

Demography

Purpose: To inform the student about the historical, current and future population dynamics of California.

I. Definition: Demography = the statistical study of populations.

II. Historical Demography of California

A. From 1850 - present

See Miller p. 10. table 1.1

Chg. in pop. % chg.

1850 92,579

1860 380,000 310.4%

1870 560,000 47.4%

1880 865,000 54.3%

1890 1,213,000 40.3%

1900 1,485,000 22.4%

1910 2,378,000 60.1%

1920 3,427,000 44.1%

1930 5,677,000 65.7%

1940 6,907,000 21.7%

1950 10,586,000 53.5%

1960 15,717,000 48.5%

1970 19,971,000 27.1%

1980 23,667,764 18.5%

1990 29,760,021 25.7%

2000 33,900,000

Note: Chg. bet. 1920-30 and 1930-40

roaring 20's vs. depression.

People not as mobile. Also Note:

1950-60 spurt = aerospace, elect-

ronics, end WWII., Korean War,

Cold War, Sputnik, jet age, Viet-

nam. Why Slowdown of the 1970's?

Decline of above industries & war

competition of Texas & Sun Belt

states, smog, land cost, etc.

1 in 8 Americans is a Californian

B. By 1920 - Pop. Balance shifted from S.F. to L.A. area.

III. Population Variables

A. Migration - movement in or out of the state

B. Natural Change - difference between births and deaths.

C. California - before 1960's migration inward = greatest growth. Since then natural change, and by 1980 number of native born = number of migrants in the state. More immigration after 1995

D. Migration from 1950's and 60's = 300,000 to less than 100,000 during the 1970's.

E. Present fertility rate = 2.1 births / woman = near Z.P.G.

F. Average household size declining. From 2.89 in 1970 to 2.63 in 1980.

G. Divorce rate 1 in 3 for U.S. 1 in 2 for Los Angeles.

H. Vital rates (birth and death) have stabilized at a low level and therefore barring an unforeseen migration (in or out) the state is in its demographic transition away from rapid population growth until the mid 1990's

I. Population mobility in State is high

1. Cities (L.A., S.F.) lost population in 1970's

2. Suburbs of above gained pop.

3. White flight to suburbs

4. Cheaper land etc.

5. Population prefers to live near ocean - so coastal counties have grown faster than inland counties around L.A.

6. Newest trend - "recreational rural" as population gets older (retires) or wealthier - more land will be purchased for long term residences in tourist-recreation areas. Placer and El Dorado counties (share Lake Tahoe) , Mono Co. (Mammoth Lakes), Shasta Co., = some resort areas could become the cities of the future some already are.

7. In last 5 yrs. of 1970's 1/4 of pop. moved from one county to another. More than 1/2 occupied a different dwelling.

8. Native born prevail in rural central & northern Cal. 2/3 of Bay area native born. Least common in south- only 1/4 in Coronado, near San Diego.

9. Like rest of the country, the youth group declining, proportion of elderly increasing, median age people declining. Trend of population is ageing. Older pop. concentrate in metropolitan areas, more pleasant rural areas. Younger pop. identified with suburbia, some lumber centers of Northwest, and agricultural areas in south half of state.

10. Men predominate in more than 1/2 of counties with outdoors industries and military bases.
 11. In large metropolitan areas women predominate.
 12. Unattached women mostly in central metropolitan areas
 13. Unattached men - most typical where alien farm labor, military, and other special populations prevail in diverse areas such as Imperial, San Luis Obispo, and Amador Counties.
- J. URBAN California - 81 % of the people live on 2% of the land.
1. 34 of 58 counties have no urbanized areas.
 2. most of the 24 that do have a very small % of land urbanized.
 3. 1980 census shows more than 90 % of population urban (this is still the case see p 204)
 4. No change to the above seen for the future.
 5. Unfortunately, much of the urban areas coincide with some of the best agricultural land. Ag. land lost due to spread of urban areas, high property taxes and other reasons, resulted in replaced of prune orchards in Santa Clara Valley, orange groves in San Gabriel Valley, row crops in the Oxnard plain. This problem has abated some in recent years, due to gas shortages, bad commutes etc. things are going up more than out. = a more compact urban landscape.
- K. Ethnic Diversity – Ref. text pgs. 252-253
1. 47% white or Anglo of many different ethnic backgrounds.
 2. 32% Latino, 7% black and the last 11% Asian, 2% others and almost 1% (.8%) are American Indians.
 3. Of the Hispanic group as much as 10% of the 32% may be Cuban and other Latin Americans. Only a bare majority are California born of strictly "native" parentage due to sizable immigration over the last three decades. Mexican-Americans are nearly a majority in Imperial and San Benito Co. and almost 1/4 of all San Joaquin Valley residents (farming areas).
 4. Blacks at 7% are lower than national average. Predominantly metropolitan. Family size larger than statewide averages. Education and income below total populace, but less marked than in some parts of the nation. Black ghettos persist as the most segregated of Cal. larger identifiable poor neighborhoods
 5. Japanese mainly in L.A.
 6. Chinese mainly in S.F. and Oakland.
 7. Filipinos and Native Americans more dispersed.
 8. Estimated 80,000 Native Americans in L.A.. This may represent the nation's largest concentration except for the Navajo reservation. They are the largest populations in sparsely populated Alpine and Inyo Counties.
- L. Decline in Rural Farm Pop.- Technology
1. Communities not in great decline - due to influx of urban-based retirees, commuters, vacation trade.
 2. Most of state land is empty
 3. Abounds in scattered country acreage landscape with small towns & diminutive farms - again retirees, doctors, etc.
- M. Economic Status
1. Median family income 10% above national median.
 2. Cost of living higher - TELL TWAIN'S STORY FROM CONN. YANKEE.
 3. Affluence in metropolitan counties serving as bedroom and as expanding economic satellites for older core districts.
 4. Core areas have greater extremes of wealth and poverty, but lean toward affluence. S.F. has highest per capita while Alameda, Marin, San Mateo, and L.A. are close.
 5. Low-ranking counties are within or near the Northern Highlands = frequency of retirees or fluctuating outdoors employment. This is offset by favorable social and natural settings.
- N. Education
1. Strong correlation between education and affluence.
 2. Largest and best system of higher education in country
 3. Urban dwellers have higher levels of schooling.
 4. Disparity between ethnic groups.

IV. Prospects

- A. Concentration of people in the south will continue to be a problem. esp. water, and employment.
- B. North reluctant to absorb excess population - bumper stickers.
- C. Race relations - Cal. generally ambivalent attitudes about race relations. Poor record of promoting racial equality and tranquility. (Vietnamese refugees and Japanese in WWII. as good examples)
- D. White flight to suburbs continues.
- E. California has the :- 1. highest divorce rate 2. highest crime rate 3. largest alcoholic population
4. greatest level of mental health disorders 5. highest venereal disease rate 6. greatest number of deaths by automobile.

The Reason is that It is also the largest state in population in the U.S.

End