# 15 Things To Know Before Moving To Hutto, Tx



Hutto's growth has been tremendous in the last two decades. It has grown from a small rural town with only 1500 people to one of Texas's fastest-growing cities, with nearly 20 times the population. It's hard to imagine the city was once just mere fields of corn. The immense growth has brought an increased quality of life, and plenty of jobs, among other great things.

With small, close-knit communities, safe neighborhoods, family-friendly activities, healthy fresh produce, and more than enough space, Hutto is considered one of the best places for families.

Are you thinking of moving to Hutto?

Be sure to read these 15 important things before deciding to move to the "Hippo Capital of Texas."

## **Highlights**

Total population: 27,577
Median home price: \$314,729
Median monthly rent: \$985.91
Median household income: \$78,942

Median individual income: \$37,817

#### 1. Location

Hutto is a small city in Williamson County in central Texas, one of the six counties that form the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Area. It is located 7 miles east of Round Rock city and 22 miles northeast of Austin and has a small population of 27,577 as of the last census in 2020.

## 2. Community

Hutto has a pretty diverse community as far as culture, race, religion, and everything else. With a small population, the Hutto community is considered very close-knit. The dwellers are friendly, the neighborhoods are safe, and visitors fit in fairly quickly. The community is family-oriented, therefore, a great place to raise a family. The average household size in Hutto consists of 3.4 members.

# 3. Cost Of Living

According to <u>payscale</u>, the cost of living in Hutto is 4% lower than the national average. In addition, the housing cost is 9% lower than the national average, essentials like utilities are 2% cheaper, and food and groceries are 10% cheaper than the national average. This is great news for large families. However, transport expenses are 5% higher than the national average. Healthcare is also slightly expensive, averaging 1% above the national average.

Generally, it is cheaper to live in Hutto than in the nearby Austin, Pflugerville, Georgetown, and Round Rock cities. To maintain the current living standard, you'd need to earn an average of \$24,717 annually.

#### 4. Healthcare

Hutto is home to some of the top-rated hospitals and clinics in Texas. With 23 hospitals in and around Hutto, healthcare is pretty much accessible. For instance, <u>Baylor Scott and White Medical Center - Round Rock</u>, a full-service hospital, is just less than 15 miles from Hutto.

Despite the cost being slightly higher, medical care is of a high standard. Plus, the overall cost of living is affordable, so paying a little extra for medical isn't an overstretch unless you have a medical condition that requires you to seek medical help regularly.

#### 5. Education

Hutto's Independent School District is among the most performing in Austin and the greater Texas area. The district has 12 schools and about 8,421 students in Pre-K all through to 12th grade. The school has a student-to-teacher ratio of 15:1, which is lower than the state average.

Some of the best schools in the district are Veterans Hill Elementary, Hutto Elementary, Farley Middle School, and Hutto Middle School. Unfortunately, there is only one high school in the district, so there isn't much of a choice to make here. The good thing is it performs well. It has a current test score of 68.98/100. Hutto High School ranks #5,534 nationally and #38

<u>in Austin, TX, Metro Area High Schools.</u> The Hutto ISD provides free breakfast to all students on all campuses. Kids can also attend a free summer program where everything is provided, including meals and transportation.

After high school, kids can proceed to the University of Texas and Texas A&M, Temple College, or Texas State Technical College, all located at the East Williamson County Higher Education Center (EWCHEC) for their higher education. There are also other great colleges near Hutto, like the Round Rock Higher Education, Austin Community College, and the University of Phoenix, Austin Campus.

## 6. Job Market And Opportunities

In the past decades, the economic scene in Hutto has undergone a great transformation, from being a small rural farm town to now being one of the fastest growing economic hubs in Texas. This has seen a steady rise in the economy, providing a lot of job opportunities for the residents of Hutto.

There are particularly many job opportunities in healthcare, manufacturing, retail, and social services.

The current 5.7% unemployment rate throughout the city is lower than the national average of 6.0%. It is projected that there will be more jobs in the coming years, with job growth estimated to increase by 51.5%.

