

- **BY 2025, CALIFORNIA WILL GAIN BETWEEN 7 AND 11 MILLION NEW RESIDENTS.**

Between 2005 and 2025, the state's population will increase from 37 million to between 44 million and 48 million people. Natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) and immigration will be the key drivers of this growth. The foreign-born population will grow slightly faster than the U.S.-born population. By 2025, 30 percent of the state's residents will be foreign-born.

- **LATINOS WILL ACCOUNT FOR AN INCREASINGLY LARGE SHARE OF THE POPULATION.**

The Latino and Asian populations will continue to grow, while the white population will increase very slowly or decline. Latinos are projected to become the largest racial/ethnic group in the state by 2020 and to constitute a majority by 2050. They are now the largest group of residents under age 30, and almost half of the births in the state are to Latina women.

- **THE POPULATION WILL GROW OLDER.**

California's population will continue to age as life expectancies increase and baby boomers begin to reach retirement age in 2011. By 2030, the number of seniors will double and one in every five Californians will be over age 65. Fertility rates will decline, especially for second-generation Latinas. The number of school-age children will decline slowly until 2012—given the lower fertility rates and as the baby-bust generation enters childbearing years—but will increase afterward as the number of women of childbearing age begins to increase once again.

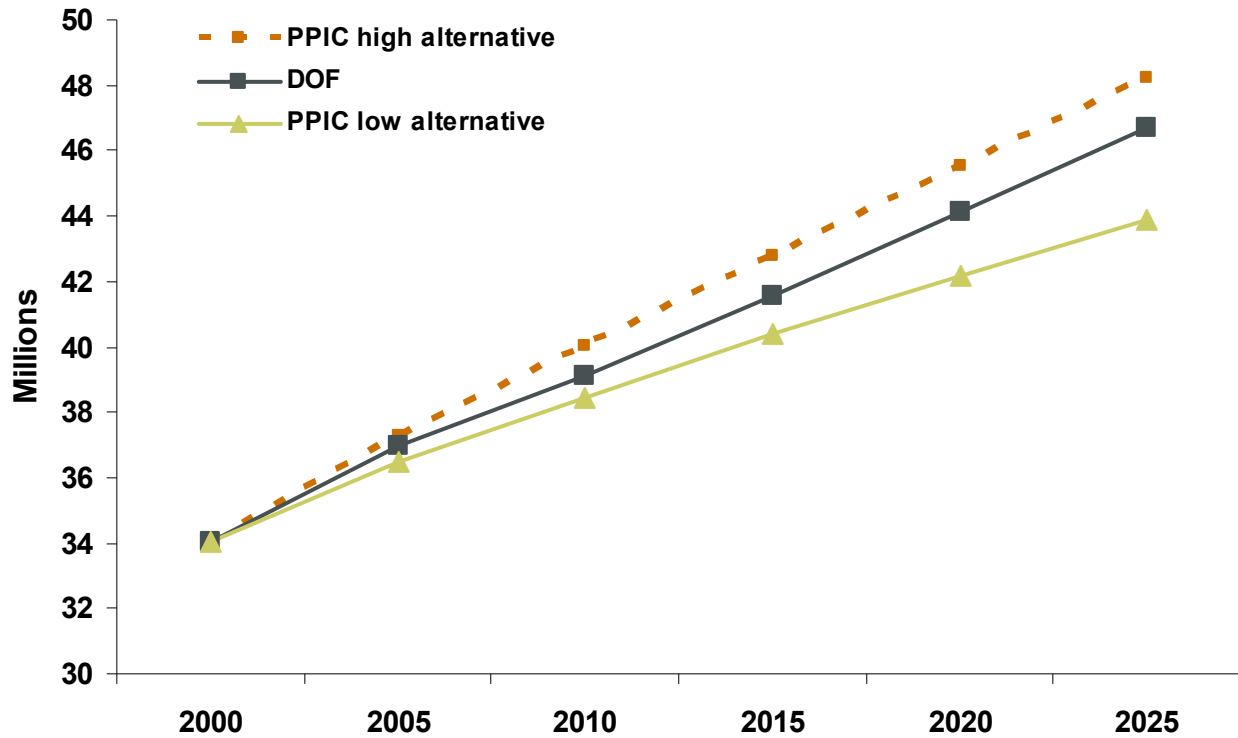
- **INLAND AREAS WILL GROW FASTER THAN COASTAL AREAS.**

