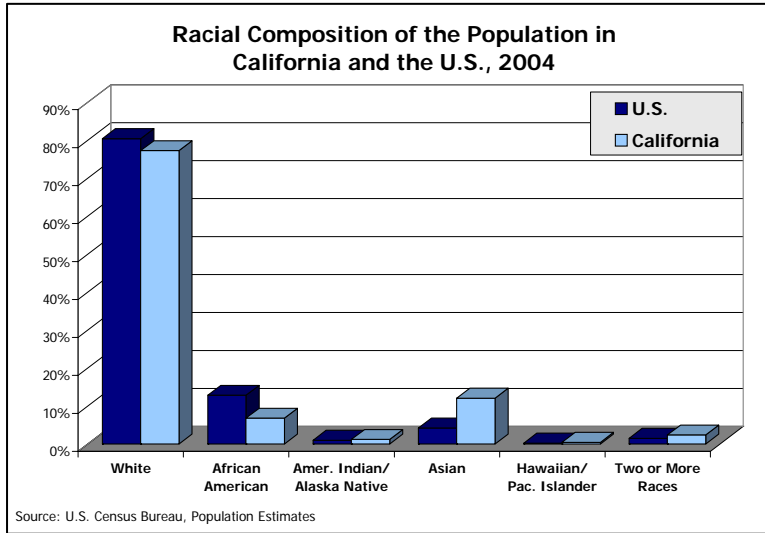
Only three counties in California lost population during the 1990s, all of them nonmetro counties. The fastest growth during this time was in San Benito County in the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 45.1 percent, and in Placer County in the Sacramento-Arden-Arcade-Roseville Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 43.8 percent.



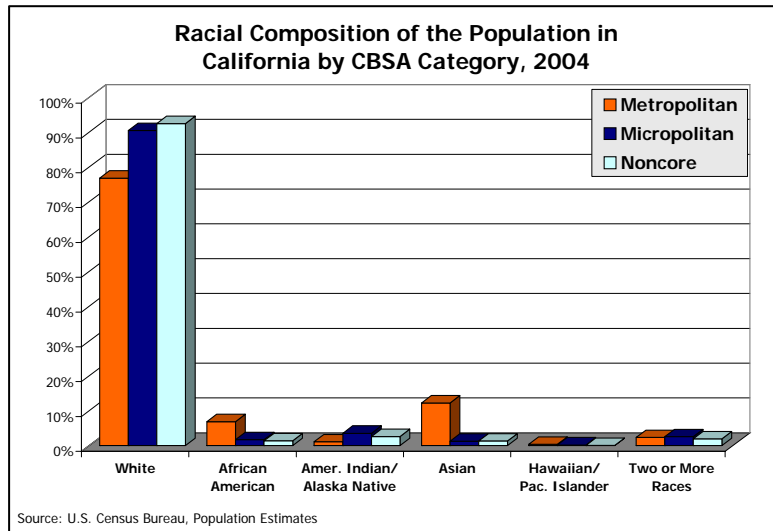
From 2000 to 2005, seven counties in California lost population, 4 metro and 3 nonmetro counties. The fastest growth during this time period was in Placer County (27.6% increase) and Riverside County in the Riverside-San Bernadino-Ontario Metropolitan Area (26.0% increase).

## Race / Ethnicity

The population in California is 77.2 percent white and 6.8 percent African American. Nationally the population is 80.4 percent white and 12.8 percent African American (2004 Census Bureau population estimates). Asians make up 12.1 percent of California's population, compared to 4.2 percent of the total U.S. population.



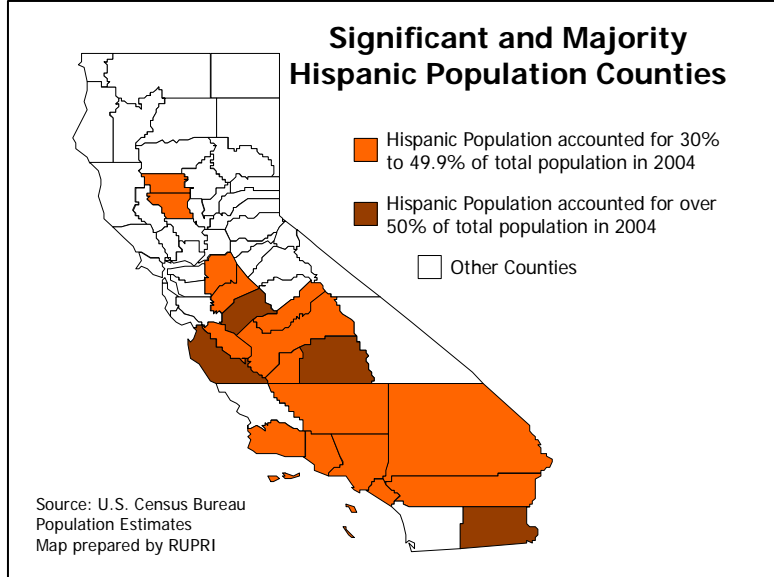
Within California, the metropolitan population is 76.9 percent white, 6.9 percent African American, and 12.3 percent Asian. The micropolitan population is 90.5 percent white, 1.8 percent African American, and 3.6 percent Asian. The noncore population is 92.5 percent white, 1.4 percent African American, and 1.3 percent Asian.



Several counties in California have significant nonwhite populations. In four counties, the Asian population accounts for over 20 percent of total population: San Francisco County (33.0%), Santa Clara County (29.5%), Alameda County (23.7%), and San Mateo County (22.9%). In Alpine County, Native Americans make up 19.2 percent of total population.

