

# AUSTIN TODAY: A GROWING, CHANGING CITY

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**Sam Tedford**

City of Austin, Planning and Zoning Department

September 24, 2018

Library Commission

# Outline

- A City in a Region
- Diversification
- Economic Growth
- Suburbanization and Sprawl
- Segregation and Stratification
- Housing Trends
- Looking Ahead



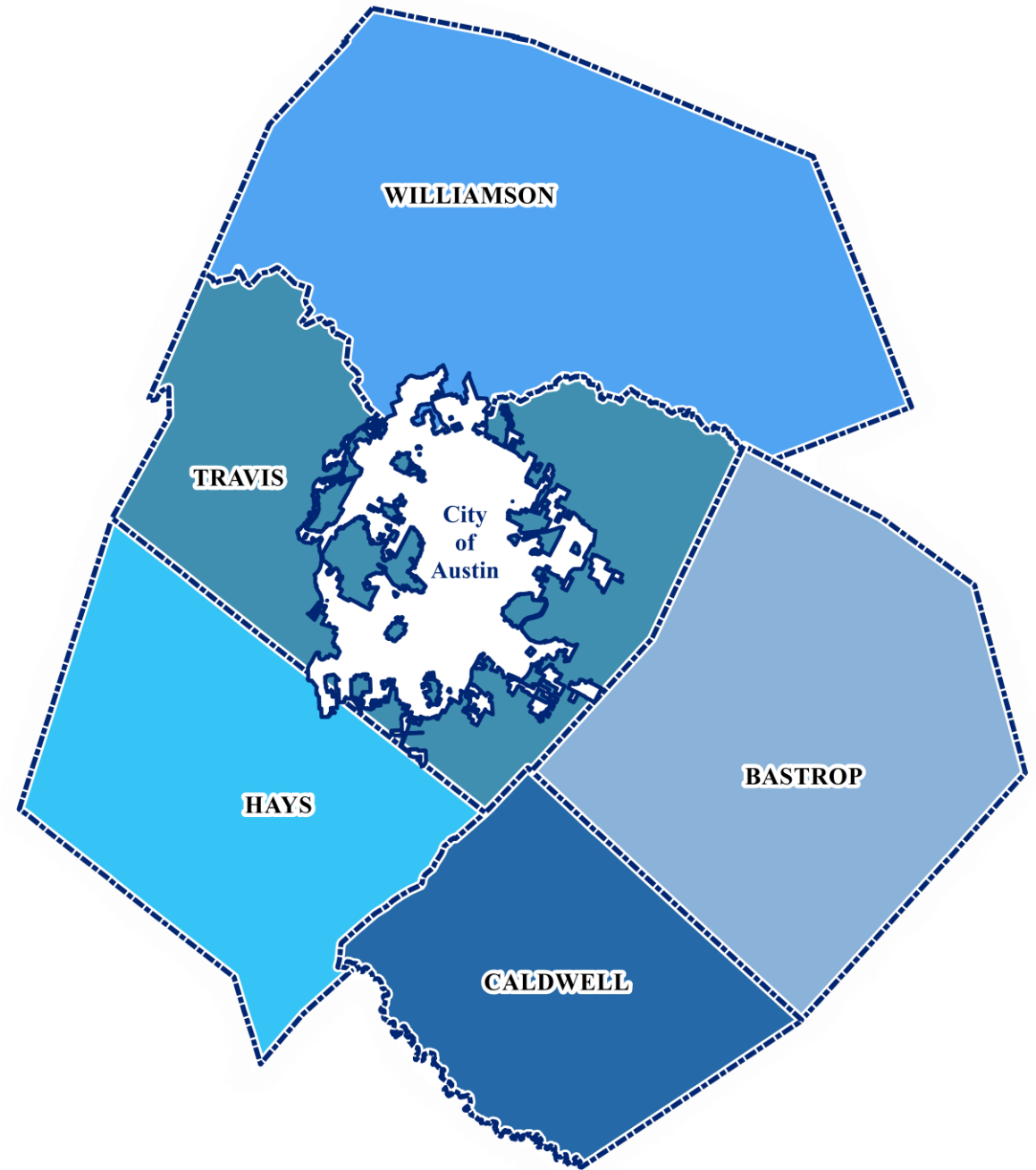
# Austin in Context

11<sup>th</sup> Largest City in the United States

One of the Fastest Growing  
Metro Areas in the Country

**Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan  
Statistical Area**

- Travis County
- Williamson County
- Hays County
- Caldwell County
- Bastrop County

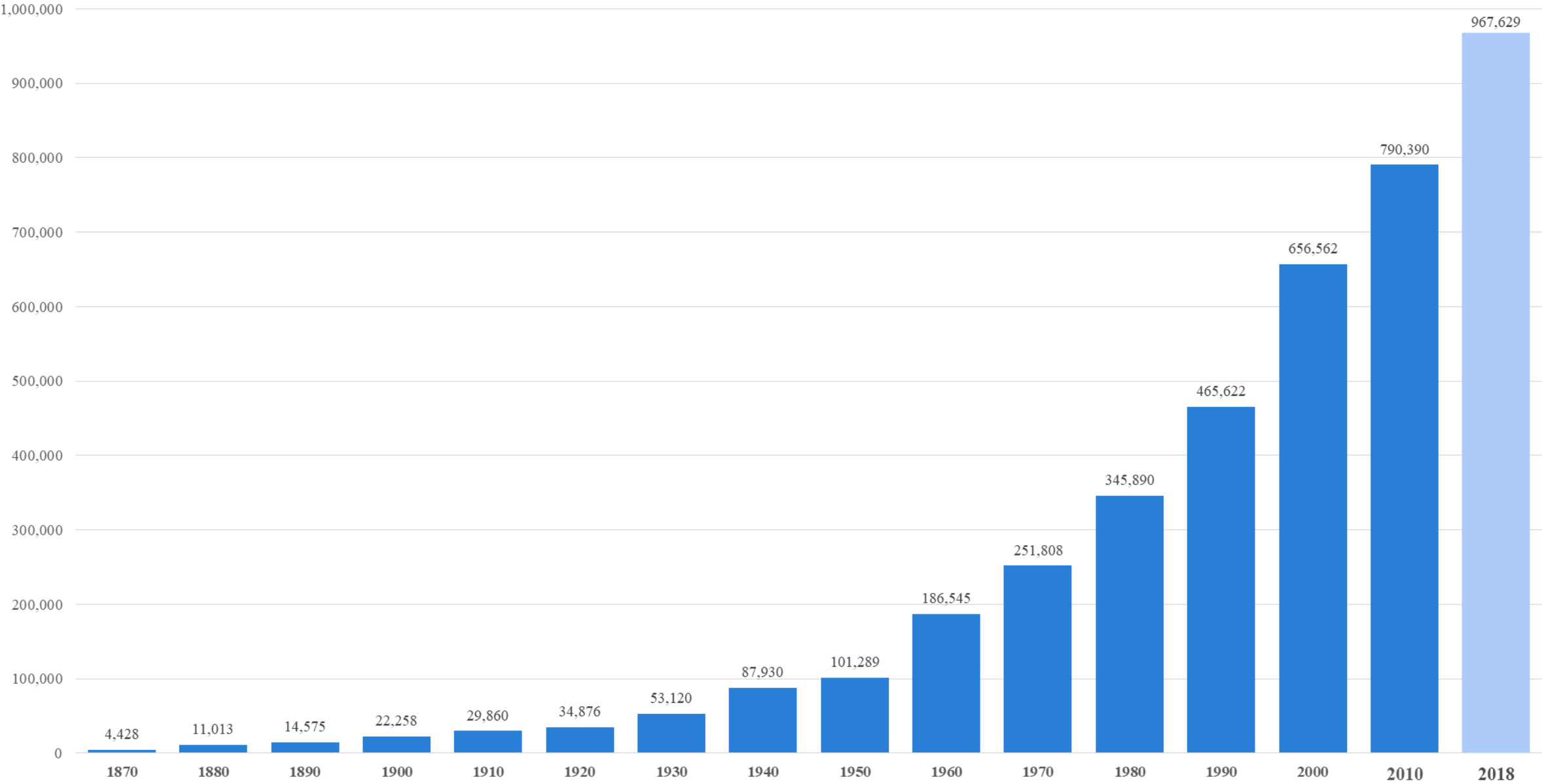


# POPULATION GROWTH

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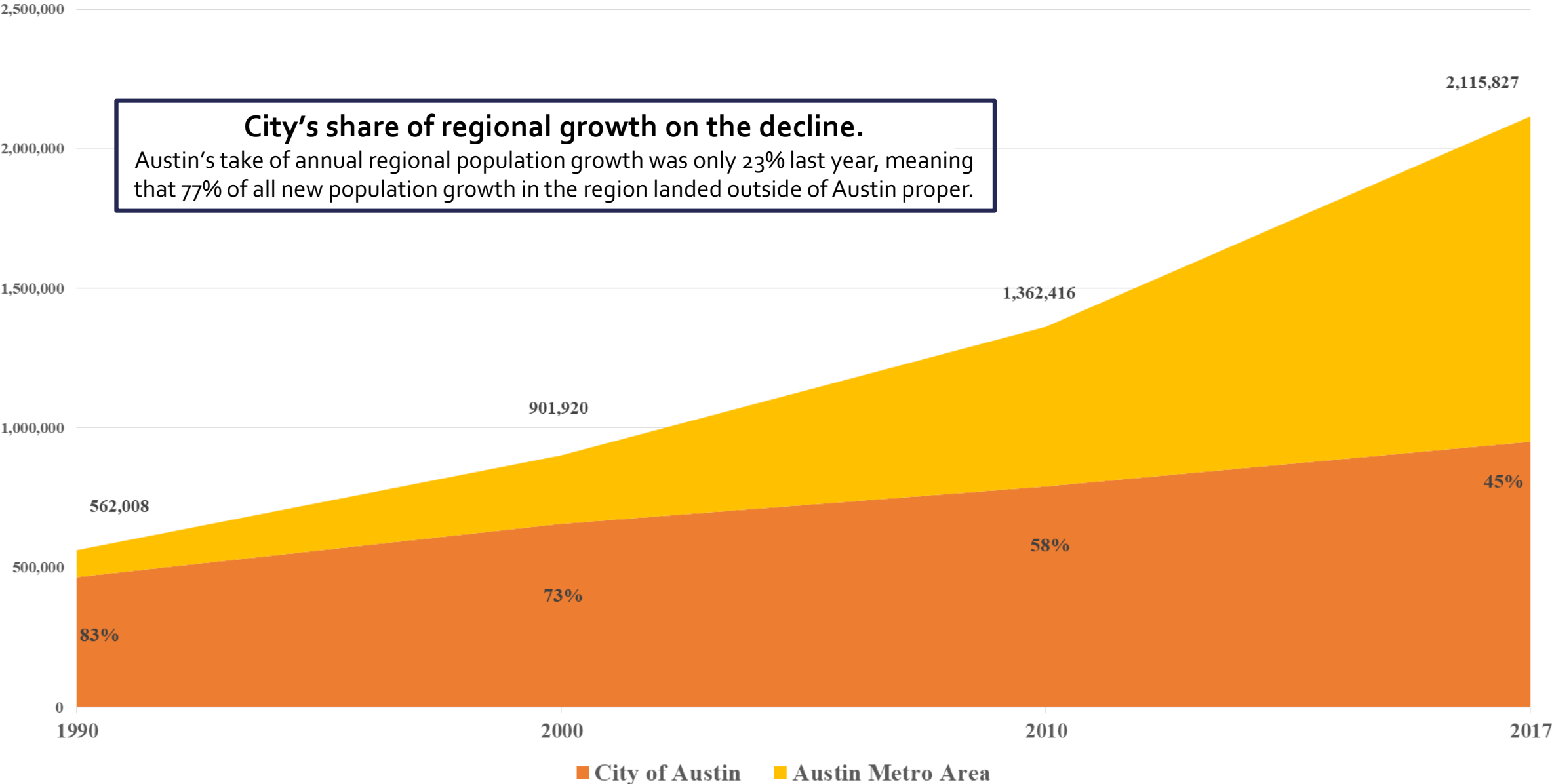
*Rapid Population Growth and a Declining Share of Regional Growth*

# City of Austin Population Growth 1870 to 2018



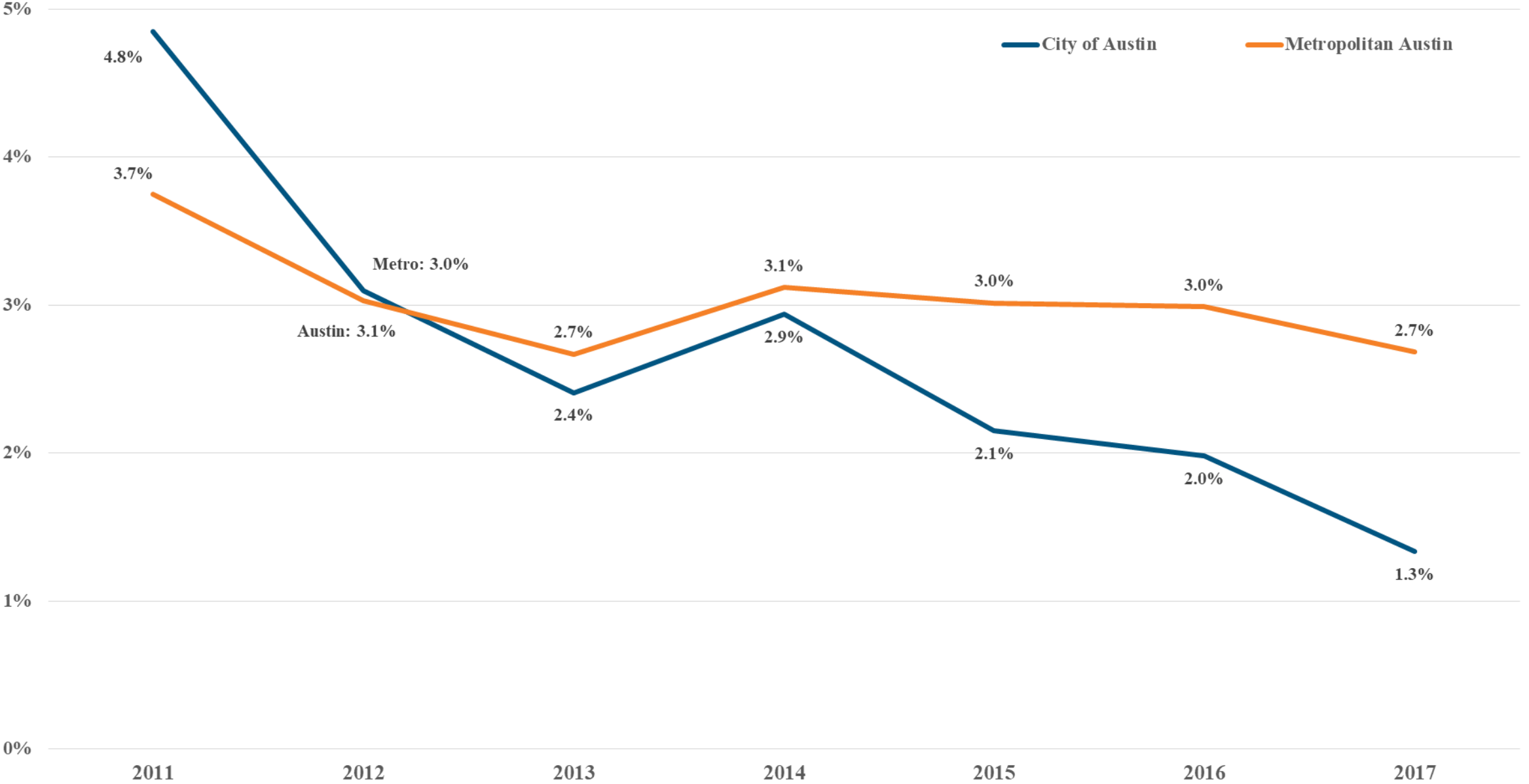
Data Source: Ryan Robinson, Population Histories and Forecasts 2018

