

The Economy at a Glance Houston

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- **Another First Place Finish** — Houston led Texas in job growth last year, accounting for one in every three jobs created in the state. The 10-county Houston metro area added 75,800 jobs, a 3.0 percent increase over the previous year. The state created 205,100 jobs, a 2.0 percent increase. Dallas-Fort Worth ranked second among Texas metros, followed by Austin, Corpus Christi and McAllen-Edinburg. Several metros added jobs at a faster pace, but none added as many as Houston.

Texas Metro Areas Ranked by Jobs Created

Metro Area	December Employment		Annual Change	
	'10	'11	Actual	%
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,567,200	2,643,000	75,800	3.0%
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	2,909,800	2,955,500	45,700	1.6%
Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos	770,500	786,600	16,100	2.1%
Corpus Christi	180,200	188,000	7,800	4.3%
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	224,000	230,500	6,500	2.9%
Lubbock	130,300	134,700	4,400	3.4%
Laredo	88,900	93,100	4,200	4.7%
San Antonio-New Braunfels	847,400	850,300	2,900	0.3%
Longview	97,600	100,300	2,700	2.8%
El Paso	282,600	285,300	2,700	1.0%
Tyler	94,100	96,500	2,400	2.6%
Midland	69,700	71,800	2,100	3.0%
Amarillo	111,300	113,300	2,000	1.8%
Victoria	49,400	51,200	1,800	3.6%
Odessa	62,300	63,600	1,300	2.1%
Waco	106,500	107,800	1,300	1.2%
Sherman-Denison	42,400	43,500	1,100	2.6%
San Angelo	45,200	46,100	900	2.0%
Texarkana	57,200	57,900	700	1.2%
Beaumont-Port Arthur	160,800	160,300	-500	-0.3%
Brownsville-Harlingen	127,900	127,400	-500	-0.4%
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	129,800	128,600	-1,200	-0.9%
Wichita Falls	58,500	57,200	-1,300	-2.2%
College Station-Bryan	99,500	98,000	-1,500	-1.5%
Abilene	65,600	62,100	-3,500	-5.3%
<i>State of Texas</i>	<i>10,512,900</i>	<i>10,718,000</i>	<i>205,100</i>	<i>2.0%</i>

Source: Texas Workforce Commission

HOUSTON—THE ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

- **Firing on Nearly All Cylinders** — Nine of 11 sectors in Houston added jobs last year. Only two—information and government—reported losses. Some industries, including oil and gas extraction, oil field services, other services, and professional and business services, added jobs at a robust pace. What follows is a discussion of job growth last year. Page 11 presents a detailed table showing gains and losses by sector .

Mining and logging, in Houston, primarily oil and gas, grew faster than any other sector, adding 10,100 jobs, a 12.1 percent increase. High oil prices, a climbing rig count and frenetic activity in Texas' Eagle Ford shale fueled job growth.

- West Texas Intermediate, the U.S. benchmark for light, sweet crude, never fell below \$75 per barrel in '11.
- The North American rotary rig count finished the year with 2,007 working rigs, 307 more than when the year started.
- The Texas Railroad Commission issued 2,828 drilling permits in the Eagle Ford shale last year, more than double the 1,010 permits issued in '10 and 30 times the 94 permits issued in '09.

Construction added 1,600 jobs, a 0.9 percent increase over the previous year. Employment losses in specialty trades contractors (*e.g.*, pouring concrete, site preparation, plumbing, painting, and electrical work) reduced employment gains in the construction of buildings and heavy and civil engineering construction.

With state and local construction budgets flat or declining, the job growth in civil and heavy construction presumably resulted from work on METRO's three light rail projects—the East End, North and Southeast lines. METRO estimates the three lines accounted for 1.2 million construction man-hours since it broke ground on the first line in '08.

General construction also has posted a slight uptick. McGraw Hill reports the value of contracts for new buildings rose 5.0 percent to \$8.4 billion in '11, up from \$8.0 billion in '10. However, activity remains well below the pre-recession peak of \$14.2 billion achieved in '07. The sector, which cut 40,300 jobs—one in every four lost in the recession—has recouped only 5,400 jobs, or 13.4 percent of its recession losses.

Manufacturing added 11,500 jobs, up 5.3 percent from the previous year. Two-thirds of the growth occurred in the manufacture of durable goods (*i.e.*, those expected to last three years or more) and one-third of the growth in the manufacture of nondurables (*i.e.*, consumables or goods with a short useful life).

Sectors That Added the Most Jobs

Professional & Business Services (19,700), Education and Health Services (11,600), Manufacturing (11,500)

Sectors with Fastest Growth Rates

Mining and Logging (12.1%), Other Services (6.5%), Professional and Business Services (5.4%)

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In Houston, durables are concentrated in the fabrication of metal products (*e.g.*, pipes, valves, structural steel and machined products) and industrial machinery (primarily oil field equipment). Both have benefited from the surge in drilling activity, together adding 7,900 jobs last year. Employment in machinery manufacturing is now at an all time high.

