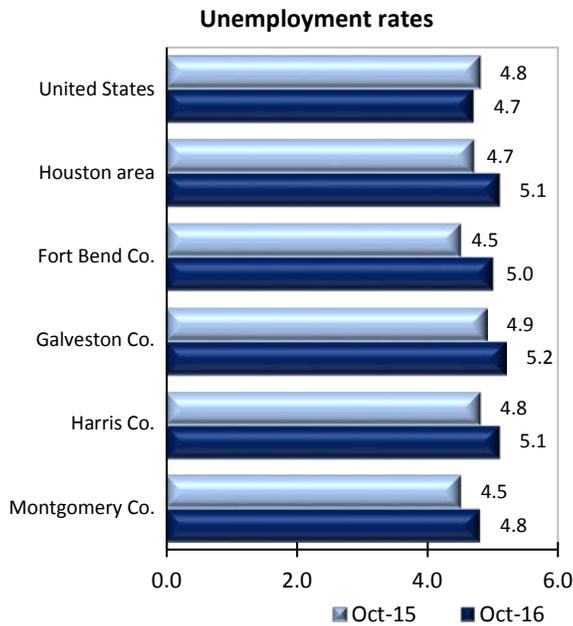


# Houston Area Economic Summary

Updated November 30, 2016

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).

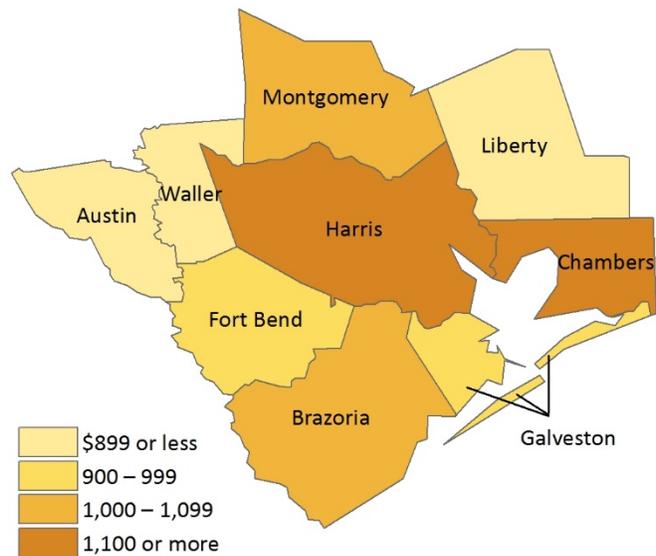
## Unemployment rates for the Houston area, selected area counties, and the nation



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

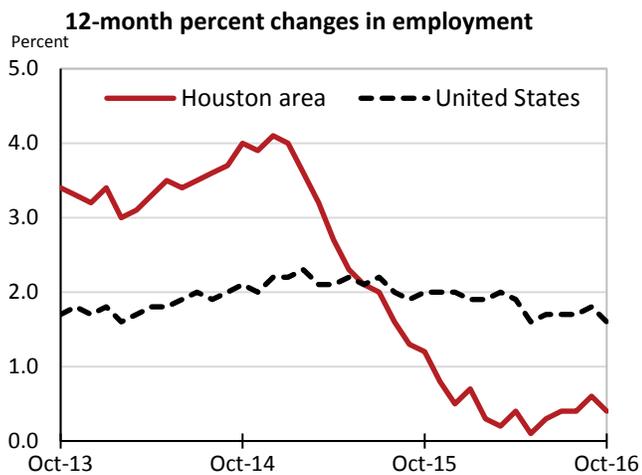
## Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Houston area, 1st quarter 2016  
(U.S. = \$1,043; Area = \$1,298)



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



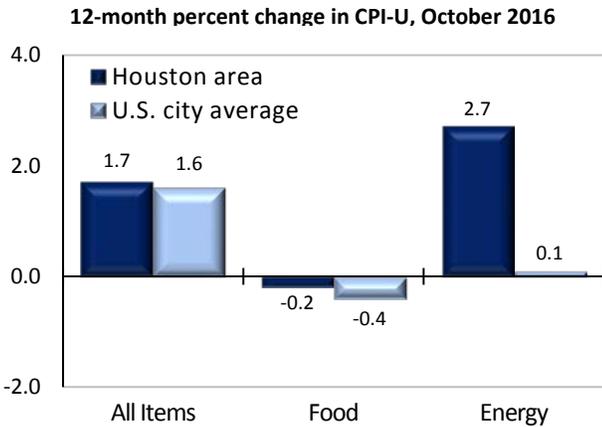
Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

