



TEXAS

In Brief

" The Democratic Party controlled Texas politics throughout most of the state's history. But in the 1970's, the Republican Party began gaining strength. In 1978, Bill Clements became the first Republican to be elected governor since 1869. In 1998, George W. Bush became the first Republican governor to be elected to a second term. Although Bush was not born in Texas, two other U.S. presidents were born in the state. Dwight D. Eisenhower was born in Denison, and Lyndon B. Johnson was born near Stonewall. In every presidential election since 1980, Texas's electoral votes have gone to the Republican candidate."

Resource: World Book 2008

Capital: Austin

Area: 268,581 sq mi

Population: 23,507,783

Resource: World Almanac 2008

In 2007 Texas had a population of about 24 million that grew 14.6 percent between 2000 and 2007, about double the rate for the nation as a whole during that same time period. Texas' percentage of the Hispanic population is more than twice the national average, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. About 57 percent of Texas' voting-age citizens cast a ballot in the 2004 general election, one of the lowest percentages in the country. The national figure was 64 percent.

More information at: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html>

Selected Characteristics	Texas	U.S.
Population change: 2000-2007	14.6%	7.2%
Median age	33.1	36.4
Women	50.2%	50.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	48.3%	66.4%
Black alone	11.9%	12.8%
Hispanic or Latino	35.7%	14.8%
Median household income	\$44,922	\$48,451
Foreign born	15.9%	12.5%
Persons below poverty	16.9%	13.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher (age 25+)	24.7%	27.0%
Median home value	\$114,000	\$185,200

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Total Population Estimates (2007), State Population Estimates by Characteristics (2006), American Community Survey (2006).

More Resources

Government Information

The official web site for the State Texas

<http://www.texasonline.com/portal/tol>

Governor of Texas

<http://www.governor.state.tx.us/>

Texas - Elected officials in U.S. Senate

http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=TX

Texas - Elected officials in U.S. House of Representatives

http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW_by_State.shtml#de

Elections 2008

Politics 1: Texas Directory

<http://www.politicsone.com/tx.htm>

The Green Papers: Texas 2008 General elections - General

<http://www.thegreenpapers.com/G08/TX.phtml>

Secretary of State - Elections Division

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/index.shtml>

Statistics

Texas - Quick facts from the US Census Bureau

<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/48000.html>

Media

Local newspapers

<http://www.newslink.org/txnews.html>

Local radio stations

<http://www.newslink.org/txradi.html>

General Information

Infoplease Texas

<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0108277.html>

50states.com - Texas

<http://www.50states.com/texas.htm>

Please find more information at

<http://usa.usembassy.de/classroom/electionproject2008/index>