Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: July 8, 2014

Prepared By/Phone Number: Juanita Jackson/854-4467

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive for Health and Human Services and Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:
Receive briefing on the 2013 CAN Community Dashboard Report

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:
See attachment report and presentation

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:
No recommendation

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:
See attachment report and presentation

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:
No Fiscal Impact

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:
Mary Etta Gerhardt, Assistant County Attorney'
Leroy Nellis, Acting County Executive, Planning and Budget Office
Cyd Grimes, CPM, Travis County Purchasing Agent
Nicki Riley, CAP, CMA, Travis County Auditor
Patty Lennon, Financial Analyst, Travis County Auditor's Office
Aerin Toussaint, Analyst, Planning and Budget Office
Sherri Fleming, County Executive, HHSVS

can DASHBOARD

2014

key socioeconomic indicators
for Greater Austin & Travis County

can convenes + connects + informs

CAN is a partnership of governmental, non-profit, private and faith-based organizations which leverage mutual resources to collectively improve social, health, educational and economic opportunities in our community.

CAN PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- Austin Chamber of Commerce
- Austin Community College
- Austin ISD
- Austin Travis County Integral Care
- Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce
- Capital Metro
- Central Health
- City of Austin
- City of Pflugerville
- Community Justice Council
- Del Valle ISD
- Greater Austin Asian Chamber
- Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber
- Huston Tillotson University
- interfaith Action Central Texas
- Manor ISD
- One Voice Central Texas
- Seton Healthcare Family
- St. David's Foundation
- St. Edward's University
- Travis County
- United Way for Greater Austin
- University of Texas at Austin
- Workforce Solutions - Capital Area

CAN DASHBOARD

We are safe, just & engaged

- crime
- arrest demographics
- voting

Our basic needs are met

- low-income
- food security
- housing cost burdened
- vehicle miles traveled
- homelessness

We are healthy

- health insurance
- mental health
- smoking
- obesity
- air quality

We achieve our full potential

- school ready
- high school graduation
- college success
- unemployment

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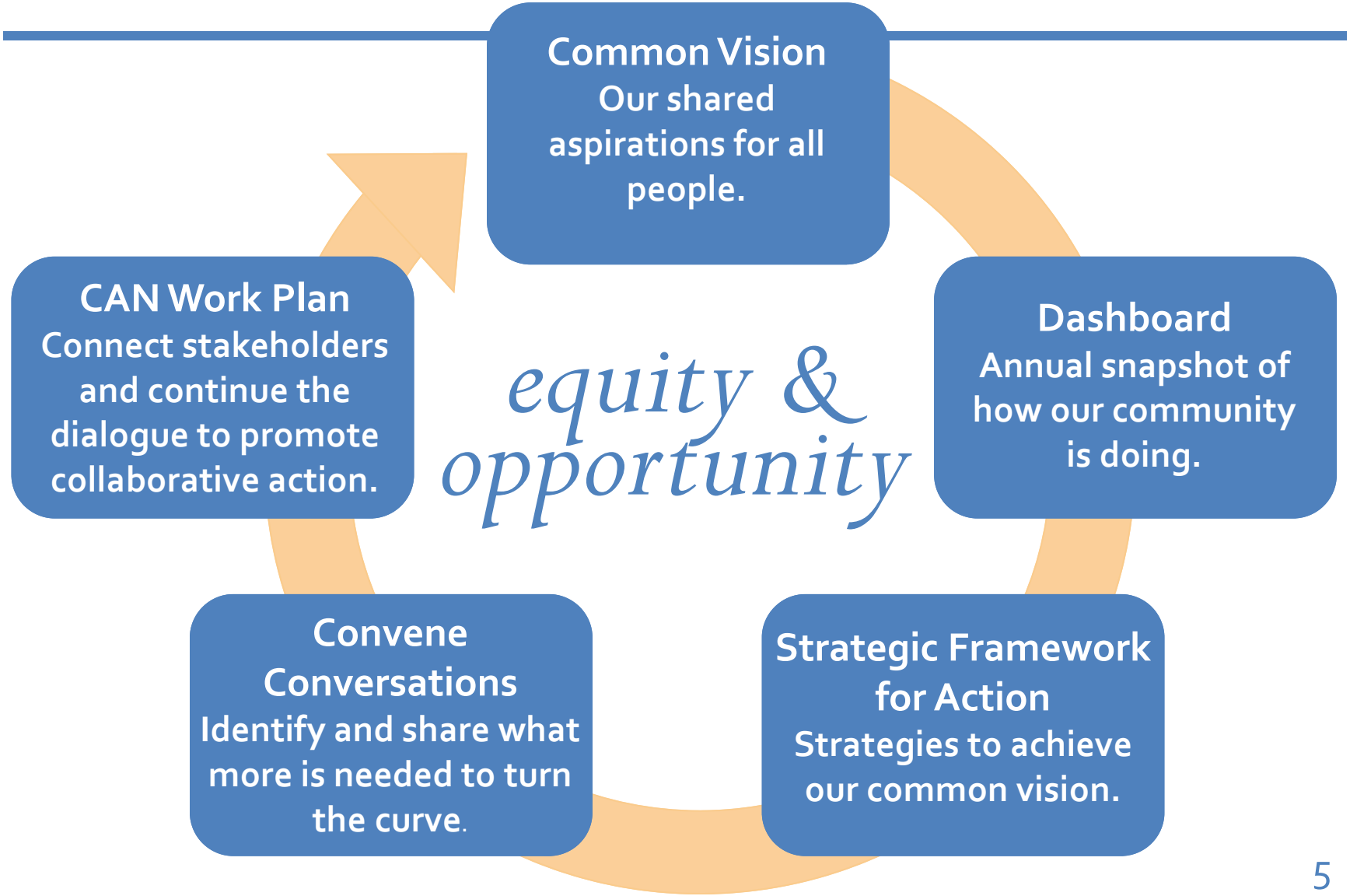
PART OF AN ANNUAL PROCESS



www.CANCOMMUNITYdashboard

- Download the 2014 CAN Dashboard Report
- Find more information for each indicator, including…
  - Historical trends
  - More data and maps
  - Graphs depicting disparities among groups, where available
  - Information on vulnerable populations
  - Local efforts to improve the indicators

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collaborations that are making a difference

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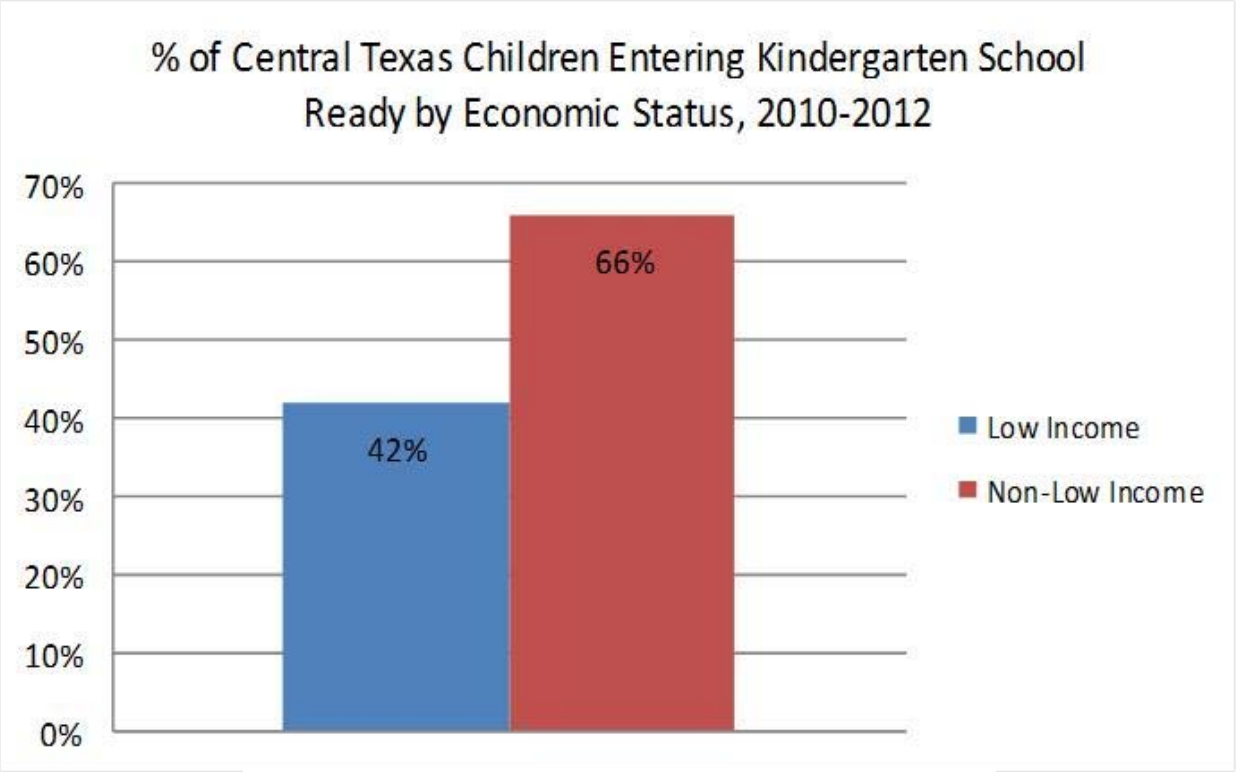
EDUCATION

Challenge: Disparate outcomes from pre-k through high school for low-income students.

Collaborations making a difference:

- School Readiness Action Plan – UWGA, City of Austin, Travis County, AISD, WFSCA, non-profits
- E^3 Alliance Blueprint for Educational Change
- Austin Chamber of Commerce Education Progress Reports
- Joint Subcommittees of Austin City Council, AISD Board and Travis County Commissioners

EDUCATION



Source: E3 Alliance

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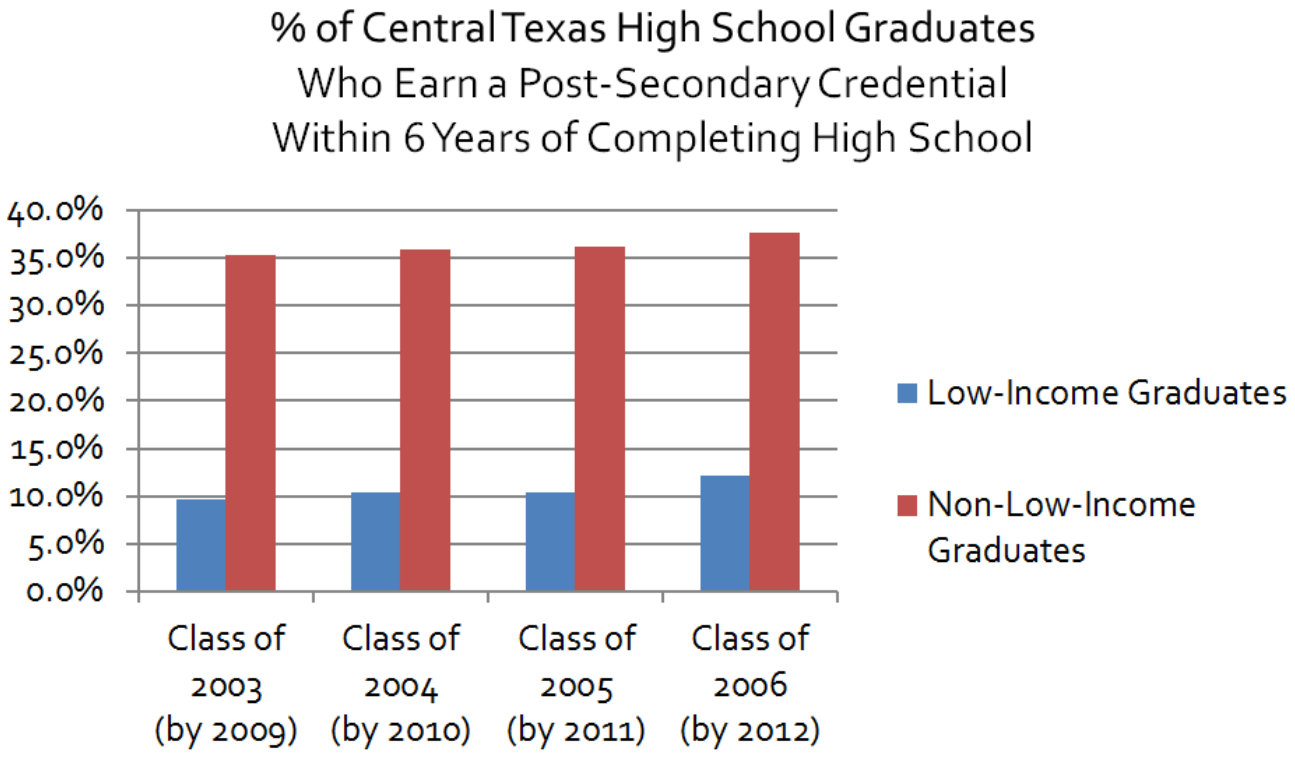
HIGHER EDUCATION SUCCESS

Challenge: Disparate outcomes for low-income and first-generation college students, especially for men of color.