Houston area employment (numbers in thousands)	Oct. 2016	Change from Oct. 2015 to Oct. 2016	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	3,022.8	13.4	0.4
Mining and logging	86.4	-8.4	-8.9
Construction	217.9	-9.7	-4.3
Manufacturing	232.1	-6.8	-2.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	622.9	10.4	1.7
Information	30.5	-1.2	-3.8
Financial activities	153.7	0.8	0.5
Professional and business services	466.2	-5.3	-1.1
Education and health services	389.4	13.6	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	319.2	13.4	4.4
Other services	105.6	-2.7	-2.5
Government	398.9	9.3	2.4

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



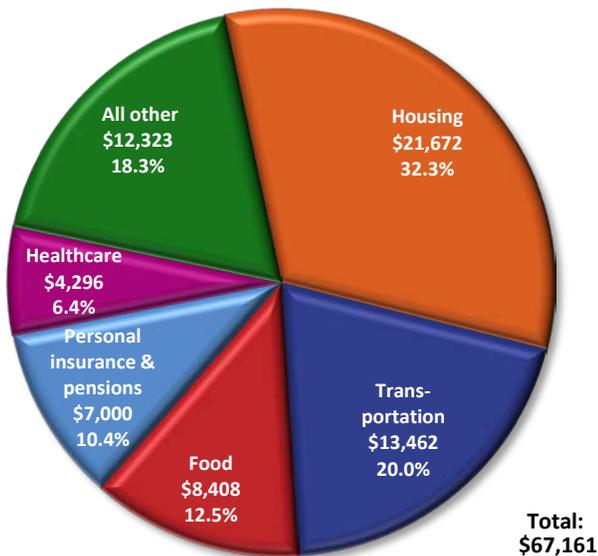
Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories



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

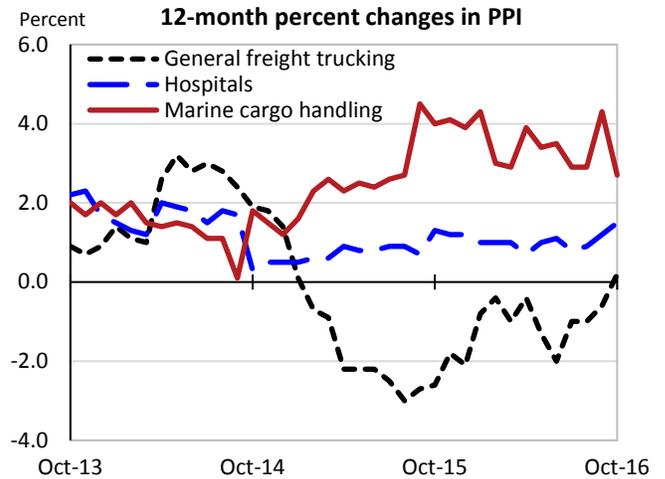
Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

Houston area average annual expenditures 2014-15



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	\$24.92	\$23.23
Petroleum engineers	83.31	71.92
Dentists, general	75.83	82.86
Human resources managers	68.46	56.29
Computer systems analysts	49.39	43.36
Accountants and auditors	41.91	36.19
Registered nurses	36.92	34.14
Machinists	20.69	20.25
Customer service representatives	16.54	16.62
Medical secretaries	15.94	16.50
Construction laborers	14.99	17.57
Retail salespersons	12.62	12.67
Cooks, fast food	9.03	9.43

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment Statistics, May 2015.

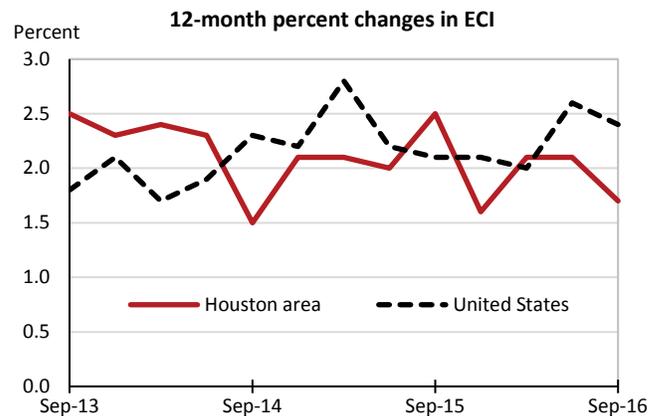
Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

Private industry, June 2016	West South Central (1)	United States
Total compensation	\$29.96	\$32.29
Wages and salaries	21.53	22.52
Total benefits	8.43	9.77
Paid leave	1.89	2.22
Vacation	0.95	1.15
Supplemental pay	1.15	1.16
Insurance	2.05	2.58
Retirement and savings	1.04	1.27
Legally required benefits	2.29	2.54

(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.