

Texoma Economic Development District

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT GUIDE



TEXOMA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



Prepared by Mysidewalk.com with assistance and funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Commerce

Texoma Council of Governments
June 2022

Public Engagement Guide

Key Indicators For Planning the Perfect Outreach Strategy



Public engagement is a great way to identify your audience and determine priorities. The results of public engagement should affect your decision-making. Every project will need a different strategy. By considering data-driven indicators, your public engagement strategy can be tailored to ensure better outcomes for people affected by your project.

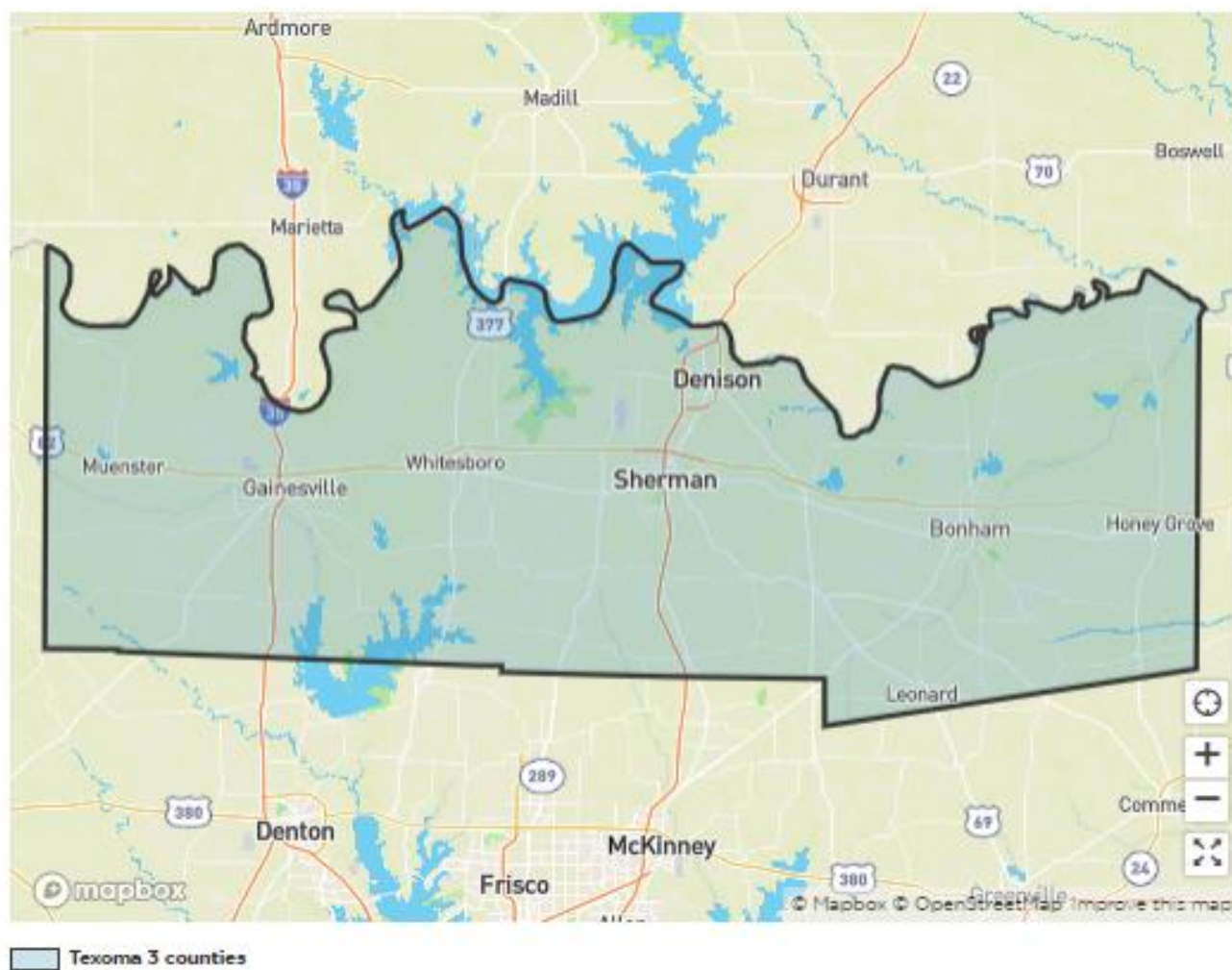
This guide includes indicators for you to use across 5 topic areas:

1. **Representation**
2. **Written Materials**
3. **Online Accessibility**
4. **Location Accessibility**
5. **When To Hold An Event**

Please note: The characteristics included in this report should be used to understand demographics among potentially vulnerable populations. They are not meant to label any certain characteristic as inherently disadvantageous.



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020



Representation

The demographics of outreach respondents should roughly mirror the demographics of the project area's population. Participants should represent a range of socioeconomic, geographic, ethnic and cultural groups. To test if outreach methods are reaching targeted groups, include survey questions about recipient demographics such as age, race/ethnicity, income, and others.



