The current population of Travis County is 1,026,158, an increase of more than 205,000 residents since 2000. Travis County is the most populated county in the CAPCOG region and the fifth-fastest growing. During the past ten years, Travis County has grown more 25 percent. While the rate of growth is slightly less than the 33 percent increase experienced by the broader CAPCOG region, in percentage terms Travis County’s population growth easily outpaced the Texas and national average at 18 percent and 9 percent respectively. Travis County should continue to experience robust growth for the foreseeable future.

Travis County is one of the youngest counties in the CAPCOG region—more than one in three residents is under the age of 25. The median age of Travis County is 31.3, approximately 1 year younger than the median age of the Austin metropolitan area and approximately 6 years younger than the U.S. median age. Despite being relatively young, Travis is gradually growing older. During the past decade, for example, the median age of Travis County rose slightly. All age cohorts age 45 and older are experiencing increases. At the same, the proportion of residents under age 45 has declined from 75 percent in 2000 to 72 percent from 2005-2009. Despite these aging dynamics, Travis County will continue to be relatively young compared to the rest of the CAPCOG region, Texas, and the U.S.

Like the rest of the CAPCOG region, Travis County is becoming more diverse. Just over 51 percent of Travis County residents are white, a decline of nearly 5 percentage points since 2000. Travis County features the second-lowest proportion of white residents within the CAPCOG region. During the past ten years, Travis County’s Hispanic population has experienced the most dramatic growth, increasing from 28 percent of the population to more than 33 percent. During this period, the black population as a proportion of the total population in Travis County fell from 9 to 8 percent. The proportion of Asian residents in Travis County increased from 4.6 percent 5.4 percent. The combined proportion of all other racial groups in Travis County is less than 2 percent.
Educational attainment in Travis County varies markedly depending on the level examined. According to the latest Census release, more than 43 percent of residents have a college degree, and approximately 15 percent of residents possess a graduate or professional degree. Such high rates of educational attainment far exceed state and national averages and remain the highest levels found in the CAPCOG region. On the other hand, Travis County ranks fifth in the CAPCOG region in the percentage of residents with a high school diploma, placing it only slightly higher than the national average. Given its place as one the country’s most popular destinations for college graduates and the relatively modest levels of high school attainment among its existing population, Travis County appears to be importing a significant portion of its talent.

In 2009, the unemployment rate of Travis County was 6.7 percent, lower than the unemployment rate of the CAPCOG region. As the largest place of employment in the region, Travis County’s unemployment rate has been nearly identical to the broader regional average. The unemployment rate in Travis County remains below the national and state average.

Median household income in Travis County is $54,044, a decline of approximately $6,000 since 2000. As a percentage of median household income, Travis County suffered the third-most severe decline among all counties in the CAPCOG region. Despite this decline, Travis County’s median household income remains the second-highest in the CAPCOG region and is higher than the Texas and the U.S. average. As median household income dropped less severely at the state and national level, however, the gap between these two geographies and Travis County has narrowed over the past decade.
The overwhelming majority of workers in the CAPCOG region drive alone to work, and Travis County workers are no exception. Approximately 73 percent of all workers in Travis County drive alone to work, a decline of nearly two percentage points since 2000 and the third-lowest proportion in the CAPCOG region. The use of other modes of commute by Travis County workers has varied during the past decade. The prevalence of carpooling, for example, has declined from 13.6 percent to 12 percent. Furthermore, the percentage of workers biking or walking to work has also dropped, falling from 3 to 2.7 percent. At the same time, transit use has increased from 3.6 to 4.1 percent. Among all modes of commuting, working from home has experienced the greatest increase. During the past decade, the proportion of Austin residents working from home has increased from 3.7 to 5.5 percent.

The composition of Travis County’s housing stock has remained relatively constant during the past decade. Less than 57 percent of all housing structures in Travis County are single-family units, the lowest proportion in the CAPCOG region and below the Texas and U.S. average. Since 2000, the proportion of single-family units within Travis County has remained largely unchanged, increasing less than 1 percentage point. The second largest category of housing type within Travis County, multi-family housing units, remained constant at 35 percent of the total housing stock.

Approximately 57 percent of all households in Travis County consist of families, the lowest proportion within the CAPCOG region. The proportion of family households has declined slightly during the past decade, falling approximately a half of a percentage point. 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.