

CHAPTER 4 – REGIONAL POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Cover page: The demand for transportation services is directly related to an area's demographic, economic, and geographic characteristics. By 2050, the Corpus Christi MPO region is expected to be home to nearly 470,000 people.

INTRODUCTION

The demand for transportation services is directly related to an area's demographic, economic, and geographic characteristics. Population, household, and employment characteristics have a direct impact on travel behavior and travel patterns, which in turn provide information needed to plan for transportation improvements that will be required through the 2050 planning horizon. Understanding regional population and employment trends is, therefore, foundational to the development of the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

Because much of the required demographic data is available only at the full county level, the Corpus Christi MPO performs demographic and employment data analysis using Nueces, San Patricio, and Aransas Counties for developing population and employment control-total projections, with Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ)-level disaggregation applied as a secondary step for travel demand modeling purposes.

This chapter presents existing and projected conditions for the Corpus Christi MPO planning area through the horizon year of 2050. Data are drawn from nationally recognized federal sources, Texas-specific demographic and economic forecasts, and locally developed projections consistent with the requirements of 23 CFR § 450.306.

PLANNING AREA OVERVIEW

The Corpus Christi MPO planning area encompasses the Corpus Christi urbanized area, which includes the cities of Corpus Christi, Portland, and Gregory. The region serves as a major Gulf Coast economic hub anchored by the Port of Corpus Christi, petrochemical and energy industries, military installations (Naval Air Station Corpus Christi and Corpus Christi Army Depot), and a growing healthcare and higher education sectors. Aransas County, while smaller in population, is included in the MPO travel demand model study area given its anticipated urbanization and functional connectivity to the Corpus Christi metropolitan core.

Exhibit 4-1. Table of Population in Corpus Christi MPO Area

Geography	2020 Population	Land Area (sq. mi.)	Population Density (per sq. mi.)
3-County Total	445,763	--	--
Nueces	353,178	839.07	420.9
San Patricio	68,755	693.45	99.2
Aransas	23,830	252.07	94.5
3-City Total	339,986	--	--
Corpus Christi	317,863	162.17	1,960.1
Portland	20,383	12.49	1,631.9
Gregory	1,740	1.4	1,242.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census.

HISTORICAL POPULATION TRENDS

COUNTY-LEVEL POPULATION GROWTH

Historical population data from the U.S. Census Bureau helps inform the regional projections the Corpus Christi MPO utilizes for future scenario planning. All three counties in the Corpus Christi MPO study area have experienced population growth over recent decades, though at varying rates. Nueces County has grown steadily as the regional core, while San Patricio County has expanded due to residential spillover from the Corpus Christi urbanized area and industrial growth. Aransas County, a coastal community anchored by the fishing, tourism, and retirement sectors, showed strong growth through 2010 before Hurricane Harvey (in 2017) caused temporary displacement and population disruption.

Exhibit 4-2. Table of Population Growth in the Corpus Christi MPO

Geography	2000	2010	2020	2000-2020 Change	2000-2020 % Change
State of Texas	20,851,830	25,145,561	29,145,505	+8,293,685	+39.8%
3-County Total	403,280	428,185	445,763	+42,483	+10.5%
Nueces	313,645	340,223	353,178	+39,533	+12.6%
San Patricio	67,138	64,804	68,755	+1,617	+2.4%
Aransas	22,497	23,158	23,830	+1,333	+5.9%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census 2000, 2010, 2020

URBANIZED AREA POPULATION AND SMALL AREA FORECAST (SAF) METHODOLOGY

The Corpus Christi Urbanized Area (UZA), as delineated by the U.S. Census Bureau following each decennial census, defines the core of the MPO planning area for federal transportation planning and formula funding purposes under 49 U.S.C. § 5307 and 23 U.S.C. § 134.

The Corpus Christi MPO uses a two-step Small Area Forecast (SAF) process to translate county-level control totals into TAZ-level projections for travel demand modeling. In the first step, the Texas Demographic Center (TDC) produces official county-level population projections—the “control total”—used by every MPO and state agency in Texas. In the second step, the Corpus Christi MPO allocates these control totals to individual TAZs using local land use assumptions, adopted zoning, development pipeline data, and infrastructure capacity constraints. The Corpus Christi MPO Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) adopted the TDC’s High Growth Scenario projections in September 2026, as the basis for the 2050 MTP forecasts.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS THROUGH 2050

COUNTY-LEVEL POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Under the direction of the State Demographer, the TDC’s Texas Population Projections Program produces projections for each county by age, sex, and race/ethnicity through 2060, providing sufficient coverage for the 2050 MTP planning horizon. The 2024 TDC release offers three migration scenarios to differentiate fast-growing urban areas from slower-growing or rural geographies. The Corpus Christi MPO TPC adopted the High Growth Scenario as the planning control total in September 2026. The High Growth Scenario was recommended by the Corpus Christi MPO’s SAF Taskforce of professional agency staff based on an analysis of residential construction activity over the past five years. Exhibit 4-3 presents the adopted county-level control totals for the 3-county MPO study area.

Exhibit 4-3. Table of County Population Projections

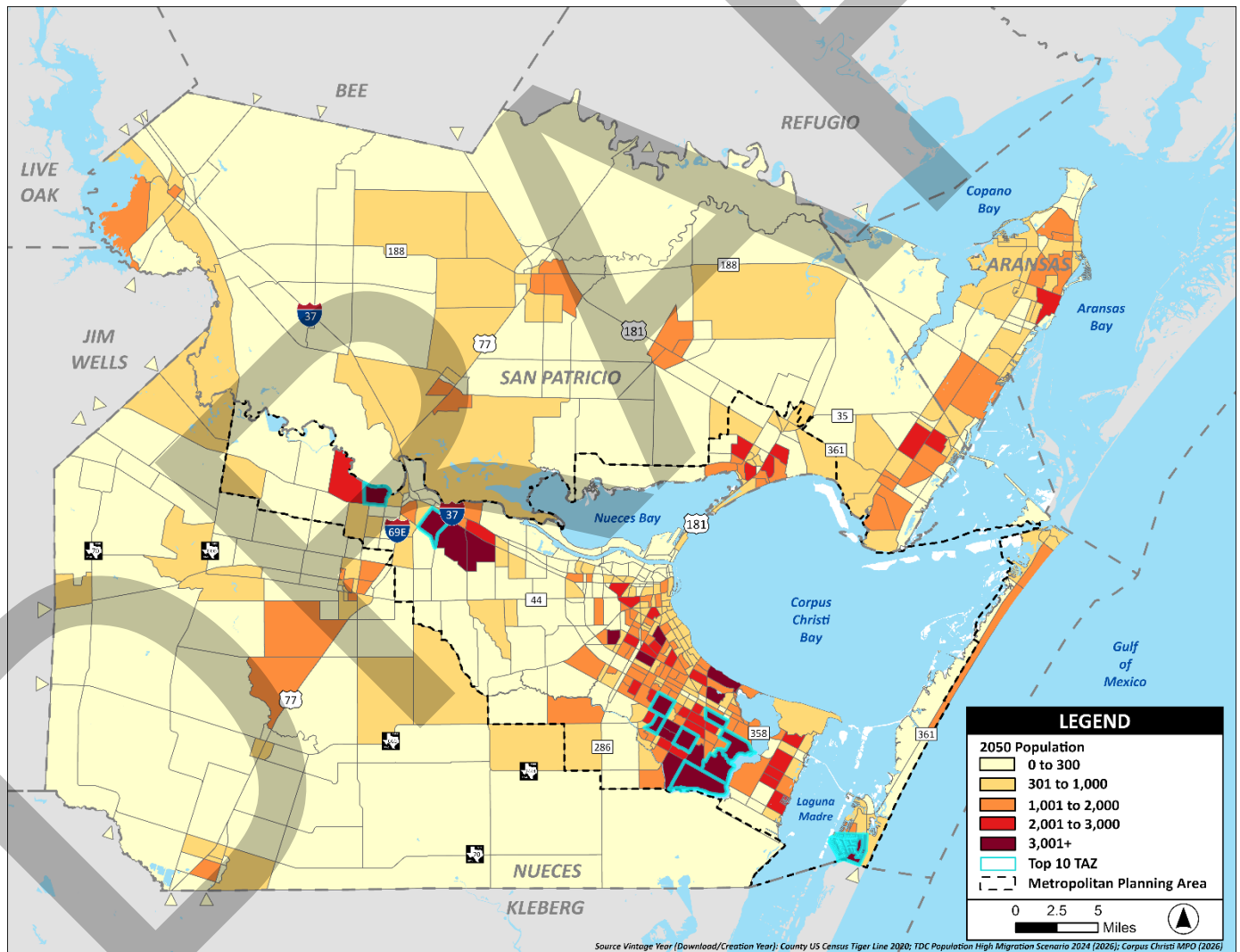
Geography	2020 (Base)	2030	2040	2050	2020-2050 Change
3-County Total	445,763	459,132	464,954	467,051	21,288 (4.8%)
Nueces	353,178	359,224	361,393	359,006	5,828 (1.7%)
San Patricio	68,755	74,061	77,514	81,765	13,010 (18.9%)
Aransas	23,830	25,847	26,047	26,280	2,450 (10.3%)