Females

50%

Texoma 3 counties

50%

Cooke County, TX

51%

Grayson County, TX

47%

Fannin County, TX



Female Median Earnings

\$30,451

Texoma 3 counties

\$28,451

Cooke County, TX

\$26,689

Grayson County, TX

\$30,840

Fannin County, TX



Males

50%

Texoma 3 counties

50%

Cooke County, TX

49%

Grayson County, TX

53%

Fannin County, TX



Male Median Earnings

\$43,224

Texoma 3 counties

\$41,980

Cooke County, TX

\$37,372

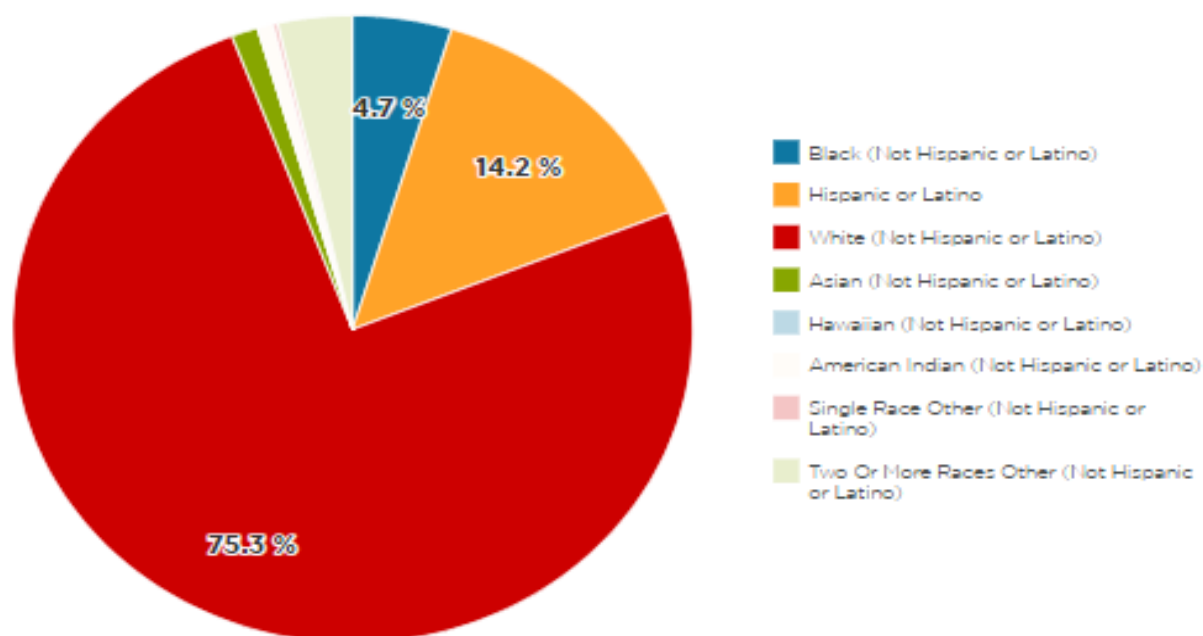
Grayson County, TX

\$40,700

Fannin County, TX

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

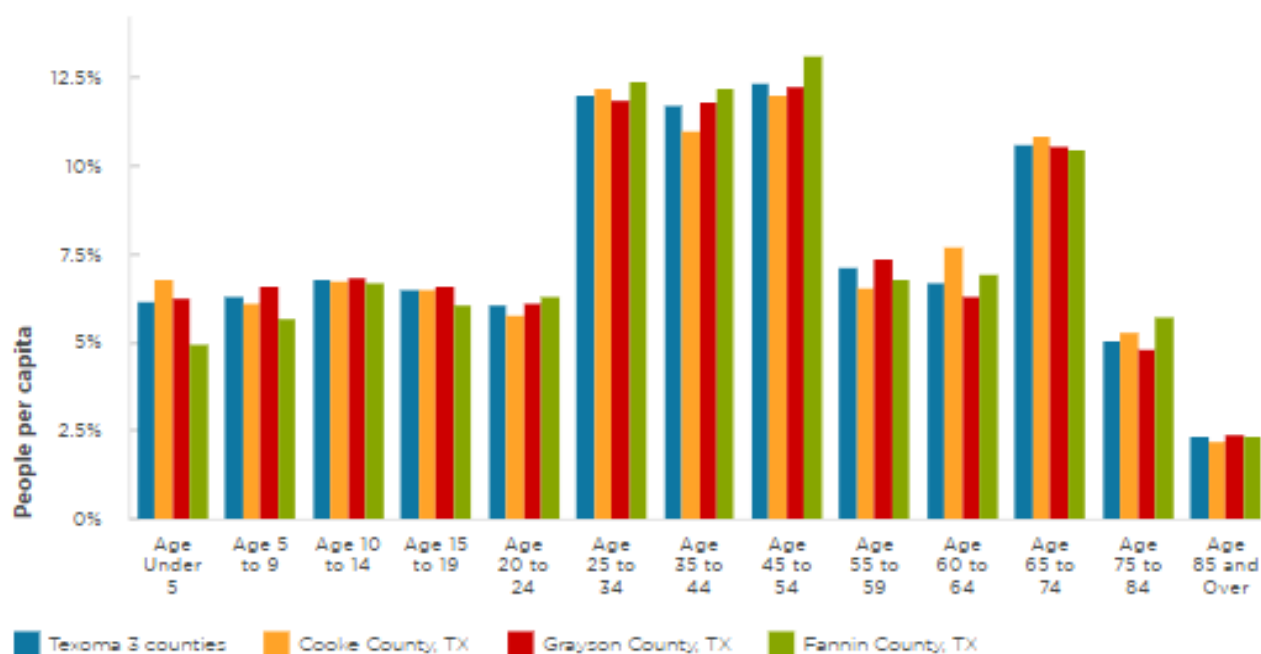
Race/Ethnicity Totals



Texoma 3 counties

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Age Totals



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Written Materials

When creating materials for any outreach opportunity, consider your audience's language. To ensure meetings are accessible to all participants, decide if written materials should be available in more than one language. Additionally, you can offer in-person translation services. For those with vision difficulty, include online materials with screen reader compatibility. Also, consider the educational attainment of the project area. You should ensure written materials can be understood by individuals with limited literacy. For individuals experiencing mild cognitive difficulty, leave materials behind for them to take.

