

Office of the Assessor  
**ALAMEDA COUNTY**  
2014-15 ANNUAL REPORT



Ron Thomsen  
Assessor



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# ***Alameda County's Mission, Vision, and Values***

## ***Mission***

To enrich the lives of Alameda County residents through visionary policies and accessible, responsive, and effective services.

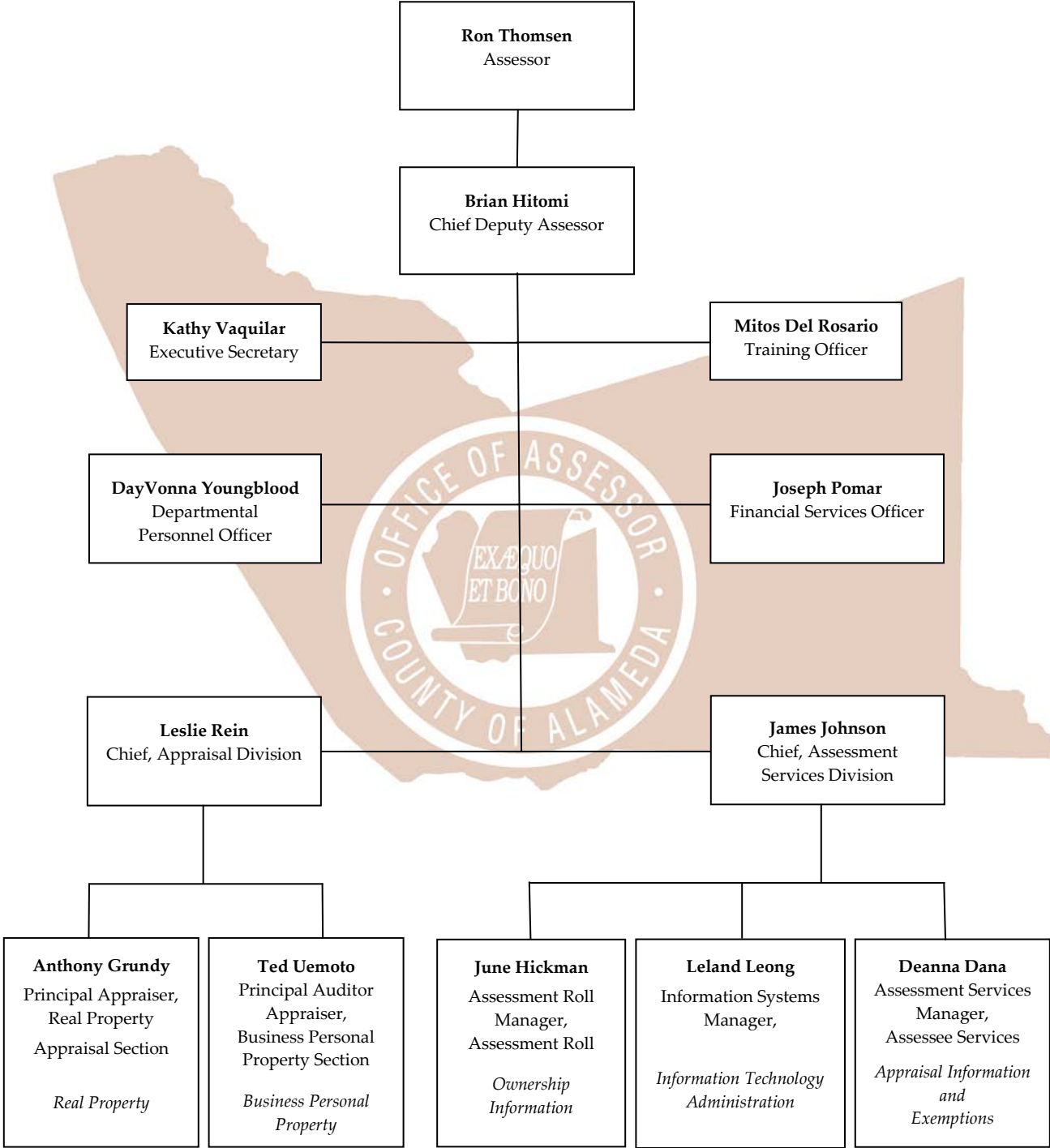
## ***Vision***

Alameda County is recognized as one of the best counties in which to live, work and do business.

## ***Values***

- Integrity, honesty and respect fostering mutual trust.
- Transparency and accountability achieved through open communications and involvement of diverse community voices.
- Fiscal stewardship reflecting the responsible management of resources.
- Customer service built on commitment, accessibility and responsiveness.
- Excellence in performance based on strong leadership, teamwork and a willingness to take risks.
- Diversity recognizing the unique qualities of every individual and his or her perspective.
- Environmental stewardship to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources.
- Social responsibility promoting self-sufficiency, economic independence and an interdependent system of care and support.
- Compassion ensuring all people are treated with respect, dignity and fairness.

