

2017 Regional Growth Forecast

Background

The Houston-Galveston Area Council releases an updated demographic forecast each year. The forecasted items include population, employment, and land use for the 8-County H-GAC Transportation Management Area. Each updated release incorporates the latest available information on planned and announced developments, population and employment data, and feedback received from forecast users. The forecasting system produces outputs in 5 year increments from 2015 through 2045. The base year for the forecast is 2015.

The forecast is produced in phases.

1. In the first phase, the model forecast the total number of people and households in the region.
2. Based on the future labor force, the model then forecasts the number of jobs.
3. The model makes predictions about the location, type, and size of residential and non-residential development projects which would be needed to accommodate the expected growth in households and jobs.
4. The expected growth in households and jobs is allocated to different areas in such a way that each household has a home (housing unit) and each job has a work site.

Current Situation

In December 2017, H-GAC released the 2017 Regional Growth Forecast. The region is expected to add 4.2 million people and 1.6 million jobs in the next 30 years. The 2017 release incorporates the latest socioeconomic, real estate and travel network data. In addition, several refinements were made to the growth model pertaining to future real estate development. Additional information on methodology and results is available at www.h-gac.com/forecast

Action Requested

Information only