



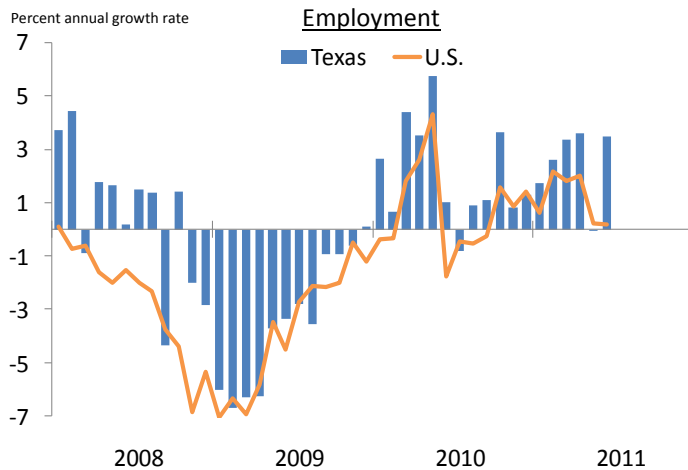
AUGUST 2011

# Texas Economic Indicators

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

## Summary

Texas job growth bounced back strongly in June after stalling in May. Texas housing market indicators showed improvement, as housing starts and home sales increased in June. Energy activity in Texas continued to rise, with the rig count moving up in July. Texas manufacturing expanded at a faster pace in July; the Texas Manufacturing Outlook Survey's production index rose from 5.6 to 10.8.



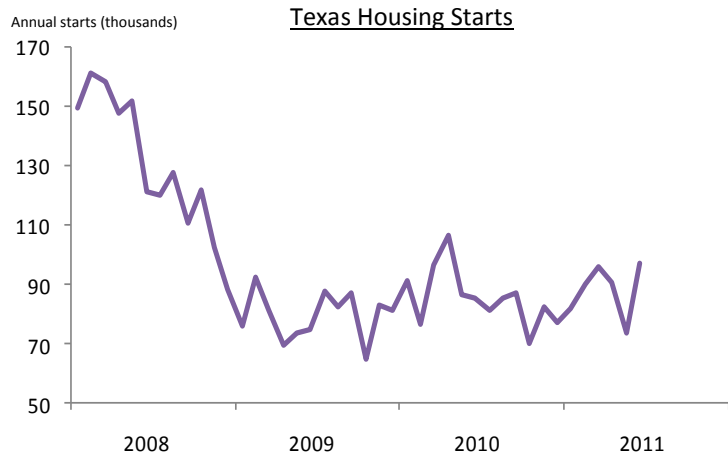
Texas gained 30,100 jobs in June after losing 600 in May. Current Texas employment stands at 10.55 million.

The Texas unemployment rate was 8.2 percent in June, up from 8.0 percent in May. The Texas rate remains below the U.S. rate, which edged up to 9.2 percent in June.

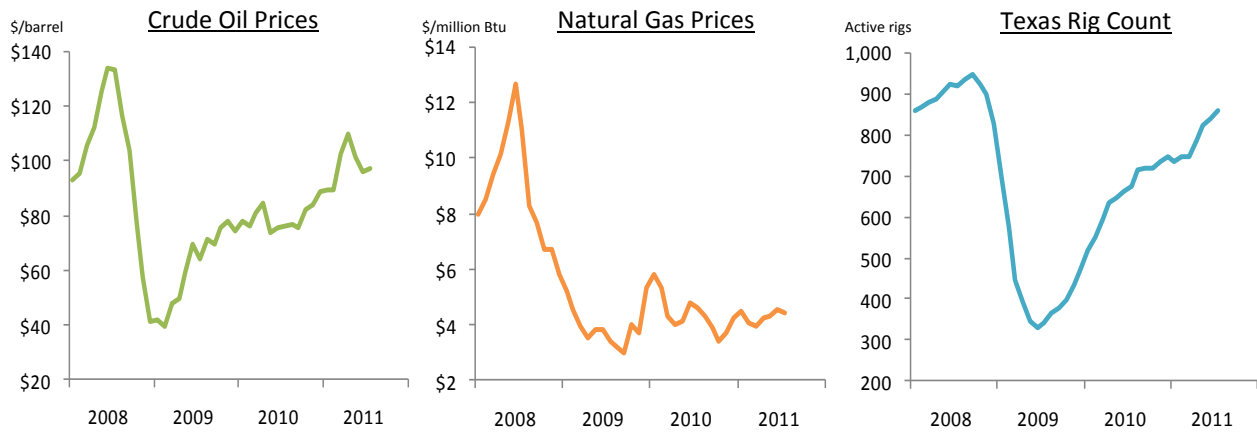
Housing starts in Texas rose 31.9 percent in June after falling 18.8 percent in May. Starts were up 14 percent from last year.

Texas single-family housing permits edged down 2.9 percent in June. The June permit level was 2 percent lower than the previous year.

Texas existing-home sales rose 3.7 percent from May to June. The supply of housing inventory remained at 7.9 months in June.



Monthly real Texas exports fell 1.6 percent in May after rising 4.7 percent in April. The May level of real exports was 16 percent higher than a year earlier.



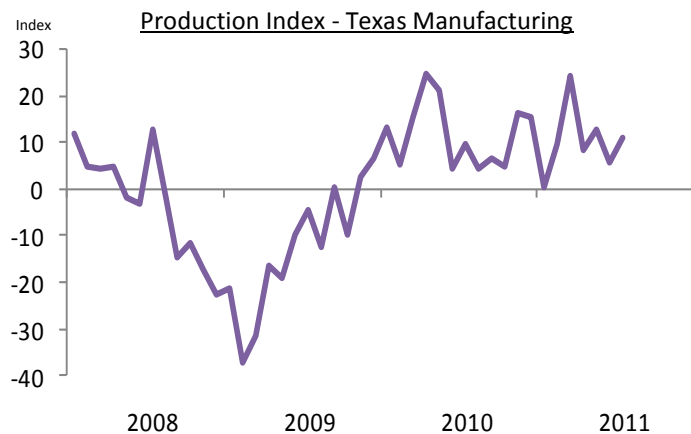
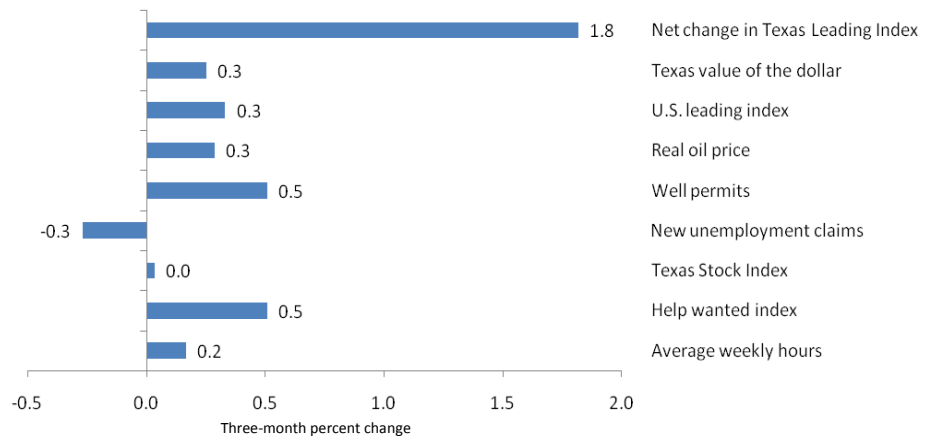
West Texas Intermediate crude oil prices ticked up 0.9 percent to \$97.19 per barrel in July. The price was up 27 percent year-over-year.

Natural gas prices edged down to \$4.42 per million Btu in July, down 2.4 percent from June. The price was 4 percent lower than in July 2010.

The rig count for Texas increased by 19 rigs to 858 in July. The rig count was up 27 percent from a year earlier.

### Texas Leading Index Components

The Dallas Fed's Texas Leading Index, which uses key economic indicators to forecast future economic activity, rose 1.8 percent from March through May.



Texas factory activity expanded in July, according to the Texas Manufacturing Outlook Survey. The production index, a key measure of state manufacturing conditions, rose from 5.6 to 10.8, suggesting output growth picked up in July.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas conducts the monthly Texas Manufacturing Outlook Survey to obtain a timely assessment of the state's factory activity.

**Note:** Data may not match previously published numbers due to data revisions.

**Sources:** Employment: Bureau of Labor Statistics; Texas Workforce Commission; seasonal and other adjustments by Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Housing: FHFA; Multiple Listing Service; U.S. Census Bureau; Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ. All housing data are seasonally adjusted. Exports: U.S. Census Bureau; World Institute for Strategic Economic Research; seasonal and other adjustments by Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Energy: *Wall Street Journal*; Henry Hub; Baker Hughes. Texas Leading Index: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Texas Manufacturing Production Index: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Data are seasonally adjusted.

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