

Bay Area Census Data

1860-2020

The Bay Area consists of nine counties:
Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa,
San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara,
Solano and Sonoma.

The Bay Area data shown are totals for the nine counties.

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METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Table of Contents

I.	Overview.....	3
II.	1860-1940.....	4
III.	1950	5
IV.	1960	7
V.	1970	9
VI.	1980	10
VII.	1990	12
VIII.	2000	14
IX.	2010	17
X.	2010 American Community Survey	19
XI.	2020	21

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	114,074
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1870 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	265,808
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1880 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	422,128
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1890 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	547,618
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1900 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	658,111
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1910 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	925,708
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1920 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	1,182,911
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1930 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	1,578,009
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1940 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	1,734,308
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III. 1950

1950 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	2,681,322	100.0%
RACE		
Native white	2,164,706	80.7%
Foreign-born white	293,021	10.9%
Negro	149,809	5.6%
Other races	73,786	2.8%
Indians	2,080	0.1%
Japanese	20,461	0.8%
Chinese	36,018	1.3%
WHITE PERSONS OF SPANISH SURNAME	134,335	5.0%
SEX		
Male	1,353,147	50.5%
Female	1,328,175	49.5%
AGE		
Under 5 years	277,217	10.3%
5 to 17 years	425,333	15.9%
18 to 64 years	1,759,458	65.6%
65 years and over	219,314	8.2%
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total household	838,472	100.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All dwelling units	879,810	100.0%
Occupied dwelling units	830,559	94.4%
Owner occupied	426,016	51.3%
Renter occupied	404,543	48.8%
Vacant	44,119	5.0%
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED		
Population 25 years and over	1,691,840	100.0%
High school 4 years	469,735	27.8%
College 4 years or more	158,490	9.4%

MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

Employed	1,016,123	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	118,099	11.6%
Farmers and farm managers	16,226	1.6%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	115,084	11.3%
Clerical and kindred	171,751	16.9%
Sales	90,269	8.9%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	155,166	15.3%
Operatives and kindred	140,708	13.8%
Private household workers	21,705	2.1%
Service workers, except private household	98,283	9.7%
Farm laborers	17,822	1.8%
Laborers, except farm and mine	60,903	6.0%
Occupation not reported	10,107	1.0%

IV. 1960

1960 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	3,638,939	100.0%
In households	3,516,290	96.6%
In group quarters	122,649	3.4%
RACE		
White	3,267,015	89.8%
Negro	244,411	6.7%
Other races	5,958	0.2%
Indian	5,655	0.2%
Japanese	35,793	1.0%
Chinese	55,965	1.5%
Filipino	24,142	0.7%
SEX		
Male	1,803,937	49.6%
Female	1,835,002	50.4%
AGE		
Under 5 years	390,685	10.7%
5 to 17 years	833,252	22.9%
18 to 64 years	2,091,513	57.5%
65 years and over	323,489	8.9%
HOUSEHOLDS		
Families	920,009	100.0%
With own children under 18	521,272	56.7%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
All housing units	1,259,281	100.0%
All occupied units	1,174,048	93.2%
Owner occupied	674,777	57.5%
Renter occupied	499,271	42.5%
Vacant	85,233	6.8%
PLACE OF BIRTH		
Native	3,271,662	89.9%
Foreign born	367,273	10.1%

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

Population 25 years and over	2,099,216	100.0%
High school 4 years	598,413	28.5%
College 4 years or more	254,434	12.1%

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

All workers	1,397,515	100.0%
Private automobile or car pool	927,927	66.4%
Railroad, subway or elevated	13,848	1.0%
Bus or streetcar	188,664	13.5%
Walked to work	102,471	7.3%
Other means	28,492	2.0%
Worked at home	62,556	4.5%
Not reported	73,557	5.3%

OCCUPATION

Employed	1,373,960	100.0%
Professional, technical, and kindred	202,958	14.8%
Farmers and farm managers	11,035	0.8%
Managers, officials, and propr's exc. farm	129,597	9.4%
Clerical and kindred	249,278	18.1%
Sales	111,794	8.1%
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	187,802	13.7%
Operatives and kindred	176,143	12.8%
Private household workers	30,542	2.2%
Service workers, except private household	120,500	8.8%
Farm laborers and farm foremen	12,596	0.9%
Laborers, except farm and mine	60,419	4.4%
Occupation not reported	81,296	5.9%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed	131,180	9.5%
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V. 1970

