

Alameda County Census Data

1860-2020

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METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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I. Overview

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the transportation planning, financing, and coordinating agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. As a Metropolitan Planning Organization, MTC supports the region's network of streets, roads, highways, public transit systems, airports, and other transportation resources, including the movement of goods through ports and freight rail lines. MTC works with cities and counties to establish short- and long-term goals and provides resources to help them reach these goals.

Census data is a valuable information resource used to inform decision making by MTC as well as other public agencies, businesses, and individuals. This compilation has been created to provide easy access to this historical data for the Bay Area.

Sources:

[California Department of Finance Research](#), Census 1950-1990, Census 2000 SF1, SF3, DP1-DP4, Census 2010 DP-1, American Community Survey 2006-2010, Census 2020 PL94-171

II. 1860-1940

1860 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 8,927

1870 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 24,237

1880 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 62,976

1890 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 93,864

1900 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 130,197

1910 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 246,131

1920 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 344,177

1930 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 474,883

1940 Census

TOTAL POPULATION 513,011

III. 1950

1950 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	740,315	100.0%
RACE		
Native white	585,806	79.1%
Foreign-born white	69,025	9.3%
Negro	69,442	9.4%
Other races	16,042	2.2%
Indians	510	0.1%
Japanese	4,934	0.7%
Chinese	7,760	1.0%
WHITE PERSONS OF SPANISH SURNAME	35,578	4.8%
SEX		
Male	364,021	49.2%
Female	376,294	50.8%
AGE		
Under 5 years	75,645	10.2%
5 to 17 years	114,971	15.5%
18 to 64 years	485,750	65.6%
65 years and over	63,949	8.6%
Median age	32.4	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total household	237,897	100.0%
Persons per household	2.95	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All dwelling units	247,145	100.0%
Occupied dwelling units	238,087	96.3%
Owner occupied	125,835	52.9%
Renter occupied	112,252	47.1%
Vacant	8,757	3.5%
Median value of 1-unit structures dollars	10,844	X
Median gross rent dollars	43	X
INCOME IN 1949		
Families median income dollars	3,870	X

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

Population 25 years and over	467,820	100.0%
High school 4 years	132,715	28.4%
College 4 years or more	48,465	10.4%

MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

Employed	284,952	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	35,738	12.5%
Farmers and farm managers	2,032	0.7%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	32,280	11.3%
Clerical and Kindred	48,560	17.0%
Sales	25,956	9.1%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	45,261	15.9%
Operatives and kindred	40,729	14.3%
Private household workers	6,338	2.2%
Service workers, except private household	25,679	9.0%
Farm laborers	2,236	0.8%
Laborers, except farm and mine	18,006	6.3%
Occupation not reported	2,137	0.7%

IV. 1960

1960 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	908,209	100.0%
In households	875,642	96.4%
In group quarters	32,567	3.6%
 RACE		
White	768,996	84.7%
Negro	111,420	12.3%
Other races	1,655	0.2%
Indian	1,688	0.2%
Japanese	8,162	0.9%
Chinese	11,913	1.3%
Filipino	4,375	0.5%
 WHITE, SPANISH SURNAME	67,866	7.5%
 SEX		
Male	445,689	49.1%
Female	462,520	50.9%
 AGE		
Under 5 years	96,625	10.6%
5 to 17 years	204,279	22.5%
18 to 64 years	521,179	57.4%
65 years and over	86,126	9.5%
Median age	30.7	X
 HOUSEHOLDS		
Families	232,031	100.0%
With own children under 18	126,960	54.7%
Population per household	2.96	X
 HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All housing units	310,312	100.0%
All occupied units	295,367	95.2%
Owner occupied	166,157	56.3%
Renter occupied	129,210	43.7%
Vacant	14,945	4.8%
Median value dollars	15,000	X
Median gross rent dollars	78	X

