THE ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

HOUSTON



A publication of the Greater Houston Partnership

Volume 32 Number 4 - April 2024

Table of Contents	
Population Growth	1
Corporate Relocations	4
Housing Affordability	5
Benchmark Revisions	5
Key Economic Indicators	7
Houston Employment Data	8

POPULATION GROWTH

Houston added nearly 140,000 residents in '23, second among U.S. metros in population growth. The increase equates to a new resident every 3.8 minutes. Since '20 when COVID-19 constrained population growth, the region has added over 340,000 residents. Population in the 10-county region now exceeds that of 37 states and the District of Columbia.

POPULATION GAINS, '04 - '23 METRO HOUSTON

	•		
Year	000s	Year	000s
'04	96.9	'14	172.0
'05	101.4	'15	171,7
'06	190.0	'16	134.7
'07	108.8	'17	93.6
'08	127.1	'18	76.1
'09	144.5	'19	90.0
'10	171.8	′20	74.6
'11	108.8	'21	76.1
'12	127.1	'22	125.3
'13	144.7	′23	139.8

Note: Population gains are for the 12 months ending July 1 each year. Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Houston ranked second in numeric gains behind Dallas-Fort Worth and tied the metroplex in percent growth. The nation's three most populous metros, New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago, saw their populations shrink. Only six of the nation's major metros—Atlanta, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, Miami, Phoenix, and Tampa—registered significant gains.

Rankings Shift

Atlanta overtook Philadelphia and Washington, DC, becoming the nation's sixth most populous metro area. Houston has a lock on fifth place. Its population is growing faster than Atlanta's but not as fast as Dallas-Fort Worth's.

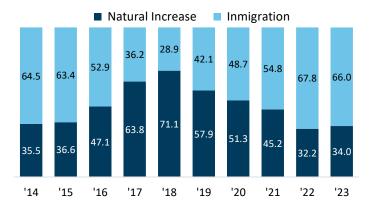
NET GAINS/LOSSES, MOST POPULOUS U.S. METROS

David		Population	Change, '22 - '23	
Rank	Metro	as of 7/1/23	#	%
1	New York	19,498,249	-65,549	-0.3
2	Los Angeles	12,799,100	-71,037	-0.6
3	Chicago	9,262,825	-16,602	-0.2
4	Dallas-Fort Worth	8,100,037	152,598	+1.9
5	Houston	7,510,253	139,789	+1.9
6	Atlanta	6,307,261	68,585	+1.1
7	Washington, DC	6,304,975	39,084	+0.6
8	Philadelphia	6,246,160	3,414	+0.1
9	Miami	6,183,199	43,387	+0.7
10	Phoenix	5,070,110	49,240	+1.0
11	Boston	4,919,179	16,153	+0.3
12	Riverside	4,688,053	18,904	+0.4
13	San Francisco	4,566,961	-11,174	-0.2
14	Detroit	4,342,304	-6,332	-0.1
15	Seattle	4,044,837	12,595	+0.3
16	Minneapolis	3,712,020	20,354	+0.6
17	Tampa	3,342,963	51,622	+1.6
18	San Diego	3,269,973	-7,203	-0.2
19	Denver	3,005,131	18,941	+0.6
20	Baltimore	2,834,316	-497	0.0

Source: Partnership calculations based in U.S. Census Bureau data

Houston's gains came from two sources—the natural increase and net inmigration. The natural increase reflects births minus deaths in the region. Net inmigration includes people who moved into Houston minus those who moved out. Two-thirds of Houston's gains came from net inmigration and one-third from the natural increase. The ratio frequently shifts, with inmigration accounting for a larger share of population growth when the region's economy booms (like last year) and a smaller share when it struggles (like '17 and '18).

SHARE OF METRO POPULATION GAINS OVER TIME (%)



Source: Partnership calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau data

Net Inmigration

Metro Houston ranked second in net inmigration among all metros in '23. Nine of the nation's 20 largest had negative inmigration, *i.e.*, more residents moved out than moved into those regions. New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago, the worst performers, lost a combined 270,000 residents to outmigration. Gains from the natural increase weren't enough to offset these losses and all three saw their populations shrink in '23.