Employment in nondurables manufacturing remains mired near its recession trough. The chemicals and refining industries, which represent 60 percent of all jobs in this sector, accounted for only 300 of the 2,600 jobs added last year.

Trade, transportation and utilities added 9,800 jobs last year, a 1.8 percent increase over the previous year. Much of the growth occurred in wholesale and retail trade. Wholesale trade benefited from strong markets for U.S. exports, the recovery in Houston's manufacturing sector, and improving local retail sales.

Several factors supported growth in wholesale sector employment:

- Overseas demand remained strong for U.S.-made products. Through the first 11 months of '11, exports through the Houston-Galveston Customs District were up 25.9 percent from the same period the prior year.
- Industrial production held steady. The Houston Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) has remained above 50 for 27 consecutive months. (Readings above 50 indicate expected growth in production over the next three to four months; readings below 50 suggest contraction.) Wholesale goods are often inputs to the manufacturing process.
- Wholesalers also sell to retailers, and retail sales in the Houston area during the first six months of the year were up \$5.1 billion, or 14.2 percent, over the same period in '10.

Several factors supported growth in retail employment:

- If Houston followed historical patterns it added 120,000 new residents, *i.e.* additional consumers.
- The region added 75,800 jobs, increasing total personal incomes.
- The Census Bureau reported Houston area residents earned \$6.0 billion more in the first six months of '11 than during the same period in '10, *i.e.* additional purchasing power.

Financial activities added 2,300 jobs in '11, a 2.5 percent increase over the prior year. The bulk of the increase occurred in the financial services sector. The region saw modest employment growth at area banks and securities firms. Employment in real estate remained flat, but should pick up as the office, industrial and residential markets improve.

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Professional and business services added 19,700 jobs, a 5.4 percent increase over the previous year. Growth was weak in accounting, legal, engineering, architectural and other business services. Two-thirds of the growth—12,000 jobs—occurred in administrative support, waste management and remediation services. This clumsily named sector includes firms that support the day-to-day operations of other organizations by providing typical administrative functions—clerical, personnel, human resource, cleaning, or security—for a fee. Presumably growth in this sector results from firms outsourcing these functions to keep their operations as lean and competitive as possible.

Educational and health services added 11,600 jobs, a 3.7 percent increase. This is the only sector that did not lose jobs during the recession. Two factors drove growth in health care employment: population growth and an aging population. The latter increases the *share* of total population that consumes health care services; the former increases the *size* of the potential patient pool. Alone, either increases demand for health care services; together, they accelerate growth in that demand. Educational services benefitted from continued population growth and the need for workers coming out of the recession to be retrained or upgrade their skills.

Accommodation and food services (e.g., hotels, restaurants and bars) grew by 8,900 jobs, a bump of 4.3 percent. Increased business travel supported growth in accommodation employment. Employment in food services benefitted from the same factors driving retail employment—population, employment and income growth, along with improving consumer confidence.

Other services, which includes personal and consumer services like repair services, personal care services, and religious and nonprofit associations, added 6,000 jobs, a 6.5 percent increase.

Information, which includes broadcast media, software, publishing and telecommunications, continues to restructure, a trend underway nationwide for more than a decade. The sector lost 1,800 jobs in Houston last year.

Government, frequently the last sector to enter a recession and the last to emerge, continues to struggle as sales and property tax revenues remain below pre-recession levels. The sector lost 3,700 jobs last year.

- **Not the End of the Story** — The employment numbers released throughout the year are estimates prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). These estimates are based on a sampling of employers plus algorithms to account for the creation and destruction of businesses during the economic cycle. Each fall, BLS looks at the number of employees covered by unemployment insurance during the year and adjusts its estimates accordingly. The adjustments, known as the “benchmark revisions,” apply to the preceding 21 months of data. Some sets of employment data are revised as far back as five years.

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BLS will release its next set of revisions on March 9. With the revisions, Houstonians will have a better understanding of what happened to the region's economy over the past two years. Those revisions will be discussed in the April issue of *Houston: The Economy at a Glance*.

- **On Track to Set Another Record** — The Houston-Galveston Customs District handled cargo valued at \$244.2 billion through November '11, up 27.2 percent from \$191.9 billion handled during the same period last year. Trade through the district has already surpassed the annual record of \$240.9 billion set in '08.

Exports totaled \$107.8 billion through the first 11 months of '11, up 25.9 percent from \$85.6 billion over the same period last year. Twenty-five commodities accounted for 96.3 percent of all exports through the district. Trade through November '11 is up in 23 of 25 commodities. Exports of fuel and organic chemicals accounted for two-thirds of the increase. **Imports** totaled \$136.4 billion, up 28.3 percent from \$106.3 billion over the same period last year. Twenty-five commodities accounted for 96.3 percent of all imports through the district. Trade through November '11 is up in 23 of them. Shipments of fuel accounted for 60 percent of the increase.

The Greater Houston Partnership estimates that Houston handled more than \$260 billion in trade last year. That performance would make Houston the third busiest customs district, up from fourth in '10.

