



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

United Way of Metropolitan Dallas (UWMD)—in conjunction with United Way of Collin County and Greater Lewisville United Way—publishes a larger Community Needs Assessment every three years as a way of identifying the most pressing health and human service needs in the community. The Community Needs Assessment is intended to be useful to a broad spectrum of leaders and organizations in addressing the health and human service needs of the Dallas metropolitan area.

United Way uses this data to help inform funding decisions to direct funding towards the highest priority needs. Other organizations—both public and private—can utilize the data to help inform their policy and program decisions. It also serves as a report to the community in general on the state of health and human service needs, and provides benchmarks from which to gauge progress. As such, this report can facilitate more community engagement around identifying and meeting the community's needs.

WHAT IS THE 2006 UPDATE?

The Community Needs Assessment is developed in three year cycles. Year one is a longer and more extensive report, with the other two years providing brief updates. United Way published the last Community Needs Assessment in 2005. This document in its entirety can be found online at www.unitedwaydallas.org/communityassessment.

The updated information contained in this report serves as a supplement to the 2005 Community Needs Assessment providing an opportunity to review current priorities and determine if they should be changed or modified.

A NOTE ON FORMAT

New this year to the Community Needs Assessment Update is the division of information into three new impact areas: Building Successful Youth and Families, Creating a Healthier Community and Increasing Self-Sufficiency. With these changes, this Community Needs Assessment Update is more comprehensive than in previous years as we transition into this new way of focusing on health and human service needs. Many of the indicators used remain the same as in previous years, while others have been modified or eliminated to provide a relevant and timely assessment of the needs in our community.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Increasing Self-Sufficiency – Linda Davis, Chair, Director of Workforce Development, North Central Texas Workforce Board
Building Healthier Communities – Janet Glowicz, Nurse Epidemiologist, Collin County Health Care Services
Building Successful Youth & Families – Jeannette LaFontaine, Chair, Victim's Service Supervisor, Irving Police Department

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THEMES AND TRENDS FROM 2005

Themes and trends identified in the 2005 Community Needs Assessment continue to shape our community and inform the delivery of health and human services. These themes include:

1. *A young Hispanic population*
2. *An aging Anglo population*
3. *Changing household composition*

Immigration (primarily from Mexico) in combination with higher than average birth rates among Latinos and the general aging of the nation have made North Texas a region with a young Latino population and an aging Anglo population. As the baby boom generation continues to age there will be an increasing demand for services for the elderly. Some of this population aging is mitigated by the growth of the Latino population, a group with higher birth rates and a younger age structure than the overall population. The relative youth of the Latino population translates into a growing demand for services related to education, childhood development and workforce development in order to ensure that this group has the opportunity to succeed.

The traditional nuclear family consisting of mother, father and children is no longer the majority in the North Texas area. Increasingly, households consist of couples with no children, unrelated individuals in one household, single parents and extended families occupying a single home. As household composition continues to change the mix of services and supports available will need to accommodate the growing diversity of our area.

TRENDS IN 2006

Updated data suggests several additional trends that also effect residents of Collin, Dallas, Denton and Rockwall counties. Three trends that stand out are:

POPULATION GROWTH: TWICE THE NATIONAL RATE

Explosive population of North Texas has continued to grow at a pace faster than the nation. Historically, growth at a very high rate continues; this growth is fueled by immigration, primarily from Hispanic countries, and in-migration from other regions in the United States. Partly as a result of immigration, much of the growth is young, with North Texas being much younger than the population of the nation as a whole and projected to remain so.

INCREASE IN FAMILIES WITH BARRIERS TO QUALITY OF LIFE

Despite economic growth, poverty continues to increase in the North Texas region. Many families are caught in a self-perpetuating cycle of factors which are both cause and result. Some of these factors are access to employment opportunities, educational attainment, health care and health outcomes and the ability to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.

WIDENING DISPERSION OF NEED

As has been the trend in recent years, poverty is no longer concentrated in inner city areas. There have always been pockets of poverty in suburban cities and rural areas. However, with the growth and increased mobility of the North Texas population, many concerns traditionally associated with cities have increased their prevalence in suburban areas. These emerging areas of need, coupled with the persistent and pressing needs of longtime suburban and rural residents, are changing the health and human services landscape of our region.

unless otherwise noted, area is the four county UWMMD service region.



POSITIVE TRENDS

DECREASING TEEN PREGNANCY RATES

Between 1998 and 2003, the teen pregnancy rate in the region decreased 23 percent.

DECREASE IN JUVENILE CRIME

Between 2000 and 2005, the rate of TYC (Texas Youth Commission) commitments decreased 12 percent.

INCREASED TAKS SCORES

Among the large ISDs in the North Texas Region, all ethnic groups have increased the percent who met standards in all grades, for all TAKS tests.

While the percentage of all students who met TAKS standards in all grades for all tests increased by 27.6 percent in the region since 2003, the percent of African Americans and Hispanics meeting standards on all tests, for all grades increased by 43 percent and 52 percent, respectively.

INCREASED PRE-KINDERGARTEN

In the large Independent School Districts (ISDs) in the North Texas Region, the rate of registered pre-kindergarten students per 1,000 students has increased from 2000 to 2005.

The Dallas Independent School District (ISD) had the highest rates each year, from 39 to 46 students per 1,000 students enrolled.

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MAJOR CONCERNS

HEALTH INSURANCE

The percent of people without insurance in Texas increased slightly in 2004—to 25.0 percent.

The percentage of persons without health insurance is higher for populations of color, especially for Hispanics. (51.4 percent of Hispanics in Texas were uninsured in 2004.)

INCREASING NEED FOR ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

There has been a 20 percent increase in total Adult Protective Services (APS) intakes, a nine percent increase in APS investigations and a three percent increase in validated APS investigations since 2001.

LIMITED ACCESS TO FOOD STAMPS

Throughout the region, fewer than half of those income-eligible for Food Stamps receive this form of food assistance. Rockwall County is the exception with, a little more than half of eligible residents receiving Food Stamps.

Collin- 35 percent, Dallas- 37 percent, Denton- 31 percent, Rockwall- 55 percent

THE CHANGING FACE OF HOMELESSNESS

Although the number of homeless individuals has decreased by three percent since 2005, for the first time women and children constitute a majority of the homeless population (53 percent).

INCREASED INCIDENCE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The number of initial intakes alleging abuse and neglect increased 76 percent between 1997 and 2005.

INCREASED EVICTIONS

The rate of evictions rose dramatically between 2000 and 2004 in each county with an overall increase of 58 percent. However, there were major differences in the rate of evictions among the counties.

INCREASING RATE OF POVERTY

Between 1999 and 2004 the percentage of the population in poverty increased 10 percent from 15.4 percent to 17 percent.

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COUNTY OVERVIEWS

COLLIN COUNTY

- Continued population growth and increased socioeconomic diversity
- Increased poverty
- Continued disparities between those with access to resources and those with barriers to success

DALLAS COUNTY

- Increasing poverty, especially for children and for female headed households with children under the age of 18
- Although major disparities remain among socioeconomic groups, educational outcomes are improving in Dallas County: high school attrition rates are decreasing while TAKS test score are increasing

DENTON COUNTY

- Continued growth and socioeconomic diversity similar to Collin County
- Decreasing poverty

ROCKWALL COUNTY

(Note: As Texas' smallest county, US Census data is not collected annually for Rockwall County. Similarly, with such a small population base, relatively small changes may have dramatic impacts)

- Rockwall County continues to be one of the nation's fastest growing counties



DEMOGRAPHICS

The United Way of Metropolitan Dallas' four county service region (Dallas, Collin, Denton and Rockwall) is an area rich in diversity. The needs of our community will continue to be affected by changing demographics such as race, income, educational attainment, age and household composition.

The North Texas region continues to grow and contains three of the states' fastest growing counties: Rockwall County which grew by 7.7 percent, Collin County with 4.9 percent growth and Denton County which grew 4.5 percent between 2004 and 2005. Nearly half of the growth in this area has been driven by four cities in the UWMD service area: Frisco has added 10,400 new residents, Dallas added 10,300, McKinney added 10,050 and Grand Prairie has added 8,300 new residents. Similarly, smaller cities and suburbs have experienced rapid growth. The Rockwall County cities of Fate and Royce City have grown 61 percent and 27 percent respectively. In Collin County the cities of Prosper (+1,150), Melissa (+600), Fairview (+1,250), Anna (+1,150), Celina (+600), and Murphy (+1,550) have each experienced at least a 15 percent increase in their population growth in the last year.

RACE/ETHNICITY

Throughout the region, Hispanic and Asian populations have continued to grow while the African-American population has remained relatively stable. The Anglo population has decreased as a proportion of the total population by six percent throughout the region. Projections from the State Demographer's Office suggest that Hispanics will be the largest demographic group in the region by the year 2040. Although the Asian population constitutes a relatively small proportion of the overall population, this group is among the fastest growing throughout the region and the nation and is projected to continue growing at a much faster rate than the nation as a whole.

DALLAS COUNTY

- Dallas county has the region's highest percentage of Latinos at 36 percent and the lowest percentage of Anglos (38 percent). Since 2000 the Anglo population has decreased while the Latino population continues to increase. The remainder of the population, primarily made up of African-Americans (20 percent) and Asian/Pacific Islanders (four percent) has remained relatively stable since 2000.

COLLIN COUNTY

- Like the region as a whole, Collin County has experienced a decline in the Anglo population (from 76 percent to 70 percent between 2000 and 2004) accompanied by an increase in the Latino population (from 10 percent to 12 percent within the same time frame). Similar increases have occurred within the African American (40 percent) and Asian (29 percent) populations. Of particular note is the growth and concentration of Asian populations in Collin County.

DENTON COUNTY

- Denton County has also experienced a decline in the Anglo population (from 76 percent to 71 percent between 2000 and 2004) coupled with increases in Latino (23 percent), African-American (20 percent) and Asian (25 percent) populations.

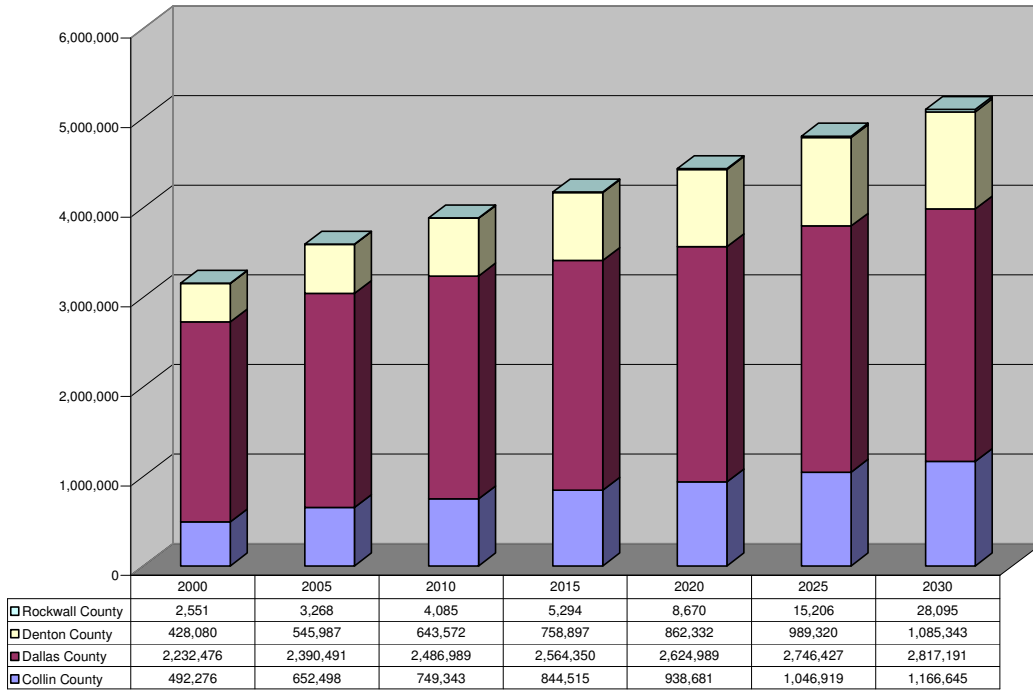
ROCKWALL COUNTY

- Updated Census information is not available for Rockwall County.

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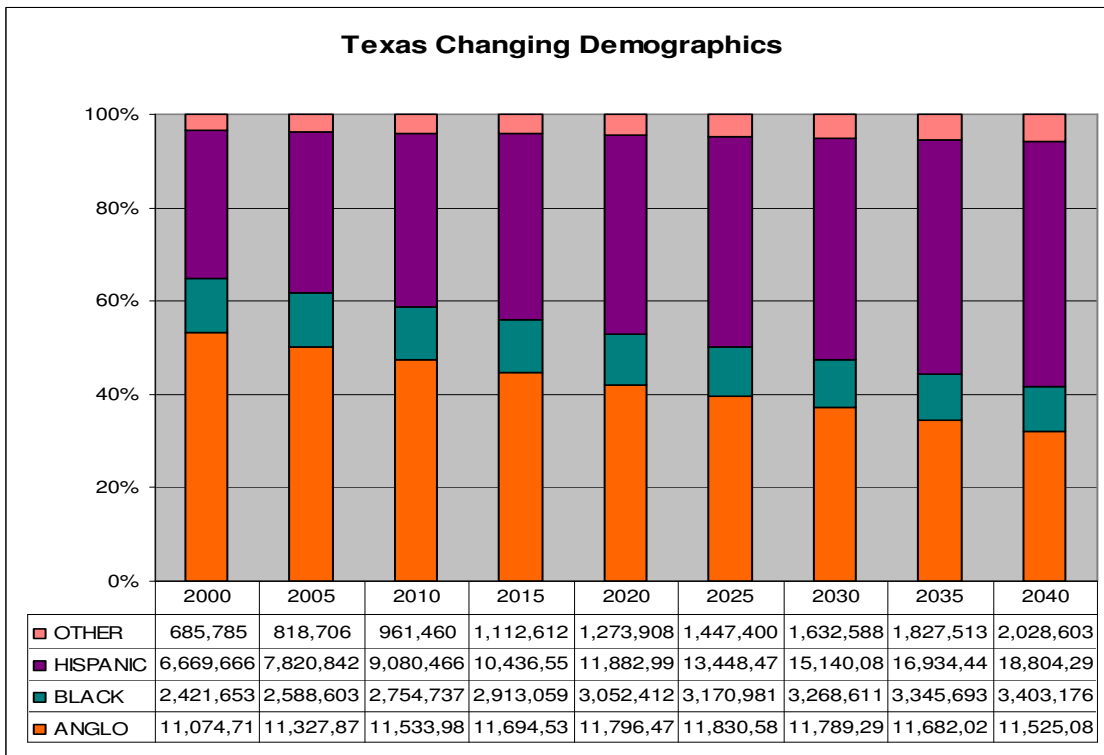


North Texas Population Projection 2000-2030



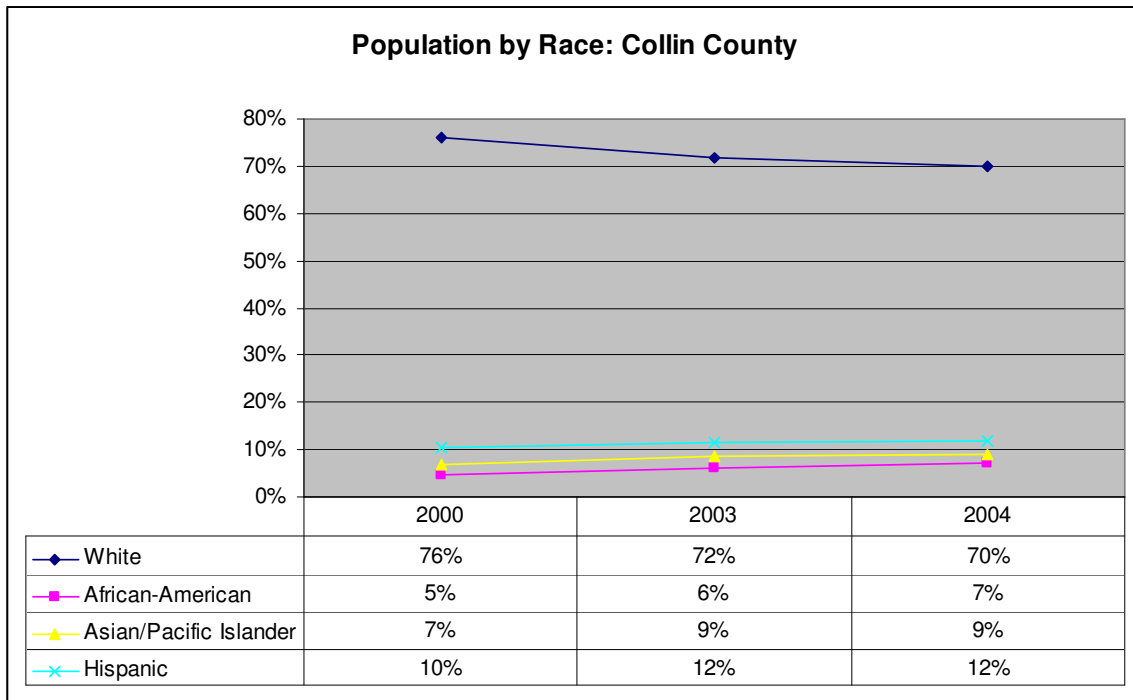
Source: Texas State Data Center, Office of the State Demographer

