



# Facts, Accolades and Projections for Travis, Williamson and Hays Counties

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Alamo Title

***Why Austin? Austin is defined by stunning growth, lower business and living costs and a well educated youthful population. Austin possesses an infrastructure that is ready to support local businesses. We have the telecommunication, transportation, electric and water capacities to support major industry and offer a favorable tax environment for business. More than 18 companies have moved offices or headquarters to Austin in 2010 putting the city on track for record breaking relocation. ABJ, August, 2010***

## Greater Austin SMA

- Austin ranks third for office investment over the next five years. Grubb & Ellis, January, 2012
- Austin has the 6th lowest crime rate among cities with 500,000 or more population. CQ Press, December 2011.
- Austin ranked 4th of the 200 largest U.S. metros based on how well they are creating and sustaining jobs and economic growth. 2011 Milken Institute Best Performing Cities Index, December 2011.
- Austin places 8th on MarketWatch's annual Best Cities for Business list. Marketwatch, December, 2011
- Texas ranked 3rd on 2011 Small Business Survival Index of state policy climates for entrepreneurship. Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, November 2011.
- Austin is in the top 10 of U.S. "Innovation Cities" in an annual global ranking. thinks, November 2011.
- Austin is one of the top 5 Real Estate Markets to Watch. 2012 pya & the Urban Land Institute forecast. October 2011.
- Austin ranked 5th on a list of U.S. metros with the most healthy employment outlooks. Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, September 2011.
- America's 20 geikies Cities: Austin places 12th for percentage of workers with jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Forbes, August 2011.
- "America's 20 Can-Do Capitals" puts Austin at No. 10 among the 200 largest cities based on business development, sustainable, livability, and transportation and Infrastructure. The Daily Beast, August 2011.
- Austin's favorable employment and housing market conditions put it among Top 10 Towns for Working Towards a Home Purchase. Move. com, August, 2011.
- Austin is one of top 10 markets in the U.S. for Realtors--it has the highest per capita sales, the fastest moving inventory, and the greatest median price gain. Inman, August 2011.
- Austin takes top spot out of 100 best places to live. Relocate America, August, 2011.
- Forbes calls Austin America's No. 1 "boom town". Forbes Magazine, July 2011.
- Austin is One of the Top Generators for Green Jobs. The Brookings Institution. July 2011.
- Austin placed within the top 10 emerging commercial real estate markets. Real Estate Forum, June 2011.
- Austin ranks 4th in annual "economic strength". POLICOM Corp, May 2011.
- Austin ranks among nine metropolitan areas with a strong supply of IT talent, low competition and favorable employment costs. KLG Advisors, April 2011.
- Austin is in the Top 10 American Cities of the Future 2011-2012. fDi Intelligence, May 2011.
- Austin is ranked the #1 metro area for 24-hour partial pollution and has some of the cleanest air in the country. The American Lung Association State of the Air, May 2011.
- Austin ranked 3rd for the Best Cleantech cities in the nation by Clean Techies, May 2011.
- Austin is ranked 5th on the "Cities on the Edge" list of American Cities poised for greatness in sports, culture and music. Spearings Best List, May 2011.
- Austin is ranked first among 65 large metros for job growth by New Geography, April 2011.
- Austin ranks as America's 5th Strongest Job Market by Business Journals "On Numbers," April 2011.
- Austin leads the nation in Small Business Vitality rankings by The Business Journal, April 2011.
- Austin has the forth lowest unemployment rate in the country according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, April 2011.
- Austin ranks 3rd on the Best Cities for Staying Young survey of the 50 largest metros by RealAge, April 2011.
- Austin ranks among nine metropolitan areas with a strong supply of IT talent, low competition and favorable employment costs by KLG Advisors, April 2011.
- Austin was ranked the 8th Most Socially Networked City in the U.S by Men's Health, March 2011.
- Austin has the 2nd highest well-being of any metropolitan area with more than one million residents by Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, March 2011.
- Austin is ranked the #2 Healthiest Market for Home Builders by Builder Magazine, March 2011.
- UT Austin ranks as one of the Best Values in Public Colleges 2011 by Kiplinger's Personal Finance, February 2011.
- Austin is among the 10 Best Cities to Invest in Office Real Estate by Grubb & Ellis, January 2011.
- Austin is ranked the 2nd IT Startup Hotspot by PayScale, January 2011.
- Austin ranked as one of the Best American Cities to Live and Work by Business Review USA, January 2011.

## Round Rock and Georgetown

- Round Rock ranked the 11th safest among cities with 100,000 or more population. CQ Press, December 2011.
- For the fifth consecutive year, Round Rock ranks among the top 20 safest cities in the country, and No. 4 safest among cities greater than 100,000 population.
- In 2008, Round Rock landed 7th on MONEY magazine's list of America's Best Places to Live, its annual ranking of America's most livable towns.

- In January 2007, the City of Round Rock was selected in a national competition as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People.
- In 2010, Family Circle's annual survey ranked Round Rock among the Top 10 Towns for Families.
- The Austin-Round Rock area tied for first on Forbes' list of large metros where the recession is easing. March 2010

### Three County Area Travis, Williamson & Hays

- Travis County has 1,022 square miles with 33 square miles of rivers and lakes.
- In 2009 the population of Travis County was 1,026,158 and has gained 400,000 residents since 1990.
- Travis County is supported with 5 major Highways, I-35, US 183, US 290, State Hwy 71, and State Hwy 130.
- Williamson County has 1,135 square miles with 12 square miles of rivers and lakes.
- Williamson county had a 57.7% population growth from 2000-2009.
- CNNMoney.com reports Williamson County added more jobs in the past decade than every other county in the nation except one. Since 2000, Williamson County's job growth is 58.9 percent, second only to Lincoln County, SD.
- Williamson county is supported with 9 major Highways, I-35, US 79, US 183, State Highway 29, State Highway 45, State Highway 95, State Highway 130, 183A Toll Road and State Highway I95.
- Williamson County is the 12th Fastest Growing county in the Nation according to the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce.
- Hays County has 680 square miles with 2 square miles of rivers and lakes.
- Hays County is supported with 4 major Highways, I-35, US Highways 290, State Highway 21 and State Highway 80.
- In 2008 Hays County had a population of 149,476.
- Six Texas Counties Rockwall, Williamson, Collin, Hays, Fort Bond and Montgomery are in the Top 25 Fastest Growing Counties in the Nation according to USA Today.

### Population Growth *Texas A&M Real Estate Center & Census Bureau.*

- Travis County 2000-2009 had a 26.3% growth adding 213,878 people.
- Williamson County 2000-2009 had a 64.3% growth adding 160,719 people.
- Hays County 2000-2009 had 59.4% growth adding 58,000 people.

### 2010-2015 Population Forecasts *Texas Department of Health Services. Office of State Demographer.*

Travis	113,559 Gain	+11.1%		
Williamson	147,457 Gain	+35.7%		
Hays	47,792	+30.5%		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>New Residents</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Travis	992,793	1,168,738	175,965	+17.7%
Williamson	435,355	715,395	280,040	+64.3%
Hays	164,078	250,886	86,808	+52.9%
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>New Residents</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Travis	992,793	1,336,648	343,875	+34.6%
Williamson	435,355	1,137,513	702,158	+61.3%
Hays	164,078	355,508	191,430	+116.7%

### Hays County Roads

- In 2008, Hays County approved \$207 Million in road bond improvements.

### Travis County Roads

- Between 2006 and 2010 more than 75 miles of new toll roads were constructed at a cost of more than \$4 Billion.
- The Mobility Authority is planning to construct Express Lanes in the median of the MoPac Expressway from Lady Bird Lake north to Parmer Lane. The project will encompass 11 miles and cost approximately \$250 Million.
- Also under development is the Manor Expressway, a 6.2-mile limited-access toll road with three lanes in each direction. It will be constructed in an expanded median of US 290 and will extend from US 183 to east of Parmer Lane. The Mobility Authority recently received federal stimulus funding to help complete the flyover direct connect interchange between US 183 and the Manor Expressway. The project cost approximately \$600 Million.

### Williamson County Roads

- Williamson County voters passed a \$350 Million road bond project in 2000.
- In 2005, The Texas Department of Transportation Commission approved \$174 Million in road improvements in Williamson County.
- In 2006, Williamson County voters approved a \$228 Million in road bond package for further Road improvements.

### Texas Statistics *Texas Comptrollers Office and Chamber of Commerce.*

- Texas ranks 5th in the list of 10 Best States for Entrepreneurship & Innovation: The Atlantic, December 2011.
- Texas tops Forbes' list of the best states for jobs and Moody's Analytics forecasts employment will expand 2.9% annually through 2015. Forbes, December, 2011.
- Texas metros set the pace for private-sector employment growth: Austin is the 3rd fastest growing over the last 5 years. The Business Journals' On Numbers, November 2011
- Texas is Number 3 on 2011 Small Business Survival Index ranking of state policy climates for entrepreneurship. Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, November 2011
- Texas Tops 2011 State Business Climate Rankings. Site Selection, Nov. 2011
- Texas economy is the world's 11th largest!
- Texas Leads Nation in Veteran Employment. Texas Veterans Commission, September 2011.
- Texas is No. 2 on America's Best States for Business 2011 list from CNBC
- Texas named Most Favorable Business Climate among the 50 states in annual survey of corporate site selection professionals. Development Counsellors International, September. 2011
- Lone Star Jobs Surge: The Texas model added 37% of all net U.S. jobs since the recovery began. Wall Street Journal, June 2011
- **Texas has added 732,800 jobs over the last 10 years, no other state tops 100,000.** Business Journals On Numbers, May 2011.
- Texas Foreclosure in May 2010 was one in 867 mortgages. Florida was 1 in 174, California was 1 in 186, Nevada was 1 in 79, Arizona was 1 in 169.