Some might assert that Houston owes its top rankings to oil imports and exports, and that if oil were subtracted from the mix, Houston would plummet in the rankings. That assertion is wrong for several reasons. First, non-oil trade passing through Houston is so large that based on those commodities alone, Houston would still rank in the top 10 districts. Note: There are 16 other commodities in which total trade exceeds \$1 billion, 14 in which trade exceeds \$500 million. Second, oil is important not just to Houston but to many of the nation's customs districts. If oil were subtracted from the trade through all customs districts, Houston would drop only one spot in the rankings:

Houston's Top Exports: fuel, industrial machinery, organic chemicals, plastics, cereals, electric machinery, vehicles and parts, miscellaneous chemicals, scientific equipment, cotton, iron and steel, rubber, aircraft and parts, inorganic chemicals, beverages, oil seeds, animal and vegetable fats, tools, meat, soap and waxes, pharmaceuticals, perfumes, cosmetics, paper products, ores

Houston's Top Imports: fuel, industrial machinery, iron or steel, electric machinery, organic chemicals, vehicles and parts, plastics, miscellaneous chemicals, beverages, scientific equipment, inorganic chemicals, rubber, furniture, aluminum products, copper products, gums and resins, ceramic products, textiles, coffee, tea and spices, fruit and nuts, perfumes, cosmetics, toys, games, sport equipment, wood

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Significance of Crude Oil to U.S. Customs Districts (as of Nov '11 YTD)					
Current Rank	Rank w/o Crude	District	Total Trade*	Crude Trade*	Crude as % of Total
1	2	New York City	\$357.0	\$24.4	6.8%
2	1	Los Angeles	\$356.0	\$16.7	4.7%
3	4	Houston	\$244.2	\$73.3	30.0%
4	3	Detroit	\$223.6	\$4.3	1.9%
5	5	New Orleans	\$213.5	\$57.1	26.7%
6	6	Chicago	\$161.0	\$17.9	11.1%
7	8	Seattle	\$117.0	\$7.9	6.8%
8	7	Savannah	\$115.4	\$0.3	0.3%
9	10	San Francisco	\$109.3	\$11.4	10.4%
10	9	Miami	\$103.1	\$0.0	0.02%

* Billions

Source: Greater Houston Partnership analysis based on U.S. Census Bureau data

- New Records at HAS** — The Houston Airport System set a new record for international traffic in '11 with 8.6 million international passengers, an increase of 1.5 percent from 8.5 million in '10. Growth in international passenger traffic occurred in all markets except Mexico, where ridership fell 3.7 percent. The strongest increase in service was recorded for the Middle East, up 22.9 percent, followed by Asia/Africa/Australia, up 10.1 percent, Canada, up 5.6 percent, Central/South America, up 3.2 percent, and Europe, up 1.0 percent.

Total HAS passenger traffic rose by 0.9 percent from 49.5 million in '10 to 50.0 million in '11. Domestic passenger traffic, which accounts for 82.7 percent of all passenger traffic, grew at a slower rate than international, increasing 0.8 percent from 41.0 million passengers in '10 to 41.3 million passengers in '11. All growth in domestic traffic occurred at Hobby Airport, which handled 9.8 million passengers last year, an 8.7 percent increase from the previous year. Domestic traffic at Bush Intercontinental fell 1.5 percent to 31.5 million passengers in '11.

SUMMARY HOUSTON AIRPORT ACTIVITY			
	Calendar '11	Calendar '10	Percent Change
Total passengers	49,972,043	49,533,571	0.9%
<i>Domestic passengers</i>	41,334,711	41,025,693	0.8%
<i>International passengers</i>	8,637,332	8,507,878	1.5%
Landings and Takeoffs	854,222	851,454	0.3%
Air cargo (metric tons)	423,181,000	400,316,000	5.7%

Source: Houston Airport System

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- **Home Sales Continue to Improve** — The Houston residential real estate market finished the year with increases in total sales, single-family sales, dollar volume, average sales prices and median sales prices. The inventory of single-family homes on the market now stands at 5.8 months, meaning it would take that many months to deplete current inventory based on sales activity over the prior 12 months. Over the last decade, December inventory has ranged from 5.0 to 7.2 months, averaging 5.7 months.

SUMMARY HOUSTON RESIDENTIAL SALES ACTIVITY '11 vs. '10			
	Full-Year '11	Full-Year '10	Percent Change
Total sales	63,610	61,005	4.3%
Total dollar volume	\$13,012,903,352	\$12,364,327,660	5.2%
Single-family sales	53,606	51,556	4.0%
Average price*	\$213,723	\$211,765	0.9%
Median price*	\$155,000	\$153,990	0.7%

* Single-family homes.

Source: Houston Association of Realtors®.

Looking back, it appears the market peaked in February '07 at 88,504 units, plummeted for 30 months, received a temporary respite that peaked in June '10 from the First Time Homebuyers Tax Credit, then continued to correct, not hitting bottom until June '11. Starting in July '11, the Houston Association of Realtors Multiple Listing Service recorded six consecutive months of overall sales growth. Single-family homes sales actually started to improve a month earlier.

