

City of Gatesville Population Breakdown

Census-Based Population Analysis

As of May 31, 2026

Purpose

This report provides a fact-based review of the City of Gatesville population using publicly available United States Census Bureau data, group quarters reporting, and correctional facility population information.

The purpose is to distinguish between the City's official Census population and the estimated non-incarcerated residential population while documenting the methodology used by federal and state demographic reporting systems.

Official City Population

According to the United States Census Bureau:

- 2020 Census Population: **16,135**
- July 1, 2025 Population Estimate: **16,422**

Source:

- U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts – Gatesville City, Texas
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Census Methodology for Correctional Facilities

The United States Census Bureau counts individuals housed in correctional facilities as part of the population of the jurisdiction where the facility is physically located.

Correctional facilities are counted through the Census Bureau's Group Quarters Enumeration process, which includes prisons, jails, detention facilities, nursing facilities, military housing, and other institutional living arrangements.

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau Group Quarters Methodology
 - Census Counts Coalition – Correctional Facility Enumeration Guidance
-

Adult Correctional Population Counted Within Gatesville

According to Census-derived Group Quarters population data:

2020 Adult Correctional Facility Population

- Adult correctional facilities: **7,590**
 - State prisons: **7,550**
 - Local jails and municipal confinement facilities: **40**

Additional Group Quarters Population:

- Nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities: **163**
- Other noninstitutional facilities: **6**

Source:

- City-Data compilation of U.S. Census Bureau Group Quarters datasets
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Estimated Non-Incarcerated Resident Population

Using official 2020 Census figures:

Calculation

Official Census Population:

16,135

Minus Adult Correctional Population:

7,590

Estimated Non-Incarcerated Population:

8,545

Formula:

$16,135 - 7,590 = 8,545$

Adult Correctional Population Percentage

Calculation

Adult Correctional Population:

7,590

Total Population:
16,135

Percentage:

$$7,590 \div 16,135 \times 100$$

= **47.0%**

Approximately **47%** of the officially reported 2020 Gatesville population consisted of individuals housed in adult correctional facilities.

Independent Population Analysis

The Prisoners of the Census Project reported:

- Total Population: 15,591
- Incarcerated Population: 8,950

This analysis estimated that approximately **57%** of the population counted within Gatesville was incarcerated at the time of measurement.

This figure differs from Census-derived municipal reporting because different datasets, facility counts, timing periods, and correctional classifications may be used.

Source:

- Prisoners of the Census Project
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Facility Capacity Context

Gatesville contains multiple major Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities, including:

- Christina Melton Crain Unit
- Alfred D. Hughes Unit
- Dr. Lane Murray Unit
- Patrick O'Daniel Unit
- Hilltop Unit

Combined facility capacities account for several thousand incarcerated individuals and are generally consistent with Census-reported correctional population totals.

Sources:

- Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- Public facility records

Observations

Based upon publicly available Census-derived population data:

- Official 2020 Census Population: **16,135**
- Adult Correctional Population: **7,590**
- Estimated Non-Incarcerated Population: **8,545**
- Adult Correctional Population Percentage: **47%**

Population figures may vary depending on methodology, reporting period, facility classification, and whether a source references municipal boundaries, county-wide populations, correctional populations, or estimated population models.

The figures presented in this report are derived primarily from Census-based population reporting and associated Group Quarters population data.

Sources

1. U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts – Gatesville City, Texas
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/gatesvillecitytexas/SBO050223>
2. City-Data Gatesville Population Profile (Census-derived Group Quarters Data)
<https://www.city-data.com/city/Gatesville-Texas.html>
3. U.S. Census Bureau – Coverage of Prisons and Detention Facilities in the 2020 Census
<https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2024/econ/coverage-of-prisons-and-detention-facilities-in-the-2020-census.html>
4. Census Counts Coalition – Counting People in Correctional Facilities
<https://censuscounts.org/census-operations/correctional-facilities/>
5. Prisoners of the Census Project – Texas Facts and Facility Data
<https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/texas/factsforfeatures.html>
6. Prisoners of the Census Project – Census Group Quarters Technical Methodology
<https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/technicalsolutions2020.html>

Prepared: May 31, 2026



Search

Department Profile

The Gatesville Fire Department protects a 287 square mile area of Coryell County. This includes the City of Gatesville, 6 TDCJ prisons (with a population of about 7,500 inmates), and areas surrounding the city. We also have mutual aid agreements with Fort Hood Fire Department, Copperas Cove Fire Department, and the seven area county volunteer fire departments in Coryell County.

The Gatesville Fire Department answers an average of 700 calls per calendar year, with a staff of 33 full time volunteers. We hold training sessions every Tuesday of the month with the exception of the first Tuesday of every month (which is our Business Meeting). These sessions provide an interactive Learning management system, hands on, and classroom training taught by our own certified departmental instructors along with the help of our own apparatus. In those training sessions we generally log over 4,000 total hours a year of training in the 31 Fire Fighting Sections recommended by the State Firefighter's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas. Members attend many area and state wide schools through out the year. Members are certified through the SFFMA or the Texas Commission on Fire Protection from the Basic level up to the Advanced level.

As we look to the future, we will continue to commit resources to training, allowing for a high level of service being delivered by qualified and trained personnel. We will move forward with maintaining and updating apparatus to enhance the capabilities of our staff, in order to insure the preservation of life and property.

Fire Department

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Contact Information

Fire Department

109 S 23rd St.
Gatesville TX 76528
254.865.6416

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday
8 am to 5 pm
Excluding Holidays

Billy Vaden, Fire Chief

254-216-3444 [Email](#)

Robert Featherston, Deputy Chief

[Email](#)

Bobby Buster, Assistant Chief

254-865-6416 [Email](#)

Gatesville FD Station

254-865-6416/Fax 865-6423

Gatesville City Hall

254-865-8951

Gatesville Police Department

254-865-2226

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8AM to 5PM Monday through Friday

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