

destination

The National Supplement

Bakersfield



Live

What makes the city a great place to lay down roots, whatever your age?

Work

What attracts employees to the region, and what industries are driving the economy?

Adventist Health Bakersfield

Together inspired™

Kern County's Premier Health Care Destination

- Providing comprehensive health care for Kern County, featuring a Medical Center, The AIS Cancer Center, three Quest Imaging locations and the Adventist Health Physician Network
- The only hospital in Kern County ranked in the top 5% in the nation for three years in a row
- The only hospital in Kern County to receive the 5-Star Award for stroke care for four straight years
- Recipient of more 5-Star Awards for heart care than any other hospital in Kern County
- World-class cancer treatment by the area's most experienced cancer specialists – including the area's first board-certified female breast surgeon



ahbakersfield.org





Live

WHY BAKERSFIELD'S AFFORDABILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE ARE ATTRACTIVE TO BUSINESSES, FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS

Start talking to people in Bakersfield, Calif., and a similar refrain starts to emerge. You'll hear about community, affordability, neighborliness, great food, great entertainment, and easy access to everything from whitewater rafting to the Pacific Ocean. In a word, Bakersfield is "authentic" California.

Larger than St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Tampa, the city offers all of the amenities of a major metro, from universities to medical centers, but it still exudes a feel of old California, with many families and businesses tracing their roots back to 19th century, and some even earlier.

The city's motto, "Life as it Should Be," sums-up why nearly 400,000 people live here. The median sale price for a home in the city is

\$206,000—about half of the state average. It's also sunny 273 days out the year, with an average daytime temperature of 77 degrees (F).

Another reason people live in Bakersfield is job opportunities. Located in the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley, the city is the county seat of Kern County, the numero uno county for oil production in the U.S., and number two for agricultural commodities.

The Greater Bakersfield economy is also expanding quickly. According to the U.S. Dept. of Labor Statistics, the Bakersfield metro area has the fastest-growing workforce in the nation. *Forbes* also ranks Bakersfield as the number-two metro in the country for millennial job growth.

Interstate 5 makes Bakersfield

easily accessible by car. The city also has two airports and is served by passenger rail. In fact, Bakersfield is the 25th-busiest Amtrak station in the U.S. Dedicated buses connect Amtrak passengers with other destinations, too. For example, the Bakersfield station is about two hours from downtown Los Angeles.

Education

The metro region is home to four universities and six community colleges, including California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB), which fuels economic growth and ▶

385,512

The city of Bakersfield is the 52nd-most populous city in the U.S.



“We continue to make capital investments in our hospitals”

Healthcare

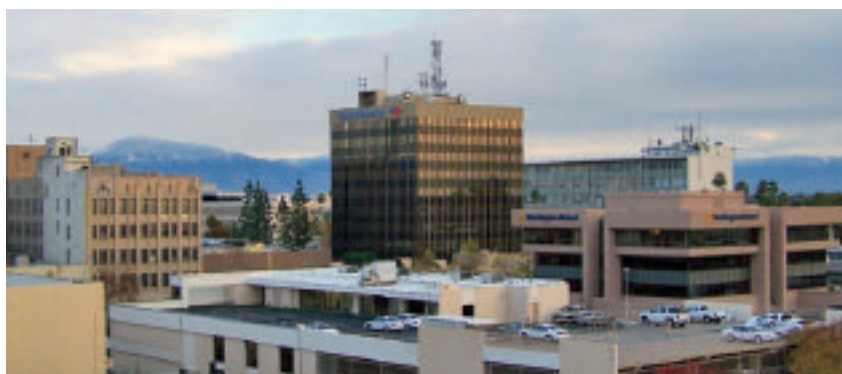
Kern Medical in Bakersfield is the region’s only tertiary care referral center, including a 222-bed hospital. It is a teaching hospital, affiliated with the UCLA School of Medicine, that includes more 250 residents, fellows, and medical students on staff. The medical center is one of the region’s largest employers, with 1,700 employees.

“People don’t have to worry about good health care in Bakersfield,” says CEO Russell Judd. “We are a safety net hospital, allowing us to provide care and services to everyone in Kern County, regardless of their economic status.”

