



2026 February
**Midland &
Permian Basin
Economic
Indices**



The

Perryman Group

Effective economics, accessible analysis

1.800.749.8705 | info@perrymangroup.com | www.perrymangroup.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Overview</u>	1
<u>Selected Midland Economic Indicators</u>	2
<u>Midland MSA</u>	3
<u>Permian Basin Region</u>	5
<u>Methodology</u>	7



OVERVIEW

The Perryman Midland and Permian Basin Indices were up in February, reversing the generally downward trend over the past several months.

Even with the uncertainty and other issues, the labor market has remained relatively resilient. Some 178,000 jobs were added in March, and the unemployment rate was little changed. The Gross Domestic Product growth rate improved in the first quarter, due in part to strong capital investment in artificial intelligence. However, growth has been hampered by weaker consumer spending. Although the economy is demonstrating notable resilience given significant challenges, performance has been uneven. If geopolitical and policy uncertainty ramps up, it will be difficult to generate momentum.

Inflation remains a notable challenge, affecting Federal Reserve decisions regarding potential interest rate cuts. Recent data indicated an uptick, though it was largely due to higher gas prices. Housing costs remain relatively high, even with signs of a shift toward a buyer's market in some areas. Once traffic through the Strait of Hormuz gets back to a more normal pattern, it is likely that oil prices will fall over time. However, some elements of the inflation environment may persist. At the same time, the economy is struggling in some respects. An unusual level of dissension is occurring among committee members, and the path forward with a new Fed Chair will be revealing.

The conflict in the Middle East continues to have multi-faceted effects on the economy. In addition to increasing uncertainty, the conflict is affecting oil and gas markets. With little traffic through the Strait of Hormuz over past weeks, oil prices have risen significantly. About 20% of the world's oil navigates the Strait, and supplies have dropped causing prices to jump. The current level is not unheard of, but effects are nonetheless notable. Higher energy prices work their way through the economy and tend to increase inflationary pressure.

Although some recent slowing has occurred, Texas continues to be a center for growth, attracting more major corporate locations and expansions than any other state for 14 consecutive years. Expansion is occurring across a spectrum of industries, setting the stage for ongoing strong performance, though the state is clearly not immune to national and global conditions.

For Texas and, in particular, the Permian Basin, higher oil prices are beneficial. Producers are experiencing higher profitability and are taking action to increase efficiency. The longer high prices persist, the more companies will begin to consider additional capital investments. These effects should become more apparent in future Index reports.

Selected economic indicators and February results for the Midland and Permian Basin indices are summarized in the following pages, with additional detail in the accompanying workbook.



SELECTED MIDLAND ECONOMIC INDICATORS: FEBRUARY 2026

Indicator	2024	2025	2026	2025-26 % Change
Permian Basin Rig Count				
February	313	304	240	-21.22%
Average Year to Date	311	303	242	-20.26%
WTI Oil Price				
February	\$77.25	\$71.53	\$64.51	-9.81%
Average Year to Date	\$75.70	\$73.64	\$62.28	-15.43%
Henry Hub Natural Gas Price				
February	\$1.72	\$4.19	\$3.62	-13.60%
Average Year to Date	\$2.45	\$4.16	\$5.67	+36.30%
Housing Permits				
January	50	121	62	-48.76%
Total Year to Date	50	121	62	-48.76%
Average Housing Permit Value				
January	\$312,141	\$230,945	\$302,981	+31.19%
Average Year to Date	\$312,141	\$230,945	\$302,981	+31.19%
Airline Boardings				
January	48,493	51,204	45,173	-11.78%
Total Year to Date	48,493	51,204	45,173	-11.78%
Hotel Receipts				
February	\$11,153,945	\$12,509,414	\$13,693,532	+9.47%
Total Year to Date	\$22,178,610	\$24,212,644	\$25,869,097	+6.84%
Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)				
February	124,100	127,300	127,300	+0.00%
Average Year to Date	123,600	126,700	127,400	+0.55%
Unemployment Rate				
January	2.74%	2.96%	+3.21%	N/A
Average Year to Date	2.74%	2.96%	+3.21%	N/A
Midland Index (2021=100)				
February	123.9	125.1	121.1	N/A
Average Year to Date	123.3	125.1	120.7	N/A

Note: Some data points are missing due to the late release of data from federal agencies; these series will be completed as necessary information becomes available.

Sources: Baker-Hughes, Energy Information Agency, US Census Bureau, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Bureau of Labor Statistics, The Perryman Group



MIDLAND MSA

The Midland Economic Index measured 121.1 in February, an increase of 0.8.

A notable increase occurred in Construction (+14.1), and the important Energy segment was up (+0.8), as was Manufacturing (+0.8). Despite the advances, there were losses in Real Estate (-1.3), Health Care (-0.8), Professional & Business Services (-0.7), Retail (-0.5), and Hospitality & Tourism (-0.4).

MIDLAND MSA ECONOMIC INDEX

RECENT RESULTS (2012=100)

Current Index Reading	121.1
Change from Previous Month	Up 0.8

MIDLAND MSA ECONOMIC INDEX

RESULTS BY INDUSTRY (2012=100)

Industry	January	February	Change
Energy	111.3	112.1	+0.8
Construction	143.7	157.8	+14.1
Manufacturing	139.4	140.2	+0.8
Retail	126.7	126.2	-0.5
Financial Services	227.5	227.6	+0.1
Real Estate	140.4	139.1	-1.3
Professional & Business Services	126.8	126.1	-0.7
Health Care	138.6	137.8	-0.8
Hospitality & Tourism	159.0	158.6	-0.4
Other Activity	141.9	142.1	+0.2
Midland Composite	120.3	121.1	+0.8

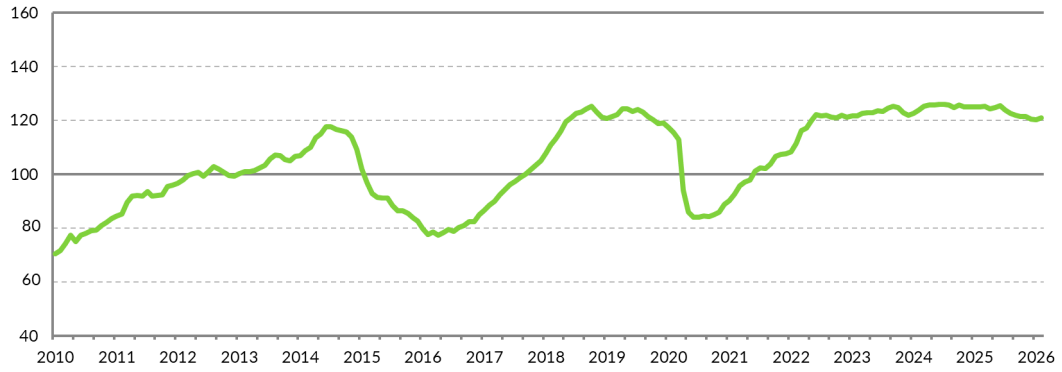
Note: Industries are not weighted equally in calculating the Industry Composite; see the Appendix for further explanation. The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Midland and Martin counties.

Source: The Perryman Group



Midland Economic Index

(Index adjusted such that 100 represents economic status in 2012)

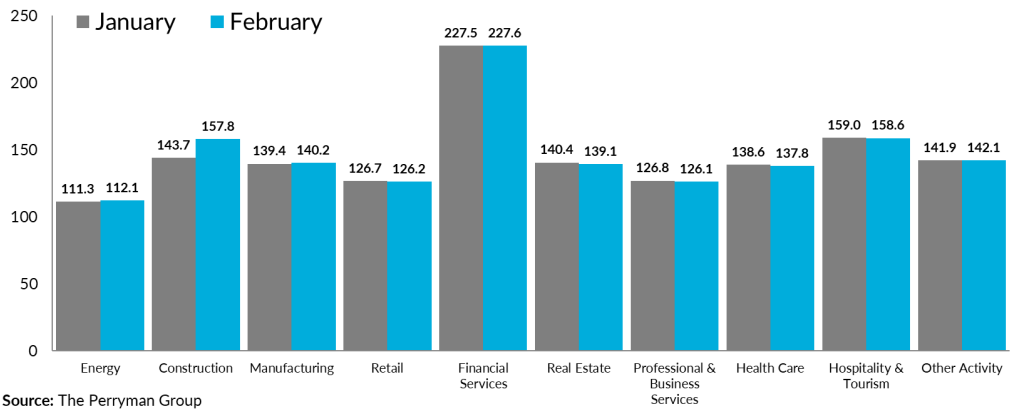


Source: The Perryman Group

Midland Economic Index

Recent values by sector

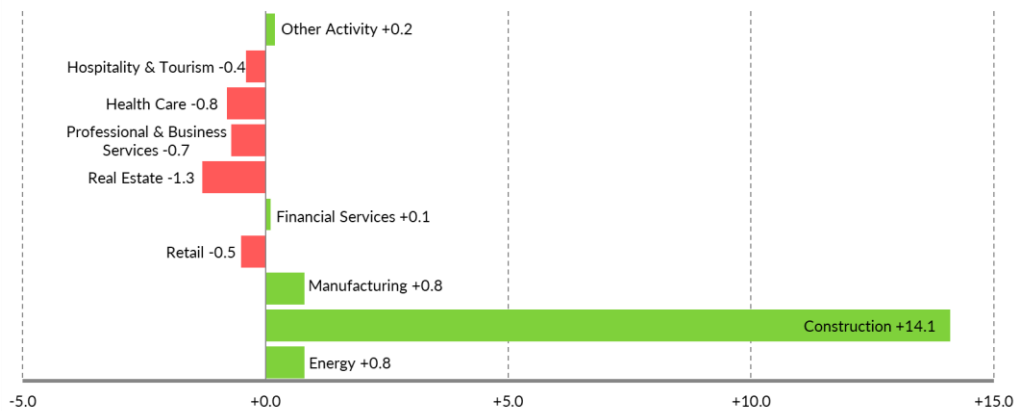
(Index adjusted such that 100 represents economic status in 2012)



Source: The Perryman Group

Midland Economic Index

Change from previous month by sector



Source: The Perryman Group



PERMIAN BASIN REGION

The Permian Basin Economic Index for February measured 105.7, indicating an increase from the prior month of 1.1.

Performance across industry groups was mixed, with increases in Energy (+1.2), Construction (+10.6), and Real Estate (+0.3), leading to a gain in the overall index. However, there were decreases in Hospitality & Tourism (-0.8) and several other sectors.

Current Index Reading	105.7
Change from Previous Month	Up 1.1

PERMIAN BASIN ECONOMIC INDEX

RESULTS BY INDUSTRY (2012=100)

Industry	January	February	Change
Energy	97.1	98.3	+1.2
Construction	127.5	138.1	+10.6
Manufacturing	97.4	97.6	+0.2
Retail	126.8	126.5	-0.3
Financial Services	135.2	135.1	-0.1
Real Estate	141.7	142.0	+0.3
Professional & Business Services	118.4	118.3	-0.1
Health Care	122.6	122.2	-0.4
Hospitality & Tourism	146.8	146.0	-0.8
Other Activity	129.5	128.5	-1.0
Permian Basin Composite	104.6	105.7	+1.1

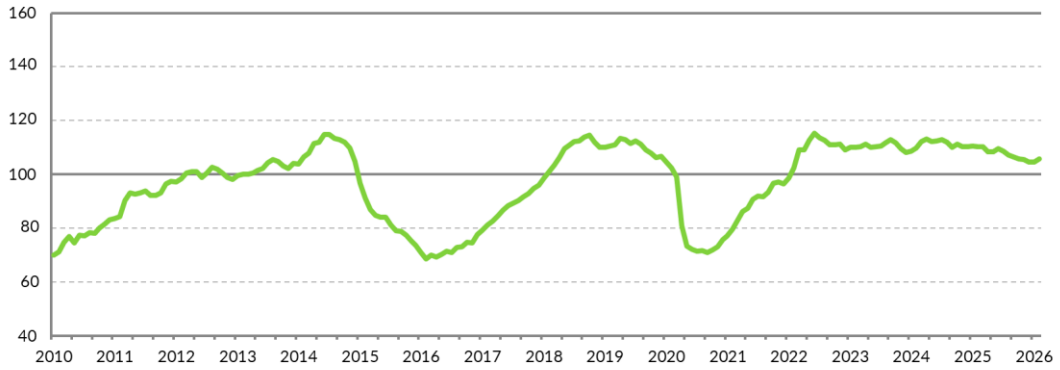
Note: Industries are not weighted equally in calculating the Industry Composite; see the Appendix for further explanation. The Permian Basin Region includes Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Ward, and Winkler counties.

Source: The Perryman Group



Permian Basin Economic Index

(Index adjusted such that 100 represents economic status in 2012)

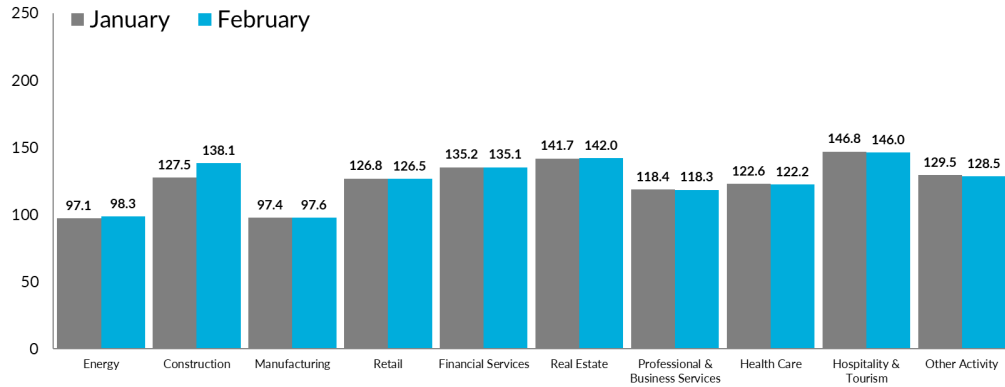


Source: The Perryman Group

Permian Basin Economic Index

Recent values by sector

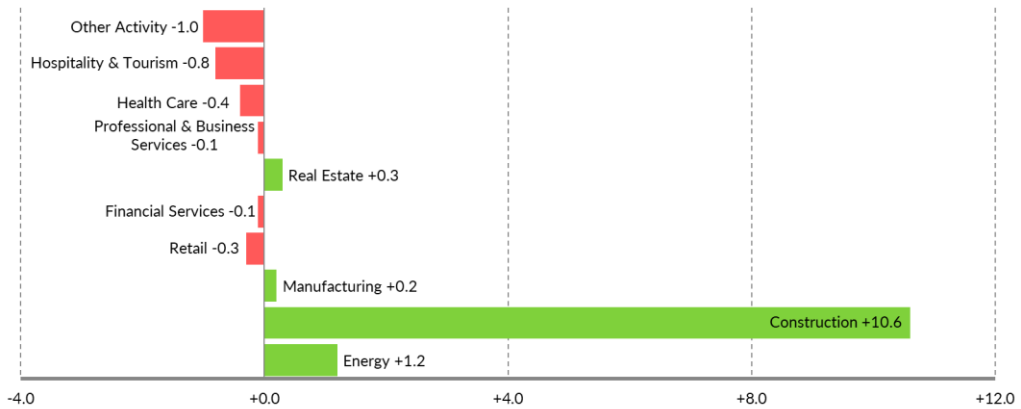
(Index adjusted such that 100 represents economic status in 2012)



Source: The Perryman Group

Permian Basin Economic Index

Change from previous month by sector



Source: The Perryman Group



METHODOLOGY

The goal of the Midland and Permian Basin indices is to encapsulate, in a single measure, the current status of the local and regional economy, how it is changing, and what is driving the change. The indices include measures of industrial performance, with sub-indices for the various components to indicate the role they play in overall performance. The indices are based on complex economic modeling processes, but it provides a simple measure of the health of the local and regional economy and how and why it is changing.

The indices reflect shifts in key industries and performance. The relative weights of each component were determined based on typical patterns in the relationships of variables to overall economic performance. The indices include variables ranging from oil prices to construction which describe the evolving status of key industries. These measures reflect analysis of numerous indicators of the level of activity and how it is changing. Beginning with the May 2025 report, an extensive revision of historical employment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics is reflected in the Index values.

The Midland and Permian Basin indices were developed and are maintained by The Perryman Group, an economic and financial analysis firm based in Waco, Texas with decades of experience in analyzing the local and regional economies. Dr. M. Ray Perryman, President and CEO of The Perryman Group, has more than 40 years of experience in index construction and regional economic modeling. In particular, Dr. Perryman derived the indices of monetary policy that are used by the Federal Reserve System and

more than 60 other central banks around the world. He also developed regional and small-area indices of Industrial Production and Unit Labor Costs that are widely used on a global basis, as well as measures of systematic risk for non-homogenous assets and the degree of trade integration among nations. Dr. Perryman has been an advisor to the US Department of Labor on the Consumer Price Index as well as numerous other governmental entities on index-related issues. He has also developed the world's largest regional econometric modeling system and has been analyzing the economy of Midland and the Permian Basin on an ongoing basis since the mid-1970s.

Index Construction

Economic indices are typically constructed in one of two ways, both of which are widely used and have been successfully employed by Dr. Perryman over the course of his career. One common method is to identify a set of relevant variables and then use principal component analysis (PCA) or a variation (such as a factor rotation) to assign weights to the individual components on an empirical basis. In essence, this process converts a set of variables into an equal number of new measures such that each of the new variables is (1) a linear combination of the original ones and (2) orthogonal to each of the others. The new measures also have the property of collectively containing all of the information in the original variables. When this approach is used, the first principal component (the one which explains the largest percentage of the variation) is typically used to determine the weights in the indices. This approach has advantages in that (1) weights are

empirically generated based on their explanatory power and (2) it is relatively simple to implement. Its major disadvantages are (1) in many instances, particularly where a large number of variables are being examined (as in the current analysis), spurious correlations with relatively minor factors that are unlikely to be sustained over time can occur; (2) the first principle component, despite exhibiting the largest explanatory power, often accounts for only a small amount of the total variation, thus failing to incorporate a substantial portion of the available information.

The second approach is to rely on economic data, theory, and models to develop an index of the desired phenomena. The primary difficulty with this method is the fact that it can become complex in its execution. The advantages are the ability to (1) systematically incorporate very large sets of variables without loss of underlying information, (2) develop sub-indices to provide a focus on specific index elements, and (3) incorporate specific economic content in a detailed and systematic manner.

In the present instance, the second option appeared to be more appropriate in that the process included the incorporation of a complex multi-dimensional framework which allows both individual and integrated consideration of a variety of segments that span multiple sectoral components. Nonetheless, a principal components model was originally attempted for purposes of completeness and to meet the conditions for statistical efficiency. As anticipated, the resulting assessment across a broad spectrum of variables across industries resulted in both weighting on relatively minor variables which were not stable across sub-periods and relatively



little (less than 10 percent) information capture by the primary principal components. Consequently, the Midland and Permian Basin indices were developed using a more formal and comprehensive data and modeling effort. This process is described below.

Industrial Variations

As noted, the indices seek to encapsulate, in a single measure, the many facets of the local and regional economy. Sub-indices are also generated for key industries in order to examine the various components and the role that they play in overall performance. Aggregates available on a monthly basis are incorporated into the indices in order to permit regular monitoring of changes in business activity. Broader measures (such as total expenditures and gross product by industry) which have greater information content but less frequent periodicity are used in defining the relative weights. In this manner, it is possible to enhance the comprehensiveness of the indices.

The segments of the economy that are included in the indices are:

- Energy,
- Construction (residential and non-residential),
- Manufacturing,
- Retail,
- Financial Services,
- Real Estate,
- Professional & Business Services,
- Health Care,
- Hospitality & Tourism, and
- Other Activity

The relative weights to be applied to each segment were derived based on the stabilized percentage of each sector of a relevant overall aggregate (gross area product).