Limited English Speaking Households

1.7%

of total households

Texoma 3 counties

2.6%

of total households

Cooke County, TX

1.6%

of total households

Grayson County, TX

0.8%

of total households

Fannin County, TX

Less Than A High School Diploma

11%

of people age 26 and over

Texoma 3 counties

12.1%

of people age 26 and over

Cooke County, TX

10.3%

of people age 26 and over

Grayson County, TX

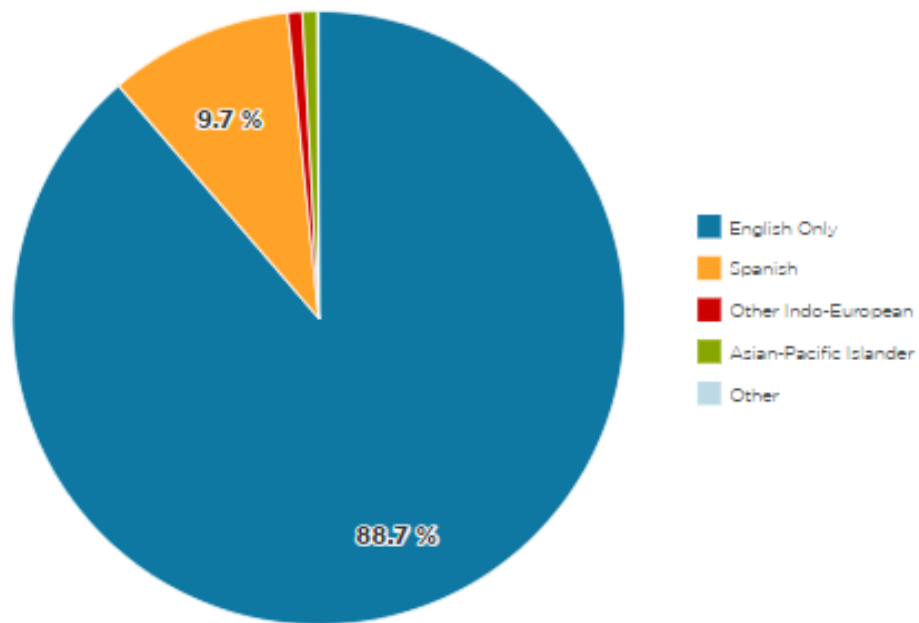
12.6%

of people age 26 and over

Fannin County, TX

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

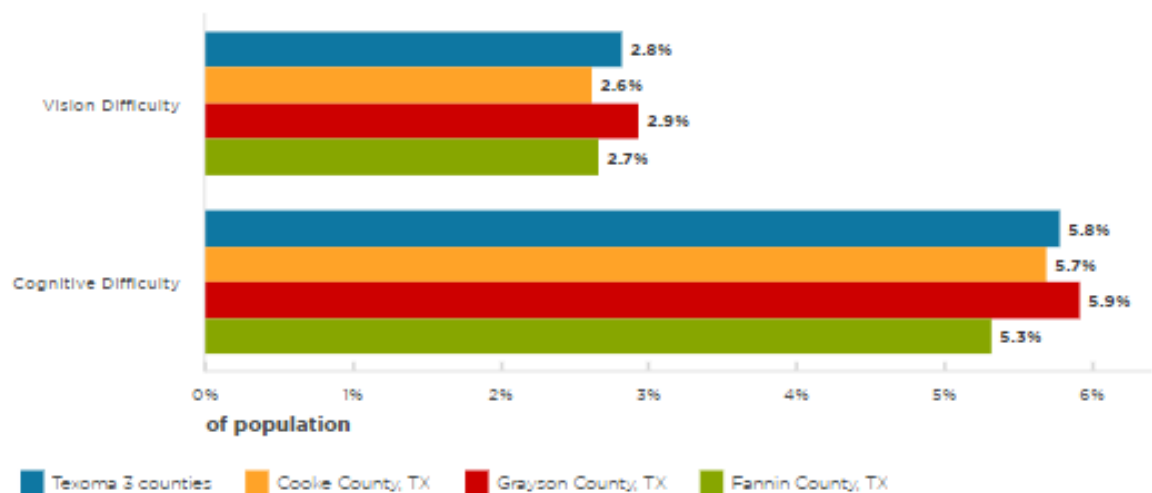
Language Spoken at Home



Texoma 3 counties

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Other Barriers To Written Materials



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Note: These datasets are available at the Census Tract level and are not apportionable to custom geographies. The percent with vision difficulty are measured by the total civilian non-institutionalized population while cognitive difficulty is measured by the same but for populations age 5 and over.

Online Accessibility

When considering an online outreach strategy, keep in mind that some populations cannot easily access online materials. Especially those without internet access or access to a computer. Possible strategies may include partnering with local libraries or other spots with free internet access. Additionally, several households access the internet with only a smartphone and cellular service. Ensure that the technology you deploy is web-based and mobile-friendly for maximum accessibility.

