

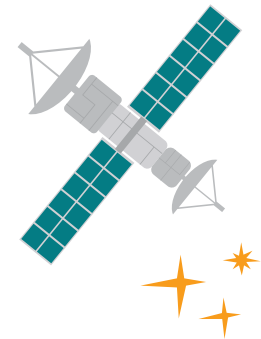
State of Texas Children 2016

★ Race and Equity in San Antonio ★

We all want a bright future for our children, and we want San Antonio to be a place that makes that bright future possible. Building on San Antonio's rich history, the city's future depends on the health, education and financial security of all its children—across neighborhood, income, gender, race and ethnicity.¹

San Antonio is a city of great cultural and social diversity, and its child population today closely represents the future population of Texas. Building off a strong tradition of service and community across racial and ethnic lines, San Antonio has long been a vanguard of activism and political leadership, functioning as a laboratory of democracy for Texas. However, the data still show gaps in children's health, education and financial security across race and ethnicity. In order to "raise the bar" in child well-being for all San Antonio area kids, we have to "close the gaps" in outcomes between children by intentionally breaking down obstacles and creating equitable opportunities for good health, an excellent education and economic security for every child. This is the only way to ensure San Antonio's economic future is strong for both businesses and families.

This San Antonio report is part of a larger series of reports in the Texas Kids Count project that focuses on equity in child well-being across Texas and in several of its major metro areas. See more at CPPP.org/kidscount.



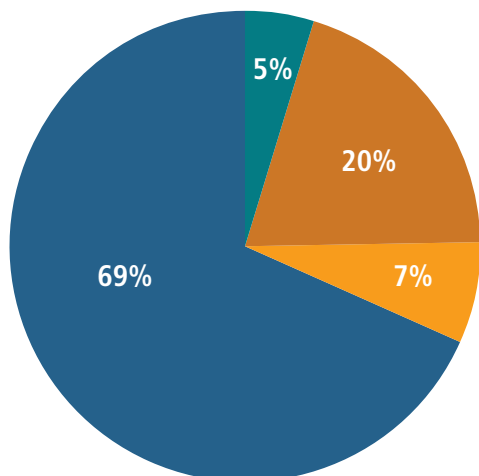
DEMOGRAPHICS

More than half a million kids live in the San Antonio metro area, which is made up of eight counties: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina, and Wilson.² Demographic data are provided on the San Antonio metro area to give a regional look at child population change. We focus on Bexar County as the metro area's core in our analysis of children's financial security, health and education.

THE PRESENT: The racial and ethnic composition of the San Antonio area's child population today closely models the Texas of tomorrow.³

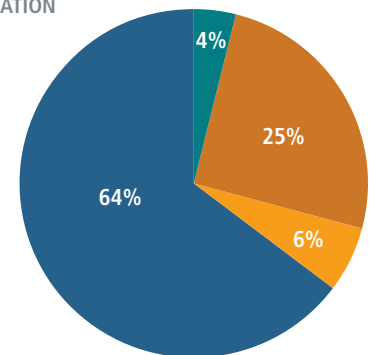
BEXAR COUNTY, 2013
TOTAL CHILD POPULATION
482,300

- HISPANIC
- WHITE
- BLACK
- ASIAN, MULTIRACIAL OR OTHER RACE

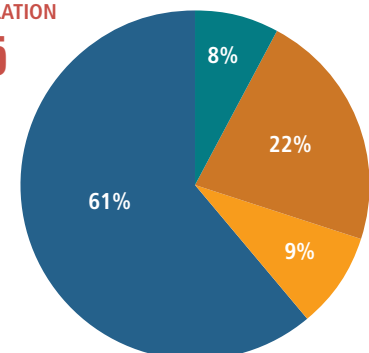


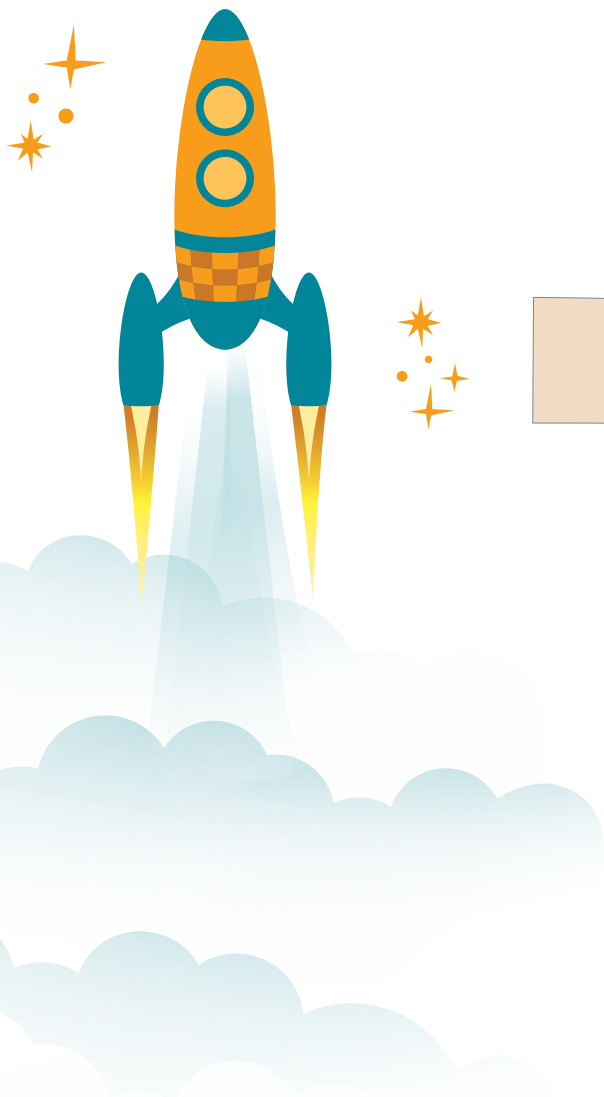
**In this report, "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably.*

