



Demographic Snapshot of Austin's African American Community

City Council work session

June 21, 2016

Ryan Robinson
City Demographer
Planning and Zoning Department



Executive Summary

- 1. The African American community in central Texas is better off in many ways than it was ten years ago but large, stubborn socioeconomic disparities continue to persist.**
- 2. A return to positive population growth within the City and a continuation of modest growth for metropolitan Austin.**
- 3. And yet, greater Austin is not getting a significant piece of the big current growth stream of African American households flowing into the South.**



Issue Sections

- 1. Population change and spatial distribution.**
- 2. Quality of Life indicators.**
- 3. National Migration Patterns.**
- 4. Housing affordability.**

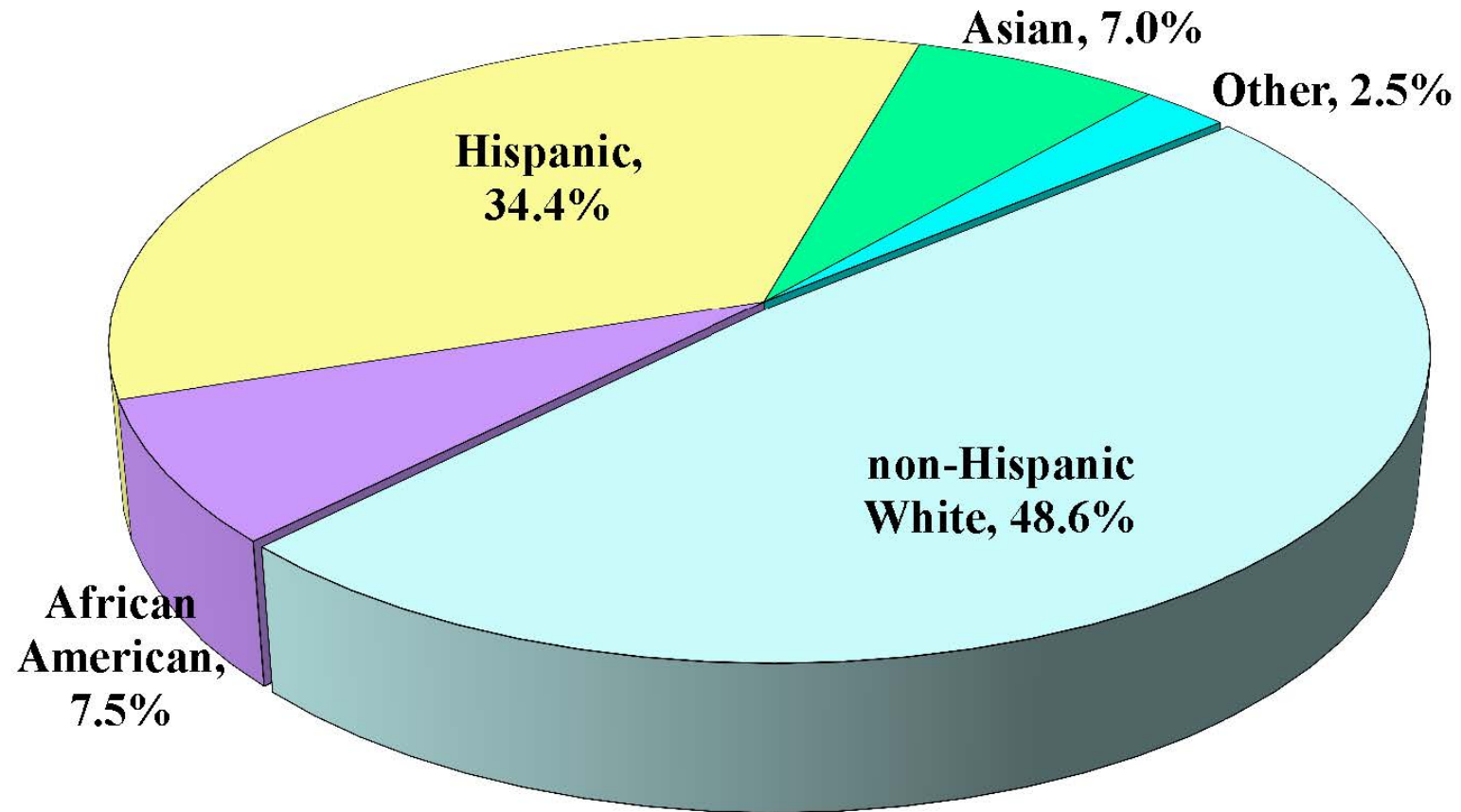


Population Change and Spatial Distribution

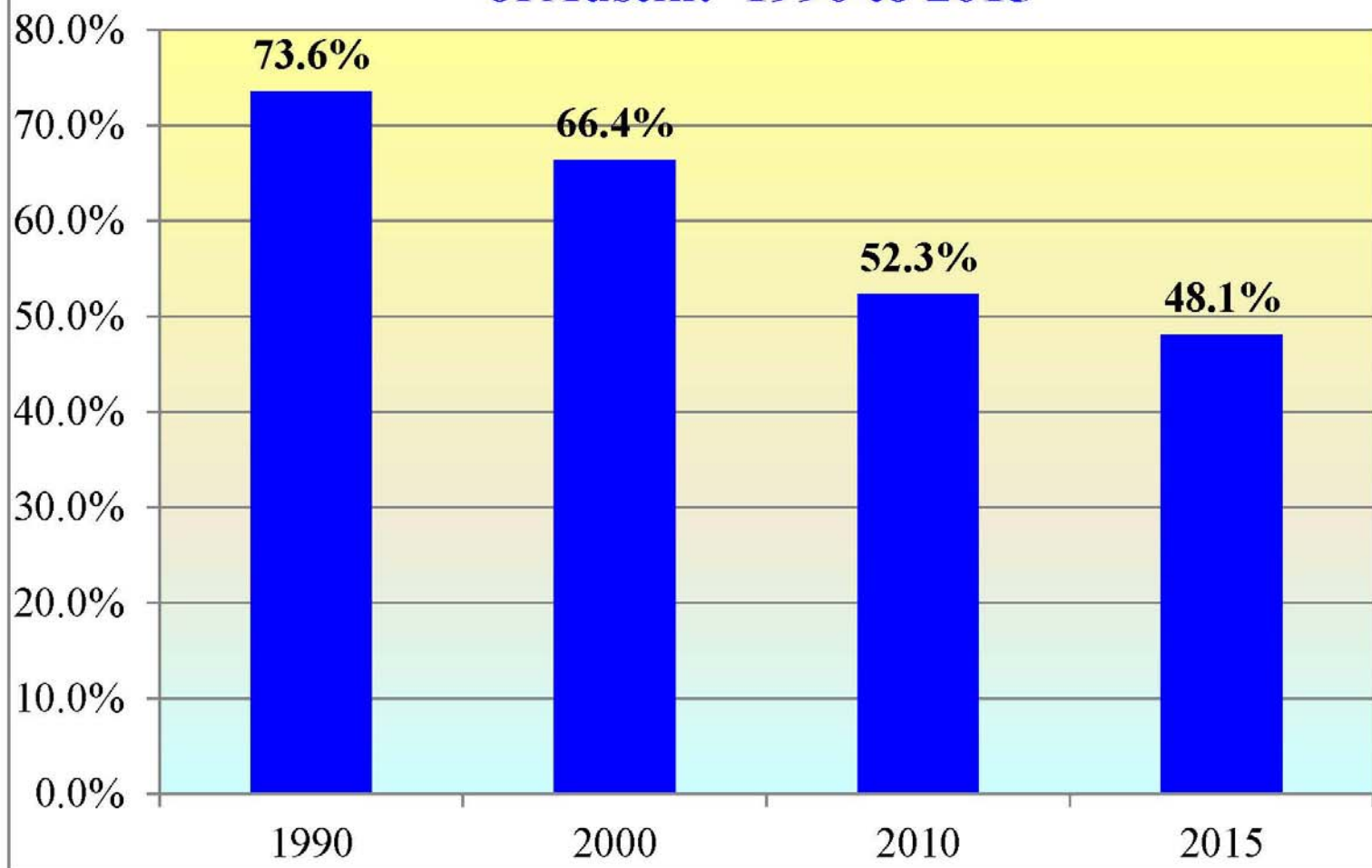
The most recent Census data from 2014 indicate a gain of almost 8,000 African Americans since 2010 within the City of Austin and an almost 20,000 increase at the metropolitan-level.

More than half of all African Americans inside metropolitan Austin now live outside the City of Austin.

Racial and Ethnic Mix, City of Austin, 2014 ACS Census Estimates



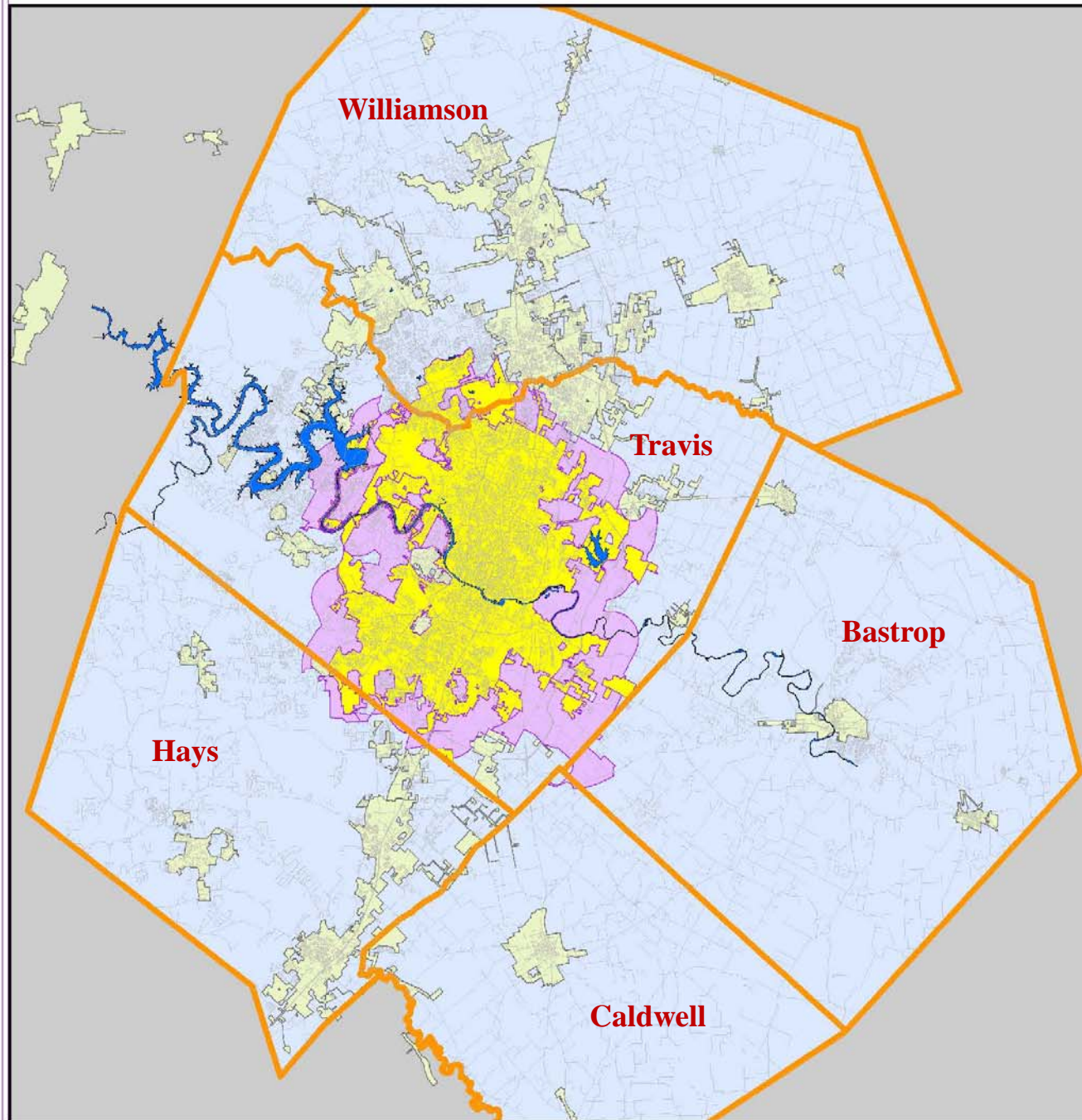
Percent of Total African Americans within Metropolitan Austin Residing Inside the City of Austin: 1990 to 2015

