

Contra Costa 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 PL 94-171

II. 1860-1940

1860 Census TOTAL POPULATION	5,328
1870 Census TOTAL POPULATION	8,461
1880 Census TOTAL POPULATION	12,525
1890 Census TOTAL POPULATION	13,515
1900 Census TOTAL POPULATION	18,046
1910 Census TOTAL POPULATION	31,674
1920 Census TOTAL POPULATION	53,889
1930 Census TOTAL POPULATION	78,608
1940 Census TOTAL POPULATION	100,450

III. 1950

1950 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	298,984	100.0%
RACE		
Native white	254,322	85.1%
Foreign-born white	19,235	6.4%
Negro	22,023	7.4%
Other races	3,404	1.1%
Indians	247	0.1%
Japanese	1,417	0.5%
Chinese	438	0.1%
WHITE PERSONS OF SPANISH SURNAME	14,968	5.0%
SEX		
Male	158,411	53.0%
Female	140,573	47.0%
AGE		
Under 5 years	41,199	13.8%
5 to 17 years	60,372	20.2%
18 to 64 years	185,236	62.0%
65 years and over	12,177	4.1%
Median age	26.9	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total household	83,414	100.0%
Persons per household	3.35	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All dwelling units	90,641	100.0%
Occupied dwelling units	83,371	92.0%
Owner occupied	46,067	55.3%
Renter occupied	37,304	44.7%
Vacant	6,901	7.6%
Median value of 1-unit structures dollars	9,658	X
Median gross rent dollars	33	X
INCOME IN 1949		
Families median income dollars	3,808	X

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

Population 25 years and over	161,020	100.0%
High school 4 years	45,185	28.1%
College 4 years or more	14,050	8.7%

MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

Employed	97,610	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	10,675	10.9%
Farmers and farm managers	1,235	1.3%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	9,619	9.9%
Clerical and kindred	12,207	12.5%
Sales	7,534	7.7%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	18,490	18.9%
Operatives and kindred	18,369	18.8%
Private household workers	1,750	1.8%
Service workers, except private household	7,274	7.5%
Farm laborers	1,748	1.8%
Laborers, except farm and mine	7,945	8.1%
Occupation not reported	764	0.8%

IV. 1960

1960 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	409,030	100.0%
In households	405,333	99.1%
In group quarters	3,697	0.9%
RACE		
White	378,888	92.6%
Negro	25,294	6.2%
Other races	275	0.1%
Indian	447	0.1%
Japanese	1,886	0.5%
Chinese	1,006	0.2%
Filipino	1,234	0.3%
WHITE, SPANISH SURNAME	24,854	6.1%
SEX		
Male	204,148	49.9%
Female	204,882	50.1%
AGE		
Under 5 years	48,720	11.9%
5 to 17 years	115,228	28.2%
18 to 64 years	222,503	54.4%
65 years and over	2,579	5.5%
Median age	27.7	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Families	104,972	100.0%
With own children under 18	68,790	65.5%
Population per household	3.44	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All housing units	124,279	100.0%
All occupied units	117,858	94.8%
Owner occupied	85,690	72.7%
Renter occupied	32,168	27.3%
Vacant	6,421	5.2%
Median value dollars	14,600	X
Median gross rent dollars	77	X

PLACE OF BIRTH		
Native	385,821	94.3%
Foreign born	23,209	5.7%
INCOME IN 1959		
Families median income dollars	7,327	X
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED		
Population 25 years and over	216,660	100.0%
High school 4 years	64,271	29.7%
College 4 years or more	27,411	12.7%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
All workers	140,761	100.0%
Private automobile or car pool	116,318	82.6%
Railroad, subway or elevated	33	0.0%
Bus or streetcar	6,037	4.3%
Walked to work	6,762	4.8%
Other means	3,098	2.2%
Worked at home	3,716	2.6%
Not reported	4,797	3.4%
OCCUPATION		
Employed	142,569	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	21,910	15.4%
Farmers and farm managers	887	0.6%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	14,214	10.0%
Clerical and kindred	20,841	14.6%
Sales	12,018	8.4%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	23,415	16.4%
Operatives and kindred	23,173	16.3%
Private household workers	2,957	2.1%
Service workers, except private household	9,833	6.9%
Farm laborers and farm foremen	1,346	0.9%
Laborers, except farm and mine	6,674	4.7%
Occupation not reported	5,301	3.7%
CLASS OF WORKER		
Self-employed	12,743	8.9%

V. 1970

1970 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	558,389	100.0%
RACE		
White	502,411	90.0%
Negro	41,620	7.5%
Indian	1,701	0.3%
Japanese	3,980	0.7%
Chinese	3,088	0.6%
Filipino	2,763	0.5%
All other	2,826	0.5%
PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT	29,545	5.3%
SEX		
Male	274,758	49.2%
Female	283,631	50.8%
AGE		
Under 5 years	46,301	8.3%
5 to 19 years	173,603	31.1%
20 to 64 years	299,707	53.7%
65 years and over	38,778	6.9%
Median age	27.8	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Head of household	172,951	100.0%
Families	146,304	84.6%
With own children under 18 years	86,776	50.2%
Persons per household	3.54	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1969		
Income of families and unrelated individuals	12,423	X
Income of persons	3,971	X
Less than poverty level		7.6%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	211,006	100.0%

VI. 1980

1980 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	656,380	100.0%
RACE		
White	538,896	82.1%
Black	60,146	9.2%
American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut	4,993	0.8%
Eskimo	53	0.0%
Aleut	8	0.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	31,496	4.8%
Japanese	5,735	0.9%
Chinese	10,381	1.6%
Filipino	8,714	1.3%
Korean	1,517	0.2%
Asian Indian	2,081	0.3%
Vietnamese	936	0.1%
Hawaiian	760	0.1%
Samoaian	141	0.0%
Guamanian	300	0.0%
Other Asian and Pacific Islander	931	0.1%
Race, n.e.c.	20,849	3.2%
SPANISH ORIGIN	56,164	8.6%
SEX		
Male	320,515	48.8%
Female	335,865	51.2%
AGE		
Under 5 years	44,078	6.7%
5 to 19 years	159,444	24.3%
20 to 64 years	392,296	59.8%
65 years and over	60,562	9.2%
Median age	31.5	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	241,418	100.0%
Families	178,295	73.9%
With own children under 18 years	93,236	38.6%
Persons per household	2.69	X
Persons per family	3.16	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1979		
Median household income	22,870	X
Median family income	26,510	X
Per capita income	9,823	X
Below poverty level		7.6%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	27.2	X
Mean travel time to work for workers traveling 45 or more minutes	58.6	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	298,754	100.0%
Private vehicle	252,872	84.6%
Drive alone car	172,710	57.8%
Drive alone truck or van	26,997	9.0%
Carpool car	44,431	14.9%
Carpool truck or van	8,734	2.9%
Public transportation	25,794	8.6%
Bus or streetcar	9,673	3.2%
Subway or elevated train	13,291	4.4%
Railroad	2,745	0.9%
Taxicab	85	0.0%
Motorcycle	2,294	0.8%
Bicycle	1,625	0.5%
Walked only	6,851	2.3%
Other means	3,684	1.2%
Worked at home	5,634	1.9%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	305,313	100.0%

VII. 1990

1990 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	803,732	100.0%
RACE		
White	611,700	76.1%
Black	74,316	9.2%
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut	5,430	0.7%
Eskimo	30	0.0%
Aleut	66	0.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	76,854	9.6%
Asian	74,420	9.3%
Japanese	8,264	1.0%
Chinese	22,519	2.8%
Filipino	25,288	3.1%
Korean	4,048	0.5%
Asian Indian	5,682	0.7%
Vietnamese	2,747	0.3%
Cambodian	179	0.0%
Hmong	0	0.0%
Laotian	3,231	0.4%
Thai	273	0.0%
Other Asian	2,189	0.3%
Pacific Islander	2,434	0.3%
Polynesian	1,754	0.2%
Hawaiian	1,140	0.1%
Samoan	372	0.0%
Tongan	242	0.0%
Other Polynesian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Guamanian	478	0.1%
Micronesian -- Other	33	0.0%
Melanesian	143	0.0%
Pacific Islander Not Specified	26	0.0%
Other Race	35,432	4.4%
TOTAL HISPANIC	90,266	11.2%
SEX		
Male	392,282	48.8%
Female	411,450	51.2%