SAN ANTONIO METRO AREA, 2013
TOTAL CHILD POPULATION
595,145



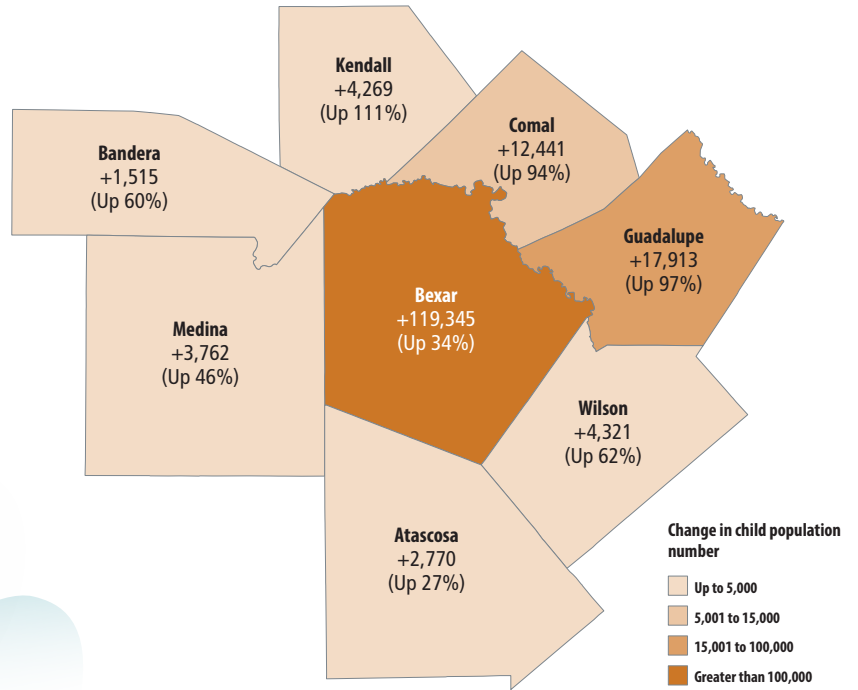
★ **TEXAS, 2050**
TOTAL CHILD POPULATION
9,207,545





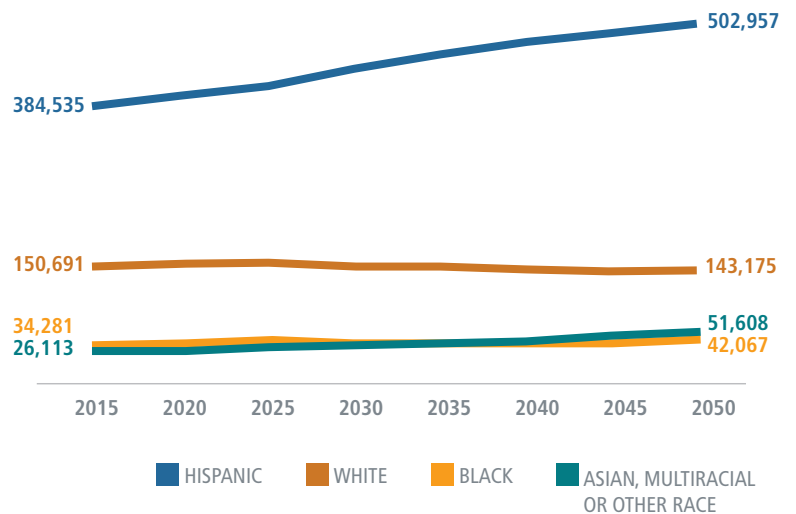
THE PAST: Bexar county has experienced the *largest* growth in child population (number), while Kendall, Guadalupe and Comal counties have experienced the *fastest* growth (percentage).

San Antonio metro area growth in the child population from 1990-2010⁴



THE FUTURE: Across the eight-county metro area, children of color will continue to represent the future workforce and leaders of San Antonio.

San Antonio metro area child population projections by race and ethnicity, 2015-2050⁵



PLACE, RACE & POVERTY

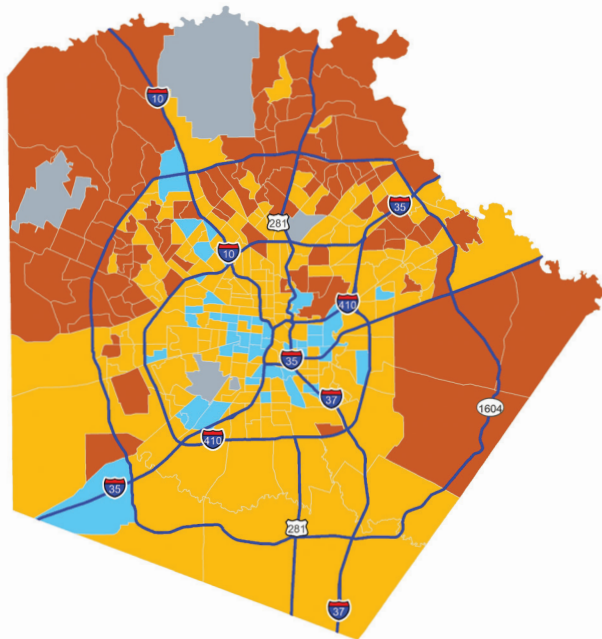
San Antonio has a unique place in Texas history, but like many Texas cities, a history of discriminatory local practices contributed to the development of separate neighborhoods and schools for children of different backgrounds. As Anglo and German immigrants moved to San Antonio in the late 1800s and early 1900s, housing developers denied the sale or rental of new housing to potential buyers who were Latino or Black. Because of these restrictions, Latino and Black families often had to live in unplanned developments with poorer services between the planned neighborhoods for White families. In the 1930s, the majority of Latino families lived in a four-square mile area on the west side of San Antonio known as the “Mexican Quarter.” It housed more than 65,000 people, and researchers at the Works Progress Administration described it as “one of the most extensive slums to be found in any American city.” Similarly, Black families were forced into a few neighborhoods east of the city. Officials provided separate schools for “White,” “colored,” and “Spanish-speaking” children. Although no longer in legal practice, these policies have had cumulative effects in the economic and educational benefits and disadvantages that can be passed on from generation to generation.⁶

