

COLLIN COUNTY

Fiscal Year 2008 Adopted Budget



The Budget-in-Brief



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This Budget-in-Brief contains summary information on the most important decisions made during the County's annual financial and operational planning process. If we can be of further assistance or provide additional copies of this document, please call or write:

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Collin County Commissioners' Court FY 2008



Keith Self
County Judge



Phyllis Cole
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Jerry Hoagland
Commissioner, Pct. 2



Joe Jaynes
Commissioner, Pct. 3



Jack Hatchell
Commissioner, Pct. 4



Rodney Rhoades
Budget & Finance Director

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TEXAS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

History of County Government

The origin of Texas county government can be found in “municipality,” the local unit of government under Spanish and Mexican rule. The municipalities were large areas embracing one or more settlements and the surrounding rural territory. By 1821, there were four major Spanish settlements in Texas and three areas of light settlement and ranching. In 1835, Texas was divided into three departments and 23 municipalities. Under the new Republic established in 1836, the 23 municipalities became counties. When Texas became a state in 1845, there were 36 counties. Under the State Constitution of 1845, the only major change was one that made all county offices elective positions. When Texas entered the Confederacy in 1861 and adopted a new state constitution, there were 122 counties. After Reconstruction from the Civil War, the Constitution of 1876 was adopted, which is still in effect and contains much detail concerning the governmental organization of the Texas counties. The number of counties increased steadily until the present number of 254 counties was reached in 1931.

Functions of County Government

Today there are 254 counties serving the needs of Texans. The counties range in size from just under 100 residents to over three million. Major responsibilities include building and maintaining roads, recreational facilities and in some cases, county airports; constructing and operating jails; operating the judicial system; maintaining public records; collecting property taxes; issuing vehicle registrations and transfers; and registering voters. Counties also provide law enforcement, conduct elections, and provide health and social services to indigent county residents. County governments are also playing a vital role in local economic development.

COLLIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Collin County, like other Texas Counties, is considered to be an extension of state government. The focus of the county organization is judicial (civil and criminal justice, adult and juvenile probation), health and human services, law enforcement and jail services. In addition, the County is responsible for the road and bridge maintenance for all unincorporated areas of the County.

The County's governing body, Commissioners Court, is made up of the County Judge who is elected at large and four Commissioners elected from equal precincts based on population. The County Judge is the presiding officer of the Commissioners Court. Budgetary responsibilities are a major function of the Commissioners Court. The Commissioners Court of Collin County has budget authority over all County departments including those headed by elected officials. The responsibility includes setting the tax rate and adopting the budget. Throughout the year the Court, as established in the budget policy, must approve adjustments to the budget. In addition, the Commissioners' Court sets policies by Court Order for the activities of the County.

Other elected officials include the County and District Judges, Sheriff, Tax Assessor, District Attorney, Justices of the Peace, Constables and the County and District Clerks.

WHO'S IN CHARGE

County Judge & Commissioners

A County Judge and four Commissioners serve on the Commissioners Court. This body conducts the general business of the County and oversees financial matters. Collin County created a unitary road system that allows all commissioner precincts to work together on maintaining the County roads and bridges.

Tax Assessor-Collector

This official's chief duty is to assess and collect property taxes for the County and motor vehicle registration.

County Clerk

The County Clerk's Office records the proceedings of the County Courts. They also maintain legal records, marriage licenses, and vital statistics.

District Clerk

Duties of this official revolve around the District Courts and include the collection of child support.

Sheriff

The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer for the County and is responsible for the operation of the jail.

District Attorney

The District Attorney serves as the County's chief legal advisor and prosecuting attorney in both the District Courts and County Courts.

Justice of the Peace

The JP's preside in justice and small claims court with jurisdiction over minor misdemeanor offenses, civil issues and truancies.

Constable

These officials are the chief process servers of the Justices of the Peace courts and are certified peace officers.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

County Judge	Keith Self	972-548-4631
Commissioner, Pct. 1	Phyllis Cole	972-548-4631
Commissioner, Pct. 2	Jerry Hoagland	972-548-4631
Commissioner, Pct. 3	Joe Jaynes	972-548-4631
Commissioner, Pct. 4	Jack Hatchell	972-548-4631
Constable, Pct. 1	Jerry Kunkle	972-548-4419
Constable, Pct. 2	Joe Barton	972-548-4480
Constable, Pct. 3	Bob Bell	972-881-3070
Constable, Pct. 4	Johnny Todd	972-731-7320
County Clerk	Stacey Kemp	972-548-3025
County Court @ Law 1	Corinne Mason	972-548-3860
County Court @ Law 2	Jerry Lewis	972-548-3820
County Court @ Law 3	John Barry	972-548-3830
County Court @ Law 4	Ray Wheless	972-548-3840
County Court @ Law 5	Danny Wilson	972-548-3850
County Court @ Law 6	Greg Willis	972-548-1850
County Court Probate	Weldon Copeland	972-548-3810
District Attorney	John Roach	972-548-4323
District Clerk	Hannah Kunkle	972-548-4320
199th District Court	Robert Dry	972-548-4415
219th District Court	Curt Henderson	972-548-4402
296th District Court	John Roach, Jr.	972-548-4409
366th District Court	Greg Brewer	972-548-4570
380th District Court	Charles Sandoval	972-548-4762
401st District Court	Mark Rusch	972-548-4241
416th District Court	Chris Oldner	972-548-4520
417th District Court	Cynthia Wheless	972-548-4658
JP, Pct. 1	Paul Raleeh	972-548-4125
JP, Pct. 2	Terry Douglas	972-442-3289
JP, Pct. 3-1	Johnnie Lewis	972-548-3001
JP, Pct. 3-2	John Payton	972-548-3051
JP, Pct. 4	Mike Yarbrough	972-731-7300
Sheriff	Terry Box	972-547-5100
Tax Assessor/Collector	Kenneth Maun	972-547-5014

FY 2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

The Adopted Budget for FY 2008 continues to hold to the established principles in Collin County of conservative fiscal planning and preparation for the future. Commissioners Court priorities with regards to the budget include producing a “no tax increase” budget, continuing to maintain the tax rate at 0.245 per \$100 valuation for the citizens of Collin County through 2012 and continuing to utilize the Five Year Plan as a tool for budget preparation. The challenges faced by Collin County include the population increase in the County as Collin County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. The rising cost of healthcare for employees and continued funding of programs mandated by the State of Texas are other challenges the County faces. The Adopted Budget represents strategies that bring recurring expenditures in line with revenues while continuing to provide a high level of services to constituents.

The Adopted Budget also provides for targeted investments in Commissioners Court priority areas. These initiatives are included in the Adopted Budget without the need for an increase in the overall property tax rate for the fifteenth consecutive year.

- ⇒ The addition of six Detention Officers and one Transport Officer to the Jail in anticipation of the opening of the 2nd pod in the new cluster that opened in 2007.
- ⇒ The addition of six Detention Officers for Juvenile in anticipation of the opening of the new Juvenile cluster.

FY 2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW, CONT.

- ⇒ The addition of one Probation Officer for Juvenile for the new Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) per HB 2532.
- ⇒ The addition of two Felony Prosecutors and one Felony Investigator for the Specialized Crime Division for white-collar criminal grand jury investigations and prosecutions



COLLIN COUNTY ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

APPRAISED VALUES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Net Taxable Values</u>	<u>Percentage Increase</u>	<u>Average Home Value</u>
2003	\$49,168,855,273		\$205,405
2004	\$52,275,021,659	6.3%	\$208,544
2005	\$56,240,956,250	7.6%	\$214,006
2006	\$61,953,733,487	10.2%	\$221,701
2007	\$68,685,147,666	10.9%	\$230,813



Comparative Unemployment Rates*

<u>Collin County</u>	<u>State of Texas</u>	<u>United States</u>
3.9%	4.4%	4.5%

* Seasonally adjusted (September 2007); Sources: Texas Workforce Commission, Bureau of Labor Statistics

FY 2008 BUDGET PROCESS

The budget is a financial plan for a fiscal year of operations that matches all planned revenues and expenditures with the services provided to the citizens of Collin County. The FY 2008 Adopted Budget covers a twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

The purpose of the budget preparation process is to develop a work program and financial plan for Collin County. The goal is to produce a budget document that clearly states what services and functions will be provided with given financial, personnel and other resources. The budget document must be clearly understandable by the taxpayers and citizens at large. The budget document provides offices and departments with a work program to carry out their missions. It also provides the Budget Officer and the County Auditor with a financial plan with which to assure that the County operates within its financial means. Finally, the budget serves as an important reference document that provides extensive information on the nature and scope of County operations and services.

The process for developing the FY 2008 Adopted Budget involved the following overall steps:

- ⇒ Setting of budget goals for the County in cooperation with Commissioners Court
- ⇒ Budget Preparation workshops with County departments
- ⇒ Preparation of Recommended Budget
- ⇒ Commissioners Court Workshops and Public Hearings
- ⇒ Budget Adoption

As an ongoing effort to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Collin County, the Budget Office, as directed by Commissioners Court, has been continually working towards Performance Based Management since 2003. The FY 2008 Adopted Budget reflects the next step in achieving a fully implemented performance based budget. During the FY 2008 budget process, offices and departments were asked to submit programmatic allocations, program justifications, and performance measures as a way to demonstrate how performance will be improved in the upcoming fiscal year. Budget Office staff also worked with County offices and departments to develop systems to better track and manage data related to their performance measures.

Upon adoption of the budget by Commissioners Court, a copy of the budget is filed with the County Auditor and the County Clerk. The County Auditor will use the Adopted Budget to set up the appropriate budgetary accounts for each office and department. The County Auditor is responsible for the financial accounts of the County. The Budget Office is responsible for monitoring expenditures in accordance with the budget and for initiating appropriate budget transfers. Offices and departments are responsible for keeping expenditures within the budgeted amount and for tracking performance indicator data.

FY 2008 BUDGET PLANNING CALENDAR

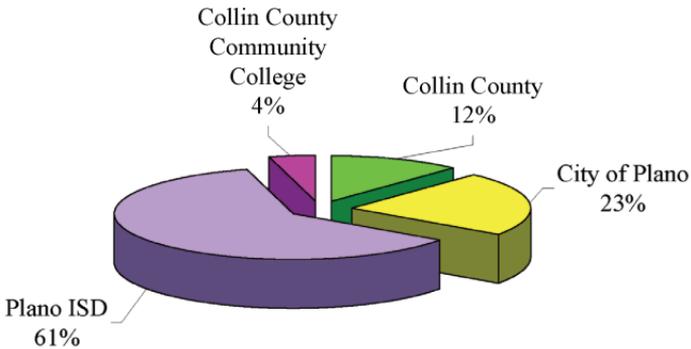
February 13, 2007	Workshop to discuss general direction of FY 2008 Budget and setting of budget goals for the County.
March 1-2	Electronic Budget Preparation Manual distributed.
April 2	Completed Budget Preparation Manuals returned.
April 24	Discussion and any action related to FY 2008 Compensation Plan
May 14	Estimated revenues from the Auditor.
May 14-18	Departmental detail budget review with the County Budget Officer.
July 9-13	Delivery of Final Appraisal Roll to County. Auditor to provide update of detail revenue, summary revenues and expenditure schedule, projected fund balance, calculation of the effective tax rate and roll back rate.
August 21	Finalization of Initial Budget Proposal. Proposed Budget distributed to Commissioners' Court
July 30- August 3	Budget workshop with Commissioners' Court
August 28	First Public Hearing on FY 2008 Tax Rate
September 4	Second Public Hearing
September 11	Adopt FY 2008 Tax Rate, FY 2008 Budget and County Fees.
October 1	Fiscal year begins.

