

# Growing Forward: Demographics in Houston County Communities

## *In a nutshell*

- The Houston County area is one of the fastest growing areas in Georgia.
- The area is expected to continue to experience significant population growth.
- Substantial population growth means continually increasing and costly demands related to infrastructure, community services, and changes in land use.
- It is vital that the communities that make up Houston County continue to properly estimate and plan to meet these changes.

## *Driving forces*

- Population growth in the Houston County area is attributable to both natural increase and inflow migration with migration the predominant factor.
- Many factors contribute to making the Houston County area a highly desirable place to live.
- Robins Air Force Base and the concurrent industrial, commercial, and residential industries the Base fosters will continue to provide the primary impetus for growth.
- Increasing numbers of residents are choosing to stay in their present or nearby locations upon retirement.

## *What can we expect?*

- Houston County communities can expect to see its overall population growing significantly and growing older.

## *Who are we?*

- The current population of the Houston County planning area is approximately 70% white and 25% African American.

- Houston County racial proportions reflect the state averages.
- There is, on average, a higher proportion of African Americans in the Houston County planning area as compared to national statistics.
- There is a significant growing increase in the amount of residents who are Hispanic origin. This total number (3%) is below both the state and national average.

### ***Show me the money***

- The average income of Houston County residents has risen substantially over recent years.
- The average income of Houston County residents is similar to surrounding communities and compares favorably to state and national averages.
- The average income for residents in the Houston planning area community is expected to continue to increase.
- Expectedly, figures for per capita income closely resemble those relating to average income.
- Houston County households, on average, exhibit higher income levels as compared to those in other area communities.
- Poverty levels in Houston County are lower than the state averages and significantly lower than examined adjoining counties.