



# HAYS COUNTY



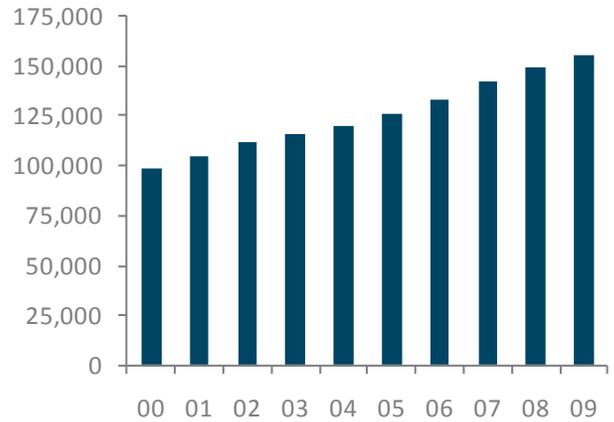
THE CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The current population of Hays County is 155,545, an increase of 56,475 individual since 2000. Hays County is the third-most populated county in the CAPCOG region and the second-fastest growing. Since 2000, Hays County has grown 57 percent. The rate of growth not only outpaced the Texas and national average at 18 percent and 9 percent respectively, but was also greater than the explosive 33 percent growth rate of the broader CAPCOG region. Like the rest of the CAPCOG region, Hays County should continue to experience robust growth for the foreseeable future.

Hays County is the youngest county in the CAPCOG region, and growing younger still. The median age of Hays County is 28.4, nearly 4 years younger than the median age of the Austin metropolitan area and approximately 9 years younger than the U.S. median age. Unlike the vast majority of communities in the U.S., Hays County is growing younger. In fact, during the past decade Hays County was the only county within the CAPCOG region to experience a decline in the median age. In the decades ahead, however, Hays County is unlikely to escape the aging trends operating throughout the rest of the nation. During the past 10 years, for example, the proportion of Hays County residents in all age cohorts 45 and older increased. At the same time, the proportion of residents in most age cohorts younger than 45 has declined since 2000. The sole exception was the proportion of residents age 14 and younger, which increased by 1 percentage point.

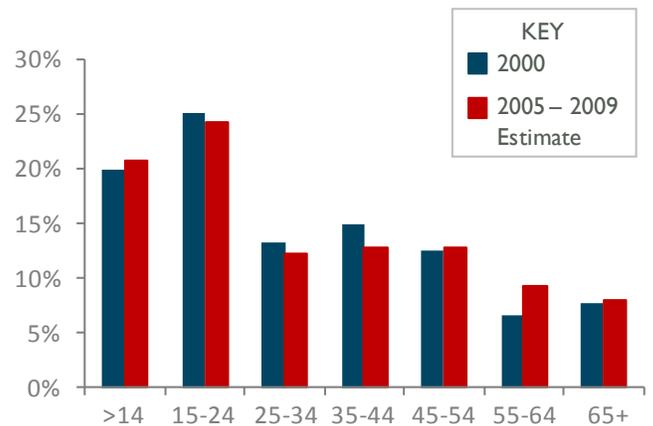
Like the rest of the CAPCOG region, Hays County is becoming more diverse. Less than 60 percent of Hays County residents are white, a decline of nearly 5 percentage points since 2000. During this same period, the proportion of all other racial and ethnics groups increased. Hispanics, the fastest growing minority population in Hays County, now represent more than 33 percent of all residents. Since 2000, the black population of Hays County has increased from 3.6 percent to 4.1 percent, while the Asian population increased from 0.8 percent to 1.2 percent. The combined proportion of all other racial groups in Hays County—including Native Americans, Pacific Islanders, and individuals of two or more races—grew from 1.2 percent to 1.4 percent.

## POPULATION



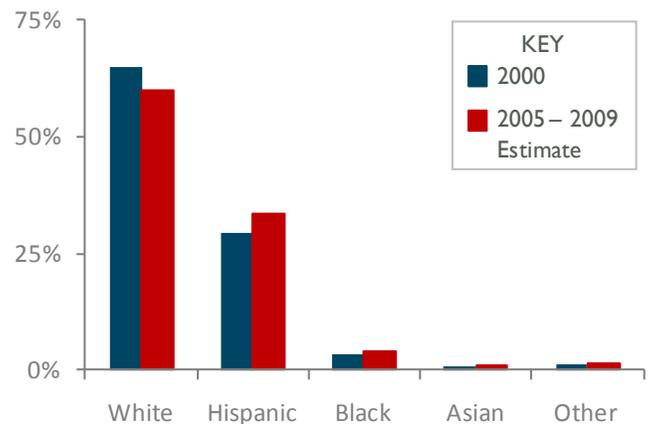
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

## AGE DISTRIBUTION



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

## RACIAL & ETHNIC COMPOSITION



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau



# HAYS COUNTY



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Perhaps unsurprisingly, Hays County features some of the highest levels of educational attainment in the CAPCOG region. According to the latest Census release, more than 87 percent of residents have graduated from high school, 32 percent of residents have a college degree, and nearly 10 percent of resident possess a graduate or professional degree. During the past decade, educational attainment at all levels has remained largely constant. While the proportion of residents with a high school diploma or college degree has increased slightly since 2000, the percentage of residents with a professional or graduate degree has declined slightly.

In 2009, the unemployment rate of Hays County was 6.6 percent, lower than the unemployment rate of the CAPCOG region. During the past decade the unemployment rate in Hays County has consistently hovered around the unemployment rate of the CAPCOG region. Although the current annual unemployment rate marks the first time in the past decade that the Hay's County has exceeded 6 percent, the unemployment rate remains lower than the state and national average.

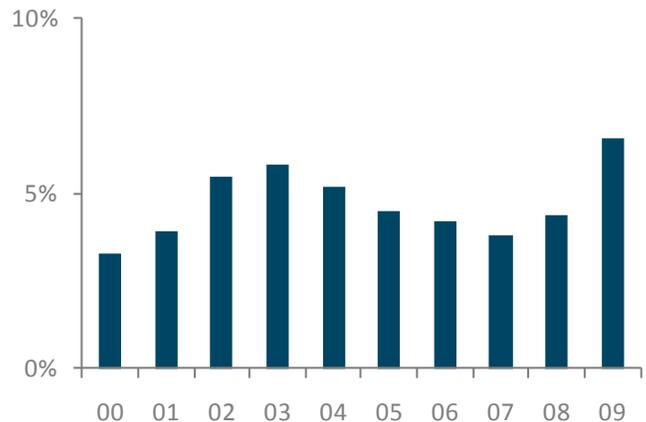
Median household income in Hays County is \$52,409 a decline of nearly \$5,500 since 2000. As a percentage of median household income, Hays County suffered the fifth-most severe decline among all counties in the CAPCOG region (with median household income falling nearly 10 percent). Although the median household income in Hays County remains higher than the state and national average, the gap between these two geographies and Hays County has narrowed during the past decade. Nationally, for example, median household income has fallen approximately 5 percent in the past decade while median household income in Texas has declined by approximately 6 percent.

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



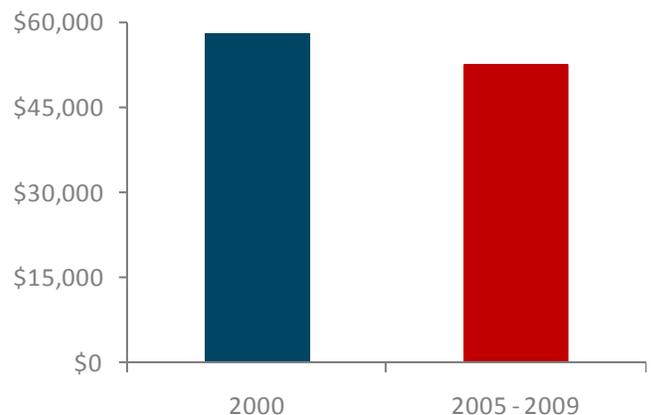
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

## UNEMPLOYMENT



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau



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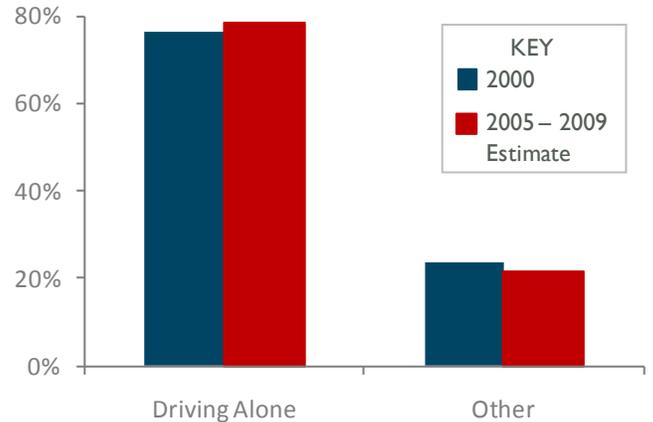
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The overwhelming majority of workers in the CAPCOG region continue to drive alone to work, and Hays County workers are no exception. More than 78 percent of all workers in Hays County drive alone to work, the second-highest proportion within the CAPCOG region. Furthermore, the percentage of workers driving alone to work has actually increased during the past decade. During this period, the only other county in the region to witness an increase in the proportion of workers driving alone to work was Lee County. Since 2000, the percentage of workers carpooling, walking, or biking to work has declined. While transit use has increased, it remains the preferred method of commuting to work for just 1 percent of Hays County workers. In the past decade, the proportion of residents working from home has increased from 3.6 to 5.8 percent.

More than 66 percent of all housing structures in Hays County are single-family units, a proportion similar to the Texas and U.S. average. Since 2000, the proportion of single-family units within Hays County has increased more than 9 percent, the largest proportional increase in the CAPCOG region. The proportion of multi-family housing—the second largest category of housing type within Hays County—has remained largely unchanged during the past decade. The proportion of “other” types of housing types such as mobile homes has declined from 16 to less than 10 percent during the past decade.

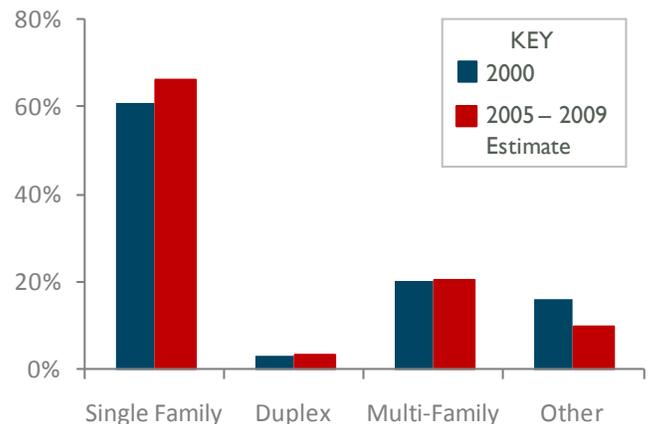
Less than 64 percent of all households in Hays County consist of families. Within the CAPCOG region, only Travis County has a smaller percentage of family households. The proportion of family households has declined slightly during the past decade, falling approximately 3 percent. Similar trends are occurring throughout the CAPCOG region—during the past decade the proportion of family households has declined in every county in the CAPCOG region.

## MODE OF COMMUTE



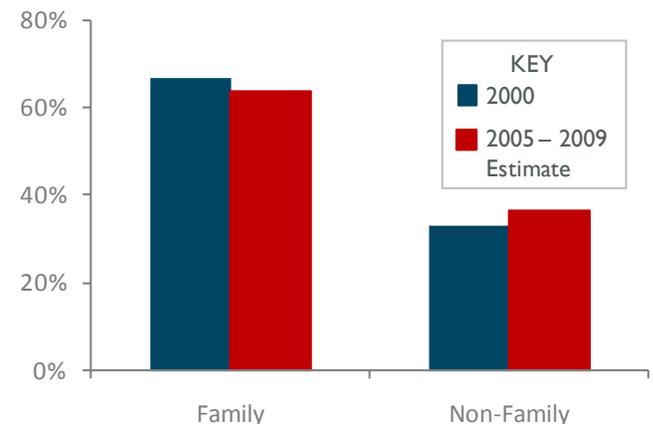
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

## HOUSING TYPE



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

## HOUSEHOLD TYPE



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau