

SECOND WARD Complete Communities

Data Book

December 2017

COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

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COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

Complete Communities is about improving neighborhoods so that all of Houston's residents and business owners can have access to quality services and amenities. It's about working closely with the residents of communities that haven't reached their full potential, understanding their strengths and opportunities, and collaborating with partners across the city to strengthen them. While working to improve these communities, we must also work to ensure existing residents can stay in homes that remain affordable.

To ensure the program structure is inclusive, promotes public-private partnerships, and works effectively and efficiently, an advisory committee was established to serve as a sounding board, as ambassadors for the effort, and as links to residents and businesses in the selected neighborhoods. The committee is comprised of community leaders and advocates that have a balanced perspective ranging from city-wide to neighborhood-specific involvement.

SECOND WARD

Neighborhood Support Team

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Michael Skelly
Constable Silvia R. Trevino
Anne Whitlock
Gloria Zenteno

Neighborhood Support Team

It is vital that the Complete Communities initiative connect with each neighborhood's civic leaders and organizations to understand their strengths, their connections within the community, and their perspectives on the needs of the neighborhood. Local civic leaders have the pulse of the community and know the assets and concerns better than the City alone.

As a result, the work of Complete Communities Initiative will be guided by a Neighborhood Support Team. We will rely on the Neighborhood Support Team to collaborate with us in the Complete Communities Initiative and provide guidance into the public engagement process in each neighborhood.



Photo: Second Ward Media

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“I am committed to this city. I am committed to rebuilding neighborhoods that have been overlooked for years and years. I am committed to making sure that we do not have two cities in one: of haves and have-nots. We are all Houstonians and we deserve the right to improve and move forward together. I am committed to that.”

— Mayor Sylvester Turner
January 4, 2016

Mayor Turner Kicks Off Complete Communities Initiative Partnerships Aim to Transform Under-Resourced Neighborhoods

On April 17, 2017 Mayor Sylvester Turner kicked off a new program that aims to improve quality of life for residents in areas that are not thriving at a level enjoyed by other Houston neighborhoods. Acres Homes, Gulfton, Second Ward, Near Northside and Third Ward are the first neighborhoods selected for the mayor's new Complete Communities initiative. The city will work in a concentrated manner with stakeholders in each community and partners across Houston to create more complete neighborhoods with enhanced access to quality affordable homes, jobs, well-maintained parks and greenspace, improved streets and sidewalks, grocery stores and other retail, good schools and transit options. The work in these areas will help develop solutions that are transferable to other communities across the city.

"We recognize that this new program will not repair every home, nor will it be a panacea for solving all the issues in these neighborhoods," said Mayor Turner. "The problems have been decades in the making, and solving them will require a long-term focus and strong relationships with our partners. When we are finished, we should see neighborhoods that are sustainable with leadership in place that can continue forward movement."

Where possible, the city will enhance its investment in the selected communities. For example, Mayor Turner is dedicating up to 60 percent of the city's discretionary TIRZ affordable housing and federal housing funds and using other uncommitted city resources in a targeted way in the five pilot neighborhoods. These areas are also in line to receive approximately \$14 million in capital improvements over the next five years. As the needs assessment progresses, there may be other opportunities identified for the use of discretionary funds.

The mayor stressed that the increased focus in the Complete Communities areas will not mean a diversion of city resources away from the rest of Houston. "I know everyone wants to be first, but that is not possible. To be impactful, we can only focus on a few neighborhoods at one time. When we finish in these areas, we will move to the next round. In the meantime, my direction to the departments working on this program has been clear. We are going to help these challenged areas while still maintaining efficient and effective services for the rest of the city," he said.

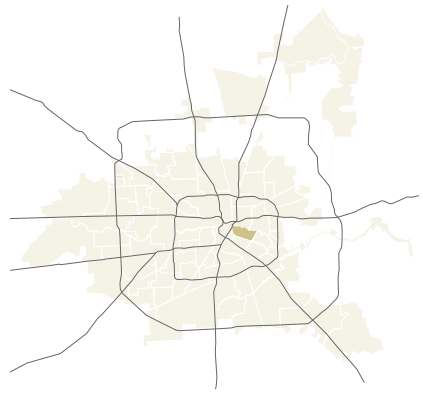
One component of Complete Communities that will have benefits far beyond the borders of the five pilot areas is the creation of the Neighborhood Toolbox, which will identify – in one place – every city program that can be used to enhance all Houston's communities.



SECOND WARD

Introduction

The Second Ward Complete Community is located just east of downtown Houston. The boundaries of the study area are the same as those of the Super Neighborhood, and are roughly Buffalo Bayou to the north, Harrisburg Boulevard to the south, downtown Houston to the east, and the railroad to the west. The data included here has been collected for census tracts 3101, 3104, and 3105.



Above: Location Map
Below: Census Tract Map



PEOPLE

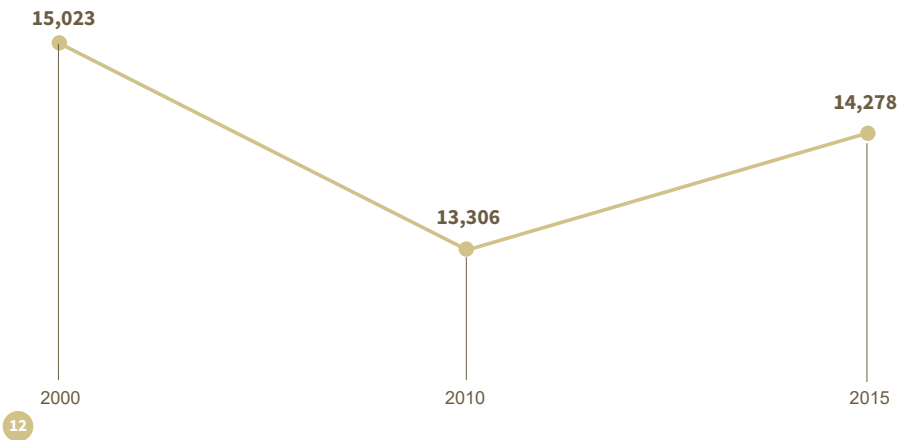
Population

The Second Ward study area is home to 14,278 people. Between 2000 and 2010, the population decreased by 11%, however by 2015 the population grew by 7%. The majority of the population in Second Ward is between the ages of 18-64. Residents under the age of 18 make up 25% of the population, a number that has been declining since 2000. The number of senior citizens in the Second Ward has increased substantially over the last fifteen years. In 2015 seniors represented more than 10% of the population. Since 2000 the number of Second Ward residents over the age of 65 years has increased by 30%.

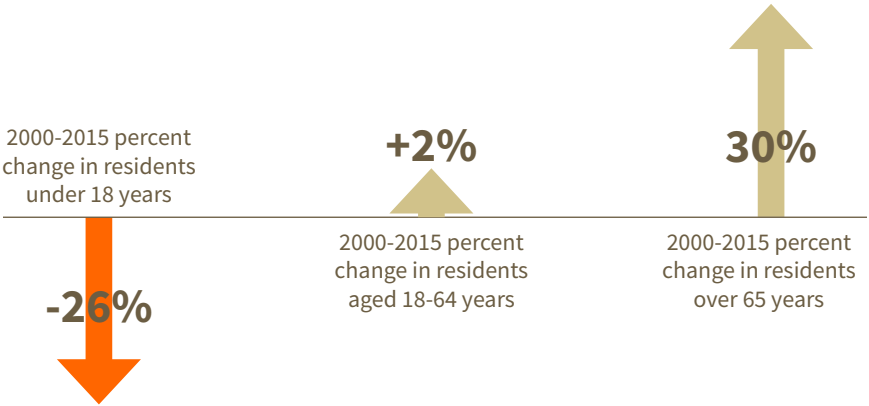
Below: Population Change,
2000 to 2015
Opposite Page, Top: 2000-2015
Percent Change in Population by Age
Opposite Page, Bottom: Population
by Age, 2000, 2010, 2015

Sources: Census 2000 and 2010, ACS 2015
(5-Year)

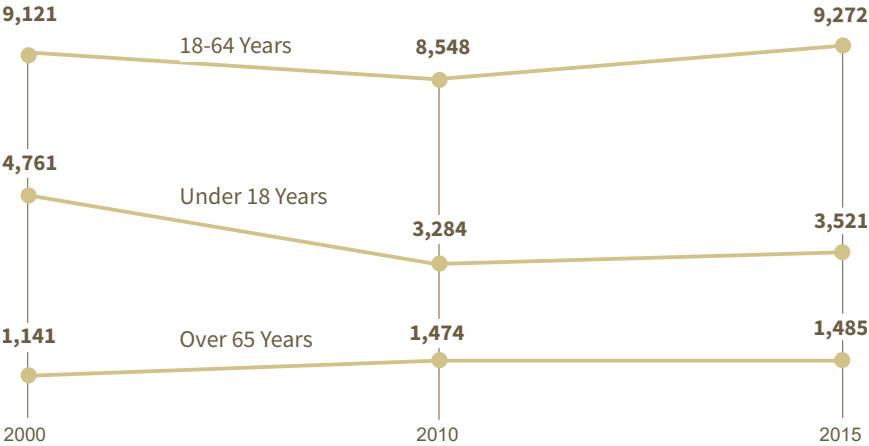
Population Change



Age



Population By Age



Race and Ethnicity

Second Ward is a neighborhood rich with culture. The majority of the population, 75%, are Hispanic or Latino. Over the last fifteen years, the Hispanic population has declined by 11% while the White population has increased by 7%. The Black or African-American and Asian populations have also increased slightly. In 2015, 34% of area residents were born outside the United States, compared to 29% in Houston overall.

34% of **Second Ward** residents were born outside the U.S.



29% of **Houston** residents were born outside the U.S.

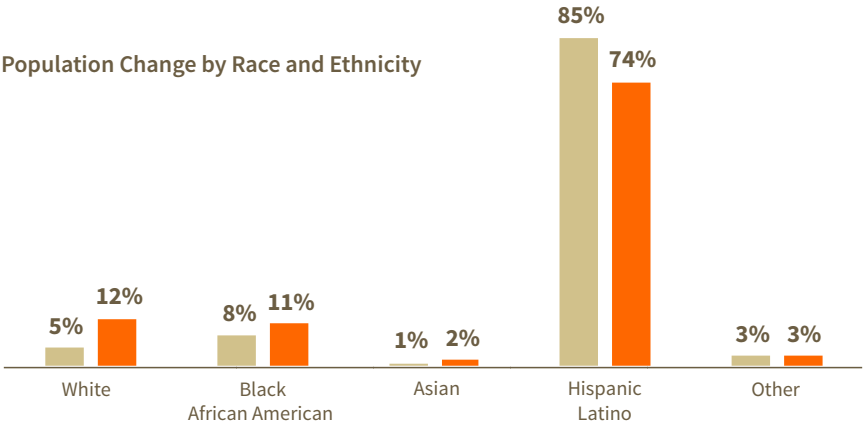


Above: Percent of Residents Born Outside the U.S., Second Ward and Houston, 2015
Below: Second Ward Population Change by Race and Ethnicity, 2015

2000 
2015 

Source: Census 2000 and ACS 2015 (5-Year)

Population Change by Race and Ethnicity



Health Insurance

In 2015, 73% of residents in Second Ward had health insurance, which is equal to the percent covered in the city overall. 42% of area residents have public health insurance, while 34% are covered through private plans.

Second Ward residents with health insurance

73%

Houston residents with health insurance

73%

Above: Percent of Residents with Health Insurance, 2015

Below: Registered Voters who cast ballots, 2015

Second Ward ■
Harris County ■

Sources: ACS 2015 (5-Year); Harris County District Clerk Voting Data, 2015

Voting Data

Of the residents registered to vote in Second Ward, 22% voted in the 2015 election. This is slightly higher than the average voter participation rate in Harris County, which was 20% of registered voters.

Second Ward registered voters who cast ballots in 2015

22%

Harris County registered voters who cast ballots in 2015

20%

PLACE

Housing

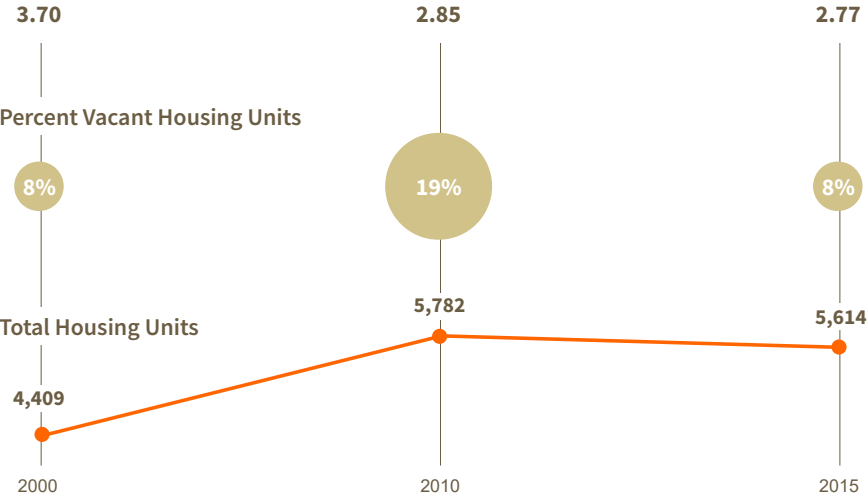
In 2015, 8% of all housing in the Second Ward study area was vacant. This is fairly low compared to Houston where 12% of housing was vacant. In 2010, the vacancies increased to 19% in the neighborhood when there was a decrease in the population but an increase in the number of housing units.

The number of persons per household has declined from 3.70 in 2000 to 2.77 in 2015, a 34% decline. In Houston overall the average is 2.72 persons per household.

Below: Persons per Household,
Percent Vacant Housing Units and
Total Housing Units

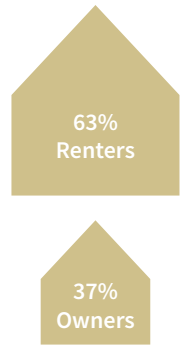
Sources: Census 2000 and 2010, ACS 2015
(5-Year)

Persons per Household



There is a substantial diversity of housing types in the Second Ward. Single-family units comprise the majority, making up 43% of all housing in 2015. In Houston single-family homes make up 45% of all housing. The median year that housing was built in Second Ward is 1945, illustrating the historic character of the community.

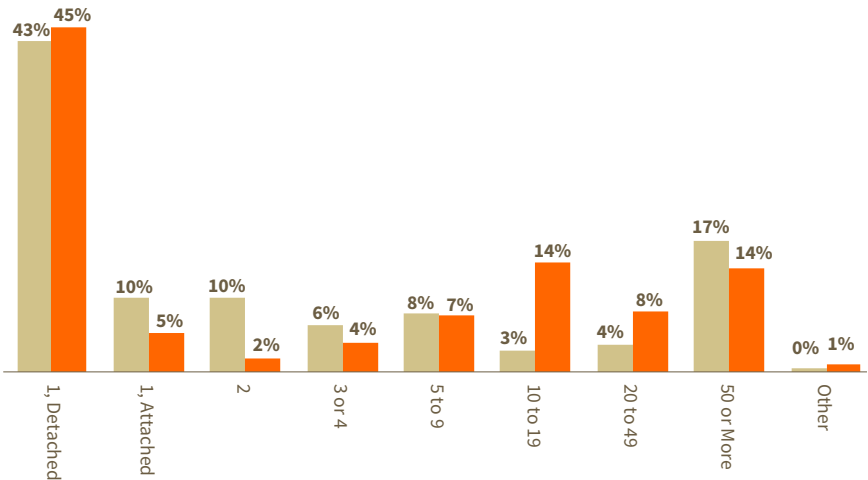
63% of area residents rent, while 37% own their own homes. In Houston 44% of residents own their own homes. The percent of Second Ward households owning their own homes has remained fairly stable since 2000.



Above: Tenure, 2015
 Below: Housing by Type, 2015
 Second Ward ■
 Houston ■

Sources: Census 2000 and 2010, ACS
 2015 (5-Year)

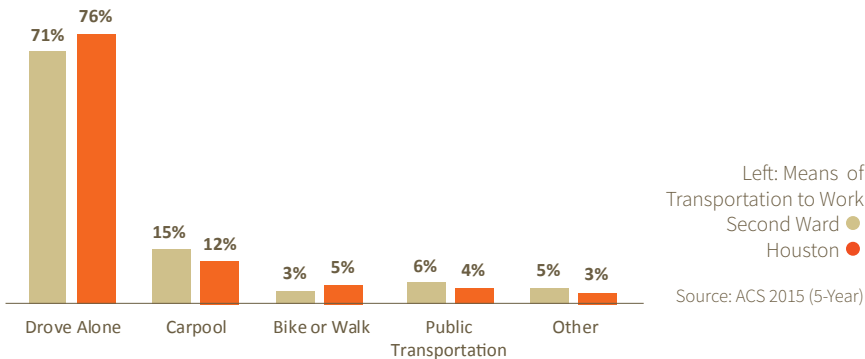
Housing by Type



Transportation

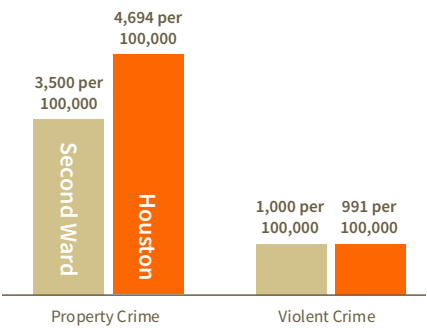
Second Ward is well served by public transportation. The East End light rail line (green line) travels east and west through the heart of the community along Harrisburg Boulevard and connects to downtown to the west and the Magnolia Transit Center to the east.

In addition, the neighborhood is served by a number of bus routes. However, 76% of workers age 16 years and older drive to work and only 6% use public transportation.



Crime

The Houston Police Department’s South Central division police beat 10H10 covers all of the Second Ward. Compared to Houston, the property crime rate is lower and the violent crime rate is slightly higher than Houston overall. However, property crime is a major concern among residents, and the area with the highest concentration of crimes in Second Ward is the northwest area of the community near the intersection of Jensen Drive and Navigation Boulevard (shown on map below).



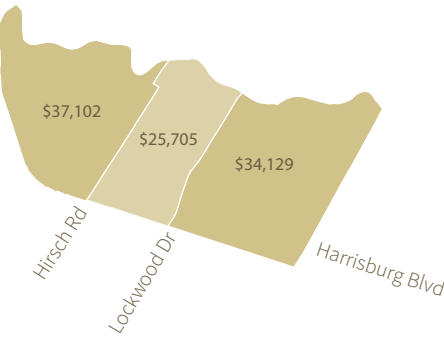
Crime Map

PROSPERITY

Income

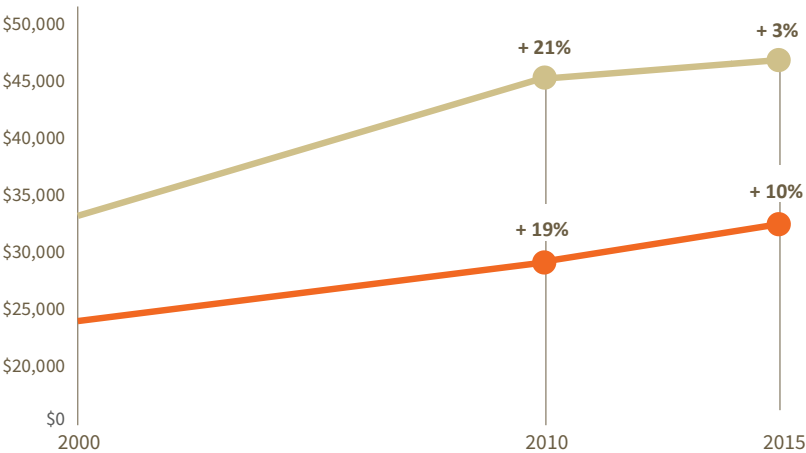
Median household income in the Second Ward has increased by 29% between 2000 and 2015 from \$23,494 to \$30,297; 71% of Houston's overall median household income of \$46,187. Income ranges across the neighborhood from \$25,000 to just above \$37,000.

In 2015 37% of families in the Second Ward lived on incomes below the poverty level. This is much higher than in Houston, where in 2015 only 19% of families lived below poverty.



Left: Median Household Income by Census Tract, 2015
Below: Median Household Income Compared to Houston 2000-2015
Houston ●
Second Ward ●
Source: Census 2000, 2010 and ACS 2015 (5-Year)

Median Household Income



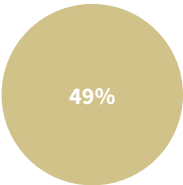
Housing Cost

Many residents in Second Ward are burdened with high housing costs. Overall 31% of owners and 49% of renters spend more than 30% of their income on housing. 92% percent of renters who make less than \$20,000 spend more than 30% of income on housing; while 63% of homeowners who make less than \$20,000 spend more than 30% of their income on housing.