# Austin Metro Population Share 1990 to 2017



Data Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial Census Total Population, 2017 American Community Survey Population Estimate

# Austin Area Annual Population Growth Rates



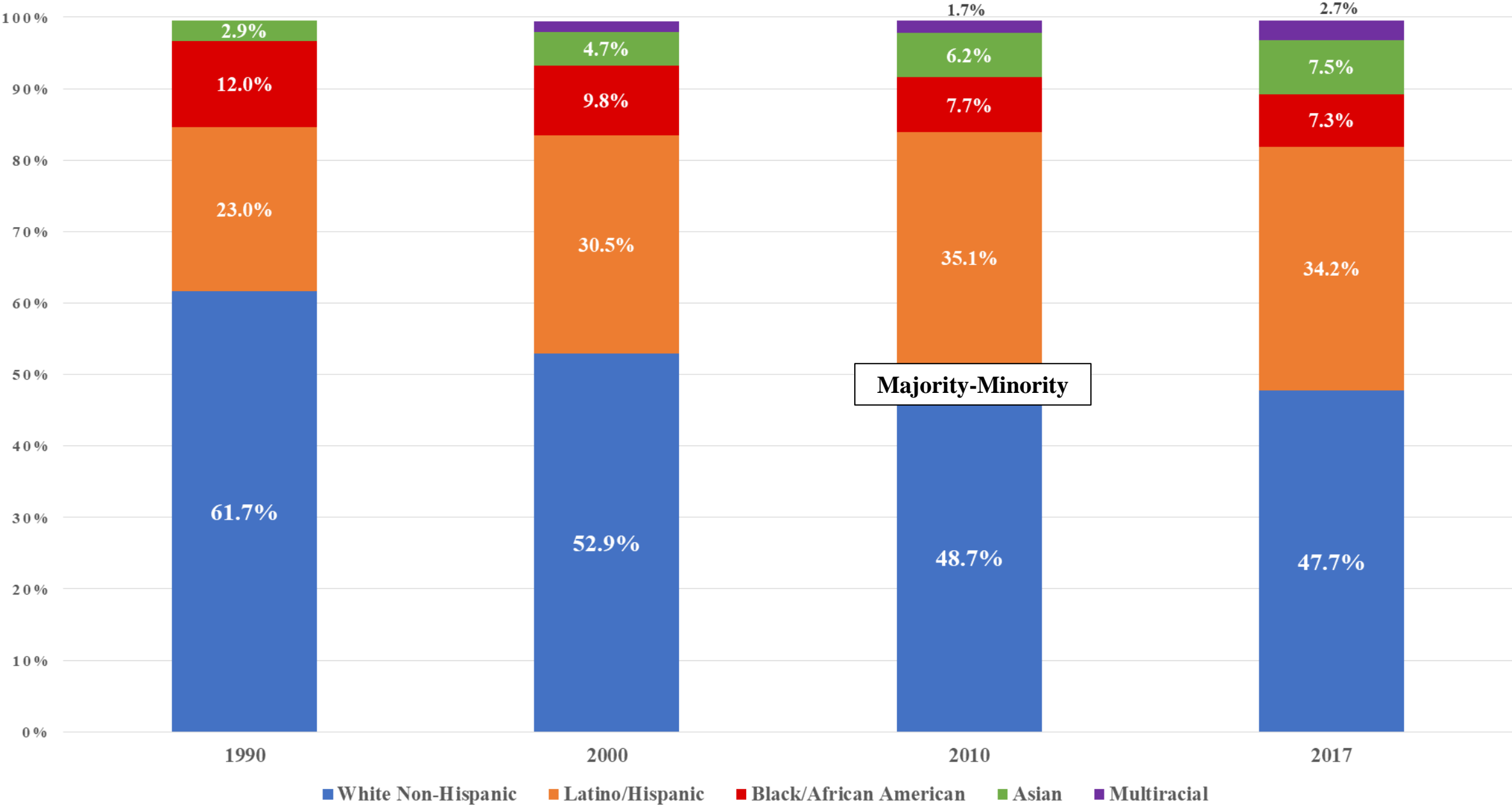
Data Source: US Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population

# DIVERSIFICATION

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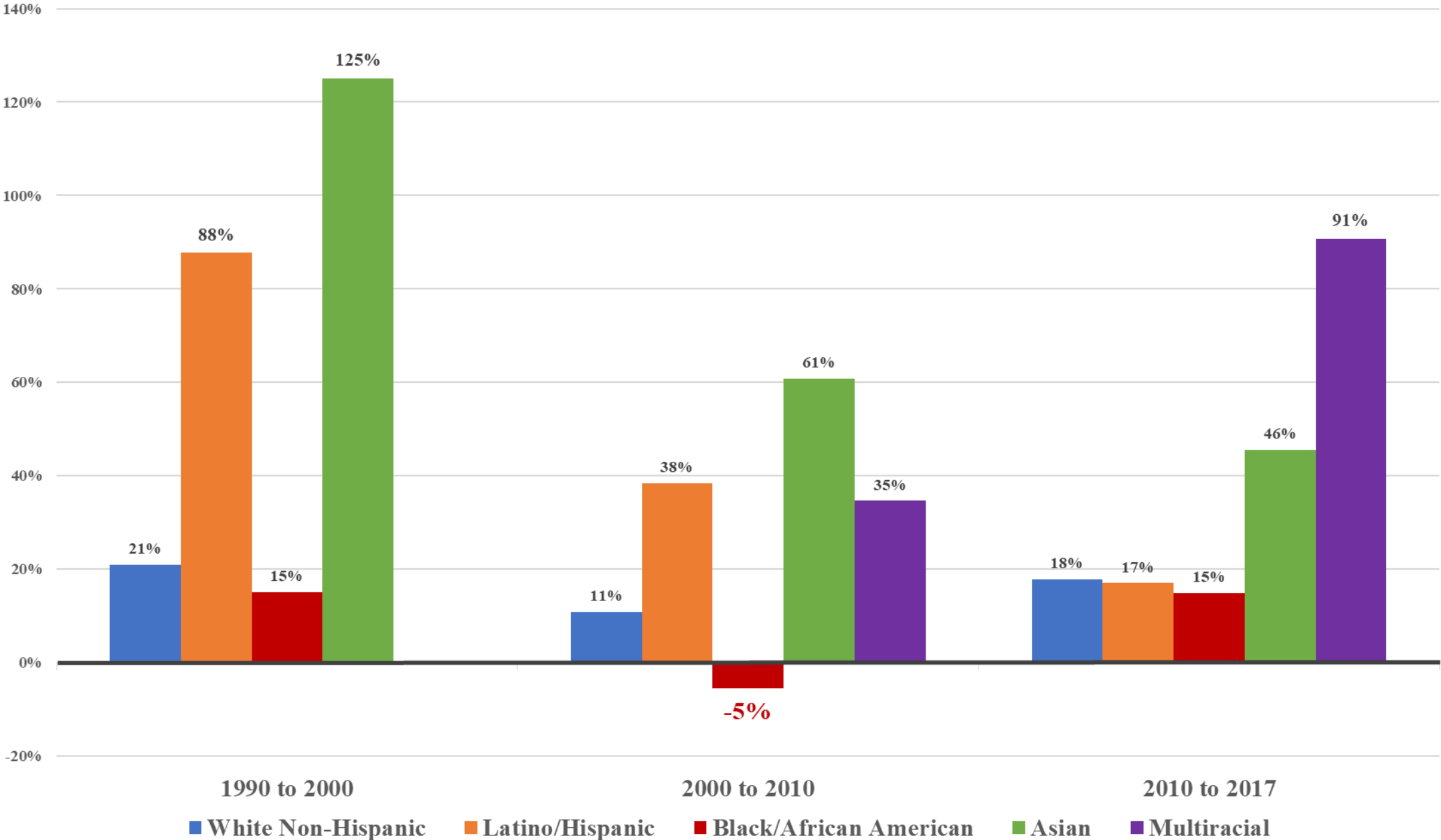
*Profound Racial and Ethnic Diversification*

Austin Racial and Ethnic Composition 1990 to 2017



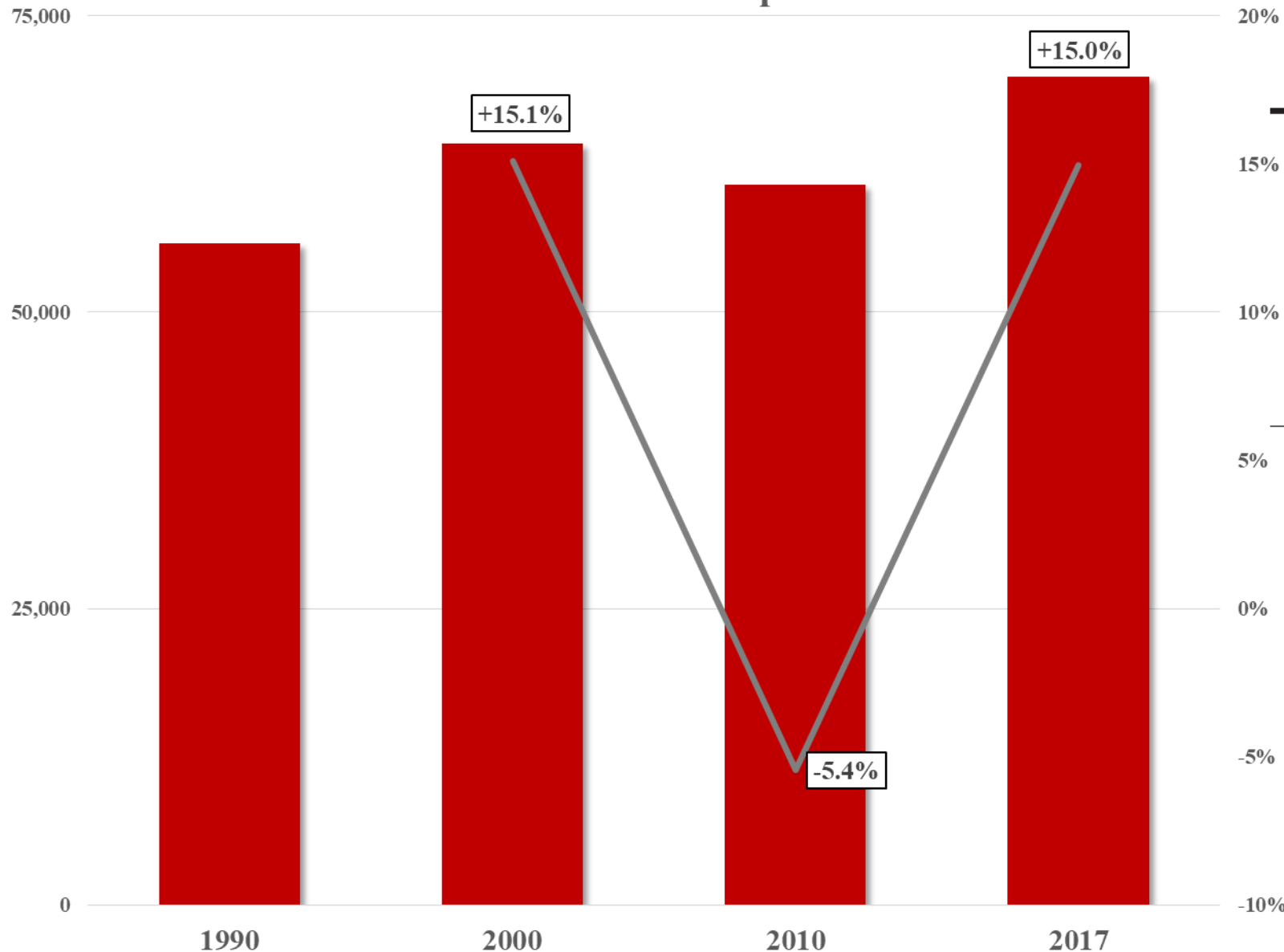
Data Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial Census Total Population, 2017 American Community Survey Population Estimate

# Racial and Ethnic Group Population Percent Change 1990 to 2017



Data Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial Census Total Population, 2017 American Community Survey Population Estimate

## Austin African American Population 1990 to 2017



### THOSE WHO LEFT Austin's Declining African American Population

AUTHORS: Eric Tang, Ph.D., associate professor, faculty fellow at Institute for Urban Policy Research and Analysis and Division of Diversity and Community Engagement; Bisola Falola, M.A., Ph.D. candidate, Department of Geography and the Environment

CONTRIBUTORS: Chelsi West Ohueri, M.A., Ph.D. candidate, Department of Anthropology; Omi Osun Joni L. Jones, Ph.D., professor, African and African Diaspora Studies

Despite being one of the fastest growing cities in the United States, Austin's African American population has been in steady decline for nearly two decades. The discrepancy between Austin's huge population growth and its decline in African American residents is greater than that of any other fast-growing major city in the U.S. Why are they leaving and where are they going?

