



What We Heard

in COLORADO COUNTY



April 2024

Bringing H-GAC to Colorado County

Beginning in late 2022 and throughout 2023, the Houston-Galveston Area Council embraced the theme of “Year of Service” by embarking on a journey to enhance its support of stakeholders, members, and the communities they represent.

This is what we heard in Colorado County.

Top Successes:

1. Acquisition of 70-acre agricultural complex/fairground
2. Revitalization of downtown Columbus
3. I-10 expansion expected to improve area traffic

Issues to Explore Further:

- Walkability and safety with traffic from two highways coming through town
- Challenge to draw in tourists/leave the highway to visit small towns
- Mental health in rural areas – where does state funding go?



Colorado County Quick Facts

20,754 Population (2022)

- Population decreased by 1% in the last 5 years and is projected to decrease by 2% in the next 5 years.

8,290 Total County Employment

- Jobs grew by 27% in the last 5 years and are projected to grow by 6% in the next 5 years.

\$63K Median Household Income (2023)

- Median household income is \$12K below the national median household income of \$75K.

Top Three Largest Industries

1. Elementary and secondary schools
2. Restaurants and other eating establishments
3. Cement and concrete product manufacturing

Top Three Growing Industries

1. Automobile dealers
2. Animal production (proprietors)
3. Motor vehicle parts manufacturing

Top Growing Occupations

1. Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers
2. General and operations managers
3. Managers

Top Five Employers of County Residents

1. UTEX Industries
2. Columbus ISD
3. Rice Consolidated ISD
4. Titan (formerly Exterran)
5. Columbus Community Hospital



Source: American Community Survey