

Main Category	Item	Type of Indicator	Measure	What the Data Shows	More of the Story	Abilene, TX Metro Area	Dallas-Fort Worth Metro Area	Dallas-Fort Worth Metro Area	Killeen-Temple Metro Area	Lubbock, TX Metro Area	Midland, TX Metro Area	Odessa, TX Metro Area	San Angelo, TX Metro Area	Tyler, TX Metro Area	Waco, TX Metro Area	Wichita Falls, TX Metro Area	Geography Level	Year	Source	FEER RANK (1 = Worst of Peer Area)	
						Abilene Taylor	Denton	Grand Prairie Dallas	Ft Worth	Killeen	Lubbock	Midland	Odessa	San Angelo	Tyler	Waco	Wichita Falls				
						Abilene Taylor	Denton	Grand Prairie Dallas	Ft Worth	Killeen	Lubbock	Midland	Odessa	San Angelo	Tyler	Waco	Wichita Falls				
				City Primary County																	
People	Population Trends	Count	Population	The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that the population of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callahan, Jones and Taylor counties - totaled 179,308 in 2022.	The Abilene Metro Area's estimated population of 179,308 in 2022 makes it quite comparable to several other regional metropolitan areas, such as the Wichita Falls Metro Area (189,299) and the San Angelo Metro Area (121,839), as well as the Midland Metro Area (177,216) and the Dallas Metro Area (260,865), if the latter two are counted separately.	179,308	7,943,685	7,943,685	496,228	328,283	177,216	160,869	121,839	1,034,123	283,885	149,299 Metro		2022	U.S. Census, Population Estimates	FEER RANK 3 of 7	
People	Population Trends	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population	The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that the population of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callahan, Jones and Taylor counties - grew from 177,829 in 2021 to 179,308 in 2022, an increase of 0.8% or 1,479 residents.	The Abilene Metro Area's estimated growth rate of 0.8% from 2021 to 2022 was greater than most other regional metropolitan areas of comparable size, including the Wichita Falls, San Angelo and Odessa metro areas - which had growth rates of 0.2%, -0.3% and 0.1%, respectively, over the Midland Metro Area expanded more rapidly, growing by 2.2% over the same time frame.	0.8%	2.2%	2.2%	1.9%	0.9%	2.2%	0.1%	-0.3%	0.8%	1.1%	0.2% Metro		2022	U.S. Census, Population Estimates		
People	Age Groups	Count	Population Ages 20 to 44 Years	The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that in 2022 there were 63,173 residents of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callahan, Jones and Taylor counties - between 20 and 44 years old, who are generally classified as young adults.	However, the population of young adults in the Abilene Metro Area grew fairly rapidly over the previous year relative to most other regional metro areas, adding 2.0%, which was exceeded only by 2.8% growth in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area. At the low end, the Midland Metro Area lost 1.1% of its population of young adults from the previous year.	63,173	2,674,861	2,674,861	180,473	122,603	64,728	59,424	41,171	329,521	95,241	50,891 Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages		
People	Age Groups	Percent of Total	Population Ages 20 to 44 Years (% of Total)	This is an increase of 2.0% in the number of young adults from the previous year, but as a percentage of the metro area's estimated population of 177,829 in 2021, young adults fell 0.1% from 2020, down to 36.3% of total population.	As a proportion of total population, the percentage of young adults was fairly stable across all regional metro areas from 2020 to 2021, ranging from an increase of 0.2% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to a decrease of 0.3% in the San Angelo Metro Area. The Abilene Metro Area showed little change, with a drop of 0.1%.	36.3%	35.5%	35.5%	38.6%	38.4%	37.6%	36.9%	34.6%	32.6%	34.6%	34.3% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	36.3%	
People	Age Groups	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population 20 to 44 Years	The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that in 2022 there were 63,173 residents of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callahan, Jones and Taylor counties - between 20 and 44 years old, who are generally classified as young adults.	However, the population of young adults in the Abilene Metro Area grew fairly rapidly over the previous year relative to most other regional metro areas, adding 2.0%, which was exceeded only by 2.8% growth in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area. At the low end, the Midland Metro Area lost 1.1% of its population of young adults from the previous year.	2.0%	0.8%	0.8%	2.8%	-0.3%	-1.1%	-1.0%	-0.4%	1.1%	1.6%	-1.5% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	-0.2%	
