



The Families and Children of Claremont

Claremont: A Community Overview

Claremont, a community of 37,141 residents (April 2007 California Department of Finance estimate), increasingly reflects the demographic diversity of Los Angeles County and California.

POPULATION

The 2000 census reported that Claremont had 33,998 residents and its under 18 population was 7,029, or 20.7% of the City's population. In the seven years since the 2000 census, the under 18 population has likely remained around the 21% figure, according to state Department of Finance estimates. The City's Planning Division estimates that Claremont population will likely continue to grow at a 1% annual rate over the next few years as additional in-fill housing is built. Table 1 of the 2006-07 Youth & Family Master Plan (Y&FMP) Community Profile includes a population growth chart (page CP-2) for the years 1910 through 2004 that demonstrates that population growth in Claremont has significantly slowed since 1980. With the exception of La Verne, population growth in nearby cities has been significantly higher during the past 15+ years, further indicating that Claremont is a mostly built-out community (see Table 2, page CP-3, in the Y&FMP Community Profile).

The 1995 Youth Master Plan (YMP) reported that 21.6% of Claremont's population was under 18, so there has been a 1.1% decrease in the percentage of the population who are youth. This would be consistent with the continued growth of Claremont's senior population, as well as increased transit-oriented housing construction. Seniors 65 and older accounted for 12.4% of Claremont's population in 1990 and this grew to 14.6% in 2000. Claremont's percentage of persons under 18 is below the statewide percentage (20.7% vs. 27.3%) and the percentage for the population 65 and older is higher than the state's (14.6% vs. 10.6%).

AGE GROUP	NUMBER	PERCENT OF POPULATION
Under 5 Years	1,474	4.3%
5 to 9 Years	1,902	5.6%
10 to 14 Years	2,178	6.4%
15 to 19 Years	4,005	11.8%
Total 19 & Under	9,559	28.1%

The median age in Claremont has continued to rise, from 33.5 in 1990 to 35.8 in 2000. The 2000 census reported that the number of children age 5 and under and adults 35-44 (who traditionally make up young families) has decreased since 1990.

The Youth & Family Master Plan Update has as a supporting document, a Community Profile Report (green cover) that includes a detailed community profile from the recently completed Claremont General Plan update (September 2006) and information from the June 2004 School/Neighborhood Support Project Report. This addendum to the Y&FMP Update Final Report provides enhanced demographic and community profile information. It is available at the Alexander Hughes Community Center, City Hall, the Claremont Unified School District administrative offices, and at the Claremont Public Library.

The number of family households reported in the 2000 census was 7,810 or 69.2% of the total 11,344 households. This compares to 72.4% in 1990. Both the average household size and family size decreased by 4.4% and 1.6%, respectively, between 1990 and 2000. Average household size in Claremont was 2.56 in 2000 and the average family size was 3.08 persons. The number of single-parent households with children under 18 in Claremont was estimated to be 815 in 2000. This represents seven per cent of all households. In 1990, the single family households represented 6% of the city's households, so the proportion has remained relatively stable.

Since the community is virtually built out, it is likely that additional growth in the numbers of families with children will come from older adults who are downsizing and selling existing housing stock. The relatively high cost of housing in Claremont may also be a factor in influencing the number of young families who move to the community. The City's 2006 General Plan calls for a projected population of 40,088 by the year 2030 with an annual growth rate of 0.6%.

COMMUNITY DIVERSITY

Claremont continues to become increasingly diverse. While the community does not have the same levels of diversity as Los Angeles County as a whole, it continues to see increases in Hispanic and Asian residents, while the number of White and African-American residents remain stable or decreases. In the 2000 census, Claremont was 65% white, 15.4% Hispanic, 11.3% Asian, 4.8% African-American, with 3.5% reporting other or two or more races. The census reported that 8,027 residents, or 24.5%, speak a language other than English at home. Claremont's diversity has continued to increase in other ways too. The number of non-traditional families has increased, and there is increasing economic and social diversity in the community. At this point, demographic information does not identify students of mixed race, an increasingly significant segment of the Claremont community. Over the next few years, Claremont will likely continue to see increased diversity in all of these areas.

