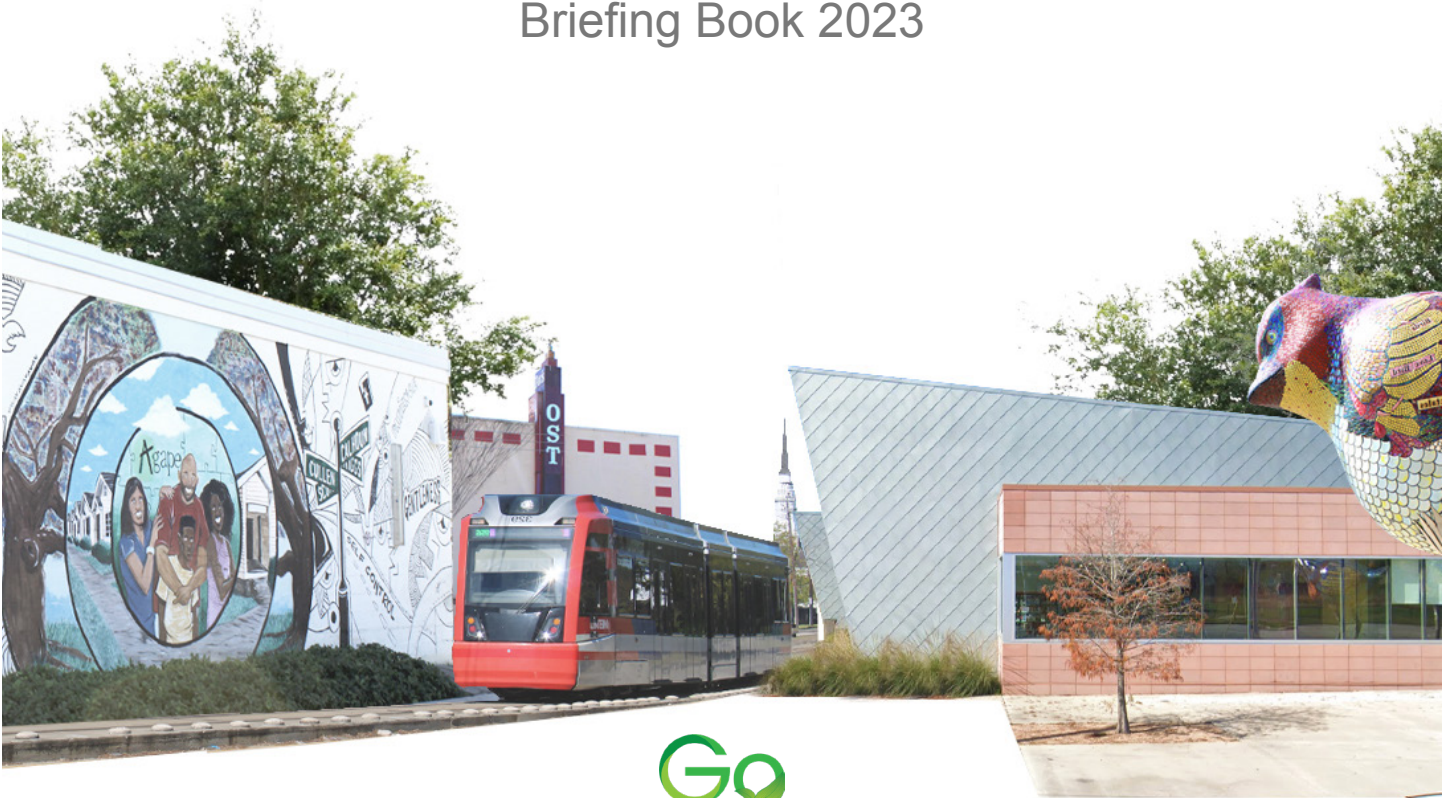


OST SOUTH UNION

OUR COMMUNITY
Briefing Book 2023



Community Design Resource Center
University of Houston

LISC HOUSTON

Houston LISC

Great Opportunities (GO) Neighborhoods is Houston LISC's place-based, comprehensive community development program for Building Sustainable Communities. Through GO Neighborhoods, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) supports residents and community-based organizations in organizing and working in collaboration to create a unified vision of equitable growth and implement projects and programs to realize it. The GO Neighborhoods partnership transforms communities while preserving affordable housing and rich cultural histories.



Neighborhood Recovery Community Development Corporation

NRCDC, operating Houston-wide, has served the OST/South Union community since 1992. NRCDC approaches its work holistically, through housing and economic development and financial investment. NRCDC also provides a wide range of educational programs such as homebuyer education and counseling and financial education and services.

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INTRODUCTION

OST/South Union is located in southeast Houston and in close proximity to Downtown, the Texas Medical Center, University of Houston, Texas Southern University, Rice University, and Houston Community College Central Campus. The Purple Line Light Rail provides a direct connection to the majority of these destinations and the community is well-served by public transit. OST/South Union is bounded by Old Spanish Trail to the north, Mykawa Road to the east, Loop 610 to the south, and State Highway 288 to the west.

Over the last two decades the population of OST/South Union has remained mostly stable, with a small decline in recent years. Specifically, in 2000 the community was home to 19,516 people, while in 2020 18,868 people called the neighborhood home.

Many families have lived in the community for decades, and a majority of the population is Black or African American. At the same time, like many communities in Houston, the Hispanic or Latino/a population is growing and the neighborhood is becoming more diverse.

OST/South Union first developed in the late 1940s and 1950s with a number of small subdivisions characterized by modest ranch style homes. While, the area was originally home to a majority white population, by the late 1960s integration brought middle class black families to the area.

Palm Center, located on Griggs Road near Martin Luther King Boulevard, is regarded as Houston's first outdoor shopping mall. The center opened in September of 1955, prior to Gulfgate and Meyerland. Today, Palm Center is home to numerous community and social services, including Precinct 7 Justice of the Peace, Harris County Constables Office, the Urban League, Harris Health Dental Clinic, Texas Children's Pediatrics, Houston Police Department, a U.S. Post Office, and other amenities.

Challenges faced by the community include an aging housing stock that is in need of maintenance and repair and neighborhood streets and drainage in need of investment. Yet, new greenways, bike lanes, and transit have created diverse mobility options for many in the community and commercial

corridors are experiencing growth, with new businesses opening in the neighborhood.

Health, education, and safety have been the focus of much of our civic action and millions of dollars have been invested to support programs focusing on these issues. Park improvements have been planned, new exercise programs have been introduced, and the Garden at Palm Center is providing food and education to many in the community.

In 2023 OST/South Union leaders, partners, and residents are updating the Quality of Life Agreement (QLA) to guide community-led efforts over the next five to ten years. This Briefing Book is a resource to support community planning and decision-making for the Quality of Life Agreement updates.



ARTS, CULTURE, HISTORY and MEDIA

VISION

Culture will connect us, history will be our foundation, and the arts will celebrate our past and our future. Creativity will be the thread from which the fabric of our neighborhood is woven.

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on promoting the arts as a way to enhance quality of life, build pride, celebrate history, enrich youth and build economic strength. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

BUILD COMMUNITY

Build a healthy and vibrant community by celebrating our history, embracing our culture and expressing our creativity.

GROW THE ECONOMY

Fuel the economy by attracting new public and private investment in our community through the arts.

ENRICH OUR YOUTH

Enrich our youth by providing the tools to solve problems, think critically and positively contribute to their community through the arts, culture, history and media.

Since 2014 the Arts, Culture, History, and Media GO Team has engaged over 3,500 participants, and completed 91 projects. The projects led by the GO Team have led to the leverage and investment of over \$400,000.

In the last two years the GO Team has advocated for new public art projects, including a mural at the former HEB store on Scott and the installation of sidewalk art at Agape Development. The GO Team is also working on a book celebrating the history and future of the community in honor of Gwendolyn Fedrick.

OST/South Union is home to approximately one dozen public art projects. This includes Dixie Friend Gay's "Birds of a Feather" sculpture at the Young Neighborhood Library, a number of murals, a mini-mural, sidewalk art, and art at the transit stations along the Purple Line Light Rail. Since OST/South Union became a GO Neighborhood the number of public art installations in the neighborhood have more than doubled.

Currently, the Houston Southeast Management District is sponsoring a plan to provide supplemental pedestrian, gateway, and accent lighting in the community.



1%

Of OST/South Union Workers are Employed in the Arts, Design, and Media

2%

Of Houston Workers are Employed in the Arts, Design, and Media

Source: ACS 2020

The 2013 Houston Arts Alliance study on the economic impact of the arts found that the arts generated nearly \$1 billion in total economic activity in the Houston region and supported 29,118 full-time jobs.



Public Art Map

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FAMILY INCOME and WEALTH

VISION

Our local businesses will grow. New economic development and investment will provide the services and amenities we need and create jobs. Our families will have the knowledge and resources they need to make smart financial choices and grow income and wealth.

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on supporting local businesses, attracting new economic development, and building the security and wealth of families. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

SUPPORT AND BUILD OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

Support and build our local economy by encouraging local shopping, providing business

development training, increasing access to capital and creating a business incubator program.

SPARK NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Attract new economic development that addresses our retail and service gaps and creates greater economic opportunity in our community.

BUILD FAMILY INCOME AND WEALTH

Build family income and wealth by increasing our knowledge and understanding of such financial and legal tools, as establishing a credit history, planning inheritance, saving, investing and managing mortgages, taxes and exemptions.

INCREASE USE OF BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Build understanding and trust in financial institutions.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

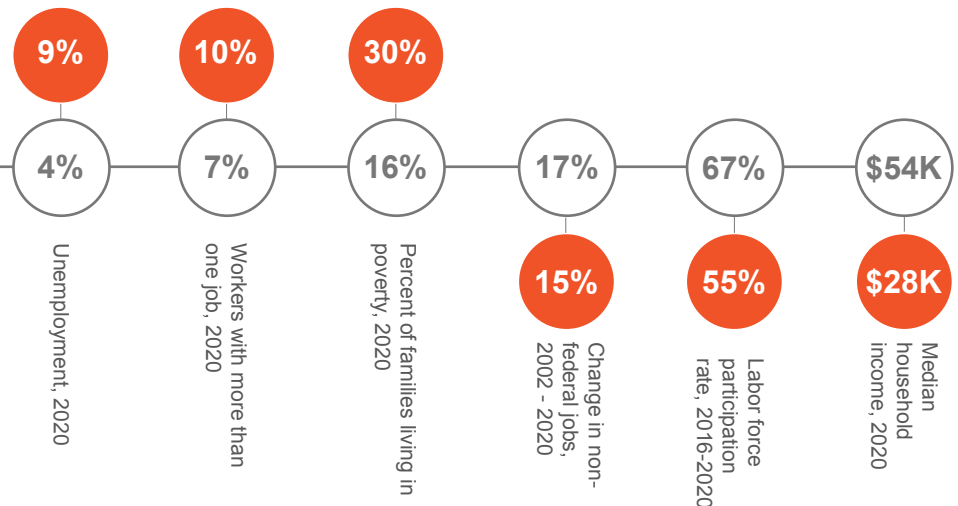
Increase career opportunities by developing partnerships to provide job training and educational programs.

Since 2014 the Economic Development and Family Income and Wealth GO Team has engaged over 11,000 participants and leverage over \$3 million in investment.

The GO Team has been active organizing and conducting workshops focused on building and maintaining family wealth.

HOUSTON

OST/SOUTH UNION



Sources: ACS 2020, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) 2002-2017, Bureau of Labor Statistics Annual Unemployment



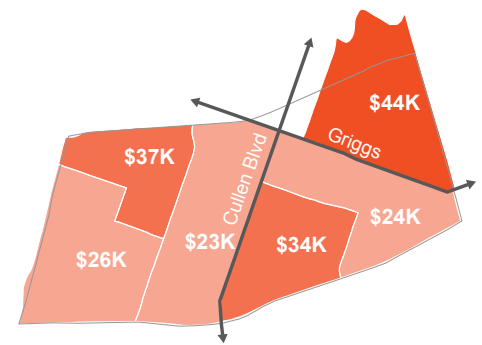
In 2020, median household income in OST/ South Union was \$28,387, compared to \$53,600 in the City of Houston. Over the last two decades, the median household income in OST/South Union has remained consistently lower than in Houston overall.

Across the U.S. median household income is not keeping up with the rising costs of housing and other goods which is creating financial challenges for many households. Between 2000 and 2020 the median household income in OST/South Union grew by 45%, an increase similar to that in Houston overall. Yet, median household income in OST/South Union was only 53% of the Houston median in 2020.

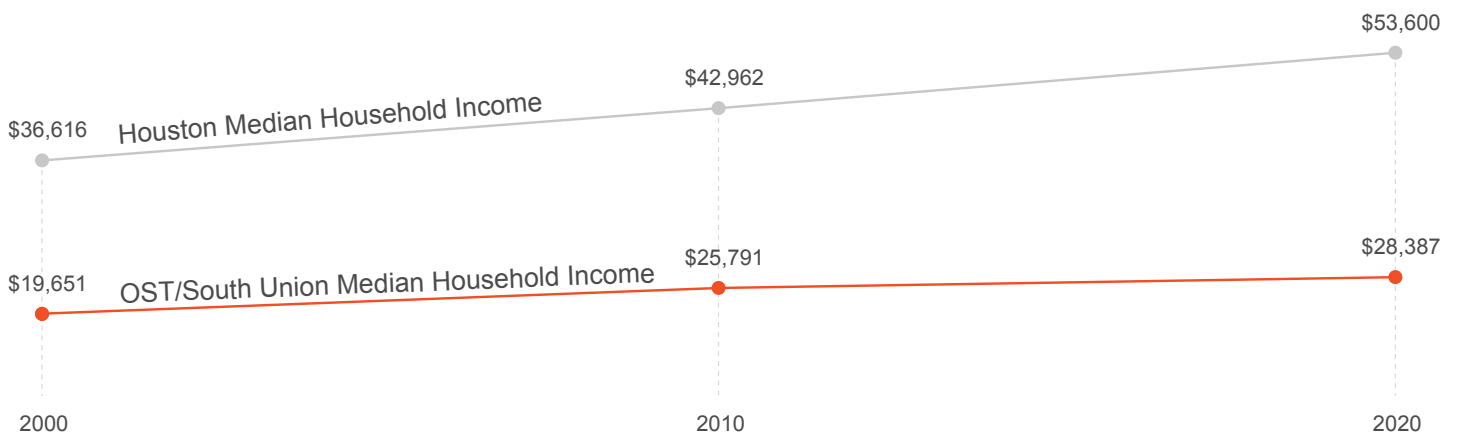
In 2020, the percent of OST/ South Union families living on an income below the federal poverty level was 30%, nearly double the 16% rate in Houston. Over half of OST/South Union households with children under the age of 18 years had incomes below the federal poverty level. Families with children living in poverty face many challenges, including food and housing insecurity. In 2020, poverty levels for all age groups, including those over 60 years of age, were nearly double the rates in the City of Houston in the same year.

In 2020, 25% of OST/South Union households received Food Stamps/SNAP benefits, compared to 15% in Houston overall.

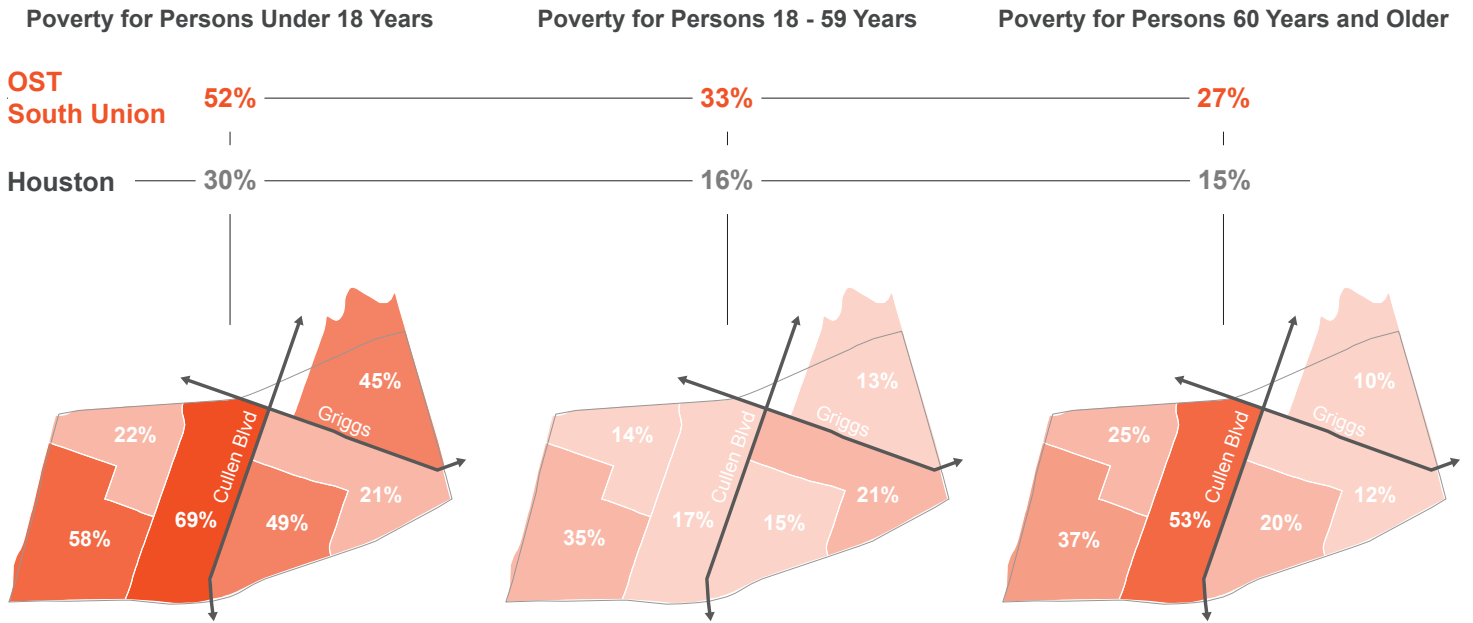
The impact of systemic racism and other biases are evident in the distribution of median household income by race and ethnicity. In 2020, Black or African American households in the neighborhood had a median income of just \$27,418, while white households had a median income that was more than double this amount, at \$58,117.



Median Household Income By Census Tract, Source: ACS 2020



Median Household Income, Source: Census 2000, ACS 2010, 2020



Poverty by Age, By Census Tract, Source: ACS 2020

Race/Ethnicity	Median Household Income	Total Households by Race/Ethnicity
Black or African American	\$27,418	6,127
White	\$58,117	1,000
Hispanic or Latino	\$42,705	1,013

Median Household Income By Race/Ethnicity, Source: ACS 2020

OST/South Union has two major commercial corridors, Old Spanish Trail and Griggs Road. The majority of commercial businesses are located along these two streets. Neighborhood scaled commercial land uses are concentrated along Cullen Boulevard and Scott Street. The majority of industrial land uses are along the South Loop.

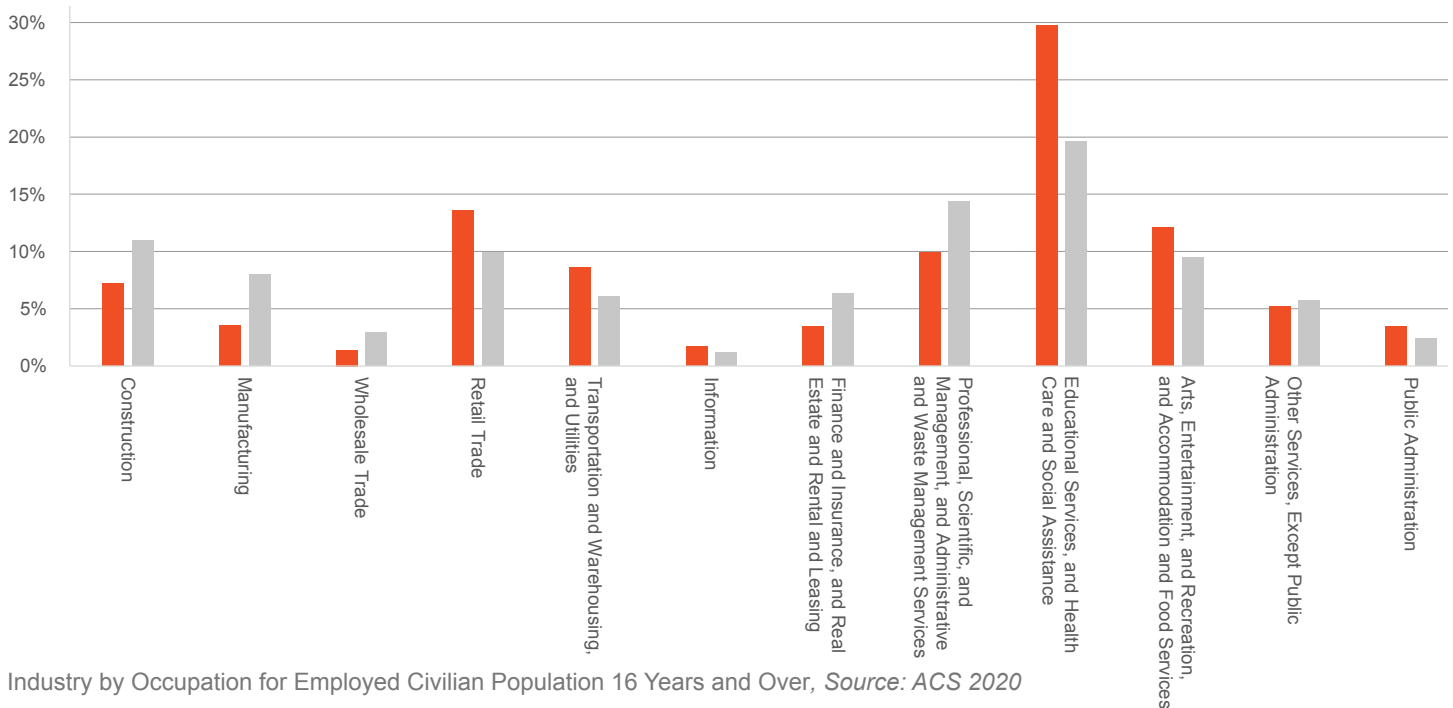
In 2020, there were 7,082 employed workers in OST/South Union aged 16 years and over. Nearly 30% of all workers from

the neighborhood were employed in educational services, health care, and social assistance occupations. Retail trade represented the second highest occupation for workers who lived in the community, at just under 15%.

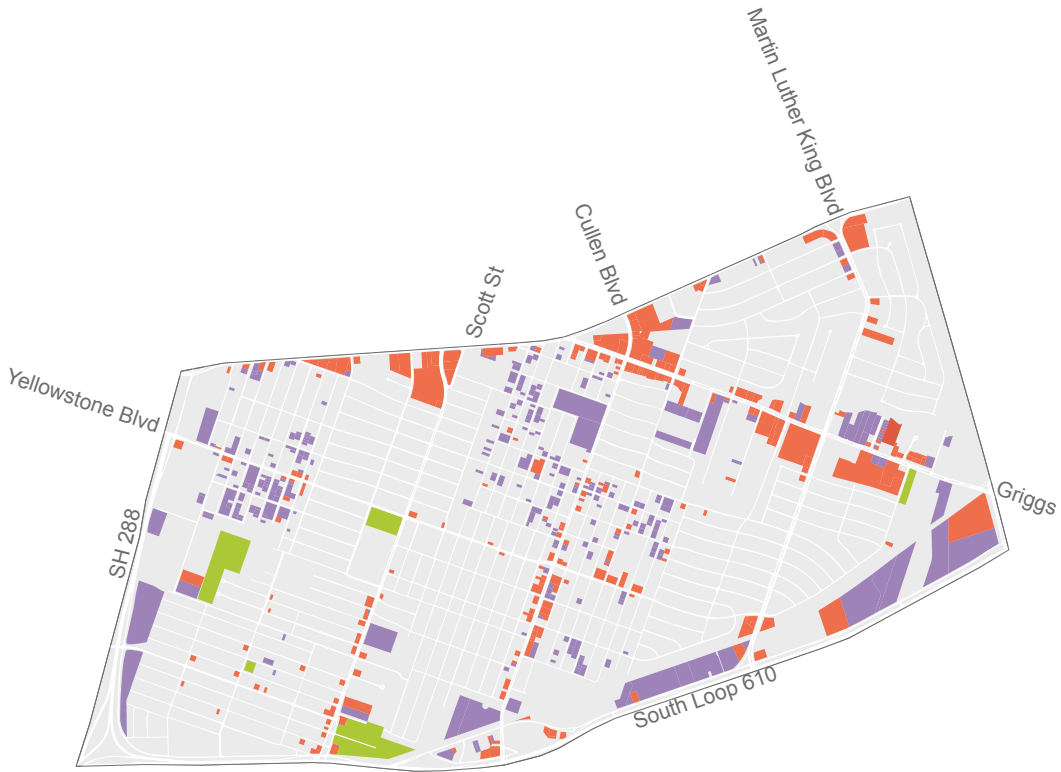
The 2020 American Community Survey reported that the unemployment rate in OST/South Union was 9%, more than double the 4% unemployment rate in Houston. In the same year, 9.5% of all workers in OST/South

Union held more than one job, as compared to 7% in Houston.

In 2020, participation in the labor force for workers 16 years and over was lower in OST/South Union than in the City of Houston overall, 55% to 67% respectively. The labor force participation rate is likely impacting median household income in the OST/South Union community.



Industry by Occupation for Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over, Source: ACS 2020



Land Use Map
 Commercial
 Industrial
 Source: City of Houston GIS

<p>9% Unemployment in OST/ South Union, 2020</p>	<p>9.5% Of workers in OST/ South Union had more than one job in 2020</p>	<p>55% Labor force participation rate for workers over 16 years of age, OST/South Union 2020</p>
<p>4% Unemployment in Houston, 2020</p>	<p>7.2% Of workers in Houston had more than one job in 2020</p>	<p>67% Labor force participation rate for workers over 16 years of age, Houston 2020</p>

Sources: ACS 2020, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) 2020

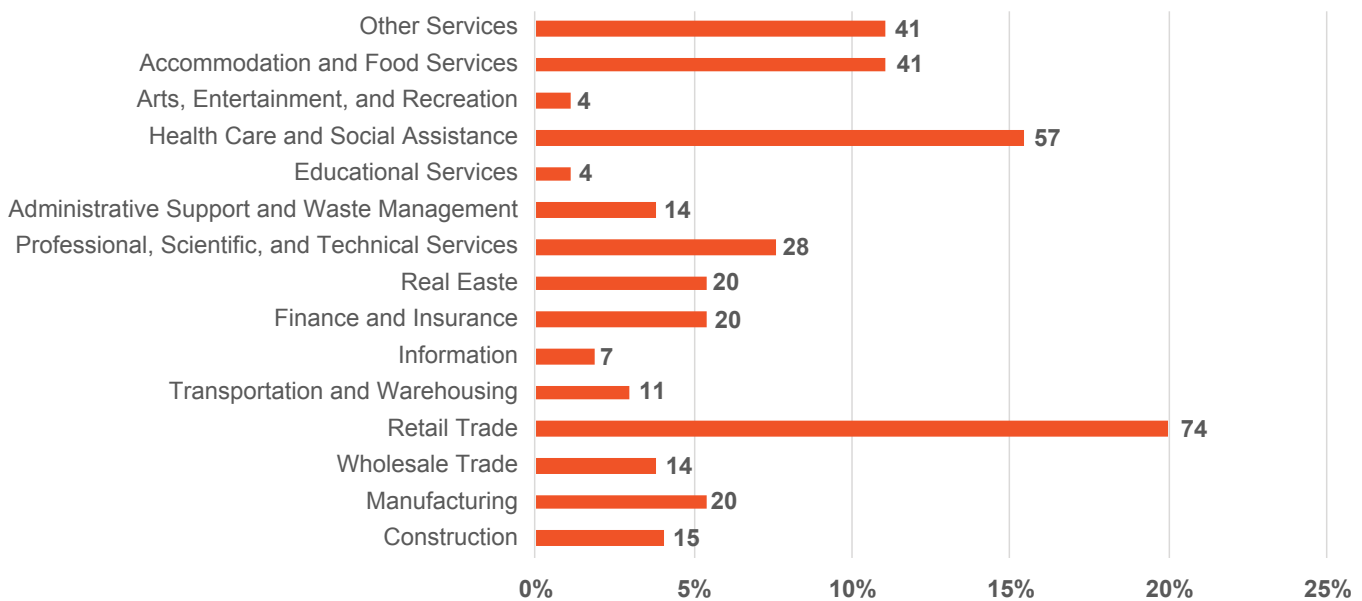
In 2020, there were 375 businesses located in Zip Code 77021, which includes all of OST/ South Union. These businesses provided nearly 7,000 jobs, with an average employee income of \$41,600 annually. Over one-third of area businesses were retail trade or health care and social assistance. In the same year, over half of businesses in Zip Code 77021 employed less than five people. Further, only eleven establishments had more than 100 employees. In 2023, 50 businesses located in Zip Code 77021 were registered with the City of Houston as Certified Minority or Women Owned

Enterprises, making up 13% of the total businesses in the area.

Since 2014 the number of local businesses in OST/ South Union have continued to increase. In 2014 there were 335 businesses of which 70 were retail establishments, by 2020 the community had added 40 new businesses, of which five were retail.

Economic development was the focus of a recent study completed by Street Smart and sponsored by the Houston Southeast Management District and Neighborhood Recovery

Community Development Corporation. The study identified two focus areas for new economic growth. The commercial node, located at Scott Street and Old Spanish Trail is anchored by a CVS, Walgreens, and Aldi grocery store. The civic node, located at the intersection of Martin Luther King Boulevard and Griggs Road, has a cluster of civic assets including the Young Neighborhood Library, Palm Center, and the Houston Texans YMCA. Data included in the study reported that 21% of area retail was vacant and 13% underutilized. The study includes a series of economic development strategies to support future growth in the community.



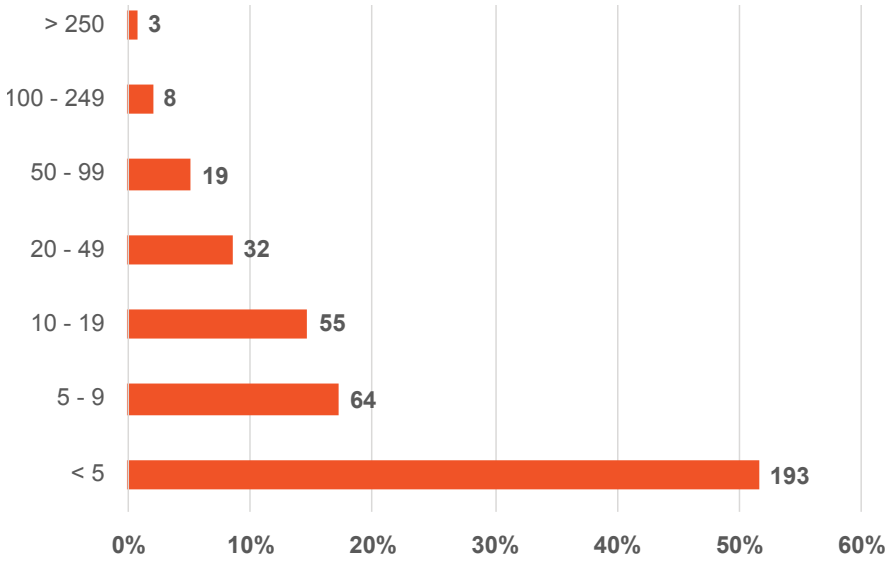
Number of Business Establishments by Type, 77021
 Source: Zip Code Business Patterns, 2018



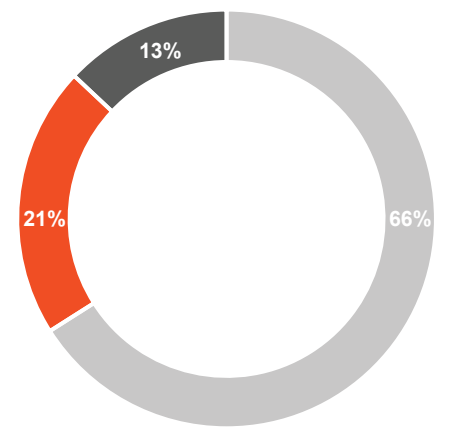
Detailed business data is only available at the Zip Code level. In the 77021 Zip Code there were **375** businesses in 2020. In 2023, 50 businesses had a Minority or Women Business Enterprise certification from the City of Houston, representing 13% of the total.

In 2020, the 375 businesses in OST/South Union provided approximately 6,900 jobs, with an average income of \$41,600 per employee.

Economic Development Nodes
Source: Street Smart Report



Business Establishments by Number of Employees, 77021
Source: Zip Code Business Patterns, 2020



Retail Study
 Vacant
 Underutilized
 Occupied
 Source: Street Smart Report

Sources: Zip Code Business Patterns, 2020 (77021), City of Houston Certification Directory 2023

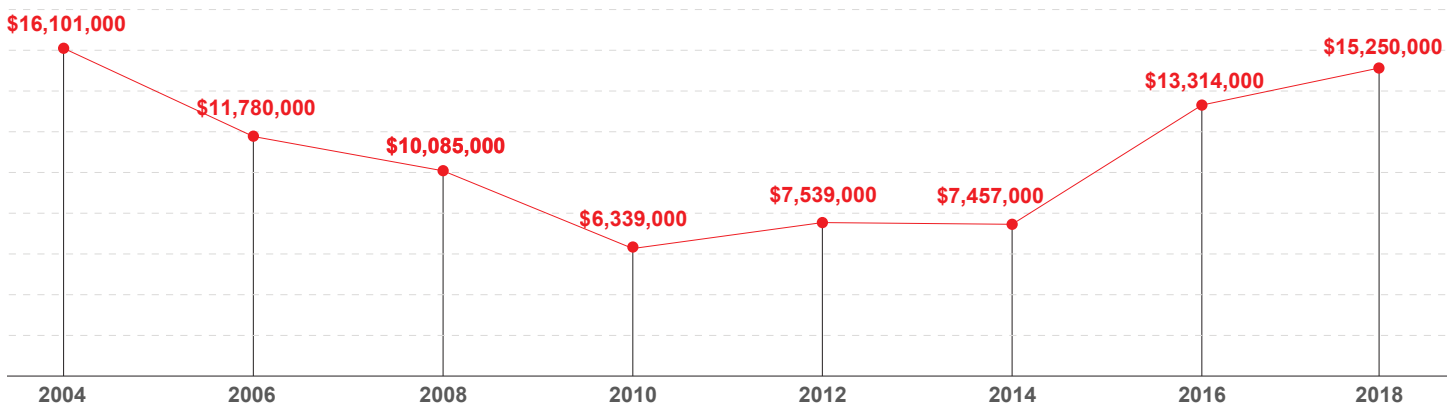
OST/South Union is partially served by the Houston Southeast Management District and the OST/Alameda Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ). These entities assist in identifying and funding public improvements that support economic development.

Since 2004 the number and amount of small business loans secured in OST/South Union has fluctuated. However, since 2014 these loans have continued to increase.

In 2018, 33 small business loans of over \$150K were provided in OST/South Union totaling over

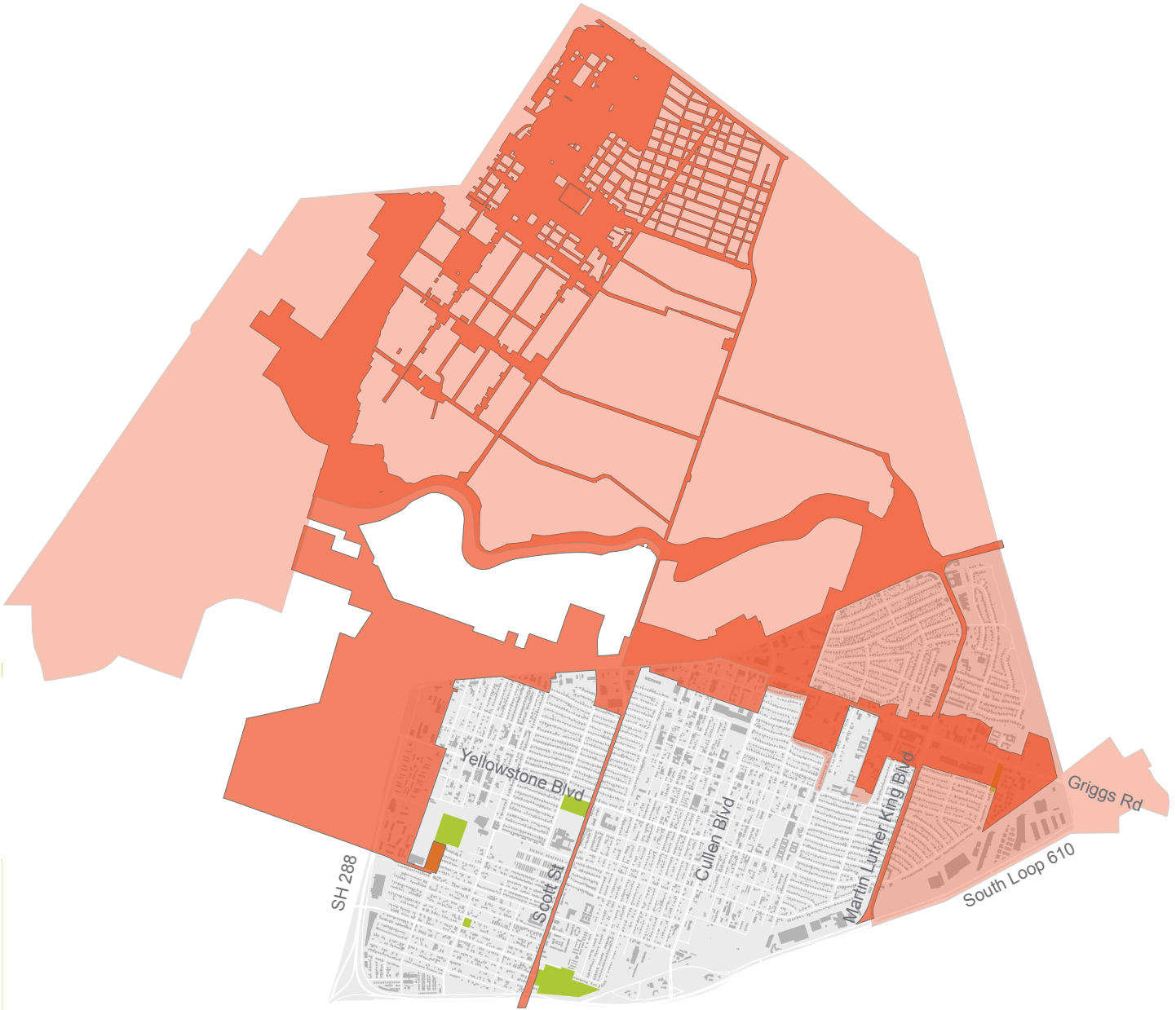
\$15 million. The loans secured in 2018 represent a 15% increase from 2016 when \$13.3 million in small business loans were received.

Empowering local entrepreneurs, leveraging economic incentives available through federally designated Opportunity Zones, and the potential for public improvements provided by the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone can stimulate the local economy, create jobs within the neighborhood, and improve family wealth and financial stability.



Small Business Loans, OST/South Union 2004 - 2018

Source: 2004-2018 Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council: Community Reinvestment Act - Policy Map



Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone and Management District Map

- Houston Southeast Management District
- OST/Alameda TIRZ #7

Source: City of Houston GIS

EDUCATION and YOUTH

VISION

We believe it takes a village to raise a child. Working in partnership with our schools, teachers, students, and parents we will ensure that all our children and young people have the tools necessary to succeed.

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on improving the educational readiness and success of children and youth, supporting and educating parents, and creating partnerships to improve and support local schools. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

SCHOOL READINESS AND PARENT SUPPORT

Enhance school readiness by ensuring that our families

have access to early-childhood education programs and that our parents have the support and encouragement they need to inspire greatness in their children and themselves.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Improve high school graduation rates for youth and their parents by creating a “learning community,” rich with resources such as high-quality and affordable afterschool and summer programs, tutoring and mentoring, GED and adult education programs and access to technology.

CAREER AND COLLEGE BOUND

Ensure that our youth have the support they need to pursue

college, military service, vocational training and other career options.

SCHOOL SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIPS

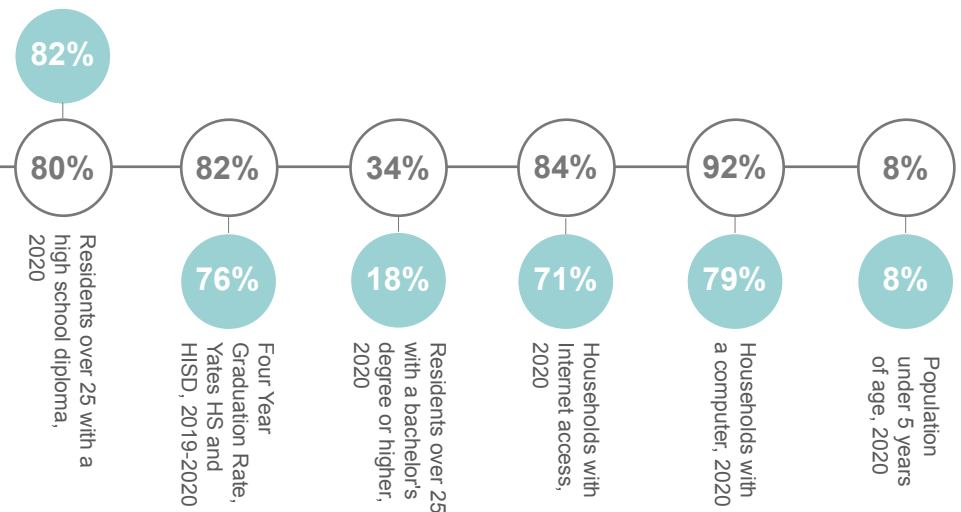
Create partnerships to strengthen our local schools and help them succeed.

The Education and Youth GO Team has engaged over 5,000 participants and completed over 100 projects. The projects led by the GO Team have led to the leverage and investment of approximately \$1.5 million.

The GO Team has a partnership with U.S. Dream Academy to provide delinquency and violence prevention programming at Foster Elementary School.

HOUSTON

OST/SOUTH UNION



Sources: ACS 2020, TEA Academic Performance Report, Yates HS 2019-2020



Educational attainment in OST/South Union has risen steadily over the last two decades. In 2000, only 62% of residents over the age of 25 years had a high school diploma or equivalency, by 2020 this number had risen to 82%. Over the same time period the percent of residents with a college degree increased from 10% to 18%.

The OST/South Union neighborhood is home to four public elementary schools, Foster, Hartsfield, Peck, and Whidby, and Cullen Middle School. Students are zoned to Yates High School which is located in Third Ward to the north. A number of charter schools are also in the community, including KIPP Peace Academy Elementary School, KIPP Liberation College Prep Middle School, Beatrice

Mayes Institute which provides Kindergarten through eighth grade, and Yes Prep Southside Elementary and Secondary Schools.

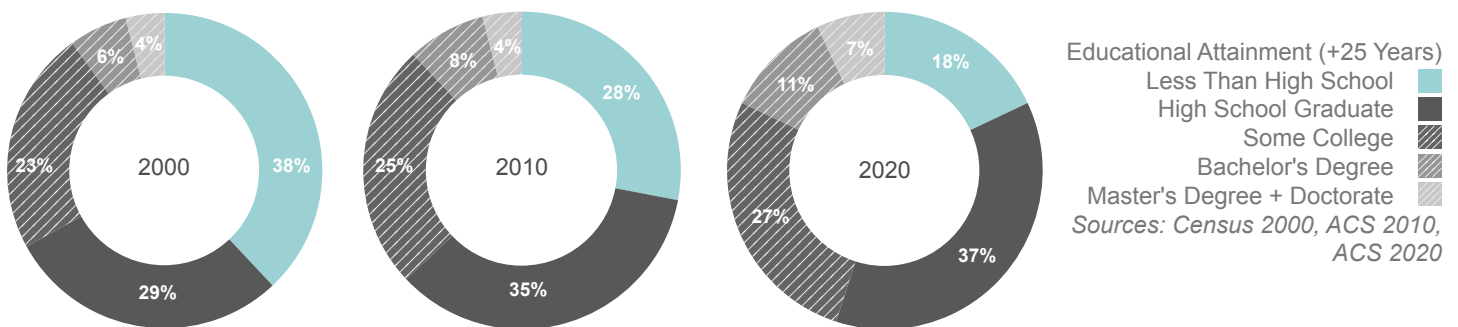
In 2020, 97% of students enrolled at OST/South Union public schools were economically disadvantaged. Furthermore, 21% of area households did not have a computer and 29% did not have access to the Internet. However, in 2020, 96% of households with people under the age of 18 years had a computer.

Enrollment at area public schools has dropped since 2014. The decline in enrollment can partially be explained by the decrease in the number of school age residents and the more recent pandemic. Specifically, between 2016 and 2020 the number of

residents between the ages of 5 and 17 years dropped by 492, or 14%.

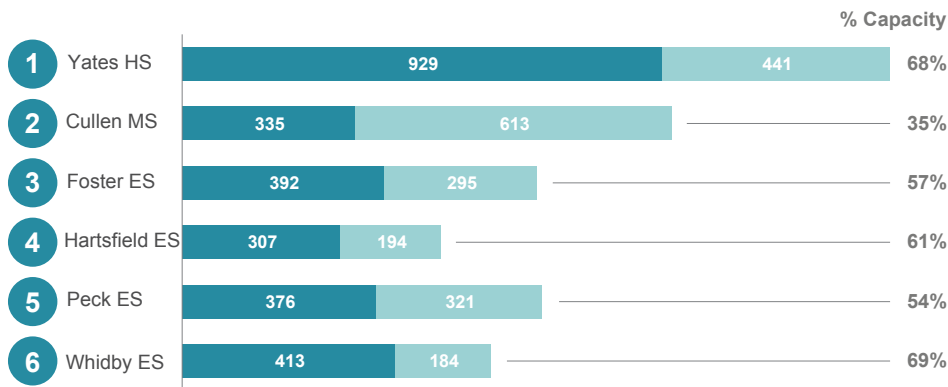
Enrollment is also declining as more families elect to enroll their children in charter or private schools. Cullen Middle School has been the most impacted, and is currently operating at 35% of capacity. The school, constructed to accommodate nearly 1,000 students, had only 335 enrolled in the 2021-2022 school year.

In the 2020-2021 academic year schools serving students in OST/South Union were operating at only 57% of capacity. Cullen Middle School was serving just over one-third the number of students it was constructed to accommodate.



1

Between 2000 and 2020 the percent of OST/South Union residents with a high school diploma or equivalency increased substantially, rising from 62% to 82%.



School Enrollment and Capacity
 Enrollment (dark blue), Excess Capacity (light blue)
 Source: TEA Academic Performance Reports, 2020-2021

More recently the pandemic has also impacted enrollment. The largest decline in enrollment occurred between the 2018-2019 school year and the 2020-2021 school year. With overall enrollment in HISD public schools serving OST/South Union dropping by 14%. In this timeframe, every school lost students with the exception of Yates High School.

In the 2021-2022 school year HISD reported that only 43% of elementary school aged students in OST/South Union attended their zoned school. In the same school year only 36% of middle

school students attended their zoned school and 58% of high school students.

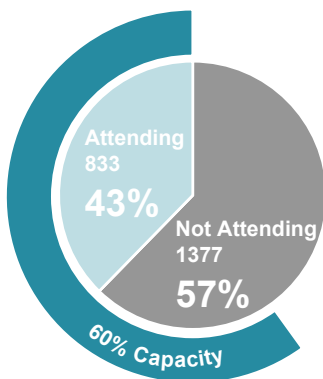
In 2020-2021, the average teacher experience in OST/South Union public schools was approximately 11 years, which is equal to the average years of experience for teachers in the Houston Independent School District overall.

The pandemic had a significant impact on learning outcomes at elementary schools in OST/South Union. STAAR Third Grade Reading scores fell at three of the four area elementary schools

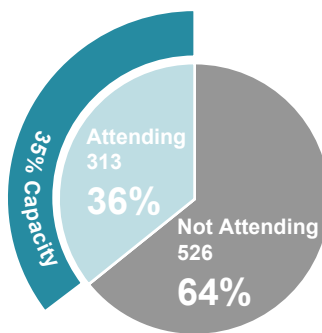
in 2020-2021. Foster Elementary School experienced the most significant decline, dropping 50 percentage points between the 2018-2019 and 2020-2021 school years, from 80% passing to only 30% passing.

In 2020, Yates High School had a four year graduation rate of 76%, compared to an 82% four year graduation rate in the District.

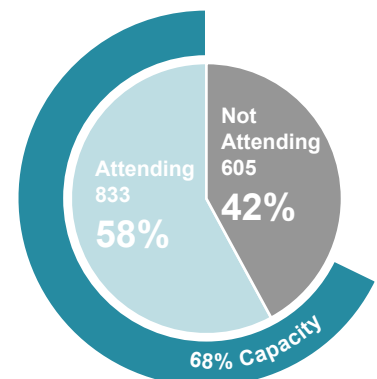
Supporting area schools, students, and families can improve academic achievement.



Elementary Schools
2421 Total Students

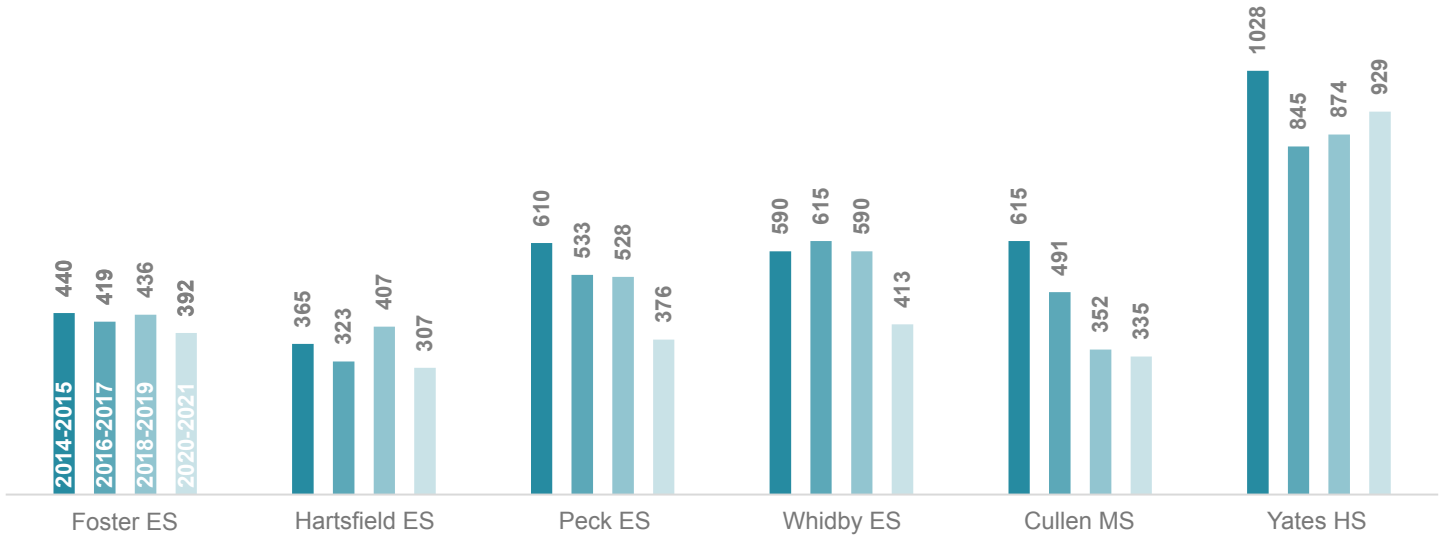


Cullen Middle School
875 Total Students



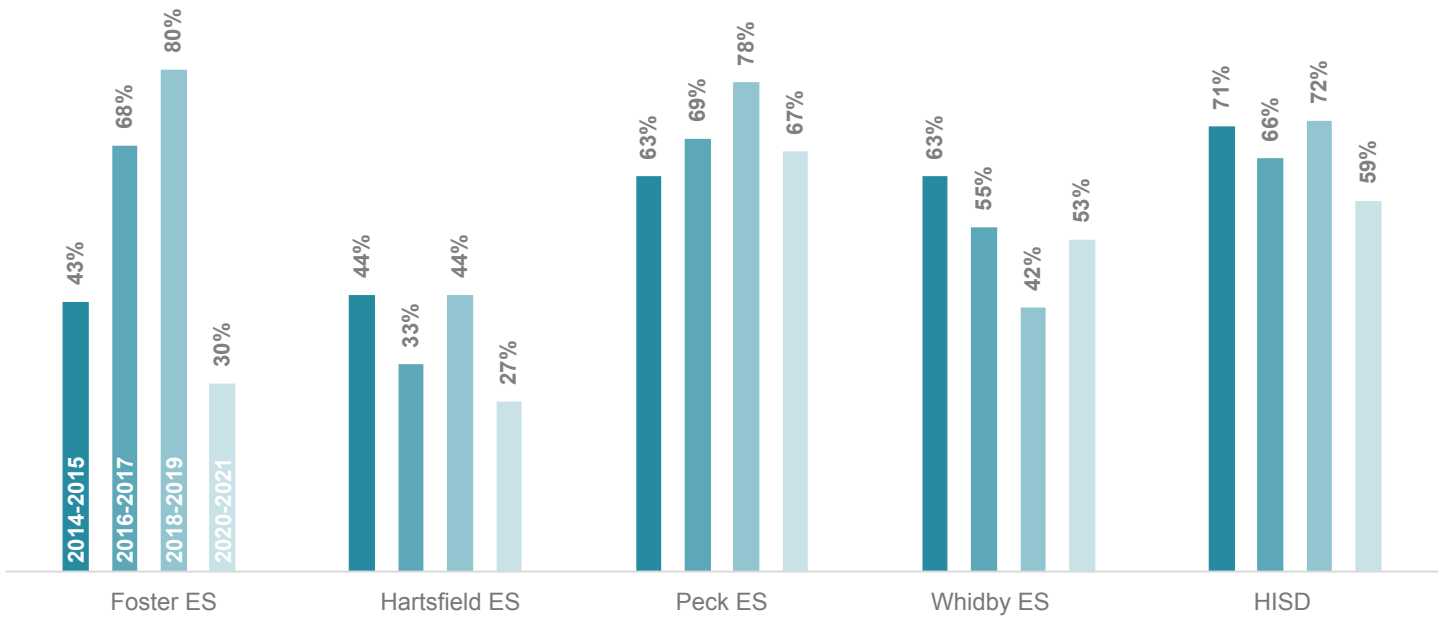
Yates High School
1438 Total Students

Student School Attendance
Source: HISD Zoned Campus Reports, 2021-2022



School Enrollment

Source: Texas Academic Performance Reports All Schools, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2020-2021



Third Grade STAAR Test Scores

Sources: Texas Academic Performance Reports All Schools, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2020-2021

Access to high quality early education, after school, and summer enrichment programs can assist families in ensuring their children have access to the tools and opportunities to succeed.

After school and summer programs were closed across the city due to the pandemic. During that time George T. Nelson (Yellowstone Park) offered the Agents of Discovery program and Agape Development offered Sidewalk Math. Currently, only Whidby Elementary and Cullen Middle School provide after

school programming. The Alice McKean Young Library has returned to offering programming year around.

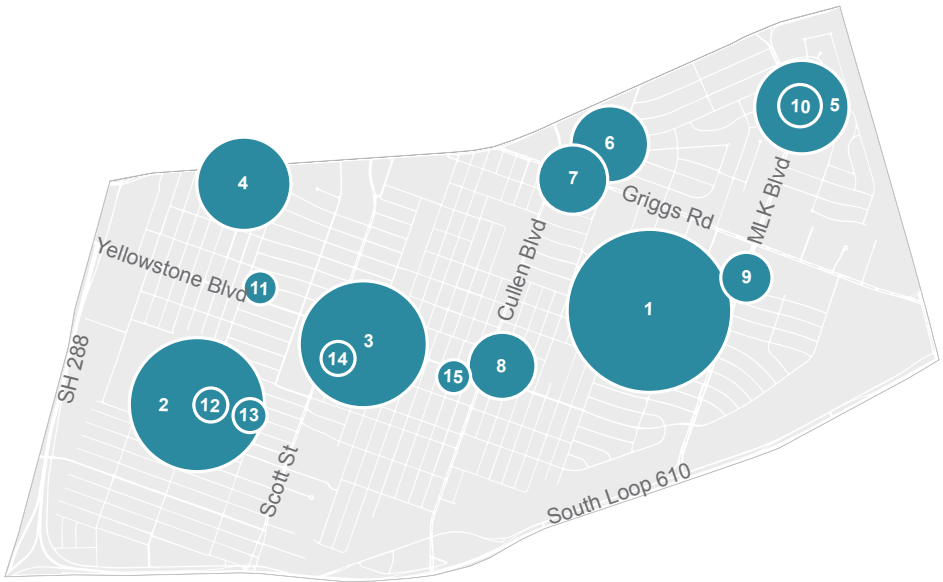
Early childhood education, including Pre-K and Head Start, and high quality childcare can greatly impact a child's future success. Pre-K programs are offered at all four HISD Elementary Schools in OST/South Union and PALS (Preschoolers Achieving Learning Skills) is offered at Peck Elementary School.

In 2022, there were 15 daycare or childcare centers in OST/South Union with 790 child care slots, of which 534 were subsidized. In 2020, there were approximately 1,430 children under the age of five in OST/South Union, making local childcare centers able to accommodate just over one-half of all children under five in the area. According to Children at Risk, OST/South Union is not a childcare desert.



Photo by Houston Parks Board

There are a total of 15 daycare or child care centers in OST/South Union with an estimated total capacity of 790 seats, of which 534 are subsidized and 86 are certified Texas Rising Star. According to Children at Risk, OST/South Union is not a child care desert.



1	Hartsfield	131
2	Dawning Years	106
3	Lisa Marie Harris	101
4	Jewels	74
5	The Drake School	74
6	Wonderland	60
7	Storybrook	55
8	Shining Lights	53
9	Right Fit Kids	42
10	Square One	34
11	Krystle Robinson	12
12	Delores Jean Johnson	12
13	Dorothy L Allen	12
14	GCCSA Foster	12
15	Love A Lot	12

Capacity

● Child Care Centers
Source: Children at Risk, 2022

HEALTH and WELLNESS

VISION

Our community will be healthy, connected to the city, pedestrian friendly, and walkable. We will have easy access to fresh and nutritious food, preventative healthcare and recreational space. Our commitment to health and wellness will create economic opportunity.

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on improving health and wellness through exercise and education, increasing access to affordable and nutritious food, and encouraging preventative healthcare. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

HEALTHY FOOD

Improve our health by ensuring that we all have easy access to healthy, affordable and nutritious food and that healthy eating is supported through neighborhood programs such as community gardens, farmers markets, classes and information.

PREVENTATIVE HEALTHCARE

Improve the accessibility and use of preventative healthcare in our community by enhancing outreach efforts, building community capacity to address health issues, improving basic screening, eliminating the barriers to accessing healthcare and advocating for community-based and innovative models of care.

ACTIVE LIVING

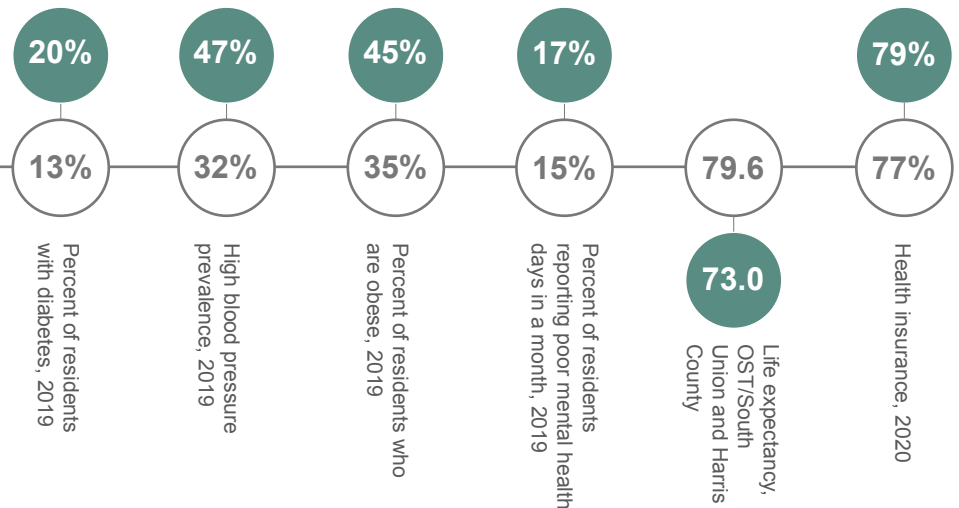
Encourage active living by evaluating and improving our neighborhood parks and developing healthy activities and programs in our parks for people of all ages.

Since 2014 the Health and Wellness GO Team has engaged approximately 37,500 participants and completed over 500 projects. The projects have led to the leverage and investment of nearly \$3 million.

The GO Team has been joined by two important efforts, the OST/South Union Health in Partnership (OHIP) and Dream77021, that focus on physical and mental health respectively.

HOUSTON

OST/SOUTH UNION



Sources: ACS 2020, Life Expectancy Estimates by U.S. Census Tract, 2010-2015. National Center for Health Statistics, 2020, PolicyMap



Zumba at Zollie, Photo by Houston Parks Board

A thriving neighborhood is healthy, free from environmental hazards, home to quality parks, accessible nutritious food, and infrastructure that encourages people to live active and healthy lives.

OST/South Union is adjacent to the Texas Medical Center and the soon to be completed University of Houston College of Medicine. The neighborhood has three Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers, Avenue 360 and two Legacy Clinics at Yes Prep Southside and KIPP Academy. In 2020, 79% of residents had health insurance, slightly higher than the average in Houston.

In 2014, OST/South Union had one major grocery store, the Fiesta Mart on Griggs. Since this time two new grocery stores have been completed, Aldi and Pyburn's Farm Fresh Foods. The Palm Center Farmer's Market, which kicked off in 2013, has continued to provide healthy food to area residents.

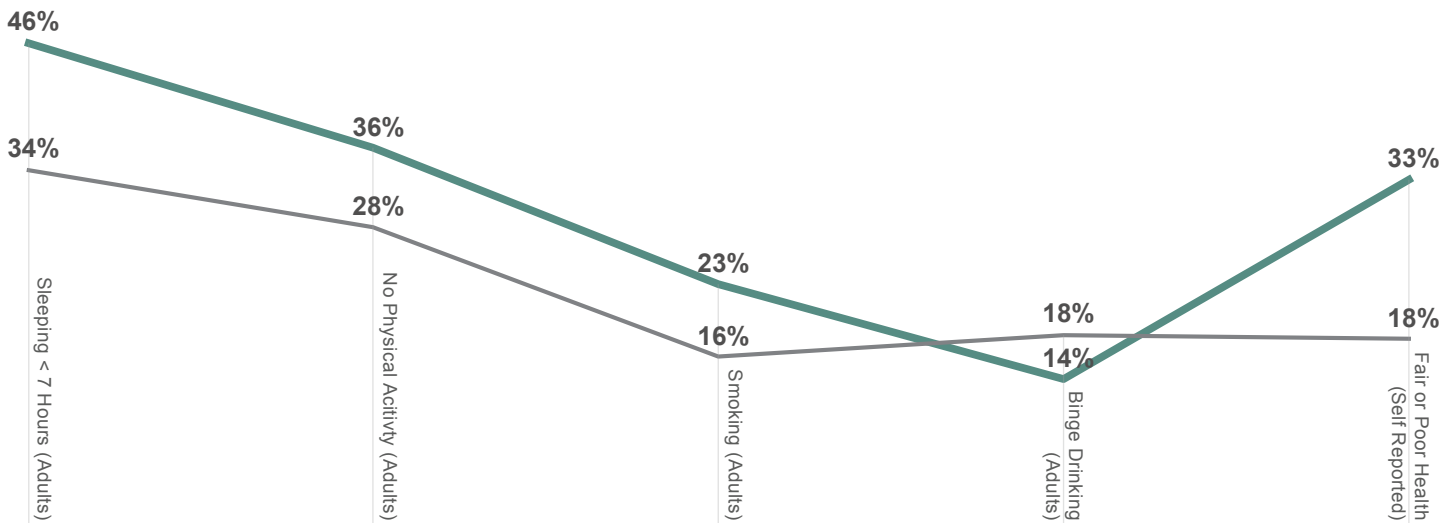
PLACES, a project of the Centers for Disease Control, provides publicly available data for all geographic levels, including census tracts. Model-based small area estimation methods are used to estimate 29 health measures, including health risk behaviors,

health outcomes, health status, and prevention practices.

The PLACES data indicate that adult residents of OST/South Union have higher rates of health risk behaviors than in Houston in every category except binge drinking. These health risk behaviors can impact the quality and length of a person's life.

38% Of OST/South Union Adults Reported Good Health over 30 days

44% Of Harris County Adults Reported Good Health over 30 days



Health Risk Behaviors, Adults

- OST/South Union
- Houston

Source: Division of Population Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (2019 Data)

Source: PolicyMap and CDC BRFSS, 2018



Sources: City of Houston GIS, Houston LISC, Houston Food Bank

- OST/South Union Health Asset Map
- Health Clinic +
- Federally Qualified Health Clinic +
- Grocery Store 🛒
- Farmer's Market 🏪
- Houston Food Bank 🍏
- Parks 🟩



Photo by Houston Parks Board



Photo by Houston Parks Board

Access to parks and open spaces can encourage healthy and active living and reduce health risk factors such as obesity, diabetes, and high blood pressure.

OST/South Union has five City of Houston public parks: Beech-White, Cyrill Madison, George T. Nelson (Yellowstone), Park at Palm Center, and Zollie Scales. Based on data provided by the Houston Parks Board, the community has a park space deficit of over eight acres. The area most underserved is along Cullen Boulevard.

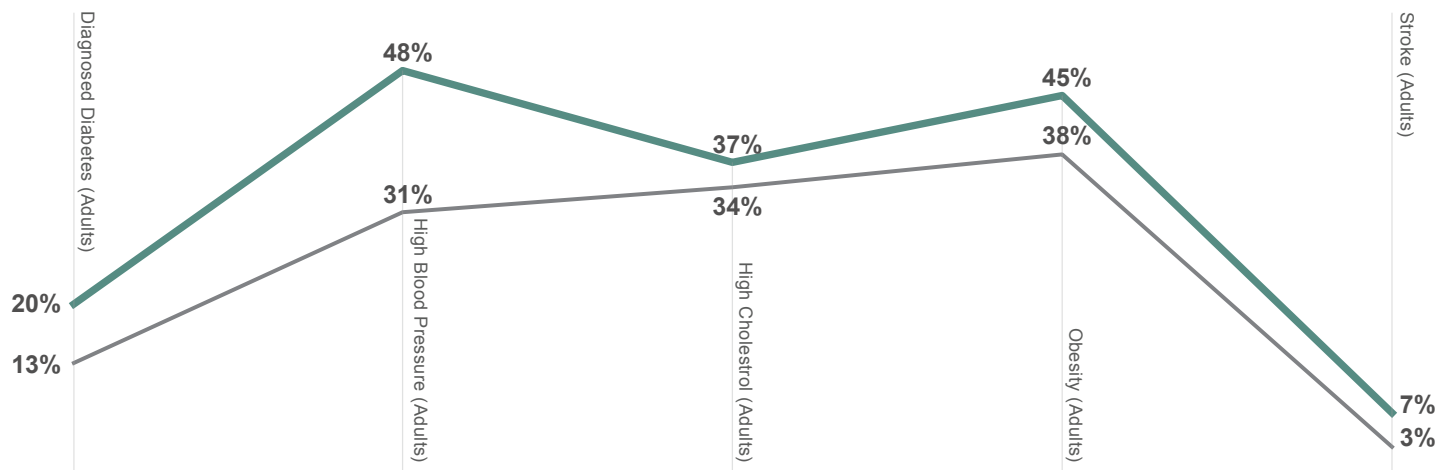
The community also has three SPARK Parks at Hartsfield and

Whidby Elementary Schools and the private Restoration Park. MacGregor Park is located just to the north of OST/South Union. The Houston Parks Board just completed a new plan for the park with an estimated cost of \$100 million. OST/South Union is also within a mile of the Brays Bayou Greenway to the north.

The PLACES data indicate that adult residents of OST/South Union have higher rates of diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, and stroke than in Houston overall. These health risks can impact the quality and length of a person's life.

According to data provided by the US Small-Area Life Expectancy Estimates Project the average lifespan for people in OST/South Union is 73 years. The Harris County life expectancy is more than six years longer, at 79.6 years.

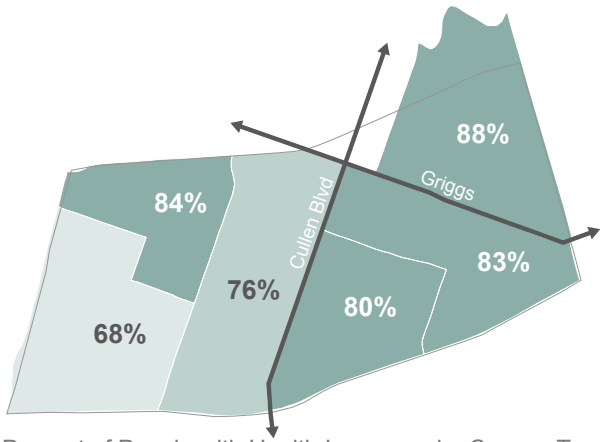
OST/South Union has little industry and as a result does not have any significant environmental risks and only one EPA designated Toxic Release Inventory site, a former gas station located at 6731 Cullen Boulevard. Yet, because area homes are aging, OST/South Union has a high lead risk index as provided by PolicyMap.



Health Conditions, Adults

- OST/South Union
- Houston

Source: Division of Population Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (2019 Data)



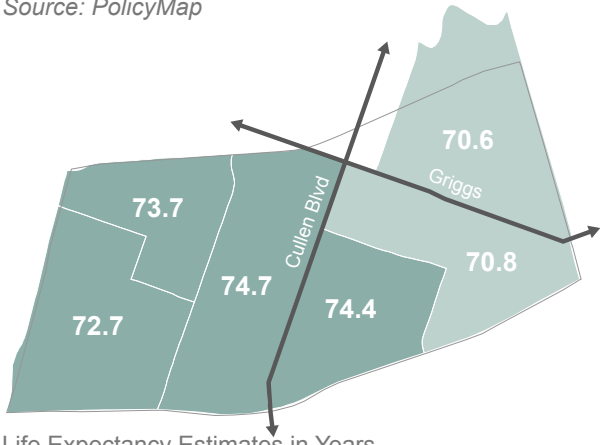
Percent of People with Health Insurance by Census Tract
Source: ACS 2020

79% OST/South Union Residents with Health Insurance

77% Houston Residents with Health Insurance



Lead Risk Index
Source: PolicyMap



Life Expectancy Estimates in Years
Source: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, US Small-area Life Expectancy Estimates Project (USALEEP)

73.0 OST/South Union Life Expectancy

79.6 Harris County Life Expectancy

HOUSING and NEIGHBORHOODS

VISION

Neighborhoods are the heart of our community. Together we will work to protect and improve our existing neighborhoods and housing, grow home ownership, and attract new housing development that is appropriate and meets the diverse needs of both existing and future residents, including affordable housing.

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on protecting and improving neighborhoods, supporting and growing homeowners, and attracting new housing that strengthens the character of the neighborhood and meets the needs of both existing and future residents. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Strengthen and improve our neighborhoods by assisting seniors with home maintenance, working with apartment managers and landlords to ensure we have safe and well-maintained rental units, and understanding and implementing the tools and strategies available to civic clubs that can help our neighborhoods grow while protecting them from undesirable development.

GROW OUR HOMEOWNERS

Expand the number of homeowners in the community.

BUILD NEW HOUSING

Attract new housing that reinforces and strengthens

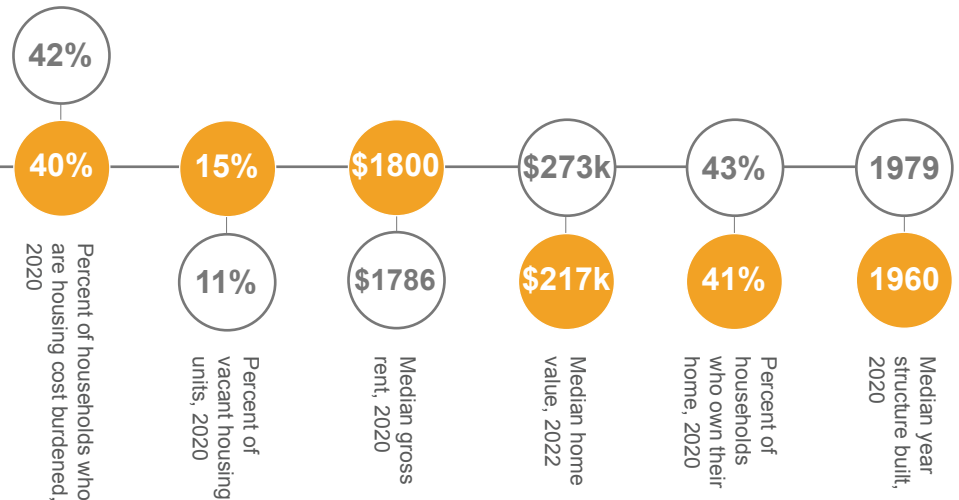
the existing character of our neighborhoods and meets the diverse needs of both existing and future residents, including affordable housing, infill housing, senior housing, multi-family, and single-family housing.

Since 2014 the Housing and Neighborhoods GO Team has engaged approximately 8,500 participants and completed 80 projects. The projects have led to the leverage and investment of nearly \$23 million.

The GO Team has been active organizing and conducting workshops focused on homeownership, deed restrictions, and other key issues as well as supporting the development of new housing.

HOUSTON

OST/SOUTH UNION



Sources: ACS 2020, Zillow Home Value Index Report, 2022



In 2020, OST/South Union had just under 9,000 housing units. The majority, or 72%, of existing housing units were built between 1940 and 1969. Single family housing is distributed across the community in a series of small subdivisions. Multi-family housing is concentrated along major thoroughfares and State Highway 288.

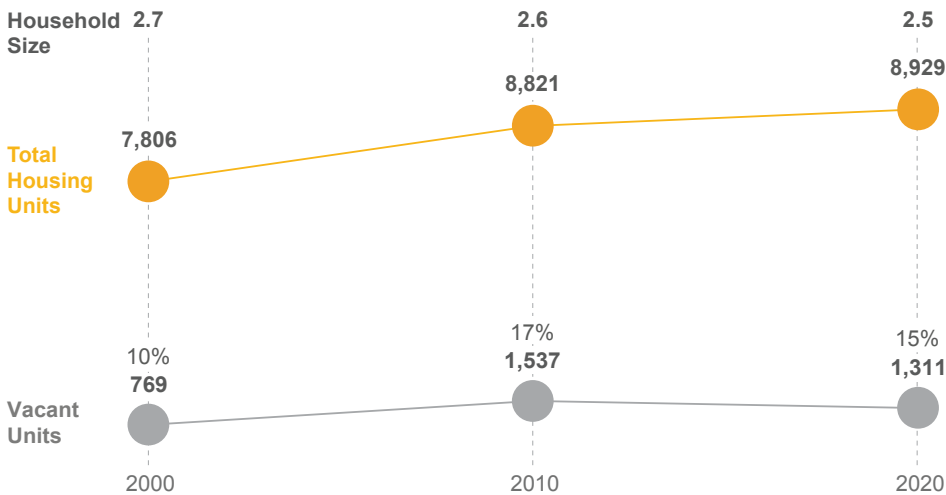
Between 2000 and 2010 OST/South Union experienced steady growth in new housing development. In this time period over 1,000 new units were constructed, a 13% increase. In the next decade, the growth in the total number of housing units slowed, with just over 100 units

added between 2010 and 2020. In this time period demolitions reduced the growth of the total number of housing units.

Since 2000, the number of vacant housing units have fluctuated. In 2000, 10% of area housing was vacant. Ten years later, in 2010, the percent of vacant housing units had nearly doubled, and 17% of housing was vacant. In the most recent data from 2020, 15% of housing units were vacant, equaling over 1,300 units.

Of the 1,300 vacant units in 2020, just over 40% were for rent and 6% for sale. The 689 remaining vacant units, 54% of the total, were neither for sale or rent.

There are many civic organizations in OST/South Union. For example, the Greater OST/South Union Super Neighborhood Council is active and led by President Preston Roe. The Council meets quarterly. In addition, OST/South Union has eleven civic clubs, eight of which are active. The active civic clubs are South Union, LaSalette Place, Scott Terrace, Foster Place, Grand Park, Southern Village, MacGregor Trail, and MacGregor Palms Terrace.

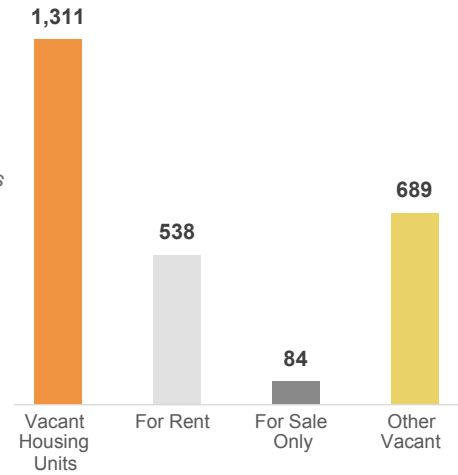


Household Size, Total Housing Units, and Vacant Units Over Time
Sources: 2000 Decennial Census, ACS 2010 and 2020

15% OST/South Union Housing Vacancy Rate

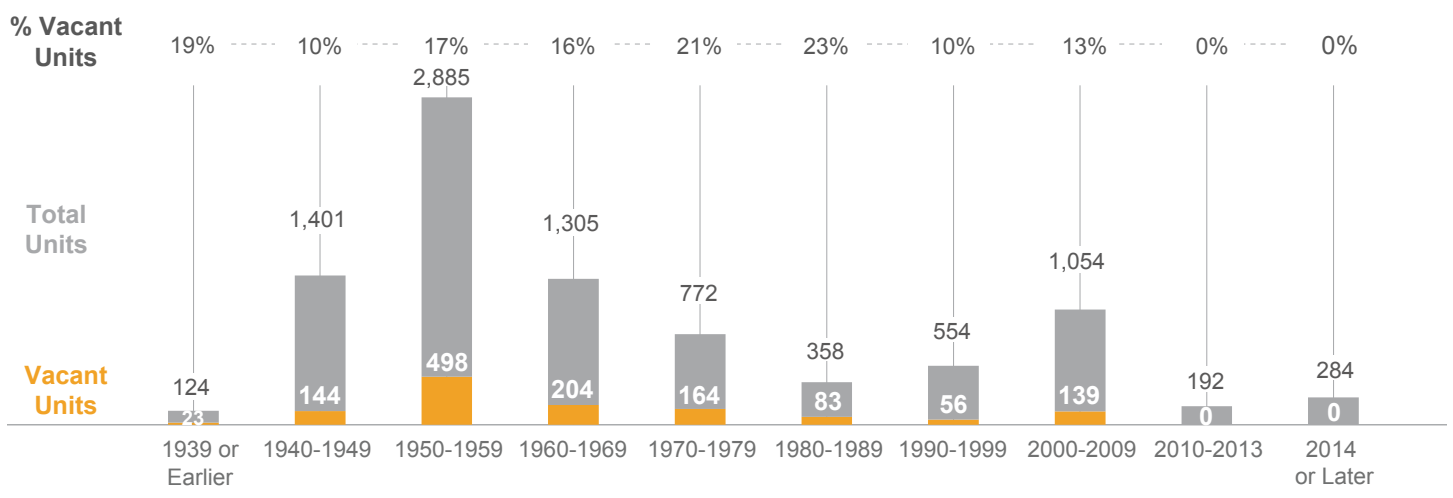
11% Houston Housing Vacancy Rate

Source: ACS 2020



Vacancy Status OST/South Union 2020
Source: ACS 2020

Housing and Civic Club Map
 ■ Single Family Housing
 ■ Multi-Family Housing
 ■ Parks
 □ Active Civic Clubs
 □ Inactive Civic Clubs
 Source: City of Houston GIS



Housing Units and Vacant Units, By Year Built in 2020
Source: ACS 2020

The majority of the housing stock in OST/South Union is made up of detached single-family homes. In 2020, single-family homes comprised 58% of all housing by type. In the same year, only 12% of the housing stock was in large apartment complexes of 20 or more units, as compared to 24% in Houston.

OST/South Union is home to eight affordable housing developments with nearly 1,300 units supported through the HUD Multi-Family and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Programs. The developments include 4415 Perry, Scott Street, Parkside Point, Park Yellowstone, South Union Place, Village at Palm Center, Missionary Village, and Royal Palms. In 2021, a total of 1,116 households were using housing choice

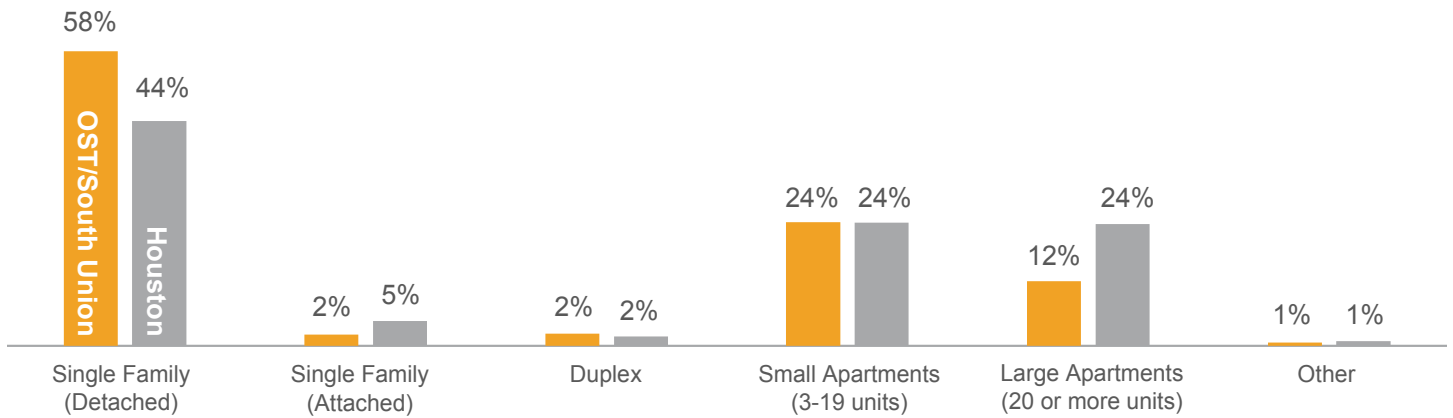
vouchers in OST/South Union. This is a fairly high concentration of housing choice vouchers, representing just under 15% of all households in the neighborhood.

In addition, three new affordable housing developments are currently planned or in progress. This includes the Orchard at Hull-Calhoun, a project with seven rental units being developed by Neighborhood Recovery Community Development Corporation, the "100 Homes Initiative" on three separate sites led by the Midtown Redevelopment Authority and the Center for Civic and Public Policy Improvement (CCPPI), and Agape Development Corporation's plan to build 80 new homes, of which 57 will be affordable.

A map of existing and planned subsidized units is on the following page.

Future Affordable Housing

	Units	Name
1	7	Orchard at Hull-Calhoun
2	57	Agape Homes
3	100 +/-	OST/South Union 100 Homes
	164 +/-	Total



Housing by Type
Source: ACS 2020



Existing Subsidized Housing

Units Name	Program	Expires
1 160 4415 Perry	*LIHTC	2027
2 96 Scott Street	LIHTC	2032
3 259 Parkside Point	LIHTC	2020
4 210 Park Yellowstone	LIHTC	2027
5 100 South Union Place	LIHTC	2036
6 178 Village at Palm Center	LIHTC	2031
7 160 Missionary Village	**HUD	2039
8 125 Royal Palm	HUD	2034

1288 Total

Affordable and Subsidized Housing Map

- Existing Subsidized Housing
- Proposed/In Progress Affordable Housing
- Parks

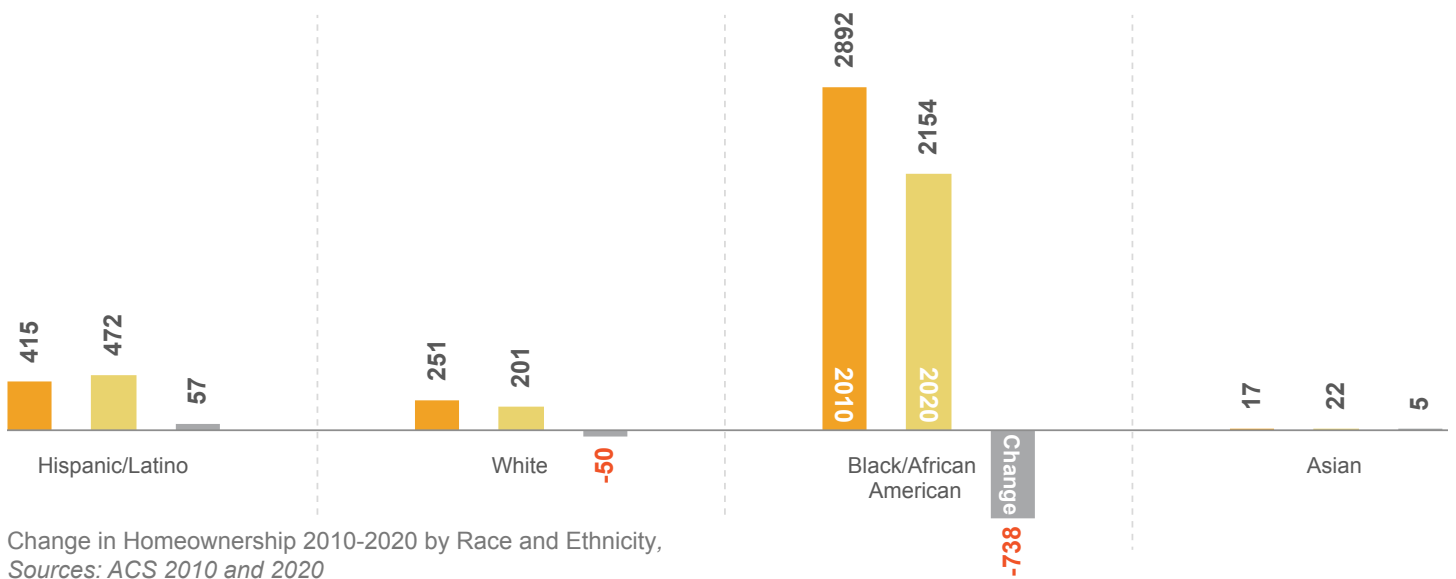
Source: PolicyMap, OST/South Union Data

Subsidized Housing Units

Source: PolicyMap 2021

*LIHTC: Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program

**HUD: HUD Multi-Family Program



Change in Homeownership 2010-2020 by Race and Ethnicity, Sources: ACS 2010 and 2020

Homeownership is one of the most important factors in building family wealth and increasing neighborhood stability. In 2020, the median household income of homeowners in OST/South Union was more than double that of renters. As a result, homeowners were less burdened by high housing costs than renters.

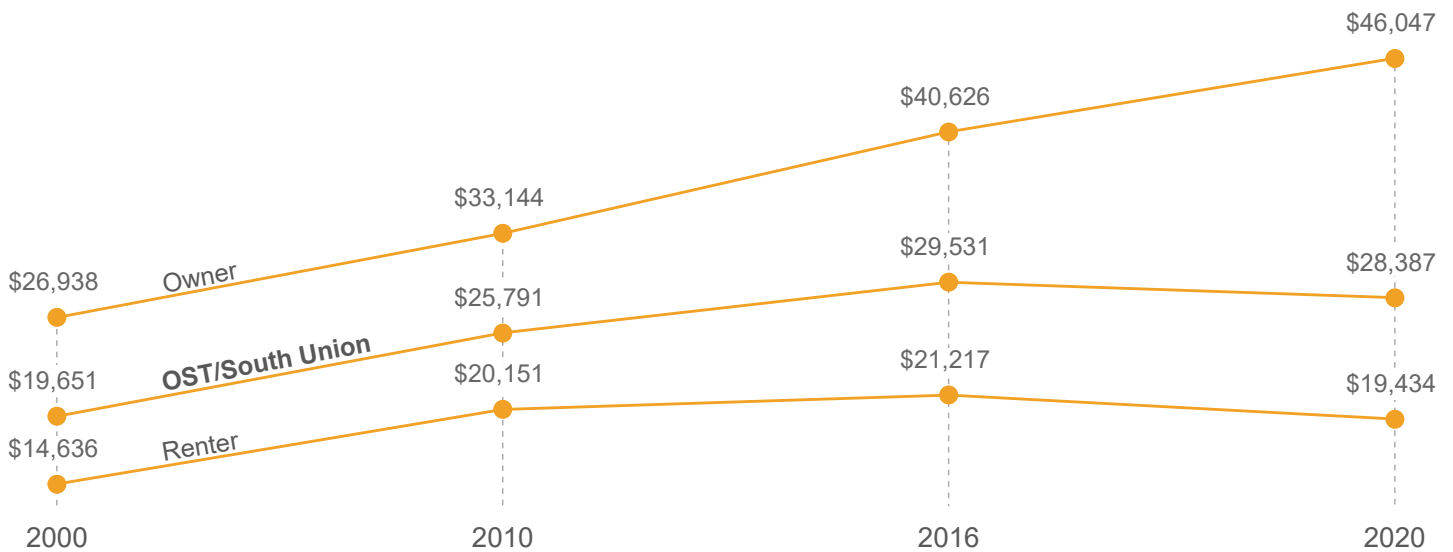
In 2020, 88% of renters in OST/South Union with a household income below \$20,000 paid more than 30% of their income on rent.

In the same year, 96% of those making between \$20,000 and \$49,999 paid more than 30% of their income on rent.