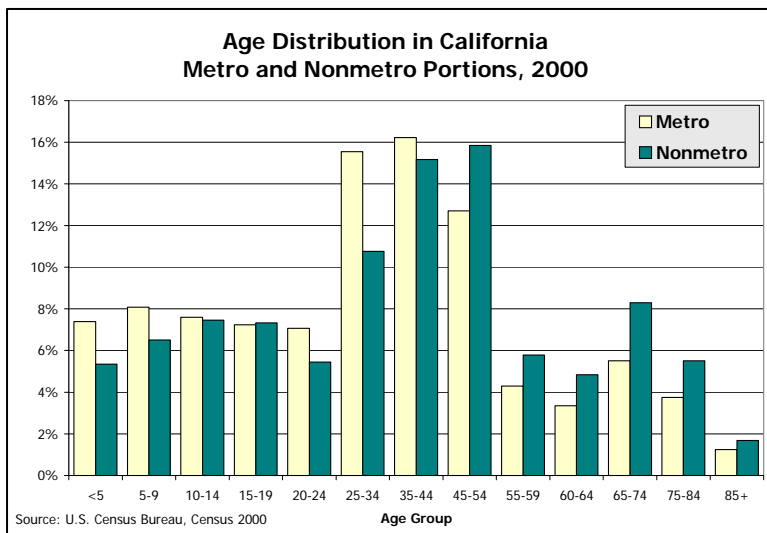
People of Hispanic origin make up 34.7 percent of California's population, compared to 14.1 percent of the total U.S. population. In metropolitan areas of California, people of Hispanic origin make up 35.2 percent of total population. People of Hispanic origin make up 12.1 percent of California's micropolitan population, and 14.8 percent of California's noncore population.

In several California counties, people of Hispanic origin make up a significant portion of total population (over 30 percent). In four counties, people of Hispanic origin make up a majority of total population: Imperial County (74.6%), Tulare County (54.2%), Merced County (50.2%), and Monterey County (50.2%).

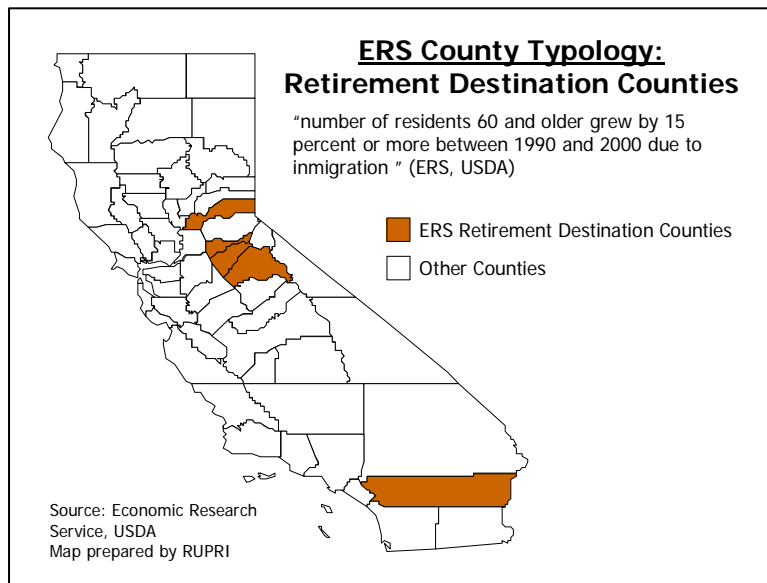


## Age

The age distribution of the metro and nonmetro population in California is shown in the chart below. The percent of the population in the 20 to 44 age groups is greater in the metro areas, while the percent of the population in all age groups over 45 is greater in the nonmetro areas.

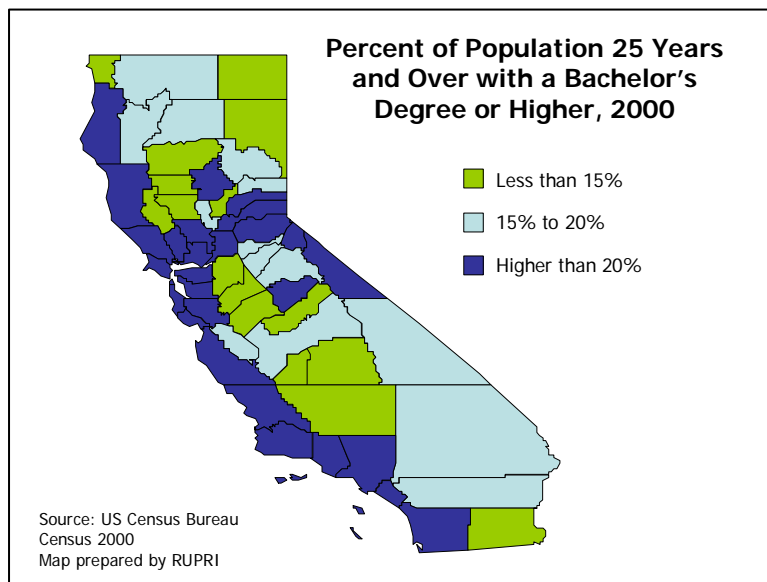


The Economic Research Service, USDA, classifies counties as retirement destination counties based on population change due to immigration. In California, five counties are classified as retirement destination counties.

