

Quality of Life

Gilroy

-- is the southernmost city in Santa Clara County, California, and in the San Francisco Bay Area. The population was 52,027 at the 2010 census. Gilroy is well-known for its garlic crop and for the annual Gilroy Garlic Festival. Gilroy also produces mushrooms in considerable quantity. Gilroy's nickname is "Garlic Capital of the World, as local industry processes more garlic than any other city in the world; most pickled, minced, and powdered garlic come from Gilroy.

Gilroy also is home to the Gilroy Premium Outlets, a large shopping center consisting entirely of factory outlet stores.

Long-time local landmarks include Gilroy Gardens Family Theme Park, along California State Route 152, just west of town, and Mount Madonna County Park, at Hecker Pass, about twelve miles west of town, off Highway 152

Demographics

As of the United States 2000 Census, there were 41,464 people, 11,869 households, and 9,590 families residing in the city. The population density was 2,615.2/mi² (1,010.1/km²). There were 12,152 housing units at an average density of 296.0/km² (766.5/mi²). The racial makeup of the city was 58.91% White, 1.80% African American, 1.59% Native American, 4.37% Asian, 0.25% Pacific Islander, 27.73% from other races, and 5.35% from two or more races. 53.78% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 11,869 households out of which 47.7% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 60.8% were married couples living together, 14.2% had a female householder with no husband present, and 19.2% were non-

Quality of Life

families. 14.3% of all households were made up of individuals and 5.9% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 3.46 and the average family size was 3.74.

In the city the population was spread out with 32.6% under the age of 18, 10.0% from 18 to 24, 32.7% from 25 to 44, 18.0% from 45 to 64, and 6.8% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 30 years. For every 100 females there were 99.3 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 98.6 males.

The median income for a household in the city was \$66,401, and the median income for a family was \$80,371. Males had a median income of \$45,759 versus \$34,710 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$22,071. About 7.3% of families and 10.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 12.8% of those under 18 and 6.5% of those 65 and older.

Geography and environment

Gilroy is located at 37°00'43"N. It is approximately 25 miles south of downtown San Jose, California. Lying in a southern extension of the Santa Clara Valley at an elevation of about 61 m (200 ft) above MSL, it is bounded by the Santa Cruz Mountains to the west and the Diablo Range to the east. According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 41.1 km² (15.9 mi²). 41.1 km² (15.9 mi²) of it is land and 0.06% is water.

Climate

Due to the moderating influence of the Pacific Ocean, Gilroy enjoys a warm, Mediterranean climate.

Temperatures range from an average midsummer maximum of 32.3°C (90.2°F) to an average midwinter low of 0.9°C (33.6°F). Average annual precipitation is 480 mm (18.9 in), and the summer months are typically dry. Snowfall is rare, about once every 20 years, and is light and short-lived when it occurs. Summer months are characterized by coastal fog which arrives from the ocean around 10 p.m. and dissipates the next morning by 10

Quality of Life

a.m. Winter months have many sunny and partly cloudy days, with frequent breaks between rainstorms. The local terrain is conducive to tornadoes, severe windstorms, and thunderstorms. The local climate supports chaparral and grassland biomes, with stands of live oak at higher elevations.

Average January temperatures are a maximum of around 60°F and a minimum of around 40°F. Average July temperatures are a maximum of around 90°F and a minimum of around 60°F. There are an average of 33.0 days with highs of 100°F (37.7°C) or possible higher and an average of 18.0 days with lows of 32°F (0°C) or possible lower. The record high temperature of 115°F was on July 15, 1972. The record low temperature of 17°F was on December 22, 1990.

There are an average of 58 days with measurable precipitation. The wettest year was 1983 with 37.76 inches and the driest year was 1977 with 11.17 inches. The most rainfall in one month was 14.64 inches in January 1914.