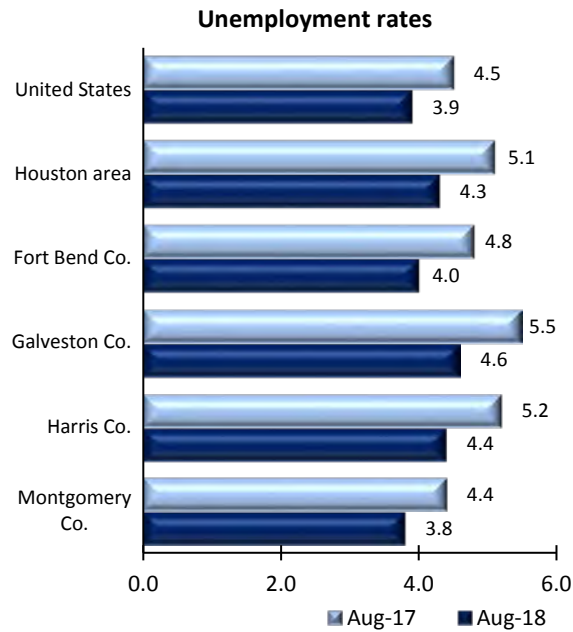


# Houston Area Economic Summary

Updated October 03, 2018

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include **unemployment, employment, wages, prices, spending, and benefits**. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see [www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm](http://www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm).

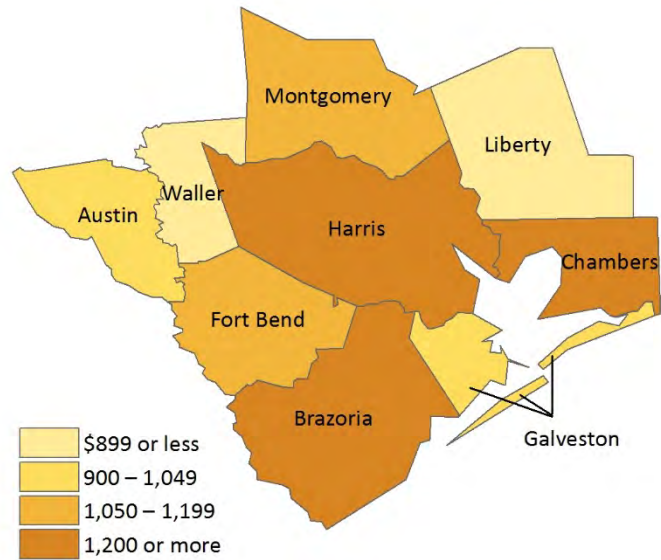
## Unemployment rates for the Houston area, selected area counties, and the nation



Source: U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

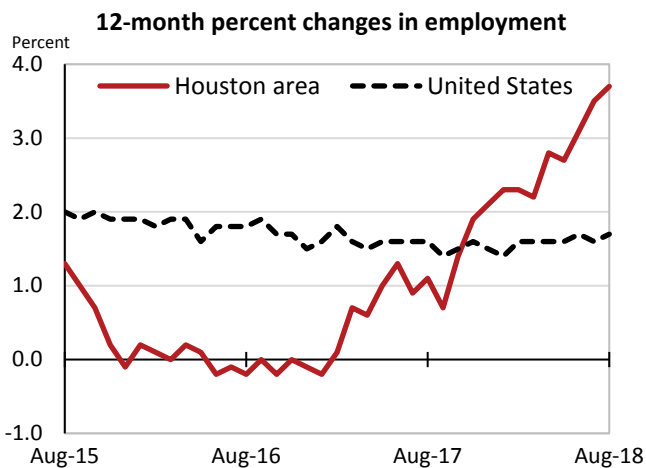
## Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Houston area, 1st quarter 2018  
(U.S. = \$1,152; Area = \$1,406)



Source: U.S. BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

## Over-the-year changes in employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector



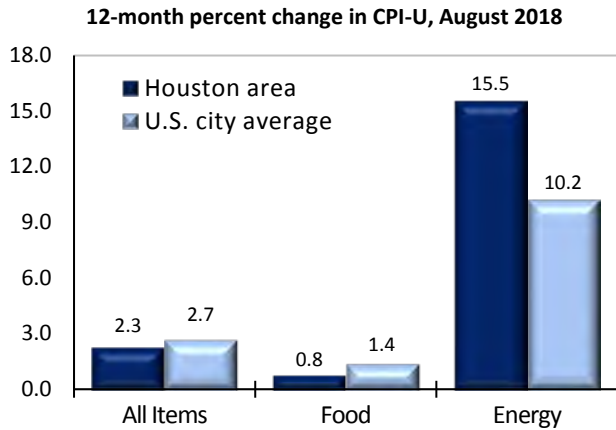
Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

Houston area employment (numbers in thousands)	Aug. 2018	Change from Aug. 2017 to Aug. 2018	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	3,123.1	110.2	3.7
Mining and logging	80.3	1.9	2.4
Construction	243.3	28.9	13.5
Manufacturing	230.9	9.6	4.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	635.6	17.3	2.8
Information	31.3	-0.9	-2.8
Financial activities	164.0	3.7	2.3
Professional and business services	519.4	35.0	7.2
Education and health services	393.4	7.3	1.9
Leisure and hospitality	327.4	4.4	1.4
Other services	111.5	1.6	1.5
Government	386.0	1.4	0.4

Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.