- **Real Estate Moving from Recovery to Expansion** — The performance of Houston's office, industrial and retail markets surpassed expectations in '11. This was primarily due to strong job growth and the expansion or relocation of several companies into the region.
 - **Office** – According to CBRE, over 3 million square feet of office space was absorbed in '11 and overall vacancy dropped from 16.3 percent in '10 to 15.0 percent in '11. Class A office space experienced the greatest positive absorption and rental rates are expected to increase in the beginning of '12 due to the lack of available space, particularly in downtown.
 - **Industrial** – Houston's industrial market experienced a 450 percent growth in new construction, from 726,938 square feet at the end of '10 to 4.1 million square feet at the end of '11. This increase is largely the result of build-to-suit projects for expanding and relocated companies to the Houston region. Overall

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vacancy dropped from 6.5 percent in 4Q10 to 5.6 percent in 4Q11. Absorption also improved with 3.8 million square feet positive net absorption, up from 3.5 million square feet in '10.

- **Retail** – Absorption reached 955,716 square feet in '11, the largest amount since '07. Occupancy grew to 92.2 percent, up from 91.8 percent in '10. Year-end new construction delivered 954,706 square feet in '11, up from '10 but significantly less than the previous peak of 7.5 million square feet in '09. Around 615,725 square feet is under construction and expected to be added throughout '12. CBRE reports that retail developers are finding it challenging to secure affordable financing and many are required to meet higher pre-leasing requirements set by lenders.

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Houston: The Economy at a Glance.

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The Key Economic Indicators table is updated **whenever any data change** — typically, 11 or so times per month. If you would like to receive those updates by e-mail, usually accompanied by commentary, please email your request for **Key Economic Indicators** to dmorrow@houston.org with the same identifying information.

You may request **Glance** and **Indicators** in the same email.

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Houston Economic Indicators

A Service of the Greater Houston Partnership

	Month	MONTHLY DATA			YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL OR YTD AVERAGE*		
		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	4,017,421	3,969,364	1.2	51,527,823	50,442,311	2.2
CONSTRUCTION							
Total Building Contracts (\$, Houston MSA)	Dec '11	684,033,000	507,796,000	34.7	8,436,298,000	8,068,006,000	4.6
Nonresidential	Dec '11	334,610,000	220,802,000	51.5	3,354,865,000	3,224,431,000	4.0
Residential	Dec '11	349,423,000	286,994,000	21.8	5,081,433,000	4,843,575,000	4.9
Building Permits (\$, City of Houston)	Dec '11	331,128,164	255,059,909	29.8	3,653,176,019	3,175,436,639	15.0
Nonresidential	Dec '11	195,334,931	197,213,973	-1.0	2,429,652,877	2,212,942,871	9.8
New Nonresidential	Dec '11	64,003,147	92,745,492	-31.0	1,021,522,318	843,056,931	21.2
Nonresidential Additions/Alterations/Conversions	Dec '11	131,331,784	104,468,481	25.7	1,408,130,559	1,369,885,940	2.8
Residential	Dec '11	135,793,233	57,845,936	134.7	1,223,523,142	962,493,768	27.1
New Residential	Dec '11	118,530,457	44,641,115	165.5	1,010,457,924	738,075,304	36.9
Residential Additions/Alterations/Conversions	Dec '11	17,262,776	13,204,821	30.7	213,065,218	224,418,464	-5.1
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							
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	24,241	21,585	12.3	46,424	41,311	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

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Sources

Rig Count	Baker Hughes Incorporated	Port Shipments	Port of Houston Authority
Spot WTI, Spot Natural Gas	U.S. Energy Information Agency	Aviation	Aviation Department, City of Houston
Houston Purchasing Managers Index	National Association of Purchasing Management – Houston, Inc.	Car and Truck Sales	<i>TexAuto Facts Report</i> , InfoNation, Inc., Sugar Land TX
Electricity	CenterPoint Energy	Retail Sales	Texas Comptroller's Office
Building Construction Contracts	McGraw-Hill Construction	Consumer Price Index	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
City of Houston Building Permits	Building Permit Department, City of Houston	Hotels	PKF Consulting/Hospitality Asset Advisors International
MLS Data	Houston Association of Realtors®	Postings, Foreclosures	Foreclosure Information & Listing Service
Employment, Unemployment	Texas Workforce Commission		

