



May 2020

Dear Fiscal Officer:

**Subject: Price Factor and Population Information**

**Appropriations Limit**

California Revenue and Taxation Code section 2227 requires the Department of Finance to transmit an estimate of the percentage change in population to local governments. Each local jurisdiction must use their percentage change in population factor for January 1, 2020, in conjunction with a change in the cost of living, or price factor, to calculate their appropriations limit for fiscal year 2020-21. Attachment A provides the change in California's per capita personal income and an example for utilizing the price factor and population percentage change factor to calculate the 2020-21 appropriations limit. Attachment B provides the city and unincorporated county population percentage change. Attachment C provides the population percentage change for counties and their summed incorporated areas. The population percentage change data excludes federal and state institutionalized populations and military populations.

**Population Percent Change for Special Districts**

Some special districts must establish an annual appropriations limit. California Revenue and Taxation Code section 2228 provides additional information regarding the appropriations limit. Article XIII B, section 9(C) of the California Constitution exempts certain special districts from the appropriations limit calculation mandate. The code section and the California Constitution can be accessed at the following website: <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes.xhtml>.

Special districts required by law to calculate their appropriations limit must present the calculation as part of their annual audit. Any questions special districts have on this requirement should be directed to their county, district legal counsel, or the law itself. No state agency reviews the local appropriations limits.

**Population Certification**

The population certification program applies only to cities and counties. California Revenue and Taxation Code section 11005.6 mandates Finance to automatically certify any population estimate that exceeds the current certified population with the State Controller's Office. **Finance will certify the higher estimate to the State Controller by June 1, 2020.**

**Please Note:** The prior year's city population estimates may be revised. The per capita personal income change is based on historical data. Given the stay-at-home orders due to COVID-19, growth in the coming years may be substantially lower than recent trends.

If you have any questions regarding this data, please contact the Demographic Research Unit at (916) 323-4086.

/s/ Keely Martin Bosler

KEELY MARTIN BOSLER  
Director

Attachment

- A. **Price Factor:** Article XIII B specifies that local jurisdictions select their cost of living factor to compute their appropriation limit by a vote of their governing body. The cost of living factor provided here is per capita personal income. If the percentage change in per capita personal income is selected, the percentage change to be used in setting the fiscal year 2020-21 appropriation limit is:

Per Capita Personal Income

Fiscal Year (FY)	Percentage change over prior year
2020-21	3.73

- B. Following is an example using sample population change and the change in California per capita personal income as growth factors in computing a 2020-21 appropriation limit.

**2020-21:**

Per Capita Cost of Living Change = 3.73 percent  
 Population Change = 0.22 percent

Per Capita Cost of Living converted to a ratio:  $\frac{3.73 + 100}{100} = 1.0373$

Population converted to a ratio:  $\frac{0.22 + 100}{100} = 1.0022$

Calculation of factor for FY 2020-21:  $1.0373 \times 1.0022 = 1.0396$

Fiscal Year 2020-21

**Attachment B**  
**Annual Percent Change in Population Minus Exclusions\***  
**January 1, 2019 to January 1, 2020 and Total Population, January 1, 2019**

County City	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>--- Population Minus Exclusions ---</u>		<u>Total</u>
	2019-2020	1-1-19	1-1-20	1-1-2020
Marin				
Belvedere	-0.70	2,139	2,124	2,124
Corte Madera	-0.24	10,138	10,114	10,114
Fairfax	-0.59	7,443	7,399	7,399
Larkspur	-0.63	12,331	12,253	12,253
Mill Valley	-0.47	14,743	14,674	14,674
Novato	-0.67	53,774	53,414	53,702
Ross	0.08	2,548	2,550	2,550
San Anselmo	-0.69	12,845	12,757	12,757
San Rafael	-0.66	60,207	59,807	59,807
Sausalito	-0.67	7,301	7,252	7,252
Tiburon	-0.43	9,581	9,540	9,540
Unincorporated	-0.59	64,851	64,469	68,659
County Total	-0.60	257,901	256,353	260,831

\*Exclusions include residents on federal military installations and group quarters residents in state mental institutions, state and federal correctional institutions and veteran homes.