PROPERTY TAX DETAILS

The following is a property tax analysis for an average homeowner in Collin County. The average home in Collin County is valued at \$230,813 according to statistics compiled by the Central Appraisal District of Collin County.

<u>Taxing Unit</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Taxes</u>
Collin County	0.245000	\$565.49
City of Plano	0.473500	\$1,092.90
Plano ISD	1.578400	\$3,643.15
Community College	0.087683	\$202.38
Total Taxes		\$5,503.93

Distribution by Taxing Unit



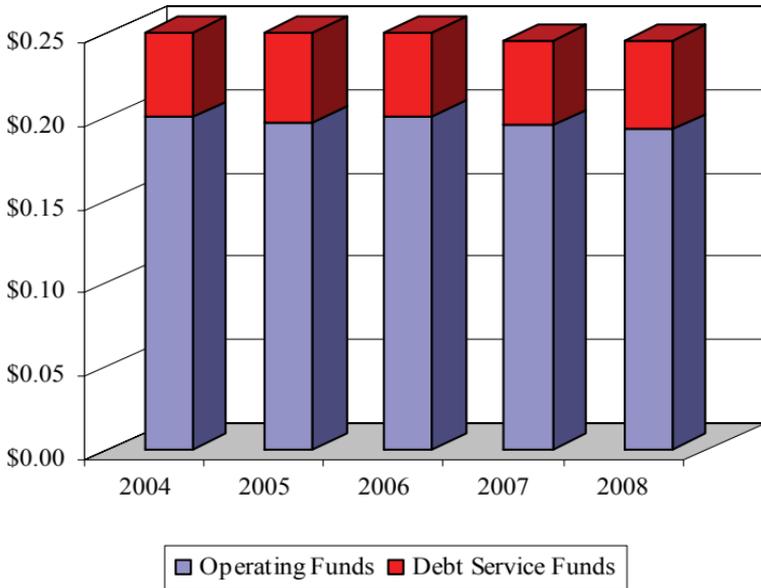
FY 2008 TAX RATE DISTRIBUTION

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Fund Number</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
Operating Funds:		
General	001	0.16817
Road & Bridge	010	0.00113
Permanent Improvement	400	0.02139
Jury	020	<u>0.00095</u>
Subtotal		0.19164
Debt Service		0.05336
Grand Total		0.24500

TAX RATE DISTRIBUTION FIVE YEAR TREND

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Operating Funds</u>	<u>Debt Service Funds</u>
2004	\$0.19963	\$0.05037
2005	\$0.19605	\$0.05395
2006	\$0.19968	\$0.05032
2007	\$0.19469	\$0.05031
2008	\$0.19164	\$0.05336