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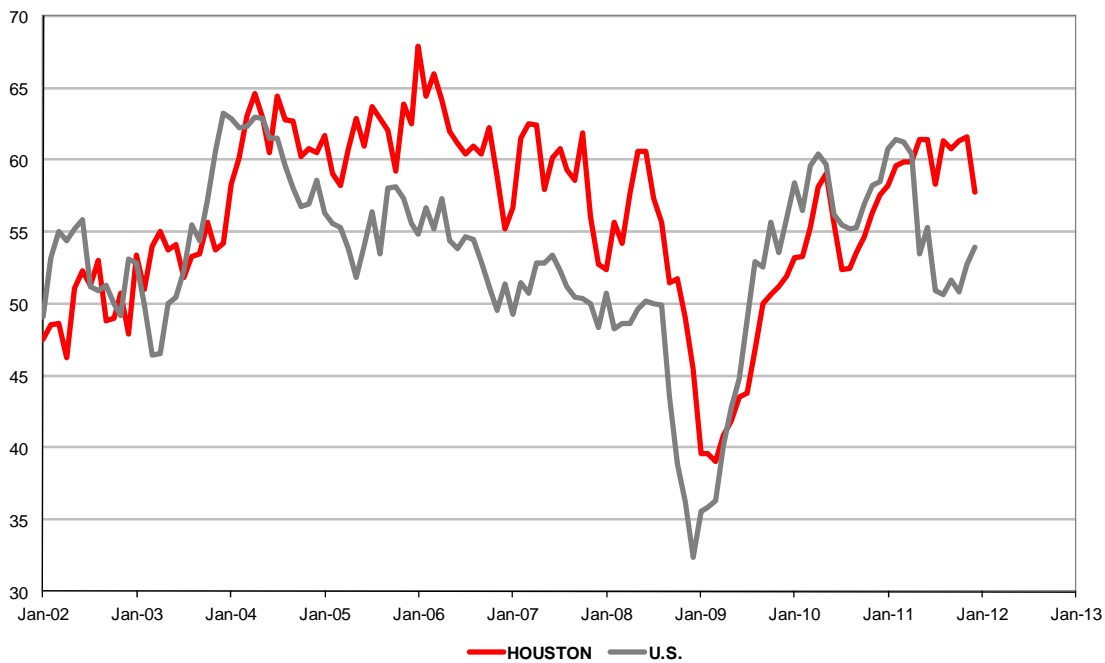
HOUSTON MSA NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT (000)

	Dec '11	Nov '11	Dec '10	Change from		% Change from	
				Nov '11	Dec '10	Nov '11	Dec '10
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	2,643.0	2,643.5	2,567.2	-0.5	75.8	0.0	3.0
Total Private	2,261.7	2,261.4	2,182.2	0.3	79.5	0.0	3.6
Goods Producing	499.0	501.4	475.8	-2.4	23.2	-0.5	4.9
Service Providing	2,144.0	2,142.1	2,091.4	1.9	52.6	0.1	2.5
Private Service Providing	1,762.7	1,760.0	1,706.4	2.7	56.3	0.2	3.3
Mining and Logging	93.6	92.9	83.5	0.7	10.1	0.8	12.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	50.3	49.9	46.7	0.4	3.6	0.8	7.7
Support Activities for Mining	39.6	39.4	35.6	0.2	4.0	0.5	11.2
Construction	175.2	178.1	173.6	-2.9	1.6	-1.6	0.9
Manufacturing	230.2	230.4	218.7	-0.2	11.5	-0.1	5.3
Durable Goods Manufacturing	150.6	150.9	141.7	-0.3	8.9	-0.2	6.3
Nondurable Goods Manufacturing	79.6	79.5	77.0	0.1	2.6	0.1	3.4
Wholesale Trade	136.8	136.6	132.4	0.2	4.4	0.1	3.3
Retail Trade	280.2	279.0	273.4	1.2	6.8	0.4	2.5
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	126.3	124.0	127.7	2.3	-1.4	1.9	-1.1
Utilities	17.2	17.1	16.2	0.1	1.0	0.6	6.2
Air Transportation	24.3	24.2	23.7	0.1	0.6	0.4	2.5
Truck Transportation	21.4	21.4	20.7	0.0	0.7	0.0	3.4
Pipeline Transportation	10.6	10.4	10.2	0.2	0.4	1.9	3.9
Balance, incl Warehousing, Water & Rail Transport	52.8	50.9	56.9	1.9	-4.1	3.7	-7.2
Information	29.5	29.6	31.3	-0.1	-1.8	-0.3	-5.8
Telecommunications	15.0	15.1	16.0	-0.1	-1.0	-0.7	-6.3
Finance & Insurance	89.4	88.9	87.2	0.5	2.2	0.6	2.5
Real Estate & Rental and Leasing	48.3	48.4	48.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.2
Professional & Business Services	385.9	385.6	366.2	0.3	19.7	0.1	5.4
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	184.2	183.3	176.0	0.9	8.2	0.5	4.7
Legal Services	23.1	23.0	23.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0
Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping	18.3	17.6	18.0	0.7	0.3	4.0	1.7
Architectural, Engineering & Related Services	59.3	59.6	58.7	-0.3	0.6	-0.5	1.0
Computer Systems Design & Related Services	26.1	26.2	25.4	-0.1	0.7	-0.4	2.8
Admin & Support/Waste Mgt & Remediation	181.8	182.8	169.8	-1.0	12.0	-0.5	7.1
Administrative & Support Services	169.7	170.5	161.5	-0.8	8.2	-0.5	5.1
Employment Services	62.2	62.9	61.2	-0.7	1.0	-1.1	1.6
Educational Services	44.2	44.5	43.4	-0.3	0.8	-0.7	1.8
Health Care & Social Assistance	280.5	280.0	269.7	0.5	10.8	0.2	4.0
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	25.4	25.7	25.6	-0.3	-0.2	-1.2	-0.8
Accommodation & Food Services	217.8	219.6	208.9	-1.8	8.9	-0.8	4.3
Other Services	98.4	98.1	92.4	0.3	6.0	0.3	6.5
Government	381.3	382.1	385.0	-0.8	-3.7	-0.2	-1.0
Federal Government	27.3	27.4	27.7	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	-1.4
State Government	71.1	71.5	71.7	-0.4	-0.6	-0.6	-0.8
State Government Educational Services	37.1	37.6	37.7	-0.5	-0.6	-1.3	-1.6
Local Government	282.9	283.2	285.6	-0.3	-2.7	-0.1	-0.9
Local Government Educational Services	195.5	196.0	199.8	-0.5	-4.3	-0.3	-2.2