Households Without a Computer

10.4%

of total households

Texoma 3 counties

12.4%

of total households

Cooke County, TX

9.5%

of total households

Grayson County, TX

11.6%

of total households

Fannin County, TX

Households Without Internet Access

17%

of total households

Texoma 3 counties

17.8%

of total households

Cooke County, TX

15.9%

of total households

Grayson County, TX

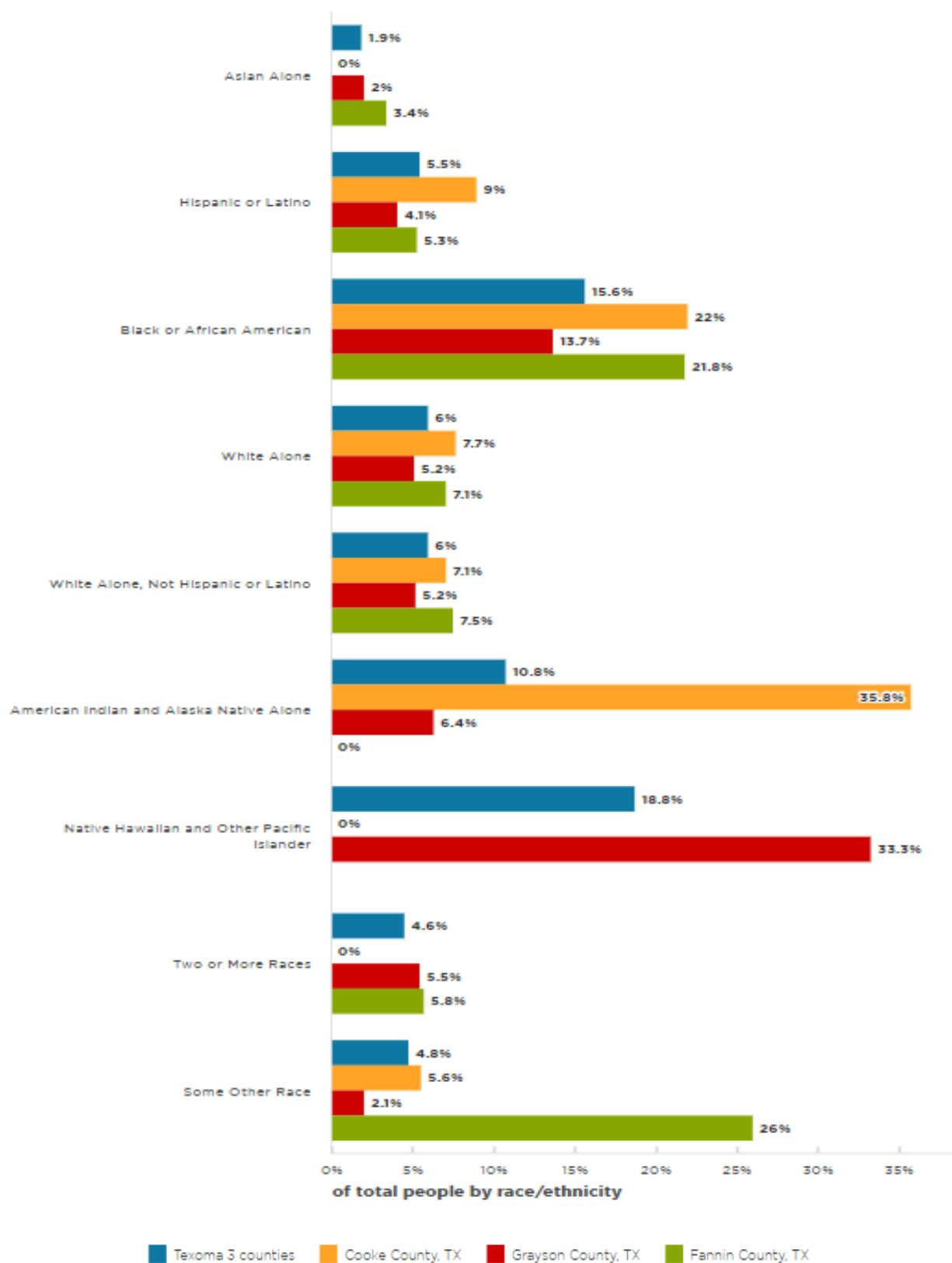
20.5%

of total households

Fannin County, TX

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Population In a Household Without A Computer by Race/Ethnicity



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Mobile-Friendly Online Engagement



Households with Smartphone as Only Computer

12.5%

of total households

Texoma 3 counties

12.7%

of total households

Cooke County, TX

11.8%

of total households

Grayson County, TX

15%

of total households

Fannin County, TX

Households with Only Cellular Internet Access

16%

of total households

Texoma 3 counties

16.5%

of total households

Cooke County, TX

16.3%

of total households

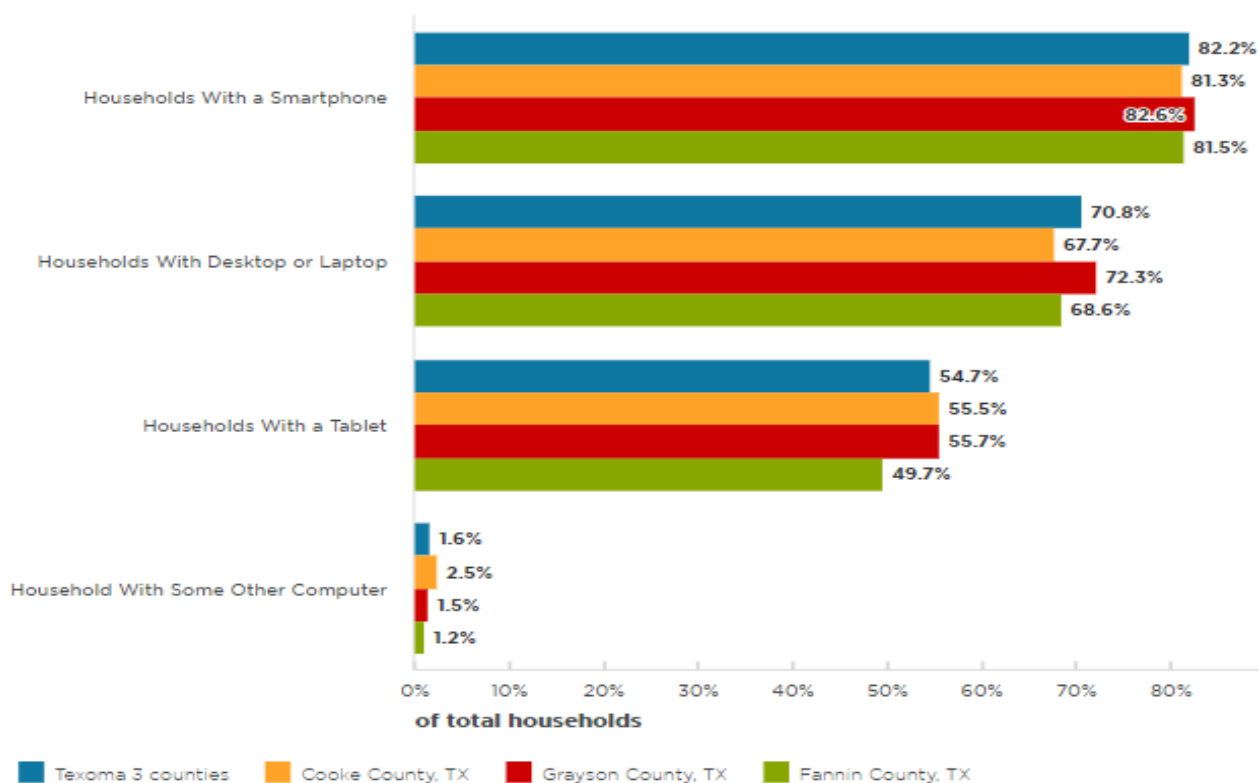
Grayson County, TX

14.1%

of total households

Fannin County, TX

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020



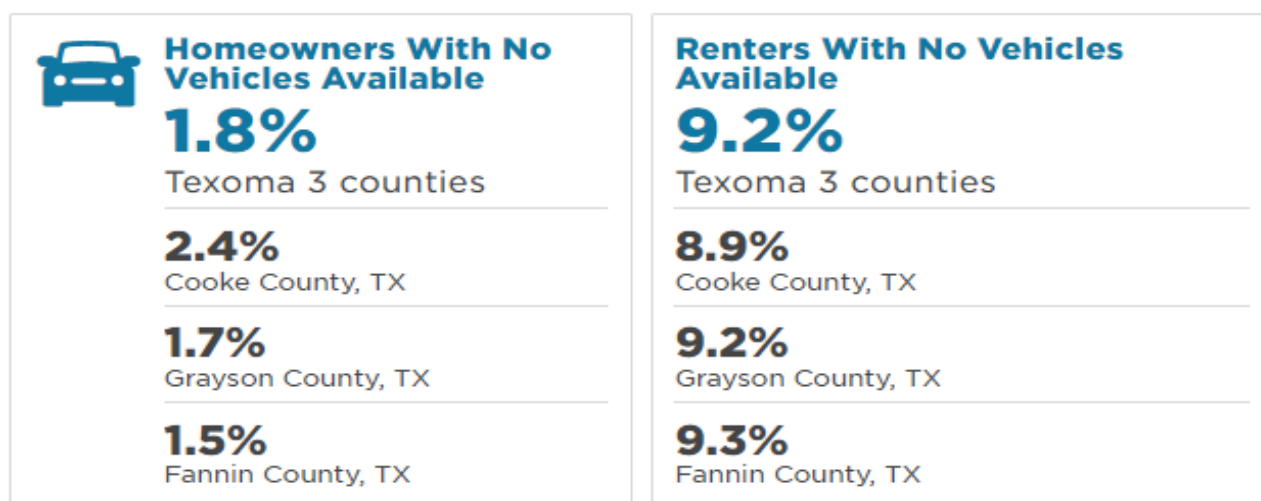
Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Note: Respondents may choose more than one answer. As a result, the percentages above may sum to greater than 100%.

Location Accessibility

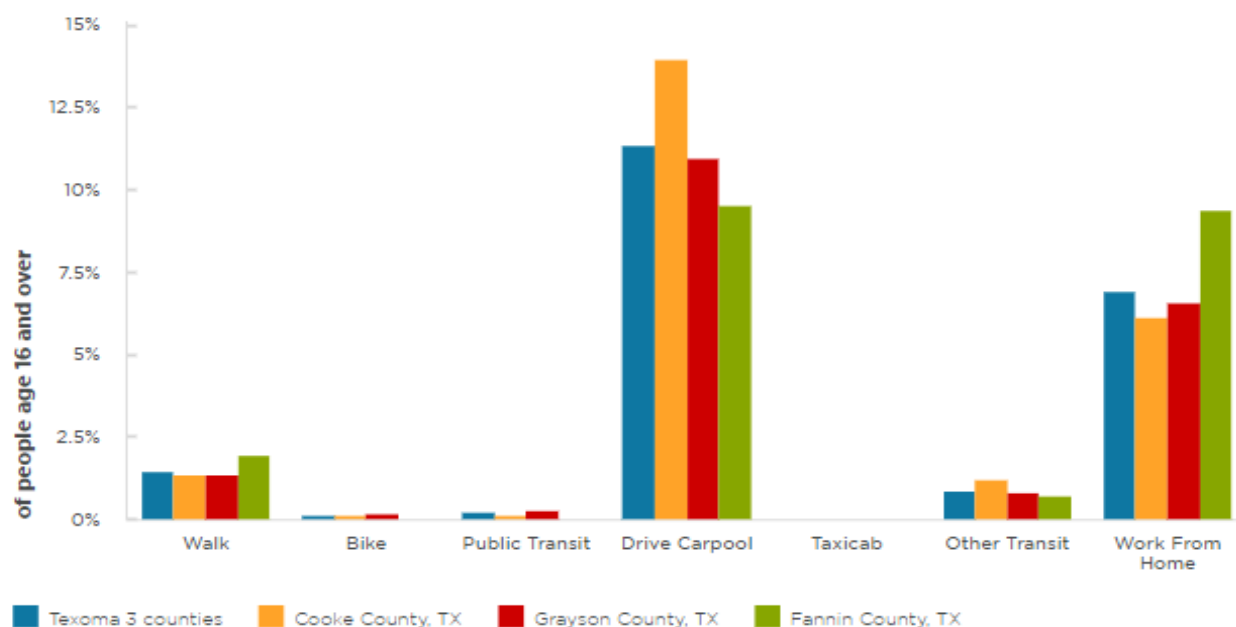
Choosing a location for in-person outreach can be difficult. Ensuring the spot is a well-known landmark is the first step. There are several barriers for you to consider. Access to transportation, cost to get there, and handicap accessibility can limit a person's engagement. Consider minimizing the distance between your target audience and their destination, and make sure the spot is handicap friendly.

Transportation Barriers



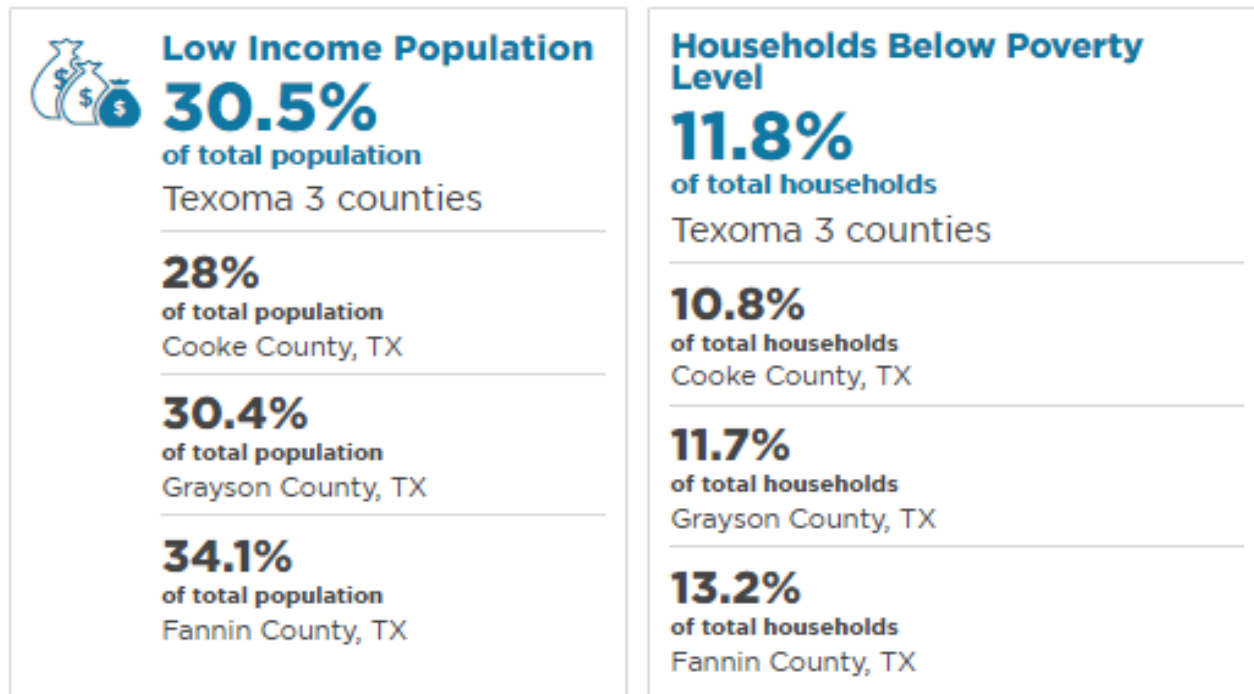
Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Workers That Do Not Drive Alone to Work



