



Getting Behind the Headlines

Families Leaving San Francisco

*Public Research Institute
San Francisco State University*

*Mayor's Council on Children,
Youth and Families*

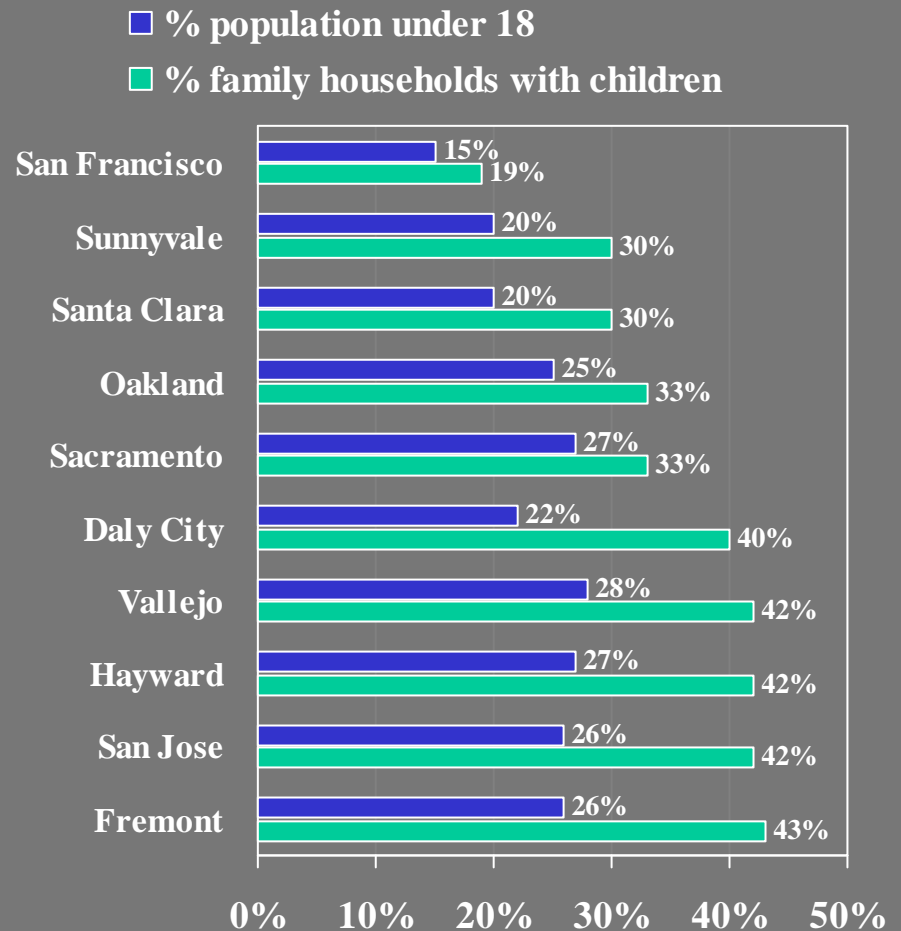
September 2005

Data used in our report

- How has San Francisco changed?
 - 2000 Census (including PUMS data)
- How does it compare with other areas?
 - Census data rankings (Annie E. Casey Found.)
 - Ratings of family friendliness/child well-being
- Parental Perspectives
 - 2005 San Francisco City Survey
 - 2002 DCYF Parent Phone Survey