Adventist Health is another of Bakersfield’s largest employers. It also has been a catalyst for development in the city, investing more than \$200 million into a downtown campus that includes a 254-bed hospital and state-of-the-art facilities for treating cancer, burns and strokes.

Dignity Health operates three acute care hospitals in Bakersfield. It is the county’s third-largest employer, and its centers of excellence include a heart and brain center, a children’s center, a urology center, and a recently opened oncology center. Now in the works is a \$250-million expansion that will add 120 beds to the Mercy Southwest Hospital in Bakersfield.

“We continue to make capital investments in our hospitals to add new technology, such as our hybrid cath lab,” says the hospital’s CEO, Jon Van Boening. “We have the physicians and the technology to handle cases that used to have to go major medical centers in Los Angeles and San Francisco.” ■



funnels skilled workers into the surrounding region. The university has more than 8,700 students, and 70 percent of its alumni live and work in the Central Valley.

“CSU Bakersfield is a major asset to the community,” says president Horace Mitchell. “We now have academic programs related to our largest industries: oil and agriculture. We offer a bachelor’s degree in agricultural business. We also offer engineering sciences, and our expectation is that we’ll soon be adding a full bachelors level program in petroleum engineering.”

When it comes to planting seeds for the future, Grimmway Schools, supported by the Grimm Family Education Foundation in Bakersfield, is leading the way.

Grimmway’s Academy Arvin, south of the city, is a K-8 charter school that embraces a unique blended learning model focusing on teaching students in rural communities English literacy and life skills.

“We were the first independent, public charter school established in Kern County,” says Paul Escala, executive director. “We are also the only school in California that has an acre of edible classroom garden space, and a kitchen classroom to go with it.”

90%

Percentage of California’s population within a four-hour drive of Bakersfield.

\$57,095

The average household income in Bakersfield.

TEJON RANCH - The Next Great Opportunity in California.

422 square miles

Plans for

35 million square feet of commercial/
industrial space

35,000 residential properties

Strategically located on Interstate 5, 60 miles north of Los Angeles and 20 miles south of Bakersfield, the 270,000-acre Tejon Ranch is the largest single expanse of private property in California. Owned by Tejon Ranch Co. (NYSE: TRC), the only publicly traded corporation headquartered in Kern County, the ranch sits directly in California's growth path. For businesses, investors, entrepreneurs, job seekers, future residents, and lovers of the outdoors, Tejon Ranch is the next great opportunity in California.



Learn more at www.tejonranch.com.


TEJON RANCH
C O M P A N Y



WE AGREE.

A thriving community creates more opportunities for everyone. At Chevron, we partner with people and local organizations wherever we operate to help support and strengthen communities. We all want to keep our community moving forward. We'll make it happen by working together.

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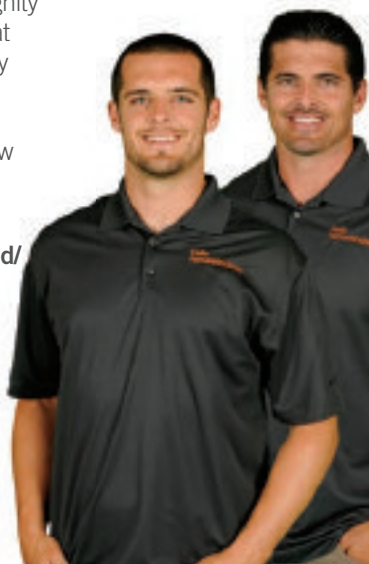
Kindness has no offseason.

Dignity Health welcomes NFL's Derek and David Carr

While building teams, coaches look for players with key traits like speed and agility. At Dignity Health, *humankindness* is at the top of our list. That's why Bakersfield brothers, David and Derek Carr, were first-round draft picks for our new partnership.

Watch the film at dignityhealth.org/bakersfield/carrbrothers

Hello humankindness®



 **Dignity Health.**
Mercy & Memorial Hospitals

FURNISH YOUR WORLD

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Work

INSIDE THE INDUSTRIES THAT ARE HELPING GREATER BAKERSFIELD COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

Greater Bakersfield, at the center of one of the nation's most robust economic regions, is one of the top 10 fastest-growing metro areas in the country, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Oil production and agriculture are the mainstays of the region's economic base. But, according to Richard Chapman, president of the Kern Economic Development Corp., the region also has one of the most diverse economies in

the U.S., including manufacturing, logistics, aerospace, and renewable energy.

