The Amarillo Economy

February 2025



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Amarillo Economic Analysis

Amarillo's economy grew a little over the last month, benefiting from a strong Christmas spending season and higher commodity prices.

Retail Sales were up 17% from 12 months ago. Our Sales Tax data comes from a 2 month lag, so this is December spending and might be tied to consumer confidence with the November Elections behind us.

New Car Sales are up 28% and Used Car Sales are up 17% from February 2024.

Our Hotel/Motel Tax Collections are up 18%. Airline Boardings are flat with 12 months ago.

Mortgage Rates are holding around 7%. Our Loan Officers think that rates will stay around these levels for 2025, but activity has picked up. Housing Starts are down 20% from 12 months ago. House Prices are flat.

Construction in Amarillo is up. A large Warehouse for a food company is being built in the Eastern part of town.

Oil and Gas are off to a good start this year. There are 2 drilling rigs in the Panhandle. Oil is steady at \$72, down from \$78 last February. The best news is higher natural gas prices - up to \$4.20 currently. Last year at this time, prices were at \$1.70.

Area Agriculture could have a great year with a little help. We expect to have more corn planted in the Panhandle and less cotton. Wheat has been a "cover crop" the last few years, but could go all the way to harvest this year. Wheat prices are up 7% from a year ago. Corn is up 15% and cotton prices are down 15%.

The Bird Flu impact is minimal for area cattle. Prices are steady at \$203/cwt, up 11% from last year.

Milk Prices are up 25% and area dairies are profitable.

February is when Texas recalibrates their employment numbers, so we will get caught up next month.



Amarillo Economic Pulse

Economic Components	С	urrent Month		Last Month		One Year Ago
Index (Base Jan. 88 @ 100)		215.81		193.82		192.00
Sales Tax Collection	\$	11,878,544	\$	7,913,301	\$	10,118,939
Sales Tax Collections (Year to Date)	\$	19,791,845	\$	111,991,545	\$	18,716,614
New Vehicle Sales		733		617		572
Used Vehicle Sales		1,317		1,164		1,130
Airline Boardings		26,381		35,850		26,834
Hotel/Motel Receipt Tax	\$	752,597	\$	692,195	\$	635,669
Population		201,106		201,106		201,106
Employment – CLF*		141,318		141,318		138,147
Unemployment Rate*	%	2.60	%	2.60	%	3.10
Total Worker Employed* (Household Survey)		137,638		137,638		133,834
Total Worker Employed* (Employer Survey)		132,000		132,000		128,400
Average Weekly Wages	\$	1,071.00	\$	1,052.00	\$	1,030.00
Gas Meters		70,108		69,866		69,992
Interest Rates (30 year mortgage rates)	%	6.875	%	7.000	%	7.000
Building Permits (Dollar Amount)	\$	39,223,576	\$	16,412,147	\$	12,311,107
Year to Date Permits (Dollar Amount)	\$	39,895,315	\$	474,452,439	\$	14,400,088
Residential Starts		37		43		46
Year to Date Starts		38		543		51
Median House Sold Price	\$	235,000	\$	240,000	\$	236,800
Drilling Rigs in Panhandle		2		5		1
Oil Per Barrel	\$	72.53	\$	78.89	\$	78.20
Natural Gas	\$	4.20	\$	4.31	\$	1.70
Wheat Per Bushel	\$	6.52	\$	6.39	\$	6.09
Fed Cattle Per CWT	\$	203.00	\$	200.00	\$	182.00
Corn	\$	5.02	\$	4.79	\$	4.33
Cotton (Cents Per Pound)	\$	62.40	\$	65.60	\$	73.20
Milk	\$	20.31	\$	20.05	\$	16.20

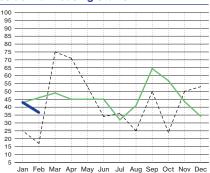
Heads up, it's time for the legal spiel!

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Hotel/Motel Receipt Tax (In Thousands)

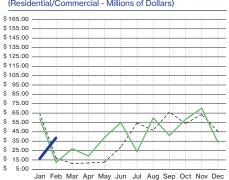


Residential Housing Starts

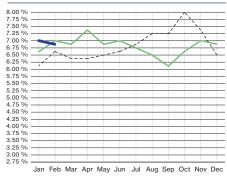


Building Permits

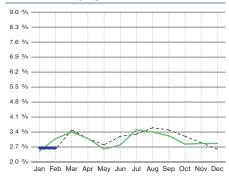
(Residential/Commercial - Millions of Dollars)



Interest Rates (30 Year Mortgage Rates)



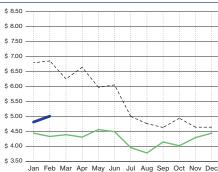
Percent Unemployment (State Adjusted Numbers)



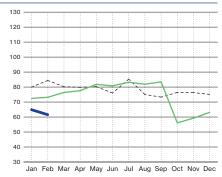
Airline Boardings (In Thousands)

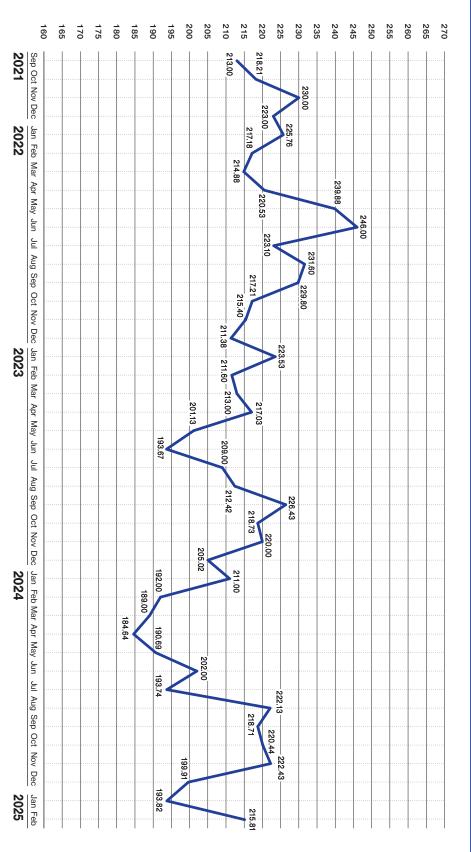


Corn (Price Per Bushel)



Cotton (Cents Per Pound)





A Tale of 3 Cities February 2025

	Amarillo	Lubbock	Midland/Odessa
Employment			
Employer's Survey	132,000	163,400	206,700
Increase 12 mos	2,508	1,500	992
Household Survey	137,638	169,352	201,239
Increase 12 mos	4,248	3,263	4,702
Airline Boardings YTD	410,398	576,920	740,219
% Increase	1.3%	3.28%	11.84%
Motel Tax YTD	\$9,056,806	\$10,222,725	
% Increase	- 2.4%	11.61%	
Sales Tax Receipts YTD	\$111,991,545	\$114,536,417	\$156,492,814
% Increase	2.0%	4.6%	- 2.02%
Auto Sales (January)	617	846	1,919
% Change 12 mos	19%	11.6%	0%
Housing Starts YTD	543	1,592	
Building Permits YTD	\$474,452,439	\$1,053,739,936	
Median Price Home	\$240,000	\$232,500	\$674,000
% Change 12 mos	- 1.0%	- 3.13%	11.69%