'23 NET MIGRATION, 20 MOST POPULOUS METROS

Metro	Gain/Loss	Metro	Gain/Loss
Dallas-Ft Worth	101,419	Riverside	3,012
Houston	92,198	Seattle	-1,099
Tampa	54,660	Baltimore	-5,714
Atlanta	42,512	Philadelphia	-6,630
Phoenix	35,892	Detroit	-7,979
Miami	32,663	San Diego	-19,978
Denver	6,913	San Francisco	-23,654
Washington	6,508	Chicago	-36,706
Boston	6,348	Los Angeles	-101,387
Minneapolis	5,703	New York	-133,571

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Net migration has two components, *domestic* and *international*. Domestic reflects the population moving from within the United States; international reflects the residents arriving from abroad. International migration includes ex-pat workers called home from overseas, foreign workers assigned to multinational companies here, military personnel redeployed stateside, international students enrolling at local universities, temporary workers on H1-B and H2-B visas, refugees placed in the city by relief agencies, and immigrants (documented and undocumented) who left their homelands for better lives in America.

Only five major metros gained population via domestic migration. The remainder saw more residents move out than move in from elsewhere in the U.S. Metro Houston performed well, however, ranking second for positive domestic migration.

'23 DOMESTIC MIGRATION, 20 MOST POPULOUS METROS

Metro	Gain/Loss	Metro	Gain/Loss
Dallas-Ft Worth	60,457	Philadelphia	-23,102
Houston	39,644	Seattle	-25,109
Tampa	35,830	San Diego	-30,745
Phoenix	19,642	Boston	-33,604
Atlanta	18,386	Washington	-41,082
Denver	-1,014	San Francisco	-54,160
Riverside	-3,577	Miami	-62,062
Minneapolis	-4,917	Chicago	-71,310
Baltimore	-15,008	Los Angeles	-154,634
Detroit	-21,764	New York	-238,494

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Houston ranked third for international migration, behind New York and Miami. All 20 of the nation's major metros benefitted from international migration.

'23 INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION, MOST POPULOUS METROS

Metro	Gain/Loss	Metro	Gain/Loss
New York	104,923	Seattle	24,010
Miami	94,725	Tampa	18,830
Los Angeles	53,247	Philadelphia	16,472
Houston	52,554	Phoenix	16,250
Washington	47,590	Detroit	13,785
Dallas-Ft Worth	40,962	San Diego	10,767
Boston	39,952	Minneapolis	10,620
Chicago	34,604	Baltimore	9,294
San Francisco	30,506	Denver	7,927
Atlanta	24,126	Riverside	6,589
Carrage II C Carrage	D		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

International migration accounted for 57.0 percent of Houston's net migration and 37.6 percent of overall population gains. International migration remains essential for Houston's growth. According to the 2022 American Community Survey (latest demographics available):

- 23.9 percent of the metro population is foreign-born,
- 29.4 percent of the civilian labor force is foreign-born,
- The foreign-born unemployment rate was 4.3 percent in '22, native-born was 5.4 percent,
- A recent study by the Partnership found foreign-born migration accounted for 27.1 percent of the increase in the region's gross domestic product since '17.

Natural Increase

Metro Houston ranked third, behind New York and Dallas-Fort Worth, in residents gained through the natural increase. Houston logged approximately 96,000 births and 48,000 deaths over the 12 months ending July 1, 2023. That reflects a slight uptick in births and downtick in deaths from the previous year, both influenced by the wanning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Only one major metro, Tampa, with its large retiree population, logged a negative natural increase.

'23 NET NATURAL INCREASE, MOST POPULOUS METROS

Metro	Gain/Loss	Metro	Gain/Loss
New York	68,900	Phoenix	13,230
Dallas-Ft Worth	51,377	San Diego	12,882
Houston	47,653	San Francisco	12,550
Washington	32,581	Denver	12,089
Los Angeles	30,274	Miami	10,878
Atlanta	26,132	Philadelphia	10,264
Chicago	20,090	Boston	9,702
Riverside	15,663	Baltimore	5,208
Minneapolis	14,810	Detroit	1,503
Seattle	13,847	Tampa	-3,065

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Harris County led the nation in population growth last year, adding 53,788 residents. Collin County near Dallas ranked second with 36,364 residents and Montgomery County third with 31,800. Fort Bend County ranked seventh with 27,859.