Second Ward **Owners**
who spend more than
30% of income on
housing



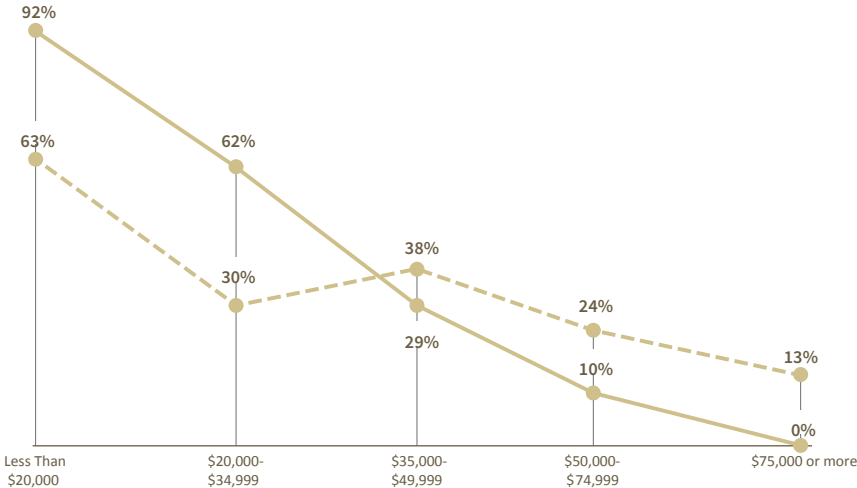
Second Ward **Renters**
who spend more than
30% of income on
housing

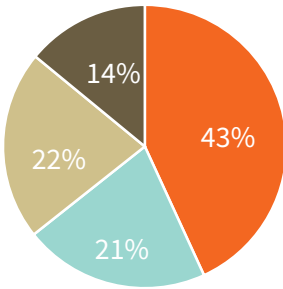


Above: Housing Cost Burden, 2015
Below: Housing Cost >30% of Household
Income for Owners and Renters 2015
Owners 2015 - -
Renters 2015 —

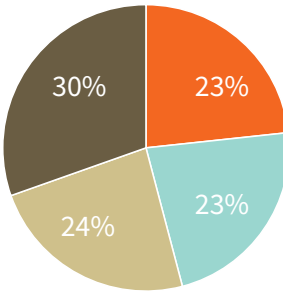
Source: ACS 2015 (5-Year)

Housing Cost Burden > 30% by Income





Second Ward 2015



Houston 2015

Left: Educational Attainment, 2015

Less than High School ●

High School Graduate ●

Some College ●

Bachelor's Degree or Higher ●

Opposite Page, Top: Percent of residents over 25 years with a high school diploma, 2000, 2010, 2015

Opposite Page, Below: TEA Texas Academic Performance Report 2015-2016

Reading —

Math - -

Sources: Census 2000, Census 2010, ACS 2015, TEA, Texas Academic Performance Report 2015-2016

Education

Over the last fifteen years Second Ward residents over the age of 25 years with a high school diploma has risen steadily from 32% in 2000 to 57% in 2015.

Yet, there is an ongoing gap between educational attainment in Second Ward and greater Houston where in 2015 77% of residents over 25 had a high school diploma.

The Texas Education Agency 2016 report provides STAAR performance ratings in math and reading for schools throughout Texas. There are only two elementary schools in the Second Ward and neither meet or exceed the Houston Independent School District averages in math or reading.

Second Ward residents over the age of 25 with a high school diploma
2000

32%

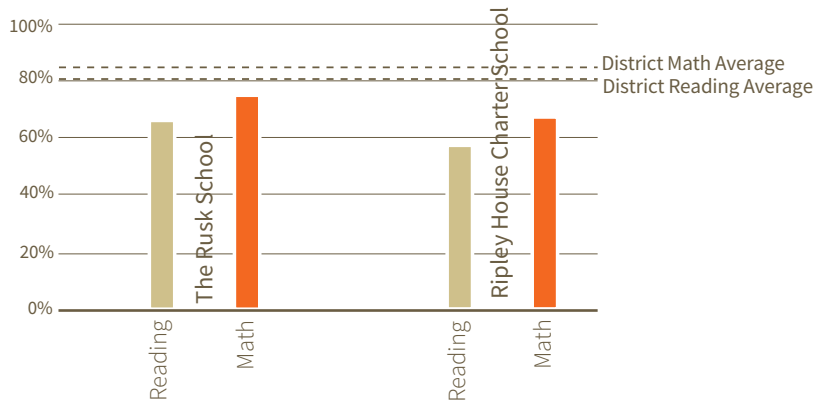
2010

51%

2015

57%

TEA School Performance



Employment

Houston has one of the strongest employment markets in the nation and is expected to gain jobs, with growth strongest in construction, retail, professional services, health care, food services and public education.

In 2015 the largest employment sectors in the Second Ward were construction (12%), production (12%) and professional occupations (12%).

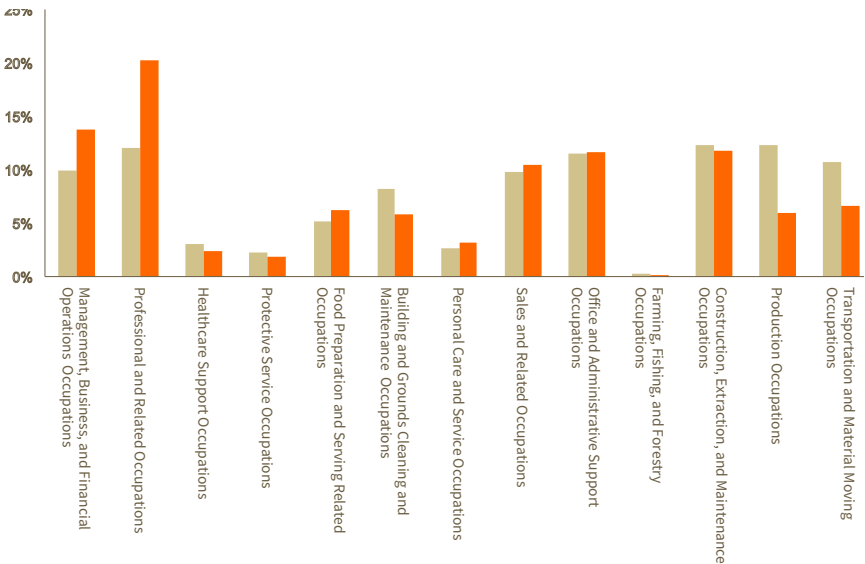
Below: Employment by Sector, 2015

Near Northside ■

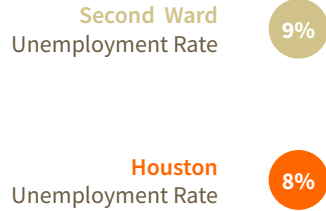
Houston ■

Source: ACS 2015 (5-Year)

Employment by Sector, 2015

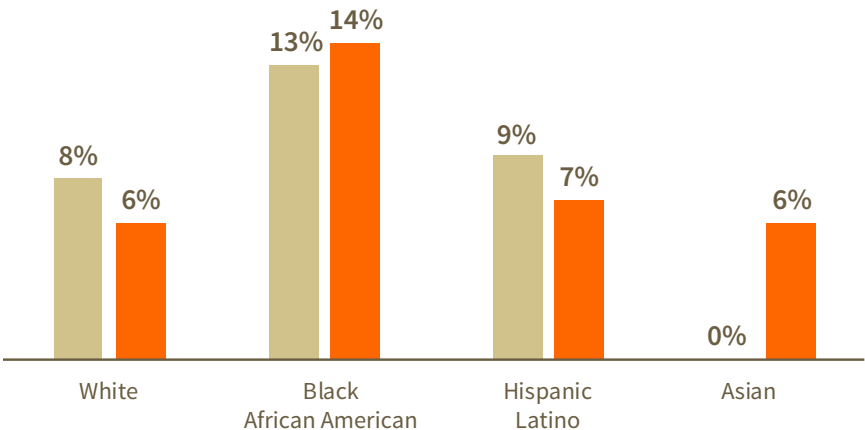


The unemployment rate in the Second Ward is just slightly higher than Houston overall. African-American residents have the highest rate of unemployment in the Second Ward at 13%.



Unemployment by Race

Above: Unemployment Rate Compared to Houston, 2015
Below: Unemployment Rate by Race
Second Ward ●
Houston ●
Source: ACS 2015 (5-Year)



New Development

The Second Ward is experiencing substantial new development. While new development is spread across the neighborhood, there are concentrations on the west side of the neighborhood and between Sampson and Hirsch Rd.

Below: New Development
Re-plats ●

Source: City of Houston PlatTracker







Complete Communities Initiative

City of Houston Planning and Development Department
University of Houston Community Design Resource Center