

Houston Economic Indicators

27-Jan-12

N = New Since Previous Issue

R = Revised

MONTHLY DATA

YEAR-TO-DATE
TOTAL OR YTD AVERAGE*

A Service of the Greater Houston Partnership

	Month	Most Recent	Year Earlier	% Change	Most Recent	Year Earlier	% Change
ENERGY							
U.S. Active Rotary Rigs	Dec '11	2,007	1,694	18.5	1,879 *	1,546 *	21.5
Spot Crude Oil Price (\$/bbl, West Texas Intermediate)	Dec '11	98.32	89.46	9.9	94.58 *	79.04 *	19.7
Spot Natural Gas (\$/MMBtu, Henry Hub)	Dec '11	3.12	4.21	-25.9	3.96 *	4.36 *	-9.2
UTILITIES AND PRODUCTION							
Houston Purchasing Managers Index	Dec '11	57.8	57.6	0.3	60.1 *	55.1 *	9.1
Nonresidential Electric Current Sales (Mwh, CNP Service Area)	Dec '11	N 4,017,421	3,969,364	1.2	51,527,823	46,472,946	2.2
CONSTRUCTION							
Total Building Contracts (\$, Houston MSA)	Nov '11	444,689,000	483,115,000	-8.0	7,643,519,000	7,560,010,000	1.1
Nonresidential	Nov '11	147,456,000	166,518,000	-11.4	2,964,027,000	3,003,429,000	-1.3
Residential	Nov '11	297,233,000	316,597,000	-6.1	4,679,492,000	4,556,581,000	2.7
Building Permits (\$, City of Houston)	Nov '11	311,260,200	175,951,026	76.9	3,322,047,855	2,920,376,730	13.8
Nonresidential	Nov '11	239,101,648	114,442,086	108.9	2,234,317,946	2,015,728,898	10.8
New Nonresidential	Nov '11	95,781,160	47,425,546	102.0	957,519,171	750,311,439	27.6
Nonresidential Additions/Alterations/Conversions	Nov '11	143,320,488	67,016,540	113.9	1,276,798,775	1,265,417,459	0.9
Residential	Nov '11	72,158,552	61,508,940	17.3	1,087,729,909	904,647,832	20.2
New Residential	Nov '11	54,382,941	46,424,979	17.1	891,927,467	693,434,189	28.6
Residential Additions/Alterations/Conversions	Nov '11	17,775,611	15,083,961	17.8	195,802,442	211,213,643	-7.3
Multiple Listing Service (MLS) Activity							
Closings	Dec '11	5,460	5,122	6.6	63,666	61,004	4.4
Median Sales Price - SF Detached	Dec '11	160,000	157,000	1.9	153,696 *	153,330 *	0.2
Active Listings	Dec '11	42,083	49,005	-14.1	48,800 *	51,097 *	-4.5
EMPLOYMENT (Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA)							
Nonfarm Payroll Employment	Dec '11	2,643,000	2,567,200	3.0	2,636,000 *	2,561,400 *	2.9
Goods Producing (Natural Resources/Mining/Const/Mfg)	Dec '11	499,000	475,800	4.9	492,000 *	470,000 *	4.7
Service Providing	Dec '11	2,144,000	2,091,400	2.5	2,144,000 *	2,091,400 *	2.5
Unemployment Rate (%) - Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA	Dec '11	7.3	8.3		8.3 *	8.5 *	
Texas	Dec '11	7.2	8.0		8.1 *	8.2 *	
U.S.	Dec '11	8.3	9.1		9.0 *	9.6 *	
Unemployment Insurance Claims (Gulf Coast WDA)							
Initial Claims	Dec '11	17,037	19,879	-14.3	19,823 *	21,998 *	-9.9
Continuing Claims	Dec '11	76,104	90,517	-15.9	80,032 *	101,755 *	-21.3
TRANSPORTATION							
Houston-Galveston Customs District Trade (\$000,000)	Nov '11	23,133	18,792	23.1	244,203	191,937	27.2
Exports (\$000,000)	Nov '11	10,345	8,607	20.2	107,822	85,636	25.9
Imports (\$000,000)	Nov '11	12,788	10,185	25.6	136,381	106,301	28.3
Port of Houston Authority Shipments (Short Tons)	Dec '11	3,480,622	3,471,196	0.3	42,441,160	40,245,742	5.5
Air Passengers (Houston Airport System)	Dec '11	4,294,535	4,311,060	-0.4	49,972,043	49,533,571	0.9
Domestic Passengers	Dec '11	3,526,242	3,524,194	0.1	41,334,711	41,025,693	0.8
International Passengers	Dec '11	768,293	786,866	-2.4	8,637,332	8,507,878	1.5
Landings and Takeoffs	Dec '11	69,401	72,645	-4.5	854,222	851,454	0.3
Air Freight (000 lb)	Dec '11	81,176	76,027	6.8	932,951	882,543	5.7
Enplaned	Dec '11	40,391	37,380	8.1	478,227	455,543	5.0
Deplaned	Dec '11	40,785	38,647	5.5	454,724	427,000	6.5
CONSUMERS							
New Car and Truck Sales (Units, Houston MSA)	Dec '11	19,986	16,682	19.8	254,996	240,354	6.1
Cars	Dec '11	8,099	6,770	19.6	110,845	105,753	4.8
Trucks, SUVs and Commercials	Dec '11	11,887	9,912	19.9	144,151	134,601	7.1
Total Retail Sales (\$000,000, Houston MSA, NAICS Basis)	2Q11	24,240.8	21,584.5	12.3	46,423.7	41,311.0	12.4
Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers ('82-'84=100)							
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria CMSA	Dec '11	200.477	194.479	3.1	200.496 *	194.172 *	3.3
United States	Dec '11	225.672	219.179	3.0	224.820 *	218.056 *	3.1
Hotel Performance (Harris County)							
Occupancy (%)	3Q11	58.1	54.3		60.6	56.1 *	
Average Room Rate (\$)	3Q11	86.30	85.35	1.1	91.32	89.27 *	2.3
Revenue Per Available Room (\$)	3Q11	50.15	46.37	8.2	55.38	50.16 *	10.4
POSTINGS AND FORECLOSURES							
Postings (Harris County)	Dec '11	4,338	4,719	-8.1	43,832	47,652	-8.0
Foreclosures (Harris County)	Dec '11	1,169	1,072	9.0	11,092	13,829	-19.8
SOURCES							
Rig Count	Baker Hughes Incorporated						
Spot WTI, Spot Natural Gas	U.S. Energy Information Administration						
Houston Purchasing Managers Index	Institute for Supply Management - Houston, Inc.						
Electricity	CenterPoint Energy (CNP)						
Building Construction Contracts	McGraw-Hill Construction						
City of Houston Building Permits	Building Permit Department, City of Houston						
MLS Data	Houston Association of Realtors						
Employment, Unemployment, UI Claims	Texas Workforce Commission						
Port Shipments	Port of Houston Authority						
Aviation	Aviation Department, City of Houston						
New Car and Truck Sales	TexAuto Facts Report, InfoNation, Inc., Sugar Land TX						
Retail Sales	State Comptroller's Office						
Consumer Price Index	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics						
Hotels	PKF Consulting/Hospitality Asset Advisors International						
Postings, Foreclosures	Foreclosure Information & Listing Service, Inc.						
Foreign Trade	U.S. Census Bureau						