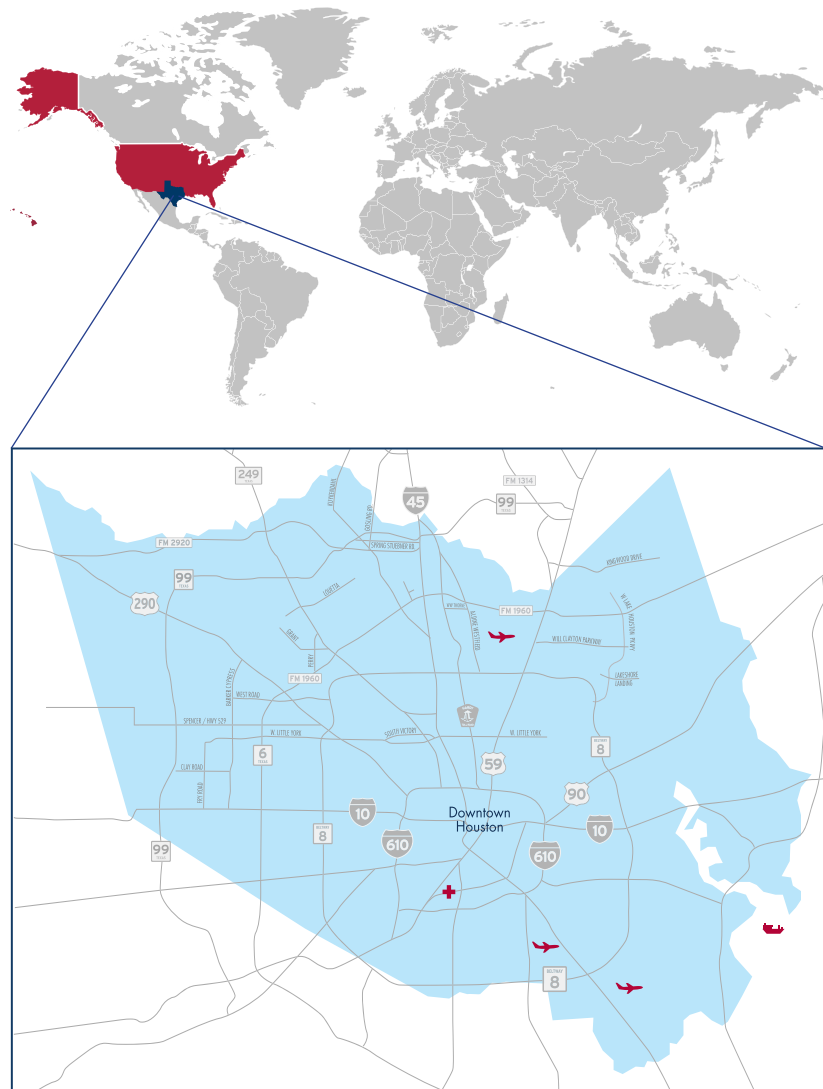




HARRIS COUNTY ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS 2025



COUNTY JUDGE & PRECINCT COMMISSIONERS

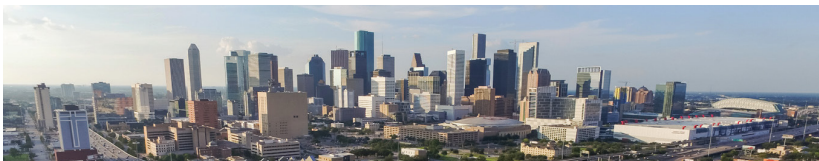
County Judge	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4
Lina Hidalgo	Rodney Ellis	Adrian Garcia	Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.	Lesley Briones

About

Harris County, Texas has been in the business of economic development and growth since 1836. Named for John R. Harris, founder of Harrisburg, Harris County has four precincts and is governed by a Commissioners Court. A county judge - elected countywide - and four commissioners - each elected by precinct - preside over the Court.

