City Council District Analysis
Sources and Methodology
September 2018

Whereas the percentage of homeowners increased in all other districts, District 1 is the only district where the percentage of renters decreased by 4 percent.

310 SUBSIDIZED HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS
7,270 UNITS (city subsidized units)

Sources: Austin Board of Realtors, Austin Inacio Institute, Austin Tenant Council, Center for Neighborhood Technology, Ending Community Homelessness Coalition, National Law Income Housing Coalition, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development City of Austin, Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation, Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs, United States Census Bureau, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

For detailed information on sources, please visit www.housingworksaustin.org
* Data involves existing and planned units

HOMELESSNESS
3 5.0% POVERTY RATE
4 # OF PEOPLE LIVING ON THE STREETS 50

COST OF LIVING
5 MEDIAN HOUSING PRICE $210,000

RENTER VS. OWNER
6 MEDIAN INCOME $51,000
7 % OF HOMEOWNERS IN DISTRICT 47%
8 % OF RENTERS IN DISTRICT 53%

DISTRICT 1 CHALLENGES
8 INDIVIDUALS BELOW POVERTY
9 27% ARE COST BURDENED
10 25% EXTREMELY BURDENED RENTERS
11 DISTRICT AVERAGE ANNUAL VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED 20,744
12 DISTRICT AVERAGE ANNUAL MUSC TRANSIT TRIPS 108

http://housingworksaustin.org

Revised 09/17/2018
Sources

The district analysis is based on a variety of sources and these are mentioned on each district analysis sheet. The numbers below correspond with the numbers marked on the figure above for reference.

- **Source 1**: Combination of sources below with data from the 2017 Affordable Housing District Analysis.
- **Source 2**: Multiple sources are combined to create a comprehensive list.
  - Austin Tenants’ Council, 2018
  - National Low Income Housing Coalition and Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation, Accessed 2018
  - Neighborhood Housing and Community Development City of Austin, Accessed 2018
  - Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs, Accessed 2018
  - United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Accessed 2018

  District Analysis based on methodology 3.¹
- **Source 3**: Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO), 2018. Data available at City Council District Level.
- **Source 4**: United States Census Bureau, 2016 5-Year ACS. District Analysis based on methodology 1.
- **Source 5**: Austin Board of Realtors (ABOR), Q2 2018. Data available at City Council District Level.
- **Source 6**: Austin Investor Interests, Q2 2018. District Analysis based on methodology 2.
- **Source 7**: United States Census Bureau, 2016 5-Year ACS. District Analysis based on methodology 1.
- **Source 8**: United States Census Bureau, 2016 5-Year ACS. District Analysis based on methodology 1.
- **Sources 9 - 10**: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) Dataset, 2010-2014. District Analysis based on methodology 1.
- **Sources 11-12**: Center for Neighborhood Technology Housing and Transportation Affordability Index, 2017. District Analysis based on methodology 1.

Methodology

The district analysis a number of resources and different geographical scales. Furthermore, this data is analyzed in the context of the boundaries of the City of Austin Council Districts. This has led to three separate approaches based on geographic scale of source data:

1. **Census tract data**: Data available at the census tract level is analyzed based on a methodology developed after conversation with the City of Austin demographic staff. Census tracts are divided according to their overlap with the Austin City Council District boundaries. Tracts that overlap between two council districts are attributed to one council district based on the overlap area and the existing land use type. Once all the tracts have been linked to a council district, the corresponding data is calculated for that district. For average values such as median rent and home price, the data is weighed for each census tract based on its total population using Microsoft Excel.

¹ See methodology section for reference
2. Zip code data: Data available at the zip code level is analyzed using the Zonal Statistics as Table tool in the Spatial Analyst toolbox of the ArcGIS software. This requires converting vector source data into the raster format and then using the tool to summarize the values of the raster based on the zones of another dataset (Austin City Council District boundaries in this case). The results from the generated table then provide a value at the district level.

3. Point Data: data associated with distinct addresses, such as the data collected from the sources above, is linked to Austin City Council District boundaries by its overlap.

Notes

- Families that spend more than 30% of their income on housing related costs are considered cost burdened.
- Families that spend more than 50% of their income on housing related costs are considered extremely cost burdened.
- In the 2018 district analysis update, the Location Affordability Index data from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has been replaced by similar Housing and Transportation Affordability Index data from the Center for Neighborhood Technology. This data is given for a median family income family in Austin.

Limitations

- American Community Survey (ACS) is based on sampling and thus the data from ACS involves a margin of error. This margin of error varies for 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year data, with decreasing levels of margin of error.
- Considering the varied sources, different geographical scales, and multiple methodologies it is important to understand that most of the data for each district is best evaluated comparatively and not referenced as absolute numbers.
- The Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) Dataset from Housing and Urban Development is based on a rotation of 3-year and 5-year ACS data. This limits the availability of the data in certain years.
- In June 2018, Capital Metro initiated the Cap Remap effort, that led to significant changes in the city’s bus network. The travel behavior data predates this effort and thus does not reflect any changes that may have occurred since.
- A change in the methodology of counting subsidized housing developments in the 2018 analysis may make it difficult to compare this metric with last year’s data. This has no impact on the number of subsidized units.