

**A Service of the Greater Houston Partnership**

	Month	Most Recent	Year Earlier	% Change	Most Recent	Year Earlier	% Change
<b>ENERGY</b>							
U.S. Active Rotary Rigs	Mar '15	1,109	1,803	-38.5	1,403 *	1,779 *	-21.1
Spot Crude Oil Price (\$/bbl, West Texas Intermediate)	Mar '15	47.83	100.94	-52.6	48.93 *	98.74 *	-50.4
Spot Natural Gas (\$/MMBtu, Henry Hub)	Mar '15	2.83	4.50	-37.1	2.88 *	4.88 *	-41.0
<b>UTILITIES AND PRODUCTION</b>							
Houston Purchasing Managers Index	Mar '15	44.5	57.1	-22.1	47.6 *	57.6 *	-17.4
Nonresidential Electric Current Sales (Mwh, CNP Service Area)	Mar '15	4,291,555	4,006,924	7.1	12,601,981	12,466,019	1.1
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>							
<b>Total Building Contracts (\$, Houston MSA)</b>	<b>Feb '15</b>	<b>2,092,816,000</b>	<b>991,885,000</b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>3,241,230,000</b>	<b>3,209,055,000</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Nonresidential	Feb '15	1,075,790,000	233,338,000	361.0	1,511,020,000	1,837,902,000	-17.8
Residential	Feb '15	1,017,026,000	758,547,000	34.1	1,730,210,000	1,371,153,000	26.2
<b>Building Permits (\$, City of Houston)</b>	<b>Mar '15 N</b>	<b>626,751,768</b>	<b>630,151,045</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>1,878,985,666</b>	<b>1,695,355,325</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Nonresidential	Mar '15 N	480,005,443	422,557,697	13.6	1,168,029,228	1,146,101,442	1.9
New Nonresidential	Mar '15 N	250,708,550	241,994,592	3.6	576,029,396	600,190,018	-4.0
Nonresidential Additions/Alterations/Conversions	Mar '15 N	229,296,893	180,563,105	27.0	591,999,832	545,911,424	8.4
Residential	Mar '15 N	146,746,325	207,593,348	-29.3	710,956,438	549,253,883	29.4
New Residential	Mar '15 N	124,042,056	188,135,844	-34.1	649,130,852	490,869,079	32.2
Residential Additions/Alterations/Conversions	Mar '15 N	22,704,269	19,457,504	16.7	61,825,586	58,384,804	5.9
<b>HOME SALES</b>							
<b>Multiple Listing Service (MLS) Activity</b>							
Property Sales	Mar '15	7,564	7,298	3.6	17,942	18,038	-0.5
Median Sales Price - SF Detached	Mar '15	208,000	191,000	8.9	199,333 *	184,247 *	8.2
Active Listings	Mar '15	28,507	28,085	1.5	27,684 *	28,031 *	-1.2
<b>EMPLOYMENT (Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA)</b>							
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>	Mar '15	<b>2,971,200</b>	<b>2,888,700</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2,960,833 *</b>	<b>2,876,033 *</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Goods Producing (Natural Resources/Mining/Const/Mfg)	Mar '15	574,600	558,200	2.9	574,433 *	557,000 *	3.1
Service Providing	Mar '15	2,396,600	2,330,500	2.8	2,386,400 *	2,319,033 *	2.9
<b>Unemployment Rate (%) - Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>							
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA	Mar '15	4.2	5.2		4.3 *	5.5 *	
Texas	Mar '15	4.2	5.4		4.4 *	5.7 *	
U.S.	Mar '15	5.6	6.8		5.8 *	6.9 *	
<b>FOREIGN TRADE (Houston-Galveston Customs District)</b>							
<b>Total Trade (\$000,000)</b>	<b>Feb '15</b>	<b>16,138</b>	<b>18,727</b>	<b>-13.8</b>	<b>34,704</b>	<b>40,362</b>	<b>-14.0</b>
Exports (\$000,000)	Feb '15	8,973	9,634	-6.9	18,167	21,441	-15.3
Imports (\$000,000)	Feb '15	7,165	9,093	-21.2	16,537	18,921	-12.6
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>							
<b>Port of Houston Authority Shipments (Short Tons)</b>	<b>Feb '15</b>	<b>3,941,807</b>	<b>3,271,829</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>7,635,976</b>	<b>7,065,131</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Air Passengers (Houston Airport System)</b>	<b>Feb '15</b>	<b>3,828,771</b>	<b>3,779,456</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>7,980,703</b>	<b>7,804,011</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Domestic Passengers	Feb '15	3,123,398	3,096,079	0.9	6,430,016	6,324,724	1.7
International Passengers	Feb '15	705,373	683,377	3.2	1,550,687	1,479,287	4.8
<b>Landings and Takeoffs</b>	<b>Feb '15</b>	<b>60,001</b>	<b>62,047</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>125,245</b>	<b>129,392</b>	<b>-3.2</b>
<b>Air Freight (metric tons)</b>	<b>Feb '15</b>	<b>38,763</b>	<b>33,824</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>74,564</b>	<b>67,241</b>	<b>10.9</b>
Enplaned	Feb '15	22,049	17,811	23.8	41,224	36,185	13.9
Deplaned	Feb '15	16,715	16,013	4.4	33,340	31,056	7.4
<b>CONSUMERS</b>							
<b>New Car and Truck Sales (Units, Houston MSA)</b>	<b>Mar '15</b>	<b>30,119</b>	<b>37,733</b>	<b>-20.2</b>	<b>85,587</b>	<b>95,709</b>	<b>-10.6</b>
Cars	Mar '15	12,585	16,214	-22.4	35,538	41,198	-13.7
Trucks, SUVs and Commercial	Mar '15	17,534	21,519	-18.5	50,049	54,511	-8.2
<b>Total Retail Sales (\$000,000, Houston MSA, NAICS Basis)</b>	<b>3Q14</b>	<b>31,493.7</b>	<b>23,423.0</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>88,670.8</b>	<b>78,748.8</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers ('82-'84=100)</b>							
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria CMSA	Feb '15	210.3	211.7	-0.7	210.8 *	211.3 *	-0.2
United States	Mar '15	236.1	236.3	-0.1	234.8 *	235.0 *	-0.1
<b>Hotel Performance (Houston MSA)</b>							
Occupancy (%)	2Q14	74.7	71.9		74.0	71.2 *	
Average Room Rate (\$)	2Q14	111.81	104.65	6.8	109.49	102.55 *	6.8
Revenue Per Available Room (\$)	2Q14	83.52	75.25	11.0	81.05	73.00 *	11.0
<b>SOURCES</b>							
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	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						