AGE		
Under 5 years	60,232	7.5%
5 to 17 years	141,198	17.6%
18 to 64 years	515,762	64.2%
65 years and over	87,459	10.9%
Median age	34.2	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Households	301,087	100.0%
Total families	214,677	71.3%
With own children under 18 years	103,823	34.5%
Persons per household	2.64	X
Persons per family	3.11	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1989		
Median household income	45,087	X
Median family income	51,651	X
Per capita income	28,631	X
Below poverty level		7.2%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean minutes traveled to work	29.3	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	401,173	100.0%
Car, truck, or van	342,242	85.3%
Drove alone	286,754	71.5%
Carpooled	55,488	13.8%
Public transportation	31,344	7.8%
Bus or trolley bus	6,305	1.6%
Streetcar or trolley car	189	0.0%
Subway or elevated	21,986	5.5%
Railroad	2,639	0.7%
Ferryboat	94	0.0%
Taxicab	131	0.0%
Motorcycle	1,667	0.4%
Bicycle	1,933	0.5%
Walked	7,371	1.8%
Other means	2,963	0.7%
Working at home	13,653	3.4%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	406,507	100.0%

VIII. 2000

Census 2000

TOTAL POPULATION	948,816	100.0%
In households	937,479	98.8%
In group quarters	11,337	1.2%
RACE		
White	621,490	65.5%
Black or African American	88,813	9.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native	5,830	0.6%
Asian	103,993	11.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	3,466	0.4%
Some other race	76,510	8.1%
Two or more races	48,714	5.1%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	167,776	17.7%
Not Hispanic or Latino	781,040	82.3%
White	549,409	57.9%
Black or African American	86,851	9.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	3,648	0.4%
Asian	102,681	10.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	3,157	0.3%
Some other race	2,636	0.2%
Two or more races	32,658	3.4%
SEX		
Male	463,270	48.8%
Female	485,546	51.2%
AGE		
Under 5 years	66,128	7.0%
5 to 17 years	185,666	19.6%
18 to 64 years	589,750	62.2%
65 years and over	107,272	11.3%
Median age	36.4	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	344,129	100.0%
Family households	242,233	70.4%
Families with children under 18	121,884	35.4%
Average household size	2.72	X
Average family size	3.23	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	354,577	100.0%
Occupied housing units	344,129	97.1%
Owner-occupied housing units	238,449	69.3%
Renter-occupied housing units	105,680	30.7%
Vacant housing units	10,448	2.9%
1 unit, detached housing	232,050	65.4%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	267,800	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	898	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	768,328	81.0%
Foreign born	180,488	19.0%
Naturalized citizen	82,317	8.7%
Not a citizen	98,171	10.3%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1999		
Median household income (dollars)	63,675	X
Median family income (dollars)	73,039	X
Per capita income (dollars)	30,615	X
Individuals in poverty	71,575	7.6%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	625,641	100.0%
High school graduate	123,956	19.8%
Bachelor's degree	142,909	22.8%
Graduate or professional degree	76,139	12.2%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	34.4	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	442,008	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	370,055	83.7%
Drove alone	310,286	70.2%
Carpooled	59,769	13.5%
Public transportation	39,652	9.0%
Bus or trolley bus	8,135	1.8%
Streetcar or trolley car	378	0.1%
Subway or elevated	27,952	6.3%
Railroad	2,678	0.6%
Ferryboat	115	0.0%
Taxicab	394	0.1%
Motorcycle	838	0.2%
Bicycle	2,085	0.5%
Walked	6,631	1.5%
Other means	3,771	0.9%
Worked at home	18,976	4.3%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	451,357	100.0%
Management, professional and related	185,100	41.0%
Service	60,299	13.4%
Sales and office	126,183	28.8%
Farming, fishing & forestry	937	0.2%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	40,341	8.9%
Production, transportation, and material moving	38,497	8.5%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	38,535	8.5%
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IX. 2010