TAZ-LEVEL POPULATION GROWTH DISTRIBUTION

County-level control totals are allocated to individual TAZs to support travel demand modeling and sub-regional investment planning. TAZ-level population allocations were developed using the last five years of new residential construction data from the three County Appraisal Districts, as well as residential demolition permit data for the same timeframe provided by the City of Corpus Christi.

Exhibits 4-4 and 4-6 illustrate projected total 2050 population and population growth by TAZ between 2021 and 2050, respectfully. Exhibits 4-4 and 4-5 identify that by 2050 the greatest concentrations of residents are expected in the northwest Corpus Christi/Calallen and Annaville area, Corpus Christi Southside neighborhoods, and a few neighborhoods in the Bay Area (near Texas A&M – Corpus Christi), on North Padre Island, and Westside neighborhoods. Exhibit 4-6 further highlights where population decline is anticipated to continue in older neighborhoods while households shift to suburban zones with recent housing construction in the Corpus Christi Southside, London, and City of Portland neighborhoods.

Exhibit 4-4. Map of 2050 Population by TAZ

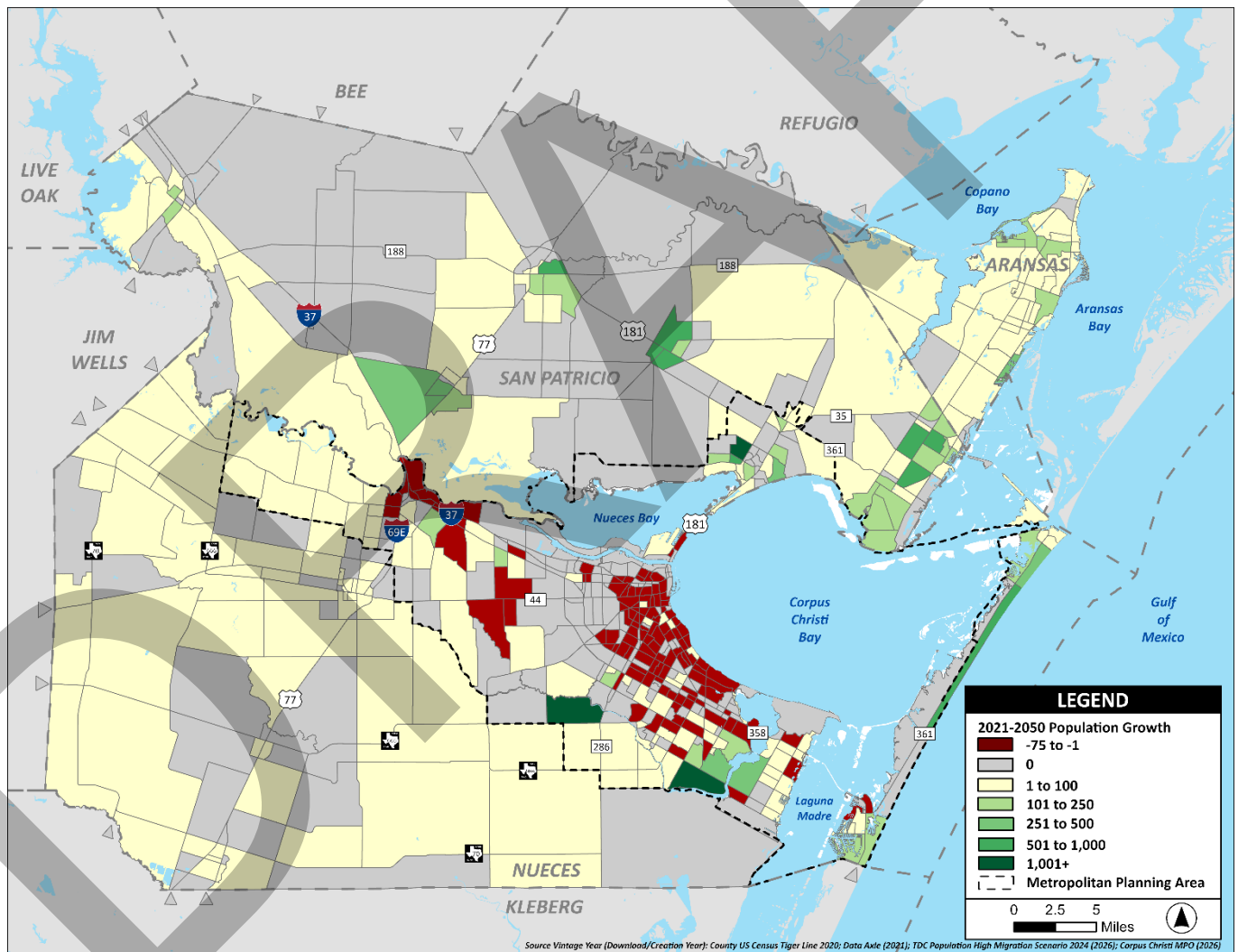


2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Exhibit 4-5. Table of Top 10 TAZs by 2050 Population Total

TAZ	2050 Population	Sector
133	8,699	Corpus Christi - Southside
118	6,689	Corpus Christi – Southside
98	5,775	Corpus Christi – Southside
33	5,472	Corpus Christi – Northwest
162	5,233	Corpus Christi – Padre Mustang Island
97	4,538	Corpus Christi – Southside
8	4,391	Corpus Christi – Northwest
126	4,351	Corpus Christi – Southside
34	4,343	Corpus Christi – Northwest
137	4,296	Corpus Christi – Southside

