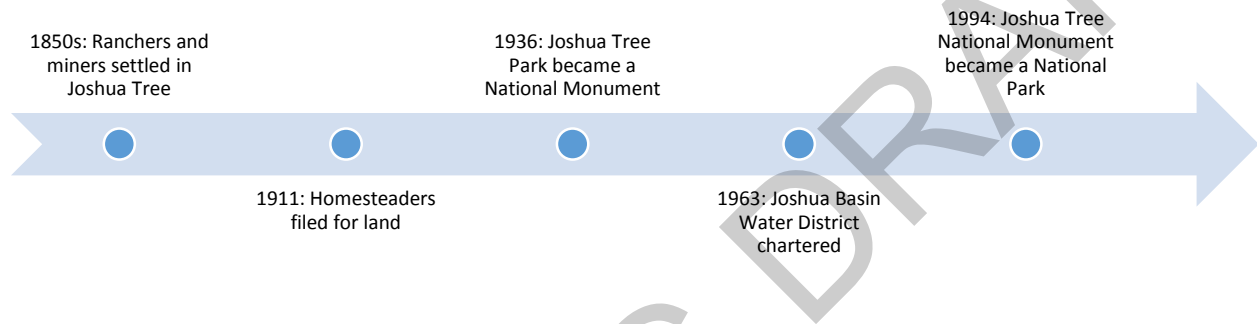


Community Profile

Overview

The community profile is a summary of the social, cultural, economic, and historic dimensions of the community. It is a gathering of objective data collected through secondary sources meant to inform and help facilitate discussion during the community meetings. The profile, together with future studies and information gathered from residents during the community meetings, will highlight essential facets and “tell the story” of the Joshua Tree community.

History



Originally settled by the Serrano tribe, Joshua Tree was populated by ranchers and miners in the 1850s. The earliest connections to the Joshua Tree area came by way of an access route to the Mojave Basin (now known as Twentynine Palms Highway) and the Hi-Desert Airport (now known as Roy Williams Airport). Joshua Tree Park was established as a National Monument in 1936 and attracted visitors from around the region. At the end of World War II, cabins, homes, and commercial buildings were built throughout the desert. In 1994, the Joshua Tree National Monument was elevated to a National Park when Congress passed the California Desert Protection Act. Today it attracts over a million visitors a year.

Source(s) National Parks Service, Wikipedia, Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce, 2007 Joshua Tree Community Plan

Location & Geography

Joshua Tree is located in the Mojave Desert near San Bernardino County’s southern border with Riverside County. Surrounding cities include Yucca Valley to the west and Twentynine Palms to the east.

According to the US Census Bureau, Joshua Tree encompasses a total land area of 37 square miles.

Source(s): US Census Bureau, Wikipedia, ESRI



Figure 1: Joshua Tree Location

Source(s): ESRI, San Bernardino County LUS

Key Census Data

Category	Muscoy		San Bernardino County		California		United States	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Population								
Total Population	9,122		2,078,586		38,066,920		314,107,084	
2020 Population Forecast	9,009 (-1.1%)		2,227,066 (+7.1%)		40,619,346 (+6.7%)		334,503,000 (+6.5%)	
Total Households	3,881		607,604		12,617,280		116,211,092	
Average Household Size	2.31		3.34		2.95		2.63	
Median Age	41.0		32.2		35.6		37.4	
Education								
High School Diploma	1,863	28.5%	330,613	26.3%	5,153,257	20.7%	58,440,600	27.95%
Education Past High School	1,488	22.8%	417,953	33.3%	7,400,714	29.8%	60,821,634	29.1%
Bachelor Degree or Higher	1,163	17.8%	336,315	26.8%	7,708,909	31.0%	61,206,147	29.3%
Housing								
Total Dwelling Units	5,352	n/a	703,737	n/a	13,781,929	n/a	132,741,033	n/a
Homeowner Occupied Units	2,368	44.2%	370,032	52.58%	6,908,925	50.1%	74,787,460	56.3%
Renter Occupied Units	1,513	28.3%	237,572	33.76%	5,708,355	41.4%	41,423,632	32.2%
Vacancy*	1,471	27.5%	96,133	13.7%	1,164,649	8.5%	16,529,941	12.5%
Median Year Structure Built	1975	n/a	1976	n/a	1974	n/a	1976	n/a
Income								
Median Household Income	\$30,433	n/a	\$54,100	n/a	\$61,489	n/a	\$53,482	n/a
Persons Below Poverty Level	1,029	15.7%	199,451	12.7%	3,354,518	11.2%	26,235,361	10.6%
Employed	2,284	79.8%	812,707	86.1%	16,890,442	89.0%	143,435,233	90.2%
Unemployed	578	20.2%	131,293	13.9%	2,084,564	12.3%	14,504,781	9.2%
Note: N/A indicates that the data is not available; n/a indicates that the category is not applicable								
*This figure may include seasonal households								

Table 1: Key Census Data

Source(s): 2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates and ESRI

Community Structure (Physical Characteristics)

The Joshua Tree area consists primarily of residential land uses, ranging from single-family houses on large lots to mobile homes and multi-family apartment buildings. The small commercial and industrial district of the Joshua Tree Community is located along Twentynine Palms Highway (State Route [SR] 62.)

Joshua Tree contains a network of primary and secondary roadways ranging from two to four lanes. Some privately owned roads are unpaved and contain

few pedestrian amenities, such as sidewalks or bicycle lanes, leading to a Walk Score rating of 0 out of 100 in most of the residential areas and scores of 25–50 in the commercial core at Park Boulevard and SR 62.

Public transportation includes the Morongo Basin Transit Authority (MBTA) 1 and 12/15 routes, as well as a Ready Ride service provided by the MBTA.

Source(s): Google Earth, County of San Bernardino Zoning Map, Walkscore.com, Morongo Basin Transit Authority, County of San Bernardino Existing Conditions Report, January 2016

Community Existing Land Use

Joshua Tree is a 59,850-acre community containing eleven distinct land uses. Residential is the predominant land use, with rural living and single-family residential uses accounting for a combined 75% (44,192 acres) of the community's land.

Agriculture and resource conservation land is the second largest use, accounting for 21% (12,519 acres).

Land Use Type	Acreage	% of Total Area
Agriculture/Resource Conservation	12,519	21%
Community Industrial	358	1%
Floodway	126	<1%
Institutional	275	<1%
Multiple Residential	893	1%
Open Space	605	1%
Office, Service, and Highway Commercial	148	<1%
Rural, Neighborhood, and General Commercial	409	1%
Rural Living	39,446	66%
Single Residential	4,746	8%
Special Development	325	1%
Joshua Tree Total	59,850	

Table 2: Land Uses by Acreage

Source(s): San Bernardino County Land Use Services

Community Development Organizations

Community Development Organizations		
Friends of Joshua Tree www.friendsofjosh.org/	Joshua Tree Tortoise Rescue www.desertusa.com/reptiles/tortoise-rescue.html	The Village of Joshua Tree – NCHR www.thevillageofjoshuatree-nchr.org/Home_Page.php
Joshua Tree Satsang amma.org/groups/north-America/joshua-tree-ca	Transition Joshua Tree transitionjoshuatree.org/	

Table 3: Community Groups

Community Amenities

Joshua Tree National Park is adjacent to the Joshua Tree Community Plan area and attracts approximately 1.2 million visitors a year. Other services in Joshua Tree include:

Hospitals	Hi-Desert Medical Center
Fire Protection	San Bernardino County Fire Station #36, response times are 4 to 6 minutes
Police	San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Morongo Basin Station
Public Schools	Joshua Tree Elementary School, Friendly Hills Elementary School

Table 3: Community Services

In addition to the two public elementary schools listed above, Joshua Tree also has a private kindergarten (Copper Mountain Head Start) and access to several schools within a few miles of the community boundary in nearby Yucca Valley. These include:

- Yucca Mesa Elementary School
- Onaga Elementary School
- La Contenta Middle School
- Sky High School
- A number of private schools spanning first to twelfth grades.

Source(s): Google Maps, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, 2007 Joshua Tree Community Plan

Topics Important to Quality of Life

Common issues noted in the community include:

- **Land Use:** artist studios/galleries, short-term rentals
- **Public Nuisances:** junk/trash, vacant structures, illegal dumping
- **Recreational Activity:** off-highway vehicles (popular riding areas)

Source(s): San Bernardino County Code Enforcement

Business Services

A 2016 ESRI Community Analyst report showed that Joshua Tree has approximately 235 businesses in 12 different industries. The majority of businesses fall into four categories: services (43 percent); retail trade (16 percent); finance, insurance, and real estate (10 percent); and construction (9 percent). **Chart 1: Top Industries**, displays the top industry types for the Joshua Tree area.

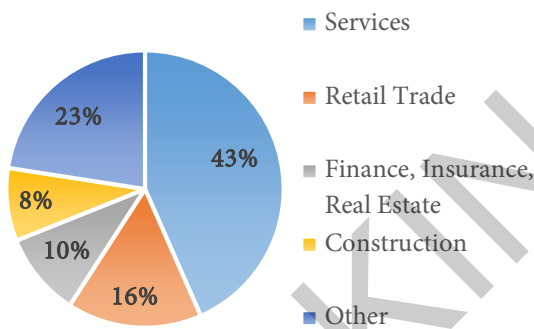


Figure 2: Top Industries

Source(s): 2016 ESRI Community Analyst



Land Use Services Department
(909) 387-8311
<http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Home.aspx>

Community Events

Many of the community events in the area take place in or around Joshua Tree National Park. A full calendar of up-to-date events can be found at www.nps.gov/jotr/planyourvisit/calendar.htm. Some of these events are:

Recreational:

- Cottonwood Canyon Walk
- Junior Ranger Discovery Walk

Cultural:

- 14th Annual Spring Joshua Tree Music Tour Festival
- 11th Annual Fall Joshua Tree Music Festival

Food and Spirits:

- Joshua Tree Commodities Food Distribution

Source(s): Joshua Tree Music Festival, National Parks Service

Public Health Indicators

Several key indicators point to potential issues in Joshua Tree in terms of residents' overall health. Respiratory and heart disease are the top chronic illness concerns. Hospitalization and emergency room rates for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, and heart failure are higher than the median rates in other areas of California.

Source(s): 2016 Healthy San Bernardino County Report, 2016 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Report, Assessing the Needs and Assets of San Bernardino County Families: Joshua Tree + Yucca Valley, First 5 San Bernardino 2015