

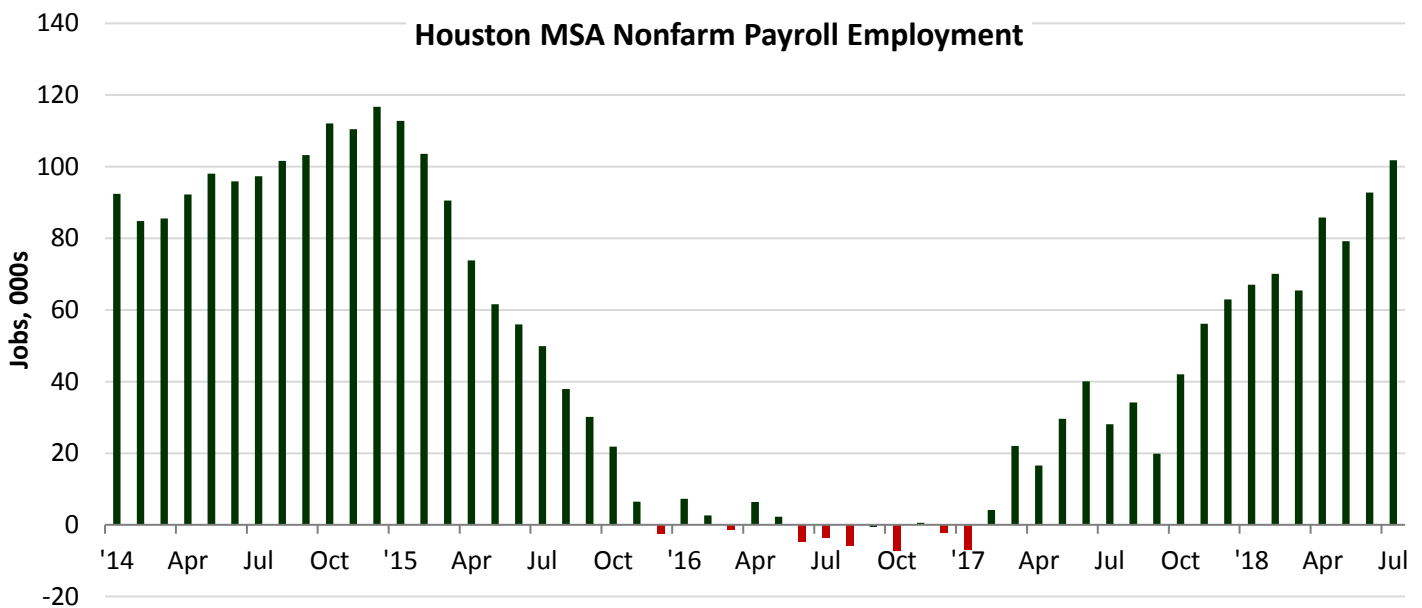


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August 17, 2018

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Metro Houston created 101,800 jobs, a 3.4 percent increase, in the 12 months ending July '18. That's the strongest 12-month pace since February '15 when the economy, though entering a downturn, had momentum from the four previous years of frenetic growth.



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

A few items of note:

- The construction sector has added 25,500 jobs over the past 12 months, an 11.9 percent increase. Much of the growth is due to Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts.
- Administrative and support services, (*i.e.*, contract workers, security guards, janitorial, landscaping, office support), added 22,400 jobs, a 10.8 percent increase. The sector is benefiting from industries relying more heavily on contract workers.
- Professional, scientific, and tech services added 17,600 jobs, an 8.0 percent bump. The sector, which includes law, accounting, engineering, computer systems, and business services, is benefitting from the overall pick up in business activity.

- Wholesale and retail trade have combined to add 13,000 jobs since July '17, a 2.7 percent increase. One in every 6.4 workers in the region is employed in one of these two sectors. Wholesale trade is benefitting from an increase in foreign trade and local manufacturing activity, especially the production of oil field equipment. Retail trade is benefitting from the resurgent economy and growing consumer confidence.

<b>CHANGE IN PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT – July '17 to July '18</b>		
<b>Houston Metro Area</b>		
	<b># Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Total Nonfarm	101,800	3.4
Total Private	100,500	3.8
Goods Producing	33,400	6.5
Mining and Logging	1,400	1.8
Oil and Gas Extraction	-1,500	-4.0
Support Activities for Mining	3,100	7.9
Construction	25,500	11.9
Manufacturing	6,500	2.9
Durable Goods	6,700	4.8
Non-Durable Goods	-200	-0.2
Service Providing	68,400	2.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	15,300	2.5
Retail Trade	8,000	2.6
Wholesale Trade	5,000	3.0
Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	2,300	1.6
Information	-1,000	-3.1
Financial Activities	3,200	2.0
Finance and Insurance	-100	-0.1
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	3,300	5.6
Professional and Business Services	40,900	8.5
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	17,600	8.0
Administrative and Support and Waste Management	22,600	10.3
Educational and Health Services	5,600	1.5
Educational Services	1,200	2.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	4,400	1.3
Leisure and Hospitality	2,600	0.8
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	100	0.3
Accommodation and Food Services	2,500	0.9
Other Services	500	0.5
Government	1,300	0.3
Source: Texas Workforce Commission		

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