

Explore and Invest in Harris County, Texas

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC EQUITY & OPPORTUNITY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

2024

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Harris County At A Glance

Harris County is the best place to invest, open, and operate your business. It is home to 34 cities within its boundaries, including the City of Houston, the county seat.

24 Fortune 500 Headquarters	4.78 million Residents	\$0 State and Local Income Tax	World Class Transportation System					\$158.5 billion (or 83%) of All Exported Goods from the Houston Metro Area
			2 Major Airports George Bush Intercontinental 186 non-stop destinations William P. Hobby 62 non-stop destinations	1 Spaceport	1 Major Sea Port #1 in the U.S. waterborne tonnage	3 Major Railroad Companies with direct or indirect service ¹	4 Interstate highways 4 State highways 4 Tollways 1 US highway	



Source: 2023 Fortune 500; U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 Population Estimates; Tax Foundation (1/26/2024); Houston Airport System, 2024; Port Houston, 2023 Statistics; [Texas Department of Transportation, 2023 Statewide Railroad Map](#); [International Trade Administration Metropolitan Export Series](#), [Houston MSA 2022 Trade Factsheet](#).

¹Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) Railroad Company, in partnership with Union Pacific and other railroad companies, indirectly serves Harris County. See [CPKC Network Map](#) for details.

Fortune 500 Headquarters

Harris County is home to **24** Fortune 500 headquarters, or **96%** of Metro Houston's Fortune 500 headquarters.

Company	Rank	Revenues (Billions)	Company	Rank	Revenues (Billions)
<u>Phillips 66</u>	17	\$175.7	<u>Halliburton</u>	197	\$20.3
<u>ConocoPhillips</u>	49	\$82.1	<u>Waste Management</u>	204	\$19.7
<u>Sysco</u>	56	\$68.6	<u>Kinder Morgan</u>	214	\$19.2
<u>Enterprise Products Partners</u>	72	\$58.2	<u>Quanta Services</u>	244	\$17.1
<u>Plains GP Holding</u>	74	\$57.3	<u>Group 1 Automotive</u>	252	\$16.4
<u>Occidental Petroleum</u>	110	\$37.0	<u>Westlake</u>	263	\$15.8
<u>Cheniere Energy</u>	122	\$33.4	<u>Southwestern Energy</u>	275	\$15.0
<u>NRG</u>	130	\$31.5	<u>APA</u>	341	\$12.1
<u>Hewlett Packard Enterprise</u>	143	\$28.5	<u>CenterPoint Energy</u>	413	\$9.3
<u>EOG Resources</u>	156	\$25.7	<u>Coterra Energy</u>	420	\$9.0
<u>Baker Hughes</u>	185	\$21.2	<u>Marathon Oil</u>	464	\$8.0
<u>Targa Resources</u>	188	\$20.9	<u>Par Pacific Holdings</u>	492	\$7.3

*Note: Ranking from 1 to 500, with 1 being highest revenue.
Source: 2023 Fortune 500*

Largest Harris County Employers

Over 20,000
Memorial Hermann Health System
City of Houston
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Amazon
Houston Methodist

10,000 to 19,999
Harris County
Walmart
United Airlines
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Chevron Corporation
Baylor College of Medicine
CHI St. Luke's Health
Exxon Mobil

5,000 to 9,999
Ben Taub Hospital
Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital
Shell Oil Company
H-E-B
Houston Community College
Kroger
Houston Methodist Hospital – Texas Medical Center
Texas Children's Hospital
Halliburton
Exxon Mobil Baytown Refinery
Schlumberger Ltd.
University of Houston
Baker Hughes
CenterPoint Energy
Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Home Depot
S&B Engineers & Constructors Ltd.
Memorial Hermann – Texas Medical Center
Goodman Daikin
BP North America
NOV

Note: This list excludes fast-food chains. In order from most employees to least. List produced May 2024.

Sources: Company Websites; Data Axle Reference Solutions via the Houston Public Library; Houston Business Journal Book of Lists; LinkedIn

Largest Harris County Employers

1,000 to 4,999

LyondellBasell Industries N.V.	Academy Sports + Outdoors Inc. Headquarters	Waste Management, Inc.	Air Liquide
Lone Star College (Countywide Total)	Metropolitan Transit Authority	Goodwill Industries of Houston	Enbridge
Occidental Petroleum Corp.	Deloitte	Texas Southern University	Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital
Target	Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center	Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital	Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Gary Greene
Rice University	Oxy	NRG Energy Inc.	Unviersity of Houston-Downtown Marilyn Davies College of Business
Fiesta Mart (County-wide)	HCA Houston Healthcare	Tenaris Global Services Corp.	Lockheed Martin
Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center	Lowe's Home Improvement Retail & Distribution Locations Combined	Sysco Corporation	Energy Transfer LP
Walgreens	Universal Plant Services Inc.	Kelsey-Seybold Clinic	Honeywell
Enterprise Products Partners	JPMorgan Chase	TechnipFMC	Insperty
Landry's	Houston Methodist West Hospital	Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital	Pemex Deer Park Refinery
Harris Health System	ConocoPhillips	St. Joseph Medical Center	
EXP Realty LLC	Grocers Supply Company	University of Houston-Clear Lake	
KBR	Pritchard Industries	Lone Star College - Cyfair	
Houston Methodist Academic Institute	Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital	EY	
Kinder Morgan Inc.	FedEx	Macy's	
San Jacinto College System	LyondellBasell Channelview Complex	Accenture	
Hess Corp.	Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital	Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital	
NASA - Johnson Space Center	CVS (County-wide Total)	Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital	
Houston Methodist Willowbrook Hospital	Jacobs	KPMG	
Hewlett Packard Enterprise	Wells Fargo	Houston Methodist Clear Lake Hospital	
Wood Group	University of Houston-Downtown	Cameron, a Schlumberger Company	
HP	Weatherford International PLC	Lewis Food Town Inc. (County-wide locations)	
Sam's Club	Costco	Austin Industries	
Phillips 66	Academy Sports + Outdoors Inc. Retail Locations Combined	Boeing	
Group 1 Automotive Inc.	Bank of America locations combined	Randalls (County-wide locations)	

Note: This list excludes fast-food chains. In order from most employees to least. List produced May 2024.

Sources: Company Websites; Data Axle Reference Solutions via the Houston Public Library; Houston Business Journal Book of Lists; LinkedIn

Harris County Rankings

AREA

With a total space of **1,777 square miles**, Harris County is large enough to fit in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Seattle, Austin, and Dallas – with room to spare.

POPULATION

With an estimated 4,835,125 residents in 2023, Harris County is the most populous county in Texas and the third most populous county in the United States.

If Harris County was a state, it would be the **25th most populous state**, behind Alabama (5,108,468) and ahead of Louisiana (4,573,749) and Kentucky (4,526,154).

With an **11.1% growth** in population from 4,353,187 in 2013 to 4,835,125 in 2023.

FOREIGN-BORN

26.6% of Harris County residents are **foreign-born** – slightly ahead of the 23.9% for the Houston metro area population and surpassing the 13.9% for the U.S. population.

EMPLOYMENT

More than **2.6 million** residents are **employed** in Harris County. If Harris County were a state, it would rank 17th in total employment among the U.S. states, with more jobs than Wisconsin (2,581,423) and Minnesota (2,564,425). Harris County has more jobs than the total population of New Mexico (2,114,371).

EXPORTS

With **\$158.5 billion** in exported goods in 2022, Metro Houston was the largest exporter in the U.S.

GDP & INCOMING INVESTMENTS

GDP - **#1** in Texas and **#3** in the nation | Incoming Investments - **#3** in Texas and **#7** in the nation.

Sources: AREA – Harris County (as of 11/21/23); POPULATION - U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Population Estimates; FOREIGN-BORN – U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year Estimates, Selected Characteristics of the Foreign-Born Population; EMPLOYMENT – JobsEQ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics via Texas Workforce Commission Q4 2021 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages; EXPORTS - International Trade Administration, 2022 Metropolitan & County Export Series; GDP & INCOMING INVESTMENTS – U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2022 GDP by County; [SmartAsset, 2024 Incoming Investments](#) (as of May 2024)

Friendly Business Climate

Harris County is **your partner** to open, expand, or relocate your business by offering:

- ✓ Nimble land use regulations and business friendly labor rules coupled with competitive business and permitting compliance costs.
- ✓ A relatively low overall tax burden, with [no state and local income tax](#).
- ✓ A [3%](#) lower overall affordability rate than the national average that attracts people and corporations from around the world.
- ✓ A streamlined construction approval process where companies identify sites, gain construction approval, and build their facilities relatively quickly, minimizing or avoiding the costly and time-consuming political process found in other regions (New York and Los Angeles).
- ✓ A competitive edge on the global stage.

Note: KPMG no longer provides the [Competitive Alternatives](#) report since 2016. As part of the Competitive Alternatives project, on behalf of KPMG, MMK Consulting developed and maintained this sophisticated web-based application which allowed users to perform customized analysis of the costs of operating different types of businesses in more than 130 cities around the world.

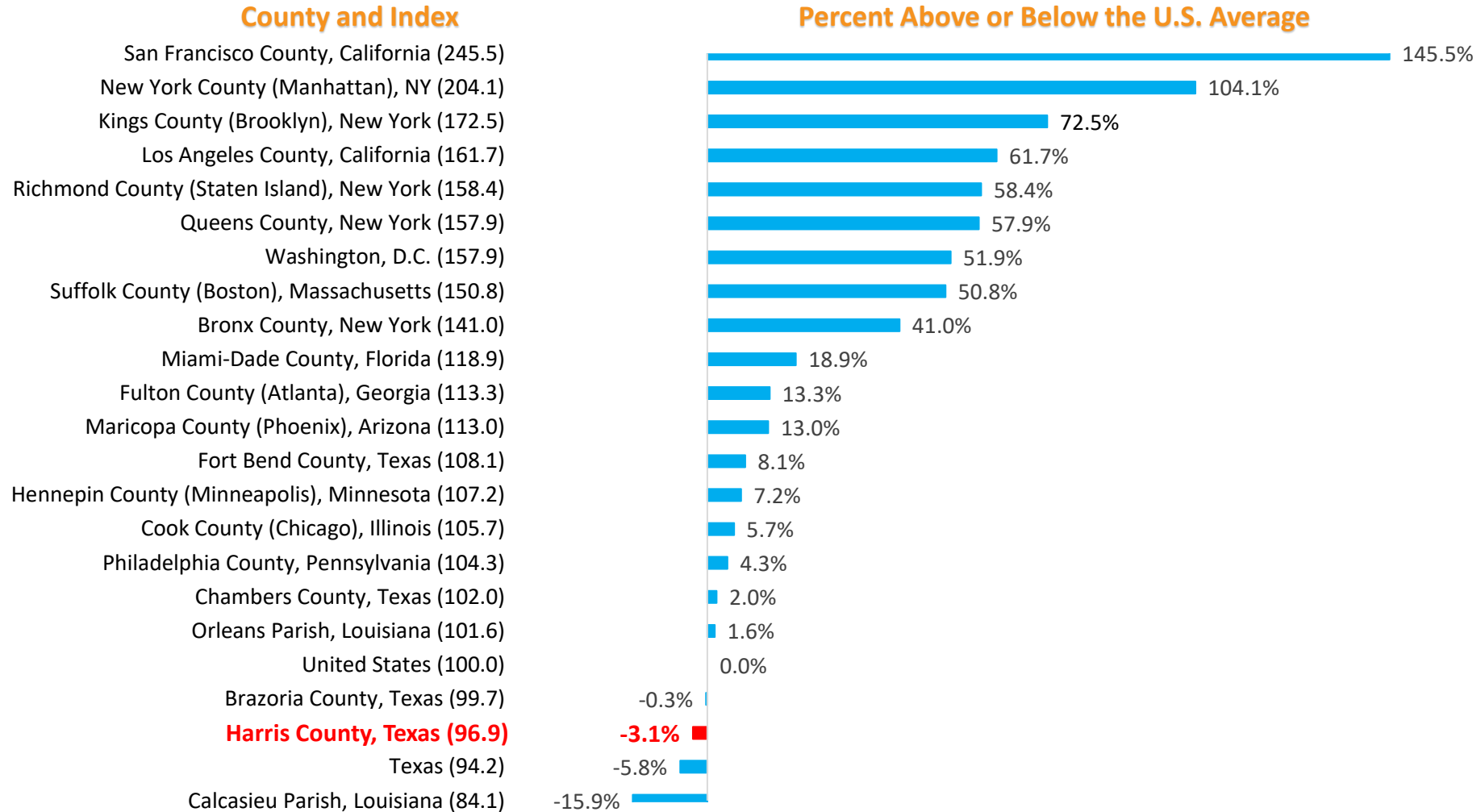
Source: Index calculations based on research from the Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map (as of January 2024); [2023 Sperling's Best Places Cost of Living](#); [Tax Foundation, 2024 Taxes in Texas](#); Dallas and Houston: Centers for Economic Development by Scott Beyer, Forbes, 07/26/16; ([KPMG Competitive Alternatives, 2016 edition](#))