The next phase of the analysis is the construction of the various sectoral indices. Measures that were available on a monthly basis were employed and were selected based on their role in being reflective of aspects of the relevant segment. They were then tested relative to one another to assure that they were not subject to excessive multicollinearity. Once the final set was determined, each quarterly series was transformed into a common format in which 2012 was defined as equal to 100. The base year is consistent with most official economic series that are presented either as indices or on a constant-dollar basis. All monetary values were similarly expressed in constant 2012 dollars to avoid artificial growth generated by inflation. In a few instances, quarterly series were converted to monthly aggregates using a regression approach developed by Dr. Perryman that is widely utilized throughout the world.

The variables utilized in the indices include items such as oil and gas prices, rig counts, retail sales, single and multi-family housing permits and values, housing sales and values, bank loans and deposits, employment by detailed industrial category, and numerous other factors. Where appropriate, inputs were adjusted to eliminate seasonal patterns that are not reflective of underlying economic conditions.

In each of the indices, the weights assigned to the individual components are determined based on the relative standard errors of the normalized values. This approach allows greater weight to be assigned to those measures

which exhibit more pronounced fluctuations to influence industry performance. These individual sectoral indices were aggregated into an overall Composite Index using the weighting described above. Separate individual sectoral measures and Composite Index values were generated for the Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area and the Permian Basin Region. It should be noted that the monthly indices always use the latest available economic data. Because much of the information normally is subject to both short-term revisions and periodic benchmarking, historical values will often change from month to month. These variations are typically minor.

Historical Performance

Historical performance of components of the Midland and Permian Basin indices are provided in the accompanying workbook.

Conclusion

The Midland and Permian Basin indices provide a measure of changes in the economy that is easy to grasp and compare over time. Although the modeling process that went into the indices was complex, the result is a simple and straightforward assessment of the direction of patterns in business activity and the reasons for changes in overall performance.



THE PERRYMAN GROUP



The Perryman Group is a focused team of analysts who know how to address complex economic information tasks and present our findings effectively.

Our in-house professionals bring expertise in economics, finance, statistics, mathematics, real estate, valuation, systems analysis, engineering, technical communications, and marketing. Dr. Ray Perryman, President and CEO, has almost 50 years of experience in developing systems, analyzing complex problems, and communicating effectively. We have considerable pride in what we do. Our enthusiasm is both unbridled and contagious; every day brings a new opportunity for us to tackle a different problem or create a product or service specifically tailored to our clients.

OUR SERVICES

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

We have developed and continually maintain an extensive set of economic impact evaluation models that can be applied in a variety of contexts.

EXPERT TESTIMONY

We help clients analyze and communicate complex information in common-sense terms through comprehensive, objective analyses and clear, concise expert reports and presentations.

FORECASTING

We are at the cutting edge of econometrics and other advanced statistical methods and have provided innovative approaches for many complex applications.

SPEECHES

Dr. Perryman addresses dozens of audiences throughout the world every year, catering to a wide variety of events.

M. RAY PERRYMAN, PH.D.

Dr. Ray Perryman is President and CEO of The Perryman Group, an economic research and analysis firm based in Waco, Texas. His firm has served the needs of more than 3,000 clients, including two-thirds of the Global 25, over half of the Fortune 100, the 12 largest technology firms in the world, 12 US Cabinet Departments, the 9 largest firms in the US, the 6 largest energy companies operating in the US, and the 5 largest US banking institutions.

Dr. Perryman was named Outstanding Young Person of the World for Business and Economic Innovation in 1987 and was designated Texan of the Year by the Texas Legislative Conference in 2012. He received the Baylor University Distinguished Service Medal in 2013, was inducted into the Texas Leadership Hall of Fame in 2014, received the LULAC Conscience Builders Award in 2016 for his humanitarian efforts, and received the Lifetime Achievement Award for philanthropy from the Association of Fundraising Professionals in 2023.



He dedicates a significant portion of his time to pro bono work aimed at helping to solve pressing social problems such as hunger, indigent healthcare, poverty, and child maltreatment.