Harris County's top ranking doesn't tell the full story, however. Harris lost 22,792 residents to domestic outmigration last year. That was the 13th-worst performance in the nation. If not for the high number of births inside the county—65,450 last year—Harris would have plummeted in the growth rankings taking the Houston metro area with it. Harris ranked second only to Los Angeles County (95,354) in births. Even with that high level, the Los Angeles metro area saw its population shrink by over 71,000 residents last year.

A Closer Look at Houston

The population estimates for '23 reflect the new geography for Houston. In the fall, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) added San Jacinto County to the metro area, dropped "Sugar Land" from the name, and added "Pasadena." The region's official name is now the Houston-Pasadena-The Woodlands Metro Area.

CHANGE IN METRO POPULATION, 7/1/22 - 7/1/23

		Change	
County	'23 Pop.	Residents	%
Harris	4,835,125	53,788	1.1
Fort Bend	916,778	27,859	3.1
Montgomery	711,354	31,800	4.7
Brazoria	398,938	10,704	2.8
Galveston	361,744	4,357	1.2
Liberty	108,272	5,810	5.7
Chambers	53,876	2,567	5.0
Waller	53,553	1,701	2.8
Austin	31,677	607	2.0
San Jacinto	28,340	596	2.1
Total	7,510,253	139,789	1.9

^{*} Components may not sum properly due to rounding errors and residual values.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Every county in the metro area gained population in '23. Chambers, Liberty, and Montgomery grew the fastest. Fort Bend, Harris, and Montgomery added the most residents. The latter three accounted for 81.1 percent of the region's gains in '23.

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION GROWTH, 7/1/22 - 7/1/23

		, ,	, ,, -
County	Net Change	Natural Increase	Net Migration
Austin	607	47	562
Brazoria	10,704	1,875	8,843
Chambers	2,567	217	2,362
Fort Bend	27,859	5,389	22,591
Galveston	4,357	882	3,493
Harris	53,788	34,695	18,873
Liberty	5,810	400	5,447
Montgomery	31,800	4,011	27,866
San Jacinto	596	-142	740
Waller	1,701	279	1,421

^{*} Columns and rows may not sum evenly due to rounding errors and residual values.

Source: Partnership calculations based in U.S. Census Bureau data

The region's population continues shifting to the suburbs. Harris County now accounts for less than two-thirds (64.4 percent) of the region's population. Twenty years ago, Harris accounted for 70.8 percent.

For an eighth consecutive year, domestic migration was negative for Harris County in '23. Nearly 23,000 more people moved out of Harris than moved in from elsewhere in the U.S. Harris has lost 247,000 residents to outmigration over the past eight years.

If not for international migration, total migration into Harris would have been negative last year. Four out of every five international migrants to Houston settled in the county. Since '16, over 232,000 international migrants have done so.

Since '16, domestic migration for Brazoria, Fort Bend, and Montgomery has topped 275,000. This includes residents moving to the suburbs from Harris and others who moved here from other U.S. metros and settled in the suburbs.

SUBCOMPONENTS OF METRO HOUSTON POPULATION GROWTH, 7/1/22 TO 7/1/23

	Natural Ir	Natural Increase		ation
County	Births	Deaths	International	Domestic
Austin	390	343	3	559
Brazoria	4,834	2,959	955	7,888
Chambers	611	394	89	2,273
Fort Bend	9,567	4,178	6,834	15,757
Galveston	4,053	3,171	505	2,988
Harris	65,450	30,755	41,665	-22,792
Liberty	1,415	1,015	52	5,395
Montgomery	8,570	4,559	2,365	25,501
San Jacinto	307	449	3	737
Waller	761	482	83	1,338
Total	95,958	48,305	52,554	39,644

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding errors and residual values. Source: Partnership calculations based in U.S. Census Bureau data

A Look Elsewhere

Twenty-two of Texas' 25 metro areas added population in '23, Dallas-Fort Worth gaining the most residents and El Paso growing at the fastest rate.

POPULATION GROWTH, MAJOR TEXAS METROS

I OI OLATION O		LVVV2 IAIT LIVE	,,	
Metro	Population as of 7/1/23	Change, '22 #	2 - '23 %	
Dallas-Fort Worth	8,100,037	152,598	1.9	
Houston	7,510,253	139,789	1.9	
San Antonio	2,703,999	48,071	1.8	
Austin	2,473,275	50,105	2.1	
McAllen	898,471	10,185	1.1	
El Paso	873,331	2,676	0.3	
Killeen	501,333	6,884	1.4	
Corpus Christi	448,323	1,683	0.4	
Brownsville	426,710	1,799	0.4	
Beaumont	395,479	990	0.3	
Lubbock	360,104	3,315	0.9	
Waco	304,865	3,040	1.0	
Longview	293,498	2,923	1.0	
College Station	281,445	3,694	1.3	

Source: Partnership calculations based in U.S. Census Bureau data

CORPORATE RELOCATIONS AND EXPANSIONS

Metro Houston ranked third among the nation's major metros for new and expanded facilities in '23, according to *Site Selection* magazine, which produced the rankings as part of the annual "Governor's Cup" competition. The Houston region logged 413 announcements, a substantial increase from the 255 projects charted the year before.

'23 TOP METROS BY NUMBER OF PROJECTS

Rank	Metro	Projects
1	Chicago	485
2	Dallas-Fort Worth	452
3	Houston	413
4	New York	215
5	Atlanta	141
6	Los Angeles	124
7	Phoenix	115
8	Boston	111
9	Indianapolis	109
10	Austin	96

Source: Site Selection Magazine

Site Selection's rankings focus on projects with a significant impact on a region, including headquarters, manufacturing plants, R&D operations, and logistics sites. Retail, government, school, and hospital projects are excluded. Projects in the analyses meet at least one of three criteria: (a) involved a capital investment of at least \$1 million, (b) created at least 20 new jobs, or (c) added at least 20,000 sq. ft. of space.

Larger metros by virtue of their size tend to attract more projects, so *Site Selection* also ranks regions by projects per capita well. Adjusted for population Houston was second, behind Dallas-Ft. Worth and ahead of Indianapolis.

'23 TOP METROS ADJUSTED FOR POPULATION

Rank	Metro	Projects Per 100,000 Residents
1	Dallas-Ft. Worth	58.3
2	Houston	57.3
3	Indianapolis	51.3
4	Chicago	51.0
5	Grand Rapids	45.8
6	Louisville	44.4
7	Austin	40.8
8	Cincinnati	40.3
9	Columbus	40.0
10	Richmond	30.2

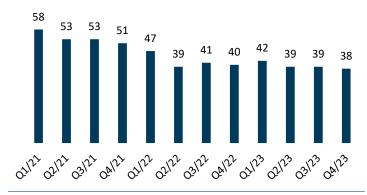
Source: Site Selection Magazine

The state of Texas, with 1,254 projects, earned the top spot in the magazine's state rankings. This was the 12th year in a row that Texas has taken the top spot. Illinois ranked second and Ohio third.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

The dream of homeownership remains elusive for many residents. A recent study by the Houston Association of Realtors found that only 38 percent of Houston households earn enough to qualify for a mortgage on a median-priced home in the region. That's down from 58 percent three years ago.

% HOUSEHOLDS WITH SUFFICIENT INCOME TO PURCHASE MEDIAN-PRICED HOME IN HOUSTON



Source: Houston Association of Realtors

The 38 percent assumes a home priced at \$336,600 (median in Q4/23) and a monthly payment of \$2,460 (includes insurances and taxes). To qualify, a household would need \$98,400 in annual income. That's up from \$94,000 to purchase a median-priced home in Q4/22.

INCOME REQUIRED TO PURCHASE A MEDIAN-PRICED HOME IN HOUSTON

WEDIAN TRICED HOWE IN TIGOSTON						
Date	Median Home Price (\$)	Monthly Payment (\$)	Income Required (\$)			
Q4/23	336,600	2,460	98,400			
Q3/23	348,300	2,400	96,000			
Q2/23	348,300	2,400	96,000			
Q1/23	327,000	2,230	89,200			
Q4/22	337,900	2,350	94,000			
Q3/22	349,500	2,250	90,000			
Q2/22	357,200	2,230	89,200			
Q1/22	330,800	1,840	73,600			
Q4/21	316,900	1,660	66,400			
Q3/21	309,900	1,590	63,600			
Q2/21	307,200	1,600	64,000			
Q1/21	281,800	1,450	58,000			

Source: Houston Association of Realtors

The study breaks down affordability by county in the region as well. It considers the median income in each area and median home prices in the same area and calculates the income necessary to qualify for a home in those areas. Harris County is the least affordable, and Chambers is the most affordable in the metro area.