Cost of Living: County Comparisons

Overall Cost Index in Selected Counties							
Area	Overall	Utilities	Housing	Food	Transportation	Health	Other Necessities
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana	84.1	100.0	102.7	99.0	87.4	112.2	100.9
Texas	94.2	111.1	100.1	90.5	101.1	98.1	95.3
Harris County, Texas	96.9	111.1	132.2	93.7	86.6	86.8	112.9
Brazoria County, Texas	99.7	111.1	129.8	91.1	105.4	89.8	110.4
United States	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Orleans Parish, Louisiana	101.6	100.0	123.8	115.6	75.6	104.3	119.8
Chambers County, Texas	102.0	111.1	125.4	87.5	107.3	95.3	106.4
Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania	104.3	144.4	141.7	114.8	69.3	79.0	128.3
Cook County (Chicago), Illinois	105.7	133.3	146.5	113.7	77.8	80.0	130.0
Hennepin County (Minneapolis), Minnesota	107.2	133.3	149.7	126.2	85.9	79.3	137.9
Fort Bend County, Texas	108.1	111.1	173.2	97.8	98.8	89.8	135.6
Maricopa County (Phoenix), Arizona	113.0	133.3	181.6	100.0	87.9	82.6	140.8
Fulton County (Atlanta), Georgia	113.3	122.2	168.7	127.4	83.4	91.7	148.0
Miami-Dade County, Florida	118.9	155.6	199.5	118.4	79.4	92.2	159.0
Bronx County, New York	141.0	200.0	205.6	112.3	41.7	117.0	158.9
Suffolk County (Boston), Massachusetts	150.8	255.6	282.0	125.2	79.8	86.7	203.5
Washington, D.C.	151.9	188.9	179.4	132.1	67.3	109.2	155.6
Queens County, New York	157.9	200.0	269.3	113.2	57.5	117.0	191.2
Richmond County (Staten Island), New York	158.4	200.0	227.5	113.2	85.9	117.0	170.3
Los Angeles County, California	161.7	277.8	146.4	96.7	97.8	89.8	121.5
Kings County (Brooklyn), New York	172.5	200.0	249.0	124.9	44.3	117.0	186.8
New York County (Manhattan), NY	204.1	200.0	294.2	166.1	32.4	117.0	230.2
San Francisco County, California	245.5	277.8	305.4	143.2	72.1	115.5	224.3

Note: Cost of living index based off U.S. average of 100. Below 100 refers to a less expensive geography than the U.S. average. Above 100 refers to a more expensive geography. Housing \$ reflects the median home cost. Source: Index calculations based on research from the Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map (as of January 2024); [2023 Sperling's Best Places Cost of Living](#)

Overall Cost Index – U.S. Average



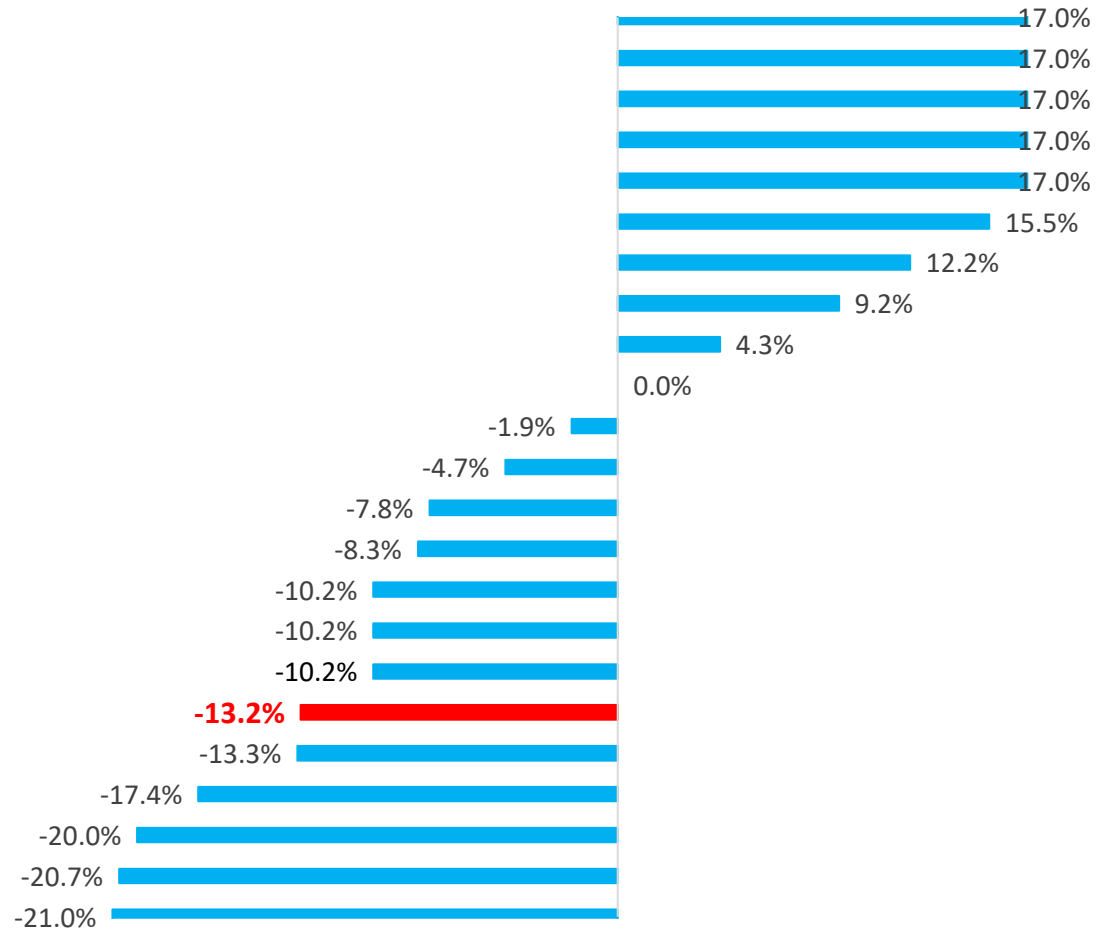
Source: [2023 Sperling's Best Places Cost of Living](#)

Health Cost Index

County and Index

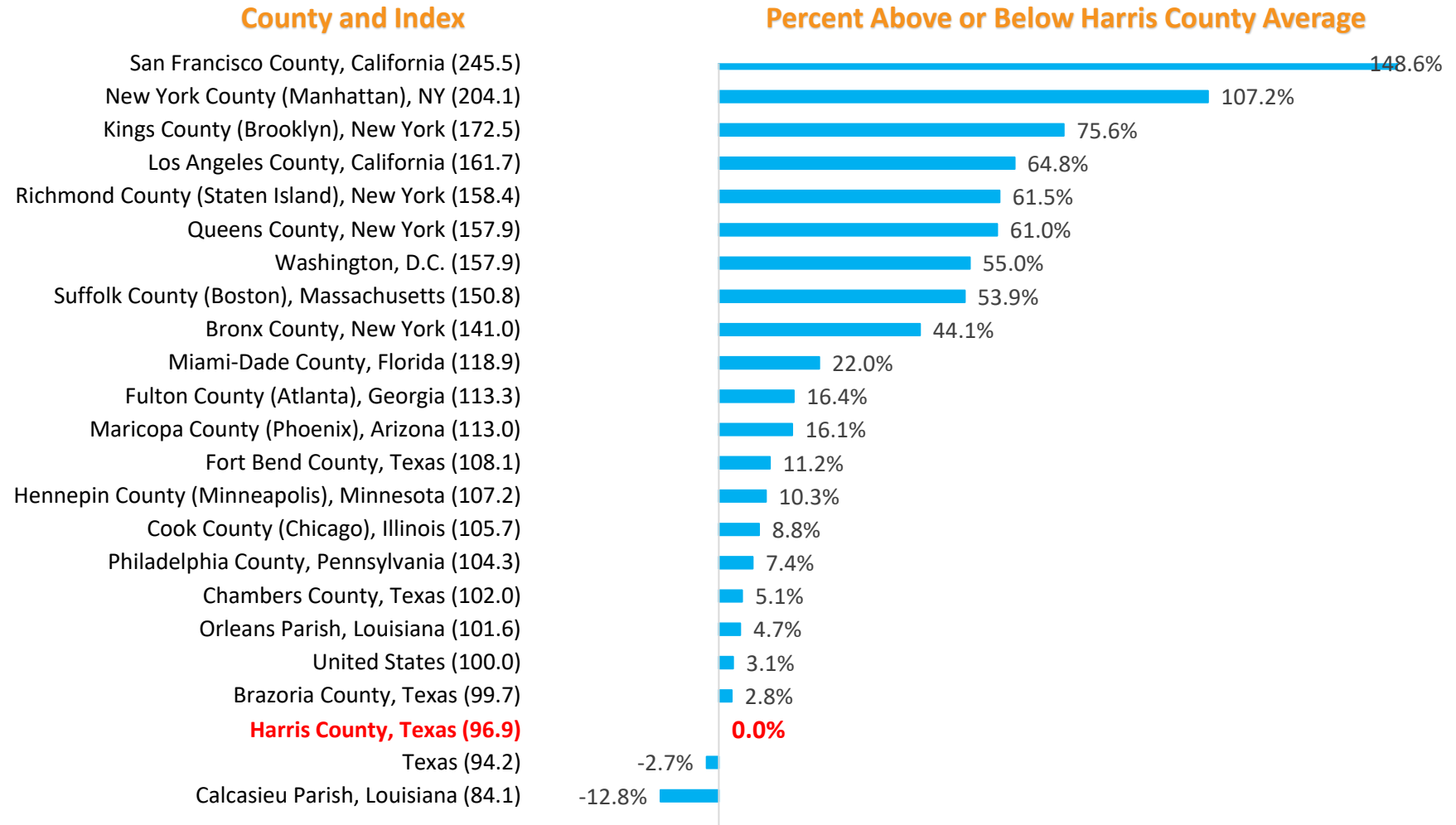
Richmond County (Staten Island), New York	(117.0)
Queens County, New York	(117.0)
Kings County (Brooklyn), New York	(117.0)
Bronx County, New York	(117.0)
New York County (Manhattan), NY	(117.0)
San Francisco County, California	(115.5)
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana	(112.2)
Washington, D.C.	(109.2)
Orleans Parish, Louisiana	(104.3)
United States	(100.0)
Texas	(98.1)
Chambers County, Texas	(95.3)
Miami-Dade County, Florida	(92.2)
Fulton County (Atlanta), Georgia	(91.7)
Los Angeles County, California	(89.8)
Brazoria County, Texas	(89.8)
Fort Bend County, Texas	(89.8)
Harris County, Texas	(86.8)
Suffolk County (Boston), Massachusetts	(86.7)
Maricopa County (Phoenix), Arizona	(82.6)
Cook County (Chicago), Illinois	(80.0)
Hennepin County (Minneapolis), Minnesota	(79.3)
Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania	(79.0)

