

Santa Barbara, California

People and Place

Location

The City of Santa Barbara is located approximately 95 miles northwest of Los Angeles in the County of Santa Barbara. The community is situated on the Pacific Ocean, at 34°25'15"N and 119°41'50"W. Santa Barbara encompasses approximately 19 square miles of land and 22.4 square miles of water.

Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census Santa Barbara had a population of 92,325, of which 49.2% were male and 50.8% were female. From the years of 1990 to 2000 the population of Santa Barbara increased by 7.3%, up from 85,571 persons in 1990. Approximately 74% of Santa Barbara residents identified as White, 1.8% as Black or African American, 1.1% as American Indian and Alaska Native, 2.8% as Asian, and 0.1% as Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander. A total of 16.4% identified with some other race and 3.8% with of two or more races. About 35% of Santa Barbara's population identified as Hispanic or Latino. A total of 25.3% of the population were foreign-born, with over half of those born in Mexico.

The median age of Santa Barbara population in 2000 was 34.6, slightly lower than the national median age of 35.3. About 81.4% of residents age 18 years and over had graduated from high school or had further education, 34.5% had obtained a bachelor's degree or higher, and 11.7% had obtained a graduate or professional degree.

History

The area of Santa Barbara was settled approximately 13,000 years ago by a Native American group known as the Chumash; whose homeland is located along the coast between Malibu and Paso Robles, and on the Northern Channel Islands.¹ The Chumash had grown to a population of about 18,000, spread between 150 independent villages by the time that the Spanish Missionaries arrived in the area. This swell in population was brought about by intensified fishing, possibly a result of the plank canoe innovation, or *tomol*, at around 2000 years before present. Newly developed barbed harpoons and shell hooks further allowed the Chumash to harvest a more expansive array of fish species.²

In the 1780s Spanish Missionaries settled the Mission and El Presidio which began a time of Christianization and colonization for the Chumash. In the 1820s the missions were secularized. The Santa Barbara area was governed until 1822 by the Spanish. In 1846 the area was taken by Colonel John Fremont and his soldiers for the United States. From about 1830 to 1865 ranching and agriculture became important livelihoods in the region.³ The community began to change in 1865 as a large number of Victorian houses were built in comparison to the more traditional style of Spanish Colonials. Local industry also changed during this time as the port began to grow with increases in shipping and the importance of agriculture.

In 1925 a magnitude 6.3 earthquake collapsed many of the commercial buildings in the community and damaged residences.⁴ Many of the buildings which survived the quake and did not perish from fire were built in the Spanish Colonial style. This led to a

strict building code for downtown Santa Barbara. Today the resulting architecture continues to lure tourists to the city. In the 1930s, the Rincon section of Highway 101 was constructed, which made Santa Barbara accessible via the coastal highway.

The Chumash population experienced a sharp decline during the 19th century. In 1901 the Chumash were allotted 75 acres near Mission Santa Ynez. Today the small Chumash reservation is home to a Chumash business council, a thriving bingo operation, and a federal housing program. Approximately 5000 people now proudly identify themselves as Chumash Indians.⁵

Infrastructure

Current Economy

According to 2000 U.S. Census a total of 63% of the potential labor force in Santa Barbara was employed and there was a 5.8% unemployment rate (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). Approximately 33% of the population age 16 years and over was not in the labor force at the time of the 2000 U.S. Census, compared to the national average of 36.1%.

Approximately 0.8% of employed Santa Barbara residents worked in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, according to the 2000 U.S. Census; however this number most likely does not reflect all those involved in fishing. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the top employment industries were educational services (12%), retail trade (10.5%), health care and social assistance (10.4%), and manufacturing (8.5%). About 14% of employed residents worked for the local, state, or federal government.