Census 2010

TOTAL POPULATION	1,049,025	100.0%
In households	1,038,711	99.0%
In group quarters	10,314	1.0%
RACE		
White	614,512	58.6%
Black or African American	97,161	9.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	6,122	0.6%
Asian	151,469	14.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	4,845	0.5%
Some other race	112,691	10.7%
Two or more races	62,225	5.9%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	255,560	24.4%
Not Hispanic or Latino	793,465	75.6%
White	500,923	47.8%
Black or African American	93,604	8.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	2,984	0.3%
Asian	148,881	14.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	4,382	0.4%
Some other race	3,122	0.3%
Two or more races	39,569	3.8%
SEX		
Male	511,526	48.8%
Female	537,499	51.2%
AGE		
Under 5 years	67,018	6.4%
5 to 17 years	193,487	18.4%
18 to 64 years	658,082	62.7%
65 years and over	130,438	12.4%
Median age	38.5	X

HOUSEHOLDS

Total households	375,364	100.0%
Family households	265,280	70.7%
Families with children under 18	126,893	33.8%
Average household size	2.77	X
Average family size	3.26	X

HOUSING OCCUPANCY

Total housing units	400,263	100.0%
Occupied housing units	375,364	93.8%
Owner-occupied housing units	251,904	67.1%
Renter-occupied housing units	123,460	32.9%
Vacant housing units	24,899	6.2%

X. 2010 American Community Survey

2006-2010 American Community Survey

TOTAL POPULATION	1,024,809	100.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	396,782	100.0%
Occupied housing units	368,087	92.8%
Owner-occupied housing units	255,807	69.5%
Renter-occupied housing units	112,280	30.5%
Vacant housing units	28,695	7.2%
1 unit, detached housing	263,717	66.5%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	548,200	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	1,270	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	782,896	76.4%
Foreign born	241,913	23.6%
Naturalized citizen	122,470	12.0%
Not a citizen	119,443	11.7%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS		
Median household income (dollars)	78,385	X
Median family income (dollars)	91,791	X
Per capita income (dollars)	37,818	X
Individuals in poverty	91,142	9.0%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	681,162	100.0%
High school graduate		19.7%
Bachelor's degree		24.5%
Graduate or professional degree		13.7%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	32	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	468,171	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	384,124	82.0%
Drove alone	327,711	70.0%
Carpooled	56,413	12.0%
Public transportation	41,889	8.9%
Bus or trolley bus	9,838	2.1%
Streetcar or trolley car	649	0.1%
Subway or elevated	27,852	5.9%
Railroad	3,525	0.8%
Ferryboat	25	0.0%
Taxicab	159	0.0%
Motorcycle	1,369	0.3%
Bicycle	2,827	0.6%
Walked	8,035	1.7%
Other means	3,586	0.8%
Worked at home	26,182	5.6%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	482,898	100.0%
Management, professional and related	199,215	41.3%
Service	79,369	16.4%
Sales and office	125,334	26.0%
	Included in following	category
Farming, fishing & forestry		
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	40,920	8.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving	38,060	7.9%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	43,265	9.0%
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XI. 2020

Census 2020

TOTAL POPULATION	1,165,927	100.0%
In households	1,154,672	99.0%
In group quarters	11,255	1.0%
RACE		
Population of one race:	1,012,452	86.8%
White alone	501,697	43.0%
Black or African American alone	101,485	8.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	12,043	1.0%
Asian alone	217,823	18.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	6,250	0.5%
Some Other Race alone	173,154	14.9%
Population of two races	139,638	12.0%
Population of three races	12,241	1.0%
Population of four races	1,402	0.1%
Population of five races	179	0.0%
Population of six races	15	0.0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	314,900	27.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	423,342	100.0%
Occupied housing units	407,029	96.1%
Vacant housing units	16,313	3.9%