Houston Area Economic Summary

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Jun-17</th>
<th>Jun-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston area</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Bend Co.</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galveston Co.</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris Co.</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery Co.</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Average weekly wages for all industries by county

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Jun-18</th>
<th>Jun-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Houston area</td>
<td>$1,318</td>
<td>$1,318</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total nonfarm</td>
<td>3,182.1</td>
<td>82.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining and logging</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>229.5</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>240.6</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade, transportation, and utilities</td>
<td>630.3</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>-1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial activities</td>
<td>166.4</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and business services</td>
<td>514.8</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and health services</td>
<td>401.7</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure and hospitality</td>
<td>341.2</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services</td>
<td>122.0</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>417.9</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

Houston area average annual expenditures 2016-17

- Housing $21,818 (32.4%)
- Food $9,153 (13.6%)
- Personal insurance & pensions $7,177 (10.7%)
- Healthcare $4,517 (6.7%)
- All other $12,407 (18.4%)
- Transportation $12,232 (18.2%)

Total: $67,304

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

Average hourly wages for selected occupations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Houston area</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total, all occupations</td>
<td>$26.10</td>
<td>$24.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentists, general</td>
<td>93.08</td>
<td>84.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum engineers</td>
<td>84.28</td>
<td>75.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human resources managers</td>
<td>67.50</td>
<td>60.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer systems analysts</td>
<td>53.05</td>
<td>45.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountants and auditors</td>
<td>41.44</td>
<td>37.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered nurses</td>
<td>38.54</td>
<td>36.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinists</td>
<td>24.14</td>
<td>21.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical secretaries</td>
<td>17.29</td>
<td>17.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer service representatives</td>
<td>16.98</td>
<td>17.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction laborers</td>
<td>16.54</td>
<td>19.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail salespersons</td>
<td>12.42</td>
<td>13.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooks, fast food</td>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>10.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private industry, March 2019</th>
<th>West South Central (1)</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total compensation</td>
<td>$32.01</td>
<td>$34.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>23.14</td>
<td>24.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total benefits</td>
<td>8.87</td>
<td>10.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid leave</td>
<td>2.17</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental pay</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>1.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2.09</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement and savings</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally required benefits</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) West South Central includes AR, LA, OK, and TX.
Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent 12-month percent changes in PPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General freight trucking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine cargo handling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent 12-month percent changes in ECI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Houston area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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