Over the next two decades, populations are projected to increase by 48% in inland counties, compared to 17% in coastal counties. Absolute growth will also be greater in the inland than in the coastal counties (5.3 million compared to 4.4 million). The fastest growth rates will be in the Inland Empire (Riverside and San Bernardino Counties), the San Joaquin Valley, and the Sacramento metropolitan area. Despite these uneven growth rates, 62% of the state's residents will still live in coastal counties in 2040.

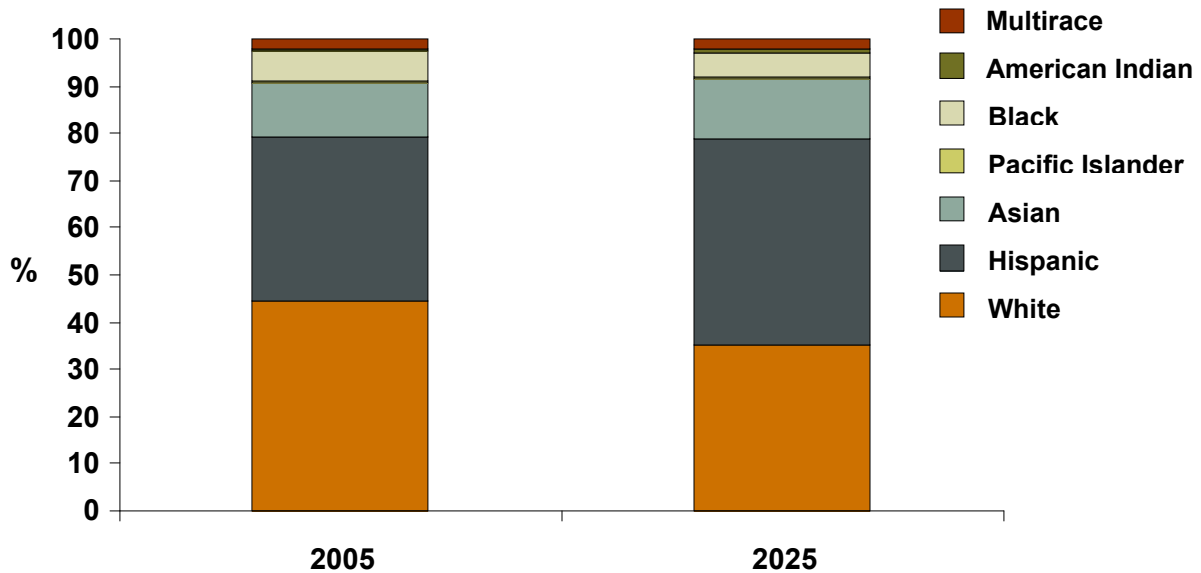
- **EDUCATION LEVELS ARE EXPECTED TO RISE BUT MAY NOT KEEP PACE WITH ECONOMIC DEMAND.**

Educational attainment levels will continue to increase in the state, but not as rapidly as in the past. Although improvements in educational attainment are likely among all of the state's racial/ethnic groups, California's population is shifting toward groups that tend to have lower levels of education. Projections of the state's economy suggest that employers will require even more college graduates than the state's population seems likely to supply. Population projections suggest that by 2020, 33% of 25-64 year olds will have a college degree, but projections of the state's economy suggest that demand for college graduates will be even higher (39% of all workers).

Population Projections for California, 2000–2025



Ethnic Composition of California, 2000 and 2025



Sources: California Department of Finance and PPIC alternative population projections.

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