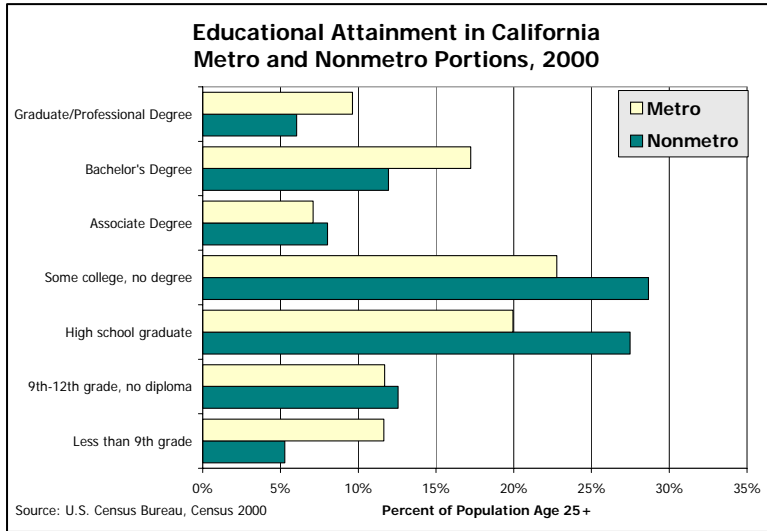


### Educational Attainment

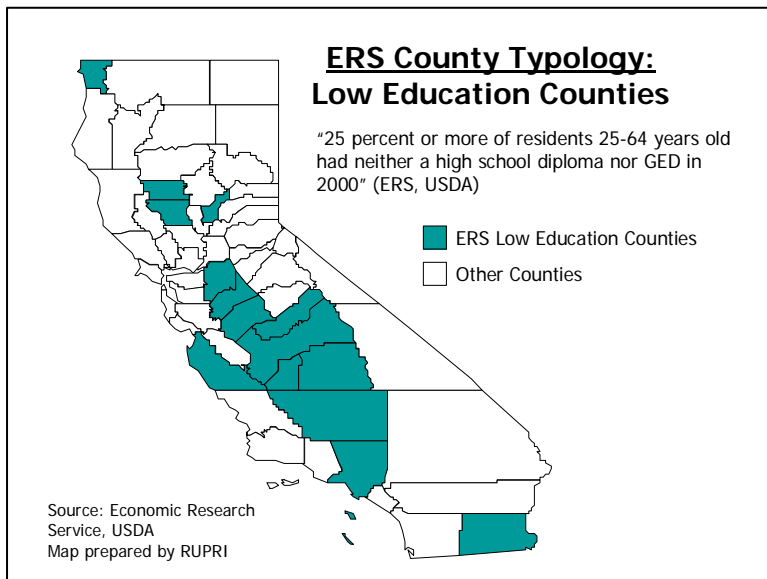
The percent of the population age 25 and over that has earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher is 24.4 percent in the U.S. and 26.6 percent in California. In metro areas of California, this percentage is 26.8 percent, compared to 18.0 percent in nonmetro areas.



The chart below compares the educational attainment of California’s metro and nonmetro populations. The percent of the population with high educational attainment (B.S. Degree or higher) is greater in the metro areas. The percent of the population with a high school degree or with some college is greater in the nonmetro areas.

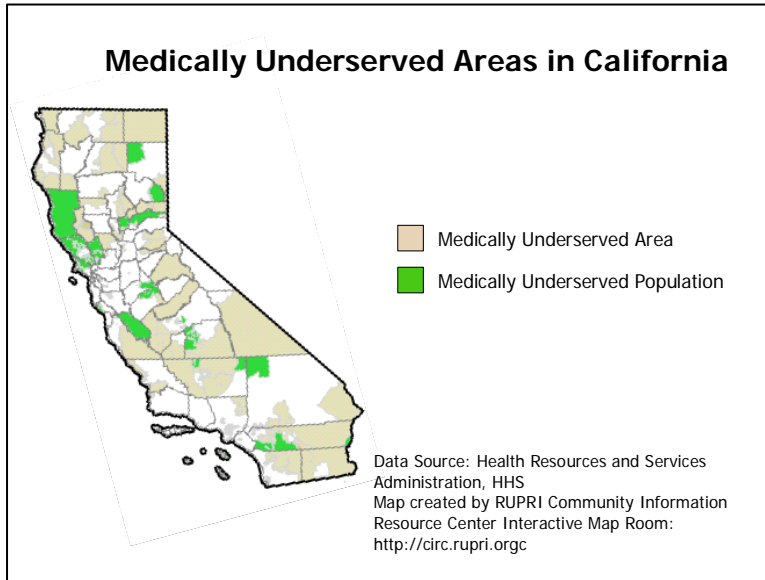


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as low education counties if “25 percent or more of residents 25-64 years old had neither a high school diploma nor GED in 2000.” In California, 15 counties are classified as low education counties (12 metro and 3 nonmetro counties).

