

## Gulf Coast Regional Population

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The Gulf Coast region's almost 14,000 square mile area is home to approximately 5.4 million people. The region has a population that represents one-fourth of the population of the entire state of Texas. Seventy percent of the population resides in Harris County, the fourth fastest growing county in the nation and the home of the City of Houston.

The largest population increases have occurred in the areas immediately adjacent to Harris County: Fort Bend, Montgomery, and northern Brazoria counties.

The region's workforce is relatively young, with 30% of the population aged 25-44.

Total regional population has grown by about 12% since 2000 to approximately 5.4 million in 2005.

Population is expected to grow by another 10% by 2010 to approximately 4.64 million.

By the year 2010, the population will become more Hispanic and Asian and less Anglo. The largest absolute increase in numbers will occur in the Hispanic population.

Census data show that almost 76% of the population over 18 has a high school diploma or higher degree.