

County Narrative Profile

Cass County Report

What are County Narrative Profiles?

The Labor Market and Career Information (LMCI) department of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has developed the County Narrative Profile (CNP) as a tool for presenting Texas county based statistical data in an easy-to-read narrative format. This CNP module is one of many analytical tools available from the Industrial Profiles system. The narrative approach is an alternative to looking through stacks of tables and charts which can be confusing and difficult to understand or interpret. It allows the user to easily request an easy to understand report on one or more of the 254 counties in Texas. To review all the current TWC's initiatives and services, link to: <http://www.twc.state.tx.us>

Geography

Regional Information: The Cass County region (FIPS code:48067) had an estimated population of 30,515 in 2008. The region consists of 960 square miles with a **population density** of 31.79 residents per square mile compared to a statewide density of 91.95. This county ranked 90th in 2000 population compared to all 254 counties in Texas. Cass County is a member of TWC's North East Texas Local Workforce Development region. This area is a **rural** county. This county also ranked 94th in size by square miles when compared to all counties in Texas. The Cass County area is assigned to the following district(s): Texas Representative District(s) of 1 and State Senatorial District(s) of 1. The area is in the U.S. Congressional District(s) of: 1. The county seat is Linden and the county's **major city, town or place** is Atlanta. See Texas Online at <http://www.state.tx.us/portal/tol/en/gov/11/1> for State and local updates. Cass County is classified as a rural county by virtue of either its close relationship with a significant central city or lack thereof. Using 2000 Census population data, roughly 86.05 percent of all Texas population could be found in the 76 metropolitan counties defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for 2003. In 1993 the county was classified as a rural county. Texas has established a network of 24 **Councils of Government** (COGs) to assist local governments in planning for common needs and to coordinate regional economic development activity. Cass County falls within the Ark-Tex Council of Governments region. For additional information and links to the COG regions see www.txregionalcouncil.org/.

The Office of the State Climatologist in College Station, under the guidance of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, maintains 10-year intervals of weather compilations. For most recent interval as of January 1, 1993, the **rainfall** in the region averages 48.3 inches per year compared to the Texas average of 30.1 inches per year. The average **growing season** in the Cass County region is 237 days. Texas is so

climatically diverse that statewide averages are generally irrelevant as a means of comparison. The **average temperature** in January gathered by the Office of the State Climatologist ranges from 31 degrees to an average for July of 93 degrees. The Texas Department of Agriculture estimates the **freeze dates** range from Nov 11 to Mar 19. Current and past climate information can be found at <http://www.farmersalmanac.com/weather/uszone5.html> and <http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html>.

Natural amenities of the area, according to the U.S. Department of Interior, reflect an overall percent of **surface water** of 2.4 percent compared to 2.5 percent statewide. The land surface form topography for the region is described as irregular plains. Considerably more detailed information can be found at: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/texaswater/sb1/> and http://www.netstate.com/states/geography/tx_geography.htm.

Local Workforce Boards: Cass County is a member of the TWC North East Texas local workforce board area. In order to contact the board or TWC's Tele Center by phone, call 1-800-939-6631. Local addresses, references to specific needs and services can be found at the North East Texas web site at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdas/wda07.html>. For further information on all Local Workforce Board go to <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdbs/wdbmap.html>.

North East Texas <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdas/wda07.html>

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Population

County population estimates are updated periodically by the Texas State Data Center – Office of the State Demographer at the University of Texas at San Antonio. County estimates are primarily based on the 100 percent population counts from the latest April, 2000 decennial census and are calculated to reveal population change up to a current date, in this case January 2008. These estimation methodologies utilize information on births, deaths and elementary school enrollment to estimate population. In this method, migration of the school-age population is assumed to be indicative of migration in the total population (with adjustments being made for the historical differences between the school-age migration rate and the total population's rate of migration). Data on public school enrollment from the Texas Education Agency and data from the Texas State Data Center's survey of private schools in Texas are used to estimate change in the school-age population. Data on institutional populations were obtained from applicable institutions, while data on other special populations, such as the elderly population were obtained from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

According to the county-based population estimates from the Texas State Data Center, Cass County changed in population from 30,438 in April, 2000 to an estimated 30,515 in January 2008 by 77 residents. This reflects an increase of 0.3 percent in population. During the same time period, the state's population changed by 3,253,597 residents from

20,851,820 to an estimated 24,105,417 persons representing a comparative change of 15.6 percent. A variety of data topics for Texas and all the counties is available at: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/48000.html>.

The region's race/ethnic distribution in 2000 is estimated by the Census Bureau to be:

<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Area Percent</u>	<u>Statewide Percent</u>
White	23,801	78.2	70.97
Black	5,927	19.5	11.53
Other	192	0.6	3.33
Hispanic^o	526	1.7	31.99

^o Hispanic count includes White, Black and other representation when reported.

Population Age

The age distribution of an area can provide valuable insight into the region's economic composition and income potential. By national standards, Texas has a relatively young population. The 2000 Census estimates for Texas show a population composition as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Area Percent</u>	<u>Statewide</u>
Under 5	1,829	6.0	7.8
5-14	4,267	14.0	15.8
15-19	2,270	7.5	7.8
20-44	8,990	29.5	38.5
45-64	7,734	25.4	20.2
65+	5,348	17.6	9.9

While the median age for Texas was 32.30 years in 2000, the Cass County area had a median age of 40.00 according to the 2000 Census.

Population Gender

The gender distribution of an area can provide additional insight into the region's overall distribution in the population by male and female. Of the area's population, 14,604 were male which represents 48.0 percent and 15,834 were female which represents 52.0 percent. This compares to the statewide percentage of 49.6 percent for male and 50.4 percent for female.

Special Age Groups and Gender

Youth and Older Workers: Other age cohorts may be of special interest for Workforce Development Board's summer youth programs and older worker programs. The Cass County region has 4,023 persons **age 14-21** representing 13.0 percent of the population. This compares with 13.3 percent statewide. For the potential older age cohort, 5,023 persons or 16.3 percent are **55 or over** in the Cass County region based on the 2000 Census. This compares to 9.9 percent statewide.

Ages 25-44: If the population cohort 45 and over is higher than the state average, this suggests a stable, mature population comprised of mainly "empty-nesters," retirees and the aged. When the 25-44 age cohort is higher than the state average, this is a healthy economic situation since this group contains the greatest share of the labor force. Decreases over time in this group, especially when similar changes are not occurring statewide, can be an indication that people are moving out of an area they consider to be a poor labor market. In Cass County the total number in the age groups of 25 to 44, was 8,142 or 26.3 percent. This compares to a statewide percentage of 31.9 percent.

Ages 18 and Older: For the population generally considered in the ages to participate in the labor market, the total population who were 18 years and over totaled 14,965,061 in Texas which represented 71.8 percent of the total population. In this study area, the total persons in this age group was 22,869 or 75.1 percent of the total population. Within this age group in Texas the number of males in 2000 who were 18 years and over represented 7,338,177 persons or 35.2 percent of the total population while females age 18 years and over represented 7,626,884 or 36.6 percent. In the Cass County area, males 18 and over represented 10,673 or 35.1 percent in comparison and females totaled to 12,196 or 40.1 percent.

Veteran Status: According to the U.S. Bureau of Census, the area had 22,863 persons in the population age 18 years and older in the year 2000. Of that number, 3,498 or 15.3 percent responded as being a civilian veteran, compared to 11.8 percent statewide. A "civilian veteran" is a person 18 years old or over who has served (even for a short time), but is not now serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or military Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps.

Disability Status: From the 2000 Census, data on Disability Status were derived when respondents reported long-lasting conditions: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment, (sensory disability) and (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying (physical disability). Disability status was also derived if the individuals in the working age range of 21 to 64 years had a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more that made it difficult to perform certain activities such as: (a) learning, remembering, or concentrating (mental disability); (b) dressing, bathing, or

getting around inside the home (self-care disability); (c) going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office (going outside the home disability); and (d) working at a job or business (employment disability).

It was reported in the 2000 Census that the area had an estimated 6,930 persons residing there between the ages of 5 to 20 years of age with approximately 658 or 9.5 percent with a **disability**. In Texas, the percent with disabilities in this same age bracket was 7.9 percent. In the working age population group - ages 21 to 64 years, the area had approximately 16,238 persons, of which 4,172 were categorized to be in a disability status. This represented 25.7 percent compared to 19.9 percent in the state overall. For those persons in this age group that had a disability, approximately 2,053 or 49.2 percent were employed. For those who had no disability, an estimated 8,494 or 70.4 percent were employed. For the retirement age group of 65 years of age and older, 4,977 persons resided of which 2,347 were disabled. The percent of this age group with a disabled status was 47.2 percent and this compared to 44.8 percent in Texas overall.

Ages 65 and Older: For the population who are considered to be at the age of retirement or older - 65 years and older, the total number of persons in Texas was 2,072,532 or 9.9 percent of the total population in 2000. This region had a total of 5,348 or 17.6 percent in this older age group. In the same age group of 65 years and over, males in Texas represented 862,181 or 4.1 percent of the total population and females totaled to 1,210,351 or 5.8 percent, while in this study area, males totaled to 2,185 or 7.2 percent of all persons in this area and females represented 3,163 or 10.4 percent of all persons. For other general and special population information from the 2000 Census as well as specific populations topics, link to <http://www.census.gov/census2000/states/tx.html>.

Population Projections

The Office of the State Demographer for the State of Texas distributes the most widely used population projections for Texas. **Projection estimates** in these tables and the methodology for **migration scenarios** have been revised as of 2006 by the Texas State Data Center and Office of the State Demographer - now housed at University of Texas San Antonio. Each projection series includes three scenarios resulting in three alternative sets of population values for the State and each county are presented in these projections. These scenarios assume the same set of mortality and fertility assumptions in each scenario but differ in their assumptions relative to net migration. The net migration assumptions made for three scenarios are derived from 1990-2000 patterns which have been altered relative to expected future population trends. This is done by systematically and uniformly altering the adjusted 1990-2000 net migration rates by age, sex and race/ethnicity. The scenarios so produced are referred to as the zero migration (0.0) scenario, the one-half 1990-2000 (0.5) scenario, the 1990-2000 (1.0) scenario and the 1990-2000 (2.0) scenario.

