



KEY SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS
FOR GREATER AUSTIN AND TRAVIS COUNTY

INTRODUCTION

The CAN Dashboard provides an overview of the social health and well-being of Austin and Travis County. This eighth annual report charts progress on 17 indicators, highlights key disparities for each, and notes the local collaborative efforts working to move the indicators in the right direction.

The goal of the CAN Dashboard is to generate conversation about the ways we can work together to promote equity and opportunity for all people.

Community Advancement Network (CAN) publishes the CAN Dashboard and its companion website www.dashboard.canatx.org annually. 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 CAN board of directors includes board members and senior executives of the 25 CAN partner organizations, as well as the leadership of the CAN Community Council.

www.dashboard.canatx.org



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HIGHLIGHTS

Austin and Travis County are recovering from the impact of the Great Recession and have seen improvement in many socio-economic indicators. When CAN released its first Dashboard report in 2010, we were reeling from the impact of the recession. The poverty rate in Travis County shot up from 15% in 2008 to 19% in 2010. Other indicators, such as housing cost-burdened and unemployment followed this trend. After the end of the Great Recession in 2009, indicators began improving and have mostly continued to improve since then.

We see concerning disparities by race and ethnicity in arrests, poverty, homelessness, health, college success, and unemployment.

However, not all people have shared in this recovery. We see concerning disparities by race and ethnicity in arrests, poverty, homelessness, health, college success, and unemployment.

Some people have been forced to leave Austin because they can no longer afford to live here. Many residents find themselves priced out of their own neighborhoods as a booming job market brings higher income wage earners to compete for housing, increasing the cost of living.

The CAN board of directors acknowledges the need to address disparities by race and ethnicity and the importance of making sure all people who live in Austin are able to benefit from our thriving economy. The CAN board has focused its efforts on developing strategies, actions, tools and resources that can help to more effectively address the diverse needs of our community, such as the ones highlighted in this report.

We face challenges in affordability, in making sure opportunities exist for people of all races and ethnicities, in helping families living in poverty, and in preparing local people for high-paying jobs. These challenges are not insurmountable. Due to the strength of our economy and an innovative and collaborative spirit, our community is better positioned than most to meet them.

Sincerely,

Raul Alvarez,
CAN Executive Director

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.



CAN Partner organizations

Austin Community College
Austin Independent School District
Capital Metro
Central Health
City of Austin
City of Pflugerville
Community Justice Council
Del Valle Independent School District
Goodwill Central Texas
Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce
Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce
Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce
Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Huston-Tillotson University
Integral Care
Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT)
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

WE ARE SAFE, JUST & ENGAGED



- We are free from abuse, neglect, crime, violence, and injustice.
- We respect and value diversity and inclusion.
- We are civically engaged and use our talents, passions and interests to improve the community.

	5 YEAR BASELINE	MOST RECENT	TARGET	5 YEAR TREND	ON TRACK TO TARGET?
Crime rate per 100,000 people	4,885 in 2011	3,677 in 2015	1% annual reduction	BETTER	Y
Proportionality of jail bookings across all races and ethnicities	disproportionality ratio of 2.8 for Blacks in 2011	disproportionality ratio of 2.6 for Blacks in 2015	Proportionate by 2020	UNCHANGED	N
Percent voter turnout: Presidential elections	58% in 2012	61% in 2016	65% in 2020	BETTER	N
Gubernatorial elections	36% in 2010	37% in 2014	40% in 2018		

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.

	5 YEAR BASELINE	MOST RECENT	TARGET	5 YEAR TREND	ON TRACK TO TARGET?
Percent who live in poverty	19% in 2011	13% in 2015	10% in 2020	BETTER	Y
Percent of residents who live in food insecure households	16% in 2010	17% in 2014	15% in 2020	WORSE	N
Percent of households that are housing cost-burdened	39% in 2011	36% in 2015	33% in 2020	BETTER	Y
Percent who drive alone to work	71% in 2011	74% in 2015	70% in 2016	WORSE	N
Number of people identified as homeless on a given day	2,090 in 2013	2,036 in 2017	1,000 in 2020	UNCHANGED	N

WE ARE HEALTHY



- We live, work, learn, and play in accessible, safe, clean, and healthy physical environments.
- We have access to goods & services to achieve and maintain optimal physical & emotional well-being.

	5 YEAR BASELINE	MOST RECENT	TARGET	5 YEAR TREND	ON TRACK TO TARGET?
Percent under the age of 65 who have no health insurance	21% in 2011	16% in 2015	15% in 2020	BETTER	Y
Percent of adults who report poor mental health	17% in 2011	19% in 2015	15% in 2020	WORSE	N
Percent of adults who are obese	19% in 2011	24% in 2015	19% in 2020	WORSE	N
Percent of adults who smoke	16% in 2011	14% in 2015	10% in 2020	BETTER	N
Number of days with good air quality	225 in 2011	239 in 2015	249 in 2020	BETTER	Y

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.

	5 YEAR BASELINE	MOST RECENT	TARGET	5 YEAR TREND	ON TRACK TO TARGET?
Percent of kindergarteners who are school ready	51% in 2012	46% in 2016	70% by 2018	WORSE	N
Percent of students who graduate from high school in four years	85% Class of 2011	91% Class of 2015	95% Class of 2020	BETTER	Y
Percent of HS graduates who earn a post-secondary degree within 6 years of enrolling in college	47% Class of 2005	49% Class of 2009	55% Class of 2014 (by 2020)	BETTER	N
Annual unemployment rate	5.5% in 2012	3.1% in 2016	3.5% in 2020	BETTER	Y

EQUITY ANALYSIS

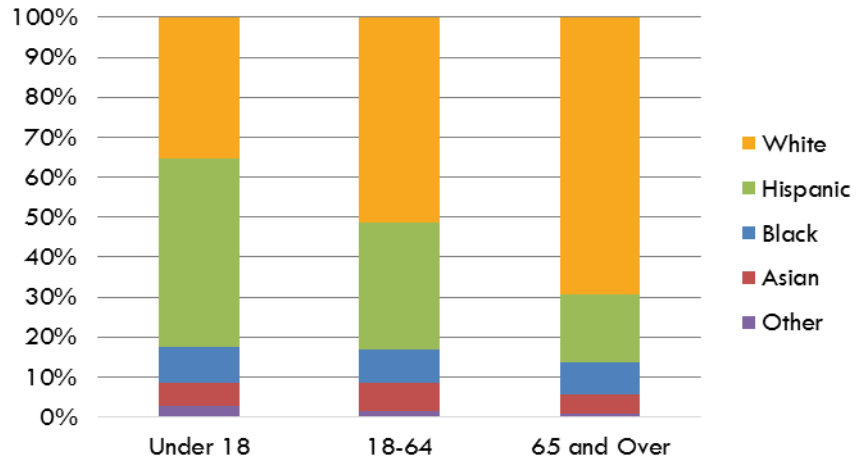
DIVERSITY

No racial or ethnic group constitutes a majority of the Travis County population. The U.S. Census Bureau reports 49% of Travis County residents are White, 34% are Hispanic, 9% are Black and 6% are Asian.

There is a noticeable difference in the racial and ethnic composition of the child and senior populations. Forty-seven percent of the child population are Hispanic, while the older population is 70% White.

Ensuring educational success for the diverse child population is critically important to our community's economic future.

Race & Ethnicity by Age, Travis County, 2015

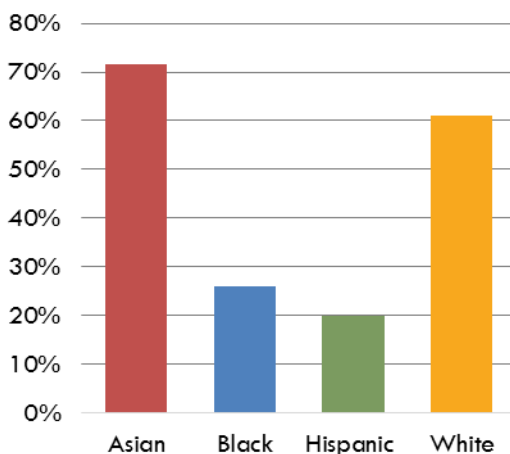


Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

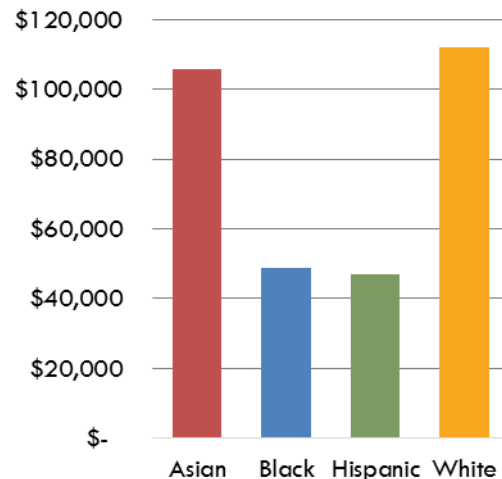
EDUCATION AND INCOME

There are stark differences in educational attainment levels and median family income by race and ethnicity. The first graph below depicts the percent of people in Travis County, over the age of 25, who have a Bachelor's degree or higher. The second graph depicts Median Family Income. Less than one-fourth of Black and Hispanic adults over the age of 25 have a Bachelor's degree, and this contributes to lower incomes for these groups. Increasing educational opportunity and educational success for people of all races and ethnicities is one way to promote equity and to expand economic opportunity for all people in our community.