White children in Bexar County are more likely to live in low-poverty areas, while the majority of Latino children are more likely to live in moderate-to-high-poverty areas.¹²

These policies and practices may be from San Antonio’s past, but they still have a profound effect on the present. Current policies and practices do not undo past injustices, and barriers in housing, employment and education contribute to far too many children living in poverty and troubling disparities by race and ethnicity. Today, nearly one of every three Hispanic and Black children in Bexar County lives in poverty.⁷

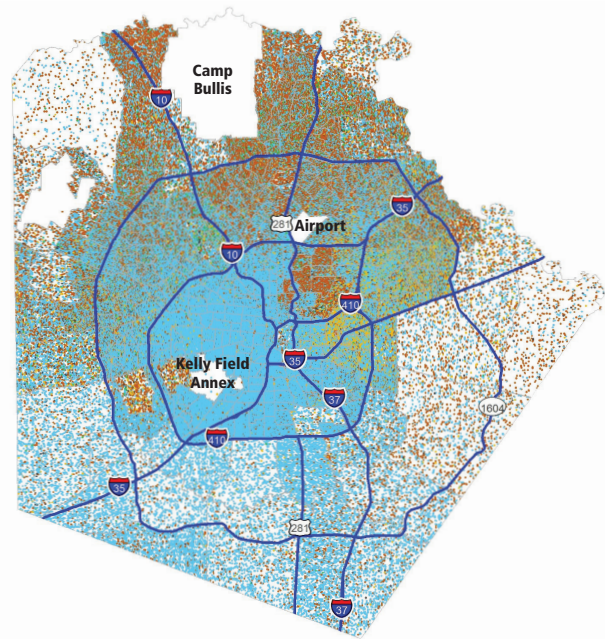
Research has found that the “neighborhood effects” of living in high-poverty areas influence not just children in low-income families, but all children who live in the area, including children who do not live in poverty themselves.⁸ Neighborhoods of concentrated poverty can isolate residents from resources and opportunities. Twenty-four percent of children in San Antonio live in high-poverty neighborhoods. Although this rate is still too high, it is one of the lowest of Texas’ big cities.⁹

Both racial and income segregation are strongly connected to lower rates of economic mobility for all. The more segregated by race and income, the worse the chances of escaping poverty—whether you are White, Black, Hispanic or Asian. Children who live in more segregated areas have less economic mobility than children who live in less segregated areas.¹⁰ Although we often talk about segregation in terms of high-poverty areas, research shows that “segregation of the wealthy,” or the extent to which higher-income people live in neighborhoods with other higher-income people, is actually greater than “segregation of the poor.” San Antonio is one of the metro areas with the highest degrees of “segregation of the wealthy.”¹¹



Bexar County Total Poverty Rate by Census Tract, 2010-2014

- No Data
- Lower-Poverty
- Moderate-to-High Poverty
- Highest-Poverty



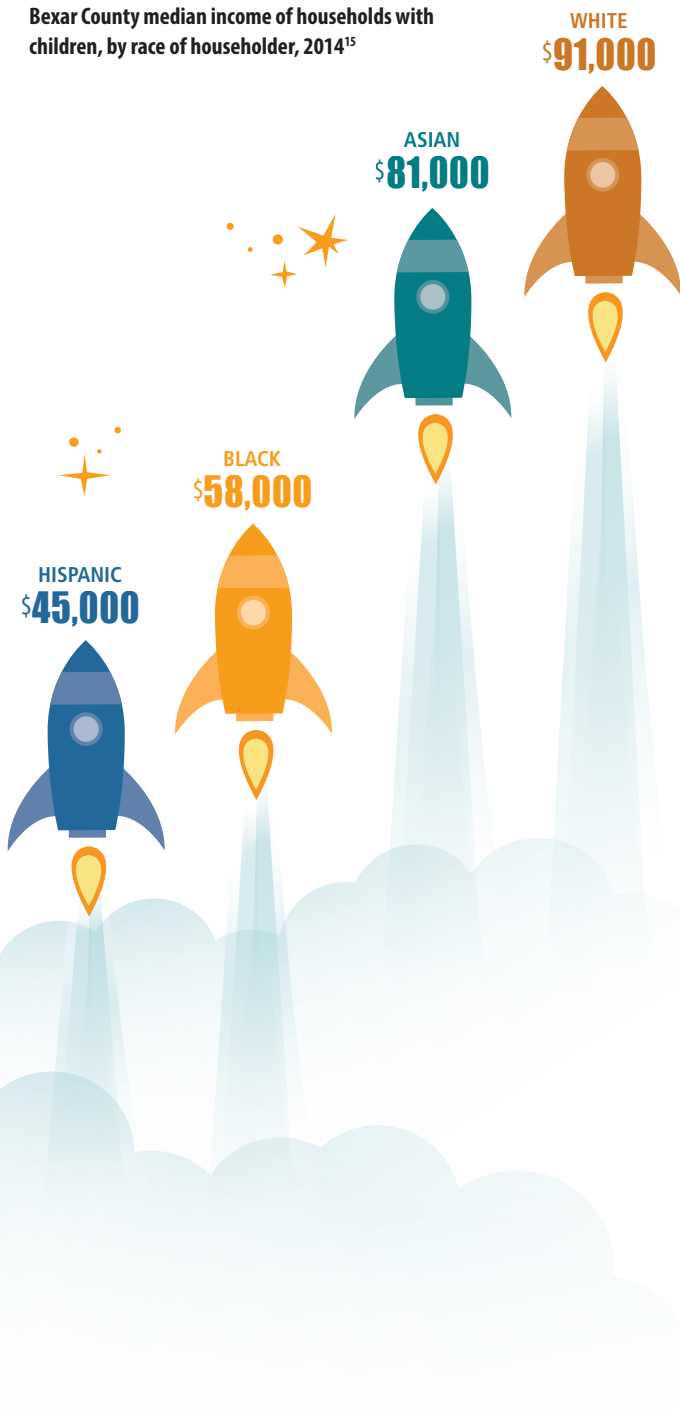
Bexar County Child Population by Race/Ethnicity Census Tracts, 2010 (dot = 1 child)