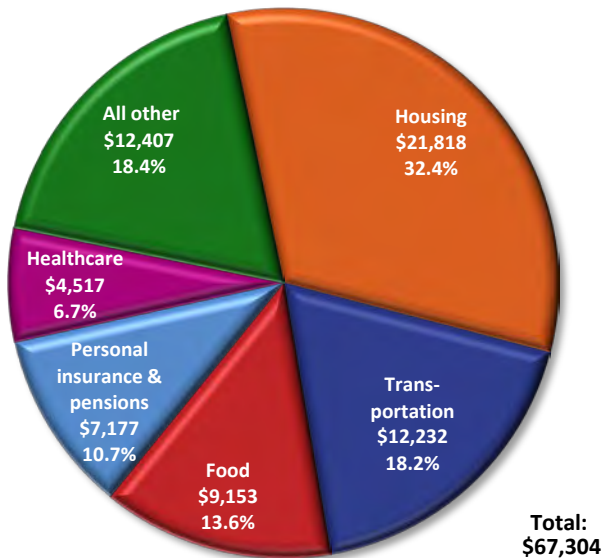
Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories



Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

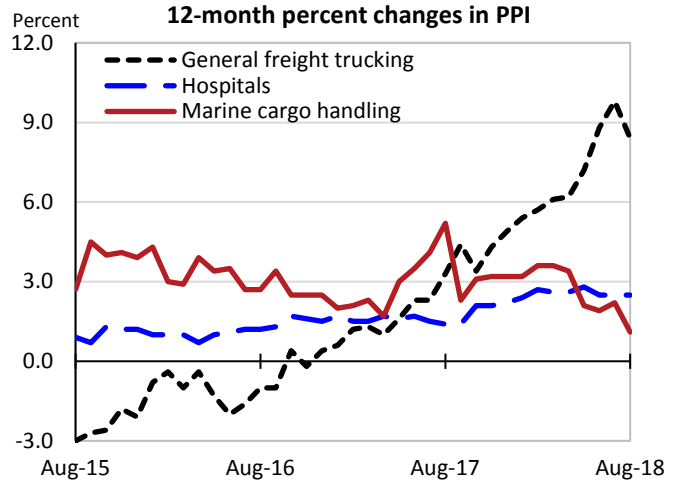
Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

Houston area average annual expenditures 2016-17



Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Over-the-year changes in the selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide



Source: U.S. BLS, Producer Price Index.

Average hourly wages for selected occupations

Occupation	Houston area	United States
Total, all occupations	\$25.87	\$24.34
Dentists, general	91.06	83.71
Petroleum engineers	85.15	74.41
Human resources managers	69.94	59.38
Computer systems analysts	48.63	44.59
Accountants and auditors	42.92	37.46
Registered nurses	38.01	35.36
Machinists	22.75	21.23
Medical secretaries	16.87	17.25
Customer service representatives	16.57	17.14
Construction laborers	15.84	18.70
Retail salespersons	12.56	13.20
Cooks, fast food	10.31	10.39

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment Statistics, May 2017.

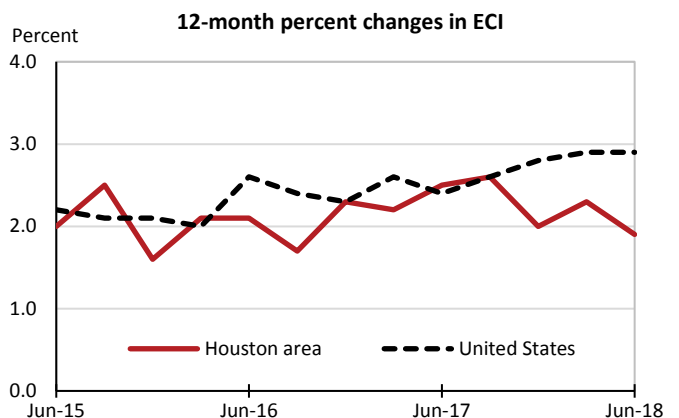
Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

Private industry, June 2018	West South Central (1)	United States
Total compensation	\$32.61	\$34.19
Wages and salaries	23.42	23.78
Total benefits	9.19	10.41
Paid leave	2.18	2.39
Vacation	1.10	1.24
Supplemental pay	1.17	1.32
Insurance	2.22	2.72
Retirement and savings	1.15	1.35
Legally required benefits	2.46	2.64

(1) West South Central includes AR, LA, OK, and TX.

Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries



Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.