PLACE OF BIRTH		
Native	834,585	91.9%
Foreign born	73,624	8.1%
INCOME IN 1959		
Families median income dollars	6,766	X
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED		
Population 25 years and over	520,789	100.0%
High school 4 years	149,088	28.6%
College 4 years or more	58,138	11.2%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
All workers	345,355	100.0%
Private automobile or car pool	242,420	70.2%
Railroad, subway or elevated	147	0.0%
Bus or streetcar	34,262	9.9%
Walked to work	25,595	7.4%
Other means	6,054	1.8%
Worked at home	15,300	4.4%
Not reported	21,577	6.2%
OCCUPATION		
Employed	337,480	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	48,125	14.3%
Farmers and farm managers	1,434	0.4%
Managers, officials, and prop'r's exc. farm	29,027	8.6%
Clerical and kindred	59,374	17.6%
Sales	25,796	7.6%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	47,149	14.0%
Operatives and kindred	47,565	14.1%
Private household workers	8,187	2.4%
Service workers, except private household	27,549	8.2%
Farm laborers and farm foremen	1,778	0.5%
Laborers, except farm and mine	17,260	5.1%
Occupation not reported	24,236	7.2%
CLASS OF WORKER		
Self-employed	28,103	8.3%

V. 1970

1970 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	1,073,184	100.0%
RACE		
White	855,978	79.8%
Negro	161,282	15.0%
Indian	5,688	0.5%
Japanese	10,117	0.9%
Chinese	20,072	1.9%
Filipino	10,597	1.0%
All other	9,450	0.9%
PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT	86,585	8.1%
SEX		
Male	525,834	49.0%
Female	547,350	51.0%
AGE		
Under 5 years	83,947	7.8%
5 to 19 years	289,458	27.0%
20 to 64 years	600,580	56.0%
65 years and over	99,199	9.2%
Median age	28.0	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Head of household	365,093	100.0%
Families	266,500	73.0%
With own children under 18 years	142,724	39.1%
Persons per household	2.84	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1969		
Income of families and unrelated individuals	11,133	X
Income of persons	3,718	X
Less than poverty level		11.4%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	416,670	100.0%

VI. 1980

1980 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	1,105,379	100.0%
RACE		
White	749,735	67.8%
Black	203,698	18.4%
American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut	8,313	0.8%
Eskimo	118	0.0%
Aleut	17	0.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	88,886	8.0%
Japanese	11,816	1.1%
Chinese	32,205	2.9%
Filipino	25,940	2.3%
Korean	3,925	0.4%
Asian Indian	4,896	0.4%
Vietnamese	3,146	0.3%
Hawaiian	2,288	0.2%
Samoan	551	0.0%
Guamanian	1,803	0.2%
Other Asian and Pacific Islander	2,316	0.2%
Race, n.e.c.	54,747	5.0%
SPANISH ORIGIN	129,665	11.7%
SEX		
Male	537,624	48.6%
Female	567,755	51.4%
AGE		
Under 5 years	71,380	6.5%
5 to 19 years	246,161	22.3%
20 to 64 years	674,670	61.0%
65 years and over	113,168	10.2%
Median age	30.7	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	427,372	100.0%
Families	276,801	64.8%
With own children under 18 years	141,045	33.0%
Persons per household	2.52	X
Persons per family	3.15	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1979		
Median household income	18,700	X
Median family income	22,863	X
Per capita income	8,537	X
Below poverty level		11.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	24.6	X
Mean travel time to work for workers traveling 45 or more minutes	56.3	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	505,450	100.0%
Private vehicle	392,051	77.6%
Drive alone car	270,541	53.5%
Drive alone truck or van	40,788	8.1%
Carpool car	69,247	13.7%
Carpool truck or van	11,475	2.3%
Public transportation	63,326	12.5%
Bus or streetcar	49,762	9.8%
Subway or elevated train	12,397	2.5%
Railroad	1,004	0.2%
Taxicab	163	0.0%
Motorcycle	4,485	0.9%
Bicycle	6,856	1.4%
Walked only	24,059	4.8%
Other means	5,906	1.2%
Worked at home	8,767	1.7%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	514,727	100.0%

