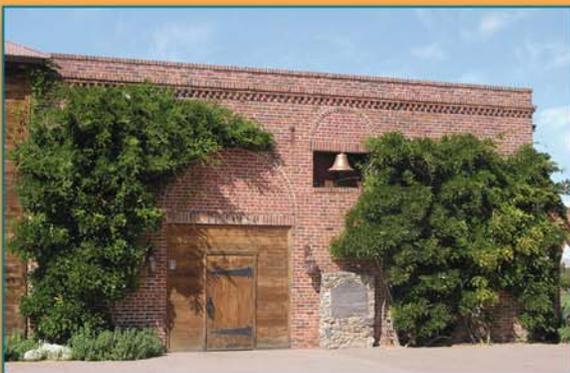


# Office of the Assessor ALAMEDA COUNTY 2007-08 ANNUAL REPORT



Ron Thomsen  
Assessor



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ON THE COVER: The photographs on the front cover illustrate the diversity of our assessment responsibilities.

CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT: *light industrial*, Peet’s Coffee & Tea Artisan Roasting Facility, Alameda; *commercial office high-rise*, Kaiser Center, Oakland; *shopping center*, Pacific Commons, Fremont; *rural land used for grazing*, unincorporated Alameda County; *winery*, Concannon Vineyards, Livermore Valley; and *new residential construction*, Fairview district.

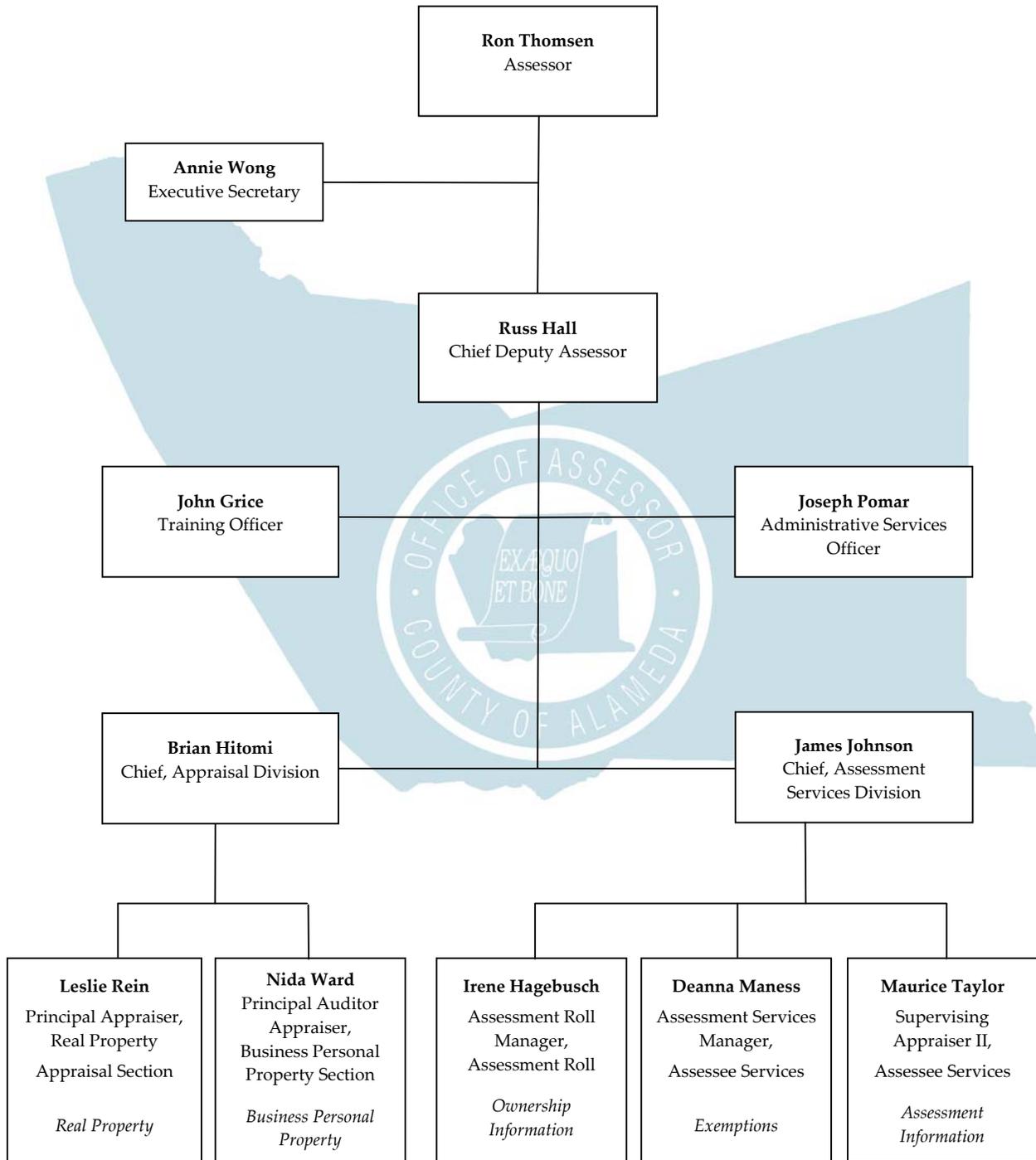
CREDITS: Design, image editing, and photography: Lee Millet, Alameda County Assessor’s Office  
 Jurisdictional Map: Janie Chambers, Alameda County Community Development Agency  
 Alameda County flag: Benjamin W. Hazard

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# Organization Chart



# A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSESSOR

*Ron Thomsen*

*This report is written to keep you informed of the assessment activity occurring in Alameda County. The latest local assessment roll, 2007-08, was accurately and timely delivered on June 28, 2007. This year's local assessment roll, before exemptions were applied, totals over \$197.6 billion. This is a \$14.8 billion increase, 8.08% above last year's total. The net local roll, after all legal exemptions were applied, totals \$191 billion.*



*Changes in ownership of real estate were the largest contributor to the increase. The reassessments of more than 30,000 parcels of real estate in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 13 added \$9.8 billion to the roll. Parcels that had new construction added during 2006 added an additional \$1.6 billion in assessed value. The annual assessment of 47,000 business personal property accounts contributed \$600 million to the overall increase. The Proposition 13 mandated annual Consumer Price Index adjustment of not more than 2 percent on the assessments of properties that did not change hands resulted in an additional \$2.8 billion increase.*

*The City of Oakland remained the highest assessment jurisdiction in Alameda County with a total assessed value of \$41.8 billion before exemptions are applied. The City of Fremont continues to have the second highest assessed value of \$33 billion. This year, the City of Emeryville received the highest overall percentage increase of 12.9 percent over last year's totals.*

*The 2007-08 assessment roll accurately reflects assessments of the more than 483,000 taxable properties, including real estate and business property throughout Alameda County. A further breakdown of the assessment roll is contained in the body of this year's report. The property taxes derived from the assessment roll generate revenue to support the services provided by Alameda County, its public schools, cities, redevelopment areas and special districts. The largest percentage of each property tax dollar supports our public schools.*

*Notifications of this year's individual assessments were mailed to all Alameda County property owners on July 23, 2007. Property owners having questions regarding their property assessment were encouraged to call the Assessor's Office at (510) 272-3787 (real estate assessments) or (510) 272-3836 (business personal property assessments). As indicated on these notifications, formal appeals of the 2007-08 assessed values must have been made between July 2 and September 15, 2007 with the Clerk, Board of Supervisors, Assessment Appeals Unit, on their Application for Changed Assessment. Based upon information from the Clerk, Board of Supervisors, Assessment Appeals Unit, only 2,000 of this year's 483,000 assessments, less than one half of 1 percent, have been formally appealed.*

*The Office of Assessor mission: To provide timely and accurate assessment services in a manner resulting in fair and equitable treatment to all Alameda County citizens and property taxpayers.*

*We will continue to administer your quality property assessment program in a cost-efficient manner, while providing you the best public service possible.*

*A few of our accomplishments since our last annual report include:*

- The implementation of a new Supplemental Tax Estimator on our web site that enables users to estimate the amount of a supplemental assessment tax due to a change in ownership.*
- The installation of a new telephone call center to better serve the public.*
- Implementing a Property Valuation System and a Possessory Interest module in our relational database. These two enhancements have improved the quality and efficiency in assessing properties that have declined in market value below their indexed Proposition 13 base year assessment.*
- Creation of a career track for our clerical/technical staff that provides the opportunity to advance within our department. This lessens the chances of losing valuable staff to other departments, after they've received extensive and costly assessment-related training from our office.*

*I wish to acknowledge all County agencies and departments for their continued support and cooperation. The significant assistance provided to our office by the 14 incorporated cities of Alameda County is also much appreciated.*

*With more than 1.5 million people, Alameda County is the 7th most populous of the 58 counties in California. It is both a great responsibility and an honor to be your Assessor. I thank my entire team for their hard work, dedication, and commitment in performing their mandated duties, and for providing you the highest level of public service possible.*

*Sincerely,*



*Ron Thomsen, Alameda County Assessor*

## *Responsibilities of the Assessor*

Your County Assessor is committed to providing timely and accurate assessment services in a manner resulting in fair, equitable, and courteous treatment for all Alameda County taxpayers. As mandated by State law, your Assessor locates and identifies the ownership of more than 435,000 parcels of real estate and nearly 47,000 business personal property accounts. The taxability of these properties is then determined. All tangible property is taxable unless constitutionally exempt.

Another function of your Assessor is to determine if real estate parcels are required to be reassessed upon a change in ownership or the completion of new construction in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 13. To accomplish this task, the Assessor's staff analyze more than 69,000 recorded documents affecting title to real estate and more than 23,000 building permits annually. These events typically require the Assessor's staff to reappraise more than 30,000 parcels of real estate that have changed ownership and 11,000 new construction activities on an annual basis in accordance with Proposition 13. The basic principles of Proposition 13 are covered on page 8 of this report.

Other functions of the Assessor include the mapping of all parcels of real estate within Alameda County, and performance of audits of business personal property owners.

The business personal property section of the Assessor's Office is required to annually assess all business personal property located in Alameda County as of January 1<sup>st</sup> at its fair market value. Nearly 47,000 business personal property accounts including boats, aircraft, and all business machinery and equipment are annually assessed in Alameda County.

The Assessor next processes and applies all legal exemptions, reducing the tax liability on every property that qualifies. The most common exemption is the homeowners' exemption. Available exemptions are explained on page 18 of this report.

The timely and accurate submission of the annual local assessment roll to the Auditor prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year is another responsibility of each County Assessor. The most recent local assessment roll submitted by the Alameda County Assessor to the Auditor on June 28, 2007 totaled nearly \$197.6 billion in assessed value before exemptions were applied. A history of the ten most recently submitted annual local assessment rolls can be found on page 16.

The Assessor is also required to justify before the Assessment Appeals Board any assessment that has been appealed to the Assessment Appeals Board by the timely filing of a formal application for reduction of assessed value. Information regarding the appeals process may be found on page 19.

## ***Major Service Areas***

### ***Real Property***

The Real Property Section appraises single and multi-family residential, rural, and commercial/industrial property in Alameda County for the purpose of property tax assessment. It also assists the Assessment Appeals Unit in the preparation and presentation of real property Assessment Appeals Board cases.

### ***Business Personal Property***

The Business Personal Property Section appraises all taxable business personal property including machinery, equipment, fixtures, boats, and aircraft. Auditor-Appraisers perform “mandatory” audits of business property accounts of at least \$400,000, as well as prepare and present business personal property Assessment Appeals Board cases.

### ***Assessee Services***

The Assessee Services staff responds to all public inquiries regarding real property ownership and assessment; processes calamity claims, disabled person accessibility exclusions, seismic retrofitting exclusions, and all real property roll corrections. Its managers respond to taxpayers’ claims for refund of taxes for the Assessor.

### ***Assessment Roll***

The Assessment Roll Section researches, verifies and processes all changes of ownership for properties within the County; maintains all mailing addresses for properties; processes all parent/child and grandparent/grandchild exclusion applications, and provides other clerical assistance as needed by the department.

### ***Mapping***

The Mapping Unit maintains a mapping system that inventories all real property within the County using a discrete parcel numbering system; annually processes all new tract maps, parcel maps, and lot-line adjustments; and processes all Tax Rate Area changes for redevelopment projects, annexations, and special district formations.

### ***Exemptions***

The Exemptions Unit researches and processes all requests for homeowners’ exemptions and veterans’ exemptions; researches and processes a wide range of institutional exemptions that may apply to such organizations as churches, non-profit foundations, hospitals and private schools; and provides public information as required to all exemptions related inquiries.

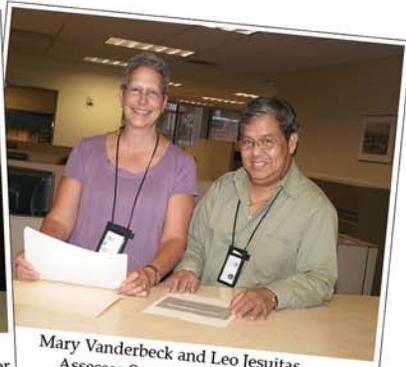
## Staff Photos



Ron Milligan, Appraisal Support Supervisor and Marites Felber, Appraisal Support Technician



Lesley Semmel, Assessor's Technician and Susan Wickson, Assessment Information Supervisor



Mary Vanderbeck and Leo Jesuitas, Assessee Services Technicians



Kevin Lopez, Possessory Interest Appraiser and Leticia Briseno, Possessory Interest Technician



Roxanne Alworth, Assessor's Technician and Dan Lozza, Quality Assurance Coordinator



Christyn Medina, Exemptions Technician



Fred Watkins, Assessment Appeals Supervisor and Monica Lantican, Assessment Appeals Technician



Erlinda Virrey, BPP Assessment Supervisor and Flora Yuen, Assessor's Technician



Ted Uemoto, Auditor Appraiser Supervisor and Quan Lu, Auditor Appraiser



Luviminda Lumibao, Mapping Technician



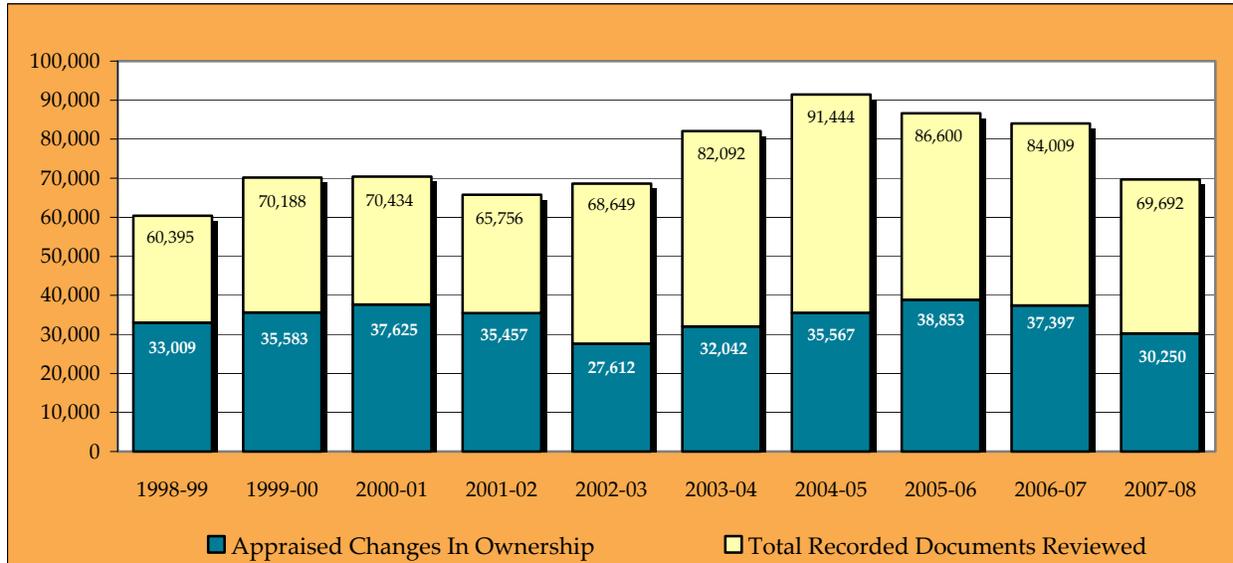
Raquel Anguiano, Administrative Specialist



