

## What are problems in San Jose?

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San Jose, like many cities, faces a variety of challenges. Some of the common issues include traffic congestion, affordable housing, homelessness, and environmental sustainability. Additionally, like many urban areas, San Jose grapples with public safety concerns and access to quality education and healthcare. Efforts to address these issues often involve collaboration between local government, community organizations, and residents.



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**John DeFiore**Engineer (1984–present) · Author has **264** answers and **180.8K** answer views · 5y

Originally Answered: What is wrong with San Jose?

Compared with other cities of similar size, there's nothing particularly wrong with San Jose. There are sketchy areas with some gang activity, but the overall crime rate is lower than most cities of the same size.

San Jose has always wanted to be another San Francisco as far as being a destination for restaurants and night life. Unfortunately they have never been successful in equaling the Mecca of the north, but there is an active nightlife and good restaurants exist.

Much of San Jose is really kind of a suburban sprawl that serves as a bedroom community for Silicon Valley companies.

So maybe not the most exciting city in CA, but there's nothing inherently wrong with it.

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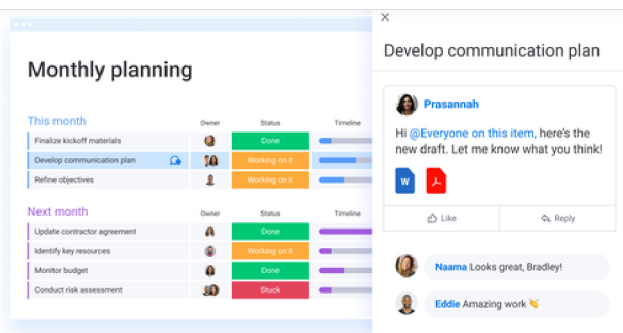
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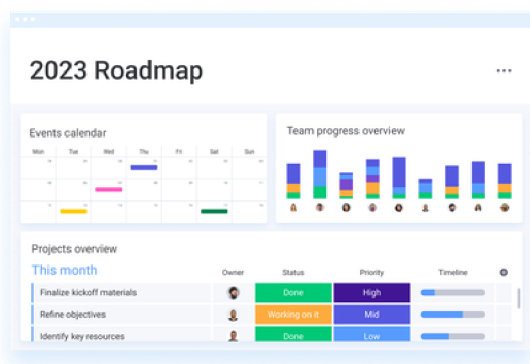


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**Elizabeth Anne Nield**

Lives in San Jose, CA · Author has **1.4K** answers and **13.9M** answer views · 6y



Racism, and gang violence - or so I heard. I never saw much evidence of gang violence myself around the city, though maybe that's because I'm white. (Obviously my name on here is a pseudonym, lol. I'm a LOTR fan).

There is one instance of gang related things that did affect me, indirectly. When I was in high school (early 2000's) we had a dress code policy, though no uniforms. One of the rules of the policy was that we couldn't wear more than three items of either red or blue clothing at the same time, so we wouldn't be seen as gang affiliated.

I have never been in a gang, but blue happens to be my favorite color, and I live on the South Side where blue is apparently "the" color. Or was at the time. Anyway.

One day, I was wearing an outfit that consisted of a blue and white striped top, with blue pants and socks that were mostly blue, with penguins on them. I'd forgotten about the dress code, but all my non-patterned socks were in the wash, and I love penguins, so...

In any case, I was sitting with one of my friends, who happened to be a Latina, at lunch. She had four red items on, including, if I remember right, her sweatshirt because it was cold. (Well, as cold as San Jose gets. If I'm misremembering details, we'll just call the sweatshirt an example. It was whatever her outer layer was anyway. Jacket, hoodie, whatever)

Our principal (who was white, like me) walked up to us and told her to take off one of her red items. So she took off her sweatshirt. He gave her a stern look and said he didn't want to see her wearing so much red again, then walked off.

She was just like..."gringa, you're lucky you're a white girl."

That was really the first time I was affected by the whole gang colors thing.

