

The State of  
**Black**  
HOUSTON  
*Now*



# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Foreword.....                 | i  |
| Demographics.....             | 1  |
| Housing.....                  | 6  |
| Wealth.....                   | 13 |
| Education.....                | 17 |
| Family.....                   | 25 |
| Health.....                   | 34 |
| Religion.....                 | 41 |
| Criminal Justice.....         | 45 |
| The Judiciary.....            | 54 |
| Minorities in Law School..... | 60 |

## FORWARD

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Texas Southern University was established during a period in Texas history when segregation was legally mandated. Confined to facilities, communities and educational institutions separate from white Americans, African Americans established their own businesses, communities and schools. Typically, African Americans were excluded from sharing in government subsidies as well as private credit. More than twenty years after its founding, the Texas legislature designated Texas Southern University as a state university with the special purpose of solving urban problems.

The Earl Carl Institute was created in 1992 at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. The institute from that time to this has committed itself to addressing urban problems that have included education policies to reduce recidivism, public school policies that favor abstinence plus, recommendations for curbing the overrepresentation of minority school children in alternative education programs, seeking a more racially and ethnically representative judiciary and reforming the local criminal justice system to provide effective indigent defense to name a few.

The institute's latest initiative is the State of Black Houston Now (SOBHN), an ambitious and aggressive program that combines the talents of individuals and organizations to formally identify and solve problems within the African American community. SOBHN is a multi-year endeavor that is launched by way of a Voter Education and Empowerment Town hall and this publication. SOBHN continues with a solutions-oriented symposium in February 2011 and a series of scholarly publications that will address specific areas including Education, Family, Criminal Justice and more. These publications will be released throughout the year.

SOBHN has already begun establishing brain trusts that will be comprised of diverse, richly talented experts who will examine the problems the African American community in Houston faces and develop policies and recommend actions to solve the problems. The brain trusts participants will produce solutions and the Institute will publish their work and findings.

SOBHN is also structured to maintain ongoing surveys of the African American community in Houston on topical issues.

This publication presents facts and figures representing the State of Black Houston Now. It is designed to serve as a resource for the community and community based organizations. It presents a snapshot as an introduction to the analysis and problem solving that will be forthcoming. We recognize that statistics may say different things to different people and this publication reports the statistics without analysis or editorializing. That will come later.

This publication has relied on various sources for data that sometimes conflicted and often varied. We have reported what is currently available and plan to publish an update in the fall 2011 based on the 2010 census data.

The institute is honored to be working with a collaboration of organizations to achieve the objectives of the State of Black Houston Now. These entities include the Mickey Leland Center for World Hunger and Peace, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)-Houston Branch, the Houston Area Urban League (HAUL), TSU College of Education and School of Public Affairs, and the Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

We hope that the State of Black Houston Now would serve as a catalyst for ensuring a dynamic and robust future for African Americans in Houston.

Regards

**Dr. Jay Cummings**  
**President, Earl Carl Institute**  
**for Legal and Social Policy**

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW

## DEMOGRAPHICS



The United States Census reports that there are more than three hundred seven million people in America. See Table 1.<sup>i</sup> Almost forty million of them consider themselves to be African American.<sup>ii</sup> See Table 2.<sup>iii</sup> Representing about 13% of the population, the African American population has continued to rise since the 1920s when it was reported to be less than 10%.<sup>iv</sup> The largest African American populations are in New York, Florida, Texas and Georgia.<sup>v</sup> See Table 2. By 2008, the City of Houston was one of the ten cities with the largest percentage of African Americans.<sup>vi</sup> See Table 3

**Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2009**

| Geographic Area      | Population Estimates |
|----------------------|----------------------|
|                      | July 1, 2009         |
| <b>United States</b> | 307,006,550          |
| <b>Northeast</b>     | 55,283,679           |
| <b>Midwest</b>       | 66,836,911           |
| <b>South</b>         | 113,317,879          |
| <b>West</b>          | 71,568,081           |
| Alabama              | 4,708,708            |
| Alaska               | 698,473              |
| Arizona              | 6,595,778            |
| Arkansas             | 2,889,450            |
| California           | 36,961,664           |
| Colorado             | 5,024,748            |
| Connecticut          | 3,518,288            |
| Delaware             | 885,122              |
| District of Columbia | 599,657              |
| Florida              | 18,537,969           |
| Georgia              | 9,829,211            |
| Hawaii               | 1,295,178            |
| Idaho                | 1,545,801            |
| Illinois             | 12,910,409           |
| Indiana              | 6,423,113            |
| Iowa                 | 3,007,856            |
| Kansas               | 2,818,747            |
| Kentucky             | 4,314,113            |
| Louisiana            | 4,492,076            |
| Maine                | 1,318,301            |
| Maryland             | 5,699,478            |
| Massachusetts        | 6,593,587            |
| Michigan             | 9,969,727            |
| Minnesota            | 5,266,214            |
| Mississippi          | 2,951,996            |
| Missouri             | 5,987,580            |
| Montana              | 974,989              |
| Nebraska             | 1,796,619            |
| Nevada               | 2,643,085            |
| New Hampshire        | 1,324,575            |
| New Jersey           | 8,707,739            |
| New Mexico           | 2,009,671            |
| New York             | 19,541,453           |
| North Carolina       | 9,380,884            |
| North Dakota         | 646,844              |
| Ohio                 | 11,542,645           |
| Oklahoma             | 3,687,050            |
| Oregon               | 3,825,657            |
| Pennsylvania         | 12,604,767           |
| Rhode Island         | 1,053,209            |
| South Carolina       | 4,561,242            |
| South Dakota         | 812,383              |
| Tennessee            | 6,296,254            |
| Texas                | 24,782,302           |
| Utah                 | 2,784,572            |
| Vermont              | 621,760              |
| Virginia             | 7,882,590            |
| Washington           | 6,664,195            |
| West Virginia        | 1,819,777            |
| Wisconsin            | 5,654,774            |
| Wyoming              | 544,270              |
| Puerto Rico          | 3,967,288            |

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW

## DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table 2. Estimates of the Resident Population of the ten States with highest African American Population States: July 1, 2009**

| Geographic Area | Total       | Race Alone  |                           |                                   |            |  | Two or More Races |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|-------------------|
|                 |             | White       | Black or African American | American Indian and Alaska Native | Asian      | Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander |                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    |             |             |                           |                                   |            |  |                   |
| <b>US</b>       | 307,006,550 | 244,298,393 | 39,641,060                | 3,151,284                         | 14,013,954 | 578,353                                    | 5,323,506         |
| California      | 36,961,664  | 28,244,628  | 2,453,695                 | 447,424                           | 4,689,992  | 159,458                                    | 966,467           |
| Florida         | 18,537,969  | 14,725,600  | 2,983,327                 | 93,723                            | 445,494    | 18,635                                     | 271,190           |
| Georgia         | 9,829,211   | 6,391,950   | 2,970,607                 | 37,427                            | 290,045    | 8,792                                      | 130,390           |
| Illinois        | 12,910,409  | 10,195,829  | 1,926,551                 | 45,873                            | 567,673    | 9,325                                      | 165,158           |
| Michigan        | 9,969,727   | 8,091,776   | 1,413,582                 | 62,485                            | 241,597    | 4,437                                      | 155,850           |
| New York        | 19,541,453  | 14,350,944  | 3,352,100                 | 110,304                           | 1,387,848  | 20,568                                     | 319,689           |
| North Carolina  | 9,380,884   | 6,917,452   | 2,027,898                 | 117,497                           | 192,121    | 7,162                                      | 118,754           |
| Ohio            | 11,542,645  | 9,771,805   | 1,395,368                 | 30,008                            | 184,606    | 4,551                                      | 156,307           |
| Pennsylvania    | 12,604,767  | 10,741,619  | 1,370,987                 | 28,593                            | 317,580    | 6,186                                      | 139,802           |
| Texas           | 24,782,302  | 20,351,522  | 2,977,306                 | 193,482                           | 883,806    | 31,763                                     | 344,423           |

Note: Hispanic origin is considered an ethnicity, not a race. Hispanics may be of any race. The original race data from Census 2000 are modified to eliminate the "Some Other Race" category. For more information see <http://www.census.gov/popest/archives/files/MRSF-01-US1.html>.

**Table 3. Large Metropolitan Statistical Areas-Ten Highest African American Population <sup>1</sup> 2008 (July)**

| <u>Metropolitan Statistical Area</u>               | <u>Population</u> | <u>Black Population</u> | <u>Percent Black</u> |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA                 | 5,376,285         | 1,696,188               | 31.55%               |
| Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI                | 9,569,624         | 1,715,449               | 17.93%               |
| Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Michigan                   | 4,425,110         | 1,018,387               | 23.10%               |
| Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX                     | 5,728,143         | 981,831                 | 17.14%               |
| Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA               | 12,872,808        | 990,746                 | 7.70%                |
| Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL            | 5,414,772         | 1,123,986               | 20.76%               |
| New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA | 19,006,798        | 3,690,694               | 19.42%               |
| Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD        | 5,838,471         | 1,224,721               | 20.98%               |
| Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV       | 5,358,130         | 1,417,346               | 26.45%               |

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### HOUSTON

Of the almost one million African Americans who live in the geographical area identified by the U.S. Census as Houston-Sugarland-Bay City, almost 500,000 reside in the City of Houston. Approximately forty-seven percent of these residents are male and 53% are female.<sup>vii</sup> Generally, The African American population in Houston showed signs of high mobility rates within the city with 23% of Houston's African Americans moving from 2006 to 2007.<sup>viii</sup>

Within this geographical area, the African American population is almost evenly distributed in areas described as Northeast Houston (85,000), Southeast Houston (65,000), Inside Loop I-610 (75,000) and Northwest Houston (115,000). Approximately 155,000 African Americans reside in Southwest Houston.

### Northeast Houston

The largest African American populations within northeast Houston are in zip codes defined as 77016 [East Little York/Homestead], 77028 [Settagast], 77015 and 77078. The areas with the highest percentage of African Americans are Settagast (80%) and East Little York/Homestead (73%) while the area that has seen the greatest increase of African Americans is Westfield (77073).<sup>ix</sup> Westfield saw a 155% growth in African American population between 2000 and 2009 and is expected to realize a growth of 41% between 2009 and 2014.<sup>x</sup>



### Southeast Houston

Of the approximately 65,000 African Americans who live within the southeast Houston area, the largest numbers are located in zip codes 77033 [South Park], 77048, 77051, and 77047. The southeast areas with the highest percentage of African Americans are 77051 (91%), 77048 (82%), 77033 (76%) and 77047 (63%). Areas 77059 (east of I-45), 77047 (South I-288) and 77062 (SE Houston) experienced the largest growth in African American population between 2000 and 2009 at the rates of 66%, 59% and 41% respectively.<sup>xi</sup>

### Inside Loop I 610

The greatest number of African Americans residing inside Loop I-610 live in third ward followed by Riverside and Kashmere Gardens. Communities with the largest percentage African American populations are Riverside Terrace with 76%, Third Ward with 67% and Kashmere Gardens with 58%. The largest growth in African American population between 2000 and 2009 were in Second Ward (77011) at 53%, Second Ward (77003) at 46% and Fourth Ward/River Oaks at 41%.<sup>xii</sup>

## Northwest Houston

The largest African American populations in northwest Houston are in south of Beltway 8 in areas 77088 and 77091 which also have the highest percentage of their communities African American at 56% and 64% respectively. The northwest area with the largest growth in African American population during 2000-2009 was 77095 (Cy-Fair) at 107%; that area is expected to see a 32% growth in African American population between 2009 and 2014.<sup>xiii</sup>

## Southwest Houston

Of the more than 155,000 African American population living in southwest Houston, the largest populations reside in each of 77072 (Alief), 77099 (Alief) and 77071 (Along South Beltway). The Cinco Ranch/Katy area has seen the largest growth in African American population at 127% but has less than 500 African American residents. Uptown Galleria area at 77056 has seen a 99% population growth from 2000-2009 and has about 600 African American residents.<sup>xiv</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2009 (NST-EST2009-01), released December 2009.

<sup>ii</sup> The race categories are those that are approved for data collection purposes by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. For more information, visit the Office of Management and Budget Web site at: [www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html).

<sup>iii</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Table 4. Estimates of the Resident Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States and States: July 1, 2009 (SC-EST2009-04); Released June 2010.

<sup>iv</sup> U S Census Bureau, Population Division, Decennial Reports, <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/AfricanAmericanPopulation>, and see <http://www.BlackDemographics.com/population.html>.

<sup>v</sup> *Supra* note iii.

<sup>vi</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Table 1—Annual Estimates of the Population of Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 (CBSA-EST2008-01); published March 19, 2009.

<sup>vii</sup> U S Census Bureau, Population Division, Decennial Reports, <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/AfricanAmericanPopulation>, *see also* <http://www.BlackDemographics.com/population.html>.

<sup>viii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>ix</sup> *Id.*

<sup>x</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xi</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xiii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xiv</sup> *Id.*

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## HOUSING



In 2006-2008, the City of Houston alone had 748,000 occupied housing units - 351,000 (47 percent) owner occupied and 397,000 (53 percent) renter occupied. The median monthly housing costs for mortgaged owners was \$1,449, non-mortgaged owners \$501, and renters \$775. Thirty-six percent of owners with mortgages, 16 percent of owners without mortgages, and 49 percent of renters in Houston city spent 30 percent or more of their household income on housing. A majority of Houstonians are renters representing 53.3% of households, while homeowners make up 46.7% of households in the Houston area. The average household size of renter-occupied units is 2.5 individuals and the average household size of owner-occupied units is 2.8 individuals.

According to the American Housing Survey for the Houston Texas Metropolitan Area 2007, Houston MSA<sup>i</sup> has 2,160,100 housing units of which approximately 87% are occupied. Of the homes occupied, approximately 66.4% are occupied by a homeowner.<sup>ii</sup> Of the total occupied households, 18% are occupied by Black Houstonians. Black occupants are approximately 50% owners and 50% renters.<sup>iii</sup>

Table 1-1. **Introductory Characteristics—All Housing Units**

[Numbers in thousands. Weighting consistent with Census 2000. ... means not applicable or sample too small. – means zero or rounds to zero]

| Characteristics | Total housing units | Seasonal | Year-round |         |         |        |       |          |                     |               |                |                    |              |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------|------------|---------|---------|--------|-------|----------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
|                 |                     |          | Occupied   |         |         |        |       | Vacant   |                     |               |                |                    |              |
|                 |                     |          | Total      | Total   | Owner   | Renter | Total | For rent | Rental vacancy rate | For sale only | Rented or sold | Occasional use/URE | Other vacant |
| Total .....     | 2 160.1             | 22.6     | 2 137.5    | 1 872.0 | 1 242.1 | 629.9  | 265.4 | 139.0    | 18.0                | 51.9          | 6.0            | 28.9               | 39.6         |

American Housing Survey for the Houston, TX Metropolitan Area: 2007<sup>iv</sup>

## HOME OWNERSHIP IN HOUSTON BY RACE

|   | 1)Total Population | 2)Black | %           | 3)White | %           | 4)Hispanic | %           |
|---|--------------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|------------|-------------|
|   | 1,953,631          | 494,496 | 25.3        | 962,610 | 49.2        | 730,865    | 37.4        |
| Household population                      | 1,920,375          | 482,359 | 25.1        | 944,287 | 49.1        | 725,105    | 37.7        |
| Average Household size                    |                    |         |             |         |             |            |             |
| Family size                               | 3                  | 3       |             | 2       |             | 4          |             |
|   | 3                  | 3       |             | 3       |             | 4          |             |
| Occupied Housing Units                    | 717,954            | 184,103 | 25.6        | 391,854 | 54.5        | 194,732    | 27.1        |
| 1. Owner                                  | 328,741            | 72,046  | 21.9        | 205,777 | 62.5        | 69,669     | 21.1        |
| 2. Renter                                 | 389,204            | 112,057 | <b>60.8</b> | 186,077 | <b>47.4</b> | 125,063    | <b>64.2</b> |
| Median Household income in (1999) dollars | 36,616             | 27,577  | 75.3        | 44,625  |             | 29,650     | 80.9        |
|   |                    |         | <b>61.7</b> |         |             |            | <b>66.4</b> |
| Single-family owner-occupied homes        | 295,534            | 67,097  | 22.7        | 183,750 | 62.1        | 61,711     | 20.8        |
| Median value (dollars)                    | 79,300             | 52,900  | 66.7        | 99,200  |             | 59,400     | 74.9        |
|   |                    |         | <b>53.3</b> |         |             |            | <b>59.8</b> |

Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

1) Source: U.S.Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1, Matrices H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, and H16; Note: census household population numbers include Hispanic/Latino of any race,

2) Demographics Profile Highlights, Selected Population Group: Black or African American alone

- 3) Demographics Profile Highlights, Selected Population Group: White alone
  - 4) Demographics Profile Highlights, Selected Population Group: Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
- Source: U.S.Census Bureau, Summary File 2 (SF 2) and summary File (SF4)

The following chart contains statistics from the 2000 Census. This chart shows that Blacks have a smaller percentage of their population living in households than the percentages of the White and Hispanic populations.

In Houston, 21.9% and 21.1% of Black and Latino households respectively own their homes compared to 65.2% of Houston Whites who are homeowners.

The following information provides information regarding homeownership in Houston MSA in 2007.

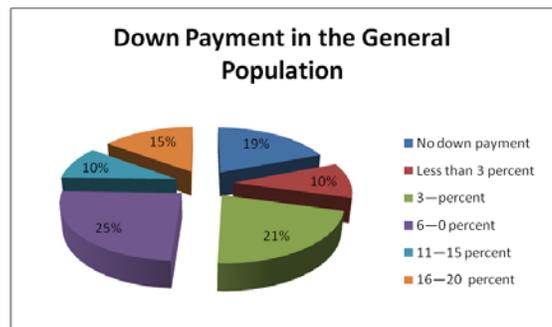
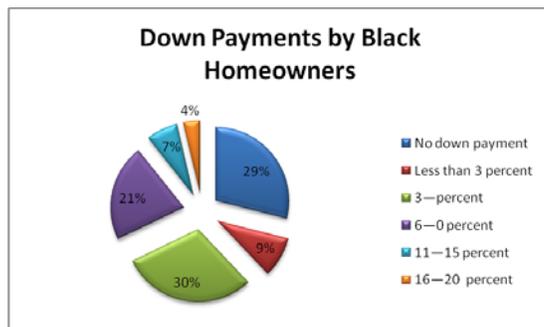
**Table 2-1. Introductory Characteristics—Occupied Units**

[Numbers in thousands. Weighting consistent with Census 2000. ... means not applicable or sample too small. – means zero or rounds to zero]

| Characteristics                            | Total occupied units | Tenure  |        | Housing unit characteristics |                           |                   |          | Household characteristics |          |                             |                    |                     |
|--|----------------------|---------|--------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
|  |                      | Owner   | Renter | New construction 4 years     | Manufactured/mobile homes | Physical problems |          | Black alone               | Hispanic | Elderly (65 years and over) | Moved in past year | Below poverty level |
|  |                      |         |        |                              |                           | Severe            | Moderate |                           |          |                             |                    |                     |
| Sample Size                                | 1 872                | 1 218   | 654    | 159                          | 66                        | 24                | 134      | 338                       | 485      | 259                         | 404                | 237                 |
| Total                                      | 1 872.0              | 1 242.1 | 629.9  | 153.7                        | 120.1                     | 27.4              | 136.9    | 335.0                     | 489.1    | 248.7                       | 395.7              | 231.0               |
| <b>Tenure</b>                              |                      |         |        |                              |                           |                   |          |                           |          |                             |                    |                     |
| Owner occupied                             | 1 242.1              | 1 242.1 | ...    | 117.3                        | 93.0                      | 16.3              | 66.3     | 167.0                     | 293.8    | 201.7                       | 120.5              | 85.7                |
| Percent of all occupied                    | 66.4                 | 100.0   | ...    | 76.3                         | 77.4                      | 59.5              | 48.4     | 49.9                      | 60.1     | 81.1                        | 30.5               | 37.1                |
| Renter occupied                            | 629.9                | ...     | 629.9  | 36.4                         | 27.1                      | 11.1              | 70.7     | 168.0                     | 195.3    | 47.0                        | 275.2              | 145.3               |
| <b>Race and Hispanic Origin</b>            |                      |         |        |                              |                           |                   |          |                           |          |                             |                    |                     |
| White alone                                | 1 356.3              | 948.0   | 408.3  | 109.4                        | 101.7                     | 18.4              | 93.9     | ...                       | 420.1    | 196.4                       | 264.3              | 122.2               |
| Non-Hispanic                               | 936.3                | 704.7   | 231.6  | 79.7                         | 63.9                      | 7.8               | 52.4     | ...                       | ...      | 178.6                       | 150.0              | 54.7                |
| Hispanic                                   | 420.1                | 243.3   | 176.8  | 29.8                         | 37.8                      | 10.7              | 41.5     | ...                       | 420.1    | 17.8                        | 114.3              | 67.5                |
| Black alone                                | 335.0                | 167.0   | 168.0  | 30.7                         | 5.9                       | 5.4               | 33.7     | 335.0                     | 2.8      | 31.4                        | 95.4               | 83.2                |
| Non-Hispanic                               | 332.2                | 164.2   | 168.0  | 30.7                         | 5.9                       | 5.4               | 33.7     | 332.2                     | ...      | 31.4                        | 95.4               | 83.2                |
| Hispanic                                   | 2.8                  | 2.8     | ...    | ...                          | ...                       | ...               | ...      | 2.8                       | 2.8      | ...                         | ...                | ...                 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native alone     | 6.8                  | 5.2     | 1.4    | ...                          | ...                       | 3.2               | ...      | ...                       | 4.1      | 1.5                         | 9                  | ...                 |
| Asian alone                                | 100.3                | 69.4    | 30.9   | 13.5                         | ...                       | 9                 | 1.8      | ...                       | ...      | 10.5                        | 21.1               | 11.2                |
| Pacific Islander alone <sup>2</sup>        | 48.8                 | 39.7    | 9.1    | ...                          | ...                       | 2.9               | ...      | ...                       | 43.4     | 9.0                         | 1.8                | 4.7                 |
| Two or more races                          | 24.9                 | 12.7    | 12.2   | ...                          | ...                       | 6.4               | 2.6      | ...                       | 18.7     | ...                         | 12.1               | 9.7                 |
| Hispanic or Latino (any race) <sup>3</sup> | 489.1                | 293.8   | 195.3  | 29.8                         | 50.4                      | 13.3              | 49.0     | 2.8                       | 489.1    | 25.0                        | 126.6              | 80.2                |

American Housing Survey for the Houston, TX Metropolitan Area: 2007<sup>v</sup>

In 2007, homes occupied by Black owners (20%) have a home value ranging from \$80,000 and \$99,999; the median value was \$104,468. The median ratio of value to current income was 2.0. The median year in which the homes were acquired was 1999 and 62% of the homes purchased by African Americans were purchased by first time buyers. The median purchase price was \$80,664. 56.2% of Black purchasers reported a 20% or less down payment.<sup>vi</sup>



Approximately 10.5% of Black owned homes have 2 or more mortgages compared with 8% in the general population.

### Where African Americans Live in Houston

Blacks live in every quadrant of the city of Houston at various rates, and maintain a large presence in the inner city.<sup>vii</sup>

**HOUSTON ZIP CODES WHERE OVER 10,000 AFRICAN AMERICANS RESIDE (U.S. Census 2000)**

| ZIP CODE     | Houses & Condos | Apartments | % of Renters | Cost of Living Index (12/09) | % of African Americans | Estimated median house/condo value in 2008 | Average Adjusted Gross Income in 2004 | Estimated median household income in 2008 | Residents with Income below the poverty level in 2008 |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>77015</u> | 17,513.0        | 6,702.0    | 41           | 86.0%                        | 22%                    | \$118,152.00                               | \$33,267.00                           | \$48,449.00                               | 16.2%   |
| <u>77016</u> | 10,563.0        | 3,025.0    | 31           | 84.7%                        | 73%                    | \$70,994.00                                | \$23,716.00                           | \$28,847.00                               | 28.1%   |
| <u>77028</u> | 6,008.0         | 1,703.0    | 31           | 84.0%                        | 80%                    | \$61,048.00                                | \$21,684.00                           | \$25,574.00                               | 36.1%   |
| <u>77078</u> | 4,372.0         | 1,607.0    | 39           | 84.9%                        | 64%                    | \$78,025.00                                | \$23,424.00                           | \$33,350.00                               | 33.1%   |

*Northeast* Houston has experienced a decline in black population during the last 10 years and is home to about 85,000 Blacks.

| ZIP CODE     | Houses & Condos | Apartments | % of Renters | Cost of Living Index (12/09) | % of African Americans | Estimated median house/condo value in 2008 | Average Adjusted Gross Income in 2004 | Estimated median household income in 2008 | Residents with Income below the poverty level in 2008 |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>77033</u> | 9,495.0         | 2,727.0    | 31           | 82.7%                        | 76%                    | \$62,249.00                                | \$21,662.00                           | \$32,125.00                               | 31.5%   |
| <u>77047</u> | 3,925.0         | 646.0      | 18           | 84.1%                        | 63%                    | \$80,769.00                                | \$29,713.00                           | \$42,824.00                               | 14.8%   |
| <u>77048</u> | 5,269.0         | 1,959.0    | 41           | 84.9%                        | 82%                    | \$83,170.00                                | \$24,679.00                           | \$33,150.00                               | 30.0%   |
| <u>77051</u> | 5,451.0         | 2,195.0    | 45           | 83.9%                        | 91%                    | \$56,418.00                                | \$20,780.00                           | \$21,215.00                               | 36.3%   |

*Southeast* Houston has experienced a boom of new development and about 65,000 working and middle class Blacks call this area home.

| ZIP CODE     | Houses & Condos | Apartments | % of Renters | Cost of Living Index (12/09) | % of African Americans | Estimated median house/condo value in 2008 | Average Adjusted Gross Income in 2004 | Estimated median household income in 2008 | Residents with Income below the poverty level in 2008 |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>77035</u> | 15,444.0        | 8,095.0    | 57           | 89.3%                        | 39%                    | \$145,418.00                               | \$37,145.00                           | \$42,993.00                               | 18.9%   |
| <u>77036</u> | 30,372.0        | 22,944.0   | 81           | 93.1%                        | 22%                    | \$141,989.00                               | \$26,397.00                           | \$32,594.00                               | 26.4%   |
| <u>77045</u> | 7,701.0         | 2,067.0    | 28           | 85.3%                        | 50%                    | \$95,345.00                                | \$26,191.00                           | \$44,227.00                               | 18.9%   |
| <u>77053</u> | 7,399.0         | 1,785.0    | 25           | 86.3%                        | 46%                    | \$98,089.00                                | \$26,756.00                           | \$48,573.00                               | 17.0%   |
| <u>77071</u> | 9,756.0         | 3,784.0    | 41           | 88.0%                        | 61%                    | \$153,650.00                               | \$38,890.00                           | \$52,579.00                               | 11.8%   |
| <u>77072</u> | 16,969.0        | 8,371.0    | 53           | 87.9%                        | 30%                    | \$111,293.00                               | \$24,770.00                           | \$41,124.00                               | 19.0%   |
| <u>77082</u> | 17,328.0        | 9,362.0    | 61           | 90.0%                        | 27%                    | \$156,050.00                               | \$47,564.00                           | \$55,186.00                               | 7.9%  |
| <u>77083</u> | 16,281.0        | 4,534.0    | 29           | 87.1%                        | 31%                    | \$135,927.00                               | \$34,731.00                           | \$66,342.00                               | 9.4%  |
| <u>77099</u> | 15,103.0        | 7,605.0    | 54           | 87.9%                        | 36%                    | \$125,869.00                               | \$28,009.00                           | \$46,703.00                               | 14.8%   |

*Southwest* Houston is home to more than 150,000 Blacks and the area contains some of the most multicultural communities in Texas.

| ZIP CODE     | Houses & Condos | Apartments | % of Renters | Cost of Living Index (12/09) | % of African Americans | Estimated median house/condo value in 2008 | Average Adjusted Gross Income in 2004 | Estimated median household income in 2008 | Residents with Income below the poverty level in 2008 |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>77004</u> | 13,631.0        | 8,204.0    | 70           | 98.2%                        | 67%                    | \$151,249.00                               | \$43,503.00                           | \$25,222.00                               | 35.3%   |
| <u>77021</u> | 9,809.0         | 4,012.0    | 46           | 85.7%                        | 76%                    | \$76,653.00                                | \$28,675.00                           | \$26,565.00                               | 32.0%   |
| <u>77026</u> | 10,832.0        | 5,501.0    | 58           | 83.8%                        | 58%                    | \$55,218.00                                | \$20,206.00                           | \$20,796.00                               | 39.8%   |

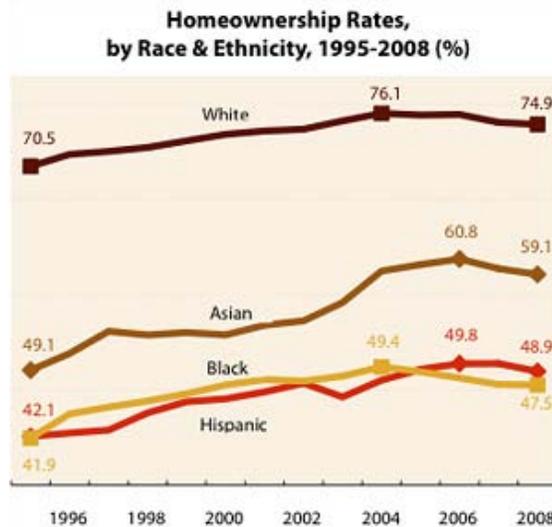
*Inside Loop I-610* is home to more than 75,000 Blacks.

| ZIP CODE     | Houses & Condos | Apartments | % of Renters | Cost of Living Index (12/09) | % of African Americans | Estimated median house/condo value in 2008 | Average Adjusted Gross Income in 2004 | Estimated median household income in 2008 | Residents with Income below the poverty level in 2008 |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>77088</u> | 16,306.0        | 4,912.0    | 32           | 86.3%                        | 56%                    | \$120,725.00                               | \$30,014.00                           | \$47,728.00                               | 18.2%   |
| <u>77091</u> | 9,821.0         | 5,165.0    | 58           | 88.6%                        | 64%                    | \$103,576.00                               | \$24,962.00                           | \$30,747.00                               | 27.7%   |
| State avg.   | N/A             | N/A        | 36           | N/A                          | N/A                    | \$126,799.00                               | \$47,881.00                           | \$50,043.00                               | 15.8%   |

Northwest Houston has seen tremendous growth in its Black population in recent years. It is home to 115,000 Blacks.

# HOMEOWNERSHIP CRISIS

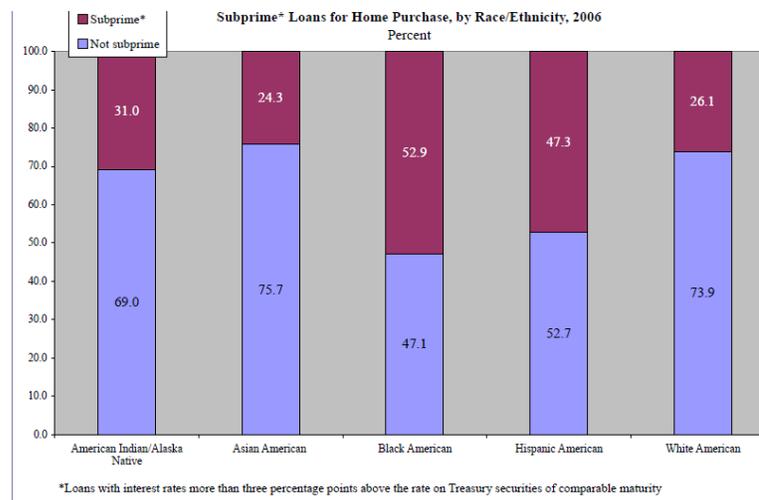
*For most Americans, their home is their most important source of wealth. From 2000 to 2004, it appeared that African Americans were making progress in wealth-building. The home ownership rate for African Americans increased from 47.2% in 2000 to 49.1% in 2004. But this increase was short lived. In 2007, the black home ownership rate was back down to its 2000 level of 47.2%.<sup>viii</sup>*



Source: Pew Hispanic Center

Through Boom and Bust: Minorities, Immigrants and Homeownership<sup>ix</sup>

Part of the reason for the decline in Black homeownership can be attributed to the fact that African Americans have been disproportionately involved in the subprime mortgage market and those mortgages have had a high rate of foreclosures. In 2006, more than one-half (52.9 percent) of African Americans and nearly half of Hispanics (47.3 percent) who acquired home-purchase loans had subprime loans.<sup>x</sup>



## HOUSING SUPPLY AND DEMAND

The national economic crisis has led to an overall decline in home sales and number of listings. The data below from the Houston Association of Realtors contains single-family, townhouse, and condominium activity from 1999-2009. The data shows a dip in demand for single-family homes, indicated by the dip in the volume of sales. However, while the dollar volume took a dip from 2008-2009, the median price has held steady for the past three years.

Houston MLS Residential Housing Activity<sup>xi</sup>

| Date | Sales  | Dollar Volume  | Average Price | Median Price | Total Listings | Months Inventory |
|------|--------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1999 | 51,433 | 7,057,867,322  | 137,200       | 101,100      | 16,286         | 3.9              |
| 2000 | 52,459 | 8,041,166,317  | 153,300       | 113,900      | 18,468         | 4.2              |
| 2001 | 53,856 | 8,541,022,943  | 158,600       | 121,800      | 21,000         | 4.8              |
| 2002 | 56,563 | 9,486,396,667  | 167,700       | 129,700      | 24,298         | 5.2              |
| 2003 | 60,732 | 10,417,774,768 | 171,500       | 133,100      | 29,798         | 6.2              |
| 2004 | 66,979 | 11,776,381,072 | 175,800       | 134,300      | 33,839         | 6.3              |
| 2005 | 72,800 | 13,504,202,605 | 185,500       | 141,400      | 35,573         | 6.1              |
| 2006 | 80,994 | 15,816,104,590 | 195,300       | 148,700      | 35,795         | 5.5              |
| 2007 | 77,668 | 15,789,736,644 | 203,300       | 151,800      | 40,624         | 6.1              |
| 2008 | 65,169 | 13,396,719,487 | 205,600       | 151,800      | 38,758         | 6.5              |
| 2009 | 60,012 | 12,019,676,350 | 200,300       | 152,000      | 31,737         | 6.4              |

<sup>x</sup> Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data from ffiec.com

## HOMELESSNESS

The 2009 Continuum of Care<sup>xi</sup> registration estimated that there are more than 7,576 homeless persons at any point in time in the Houston/Harris County/Ft. Bend County area. Of these, 3,293 (44%) are estimated to be chronically homeless. These numbers reflect a notable decrease in the number of homeless reported in the 2007 Homeless Enumeration and Assessment Needs report and a drastic decline from the 12,006 homeless persons reported in 2005.<sup>xii</sup>

## IMPACT OF HURRICANE KATRINA

According to “The Survey of Hurricane Katrina Evacuees” by The Washington Post, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and the Harvard School of Public Health (September 2005), fewer than half of all New Orleans evacuees (based on sample of 680 randomly selected adults ages 18 years and older, staying in the Houston Reliant Park Complex (which included the Reliant Astrodome and the Reliant Center), the George R. Brown Convention Center, and five smaller Red Cross shelters) in the greater Houston area living in emergency shelters in Houston said they would move back home, while two-thirds of those who want to relocate planned to settle permanently in the Houston area.<sup>xiii</sup> According to a news story reported on KUFT-FM (August 30, 2010), and written by David Pittman, 50,000 live in the Houston area out of the estimated 150,000 New Orleans evacuees.<sup>xiv</sup>

<sup>i</sup> The Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area includes Houston, Sugarland and Baytown.

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- <sup>ii</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Census Bureau, Current Housing Reports, Series H170/07-49, *American Housing Survey for the Houston, TX Metropolitan Area: 2007* at 1 (February 2009), <http://www.census.gov/prod/2009pubs/H170-07-49.pdf>.
- <sup>iii</sup> *Id.* at 12.
- <sup>iv</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>v</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>vi</sup> *Id.* at 77.
- <sup>vii</sup> All zip code charts are taken for the following sources: City-Data.com, HoustonInBlack.com.
- <sup>viii</sup> Algernon Austin, Economic Policy Institute, *Reversal of Fortune: Economic Gains of 1990s Overturned For African Americans from 2000-07*, Briefing Paper #220, September 18, 2008.
- <sup>ix</sup> Rakesh Kochhar, Ana Gonzalez-Barrera, & Daniel Dockterman, Pew Hispanic Center, *Through Boom and Bust: Minorities, Immigrants and Homeownership* (May 2009), <http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=109>.
- <sup>x</sup> *Wilhelmina A. Leig and Danielle Huff*, African Americans and Homeownership: The Subprime Lending Experience, 1995 to 2007 (Brief #2), November 2007.
- <sup>xi</sup> See Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, Continuum of Care Program, [http://www.homelesshouston.org/hh/COC\\_EN.asp?SnID=361842608](http://www.homelesshouston.org/hh/COC_EN.asp?SnID=361842608)
- <sup>xii</sup> City of Houston, Housing and Community Development, City of Houston 2010 Consolidated Plan, <http://www.houstontx.gov/housing/consolidated.html>.
- <sup>xiii</sup> Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Real Estate Analysis Commissioned Study, *Multifamily Housing Needs Assessment for the Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area* (2006).
- <sup>xiv</sup> David Pittman, *50,000 live in the Houston area out of the estimated 150,000 New Orleans evacuees*, [http://app1.kuhf.org/houston\\_public\\_radio-news-display.php?articles\\_id=1283141157](http://app1.kuhf.org/houston_public_radio-news-display.php?articles_id=1283141157); see also Newsweek, “*Katrina’s Latest Damage*”, March 13, 2006. (It should be noted that several sources cited the number of evacuees to range from 125,000 – 250,000. See, <http://www.khou.com/news/local/Nagin-Houstons-Katrina-evacuees-as-New-Orleans-residents-in-Census-83665532.html>; <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=7632364>; <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/15/AR2005091502010.html>).

# STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## WEALTH



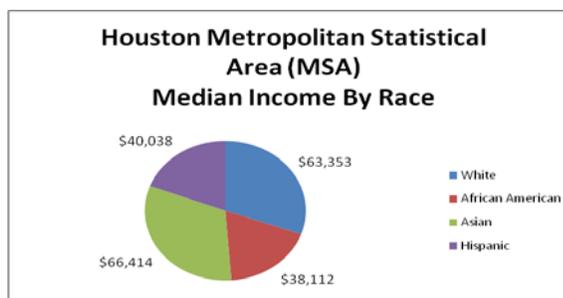
The term *income* is often used interchangeably with *wealth* in everyday speak or informal settings. While there is a relationship between income and wealth, the two are substantially different when measuring economic stability.

“Generally speaking, wealth is the value of everything a person or family owns, minus any debts. However, for purposes of studying the wealth distribution, economists define wealth in terms of marketable assets, such as real estate, stocks, and bonds, leaving aside consumer durables like cars and household items because they are not as readily converted into cash and are more valuable to their owners for use purposes than they are for resale. Once the value of all marketable assets is determined, then all debts, such as home mortgages and credit card debts, are subtracted, which yields a person's net worth. We also need to distinguish wealth from income. Income is what people earn from work, but also from dividends, interest, and any rents or royalties that are paid to them on properties they own. In theory, those who own a great deal of wealth may or may not have high incomes, depending on the returns they receive from their wealth, but in reality those at the very top of the wealth distribution usually have the most income. (But it's important to note that for the rich, most of that income does not come from "working": in 2008, only 19% of the income reported by the 13,480 individuals or families making over \$10 million came from wages and salaries.)”<sup>i</sup>

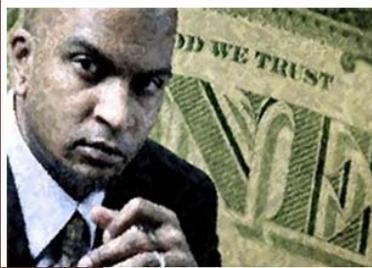


### Median Household Income

According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2008 Annual Community Survey, the annual income for African Americans in the Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area was more than \$15,000 less than the \$54,811 household income for Whites nationally and more than \$25,000 less than Whites in the Houston MSA.<sup>ii</sup>



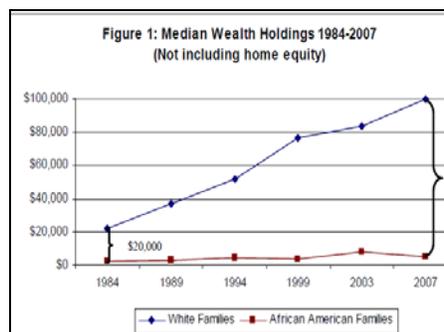
*U.S. Census Annual Community Survey, 2006-2008*



## Wealth vs. Income

A study published in May 2010, by the Brandeis Institute on Assets and Social Policy revealed that the wealth gap between African American and White households has more than quadrupled over the course of the last 23 years.<sup>iii</sup> Key findings of the Brandeis study were:

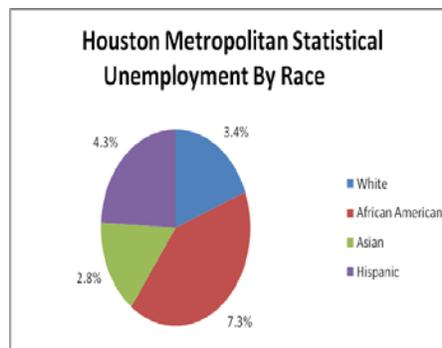
- The wealth gap between whites and African Americans increases more than 4 times, from \$20,000 to \$95,000.<sup>iv</sup>
- Middle-income white households had greater gains in financial assets than high-income African Americans; by 2007 financial assets accumulated in White households were \$74,000 and only \$18,000 for high-income African Americans.<sup>v</sup>
- At least 25% of African American families had no assets to turn to during times of economic hardship.<sup>vi</sup>



Source: Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University

## Employment Status

Employment status or work is one way in which income is measured. A large household income does not automatically classify members of the household as wealthy just as a low household income does not classify members of the household as poor. In reality those at the very top of the wealth distribution usually have the most income; however, it's important to note that for the rich or wealthy, most of that income does not come from "working."<sup>vii</sup> According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2008 Annual Community Survey, 7.3% of African Americans in the Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area, compared to 4.3 for Hispanics, 3.4% for Whites, and 2.8% for Asians, were unemployed.<sup>viii</sup> In the most recent Bureau of Labor Statistics briefing released September 3, 2010, the national unemployment rate was reported to be 9.6%.<sup>ix</sup>



\*"Civilian labor force" is defined as all employed and unemployed individuals 16 years of age and older who are not institutionalized and not in the U.S. armed forces.