Steve Lawson, Commercial & Industrial Appraiser and Steve Hunter, Appraisal Supervisor

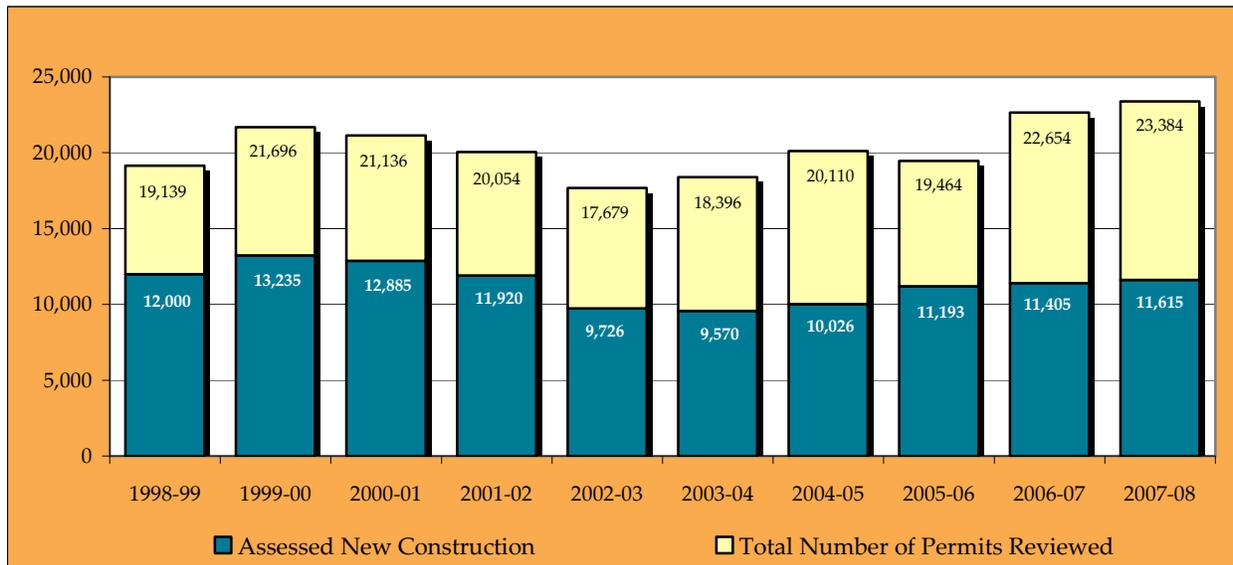
## Real Estate Related Production

### Changes In Ownership vs. Recorded Documents



*NOTE: The Assessment Roll Section reviews all real estate related recorded documents each year. When fully researched, many real estate transactions do not lead to appraisable events under Proposition 13.*

### Assessed New Construction vs. Building Permits



*NOTE: Appraisal staff investigates all building permits each year to determine which projects result in assessable new construction such as added building area. Many permits are found to relate to normal repairs and replacements which, in accord with Proposition 13, often do not amount to assessable new construction. Real estate appraisers determine the market value of all assessed new construction.*

## Proposition 13

Proposition 13 was passed by the California voters on June 6, 1978 amending the California Constitution to limit the assessment and taxation of property in California. Except in certain instances real property is assessed at its 1975-76 base year level and cannot be increased by more than 2 percent annually. Real property is reassessed however, at its current fair market value at the time a change in ownership occurs, establishing a new base year. Similarly, the market value of any new construction is also added to assessments as of its completion date, changing the base year. With the passage of Proposition 8, also in 1978, the Assessor is required to assess real property at the lesser of its Proposition 13 level indexed by no more than 2 percent per year, or its current market value as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. If a property is assessed at its lower market value, the Assessor is required to restore the Proposition 13 assessment in subsequent years if the market value increases to that level or above. (*Business personal property is assessed at its fair market value as of January 1<sup>st</sup> each year.*)

Proposition 13 also limits the amount of taxes that can be charged to an owner of locally assessed property to 1 percent of the property's taxable value, plus any voter approved bonded indebtedness, service fees, improvements bonds and special assessments.

### Proposition 13 Base Year Distribution (Secured Roll)

Base Year	Parcels	Percent of Total Parcels	Assessed Value	Percent of Total Assessment
1975	56,796	13.05%	\$3,997,592,133	2.15%
1976	3,901	0.90%	\$328,605,078	0.18%
1977	4,787	1.10%	\$472,851,095	0.25%
1978	4,917	1.13%	\$562,569,566	0.30%
1979	5,057	1.16%	\$632,762,549	0.34%
1980	5,166	1.19%	\$809,312,330	0.43%
1981	3,592	0.83%	\$594,849,976	0.32%
1982	3,008	0.69%	\$516,500,737	0.28%
1983	2,570	0.59%	\$460,507,994	0.25%
1984	7,005	1.61%	\$1,313,421,220	0.71%
1985	6,746	1.55%	\$1,308,991,917	0.70%
1986	7,280	1.67%	\$1,572,711,756	0.84%
1987	8,321	1.91%	\$2,043,843,161	1.10%
1988	8,593	1.97%	\$2,060,332,781	1.11%
1989	8,832	2.03%	\$2,369,666,062	1.27%
1990	7,903	1.82%	\$2,355,716,618	1.26%
1991	7,530	1.73%	\$2,345,452,105	1.26%
1992	9,352	2.15%	\$2,887,880,933	1.55%
1993	9,484	2.18%	\$2,749,246,669	1.48%
1994	10,596	2.43%	\$3,347,596,364	1.80%
1995	9,283	2.13%	\$2,963,628,758	1.59%
1996	10,391	2.39%	\$3,465,577,746	1.86%
1997	12,350	2.84%	\$4,444,817,429	2.39%
1998	14,420	3.31%	\$6,150,097,518	3.30%
1999	17,233	3.96%	\$7,644,999,076	4.10%
2000	17,949	4.12%	\$8,562,841,944	4.60%
2001	16,284	3.74%	\$9,802,420,963	5.26%
2002	18,044	4.14%	\$10,288,863,343	5.52%
2003	21,639	4.97%	\$13,600,948,028	7.30%
2004	28,133	6.46%	\$17,831,361,334	9.57%
2005	32,335	7.43%	\$24,223,938,429	13.01%
2006	33,877	7.78%	\$27,681,492,912	14.86%
<u>2007</u>	<u>21,958</u>	<u>5.04%</u>	<u>\$16,865,611,281</u>	<u>9.06%</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>435,332</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$186,257,009,805</b>	<b>100%</b>

## A Word About Property Taxes

Having determined the assessed value of all taxable property and applied all legal exemptions, the Assessor forwards assessments to the Auditor-Controller's Agency. The Auditor assures that the correct tax rate and any special assessments are applied to each property's net taxable value. Then the Auditor calculates the tax amount and extends the property tax to the Treasurer-Tax Collector for billing. Proposition 13 limits the ad valorem property tax rate to 1% of the property's net taxable value. Any percentage over 1% is necessary to make annual payment on voter approved general obligation bonds and other bonded indebtedness.