- Hispanic
- White
- Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Multirace & Other Race/Ethnicity

Other factors like family structure and gender also influence the likelihood of living in poverty. Bexar County's single-parent families are more likely to live in poverty than married-couple families, and those poverty rates for single parents differ by gender and race. Single-mother families in Bexar County are nearly twice as likely to live in poverty as single-father families. Forty-five percent of single-mother families who are Hispanic live in poverty, compared to 22 percent of single-mother families who are White. More than one in three children in Bexar County lives with a single parent.¹³

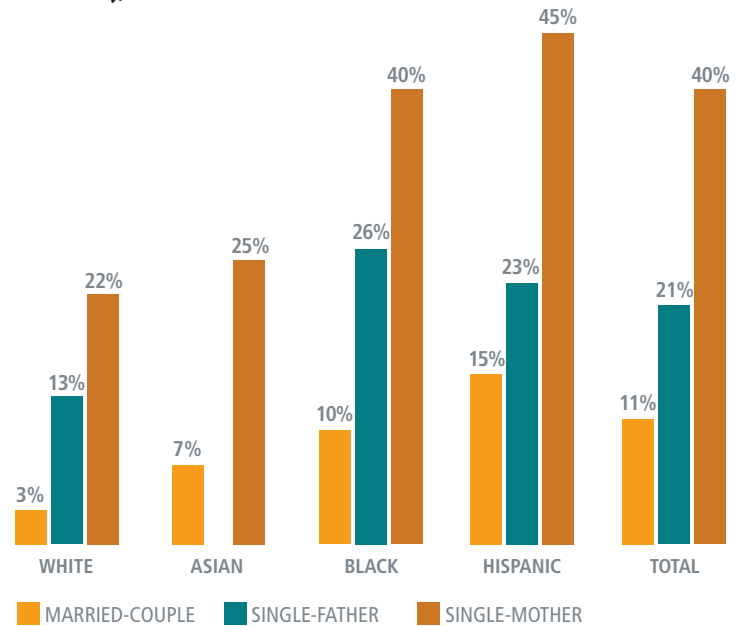
White households with children in Bexar County generally have much greater financial resources.

Bexar County median income of households with children, by race of householder, 2014¹⁵



Gender, race and family type affect the likelihood of living in poverty.

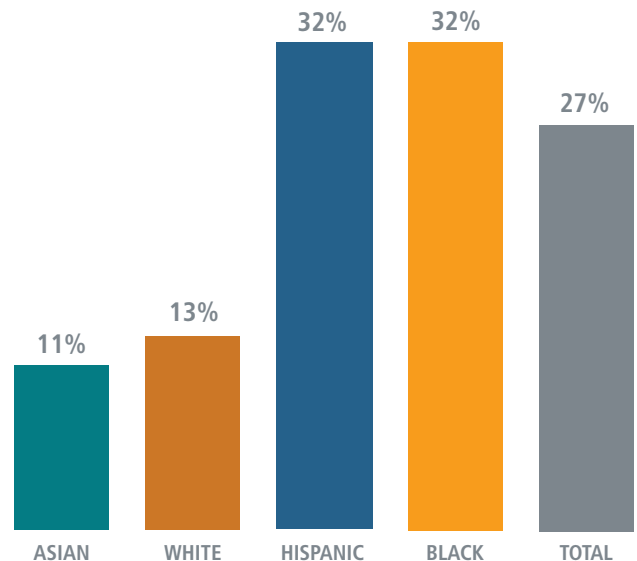
Poverty rate, by family type and race/ethnicity, Bexar County, 2010-2014¹⁴



Note: Data on poverty rates for single-father Asian families are not statistically reliable and therefore not reported. Differences between Asian and Black married-couple poverty rates are not statistically significant. Differences between Black and Hispanic single-father; White and Asian single-mother; and Black and Hispanic single-mother family poverty rates are not statistically significant.

Bexar County's child poverty rates are far too high, with wide disparities by race and ethnicity.

Bexar County child poverty rates, 2014¹⁶



Note: Differences between Asian and White child poverty rates are not statistically significant.

