



Age Composition

According to the 1990 Census, two-thirds of Riverside County’s population falls within the ages of 5 to 49. There is relatively little difference in age distribution between the western and eastern county areas, except to note that the western county area has a slightly higher percentage of population aged 5-49 and the eastern county area has a slightly higher percentage of population aged 55+. There is also little difference in age distribution between the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County. The age distribution for the western and eastern portions of the county is presented in Table H-9.

**Table H-9
Age Distribution
1990**

Age Group	Western County Area				Eastern County Area				Riverside County			
	Unincorp.	%	Total	%	Unincorp.	%	Total	%	Unincorp.	%	Total	%
Preschool (0-4)	20128	8.7%	84561	9.2%	4438	7.9%	20244	7.9%	24566	8.5%	104805	9.0%
School (5-17)	45630	19.7%	184276	20.1%	9893	17.5%	44180	17.3%	55523	19.2%	228456	19.5%
Young Adult (18-29)	38687	16.7%	171678	18.8%	10653	18.8%	46598	18.2%	49340	17.1%	218276	18.6%
Prime Working (30-54)	66579	28.7%	264028	28.9%	14405	25.5%	65270	25.6%	80985	28.1%	329298	28.1%
Mature (55-64)	28670	12.4%	99169	10.8%	8049	14.2%	35736	14.0%	36720	12.7%	134905	11.5%
Retirement (65+)	32396	14.0%	111295	12.2%	9077	16.1%	43378	17.0%	41473	14.4%	154673	13.2%
Total	232090	100.0%	915007	100.0%	56515	100.0%	255406	100.0%	288605	100.0%	1170413	100.0%

Sources: Stanley R. Hoffman Associates, Inc.; 1990 Census, STF 3.

Race and Ethnicity

A greater distinction between the western and eastern portions of the county is seen in racial and ethnic composition. Table H-10 shows that the eastern county area is comprised of 38.2% Hispanics while the western county area has only 23%. The western county area has a larger percentage of Black and American Indian/Indian/Eskimo/Aleutian population (6.1% and 4.0%, respectively) than the eastern county area (3.0% and 1.9%, respectively). Countywide, the cities have a slightly higher proportion of non-White and Hispanic populations than the unincorporated area.



**Table H-10
Racial and Ethnic Composition
1990**

Racial or Ethnic Group	Western County Area				Eastern County Area				Riverside County			
	Unincorp.	%	Total	%	Unincorp.	%	Total	%	Unincorp.	%	Total	%
White	190726	82.2%	707883	77.4%	42357	74.9%	186884	73.2%	233083	80.8%	894767	76.4%
Black	10049	4.3%	55873	6.1%	1999	3.5%	7718	3.0%	12048	4.2%	63591	5.4%
Am. Indian, Eskimo, Aleut.	7176	3.1%	36656	4.0%	716	1.3%	4935	1.9%	7892	2.7%	41591	3.6%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2712	1.2%	9307	1.0%	663	1.2%	2187	0.9%	3375	1.2%	11494	1.0%
Other	21428	9.2%	105288	11.5%	10780	19.1%	53682	21.0%	32209	11.2%	158970	13.6%
Total	232090	100.0%	915007	100.0%	56515	100.0%	255406	100.0%	288605	100.0%	1170413	100.0%
Hispanic	47454	20.4%	209939	22.9%	22913	40.5%	97575	38.2%	70367	24.4%	307514	26.3%

Sources: Stanley R. Hoffman Associates, Inc.; 1990 Census, STF 3.

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Employment Characteristics



The Unemployment Rate is calculated by dividing the number of unemployed individuals by the total number of people in the labor force. Any individual can be considered as unemployed if over the age of sixteen, is actively looking for a job, but is not able to find one.

Table H-11 presents employment trends in Riverside County by comparing the number of jobs for each industry in 1990 and 1997. According to the California Employment Development Department, 93% of the job growth during this period occurred in the Service Producing sector. The fastest growing occupations were in Retail Trade, Health Services and Local Government. The largest declines were in Construction, Aerospace Manufacturing, and Communications and Public Utilities industries.

The overall unemployment rate throughout the Riverside-San Bernardino MSA has improved along with the nation's economy. From 1990 to 1995, the unemployment rate increased to nearly 11% in 1993. After 1993, however, the unemployment rate steadily decreased and the current rate is under 5%. According to the California Employment Development Department, the CVAG area experiences a higher unemployment rate than does the WRCOG area. For example, the cities of Coachella and Indio had unemployment rates of 10.7% and 6.7% in March 2000, respectively. In contrast, the cities of Riverside and Corona experienced unemployment rates of only 4.7% and 3.9% in March 2000, respectively.