### LEAVING HOME: AUSTIN'S DECLINING AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION

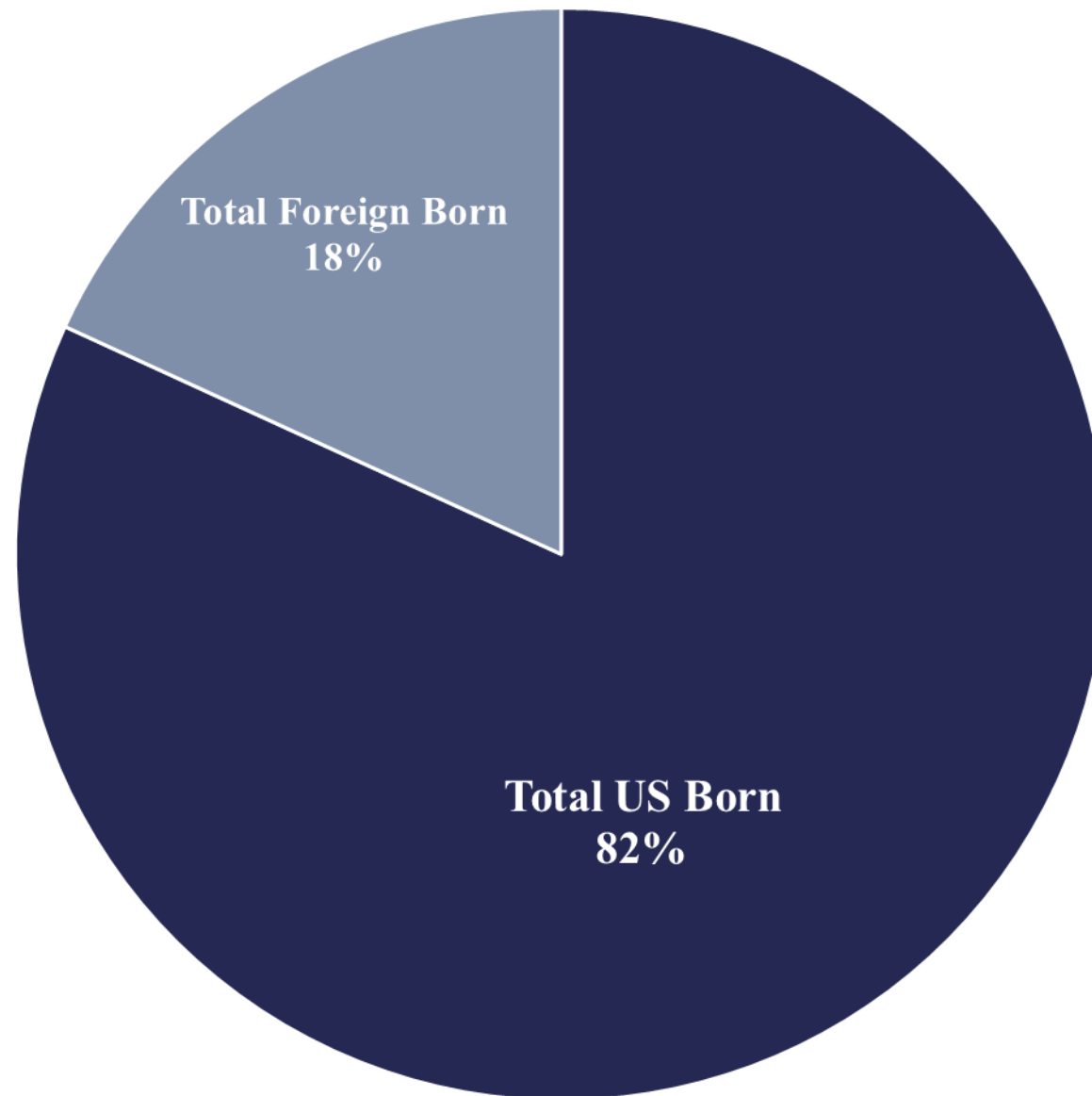
21 NOV 2016 POSTED BY VICTORIA DAVIS



# Foreign-Born Population

## Most Common Countries of Origin for Foreign-Born Population:

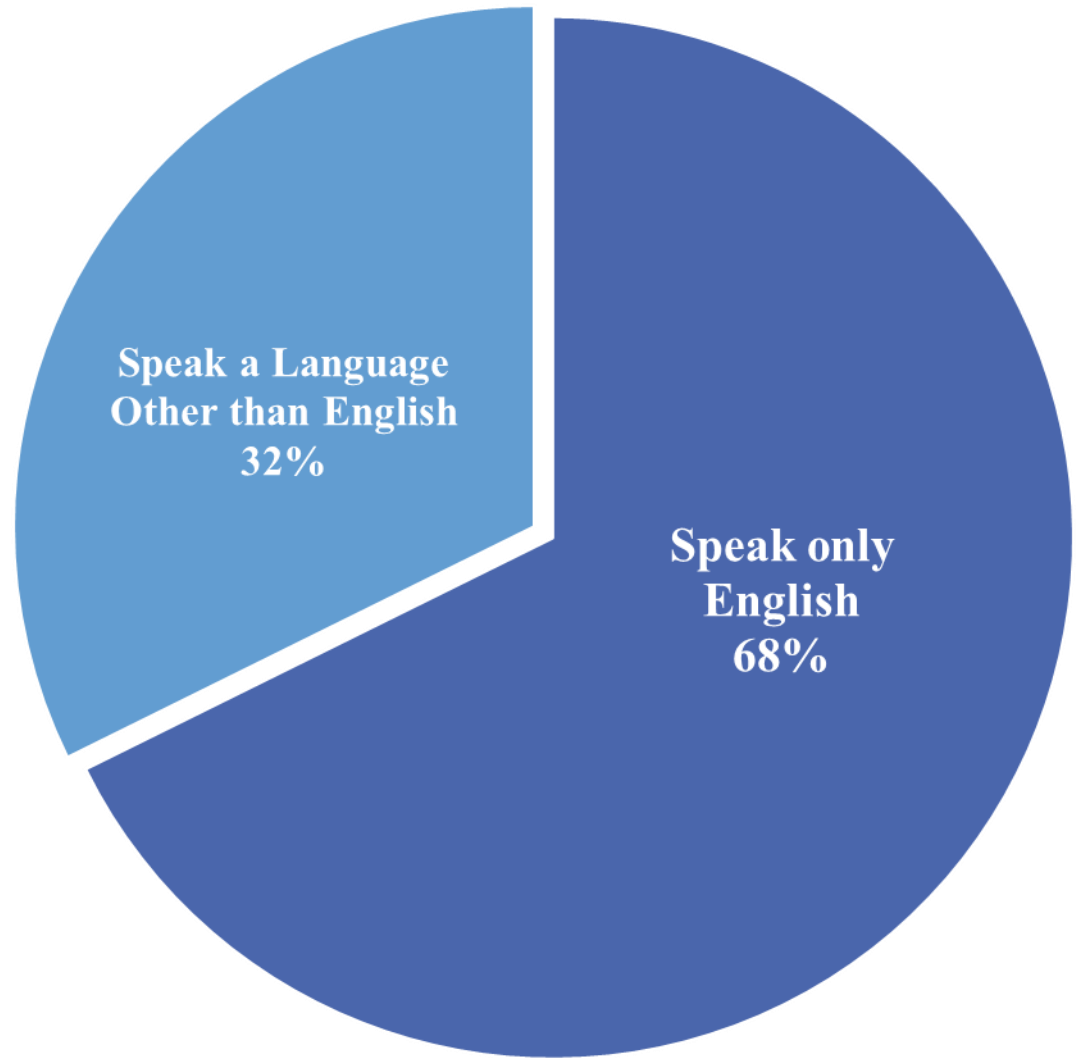
1. Mexico
2. India
3. China
4. Vietnam
5. Honduras
6. El Salvador
7. South Korea
8. Guatemala
9. Cuba
10. Canada



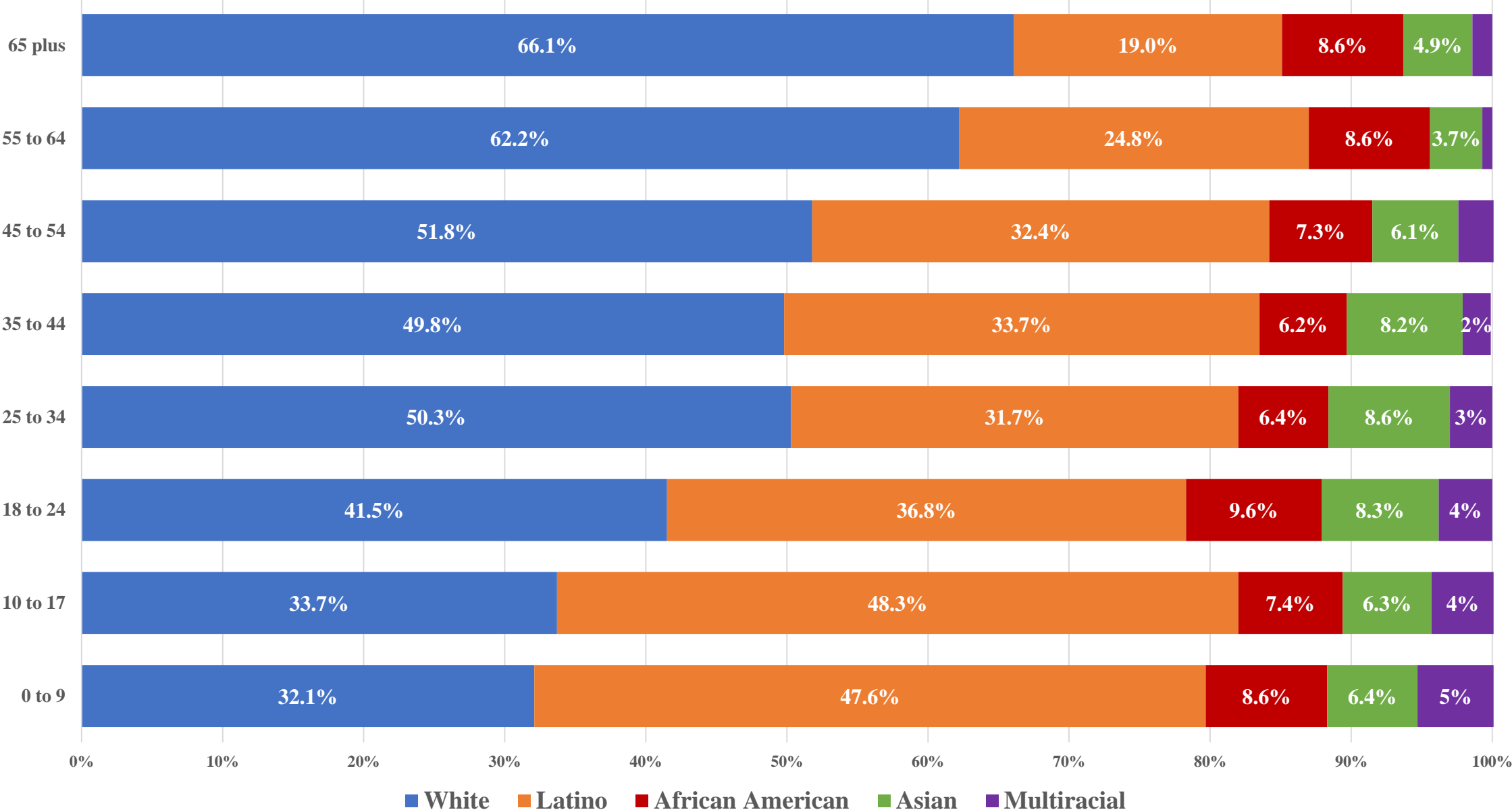
# Language Diversity

## Most Common Languages Spoken in Austin:

1. Spanish
2. Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese)
3. Arabic
4. Vietnamese
5. Korean



Austin Age Structure by Race and Ethnicity



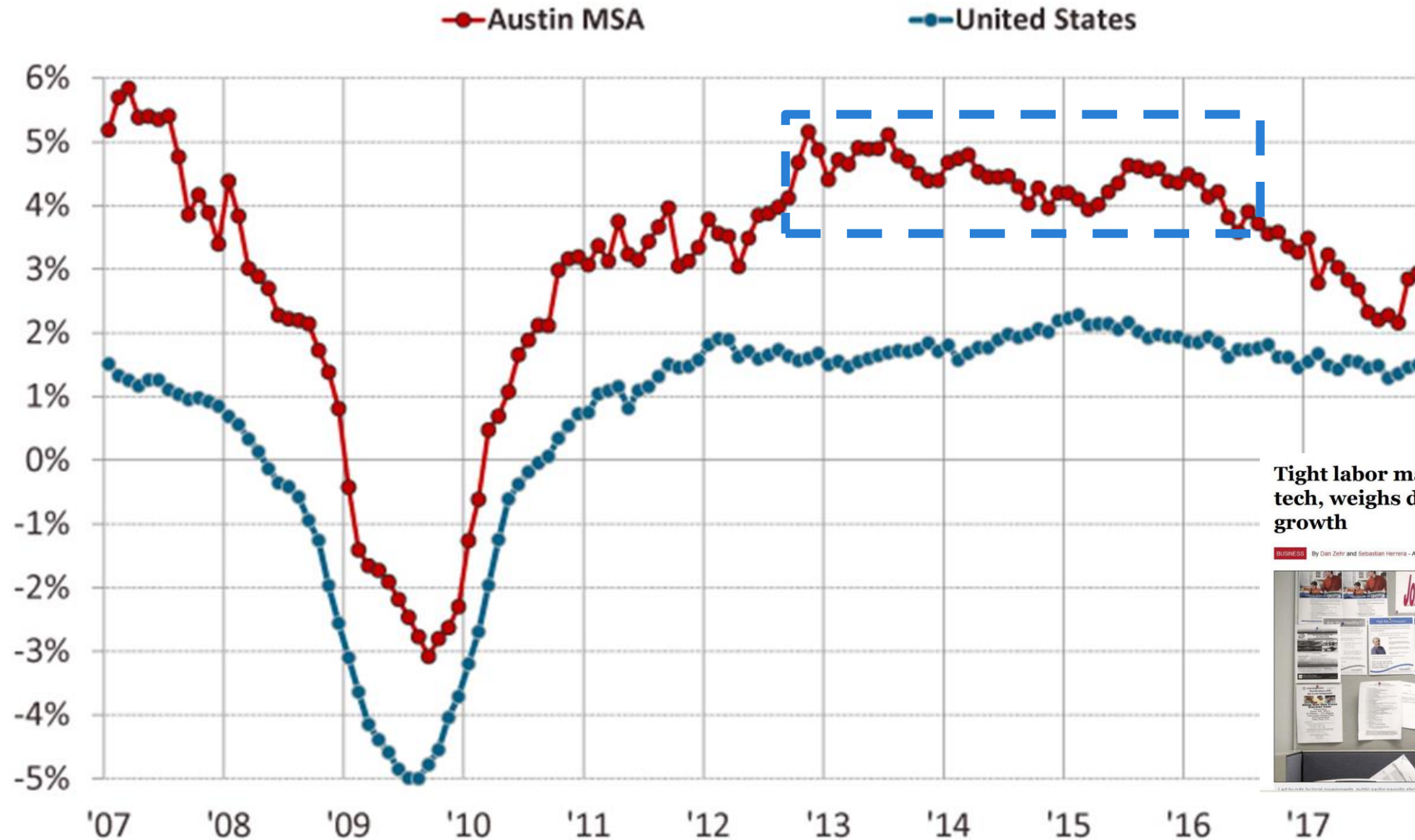
Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey via Ryan Robinson

# ECONOMIC GROWTH

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*Sustained Job Growth and Historic Low Unemployment*

# Year over Year Percent Change in Job Growth



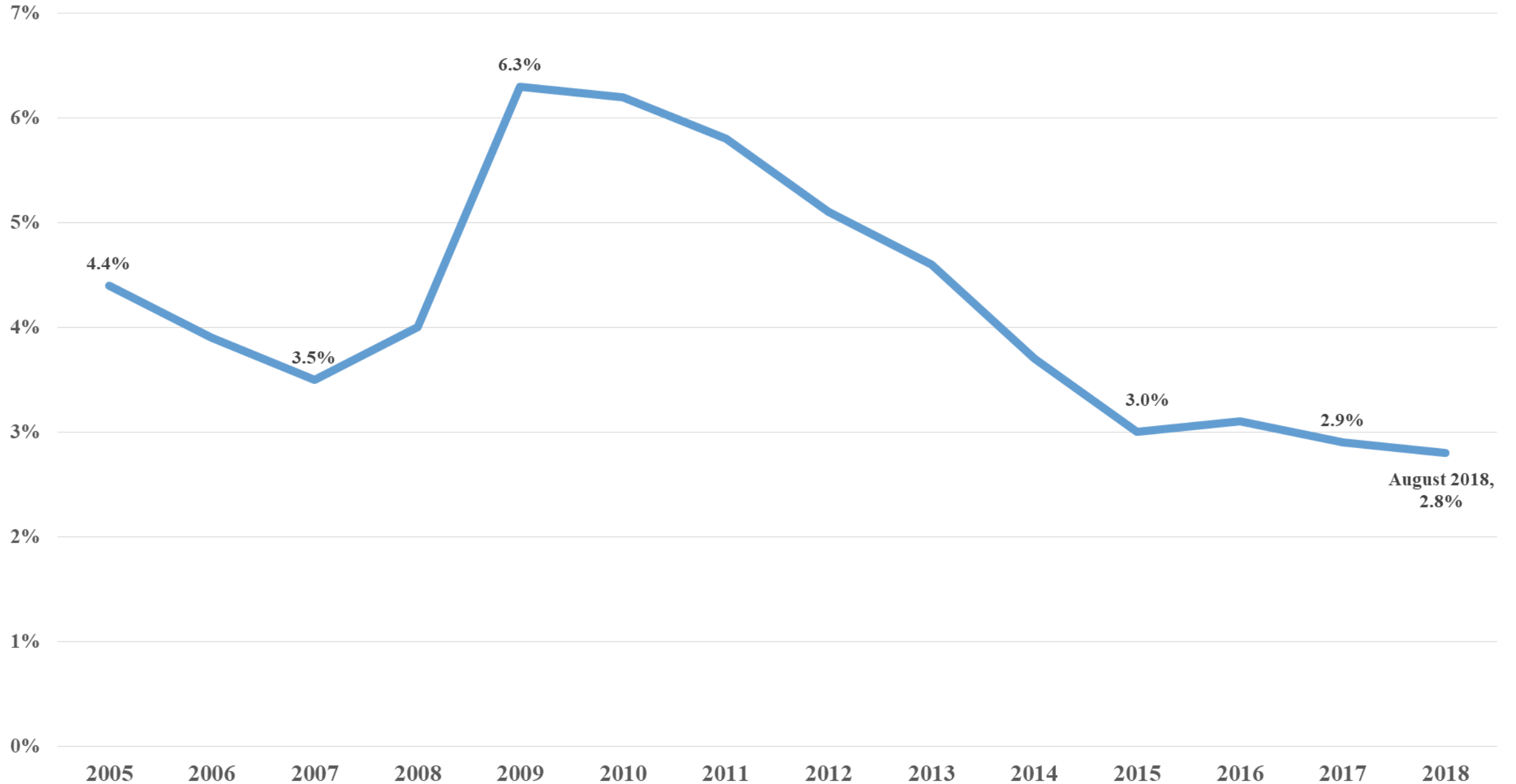
**Tight labor market, especially in tech, weighs down Austin's job growth**

BUSINESS By Dan Zehr and Sebastian Herrera - American-Statesman Staff

f t e



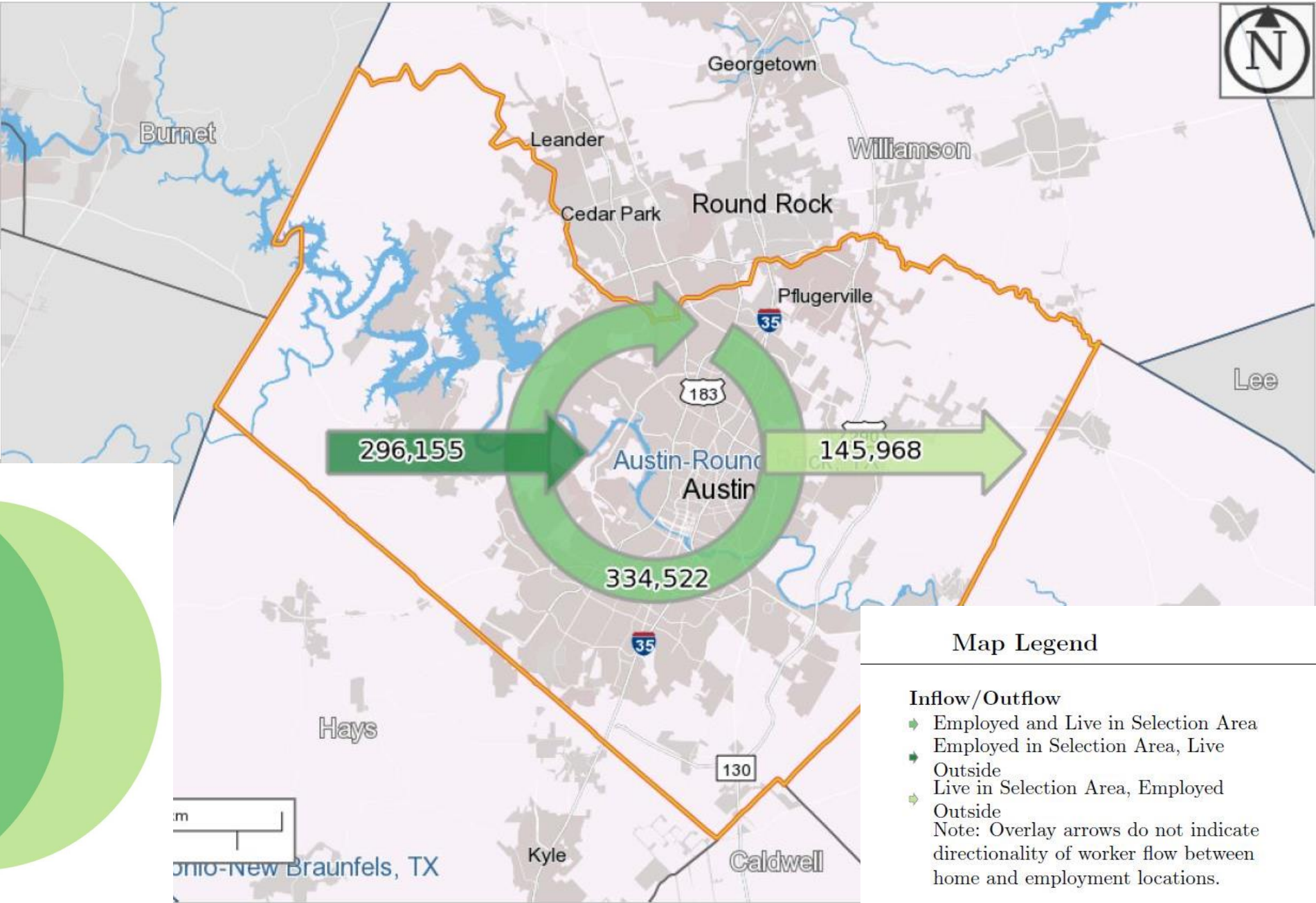
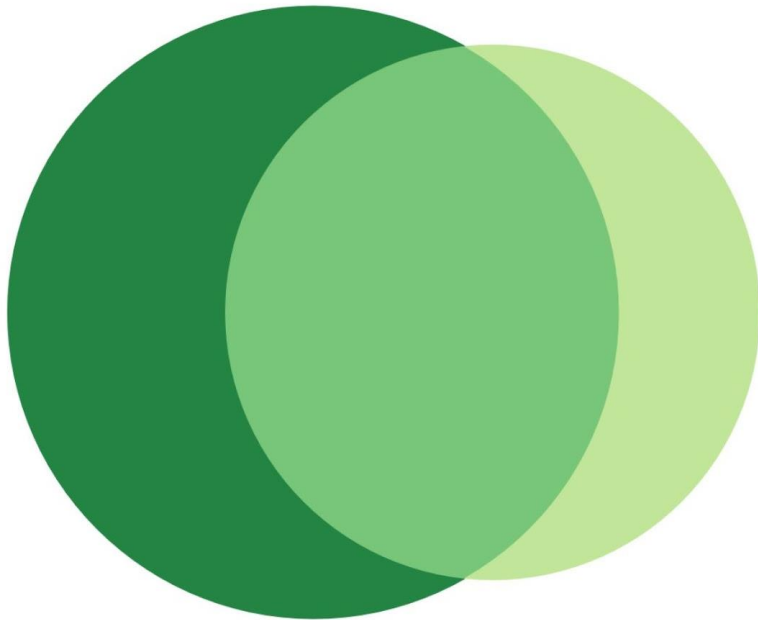
## Austin Unemployment Rate



# Worker Flows for Austin 2014

## Worker Flows

- 296,155 - Employed in Selection Area, Live Outside
- 145,968 - Live in Selection Area, Employed Outside
- 334,522 - Employed and Live in Selection Area



# SUBURBANIZATION AND SPRAWL

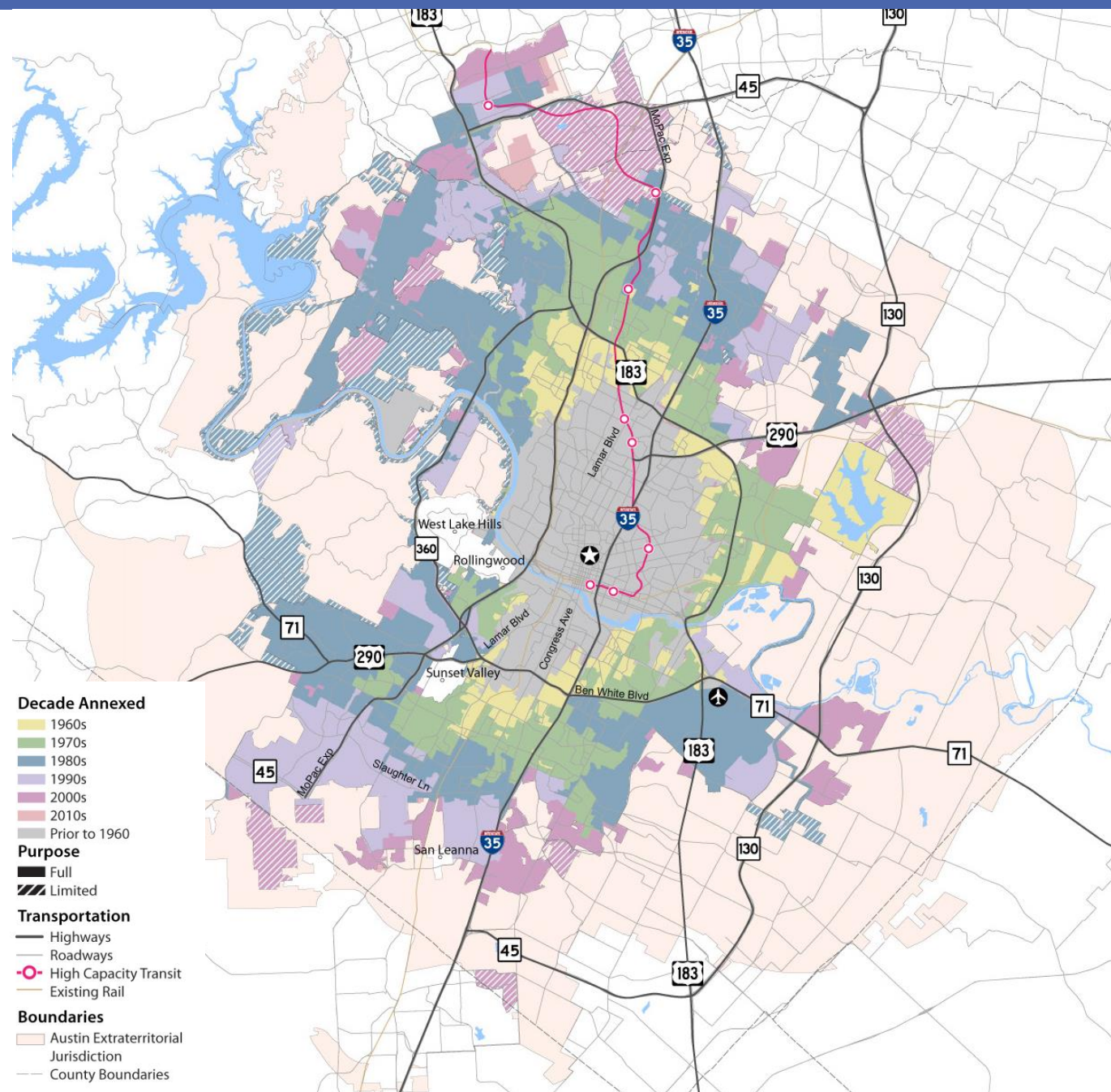
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*Suburbs Take the Lead in Regional Growth*

# Austin Annexations by Decade

1959 to 2012

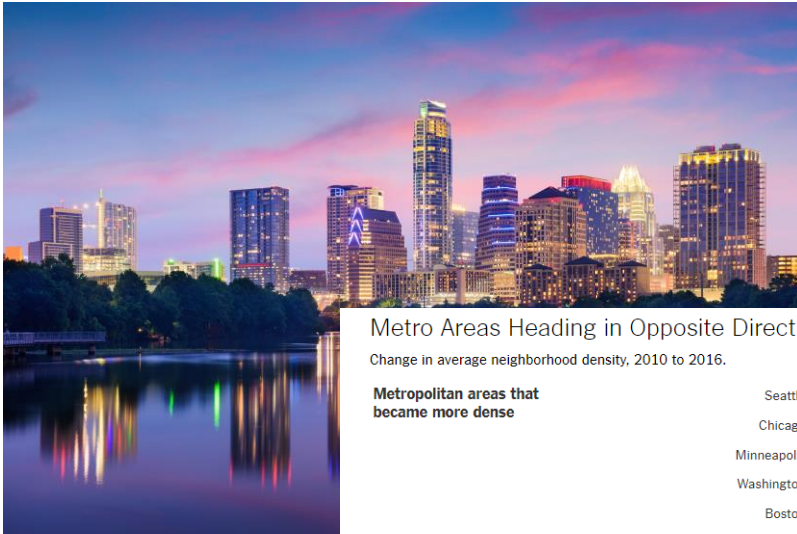
Year	Land Area (sq mi)	Percent Change
1950	37.5	
1960	55.1	45%
1970	80.1	45%
1980	123.9	55%
1990	225.6	82%
2000	257.9	14%
2010	307.8	19%
2016	372.1	21%



**TheUpshot**

URBAN STUDIES

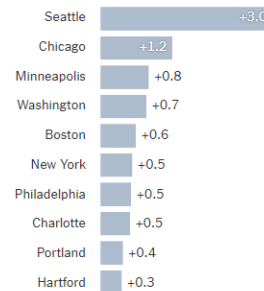
# Seattle Climbs but Austin Sprawls: The Myth of the Return to Cities



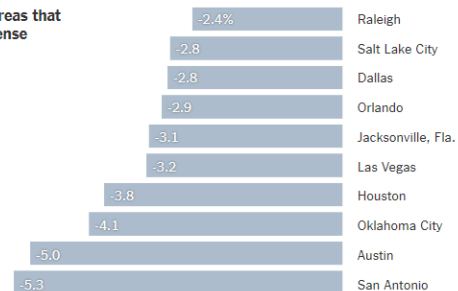
## Metro Areas Heading in Opposite Directions

Change in average neighborhood density, 2010 to 2016.

Metropolitan areas that became more dense

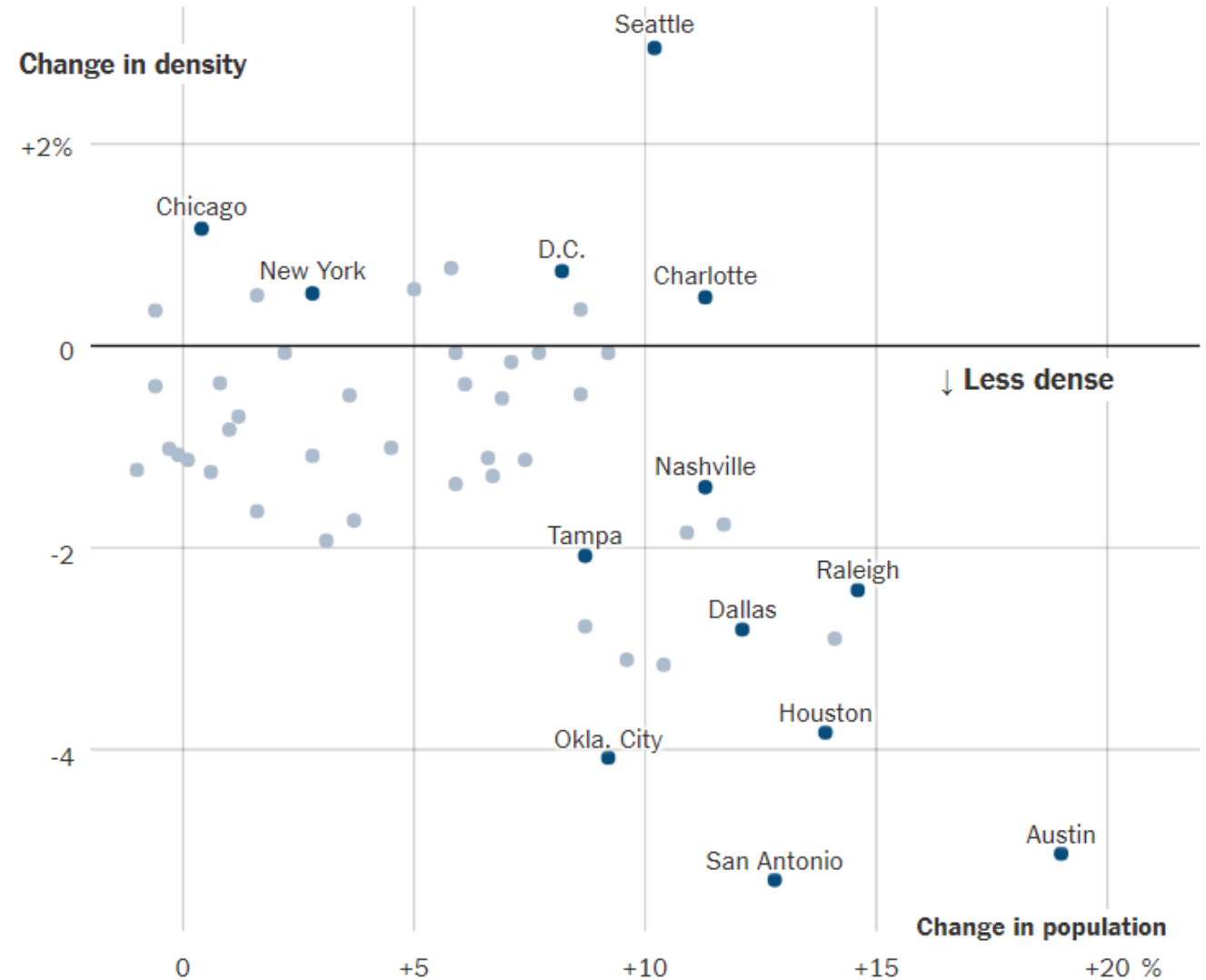


Metropolitan areas that became less dense



## The Sprawling Majority

Between 2010 and 2016, most of America's largest metro areas became more suburban.



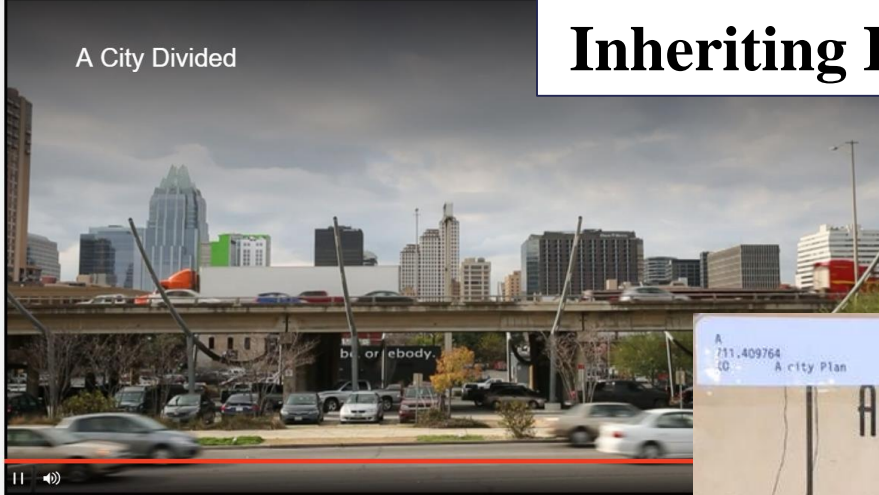
# SEGREGATION AND STRATIFICATION

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*Stubborn Geographic Segregation and Widening Disparities*

## Inheriting Inequality

### A City Divided



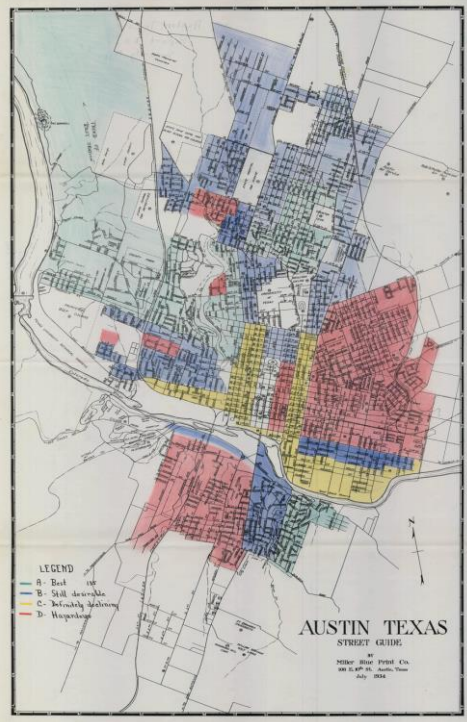
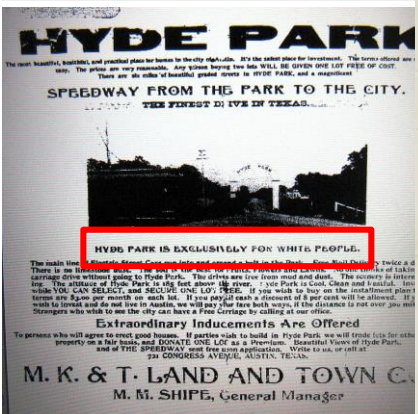
children's  
optimal health

About Our Maps Service

### The Suburbanization of Poverty: The Geography of Childhood and around Austin

By Sam Tedford

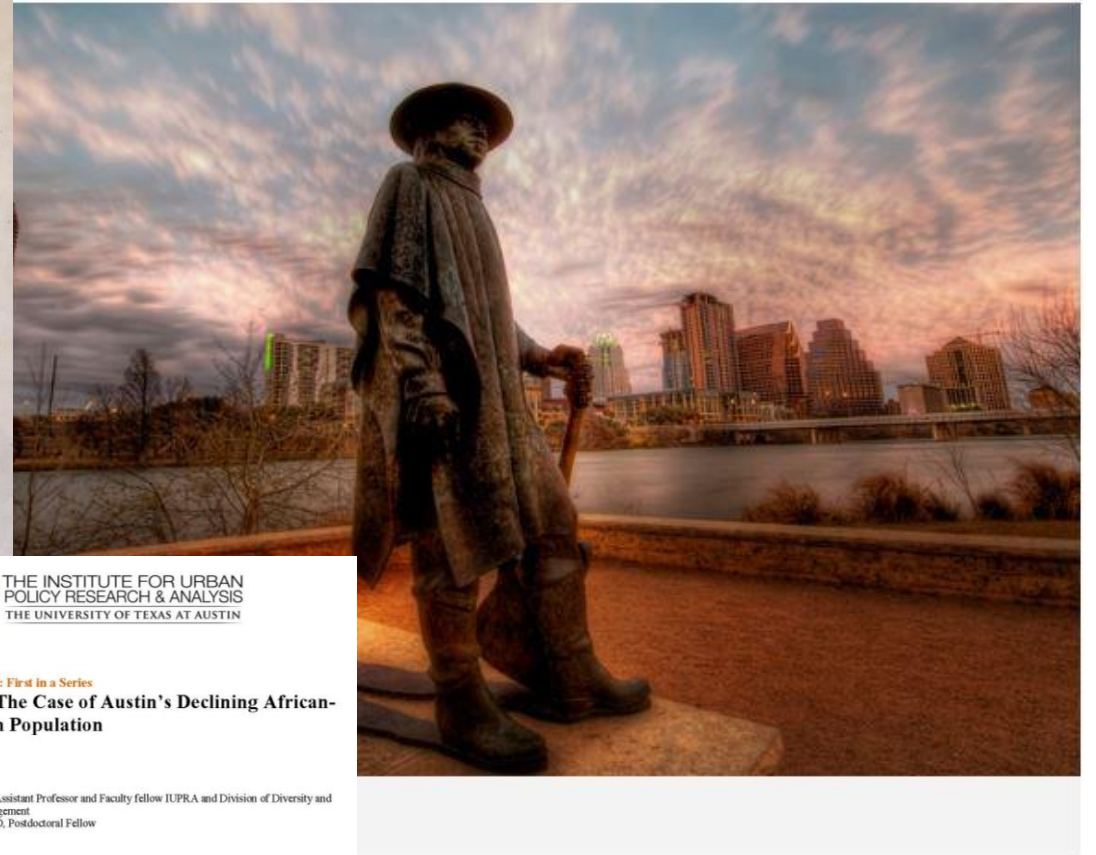
In recent years, Austin has settled in near the top of the [list of fastest growing cities](#) in the United States. know that the city is rapidly growing, there is still much to understand about the changing demographics. Historically, [racial urban planning](#) led Austin to develop into an internally segregated city both economic with large concentrations of urban poor communities and communities of color forced into certain neighborhoods. However, in the changing social and economic environment of Austin today, the geography of is unlike anything the city has seen before. A quickly growing city means a [growing demand for housing](#), to a major [affordability crisis](#) in the [Austin housing market](#), and the [displacement of many low-income residents](#). For my study I focused on one of the most vulnerable populations directly affected by poverty: [displacement children](#). The study analyzes the geographic distribution of economically disadvantaged children and the surrounding areas across ten years from 2005 to 2015.



## Study: Austin is Most Economically Segregated Metro Area

Among the largest metro areas in the country, Austin ranks as the place where wealthy, college-educated professionals and less-educated, blue-collar workers are least likely to share the same neighborhoods. [f](#) [t](#)

BY EMILY BADGER, THE WASHINGTON POST FEB. 23, 2015 6:17 PM



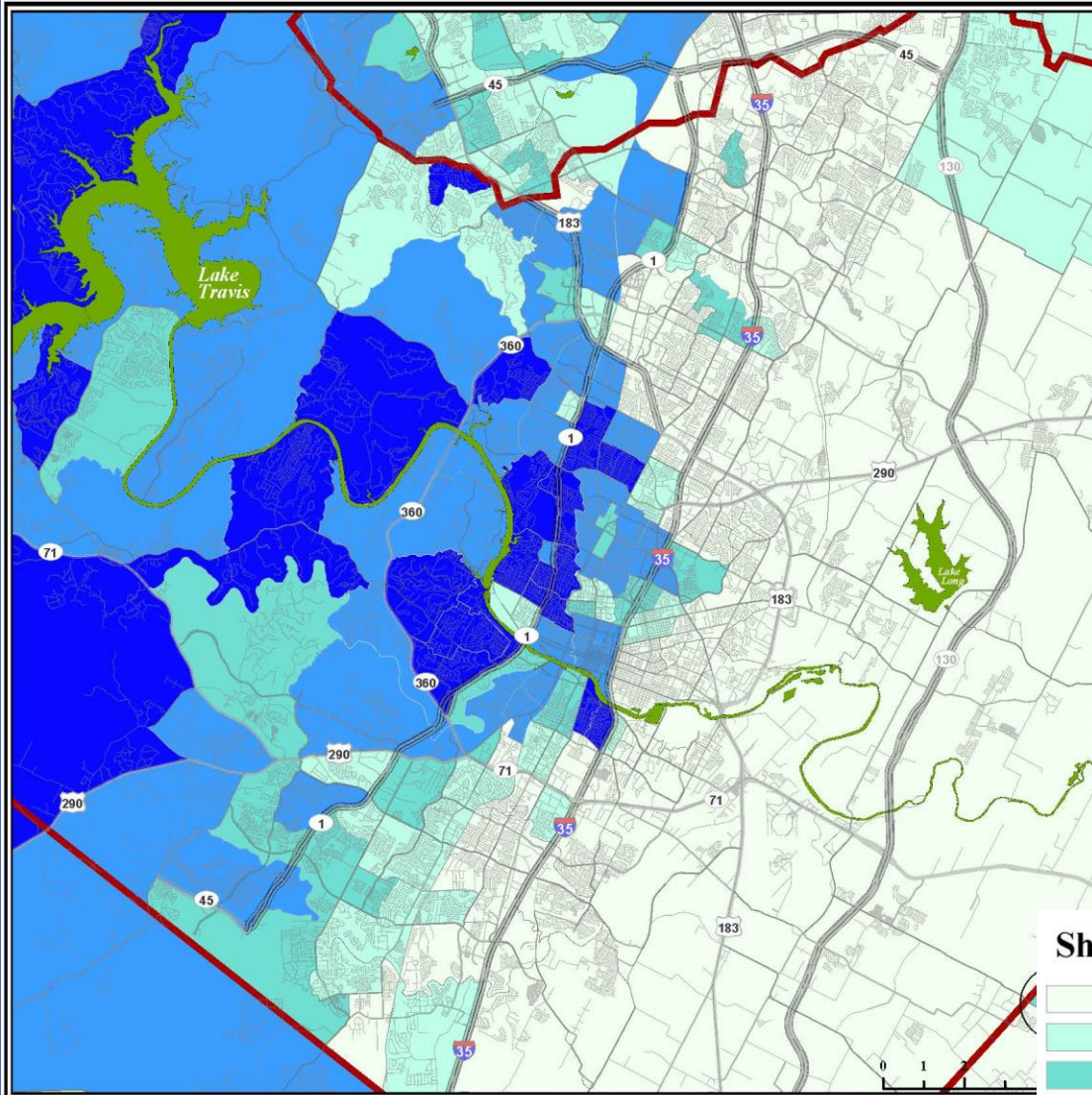
ISSUE BRIEF: First in a Series

### Outlier: The Case of Austin's Declining African-American Population

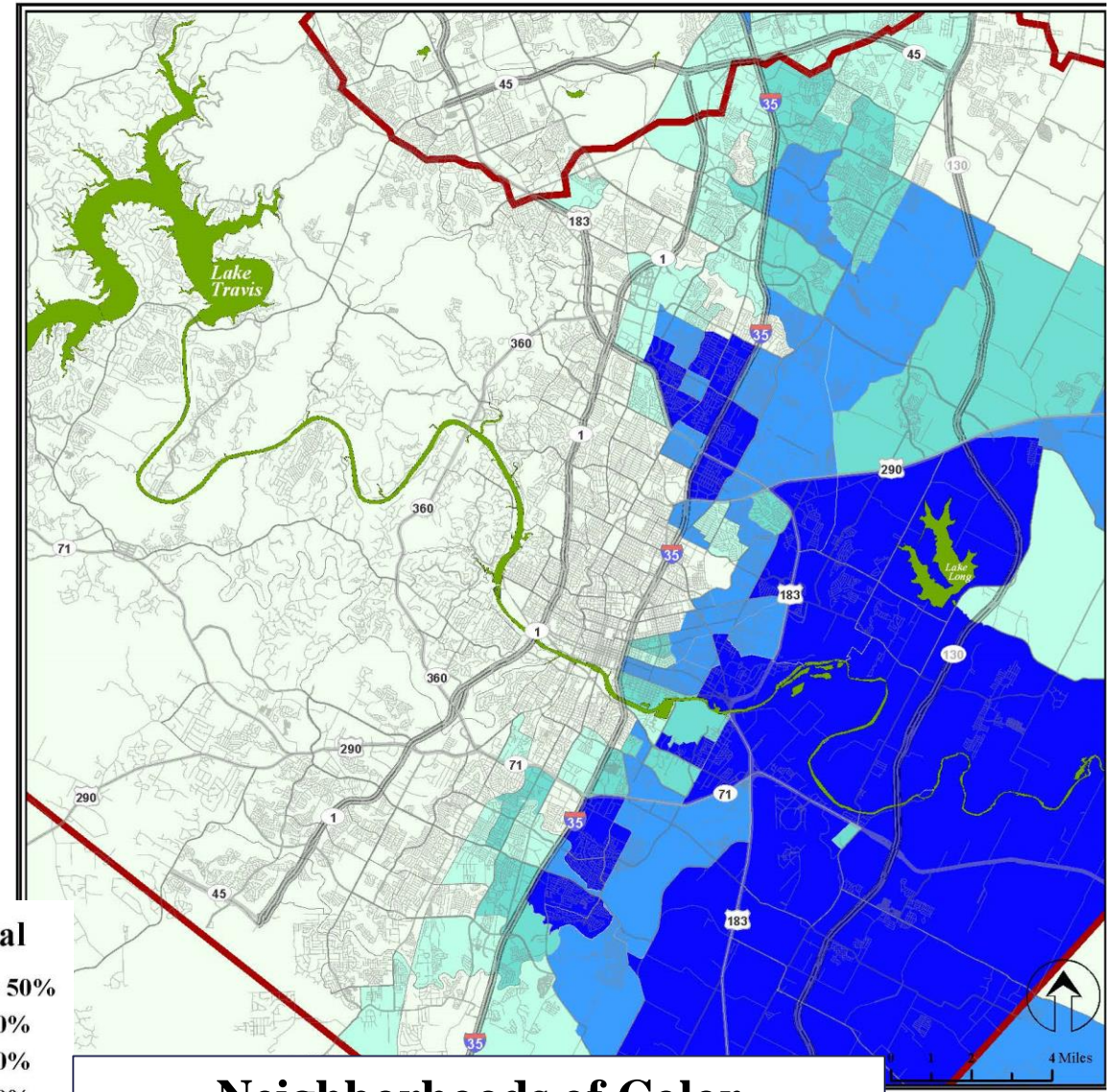
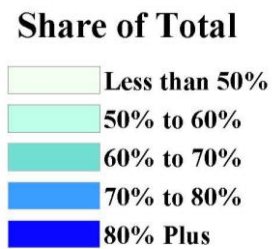
May 8, 2014