Percent Above or Below the U.S. Average



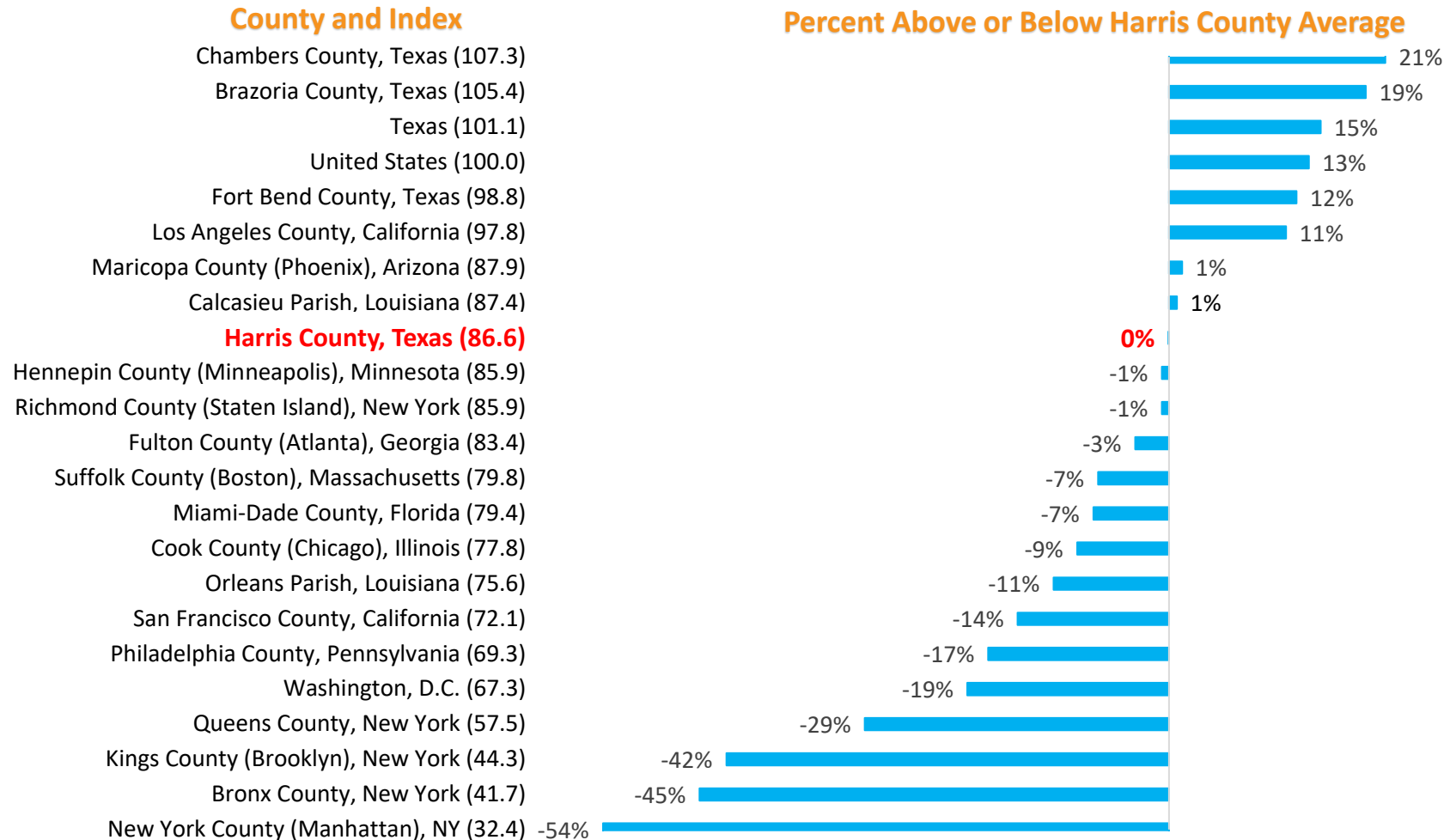
Source: Index calculations based on research from the [Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map](#) (as of January 2024)

Overall Cost Index – Compared to Harris County Average



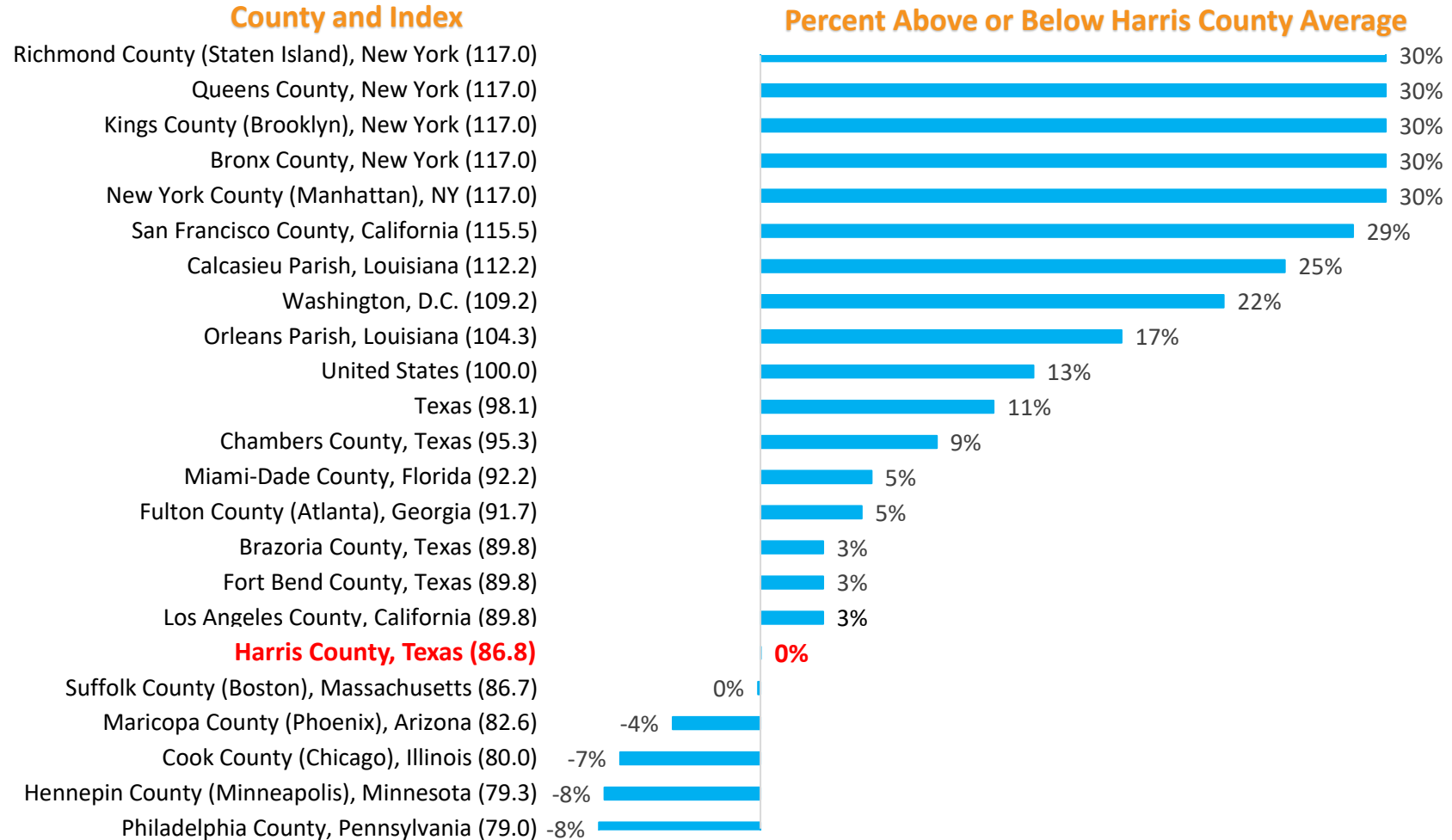
Source: Index calculations based on research from the [Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map](#) (as of January 2024)

Transportation Cost Index – Compared to Harris County Average



Source: Index calculations based on research from the [Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map](#) (as of January 2024)

Health Cost Index – Compared to Harris County Average



Source: Index calculations based on research from the [Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map](#) (as of January 2024)

Cost of Doing Business & Tax Climate

State and Local Personal Income Tax	0% for the State of Texas and all its taxing jurisdictions	
State and Local Corporate Income Tax	0% for the State of Texas and all its taxing jurisdictions	
Franchise Tax (Rates for 2024 and 2025) Franchise tax rates, threshold and deduction limits vary by report year. Check the Texas Comptroller's Office to find out more.	0.75% tax rate (other than retail or wholesale)	0.375% tax rate (retail or wholesale)
	0.331 E-Z Computation rate, \$20 million total revenue threshold	
Sales & Use Tax Maximum sales tax composite is 8.25%	0% for Harris County	6.25% for the State of Texas Up to 2% for other entities, as applicable
Property Tax (2023 rates) Tax rates are per \$100 Certified Taxable Appraised Value The same tax rates apply to all items The following items are taxed in the State of Texas Real Property (includes land and building) Tangible Personal Property means personal property that can be seen, weighed, measured, felt, or otherwise perceived by the senses. See Property Tax Code for definitions.	State of Texas Harris County Flood Control District Port of Houston Hospital District Total Property Tax	\$0 \$0.35007 \$0.03105 \$0.00574 \$0.14343 \$0.53029
Depending on the property's location, tax rates from other entities apply. Check Harris County Appraisal District to find out the entities levying taxes for your property.		
Unemployment Insurance (2024)	2.7% general entry rate, charged on first \$9,000 in earnings, reassessed after 6 quarters and charged at own experience rate.	
Workers' Compensation Insurance (updated 2/6/24)	Not required for most private employers by the State of Texas. Options include self insurance, state-operated Texas Workers' Compensation Insurance Fund or licensed private insurance company.	
Licenses & Permits	Varies by industry and regulatory agency. Please visit the State of Texas Portal and/or the Texas Department of Licensing & Regulations .	
Application for Registration to do Business	\$750, required to do business in Texas for non-U.S. corporations, LLC, LPs and out-of-state entities. Please visit the Texas Secretary of State for details.	
Doing Business As (DBA)	\$24 (or \$22 if veteran with notarized application) + \$0.50 for each additional name filed in Harris County (a DBA filing is required if not incorporated or if doing business under a name other than that in which the business was incorporated). Please visit Harris County Clerk's Office for details.	

Harris County has

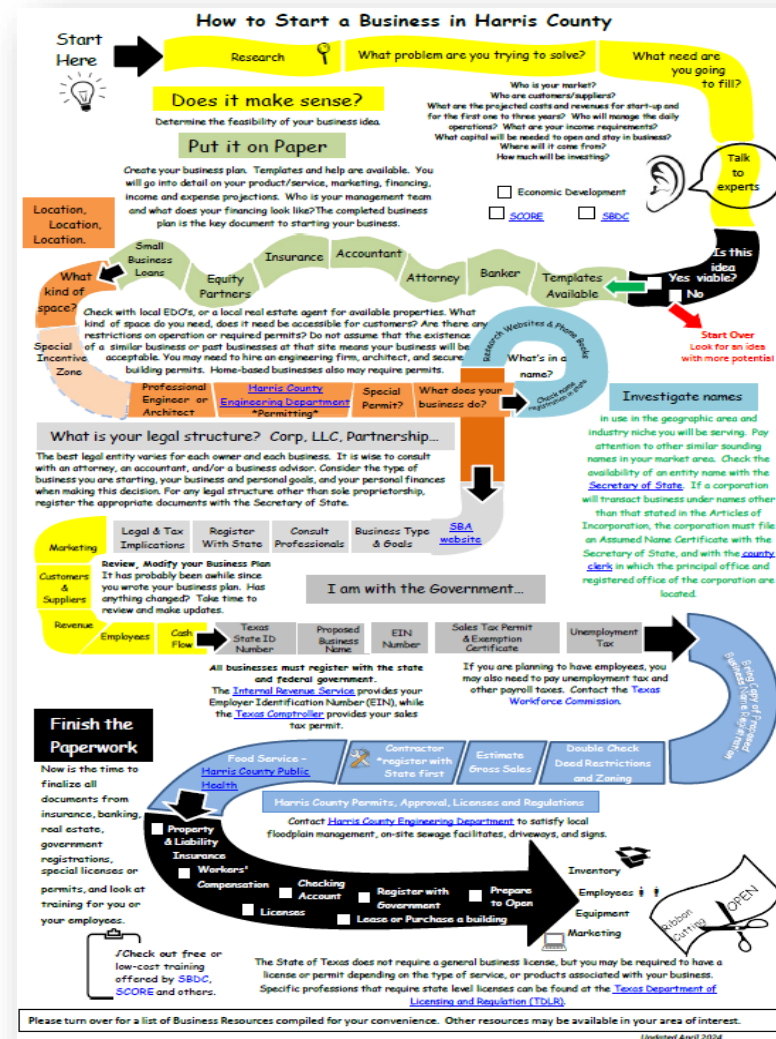
- ✓ No State or Local Individual Income Tax
- ✓ No State or Local Corporate Income tax

With a deregulated energy market in the State of Texas, Harris County electricity users enjoy a selection of retail providers competing for their business.