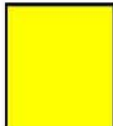


Austin-- Round Rock MSA

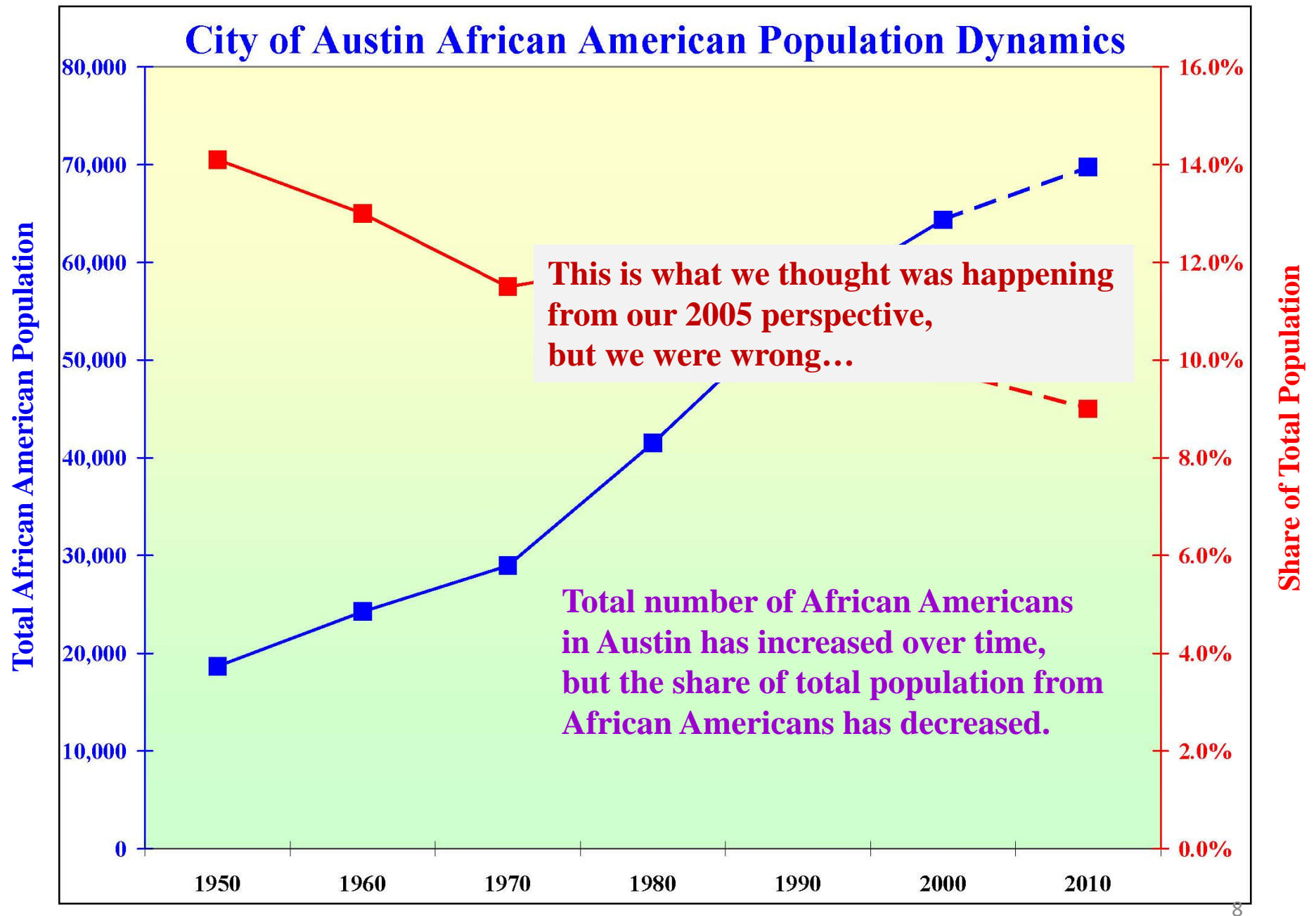
Metropolitan Statistical Area

April 2016

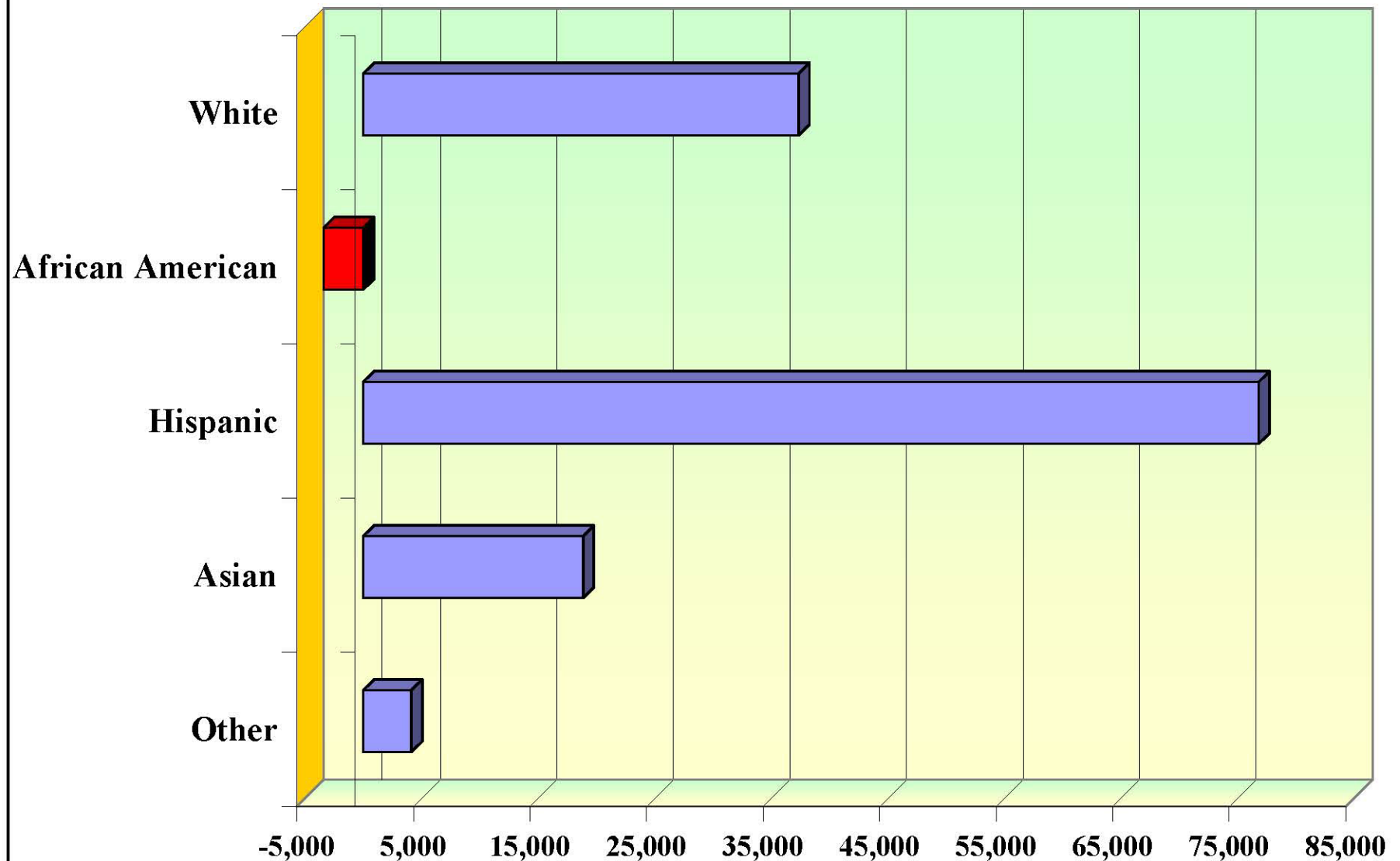


 **City of Austin
Full and Limited
Jurisdiction**

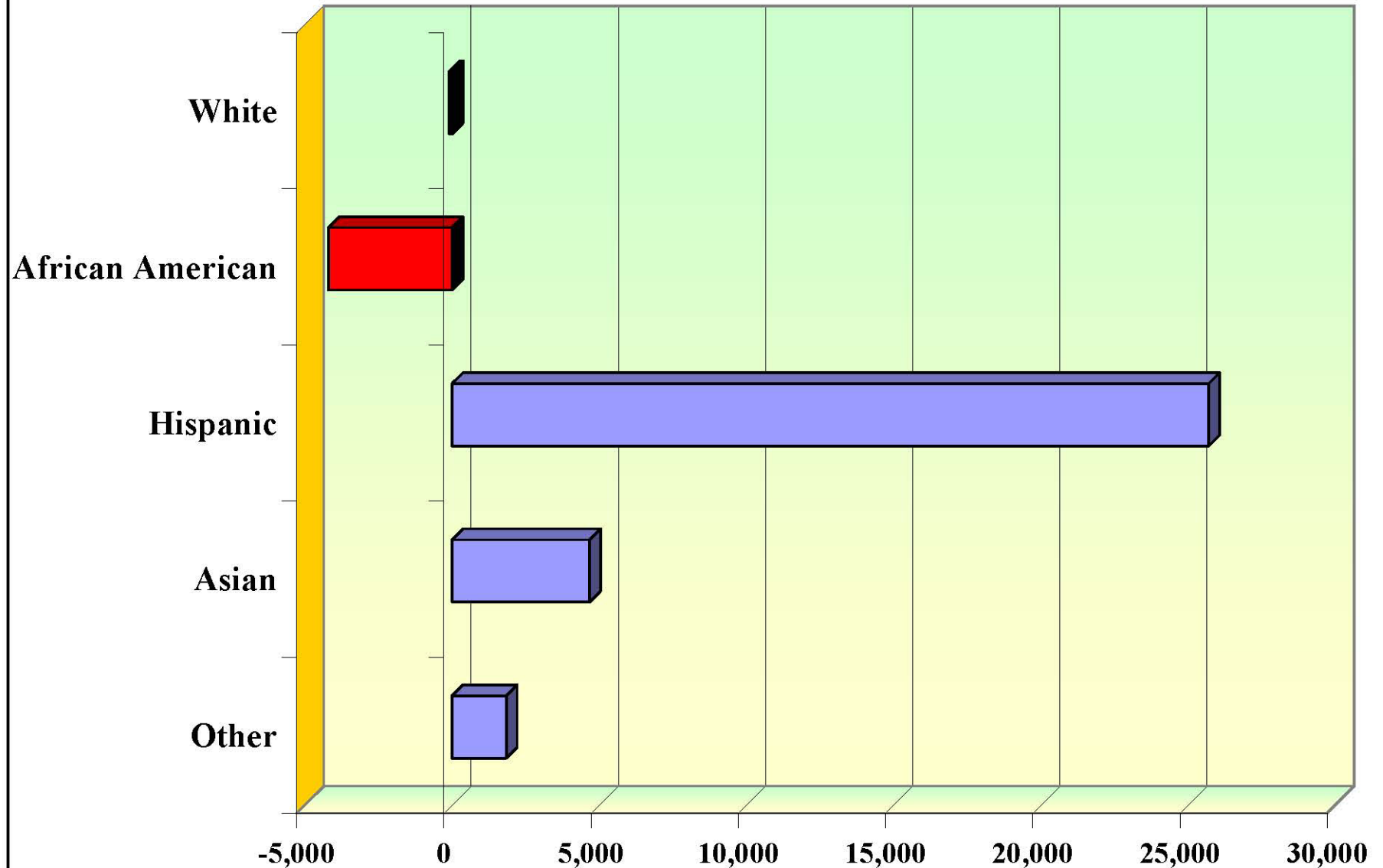
 **City of Austin
Extra-Territorial
Jurisdiction**



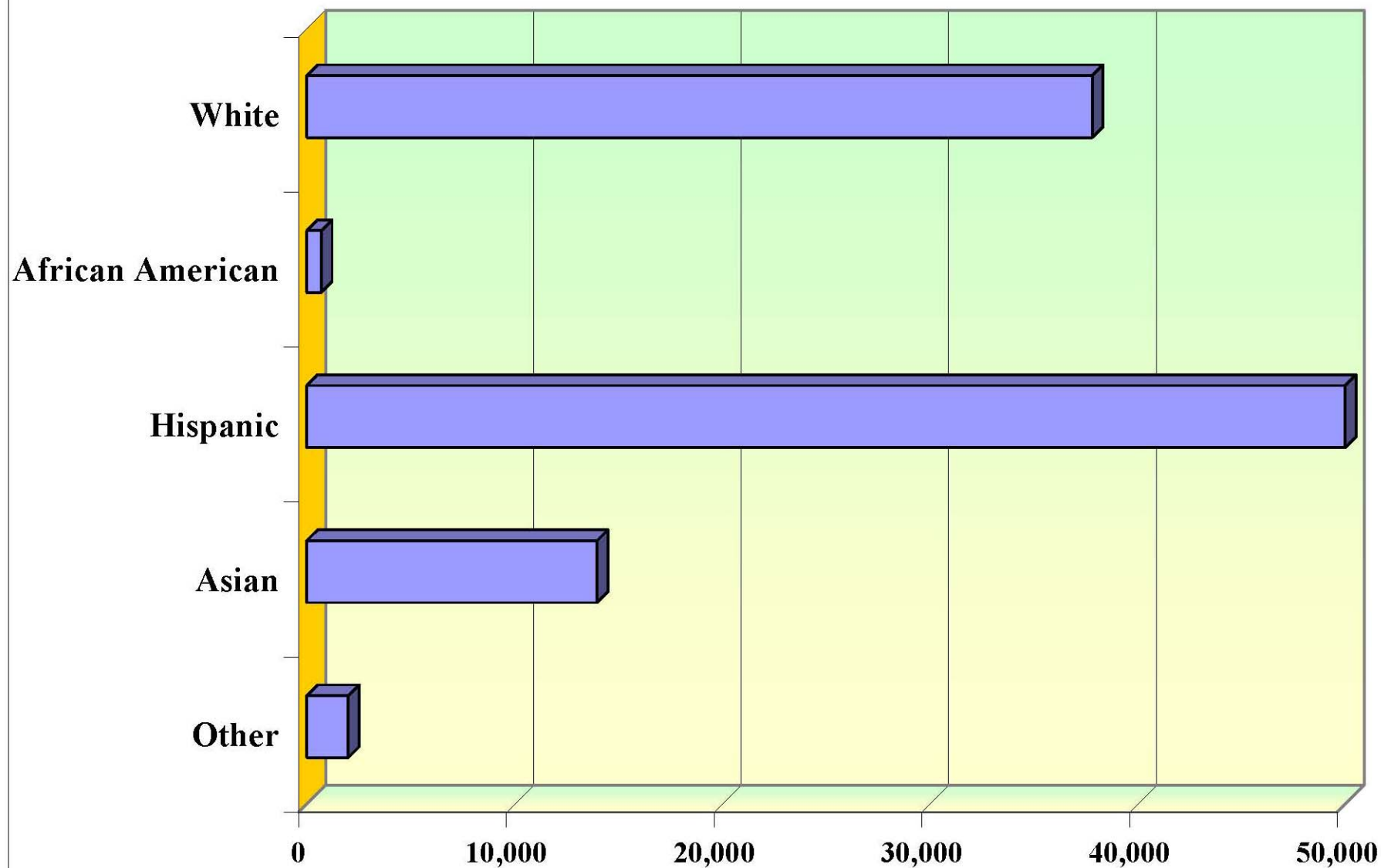
City of Austin, Total Population Growth by Racial and Ethnic Group, 2000 to 2010



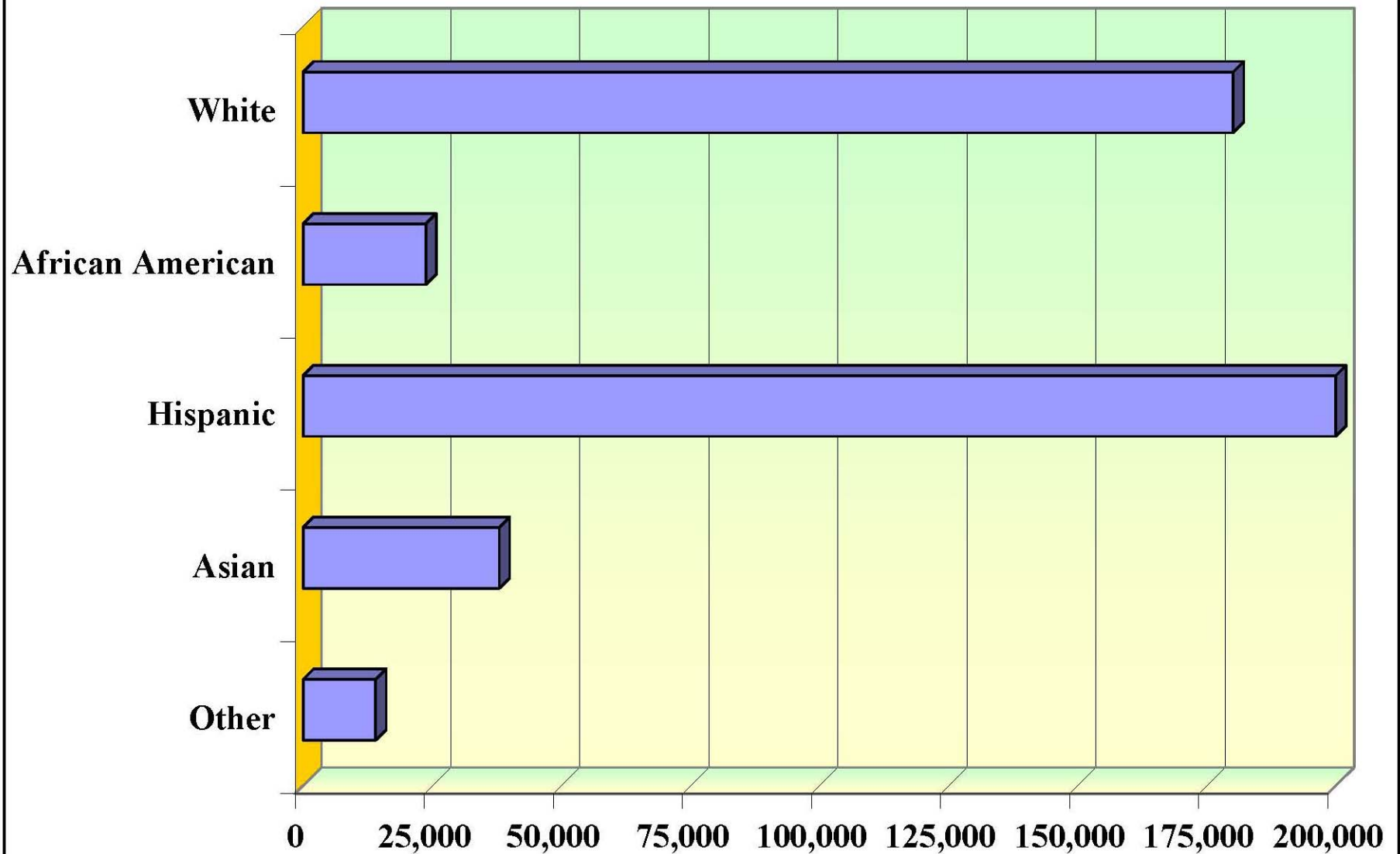
Change in Under 18 Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2000 to 2010, City of Austin



Change in the Age 18 and Over Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2000 to 2010, City of Austin



Austin MSA, Total Population Growth by Racial and Ethnic Group, 2000 to 2010





THE INSTITUTE FOR URBAN
POLICY RESEARCH & ANALYSIS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

ISSUE BRIEF: First in a Series

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

May 8, 2014

Eric Tang, PhD, Assistant Professor and Faculty fellow IUPRA at
Community Engagement
Chunhui Ren, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow



INTRODUCTION

Austin, Texas has consistently ranked among the fastest growing major cities in the United States (a major city is defined here as one with a population of more than 500,000 in 2000). U.S. Census data from 2000 and 2010 reveal a total population growth rate of 20.4%, making Austin the third fastest growing major city in the nation during that decade. But among the ten fastest growing major cities in the United States, Austin stood out in one crucial respect: it was the only such city that suffered a net loss in its African-American population. Indeed, between 2000 and 2010, Austin was a statistical outlier—it was the only major city in the United States to experience a double-digit rate of general population growth coincident with African-American population decline.

