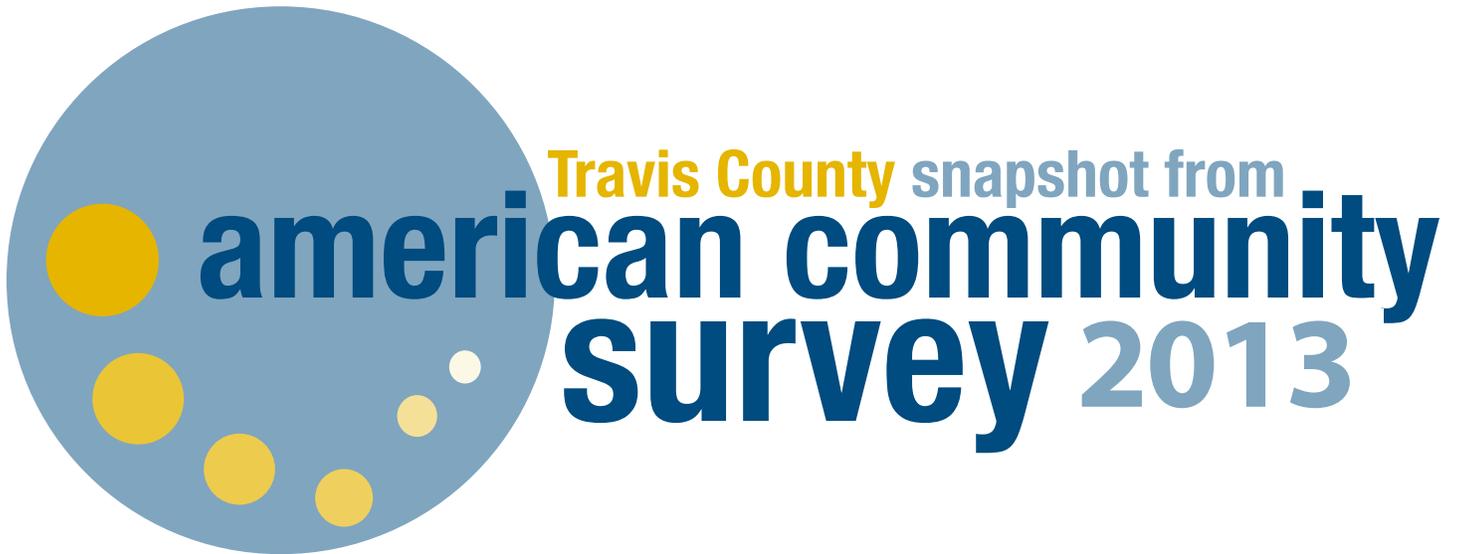


Travis County snapshot from
**american community
survey 2013**

2014



Acknowledgements

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Questions or Comments?

For questions or for more information, please contact the Research & Planning Division at HHS_R&P@co.travis.tx.us.



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About the Chartbook

About the American Community Survey

The American Community Survey (ACS) is one of many surveys conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. It includes questions about social, housing, and economic characteristics. While many available data sources address these subjects, the Research & Planning Division has increasingly relied on the ACS as a primary resource to describe current demographics and local conditions. Compared to the more widely-known Decennial Census, which is conducted every 10 years and primarily provides counts of people for the purpose of Congressional apportionment, the ACS measures the changing social and economic characteristics of the population, is conducted on an ongoing basis, and releases data annually. Thus it can provide more up-to-date information, particularly for communities undergoing rapid demographic change. (For more on the ACS, please see the Methodology section at the end of this chartbook.)

About the Chartbook

All of the information contained herein is publicly available via the U.S. Census Bureau's website. However, due to time constraints or technical limitations, it may sometimes be difficult for users to access, analyze, and interpret needed data. By selecting key variables from among the many available, analyzing the data for important relationships and trends, and presenting it in the chartbook in a clear, accessible visual format, our goal is to provide current information describing the Travis County community.

Because the data presented in the chartbook is representative of a sample and not the entire population, some of the smaller estimates are unreliable due to sampling error,¹ which generally increases as sample sizes decrease. Comparisons of indicators between geographies, subpopulations, or across time periods may appear significant, but may not be. Therefore, we perform testing of estimates that appear unreliable for significance and any comparisons that are explicitly made between geographies, subpopulations, or across time periods at 90% level of confidence. (For more information on statistical testing, see the Methodology section at the end of this chartbook.)

We hope this information is helpful in efforts to improve programs, plan community investments, and shape local policies. We encourage users to borrow and cite this material.

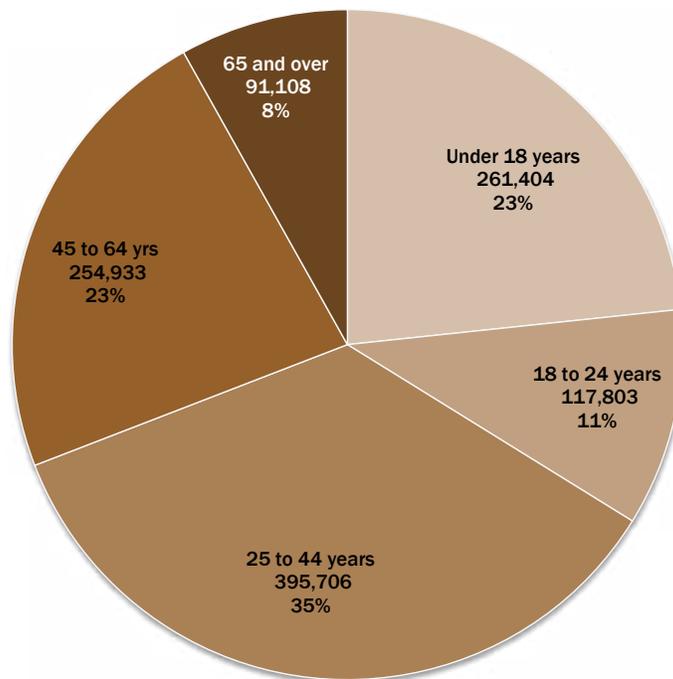
¹ Sampling error is the difference between the characteristics of a sample and the population from which it was drawn.

Social Characteristics



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Population by Age
 Total population, Travis County, 2013
 (n = 1,120,954)



Created by: Travis County HHS/VS Research & Planning Division, 2014
 Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B01001

Age Distribution: Age distribution in Travis County continues to be characterized by a large working age population (18-64). Working age adults comprise about 69% of the county's population. In comparison, the 18-64 year old age group comprises 62% of the Texas population and 63% of the United States as a whole.

Median Age: The median age in Travis County is 32.8. This reflects a slightly younger population than that of Texas (34) and the U.S. population (37.5).

Trends to Watch: Since 2009, the Travis County total population has grown by 9%, compared to 7% statewide and 3% nationally.

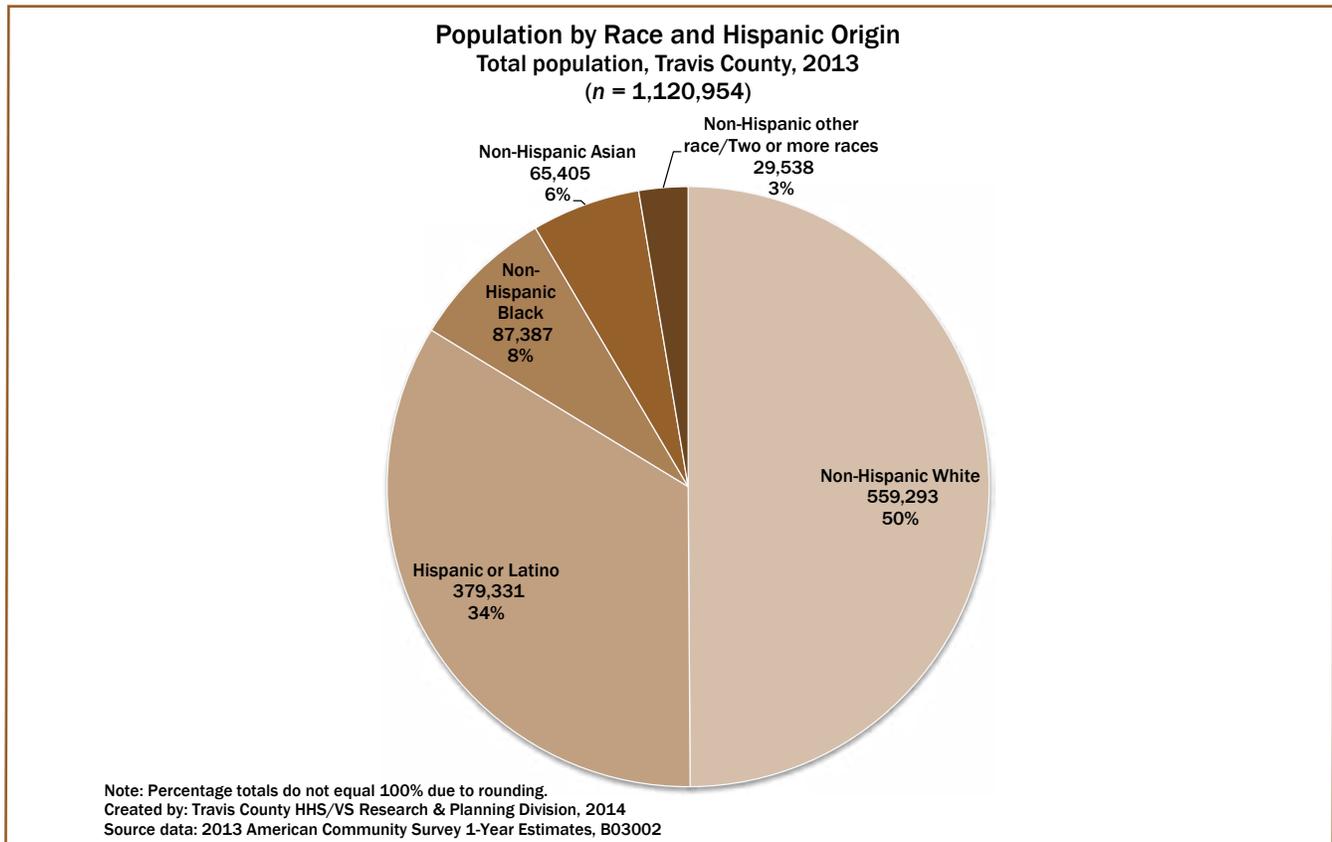
Growth in Population by Age, Travis County, 2009-2013

	2009	2013	Growth	Percent Change
Under 18	246,455	261,404	14,949	6%
18 to 24	102,985	117,803	14,818	14%
25 to 44	388,906	395,706	6,800	2%
45 to 64	217,417	254,933	37,516	17%
65 and over	70,395	91,108	20,713	29%
Total	1,026,158	1,120,954	94,796	9%

Created by: Travis County HHS/VS Research & Planning Division, 2014

Source data: 2009 & 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B01001

Race and Hispanic Origin



Race and Hispanic Origin: Half of the Travis County population identifies as Non-Hispanic White (50%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (34%), Non-Hispanic Black (8%), and Non-Hispanic Asian (6%).

From 2009 to 2013, Hispanics slightly increased as a proportion of Travis County's population (from 33% in 2009 to 34% in 2013), while the proportion of Non-Hispanic Blacks remained the same (8%), and the proportion of Non-Hispanic Whites slightly decreased (from 51% in 2009 to 50% in 2013).¹ Some groups of people are growing at different rates than others. From 2009 to 2013 the rate of growth for Non-Hispanic Blacks (5%) and Non-Hispanic Whites (6%) was slower than Hispanic or Latinos (11%), Non-Hispanic Asians (19%) and Non-Hispanic other race/Two or more races (53%).

Geographic Comparison: The table below provides a comparison of the racial and ethnic compositions of Travis County, Texas, and the U.S.

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin			
Travis County, Texas & U.S., 2013			
	Travis County	Texas	U.S.
Non-Hispanic White	50%	44%	62%
Hispanic or Latino	34%	38%	17%
Non-Hispanic Black	8%	12%	12%
Non-Hispanic Asian	6%	4%	5%
Non-Hispanic Other Race/Two or More Races	3%	2%	3%

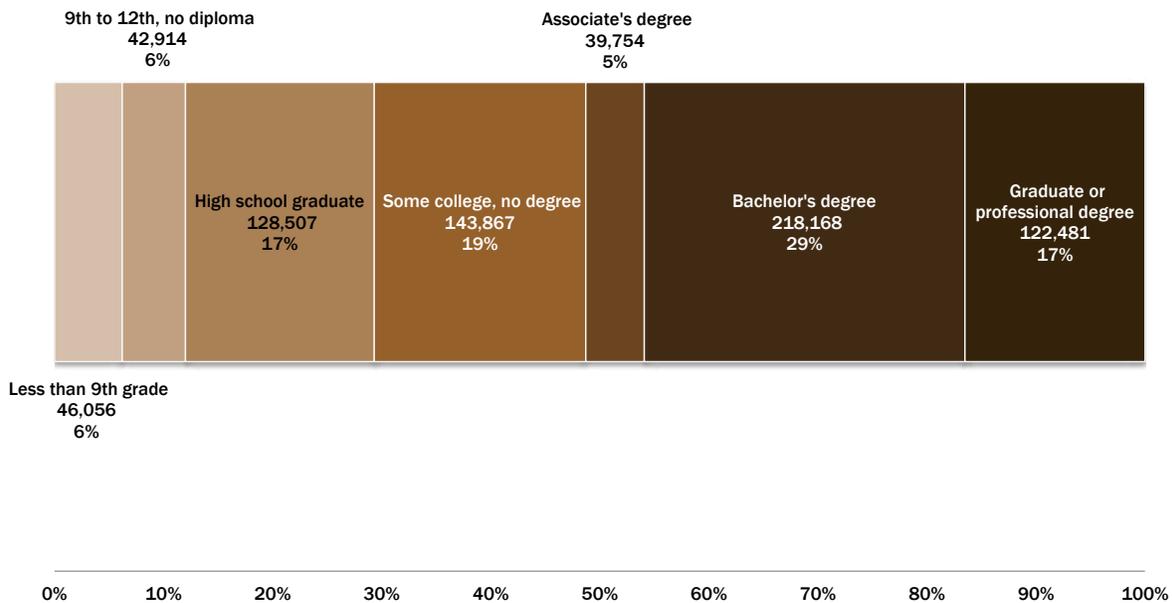
Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, Research & Planning Division, 2014

Source: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B03002

¹ A statistical test for sampling variability was not appropriate for changes over time or geographic comparison due to use of a controlled estimate. For more information on controlled estimates, please refer to http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2013.pdf.

Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment Level
 Population 25 years and over, Travis County, 2013
 (n = 741,747)



Note: Percentage totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.
 Created by: Travis County HHS/VS Research & Planning Division, 2014
 Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B15002

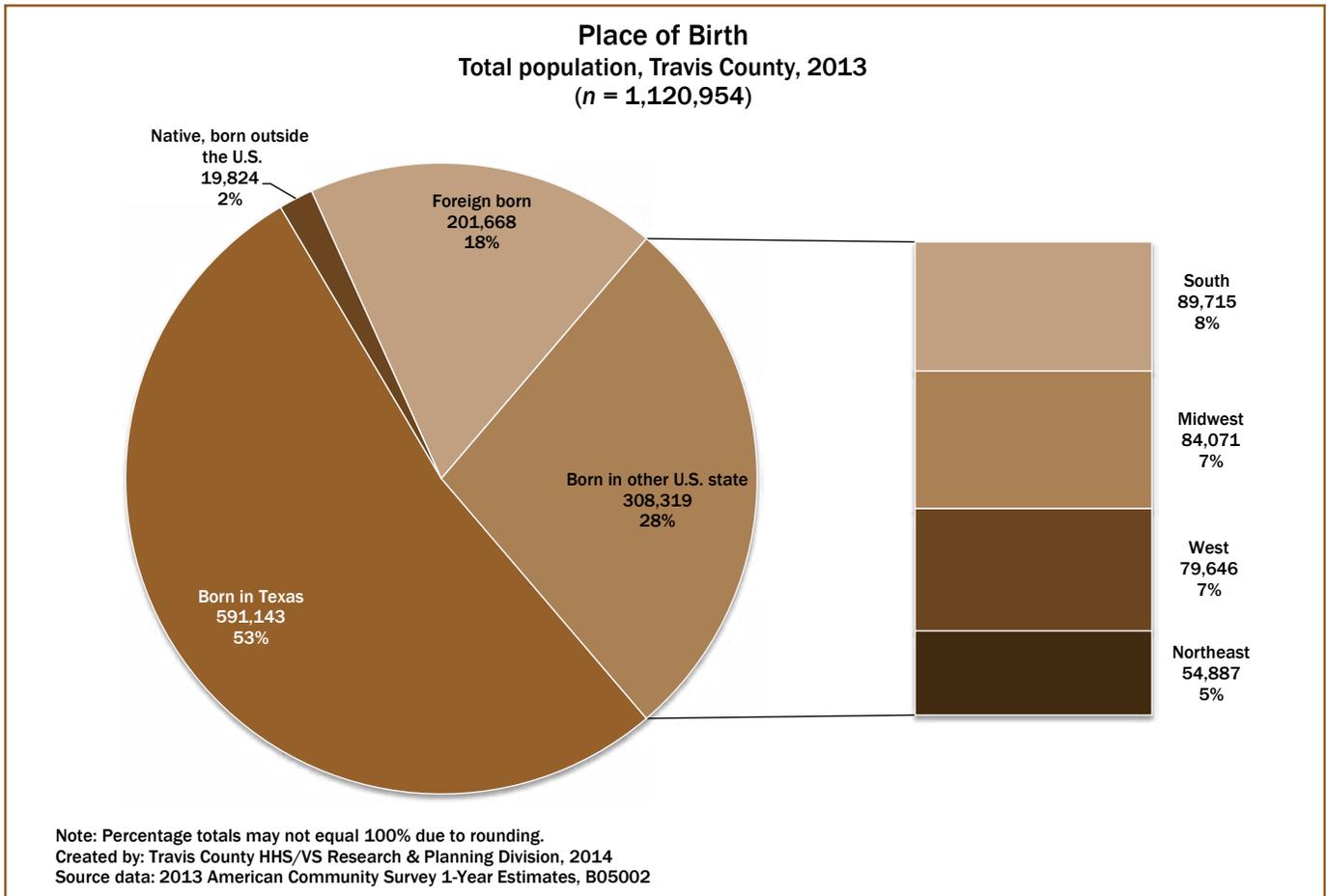
Educational Attainment Level: Travis County continues to have a highly educated population. In comparison to state figures, proportionately more Travis County residents have a college degree, and fewer lack a high school diploma.

- 46% of Travis County residents have a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared with 28% of Texans and 30% of Americans.
- 12% of Travis County residents report having less than a high school diploma or equivalency, compared with 18% of Texans and 13% of Americans.

College or Graduate School Enrollment:² About 12% of Travis County's population is enrolled in college or graduate school. This compares with about 9% of the Texas population and 9% of the U.S. population.

² These statistics include individuals enrolled in school which advances a person toward a college, university or professional school (law or medicine) degree. They do not include people enrolled in vocational, technical, or business school (such as post secondary, trade, hospital school or on the job training). (American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey, 2013 Subject Definitions, p. 118)

Place of Birth



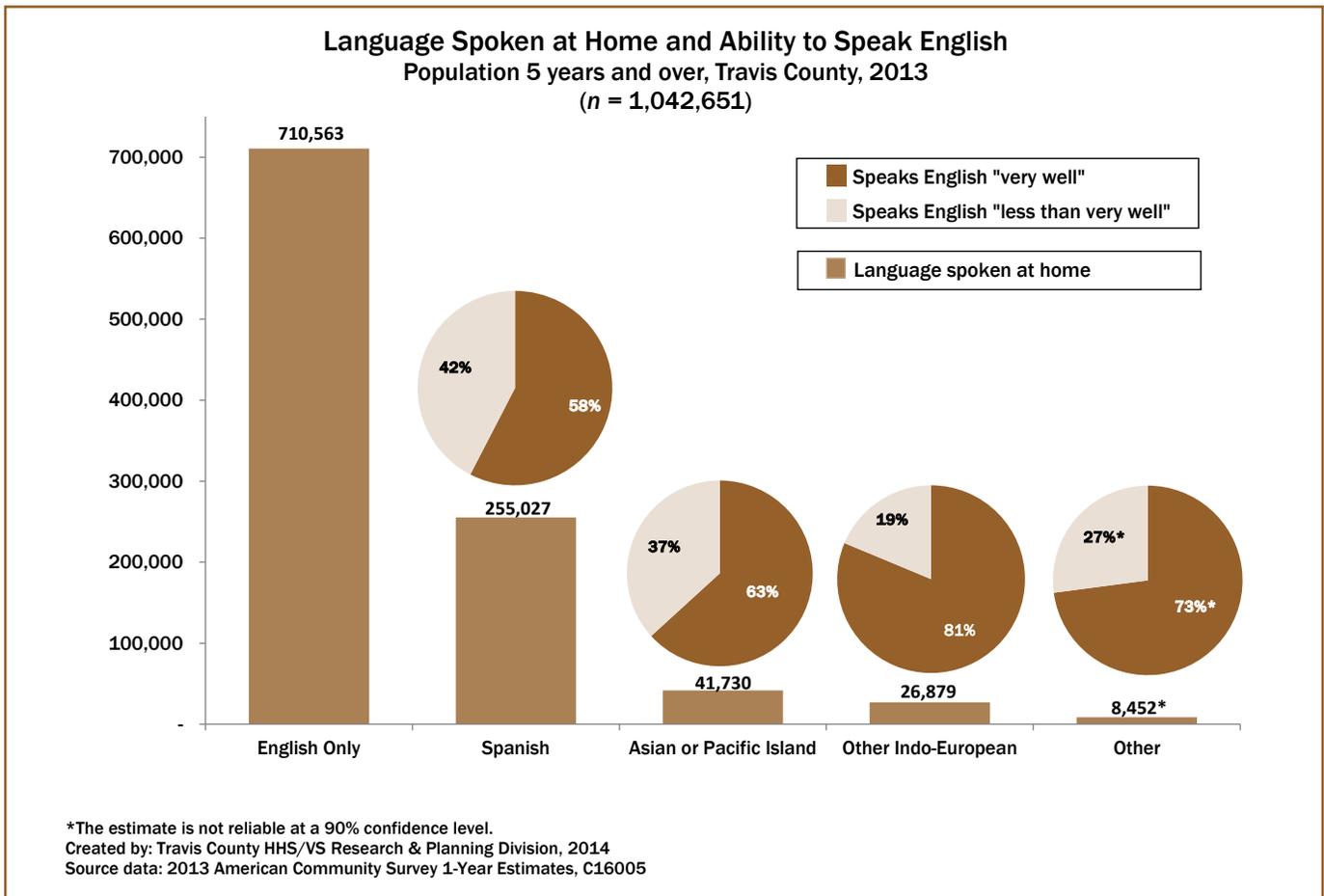
Place of Birth for the Travis County Population: About half of Travis County residents (53%) were born in Texas, slightly over one-quarter (28%) were born in another state, and about 18% of residents are foreign born.

Geographic Comparison: In comparison to state and national averages, Travis County residents are:

- *Less likely to have been born in their current state of residence.* 53% of Travis County residents were born in their state of residence compared with 60% of Texans and 59% of Americans.
- *More likely to be foreign born.* 18% of Travis County residents are foreign born compared with 17% of Texans and 13% of Americans. However, Travis County has a proportionately smaller foreign born population than both Harris and Dallas Counties, where immigrants comprise 25% and 24% of the population, respectively.³

Trends to Watch: Since 2009, the number of Travis County residents who were born in another state grew by 11%. During the same time period, the number of residents who were born in Texas grew by 9%, and the number of residents who were foreign born grew by 7%.

