

II.C. Austin, Texas

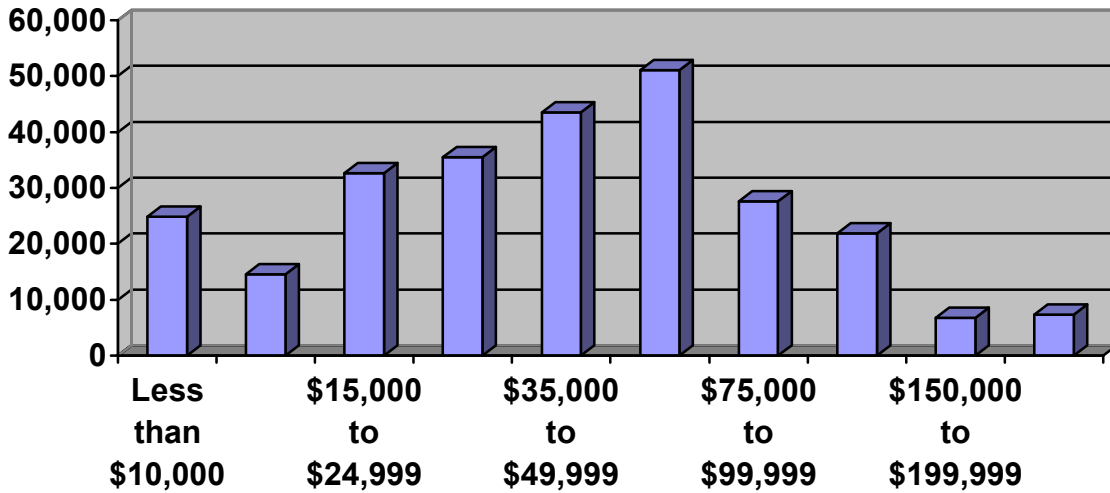
The city of Austin, Texas is located in the south-central portion of the state and serves as the capital. The total population of the city is 656,562 and the metropolitan area is home to 1,249,763. The city occupies a land area of 271.8 square miles. The racial makeup of the city is as follows, 52.9 percent white, 30.5 percent Hispanic, 9.8 percent African American and 4.7 percent Asian.

While Austin is larger and more racially diverse than Madison the two cities have a great deal in common. Both are the capitals of their state, both are home to large state funded universities, and both are known for being socially and politically progressive.

These similarities end when it comes to the public pool situation. While Madison does not offer any public pools to its citizens, Austin has 47 public pool facilities (27 Neighborhood pools, 12 wading pools, and 8 municipal pools). The pools charge \$1 for seniors, \$3 for adults, \$2 for kids 12-17, and \$1 for children under 11. Most of the pools are open from mid-May to late-August. Some of the pools stay open from late-February until late-November.

Most likely the reasons for Austin having so many pools are, the lack of a major body of water, the extreme summer heat, and the ability to keep some pools open for almost the entire year.

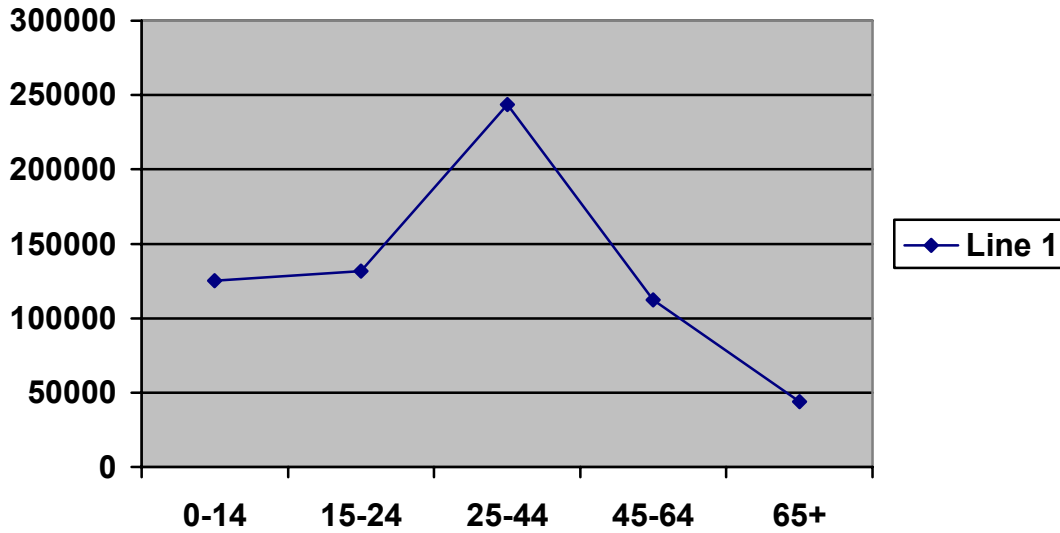
Annual Household Income for Austin, Texas



Source: US Census Bureau

Income: Austin has a median household income of \$42,689 and a per capita income of \$24,163. While the median household income is slightly lower than Madison's (\$49,223) the per capita income is virtually identical (\$24,985). 14.4% (92,011) of the population lives under the poverty line compared to Madison's level of 9.47 percent. The median value of an owner occupied dwelling is \$124,700.

Age Distribution of Austin, Texas



Source: US Census

Age: The median age amongst the population of Austin is 29.6 years and 22.5 percent of its residents are under 18. This makes it a younger city than Madison where the median age is 18 percent.

Summary of Weather in Austin, Texas

Month	High	Low	All time High	All time Low	Average Rainfall	All Time Driest	All Time Wettest
January	60.3	40.0	90	-2	1.89	0	9.21
February	65.1	44.0	99	-1	1.99	0	9.41
March	72.5	50.9	98	18	2.15	0	7.23
April	78.9	57.6	99	30	2.51	Trace	19.82
May	84.8	65.4	104	40	5.03	Trace	14.10
June	91.0	71.1	108	51	3.81	0	14.96
July	95.0	74.2	109	57	1.97	0	12.80
August	95.4	74.1	110	58	2.31	0	10.88
September	89.8	69.4	112	41	2.91	0	20.78
October	81.1	60.2	100	30	3.97	0	12.63
November	69.9	49.6	91	20	2.68	0	10.00
December	62.1	42.0	90	4	2.44	0	16.14

Source: National Weather Service

Climate and Geography: Austin, year-round, experiences a much warmer climate than Madison. The climate falls under the category of humid subtropical which means the winters are mild and the summers extremely hot. On average there are 300 sunny days a year and the average rainfall is 32.1", 14 inches less than Madison. The City of Austin is situated on the Colorado River and boasts 14,300 acres of parks. Most of the city is relatively flat except for the western edge where large rolling hills can be found.