The property tax revenue collected on the basic 1% tax rate is divided among the public taxing agencies in Alameda County. It supports local schools, cities, redevelopment agencies and special districts and, of course, Alameda County. Refer to the chart below to see how the tax dollar in Alameda County was allocated in 2006-07, the most recent year available.

The fair and equitable valuation and assessment of all taxable property by the Assessor's staff supports the delivery of essential public services provided to all residents and property owners in Alameda County. The Assessor does not apportion, calculate, or bill taxes. For information regarding the allocation of property taxes, please contact the Auditor-Controller at (510) 272-6564. For information regarding the collection of property taxes, please contact the Treasurer-Tax Collector at (510) 272-6800.

### Alameda County Property Tax Distribution (of each dollar of property tax collected)



## Alameda County Cities



**Alameda** offers an amiable, small-town working environment with an exceptional public school system, waterfront vistas, and its own municipal utility company. Residential development is fueled by the conversion of the former Alameda Naval Air Station. A growing list of premium companies that are located in Alameda include Wind River Systems, UTStarcom, Celera Diagnostics, and Abbott Diabetes Care, taking advantage of easy access to transportation and a skilled labor force.



With a population of around 17,000 and more than 350,000 living within a 15-mile radius, **Albany** combines a small-town ambience with its central location in a major metropolitan area. Albany prides itself on being a safe, community-oriented city, with strong services and programs for youth, families and the elderly. It is a city made up primarily of single-family homes and small businesses. Albany's public schools have an outstanding reputation with student test scores at all levels among the highest in the state.



The City of **Berkeley** on the San Francisco Bay, is well known for its environmental policies, disaster preparedness efforts, maintaining affordable housing, preventing homelessness, and promoting healthy families and youth. Committed to building a sustainable community nurtured with economic diversity and a rich cultural environment, the City works in partnership with the community to encourage innovative, creative ideas to maintain a healthy city. Berkeley's economic base includes government, academic, manufacturing, and retail and service sectors. The City also has a multitude of cultural events, parks, and recreational facilities.



**Dublin** is A Great Place to Grow! The City has become an attractive destination for businesses and residents alike who want to have access to transportation (2 major freeways and BART), excellent schools and public facilities, and the full range of housing opportunities. The City has implemented progressive strategies that have seen a tremendous growth in office, retail and residential development in the past decade, with new development underway to meet the demand to live in the Tri-Valley area. The City of Dublin continues to work to expand and enhance the quality of life for members of our community.



**Emeryville** houses only 9,200 people but employs twice that number. It is well known for its corporate giants, Novartis and Pixar Animation Studios, that have located their headquarters in the City and employ a combined 2,500 employees. Considered one of the downtowns of the East Bay, Emeryville has over 4 million square feet of office space, and over one million square feet of retail space. New residential development has increased the housing stock by 46% over the past six years.



As home to the largest automobile manufacturing plant in the western United States, **Fremont's** economy ranges from traditional to emerging manufacturing and research. The community's broad commercial property tax base, along with a strong residential base, has yielded consistent property tax growth throughout the economic cycles of the last decade. In recent years the City has successfully emphasized new retail development, which has further diversified the property tax base, while bolstering the comparatively volatile sales tax base.



The City of **Hayward** has a diverse economic base with major components of light and heavy industry, construction materials, food products, auto and truck sales, general retail and business-to-business transactions. This diversity cushions the impact on employment and revenues of major changes in the national and regional economies. Hayward has two BART stations, a historic downtown, and has experienced a significant increase in new, higher density housing with attendant retail development.

## Alameda County Cities



**Livermore** successfully competes in the global market, powered by its wealth of research, technology and innovation. Livermore's arts, culture, western heritage, and vibrant wine industry provide a unique blend to this special community that is enhanced by its protected park and agricultural land. With more than 800,000 square feet of available commercial space, Livermore's newly revitalized downtown is enlivened by a 500-seat performing arts theatre, a 10-screen movie theatre, retail space, a park plaza, and mixed-use housing. In 2006, Money Magazine rated Livermore one of the "Most desirable places to live in America."



**Newark** is a pleasant community with a "small town" atmosphere that offers quiet residential areas, a plethora of recreation and open space options, convenient retail, and a varied industrial base. Strategically located for businesses, Newark is home to one of the largest retail malls in the East Bay -- the NewPark Mall. The city continues to experience growth in both the high-tech and commercial industries.



**Oakland** is the eighth largest city in California with a diverse urban-suburban real estate environment, steadily rising property values and household income, and growing traditional and emerging local economy. The high standard of living and comparably affordable pricing continue to drive strong demand for housing. Oakland is rated the 4<sup>th</sup> best commercial real estate market in the U.S. by Moody's, with vacancy rates continuing to decline and asking rates remaining competitive.



The City of **Piedmont** is a charter city of approximately 11,000 residents located in the beautiful Oakland Hills, overlooking the San Francisco Bay. The city, which is virtually built out, consists of established, high-quality single-family homes on quiet tree-lined streets. Piedmont is centrally located within a few minutes from Oakland and San Francisco on the West and Concord and Walnut Creek on the East. Within Piedmont's 1.8 square-mile area there are five city parks and numerous landscaped areas which offer wooded paths, tennis courts, children's playgrounds and picnic facilities.



**Pleasanton** is a diverse, family-oriented and business-friendly community of 68,000 that offers an outstanding quality of life. Award-winning schools, parks, facilities and programs couple with thriving business parks and the regional Stoneridge Mall. Pleasanton's thriving business community benefits from large employers like Safeway, Oracle, AT&T and Kaiser Permanente, regional companies and entrepreneurial start-ups. Downtown is the heart of Pleasanton. Historic ambiance, unique shopping and fine dining blend with a broad array of services and a full calendar of events, making Pleasanton a destination community.



Situated in the heart of the greater East Bay, **San Leandro** is a hub of commercial and retail business. With a burgeoning local economy, a wide range of housing options, a highly professional workforce, and a proud history of industry, San Leandro is home to such international companies such as Coca-Cola, Kraft, Otis Spunkmeyer, and Ghirardelli Chocolate. Rich in cultural diversity, San Leandro has been acknowledged as being one of the most neighborhood-diverse communities in California.