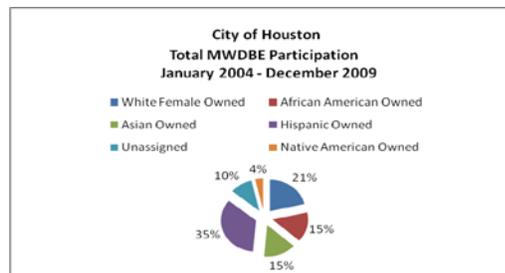
## Occupation

The largest percentage of African Americans in the Houston MSA are employed in educational Services, healthcare and social services, while the least are employed in the agriculture.<sup>x</sup>

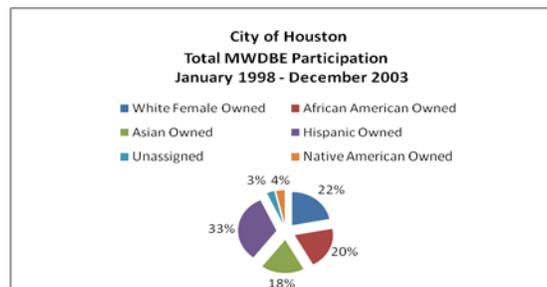
## Business Ownership

The percentage of African American owned firms at 11.3% in the Houston MSA more than doubles the state percentage of 5.1%. According to the City of Houston Affirmative Action and Contract Compliance reports for Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business (MWDBE) participation, from January 2004 –December 2009, 15.3% of city contracts were awarded to African American owned businesses, with more than double that amount, 34.5% were awarded to Hispanic owned businesses and 21.3% were awarded to White female owned businesses.<sup>xi</sup>

|                        | Houston            | Texas              |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Number of Firms</b> | <b>122,727,158</b> | <b>397,405,111</b> |
| African American Owned | 11.3%              | 5.1%               |
| Asian                  | 8.5%               | 5.5%               |
| Hispanic               | 22.3%              | 18.4%              |
| Women Owned            | 27.6%              | 27.0%              |



During the period from January 1998 to December 2003 20.1% of city contracts were awarded to African American owned businesses, 32.9% were awarded to Hispanic owned businesses and 22% were awarded to White female owned businesses.<sup>xii</sup>



A company or firm is a business consisting of one or more domestic establishments that the reporting firm specified under its ownership or control at the end of 2002. Most other data from the Economic Census are reported on an establishment basis rather than a firm basis.<sup>xiii</sup> “Business ownership” is defined as having 51 percent or more of the stock or equity in the business and is categorized by:

- Gender: Male; Female; or Equally Male-/Female-Owned
- Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino Origin; Not Hispanic or Latino Origin
- Race: White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

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<sup>i</sup> Domhoff, G. W., *Who Rules America: Wealth Income and Power*, September 5, 2005 (Updated September 2010, <http://sociology.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/> (last visited September 21, 2010)).

<sup>ii</sup> U.S. Census Annual Community Survey, 2006-2008, [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?\\_program=ACS&\\_submenuId=&\\_lang=en&\\_ts=](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuId=&_lang=en&_ts=) (last visited 9/20/2010).

<sup>iii</sup> Institute on Assets and Social Policy, *The Racial Wealth Gap Increases Fourfold*, Research and Policy Brief, May 2010.

<sup>iv</sup> *Id.*

<sup>v</sup> *Id.*

<sup>vi</sup> *Id.*

<sup>vii</sup> *Id. at Fn. 1*

<sup>viii</sup> *Id. at Fn. 2*

<sup>ix</sup> United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Economic News Release, September 3, 2010, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.nr0.htm> (last visited 10/1/10).

<sup>x</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, State & County Quick Facts, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/48/4835000.html> (last visited 9/14/2010).

<sup>xi</sup> City of Houston, Affirmative Action and Contract Compliance, Total MWDBE Participation, January 2004-December 2009.

<sup>xii</sup> City of Houston, Affirmative Action and Contract Compliance, Total MWDBE Participation, January 1998-December 2003.

<sup>xiii</sup> *Id.*

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) is the largest school system in Texas and ranks seventh in the nation.<sup>i</sup> HISD is one of the largest employers in Houston, employing more than 30,000 full and part time professional and support personnel.<sup>ii</sup> HISD has almost 300 schools<sup>iii</sup>, 40 HISD charter schools<sup>iv</sup>, 97 Texas Education Agency (TEA) charter schools<sup>v</sup> and more than 200,000<sup>vi</sup> students enrolled.

| Campuses and Enrollment        |                |                   |                   |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Academic Level                 | # of Schools   | Enrollment        | % of All Students |
| Elementary                     | 170            | 107,508           | 53.0              |
| Middle                         | 42             | 33,781            | 16.7              |
| High                           | 55             | 47,704            | 23.5              |
| Combined/Other                 | 31             | 13,780            | 6.8               |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>298</b>     | <b>202,773</b>    | <b>100.0</b>      |
| Students by Ethnicity          |                |                   |                   |
| Ethnicity                      | # of Students  | % of All Students |                   |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 531            | 0.3               |                   |
| African American               | 53,680         | 26.5              |                   |
| Asian                          | 5,962          | 2.9               |                   |
| Hispanic                       | 125,097        | 61.7              |                   |
| Native Hawaiian/Other Islander | 373            | 0.2               |                   |
| Two or More                    | 1,241          | 0.6               |                   |
| White                          | 15,889         | 7.8               |                   |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>202,773</b> | <b>100.0</b>      |                   |
| Students by Grade Level        |                |                   |                   |
| Grade Level                    | # of Students  | % of All Students |                   |
| Kindergarten & Earlier         | 33,545         | 16.54             |                   |
| Elementary 1-5                 | 81,652         | 40.27             |                   |
| Middle School 6-8              | 38,598         | 19.04             |                   |
| High School 9-12               | 48,978         | 24.15             |                   |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>202,773</b> | <b>100.0</b>      |                   |

HISD generally assesses their students' academic performance rates through the National Assessment of Educational Programs (NAEP). NAEP, also known as the nation's report card, is the nation's only federally authorized survey of student achievement in various subject areas. Administered by the national center for education statistics (NCES), the agency assessed the HISD student performance in 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in mathematics, reading, science and writing.

Almost 62% of the HISD student population is Hispanic, 29% African American and 8% Anglo. In 2008, 20% of African Americans about 21 % of Hispanic and almost 9% of Anglos dropped out of Houston schools.<sup>vii</sup> For the same period, graduation rates reported were about 83% for Anglos, 68% for African Americans and about 62% for Hispanic students.<sup>vii</sup>

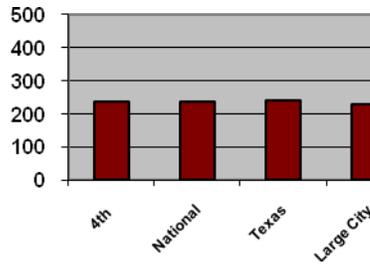
The class of 2009 reported an improved dropout rate of 15.8% overall with a dropout rate of 5.2% for Anglo students and rates nearly three times higher for African American and Hispanic youths at 17.8% and 17.4% respectively. The drop-out rate for students classified as economically disadvantaged was third highest in the district at 13.6%.

The high school graduation rate is a barometer of the health of American society and the skill level of its future workforce. Throughout the first half of the twentieth century, each new cohort of Americans was more likely to graduate from high school than the preceding one. This upward trend in secondary education increased worker productivity and fueled American economic growth. From *The Declining American High School Graduation Rate: Evidence, Sources, and Consequences* by James J. Heckman\* and Paul A. LaFontaine<sup>†</sup>

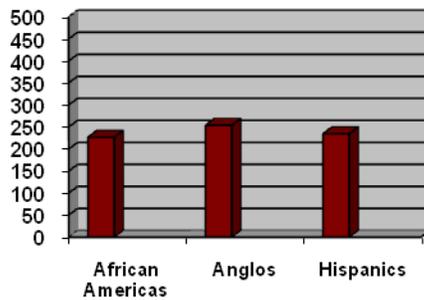
## PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS



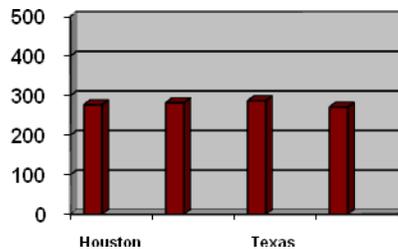
NAEP assesses mathematics at the fourth and eighth grade levels on a scale that ranges from 0-500.



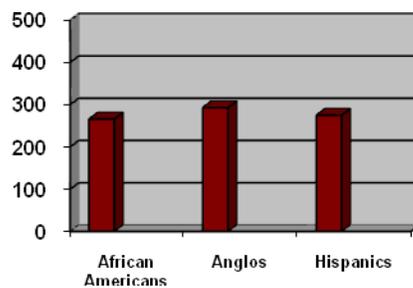
Houston Fourth grade Mathematics scores in 2009 was 236, below the national average of 239 and the Texas average of 240, but above the average for large central cities<sup>1</sup> which was 231.



African Americans scored an average of 227 at the fourth grade level, Anglos scored an average of 254 and Hispanics scored an average of 235

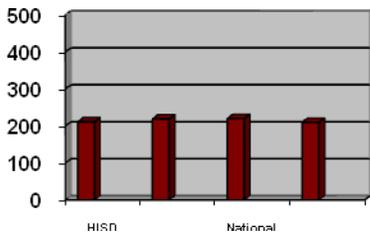


For eighth grades, the mathematics scores were 277 for Houston compared to the national average of 282, the Texas average of 287 and large cities average of 271.

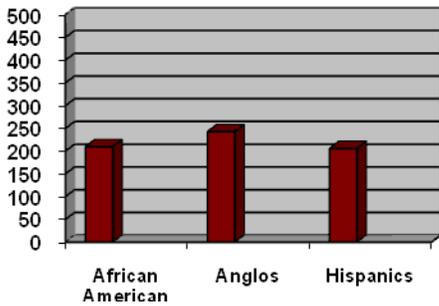


African Americans scored an average of 266, Anglos scored an average of 293 and Hispanics scored an average of 275.

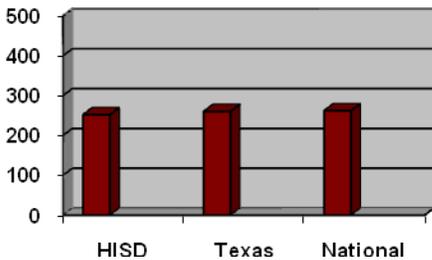
NAEP assessed reading in the fourth and eighth grades in 2009 based on a scale of 0-500.



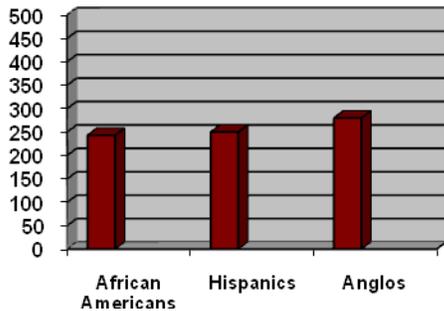
Fourth grade HISD students scored an average of 211, below the 219 average score for Texas and the 220 national average. However, its score was slightly higher than the large cities score of 210.



African American fourth graders scored an average of 210, Anglos scored an average of 243 and Hispanics scored an average of 206.

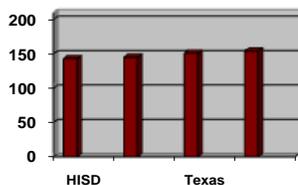


Eighth graders scored on average 252 in Houston compared with 260 in Texas and 262 nationally. There was no statistically significant difference between Houston and large cities.



African Americans scored an average of 243, Hispanics, an average of 250 and Anglos an average of 280.<sup>1</sup>

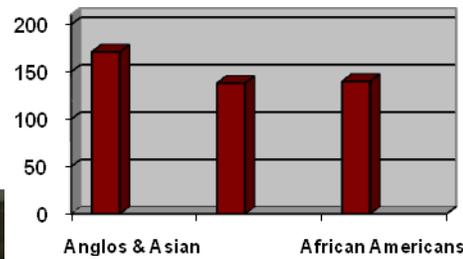
In 2007, NAEP assessed writing performance for eighth graders.



Overall, Houston students scored 143 which is less than large cities at 145, Texas at 151 and the national average of 154.

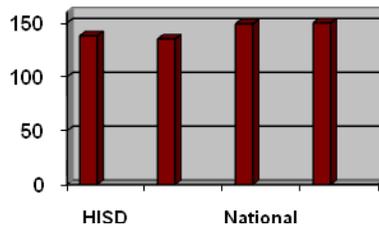


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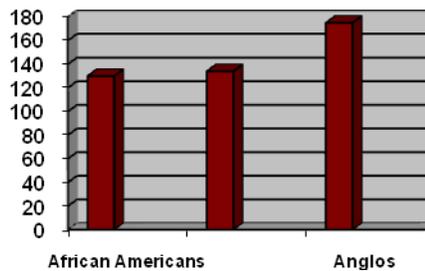


In Houston, Anglo and Asian students tested at 171, Hispanics at 138 and African Americans at 140.<sup>1</sup>

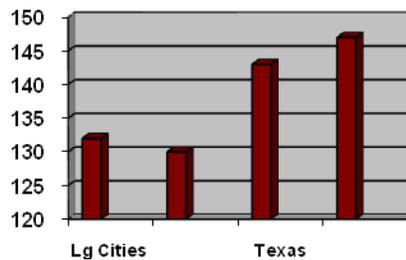
In 2005, HISD students' performance was scored in science at an average score for fourth graders of 138 and for eighth graders of 130.



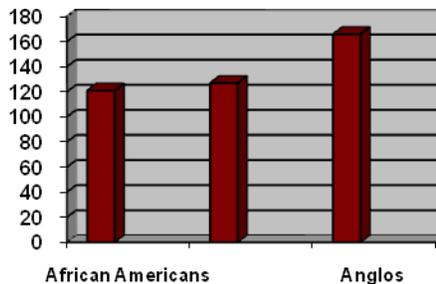
Fourth graders scored higher than the large central cities that scored an average 135 but lower than the national and Texas averages which were at 149 and 150 respectively.



African American students scored 130 compared to Hispanic fourth graders at 134 and Anglo fourth graders at 175.



Eighth graders ranked lower than large cities average of 132, Texas of 143 and the national average of 147.



African American eighth graders in Houston scored 121, Hispanics 127 and Anglos 166.<sup>1</sup>

## HIGHER EDUCATION

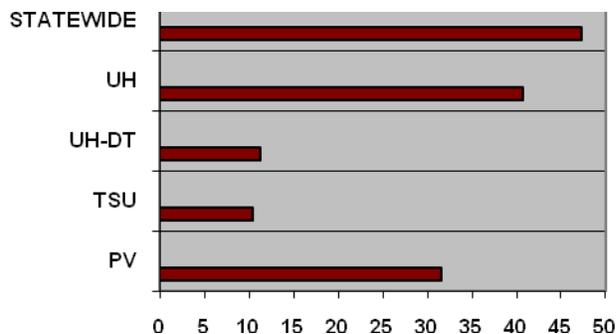
The Greater Houston area has fourteen major institutions of higher education of which four are publicly funded: Houston Community Colleges (numerous campuses), Prairie View A & M University, Texas Southern University, and University of Houston (numerous campuses). For purposes of this document, we only report on four-year universities which are Texas Southern University, Prairie View A & M University, University of Houston-Downtown, University of Houston Central and University of Houston Clear Lake.<sup>vii</sup>

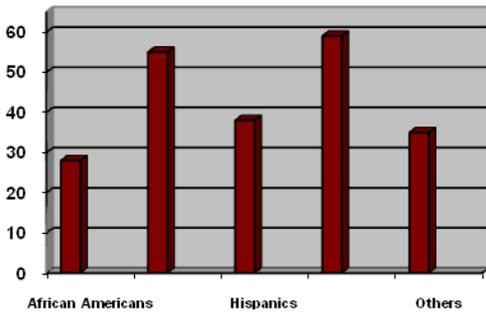
In 2008, there were more than 73,350 persons enrolled in the five four-year public institutions of higher education in Houston, Texas.<sup>viii</sup> In 2009, that number climbed to 75,387. There were 24,014 African Americans enrolled in Houston public four year institutions in 2008 with about 62% of that number enrolled in the two historically black colleges and universities (Prairie View A & M University and Texas Southern University). Female enrollment topped male enrollment at all schools with the smallest gap occurring at the University of Houston's central campus (638) and the largest gap occurring at the University of Houston's downtown campus (2731). There were 1632 more females than males enrolled at Texas Southern University in 2008 and 1841 more females than males enrolled at Prairie View A & M University.<sup>ix</sup>

In 2008, the University of Houston downtown spent about \$8,000 per student compared to the University of Houston-Clear Lake that spent about \$10,700 per student, Prairie View A & M that spent about \$27,400, the University of Houston Central campus that spent about \$19,000 per student and Texas Southern University that spent about \$20,000 per student.<sup>x</sup>

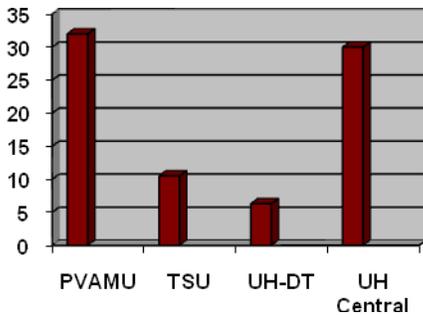
Statewide graduation rates in 2008 were about 56% while rates for Texas Southern University was 12%, for University of Houston downtown 17%, Prairie View A & M was 35% and University of Houston central campus was 49%.<sup>xi</sup> Statewide rates for these students drop to a little over 47%, while rates for the individual Houston universities dropped to a little over 10% at Texas Southern University, to almost 32% at Prairie View A & M University, about 11% at University of Houston downtown and almost 41% for the University of Houston central campus.<sup>xii</sup>

### **Baccalaureate Graduation Rates - First Time Entering Undergraduates, Fall 2003<sup>xiii</sup> Enrolled For 12 or More Semester Credit Hours**





Overall, the statewide graduation rates for African Americans were almost 28%, about half of that for whites at 55%. African Americans trailed Hispanic graduation rates statewide (38%), Asian graduation rates (59%) and others (35%).



At Houston universities, African Americans graduated at the rates of 32% at Prairie View A & M, 10.5% at Texas Southern University, 6.3% from University of Houston Downtown and 30% from University of Houston central campus.

Prairie View A & M conferred more than twice the degrees awarded to African Americans at Texas Southern University, almost 30 times more than at University of Houston Downtown, and almost three times the number at University of Houston central campus. Texas Southern conferred more baccalaureate degrees on African Americans by 14 times that at University of Houston downtown and more than 1.3 times that at University of Houston central campus.



# UNIVERSITIES PROFILES

|                              | PVAMU         | TSU           | UH-CENTRAL  | UH-DOWNTOWN | UH-CLEARLAKE |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>ENROLLMENT TOTAL 2008</b> | 8,203         | 9,102         | 36,104      | 12,283      | 7,658        |
| AFRICAN AMERICAN             | 7,136         | 7,724         | 4,885       | 3,395       | 874          |
| ANGLO                        | 328           | 215           | 12,878      | 2,750       | 4,143        |
| ASIAN                        | 151           | 414           | 7,156       | 1,233       | 471          |
| HISPANIC                     | 331           | 429           | 7,176       | 4,464       | 1,426        |
| OTHER                        | 257           | 320           | 4,009       | 441         | 744          |
| MALE                         | 3,181         | 3,735         | 17,733      | 4,776       | 2,648        |
| FEMALE                       | 5,022         | 5,367         | 18,371      | 7,507       | 5,010        |
| <b>ENROLLMENT TOTAL 2009</b> | 8,608         | 9,394         | 37,000      | 12,742      | 7,643        |
| <b>DEGREES AWARDED 2008</b>  | 1,552         | 1,355         | 7,016       | 2,095       | 2,124        |
| ASSOCIATES                   | 0             | 0             | 0           | 0           | 0            |
| BACHELOR'S                   | 787           | 821           | 4,759       | 2,060       | 1,197        |
| MASTER'S                     | 750           | 206           | 1,478       | 35          | 927          |
| DOCTORAL                     | 15            | 20            | 262         | 0           | 0            |
| PROFESSIONAL                 | 0             | 308           | 517         | 0           | 0            |
| <b>FUNDING 2008</b>          | \$142,576,764 | \$183,452,409 | 689,733,323 | 98,250,258  | 82,000,639   |
| TUITION & FEES               | 22%           | 23%           | 29%         | 37%         | 38%          |
| FEDERAL                      | 22%           | 21%           | 12%         | 19%         | 6%           |
| STATE                        | 50%           | 51%           | 32%         | 37%         | 44%          |
| INSTITUTIONAL FUNDS          | 8%            | 5%            | 27%         | 7%          | 12%          |

<sup>i</sup> See [www.visithoustontexas.com/media/statistics/Houston\\_Stats\\_Education](http://www.visithoustontexas.com/media/statistics/Houston_Stats_Education), (last visited 10/7/2010)

<sup>ii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>iii</sup> Facts and Figures about HISD, 2009-2010 <http://www.houstonisd.org/HISDConnectDS/v/index.jsp?vgnextoid=62c6757761efc010VgnVCM10000052147fa6RCRD> stating that HISD has 298 schools

<sup>iv</sup> *Id.*

<sup>v</sup> Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, [www.mansfield.tea.state.tx.us/CharterReports/ViewReport.aspx?report=Rpt\\_Certain\\_Campus.rpt](http://www.mansfield.tea.state.tx.us/CharterReports/ViewReport.aspx?report=Rpt_Certain_Campus.rpt) (last visited 9/22/2010)

<sup>vi</sup> Facts and Figures supra n.ii, reporting an enrollment of 202,773 students

<sup>vii</sup> Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, College Locator <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/apps/GM/> (last visited 10/7/2010).

