



**2017 PROFILE**

# galveston county

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prepared by the Houston-Galveston Area Council



# preface

In 2013, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) developed *Our Great Region 2040*, a regional plan for sustainable development. The plan lays out a long-range vision to ensure that the 13-county region is one of the world's greatest places to live, work, and succeed by 2040.

The 2017 profiles for all 13 counties in the region provide a demographic snapshot and build a baseline understanding from which local communities and H-GAC can gauge how the region has advanced the tenets of the *Our Great Region 2040* plan.

The contents of this report have been gathered from a variety of sources referenced on the last two pages. All maps were produced by H-GAC.

To read the *Our Great Region 2040* plan and all 13 county profiles, visit [ourregion.org/county-profiles.html](http://ourregion.org/county-profiles.html) or [h-gac.com/go/apps](http://h-gac.com/go/apps).



# big ideas

Strategies in the *Our Great Region 2040* plan are grouped into Big Ideas for six different topics highlighting areas of opportunity within the region. The Big Ideas serve as high-level guides when considering new projects or policies. This 2017 county profile includes a range of demographic data points that correspond with one or multiple Big Ideas.



## **Economic Development**

Strengthening our economic competitiveness through an educated and skilled workforce



## **Housing**

Providing balanced housing choices near jobs, services, and transportation options



## **Environment**

Securing a clean and ample water supply



## **Resiliency**

Increasing our resiliency to disaster and a changing environment



## **Healthy Communities**

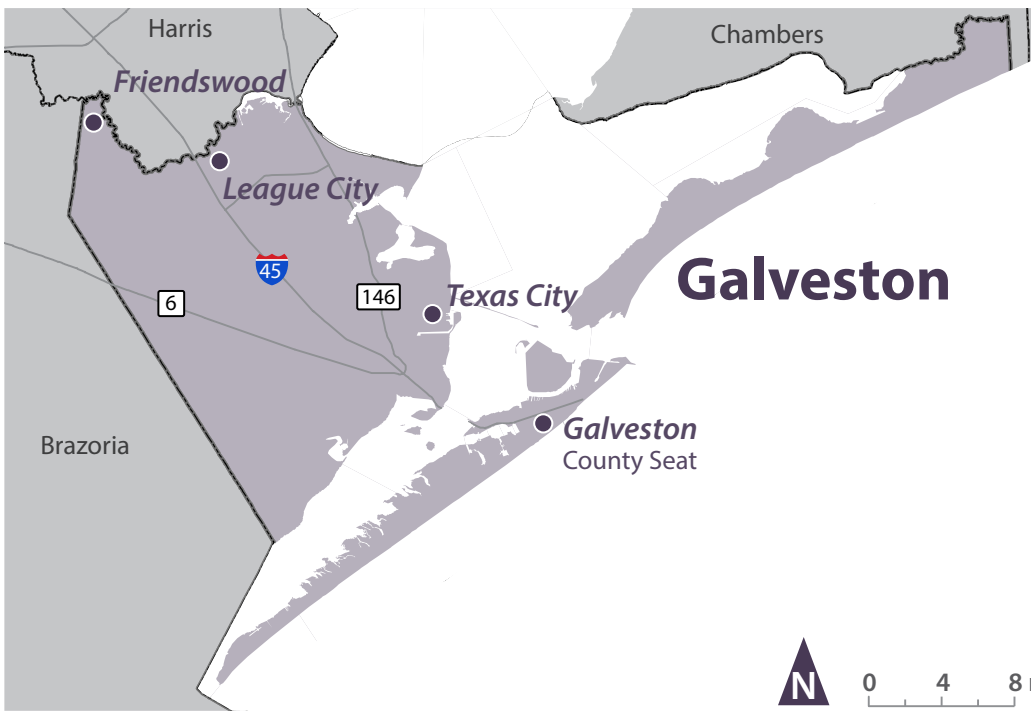
Cultivating places where people can lead active, healthy lives



## **Transportation**

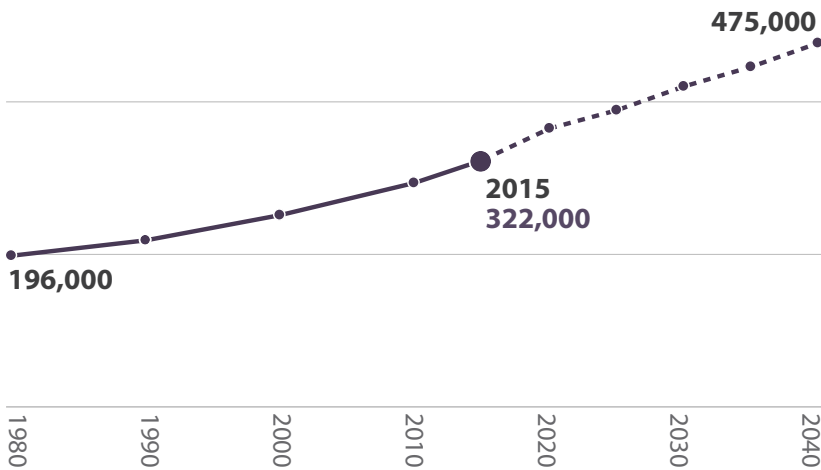
Achieving a world-class transportation network

# OVERVIEW



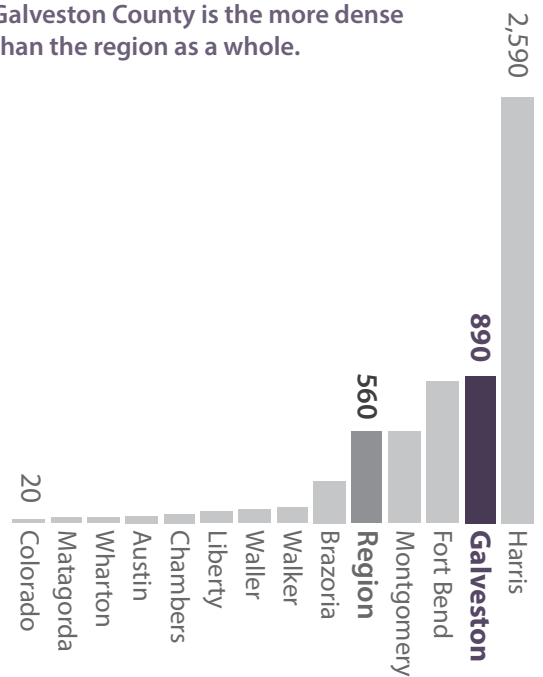
## Population Growth Forecast

Galveston County grew by 65% from 1980 to 2015 and is expected to reach 475,000 residents by 2040.