SOURCE: Texas Workforce Commission

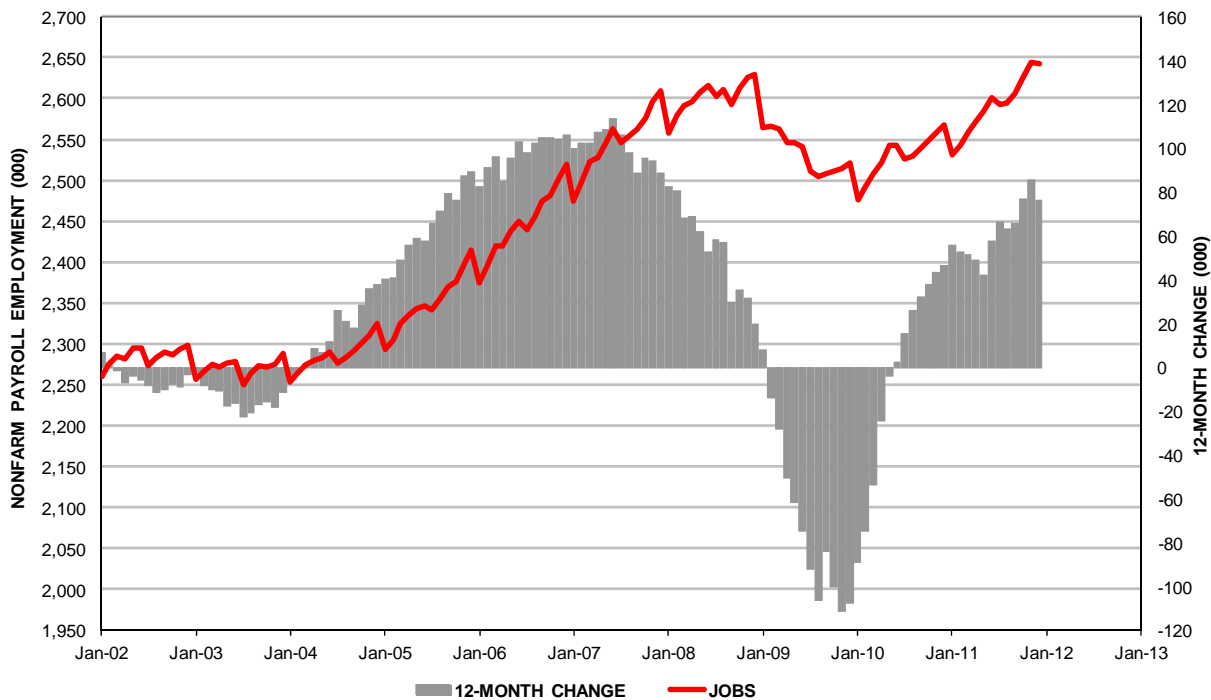
HOUSTON—THE ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

PURCHASING MANAGERS INDEX HOUSTON & U.S. 2002-2012



Source: National Association for Purchasing Management - Houston, Inc.