Sources: Harris County; [Harris County Appraisal District](#); [Harris County Clerk's Office](#); [Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector](#); [Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2024 and 2025 Franchise Tax Rates](#); [Texas Department of Insurance, Workers' Compensation Insurance Guide \(updated 2/6/24\)](#); [Texas Department of Licensing & Regulations](#); [Texas Secretary of State](#); [Texas Workforce Commission, Unemployment Insurance Tax Rates](#)

One Stop Shop – Starting a Business

[View the roadmap in detail here.](#)



One Stop Shop - Starting A Business

[View Roadmap in detail here.](#)

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Step 1:

Research your idea. Talk to your local chamber of commerce, [Houston Office of Business Opportunity \(832-393-0600\)](#), [US Small Business Administration \(Houston Office\) \(713-773-6500\)](#), or your local EDC or EDO. For Harris County Partners [click here](#).

Step 2:

If you determine that your business plan is viable, then look for a location. Would you qualify for special incentives? Will you need to hire a professional architect or engineer, submit a site plan to the zoning office or obtain special permits? For Harris County permits [click here \(713-274-3900\)](#). For city permits, please visit [their websites](#).

Step 3:

Name your business. Research websites and phonebooks for other businesses that may have a similar name to the one you are considering. Check the availability of your name on the [U.S. Patent website \(800-786-9199\)](#) to see if it has been trademarked. If you plan on incorporating you'll need to file with the [Texas Secretary of State \(512-463-5555\)](#) to make sure that your name is not claimed already. For Harris County Assumed Business Names searches click on [DBA](#) or call **713-274-8600**.

Step 4:

Depending on what type of business entity you form, you may have to register with the [Texas Secretary of State](#). Some of the more common forms are Sole Proprietorship, For Profit Corporation, Professional Corporation, Professional Association, General Partnership, Limited Partnership, Limited Liability Partnership and Limited Liability Company. Foreign and out-of-state entities also have to file an application for registration with the [Texas Secretary of State](#) in order to transact business in Texas. An Assumed Name or Doing Business As (DBA) Certificate with the County Clerk in the county(s) in which the business is located and/or will conduct business must be filed. See [Harris County Clerk's Office \(713-274-8600\)](#) for details.

Step 5:

[Texas Business Organization Code](#) requires every business to maintain a registered agent and office in Texas. File this information with the [Texas Secretary of State](#).

Step 6:

Determine federal, state, and local tax obligations for your business. Apply for an Employer Identification number (EIN) with the [IRS \(800-829-4933\)](#). Determine sales, use and excise taxes. Apply for a Texas sales tax permit with the [Texas Comptroller \(800-531-5441 x3-0925\)](#). Property taxes are assessed by the [Harris County Appraisal District \(713-957-7800\)](#) and collected by the [Harris County Tax Office \(713-274-8000\)](#). The [Texas Workforce Commission \(TWC\) \(512-463-2222\)](#) requires most employers to pay an Unemployment Insurance tax. More information can be found at the TWC website.

Step 7:

The state of Texas does not require a general business license, but you may be required to have a license or permit depending on the type of service, or products associated with your business. Specific professions that require state-level licenses can be found at the [Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation \(TDLR\) \(512-463-6599\)](#). Also, contact your county and city to determine if there are any additional requirements.

One Stop Shop

The list below is intended for your convenience. Other resources may be available in the region.

S
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- [Texas Secretary of State](#) (512-463-5555) (registering businesses formed in Texas or outside of Texas)
- [Texas Comptroller's Office](#) (888-334-4112) (State Sales Tax ID and other useful information)
- [Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation](#) (512-463-2222 or 512-377-0559) (licensing requirements)
- [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (800-628-5115) (workforce information & Employer's ID)
- Texas Worker's Compensation & [Texas Department of Insurance](#) (800-578-4677 or 512-676-6000)
- [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#) (512-239-1000 or 800-447-2827) (environmental & permitting)
- [Texas.gov](#) (information about Texas and links to all State of Texas Departments)
- [Office of the Texas Governor](#) (800-843-5789)

For more information on business resources in Texas, please visit <https://businessintexas.com/>

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- [US Export Assistance](#) (800-USA-TRAD (872-8723)) trade counseling and information)
- [US Small Business Administration, Houston District](#) (713-773-6500)
- [US Patent and Trademark Office](#) (800-786-9199)
- [Internal Revenue Services](#) (Businesses 800-829-4933) (Federal Tax ID and other tax matters)
- [US Census Bureau](#) (301-763-INFO (4636) or 800-923-8282)
- [US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) (202-691-5200 or 972-850-4800 or TDD 800-877-8339)
- [US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#), Houston Area (936-760-3800)

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- [Greater Houston Partnership](#) (713-844-3600)
- [Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership](#) (832-536-3255)
- [Baytown-West Chambers County Economic Development Foundation](#) (281-420-2961)
- [Economic Alliance-Houston Port Region](#) (281-476-9176)
- [Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#) (713-644-7070)
- [Katy Area Economic Development Council](#) (281-396-2200)
- [North Houston Regional Center for Economic Development \(Lone Star College\)](#) (832-813-6252)
- [Chambers of Commerce](#)

[Harris County](#)

- [Harris Engineering Department](#) (713-274-3900) (permits)
- [Harris County Fire Marshal](#) (713-274-1700) (permits)
- [Harris County Tax Office](#) (713-274-8000)
- [Harris County Clerk's Office](#) (713-274-8600)
- [Harris Central Appraisal District](#) (713-957-7800)
- [Harris County Industrial Development Corp](#) (713-775-8971)
- [Port of Houston](#) (713-670-2400)
- [METRO](#) – Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (713-635-4000)
- [CenterPoint Energy, Houston Metro Area](#) (713-659-2111 or 800-752-8036)
- [Houston Office of Business Opportunity](#) (832-393-0600)
- [Houston Airports](#)

If the business is operated in a home, check the deed restrictions and contact the homeowners association.

If the Business is located in a [city](#) or its jurisdiction, contact the city for possible permit requirements.

Contact the [Harris County Public Health Department](#) (713-439-6000) for a business involved in food preparation or handling.

Roadmap to grow your business by exporting – [Export Resources](#)

Chambers of Commerce

The list below is intended for your convenience. Other resources may be available in the region.

[Acres Home Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Asian Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Australian American Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Baytown Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Bilateral US Arab Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Brazil-Texas Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Caribbean Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Christian Business Fellowship Association](#)

[Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Deer Park Chamber of Commerce](#)

[East End Chamber of Commerce](#)

[French American Chamber of Commerce](#)

[German American Chambers of Commerce of the Southern US](#)

[Ghana-Houston Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Greater Heights Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Greater Houston Black Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Greater Houston Partnership](#)

[Greater Houston Women's Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Houston Intercontinental Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Houston West Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Indo American Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Texas](#)

[Japanese Business Association of Houston](#)

[Katy Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[League City Regional Chamber of Commerce](#)

[North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Pasadena Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Pearland Chamber of Commerce](#)

[South Belt Ellington Chamber of Commerce](#)

[South Houston Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Swedish American Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Texas Argentina Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Tri-County Regional Black Chamber of Commerce](#)

[US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Waller Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[World Chamber of Commerce](#)

Cities

[Baytown](#)
[Bellaire](#)
[Bunker Hill](#)
[Deer Park](#)
[El Lago](#)
[Friendswood](#)
[Galena Park](#)
[Hedwig Village](#)
[Hilshire Village](#)
[Houston](#)
[Humble](#)
[Hunters Creek](#)
[Jacinto City](#)
[Jersey Village](#)
[Katy](#)
[La Porte](#)
[League City](#)

[Missouri City](#)
[Morgan's Point](#)
[Nassau Bay](#)
[Pasadena](#)
[Pearland](#)
[Piney Point](#)
[Seabrook](#)
[Shoreacres](#)
[South Houston](#)
[Southside Place](#)
[Spring Valley](#)
[Stafford](#)
[Taylor Lake Village](#)
[Tomball](#)
[Waller](#)
[Webster](#)
[West University Place](#)

Top Industries and Emerging Trends

Harris County is home to:

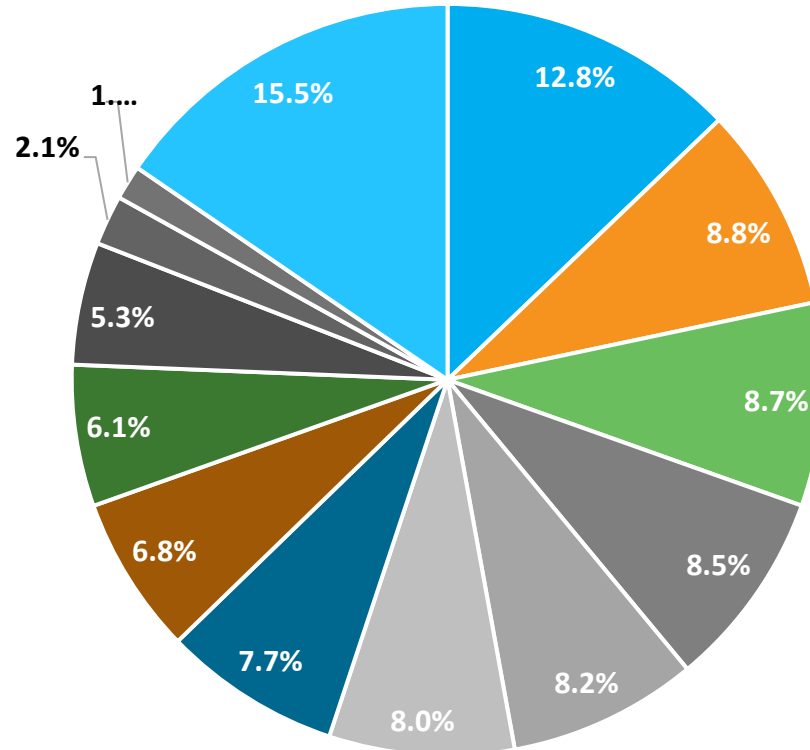
- Major manufacturing with more than 5,100 manufacturing facilities and nearly 174,000 workers.
- The [Texas Medical Center](#) – the world’s largest medical complex and the 8th largest Business District in the U.S. where 60+ institutions provide clinical health, cutting-edge research, and education.
- The [Johnson Space Center](#) – NASA’s mission control center and an aerospace hub and transfer site for NASA-developed technology.
- The **Energy Capital of the Future** with a growing presence in both traditional and renewable forms of energy technology and innovation.
- An emerging trend in **Venture Capital investment** with more than 250 deals and \$2.04 billion raised in 2022 in Metro Houston.
- An emerging hub for the development of **artificial intelligence** (an estimated \$6B global AI) in the energy sector driving energy efficiency and sustainability.

