The State of the Capital Area in 2016

CAPCOG General Assembly

September 14, 2016



Overarching Themes



- Population
- Jobs and Employment
- Transportation
- Land Use and Development
- Affordability & Equity
- Environmental Quality
- Disaster Resiliency

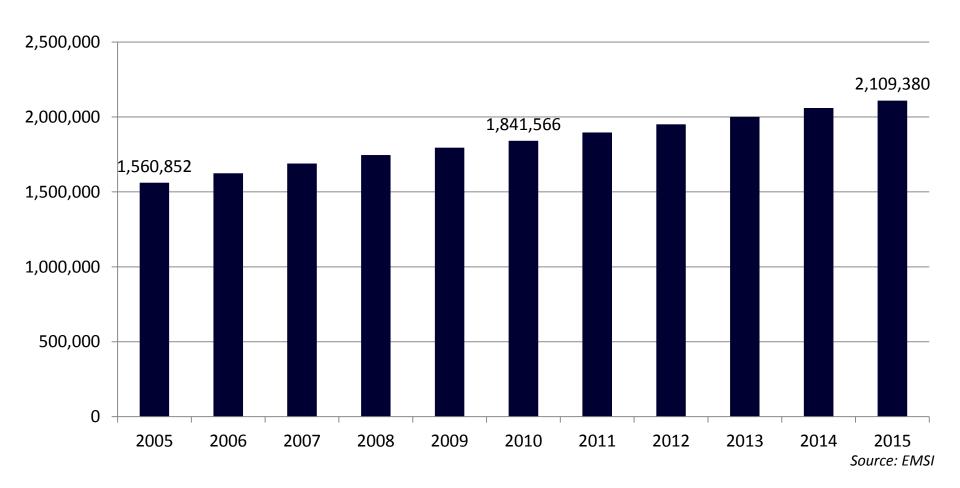


- Popular Conception:
 - ✓ Population is growing, and all the new folks look like this guy





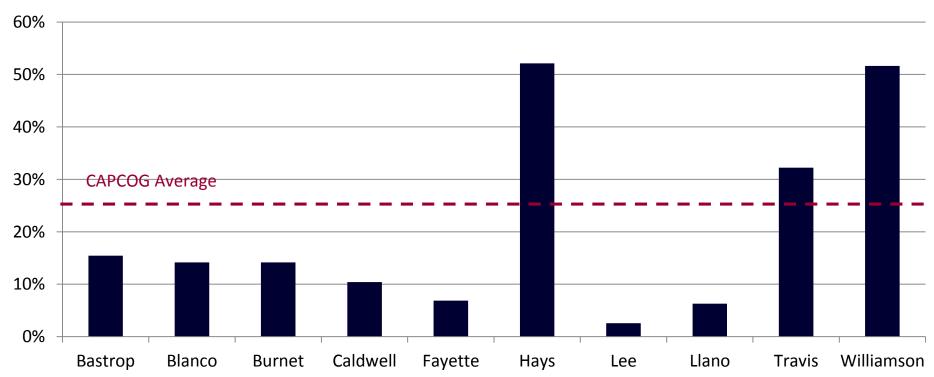
Reality





Reality

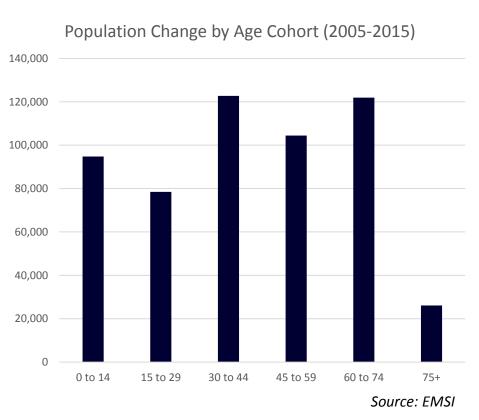
Population Change (2005-2015) in the CAPCOG Region