THOSE WHO LEFT

Austin's Declining African American Population

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

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

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

Executive Summary

Although Austin is one of the fastest growing major cities in the United States, its African American population has been in steady decline for nearly two decades. From 2000 to 2010 African Americans were the only racial group in Austin to experience an absolute numerical decline during a decade of otherwise remarkable growth in the city's general population. Moreover, no other fast-growing major city experienced a decline in African Americans during that same decade.

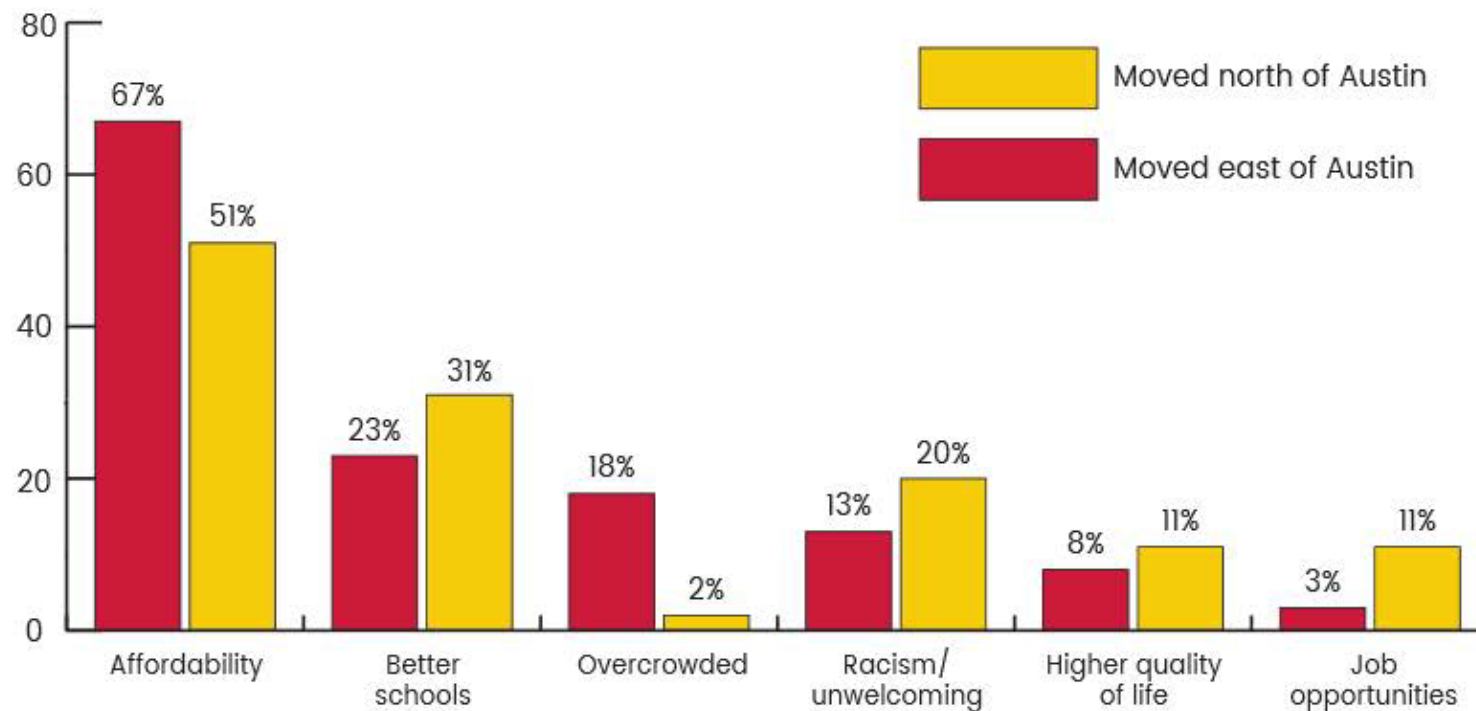
Historically, the concentration of African American residents in East Austin was the result of

What caused this population decline? How are those who have resettled outside of Austin fairing? This report explores these questions and, through the voices of displaced African American families, focuses on two primary forces that have led to the decline in Austin's African American population: unaffordable housing and dissatisfaction with the city's public schools.

Background

In 2014 the Institute for Urban Policy Research

Top reasons for leaving Austin, respondents who moved east vs. north



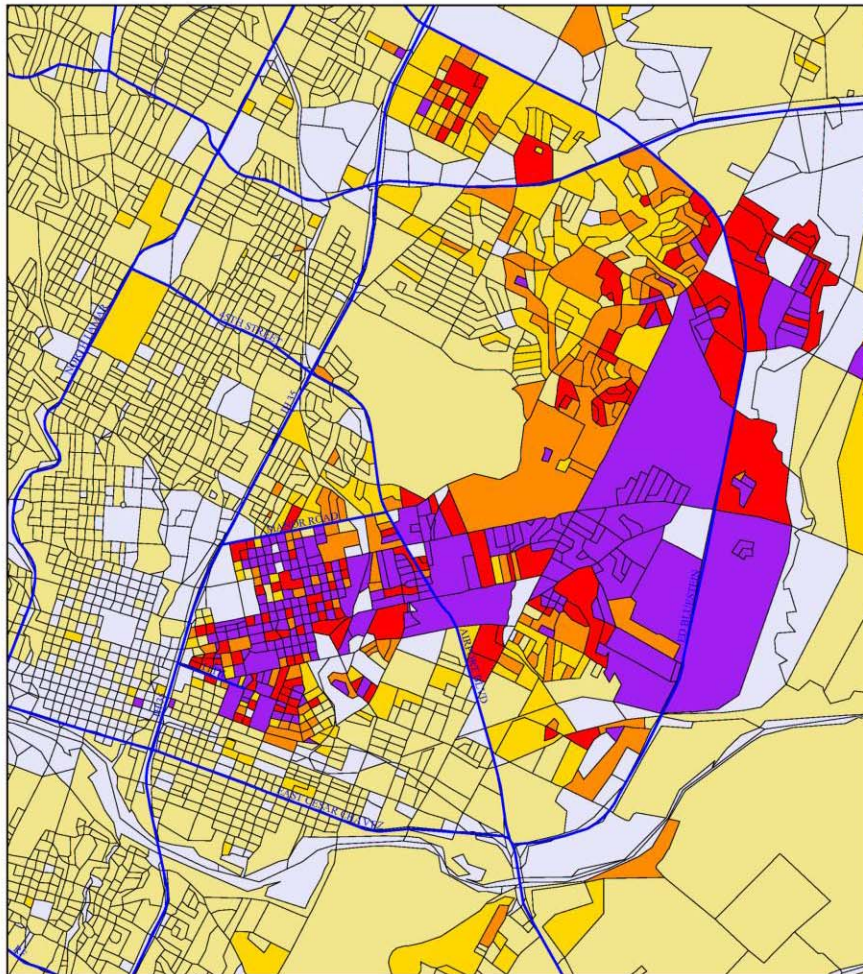
out. This was the second leading reason given by respondents, and it underscores the extent to which moves were not based solely on

- *"The quality of schools, if it wasn't for that I would have loved to live in Austin."* Male, 49¹⁵
- *"The school district at Del Valle is much*

Changing African-American Landscape in East Austin

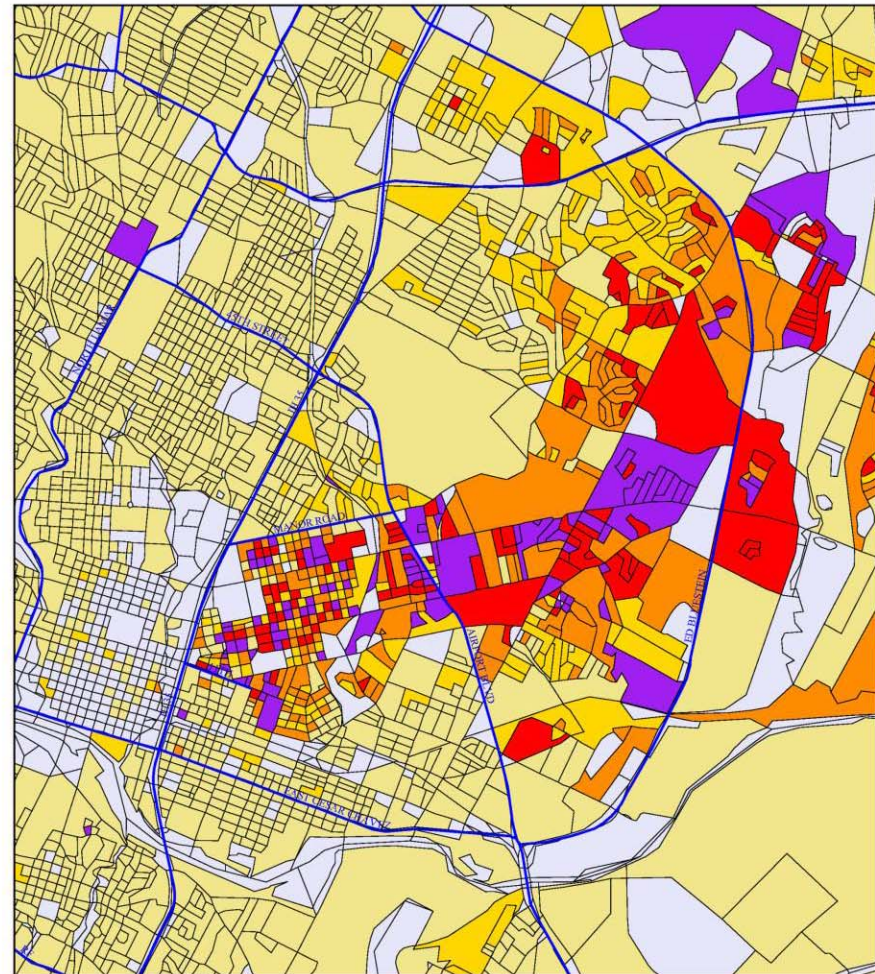
African-American Population Concentrations, 1990 and 2000.

Austin, Texas. 1990 Census and Census 2000 Data.



1990 Population

Percent African-American



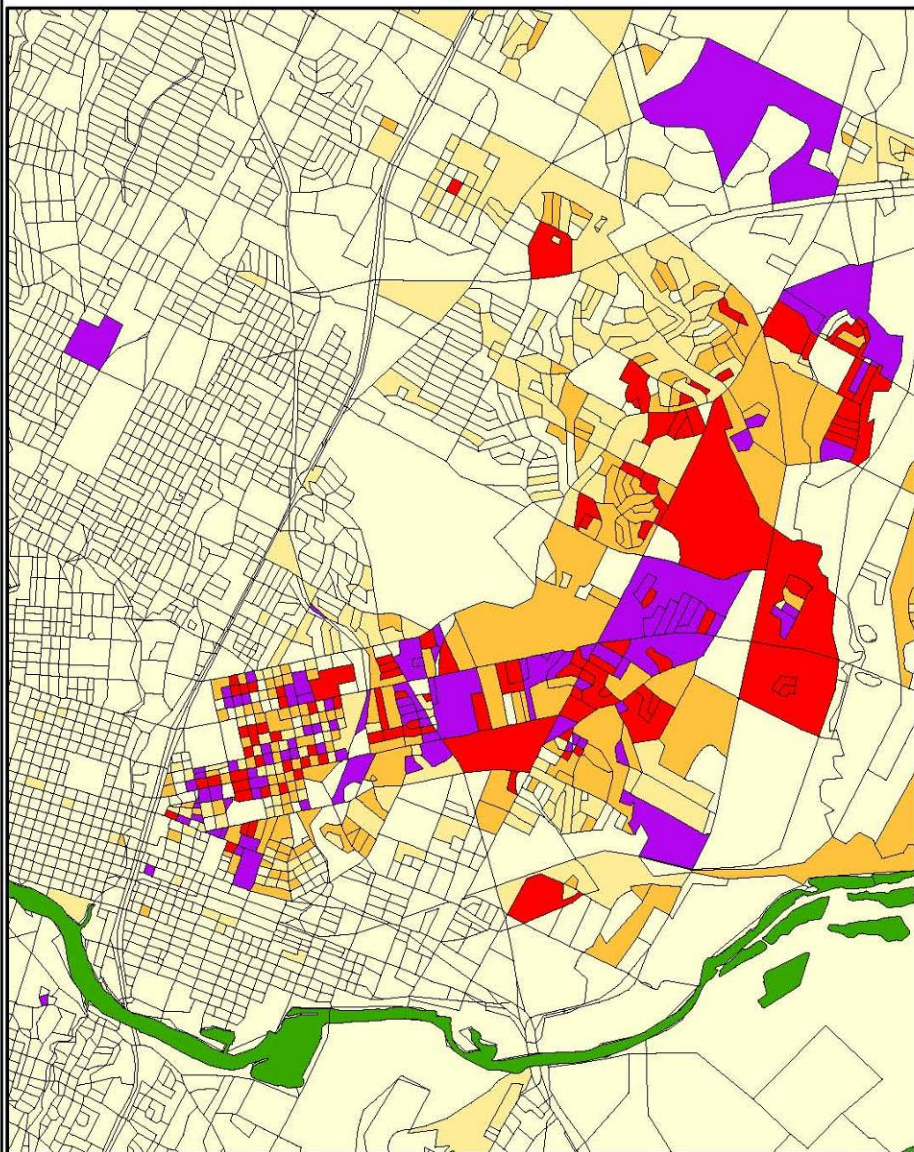
2000 Population

Percent African-American



Changing African American Landscape--Eastern Core

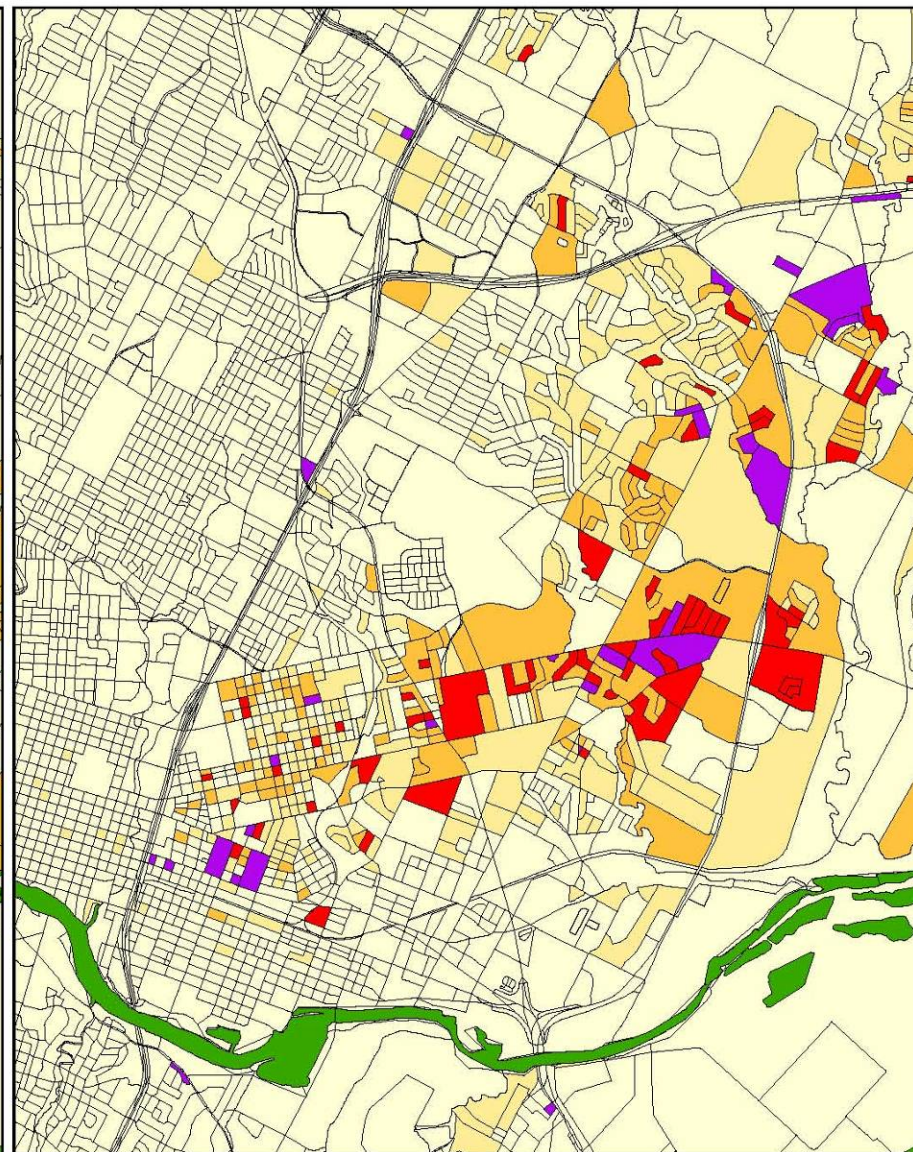
African American Population Concentrations, 2000 and 2010



Census 2000 Data
Census Blocks

Percentage of the
Total Population
that is
African American

Less than 20%
20% to 40%
40% to 60%
60% to 80%
80% Plus



Census 2010 Data
Census Blocks

Percentage of the
Total Population
that is
African American

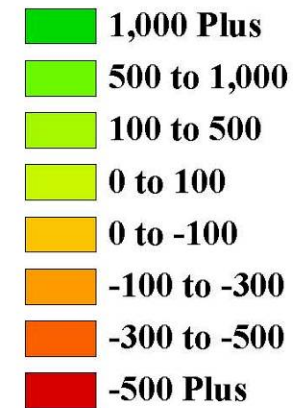
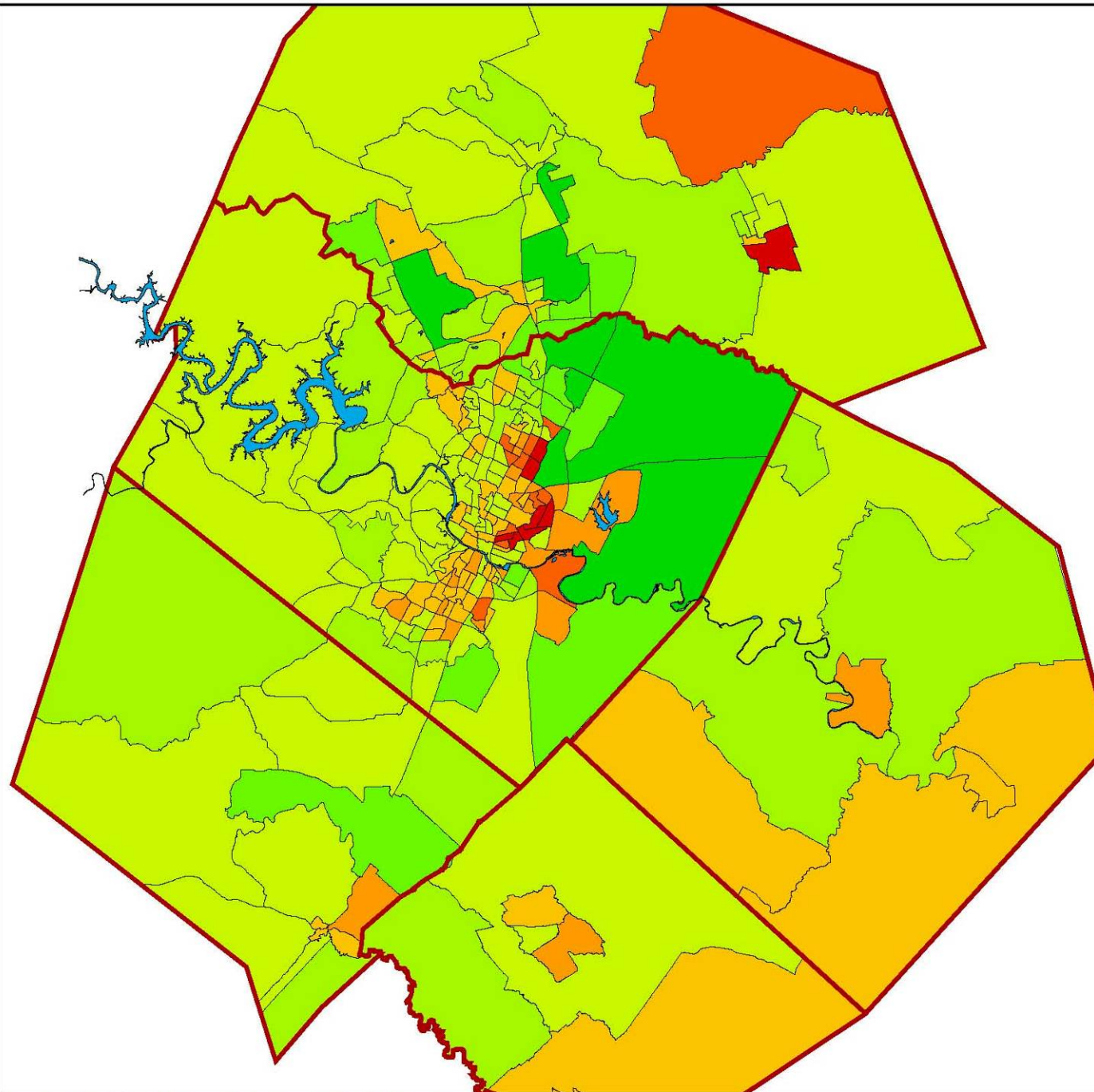
Less than 20%
20% to 40%
40% to 60%
60% to 80%
80% Plus

African American Population Growth and Decline: 2000 to 2010

Austin--Round Rock MSA

Decennial data from the US Census Bureau

Change in a Census Tract's Total African American Population from 2000 to 2010 at the 2000 tract-level



Change in the White Percentage of Total Population 2000 to 2010

Travis County

Decennial data from the US Census Bureau

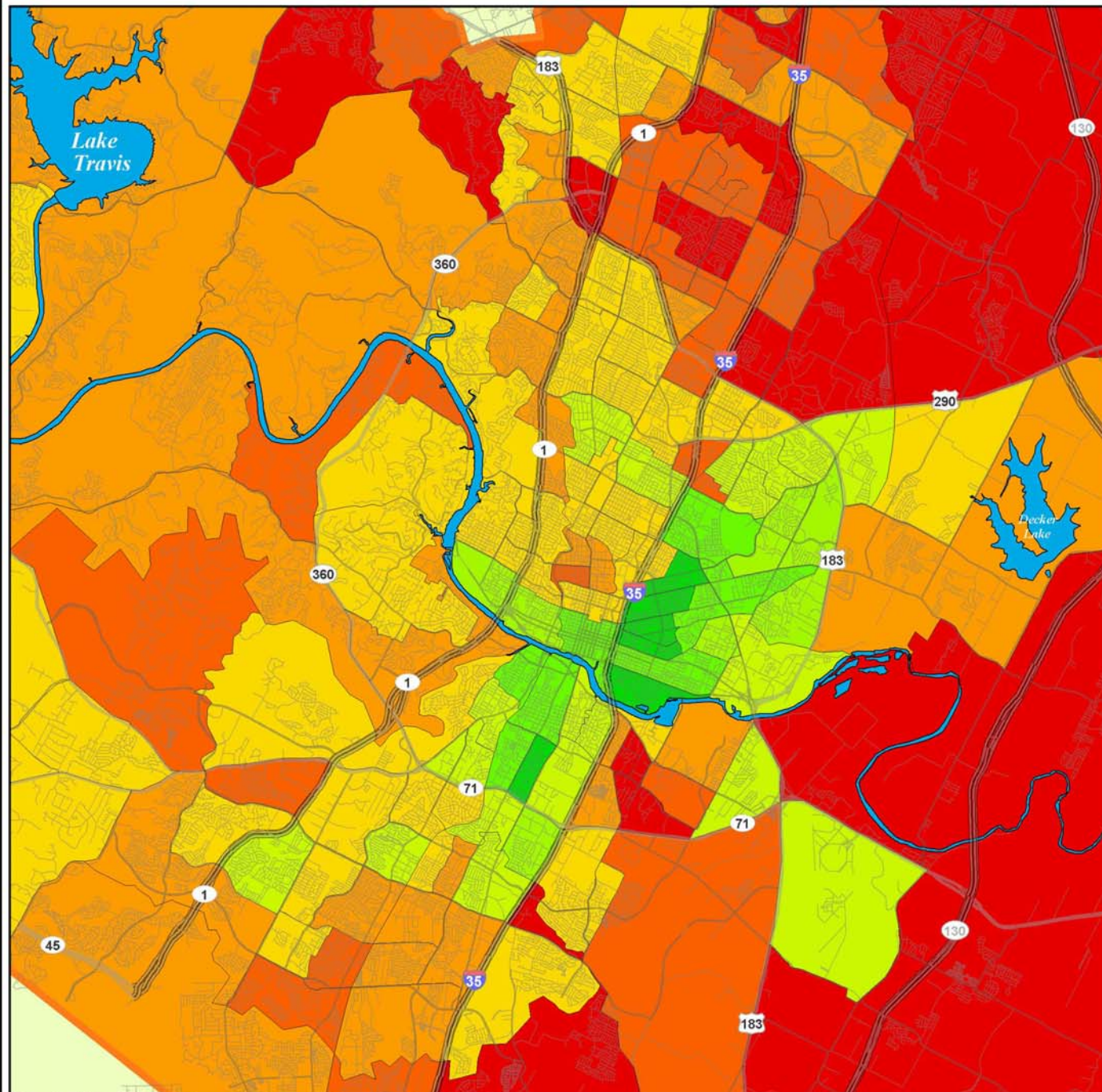
Change in a Census Tract's Percentage of Total Population that is non-Hispanic White from 2000 to 2010 at the 2000 tract-level

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

Point Gain or Loss



19

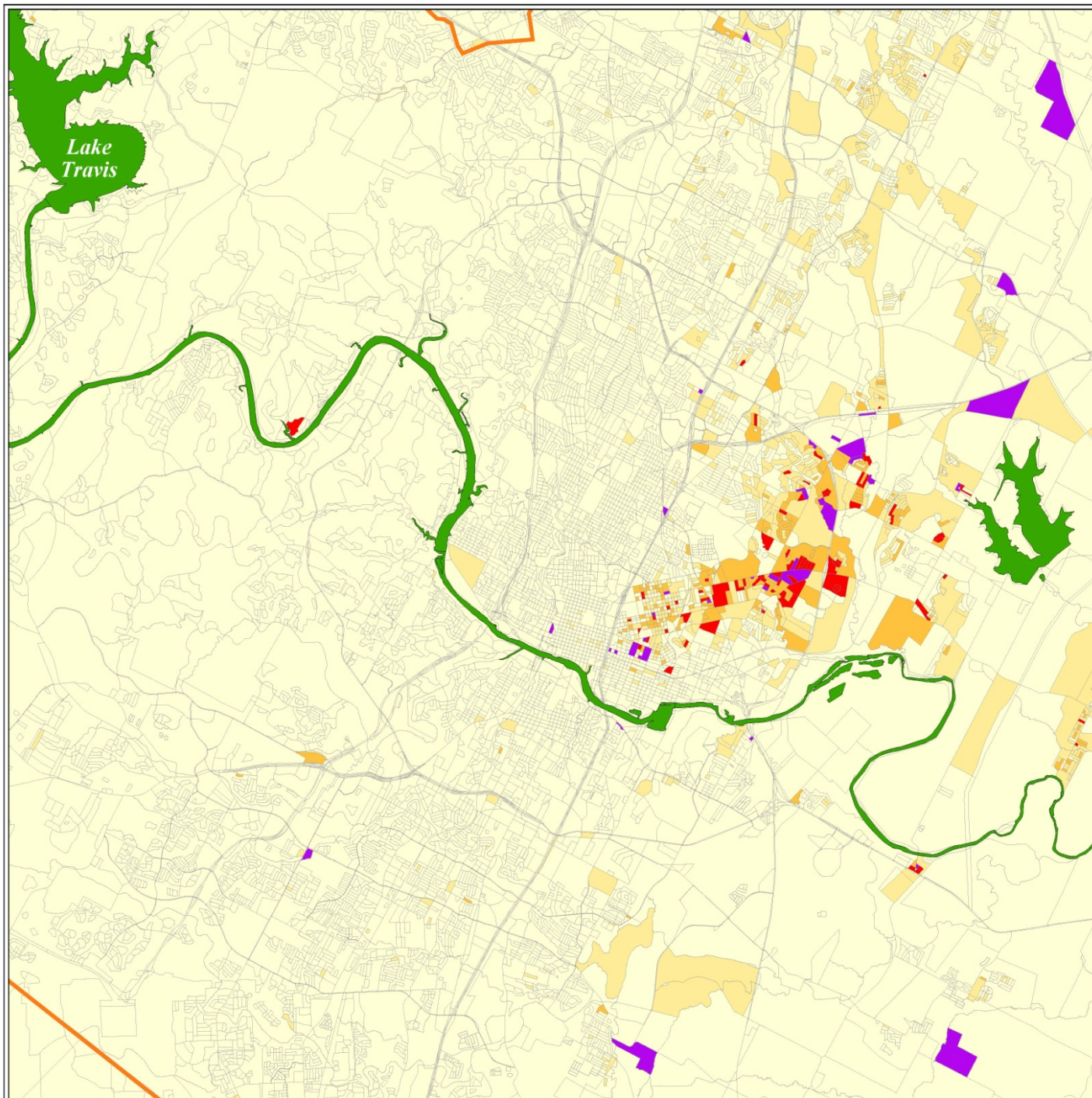
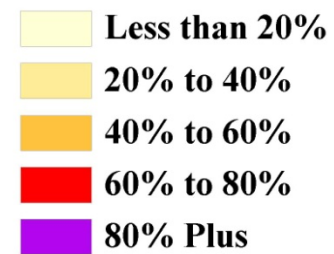