<sup>viii</sup> Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Fall 2009 Preliminary Enrollment Report, <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/files/dmfile/PrelimEnrSlides1022.pdf> (last visited 10/7/2010).

<sup>ix</sup> *Id.*

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x *Id.*

<sup>xii</sup> Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Baccalaureate Graduation Rates - First Time Entering Undergraduates, <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/> (last visited 10/7/2010).

<sup>xiii</sup> The Higher Education Coordinating Board web site did not show graduation numbers for University of Houston Clear Lake for 2008. The rates reported here were limited to those students who had entered the university as a freshman.

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## FAMILY



Since the November 1965 report authored by Daniel Patrick Moynihan, then Assistant Secretary of Labor for Policy Planning, much has been written about the Black family. Moynihan's controversial report, titled *The Negro Family: The Case for National Action*<sup>i</sup>, described the state of the American Black Family of more than forty years ago and predicted the disintegration of black family life unless immediate action was taken.

Today, according to several studies, that prediction appears accurate. The majority of black households are single family households, many of which are headed by single mothers. "Since 1940, rates of divorce and nonmarriage have soared among Black adults, and, as a result, the percentage of Black children born to unmarried mothers has risen from 17 percent to 70 Percent."<sup>ii</sup> In 2007, unmarried African American women giving birth soared to 63.6% of the all births among the African American population; approximately 30% higher than the percentage of unmarried births in the general Houston metropolitan area population.

### HOUSEHOLD TYPES

According to the 2000 Census, Houston had a total of 717,945 households of which 54.6% were White, 25.6% were Black, and 27.1% were Hispanic. For purposes of this discussion the census definitions are used to define the various household types. A "household" is a person or group of people who occupy a housing unit. The "householder" is a person in whose name the housing unit is owned, being bought, or rented. A "family household" consists of a householder and one or more people living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. If the householder is married and living with his/her spouse, then the household is designated a "married-couple household."<sup>iii</sup>

Blacks, like other races in Houston, primarily live in family households. (Table 1). 65.9% of the Black population of Houston lives in family households. Of that percentage, 34.9% are Black family households with their own children under the age of 18 years old. Of these family households only 15.4 % are African American married couples with their own children under the age of 18 years residing with them in the home. This percentage is similar to the percentage of family households with their own children under the age of 18 in the general Houston population. However, only 31.8% of black family households are married couple households (with or without minor children), compared to 51.6% married family households in the general population.<sup>iv</sup> (Graph 1).

### Family Households by Racial Composition

The total household population (number of persons living in the 717,945 households referenced above) in Houston, according to the 2000 Census, was 1,920,375, of which 944,287 (49.2%) were White, 482,359 (25.1%) were Black, and 725,105 (37.8%) were

Hispanic. 84.4% of Black households were family households. Black family households composed of married couples constituted 44.7% of the total Black family household population compared to 78% of white married couple households and 70.2% of Hispanic family households. Male householders for each racial population ranged from 6.8% to 11.2%. However, female households represented 46.6% of Black family households; an amount over 3 times the percentage of white family households with a female householder and approximately 2.5 times the number of female householders among Hispanic family households. (Graph 2).

### **Nonfamily Households**

Nonfamily households comprised 29.2% of the general population of households in Houston and 34.1% of Houston's Black households. Male householders of nonfamily households comprised 15.4% of the black population and female householders of nonfamily households comprised 18.7% of the population. 13.2% of African American male householders in nonfamily households lived alone while 2.2% did not live alone. Among female nonfamily households, 17.1% lived alone while 1.7% did not. All of these percentages were higher than the general population data. (Table 2).

### **HOUSEHOLD AND FAMILY SIZE**

In 2000, the average household size among the Black population in Houston was 2.62 and the average family size is 3.3. The average household size among White Houstonians was 2.41 and the average household size among Hispanic Houstonians was 3.68. The corresponding family sizes were 3.17 and 4.05 respectively.<sup>v</sup>

### **MARITAL STATUS**

According to the U. S. Census Bureau's 2007 American Community Survey, 32.4% of the Black population in Houston was married versus 51.9% in the general population.

39.4% of Black men are married which is 10% higher than the percentage of Black females—only 29% of which are married. 63.6% of all Black women who gave birth in 2007 were unmarried compared to the metro average of 32.7%. In 2007 single mother families made up nearly 28% of all African American families and just over 17% of all Black families with children.<sup>vi</sup> Finally, 44.6% of African American males had never been married and 42.3% of African American females reported never being married.<sup>vii</sup> (Graphs 3 & 4).

## NON-TRADITIONAL FAMILIES

### Grandparents as Caregivers



Many households with grandparent caregivers represent multigenerational families — family households consisting of more than two generations. According to the 2000 Census, 5.8 million people living in households in the United States were coresident grandparents (grandparents living with grandchildren younger than 18 years old). Among those coresident grandparents, 42% were grandparent caregivers (persons with primary responsibility for their coresident grandchild).<sup>viii</sup> Research suggests that grandparent families are more likely to live in poverty

than parent homes with grandparents residing in the home.<sup>ix</sup> The 2000 Census found that 19% of grandparent caregivers had incomes below the poverty level.

3.6 percent of the general population consists of grandparents residing in the same home as their grandchildren, only 2% of non-Hispanic Whites do so. 8% of the Black population lives with their grandchild and so do a like percentage of Hispanics. Black are among the highest percentage of grandparent coresident households who are responsible for their grandchildren for 5 years or more (45.2%).<sup>x</sup> (Table 3).

In Houston, 5.7% of the population is grandparents living with grandchildren of which 44.3% are responsible for the care of grandchildren under the age of 18 years of age. Of the grandparents responsible for their grandchild's care, 41.2% were responsible for 5 years or more.

Differences in proportions of coresident grandparents and grandparent caregivers may be influenced by a variety of factors, including cultural differences in family structure (such as frequency of extended family households), differences in age distribution, migration patterns, racial and ethnic composition, housing shortages, high living costs, poverty levels, and local government policies on kinship care.

### Same Sex Partner Households

In the 2000 census, unmarried-partner households were self-identified on the census form as being maintained by people who were sharing living quarters and who also had a close personal relationship with each other.<sup>xi</sup>

It is estimated that as of 2005, there were nearly 50,000 same-sex couples living in Texas and that 20% of same-sex couples in Texas are raising children.<sup>xii</sup> Harris County has the largest number of same-sex couples of any county in the state (8,612) which accounts for 0.71% of all households in the county.



35% of same-sex couples in Texas are nonwhite. 79% of individuals in same-sex couples are employed compared to 64% of married individuals.<sup>xiii</sup>

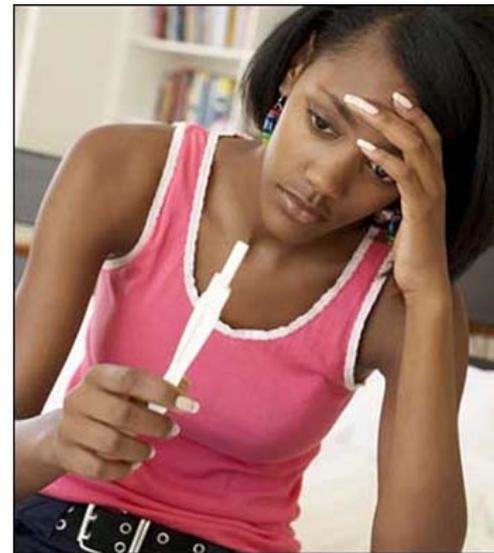
- In 2000, there were 42,912 same-sex couples living in Texas.
- By 2005, the number of same-sex couples increased to 49,423. This increase likely reflects same-sex couples' growing willingness to disclose their partnerships on government surveys.
- In 2005, there were an estimated 579,968 gay, lesbian, and bisexual people (single and coupled) living in Texas.

A study by the Williams Institute in October 2006, entitled "Same-sex Couples and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Population: New Estimates from the American Community Survey", estimated that the Houston metropolitan area has the twelfth-largest number of lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals in the United States.<sup>xiv</sup> The Houston gay community is concentrated primarily in and around Neartown and Houston Heights. Specifically, the 2006 study, in analyzing the 2005 American Community Survey data from the Census Bureau, estimated 5,511 same sex couples residing in Houston with 3,926 being same sex male couples and 1,585 female same sex couples.<sup>xv</sup> The study estimated a gay, lesbian, and bisexual population of 61,976 or 4.4% of the population. Using that data and extrapolating based on 25.3% of the Houston general population being African American, the estimated number of African American in the GLBT Community would be 15,680.

## UNMARRIED BIRTHS, TEEN PREGNANCY AND ABORTION

### Unmarried Births

The 2007 American Community Survey revealed that 32.7% of women in the Houston metro population, between the ages of 15 years old and 50 years old, who had a birth within 12 months of the survey were unmarried. However, the percentage of *unmarried* black women in that age group who had given birth within 12 months of responding to the Census was 63.6%. In 2007, single mother families made up nearly 28% of all African American families and approximately 17% of African American families with children.<sup>xvi</sup>



### Teen Pregnancy

"Compared to women who delay childbearing until the age of 20 to 21 years, teenage mothers, aged 19 and younger, are more likely to drop out of high school, and to be and remain single parents. The children of teenage mothers are more likely to have lower cognitive attainment and proficiency scores at kindergarten entry, exhibit behavior problems, have chronic medical conditions, rely more heavily on publicly provided health care, be incarcerated at some time during adolescence until their early 30s, and drop out of high school, give birth as a teenager, and be unemployed, or underemployed as a young adult." Hoffman & Maynard, *Kids Having Kids: Economic Costs and Social Consequences of Teen Pregnancy*, 2nd Edition, The Urban Institute Press (2008).

In 2006, the pregnancy rate among black women aged 15–19, was 126.3 per 1000. Among non-Hispanic white teenagers, the pregnancy rate was 44.0 in 1000.<sup>xvii</sup> In all, Houston had 6,591 teen births in 2006, the nation's third most. Hispanics accounted for 4,201 (63.7%), blacks 1,881 (28.5%) and whites 442 (6.7%). The total number constituted 13 percent of all the city's births.<sup>xviii</sup>

## **Abortion**

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), white females accounted for 71.9% of reported legal abortions in Texas in 2003, while black females accounted for 21.0% of reported legal abortions.<sup>xix</sup> CDC's Division of Reproductive Health (DRH) monitors maternal and infant mortality, the most serious reproductive health complications. DRH also monitors adolescent pregnancy and the number and characteristics of women obtaining legally induced abortions in the United States.

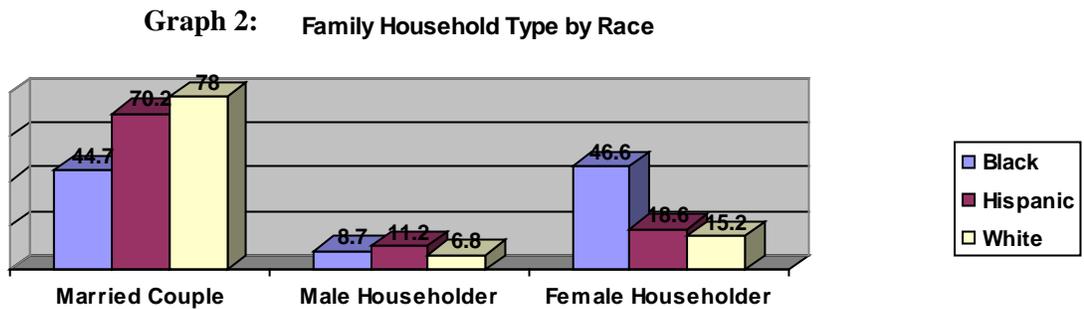
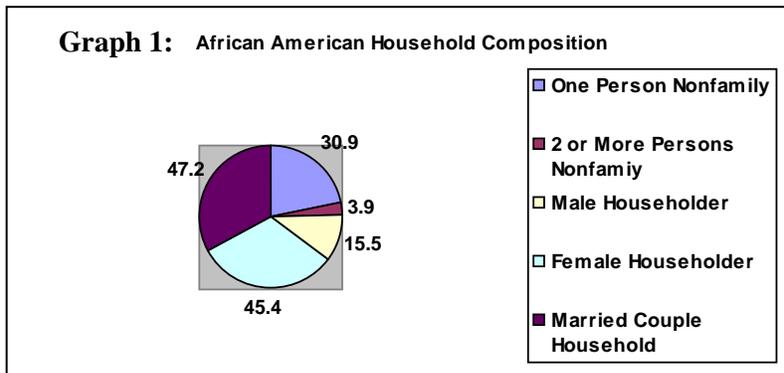
According to Planned Parenthood, last year slightly more than 8,000 abortions were performed in its Houston region, which includes two clinics in Louisiana. The agency reported 34 percent of the abortion clients were Anglo; 25 percent were black; and 34 percent Hispanic. The black and Hispanic abortion rates were slightly higher than their overall population percentages in Harris County.<sup>xx</sup>

## APPENDIX

**Table 1: HOUSTON HOUSEHOLD TYPES**

| Household Type                                | Total Population | African Americans |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Family households</b>                      | 70.8%            | 65.9%             |
| With own children < 18 years                  | 37.0%            | 34.9%             |
| <b>Married-couple family</b>                  | 51.6%            | 31.8%             |
| With own children < 18 years                  | 26.1%            | 15.4%             |
| <b>Female householder, no husband present</b> | 13.7%            | 28.3%             |
| With own children < 18 years                  | 8.3%             | 17.1%             |
| <b>Male householder, no wife present</b>      |                  |                   |
| With own children < 18 years                  |                  |                   |

U. S. Census Bureau, Census 2000



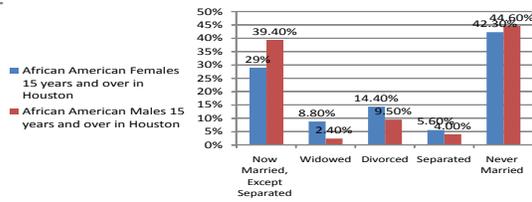
*U. S. Census Bureau, Census 2000*

**Table 2: HOUSTON NONFAMILY HOUSEHOLD TYPES**

| Household Type              | Total Population | African Americans |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Nonfamily households</b> | 29.2%            | 34.1%             |
| Male householder            | 14.7%            | 15.4%             |
| Living alone                | 11.7%            | 13.2%             |
| Not living alone            | 3.0%             | 2.2%              |
| Female householder          | 14.5%            | 18.7%             |
| Living alone                | 12.7%            | 17.7%             |
| Not living alone            | 1.8%             | 1.7%              |

U. S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

**Graph 3: AFRICAN AMERICAN MARITAL STATUS BY GENDER**

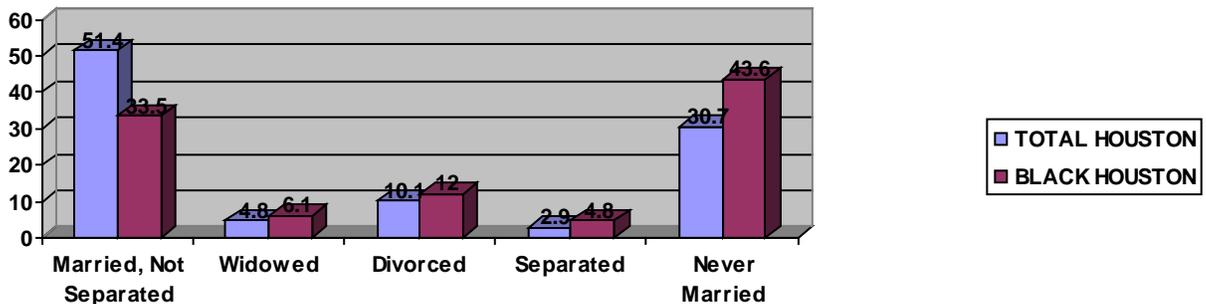


**Table 3: Grandparents Living With Grandchildren, Responsible for Coresident Grandchildren, and Duration of Responsibility by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000** (Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf))

| Characteristic                              | Total     | Race        |                                 |   |             |  |                       |                   | Hispanic origin                  |                        |                                     |
|---|-----------|-------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|   |           | White alone | Black or African American alone | American Indian and Alaska Native alone | Asian alone | Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone | Some other race alone | Two or more races | Hispanic or Latino (of any race) | Not Hispanic or Latino |                                     |
|   |           |             |                                 |   |             |  |                       |                   |                                  | Total                  | White alone, not Hispanic or Latino |
| Grandparents living with grandchildren..... | 5,771,671 | 3,219,409   | 1,358,699                       | 90,524                                  | 359,709     | 17,014   | 567,486               | 158,830           | 1,221,661                        | 4,550,010              | 2,654,788                           |
| Percent of Population 30 and over .....     | 3.6       | 2.5         | 8.2                             | 8.0                                     | 6.4         | 10.0   | 9.6                   | 5.5               | 8.4                              | 3.2                    | 2.2                                 |
| Responsible for grandchildren .....         | 2,426,730 | 1,340,809   | 702,595                         | 50,765                                  | 71,791      | 6,587  | 191,107               | 63,076            | 424,304                          | 2,002,426              | 1,142,006                           |
| Percent of coresident grandparents          | 42.0      | 41.6        | 51.7                            | 56.1                                    | 20.0        | 38.7   | 33.7                  | 39.7              | 34.7                             | 44.0                   | 43.0                                |
| ..... By duration of care (percent):        | 100.0     | 100.0       | 100.0                           | 100.0                                   | 100.0       | 100.0  | 100.0                 | 100.0             | 100.0                            | 100.0                  | 100.0                               |
| Total .....                                 |           |             |                                 |   |             |  |                       |                   |                                  |                        |                                     |
| Less than 6 months.                         | 12.1      | 12.6        | 9.8                             | 13.0                                    | 13.6        | 12.7   | 15.6                  | 13.5              | 14.6                             | 11.5                   | 12.4                                |
| 6 to 11 months .....                        | 10.8      | 11.6        | 9.3                             | 10.5                                    | 11.0        | 8.4  | 11.4                  | 11.2              | 11.2                             | 10.7                   | 11.6                                |
| 1 to 2 years .....                          | 23.2      | 23.8        | 21.2                            | 22.5                                    | 25.2        | 23.8   | 26.1                  | 23.4              | 25.1                             | 22.8                   | 23.6                                |
| 3 to 4 years .....                          | 15.4      | 15.8        | 14.6                            | 13.9                                    | 17.6        | 11.7   | 15.7                  | 16.0              | 15.8                             | 15.3                   | 15.7                                |
| 5 years or more.....                        | 38.5      | 36.3        | 45.2                            | 40.0                                    | 32.7        | 43.3   | 31.1                  | 35.9              | 33.3                             | 39.6                   | 36.6                                |

<sup>1</sup>Percent duration based on grandparents responsible for grandchildren. Percent distribution may not sum to 100 percent because of rounding. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 4.

**Graph 4: OVERVIEW OF MARITAL STATUS -- HOUSTON MSA**



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- <sup>i</sup> United States Department of Labor Office of Policy Planning and Research, *The Negro Family: The Case For National Action* (Patrick Moynihan 1965), <http://www.dol.gov/oasam/programs/history/webid-meynihan.htm>
- <sup>ii</sup> Blankenhorn and Roberts, *A Call for a New Revisionism* (March 2008)
- <sup>iii</sup> These definitions are consistent with the Census definitions. See *Households and Families: 2000, Census 2000 Brief* at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-8.pdf>; U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey: Definitions and Explanations* (May 10, 2010) at <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cps/cpsdef.html>
- <sup>iv</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census
- <sup>v</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census
- <sup>vi</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey
- <sup>vii</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>viii</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, *Grandparents Living With Grandchildren: 2000, Census 2000 Brief*, <http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/c2kbr-31.pdf>
- <sup>ix</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, *Coresident Grandparents and Grandchildren, Current Population Reports: Special Studies* (1999), <http://www.census.gov/prod/99pubs/p23-198.pdf>
- <sup>x</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xi</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, *Married-Couple and Unmarried-Partner Households: 2000, Census 2000 Special Reports* <http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/censr-5.pdf>
- <sup>xii</sup> Romero, Rosky, Badgett, & Gates, *The Williams Institute, Texas Census Snapshot* (January 2008) <http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute/publications/TexasCensusSnapshot.pdf>
- <sup>xiii</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xiv</sup> Gary J. Gates, *The Williams Institute, Same-sex Couples and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Population: New Estimates from the American Community Survey* (October 2006), available at <http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute/publications/SameSexCouplesandGLBpopACS.pdf>
- <sup>xv</sup> *Id.* at Appendix 2.
- <sup>xvi</sup> *Houstoninblack: African American Population Statistics*, <http://www.houstoninblack.com/houstonabout.html>
- <sup>xvii</sup> Kost K, Henshaw S, and Carlin L, *U.S. Teenage Pregnancies, Births and Abortions: National and State Trends and Trends by Race and Ethnicity*, 2010, <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/USTPTrends.pdf>.
- <sup>xviii</sup> Todd Ackerman, *Study: Houston Leads In Births Under Age 15*, *Houston Chronicle*, Sept. 1, 2009, <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/6596047.html>
- <sup>xix</sup> In this report, Race was categorized by three groups: white, black, and all other races. Ethnicity was categorized as either Hispanic or non-Hispanic. Abortion numbers, ratios, and rates are presented by both race and ethnicity. See, Center for Disease Control, *Abortion Surveillance, United States 2003*, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5511a1.htm>
- <sup>xx</sup> Cindy Horswell, *Anti-abortion protesters target Planned Parenthood*, *Houston Chronicle*, January 18, 2010, <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/health/6821521.html>

# STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## HEALTH



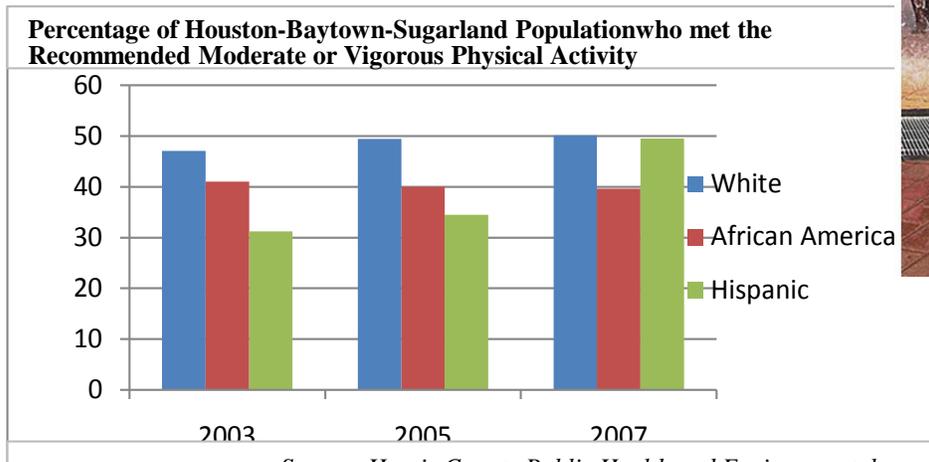
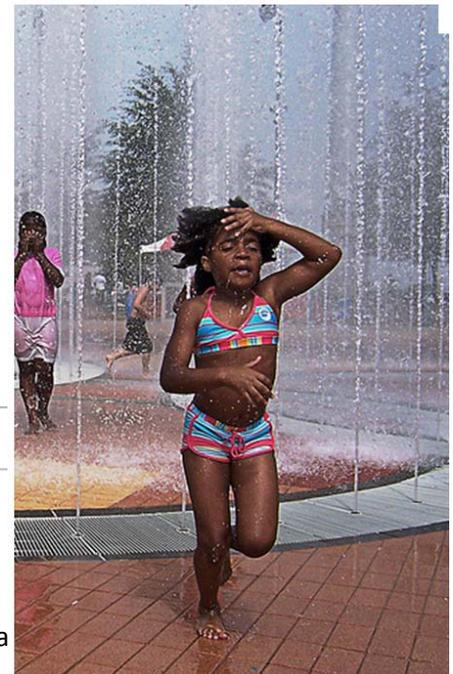
Prior to the passage the Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act of 2010<sup>i</sup>, proponents of the legislation cited access to affordable and quality health care as one of the primary causes of disparities in mortality rates that exist among various socio-economic groups in America. However, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), knowledge, proper nutrition and physical activity are all equally important factors when considering health care disparities and mortality rates.

### Physical Activity

According to the CDC, lack of physical activity combined with poor nutrition, is a leading cause of preventable death in the nation.<sup>ii</sup> These behaviors, along with the resulting conditions of overweight and obesity, are linked with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and cancer. Maintaining a healthy weight and being active can reduce the risk of chronic conditions.<sup>iii</sup>

In addition, CDC and the American College of Sports Medicine recommend that adults should participate in moderate to vigorous physical activity for at least 30 minutes on most days of the week.<sup>iv</sup>

In 2007, percentage Whites in Houston-Baytown-Sugarland who met the recommended Moderate or Vigorous Physical Activity was 50.1%; while 39.6% of African Americans met the recommended Moderate or Vigorous Physical Activity compared to 49.5% of Hispanics.<sup>v</sup>



Source: Harris County Public Health and Environmental

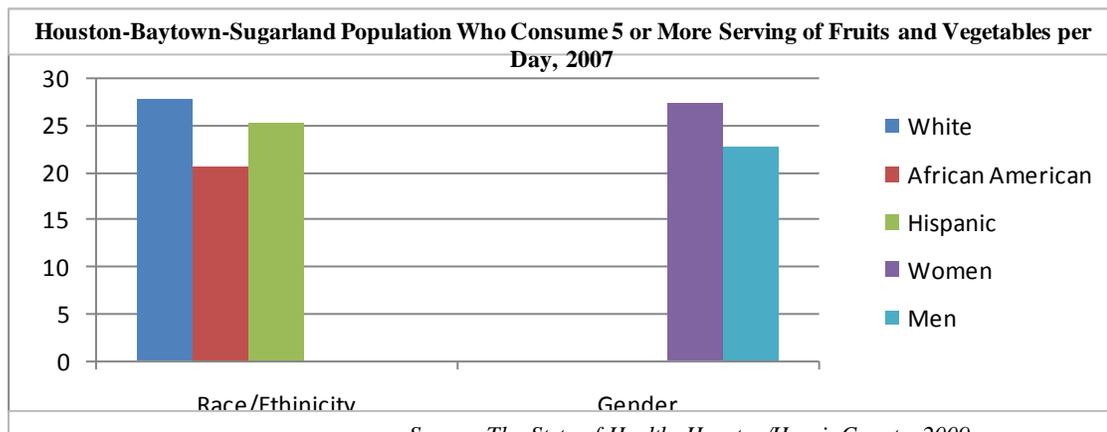
# STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## HEALTH

### Nutrition

CDC recommends that all Americans consume at least five servings of fruits and vegetables each day. According to the 2007 CDC Behavioral Risk Surveillance System (BRFSS) Annual Survey, 25.1% of surveyed Harris County adults reported eating an average of five or more servings of fruits and vegetables a day, an increase from 22.6% in 2005.<sup>vi</sup> In comparison, 25.2% of Texas adults reported consuming five or more servings, and 25.0% of U.S. adults reported eating the recommended number of servings for fruits and vegetables in 2007.<sup>vii</sup>

According to the State of Health, Houston/Harris County report, in 2007, almost 30% of Whites, about 20% of African Americans and 25% of Hispanics in Houston-Baytown-Sugarland consumed 5 or more serving per day. During the same period about 27% of women and 23% of men consumed 5 or more servings of fruit and vegetables a day.<sup>viii</sup>



Source: *The State of Health, Houston/Harris County, 2009*

### Aging

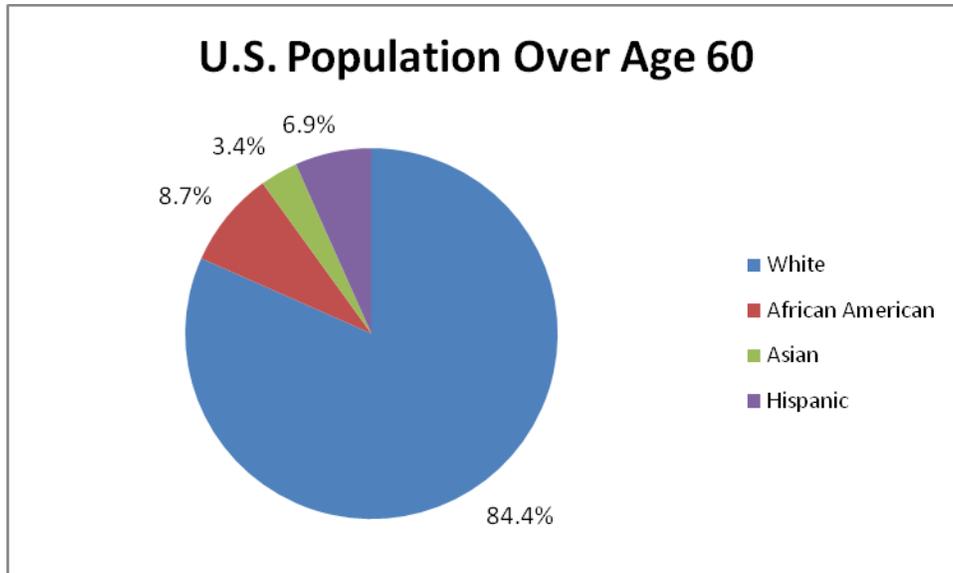
Health disparities exist in all age groups, including older adults.<sup>ix</sup> Even though life expectancy and overall health have improved in recent years for most Americans, not all older adults are benefitting equally because of factors such as economic status, race, and gender.<sup>x</sup> In 2007, Centers for Disease Control launched a Healthy Aging Program to address health disparities among older Americans and conduct research on minority populations to identify and address health disparities.<sup>xi</sup>

According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2008 Annual Community Survey, the percentage of the African American population over age 60 in the Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was significantly higher at 14.3% when compared to the U.S. population at 8.7%.<sup>xii</sup> A similar finding exists among the Hispanic population, with 16% of the population over age 60 in the Houston MSA and 6.9% nationally. The reverse is true when looking at the

percentage of the population 60 and over for Whites. The percentage of the White population over age 60 is significantly lower in the Houston MSA at 74.1% than the national percentage of 84.4%. A similar trend exists when comparing the percentage of the Houston MSA and national population over age 65.

### U.S. Population Age 60 and Over

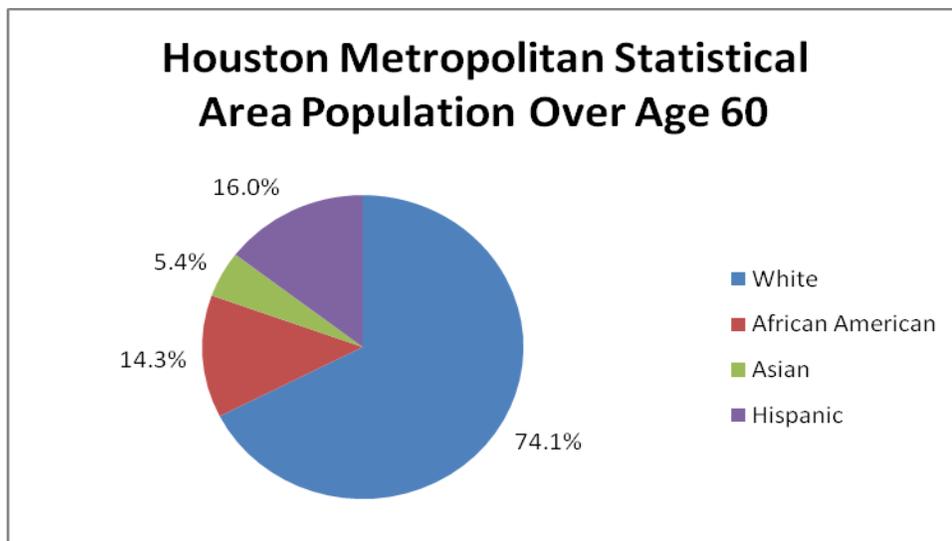
- White 84.4%
- African American 8.7%
- Asian 3.4%
- Hispanic 6.9%



*U.S. Census Annual Community Survey, 2006-2008*

### Houston (MSA) Population Age 60 and Over

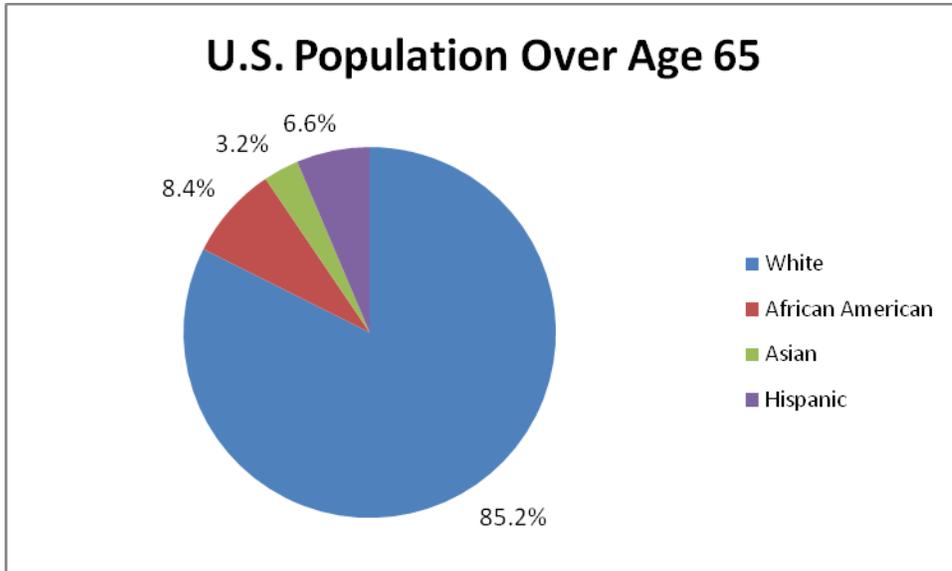
- White 74.1%
- African American 14.3%
- Asian 5.4%
- Hispanic 16.0%



*U.S. Census Annual Community Survey, 2006-2008*

### U.S. Population Age 65 and Over

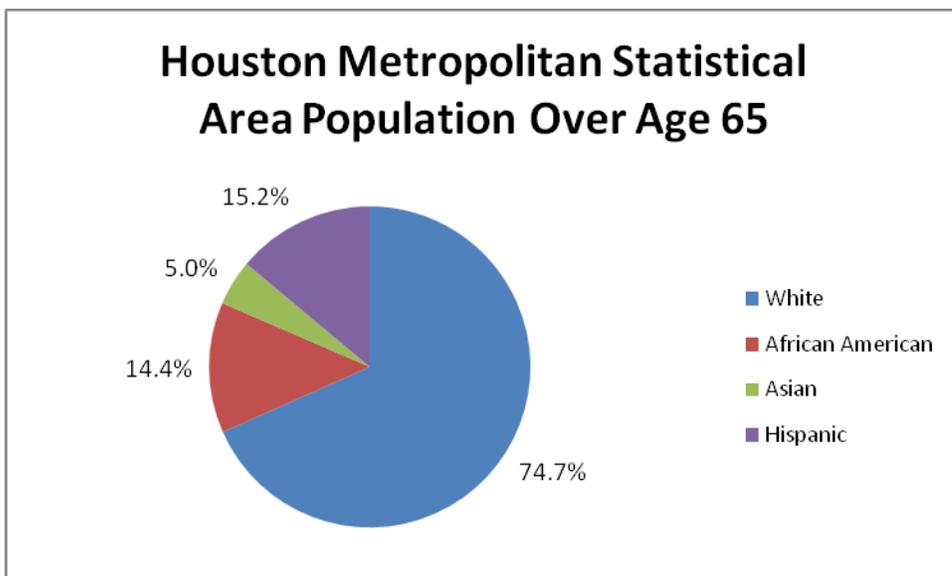
- White 85.2%
- African American 8.4%
- Asian 3.2%
- Hispanic 6.6%



*U.S. Census Annual Community Survey, 2006-2008*

### Houston (MSA) Population Age 65 and Over

- White 74.7%
- African American 14.4%
- Asian 5.0%
- Hispanic 15.2%



*U.S. Census Annual Community Survey, 2006-2008*

# STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## HEALTH

### Leading Causes of Death

There are differences in the mortality rates among racial and ethnic groups. For example in 2006, the age-adjusted mortality rate for heart disease among African American residents was 258 deaths per 100,000 persons, compared to White at 211.3 and 134.2 among Hispanics residents.<sup>xiii</sup>

| <b>Leading Causes of Mortality, in Harris County, 2006</b> |  |              |                 |
|--|--|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>Cause of Death</b>                                      | <b>Age - Adjusted Mortality Rates * and (Rank)</b> |              |                 |
|  | <b>White</b>                                       | <b>Black</b> | <b>Hispanic</b> |
| All Causes   | 724  | 874.9        | 498.3           |
| Heart Disease  | 211.3 (1)  | 258(1)       | 134.2 (1)       |
| Cancer   | 186.8 (2)  | 214.5 (2)    | 133.3 (2)       |
| Stroke   | 50 (4)   | 78.9 (3)     | 45.2 (3)        |
| Accidents  | 53.4 (3)   | 40.4 (5)     | 28.2 (5)        |
| Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease                          | 43.9 (5)   | 24.4 (9)     | 12.5 (9)        |
| Alzheimer's Disease  | 30.3 (6)   | 16.6 (12)    | 10.2 (11)       |
| Diabetes   | 18 (7)   | 41.5 (4)     | 29.7 (4)        |
| Septicemia   | 16.5 (9)   | 29.3 (6)     | 17.4 (7)        |
| Kidney Disease   | 14.9 (11)  | 29.3 (6)     | 18.6 (6)        |
| Influenza and Pneumonia                                    | 17.5 (8)   | 17.6 (11)    | 11.6 (10)       |
| Homicide   | 4.6 (17)   | 26.3 (7)     | 10.1 (12)       |
| Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis                        | 10.3 (12)  | 5.8 (14)     | 13.9 (8)        |
| Suicide  | 15.8 (10)  | 5 (16)       | 2.8 (17)        |
| HIV/ Aids  | 5 (15)   | 25 (8)       | 3.7 (14)        |

\*Deaths per 100,000 persons, age adjusted to 2000 standard population. Rankings are based upon the NCHS 50 rankable (leading) causes of death.

In 2006, the leading cause of death for African Americans was heart disease which was 25.5% of all causes of death in Harris County.<sup>xiv</sup> HIV/Aids in African American residents was 25 deaths per 100,000 compared to White at 5 and 3.7 among Hispanic residents.<sup>xv</sup>

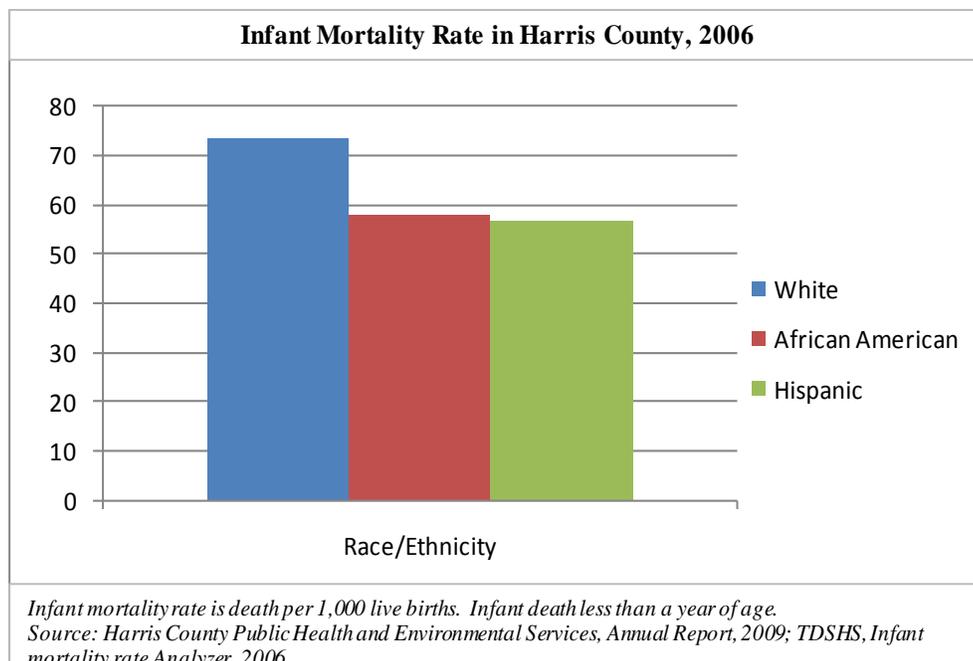
| Top 10 Leading Causes of Mortality for African Americans, in Harris County, 2006 |                                   |   |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Rank   | Cause of Death                    | Age - Adjusted Mortality Rates * and (Rank) |
| 1  | Heart Disease                     | 258(1)                                      |
| 2  | Cancer                            | 214.5 (2)                                   |
| 3  | Stroke                            | 78.9 (3)                                    |
| 4  | Diabetes                          | 41.5 (4)                                    |
| 5  | Accidents                         | 40.4 (5)                                    |
| 6  | Septicemia                        | 29.3 (6)                                    |
| 7  | Kidney Disease                    | 29.3 (6)                                    |
| 8  | Homicide                          | 26.3 (7)                                    |
| 9  | HIV/ Aids                         | 25 (8)                                      |
| 10   | Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease | 24.4 (9)                                    |

\*Deaths per 100,000 persons, age adjusted to 2000 standard population. Rankings are based upon the NCHS 50 rankable (leading) causes of death.

### Infant Mortality

Infant mortality is one of the primary indicators of community health. Factors that cause infant mortality rate are inadequate prenatal care, unavoidable genetic defects, premature birth, congenital malfunctions, poor health of the mother, age of mother and Infant Death Syndrome.<sup>xvi</sup> According to the CDC, in 2006, the state of Texas had 6.2 deaths per 1,000 compared to the U.S. rate of 6.69 deaths per 1,000 births.<sup>xvii</sup> There are differences in infant mortality rates among racial groups in the Harris County.<sup>xviii</sup> However, African Americans have the highest rate of infant mortality among all the races.

- In 2006, White infant mortality rate in Harris County ...5.2%<sup>xix</sup>
- In 2006, African American infant mortality rate in Harris County ...10.4%<sup>xx</sup>
- In 2006, Hispanic infant mortality rate in Harris County ...4.6%<sup>xxi</sup>



- 
- <sup>i</sup> Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act of 2010, H.R. 3962, 111<sup>th</sup> Congress (2009-2010).
- <sup>ii</sup> Centers for Disease Control, Chronic Disease and Health Promotion, <http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/overview/index.htm> (last visited 9/14/2010).
- <sup>iii</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>iv</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>v</sup> Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services, Annual Report, 2009, <http://www.hcphe.org/Annual%20Report%202009%20web.pdf> (last visited 9/20/2010).
- <sup>vi</sup> Centers for Disease Control, Behavioral Risk Surveillance System Annual Report, 2007, [http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/technical\\_infodata/surveydata/2007.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/technical_infodata/surveydata/2007.htm) (last visited 9/21/2010).
- <sup>vii</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>viii</sup> The State of Health, Houston Harris County, 2009, [http://www.houstonstateofhealth.org/soh\\_doc.php](http://www.houstonstateofhealth.org/soh_doc.php) (last visited 9/21/2010).
- <sup>ix</sup> *Id. at Fn. 3*
- <sup>x</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xi</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xii</sup> U.S. Census Annual Community Survey, 2006-2008, [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?\\_program=ACS&\\_submenuId=&\\_lang=en&\\_ts=](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuId=&_lang=en&_ts=) (last visited 9/21/2010)
- <sup>xiii</sup> *Id. at Fn. 5*
- <sup>xiv</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xv</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xvi</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xvii</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xviii</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xix</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xx</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>xxi</sup> *Id.*

# STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## RELIGION

### THE UNITED STATES

Religion historically has been a major influence on the social identity and values of America. Europeans fled to the U.S. to escape religious oppression from the Church of England. This result established America's foundational values of separation of church and state and the promotion of religious freedom. Now, America is the home of more than 900 denominations of faith.

### Major Religious Tradition of the United States

The largest religious tradition of the U.S. is Christianity, totaling 78.4%. Protestantism ranks the highest among Christian religions at 51.3%,



followed by Catholicism at 23.9%, then Mormonism at 1.7%, and finally Jehovah's Witness and Orthodox at 0.7% and 0.6 % respectively.<sup>i</sup>

### Religious Composition of African-Americans

The religious affiliation among African-Americans is very similar, but slightly greater than the U.S. national poll. 85% of African-Americans are affiliated as Christian.<sup>ii</sup> From this percentage, 78% of African-American Christians are Protestant.<sup>iii</sup>

Protestantism is divided into three sub-categories: Evangelical Protestant, Mainline Protestant, and Historically Black Protestant. 59% of African-Americans attend historically black churches, while 15% attend Evangelical churches and 4% attend Mainline churches.<sup>iv</sup>

### Major Religious Traditions in the U.S.

|                                     | Among all adults...<br>% |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Christian</b>                    | <b>78.4</b>              |
| Protestant                          | 51.3                     |
| Evangelical churches                | 26.3                     |
| Mainline churches                   | 18.1                     |
| Hist. black churches                | 6.9                      |
| Catholic                            | 23.9                     |
| Mormon                              | 1.7                      |
| Jehovah's Witness                   | 0.7                      |
| Orthodox                            | 0.6                      |
| Greek Orthodox                      | <0.3                     |
| Russian Orthodox                    | <0.3                     |
| Other                               | <0.3                     |
| Other Christian                     | 0.3                      |
| <b>Other Religions</b>              | <b>4.7</b>               |
| Jewish                              | 1.7                      |
| Reform                              | 0.7                      |
| Conservative                        | 0.5                      |
| Orthodox                            | <0.3                     |
| Other                               | 0.3                      |
| Buddhist                            | 0.7                      |
| Zen Buddhist                        | <0.3                     |
| Theravada Buddhist                  | <0.3                     |
| Tibetan Buddhist                    | <0.3                     |
| Other                               | 0.3                      |
| Muslim*                             | 0.6                      |
| Sunni                               | 0.3                      |
| Shia                                | <0.3                     |
| Other                               | <0.3                     |
| Hindu                               | 0.4                      |
| Other world rel.                    | <0.3                     |
| Other faiths                        | 1.2                      |
| Unitarians and other liberal faiths | 0.7                      |
| New Age                             | 0.4                      |
| Native American rel.                | <0.3                     |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b>                 | <b>16.1</b>              |
| Atheist                             | 1.6                      |
| Agnostic                            | 2.4                      |
| Nothing in particular               | 12.1                     |
| Secular unaffiliated                | 6.3                      |
| Religious unaffiliated              | 5.8                      |
| <b>Don't Know/Refused</b>           | <b>0.8</b>               |
|                                     | <b>100</b>               |

Due to rounding, figures may not add to 100 and nested figures may not add to the subtotal indicated.

\* From "Muslim Americans: Middle Class and Mostly Mainstream," Pew Research Center, 2007

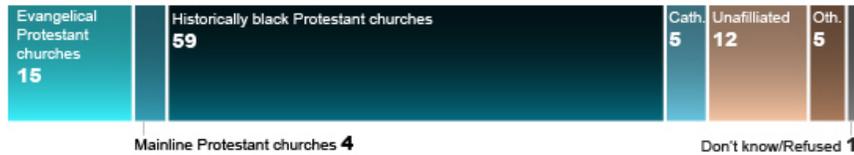
## Religious Composition

All numbers shown are percentages.

### Total U.S. population



### African-Americans



Source: Pew Forum U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, conducted in 2007, released in 2008

Note: Due to rounding, totals in this report may not sum to 100, and nested figures may not sum to the subtotals indicated

Out of all ethnic and racial groups, African-Americans are considered to be the most religious.<sup>v</sup> 87% of African-Americans belong to a religious group.<sup>vi</sup> Nearly 80% of African Americans agree that religion is very important in their lives, compared to the 56% among all U.S. adults.<sup>vii</sup> Even African-Americans who are unaffiliated with any religious group, 72% say religion plays “at least a somewhat important role in their lives,” and 45% say that religion plays “a very important role in their lives.”<sup>viii</sup>

## Importance of Religion

% saying “very important”

### African-Americans



### Total population

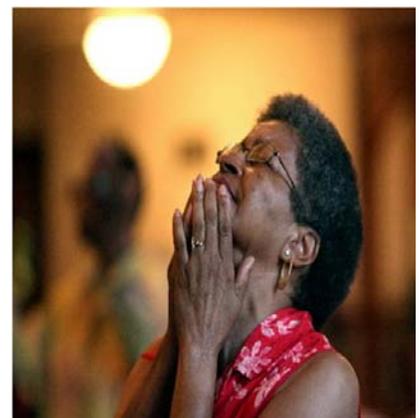


Source: Pew Forum U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, conducted in 2007, released in 2008

Question wording: How important is religion in your life – very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

## African-Americans regional differences in Religious affiliation

The southern region of the U.S., which includes Texas, has the greatest percentage of African-American attendance at historically black Protestant churches at 64%.<sup>ix</sup>



| Regional Differences in Religious Affiliation |                                  |                               |                                  |          |              |                        |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------------------|
|   | Evangelical<br>Prot.<br>churches | Mainline<br>Prot.<br>churches | Hist. black<br>Prot.<br>churches | Catholic | Unaffiliated | Other/Dont<br>know/Ref |
| Among...                                      | %                                | %                             | %                                | %        | %            | %                      |
| African-Americans                             | 15                               | 4                             | 59                               | 5        | 12           | 5=100                  |
| Total population                              | 26                               | 18                            | 7                                | 24       | 16           | 9=100                  |
| <i>Northeast</i>                              |                                  |                               |                                  |          |              |                        |
| African-Americans                             | 14                               | 6                             | 52                               | 6        | 14           | 8=100                  |
| Total population                              | 13                               | 19                            | 5                                | 37       | 16           | 10=100                 |
| <i>Midwest</i>                                |                                  |                               |                                  |          |              |                        |
| African-Americans                             | 14                               | 3                             | 55                               | 4        | 17           | 6=100                  |
| Total population                              | 26                               | 22                            | 6                                | 24       | 16           | 6=100                  |
| <i>South</i>                                  |                                  |                               |                                  |          |              |                        |
| African-Americans                             | 16                               | 3                             | 64                               | 4        | 9            | 4=100                  |
| Total population                              | 37                               | 17                            | 11                               | 16       | 13           | 6=100                  |
| <i>West</i>                                   |                                  |                               |                                  |          |              |                        |
| African-Americans                             | 11                               | 5                             | 51                               | 11       | 15           | 7=100                  |
| Total population                              | 20                               | 15                            | 3                                | 25       | 21           | 15=100                 |

Source: Pew Forum U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, conducted in 2007, released in 2008

The top major religions in Harris County and Fort Bend County Texas are:

- 1) Evangelical Protestant
- 2) Mainline Protestant
- 3) Catholic
- 4) Muslim
- 5) Jewish
- 6) Orthodox<sup>x</sup>



Religious Affiliation by State in the South

|                                | National % | South %    | Alabama %  | Arkansas % | Delaware % | Florida %  | Georgia %  | Kentucky % | Louisiana % | Maryland/DC % | Mississippi % | North Carolina % | Oklahoma % | South Carolina % | Tennessee % | Texas %    | Virginia % | West Virginia % |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------|------------------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| Members of Evang. Prot. Ch.    | 26         | 37         | 49         | 53         | 15         | 25         | 38         | 49         | 31          | 15            | 47            | 41               | 53         | 45               | 51          | 34         | 31         | 36              |
| Members of Mainl. Prot. Ch.    | 18         | 17         | 15         | 16         | 18         | 15         | 16         | 17         | 9           | 20            | 11            | 21               | 16         | 18               | 18          | 15         | 20         | 32              |
| Members of Hist. Bl. Prot. Ch. | 7          | 11         | 18         | 10         | 14         | 8          | 16         | 5          | 20          | 18            | 23            | 13               | 3          | 15               | 8           | 8          | 10         | 2               |
| Catholic                       | 24         | 16         | 6          | 5          | 27         | 26         | 12         | 14         | 28          | 18            | 9             | 9                | 12         | 8                | 7           | 24         | 14         | 7               |
| Mormon                         | 2          | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5        | <0.5          | 1             | <0.5             | <0.5       | <0.5             | 1           | 1          | 1          | <0.5            |
| Jehovah's Witness              | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | <0.5       | 1          | 1          | <0.5       | 1           | 1             | 1             | <0.5             | <0.5       | 1                | <0.5        | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5            |
| Orthodox                       | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | 1          | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5        | 1             | <0.5          | <0.5             | <0.5       | 1                | <0.5        | <0.5       | 1          | <0.5            |
| Other Christian                | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5        | <0.5          | <0.5          | <0.5             | <0.5       | <0.5             | <0.5        | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5            |
| Jewish                         | 2          | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | 2          | 3          | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5        | 5             | <0.5          | <0.5             | <0.5       | 1                | <0.5        | 1          | 1          | 1               |
| Muslim                         | 1*         | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | 1           | <0.5          | <0.5          | <0.5             | <0.5       | <0.5             | 1           | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5            |
| Buddhist                       | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | 1           | 1             | <0.5          | 1                | 1          | <0.5             | <0.5        | 1          | 1          | <0.5            |
| Hindu                          | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5        | 1             | <0.5          | <0.5             | <0.5       | <0.5             | <0.5        | 1          | 1          | 1               |
| Other World Religions          | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5        | <0.5          | <0.5          | <0.5             | <0.5       | <0.5             | <0.5        | <0.5       | <0.5       | <0.5            |
| Other Faiths                   | 1          | 1          | 1          | <0.5       | 4          | 1          | <0.5       | 1          | <0.5        | 1             | 1             | 1                | 1          | 1                | 1           | 1          | 1          | <0.5            |
| Unaffiliated                   | 16         | 13         | 8          | 13         | 19         | 16         | 13         | 12         | 8           | 17            | 6             | 12               | 12         | 10               | 12          | 12         | 18         | 19              |
| Don't Know/Refused             | 1          | 1          | 1          | <0.5       | <0.5       | 1          | <0.5       | 1          | <0.5        | 1             | 1             | 1                | 1          | <0.5             | 1           | <0.5       | 1          | 1               |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>100</b>  | <b>100</b>    | <b>100</b>    | <b>100</b>       | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b>       | <b>100</b>  | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b>      |
| N                              | 35,556     | 12,643     | 681        | 378        | 110        | 1,694      | 967        | 599        | 528         | 756           | 333           | 1,166            | 465        | 570              | 837         | 2,266      | 997        | 296             |
| Margin of Error                | ± 0.6%     | ± 1%       | ± 4.5%     | ± 6%       | ± 10.5%    | ± 3%       | ± 3.5%     | ± 4.5%     | ± 5%        | ± 4%          | ± 6%          | ± 3.5%           | ± 5%       | ± 5%             | ± 4%        | ± 2.5%     | ± 3.5%     | ± 6.5%          |

\* From "Muslim Americans: Middle Class and Mostly Mainstream," Pew Research Center, 2007

Note: Bold, blue numbers indicate instances where the proportion of the corresponding state's population that belongs to the religious tradition in question is significantly different than the proportion of the national population that belongs to that group.

<sup>i</sup> The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, Religious Affiliation: Diverse and Dynamic*, (February 2008) at 10.

<sup>ii</sup> *Id.* at 40.

<sup>iii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>iv</sup> *Id.* at 10.

<sup>v</sup> The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life: "A Religious Portrait of African Americans," January 30, 2009 <http://pewforum.org/A-Religious-Portrait-of-African-Americans.aspx> (last visited 9/30/2010).

<sup>vi</sup> *Id.*

<sup>vii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>viii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>ix</sup> *Id.*

<sup>x</sup> Social Explorer, Religion-RCMS data: "Religion 2000" <http://www.socialexplorer.com/pub/ReportData/Home.aspx> (last visited 9/30/2010).



# STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

*Justice is supposed to be blind - meted out according to the legal characteristics of a case rather than the social characteristics of the defendant and victim. Decades of research on race and capital punishment, however, demonstrate that blind justice is a mirage.<sup>i</sup>*

The fact that the expanding use of incarceration in Texas disproportionately affects the state's non-White citizens remains undeniable. Additionally, prison related spending by the state has had a profound and damaging impact on state spending and on the economic vitality of Texas's communities of color.<sup>ii</sup>

Out of a total population of 1,976,019 individuals incarcerated in adult facilities, 1,239,946 or 63 percent are black or Latino, though these two groups constitute only 25 percent of the national population.<sup>iii</sup>

According to the Justice Department report *Prisoners in 2003*, African American men across the United States were incarcerated seven times the rate of Whites while Latinos were incarcerated at 2.6 times the rate of Whites.<sup>iv</sup> African Americans and Latinos comprised 68% of all people in prison and jail in 2003, even though African Americans and Latinos make up only 25% of the US population.<sup>v</sup>

An estimated 1,559,200 children had a father in prison at midyear 2007; nearly half (46%) were children of black fathers.<sup>vi</sup> Of the estimated 74 million children in the U.S. resident population who were under age 18 on July 1, 2007, 2.3% had a parent in prison. Black children (6.7%) were seven and a half times more likely than white children (0.9%) to have a parent in prison.<sup>vii</sup>

|                     | Estimated number of minor children with a parent in prison | Percent of all minor children in the U.S. resident population |
|---------------------|--|---|
| <b>U.S. total*</b>  | 1,706,600  | 2.3%  |
| White, non-Hispanic | 484,100  | 0.9%  |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 767,400  | 6.7   |
| Hispanic            | 362,800  | 2.4   |

Note: Children were assumed to have the same race/ethnicity as the incarcerated parent. Percentages were calculated based on the U.S. resident population under age 18 as of July 1, 2007.  
\*Includes children of other races. Other races include American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons identifying two or more races.

In Texas, African Americans are incarcerated at 5 times the rate of Whites (3,734 per 100,000, compared to 694 per 100,000 Whites)<sup>viii</sup> There are more African American men of all ages in prison in Texas (66,300) than in the higher education system (40,800).<sup>ix</sup> A national report published by JPI in August 2003 showed that nearly twice as many African American men in their earlier 30s have prison records (22%) than had Bachelors degrees (12%).<sup>x</sup>



## Interactions with Law Enforcement

Blacks are more than twice as likely to get stopped by law enforcement while driving as other members of the community with 48 % of all traffic stops in Houston carried out on Black drivers.<sup>xi</sup>

Blacks are much more likely to be tazered (use of a taser or Conductive Energy Device (CED)) by police than any other group. According to a study conducted by the University of Houston Center for Public Policy, during the period between December 2004 and June 2007, Blacks were tazered at a rate of almost three times their population, and were tazered in 66.9% of the total tazer incidents in the Houston area.<sup>xii</sup>

| <i>Suspect's Race/Ethnicity</i> | <b>Total Service/Incident Reports Analysis Population</b> | <b>CED Service/Incident Reports</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>African American</b>         | 46.0 %  | 66.9 %                              | 20.9 %            |
| <b>Latino</b>                   | 28.2 %  | 23.5 %                              | -4.7 %            |
| <b>Anglo</b>                    | 24.4 %  | 9.0 %                               | -15.4 %           |
| <b>Other Groups</b>             | 1.4 %   | 0.6%                                | -0.8 %            |

In addition Blacks were far more likely to be tazered where the responding officer was White (52.3%) or Hispanic (27.9%), than where the responding officer was Black.<sup>xiii</sup>

| <i>Officer's Race/Ethnicity</i> | <b>Total Service/Incident Reports Analysis Population</b> | <b>CED Service/Incident Reports</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>African American</b>         | 25.1 %  | 17.3 %                              | -7.8 %            |
| <b>Latino</b>                   | 24.3 %  | 27.9 %                              | 3.6 %             |
| <b>Anglo</b>                    | 46.2 %  | 52.3 %                              | 6.1 %             |
| <b>Other Groups</b>             | 4.4 %   | 2.5 %                               | -1.9 %            |

## Incarceration

Blacks are more likely to be arrested and receive a prison sentence than whites; receiving dramatically longer sentences for violent offenses than do Whites. Black males account for 24 % of the crimes, but account for 61 % of the narcotic arrests.<sup>xiv</sup> According to jail records, Blacks account for 54 % of all those who are incarcerated locally. And according to a 2008 study, although Blacks are tried for death at about the same rate as their White and Hispanic counterparts, they are more likely to be tried on less heinous crimes and with less aggravating circumstances in their social history.<sup>xv</sup> The disparity in capital homicides also shows a race of victim factor. White victims are much more likely to have a death sentence handed out for their murder than black.<sup>xvi</sup>

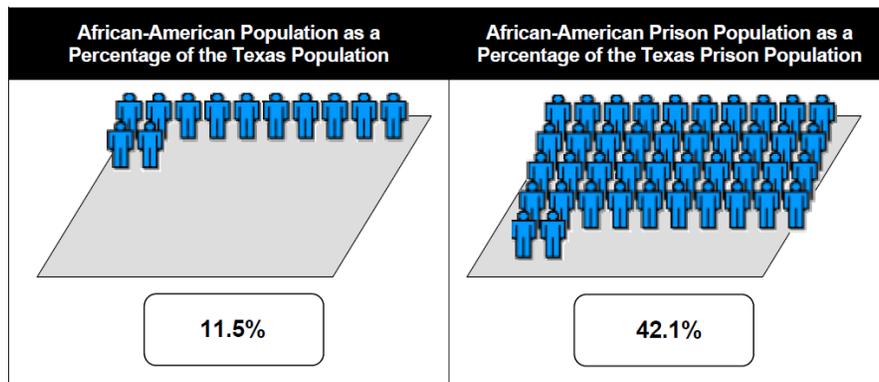
### CURRENT DEATH ROW POPULATIONS BY RACE (as of January 1, 2010)

| <b>State</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>Black</b> | <b>White</b> | <b>Latino</b> | <b>Asian</b> | <b>Native Amer.</b> |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Texas</b> | <b>337</b>   | <b>130</b>   | <b>104</b>   | <b>99</b>     | <b>4</b>     | <b>0</b>            |

Blacks are more likely to be imprisoned for a drug related offense. The drug prisoner admission rate (the number of people admitted to prison for drug offenses, per 100,000 residents) in Texas rose 66% between 1986 and 1999.<sup>xvii</sup> This change is indicative of the larger change in African American drug admissions over the 13-year period. For Whites, the drug prison admission rate rose 19% (from 24 per 100,000 to 28 per 100,000), while for African Americans, the rate rose 280% (from 70 per 100,000, to 266 per 100,000).<sup>xviii</sup> This difference in rate is despite the fact that according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), White and African American use of illicit drugs is close to the same percentages; specifically, Whites and African Americans reported to be dependent on a substance at virtually the same rate (9.5% of African Americans, and 9.3% of Whites) as adults and as youth age 12 to 17 ( 10% of African American youth, and 12.6% of White youth)<sup>xix</sup>