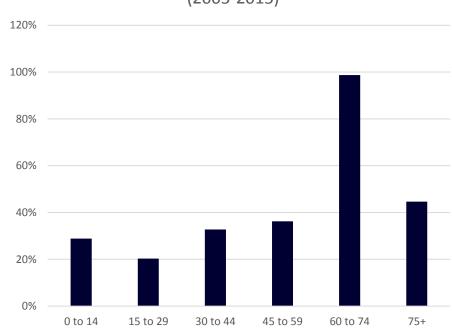
Source: EMSI



Reality



Percent Population Change by Age Cohort (2005-2015)



Source: EMSI





Jobs and Employment



Popular Conception:

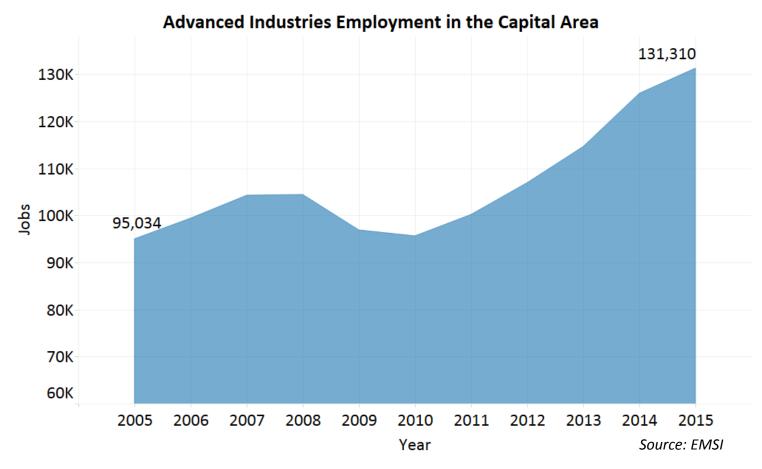
Capital Area Economy



Jobs and Employment



Reality: Times are good!



Jobs and Employment



- Reality: Times Could be Better!
- 2015's Top 5 Jobs by Employment
 - ✓ Retail Salespersons: 32,512 (\$13.26 / hr)
 - ✓ Office Clerks: 30,637 (\$16.15 / hr)
 - ✓ Food Prep Workers and Servers: 27,472 (\$9.49 / hr)
 - ✓ Customer Service Reps: 23,399 (\$14.92 / hr)
 - ✓ Cashiers: 20,153 (\$10.21 / hr)
- Of our 1.05 million jobs, 608k (58%) are in occupations where the mean wage is less than \$20 per hour (\$41,600 per year).



Popular Conception:





Reality:

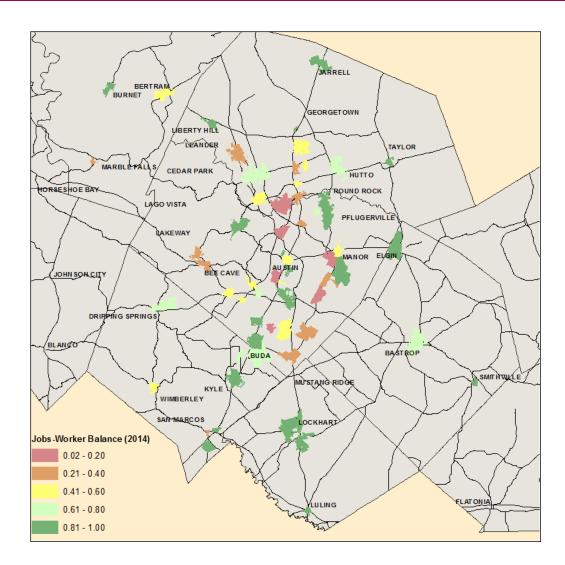




- Slightly More Nuanced Version of Reality:
 - ✓ In 2014, 315,000 workers commuted to jobs in Travis County from somewhere else in the region.
 - ✓ 49.8% of workers cross a county line to get to work
 - ✓ 76.1% of workers drive alone to get to work
 - ~22,000 new jobs each year
 - * 76% of workers drive alone
 - = 16,700 new cars on the road at rush hour each year



- Commuting patterns and modes
- Where do we develop new residences and jobs?