Promising collaborative efforts:

- Plan for 2015, Austin Chamber of Commerce
- Austin College Access Network (ACAN), E^3 Alliance
- Texas Education Consortium for Male Students of Color, UT Austin in partnership with ACC, Texas State University, Austin ISD and other state-wide partners
- CAN College Persistence and Success Work Group

HIGHER EDUCATION SUCCESS



Source: E3 Alliance

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WORKFORCE

Challenge: High unemployment for Blacks, Hispanics, and people with disabilities.

Promising collaborative efforts:

- Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative, Workforce Solutions Capital Area (WSCA) led collaboration
- Accelerating Connections to Employment, WSCA and Austin Community College (ACC)
- Highland Mall renovation, ACC
- Goodwill Industries – employment services for hardest to serve

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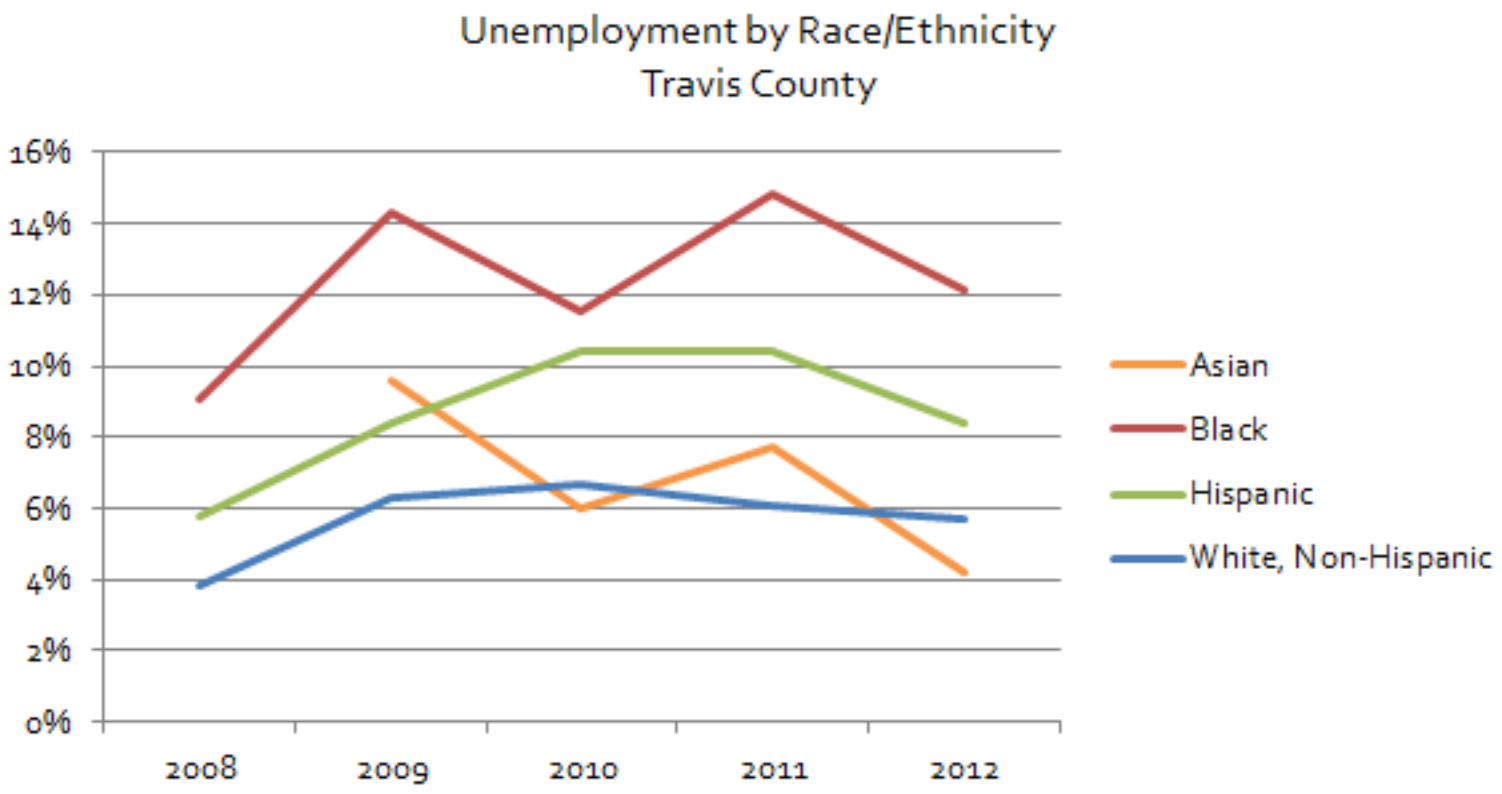
WORKFORCE



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

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HEALTH

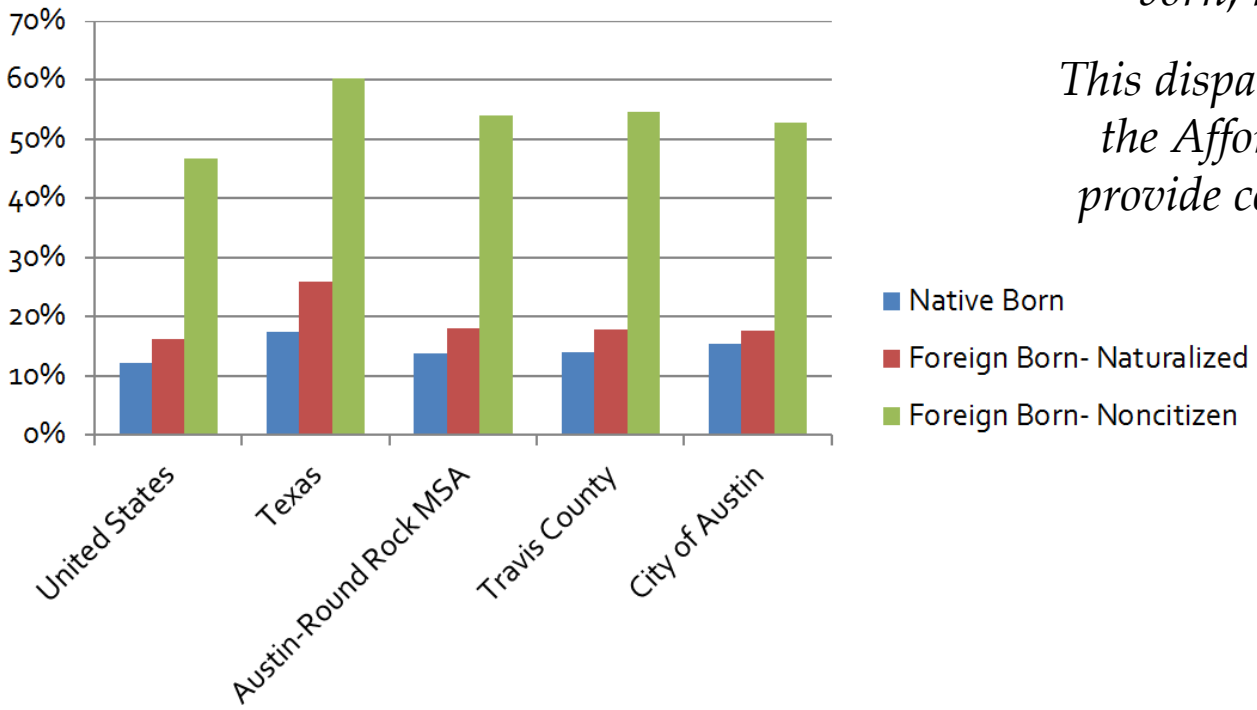
Challenges: access to mental health and substance abuse services, persistence of obesity, and lack of Medicaid or Medicare for poor adults and undocumented residents.

Promising collaborative efforts:

- 1115 Waiver Projects and the Regional Healthcare Partnership Plan, Central Health
  - E.g. Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams divert people from jail and emergency rooms; new Dove Springs clinic
- Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), ATCHHSD plus others

HEALTH

Percent Who Are Uninsured by Citizenship Status, 2012



The greatest disparity for health insurance coverage is for the foreign-born, noncitizen population.

This disparity is likely to increase, as the Affordable Care Act does not provide coverage to undocumented residents.

Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

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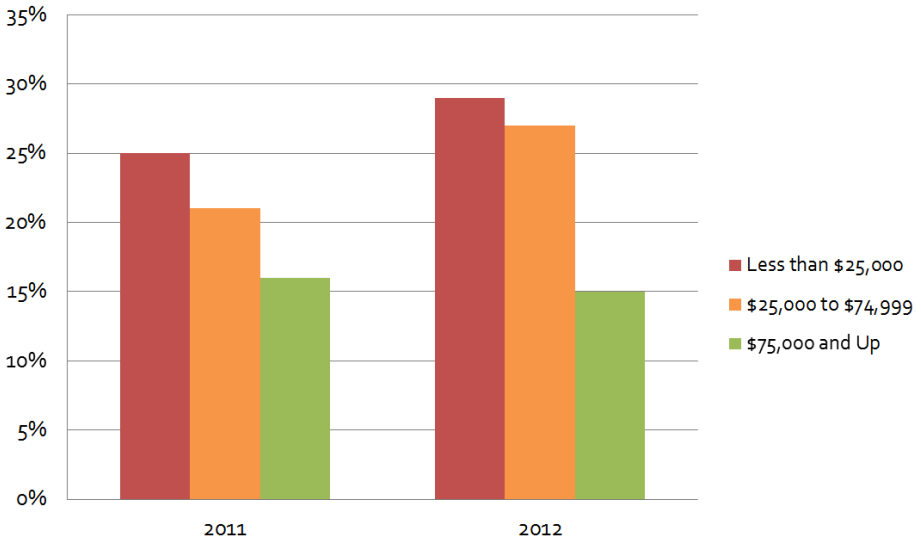
HEALTH

Lower income people fare poorly on health indicators

Percent of Adults who are Current Smokers in Travis County by Income

Percent of Adults who are Obese in Travis County by Income



Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

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trends & challenges

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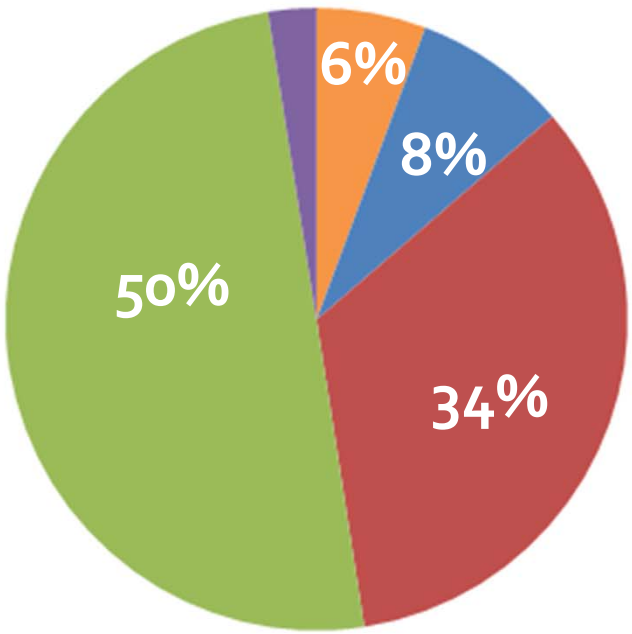
GROWING DIVERSITY

- A large and growing Hispanic population and a fast-growing, linguistically diverse Asian population bring challenges for providing culturally and linguistically proficient services.
- A fast-growing aging population will require changes in services including health care and housing.
- Blacks are persistently overrepresented in jail bookings, homelessness, HS disciplinary referrals and the unemployed.
- Hispanics are overrepresented among those living in poverty, those without a HS degree and those with no health insurance.

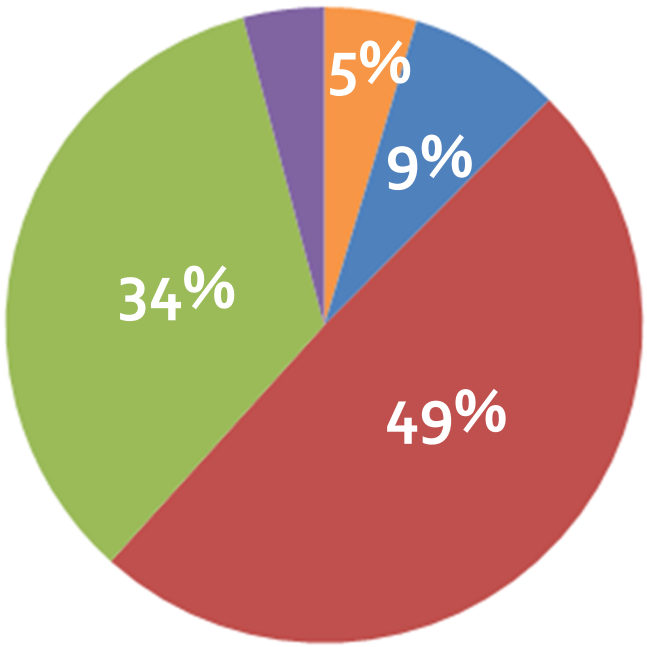
GROWING DIVERSITY

Travis County 2012

Total Population



Under Age 5 Population

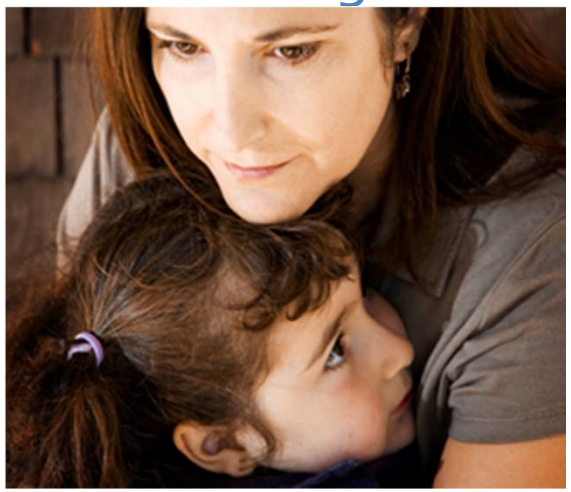


Asian Black Hispanic White Other

Source: American Community Survey, 1-year Population Estimates

PAIN OF RECESSION LINGERS

- From 2007 to 2012, the low-income population grew at almost twice the rate as total population.
- Median Household Income, adjusted for inflation, was less in 2012 than in 2007. Hispanic households were earning almost $8,000 less in 2012 than in 2007.
- Percent of people who are low-income and housing cost burdened remain higher than pre-recession levels.
- While food insecurity rates have decreased nation-wide since the recession ended in 2009, the rate has increased in Travis County.



73% of children in single-parent households are low-income.

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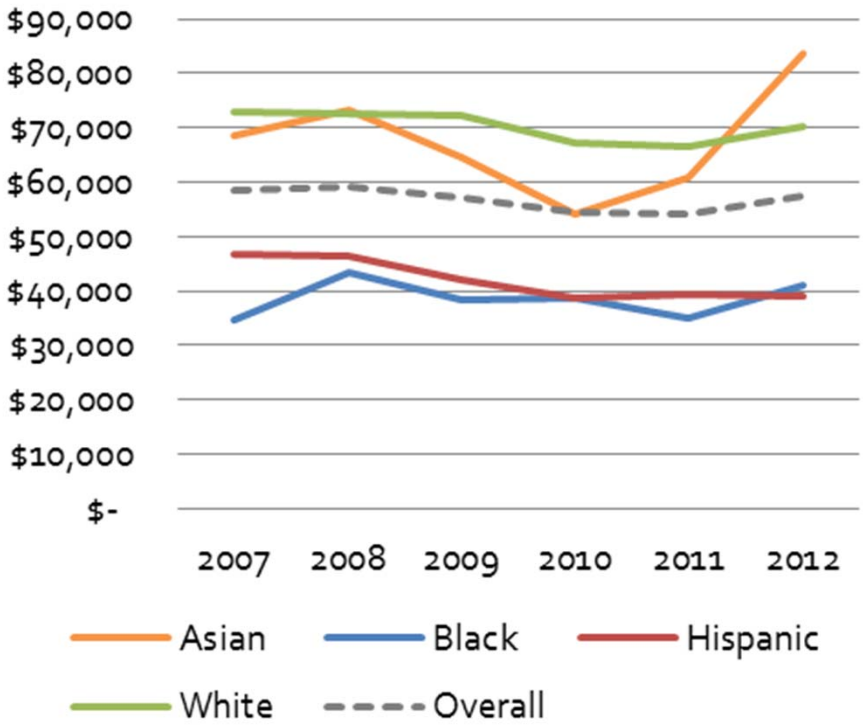
PAIN OF RECESSION LINGERS

Travis County Median Household Income,
Adjusted for Inflation



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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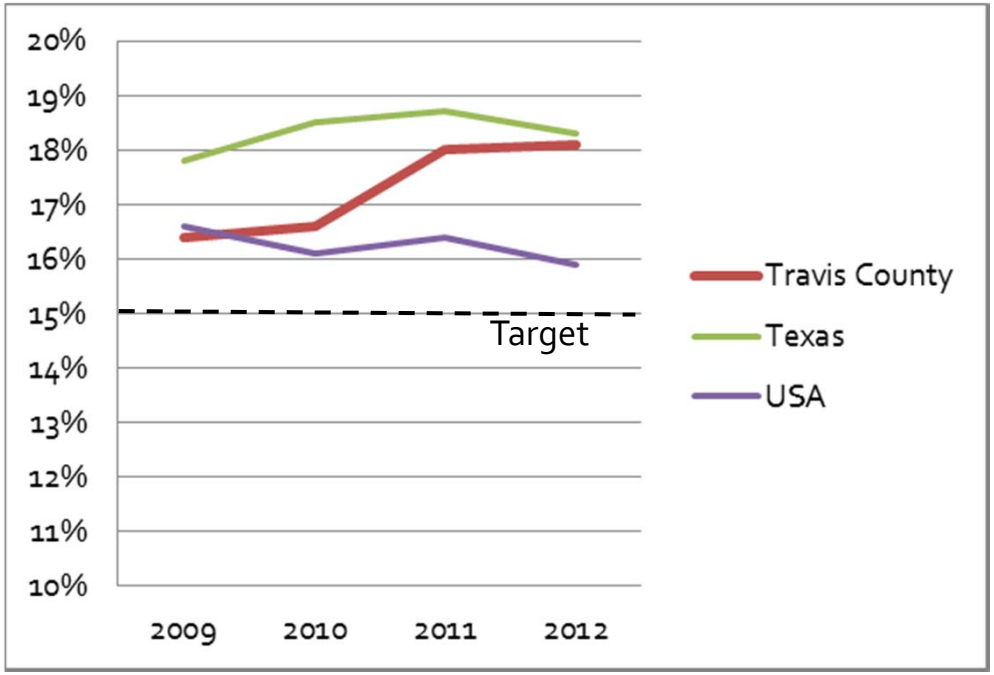
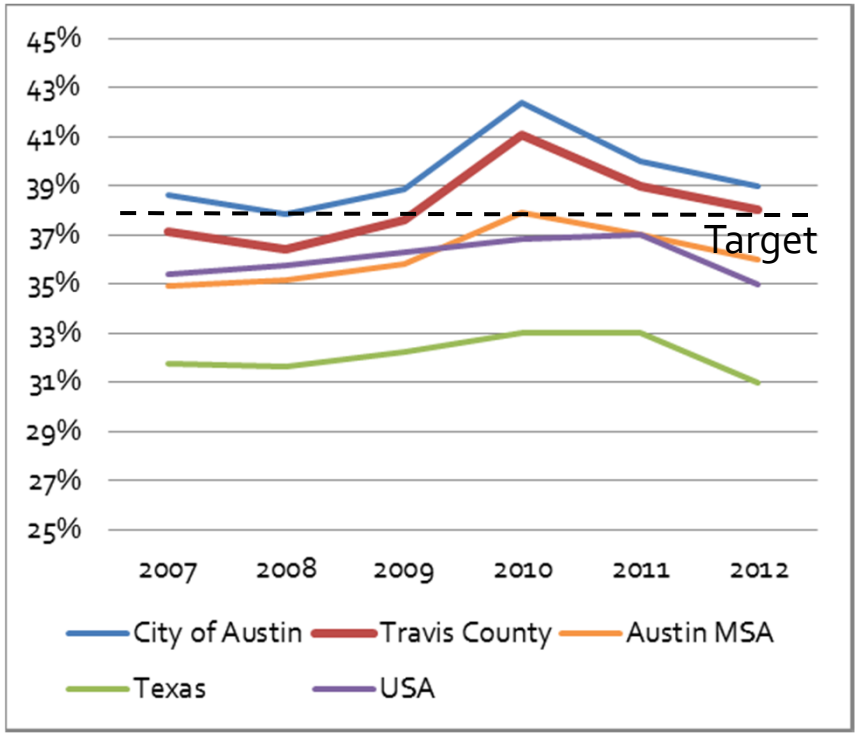
PAIN OF RECESSION LINGERS

Percent of Who Live in Food Insecure Households



Source: Feeding America

Percent of Households that are Cost-Burdened



Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

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INCOME SEGREGATION

- There are sharpening concentrations of poverty and wealth.
- Low-income people are moving to outlying areas where transportation and services are limited.

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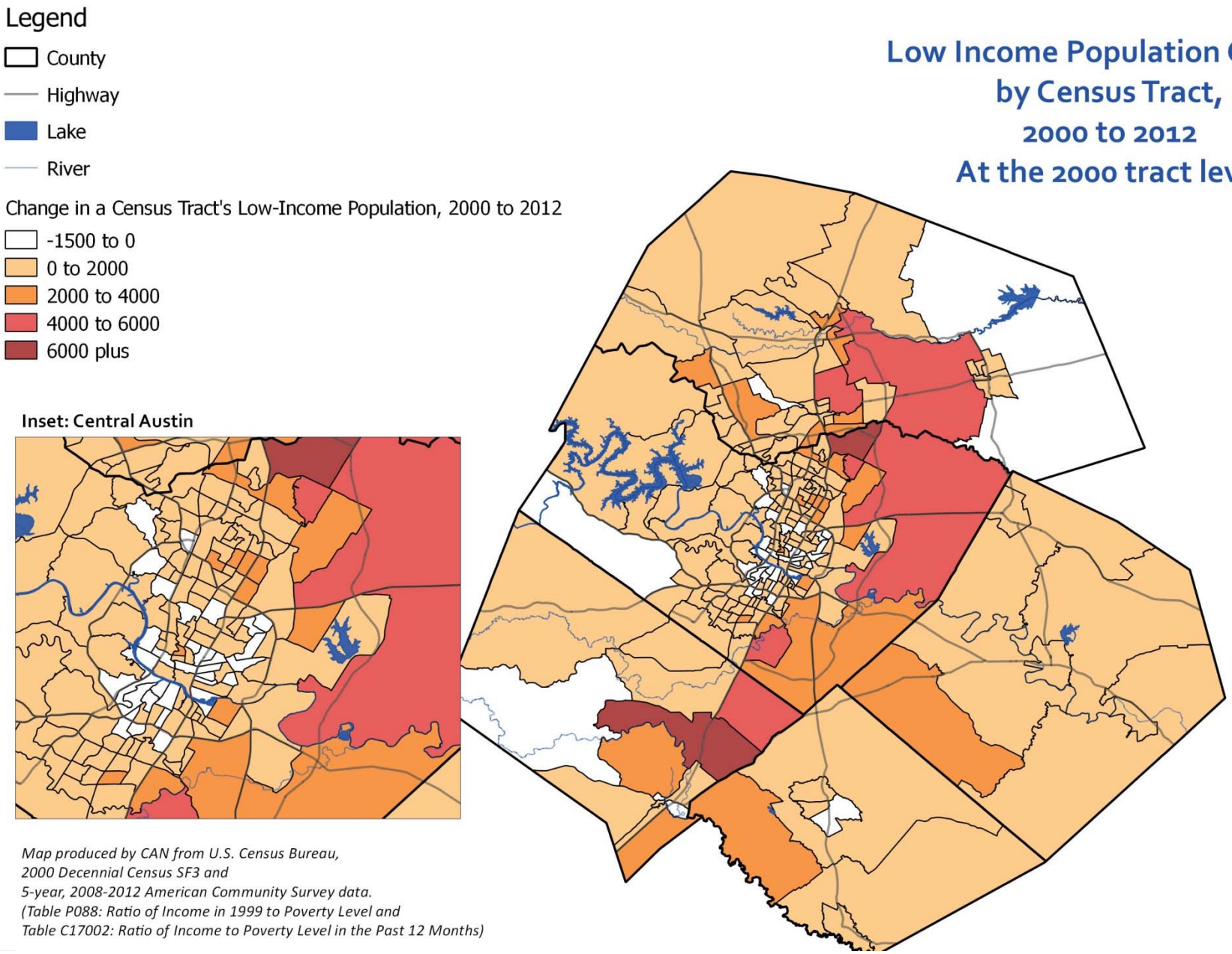
INCOME SEGREGATION



Map produced by CAN from U.S. Census Bureau,
2000 Decennial Census SF3 and
5-year, 2008-2012 American Community Survey data.
(Table P088: Ratio of Income in 1999 to Poverty Level and
Table C17002: Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months)

solutions

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GROWING DIVERSITY

- Enhance capacity for culturally and linguistically proficient services.
- Ensure that community leadership and the professional workforce mirror populations served.
- Build on the assets of individuals and communities and empower them to achieve goals.