VII. 1990

1990 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	1,279,182	100.0%
RACE		
White	762,557	59.6%
Black	229,316	17.9%
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut	8,354	0.7%
Eskimo	185	0.0%
Aleut	103	0.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	193,282	15.1%
Asian	185,911	14.5%
Japanese	14,077	1.1%
Chinese	68,184	5.3%
Filipino	53,760	4.2%
Korean	9,694	0.8%
Asian Indian	14,254	1.1%
Vietnamese	13,896	1.1%
Cambodian	4,083	0.3%
Hmong	20	0.0%
Laotian	2,605	0.2%
Thai	877	0.1%
Other Asian	4,461	0.3%
Pacific Islander	7,371	0.6%
Polynesian	4,425	0.3%
Hawaiian	2,505	0.2%
Samoan	1,044	0.1%
Tongan	771	0.1%
Other Polynesian	105	0.0%
Micronesian -- Guamanian	1,917	0.1%
Micronesian -- Other	34	0.0%
Melanesian	787	0.1%
Pacific Islander Not Specified	208	0.0%
Other Race	85,673	6.7%
TOTAL HISPANIC	176,017	13.8%
SEX		
Male	627,791	49.1%
Female	651,391	50.9%

AGE		
Under 5 years	95,466	7.5%
5 to 17 years	207,645	16.2%
18 to 64 years	840,786	65.7%
65 years and over	135,285	10.6%
Median age	32.9	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Households	480,079	100.0%
Total families	311,888	65.0%
With own children under 18 years	152,172	31.7%
Persons per household	2.59	X
Persons per family	3.18	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1989		
Median household income	37,544	X
Median family income	45,037	X
Per capita income	17,547	X
Below poverty level		10.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean minutes traveled to work	25.8	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	633,191	100.0%
Car, truck, or van	503,548	79.5%
Drove alone	422,775	66.8%
Carpooled	80,773	12.8%
Public transportation	63,138	10.0%
Bus or trolley bus	33,869	5.3%
Streetcar or trolley car	569	0.1%
Subway or elevated	26,694	4.2%
Railroad	1,305	0.2%
Ferryboat	432	0.1%
Taxicab	269	0.0%
Motorcycle	3,214	0.5%
Bicycle	7,919	1.3%
Walked	25,136	4.0%
Other means	5,350	0.8%
Working at home	24,886	3.9%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	635,840	100.0%

VIII. 2000

Census 2000

TOTAL POPULATION	1,443,741	100.0%
In households	1,416,006	98.1%
In group quarters	27,735	1.9%
 RACE		
White	704,334	48.8%
Black or African American	215,598	14.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	9,146	0.6%
Asian	295,218	20.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	9,142	0.6%
Some other race	129,079	8.9%
Two or more races	81,224	5.6%
 HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	273,910	19.0%
Not Hispanic or Latino	1,169,831	81.0%
White	591,095	40.9%
Black or African American	211,124	14.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native	5,306	0.4%
Asian	292,673	20.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	8,458	0.6%
Some other race	4,676	0.3%
Two or more races	56,499	3.9%
 SEX		
Male	709,300	49.1%
Female	734,441	50.9%
 AGE		
Under 5 years	98,378	6.8%
5 to 17 years	256,194	17.7%
18 to 64 years	941,576	65.2%
65 years and over	147,591	10.2%
Median age	34.5	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	523,366	100.0%
Family households	339,096	64.8%
Families with children under 18	170,762	32.6%
Average household size	2.71	X
Average family size	3.31	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	540,183	100.0%
Occupied housing units	523,366	96.9%
Owner-occupied housing units	286,277	54.7%
Renter-occupied housing units	237,089	45.3%
Vacant housing units	16,817	3.1%
1 unit, detached housing	290,890	53.9%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	303,100	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	852	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	1,051,085	72.8%
Foreign born	392,656	27.2%
Naturalized citizen	169,708	11.8%
Not a citizen	222,946	15.4%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1999		
Median household income (dollars)	55,946	X
Median family income (dollars)	65,857	X
Per capita income (dollars)	26,680	X
Individuals in poverty	156,804	11.0%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	953,716	100.0%
High school graduate	181,668	19.0%
Bachelor's degree	202,586	21.2%
Graduate or professional degree	130,368	13.7%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	30.8	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	678,910	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	544,148	80.2%
Drove alone	450,496	66.4%
Carpooled	93,652	13.8%
Public transportation	72,174	10.6%
Bus or trolley bus	30,291	4.5%
Streetcar or trolley car	439	0.1%
Subway or elevated	36,239	5.3%
Railroad	3,575	0.5%
Ferryboat	1,099	0.2%
Taxicab	531	0.1%
Motorcycle	2,506	0.4%
Bicycle	8,385	1.2%
Walked	21,919	3.2%
Other means	5,837	0.9%
Worked at home	23,941	3.5%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	692,833	100.0%
Management, professional and related	293,312	42.3%
Service	82,773	11.9%
Sales and office	182,205	26.3%
Farming, fishing & forestry	1,065	0.2%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	51,816	7.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving	81,662	11.8%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	49,197	7.1%
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IX. 2010