Sources: [Greater Houston Partnership, Houston Energy Capital of the World](#) (as of 1/30/24); [Greater Houston Partnership, 2022 Venture Capital Funding Report](#) (as of 11/23) ; [Texas Medical Center](#); [NASA Johnson Space Center](#); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Annual Average 2023 from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages; [Houston.Innovationmap.com](#)



Industry Sectors, Harris County

- 12.8% Health Care and Social Assistance
- 8.8% Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
- 8.7% Accommodation and Food Services
- 8.5% Retail Trade
- 8.2% Construction
- 8.0% Administrative Support & Waste Management
- 7.7% Educational Services
- 6.8% Manufacturing
- 6.1% Transportation and Warehousing
- 5.3% Wholesale Trade
- 2.1% Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction
- 1.5% Management of Companies and Enterprises
- 15.5% Other Industry Sectors

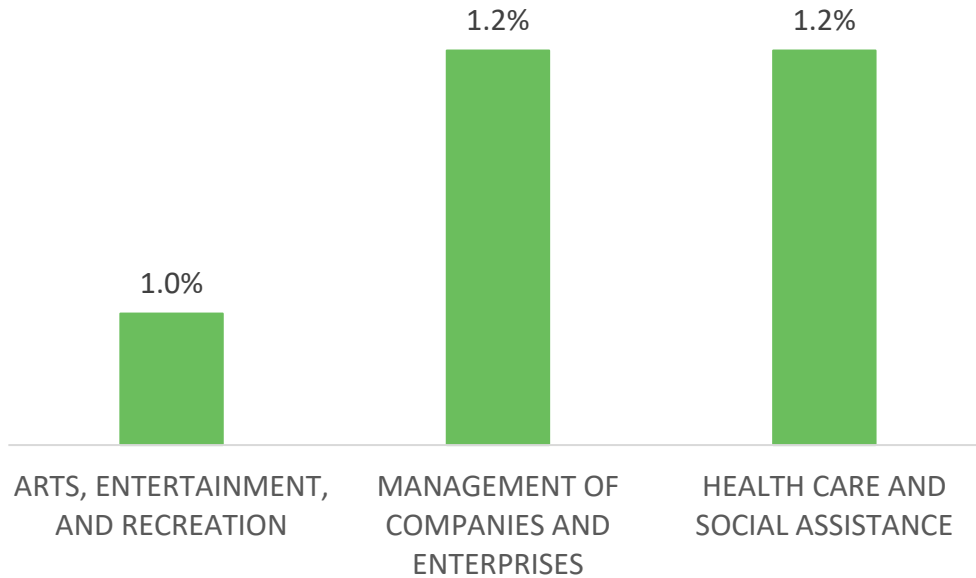


The **Health Care and Social Assistance** industry sector employs the highest number of people at **334,475**. The highest concentration of interrelated industry sectors in Harris County comprises the **Coal/Oil/Power** industry supercluster, at over 4 times the national average, employing **88,853** workers with an average wage of **\$210,956**. Such high concentration signals a regional competitive advantage over the U.S. and other areas.

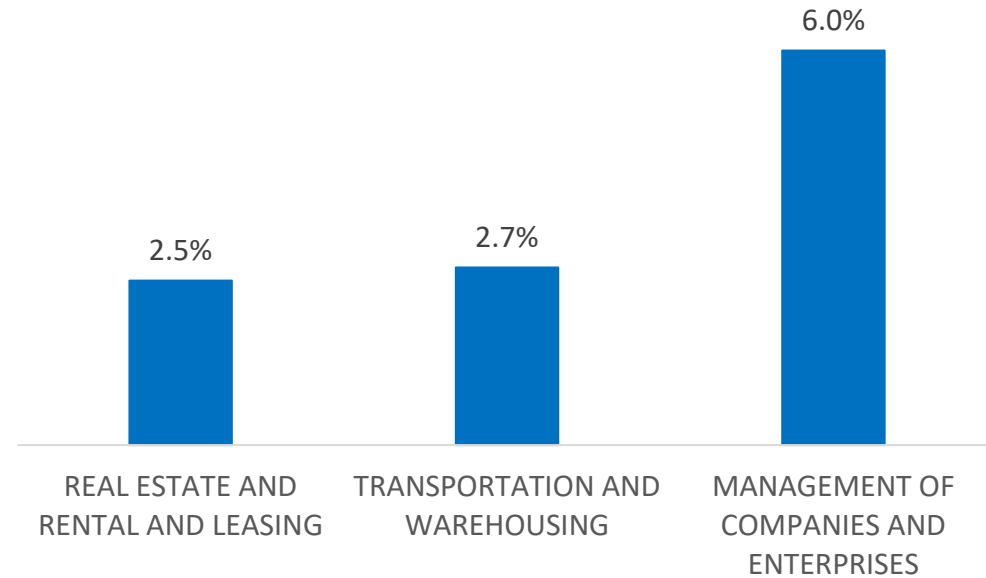
Sources: JobsEQ 2023Q3 Industry Snapshot

Selected Industry Sectors' Annual Growth

10-YEAR FORECAST
2013 to 2023



10-YEAR GROWTH HISTORY
2013 to 2023



Sources: JobsEQ 2023Q3 Industry Snapshot

Top Industries

Advanced Manufacturing and Technology

Large concentration of industrial space... with room to grow

- ✓ **5,110** manufacturers who employ nearly 174,000 skilled workers.
- ✓ **80+**¹ incubators, accelerators, and makerspaces tapping into a large customer base in areas of energy, space science, biotechnology and leading technology.

Aerospace and Aviation

An aerospace hub and transfer site for NASA

- ✓ The [Johnson Space Center](#) – a **\$1.5 billion** complex housing one of NASA’s largest R&D facilities and a source of the nation’s best high-tech professionals in science and engineering.
- ✓ **270+** companies involved in aircraft or space vehicle manufacturing, air transportation, cutting-edge space research, and technology.

¹For Metro Houston. All other statistics on this slide are for Harris County, TX.

Sources: [About NASA Johnson Space Center](#); [Greater Houston Partnership Digital Technology](#); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Average Annual 2022 (aerospace) and 2023 (manufacturing) Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Top Industries

Distribution and Logistics

A hub of major logistics network for the U.S.
Equidistant from the East and West Coasts

- ✓ The gateway for trade to Mexico, Canada and the enormous expanding markets of Latin America.
- ✓ A strategic location – equidistant from both the U.S. East and West coasts – makes the region a transportation hub to the U.S. heartland.
- ✓ Geographic advantages coupled with overall [low cost of living](#) and proximity to major population centers throughout the U.S. Midwest makes it the ideal place to set up manufacturing and logistics facilities with fewer supply chain costs.
- ✓ Houston Ship Channel recently maintained its ranking as the [#1 waterway](#) in the nation for 2024.

Biotechnology and Life Sciences

The birthplace of nanotechnology
More than 5,000 tech related establishments

- ✓ [66 cutting edge hospitals and numerous clinics](#) along with some of the world's top research institutions thrive in Harris County. Houston Methodist ranks among [the top 25 hospitals nationwide](#).
- ✓ Nearly 10,100 workers are employed in the manufacturing of computer, peripheral and communications equipment, semiconductors and electronic components.
- ✓ Nearly 35,500 workers are employed in IT and tech services
- ✓ Texas Medical Center (the world's largest medical center) houses 60+ institutions involved in cutting edge medical care, medical and biotechnology research, and development.
- ✓ More than 62,200 total tech workers.

Energy

Home to virtually every segment of the oil and gas industry

- ✓ Harris County – home to the [Energy Capital of the World](#) – is the U.S. energy headquarters and a leading world center for virtually every segment of the oil and gas industry including exploration, production, transmission, marketing, supply and technology.
- ✓ Harris County – home to the [largest petrochemical complex in the U.S.](#) (second largest in the world).
- ✓ A growing non-hydrocarbon-based fuels sector in large part due to the critical mass of energy talent produced by decades of research and innovation.

Sources: [Greater Houston Partnership, Houston Energy Capital of the World](#) (as of 1/30/24); [Port Houston 2024 Statistics, Press Release 4/24/24](#); [Texas Medical Center](#); [Texas Department of State Health Services, 2021 Facility & Bed Counts](#) (as of 5/28/24, 66 hospitals for Harris County only); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, [2022 Annual Average from Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages](#) (using tech industry and workforce classification by NAICS defined by [CompTIA 2024 State of the Tech Workforce](#) see page 146); U.S. News & World Report, [2023-2024 Hospital Rankings](#) (as of 5/28/24)

Strategic Advantages

Population... Education and Workforce... Transportation... Medicine...

- **Harris County** – the most diverse and the 3rd most populous in the U.S. where **residents** and **businesses thrive** and **expand** by benefiting from:
 - ✓ An overall cost of living that is 3.1% below the national average. 64.8% less than in Los Angeles County, and 107.2% less than in New York County (Manhattan).
 - ✓ Health costs 13.3% less than the national average, 22.4% less than Washington D.C., and 28.6% less than San Francisco County.
- **Harris County** – where **global networks**, connecting Harris County and the Gulf of Mexico to the interior of the U.S. and the world, are **powered by**:
 - ✓ 1 [Sea Port](#) – ranked 1st in the U.S. in foreign waterborne tonnage and 3rd in the U.S. in total foreign cargo value
 - ✓ 2 [major airports](#) with 190+ non-stop destinations
 - ✓ 1 [spaceport](#) (10th licensed in the nation)
 - ✓ A world-class highway system including I-610 Loop, I-10, I-45, SH 288, SH 6, SH 225, SH 146, US 59/I-69, US 290, Beltway 8, Fort Bend Tollway, Grand Parkway 99, Hardy Tollway, and the Westpark Tollway, and
 - ✓ 2 major railroad companies directly servicing Harris County – [Union Pacific](#) (UP), [Burlington Northern Santa Fe](#) (BNSF) – and a 3rd major railroad Canada Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) Railroad Company serving Harris County in partnership with other railroad companies see [CPKC Network Map](#).
- **Harris County** – where the [Port of Houston](#) ranked as the **largest Gulf Coast container port** handling 97% market share in containers by total TEUs.
- **Harris County** – a **world-class science and innovation hub**, is at the forefront of research and treatment of cancer and heart disease where the [Texas Medical Center](#) (the **world's largest medical complex**) occupies 1,345 acres and has **\$3 billion in construction projects underway**.

Demographics

Population Highlights

Table of Contents

- 3rd largest County in the U.S. – larger than 25 U.S. states.
- If Harris County was a state, it would be the 25th most populous state, behind Alabama (5.1 million) and ahead of Louisiana (4.6 million) and of Kentucky (4.5 million).
- Well educated where nearly 83% of its residents have a high school diploma or higher.
- A young and vibrant population where 25.7% are under the age of 18 – a much higher share of the total county population compared to the U.S.'s 21.7%
- Diverse where more than 1 in 4 residents is foreign-born.

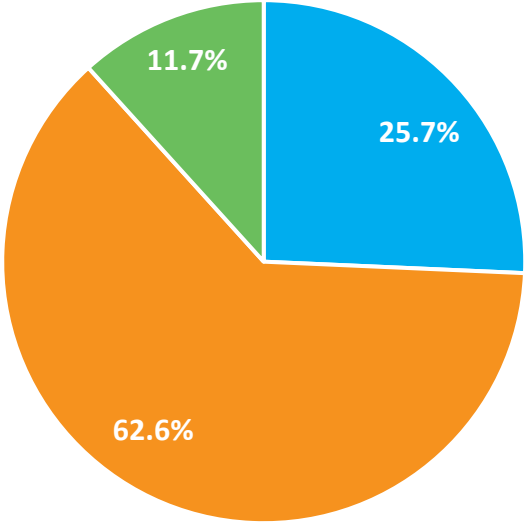
Population Estimate	4,780,913
Age	
Persons under 18 years	25.7%
Persons 65 years and older	11.7%
Median Age	34.5
Race	
White alone	33.3%
Black or African American	18.8%
Some other race	16.6%
Two or more races	22.5%
Asian	7.2%
American Indian & Alaska Native	1.5%
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0.1%
Ethnicity	
Hispanic/Latino (White)	44.6%
White (Non-Hispanic/Latino)	26.4%
Other (Non-Hispanic/Latino)	29.0%
Foreign Born	26.5%
Educational Attainment	
High School Graduate or Higher (Age 25 years+)	82.5%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher (Age 25 years+)	34.1%
No. of Households	1,779,980
Median Household Income	\$68,706
Per Capita Personal Income	\$69,154
Total Personal Income	\$330,617,356

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2022 Personal Income; U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Population Estimates, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

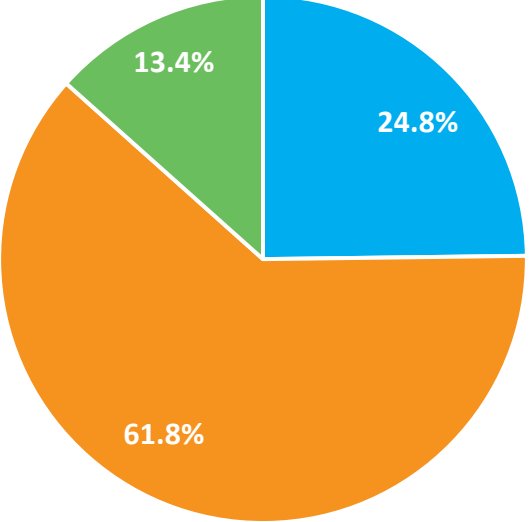
Age Distribution

A young and vibrant population where **25.7%** of Harris County's total population is *under the age of 18* – a much higher share than Texas and the U.S.