Texas Changing Demographics

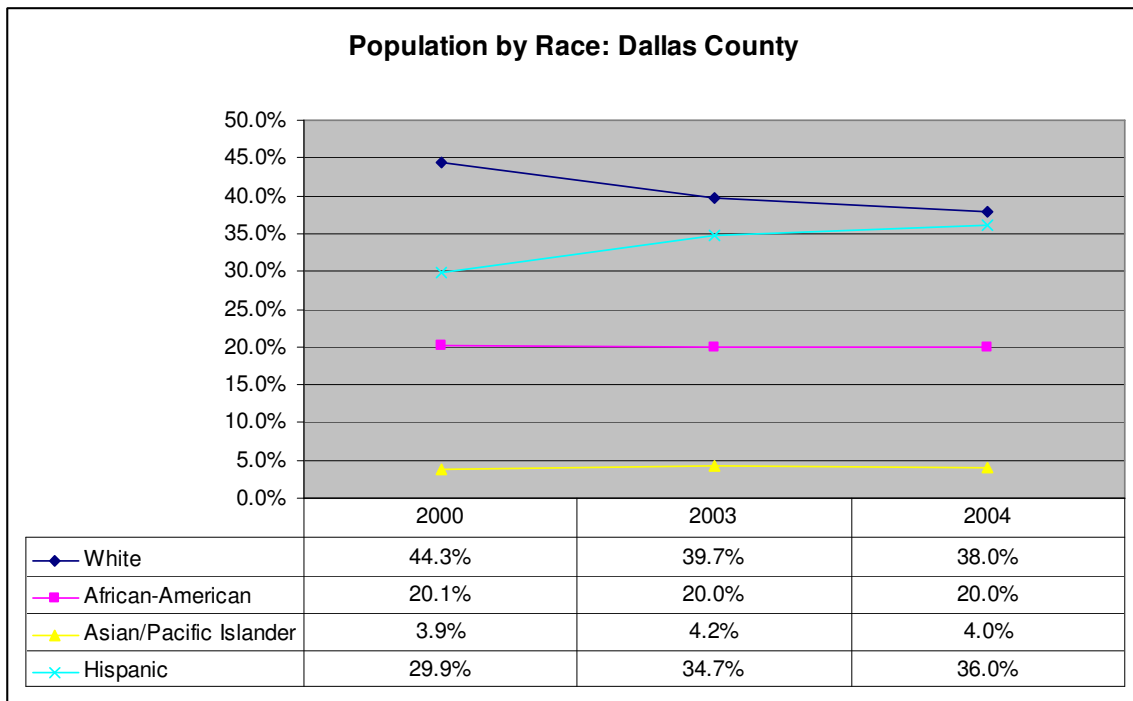


Source: Texas State Data Center, Office of the State Demographer



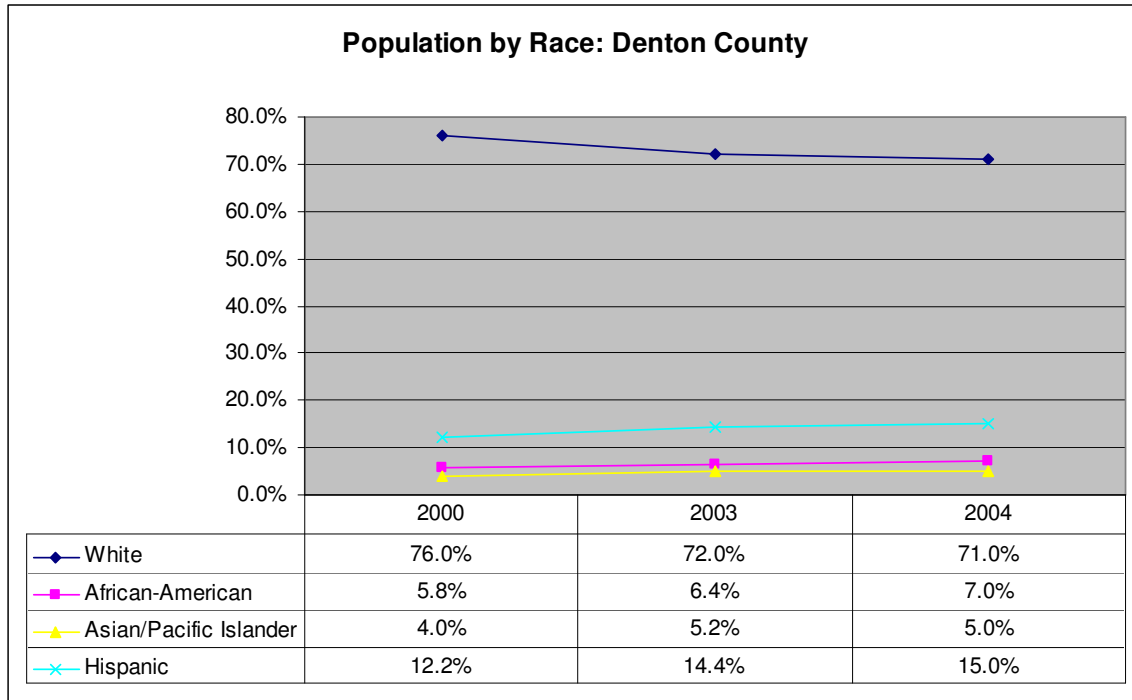


Source: US Census



Source: US Census

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Source: US Census





DEMOGRAPHICS

AGE

Young people under the age of 19 make up 30 percent of the population of Collin, Dallas and Denton counties. Throughout the region, the population between the ages of 20-44 has decreased as a proportion of the total population since 1990 while the population between the ages of 5-19 has increased. Similarly, there have been increases in the population over the age of 45. The largest population increase has been in children under the age of 19 in Dallas County.

The median age throughout the area is similar to the statewide median age of 32.9. Dallas and Denton counties have lower median ages than the state at 32.2 and 31.8 respectively, while Collin County’s median age is higher at 33.8. As the population between the ages of 20-44 continues to decrease, it is likely that the median age will decrease as well.

DALLAS COUNTY

- Dallas county has the highest percentages of children under five years of age (nine percent) and of seniors over the age of 65 (nine percent).

COLLIN COUNTY

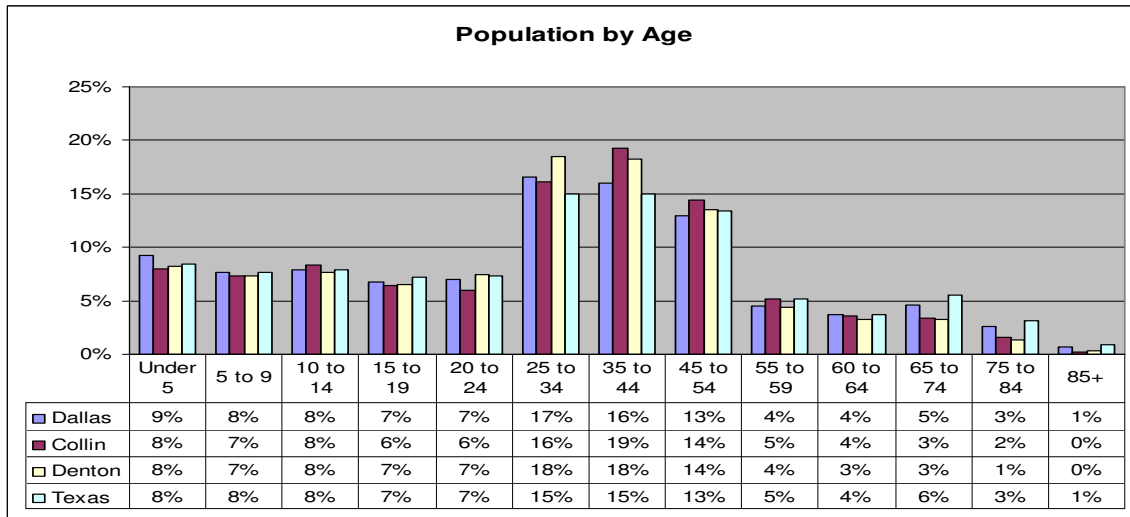
- The median age of Collin County residents is marginally higher than in the region at 33.8.