Since 1990, Harris County's population has grown 76.8% and become the third most populous county in the United States. Residents and businesses thrive and expand by benefitting from an overall cost of living close to 3% below the national average, advantageous geographic location, and competitive housing, health care, and transportation costs that are 23%, 21% and 13% lower than the national average. Well-established global networks such as a major seaport, two international airports, a world-class highway system, and three major railroad companies connect Harris County and the Gulf of Mexico to the U.S. interior and the world.

In 2023, Harris County's \$145.5 billion exported goods - accounting for 82.9% of all goods exported from the Houston Metro area - clinched the number one spot as the largest single-county exporter in the U.S. A relatively low overall tax burden - with no state and local income tax - provides Harris County with a competitive edge on the global stage. Businesses enjoy nimble land use regulations and business-friendly labor rules along with competitive business and permitting compliance costs. A streamlined construction approval process by Harris County allows companies to identify sites, gain construction approval, and build their facilities quickly.



713.274.1400

harriscountytexas.gov
EconDev@harriscountytexas.gov

Sources: Economic Policy Institute, 2024 Family Budget; International Trade Administration, 2023 Annual Metropolitan Export Series; Texas Almanac; Texas Department of Transportation, 2024 Statewide Railroad Map; U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 & 2024 Population Estimates.

Population & Demographics



5,009,302

Total Population
Estimate

3rd

MOST POPULOUS

County in the U.S. & largest
population growth among U.S.
counties 2023-2024



76.8%

Population Growth
Since 1990



34.8

Median Age



111

Languages Spoken*



27.3%

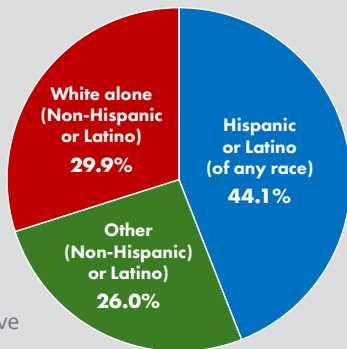
Foreign Born

RACE



- 33.8%** White
- 22.9%** Two or More Races
- 19.4%** Black or African American
- 15.1%** Some Other Race
- 7.5%** Asian
- 1.2%** American Indian and Alaska Native
- 0.1%** Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

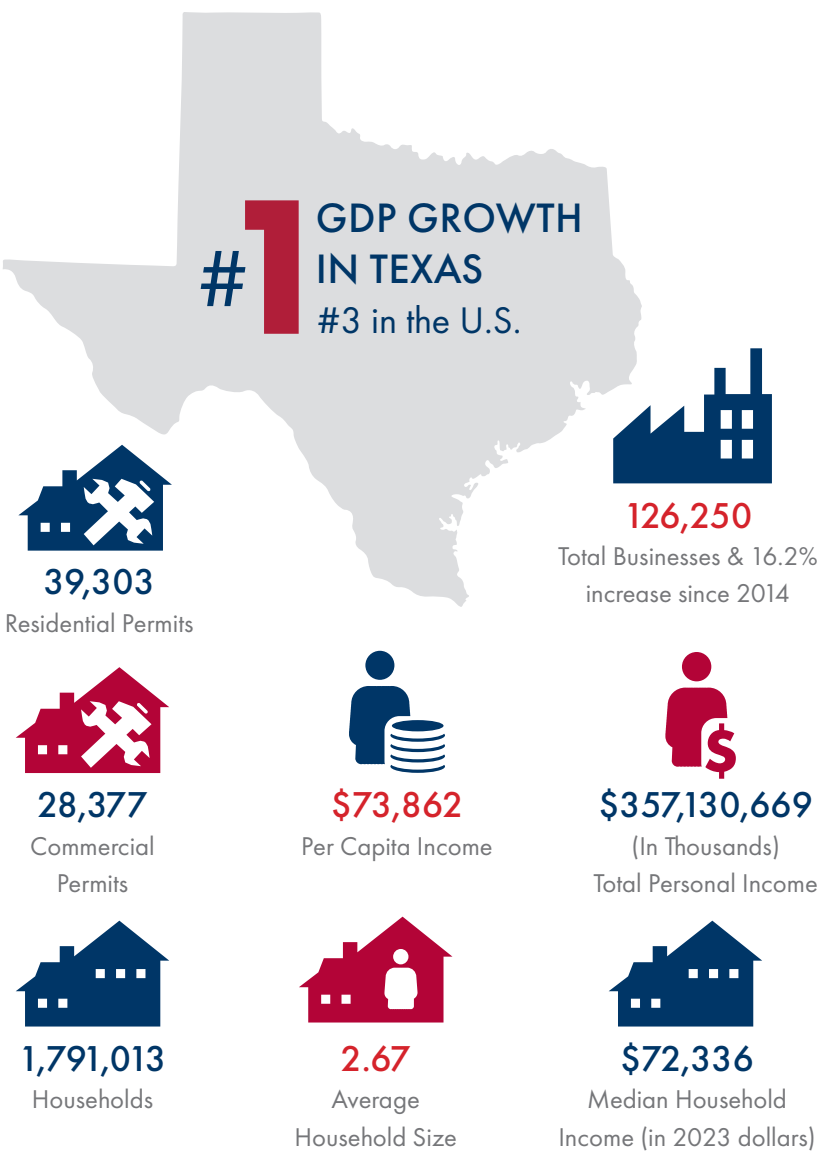
ETHNICITY



**Note: Latest data from 2013 due to report being discontinued.*

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2009-2013 * American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 1990 & 2024 Population Estimates

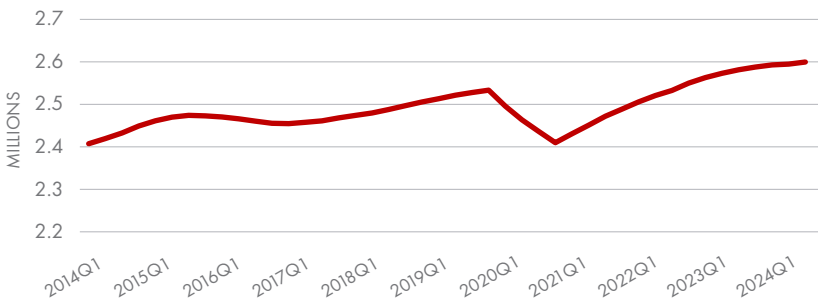
Economic Indicators



Sources: Harris County, 2024 Permits Issued; U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2023 County GDP & Personal Income Summaries; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages, 2023 Annual Establishments

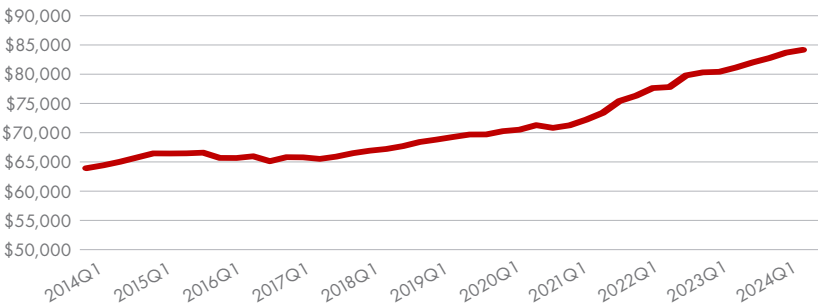
Labor Force

HARRIS COUNTY EMPLOYMENT (IN MILLIONS)




As of 2024Q4, total employment for Harris County, Texas was 2,644,466. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the county was 4.3% as of March 2025, a notch higher from 4.2% a year ago in March 2024.

HARRIS COUNTY AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE




The average worker's annual wage in Harris County was \$84,918 in 2024Q4, which was well above the national average wage of \$73,145.

