

Labor Force

Among the nation's 50 most populous metros, Houston's labor force participation rate ranks 21st among the nation's largest metros.

Labor Participation Rate by Metro Area		
Rank	Area	Labor Participation Rate
1	Salt Lake City, UT Metro Area	72.0%
2	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area	71.6%
3	Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown, TX Metro Area	71.4%
4	Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO Metro Area	71.3%
5	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area	70.6%
6	Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area	69.4%
7	Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro-Franklin, TN Metro Area	69.2%
8	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area	68.7%
9	Raleigh-Cary, NC Metro Area	68.7%
10	Columbus, OH Metro Area	68.5%
11	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area	68.5%
12	San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA Metro Area	68.0%
13	Kansas City, MO-KS Metro Area	67.9%
14	San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA Metro Area	67.8%
15	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC Metro Area	67.5%
16	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta, GA Metro Area	67.0%
17	Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson, IN Metro Area	66.9%
18	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area	66.6%
19	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro Area	66.6%
20	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN Metro Area	66.4%
21	Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX Metro Area	66.4%
22	Richmond, VA Metro Area	66.2%
23	Hartford-East Hartford-Middletown, CT Metro Area	66.1%
24	Milwaukee-Waukesha, WI Metro Area	66.0%
25	Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD Metro Area	65.8%
26	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA Metro Area	65.4%
27	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	65.3%
28	New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area	65.2%
29	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL Metro Area	64.9%
30	St. Louis, MO-IL Metro Area	64.9%
31	Providence-Warwick, RI-MA Metro Area	64.8%
32	Louisville/Jefferson County, KY-IN Metro Area	64.5%
33	San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area	64.2%
34	Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise, NV Metro Area	63.8%
35	Memphis, TN-MS-AR Metro Area	63.8%
36	San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area	63.7%
37	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL Metro Area	63.5%
38	Oklahoma City, OK Metro Area	63.5%
39	Cleveland-Elyria, OH Metro Area	63.4%
40	Phoenix-Mesa-Chandler, AZ Metro Area	63.2%
41	Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area	63.1%
42	Pittsburgh, PA Metro Area	63.0%
43	Buffalo-Cheektowaga, NY Metro Area	62.8%
44	New Orleans-Metairie, LA Metro Area	62.8%
45	Sacramento-Roseville-Folsom, CA Metro Area	62.7%
46	Jacksonville, FL Metro Area	62.5%
47	Birmingham-Hoover, AL Metro Area	61.4%
48	Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC Metro Area	60.8%
49	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area	59.9%
50	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area	59.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey