25 Million Reasons to be Proud of Texas (among a few more)

Demographic Highlights

TEXAS is:

**big.** The population of Texas is the second largest in the United States, approaching 25 million people (estimated population of 24.8 million people in 2009).[^7]

**young.** Approximately 28% of Texas’ population is under 18 and only 10% of the population is older than 65 years.[^1] Webb County in Texas, has the youngest population in the U.S. with children younger than 5 comprising 12.8% of the population.[^7]

**embracing of culture and diversity.** Approximately 9 million or 38% of Texans are of Hispanic descent, 2.8 million or 12% are African Americans, and 1 million or 4% are other (non-Anglo mainly of Asian descent).[^1] In about a decade, it is expected that Texas’ population will have more persons of Hispanic descent than any other racial or ethnic group.[^4]

**a desired place to live and work.** Net in-migration to Texas accounts for almost half of the population growth in recent years.[^1] More than 171,900 college graduates moved into Texas each year between 2006 and 2008, placing Texas as 2nd in the Nation by this measure.

**urban.** Texas has three of the top 10 largest cities in the Nation.[^3] Several of the metropolitan areas in Texas are among the most rapidly growing in the Nation.[^5]

**rural.** Texas is the second largest state in the Nation in terms of square miles (268,601) and approximately 17% of the population lives in rural areas.[^1]

**a working state.** Texas has a civilian labor force of more than twelve million workers and an unemployment rate lower than in most States.[^6]

**family oriented.** Texas ranks 3rd among states for the percent of households which are married-couple families with children (24.4%).[^2]

**multigenerational.** Texas ranks 3rd among states for percent of households which are multigenerational (4.5%).[^2]

**growing – fast.** Texas gained more population than any other state in the last estimate year (between July 1, 2008 and July 1, 2009), adding 478,000 people.[^7] Among cities over 100,000 population in the U.S., 4 of the 10 fastest growing areas are in Texas (2007-2008 change).[^7]

## Fastest Growing States, 2000-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>20,851,820</td>
<td>24,782,302</td>
<td>3,930,484</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>33,871,648</td>
<td>36,961,664</td>
<td>3,090,016</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>15,982,378</td>
<td>18,537,969</td>
<td>2,555,130</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>8,186,453</td>
<td>9,829,211</td>
<td>1,642,430</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>5,130,632</td>
<td>6,595,778</td>
<td>1,465,131</td>
<td>28.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>8,049,313</td>
<td>9,380,884</td>
<td>1,331,571</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>7,078,515</td>
<td>7,882,590</td>
<td>803,542</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>5,894,121</td>
<td>6,664,195</td>
<td>770,074</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>4,301,261</td>
<td>5,024,748</td>
<td>722,486</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>1,998,257</td>
<td>2,643,085</td>
<td>644,825</td>
<td>32.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Population values are decennial census counts for April 1 for 2000 and estimates for July 1 for 2009.

Source: Derived from U.S. Bureau of the Census Estimates for dates indicated by the Texas State Data Center, University of Texas at San Antonio.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent surviving to age 65</th>
<th>Remaining Life Expectancy (years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>72.04</td>
<td>14.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>76.48</td>
<td>16.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>79.03</td>
<td>17.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>82.84</td>
<td>18.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>83.16</td>
<td>18.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Decennial Life Tables, 1959-61, 1979-81, 1989-91
Texas Department of State Health Services, 2004 and 2007
Population Pyramids, Texas

Sources: 2000 Census, Texas State Data Center 2000-2040 Projections
Projected Population of Older Texans

Source: Texas State Data Center, 2000-2004 Projection Scenario
Observed and Projected Dependency Ratios for Texas, 1960-2040
Percent of Persons Aged 65 Years and Older in Texas Counties, 2000 Census and 2040 Projected
Percent of Persons Aged 65 Years and Older in Texas Counties, 2000 Census and 2009 Estimated

2000

2009
Population Aged 65 Years and Older by County, 2000 and 2009

Legend:
- LE 5,000
- GT 5,000 - LE 15,000
- GT 15,000 - LE 25,000
- GT 25,000 - LE 100,000
- GT 100,000

2000

2009
Projection of Ethnicity of Texas Population Aged 65 Years and Older, 2000 to 2040

Source: Texas State Data Center, 2000-2004 Projection Scenario
Percent of Texans Reporting a Self-Care Limitation or Any Limitation, by Age, 2007

Source: State Data Center tabulation of U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2007
Projected Growth of the 65+ Population Reporting a Self-Care Limitation, 2000 to 2040, Assuming Constant Age/Sex/Race/Ethnic Rates of Disability

Source: Office of the State Demographer, 2000-2004 Projection Scenario
Physicians per 1,000 Population Aged 65 Years and Older by County, 2008

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2008 Population Estimate (population), and Texas Medical Board (physicians).
Filling the Transit Gaps: Unserved Urbanized Area Populations

Urban gaps identified in the following urbanized areas:

- Amarillo
- Austin
- Beaumont
- College Station – Bryan
- Corpus Christi
- Dallas – Fort Worth – Arlington
- Denton – Lewisville
- El Paso
- Galveston
- Houston
- Killeen
- Longview
- Lubbock
- Midland
- Odessa
- Port Arthur
- San Antonio
- Temple
- Texarkana
- The Woodlands
- Tyler
- Victoria
- Waco
- Wichita Falls
Estimated 273,000 persons aged 65 and older living in urbanized area transit gaps in 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urbanized area</th>
<th>Percent of Texas Urban Gap 65+ Population, 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The older portion of Texas’ population will continue to increase relative to the rest of the population as a result of increased longevity and “baby boomers” moving into the older years.

Older adults in some rural counties have no or limited access to physicians while many of the more urban counties appear to have sufficient numbers of physicians for seniors.

Access to public transit among older adults appears to be limited in some parts of major urban areas. It is likely that access to transportation among older adults in rural areas is a significant issue.
Lloyd Potter, Ph.D.

Office: 512-463-7659

Email: Lloyd.Potter@utsa.edu