



La Mesa, California.

Current market data.

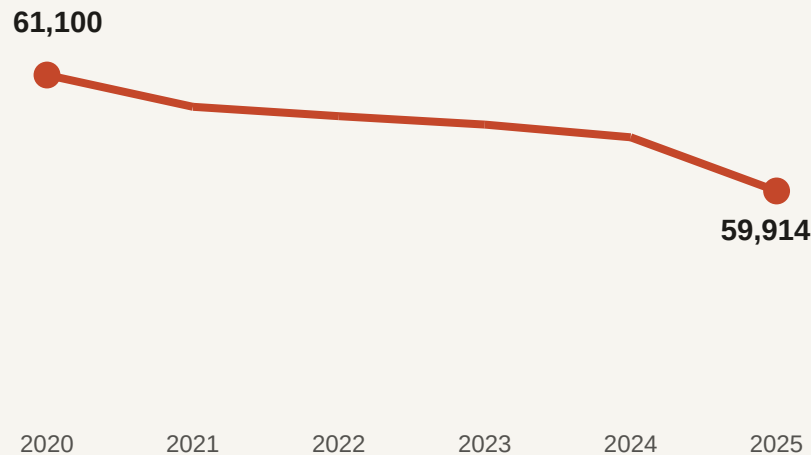
11 cards. Every number sourced and dated. Data as of Oct 30, 2026.

POPULATION

Down 1.9% since 2020.

59,914

people, the 151st-largest of California's cities and towns.

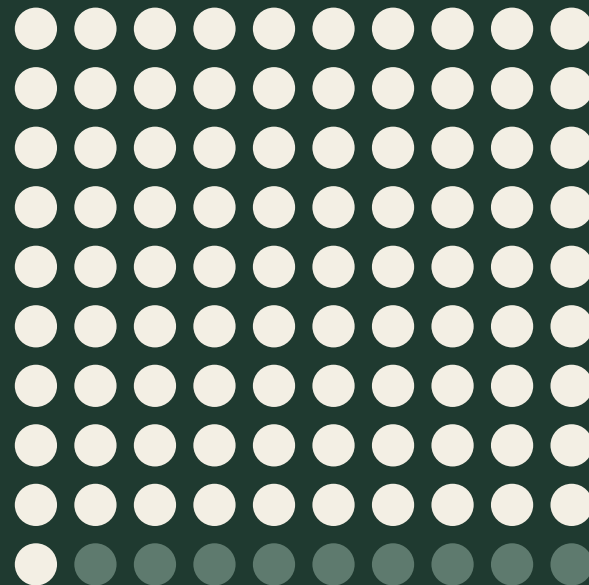


THE WORKDAY

9 in 10 jobs here go to
people who live somewhere
else.

90.9%

of 26,663 jobs located in La Mesa are filled by in-commuters.



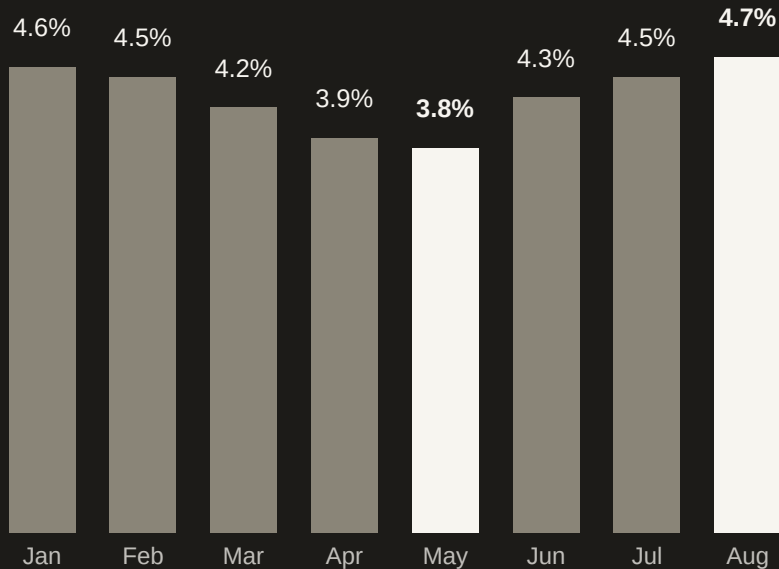
Each dot is 1% of jobs. Filled: held by in-commuters.

UNEMPLOYMENT, 2026

The low came in May:
3.8%.

4.7%

in August 2026, the latest month released. A year earlier it was 4.8%.

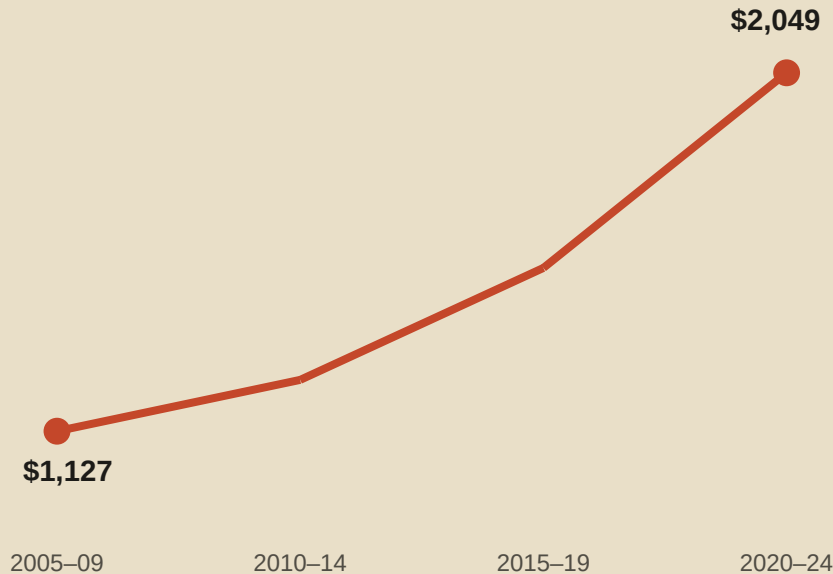


RENT

**Median rent is up 82%
since the 2005–2009
survey, before inflation.**

\$2,049

a month. California's median is \$2,036.



THE SEAM

Cross one tract line and median rent doubles.

A \$2,412 gap between neighbors, the sharpest rent edge between adjacent tracts in San Diego County.

TRACT 51.03

\$1,023

TRACT 216

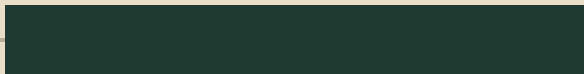
\$3,435



ROOM TO BUILD

The median rent is above what local wages can carry.

\$1,052–\$1,578



\$2,049 median

is the monthly rent range local workforce wages support.

BUILDING

Most of the housing here is older than 2000.

1,546

homes permitted in ten years,
2016–2025

66%

of those were in multifamily
buildings

91%

of all homes were built before 2000

UNITS NEEDED

Closing the gap would add 0.5–1.0% to the 26,212 homes here.

130–267

is the estimated number of missing housing units, from the lowest to the highest of three estimates.



HOME VALUE

A median home costs 11% more than California's.

\$812,000

median home value in La Mesa.

La Mesa



California



U.S.



THAT WAS LA MESA'S 2026

Every number came from a public source, with its date.

New Census data usually lands in December. The next Edition follows it.

See this Edition at almanacdata.ai/e/ca/la-mesa/

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