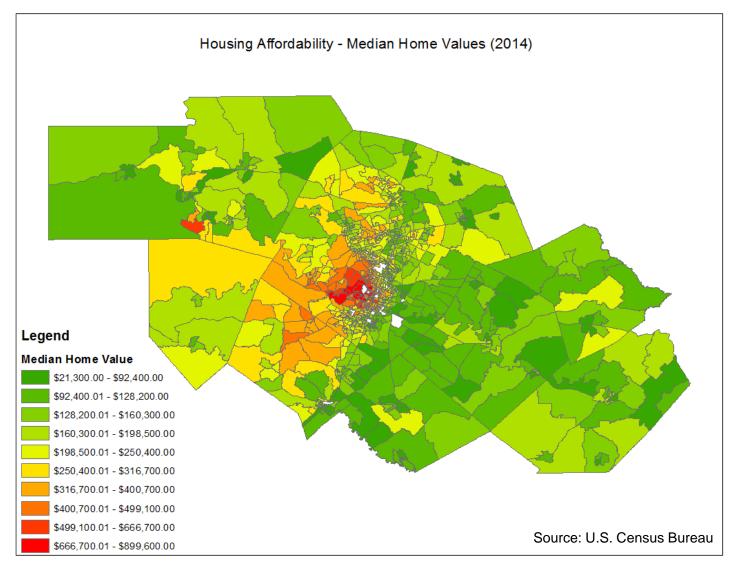


Popular Conception (at least at the national level)



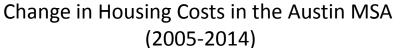


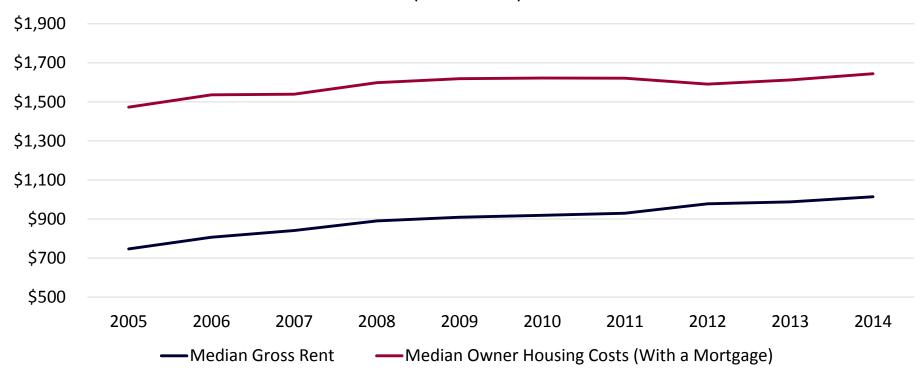
Reality:





Reality:

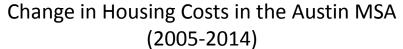


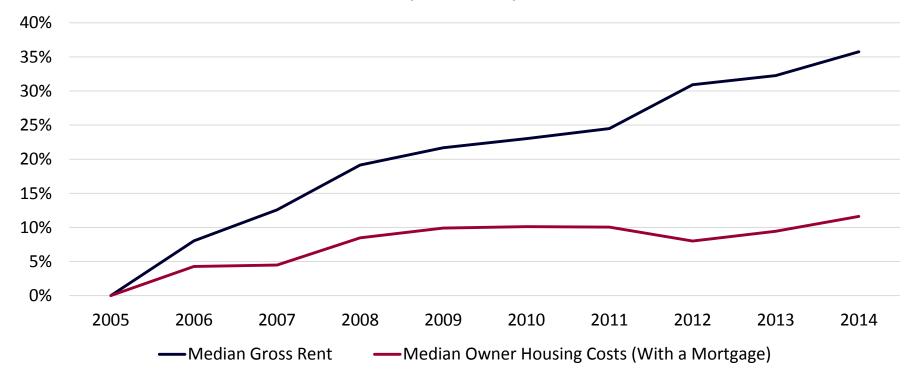


Source: U.S. Census Bureau



Reality:





Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Environment



Popular Conception

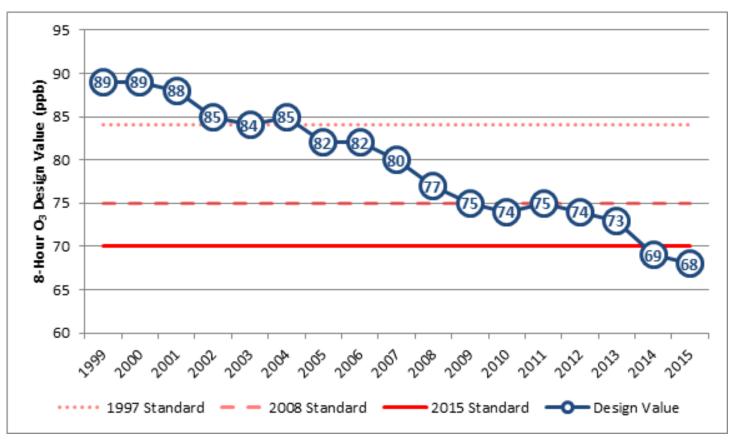
Cedar Season: The Primary Consideration for Air Quality in the Capital Region



Environment



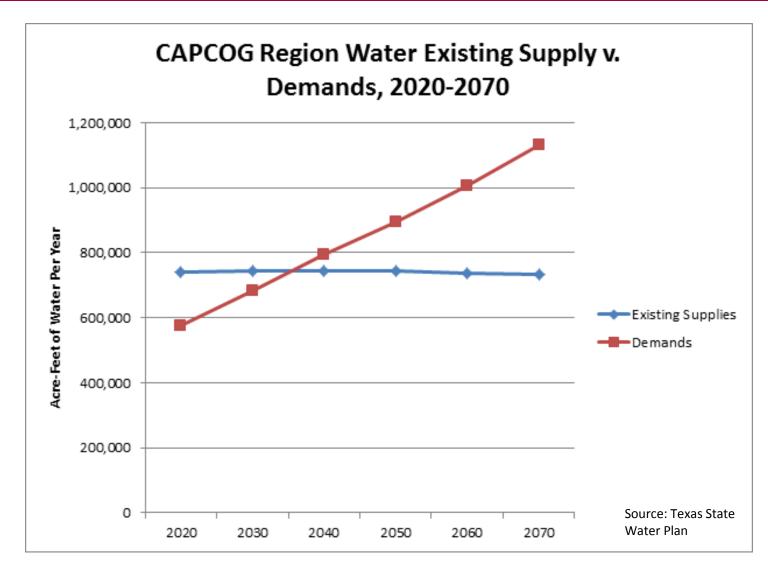
Reality



Source: TCEQ

Environment





Disaster Resiliency



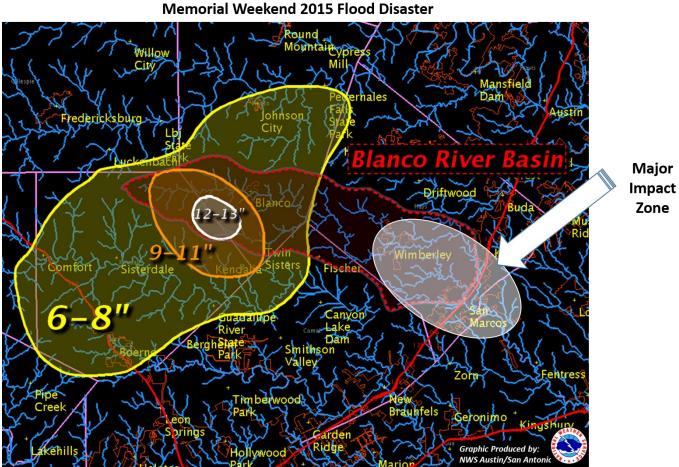
No Longer the Popular Conception:

"A 100-year storm has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year."

Disaster Resiliency

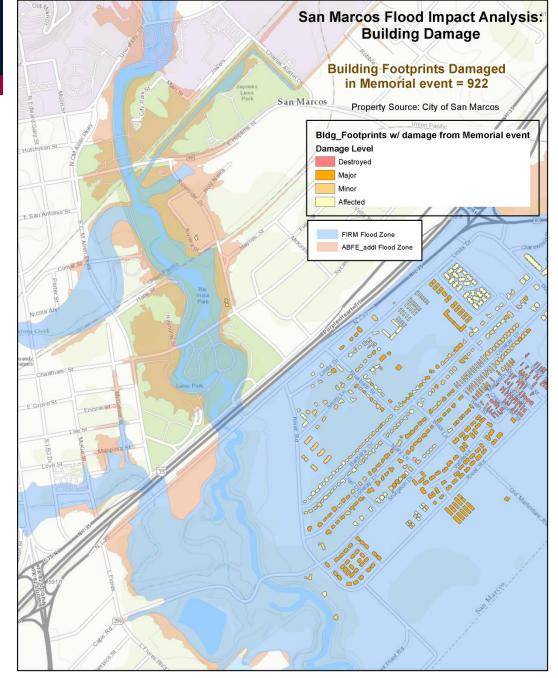


Reality:





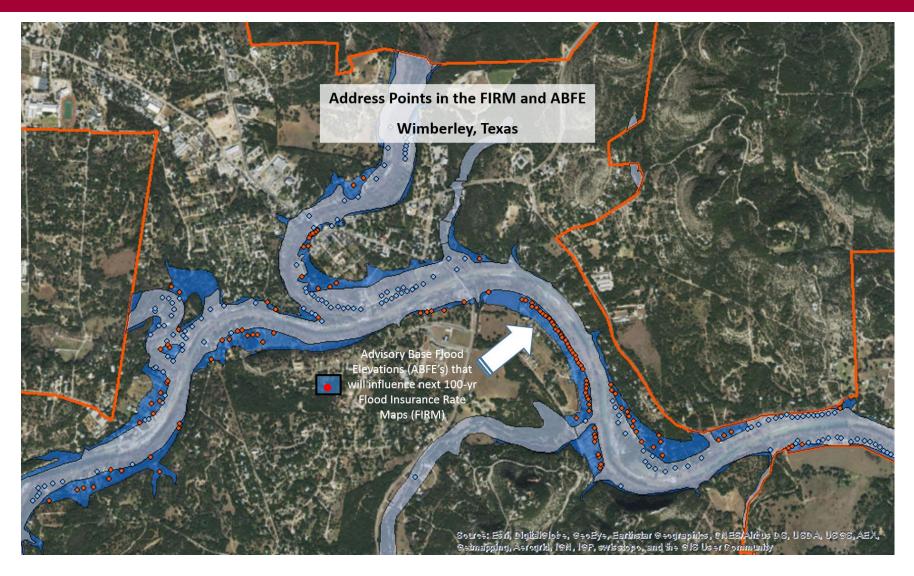
• Reality:



9/14/2016

Disaster Resiliency





Overarching Themes



- Population Continues to Grow
- Job Growth is Strong, but Wages and Access are Uneven
- Transportation is... 「_(ツ)_/¯
- Development in Activity Centers is Mixed... but Not Necessarily Mixed Use
- Environmental Issues Haven't Disappeared
- Equity and Affordability Challenges Remain
- Disaster Resiliency

Thank you



Capital Area Council of Governments

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