

# Rancho Santiago Community College District

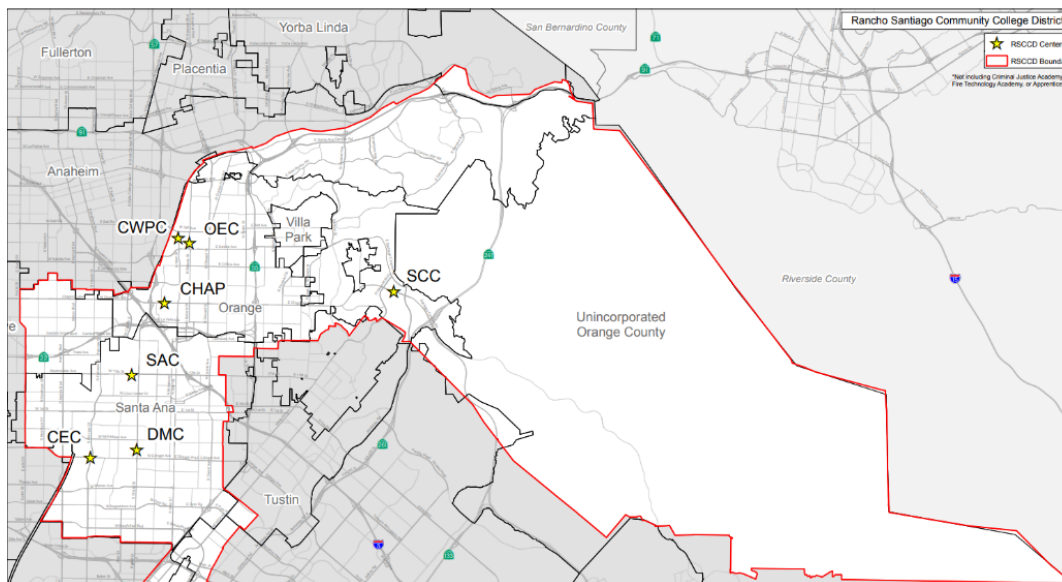
## Environmental Scan: Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Our communities

Governed locally by a seven-member Board of Trustees elected by the citizens of the district, Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) is a part of the California community college system, one of the three segments of the public post-secondary educational systems in the state. RSCCD, located in central Orange County, encompasses 193 square miles with a population of approximately 770,000. RSCCD includes two independently accredited community colleges: Santa Ana College (SAC) and Santiago Canyon College (SCC).

Opened in 1915, Santa Ana College offers a bachelor's degree, associate degrees and certificates in credit programs and associate degrees for transfer, and in college credit programs that prepare students for transfer to four-year universities or for careers. The college is recognized throughout the state for its comprehensive workforce training programs for nurses, firefighters, law enforcement and other medical personnel. In addition, the Continuing Education Program offers classes, certificates and Adult High School Diploma in a variety of noncredit programs.

Santiago Canyon College began offering classes in 1985, earned its initial independent accreditation in January 2000, and serves the communities of Orange, Villa Park, and Anaheim Hills. The college offers associate degrees and certificates in college credit programs that prepare students for transfer to four-year universities or for careers. SCC is the state's largest trades apprenticeship programs. In addition, the Continuing Education Program offers more noncredit classes and certificates annually.

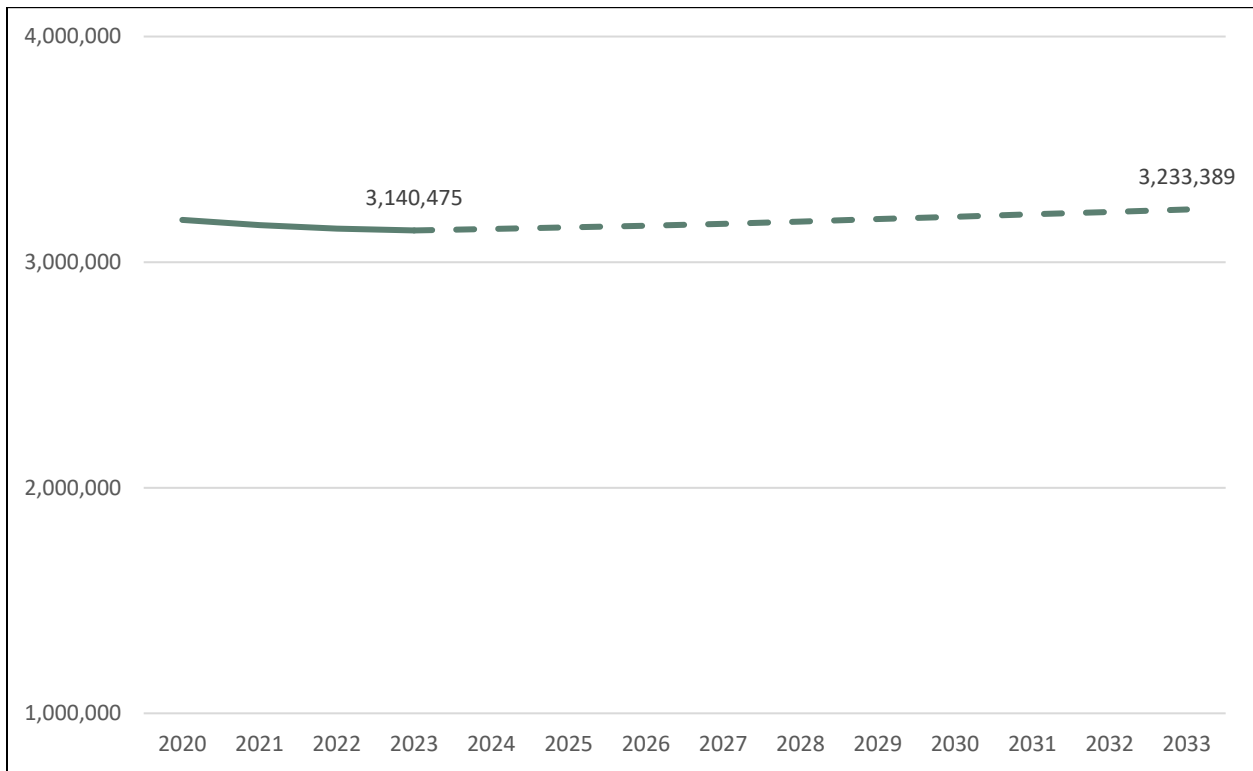


## Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Population of Orange

Orange County anticipates a modest population increase of three percent over the upcoming decade, transitioning from a population of more than 3.1 million people for 2023 to more than 3.2 million for 2033.

**County of Orange  
Projected Population  
2020-2033**



Source: [California Department of Finance](#)

## Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Population of Local Cities

