

---

## IV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

---

### Notes on Format

In order to maintain a consistency of presentation on the lengthy background chapters, we used the same A-to-Z subject format designed for the previous CEDS in the 2007 document. This will make it easier to reference different subjects and tables for frequent users of the document.

Narrative writeups generally follow the order of data and information in the tables, and are divided into subsections (or parts) limited to more detailed aspects of the subject. Subsections based on tables also include the table number references.

Where new information or statistics were available and relatively easy to access, the tables and narrative sections were revised and updated. Since most information today is available on websites, we were generally more selective about duplicating information with extreme or specialized levels of detail. Due to a larger number of projects and workloads in 2007, our search time for the harder-to-get information was also more limited.

Where no new updating from the data sources occurred, the tables and narratives remain in unchanged form for any value they may have. For example, we kept the detailed information on population and other characteristics from the 2000 Decennial Census which was available to us in 2002, but will not be available again for our counties until after 2010. In other cases, the information did not change since our last CEDS, and was retained in its original form. We also made no changes in the original maps.

In order to provide more research time, more detail, and graphic presentations for some of the chapters, we are assigning a higher priority to CEDS work in 2008 and subsequent years which will be reflected in the Annual Reports. This will also coincide with availability of new data following completion of the Targeted Industry Study; EPA's research on the San Luis Basin Sustainability Project; and revised Base Industry Analysis and other reports from the State Demography Office.

Factors taken into account when selecting data included availability, timeliness, reliability, and responsiveness to the analysis focus on a particular subject. Data sources and footnotes are included at the bottom of the tables, along with the date of release, access, or table compilation date. A large portion of data in the 2007 CEDS was accessed on the Internet and websites. Other sources included information in SLVDRG's hardcopy library; published reports; newsletters and magazines; newspapers; and customized summaries and interviews provided by various agencies.