DENTON COUNTY

- Denton County has the lowest percentage of seniors over the age of 65 (four percent) and is the youngest county with a median age of 31.8.

ROCKWALL COUNTY

- Updated Census information is not available for Rockwall County.



Source: US Census

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DEMOGRAPHICS

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

As the number of households in the region has increased, households have become more diverse in their composition. Single parent families have increased in all counties, as have the number of nonfamily householders and householders living alone.

Throughout the region, poverty is highest in single female-headed households with children. Grandparents raising children also constitute a growing segment of local households.

DALLAS COUNTY

- Dallas has the region's highest percentages of female headed households (16 percent), and householders living alone (28 percent). Nearly half (41 percent) of female-headed households with children under the age of 5 in Dallas County are in poverty.

COLLIN COUNTY

- Collin County has the area's highest percentage of families with children under the age of 18 (41 percent).

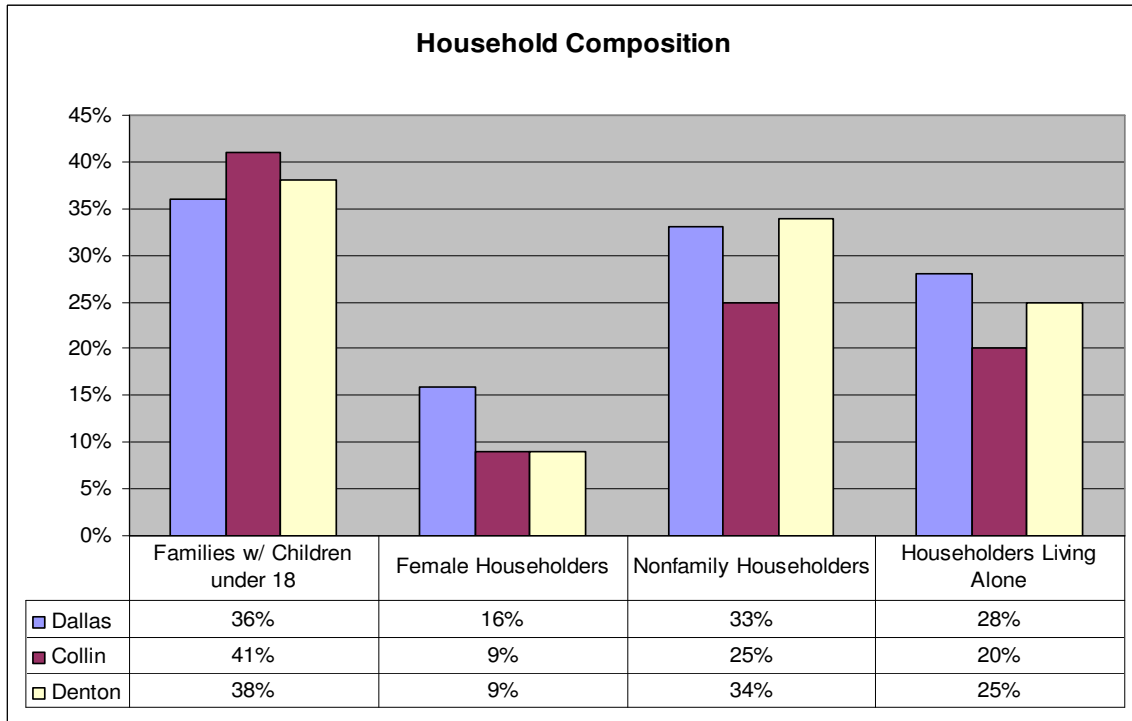
DENTON COUNTY

- Families with children under the age of 18 make up the largest portion of Denton County households at 38 percent.

ROCKWALL COUNTY

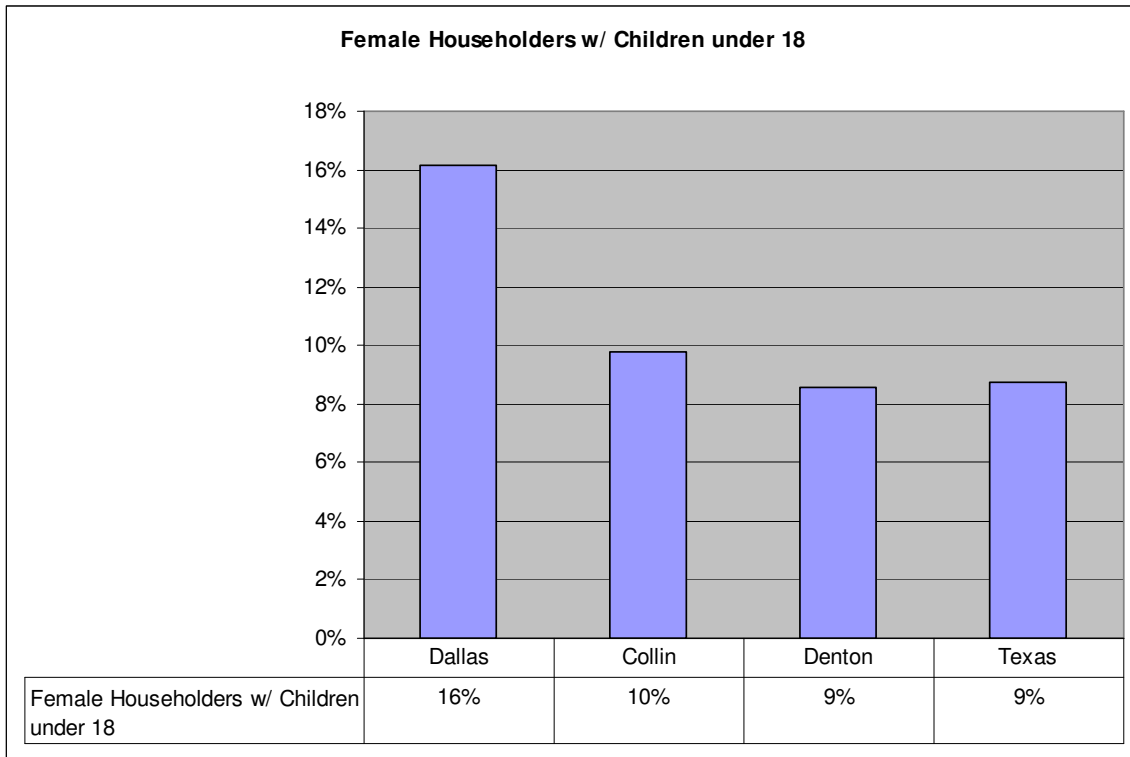
- Updated Census information is not available for Rockwall County.





Source: US Census

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Source: US Census



DEMOGRAPHICS

INCOME

Median household income is the amount which divides the county's income size distribution into two, half making more than that amount and half making less than that amount. Household income is the sum of money income received in the previous calendar year by all household members 15 years old and over, including household members not related to the householder, people living alone, and others in nonfamily households.

Per capita income is the number derived by dividing the total population of a geographic area by the income of everyone in that area 15 years or older. Note—income is not collected for people under 15 years old even though those people are included in the denominator of per capita income. This measure is rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

North Texas has higher per capita and median incomes than the state as a whole. Within the region, median and per capita incomes vary widely from county to county. Since 2000, median household income has fluctuated with decreases in 2001 and 2002 followed by increases in 2003 and 2004. Per capita income has increased throughout the region since 2004.