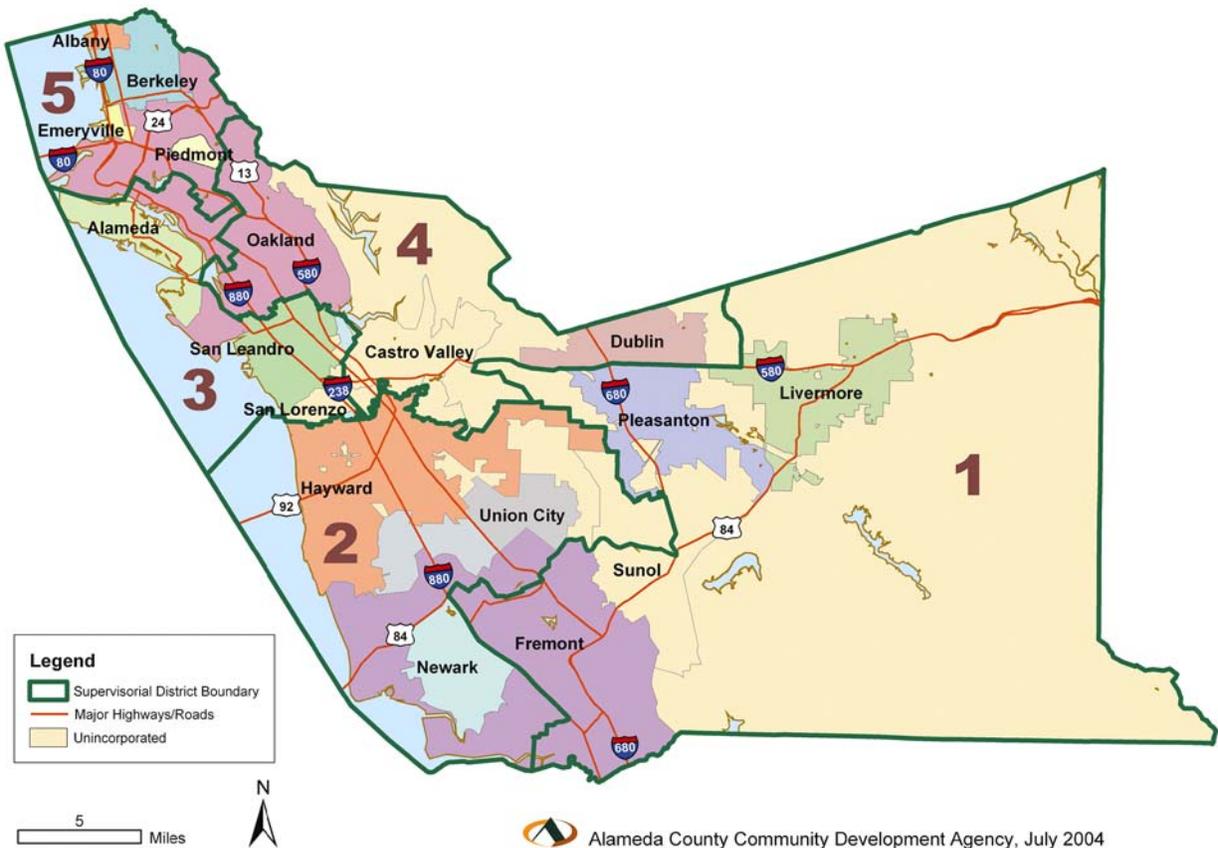
Located at the center of the San Francisco Bay Area, **Union City** is a hub for commerce, providing convenient access to major regional transportation links that will be further enhanced by a visionary transportation intermodal center. The City's strong economy balances professional, business and retail services with manufacturing, transportation, warehousing and new-economy firms. Mixed-use development around the Union City BART station will include retail, housing, office, and community facilities. The City's well-maintained neighborhoods provide housing opportunities for both executives and middle-income families.

## Unincorporated Alameda County



**Unincorporated Alameda County** encompasses over 375 square miles and has a diverse population in excess of 139,000 residents. The area has six distinct communities: Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, San Lorenzo and Sunol. Municipal services are provided by County departments under the policy direction of the Board of Supervisors. The Eastern portion of the unincorporated area is mainly agricultural while the Western portion is home to a thriving business community that includes light industrial, retail and other sectors providing goods and services throughout the Bay Area.

## Alameda County Districts



### Board of Supervisors

- District 1 – Scott Haggerty (President)
- District 2 – Gail Steele
- District 3 – Alice Lai-Bitker (Vice-President)
- District 4 – Nate Miley
- District 5 – Keith Carson

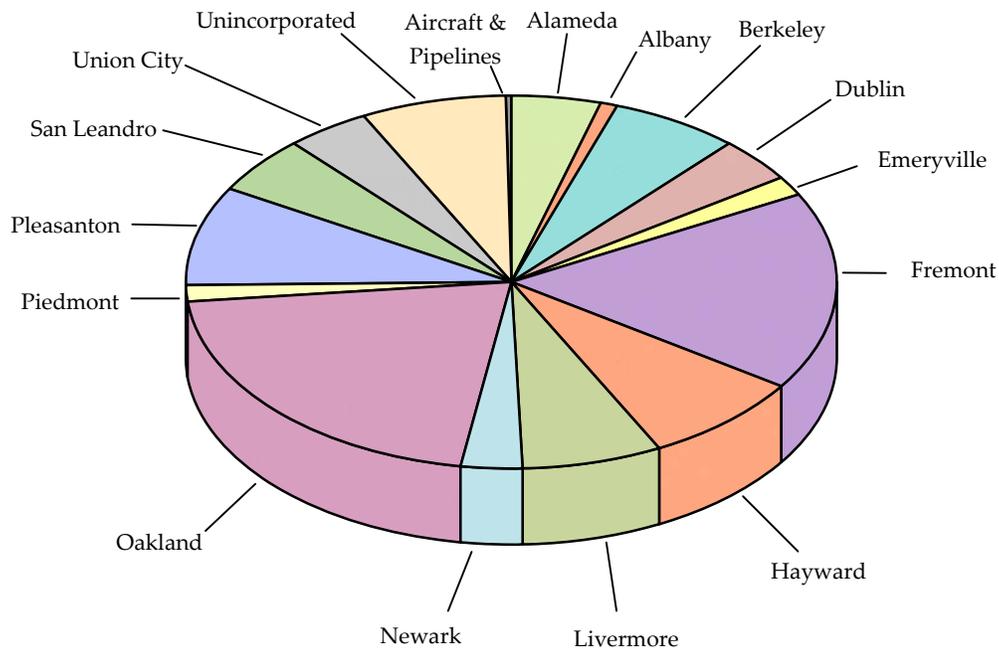
### Alameda County Demographics

- Incorporated: March 25, 1853
- County Seat: Oakland
- 2006 Population: 1,526,148
- Square Miles: 813
- Jurisdictions: 14 cities plus unincorporated areas

## Local Assessment Roll Comparison By Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	2006-07 Roll	2007-08 Roll	Amount of Change	Percent Change	Parcels and Accounts
Alameda	\$8,093,935,920	\$8,750,738,655	\$656,802,735	8.11%	24,843
Albany	\$1,663,130,290	\$1,774,588,044	\$111,457,754	6.70%	6,090
Berkeley	\$11,488,385,770	\$12,340,492,039	\$852,106,269	7.42%	32,919
Dublin	\$7,449,381,878	\$8,226,554,532	\$777,172,654	10.43%	15,469
Emeryville	\$3,319,767,114	\$3,747,053,237	\$427,2186,123	12.87%	6,274
Fremont	\$30,931,391,534	\$33,025,720,131	\$2,094,328,597	6.77%	66,898
Hayward	\$14,600,882,619	\$15,965,564,760	\$1,364,682,141	9.35%	40,429
Livermore	\$12,699,077,736	\$13,796,349,100	\$1,097,271,364	8.64%	32,200
Newark	\$5,556,811,156	\$5,828,383,132	\$271,571,976	4.89%	14,154
Oakland	\$38,097,137,849	\$41,759,036,480	\$3,661,898,631	9.61%	117,710
Piedmont	\$2,602,054,865	\$2,787,861,206	\$185,806,341	7.14%	4,077
Pleasanton	\$15,760,212,488	\$16,841,297,705	\$1,081,085,217	6.86%	26,971
San Leandro	\$9,067,711,546	\$9,633,913,506	\$566,201,960	6.24%	28,298
Union City	\$7,437,618,108	\$7,992,555,621	\$554,937,517	7.47%	19,823
Unincorporated	\$13,534,943,483	\$14,631,670,047	\$1,096,726,564	8.10%	46,514
<u>General Aircraft &amp; Pipelines</u>	<u>\$510,316,862</u>	<u>\$488,035,278</u>	<u>-\$22,281,584</u>	<u>-4.37%</u>	<u>928</u>
<b>Total Alameda County</b>	<b>\$182,812,759,218</b>	<b>\$197,589,813,473</b>	<b>\$14,777,054,259</b>	<b>8.08%</b>	<b>483,597</b>