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

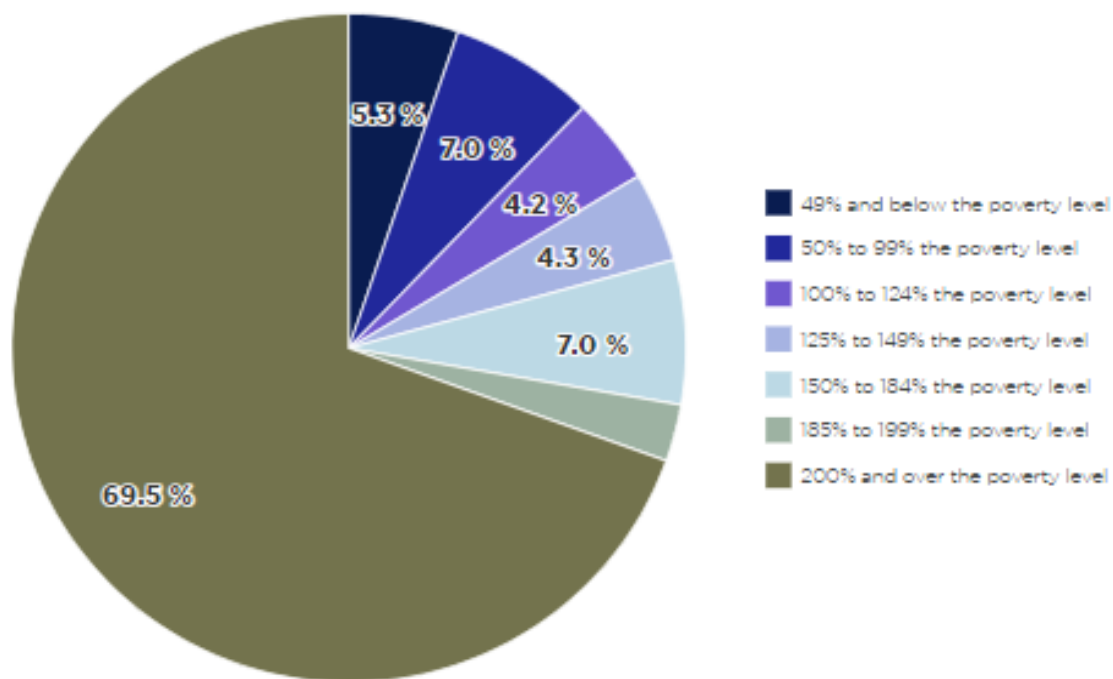
Income Barriers



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Note: Low income population includes all people 200% and under the national poverty level.

Income to Poverty Ratio



Texoma 3 counties

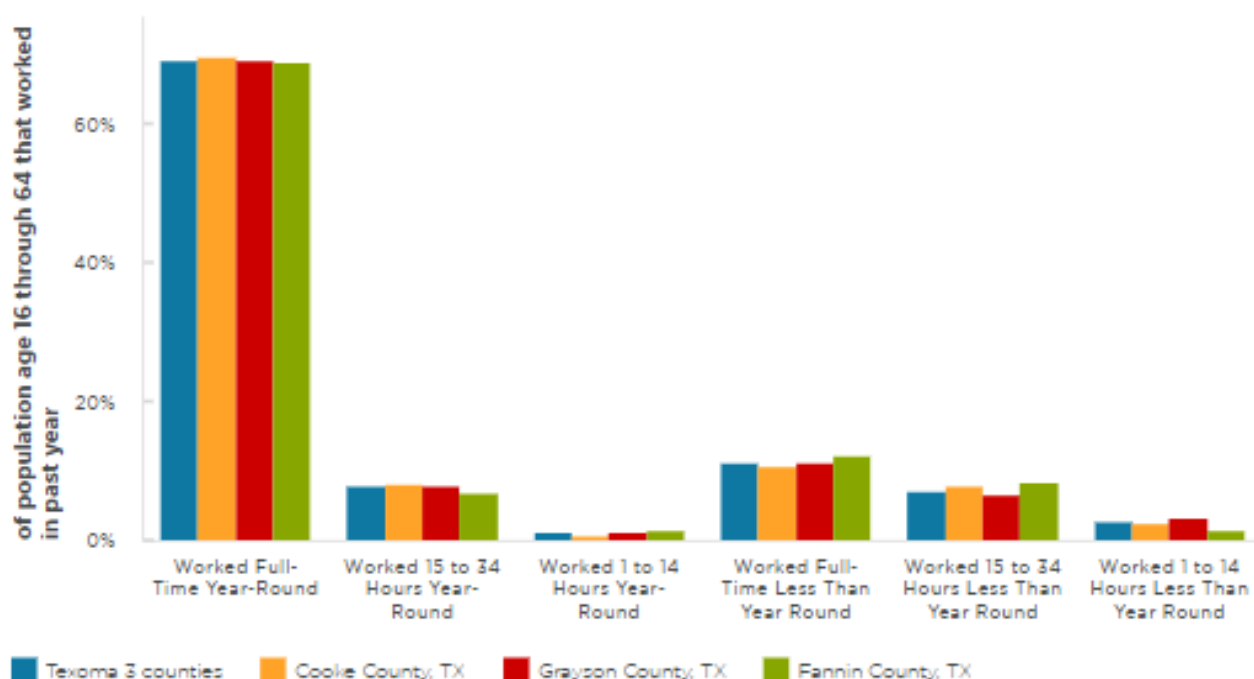
When To Hold An Event

In-person meetings and events oftentimes attract the same voices time after time. When planning an event, consider other commitments made by people in your project area. For example, an evening meeting may be more accessible for working residents but not for others balancing evening classes or raising children. Consider a mix of in-person and remote outreach methods. This mix should include the varied lifestyles and schedules of the project area population.



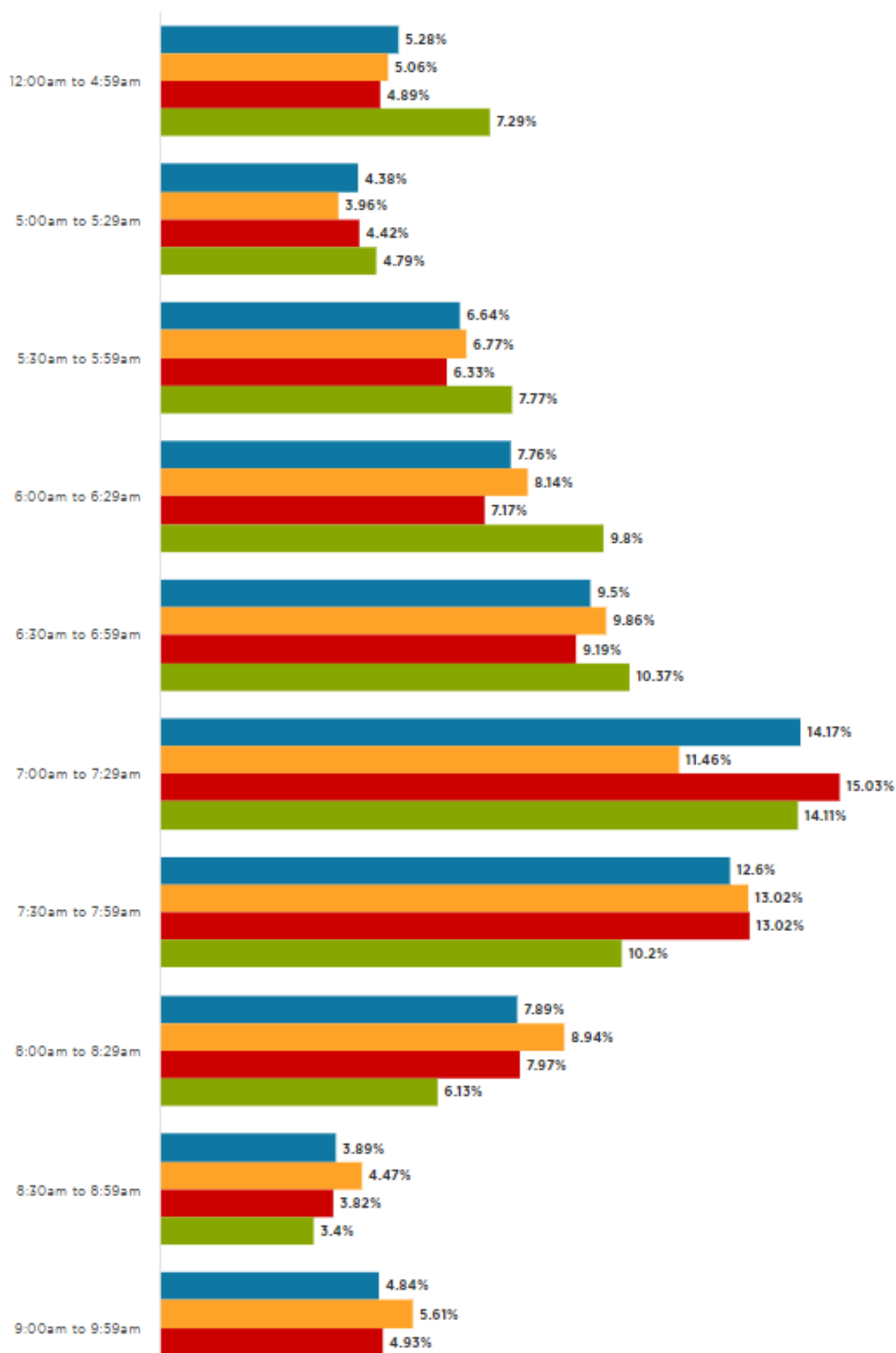
Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

