

DRAFT 4
City of Goleta, California
March 18, 2004
BACKGROUND REPORT NO. 10

Age Group Analysis

INTRODUCTION

This background report to the City of Goleta General Plan process describes the age characteristics of the city relative to other areas. It supplements the first General Plan background report on Characteristics of Population by providing a detailed look at the age profile of the city and how it is changing. This report is from the same sources of information and is subject to the same data limitations as the report on the Characteristics of Population.

PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

Understanding the age characteristics of an area's population, and how it is changing, can influence many issues that will be addressed in the General Plan. Age affects the land use considerations and housing needs both directly and indirectly. The types of housing needed and desired by people changes throughout their life and these changes may influence the amount of area that may be needed for different housing types. Age also affects the demand for various goods and services and thereby influences the demand for different types of commercial and service uses. Age characteristics also affect types of public services that are needed in the community. For example, a community composed of retired age groups is different than a population with a lot of working age families and requires different types of parks and recreational services.

AGE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CITY OF GOLETA.

Figure 1 presents the age profile of the city as of the 2000 Census of Population. It presents the number of people in each five year age group (males and females combined). The youngest age group, those people under five, is presented at the bottom, with the oldest at the top. This standard format will be used throughout this report.¹

¹ Another "standard" format is to present males and females separately on the graph, with one sex on one side of the vertical axis and the other sex on the other. The results resemble a pyramid and are often referred to as a "population pyramid." Since standard graphing software does not easily present data in this format, the less common format of combining sexes into a population profile is used here. The major

The age profile for the city has two large “bulges,” one in the 35 to 45 age groups (usually referred to as the working or family age groups). The upper end (40 to 55 year olds) of this broad age group is known demographically as the “baby boom” generation; consisting of children born after World War 2. A smaller bulge in the 5 to 14 age groups reflects this age group’s children—known demographically as the “baby boom echo” generation including the large number of babies born to the large number of baby boom generation adults. The second large bulge are people in the 20 to 30 age group probably reflecting the proximity of the City of Goleta to the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB).

Figure 1

City of Goleta, California
Population Profile In 5 Year Age Groups
City of Goleta

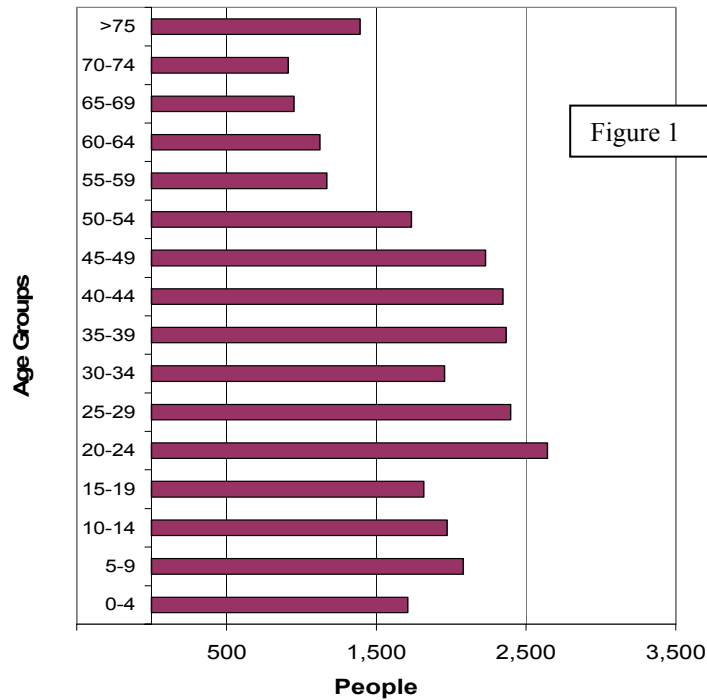


Figure 1

differences in the results between the two methods are largely in the upper age groups where, due to longevity among females, females substantially outnumber males in most communities.

CITY OF GOLETA AGE PROFILES COMPARED TO OTHER AREAS

Figures 2 through 4 present on one page, for comparative purposes, the age profiles of the city, the State, the County of Santa Barbara, and the Santa Barbara County Census Division (the South Coast area of the county excluding Carpinteria and vicinity, but including the City of Santa Barbara, Montecito, Isla Vista and the vicinities). The format for these figures is the same as Figure 1 except that for each age group there are two horizontal bars; the lower bar is the percent of population in the City of Goleta in each age group, while the upper bar is the percent of people in that same age group for the area being compared with the city in the year 2000.

The city's age profile is very similar to the State except for there being more people in the city's young adult age groups of 20 to 29, and less children. The proportions of people in the older working age groups and seniors are almost the same as the state average. The higher proportion of young adults is probably related to the proximity of the city to UCSB.

The age profile for the city is very similar to the county with a few notable exceptions. In the 19 to 20 age group, the 25 to 30 group, the 45 to 50 group and seniors over 75 years old, the city has proportionally fewer of these older people than the county average.

In contrast, the comparison between the city and the general Santa Barbara area is different. The Santa Barbara CCD has a very high proportion of college age people than the City of Goleta, due to UCSB and Isla Vista, where most students reside, being in this larger area. This high proportion of students tends to skew the rest of the figure, giving the city proportionately more people in each of the other age groups than for the County Census Division. Except for this skew the profiles are relatively similar. The larger area also has proportionately more senior citizens older than 75 years old than the city.

City of Goleta, California
Comparative Age Groups
City of Goleta and State
2000

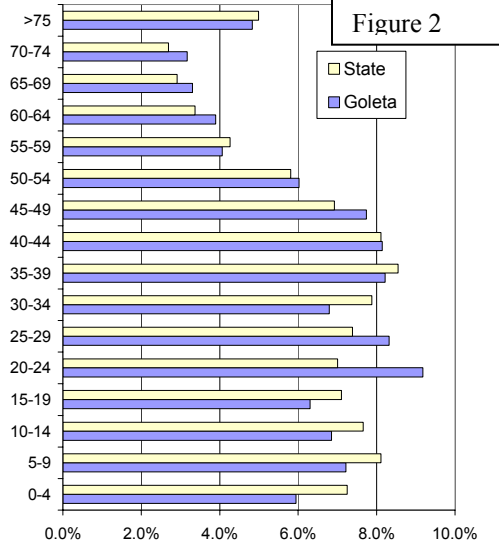


Figure 2

City of Goleta, California
Comparative Age Groups
City of Goleta and Santa Barbara County
2000

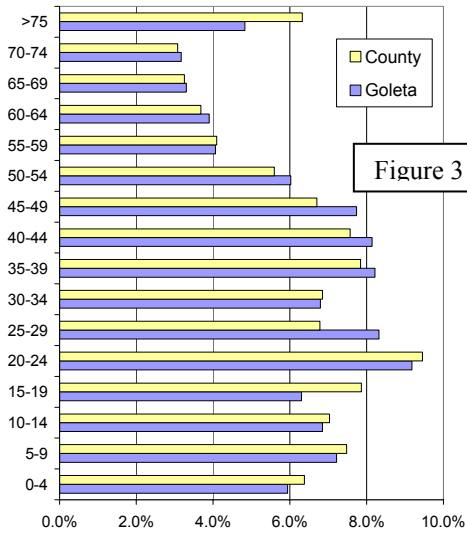


Figure 3

City of Goleta, California
Comparative Age Groups
City of Goleta and Santa Barbara CCD
2000

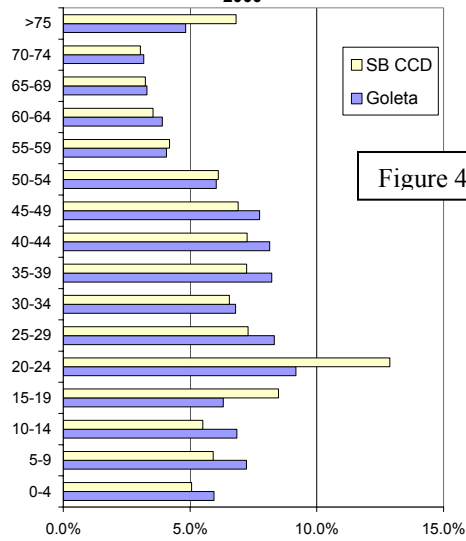


Figure 4

CHANGE IN AGE COMPOSITION

Figures 2 through 5 present on one page change between 1990 and 2000 in age profiles for the State of California, the County of Santa Barbara and the Santa Barbara County Census Division, and the City of Goleta (Figure 5). The format for these figures is the same as Figure 1 except that in each age group there are two horizontal bars; the lower bar are the number of people in each age group in 1990 and the upper bar the number in 2000. This juxtaposition allows a direct comparison of the number of people in each age group in 1990 to the number of people in 2000.² In reviewing these figures it is important to note that people have aged 10 years in between the years and the people who were 5 to 10 years old in 1990 are now 15 to 20 years old (the people in the same age group are called a “cohort”). The difference in the bars for a particular cohort (people 5-10 years old in 1990 who are 15-20 years old in 2000) is net migration minus deaths—migration being the major factor in the younger groups and deaths in the older. The people in the 0 to 10 age group in 2000 were born during the decade.

Comparing the change over the decade gives an understanding of how the age composition is shifting due to the combined effect of natural causes (aging, births and deaths) and net migration (number of people moving in minus the number of people moving out of the area). The shifts in population are relatively similar between all four areas among the age groups, although the magnitude varies.

Each figure shows the baby boom generation and the baby boom echo generation moving up through the profile in a very similar pattern. The shift is most pronounced in the 35 to 54 age groups. The shift in these age groups is similar between the city, the State and the county, except that the baby boom generation is a bit younger in the city with a smaller shift occurring in Goleta in the 50 to 54 age group than the state and the nation.

The exception in the pattern is again in the Santa Barbara CCD where proportionately more students tend to dominate the change in the profiles. Interestingly, while the proportion of 15 to 19 age people which includes younger college age students as well as high school aged students increased in each area over the decade, the number of people in the upper college age groups declined in each area—with the number in the 20 to 24 age group remaining almost the same in the county.

² The Goleta data for 1990 assumes that census tract and block group boundaries in 1990 were largely the same 2000.

City of Goleta, California
**Change in Groups in State
 1990-2000**

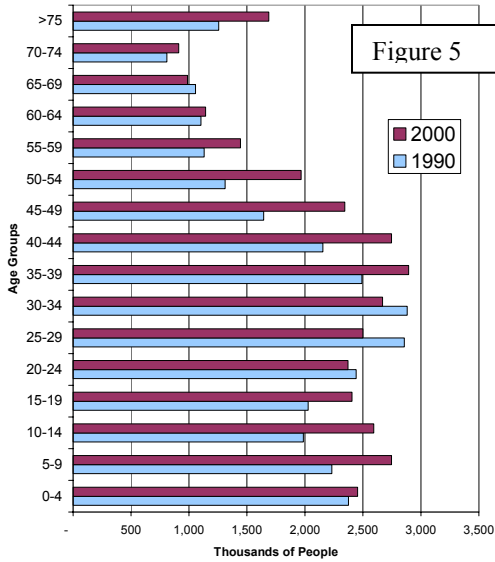


Figure 5

City of Goleta, California
**Change in Groups in Santa Barbara County
 1990-2000**

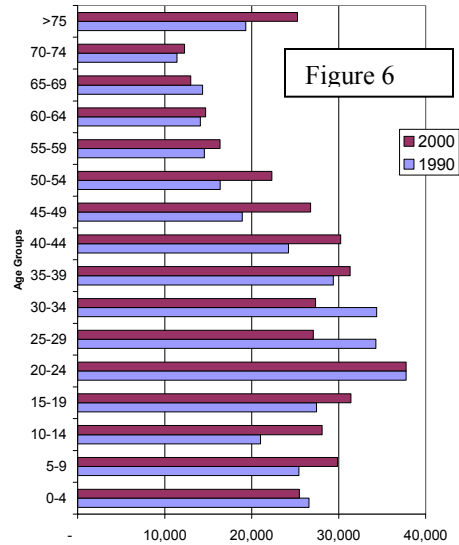


Figure 6

City of Goleta, California
**Change in Groups in Santa Barbara CCD
 1990-2000**

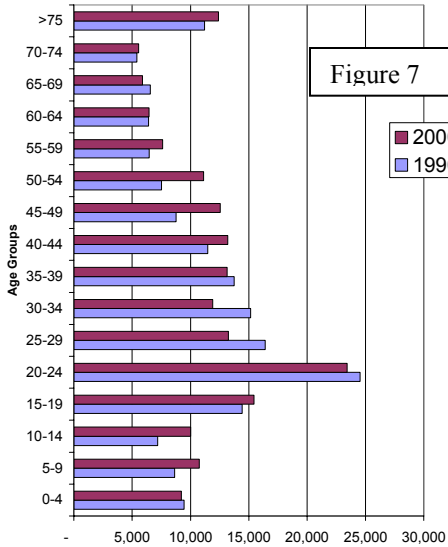


Figure 7

City of Goleta, California
**Change in Groups in City of Goleta
 1990-2000**

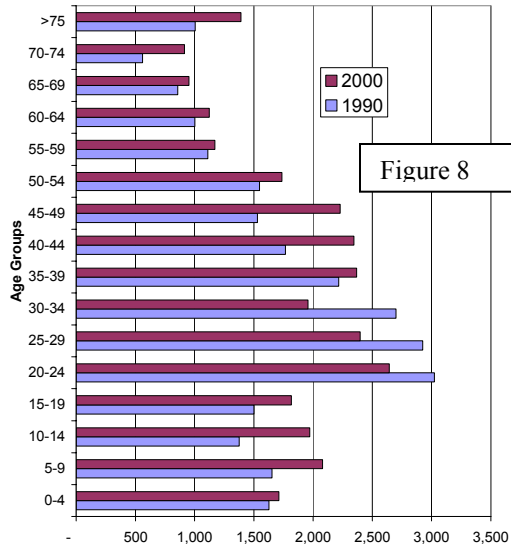
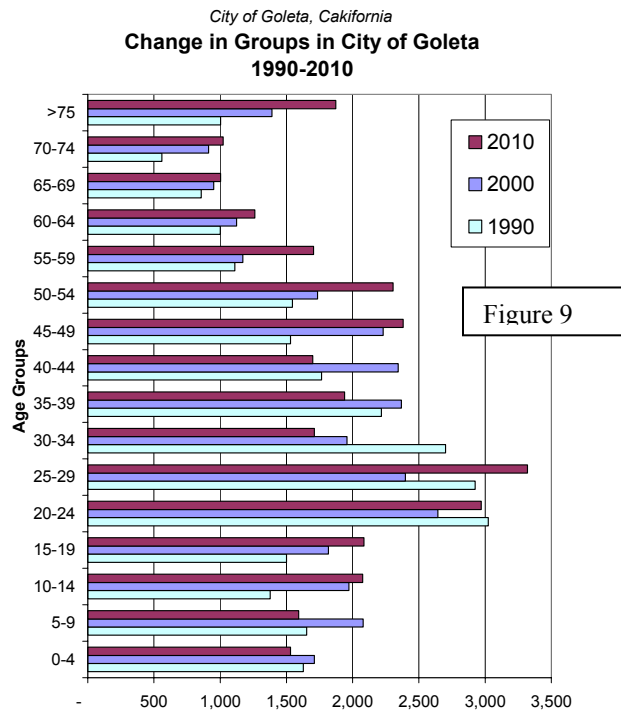


Figure 8

FUTURE AGE SHIFTS.

As discussed above, the age profile shifts due to aging, births, deaths and migration. If it were assumed that these four factors would continue to operate on each cohort in the same pattern in the next decade as they did in the past decade, future shifts may be anticipated. A technique to do this (known as the Hamilton/Perry method) is to calculate the change that occurred in the last decade by dividing the 2000 number in each cohort by the 1990 number in that cohort to derive a change factor (for example, dividing the number 50 to 54 people in 2000 by the number of 40 to 44 in 1990). This change factor is applied to the same age groups in 2000 to estimate 2010 numbers (the change factor in the example above is multiplied by the number of people in the 40 to 44 age group in 2000 to determine the number of people in the 50 to 54 age group in 2010).³



Unfortunately, the high number of students distorts this methodology if calculated directly. Consequently the college age groups were adjusted to subtract an estimate of college students in order to perform the calculation. The college students were then added back in after the calculation was made. Figure 9 provides the results of this calculation as compared to both 1990 and 2000. This calculation shows a continuation of the upward movement of the baby boom

³ Births are estimated by the past ratio of people in the 5 to 10 age group and the 0 to 5 age groups to the number of people in the child bearing age groups in the 20 to 45 age groups applied to future number derived by this method.

generation into the 50s. Meanwhile the middle range of adult groups decline substantially. Senior citizens increase, but the increase is not substantial over 2000 numbers until the over 75 age group. Older school age children may still continue to increase if past patterns continue, although the number of younger children may decline as the baby boom generation moves out of prime child bearing ages.⁴

Tables 1 and 2 provide numerical data for these age group changes between 1990 and 2000. Table 1 presents a comparison of the number of people in each age group in 1990 and 2000. Table 2 combines the various age groups into broader age groups to summarize the past and anticipated change.

Table 2 compares the number of people in each age group directly and by age cohort. Column A compares the people in the 1990 age group with the number of people in the same age group in 2000; e.g. people 35 to 40 years old in 1990 is compared to people in the 35 to 39 age group in 2000. Column B tracks the same group of people over the decade by comparing the number of people in 1990 in each age group with the number of people in the age group 10 years older in 2000; e.g. people who were 35 to 39 in 1990 with the people 45 to 49 in 2000.

Table 1
Change in Age Groups Between 1990 and 2000
City of Goleta, California

Age Group	1990	2000	Column A % Change in Group from 1990	Column B % Change in Cohort From 1990
0-4	1,628	1,712	5%	
5-9	1,653	2,080	26%	
10-14	1,377	1,973	43%	21%
15-19	1,501	1,817	21%	10%
20-24	3,024	2,643	-13%	92%
25-29	2,925	2,397	-18%	60%
30-34	2,701	1,957	-28%	-35%
35-39	2,217	2,367	7%	-19%
40-44	1,766	2,345	33%	-13%
45-49	1,530	2,229	46%	1%
50-54	1,546	1,736	12%	-2%
55-59	1,110	1,171	5%	-23%
60-64	1,002	1,123	12%	-27%
65-69	856	952	11%	-14%
70-74	560	913	63%	-9%
>75	1,003	1,391	39%	-42%
Total	26,398	28,805	9%	

⁴ While college age groups show substantial increases this may only be due to the limitation with the method in handling a large number of people in these age groups.

Due primarily to the aging baby boom generation, there are less people in the 20 to 34 age groups in 2000 than in 1990. However, column B shows that there is actually a loss of people (due primarily to net out migration) in several working age groups 30 to 44. Meanwhile there is a large net migration in the younger adult groups, probably due to the influence of UCSB. While the older age groups are growing it is due primarily to the large number of people aging into senior years compared to the number of people that were in the senior age groups in 1990, even though these cohorts are declining due to the combined effects of migration and deaths.

Extending past trends into the future does shift the number of people in broad age groups, as shown on table 2. While the senior age groups should grow at about the same rates between 2000 and 2010 as in the last decade. However, the working age groups will shift in growth pattern. While the older working age groups (30 to 55) grew between 1990 and 2000 it could decline over the next decade as the baby boom generation age out of it into senior years. Meanwhile the baby-boom echo generation may cause the younger adult age groups 15 to 30 to grow while it declined in the last decade.

.Table 2
Change in Broad Age Groups Between 1990 and 2010
City of Goleta, California

Age Group	1990	2000	Number Change 90-00	% Change 90-00	2010	Number Change 00-10	% Change 00-10
<15	4,658	5,764	1,106	24%	5,197	(567)	-10%
15-30	7,450	6,857	(592)	-8%	8,377	1,520	22%
30-55	9,760	10,634	874	9%	9,756	(878)	-8%
>55	4,531	5,550	1,019	22%	6,866	1,316	24%
Total	26,398	28,805	2,407	9%	30,196	1,391	5%

CONCLUSION

Except for college age students, the age profile of the city is “average” relative to both the county and the state and it is changing in the same demographic patterns as the county and the state. It can be anticipated that if past trends continue, the older working age groups will decline over the next decade as the baby-boom generation transitions into retirement age groups. Meanwhile the baby-boom echo generation will add people in the younger adult and college student age groups. While retirement age groups have increased, and will probably continue to increase in the future, this change is consistent with similar aging patterns in the state and county.⁵

⁵ Although the growth in the General Santa Barbara area has been less in these age groups than the larger bench mark areas or the city.