### 2007- 08 Local Roll Total: \$197,589,813,473



**2007-08 Local Roll Distribution by Property Type and Value  
(Secured Roll)**

Property Type	Number of Parcels	Percent of Total Parcels	Assessed Value	Percent of Total Assessed Value
Single Family Residential	350,997	80.63%	\$119,416,528,843	64.11%
Multi-Family Residential	33,567	7.71%	\$18,334,424,058	9.84%
Commercial and Industrial	21,831	5.01%	\$40,608,526,505	21.80%
Agricultural	3,561	0.82%	\$1,360,579,059	0.73%
Vacant Land	12,041	2.77%	\$4,333,146,891	2.33%
Institutional	1,985	0.46%	\$2,203,804,449	1.18%
<u>Exempt and Utility</u>	<u>11,350</u>	<u>2.61%</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>0%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>435,332</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$186,257,009,805</b>	<b>100%</b>

**2007-08 Unsecured Local Roll by Property Type and Value  
(Unsecured Roll)**

Type of Account	Number of Accounts	Percent of Total Accounts	Assessed Value	Percent of Unsecured Value
General Business	27,930	57.86%	\$7,264,652,434	64.10%
Leased Business Property	5,131	10.63%	\$851,404,398	7.51%
Cable TV	39	0.08%	\$158,507,898	1.40%
Commercial Aircraft	25	0.05%	\$739,370,977	6.52%
Other Aircraft	923	1.91%	\$484,512,282	4.28%
Documented Boats	1,641	3.40%	\$186,192,015	1.64%
Other Boats	8,944	18.53%	\$135,298,233	1.19%
Possessory Interests	3,429	7.10%	\$1,448,962,431	12.79%
<u>Improvements on Leased Land</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>0.42%</u>	<u>\$63,903,000</u>	<u>0.56%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,265</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$11,332,803,668</b>	<b>100%</b>

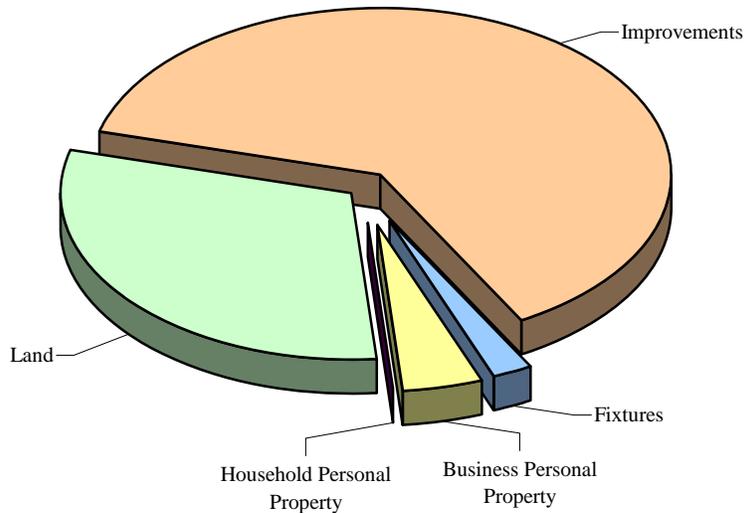
**2007-08 Total Local Roll**

Roll Category	Number of Parcels or Accounts	Percent of Total Parcels or Accounts	Assessed Value	Percent of Assessed Value
Secured	435,332	90.02%	\$186,257,009,805	94.26%
<u>Unsecured</u>	<u>48,265</u>	<u>9.98%</u>	<u>\$11,332,803,668</u>	<u>5.74%</u>
<b>Total Local Roll Value</b>	<b>483,597</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$197,589,813,473</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Local Assessment Roll Comparison by Category

Category	2006-07 Roll	2007-08 Roll	Percent Change
Land	\$55,814,875,059	\$60,842,387,755	9.01%
Improvements (structures)	\$114,856,657,222	\$123,957,794,423	7.92%
<b>Total Land &amp; Improvements</b>	<b>\$170,671,532,281</b>	<b>\$184,800,182,178</b>	<b>8.28%</b>
<u>Fixtures</u>	<u>\$3,881,198,008</u>	<u>\$4,245,789,992</u>	<u>9.39%</u>
<b>Total Real Property</b>	<b>\$174,552,730,289</b>	<b>\$189,045,972,170</b>	<b>8.30%</b>
Business Personal Property	\$8,198,626,049	\$8,485,840,882	3.50%
<u>Household Personal Property</u>	<u>\$61,402,880</u>	<u>\$58,000,421</u>	<u>-5.54%</u>
<b>Total Business Personal Property</b>	<b>\$8,260,028,929</b>	<b>\$8,543,841,303</b>	<b>3.44%</b>
<b>Total Local Taxable Value:</b>	<b>\$182,812,759,218</b>	<b>\$197,589,813,473</b>	<b>8.08%</b>
Less:			
Homeowners' Exemptions	\$1,740,542,896	\$1,751,952,815	0.66%
<u>Other Exemptions</u>	<u>\$4,317,950,547</u>	<u>\$4,886,295,282</u>	<u>13.16%</u>
<b>Net Taxable Value:</b>	<b>\$176,754,265,775</b>	<b>\$190,951,565,376</b>	<b>8.03%</b>

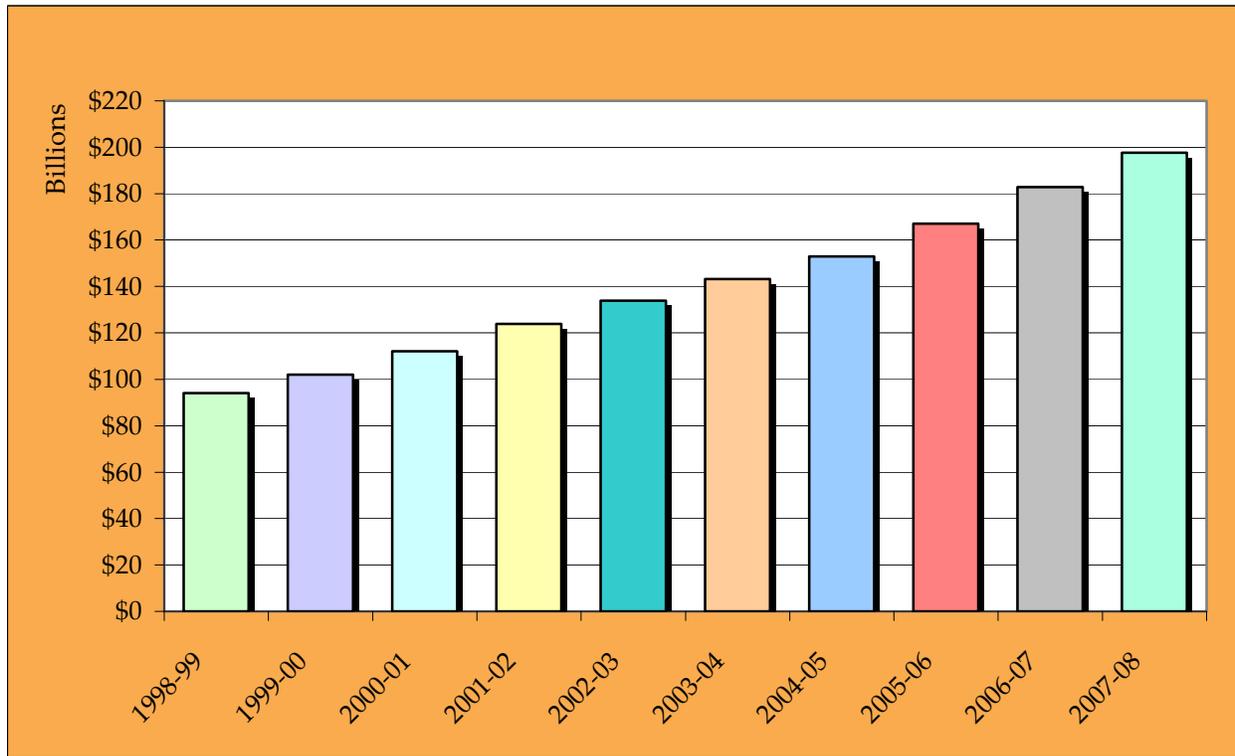
### 2007-08 Net Taxable Value \$190,951,565,376



