2017 PROFILE

galveston county

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prepared by the Houston-Galveston Area Council
preface

In 2013, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) developed *Our Great Region 2040*, a regional plan for sustainable development. The plan lays out a long-range vision to ensure that the 13-county region is one of the world’s greatest places to live, work, and succeed by 2040.

The 2017 profiles for all 13 counties in the region provide a demographic snapshot and build a baseline understanding from which local communities and H-GAC can gauge how the region has advanced the tenets of the *Our Great Region 2040* plan.

The contents of this report have been gathered from a variety of sources referenced on the last two pages. All maps were produced by H-GAC.

To read the *Our Great Region 2040* plan and all 13 county profiles, visit [ourregion.org/county-profiles.html](http://ourregion.org/county-profiles.html) or [h-gac.com/go/apps](http://h-gac.com/go/apps).
big ideas

Strategies in the Our Great Region 2040 plan are grouped into Big Ideas for six different topics highlighting areas of opportunity within the region. The Big Ideas serve as high-level guides when considering new projects or policies. This 2017 county profile includes a range of demographic data points that correspond with one or multiple Big Ideas.

**Economic Development**
Strengthening our economic competitiveness through an educated and skilled workforce

**Environment**
Securing a clean and ample water supply

**Healthy Communities**
Cultivating places where people can lead active, healthy lives

**Housing**
Providing balanced housing choices near jobs, services, and transportation options

**Resiliency**
Increasing our resiliency to disaster and a changing environment

**Transportation**
Achieving a world-class transportation network

Securing a clean and ample water supply
Galveston County is the more dense than the region as a whole.

Population Growth Forecast
Galveston County grew by 65% from 1980 to 2015 and is expected to reach 475,000 residents by 2040.

Residents Per Square Mile
Galveston County is the more dense than the region as a whole.
Race and Ethnicity
Galveston County is less racially diverse than the region and the state.

*As defined by the Office of Management and Budget as a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race.
Building Permits Issued

Single-family construction is declining in the past few years while multi-family permits remain intermittent.

Galveston County Land Use

- Other counties
- Open water: 19%
- Developed Land: 31%
- Wetlands: 18%
- Forest, shrubs, pasture, grasslands, barren lands and cultivated crops: 32%

HOUSING & LAND USE
Housing Tenure
Galveston County has a higher rate of homeownership than the region or the state.

Owners 67%  Renters 33%

61%  39%
62%  38%

Vacant Housing Units
Around 18% of Galveston County’s housing units are vacant.

Living Costs
Galveston County households spend 54% of their income on transportation and housing.

Housing Type
Galveston County’s homes are mostly single-family residences.

Single Family  Multi-Family  RV, boat, & mobile home

74%  22%  5%
66%  29%  5%
68%  24%  8%

Median Home Value
Galveston County has the fourth highest median home value in the region.

Housing Units Built Since 2000
Almost 30% of Galveston County’s housing units were built since 2000.
Top Industries by Percent of Overall Jobs
The Educational Services industry employs a much larger portion of Galveston County workers than any other industry, at nearly one quarter of all county employment in both 2002 and 2014.

Major Employers in Galveston County
- BP Products North America
- Clear Creek ISD
- Dickinson ISD
- Galveston ISD
- Landry’s Inc.
- Moody Gardens
- Texas City ISD
- UT Medical Branch
- Wal-Mart Associates, Inc.

*This reflects the most up-to-date publicly available data and may not represent the current mix of major employers in the county.

Employment & Education (16-19 Year Olds)
Around 7% of Galveston County’s working-age teens are both unemployed and out of school.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>County</th>
<th>Region</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled in School</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employed, Not in School</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in School or Employed</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</table>
Only 37% of Galveston County residents work in the county, and 53% of the workers in the county live there.

Unemployment Rate
Galveston County’s unemployment mirrors national trends, and was higher than the nation in 2016.

Earnings of Residents
Around 53% of Galveston County residents earn more than $40,000 annually, a similar percentage to the region.

Workers’ Job & Home Destinations
Only 37% of Galveston County residents work in the county, and 53% of the workers in the county live there.

47,800 Galveston County residents both live and work in the county.

Workers in the county who live elsewhere
County residents who work elsewhere
EDUCATION

Educational Attainment
A lower percentage of Galveston County residents have completed a bachelor’s degree or higher than the region and state.

- Less than High School: 12%
- High School or Equivalent: 24%
- Some College or Associate’s: 34%
- Bachelor’s Degree or More: 29%

Local Schools
Public Secondary Schools
- Clear Creek ISD
- Dickinson ISD
- Friendswood ISD
- Galveston ISD
- High Island ISD
- Hitchcock ISD
- Santa Fe ISD
- Texas City ISD

Post-Secondary Schools
- College of the Mainland
- Galveston College
- Texas A&M University at Galveston
- University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

Class of 2015 Graduation Rate
Galveston County students graduated at a lower rate in 2015 than the students of most counties in the region.

- 94% of All Galveston Students graduated
- 99% of Hispanic Galveston Students graduated
- 92% of Black Galveston Students graduated
- 86% of Walker County Students graduated
- 89% of Harris County Students graduated
- 92% of Liberty County Students graduated
- 94% of White Galveston Students graduated
- 95% of Asian Galveston Students graduated
- 77% of Galveston Students graduated

Median Earnings by Educational Attainment
A Galveston County resident with a graduate or professional degree makes, on average, $52,400 more than a resident with less than a high school education annually.

- Less than high school: $10K
- High school or equivalent: $19,100
- Some college or Associates: $29,500
- Bachelor’s: $40,100
- Graduate or Professional: $59,600
- $71,500
- $80K
Population without Health Insurance
Galveston County has a lower portion of residents without health insurance than the region or state.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Texas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children (under 18)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total population</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
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Top Causes of Death
Per 100,000 Galveston County residents
- **186** Cancer (all types)
- **171** Heart disease
- **43** Stroke
- **39** Accidents
- **39** Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease
- **19** Kidney Disease
- **19** Septicemia
- **17** Alzheimer's

Adult Obesity Rate
Galveston County has a lower obesity rate than the region.

Dentists Per Capita
- **Texas**: 53 per 100,000
- **County**: 40 per 100,000

Doctors Per Capita
- **Texas**: 74 per 100,000
- **County**: 121 per 100,000
Residents in 100-year Floodplain
A larger percentage of Galveston County residents live in a 100-year floodplain than the region.

Residents in Hurricane Evacuation Zone
Nearly all Galveston County residents live in a hurricane evacuation zone, as opposed to 25% of the region's residents.
Mean Commute to Work (minutes)
Galveston County workers commute for about the same amount of time as the region as a whole.

Vehicle Miles Traveled per Person
Galveston County drivers do not drive as many miles annually as drivers in the region.

Commute Mode to Work
Galveston County workers have a similar commute mode split as the region.

Traffic Fatalities per 100,000 Residents
Galveston County has a similar rate of traffic fatalities as the rest of the region.
Overview
Galveston County Boundaries (map)
Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017
Population Growth Forecast
Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017
Residents per Square Mile
Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017
Age
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B01001
Median Household Income
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S2503
Poverty Rate
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701
Race and Ethnicity
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B03002

Housing & Land Use
Galveston County Land Use (map)
Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017
Building Permits Issued
U.S. Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey, 1990-2015
Housing Tenure
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04
Housing Type
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04
Vacant Housing Units
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04
Living Costs
Center for Neighborhood Technology 2013 H+T® Index
Median Home Value
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04
Housing Units Built Since 2000
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04

Economy & Workforce
Top Industries by Percent of Overall Jobs
U.S. Census Bureau, 2002-2014, OnTheMap Application, Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program
Major Employers in Galveston County
2016 Workforce Solutions, County Economic Profiles
Employment & Education (16-19 Year Olds)
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B14005
Unemployment Rate
Earnings of Residents
U.S. Census Bureau, 2014, OnTheMap Application, Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program
Workers’ Job & Home Destinations
U.S. Census Bureau, 2014, OnTheMap Application, Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program
Education & Health

Educational Attainment
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S1501

Local Schools
Texas Education Agency and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Class of 2015 Graduation Rate
Texas Education Agency, Four-Year Graduation and Dropout Data, Class of 2015

Median Earnings by Educational Attainment
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B20004

Population without Health Insurance
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S2701

Top Causes of Death
Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Health Statistics, 2013 County Health Facts Profiles

Adult Obesity Rate
Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2013 County Data Indicators

Dentists per Capita
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration, Area Health Resources Files

Doctors per Capita
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration, Area Health Resources Files

Environment & Transportation

Galveston County EcoRegions & Conservation Districts (map)
Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

Residents in 100-year Floodplain
Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

Residents in Hurricane Evacuation Zone
Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2017

Mean Commute to Work (minutes)
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S0802

Vehicle Miles Traveled per Person
Texas Department of Transportation, 2015 Roadway Inventory

Commute Mode to Work
U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S0802

Traffic Fatalities per 100,000 Residents
Texas Department of Transportation, 2010-2015, Crash Records Information System