

**County Expenditures  
and  
Tax Rates Survey  
2006**

**The County Information Project  
Texas Association of Counties**

**21 April 2006**



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## Executive Summary

The Texas Association of Counties (TAC) asked Texas counties to provide information on a number of different county expenditures going back several years. In analyzing the returned data, TAC first separated the 42 responses, covering more than 43% of the state's population, into five different brackets based on the 2000 Census population of the counties. The averages of each bracket were then graphed and the percentage change in the average calculated when the data spanned multiple years.

<b>Population Range</b>	<b>Bracket Name</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
More than 1,000,000	Largest	2
100,001 - 1,000,000	Large	8
25,001 - 100,000	Mid-sized	9
10,001 - 25,000	Small	14
Less than 10,000	Smallest	9

There were many instances of high growth in expenditures.

- The estimated increase in inflation<sup>1</sup> plus statewide population<sup>2</sup> growth for the period 2001 to 2006 is 22.0%. Many of the counties reported increases in the various expenditure categories to be much higher than 22.0%.
- Similarly, for some services data was only collected for the period 2004 to 2006. The estimated inflation per statewide population growth for this period is 10.3%.
- For every expenditure category but one where at least three years of data was collected (2004 – 2006) there was at least one population bracket where average expenditures increased at least 25%.
- For every expenditure category where data was collected going back to 2001, except for Services for the Elderly, there was at least one population bracket where average expenditures increased by more than 45%! That is more than double the estimated total inflation plus population growth.

Conversely there were also many instances where a bracket's average showed a decrease over the reporting period.

- Of the nine service expenditure categories where at least three years of data was reported, five services had at least one bracket with a decrease in expenditures over the period.
- Extreme variability was noted for many brackets in various services. One year changes (increase or decrease) of 40% or more were not uncommon.

Employee Health Care is a particular concern for counties as well as the state as the average for four of the five brackets increased every year from 2001 to 2006. The Mid-sized counties (population: 25,001 to 100,000) reported two years in which their average decreased. However, overall this bracket reported that average expenditures

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<sup>1</sup> Consumer Price Index, All Urban Counties, U.S. Cities Average from the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>2</sup> Population growth based upon estimates prepared by the U. S. Census Bureau.

increased by 73.3%. The other brackets reported average expenditures increasing by 42-115%.

While there is little consistency from county to county, or even from bracket to bracket, it is clear from the counties that responded to this survey that there are both long-term and short-term periods in which expenditures grow much more quickly than inflation or even inflation plus population growth. While there are also periods in which expenditures can stagnate or even decline, these periods are often short and rarely if ever occur across the board.

Counties are clearly being asked to do more for residents than ever before. Where each county would have made cuts during this period had a revenue cap been in place is impossible to say. It is however important to note that, for every one of the services mentioned in this report, a number of counties found it necessary to increase expenditures at a rate significantly faster than inflation plus population growth.

# Introduction

During March of 2006 the Texas Association of Counties conducted a County Expenditures and Tax Rates Survey. This survey attempted to obtain information from the counties on total expenditures in a number of service areas over recent years. The survey was conducted in order to have hard data concerning spending requirements that are beyond the control of locally elected county officials on hand for the legislative special session. The data will also be provided to the House Committee on County Affairs to assist the Committee in responding to their interim charge to “study the cost drivers of county government functions.”

Many of the questions asked attempted to obtain data going back three or more years in order to determine if any trends existed. General trends are noted in this report for all expenditures where data was collected for periods of at least three years. However, clearly trends of less than five years are susceptible to error due to short term fluctuations so should be considered less concrete than trends established from data covering longer periods of time.

In analyzing the surveys, the responses were separated into five groups (or brackets) based upon each county’s population as of the 2000 Census. The following table shows the population brackets, the short name of each bracket, and the number of responding counties that belong to each bracket.

<b>Population Range</b>	<b>Bracket Name</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
More than 1,000,000	Largest	2
100,001 - 1,000,000	Large	8
25,001 - 100,000	Mid-sized	9
10,001 - 25,000	Small	14
Less than 10,000	Smallest	9

The following pages begin the analysis of the survey responses by presenting one or two graphs showing the average expenditures for each of the brackets (they do not show the expenditures for individual counties). In most of the graphs the averages are shown for multiple years going as far back as 2001. In many cases the responses for the counties in the two largest population brackets are shown in one graph while the responses from the other counties are shown in another. This is due to the large differences in the averages which limit the reader’s ability to distinguish changes in some brackets when they are all graphed together.

There were numerous cases where the county, due to the way their financial systems are set up, could not separate out the data at the level of detail requested. This was particularly true on the questions regarding the value of in-kind expenditures. As a result in-kind expenditures were left out of the analysis as the number of responses was judged inadequate to provide any confidence in the results.

In order to place the analyses in perspective, some additional material is provided in four appendices. Appendix A charts the change in inflation over the period based on the

annual Consumer Price Index (CPI), All Urban Counties, U.S. Cities Average. Appendix B charts the change in the state's population over the same period. This information is presented to enable comparisons with the changes in expenditures for the various services.

Inflation, based on the CPI, was 10.3% from 2001 to 2005. During the same period, based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of the state grew 7.2%. Assuming both inflation and state population growth continue at the same pace through 2006 gives a 13.0% increase in inflation and a 9.0% increase in population over the entire 2001-2006 period. Combining those two numbers returns 22.0%. This benchmark can be used when evaluating services for which data was collected from 2001 to 2006.

Using the same methodology, inflation from 2004 to 2006 can be estimated. From 2004 to 2006, the annual CPI increased by an estimated 6.8%. Over the same period the estimated population increase was 3.5%. Combining those two numbers returns a 10.3% increase. This lower benchmark should be used when evaluating services for which data was collected from 2004 to 2006.

Appendix C and D contain information on the surveyed counties. Appendix C has a pie chart which shows the percentage of the state's population found in the responding counties. It also includes a table which lists the responding counties by their population bracket and shows each population as of the 2000 Census.

Appendix D has a map which shows where each of the counties is located so the reader can see the geographical coverage provided by the responding counties.

Appendix E contains tables showing how many responses were received for each question by year. In many cases counties were able to provide responses going back several years but were unable to provide responses for every year requested.

Questions about this report should be directed to Tim Brown at the Texas Association of Counties, (512) 478-8753.

## **Services**

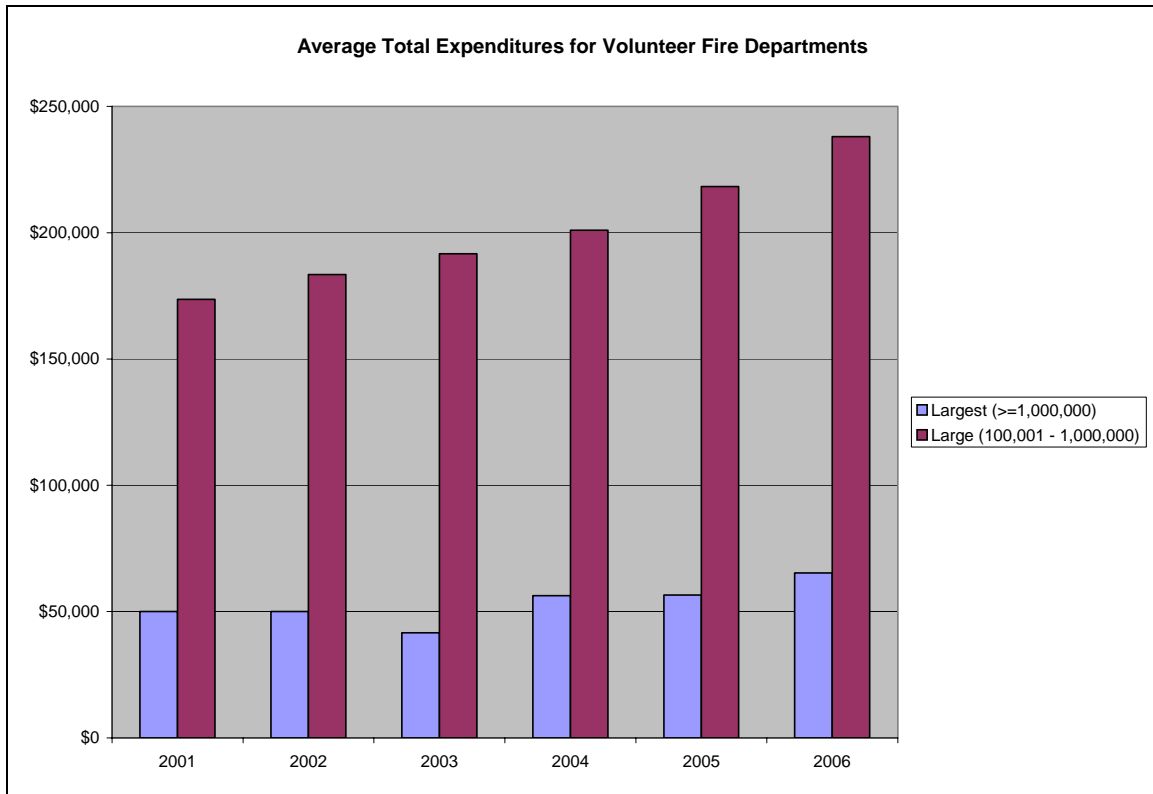
Analysis of Average Expenditures by Category and Population Bracket

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## ***Volunteer Fire Departments (VFD)***

The breakdown by population bracket shows that only the Large counties, those with 2000 Census populations between 100,001 and 1 million, maintained a consistent trend over the six year period. The averages of all five of the other brackets rose most of the time with occasional declines. For example, the Largest counties, in Chart 1, had increases of 30.6% in average expenditures while the Large county expenditures increased 37.1%.

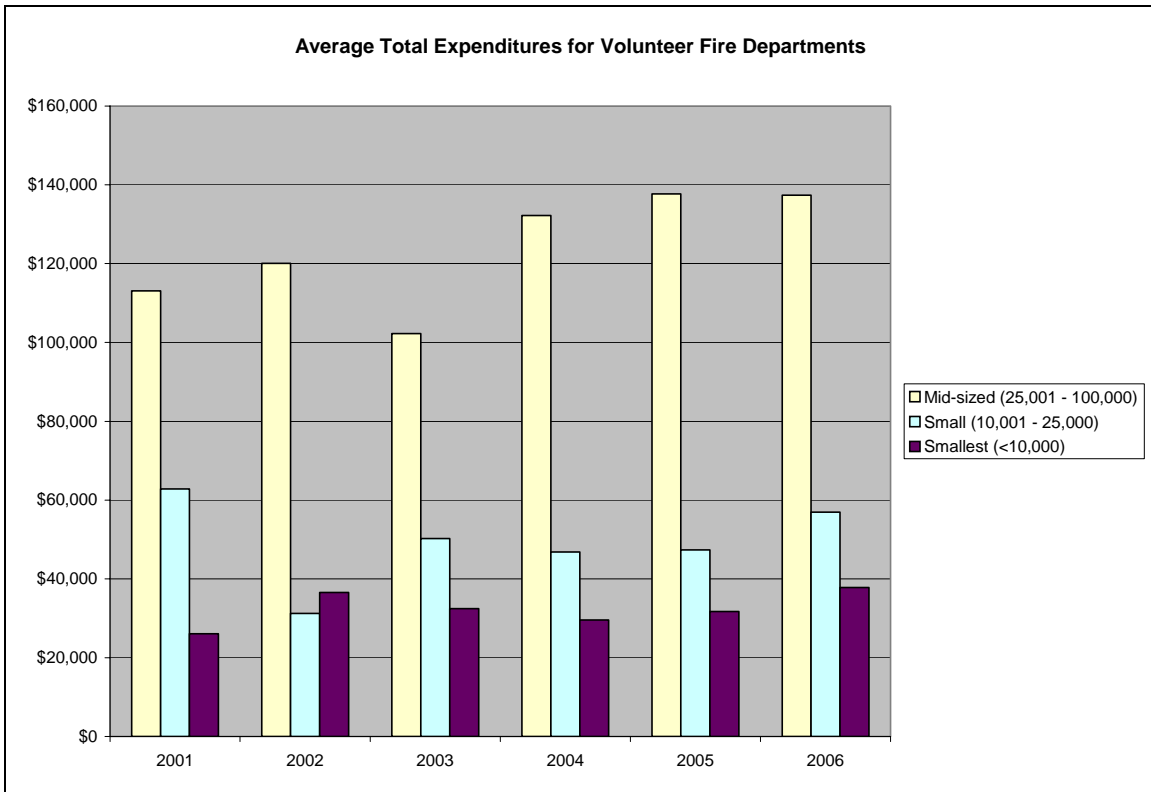
**Chart 1 - VFD: Most Populous Counties<sup>3</sup>**



Mid-sized counties' average expenditures increased only 21.5% while expenditures increased 45.1% in the Smallest counties (Chart 2). Meanwhile, the Small counties (10,001 – 25,000 population) greatly decreased their average spending on Volunteer Fire Departments from 2001 to 2002 by 50.2%. Although there have been increases in this average since 2002, they have yet to return to 2001 levels.

<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all of the charts in this section show average expenditures for each population bracket, they do not show the expenditures for individual counties.

