

2 POPULATION, HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT

A. Introduction

This section presents information on both existing and projected population, housing, and employment within Butte County, and describes the effects of the proposed General Plan on these factors. In recent years, Butte County¹ has seen a decrease in population and households due to the 2018 Camp Fire, which destroyed nearly 14,000 homes, and the 2020 North Complex Fire, which destroyed 2,455 structures, including many homes.^{2,3} Housing production will be a high priority for the County through the General Plan horizon. In addition, the data shows that the population in Butte County is older than the rest of the state, indicating the need for housing that is suitable for seniors. As more retirees from outside the area move into the county, they will require smaller housing units as well as access to retail and health care amenities, providing the county with opportunities to generate additional jobs in the construction, retail, and health care industries.

B. Population and Housing Trends

The following data concerning the characteristics of unincorporated Butte County illustrate a potential demand for new development as a result of the recent wildfires. However, the long-term effects of the Camp and North Complex Fires are not fully known, particularly regarding how many displaced residents will ultimately return. Table 2-1 provides an overview of population and housing changes, average household size, household type, and household tenure for unincorporated Butte County, Butte County at large, and the State of California. To the extent possible, the current data reported reflects the impacts of the Camp Fire. However, for some metrics, the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 2019 5-year data estimates were determined to be the best source of information; these estimates are determined using data inputs from 2015 through 2019 and therefore do not reflect the full impact of the 2018 Camp Fire or any impact of the 2020 North Complex Fire.

¹ Butte County refers to the entire County, including the incorporated cities.

² Butte County District Attorney, *The Camp Fire Public Report: A Summary of the Camp Fire Investigation*, June 16, 2020, <https://www.buttecounty.net/Portals/30/CFReport/PGE-THE-CAMP-FIRE-PUBLIC-REPORT.pdf?ver=2020-06-15-190515-977>

³ North Complex Fire: U.S. Forest Service, Plumas National Forest, North Complex Fire Update, December 4, 2020, <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6997/>

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TABLE 2-1 POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD TRENDS, 2010 – 2019

	Unincorporated Butte County			Butte County			State of California		
	2010	Current*	Percentage Change	2010	Current*	Percentage Change	2010	Current*	Percentage Change
General									
<i>Population</i>	83,758	67,640	-19.2%	220,000	210,291	-4.4%	37,253,956	39,782,870	6.8%
<i>Households</i>	32,526	30,435	-6.4%	87,618	85,320	-2.6%	12,577,498	13,044,266	3.7%
<i>Persons Per Household</i>	2.56	2.34	-8.9%	2.45	2.56	4.3%	2.90	2.93	1.2%
<i>Housing Units</i>	36,587	31,991	-12.6%	95,835	86,122	-10.1%	13,670,304	14,329,863	4.8%
Household Type									
Families	69.3%	68.3%		60.0%	60.3%		68.7%	68.7%	
Nonfamilies	30.7%	31.7%		40.0%	39.7%		31.3%	31.3%	
Households with Children									
Households with Children Under 18	28.0%	25.3%		27.3%	26.0%		37.0%	34.0%	
Households without Children Under 18	72.0%	74.7%		72.7%	74.0%		63.0%	66.0%	
Tenure									
Owner	74.0%	75.7%		58.2%	59.0%		55.9%	54.8%	
Renter	26.0%	24.3%		41.8%	41.0%		44.1%	45.2%	

Notes: “Current” data is from 2019 or 2020.

Except for Households, data layers under “General” are sourced from 2020 Department of Finance (DOF) Table E-5 for 2010 (2010) and 2020 (Current).

All other “Current” data is from American Community Survey (ACS) 2019 5-year data estimates.

Sources: U.S. Census, 2010; ACS, 2019 5-year data estimates; California Department of Finance, 2020.

1. Population and Household Trends

According to DOF data, the population of unincorporated Butte County decreased significantly between 2010 and 2020. Compared to a population gain of 6.8 percent in the state and a decrease of 4.4 percent in the overall county, the unincorporated population declined by 19.2 percent, from 83,758 to 67,640. Similarly, the unincorporated county saw a 6.4-percent decrease in total households relative to a 3.7-percent increase and a 2.6-percent decrease of households in the state and overall county, respectively.

The unincorporated area of the county experienced a net decrease of 4,596 housing units since 2010. Between 2010 and 2018, the units attributed to unincorporated Butte County remained relatively stable, with some years increasing and other years decreasing. Increases were due to new housing development; decreases were often due to municipalities annexing land with existing residential units. Countywide, housing units increased steadily between 2010 and 2018. In 2019 and 2020, unit numbers dropped due to the Camp and North Complex Fires. In the unincorporated county, unit counts dropped by 3,119 units in 2019 and 800 units in 2020.

2. Household Size

Average household sizes for Butte County and the unincorporated portion of the county in 2020 were 2.56 and 2.34 persons per household, respectively. The average household size increased between 2010 and 2020 countywide, but it decreased in the unincorporated area. Between 2010 and 2018, the average household size in the unincorporated county remained relatively stable, averaging 2.55 persons per household (with a low of 2.3 persons per household in 2018 and a high of 2.57 persons per household in 2011). In 2019, the unincorporated county household size increased slightly to 2.59, and then decreased significantly to 2.34 persons per household in 2020. Meanwhile, in the incorporated areas alone, the household size remained very stable between 2010 and 2018, and then increased from 2.37 persons per household in 2018 to 2.80 in 2019 before settling back at 2.69 persons per household in 2020. These data indicate that some displaced residents may have joined households in incorporated parts of the county. As communities impacted by the fires rebuild, the average household size is likely to continue to fluctuate.

3. Household Type

In 2019, 68.3 percent of households in unincorporated Butte County were family households, compared to 60.3 percent countywide and 68.7 percent for the State.⁴ In all the areas, these percentages showed little if any change from 2010. The lower ratio of family to non-family households in Butte County relative to the unincorporated region is likely reflective of the large student population from the California State University at Chico that is concentrated within the Chico city limit. Although many of the new family households are likely to be senior households (discussed in Section B.6, Age) that will likely demand higher-density housing,⁵ traditional single-family homes will continue to see strong demand from the remaining family household population, particularly from new family households with fewer children. However, as approximately one-third of households consist of singles and unrelated people living together, there will also be strong demand for smaller and/or higher density for-sale units or multi-family rental units.

4. Households with Children

Although the average household size increased in the county and decreased in the unincorporated portion of the county between 2010 and 2019, the shares of households with children in both geographies were relatively stable, with only a minor decrease. In the State, the share of households with children decreased slightly as well. While the demand will remain strong for single-family, for-sale units, families that have fewer children will increase demand for higher-density single-family units.⁶

5. Household Tenure

According to ACS, 75.7 percent of residents in the unincorporated portion of the county own their home compared to only 59 percent countywide. Although both areas have higher than average rates of ownership in the state, the homeownership rate in the unincorporated region eclipses the statewide homeownership rate by over 20 percent, which is most likely the result of a relatively small proportion of

⁴ According to the U.S. Census, a family is a group of two people or more (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together.

⁵ Due to the smaller housing unit requirements of senior households and the high cost of housing in California, senior households will likely demand higher density housing units, which are typically more affordable than standard single-family units.

⁶ Due to the smaller housing unit requirements of households with fewer people and the high cost of housing in California, smaller households will likely demand higher-density housing units, which are typically more affordable than standard single-family units.

multifamily units, which tend to be for rent, in the unincorporated area. While homeownership rates in the state are slowly decreasing, ownership rates in Butte County are increasing. Homeowner demand has been very strong within the county and should continue to be a primary factor in the local housing market over the General Plan horizon.

6. Age

Table 2-2 shows the age distributions for the unincorporated portion of the county, all of Butte County, and the State of California. Compared to the State, Butte County and the unincorporated portion of the county have a larger share of population over 60. This is especially true within the unincorporated portion of the county, as 30.7 percent of the population is over 60 compared to only 19.7 percent of all of California. In addition, the unincorporated portion of the county has a higher ratio of residents aged 50 to 59. This highlights that unincorporated Butte County in particular attracts a larger proportion of older residents and retirees than the rest of the state. Butte County as a whole also has a large percentage of residents between the ages of 20 and 29 (18 percent) compared to the unincorporated portion of the county (11.9 percent) and the state (14.8 percent), which represents the large college student populations associated with California State University, Chico, and Butte College.

TABLE 2-2 AGE DISTRIBUTION, 2019

2019 Estimated Population by Age	Unincorporated Butte County		Butte County		State of California	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Age 0 – 9	8,995	11.1%	26,105	11.6%	4,919,754	12.5%
Age 10 – 19	8,458	10.5%	27,305	12.1%	5,140,633	13.1%
Age 20 – 29	9,617	11.9%	40,690	18.0%	5,830,059	14.8%
Age 30 – 39	8,275	10.2%	25,913	11.5%	5,570,748	14.2%
Age 40 – 49	8,898	11.0%	23,389	10.4%	5,088,145	13.0%
Age 50 – 59	11,802	14.6%	27,158	12.0%	5,011,016	12.8%
Age 60+	24,796	30.7%	55,257	24.5%	7,723,142	19.7%
Total	80,841	100.0%	225,817	100.0%	39,283,497	100.0%

Sources: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

7. Median Household Income

Table 2-3 shows the income distribution and median household incomes for the unincorporated portion of Butte County, all of Butte County, and the State of California.

According to ACS, the 2019 median income for Butte County households was \$52,537. The median income statewide was \$72,235, which is about \$22,700 more than the county’s income. Lower household income levels in Butte County combined with increasing housing prices will translate into increased demand for higher density residential units, which tend to be more affordable than traditional single-family detached housing units.

TABLE 2-3 INCOME DISTRIBUTION, 2019

2019 Households by Household Income	Unincorporated Butte County		Butte County		State of California	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<\$10,000	1,455	4.79%	5,972	7.00%	626,125	4.80%
\$10,000–\$14,999	1,756	5.77%	5,631	6.60%	534,815	4.10%
\$15,000–\$24,999	3,238	10.65%	9,641	11.30%	978,320	7.50%
\$25,000–\$34,999	3,095	10.17%	8,703	10.20%	978,320	7.50%
\$35,000–\$49,999	4,023	13.23%	11,092	13.00%	1,369,648	10.50%
\$50,000–\$74,999	5,168	16.99%	14,419	16.90%	2,021,861	15.50%
\$75,000–\$99,999	3,573	11.75%	9,726	11.40%	1,617,489	12.40%
\$100,000–\$149,999	4,145	13.63%	11,006	12.90%	2,165,348	16.60%
\$150,000–\$199,999	1,768	5.81%	4,351	5.10%	1,160,940	8.90%
\$200,000 or more	2,196	7.22%	4,778	5.60%	1,591,400	12.20%
Total	30,416	100.00%	85,320	100.00%	13,044,266	100.00%
Median Household Income	-		\$52,537		\$72,235	

Sources: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

8. Housing Occupancy Patterns

Table 2-4 shows housing vacancy rates in unincorporated Butte County and countywide, which are 13.4 percent and 11.6 percent, respectively. These figures are higher than the State’s vacancy rate of 8 percent, likely due to the increased usage of recreational and second homes in Butte County. Homes reserved for

seasonal, recreational, or occasional use account for almost 18 percent of the vacant housing stock countywide; in the unincorporated region, this ratio is even higher, at 33 percent. Of the 2,049 seasonal, recreational, or occasional use homes in Butte County, 1,155 (or 76 percent) are located within the unincorporated area. This highlights a potentially strong demand for second homes centered around Lake Oroville’s recreational opportunities and elsewhere in the Butte County foothills in general, as well as demand for additional commercial facilities and community facilities to serve these dispersed populations.

TABLE 2-4 HOUSING OCCUPANCY AND VACANCY STATUS, 2019

Occupancy Status	Unincorporated Butte County		Butte County		State of California	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Occupied	30,435	86.6%	85,320	88.4%	13,044,266	92.0%
Vacant	4,701	13.4%	11,185	11.6%	1,131,710	8.0%
For rent	591	1.7%	2,934	3.0%	219,832	1.6%
Rented, not occupied	440	1.3%	1,733	1.8%	59,017	0.4%
For sale only	459	1.3%	1,034	1.1%	82,668	0.6%
Sold, not occupied	254	0.7%	516	0.5%	53,992	0.4%
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	1,555	4.4%	2,049	2.1%	387,973	2.7%
For migrant workers	8	0.0%	8	0.0%	3,459	0.0%
Other vacant ^a	1,394	4.0%	2,911	3.0%	324,769	2.3%
Total	35,136	100.0%	96,505	100.0%	14,175,976	100%

^a *Other Vacant.* If a vacant unit does not fall into any of the classifications specified above, it is classified as “other vacant.”

Sources: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

9. Labor Force Trends

Table 2-5 shows countywide labor force trends from 2017 to 2020, based on data from the California Employment Development Department (EDD). Employment numbers in Butte County have decreased, likely due in part at least to the 2018 Camp Fire (the impact of the 2020 North Complex Fire is not reflected in the data). The county’s labor force decreased from 101,500 in 2017 to 97,800 in 2020, while the state’s labor force steadily increased during this time. There has also been a decrease in the number of residents employed in the county, although the

number of unemployed residents has also decreased. In 2017, the county’s unemployment rate was 7.2 percent and in 2020, the unemployment rate decreased to 5.6 percent; the state’s unemployment rate also decreased during this time. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has also resulted in significant impacts to certain industries, including closures, which may also impact the county’s labor force. See Chapter 3, Economics, for a detailed discussion of labor force and industry trends.

TABLE 2-5 LABOR FORCE TRENDS, 2017 – 2020

	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total % Change
Butte County					
Labor Force	101,500	100,500	100,000	97,800	-3.6%
Employment	94,200	94,600	93,200	92,400	-1.9%
Unemployment	7,400	5,900	6,900	5,400	-27.0%
Unemployment Rate	7.2%	5.9%	6.9%	5.6%	
State of California					
Labor Force	19,052,100	19,111,800	19,346,200	19,477,400	2.2%
Employment	17,983,100	18,211,500	18,416,400	18,637,400	3.6%
Unemployment	1,069,000	900,200	929,800	840,000	-21.4%
Unemployment Rate	5.6%	4.7%	4.8%	4.3%	

Sources: California Employment Development Department, 2020.

10. Commute Patterns

The American Community Survey provides commute data at the countywide level. This data is shown in Table 2-6. As of 2019, the majority of Butte County residents, approximately 89.6 percent, work in the county. Approximately 10 percent of residents work outside of the county, but within California. The remaining 0.4 percent of residents work outside of the state. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many employees are working remotely from their homes, reducing the total number of people who commute to any location. The unknown long-term implications of this shift in work locations may include a lasting reduction in the total number of regular commuters.

TABLE 2-6 COMMUTE PATTERNS OF BUTTE COUNTY RESIDENTS

Place of Work	Percentage
<i>Total Inside State of Residence</i>	99.6%
Worked in county of residence	89.6%
Worked outside county of residence	10.0%
<i>Total Outside State of Residence</i>	0.4%
Total Employed	100.0%

Sources: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

C. Employment Growth Trends and Conditions

Table 2-7 shows the 2018 industry employment figures for Butte County. There were approximately 81,481 jobs in Butte County in 2018. Health care and social assistance accounted for 23.6 percent of all jobs in the county, followed by educational services (12.1 percent), retail trade (11.3 percent), and accommodation and food services (11.3 percent). Concentration levels in the incorporated municipalities mirror countywide trends, although there is a higher percentage of retail trade jobs in the incorporated areas. In the unincorporated portion of the county, the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector provided the highest concentration of jobs (17.4 percent), followed by educational services (15.1 percent) and construction (11.6 percent) sectors. The COVID-19 pandemic has deeply impacted industries and jobs locally and across the globe. Manufacturing and retail sectors are among the sectors most acutely impacted by the pandemic and that constitute a significant portion of the region’s 2018 jobs. The pandemic and will likely result in lasting change to employment patterns in the region. See Chapter 3, Economics, for a detailed discussion of employment growth trends and conditions, including impacts from the pandemic.

TABLE 2-7 BUTTE COUNTY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 2018

Industry Sectors	Total County		Incorporated		Unincorporated	
	Employment	Share	Employment	Share	Employment	Share
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	2,963	3.6%	519	0.8%	2,444	17.4%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	48	0.1%	34	0.1%	14	0.1%
Utilities	576	0.7%	425	0.6%	151	1.1%
Construction	4,423	5.4%	2,793	4.1%	1,630	11.6%
Manufacturing	4,110	5.0%	3,028	4.5%	1,082	7.7%
Wholesale Trade	2,068	2.5%	1,313	1.9%	755	5.4%
Retail Trade	9,187	11.3%	8,540	12.7%	647	4.6%
Transportation and Warehousing	812	1.0%	558	0.8%	254	1.8%
Information	830	1.0%	658	1.0%	172	1.2%
Finance and Insurance	1,987	2.4%	1,901	2.8%	86	0.6%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,395	1.7%	1,187	1.8%	208	1.5%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,370	2.9%	2,042	3.0%	328	2.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	622	0.8%	622	0.9%	0	0.0%
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation	2,913	3.6%	2,423	3.6%	490	3.5%
Educational Services	9,835	12.1%	7,718	11.4%	2,117	15.1%
Health Care and Social Assistance	19,200	23.6%	17,595	26.1%	1,605	11.4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,429	1.8%	1,197	1.8%	232	1.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	9,184	11.3%	7,886	11.7%	1,298	9.2%
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	3,795	4.7%	3,482	5.2%	313	2.2%
Public Administration	3,734	4.6%	3,514	5.2%	220	1.6%
Total	81,481	100.0%	67,435	100.0%	14,046	100.0%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau OnTheMap, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD 2018

D. Population, Housing, and Employment Projections

The following section presents available population, household, and employment projections and discusses the data sources' historic reliability. To determine the amount and types of development that the county may demand through the General Plan horizon, the county must know the amount and types of population and employment growth likely to occur over the General Plan horizon. The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) projected population and housing for the entire county and each of the cities within the county through 2045. Table 2-8 shows BCAG's population, housing unit, and household projections through 2045.

1. Population Projections

According to DOF, there were 210,291 people living in the county in 2020. Of this total, approximately 142,651 lived within the incorporated cities and the remaining 67,640 lived in the unincorporated areas. BCAG estimates that the unincorporated area will grow at a rapid rate of 11 percent from 2020 to 2025 in the more immediate aftermath and recovery from the Camp and North Complex Fires. Population growth in the unincorporated county is anticipated to slow slightly to 7 percent between 2025 and 2030 before it drops to 3 percent between 2030 and 2035 and 4 percent from 2035 to 2040. Over the full 25-year period from 2020 to 2045, the unincorporated county population is projected to grow by approximately 23,600 people.

2. Household Projections

To project the number of households in the county through the General Plan horizon, the projected population in the incorporated and unincorporated areas was divided by each area's average number of persons per household. Accuracy of population projections affects housing and employment growth projections. Although an aging population would likely lead to smaller numbers of persons per household over time, there is no way to accurately estimate how the number of persons per household will change over the General Plan horizon. Assuming a constant number of persons per household based on 2020 DOF estimates generates a conservative estimate of the number of households that will reside within the county between 2020 and 2040.

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TABLE 2-8 BUTTE COUNTY POPULATION, HOUSING, AND EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS, 2020 – 2045

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
Population						
Incorporated	142,651	155,016	160,713	168,220	175,554	181,714
Unincorporated	67,640	75,040	80,621	83,046	86,466	91,237
Total County	210,291	230,056	241,333	251,266	262,018	272,950
Households^a						
Incorporated	54,885	57,711	59,832	62,627	65,357	67,650
Unincorporated	30,435	32,110	34,498	35,535	36,999	39,040
Total County	85,320	89,820	94,329	98,162	102,356	106,690
Housing Units						
Incorporated	54,131	60,602	65,106	69,596	74,035	77,327
Unincorporated	31,991	33,756	35,643	37,669	39,890	41,537
Total County	86,122	94,358	100,749	107,265	113,925	118,864

^a Household projections are calculated by applying the following 2020 Department of Finance estimates of average household size to the population projections for the incorporated and unincorporated areas within the County. Due to rounding, the average persons per household shown herein, the precise outputs shown in the table do not exactly match the straight calculation of the population divided by 2.69 or 2.34.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Avg. Persons per Household</u>
Incorporated	2.69
Unincorporated	2.34

Sources: BCAG, 2021; California Department of Finance, 2020

Using the persons per household averages for incorporated and unincorporated areas reported by DOF in 2020, population projections in 2030 indicate that there will be approximately 94,329 households countywide, of which, 34,498 households would be located in the unincorporated county. These projections also indicate there would be approximately 102,356 households countywide in 2040, with 36,999 in the unincorporated county.

3. Housing Unit Projections

According to DOF, there were 86,122 housing units in the county in 2020. Of this total, approximately 54,131 were located within the incorporated jurisdictions, and the remaining 31,991 were in the unincorporated county. BCAG estimates that the unincorporated area's housing stock will grow at an increased rate between 2020 and 2025, adding nearly 6,500 new housing units, as fire rebuilding efforts continue. In subsequent five-year intervals from 2025 through 2040, housing unit growth will be steady with approximately 4,500 new housing units every five years and will taper to approximately 3,300 units between 2040 and 2045. At the General Plan horizon year, the unincorporated county will have approximately 39,890 housing units.

a. Reliability of DOF Data

As BCAG bases its population and housing unit projections on DOF data, this analysis includes a brief treatment of DOF data methods and reliability. According to the State Department of Finance's web site, DOF uses the average of the following three methods to determine population and household estimates, and a "Housing Unit" (HU) method to determine the number of housing units.

i. Population and Household Estimates

a) *State Driver License Address Change (DLAC) Method.* The DLAC method captures interstate and intrastate migration by estimating proportion changes of the State population by county. The Department of Finance uses a modified version of DLAC that factors in documented births, deaths, school enrollment, foreign/domestic migration, medical aid enrollments and group quarters population. Using medical programs runs the risk of overlooking underserved populations and accurately depicting migration changes.

b) *Ratio-Correlation Method.* Changes in household population as a result of changes in the distribution of births, school enrollments, driver licenses, housing units, and labor force determine the county's share. Estimates of group quarters are factored in.

c) *Tax Return Method.* This method uses County federal income tax returns and matches information to estimate inter-county migration, in addition to other information for the population aged 65 and over.

