

## Community Overview

Texas City is a growing community located along Galveston Bay in Galveston County, 40 miles south of Houston. Established in 1911, it encompasses approximately 64 square miles of land. The Port of Texas City is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest port in Texas and the 15<sup>th</sup> largest port in the United States, with its shipping channel maintained to a depth of 45 feet.

The community is heavily industrial and is home to a number of large petrochemical plants, oil refineries and related support businesses. Construction recently began on a nearly \$1 billion anhydrous ammonia facility in the Texas City Industrial Complex. Other businesses include a regional beverage distributor, a large outdoor retail mall, numerous small businesses, and varied outdoor recreational facilities. A strong industrial tax base provides significantly more than half of the property tax revenues for the community.

In the last three years Texas City has seen a 60% increase in single family housing starts. One master planned community in west Texas City will provide 4,500 new homes upon completion. Three additional new communities will provide several hundred more homes. These developments are all located in northwest Texas City, continuing to shift the population distribution of Texas City to the west.

The 2021 U. S. Census estimates show that the population of Texas City has increased approximately 15.6% since the last published census in 2010. The estimated population is 52,126, however this will be updated once the 2020 Census data is released later this year. This population is racially diverse, with 2019 census estimates as follows: 38.0% White, 29.0% Hispanic or Latino, 28.5% Black/African American, 0.8% Asian and 0.4% Native American. The Census estimates from 2019 indicate that 20.6% of the population speak a language other than English at home, while 7.7% were born outside the United States.

Education levels in Texas City are below the averages for the state of Texas. 82.7% of people 25 years old and older are high school graduates, compared to the state average of 84.6%. The percentage of people in Texas City with a Bachelor's degree or higher is 15%, while the state average is 30.8%.

These lower levels of educational attainment are reflected in the below-average income levels in Texas City. The 2019 Census estimates list the median household income at \$48,839, compared to an average of \$64,034 statewide. The percentage of Texas City residents living in poverty is 19.1%, while the average in the state is 13.6%. 59.2 % of Texas City citizens report living in owner-occupied housing and 40.8% report living in renter-occupied housing.

The age demographics in Texas City are similar to those of the state as a whole. The distribution is: 6.5% under 5 years, 24.4% under 18 years, 75.6% 18 years and older, and 15.4% 65 years and older. The most significant difference between Texas City and the state of Texas is found in the 65 years and older population, with only 12.9% of all Texans in that age group.

Census statistics show that Texas City is a diverse and growing community with a significant industrial base, but with both income and education levels lower than the averages for the state of Texas.

### Overview of the Library Service Population

Moore Memorial Public Library is a municipal library and a department of the City of Texas City. It receives the majority of its operational funding from the City of Texas City. We are an accredited library by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC). Accreditation allows us to apply for grants, participate in interlibrary loan, provides access to training, and more. TSLAC assigns our library a service population of 58,160. This is based on the population of Texas City and portions of surrounding cities.

Moore Memorial Public Library is a member of the Galveston County Library system, a federated system of eight public libraries which receives some funding from the Galveston County Commissioner's Court to allow all Galveston County residents to obtain and access free library services. The four neighboring communities of Santa Fe, Hitchcock, Dickinson and La Marque are smaller than Texas City, and many of the residents come to Moore Memorial for library services their community libraries do not provide. Some Texas City residents also utilize library services at other Galveston County Public libraries, particularly Helen Hall Library in League City and the Rosenberg Library in Galveston. In conjunction with the TexShare program set up and managed by the Texas State Library & Archives Commission, Moore Memorial Public Library also extends its services to residents of the state of Texas who provide appropriate proof of residency.