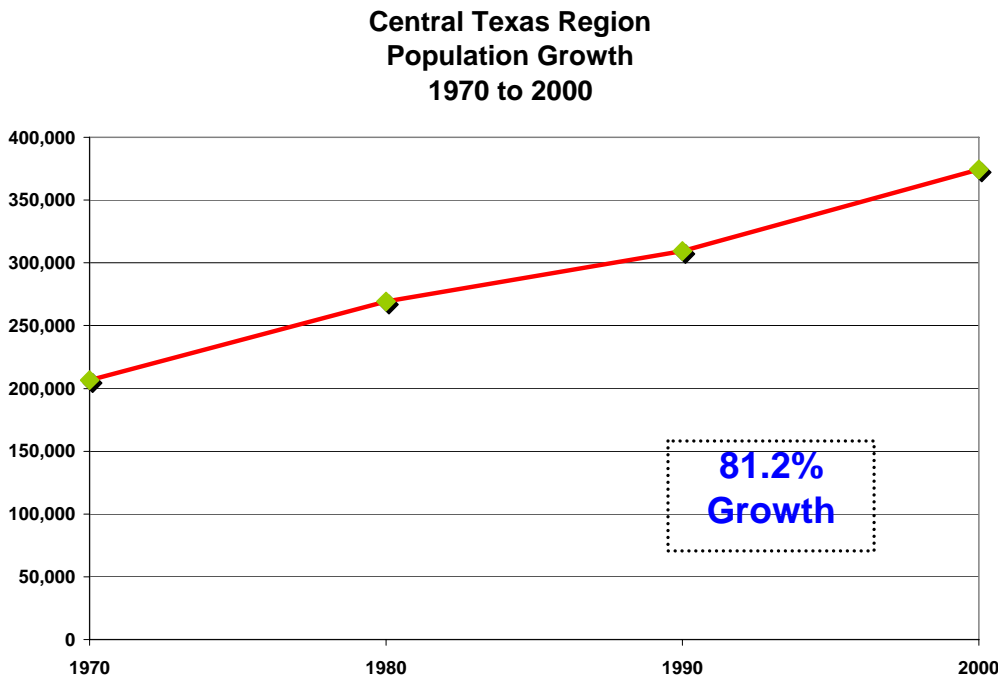


# Executive Summary

## **Introduction**

To better portray the situation in the Bell and Coryell County labor shed<sup>1</sup>, this report first presents population growth. The Chart below shows changes in population back to 1970 for the labor shed area. As shown in the Chart, growth in the Region has climbed upward during the past three decades. From 1970 to 2000, population in the Central Texas Region has grown 81.2%.



## **Executive Summary**

**The analysis of Bell and Coryell County labor force leads to several conclusions: the area has a relatively young, skilled, and educated labor pool; has a tremendous supply of available part-time and shift labor; and the majority of unemployed will work for under \$11 per hour. The rationale for this conclusion is discussed throughout the study.**

The data collected in the surveys display many characteristics of the work force (defined as anyone willing and able to work, and between the ages of 16 and 75). The following percentages used in the summary reflect the percent of respondents for the Bell and Coryell labor shed (n=1,871).

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<sup>1</sup> The study defines the entire **Central Texas labor shed** as Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba Counties. This study focuses on Bell and Coryell Counties.

## **Bell & Coryell County Workforce Profile**

### **Employment**

- ◆ Total available Workforce (20.7%)
  - ◆ Unemployment (6.0%)<sup>2</sup>
  - ◆ Unemployed as a result of personal choice (14.7%)<sup>3</sup>
- ◆ Part-time labor availability (19.9%)
- ◆ Underemployment
  - ◆ Education attained (14.03 years)
  - ◆ Education required (13.01 years)

### **Demographic Profile of the typical employee**

- ◆ Average age (40.3 years)
- ◆ Average Annual Household Income (\$46,766)

## **Workforce Capabilities**

### **Education**

- ◆ High School or some College (51%)
- ◆ Associate degree (12%)
- ◆ Bachelor degree and/or higher (29%)
- ◆ Average years of school completed
  - ◆ Area (14.1 years)

### **Skills**

- ◆ Basic Computer (61%)
- ◆ Clerical (38%)
- ◆ Executive/Professional (23%)
- ◆ Machine Operation with Computer (17%)
- ◆ Advanced Computer (17%)
- ◆ Mechanical (15%)

### **Job Tenure**

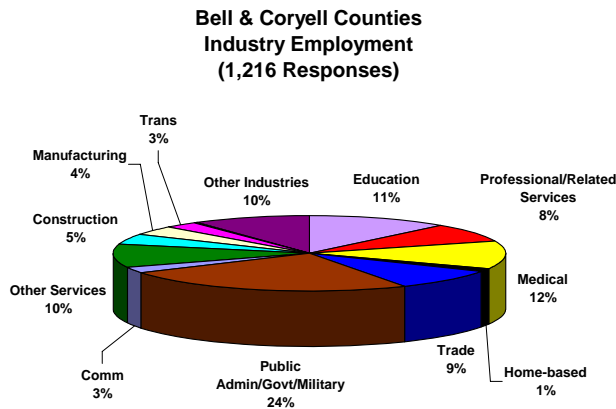
- ◆ Average time with present employer
  - ◆ Area (6.0 years)
  - ◆ West South Central United States (6.5 years)
- ◆ Average time in current occupation
  - ◆ Area (7.4 years)

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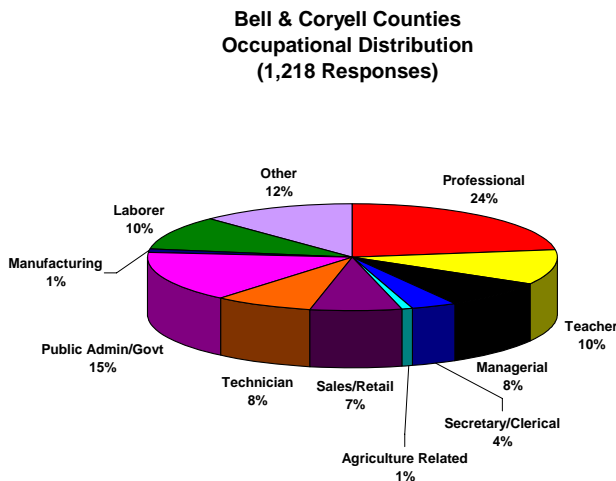
<sup>2</sup> This number includes laborers who are unemployed due to lack of opportunity.

<sup>3</sup> In general, this percentage represents the number of respondents that are currently not working as a result of personal choice, but are willing/able/available for work under opportune circumstances.

As shown in the Chart below, employment in the area centers around five primary industries: public administration/government/military, other industries, other services, education and medical.<sup>4</sup>



Occupation, another valuable set of data, is shown below. Professional, public administration/government, laborer, teaching, and other occupations account for the largest number of respondents. Professional occupations are detailed in the survey analysis to allow a more complete picture of the labor force.<sup>5</sup>



Finally, the study found that County respondents are employed mainly in Bell County (77.0%) and Coryell County (14.5%).

<sup>4</sup> Other industries include: agriculture, high tech/technology, criminal justice, other public utilities, and other non-classifiable industry segments. Other Services are business and repair, food/food service, personal, and entertainment/recreational services.

<sup>5</sup> Other occupations include: food service, self-employed, student, homemaker, and other non-classifiable occupations.