

**City of Petaluma
Sonoma County
Census Data
1860-2020**

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. 1860-1940

1860 Census TOTAL POPULATION	1,505
1880 Census TOTAL POPULATION	3,326
1890 Census TOTAL POPULATION	3,692
1900 Census TOTAL POPULATION	3,871
1910 Census TOTAL POPULATION	5,880
1920 Census TOTAL POPULATION	6,226
1930 Census TOTAL POPULATION	8,245
1940 Census TOTAL POPULATION	8,034

III. 1950

1950 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	10,315	100.0%
In households	10,124	98.1%
RACE		
Native white	9,172	88.9%
Foreign-born white	1,082	10.5%
Negro	22	0.2%
Other races	39	0.4%
Indians	3	0.0%
Japanese	2	0.0%
Chinese	30	0.3%
WHITE PERSONS OF SPANISH SURNAME	190	1.8%
SEX		
Male	4,978	48.3%
Female	5,337	51.7%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,127	10.9%
5 to 17 years	1,664	16.1%
18 to 64 years	6,301	61.1%
65 years and over	1,223	11.9%
Median age	33.8	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total household	3,596	100.0%
Persons per household	2.82	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All dwelling units	3,745	100.0%
Occupied dwelling units	3,614	96.5%
Owner occupied	2,072	57.3%
Renter occupied	1,542	42.7%
Vacant	129	3.4%
Median value of 1-unit structures dollars	8,402	X
Median gross rent dollars	38	X
INCOME IN 1949		
Families median income dollars	3,687	X

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

Population 25 years and over	6,625	100.0%
High school 4 years	1,620	24.5%
College 4 years or more	510	7.7%

MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

Employed	4,057	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	381	9.4%
Farmers and farm managers	36	0.9%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	467	11.5%
Clerical and kindred	464	11.4%
Sales	449	11.1%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	567	14.0%
Operatives and kindred	778	19.2%
Private household workers	96	2.4%
Service workers, except private household	394	9.7%
Farm laborers	96	2.4%
Laborers, except farm and mine	298	7.3%
Occupation not reported	31	0.8%

IV. 1960

1960 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	14,035	100.0%
In households	13,995	99.7%
In group quarters	40	0.3%
RACE		
White	13,926	99.2%
Negro	11	0.1%
Other races	10	0.1%
Indian	11	0.1%
Japanese	32	0.2%
Chinese	45	0.3%
Filipino	0	0.0%
SEX		
Male	6,730	48.0%
Female	7,305	52.0%
AGE		
Under 5 years	1,607	11.4%
5 to 17 years	3,323	23.7%
18 to 64 years	7,441	53.0%
65 years and over	1,664	11.9%
Median age	31.0	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Families	3,859	100.0%
With own children under 18	2,186	56.6%
Population per household	2.96	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All housing units	5,082	100.0%
All occupied units	4,725	93.0%
Owner occupied	2,917	61.7%
Renter occupied	1,808	38.3%
Vacant	357	7.0%
Median value dollars	12,100	X
Median gross rent dollars	76	X

PLACE OF BIRTH		
Native	12,809	91.3%
Foreign born	1,226	8.7%
INCOME IN 1959		
Families median income dollars	5,957	X
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED		
Population 25 years and over	7,994	100.0%
High school 4 years	2,313	28.9%
College 4 years or more	498	6.2%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
All workers	5,015	100.0%
Private automobile or car pool	4,008	79.9%
Railroad, subway or elevated	7	0.1%
Bus or streetcar	97	1.9%
Walked to work	575	11.5%
Other means	110	2.2%
Worked at home	121	2.4%
Not reported	97	1.9%
OCCUPATION		
Employed	4,640	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	541	11.7%
Farmers and farm managers	16	0.3%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	575	12.4%
Clerical and kindred	667	14.4%
Sales	434	9.4%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	699	15.1%
Operatives and kindred	822	17.7%
Private household workers	89	1.9%
Service workers, except private household	374	8.1%
Farm laborers and farm foremen	95	2.0%
Laborers, except farm and mine	245	5.3%
Occupation not reported	83	1.8%
CLASS OF WORKER		
Self-employed	661	14.2%

V. 1970

1970 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	24,870	100.0%
RACE		
White	24,334	97.8%
Negro	136	0.5%
Indian	70	0.3%
Japanese	98	0.4%
Chinese	66	0.3%
Filipino	38	0.2%
All other	128	0.5%
PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT	639	2.6%
SEX		
Male	11,985	48.2%
Female	12,885	51.8%
AGE		
Under 5 years	2,469	9.9%
5 to 19 years	7,569	30.4%
20 to 64 years	12,545	50.4%
65 years and over	2,287	9.2%
Median age	26.8	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Head of household	7,795	100.0%
Families	6,370	81.7%
With own children under 18 years	3,902	50.1%
Persons per household	3.16	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1969		
Income of families and unrelated individuals	9,484	X
Income of persons	3,145	X
Less than poverty level		8.8%