HEALTH

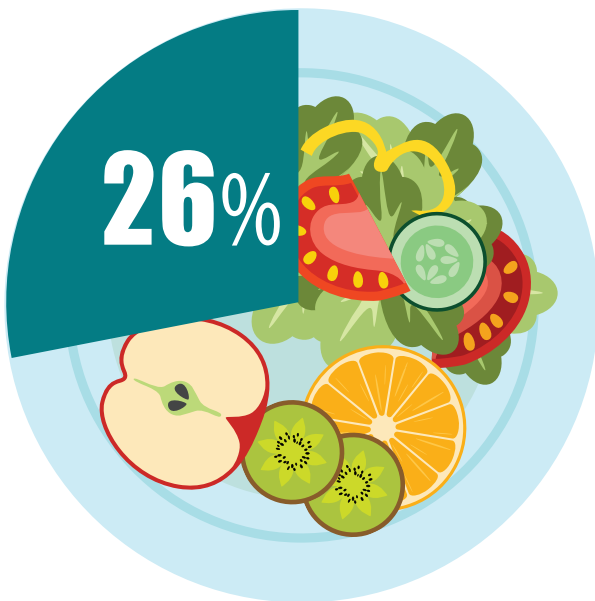
Race, place and poverty also affect children’s health. Raising healthy children is about more than just encouraging kids to eat vegetables and exercise. Health is also about making sure all kids, across race, ethnicity, language or family income, can access healthy meals regularly, live in safe environments, receive preventive health care, and see a doctor when they need to.

Food insecurity

An estimated 25.6 percent of children (or 120,470 children) in Bexar County are food-insecure, meaning they lack consistent access to enough food for a healthy diet.¹⁷ Food insecurity is a symptom of economic instability. When families struggle financially, too often little money is left for food, increasing the chance that kids go hungry. When growing children lack essential nutrients, they can experience delays in physical, intellectual and emotional growth.¹⁸ Hungry children have a harder time focusing in school and are more likely to have social and behavioral problems.¹⁹ Research shows Black and Hispanic children in Texas have rates of food insecurity exceeding 30 percent.²⁰

Twenty-six percent of children in Bexar County lack consistent access to adequate food.

Rate of child food insecurity in Bexar County, 2013²¹

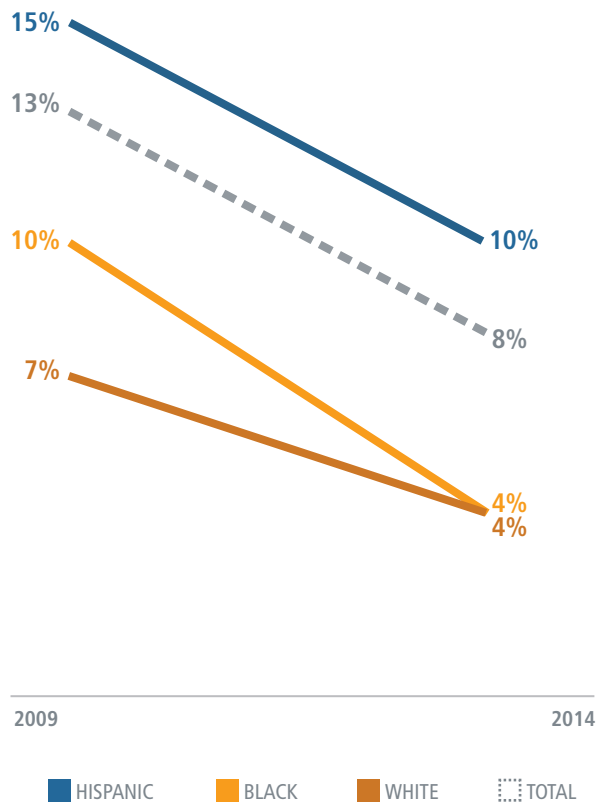


Access to health care

Consistent access to health care begins with adequate health insurance coverage. Bexar County has been a leader in providing health insurance to children; **the county has one of the lowest child uninsured rates in Texas and has improved coverage rates for children of all races and ethnicities.**²² However, even with its relatively low uninsured rates, Hispanic children are still the most likely to be uninsured.²³ One barrier is jobs that do not offer affordable insurance to families.²⁴ Hispanic children are the least likely to be covered through their parents’ employers even though their parents have employment rates similar to, or even higher than other racial/ethnic groups.²⁵ Research shows that expanding coverage to low-income parents could improve rates even more.²⁶

Although Bexar County has one of the lowest child uninsured rates in Texas, Latino children are still the least likely to have health insurance.

Bexar County child uninsured rates, by race/ethnicity, 2009-2014²⁷



Note: Data on uninsured rates for Asian children are not statistically reliable and therefore not reported.

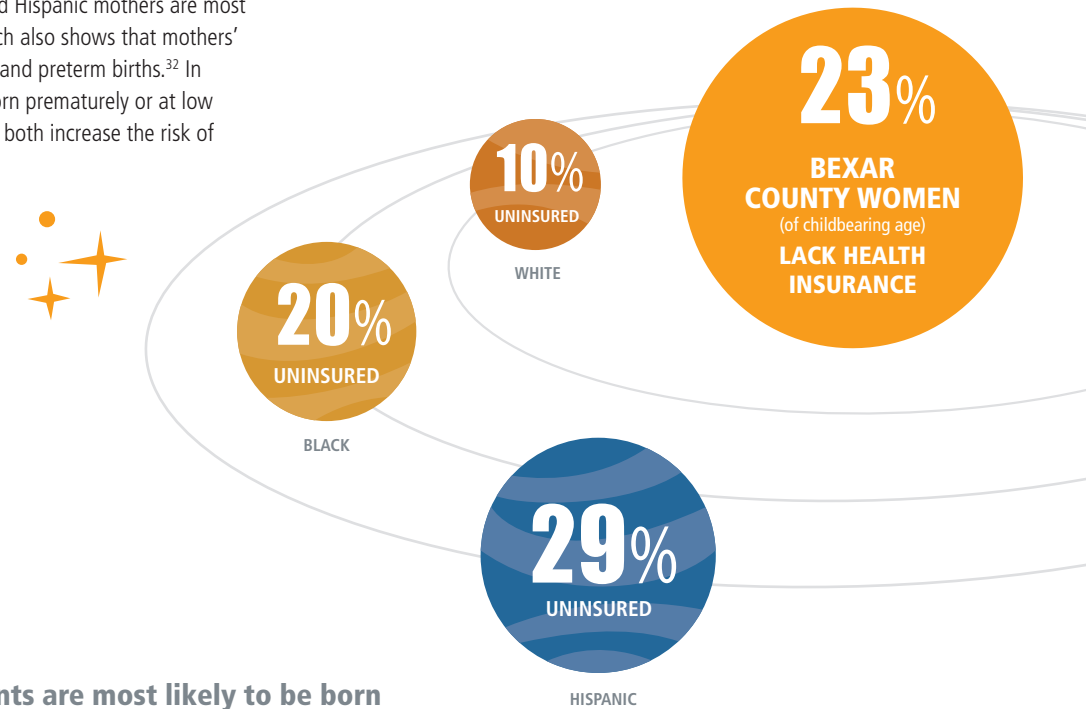
Maternal and infant health

Overall health and health care access for women before, during and after pregnancy is critical to babies' health. Although women in Bexar County are more likely to be insured than in other large urban counties and statewide, nearly one of every four women (90,000+) in Bexar County between the ages of 15 and 44 lacks health insurance. The likelihood of being uninsured as a woman of childbearing age differs based on race and ethnicity²⁸ and can lead to delayed or inconsistent care should a woman become pregnant.²⁹

The most common barriers reported by Texas mothers with late or no prenatal care are being uninsured, not having enough money for the appointment, and not being able to book an appointment.³⁰ Black and Hispanic mothers are most likely to have late access to prenatal care.³¹ Research also shows that mothers' chronic stress increases the risk of low birthweight and preterm births.³² In Bexar County, Black infants are most likely to be born prematurely or at low birthweight.³³ Prematurity and low birthweight can both increase the risk of physical and cognitive developmental delays.³⁴

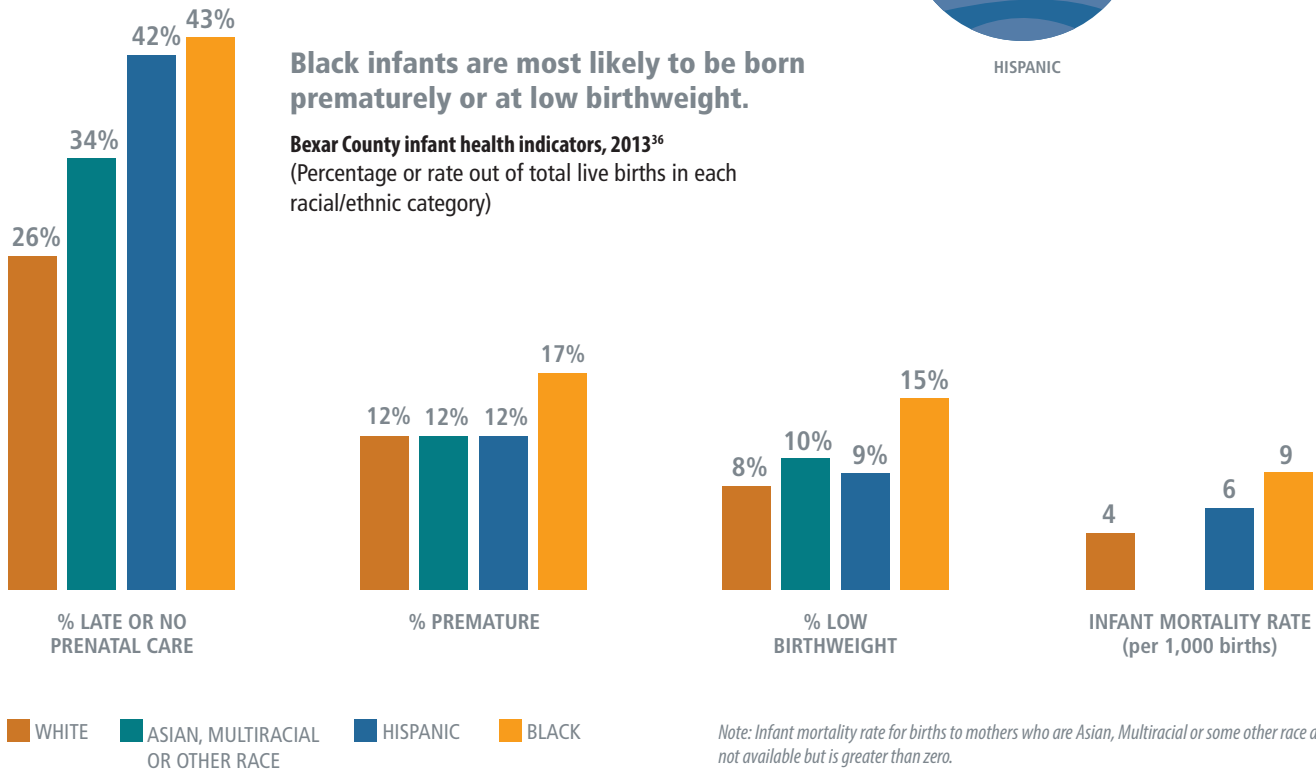
Bexar County women of childbearing age (ages 15-44) who are uninsured³⁵

Note: Data on uninsured rates for Asian women are not statistically reliable and therefore not reported.



Black infants are most likely to be born prematurely or at low birthweight.

Bexar County infant health indicators, 2013³⁶
(Percentage or rate out of total live births in each racial/ethnic category)



Note: Infant mortality rate for births to mothers who are Asian, Multiracial or some other race are not available but is greater than zero.

EDUCATION

Every kid in San Antonio deserves an education that helps her reach her full potential. And we know that different students need different resources and supports to be successful. However, today our education system often struggles to provide equitable opportunities for all children, threatening their futures and our collective economic security.

