

Sausalito

People and Place

Location

Sausalito is on the southeastern tip of Marin County, one of nine counties in the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area. Ten miles north of San Francisco off U.S. Highway 101, it encompasses 1.9 square miles of land and 0.3 square mile of water. The geographic coordinates of Sausalito are lat 37°57'38"N, long 122°30'05"W.

Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the population of Sausalito was 7,330, an increase of 2.5% from 1990. The gender composition was 51.7% female and 48.3% male. The median age was 45.4, higher than the national median of 35.3. Of the population 18 years of age and older, 98% had a high school education or higher, 69.1% had a bachelor's degree or higher, and 28.5% had a graduate or professional degree; numbers significantly higher than the national averages of 79.7%, 22.3%, and 7.8% respectively.

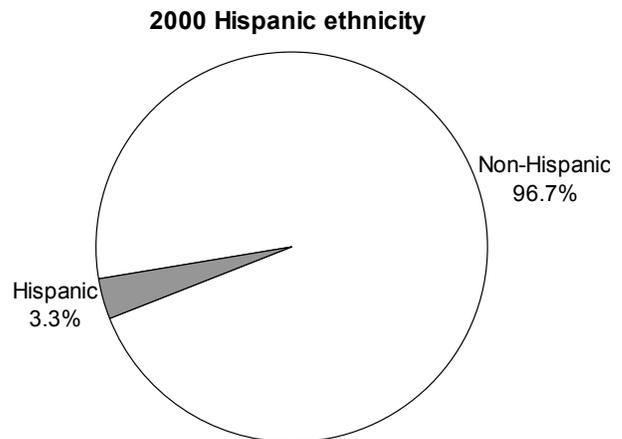
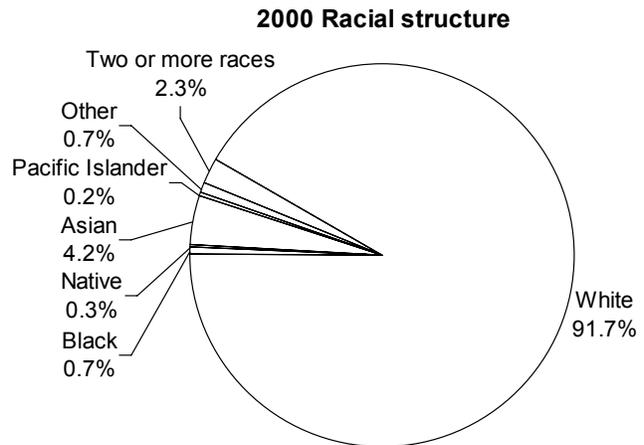
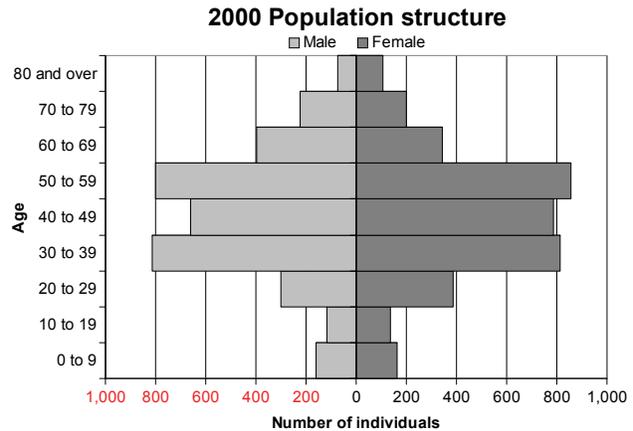
The racial composition of the population was predominantly white (91.7%), followed by Asian (4.2%), individuals who identified with two or more races (2.3%), individuals who identified with some other race (0.7%), black (0.7%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.3%), and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (0.2%). Ethnicity data indicate 3.3% identified as Hispanic. About 15.7 percent were foreign-born, of which 15.6% were from Germany, 9.6% from Canada, and 7.9% from the United Kingdom.

In 2000 54.6% of the population lived in family households.