**Chart 2 - VFD: Least Populous Counties**

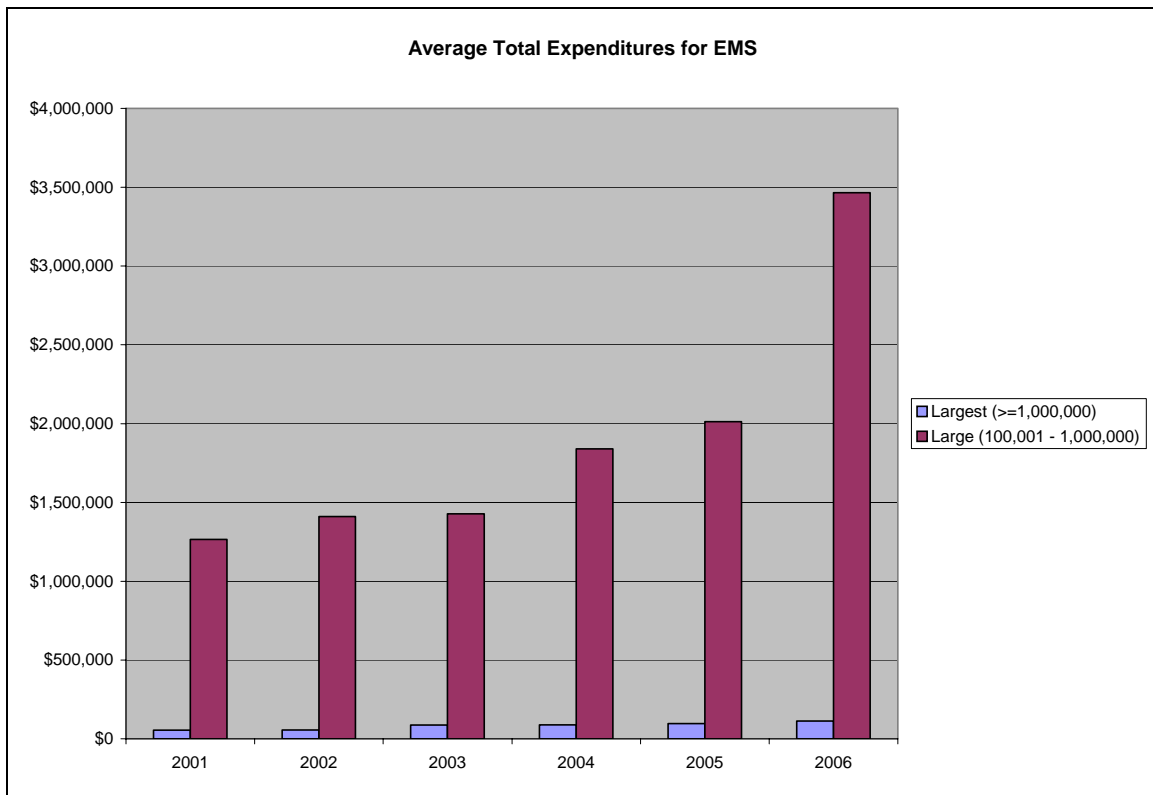


## ***Emergency Medical Services***

Out of the Large counties (Chart 3), Travis County tends to dominate the category by budgeting more for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) during 2006 than all of the other responding counties combined, more than \$25 million.<sup>4</sup> The Large counties as a group show an increase of 173.4% in average total expenditures primarily due to the significant increases in Travis County. The Large counties without Travis County had an increase of only 53.0% for the same period.

Both the Largest counties (Chart 3) and the Small counties (Chart 4) also more than doubled their averages with increases of 105.4% and 114.5% respectively.

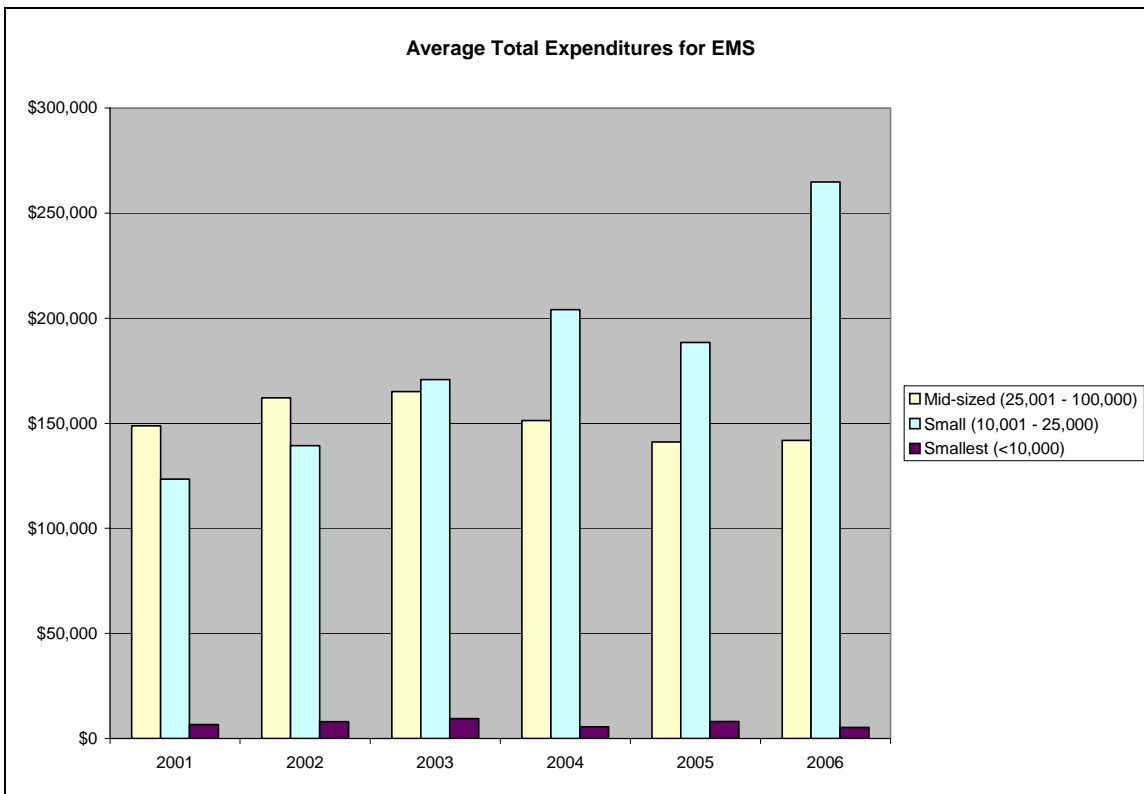
**Chart 3 - EMS: Most Populous Counties**



The remaining two brackets both saw decreases in average spending (Chart 4). Mid-sized counties decreased their EMS spending by 4.6%. Meanwhile the average expenditures in the Smallest counties declined by 20.0% over the same period.

<sup>4</sup> Amounts for individual counties are not shown on the charts.

**Chart 4 - EMS: Least Populous Counties**

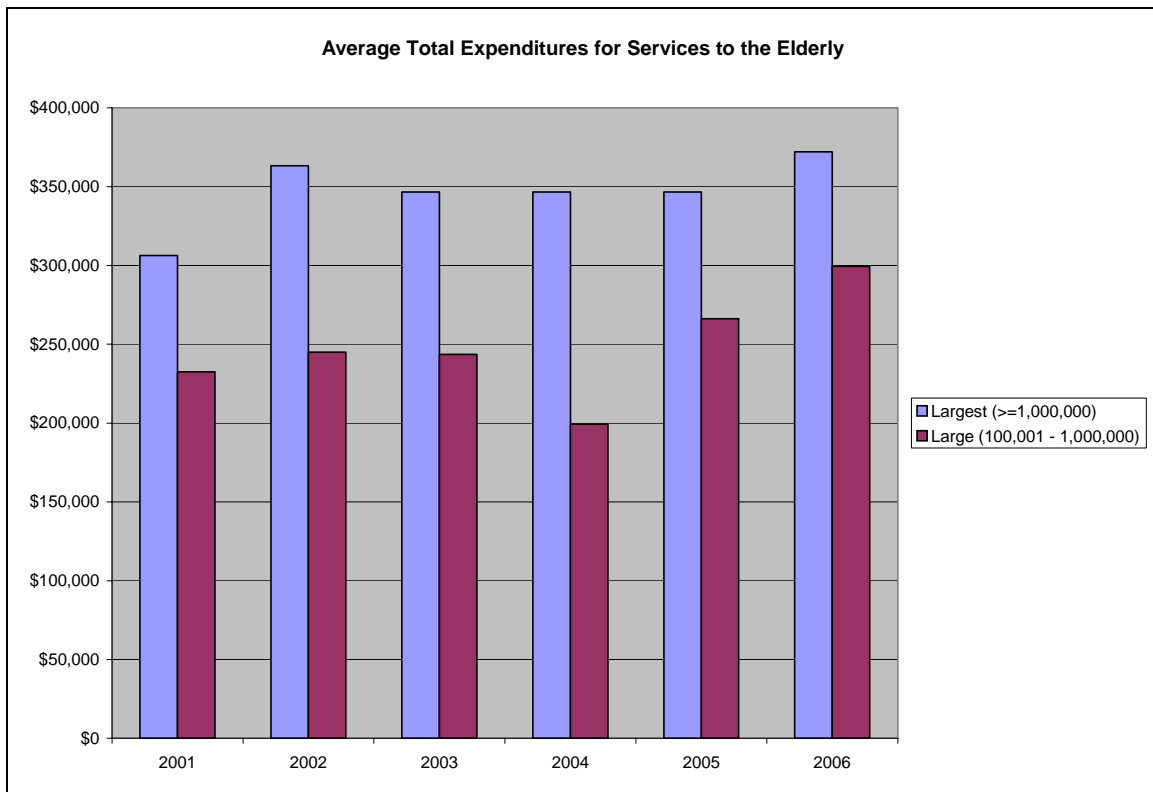


## ***Services to the Elderly***

El Paso and Galveston, both of whom are in the Large counties category (Chart 5), have the greatest reported expenditures for Services to the Elderly. Expenditures peaked at \$958,200 for El Paso's 2006 budget. Other counties in the same bracket tended to expend significantly less resulting in lower average expenditures compared to the Largest counties.

Expenditures tended to fluctuate quite a bit from year to year as can be noted in both of the charts below. For the period, the average expenditures increased for both of the more populous county brackets (Chart 5). They increased by 21.5% for the Largest counties and 28.7% for the Large counties.

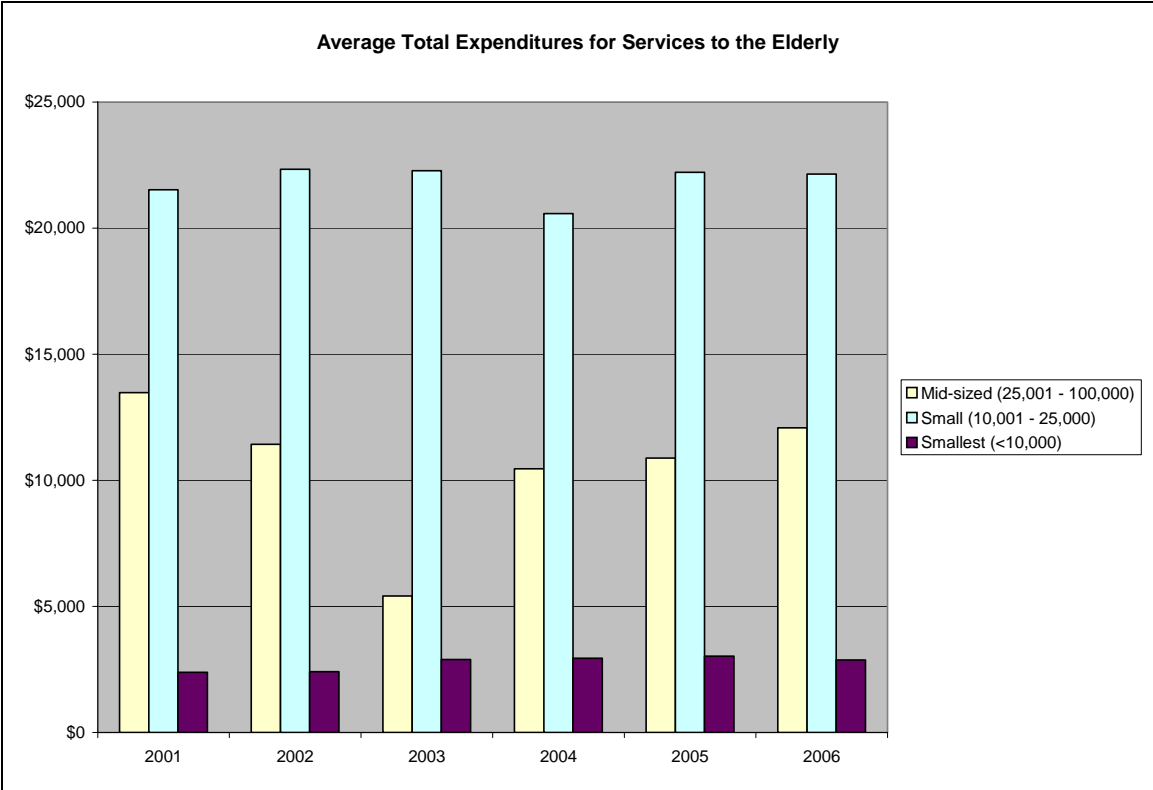
**Chart 5 - Services to the Elderly: Most Populous Counties**



The Mid-sized counties (Chart 6) actually reported a decrease in average expenditures of 10.4%. Expenditures increased by 2.9% and 20.5% respectively for the Small and Smallest counties (Chart 6).

Note the large fluctuation in average expenditures for the Mid-sized counties. Expenditures decreased by 60.0% in a single year, from 2001 to 2003.

