



# Latino Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Texas and San Antonio Profile

When a parent is no longer able to care for their child, it is not always the courts or child welfare that steps in. Often it is a grandparent that informally takes responsibility for their grandchild. People in this type of informal kinship care, grandparents raising their grandchildren (GRG), tend to have limited access to resources and information which is typically more accessible to those in the formal foster care system.

## Grandparents and Grandchildren by the numbers

### **In Texas:**

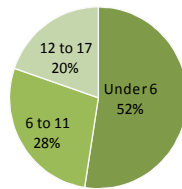
....there are **314,337** grandparents who are responsible for their grandchildren  
 ....**96,032** of these households, the parents of the grandchildren are not present

### **In San Antonio:**

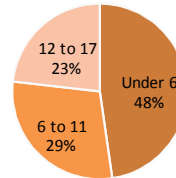
....there are **29,196** grandparents who are responsible for their grandchildren  
 ....**9,115** of these households, the parents of the grandchildren are not present

## **Age of Children Being Raised by Grandparent/s; 2009**

### **Texas**



### **San Antonio**

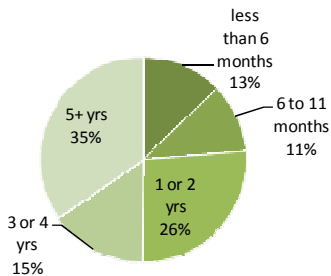


.....there are **356,410** children being cared for by their grandparents  
 ....for **103,547** of these children, their parents are not present

.....there are **36,418** children being cared for by their grandparents  
 ....for **9,677** of these children, their parents are not present

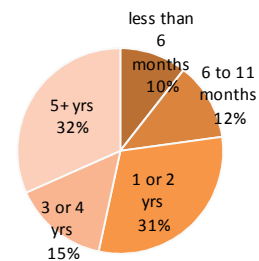
## **Length of Time Grandchildren Live with Their Grandparent/s**

### **Texas**



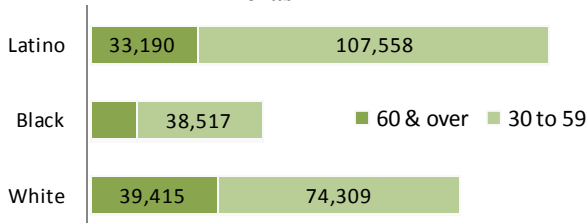
When a Grandparent becomes the primary caregiver of their grandchildren it is more often than not, a long term or permanent situation opposed to a short term fix. While the long duration may bring stability to the child, the social, financial, and legal issues are compounded for the grandparents who find themselves as parents once again.

### **San Antonio**

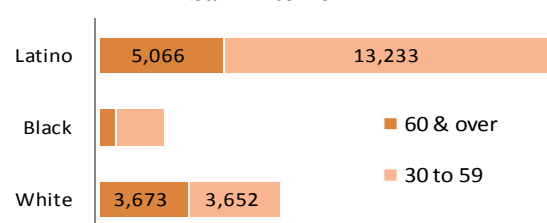


## **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren by Age and Race/Ethnicity; 2009**

### **Texas**



### **San Antonio**



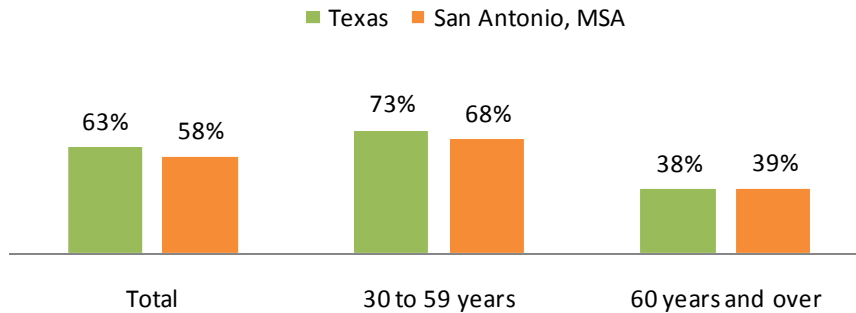
Majority of GRG, in both Texas and San Antonio, are under the age of 60. Latino GRG are over represented. Latinos account for 37% of the TX population and 53% of the San Antonio population and have a lower median age than the general population yet they account for 45% and 63%, respectively, of GRG.

About 31% of GRG in both Texas and San Antonio, are caring for their grandchildren without the presences of the child's parent/s. The complete absence of the parent is more likely to be the situation of a GRG who is 60 or older (43% in TX and 39% in San Antonio).

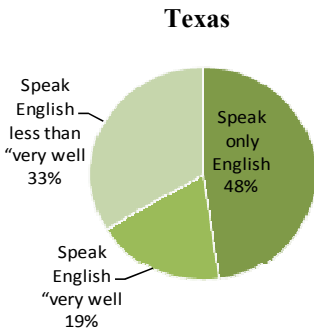


The key challenges and issues GRG face are centered around two main areas — finances and legal services. The family incomes of grandparent headed households tends to be lower than that of the general population. While the median family income in Texas and San Antonio, was about \$57k in 2009, for grandparents who were responsible for their grandchildren it was \$42,213 and \$35,429 respectively. When there was no parent present, those income dropped to \$33,374 for the state and \$29,580 for San Antonio. These income estimates are likely modest ones as GRG in Texas and more so in San Antonio are more likely to be Latino (63% in San Antonio) and or women ( over 60% in both TX and San Antonio), two groups who tend to have lower levels of income.

**GRG in the Labor Force, 2009**

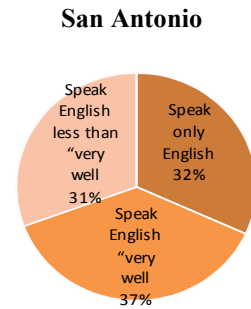


**Ability to Speak English of GRG; 2009**

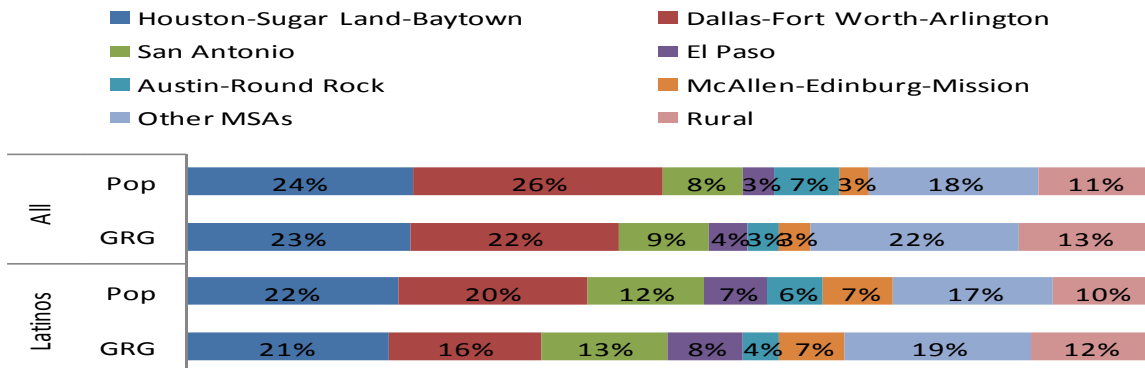


Other difficulties also exist with GRG. Such as the presence of a disability that can interfere with a grandparents ability to work and general mobility. About 24% of GRG in Texas and 29% in San Antonio, reported having a disability.

Difficulties with the English language can also make navigating the legal, healthcare, and educational system problematic. Over 30% of GRG in Texas and San Antonio "speak English less than very well".



**Texas Population and GRG by MSA and Other Areas, 2009**



Most of GRG in Texas reside in the state’s large cities however, they are over represented in smaller cities and rural areas.

Source: All data is from the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey 2009