# Organization Chart



## A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSESSOR

Ron Thomsen

*The Office of Assessor mission is to provide timely and accurate assessment services to all Alameda County citizens and taxpayers in a manner resulting in fair and equitable treatment. We will continue to administer your quality assessment program in a cost-efficient manner, while providing you the best public service possible.*

*The 2014-15 local roll was timely completed and delivered on June 24, 2014 and included assessments of 497,000 properties within Alameda County. The assessed value of these properties totaled \$229.2 billion, a \$13.9 billion increase from the previous year. The net local roll, after all legal exemptions have been applied, totals \$218.6 billion. The primary reason for the 6.47% increase in this year's assessed value growth is attributed to the recovery in real estate market values. Properties that were afforded reduced assessments in prior years due to market value declines continue to receive increases in their assessed values due to rising market values. These properties are not limited to the mandatory 2% maximum increase on Proposition 13 base year assessments. Many of these property owners therefore have noticed their assessed values have increased significantly but are still either assessed at the lesser of their indexed base year value or the current market value as of January 1, 2014.*



*There are still 53,000 properties assessed at their January 1<sup>st</sup> market values because they were less than their Proposition 13 indexed base year value. This is a drop from 92,000 properties reduced last year. The assessed value reduction afforded these 53,000 properties totaled \$7.9 billion, or \$8.2 billion less than last year's reductions.*

*Other factors leading to this year's assessment growth included the mandatory inflation index of .454% being applied to all property's assessed values that were not affected by assessment declines in prior years. This inflation index added \$800 million. Reassessments due to sales/transfers of real estate added \$5.2 billion, new construction activity added \$1.2 billion, while business personal property assessments actually decreased by \$567 million.*

*Once again, even with the large reduction in assessed values due to current market conditions the current assessment roll will generate more than \$2 billion in revenue for our public schools, 14 cities, Alameda County and special districts.*

*Our continued focus will be to timely complete the local assessment roll while once again staying under budget and to be responsive to the fluctuating real estate market conditions.*

*With more than 1.5 million people, Alameda County is the 7<sup>th</sup> most populous of the 58 counties in California. It is both a great responsibility and an honor to be your Assessor. Once again I thank my entire team for their dedication and commitment in performing their duties and for providing you with the highest level of public service. I encourage you to visit our newly designed and enhanced website, [www.acgov.com/assessor](http://www.acgov.com/assessor) that offers many of our services online, and as always if you have any suggestions on how we might serve you better, please let me know.*

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 447,000 parcels of real estate and nearly 50,000 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 nearly 65,000 recorded documents affecting title to real estate and more than 18,200 building permits annually. These events typically require the Assessor's staff to reappraise more than 26,200 parcels of real estate that have changed ownership and more than 6,500 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 50,000 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 24, 2014 totaled nearly \$229.2 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, 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



2014 Service Awardees for 5 to 35 years of Alameda County Service



Suzanne Mah and Vickie Miyashiro  
Commercial-Industrial Appraisers



Gabriela Hernandez Beltran, Mapping Technician  
and Charles Ludwig, Mapping Supervisor