Five Year Trend

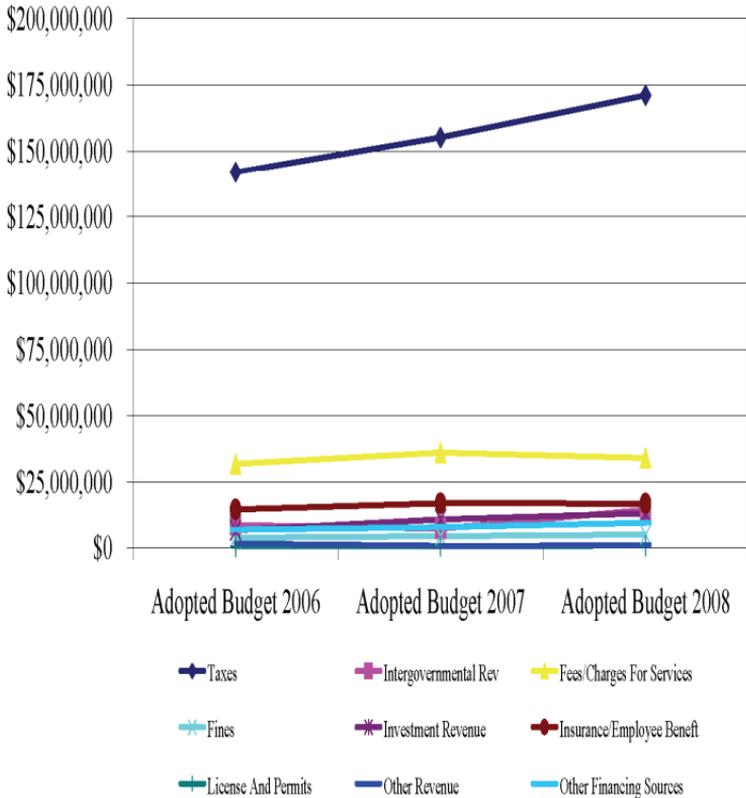


COMBINED BUDGET REVENUES BY SOURCE

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2006 Adopted Budget</u>	<u>FY 2007 Adopted Budget</u>	<u>FY 2008 Adopted Budget</u>
Taxes	\$141,887,927	\$155,147,970	\$171,068,428
Intergovernmental	\$8,525,383	\$7,177,487	\$14,349,223
Fees/Charges for Service	\$31,900,385	\$36,129,562	\$34,150,681
Fines	\$3,835,727	\$4,398,909	\$5,009,825
Investment Revenue	\$6,619,760	\$10,691,929	\$13,003,197
Insurance/ Employee Benefits	\$14,447,585	\$16,693,200	\$16,681,375
License and Permits	\$617,000	\$696,300	\$826,700
Other Revenue	\$1,603,273	\$779,400	\$864,500
Other Financing Sources	\$6,784,956	\$7,791,930	\$9,409,162
	\$216,221,996	\$239,506,687	\$265,363,091

COMBINED BUDGET REVENUES BY SOURCE

Combined Budget Revenue by Source



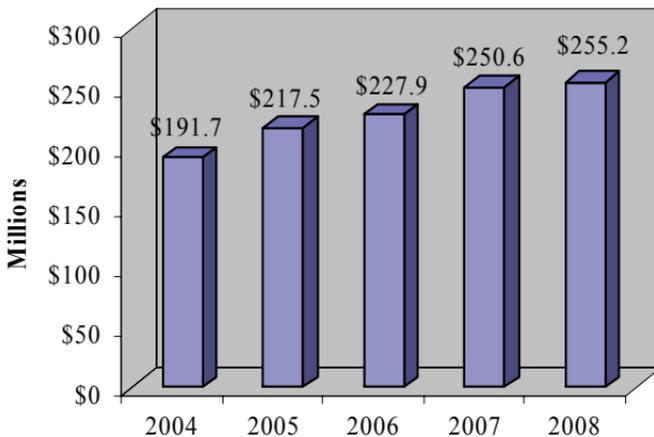
COLLIN COUNTY BUDGET HISTORY

TOTAL COMBINED BUDGET

(EXCLUDING ALL BOND FUNDS)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Budget (In Millions)</u>	<u>Percentage Increase</u>
2004	\$191.7	5.35%
2005	\$217.5	13.43%
2006	\$227.9	4.82%
2007	\$250.6	9.91%
2008	\$255.2	1.84%

Total Combined Budget



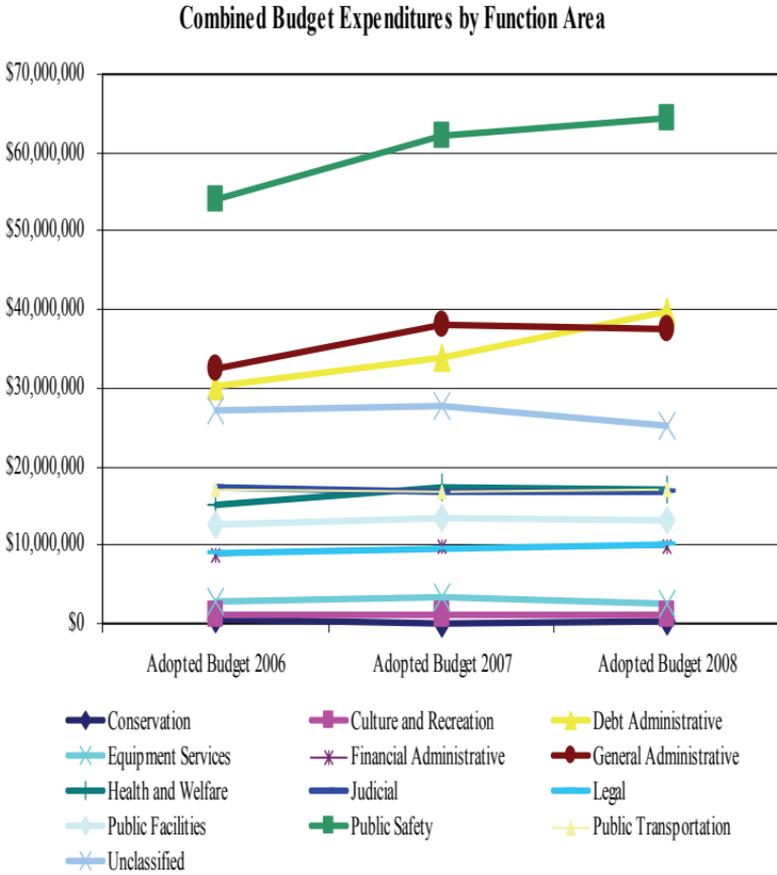
**COLLIN COUNTY
OPERATING BUDGET
TEN YEAR TREND**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Operating Budget</u>	<u>Percentage Increase</u>
1999	\$69,899,611	
2000	\$84,200,304	20.5%
2001	\$95,578,080	13.5%
2002	\$109,178,584	14.2%
2003	\$123,873,520	13.5%
2004	\$130,123,044	5.0%
2005	\$147,834,118	13.6%
2006	\$150,274,228	1.7%
2007	\$168,712,999	12.3%
2008	\$165,882,933	-1.7%

