

Eviction Timelines in Texas



Timelines in Texas' eviction process are notoriously speedy. One comparative study of eviction processes in counties across the U.S. that included Dallas County noted that "the eviction process in Dallas moves much more quickly than the process in [the other counties in the study]." ¹ However, quality data on the actual length of time that it takes to move through the eviction process in Texas has been difficult to procure. In this brief, we summarize data from justice of the peace courts in Texas' four most populous counties on lengths of time for the eviction process, as analyzed by Texas eviction researchers at the Child Poverty Action Lab, BASTA Austin, and Texas Housers.

1. Nelson, Kyle, Philip ME Garboden, McCabe, and Eva Rosen. "Evictions: The Comparative Analysis Problem" 31, no. 3-5 (2021): 696-716.

MOST EVICTIONS IN TEXAS' MOST POPULOUS COUNTIES WERE ADJUDICATED WITHIN 30 DAYS

| Share of cases that received a judgment in 30 days or less, 2023 | | | |
|--|--------|--------|-------|
| Harris | Dallas | Travis | Bexar |
| 78% | 96% | 83% | 79% |

VIRTUALLY ALL EVICTIONS IN THESE COUNTIES WERE ADJUDICATED WITHIN 60 DAYS

| Share of cases that received a judgment in 60 days or less, 2023 | | | |
|--|--------|--------|-------|
| Harris | Dallas | Travis | Bexar |
| 98% | 100% | 98% | 98% |

Texas Housers. Analysis of all 2023 Harris County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured from "Harris County JP Public Data Extract Service", <https://jpwebsite.harriscountytexas.gov/PublicExtracts/search.jsp>. Raw data and methodology can be found here: <https://texashousers.org/harriscountyevictions/>; Child Poverty Action Lab. Analysis of all 2023 Dallas County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured through data sharing agreement with Dallas County. Raw data and methodology can be found here: <https://northtexasevictions.org/about>; BASTA Austin. Analysis of all 2023 Travis County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured from "Travis County Odyssey Portal", <https://odysseyweb.traviscountytexas.gov/Portal/>. Methodology can be found here: <https://bastaaustin.org/en/eviction-dashboard>; Texas Housers. Analysis of all 2023 Bexar County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured through Texas Public Information Act request to Bexar County. Raw data and methodology can be found here: <https://texashousers.org/bexarcountyevictions/>.

MEDIAN EVICTION CASE LENGTHS IN THESE COUNTIES WERE BETWEEN 18-22 DAYS

| Median Eviction Case Length, 2023 | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Harris | Dallas | Travis | Bexar |
| 21 days | 18 days | 20 days | 22 days |

Additional data for 2024 in Dallas County and Travis County show, respectively, 18 days and 20 days for median eviction case length. 2024 data not available for Harris and Bexar counties. Texas Housers. Analysis of all 2023 Harris County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured from "Harris County JP Public Data Extract Service", <https://jpwebsite.harriscountytexas.gov/PublicExtracts/search.jsp>. Raw data and methodology can be found here: <https://texashousers.org/harriscountyevictions/>; Child Poverty Action Lab. Analysis of all 2023 and 2024 Dallas County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured through data sharing agreement with Dallas County. Raw data and methodology can be found here: <https://northtexasevictions.org/about>; BASTA Austin. Analysis of all 2023 and 2024 Travis County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured from "Travis County Odyssey Portal", <https://odysseyweb.traviscountytexas.gov/Portal/>. Methodology can be found here: <https://bastaaustin.org/en/eviction-dashboard>; Texas Housers. Analysis of all 2023 Bexar County Justice Court eviction records. 2025. Court records procured through Texas Public Information Act request to Bexar County. Raw data and methodology can be found here: <https://texashousers.org/bexarcountyevictions/>.

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