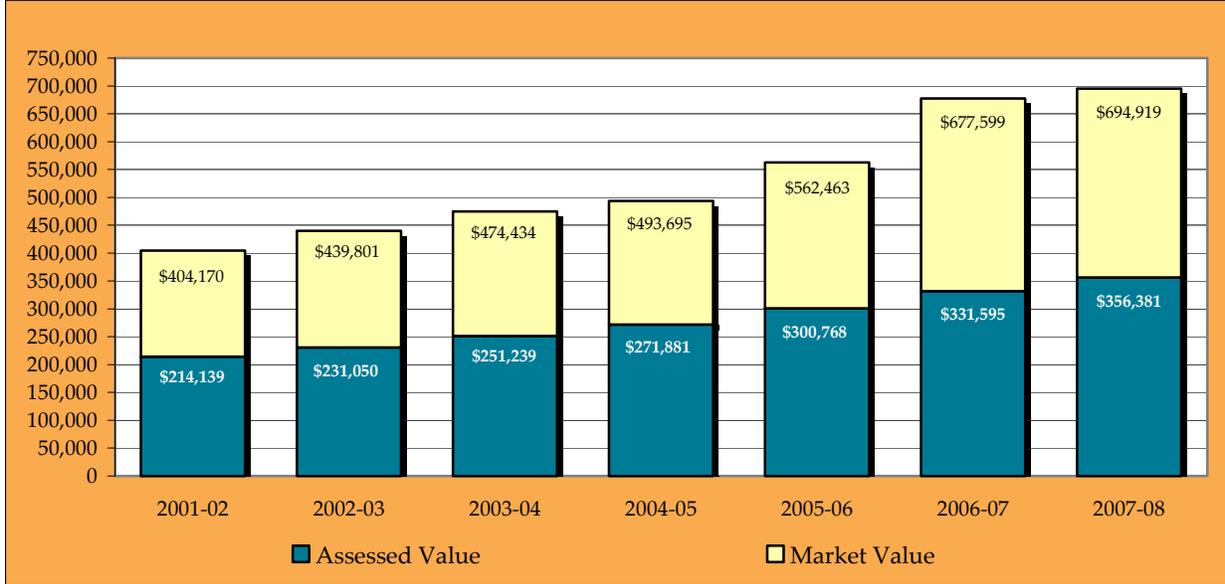
**10-Year History of Local Assessment Rolls**  
(Secured and Unsecured)

Roll Year	Gross Local Roll	Amount of Change	Percentage Change
1998-99	\$94,093,155,559	\$6,541,987,204	7.47%
1999-00	\$101,978,243,443	\$7,885,087,884	8.38%
2000-01	\$112,014,644,404	\$10,036,400,961	9.84%
2001-02	\$123,891,182,151	\$11,876,537,747	10.60%
2002-03	\$133,905,836,714	\$10,014,654,563	8.08%
2003-04	\$143,195,135,746	\$9,289,299,032	6.94%
2004-05	\$152,906,020,919	\$9,710,885,173	6.78%
2005-06	\$167,009,041,170	\$14,103,020,251	9.22%
2006-07	\$182,812,759,218	\$15,803,718,048	9.46%
2007-08	\$197,589,813,473	\$14,777,054,255	8.08%

**10-Year Local Assessment Roll Summary**  
(The local assessment roll in Alameda County has more than doubled in the past 10 years.)



## Single Family Homes (Average Assessed Value vs. Average Market Value)



*NOTE: Proposition 13 limits real estate assessments to a maximum 2% increase per year unless the property changes ownership, has new construction added, or has had a Proposition 8 reduction in the prior year.*



## Exemptions

The Homeowners' Exemption is the exemption with which most taxpayers are familiar. To be eligible homeowners must own and occupy a dwelling as their principal place of residence on January 1. However, there are many

Exemptions	2007-08 Roll	Quantity
Homeowners' Exemption:	\$1,751,952,815	250,037
Other Exemptions:	<u>\$4,886,295,282</u>	<u>2,834</u>
<b>Total Exemptions</b>	<b>\$6,638,250,097</b>	<b>252,871</b>

other exemptions available to taxpayers; qualifying charitable non-profit organizations, religious institutions and private non-profit colleges are a few examples. In addition there is an exemption for 100% service connected disabled veterans. For more information, please call (510) 272-3770 or visit our web site at [www.acgov.org/assessor](http://www.acgov.org/assessor).

## Exclusions

### *Revenue & Taxation Code Section 63.1*

Section 63.1 excludes from reappraisal the principal residence and other property when transferred between **parent and child** and between **grandparent and grandchild** provided specific criteria are met. These criteria include the date of the transfer, total cumulative value transferred, legal relationships of the individuals involved, and the eligibility of the principal residence for a homeowner's exemption.

### *Revenue & Taxation Code Section 69.5*

Section 69.5 allows **any person age 55 or older or severely and permanently disabled** to transfer the base year value of their original property to a replacement dwelling of "equal or lesser value" that is purchased or newly constructed within two years of the sale of the original property. If the base value transfer claim is not filed timely, prospective relief can be granted from the year the claim is filed.

### *Revenue & Taxation Code Sections 74.3 & 74.6*

Section 74.3 provides a **disabled person accessibility exclusion** from reassessment to new construction if it is performed to make an existing single or multiple-family dwelling that is eligible for a homeowner's exemption more accessible to a severely and permanently disabled resident of the dwelling.

Section 74.6 similarly excludes from assessment the construction or modification of any portion or structural component of an existing building except for those structures that qualify for the exclusion provided for in section 74.3 if the work is done for the purpose of making the structure more accessible to, or more usable by, a disabled person.

More information on various exclusions and the forms pertinent to them can be found on the Assessor's website: [www.acgov.org/assessor](http://www.acgov.org/assessor).

## Assessment Appeals Process

In Alameda County, a Notification of Assessed Value indicating the taxable value of each property is mailed in July to all property owners. A taxpayer who disagrees with this assessed value, believing it to be above the January 1 lien date market value, may request an informal review by the Assessor. Property owners should present to the Assessor's office pertinent factual information important to the determination of the property's market value as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current calendar year. If the Assessor agrees that a reduction is warranted the property owner need not file a formal assessment appeal with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

If a difference of opinion still exists, the taxpayer may file a formal appeal application for reduction in the assessed value with the local Assessment Appeals Board. Once an appeal application reaches the Assessor's office a dialogue starts that historically results in almost 75% of filed cases being resolved with no change in assessed value. Nearly 25% of all cases result in stipulations (agreements) to reduce the assessed value. These cases are forwarded to the Appeals Board and rarely require the appearance of the property owner at a hearing. Less than 2% of filed cases are contested before, and decided by, the Appeals Board.

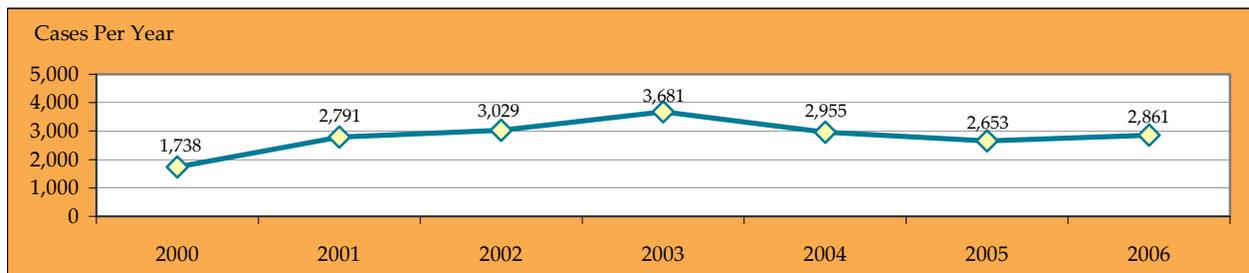
Appeal applications must be filed between July 2 and September 15 with the Assessment Appeals section of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. To appeal a roll correction or supplemental assessment, the application must be filed within 60 days of the date of notice of enrollment of that assessment.

The Assessment Appeal process may result in a Proposition 8 reduction indicating a temporary reduction in value due to a decline in market value below the property's factored base year value (its upper limit). The reduction in assessed value and corresponding reduction in taxes applies only to the year for which the application was filed.

If the Assessment Appeal process results in a change in the base year value set by the Assessor for new construction or change in ownership, the reduction in value applies to the assessment for the year the application was filed and establishes a new base year value for subsequent years.

When a taxpayer appeals the Assessor's determination that a change in ownership has occurred leading to a changed assessment, the legal issue is heard and adjudicated by an independently appointed legal hearing officer.

## Assessment Appeals



*NOTE: Typically less than 1% of locally assessed property is appealed in Alameda County. Less than 2% of these filed cases are contested before, and decided by, the Assessment Appeals Board.*

## Acknowledgements

*I would like to thank my staff, listed here by length of service to Alameda County, for their dedication and hard work in producing the 2007-08 Assessment Roll.*

*Ron Thomsen, Assessor*

Nadia Frazer-Robinow Richard Prien Gaylanda Louie Rubye Jordan Irene Hagebusch  
Gail Sherman Joseph Thomas Joe Hernandez Bernarda Prestoza Perlita Sales Daniel Lozza  
Alan Sobaje Estela Bustos Rita Shaby June Hickman Douglas Takeda  
Raquel Anguiano George Anguiano Guia Corral Stephanie Brown Ted Uemoto  
Nilda Bilardello Russ Hall Gerone Thompson Fred Watkins Maurice Walker Lawrence Le Blanc  
Maurice Taylor Vivian Williams Mary Ann Riggs Joan Duckett Gregoria Cervantes Leslie Rein  
Brian Hitomi Mark Bluford Robin West Virginia Francisco Max De Santis Ty Ding  
Steven Hunter Deanna Maness Amy Legaspi Loretta Richard Editha Ednalaga  
Marites Felber Judith Ibalio Marceal McMillian Nida Ward Henri Phelan Lydia Mallillin  
Norma De Vera Rachel Garcia Harold Julien Dennis Sta. Ana Patricia Ross Jasmine Fidela Barga  
John Thomson Angeli Williams Corinna Domagas Ronald McGlaughlin Bruce Fletcher  
Wil Gex Elvia Diaz Lai Yee Wan Vitalis Ugochukwu Leonides Jesuitas David Tung  
Josefina Mitra Juliette Young Leticia Flores Neriveh Evangelista Elena Bongon Emma Fleming  
Sara Compton Johnnie Rew Sharon Wilkes Erlinda Virrey Annette Liang Quan Lu  
Doryce Bond Tsu-Loong Wu Mary Vanderbeck Sheila Rochelle Green James Johnson  
Ester Camacho Luviminda Lumibao John Grice Mito Del Rosario Bill Cantillo  
Norayda Pollarca Liza Akima Stephen Lawson Mary Herrero Kevin Lopez Wen Jing Xu  
Joann Chau Steven Liu Monica Lantican Elizabeth Evans Kathy Chinn Evelyn Ong Macalino  
Ireneo Gloria Lee Millet Enrique Legaspi Trang Nguyen Maria Zelaya Manuel Carlos  
James Caruthers Melanio Ednalaga Kamal Bello Versie McGee Tserha Yishak Jon Adamic  
James Cisney Imelda Castaneda Arcelia Sierras Mary Ann Enriquez Dolly Centeno  
Anthony Grundy Sylvia Wright Geraldine Suelen Linda Jones Maria Miranda Amy Wong  
Sylvia Craig Eugene Mafnas Johann Navarro Mimi Chau Lesley Semmel Susan Wickson  
Flora Yuen Henry Ruelos Jose Valentin Cheryl Jean DeCastro Rhonda Perez Emma Hernandez  
Jeffrey Nygaard Mary Christine Stark Rebecca Li Ronald Milligan Rhian Pierce-Jones  
Erick Mendoza Mitra Aliabadi Raymond Magtibay Suzanne Mah Eugene Ancheta  
Shirley Deveno Reno Ursal Chau Pham Van Lam Roxanne Alworth Barbara Massey  
Rozel Perez-Work Zachary Caster John Fossett Daniel Mason Leticia Briseno Bonnie Lau  
Christyn Medina Dennie Severy Rey Aquino Michael Wu Josephine Tang Daisy Jew  
Danli Li Carol Clemons Robert Peck Maggie Lee Agnes Wu Christine Panganiban  
Annie Wong Eric Leung Norman Mallillin Joe Pomar Linh Dang

## Administration Building



## Contact List

Assessor	(510) 272-3755
Assessee Services	(510) 272-3787
<i>Toll Free South County</i>	(800) 660-7725
Administration/Personnel	(510) 272-3760
Business Personal Property	(510) 272-3836
Exemptions ( <i>Homeowners</i> )	(510) 272-3770
( <i>Other</i> )	(510) 272-6587
Ownership Information	(510) 272-3800

### OTHER PROPERTY TAX RELATED DEPARTMENTS

Recorder ( <i>Documents</i> )	(510) 272-6363
Auditor ( <i>Tax Rates</i> )	(510) 272-6564
Tax Collector	(510) 272-6800
( <i>Tax Payment Issues</i> )	
Clerk, Board of Supervisors	(510) 272-6352
( <i>Assessment Appeals</i> )	

## Directions

The County Assessor's Office is located in the County Administration Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 1221 Oak Street, Oakland.

Business Personal Property is located at 125 12th Street, Suite 320, Oakland.

Parking is available in the Alcopark parking garage at 1221 Jackson Street, Oakland.

### **I-880 North from Fremont/Hayward/San Leandro**

Take the Oak Street exit, turn right on Oak Street and proceed 5 blocks toward the courthouse.

### **I-580 West from Livermore/Castro Valley**

Take I-580 West, exit Lakeshore Drive, turn left and proceed around Lake Merritt to 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Cross Oak Street, turn left on Madison Street, cross 13<sup>th</sup> Street, and park.

### **I-80 East from San Francisco/Emeryville**

Take I-580 East to I-980 South to I-880 South to the Jackson Street exit. Turn left on Jackson Street then turn right on 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Proceed 2 blocks to Oak Street.



### **Taking BART**

Take the appropriate train to the Lake Merritt station and walk 3 blocks on Oak Street toward the courthouse.

**Office of the Assessor**  
1221 Oak Street  
Oakland, CA 94612  
[www.acgov.org/assessor](http://www.acgov.org/assessor)

***Property Assessment Calendar***

January 1	The date taxes for the next fiscal year become a lien on property
February 15	Deadline to file all exemption claims
April 1	Due date for filing statements for business personal property, aircraft, and boats
April 10	Last day to pay second installment of secured property taxes without penalty
May 7	Last day to file a business personal property statement without incurring a 10% penalty
July 1	Local assessment roll is surrendered to the County Auditor. The local assessment roll is the official list of all taxable property within the county
July 2	First day to file assessment appeal application with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.
Mid-July	Annual mailing of assessment notices to all Alameda County real property owners stating the taxable value of the property
August 31	Regular roll unsecured taxes due
September 15	Last day to file an assessment appeal application for reduced assessment with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
December 10	Last day to pay first installment of secured property taxes without penalty