**Chart 6 - Services to the Elderly: Least Populous Counties**



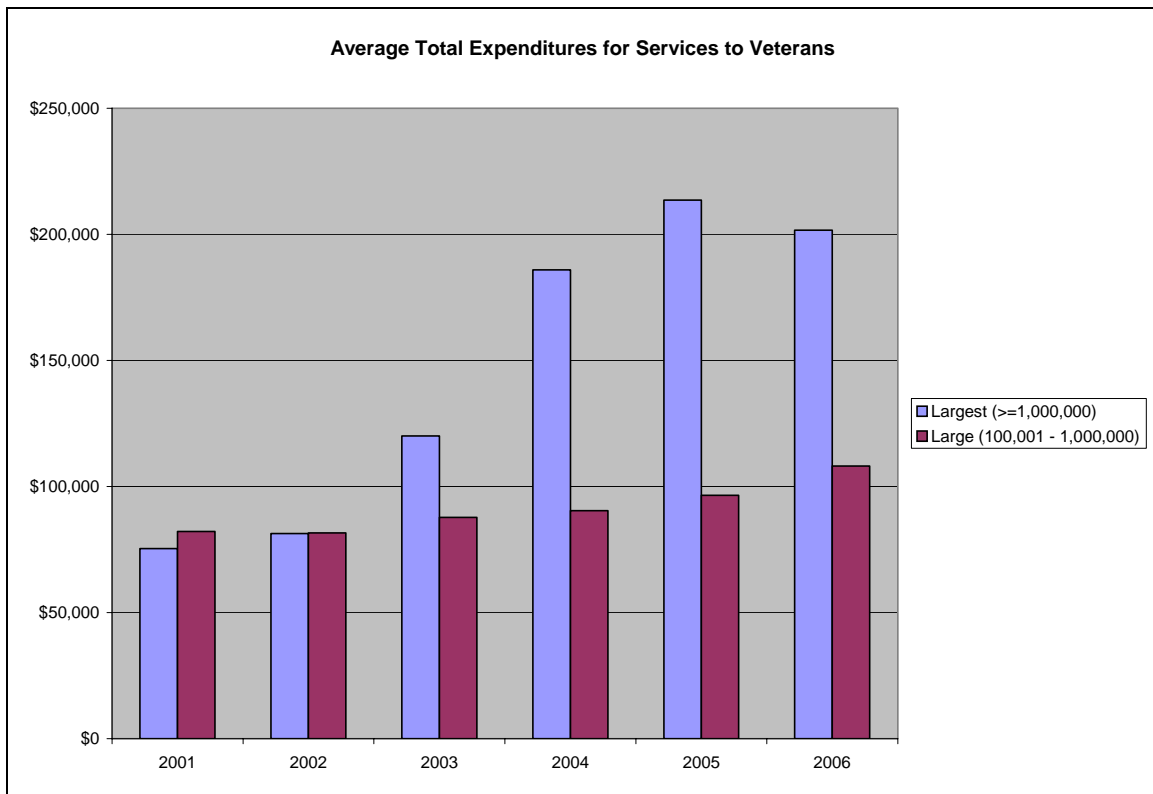
## ***Services to Veterans***

Services to Veterans entail providing information and services to veterans of American wars.

Denton County has the greatest expenditures for Services to Veterans budgeted for 2006 (\$319,413), with Travis a close second. Prior to 2005, Travis spent the most on its Veterans among the responding counties. Both of those counties are in the Large county bracket (Chart 7) which increased by 31.6% from 2001 to 2006.

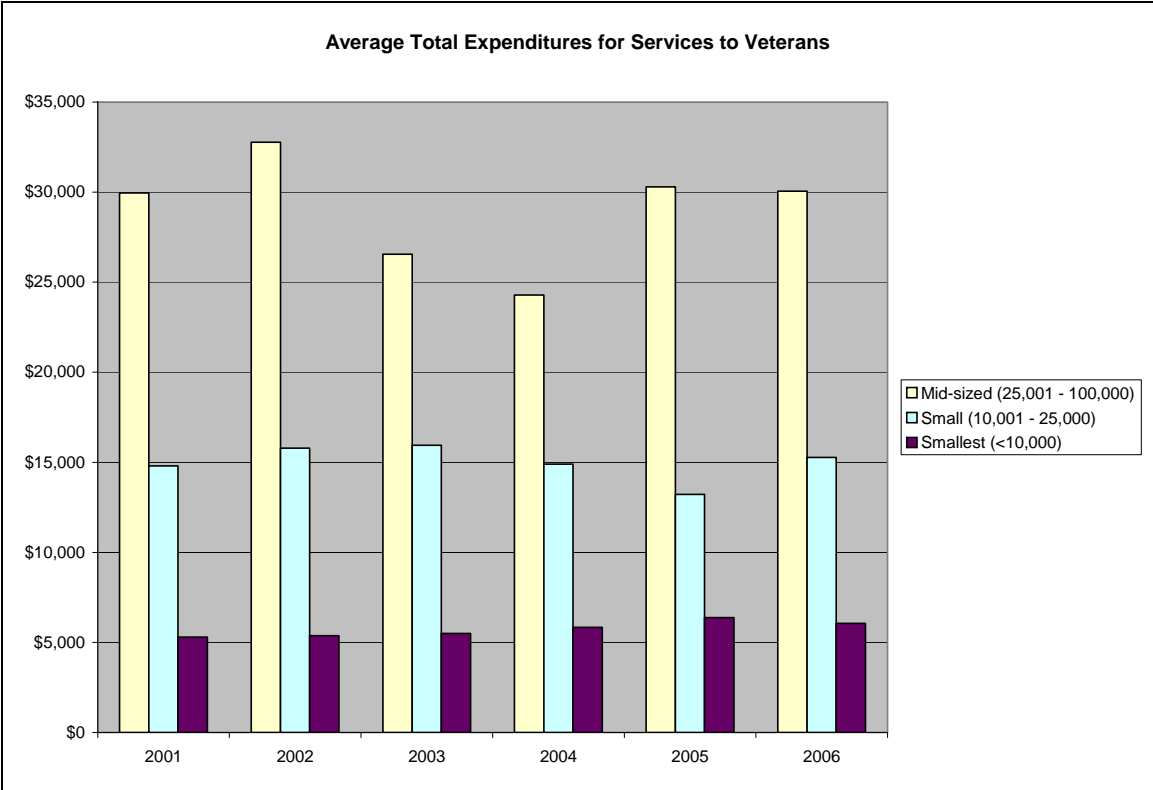
Harris reported no expenditures in 2001 or 2002 although they budgeted the third most of the responding counties for 2006. This increase in large part explains the more than 167% increase in average expenditures for the Largest counties (Chart7).

**Chart 7 – Services to Veterans: Most Populous Counties**



The more populous counties saw the greatest increase in expenditures for Services to Veterans. Mid-sized counties recorded only a 0.3% change, while the Small and the Smallest counties increased expenditures by 3.2% and 14.3% respectively (Chart 8).

**Chart 8 - Services to Veterans: Least Populous Counties**

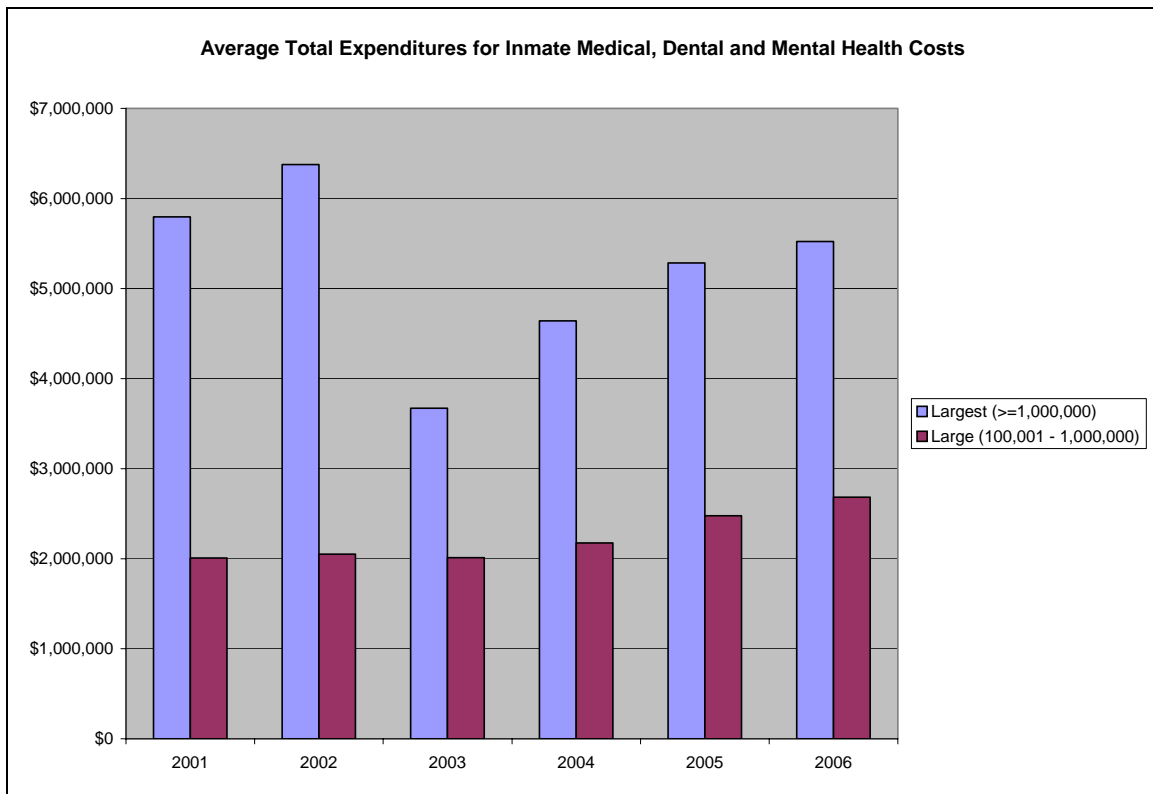


## ***Inmate Medical, Dental and Mental Health Costs***

The Largest counties had a 4.74% decrease (Chart 9). It should be noted that the decrease in average expenditures for the Largest counties can largely be explained by the creation of a hospital district in Dallas County.

Average expenditures for the Large counties trended upwards with a 33.6% increase (Chart 9).

**Chart 9 - Inmate Costs: Most Populous Counties**



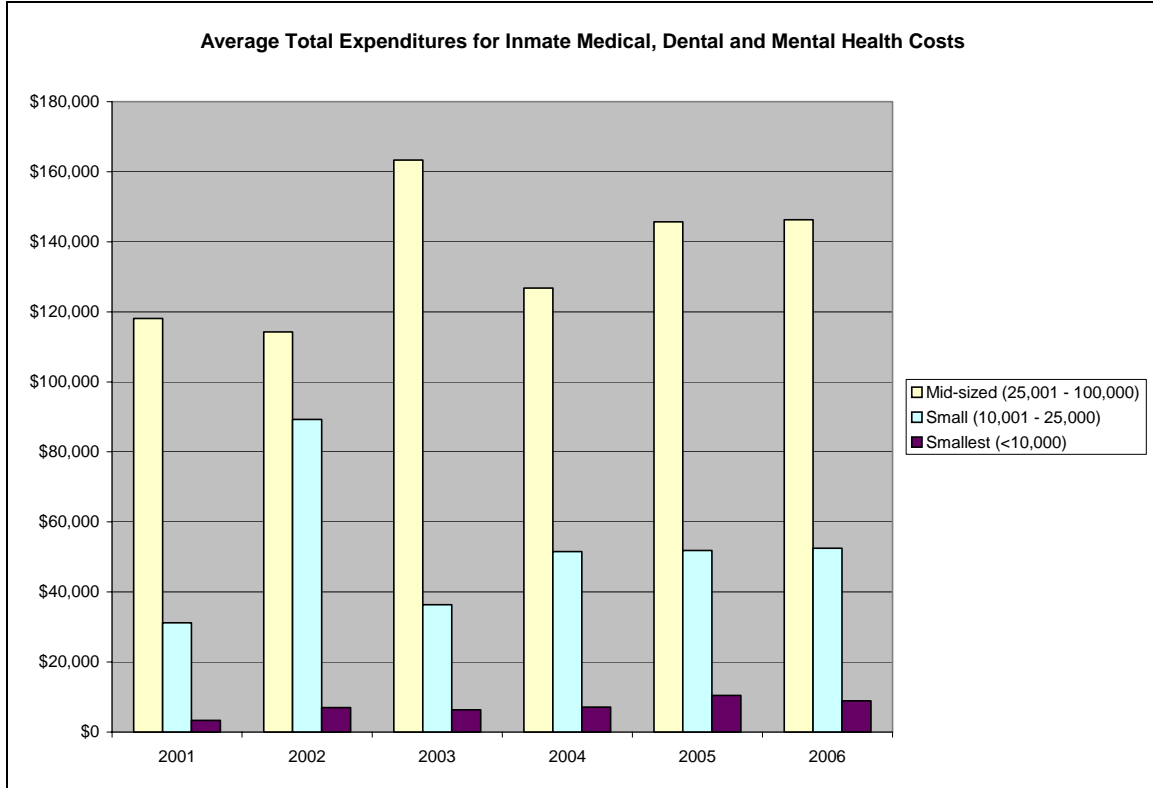
Mid-sized counties had a significantly lower 23.9% increase as seen in Chart 10. Small counties saw a 68.1% increase, but the Smallest counties had by far the largest increase in average expenditures at 164.0% (Chart 10).

Although not easy to see in the following chart, the average expenditures for Inmate Medical, Dental and Mental Health costs varied greatly from year to year for the Smallest counties. The amount more than doubled from 2001 to 2002. The average also decreased in two of the years, 2003 and 2006. Small counties also saw a large percentage increase, 185.9%, in 2002 followed by a 59.3% decrease the next year.

The increase from 2002 to 2003 seen in the Mid-sized counties' average is a large, 42.9% upwards spike.

The Smallest counties (Chart 10) had by far the greatest percentage increase in average Inmate Medical, Dental and Mental Health expenditures at 176.2%. Generally as the population size increased, the average expenditures decreased in this category.