## Residents Per Square Mile

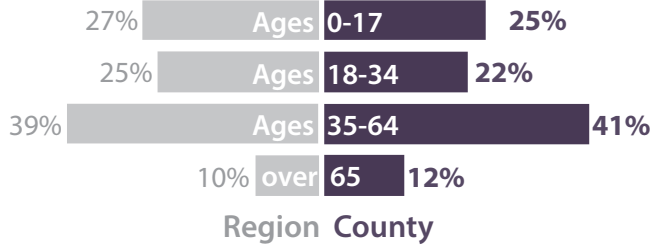
Galveston County is the more dense than the region as a whole.





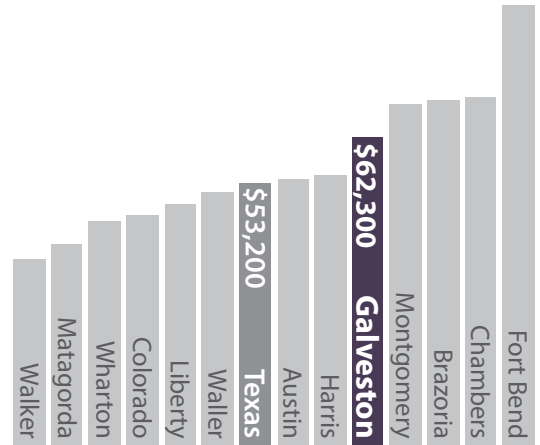
## Age

Galveston County has a similar age profile as the region as a whole.



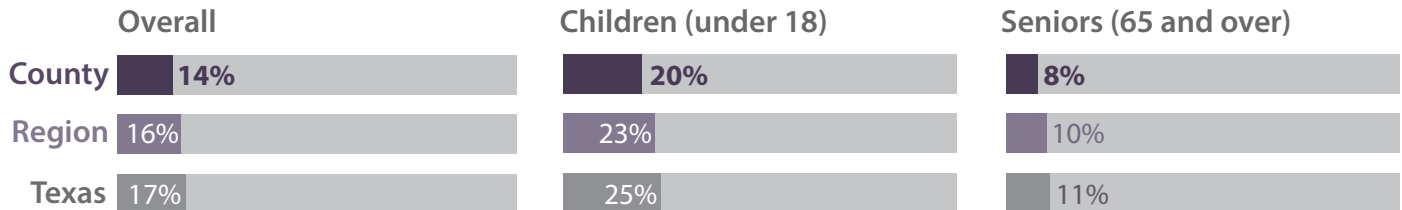
## Median Household Income

Galveston County has a higher median household income than the state.



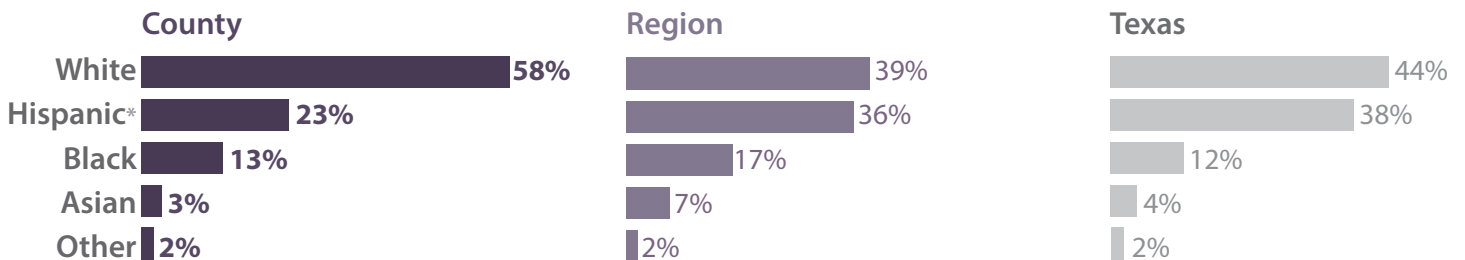
## Poverty Rate

Galveston County has a lower rate of poverty than the region and state.



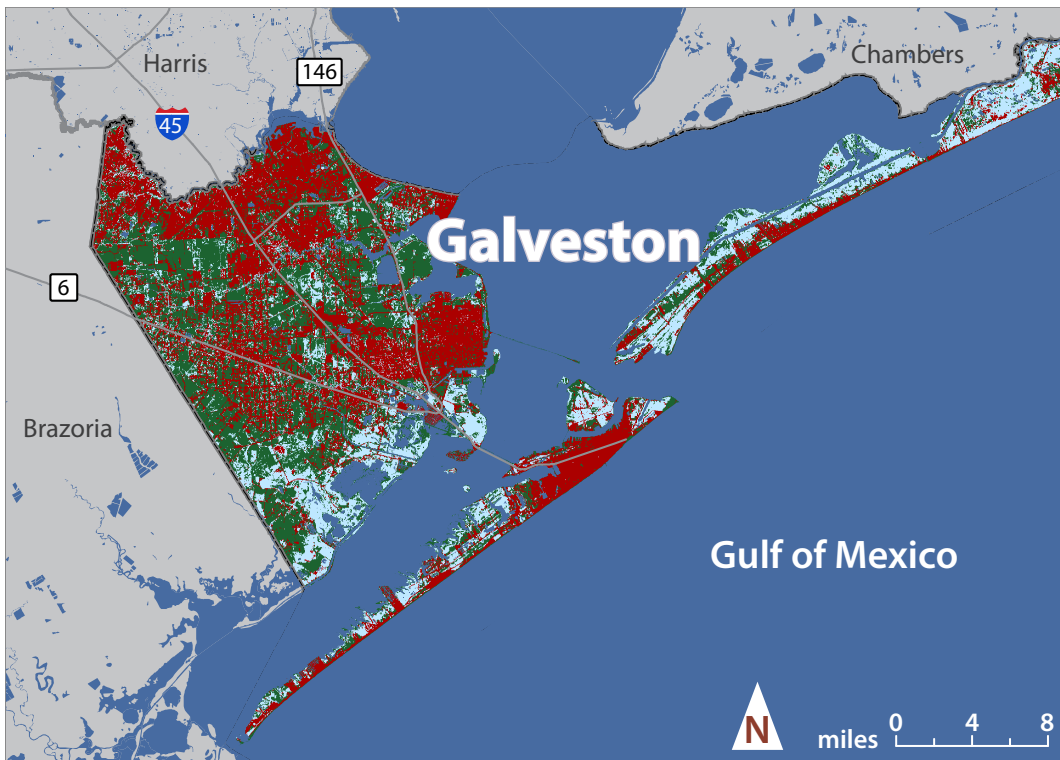
## Race and Ethnicity

Galveston County is less racially diverse than the region and the state.



\*As defined by the Office of Management and Budget as a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race.

# HOUSING & LAND USE

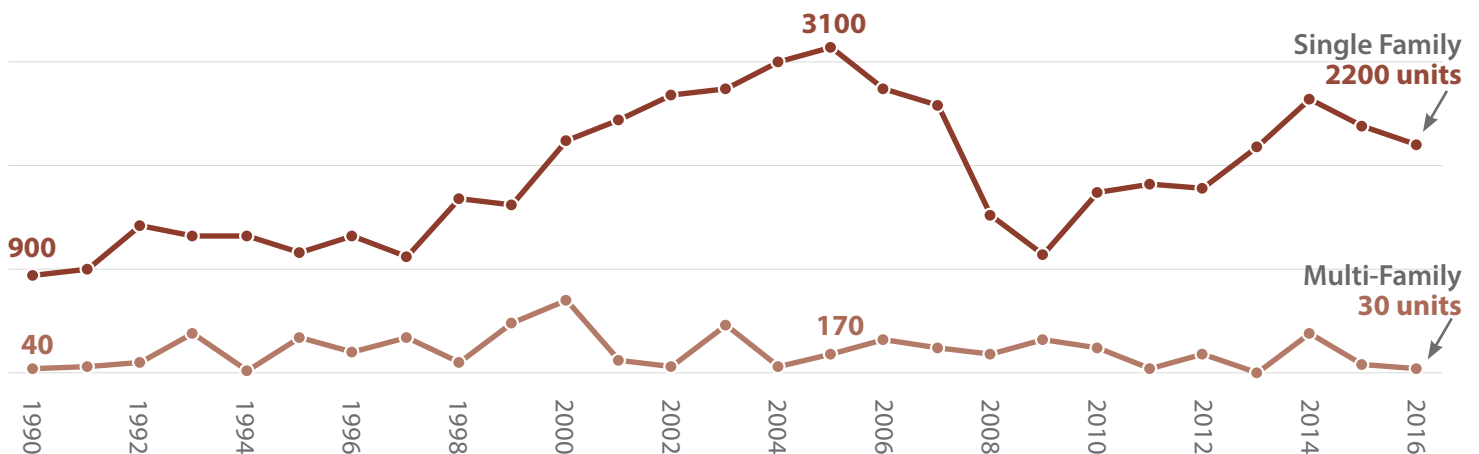


## Galveston County Land Use

- 19% Other counties
- 31% Open water
- 18% Developed Land
- 32% Wetlands
- 32% Forest, shrubs, pasture, grasslands, barren lands and cultivated crops

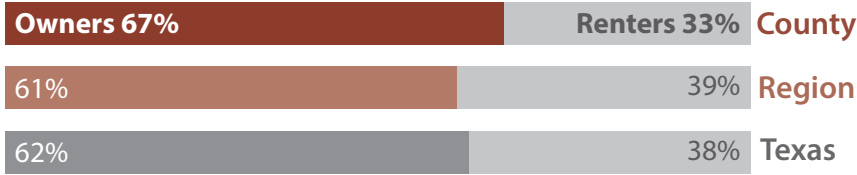
## Building Permits Issued

Single-family construction is declining in the past few years while multi-family permits remain intermittent.



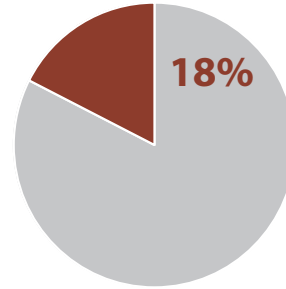
## Housing Tenure

Galveston County has a higher rate of homeownership than the region or the state.



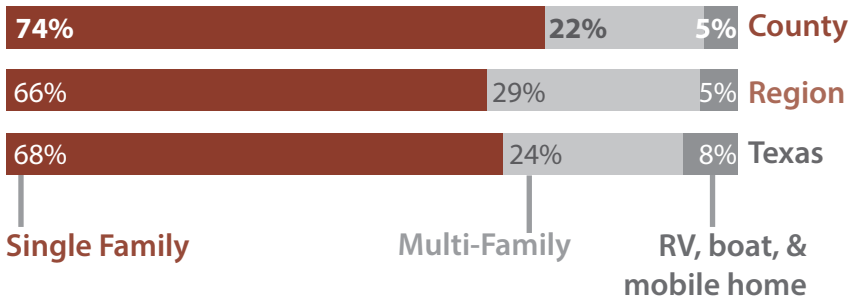
## Vacant Housing Units

Around 18% of Galveston County's housing units are vacant.



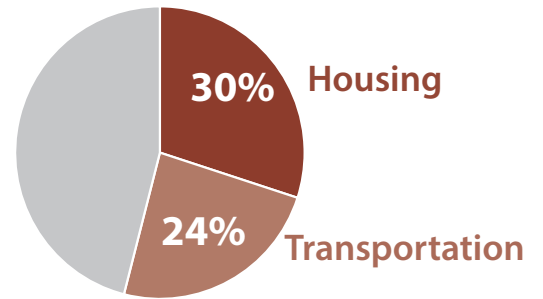
## Housing Type

Galveston County's homes are mostly single-family residences.



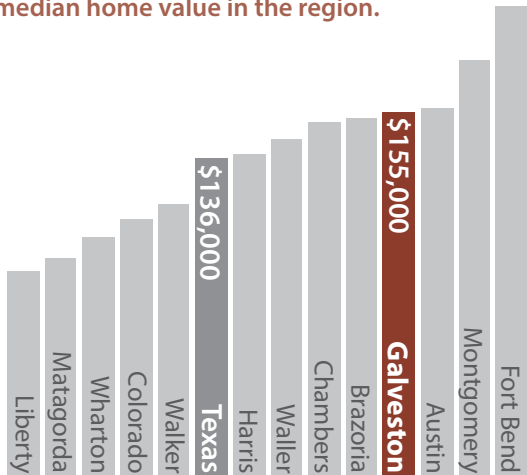
## Living Costs

Galveston County households spend 54% of their income on transportation and housing.



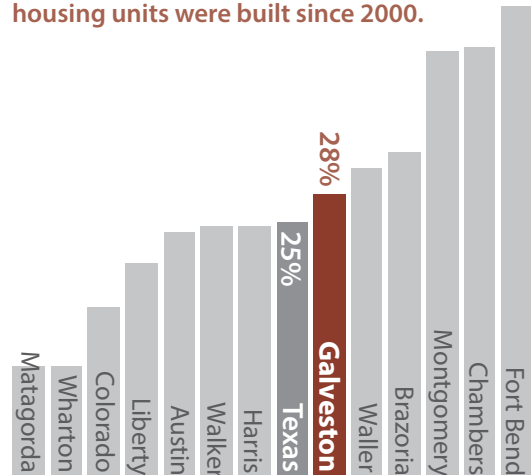
## Median Home Value

Galveston County has the fourth highest median home value in the region.



## Housing Units Built Since 2000

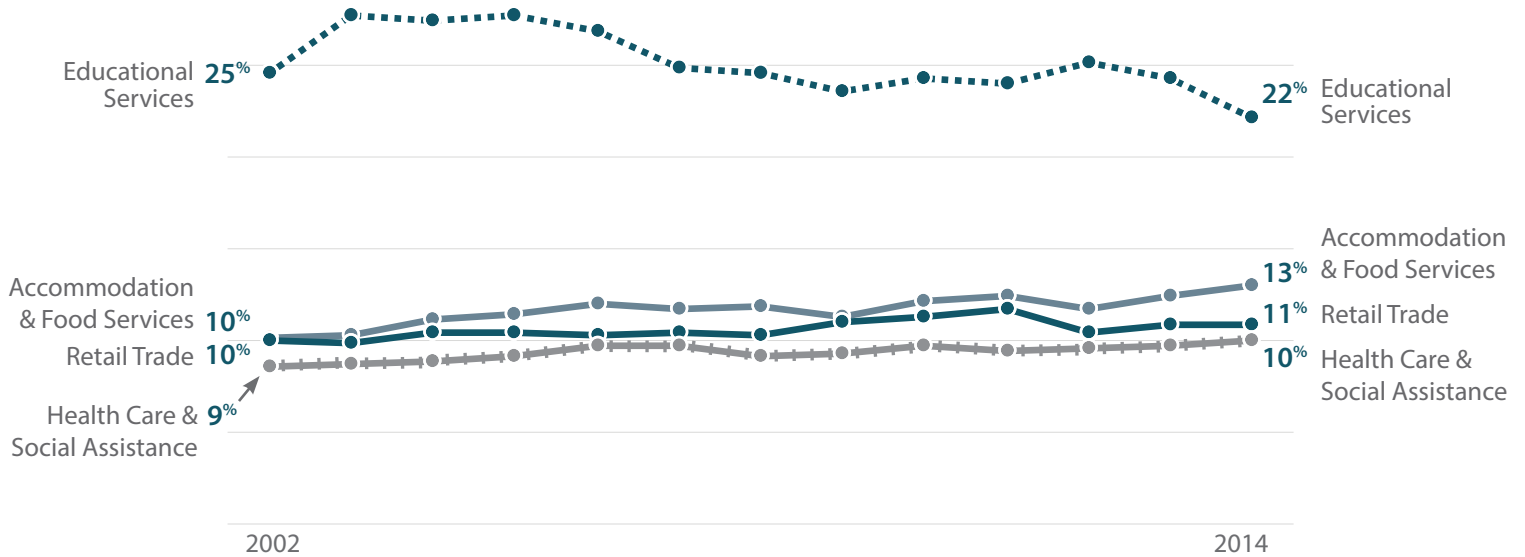
Almost 30% of Galveston County's housing units were built since 2000.



# ECONOMY & WORKFORCE

## Top Industries by Percent of Overall Jobs

The Educational Services industry employs a much larger portion of Galveston County workers than any other industry, at nearly one quarter of all county employment in both 2002 and 2014.



## Major Employers in Galveston County

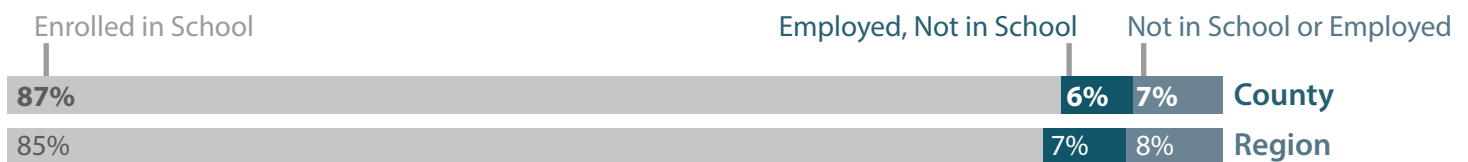
- American National Ins. Co.
- BP Products North America
- Clear Creek ISD
- Dickinson ISD
- Galveston ISD

- Landry's Inc.
- Moody Gardens
- Texas City ISD
- UT Medical Branch
- Wal-Mart Associates, Inc.

\*This reflects the most up-to-date publicly available data and may not represent the current mix of major employers in the county.

## Employment & Education (16-19 Year Olds)

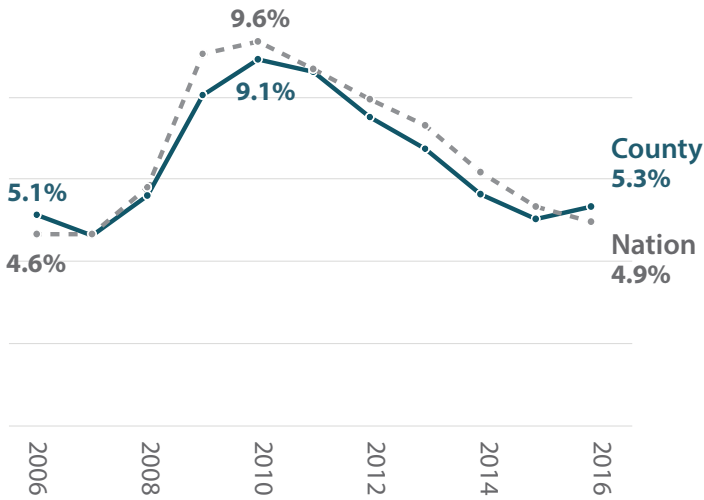
Around 7% of Galveston County's working-age teens are both unemployed and out of school.





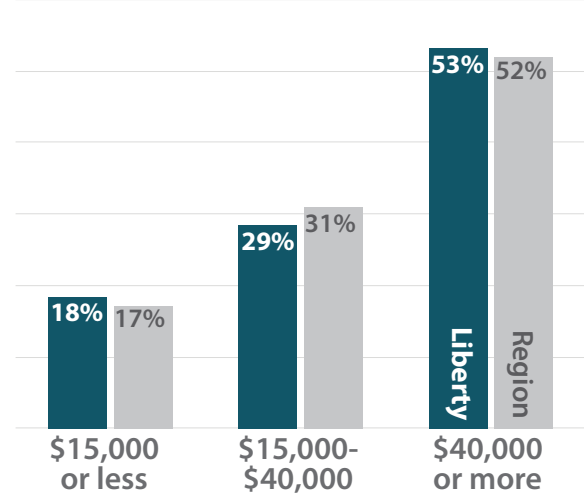
## Unemployment Rate

Galveston County's unemployment mirrors national trends, and was higher than the nation in 2016.



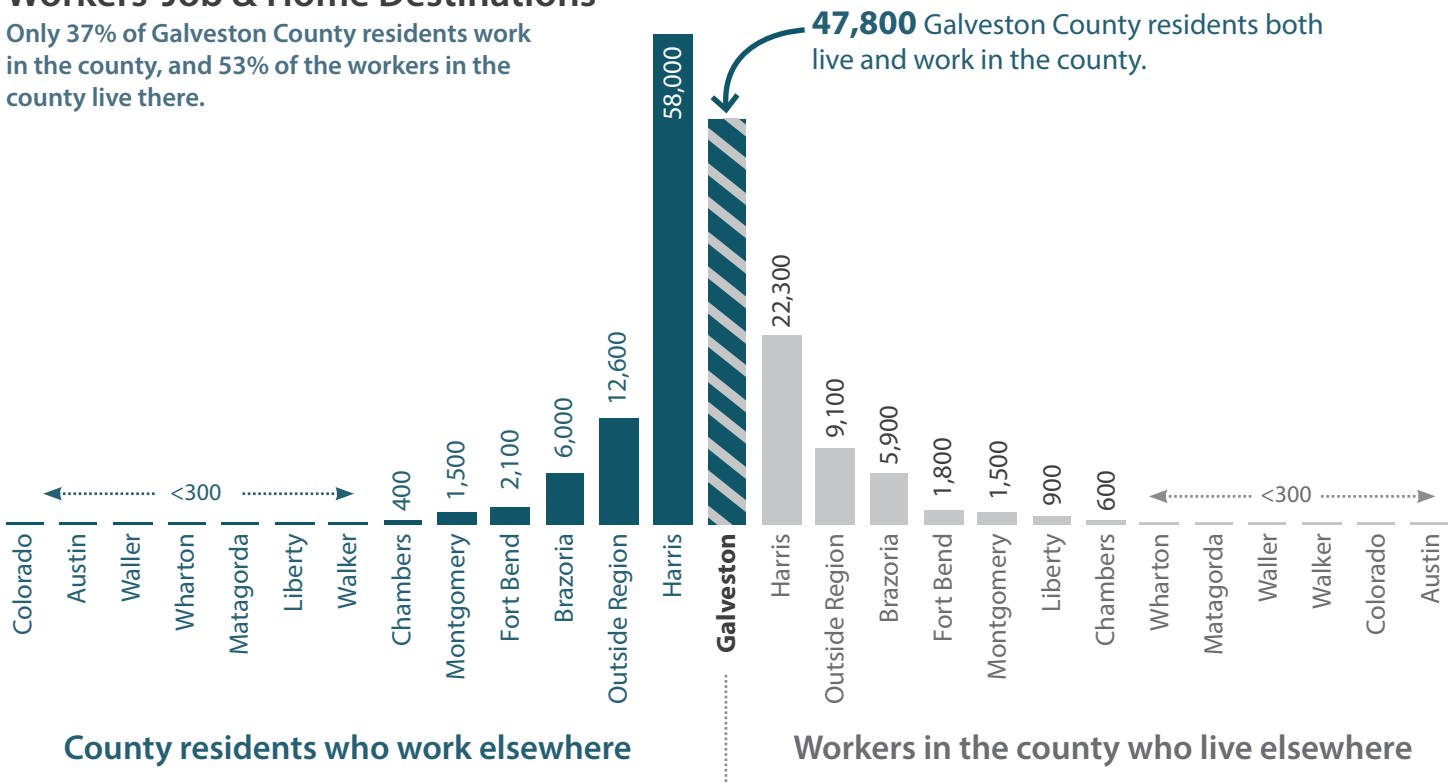
## Earnings of Residents

Around 53% of Galveston County residents earn more than \$40,000 annually, a similar percentage to the region.



## Workers' Job & Home Destinations

Only 37% of Galveston County residents work in the county, and 53% of the workers in the county live there.

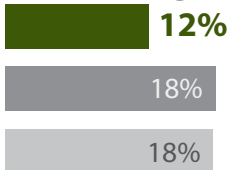


# EDUCATION

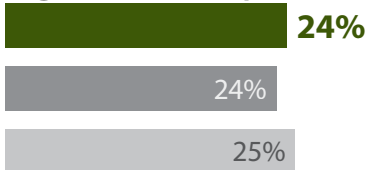
## Educational Attainment

A lower percentage of Galveston County residents have completed a bachelor's degree or higher than the region and state.

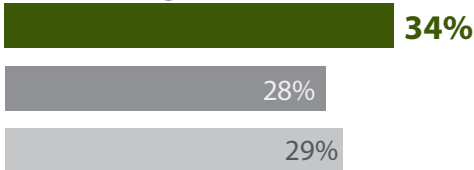
### Less than High School



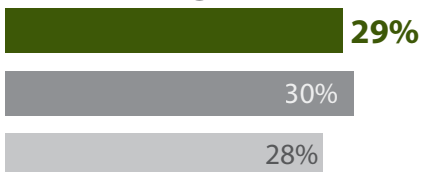
### High School or Equivalent



### Some College or Associate's



### Bachelor's Degree or More



## Local Schools

- Public Secondary Schools
- Clear Creek ISD
  - Dickinson ISD
  - Friendswood ISD
  - Galveston ISD
  - High Island ISD
  - Hitchcock ISD
  - Santa Fe ISD
  - Texas City ISD

- Post-Secondary Schools
- College of the Mainland

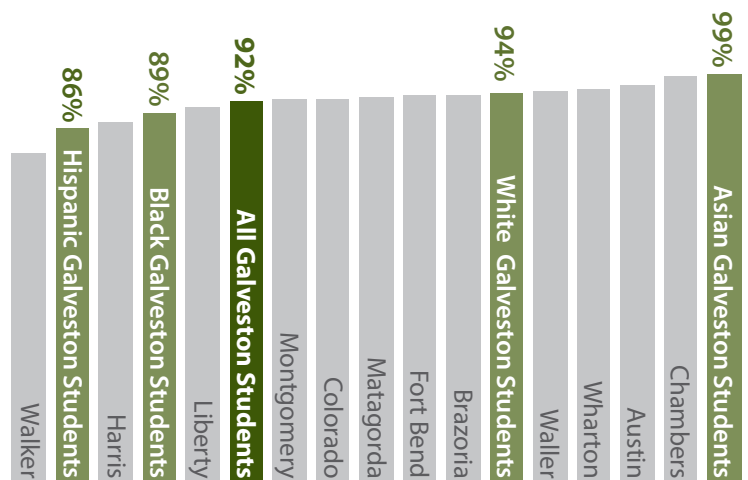
Galveston College

Texas A&M University at Galveston

University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

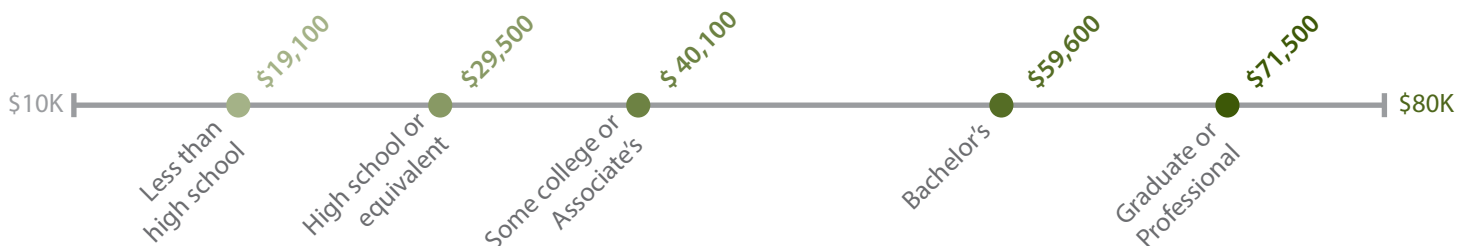
## Class of 2015 Graduation Rate

Galveston County students graduated at a lower rate in 2015 than the students of most counties in the region.



## Median Earnings by Educational Attainment

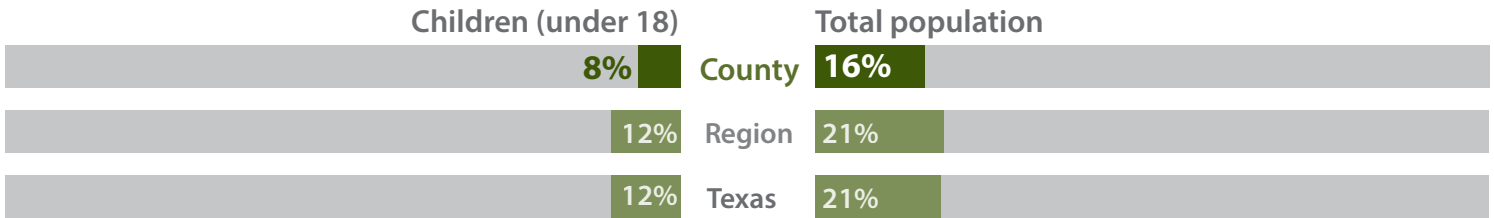
A Galveston County resident with a graduate or professional degree makes, on average, \$52,400 more than a resident with less than a high school education annually.



# HEALTH

## Population without Health Insurance

Galveston County has a lower portion of residents without health insurance than the region or state.



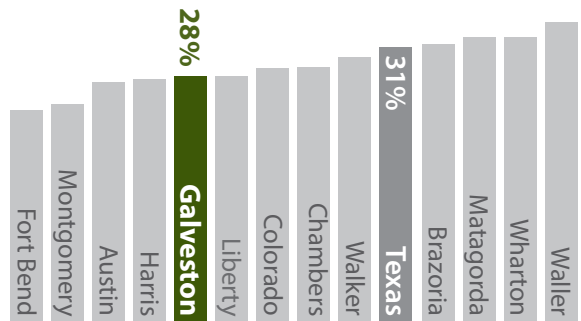
## Top Causes of Death

Per 100,000 Galveston County residents

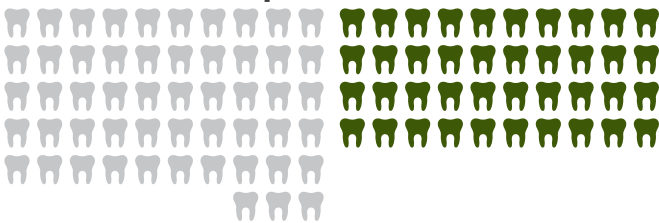
- 186 Cancer (all types)
- 171 Heart disease
- 43 Stroke
- 39 Accidents
- 39 Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease
- 19 Kidney Disease
- 19 Septicemia
- 17 Alzheimer's

## Adult Obesity Rate

Galveston County has a lower obesity rate than the region.



## Dentists Per Capita

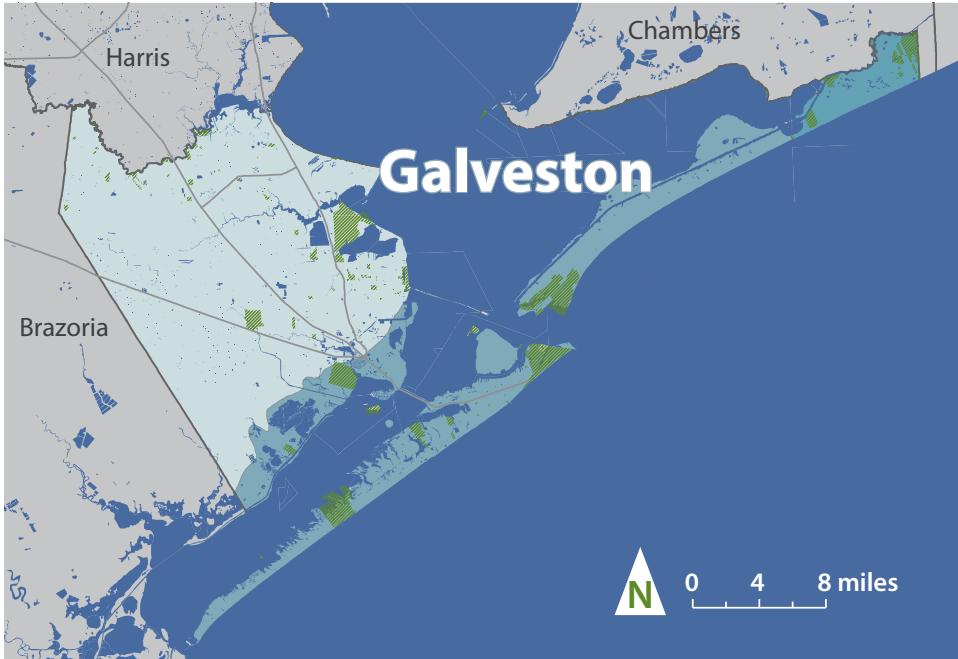


Texas 53 per 100,000  
County 40 per 100,000

## Doctors Per Capita



Texas 74 per 100,000  
County 121 per 100,000

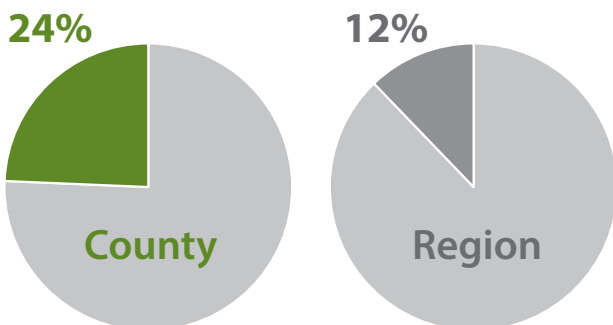


## Galveston County EcoRegions & Conservation Districts

- Other counties
- Northern Humid Gulf Coast Prairie
- Mid-Coast Barrier Islands & Marshes
- Texas-Louisiana Coastal Marshes
- Conservation and Recreation Lands

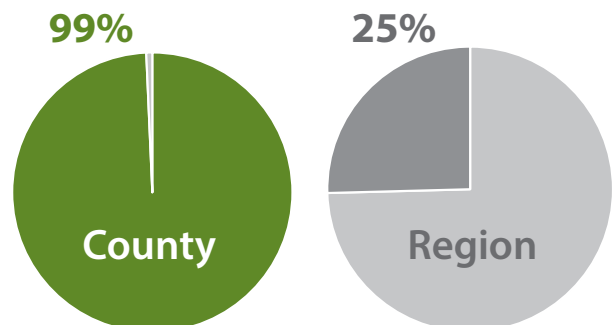
### Residents in 100-year Floodplain

A larger percentage of Galveston County residents live in a 100-year floodplain than the region.



### Residents in Hurricane Evacuation Zone

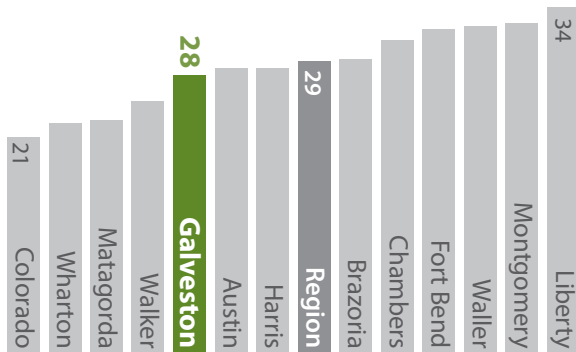
Nearly all Galveston County residents live in a hurricane evacuation zone, as opposed to 25% of the region's residents.



# TRANSPORTATION

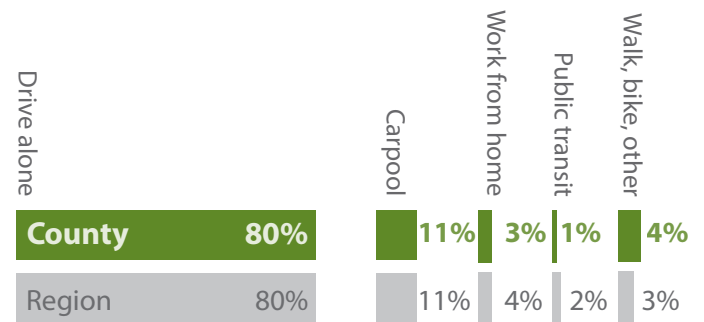
## Mean Commute to Work (minutes)

Galveston County workers commute for about the same amount of time as the region as a whole.



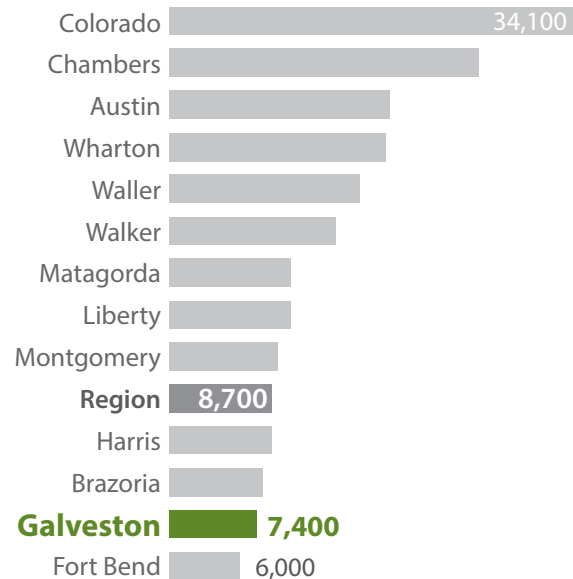
## Commute Mode to Work

Galveston County workers have a similar commute mode split as the region.



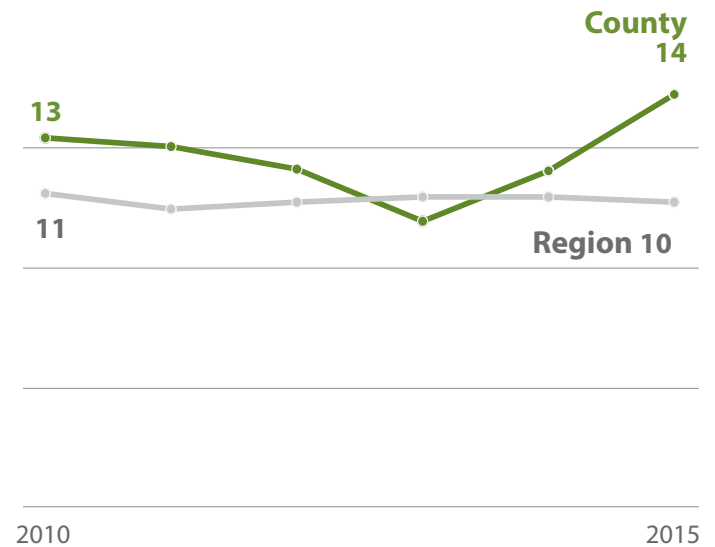
## Vehicle Miles Traveled per Person

Galveston County drivers do not drive as many miles annually as drivers in the region.



## Traffic Fatalities per 100,000 Residents

Galveston County has a similar rate of traffic fatalities as the rest of the region.



# SOURCES

## Overview

### Galveston County Boundaries (map)

Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

### Population Growth Forecast

Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

### Residents per Square Mile

Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

### Age

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B01001

### Median Household Income

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S2503

### Poverty Rate

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

### Race and Ethnicity

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B03002

## Housing & Land Use

### Galveston County Land Use (map)

Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

### Building Permits Issued

U.S. Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey, 1990-2015

### Housing Tenure

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04

### Housing Type

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04

### Vacant Housing Units

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04

### Living Costs

Center for Neighborhood Technology 2013 H+T® Index

### Median Home Value

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04

### Housing Units Built Since 2000

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04

## Economy & Workforce

### Top Industries by Percent of Overall Jobs

U.S. Census Bureau, 2002-2014, OnTheMap Application, Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program

### Major Employers in Galveston County

2016 Workforce Solutions, County Economic Profiles

### Employment & Education (16-19 Year Olds)

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B14005

### Unemployment Rate

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2006-2016

### Earnings of Residents

U.S. Census Bureau, 2014, OnTheMap Application, Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program

### Workers' Job & Home Destinations

U.S. Census Bureau, 2014, OnTheMap Application, Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program

## Education & Health

### Educational Attainment

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S1501

### Local Schools

Texas Education Agency and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

### Class of 2015 Graduation Rate

Texas Education Agency, Four-Year Graduation and Dropout Data, Class of 2015

### Median Earnings by Educational Attainment

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B20004

### Population without Health Insurance

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S2701

### Top Causes of Death

Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Health Statistics, 2013 County Health Facts Profiles

### Adult Obesity Rate

Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2013 County Data Indicators

### Dentists per Capita

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration, Area Health Resources Files

### Doctors per Capita

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration, Area Health Resources Files

## Environment & Transportation

### Galveston County EcoRegions & Conservation Districts (map)

Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

### Residents in 100-year Floodplain

Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

### Residents in Hurricane Evacuation Zone

Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

### Mean Commute to Work (minutes)

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S0802

### Vehicle Miles Traveled per Person

Texas Department of Transportation, 2015 Roadway Inventory

### Commute Mode to Work

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S0802

### Traffic Fatalities per 100,000 Residents

Texas Department of Transportation, 2010-2015, Crash Records Information System



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[www.ourregion.org](http://www.ourregion.org)

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