

Introduction

Designated as one of "America's Most Livable Communities," the City of Riverside offers a highly educated and skilled workforce, lower land and facility costs for businesses, reliable City-owned municipal utilities, exceptional quality of life, affordable housing, and ease of access to transportation. The City is a rapidly growing urban center with 308,511 residents, currently ranked as the twelfth largest city in California and the sixth largest city in Southern California. Riverside is the largest city in, and is at the center of, the region known as the Inland Empire. With a population of over 4.2 million, the Inland Empire is ranked between Detroit and Phoenix as the 12th largest metropolitan statistical area in the United States by the U.S. Census Bureau, and is one of the fastest growing regions in the country.

Riverside was named by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) as the most Intelligent Community of the year 2012 for its excellence in many of the key markers of success in the 21st century, including: high technology, workforce development, digital inclusion, arts, innovation, collaboration and social capital. Possessing a clear vision of the future, Riverside will continue to lead in the social and economic growth of the Inland Empire.

With a current student population of approximately 60,000, the City is home to four internationally recognized colleges and universities, including the prestigious University of California, Riverside. The City is located approximately 60 miles east of Downtown Los Angeles and is centrally placed within a short distance from the Coachella Valley, San Bernardino Mountains, Southern California beaches, and Ontario International Airport.

Heritage

Founded in 1870 by John North and a group of Easterners who wished to establish a colony dedicated to furthering education and culture, Riverside was built on land that was once a Spanish rancho. Investors from England and Canada transplanted traditions and activities adopted by prosperous citizens: the first golf course and polo field in Southern California were built in Riverside. The first orange trees were planted in 1871, but the citrus industry in Riverside began two years later when Eliza Tibbets received two Brazilian navel orange trees from the Department of Agriculture in Washington. The trees thrived in the Southern California climate and the navel orange industry grew rapidly. Within a few years, the

GENERAL STATISTICS Population (2011 estimate) 308.511 Median Age 30.0 Owner Occupied Housing Units 51,185 Renter Occupied Housing Units 40,747 Average Household Income \$69,901 Median Home Price \$209,250 Ethnicity-Persons (by Single Race Classification) 34.0% Hispanic or Latino 56.5% Black or African American 6.9% 7.2% American Indian or Alaska Native 1.1% 5.0%

successful cultivation of the newly discovered navel orange led to a California Gold Rush of a different kind: the establishment of the citrus industry, which is commemorated in the landscapes and exhibits of the California Citrus State Historic Park and the restored packing houses in the Downtown's Marketplace district. By 1882, there were more than half a million citrus trees in California, almost half of which were in Riverside. The development of refrigerated railroad cars and innovative irrigation systems established Riverside as the wealthiest city per capita in the nation by 1895.

As the City prospered, a small guest hotel designed in the popular Mission Revival style grew to become the world-famous Mission Inn, favored by presidents, royalty, and movie stars. Postcards of lush orange groves, swimming pools, and magnificent homes have attracted vacationers and entrepreneurs throughout the years. Many relocated to the warm, dry climate for reasons of health and to escape Eastern winters. Victoria Avenue with its landmark homes serves as a reminder of European investors who settled here.

Riverside's citizens are proud of the City's unique character born of a tradition of careful planning, from the City's carefully laid out historic Mile Square to its 1924 Civic Center designed by the same planner responsible for San Francisco's, Charles Cheney. Through the City's Office of Historic Preservation, Riverside is committed to preserving the past as a firm foundation for the future. Over 100 City Landmarks, 20 National Register Sites, and 2 National Landmarks have been designated by the City Council, all offering enjoyment and education to City residents and visitors. Riverside is fortunate to have a

wealth of sites and buildings that provide a link to the city's past and a strong sense of place. This is the result of the hard work and careful planning of the city's Historic Preservation Program. Created by the City Council in 1969, it identifies and advances the preservation of Riverside's historic neighborhoods, and civic and commercial resources. Examples include the Mission Inn, the Chinatown site, the National Packing House, Citrus Experiment Station, and engineering feats like the Gage Canal. Many of these landmarks are found in the Downtown's Mission Inn Historic District. California's Mission Revival style, born in Riverside, can be seen throughout the City, most notably in the Mission Inn, the Municipal Auditorium, the First Church of Christ Scientist, and the Fox Theater.

The Mission Inn was developed from the Glenwood Tavern, owned by Captain Christopher Columbus Miller, who moved to Riverside in 1874 to survey land for the Gage Canal, which brought water to Riverside. His son Frank developed a lasting interest in culture and the arts and took over the expansion of the Inn. Over the years he embellished and expanded it into a unique resort known all over the world. It has played host to numerous movie stars, musicians, and heads of state. Ronald and Nancy Reagan honeymooned there, and Richard and Pat Nixon were married on its grounds. Teddy Roosevelt planted a tree in its courtyard, and a special chair, built for President William Howard Taft when he visited, is still in the Inn's collection.

Many of Riverside's historic buildings are open to the public including the Catherine Bettner home, restored and renamed the Heritage House, which is open for tours. The Riverside Art Museum was designed by America's most successful woman architect, Julia Morgan, famous for William Randolph Hearst's Castle in San Simeon. It was originally constructed for the YWCA on land donated by Frank Miller. Benedict Castle was built as a private residence by Henry Jekel and is now occupied by Teen Challenge. It is available for special events and filming as are many of Riverside's historic homes and neighborhoods.

The unique City Raincross Symbol is derived from combining a replica of the mass bell used by Father Junipero Serra, missionary priest and founder of the California Missions, and the cross to which the Navajo and Central American Indians prayed for rain. Called the "Raincross" symbol, it was designed for the Mission Inn and given to the city by Frank Miller. The Raincross

symbol has been identified with Riverside since 1907. Variations of the symbol are used extensively throughout Riverside in architecture, street signs and lighting standards, and it is used on the City flag. Playing on the nostalgia for the state's Spanish heritage and the romanticized images of the missions and the Indians portrayed by Helen Hunt Jackson in her novels, Miller, Matthew Gage, the Sunkist Cooperative, the Santa Fe Railroad, and other city boosters worked together to market Riverside as a Spanish Mediterranean Mecca. Riverside's climate and landscapes continue to evoke this Mediterranean paradise. There is a strong community support for historic preservation for a city that reveres its past and has built on that firm foundation.

Demographics

A city is defined by its assets, the most important one being the people that populate it and work within its boundaries. Riverside is distinctly proud of its highly diverse, sophisticated, and civic-minded people, and of its sense of place and legacy. The City has carefully planned for growth while preserving local history, being cognizant of both the citrus-based past and the modern future.

Housing, Workforce, and Job Growth

With a median single family home price of \$209,250 in 2012, compared to \$450,000 in Orange County and \$325,000 in Los Angeles County, Riverside draws many families pursuing the American Dream. Young couples and on-the-go professionals are also drawn by the City's many affordable condos.

CITY GROWTH

	Assessed		Area in Square
Fiscal Year	Valuation	Population	Miles
1950/51	60,011,450	46,399	39.20
1960/61	141,284,070	84,332	43.59
1970/71	296,720,661	144,208	71.52
1980/81	762,896,817	172,100	72.04
1990/91	7,526,810,287	228,500	77.04
2000/01	9,938,549,225	265,684	77.77
2002/03	11,619,226,280	269,402	77.77
2003/04	12,497,525,559	274,100	78.50
2004/05	13,725,524,177	283,247	80.00
2005/06	14,614,159,212	287,820	80.13
2006/07	16,395,628,541	291,398	80.96
2007/08	17,961,416,425	296,842	81.53
2008/09	18,243,465,915	300,430	81.53
2009/10	16,840,575,000	304,051	81.51
2010/11	16,396,996,178	306,779	81.51
2011/12	16,342,830,000	308,511	81.51

Businesses are taking advantage of Riverside's lower land cost, strategic location, and established transportation networks as a key portal for the movement of goods and services between the greater Los Angeles area and the rest of North America. The City is home to major industries such as advanced manufacturing, health and medical services, and retail and professional firms. As the region's largest city and the county seat of California's fourth largest county (Riverside County), legal and government services also are a significant presence.