"The great thing about our community is we are a relatively large city, the ninth-largest in California, but we have a small-town feel," adds Nicholas Ortiz, president of the Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce. "There are just six degrees of separation, or less, between you and anyone who you meet on the street." ▶

#1

Greater Bakersfield has the fastest-growing workforce in the U.S.

144m

Barrels of oil produced in Kern County per year.



Business matters

WHAT IMPACT DOES YOUR COMPANY HAVE ON THE GREATER BAKERSFIELD ECONOMY?

Jeff Huckaby CEO

Grimmway Farms

"Grimmway is a global produce leader and the world's largest producer of carrots. We employ families through the generations; foster a strong family connection to the company; and provide educational and employment opportunities to families of our employees. And water conservation in California is pushing us to seek more efficient ways to use water."

Albert Williams Vice President

Chevron USA

"We've been in the Central Valley for 130 years. The San Joaquin Valley serves as a large laboratory for developing techniques to produce heavy oil—techniques that are now deployed to other Chevron locations around the world. Our global Heavy Oil Center for Excellence is located at Chevron's facility in Kern River Field, and hosts personnel from across the globe."

Sharlet Briggs President

Adventist Health Bakersfield

"We are in the top five percent of hospitals in the nation in terms of the quality of care we give. And the hospital is now making a multi-million investment to open a new cardiac institute in Bakersfield. We have changed the face of the community in downtown Bakersfield with the addition of both our medical services and our buildings."

Greg Bielli CEO

Tejon Ranch

"Tejon Ranch is an easy two-hour drive from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Our close proximity to both the Los Angeles and Bakersfield metro areas put the ranch directly in the path of growth, northbound and southbound. With its central location, outbound companies at Tejon Ranch can serve up to 90 percent of California consumers within one day."

“We are a relatively large city, the ninth-largest in California, but we have a small-town feel”



Oil Industry

Kern County is the number-one oil producing county in the nation, yielding about 72% of California's total oil production. The industry accounts for about 50,000 local jobs, and has a local economic impact of more than \$4bn.

This comes through companies such as Chevron USA and its San Joaquin Valley Business Unit, with headquarters in Bakersfield, which manages the company's oil and gas production assets in California, and employs 1,300 full-time employees and 3,000 contract workers.

Aera Energy, also headquartered in Bakersfield, is another major employer. The natural gas, oil exploration and production company is jointly owned by Shell Oil Company and ExxonMobil. The company is one of the largest California and U.S. oil producers, accounting for 25 percent of California's oil production. “Innovation and technology have helped us to efficiently, safely and predictably tap heavy oil reserves,” says Christina Sistrunk, the company's CEO.

Agriculture

In 2015, the gross value of all agricultural commodities produced in Kern County was over \$6.8bn. Grapes, almonds, milk, citrus, cattle, and carrots are among the region's

leading agricultural commodities; while the region is home to such established names as The Wonderful Company, one of the state's largest agricultural landowners, which employs 8,500 people worldwide and about 4,300 in Kern County.

One of the leading growers based in Bakersfield is Grimmway Farms, a family-owned company that traces its roots to a produce stand opened by the Grimm brothers in 1968. Today, the company is the largest producer of carrots in the world, processing more than 10 million pounds of carrots per day. With more than 10,000 employees, Grimmway is the largest private employer in Kern County.

Sunridge Nurseries is one of the most innovative companies in Greater Bakersfield. The company specializes in grapevine nursery rootstock for vineyards, and sells worldwide. It produces “clean” vines that are developed to be free from viruses and pest-resistant.

“We are known for having the best quality grapevine materials in California,” says COO Tom Bracken. “Also, in response to the growing demand for new table grape varieties, Sunridge created a subsidiary company that breeds new, non-GMO, table grape varieties, including the popular Cotton Candy grapes.” ■

**\$35.8
bn**

Kern County's
Gross Domestic
Product in 2015.