

Los Banos Chamber of Commerce

presents

A Community Economic Profile

City of Los Banos, County of Merced

Los Banos has a small town lifestyle with lots of amenities. Recreation, parks and community activities provide fun for all ages. Being the crossroads of California opens up many possibilities for growth and development for the town. Los Banos is also a cultural crossroads. In this small community Italians, French Basque, Hispanic, Asian and Portuguese to name a few have come together to form a rich history and an exciting future. Maintaining a fun, family based community is one of the chief goals of the City of Los Banos.

LOCATION:

- 265 Miles North of Los Angeles
- 120 Miles South of Sacramento
- 120 Miles Southeast of San Francisco
- 85 Miles East of Monterey
- 90 Miles West of Yosemite
- 76 Miles Southeast of San Jose
- 70 Miles Northwest of Fresno
- 30 Miles West of US 99
- 6 Miles East of Interstate 5



POPULATION:

1990	14,291
1994	18,800
1995	19,915
1997	21,385
1998	22,201
1999	23,250
2000	25,869
2001	27,512
2002	28,150
2003	29,150
2004	30,626
2005	32,380
2006	34,223

Ethnic Makeup

Hispanic	50.4%
White	39.8%
African American	4.3%
Asian	2.3%
Other	3.2%
Median Age:	33.9 years

INDUSTRIAL SITES:

There are 685 acres within the city limits zoned for light to heavy industry; over 50 percent is vacant and available in parcels ranging in size from 1 to 40 acres. Included in this acreage total are two industrial parks. Another approximately 150 acres is undergoing an annexation process and will ultimately be zoned for Highway Commercial (HC) and light industry uses. Typical sales prices range from \$40,000 to \$150,000 per acre. The terrain is flat. Drainage is good. Subsoil is clay loam, with some liming and piling may be required. Sizes of water mains range from 4 to 12 inches. Sizes of sewer lines range from 6 to 24 inches.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The major agricultural commodities produced in the Los Banos area are milk products, sugar beets, tomatoes, dried fruit, nuts, cotton, melons and meat. Los Banos is also a major supplier of sand and gravel for industry.

EMPLOYMENT:

Local Wages:		Civilian Labor Force 12,600
Skilled	\$7.00 to \$13.75/hr	
Semi-Skilled	\$6.75 to \$12.00/hr	Unemployment Rate 9.6%

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INDUSTRIAL / MANUFACTURERS:

Custom Metal Products
Fisher Research Laboratory
Ingomar Packing Company
Liberty Packing

Morning Star Packing Company
Ryan/Parreira Almond Processing
Peluso Cheese

Kagome Foods, Inc.
Lifetime Door Company
California Dairies, Inc.

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Memorial Hospital Los Banos
City of Los Banos
Los Banos Unified School District
Ranchwood Homes
Bowles Farming
Santos Ford-Lincoln Mercury
JC Penney
Food-4-Less
San Luis Water District
Central California Irrigation District

Save Mart
San Luis Reservoir
Wal*Mart
Town & Country Market
Los Banos Motors, Inc.
Kagome Foods, Inc.
Harry Marx Cadillac, Pontiac, GMC
Anderson Homes
K*Mart

BUSINESS LICENSE INFORMATION

Business license can be acquired at the Los Banos City Hall, 520 J Street, Los Banos, CA 93635. The cost of a Business License varies by business type, current rates can be found by calling City Hall at 827-7000 or visit the website at www.losbanos.org for more information.

GAS/ELECTRIC:

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) provides all gas and electric service to Los Banos. For industrial rates, contact PG & E at 940 "I" Street, Los Banos, California 93635, (209) 827-7554 or 1-800-794-4743.

TELEPHONE:

Service Provided by SBC, for telephone rates, call (800) 310-2355 (residential), (800) 750-2355 business.

WATER/SEWER:

Water and sewage service is supplied by the City of Los Banos, (209) 827-7000. The maximum pumping capacity is 10,500 gallons per minute (GPM), and the average consumption is 3,000 GPM. Water service is billed monthly. Prices for water connection range from \$191.13 for a 3/4" meter to 693.33 for a 2" meter. Call Public Works for a quote on 3 or 4" meters.

The capacity of the Los Banos sewer plant is 3.5 Million Gallons per day (MG/D). The August (peak) flow is 1.9 MG/D. Sewer rates are based on the volume of bod, suspended solids and flow. The treatment plant is primary and secondary, and there are facilities for non-recoverable industrial waste water. Industrial sewer connection charges are based on calculated flow. The residential sewer connection charge is \$2000.00

TRANSPORTATION:

Rail	Northern California Railroad provides freight service and the City has a transload facility at 2nd & H Streets.
Truck	Numerous carriers provide interstate service and overnight delivery to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Sacramento.
Air	Los Banos Municipal Airport offers passenger service for non-scheduled flights, charter passenger and freight service.
Bus	Greyhound Lines offers passenger and freight service and The Bus provides passenger service throughout the county.
Water	The port of Stockton is located 76 miles North of Los Banos.
Highway	State Highways 152, 165 and 33 pass through Los Banos. Interstate 5 is located six miles to the West, Highway 99 is 30 miles east.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Los Banos, incorporated on May 8, 1907, operates with a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council meets the first and third Wednesday of each month in City Hall at 520 J Street.

Police: The City of Los Banos has a police department with 27 sworn officers. Support service is available from the Merced County Sheriff's Department and the California Highway Patrol with stations located in the City.

Fire: Los Banos maintains 2 fire stations has 36 volunteer fire fighters, seven fire trucks, and 13 fire personnel. Four Merced County units are also stationed in Los Banos. Los Banos' Fire Insurance Classification is 3.

Taxes Sales Tax is 7.75%. Property tax is controlled by state law and is 1% of assessed valuation.

EDUCATION:

Los Banos has 7 elementary schools, 1 intermediate school (6th grade), 1 junior high school, 1 senior high school, 1 continuation (alternative) high school, 2 parochial schools, and a media center. The Merced Office of Education has opened Valley Community School on H Street near Johnson Road. Merced College has a campus in Los Banos and is building a new campus on Pacheco Blvd. West of the City. California State University, Stanislaus (Turlock) and California State University Fresno, are within commuting distance and UC Merced is now open in Merced. This is the 10th University of California campus.

HEALTH CARE

Hospitals	One (1) general hospital with 48 bed capacity. Two (2) convalescent hospitals with 59 bed capacity.
Physicians	Sixteen (16)
Dentists	Nine (9)
Family Health Clinic	One (1)
Optometrists	Three (3)
Chiropractors	Five (5)
Orthodontists	Two (2)
Podiatrists	Two (2)
Physical Therapist	One (1)
Pharmacies	Four (4)

HOUSING

Rentals	1-2 bedroom apartments from \$550 to \$800 per month. 2-3 bedroom houses from \$800 to \$1,650.00 per month.
Sales	Sales prices of existing homes are from \$200,000 to \$700,000 with new home prices from \$275,000 to \$700,000.
Mobile Homes	There are five mobile home parks in the Los Banos area.

MEDIA

The Los Banos Enterprise is published twice weekly and The Paper is published twice a month, delivery is available for both.
Los Banos has five broadcast TV channels and Comcast offers full cable TV service in digital or analog.
Los Banos has three radio stations (KLBS/KQLB and HOT 105).

SHOPPING AND BANKING FACILITIES

Los Banos has four major neighborhood shopping centers. There is also a vibrant, historic downtown shopping district. There are four banks, a credit union and a finance and thrift in Los Banos.

HOTELS, MOTELS AND MEETING FACILITIES

Twelve (12) Hotels, motels within the Los Banos City Limits.
One (1) auditorium that seats 1,085, three (3) exhibit halls that have a capacity of 2,000 and three arenas that can seat over 4,000 at the fairgrounds.

COMMUNITY AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

There are 26 churches in Los Banos and 81 community clubs and organizations.

CULTURE AND RECREATION:

Los Banos has a Branch library, 18 parks, 10 playgrounds, and 2 movie theaters. Outdoor recreational facilities abound at nearby San Luis Reservoir, numerous state and county parks and state and federal wildlife preserves. Los Banos Parks and Recreation offers a full recreational service for groups of all ages. The City also has an active Arts Council who own the Arts Center at K and 5th streets and offer a variety of concerts, plays and other special entertainment.

Should you require any detailed information for a specific area, please call or write us and we will be more than happy to accommodate you.

Los Banos Chamber of Commerce

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