

**City of Los Altos  
Santa Clara County  
Census Data**

**1960-2020**

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. 1960

### 1960 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	19,696	100.0%
In households	19,565	99.3%
In group quarters	131	0.7%
RACE		
White	19,449	98.7%
Negro	25	0.1%
Other races	11	0.1%
Indian	2	0.0%
Japanese	137	0.7%
Chinese	66	0.3%
Filipino	6	0.0%
SEX		
Male	9,589	48.7%
Female	10,107	51.3%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,831	9.3%
5 to 17 years	5,963	30.3%
18 to 64 years	10,374	52.7%
65 years and over	1,528	7.8%
Median age	32.9	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Families	5,213	100.0%
With own children under 18	3,383	64.9%
Population per household	3.47	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All housing units	5,898	100.0%
All occupied units	5,644	95.7%
Owner occupied	4,974	88.1%
Renter occupied	670	11.9%
Vacant	254	4.3%
Median value dollars	26,000	X
Median gross rent dollars	130	X

PLACE OF BIRTH		
Native	18,276	92.8%
Foreign born	1,420	7.2%
INCOME IN 1959		
Families median income dollars	11,033	X
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED		
Population 25 years and over	11,157	100.0%
High school 4 years	3,178	28.5%
College 4 years or more	3,149	28.2%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
All workers	6,821	100.0%
Private automobile or car pool	5,749	84.3%
Railroad, subway or elevated	359	5.3%
Bus or streetcar	12	0.2%
Walked to work	198	2.9%
Other means	174	2.6%
Worked at home	202	3.0%
Not reported	127	1.9%
OCCUPATION		
Employed	6,902	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	2,127	30.8%
Farmers and farm managers	59	0.9%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	1,074	15.6%
Clerical and kindred	998	14.5%
Sales	803	11.6%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	711	10.3%
Operatives and kindred	304	4.4%
Private household workers	168	2.4%
Service workers, except private household	350	5.1%
Farm laborers and farm foremen	23	0.3%
Laborers, except farm and mine	136	2.0%
Occupation not reported	149	2.2%
CLASS OF WORKER		
Self-employed	930	13.5%

### III. 1970

#### 1970 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	24,956	100.0%
RACE		
White	24,298	97.4%
Negro	97	0.4%
Indian	25	0.1%
Japanese	300	1.2%
Chinese	158	0.6%
Filipino	24	0.1%
All other	54	0.2%
PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT	390	1.6%
SEX		
Male	12,151	48.7%
Female	12,805	51.3%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,438	5.8%
5 to 19 years	7,681	30.8%
20 to 64 years	13,716	55.0%
65 years and over	2,121	8.5%
Median age	34.4	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Head of household	7,674	100.0%
Families	6,694	87.2%
With own children under 18 years	3,777	49.2%
Persons per household	3.21	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1969		
Income of families and unrelated individuals	15,723	X
Income of persons	5,887	X
Less than poverty level		4.4%

#### IV. 1980

##### 1980 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	25,769	100.0%
RACE		
White	24,400	94.7%
Black	22	0.1%
American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut	48	0.2%
Eskimo	0	0.0%
Aleut	0	0.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	1,093	4.2%
Japanese	493	1.9%
Chinese	370	1.4%
Filipino	45	0.2%
Korean	51	0.2%
Asian Indian	105	0.4%
Vietnamese	8	0.0%
Hawaiian	0	0.0%
Samoan	6	0.0%
Guamanian	0	0.0%
Other Asian and Pacific Islander	15	0.1%
Race, n.e.c.	206	0.8%
SPANISH ORIGIN	656	2.5%
AGE		
Median age	39.4	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	9,116	100.0%
Families	7,497	82.2%
With own children under 18 years	3,303	36.2%
Persons per household	2.78	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1979		
Median household income	36,525	X
Median family income	39,904	X
Per capita income	14,432	X
Below poverty level		2.6%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	20.4	X

## MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Workers 16 years and over	12,578	100.0%
Private vehicle	11,134	88.5%
Drive alone car	9,155	72.8%
Drive alone truck or van	722	5.7%
Carpool car	1,110	8.8%
Carpool truck or van	147	1.2%
Public transportation	350	2.8%
Walked only	204	1.6%
Other means	461	3.7%
Worked at home	429	3.4%

**V. 1990**

**1990 Census**

TOTAL POPULATION	26,303	100.0%
RACE		
White	23,445	89.1%
Black	81	0.3%
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut	34	0.1%
Eskimo	0	0.0%
Aleut	0	0.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2,637	10.0%
Asian	2,591	9.9%
Japanese	513	2.0%
Chinese	1,523	5.8%
Filipino	100	0.4%
Korean	146	0.6%
Asian Indian	154	0.6%
Vietnamese	89	0.3%
Cambodian	0	0.0%
Hmong	0	0.0%
Laotian	0	0.0%
Thai	11	0.0%
Other Asian	55	0.2%
Pacific Islander	46	0.2%
Polynesian	20	0.1%
Hawaiian	14	0.1%
Samoan	6	0.0%
Tongan	0	0.0%
Other Polynesian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Guamanian	20	0.1%
Micronesian -- Other	0	0.0%
Melanesian	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander Not Specified	6	0.0%
Other Race	106	0.4%
TOTAL HISPANIC	785	3.0%
SEX		
Male	12,779	48.6%
Female	13,524	51.4%

AGE		
Under 5 years	1,324	5.0%
5 to 17 years	4,107	15.6%
18 to 64 years	15,984	60.8%
65 years and over	4,888	18.6%
Median age	43.8	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Households	9,869	100.0%
Total families	7,872	79.8%
With own children under 18 years	3,059	31.0%
Persons per household	2.62	X
Persons per family	2.92	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1989		
Median household income	79,579	X
Median family income	86,972	X
Per capita income	37,776	X
Below poverty level		1.2%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean minutes traveled to work	20.2	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	13,522	100.0%
Car, truck, or van	12,166	90.0%
Drove alone	11,603	85.8%
Carpooled	563	4.2%
Public transportation	189	1.4%
Bus or trolley bus	34	0.3%
Streetcar or trolley car	8	0.1%
Subway or elevated	9	0.1%
Railroad	138	1.0%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	9	0.1%
Bicycle	204	1.5%
Walked	145	1.1%
Other means	71	0.5%
Working at home	738	5.5%

## VI. 2000

### Census 2000

TOTAL POPULATION	27,693	100.0%
In households	27,274	98.5%
In group quarters	419	1.5%
RACE		
White	22,250	80.3%
Black or African American	130	0.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	48	0.2%
Asian	4,271	15.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	45	0.2%
Some other race	183	0.7%
Two or more races	766	2.8%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	822	3.0%
Not Hispanic or Latino	26,871	97.0%
White	21,656	78.2%
Black or African American	127	0.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	40	0.1%
Asian	4,252	15.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	45	0.2%
Some other race	55	0.2%
Two or more races	696	2.5%
SEX		
Male	13,352	48.2%
Female	14,341	51.8%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,629	5.9%
5 to 17 years	4,932	17.8%
18 to 64 years	15,786	57.0%
65 years and over	5,346	19.3%
Median age	44.2	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	10,462	100.0%
Family households	8,026	76.7%
Families with children under 18	3,517	33.6%
Average household size	2.61	X
Average family size	2.98	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	10,727	100.0%
Occupied housing units	10,462	97.5%
Owner-occupied housing units	8,954	85.6%
Renter-occupied housing units	1,508	14.4%
Vacant housing units	265	2.5%
1 unit, detached housing	9,188	85.6%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	983,000	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	1,727	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	22,728	82.4%
Foreign born	4,857	17.6%
Naturalized citizen	2,967	10.8%
Not a citizen	1,890	6.9%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1999		
Median household income (dollars)	126,740	X
Median family income (dollars)	148,201	X
Per capita income (dollars)	66,776	X
Individuals in poverty	647	2.4%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	20,128	100.0%
High school graduate	1,524	7.6%
Bachelor's degree	7,150	35.5%
Graduate or professional degree	7,201	35.8%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	22.1	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	12,559	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	11,108	88.4%
Drove alone	10,571	84.2%
Carpooled	537	4.3%
Public transportation	192	1.5%
Bus or trolley bus	101	0.8%
Streetcar or trolley car	0	0.0%
Subway or elevated	12	0.1%
Railroad	79	0.6%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	26	0.2%
Bicycle	115	0.9%
Walked	174	1.4%
Other means	54	0.4%
Worked at home	890	7.1%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	12,711	100.0%
Management, professional and related	9,499	74.7%
Service	510	4.0%
Sales and office	2,031	16.0%
Farming, fishing & forestry	12	0.1%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	295	2.3%
Production, transportation, and material moving	364	2.9%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	1,519	12.0%
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## VII. 2010

### Census 2010

TOTAL POPULATION	28,976	100.0%
In households	28,749	99.2%
In group quarters	227	0.8%
RACE		
White	20,459	70.6%
Black or African American	148	0.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	48	0.2%
Asian	6,815	23.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	59	0.2%
Some other race	195	0.7%
Two or more races	1,252	4.3%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1,132	3.9%
Not Hispanic or Latino	27,844	96.1%
White	19,642	67.8%
Black or African American	137	0.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	21	0.1%
Asian	6,795	23.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	56	0.2%
Some other race	70	0.2%
Two or more races	1,123	3.9%
SEX		
Male	13,973	48.2%
Female	15,003	51.8%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,571	5.4%
5 to 17 years	5,989	20.7%
18 to 64 years	15,632	53.9%
65 years and over	5,784	20.0%
Median age	46.2	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	10,745	100.0%
Family households	8,303	77.3%
Families with children under 18	3,949	36.8%
Average household size	2.68	X
Average family size	3.08	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	11,204	100.0%
Occupied housing units	10,745	95.9%
Owner-occupied housing units	9,002	83.8%
Renter-occupied housing units	1,743	16.2%
Vacant housing units	459	4.1%

## VIII. 2010 American Community Survey

### 2006-2010 American Community Survey

TOTAL POPULATION	28,409	100.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	11,097	100.0%
Occupied housing units	10,701	96.4%
Owner-occupied housing units	9,152	85.5%
Renter-occupied housing units	1,549	14.5%
Vacant housing units	396	3.6%
1 unit, detached housing	9,282	83.6%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	1,000,000+	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	2,000+	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	21,690	76.3%
Foreign born	6,719	23.7%
Naturalized citizen	4,555	16.0%
Not a citizen	2,164	7.6%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS		
Median household income (dollars)	149,964	X
Median family income (dollars)	179,907	X
Per capita income (dollars)	75,294	X
Individuals in poverty	618	2.2%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	19,982	100.0%
High school graduate		6.0%
Bachelor's degree		35.9%
Graduate or professional degree		42.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	21.3	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	11,613	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	9,734	83.8%
Drove alone	9,306	80.1%
Carpooled	428	3.7%
Public transportation	129	1.1%
Bus or trolley bus	0	0.0%
Streetcar or trolley car	0	0.0%
Subway or elevated	26	0.2%
Railroad	103	0.9%
Ferryboat	0	0.0%
Taxicab	0	0.0%
Motorcycle	23	0.2%
Bicycle	169	1.5%
Walked	112	1.0%
Other means	47	0.4%
Worked at home	1,399	12.0%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	11,958	100.0%
Management, professional and related	9,226	77.2%
Service	519	4.3%
Sales and office	1,793	15.0%
Farming, fishing & forestry		Included in following category
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	193	1.6%
Production, transportation, and material moving	227	1.9%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	1,471	12.3%
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## IX. 2020

### Census 2020

TOTAL POPULATION	31,625	100.0%
In households	31,324	99.0%
In group quarters	301	1.0%
RACE		
Population of one race:	28,867	91.3%
White alone	16,958	53.6%
Black or African American alone	188	0.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	43	0.1%
Asian alone	11,176	35.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	44	0.1%
Some Other Race alone	458	1.4%
Population of two races	2,597	8.2%
Population of three races	141	0.4%
Population of four races	19	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)	1,538	4.9%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	11,783	100.0%
Occupied housing units	11,162	94.7%
Vacant housing units	621	5.3%