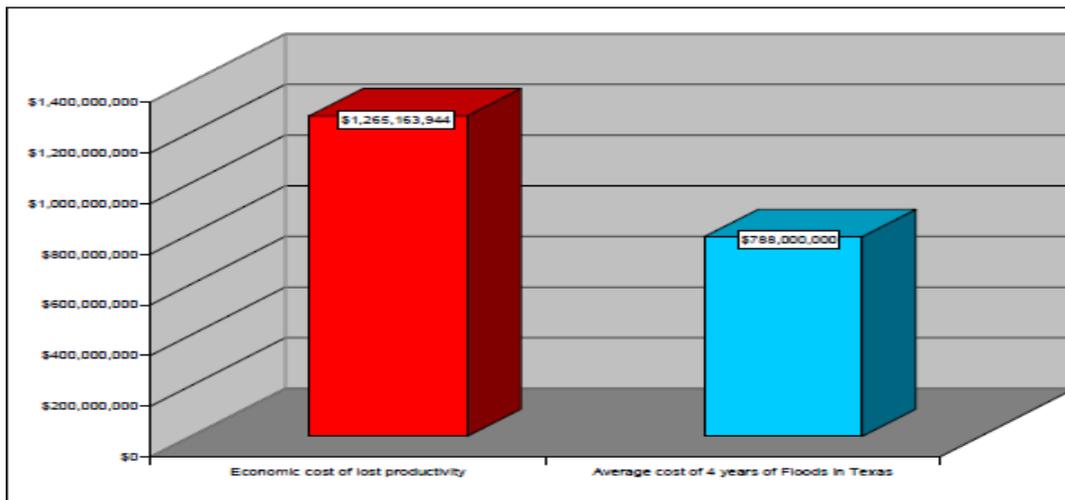
### The Economics of Incarceration

High incarceration rates in minority communities in Texas result in significant economic productivity losses. Minorities, especially African-Americans are overrepresented in the Texas prison population.<sup>xx</sup>



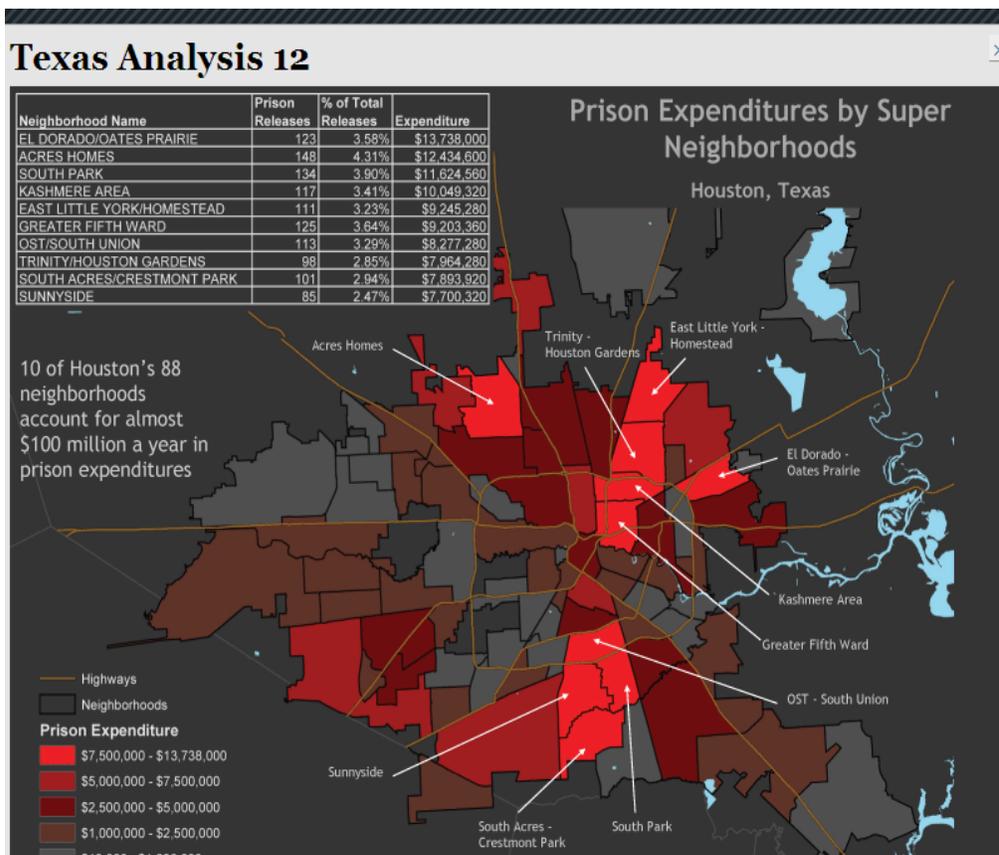
Estimates of lost economic productivity due to incarceration in the African-American community exceed \$1 billion dollars.<sup>xxi</sup>

### LOST ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY DUE TO INCARCERATION IN THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY



In 2005, a study conducted by Justice Mapping Center found that nearly a third of all prisoners released returned to Harris (16.7%), Dallas (10.4%) and Tarrant (7.6%) counties.<sup>xxii</sup> Harris County prisoner expenditures cost the state \$400,288,920.<sup>xxiii</sup> Further, the study identified neighborhoods in Houston with a large concentration of annual prison releases. The study found that many of these neighborhoods are predominately minority neighborhoods. For example, Sunnyside is one of 10 neighborhoods in Houston that together accounted for 15 percent of the city's population, yet received half of the 6,283 prisoners released in Houston in 2005. The Fifth Ward has one of the city's highest concentrations of former prisoners. At least 125 state parolees resettled in the neighborhood in 2006, according to the mapping studies. Their prison terms cost Texas \$9 million.<sup>xxiv</sup>

### PRISON EXPENDITURES BY SUPER NEIGHBORHOODS



### VICTIMIZATION

A hate crime, also known as a bias crime, is a criminal offense committed against a person, property, or society which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin.<sup>xxv</sup> The FBI gathers statistics on hate crime each year pursuant to the Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990. Blacks experience hate crimes at a rate nearly 10 times higher than any other group at a rate of 48.9 compared to 5.6 for Asians, 2.7 for Whites and 2.3 for Latinos. In 2008, the FBI found that 75% of the incidents involving a hate crime because of racial bias involved antiblack bias and over a third of the total victims of hate crime violence were targeted because of antiblack bias.<sup>xxvi</sup>

In 2009 Texas law enforcement reported 164 incidents of hate crimes. These incidents involved 173 victims, 188 offenders, and resulted in a total of 167 offenses..<sup>xxvii</sup>

| Hate Crime Bias Motivation |         |                             |                  |
|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Bias Nature                | Group % | Bias Type                   | Volume (Offense) |
| Racial                     | 50.6%   | Anti-White                  | 11               |
|                            |         | Anti-Black                  | 63               |
|                            |         | Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander | 2                |
|                            |         | Anti-Am Ind/Alaskan Native  | 1                |
|                            |         | Anti-Multi-Racial           | 6                |

In 2009, the Harris County Sheriff’s Office reported 11 incidents of substantiated hate crimes while Houston Police Department reported 14 incidents..<sup>xxviii</sup>



### AFRICAN AMERICANS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

African Americans have made significant progress in gaining access to careers in law enforcement. At about 25% of the population, Blacks comprise 21 % of sworn officers in HPD..<sup>xxix</sup> African American women comprise a significantly greater number of the total percentage of African American officers when compared to women officers in other racial groups. African American women make up almost 20% of the total number of African American officers, almost double that of the other major race groups..<sup>xxx</sup> In 1982, the Houston Police Department appointed its first African-American chief of police, Lee P. Brown. In 1997, African American C. O. Bradford was appointed as chief..<sup>xxx1</sup> The current Houston Police Department Chief, Charles A. McClelland, Jr., is also an African American.

## JUVENILE INVOLVEMENT IN CRIME



*“[A]lthough violent crime nationally has declined, there is an increase in murders by and of young African-American men.” [Moreover] among the number of male juveniles murdered between 2002 and 2007 nationally, there was a 31 percent increase and there was a 43 percent increase among black perpetrators.<sup>xxxii</sup>*

The juvenile felony arrest rate for Blacks, at 457 per 1,000 youth under 18, is more than twice as high as Latinos at 201 or Whites at 172.

| <b>Most Serious Offense</b> | <b>Black Proportion of Juvenile Arrests in 2005</b> |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Murder                      | 54%   |
| Forcible rape               | 34  |
| Robbery                     | 68  |
| Aggravated assault          | 42  |
| Simple assault              | 39  |
| Burglary                    | 31  |
| Larceny-theft               | 28  |
| Motor vehicle theft         | 43  |
| Weapons                     | 37  |
| Drug abuse violations       | 29  |
| Vandalism                   | 20  |
| Liquor laws                 | 5   |

**Data source:** *Crime in the United States 2005*,

### ***The Crisis: Locally***

The city of Houston, topped the list of 29 U.S. cities, with a 139 percent increase in the number of young African-Americans suspected in killings during the period between 2000-01 and 2006-07. Statistics also reveal that in the period covering 2006-07, 129 young African American men were murdered in Houston, up from 42 in the period covering 2000-01.<sup>xxxiii</sup>

## Non-Violent Crime

| CRIMETYPE                  | YEAR TO DATE COMPARISONS |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                       |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|                            | 2000<br>Jan. - Dec.      | 2001<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2002<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2003<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2004<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2005<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2006<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2007<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2008<br>Jan. - Dec. | '07 - '08<br>% Change |
| Burglary                   | 224                      | 215                 | 186                 | 206                 | 184                 | 209                 | 184                 | 182                 | 195                 | 7.1%                  |
| Theft                      | 782                      | 710                 | 730                 | 680                 | 734                 | 720                 | 712                 | 718                 | 629                 | -12.4%                |
| Auto Theft                 | 51                       | 57                  | 45                  | 45                  | 49                  | 38                  | 39                  | 33                  | 23                  | -30.3%                |
| <b>Total Non-Violent</b>   | <b>1,057</b>             | <b>982</b>          | <b>961</b>          | <b>931</b>          | <b>967</b>          | <b>967</b>          | <b>935</b>          | <b>933</b>          | <b>847</b>          | <b>-9.2%</b>          |
| <b>TOTAL PART I CRIMES</b> | <b>2,945</b>             | <b>3,200</b>        | <b>2,877</b>        | <b>2,768</b>        | <b>2,917</b>        | <b>2,898</b>        | <b>2,791</b>        | <b>2,763</b>        | <b>2,754</b>        | <b>-0.3%</b>          |

### The Data Locally: Juvenile Justice System

In its 2008 Year End Summary Brief, the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, for the period of 2007-2008 among youth ages 14 thru 17, reports a disquieting 92.9% increase in homicide, an 82.8% increase in arson and a 21.2% increase in A and B misdemeanor theft.<sup>xxxiv</sup> The year-end summary brief also states that the “profile of the offender for this period is significantly reflective of Hispanic and African-American males between 15 and 16 years of age.”<sup>xxxv</sup> Notably, the report touts a significant decrease in crimes that include: felony theft, city ordinance violations and violation of probation offenses, felony drug offenses, misdemeanor A and B drug offenses, and misdemeanor C drug offenses. However, further analysis of the Juvenile Probation data, reveals that while it reports an overall 22.6% decrease in the number of Harris County Juvenile facilities when comparing 2007 and 2008 data, the data reveals that in 2008 the number of juveniles admitted to private placement facilities experienced a significant increase of 18.5% over 2007 admits.<sup>xxxvi</sup>

## *Juvenile Victim UCR Part One*

### *Crime Comparisons*

#### CITYWIDE

#### Violent Crime

| CRIMETYPE            | YEAR TO DATE COMPARISONS |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                       |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|                      | 2000<br>Jan. - Dec.      | 2001<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2002<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2003<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2004<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2005<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2006<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2007<br>Jan. - Dec. | 2008<br>Jan. - Dec. | '07 - '08<br>% Change |
| Murder               | 16                       | 20                  | 22                  | 23                  | 23                  | 20                  | 34                  | 19                  | 21                  | 10.5%                 |
| Rape                 | 223                      | 280                 | 250                 | 201                 | 323                 | 276                 | 251                 | 231                 | 200                 | -13.4%                |
| Robbery              | 473                      | 557                 | 520                 | 528                 | 466                 | 522                 | 532                 | 525                 | 527                 | 0.4%                  |
| Aggravated Assault   | 1,176                    | 1,361               | 1,124               | 1,085               | 1,138               | 1,113               | 1,039               | 1,055               | 1,159               | 9.9%                  |
| <b>Total Violent</b> | <b>1,888</b>             | <b>2,218</b>        | <b>1,916</b>        | <b>1,837</b>        | <b>1,950</b>        | <b>1,931</b>        | <b>1,856</b>        | <b>1,830</b>        | <b>1,907</b>        | <b>4.2%</b>           |

This chart reports the citywide violent crime statistics for juveniles.

## Juvenile Arrest Rates Race/Ethnic Group

- In the Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area, there were 16,376 juvenile arrests in 2009 (17 and under).<sup>xxxvii</sup> By race, 7026 arrests were African Americans, 9175 were White and 175 were American Indian or Alaskan Native and Asian or Pacific Islander.<sup>xxxviii</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> Scott Phillips, *Racial Disparities in the Capital of Capital Punishment*, 45 Hous. L. Rev. 807 (2008).

<sup>ii</sup> The Justice Policy Institute, *Race and Imprisonment in Texas - The disparate incarceration of Latinos and African Americans in the Lone Star State* (2005), [http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/05-02\\_REP\\_TXRaceImprisonment\\_AC-RD.pdf](http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/05-02_REP_TXRaceImprisonment_AC-RD.pdf)

<sup>iii</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

<sup>iv</sup> Beck, Allen and Paige Harrison. *Prisoners in 2003* (November 2004), U. S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

<sup>v</sup> *Id.*

<sup>vi</sup> Glaze, Lauren E. and Maruschak, Laura M., "Parents in Prison and Their Minor Children" (Washington, DC: USDOJ, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Jan. 2009), NCJ222984, p. 2. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pptmc.pdf>

<sup>vii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>viii</sup> The Justice Policy Institute, *Race and Imprisonment in Texas - The disparate incarceration of Latinos and African Americans in the Lone Star State* (2005), [http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/05-02\\_REP\\_TXRaceImprisonment\\_AC-RD.pdf](http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/05-02_REP_TXRaceImprisonment_AC-RD.pdf)

<sup>ix</sup> *Id.*

<sup>x</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xi</sup> Lori Rodriguez, *Report Finds HPD Frisks Blacks 3 1/2 Times More Than Whites Latinos' Rate Exceeds Twice That Of Anglos*, Houston Chronicle, Feb. 4, 2004; *See also*, Alejandra Rodriguez, *Racial Profiling in Houston Hasn't Declined*, *Civil Rights & Human Rights*, Apr 6, 2004, 14:58, [http://soc.hfac.uh.edu/artman/publish/article\\_67.shtml](http://soc.hfac.uh.edu/artman/publish/article_67.shtml); C. Curran Coulter II, *Study Shows Houston Police More Likely To Taser Blacks and Hispanics Than Whites*, November 26, 2008, <http://www.columbiamissourian.com/media/multimedia/2008/11/26/media/Archive/Taserrace.html>

<sup>xii</sup> University of Houston Center for Public Policy, *Part III : A Statistical Analysis Of The Use Of Conducted Energy Devices By The Houston Police Department*" (2007) , <http://www.uh.edu/hcpp/CEDanalysis.pdf>

<sup>xiii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xiv</sup> Chris Vogel, *Hispanics Are Almost Never Arrested For Drugs, HPD Somehow Says*, Houston Press, November 6, 2008.

<sup>xv</sup> Scott Phillips *Study – "Racial Disparities in the Capital of Capital Punishment*, 45 Houston Law Review 807, 834 (2008) (vol 45 no.3) (note this was a study on the use of the death penalty in Harris county over a ten year period).

<sup>xvi</sup> *Id.* at 839. *See also*, Adam Liptak, *New Look At Death Sentences and Race*, N.Y. Times, April 29, 2008, <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/29/us/29bar.html>

<sup>xvii</sup> The Justice Policy Institute, *Race and Imprisonment in Texas - The disparate incarceration of Latinos and African Americans in the Lone Star State* (2005), [http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/05-02\\_REP\\_TXRaceImprisonment\\_AC-RD.pdf](http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/05-02_REP_TXRaceImprisonment_AC-RD.pdf)

<sup>xviii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xix</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. *Results from the 2002 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings* (2003). (Office of Applied Studies, NHSDA Series H-22, DHHS Publication No. SMA 03-3836). Rockville, MD, <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/nhsda/2k2nsduh/results/2k2Results.htm>

<sup>xx</sup> Stewart Research Group, *Racial Disparities in the Texas Criminal Justice System* (May 22, 2003), <http://oja.state.wi.us/docview.asp?docid=11182&locid=97>

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<sup>xxi</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxii</sup> <http://www.justicemapping.org/expertise/#>

<sup>xxiii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxiv</sup> See Solomon Moore, *Trying to Break Cycle of Prison at Street Level*, N.Y. Times, November 23, 2007, [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/23/us/23mapping.html?\\_r=1&n=Top/Reference/Times%20Topics/People/M/Moore,%20Solomon](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/23/us/23mapping.html?_r=1&n=Top/Reference/Times%20Topics/People/M/Moore,%20Solomon)

<sup>xxv</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigations, Crime in the United States 2002, [http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius\\_02/html/web/offreported/02-nhatecrime12.html](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius_02/html/web/offreported/02-nhatecrime12.html)

<sup>xxvi</sup> U. S. Dept. of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations, 2008 Hate Crime Statistics, <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/hc2008/index.html>

<sup>xxvii</sup> Texas Department of Public Safety, Crime in Texas 2009, <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/crimereports/09/09UCR27.pdf#page=49>

<sup>xxviii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxix</sup> James Pinkerton, *Odds Now 50-50 An HPD Officer Will Be A Minority - But Anglos Still Are Half The Force And Hold Most Of The Leadership Spots*, Houston Chronicle, March 15, 2010. See also, *A Statistical Analysis Of The Use Of Conducted Energy Devices By The Houston Police Department* (Part III) Page 80 – 82, Table 5b, by the University of Houston Center for Public Policy, <http://www.uh.edu/hcpp/CEDanalysis.pdf> (2007) (for tables on racial and gender demographics of Houston Police Department from 2005 to 2007.)

<sup>xxx</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxxi</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Houston\\_Police\\_Department](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Houston_Police_Department)

<sup>xxxii</sup> James Alan Fox, Ph.D and Marc L. Swatt, Ph.D, Northeastern University, *The Recent Surge in Homicides involving Young Black Males and Guns: Time to Reinvest in Prevention and Crime Control*, December 28, 2008.

<sup>xxxiii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxxiv</sup> Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, *Executive Monthly Activity Report-2008, 2008 Year End Summary*, December 2008, [http://www.hcjpd.org/annual\\_reports/2008.pdf](http://www.hcjpd.org/annual_reports/2008.pdf)

<sup>xxxv</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxxvi</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxxvii</sup> Houston Police Department, *Juvenile Arrest Statistics*, January 2009 0 December 2009.

<sup>xxxviii</sup> *Id.* It is important to note that the City of Houston recognizes that Hispanic is not a race but an ethnicity. Thus, of the 16376 arrests 7814 were of Hispanic origin and 8562 were reported as Non-Hispanic origin.

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## THE JUDICIARY

It has been said that through analysis of several of the Federalist Papers written by Alexander Hamilton and James Madison (47-51, 68), one can conclude that because of checks and balances of the American political structure, the judiciary, though it is the weakest branch next to the legislature and executive, is the most important department of government in regards to protecting the individual liberties of the people.<sup>i</sup>

At the federal level the court is structured in the following order: The United States Supreme Court, the Circuit Courts of Appeals, Federal District Courts and Special Courts (Bankruptcy, Tax, Court of Claims, etc.). In Texas the courts are structured as follows: Texas Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals, Court of Appeals, District Courts (Civil, Criminal, Family and Juvenile), County Courts (Constitutional County Courts, County Courts of Law (Civil and Criminal), and Statutory Probate Courts), Justice of the Peace Courts ("JP Courts") and the Municipal or City Courts.



### **The Federal Courts in Houston**

In Houston, there are two federal courts, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Federal District Court for the Southern District of Texas. On the Fifth Circuit, there is one African American Judge presiding. Out of eleven (11) federal district courts in Houston, two are presided over by African American Judges. Of the four federal magistrates in Houston, none are African American.

