

**City of East Palo Alto
San Mateo County
Census Data
1970-2020**

compiled by
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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. 1970

1970 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	17,837	100.0%
RACE		
White	6,015	33.7%
Negro	10,846	60.8%
Indian	62	0.3%
Japanese	347	1.9%
Chinese	184	1.0%
Filipino	280	1.6%
All other	103	0.6%
PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT	995	5.6%
SEX		
Male	8,860	49.7%
Female	8,977	50.3%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,648	9.2%
5 to 19 years	5,369	30.1%
20 to 64 years	9,964	55.9%
65 years and over	856	4.8%
Median age	24.5	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Head of household	6,009	100.0%
Families	3,976	66.2%
With own children under 18 years	2,247	37.4%
Persons per household	2.94	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1969		
Income of families and unrelated individuals	7,315	X
Income of persons	3,116	X
Less than poverty level		14.6%

III. 1980

1980 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	18,191	100.0%
RACE		
White	4,545	25.0%
Black	11,107	61.1%
American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut	111	0.6%
Eskimo	0	0.0%
Aleut	0	0.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	1,168	6.4%
Japanese	272	1.5%
Chinese	120	0.7%
Filipino	291	1.6%
Korean	0	0.0%
Asian Indian	23	0.1%
Vietnamese	152	0.8%
Hawaiian	0	0.0%
Samoan	192	1.1%
Guamanian	0	0.0%
Other Asian and Pacific Islander	118	0.6%
Race, n.e.c.	1,260	6.9%
SPANISH ORIGIN	2,506	13.8%
AGE		
Median age	26.3	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	6,476	100.0%
Families	3,927	60.6%
With own children under 18 years	2,166	33.4%
Persons per household	2.80	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1979		
Median household income	14,147	X
Median family income	16,128	X
Per capita income	5,930	X
Below poverty level		17.0%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	21.0	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Workers 16 years and over	8,377	100.0%
Private vehicle	7,219	86.2%
Drive alone car	5,384	64.3%
Drive alone truck or van	458	5.5%
Carpool car	1,314	15.7%
Carpool truck or van	63	0.8%
Public transportation	517	6.2%
Walked only	172	2.1%
Other means	357	4.3%
Worked at home	112	1.3%

IV. 1990

1990 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	23,451	100.0%
RACE		
White	7,250	30.9%
Black	10,071	42.9%
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut	216	0.9%
Eskimo	0	0.0%
Aleut	39	0.2%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2,371	10.1%
Asian	658	2.8%
Japanese	222	0.9%
Chinese	55	0.2%
Filipino	237	1.0%
Korean	12	0.1%
Asian Indian	80	0.3%
Vietnamese	52	0.2%
Cambodian	0	0.0%
Hmong	0	0.0%
Laotian	0	0.0%
Thai	0	0.0%
Other Asian	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	1,713	7.3%
Polynesian	1,571	6.7%
Hawaiian	90	0.4%
Samoan	824	3.5%
Tongan	657	2.8%
Other Polynesian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Guamanian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Other	0	0.0%
Melanesian	73	0.3%
Pacific Islander Not Specified	69	0.3%
Other Race	3,543	15.1%
TOTAL HISPANIC	7,905	33.7%
SEX		
Male	11,830	50.4%
Female	11,621	49.6%

AGE		
Under 5 years	2,506	10.7%
5 to 17 years	5,166	22.0%
18 to 64 years	14,380	61.3%
65 years and over	1,399	6.0%
Median age	27.4	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Households	6,813	100.0%
Total families	4,788	70.3%
With own children under 18 years	2,744	40.3%
Persons per household	3.39	X
Persons per family	4.04	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1989		
Median household income	29,206	X
Median family income	31,319	X
Per capita income	9,968	X
Below poverty level		17.4%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean minutes traveled to work	21.3	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	9,869	100.0%
Car, truck, or van	8,481	85.9%
Drove alone	6,622	67.1%
Carpooled	1,859	18.8%
Public transportation	808	8.2%
Bus or trolley bus	693	7.0%
Streetcar or trolley car	0	0.0%
Subway or elevated	0	0.0%
Railroad	115	1.2%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	18	0.2%
Bicycle	147	1.5%
Walked	191	1.9%
Other means	45	0.5%
Working at home	179	1.8%

V. 2000

Census 2000

TOTAL POPULATION	29,506	100.0%
In households	29,317	99.4%
In group quarters	189	0.6%
RACE		
White	7,962	27.0%
Black or African American	6,796	23.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native	246	0.8%
Asian	657	2.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2,252	7.6%
Some other race	10,248	34.7%
Two or more races	1,345	4.6%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	17,346	58.8%
Not Hispanic or Latino	12,160	41.2%
White	1,930	6.5%
Black or African American	6,641	22.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	66	0.2%
Asian	621	2.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2,223	7.5%
Some other race	67	0.2%
Two or more races	612	2.1%
SEX		
Male	15,198	51.5%
Female	14,308	48.5%
AGE		
Under 5 years	2,943	10.0%
5 to 17 years	7,376	25.0%
18 to 64 years	17,668	59.9%
65 years and over	1,519	5.1%
Median age	25.8	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	6,976	100.0%
Family households	5,275	75.6%
Families with children under 18	3,300	47.3%
Average household size	4.20	X
Average family size	4.64	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	7,091	100.0%
Occupied housing units	6,976	98.4%
Owner-occupied housing units	3,033	43.5%
Renter-occupied housing units	3,943	56.5%
Vacant housing units	115	1.6%
1 unit, detached housing	3,602	51.0%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	302,000	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	854	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	16,546	56.2%
Foreign born	12,904	43.8%
Naturalized citizen	2,856	9.7%
Not a citizen	10,048	34.1%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1999		
Median household income (dollars)	45,006	X
Median family income (dollars)	44,342	X
Per capita income (dollars)	13,774	X
Individuals in poverty	4,658	16.2%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	15,170	100.0%
High school graduate	2,733	18.0%
Bachelor's degree	1,069	7.0%
Graduate or professional degree	545	3.6%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.9	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	11,014	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	9,633	87.5%
Drove alone	7,053	64.0%
Carpooled	2,580	23.4%
Public transportation	688	6.2%
Bus or trolley bus	598	5.4%
Streetcar or trolley car	0	0.0%
Subway or elevated	13	0.1%
Railroad	72	0.7%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	5	0.0%
Motorcycle	25	0.2%
Bicycle	193	1.8%
Walked	171	1.6%
Other means	85	0.8%
Worked at home	219	2.0%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	11,349	100.0%
Management, professional and related	2,062	18.2%
Service	3,626	31.9%
Sales and office	2,632	23.2%
Farming, fishing & forestry	29	0.3%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	1,350	11.9%
Production, transportation, and material moving	1,650	14.5%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	866	7.6%
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VI. 2010

Census 2010

TOTAL POPULATION	28,155	100.0%
In households	28,001	99.5%
In group quarters	154	0.5%
RACE		
White	8,104	28.8%
Black or African American	4,704	16.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	120	0.4%
Asian	1,057	3.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2,118	7.5%
Some other race	10,694	38.0%
Two or more races	1,358	4.8%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	18,147	64.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	10,008	35.5%
White	1,754	6.2%
Black or African American	4,458	15.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	30	0.1%
Asian	1,025	3.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2,083	7.4%
Some other race	49	0.2%
Two or more races	609	2.2%
SEX		
Male	14,268	50.7%
Female	13,887	49.3%
AGE		
Under 5 years	2,616	9.3%
5 to 17 years	6,360	22.6%
18 to 64 years	17,504	62.2%
65 years and over	1,675	5.9%
Median age	28.1	X

HOUSEHOLDS

Total households	6,940	100.0%
Family households	5,279	76.1%
Families with children under 18	3,144	45.3%
Average household size	4.03	X
Average family size	4.38	X

HOUSING OCCUPANCY

Total housing units	7,819	100.0%
Occupied housing units	6,940	88.8%
Owner-occupied housing units	2,971	42.8%
Renter-occupied housing units	3,969	57.2%
Vacant housing units	879	11.2%

VII. 2010 American Community Survey

2006-2010 American Community Survey

TOTAL POPULATION	27,894	100.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	8,413	100.0%
Occupied housing units	7,408	88.1%
Owner-occupied housing units	3,423	46.2%
Renter-occupied housing units	3,985	53.8%
Vacant housing units	1,005	11.9%
1 unit, detached housing	4,531	53.9%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	525,600	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	1,154	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	16,398	58.8%
Foreign born	11,496	41.2%
Naturalized citizen	2,770	9.9%
Not a citizen	8,726	31.3%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS		
Median household income (dollars)	48,734	X
Median family income (dollars)	49,711	X
Per capita income (dollars)	17,942	X
Individuals in poverty	4,562	16.6%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	15,616	100.0%
High school graduate		26.9%
Bachelor's degree		9.4%
Graduate or professional degree		6.6%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	20.2	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	12,213	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	10,194	83.5%
Drove alone	8,629	70.7%
Carpooled	1,565	12.8%
Public transportation	635	5.2%
Bus or trolley bus	577	4.7%
Streetcar or trolley car	0	0.0%
Subway or elevated	9	0.1%
Railroad	49	0.4%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	131	1.1%
Bicycle	398	3.3%
Walked	387	3.2%
Other means	165	1.4%
Worked at home	303	2.5%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	12,473	100.0%
Management, professional and related	2,330	18.7%
Service	5,051	40.5%
Sales and office	2,452	19.7%
Farming, fishing & forestry		Included in following category
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	1,230	9.9%
Production, transportation, and material moving	1,410	11.3%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	1,229	9.9%
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VIII. 2020

Census 2020

TOTAL POPULATION	30,034	100.0%
In households	29,890	99.5%
In group quarters	144	0.5%
RACE		
Population of one race:	25,638	85.4%
White alone	3,574	11.9%
Black or African American alone	3,287	10.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	682	2.3%
Asian alone	1,596	5.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	2,084	6.9%
Some Other Race alone	14,415	48.0%
Population of two races	4,132	13.8%
Population of three races	237	0.8%
Population of four races	26	0.1%
Population of five races	1	0.0%
Population of six races	0	0.0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	19,964	66.5%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	8,110	100.0%
Occupied housing units	7,673	94.6%
Vacant housing units	437	5.4%