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Census: Poverty down in Austin, incomes growing

Austin Business Journal - by [A.J. Mistretta](#) ABJ Staff

Median household income in the Austin-Round Rock region jumped 7.3 percent between 2006 and 2007, far outstripping the 1.3 percent increase nationwide.

The latest report from the U.S. Census Bureau shows median household income in the local area stood at \$56,746 last year, up from \$52,882 in 2006. The U.S. median was \$50,233 in 2007.

Aggregate household income in Austin in 2007 totaled \$44 million, up from \$40.4 million the previous year.

On a per capita basis, income locally rose 3.2 percent to \$28,822.

Meanwhile, the region's poverty rate declined a bit during the year period. Roughly 12.7 percent of the population was living in poverty in 2007, down slightly from 13 percent in 2006. Nationally, the rate remained stagnant at 12.5 percent. Similarly, the number of residents on public assistance or food stamps improved, dropping 1.4 percent to 34,957 last year.

Looking across the United States, median incomes rose in both the South and the Midwest, declined in the Northeast and remained the same in the West.

The Census report, which also looked at health insurance, shows that Texas had the highest rate of uninsured individuals between 2005 and 2007. A three-year average of nearly 25 percent of those living in Texas were uninsured.

For more on the Census report, click [here](#).

Courtesy of JB Goodwin