**COMBINED BUDGET
EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION
AREA**

	FY 2006 Adopted Budget	FY 2007 Adopted Budget	FY 2008 Adopted Budget
General Administrative	\$32,387,833	\$37,995,252	\$37,639,150
Judicial	\$17,271,628	\$16,694,335	\$16,892,588
Culture & Recreation	\$1,223,778	\$1,209,093	\$1,199,159
Financial Administrative	\$8,603,942	\$9,765,921	\$9,925,189
Legal	\$8,883,768	\$9,540,941	\$10,123,030
Public Facilities	\$12,641,743	\$13,469,489	\$13,190,456
Public Safety	\$54,097,134	\$62,135,566	\$64,347,786
Equipment Services	\$2,726,258	\$3,228,021	\$2,433,415
Health & Welfare	\$15,035,152	\$17,369,919	\$17,183,257
Conservation	\$514,372	\$535,354	\$370,277
Debt Administrative	\$30,268,897	\$33,999,561	\$39,688,692
Public Transportation	\$17,204,627	\$16,793,929	\$17,022,879
Unclassified	\$27,118,564	\$27,842,081	\$25,179,446
	\$227,977,696	\$250,579,462	\$255,194,324

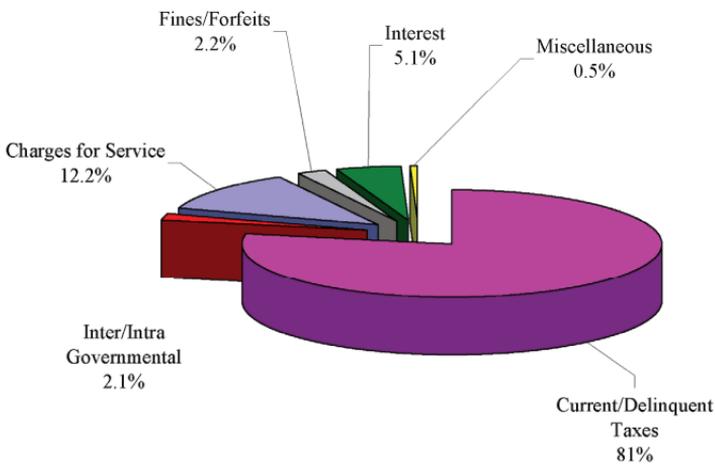
COMBINED BUDGET EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION AREA CONT.



GENERAL FUND REVENUE BY SOURCE

<u>Function</u>	<u>FY 2006 Actual</u>	<u>FY 2007 Adjusted</u>	<u>FY 2008 Adopted</u>
Current/ Delinquent Taxes	\$105,855,618	\$109,891,841	\$106,565,989
Inter / Intra Governmental	\$2,978,488	\$3,055,154	\$2,891,580
Charges for Service	\$12,692,894	\$17,023,426	\$16,717,575
Fines / Forfeits	\$2,484,227	\$3,157,785	\$2,967,500
Interest	\$3,325,000	\$6,950,000	\$6,975,000
Miscellaneous	\$899,488	\$342,679	\$625,550
	\$128,235,715	\$140,420,885	\$136,743,194

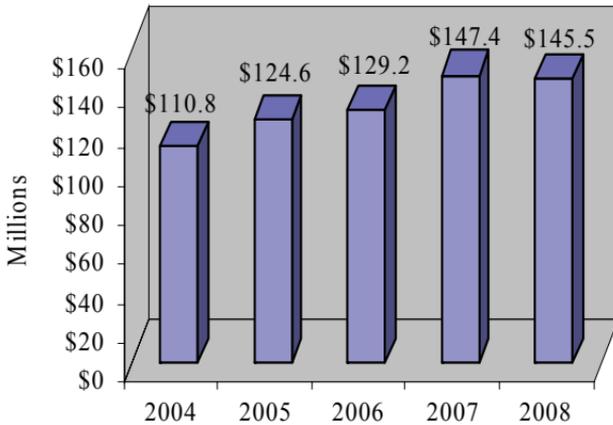
General Fund Revenue by Source



GENERAL FUND BUDGET FIVE YEAR TREND

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Budget (In Millions)</u>	<u>Percentage Increase</u>
2004	\$110.8	
2005	\$124.6	12.4%
2006	\$129.2	3.7%
2007	\$147.4	14.1%
2008	\$145.5	-1.2%

Five Year Trend

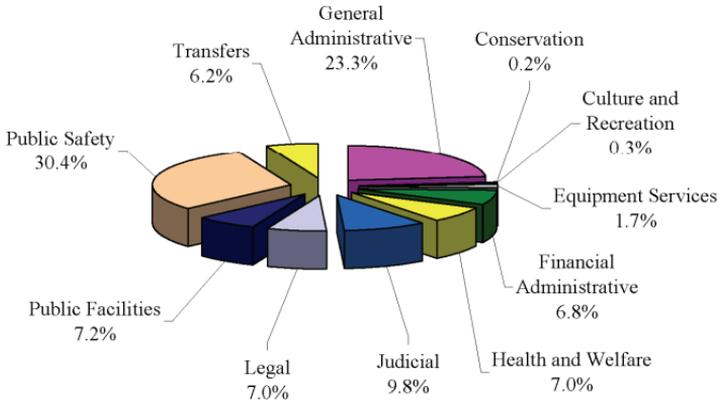


GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION AREA

	<u>FY 2006 Adopted Budget</u>	<u>FY 2007 Adopted Budget</u>	<u>FY 2008 Adopted Budget</u>
General Administrative	\$514,372	\$34,873,672	\$33,930,029
Judicial	\$17,271,628	\$9,539,241	\$14,315,957
Culture & Recreation	\$1,223,778	\$482,550	\$458,110
Financial Administrative	\$8,603,42	\$9,740,921	\$9,925,190
Legal	\$8,883,768	\$9,539,241	\$10,121,330
Public Facilities	\$12,641,743	\$9,962,316	\$10,506,895
Public Safety	\$54,097,134	\$42,901,433	\$44,215,675
Equipment Services	\$2,726,258	\$3,228,021	\$2,433,415
Health & Welfare	\$15,035,152	\$10,495,409	\$10,253,273
Conservation	\$514,372	\$335,354	\$326,242
Transfers	\$27,118,564	\$11,641,930	\$9,046,853
	\$227,977,696	\$147,373,797	\$145,532,969

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION AREA CONT.