HOUSTON HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

County	Med. Home Price (\$)	Monthly Payment (\$)	Minimum Income Req. (\$)	Qualifying Households (%)
Harris	322,000	2,780	111,200	29
Austin	282,500	2,200	88,000	41
Brazoria	330,000	2,710	108,400	42
Chambers	327,890	2,570	102,800	52
Fort Bend	388,704	3,170	126,800	40
Galveston	340,645	2,690	107,600	38
Liberty	245,665	1,890	75,600	37
Montgomery	324,217	2,630	105,200	47
San Jacinto	209,375	1,540	61,600	45
Waller	376,490	3,180	127,200	28
Wharton	207,250	1,610	64,400	49

Source: Houston Association of Realtors

Houston is not alone. The study looked at markets across the state and found all major metros face affordability issues.

TEXAS HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

12/3/3/10/10/00/11/01/2/12/12/1						
Metro	Med. Home \$	Monthly Payment \$	Income Required \$	Qualifying HHolds %		
Houston	336,600	2,460	98,400	38		
Austin	466,400	3,410	136,400	30		
Dallas	376,200	2,750	110,000	35		
San Antonio	315,700	2,310	92,400	36		
Texas	334,166	2,440	97,600	36		
U.S.	391,700	2,660	106,400	34		

Source: Houston Association of Realtors

Though home prices have moderated in recent months, interest rates remain elevated. As of late March, the average interest on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 6.79 percent. In March of '23, the average was 6.32.

BENCHMARK REVISIONS

Metro Houston created 102,900 jobs in '23, according to the benchmark revisions released by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The agency, which surveys employers throughout the year for its monthly reports, originally estimated 70,100 jobs for the region in '23. The revisions indicate Houston's economy grew at a more robust pace last year than previously thought.

The adjustments came from the annual benchmark revisions, a review that TWC starts each fall, culminating with the release of updated employment data in March. The job reports that TWC releases throughout the year are based on a sample of area employers responding to the commission's survey. Like all surveys, it's subject to sampling, non-response, and processing errors. The revised job counts are based on unemployment insurance premiums paid by employers, and therefore provide a more accurate picture of job growth or losses.

Most sectors added jobs in '23, underscoring the broad nature of the expansion. The greatest gains were in health care, government (mostly education), and professional services. A few shed jobs: heavy construction (-300), department stores (-500), telecommunications (-500), accounting (-600), and employment services (-7,500).

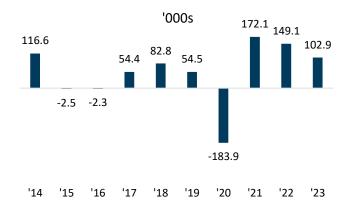
HOUSTON JOB GAINS AND LOSSES, Dec '22 - Dec '23*

Sector	Gains/Losses
Total Nonfarm Employment	102,900
Mining and Logging	4,300
Construction	5,700
Manufacturing	6,200
Durable Goods	5,100
Non-Durable Goods	1,100
Wholesale Trade	4,900
Retail Trade	4,600
Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	2,100
Information	-400
Financial Activities	100
Finance and Insurance	200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	-100
Professional and Business Services	13,800
Professional, Scientific, Technical Services	10,300
Administrative and Support Services	2,400
Private Educational Services	2,600
Health Care and Social Assistance	21,200
Leisure and Hospitality	11,400
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,900
Accommodation	1,100
Food Services and Drinking Places	8,400
Other Services	6,800
Government	19,600
Federal Government	1,200
State Government	4,000
State Educational Services	2,100
Local Government	14,400
Local Educational Services	10,400

Source: Partnership calculations based on Texas Workforce Commission data

Houston has now logged three consecutive years of exceptional job growth. Since the economy reopened in May '20, the region has created 558,500 jobs. Today, payroll employment in Houston is nearly 200,000 jobs above February '20 levels.

ANNUAL JOB GAINS/LOSSES, METRO HOUSTON



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

The revisions also provide insight into how well Houston performed in '23 compared to its peer metros. The data show that Houston ranked first in rate of growth and third in numeric gains among the 20 most populous metros.