ii. Housing Unit Estimates

The Housing Unit (HU) method estimates total and occupied housing units, household size, household population, and group quarters population. This method focuses on new construction, annexations, demolitions, and adjustments from units gained or lost by conversions. The HU changes are supplied by local jurisdictions, the U.S. Census Bureau, and Military Installations. DOF also adjusts the census occupancy rates (occupied units/total units) occasionally, to account for changing vacancy rates such as adding vacancies in areas with rapid housing growth.⁷

iii. Overall Reliability

DOF used these methods to estimate population, households, and housing units, and then compared its 2000 State-level data to U.S. Census data and found that its estimates were within one-half of one percent of the 2000 census count; county estimates differed from the census estimates by an average of 1.9 percent and city estimates differed by an average of 5.6 percent.⁸

4. Employment Projections

BCAG provides countywide employment projections using both DOF and California EDD data. According to BCAG's Post-Camp Fire Regional Growth Forecasts, there were 79,400 jobs in the county in 2020. BCAG projects the number of jobs will increase to 86,470 in 2030 and 93,540 in 2040. As Table 2-9 shows, the county can expect the greatest percentage gains between 2016 and 2026 in the mining, logging, and construction sector, followed by educational services, leisure and hospitality, and other services sectors. However, these sectors do not necessarily represent the largest numbers of new jobs. Since the natural resources, mining, and construction sector had relatively few jobs in 2016 (3,600 jobs), 19.4-percent job growth results in an additional 700 jobs, for a total of 4,300 jobs in 2026. According to EDD data, the county was projected to add the most new jobs (2,700) in the education and health services sector, followed by the leisure and

⁷ California Department of Finance, *E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2011-2020 with 2010 Census Benchmark*, <https://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Estimates/e-5/>, accessed February 26, 2021.

⁸ California Department of Finance, Table E5, Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2001-2006, with 2000 Benchmark, Methodology, <http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/DEMOGRAP/ReportsPapers/Estimates/E5/E5-06/E-5text2.asp>, accessed July 6, 2007.

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hospitality sector. However, this data estimate predates the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which is anticipated to have myriad impacts to future employment trends.

The data also shows that trade, transportation, and utilities will expand by approximately 600 jobs. It is possible that a substantial portion of these jobs will be attracted to locations in portions of the unincorporated county. Relatively inexpensive land, distance from residential developments, and access to freeways generally attract industrial land uses, and these are attributes that can be found in many unincorporated areas; thus, areas in the unincorporated portion of the county should be able to capture much of this growth if infrastructure is available to support the growth.

TABLE 2-9 BUTTE COUNTY EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS BY INDUSTRY, 2016 –2026

Industry^a	2016	2026	Growth Rate	Land Use Type
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,600	4,300	19.4%	Industrial
Manufacturing	4,300	4,400	2.3%	Industrial
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	14,200	14,800	4.2%	Industrial
Wholesale Trade	1,900	2,000	5.3%	Industrial
Retail Trade	10,700	11,100	3.7%	Retail
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	1,600	1,700	6.3%	Industrial
Information	1,000	900	-10.0%	Office
Financial Activities	3,600	3,800	5.6%	Office
Finance and Insurance	2,200	2,300	4.5%	Office
Professional and Business Services	5,800	6,300	8.6%	Office
Educational Services (Private), Health Care, and Social Assistance	18,800	21,500	14.4%	Office
Leisure and Hospitality	8,600	9,500	10.5%	Office
Other Services (excludes 814-Private Household Workers)	3,800	4,200	10.5%	Office
Government	16,300	17,000	4.3%	Office
Total Farm	3,100	3,200	3.2%	Agriculture
Total Nonfarm	79,800	86,700	8.65%	

^a Industry detail may not add up to totals due to independent rounding and suppression. The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used by government agencies to classify business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. business economy.

Sources: California Employment Development Department 2016-2026 Industry Employment Projections.

BUTTE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN
SETTING AND TRENDS
POPULATION, HOUSING, AND EMPLOYMENT

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