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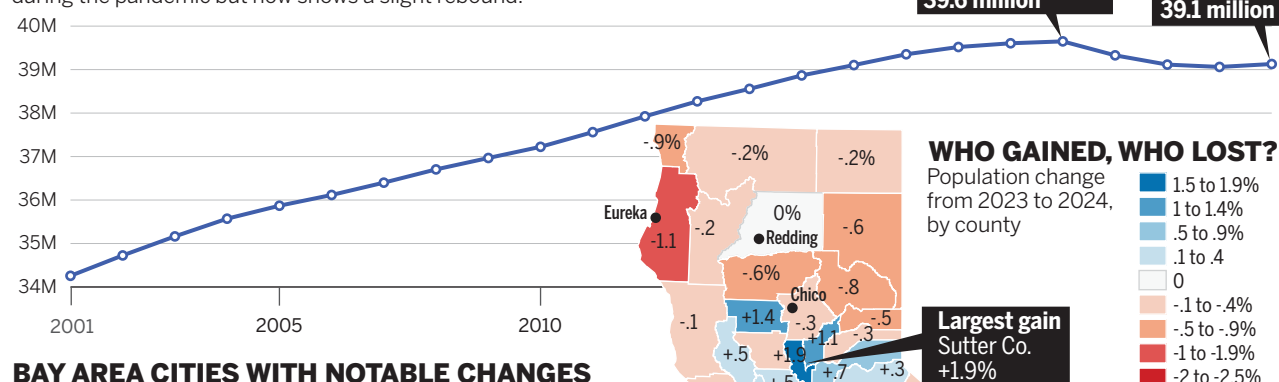
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'WE'RE SORT OF COMING BACK'

PEOPLE EXODUS TAKES A BREAK

CALIFORNIA'S POPULATION BOUNCES BACK

After steady growth since 2001, the state's population decreased during the pandemic but now shows a slight rebound.



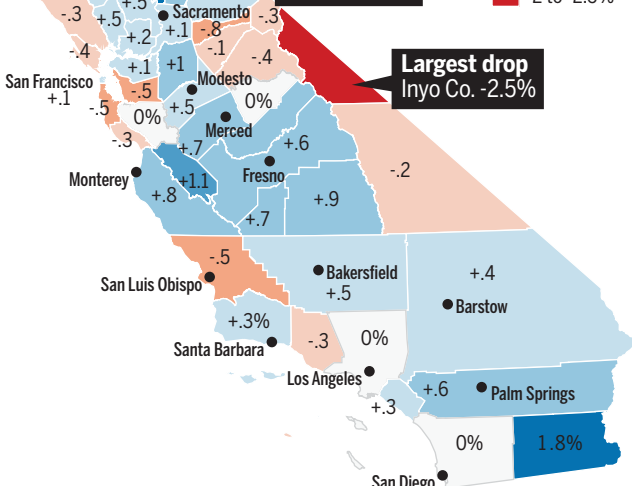
BAY AREA CITIES WITH NOTABLE CHANGES

City	County	Population 2023	Population 2024	Difference	% change
Emeryville	Alameda	12,686	13,314	+628	+5.0%
Mt. View	Santa Clara	84,463	86,535	+2,072	+2.5%
Oakley	Contra Costa	44,929	45,736	+807	+1.8%
Millbrae	San Mateo	22,687	23,093	+406	+1.8%
El Cerrito	Contra Costa	25,409	25,700	+291	+1.2%
Alameda	Alameda	77,237	78,071	+834	+1.1%
San Leandro	Alameda	87,984	87,098	-886	-1.0%
Foster City	San Mateo	32,921	32,581	-340	-1.0%
Daly City	San Mateo	102,513	101,458	-1,055	-1.0%
Novato	Marin	51,694	51,140	-554	-1.1%
Colma	San Mateo	1,426	1,410	-16	-1.1%
Pleasanton	Alameda	76,861	75,960	-901	-1.2%
Union City	Alameda	67,279	66,432	-847	-1.3%
Newark	Alameda	47,762	46,635	-1,127	-2.4%

Source: California Department of Finance

WHO GAINED, WHO LOST?

Population change from 2023 to 2024, by county



State's population ticks up in 2023, with San Francisco and Santa Clara counties on the plus side while Alameda and San Mateo see declines

By Julia Prodis Sulek and Harriet Blair Rowan
Bay Area News Group

California's population grew for the first time in three years as legal immigration rebounded and the great California exodus during the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically slowed as remote workers returned to the office, according to a state report released Tuesday.

The overall population gains were relatively small — a net increase of some 67,000 people to raise California's population to 39.1 million people in 2023, according to the California Department of Finance.

Some Bay Area counties lost population, including Alameda and San Mateo, as layoffs took hold last year and residents continued to seek cheaper housing in the



Gregory Bull — The Associated Press
People from more than 70 countries become U.S. citizens during a recent naturalization ceremony in San Diego.

Central Valley.

But the overall population increase is a positive sign for the state that was much maligned for losing its residents to states with more affordable housing.

"The pandemic is in the rearview mirror and we're sort of coming back to how we were," said Russell Han-

cock, CEO of Joint Venture Silicon Valley, a regional think tank. "People are coming back to California because, actually, it turns out there's a lot of opportunity here. Not a little, a lot. And to capture a lot of that opportunity, you have to be here."

Opening the backlog of

legal immigration, most from China, India and Latin America that was curtailed during the Trump Administration, largely contributed to the state's growth with a net gain of 114,200 legal foreign immigrants in 2023 compared to 90,300 in 2022. Birth and death rates also returned to normal post pandemic.

But for all the political blowback progressive California endured when droves of Californians moved to conservative states such as Texas and Florida during the height of the pandemic — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis blamed California's "woke" culture — that exodus has slowed.

California's net migration in 2023, taking into account those who come and those who leave, dropped in two years to roughly a quarter

POPULATION » PAGE 5

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 16

Recount says Low is ahead ... for now

Assemblymember leads Simitian by four votes, but more than a dozen ballots are challenged

By Grace Hase and Harriet Blair Rowan

Bay Area News Group

After an astonishing eight-week saga of counting and recounting more than 182,000 ballots, Assemblymember Evan Low emerged on top Tuesday — ahead of Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian by four votes in their race for second place in California's Congressional District 16.

But it's not over yet, as more than a dozen challenged ballots are still up in the air in San Mateo County.

On Tuesday, Santa Clara County wrapped up the recount in the primary race to replace U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo, with Low gaining 11 votes overall and Simitian gaining seven. San Mateo County finished its recount last week and saw no changes in the vote totals for either candidate.

The captivating recount kicked off April 15 — more than a week after Low and Simitian tied behind former San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo. With no automatic recount provision in statewide or federal races in California, Jonathan Padilla, a 2020 and 2024 Biden delegate and former mayoral campaign staffer for Liccardo, requested the recount and has been paying for it through a Super PAC called Count the Vote.

In a press release, Matt Morales, Santa Clara County's Assistant Registrar of Voters, called the recount "the largest and most complex recount we have conducted."

"It is not unusual for a recount to change the vote totals, especially in such a large jurisdiction"

RECOUNT » PAGE 5



Low



Simitian



Liccardo

JOURNALISM

Mercury News, other papers sue tech giants

Publishers say Microsoft and Open AI are illegally using copyrighted articles

By Ethan Baron
ebaron@bayareanewsgroup.com

The Mercury News and seven other newspapers sued Microsoft and OpenAI on Tuesday, claiming the technology giants illegally harvested millions of copyrighted articles to create their "generative" artificial intelligence products including OpenAI's ChatGPT and Microsoft's Copilot.

While the newspapers' publishers have spent billions of dollars to send "real people to real places to report on real events in the real world," the two tech firms are "purloining" the papers' reporting without compensation "to create products that provide news and information plagiarized and stolen," according to the lawsuit in federal court.

"We can't allow OpenAI and Microsoft to expand the Big Tech playbook of stealing our work to build their own businesses at our expense," said Frank Pine, executive editor of MediaNews Group and Tribune Publishing, which own seven of the newspapers. "The misappropriation of

LAWSUIT » PAGE 5

VIOLATION OF GAG ORDER

Trial judge fines Trump for contempt

Former president is warned that jail time possible if acts persist

By Alan Feuer, Ben Protess, Jonah E. Bromwich and William K. Rashbaum
New York Times

NEW YORK » The judge overseeing Donald Trump's criminal case in Manhattan held him in contempt Tuesday, fining the former president \$9,000 for repeatedly violating a gag order and warning that he could go to jail if he continued to attack witnesses and jurors.

"The court will not tolerate continued willful violations of its lawful orders," the judge, Juan M. Merchan,



Curtis Means — AFP via Getty Images, Pool
Former President Donald Trump returns to the courtroom Tuesday after a break during his trial for allegedly covering up hush money payments linked to extramarital affairs.

said — an ominous warning to open the third week of Trump's trial. He added that although he was "keenly

aware of, and protective of, defendant's First Amendment rights," he would jail Trump "if necessary and ap-

propriate." Inside: Trump wants to prosecute Biden. He also thinks presidents deserve immunity. A3

The judge's crackdown injected instant tension into the day's proceedings before three new witnesses took the stand in the first criminal trial of a former American president.

The most significant was Keith Davidson, a lawyer who represented porn actor Stormy Daniels when she received the \$130,000 hush-money payment at the center of the case. Davidson negotiated the payout with Trump's personal lawyer and fixer, Michael Cohen, in the waning days of the 2016

CONTEMPT » PAGE 5

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WEATHER

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