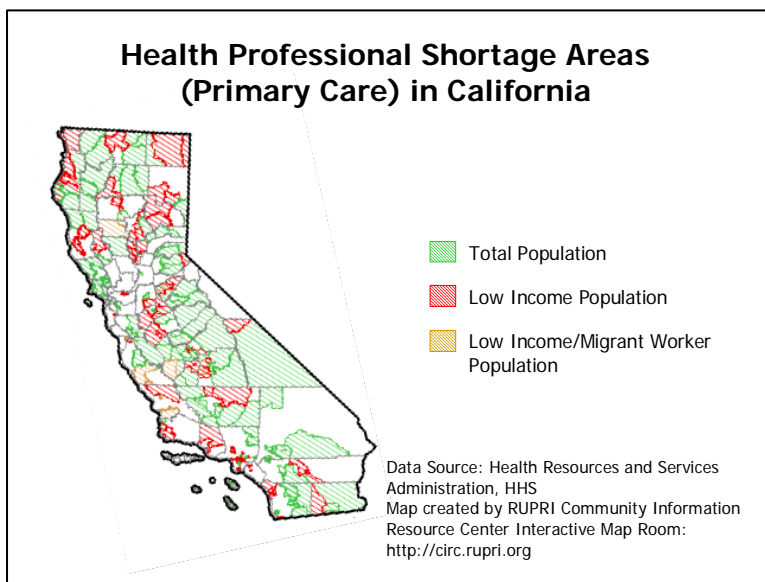


## Health Services

The designation of areas or populations as medically underserved is based on an index of four variables - the ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 population, the infant mortality rate, the percent of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and the percent of the population age 65 and over (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within California, several areas of the state are considered medically underserved, shown in the map below.

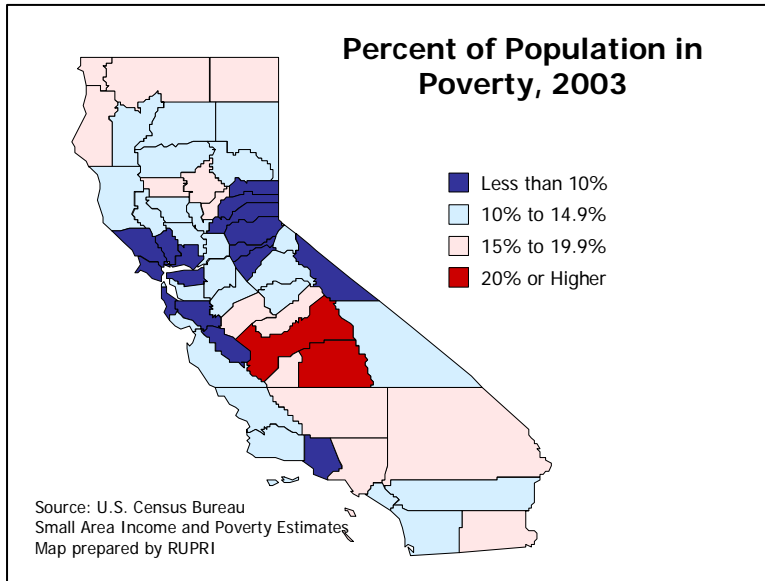


Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) are those areas that “may have shortages of primary medical care, dental or mental health providers and may be urban or rural areas, population groups, or medical or other public facilities” (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within California, several areas in the state are designated as primary care HPSAs for the total or low income populations.



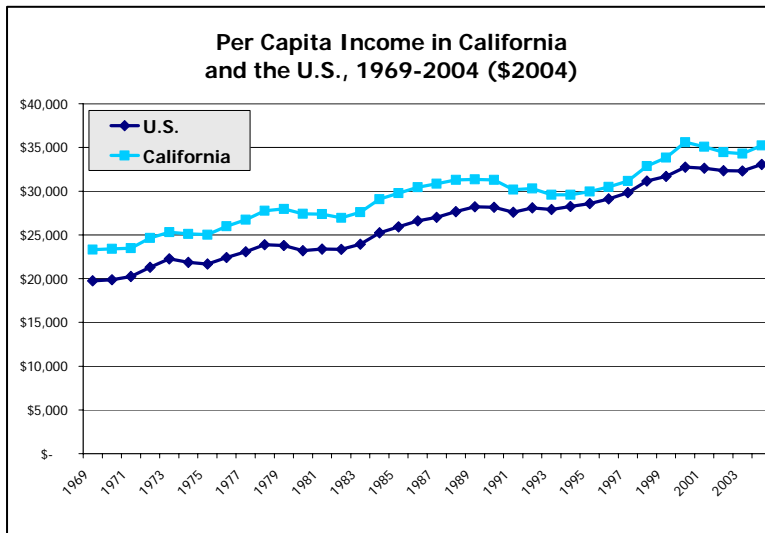
## Poverty

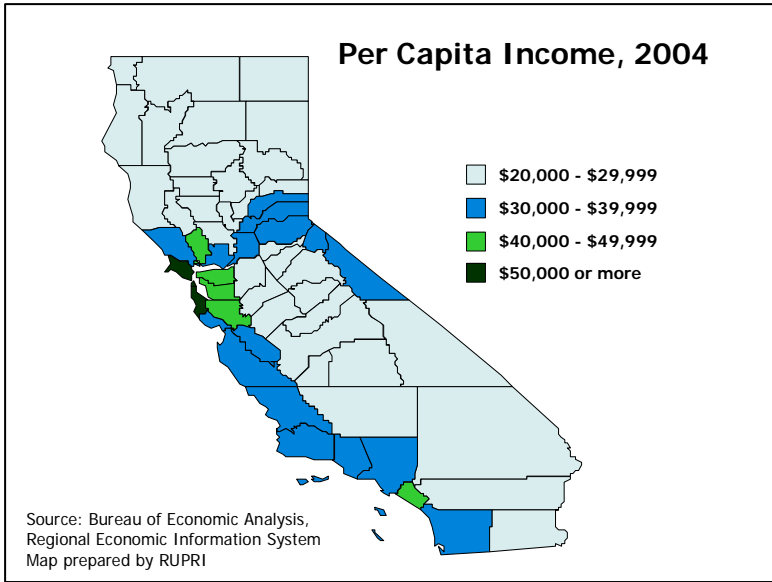
The poverty rate in California in 2003 was 13.8 percent, compared to 12.5 percent for the U.S. (Census Bureau estimates). Within California, the 2003 poverty rate ranged from 5.9 percent in Placer County to 21.5 percent in Tulare County.