1970 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	4,628,199	100.0%
RACE		
White	3,998,436	86.4%
Negro	367,477	7.9%
Indian	18,945	0.4%
Japanese	51,228	1.1%
Chinese	97,466	2.1%
Filipino	54,730	1.2%
All other	39,917	0.9%
PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT	380,947	8.2%
SEX		
Male	2,270,978	49.1%
Female	2,357,221	50.9%
AGE		
Under 5 years	366,571	7.9%
5 to 19 years	1,271,028	27.5%
20 to 64 years	2,582,775	55.8%
65 years and over	407,824	8.8%
HOUSEHOLDS		
Head of household	1,552,801	100.0%
Families	1,153,403	74.3%
With own children under 18 years	634,138	40.8%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	1,823,357	100.0%

VI. 1980

1980 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	5,179,784	100.0%
RACE		
White	3,940,084	76.1%
Black	466,274	9.0%
American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut	37,187	0.7%
Eskimo	551	0.0%
Aleut	178	0.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	462,890	8.9%
Japanese	66,741	1.3%
Chinese	169,016	3.3%
Filipino	137,863	2.7%
Korean	18,632	0.4%
Asian Indian	19,011	0.4%
Vietnamese	22,125	0.4%
Hawaiian	7,680	0.1%
Samoan	4,557	0.1%
Guamanian	6,098	0.1%
Other Asian and Pacific Islander	11,167	0.2%
Race, n.e.c.	273,349	5.3%
SPANISH ORIGIN	632,650	12.2%
SEX		
Male	2,546,058	49.2%
Female	2,633,726	50.8%
AGE		
Under 5 years	326,137	6.3%
5 to 19 years	1,147,194	22.1%
20 to 64 years	3,176,988	61.3%
65 years and over	529,465	10.2%
Median age	31.3	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	1,973,880	100.0%
Families	1,301,142	65.9%
With own children under 18 years	656,418	33.3%
Persons per household	2.56	X
Persons per family	3.17	X

INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1979

Median household income	20,607	X
Median family income	24,731	X
Per capita income	9,368	X
Below poverty level		9.1%

COMMUTING TO WORK

Mean travel time to work (minutes)	24.3	X
Mean travel time to work for workers traveling 45 or more minutes	57.4	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Workers 16 years and over	2,481,314	100.0%
Private vehicle	1,963,376	79.1%
Drive alone car	1,357,858	54.7%
Drive alone truck or van	200,791	8.1%
Carpool car	349,081	14.1%
Carpool truck or van	55,646	2.2%
Public transportation	283,277	11.4%
Bus or streetcar	228,324	9.2%
Subway or elevated train	38,438	1.5%
Railroad	14,606	0.6%
Taxicab	1,909	0.1%
Motorcycle	22,887	0.9%
Bicycle	31,029	1.3%
Walked only	109,007	4.4%
Other means	23,971	1.0%
Worked at home	47,767	1.9%

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Employed	2,517,311	100.0%
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VII. 1990

1990 Census

TOTAL POPULATION	6,023,577	100.0%
RACE		
White	4,147,971	68.9%
Black	533,188	8.9%
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut	39,035	0.6%
Eskimo	561	0.0%
Aleut	683	0.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	919,279	15.3%
Asian	887,895	14.7%
Japanese	79,177	1.3%
Chinese	330,489	5.5%
Filipino	257,947	4.3%
Korean	41,163	0.7%
Asian Indian	49,960	0.8%
Vietnamese	84,662	1.4%
Cambodian	11,483	0.2%
Hmong	68	0.0%
Laotian	10,478	0.2%
Thai	3,730	0.1%
Other Asian	18,738	0.3%
Pacific Islander	31,384	0.5%
Polynesian	21,154	0.4%
Hawaiian	9,913	0.2%
Samoan	7,578	0.1%
Tongan	3,291	0.1%
Other Polynesian	372	0.0%
Micronesian -- Guamanian	6,458	0.1%
Micronesian -- Other	248	0.0%
Melanesian	2,709	0.0%
Pacific Islander Not Specified	815	0.0%
Other Race	384,104	6.4%
TOTAL HISPANIC	899,243	14.9%
SEX		
Male	2,999,489	49.8%
Female	3,024,088	50.2%