Current Federal Poverty Guidelines, which serve as the eligibility determinant for most Federal and local Health and Human Services programs, state that a family of four must have a gross annual income of less than \$20,000 per year to be considered in poverty. As the cost of living has increased the poverty line has continued to increase from \$18,850 in 2004, \$19,350 in 2005 to the most recent level of \$20,000.

Since 1990, poverty has increased in the more urbanized Dallas and Collin counties while decreasing in Denton and Rockwall counties, areas with a larger rural population. Poverty levels in the UWMD service region have traditionally been lower than in the rest of the state. Dallas County however, is an exception to this trend with poverty rates marginally higher than the statewide percentage in both 2003 and 2004.

In the state of Texas and Dallas County children under the age of 18 comprise the largest segment of those in poverty, however in Collin and Denton counties children are the smallest poverty population. Another group especially vulnerable to poverty is grandparents raising grandchildren. While poverty rates for senior citizens remain low (under 10% in all counties) the poverty rates for grandparents raising children remain high at 30.3% in Dallas County, 20.2% in Collin County and 5.1% in Denton County.

DALLAS COUNTY

- Dallas County has the area's lowest per capita income at \$23,978, an income level that is still higher than for the state as a whole
- Children under the age of 18 make up the bulk of the poverty population in Dallas county with 28.2 percent of children under the age of five and 22.3 percent of children under 18 live in poverty.

COLLIN COUNTY

- Poverty in Collin County is highest among senior citizens (9.1 percent) and lowest among children under the age of five (2.7 percent). While poverty remains lower in Collin County than statewide and in Dallas County, the percentage of Collin County residents in poverty has increased each year since 2000 and is currently higher (6.3 percent) than in 1990 (5.8 percent).

DENTON COUNTY

- Denton County has the lowest levels of poverty among senior citizens aged 65+ (six percent). Unlike in the other counties, poverty has consistently decreased in Denton county from a high of 8.2 percent in 1990 to its current level of 6.8 percent.

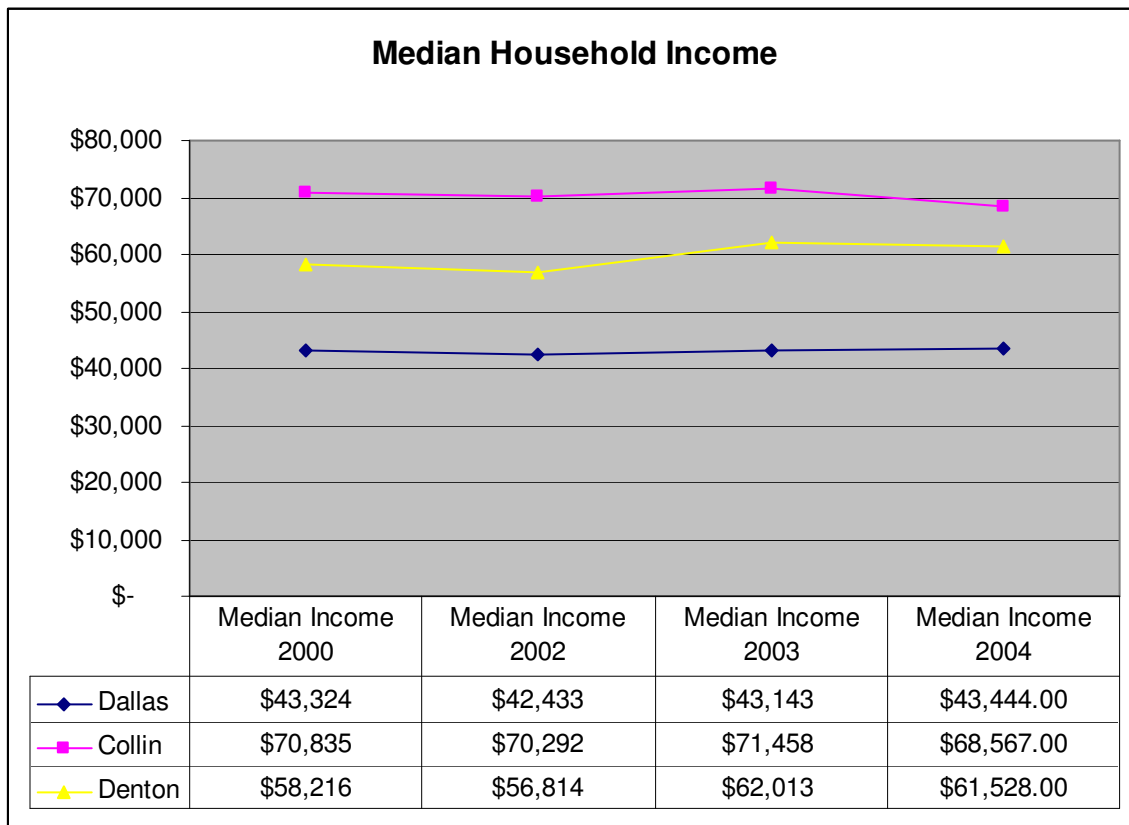
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2006 HHS * Poverty Guidelines

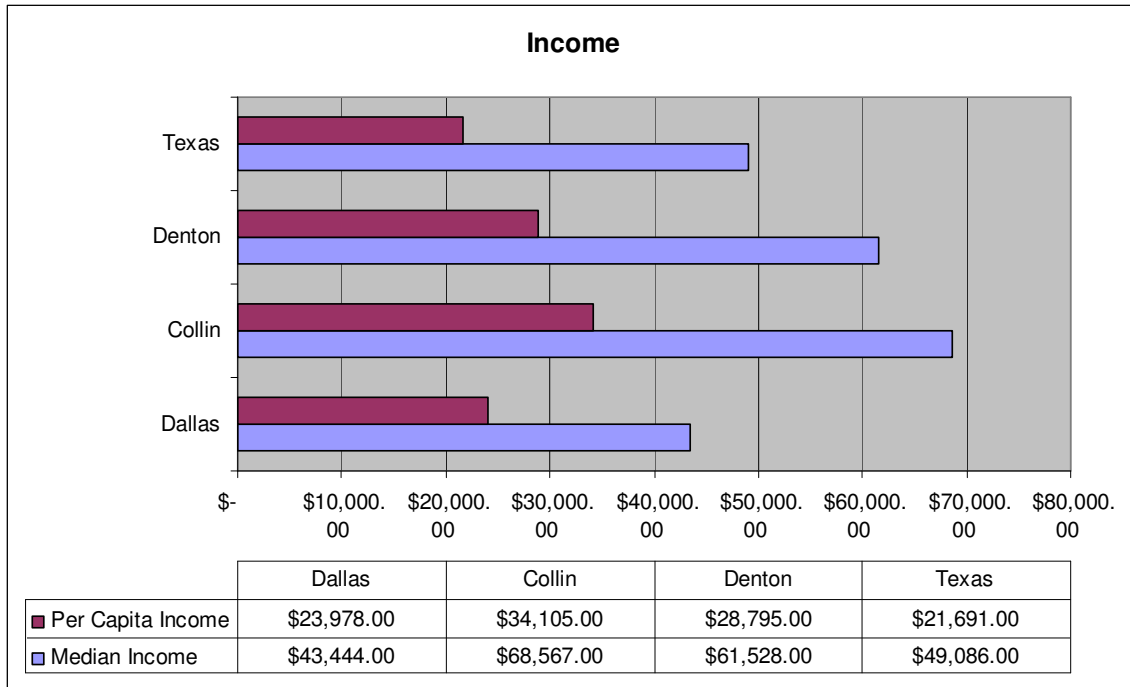
Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$ 9,800	\$12,250	\$11,270
2	13,200	16,500	15,180
3	16,600	20,750	19,090
4	20,000	25,000	23,000
5	23,400	29,250	26,910
6	26,800	33,500	30,820
7	30,200	37,750	34,730
8	33,600	42,000	38,640
For each additional person, add	3,400	4,250	3,910

