

# Houston Area Economic Summary

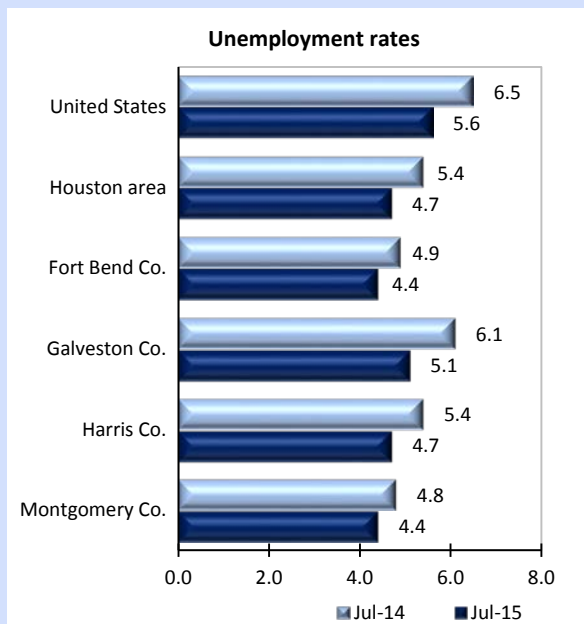


Updated September 01, 2015

[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include **unemployment, employment, wages, prices, spending, and benefits**. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see [www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm](http://www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm).

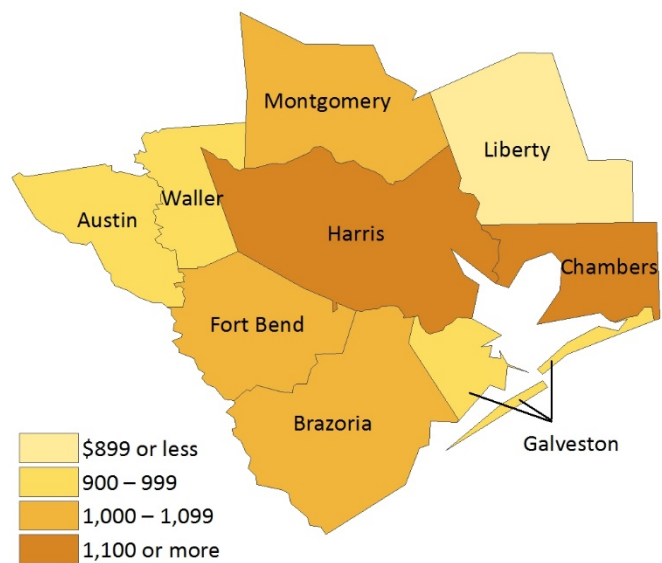
## Unemployment rates for the Houston area, selected area counties, and the nation



Source: U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

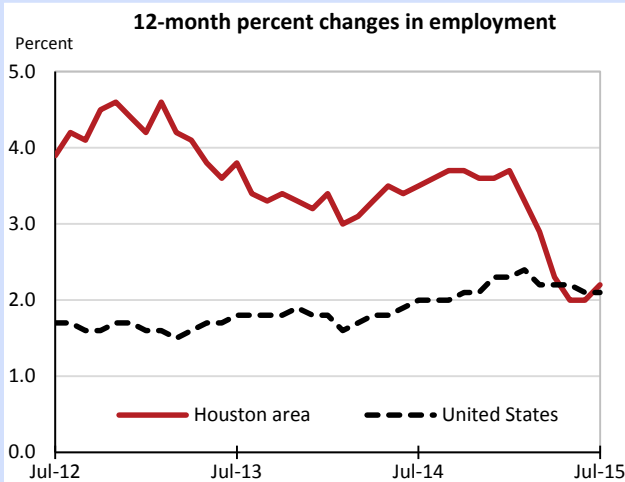
## Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Houston area, 4th quarter 2014  
(U.S. = \$1,035; Area = \$1,300)



Source: U.S. BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

## Over-the-year changes in employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector

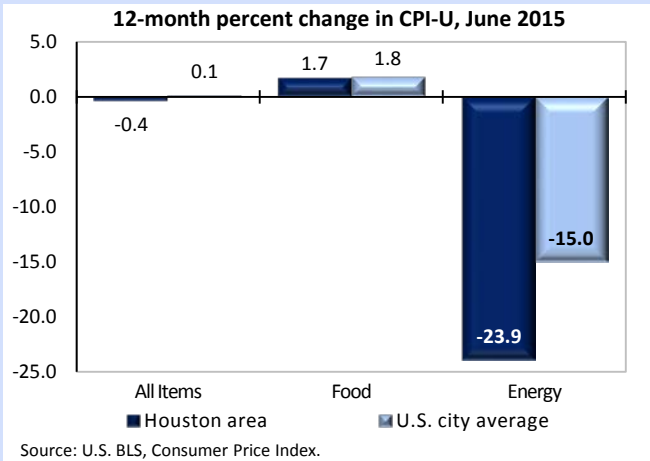


Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

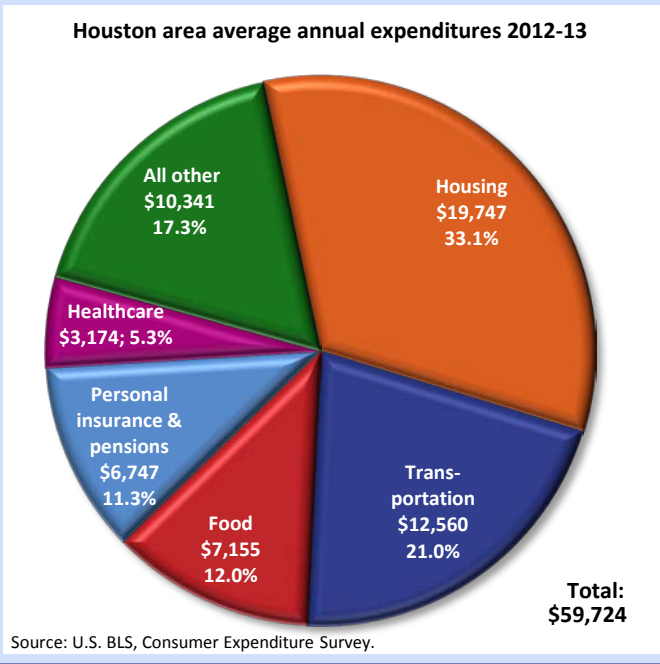
Houston area employment (numbers in thousands)	Jul. 2015	Change from Jul. 2014 to Jul. 2015	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	2,986.2	64.6	2.2
Mining and logging	110.3	-1.1	-1.0
Construction	205.6	2.2	1.1
Manufacturing	249.7	-6.7	-2.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	610.6	13.9	2.3
Information	34.2	1.0	3.0
Financial activities	145.4	-3.3	-2.2
Professional and business services	481.9	14.8	3.2
Education and health services	363.9	15.5	4.4
Leisure and hospitality	311.9	20.3	7.0
Other services	105.9	0.8	0.8
Government	366.8	7.2	2.0

Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

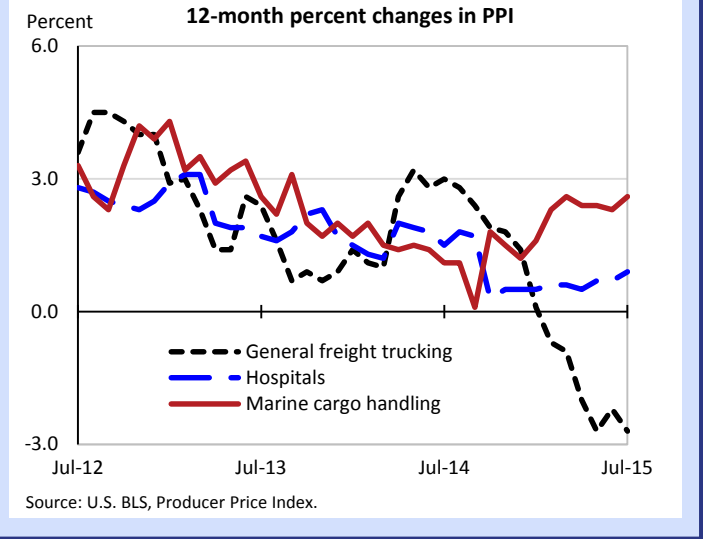
**Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories**



**Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories**



**Over-the-year changes in the selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide**



**Average hourly wages for selected occupations**

Occupation	Houston area	United States
Total, all occupations	\$24.44	\$22.71
Dentists, general	83.10	80.20
Petroleum engineers	80.91	70.92
Human resources managers	62.92	54.88
Computer systems analysts	49.51	41.98
Accountants and auditors	39.99	35.42
Registered nurses	36.30	33.55
Machinists	20.57	19.97
Customer service representatives	15.89	16.29
Medical secretaries	15.51	16.12
Construction laborers	14.46	17.19
Retail salespersons	12.65	12.38
Cooks, fast food	8.50	9.15

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment Statistics, May 2014.

**Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division**

Private industry, March 2015	West South Central (1)	United States
Total compensation	\$29.41	\$31.65
Wages and salaries	20.85	21.94
Total benefits	8.56	9.71
Paid leave	1.87	2.18
Vacation	0.97	1.14
Supplemental pay	1.07	1.12
Insurance	2.09	2.58
Retirement and savings	1.29	1.31
Legally required benefits	2.24	2.51

(1) West South Central includes AR, LA, OK, and TX.  
Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

**Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries**