³ A statistical test for sampling variability was not appropriate for geographic comparison due to use of a controlled estimate. For more information on controlled estimates, please refer to http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2013.pdf.



Languages Spoken at Home: Almost one-third of the Travis County population (32% or 332,088 residents) speaks a language other than English at home. In comparison, 21% of U.S. residents and 35% of Texans speak a language other than English at home.

Ability to Speak English: 61% of Travis County residents who speak a language other than English at home also speak the English language “very well,” and 39% speak English “less than very well.”

Limited English Speaking Households: 6% of all Travis County households (26,883 households) are limited English speaking households.⁴ 80% of limited English speaking households speak Spanish (21,522 households) and 13% of limited English speaking households speak Asian and Pacific Island languages (3,557 households⁵).

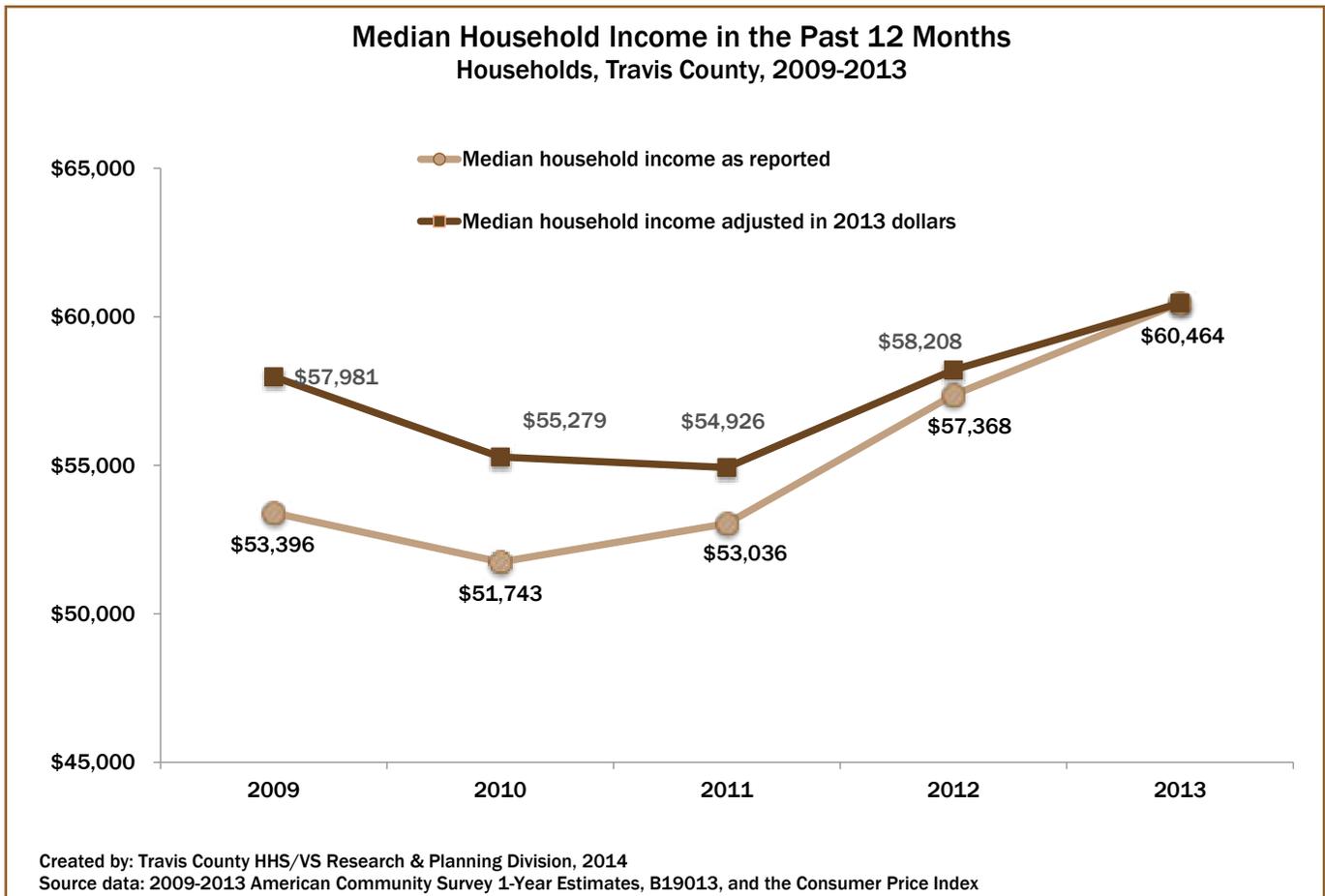
4 A “limited English speaking household” is one in which no member 14 years old and over (1) speaks only English or (2) speaks a non-English language and speaks English “very well.” In other words, all members 14 years old and over have at least some difficulty with the English language. (American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, p. 47)

5 This estimate is not reliable at a 90% confidence interval.

Economic Characteristics

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Median Household Income



Median Household Income:⁶ Reported median income increased between 2012 and 2013 by more than \$3,000. While reported median household income has increased each year since 2010, the actual value of Travis County's median household income⁷ (indicated by the top line on the chart above) began moving upward in 2011.

Geographic Comparison: Median household income is higher in Travis County than in the U.S. and Texas.

Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months			
Households, Travis County, Texas and U.S., 2009 and 2013			
	Travis County	Texas	U.S.
Median Household Income 2009 (in 2013 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)	\$57,951	\$52,402	\$54,533
Median Household Income 2013	\$60,464	\$51,704	\$52,250
Percent Change between 2009 and 2013	4%	-1%	-4%

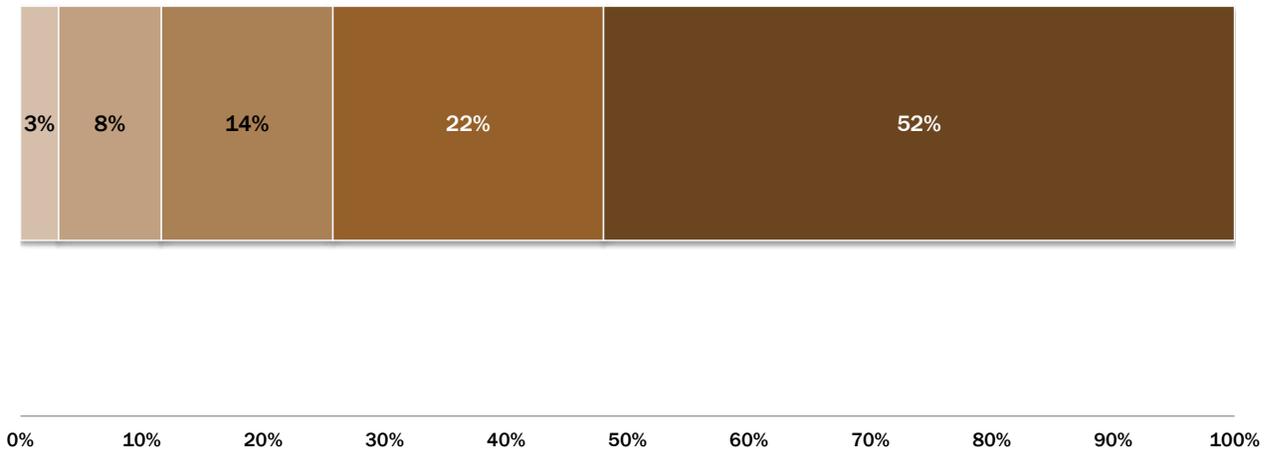
Created by: Travis County HHS/VS Research & Planning Division, 2014
Source data: American Community Survey 2009 & 2013 1-Year Estimates, B19013, and the Consumer Price Index

⁶ The ACS asks respondents how much was earned during the past 12 months. Consequently, a person answering the questions in December 2013 would respond based on income earned between December 2012 and November 2013.

⁷ Inflation adjustment calculation based on Consumer Price Index at: <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/tables.htm>.

Household Income Distribution

Distribution of Household Income
Households, Travis County, 2013



Note: In this chart, households have been separated into quintiles, or five groups each representing 20% of households. The first quintile is comprised of the bottom 20% of incomes, the second quintile is comprised of the next 20% of incomes, and so on.

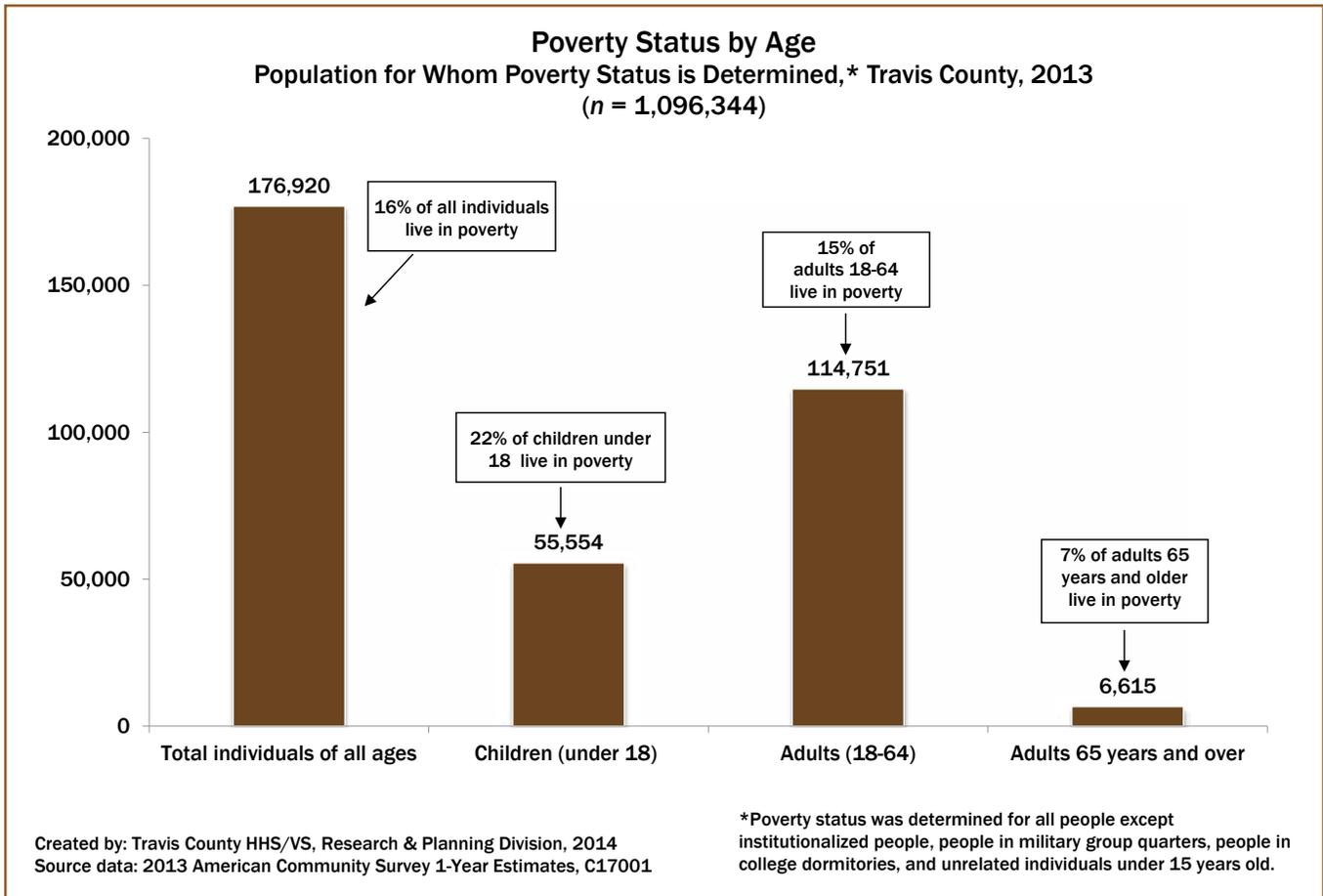
Created by: Travis County HHS/VS Research & Planning Division, 2014
Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B19080 & B19082

- Lowest Quintile (\$25,814 and below)
- Second Quintile (\$25,815 to \$47,233)
- Third Quintile (\$47,234 to \$74,848)
- Fourth Quintile (\$74,849 to \$120,797)
- Highest Quintile (\$120,798 and above)

To assess household income distribution, we look at households separated into quintiles⁸ (five groups, each representing 20% of households). The bottom 20% of households represent about 3% of the county's income, while the top 20% of households represent over half of the county's income (52%).

Geographic Comparison: The distribution of household income by quintile is nearly the same in Travis County, Texas as a whole and the U.S. However, the upper limits of each household income quintile are higher for Travis County than for those of the U.S. and Texas.

⁸ For shares of household income by quintiles, negative incomes are converted to zero. These measures are the aggregate household income in each quintile as a percentage of the total aggregate income. (American Community Survey/Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, p. 84)



About one-sixth of all Travis County residents (16%) are living in poverty. Nearly one-quarter (22%) of children under 18 are living in poverty in Travis County.⁹

Poverty Status by Age					
Population for Whom Poverty Status is Determined, Travis County, 2009-2013					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Individuals in Poverty	163,630	194,156	192,436	197,657	176,920
Individual Poverty Rate	16%	19%	18%	18%	16%
Children (under 18) in Poverty	56,690	62,168	63,680	67,791	55,554
Child Poverty Rate	23%	25%	25%	26%	22%

Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, Research & Planning Division, 2014 Source data: American Community Survey 2009-2013 1-Year Estimates, C17001

Geographic Comparison: The proportion of persons of all ages living in poverty is the same in Travis County and the U.S. (16%) and slightly higher in the state of Texas (18%).

⁹ 2013 poverty thresholds define poverty for an individual under the age of 65 at \$12,119 in annual income and for a family of four including two children under 18 at \$23,624 in annual income. The Census Bureau uses poverty thresholds as denoted in the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Statistical Policy Directive 14 as described on the Census Bureau's website at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/overview/measure.html>. The thresholds consider family size and composition when determining whether an individual is living in poverty and can be found at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/index.html>.

Income to Poverty Ratio

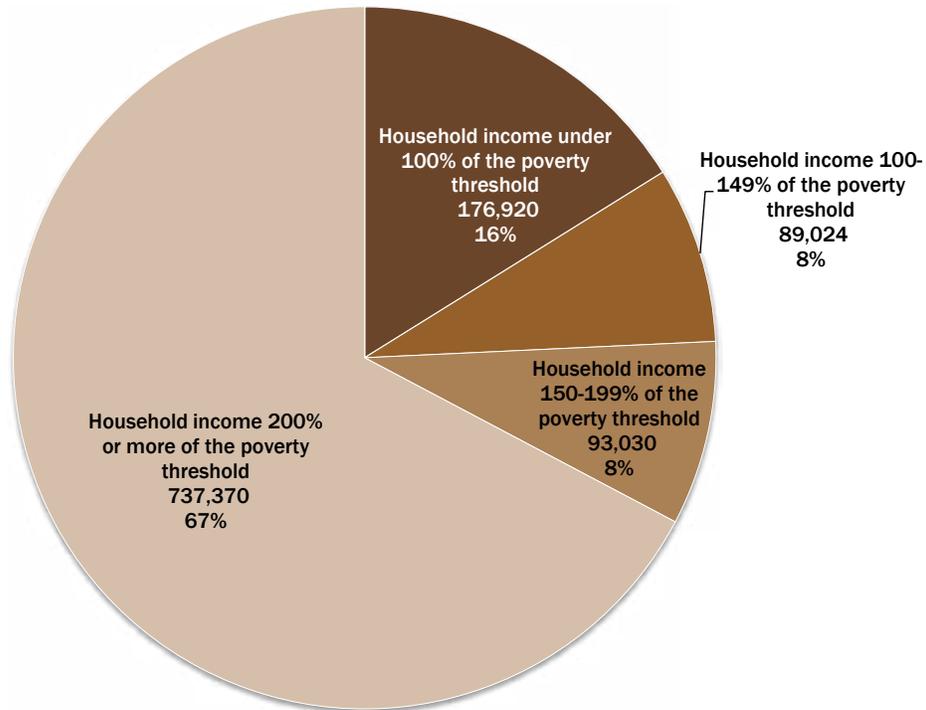
Ratio of Income to the Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months
 Population for whom poverty status is determined,* Travis County, 2013
 (n = 1,096,344)

2013 Poverty Threshold for one person under age 65:

100%: \$12,119
 150%: \$18,179
 200%: \$24,238

2013 Poverty Threshold for a family of four, including two related children under 18:

100%: \$23,624
 150%: \$35,436
 200%: \$47,248



Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.
 Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, Research & Planning Division, 2014
 Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, C17002

*Poverty status was determined for all people except institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.

In Travis County an estimated 176,900 individuals (16% of the total population) live in households with incomes below the poverty threshold.¹⁰ One-third (33%) of Travis County residents, or nearly 358,950 individuals, live at or below 200% of the poverty threshold.

Geographic Comparison: The table below shows the ratios of income to poverty in Travis County, Texas, and the nation as a whole.

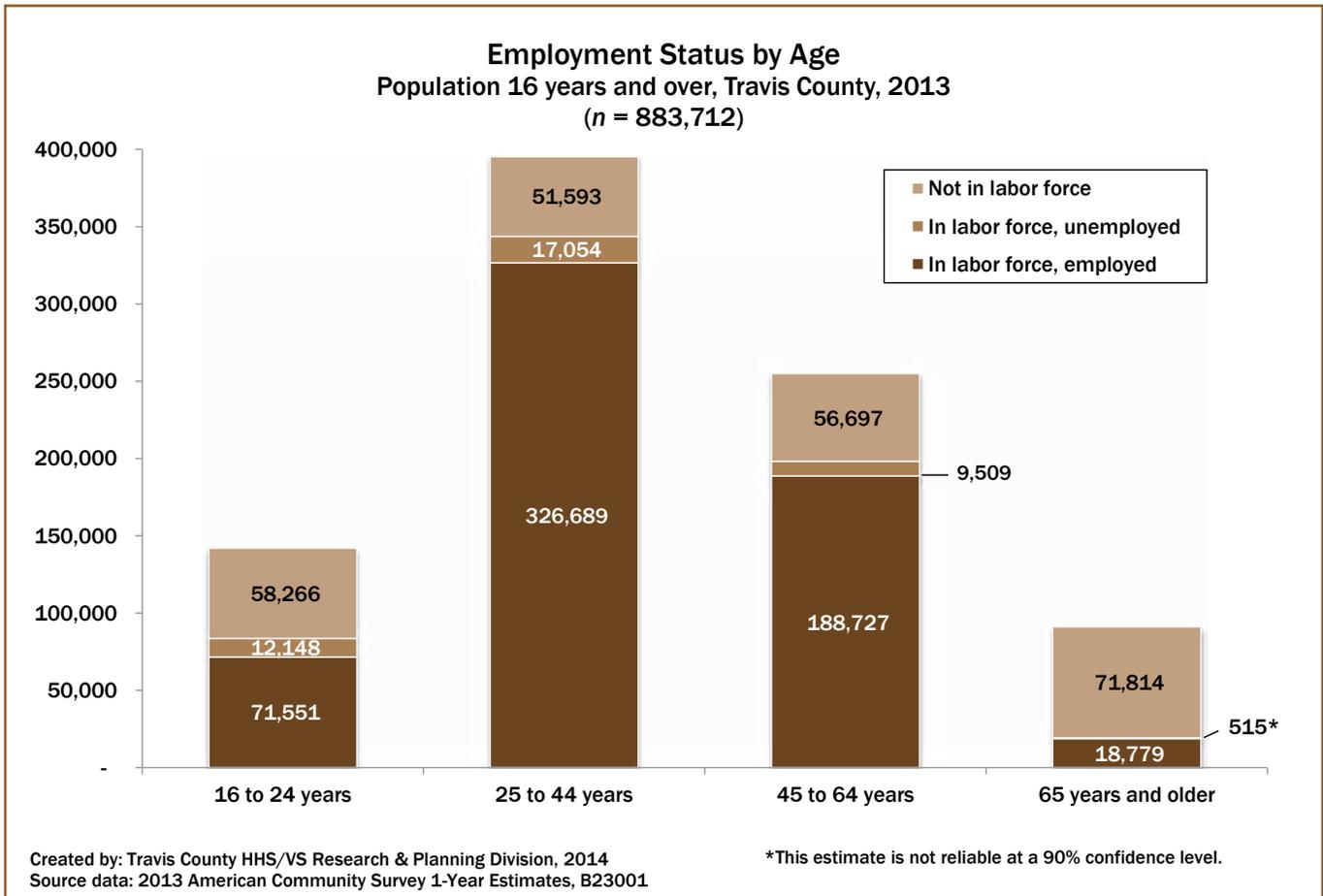
Ratio of Income to the Poverty Level in the Past 12 months
 Population for Whom Poverty Status is Determined, Travis County, Texas, and U.S., 2013

	Travis County	Texas	U.S.
Income < 100% of the poverty threshold	16%	18%	16%
Income 100%-199% of the poverty threshold	17%	21%	19%
Income 200% or more of the poverty threshold	67%	61%	65%

Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, Research & Planning Division, 2014 Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B17002

¹⁰ The Census Bureau uses poverty thresholds as denoted in the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Statistical Policy Directive 14 as described on the Census Bureau's website at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/overview/measure.html>. The thresholds consider family size and composition when determining whether an individual is living in poverty and can be found at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshold/index.html>.

Employment and Age



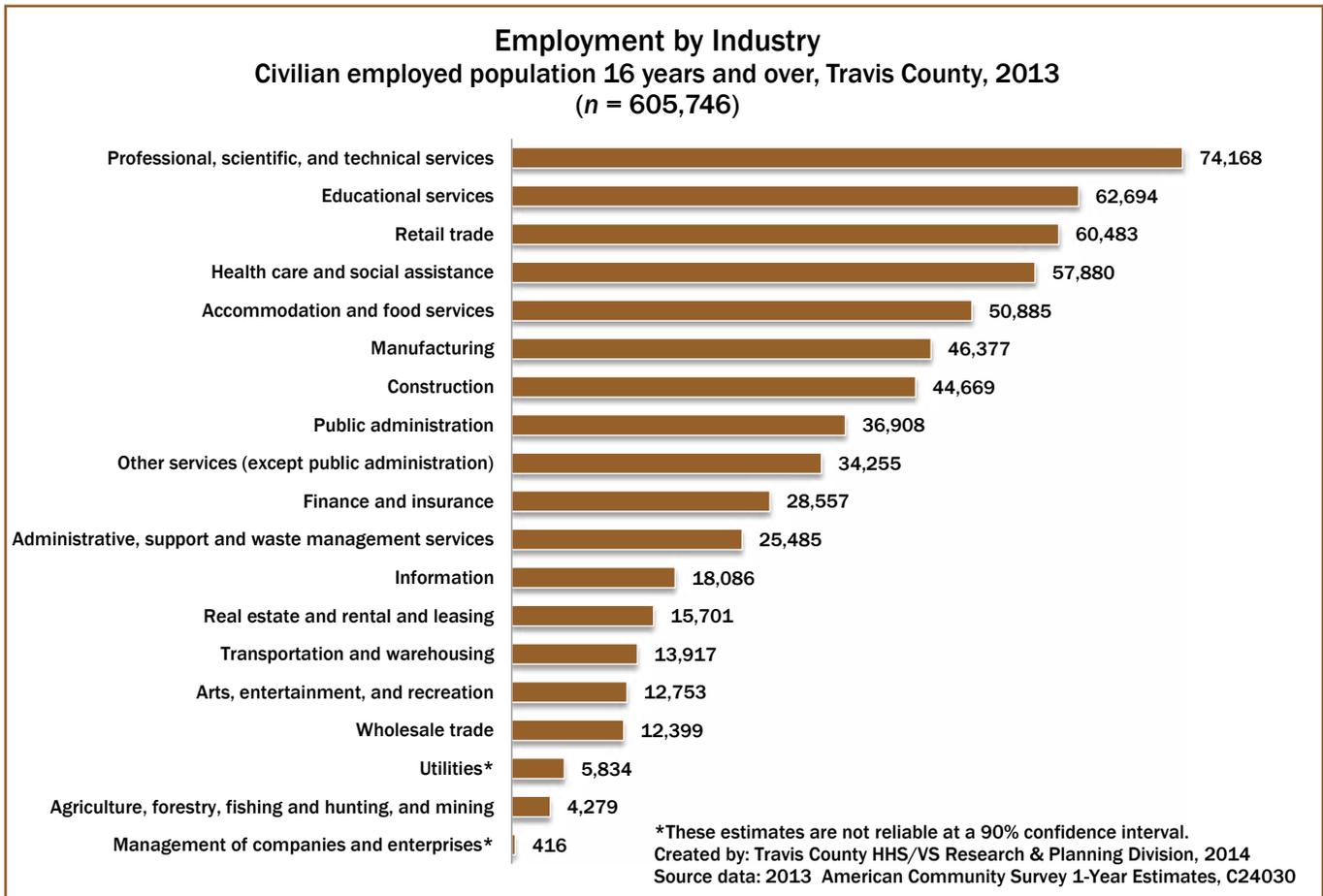
Travis County's Labor Force: In total, 73% of Travis County's population age 16 and over (about 645,000 people) is in the labor force. Approximately 39,000 of them were unemployed in 2013. This figure is lower in both number and proportion of our workforce than 2012 figures.

Labor Force by Age: Individuals between the ages of 25 and 44 constitute the majority (53%) of Travis County's labor force. The 45 to 64 age group comprises 31% of the labor force, followed by the 16 to 24 age group (13%), and finally those 65 years and older (3%).

Unemployment by Age: Travis County's overall unemployment rate (which is the percent unemployed of those in the labor force) was 6% in 2013, down from 7% in 2012. By age, the unemployment rate is highest at 15%, for those 16 to 24 years old, and lowest at 5% for those 25 to 44 years old and those 45 to 64 years old.¹¹

¹¹ Due to sampling error, the unemployment rate of those in the "65 years and over" category, reported at 3% in 2013, is unreliable at a 90% confidence level.

Employment by Industry

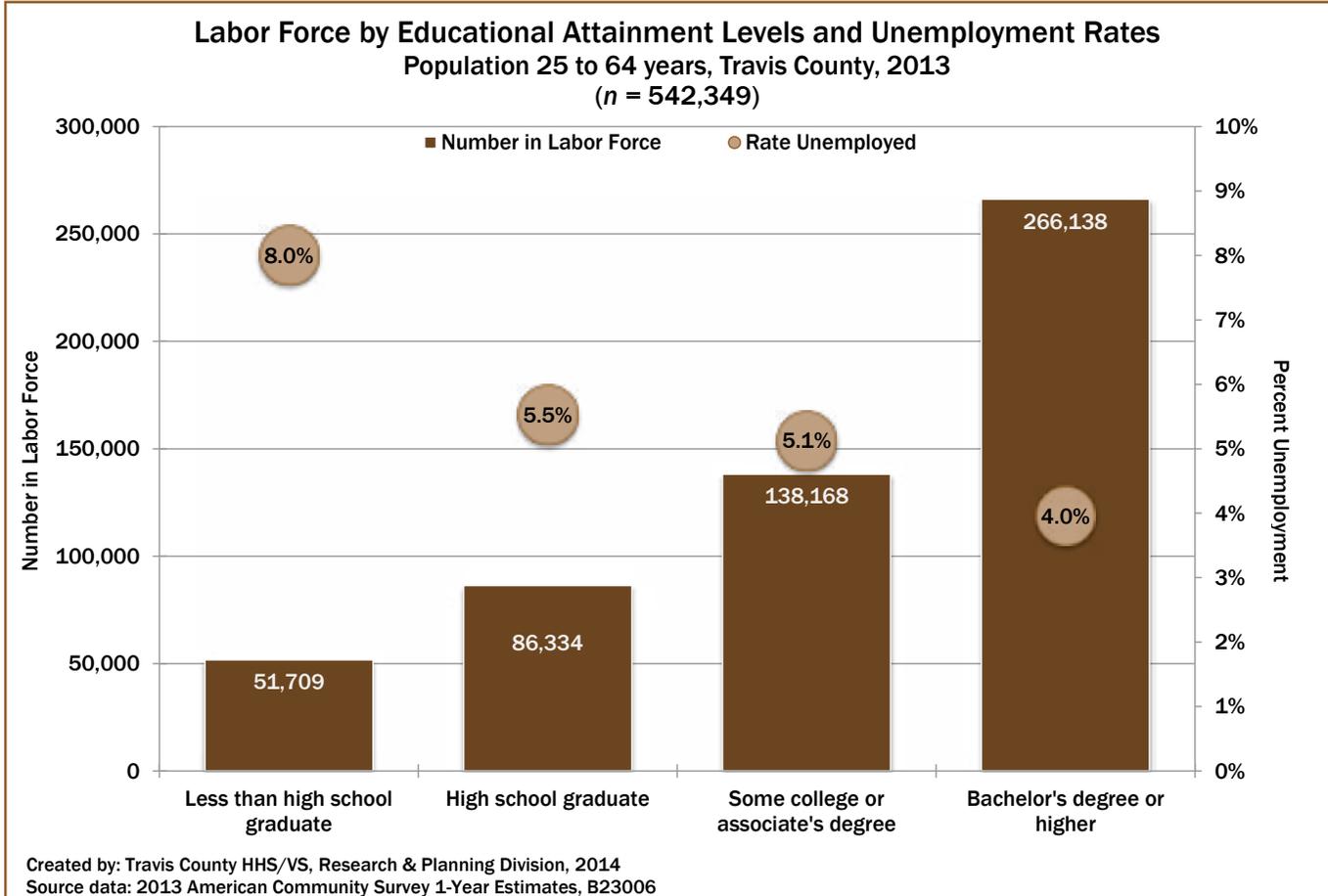


Slightly more than half (51%) of Travis County's civilian employed population age 16 and over is employed in the following five industries: accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, retail trade, educational services, and professional, scientific, and technical services.

Geographic Comparison: In general, the proportions of Travis County workers employed by the above industries are similar to those of other major metropolitan counties in Texas as well as the nation and the state as a whole.¹² Some notable differences in Travis County include a slightly higher proportion of workers in professional, scientific, and technical services than in other major metropolitan counties in the state, Texas as a whole, and the nation.

¹² Comparisons were made to the following counties: Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, and Tarrant.

Employment and Education



Educational Attainment in the Labor Force: Among Travis County persons in the labor force between the ages of 25 and 64, almost half (49%) have a bachelor's degree or higher, and another one-quarter (25%) have some college or an associate's degree. High school graduates comprise 16% of the labor force, and the remaining 10% have less than a high school degree.

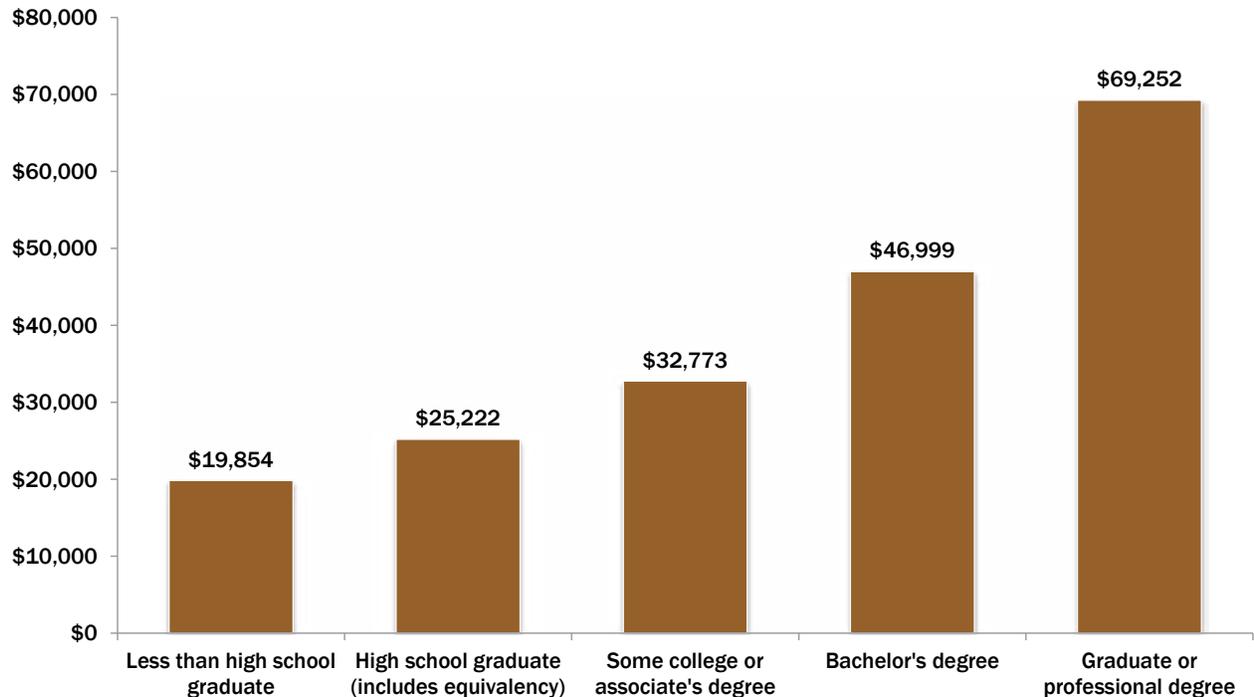
Educational Attainment and Employment Rates: Persons in the labor force with the highest educational attainment levels in Travis County have the lowest unemployment (4% unemployment for those with a bachelor's degree or higher), and those with the lowest educational attainment levels have the highest unemployment (about 8% for those with less than a high school degree).¹³

Geographical Comparison: In comparison to Texas and the U.S., Travis County has a more educated workforce. In Travis County, 49% of workers age 25 to 64 have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 32% for Texas and 35% for the U.S. at large.

¹³ The difference between the proportion unemployed who are high school graduates and those who have some college or an associate's degree is not statistically significant. There is also no statistically significant difference between the proportion unemployed of those with a bachelor's degree or higher and of those with some college or an associate's degree.

Earnings and Education

Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months by Educational Attainment
Population 25 and over with earnings, Travis County, 2013



Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, Research & Planning Division, 2014
Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B20004

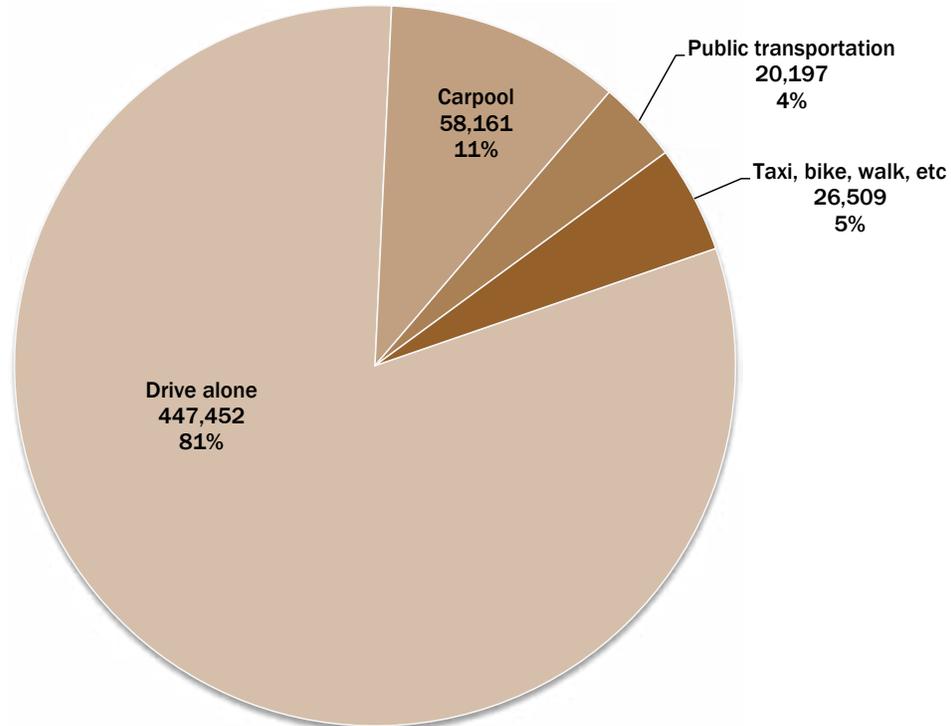
Educational Attainment and Earnings: Educational attainment level and earnings are directly related: As education level increases, earnings also rise. In 2013, median earnings¹⁴ rose with each incremental increase in education level. In particular, the median earnings for those with a high school diploma or an equivalency were 27% higher than for those who did not graduate high school. The median earnings for persons with a bachelor's degree were 43% more than for those persons who have some college or an associate's degree. Similarly, the median earnings for those with a graduate or professional degree were 47% higher than for those who have a bachelor's degree.