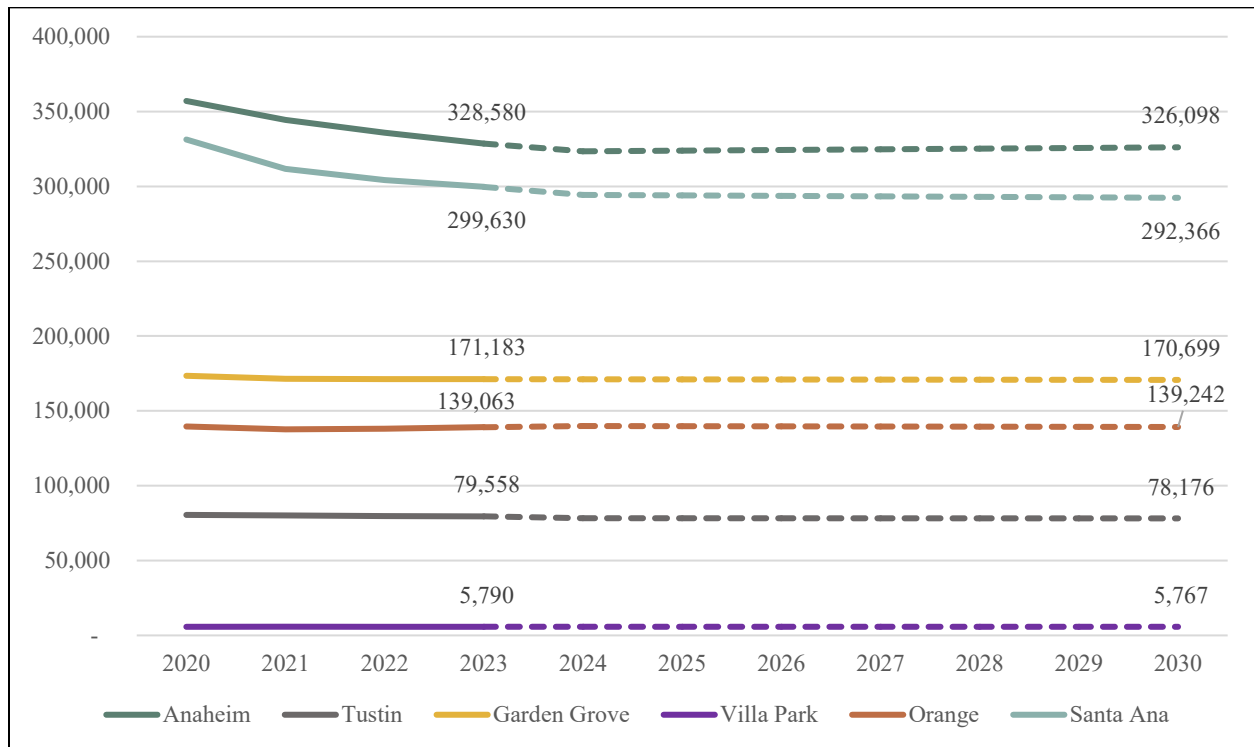
The population of local cities within the RSCCD service area is expected to undergo a modest decrease of approximately 1% to 2% over the next seven years, culminating in the year 2030.

Here are the specific population projections for these cities:

- Anaheim's population is anticipated to decline to 326,098 by 2030.
- Tustin's population is expected to remain relatively steady, exhibiting minor fluctuations, and reach 78,176 by 2030.
- Garden Grove is forecasted to experience a slight decrease in population, moving from 173,457 in 2020 to 170,699 in 2030.
- Villa Park is projected to maintain a stable population, hovering around 5,800 residents throughout this period.
- Orange's population is on a growth trajectory, with a projection of 139,242 by 2030.
- Santa Ana's population is projected to decrease to 292,366 by 2030.

These cities will undergo diverse population trends in the coming decade, including growth, stability, and decline, reflecting the dynamic nature of their demographics and local factors.

**Population of Local Cities  
2020-2030**



Source: [California Department of Finance](#)

Projection Conducted by the RSCCD Research Department (utilizing population data for each city dating from 2010 through 2023 as a foundation for estimating future figures.)

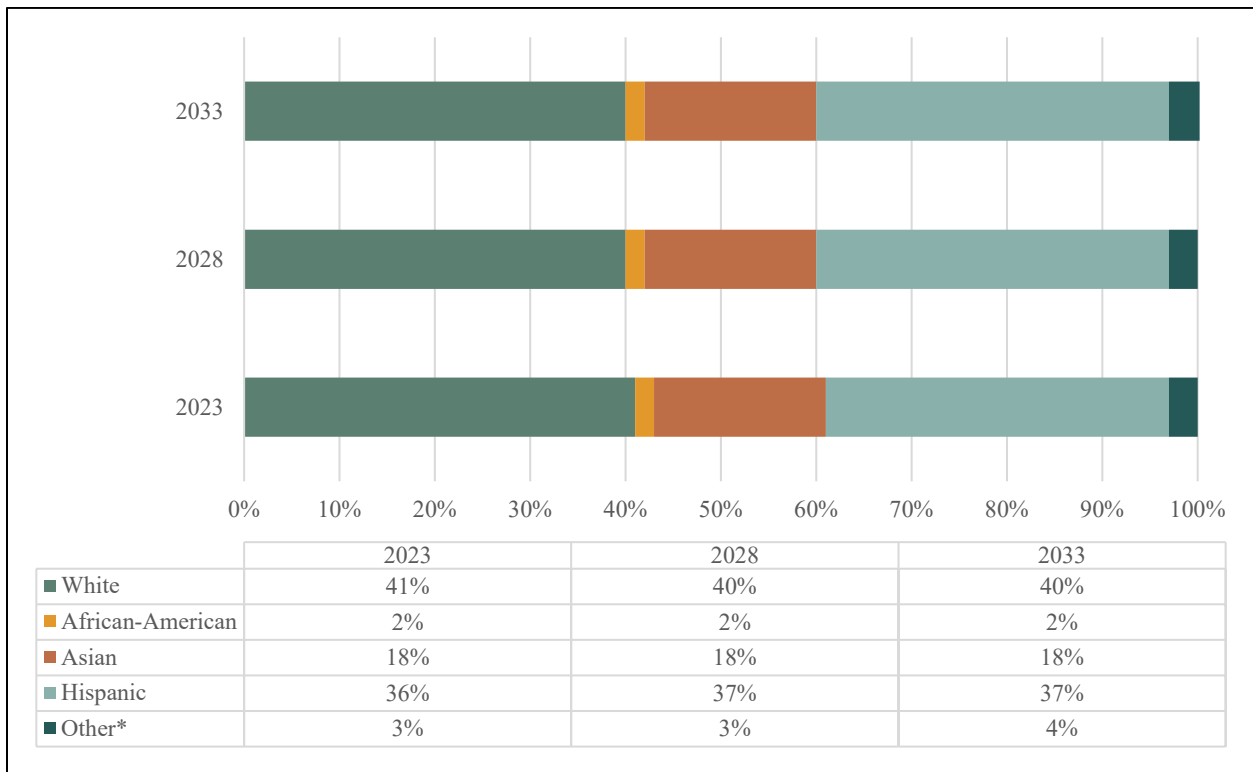
## Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Population by Ethnicity

The ethnic distribution in Orange County is expected to remain relatively stable from 2023 to 2033:

- Whites are projected to make up 40% of the population throughout this period.
- The African-American population is expected to remain at 2%.
- Asians will account for 18% of the population in 2023, 2028, and 2033.
- Hispanics are anticipated to represent 36% of the population in 2023, rising to 37% by 2028 and remaining at 37% in 2033.
- The "Other" category is projected to increase from 3% in 2023 to 4% in 2033.

**Orange County  
Population Projection by Ethnicity  
2023-2033**



*Other\* includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, Multiracial and Unknown*

Source: [California Department of Finance](#)

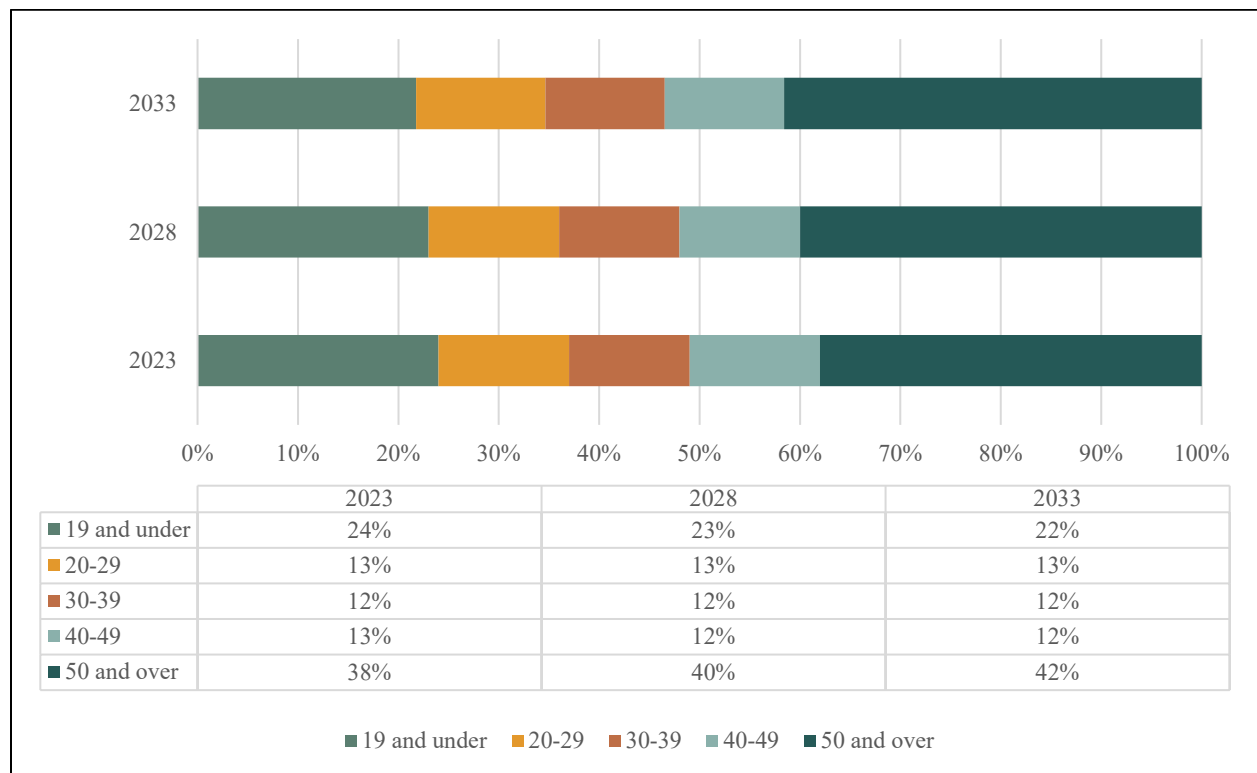
## Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Population by Age