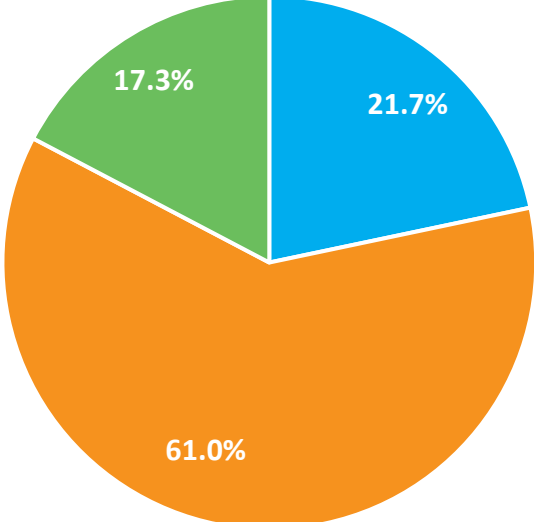
Harris County, 2022



Texas, 2022



U.S., 2022



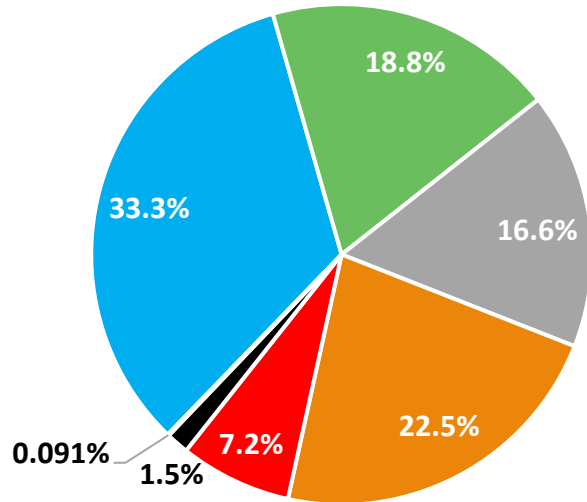
■ under 18 ■ 18 to 64 ■ 65+

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Age and Sex

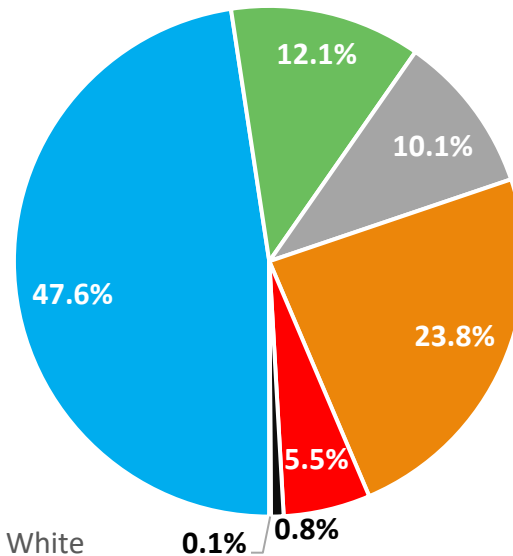
Race

A very diverse population enhancing Harris County's cultural tapestry, providing varied perspectives, and innovation opportunities.

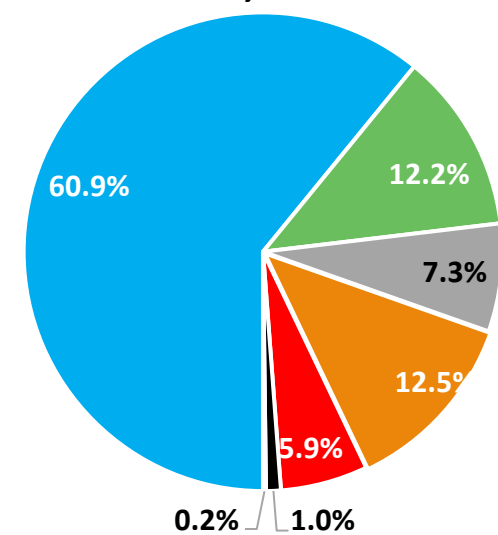
Harris County, 2022



Texas, 2022



U.S., 2022



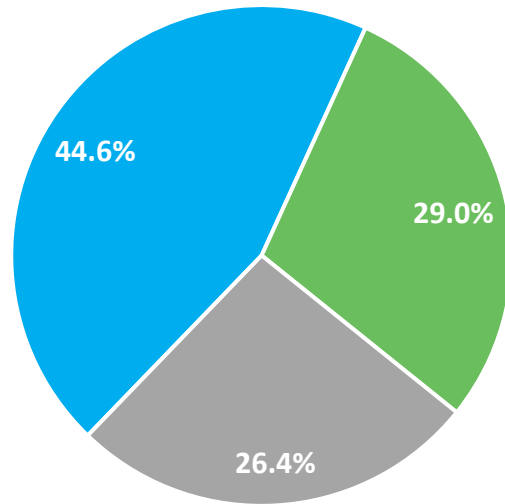
- White
- Black or African American
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races
- Asian
- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

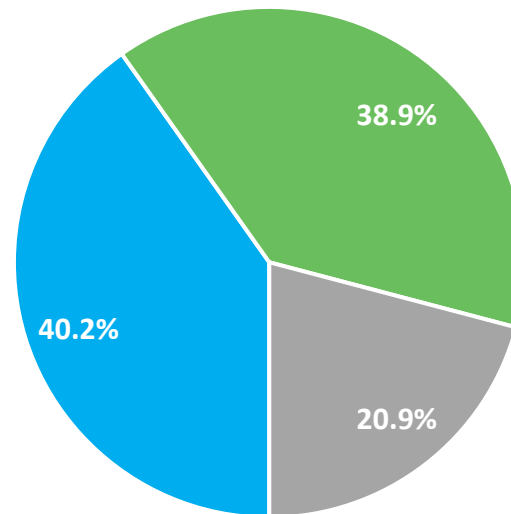
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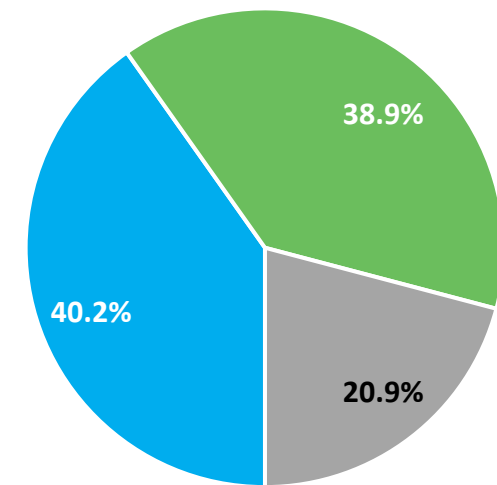
Harris County, 2022



Texas, 2022



U.S., 2022



- Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
- Other (Non-Hispanic or Latino)
- White alone (Non-Hispanic or Latino)

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

Diversity

- **80** nations have **consular** representation in Harris County offering services to both visitors and residents.
- **2nd** largest Hispanic population of all U.S. Counties. Harris County has ranked among the top 5 counties for Hispanic population since 1990.
- Virtually unlimited entertainment choices in arts, culture, food, leisure, sports, and more
- **111** languages spoken in Harris County.
- More than 1 in 4 Harris County residents is foreign-born.
- A dozen of [Harris County's largest companies](#) are also ranked as America's Best Employers for Diversity in 2024 by Forbes, including H-E-B, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, and Houston Methodist.

Sources: Forbes, [2024 America's Best Employers for Diversity](#); Greater Houston Partnership, International Investment and Trade Consular Offices; [Pew Research Center, 1980-2020 Hispanic Population by County](#); U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Detailed Languages Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Selected Social Characteristics in the U.S. (Foreign Born)



Education & Workforce

Harris County's Education and Labor Force Assets:

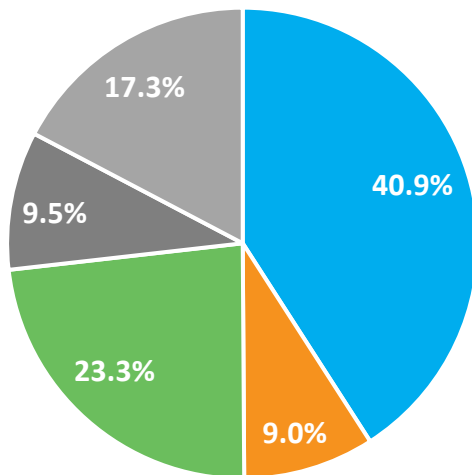
- A population of over 4.78 million and a civilian labor force of over 2.34 million people
- Nearly 83% of persons over the age of 25 have a high school diploma or higher
- Over 34% of persons over the age of 25 have a bachelor's degree or higher
- **40.9% of total bachelor's degrees earned are in the fields of Science and Engineering – a higher concentration than 36.2% for the U.S. and Texas.**
- Home to 58,858 engineers and architects in Metro Houston

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics via Texas Workforce Commission 2022 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages; U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, Educational Attainment; U.S. Census Bureau, JobsEQ 2023Q3 Industry Snapshot

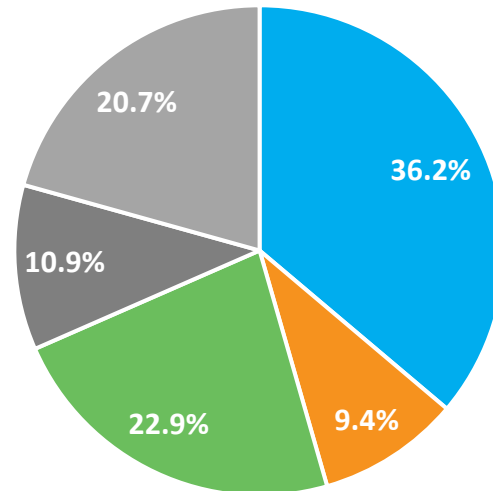
Education: Bachelor's Degrees

A vibrant and educated population where 40.9% of total bachelor's degrees earned are in the fields of Science and Engineering – a higher concentration than the U.S. and Texas