2024Q4 WORKFORCE ANALYSIS




2,644,466

Employees




4.3%

Unemployment Rate



\$84,918

Harris County Average Annual Wage



\$73,145

National Average Annual Wage

Note: Average annual wage based on average wages for total, all industries.
Source: JobsEQ 2014Q1-2024Q4 Labor & Wage Trends



Educational Attainment



83.2%

of age 25+ have a high school diploma or higher



34.2%

of age 25+ have a bachelor's degree or higher



39.6%

of bachelor's degrees are in Science & Engineering

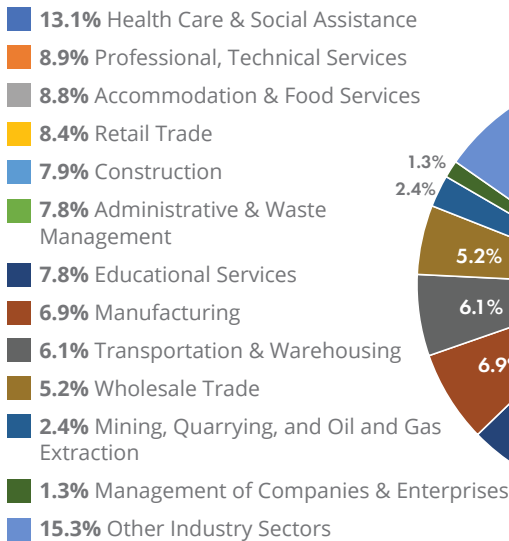
61,121 **ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS**

call Harris County Home

Note: JobsEQ compiles data from U.S. Department of Labor and other sources, hence metrics may differ from other sources and publications.

Sources: JobsEQ 2024Q4; U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Industry Sectors



3.7%
ANNUAL GROWTH
in Utilities for the
next decade

1.1%
ANNUAL GROWTH
in Health Care and Social
Assistance for the next decade

1.0%
ANNUAL GROWTH
in Professional, Technical
Services for the next decade

The Health Care and Social Assistance industry sector employs the highest number of people at **346,062** employees in Harris County. Mining and Oil & Gas Extraction industry sector has the highest concentration of employment relative to the U.S. at over six times the national average. This industry sector along with Management of Companies and Enterprises, offer the highest average wages per worker, with a combined average wage of **\$221,531**.

The highest concentration of interrelated industry sectors in Harris County comprises the Coal/Oil/Power industry cluster, at over four times the national average, employing **96,211** workers with an average annual wage of **\$226,045**.

Fortune 500 Headquarters



PORT HOUSTON

Port Houston is the largest Texas port, the busiest U.S. waterway, and the largest Gulf Coast container port. Handling 74% of U.S. Gulf Coast container traffic in 2024 the port has the largest U.S. facility for raw plastic resin exports and is also the nation’s largest exporter of petroleum and related products.

The port is home to the largest petrochemical complex in the U.S. Port Houston and the surrounding area has an extensive intermodal network of terminals, roads, rails (with access to Class-1 railroads), and pipelines. Port Houston continuously invests in its infrastructure to increase capacity and provide state of the art facilities along the Houston Ship Channel, securing its position to provide big opportunities.

Top 5 Containerized Commodity Exports
Resins & Plastics
Chemicals & Materials
Automotive
Apparel & Accessories
Food & Drink

Top 5 Containerized Commodity Imports
Machinery, Appliances & Electronics
Retail Consumer Goods
Hardware & Construction Material
Furniture
Food & Drink

Top 10 Containerized Trading Country Partners (Exports)
China (PRC) 11.2%
Brazil 9.9%
Belgium 6.4%
India 4.6%
Colombia 3.3%
United Arab Emirates 3.3%
Turkey 3.1%
Spain 2.5%
Singapore 2.5%
Vietnam 2.3%
Other 50.9%
Total 100%

Top 10 Containerized Trading Country Partners (Imports)
China (PRC) 34.5%
Vietnam 8.1%
India 6.3%
Germany 4.7%
Republic of Korea 4.3%
Brazil 4.1%
Italy 3.4%
Thailand 3.1%
Belgium 2.2%
Spain 2.1%
Other 27.1%
Total 100%



PORT HOUSTON™

1st

IN THE NATION

Waterborne
Tonnage

Exports

Deep Water
Vessel Traffic

WEEKLY CONTAINER SERVICE OVERVIEW:

East Asia	6 services
North Europe	4 services
Mediterranean	4 services
East Coast South America	4 services
Mexico, Central America, North Coast South America	3 services
Other Trade Lanes	3 services



Global Presence

HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM



2800 N Terminal Rd · Houston, TX 77032
281.230.3100
Fly2Houston.com/IAH

George Bush Intercontinental (IAH) is the largest airport in the Harris County region and a global gateway with services to five continents. IAH is a major connecting hub to Central and South America. One of the top 10 global hubs, IAH serves 48 million passengers annually through its five terminals and five runways. United Airlines handles nearly three quarters of IAH passenger traffic.



7800 Airport Blvd · Houston, TX 77061
713.640.3000
Fly2Houston.com/HOU

William P. Hobby (HOU) is a regional and international airport that is home to one of Southwest Airline's most important and active hubs. In 2022, it became the first airport in North America to earn a 5-star international rating. The airport continues to maintain its 5-star international rating in 2024.



11602 Aerospace Ave · Houston, TX 77034
713.847.4200
Fly2Houston.com/Ellington-Airport

Ellington Airport (EFD) is home to the Houston Spaceport, one of only 10 licensed spaceports in the United States. The Houston Spaceport serves as a launch and landing site for spacecraft and provides laboratory office space and facilities for aerospace companies. EFD also hosts training for NASA and the U.S. military.

OTHER REGIONAL AIRPORTS

There are 10 public and 10 private regional airports and 114 heliports in Harris County.

Sources: Airports Council International - North America 2022 Rankings; Houston Airport System; Houston-Galveston Area Council Regional Airport Inventory; TollFreeAirline.com, 2025 Harris County Airport & Heliport Inventory



IAH

4-STAR

Rated by Skytrax

HOU

5-STAR

Rated by Skytrax

EFD

HOME TO

a Spaceport

REGIONAL AIRPORTS

10

PUBLIC USE

10

PRIVATE USE

TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

The Texas Medical Center is the world's largest medical complex and home to the world's largest children's hospital and cancer hospital. It is the eighth largest business district in the U.S.

There are more than 60 member institutions, including 21 hospitals, 20 colleges and universities, eight academic and research institutions, four medical schools, and even the world's largest steam and chilled water facility.

At the forefront of advancing life sciences for nearly 80 years, 20% of all U.S. trials are conducted at the Texas Medical Center.

TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER BY THE NUMBERS	
Total Area	1,345 + acres
Area Developed	50 million square feet
Established	1945
Construction Projects On the Way	\$3 billion
GDP	\$25 billion
Employees	120,000+
Patient Encounters Per Year	10 million
Total Patient Beds	9,200
Annual Surgeries	180,000+
Total Heart Surgeries	13,600+
ER Visits Per Year	750,000
Babies Delivered Per Year	26,280