The major employers in Santa Barbara, in order of size, are the County of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara City College, Santa Barbara High School District, Sansum – Santa Barbara Medical Foundation Clinic, City of Santa Barbara, U.S. Postal Service, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, Santa Barbara Elementary School District, Santa Barbara County Schools Office, McGhan Medical, Albertson's Stores, Fess Parker's Double Tree, and Nordstrom.⁶

According to the U.S. Census, the per capita income in 1999 was \$26,466 and the median household income was \$47,498. The U.S. Census reports that in 1999 the income of 13.4% of the population was below the poverty level. In 2000, there were a total of 37,076 housing units in the community, of which 96% were occupied and 4% were vacant. Of the occupied housing units, 40.3% were owner occupied and 55.7% were renter occupied.

Governance

Santa Barbara is a charter city which was incorporated on 4 April, 1850. The city is governed by a City Council which includes a Mayor and six Council Members.⁷ Santa Barbara levies a retail sales tax of 7.75%, a property tax rate of 1.0% to 1.25% of the value of the property, and a transient lodging tax rate of 10%.

California state law assesses commercial vessels, charter boats, and oceanographic research vessels are assessed at 4% of their full cash value.⁸ Vessels registered in California with either the Department of Motor Vehicles or the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) are assessed property taxes by the county tax collector where it is moored.⁹ Some commercial vessels are also subject to a Ballast Water Management Fee of about \$500 per voyage.¹⁰ California levies a fuel tax of \$0.18 per gallon, a portion of

which goes toward marine safety and education programs and boating facility administration and development.¹¹

The State of California levies landing taxes that must be paid by fishermen and fish processors involved in the retail sale of fish products. These taxes vary by species and range between \$.0013 and \$.0125 per pound of fish.¹² The California Department of Agriculture also administers two commodity commissions, the California Salmon Council and the California Sea Urchin Commission, which charge fees for marketing and lobbying on behalf of fishermen involved in these specific fisheries.¹³

The closest National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) office is located in Long Beach, 115.5 miles south. The closest California Department of Fish and Game office is located within Santa Barbara. The closest United States Coast Guard (USCG) station is located at Station Channel Islands, approximately 37.2 miles away, and is home to three vessels. In addition, a USCG patrol boat is situated in Santa Barbara. The nearest U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) office is located in Los Angeles, approximately 95 miles away. Pacific and North Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings are held 200 miles away in Del Mar, California, and 955 miles away in Portland, Oregon.

Facilities

Santa Barbara is accessible via ground, sea, and air transport. Located along U.S. Highway 101, Santa Barbara is linked to Los Angeles and San Francisco. The Santa Barbara Airport provides non-stop commercial service to Dallas/Fort Worth, Denver, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, San Jose, and Seattle; however the nearest international airport is located 95.1 miles away in Los Angeles.¹⁴

Students in Santa Barbara attend of of 12 elementary schools, 9 secondary schools, and 16 private schools in the community. A total of eight colleges, universities, or technical schools are located in the community, including: University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara City College, Westmont College, Antioch University, Books Institute of Photography, Santa Barbara College of Law, Music Academy of the West, and the Santa Barbara Business College.

Electricity is provided to Santa Barbara residents by Southern California Edison. The City of Santa Barbara Water supplies water and sewer services to area residents. Natural gas and trash services are administered by Southern California Gas Co. and MarBorg & Browning Ferris Industries, respectively.¹⁵ Two main hospitals are located in the community, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital and the Rehabilitation Institute at Santa Barbara.¹⁶ Law enforcement services are administered by the Santa Barbara Police Department and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. The Santa Barbara City Fire Department provides emergency services. According to the Santa Barbara Chamber of Commerce, the community is home to 14 bed and breakfast accommodations, 40 hotels, 24 motels, and 11 vacation rentals.¹⁷

The Santa Barbara Harbor includes a breakwater, marina, loading dock, hoist, fueling dock, marine services and repair, and additional other facilities. The Harbor is home to over 1000 pleasure and commercial vessels, "providing a safe haven and the doorway to the Channel Islands, the open seas, and the last harbor before rounding Point Conception on your way up the coast."¹⁸

Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

Fisheries landings were delivered to Santa Barbara in 2000 by 248 commercially registered vessels. Landings in the community were in the following West Coast fisheries (data shown represents landings in metric tons/value of said landings/number of vessels landing): coastal pelagic (1722.1 t/\$263,888/20), crab (216 t/\$629,278/53), groundfish (66.9 t/\$440,085/86), highly migratory species (110.1 t/\$261,685/24), salmon (5.1 t/\$17,781/6), shellfish (confidential/confidential/1), shrimp (515.6 t/\$1,379,635/33), and other species (1115.5 t/\$3,476,509/171).