The recommended scenario for most county based projection reporting used is believed to be the 0.5 scenario as most appropriate scenario for most counties in Texas. This scenario has been prepared as an approximate average of the zero (0.0) and 1990-2000

(1.0) scenarios. It assumes rates of net migration one-half of those of the 1990s. The reason for including this scenario is that many counties in the State are unlikely to continue to experience the overall levels of relatively extensive growth of the 1990s. A scenario which projects rates of population growth that are approximately an average of the zero and the 1990-2000 scenarios is one that suggests slower but steadier growth than occurred during 1990-2000 (For a more detailed discussion see <http://txsdc.utsa.edu>).

Using this projection scenario, the following table represents population projections for Cass County:

Population Projections and Percent Change Since 2000*

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Anglo</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>
2000	30,438	---	23,709	---	5,999	---	526	---	204	---
2005	30,464	0.1	23,556	-0.6	6,117	2.0	574	9.1	217	6.4
2010	30,645	0.7	23,498	-0.9	6,286	4.8	627	19.2	234	14.7
2015	30,672	0.8	23,302	-1.7	6,436	7.3	677	28.7	257	26.0
2020	30,505	0.2	22,932	-3.3	6,571	9.5	725	37.8	277	35.8
2025	30,066	-1.2	22,344	-5.8	6,663	11.1	765	45.4	294	44.1
2030	29,398	-3.4	21,577	-9.0	6,730	12.2	790	50.2	301	47.5
2035	28,575	-6.1	20,681	-12.8	6,776	13.0	809	53.8	309	51.5
2040	27,572	-9.4	19,743	-16.7	6,713	11.9	798	51.7	318	55.9

* Anglo, Black, and Other excludes Hispanic counts.

For comparison purposes, the Texas population projections, using the same scenario methodology, are as follows:

Population Projections and Percent Change Since 2000*

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Anglo</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Pct Chg</u>
2000	20,851,820	---	11,074,716	---	2,421,653	---	6,669,666	---	685,785	---
2005	22,556,054	8.2	11,327,875	2.3	2,588,604	6.9	7,820,854	17.3	818,721	19.4
2010	24,330,612	16.7	11,533,974	4.1	2,754,744	13.8	9,080,436	36.1	961,458	40.2
2015	26,156,715	25.4	11,694,533	5.6	2,913,063	20.3	10,436,536	56.5	1,112,583	62.2
2020	28,005,788	34.3	11,796,493	6.5	3,052,401	26.0	11,882,998	78.2	1,273,896	85.8
2025	29,897,443	43.4	11,830,579	6.8	3,170,986	30.9	13,448,469	101.6	1,447,409	111.1
2030	31,830,589	52.7	11,789,298	6.5	3,268,616	35.0	15,140,100	127.0	1,632,575	138.1
2035	33,789,668	62.0	11,682,014	5.5	3,345,684	38.2	16,934,444	153.9	1,827,526	166.5
2040	35,761,201	71.5	11,525,112	4.1	3,403,169	40.5	18,804,298	181.9	2,028,622	195.8

* Anglo, Black, and Other excludes Hispanic counts.

County to County Migration

Out-Migration: Using Internal Revenue Service (IRS) information regarding changes in residences between two filing years 2007 and 2008, statistics regarding moving in and

out of counties can reveal patterns of migration as well as patterns of out-of-state and foreign migration to and from selected counties. During this time Cass County reported 10,825 total tax returns were matched to tabulate outflow migration. Of these returns approximately 7.1 percent showed a change in residences by moving out from their originating county in 2007 to another county in 2008. Of these who moved out of their original county, 66.4 percent moved to another county within Texas, while 33.6 percent moved to a different state but within the U.S. Those who moved from their originating county in the year 2007 to a foreign country in 2008 was approximately 0.0 percent.

The IRS county migration data reports income by the number of returns and the number of exemptions. The number of returns - as a unit of analysis may be used as a proxy for household income and the number of exemptions may be used as a proxy for the number of individuals in a family. Using the number of returns for household income, the Cass County overall has an average household earnings of \$42,507. Of those households which remained in the same area, an average reported non-migrating household income of \$43,409 during the period 2007 to 2008. Total income earned by 765 households leaving the region was \$23,447,000 which represents an average income of \$30,650.

The top 5 counties showing the most households and their average income leaving Cass County to other counties during 2007 to 2008 were:

County and State	Households Moving Out	Average Income Moving Out
Bowie County, TX	135	\$29,067
Morris County, TX	57	\$31,912
Gregg County, TX	49	\$23,755
Miller County, AR	42	\$29,286
Caddo Parish, LA	29	\$36,345

In-Migration: During the period 2007 to 2008, there were approximately 10,792 total tax returns were matched to calculate inflow migration. Of these returns approximately 6.8 percent showed a change in residences by moving in from their originating county in 2007 to a county in the study area in 2008. Of these who moved into the study area from another county, 63.5 percent moved from other counties in Texas, while 36.5 percent moved from a county in a different state but within the U.S. Those who moved into the study area during the 2007-2008 period from a foreign country was approximately 0.0 percent.

Using the number of returns as a proxy for household income, the Cass County overall has an average household earnings of \$42,817. Of those households which remained in the same area, had an average reported non-migrating household income of \$43,409 during the period 2007 to 2008. Total income earned by 732 households entering the region was \$25,386,000 which represents an average income of \$34,680.