SOURCE: *Federal Register*, Vol. 71, No. 15, January 24, 2006, pp. 3848-3849

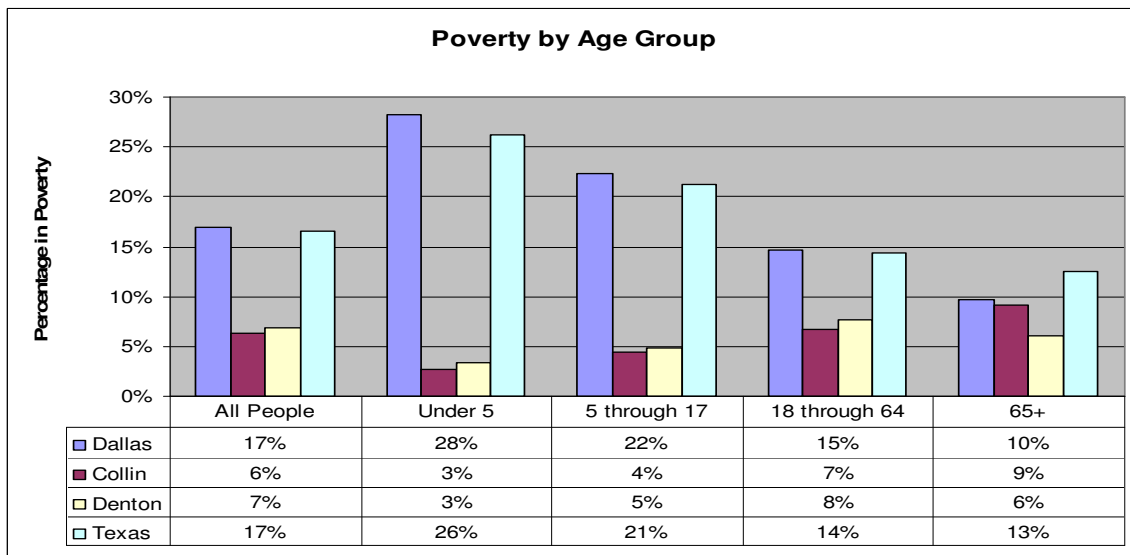
*HHS – Health and Human Services



Source: US Census

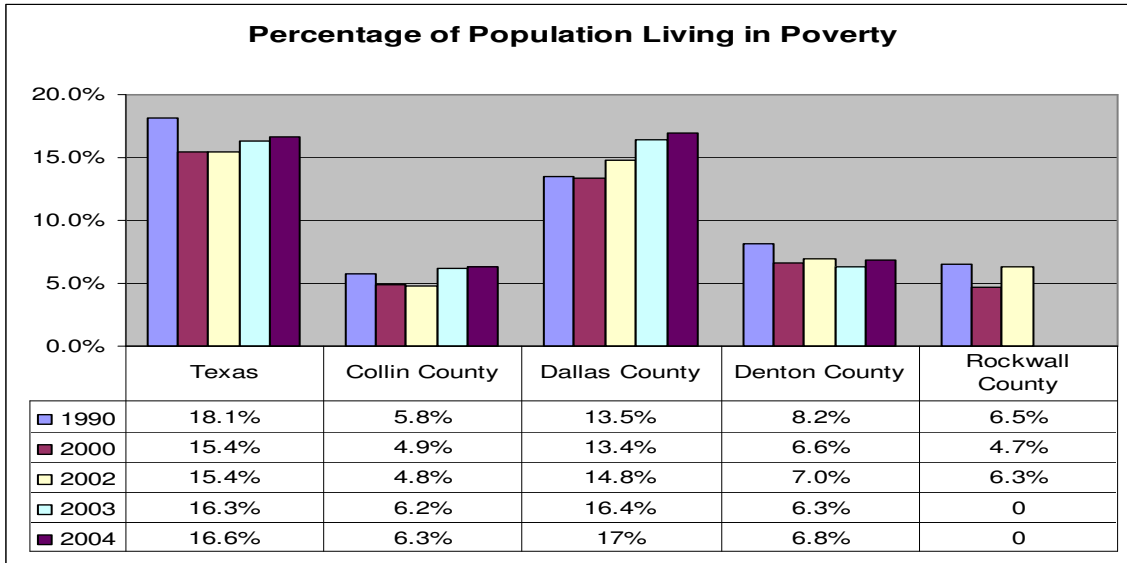


Source: US Census

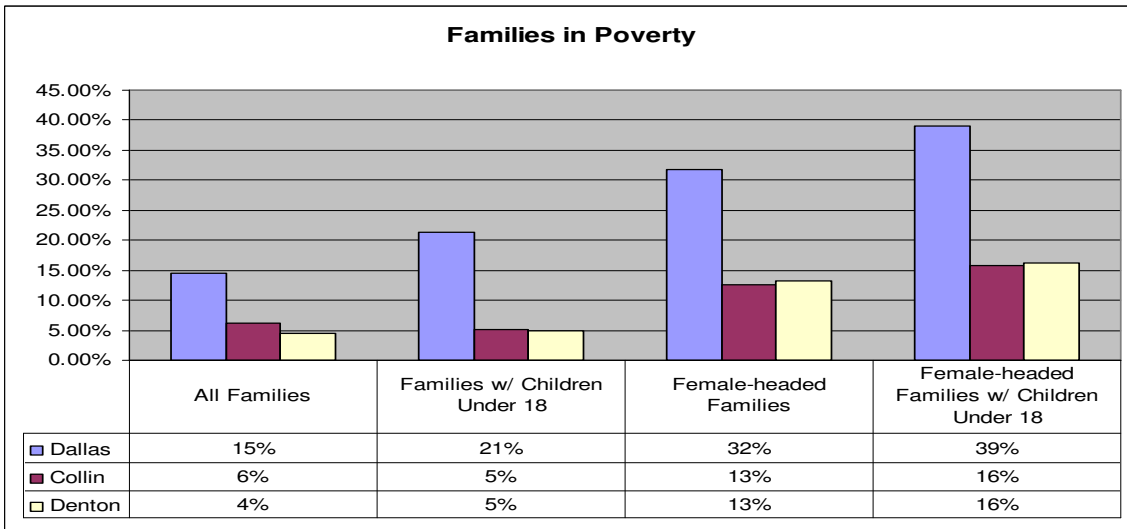


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Source: US Census



Source: US Census



DEMOGRAPHICS

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Like income, educational levels vary throughout the region. Since 1990, high school graduation rates have increased in all counties. Educational attainment levels have increased in all categories since 1990. For both graduation rates and achievement levels, there continue to be great disparities in terms of racial and ethnic groups.

DALLAS COUNTY

- Dallas County has the region's highest percentage of residents without a High School diploma with 11 percent completing less than 9th grade and 12 percent completing less than 12th grade.
- Although Dallas County has a lower percentage of those over the age of 25 with at least a high school diploma (23 percent) than the state as a whole, the county as has a higher percentage of residents with a college degree (29 percent) than the state as a whole.

COLLIN COUNTY

- Collin County has the region's largest percentages of residents with Bachelor's and Graduate/Professional degrees, 32 percent and 16 percent, respectively- more than half of Collin County residents over the age of 25 have completed some type of post-secondary education (55 percent).

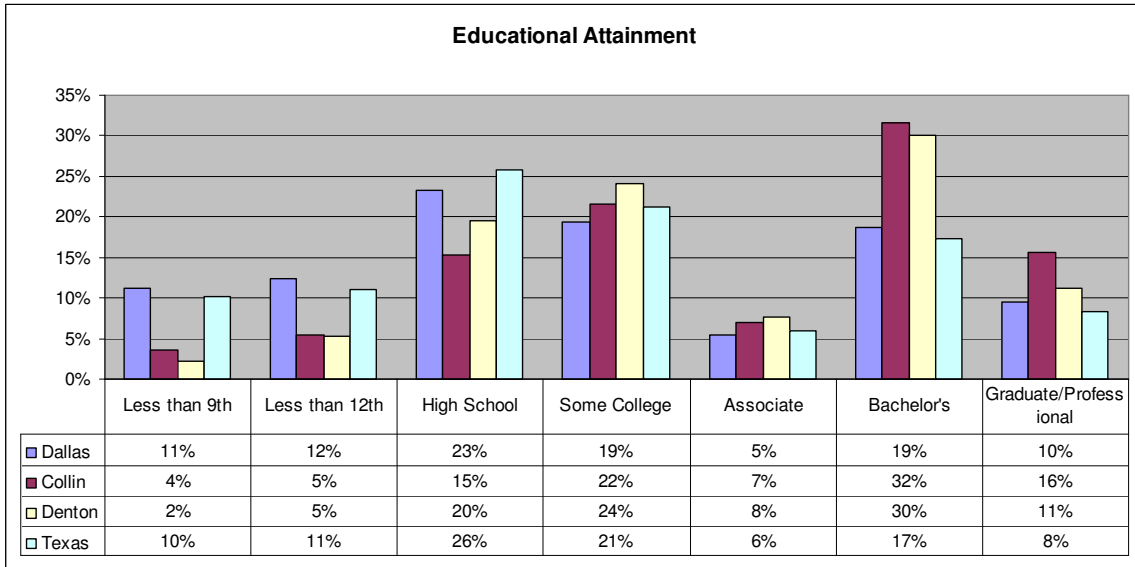
DENTON COUNTY

- Denton County nearly mirrors Collin County in educational attainment levels and has the lowest percentage of residents with less than 9th grade education (two percent). This area has the highest percentage of residents with some college (24 percent).