AGE		
Under 5 years	425,086	7.1%
5 to 17 years	958,435	15.9%
18 to 64 years	3,976,156	66.0%
65 years and over	663,900	11.0%
Median age	33.7	X
HOUSEHOLDS		
Households	2,250,975	100.0%
Total families	1,474,257	65.5%
With own children under 18 years	739,329	32.8%
Persons per household	2.61	X
Persons per family	3.18	X
INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1989		
Median household income	41,595	X
Median family income	48,532	X
Per capita income	19,716	X
Below poverty level		9.3%
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean minutes traveled to work	25.6	X
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	3,085,634	100.0%
Car, truck, or van	2,504,389	81.2%
Drove alone	2,104,716	68.2%
Carpooled	399,673	13.0%
Public transportation	293,581	9.5%
Bus or trolley bus	182,991	5.9%
Streetcar or trolley car	13,771	0.4%
Subway or elevated	75,887	2.5%
Railroad	14,381	0.5%
Ferryboat	4,034	0.1%
Taxicab	2,517	0.1%
Motorcycle	16,826	0.5%
Bicycle	32,473	1.1%
Walked	111,968	3.6%
Other means	20,311	0.7%
Working at home	106,086	3.4%
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		
Employed	3,111,783	100.0%

VIII. 2000

Census 2000

TOTAL POPULATION	6,783,760	100.0%
In households	6,640,972	97.9%
In group quarters	142,788	2.1%
RACE		
White	3,941,687	58.1%
Black or African American	511,084	7.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	43,529	0.6%
Asian	1,289,849	19.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	36,317	0.5%
Some other race	627,004	9.2%
Two or more races	334,290	4.9%
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1,315,175	19.4%
Not Hispanic or Latino	5,468,585	80.6%
White	3,392,204	50.0%
Black or African American	497,205	7.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	24,733	0.4%
Asian	1,278,515	18.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	33,640	0.5%
Some other race	18,451	0.3%
Two or more races	223,837	3.3%
SEX		
Male	3,379,089	49.8%
Female	3,404,671	50.2%
AGE		
Under 5 years	438,271	6.5%
5 to 17 years	1,163,587	17.1%
18 to 64 years	4,424,395	65.2%
65 years and over	757,507	11.2%
Median age	36.6	X

HOUSEHOLDS

Total households	2,466,019	100.0%
Family households	1,594,470	64.7%
Families with children under 18	772,586	31.3%
Average household size	2.69	X
Average family size	3.28	X

HOUSING OCCUPANCY

Total housing units	2,552,402	100.0%
Occupied housing units	2,466,019	96.6%
Owner-occupied housing units	1,423,958	57.7%
Renter-occupied housing units	1,042,061	42.3%
Vacant housing units	86,383	3.4%
1 unit, detached housing	1,376,911	53.9%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	353,500	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	968	X

PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS

Native	4,927,958	72.6%
Foreign born	1,855,802	27.4%
Naturalized citizen	845,101	12.5%
Not a citizen	1,010,701	14.9%

INCOME AND POVERTY IN 1999

Median household income (dollars)	62,024	X
Median family income (dollars)	71,333	X
Per capita income (dollars)	30,934	X
Individuals in poverty	573,333	8.6%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Population 25 and over	4,599,189	100.0%
High school graduate	813,743	17.7%
Bachelor's degree	1,068,649	23.2%
Graduate or professional degree	649,767	14.1%

COMMUTING TO WORK

Mean travel time to work (minutes)	29.4	X
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MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	3,306,051	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	2,674,595	80.9%
Drove alone	2,248,095	68.0%
Carpooled	426,500	12.9%
Public transportation (Census 2000 includes taxicabs, ACS excludes them)	321,053	9.7%
Bus or trolley bus	178,913	5.4%
Streetcar or trolley car	14,260	0.4%
Subway or elevated	98,717	3.0%
Railroad	20,087	0.6%
Ferryboat	5,772	0.2%
Taxicab	3,304	0.1%
Motorcycle	11,885	0.4%
Bicycle	36,003	1.1%
Walked	106,063	3.2%
Other means	23,717	0.7%
Worked at home	132,735	4.0%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	3,366,503	100.0%
Management, professional and related	1,470,597	43.7%
Service	430,965	12.8%
Sales and office	863,193	25.6%
Farming, fishing & forestry	14,107	0.4%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	248,501	7.4%
Production, transportation, and material moving	339,140	10.1%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	273,008	8.1%
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IX. 2010