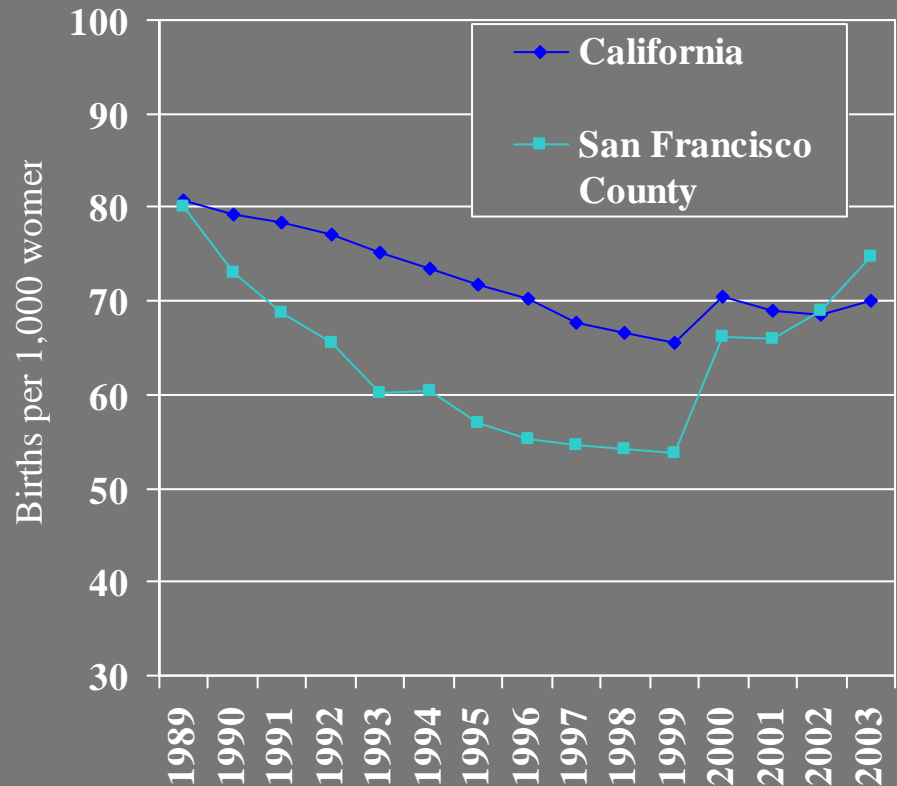
The number of households with children is stable, but there are fewer children

- Children were 24% of SF's population in 1960, 15% in 2000
- Between 1990 and 2000:
 - Families with children went from 21% to 19% of SF's households
 - The number of children under 18 declined 3%, and the number of children under 6 declined 11%.
 - School enrollment, particularly in elementary schools, declined
- SF has a lower proportion of families with children than other Bay Area cities



Possible reasons for the decline in young children 1999 – 2000:

- Household size decreased
- Fertility rates declined between 1989 and 1999
- Base closures

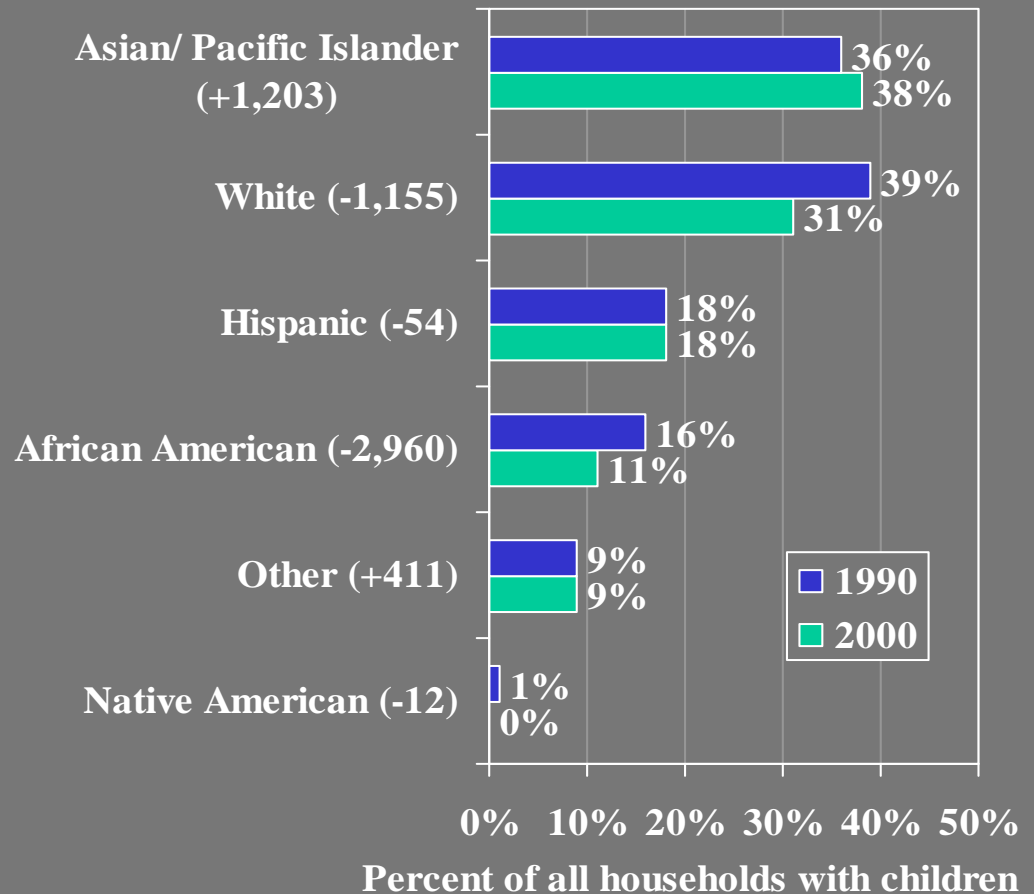


Child Population Rebounds Since 2000

- Decrease in population over 5, increase in population under 5. However, 3% behind 1990 levels (Figure 1).
- Fertility rates explain a large portion of the increase (Figure 2).
- Despite the rebound in fertility rates, school enrollment continues to decline (Figure 3).

Families Demographics are Changing

- Between 1990 and 2000:
 - The number of non-Hispanic White and African American families with children declined
 - Asian families with children increased, but their proportion among Asian households declined
 - Children in poverty fell from 18% to 14%
 - Homeownership increased among families with children
 - More children live with college-educated parents

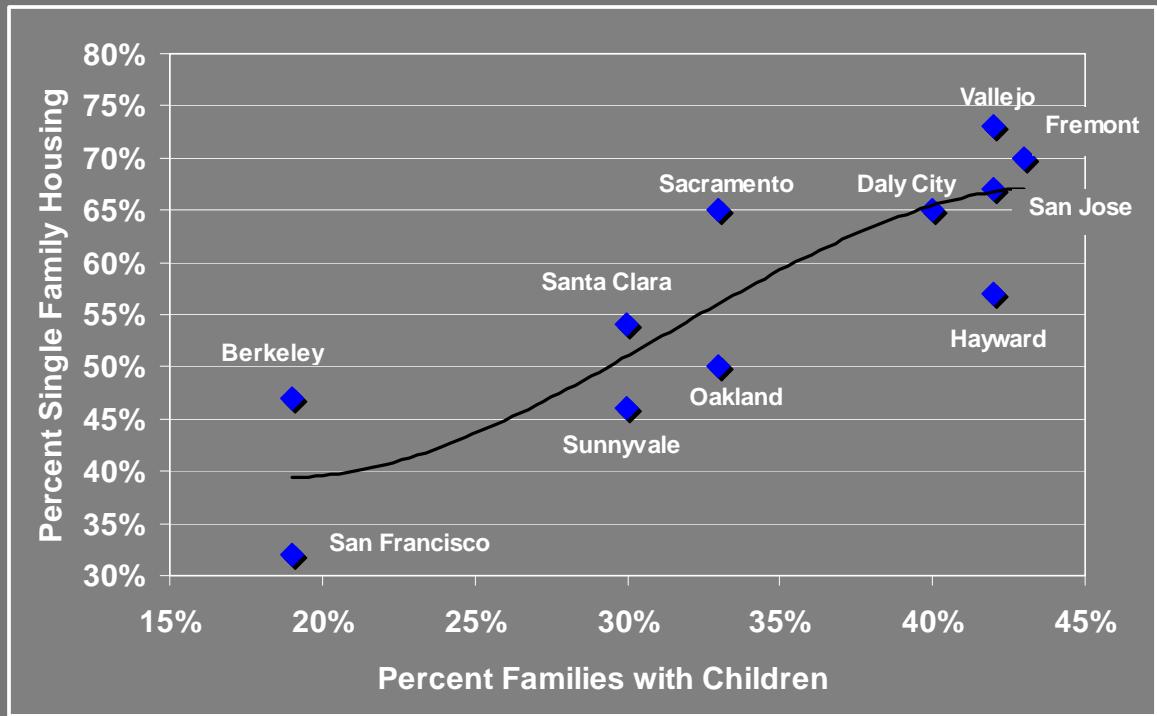


Family Demographics Are Changing

- Families are better off, but San Francisco's families are increasingly higher income (Figure 4).
- Families are increasingly concentrated in the South East (Figure 5).

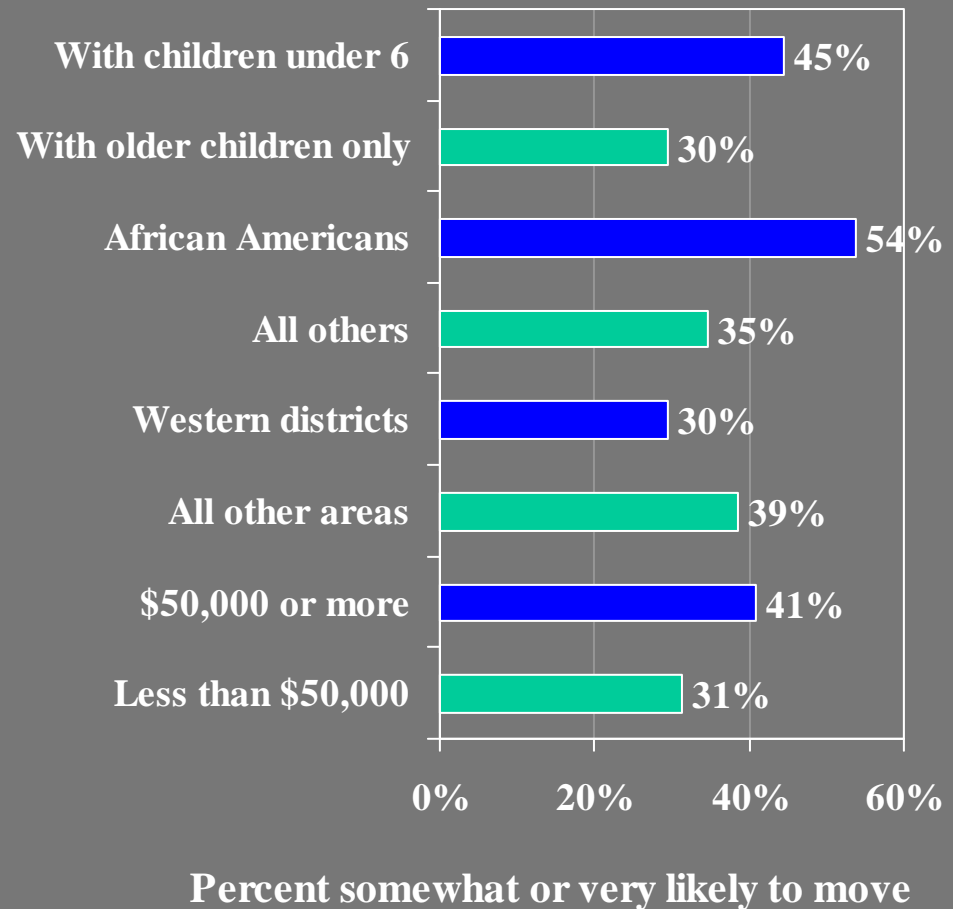
San Francisco compares well on some family friendly indicators, not so well on others.

- San Francisco compares well to other large cities:
 - Most children have health insurance
 - Relatively few live in poverty
 - Relatively few are raised by single parents
- However, the city is at a disadvantage in terms of housing affordability and stock



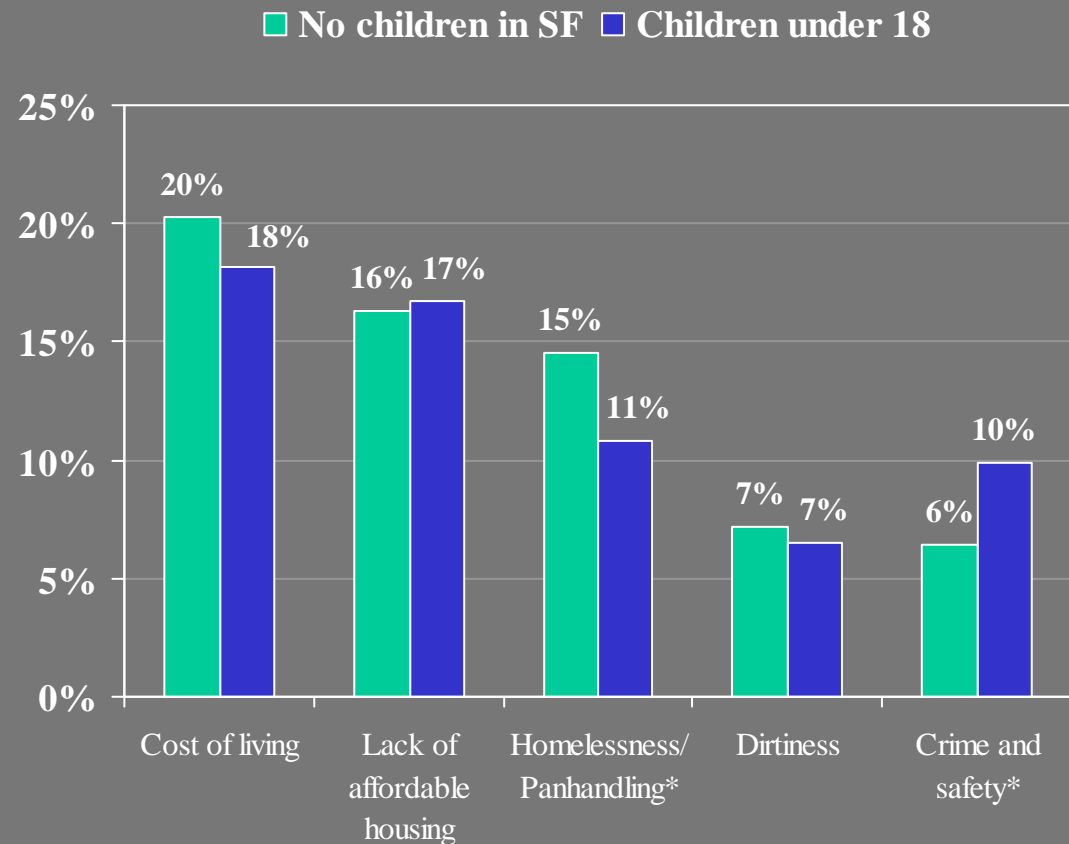
2005 City Survey—Who says they'll leave SF?

- Families with children are not more likely than others to move in 3 years
- However, families with children under 6 are more likely
- African American families are more likely to say they'll move
- Families with higher income are more likely



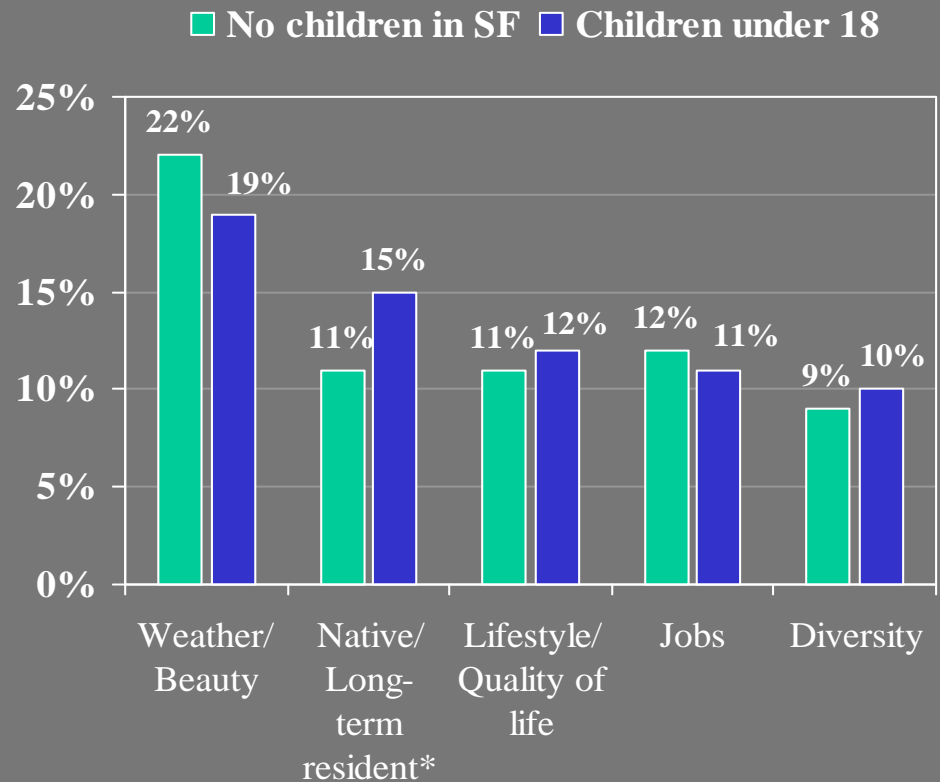
2005 City Survey—Drawbacks to living in SF

- Non-parents shared the same concerns as parents
- Affordability, including cost of housing, was the most mentioned
- Homelessness, dirtiness, and crime/safety issues were also top concerns



2005 City Survey--Reasons for living in San Francisco

- SF's beauty and climate topped the list
- Urban lifestyle was mentioned by 12% of parents
- Jobs and diversity were also common reasons



2005 City Survey—What would make SF a better place for kids?

- Better schools and affordable housing/cost of living topped the list
- Parents in the Southeast and those with children under 6 cited safer streets the most

Things that would make SF a better place for families	2005 City Survey	2002 DCYF Parent Survey
Better schools*	20%	52%
Affordable housing/Cost of living	20%	13%
Safer streets*	12%	21%
More activities for children	9%	-

*Survey items were unprompted in the City Survey and prompted in the DCYF survey, so are not directly comparable

Where Do We Go From Here?

- Develop vision, value statement for San Francisco families
- From a family lens, substantively analyze and address
 - Family friendly housing
 - Cost of living
 - Schools

Data questions?

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