Salaries are higher than the national average, particularly for those working in the healthcare, education, manufacturing, transportation, and social work fields. Those in the utility industry, public administration, and scientific and technical services are paid the highest salaries. Expect to make an annual salary of at least \$24,702 a year, which, even though slightly lower than the national average of \$28,555, is compensated by the low cost of living.

The best employers in Hutto city based on salaries, benefits, and employee treatment include BryComm, the City of Hutto, Teksavers, and AccentCare.

#### 7. Weather

The weather in Hutto is partly cloudy for the most part, with rainfall almost throughout the year. The summers are really hot and can get uncomfortable, especially with high humidity. The temperatures range between 88°F and 94°F and the season lasts only 3.6 months, from early June to late September. The hottest month of the year is August.

Similarly, the winters can get as cold and windy, with temperatures varying between 28°F and 60°F and averaging at 41°F. The cold season is from late November to February, with January being the coldest month.

## 8. Affordability Of Homes

Housing costs in Hutto are 9% lower than the national average, making it a pretty affordable place to rent or own a home. The median price to rent a home is \$985.91 per month, which is lower than anywhere else in Austin or Round Rock. Finding a rental home is pretty easy as there are many attractive homes in the city.

Similarly, buying homes in Hutto is affordable, especially because of the city's competitive housing market. The median price for a buying home is \$314,729.

# 9. Public Transport

Most Hutto residents use their own vehicles to get around, while a few use carpooling and rideshare services like Uber, Lyft, and several others. You can also use taxi cabs. As far as gas prices go, expect to be paying about \$2.56 for a gallon.

Even though only a tiny percentage of the population in Hutto relies on mass transit, it is important to consider how good and accessible public transport is just in case you or any of your household members may need to use it. There is a railway service that shuttles daily as well as daily bus services.

## 10. Commuting

Even though Hutto is a small town and traffic isn't as bad as Austin's, residents take, on average, 32.9 minutes for a one-way commute to work. This is longer than the national average of 26.4 minutes. Traffic is heaviest from around 5 pm during the work week, although it starts as early as 3 pm on Fridays. It is also quite heavy in the morning between 7:00 and 7:30 am.

#### 11. Crime Rate

In 2020, Hutto was named the Safest City in Texas by the National Council of Home Safety and Security. It is still a very safe city up to date, with very few reported cases of property and violent crimes (68% lower than the national average). Residents feel safe walking at night, in the parks, and generally everywhere without worrying about crime. Although the entire town is safe, it is significantly safer in the northeast part of Hutto than in the southern neighborhoods.

#### 12. Dining And Shopping

Hutto is not as vibrant as Austin and Pflugerville; however, this small city still has plenty of bars, restaurants, and dining options. Because of the diverse cultures, there are plenty of foods and special treats to indulge in. Some great places to dine out include Tex-Mex and Thundercloud Sub. For pizza lovers, Little Caesars Pizza is the place to be.

If you like to grab a cup of coffee on your way to work, we highly recommend coffee from Red Poppy Coffee Co., Chick-fil-A, or Cafe Java. For weekend brunch, Mario's Mexican Restaurant and Jason's Deli come highly recommended.

There are also quite a number of places to hang out for nightlife lovers. Try out Snuffy's Bar and Grill and The Downtown Hall of Fame Restaurant & Bar for authentic beer and some delicious burgers. Just a few miles from Hutto, you can hang out at Sky Hookah Lounge in Pflugerville, Sunset Bar and Grill in Cedar Park, or Brass Tap in Round Rock. You can also drive to Austin and hang out at the famous Roosevelt Room.

Even though there aren't quite as many grocery shops, the few available, like the Wag-a-bag, the Vitamin Shoppe, HEB Plus, and Mission Foods, have nearly everything you'd need. You can also shop at the Hutto Co-Op Farmers Market for fresh produce every Wednesday evening from 5 to 8 pm.

