
Chapter Two: General Information

General Information

Foster City's temperate climate, diverse cultural attractions, beautiful parks, excellent school district, and unique waterfront setting offer a quality of life that is unsurpassed.

Religious Institutions

Foster City is served by a wide range of religious institutions, as listed in the table below:

Table 4: Religious Institutions

Bayside Community Church 1401 Beach Park Boulevard	(650) 345-8992 www.baysidechurch.com
Central Peninsula Church 1005 Shell Boulevard	(650) 349-1132 www.cpcfc.org
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 1000 Shell Boulevard	(650) 341-4374 www.mormon.org www.lds.org
Island United Church 1130 Balclutha Drive	(650) 349-3544 www.iucfc.org
Peninsula Sinai Congregation 499 Boothbay Avenue	(650) 349-2816 www.peninsulasinai.org
St. Ambrose Episcopal Church 900 Edgewater Boulevard	(650) 574-1369 www.stambrosefostercity.org
St. Luke Catholic Church 1111 Beach Park Boulevard	(650) 345-6660 www.saintlukefc.org

Cultural

Arts and Culture Committee is a citizen advisory committee to promote art and culture in the community. Activities include workshops, contests, concerts, and monthly showings in the Museum Gallery located in the Recreation Center at 650 Shell Boulevard.

Foster City Band is comprised of people with diverse backgrounds who share the same love for music. For more information, contact (650) 345-3033.

Foster City Community Chorus is a mixed-voice group offering a variety of musical literature, which also includes folk and popular songs. For more information, contact (650) 513-5522 or info@PeninsulaMusicalArts.org.

Foster City Public Library is located at the corner of 1000 E. Hillsdale and Shell Boulevards in the Library and Community Center. The Library is a branch of the San Mateo County Library. For library hours and library services, contact (650) 574-4842 or www.pls.lib.ca.us.

Hillbarn Theatre located at 1285 East Hillsdale Boulevard presents a variety of community theater productions including musicals, comedies, and dramas. For information, contact (650) 349-6411 or www.hillbarntheatre.org.

Peninsula Jewish Community Center located at 800 Foster City Boulevard offers high-quality, multi-disciplinary arts programming and cultural opportunities. Intimate performances, lectures, art exhibits and workshops, featuring emerging and established artists and thinkers, strive to entertain, educate and enlighten. For more information, contact (650) 212-PJCC or www.pjcc.org.

Community Profile

Viva La Musica! Is a vibrant, 50-voice mixed choir with a classical and multicultural repertoire. The mission of the choir is to provide a vehicle that allows the member participants to strive for and achieve personal musical excellence, and that challenges and delights the audience with a high quality, diverse concert experience. For more information, contact (650) 349-9918 or music@machutch.com.

Annual Community Events

The City is one of the sponsors of two annual community events: the Fourth of July Celebration and the City Birthday Party. The Fourth of July Celebration is an all day event co-sponsored by the Lion's Club and includes fireworks, carnival rides, midway games, demonstrations, and other activities.

The City Birthday Party is held the first weekend in June and is co-sponsored by the Foster City Chamber of Commerce. The Birthday Party includes the Foster City Art and Wine Festival, carnival, midway games, demonstrations, and arts and crafts.

The Parks and Recreation Department offers many other events, classes and activities. During the summer, the Summer Concert Series offers free live music on Friday nights. The Family Fun Series typically includes a Family Fun Concert, a Family Overnighter in one of the City's parks, a Community Bike Ride, a Halloween Celebration and a Tree Lighting Ceremony.

The Community Bike Ride takes place annually on a Sunday in mid-September. The ride consists of three components: a long ride (approximately 11 miles), a short ride (approximately

2.5 miles) and a tot tricycle ride. On average, the bike ride serves 175-225 people each year.

The Halloween Festival is a one-day event held at the Recreation Center with a haunted house available to tour at The VIBE. The Halloween Festival includes games, face painting, arts and crafts, a costume parade with awards, a magic show and food sales, as well as a fully decorated facility.

The Tree Lighting Ceremony occurs annually on the first Wednesday in December to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season. The event takes place at the Recreation Center and includes holiday music performed by a chorus, lighting of a tree on the lagoon, a craft project and visits with Santa for children.

Lagoon events are done in spring, summer and fall seasons. Regular events include the Flight of the Bulls sailing event at the beginning of May and the Head of the Lagoon rowing regatta put on by the Peninsula Aquatics Center Jr. Crew in November.

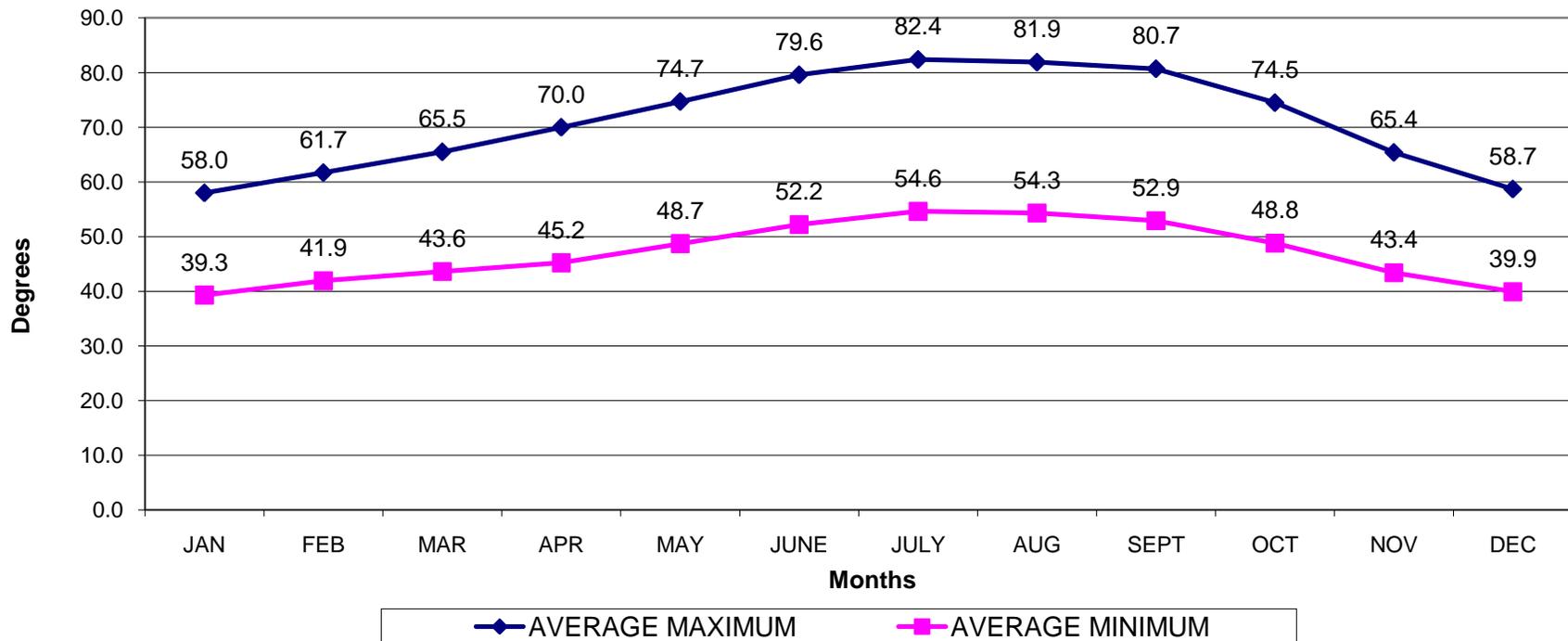
There are many more community events sponsored by the City. See www.fostercity.org and the Leisure Update for more information.

Chapter Two: General Information

Climate

Foster City enjoys a marine-like climate characterized by mild and moderately wet winters and by dry, cool summers. The daily and annual range in temperature is small. A few frosty mornings occur during the winter. Winter temperatures normally rise to the high fifties in the early afternoon.

The summer weather is dominated by a cool sea breeze. Low overcast often occurs for a few hours in the morning. Summer nights are comfortably cool, with minimum temperatures averaging in the fifties. The average minimum and maximum temperature range is 47.1°F to 71.1°F.

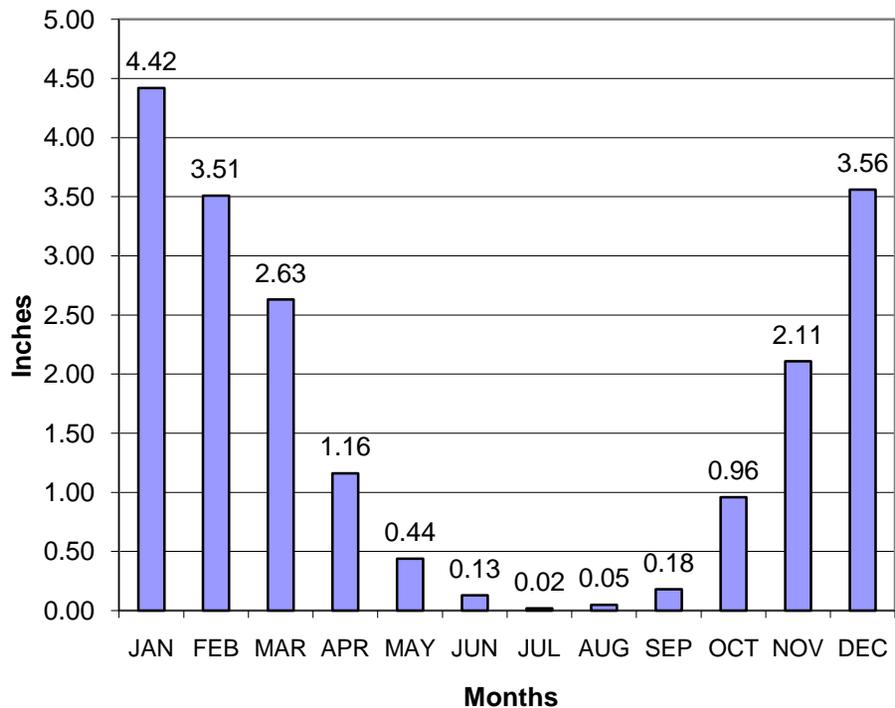


Source: Western Regional Climate Center, 2010

Figure 03: Temperature Averages in Degrees Fahrenheit (1906-2009 Average)

Community Profile

The average rainfall is less than 20 inches per year with the greatest amount occurring in December-February. Wind is from the west-northwest with an average speed of 10.5 miles per hour.



Source: Western Regional Climate Center, 2010

Figure 04: Precipitation Normals in Inches (1906-2009 Average)

Education

There are currently four public schools in Foster City which are under the jurisdiction of the San Mateo-Foster City School District. Foster City is also within the San Mateo Union High School District. Foster City students primarily attend either San Mateo or Hillsdale High Schools located in San Mateo.

Elementary and Middle Schools – Public

Audubon School
841 Gull Avenue
650-312-7500
www.smfc.k12.ca.us/audubon/home.htm

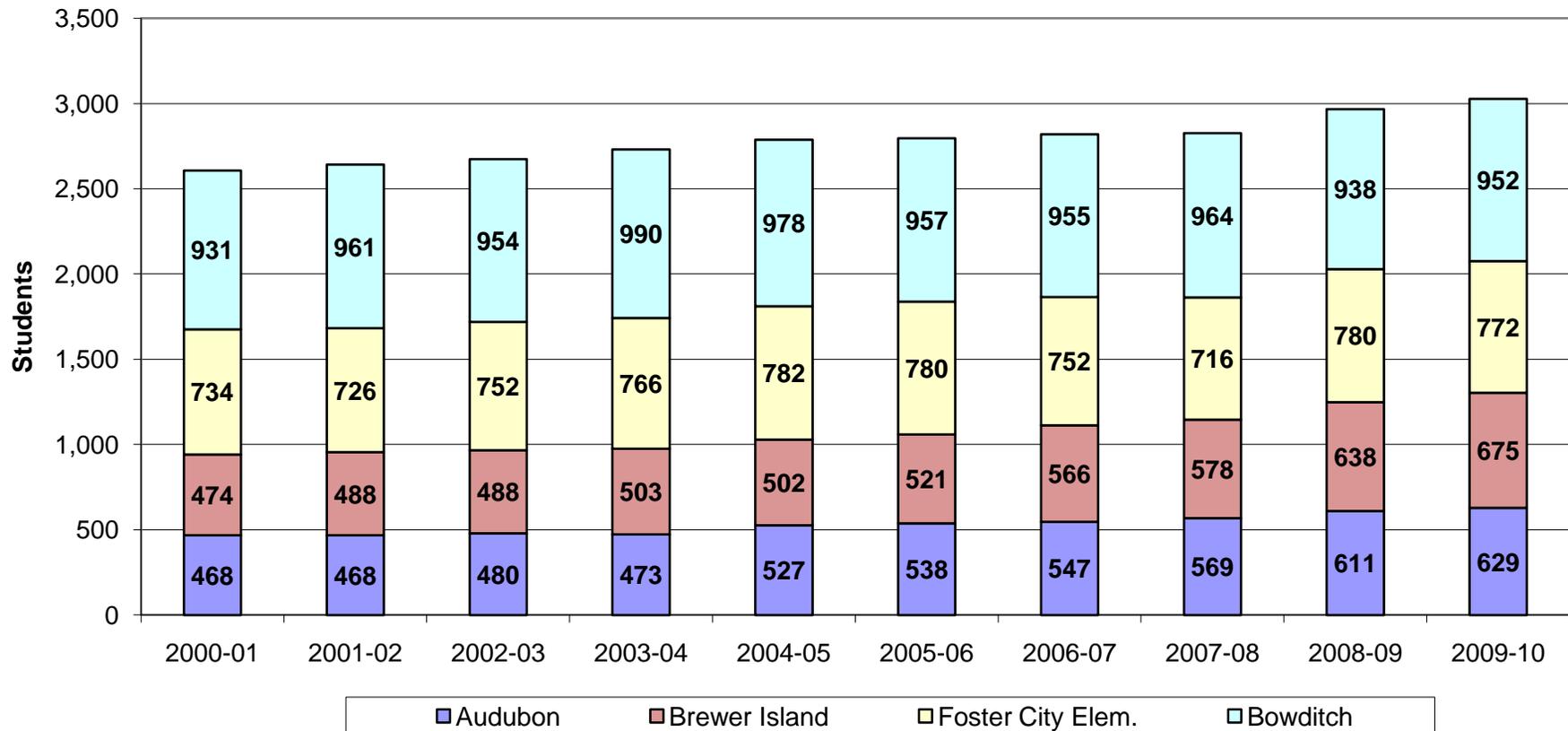
Bowditch Middle School
1450 Tarpon Street
650-312-7680
www.smfc.k12.ca.us/bowditch/

Brewer Island Elementary School
1151 Polynesia Drive
650-312-7532
www.smfc.k12.ca.us/brewer_island/index.htm

Foster City Elementary School
461 Beach Park Boulevard
650-312-7522
www.smfc.k12.ca.us/fostercity/

Chapter Two: General Information

Total public school enrollment has grown steadily over the past ten years, ranging from 2,607 in 2000-01 to 3,028 in 2009-10.



Source: San Mateo-Foster City Elementary School District, 2010

Figure 05: Grades 1-8 Public School Enrollment (2000-01 through 2009-10)

Community Profile

Elementary and Middle Schools – Private

There are two existing private schools, including:

Kids Connection (K-5th grade)
1998 Beach Park Boulevard
650-578-6690
www.kc4us.com

Jewish Day School of the North Peninsula (K-8th grade)
800 Foster City Boulevard
650-591-4438
www.wornickjds.org

There are a multitude of after-school programs for elementary, middle school and high school children provided by the City, the School District or by private program providers.

School Test Results

The Academic Performance Index (API) is the cornerstone of California's Public Schools Accountability Act. The purpose of API is to measure the academic performance and growth of schools. It is a numeric index (or scale) that ranges from a low of 200 to a high of 1000.

The API is calculated by converting a student's performance on statewide assessments across multiple content areas into points on the API scale. These points are then averaged across all students and all tests. The result is the API. An API is calculated for schools, local educational agencies (such as school districts), and for each numerically significant subgroup of students at a school or a local educational agency.