Quan Lu and Vitalis Ugochukwu  
Supervising Auditor Appraisers



Rosemary Dorman and Lesley Semmel  
Assessor's Technicians



Marites Felber, Assessor's Technician



Tahisa Harris, Assessor's Technician



DayVonna Youngblood,  
Departmental Personnel Officer



Rhianon Maple and Cynthia Clifton  
Assessor's Technicians

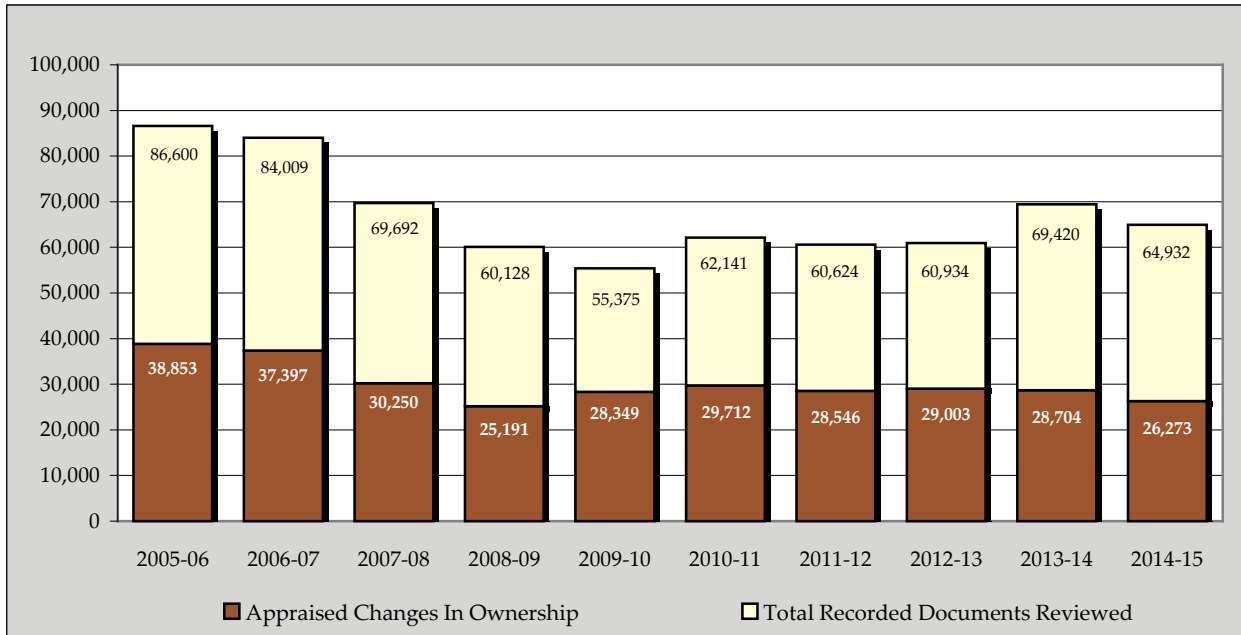


Maggie Lee, Apartment Appraiser  
and Liza Akima, Residential Appraiser



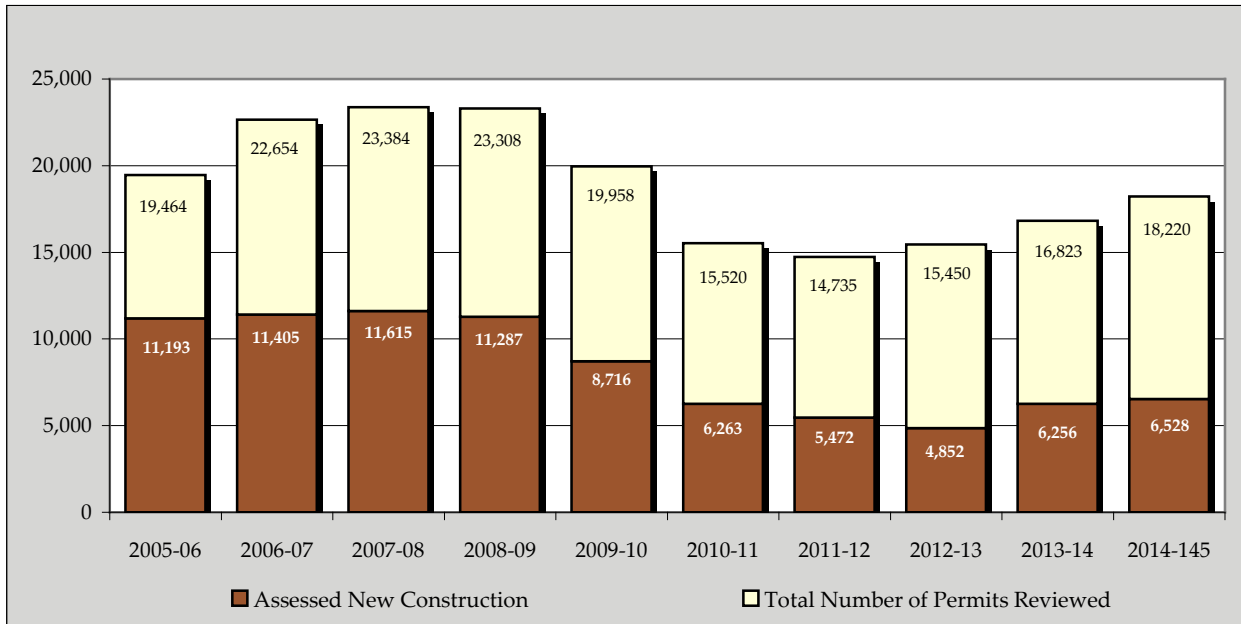
# Real Estate Related Production

## 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

Base Year	Parcels	Percent of Total Parcels	Assessed Value	Percent of Total Assessment
1975 – 1982	69,536	15.52%	\$6,857,969,818	3.17%
1983	2,156	0.48%	\$394,699,944	0.18%
1984	5,770	1.29%	\$1,138,763,442	0.53%
1985	5,556	1.24%	\$1,150,401,002	0.53%
1986	6,079	1.36%	\$1,362,422,388	0.63%
1987	6,995	1.56%	\$1,746,451,196	0.81%
1988	7,179	1.60%	\$1,837,258,399	0.85%
1989	7,267	1.62%	\$2,090,416,038	0.97%
1990	6,504	1.45%	\$2,075,522,718	0.96%
1991	6,131	1.37%	\$2,048,517,744	0.95%
1992	7,657	1.71%	\$2,493,146,446	1.15%
1993	7,845	1.75%	\$2,366,112,585	1.09%
1994	8,595	1.92%	\$2,831,394,835	1.31%
1995	7,451	1.66%	\$2,585,268,582	1.19%
1996	8,261	1.84%	\$2,855,432,117	1.32%
1997	9,751	2.18%	\$3,498,991,721	1.62%
1998	11,191	2.50%	\$4,740,421,269	2.19%
1999	13,041	2.91%	\$5,918,946,849	2.74%
2000	13,033	2.91%	\$6,213,595,968	2.87%
2001	11,541	2.58%	\$6,921,642,140	3.20%
2002	12,429	2.77%	\$7,187,731,366	3.32%
2003	14,645	3.27%	\$9,293,530,652	4.29%
2004	17,834	3.98%	\$10,864,416,780	5.02%
2005	17,625	3.93%	\$11,808,556,354	5.46%
2006	14,835	3.31%	\$11,758,032,441	5.43%
2007	15,640	3.49%	\$12,193,066,864	5.63%
2008	14,371	3.21%	\$10,837,959,799	5.01%
2009	18,068	4.03%	\$10,986,950,902	5.08%
2010	19,993	4.46%	\$11,428,161,438	5.28%
2011	19,361	4.32%	\$12,652,505,929	5.85%
2012	21,306	4.76%	\$13,434,870,886	6.21%
2013	24,804	5.54%	\$16,847,683,416	7.79%
2014	<u>15,528</u>	<u>3.47%</u>	<u>\$15,978,072,815</u>	<u>7.38%</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>447,978</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$216,398,914,843</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 2013-14, 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)*



*\* Over time, redevelopment agencies' share of property taxes should be distributed to the other agencies.*



## Alameda County Cities



**Alameda** offers a charming, small-town working environment with an exceptional public school system, waterfront vistas, and its own municipal utility company. New residential development is occurring along key waterfront sites along the estuary and bay. A growing list of premium companies, including North Face, Celera Diagnostics, Donsuemor, Semifreddi's, and Perforce are located in Alameda to take advantage of easy access to transportation and a skilled labor force.



**Albany** combines a small-town ambiance with its central location in a major metropolitan area. Albany prides itself on being a community-oriented city, with strong programs for youth, families and seniors, and an emphasis on sustainability. Albany's public schools have an outstanding reputation. The commercial sector includes a pedestrian-friendly small business district, home to the annual "Solano Stroll", the high visibility San Pablo Avenue, including service, retail and mixed use development, and a redevelopment zone abutting I-80/I-580 which houses large retail and light industry.



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**, located in the desirable Tri-Valley region, is one of California's most rapidly growing communities. The City is an attractive destination for businesses and residents alike who want access to transportation (two major freeways and two BART stations), excellent schools, parks and public facilities, safe neighborhoods, and a wide variety of housing types. The City has progressive policies that promote quality growth in office, retail and residential development. The City of Dublin continues to work to expand and enhance the quality of life for all members of our community.



**Emeryville** houses only 10,269 people but employs twice that number. Emeryville is home to both small and large businesses and prides itself on supporting a business-friendly culture. Well known for its corporate leaders – Novartis, AAA of Northern California, Clif Bar, Leapfrog, Whole Foods, Peets Coffee, and Pixar Animation Studios – Emeryville is also a magnet for biotechnology enterprise on the leading edge of alternative bio-fuel development. Emeryville has over 4.0 million square feet of office space, an estimated 1 million square feet of space devoted to laboratory research and development, and over 1.4 million square feet of retail space.



**Fremont** is the fourth largest city in the Bay Area, with a population of over 220,000, and is home to advanced manufacturing, clean tech and life sciences—just a few of the leading-edge industry clusters. The City values its many companies, excellent schools, wide range of housing options, and acres of parks and open space, all of which provide a strong and diverse economic base and high quality of life. Fremont is poised to begin developing two key initiatives: the initial phase of the Downtown, and the Innovation District in Warm Springs/South Fremont. With the opening of the new Warm Springs/South Fremont BART station in late 2015, Fremont will be the connection point between San Francisco and Silicon Valley.



The City of **Hayward**, long known as the Heart of the Bay, has a proud tradition of strong neighborhoods and quality business development. As the second-most diverse City in the State, Hayward is well positioned for the businesses of today and tomorrow with a strong manufacturing and technology base including an expanding high technology and life science sector. Quality new transit oriented development, significant investment in infrastructure, and highly visible public art has helped promote this community as the ideal home for a wide range of families and businesses.

## Alameda County Cities



**Livermore**, with over 83,000 residents, is an eclectic blend of science and technology, arts, cattle ranching and agriculture, and award-winning wineries. The City's renowned reputation in science, technology, and innovation is showcased at both Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories. The Livermore Premium Outlets on Interstate-580 and the award-winning downtown provide a wide range of shopping, dining, and entertainment opportunities for residents and visitors alike. These assets, coupled with Livermore's business-friendly atmosphere and housing mix, make this community a welcoming place for entrepreneurs and businesses of all sizes.



**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's** small town ambience combines with a metropolitan edge that contributed to its inclusion as the only Bay Area city on *Money Magazine's* 2010 list of *America's 100 Best Small Cities*. This city of 70,000 supports a thriving business community of more than 4,000 companies, from Fortune 500 to home-grown innovation firms. Pleasanton's highly educated population and workforce reflect a community that values education and has a preeminent school system. Downtown Pleasanton is a charming historic destination with a mix of unique shops, services and restaurants, and nearby Stoneridge Shopping Center features more than 165 specialty stores.



A dynamic and diverse community of 86,000 residents located in the center of the Bay Area, **San Leandro** maintains a safe, small-town feel, while offering a wide range of shopping, dining, recreation, miles of shoreline, and easy access to regional parks and nature areas. Local businesses enjoy many advantages including close proximity to Oakland International Airport and the Port of Oakland, two major freeways, two BART stations, and access to a large, well-educated workforce. Through a public-private partnership known as Lit San Leandro ([www.LitSanLeandro.com](http://www.LitSanLeandro.com)), a fiber optic network circles the city's industrial and commercial core offering businesses virtually unlimited internet connectivity.



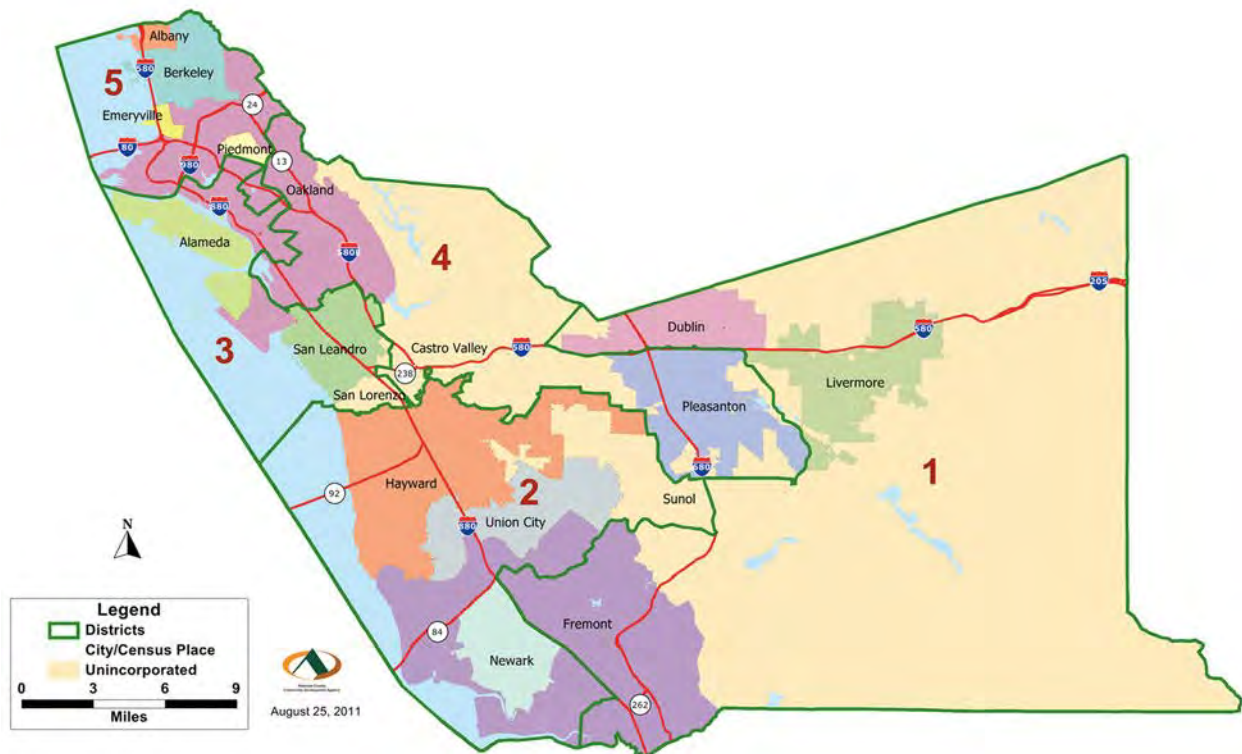
Located at the center of the San Francisco Bay Area, **Union City** is a hub for commerce, providing convenient access to major regional transportation links that will be further enhanced by a visionary transportation intermodal center. The City's strong economy balances professional, business and retail 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 Demographics