General Fund Expenditures by Function Area



NOTE: Function areas include the following departments but are not limited to:

General Administrative: Commissioners' Court, Budget, Collections, Human Resources, Admin. Serv., Risk Mgmt., Records, Information Services, Telecom, Elections, Veterans & Non-Departmental

County Clerk: County Clerk, Treasurer

Judicial: All District, County and JP courts, CL Clerks and District Clerk

Financial: Auditor, Purchasing and Tax Assessor

Legal: District Attorney

Public Facilities: Maintenance and Construction & Projects

Public Safety: All Sheriff's departments, Constables and Fire Marshal

Health & Welfare: Substance Abuse, Indigent Aid and Criminal Defense

Culture & Recreation: Libraries, Historical Commission, Historical Society, and Open Space

Conservation: County Extension Service

Public Transportation: Equipment Services

Transfers: Transfer out

TOP 15 COUNTIES IN TEXAS BY POPULATION

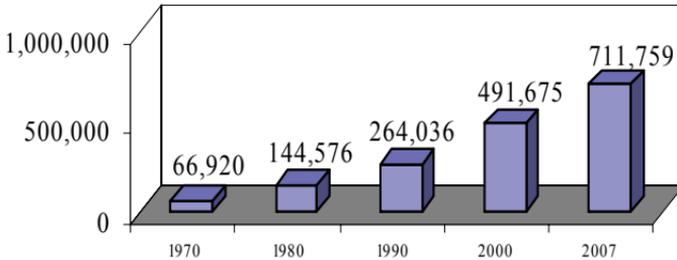
Pop. Rank	County	*Pop. Estimate	Total County-wide Tax Rate per \$100	Total # of County Emps.
1	Harris	3,914,825	\$0.381030	17,065
2	Dallas	2,534,617	\$0.228100	6,839
3	Tarrant	1,647,621	\$0.266500	4,546
4	Bexar	1,532,736	\$0.295104	4,672
5	Travis	971,004	\$0.421600	4,532
6	El Paso	778,364	\$0.360267	2,584
7	Hidalgo	736,328	\$0.590000	2,658
8	Collin	711,759	\$0.245000	1,734
9	Denton	636,962	\$0.235890	1,420
10	Fort Bend	474,484	\$0.516740	1,671
11	Cameron	403,278	\$0.343191	1,472
12	Montgomery	403,036	\$0.488800	1,904
13	Williamson	367,546	\$0.489100	1,439
14	Nueces	349,730	\$0.355000	1,163
15	Brazoria	291,264	\$0.371396	1,522

* Population projection by Texas State Data Center Scenario 1.0: 2007

COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Population

Population Growth Trend



Collin County's population is among the fastest growing in the United States. The population estimate for 2007 shows a 32% growth since the 2000 Census, according to the Texas State Data Center. This corresponds to an average annual growth rate of 5%.

The 2006 American Community Survey for the U.S. Census Bureau estimates for Collin County show a population composition as follows:

Age Breakdown	Collin County
65 and over	6%
45 to 64	23%
25 to 44	35%
18 to 24	8%
Under 18	28%

Race and Ethnic Groups	Collin County
White	79%
African American	7%
American Indian or Native American	0.5%
Asian	10%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.05%
Other	3%
Two or more races	2%

COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE CONT.

Economy

In 2006, for the employed population sixteen years and older, the leading industries in Collin County were Education, health, and social services (17%) as well as Professional and business services (14%). Among the most common occupations were management, professional and related occupations. Second would be sales and office occupations. Eighty-five percent of the people employed were private wage and salary workers; nine percent were federal, state or local government workers; and six percent were self-employed.

Eighty-two percent of Collin County workers drove to work alone in 2006, nine percent car-pooled, one percent took public transportation, and two percent used other means. The remaining six percent worked at home. Among those who commuted to work, it took them on average twenty-eight minutes to get to work.

The median income of households in Collin County was \$74,051. Ninety-one percent of households received earnings and ten percent received retirement income other than Social Security. Thirteen percent of the households received Social Security. These income sources are not mutually exclusive.

In 2006, ninety-one percent of people twenty-five years and over had at least graduated from high school and forty-seven percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Among people sixteen to nineteen years old, nine percent were dropouts; they were not enrolled in school and had not graduated from high school. The total school enrollment in Collin County was 202,000 in 2006. Preprimary school enrollment was 27,000 and elementary or high school enrollment was 126,000 children. College enrollment was 49,000.

COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE CONT.

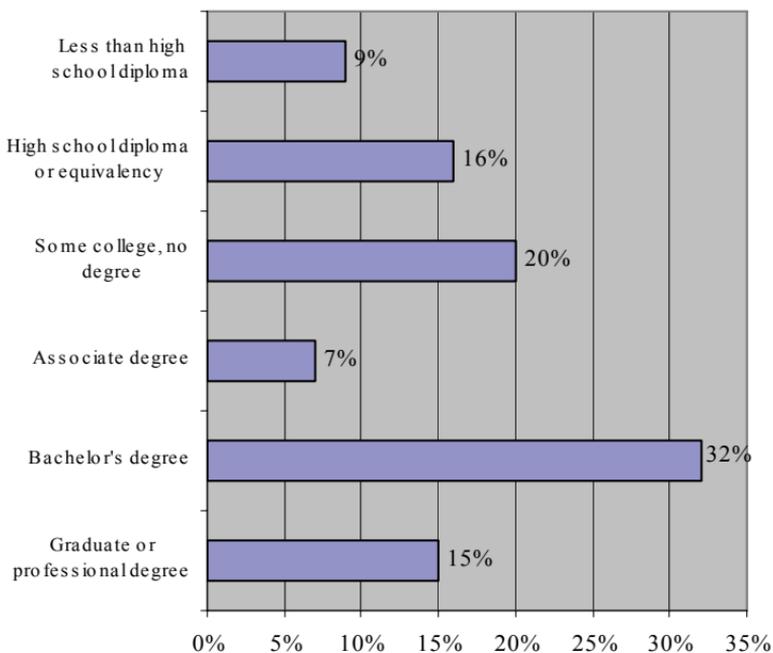
Employment by Industry Collin County 2006

Industry	Collin County
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1%
Construction	6%
Manufacturing	11%
Wholesale trade	5%
Retail trade	12%
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3%
Information	5%
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	12%
Professional and business services	14%
Educational, health, and social services	17%
Leisure and hospitality	7%
Other services	4%
Public administration	2%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau
2006 American Community Survey*

COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE CONT.

Educational Attainment of Persons 25 Years and Over in Collin County 2006



*Source: U.S. Census Bureau
2006 American Community Survey*

**COLLIN COUNTY
COMMUNITY PROFILE CONT.**

Major Employers in Collin County

Employer	City
EDS	Plano
Countrywide Home Loans	Plano
JC Penney	Plano
University of Texas at Dallas	Richardson
Raytheon	McKinney
Perot Systems	Plano
Alcatel	Plano
AT&T INC	Richardson
CHC Acquisition Corp	Plano
Dr Pepper/Seven-Up Corp	Plano
Countrywide Financial Corp.	Plano
T-Mobile USA Inc.	Frisco
Presbyterian Hospital of Plano	Plano
Medical Center of Plano	Plano
Capital One Auto Finance	Plano

*Source: NCTCOG
Demographic Data for North Texas*



ALL ABOUT THE COUNTY

Collin County is located in northeastern Texas thirty miles south of the Red River. McKinney, the county seat, is thirty-four miles northeast of Dallas. With the exception of a small portion of its western edge, Collin County's area of 886 square miles lies entirely within the Blackland Prairie region of Texas. The surface of the County is generally level to gently rolling with an elevation ranging from 450 to 700 feet above sea level. The western and central portions of the County are drained by the East fork of the Trinity River. The Elm fork of the Trinity drains the eastern section. Bois d' arc, oak, elm, ash, pecan, and post oak trees grow along the streams of the County but not in sufficient quantity for commercial use. Limestone and sand for making cement are the only mineral resources. Temperatures range from an average high 96 degrees Fahrenheit in July to an average low of 34 degrees Fahrenheit in January. Rainfall averages just under thirty-five inches a year, and the growing season extends for 237 days.

Branches of the Caddo Indians inhabited the area before the arrival of the first white settlers. Occasional outbreaks of violence occurred between the two groups, but there was no extended period of conflict since the Caddos withdrew from the County by the mid-1850s. The County and the County seat, McKinney owe their names to an outstanding area pioneer, Collin McKinney, who was a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The majority of the first settlers of Collin County were farmers who lived near streams, where water and wood were easily obtained. They established small, family-operated farms that produced mostly wheat and corn. The lack of transportation facilities, limited markets, and the absence of mechanized farm equipment restricted the agricultural production of the County. The arrival of the rail-

ALL ABOUT THE COUNTY CONT.

road removed these obstacles and initiated a fifty-year period of economic growth. In 1872, the Houston and Texas Central Railway, the first to reach the County, connected McKinney and Plano to tracks that reached as far south as Houston. By the mid-1890s six railroads crisscrossed the County, connecting farmers to retail markets throughout Texas. With an outlet for their products, farmers began to cultivate the unplowed fertile land in the eastern and central sections of the County.

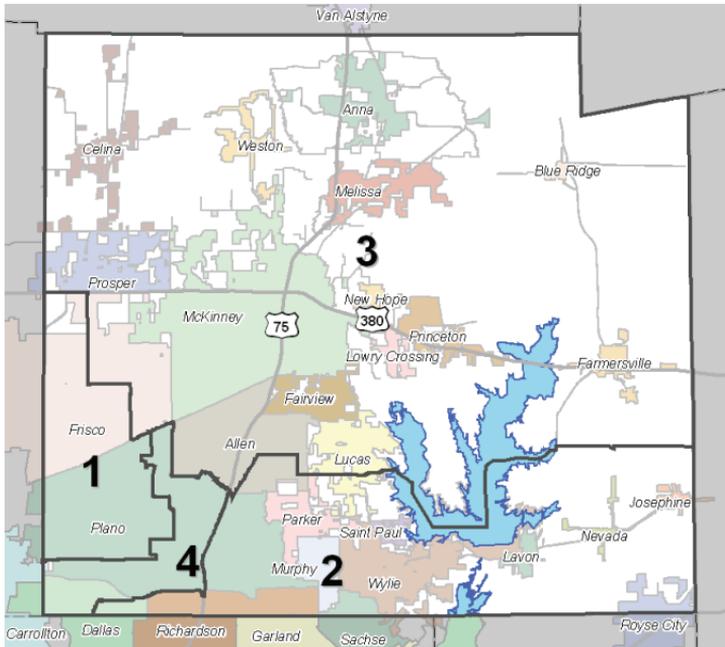
By the 1960s the mechanization of farming, however, reduced the number of farms. Because of the lack of business opportunities outside farming in the County, the majority of those forced to leave farming also left the County. The population decreased from 47,190 in 1940 to 41,247 in 1960.