The age distribution in Orange County is projected to evolve as follows from 2023 to 2033:

- The population aged 19 and under is expected to decrease from 24% in 2023 to 22% in 2033.
- The age group 20-29 is anticipated to remain constant at 13% throughout this period.
- Those aged 30-39 and 40-49 are both projected to maintain a steady share of 12%.
- The population aged 50 and over is expected to increase, growing from 38% in 2023 to 42% in 2033.

**Orange County  
Population Projection by Age  
2023-2033**



Source: [California Department of Finance](#)

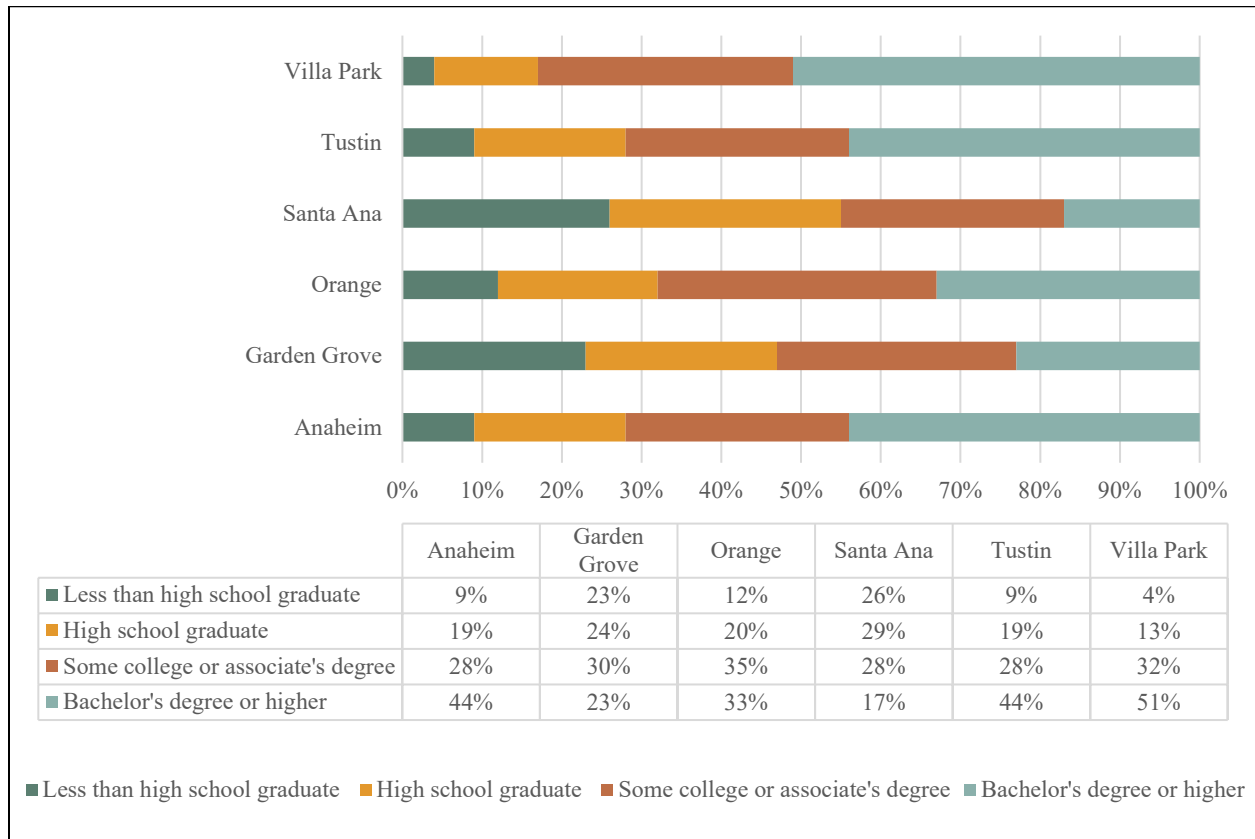
## Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Educational Attainment