History

Miwok Indians were the first inhabitants of the Sausalito area. The Coastal Miwok, called Olamentke by early writers, are part of the Penutian language family.¹ The Miwok occupied territory bounded on the north by Cosumnes River, on the east by a ridge of the Sierra Nevada, on the south by Fresno Creek, and on the west by the San Joaquin River.² The Miwok are known as the largest "nation" in California. It is said a tribal member could travel from the Cosumnes River to Fresno Creek and be understood without difficulty, so uniform was the language.³

The Coast Miwok inhabited about 885 square miles of Marin and southern Sonoma counties. At the

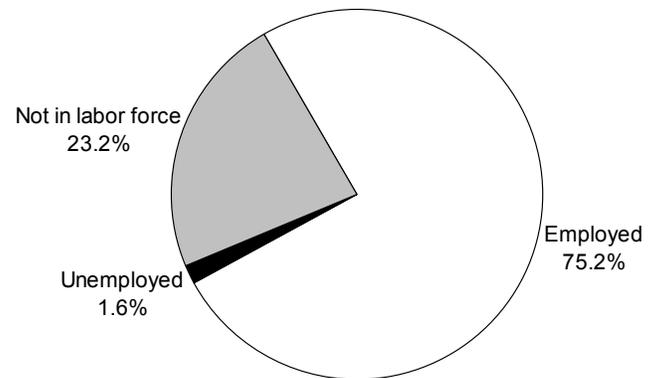


beginning of the nineteenth century, about 3,000 Miwok lived in about 40 villages, each consisting of 75 to 100 persons.⁴ Disease and Euro-American encroachment took its toll on the Miwok and in 1910 the population was estimated at 699.⁵ The Miwok made boats from tule reeds and used them to travel around San Francisco Bay and to Angel Island, the largest island in the bay.⁶ The Miwok diet consisted primarily of nuts, pinole (a meal made of plant seeds), roots, fruit, jack rabbit, deer, sea lions, seals, sea otters, and various species of fish and shellfish. Annual salmon spawning runs came through Raccoon Strait, just offshore of Angel Island.⁷ Fish were taken by gorge hook (made from bone) and spear, dip nets (bags of netting attached to wooden frames on a handle), and narcotization. Woven surf nets were used along open beaches.^{8,9}

The first contact between the Miwok and Europeans occurred in 1579 when Sir Francis Drake, the first Englishman to sail around the world, was greeted upon his arrival by Indians in a village near Tomales, approximately 50 miles northwest of Sausalito. In 1775 Father Vincente, who arrived to claim San Francisco Bay for Spain, described the Coast Miwok as “humorous, with courteous manners.”¹⁰ During the Spanish Mission Era, the Coast Miwok learned to build with adobe and cultivate new food crops, which they in turn traded to the Spanish missions.¹¹ For decades the Coast Miwok resisted the Spanish and Mexicans, but fell before European weapons. In 1953 Congress passed Public Law 280, which transferred law enforcement on California reservations to state and county agencies. By 1958 the federal government terminated the recognition of several tribes including the Coast Miwok.¹² In December 2000 legislation was signed granting the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, formerly known as the Federated Coast Miwok, full rights and privileges afforded federally recognized tribes. Today there are more than 500 registered tribal members.¹³

In 1838 an Englishman of Mexican citizenship, William Richardson, received a Mexican land grant which he called Rancho del Sausalito, meaning “Ranch of the Little Willow Grove.” The property, in addition to raising cattle, provided safe anchorage close to what would become the north end of the Golden Gate. Nearby springs provided Richardson with an abundant source of freshwater, which he sold to visiting whaling ships. Richardson sought power and wealth and soon became Captain of the Port of San Francisco and married the daughter of the Commandant of the Presidio. But the gold rush brought hardship to the rancho. Richardson’s land was squatted on, his cattle stolen, and his Whaler’s Cove bypassed in favor of Yerba Buena, a new port

2000 Employment structure



across the bay. These events forced him to sell most of his rancho.¹⁴

Several ambitious businessmen and companies, interested in Sausalito’s promising real-estate, attempted to establish Sausalito as California’s next big city. But Sausalito, with no rail service, provided little opportunity for growth. In 1871 the Sausalito Land and Ferry Company struck a deal with the North Pacific Coast Railroad, convincing it to extend its tracks into Sausalito. The railway brought merchants, workers, and the wealthy from San Francisco. Soon a residential pattern was established where the rich lived in the hills and the workers lived in the lowlands. Residents decided to incorporate in 1893 to control the town’s development.¹⁵

When the Golden Gate Bridge was built in the 1930s, a road was constructed from Sausalito to the bridge. The construction of the bridge brought increased land prices in Marin County and a flood of people from the bay area. The railway and ferries were soon dismantled and by 1941 Sausalito was in decline. World War II, however, brought new industries to the area. With a need for more merchant ships, Bechtel Company chose to locate on North Sausalito’s waterfront. The area soon became known as Marinship, which employed 70,000 workers from around the world and operated around the clock. By the end of World War II, Marinship had constructed 93 vessels in only three and a half years.¹⁶

Change came slowly to Sausalito during the postwar years. Tourism emerged during the 1960s and the Marinship site became home to tourist shops, small businesses, and arts and crafts. Today Sausalito residents and visitors enjoy numerous community events including the Sausalito Art Festival, Art Festival at Sea, Annual Chili Cook-off, Annual Floating Homes Showcase Tour, Farmers Market, and Opera by the Bay.