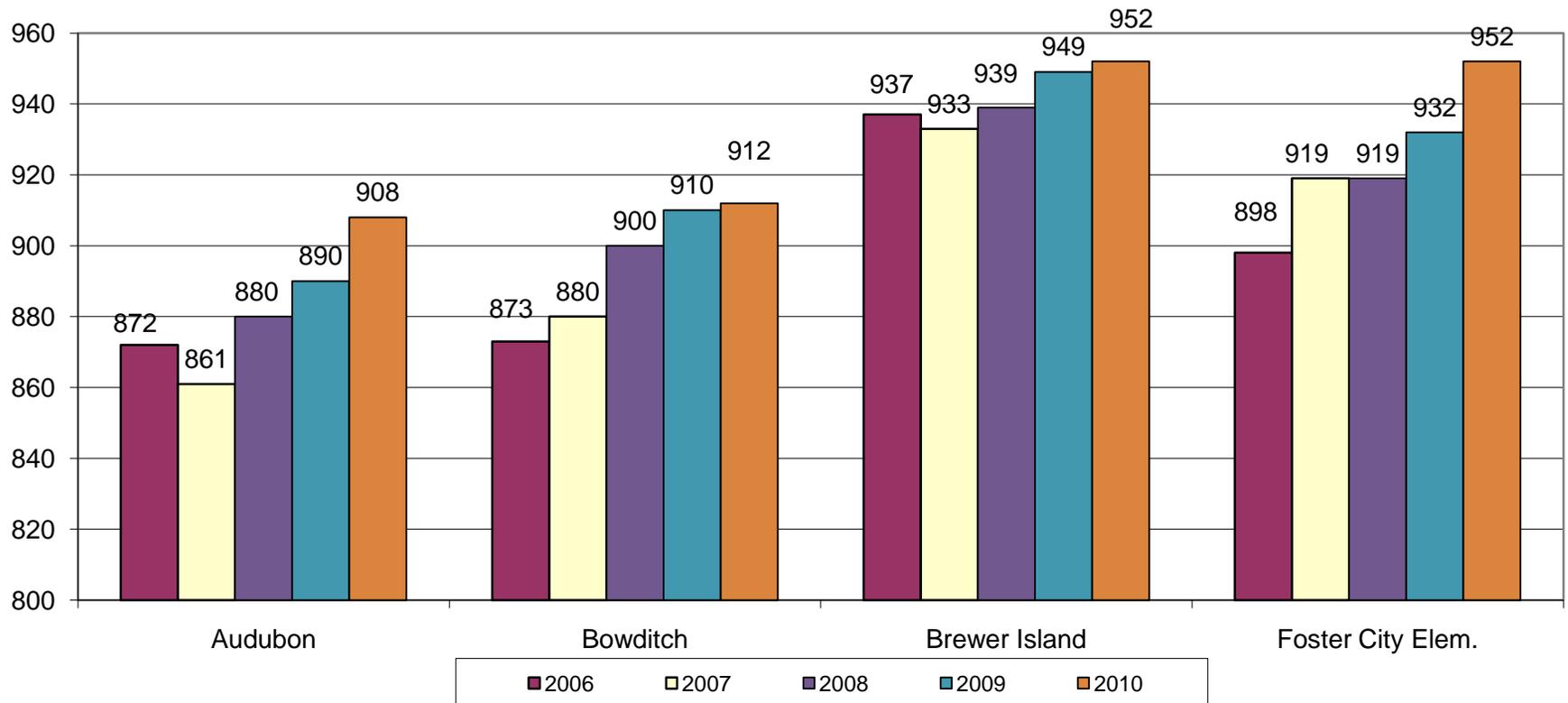
The information that forms the basis for calculating the API comes from the results of the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program and the California High School Exit Examination.

More information is available on the API at: www.cde.ca.gov.

Chapter Two: General Information

Academic Performance Index (API)

The chart below includes the API Base Scores for the four public schools in Foster City. For 2010, the District-wide median score is 846; the statewide median score for grades 2-6 is 800; and the statewide median score for grades 7-8 is 765.



Source: California Department of Education, Policy and Evaluation Division, 2010

Figure 06: API-Academic Performance Index Base Scores (2006-2010)

Community Profile

Child Care Centers

A wide variety of child care services are available, including family-size day care providers located throughout the City in residential areas, after school programs, and part- or full-time day care facilities. The largest day care facilities are listed in Table 5. In addition to these facilities, there are 16 licensed large (for 12 or more children) family day care providers in Foster City as of August 2010. More information is available from the Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo County at www.sanmateo4cs.org or (650) 655-6770. Information regarding state licensing of day care providers is available from the California Department of Social Services. For more information, contact:

California Department of Social Services
Community Care Licensing Division
Child Care Program Office
801 Traeger Avenue Suite 100
San Bruno, CA 94066
Phone: (650) 266-8843
www.cclcd.ca.gov

Table 5: Children’s Day Care Facilities

ALL ARE FRIENDS MONTESSORI SCHOOL 1130 Balclutha Drive www.allarefriends.org	650-266-8843
CHAI PRESCHOOL 499 Boothbay Avenue www.chaischool.com	650-345-2424
CHALLENGE SCHOOL 558 Pilgrim Drive, Suite A www.challengeschool.us	650-574-6878
FOSTER CITY PRE-SCHOOL 1064-F Shell Boulevard www.fostercitypreschool.com	650-341-2041
KIDS CONNECTION 1970 Beach Park Boulevard www.kc4us.com	650-578-9697
KINDERCARE LEARNING CENTERS, INC. 1006 Metro Center Boulevard www.kindercare.com	650-573-6023
LAKEVIEW MONTESSORI 1950 Beach Park Boulevard www.lakeviewmontessori.com	650-578-9532
MARIN DAY SCHOOL-EFI CAMPUS 301 Velocity Way www.marindayschools.org	650-357-4250
PENINSULA JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER PRESCHOOL 800 Foster City Boulevard www.pjcc.org/family/ece/ece-preschool.html	650-378-2670
SEA BREEZE SCHOOL 900 Edgewater Boulevard www.seabreezeschool.com	650-574-5437