In 2023, among individuals aged 18 years and over in these local cities:

- The highest percentage of residents with a Bachelor's degree or higher was in Villa Park (51%) and Anaheim (44%).
- Garden Grove and Tustin had 30% and 28% of their populations with some college or an associate's degree, respectively.
- Santa Ana had the highest percentage of individuals who had only graduated from high school (29%), while Villa Park had the lowest (13%).
- Individuals in Orange (35%) and Villa Park (32%) had a higher percentage of those with some college or an associate's degree.
- The percentage of individuals with less than a high school education was the highest in Santa Ana (26%) and Garden Grove (23%) and the lowest in Villa Park (4%).

**Local Cities  
Educational Attainment of 18 Years Old and Over  
2023**



Source: [U.S. Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov)

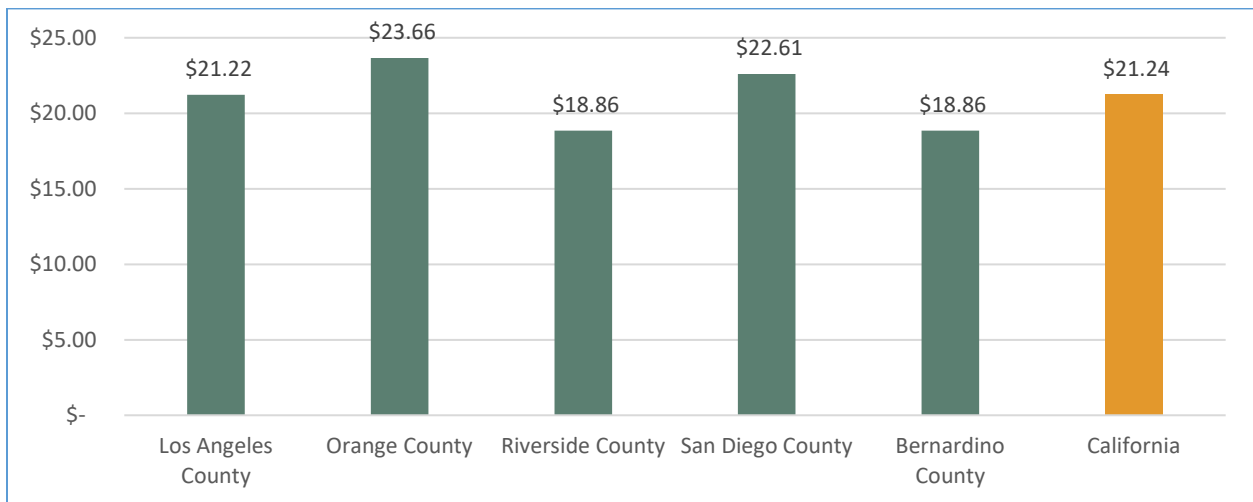
## Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Cost of Living

Across Southern California, the 2023 cost of living index shows notable variation between counties. Orange County has the highest living wage requirement at \$23.66, reflecting its elevated housing and consumer costs. San Diego County follows closely at \$22.61, also driven by strong housing demand. Los Angeles County sits slightly lower at \$21.22, still reflecting the high cost of urban living. The cost of living for these three counties is above California's average of \$21.24

In contrast, Riverside County and San Bernardino County show significantly lower living wage levels at \$18.86 of the Inland Empire

**Local Cities, Local Counties, and California  
Cost of Living Index  
2023**



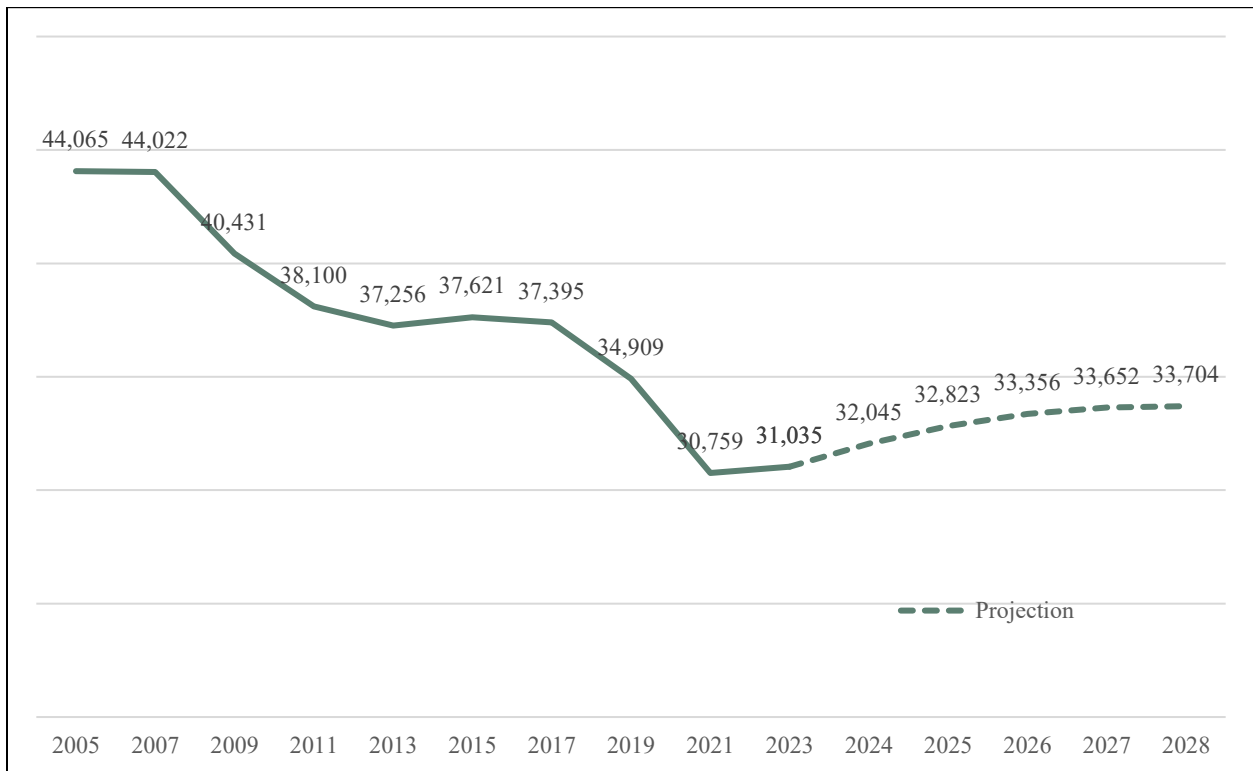
Source: [MIT Living Wage Calculator](#)

## Community Demographics and Characteristics

### Birth Projection

Despite a recent decline in the birth rate in Orange County, the Department of Finance anticipates a 9% increase in births from 2023 to 2033. This projection suggests a rise from 31,035 births in 2023 to 33,704 births in 2028.

**Orange County  
Birth Projection  
2005-2033**



Source: [California Department of Finance](#)