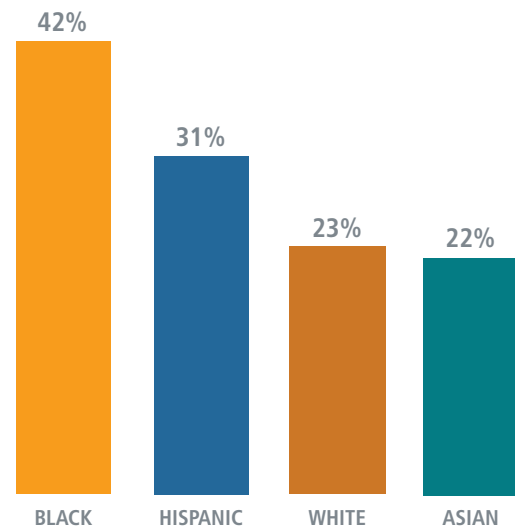
School funding matters for San Antonio kids.

As the courts have decided repeatedly, Texas' school finance system does not meet its constitutional obligation to adequately fund public education. **The majority of school funding comes from local property taxes that are generated based on the value of property within school districts.** That means school districts that include homes or businesses with high property values can generate more tax money than school districts that include homes or businesses with lower property values. More financial resources mean better compensation, development and support of teachers and staff, and better access to materials and equipment like books, science labs, art, music and technology. And because property values are lower in poorer neighborhoods, tax rates are often higher, in order to make up the difference. The Independent School District with the highest property wealth in Bexar County serves a student population that is 54 percent White and 40 percent Latino, while the ISD with the lowest property wealth serves a student population that is 97 percent Latino. In fact, five out of the six ISDs with the lowest property wealth per student serve student populations that are over 90 percent Latino.³⁷

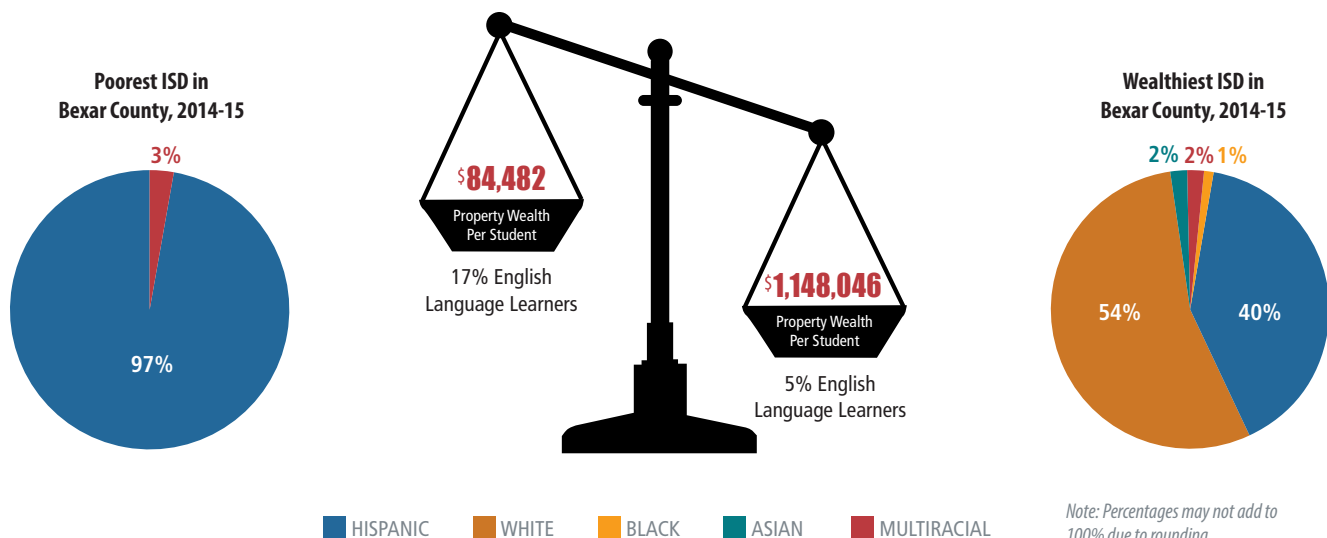
Two issues related to school funding tend to disproportionately affect Black and Hispanic students: instability in a school's teacher workforce and teacher experience. Unstable staffing can negatively affect school climate,³⁸ educational performance,³⁹ and school finances.⁴⁰ Schools with high turnover rates result in a larger share of inexperienced teachers.⁴¹ Although first-year teachers may be effective, they tend to be less effective than non-first-year teachers in increasing student achievement in math and reading.⁴² The three Bexar County ISDs with the highest shares of first-year teachers serve predominantly low-income and Latino students, while the ISDs that serve the largest share of White students have the lowest share of first-year teachers.⁴³

Teacher instability is most likely to affect Black students in Bexar County.

Bexar County students attending schools with more than 20 percent teacher turnover during 2014-15⁴⁴



Property wealth varies enormously among Bexar County's school districts, so the state must help provide more equitable funding.⁴⁵



Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

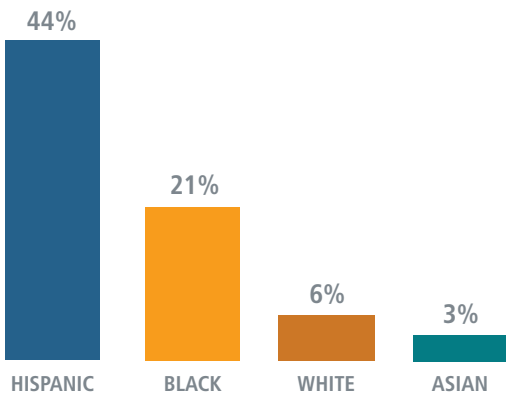
Race, ethnicity and economic need are strongly connected in Bexar County's public schools.

