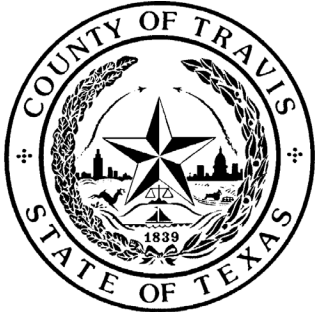


Travis County Trend Profile

Selected Census Data from 1990, 2000, and 2010

Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service | Research & Planning Division



Purpose of the Travis County Trend Profile

This data table is intended to provide an at-a-glance, 20 year profile of the Travis County community using census data from 1990, 2000, and 2010. It addresses the following characteristics:

- Demographic: Total population, sex, age, and race
- Household: Total households and household type
- Economic: Median income and poverty rate
- Social: Educational attainment, place of birth, and veteran status

We selected these topics based on their relevance to the field of human services, and their relative availability and comparability across U.S. Census Bureau data products. By providing data points in 10 year intervals, spanning 1990 to 2010, our intent is to provide a long view for understanding population growth and demographic change in Travis County.

We hope this information is helpful in local efforts to improve programs, influence funding decisions, and shape local policies. We encourage readers to borrow and cite this material.

About the Data Sources: The Decennial Census and the American Community Survey

The U.S. Census Bureau produces a large number of data products and administers a wide variety of surveys. Perhaps the most well-known is the Decennial Census, which surveys every household in America once every ten years in order to provide Congress with an official count of the entire U.S. population. Prior to 2010, the Decennial Census was a long survey form, covering a great depth of information. It was redesigned in 2010 to contain only 10 simple questions related to basic population counts and demographic characteristics, such as sex, age, race, Hispanic origin, household size, and homeowner status. Because the Decennial Census surveys every household in the U.S. at the same time, it is said to describe *100-percent characteristics*. For this reason, the Decennial Census is considered a highly reliable source of data.

The more descriptive social, economic and housing characteristics formerly collected by the Decennial Census can now be found in another U.S. Census Bureau data product, the American Community Survey. The American Community Survey draws a rolling monthly sample of housing unit addresses and releases data annually. Because its findings are based on a sample, rather than entire populations, the results are considered *estimates* and would differ slightly if another sample were drawn or if the entire population were surveyed. A certain amount of variability (called sampling error) is associated with any estimate based on a sample, and reduces the reliability of the results.

For the topics in this profile, we used data from Decennial Census products wherever possible. However, for several topics that have been removed from the redesigned 2010 Census form, we supplemented data points from the 2010 American Community Survey 1-Year estimates (these ACS data points are footnoted in the profile).

Limitations

Please use caution in comparing individual data points over time between Decennial Census years. The U.S. Census Bureau occasionally makes revisions to survey questions in between censuses, such as changes in question wording, answer choices, or universe (i.e. the population considered). We have footnoted data points with significant differences between censuses that make direct comparisons difficult.

Additionally, please use caution in comparing data points from Decennial Census years to those from the American Community Survey, since these two data products employ two different methodologies (the Decennial Censuses describes 100-percent characteristics of the entire population, while the American Community Survey provides estimates based on a sample of the population).

Both the Decennial Census and the American Community Survey rely on traditional survey methods. Some populations remain hard to reach through traditional survey methods, and not everyone is captured in the data. If certain individuals do not respond to the survey, the strength of the findings will be diminished. Additionally, those who respond to the surveys may possess certain traits that skew the results different than if everyone responds.

Acknowledgements

This data profile was created by the staff at the Travis County Department of Health and Human Services & Veterans Service, Research & Planning Division. Lead authors were Rachel Coff and Korey Darling, with the support of Blanca Tapia Leahy (Division Director) and Sherri E. Fleming (County Executive for Travis County HHS/VS).

Special thanks to Ryan Robinson, City of Austin Demographer, for permission to borrow this data profile format.

Questions or Comments?

For questions or for more information, please contact the Research & Planning Division at HHS_R&P@co.travis.tx.us.

Information on Decennial Census and American Community Survey methodologies is adapted from materials published by the U.S. Census Bureau and available online at www.census.gov.

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Because some characteristics highlight only selected subcategories, percentages may not add to 100%.

Demographic Characteristics

CHARACTERISTIC	NUMBER			PERCENT		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
Population						
Total population	576,407	812,280	1,024,266	100%	100%	100%
Male	288,256	415,901	516,637	50%	51%	50%
Female	288,151	396,379	507,629	50%	49%	50%
Median Age						
Median age	29.5	30.4	31.9	-	-	-
Age Distribution						
Under 5 years	44,113	58,840	75,774	8%	7%	7%
5 to 9 years	40,447	54,192	70,686	7%	7%	7%
10 to 14 years	33,984	50,171	62,789	6%	6%	6%
15 to 17 years	19,667	29,741	35,788	3%	4%	3%
18 to 24 years	91,217	119,727	130,115	16%	15%	13%
25 to 34 years	128,194	161,292	192,573	22%	20%	19%
35 to 44 years	94,427	135,428	154,525	16%	17%	15%
45 to 54 years	48,598	99,736	132,397	8%	12%	13%
55 to 64 years	33,899	48,329	94,860	6%	6%	9%
65 to 79 years	32,621	41,111	55,688	6%	5%	5%
80 years and over	9,240	13,713	19,071	2%	2%	2%
Race and Hispanic Origin¹						
Non-Hispanic White	375,279	457,817	517,644	65%	56%	51%
Hispanic or Latino	121,689	229,048	342,766	21%	28%	33%
Non-Hispanic Black	60,998	73,242	82,805	11%	9%	8%
Non-Hispanic Asian	15,883	35,842	58,404	3%	4%	6%
Non-Hispanic Other Race / Two or More Races	2,558	16,331	22,647	0.4%	2%	2%

¹1990 data is not directly comparable with 2000 and 2010. Beginning in 2000, respondents were able to select more than one race, while prior Censuses allowed only one selection. Also, the 1990 Census categorizes Pacific Islanders with Asians (here in "Non-Hispanic Asian") while in 2000 and 2010, Pacific Islanders have their own category, "Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders" (here in "Other Race/Two or More Races").

Household Characteristics

CHARACTERISTIC	NUMBER			PERCENT		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
Total Households						
Total households	232,861	320,766	404,467	-	-	-
Household Type						
Family households	135,428	183,832	229,929	58%	57%	57%
With own children under 18	69,576	93,970	116,974	30%	29%	29%
Husband-wife family with own children under 18	50,851	67,636	82,031	22%	21%	20%
Female householder, no husband present with own children under 18	15,421	20,485	26,358	7%	6%	7%
Non-family households	97,433	136,934	174,538	42%	43%	43%
1-person alone	73,395	96,557	124,562	32%	30%	31%

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Economic Characteristics^{2,3}

CHARACTERISTIC	NUMBER			PERCENT		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
Median Household Income						
Median household income (unadjusted)	\$27,488	\$46,761	\$51,743	-	-	-
Median household income (adjusted to 2010 dollars) ⁴	\$48,338	\$61,204	\$51,743	-	-	-
Income to Poverty Ratio⁵						
Income less than 100% of the poverty threshold	89,090	99,388	194,156	16%	13%	19%
Income less than 200% of the poverty threshold	191,095	225,811	375,147	34%	28%	37%

²All economic characteristic data for 2010 is based on the 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates.

³The American Community Survey asks how much income was earned during the past 12 months (a person answering the questions in December 2010 would respond based on income earned between December 2009 and November 2010). Census 1990 and 2000, however, ask how much income was earned for the last calendar year (i.e. "during 1999" or "during 1989").

⁴Inflation adjustment calculation based on Consumer Price Index at: <ftp://ftp.bls.gov/pub/special.requests/cpi/cpi.txt>

⁵The U.S. Census Bureau collects and reports poverty data for the "population for whom poverty status is determined." Poverty-related figures do not include people living in institutionalized group quarters, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, or unrelated individuals under 15 years old (children who do not live with a family member).

Social Characteristics⁶

CHARACTERISTIC	NUMBER			PERCENT		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
Educational Attainment (Population 25+)						
Less than high school	58,011	76,786	88,484	17%	15%	14%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	67,853	86,924	115,631	19%	17%	18%
Some college	102,332	133,985	168,175	29%	27%	26%
Bachelor's degree or higher	121,013	203,666	281,468	35%	41%	43%
Place of Birth						
Native born	531,327	689,659	851,520	92%	85%	83%
Born in state of residence	350,226	450,296	560,112	61%	55%	54%
Born in other state in the U.S.	171,294	226,918	276,992	30%	28%	27%
Born outside the U.S.	9,807	12,445	14,416	2%	2%	1%
Foreign born	45,080	122,621	179,286	8%	15%	17%
Veteran Status⁷						
Veterans	56,112	61,560	54,819	12%	10%	7%

⁶All social characteristic data for 2010 is based on the 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates.

⁷In 1990 the number of veterans includes those 16 years and older. In 2000 and 2010, the number of veterans includes those 18 years and older.