By 1980, the introduction of light industry, combined with the growth of the Dallas metropolitan area, produced a successful diversified economy. The economic growth between 1960 and 1980 accompanied a comparable population growth. Collin County's population increased from 41,247 in 1960 to 144,576 in 1980. Subsequently, it continues to grow, largely as a result of the development of the suburbs in and around Plano.

By 1990 the number of residents in Plano increased to 128,673, and the population of the County as a whole grew to 264,063, nearly double what it had been only a decade before. The 2000 Census estimates the population of Collin County at 491,675, an 86.2% growth in just one decade. The diversified economy continues to diminish the number of farms. The County little resembles what was settled in the 1840s.

Source: Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "COLLIN COUNTY," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/view/CC/hcc16.html> (accessed November 14, 2006).

COLLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT PRECINCTS



Precinct 1
Phyllis Cole

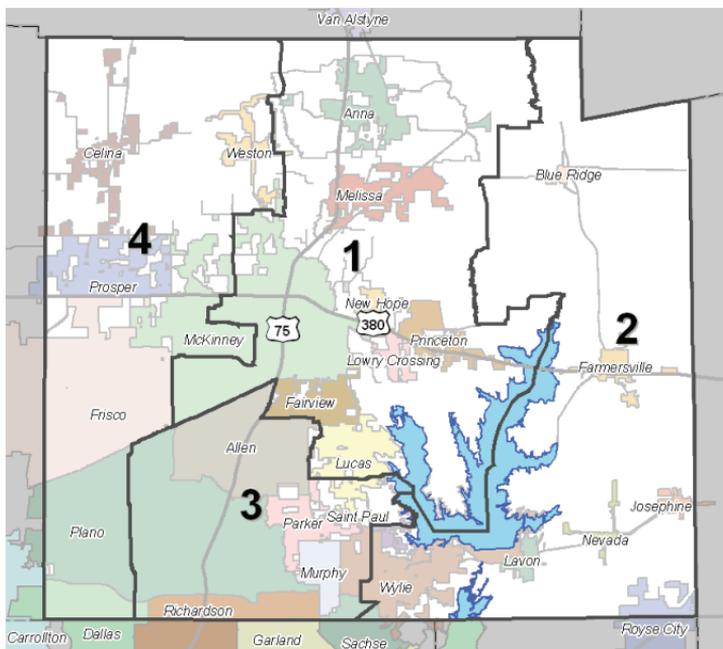
Precinct 2
Jerry Hoagland

Precinct 3
Joe Jaynes

Precinct 4
Jack Hatchell

For more information go to http://www.collincountytexas.gov/commissioners_court/index.jsp

COLLIN COUNTY CONSTABLE PRECINCTS



Precinct 1
Jerry Kunkle

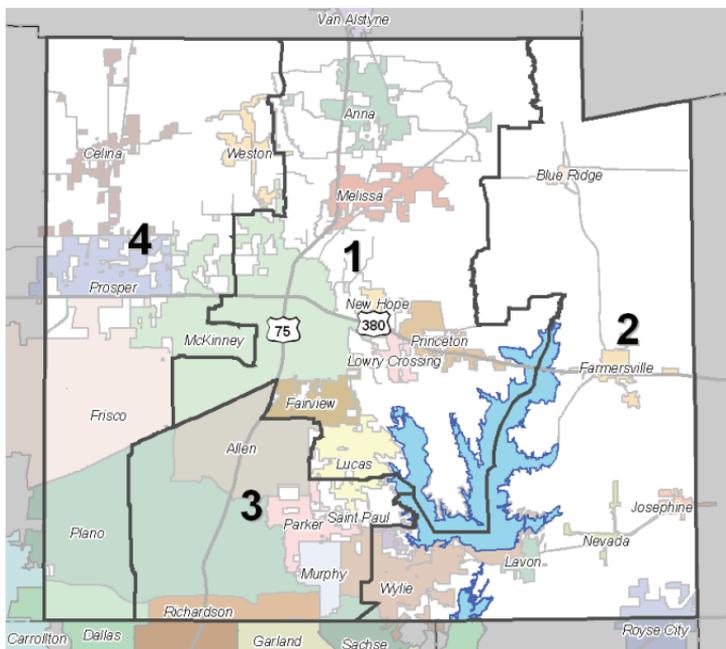
Precinct 2
Joe Barton

Precinct 3
Bob Bell

Precinct 4
Johnny Todd

For more information go to <http://www.collincountytexas.gov/constables/index.jsp>

**COLLIN COUNTY
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
PRECINCTS**



Precinct 1
Paul Raleeh

Precinct 2
Terry Douglas

Precinct 3-1
Jonnie Lewis

Precinct 3-2
John Payton

Precinct 4
Mike Yarbrough

For more information go to http://www.collincountytexas.gov/justices_peace/index.jsp





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