Source: Texas Medical Center, May 2025



120,000+

EMPLOYEES

in the Medical Center

8th

LARGEST

Business District

in the Nation

TMC | TEXAS
MEDICAL
CENTER

LARGEST

MEDICAL

Complex in the World

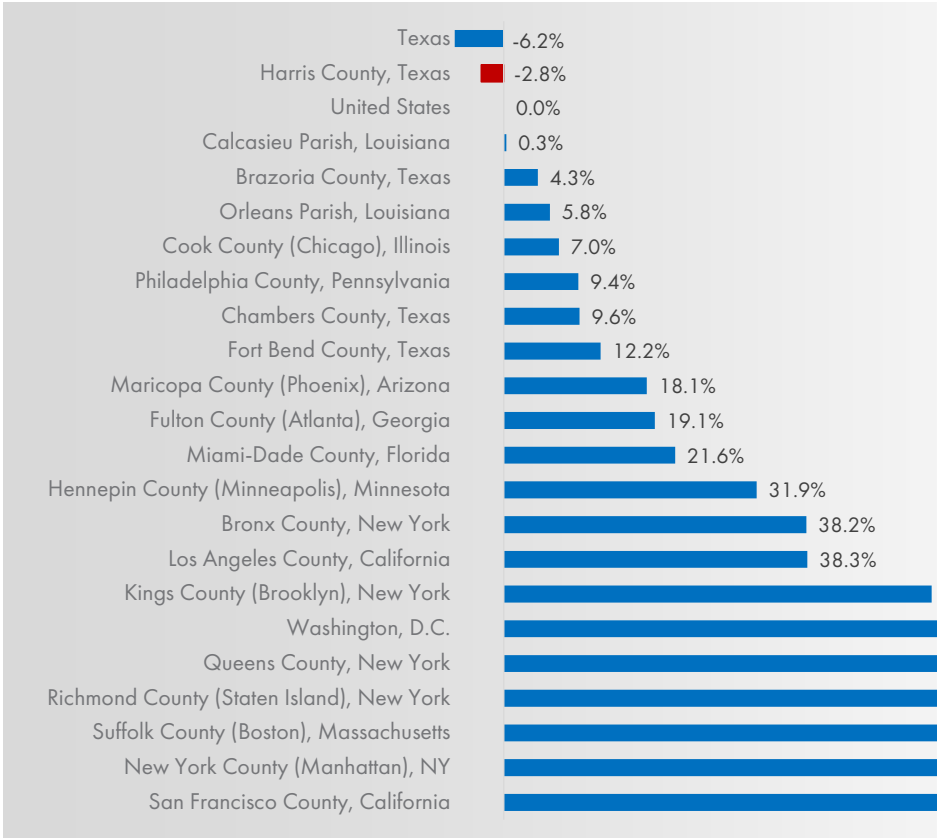
Cost Index

Harris County enjoys a relatively low-cost of living in comparison to the rest of the nation. When compared to the national average, Harris County enjoys lower cost by:

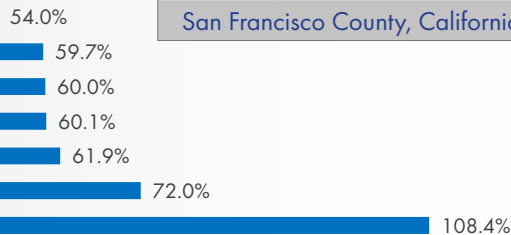
-2.8% OVERALL COST OF LIVING



OVERALL COST INDEX



Sources: Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map (as of January 2025); U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2024 Average Electricity Prices



OVERALL COST INDEX IN SELECT COUNTIES	
Area	Overall
Texas	93.8
Harris County, Texas	97.2
United States	100.0
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana	100.3
Brazoria County, Texas	104.3
Orleans Parish, Louisiana	105.8
Cook County (Chicago), Illinois	107.0
Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania	109.4
Chambers County, Texas	109.6
Fort Bend County, Texas	112.2
Maricopa County (Phoenix), Arizona	118.1
Fulton County (Atlanta), Georgia	119.1
Miami-Dade County, Florida	121.6
Hennepin County (Minneapolis), Minnesota	131.9
Bronx County, New York	138.2
Los Angeles County, California	138.3
Kings County (Brooklyn), New York	154.0
Washington, D.C.	159.7
Queens County, New York	160.0
Richmond County (Staten Island), New York	160.1
Suffolk County (Boston), Massachusetts	161.9
New York County (Manhattan), New York	172.0
San Francisco County, California	208.4

Cost of Doing Business & Tax Climate



0%

Personal Income Tax in Texas



0%

Corporate Income Tax in Texas

FRANCHISE TAX*	
0.75%	For most entities
0.375%	For qualifying wholesalers and retailers
0.331%	For those entities with \$20 million or less in Total Revenue and electing the E-Z Computation

SALES & USE TAX	
0%	For Harris County
6.25%	For Harris County
Up to 2% for other entities, as applicable	
8.25%	Maximum sales tax composite

* Franchise tax rates, threshold and deduction limits vary by report year. Check the Texas Comptroller's Office to find out more.

PROPERTY TAX (2024 Rates *)	
\$0	State of Texas
\$0.38529	Harris County
\$0.04897	Flood Control District
\$0.00615	Port Houston
\$0.016348	Hospital District
\$0.60389	Total Property Tax

* Depending on the property's location, additional tax rates from other entities may apply. Check Harris Central Appraisal District to find out the entities levying taxes for a specific property.

Harris County is ideal for business with low business costs and a favorable tax climate. Not only are taxes low, utility costs and insurance rates for unemployment and workers' compensation are business-friendly as well.

\$750

BUSINESS REGISTRATION FEE

required for non-U.S. corporations, LLCs, LPs, & out-of-state entities. Please visit the Texas Secretary of State for details. Foreign businesses must also file Benefit Ownership Information within 30 days of Secretary of State Approval. Please visit U.S. Department of Treasury for details.

DOING BUSINESS AS (DBA)

A DBA filing is required if a business is not incorporated or if one is conducting business under a name other than that in which the business was incorporated. A DBA is \$24 (or \$22 if you are a veteran with a notarized application) plus \$0.50 for each additional name filed in Harris County. Please visit Harris County Clerk's office for details.

LICENSES & PERMITS

Obtaining licenses and permits varies by industry and regulatory agency. Please visit the State of Texas Portal or the Texas Department of Licensing & Regulations.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The general entry rate for unemployment insurance is 2.7%, which is charged on the first \$9,000 in earnings and reassessed after six quarters and charged at own experience rate.

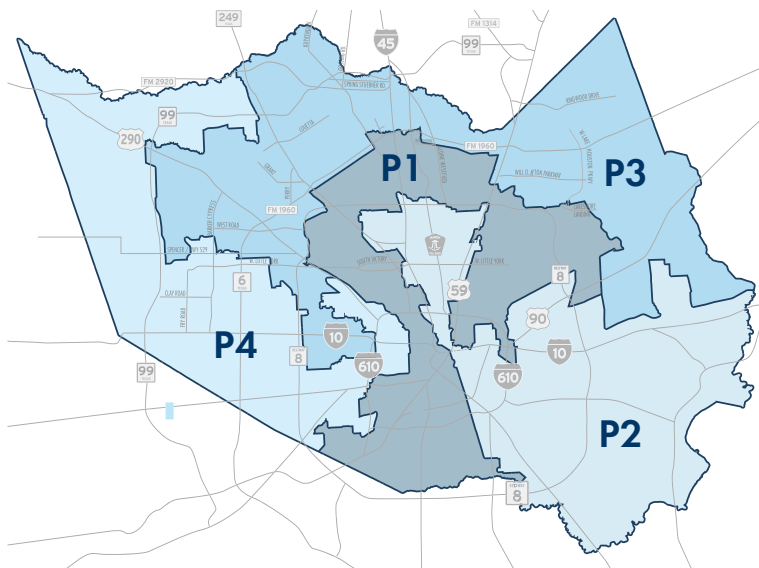
WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

The State of Texas does not require Workers' Compensation insurance. Other options include self-insurance, state-operated Texas Workers' Compensation Insurance Fund, or a licensed private insurance company.

PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

Tax rates are per \$100 Certified Taxable Appraised Value, and the same tax rates apply to all items. Real property and Tangible Personal Property are taxed in the State of Texas. Real Property includes land and buildings, while Tangible Personal Property means personal property that can be seen, weighed, measured, felt, or otherwise perceived by the senses. See Texas Property Tax Code for definitions.

Harris County Precincts



Top 5 Largest Companies (By Number of Employees)

PRECINCT 1

Population Estimate: 1,186,371

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center
26,300

UT Health Science Center 16,100

United Airlines 13,200

Baylor College of Medicine 9,300

Houston Methodist Hospital -
TMC 9,000

PRECINCT 2

Population Estimate: 1,171,460

ExxonMobil Baytown Refinery 7,000

NASA Johnson Space Center 3,400

University of Houston Downtown
2,450

Universal Plant Services 2,250

Houston Methodist Baytown
Hospital 2,025

PRECINCT 3

Population Estimate: 1,197,956

ExxonMobil HQ 7,695

EXP Realty LLC 3,300

Houston Methodist Willowbrook
Hospital 2,875

Memorial Hermann - Memorial
City Medical Center 2,475

Hewlett Packard Enterprise 2,275

PRECINCT 4

Population Estimate: 1,202,465

SLB (formerly Schlumberger) 7,000

BP North America 5,250

NOV 5,000

LyondellBasell Industries 4,500

Oxy 3,850

Note: Population totals may not sum due to differences in surveys and year(s) survey was conducted.

Sources: Company Websites; Data Axle Reference Solutions; Harris County; Houston Business Journal Book of Lists; News Sources; JobsEQ; 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Quality of Life



With an overall cost index 2.8% below the national average, the highest GDP in Texas, and 25 school districts, Harris County is a great community to live in and work in. Five professional major-league sports teams, including the two-time World Championship-winning Houston Astros, draw fans locally and nationwide. The Museum District is home to 21 museums and a top ranked zoo in the U.S. The Theater District hosts nine renowned performing arts organizations.

Over 8,000 restaurants are located in Harris County, with an abundance of international cuisines to choose from. Shopping opportunities abound from Texas' largest mall, The Galleria, to antique shopping in quaint Old Town Spring. Quality of life is enhanced by miles of beautiful trails, over 200 Harris County parks, in addition to a myriad of over 600 city and other district parks, and unique events like the Houston Rodeo, the largest in the world.

Residents and visitors alike can receive health care at world-class medical hospitals such as MD Anderson Cancer Center, the top ranked cancer hospital in the U.S. In addition to the Texas Medical Center, premier health care facilities are located throughout the county.

Sources: Economic Policy Institute, Family Budget Map (as of January 2025); Encyclopedia Britannica; Harris County; Houston Chronicle; Houston Museum District; Houston Newcomer Guides Harris County; Harris County Sports Authority; Houston Theater District; TripAdvisor; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2025 Annual Number of Establishments; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2023 County Gross Domestic Product Summary; 2023-2024 U.S. News & World Report



Educational System

Harris County has a diverse collection of school systems with 25 school districts, 14 colleges and universities, and 4 community colleges educating our children and workforce.

Workforce Development

Harris County has the resources to educate and train current and future employees for your business. Companies can tap into the educational system to form partnerships and design programs to train or re-train their employees.



BELOW IS A SAMPLE LISTING OF AREA EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PARTNERS AND RESOURCES READY TO ENGAGE WITH INTERESTED BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES

- Greater Houston Partnership UpSkill Houston
- Houston City College Centers of Excellence
- Houston City College Roustabout Drilling Technician Training Center
- Lee College Center for Workforce and Community Development
- Lone Star Corporate College
- Lone Star College Process Technology Center
- Lone Star College Westway Park Technology Center
- San Jacinto College Center for Petrochemical, Energy, & Technology
- Skills Development Fund
- Texas Workforce Commission
- Workforce Solutions Gulf Coast

Sources: Harris County Department of Education; 2022-2023 JobsEQ Awards School List by Program; Workforce Development Program Websites



Vision

An inclusive, accessible, prosperous, and resilient Harris County economy.

Mission

To connect, value, and empower people, businesses, and communities.

The Harris County Commissioners Court approved the creation of the new Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity in 2019. With a goal to promote an inclusive and resilient local economy, the new department has four divisions:



Economic Development works with companies and investors seeking incentives and support for locating or expanding their operations in Harris County.



Program Planning & Innovation serves as an advisor and subject matter expert to County leaders, businesses, individuals, and other vested stake holders.



Inclusive Procurements oversees compliance for construction projects under Davis Bacon & Related Acts (DBRA) and serves as a connector linking Women, Minority, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises with Harris County contracting opportunities.



Early Childhood Initiatives administers programs to support high-quality caregiving and education for children.

<https://hcoed.harriscountytexas.gov> (economic development website)
<https://deeo.harriscountytexas.gov/> (department website)



**HARRIS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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(713) 274-1400**

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