The Atlas of California
Mapping the Challenge of a New Era

RICHARD A. WALKER AND SURESH K. LODHA

California is at a crossroads. As the state attempts to forge a new identity in the midst of unprecedented challenges, this indispensable book gives readers the tools they need to understand the transformation.

Among the world’s largest economies, California is the nation’s agricultural powerhouse, high-tech crucible, and leader in renewable energy. It’s the most populous and most diverse state in the continental United States. Yet its infrastructure is coming under increasing pressure. Water-supply systems are strained, the legendary highways are overburdened, and the celebrated system of public schooling is unable to offer affordable quality education at all levels. Health and welfare services, particularly for the poor, needy, disabled, and seniors, are at great risk.

For decades a global leader, inspiring the hopes and dreams of millions, the state has recently faced double-digit unemployment, multibillion-dollar budget deficits, and the loss of trillions in home values.

This atlas shows a new California in the making, as it maps the economic, social, and political trends of a state struggling to maintain its leadership and to continue to offer its citizens the promise of prosperity. The latest research and statistics are presented in a graphic form that gives shape and meaning to the numbers.

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128 pages, approx 200+ graphics, including color maps, graphs, charts, and tables
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