

Amarillo Economic Analysis

Flat jobs numbers and steady commodity prices keep Amarillo's economy level with a month ago.

April's employment numbers show not much growth. Area jobs shows a gain of 900 jobs from a year ago. Gains in manufacturing (+500), Construction (+200) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+400) are offset by lower numbers of jobs in Professional (-300) and Education & Health (-200). The Household Survey shows an adjusted gain of 2,000 from a year ago, but that number might be a little high. The unadjusted Household number is 500 more jobs.

Retail sales are up from 2017. For the month of February, sales are up 1% from a year ago and up 2% year to date. New car sales are mostly flat with a year ago, and used car sales are down 7%.

Area travel is mixed, as Airline Boardings are up 1% from 2017 and the Hotel/Motel Tax collections are down 3%.

Real estate is having a good year. Through March, Amarillo has seen 830 houses sold compared to 709 a year ago. Residential starts for April (42) are flat with a year ago, and year to date starts (151) are up 37% from last year. Mortgage rates are about 50 basis points higher than they were a year ago.

Commercial construction is down from a year ago, but year to date numbers are ahead with the Downtown Ballpark, new apartments on Amarillo Boulevard, and Senior Living space at Town Square.

Energy commodities are hit and miss with Oil above \$60 and Natural Gas at \$2.78. Drilling activity in the Panhandle is level with a year ago.

Cattle are profitable with Fat Cattle prices at \$117.35, down from last year, but above breakeven (about \$110). Dairies are still seeing small profits, with Milk prices at \$14.25, which is right above breakeven.

Ag commodities are holding steady, but the lack of moisture has area farmers preparing for a dry summer. Corn is up 10%. Cotton is down 1%. Wheat is up 35%.

Amarillo Economic Pulse

Economic Components	Current Month	Last Month	One Year Ago
Index (Base Jan. 88 @ 100)	198.60	200.30	191.32
Sales Tax Collections	\$ 5,479,156	\$ 5,513,234	\$ 5,408,823
Sales Tax Collections – Year to Date	\$ 25,054,584	\$ 19,575,428	\$ 24,504,493
New Vehicle Sales	977	678	1,001
Used Vehicle Sales	3,882	2,678	4,182
Vehicle Registrations (Stickers)	25,084	16,393	24,959
Airline Boardings	24,023	24,274	22,624
Hotel/Motel Receipt Tax	\$ 424,851	\$ 437,327	\$ 438,445
Population	191,514	191,514	191,514
Employment – CLF*	133,400	133,100	133,700
Unemployment Rate*	% 3.00	% 2.90	% 3.50
Total Workers Employed* (Household Survey)	129,500	129,200	129,000
Total Workers Employed* (Employer Survey)	120,300	120,300	121,700
Average Weekly Wages	\$ 861.39	\$ 861.39	\$ 801.50
Gas	63,277	62,923	62,992
Water Connections	70,970	70,540	70,408
Interest Rates (30 year mortgage rates)	% 4.75	% 4.75	% 4.38
Building Permits (Dollar Amount)	\$ 24,027,276	\$ 78,342,836	\$ 33,328,432
Year to Date Permits (Dollar Amount)	\$ 147,224,541	\$ 123,197,265	\$ 132,943,435
Residential Starts	42	46	40
Year to Date Starts	151	109	110
Median House Sold Price	\$ 155,000	\$ 158,000	\$ 147,000
Drilling Rigs in Panhandle	20	20	18
Oil Per Barrel	\$ 60.96	\$ 57.80	\$ 44.35
Natural Gas	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.98
Wheat Per Bushel	\$ 4.69	\$ 4.41	\$ 3.47
Fed Cattle Per CWT	\$ 117.35	\$ 126.28	\$ 125.83
Corn	\$ 4.04	\$ 3.98	\$ 3.66
Cotton (Cents Per Pound)	\$ 67.70	\$ 68.70	\$ 68.60
Milk	\$ 14.25	\$ 14.00	\$ 14.75

