

FINAL DRAFT 2026 Regional Growth Forecast
University of California, Santa Cruz

POPULATION (Population data are FTE)													
	Historical				Forecast (may be on or off campus)					Chg.2020-2050		Chg.2023-50	
	2010	2015	2020	2023	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	Num.	%	Num.	%
AMBAG Region	732,708	762,933	774,105	762,456	784,684	794,720	803,136	809,027	813,708	39,603	5%	51,252	7%
% change		4.1%	1.5%	-1.5%	2.9%	1.3%	1.1%	0.7%	0.6%				
UCSC	16,332	16,987	18,408	18,544	22,500	25,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	9,592	52%	9,456	51%
% change		4.0%	8.4%	0.7%	21.3%	11.1%	12.0%	0.0%	0.0%				

GROUP QUARTERS POPULATION (Population living in dorms or similar group housing.)													
	Historical				Forecast (may be on or off campus)					Chg.2020-2050		Chg.2023-50	
	2010	2015	2020	2023	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	Num.	%	Num.	%
AMBAG Region	32,501	35,774	38,297	36,443	41,281	43,549	44,361	44,902	45,177	6,880	18%	8,734	24%
% change		10.1%	7.1%	-4.8%	13.3%	5.5%	1.9%	1.2%	0.6%				
UCSC	6,226	8,756	9,035	9,247	12,139	13,885	16,188	16,188	16,188	7,153	79%	6,941	75%
% change		40.6%	3.2%	2.3%	31.3%	14.4%	16.6%	0.0%	0.0%				

HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (FTE minus group quarters.)													
	Historical				Forecast (may be on or off campus)					Chg.2020-2050		Chg.2023-50	
	2010	2015	2020	2023	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	Num.	%	Num.	%
AMBAG Region	700,207	727,159	735,808	726,013	743,403	751,171	758,775	764,125	768,531	32,723	4%	42,518	6%
% change		3.8%	1.2%	-1.3%	2.4%	1.0%	1.0%	0.7%	0.6%				
UCSC	10,106	8,231	9,373	9,297	10,361	11,115	11,812	11,812	11,812	2,439	26%	2,515	27%
% change		-18.6%	13.9%	-0.8%	11.4%	7.3%	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%				

HOUSING (Units on campus, may include graduate student, staff, or faculty housing. Excludes group quarters beds.)													
	Historical				Forecast (may be on or off campus)					Chg.2020-2050		Chg.2023-50	
	2010	2015	2020	2023	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	Num.	%	Num.	%
AMBAG Region	260,256	263,790	270,341	274,706	293,389	303,038	309,822	314,084	316,990	46,649	17%	42,284	15%
% change		1.4%	2.5%	1.6%	6.8%	3.3%	2.2%	1.4%	0.9%				
UCSC	548	548	548	548	685	960	1,235	1,235	1,235	687	125%	687	125%
% change		--	--	0.0%	25.0%	40.1%	28.6%	0.0%	0.0%				

Important Note: Independent rounding results in some cases in which parts do not sum to the total.

Data Sources:

Institutional Research, Analytics, and Planning Support (IRAPS), 3 Quarter Average, Total on Campus.

Population and Housing 2010-2023 from California Department of Finance.

All projections from Final Draft 2026 Regional Growth Forecast, produced by AMBAG and PRB

September 20, 2024