

**City of El Cerrito  
Contra Costa County  
Census Data**

**1920-2020**

compiled by  
Julie Tunnell  
Head Librarian

Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415-778-5236  
[library@bayareametro.gov](mailto:library@bayareametro.gov)

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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. 1920-1940**

**1920 Census**

TOTAL POPULATION

1,505

**1930 Census**

TOTAL POPULATION

3,970

**1940 Census**

TOTAL POPULATION

6,137

### III. 1950

#### 1950 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	18,011	100.0%
In households	17,880	99.3%
RACE		
Native white	15,308	85.0%
Foreign-born white	1,319	7.3%
Negro	587	3.3%
Other races	797	4.4%
Indians	5	0.0%
Japanese	675	3.7%
Chinese	103	0.6%
WHITE PERSONS OF SPANISH SURNAME	405	2.2%
SEX		
Male	8,929	49.6%
Female	9,082	50.4%
AGE		
Under 5 years	2,474	13.7%
5 to 17 years	3,583	19.9%
18 to 64 years	11,144	61.9%
65 years and over	810	4.5%
Median age	29.8	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total household	5,508	100.0%
Persons per household	3.25	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All dwelling units	6,220	100.0%
Occupied dwelling units	5,524	88.8%
Owner occupied	4,066	73.6%
Renter occupied	1,458	26.4%
Vacant	681	10.9%
Median value of 1-unit structures dollars	11,863	X
Median gross rent dollars	38	X
INCOME IN 1949		
Families median income dollars	4,255	X

#### YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

Population 25 years and over	10,815	100.0%
High school 4 years	3,395	31.4%
College 4 years or more	1,510	14.0%

#### MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

Employed	6,614	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	1,063	16.1%
Farmers and farm managers	10	0.2%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	830	12.5%
Clerical and kindred	1,052	15.9%
Sales	646	9.8%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	1,213	18.3%
Operatives and kindred	879	13.3%
Private household workers	104	1.6%
Service workers, except private household	431	6.5%
Farm laborers	22	0.3%
Laborers, except farm and mine	323	4.9%
Occupation not reported	41	0.6%

## IV. 1960

### 1960 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	25,437	100.0%
In households	25,310	99.5%
In group quarters	127	0.5%
RACE		
White	24,619	96.8%
Negro	225	0.9%
Other races	14	0.1%
Indian	7	0.0%
Japanese	282	1.1%
Chinese	276	1.1%
Filipino	14	0.1%
WHITE, SPANISH SURNAME	742	2.9%
SEX		
Male	12,444	48.9%
Female	12,993	51.1%
AGE		
Under 5 years	2,455	9.7%
5 to 17 years	6,207	24.4%
18 to 64 years	15,090	59.3%
65 years and over	1,685	6.6%
Median age	33.5	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Families	7,155	100.0%
With own children under 18	4,105	57.4%
Population per household	3.11	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All housing units	8,407	100.0%
All occupied units	8,129	96.7%
Owner occupied	6,249	76.9%
Renter occupied	1,880	23.1%
Vacant	278	3.3%
Median value dollars	17,700	X
Median gross rent dollars	90	X

PLACE OF BIRTH		
Native	23,657	93.0%
Foreign born	1,780	7.0%
INCOME IN 1959		
Families median income dollars	8,155	X
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED		
Population 25 years and over	15,039	100.0%
High school 4 years	4,851	32.2%
College 4 years or more	2,822	18.8%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
All workers	10,141	100.0%
Private automobile or car pool	8,624	85.0%
Railroad, subway or elevated	4	0.0%
Bus or streetcar	634	6.3%
Walked to work	305	3.0%
Other means	149	1.5%
Worked at home	193	1.9%
Not reported	232	2.3%
OCCUPATION		
Employed	10,378	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	2,266	21.8%
Farmers and farm managers	25	0.2%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	1,145	11.0%
Clerical and kindred	1,805	17.4%
Sales	1,046	10.1%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	1,614	15.6%
Operatives and kindred	1,165	11.2%
Private household workers	130	1.3%
Service workers, except private household	587	5.7%
Farm laborers and farm foremen	308	3.0%
Laborers, except farm and mine	48	0.5%
Occupation not reported	260	2.5%
CLASS OF WORKER		
Self-employed	1,117	10.8%

**V. 1970**

**1970 Census**

TOTAL POPULATION	25,190	100.0%
RACE		
White	21,736	86.3%
Negro	1,388	5.5%
Indian	42	0.2%
Japanese	959	3.8%
Chinese	761	3.0%
Filipino	78	0.3%
All other	226	0.9%
PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT	844	3.4%
SEX		
Male	12,007	47.7%
Female	13,183	52.3%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,467	5.8%
5 to 19 years	6,048	24.0%
20 to 64 years	15,260	60.6%
65 years and over	2,415	9.6%
Median age	37.0	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Head of household	9,093	100.0%
Families	7,315	80.4%
With own children under 18 years	3,372	37.1%
Persons per household	2.76	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1969		
Income of families and unrelated individuals	11,623	X
Income of persons	5,017	X
Less than poverty level		4.1%

## VI. 1980

### 1980 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	22,731	100.0%
RACE		
White	16,490	72.5%
Black	2,232	9.8%
American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut	79	0.3%
Eskimo	0	0.0%
Aleut	0	0.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	3,739	16.4%
Japanese	1,042	4.6%
Chinese	1,961	8.6%
Filipino	277	1.2%
Korean	46	0.2%
Asian Indian	244	1.1%
Vietnamese	101	0.4%
Hawaiian	0	0.0%
Samoan	6	0.0%
Guamanian	0	0.0%
Other Asian and Pacific Islander	62	0.3%
Race, n.e.c.	191	0.8%
SPANISH ORIGIN	1,023	4.5%
AGE		
Median age	39.9	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	9,660	100.0%
Families	6,502	67.3%
With own children under 18 years	2,368	24.5%
Persons per household	2.35	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1979		
Median household income	21,715	X
Median family income	26,604	X
Per capita income	10,839	X
Below poverty level		6.1%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	23.4	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Workers 16 years and over	11,106	100.0%
Private vehicle	8,528	76.8%
Drive alone car	6,205	55.9%
Drive alone truck or van	650	5.9%
Carpool car	1,452	13.1%
Carpool truck or van	221	2.0%
Public transportation	1,804	16.2%
Walked only	207	1.9%
Other means	301	2.7%
Worked at home	266	2.4%

## VII. 1990

### 1990 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	22,869	100.0%
RACE		
White	15,007	65.6%
Black	2,115	9.2%
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut	80	0.3%
Eskimo	6	0.0%
Aleut	0	0.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	5,142	22.5%
Asian	5,117	22.4%
Japanese	1,279	5.6%
Chinese	2,527	11.0%
Filipino	272	1.2%
Korean	308	1.3%
Asian Indian	404	1.8%
Vietnamese	151	0.7%
Cambodian	0	0.0%
Hmong	0	0.0%
Laotian	30	0.1%
Thai	30	0.1%
Other Asian	116	0.5%
Pacific Islander	25	0.1%
Polynesian	6	0.0%
Hawaiian	6	0.0%
Samoan	0	0.0%
Tongan	0	0.0%
Other Polynesian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Guamanian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Other	0	0.0%
Melanesian	19	0.1%
Pacific Islander Not Specified	0	0.0%
Other Race	525	2.3%
TOTAL HISPANIC	1,263	5.5%
SEX		
Male	10,899	47.7%
Female	11,970	52.3%

AGE		
Under 5 years	1,190	5.2%
5 to 17 years	2,402	10.5%
18 to 64 years	14,383	62.9%
65 years and over	4,894	21.4%
Median age	40.9	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Households	9,990	100.0%
Total families	6,372	63.8%
With own children under 18 years	2,216	22.2%
Persons per household	2.28	X
Persons per family	2.78	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1989		
Median household income	39,538	X
Median family income	47,751	X
Per capita income	21,854	X
Below poverty level		5.2%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean minutes traveled to work	26.5	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	11,443	100.0%
Car, truck, or van	8,313	72.6%
Drove alone	6,795	59.4%
Carpooled	1,518	13.3%
Public transportation	2,026	17.7%
Bus or trolley bus	480	4.2%
Streetcar or trolley car	4	0.0%
Subway or elevated	1,476	12.9%
Railroad	60	0.5%
Ferryboat	6	0.1%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	41	0.4%
Bicycle	183	1.6%
Walked	269	2.4%
Other means	113	1.0%
Working at home	498	4.4%

## VIII. 2000

### Census 2000

TOTAL POPULATION	23,171	100.0%
In households	22,995	99.2%
In group quarters	176	0.8%
RACE		
White	13,391	57.8%
Black or African American	1,978	8.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	116	0.5%
Asian	5,649	24.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	59	0.3%
Some other race	708	3.1%
Two or more races	1,270	5.5%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1,838	7.9%
Not Hispanic or Latino	21,333	92.1%
White	12,474	53.8%
Black or African American	1,931	8.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	70	0.3%
Asian	5,636	24.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	57	0.2%
Some other race	120	0.5%
Two or more races	1,045	4.5%
SEX		
Male	10,956	47.3%
Female	12,215	52.7%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,079	4.7%
5 to 17 years	2,613	11.8%
18 to 64 years	14,746	63.6%
65 years and over	4,733	20.4%
Median age	42.7	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	10,208	100.0%
Family households	5,970	58.5%
Families with children under 18	2,114	20.7%
Average household size	2.25	X
Average family size	2.81	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	10,462	100.0%
Occupied housing units	10,208	97.6%
Owner-occupied housing units	6,228	61.0%
Renter-occupied housing units	3,980	39.0%
Vacant housing units	254	2.4%
1 unit, detached housing	7,325	69.7%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	291,300	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	907	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	17,275	74.5%
Foreign born	5,904	25.5%
Naturalized citizen	3,061	13.2%
Not a citizen	2,843	12.3%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1999		
Median household income (dollars)	57,253	X
Median family income (dollars)	69,397	X
Per capita income (dollars)	32,593	X
Individuals in poverty	1,545	6.7%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	17,999	100.0%
High school graduate	2,335	13.0%
Bachelor's degree	5,453	30.3%
Graduate or professional degree	4,625	25.7%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	32.2	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	11,867	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	8,230	69.4%
Drove alone	6,884	58.0%
Carpooled	1,346	11.3%
Public transportation	2,428	20.5%
Bus or trolley bus	478	4.0%
Streetcar or trolley car	32	0.3%
Subway or elevated	1,850	15.6%
Railroad	68	0.6%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	49	0.4%
Bicycle	219	1.8%
Walked	183	1.5%
Other means	133	1.1%
Worked at home	625	5.3%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	12,120	100.0%
Management, professional and related	7,052	58.2%
Service	1,048	8.6%
Sales and office	2,931	24.2%
Farming, fishing & forestry	7	0.1%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	490	4.0%
Production, transportation, and material moving	592	4.9%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	1,418	11.7%
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## IX. 2010

### Census 2010

TOTAL POPULATION	23,549	100.0%
In households	23,456	99.6%
In group quarters	93	0.4%
RACE		
White	12,543	53.3%
Black or African American	1,819	7.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	107	0.5%
Asian	6,439	27.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	37	0.2%
Some other race	1,079	4.6%
Two or more races	1,525	6.5%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2,621	11.1%
Not Hispanic or Latino	20,928	88.9%
White	11,364	48.3%
Black or African American	1,773	7.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	66	0.3%
Asian	6,389	27.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	36	0.2%
Some other race	115	0.5%
Two or more races	1,185	5.0%
SEX		
Male	11,301	48.0%
Female	12,248	52.0%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,330	5.6%
5 to 17 years	2,757	11.7%
18 to 64 years	15,235	64.7%
65 years and over	4,227	17.9%
Median age	43.5	X

## HOUSEHOLDS

Total households	10,142	100.0%
Family households	6,166	60.8%
Families with children under 18	2,394	23.6%
Average household size	2.31	X
Average family size	2.84	X

## HOUSING OCCUPANCY

Total housing units	10,716	100.0%
Occupied housing units	10,142	94.6%
Owner-occupied housing units	6,145	60.6%
Renter-occupied housing units	3,997	39.4%
Vacant housing units	574	5.4%

**X. 2010 American Community Survey**

**2006-2010 American Community Survey**

TOTAL POPULATION	23,320	100.0%
<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Total housing units	10,335	100.0%
Occupied housing units	9,867	95.5%
Owner-occupied housing units	6,131	62.1%
Renter-occupied housing units	3,736	37.9%
Vacant housing units	468	4.5%
1 unit, detached housing	7,214	69.8%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	605,300	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	1,330	X
<b>PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS</b>		
Native	15,982	68.5%
Foreign born	7,338	31.5%
Naturalized citizen	4,158	17.8%
Not a citizen	3,180	13.6%
<b>INCOME AND POVERTY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS</b>		
Median household income (dollars)	79,328	X
Median family income (dollars)	95,059	X
Per capita income (dollars)	41,698	X
Individuals in poverty	1,765	7.7%
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>		
Population 25 and over	18,404	100.0%
High school graduate		12.1%
Bachelor's degree		29.7%
Graduate or professional degree		27.6%
<b>COMMUTING TO WORK</b>		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	31.8	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	11,617	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	7,765	66.8%
Drove alone	6,711	57.8%
Carpooled	1,054	9.1%
Public transportation	2,494	21.5%
Bus or trolley bus	620	5.3%
Streetcar or trolley car	90	0.9%
Subway or elevated	1,746	15.0%
Railroad	38	0.3%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	20	0.2%
Bicycle	183	1.6%
Walked	188	1.6%
Other means	91	0.8%
Worked at home	876	7.5%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	12,023	100.0%
Management, professional and related	7,068	58.8%
Service	1,133	9.4%
Sales and office	2,571	21.4%
Farming, fishing & forestry		Included in following category
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	541	4.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving	710	5.9%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	1,392	11.6%
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## XI. 2020

### Census 2020

TOTAL POPULATION	25,962	100.0%
In households	25,842	99.5%
In group quarters	120	0.5%
RACE		
Population of one race:	22,736	87.6%
White alone	11,982	46.2%
Black or African American alone	1,426	5.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	118	0.5%
Asian alone	7,738	29.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	56	0.2%
Some Other Race alone	1,416	5.5%
Population of two races	2,862	11.0%
Population of three races	327	1.3%
Population of four races	30	0.1%
Population of five races	7	0.0%
Population of six races	0	0.0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	3,075	11.8%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	10,996	100.0%
Occupied housing units	10,483	95.3%
Vacant housing units	513	4.7%