

Evaluation Framework

The Evaluation Framework for the 2025-2030 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) provides a structured approach to measuring the region's economic progress, stability, and effectiveness of strategic initiatives. The framework relies on quantitative and qualitative data from multiple sources, ensuring a data-driven approach to regional economic planning and development.

Key Data Sources for Evaluation

To assess economic conditions, workforce trends, and infrastructure development, the evaluation framework integrates data from the following sources:

National & State-Level Data Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau – Population demographics, business patterns, housing data.
- American Community Survey (ACS) – Socioeconomic data, poverty rates, commuting trends.
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) – Employment and wage data, industry growth trends.
- Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) – Workforce availability, job demand, unemployment rates.
- Texas Demographic Center – Population projections, migration patterns, housing trends.

Regional & Local Economic Data Sources:

- NERDE (National Economic Resilience Data Explorer) – Economic distress indicators, GDP, employment trends.
- StatsAmerica – Innovation indexes, industry clusters, economic development potential.
- Heart of Texas Economic Development District (HOTEDD) – Economic strategies, regional growth targets, industry reports.
- Local Economic Development Corporations (EDCs) & Municipalities – Business retention data, infrastructure projects, housing initiatives.

Evaluation Methods & Reporting

Annual Performance Reports:

- HOTEDD will make annual reports to EDA.
- Staff and CEDS committee will review each year and make any changes necessary.
- Community data will automatically adjust every year with ESRI on mapping device of website.

The Evaluation Framework ensures the CEDS remains a dynamic, data-driven strategy for the Heart of Texas region. By leveraging national, state, and local data sources, regularly monitoring economic indicators, and engaging stakeholders, the region can adapt to changing economic conditions and promote long-term prosperity.