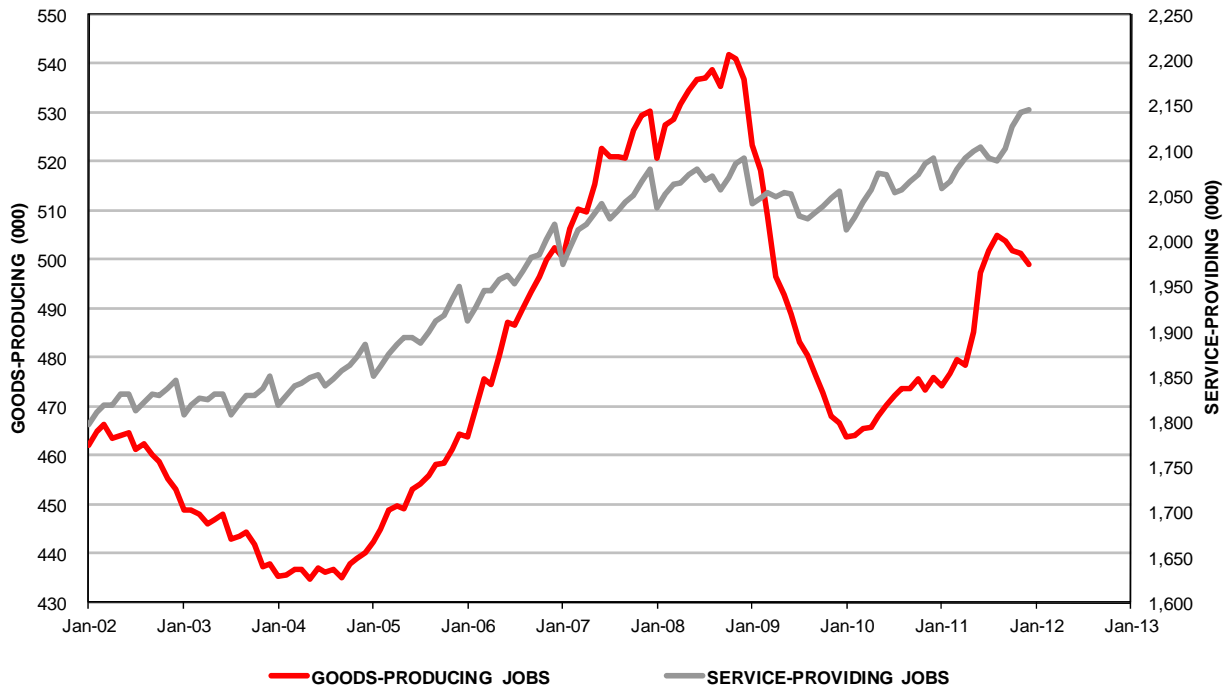
HOUSTON MSA EMPLOYMENT 2002-2012



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

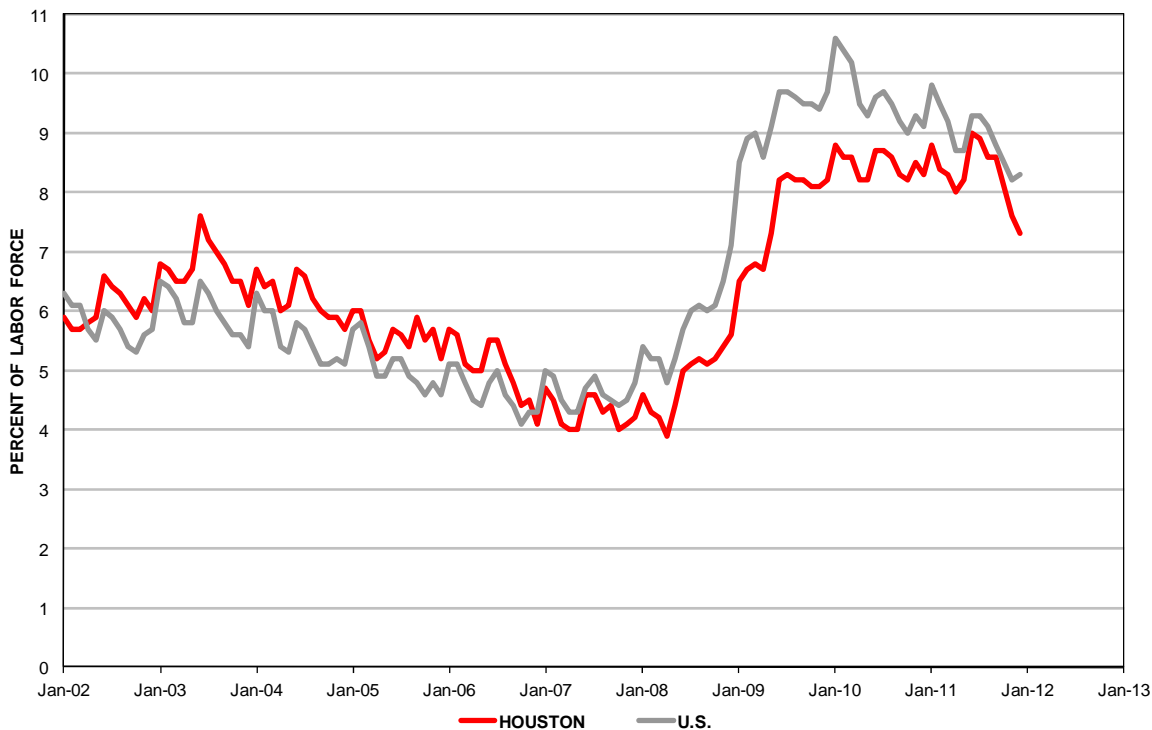
HOUSTON—THE ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