**Chart 10 - Inmate Costs: Least Populous Counties**

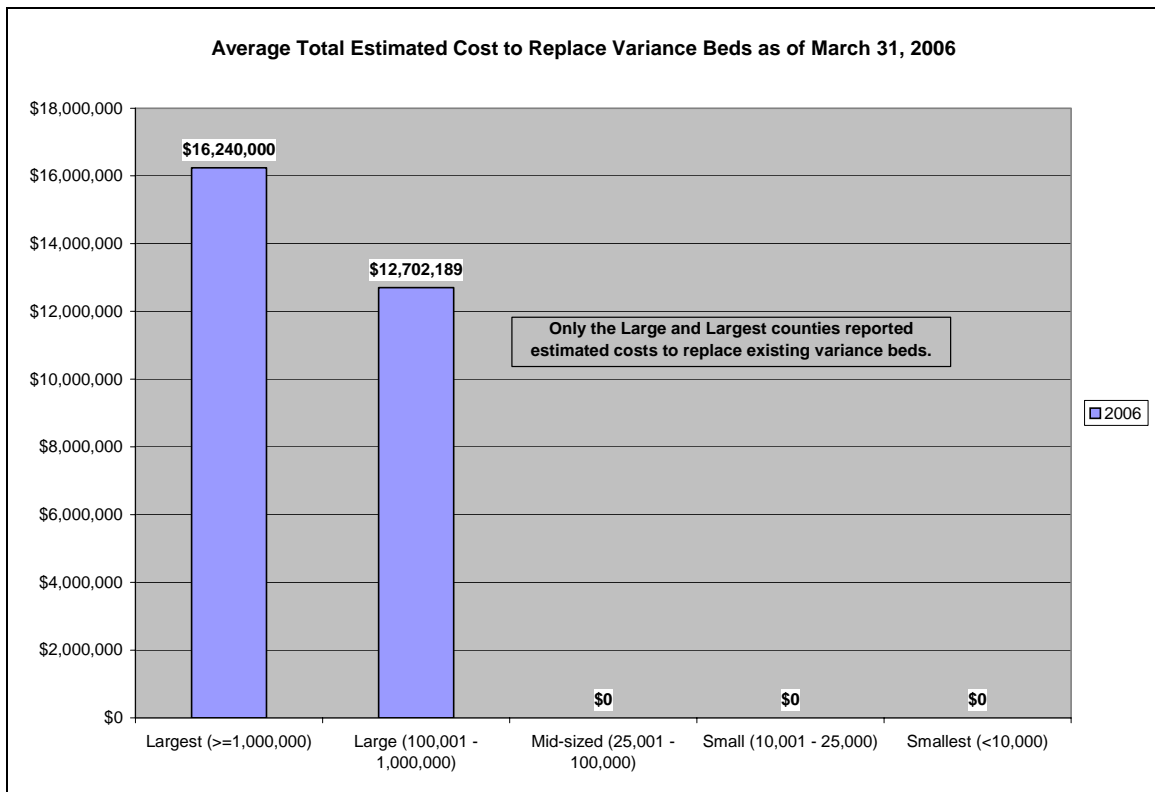


## Variance Beds

Variance beds (variances) are the number of beds existing in a county jail that do not meet the standards set by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards but that have been approved for temporary use until the county can get the jail up to code. Variances cover such things as total number of prisoners exceeding maximum limit, square footage, the number of lavatories and showers, and the number of single occupancy cells because the jail system is required to have a certain number of single occupancy cells in order to provide appropriate segregation.

Variance beds exist in some county jails, but certainly not in all county jails. In fact only three of the forty-two responding counties reported having any estimated costs associated with the need to upgrade variance beds in their jail. Estimated costs covered a wide range from a low of \$10,944 for Galveston to \$32,480,000 for Dallas and \$63,500,000 for Travis. Twelve other counties each reported an estimated cost of \$0.00 to replace variance beds or indicated that they had no variance beds.

**Chart 11 - Variance Beds: All Brackets**

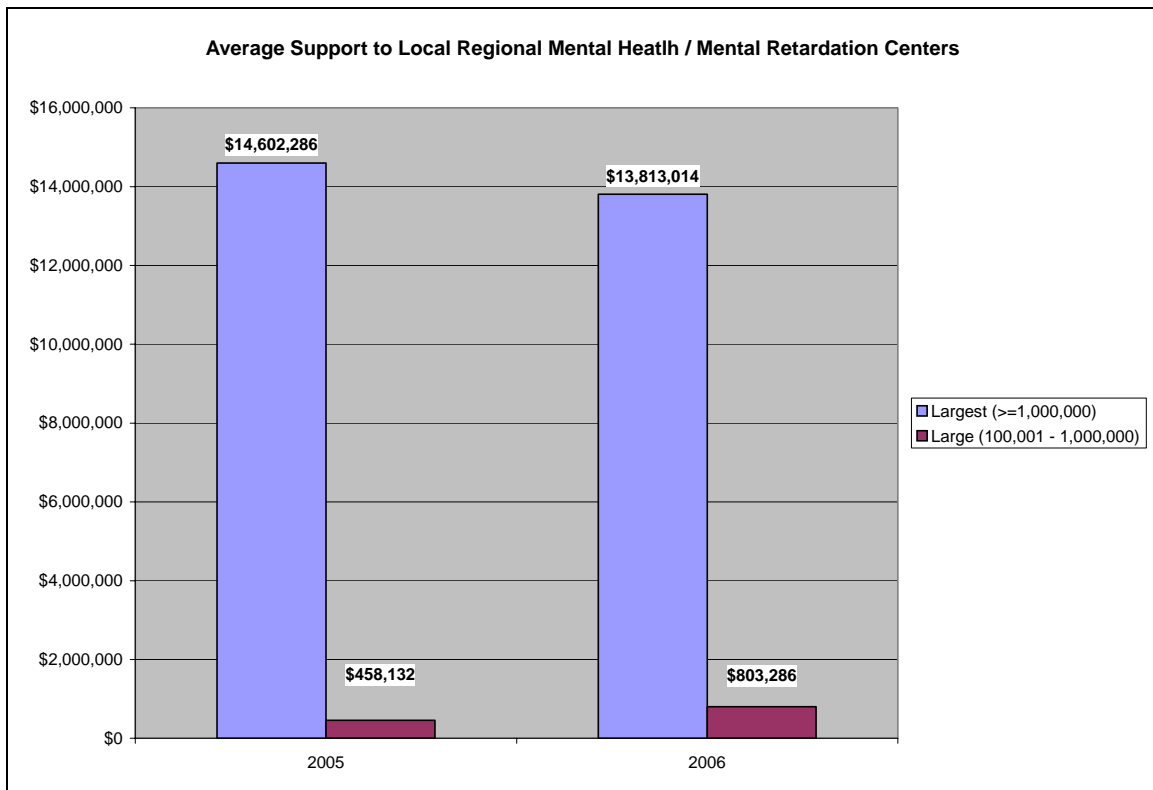


## ***Mental Health / Mental Retardation Centers***

Many counties provide funds to their local regional Mental Health/Mental Retardation Centers. This funding is optional therefore not every county provides funding. Further the funding may be cut to zero dollars during some years for those counties that do provide funding. In this category, Harris County had expenditures greater than all the other responding counties combined at more than \$25 million budgeted for 2006. Travis County spent just under \$4.9 million.

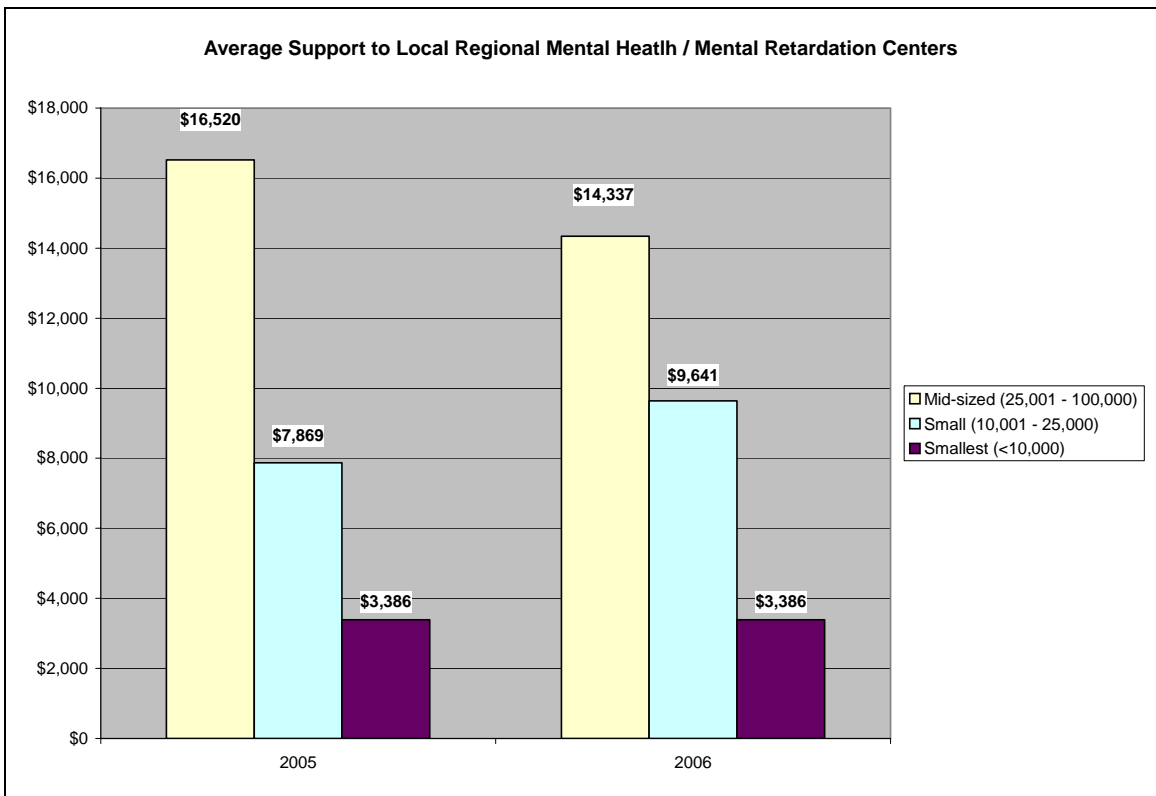
For the population brackets, the Largest counties (Chart 12) decreased their average expenditures 14.4%. The Large counties (Chart 12) had the greatest increase in expenditures at 75.3%.

**Chart 12 - MH/MR: Most Populous Counties**



Like the Largest counties, the Mid-sized counties (Chart 13) decreased their average expenditures. In the case of the Mid-sized counties, the decrease was 13.2%. The Small counties (Chart 13) increased their expenditures by 22.5%. The Smallest counties showed no change from 2005 to 2006 (Chart 13).

**Chart 13 - MH/MR: Least Populous Counties**



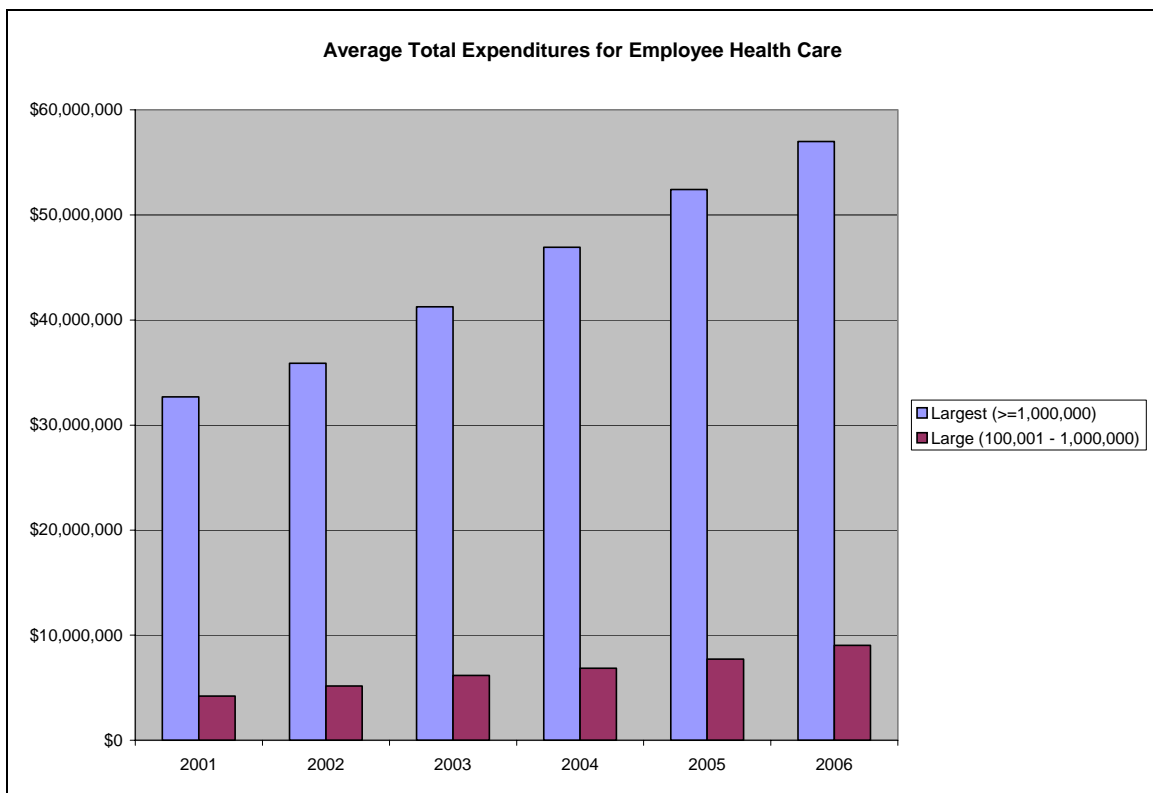
Data was collected for 2005 and 2006 only.

## ***Employee Health Care***

None of the population brackets were able to hold the line against increased average Employee Health Care costs during the reporting period. The averages for four of the five brackets increased every year of the period 2001 to 2006.

The Largest counties increased their average expenditures by 74.3%. However, the greatest percentage increase was seen among the Large counties where there was a 115.3% increase in average Employee Health Care costs from 2001 to 2006 (Chart 14).

