

CAPS NEWS

California's Population Has Stabilized

By Dick Schneider

In July 2023, the California Department of Finance Demographic Research Unit (DRU) released projections for the future population of California going out to the year 2060. Those projections show that California's population has stopped growing. The

California's population is due to a variety of factors. Births will decline from 411,000 in 2019-2020 to 375,000 in 2059-2060. California's total fertility rate (TFR) is projected to drop to 1.5 children per woman during the present decade and remain low, putting

persons leaving California to settle in various other states.

As noted above, population change by county will not be uniform. Perhaps the most dramatic projection is the loss of almost 1.7 million people in

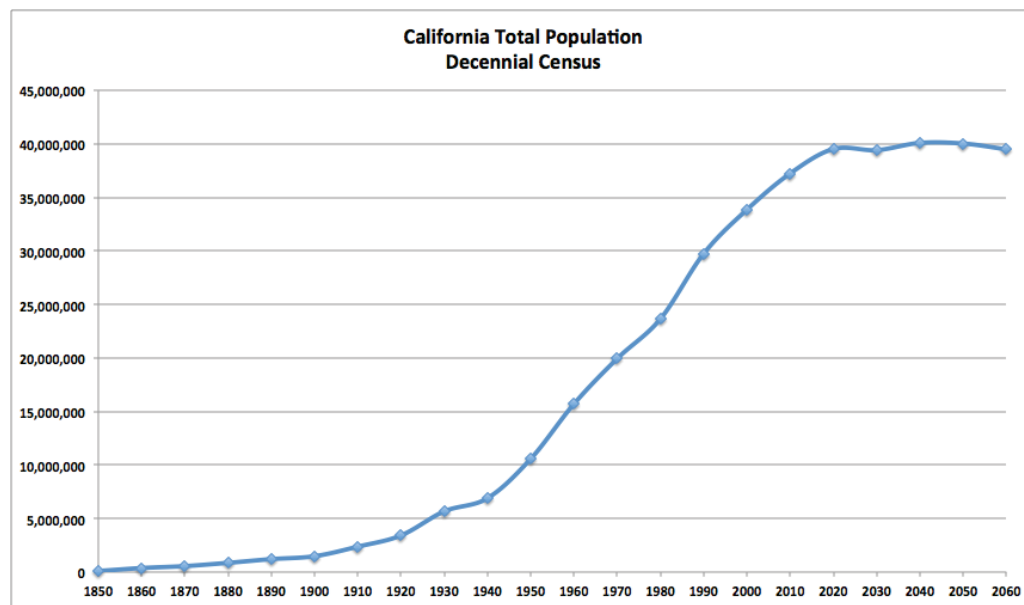
Los Angeles County over the projection period. There is no particular pattern to which counties will grow and which will decrease; the population of some coastal counties will decrease while others will increase, and the same is true for interior counties.

In conclusion, a goal of CAPS has been achieved: California's population has stabilized -- great news indeed. Nevertheless and unfortunately, U.S. population will grow dramatically during the next 50 years almost entirely due to immigration. Prior to the election of President Biden, the Pew Research Center reported that between 2015 and

2065, future immigrants and their descendants are projected to account for 88% of U.S. population increase, or 103 million, as the nation grows to 441 million persons. But now this projection is likely to significantly understate



our country's actual growth. It was made before the current crisis at our southern border and the additional millions of illegal aliens let in by the Biden Administration. Californians must now fight on the national stage for U.S. population stabilization.



Historical population estimates (1850-2020) from U.S. Census Bureau. Projections (2030 - 2060) from California Department of Finance.

state's population in 2060 is projected to be 39,508,492, compared to the state's population in 2020 estimated to be 39,520,071. For those who have championed the idea of California population stabilization, our goal has finally come.

There are, however, several caveats to these projections. First and foremost, the DRU has been wrong in the past. As recently as 2017, the DRU projected that California's population would reach 51.1 million people by 2060, over 11 million more than it now projects the 2060 population to be. Second, the current projection is based on interim 2020 Census results. It will be revised in Summer 2024 after the final 2020 Census data are released. Although some changes from this interim projection can be expected, the trend is not likely to be significantly affected. It is worth noting that the population of some counties will increase over the next forty years, some will decline, and others will change little.