Exhibit 4-6. Map of 2021-2050 Population Growth by TAZ



POPULATION PROFILE CHANGES

Demographic trends indicate the region's population profile will change over time in terms of age, race, ethnicity, and income. Data for the following demographic profile analysis is drawn primarily from the U.S. Census Bureau

2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates and the Texas Demographic Center (TDC) 2024 county projections.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

As shown in Exhibit 4-7, the three-county area's projected population is expected to shift towards older demographic cohorts. In 2020, approximately 16 percent of the three-county population was aged 65 or older, and just over 23 percent were under 18 years old. By 2050, these proportions are projected to shift to approximately 23 percent ages 65 and older, with a drop to 19 percent of the population under 18 years old. These trends reflect statewide aging trends associated with the Baby Boomer cohort and moderating birth rates. This demographic shift reinforces the importance of planning for accessible infrastructure, paratransit services, and transit-oriented development near healthcare and service facilities.

Exhibit 4-7. Table of Population by Age

Age Group	2020	2020 %	2050	2050 %
17 and Under	104,660	23%	88,879	19%
18 – 64	268,593	60%	269,606	58%
65 and Older	73,134	16%	108,566	23%
Total	446,387	100%	467,051	100%

Source: Texas Demographic Center Vintage 2024 Projections, High Migration Scenario.

RACE AND ETHNICITY

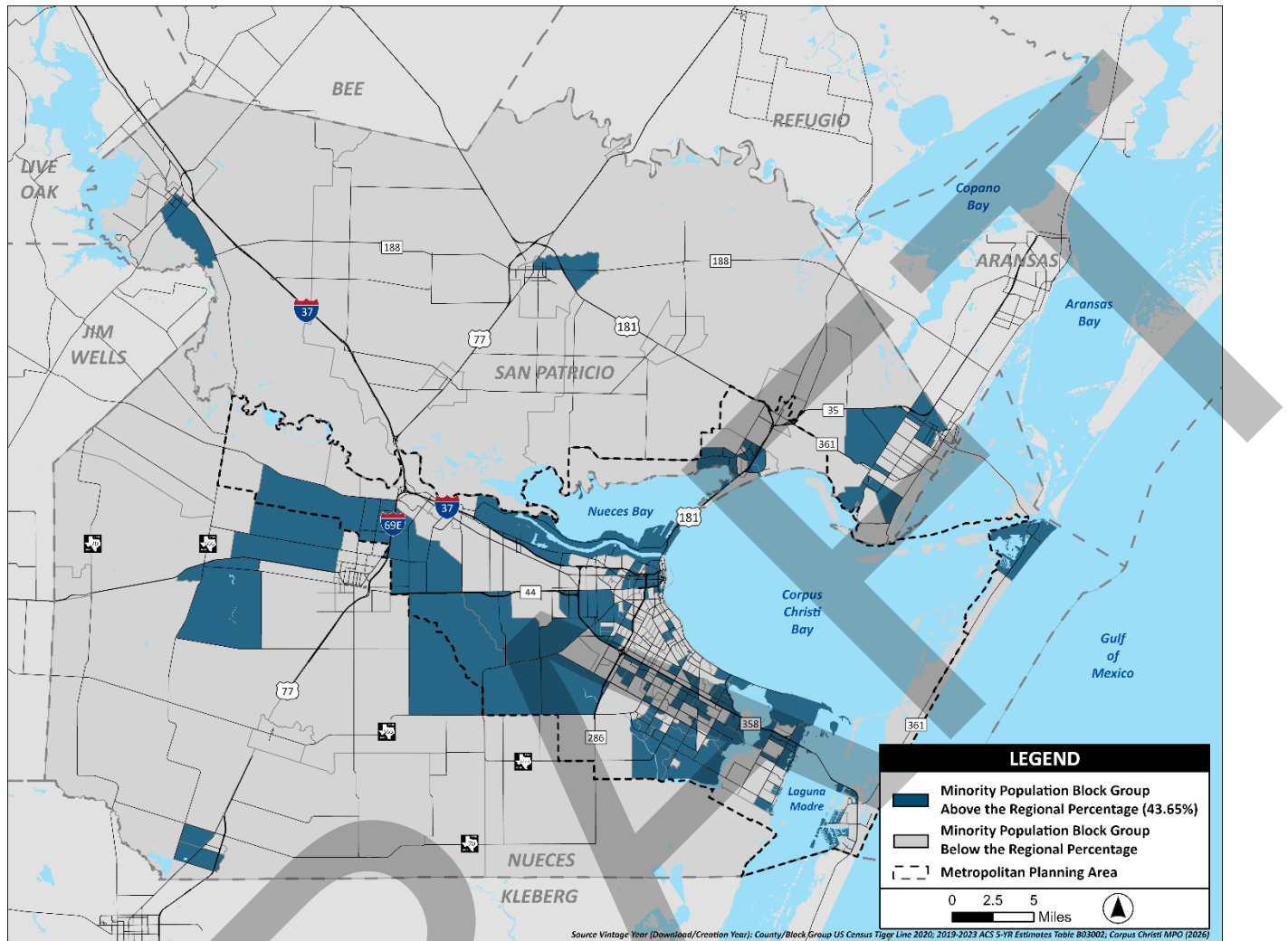
The Corpus Christi MPO planning area is a majority-Hispanic region, reflecting the deep historical and cultural roots of South Texas. Since the 1970s, both the overall population and the Hispanic share of the population have grown. Hispanic and Latino residents comprised approximately 59 percent of the three-county population in 2020 and are projected to increase to approximately 65 percent by 2050, while the non-Hispanic White share is forecast to decline from approximately 33 to 25 percent over the same period. Black or African American (3%) and Asian American (2%) resident shares of overall population are projected to remain relatively stable. The overall share of all other racial and ethnic populations is anticipated to slightly increase by one percentage point over the thirty-year period.

These demographic shifts have direct implications for language access in public outreach and Title VI nondiscrimination compliance. The Corpus Christi MPO's Program for Addressing Discrimination is updated periodically to reflect current demographic composition and ensure public engagement protocols meet community needs.

Exhibit 4-8. Table of Race and Ethnicity

Race / Ethnicity	2020	2020 %	2050	2050 %
Non-Hispanic	184,448	41%	161,856	35%
White	148,683	33%	118,951	25%
Black or African American	13,903	3%	15,065	3%
Asian American	9,033	2%	10,375	2%
Other	12,829	3%	17,464	4%
Hispanic or Latino	261,939	59%	305,216	65%
Total	446,387	100%	467,072	100%

Source: Texas Demographic Center Vintage 2024 Projections, High Migration Scenario

Exhibit 4-9. Map of Minority Populations by Block Group

INCOME AND POVERTY

Income is a critical transportation planning indicator. Individuals and households with lower incomes may have limited or no access to a personal vehicle and rely disproportionately on public transit, active transportation, or ride-sharing relative to the population overall. Based on the most recent ACS 5-Year Estimates, approximately 17 percent of the three-county planning area population lives below the federal poverty level—above the statewide rate of approximately 14 percent.