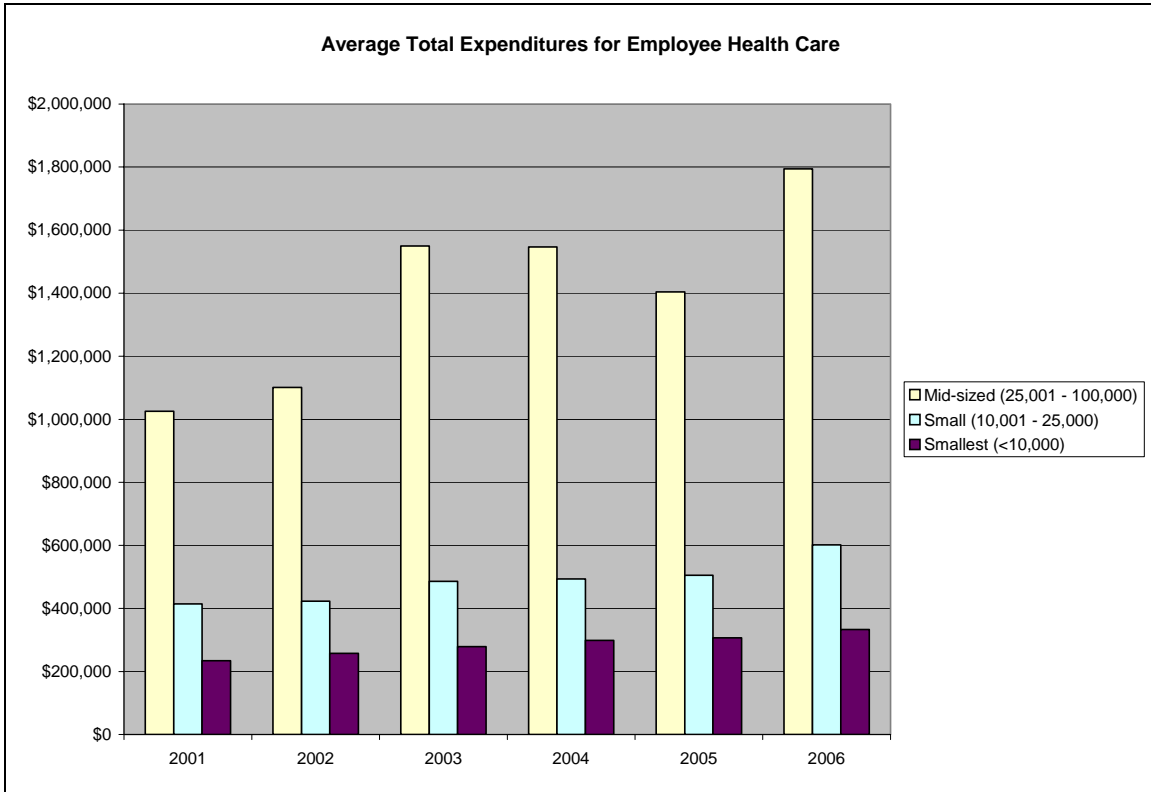
**Chart 14 - Employee Health Care: Most Populous Counties**



The Mid-sized counties reported two years in which their average decreased (Chart 15). Thus their overall 75.0% increase covered a period in which expenditures declined in both 2004 and 2005 before rebounding strongly in 2006.

The Smallest counties increased expenditures by 42.4% while Small counties had a 45.0% increase (Chart 15). Mid-sized counties' average expenditures (Chart 15) increased 75.0%.

**Chart 15 - Employee Health Care: Least Populous Counties**



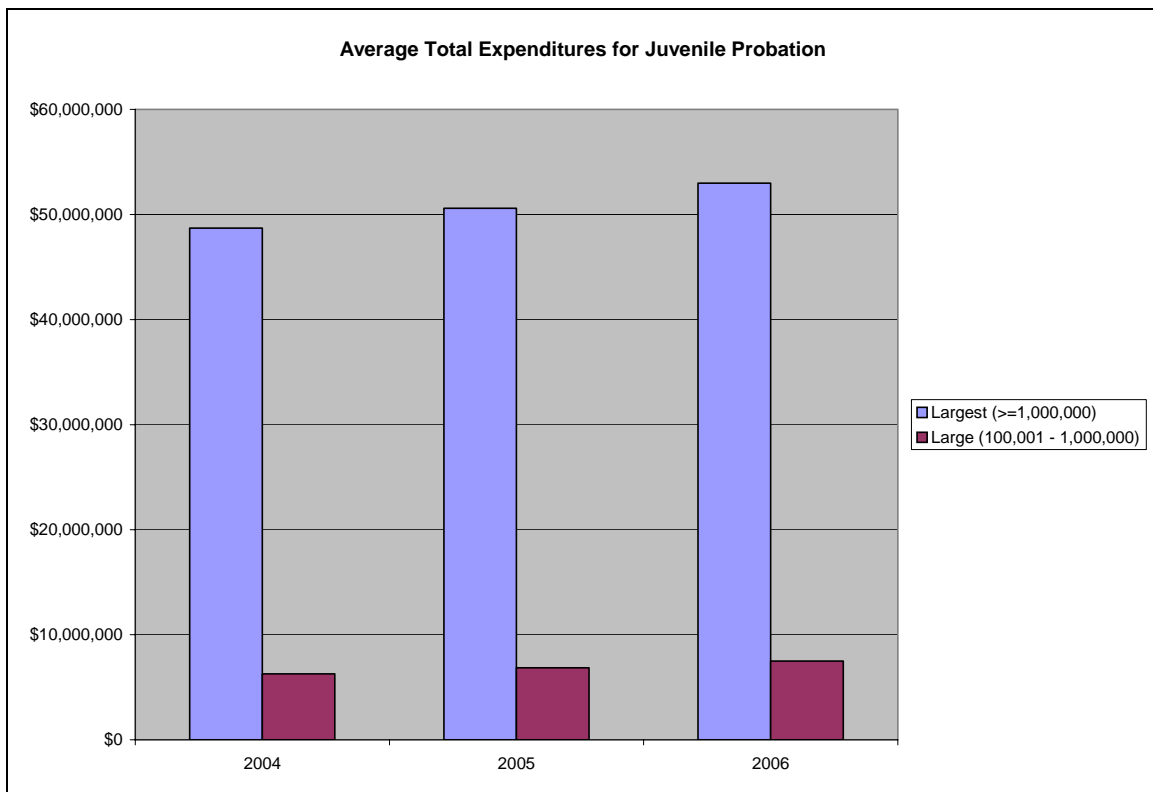
## ***Juvenile Probation***

State law strictly regulates the handling of juveniles, but Juvenile Probation is administered locally at the county level. Intake of all cases is handled by the county, with probation being ordered by Juvenile Courts and also through deferred prosecution programs whereby the child does not appear in Juvenile Court, but is placed on probation by the probation staff.

The juvenile court has three basic options for juvenile offenders: probation while remaining at home, placement on probation outside of the home, or commitment to the Texas Youth Commission. Probation may include counseling, community service restitution, financial restitution, group programs, intensive supervision programs, as well as other programs based on the individual needs of the child. Additional services can include prevention and intervention services, family workshops, drug education, victim's assistance, and team building activities.

Juvenile Probation costs remained fairly consistent over this three year period. As suspected, the Largest counties had the greatest total expenditures in this category (\$65.2 and \$40.8 million respectively for Harris and Dallas Counties) and the smallest percentage increase, 8.8%. The Large counties increased by 19.3% (Chart 16).

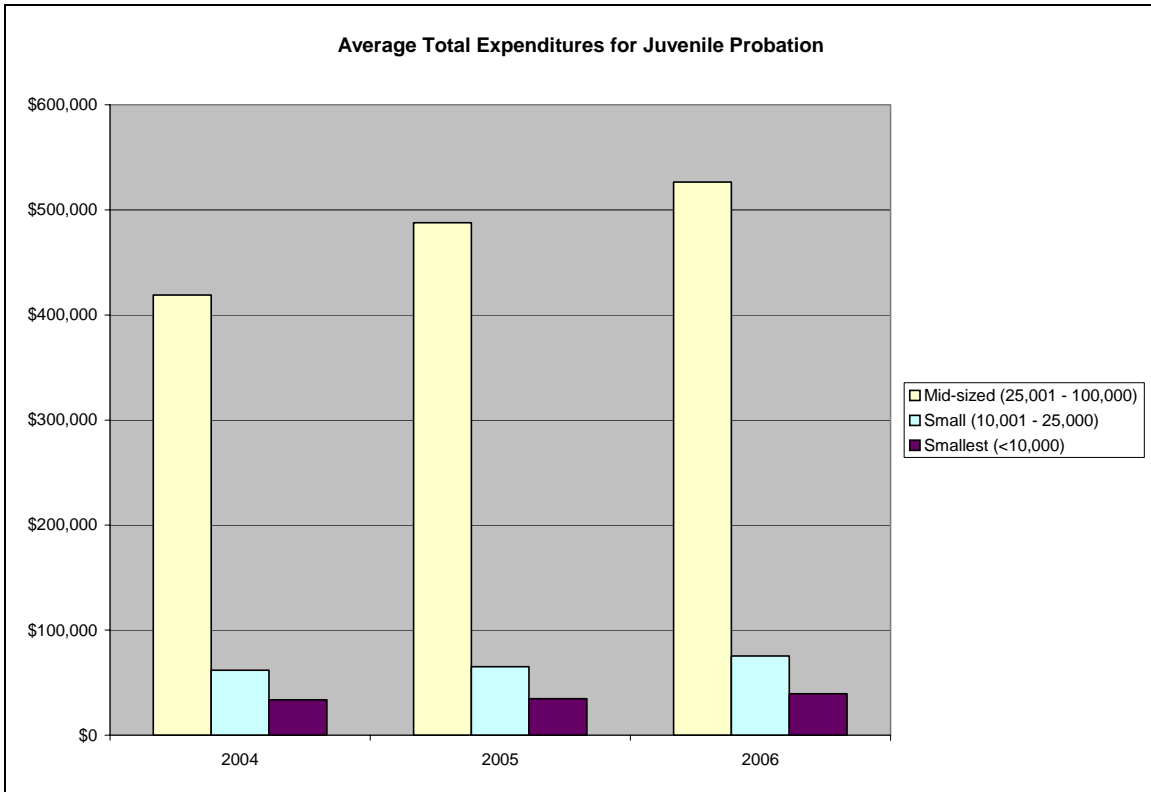
**Chart 16 - Juvenile Probation: Most Populous Counties**



From 2004 to 2006, the annual CPI increased by an estimated 6.8%. Over the same period the estimated population increase was 3.5%. Adding these two numbers results in 10.3%, well below the increase in average Large county expenditures.

The greatest percentage increase in average expenditures, 25.7%, was in the Mid-sized counties (Chart 17). Small counties had a 22.0% increase while the Smallest counties had a 16.8% increase (Chart 17).

**Chart 17 - Juvenile Probation: Least Populous Counties**



Only the Largest counties had lower percentage increases in Juvenile Probation than in Adult Probation. For all of the other brackets, the percentage increase in Juvenile Probation expenditures exceeded the percentage increase in Adult Probation.

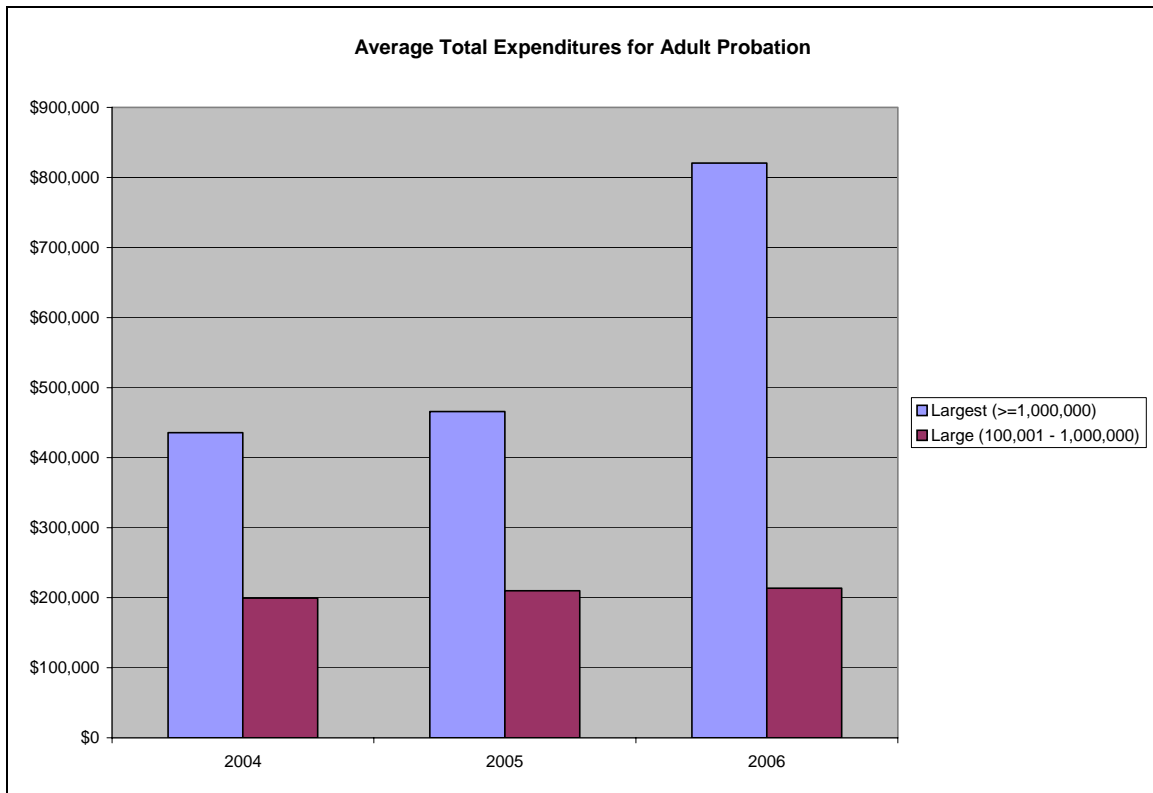
Note: Each county Juvenile Probation Department is supervised by a county Juvenile Board. Funding for the department comes from the State and County, as well as from some miscellaneous grants.