A total of 120 vessels were owned by Santa Barbara residents in 2000, including 40 that participated in the Federally Managed Groundfish fishery. According to recorded data the number of vessels owned by Santa Barbara residents that participated in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (0/0/4), groundfish (0/0/NA), highly migratory species (NA/0/NA), salmon (0/1/22), shellfish (NA/0/NA), shrimp (NA/0/5), and other species (1/0/2).¹⁹

In 2000, a single federal groundfish fishery permit was held by one community member. Recorded data indicates that the number of Santa Barbara residents holding permits in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (0/0/11), groundfish (0/0/65), highly migratory species (NA/0/25), salmon (0/1/28), shellfish (0/0/NA), shrimp (0/0/23), and other species (0/2/232).²⁰

Santa Barbara residents held at least 570 permits in 2000, including one federal groundfish permit and 569 state permits. According to recorded data the number of permits held by Santa Barbara residents in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (0/0/18), groundfish (0/0/79), highly migratory species (NA/0/44), salmon (0/1/46), shellfish (0/0/NA), shrimp (0/0/34), and other species (0/4/393).²¹

There were at least three processors operating in the City of Santa Barbara in the 2000: Kanoloa Imports, Mu's Seafood Co., and Sovereign Seafoods Inc. The average number of people employed by these processors was approximately 63 persons. The total pounds and value reported as processed by these companies is confidential. Processed items included such products as salmon fillets, sea bass fillets, swordfish fillets, halibut fillets, and dried sea cucumber, yellowfin, and shark fillets.

Sportfishing

Eight authorized California Department of Fish and Game licensing agents are located in Santa Barbara.²² There are approximately five sportfishing guide or charter businesses listed in Santa Barbara and two main fishing clubs, one specifically for flyfishers and the other for general sports fishermen.²³ According to the Santa Barbara Sportfishing Club, various marine fish are caught in the area including salmon, albacore, lingcod, sheepshead, calico bass, white sea bass, halibut, yellowfin tuna, yellow tail, and marlin. Freshwater species caught in Lake Cachuma and Lake Casitas, two nearby lakes, include largemouth bass, trout, catfish, and red ear perch.²⁴ In the port group consisting of Port Hueneme, Oxnard, Ventura, and Santa Barbara, a total of 35 commercial passenger fishing vessels or "party boats" reported 352,260 fish landings belonging to over 26 species in 2000.

Subsistence

Local tribal and nontribal community members might be engaged in subsistence fishing in the Santa Barbara area. However, specific information on subsistence fishing in Santa Barbara is not discussed in detail in this Community Profile due to the lack of available data. The California Department of Fish and Game uses the term “recreational” to refer to fishermen that do not earn revenue from their catch but rather fish for pleasure and/or to provide food for personal consumption. Therefore information on subsistence fishing in California is captured, to some degree, within the above sportfishing data.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

In 2000, Santa Barbara residents owned 8 vessels that were involved in North Pacific fisheries. In the same year community members landed fish in the following North Pacific fisheries (data shown represents landings in metric tons/value of said landings/number of vessels landing): herring (confidential/confidential/3) and salmon (286 t/\$407,790/8).

A total of 29 Santa Barbara residents worked as crewmember aboard vessels involved in North Pacific fisheries in 2000. There were two individual residents which held federal commercial fishing permits and nine individual residents which held state permits.

Santa Barbara residents held a total of 13 permits in 2000. Residents also held 358,035 halibut Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) shares and 52,900 sablefish IFQ shares. In 2000 residents held 5 herring, 7 salmon, and 1 shellfish Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permits.

Sportfishing

Residents of Santa Barbara purchased a total of 245 Alaskan sportfishing licenses in 2000.