Infrastructure

Current Economy

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 75.2% of Sausalito's potential labor force 16 years of age and older were employed, 1.6% were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 2.1% (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). In addition, 23.2% were not in the labor force, less than the national average of 36.1%. The top employment sectors were management, professional, and related positions (66.9%), sales and office occupations (20.9%), service jobs (7.4%) and local, state, or federal government (6.4%). Natural resource jobs including agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining employed only 0.2%, but this percentage may be artificially low because many fishermen are self-employed and are underrepresented in the data.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the per capita income in 1999 was \$81,040 and the median household income was \$87,469, both significantly higher than the national averages. About 5.1% lived below the poverty level in 1999, less than half the national average of 12.4%. In 2000 Sausalito had 4,511 housing units, of which 94.3% were occupied and 5.7% were vacant. Of the occupied units, 49.1% were by owner and 50.9% were by renter. Of the vacant housing, 41.2% were vacant due to seasonal, recreational, or occasional use.

Governance

Sausalito is just north of the Golden Gate Bridge. The city has a council-manager government. The five-member council consists of the mayor, vice mayor, and three council members. Residents pay a 7.25% sale and use tax and Marin County levies a 10% lodging tax.^{17, 18} See the Governance subsection (page 43) in the Overview section for a more detailed discussion of taxes affecting fisherman and processors in California.

The National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Southwest Fisheries Science Center has laboratories 81 miles south in Santa Cruz and a NMFS regional office is 421 miles south in Long Beach. The California Department of Fish and Game has a marine field office about 32 miles south in Belmont. The nearest U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is 10 miles south in San Francisco. Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings are held 31 miles south in Foster City. Sausalito is within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office San Francisco Bay, one of the Coast Guard's largest and busiest marine safety units.

Facilities

Sausalito is accessible by land and water. U.S. Highway 101 is the major road connecting Sausalito south to San Francisco and north to Santa Rosa. Golden Gate Transit provides bus service. The Golden Gate Sausalito Ferry Terminal is located downtown and provides nine trips daily to San Francisco. San Francisco International Airport is 10 miles south.

The Sausalito Marin City School District has three elementary schools, and high school students attend classes in the Tamalpais Union High School District. Sausalito also has several private and nonprofit schools. In 2000 the College of Marin, located 10 miles north in Kentfield, had an enrollment of about 8,000. The Marin Municipal Water District serves the southern Marin area, including Sausalito. The city's Public Works Department administers the storm water, drainage, and sanitary sewer collection systems. Pacific Gas and Electric provides electricity and natural gas. The Sausalito Police Department administers public safety. Additional facilities include the Bay Area Discovery Museum, numerous city parks and recreational opportunities, a public library, the Sausalito Historical Society, the Sausalito and Golden Gate Tall Ships societies, and a Marine Mammal Center, among others.

Sausalito has eight marinas and harbors, primarily serving recreational boaters and sailors. Clipper Yacht Harbor, founded in the 1947, has more than 730 slips. Offering a fuel dock, more than 80 dry storage units, and Salty's Bait and Tackle, Clipper is homeport for several charter vessels and hundreds of recreational fishing boats. Galilee Harbor is home to one of the last original houseboat communities. Cass' Marina, located by Dunphy Park, provides public rental sailboats. Several wooden boats are on display at the old Marine Ways Shipyard, where Menotti Pasquinucci built Monterey fishing boats. The Pelican Yacht Harbor, once owned by Donlon Arques—founder of the Arques School of Traditional Boat Building—is home to the largest collection of classic wooden boats on the Sausalito waterfront. The Sausalito Yacht Harbor was founded in 1940 when three log steamers were filled with mud and left to sink on the north end of the new harbor. Schoonmaker Point Marina, known as one of the most prestigious marinas in the bay area, has wet berths and side ties, guest moorage, dry storage, and commercial and light industrial rental space. Schoonmaker offers boat slips from 35 to 75 feet and side ties for yachts up to 220 feet. The Richardson Bay Marina, formerly Kappas Marina, is also in Sausalito.

