Texas continued its strong population growth in the year following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the newly released Vintage 2021 Population Estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau. Since April 1, 2020 (Census Day), Texas has added 382,436 people to its population, growing by 1.3%, compared to only 0.13% of the nation. Although the growth from international migration and natural increase has slowed down, net domestic migration has increased and accounted for more than 55% of the growth since 2020, up from 31% when compared to the last decade between 2010-2020.

Between 2020 and 2021, five of the top 10 counties and four of the top 10 metropolitan areas with the highest population growth nationally were in Texas. Based on the county grouping defined by the 2020 OMB Core Base Statistical Area Delineation, the majority (82.5%) of the 80 metropolitan counties saw an increase in their population, primarily driven by net migration (see NOTE box). While a majority of the 51 micropolitan counties in Texas experienced growth, 45.1% have lost population, mainly due to net domestic out-migration. More rural counties (63.4% of the 123) have gained population than those that have lost, with net migration being the main driving force. As a result, more micropolitan counties experienced a loss in population while more rural counties experienced population growth. This signifies a shift when compared to the last decade. In sum, net domestic migration has played an increasingly significant role in population growth among all three types of counties since 2020.

### Components of Population Change in Texas, 2010-2020 & 2020-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Natural Increase</th>
<th>Domestic Migration</th>
<th>International Migration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-2020</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td>48.5%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>56.2%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Data Sources:

### NOTE:
1. A county’s growth or decline is defined as driven by migration if its net migration contributes to more than 50% of the population change.
2. Migration driven growth can be further categorized as primarily domestic (migration) or primarily international (migration). These categories highlight which type of migration accounts more towards the overall net migration.
3. A county’s growth or decline is defined as driven by natural increase if its natural increase contributes to more than 50% of the population change.