Race, ethnicity and economic need in schools are strongly connected and tend to follow patterns of residential segregation and poverty concentration constructed by decades of policy choices and individual behaviors.⁴⁶

From the first school finance case filed by Demetrio Rodriguez that went to the U.S. Supreme Court, San Antonio has been the epicenter of the struggle for equity in school finance and educational opportunities between districts that serve families of different races, ethnicities and income levels. Racial and income segregation are connected to inequitable school resources and academic opportunities.⁴⁷ Although teachers of varying levels of experience and effectiveness teach across schools, research shows that, in general, students in high-poverty schools have worse access to consistently effective teaching throughout their schools.⁴⁸ High-poverty schools also serve more students who are more likely to face out-of-school challenges that create barriers to learning, such as housing instability,⁴⁹ food insecurity⁵⁰ and lack of access to health

Latino students in Bexar County are more than seven times more likely to be enrolled in high-poverty districts than their White peers.

Share of Bexar County students in each racial/ethnic group enrolled in high-poverty school districts⁵⁵
(Districts with >75% students qualifying for free/reduced lunch)



CONCLUSION

The San Antonio area can be a place where every child has the basic building blocks—health, education and financial security—to reach his or her full potential. Accomplishing this depends on enacting smart public policies and practices that develop the capabilities in all kids.

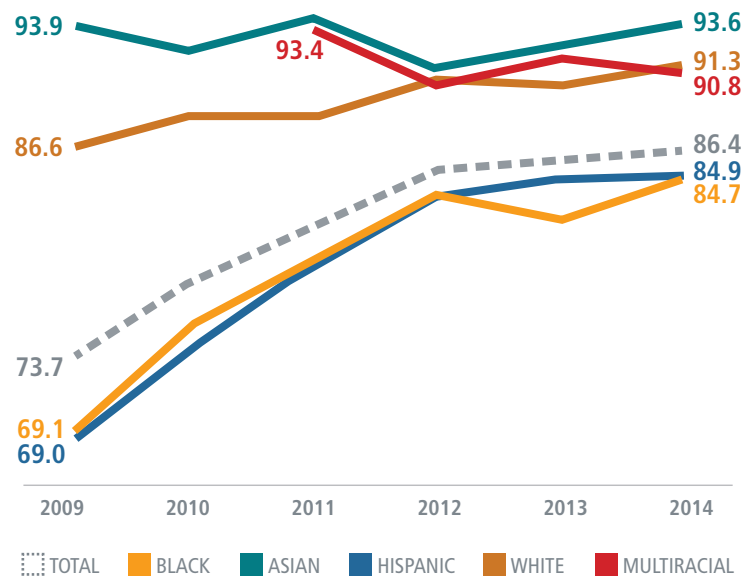
Equity in child well-being—by race, ethnicity, income, neighborhood and gender—should be a value reflected by our decisions, and a goal we all work towards. San Antonio has long been a site of activism, from parents speaking out about inequity in school funding, to cultivating Latino political leadership at the local and statewide levels, to locally supporting high-quality early education. San Antonio can continue to build on its rich history by not only creating strong, equity-focused policies at the local level, but also using its strength of experience and influence to ensure that legislators support their efforts at the state level, too.

care.⁵¹ Black and Latino students in Bexar County are much more likely to be enrolled in high-poverty districts (where more than 75 percent of students qualify for free or reduced lunch) than White and Asian children.⁵²

Although low-income students face additional barriers, high-poverty districts can and do perform well for low-income, Latino and Black students. One important indicator of educational achievement is high school graduation. There are many measures of high school success but under any measure, districts in Bexar County have improved graduation rates for nearly all racial and ethnic groups of students. In fact, some high-poverty districts in Bexar County have higher graduation rates for Latino students than lower-poverty districts.⁵³ But as the data show, we can still do more to support the success of Hispanic and Black students throughout Bexar County.⁵⁴

Districts in Bexar County have made progress on supporting high school graduation but still need to close the gaps for Hispanic and Black students.

Bexar County high school completion rates by race/ethnicity, 2009-2014⁵⁶



*Note: In 2009 and 2010, data are for "Asian/Pacific Islander"

By raising the bar and closing the gaps in child well-being across race, ethnicity, income and gender, San Antonio can capitalize on the strengths of its diverse child population, keeping it one of the most dynamic cities in the U.S.

This report was authored by Jennifer Lee, Research Associate, and Bo La Sohn, Research and Planning Intern, as part of Texas Kids Count, a project of the Center for Public Policy Priorities. Maps created by Kate Vickery. The research was funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc. For endnotes and sources, visit CPPP.org/kidscount.



ENDNOTES

1. We generally use the term "White" for "Non-Hispanic White" or "Anglo" and "Black" for "Black" or "African-American." "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably as a separate category, mutually exclusive of the racial categories "White" and "Black."
2. Metropolitan areas are defined by the Office of Management and Budget and contain a core urban area of at least 50,000 population and adjacent counties with a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. For more information and current delineations, visit <http://www.census.gov/population/metro/>
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12. Neighborhood poverty rate data from 2014 American Community Survey. Child population data by race/ethnicity is from 2010 Census Summary File 1, Table PCT12H – PCT12O
13. The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center. Children in single-parent families. <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/3059-children-in-single-parent-families?loc=45&loct=5#detail/5/6515-6768/false/1485,1376,1201,1074,1000/any/8192,8193>
14. CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES analysis of 2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Tables B17010, B17010I, B17010H, B17010D, B17010B.
15. CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES analysis of 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample.
16. Center for Public Policy Priorities analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates). Table C17001, C17001B, C17001D, C17001H, C17001I
17. The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center. Child food insecurity. <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/7889-child-food-insecurity?loc=45&loct=5#detailed/2/any/false/36,868,867,133/any/15218,15219>
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