Median Earnings and Gender: For Travis County overall, 2013 median earnings are \$37,307. However, median earnings for men (\$41,796) are 30% higher than those for women (\$32,239).

Geographic Comparison: Travis County's 2013 overall median earnings (\$37,307) are higher than both those of the state of Texas (\$34,616) and the U.S. (\$35,597).

¹⁴ The median divides the earnings distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median and one-half above the median. Median earnings is restricted to individuals 16 years old and over with earnings. (American Community Survey/Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, p. 84)

Means of Transportation to Work
Workers 16 years and over who did not work at home, Travis County, 2013
(n = 552,319)



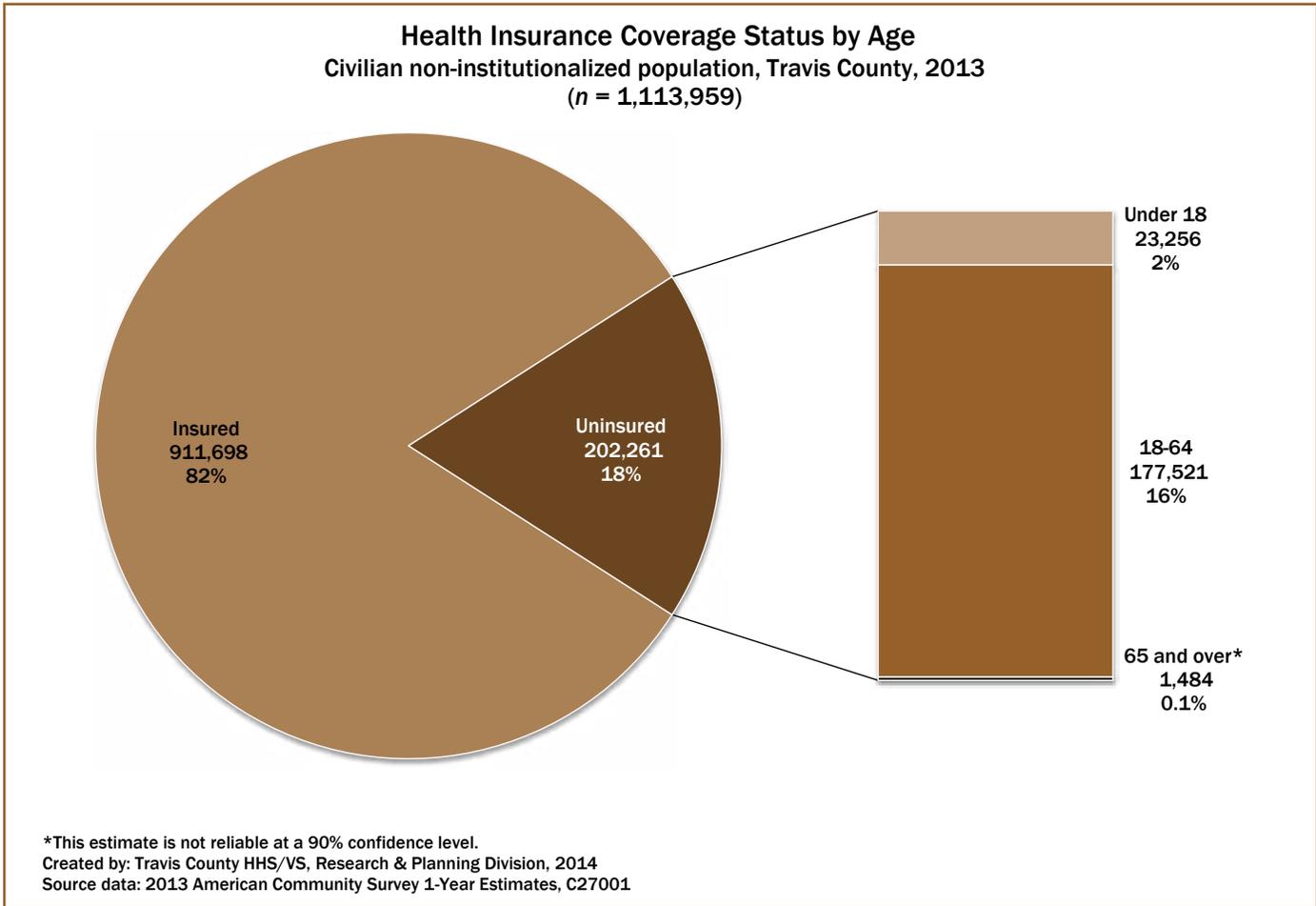
Created by: Travis County HHS/VS Research & Planning Division, 2014
Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, C08134

Means of Transportation to Work: The vast majority of Travis County workers aged 16 and older drive to work alone (81% or about 447,500 people). While 11% (approximately 58,200) carpool, only 5% (about 26,500) use other means of transportation, including taxicab, motorcycle, bicycle, or walking. The remaining 4% (about 20,200) use public transportation. Among all these commuters, most (64%) travel under 30 minutes to get to work, while almost one-third (30%) spend between 30 minutes and an hour traveling to work. A small percentage of workers (6%) spend an hour or more traveling to work.

Geographic Comparison of Means of Transportation to Work: The proportion of Travis County workers who drive to work alone (81%) is lower than the state (84%) but is on par with that of the nation. In other major metropolitan counties of Texas, the proportion of commuters who drive to work alone hovers between 81% and 86%.¹⁵ The proportion of commuters using public transportation to get to work in Travis County (4%) is lower than the nation (5%) but higher than the state of Texas (2%) and most other major metropolitan counties in the state (ranging between 1% and 3%).

¹⁵ Comparison counties include Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris and Tarrant.

Health Insurance



In Travis County, 18% of residents do not have health insurance.¹⁶ Of these 202,261 uninsured individuals, the majority (about 177,500 people) are adults between the ages of 18 and 64. Another 23,256 individuals (constituting 2% of the total Travis County population) are uninsured and under the age of 18. Nearly 1,500 people age 65 and over (or 0.1% of the total Travis County population) are living without health insurance.¹⁷ Most persons 65 and over have Medicare coverage.

Geographic Comparison: Travis County’s proportion of uninsured residents (18%) is higher than that of the U.S. (15%) but lower than that of Texas (22%). Travis County has the lowest rate of uninsurance among the six major metropolitan counties¹⁸ in Texas. The uninsurance rates of the other five counties range from a high of 28% in El Paso County to a low of 20% in Bexar County.

¹⁶ The Census Bureau defines coverage to include plans and programs that provide comprehensive health coverage. People are considered insured if they report having at least one of the following: Insurance through a current or former employer or union (of respondent or another family member); insurance purchased directly from an insurance company (by respondent or another family member); Medicare for those 65 and over or those with certain disabilities; Medicaid, Medical Assistance, or any kind of government assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability; TRICARE or other military health care; VA (including those who have ever used or enrolled for VA health care). People who had no reported health coverage, or those whose only health coverage was Indian Health Service, are considered uninsured. (American Community Survey/Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, pp. 70-72)

¹⁷ This estimate is not reliable at a 90% confidence interval.

¹⁸ Comparison counties included Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris and Tarrant.

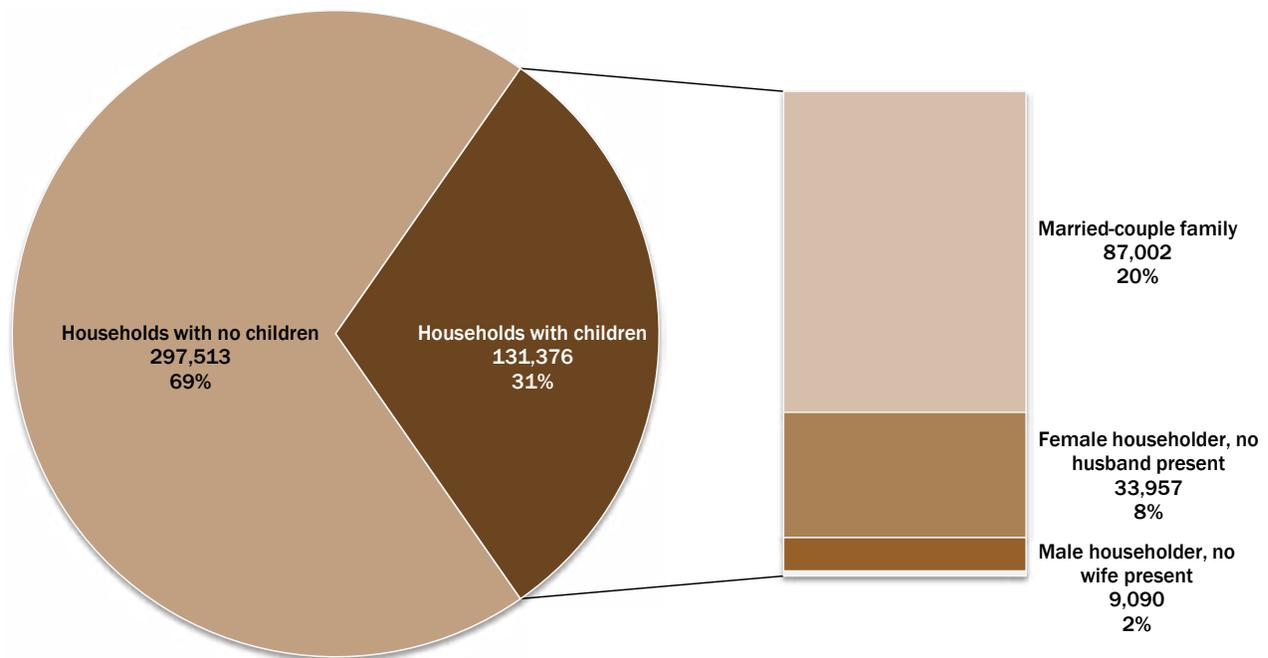
Housing Characteristics



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Household Type

Households by Presence of Children by Household Type
Households, Travis County, 2013
(n = 428,889)



Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, Research & Planning Division, 2014
Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B11005

Note: Nonfamily households with children account for less than 1% of all households with children. They are included in "Households with children" (131,376) at left, but are not displayed in the bar at right.

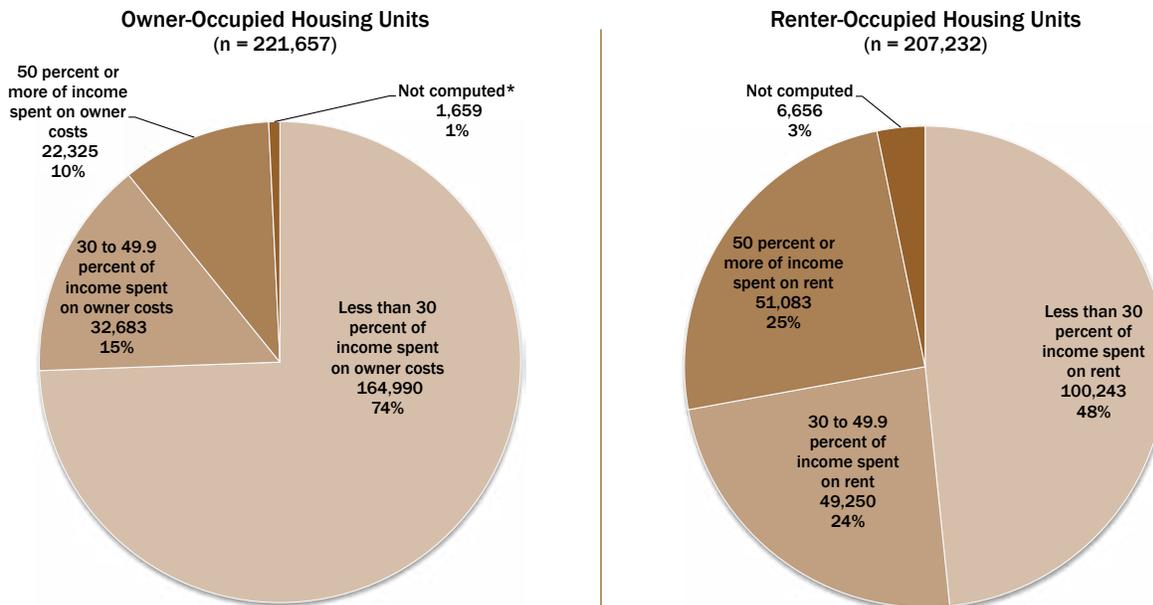
Households by Presence of Children:

- About one-third (31%) of Travis County households include children, while the remaining 69% do not.
- Of those households with children, the majority are married-couple families. More than 43,000 have one householder (majority female) with no spouse present.

Geographic Comparison:

- In comparison to state and national averages, Travis County households are less likely to include children (38% of Texas households and 32% of U.S. households include children).
- Regarding single householders with children with no spouse present, there is no significant difference between Travis County's proportions and those of the state and the nation.

Percent of Household Income Spent on Housing Costs Travis County, 2013



*The estimate for this category is not reliable at a 90% confidence level.

Note: Households spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs have a cost burden; those spending 50% or more on housing costs have a severe cost burden. Percentage totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, Research & Planning Division, 2014

Source data: 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, B25070 & B25091

Cost Burden: In Travis County, 52% of occupied housing is owner-occupied and 48% is renter-occupied. A large percentage of both renters and owners in Travis County experience a housing cost burden, which is defined as spending 30% or more of household income on housing costs.¹⁹ However, the percent of households that are cost burdened is much higher among renters than owners. About one-half (48%) of renter households spend 30% or more of their income on rent, and one-quarter (25%) of renter households experience a severe cost burden, spending at least one-half of their income on rent. Comparatively, 25% of owner households spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs and 10% spend at least one-half.

Geographic Comparison:

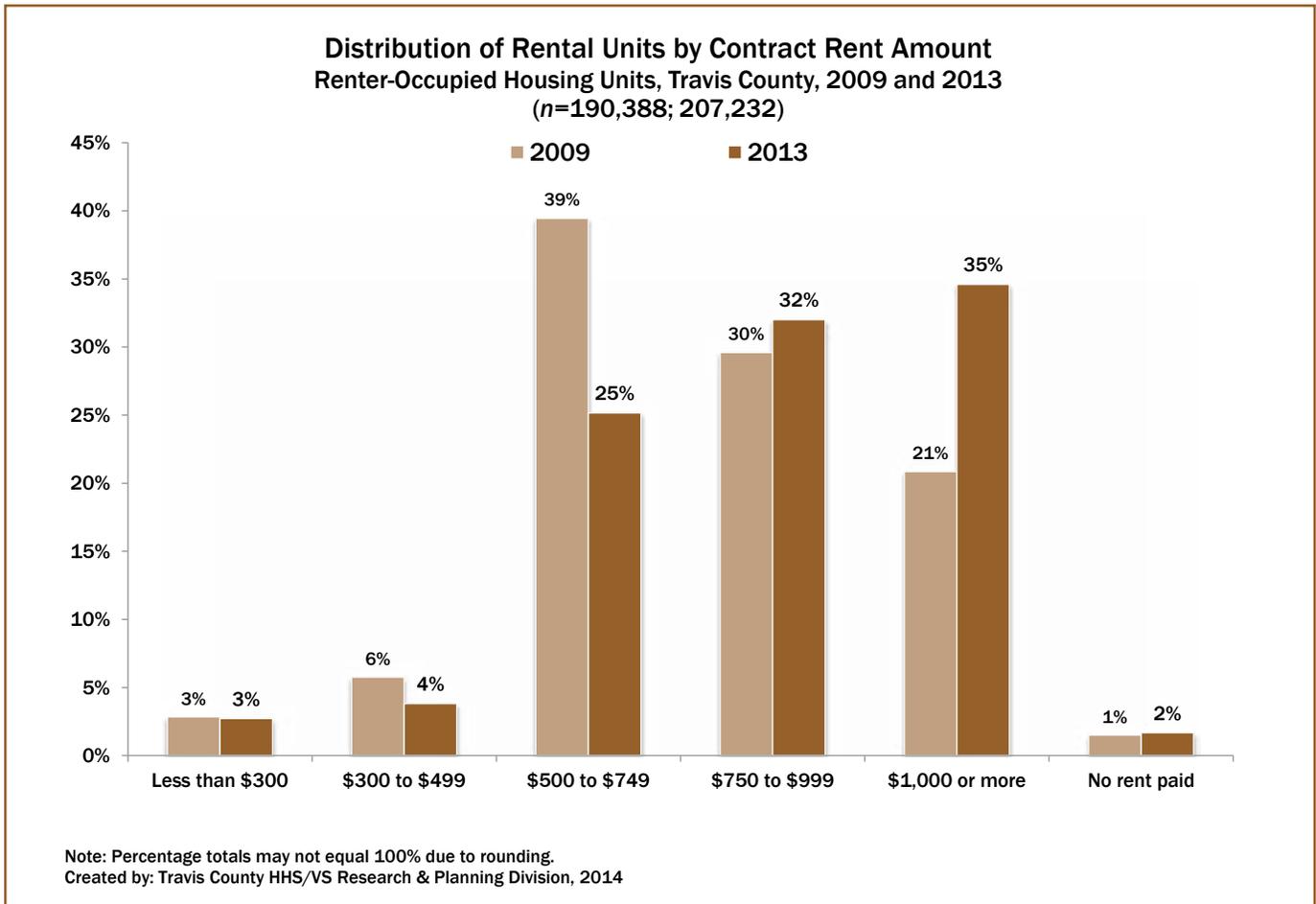
- The proportion of Travis County renter households who are cost burdened is the same as that of the nation as a whole (48%) but is slightly higher than that of the state (44%). The other metropolitan counties in Texas all have very similar proportions of renters that are cost-burdened, ranging from 44% in Tarrant County to 46% in Bexar, Dallas, El Paso and Harris Counties.²⁰
- The proportion of owner households experiencing cost burden in the state (21%) is slightly lower than that of Travis County and the nation as a whole (25%). Among other Texas metropolitan counties,²¹ the proportion of cost-burdened owner households ranges from a low of 20% in Tarrant County to a high of 26% in Dallas County.²²

19 See U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/affordablehousing/.

20 The difference between the proportions of cost-burdened renter households in Travis County is not statistically significant from that of Bexar, Dallas, El Paso or Harris Counties.

21 Comparison counties include Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris and Tarrant.

22 The difference between the proportion of cost-burdened owner households in Travis County is not statistically significant from that of Dallas County.



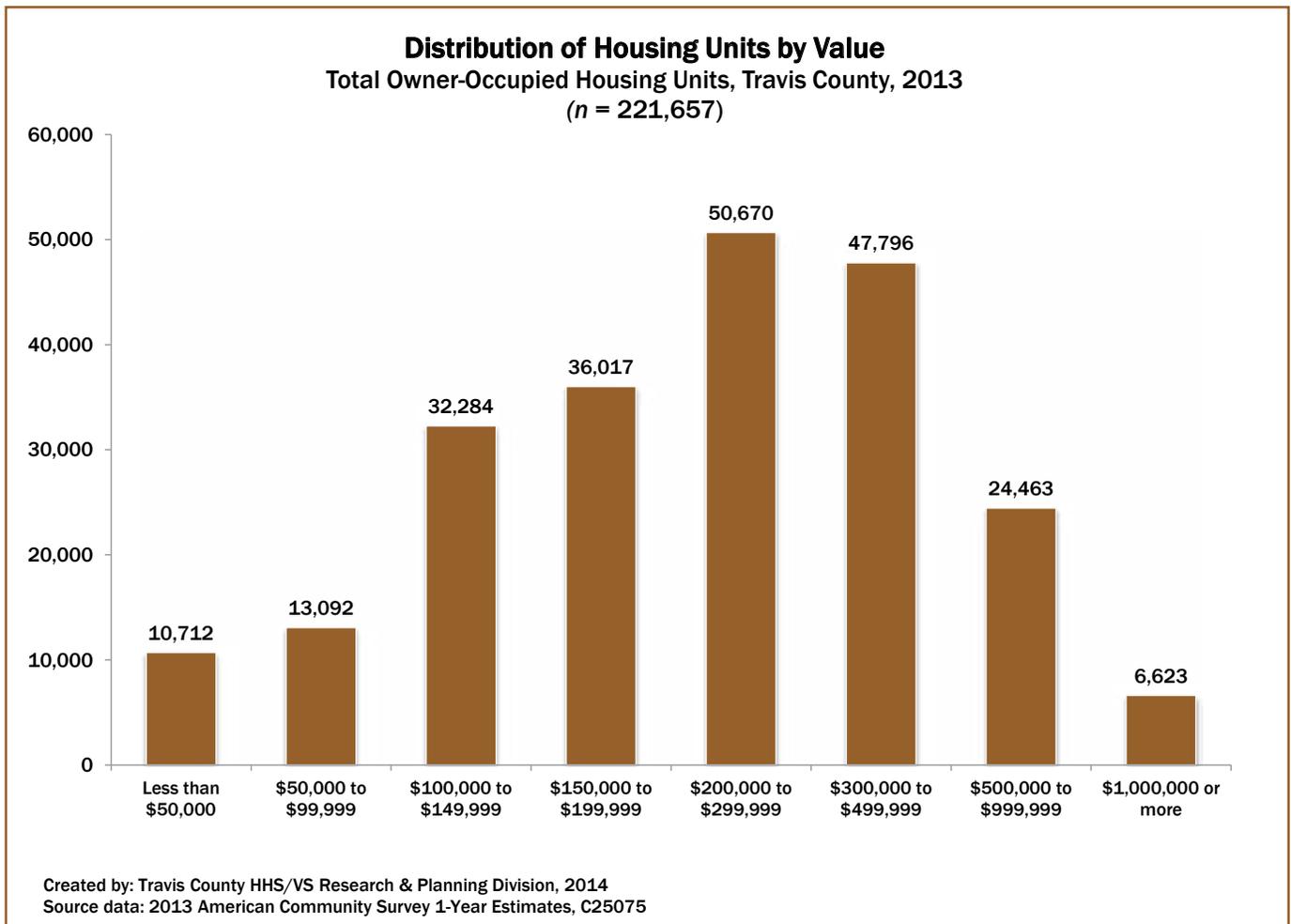
Contract Rent²³ Distribution: Two-thirds (67%) of Travis County’s occupied rental units have rents at or above \$750. Seven percent (approximately 13,500) of occupied rental units have rents below \$500 (not including 2% with no rent paid).²⁴ A comparison of 2013 and 2009 rent distribution shows movement toward larger proportions of higher rents paid over this five year period.

Median Contract Rent: The 2013 median contract rent in Travis County is \$869, compared to \$711 in Texas and \$766 in the U.S.

23 Contract rent is the monthly rent agreed to or contracted for, regardless of any furnishings, utilities, fees, meals, or services that may be included. (American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, pp. 16-18)

24 “No rent paid” refers to housing units that are renter occupied without payment of rent. The unit may be owned by friends or relatives who live elsewhere and who allow occupancy without charge. Rent-free houses or apartments may also be provided to compensate caretakers, ministers, tenant farmers, sharecroppers, or others. (American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, pp. 16)

Housing Values



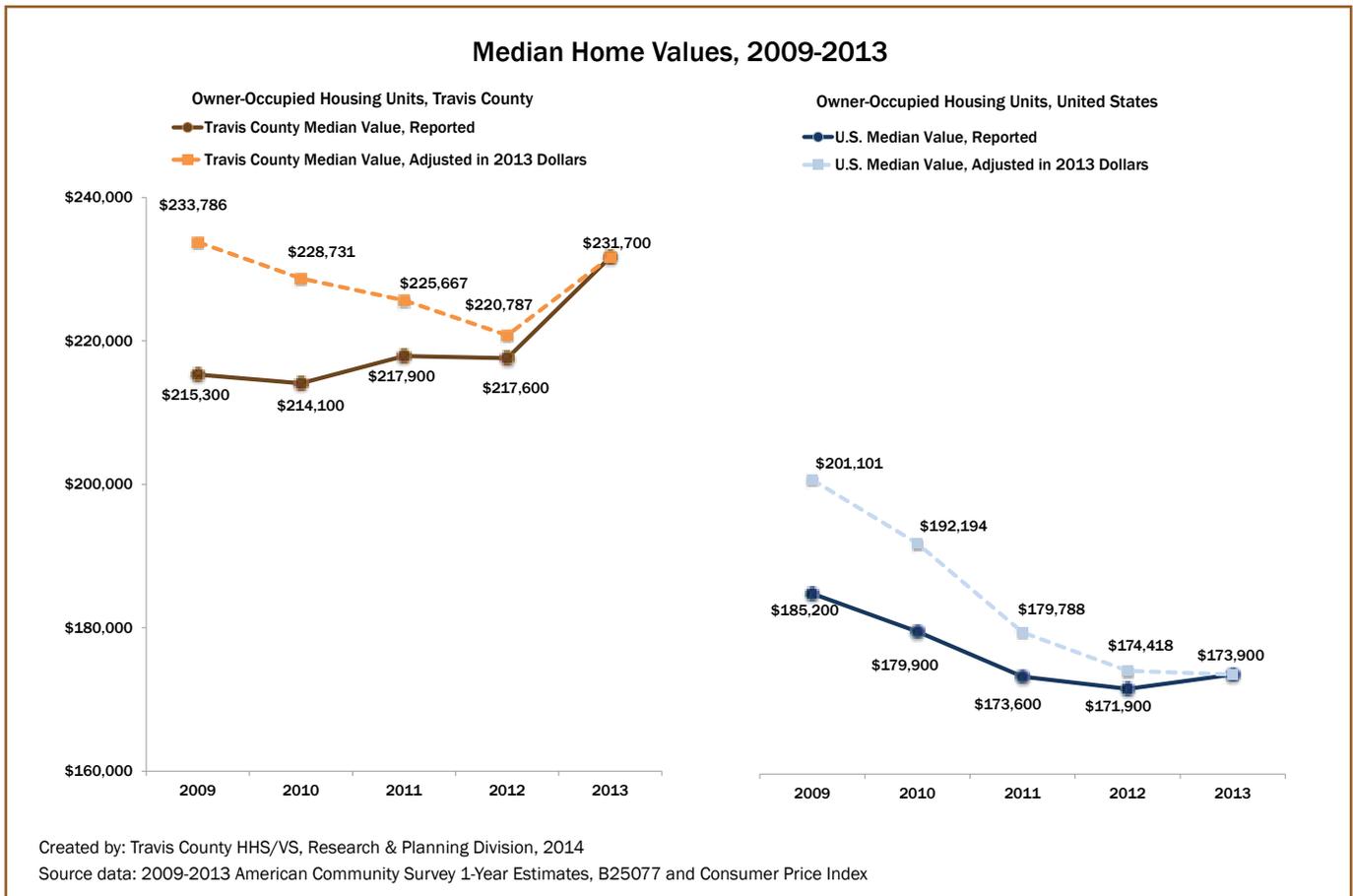
Housing Value²⁵ Distribution: Travis County homes valued between \$100,000 and \$299,999 comprise 54% (approximately 119,000) of owner-occupied housing in Travis County. Only 11% (approximately 23,800) of owner-occupied homes in Travis County are valued at or under \$100,000.

- There was a larger proportion of homes in the \$150,000-199,000 range in 2009 than in 2013.
- There was a slightly smaller proportion of homes in the \$1,000,000 and over category in 2009 than in 2013.

Median Housing Value: The median housing value in 2013 in Travis County was \$231,700. This is higher than that of the U.S. (\$173,900), and much higher than that of the state of Texas (\$132,000).

²⁵ Value is the respondent's estimate of how much the property (house and lot, mobile home and lot, or condominium unit) would sell for if it were for sale. For vacant units, value was the price asked for the property. (American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, pp. 42-44)

Median Housing Value



The reported median value of owner-occupied housing units in Travis County rose by 6% from \$217,600 to \$231,700 between 2012 and 2013, following four years of values hovering between about \$214,000 and \$218,000. When adjusted for inflation,²⁶ median home values declined by nearly \$13,000 (6%) between 2009 and 2012. Even with the sharp increase in median value in 2013, the 2013 median value remains \$2,086 less than the 2009 inflation-adjusted value.

National reported median home values moved on a gradual downward trend between 2009 and 2012, but increased slightly in 2013. The inflation-adjusted median value shows a continual decline from 2009 to 2012. The inflation-adjusted median value of U.S. homes dropped by 14% (more than \$27,200) between 2009 and 2013.

²⁶ Inflation adjustment calculation based on Consumer Price Index at: <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/tables.htm>.

Methodology

The U.S. Census Bureau's 2013 American Community Survey (ACS) is the primary data source for this chart-book. Data from the 2009-2012 ACS are also referenced for trend analyses.

About the American Community Survey

The American Community Survey (ACS) replaced the long form of the 10-year U.S. Census or Decennial Census and collects information on an ongoing basis rather than once every ten years. The survey includes questions about housing, social, and economic characteristics.²⁷ The ACS employs continuous data collection, with annual results produced at the national, state, city, and county levels as well as smaller geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or greater. In 2008, data based on a 3-year sample became available for all areas of 20,000 or more. In 2011, data based on a 5-year sample became available for many small areas (state, county, city, town, place, census tracts and block groups). Also in 2011, changes in sampling design were made that have increased the reliability of small tract estimates.²⁸

ACS Methodology

The ACS is conducted every month on independent samples of housing unit²⁹ addresses (whether vacant or occupied) and persons in group quarters³⁰ facilities, and produces annual estimates of the total residential population. Each year, approximately 3.5 million housing unit addresses in the United States and approximately 200,000 residents in group quarters facilities are selected.³¹ Surveys are collected from 1/12 of the sample each month. An address will not be included in the ACS survey more than once in a five-year period.³²

For Travis County, the original 2013 (entire 12 month) sample of initial addresses selected was 9,503, and the final number of housing unit interviews (actual sample used to produce results) was 6,020. The group quarters population sample is not available at the county level, but for the entire state of Texas, the initial sample selected was 13,090 and the final number of group quarters actual interviews was 10,563.³³

The ACS is conducted primarily through self-response. The ACS employs two distinct data collection methodologies: one for individuals residing in housing units and another for those residing in group quarters. For participants residing in housing units, three attempts are made to administer the survey: (1) by mail, which includes separate mailings of a pre-notice letter, ACS questionnaire, reminder postcard, and replacement questionnaire if needed; (2) by landline telephone, on a sample of addresses that have not returned the completed paper questionnaire or submitted an online questionnaire through the internet, and for which a telephone number is known; and finally (3) by personal interviews with a sample of remaining addresses. Sampling and

27 A copy of the questionnaire can be found at: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/questionnaires/2013/Quest13.pdf>.

28 For more information on 2011 reliability improvements, go to http://www.census.gov/acs/www/about_the_survey/2011_acs_improvements/.

29 A housing unit may be a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms or a single room that is occupied (or, if vacant, intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters. Both occupied and vacant housing units are included in the housing unit inventory. Boats, recreational vehicles (RVs), vans, tents, railroad cars, and the like are included only if they are occupied as someone's current place of residence. (American Community Survey/Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, pp. 7-8)

30 In 2006, group quarters were added to the ACS target population of housing units. A group quarters is a place where people live or stay, in a group living arrangement that is owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. Group quarters include such places as college residence halls, residential treatment centers, skilled nursing facilities, group homes, military barracks, correctional facilities, and workers' dormitories. (American Community Survey/Puerto Rico Community Survey 2013 Subject Definitions, pp. 8-10) For more information on group quarters, see: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/GroupDefinitions/2013GQ_Definitions.pdf.

31 U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates, Tables B98001 and B98002.

32 American Community Survey Sample Size Definitions, available at: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/sample_size_definitions/.

33 U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B98001.

Methodology

data collection for group quarters varies by group quarters size.³⁴

Limitations

Because the findings are based on a sample rather than entire populations, the results would differ slightly if another sample were drawn or if the entire population were surveyed. This reduces the reliability of the results. A certain amount of variability (also called sampling error) is associated with any estimate based on a sample. In general, the larger the sample, the smaller the sampling error will be.³⁵ ACS estimates highlighted in this publication with relatively small sample sizes and therefore relatively large margins of error have been tested for reliability at a 90% level of confidence.³⁶ When direct comparisons are made (for example, between geographic areas or over time), tests have been performed for statistical significance at a 90% confidence level. Estimates with coefficients of variation³⁷ of more than 15% were either excluded or footnoted as being unreliable. Note that testing was not conducted on every possible permutation of comparisons between visible figures in this report's charts and tables, so inferences about statistics and trends should be interpreted with caution.

For more information and instruction on testing for reliability and statistical significance, as well as general guidance on how to use American Community Survey data, please see the Compass guides published by the U.S. Census Bureau: www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/handbooks/

Non-response error: If certain individuals do not respond to the survey, the strength of the findings will be diminished. Additionally, those who respond to the survey may possess certain traits that skew the results differently than if everyone in the sample responds (this is known as selection bias). However, while surveys are often voluntary, response to the ACS is required by law (Section 221 of Title 13, Chapter 7, United States Code), and those who refuse or willfully neglect to respond to the survey are subject to a fine of up to \$5,000.³⁸ The response rate for the ACS is high (the 2013 response rate for Texas was 90% for housing units and 95% for group quarters).³⁹

34 American Community Survey Accuracy of the Data (2013), available at: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2013.pdf.

35 U.S. Census Bureau, A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community Survey Data: What General Data Users Need to Know. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 2008. Available at: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/handbooks/ACSGeneralHandbook.pdf>.

36 A confidence level or interval is a range of values that describes the uncertainty surrounding an estimate. The "90%" in the confidence interval listed above represents a level of certainty about our estimate. If we were to repeatedly make new estimates using exactly the same procedure (by drawing a new sample, conducting new interviews, calculating new estimates and new confidence intervals), the confidence intervals would contain the average of all the estimates 90% of the time. We have therefore produced a single estimate in a way that, if repeated indefinitely, would result in 90% of the confidence intervals formed containing the true value. (From the US Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates website, <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saie/methods/statecounty/ci.html>, accessed 10/14/14).

37 Coefficient of variation is a measure used to discern the level of reliability of an estimate. It is calculated using the estimate and its standard error. For more information on calculating and using coefficients of variation, see: A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community Survey Data: What General Data Users Need to Know, available at <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/handbooks/ACSGeneralHandbook.pdf>.

38 American Community Survey: Why Were You Selected?, available at: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/about_the_survey/why_were_you_selected/.

39 Response rate information is available on the Census Bureau's American Community Survey website at: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/response_rates_data/index.php.