Economic Pulse Charts

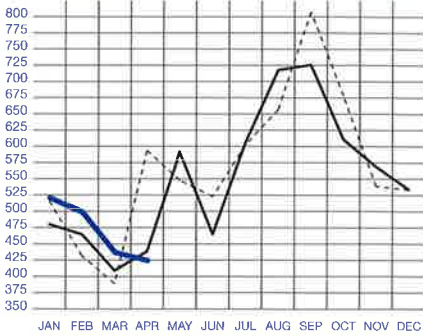
LEGEND

2018 —

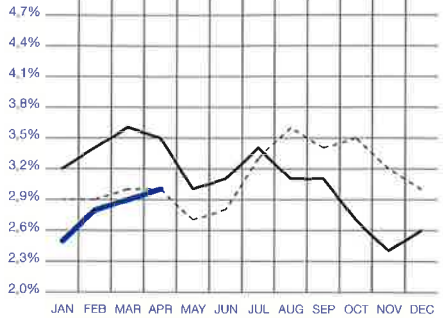
2017 —

2016 - - -

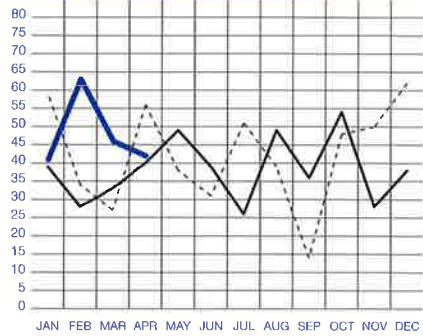
Hotel/Motel Receipt Tax (In Thousands)



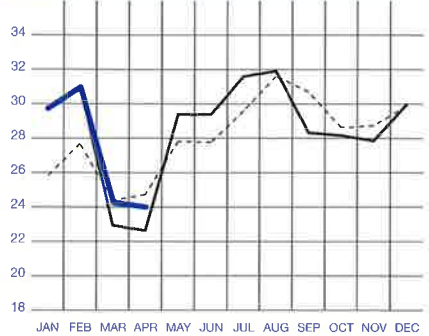
Percent Unemployment (State Adjusted Numbers)



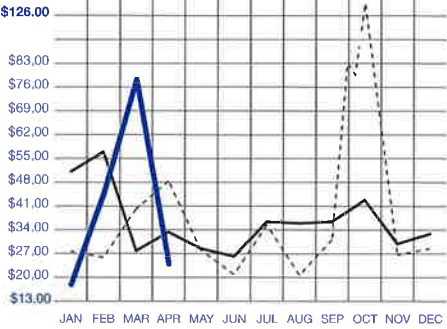
Residential Housing Starts



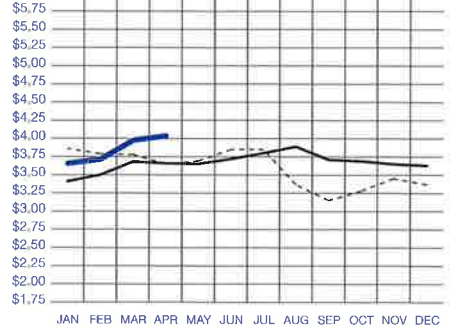
Airline Boardings (In Thousands)



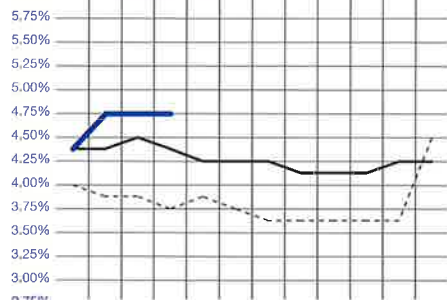
Building Permits (Residential/Commercial - Millions of Dollars)



Corn (Price Per Bushel)



Interest Rates (30 Year Mortgage Rates)



Cotton (Cents Per Pound)