Travis County Adults with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher, 2015



Median Family Income, Travis County, 2015

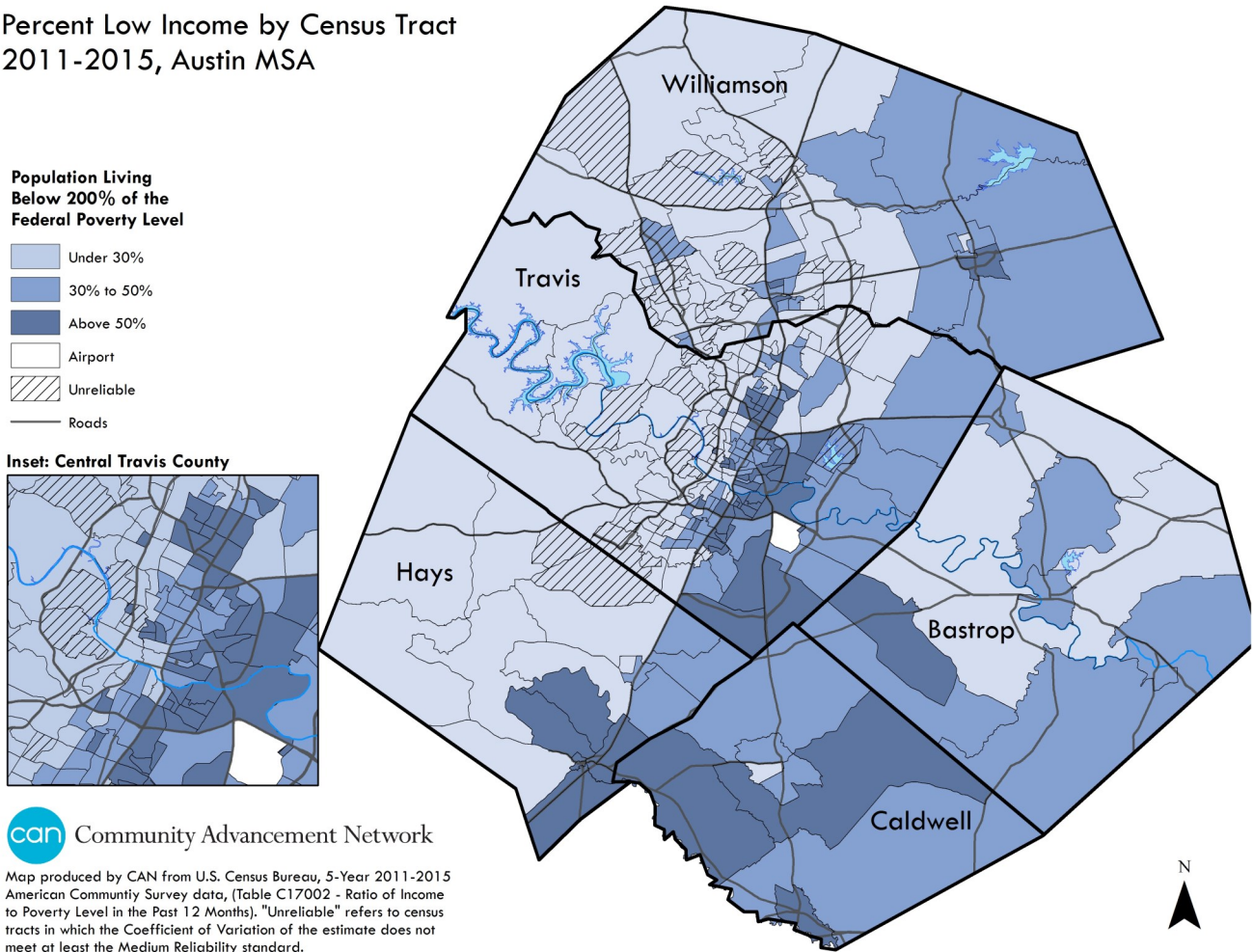


Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

ECONOMIC SEGREGATION

About 29% of all people living in the five-county Austin MSA are low-income. “Low-income” is defined as people who live in a household with total earnings of less than 200% of the federal poverty threshold. In 2015, this was about \$48,000 for a family of four with two adults and \$38,000 for a family with two children and one adult. More than half of all people living in the dark blue census tracts below were low-income. The medium blue census tracts represent areas where 30% to 50% of all people are low-income.

Percent Low Income by Census Tract
2011-2015, Austin MSA



	Total pop 2015	Low-income pop 2015	% low- income
Williamson	503,040	94,857	19%
Travis	1,152,969	362,208	31%
Hays	186,603	55,720	30%
Bastrop	78,053	27,476	35%

COMPARING MSA COUNTIES

Almost one-third of all people living in Bastrop, Hayes and Travis Counties are low-income, meaning they earn less than two times the federal poverty level.

Caldwell County, the fifth county in Austin’s five county MSA, is not represented in the table because the latest information available for Caldwell County is an American Community Survey 3-year estimate for 2011-2013. According to that estimate, Caldwell County had a population of 36,369 and about half of that population were low-income.

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2011-2015

EQUITY BY GOAL AREA



ARE WE SAFE, JUST & ENGAGED?

The indicators selected to measure whether we are a community that is safe, just and engaged are the overall crime rate, whether people of different races are disproportionately booked into jail, and voting.

There is good news for the crime indicator. Over the five years from 2011 through 2015, the crime rate in Travis County decreased by 25%. Both violent crime and property crimes declined.

Arrest disproportionality has been stubbornly persistent for Black residents of Travis County. While Black residents account for 8% of the total adult population in Travis County, 21% of all people booked into the Travis County jail are Black. A recent report by the Urban Institute and the Center for Policing Equity finds that Black motorists are four-times more likely to be arrested after being stopped by the Austin Police Department as White motorists. This problem is not unique to our community, and solving it will require collaborative action.

An analysis of voting data from the last Presidential election shows that young people and people of color are least likely to vote. People who are White and older are most likely to vote. There is some good news with voting—more people voted in the 2016 presidential election than in the previous presidential election. Also, there was a 67% increase in the number of Hispanic voters in Travis County who participated in the election.

Number of Voters by Race & Ethnicity, Travis County

	2012	2016	% change
Asian	11,442	10,734	-6%
Black	25,151	21,963	-13%
Hispanic	47,608	79,520	+67%
White	262,058	361,786	+38%

Source: Opinion Analysts

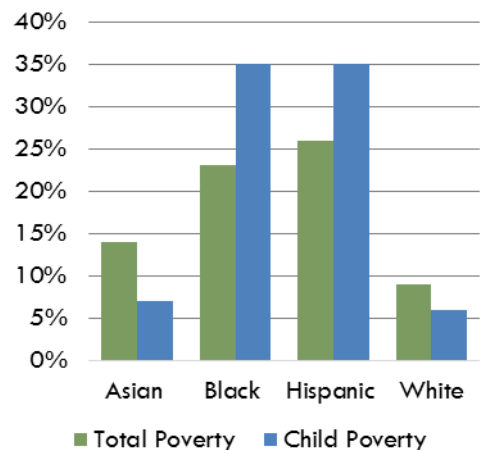


ARE OUR BASIC NEEDS MET?

The poverty rate for all races and ethnicities has declined since the end of the Great Recession, however, disparities remain. About one-fourth of all Hispanic and Black residents of Travis County live below the federal poverty threshold, which is about \$24,000 for a family with two adults and two children and \$19,000 for a family with one adult and two children. Less than one-tenth of White residents live below the poverty level. As the graph at right shows, the disparity for children is even greater. More than one-third of all Travis County children who are Hispanic or Black live in poverty. High rates of child poverty indicate this is an issue that requires greater support for families.

Finding an affordable place to live is a challenge for many people. Thirty-six percent of households in Travis County are housing cost-burdened, and many have moved further away from Austin to find housing they can afford. When families live far from where they work, they face longer commute times, higher transportation costs, find it more difficult to be involved with their children's school or other community activities, and may not have ready access to healthy food, healthcare and other important services.

Poverty by Race & Ethnicity, Travis County, 2011-2015



American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

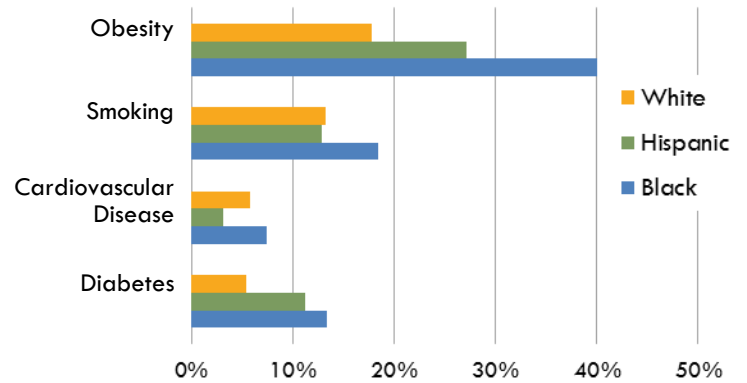


ARE WE HEALTHY?

Black residents are overrepresented among those who smoke, those who are obese, and those reporting poor mental health. There are life and death consequence to these health disparities. According to Austin Public Health, Black residents also have the highest rates of cardiovascular disease and diabetes—diseases more prevalent among those who are overweight or obese. Health disparities by income are even greater than disparities by race or ethnicity for mental health, smoking, and those with no health insurance.

In Travis County, 31% of all people under the age of 65 who are low-income have no health insurance. This is almost twice the rate overall. Hispanics are more likely to be uninsured than people of other races and ethnicities. According to the Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 28% of Hispanics under the age of 65 are uninsured. Much of the overall increase in the number of people who have health insurance is due to implementation of the Affordable Care Act, which is not available to people who are undocumented.

Chronic Disease and Risk Factors, Travis County, 2011-2015



Source: Austin Public Health



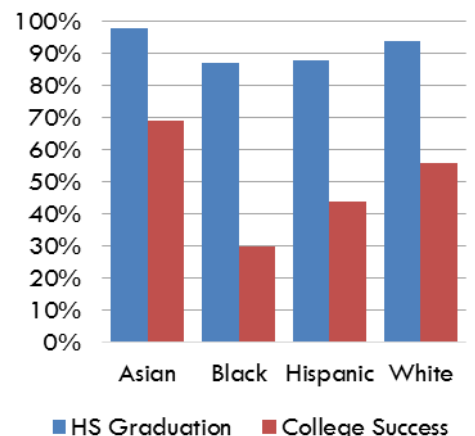
DO WE ACHIEVE OUR FULL POTENTIAL?

Educational disparities exist from kindergarten through college in Central Texas. Many children enter kindergarten already behind their peers. Only 28% of low-income kindergarteners were school ready, compared to 61% of children from moderate to high income households.

As the graph at right shows, the disparities in high school graduation rates are smaller than the disparities in college success. For the high school graduating Class of 2009, about 30% of Black students and 44% of Hispanic students who enrolled in a Texas college completed a post-secondary credential by 2015. The college success rates for Whites (56%) and Asians (69%) were much higher. Even though college success rates for Hispanic students are low, they have improved from 35% to 44% over the past five years.

Since the end of the Great Recession, unemployment rates have fallen for all races and ethnicities, however, disparities remain. The unemployment rate for Black residents of Travis County is about 10%, which is two-times the 5% unemployment rate for White residents. The Hispanic unemployment rate is 7%.

High School Graduation and College Success, Central Texas, 2015



Source: E3 Alliance



WE ARE SAFE, JUST & ENGAGED



CRIME occurred at a rate of **3,677**
OFFENSES PER 100,000 PEOPLE

WHERE DO WE STAND?

The crime rate in Travis County decreased by 8% from 2014 to 2015, far surpassing the community goal of a 1% annual reduction in crime. Over the five years from 2011 through 2015, the Travis County crime rate declined by 25%.

These statistics include incidents of murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft and auto theft reported by 16 local law enforcement agencies to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

While local data is not available by race and ethnicity, the [Bureau of Justice Statistics](#) reports that Blacks are more likely than other racial or ethnic groups to be victims of violent crime.

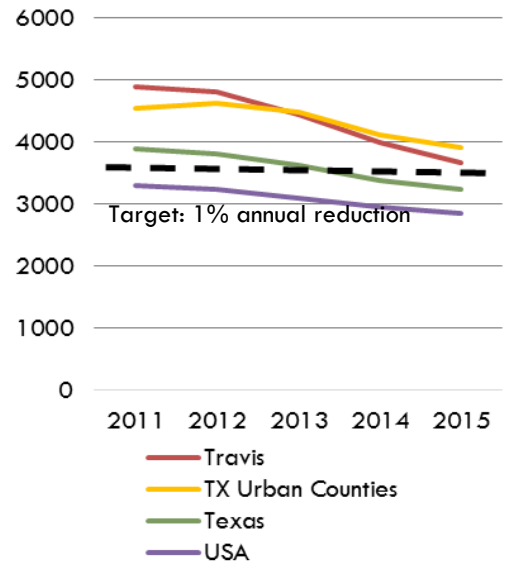
LOCAL EFFORTS

[Restore Rundberg](#) is a neighborhood-led initiative that was originally launched with a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. Even though the grant ended in 2016, neighbors continue to work with the Austin Police Department and other stakeholders to reduce crime and revitalize their neighborhood.

Goodwill Central Texas received a \$4.5 million grant in 2016 to reduce recidivism among justice-involved young adults. The [LifeLaunch](#) reentry program will provide access to employment, training and support services to youth ages 18 to 24.

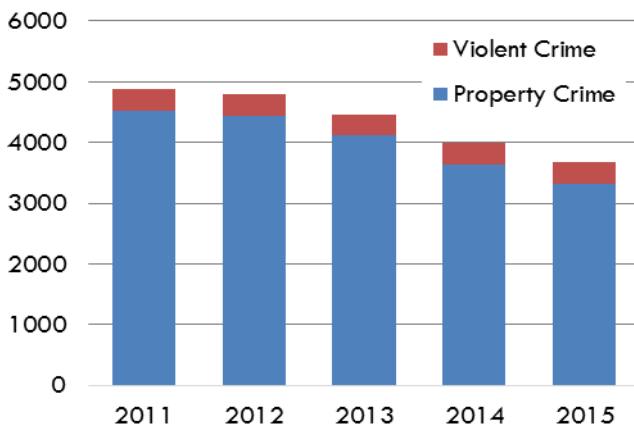
[Integral Care](#) partners with law enforcement and other partners to implement several jail diversion strategies.

Overall Crime Rate per 100,000 People



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

Violent and Property Crime Rates Per 100,000 People, Travis County



Source: Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Reports

TRAVIS COUNTY CRIME DECLINED

25%

FROM 2011 TO 2015

VIOLENT & PROPERTY CRIME

There are far more property crimes (burglary, theft & auto theft) reported in Travis County each year than violent crimes (murder, robbery, aggravated assault and rape).

From 2011 to 2015, the violent crime rate declined by 6%, and the property crime rate declined by 26%.



Jail bookings are

NOT PROPORTIONATE for all races and ethnicities

WHERE DO WE STAND?

People arrested by the 16 law enforcement agencies in Travis County are generally booked into the Travis County jail. Black residents account for 21% of people booked into jail, but only 8% of Travis County’s adult population, which indicates a high level of disproportionate representation.

Disproportionality was also found in other CAN Dashboard indicators. Blacks are moderately overrepresented in unemployment, among children who are confirmed victims of abuse, and students who are removed from the classroom for discipline issues. Blacks are extremely overrepresented among those who receive homeless services. Hispanics are more likely than others to have no health insurance and to not have a high school diploma.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

A study entitled “[The Science of Policing Equity, Measuring Fairness in the Austin Police Department](#)” found disparities in vehicle stops, citations, arrests, and use of force. The study of Austin Police Department data found that Hispanic drivers were twice as likely as White drivers to be arrested after being stopped, and Black drivers were more than four times as likely as White drivers to be arrested after being stopped.

According to [The Sentencing Project](#), if current national trends continue, one of every three black American males born today can expect to go to prison in his lifetime, as can one of every six Latino males—compared to one of every seventeen White males.

LOCAL EFFORTS

Austin Mayor Steve Adler has created a [Task Force on Institutional Racism and Systemic Inequities](#) to examine how our community can become free of racial disparities and bias.

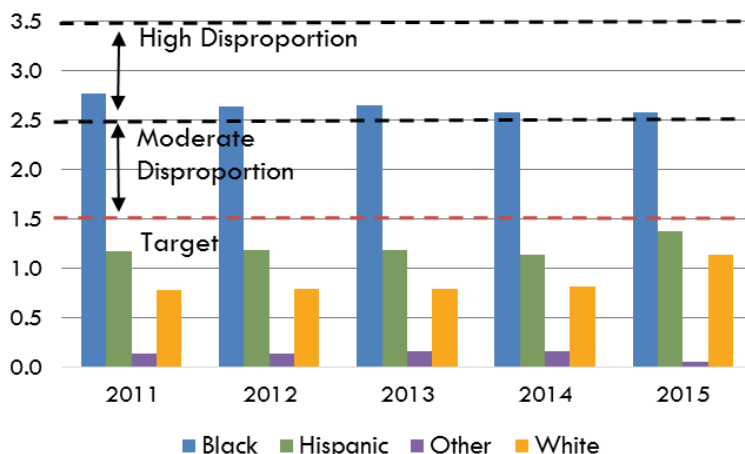
The City of Austin has hired a Chief Equity Officer to work with City Departments to identify gaps and disparities in services and programs and help create a plan for each department.

ACC’s [Office of Equity and Inclusion](#) hosts monthly meetings through the IDEAL Center to discuss and explore ways to transform systems for equity.

*“IF CURRENT TRENDS CONTINUE,
1 OF EVERY **3** BLACK AMERICAN
MALES BORN TODAY CAN EXPECT
TO GO TO PRISON IN HIS LIFETIME.”*

The Sentencing Project

Disproportionality Ratios for Bookings into the Travis County Jail



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates and Travis County Sheriff’s Office





61% of the Travis County citizen voting age population **VOTED** in 2016

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Voter turnout of the citizen voting age population in Travis County was 61% for the 2016 presidential election, better than the 58% turnout for the 2012 election but not as high as the 65% voter turnout in 2008.

More total votes were cast in the 2016 election than in the previous two presidential elections. 474,003 Travis County residents cast votes last November, an increase of more than 127,000 voters from the 2012 presidential election.

Older people are more likely to vote than younger people. Only 54% of 18 to 24 year olds who were registered to vote cast a ballot. On the other end of the age spectrum, more than 70% of registered voters over the age of 55 voted.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

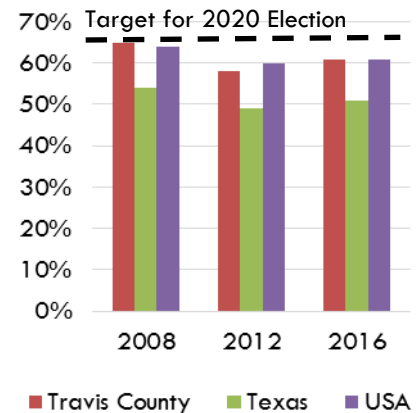
Whites are overrepresented among those who vote while Hispanics, Blacks and Asians are underrepresented when compared to their representation in the adult citizen population. More can be done to encourage all citizens to register and to vote.

There was a 67% increase in the number of Hispanics casting votes in the 2016 election when compared to the 2012 election. White voters also turned out in higher numbers. However, there was a decline in Asian and Black voters from 2012 to 2016.

LOCAL EFFORTS

VoteTravis.com is a joint effort of the Travis County Clerk and the Travis County Tax Office that lets people check their voter registration status, find a convenient polling location and see a customized sample ballot.

Percent of Citizen Adult Population Participating in the 2016 Presidential Election

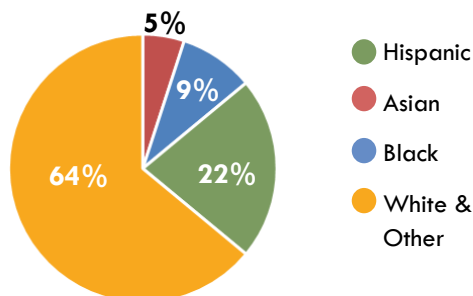


Source: Travis County Elections Division and American Community Survey

474,003

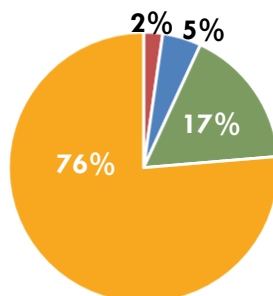
BALLOTS WERE CAST IN TRAVIS COUNTY IN 2016

Travis County Adult Citizen Population, 2015



Source: 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Travis County Voters, 2016 Presidential Election



Source: Opinion Analysts

Number of Voters by Race & Ethnicity, Travis County

	2012	2016	% change
Asian	11,442	10,734	-6%
Black	25,151	21,963	-13%
Hispanic	47,608	79,520	+67%
White	262,058	361,786	+38%

Source: Opinion Analysts



OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE MET



13% of Travis County residents LIVE IN POVERTY

WHERE DO WE STAND?

The percentage of Travis County residents living below the federal poverty threshold declined to 13% in 2015. All three local jurisdictions—the City of Austin, Travis County and the five-county Austin MSA— saw declining poverty rates.

Poverty thresholds are set annually by the U.S. Census Bureau and vary by family type and size. In 2015, this was equivalent to \$24,036 for a family of four with two adults and two children and \$19,096 for a family of three with one adult and two children.

The Center for Public Policy Priorities [Family Budget Tool](#) estimates it takes more than two-times the federal poverty level just to make ends meet in the Austin MSA.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

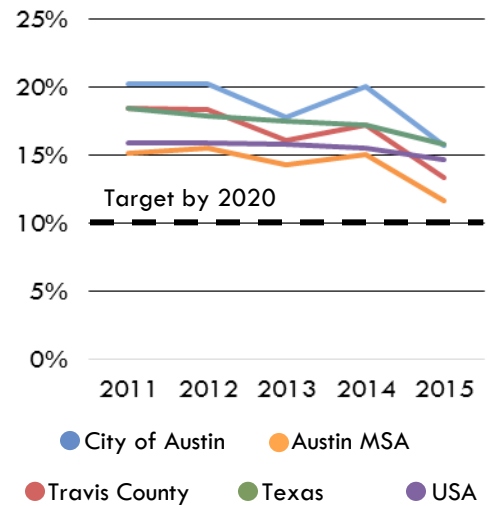
There are large disparities in poverty by race and ethnicity, especially for children. The poverty rate for Hispanic and Black children is 35%; this is more than five times higher than the poverty rate for White children.

LOCAL EFFORTS

United Way for Greater Austin facilitates a [Two Gen Advisory Council](#) that seeks to end the cycle of poverty by promoting policies and programs to improve workforce skills of parents while also offering high quality early education to their children.

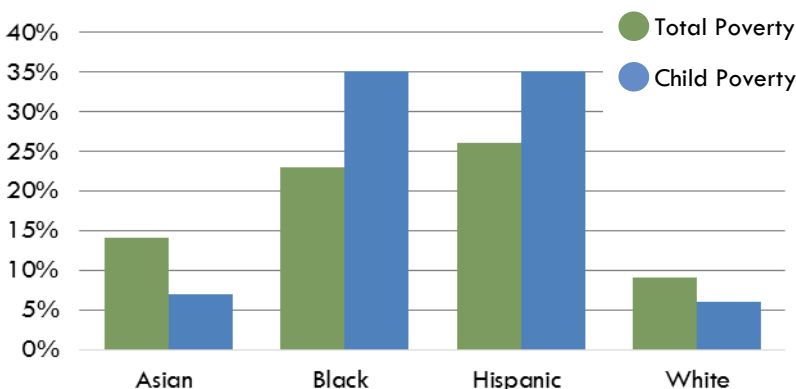
Reducing poverty requires better understanding who is most impacted by it. [Travis County Health & Human Services, Research & Planning](#) will release an in-depth analysis of American Community Survey data on poverty for our community in Spring of 2017.

Percent Living Below 100% of the Federal Poverty Threshold



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Poverty by Race & Ethnicity, Travis County, 2011-2015



Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

153,579

RESIDENTS OF TRAVIS COUNTY WERE LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2015.





OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE MET



36% of Travis County households ARE HOUSING COST BURDENED

WHERE DO WE STAND?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recommends that households pay no more than 30% of total income on housing. More than one-third of households in Travis County do not meet this affordability threshold. Even though the five-year trend is better, an estimated 158,000 households in Travis County are housing cost-burdened.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

Renters are almost twice as likely as homeowners to be cost-burdened. Low-income renters are most impacted. According to census data, 83% of renter households earning less than \$35,000 a year are housing cost-burdened, and the majority of those renters are “severely cost-burdened,” which means they pay more than half their total income for housing.

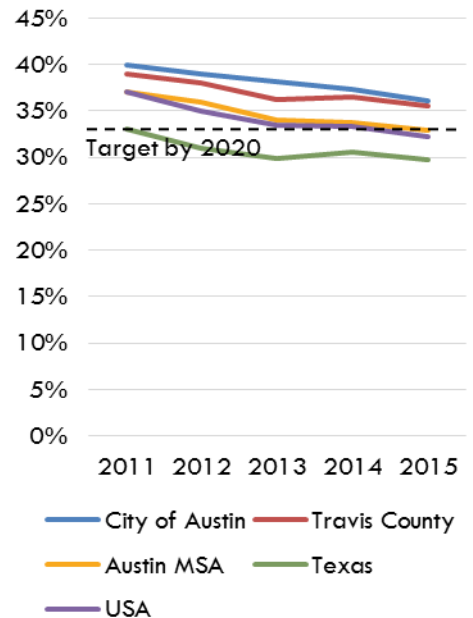
LOCAL EFFORTS

The [Austin Strategic Housing Plan](#), estimates that by 2025, Austin will need an additional 60,000 units of housing that are affordable to households earning 80% of the Median Family Income or less.

The City of Austin is rewriting its land development code, and the hope is that [CodeNEXT](#) will allow for greater choice and affordability in housing options. Developer incentive policies increase affordable housing units by allowing developers to increase density in exchange for dedicating a percentage of housing units to be affordable.

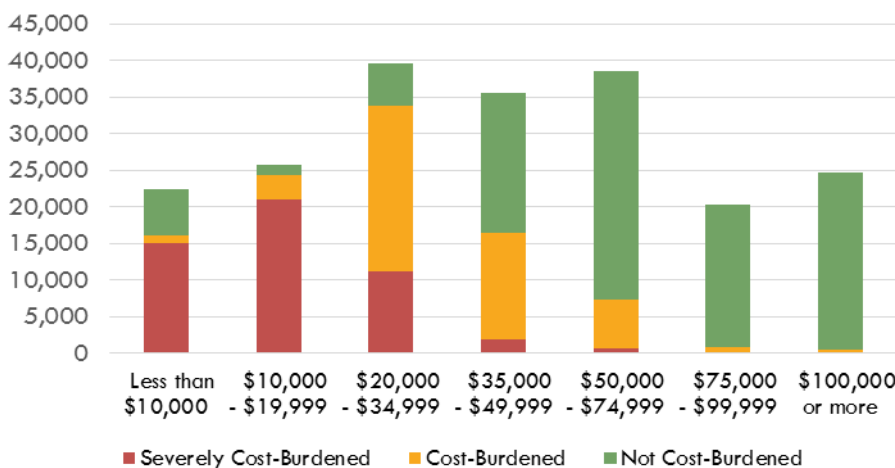
The Austin Housing Coalition brings together low-income housing providers from across the community to network and share information with the goal of increasing our community’s supply of low-income housing.

Percent of Households that Pay More than 30% of Income for Housing



Source: American Community Survey

Travis County Renter Households, 2015



Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2011-2015

83%

OF RENTER HOUSEHOLDS EARNING LESS THAN \$35K/YR ARE HOUSING COST BURDENED

About 50,000 renter households are “severely cost-burdened,” meaning they pay **more than half** of total income for housing.



OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE MET



74% of Travis County workers DROVE ALONE TO WORK

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Almost three-fourths of Travis County workers drive a car alone to work. Over the past five years, that percentage has increased from 71% in 2011 to 74% in 2015.

The [Housing + Transportation Index](#) estimates that Austinites pay \$11,125 a year for gas and auto ownership, and that rate increases the further someone lives from Central Austin.

A [City Lab](#) analysis done for Vancouver found that for every \$1 a person spends on driving a car, society pays another \$9.20 of costs in road construction and maintenance, pollution, car crashes, and congestion.

Cities with much lower “drove alone” rates rely on public transit and other alternatives such as biking, walking, and carpools. In San Francisco, more people commute by bus than car!

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

People with lower incomes are most likely to use public transportation, but this is only an option if they are able to afford a place to live with access to transit service.

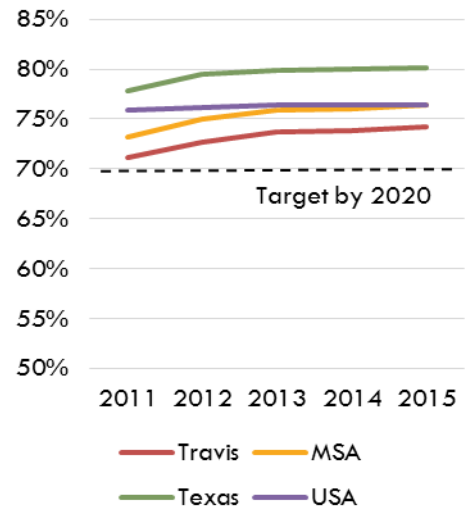
LOCAL EFFORTS

[Movability Austin](#) is an effort funded by Capital Metro, the City of Austin, Travis County and the Downtown Austin Alliance to help people find alternatives to driving alone.

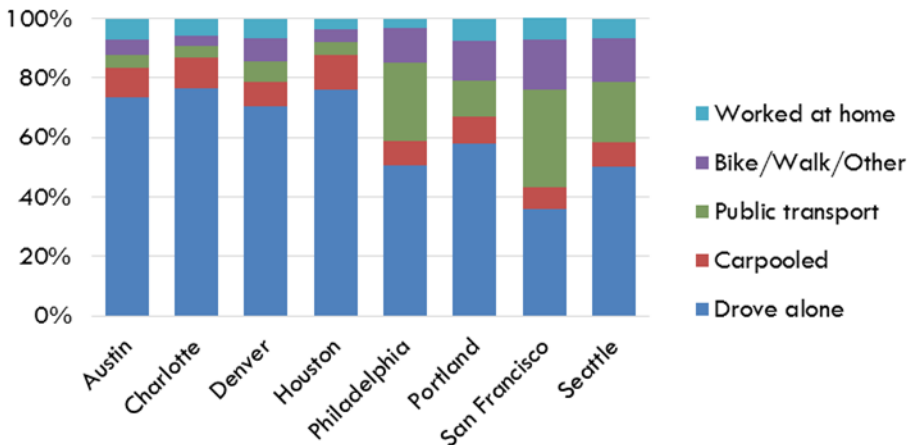
[Smart Trips Austin](#) is a program of the City of Austin and Capital Metro aimed at reducing single occupant vehicle trips and increasing trips taken by foot, bike, bus, or car share.

Last fall, Austin voters approved a [\\$720 million mobility bond](#) to fund local, corridor, and regional transportation and mobility investments.

Percent Who Drove Alone to Work



How People Get to Work



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

AUSTINITES PAY \$11,125

A YEAR IN AUTO OWNERSHIP COSTS





OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE MET



17% of Travis County residents ARE FOOD INSECURE

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Approximately 17% of Travis County residents face food insecurity. That means they have limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, according to [Feeding America](#), the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity. Rates of food insecurity in Travis County have declined slightly since 2012, but are still higher than they were five years ago.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

Children are more likely than adults to experience food insecurity. According to Feeding America, 24% of children in Travis County, or about 61,520 young people, experienced food insecurity in 2014. Feeding America does not report this information by race and ethnicity.

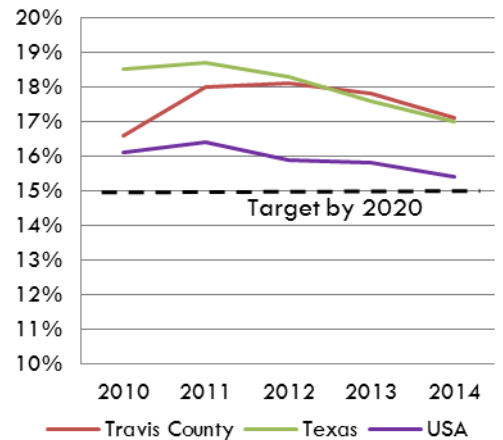
LOCAL EFFORTS

The [Capital Area Food Bank](#) (CAFB) partners with nearly 300 organizations across Central Texas to provide emergency food assistance. Capital Area Food Bank is building a new building that is more than twice the size of the current one to meet the growing need in Central Texas.

The Double Dollar Incentive Program, a Sustainable Food Center initiative funded by St. David's Foundation and the City of Austin, allows SNAP recipients to "double their dollars" when purchasing produce at area farmers markets.

The City of Austin's [Food System Portal](#), provides information and resources for growing, selling, eating, and composting food, including information on area food banks and food assistance programs.

Percent Who Live in Food Insecure Households

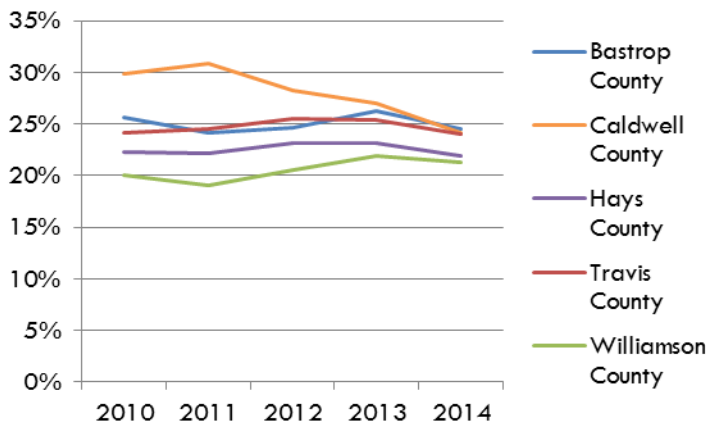


Source: Feeding America

61,520

TRAVIS COUNTY CHILDREN EXPERIENCE FOOD INSECURITY

Percent of Children Who are Food Insecure



Source: Feeding America





OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE MET



2,036

Travis County residents

EXPERIENCED HOMELESS ON A GIVEN DAY

WHERE DO WE STAND?

The January 2017 annual Point-in-Time Count identified 2,036 people who were either staying in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or who were living on the streets, in cars, or other areas not intended for human habitation. This annual count measures people who are experiencing homelessness on a specific day.

Throughout 2016, however, the [Ending Community Homelessness Coalition \(ECHO\)](#) reports that more than 7,000 people experienced homelessness and received homeless services at some time during the year.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

People who are Black or African American are overrepresented in the local homeless population. Although the Black population makes up 8% of the total Travis County population, 42% of the homeless population identify as Black.

Homelessness, by Race & Ethnicity, Travis County, 2016



■ Black ■ Hispanic ■ White ■ Other

Source: ECHO

LOCAL EFFORTS

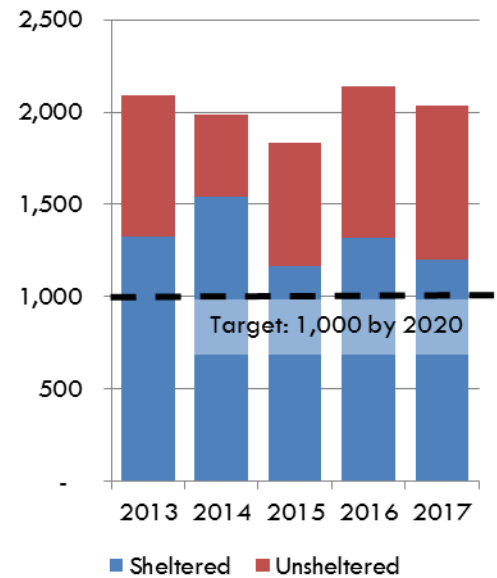
ECHO serves as the lead planning entity that coordinates the application for and management of homeless services funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In Fiscal Year 2016, HUD provided \$5.6 million in Continuum of Care funding for local agencies to address homelessness. ECHO helps agencies serving people who are homeless implement [Coordinated Assessment](#), a tool that ensures people are referred to the most appropriate services.

HUD awarded a \$5.2 million grant to Austin/Travis County in January 2017 to end youth homelessness through an initiative led by ECHO and Lifeworks.

ECHO is one of six entities nationwide selected for a [Pay for Success](#) initiative. ECHO has determined that investing about \$28,000 in services for each chronically homeless person results in a projected cost avoidance of about \$50,000 per person due mostly to fewer emergency room visits, hospital visits and jail stays.

In 2016, Austin became the 29th community in the U.S. to have effectively ended veteran homelessness. A challenge by Mayor Steve Adler led to unprecedented systemic collaboration and new housing strategies that inspired the community to work together to meet this goal.

Point-in-Time Count of People Experiencing Homelessness



Source: Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO)

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE HOMELESS POPULATION



67% are unemployed

56% report emotional, physical, psychological, or sexual abuse or trauma

44% report a current mental health problem

29% report having experienced domestic violence

Source: ECHO



WE ARE HEALTHY



16% of people under age 65 in Travis County HAVE NO HEALTH INSURANCE

WHERE DO WE STAND?

The percent of Travis County residents under the age of 65 without health insurance has fallen from 21% in 2011 to 16% in 2015. The Affordable Care Act was implemented in 2010 and, since that time, the uninsured rate has declined locally, in Texas, and nationwide.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

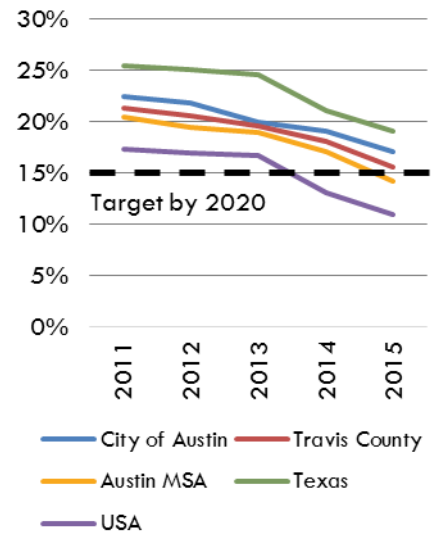
The uninsured rate is highest for Hispanics, with 28% of those under age 65 uninsured. Travis County residents who are low-income have an even higher uninsured rate of 31% - almost twice the overall rate of 16%. People with higher incomes are most likely to have employer-based health coverage. People earning lower incomes are less likely to receive this benefit.

LOCAL EFFORTS

[Central Health](#) offers individuals and families in Travis County, with incomes under 100% of the federal poverty threshold, comprehensive medical coverage through the Medical Access Program (MAP). Central Health also provides access to medical care for residents with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty threshold on a discounted sliding fee scale basis.

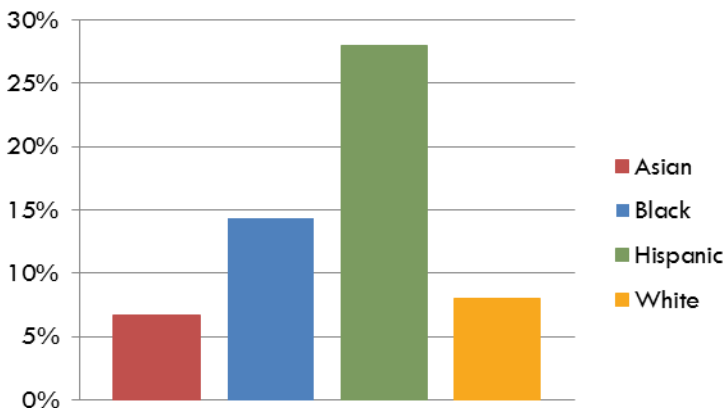
[EnrollATX](#) is a partnership between Central Health, United Way 211, and other community partners that helps people in Central Texas understand health coverage options and enroll in health plans, such as the Affordable Care Act.

Under Age 65 with no Health Insurance



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Percent of Travis County Residents Under Age 65 Who are Uninsured by Race and Ethnicity



Source: 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

IN TRAVIS COUNTY...

31%

OF LOW-INCOME PEOPLE UNDER AGE 65 ARE **UNINSURED**





WE ARE HEALTHY



19% of Travis County adults REPORT POOR MENTAL HEALTH

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Approximately 19% of adults in Travis County reported experiencing five or more days of poor mental health over the past 30 days to surveyors from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. These include days in which they have experienced stress, depression, and problems with emotions.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

Black adults and people with low incomes were most likely to report poor mental health in Travis County. Due to small sample size, the data were aggregated over five years for comparisons of sub-groups. An estimated 24% of Black adults and 26% of people earning less than \$25,000 a year reported experiencing five or more days of poor mental health within the past month.

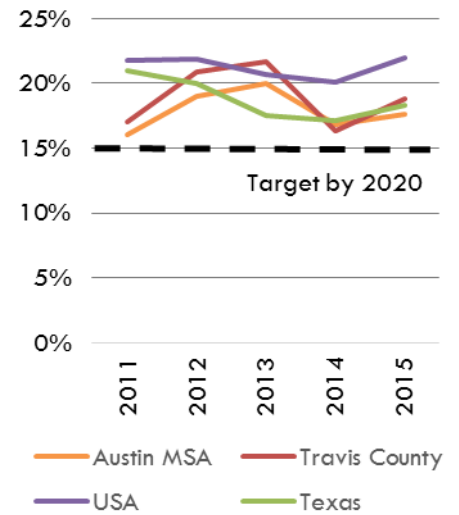
LOCAL EFFORTS

In 2017, Integral Care will open the new [Judge Guy Herman Center for Mental Health Crisis Care](#), which will provide short-term emergency psychiatric crisis care.

With the support of Central Health and the Community Care Collaborative (CCC), Integral Care and Community Care have partnered to provide both behavioral health and primary care services at all of their respective clinics. This approach to integrated healthcare provides for a better patient experience and improved health outcomes.

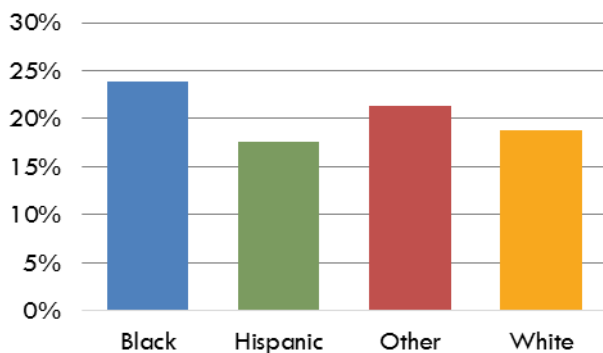
Integral Care is partnering with Dell Medical School to integrate mental health services into new treatment clinics. The first clinics with integrated mental health will be orthopedics, women's health, and primary care.

Adults Reporting Poor Mental Health

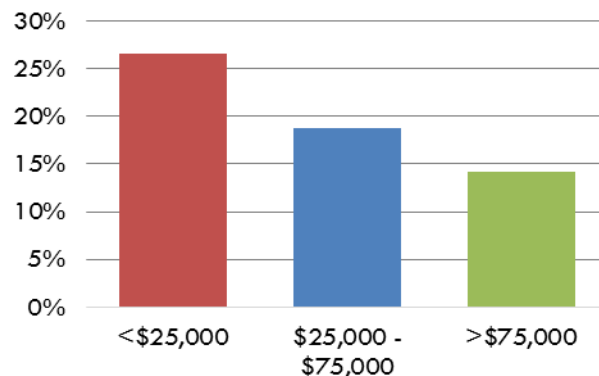


Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Austin Public Health

Poor Mental Health Travis County, 2011-2015



Poor Mental Health by Income, Travis County, 2011-2015



Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Austin Public Health



WE ARE HEALTHY



24% of Travis County adults ARE OBESE

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Approximately 24% of adults in Travis County were obese in 2015. Five years earlier, the rate of obesity for Travis County adults was 19%. Local obesity rates are consistently lower than both the State of Texas and the nation.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

Black adults in Travis County are more impacted by obesity than other races and ethnicities. According to the [2017 Critical Health Indicators Report](#) by Austin Public Health, people who are Black also have the highest rates of mortality due to heart disease and diabetes – diseases that are more prevalent among people who are overweight or obese. Obesity data were aggregated over five years for sub-group comparisons, due to small sample size.

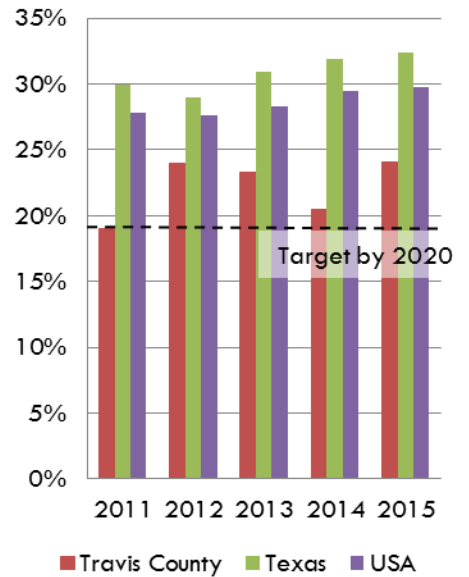
LOCAL EFFORTS

Austin Public Health's [Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention](#) facilitates the Central Texas Diabetes Coalition and provides free diabetes self management education classes, "Walk Texas Active 10-week Challenge," and healthy eating and active living promotion.

[The Texas Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Childhood Obesity at Dell Children's Medical Center](#) was established to address childhood obesity in Central Texas.

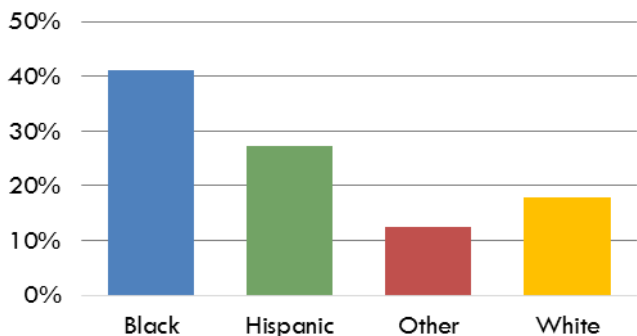
Central Health is the lead agency for a six-county [Regional Healthcare Partnership Plan](#) that describes how the region will transform healthcare delivery as part of a state-wide 1115 Waiver. The Plan includes several initiatives to address obesity and tobacco, two leading causes of chronic disease.

Percent of Adults who are Obese



Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Austin Public Health

Obesity by Race and Ethnicity, Travis County, 2011-2015



Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Austin Public Health





14%

of Travis County adults

REPORT SMOKING

WHERE DO WE STAND?

The percentage of Travis County residents who report being smokers had been declining steadily since 2011, but increased to 14% in 2015. This is still lower than the smoking rate of 16% in 2011. Austin Public Health reports that mortality rates for smokers are three times higher than for non-smokers.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

Black adults and people with low incomes were most likely to report smoking. An estimated 18% of Black adults in Travis County reported smoking and 20% of people earning less than \$25,000 a year reported smoking. Due to small sample size, the data were aggregated over five years for sub-group comparison.

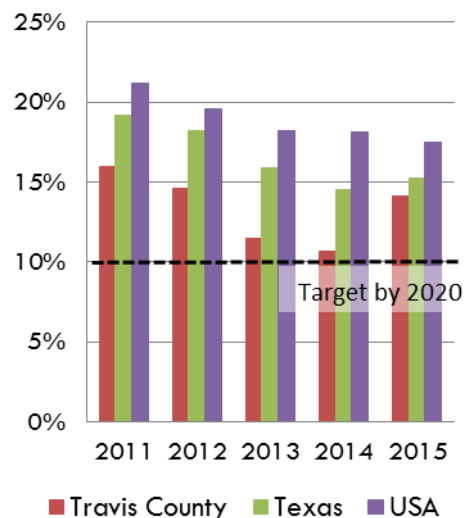
LOCAL EFFORTS

Central Health's Health Equity Policy Council is made up of community members and stakeholders who identify and advance policies the community can adopt to address health equity & wellness. The Council is pursuing policies to see vaping prohibited in all places where smoking is not allowed.

HealthyATC.org, created by Central Health, Austin Public Health, and Travis County Health & Human Services, is intended to help community members and policy makers learn about the health of the community. Tobacco is one of four priority areas.

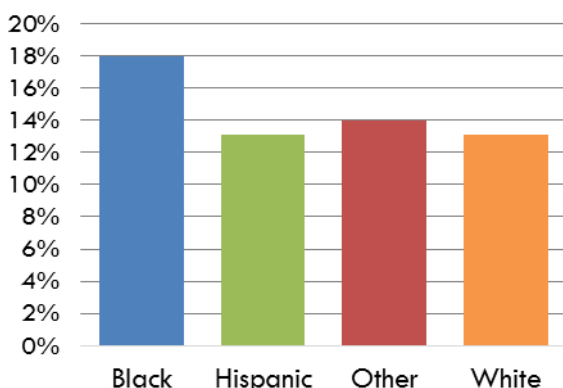
The [Austin Tobacco Prevention & Control Coalition](#), facilitated by Austin Public Health, provides free resources and tobacco cessation referrals.

Percent of Adults Who are Current Smokers

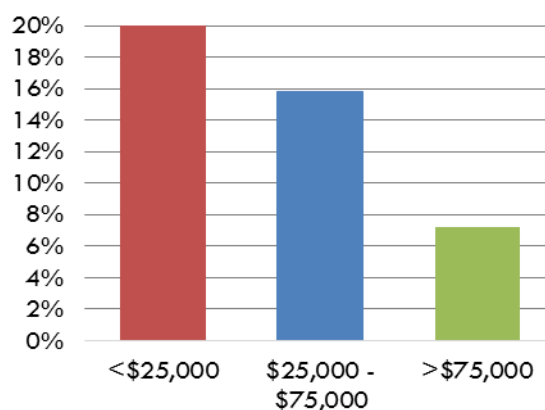


Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Austin Public Health

Percent Who Smoke by Race and Ethnicity, Travis County, 2011-2015



Percent Who Smoke by Income, Travis County, 2011-2015



Source: Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Austin Public Health



WE ARE HEALTHY



239 days with GOOD AIR QUALITY

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Travis County had 239 days with good air quality in 2015, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. This is an improvement from 2011, but our target is to achieve the 249 good air quality days that were experienced from 2012 through 2014.

The EPA calculates the Air Quality Index by measuring ground level ozone, particle pollution, carbon monoxide and sulfur dioxide.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

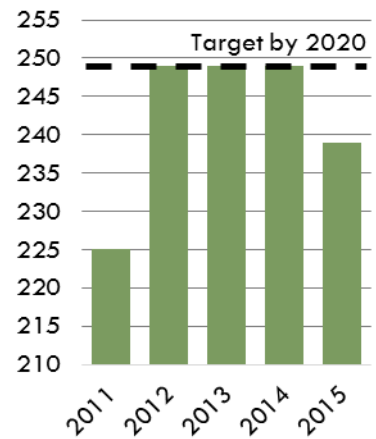
Travis County had 10 days when air quality was unhealthy for sensitive groups, in 2015. This includes people with lung diseases, children, older adults, and people who exercise or work outdoors.

LOCAL EFFORTS

The [Central Texas Clean Air Coalition](#) is a group of stakeholders from regional jurisdictions that work together to improve air quality in Central Texas and maintain compliance with federal standards.

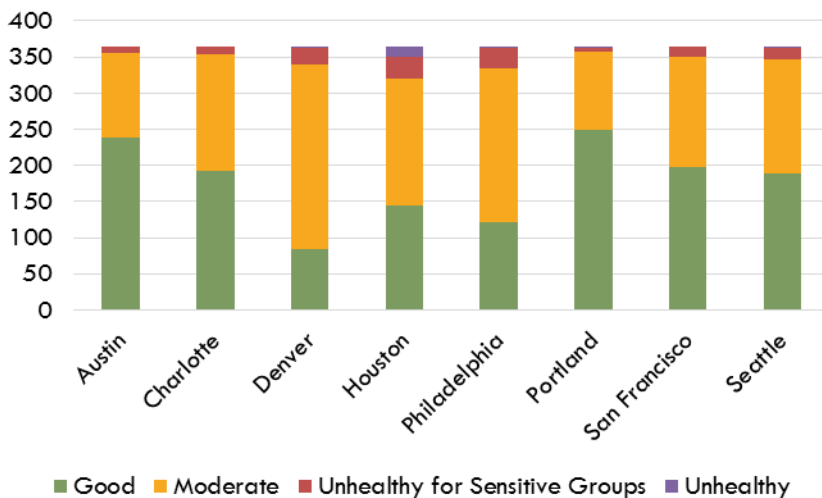
[Air Check Texas: Drive a Clean Machine](#) provides up to \$3,500 for people living in Travis and Williamson Counties to help them replace older vehicles with newer, cleaner vehicles. The program, operated by the State of Texas, is available to people below certain income levels who wish to replace a car that is at least ten years old and has failed emissions tests.

Number of Days of Good Air Quality, Travis County



Source: Environmental Protection Agency Outdoor Air Quality Index Report

Outdoor Air Quality for Select Metropolitan Statistical Areas, 2015



Source: EPA Outdoor Air Quality Index Report





WE ACHIEVE OUR FULL POTENTIAL



46% of kindergarteners ARE SCHOOL READY

WHERE DO WE STAND?

For the second consecutive year, less than half of Central Texas kindergarteners were school ready, according to data from *Ready, Set, K!*, a measure developed by the E³ Alliance with the help of experts from across the region. In 2016, 46% of Central Texas kindergarteners were school ready, compared to 56% in 2012.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

The greatest disparity in school readiness occurs by income. An estimated 28% of low-income kindergarteners were school ready in 2016, compared to 63% of children from moderate and high-income families. About one-half of White students and one-third of Hispanic students were school ready. The sample sizes for Asian and Black students are too small for reliable comparison.

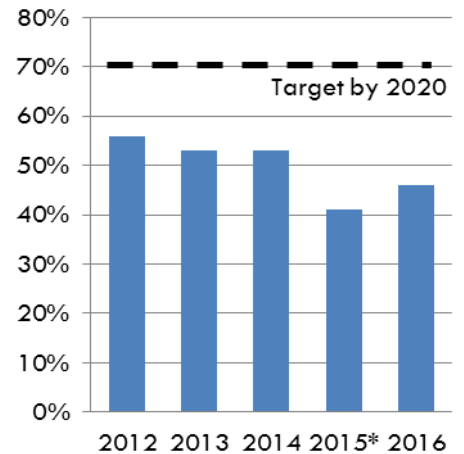
LOCAL EFFORTS

United Way for Greater Austin has worked with over 30 organizations to develop a [School Readiness Action Plan](#). The Plan outlines strategies for our community to work toward the common goal of helping all children enter school ready to learn.

Improving school readiness is one of four goals of the E³ Alliance [Blueprint for Educational Change](#), which indicates that school readiness is linked to success in 3rd grade reading and math.

Although the State of Texas currently funds only half day pre-k, some area school districts use their own funds to extend the program to a full-day for qualified children. Free pre-k is offered to children who have limited English proficiency, are economically disadvantaged, have an active duty military parent, or are homeless.

Central Texas Children Who are School Ready



Source: E³ Alliance

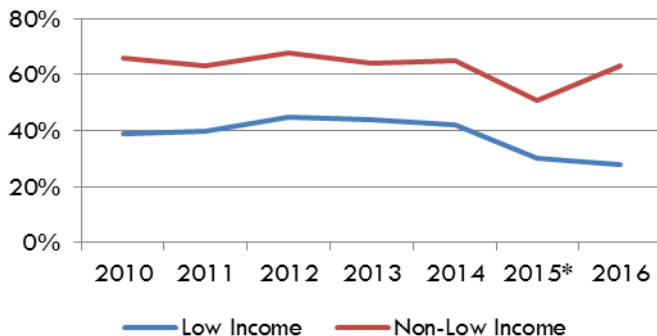
*Definition of population included in Central Texas region was reduced marginally and measure of school readiness was changed slightly in 2015.

28% OF LOW-INCOME CHILDREN WERE SCHOOL READY

COMPARED TO 63%

OF NON LOW-INCOME CHILDREN

Central Texas Kindergarteners who are School Ready



Source: E³ Alliance





WE ACHIEVE OUR FULL POTENTIAL



91% of Central Texas students GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Graduation rates continue to improve in Central Texas. The four-year high school graduation rate for the Class of 2015 was 91%, compared to 85% for the Class of 2011.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

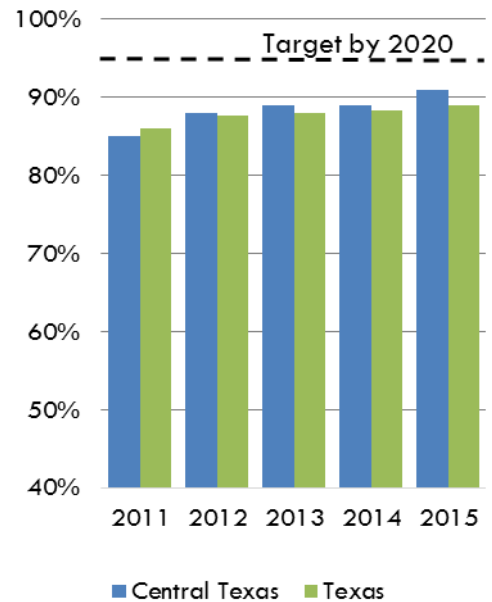
Although disparities exist by race and ethnicity, the gap has closed over the last ten years, and all racial and ethnic groups have seen improvements. Hispanic students have seen graduation rates improve the most—from 72% for the Class of 2005 to 88% for the Class of 2015. The four-year graduation rates for Black students increased from 75% for the Class of 2005 to 87% for the Class of 2015.

LOCAL EFFORTS

[Pathways of Promise](#) is an initiative by the E³ Alliance to research how to improve middle school math success, especially for under-served populations. Partnering entities include 18 school districts and post secondary institutions that are committed to increasing the percentage of students who pursue more rigorous mathematics pathways and who enter college within the first year of graduating from high school.

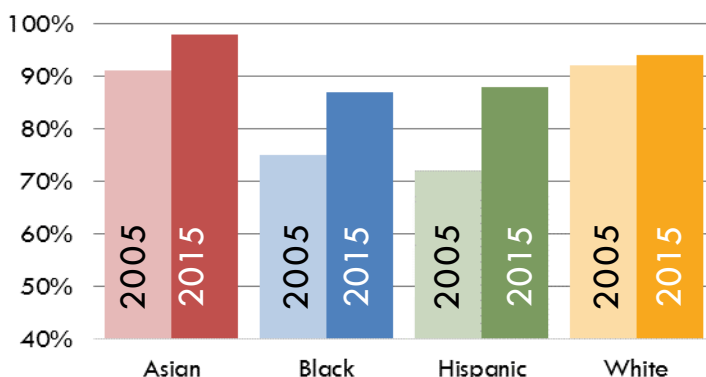
[Austin Community College](#) works with area school districts to create stronger connections between high school and college. [ACC Tech](#), [Early College Start](#), and [Early College High School](#) ease the transition to post-secondary education by providing opportunities for high school students to complete college credit while still in high school.

Four-Year Graduation Rate



Source: E³ Alliance and Texas Education Agency

Four-Year High School Graduation Rate, Central Texas



Source: E³ Alliance





WE ACHIEVE OUR FULL POTENTIAL



49% of college students EARN A DEGREE WITHIN 6 YEARS

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Almost one-half of the Central Texas students who enroll in a Texas college or university within one year of graduating from high school earn a post-secondary credential within six years. Data do not include the estimated seven percent of students who attend college out of state.

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

Black and Hispanic high school graduates achieve this college success measure at lower rates than Asian or White students. For the Class of 2009, about 30% of Black and 44% of Hispanic high school graduates completed college within six years. This is compared to 69% of Asian and 56% of White students. However, Hispanic students saw an improvement of more than 20% over the past five years.

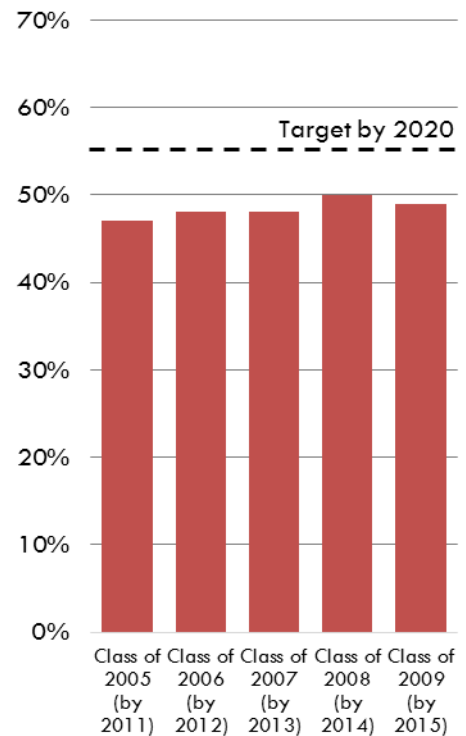
LOCAL EFFORTS

The [Austin College Access Network](#) brings together colleges and organizations that assist first-generation college students to share best practices to improve support services and to identify policies and practices to promote student success.

The [Greater Austin Area My Brother's Keeper Initiative](#) engages local partners in developing strategies for improving educational outcomes for boys and young men of color. The local partnership includes Travis County, the City of Austin, Austin ISD, Austin Community College, Huston-Tillotson University, and the University of Texas at Austin.

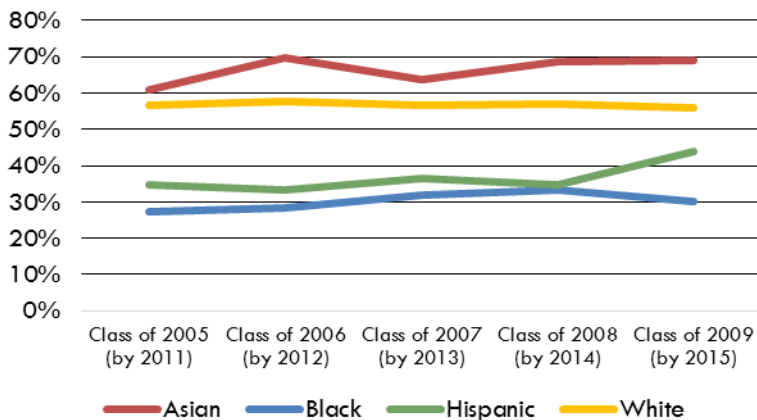
The [Direct-To-College Achievement Plan](#) is a multi-chamber, multi-school district, multi-business compact to commit to enroll 70% of the Class of 2016 directly in higher education.

Central Texas HS Graduates Who Earn a Post-Secondary Credential Within Six Years



Source: E³ Alliance

Central Texas HS Graduates Who Earn a Post-Secondary Credential Within Six Years



Source: E³ Alliance





WE ACHIEVE OUR FULL POTENTIAL



3.1% of Travis County workers are UNEMPLOYED

WHERE DO WE STAND?

After reaching a high of 6.8% in 2010, just after the end of the Great Recession, the annual unemployment rate for Travis County has experienced a steady decline to 3.1% in 2016. Local unemployment rates are historically lower than the state and national unemployment rates.

Even though unemployment is low, many of the jobs that have been created do not pay enough to meet basic needs. A CAN analysis of wage data from the Capital Area Council of Governments and estimates of what it takes to meet basic needs by the [Center for Public Policy Priorities](#) shows that 66% of all jobs created between 2006 and 2016 paid less than what is required to make ends meet for a family with one adult and two children (\$50,736).

A FOCUS ON EQUITY

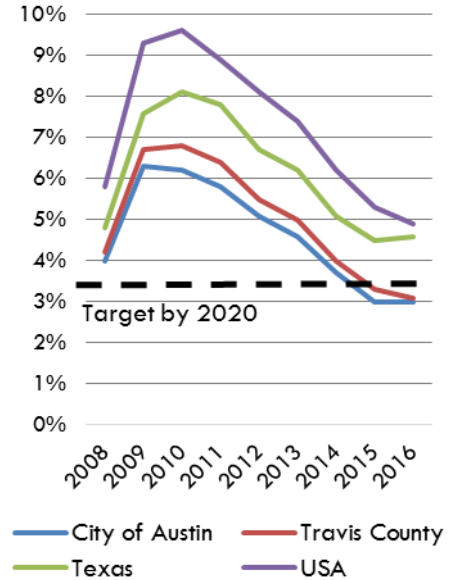
The 2015 unemployment rate for Black residents was about 10%, which was two-times the 5% unemployment rate for White residents. The Hispanic unemployment rate was 7%. The chart below compares unemployment rates in 2010 and 2015.

LOCAL EFFORTS

Workforce Solutions Capital Area is leading an effort to develop a community plan to help low-income workers gain the skills needed for high-demand, high-paying jobs in healthcare, skilled trades, and IT.

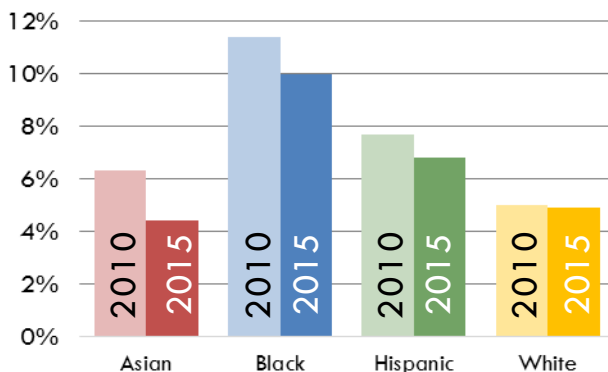
An estimated 10% of Travis County youth between the ages of 16 and 24 are not in school and not working. The [Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative](#) is a local effort focused on reengaging these young people.

Annual Unemployment Rate



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment in Travis County, 2010 and 2015



Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates from 2006-2010 and from 2011-2015

66% OF JOBS CREATED BETWEEN 2006 AND 2016

WON'T SUPPORT A FAMILY OF THREE WITH TWO CHILDREN



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The indicators in the CAN Dashboard were selected by a Dashboard Steering Committee of data experts across issue areas IN 2009 and were adopted by the CAN Board of Directors. The Dashboard Steering Committee takes an annual review of indicators, trends and targets and recommends changes and updates, as needed, to the CAN Board of Directors. The Chair of the 2017 Dashboard Steering Committee is Louise Lynch, Provider Network and Authority Officer with Integral Care.

2017 DASHBOARD STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Simon Tidd, Ph.D., E³ Alliance
Jonathan Tomko, City of Austin Neighborhood Housing and Community Development

The 2017 CAN Dashboard was published on May 18, 2017. Citations in this report are hyperlinked in the on-line version. The report and additional data and analysis are available at www.dashboard.canatx.org.

The following CAN staff contributed to the research, writing and production of the CAN Community Dashboard 2017 report and the accompanying website:

Raul Alvarez, Executive Director
Mary Dodd, Assistant Director
Carlos Soto, Research Analyst
Michael Danburg, Web Site Developer

Special thanks to the CAN Board of Directors for their continued support of this work and to Travis County for printing the report.



DASHBOARD 2017



WE SAFE, JUST & ENGAGED

- Crime rate
- Arrest disproportionality
- Voting



OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE MET

- Poverty
- Food security
- Housing cost-burdened
- Drove alone to work
- Homeless



WE ARE HEALTHY

- Health insurance
- Mental health
- Obesity
- Smoking
- Air quality



WE ACHIEVE OUR FULL POTENTIAL

- Kindergarten ready
- High school graduation
- College success
- Unemployment