

THE AMAZING RATE

BY JAMES P. GAINES

There are more Texans than ever before. There are more young people, more middle-aged people and many more older people. There are more Anglos and considerably more Hispanics. Although the population growth rate during the first decade of the 2000s was slightly less than that of the 1990s, the state still continues to far outpace the national experience and almost all other states.

In the decades to come, several key demographic trends will be particularly significant for their potential effects on Texas' future. They are:

- the state's overall rate of growth and urbanization;
- the composition of Texas' population, especially the growth in non-anglo population groups;
- the principal sources of population growth; and
- shifts in the population's age distribution.

This is the first of a two-part review of the long-term demographic projections for Texas.

Population Projection Scenarios

Recently, the Texas State Demographer's Office revised its long-term population projections based on the results of the 2010 Decennial Census. This analysis of the state's projected population is based on the 2000–10 net migration 1.0 Scenario assumption. This scenario assumes "that the trends in the age, sex and race/ethnicity net migration rates of the post-2000 decade will characterize those occurring in the future of Texas."

All three population projection scenarios provided by the state demographer include the same set of mortality and fertility assumptions but differ regarding

net migration. The other two scenarios, the zero migration 0.0 Scenario and the 0.5 Scenario, generate substantially lower future population projections by assuming that net migration is either zero or half the 2000–10 rate. Consequently, the 1.0 Scenario produces the most aggressive future growth projections.

Table 1. Total Population and Percent Population Change Texas and the United States, 1850–2012

Year	Texas	United States	Texas Percent Growth*	U.S. Percent Growth
1850	212,592	23,191,876		
1860	604,215	31,443,321	184.2	35.6
1870	818,579	39,818,449	35.5	26.6
1880	1,591,749	50,155,783	94.5	26.0
1890	2,235,527	62,947,714	40.4	25.5
1900	3,048,710	75,994,575	36.4	20.7
1910	3,896,542	91,972,266	27.8	21.0
1920	4,663,228	105,710,620	19.7	14.9
1930	5,824,715	122,775,046	24.9	16.1
1940	6,414,824	131,669,275	10.1	7.2
1950	7,711,194	150,697,361	20.2	14.5
1960	9,579,677	179,323,175	24.2	19.0
1970	11,196,730	203,302,031	16.9	13.4
1980	14,229,191	226,545,805	27.1	11.4
1990	16,986,510	248,709,873	19.4	9.8
2000	20,851,820	281,421,906	22.8	13.2
2010	25,145,561	308,745,538	20.6	9.7
2011	25,631,778	311,587,816	1.5	0.7
2012	26,059,203	313,914,040	1.7	0.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Decennial values as of April 1 of census year. 2011 and 2012 as of July 1.

Table 2. Total Population and Decennial Growth Rate, 1970–2050

	Texas		DFW		Houston		Austin		San Antonio	
	Population	10-Year Percent Growth	Population	10-Year Percent Growth	Population	10-Year Percent Growth	Population	10-Year Percent Growth	Population	10-Year Percent Growth
1970	11,196,730		2,424,131		2,201,849		398,938		951,876	
1980	14,229,191	27.1	3,017,230	24.5	3,147,640	43.0	585,051	46.7	1,154,819	21.3
1990	16,986,510	19.4	3,989,294	32.2	3,767,218	19.7	846,227	44.6	1,407,745	21.9
2000	20,851,820	22.8	5,161,544	29.4	4,715,407	25.2	1,249,763	47.7	1,711,703	21.6
2010	25,145,561	20.6	6,371,773	23.4	5,920,416	25.6	1,716,289	37.3	2,142,508	25.2
2015	27,735,444		7,075,466		6,635,281		1,998,629		2,384,493	
2020	30,622,577	21.8	7,894,214	23.9	7,437,124	25.6	2,322,988	35.3	2,645,041	23.5
2025	33,827,950		8,858,611		8,334,616		2,680,481		2,920,952	
2030	37,349,108	22.0	10,001,371	26.7	9,323,814	25.4	3,077,805	32.5	3,204,283	21.1
2035	41,181,159		11,338,930		10,408,879		3,528,046		3,486,276	
2040	45,380,640	21.5	12,890,587	28.9	11,607,433	24.5	4,046,649	31.5	3,767,306	17.6
2045	50,023,913		14,685,292		12,932,722		4,646,275		4,047,853	
2050	55,205,312	21.6	16,768,007	30.1	14,405,099	24.1	5,333,411	31.8	4,236,334	12.4

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Texas State Demographer's Office, 2012 Projections (2000–2010 1.0 Scenario)

Projected Population Growth and Urbanization

The 2010 Census found that Texas led all states in adding population during the prior decade and was the fifth fastest growing state by rate of increase. Texas added nearly 4.3 million residents between 2000 and 2010, a 20.6 percent growth rate. It gained another 427,425 residents between 2010 and 2012. The state's total population increased from

20.9 million in 2000 to 25.1 million in 2010 and to an estimated 26 million by 2012.

The nearly 21 percent growth rate from 2000–10 was actually slightly lower than Texas' historical decennial average. Between 1870 and 2010, Texas averaged 29.4 percent population growth per decade, and nearly 22 percent per decade since 1940 (Table 1).

The major metropolitan areas of Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, Austin

and San Antonio expanded at even greater rates, while also capturing an increasing share of the total population. The state demographer's projections to 2050 indicate that the major urban areas will continue to expand faster than the state as a whole to capture even larger shares of the state's total population (Table 2).

During the 40-year period 1970–2010, Texas added approximately 14 million residents, an increase of almost 125 percent. In the next 40 years, 2010–50, the state is projected to add around 30 million residents, an increase of nearly 120 percent. This will severely impact the need for more housing. At the long-term average of 2.849 people per household, the growth in population translates to an additional 10.5 million new housing units needed.

The Dallas-Fort Worth consolidated metropolitan statistical area, which includes Dallas, Plano, Irving, Fort Worth and Arlington (DFW), is projected to expand from a 2010 population of approximately 6.4 million to nearly 16.8 million residents by 2050, an increase of more than 163 percent.

Similarly, the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA (Houston) will swell to more than 14.4 million residents, a

Figure 1. Projected Racial/Ethnic Texas Population Composition 2010–50

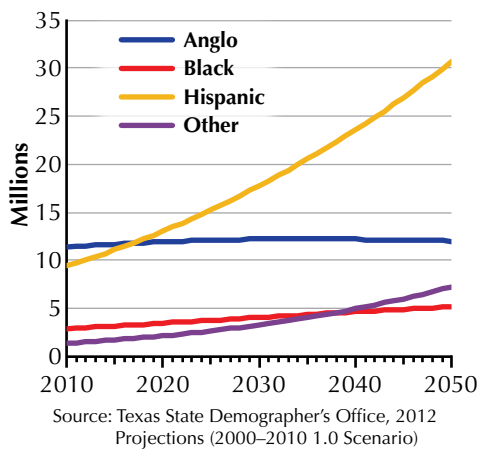


Table 3. Total Population and Percent of State Total by Major MSA 1970–2050

	Texas		DFW		Houston		Austin		San Antonio	
	Population	Population	Percent State Total	Population	Percent State Total	Population	Percent State Total	Population	Percent State Total	
1970	11,196,730	2,424,131	21.7	2,201,849	19.7	398,938	3.6	951,876	8.5	
1980	14,229,191	3,017,230	21.2	3,147,640	22.1	585,051	4.1	1,154,819	8.1	
1990	16,986,510	3,989,294	23.5	3,767,218	22.2	846,227	5.0	1,407,745	8.3	
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2030	37,349,108	10,001,371	26.8	9,323,814	25.0	3,077,805	8.2	3,204,283	8.6	
2035	41,181,159	11,338,930	27.5	10,408,879	25.3	3,528,046	8.6	3,486,276	8.5	
2040	45,380,640	12,890,587	28.4	11,607,433	25.6	4,046,649	8.9	3,767,306	8.3	
2045	50,023,913	14,685,292	29.4	12,932,722	25.9	4,646,275	9.3	4,047,853	8.1	
2050	55,205,312	16,768,007	30.4	14,405,099	26.1	5,333,411	9.7	4,236,334	7.7	
Increase 2010–50	30,059,751	10,396,234	34.6	8,484,683	28.2	3,617,122	12.0	2,093,826	7.0	

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Texas State Demographer's Office, 2012 Projections (2000–2010 1.0 Scenario)

**Table 4. Texas Population By Race/Ethnicity
2000, 2010, 2030 and 2050**

Race/ Ethnicity	2000	Percent of Total	2010	Percent of Total	2030	Percent of Total	2050	Percent of Total
Anglo	11,074,716	53.1	11,397,345	45.3	12,211,645	32.7	12,024,894	21.8
Hispanic	6,669,666	32.0	9,460,921	37.6	17,764,282	47.6	30,719,069	55.6
Black	2,421,653	11.6	2,886,825	11.5	4,080,463	10.9	5,195,861	9.4
Asian & Other	685,785	3.3	1,400,470	5.6	3,292,718	8.8	7,265,488	13.2
Total	20,851,820	100.0	25,145,561	100.0	37,349,108	100.0	55,205,312	100.0

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Texas State Demographer's Office, 2012 Projections (2000–2010 1.0 Scenario)

growth rate of more than 143 percent. The Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos MSA (Austin) is expected to more than triple its 2010 population of 1.7 million to more than 5.3 million. The San Antonio-New Braunfels MSA's (San Antonio) population is estimated to roughly double from 2.1 million in 2010 to 4.2 million by 2050.

The long-term outlook calls for the ongoing urbanization of Texas. Population will continue to concentrate even more into the state's principal metropolitan areas. In 2010, almost half (49 percent) of the state's population resided in either the DFW or Houston MSA. More than 64 percent of the state's population, almost two-thirds, lived in one of the four major metro areas. By 2050, the percentage of Texas residents located in one of the four major metro areas will approach nearly three-quarters of the total population, with 56.5 percent in either DFW or Houston (Table 3).

Composition of Texas' Population

Texas' racial and ethnic population mix represents a microcosm of the national experience, reflecting the rapid growth in Hispanic, Asian and other non-anglo population groups. The Hispanic population in Texas is projected to more than triple from 9.5 million people in 2010 to 30.7 million by 2050. Correspondingly, the Hispanic proportion of total residents will go from 38 percent to 56 percent (Table 4).

During the same time span, the anglo population is projected to increase by less than one million residents and to decline from 45 percent of the total population to just 22 percent. The "Asian and Other" demographic group is estimated to explode more than fivefold, surging from 1.4 million in 2010 to almost 7.3 million by 2050, an increase from 5.6 percent to 13.2 percent of the total population (Figure 1).

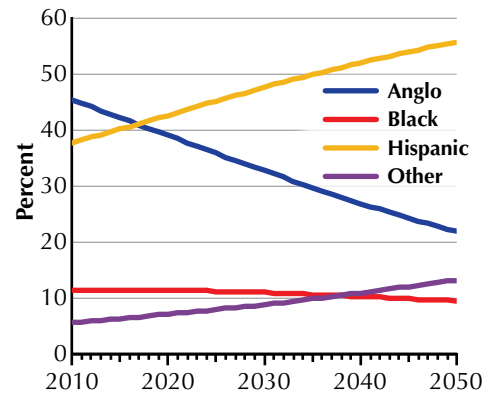
By 2017, Hispanics will outnumber Anglos in Texas. By 2035, Hispanics will exceed 50 percent of the total population and constitute the state's majority population group. The Asian and Other population will become the state's third most populous group in 2038, when it is projected to surpass the black population. The anglo proportion of Texas' population will decline from about 45 percent to less than 22 percent of the total by 2050 (Figure 2).

The composition of the resident population in the four major metro areas is projected to experience similar shifts. The Hispanic percentage of each metro area's population (except DFW) will exceed half by 2050. DFW's proportion of anglo and Hispanic populations is expected to virtually reverse between 2010 and 2050. In 2010, Hispanics represented about 27.5 percent of DFW's total population, and Anglos made up 50.2 percent. By 2050, the anglo percentage will fall to 20.8 percent while the Hispanic proportion will increase to 49.2 percent (Table 5).

In each of the other major metro areas, Hispanics will be the majority population group (they already are in San Antonio). By 2050, Hispanics will make up 55.3 percent of Houston's total population, 50.9 percent in Austin and 62.7 percent in San Antonio.

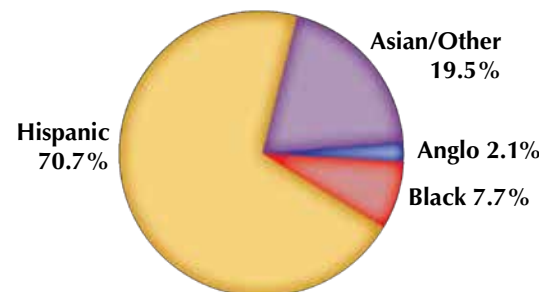
While the total number of black residents in each metro area during the next 40 years is projected to increase, the black percentage of total population is projected to fall. By 2050, blacks are expected to make up 12.1 percent of the total population in Houston, 13.1

Figure 2. Projected Racial/Ethnic Percent of Texas' Total Population 2010–50



Source: Texas State Demographer's Office, 2012 Projections (2000–2010 1.0 Scenario)

Figure 3. Projected Percent of Net Change Attributable to Each Race/Ethnic Group 2010–50



Sources: Texas State Demographer's Office, 2012 Projections (2000–2010 1.0 Scenario) and Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University

Table 5. Projected Population Composition in DFW, Houston, Austin and San Antonio 2010–50

Houston					DFW					
Population	Anglo Percent	Black Percent	Hispanic Percent	Asian & Other Percent	Population	Anglo Percent	Black Percent	Hispanic Percent	Asian & Other Percent	
2010	5,920,416	39.5	16.8	35.4	8.2	6,371,773	50.2	14.8	27.5	7.5
2015	6,635,281	36.0	16.6	38.2	9.2	7,075,466	46.2	15.1	30.3	8.5
2020	7,437,124	32.6	16.2	41.0	10.2	7,894,214	42.0	15.2	33.2	9.6
2025	8,334,616	29.3	15.7	43.8	11.2	8,858,611	38.0	15.2	36.2	10.6
2030	9,323,814	26.2	15.1	46.5	12.2	10,001,371	34.0	15.1	39.2	11.8
2035	10,408,879	23.3	14.4	49.0	13.3	11,338,930	30.4	14.7	41.9	13.0
2040	11,607,433	20.7	13.6	51.3	14.4	12,890,587	26.9	14.3	44.5	14.3
2045	12,932,722	18.3	12.9	53.4	15.5	14,685,292	23.7	13.7	46.9	15.7
2050	14,405,099	16.1	12.1	55.3	16.5	16,768,007	20.8	13.1	49.2	16.9

San Antonio					Austin					
Population	Anglo Percent	Black Percent	Hispanic Percent	Asian & Other Percent	Population	Anglo Percent	Black Percent	Hispanic Percent	Asian & Other Percent	
2010	2,142,508	36.1	6.1	54.1	3.8	1,716,289	54.7	7.0	31.4	6.9
2015	2,384,493	34.1	6.1	55.5	4.3	1,998,629	52.2	6.8	33.4	7.6
2020	2,645,041	32.1	6.1	56.9	4.9	2,322,988	49.7	6.5	35.5	8.3
2025	2,920,952	30.2	6.0	58.1	5.6	2,680,481	46.9	6.2	38.0	8.9
2030	3,204,283	28.4	5.9	59.2	6.5	3,077,805	43.7	6.0	40.7	9.6
2035	3,486,276	26.6	5.8	60.1	7.5	3,528,046	40.4	5.8	43.4	10.4
2040	3,767,306	25.0	5.7	60.7	8.6	4,046,649	37.2	5.5	46.1	11.2
2045	4,047,853	23.5	5.5	61.2	9.8	4,646,275	34.3	5.2	48.6	11.9
2050	4,236,334	21.7	5.6	62.7	10.0	5,333,411	31.6	4.9	50.9	12.6

Source: Texas State Demographer's Office, 2012 Projections (2000–2010 1.0 Scenario)

percent in DFW, 4.9 percent in Austin and 5.6 percent in San Antonio.

The phenomenal 21.25 million surge in the number of Hispanics will account for nearly 71 percent of the 30.1 million escalation in the state's total population between 2010 and 2050. Growth of the Asian and Other group will account for another 19.5 percent of the total change in the state's population. By contrast, the less than one million additional Anglos will account for only 2.1 percent of the state's total population increase (Figure 3).

During the next 40 years, Texas' demographics will change even more dramatically than during the past 40. The absolute number of people added to the state's total population will be more than twice what was added in the past four decades, and the racial/ethnic composition will shift decidedly to a Hispanic majority. Texas will continue to lead in population diversity and remain a true melting pot for the nation and the world.

The second part of this discussion will describe the sources of resident growth and the aging of the state's population. About half of the total population increase will be natural (births exceeding deaths), and the other half will come from foreign and domestic immigrants moving to Texas. These immigrants will bring their own social and political perceptions, cultural preferences and traits, and unique economic talents. 📍

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THE TAKEAWAY

Texas' population has grown at an amazing rate over the past 40 years, and the Texas State Demographer projects an even higher growth rate between now and 2050. The state's four major metros will double or even triple their populations.



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