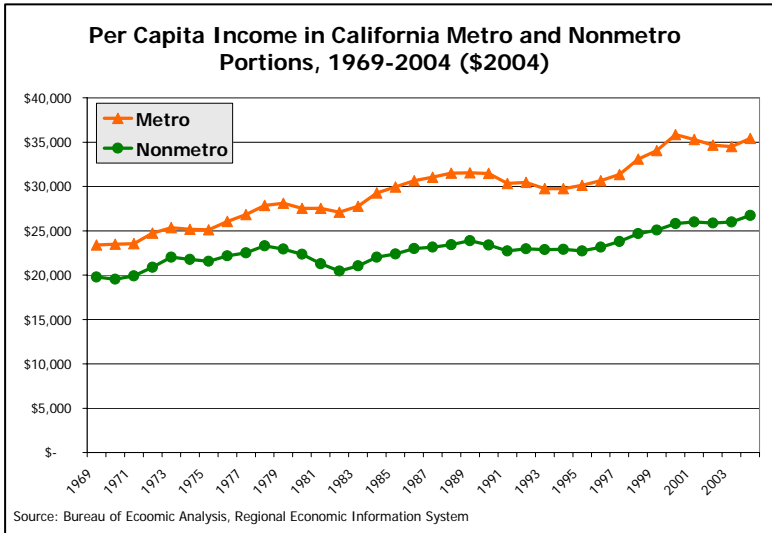
## Per Capita Income

Per capita income trends in California have matched national trends, with California's income exceeding national income over the past several decades. In 2004, per capita income in California was \$35,219, compared to \$33,050 for the U.S.

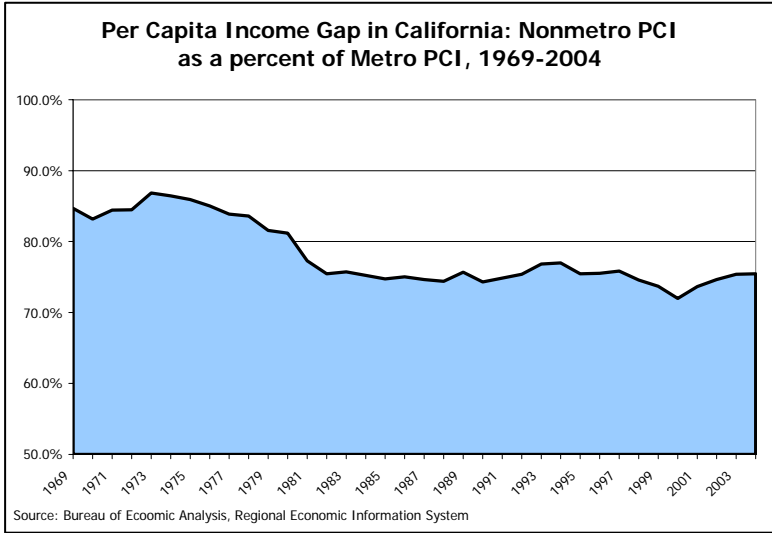




Within California, 2004 per capita income ranged from \$20,437 in Lassen County to \$69,115 in Marin County. In three counties in the San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont Metropolitan Area, per capita income exceeded \$50,000.



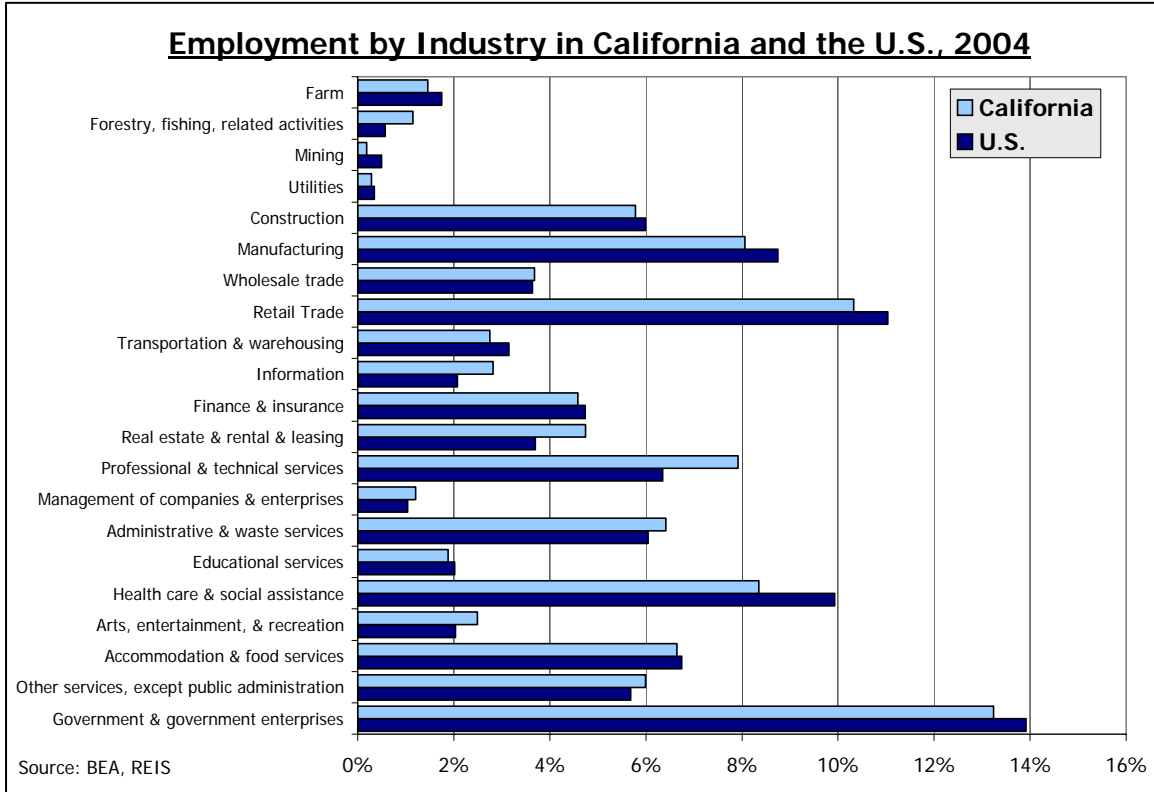
Nonmetro per capita income in California has lagged behind metro per capita income over the past several decades. In 2004, metro per capita income in California was \$35,420, compared to \$26,734 in nonmetro areas.



