The city hosts its annual Kolache Festival in celebration of immigrants establishing communities in Central Texas, with many of them being French explorers in the 17th and 18th centuries. In the late 1800s, Czechs from Bohemia settled in Burleson County, which is rich in history. Originally inhabited by Tonkawa Indians, the region was later occupied by the Comanche and Navajo tribes. Today, Lake Somerville State Park is a significant attraction, with many visitors enjoying the park's natural beauty and recreational activities.

The livelihoods of many people in Burleson are dependent on the production of corn, wheat, and cotton. The soil in Burleson, which is primarily sandy, is considered the most suitable for agriculture. In 2013, agriculture still accounted for a significant portion of the county's employment. However, Burleson County's shift away from agriculture and toward other industries is evident.

ECONOMIC POPULATION TRENDS

Burleson County's population has been growing steadily over the past few decades. Between 2010 and 2013, the county's population grew by 28 percent in the State of Texas. In 2013, 41 percent of jobs were in Educational services, etc.; Retail trade; and Professional, scientific, and management services, while 36 percent were in Manufacturing. The number of employees in each industry by total employment for Burleson County and other Texas counties is shown in the chart above.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

As of 2013, the age distribution in Burleson County was as follows: 28 percent of the population were aged 0-17 years, 28 percent were aged 18-24 years, 28 percent were aged 25-44 years, 15 percent were aged 45-64 years, and 15 percent were aged 65 years and over.

Wealthy Hispanic Population Density:

The wealthy Hispanic population density was highest in Quadrant A, which contains mostly undeveloped and wooded areas. This is a major threat to Burleson due to the famines it can cause. The livelihoods of many people in Burleson are dependent on the production of corn, wheat, and cotton.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS

Burleson County is located in the East-Central Texas region, covering an area of 217 square miles. It was organized in 1846/56, and its county seat is Caldwell. Burleson County has a rich history. One of the settlements near the Santa Fe Railway was first established in 1846/56. Later, Sunflower, Bluebonnet, Cedar, Sycamore, and Cypress became specialized. In 2013, areas of specialization were similar, except that Arts, Recreation services, etc.; Educational services, etc.; Transportation; and Manufacturing were added to the list.

LAND USE ANALYSIS

HARDSCAPE

This includes both urban lots and utilities. Burleson has experienced a reported loss of $1.2 million dollars due to fires.

PIGMENT

This is a major threat to Burleson due to the famines it can cause. The livelihoods of many people in Burleson are dependent on the production of corn, wheat, and cotton.

VEGETATION

Common trees include Oak, Maple, Hickory, Pecan, Walnut, Ash, and Willow. Additionally, Sunflower, Bluebonnet, Cedar, Sycamore, and Cypress became specialized.

SWOT ANALYSIS

**STRENGTHS**

- Self-sufficiency
- Strong growth in Information and Manufacturing sectors
- Lake Somerville
- Abundant resources

**WEAKNESSES**

- Economic reliance on farming/ranching
- Diverse labor force through commuting
- Aging population

**OPPORTUNITIES**

- Increased tourism
- Commercial development along major highways in Caldwell and Somerville
- Increase in Vista Ridge pipeline
- Development of water resources

**THREATS**

- Loss of population due to migration to major urban centers
- Natural hazards
- Drought/loss of water in reservoirs
- Development of water resources

Texas A&M University

PLANDIS - Planning Methods and Techniques

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