20 MOST POPULOUS METROS
Ranked By % Change in Employment, Dec '22 – Dec '23

Ranked by 70 change in Employment, Dec 22 Dec 25						
Metro	Change		Metro	Change		
Wetro	#	%	Metro	#	%	
Houston	102.9	3.1	Atlanta	38.3	1.3	
Phoenix	71.8	3.0	Minneapolis	24.2	1.2	
Miami	84.6	2.9	Seattle	23.3	1.1	
Orlando	42.2	2.9	San Diego	13	0.8	
Tampa	39.1	2.6	Denver	12.9	0.8	
Dallas-Ft Worth	103.2	2.5	Chicago	36.9	0.8	
Riverside	27.5	1.6	Detroit	8.5	0.4	
Washington	51	1.5	Boston	8	0.3	
Philadelphia	45.8	1.5	Los Angeles	9.3	0.1	
New York	130.0	1.3	San Francisco	-0.5	0.0	

Source: Partnership calculations based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data

SAVE THE DATE

On Thursday, May 2, the Greater Houston Partnership will host the State of Houston's Global Economy in the Partnership Tower. The Partnership's Chief Economist, Patrick Jankowski, will present his insights into how the region's international ties impact Houston's economy. To register for the event, go to the Events page at the Partnership's website.

Key Economic Indicators

Clicking on the hyperlinks below will provide additional details on that indicator.



<u>Aviation</u> — The Houston Airport System (HAS) handled 60.4 million passengers in the 12 months ending February '24, up 8.0 percent

from 55.9 million handled over the comparable period in '23. Traffic is above February '20 and pre-pandemic levels.



<u>Employment</u> — Metro Houston created 24,600 jobs in February. That once again puts Houston payroll employment above 3.4 million. It had

briefly dipped in January due to seasonal factors. Since May '20, the region has created over 586,300 jobs, more than Houston typically creates in a decade.



Energy — The Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates U.S. crude production hit 13.1 million barrels per day (b/d)

in February. EIA expects production to grow through the end of the year hitting 13.5 million barrels in December.

West Texas Intermediate (WTI), the U.S. benchmark for light sweet crude, averaged \$77.25 in February, up nominally from \$76.83 in February '23. The agency forecasts WTI to average \$82.50 this year and \$80.30 in '25.

The Baker Hughes domestic rig count averaged 622 in February, down 758 from the same month in '23.



<u>Home Sales</u> — February home sales (single-family, duplexes, townhomes, condos, high-rises) were 7.0 percent above last year's level

and mark the second-best February on record. Single-family home sales, which account for over 82 percent of all transactions, were up 7.6 percent.

The median price of a single-family home this February was \$329,686, a 3.0 percent increase over February a year ago.

Inventory expanded from a 2.5-month supply last February to a 3.4-month supply this February. A 4.0month supply is considered a balanced market



<u>Inflation</u> — Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 3.2 percent nationwide in the 12

months ending February '24. On a monthly basis, U.S. consumer prices rose 0.4 percent. In Houston, prices rose 3.5 percent over the year and 1.0 percent in the two months ending February '24.



<u>Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)</u> — Houston's economy expanded slightly faster in February than January, with both manufacturing and

non-manufacturing sectors reporting growth. The Houston Purchasing Managers Index rose 1.1 points to 53.7, up from 52.6 the month before. Readings above 50 indicate overall expansion in the economy, below 50, contraction. The overall PMI has tracked above 50 for all but two months since August.



<u>Unemployment</u> — The unemployment rates for metro Houston, Texas, and the nation ticked up in February, according to the Texas Workforce

Commission (TWC). Houston's unemployment rate rose from 4.4 to 4.6 percent, Texas from 4.1 to 4.4 percent, and the U.S. rate from 4.1 to 4.2 percent.

Continued claims filed by workers unemployed for a week or more inched up early in '23, slipped going into the fall, and ticked up again in November and December. The 30,576 claims filed this February reflect a drop of roughly 2,000 claims from this January but an increase over roughly 4,500 over February last year.



<u>Vehicle Sales</u> — Houston-area dealers sold 360,975 cars, trucks, and SUVs in the 12 months ending February '24, a 14.0 percent increase

over the 316,737 sold over the comparable period in '23. Car sales are up 12.9 percent, truck and SUV sales, 14.3 percent. The average retail price for a new vehicle was \$51,329 in February, down 1.8 percent from \$52,284 in February '23.

Patrick Jankowski, Margaret Barrientos, Clara Richardson, and Leta Wauson contributed to this issue of Houston: The Economy at a Glance.

STAY UP TO DATE

For past issues of **Economy at a Glance**, click here.

If you are a not a member of the Greater Houston Partnership and would like to subscribe to **Economy at a Glance**, please click <u>here</u>. For information about joining the Greater Houston Partnership, call Member Engagement at 713-844-3683.

The Partnership sends updates for the most important economic indicators each month. If you would like to opt-in to receive these updates, please click here.

The Partnership also posts short videos updating viewers on the latest U.S. and local economic trends. You can find those videos on the Partnership's LinkedIn page.

HOUSTON MSA NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT (000)							
	Change from				% Change from		
	February 24	January 24	February 23	January 24	February 23	January 24	February 2
Fotal Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	3,418.8	3,394.2	3,339.0	24.6	79.8	0.7	2.
Fotal Private	2,957.5	2,939.9	2,897.3	17.6	60.2	0.6	2.:
Goods Producing	542.5	537.0	534.4	5.5	8.1	1.0	1.5
Service Providing	2,876.3	2,857.2	2,804.6	19.1	71.7	0.7	2.0
Private Service Providing	2,415.0	2,402.9	2,362.9	12.1	52.1	0.5	2.2
Mining and Logging	70.9	71.2	71.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.
Oil & Gas Extraction	31.7	31.9	30.6	-0.2	1.1	-0.6	3.
Support Activities for Mining	37.8	37.8	39.4	0.0	-1.6	0.0	-4.
Construction	234.0	229.5	232.9	4.5	1.1	2.0	0.
Manufacturing	237.6	236.3	230.1	1.3	7.5	0.6	3.
Durable Goods Manufacturing	149.1	147.8	142.2	1.3	6.9	0.9	4.
Nondurable Goods Manufacturing	88.5	88.5	87.9	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.7
Wholesale Trade	178.7	178.3	175.4	0.4	3.3	0.2	1.9
Retail Trade	316.6	319.7	316.6	-3.1	0.0	-1.0	0.0
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	192.8	192.6	188.1	0.2	4.7	0.1	2.5
Utilities	23.3	23.3	20.8	0.0	2.5	0.0	12.
Air Transportation	22.6	22.7	21.8	-0.1	0.8	-0.4	3.
Truck Transportation	30.1	30.2	30.4	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-1.
Pipeline Transportation	14.2	14.2	13.2	0.0	1.0	0.0	7.
Information	32.5	32.7	33.3	-0.2	-0.8	-0.6	-2.
Telecommunications	11.4	11.4	11.8	0.0	-0.4	0.0	-3.
Finance & Insurance	119.6	119.4	119.0	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.
Real Estate & Rental and Leasing	67.3	66.6	67.7	0.7	-0.4	1.1	-0.
Professional & Business Services	560.0	554.6	551.2	5.4	8.8	1.0	1.
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	280.7	278.4	272.2	2.3	8.5	0.8	3.
Legal Services	32.5	32.1	30.8	0.4	1.7	1.2	5.5
Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping	30.3	29.6	30.8	0.7	-0.5	2.4	-1.6
Architectural, Engineering & Related Services	75.4	75.3	71.5	0.1	3.9	0.1	5.5
Computer Systems Design & Related Services	41.6	41.1	42.1	0.5	-0.5	1.2	-1.2
Admin & Support/Waste Mgt & Remediation	232.8	230.1	233.0	2.7	-0.2	1.2	-0.
Administrative & Support Services	220.0	217.3	220.2	2.7	-0.2	1.2	-0.2
Employment Services	79.6	78.0	85.6	1.6	-6.0	2.1	-7.0
Private Educational Services	72.8	71.7	71.7	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.
Health Care & Social Assistance	391.7	388.5	369.4	3.2	22.3	0.8	6.
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	38.5	37.8	35.9	0.7	2.6	1.9	7.
Accommodation & Food Services	314.4	311.2	310.5	3.2	3.9	1.0	1.
Other Services	130.1	129.8	124.1	0.3	6.0	0.2	4.8
Government	461.3	454.3	441.7	7.0	19.6	1.5	4.4
Federal Government	33.9	33.7	32.8	0.2	1.1	0.6	3.
State Government	96.7	96.2	92.7	0.5	4.0	0.5	4.
State Government Educational Services	53.6	53.1	51.5	0.5	2.1	0.9	4.1
Local Government	330.7	324.4	316.2	6.3	14.5	1.9	4.
Local Government Educational Services	230.5	222.3	220.1	8.2	10.4	3.7	4.1

SOURCE: Texas Workforce Commission