- District 1 – Scott Haggerty (Vice-President)
- District 2 – Richard Valle
- District 3 – Wilma Chan
- District 4 – Nate Miley
- District 5 – Keith Carson (President)

### Alameda County

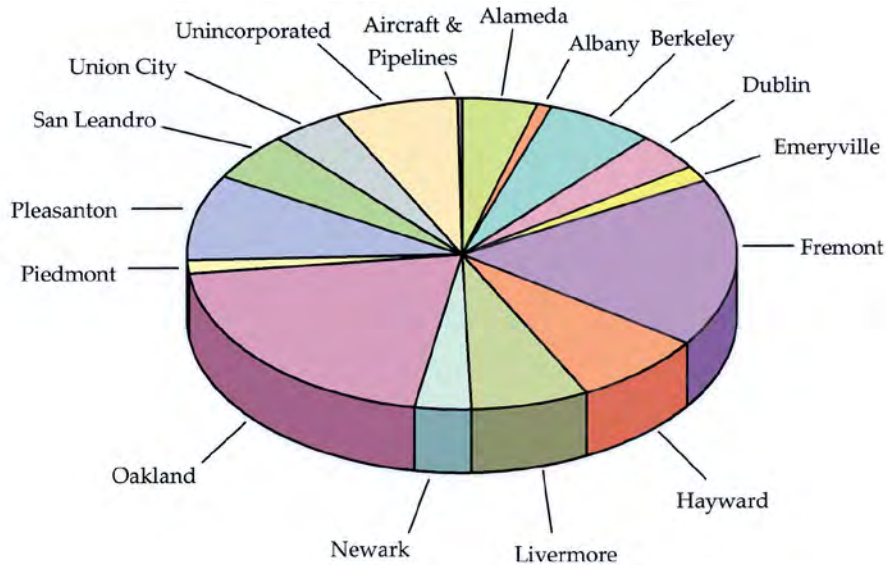
Incorporated: March 25, 1853  
County Seat: Oakland  
2013 Population: 1,578,891  
Square Miles: 813  
Jurisdictions: 14 cities plus  
unincorporated areas



## Local Assessment Roll Comparison By Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	2013-14 Roll	2014-15 Roll	Amount of Change	Percent Change	Parcels and Accounts
Alameda	\$10,014,728,209	\$10,623,262,380	\$608,534,171	6.08%	24,792
Albany	\$2,087,238,502	\$2,200,320,820	\$113,082,318	5.42%	6,168
Berkeley	\$15,191,540,638	\$15,702,907,014	\$511,366,376	3.37%	33,355
Dublin	\$9,753,326,874	\$11,235,407,341	\$1,482,080,467	15.20%	19,261
Emeryville	\$4,118,312,883	\$4,318,484,727	\$200,171,844	4.86%	6,702
Fremont	\$36,286,477,208	\$38,693,703,898	\$2,407,226,690	6.63%	69,324
Hayward	\$16,274,654,148	\$17,481,582,839	\$1,206,928,691	7.42%	42,148
Livermore	\$14,173,640,926	\$15,060,731,596	\$887,090,670	6.26%	33,343
Newark	\$6,123,799,695	\$6,572,806,455	\$449,006,760	7.33%	14,139
Oakland	\$45,026,017,385	\$47,661,054,055	\$2,635,036,670	5.85%	120,594
Piedmont	\$3,390,514,892	\$3,561,836,855	\$171,321,963	5.05%	4,078
Pleasanton	\$18,009,482,440	\$19,049,290,751	\$1,039,808,311	5.77%	27,838
San Leandro	\$10,777,621,447	\$11,524,928,215	\$747,306,768	6.93%	28,163
Union City	\$8,275,427,619	\$8,816,642,738	\$541,215,119	6.54%	19,995
Unincorporated	\$15,130,415,287	\$16,074,066,629	\$943,651,342	6.24%	46,556
<u>General Aircraft &amp; Pipelines</u>	<u>\$653,433,869</u>	<u>\$640,095,473</u>	<u>-\$13,338,396</u>	<u>-2.04%</u>	<u>922</u>
<b>Total Alameda County</b>	<b>\$215,286,632,022</b>	<b>\$229,217,121,786</b>	<b>\$13,930,489,764</b>	<b>6.47%</b>	<b>497,378</b>