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PAINS OF RECESSION LINGER

- Take a whole family, wraparound approach to service delivery.
- Increase collaboration among funding entities.
- Provide coordinated, community-based outreach.
- Build our community's data-sharing capacity to increase efficiency and effectiveness of services. (*ECHO is working on this for homeless services*.)

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INCOME SEGREGATION

- Provide transportation-accessible, co-located services in strategic locations throughout the region.
- Consider housing and transportation together.
- Approach service delivery across jurisdictions and disciplines.

the conversation continues…

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2014

THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES

Safety Net Forums

- Housing
- Employment assistance
- Health
- Cultural competency

CAN Community Council

- Diverse populations
- Aging
- Immigrants
- Criminal history
- People with disabilities
- Veterans
- Children and youth

CAN retreat – 10/10/14

Community Dashboard 2013

key socioeconomic indicators for Greater Austin & Travis County

TRACKING OUR PROGRESS TOGETHER

The greater Austin area is resilient and has emerged from the Great Recession with improvements on many socioeconomic fronts. Our community has mobilized action across disciplines and jurisdictions to confront significant demographic shifts and associated challenges. While most indicators on the Community Dashboard show improvement, there is much work still to be done to reach desired goals and targets and to address existing disparities.

community dashboard 2013

The Community Dashboard report and its companion website www.CANcommunitydashboard.org are produced by CAN. The CAN partners represent many of the agencies and organizations in Austin and Travis County that provide resources to enhance the social, health, educational and economic well-being of Central Texas.

The Community Dashboard provides an opportunity for CAN partner organizations and the community at large to check our progress on a set of key indicators each year. This fourth annual report also highlights organizations and collaborations that are taking the lead in moving each of the indicators in the right direction.

CAN

connect • convene • inform

CAN Partner organizations

Austin Chamber of Commerce

Austin Community College

Austin Independent School District

Austin Travis County Integral Care

Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce

Capital Metro

Central Health

City of Austin

City of Pflugerville

Community Justice Council

Del Valle Independent School District

Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce

Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Huston-Tillotson University

interfaith Action of Central Texas

Manor Independent School District

One Voice Central Texas

Seton Healthcare Family

St. David's Foundation

St. Edward's University

Travis County

United Way for Greater Austin

University of Texas at Austin

Workforce Solutions– Capital Area

mission

CAN is a partnership of governmental, non-profit, private and faith-based organizations which leverage mutual resources to collectively improve social, health, educational and economic opportunities in our community.

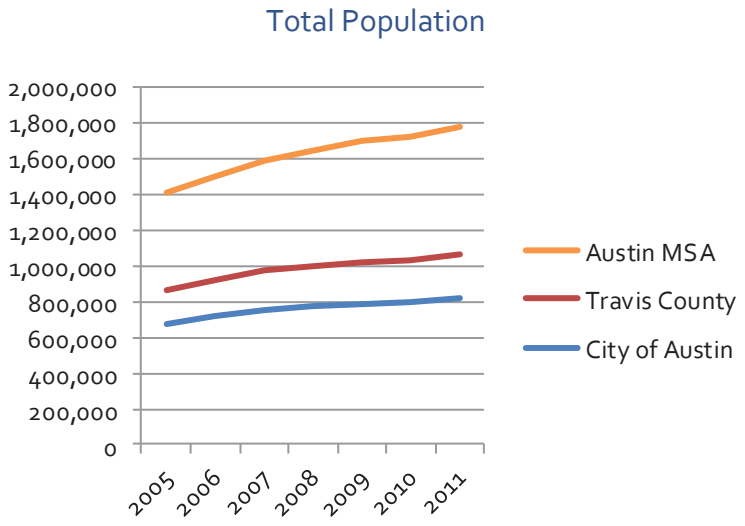
OUR COMMUNITY

fast growth

Austin topped the Forbes' list of America's Fastest Growing Cities for the third year in a row in 2013. This ranking was based on population, employment, income and other data for the Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson Counties.

The Texas State Data Center projects the population of the MSA will top 5 million by the year 2050, with Travis and Williamson Counties each reaching a population of about 2 million.

More than 71% of new growth in the Austin MSA from 2000 to 2010 was in suburban areas. This trend is expected to continue.



Source: American Community Survey, 1-year Population Estimates

diversification

We live in a "no majority" community with no one racial or ethnic group comprising more than half of the total population. One-half of the Travis County population was White in 2011, according to the American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 34% were Hispanic, 8% were Black, 6% were Asian and 2% were Other. The largest growth has been in the Hispanic population. The Asian population, though small as a percentage of the total, is growing at the fastest rate.

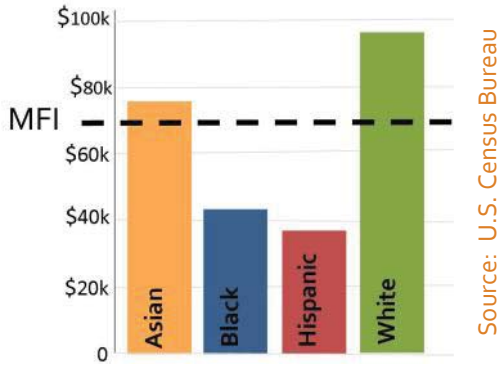
young population

Travis County has a larger working age population than both the state and the nation. People between the ages of 18 and 64 comprise 69% of the total population, compared to 62% of the Texas population and 63% of the U.S. population.

Travis County has a comparatively young population, with more than a quarter million children and a large young adult population. Although the older population is growing at a fast rate, it is still a small percentage of the total. The number of children under the age of five is almost equal to the total number of all people age 65 and older.

income disparity

There is a great difference in median family income by race and ethnicity. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Median Family Income (MFI) for families in Travis County in 2011 was just under $70,000.



geographic disparity

There is a sharp geographical divide in our community. The Geography of Opportunity in Austin and How It Is Changing is a new report and online mapping tool produced by the Kirwan Institute for Race and Ethnicity in conjunction with local partners. The maps show areas of high and low opportunity as it relates to education, economic mobility, housing, and other key issues, and are intended to be used as a tool to create policies that create socioeconomic opportunity for all Central Texans.

SETTING A COMMON AGENDA

The Community Dashboard provides an annual snapshot of the overall socioeconomic health and well-being of Travis County and the greater Austin metro area. This process invites the CAN partner organizations and the community as a whole to annually consider: Are we moving closer toward our shared vision for all people? What collaborative efforts are helping? Are these efforts sufficient? What more is needed?

The **Common Vision** was adopted by the CAN Board of Directors in 2008 after a year of community discussion.

Community Indicators were adopted by the CAN Board of Directors in 2009. The first annual Community Dashboard report was released in 2010.

The **Strategic Framework for Action**, found on the back cover of this report, was developed in 2011-2012 and summarizes strategies identified in community plans and by stakeholders across many jurisdictions and disciplines.

Each year the CAN Community Council and the Board of Directors **convene conversations** on issues facing our community and use this information to inform the annual **CAN Work Plan**.

OUR COMMON VISION

We are safe, just & engaged	We are free from abuse, neglect, crime, violence, and injustice. We respect and value diversity. We are aware, socially connected, and contribute to our neighborhoods, individual communities, and the community at large. We have the opportunity and willingness to lead by utilizing our talents, passions and interests to improve the community.
Our basic needs are met	We live in a community where the basic needs of all are met. We live in affordable and stable housing with access to open space and public amenities. We have safe, affordable, accessible, and reliable transportation.
We are healthy	We live, work, learn, and play in accessible, safe, clean, and healthy physical environments. We have adequate nutrition, and achieve and maintain optimal physical and behavioral health.
We achieve our full potential	We have the education, skills, and opportunities to achieve our full potential and lead meaningful, joyful lives. We have adequate income, resources, and supports to live independent lives.

	community indicator (Data is reported for Travis County unless otherwise specified.)	baseline	most recent (as of 4/3/13)	goal	target	status*
We are safe, just & engaged	Crime rate per 100,000 population	5,894 in 2007	4,885 in 2011	reduce crime rate	1% annual reduction	BETTER
	Proportionality of jail bookings across all races and ethnicities	disproportionality ratio of 2.6 for Blacks in 2011	disproportionality ratio of 2.6 for Blacks in 2011	proportionate jail bookings	proportionality by 2017	NEW BASELINE
	Percent voter turnout National/Presidential election State/Gubernatorial election	64% in 2008 39% in 2006	58% in 2012 36% in 2010	increase voter turnout	65% in 2016 40% in 2014	WORSE
Our basic needs are met	Percent of residents who are low-income (<200% of the federal poverty threshold)	32% in 2005	36% in 2011	reduce low-income	30% by 2017	WORSE
	Percent of cost-burdened households (pay 30% or more of income for housing)	37% in 2005	39% in 2011	reduce cost-burdened households	36% by 2017	WORSE
	Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita	26.2 miles per day in 2000	23.3 miles per day in 2011	reduce VMT	21 miles per day by 2017	BETTER
	Number of people identified in the annual point-in-time homeless count	2,568 in 2009	2,121 in 2013	end home-lessness	1,000 by 2017	BETTER
We are healthy	Percent under age 65 who have no health insurance	24% in 2008	21% in 2011	reduce uninsured	20% by 2014	BETTER
	Percent of adults who report poor mental health**	17% in 2011	17% in 2011**	reduce poor mental health	15% by 2017	NEW BASELINE
	Percent of adults who are smokers**	16% in 2011	16% in 2011**	reduce smoking	12% by 2020	NEW BASELINE
	Percent of adults who are obese**	19% in 2011	19% in 2011**	reduce obesity	17% by 2020	NEW BASELINE
	Attainment of national ambient air quality standards	1999 in attainment	2012 in attainment	achieve EPA standards	attainment	BETTER
We achieve our full potential	Percent of children who are kindergarten ready ***	52% in 2010	56% in 2012	increase kinder-ready kids	70% by 2015	BETTER
	Percent of students who graduate from high school in four years***	77% Class of 2007	84% Class of 2010	increase HS graduation	95% Class of 2015	BETTER
	Percent of high school graduates who are college ready in both English and Math***	43% Class of 2007	59% Class of 2011	increase college readiness	86% Class of 2015	BETTER
	Unemployment rate	6.1% in January 2002	5.7% in January 2013	reduce un-employment	4% in 01/2017	BETTER

* Status is based on the 5-year trend line, where available, with a minimum 3-year trend for status attribution.
** Data from previous years is not comparable due to significant changes in the survey tool.
*** Education indicators cover the 5-county Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos Metropolitan Statistical Area.

WE ARE SAFE, JUST AND ENGAGED

Goal: reduce crime rate

Target: 1% annual reduction

crime occurred at a rate of 4,885 per 100,000 population in Travis County

The crime rate in Travis County decreased by 9% from 2010 to 2011, which surpassed the community goal of reducing crime by 1% each year. However, the crime rate for Travis County is still higher than the state and the nation.

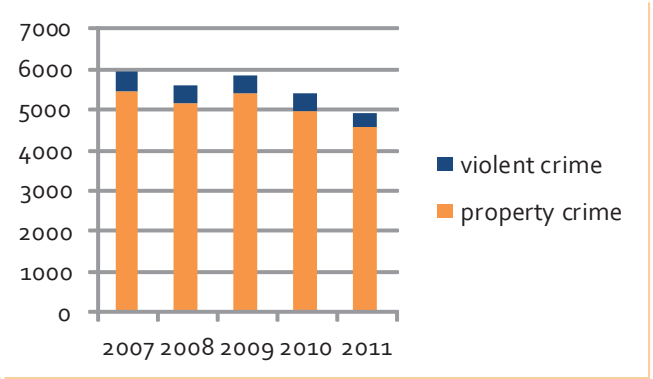
The Travis County Community Justice Council brings together law enforcement, courts, juvenile and adult probation, prosecution, defense attorneys, victims' advocates, schools, and other community members to share information and increase collaboration among community justice agencies and partners. Some local initiatives and strategies that will help continue to reduce crime include efforts to create permanent supportive housing for frequent users in the criminal justice system, the Travis County Impact Supervision Initiative of the Travis County Adult Probation Department, specialized courts and dockets, and programs to support successful offender reintegration.

Crime Rate per 100,000 Population

Source: Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Reports

Efforts that have promise for helping our community continue this positive trend over time include the Travis County Community Plan for Coordination of Criminal Justice and Related Activities, the City of Austin's Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, the Housing Authority of the City of Austin Rosewood Choice Neighborhood Transformation Plan, The Austin Police Department's Restore Rundberg Initiative, and the Travis County Mental Health Planning Bureau of Justice Assistance Plan.

Travis County Crime Rate per 100,000 Population



Source: Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Reports and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Violent Crime: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault

Property Crime: burglary, theft, auto theft

Property crime is the main driver of the overall crime rate. Property crime impacts many more people than violent crime each year. The property crime rate in Travis County is higher than both the state and the nation. Historically, the violent crime rate has been lower than the state but higher than the nation.

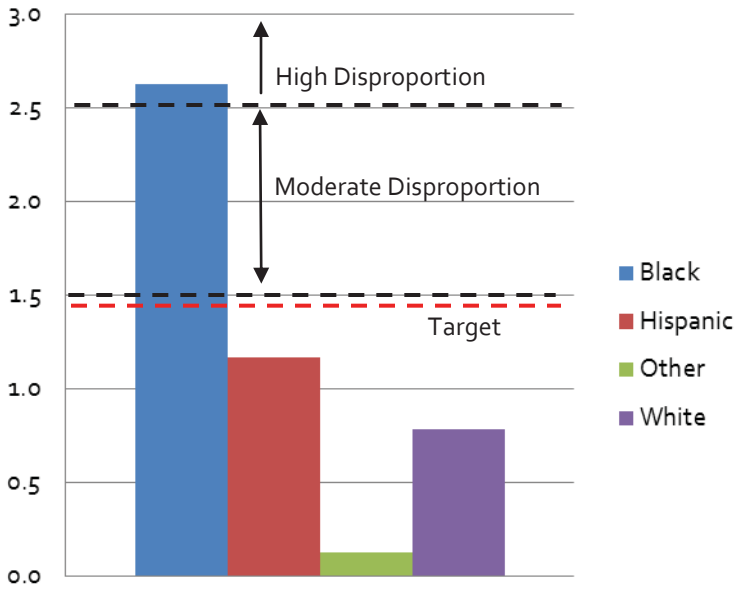
jail bookings are not proportionate for all races in Travis County

Goal: proportionate jail bookings for all races and ethnicities

Target: proportionality by 2017

People arrested by the 14 law enforcement agencies in Travis County are generally booked into the Travis County jail. Blacks are disproportionately overrepresented in these jail bookings compared to their representation in the overall Travis County adult population. In 2011 the disproportionality ratio for Blacks was 2.6, which indicates a high disproportion of overrepresentation. The causes of disproportionality are complex, cross many social systems, and are experienced in communities across the country.

Disproportionality Ratios for Bookings into the Travis County Jail, 2011



Source: Travis County Sherriff's Office and the American Community Survey 1-Year Population Estimates

The report Breaking Schools' Rules: A Statewide Study on How School Discipline Relates to Students' Success and Juvenile Justice Involvement, found that African American students were suspended or expelled from school at exceptionally high rates. The Travis County District Attorney's Office, Travis County Juvenile Probation, law enforcement agencies, Texas Appleseed, and several local school districts have convened a work group to examine local data and to review best practices for impacting some of the findings in the report.

The Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities, under the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, was created by the State Legislature in 2011 to address disproportionality found in many state systems. The Center offers free trainings and technical assistance to organizations that wish to address disproportionality.

The CAN Board of Directors has identified Cultural Competency, Diversity, and Inclusion as a key issue on its 2013 Work Plan and is convening discussions with community leaders on how to create an inclusive and equitable community across all social systems.

Disproportionality was also found in other CAN Community Dashboard indicators. Blacks are moderately overrepresented among the unemployed and extremely overrepresented among those who seek homeless services and shelter. Hispanics also experience disproportionality. Hispanics are more likely than others to have no health insurance, to not have a high school diploma and to be living in poverty. For more information about disproportionality across systems in our community, click on the jail bookings indicator on the CAN Community Dashboard website.

Blacks were 3.4 times more likely than Whites to be booked into the Travis County jail. Black students were six times more likely than White students in Austin ISD to be removed from the classroom and placed in Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs.

Voter turnout of 58% in Travis County

Goal: increase turnout

Targets:

- 40% in 2014 State/ Gubernatorial election
- 65% in 2016 National/ Presidential election

Voter participation in the 2012 national election was down from the previous presidential election. The Nonprofit Voter Engagement Network explains that voting impacts civic participation of all kinds. People who do not vote are less likely to self-identify as stakeholders in their communities. They are less likely to volunteer, contact their elected officials or participate in public life. Frequent voters, on the other hand, are more likely to engage in community affairs, serve on boards and commissions and even enter public service themselves.

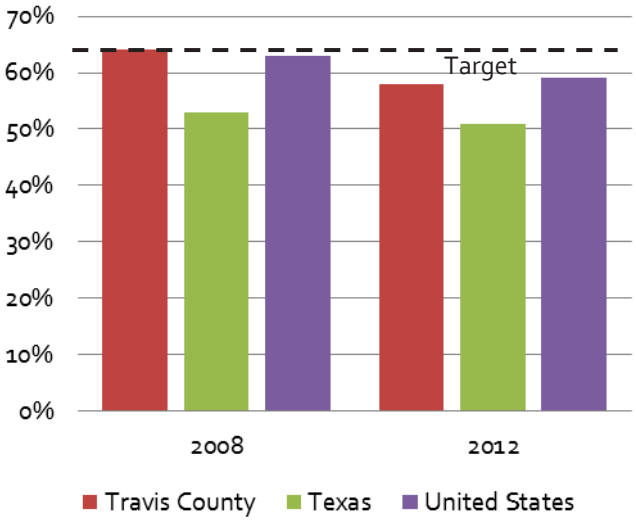
Nonprofit VOTE notes that Texas ranked 48th among the 50 states in voter turnout in the 2012 election. Texas and other states with low voter turnout also have some of the most burdensome voter registration requirements. States that allow Election Day Voter Registration have some of the highest voter turnout rates.

Civic engagement groups are focusing voter engagement efforts on the "Rising American Electorate," which includes people of color, unmarried women, and people under age 30. The Voter Participation Center notes that the Rising American Electorate accounted for 81% of U.S. population growth in the past decade, but these populations are significantly under-registered and many who are registered do not vote.

The Travis County Elections Division now allows voters to vote from any polling location in Travis County on election day, instead of being required to vote from a specific precinct location. This makes voting on election day just as convenient as voting early. A majority of Travis County voters cast their ballots at one of 23 early voting locations.

A newly established Austin chapter of the Texas Civic Engagement Table facilitates collaboration among non-profit organizations to give low-income and marginalized people a stronger voice in civic life. The Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation encourages voting among young adults with programs such as University of Texas Votes. The East Austin Voter Mobilization Initiative targets get-out-the-vote efforts in East Austin precincts with low voter turnout. These efforts have proven successful on a limited scale, and provide opportunities to inform larger efforts.

Voter Turnout of Citizen Voting Age Population in National/Presidential Elections



Source: Travis County Clerk, United States Elections Project, and the American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

Analysis of local data shows that people under the age of 35 are less likely to vote than people age 45 and older. Hispanics and Asians are also underrepresented among voters in Travis County.

OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE MET

36% of Travis County residents are low-income

Goal: reduce percent who are low-income

Target: 30% by 2017

The percent of people in Austin and Travis County who are low-income declined in 2011, but remained above pre-recession levels. The rate for the state and nation continued the upward trend that began in 2008.

The Urban Institute defines people as low-income when they earn less than 200% of the federal poverty threshold. In 2011, that was equal to $45,622 annually for a family of four with two children. Over 373,000 people in Travis County had fallen below this income level in 2011. People who are low-income fare worse on almost every Community Dashboard indicator.

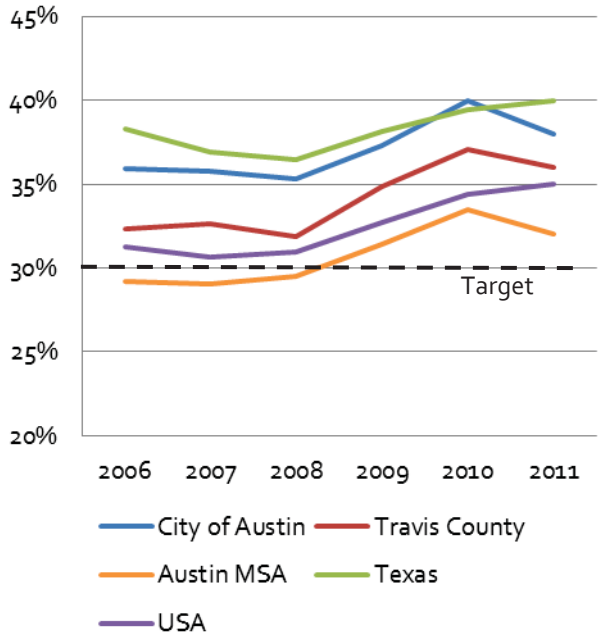
Access to good paying jobs is one way to turn the curve on this indicator. Page 20 of this report identifies local efforts to help people gain skills, training and access to better paying jobs.

The Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) advocates at the state level for policies to improve the safety net for people in need. The Working Poor Families Project focuses on workforce development policies that strengthen economic conditions affecting working families and the Family Asset Building Project helps low- and moderate-income families build financial security through assets, savings, and financial literacy. The CPPP recently launched a Family Budgets tool which estimates what it takes for families to make ends meet in each of Texas' 26 metro areas. According to this tool, it takes more income for a family to meet its basic needs in the Austin MSA than in other metro areas in Texas.

The Alliance for Economic Inclusion is a coalition of financial institutions, community-based organizations and other partners working to bring under banked and underserved populations into the financial mainstream.

As a part of its 2013 Work Plan, CAN is partnering with One Voice Central Texas and United Way for Greater Austin to convene a Safety Net Work Group to evaluate the state of our community's safety net.

Percent of People Who are Low-Income



Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

Women and children are most likely to be low-income. Forty-five percent of all children in Travis County live in low-income households.

39% of Travis County households are housing cost-burdened

Goal: reduce percent of households that are cost-burdened

Target: 36% by 2017

The percentage of households in Travis County that are housing cost-burdened decreased in 2011, but is still higher than pre-recession levels and is also higher than the state and the nation. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) considers housing to be affordable when households pay no more than 30% of their income on housing costs and utilities.

Renters are more likely to be housing cost-burdened than homeowners. According to Capitol Market Research, Austin's rental market is especially tight. The occupancy rate in June of 2012 hit an all-time high of 98%, and there was a 20% increase in average rental rates from December 2009 to December 2012.

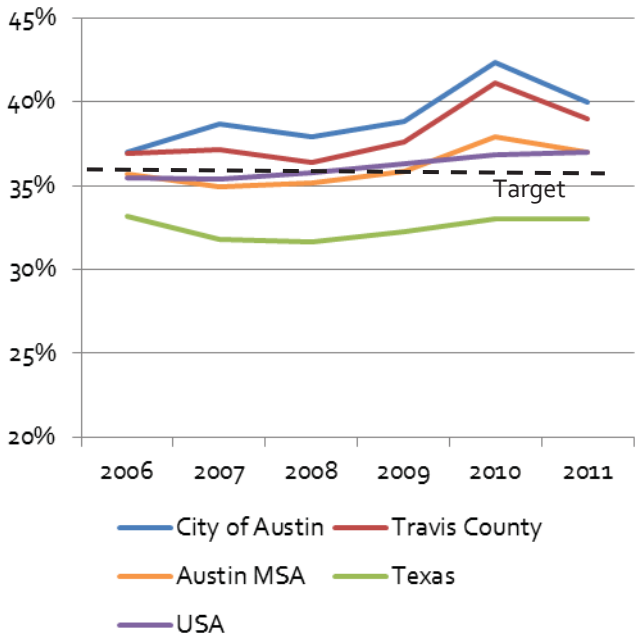
Single family housing costs have also increased in Austin, in spite of a recession that sent housing prices tumbling in much of the rest of the nation. The Texas A&M Real Estate Center reports the average sales price of a home in the Austin MSA was $188,300 in 2011, about 27% higher than the average cost of a home in 2002.

The City of Austin Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department reports that federal funding levels for affordable housing have fallen 40% over the past five years. In spite of this, Austin has continued to support a continuum of housing programs to increase affordability, thanks largely to general obligation bonds approved by Austin voters in 2006. That funding has now been committed or spent. A proposition for $70 million in new general obligation bond funding, was rejected by voters in 2012. City leaders are considering going to voters again in 2013 to seek renewed funding for affordable housing.

The City of Austin has received a HUD Sustainability Grant to plan a 208-acre mixed use community in the Colony Park area of northeastern Travis County with affordable housing linked to jobs, transit and services.

The Capital Area Council of Governments' Sustainable Places grant supports planning efforts in Austin, Dripping Springs, Elgin, Hutto and Lockhart to connect where people live, learn, work, and play. The grant will produce an analytics tool to measure the relative cost and impact of different types of development.

Percent of Households that are Cost-Burdened



Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

Nearly half (48%) of all renter households are housing cost-burdened. Average rental rates were at an all-time high in December 2012 and increased 20% from December 2009 to December 2012. Occupancy rates hit an all-time high of 98% in June 2012, which will continue the upward pressure on pricing.

23.3 daily vehicle miles per capita in Travis County

Goal: reduce vehicle miles traveled per capita

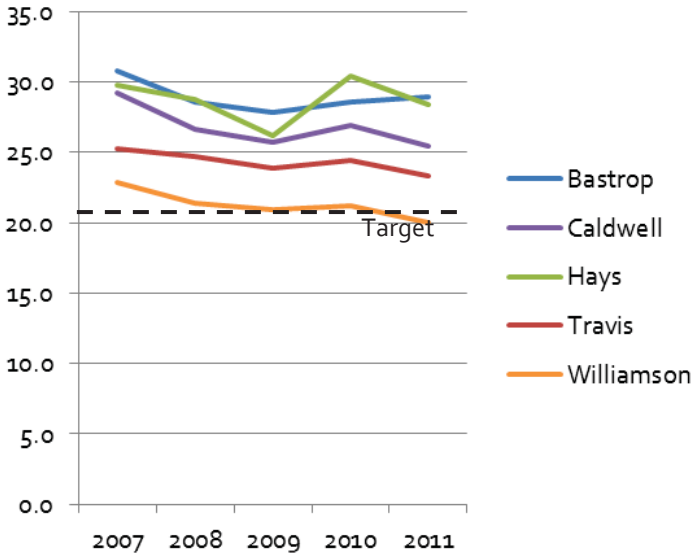
Target: 21 miles per day by 2017

Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita trended downward in 2011. While lingering effects of the recession and high gas prices could be factors in encouraging people to drive less, there is some evidence of changing attitudes about transportation. In its analysis of social and demographic trends, the Pew Research Center finds that fewer young adult households owned cars in 2011 than in 2006. A report by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group "Transportation and the New Generation" notes that people ages 16-34 are more likely to walk, bike, or take public transit than older people.

Capital Metro reported 1.5 million more transit rides from 2011 to 2012, which is a five-percent increase in overall ridership. MetroRail offers fixed rail service with the Red Line, which covers 32 miles from Leander to downtown Austin with nine stops along the way. MetroRail ridership has tripled since the Red Line opened in 2010.

If housing is pushed farther away from core employment areas, the VMT per capita and individual households' transportation costs will likely increase. In an analysis of 2006—2010 traffic patterns, the U.S. Census Bureau reports that 150,000 workers commuted to Travis County from surrounding counties. The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) 2035 Plan proposes targeting transportation investments to support Activity Centers throughout the region that link housing, employment and transportation.

Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled per Capital



Source: Texas Department of Transportation

Commuters in Leander wait to board the Capital MetroRail Red Line.

People living in areas not served by public transit who do not have cars are often isolated from employment, education and services.

Project Connect, a partnership between the City of Austin, Capital Metro, Lone Star Rail, CAMPO and the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, promotes cross-jurisdictional cooperation toward regional high-capacity transit that is aligned with the CAMPO 2035 Plan. With the help of a Transit Working Group, Chaired by Austin Mayor Lee Leffingwell, Project Connect created a vision for high-capacity transit in Central Texas that links various types of transit systems across jurisdictions.

The Austin Chamber 2012 Mobility Report cites traffic congestion as a major impediment to the region's economic prosperity and highlights efforts in the community to address it. Telecommuting, carpooling, and public transportation help relieve congestion in Austin, but more is needed. The Texas Department of Transportation is working with local leaders to find short- and long-term solutions to congestion on Loop 1 and Interstate 35, two corridors that consistently rank among the most congested in the state.

2,121 people are homeless in Travis County

Goal: end homelessness

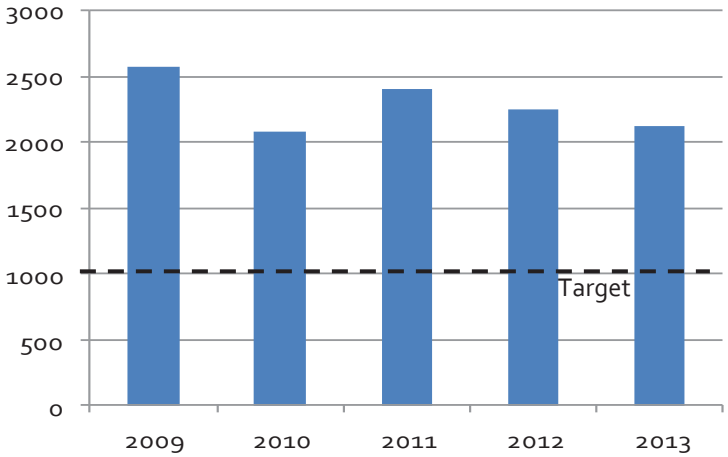
Target: 1,000 people identified in the annual Point-in-Time Count by 2017

The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) annual point-in-time count identified 2,121 people in Austin and Travis County who were living on the streets, in cars, under bridges or in homeless shelters or transitional housing this past January. ECHO enlisted the help of 300 volunteers to count people who are unsheltered for this annual count that is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ECHO reports that over 12,000 individuals received homeless services in 2012 and that Travis County's emergency shelters consistently serve between 2,650 and 2,750 men, women, and children each week. ECHO reports that one of every five people who received homeless services in Travis County in 2012 was a child.

ECHO works to end homelessness by engaging policy makers and non-profit leaders to streamline practices that prevent and end homelessness by addressing short and long- term housing instability. ECHO administers the database used across the community to track client participation and progress.

Austin-Travis County Annual Point-in-Time Count



Source: Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO)

A Roof Over Austin is an initiative of the City of Austin to provide deeply affordable housing with services to help homeless, disabled and low-income people live independently in the community. The initiative is in response to an Austin City Council resolution passed in 2010 that directed City staff to develop a strategy to create 350 permanent supportive housing units by 2014. As of March 2013, 279 units of permanent supportive housing were "in the pipeline" according to the City's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development office, and had been at least partially funded and 170 of those units were occupied.

Best Single Source Plus is a collaborative effort among a dozen non-profit agencies to help families and individuals in crisis who are at risk of homelessness. Clients receive emergency financial assistance and case management services to help them become more stable. The program is funded by the City of Austin and Travis County and is managed by Caritas of Austin.

In addition to collaborating with housing and homeless service providers, ECHO also partners with healthcare providers, the criminal justice system and groups like the Reentry Roundtable to promote coordinated access and assessment to the right intervention to meet clients' housing needs.

The face of homelessness—

In conjunction with the Point In Time Count, ECHO surveys a sample of the people identified as homeless to find out more about them and their needs. Following are some findings from the 2013 recent survey…

- One-fourth of all homeless people have a physical disability.
- 17% suffer with a severe mental illness.
- 10% identify as veterans.

ECHO reports that others vulnerable to homelessness include people escaping domestic violence, people being released from jail with no place to live, and youth aging out of foster care.

WE ARE HEALTHY

21% of those under age 65 in Travis County have no health insurance

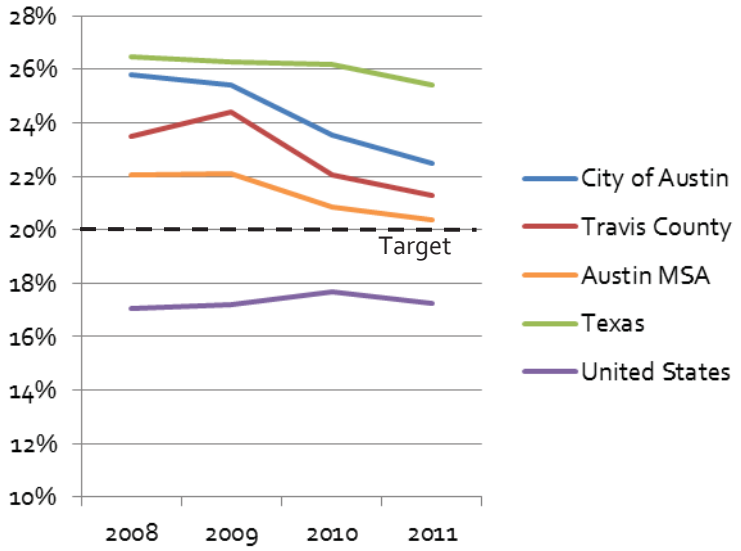
Goal: reduce percent of people under age 65 who are uninsured

Target: 20% by 2017

The State of Texas has a higher rate of people with no health insurance than any other state in the nation. Even though local rates have improved since 2008, the percentage of those with no health insurance remains high.

Low-income children qualify for health coverage through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program and adults over 65 have access to Medicare. People between the ages of 18 and 64 are more likely than other age groups to not have health insurance. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) provides for the expansion of Medicaid to legal residents living at or below 138% of the federal poverty threshold. Travis County Research and Planning estimates that 96,000 currently uninsured Travis County residents would have access to health coverage should Texas choose to expand Medicaid as called for in the ACA.

People under Age 65 With No Health Insurance



Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

Several factors have helped to reduce the percentage of those with no health insurance. Healthcare Navigation, a partnership between Central Health and United Way for Greater Austin, connects people who call 2-1-1 with health insurance enrollment assistance. Central Health reports that enrollment in the Medical Assistance Program, a locally funded program that provides health coverage for uninsured people, has increased three-fold since 2005. The Center for Public Policy Priorities reports that, with implementation of federal healthcare reform, the rate of uninsured Texans between the ages of 19 and 25 decreased by 3.4%.

Travis County voters approved a tax increase in 2012 for Central Health that will result in expanded access to health care for uninsured and underinsured people and will support collaborative efforts with UT Austin and the Seton Healthcare Family to create a medical school and teaching hospital.

One challenge in the coming year will be navigating the implementation of healthcare reform in a state in which the expansion of Medicaid is being opposed by some elected leaders. This creates uncertainty and makes it difficult for providers and local leaders to plan to meet our community's health needs.

People between the ages of 18 and 64 are most likely to have no health insurance. One in four working age adults in Travis County is uninsured.

People who are undocumented residents are ineligible for public health insurance programs such as Medicaid and Medicare.

17% of adults in Travis County report poor mental health

Goal: reduce percent of people reporting poor mental health

Target: 15% by 2017

Seventeen percent of Travis County residents report poor mental health. Emotional problems can impair a person's thinking, feelings, and behavior and, over time, can become increasingly serious and disabling. Reports of poor mental health can signal that there are deeper issues in the community with mental illness and substance abuse, which are often co-occurring.

Days that include stress, depression and problems with emotions are considered "poor mental health days" in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control. The BRFSS collects data through phone interviews. In 2011 the surveying process was expanded to include people with cell phones as well as people with landlines. As a result, the 2011 data is not comparable to previous BRFSS data.

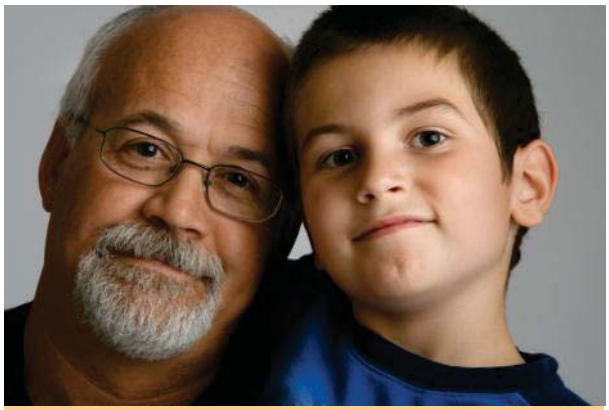
In a report on the impact of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on people with mental health and substance use disorders, the Center for Public Policy Priorities notes that insurers will no longer be able to deny coverage or raise premium costs for mental health conditions or other health status or health history factors. Also, the ACA will require that the majority of both private and Medicaid health plans include mental health and substance use coverage that is on par with other medical benefits.

In 2012, the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department, in partnership with other health care partners, completed a Community Health Assessment which found that the need for mental health services was the foremost community health concern raised by residents. The partners have developed a Community Health Improvement Plan with strategies to deal with the issues identified in the assessment.

Central Health is the lead agency for a six-county Regional Healthcare Partnership Plan that describes how the region will transform healthcare delivery as part of a state-wide 1115 Waiver. Austin Travis County Integral Care, a key partner in this effort, plans to expand and enhance community-based services through integration of physical and behavioral health with chronic disease prevention programs, mobile outreach, tele-medicine, peer support services, and community outreach and education.

Adults Who Report Poor Mental Health, 2011

Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System



People earning less than $25,000 per year are twice as likely to report poor mental health than those earning $75,000 or more. More Hispanics report five or more days of poor mental health to BRFSS surveyors than people of other races or ethnicities. People aged 30-44 are also more likely to report poor mental health.

19% of adults in Travis County are obese

Goal: reduce percent who are obese

Target: 17% by 2020

In 2011, 19% of adults in Travis County were obese, which was lower than the rate in the state and in the five-county Austin Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Central Health is the lead agency for a six-county Regional Healthcare Partnership Plan that describes how the region will transform healthcare delivery as part of a state-wide 1115 Waiver. The Plan includes several initiatives to address obesity.

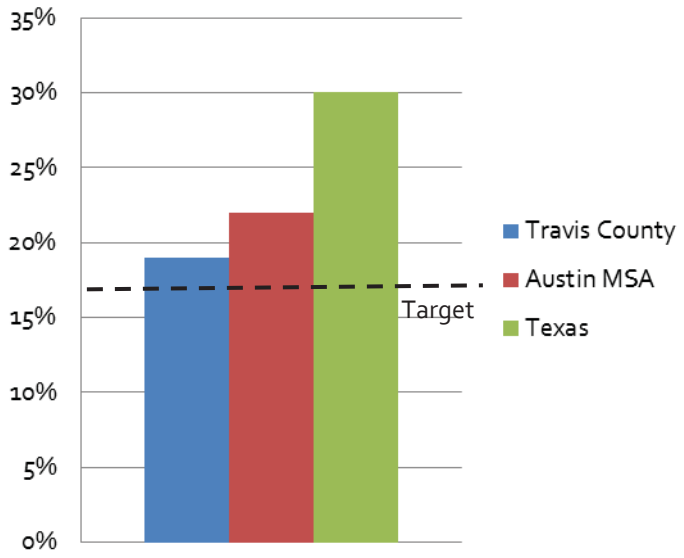
The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department released a Community Health Assessment based on data and community input collected from August 2011 to July 2012. Obesity and creating a built environment with access to transportation and healthy foods were among the key areas of focus identified. The Department convened work groups to create a Community Health Improvement Plan with strategies to address these key focus areas.

Children's Optimal Health has identified clusters of high childhood obesity in the Quail Creek, St. John's, and Dove Springs neighborhoods. Go Austin!/Vamos Austin! Dove Springs is an effort to engage the people and institutions within the Dove Springs neighborhood to create strategies to increase physical activity, improve nutrition and create a safe neighborhood.

The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department was awarded a federal Community Transformation Grant of $1 million annually for 5 years to promote healthier lifestyles and reduce health disparities. The resulting Healthy Places, Healthy People effort seeks to empower businesses, non-profits, schools and everyday people to create lasting changes with the help of social media, a website, tools and success stories to motivate citizens to make healthy changes wherever they have influence.

The Mayor's Health and Fitness Council promotes healthy workplaces by certifying employers who comprehensively address tobacco-free living, physical activity, and nutrition.

Percent of Adults Who are Obese, 2011



Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Obesity rates are disproportionately high among low-income people who may not have access to healthy food or to safe, walkable neighborhoods and recreational opportunities. People with lower educational levels, Blacks, Hispanics and people with disabilities also have higher rates of obesity.

16% of adults in Travis County are smokers

Goal: reduce percent who smoke

Target: 12% by 2020

Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S. according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC estimates that smoking results in billions of dollars in costs to U.S. residents as a result of medical expenditures and lost productivity.

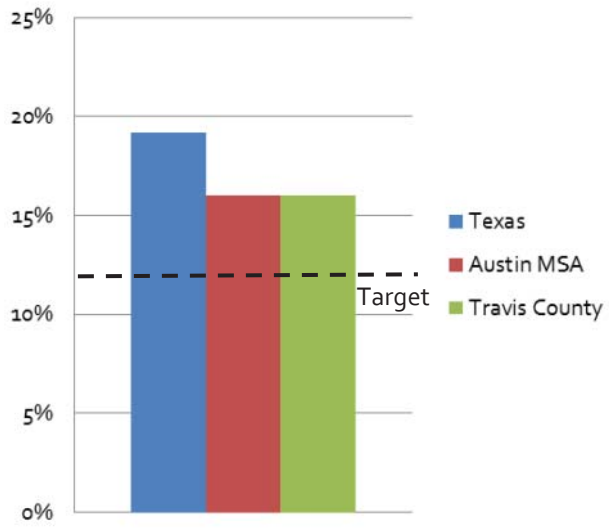
The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department received a $7.5 million Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant in 2010 to address tobacco use. The effort's Live Tobacco Free media campaign has spread the message that tobacco causes more deaths than AIDS, crack, heroin, cocaine, alcohol, car accidents, fire, suicide, and murder—combined; and has let people know of free cessation workshops and treatment. Early successes of the campaign are that workplaces, hospitals, universities, service providers and apartment complexes are implementing tobacco-free campuses and policies.

Smokers in a "no-smoke" workplace are 84% more likely to quit smoking than smokers in a workplace where smoking is allowed. Local partners that ban tobacco on their campuses and properties include the University of Texas at Austin, Capital Metro, Huston-Tillotson University, Austin Public Libraries, City of Austin Parks, Seton Healthcare Family, St. David's Healthcare, Central Health, CommUnity Care, Austin/Travis County Integral Care, Austin Community College, and Travis County.

The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department has received a Community Transformation Grant of $1 million annually for five years to prevent chronic disease and reduce health disparities through healthy living, which includes reducing the use of tobacco.

The Mayor's Health and Fitness Council is focused on providing community connections, building alliances and supporting the implementation of best practices and programs that truly affect positive change to healthy lifestyles. Among other activities, the Fitness Council promotes healthy workplaces by certifying employers that have health initiatives to comprehensively address tobacco-free living, physical activity, and nutrition.

Percent of Adults Who Smoke, 2011



Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

This "ashtrayler" is a part of the Live Tobacco Free Austin campaign. The ashtrayler travels around Austin to spread the word about the dangers of tobacco and to share information about cessation support available.

The highest rates of smoking are found among people who earn less than $25,000 a year, young people, Black adults, and adults with mental illness.

www.livetobaccofreeaustin.org

Austin area is in attainment of national air quality standards

Goal: attainment

Target: continue to be in attainment through 2017

The Austin area is in attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets standards for allowable levels of six air pollutants. Locally, ozone is the only one that frequently approaches levels the EPA deems unhealthy. While air ozone levels have been steadily improving in the Austin area, the EPA is considering reductions in the allowable level of ozone. If proposed standards are approved, Austin will be no longer be in attainment and will face federal sanctions.

Poor air quality causes irritation to the throat and lungs, results in diminished lung capacity, and aggravates asthma and other respiratory problems. These health issues result in increased health care costs, absenteeism and increased school absences.

The Clean Air Coalition is a collaboration of local governments in our five-county region working together to achieve clean air in Central Texas. In 2012, the Clean Air Coalition entered into an Ozone Action partnership with the EPA. Ozone Action provides a framework to help regions improve air quality and also allows for increased involvement and support from the EPA.

Commute Solutions, a program of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, strives to educate the public and employers on the health, environmental and economic benefits of alternative transportation modes and commuter practices. Using alternative modes of transportation is the single greatest action an individual can take to reduce their carbon footprint.

In 2007, Austin City Council passed a resolution, which established the Climate Program and directed the City to take specific actions through 2020 to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The City of Austin received a national 2013 Climate Leadership Award from the EPA and partner organizations. This award recognizes the City of Austin's achievements in reducing its carbon footprint and in providing tools for citizens to reduce their own impact on the environment.

Austin is in Attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards	
Carbon Monoxide	Attainment
Lead	Attainment
Nitrogen Dioxide	Attainment
Ozone	Attainment
Particle Pollution	Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide	Attainment

Source: Capital Area Council of Governments

The elderly, children, pregnant women and people with asthma and other respiratory problems suffer the most from poor air quality.

WE ACHIEVE OUR FULL POTENTIAL

56% of children enter kindergarten ready for school

Goal: increase percent of children who enter kindergarten ready for school

Target: 70% by 2015

Fifty-six percent of Central Texas kindergarteners were "school ready" according to *Ready, Set, K!*, a measure developed by the E³Alliance with the help of experts from across the region. A sample of students from area school districts were assessed during the first six to nine weeks of kindergarten across four domains of child development: social/emotional, language and communication, early literacy, and mathematics.

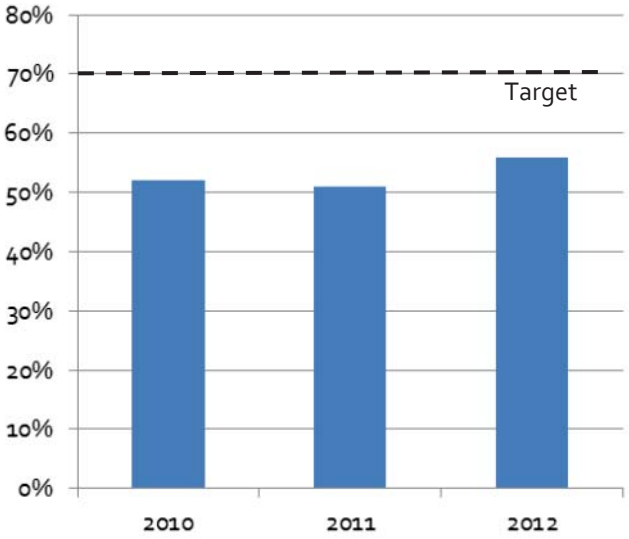
Children are born ready to learn. What takes place between birth and kindergarten greatly determines whether a child will enter school ready for success. Early gaps in competencies can lead to a wide range of problems that are significantly more difficult, as well as more expensive, to address later on.

United Way for Greater Austin's Success by 6 initiative is a community collaborative of over 30 organizations that has created a 2012-2015 School Readiness Action Plan for Austin/Travis County with specific strategies for improving school readiness. One strategy from the plan that was implemented this school year was an initiative by Child Inc., Austin ISD, Del Valle ISD and Manor ISD to increase the number of 3-year olds enrolled in Headstart and to ensure seamless transitions to pre-k.

Improving school readiness is one of four goals of the E3 Alliance Blueprint for Educational Change. The Blueprint seeks to improve educational outcomes across the Central Texas region from pre-k through college through a collaborative process that engages parents, students, school personnel and members of the larger community.

Even though the State of Texas reduced funding for pre-k programs, Austin ISD has continued to provide full-day prekindergarten to students who have limited English proficiency, are economically disadvantaged, have an active duty military parent, or are homeless.

Percent of Central Texas Children Who Enter Kindergarten School Ready



Source: E³ Alliance

Students who qualified for free or reduced-price school lunches and students of all income levels who did not participate in pre-kindergarten programs were much more likely to enter kindergarten already behind their peers.

84% of Central Texas students graduate from high school in four years

Goal: increase percent who graduate from high school in four years

Target: 95% for the Class of 2015

Graduation rates have steadily increased in Central Texas and across the state. Eighty-four percent of students in the Class of 2010 in the five county Austin MSA graduated in four years. The E^3 Alliance conservatively estimates that the cost to Central Texas of a single class of dropouts is $435 million.

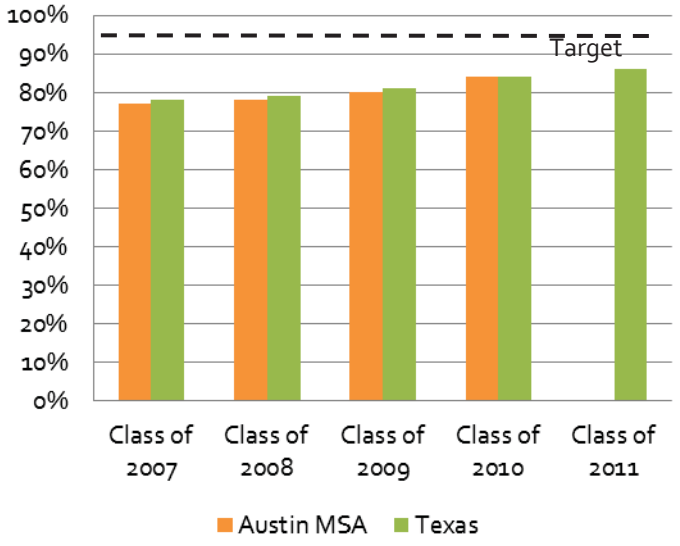
Graduation gaps between different racial and ethnic groups and between students of differing socioeconomic status have been closing. However, there is still significant variance in the graduation rates among high schools across the region. While there is still more work to be done to close racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and geographic disparities, the key graduation indicators are moving in the right direction.

The E^3 Alliance's Blueprint for Educational Change seeks to improve educational outcomes across the Central Texas region. Efforts include RAISE^{UP} Texas, which engages university research centers in transforming how middle school students learn and meet high academic standards in eight demonstration middle schools across six Central Texas school districts.

The Austin Chamber of Commerce tracks and assesses the K-12 performance of eleven area school districts. The annual reports are done in conjunction with each school district and its local Chamber of Commerce. The Austin Chamber annually recognizes school districts and area high schools that have made the most progress in achievement and in increasing high school graduation rates.

The City/County/Austin ISD Joint Subcommittees have several task forces working on various initiatives. Some progress made in 2012 includes the development of a new data tool to measure family progress over time across eighteen different domains and the launch of a Literacy Illuminates campaign that worked to raise awareness among the general public and reach out to families that need assistance.

Percent Who Graduate from High School in Four Years



Source: E^3 Alliance

There are gaps in the graduation rates between students of different racial and ethnic groups and between students of different socioeconomic status, however, these gaps appear to be closing.

59% of high school graduates are college ready

Goal: increase percent of high school graduates who are college ready

Target: 86% for the Class of 2015

More Central Texas students are graduating from high school ready to take college-level coursework, according to a measure developed by the Texas Education Agency. To meet this standard, students must achieve a score on the SAT, ACT or TAKS test that is high enough to make them eligible to take college-credit courses without first taking non-credit, remedial courses.

Even though the percent of graduates who are college ready has improved steadily over the past five years, gaps remain. There are significant disparities among various racial and ethnic groups and also among low-income student populations. There are also large discrepancies between school districts and even between schools within districts. More information about these disparities is available in the Community Dashboard website.

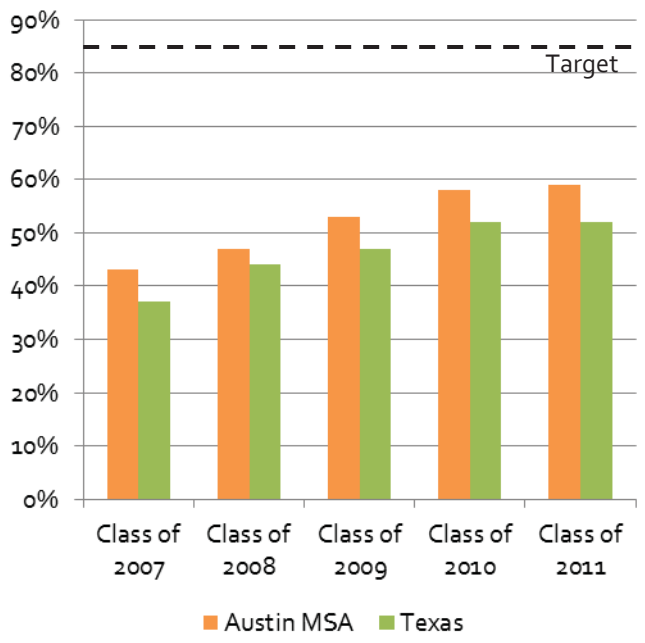
CAN recently added Del Valle ISD and Manor ISD to its membership to better address the needs of low-income populations moving to these more suburban school districts. Access to a full-range of services for students and their families is important to academic success.

A few local initiatives highlighted by the E^3 Alliance's Blueprint for Educational Change include the Austin College Access Network (ACAN), a collaboration of community-based organizations and higher education institutions dedicated to improving first generation student college participation and success. The STEM Pipeline Collaborative is credited with quadrupling the number of students in the regional middle and high school engineering pipeline over the past five years.

The Austin Chamber of Commerce recruits volunteers and works with Partners in Education to provide tutoring sessions for students who need extra help meeting college readiness standards. The Austin Chamber's Financial Aid Saturdays connect families with volunteers who assist them in completing federal and state financial aid applications to fund college enrollment.

Austin Community College is part of a state-wide College Readiness initiative that partners with local high schools to improve the college readiness of high school graduates.

Percent of Central Texas High School Graduates Who are College Ready



Source: E^3 Alliance

High school graduates most likely to fall below college ready standards are African American and Hispanic students and students who are low-income.

5.7% of Travis County workers are unemployed

Goal: reduce percent who are unemployed

Target: 4% by 2017

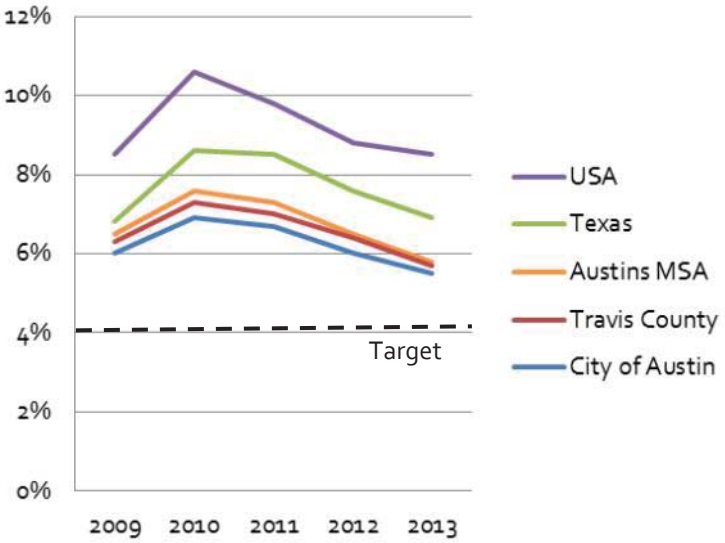
Unemployment rates continued a downward trend in 2013 after hitting a ten-year high in 2010. Local unemployment rates have remained consistently lower than both the state and national rates.

The Capital Area Council of Governments reports that the Austin region's job growth has primarily occurred in industries with relatively low wages, and the Austin MSA ranks near the bottom of all U.S. metro areas in average earnings and per capita income growth.

The Capital Area Workforce Development Board Strategic and Operational Plan notes that Central Texas added 34,600 new jobs between December 2011 and December 2012. The area has seen significant job growth in high-skilled, high-wage jobs as well as growth in low-skill, low-wage jobs. The report cites the need for growth in middle-skill jobs.

Workforce Solutions—Capital Area partners with 11 education and community partners in the Workforce and Education Readiness Continuum (WERC) Project, which helps the most vulnerable populations gain self-sufficient employment. Another initiative, called Work Ready Austin, helps people earn work readiness certifications.

Percent of Workers Who are Unemployed



Source: Central Texas Workforce Commission

The Workforce Potential Project seeks to help 30,000 low-wage workers complete certificate or degree programs to allow them to compete for jobs that pay a minimum of $18 an hour. The initiative is premised on a study by the Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources on behalf of Austin Area Research Organization. The project targets lower-wage workers who have some education beyond high school, but no post-secondary degree.

The Austin Chamber of Commerce Opportunity 3.0 economic development plan for Austin calls for greater diversification of the local workforce and strengthened relationships between employers and post-secondary schools to produce the high-skill, high-wage workers employers demand.

In 2012, CAN expanded its membership to include, in addition to the Austin Chamber of Commerce, the Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. This membership expansion was due, in part to an acknowledgement of the critical role business plays in expanding economic opportunity to diverse populations.

People most vulnerable to being unemployed are racial and ethnic minorities, especially Blacks. Other populations with higher rates of unemployment are people with disabilities, criminal histories, or no post-secondary degrees or certifications.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

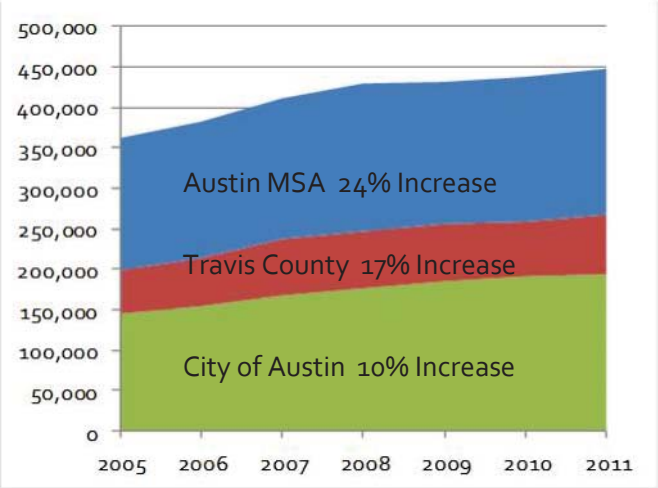
If our community is to achieve equity and opportunity for all people, it is important to notice not only how the community as a whole is doing, but how sub-populations are doing. Vulnerable populations are groups of people who are at greater risk for poor socio-economic health status and well-being. Following are some of the key challenges facing vulnerable populations and some of the local collaborations working to address these challenges.

children & youth

There are more than a quarter of a million children and youth living in Travis County, according to American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. The growth rate of the under 18 population is higher in Travis County than in the City of Austin and higher still in the five-county MSA. Almost one-fourth of all children in Travis County live in poverty and 45% are low-income, meaning they live in families that earn less than two times the federal poverty threshold. Children in lower income households are less likely to have their basic needs met or to have access to quality pre-k and out-of-school-time programs. Lower-income children also tend to be geographically concentrated in areas with low performing schools.

Ready by 21 convenes service providers, educators and other community leaders to work together to identify key issues affecting children, youth and their families.

Growth in the Child and Youth Population



Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

elderly

There are about 80,000 people age 65 and older living in Travis County, according to American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Older adults are vulnerable to abuse, neglect and exploitation. Health concerns include chronic diseases, dementia, and depression. While most seniors have health insurance through Medicaid or Medicare, a growing number of Texas doctors are not accepting new patients who rely on these public insurance options, due in large part to low reimbursement rates, making it more difficult for seniors to access the care they need.

Finding and retaining affordable housing and access to food and transportation are also challenges facing older adults. Caring for the fast growing senior population is often left to family members. The stress and strain of being a caregiver can negatively impact the caregiver's mental and physical health, strain finances, and require sacrifices in work and personal activities. The Aging Services Council of Central Texas is a collaboration of nonprofit and for-profit agencies that provide services and supports to the aging, their families and caregivers.

The Mayors Task Force on Aging has brought together stakeholders to consider community strategies that will enhance the lives of this fast-growing segment of the Austin population.

immigrants

According to the American Community Survey, there were 194,362 foreign-born residents of Travis County in 2011, and 76% were not citizens. In its Snapshot from the American Community Survey, 2011, Travis County Research and Planning reports that almost one-third of all people living in Travis County speak a language other than English in their homes. According to the report, 18% of Travis County residents are foreign born compared with 16% of Texans and 13% of Americans. However, Travis County has a proportionately smaller foreign born population than both Dallas and Harris Counties where immigrants comprise roughly one-quarter of the population.

Immigrants, particularly undocumented immigrants, may be hesitant to report crime and violence against them for fear of deportation. The Immigrant Services Network of Austin is a group of community stakeholders and immigrant service providers who work together to increase public awareness and inform policy to better serve the immigrant community.

people with a criminal history

The Texas Criminal Justice Coalition reports that 2,769 people were released to Travis County from state-level confinement in 2012. More than half were released into supervised parole or probation. Ex-offenders who can find employment, stable housing and services are much less likely to recidivate and return to the criminal justice system. The Reentry Roundtable is a coalition and catalyst for systemic change that promotes policies and programs to help people who are incarcerated gain the skills and treatment they need to be successful once released. The Reentry Roundtable also advocates for programs and policies to help formerly incarcerated people successfully reintegrate into their communities.

people with disabilities

The American Community Survey reports that there were 84,214 people with disabilities in Travis County in 2011. People with disabilities face challenges finding access to health care, affordable housing that is accessible, accessible transportation options, and services and support for family caregivers.

People with disabilities are more likely to live in poverty and to be unemployed than other people and are also more vulnerable to victimization. The Intellectual and Development Disabilities Coalition of Central Texas is a collaboration of service providers who advocate for a greater public investment in community-based services rather than institutionalized care. The Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities helps people with disabilities to participate in the economic and social life of the community. To this end, the Committee promotes employment of people with disabilities and communicates their needs to local leaders and the public.

veterans

The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs estimates there were an 53,111 veterans in Travis County in 2011. The top issues for veterans are mental health and substance abuse. Veterans from Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Operation Iraqi Freedom are more likely to survive war injuries than past generations and return with disabilities. Recent veterans have high unemployment rates. Local groups working to address veterans' issues include: the Military Peer Veteran Network, Travis County Veterans Intervention Project, City of Austin Veteran's Commission, and the ECHO Veterans' Housing Task Group.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

promote safe communities + embrace diversity & expand opportunity + engage and empower people = **We are safe, just & engaged**

crisis, safety net, and long-term care and services + connect people to resources + affordable housing linked to work, services, transit = **Our basic needs are met**

access to integrated health care continuum + promote healthy behaviors + healthy and safe community environment = **We are healthy**

education and support for families + successful transitions throughout educational journey + workforce and economic development = **We achieve our full potential**

The ***Community Dashboard 2013*** report was published by CAN on April 3, 2013. Learn more about CAN at www.caction.org.

Citations in this report are hyperlinked in the on-line version of the report. The report and additional data and analysis are available at www.CANcommunitydashboard.org.

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