The top 5 counties showing the most households and their average income migrating into Cass County from other counties during 2007 to 2008 were:

County and State	Households Moving In	Average Income Moving In
Bowie County, TX	103	\$32,301
Morris County, TX	51	\$28,510
Miller County, AR	47	\$31,128
Marion County, TX	33	\$37,212
Gregg County, TX	33	\$35,333

Change in Aggregated Earnings: Gains and losses of residential earnings and buying power due to a migration can be reflected in observed differences in aggregate dollars entering and leaving an area. County to county migration information from the IRS shows a net change for the Cass County region of \$1,939,000.00. A positive value represents an increase in earnings for an area and a negative value represents a loss of income during the 2007 - 2008 period.

Vital Statistics: According to the Texas Department of State Health Services for vital statistics for the year 2004, the Cass County area had a total of 338 live births which represents a **live birth rate** of 11.1 births for every 1,000 persons in the study area compared to a statewide rate of 17.0 births per 1,000 persons in the population. The area had a total of 378 **deaths** representing a rate of 12.4 for every 1,000 persons compared to a statewide rate of 6.8.

Employment

Civilian Labor Force (CLF): The most recent civilian labor force estimates from TWC for Texas statewide in July 2010 is 12,206,414 which is an increase in the labor force of 143,350 persons since July 2009. This represents a 1.2 percent change in Texas during this time period. These estimates are not seasonally adjusted. Cass County had a civilian labor force of 13,323 for July 2010 which was a change of -351 in CLF since July 2009. This change represented a decrease of -2.6 percent for the study area. For another glimpse into TWC/LMI's Texas and County information, link to:
<http://www.tracer2.com/cgi/dataanalysis/AreaSelection.asp?tableName=Labforce>.

Economic Diversification: Relative to the Texas economy, the LMCI economic diversification index measures the degree to which a county economy is diversified. Significant concentrations of employment in only one or two industrial sectors makes an area less diversified and more susceptible to widespread economic decline should a key

sector suffer a significant loss. While economic diversification or a balanced distribution of employment across all major industry sectors, is generally desirable, in some cases, especially where a region is exploiting a comparative advantage (such as access to raw materials, access to transportation routes, etc.) a statistically diverse economy does not necessarily correlate with higher growth. Of the three levels of diversification ranging from below average, average and above average, Cass County had an economic base which is of average diversity.

Occupations: The best source of occupational information at the county level is from the 2000 Census. The total number of persons 16 years of age or older who were employed in Cass County during the 2000 Census was 11,875. The following presents a table of those employed by occupational categories for this region compared to statewide percentages:

<u>Occupational Categories</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Area Percent</u>	<u>Statewide Percent</u>
Mgmt., Professional Occs.	2,788	23.5	33.3
Service Occupations	1,985	16.7	14.6
Sales and Office Occupations	2,562	21.6	27.2
Farming/Fishing/Forestry Occs.	214	1.8	0.7
Constr., Extraction Occs.	1,708	14.4	10.9
Production, Transport. Occs.	2,618	22.0	13.2

Class of Worker: Another way to view the types of workers in an area's labor force is by class of worker. According to the 2000 Census, the area had 8,723 employees who were private wage and salary workers representing 73.5 percent of all workers. The region had another 1,988 persons who were government workers or 16.7 percent, 1,143 who were self employed workers or 9.6 percent and 21 who were unpaid family workers representing 0.2 percent. This compares to the Texas statewide distribution of 78.0 percent for private wage and salary workers, 14.6 percent for government workers, 7.1 percent for self employed, and 0.3 percent for unpaid family workers.

Unemployment: According to TWC unemployment figures for July 2010 Cass County had an unemployment estimate of 1,510 persons which represents a rate of 11.3 compared to a Texas statewide unemployment rate of 8.5 for the same month. For the study area these estimates represent a decrease from July 2009 unemployment rate of 12.6 percent. The Texas statewide unemployment rate was 8.3 for July 2009. For the latest unemployment rates, see TWC's LMI website - Unemployment Rates (LAUS): <http://www.tracer2.com/cgi/dataanalysis/AreaSelection.asp?tableName=Labforce> and for a description of methodology link to: <http://www.tracer2.com/article.asp?ARTICLEID=148>.

Reporting Establishments: The TWC indicates 499 business reporting units operating

in Cass County in the first quarter of 2008 with an average of 15.89 workers per unit. Average firm size makes a difference for job hunting and job development strategy because larger firms tend to have better defined ports of entry and in-house training capabilities. Although definitions vary greatly, small business can be defined as less than 50 workers and medium sized is 250 or less. The Texas average is 22.86 workers per unit. Regions with higher than average number of workers per unit tend to be dominated economically by a few very large employers.

Commuting to Work: Commuting to work for workers 16 years and over has a number of implications for transportation and municipal services study. Cass County had a total of 9,429 or 80.8 percent who drove their car to work alone, 1,536 or 13.2 percent who car pooled, 50 or 0.4 percent used public transportation, 182 or 1.6 percent who walked to work, 224 or 1.9 percent of regional workers who used other means to work, and 244 or 2.1 percent who worked at home. These methods of commuting to work compare to the Texas statewide results by: car alone (77.7%), car pool (14.5%), public transportation (1.9%), walked (1.9%), other means (1.3%), and worked at home (2.8%). The average travel time to work in minutes was 27.10 for the region as compared to an overall statewide average of 25.4 minutes.