### 2014-15 Local Roll \$229,217,121,786



**2014-15 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	365,751	81.64%	\$137,721,516,403	63.64%
Multi-Family Residential	33,456	7.47%	\$22,307,160,532	10.31%
Commercial and Industrial	21,478	4.79%	\$47,333,883,834	21.87%
Agricultural	3,483	0.78%	\$1,501,739,703	0.69%
Vacant Land	9,955	2.22%	\$4,663,021,153	2.15%
Institutional	2,062	0.46%	\$2,871,593,218	1.33%
<u>Exempt and Utility</u>	<u>11,793</u>	<u>2.63%</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>0%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>447,978</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$216,398,914,843</b>	<b>100%</b>

**2014-15 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	30,036	60.80%	\$8,172,248,304	63.76%
Leased Business Property	6,239	12.63%	\$715,615,510	5.58%
Cable TV	38	0.08%	\$147,813,008	1.15%
Commercial Aircraft	33	0.07%	\$581,954,306	4.54%
Other Aircraft	917	1.86%	\$636,245,134	4.96%
Documented Boats	1,693	3.43%	\$144,298,611	1.13%
Other Boats	6,697	13.56%	\$82,615,249	0.64%
Possessory Interests	3,571	7.23 %	\$2,252,436,621	17.57%
<u>Improvements on Leased Land</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>0.36%</u>	<u>\$84,980,200</u>	<u>0.66%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,400</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$12,818,206,943</b>	<b>100%</b>

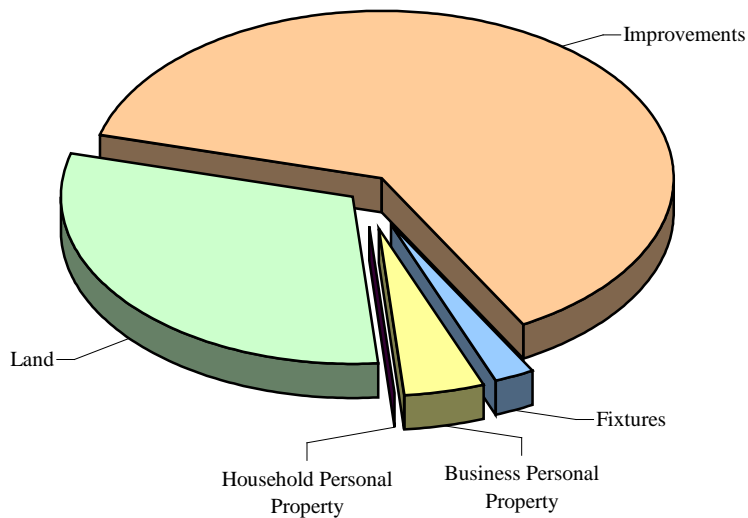
**2014-15 Total Local Roll**

Roll Category	Number of Parcels or Accounts	Percent of Total Parcels or Accounts	Assessed Value	Percent of Assessed Value
Secured	447,978	90.07%	\$216,398,914,843	94.41%
<u>Unsecured</u>	<u>49,400</u>	<u>9.93%</u>	<u>\$12,818,206,943</u>	<u>5.59%</u>
<b>Total Local Roll Value</b>	<b>497,378</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$229,217,121,786</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Local Assessment Roll Comparison by Category

Category	2013-14 Roll	2014-15 Roll	Percent Change
Land	\$65,196,367,864	\$69,670,756,351	6.86%
Improvements (structures)	\$135,430,747,069	\$145,453,739,002	7.40%
<b>Total Land &amp; Improvements</b>	<b>\$200,627,114,933</b>	<b>\$215,124,495,353</b>	<b>7.23%</b>
<u>Fixtures</u>	<u>\$4,206,697,615</u>	<u>\$4,784,750,471</u>	<u>13.74%</u>
<b>Total Real Property</b>	<b>\$204,833,812,548</b>	<b>\$219,909,245,824</b>	<b>7.36%</b>
Business Personal Property	\$10,384,158,805	\$9,237,239,151	-11.04%
<u>Household Personal Property</u>	<u>\$68,660,669</u>	<u>\$70,636,811</u>	<u>2.88%</u>
<b>Total Business Personal Property</b>	<b>\$10,452,819,474</b>	<b>\$9,307,875,962</b>	<b>-10.95%</b>
<b>Total Local Taxable Value:</b>	<b>\$215,286,632,022</b>	<b>\$229,217,121,786</b>	<b>6.47%</b>
Less:			
Homeowners' Exemptions	\$1,735,310,279	\$1,726,689,041	-0.50%
<u>Other Exemptions</u>	<u>\$7,572,282,690</u>	<u>\$8,864,798,274</u>	<u>17.07%</u>
<b>Net Taxable Value:</b>	<b>\$205,979,039,053</b>	<b>\$218,625,634,471</b>	<b>6.14%</b>