Eric Tang, PhD, Assistant Professor and Faculty fellow IUPRA and Division of Diversity and Community Engagement  
Chunhui Ran, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow

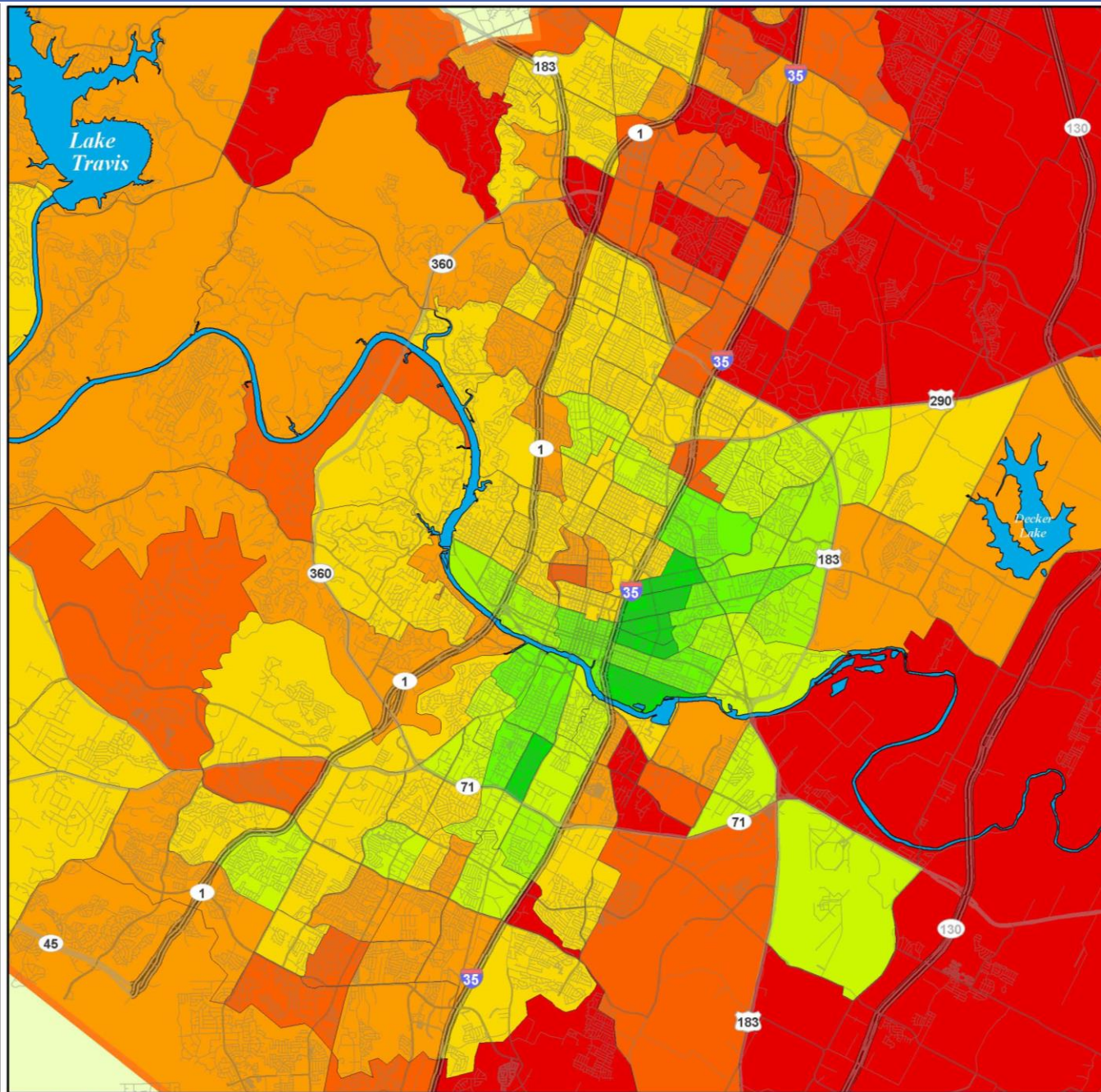
## Austin, 2016



**Non-Hispanic White Share of Total**



**Neighborhoods of Color**  
All Races and Ethnicities Other than non-Hispanic White



# The Whitening of the Urban Core: 2000 to 2010

## Austin, Texas

Decennial data from  
the US Census Bureau

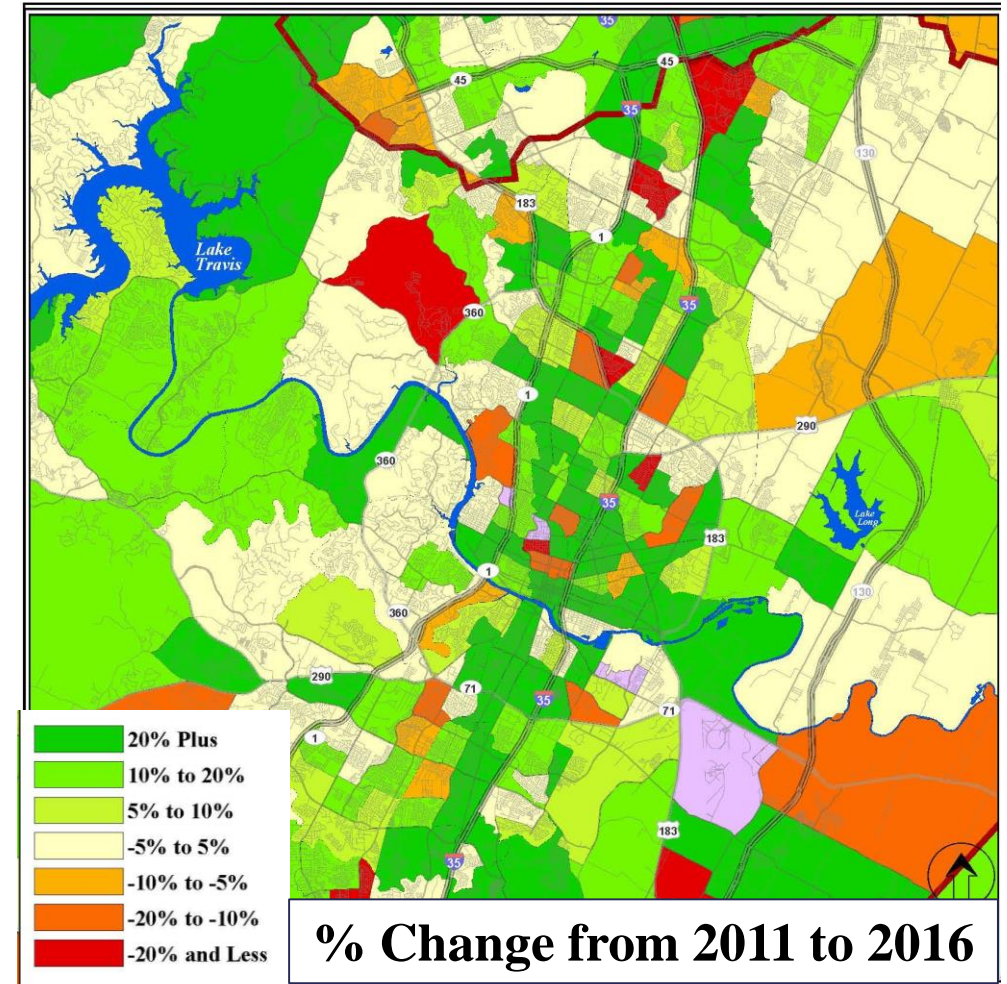
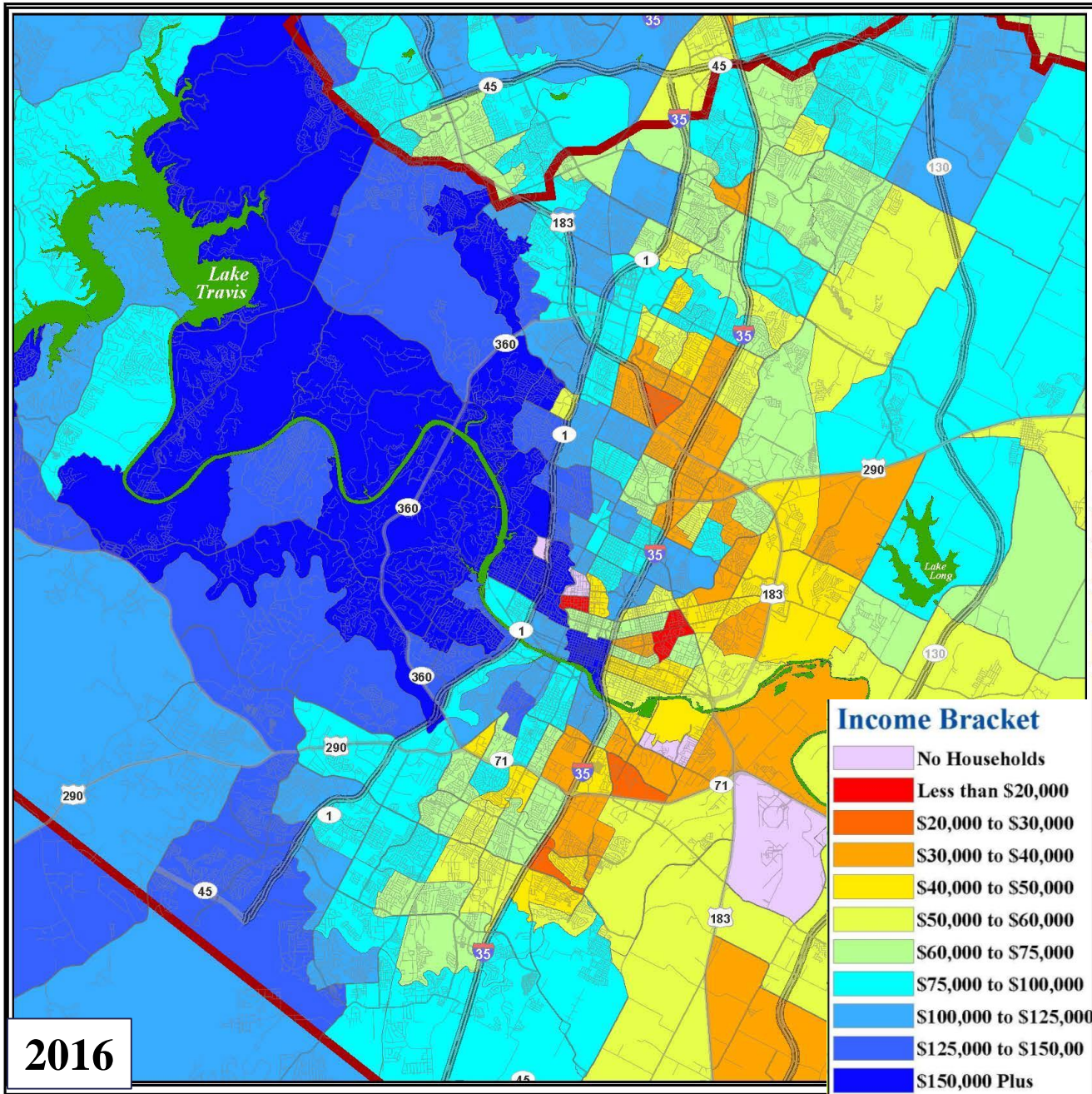
Change in a Census  
Tract's Percentage of  
Total Population that  
is non-Hispanic White  
from 2000 to 2010  
at the 2000 tract-level

Example: 50% in 2000,  
59% in 2010 = 9 Point Gain

### Point Gain or Loss

- 15 Points Plus
- 10 to 15 Points
- 5 to 10 Points
- 0 to 5 Points
- 0 to -5 Points
- 10 to -5 Points
- 15 to -10 Points
- 15 Points Plus

# Median Family Income

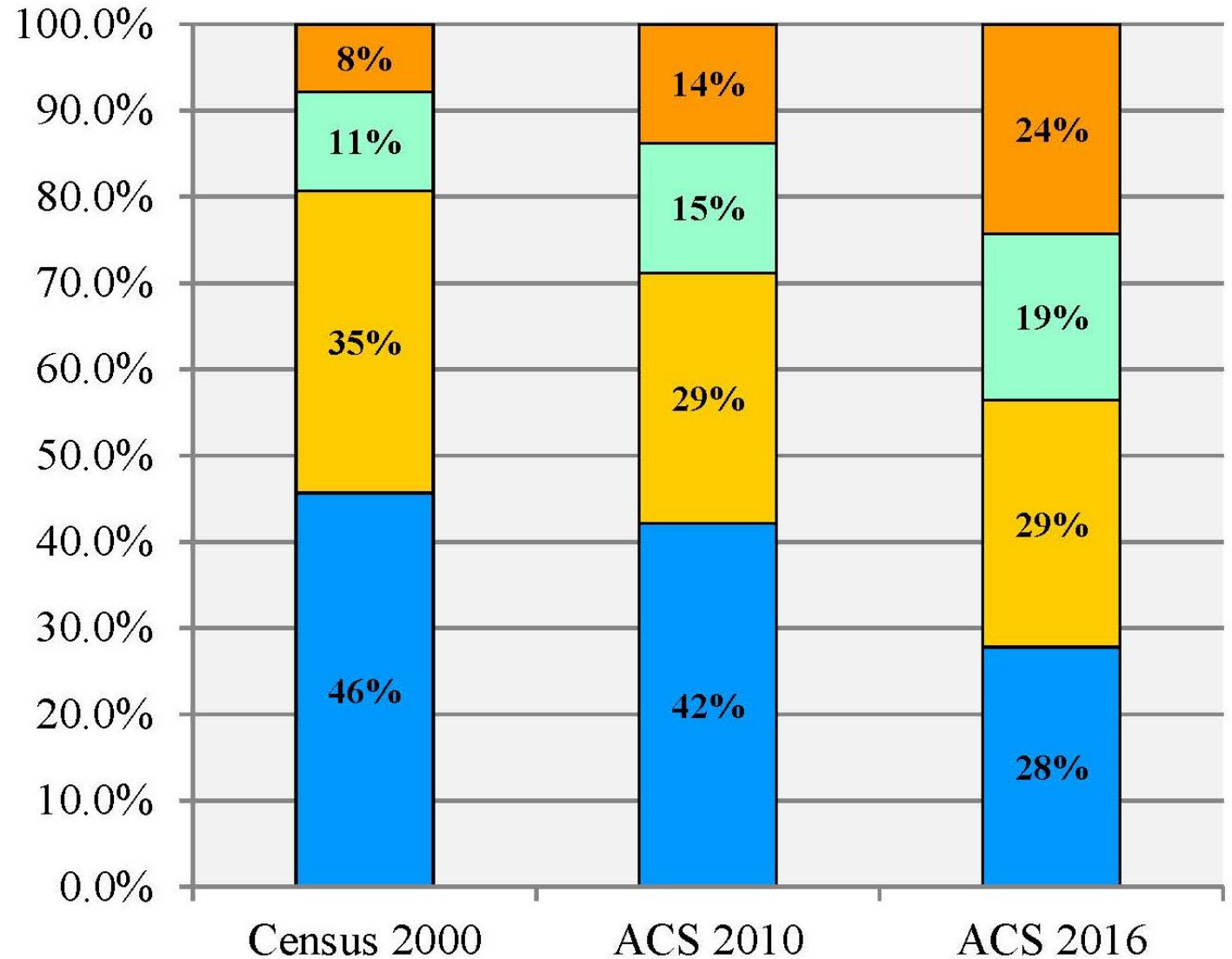


# Families by Income Bracket

Austin, Texas

2000 to 2016

- \$150,000 Plus
- \$100,000 to \$150,000
- \$50,000 to \$100,000
- Less than \$50,000



# Austin Median Household Income

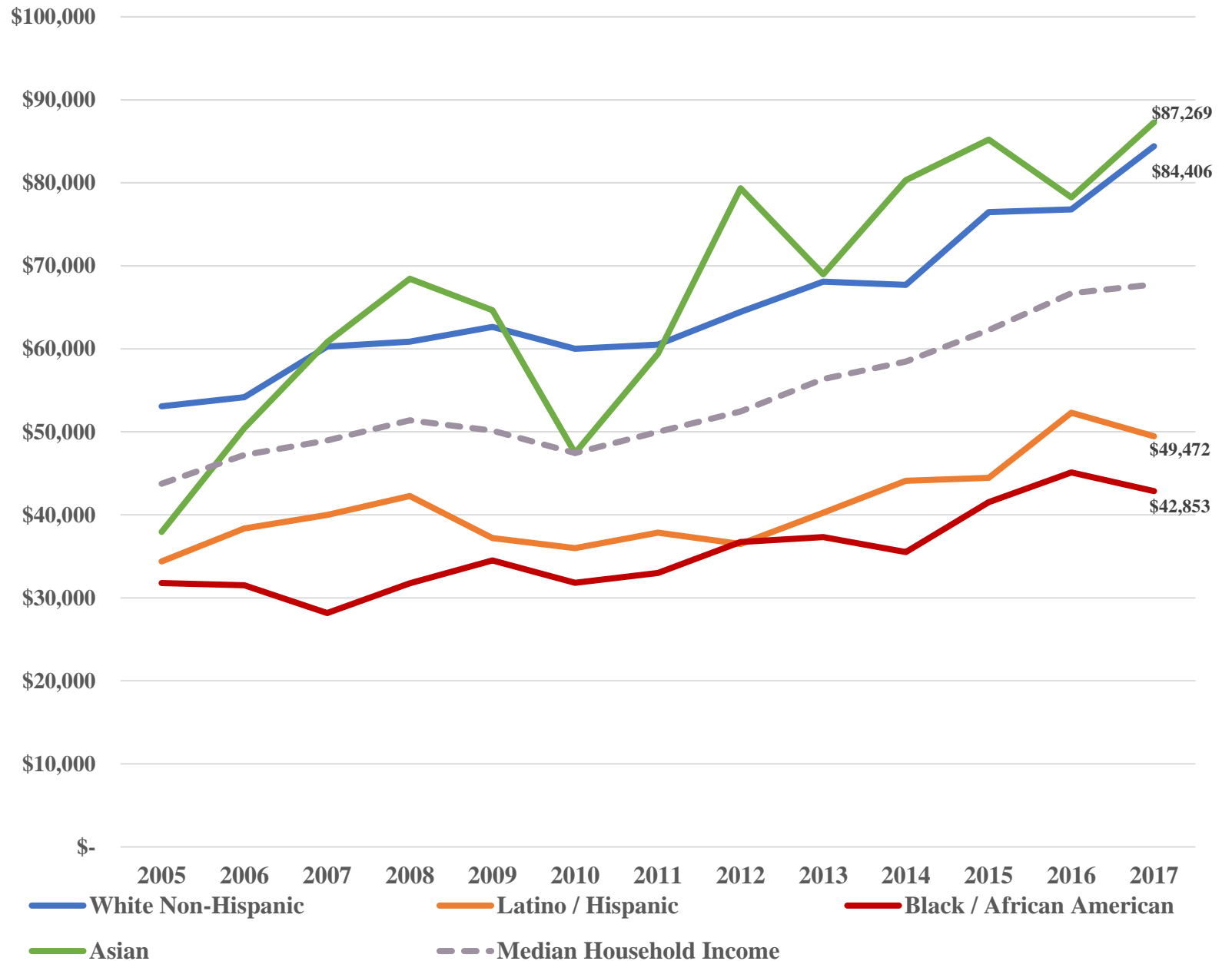
In 2017

City: \$67,755

Metro Area: \$73,800

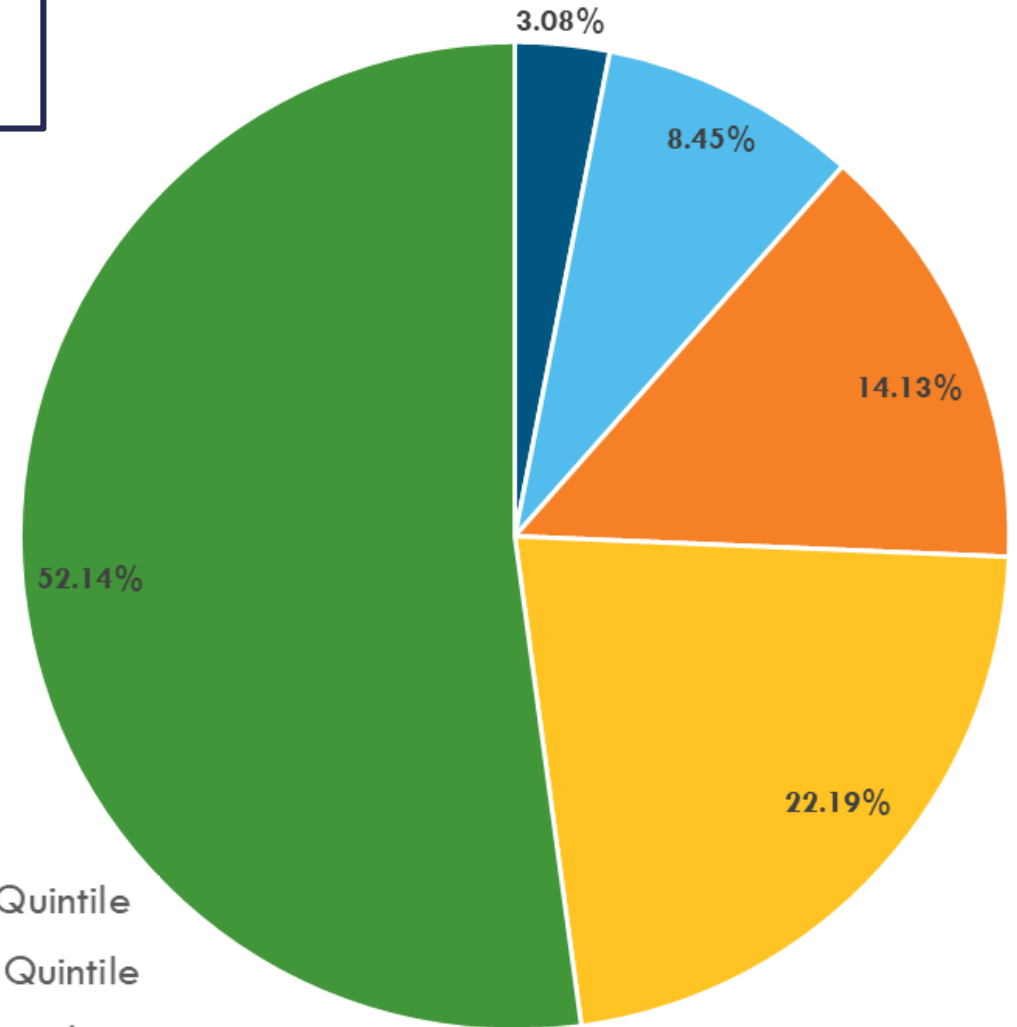
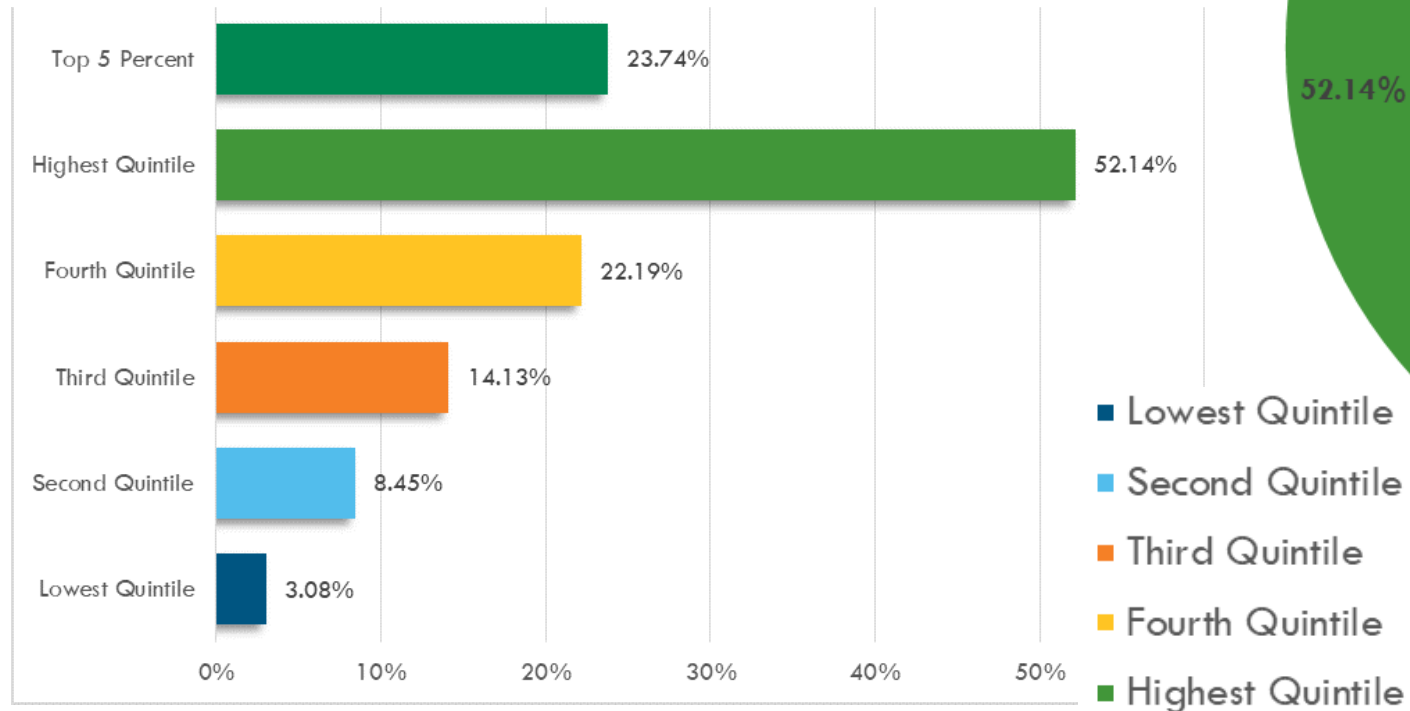
The difference between the median income of a white household and black household was **over \$40,000**.

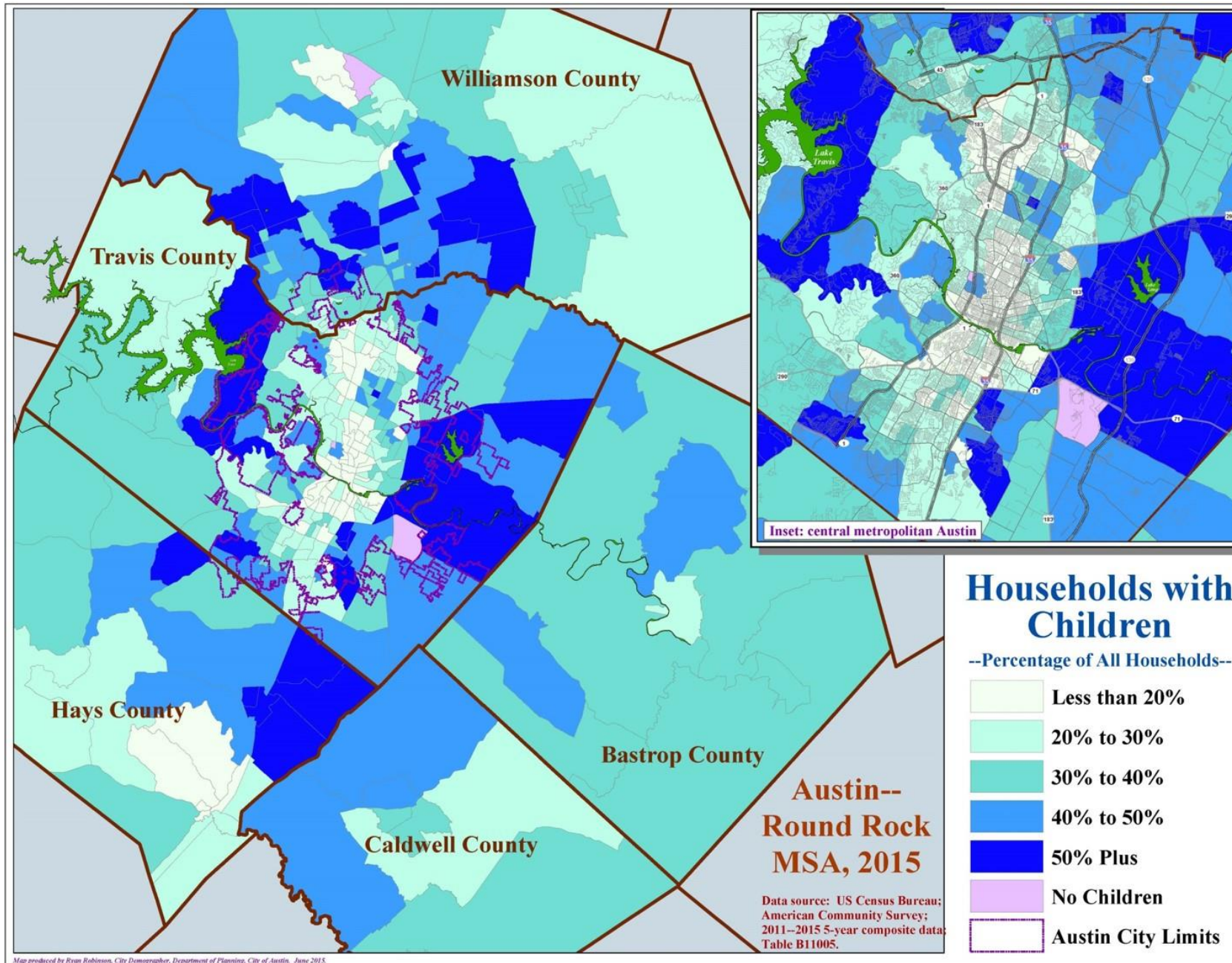
**Poverty rate = 13.1%**



Austin's recent economic success has not yet meant prosperity for all.

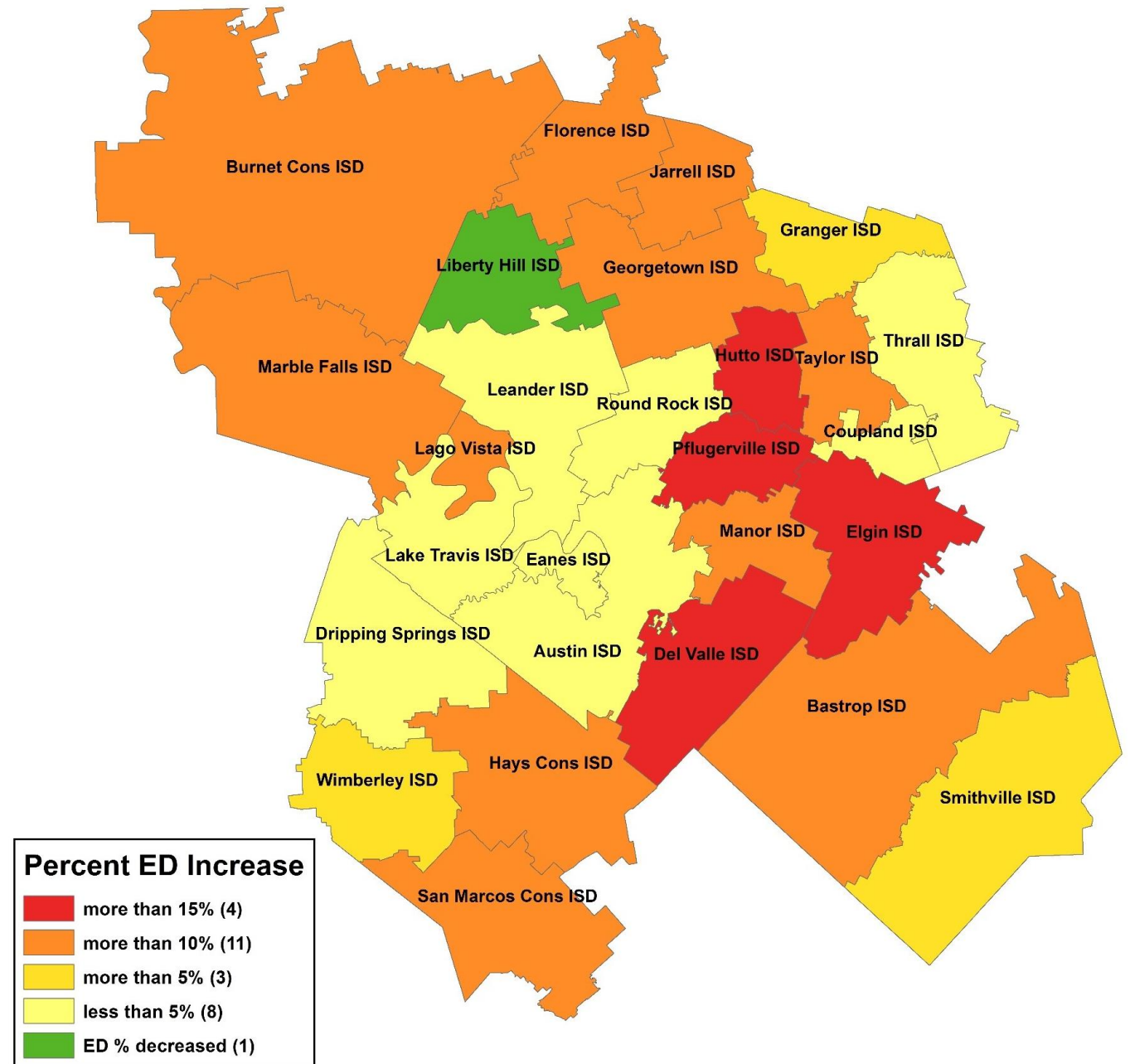
## Shares of Household Income





# Change in Economically Disadvantaged Student Population 2005 - 2015

15 school districts saw an increase of over 10% to their economically disadvantaged populations from the 2004-2005 school year to 2014-2015.

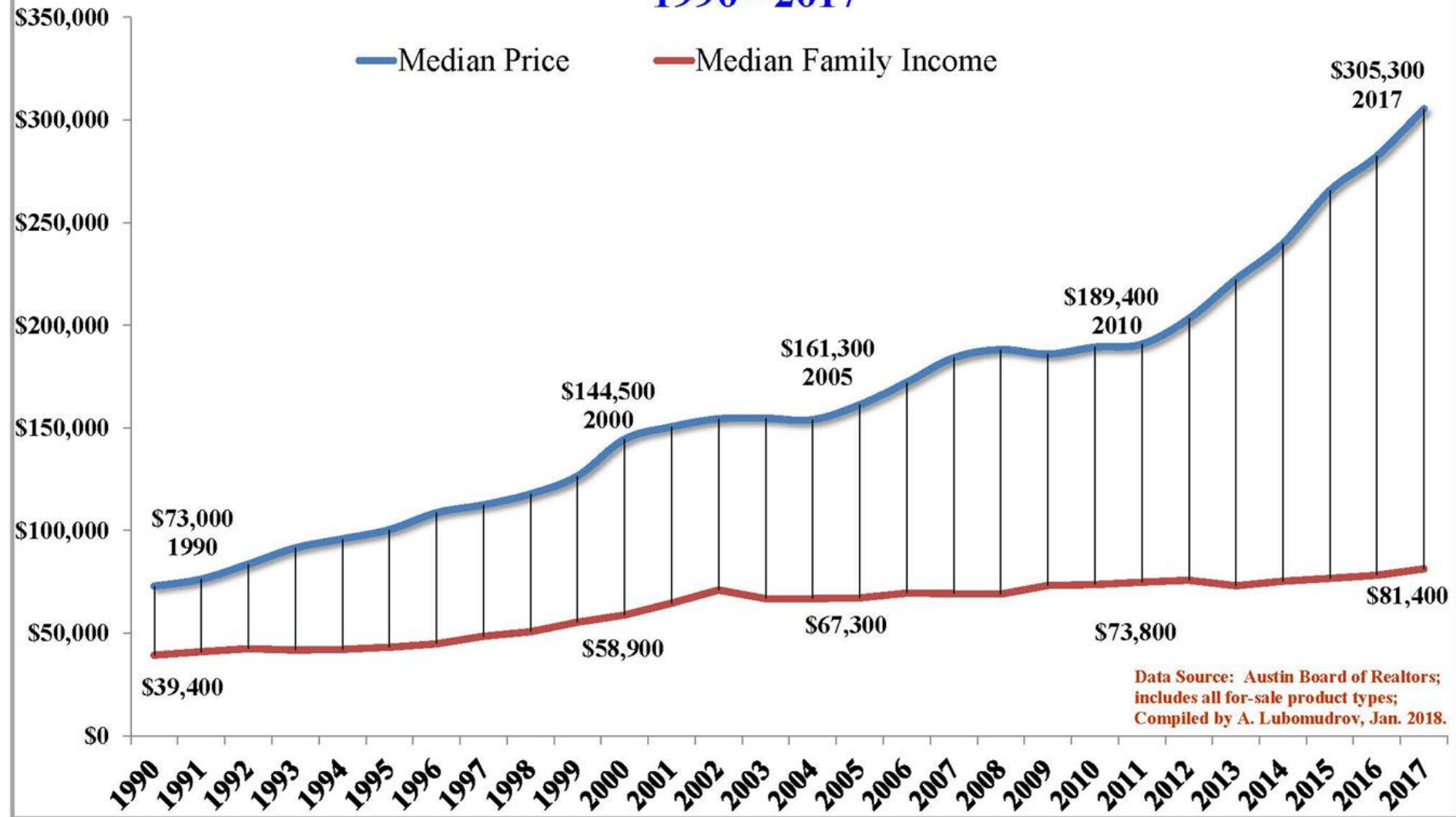


# HOUSING TRENDS

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*Rising Unaffordability and Dynamic Change*

## Austin Area median home prices compared with median family income 1990 - 2017



## Austin, Texas 2018

median home price:

**\$367,000**

average rent:

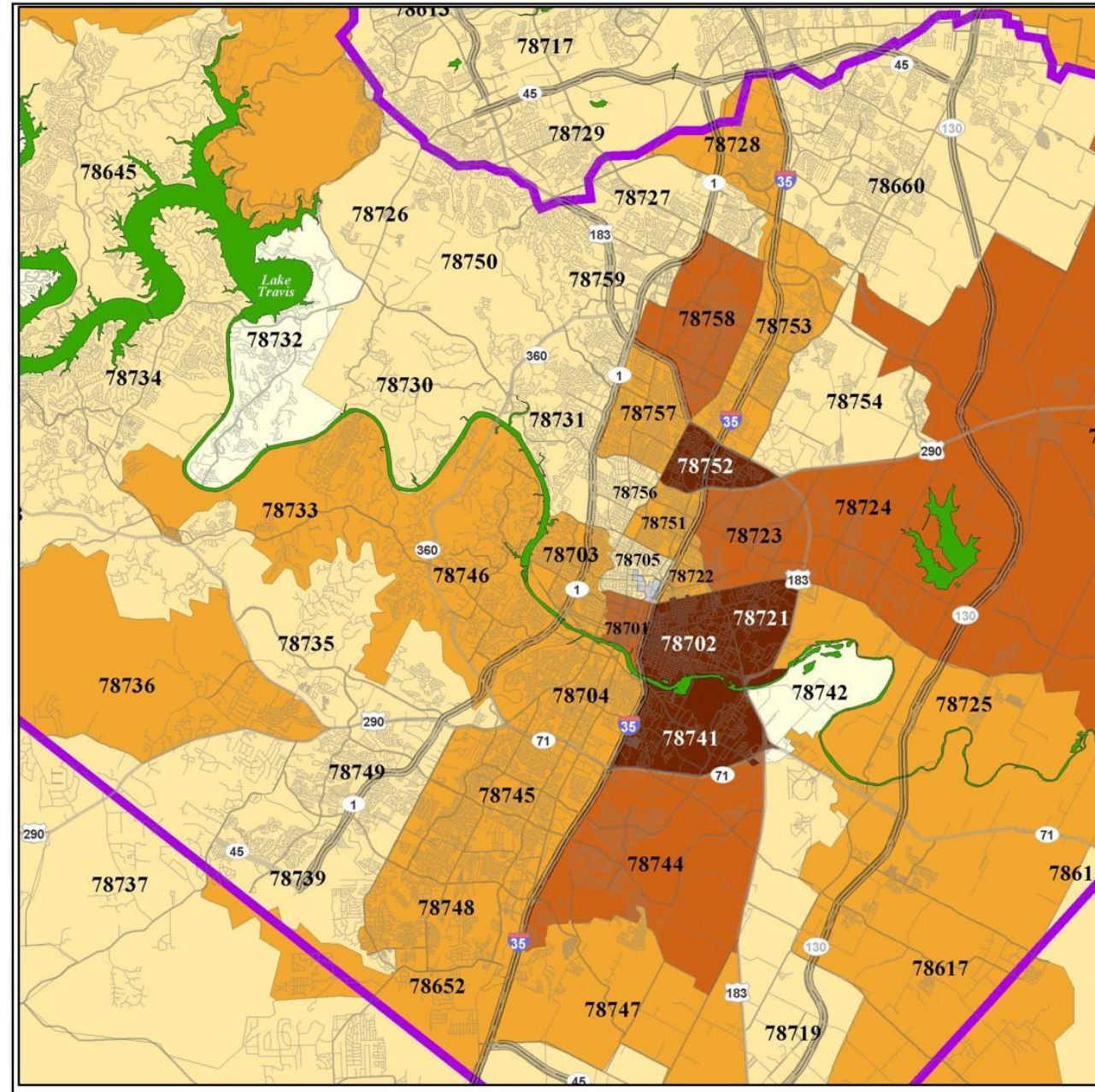
**\$1,235**

persons experiencing homelessness:

**2,147**

cost-burdened households:

**37%**

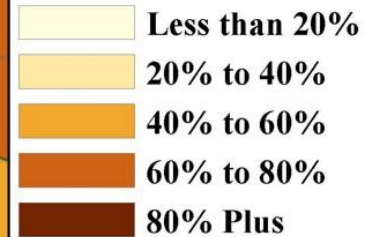


## Percentage Change in Median Sales Price of Homes by ZIP Code: 2010 to 2015

Includes all residential homesales:  
Single Family Houses and Condos

**DATA SOURCE:**  
Austin Board of Realtors.

### Percentage Change



Map produced by Ryan Robinson, City Demographer, Department of Planning, City of Austin, February 2016.

# LOOKING AHEAD

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*Projected Growth and Census 2020*

By 2040, population and jobs forecasts show an additional 750,000 residents and 350,000 new jobs.

2040 projected population:  
**1,732,892**

2040 projected total jobs:  
**976,887**



US Constitution requires that each decade we take a count – or census – of America's population.

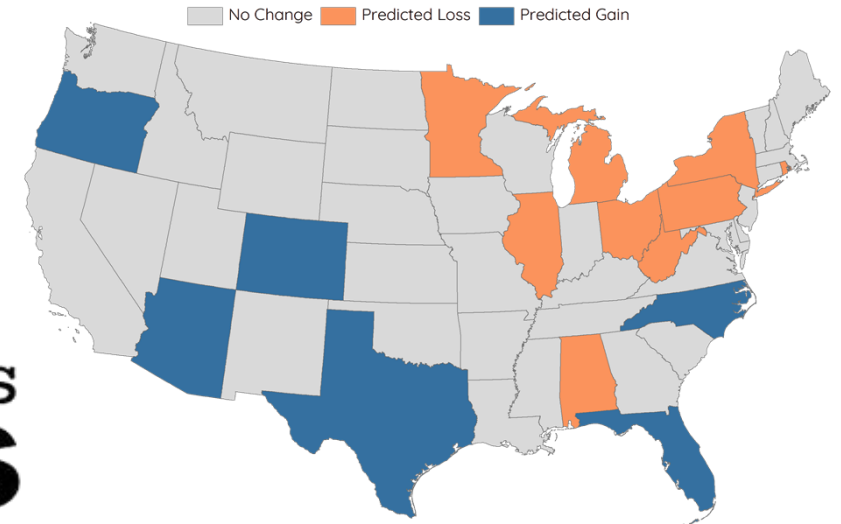
- performed every decade since 1790
- responsible for the reapportionment of Congressional districts among the states and redistricting
- tied to the re-allocation of over \$675 billion annually in federal funds

***The 2020 Census goal is to count everyone one, only once, and in the right place.***

***Census Day is April 1, 2020. A complete enumeration is provided to the President by December 31, 2020.***

# United States Census 2020

**Projected Change in the Number of U.S. Representatives by State: 2010 to 2020**  
Based on linear extrapolation of U.S. Census Bureau July 1, 2017 Population Estimates



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Emily Albracht/Texas Tribune

## The Texas Census Is in Trouble

ALEXA URA / CHRIS ESSIG MAR 26, 2018