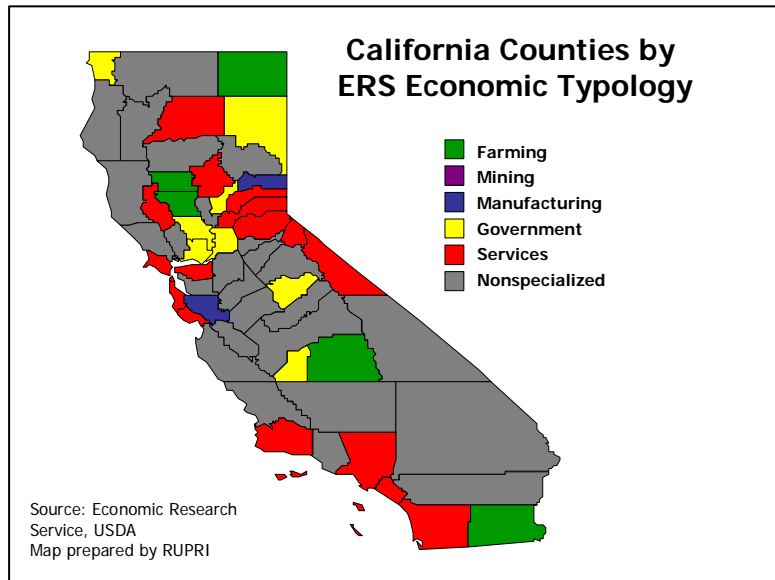
The per capita income gap is measured with nonmetro per capita income as a percent of metro per capita income. In California, the gap was at its largest in 2000 and at its smallest in 1973. In 2004, nonmetro per capita income was 75.5 percent of metro per capita income.

## Employment Structure

In 2004, government and government enterprises accounted for the largest shares of employment in California (13.2%) and the U.S. (13.9%). Retail trade was the second largest employment sector in both California (10.3%) and the U.S. (11.0%).

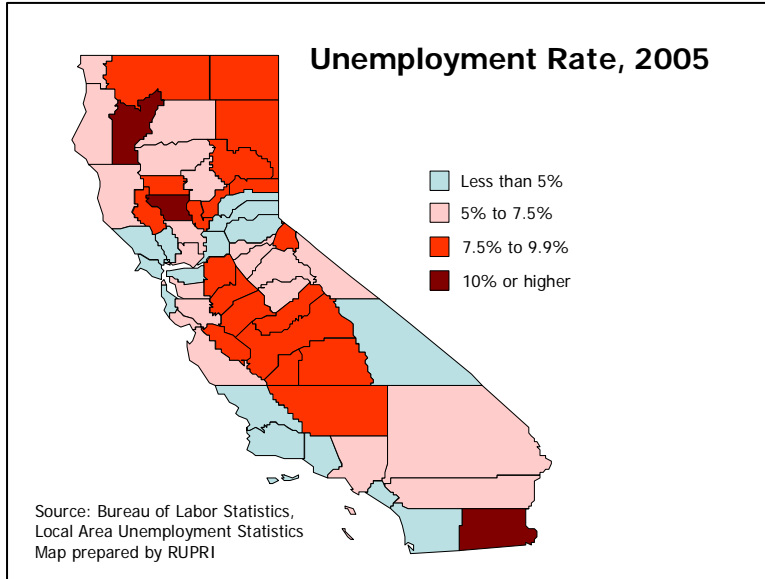


The ERS Economic Typology classifies counties into one of five industry categories of specialization or as nonspecialized. The map to the right shows the classification of California counties by this typology, illustrating the diversity across the state.