### 2014-15 Net Taxable Value \$218,625,634,471

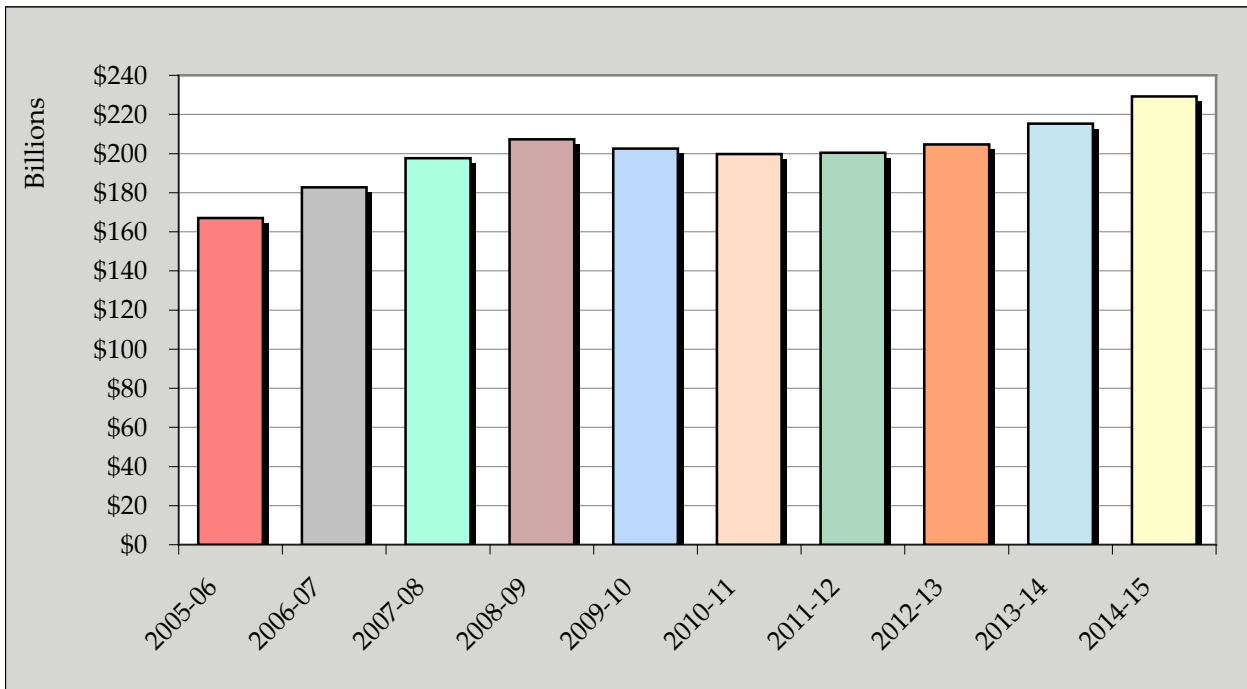




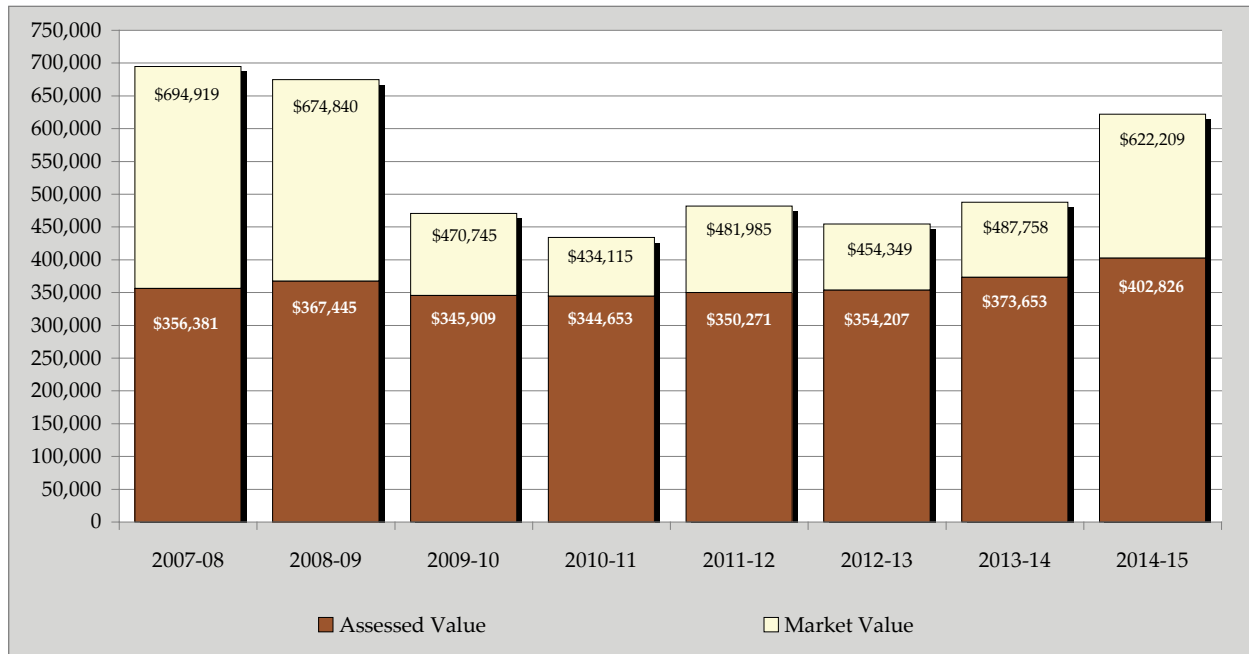
**10-Year History of Local Assessment Rolls  
(Secured and Unsecured)**

Roll Year	Gross Local Roll	Amount of Change	Percentage Change
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%
2008-09	\$207,212,661,324	\$9,622,847,851	4.87%
2009-10	\$202,574,990,378	-\$4,637,670,946	-2.24%
2010-11	\$199,686,160,435	-\$2,888,829,943	-1.43%
2011-12	\$200,415,501,016	\$729,340,581	0.37%
2012-13	\$204,700,974,963	\$4,285,473,947	2.14%
2013-14	\$215,286,632,022	\$10,585,657,059	5.17%
2014-15	\$229,217,121,786	\$13,930,489,764	6.47%

**10-Year Local Assessment Roll Summary  
(Secured and Unsecured)**



## 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 Homeowner’s 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	2014-15 Roll	Quantity
Homeowner’s Exemption	\$1,726,689,041	246,561
Other Exemptions	<u>\$8,864,798,274</u>	<u>3,055</u>
<b>Total Exemptions</b>	<b>\$10,591,487,315</b>	<b>249,616</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.

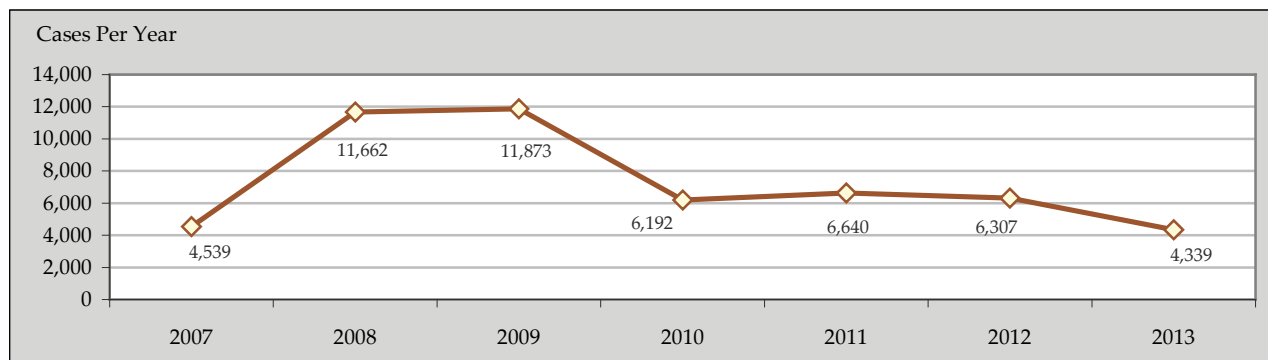
Appeal applications must be filed between July 2 and September 15 with the Assessment Appeals section of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. To appeal a roll correction or supplemental assessment, the application must be filed within 60 days of the date of notice of enrollment of that assessment.

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 2014-15 Assessment Roll.*

*Ron Thomsen, Assessor*

Nadia Frazer-Robinow Gail Sherman June Hickman Douglas Takeda Raquel Anguiano  
Guia Corral Stephanie Brown Ted Uemoto Gerone Thompson Maurice Walker  
Maurice Taylor Leslie Rein Brian Hitomi Mark Bluford Robin West Virginia Francisco  
Deanna Dana Steven Hunter Amy Legaspi Editha Ednalaga Marites Felber Judith Ibalio  
Marceal McMillian Rachel Garcia Patricia Ross Jasmine Fidela Barga Angeli Williams  
Norman Mallillin Elvia Diaz Lai Yee Wan Vitalis Ugochukwu Leonides Jesuitas  
David Tung Juliette Young Leticia Flores Neriveh Evangelista Emma Fleming Quan Lu  
Tsu-Loong Wu Mary Vanderbeck Sheila Green James Johnson Ester Camacho  
Luviminda Lumibao Mitos Del Rosario Norayda Pollarca-Gambucci Liza Akima Mary Herrero  
Kevin Lopez Kathy Vaquilar Wen Jing Xu Joann Chau Steven Liu Monica Lantican  
Kathy Chinn Evelyn Macalino Renaldo Gloria Lee Millet Enrique Legaspi Trang Nguyen  
Maria Zelaya Melanio Ednalaga Kamal Bello Versie McGee Tserha Yishak Jon Adamic  
Imelda Castaneda Arcelia Sierras Garcia Mary Ann Enriquez Dolly Centeno Anthony Grundy  
Sylvia Wright Amy Wong Sylvia Craig Eugene Mafnas Johann Navarro Mimi Chau  
Lesley Semmel Susan Wickson Flora Yuen Henry Ruelos Jose Valentin Cheryl Jean DeCastro  
Emma Hernandez Jeffrey Nygaard Mary Christine Stark Rebecca Li Chau Pham Van Lam  
Rhian Pierce-Jones Erick Mendoza Mitra Aliabadi Raymond Magtibay Suzanne Mah  
Eugene Ancheta Reno Ursal Rozel Perez John Fossett Leticia Briseno Bonnie Lau-Darabian  
Christyn Medina Dennie Warren Eileen Lee Josephine Tang Daisy Jew Carol Clemons  
Agnes Wu Robert Peck Eric Leung Joe Pomar Linh Dang Dizona San Pedro Maggie Lee  
Meesha Parker Kenneth Wong David Gramlich John Abbott Georgia Stevenson  
Melissa Padilla Shannon Hall Maryann Smith Buendalene Lozada Leland Leong  
Fidelito Ibalio Marion Navassartian Oscar Ortiz Michael Shieh Michael Young Kristi Roy  
Herbert Javier Jingxuan Li Pat Minor Israel Padilla Stephen Buxton Sandy Humphreys  
Teri Davis Joan Dimarucut Kenneth Chan Neysan Soleiman Jodie Bland Lynette Craig  
Tahisha Harris Christopher Nguyen Mai-Ling Boujwa Mika Hankins Andrew Greenlees  
Vickie Miyashiro John Merlie DayVonna Youngblood Elizabeth Bourland Krista Jones  
Yolanda Cordova Matthew Lim Rosemary Dorman Yazmin Gonzalez Evguenia Guilbert  
Solomon Kiflom Gabriela Hernandez Beltran Jonathan Lawton Charles Ludwig Cynthia Clifton  
Bonnie Millet Angelina Rodriguez Ma Joyce Castelo Sally Paul Jody Reichel Rhianon Maple  
Heidi Blackmon Christine Iribe Felicia Walker Larry Smith, Jr. Justin Dailey

## Administration Building



## Contact List

Assessor	(510) 272-3755
Assessee Services	(510) 272-3787
<i>Toll Free</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 on Jackson Street between 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **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