## Adult Probation

An Adult Probation Department, also known as Community Supervision and Corrections Departments (CSCD), is an alternative to incarceration for adults who have been convicted of committing felony and misdemeanors offenses. It is designed to give the defendant an opportunity to correct his/her mistakes while being allowed to remain in the community under certain court-ordered, and probation officer supervised, terms and conditions. Adult Probation Departments supervise adults who have been placed on probation for committing felony and misdemeanors offenses.

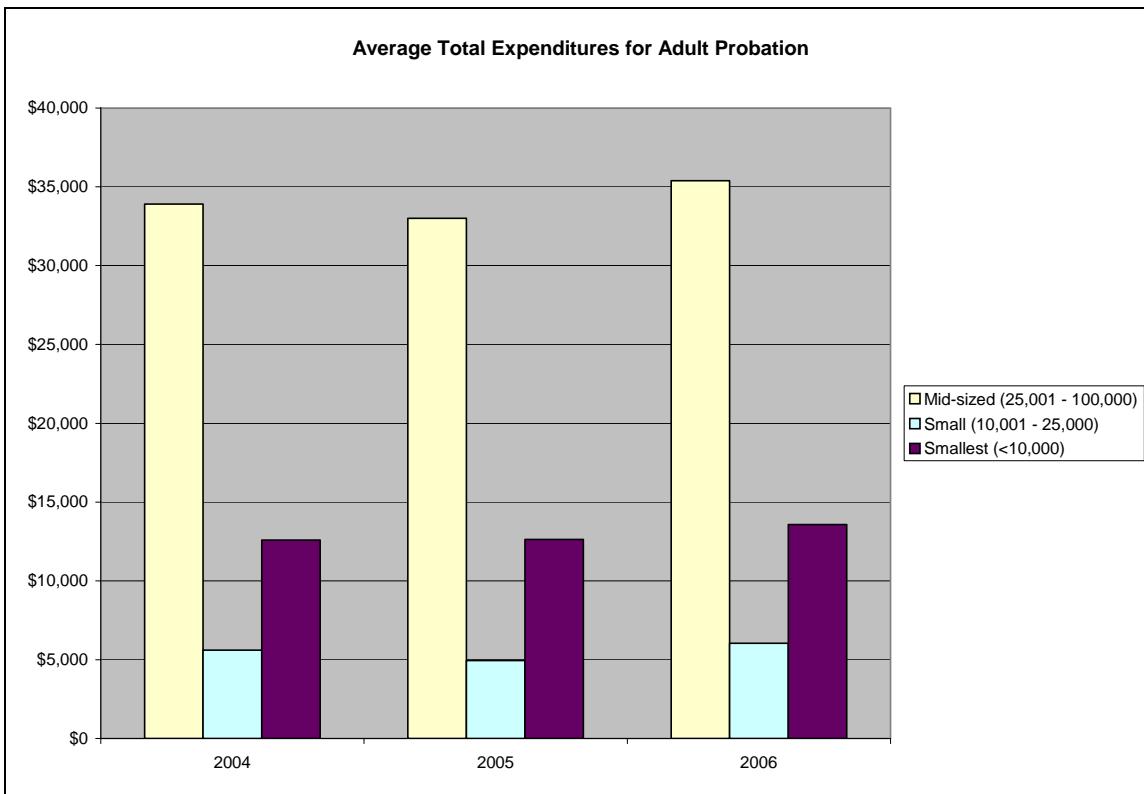
While the total expenditures for Adult Probation were considerably less than for Juvenile Probation, the percentage changes in average expenditures showed significantly greater variability. The Largest counties showed the greatest increase at 88.2%. Large counties increased by 7.1% (Chart 18).

**Chart 18 - Adult Probation: Most Populous Counties**



The other brackets indicated far less growth in Adult Probation expenditures (Chart 19). The Smallest counties increase by 19.4 %, slightly greater than their percentage increase in Juvenile Probation expenditures. Small counties and Mid-sized counties both increased expenditures by 7.8%. In each of these cases, the percentage increase was less than half the percentage increase in average Juvenile Probation expenditures.

**Chart 19 - Adult Probation: Least Populous Counties**

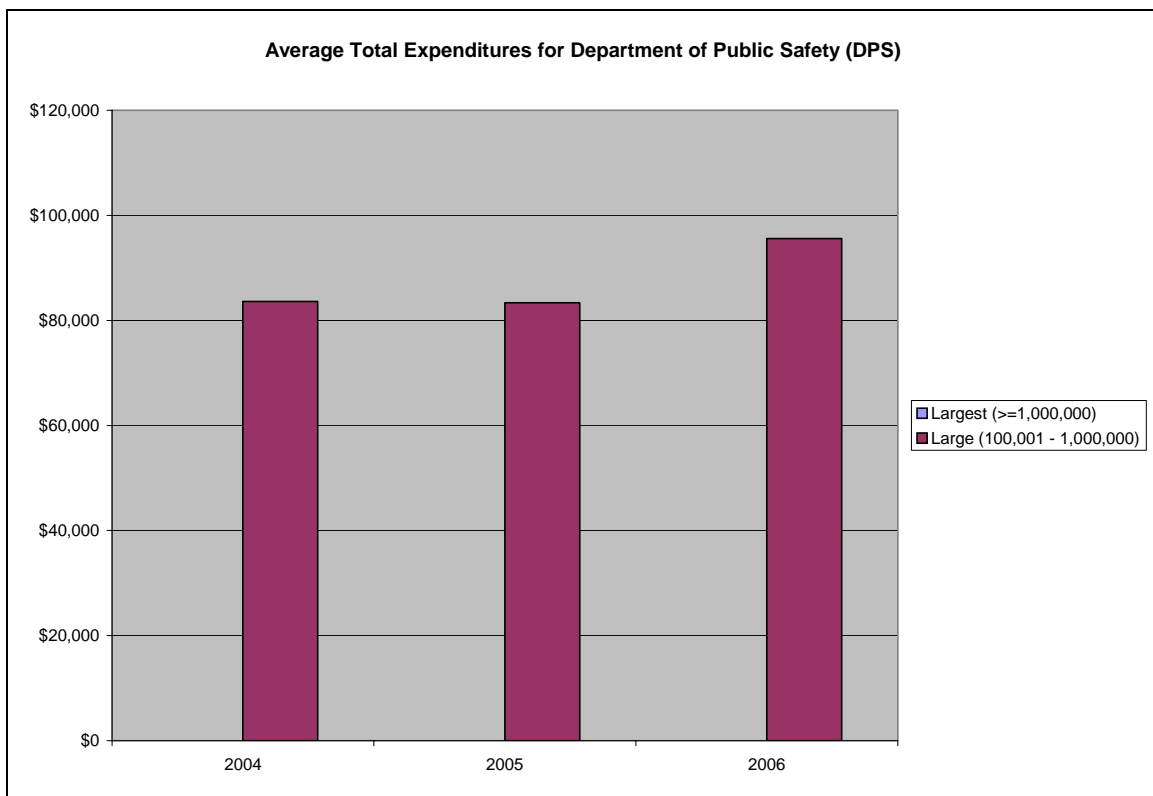


## ***Department of Public Safety (DPS)***

This category of expenditures exists for counties that must provide an office and other basic infrastructure needs in order to obtain a local Department of Public Safety (DPS) trooper. Without the infrastructure provided by the county, DPS will not station a trooper in the county.

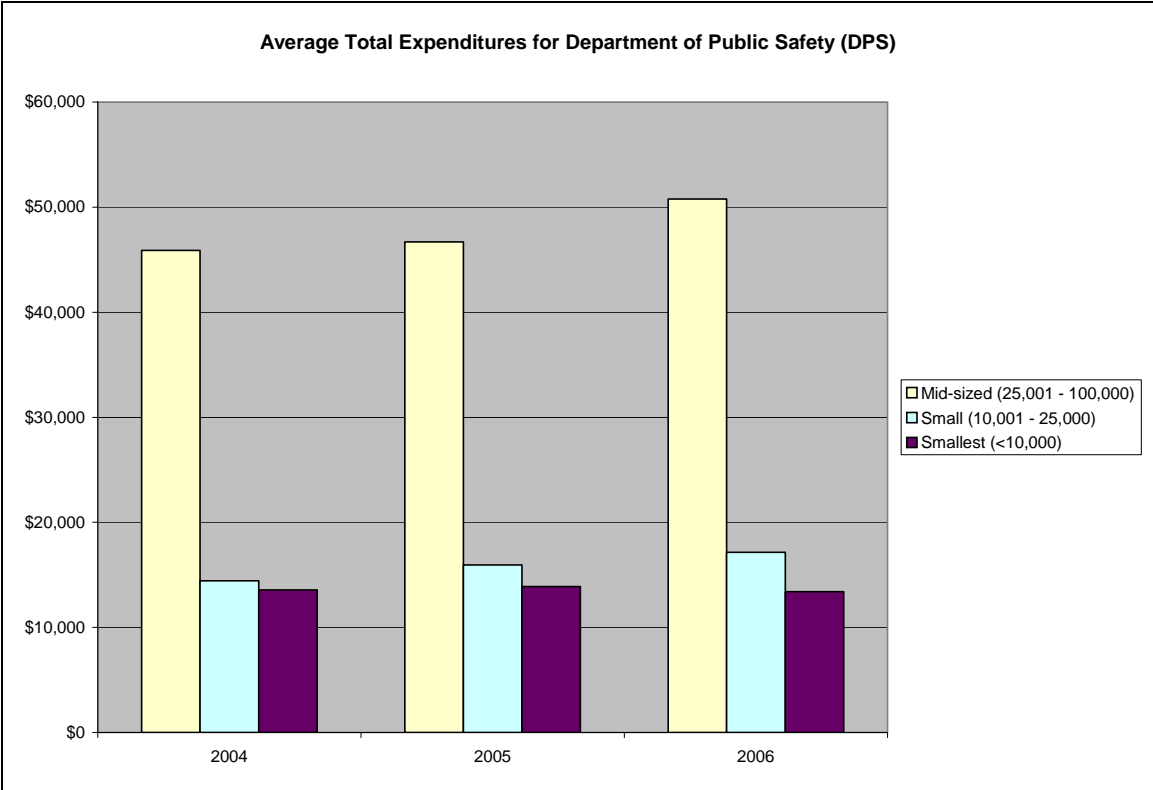
The Largest counties reported no expenditures for DPS (Chart 20) in any of the of the survey years, 2004 to 2006. The Large counties reported an increase of 14.3% for the period.

**Chart 20 - DPS: Most Populous Counties**



The Smallest counties showed a decrease in average expenditures of 1.3% (Chart 21). The other brackets each showed an increase of 18.9% and 10.7% respectively for the Small and Mid-sized counties (Charts 21).

**Chart 21 - DPS: Least Populous Counties**



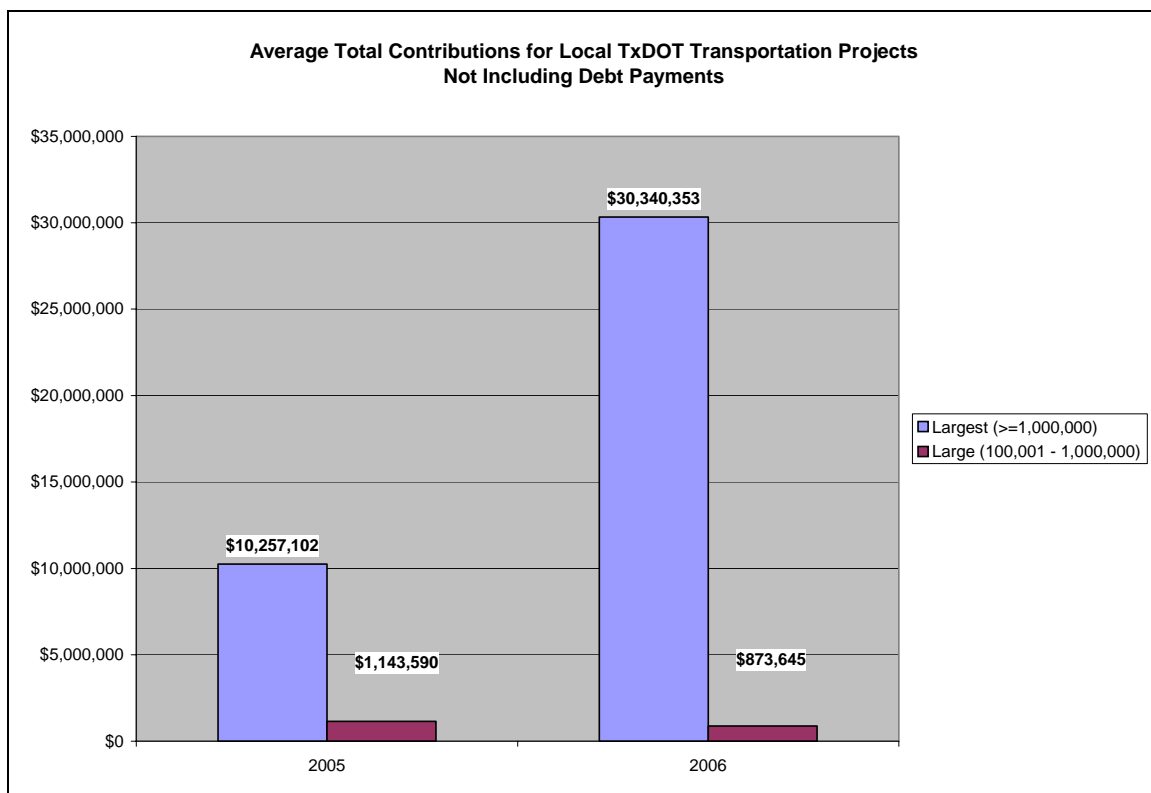
## ***Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Transportation Projects***

In recent years counties have been encouraged to cooperate with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on local TxDOT transportation projects. Costs related to these projects include but not limited to right-of-way acquisition, maintenance, construction, and rehabilitation costs. These costs do not include debt payments. Debt payments are found on the following pages under “Bond Indebtedness due to Local TxDOT Transportation Projects.”