### **The Texas Courts of Appeals in Houston**

The Texas Court of Appeals has fourteen Courts divided into specific geographical regions in the State. The fourteen Courts of Appeals have intermediate appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases appealed from district or county courts.<sup>ii</sup> Each Court is presided over by a chief justice and has at least two other justices.<sup>iii</sup> In the city of Houston there are two Courts of Appeals, the 1st and 14th respectively. Of the nine judges on the First Court of Appeals, one is African American and one is Hispanic. The Fourteenth Court of Appeals has nine judges, none of whom are African American or Hispanic



### **Texas State District Courts in Houston**

The district courts are the trial courts of general jurisdiction of Texas.<sup>iv</sup> The geographical area served by each court is established by the Legislature, but each county must be served by at least one district court.<sup>v</sup> District courts have original jurisdiction in all felony criminal cases, divorce cases, cases involving title to land (as does Harris County Civil Courts), election contest cases, civil matters in which the amount in controversy (the amount of money or damages involved) is \$200 or more, and

any matters in which jurisdiction is not placed in another trial court. In Houston there are 25 Civil District Courts, currently there are 2 African-Americans seated, there are 22 Criminal District Courts four of which are presided over by African American judges, and there are 10 Family District Courts where no African-American is seated, however there is one African American associate judge; there are 3 Juvenile District Courts none of which are presided over by an African American judge.

### **County Courts in Houston**

The Texas Constitution limits each county to a single county court; the Texas Legislature has created statutory county courts at law in the larger counties to aid the single county court in its judicial functions.<sup>vi</sup> In Houston, there are 4 County Civil Courts at Law on which no African-American is seated; there are 15 County Criminal Courts, currently there is one African-American seated, and there are 4 Probate Courts which have no African-Americans seated.

### **Justice of the Peace in Houston**

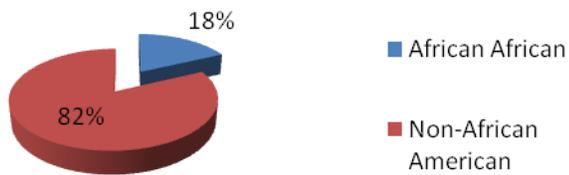
The Texas Constitution requires that each county in the State establish between one and eight justice of the peace precincts, depending upon the population of the county.<sup>vii</sup> There are currently 16 Justice of the Peace Courts with 2 African-Americans seated.

### **Houston Municipal Courts in Houston**

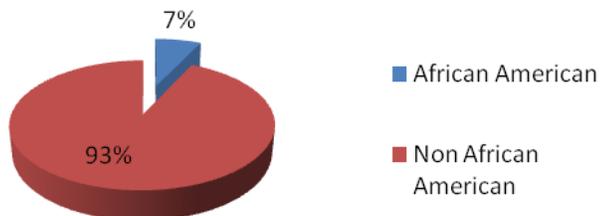
Under its authority to create such other courts as may be necessary, the Texas Legislature has created municipal courts in each of the incorporated cities of the State.<sup>viii</sup> Municipal courts have original and exclusive jurisdiction over violations of city ordinances and, within the city limits, have concurrent jurisdiction with justice of the peace courts over Class C misdemeanor criminal cases where the punishment upon conviction is by small fine only. At the Municipal Court level there are currently 16 African American judges out of the 79 Municipal Court judges in Houston.

## JUDICIARY APPENDIX

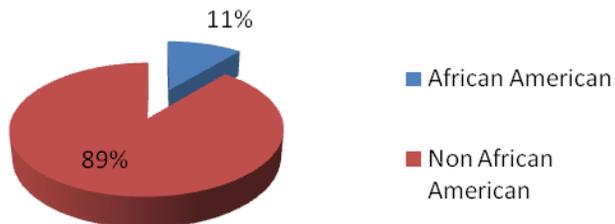
**Racial Makeup of Federal District Court Judges in Houston**



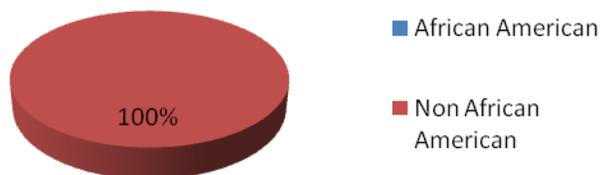
**Racial Makeup of 5th Circuit Court Judges**



**Racial Makeup of the Texas 1st Court of Appeals Judges in Houston**



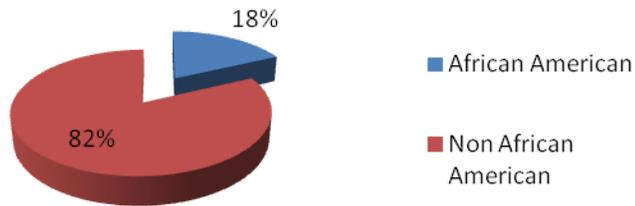
**Racial Makeup of the Texas 14th Court of Appeal Judges in Houston**



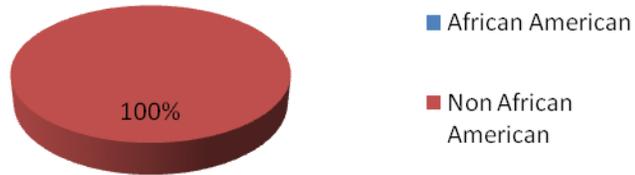
**Racial Makeup of Texas State District Courts  
in Houston (Civil Court)**



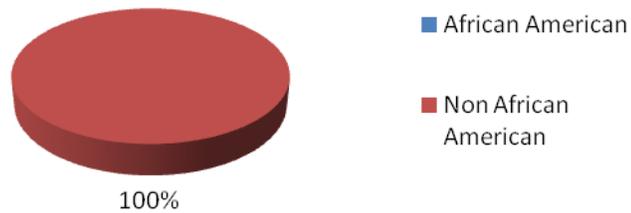
**Racial Makeup of Texas State District Courts  
in Houston (Criminal Court)**



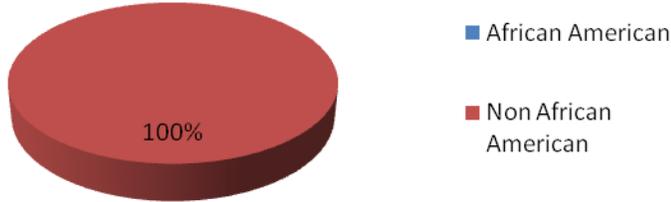
**Racial Makeup of Texas State District Courts  
in Houston (Family Court)**



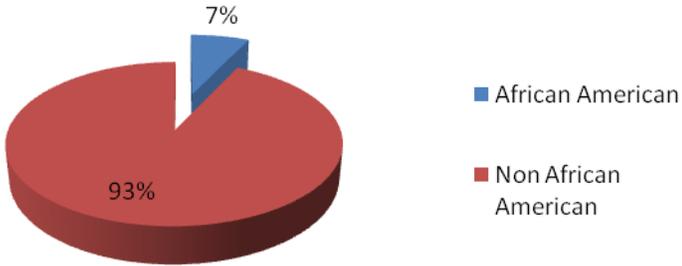
**Racial Makeup of Texas State District Courts  
in Houston (Juvenile Court)**



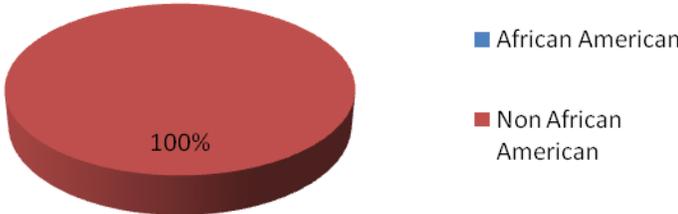
**Racial Makeup of Harris County Courts at Law  
(Civil Court)**

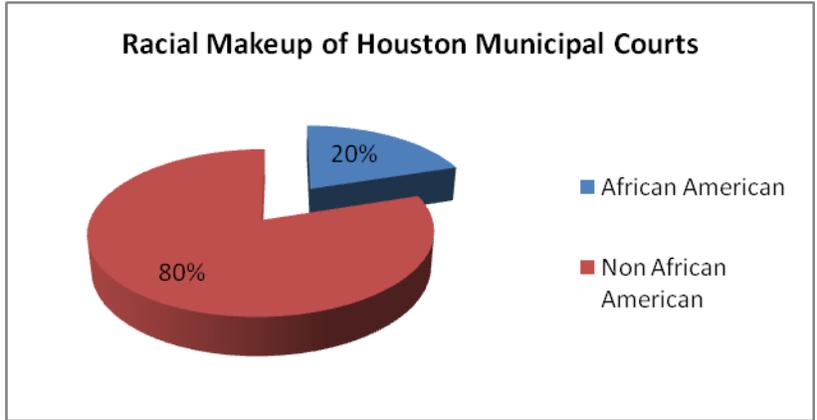
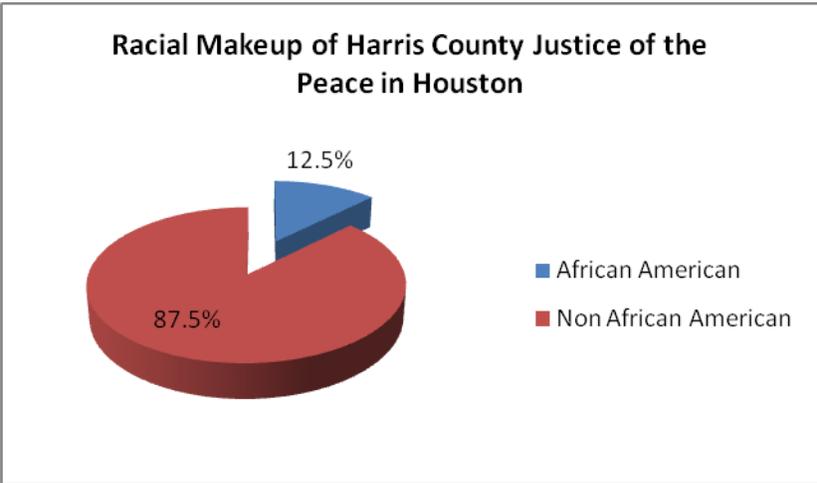


**Racial Makeup of Harris County Courts at Law  
(Criminal Court)**



**Racial Makeup of Harris County Courts at Law  
(Probate Court)**





<sup>i</sup> Marie Mariano, The Role of the Judiciary: The Just Branch of Government, [http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/94187/the\\_role\\_of\\_the\\_judiciary\\_the\\_just.html](http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/94187/the_role_of_the_judiciary_the_just.html)

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/courts/coa.asp>

<sup>iii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>iv</sup> <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/courts/district.asp>

<sup>v</sup> *Id.*

<sup>vi</sup> <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/courts/county.asp>

<sup>vii</sup> <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/courts/jp.asp>

<sup>viii</sup> <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/courts/mn.asp>

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## MINORITIES IN LAW SCHOOL

### A NATIONAL PROFILE

*Most judges are lawyers so it is an important part of the State of the Black Judiciary to examine the source for the pool of judges. That source is the law school.*

The data indicates a small upward trend in the enrollment of minorities in ABA accredited law schools since 2005. In four year period, 2005-2009, first year minority enrollment in Houston law schools has increased by 931 students which represents a 1.3% increase. Total minority enrollment has increased by 1600 students during that same four year period, a 1.7% increase. During the same period the number of African-Americans in the first year of enrollment has increased by 479 and total African-American enrollment by 696.



**First Year J.D. and Total J.D. Minority Enrollment National Average (2005-2009)**

| Academic Year | Number of Schools | First Year Enrollment | First Year Minority Enrollment | %    | Total J.D. Enrollment | Total J.D. Minority Enrollment | %     |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| 2008 - 2009   | 200               | 49,414                | 11,320                         | 22.9 | 142,922               | 31,368                         | 21.9% |
| 2007 - 2008   | 198               | 49,082                | 11,016                         | 22.4 | 141,719               | 30,657                         | 21.6% |
| 2006 - 2007   | 195               | 48,937                | 10,898                         | 22.3 | 141,031               | 30,557                         | 21.6% |
| 2005 - 2006   | 191               | 48,132                | 10,389                         | 21.6 | 140,298               | 29,768                         | 21.2% |

i

**African American J.D. Enrollment (2005-2009)**

| Academic Year | Number of Schools | 1st Year J.D. Enrollment | 2nd Year J.D. Enrollment | 3rd Year J.D. Enrollment | 4th Year J.D. Enrollment | Total Enrollment |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 2008 - 2009   | 200               | 3,586                    | 3,098                    | 2,910                    | 228                      | 9,822            |
| 2007 - 2008   | 198               | 3,486                    | 3,052                    | 2,708                    | 237                      | 9,483            |
| 2006 - 2007   | 195               | 3,516                    | 2,836                    | 2,927                    | 250                      | 9,529            |
| 2005 - 2006   | 191               | 3,107                    | 3,020                    | 2,716                    | 283                      | 9,126            |

ii

# THE STATE OF BLACK HOUSTON NOW:

## MINORITIES IN LAW SCHOOL

### A Profile of Texas Public Law Schools

#### TMSL DEGREES CONFERRED

|       | AF<br>AM | AM<br>IND | ASIAN<br>AM | MEX<br>AM | PUERTO<br>RICAN | HISPANIC | FOR<br>NAT | WHITE<br>AM |
|-------|----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|------------|-------------|
| 2005  | 99       | 0         | 5           | 25        | 0               | 3        | 0          | 24          |
| 2006  | 69       | 2         | 8           | 39        | 0               | 6        | 0          | 23          |
| 2007  | 90       | 0         | 11          | 45        | 0               | 2        | 0          | 52          |
| 2008  | 118      | 1         | 13          | 37        | 0               | 12       | 0          | 25          |
| 2009  | 91       | 0         | 12          | 49        | 0               | 0        | 6          | 34          |
| TOTAL | 467      | 3         | 49          | 195       | 0               | 23       | 6          | 158         |

#### UH DEGREES CONFERRED

|       |    |   |     |    |   |    |   |      |
|-------|----|---|-----|----|---|----|---|------|
| 2005  | 6  | 1 | 27  | 16 | 0 | 5  | 1 | 237  |
| 2006  | 10 | 3 | 31  | 13 | 0 | 9  | 0 | 318  |
| 2007  | 8  | 3 | 43  | 11 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 219  |
| 2008  | 7  | 1 | 34  | 16 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 251  |
| 2009  | 16 | 0 | 36  | 3  | 0 | 25 | 0 | 204  |
| TOTAL | 47 | 8 | 171 | 59 |   | 64 | 1 | 1229 |

#### UT DEGREES CONFERRED

|       |     |    |     |     |   |    |   |      |
|-------|-----|----|-----|-----|---|----|---|------|
| 2005  | 15  | 3  | 34  | 32  | 0 | 7  | 0 | 335  |
| 2006  | 21  | 4  | 42  | 47  | 0 | 10 | 0 | 374  |
| 2007  | 28  | 1  | 34  | 63  | 0 | 22 | 0 | 313  |
| 2008  | 21  | 4  | 25  | 62  | 0 | 17 | 0 | 221  |
| 2009  | 25  | 1  | 26  | 67  | 0 | 6  | 0 | 269  |
| TOTAL | 110 | 13 | 161 | 271 | 0 | 62 | 0 | 1512 |

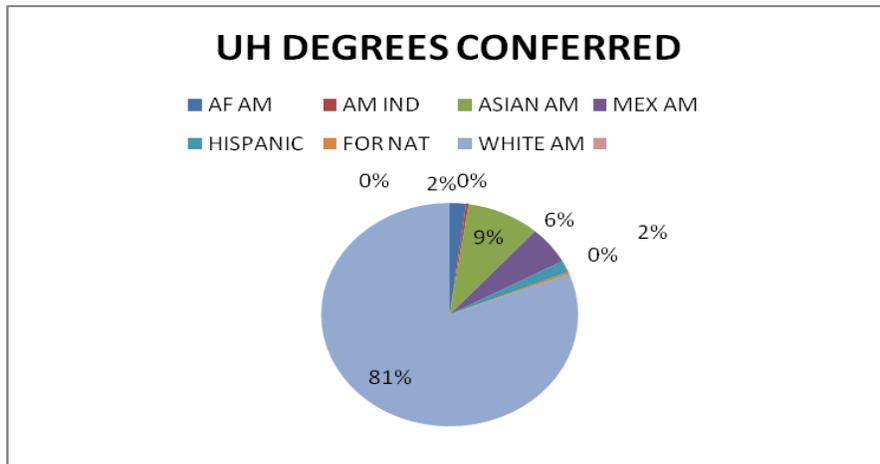
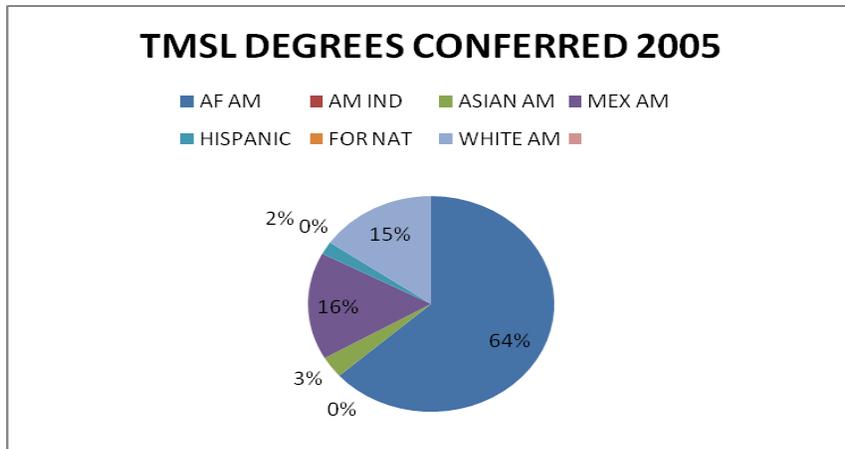
#### TX TECH DEGREES CONFERRED

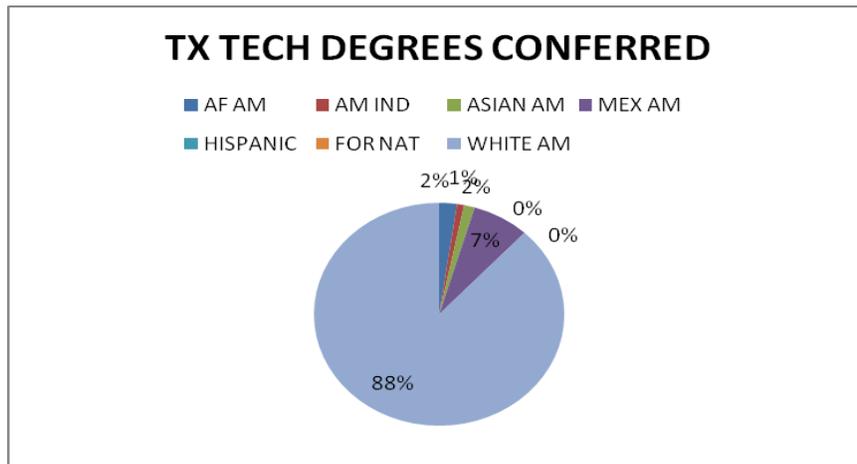
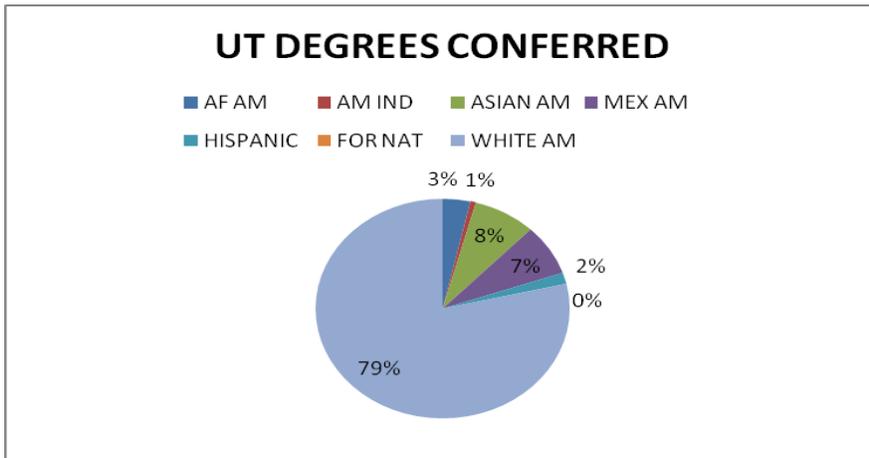
|       |    |   |    |     |   |   |   |     |
|-------|----|---|----|-----|---|---|---|-----|
| 2005  | 5  | 2 | 3  | 16  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 191 |
| 2006  | 6  | 1 | 4  | 19  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 201 |
| 2007  | 3  | 0 | 2  | 25  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 172 |
| 2008  | 7  | 3 | 9  | 23  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 185 |
| 2009  | 9  | 2 | 6  | 24  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 164 |
| TOTAL | 30 | 8 | 24 | 107 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 913 |

Currently there are four publicly accredited law schools in Texas, Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) at Texas Southern University, the University of Houston Law Center, the University of Texas School of Law, and Texas Tech University School of Law.<sup>iii</sup> Below is an enrollment and ethnic breakdown of the four institutions. For the period under review, TMSL conferred 2.5 times more juris doctorate degrees than the other institutions put together; almost ten (10) times more than UH, 4.2 times more than UT and 15.5 times more than Texas Tech. TMSL conferred more degrees on Mexican American matriculants than UH and Texas Tech combined, but less than UT.



### MINORITIES IN LAW SCHOOL APPENDIX





<sup>i</sup> <http://www.abanet.org/legaled/statistics/charts/stats%20-%208.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.abanet.org/legaled/statistics/charts/stats%20-%2013.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> On June 19, 2009, Governor Rick Perry signed SB 956 into law, establishing the first public law school in North Texas, the University of North Texas Dallas College of Law.

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