Employers by Employee Size Class: Employer contact information and employee size ranges are collected and updated by the Analyst Resource Center from InfoUSA Inc. The most current release is a product called the Employer Database 2010 1st Edition. This product shows that the area had approximately 193 establishments which employed 10 or more employees. Of these employers, approximately 0.5 percent employed over 1000 employees. 0.5 percent employed between approximately 500 and 999 employees, 6.2 percent employed between approximately 100 and 499 employees, 10.4 percent employed between 50 and 99 employees, 33.2 percent employed between 20 and 49 employees, and 49.2 percent employed between approximately 10 and 19 employees.

Top 10 Manufacturers for the Cass County Region:

- Anthony Forest Products Co
- A-Z Terminal
- Cobar Industries Inc
- D & S Enterprises
- Gaf Fisheries
- Guard-Line Inc
- Solution Dispersions
- Stanco Manufacturing Inc
- Thermo-Guard
- Wheeling Machine

Income

Personal Income: According to the most recent data released by the BEA 2005, Cass County's total personal income, excluding farm, was \$720,685,000 which represented an increase of \$34,260,000 when compared to the 2004 **total personal income**, excluding farm, of \$ 686,425,000. For Statewide personal income, the total of \$686,943,289,000 for 2004 and \$741,099,703,000 for the year 2004, shows an increase of \$54,156,414,000. This indicates that Cass County has a personal income showing a rate change of 5.0 percent compared to the statewide income at a rate change of 7.9 percent for the same period. Income from all government and government enterprises for the area was a total of \$80,324,000 for the year 2005. This was an increase of 4.1 percent from the 2004 figure of \$77,194,000. Texas statewide had an increase of 5.7 percent for **government income. Military income**, excluding federal civilian income, for 2005 was \$2,750,000 compared to \$2,453,000 in 2004 for the study area. This was an increase of 12.1 percent compared to a statewide change of no change percent for the same period. For further information link to: <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Per Capita Income: Total personal income is a widely used measure of regional economic health while per capita income is generally used to compare the relative well-being of residents across areas (not accounting for differences in area cost of living). The per capita personal income for 2005 was \$24,894 in Cass County while Texas statewide had a per capita income of \$32,460. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Government Transfer Payments: The Cass County region received over \$216,213,000 in transfer of payments in FY2005 which reflected a \$7,212 per capita transfer payment compared to the Texas per capita payment of \$4,194. Transfer payments includes the total amount of government allocations to people who qualify for income assistance. This consists largely of supplemental security income payments, family assistance, general assistance payments, food stamp payments, and other assistance payments, including emergency assistance. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Residence Adjustment: Some areas function as major employment centers and others serve as "bedroom communities". This means that residents may work in one region but live, pay taxes and spend most of their income in their resident region. The degree to which a regional area serves as a bedroom community can be measured by a "residence adjustment" to the area personal income. The residence adjustment in the Cass County region was \$70,179 in 2005. By 2006 the adjustment represented an increase to \$84,518. A negative number implies that workers commute into the region to earn income but do not reside there. Growth over time of negative residence adjustments generally implies an eroding tax base for the region. Similarly, a positive figure implies that on balance the region exports jobs and income to residents of other regions. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Average Weekly Wage: TWC reported an average weekly wage during 1st quarter 2007 for all covered wages and salaried employment in the Cass County region to be \$604.78. Average weekly wages for 1st quarter 2008 was \$580.89, a decrease of -4.0 percent. This

is compared to a decrease of -2.1 percent statewide for the same period of time. The Texas statewide average weekly wage in the 1st quarter of 2008 was \$884.74. These wage data are the result of the reported quarterly wages and salaries paid by employers divided by 13 weeks. For the most current information, link to:

<http://www.tracer2.com/cgi/dataanalysis/AreaSelection.asp?tableName=Industry>

UI Benefits: The region had \$1,833,749 in Unemployment Insurance benefits paid during calendar year 2008. In the Cass County region, the average duration before exhausting regular UI benefits in calendar year 2008 was approximately 14 weeks, while the statewide average duration before exhausting regular UI benefits in calendar year 2008 was approximately 13.4 weeks. The most likely interpretation of longer duration times is greater difficulty finding a job. Therefore, duration can serve as a good barometer for local general economic conditions. The average weekly benefits payment for Regular UI in 2008 was \$290.97 for the Cass County region compared to \$307.5 in Texas statewide.

Personal Income by Place of Residence: Personal income by place of residence, based on the 2000 Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) estimates was roughly \$55,468 for the Cass County region. This compares to \$78,626 statewide. This figure is much higher than the per capita income level because it includes all wage earners living within a single household. Also, income data from BEA will be different than income data from other agencies due to that fact the BEA includes other sources of income such as farm wages, dividends, interest, rent and transfer payments. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Poverty Population: The U.S. Department of Census estimated a 2002 poverty population for the Cass County region for people of all ages at 4,936 persons. That figure represents 16.4 percent of the non-institutional population compared to a Texas percentage of 15.4 percent for people of all ages. The estimated number of people under the age of 18 in the study area in poverty was 1,700 in 1999. This figure was 5.7 percent of all people under 18 in the study area compared to Texas statewide which was 6.0 percent of all people under 18 as estimated in 1999. According to the 2000 Census, the number of families living below poverty status in 1999 were 1,280 which was 14.7 percent of all families in the study area. This compared to 12.0 percent of all families statewide living in poverty status in 1999. The total number of individuals living below poverty status was 5,293 in 1999 which was 17.4 percent of all individuals in the study area. This compared to 15.0 percent of all individuals living below poverty status statewide. For the most recent Poverty information, see:

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saie/county.html> .

Gross Retail Sales: Income can be viewed in several ways and under different definitions. Per capita income tends to have a direct relationship with the growth of gross sales and most service sector industries in an area. **Gross sales** for the region estimated by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts were \$69,325,690 in the 4th quarter 2008 which represented an increase of 3.8 percent to \$71,957,491.00 by the 4th quarter 2009. The statewide change for the same period was a decrease of -9.5 percent in gross sales.

The total number of **reporting outlets** for the same period was 340 in the 4th quarter 2008 and 350 in the 4th quarter 2009. This region had an increase of 2.9 percent in the study area compared to the statewide change for the same period of an increase of 3.4 percent. For the most recent Gross Retail Sales information, please see: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/sales/>.

Housing

Household Units and Size: The total number of **housing units** in 2000 in Cass County according to the Census was 12,190 with an average household size of 2.5 persons. The average **household size** for Texas was 2.7 persons for the same period. **Home ownership rates** for this area was 78.6 percent compared to Texas statewide which had a rate of 63.8 percent. While in Texas statewide the percent of households with persons under 18 years of age in 2000 was 40.9 percent, this study area had a percent of 34.4. The percent of households with persons 65 years of age or older was 19.9 percent in Texas statewide while 30.9 percent of Cass County had households with individuals 65 years of age and older.

Types of Structures: While Texas had approximately 63.4 percent of the housing units in the category of one **detached structures** in 2000 according to the census, the study area had approximately 71.4 percent. **Mobile homes** in the area made up 19.4 percent when compared to a statewide percentage of 9.0 percent. More recently built housing structures in the area shows new development has taken place in the region. The total number of **new housing structures** built between 1995 and March 2000 was 1,405 or 10.1 percent in Cass County compared to 13.2 percent statewide.

Owner and Renter Occupied: According to the 2000 Census, the percent of **owner-occupied** units with a value of \$100,000 or greater in Cass County was 11.4 percent compared to 36.7 percent for the state. The percent of **renter-occupied** units with rent values of \$500 per month or greater was 13.4 percent as compared to the Texas percentage of 60.4 percent. The **median home value** in Cass County according to the 2000 census was \$53,300.00 compared to a statewide median value of \$82,500.00. **Median rent** for the area was \$356.00 compared to \$574.00 for the state. For this area, the total number of renter-occupied housing units was 2,606 which represented 21.4 percent of all occupied housing units in 2000. This compares to a Texas statewide percentage of 36.2 percent for the same period.

Education

The total number of public independent school districts in Cass County for the school year 1999-2000 was 8 according to the Texas Education Agency. The overall average daily attendance for the same year was 5,759.

Enrollment: School enrollment data from the 2000 Census showed that there were 7,138

persons in the population who were 3 years of age and older and enrolled in school in the study area during the census collection period. Of this population, the following table shows a breakdown of what types of schools persons were enrolled compared to similar statewide information:

<u>Type of School</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Area Percent</u>	<u>Statewide Percent</u>
Nursery school or preschool	401	5.6	6.6
Kindergarten	389	5.4	5.9
Elementary School (grades 1-8)	3,561	49.9	45.5
High School (grades 9-12)	1,970	27.6	21.9
College or graduate school	817	11.4	20.2

Educational Attainment: The total number of persons 25 years of age or older who responded to the level of educational attainment during the 2000 Census was 20,546. Of those persons, the following presents a table on various levels of educational attainment for this region compared to statewide percentages:

<u>Educational Attainment</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Area Percent</u>	<u>Statewide Percent</u>
Less than 9th Grade	1,456	7.1	11.5
9 th to 12 th grade, no diploma	3,678	17.9	12.9
H.S. graduate (inc. equiv.)	7,858	38.2	24.8
Some college, no degree	4,267	20.8	22.4
Associate Degree	822	4.0	5.2
Bachelor's Degree	1,714	8.3	15.6
Graduate or Prof. Degree	751	3.7	7.6

Another useful grouping of these statistics shows that the percent of high school graduates or higher was 75.0 percent for the area compared to 75.7 percent for Texas. Also, the percent with bachelor's degree or higher was 12.0 percent as compared to 23.2 percent for Texas.

Dropout and Attrition Rates: Information from the Texas Education Agency on student **dropouts** from public schools for 2004-2005 shows that 0 students, grades 7-12, dropped out of school in this study area. This represents a dropout rate of 0.00 percent as compared to a Texas statewide percentage of 0.90 percent of all students who dropped out during this period. **Attrition** rates are often viewed as measures of the percentage of students that begin high school but do not graduate with a diploma. It is arguably a more reasonable way to view dropouts from an economic viewpoint. One way to view educational progress in a region is to estimate the number of persons who persist to high school graduation as opposed to standard dropout statistics. Attrition rates are calculated by the Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA). IDRA conducts research and development activities; creates, implements and administers innovative education

programs; and provides teacher, administrator, and parent training and technical assistance. The attrition rates for Cass County during the period 2004-2005 by race and ethnicity were 14 percent for all students, 14 percent for Blacks, 13 percent for Whites, and 37 percent for Hispanics. In order to review the latest Secondary Schools Enrollment and Dropouts information posted on the Texas Education Agency, link to: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/research/>.