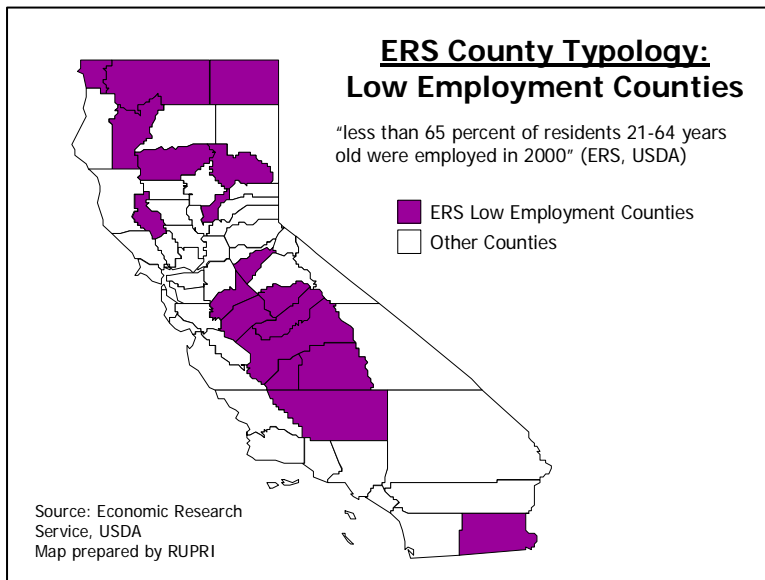


## Unemployment

The unemployment rate in California in 2005 was 5.4, compared to 5.1 percent for the U.S. Within California, the 2005 unemployment rate ranged from 3.8 percent in Orange County to 15.8 percent in Imperial County.

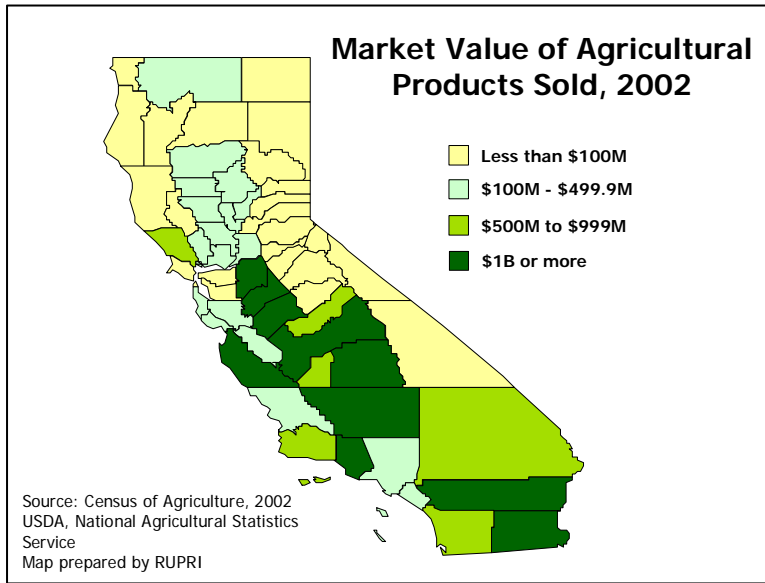


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as low employment counties if “less than 65 percent of residents 21-64 years old were employed in 2000.” In California, 18 counties (9 metro and 9 nonmetro) are classified as low employment counties.

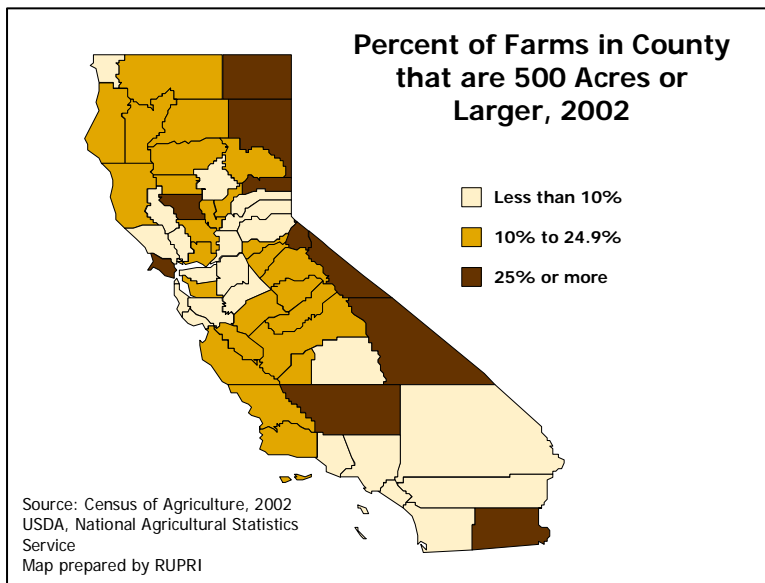


## Agriculture

Agriculture is very important to California's economy. Five counties are classified by the Economic Research Service as farming dependent (see map on page 10). The map below shows the value of agricultural products sold in 2002 for California counties. In 10 counties the value was over \$1 billion, and in four counties the value was over \$2 billion (Kern, Monterey, Tulare, and Fresno Counties).

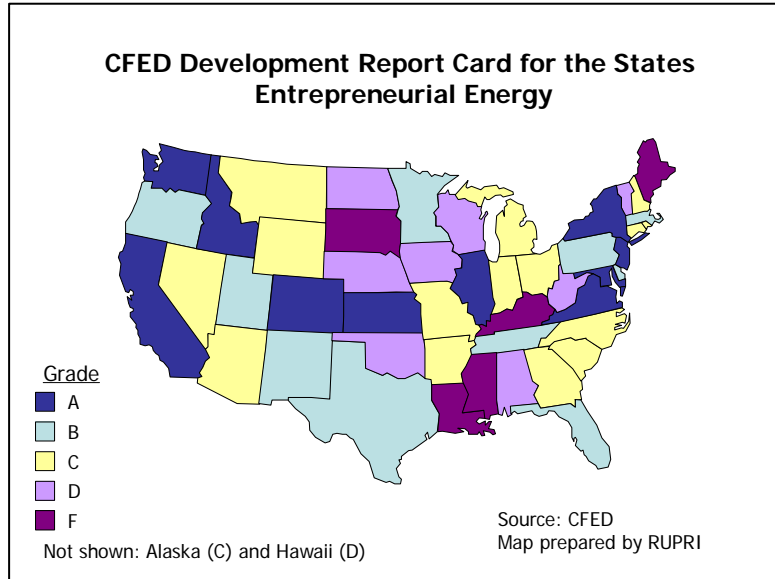


Average farm size in California is 346 acres, and 10.5 percent of farms in the state are 500 acres or larger.