Fishing organizations based in Sausalito include the California Herring Association (commercial) and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association,

representing 26 commercial fishing and port associations from San Diego to Alaska. The Golden Gate Fishermen's Association, founded in 1948, is based in nearby San Rafael.

Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

In 2000 landings in Sausalito were in the following West Coast fisheries (data shown represents landings in metric tons/value of landings/number of vessels landing): coastal pelagic 364 t/\$249,538/31; crab 22 t/\$103,891/9; groundfish 3 t/\$7,641/15; highly migratory species 17 t/\$31,449/10; salmon 180 t/\$730,075/82; and other species 9 t/\$7,463/11.

Sausalito residents owned nine vessels in 2000 that participated in West Coast fisheries, of which four participated in the federally managed groundfish fishery. Landings were delivered by 130 commercial vessels. The number of vessels owned by Sausalito residents that participated in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: groundfish 0/0/NA, highly migratory species NA/0/NA, salmon 0/0/2, shellfish NA/0/NA, shrimp NA/0/0, and other species 0/0/1.¹⁹

In 2000 the number of Sausalito residents who held permits in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 0/0/5, crab 0/0/2, groundfish 0/0/2, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 0/0/15, shellfish 0/0/NA, shrimp 0/0/2, and other species 1/0/3.²⁰

Sausalito residents held 47 registered state permits in 2000. The number of permits held by these community members in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic 0/0/12, crab 0/0/2, groundfish 0/0/2, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 0/0/24, shellfish 0/0/NA, shrimp 0/0/2, and other species 2/0/3.²¹

Sportfishing

The livelihoods of many residents depend on Sausalito's sportfishing industry.²² Sport fishermen are involved in West Coast and Alaska fisheries. Numerous marinas in Sausalito cater to recreational fishermen and charter vessels and one license agent is based in the community. Internet resources show at least six sportfishing businesses based in Sausalito.

Subsistence

Specific information on subsistence fishing in Sausalito is not discussed in detail due to the lack of available data. The California Department of Fish and Game uses the term "recreational" for fishermen who do not earn revenue from their catch, but fish for pleasure or to provide food for personal consumption. Information

on subsistence fishing in California is captured to some degree in the sportfishing data.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

In 2000 one Sausalito resident held a single registered state permit: an Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission salmon permit. One resident held a crew member license for North Pacific fisheries.

Sportfishing

Sausalito community members purchased 39 Alaska sportfishing licenses in 2000.

Notes

1. E. Curtis. 1924. The Miwok. Online at <http://www.yosemite.ca.us/history/curtis/> [accessed 20 March 2007].
2. Access Genealogy. 2004. California Indian tribes. Online at <http://www.accessgenealogy.com/native/tribes/californiatribes.htm> [accessed 20 March 2007].
3. See note 2.
4. Rohnert Park Historical Society. 2000. Miwok villages. Online at <http://www.rphist.org/html/miwok.html> [accessed 20 March 2007].
5. See note 1.
6. Angel Island Association. 2003. Miwok information. Online at <http://www.angelisland.org/miwok.htm> [accessed 20 March 2007].
7. See note 6.
8. See note 1.
9. Miwok Archeological Preserve of Marin. No date. History of the Coast Miwok at Point Reyes. Online at http://www.pointreyesvisions.com/NewFiles/Science_Folder/Coast_Miwok.html [accessed 20 March 2007].
10. R. Walker. 2001. A hidden geography. Online at http://geography.berkeley.edu/PeopleHistory/faculty/R_Walker/AHiddenGeography.html [accessed 20 March 2007].
11. Novato Chamber of Commerce. No date. Novato's history. Online at <http://www.novatochamber.com/about/advantages.cfm> [accessed 20 March 2007].
12. See note 9.
13. See note 9.
14. City of Sausalito. 1997. Sausalito history. Online at <http://www.ci.sausalito.ca.us/shs/saus-hist/Sausalito%20History.htm> [accessed 20 March 2007].
15. See note 14.
16. See note 14.
17. California Board of Equalization. 2004. California city and county sales and use tax rates. Online at <http://www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub71.pdf> [accessed 20 March 2007].
18. California Board of Equalization. 2001. California counties transient lodging tax revenue, rate and date for fiscal year 2000–2001. Online at <http://www.sco.ca.gov/ard/local/locprep/adhoc/county/0001cotranslodgtax.pdf> [accessed 20 March 2007].
19. NA refers to data that were not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.
20. See note 19.
21. See note 19.

22. Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2004. West Coast marine fishing community descriptions. Online at <http://www.psmfc.org/efin/abstracts-data.html> [accessed 20 March 2007].