

WHO WE ARE

Census helps to define us

Hispanics make up 35.7 percent

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The population of San Angelo may not have grown greatly in the past decade, but the 10-year mirror the census holds up tells us we are nonetheless a different city in many ways.

Tom Green County is now home to 110,224 people, according to the 2010 census, and 93,200 of them live within the San Angelo city limits.

Half the people in Tom Green County under the age of 17 are Hispanic, according to the American Community Survey, and Hispanic people now make up 35.7 percent of the total population, according to the 2010 census figures released this month.

The black population in the county increased by 147 people, or 3 percent over the 10 years. People who declare themselves to be Native American, Asian, Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders also increased in number, enriching the diversity of the county.

So looking at a crowd anywhere in town, on average 88 of every 100 people you'd see were living in Tom Green County 10 years ago. Of those, 77 live in the same house as a year ago, and another 11 would have moved but stayed within the county.

SELECT CHANGES

Select changes in Tom Green County

	2000	2009	Percent change	Texas change	U.S. change
Population	104,010	106,643	2.53%	18.80%	9.10%
Median personal income	\$17,325	\$21,483	24.00	23.91	25.27
Persons living below poverty level	15.20%	16.30%	7.24	9.09	8.87
Households earning less than \$10,000	4,669	3,228	-30.86	-58.90	-126.95
Households earning more than \$100,000	2,300	4,810	109.13	58.90	35.79
Housing units	43,916	45,839	4.38	15.32	10.18
Vacant housing units	4,413	4,513	2.27	49.00	44.74
Home ownership rate	64.10%	67.00%	4.52	-2.56	4.86
Median Home value	\$63,600	\$83,300	30.97	44.12	55.02

	2000	2009	Pct Chg	2000	2009	Pct Chg
Household size	3	2	-1.98	Moved within county	N/A	11,787
Family size	3	3	-1.29	Moved within Texas	N/A	5,248
Married couple households	20,571	20,484	-0.42	Moved from outside Texas (US)	N/A	4,863
Single mother households	4,700	5,302	12.81	Moved from outside US	N/A	534
Householder living alone	10,750	11,614	8.04	Native born	N/A	100,035
Women 15-50 who gave birth in the last 12 mos	N/A	1,939		Born in territories or abroad to US parents	N/A	1,596
Unmarried women who gave birth	N/A	655		Foreign born	6,161	6,608
Population 3 yrs and over in school	29,720	28,295	-4.79	Citizen	2,825	2,729
HS graduate (25 and over)	18,129	19,370	6.85	Not a citizen	3,336	3,879
Some college	14,657	15,408	5.12	Language other than English spoken at home	25,756	24,902
Associate degree	3,208	4,487	39.87	Hispanic	31,946	36,561
Bachelors	8,935	10,174	13.87	Black	4,757	4,239
Graduate degree	3,436	4,024	17.11	American Indian or Alaskan Native	679	725
Veterans	11,208	10,080	-10.06	Asian	893	1,112
Living in same house as 1 year ago	N/A	82,484		Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	73	84
				White	82,246	87,855

Note: Because Hispanic crosses racial lines, demographic figures will not match total population
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey, 2000 Census

Five have arrived from other parts of Texas within the past year, another four from somewhere in the U.S. outside Texas, and you would have to find a crowd of at least 200 people to stand an average chance of running into one person who has moved here from somewhere outside the U.S. in

the last year. The odds of encountering one of the latter go up if you're visiting the campus of Angelo State University.

Some folks arrive here without moving: 1,939 children were born in the county during the year leading up to the ACS in 2009, about 1,000 higher than the number of deaths

for the year.

Income figures show that Tom Green County residents as a whole are somewhat better off now than they were at the turn of the century, with median individual income having increased 24 percent to \$21,483, the increase keeping pace with Texas and the nation as a whole



CYNTHIA ESPARZA/STANDARD-TIMES

Ambleside School of San Angelo elementary students walk along the Concho River as part of a field trip in which they learned about water and all its different functions as part of a program devised by the Upper Colorado River Authority. The river and water quality have become an intense focus of interest for the city over the past year.

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Ken Stewart, director of Community Development Initiatives for the Center for Community Wellness, Engagement and Development of San Angelo State University

but still significantly lower than the average, which for Texas is \$24,318 and for the U.S. is \$27,041.

In 2000, twice as many households in the county lived on less than \$10,000 annual income as lived on more than \$100,000. That position is now reversed — the number of households in extreme poverty declined by almost a third over the decade, and the number making more than \$100,000 per year has more than doubled.

“Fewer people are liv-

ing in severe poverty, but there are still many in poverty,” said Ken Stewart, director of Community Development Initiatives for the Center for Community Wellness, Engagement and Development of Angelo State University. The number of people living at or below the poverty line increased over the decade by 7.24 percent in the county, although that increase was less than the

See WHO, 10H

WHO from 3H

state or national average. Of every 100 Tom Green County residents, about 17 live in poverty.

The city's development arm and the chamber of commerce deserve credit, Stewart said, for some of the beneficial changes that occurred between censuses. "Early in the decade, there was some income equalization, with the working people catching up," he said. "Some of that was the result of changes in city and business leadership."

Stewart worries that even though some income indicators are encouraging, the increases in cost

of health and education — "these are the things you need to be successful" — are far outpacing the increases in income needed to pay for them.

The county's increase in housing stock was slight compared to the fervid jumps elsewhere, and median home prices increased by 31 percent, sober in comparison to the 44 percent state and 55 percent national averages. But one of the shocking statistics over the past 10 years, one that tells the tale of the housing collapse, lies in the increase in the number of vacant housing units, which across the country increased by 45 percent and in Texas by 49 percent — evidence of

widespread foreclosure — while in Tom Green County, the number increased by a mere 2.27 percent.

During the decade, the type of work done by the county's residents changed, with major shifts away from manufacturing and information, which lost about 1,500 jobs, to health, education, arts, recreation and hospitality, which gained about 3,000.

Still, the city needs to attract businesses that make and sell goods, Stewart said.

"The good wages and pay still come with manufacturing," he said. "We have the resources and the opportunities to draw businesses."