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 nation and selected areas

Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Houston area, third quarter 2021
(U.S. = $1,251; Area = $1,338)

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

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

12-month percent change in CPI-U, April 2022

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

12-month percent changes in PPI

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

Houston area average annual expenditures, 2019-20

Average hourly wages for selected occupations

Occupation | Houston area | United States
---|---|---
All occupations | $27.78 | $28.01
Human resources managers | 67.24 | 65.67
Accountants and auditors | 44.33 | 40.37
Registered nurses | 40.33 | 39.78
Construction laborers | 17.96 | 21.22
Retail salespersons | 15.04 | 15.35
Cooks, fast food | 12.20 | 12.25

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private industry, December 2021</th>
<th>West South Central (1)</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total compensation</td>
<td>$33.92</td>
<td>$38.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>24.71</td>
<td>26.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total benefits</td>
<td>9.21</td>
<td>11.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid leave</td>
<td>2.34</td>
<td>2.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental pay</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>1.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2.12</td>
<td>2.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement and savings</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>1.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally required benefits</td>
<td>2.41</td>
<td>2.86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries

12-month percent changes in ECI

Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.
Source: U.S. BLS, Producer Price Index.
Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.
Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.