Census 2010

TOTAL POPULATION	7,150,739	100.0%
In households	7,003,059	97.9%
In group quarters	147,680	2.1%
 RACE		
White	3,755,823	52.5%
Black or African American	481,361	6.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	48,493	0.7%
Asian	1,664,384	23.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	44,386	0.6%
Some other race	770,820	10.8%
Two or more races	385,472	5.4%
 HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1,681,800	23.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	5,468,939	76.5%
White	3,032,903	42.4%
Black or African American	460,178	6.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native	20,691	0.3%
Asian	1,645,872	23.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	41,003	0.6%
Some other race	20,024	0.3%
Two or more races	248,268	3.5%
 SEX		
Male	3,543,908	49.6%
Female	3,606,831	50.4%
 AGE		
Under 5 years	447,811	6.3%
5 to 17 years	1,141,862	16.0%
18 to 64 years	4,682,837	65.5%
65 years and over	878,229	12.3%
 HOUSEHOLDS		
Total households	2,608,023	100.0%
Family households	1,685,972	64.6%
Families with children under 18	784,045	30.1%

HOUSING OCCUPANCY

Total housing units	2,785,948	100.0%
Occupied housing units	2,608,023	93.6%
Owner-occupied housing units	1,465,362	56.2%
Renter-occupied housing units	1,142,661	43.8%
Vacant housing units	177,925	6.4%

X. 2010 American Community Survey

2006-2010 American Community Survey

TOTAL POPULATION	7,002,425	100.0%
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	2,762,364	100.0%
Occupied housing units	2,563,524	92.8%
Owner-occupied housing units	1,488,610	58.1%
Renter-occupied housing units	1,074,914	41.9%
Vacant housing units	198,840	7.2%
1 unit, detached housing	1,482,618	53.7%
Median value owner occupied unit (dollars)	637,000**	X
Median gross rent (dollars)	1,305**	X
PLACE OF BIRTH BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Native	4,904,094	70.0%
Foreign born	2,098,331	30.0%
Naturalized citizen	1,086,643	15.5%
Not a citizen	1,011,688	14.4%
INCOME AND POVERTY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS		
Median household income (dollars)	75,989**	X
Median family income (dollars)	90,220**	X
Per capita income (dollars)	38,294**	X
Individuals in poverty	668,876	9.7%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 and over	4,801,282	100.0%
High school graduate		18.3%**
Bachelor's degree		25.2%**
Graduate or professional degree		16.3%**
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	27.3**	X

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Total	3,363,635	100.0%
Car, truck, or van:	2,627,921	78.1%
Drove alone	2,268,065	67.4%
Carpooled	359,856	10.7%
Public transportation	338,788	10.1%
Bus or trolley bus	184,220	5.5%
Streetcar or trolley car	13,837	0.4%
Subway or elevated	109,892	3.3%
Railroad	26,254	0.8%
Ferryboat	4,585	0.1%
Taxicab	2,730	0.1%
Motorcycle	12,662	0.4%
Bicycle	47,227	1.4%
Walked	120,008	3.6%
Other means	32,044	1.0%
Worked at home	182,255	5.4%

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Employed civilian population 16 years and over	3,456,405	100.0%
Management, professional and related	1,537,074	44.5%
Service	547,977	15.9%
Sales and office	819,359	23.7%
Farming, fishing & forestry	Included in following category	
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	265,244	7.7%
Production, transportation, and material moving	286,751	8.3%

CLASS OF WORKER

Self-employed workers	300,907	8.7%
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** Median values are taken from data for the San Jose-San Francisco-Oakland, CA CSA which includes the nine counties of the Bay Area plus Santa Cruz County and San Benito County.

XI. 2020

Census 2020

TOTAL POPULATION	7,765,640	100.0%
In households	7,590,783	97.7%
In group quarters	174,857	2.3%
 RACE		
Population of one race:	6,848,481	88.2%
White alone	3,047,707	39.2%
Black or African American alone	452,316	5.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	87,319	1.1%
Asian alone	2,171,656	28.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	46,898	0.6%
Some Other Race alone	1,042,585	13.4%
Population of two races	837,782	10.8%
Population of three races	70,382	0.9%
Population of four races	7,974	0.1%
Population of five races	917	0.0%
Population of six races	104	0.0%
 HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1,891,985	24.4%
 HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	2,957,647	100.0%
Occupied housing units	2,793,526	94.5%
Vacant housing units	164,121	5.5%