VI. 1980

1980 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	33,834	100.0%
RACE		
White	31,716	93.7%
Black	480	1.4%
American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut	257	0.8%
Eskimo	0	0.0%
Aleut	0	0.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	800	2.4%
Japanese	170	0.5%
Chinese	256	0.8%
Filipino	151	0.4%
Korean	81	0.2%
Asian Indian	14	0.0%
Vietnamese	24	0.1%
Hawaiian	57	0.2%
Samoan	0	0.0%
Guamanian	41	0.1%
Other Asian and Pacific Islander	6	0.0%
Race, n.e.c.	581	1.7%
SPANISH ORIGIN	2,027	6.0%
AGE		
Median age	30.9	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	12,122	100.0%
Families	9,095	75.0%
With own children under 18 years	5,106	42.1%
Persons per household	2.76	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1979		
Median household income	21,103	X
Median family income	24,227	X
Per capita income	7,992	X
Below poverty level		6.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	27.8	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Workers 16 years and over	15,557	100.0%
Private vehicle	13,022	83.7%
Drive alone car	7,802	50.2%
Drive alone truck or van	1,661	10.7%
Carpool car	2,895	18.6%
Carpool truck or van	664	4.3%
Public transportation	1,254	8.1%
Walked only	484	3.1%
Other means	414	2.7%
Worked at home	383	2.5%

VII. 1990

1990 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	43,184	100.0%
RACE		
White	39,939	92.5%
Black	535	1.2%
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut	137	0.3%
Eskimo	0	0.0%
Aleut	0	0.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1,455	3.4%
Asian	1,400	3.2%
Japanese	213	0.5%
Chinese	334	0.8%
Filipino	310	0.7%
Korean	108	0.3%
Asian Indian	118	0.3%
Vietnamese	40	0.1%
Cambodian	0	0.0%
Hmong	0	0.0%
Laotian	138	0.3%
Thai	52	0.1%
Other Asian	87	0.2%
Pacific Islander	55	0.1%
Polynesian	55	0.1%
Hawaiian	39	0.1%
Samoan	16	0.0%
Tongan	0	0.0%
Other Polynesian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Guamanian	0	0.0%
Micronesian -- Other	0	0.0%
Melanesian	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander Not Specified	0	0.0%
Other Race	1,118	2.6%
TOTAL HISPANIC	3,809	8.8%
SEX		
Male	20,965	48.5%
Female	22,219	51.5%

AGE		
Under 5 years	3,473	8.0%
5 to 17 years	7,727	17.9%
18 to 64 years	26,930	62.4%
65 years and over	5,054	11.7%
Median age	34.0	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Households	16,062	100.0%
Total families	11,382	70.9%
With own children under 18 years	5,832	36.3%
Persons per household	2.66	X
Persons per family	3.12	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1989		
Median household income	40,926	X
Median family income	46,387	X
Per capita income	17,170	X
Below poverty level		4.1%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean minutes traveled to work	28.5	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	22,257	100.0%
Car, truck, or van	19,896	89.4%
Drove alone	16,497	74.1%
Carpooled	3,399	15.3%
Public transportation	929	4.2%
Bus or trolley bus	910	4.1%
Streetcar or trolley car	0	0.0%
Subway or elevated	0	0.0%
Railroad	0	0.0%
Ferryboat	14	0.1%
Taxicab	5	0.0%
Motorcycle	59	0.3%
Bicycle	243	1.1%
Walked	574	2.6%
Other means	70	0.3%
Working at home	486	2.2%

VIII. 2000

Census 2000

TOTAL POPULATION	54,548	100.0%
In households	53,808	98.6%
In group quarters	740	1.4%
RACE		
White	45,906	84.2%
Black or African American	632	1.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	294	0.5%
Asian	2,135	3.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	93	0.2%
Some other race	3,317	6.1%
Two or more races	2,171	4.0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	7,985	14.6%
Not Hispanic or Latino	46,563	85.4%
White	41,996	77.0%
Black or African American	581	1.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	173	0.3%
Asian	2,089	3.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	85	0.2%
Some other race	100	0.2%
Two or more races	1,539	2.8%
SEX		
Male	26,661	48.9%
Female	27,887	51.1%
AGE		
Under 5 years	3,612	6.6%
5 to 17 years	10,666	19.2%
18 to 64 years	34,243	62.8%
65 years and over	6,027	11.0%
Median age	37.1	X

HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	19,932	100.0%
Family households	14,014	70.3%
Families with children under 18	7,288	36.6%
Average household size	2.70	X
Average family size	3.16	X
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	20,304	100.0%
Occupied housing units	19,932	98.2%
Owner-occupied housing units	13,964	70.1%
Renter-occupied housing units	5,968	29.9%
Vacant housing units	372	1.8%
1 unit, detached housing	14,760	72.6%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	289,500	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	946	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	46,679	85.6%
Foreign born	7,859	14.4%
Naturalized citizen	3,087	5.7%
Not a citizen	4,772	8.7%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1999		
Median household income (dollars)	61,679	X
Median family income (dollars)	71,158	X
Per capita income (dollars)	27,087	X
Individuals in poverty	3,245	6.0%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	36,376	100.0%
High school graduate	7,022	19.3%
Bachelor's degree	7,553	20.8%
Graduate or professional degree	3,401	9.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	33.8	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	27,600	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	23,714	85.9%
Drove alone	19,899	72.1%
Carpooled	3,815	13.8%
Public transportation	1,385	5.0%
Bus or trolley bus	1,346	4.9%
Streetcar or trolley car	16	0.1%
Subway or elevated	0	0.0%
Railroad	0	0.0%
Ferryboat	20	0.1%
Taxicab	3	0.0%
Motorcycle	51	0.2%
Bicycle	245	0.9%
Walked	714	2.6%
Other means	198	0.7%
Worked at home	1,293	4.7%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	28,162	100.0%
Management, professional and related	10,287	36.5%
Service	4,116	14.6%
Sales and office	7,880	28.0%
Farming, fishing & forestry	175	0.6%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	2,773	9.8%
Production, transportation, and material moving	2,931	10.4%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	2,749	9.8%
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IX. 2010

Census 2010

TOTAL POPULATION	57,941	100.0%
In households	57,217	98.8%
In group quarters	724	1.2%
RACE		
White	46,566	80.4%
Black or African American	801	1.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native	353	0.6%
Asian	2,607	4.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	129	0.2%
Some other race	5,103	8.8%
Two or more races	2,382	4.1%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	12,453	21.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	45,488	78.5%
White	40,226	69.4%
Black or African American	719	1.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	198	0.3%
Asian	2,550	4.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	119	0.2%
Some other race	111	0.2%
Two or more races	1,565	2.7%
SEX		
Male	28,429	49.1%
Female	29,512	50.9%
AGE		
Under 5 years	3,464	6.0%
5 to 17 years	9,991	17.2%
18 to 64 years	36,903	63.7%
65 years and over	7,583	13.1%
Median age	40.3	X

HOUSEHOLDS

Total households	21,737	100.0%
Family households	14,701	67.6%
Families with children under 18	7,012	32.3%
Average household size	2.63	X
Average family size	3.14	X

HOUSING OCCUPANCY

Total housing units	22,736	100.0%
Occupied housing units	21,737	95.6%
Owner-occupied housing units	14,159	65.1%
Renter-occupied housing units	7,578	34.9%
Vacant housing units	999	4.4%

X. 2010 American Community Survey

2006-2010 American Community Survey

TOTAL POPULATION	56,689	100.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	22,382	100.0%
Occupied housing units	21,245	94.9%
Owner-occupied housing units	14,545	68.5%
Renter-occupied housing units	6,700	31.5%
Vacant housing units	1,137	5.1%
1 unit, detached housing	16,116	72.0%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	541,100	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	1,347	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	45,900	81.0%
Foreign born	10,789	19.0%
Naturalized citizen	4,312	7.6%
Not a citizen	6,477	11.4%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS		
Median household income (dollars)	73,284	X
Median family income (dollars)	88,665	X
Per capita income (dollars)	34,159	X
Individuals in poverty	4,240	7.5%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	39,039	100.0%
High school graduate		21.1%
Bachelor's degree		23.0%
Graduate or professional degree		10.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	29.4	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	28,616	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	24,427	85.4%
Drove alone	20,967	73.3%
Carpooled	3,460	12.1%
Public transportation	1,059	3.7%
Bus or trolley bus	1,032	3.6%
Streetcar or trolley car	0	0.0%
Subway or elevated	0	0.0%
Railroad	0	0.0%
Ferryboat	27	0.1%
Taxicab	6	0.0%
Motorcycle	37	0.1%
Bicycle	422	1.5%
Walked	735	2.6%
Other means	247	0.9%
Worked at home	1,683	5.9%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	29,495	100.0%
Management, professional and related	10,561	35.8%
Service	5,337	18.1%
Sales and office	7,954	27.0%
Farming, fishing & forestry		Included in following category
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	3,146	10.7%
Production, transportation, and material moving	2,497	8.5%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	3,184	10.8%
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XI. 2020

Census 2020

TOTAL POPULATION	59,776	100.0%
In households	59,181	99.0%
In group quarters	595	1.0%
RACE		
Population of one race:	51,831	86.7%
White alone	40,717	68.1%
Black or African American alone	836	1.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	747	1.2%
Asian alone	2,857	4.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	165	0.3%
Some Other Race alone	6,509	10.9%
Population of two races	7,424	12.4%
Population of three races	482	0.8%
Population of four races	31	0.1%
Population of five races	8	0.0%
Population of six races	0	0.0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	13,606	22.8%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	24,067	100.0%
Occupied housing units	23,190	96.4%
Vacant housing units	877	3.6%