African American Population Concentrations

Austin, Texas

Census 2010 Data

Percentage of the total
Population that is
African American

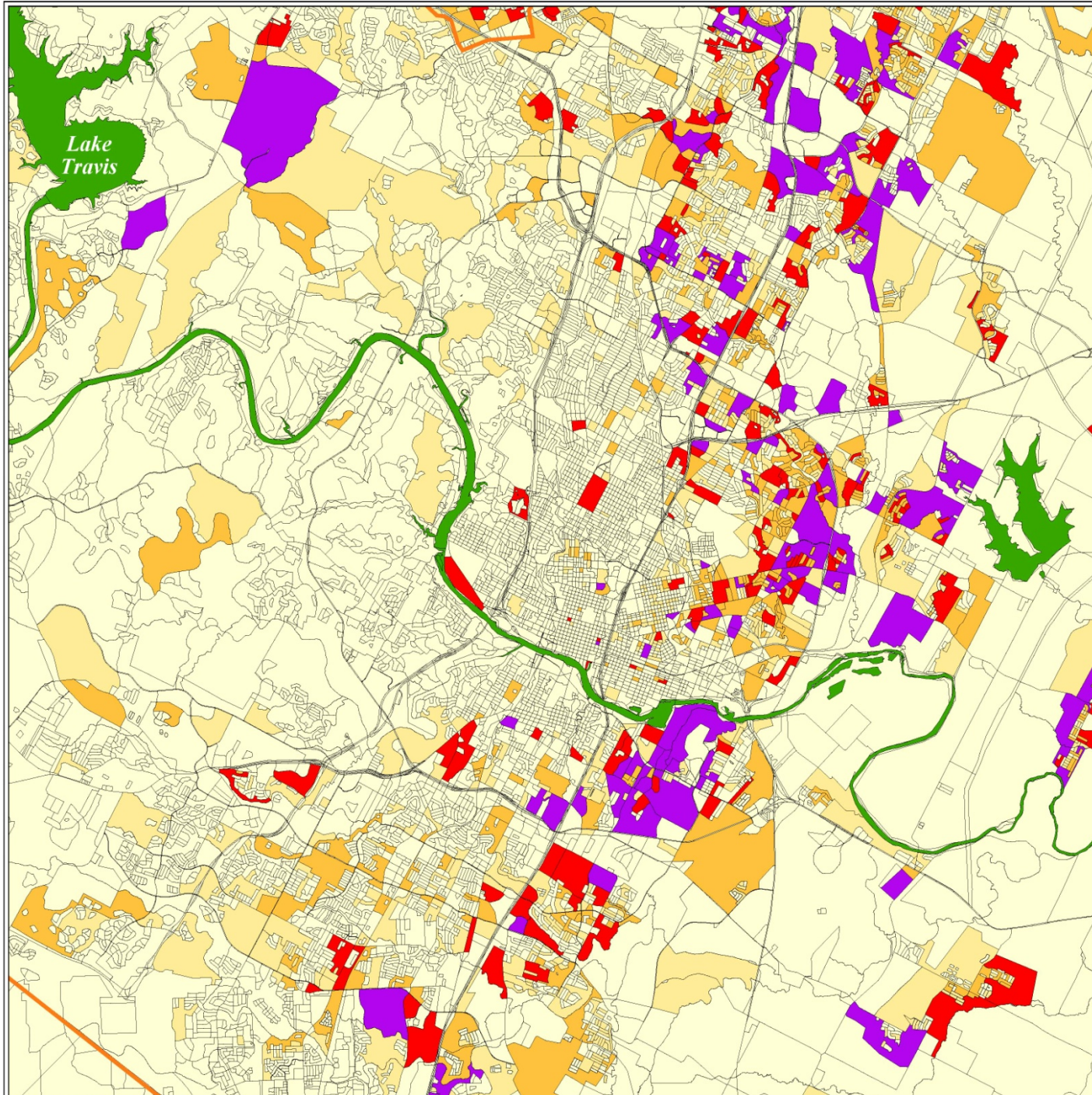


Map produced by Ryan Robinson, City Demographer, Department of Planning, City of Austin, July 2011.

African American Absolute Number of Individuals

Austin, Texas
Census 2010 Data

Total
Population that is
African American



Map produced by Ryan Robinson, City Demographer, Department of Planning, City of Austin, July 2011.



Quality of Life Data Indicators

Although Austin's African American community does relatively well in national comparisons with other African American communities, large, stubborn socioeconomic disparities continue to persist.

NCAA Track Championships and has been a source of inspiration for African American Athletes all over the nation. In 2006, Kearney founded Pursuits of Dreams, a nonprofit organization committed to reconnecting and assisting individuals with their life's purpose, passions, and dreams.

Special Presentation by Austin Branch President Nelson Linder



Nelson Linder

Our Austin Branch president Nelson Linder will also give a presentation regarding the 10 year assessment of the African American Quality of Life. In 2004, the Austin NAACP graded the City of Austin in the categories of Economics, Employment, Housing, Neighborhood Sustainability, Art, Culture, Entertainment, Police and Safety and Health. The purpose of the report card was to document the disparities that existed among African Americans and implement initiatives to address them. The report card confirmed that African American disparities existed in all the above categories.

This year's program will also include The Captain Louie White Honoree and the President Leadership Awards, The Austin Branch Youth Council, fantastic music and entertainment, and of course, dinner!

The Austin NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet is an annual event designed to support the work of the Austin NAACP.

African American Community Scorecard and Data Themes, 2016

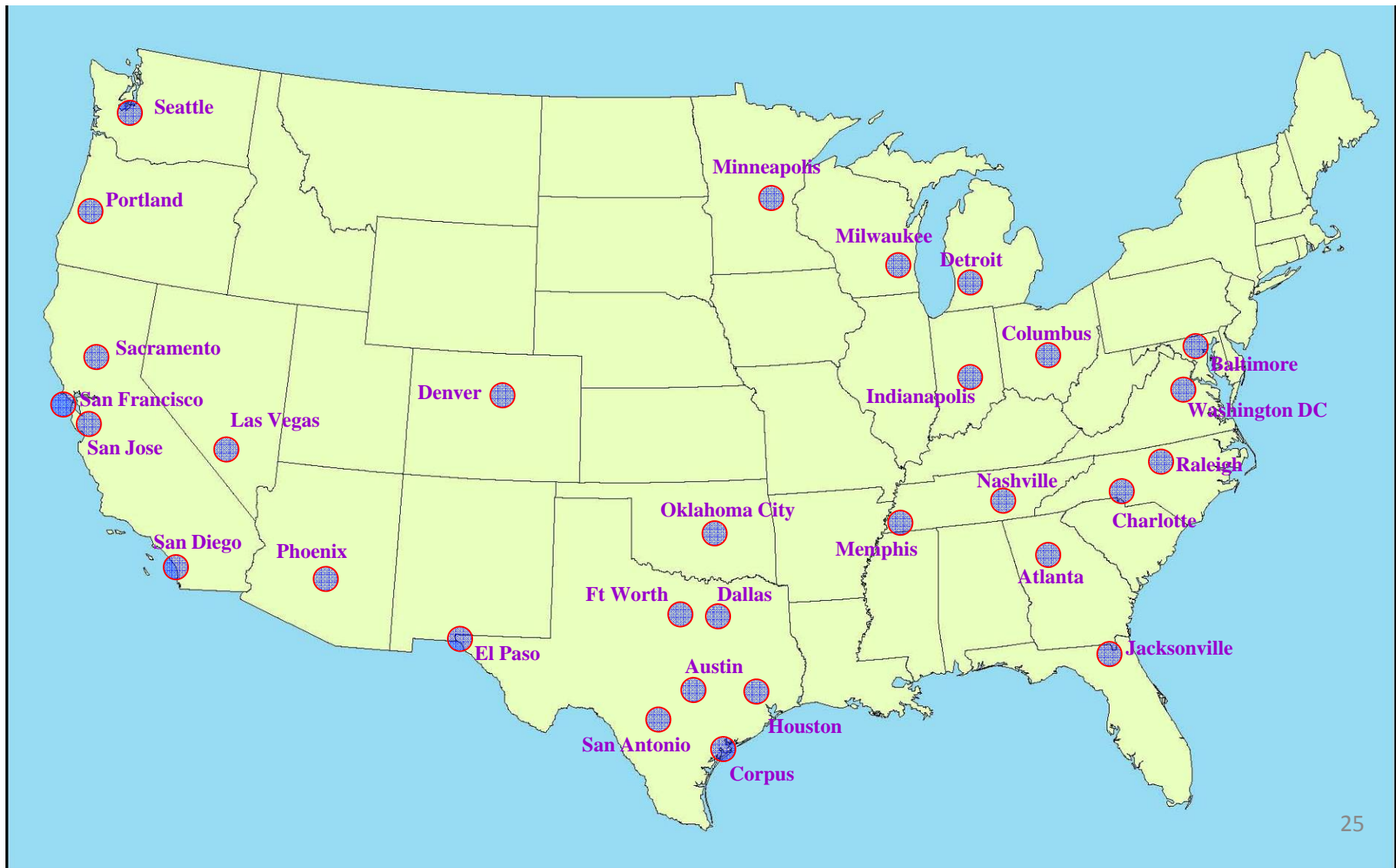
An Analysis of Quality of Life Demographic Data Indicators for Austin's African American Community

Data Theme figures are compared and benchmarked against the state of Texas, the nation, and a selected set of peer and near-peer cities. The full selected set includes 32 observations.

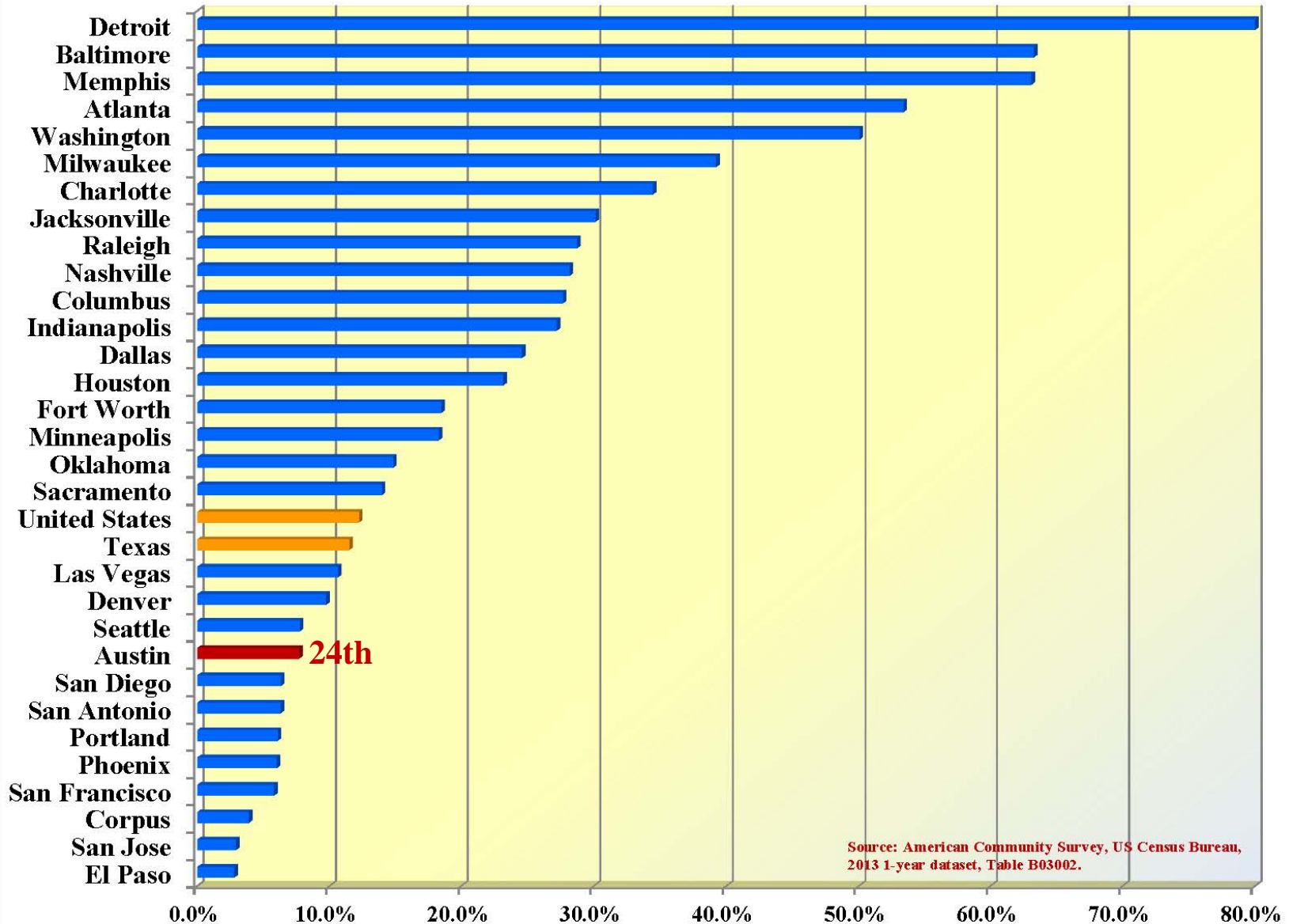
Green indicates Ranking is Positive
Orange indicates Ranking is Negative
Yellow indicates Ranking is Neutral

Issue--Data Theme	Current Situation Compared with Other Communities	Peer Ranking	Level of Local Disparity and Comparison to Disparities in Other Communities	Depth of Disparity Ranking	Trend and Outlook
Family Income <small>Source: 2013 ACS, Census Bureau</small>	African American families in Austin have one of the higher Median Family Incomes (MFI) in the nation when compared to African American families in other places.	5th	The disparity in Austin between MFI for African American families and the City's overall MFI is significant, ranking 13th deepest out of the selected set. African American MFI is 65% of overall MFI and half that of Anglo MFI.	13th	The long-term trend is that more and more African American families are entering the middle-class nationally; yet the direction of the short-term trend is less certain due to lingering effects on blacks from the recession.
Educational Attainment <small>Source: 2013 ACS, Census Bureau</small>	Fully 21% of African American individuals aged 25 and older in Austin hold a Bachelors degree or some degree higher--about in the middle for educational attainment rates in the country in the set.	14th	Although adult Austin African Americans have one of the country's middle range rates of educational attainment, the disparity between their rate and the City's overall rate is large, a difference driven at least partially by the City's high rate of 46.4%.	6th	Austin is not receiving a significant share of African American professionals from other parts of the country and may be at risk of experiencing a African American brain drain to other urban centers.
Home Ownership	Austin has historically had one of the lowest rates of home ownership in the country and so it's no surprise that African American Austinites own homes at a relatively lower rate too.	24th	While there are differences between racial and ethnic groups in Austin in terms of home ownership, the disparities are not deep. For example, the overall rate is 44.9% for the City while the rate for African American households is 37.3%.	22nd	The overall trend in African American home ownership in Austin is positive, evidenced by the rate jumping from 30.7% in 1990 to 37.3% in 2000. This increase has more than likely continued.
Poverty	African Americans in Austin have one of the lowest poverty rates in the nation when compared to rates for African Americans in other places. Austin has the 6th lowest rate in the set.	6th	The City's overall poverty rate from ACS 2013 is 17.8%, and the African American rate is 24.25%, a shallow level of disparity when compared to the depth of poverty disparities in other places. Austin's disparity ranks 25th in the selected set.	25th	The long-term trend is positive but the past few years have witnessed a decrease in the City's overall poverty rate due to displacement and this is probably affecting African American Austinites as well.
Unemployment <small>Source: 2013 ACS, Census Bureau</small>	African Americans have one of the lowest rates of unemployment among African American communities in the country, ranking 2nd lowest in the selected set of comparative observations.	7th	The difference between Austin's overall rate of unemployment and the rate for African American Austinites is not large when compared to the situation in other communities, ranking 19th in the selected set.	19th	The local economy is one of the healthiest in the country and many economists continue to express an enormous amount of optimism in terms of forward momentum.

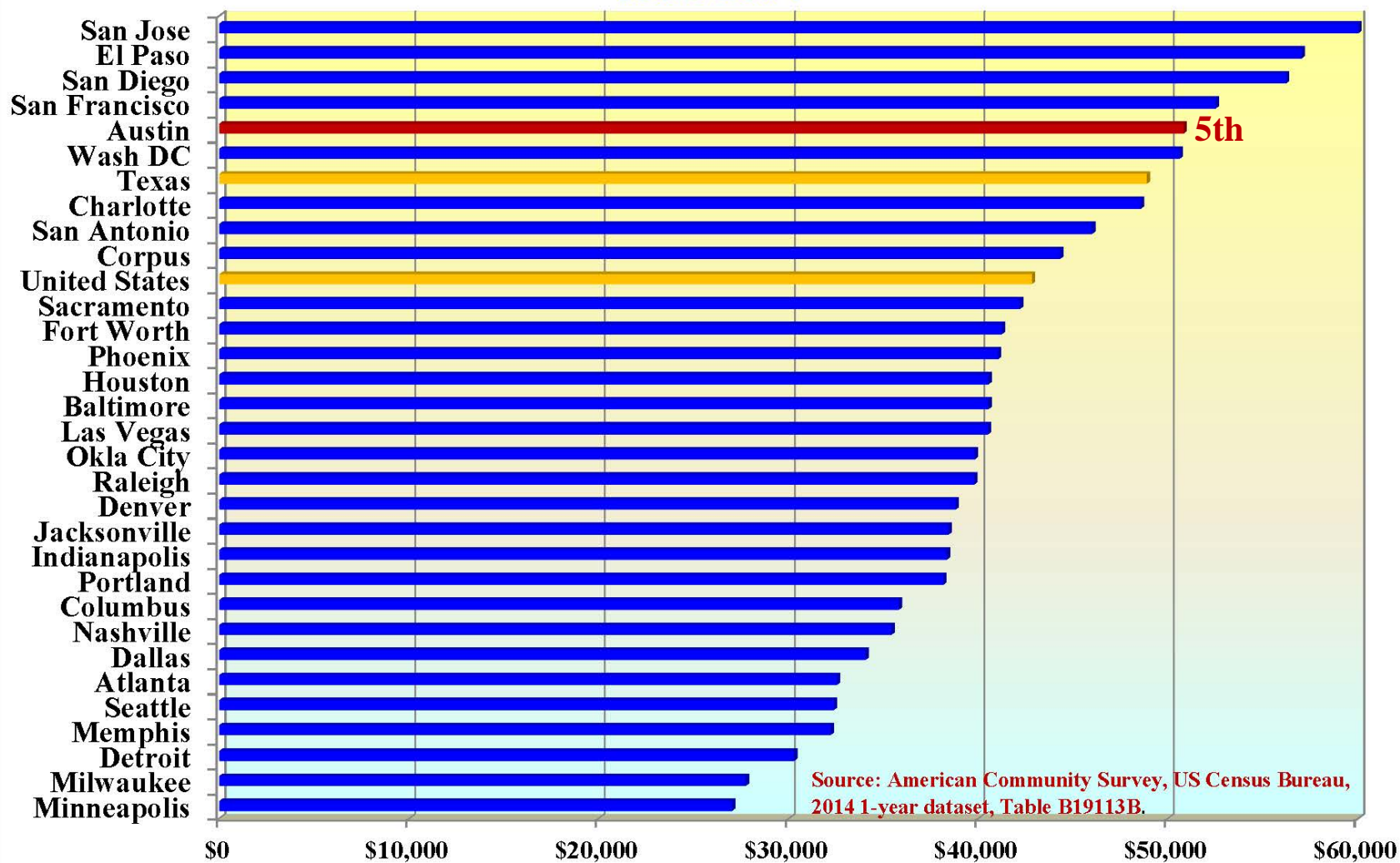
Cities within the Selected Set of Peer and near-Peer Cities, plus the state of Texas and the US



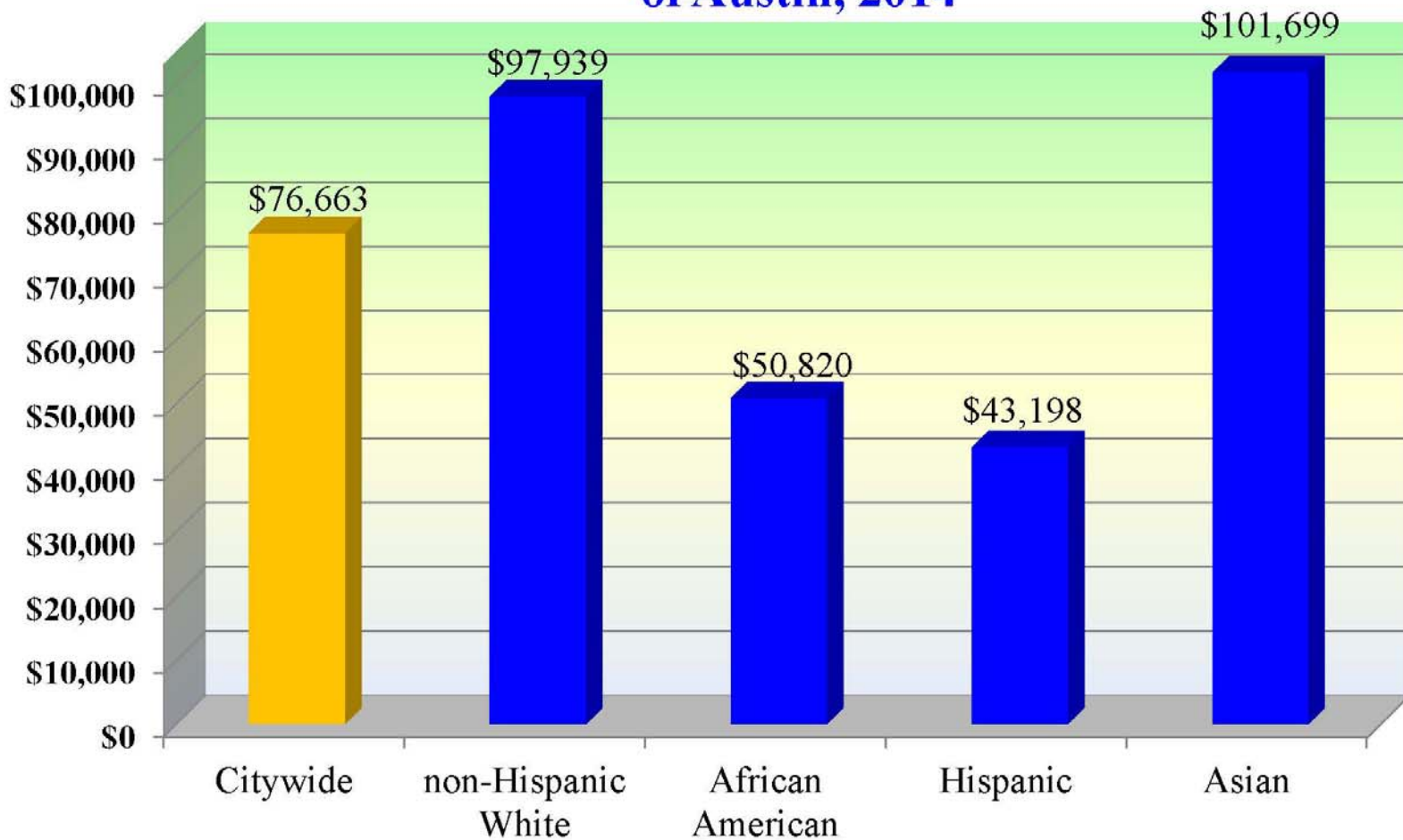
African American Share of Total Population, Selected Cities, Census 2010



African American Median Family Income, Selected Cities, ACS 2014

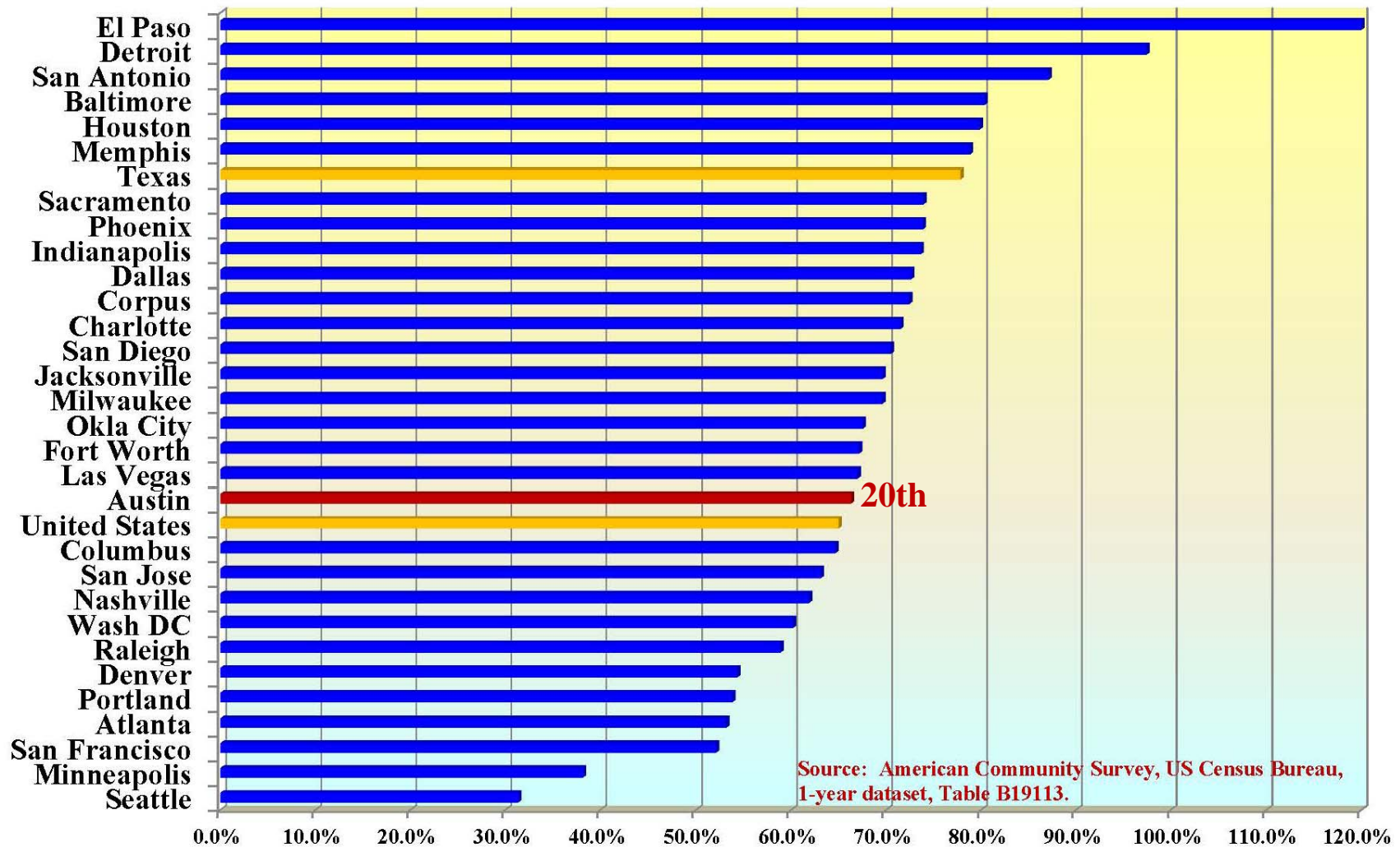


Median Family Income by Race and Ethnicity, City of Austin, 2014

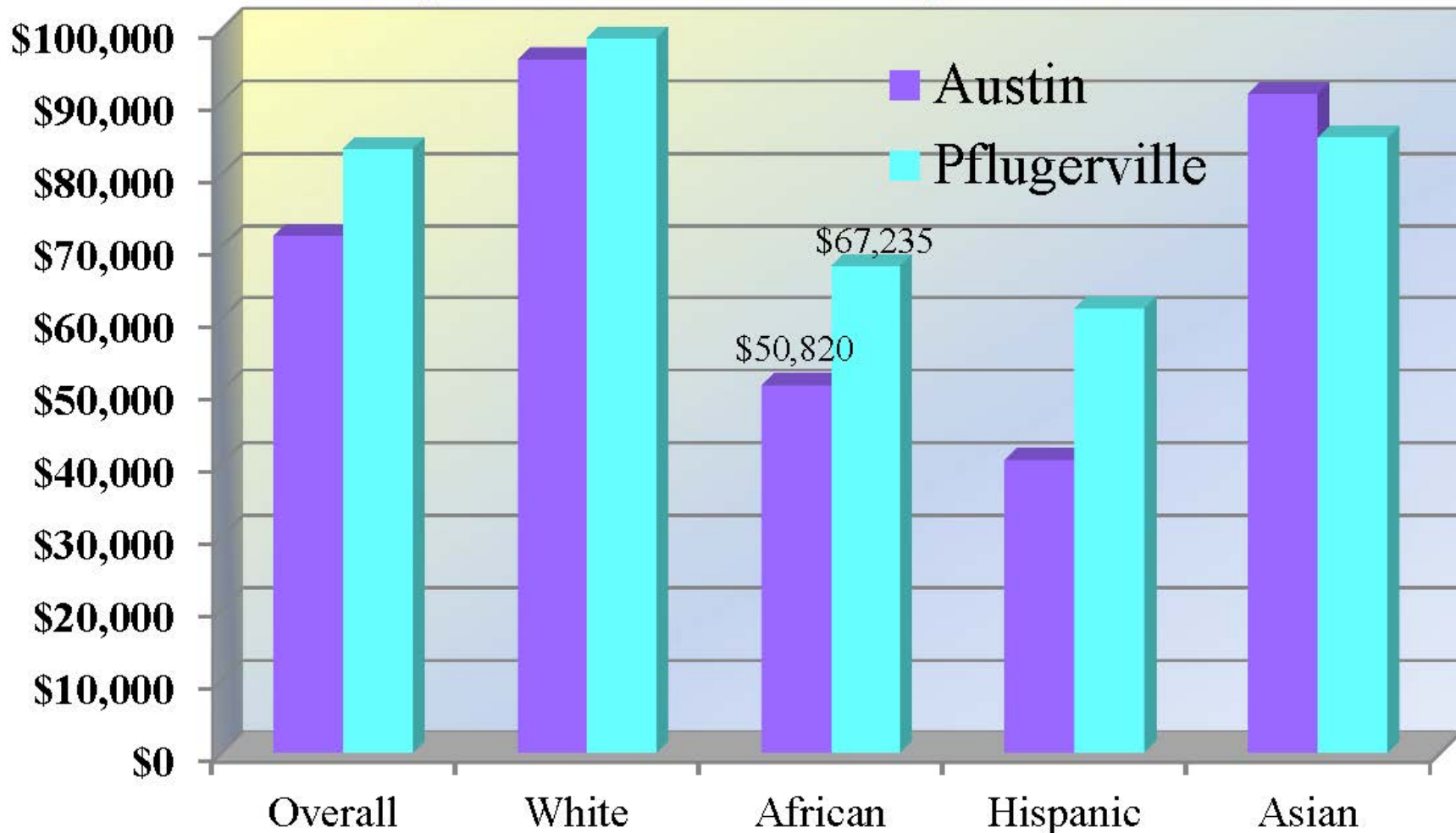


Source: American Community Survey, 2014 1-year estimates, Table B19113, US Census Bureau.

African American Median Family Income--Percent of Overall MFI, Selected Cities, ACS 2014

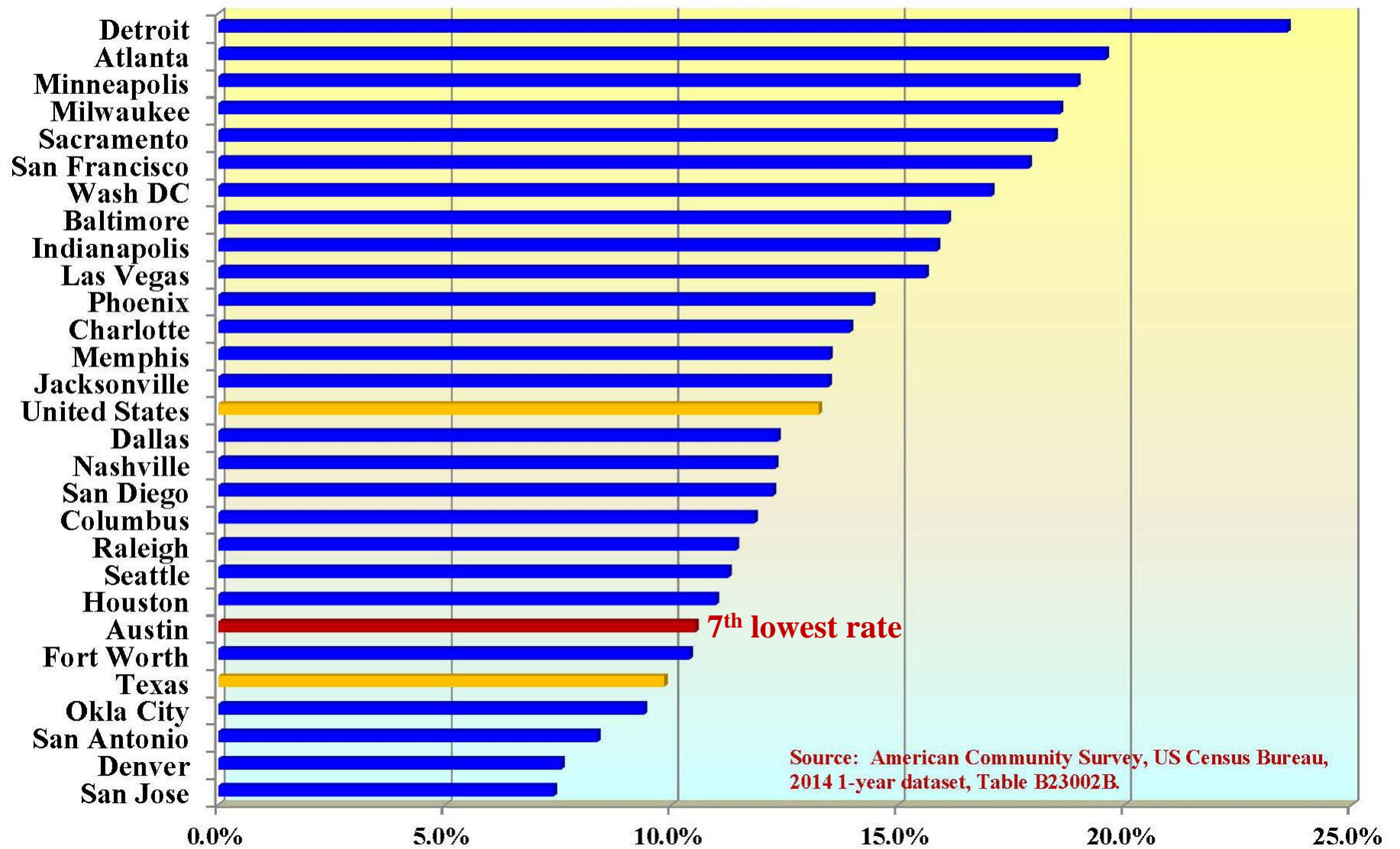


Median Family Income by Race and Ethnicity, City of Austin and Pflugerville, 2014

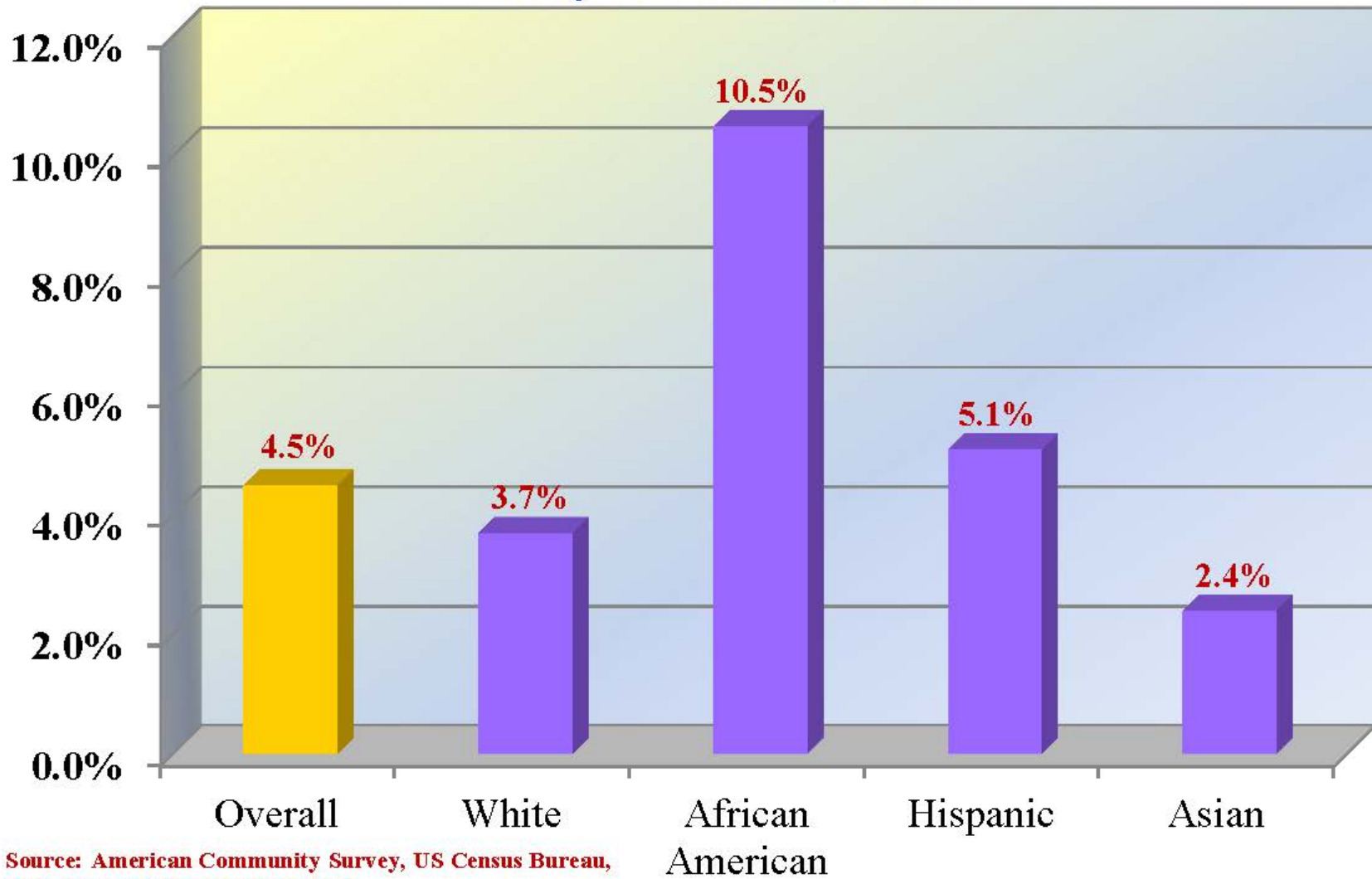


Source: American Community Survey, US Census Bureau, 2014 1-year dataset, Table B19113.

African American Unemployment Rates, Selected Cities, ACS 2014

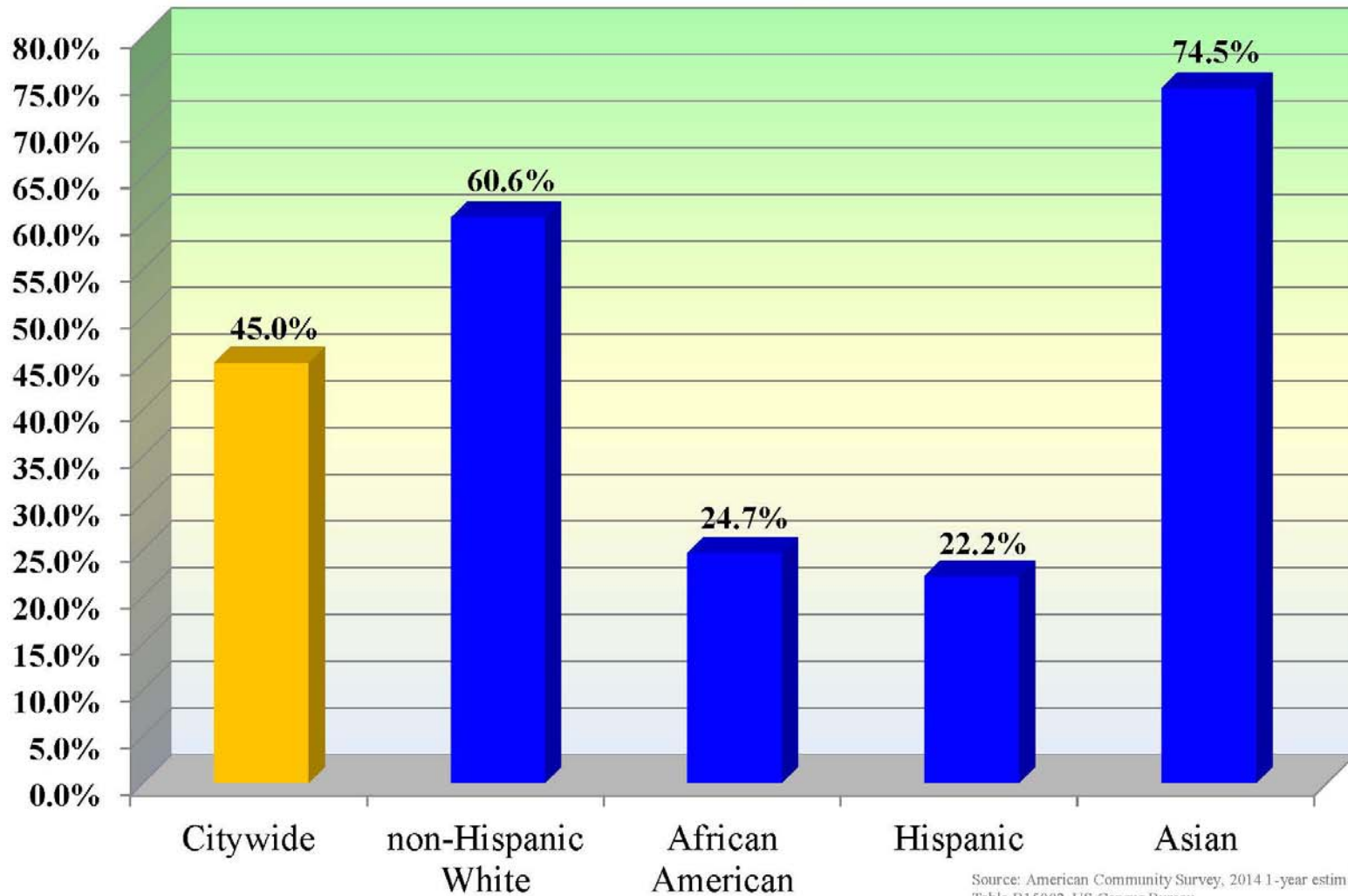


Unemployment Rates by Race and Ethnicity, City of Austin, 2014



Source: American Community Survey, US Census Bureau,
2014 1-year dataset, Table B23002.

Educational Attainment by Race and Ethnicity, City of Austin, 2014



Poverty Rates by Age Group, Race and Ethnicity

City of Austin

American Community Survey, 2014, 1-year Estimates Series, Table B17001

Table I: Poverty Rates (1)

Category or Group	Overall Population	non-Hispanic White	African American	Hispanic	Asian
Overall Population	18.5%	10.5%	27.7%	28.4%	16.9%
Under Age 5	29.1%	8.4%	50.9%	42.6%	20.9%
Under Age 18	26.8%	6.1%	43.3%	40.4%	13.3%
Age 65 Plus	8.5%	5.2%	16.8%	17.1%	7.4%

NOTES:

(1) The source for data behind this table on Poverty in the City of Austin is the American Community Survey, which is produced by the US Census Bureau. Data for this table are from the 2014 1-year Estimates Series. Poverty rates are calculated for only the portion of the total population that lives within a household, poverty rates are not calculated for institutionalized persons or individuals living within Group Quarters situations. The Poverty Rate is a function of total annual household income and the number of individuals within a household. The 2014 Poverty threshold for a family of four was \$23,850.



National Migration Patterns

Austin is not getting a significant piece of the big current growth stream of African American households flowing into the South.

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March 24, 2011

Many U.S. Blacks Moving to South, Reversing Trend

By **SABRINA TAVERNISE** and **ROBERT GEBELOFF**

WASHINGTON — The percentage of the nation's black population living in the South has hit its highest point in half a century, according to census data released Thursday, as younger and more educated black residents move out of declining cities in the Northeast and Midwest in search of better opportunities.

The share of black population growth that has occurred in the South over the past decade — the highest since 1910, before the Great Migration of blacks to the North — has upended some long-held assumptions.

Both Michigan and Illinois, whose cities have rich black cultural traditions, showed an overall loss of blacks for the first time, said William Frey, the chief demographer at the [Brookings Institution](#).



BET News Special: Gray Area: Can Baltimore Be More?



BET News: The Evolution of Malcolm X



BET News: BET Remembers B.B. King



BET News: Allen Iverson: 'I Was Just Being Me'

◀ Previous [Avonte Oquendo's Brother Pens Essay Thanking NYC for Search Efforts](#) **National** [Black Student Files \\$5 Million Claim in Racial Dorm Room Incident](#) Next ▶

Black Migration Is Now From North to South

Many African-Americans are now moving to Southern cities, saying there is a better quality of life for them there.

By Jonathan P. Hicks
 Posted: 03/24/2014 12:33 PM EDT
 Filed Under [Charlotte](#), [Atlanta](#), [National News](#), [U.S. Census Bureau](#)



After living his entire life in Toledo, Ohio, Angelo Byrd happened upon an opportunity to move to Atlanta several years ago at age 25. The move from Ohio, he said, set him on a course of professional and financial success that has caused him to never look back.









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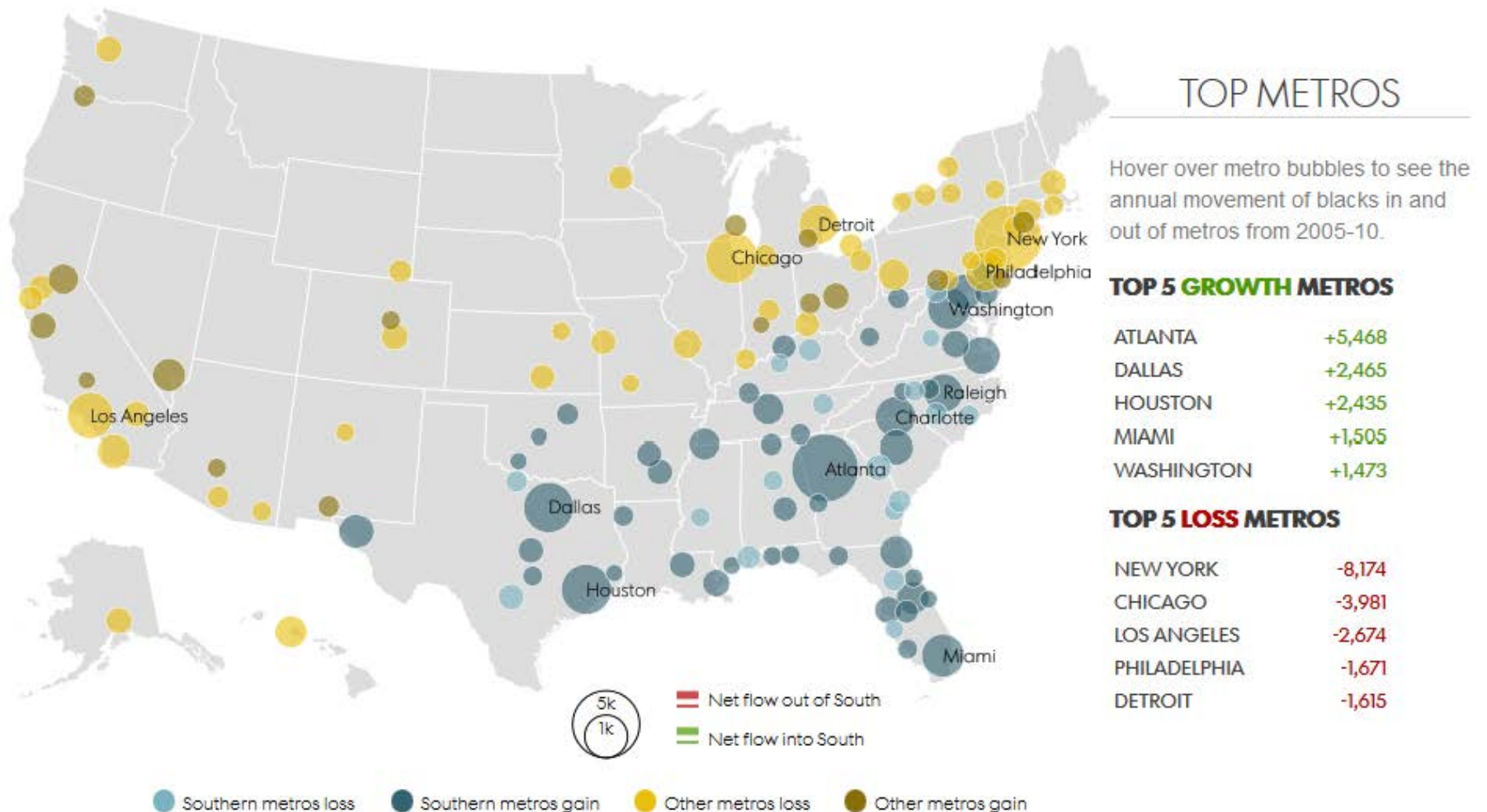
Why Some African Americans Are Moving Down South

by DANTE CHINNI

FILE - The skyline of downtown Charlotte, N.C., is shown in this Aug. 16, 2012 file photo. The U.S. Census Bureau announced on Thursday, March 27, 2014 that North Carolina's population is approaching 9.9 million people and that the state has five of the nation's 100 fastest-growing counties. (AP Photo/Chuck Burton, file) ASSOCIATED PRESS

BLACK MIGRATION REVERSES

Reversing what historians call the Great Migration of 1910-70, hundreds of thousands of blacks have migrated to the South in the last generation. Every year, more blacks move into the South than move out. From 2005 to 2010, the average result each year was a gain for the South of 66,000 blacks. Many came from the Northeast, but the flow also includes the Midwest and West.

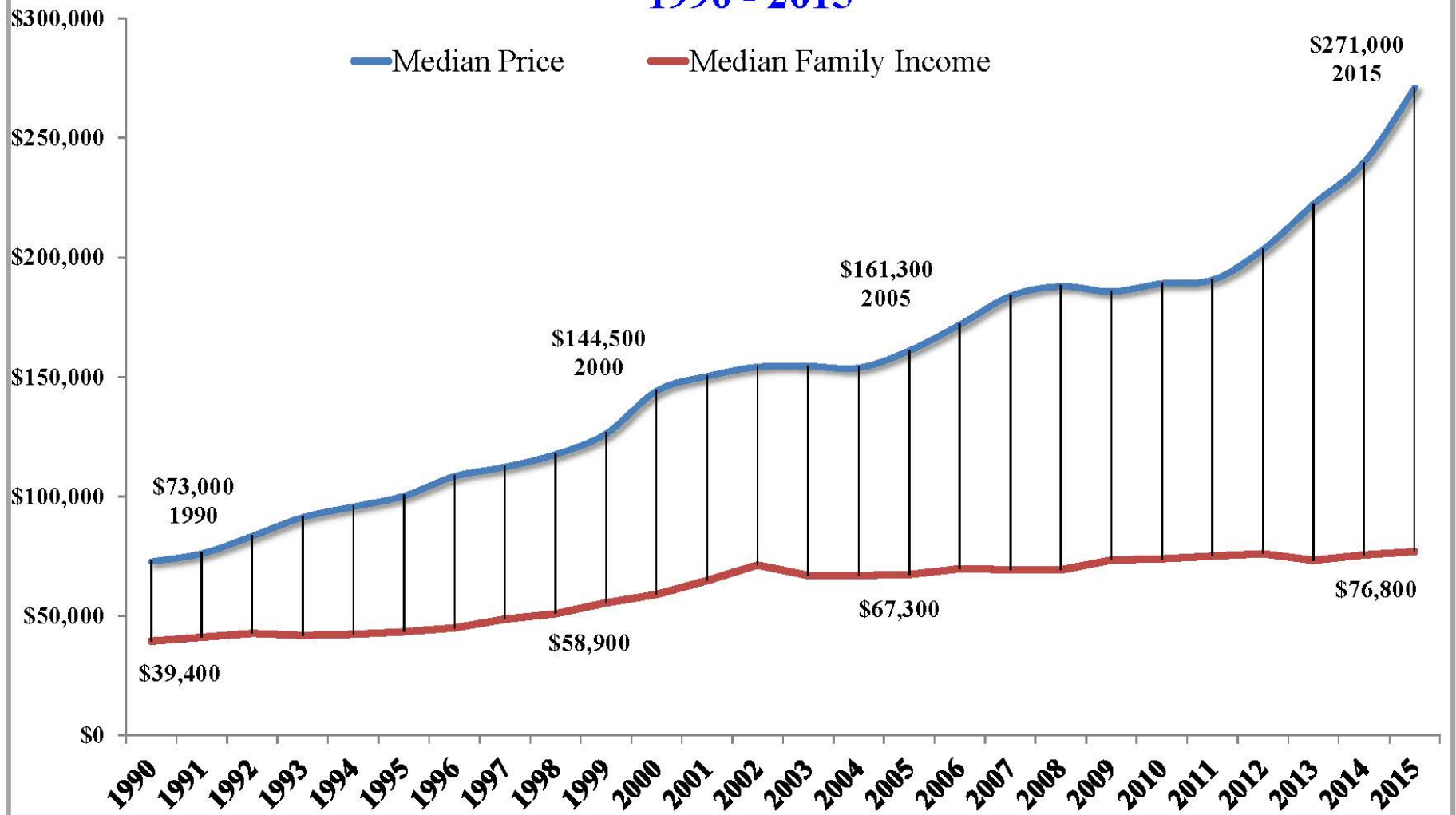




Housing Affordability

- 1. Achieving significant growth of African American households in the future is dependent on attracting families with children back into the City.**
- 2. But collapsing housing affordability across the City will make this difficult.**

Austin Area median home prices compared with median family income 1990 - 2015

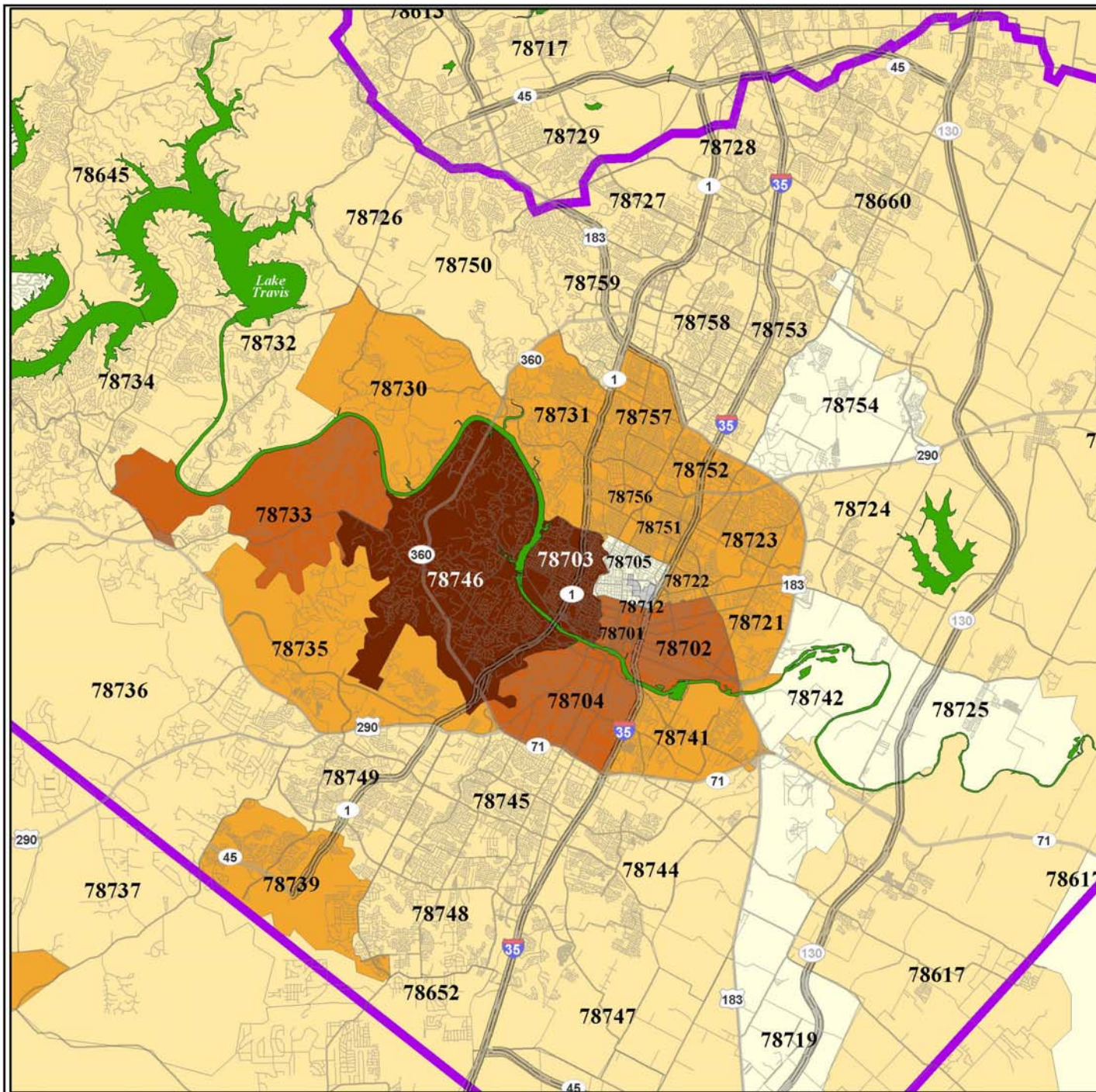


Absolute Total Change in Median Sales Price of Homes by ZIP Code: 2010 to 2015

Includes all residential homesales: Single Family Houses and Condos

DATA SOURCE:
Austin Board of Realtors.

Total Price Change

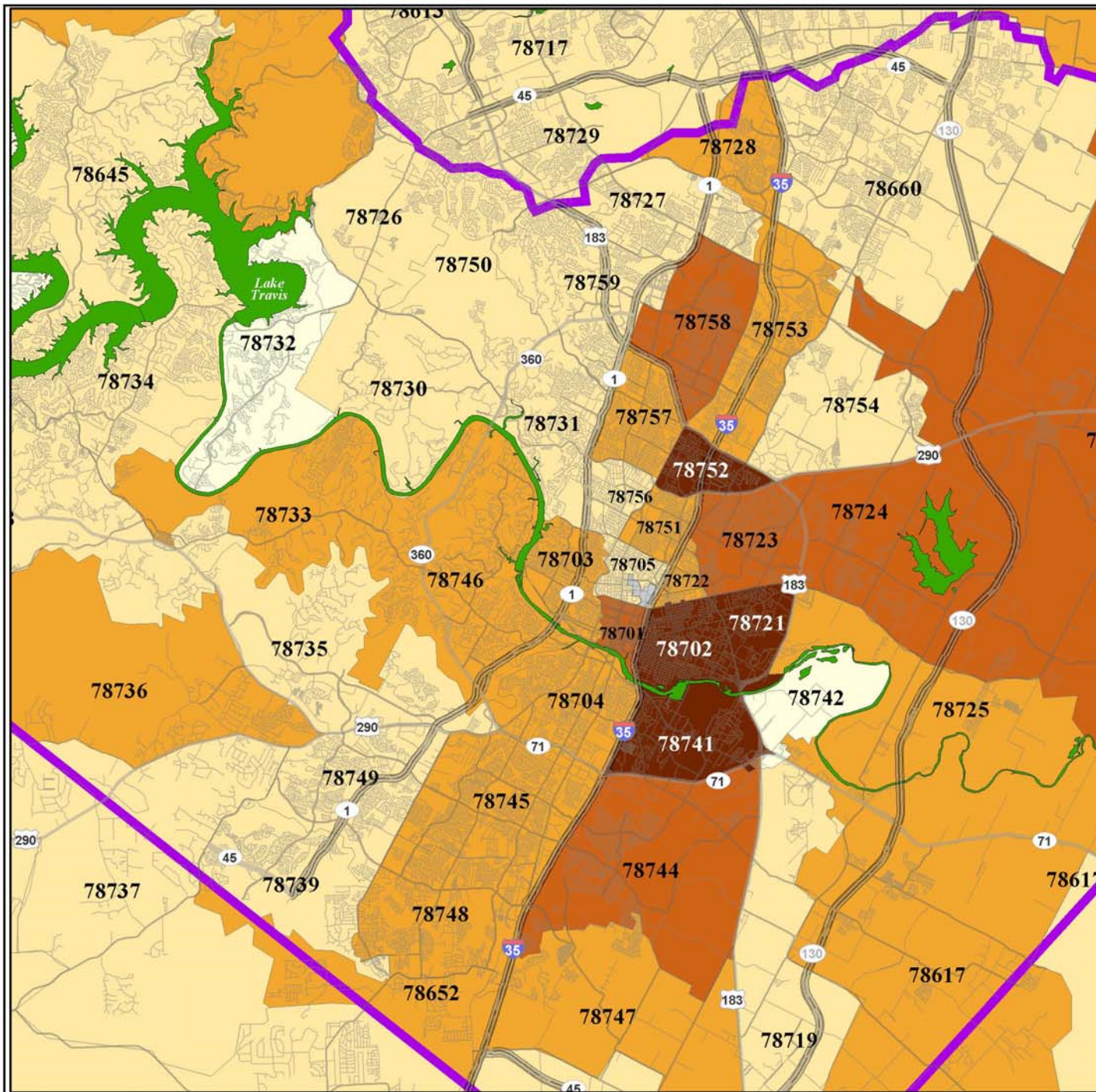
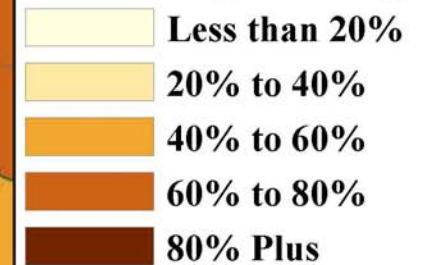


Percentage Change in Median Sales Price of Homes by ZIP Code: 2010 to 2015

Includes all residential homesales: Single Family Houses and Condos

DATA SOURCE:
Austin Board of Realtors.

Percentage Change





Conclusions and Next Steps

- 1. The City of Austin's African American community is back in a growth mode--but housing affordability will continue to be a serious challenge for substantial future growth.**
- 2. Leveling socioeconomic disparities will be based largely on increasing access to quality education.**
- 3. The African American Quality of Life Advisory Commission is currently finalizing its budget request to Council, which will focus on these issues: Health, Criminal Justice and Education.**



Questions and Follow-up please contact:
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