Census 2010

TOTAL POPULATION	1,510,271	100.0%
In households	1,472,829	97.5%
In group quarters	37,442	2.5%
 RACE		
White	649,122	43.0%
Black or African American	190,451	12.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native	9,799	0.6%
Asian	394,560	26.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	12,802	0.8%
Some other race	162,540	10.8%
Two or more races	90,997	6.0%
 HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	339,889	22.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	1,170,382	77.5%
White	514,559	34.1%
Black or African American	184,126	12.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	4,189	0.3%
Asian	390,524	25.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	11,931	0.8%
Some other race	4,191	0.3%
Two or more races	60,862	4.0%
 SEX		
Male	740,573	49.0%
Female	769,698	51.0%
 AGE		
Under 5 years	97,652	6.5%
5 to 17 years	242,969	16.1%
18 to 64 years	1,001,904	66.3%
65 years and over	167,746	11.1%
Median age	36.6	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	545,138	100.0%
Family households	352,423	64.6%
Families with children under 18	169,304	31.1%
Average household size	2.70	X
Average family size	3.30	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	582,549	100.0%
Occupied housing units	545,138	93.6%
Owner-occupied housing units	291,242	53.4%
Renter-occupied housing units	253,896	46.6%
Vacant housing units	37,411	6.4%

X. 2010 American Community Survey

2006-2010 American Community Survey

TOTAL POPULATION	1,477,980	100.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	577,538	100.0%
Occupied housing units	532,026	92.1%
Owner-occupied housing units	293,277	55.1%
Renter-occupied housing units	238,749	44.9%
Vacant housing units	45,512	7.9%
1 unit, detached housing	306,351	53.0%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	590,900	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	1,188	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	1,022,541	69.2%
Foreign born	455,439	30.8%
Naturalized citizen	232,942	15.8%
Not a citizen	222,497	15.1%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS		
Median household income (dollars)	69,384	X
Median family income (dollars)	85,014	X
Per capita income (dollars)	33,961	X
Individuals in poverty	165,417	11.4%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	994,960	100.0%
High school graduate		20.3%
Bachelor's degree		24.0%
Graduate or professional degree		16.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	27.9	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	695,938	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	534,955	76.9%
Drove alone	461,339	66.3%
Carpooled	73,616	10.6%
Public transportation	78,933	11.3%
Bus or trolley bus	30,004	4.3%
Streetcar or trolley car	960	0.1%
Subway or elevated	40,675	5.8%
Railroad	6,432	0.9%
Ferryboat	862	0.1%
Taxicab	487	0.1%
Motorcycle	2,007	0.3%
Bicycle	10,506	1.5%
Walked	25,145	3.6%
Other means	8,321	1.2%
Worked at home	35,584	5.1%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	716,257	100.0%
Management, professional and related	316,151	44.1%
Service	106,771	14.9%
Sales and office	169,628	23.7%
Farming, fishing & forestry	Included in following category	
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	54,040	7.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving	69,667	9.7%
CLASS OF WORKER		
Self-employed workers	57,999	8.1%

XI. 2020

Census 2020

TOTAL POPULATION	1,682,353	100.0%
In households	1,628,520	96.8%
In group quarters	53,833	3.2%
RACE		
Population of one race:	1,491,537	88.7%
White alone	523,836	31.1%
Black or African American alone	164,879	9.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	19,659	1.2%
Asian alone	545,261	32.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	14,123	0.8%
Some Other Race alone	223,779	13.3%
Population of two races	171,703	10.2%
Population of three races	16,711	1.0%
Population of four races	2,112	0.1%
Population of five races	262	0.0%
Population of six races	28	0.0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	393,749	23.4%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	621,958	100.0%
Occupied housing units	591,636	95.1%
Vacant housing units	30,322	4.9%