Harris County reported the greatest expenditures at \$31.7 million followed closely by Dallas County at \$29 million. Galveston County was a distant third at \$4.8 million. No other county reported budgeting more than \$1 million on TxDOT projects in 2006 although Denton County expended more than \$5.7 million for 2005.

The Largest counties (Chart 22) had the next highest percentage increase at 195.8% as both Harris and Dallas more than doubled their expenditures from 2005 to 2006. However the Large counties decreased their expenditures by 23.6% (Charts 23).

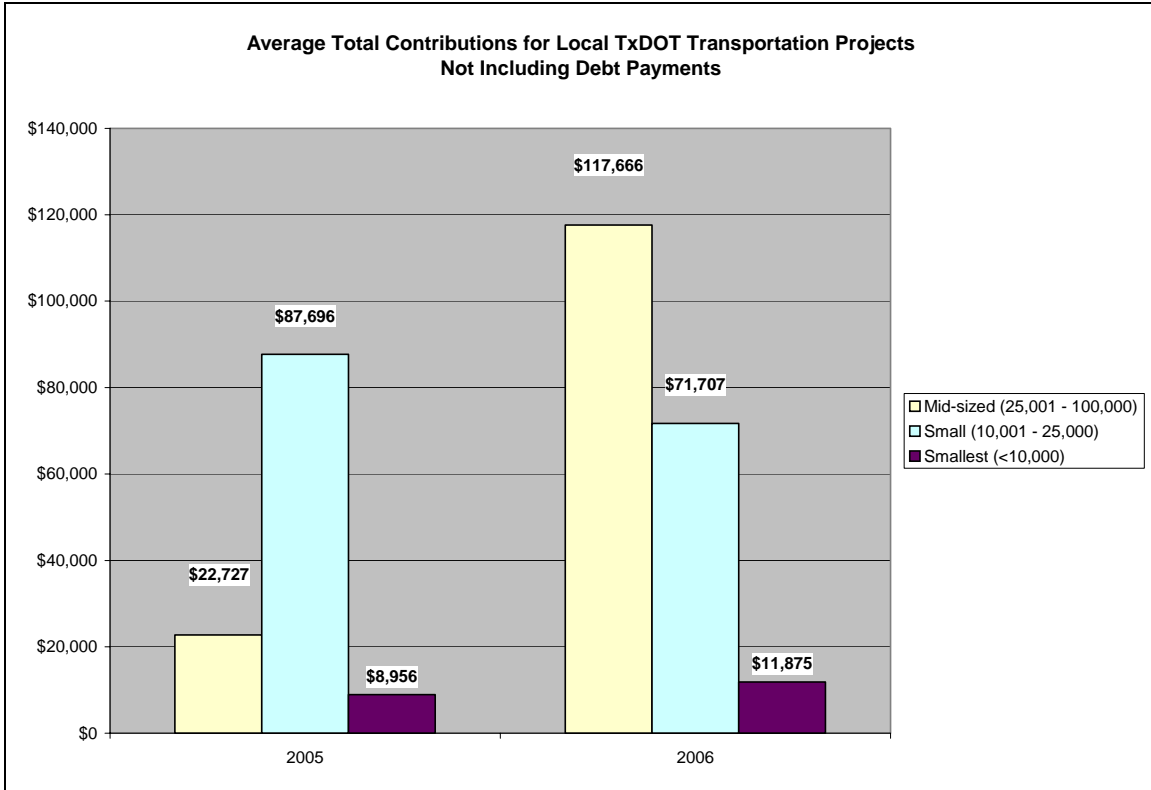
**Chart 22 - TxDOT Projects: Most Populous Counties**



The Smallest counties (Chart 23) increased their average expenditures by 32.6%. Small counties decreased their expenditures (Charts 23) by 18.2%. The Mid-sized counties

(Chart 23) had the greatest percentage increase in average expenditures for TxDOT projects at 417.7%. The increase is mostly due to Hopkins County going from no expenditures in 2005 to \$550,000 in 2006. Similarly, Palo Pinto County, in the same category, also started out with no expenditures in 2005, but budgeted \$90,000 for 2006.

**Chart 23 - TxDOT Projects: Least Populous Counties**



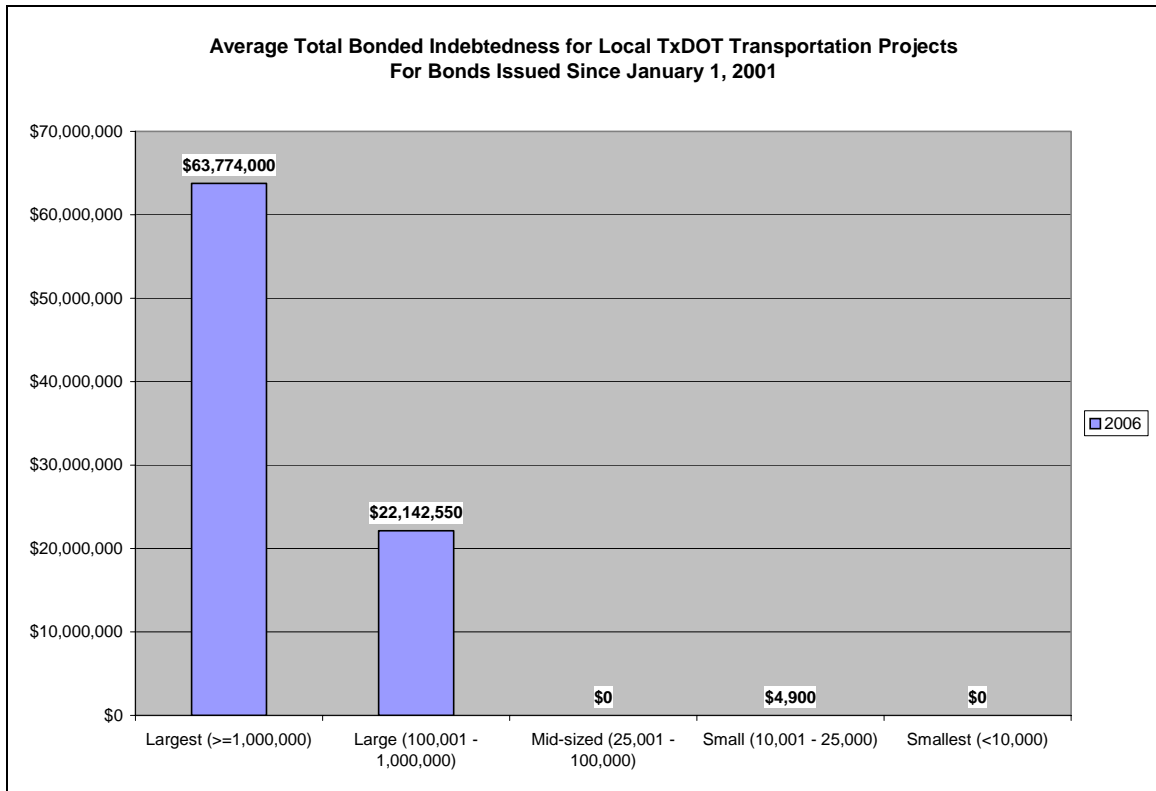
## ***Bond Indebtedness due to Local TxDOT Transportation Projects***

In recent years counties have been encouraged to cooperate with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on local TxDOT transportation projects. Counties were asked about bonded indebtedness for local TxDOT transportation projects for bonds that had been issued since January 1, 2001. Other costs are found on the preceding pages under the title "Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Transportation Projects." Travis County had by far the greatest amount of indebtedness at \$105.6 million. Dallas at \$63.8 million and Denton at \$40.0 million were the next highest.

Unfortunately Harris County was unable to supply a dollar amount in response to this question although it undoubtedly would have been a significant amount as well. Thirty other counties reported no bonded indebtedness (\$0.00) due to bonds issued since January 1, 2001 for local TxDOT transportation projects.

This question only pertained to current indebtedness; no historical trends can be identified.

**Chart 24 - Bonded Indebtedness: All Brackets**

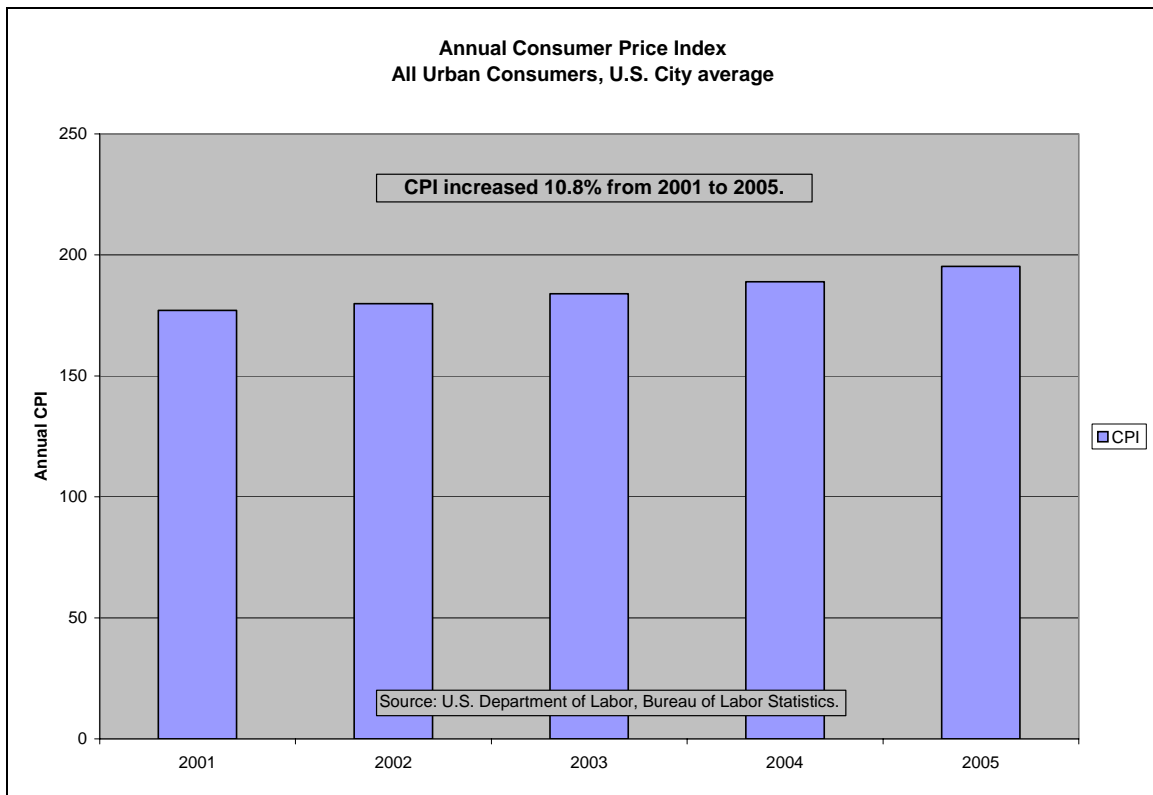


## Appendix A: Inflation

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average is “the most widely used measure of inflation.”<sup>5</sup> It is used as an indication of inflation over the time period covered by this survey. From 2001 to 2005, the last year for which an annual CPI is available, the index increased by 10.8%. This is equivalent to a 2.45% annual growth rate. Assuming a similar annual growth rate for the 2001 to 2006 period would give a total increase of 13.0%.

Adding the estimated 9.0% population increase provides a benchmark of 22.0% to use when reviewing the change in average expenditures from 2001 to 2006.

