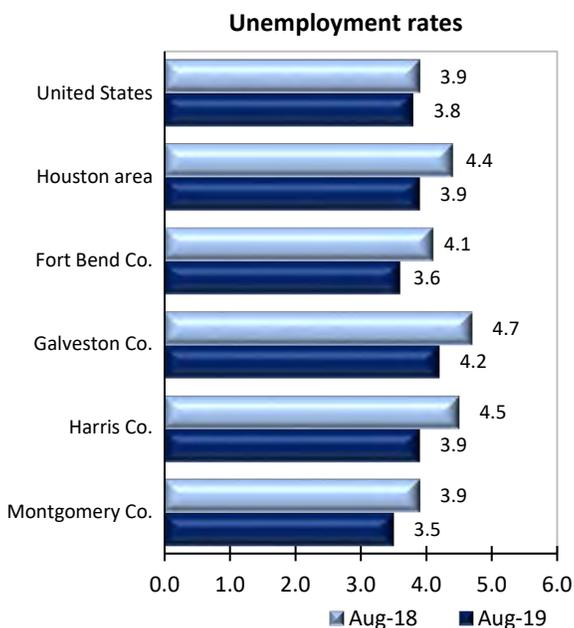


# Houston Area Economic Summary

Updated October 02, 2019

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).

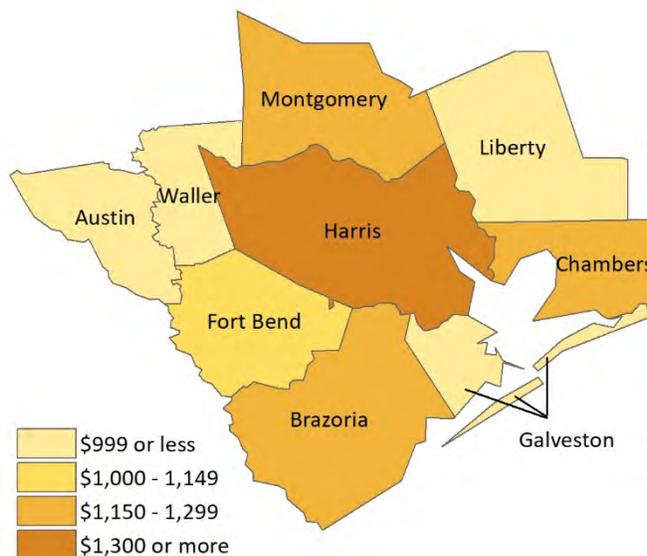
Unemployment rates for the Houston area, selected area counties, and the nation



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

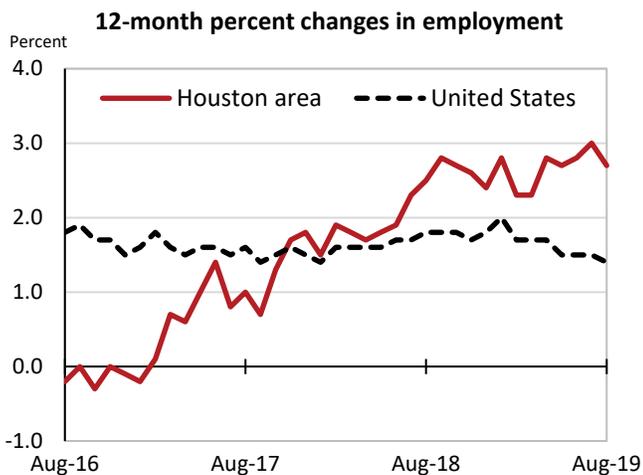
Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Houston area, 1st quarter 2019  
(U.S. = \$1,184; Area = \$1,453)



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



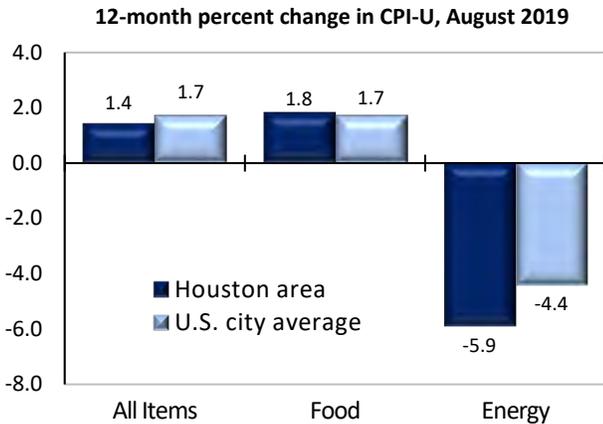
Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

Houston area employment (numbers in thousands)	Aug. 2019	Change from Aug. 2018 to Aug. 2019	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	3,166.9	81.9	2.7
Mining and logging	85.8	6.6	8.3
Construction	227.1	3.6	1.6
Manufacturing	243.0	11.5	5.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	630.7	6.5	1.0
Information	29.8	-1.7	-5.4
Financial activities	168.8	3.1	1.9
Professional and business services	522.3	22.8	4.6
Education and health services	406.0	9.6	2.4
Leisure and hospitality	337.6	4.7	1.4
Other services	121.6	9.7	8.7
Government	394.2	5.5	1.4

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

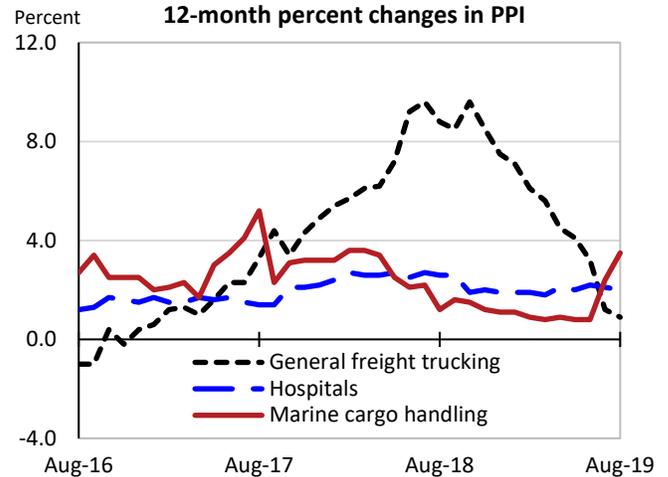


Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories



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

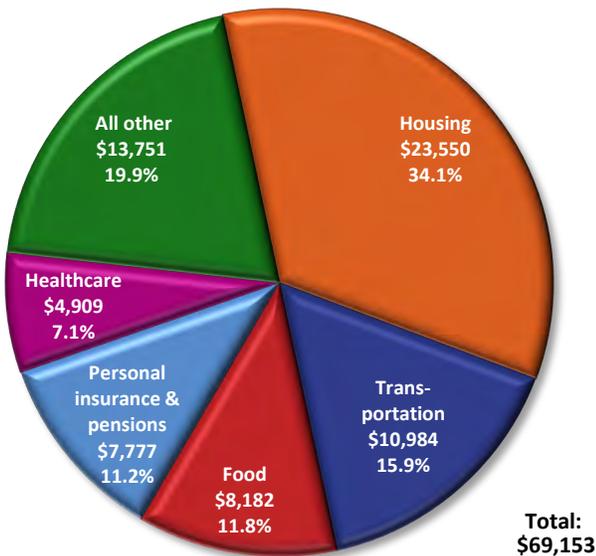
Over-the-year changes in the selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide



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

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

Houston area average annual expenditures 2017-18



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

Average hourly wages for selected occupations

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

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment Statistics, May 2018.

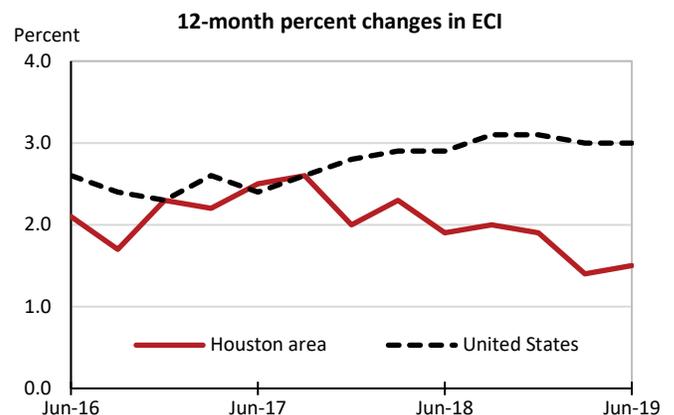
Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

Private industry, June 2019	West South Central (1)	United States
Total compensation	\$32.21	\$34.44
Wages and salaries	23.24	24.14
Total benefits	8.97	10.30
Paid leave	2.18	2.47
Vacation	1.09	1.27
Supplemental pay	1.23	1.11
Insurance	2.12	2.76
Retirement and savings	1.04	1.31
Legally required benefits	2.40	2.66

(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.