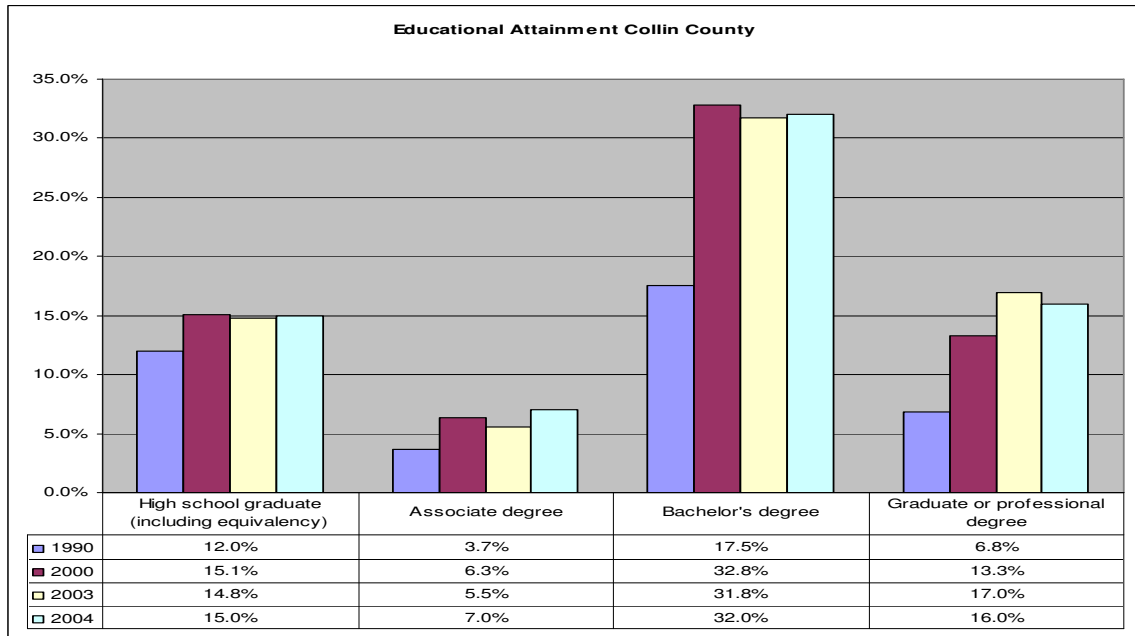
ROCKWALL COUNTY

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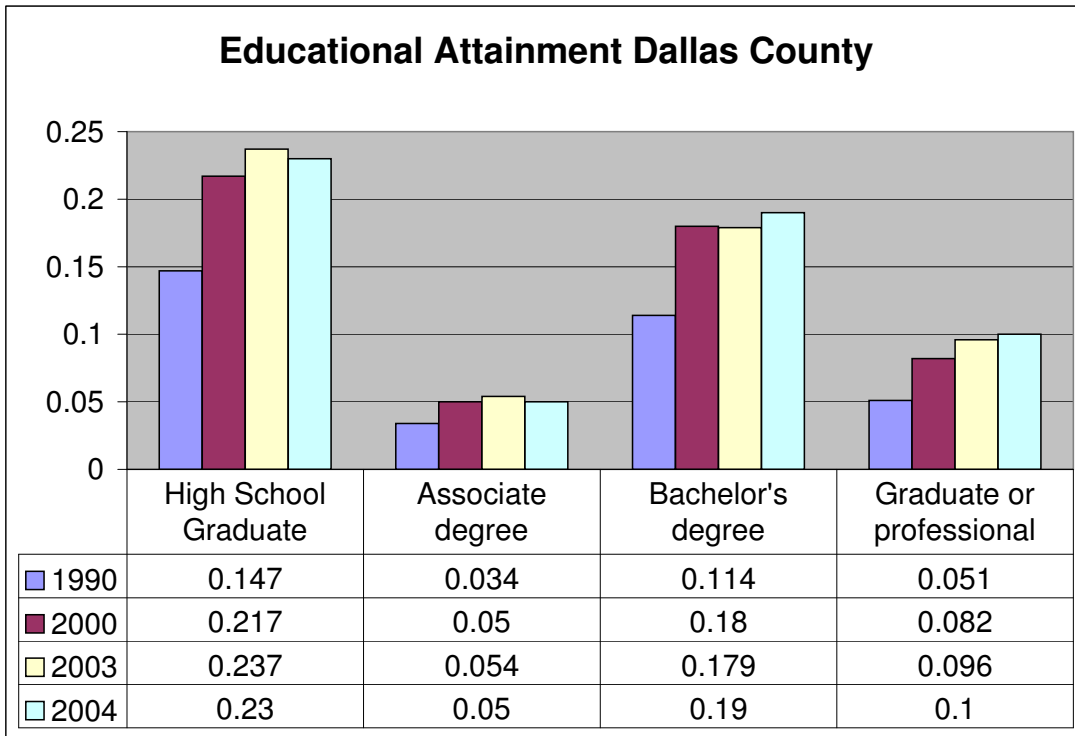


Source: US Census

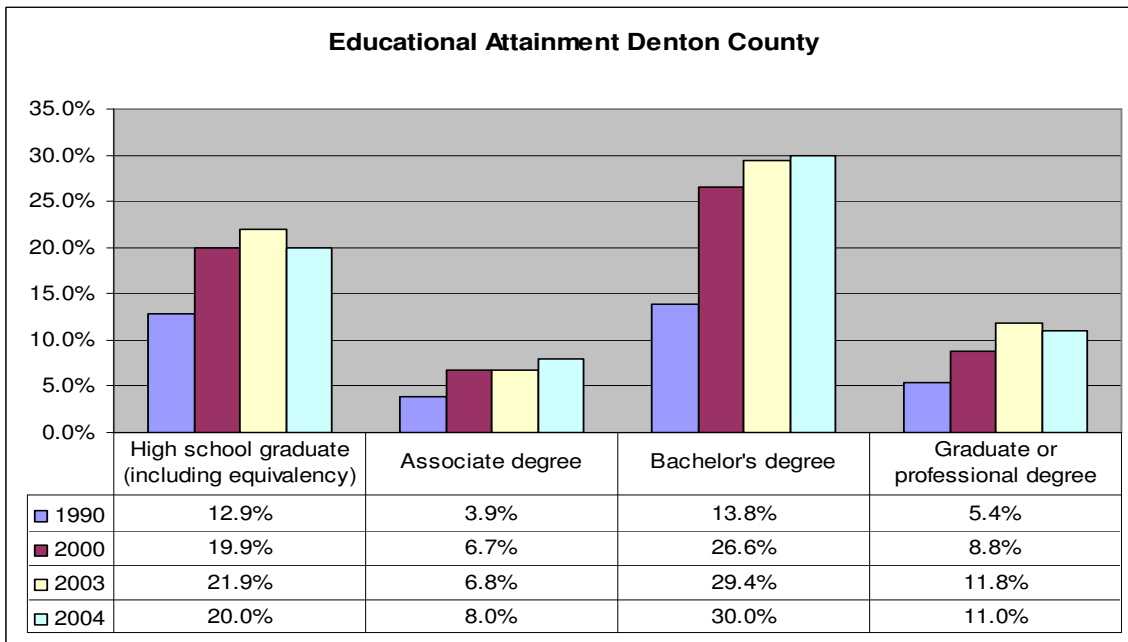


Source: US Census





Source: US Census



Source: US Census

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DEMOGRAPHICS

FOREIGN BORN POPULATION

Throughout the region the foreign born population has increased since 1990. Dallas County leads the area in the number and percentage of residents who are foreign born, while Denton County has the lowest percentage of foreign born residents. Of the foreign born population, the majority of residents are from Latin American countries, followed by Asia, Europe and Africa. The region of birth make up of Dallas County is similar to that of the state as a whole, while Collin County differs by having a larger proportion of Asian than Latin American residents.