**Chart 25 - Consumer Price Index**

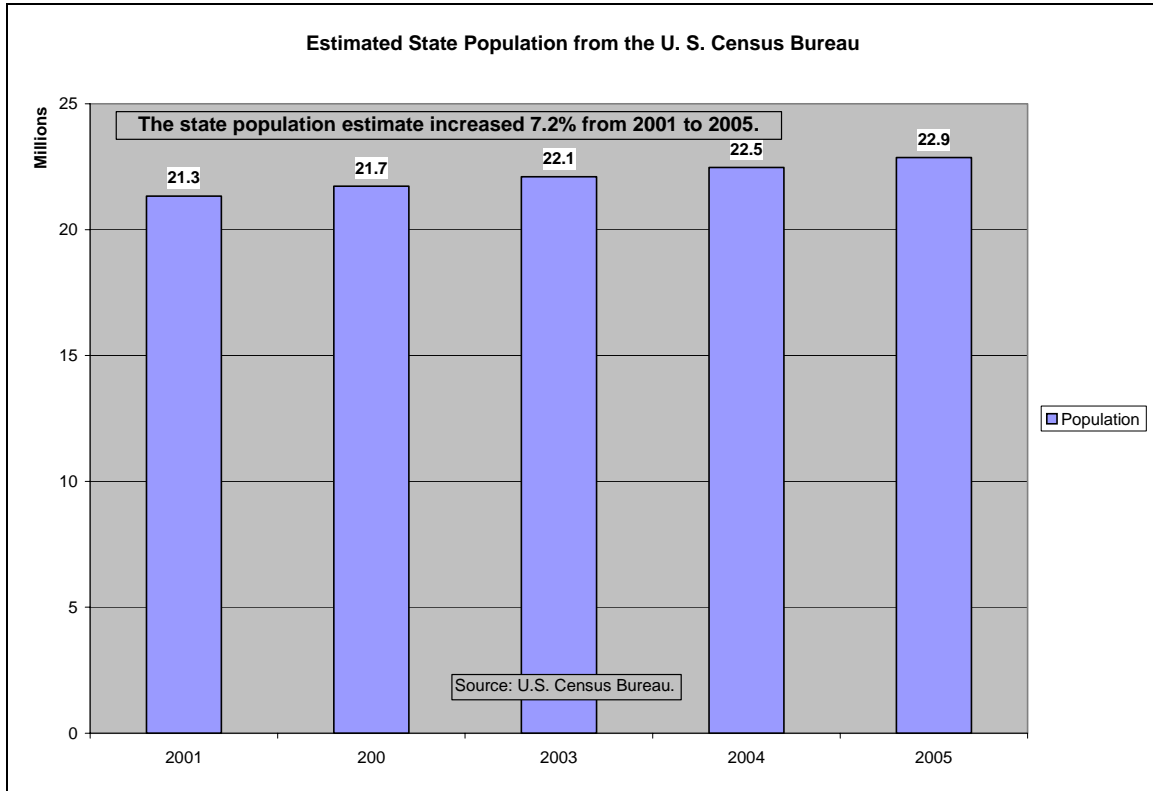


Using the same methodology, inflation from 2004 to 2006 can be estimated. From 2004 to 2006, the annual CPI increased by an estimated 6.8%. Adding the estimated 3.5% population increase provides a benchmark of 10.3% to use when reviewing the change in average expenditures from 2004 to 2006.

<sup>5</sup> United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Appendix B: Population

Chart 26 - State Population

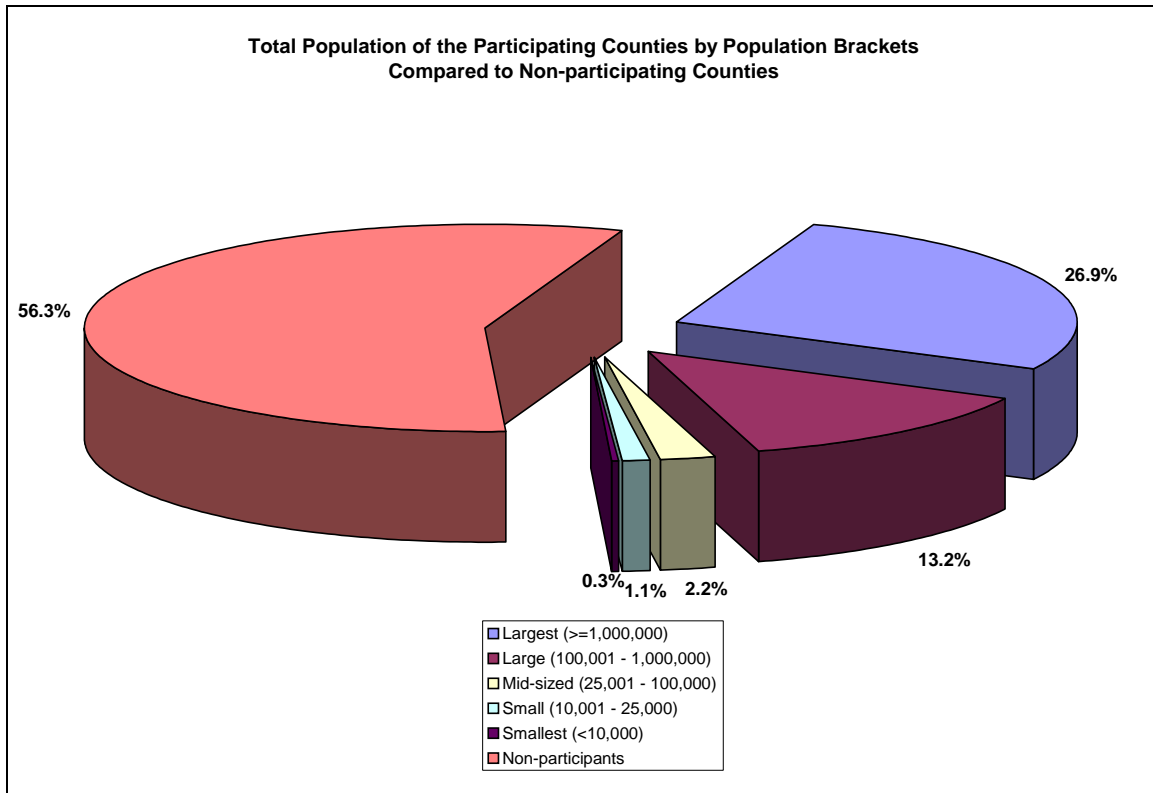


The U.S. Census Bureau produces an estimate of the state's population every year. The most current estimate available is for July 1, 2005. That estimate is 7.2% higher than the July 1, 2001 estimate that the Census Bureau also produced. This is equivalent to a 1.73% annual growth rate. Assuming a similar annual growth rate for the entire 2001 to 2006 period would give a total increase of 9.0%.

Using the same methodology, population change from 2004 to 2006 can be estimated. From 2004 to 2006, the annual population increased an estimated 3.5%.

## Appendix C: Surveyed Counties Population

**Chart 27 - Total Population of Surveyed Counties by Bracket**



The 42 counties that responded to this survey, listed below, comprise 43.7% of the state's total population based on the 2000 Census.

Bracket	County	Census
Largest	Dallas	2,218,899
Largest	Harris	3,400,578
Large	Brazos	152,415
Large	Denton	432,976
Large	El Paso	679,622
Large	Galveston	250,158
Large	McLennan	213,517
Large	Randall	104,312
Large	Tom Green	104,010
Large	Travis	812,280
Mid-sized	Angelina	80,130
Mid-sized	Guadalupe	89,023
Mid-sized	Hale	36,602
Mid-sized	Hood	41,100
Mid-sized	Hopkins	31,960
Mid-sized	Kerr	43,653

Bracket	County	Census
Mid-sized	Palo Pinto	27,026
Mid-sized	Rusk	47,372
Mid-sized	San Patricio	67,138
Small	Bandera	17,645
Small	Calhoun	20,647
Small	Gillespie	20,814
Small	Houston	23,185
Small	Lavaca	19,210
Small	Lee	15,657
Small	Marion	10,941
Small	Montague	19,117
Small	Morris	13,048
Small	Newton	15,072
Small	Red River	14,314
Small	Runnels	11,495
Small	Ward	10,909

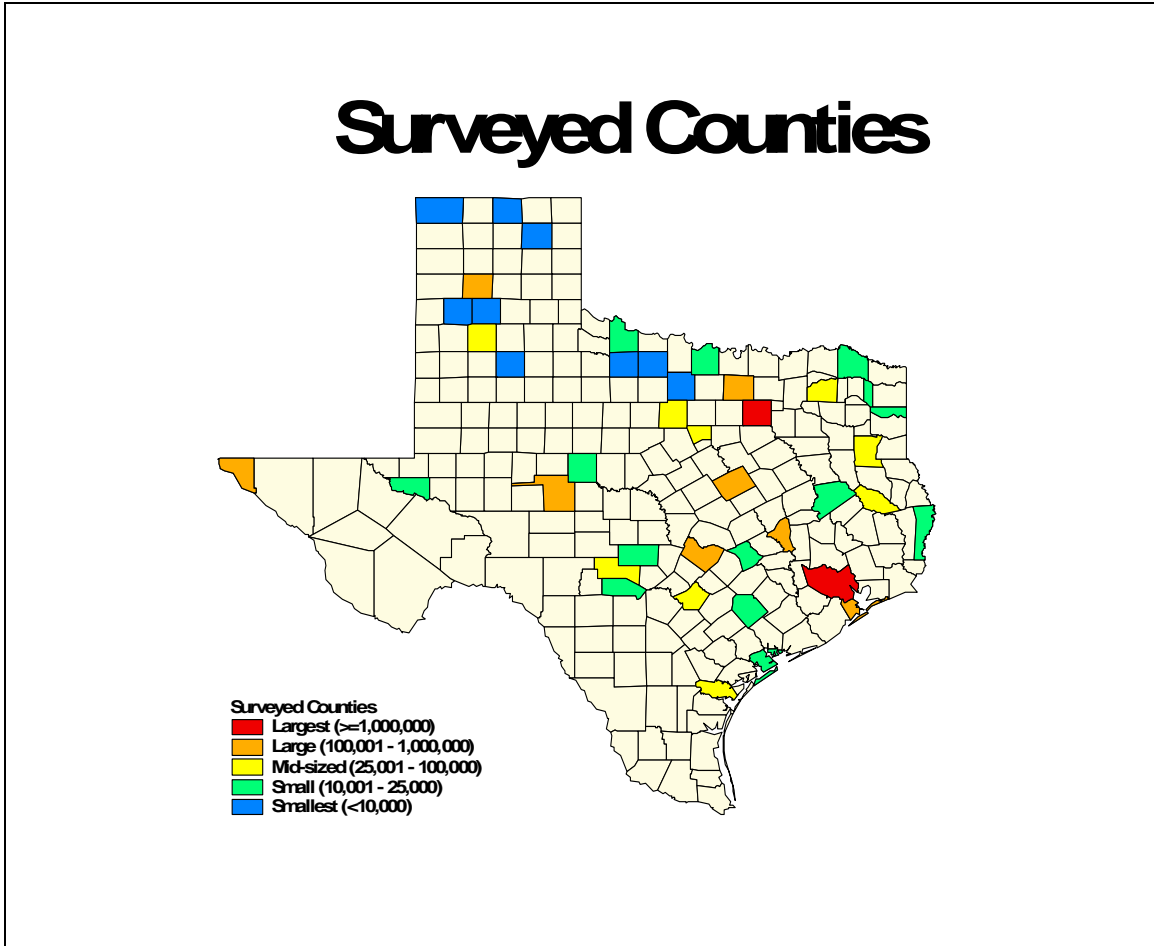
<b>Bracket</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Census</b>
Small	Wilbarger	14,676
Smallest	Archer	8,854
Smallest	Baylor	4,093
Smallest	Castro	8,285
Smallest	Crosby	7,072

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Census</b>
Smallest	Dallam	6,222
Smallest	Hansford	5,369
Smallest	Jack	8,763
Smallest	Roberts	887
Smallest	Swisher	8,378

## Appendix D: Surveyed Counties Map

The following map shows the counties that responded to the survey. The counties are shown by population bracket. For a table listing the counties, see Appendix C.

Figure 1 - Surveyed Counties



## Appendix E: Number of Responses for each Question

The number of responses is shown by population bracket for each question in the survey. The numbers do not include "N/A" or blank responses.

Question: What were the total expenditures to the Volunteer Fire Departments in your county?

Bracket	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Largest	1	1	1	1	1	1
Large	8	8	8	8	8	8
Mid-sized	7	7	7	8	8	8
Small	14	14	14	14	14	13
Smallest	8	8	8	8	8	8

Question: What were the total expenditures for EMS in your county?

Bracket	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Largest	2	2	2	2	2	2
Large	8	8	8	8	8	8
Mid-sized	6	6	6	7	7	7
Small	13	13	14	14	14	14
Smallest	7	7	7	7	7	6

Question: What were the total expenditures for services to the elderly in your county?

Bracket	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Largest	1	1	1	1	1	1
Large	8	8	8	8	8	8
Mid-sized	7	7	7	8	8	8
Small	13	13	13	14	14	14
Smallest	7	7	7	7	7	7

Question: What were the total expenditures for services to veterans in your county?

Bracket	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Largest	2	2	2	2	2	2
Large	7	8	8	8	8	8
Mid-sized	6	6	6	7	7	7
Small	14	14	14	14	14	14
Smallest	7	7	7	7	7	7

Question: What were the total expenditures for INMATE medical, dental and mental health costs in your county jail? Include costs associated with either a county jail or a privately run jail holding county inmates under contract with the county.

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	2	2	2	2	2	2
Large	8	8	8	8	8	8
Mid-sized	7	7	7	8	8	8
Small	12	13	13	13	13	13
Smallest	8	8	8	8	8	8

Question: Do you have variance beds in your jail? If yes, what will it cost to replace them? If you don't have the cost, please provide an estimate.

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>Estimated Future Cost</b>
Largest	2
Large	5
Mid-sized	4
Small	3
Smallest	1

Question: What was the county's total financial support to the local Mental Health/Mental Retardation (MHMR) Center?

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	2	2
Large	8	8
Mid-sized	8	8
Small	14	14
Smallest	7	7

Question: What was the county's total health care cost for employees (including elected officials)?

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	2	2	2	2	2	2
Large	8	8	8	8	8	8
Mid-sized	7	7	7	8	8	8
Small	12	13	14	14	14	14
Smallest	8	8	8	8	8	8

Question: What were the county's total expenditures for juvenile probation?

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	2	2	2
Large	8	8	8
Mid-sized	8	8	8
Small	14	14	14
Smallest	8	8	8

Question: What were the county's total expenditures for adult probation?

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	2	2	2
Large	8	8	8
Mid-sized	7	7	7
Small	13	13	13
Smallest	8	8	8

Question: What was the county's total expense for DPS?

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	2	2	2
Large	8	8	8
Mid-sized	8	8	8
Small	14	14	14
Smallest	8	8	8

Question: As a result of your cooperation with TxDOT how much was the county's contribution excluding debt for local TxDOT transportation projects?

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	2	2
Large	7	7
Mid-sized	7	7
Small	13	13
Smallest	8	8

Question: What is your current bonded indebtedness for local TxDOT transportation projects for bonds issued since January 1, 2001?

<b>Bracket</b>	<b>2006</b>
Largest	1
Large	7
Mid-sized	7
Small	12
Smallest	8