Health

Health Facilities - The number of acute and psychiatric care **hospitals** in Cass County as of October 2007 was 2, with an average total beds capacity of approximately 45.0 compared to a statewide ratio of 123.1 beds per hospital according to statistical reports from the Texas Department of State Health Services. Link to <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for more data reporting on health care facilities. The Texas State Board of Pharmacy data for October 2007 shows there are 8 licensed **pharmacies** in the study area. The total number of licensed pharmacies statewide is 5,919. For additional information on Texas Pharmacies, link to the Texas State Board of Pharmacy at <http://www.tsbp.state.tx.us/index.htm>.

Health Practitioners - According to the Texas Department of State Health Services October 2007 report, there were 19 direct patient care and primary care **physicians** who practiced in the region. The ratio of total persons to each physician in the area was 1,593.9 residents per each physician. This compares to a statewide ratio of 460.5 persons for each physician in Texas. Another way of reporting these figures is by showing the number of physicians as a ratio per 100,000 residents. In this study area, the ratio in direct patient care was 2,329.6 as compared to the statewide ratio of 638.3 in direct patient care physicians per 100,000 population as of 2007. The ratio of physicians in primary care was 2,523.8 compared to a statewide ratio of 1,472.0 physicians in primary care per 100,000 persons in the population statewide. Link to <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for more data.

The study area had a total of 135 **registered nurses** (RN) working in the study area, representing a ratio of 224.3 persons for each RN in the area. The statewide ratio was 152.2 persons for each RN in the state. For the same time period, the ratio of RNs per 100,000 population was 445.8 compared to 657.0 per 100,000 statewide. Link to <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for more data.

The number of **licensed vocational nurses** (LVN) who practiced in the area was 147 representing a ratio of 206.0 persons per each LVN in the area. This compared to 363.8 persons per each LVN statewide. The ratio of LVNs per 100,000 population was 485.4 compared to 274.9 per 100,000 population statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

The Texas Department of State Health Services information for October 2007 also reports that there were 10 **dentists** in the study area, with a ratio of 3,028.5 persons for

each dentist in the area. The ratio of dentists per 100,000 residents was 33.0. By comparison, there was a statewide ratio of 42.8 dentists per 100,000 residents, with a total of 10,151 dentists statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

According to data from the Texas Department of State Health Services for October 2007, there were 86 licensed **Emergency Medical Technicians**, or EMTs, for the study area; a ratio of 283.9 licensed EMTs per 100,000 residents. The statewide ratio was 218.0 EMTs per 100,000 residents, with a total of 51,718 EMTs statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

Also, according to the October 2007 report from the Texas Department of State Health Services, there were 16 **pharmacists** in this area, which is a ratio of 1,892.8 persons for each pharmacist. Texas has 18,138 pharmacists statewide, or a ratio of 1,308.2 persons for each pharmacist in the area. The ratio of pharmacists per 100,000 residents was 52.8 compared to 76.4 per 100,000 residents statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

The Texas Department of State Health Services information for October 2007 shows that for the study area there were 2 **occupational therapists**; a ratio of 15,142.5 persons for each occupational therapist. The statewide ratio was 11,072.6 persons for each occupational therapist, with a total of 2,143 occupational therapists statewide. The ratio of occupational therapists per 100,000 residents was 6.6 compared to 9.0 statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

Medical & Health Services Employment*

Area			Statewide		
2007 1st Qtr	2008 1st Qtr	Pct Change	2007 1st Qtr	2008 1st Qtr	Pct Change
1,455	1,392	-4.33%	1,092,916	1,135,001	3.85%

* Includes: Hospitals, Medical/Health Offices; Home Health, Nursing, Elderly Residential facilities; Individual/Family, Emergency & Other Relief Svcs., Vocational Rehab. Svcs.
 [NAICS: 6211,6212-19,6221-23,6231-33,6239,6241-43]
 Due to confidentiality, employment for small areas may be suppressed and reported as zero.

Health Statistics - Some of the leading **causes of mortality** in Texas include malignant neoplasms or cancer, heart disease, and chronic lower respiratory disease. From information gathered by Texas Department of State Health Services for 2004, the study area had a total of 80 reported deaths from malignant neoplasm **cancer**. On a statewide level, Texas had 33,836 reported deaths from malignant neoplasm cancer. Texas Department of State Health Services reports that for 2004 there were 127 deaths from

heart disease, and 18 deaths from lower respiratory disease in the selected study area. By contrast, Texas statewide had 40,091 deaths from heart disease and 7,387 deaths from **chronic lower respiratory disease**. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Texas health, disease and related information.

Several state agencies collect statistics on health status indicators that can be used to assess the strengths or weaknesses of public health in a local area or community. For this study area, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported for August 2004 there were 1 **infant deaths**, as compared with a statewide rate of 2,398. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Texas health, disease and related information.

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported that for August 2003 there were 24 total **teen pregnancies** in this area. There were different teen pregnancy rates in the study area depending on race, with 10 for Black teens, 2 for Hispanic teens and 12 for White teens. Statewide rates for teenage pregnancy were 19,730 for total teenage pregnancies, with 3,003 for Black teens, 12,693 for Hispanic teens and 4,034 for White teens. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Texas health, disease and related information.

In the Health and Human Services 2003 Data Book, figures show that the number of children under 19 in this area whom were **not covered by health insurance** is 1,164, which is 6.7% of the reported population in that age group. The number of **uninsured children** statewide is 885,999, or 7.1% of the reported population for children under 19. For more information, or to view or download the entire data book, see <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us>.

Information On The Web

The Bureau of Census has a variety of useful Quick Facts for each county in Texas. The Quick Fact report for Cass county can be accessed at the following URL: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/48/48067.html>. Some counties maintain their own Internet sites for local information. If a county hosts its own Web site, it may be accessed through a URL with the following format <http://www.co.County Name Goes Here.tx.us>.

To research additional websites on Counties, consider any of the following:

Texas A-Z List of counties with web sites: <http://www.state.tx.us/portal/tol/en/gov/6/2/1>

Texas Conference on Urban Counties: <http://www.cuc.org>

State of Texas Web Site - Texas Counties: <http://www.state.tx.us>

Texas Economic Development: <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/ecodev>

TWC's LMI unit, Tracer: <http://www.tracer2.com/>

Texas Association of Counties: <http://www.county.org>

V.G. Young Institute of County Government: <http://vgyi.tamu.edu/>

Real Estate Center, Texas A&M University: <http://recenter.tamu.edu>

Bureau of Business Research, University of Texas: <http://www.utexas.edu/depts/bbr>
National Association of Counties: <http://www.naco.org>
"Uniform Crime Statistics, County Reports" Geostat-Geospatial & Statistical Data Center, University of Virginia: <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/crime>
Compare County Data Nationwide:
http://www.stats.indiana.edu/uspr/a/sbs_profile_frame.html

Other Facts of Interest

- According to the Texas Secretary of State's Office, for the November 2008 presidential election, there were 18,563 **registered voters** in Cass County. The **voter turnout** was 11,846 representing 63.8 percent of **eligible voters**. The **election results** were 8,279 or 69.9 percent for McCain/Palin, 3,490 or 29.5 percent for Obama/Biden, and 77 or 0.7 percent for all other presidential candidates. The statewide results were 55.5 percent for McCain/Palin, 43.7 percent for Obama/Biden, and approximately 0.9 percent for all other candidates. See: <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/index.shtml> for other topics of interest.
- Information on the three categories of child placement services from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services for 2006 showed that the area had 0 **foster homes**, 11 **foster/adoptive homes** and 0 **adoptive homes**. The total number of **licensed day care facilities** were 10 with a total capacity of 674. The total number of **family homes licensed for 24-hour care** was 3. Link to http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/About/Data_Books_and_Annual_Reports/2006/databook/default.asp for further information.
- There were approximately 780 crimes reported in the Cass County area during 2005 or a 6.6 percent change from the 732 crimes reported for 2004. Statewide, the total of all reported crimes was 1,117,806 for 2005 representing a -1.8 percent change from the reported totals of 1,138,346 for 2004. This information was collect from the FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, as prepared by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data; see the U.S. Dept. of Justice site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dtdata.htm> for the most recent reported data.
- The total **jail capacity** for public and private jails in the region was 96 as of October 1, 2006 according to the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. **Jail population** was at 90.6 percent capacity when compared to maximum capacity. At this same time, this compared to a statewide capacity of 90.4 percent. For more detailed information, see to: <http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us/index.php?linkid=320>.
- The region had 9 **commercial banks** in 2007, as reported by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), with **total deposits** of \$318,000,000 and **assets** of

\$251,388,000. The 2007 **deposit to population ratio** was \$10,368 for the Cass County region compared to the Texas ratio of \$13,816. A ratio less than the state average generally indicates either the presence of an adjacent city or county not within the described region serving as a regional financial center, or per capita income well below the state average. These numbers do not reflect assets and deposits which are held in branch offices of banks whose headquarters are in another city or state. The most recent FDIC data for this area is at <http://www2.fdic.gov/sod/index.asp>.

- While all counties in Texas are served by banks, savings and loan institutions and credit unions, many counties may not show these offices directly reported in its geography by the FDIC or other governing agencies. For the 2007 reporting period in Cass County, the number of **saving and loans** was 0 which had a total of savings and loan assets of \$0 and deposits of \$0. These figures are in contrast to the statewide total of 54 savings and loans, with \$7,767,193,400 in assets and \$12,067,400,000 in deposits. For more information, please see: <http://www2.fdic.gov/sdi/index.asp>. There were 1 **credit unions** in the study area according to the National Credit Union Administration data. For 2007, the latest year of reported data, these credit unions had a total of \$9,756,961 in assets and \$7,304,529 in deposits, as compared to a total of 615 credit unions statewide, with \$48,883,686,146 in assets and \$36,648,314,014 in deposits. Credit union statistics and other information on credit unions can be found at <http://webapps.ncua.gov/customquery>.

This report is brought to you by:

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