ETHNICITY	NUMBER	PERCENT OF POPULATION
White	22,098	65.0%
Hispanic	5,221	15.4%
Asian	3,912	11.5%
African American	1,692	5.0%
Other	1,075	3.1%
TOTAL	33,998*	100.0%

**2000 Census*

The Claremont Colleges contribute to the economic well-being of the community as well as to the age and cultural diversity. The Colleges enroll more than 7,000 students from across the United States and foreign nations.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

Since the 1995 YMP, the Claremont Unified School District (CUSD) has seen its enrollment grow from 6,331 students in the 1994-95 school year (1995 YMP) to 6,858 students in the 2006-07 school year (Fall 2006 Davis Demographics & Planning Report to Board of Education). The CUSD boundaries include all of Claremont, unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County in Claremont's sphere of influence, sections of northern Pomona and a small section of La Verne. The enrollment includes 964 inter-district transfer students.

GRADES	TOTAL STUDENTS
K-6	3,304
7-8	1,146
9-12	2,408
K-12	6,858

In the fall of 2006, the School District hired Davis Demographics & Planning to evaluate enrollment projections through the 2013-14 school year. DD&P projections indicate that the enrollment will slightly decrease over the next seven years, primarily due to decreased numbers of Kindergarten students. DD&P projects that high school age enrollment will see a slight bubble increase during this period.

The CUSD enrollment has become increasingly diverse since the 1995 YMP, with the District's enrollment being 44% white, 28.2% Hispanic, 10.8% Asian, 7.5% African-American, 1.7% Filipino/Pacific Islander, and 7.7% other or multiple/no response. The District reports that the ethnicity of Claremont resident students (5,024 students) reflects a 50% white and 50% non-white composition. English language learners make up 8.9% of the enrollment (2003-04 school year), compared to 7% reported in the 1995 YMP Report. The highest percentage English language learners attend Vista de Valle Elementary School (26%), Mountain View Elementary School (19.4%) and Oakmont Elementary School (16.2%). The lowest percentage of English language learners attended Condit Elementary School (6%), El Roble Intermediate School (4.2%) and Claremont High School (4%).

The number of students who are eligible for free or reduced lunches is 1,793 out of the 6,800 students enrolled in the District. The highest percentage of free or reduced lunches was at Vista del Valle Elementary School (74%). There are 875 Title I students in the District. Using the Federal definition of homelessness, the District reports that 353 students meet this definition. The definition includes students who live in temporary housing, such as motels, mobile home parks, as well as students who have no shelter.

ETHNICITY	1993 ENROLLMENT	2005 ENROLLMENT
White	61.4%	44.0%
Hispanic	15.9%	28.2%
Asian	10.5%	10.8%
African American	11.3%	7.5%
Other	0.9%	9.5%

When looking at the School District demographics with inter-district transfers and non-Claremont attendance zones removed, the increasing diversity of the enrollment is still apparent. Claremont only students number 5,025 (2005-06 school year) of which 2535 are non-White and 2490 are White. The Claremont resident only School District enrollment demonstrates that youth in Claremont are more ethnically diverse than the city as a whole. The City's demographics are likely influenced by the large senior population that tends to be less ethnically diverse.

For the 2002-03 school year, Claremont Unified School District reported an overall drop-out rate of 1.0% over a four-year period, compared to 19% for Los Angeles County as a whole. College enrollment rates, measured from the 2001-02 school year to the 2003-04 school year indicate that Claremont averaged 89.03% of Claremont High School's graduating class enrolling in college after graduation. This percentage is consistent with the 90% college enrollment rate reported in the 1995 YMP Report.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

On the whole, Claremont residents reflect economic levels that exceed the averages for Los Angeles County as a whole. In the 2000 census, Claremont residents had a median household income that was 56% higher than those of the County as a whole. In 2006, median home prices in Claremont also exceeded the Los Angeles County median.

Claremont residents reflect a higher than average education level. In the 2000 census, 52.4% of the City's resident's age 25 and older had received a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 24.9% for the County as a whole. The 2000 census reported that 30.1% of the County adult population had not graduated from high school, compared to 7.6% in Claremont.

While in general, most Claremont residents exceed County economic medians; there is concern that the community is becoming more economically stratified. The number of students qualifying for free and reduced lunch, which is an economic measurement, has increased over the past several years. Lower income families reside in several of the City's larger apartment complexes as well as in other apartments and single-family homes. Since the adoption of the 1995 YMP, the City, School District and some community-based organizations have increased outreach services to Claremont Village Apartments, Vista Valle Town Homes, and Spring Hill Apartments, which have larger low-income and non-white populations.