English proficiency varies widely across the region with a significantly higher percentage of Dallas County residents (19 percent) reporting the ability to speak English as less than “very well” compared to nine percent and six percent of Collin and Denton residents reporting the same.

DALLAS COUNTY

- Nineteen percent of Dallas County residents do not speak English “very well,” the largest percentage in the UWMD service region.

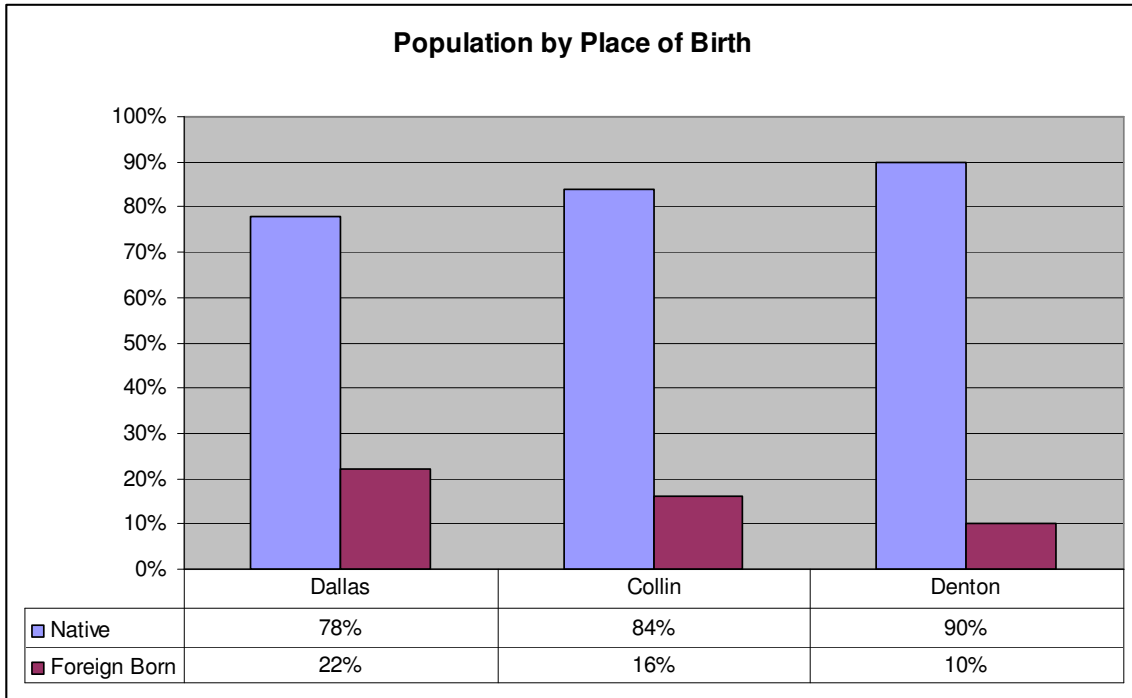
COLLIN COUNTY

- Nearly 16 percent of the population of Collin County is foreign born. Nine percent of Collin County residents speak English less than well.

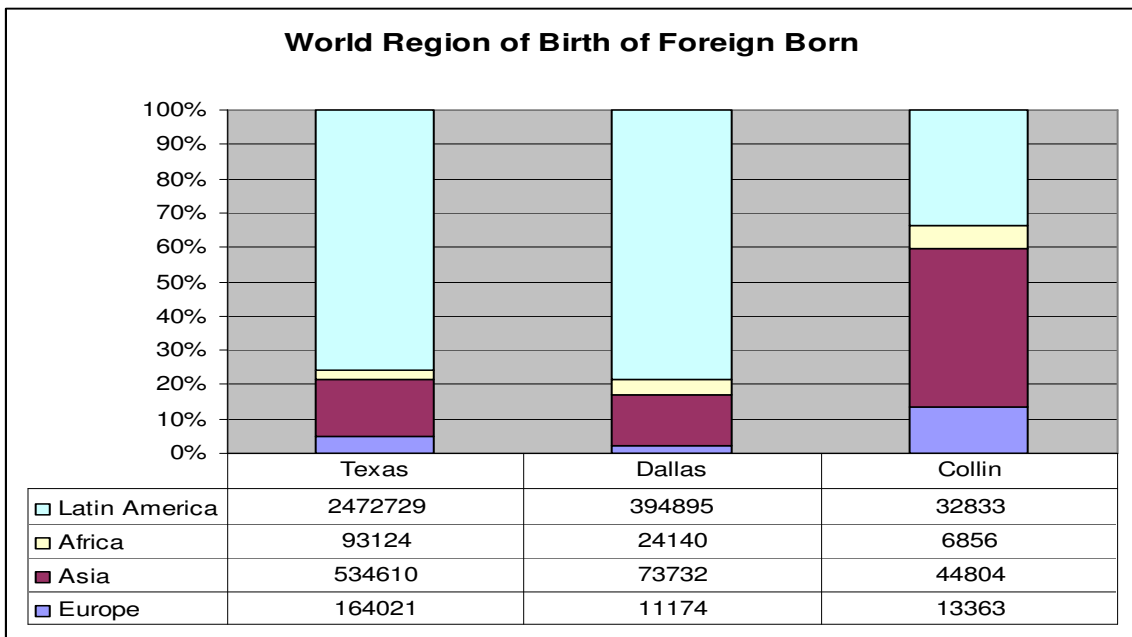
DENTON COUNTY

- Denton County has the lowest percentages of residents who speak a language other than English (17 percent) and who speak English less than very well (six percent).





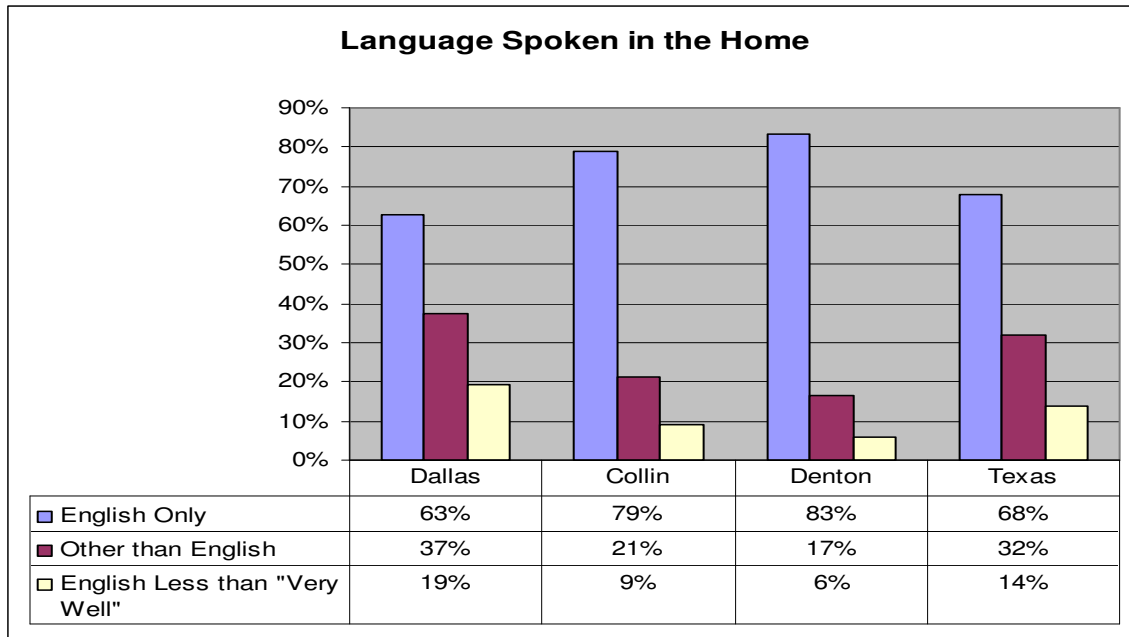
Source: US Census



Source: US Census

Region of birth information not collected for Denton or Rockwall

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Source: US Census

