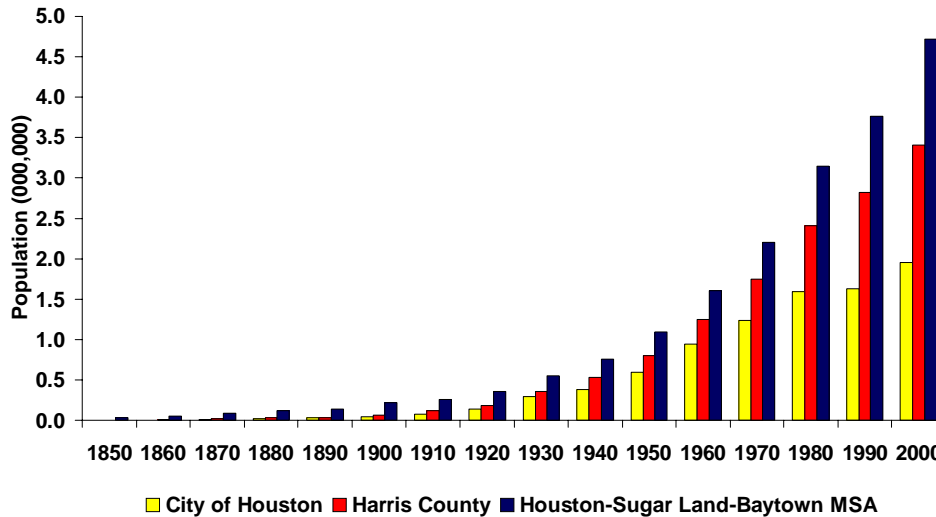


Houston Region Population 1850-2000

Houston has a sustained history of exponential population growth.

Houston Region Population

1850-2000



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

- From the first census in Texas in 1850 through the 2000 census, the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown Metropolitan Statistical Area — Harris, the adjoining seven counties, and Austin and San Jacinto counties — has averaged a compound annual growth rate of 3.47 percent.
- The Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA is the nation’s sixth most populous metropolitan area.
- Between the 1940 and 1980 censuses, the City of Houston pursued a vigorous annexation policy. The 1990 census was the first since 1920 to find that fewer than half the residents of the 10-county region resided within the city limits of Houston. Even in the most recent census, 41.4 percent of the region’s residents lived in the central city. The fact that such a large share of the region’s population live and can vote in the City of Houston has helped it avoid the kinds of malaise that afflict many central cities in large metropolitan areas where a much smaller share of the population have such a vested interest in the health of the central city.