INCOME AND POVERTY

Of the 11,344 households in Claremont, 3,005, or 26.5% earned less than \$25,000 per year according to the 2000 census. Median income for Claremont was \$65,910 compared to \$47,493 for California as a whole. The census reported that 472 families and 2,328 individuals fall below the poverty level in Claremont. Families below the poverty level represent 6% of the total number of families (7,872) in Claremont. The census reported that 261 households (out of 11,344 households) received public assistance and that the number of children below the poverty level in Claremont was 640. This was 9.5% of the total population of children under 18 (7,029) in Claremont.

The 2000 census reported that the median mortgage for homeowners in Claremont was \$1,622 and that 16.4% of owners paid 35% of their monthly income in mortgage payments. The census reported that the median rent in Claremont was \$771 and that 34.8% of renters paid 35% or more of their monthly income in rent. Residents who rent in Claremont pay a higher percentage of their income for housing than do homeowners.

Income by household type reported in the 2000 census (page CP-27) reveals among families (which make-up 54.5% of all households), 16.4% of small families (2-4 persons) and 13.3% of large families (five persons or more) were low income (51-80% of the Los Angeles County median family income) or below. Of note, according to the census, the number of individuals in poverty in Claremont increased from 5.3% in 1990 to 6.8% in 2000. This compares to 17.8% in Los Angeles County, 20.8% in Pomona and 17.2% for Montclair.

The number of families living in what is described as “overcrowded” housing units has increased during the past several years. “Overcrowded” refers to households that double up or live in smaller units due to economic factors. The increase in Claremont has been higher than the increase within Los Angeles County as a whole. However, the number of overcrowded units remains low as a proportion of the total number of housing units in the city. About 4.5% of the total housing units in the City were overcrowded as reported in the 2000 census, compared to 23% in the County. The increase in overcrowding indicates a potential shortage of suitable or affordable housing.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

The population of residents age 5 to 20 with disabilities (non-institutionalized) in Claremont was 658 in the 2000 census. According to the census, the number of grandparents living in a household with one or more grandchildren under the age of 18 was 522. Of this number, 177 grandparents were the primary caregivers for their grandchildren. The census reported that approximately one-half of Claremont residents had lived in the same house since 1995. Claremont’s rate of homeownership is higher than the statewide rate, 66.7% vs. 56.9%.

Children living in out-of-home placements in Claremont as of March 2007 include those living in foster homes, group homes or other placements. The total number of children in out-of-home placements was 51, with the largest number being in foster homes (22).

INTERPRETATION OF DATA

When looking at Claremont in the first decade of the 21st century, as compared to the early 1990’s, there are certain clear trends:

- Claremont is becoming increasingly diverse, and this trend will continue.
- Claremont is a mostly “built-out” community, with only infill housing locations remaining.
- While opportunities for younger families to move into Claremont occur when existing housing stock or new homes are sold or rented, the cost of housing in Claremont may be prohibitive for young families.
- The Claremont Unified School District’s enrollment will not change dramatically over the next several years.
- The School District enrollment continues to be more diverse than the City as a whole.
- It is likely that over the next five years, the percentage of youth under the age of 18 will remain about 21% of the population, which is below that of Los Angeles County as a whole.
- The senior population’s service needs continue to grow.
- Claremont residents continue to have higher median incomes than most surrounding cities and Los Angeles County as a whole.
- There is an increased gap between the larger percentage of higher median income families and low-income families in Claremont.
- The number of available affordable housing units in Claremont does not meet the need for these units.

One of the factors that led to the creation of the 1995 Youth Master Plan was the desire to ensure that Claremont was a community that valued youth and families. The goal was to create a level of community support and services for youth and families that attracted them to live here and to stay here. To be a balanced community that is vibrant and continuing, the Youth Master Plan was seen as a way to connect youth and families to single and older adult households. The City's Committee on Aging (COA) was among the first to step forward to support the creation of a Youth Master Plan. The COA recognized the need for intergenerational activities among youth, young adults, adults, and older adults. This will remain a challenge for the 2006-07 Youth and Family Master Plan Update.