Also reflecting its evolution as a high-technology community, a Citywide free wireless network benefits residents and merchants by providing free access to the Internet throughout the City. Through the City's SmartRiverside nonprofit, qualified low income families throughout the City are provided with free computers with wireless internet access and computer training through its Digital Inclusion program. To date, nearly 6,000 families have benefitted from this important program.

Population, Household Income, and Retail Sales

Centered in one of the nation's fastest-growing regions, Riverside has grown steadily in recent years both in area and population. Between fiscal years 2000/01 and 2011/12, the City's population has increased by over 15%, reflecting nearly a 6% per year growth rate. Similarly, the City has grown through annexations to more than 81 square miles during the same period. Currently, the City's population is approximately 308,511.

Riverside is now Southern California's third largest suburban retail center with \$4.8 billion in annual sales. The City has become a magnet for high-end retail establishments, reflecting the changing demographics in the City.

TOP TEN MAJOR EMPLOYERS

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County of Riverside 11,100 Employ	ees
Riverside Unified School District 5,600 Employ	ees
University of California, Riverside 5,600 Employ	ees
Kaiser Hospital 4,500 Employ	ees
City of Riverside 2,700 Employ	ees
Riverside Community College District 2,100 Employ	ees
Riverside Community Hospital 1,900 Employ	ees
Alvord Unified School District 1,700 Employ	ees
Riverside County Office of Education 1,600 Employ	ees
Parkview Community Hospital 1,400 Employ	ees

Riverside has a zone of influence that has encompassed some 346,000 shoppers in 2012.

While the City's roster of upscale stores is diverse, Riverside retailers have one thing in common: success. Official sales numbers from such popular outlets as California Pizza Kitchen, Trader Joe's and Panera Bread Company have shown that these Riverside locations are consistently among the best performing in their district, region, or chain.

PERMANENT ATTRACTIONS

Entertainment/Places to Go

Downtown

Mount Rubidoux

UCR Botanical Gardens

California Citrus State Historic Park

Galleria at Tyler

Riverside Plaza

Castle Park Theme Park

Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park

Jensen-Alvarado Ranch

Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center

Historic Landmarks

Fox Performing Arts Center

Mission Inn Hotel & Spa

Heritage House

Harada House

Riverside County Courthouse

First Congregational Church

Universalist-Unitarian Church

Benedict Castle

Victoria Avenue

Parent Washington Naval Orange Tree

California Citrus State Historic Park

De Anza Crossing of the Santa Ana River

Performing Arts

Riverside Municipal Auditorium

Riverside County Philharmonic

Riverside Community Players

Riverside Master Chorale

Riverside Comm. College Civic Light Opera

California Riverside Ballet

Museums

Riverside Metropolitan Museum

Riverside Art Museum

UCR/California Museum of Photography

UCR Sweeney Art Gallery

Brandstater Galley - La Sierra University

March Air Field Museum

Mission Inn Museum

Riverside International Automotive Museum

The Galleria at Tyler, one of the region's most successful retail centers, recently enhanced with a 200,000-square-foot expansion accommodating the growing demand for retail and entertainment options.

Tourism and Major Events

The City of Riverside is a focal point for tourism in the Inland Empire. The Riverside tourism industry is supported by the Riverside Convention Center and a variety of local hotels, such as the historic Mission Inn Hotel & Spa. An assortment of historical landmarks, performing arts centers, museums, shops, restaurants, and places of entertainment are available for visitors to explore. Besides the many permanent attractions available to visitors, Riverside is also host to many annual events.

The City's Arts & Cultural Affairs Division has created several popular arts and entertainment activities, including the Downtown Farmers Market, held every Saturday, where shoppers can purchase fresh organic produce and beautiful flowers while enjoying chef demonstrations; and an expanded annual Festival of Lights with family-friendly activities and entertainment surrounded by the nation's second largest holiday lighting display.

Transportation

The City of Riverside is strategically situated among major transportation links. Included in these links are major highways, commuter train stations, and airports. With its proximity to ports, railroads, and freeways, Riverside is on the way to establishing itself as a leader in Southern California's international trade economy. Also contributing to the City's emergence as a logistics hub is the March Global Port – formerly March Air Force base. The March Global Port is home to air cargo facilities as well as an expansive foreign trade zone (FTZ), where products and goods can be stored duty free. Most firms participating in the FTZ program save hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. It should come as no surprise that Riverside is viewed by many as the economic engine of the Inland Empire.

Freeway Access

The City of Riverside can be accessed via Interstates 215 and 15 from the north and south, and via the 91 and 60 freeways from the east and west. Through these connections, the City is connected to Southern California's freeway network, providing easy access to Los Angeles,

San Diego, Orange County, the Coachella Valley, and beyond.

Bus and Taxi Service

Riverside has a modern downtown transit terminal served by Greyhound Trailways Lines, the Southern California Rapid Transit District, and the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA). Private charter bus companies and taxicab services are also available. The RTA provides fixed route bus service throughout a 2,500 square mile area in Western Riverside County, including within the City of Riverside. Additionally, the City's Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department provides special transportation for seniors 60 years of age or older and those with disabilities.

Passenger/Commuter and Freight Railroad Service

For rail travelers and commuters, the Metrolink system offers a network of commuter trains that connect Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Bernardino, Ventura, and Kern Counties. The Metrolink system has two stations in the City, the Downtown (near Mission Inn Avenue and Park Avenue) and La Sierra (near La Sierra Avenue and Indiana Avenue) Stations. From these stations, travelers can reach almost any Southern California Metrolink destination in a short time, as well as connect to Amtrak trains. An Amtrak station is also located in the downtown area.

The BNSF Railway and Union Pacific Railroad lines run through the City, providing dependable daily freight service to Riverside businesses. Reciprocal switching agreements exist between the companies.

MAJOR EVENTS IN RIVERSIDE

Every Saturday (8 a.m. - 1 p.m.) **Downtown Farmers Market** Festival of Lights Annual, December Lunar New Year Festival Annual, January Martin Luther King Walk-A-Thon Annual, January Dickens Festival Annual, February Riverside Airshow Annual, March / April Riverside International Film Festival Annual, April Salute to Veterans Parade Annual, April Smithsonian Week Annual, May Arts Festival Annual, June Fourth of July Celebrations Annual, July Riverside Opera Camp Annual, Summer Family Village Festival Annual, September Riverside Ghost Walk Annual, October

Airports Offering Passenger and Cargo Service

Located just 16 miles northwest of Riverside, Ontario International Airport provides passenger service to cities all over the world, as well as highly accessible cargo service. Commuter services are also available at the airport. Several major airfreight carriers, as well as AeroMexico Airlines, Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Continental Airlines, Delta Airlines, Great Lakes Airlines, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, and US Airways, serve Ontario. In addition, within approximately one hour's drive of the City are the Los Angeles International, John Wayne (Orange County), Bob Hope (Burbank), and Palm Springs International Airports.

Riverside Airport

The City boasts its own airport, which has been serving the community for over 50 years. Originally designated as the Arlington Airport, Riverside Airport has been transformed from a single, dirt runway airfield serving light aircraft into a corporate aviation and business facility unique in its varied services to the Inland Empire. Today, Riverside's main runway of 5,400 feet, as well as its second, cross-wind runway, serve the daily needs of small aircraft, business jets, cargo aircraft, and helicopters.

Infrastructure

Cities must provide the critical facilities that enable their inhabitants to live, work, and play. As many Southern California cities are creating new "downtowns," Riverside is fortunate to have an established core area characterized by unique, independently-owned fine dining establishments and eclectic shopping options, made all the more attractive by modern touches. Downtown Riverside is truly defined by charm, history, commerce, and entertainment.

One of the prominent goals of the City's recently completed \$1.5 billion investment in infrastructure and public facilities – the Riverside Renaissance Initiative – was to protect and enhance these distinctive elements of the downtown. Capital projects included expansion of the Riverside Convention Center, renovation of the Main Street Pedestrian Mall, and restoration of the historic Fox Theatre into a state of the art performing arts center. The Fox Performing Arts Center, opened in January 2010, is drawing more people downtown for first class entertainment, on par with what Los Angeles audiences see at top theaters.

In addition, private development is anticipated to add nearly 1,000 upscale residential lofts, condos, and townhouses, as well as retail space and additional Class A office space over the next five years, as evidenced by the recently completed six-floor Citrus Tower office development. One of the most important developments is the transformation of a two-block area in the downtown, known as the Fox Plaza, into a vibrant urban village and business district with residential and commercial components. Specifically, the \$200-million development will include luxury condominiums, prime retail space, and a 125-room Hyatt Place hotel. The first phase of Fox Plaza, including the hotel, was recently completed.

In addition to the downtown projects, citywide infrastructure improvements have been made, including the rehabilitation of many existing parks, recreation facilities, and community centers, as well as the addition of new facilities to serve the growing community. New library facilities have been completed including the Orange Terrace, Arlanza, and Marcy branches, and the Arlington Library has recently been significantly expanded. Public safety enhancements include the addition of several new fire stations and improvements to existing stations. The City has also recently remodeled existing Police Department facilities and opened the Magnolia Station. With the conclusion of the Riverside Renaissance Initiative, the City is continuing to invest in infrastructure and public facilities to ensure that Riverside remains one of the best places to live and work in Southern California.

Reliable municipal utility service is important to residents and businesses alike. Public utility projects include three new water reservoirs, a new electric power plant, a new connection to the power grid, service upgrades, and a new water treatment plant. To keep Riverside on the move, the City has undertaken multiple railroad grade separation projects, several improved freeway interchanges, and citywide beautification projects that have or will widen and/or repave numerous City streets, repair or add sidewalks, and enhance medians with landscape improvements.

PUBLIC WORKS

Miles of Paved Streets	870
Tons of Residential Refuse Budgeted for Collection:	
Recycling	20,338 tons
Green Waste	49,737 tons
Trash	75,476 tons
Tons of Commercial Refuse Budgeted for Collection:	
Recycling	19,178 tons
Green Waste	2,508 tons
Trash	139,212 tons
Signalized Intersections Maintained	365
Gallons of Sewage Treated (in millions)	40

PUBLIC SAFETY

Number of Swom Police Officers	363
Police Vehicles	350
Motorcycles	20
Police Dogs	6
Helicopters	4
Police Stations & Storefronts	7
Fire Stations	14
Fire Hydrants	7,039
Fire Apparatus'	40
Training/Emergency Operations Center	1
Urban Search and Rescue Team Task Force 6	1

LIBRARIES

Number of Libraries	8
Library Customers	300,000
Library Books	600,000
Audio-Visual Materials	51,751
Annual Circulation	1,230,000
Annual Attendance in Library	1,142,583
Number of Public Access Computers	235
Users of Public Access Computers	268,272
Free Programs/Events	1,409
Programs/Events Attendance	65,103
Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) Searches	1,195,683

PARKS, RECREATION, & COMMUNITY SERVICES

	Number of Parks	59	
	Number of Community Centers	10	
	Number of Senior Centers	2	
	Number of Social Service Centers	2	
	Number of Child Care Centers	4	
	Number of Gyms	8	
	Gross Acres Maintained	2,891	
	Public Swimming Pools	7	
	Splash Pads	5	
	Playgrounds	41	
	Softball/Baseball Diamonds	52	
	Soccer/Football Fields	182	
	Public Golf Courses	1	
	Tennis Courts	25	
	Basketball Courts	53	
	Skate Park Areas	2	
/			1

RIVERSIDE AREA SCHOOLS

Number of School Districts	2
Elementary Schools	40
Middle Schools	10
High Schools	8
Colleges and Universities	4

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Miles of Water Mains	1,289
Number of Meters in Service	64,349
Total City Water Consumption (Gallons)	19,258,097,672
Total Kilowatts Used by Customers	2,128,000
Number of Electric Meters	106,855

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