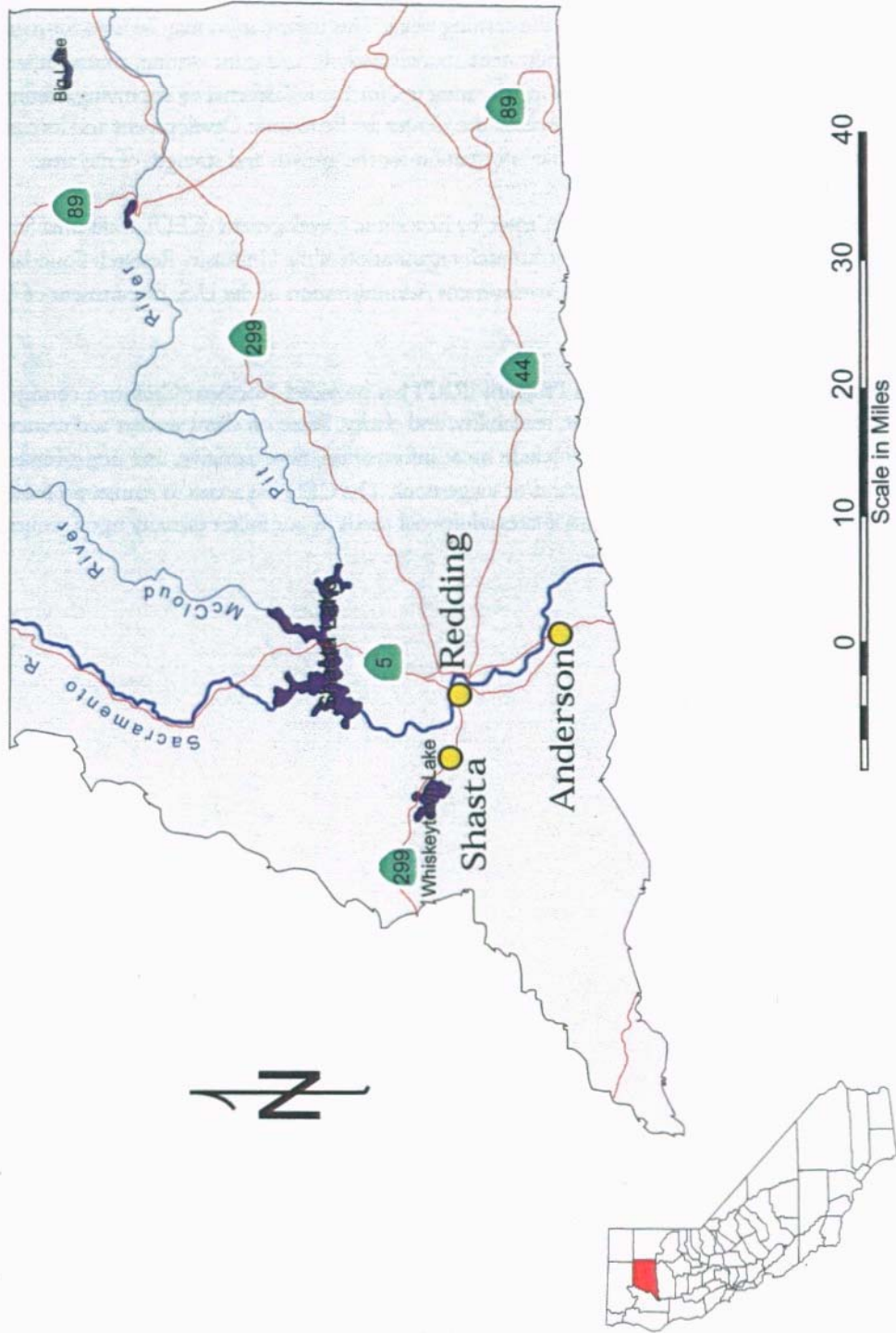


Shasta County



Shasta County

Comprised of 3,786 square miles, Shasta County, located at the northern end of the Sacramento Valley, is 160 miles north of Sacramento and 230 miles north of San Francisco. Incorporated in February, 1850, Shasta County, with a population of 182,236, was named after Mt. Shasta. Pristine snow-capped mountain views, numerous streams and rivers, and colorful wildflowers enhance the beauty of this region.

Shasta Lake (California's largest lake which holds the nickname "Houseboat Capital of the West"), Whiskeytown Lake (considered the jewel of the Whiskeytown Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area), Castle Crags State Park (known for ancient granite formations), The Pacific Crest Trail, and Mc-Arthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park (containing 129-foot and underground falls) all encompass a major region of this county. There are three incorporated cities within Shasta County: Redding, Anderson and the City of Shasta Lake.

The historic mining town of Old Shasta was the original county seat for Shasta County. At one time, this town was a thriving mining town during Northern California's Gold Rush period. Destroyed by fire in 1853, Old Shasta is now a state park which offers a renovated court house museum, an authentic general store and the remains of several businesses.

Following the destruction of Old Shasta, Redding became the hub of the North state due to its location near the new railroad system and the Sacramento River. Redding, bisected by the Sacramento River, is the seat for Shasta County and is the center for government, retail trade, wholesale trade, commerce and recreation, as well as health and legal services and employment for much of Northern California. Located at the intersection of Interstate 5 and the 299 and 44 highways, Redding is the largest city north of Sacramento covering 70 square miles with a population of 90,491 in the year 2008.

Nearby Shasta Dam, which is the second largest and highest concrete structure in the United States, and Shasta Lake, with 30,000 surface acres and a shoreline of 370 miles, provide the area's abundant water supply as well as low cost electrical power. Redding's overall job growth over the past five years has more than doubled the national average (19.9 percent compared to 8.7 percent) and the number of businesses in the city has almost tripled the national average (38.8 percent versus 13 percent).

The city of Redding funds the Turtle Bay Exploration Park, a 300-acre cultural and scientific center with interactive exhibits and special exhibition galleries. This park, located in the heart of the city, focuses on the Sacramento River's ecosystem and its surrounding forests. Currently featured at the park are three museums, a summer butterfly house, the Arboretum on the River, Paul Bunyan's Forest Camp and a visitor's center. A wildlife exhibit, an aviary, gardens and

fine art exhibits are all planned expansion to the park and is currently under construction. The Sundial Bridge of Turtle Bay, which crosses the Sacramento River, is a harp-shaped pedestrian bridge which was completed in July 2004. This bridge links the Turtle Bay Exploration Park's north and south campuses.

Located south of Redding are the cities of Anderson and Cottonwood, both located on the Sacramento River. The Anderson River Park and the region's only Outlet Shopping Center are located in Anderson. Located in the eastern region of Shasta County is the rich agricultural area of Fall River Valley which provides 25 percent of the world's wild rice. The town of Burney is also located in the eastern region of Shasta County. The intermountain area offers tranquil lakes, rivers, and the nearby beauty of the McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- As of the year 2008, total population is 182,236, of which 39,969 are aged 60+ and 13,913 are aged 75+
- The population has seen stable growth in the last decade, with an average of 1% per year increase
- Between 1998 and 2008, population grew 11% in the county
- Roughly 48 people per square mile

TARGETED POPULATIONS

- 75+ 35%
- Low Income 14%
- Minorities 5%

AGRICULTURE – Top Crops

- Cattle – Stockers and Feeders
- Nursery Plants – Strawberries
- Hay, Other
- Rice, Wild

LABOR FORCE

- Total population employment rate in 2000 was 46%
- Total labor force in 2007 was 80,200 members
- Total labor force in 2007 increased 3% over the prior year
- 9% of the labor force was unemployed in 2007

- The unemployment rate for the year 2007 was 6.9% and at its highest in 1992 at 13%

INCOME

- Total personal income in 2005 was \$5,208,766, representing a 4% increase over the prior year
- The per capita income in 2005 was \$29,104
- The poverty rate increased from 14% in 1989 to 15.4 % in 1999 (Compared to California at 12.5% in 1989 to 14% in 1999)

HOUSING

- With the total number of housing units in the year 2007 was 76,369, an increase of 1% over the previous year
- Per capita housing was 42%
- Fair market rent prices in the county have been increased at a similar rate to the Northern California average, and increased 13% between 2007 and 2008

LOW INCOME

- 14 % of the 60+ year old population is at 125% or below poverty level. This is comprised of:

91.6%	Non-Minority
.5%	African American
1.4%	American Indian/Alaskan Native
2.3%	Asian
.1%	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
.3%	Other
2.2%	Multi-race
1.6%	Hispanic/Latino
- The number of TANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families) and CalWORKS (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids) recipients and the number of households receiving food stamps have been decreasing steadily since a peak in FY 1996 and 1997 when 11% of the county population received payments
- MediCal expenditures were \$158,433,723 in 2006
- In 2006, 20% of the population in the county was eligible for Medi-Cal programs; whereas only 13.5% made use of the programs. The comparison statewide indicates 9% was eligible; and 7% made use of the programs.

- The highest number of Medi-Cal eligible recipients are Non-minority making up 80% of the population served by the program

CLIMATE

- Average Maximum Temperature – 100 degrees
- Average Low Temperature – 40 degrees
- Average annual precipitation – ranges from 25” to 60”
- Average annual snowfall – up to 10”