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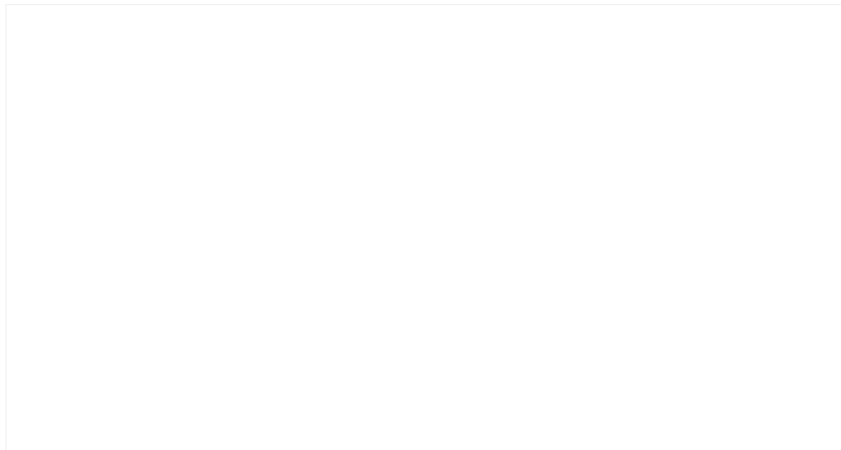


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## Quora

For all the comments about crime, San Jose is still ranked one of the safest big cities in America.

I think when you ask about San Jose, you almost have to specify a particular part of San Jose, because it sprawls. North Side/ Empire is different from Evergreen, is different from Almaden, is different from Little Saigon.

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**Pj Haggerty**

Lives in San Jose, CA · 7y



The two biggest problems are the high cost of housing and the police situation.

Housing prices are high because there are lots of high paying jobs and the city has grown to the edge of the mountains- there is not much more easily buildable land. This will not change, probably ever.

The police are understaffed and have trouble recruiting. The reasons are complex, but basically san jose pays less than other cities and can't afford to pay more. The new good officers go to other small surrounding cities. We have about 900 officers. We should have around 1400 to be "fully staffed". The number is not increasing because we don't pay enough. We can't afford to pay more because of complicated tax reasons that would bore most people. Hence, crime is rising.

I would recommend moving elsewhere if you have the option. The only reason to come here is to work in an exciting startup for an equity stake. Most other people struggle in various forms.

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**Lila Fisher**

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Elon Musk started his first software company, Zip2, back in 1995.

He sold that company in 1999 for \$300 million, and used his profits to start Paypal, SpaceX and to acquire Tesla.

According to Forbes, Musk became a billionaire in 2012 after Tesla unveiled the Model X, sending Tesla's market cap soaring to \$3.86 billion, and the value of Musk's stake in the company to just over \$1 billion.

So, all in all, it took Musk about 18 years to reach billionaire status after starting his first company.

Since then, Musk has held the title of the world's richest man, and he's done it by investing his time and money in companies like SpaceX, Tesla, Neuralink, the Boring Company and Starlink.

Musk is even known to dabble in crypto. He recently made waves by making Dogecoin the profile pick on his twitter handle. And twitter has introduced a new feature called NFT tweet tiles that allows twitter users to easily share, sell and trade NFT's, which left many wondering if Musk was about to shake up this emerging art market.

And while crypto has rebounded over the last few months, there's still a lot of volatility in the sector.

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**Peter Colclasure**

Lives in San Jose, CA · 6y



Traffic, rent, and a general blandness to the civic landscape.

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**Marcus Rodriguez-Tenes**

Lives in Richmond, VA · 7y



Homeless services are very weak, there are serious problems with gangs and crime. I used to work at an Orchard Supply and people were very methodical about stealing from our store both at night and in the day. Very violent youth roam the downtown area, as well as parts in the East side. There aren't enough police to deal with them. One time I called the police on a youth and he encouraged me not to press charges on him because it wouldn't do him any good since he was basically too far gone to change him. So we should let him roam the street and threaten people's lives? Public transportation is spotty. The train can feel dangerous at times especially at the stops, criminals and mentally unstable people. This is the same on the bus. To be poor in San Jose really sucks. That's why many of them turn to stealing and fighting. And then there's that upper echelon of society that seems untouchable and hangs out in expensive bars and hotels. It just doesn't feel to be a very integrated society. It may be multi-cultural, but it wasn't a fun place to live. The education is very bad and some parts, especially the East side. I agree with the sentiments that the middle class is evaporating. Finding a job here, as in most of the U.S. is very difficult.

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**John Gannon**

Lived in San Jose, CA (1977–1996) · Author has **1.4K** answers and **4.8M** answer views · 7y



It's a large city with a growing crime problem that has largely been ignored for years. There is a ton of money in the valley but in the hands of the few. If you're not in tech or real estate you're likely broke and can't afford anything. If you're in tech you're living the high life but only if you're an engineer or an exec.

Everyone else is ignored.

San Jose has a neglected civic infrastructure as well which sucks. At one point it was a beautiful city, in some respects, but after years of development it's basically just a shell of a dream from the dotcom days.

I wouldn't live there if someone paid me. 17 years was enough.

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**Benjamin Meyer**

Lives in San Jose, CA · Upvoted by William Mitchell Nuckols, lives in San Francisco Bay Area (2000... · 5y



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I grew up and continue to live in South San Jose. I have a few cop friends and we talk about the craziest stuff that they encounter. Every town has its share of freaks but, to make a general statement, San Jose is a very safe city.

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**Karin Hadar**

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**What do you dislike about living in San Jose, California?**

Born and raised in SJ, didn't move away until I got married.

I grew up in a working class neighborhood, some would simply call it "the hood" yet I had close friends in the Almaden Valley and Willow Glen areas, so I can speak with some authority about the different worlds you will find in San Jose.

Although there are some things I love about San Jose, such as the diversity (few places have

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3

**J Sea**

BA/minor in Studio Art &amp; Advertising, San Jose State University (Graduated 2014) · 6y

Drugs and homeless people, which are simply symptoms of ignorance, or lack of education. Ironic, being SJSU and MLK library are in the heart of downtown, as well as the city being in the "heart" of Silicon Valley, or the information portal for the entire earth.

Because of the crime rate and metropolitan area, police and sheriff injustice are also a problem rarely addressed under sheriff Laurie Smith

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The previous responder already mentioned the cost of living - but that's most metropolitan areas in California, not just San Jose. Traffic gets worse every year, and I'm not sure the BART extension to downtown is going to solve that - not unless there's adequate parking at the BART station. (I commuted to San Francisco for a year from San Mateo, and ended up driving in most

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I grew up in Fremont which is 15 mins north of San Jose. I'm a 52 yr old life long resident of Fremont. First of all most of my friends and classmates have moved out to the valley (Modesto),

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**What is the best way to keep energy levels high throughout the day?**

Just look at the legendary [Chuck Norris's advice](#) since he is now a whopping 81 years old and yet has MORE energy than me. He found a key to healthy aging... and it was by doing the *opposite* of what most of people are told. Norris says he started learning about this

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*Let me start with a joke. Back few days, during lunch, me and my colleagues were discussing nick names (or perhaps, parody names) for cities. One of my colleagues told us, when he was about to relocate to San Jose, he heard the city is called Man Jose, like Philadelphia is called Kiladelphia! Don't take me too seriously. Yet.*

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1. Most of the 49er gold that came from quartz was extracted using an amalgam of mercury mined in the hills west of San Jose. That's why the main newspaper in San



3. Loma Prieta the site of the 1989 Earthquake is only a 25-minute drive south and west of San Jose.

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It's super overpriced for what it is - a bunch of old suburban houses from the 80s and 90s. It's basically the same houses that you might get in say, Texas, except the difference is that the

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I live in nearby Fremont, but my biggest gripe is the traffic. It's getting worse every year.

Also the cost of living is really high. While I'm working it's no big deal, but it's almost impossible to retire here. You pretty much have to cash out and move somewhere cheaper.

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As Konstantinos mentioned, San Jose is a VERY large city. In fact, one could argue that is partly defined by its urban sprawl. There are many neighborhoods (Willow Glen, Rose Garden,

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I was born and raised in San Jose. I still live here. San Jose was always a sleepy big city. Crime was low. Homelessness was minimal. Housing was affordable. Traffic was light.

Then came Apple. Google. AOL. Amazon etc and destroyed everything I loved about this city.

Traffic is horrendous now.

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Is it? I don't believe so. The people in San Jose, CA are yuppies and Liberal. It least, I felt comfortable there. My wife went to college there, and would visit her there, never worried about being profiled there. And when I got my first job after college, we lived in San Jose for about 2 years, and everyone was cool.

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San Jose is a great city to visit and an even better city to live in. Located just 45 minute drive from the city of San Francisco, San Jose is also within 30 minutes of Santa Cruz, and the beach. Head east and you're a relatively short drive to Lake Tahoe's which offers both summer and winter sports, including significant annual snowfall.

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Reject? No, it still has a lot of residents, a bigger economy than all but a few entire states, a nice, albeit not wildly successful downtown and a very successful fake downtown, Santana Row. It's highly diverse, and with relatively little crime or friction.

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