¹ Santa Barbara Museum of History. 2002. Welcome to Chumash Indian life, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.sbnature.org/research/anthro/chumash/index.htm> (access date - July 2004).

² Santa Barbara Museum of History. 2002. 13,000 Years of change along the Central Coast, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.sbnature.org/research/anthro/chumash/timel.htm> (access date - July 2004).

³ SantaBarbara.com. No date. Local history, [Online]. Available: URL: http://www.santabarbara.com/community/local_history/ (access date - July 2004).

⁴ Institute for Crustal Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara. 2001. The 1925 Santa Barbara Earthquake: In Brief, [Online]. Available: URL: http://www.crustal.ucsb.edu/ics/sb_eqs/1925/1925.html (access date - July 2004).

⁵ Houghton Mifflin. No date. Encyclopedia of North American Indians, Chumash, [Online]. Available: URL: http://www.college.hmco.com/history/readerscomp/naind/html/na_007400_chumash.htm (access date - July 2004).

⁶ City of Santa Barbara. 2004. City of Santa Barbara Facts, [Online]. Available: URL: http://www.santa-barbara.ca.us/local_information/city_Fact_Sheet.pdf (access date - July 2004).

⁷ City of Santa Barbara. 2003. Mayor and City Council, [Online]. Available: URL: http://www.santa-barbara.ca.us/departments/mayor_and_council/ (access date - July 2004).

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- ⁸ State of California Board of Equalization. No date. Property Tax Rules, Rule 151. Vessels Subject to the Four Percent Assessment, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/proptaxes/pdf/r151.pdf> (access date - July 2004).
- ⁹ California Department of Motor Vehicles. 2003. How to register a vessel, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/boatsinfo/boatreg.htm#how> (access date - July 2004).
- ¹⁰ State of California Board of Equalization. 2004. Ballast Water Management Fee, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/blstweb12.htm> (access date - July 2004).
- ¹¹ U.S. Department of Transportation. 2001. Provisions Governing the Distribution of State Motor Fuel Tax Receipts: California, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ohim/hwytaxes/2001/california.htm> (access date - July 2004).
- ¹² State of California. No date. Fish and Game Code Section 8040-8070, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycod?section=fgc&group=08001-8070> (access date - July 2004).
- ¹³ State of California Department of Agriculture. 2004. List of Marketing Programs, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.cdafa.ca.gov/mkt/mkt/mktbrds.html> (access date - July 2004).
- ¹⁴ Santa Barbara Airport. 2005. Non-Stop Destinations from the Santa Barbara Airport, [Online]. Available: <http://www.flysba.com/?pageID=42> (access date - January 2005).
- ¹⁵ City of Santa Barbara. 2004. City of Santa Barbara Facts, [Online]. Available: URL: http://www.santa-barbara.ca.us/local_information/city_Fact_Sheet.pdf (access date - July 2004).
- ¹⁶ City of Santa Barbara. 2004. City of Santa Barbara Facts, [Online]. Available: URL: http://www.santa-barbara.ca.us/local_information/city_Fact_Sheet.pdf (access date - July 2004).
- ¹⁷ Santa Barbara Region Chamber of Commerce. 2004. Santa Barbara lodging, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.sbchamber.org/visitors/lodging.php> (access date - July 2004).
- ¹⁸ Makai Promotions. 2003. Welcome to Santa Barbara Harbor, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.sailorschoice.com/santabarbara/> (access date - July 2004).
- ¹⁹ "NA" refers to data which was not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.
- ²⁰ "NA" refers to data which was not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.
- ²¹ "NA" refers to data which was not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.
- ²² State of California Department of Fish and Game. No date. Search for an authorized license agent, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lrbweb/jsp/> (access date - July 2004).
- ²³ SantaBarbara.com. No date. Santa Barbara activity guide, fishing, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.santabarbara.com/activities/fishing/default.asp> (access date - July 2004).
- ²⁴ Santa Barbara Sport Fishing Club. No date. Where do we fish?, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.west.net/nonprof/sbfish/where.htm> (access date - July 2004).