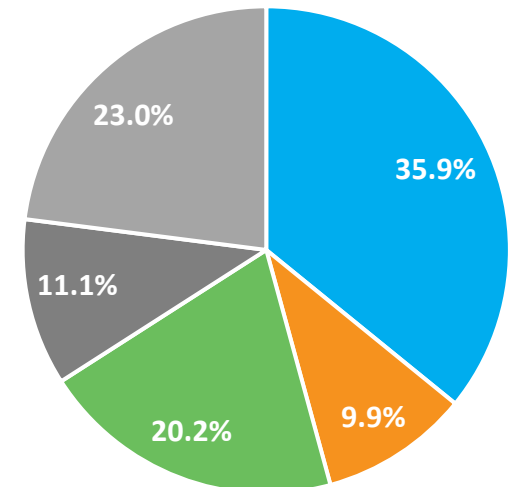
Harris County, 2022



Texas, 2022



U.S., 2022

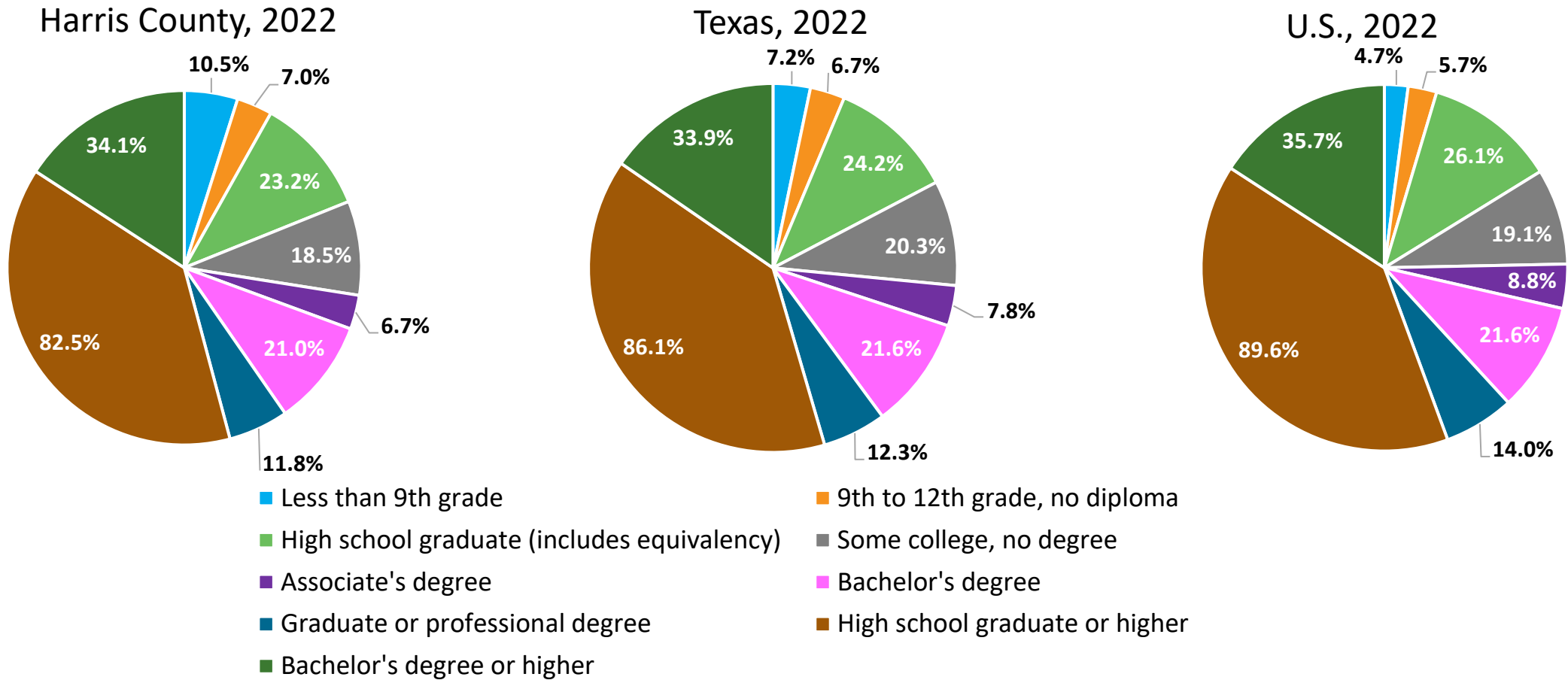


- Science and Engineering
- Science and Engineering Related Fields
- Business
- Education
- Arts, Humanities and Others

Note: For population age 25 years and over

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, Field of Bachelor's Degree for First Major

Educational Attainment



Note: For population age 25 years and over
 Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, Educational Attainment

Universities, Colleges & ISDs

14 UNIVERSITIES

- [Baylor College of Medicine](#)
- [Chamberlain University](#)
- [Houston Christian University](#)
- [Rice University](#)
- [South Texas College of Law](#)
- [Texas Southern University](#)
- [Texas Woman's University – Houston](#)
- [University of Houston](#)
- [University of Houston - Clear Lake](#)
- [University of Houston – Downtown](#)
- [University of Houston – Victoria \(Katy\)](#)
- [University of St. Thomas](#)
- [University of Texas Health Science Center](#)
- [University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center](#)

4 COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- [Houston Community College System](#)
- [Lee Jr. College District](#)
- [Lone Star College System District](#)
- [San Jacinto Jr. College District](#)

- [Aldine ISD](#)
- [Alief ISD](#)
- [Channelview ISD](#)
- [Clear Creek ISD](#)
- [Crosby ISD](#)
- [Cypress-Fairbanks ISD](#)
- [Dayton ISD](#)
- [Deer Park ISD](#)
- [Galena Park ISD](#)
- [Goose Creek ISD](#)
- [Houston ISD](#)
- [Huffman ISD](#)
- [Humble ISD](#)
- [Katy ISD](#)
- [Klein ISD](#)
- [La Porte ISD](#)
- [New Caney ISD](#)
- [Pasadena ISD](#)
- [Pearland ISD](#)
- [Sheldon ISD](#)
- [Spring ISD](#)
- [Spring Branch ISD](#)
- [Stafford MSD](#)
- [Tomball ISD](#)
- [Waller ISD](#)

Sources: Harris County Department of Education; [JobsEQ](#), 2024

Training & Educational Partners

Harris County has the resources to educate and train current and future employees for your business.

Click the below tiles for additional information.

Lone Star College
Corporate College

Lone Star College
Process Technology Center

Lone Star College
Westway Park
Technology Center

Lee College
McNair Center

Lee College
*Center for Workforce and
Community Development*

Houston Community College
Centers of Excellence

Houston Community College
Roustabout Drilling
Technician Training Center

San Jacinto College
LyondellBasell Center For
Petrochemical, Energy, &
Technology

Texas Workforce Commission
– Skills Development Fund

Greater Houston Partnership
– Upskill Houston

Transportation System

Transportation Advantages

- **Harris County’s transportation costs are** (see [Cost of Living Index](#)):
 - ✓ 11.3% less than in Los Angeles County (Los Angeles and Long Beach), California – the most populous county in the U.S.
- **Auspicious geographic location** as the gateway to Latin American markets
- A **world-class highway system** including I-610 Loop, I-10, I-45, SH 288, SH 6, SH 225, SH 146, US 59/I-69, US 290, US 90, Beltway 8 (AKA Sam Houston Tollway), Fort Bend Tollway, Grand Parkway 99, Hardy Tollway, and the Westpark Tollway

Total Area (square miles)	1,777
Daily Vehicle Miles	65,392,794
Lane Miles	5,644
Vehicles Registered	3,521,123
METRO No. of Buses	1,293
METRO No. of Clean-running diesel-electric hybrid buses	400+
METRO Bus Routes	80+
Major Airports	2
Spaceport	1
Passenger Airlines	27
Passengers	54,000,000+
Non-stop Destinations	190+
Regional Airports (public use)	10
Other Airports (private use)	10
Heliports	114
Ports (Sea Port)	1
Industrial Terminals (Public & Private)	200+
Vessels	8,300
Major Railway Companies ¹ (class-1 railroads)	3

¹Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) Railroad Company, in partnerships with Union Pacific and other railroad companies, indirectly serves Harris County. See [CPKC Network Map](#) for details.
 Sources: [Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map](#) (as of January 2024); [Google Maps for Harris County Highway System](#); [Houston Airport System, 2022 Annual Report](#); [Port Houston 2023 Statistics](#); [Houston-Galveston Area Council Airport Inventory](#); [TollFreeAirline.com Harris County Public and Private Airports](#); [Texas Department of Transportation, 2021 Houston District Statistics](#) (as of 6/5/24); [METRO 2022 Climate Action Plan](#)

Transportation System:

Port Houston and the Houston Ship Channel

Top 10 Containerized TRADING COUNTRY PARTNERS (EXPORTS, 2023)		Top 10 Containerized TRADING COUNTRY PARTNERS (IMPORTS, 2023)	
China (PRC)	9.6%	China (PRC)	34.4%
Belgium	8.5%	Vietnam	6.0%
Brazil	8.3%	India	5.9%
India	4.9%	Republic of Korea	4.8%
Columbia	4.0%	Brazil	4.7%
Turkey	3.2%	Germany	4.5%
UAE	3.1%	Italy	3.6%
Spain	2.7%	Spain	2.4%
Malaysia	2.7%	Belgium	2.4%
Chile	2.7%	Thailand	2.2%
Others	50.4%	Others	29.0%
Total	100.0%	Total	100.0%

Top 5 Containerized COMMODITIES (EXPORTS, 2023)	Top 5 Containerized COMMODITIES (IMPORTS, 2023)
Resins & Plastics	Machinery, Appliances & Electronics
Chemicals & Minerals	Retail Consumer Goods
Automotive	Hardware & Construction Material
Food & Drink	Food & Drink
Apparel & Accessories	Furniture

Sources: Port Houston, [2022 Containerized Trading by Country](#), [2022 Container Volume by Commodity](#)

Transportation System:

Port Houston and the Houston Ship Channel

Largest Texas port with:

- 73% of U.S. Gulf Coast container traffic
- 152 million consumers within 1,000 miles
- 200+ industrial terminals including the nation's largest break-bulk terminal
- Boasts an extensive intermodal network of terminals, roads, rails (access to class-1 railroads) and pipelines

Ranked:

- ✓ 1st ranked in U.S. waterborne tonnage
- ✓ 1st ranked in U.S. exports
- ✓ 1st ranked in U.S. deep water vessel traffic
- ✓ 1st ranked in production and exports of Ethylene, Propylene, Butylene and Butadiene
- ✓ 1st ranked in resin exports with 59% market share
- ✓ Busiest U.S. waterway with 8,300 large ships and 200,000 smaller commercial crafts including barges
- ✓ Nation's largest importer and exporter of petroleum and petroleum products
- ✓ Home to the nation's largest petrochemical complex (second largest in the world)

Weekly Container Service Overview:

- ✓ East Asia – 5 services
- ✓ East Coast South America – 4 services
- ✓ Mediterranean – 3 services
- ✓ Mexico, Caribbean, Central America, North Coast South America – 4 services
- ✓ North Europe – 3 services
- ✓ Other trade lanes – 3 services

For details, please visit [Port of Houston's Container Service Schedule](#) and [Port of Houston's Trade Carrier Schedules](#).

Transportation System: Houston Airport System

- ✓ Accommodates nonstop air service to five of the flight-accessible continents
- ✓ Recognized worldwide as a gateway to Latin America

George Bush Intercontinental ([IAH](#)) – the largest airport in the Harris County region and a global gateway

- ✓ One of top 10 global hubs
- ✓ Major connecting hub for United Airlines, which handles nearly 75% of IAH passenger traffic

Passenger Airlines --- 28 Non-stop Destinations --- 186 Passengers --- 46 million

William P. Hobby ([HOU](#)) – a medium-sized regional and international airport

- ✓ Home to one of Southwest Airline’s most active hubs
- ✓ 5-star rated airport by Skytrax, the first and only 5-star airport in North America

Passenger Airlines --- 6 Non-stop Destinations --- 62 Passengers --- 14 million

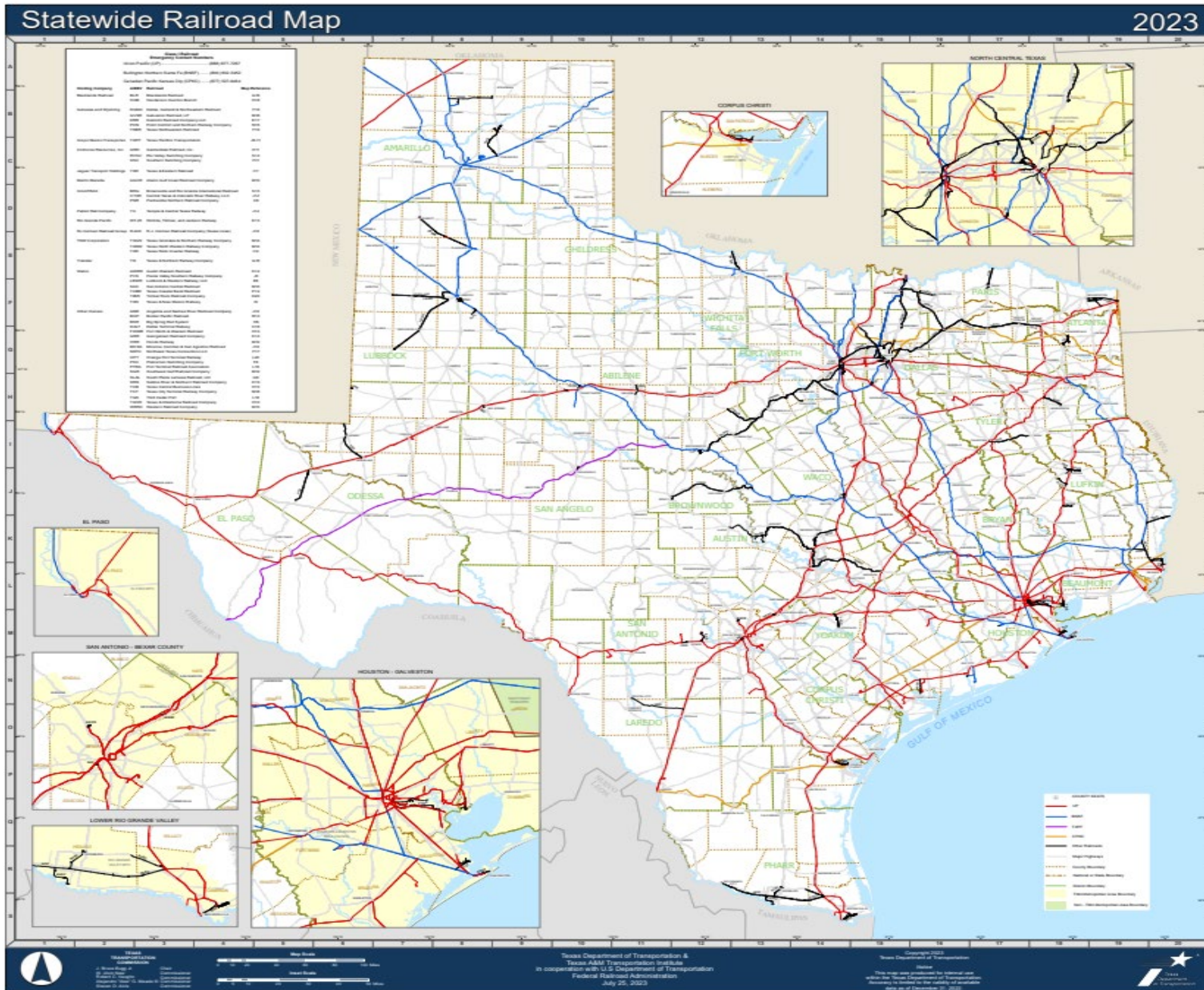
Ellington Airport ([EFD](#)) – a commerce and general aviation center