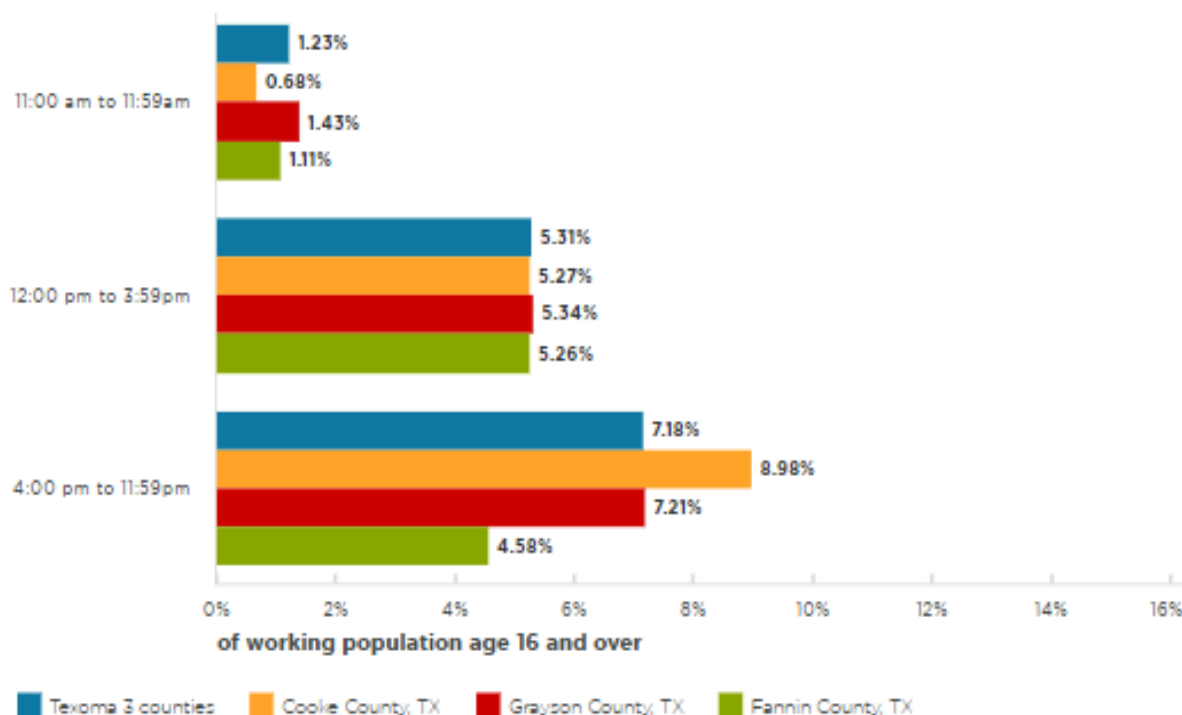
Weekly Working Hours



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

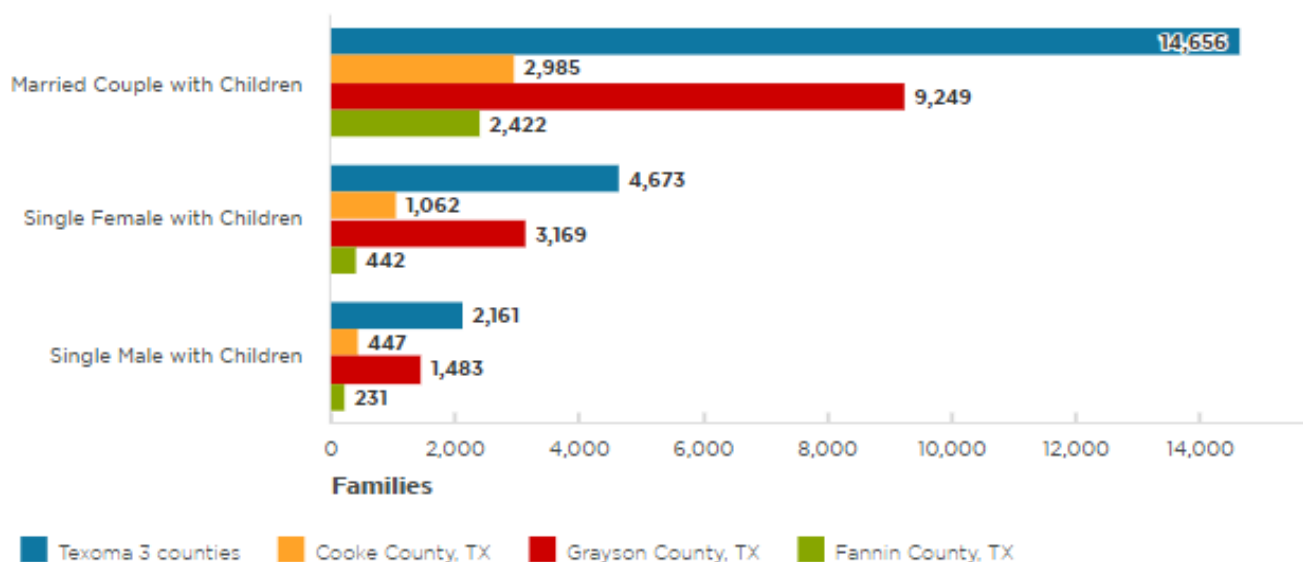
Time Left Home for Commute





Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Family Type with Children



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

School Enrollment



Enrolled In School
24.1%

of people age 3 and over
Texoma 3 counties

23.9%

of people age 3 and over
Cooke County, TX

24.8%

of people age 3 and over
Grayson County, TX

21.9%

of people age 3 and over
Fannin County, TX

Enrolled in Postsecondary School

5.4%

of people age 3 and over
Texoma 3 counties

4.6%

of people age 3 and over
Cooke County, TX

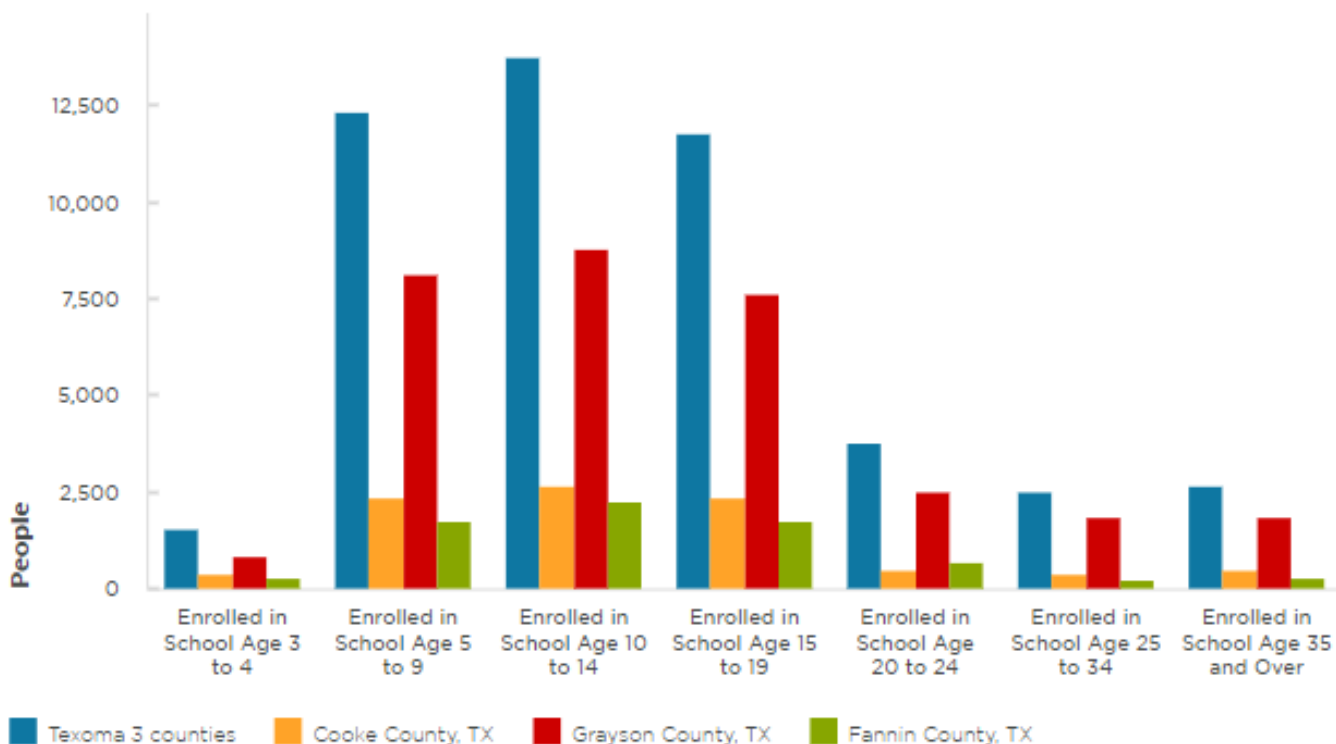
6.1%

of people age 3 and over
Grayson County, TX

3.7%

of people age 3 and over
Fannin County, TX

People Enrolled in School by Age



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2016-2020

Note: This dataset is available at the Census Tract level and is not apportionable to custom geographies.