The projected stabilization of

"California in the company of European countries like Spain and Italy, which have had a similarly low TFR since the 1970s," according to the DRU. Deaths will rise from 315,000 in 2021-2022 to 460,000 in 2060 "as a result of the aging of the Baby Boomers who will all be over 95 years old by the end of the forecast period."

And then there is migration. According to the DRU, "Migration is the most critical component of California's population change and the hardest to project due to inherent variability and the absence of full administrative data." Net migration, which is now negative, "is expected to return to a range of 50,000 per year by the end of the decade and remain within a range of 50,000 - 60,000 throughout the forecast period." These countervailing factors - fewer births, more deaths, and a return to positive net migration of somewhat over 50,000 people per year - will result in a stabilized population for the next 40 years. We note that the current net negative migration is a result of a dramatic increase in the number of

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CAPS News is published by
Californians for Population Stabilization
675 East Santa Clara St. #860
Ventura CA 93002

Phone: 805-564-6626

E-mail: CAPS@CAPSweb.org

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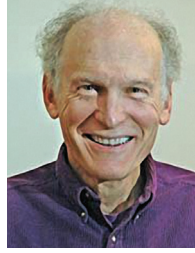
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Californians for Population Stabilization is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, public interest organization that works to formulate and advance policies and programs designed to stabilize the population of California, the U.S. and the world at levels which will preserve the environment and a good quality of life.

President's Message



After seven years as President of Californians for Population Stabilization (CAPS), this will be my final report.

The non-profit organization that eventually became CAPS was founded in 1979 – the name “CAPS” was adopted in 1986. CAPS’ primary purpose was to address the negative effects of overpopulation on the quality of the environment and on the quality of human life. Focus was to be on the, seemingly endless, rapid increase in the population of California and the not quite as rapid population increase in our country as a whole. During the years since 1986 these increases have been due to an excess of

births over deaths and immigration from abroad, with the latter the dominant factor during recent decades. Remarkably, California’s population increased, notwithstanding that every decade since 1990 well over one million more persons left California for other states than moved in from other states. Negative effects of population growth include damage to California’s wonderful natural environment and harm to the well-being of the state’s poorest residents.

I became involved with CAPS in the late 1990s and was appointed to its Board of Directors in 1999. Thus, I’ve now been on the Board for about 24 years and have witnessed firsthand CAPS’ various ups and downs. The ups included time periods with a large vibrant staff and a large Board of Directors able to weigh in on a variety of educational and political issues. The Board typically has been composed of persons with views that covered pretty much the entire political spectrum -- this made for some interesting and constructive discussions at Board meetings. The downs included occasional financial crises; one was so severe that Board members were asked to write loan checks to CAPS to keep the organization afloat.

In addition to its staff and Board of Directors, CAPS has been blessed to have had many fine Advisory Board (AB) members and grass roots supporters. I’ve gotten to personally know many of these persons who are dedicated to similar goals as CAPS. I thought it would be worth mentioning a few well-known AB members.

One of the earliest was Dr. Linus Pauling who won a Nobel Prize in Chemistry and also a Nobel Peace Prize for his work against the use and proliferation of nuclear weapons. Another early AB member was David Brower, one of the great

environmental leaders of the past century. Two, more recent, AB members are Richard Lamm, a three term Governor of Colorado, and noted conservationist Dave Foreman who founded the Rewilding Institute. Dick Lamm and Dave Foreman both

participated in CAPS events during my time as a Director, but, sadly, have passed away in recent years. A fifth former AB member was Bill Ryerson, the founder and President of the non-profit Population Media Center (PMC). Should you be interested in stemming world population growth, you might want to look into supporting PMC.

I mentioned above that this is my final President’s Report. This is because CAPS will soon be merging with the non-profit organization NumbersUSA, as you will learn from reading some of the articles in this newsletter; thus I will be resigning my President’s position. As noted above,

a major motivation for the establishment of CAPS was to address California’s rapid population growth. To the surprise of many, including myself, this growth has essentially ended during the past few years

and is projected by the California Department of Finance to not resume during the foreseeable future -- please see the graph on page 1.

Thus, the CAPS Board has decided that



President's Message... (continued from page 2)

a population stabilization organization with a focus on California no longer makes much sense. Focus now should be on the U.S. as a whole – since its population growth remains rapid. In principle, CAPS could change and become an organization with a national focus – the Board considered a name change to, for example, Concerned Americans for Population Stabilization. But given CAPS' modest size, the Board

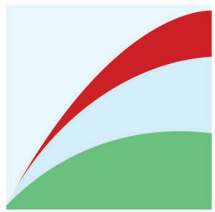
felt that this would be an overreach, and that it made more sense to merge with the much larger, nationally focused non-profit NumbersUSA. Board members are quite familiar with the goals of NumbersUSA; these are similar to those of CAPS. The current CEO of NumbersUSA, James Massa, has an article in this newsletter.

The CAPS Board of Directors hopes very much that CAPS supporters will agree with our decision and will give future support to NumbersUSA. We thank you for your dedicated support of CAPS over the years. 🐘*

Ben Zuckerman

Ben Zuckerman
President, CAPS

NumbersUSA and CAPS



NumbersUSA® For sensible immigration

CAPS Members,

NumbersUSA and CAPS have long enjoyed working on the common interests surrounding population growth's impact on the environment and quality of life for all. While working to ensure a sustainable future CAPS has focused primarily on stabilization of California's population while NumbersUSA has focused on reduction of immigration-driven population growth throughout the U.S. Many would say we have been working on the same issue. As CEO of NumbersUSA, I am excited about the merger of our two organizations. With CAPS having achieved its primary goal of a stabilizing California population, NumbersUSA is honored to combine our efforts to protect CAPS' achievement and expand it nationwide to empower voters throughout the United States to achieve a sensible immigration policy.

NumbersUSA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that believes better immigration policy is needed and possible. Focused exclusively on immigration reform, NumbersUSA is America's largest single-issue advocacy group with over 8 million grassroots members and supporters spread across every congressional district. NumbersUSA supports a credible and balanced immigration system; one that welcomes the spouses and

minor children of U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents, is responsive to acute refugee crises, attracts those with extraordinary ability and talents, addresses temporary labor shortages, and protects the most vulnerable all while being responsible and considerate of the impact on environment and the quality of life for all. Founded solely by Roy Beck in 1996 to promote civil debate on the recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform - chaired by civil rights icon Barbara Jordan, NumbersUSA continues to advocate for sensible immigration policies that ensure Americans' safety, promote economic fairness, while protecting the environment and quality of life.

We are particularly pleased to welcome **Toby White** to the NumbersUSA team where she will continue to work with CAPS members as we involve those who want to continue the battle of protecting future generations and the environment into the membership of NumbersUSA. Toby is available at twhite@numbersusa.com and at her phone number which many of you already have.

On behalf of NumbersUSA's Board of Directors and our entire team, I welcome all CAPS members into NumbersUSA. I look forward to meeting with as many

of you as possible, in person, virtually, and via our recently launched expanded member engagement platforms at www.numbersusa.com.

Working as one organization, we can be even more effective in impacting our nation's future. Better immigration is possible. 🐘*

James Massa
Chief Executive Officer, NumbersUSA



Thank You

Your donations will continue to support all of the work that led you to support CAPS as we join efforts.

By Kenneth Pasternack

California is overpopulated and would benefit from reducing its population. Just consider our persistent water shortages and crowded neighborhoods. And consider our repeated wildfires as we push housing beyond cities into wildfire zones within grasslands and forests.

But at least our state's population is projected to remain about the same in coming decades. That is not true for the nation as a whole. Many states are projected to grow. Some of this growth comes from movement within the country, from one state to another. But the overall growth of the country stems from immigration. The nation's total population can be stabilized, then

lowered, only if we reduce immigration from today's record levels.

NumbersUSA has addressed immigration at the national level for decades. The management at CAPS hopes that our supporters will join this struggle during the coming decades. Future generations of Americans who live in our country deserve our support. They will need adequate water, food and housing whether their family arrived on the Mayflower or is within the number



we can afford to welcome in the future. California's population seems to have stabilized, at least for the near future, but population growth still poses a danger for America. 🐻*



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From all of us at Californians for Population Stabilization for your years of commitment to CAPS and continued support as we combine efforts with NumbersUSA.

The Board of Directors