Median household income in Nueces County is just under \$67,000, compared to nearly \$78,500 for Texas overall. San Patricio and Aransas Counties have slightly higher median household incomes of approximately \$69,700 and \$69,500, respectively.

Exhibit 4-10. Table of Poverty, Median Income, and Zero-Vehicle Households

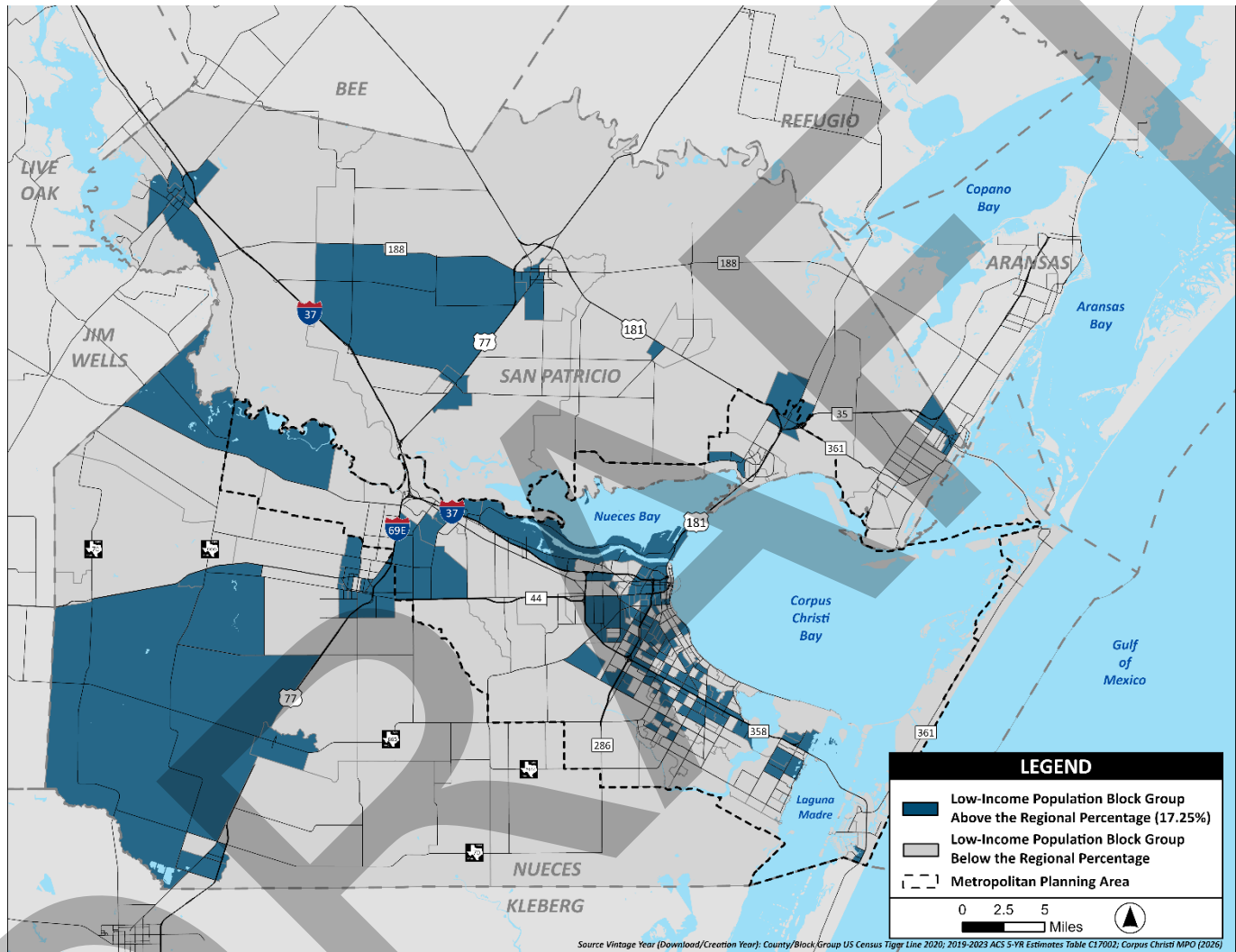
Indicator	Nueces	San Patricio	Aransas	Texas
Population below the poverty level	60,147	10,250	3,513	4,074,940
Median household income	\$66,897	\$69,704	\$69,466	\$78,476
Zero-vehicle households (% of total)	6.9%	6.4%	6.4%	5.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Tables S1701 (Poverty), B19013 (Median HH Income), B08201 (Vehicle Availability)

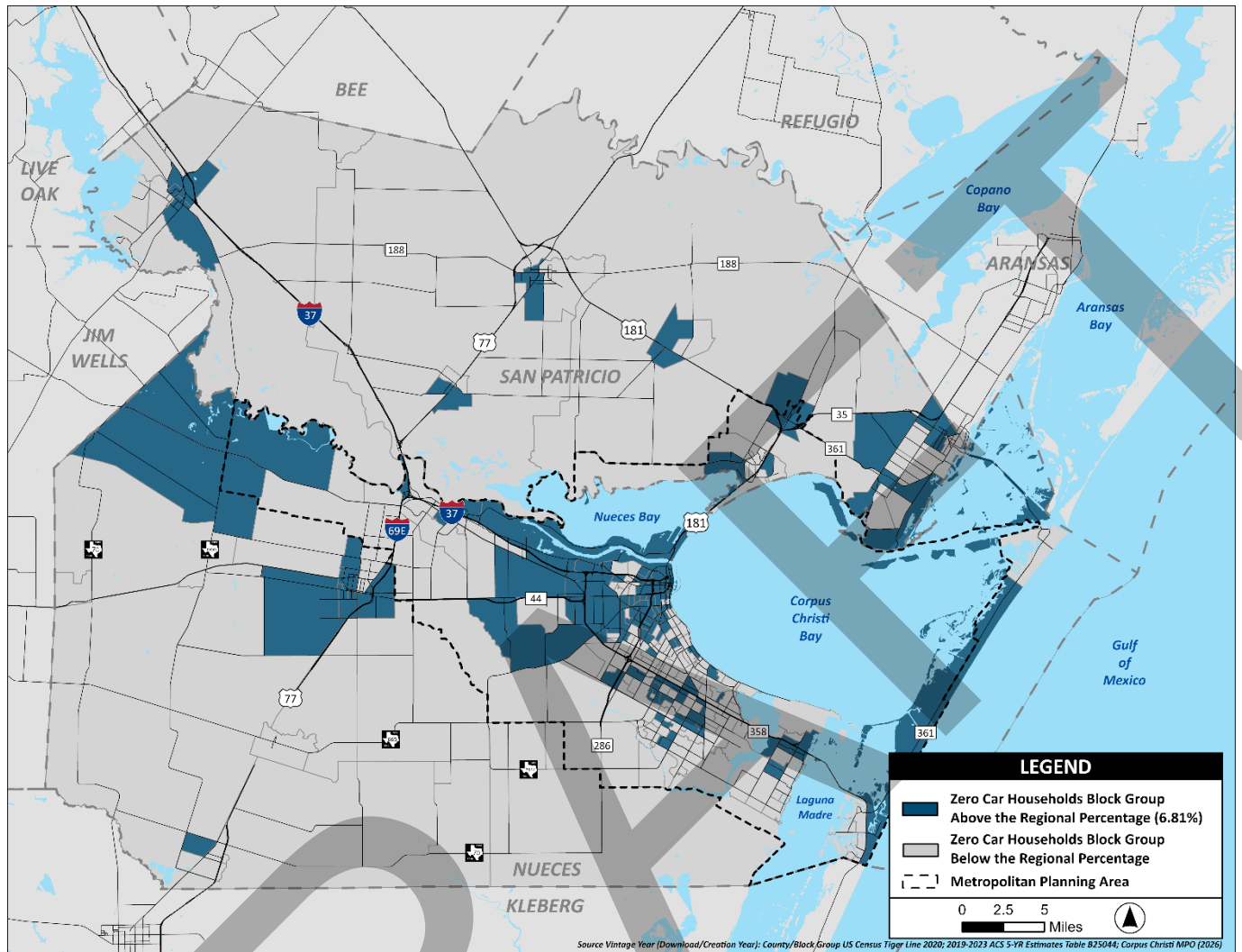
2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

As shown in Exhibit 4-11, low-income populations are generally concentrated along major transportation corridors such as State Highway 358 / South Padre Island Drive, Interstate 37, and the Industrial District surrounding the Port of Corpus Christi Ship Channel with additional areas scattered throughout the City of Corpus Christi. These areas highlight neighborhoods with transportation service needs that may trend towards greater demand for transit, sidewalks, and other active transportation modes in order to access employment opportunities, medical services, and commercial centers.

Exhibit 4-110. Map of Low-Income Populations by Block Group



As indicated in exhibit 4-10, zero-vehicle households account for approximately 6.9 percent of all households in Nueces County and 6.4 percent in San Patricio and Aransas Counties. Households without a vehicle are concentrated in block groups covering the Corpus Christi downtown core and Westside neighborhoods, neighborhoods along I-37, as well as additional locations in Southside Corpus Christi, Flour Bluff, and the north City of Portland and City of Gregory areas, as displayed in Exhibit 4-12.

Exhibit 4-12. Map of Zero Vehicle Households by Block Group

HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING TRENDS

Household growth is a primary driver of trip generation and transportation demand. The Corpus Christi MPO planning area has experienced growth in occupied housing units, while average household size has declined, generally consistent with national trends. Understanding housing tenure (owner vs. renter) and geographic distribution of new residential development is essential for accurate TAZ-level travel demand modeling.

Exhibit 4-13. Table of Housing Units

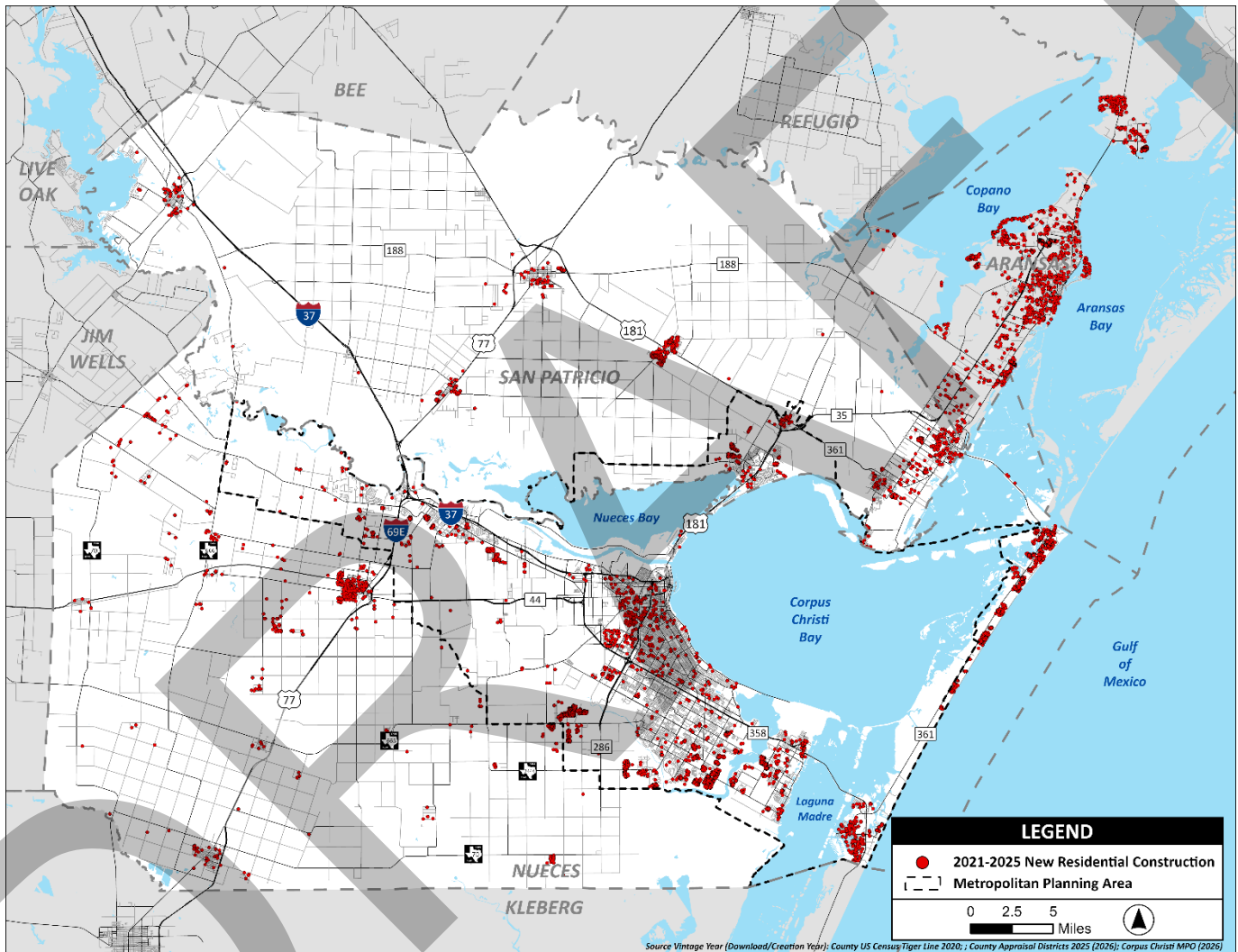
Indicator	2019	2024	Change	% Change
Total Housing Units	193,678	200,842	+7,164	+3.70%
Occupied Housing Units	161,877	168,893	+7,016	+4.33%
Owner-Occupied Units	98,367	104,786	+6,419	+6.5%
Renter-Occupied Units	63,510	64,107	+597	+1%
Average Household Size	2.74	2.6	-0.14	-5.1%
Vacancy Rate	16.4%	15.9%	-0.5	-3.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2024 5-Year Estimates Comparison Profiles, Table CP04 (Housing Units, Occupancy, and Tenure) and ACS 2024 and 2019 5-year Estimates, Table B25008 (Household Population), and Corpus Christi MPO calculations.

2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

While Exhibit 4-13 highlights a housing increase by over 7,000 units between 2019 and 2024, the data displayed in Exhibit 4-14 shows that new residential development within the Corpus Christi MPO planning area is concentrated primarily along the southern and southeastern portions of Corpus Christi, particularly in the Southside and London areas, where numerous clusters of new housing subdivisions extend outward from the existing urbanized area. Other major concentrations are located in Flour Bluff and North Padre Island. Significant new housing is also evident in Portland, representing one of the larger concentrations north of Corpus Christi. Overall, the distribution indicates that new housing construction is occurring primarily as suburban growth, with the strongest development activity in the Southside/London, Flour Bluff/North Padre Island, Portland, and northern coastal areas.

Exhibit 4-14. Map of 2021-2025 New Residential Construction



EMPLOYMENT TRENDS AND ECONOMIC BASE

REGIONAL ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Understanding not only population growth, but employment growth, is critical to transportation planning and to providing the best system to move people to and from jobs. For the purpose of travel demand modeling, the Corpus Christi MPO economy is broken down into four employment sectors:

- Basic (industrial, oil, gas, and petrochemical refining and storage)
- Service (Hospitality, Food Service, Health)
- Retail (Supermarket, E-commerce, Warehouse, Convenience store)
- Education (K-12, Colleges, Universities, Trade Schools)

HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

Employment within the Corpus Christi MPO travel demand modeling area, which includes the entirety of Nueces and San Patricio Counties, plus a portion of Aransas County, is projected to increase from approximately 225,000 jobs in 2021 to nearly 233,200 jobs by 2050, as displayed in Exhibit 4-15. Current employment estimates use 2021 data supplied by Data Axle, a private data vendor. Long-range employment projections were developed by maintaining an employment growth assumption proportional to population growth projections for each county.

Exhibit 4-15. Table of County Employment Projections

Geography	2021 (Base)	2050	2020-2050 Change
Total	225,036	233,193	8,057 (3.6%)
Nueces	195,674	198,903	3,229 (1.7%)
San Patricio	22,100	26,282	4,182 (18.9%)
Aransas	7,262	8,008	746 (10.3%)

The employment distribution across the four defined industry sectors is derived directly from Data Axle. Projected 2050 employment figures in Exhibit 4-16 are assumed to maintain the 2021 distribution for travel demand modeling purposes.

Exhibit 4-16. Table of Historical and Projected Employment by Sector

Employment Category	2021 Jobs	2021 %	2050 Jobs	2050 %	2021-2050 Change
Basic	46,875	21%	48,574	21%	3.6%
Service	107,378	48%	111,256	48%	3.6%
Retail	52,243	23%	54,147	23%	3.6%
Education	18,540	8%	19,192	8%	3.5%
Total	225,036	100%	233,169	100%	3.6%

Source: Data Axle (2021) and Corpus Christi MPO calculations.

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Exhibit 4-17 lists the major regional employers, published by the Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation (CCREDC) in 2024, representing primary trip generators and destinations within the Corpus Christi MPO travel demand modeling area. The Port of Corpus Christi is the second-largest port in the United States by tonnage and the leading crude oil export terminal globally, positioning the region as a critical node in the national freight network. The expansion of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export facilities at the Port of Corpus Christi, continued petrochemical processing growth, offshore wind staging infrastructure, and planned expansion into shipping container terminal operations, all represent significant potential upside drivers through 2050. Operations out of the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi also influence the regional economy and impact future transportation needs while the growing regional medical and education employment opportunities mirror national trends. Transportation investments should account for access, egress, and internal circulation serving these facilities.

Exhibit 4-17. Table of Major Employers in the Region

Employer	Sector	Approximate Employment (2024)	Location
Corpus Christi ISD	Education	5,134	Nueces County
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi	Military	5,000	Nueces County
City of Corpus Christi	Government	4,100	Nueces County
HEB Stores & Bakery	Retail	3,847	Nueces County
Driscoll Children's Hospital	Healthcare	3,000	Nueces County
Christus Spohn Hospital	Healthcare	3,000	Nueces County

2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

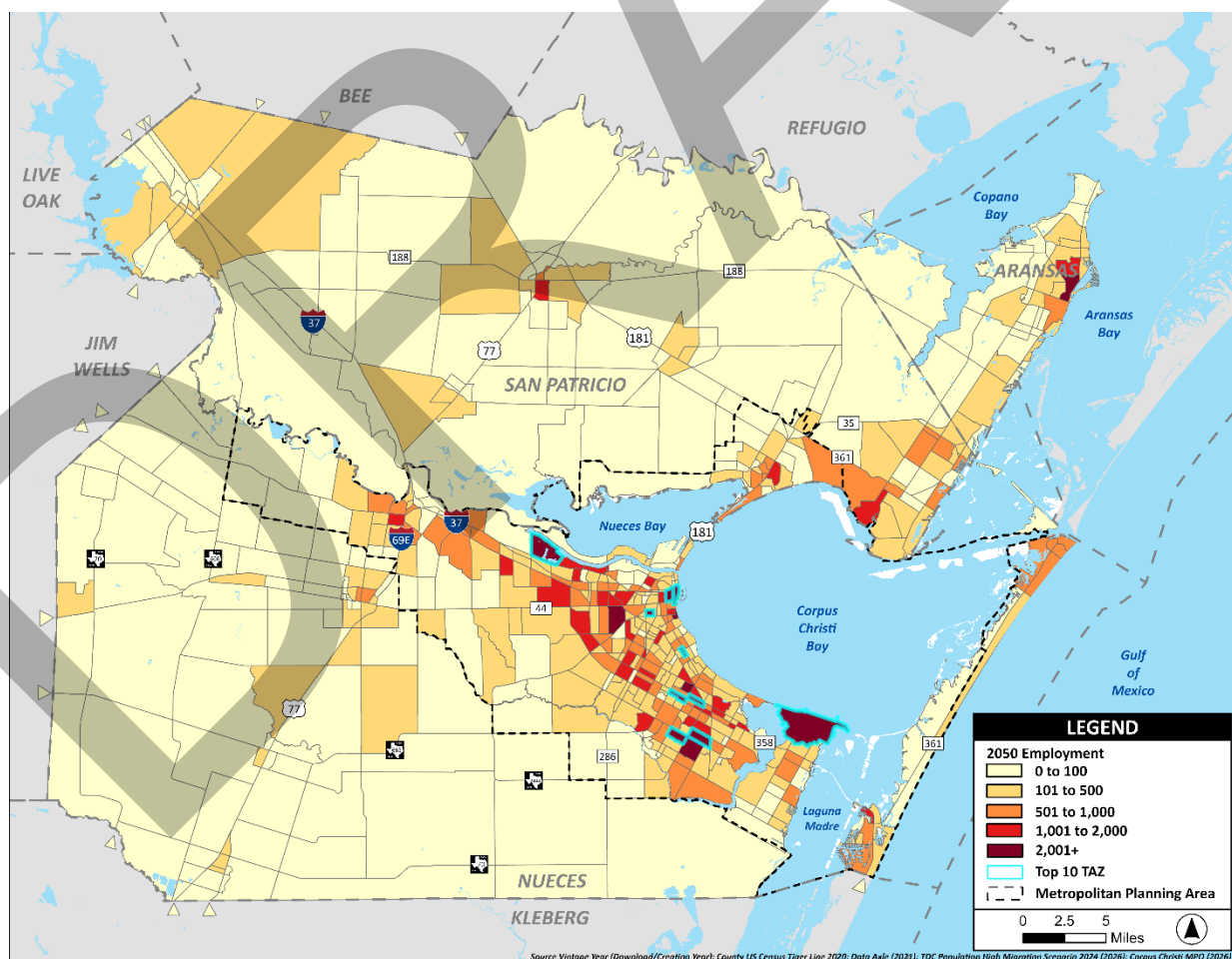
Corpus Christi Army Depot	Government	2,900	Nueces County
Kiewit Offshore Services	Construction	2,184	San Patricio County
Corpus Christi Medical Center	Healthcare	2,000	Nueces County
Bay Ltd.	Construction	1,700	San Patricio County
Del Mar College	Education	1,336	Nueces County
Texas A&M Corpus Christi	Education	1,254	Nueces County
Nueces County	Government	1,200	Nueces County
Turner Industries	Construction	1,200	Nueces County
Flint Hills Resources	Refining	1,000	Nueces County
Valero Bill Greehey Oil Refinery	Refining	750	Nueces County
STX Beef Processors LLC	Food Processing	750	Nueces County
CITGO	Refining	599	Nueces County

Source: 2024 Community Profile (p.23), Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation.

EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS THROUGH 2050

Employment projections for TAZs maintain proportionality within each county to the existing employment distribution based on 2021 Data Axle job estimates. Exhibit 4-18 highlights the expectation that the Port and NASCC will continue to represent major job generators regionally. Other TAZs with greater employment concentrations include hospitals and medical centers, as well as Downtown and Uptown Corpus Christi, where major headquarters and government agencies are located. Exhibits 4-18 and 4-19 demonstrate that these areas are expected to continue to serve as regional employment centers, with the addition of employment growth in the City of Portland and San Patricio County.

Exhibit 4-18. Map of 2050 Employment by TAZ

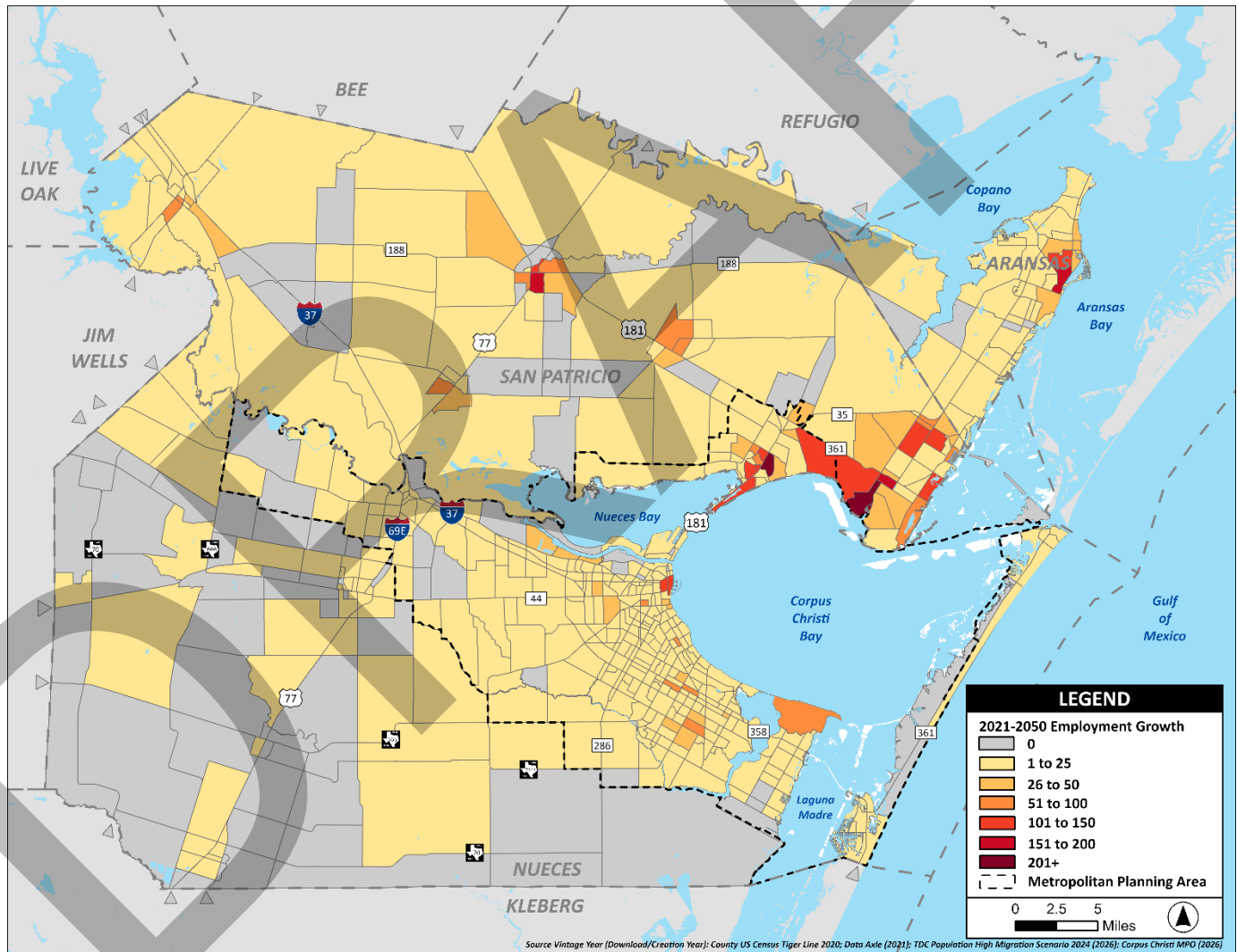


2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Exhibit 4-19. Table of Top 10 TAZs by 2050 Employment Total

TAZ	2050 Employment	Sector
249	8,388	Corpus Christi –Uptown
250	6,314	Corpus Christi – Downtown
267	4,970	Corpus Christi – Westside
212	4,897	Corpus Christi – Midtown
119	4,634	Corpus Christi – Southside
101	4,028	Corpus Christi – Southside
172	3,206	Corpus Christi – Flour Bluff/NASCC
187	3,109	Corpus Christi – Midtown
325	2,755	Corpus Christi – CC Port & Refineries
110	2,408	Corpus Christi – Southside

Exhibit 4-20. Map of 2021-2050 Employment Growth by TAZ



SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF GROWTH

GROWTH CORRIDORS AND SUB-AREAS

The spatial allocation of projected population and employment growth has direct implications for transportation facility needs, transit service design, and Complete Streets prioritization. Based on adopted future land use plans

2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

and known development pipelines, the following sub-areas are anticipated to absorb the majority of new residential and commercial growth through 2050:

- Corpus Christi Southside and London suburban neighborhoods
- Flour Bluff and Naval Air Station Corpus Christi
- City of Portland and adjacent areas

TITLE VI CONSIDERATIONS

A substantial share of the Corpus Christi MPO area's low-income and minority populations reside in the central urban core, the Westside, and older established neighborhoods near industrial facilities along I-37. These communities typically have lower vehicle availability and higher transit dependency, underscoring the need for different types of transportation investments, such as transit and improved walkability.

WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS AND COMMUTE PATTERNS

Understanding how residents travel to work is critical for evaluating travel demand on the roadway and transit networks. The Corpus Christi MPO travel demand modelling area is characterized by high rates of single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) commuting. However, transit ridership on the CCRTA system, active transportation, and remote work trends emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic represent meaningful shifts in transportation needs.

Exhibit 4-21. Table of Modes of Transportation in the MPO Area (Commuting)

Commute Mode / Characteristic	Nueces	San Patricio	Aransas	Texas	U.S.
Drove Alone (SOV)	80.00%	83.00%	67.41%	71.43%	68.78%
Carpooled	10.45%	7.80%	14.78%	10.00%	8.54%
Public Transit	1.13%	0.53%	0.18%	0.88%	3.24%
Walked	1.14%	0.71%	0.68%	1.47%	2.37%
Worked from Home	5.38%	6.77%	15.85%	14.36%	15.11%
Other Means (bike, etc.)	1.16%	0.58%	1.57%	1.34%	1.13%
Mean Travel Time to Work	21.7 min	23.0 min	23.0 min	26.7min	27.2min

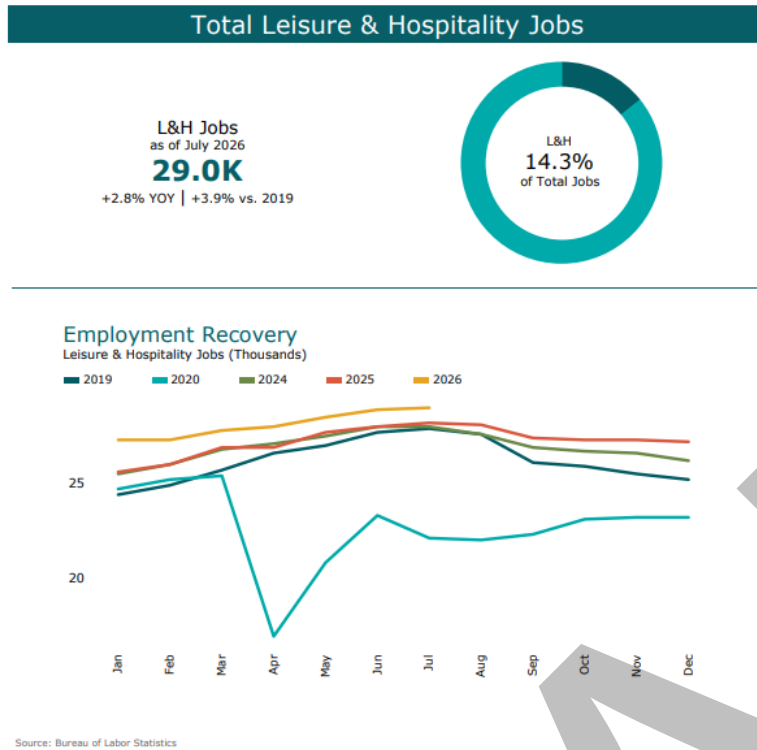
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Tables B08301, B08013.

Exhibit 4-21 highlights relatively shorter local commute times as compared to state and national commute times, though the share of those that drove alone is greater regionally. Moreover, a significantly smaller share of employees worked from home in Nueces and San Patricio Counties relative to the 14 percent seen across Texas and 15 percent nationally.

The low transit mode share in Corpus Christi MPO area reflects the region's dispersed land use. The Corpus Christi MPO and CCRTA are working to address unmet demand through enhanced transit frequency, and bus stop accessibility improvements.

TOURISM

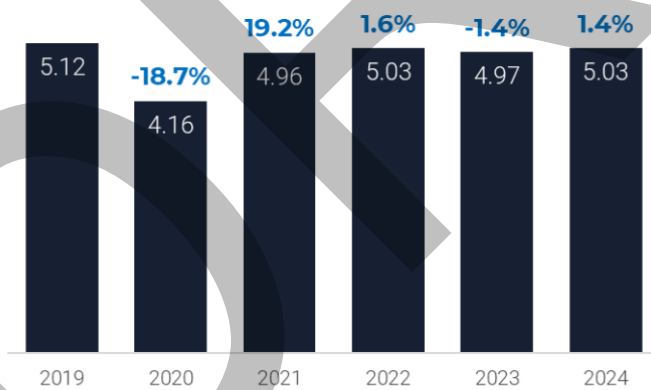
Beyond population and employment trends, growing tourism and shifting visitor demands impact the local transportation system as well. Visit Corpus Christi reports 29,000 leisure and hospitality jobs, representing over 14 percent of total jobs in the three-county region, in July of 2026. As shown in Exhibit 4-22, this sector has continued to increase in employment year over year.

Exhibit 14-22. Chart of Leisure and Hospitality Jobs

The 2024 study by Oxford Economics Company (Economic Impact of Visitors to Corpus Christi) reported 5 million visitors annually to Corpus Christi, shown in Exhibit 14-23.

Exhibit 14-23. Chart of Corpus Christi Visitor Volume

Corpus Christi Visitor Volume
millions



Source: Tourism Economics

As a major tourist destination, the travel needs of visitors to the region and preferences are also an important component of understanding current and future regional transportation system functionality.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS AND PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The following key findings emerge from the regional population and employment trend analysis and serve as foundational inputs to the investment priorities, performance measures, and project selection criteria of the Corpus Christi MPO 2050 MTP:

Population Growth:

The three-county region is projected to grow from approximately 445,800 residents in 2020 to 467,100 by 2050, an increase of about 21,300 people. Growth is expected to vary geographically, with San Patricio County experiencing the largest percentage increase, followed by Aransas County, while Nueces County is projected to remain relatively stable. At the TAZ level, population growth is projected to be concentrated primarily in the suburban areas of Corpus Christi's Southside and London neighborhoods and the City of Portland. These demographic trends provide an important basis for identifying future transportation needs, allocating resources, and evaluating how population growth may affect travel demand throughout the Corpus Christi MPO area.

Aging Population: The population aged 65 and older is projected to increase 50 percent by 2050. At the same time, the share of residents under age 18 is projected to decline, indicating a gradual aging of the region's population, driving demand for accessible pedestrian infrastructure, paratransit services, and transit-oriented development near medical facilities and service providers.

Majority-Hispanic Region: With Hispanic residents projected to represent 65 percent of the population by 2050, the Corpus Christi MPO maintains robust language access, culturally appropriate outreach, and Title VI nondiscrimination compliance in all planning activities.

Income and Zero-Vehicle Households: With 17 percent of residents below the poverty line and approximately 7 percent of households with no vehicle in Nueces County, transit-dependent populations represent a significant constituency for planned regional transportation investment.

Employment Growth: Employment in the Corpus Christi MPO region is projected to grow by just over 8,200 jobs through 2050. The Service sector represents the largest employment category, accounting for nearly half of regional jobs. Other economic drivers continue to be The Port of Corpus Christi and associated industrial growth, as well as Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Auto Dependency: With nearly 80 percent of workers driving alone, the region remains highly auto-dependent. Future transportation investments that balance capacity expansion with multimodal alternatives are consistent with the Federal Planning Emphasis Areas for Congestion Reduction and System Reliability.

Toursim: In addition to full-time residents and job commutes, regional travel demands are also influenced by visitors to the region.