- ✓ Home to the 10th licensed commercial [SPACEPORT](#)
- ✓ With NASA as a tenant, EFD is home to ongoing U.S. Military and space training
- ✓ Disaster Relief – Home to the regional headquarters for the U.S. Coast Guard

Other Regional Airports Ready to Serve Customers

- 10 Regional Airports for public use
- 10 Regional Airports for private use

Sources: Houston Airport System, [IAH](#) and [HOU](#) Airlines, [IAH](#) and [HOU](#) Destinations (as of 06/10/2024); [Houston Airport System, 2022 Annual Report](#); [Houston Airport System Press Release \(1/22/2024\)](#) [Houston-Galveston Area Council Airport Inventory](#); [TollFreeAirline.com Harris County Public and Private Airports](#)



State Railroad Map

[View map in detail here.](#)

Sources: [Texas Department of Transportation, 2023 Statewide Railroad Map](#)

Texas Medical Center

World's largest:

- Medical complex by any measure – number of hospitals, number of physicians, square footage, and patient volume
- Children's Hospital
- Cancer Hospital

8th largest business district in the U.S.

Is at the forefront of advancing life sciences

Home to:

- ✓ 21 hospitals
- ✓ 8 academic and research institutions

Expansion:

- TMC Helix Park under construction
 - 37 acres
 - \$5.4 billion economic impact
 - Will include collaborative building, industry building, hotel & conference center, and gardens

By the Numbers

Total Area ¹	----- 1,345+ Acres
Area Developed	----- 50 million square feet
Medical & Research Institutions	----- 60+
Employees	----- 120,000+
Patient Visits Per Year	----- 10 million
Total Patient Beds	----- 9,200
Annual Surgeries	----- 180,000+
Total Heart Surgeries	----- 13,600+

Sources: [Texas Medical Center](#); [Texas Medical Center Helix Park](#)

Quality of Life

Education... **Standard of Living**... Sports, Leisure,
and Parks... Diverse Arts and Cultural Venues...
Shopping, Dining and Nightlife... **Area Events**
Calendar...

[Table of Contents](#)

Education With a diverse collection of school systems – **25 public K-12 school districts, a plethora of private K-12 schools, 14 universities, and colleges, and 4 community colleges** – choices abound to prepare our children and the workforce.

Given Harris County's strong biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, aerospace, and energy industry clusters, it is not surprising that **40.9%** of all bachelor's degrees are in science, engineering, and related fields.

Standard of Living Our overall low cost of living at **3.1% below** the national average coupled with a diverse economic base and top educational facilities make us a great community to live, work, play, and invest.

The median sales price of a single-family home was \$330,000 in 2023. Find your next home or rental at [Houston Association of Realtors® \(HAR\)](#).

Harris County's diverse economy provides work opportunities in a wide range of fields where the 2022 per capita personal income was \$69,154 – 5.3% higher than U.S.'s and 9.5% higher than Texas's per capita personal income.

Our residents and visitors can receive top of the line health care at world renowned medical facilities, such as the distinguished [M.D. Anderson Cancer Center](#), the No. 1 cancer hospital in the world. Other distinguished health institutions include [Baylor College of Medicine](#), [Houston Methodist Hospital](#), [CHI St. Luke's Health](#), [Memorial Hermann](#), [Texas Medical Center](#), [Texas Heart Institute](#) and the [University of Texas Health Science Center](#), just to name a few.

Sources: Houston Association of Realtors, [2023 Annual Multiple Listing Service Report](#) (see January 2024 report for 2023 annual data); U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, [2022 Per Capita Income by State and County](#); U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Income in the Past 12 Months; U.S. News & World Report [2023-2024 Best Hospitals for Cancer](#)

Quality of Life

SPORTS, LEISURE AND PARKS

There is no downtime when keeping up with the area's professional sports teams – the *Houston Texans*, the *Houston Rockets*, the *Houston Astros*, the *Houston Dynamo* and the *Houston Dash*.

In addition to catching a Houston Texans game at Harris County's state-of-the-art NRG Stadium, rock concerts, jewelry shows, professional conferences, and a multitude of other events attract people from around the world.

Quality of life is enhanced by over 200 Harris County parks and over 400 city and other district parks.

Abundant miles of walk/run/hike and bike trails open the door to Harris County's wildlife and natural biodiversity.

DIVERSE ARTS AND CULTURAL VENUES

Staying true to our [diversity](#), many cultural communities feel right at home in Harris County.

Anyone's calendar can be filled quickly with events performed by world-class, year-round resident companies in all of the major performing arts—symphony, opera, drama, and ballet.

There is no shortage of choice with concert and performing arts genres and venues abounding - from classical music and opera to pop music and indie rock concerts to blues and honky-tonk, from classical ballet to modern plays and avant-garde dance and to everything in between with world class performers from around the world. See [your independent guide](#) at [Houston-theater.com](#) to the best shows around.

Come discover area events and unique venues at [visithoustontexas.com](#), or check out the [Houston.culturemap.com](#), or visit any of over 150 [museums](#), art galleries, cultural institutions, art fairs, festivals and markets (at [365thingsinhouston.com](#)) covering everything from nature, art, science, history, and more.

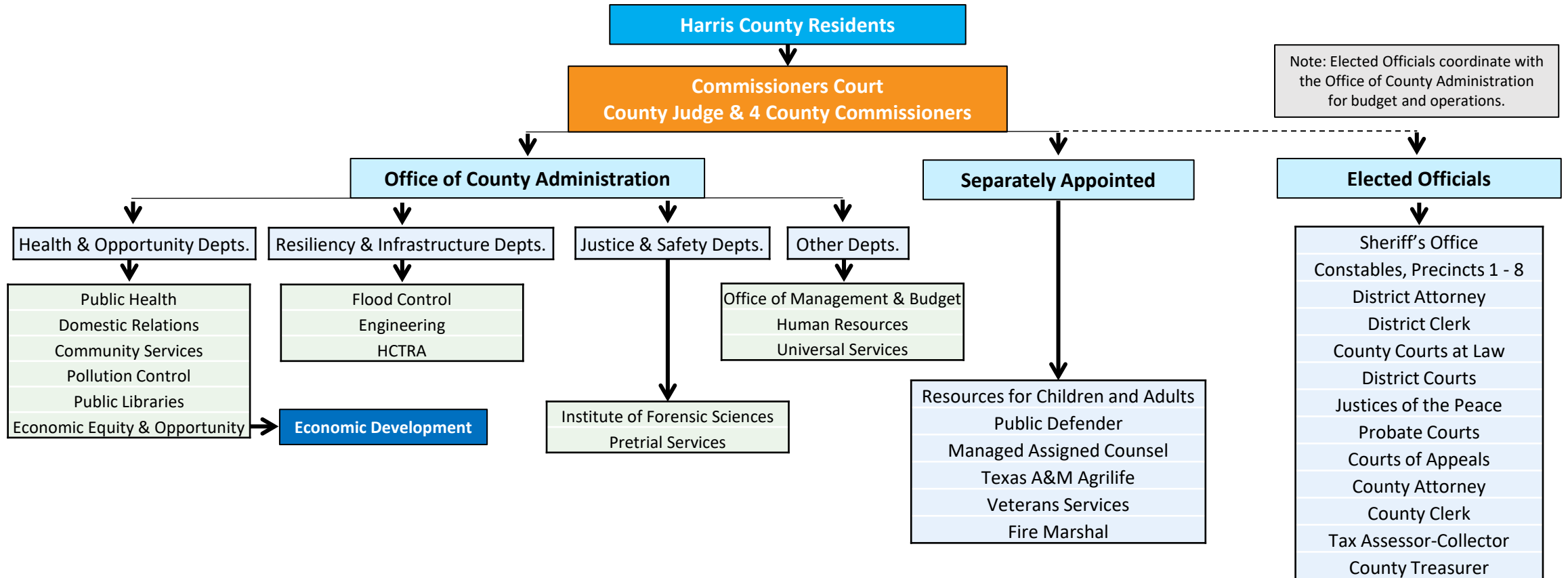
SHOPPING, DINING AND NIGHTLIFE

Choose from over 8,000 restaurants with an abundance of international cuisines. Make your plans by visiting [visithouston.com](#), or [Yelp](#).

A variety of shopping centers and malls all around Harris County provide a plethora of styles and products to satisfy your needs. You may find some by visiting USA Today's [10best.com](#).

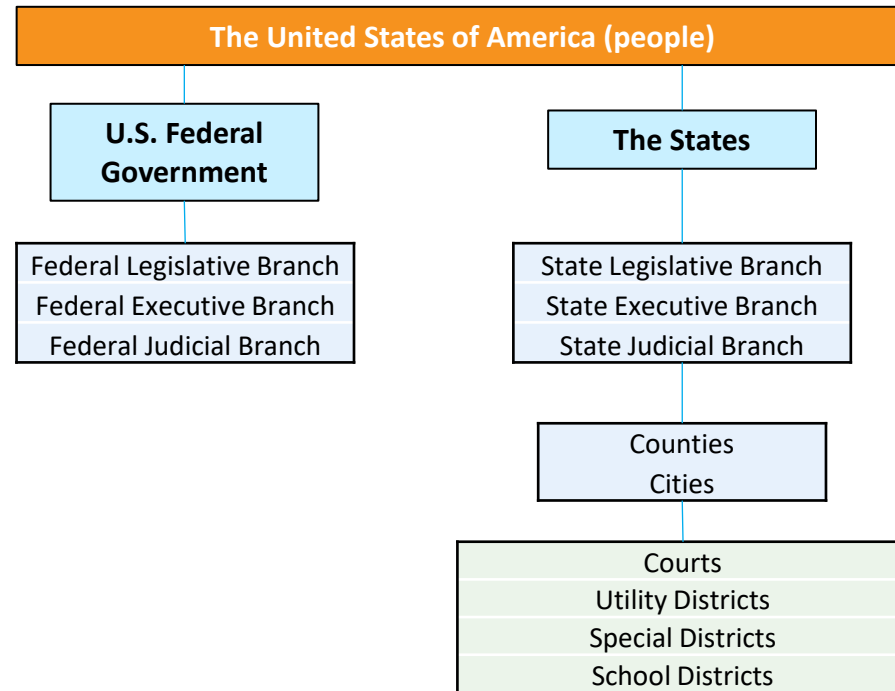
Whether you're looking for high-energy dance clubs or Texas honky-tonks, action-packed sports pubs or low-key wine bars, there's something for every taste by looking [visithouston.com](#).

Harris County Organizational Structure



Sources: [Harris County FY2024 Budget Book – Part I Resources and Requests](#)

United State of America Government Branches



Thank You

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