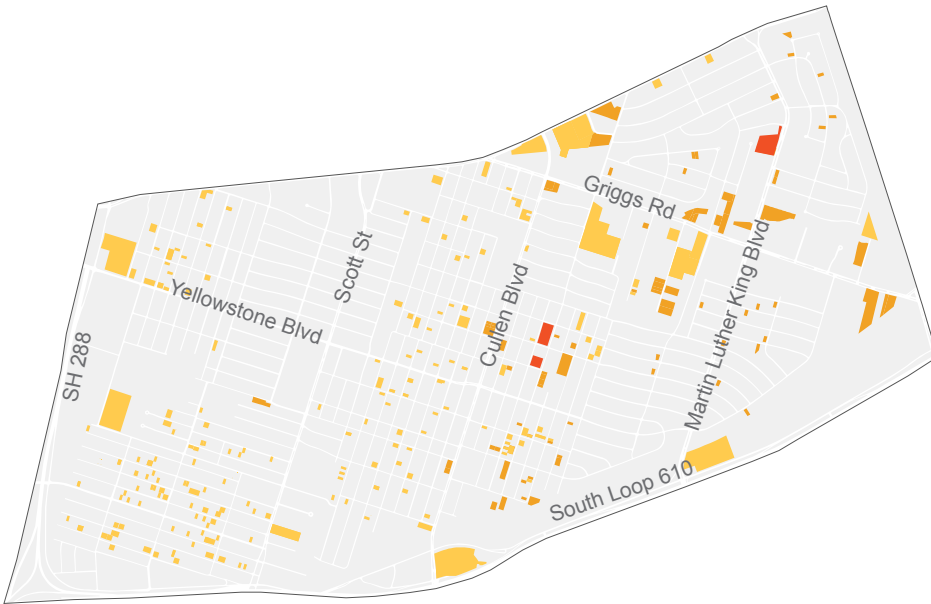
As housing costs remain fairly affordable in OST/South Union most income groups, either renters or owners, were less burdened by high housing costs than those in the City of Houston overall.

As discussed prior, there are also a number of projects

in progress to expand the inventory of affordable housing in the community. In addition, the Midtown TIRZ owns 86 vacant lots in OST/South Union that could be developed for additional affordable housing in the future.



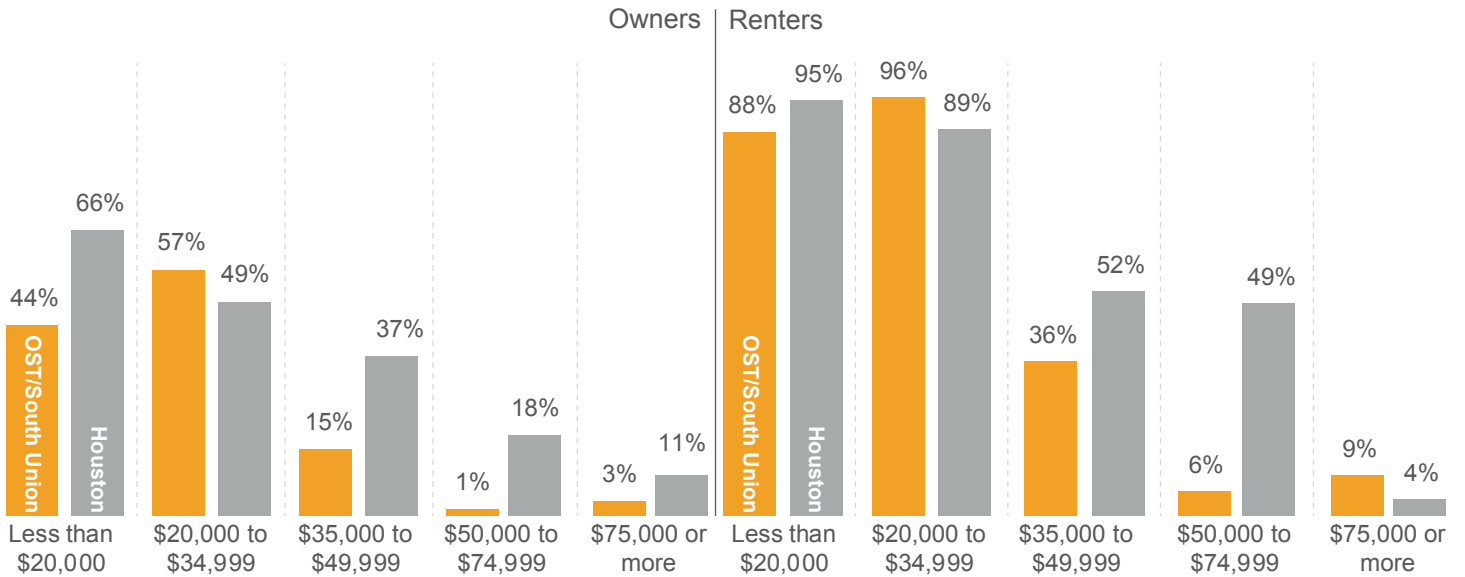
Median Household Income by Tenure, Source: Census 2000, ACS 2010, 2016, 2020



Recent Plats, Midtown TIRZ Owned Lots, and New Housing Lots

- Recent Plats
- Midtown TIRZ Owned Lots
- Proposed New Housing

Sources: City of Houston Plat Tracker, PolicyMap, OST/South Union Data



Tenure By Housing Costs Greater Than 30% of Household Income, Source: ACS 2020

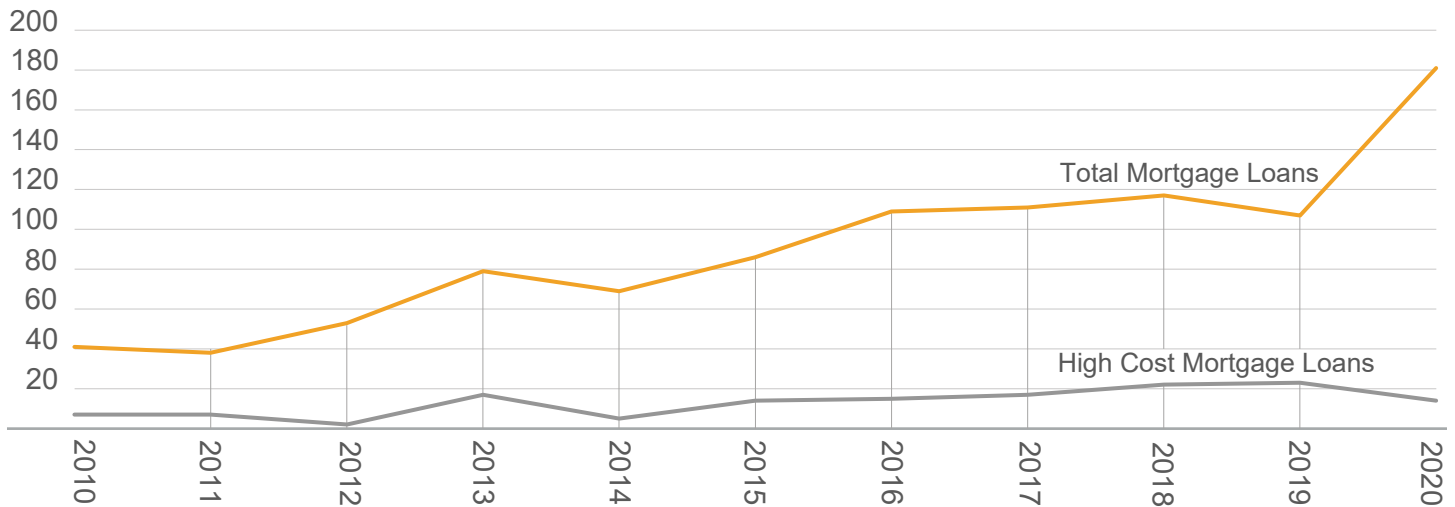
The pattern of mortgage lending in OST/South Union follows the national trajectory, with a low number of loans being issued following the housing crisis in 2008-2009 and a steady rise thereafter.

In 2020, a total of 181 mortgage loans were approved for homes in OST/South Union. In 2010, only 41 mortgage loans were issued. The loans ranged from \$160,000 to \$265,000, and over 40% were government-insured.

Of the loans originating in the community, approximately one-third went to borrowers with incomes above \$94,560, and just 6% to those making less than 50% of the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) median income of \$39,400.

Predatory lending, including high cost mortgage loans, were one of the primary causes for the increase in foreclosures during the national housing crisis. In 2020, 8% of all mortgage loans in

OST/South Union were high cost, compared to 6% in the State of Texas.

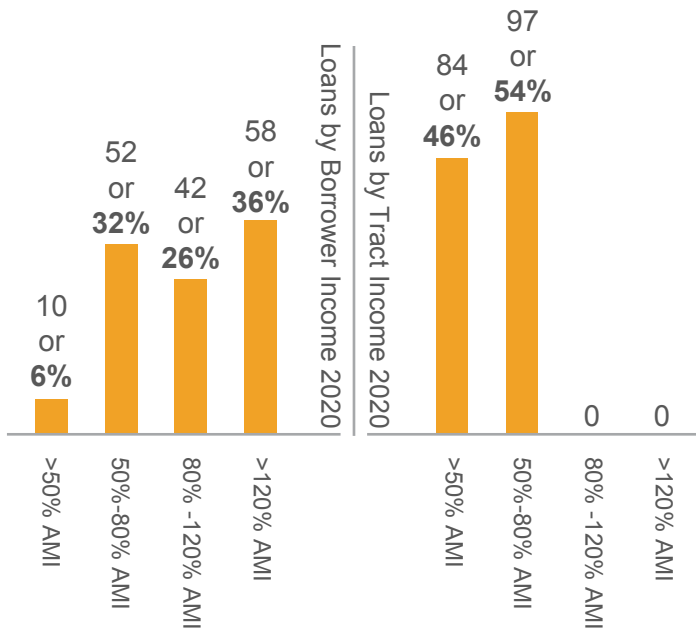


Total Mortgage Loans and High Cost Mortgage Loans in OST/South Union, 2010-2020

8% Of mortgage loans in OST/South Union were high cost loans in 2020

6% Of mortgage loans in the State of Texas were high cost loans in 2020

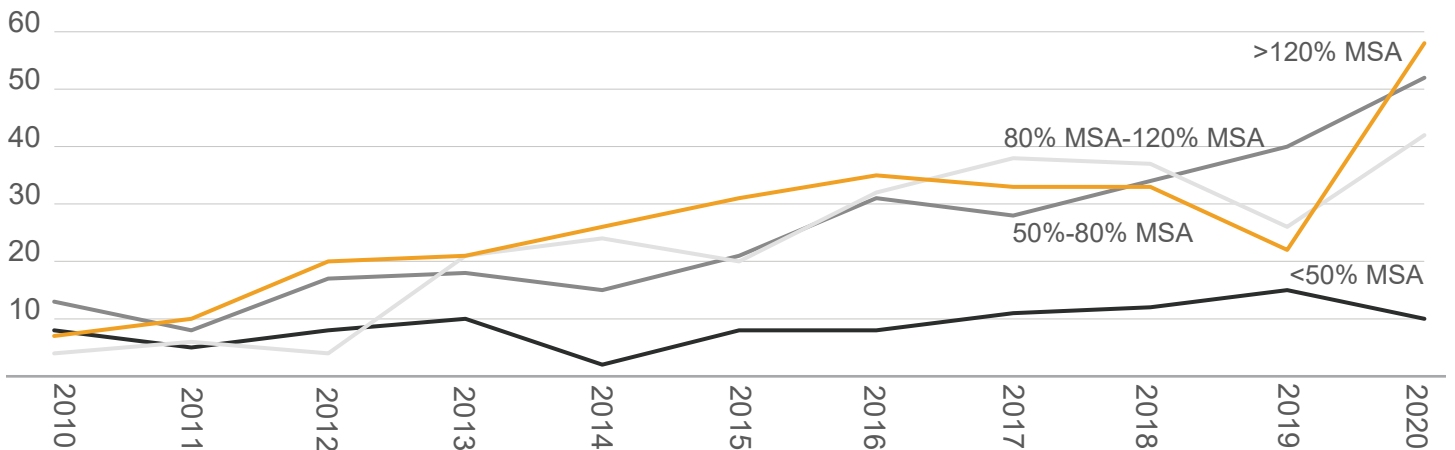
Sources: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC), Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA)



Home Mortgage Loans by Income, 2020
Source: PolicyMap and FFIEC

Household Size	30% AMI	50% AMI	80% AMI	120% AMI
1 Person	\$16,650	\$27,750	\$44,400	\$66,600
2 Person	\$19,020	\$31,700	\$50,720	\$76,080
3 Person	\$21,390	\$35,650	\$57,040	\$85,560
4 Person	\$23,760	\$39,600	\$63,360	\$95,040
5 Person	\$25,680	\$42,800	\$68,480	\$102,720
6 Person	\$27,570	\$45,950	\$73,520	\$110,280

Houston/The Woodlands/Sugar Land Area Median Income, 2022
Source: PolicyMap and FFIEC



Home Mortgage Loans by Borrower Income, 2010-2020

\$190k Median mortgage loan amount originated in OST/South Union in 2020

\$235k Median mortgage loan amount originated in the State of Texas in 2020

Sources: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC), Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA)

LEADERSHIP and CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

VISION

Connecting People. Cultivating Lives. Activating Abilities.

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on promoting engagement and building knowledge, developing new leaders, mitigating the negative impacts of gentrification, and taking responsibility for and working towards community revitalization. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Develop outreach and communication tools to keep us all informed.

ENGAGED RESIDENTS AND ALLIES

Work together to engage new residents in civic activities and neighborhood improvement and enhance voter participation.

LEADERSHIP AND SHARED KNOWLEDGE

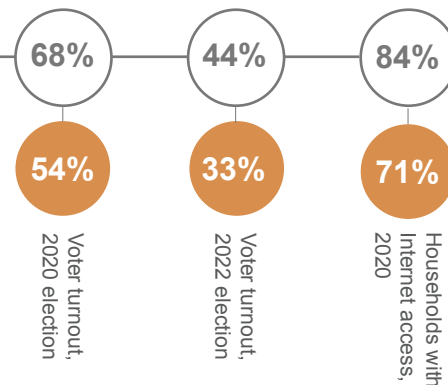
Develop new leaders in our community by hosting forums for existing civic leaders to share their knowledge and experience, encouraging broad-based participation and engagement and sharing leadership strategies and tools to improve our neighborhoods.

Since 2014 the Leadership and Civic Engagement GO Team has had hundreds of meetings, engaged over 11,000 participants, and completed 144 projects. The projects led by the GO Team have led to the leverage and investment of nearly \$400,000.

In the last two years the GO Team worked to add twelve new block captains and place ten purple tables in the neighborhood to encourage curiosity about GO Neighborhoods and provide opportunities for involvement and engagement.

HOUSTON

OST/SOUTH UNION



Sources: Harris County Clerk's Office 2020, ACS 2020

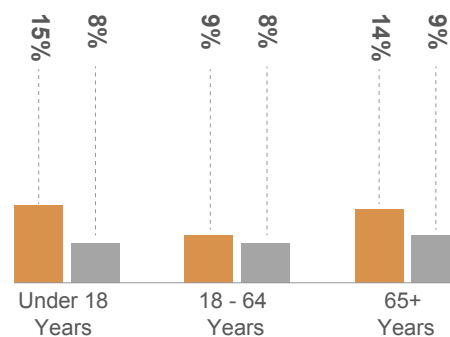


OST/South Union is home to 48 churches or places of worship. The community is also home to a number of non-profit organizations and institutions that serve the community. This includes the Houston Texans YMCA, the YWCA, Agape Development, Houston Business Development Inc., and the Houston Area Urban League. These institutions are important assets in the OST/South Union community. Yet, the neighborhood does not have a City of Houston or Harris County community center. The closest community center is at MacGregor Park just to the north.

Increasingly, connection in both physical and digital spaces are important. A significant challenge in OST/South Union is the number of households without access

to a computer or the internet. Social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor, and others keep people informed and engaged. In 2020, over 30% of all households in OST/South Union did not have access to the internet. In the same year, more than one-third of seniors in OST/South Union did not have a computer, while 14% did not have an internet subscription. In 2020, only 14% of seniors in the City of Houston did not have a computer and only 9% did not have an internet subscription.

Lack of internet access impacts access to information, educational tools, employment opportunities, and other resources.



In 2020, 14% of OST/South Union seniors and 15% of residents under 18 years old did not have an Internet subscription.

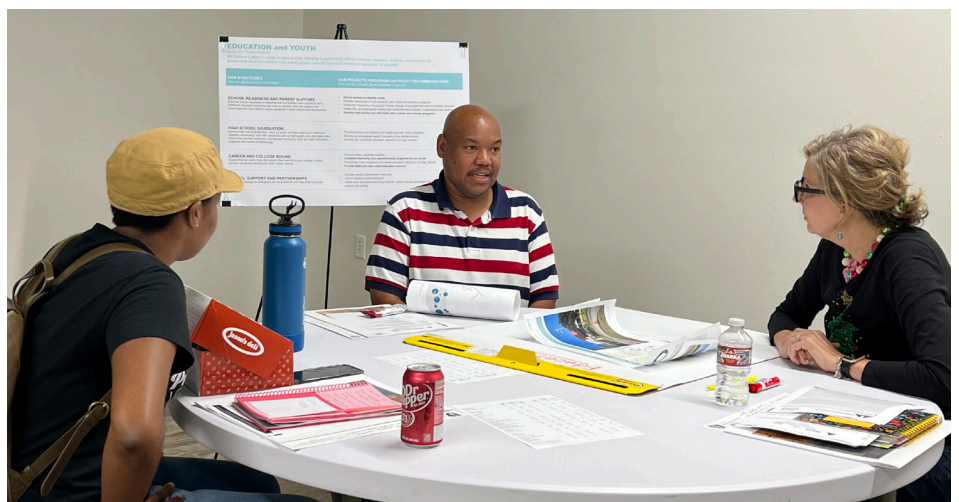
Households by Age Without an Internet Subscription
 ■ OST/South Union
 ■ Houston
 Source: ACS 2020



OST/South Union Asset Map

- Churches
- YMCA/YWCA
- ★ Non-Profit Organizations
- Library
- MacGregor Park Community Center
- Parks

Sources: City of Houston GIS, Houston LISC



The participation of OST/South Union registered voters in political elections has been lower than in Harris County overall since 2016. For example, in the 2020 general election 54% of registered voters in OST/South Union cast a ballot, compared to 68% in Harris County. In the 2022 mid-term election only 33% of registered voters cast a ballot.

However, the number of registered voters has risen continuously since 2016, increasing by 33%. Between 2020 and 2022, the number of registered voters increased by 3,461.

Ensuring that residents are registered to vote, encouraging

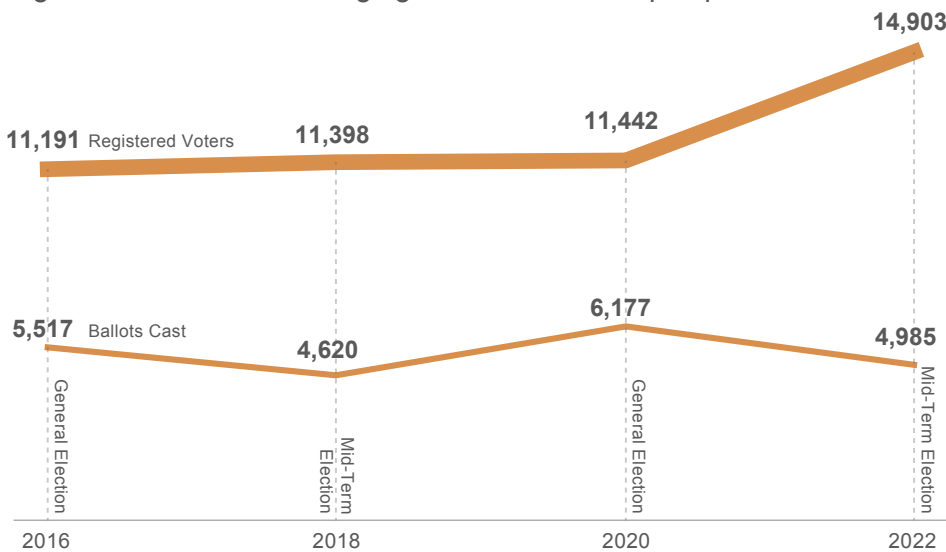
those registered to participate, and eliminating any barriers to voter participation is critical.

There are many civic organizations in OST/South Union. For example, the Greater OST/South Union Super Neighborhood Council is active and led by President Preston Roe. The Council meets quarterly. In addition, there are eleven civic clubs in the neighborhood, eight of which are active.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced many organizations to hold virtual meetings or stop meeting altogether. It is just recently that civic clubs and organizations have begin to re-engage their membership in person.



Between 2016 and 2022 the number of registered voters in OST/South Union increased by 33%, rising from 11,191 to 14,903.



54% Voter Turnout in OST/South Union, 2020 General Election

68% Voter Turnout in Harris County, 2020 General Election

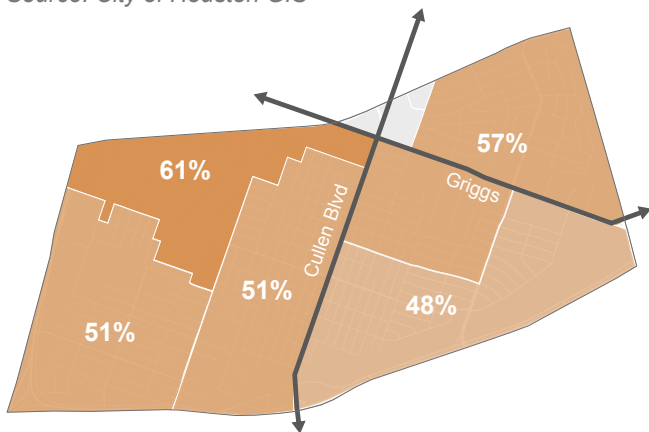
33% Voter Turnout in OST/South Union, 2022 Mid-Term Election

44% Voter Turnout in Harris County, 2022 Mid-Term Election

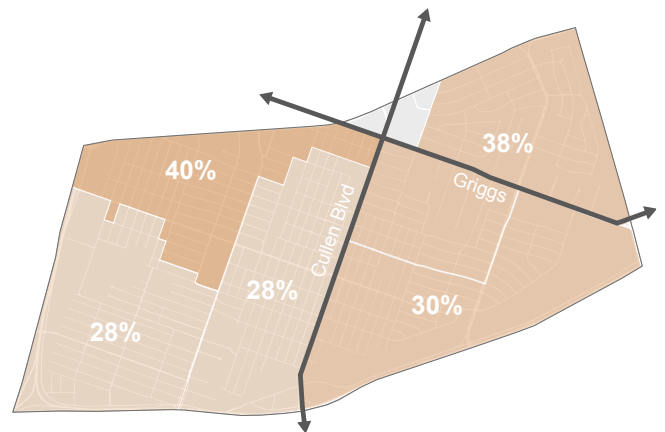
OST/South Union Registered Voters and Voter Turn Out Over Time
Source: Harris County Election Administration Office



OST/South Union Subdivisions
 Source: City of Houston GIS



Voter Turnout by Precinct 2020 General Election
 Source: Harris County Election Administration Office



Voter Turnout by Precinct 2022 Mid-Term Election
 Source: Harris County Election Administration Office

SAFETY and CLEANUPS

VISION

Together we will create an environment that promotes safety through beautification and crime prevention.

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on creating a clean and safe community to attract new residents and businesses. Projects included increasing the reporting of crime, addressing stray dogs, monitoring illegal and nuisance activity, and working to ensure that streets, ditches and public right-of-ways were clean and safe. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL

Work together to beautify our community and maintain our streets, ditches, and right-of-ways.

CITIZENS PATROL

Partner with the Houston Police Department to improve safety, eliminate criminal activity, and minimize loitering.

SAFE STREETS

Identify and map unsafe areas in our community, including poorly lit places, dangerous areas, and locations with stray dogs and work together to report these conditions and develop solutions.

NUISANCES, HAZARDOUS PROPERTIES, AND DUMPING

Work together to eliminate nuisance and hazardous properties in our neighborhood and transform vacant lots into assets.

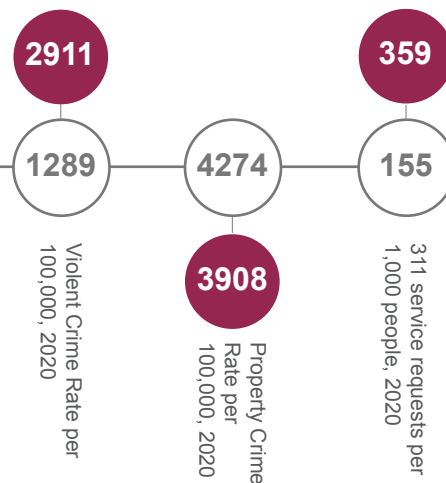
Since 2014 the Safety and Cleanups GO Team has engaged approximately 7,500 participants and completed 85 projects. The projects led by the GO Team have led to the leverage and investment of nearly \$3 million.

The Safety and Cleanups GO Team has been active organizing and conducting neighborhood cleanups, youth councils, the "Break the Silence" march against gun violence, and many other events and programs.

In addition, Houston Southeast employs seven constables and off-duty HPD officers for patrol in the area and is currently working with a local design firm on a plan for supplemental lighting, including gateways and pedestrian and accent lighting. The District is also in the process of developing plans for a strategic program to target crime in the area.

HOUSTON

EAST/SOUTH UNION



Sources: City of Houston 311 Dashboard, HPD NIBRS Statistics 2020



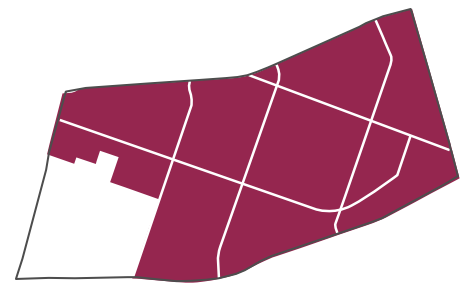
Violent crime increased across the United States in 2020, while property crime generally decreased. These trends are consistent with crime data collected for OST/South Union.

OST/South Union is served by the Houston Police Department and is located in the Southeast Division. The majority of the neighborhood is in Beat 14D10.

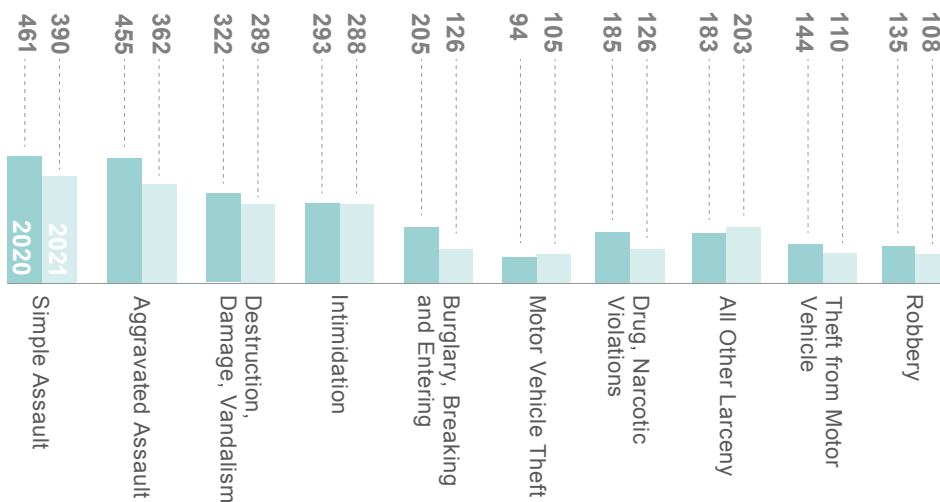
Between 2013 and 2020 the number of violent crimes nearly doubled in OST/South Union. In 2020, aggravated assault was the most frequently reported violent crime. Over 450 reports

of aggravated assault were filed in 2020, representing 84% of all violent crimes. Yet, similar to national trends reports of violent crime declined between 2020 and 2021. Aggravated assault and robbery both declined by approximately 20% in this time frame.

In contrast, between 2013 and 2020 the property crime rate in OST/South Union declined. In 2020, there were 22% fewer reported property crimes than in 2013. In 2020, theft was the most frequently reported property crime, representing 64%.



Map of Beat 14D10
HPD Southeast Division



In 2020, the violent crime rate in OST/South Union was more than twice as high as in Houston overall. Assault represented the highest number of reported violent crimes.

2911 OST/South Union Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 People

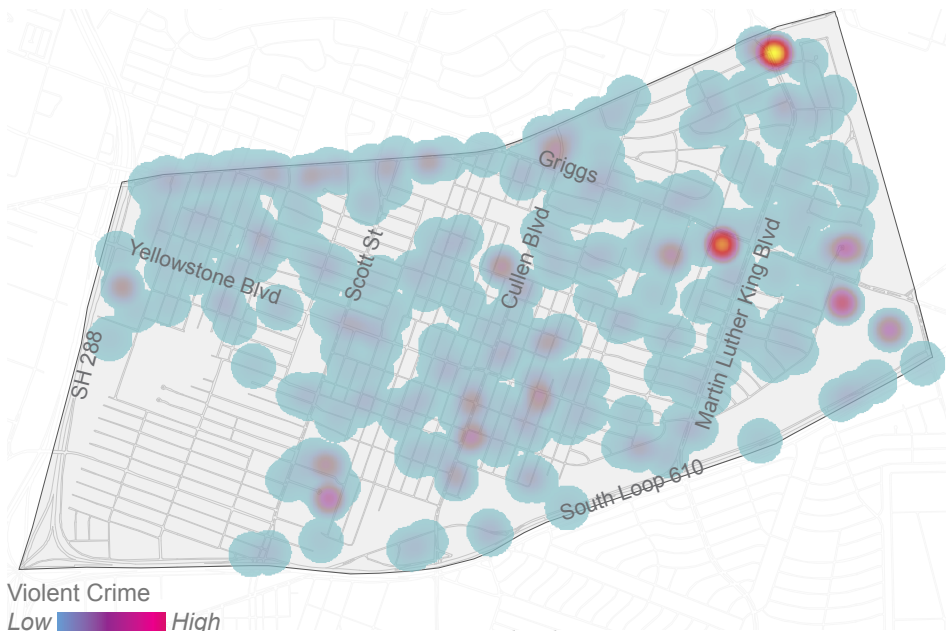
1289 Houston Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 People

Top Ten Reported Crimes in OST/South Union, Beat 14D10
Sources: HPD NIBRS Statistics 2020 and 2021

Source: HPD NIBRS Statistics 2020



Property Crime
 Low █ █ High
 Source: HPD Data 2020



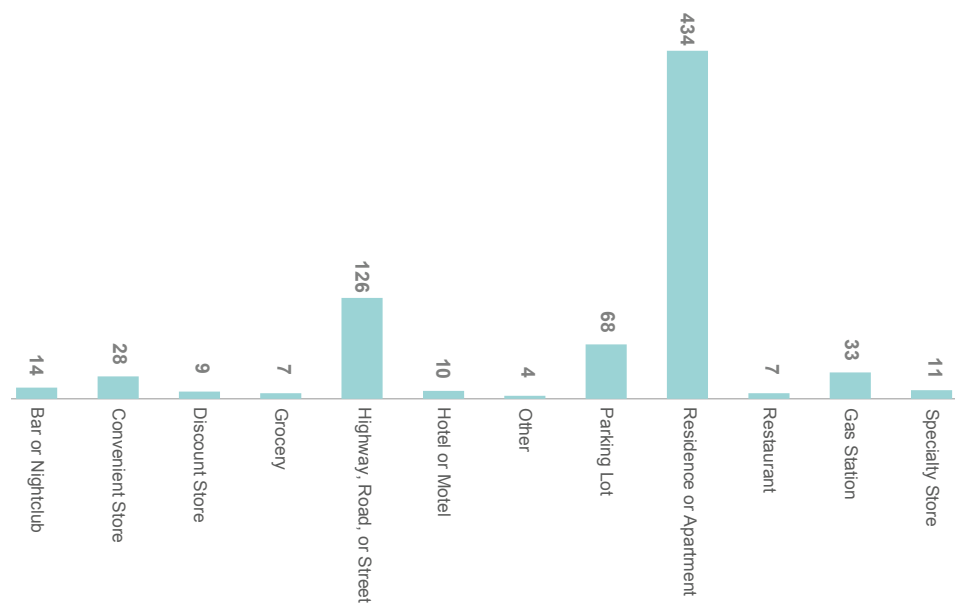
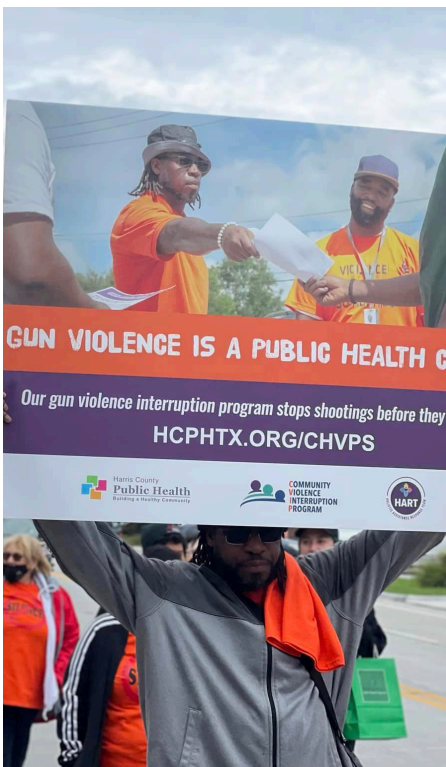
Violent Crime
 Low █ █ High
 Source: HPD Data 2020

An analysis of where violent crime occurs can provide insights into how to create a safer community. In 2021, 58% of all violent crime reported in OST/South Union occurred in a private home or apartment. Addressing family stress and violence could help to reduce crime in the area overall.

Other crime locations included area streets, parking lots, and gas stations. Identifying locations where lighting or natural surveillance are not present, could also work to reduce violent and property crime.

While additional policing may address crime challenges in a neighborhood, building trust among residents can have a similar impact. This includes organizing events that bring residents together and strengthen social networks.

Further, ensuring everyone has access to mental health care, educational opportunities, support services, and quality housing and employment can increase household stability and reduce stress.



Location of Violent Crime Incidences in OST/South Union, Beat 14D10
Source: HPD NIBRS Statistics 2021

The perception of safety is impacted by the cleanliness of neighborhood streets and spaces. In 2020, more than half of the top ten calls to 311 were focused on garbage collection problems, heavy trash violations, and illegal dumping. In the last several years the City of Houston Solid Waste Department has provided inconsistent trash collection service due to truck maintenance issues and staffing.

The second most frequent issue reported to 311 in OST/South Union in 2020 were related to

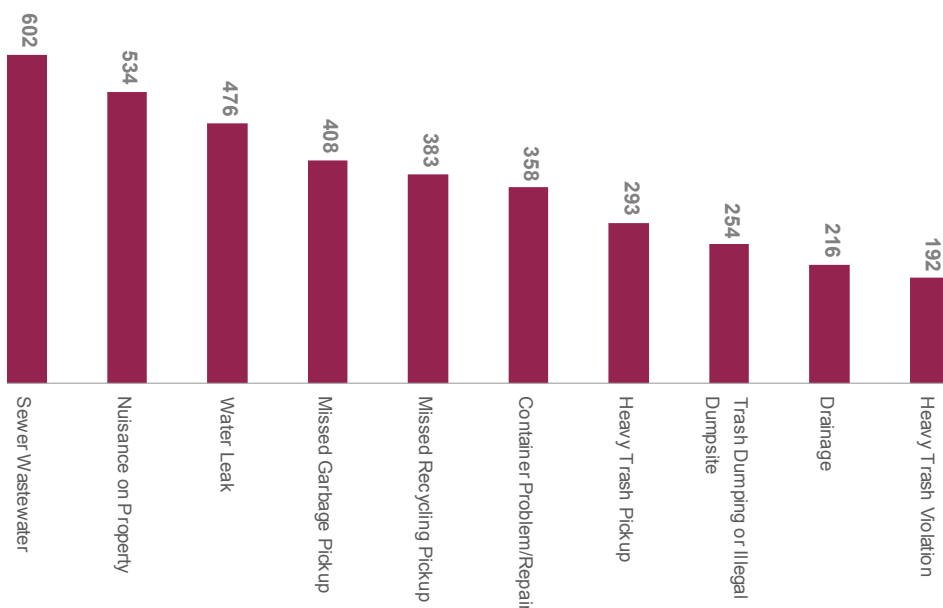
infrastructure. This includes reports of problems with sewer systems, water leaks, and drainage challenges. While these issues do not impact the beauty of a neighborhood they do impact the quality of life for residents while also indicating the need for investment in aging and failing infrastructure.

Nuisances on properties represented the third largest category of 311 calls in 2020. In 2020, more than 534 service requests were made to 311 to report nuisances on properties.

Nuisances and illegal dumping are distributed across the neighborhood, with concentrations on the southern boundary where there are a number of vacant lots and undeveloped properties. Illegal dumping is an eyesore, but it can also create hazards in the environment, particularly for children.

Addressing the early signs of neglect in the physical environment, such as dumping, can help to increase both the perception of safety and prevent nuisance crimes.

In 2020, OST/South Union residents submitted twice as many service requests to 311 per capita than in Houston.



Top Ten 311 Service Requests
Source: City of Houston 311 Dashboard, 2020

359 OST/South Union 311 Service Requests per 1,000 People

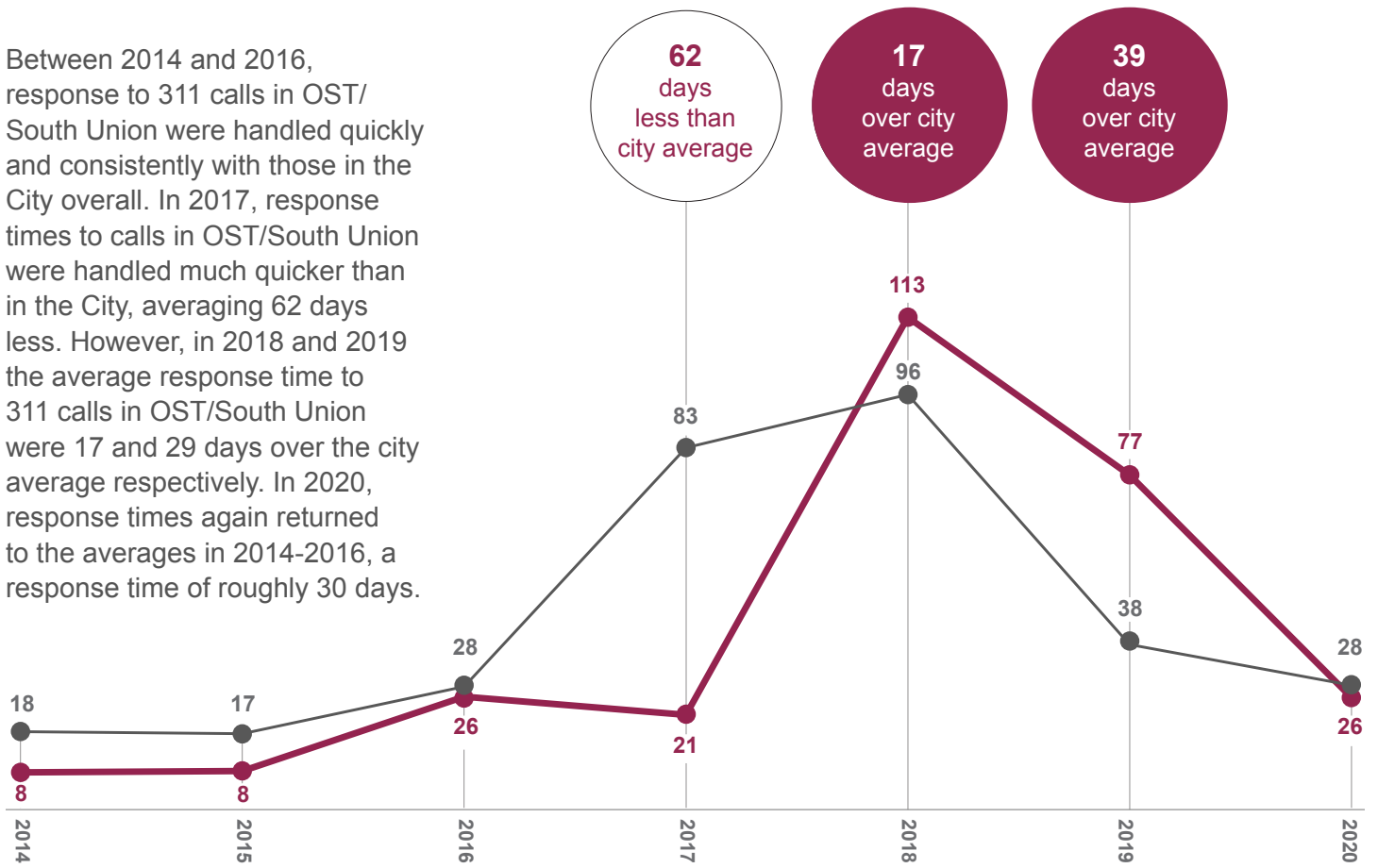
155 Houston 311 Service Requests per 1,000 People

Source: City of Houston 311 Dashboard, Data for July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

The City of Houston was recently sued based on claims that response to 311 calls were not being addressed equitably, particularly in communities of color. As indicated by the chart below, the City of Houston's response to 311 calls in OST/South Union have fluctuated over time.

In 2018, the City of Houston was taking more than three months to respond to 311 calls. In OST/South Union it was nearly four months.

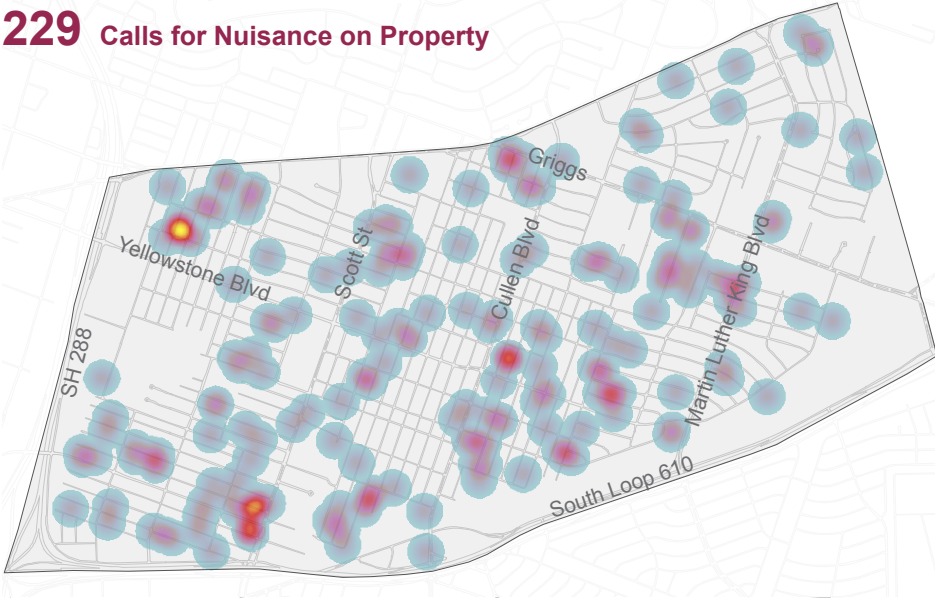
Average Response Time in Days



City of Houston Response to 311 Calls
■ OST/South Union
■ Houston

Source: City of Houston 311 Dashboard, Data for 2014 - 2020

229 Calls for Nuisance on Property

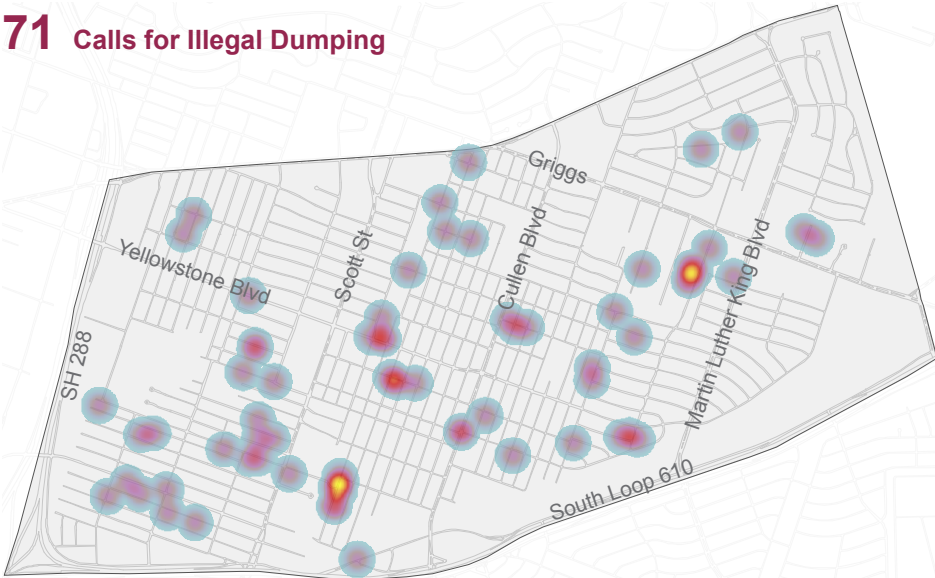


311 Calls for Nuisance on Property

Low High

Source: City of Houston 311 Dashboard, Data for July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021

71 Calls for Illegal Dumping



311 Calls for Illegal Dumping

Low High

Source: City of Houston 311 Dashboard, Data for July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021

STROLLIN' and ROLLIN'

VISION

We will improve our health through walking, biking and using public transportation

The 2014 Quality of Life Agreement strategies focused on ensuring that walking and biking were safe alternatives for mobility in the community. A list of 2014 strategies follows.

CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Connect destinations throughout Southeast Houston with pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure creating a networked community.

ACTIVE LIVING

Support active living by creating programs and activities to encourage everyone to walk and bike to improve health and quality of life.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Improve the infrastructure for walking and biking, including sidewalks, lighting, trash receptacles, benches and other amenities.

GROWTH and JOBS

Capitalize on neighborhood connectivity and walkability to enhance economic development and job opportunities.

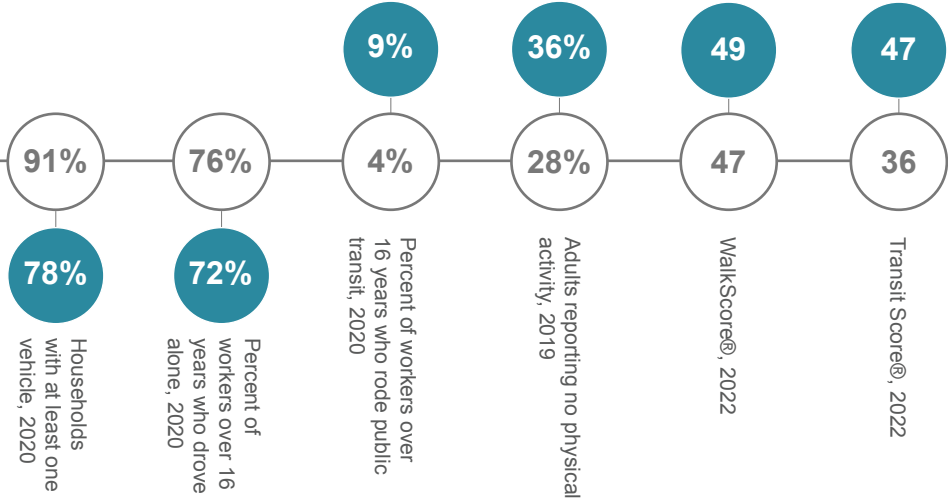
Since 2014 the Strollin' and Rollin' GO Team has engaged over 13,000 participants and completed 42 projects. The projects led by the GO Team have led to the leverage and investment of over \$26 million.

Successes of the Strollin' and Rollin' GO Team include supporting the development of a greenways plan which has led to substantial investment in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and amenities in partnership with Houston Southeast. In addition, three BCycle stations have been installed and four miles of bikeways completed.

The work of the GO Team supports and advocates for healthy and active living and mobility alternatives.

HOUSTON

EAST/SOUTH UNION



Sources: ACS 2020, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (2019 Data), Walkscore®



In 2020, 22% of households in OST/South Union did not have access to a vehicle, much higher than the 9% in Houston. In the same year, 9% of workers over the age of 16 years took public transit to work, while only 1% walked or biked. Safe sidewalks and protected bike lanes are critical to increase the safety and comfort of pedestrians and cyclists.

In the four years between 2015 and 2019, TxDOT reports that there were 103 pedestrian-related accidents, with six of these accidents resulting in a fatality. Over the same time period there were 28 cyclist-related accidents, one of which resulted in a fatality.

Yet, today in OST/South Union only half of area streets have

sidewalks and many are in poor condition. In contrast, four miles of new bike lanes have been completed and two additional miles are in progress. Further, there are now three BCycle Stations in the community located at the Park at Palm Center, the Alice McKean Young Neighborhood Library, and Milart and Perry near Hartsfield Elementary School. However, in early November of 2022 all three BCycle Stations in OST/South Union were closed. It is unclear when the stations will re-open.

WalkScore® ranks the OST/South Union neighborhood 39th for walkability among Houston neighborhoods. Specifically, OST/South Union has a walk score of 49, transit score of 47, and a bike score of 48. Houston has a walk

score of 47, a transit score of 36, and a bike score of 49.

In 2015 the OST/South Union Strollin' and Rollin' GO Team sponsored the 2015 Neighborhood Greenways Plan which provides recommendations to enhance the safety and comfort of walking and biking. The Southeast District completed Phase I of the Greenway from Beekman to Perry to Milart to Marietta Lane, funded in part by a grant from the Federal Transit Authority. Phase II is in the fund development stage.

Finally, a new pedestrian bridge has been completed crossing Brays Bayou along Martin Luther King Boulevard, connecting residents to the Bayou Greenways.



OST/South Union ranks 39th in walkability among Houston neighborhoods, with a WalkScore® of 49.

22% OST/South Union households without access to a vehicle

9% Houston households without access to a vehicle

Sources: WalkScore®, ACS 2020



103 Pedestrian related accidents occurred in OST/South Union between 2015-2019

6 Of those accidents resulted in fatalities

Source: TXDOT CRIS 2015-2019

- Sidewalks
- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian Crashes
- Pedestrian Deaths
- Parks
- Schools

Sources: City of Houston GIS, TXDOT CRIS 2015-2019



28 Cyclist related accidents occurred in OST/South Union between 2015-2019

1 Of those accidents resulted in a fatality

Source: TXDOT CRIS 2015-2019

- Bike Lanes
- Existing Bike Lanes
- ... Proposed Bike Lanes
- ⓑ BCycle Stations
- Cyclist Crashes
- Cyclist Deaths
- Parks
- Schools

Sources: Houston Bike Plan, TXDOT CRIS 2015-2019

Public transit ridership across Houston has decreased over the last two decades and the pandemic led to further declines. For example, the ridership on transit and bus routes serving OST/South Union declined by 33% between 2019 and 2022.

In OST/South Union, 9% of workers over the age of 16 years rode public transit to work in 2020, compared to only 4% in Houston.

The OST/South Union neighborhood is well-served by public transit. Transit services include the Purple Line Light Rail, the Southeast Transit Center, and five METRO bus routes. The Purple Line terminates at Palm Center and connects residents north to the University of Houston, Texas Southern University,

and downtown. The METRO Next Plan includes a proposal to extend the Purple Line east to Hobby Airport in the coming years.

Of the five area bus routes the 54 Scott, 80 MLK/Lockwood, and 87 Sunnyside are high frequency routes running every 15 minutes; the 29 Cullen/Hirsch and the 60 Cambridge run every 30 minutes; and the 360 Peerless Shuttle runs every hour.

The 54 Scott route has the highest ridership and connects to downtown to the north and the MLK Health Center to the south. This route was selected as one of the first of two BOOST corridors developed in the METRO Next Plan. BOOST corridor improvements include

bus shelters at every stop, sidewalk improvements and ramps, and pedestrian crossing improvements. In addition, the Scott BOOST corridor will include a new bikeway along Mainer Street.

Two transportation projects currently being planned could impact the neighborhood. The first is the extension of State Highway 35 to Pearland, which is proposed to be parallel to Mykawa. The second project, is studying a new elevated crossing at the railroad tracks near Griggs Road and Mykawa.

METRO ridership in OST/South Union was significantly impacted by the pandemic and declined by 33% between 2019 and 2022.



9%

OST/South Union workers over 16 years using public transit

4%

Houston workers over 16 years using public transit

Source: ACS 2020



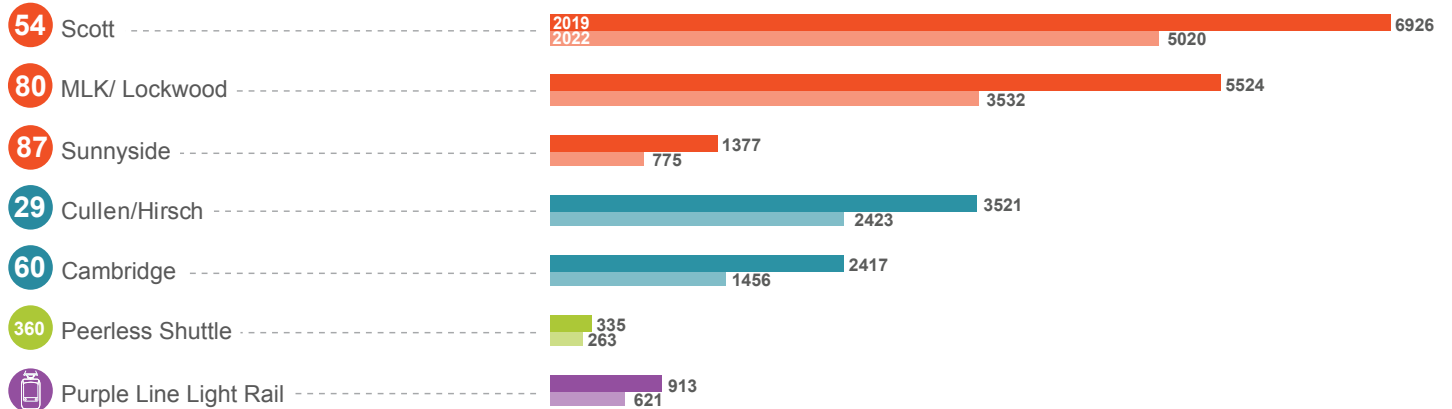
Transit Map

- High-Frequency Bus Route (15 min)
- Mid-Frequency Bus Route (30 min)
- Low-Frequency Bus Route (60 min)
- Purple Line
- Bus Stop With Shelter
- Bus Stop Without Shelter

Sources: City of Houston GIS, METRO

Route Number and Name

Weekday Ridership 2019 and 2022



Source: METRO Ridership Reports, 2019 and 2022