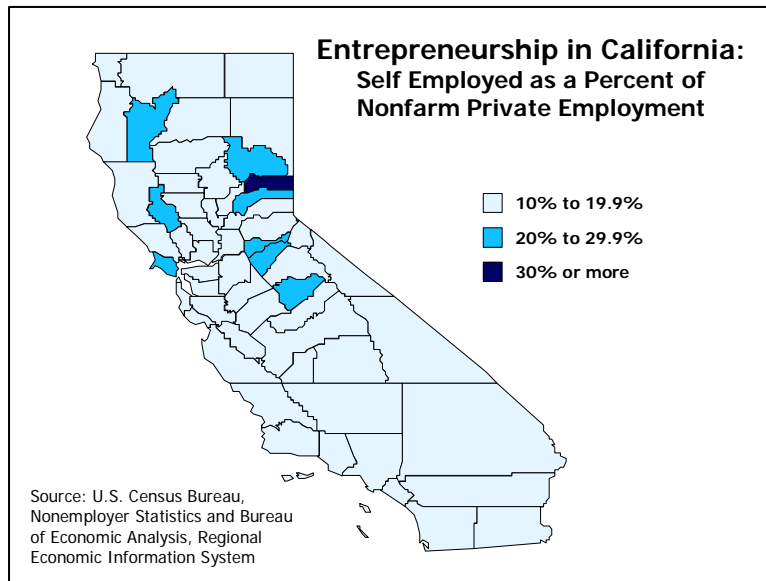


## Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is an important component to economic development today. Unfortunately, data that allow us to measure entrepreneurial activity and trends is difficult to ascertain, particularly at the county level. The CFED *Development Report Card for the States* rates each state on its entrepreneurial energy, “evaluating the extent to which new firms are generated and whether they are contributing to employment growth.” While this is a state-level ranking, it provides useful insight as to how a state is performing. California’s ranking is “A”.

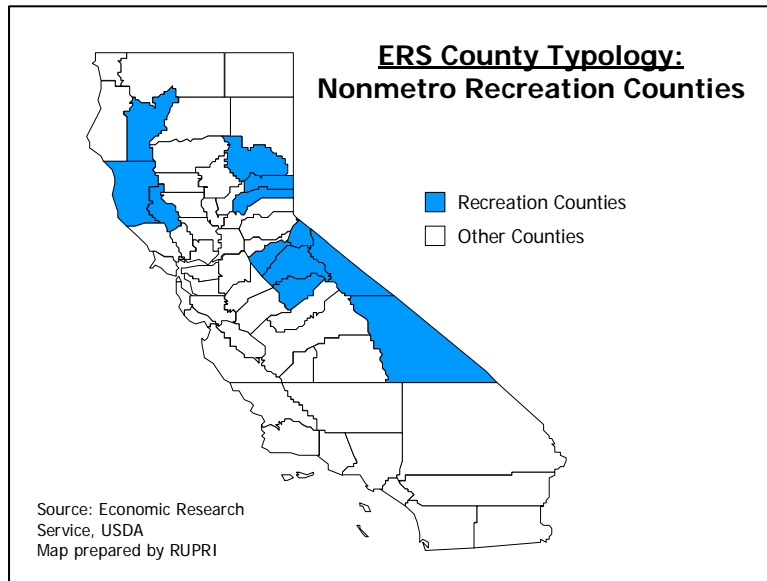


As mentioned, county level indicators of entrepreneurship are difficult to ascertain, but a good indicator is the proportion of workers that are self employed. The map below shows self employed workers as a percent of nonfarm private employment in the county.



## Nonmetro Recreation Counties

The Economic Research Service's classification of nonmetro recreation counties captures the recreational opportunities and development in many rural parts of the nation. The classification is based on a number of factors, including employment and income derived from recreation-related activities, seasonal housing units within the county, and receipts from hotels and motels. Nationally, 334 counties are classified as nonmetro recreation counties, and 12 are located in California.



## **Data Sources and References**

**Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System**

<http://www.bea.gov/beat/regional/reis/>

**Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics**

<http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>

**CFED Development Report Card for the States**

<http://drc.cfed.org/>

**Economic Research Service, USDA, 2004 County Typology**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rurality/Typology/>

**Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Designations of Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas and Populations**

<http://www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/>

**National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.**

2002 Census of Agriculture

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census\\_of\\_Agriculture/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/index.asp)

**Office of Management and Budget, Statistical Area Definitions and Guidance on Their Uses**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/fy05/b05-02.html>

**RUPRI Community Information Resource Center Interactive Map Room**

<http://circ.rupri.org/>

**U.S. Census Bureau**

Census 2000

<http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>

Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Area Classifications

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metrodef.html>

Nonemployer Statistics

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/nonemployer/>

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saibe/saibe.html>

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