# 13. Fun Things To Do In Hutto

There are so many fun things to do in the Hippo Nation. You can hang out in the historic Old Town area to learn about Hutto. The place is easy to access, and besides the history, there are places to buy souvenirs.

There are also parks, playgrounds, and trails all over the city to walk your dog, exercise, take walks, play with the kids, and even do a picnic under the shade in the hot summer months. Meyer Park, Secluded Willow Park, and Avalon Rinderknecht Park are just some of the parks.

You can also go on a hippo hunt at the Hutto Fire Rescue, the Hutto Middle School, or any other city facility or school. There are several hippo varieties to see. Use this map for a self-guided tour.

If you enjoy scenic views and don't mind being holed up in one spot an entire afternoon, you can head to the Star Ranch Golf Club for a match.

Hutto is also close to several other attractions like the YMCA, Dell Diamond, Rock N River Aquatic Center, and Old Settler's Park. Be sure to attend the much-awaited annual Crawfish Festival. It's a memory to behold.

#### 14. Best Places To Live

Looking for the best place to live in Hutto? Here are some neighborhoods to consider:

#### Creek Bend

Established in 2003, Creek Bend is one of the affordable neighborhoods around Hutto. The homes range between \$130,000 – \$ 275,000 and are mostly 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms houses sitting on 2,000 square feet of land. Amenities in this establishment include a pool, park, and jogging trails.

Star Ranch Golf Club, Walmart, Hutto Family YMCA, FM 685 Animal Hospital, and Stone Hill Shopping Center are all in close proximity to the neighborhood. School options for kids living in Creek Bend include Hutto Elementary School, Hutto Middle School, and Hutto High School.

#### **Carmel Creek**

Carmel Creek is a newer suburb with single-family houses located southeast of Georgetown and northeast of Austin. The houses range between \$399,000 to over \$600,000, and amenities here include a community pool, basketball court, dog park, and shaded picnic spaces, just to mention a few. The neighborhood is close to Star Ranch Golf Course, the YMCA, and the Rock'N River Family Aquatic Center. Nearby schools are Hutto High School, Farley Middle School, and Johnson Elementary.

#### Star Ranch

This neighborhood, within the Star Ranch golf course, sits on a 1,000-land acre. Besides the parks, pools, clubhouse, and playgrounds at the establishment, living here also comes with access to places like the Dell Diamond and the indoor water park at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center. Kids from Star Ranch attend Norman Elementary School, Farley Middle School, and Hutto High School.

#### Glenwood

Glenwood is another fairly priced neighborhood with midsized homes ranging between \$115,000 to \$240,000. The establishment was founded in 2003 and largely comprises single-family homes. The two-storeyed homes adopt either classic or ranch-style designs. Amenities available here include a playground, community pool, jogging trails, cycling trails, and a volleyball court. Students here have a lot of choices when it comes to schools.

#### **Brooklands**

Brooklands is right in the heart of the city. Given its location, the house prices can be very competitive. That said, it's a great place to raise a family. It has plenty of amenities, and schools, shopping centers, and health services are all within walking distance. Living in Booklands allows you quick access to <u>Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center</u>, the 65-acre park at Brushy Creek, Dell Diamond Stadium, Austin Regional Clinic, Fritz Park, and the Hawaiian Falls Water Park, just to name a few.

As far as schools, there is plenty to choose from, but Ray Elementary School, Farley Middle School, Hutto High School, and Temple Community College come highly recommended.

## 15. Cons Of Living In Hutto

The only con of living in Hutto is the small population size. Surveys suggest that towns with very small populations have staggering economies. However, that doesn't seem to be true of Hutto.

# Living In Hutto: Conclusion

Hutto is no doubt a small town. However, don't let that make you miss out on the many great things this thriving city offers, like a low cost of living, great schools, affordable housing, a safe community, and plenty of economic opportunities.

Only a few miles from Austin and close to other thriving towns, Hutto is taking advantage of these economies to propel its own growth while maintaining its personality. The future is bright for Hutto, and so will yours should you choose to move to the Hippo Nation.