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USC AND SCAG HOST 23RD ANNUAL DEMOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP
“New Trends in California’s Population after the Great Recession: Implications for Workforce, Education and Housing”

LOS ANGELES – May 23, 2011 – The University of Southern California School of Policy, Planning, & Development, in partnership with Southern California Association of Governments, co-hosted the 23rd Annual Demographic Workshop today to explore demographic changes occurring in California and showcase the latest results of the 2010 Census.

Since the last Census in 2000, the SCAG region (which encompasses the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura and Imperial) has grown 9.3% from 16.5 million to just over 18 million. This workshop examined the factors related to growth; housing, ethnicity, education, etc., discussed how they’ve affected (and been affected by) the recession as well as what these numbers mean for our future here in Southern California.

When asked about SCAG’s involvement, **Executive Director Hasan Ikhrata** said, “The Demographic Workshop provides valuable regional information and allows an opportunity to discuss the ways in which changing trends impact our economic and planning decisions for the future; SCAG is proud to co-host and participate in this significant forum.”

The event included speakers from the Center for the Continuing Study of the California Economy; USC School of Policy, Planning, & Development; Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce; Los Angeles Workforce Investment Board and Analysis and Forecasting, Inc; each presenting their latest research, results and opinions on the current trends shaping California.

Jack Knott, Dean of USC’s School of Policy, Planning, & Development said, “This year’s focus on what the 2010 Census trends mean for our workforce, education and housing is especially pertinent given California’s current economic crisis. As an academic institution focused on promoting innovative solutions, we are excited to hear from area experts and take part in a dialogue that seeks to examine our state’s issues.”

Conference participants were able to get in-depth analysis and ask questions regarding the current recession and how it will affect demographic trends and forecasts. They also participated in interactive breakout sessions with experts in subject areas such as: Population Forecasts and Immigration, Affordable Housing and Regional Housing Needs Assessment, as well as Demographics and Transportation.

Speaker presentations and hand-outs are available on the SCAG website at:
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/cgi/registration/demographics/index.cfm>

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About SCAG

SCAG is the nation’s largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 190 cities and more than 18 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG’s regional efforts, please visit www.scag.ca.gov.