The Texas Workforce Investment Council assists the Governor and the Legislature with strategic planning, research, and evaluation for the Texas workforce system. Understanding the composition of the Texas workforce is an important component of planning and policy development. The Texas workforce is young, growing, and diverse, which provides important advantages in the global market. The following selected data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS), the U.S. Census Bureau, and the Texas State Data Center illustrate current and projected demographic characteristics of the state.

**Texas Population Characteristics**

- The population of Texas is 27,469,114. Approximately 83 percent of the population is native born and 17 percent is foreign born.
- The population is 49.6 percent male (13,625,413) and 50.4 percent female (13,843,701).
- The median age in Texas is 34.4 years old, compared to 37.8 nationally.
- Texas has a civilian labor force of 13,210,842, the second largest of all the states.

**Educational Characteristics**

- Approximately 82 percent of the population over age 25 in Texas (14,401,719) has at least a high school diploma.
- Approximately 12 percent of the population over age five in Texas (3,089,648) speaks English less than “very well.”

**Racial and Ethnic Composition of Texas**


**Languages Spoken at Home in Texas in Homes Where English is Spoken less than “Very Well” (Age Five+)**

Regional Population Distribution

- During the past decade, urbanized metropolitan areas in Texas have been growing dramatically, while many rural counties are experiencing slow growth or are losing population.
- According to estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately 72 percent of the state’s population lives in the six largest metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs).
- The 10 largest counties in Texas (Harris, Dallas, Tarrant, Bexar, Travis, Collin, Hidalgo, El Paso, Denton, and Fort Bend) contain 59.1 percent of the state’s population.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MSA Name</th>
<th>2015 Population Estimate</th>
<th>Percent of State’s Population</th>
<th>Change from 2010 to 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area</td>
<td>7,102,165</td>
<td>25.86%</td>
<td>649,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston-The Woodlands-SugarLand, TX Metro Area</td>
<td>6,656,946</td>
<td>24.23%</td>
<td>707,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area</td>
<td>2,381,828</td>
<td>8.67%</td>
<td>228,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin-Round Rock, TX Metro Area</td>
<td>2,000,860</td>
<td>7.28%</td>
<td>273,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX Metro Area</td>
<td>842,304</td>
<td>3.07%</td>
<td>63,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Paso, TX Metro Area</td>
<td>838,019</td>
<td>3.05%</td>
<td>30,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,822,122</td>
<td>72.16%</td>
<td>1,953,031</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census estimates. The Texas Population is 27,469,144.

Texas Population Trends and Projections

According to the Texas State Data Center:
- The projected population in 2050 will be 40,502,749, under the 0.5 migration scenario.
- By 2050, the non-Hispanic other category, composed of mostly Asian Americans, is expected to be the fastest growing segment of the Texas population.
- The age category including Texans over the age of 65 is projected to more than triple in size from 2010 to 2050.
- The Hispanic population will likely surpass the Anglo population by 2020 and make up the majority of the state population by 2042.