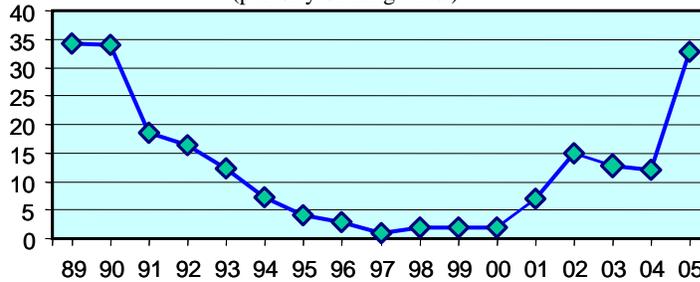


# Indian Wells Valley Statistics

## Economic Indicators

### Ridgecrest Building Permits

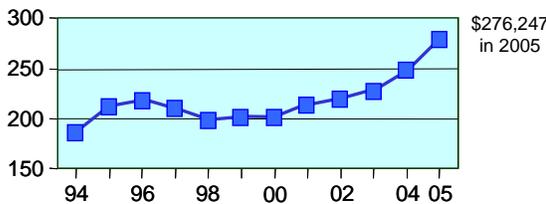
Value of Building Permits, \$M by Year  
(per City of Ridgecrest)



The economic slump of the 1990s and the recovery of recent years are vividly illustrated by changes in the value of Ridgecrest's building permits, with the most dramatic upswing in 2006. The total for the first seven months of 2006 is \$20,510,273.

### Ridgecrest Taxable Retail Sales

\$K by Year  
(per California State Board of Equalization and MuniServices Co.)



According to the U.S. Census, 8 percent of Ridgecrest homes were vacant in 1990, with 13.1 percent vacant in 2000. Since that time, homes have rented and sold so well that the vacancy rate has declined to almost nothing.

### Ridgecrest Home Sales

Average Sale, \$K by Year  
(per Ridgecrest Area Assoc. of Realtors, Inc.)



## Valley Population

### 2000 Census: 27,772

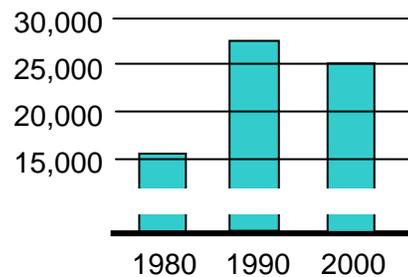
Ridgecrest ..... 24,927  
China Lake Acres ..... 1,761  
Inyokern ..... 984

### 1990 Census: 36,879

Ridgecrest ..... 27,725  
China Lake Acres and Inyokern were not counted as separate census areas. The total for the 93555, 93556, and 93527 zip codes was given as 36,879.

### Ridgecrest Population

per U.S. Census



Information compiled by **Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce**

128-B East California Avenue, Ridgecrest, CA 93555

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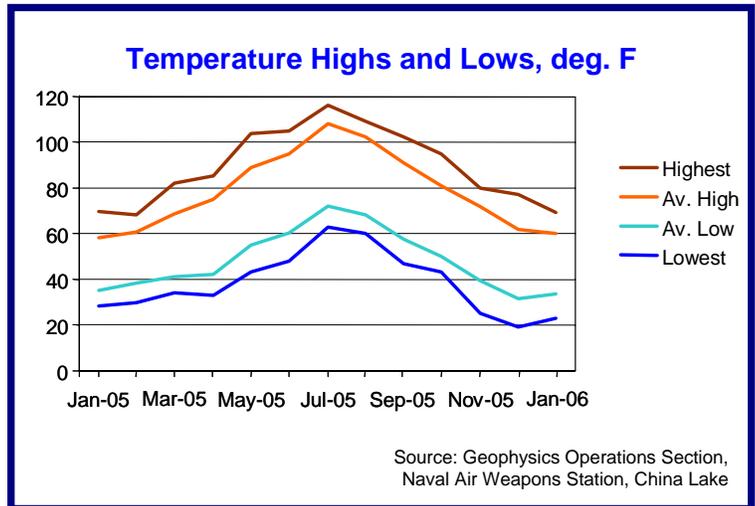
## Climate

Our climate is dry, with mild temperatures most of the year. In the summer it does get hot. Over the past 10 years, an average of 4½ inches of rain has fallen each year. The chart at right shows the high and low temperature for each month, as well as the average high and the average low per month.



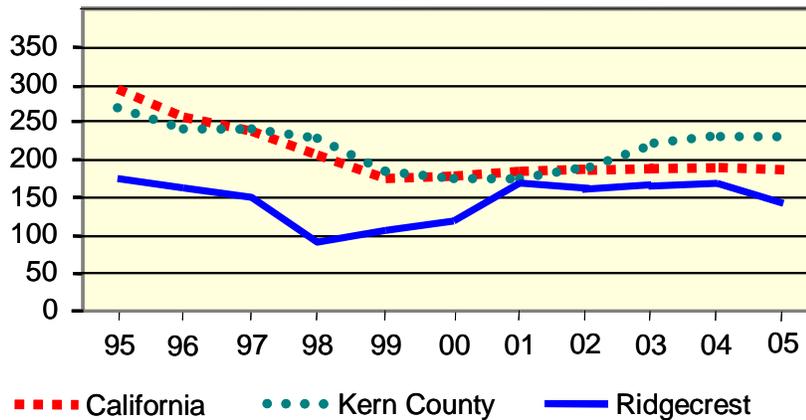
Our valley has an average of 260 cloud-free days a year – better than the rest of the country, even sites in Texas, which average only about 180-200 cloud-free days a year.

Source: Bennett Optical Research



## Crime Rate

### Crimes per 10,000 Residents



Crimes included in the statistics charted at left are willful homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, and motor-vehicle theft. Not included in these statistics are simple assault, arson, and larceny. These statistics match those kept nationwide by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Statistics for the 20<sup>th</sup> century are available at the California Criminal Justice Statistics Center (<http://caag.state.ca.us/cjisc/>), but the center is now revising the way it keeps crime statistics in an effort to make them more consistent.

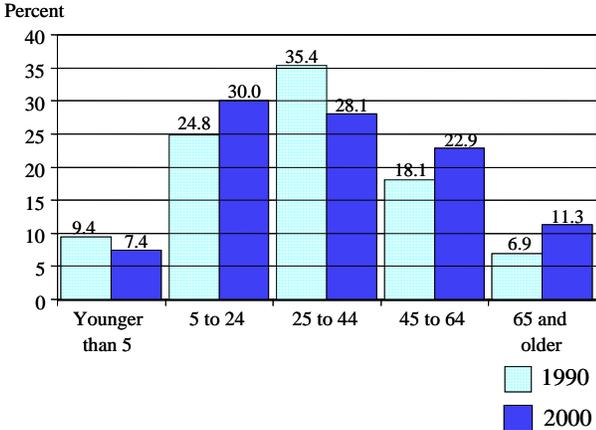
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# Age Groups and Ethnicity

**Ridgecrest Population by Age Group**  
per U.S. Census



**Ethnicity, Ridgecrest Population**  
Percent per Ethnic Group,  
According to U.S. Census

Ethnic Group	1990	2000
White	84.2	76.5
Hispanic/Latino	7.9	12.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.9	4.0
Black	3.1	3.5
Other	0.2	2.9

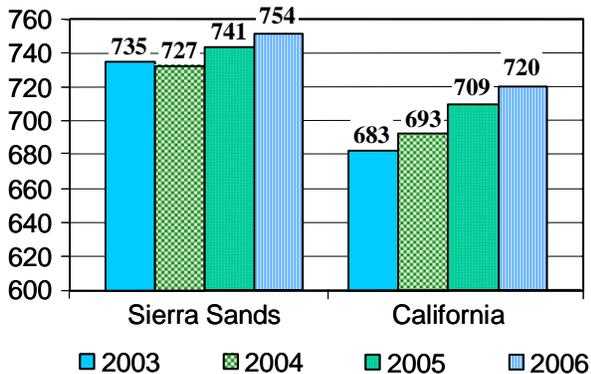
\*The 2000 census allowed the choice of more than one ethnic group, a choice not available in 1990.

The October 2005 ethnic data for Sierra Sands Unified School district indicates that the percentage of nonwhite ethnic groups is growing within the district. The white population in the school district has declined from 76.3 percent in 1999 to 65 percent today, with the Hispanic population increasing to 14 percent and the black population increasing to 7 percent.

## Education

**Academic Performance Index, 2003-06**  
Per California Department of Education

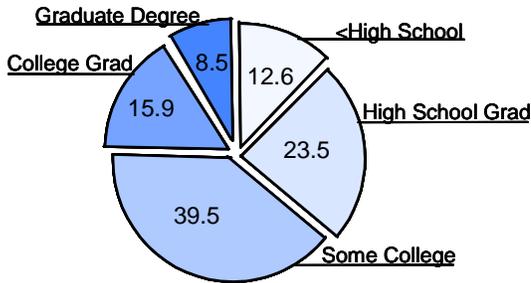
**Comparison of Scores for Sierra Sands Unified School Dist. and California Schools**



**Sources:** Sierra Sands Unified School District and California Dept. of Education

**Educational Levels, 25 & Older**

Percent per category  
per 2000 U.S. Census



**SAT Scores, 2005**  
**Burroughs High School**

	Average verbal score	Average math score
Burroughs	523	536
California	504	522
U.S.	508	520

## Major Employers

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Employer	Type of Business	No. of Employees
Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake and Tenant Commands	Defense RDT&E	3,251 (civilian) 951 (military)
Searles Valley Minerals	Mining of Soda Ash Products	625
Sierra Sands Unified School District	Education	620
Ridgecrest Regional Hospital	Acute-Care Hospital	340
Wyle Laboratories	Defense Contractor	280
SA-Tech (Systems Applications & Technologies)	Defense Contractor	187
Wal-Mart	Discount Department Store	184
Cerro Coso Community College	Education	175
AltaOne Federal Credit Union	Credit Union	161
Desert Area Resources and Training	Training and Social Services	155
City of Ridgecrest	Municipality	134
Drummond Medical Group	Medical Clinic	125
Jacobs Naval Systems Group	Defense Contractor	120
Ridgecrest HealthCare Center	Convalescent Hosp., Rehab.	118
Titan National Security Solutions/EC3	Range Technical Support	111
Lockheed Martin	Defense Contractor	110
Albertson's (two stores)	Grocery Store	100
L-3 Communications, Govt. Services, Inc.	Defense Contractor	95
DCS Corporation (2 offices)	Defense Contractor	90
Carriage Inn	Hotel	80
Coso Operating Co.	Geothermal Power Production	80
Kmart	Discount Department Store	80
Immanuel Baptist Church, Ministry Cntr, School	Church and School	80
The Home Depot	Retail Home Improvement	75
New Directions Technologies Inc.	Network Systems Administration	75
Mervyn's	Department Store	74
Stater Bros.	Grocery Store	60
CR Briggs, Inc.	Mining	60
Heritage Inn and Suites	Hotel and Restaurant	54
Staples, Inc.	Office Supply Store	50
Computer Technology Associates, Inc.	Engineering/Computing Services	30

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