

TOMORROW Magazine Volume 1: Houston 2035

Read and Question

1. What year was Houston founded?
2. What is the anticipated size of Houston at its 200-year anniversary?
3. Why do you think transportation infrastructure has such a large impact on land use and development?
4. What does H-GAC stand for? What is their mission related to mobility?
5. Approximately how many more people are anticipated to be living in the Houston area by 2035? What percent of the current population is represented by this growth? (Use the data on p.2.)
6. As the population grows, how is land use in the area changed?
7. Why is development outside incorporated areas a concern?
8. What is the anticipated percent of job growth for 2035? (Use the data on p.4.)
9. Why can centers for job growth be called ‘city centers’?
10. In what areas is job density the greatest, both in 2005 and projected in 2035?
11. Looking at the map on p. 5, which of the job centers is closest to your home?
12. What is the most significant factor in determining a person’s earning power?
13. What does it mean that Houston has no majority race or ethnicity?
14. For which race is the population expected to grow the most in Harris County?

15. The terms 'urban' and 'suburban' define areas by how close they are to a city center and by population density. Which term refers to areas with a greater population density?
16. How does the distribution of race differ between Harris County and outlying suburban counties?
17. What is a megaregion? What two megaregions does Houston belong to?
18. How does Houston compare to Manhattan relative to population density, green space, and transportation?
19. What types of ecosystems are native to this region?
20. Which abiotic characteristics account for such a diversity of ecosystems?
21. How are watersheds altered as a result of development such as streets, buildings, and parking lots? What natural disaster is more common when the ground is impervious to water as a result of development?
22. What factors besides population growth impact vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in this area?
23. Compare Dallas and Houston relative to the spending patterns on roads and transit.
24. Look at the chart on p.12 regarding public policy. What are the top three priorities for Houstonians?

25. Look at the map of Texas below. By comparing this map with the map on page 9 in the magazine, identify the counties in the 8-county region surrounding Houston.



http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/maps/texas_map.html