GOODS-PRODUCING AND SERVICE-PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT HOUSTON MSA 2002-2012



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

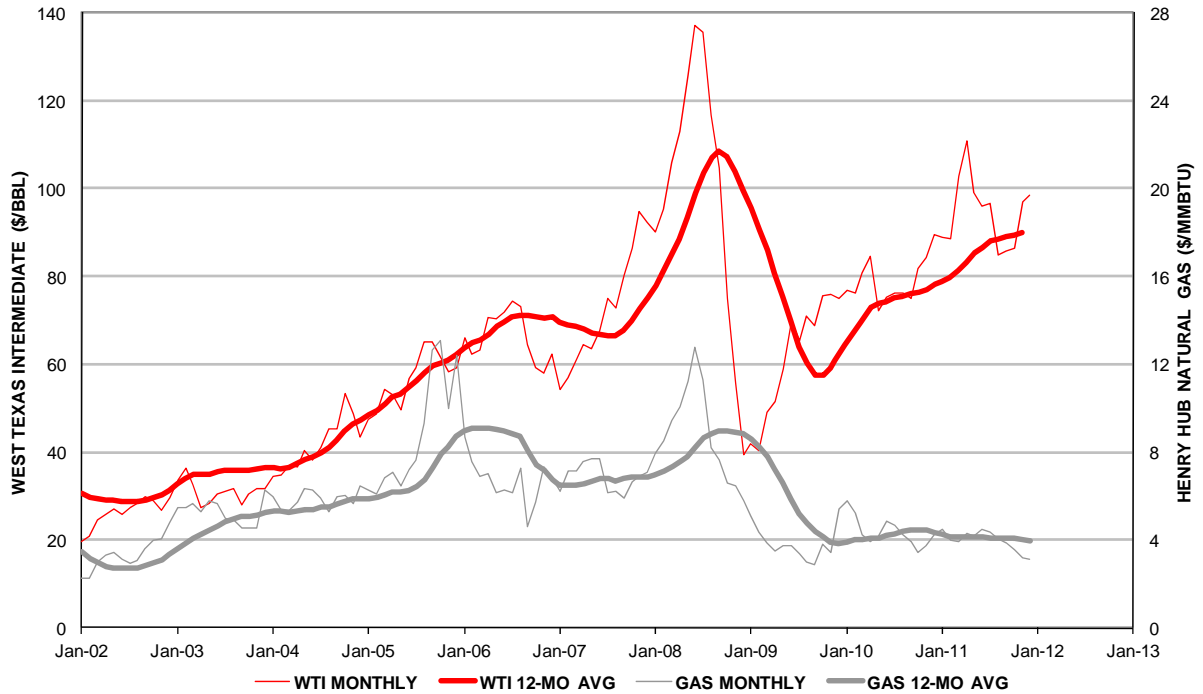
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HOUSTON & U.S. 2002-2012



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

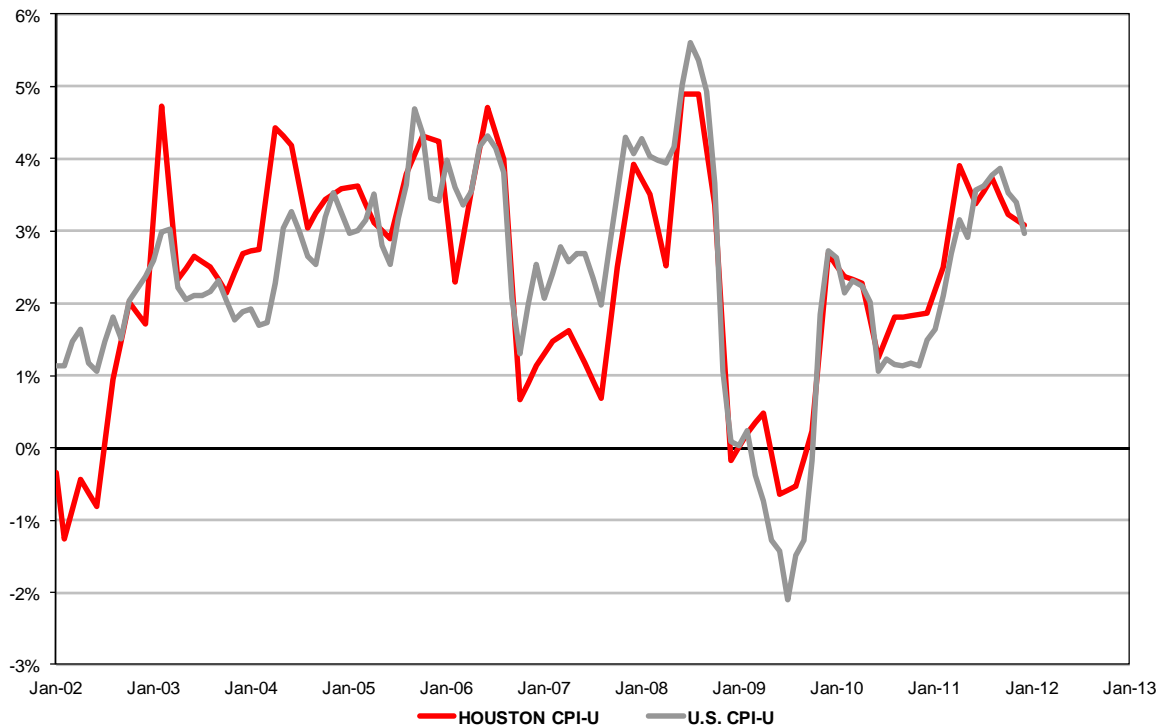
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SPOT MARKET ENERGY PRICES 2002 - 2012



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

INFLATION: 12-MONTH CHANGE 2002-2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics