California State University, Fullerton 2020 Service Region Demographic Overview

This report highlights the population characteristics of counties surrounding California State University, Fullerton (CSUF): Los Angeles County, Orange County, Riverside County, and San Bernardino County. It depicts trends and projections in the counties' demographic characteristics and educational attainment. Examining the surrounding counties supports CSUF's efforts to readily adapt to the changes and needs of the community in which the campus serves. The data used for this report have been compiled by Economic Modeling (EMSI), which utilizes government sources (e.g., US Census Bureau).

Demographic Overview

In 2020, the four counties served by CSUF made up about 17.9 million people (see Table 1). The service region experienced a growth in population by 1.1% since 2015. This growth rate has been slower than California (1.9%) and the United States as a whole (3.1%). Between 2020 and 2025, the total population within the service region is expected to experience a slower growth at a rate of 0.8%. Projections at the state level and national level, on the other hand, indicate a slightly increased growth rate overall.

Table 1. Population Total: 2014 to 2029

Area	2015	2020	2025 (projected)	% Change (2015-2020)	% Change (2020-2025)	
4 Counties	17,695,923	17,884,934	18,032,239	1.1%	0.8%	
State	38,918,045	39,645,130	40,435,587	1.9%	2.0%	
Nation	320,635,163	330,591,441	341,764,318	3.1%	3.4%	

Trend in Population by Age

In 2020, more than two-thirds of the population represented adults between 20 to 59 years of age (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. 2020 Population by Age



The greatest growth from 2015 to 2020 was experienced by those aged between 60 years and over (16%; see Table 2). In comparison, the younger population aged 19 and younger, has experienced the greatest decline (-10%).

Table 2. Trend in Population, by Age

	2015	2020	2025 (projected)	% Change (2015-2020)	% Change (2020-2025)
Under 10 Years	2,290,126	2,164,351	2,040,743	-5.5%	-5.7%
10 to 19 Years	2,375,309	2,268,743	2,212,187	-4.5%	-2.5%
20 to 29 Years	2,717,636	2,606,154	2,406,477	-4.1%	-7.7%
30 to 39 Years	2,465,965	2,620,443	2,730,937	6.3%	4.2%
40 to 49 Years	2,392,960	2,298,480	2,338,086	-3.9%	1.7%
50 to 59 Years	2,309,994	2,287,178	2,200,084	-1.0%	-3.8%
60 Years and Over	3,143,933	3,639,585	4,103,727	15.8%	12.8%
Total	17,695,923	17,884,934	18,032,239	1.1%	0.8%

The counties served by CSUF are expected to see the greatest growth in the 60 Years and Over population between 2020 and 2025 (12.8%). In comparison, those aged between 20 to 29 years old will experience the greatest decline (-7.7%), followed by those aged under 10 years old (-5.7%; see Figures 2 and 3).





Figure 3. Projected % Change in Population by Age Group, from 2020 to 2025 (projected)



Population by Gender

In 2020, 50.5% of the regional population were females, and 49.5% were males (see Figure 4).

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The projected percentage of female and male residents in 2025 remains the same, at 50.5% and 49.5%, respectively. Male residents are projected to see a slightly higher growth (0.9%) from 2019 to 2025 compared to female residents (0.7%; see Table 3 and Figure 5).



	2015	2020	2025 (projected)	% Change (2015-2020)	% Change (2020-2025)
Males	8,744,584	8,846,579	8,926,752	1.2%	0.9%
Females	8,951,339	9,038,356	9,105,487	1.0%	0.7%
Total	17,695,923	17,884,934	18,032,239	1.1%	0.8%

Figure 5. Trend in Population by Gender



Population by Ethnicity

In 2020, the greatest percentage of the population identified as Hispanic (47%), followed by White (29%) and Asian (14%; see Figure 6, Table 4).

Figure 6. 2020 Population by Ethnicity



*Note: Other includes American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Two or More Races (Non-Hispanic).

Though they make up a smaller percentage of the population, Asians and Two or More Races, Non-Hispanics, are projected to experience higher growth rates compared to other groups, at 9.8% and 2.0%, respectively, from 2020 to

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2025. Meanwhile, Whites and American Indians or Alaskan Natives are expected to experience the greatest decline in growth rates (-4.8% and -3.1%, respectively).

Table 4. Trend in Population, by Ethnicity

	2015	2020	2025 (projected)	% Change (2015-2020)	% Change (2020-2025)
Asian	2,350,700	2,508,546	2,754,029	6.7%	9.8%
Black or African-American	1,187,258	1,178,455	1,164,047	-0.7%	-1.2%
Hispanic	8,171,332	8,425,229	8,590,135	3.1%	2.0%
White	5,514,261	5,270,234	5,014,827	-4.4%	-4.8%
Other	472,372	502,470	509,200	6.4%	1.3%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	45,983	44,291	42,925	-3.7%	-3.1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	45,762	44,564	44,217	-2.6%	-0.8%
Two or More Races, Non-Hispanic	380,627	413,615	422,058	8.7%	2.0%
Total	17,695,923	17,884,934	18,032,239	1.1%	0.8%

Figure 7. Trend in Population, by Gender



*Note: Other includes American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Two or More Races (Non-Hispanic).



Figure 8. Projected % Change in Population by Ethnicity, from 2020 to 2025 (projected)

Summary

The population across the four counties served by CSUF has grown between 2015 and 2020, though at a slower rate than the state and the nation as a whole. The growth rate for the next five years (2020 – 2025) is expected to slow down. The greatest population growth in the region is projected to occur in residents aged 60 years and older and a decline is projected among those aged 20 to 29 years old. The younger working-age group has declined in the past five years across the four regions and will continue decreasing over the next five years.

The Hispanic community continues to make up the largest group in the region, followed by White and Asian communities. The Asian population has experienced the greatest growth in the service region between 2015 and 2020 and is projected to continue to grow by 2025.

Educational Attainment

Educational attainment specifies the level of education achieved by population members aged 25 years and older, and indicates the highest level achieved. In 2020, the greatest percentage of the service region population obtained a high school diploma (22%), followed by those who attended some college (20%) and those who received a Bachelor's degree (20%; see Figure 9).

Figure 9. 2020 Educational Attainment of Service Region



Projections indicate that educational attainment of high school diploma and higher will increase by 2024 (see Table 5). Among these groups, those with a graduate degree and higher are expected to grow at the greatest rate by almost 9%, followed by those obtaining a Bachelor's degree (8%) and Associate degree (4%; see Figures 11 and 12).

	2015	2020	2025 (projected)	% Change (2015 to 2020)	% Change (2020 to 2025)
Less Than 9th Grade	1,378,577	1,291,950	1,246,359	-6.3%	-3.5%
9th Grade to 12th Grade	1,106,693	1,039,960	1,004,392	-6.0%	-3.4%
High School Diploma	2,507,164	2,631,577	2,730,384	5.0%	3.8%
Some College	2,468,647	2,479,962	2,506,158	0.5%	1.1%
Associate Degree	848,323	907,545	947,907	7.0%	4.4%
Bachelor's Degree	2,199,584	2,486,243	2,675,115	13.0%	7.6%
Graduate Degree and Higher	1,183,557	1,356,808	1,472,006	14.6%	8.5%
Total	11,692,546	12,194,046	12,582,321	4.3%	3.2%

Table 5. Trend in Educational Attainment

Figure 10. Trend in Educational Attainment, 2015 to 2025







Educational Attainment by Gender

In 2020, the greatest percentage of males and females received a high school diploma (43% and 41%, respectively), followed by a college degree (38% and 40%, respectively), and less than high school (19% for both genders; Figure 12).





As shown in Table 6 and Figure 13, the percentage of educational attainment within each gender is not expected to change considerably between 2020 and 2025.

Table 6. Trend in Educational Attainment, by Gender

	2015			2020			2025 (projected)			
	< High School	High School Diploma	College Degree	< High School	High School Diploma	College Degree	< High School	High School Diploma	College Degree	
Male	1,216,674	2,426,093	2,036,941	1,140,017	2,538,407	2,265,819	1,100,711	2,631,232	2,410,935	
Female	1,268,596	2,549,719	2,194,524	1,191,892	2,573,133	2,484,778	1,150,040	2,605,311	2,684,093	
Total	2,485,270	4,975,812	4,231,464	2,331,910	5,111,540	4,750,597	2,250,751	5,236,542	5,095,028	

Figure 13 indicates growth in educational attainment of high school diploma and higher for both males and females by 2025. The greatest growth is projected to be experienced by those attaining a college degree (6.4% for males, 8.0% for females) compared to those with a high school diploma or a college degree. While males are more likely than females to receive high school diplomas, there is expected to be more growth in the percentage of female residents with college degrees compared to female residents (difference of 2.4%).

Figure 13. Projected % Change in Educational Attainment by Gender, from 2020 to 2025



Educational Attainment by Ethnicity

Figure 14 shows that educational attainment has varied by ethnicity. In 2020, the greatest percentage of Asians and Whites obtained College Degrees (59% and 54%, respectively), whereas the greatest percentage of Black or African-Americans, Hispanics, and Others received a High School Diploma (52%, 45%, and 45%, respectively).



Figure 14. Educational Attainment by Ethnicity, 2020

*Note: Other includes American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Two+ Races (Non-Hispanic).

Table 7 and Figure 15 show the projected trends in educational attainment by ethnicity. Across all groups, there is a projected growth in the number of those receiving college degrees, with Others, Hispanics, and Asians anticipating the largest growth rates. In comparison, all but Asians are expected to see a decline in the rate of those attaining Less than High School Diploma.

Table 7. Trend in Educational Attainment, by Ethnicity

	2015			2020			2025 (projected)		
	< High School	High School Diploma	College Degree	< High School	High School Diploma	College Degree	< High School	High School Diploma	College Degree
Asian	214,162	550,215	971,021	212,079	556,737	1,119,289	214,564	574,315	1,239,435
Black or African-American	88,999	441,106	275,243	83,084	441,715	317,608	77,615	439,419	342,979
Hispanic	1,891,925	1,997,419	778,408	1,797,902	2,301,943	1,000,307	1,757,903	2,546,394	1,161,966
White	249,498	1,872,984	2,117,641	203,647	1,688,078	2,199,111	166,961	1,544,071	2,215,858
Other	40,685	114,088	89,152	35,197	123,066	114,282	33,708	132,344	134,789
American Indian/Alaskan Native	9,140	16,633	7,136	8,008	16,939	7,960	7,280	16,933	8,340
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	4,647	17,358	7,840	3,045	18,181	10,460	2,496	18,255	11,860
Two or More Races	26,898	80,097	74,176	24,144	87,946	95,863	23,931	97,155	114,590
Total	2,485,270	4,975,812	4,231,464	2,331,910	5,111,540	4,750,597	2,250,751	5,236,542	5,095,028

Figure 15. Projected Percent Change in Educational Attainment by Ethnicity, 2020 to 2025



*Note: Other includes American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Two+ Races (Non-Hispanic).

Summary

The majority of the population in the region has obtained at least an Associate degree or higher, which is often the minimum level of entry education for jobs. Historically, Asians and Whites have been more likely to obtain college degrees, while Black or African Americans, Hispanics, and other ethnicities have been more likely to obtain high school diplomas. Projections indicate, however, growth in college degree recipients across people of all ethnicities within the next five years, while a decline in the rate of those attaining Less than High School Diploma across all groups, with the exception of Asians.