People	Age Groups	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population 20 to 44 Years (% of Total)	This is an increase of 2.0% in the number of young adults from the previous year, but as a percentage of the metro area's estimated population of 177,829 in 2021, young adults fell 0.1% from 2020, down to 36.3% of total population.	As a proportion of total population, the percentage of young adults was fairly stable across all regional metro areas from 2020 to 2021, ranging from an increase of 0.2% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to a decrease of 0.3% in the San Angelo Metro Area. The Abilene Metro Area showed little change, with a drop of 0.1%.	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.3%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.2% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	-0.1%	
People	Diversity Index	Index	Diversity Index	The Abilene Metropolitan Area is somewhat less diverse than most other metropolitan areas in the region, rating 67.4 on the 2022 EEO Diversity Index. Other similarly sized metro areas, San Angelo, Midland and Odessa are all more diverse - with ratings of 75.7, 80.4 and 82.6, respectively; only Wichita Falls is less diverse, with a rating of 64.9.	All of the larger metropolitan areas in the region also had higher diversity ratings, with Waco at 79.6, Lubbock at 81.7, Killeen-Temple at 81.8 and Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 82.5, which is reflective of national trends. In 2022, metropolitan areas across the U.S. had an average diversity rating of 74.1, while metropolitan areas and rural areas had average ratings of 61.4 and 41.3, respectively.	67.4	82.5	82.5	78.8	77.7	80.4	82.8	75.7	67.7	75.6	64.9 Metro		2022			75.4
Income	Median Household Income	Count	Median Household Income	In 2022, the Abilene Metropolitan Area's median household income (i.e., the level at which half of households have more income and half have less) was \$57,356. This amount consists of all regular income earned by all household members, including wages, salaries, commissions, bonuses, self-employment, dividends, Social Security and retirement income.	Between 2020 and 2021, median household income grew slightly less in the Abilene Metro Area than in most other similarly-sized metro areas in the region, at 4.6%, higher than Odessa's 3.0%, but lower than Wichita Falls' 7.7%, San Angelo's 7.0% and Midland's 6.3%.	\$57,356	\$76,916	\$76,916	\$58,426	\$56,167	\$87,812	\$64,975	\$61,456	\$60,866	\$52,836	\$55,051 Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	\$63,033	
Income	Median Household Income	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Median Household Income (Not Adjusted for Inflation)	This is an increase of 4.6% from 2020 to 2021 in total dollars (not adjusted for inflation) or about \$2,500. However, when accounting for inflation, median household income actually fell 0.1%, or about \$55.	Most of the nominal growth in median household incomes across the region from 2020 to 2021 was nullified by the rising inflation that accompanied the COVID-19 pandemic, with both the Abilene and Odessa metro areas slipping into negative growth after accounting for inflation, with declines of 0.3% and 3.8%, respectively. Taking inflation into account, median household income in the Wichita Falls Metro Area grew by only 2.9%, less than half of the 7.7% nominal growth rate.	-0.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	1.2%	1.3%	-1.0%	2.2%	1.4%	1.9%	2.9% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	1.0%	
Income	Median Household Income	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Median Household Income (No Adjustment)	According to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Living Wage Calculator available at livingwage.mit.edu , a full-time worker in the Abilene Metropolitan Area living in a family of four (with two working adults and two children) must earn at least \$23.66 per hour to maintain minimum standards of living and basic family needs.	Living wages in the Abilene Metro Area are generally comparable to or slightly lower than other similarly sized metro areas in the region, according to MIT's Living Wage Calculator, with a family of four with two working adults and two children requiring wages of \$21.69 in Abilene, \$21.49 in San Angelo, \$21.43 in Odessa and \$24.07 in Midland.	\$23.66	\$24.68	\$24.68	\$21.46	\$21.97	\$24.07	\$23.43	\$23.81	\$23.51	\$22.52	\$21.49 Metro		2023	Living Wage Calculator, MIT (livingwage.mit.edu)	\$22.27	
Income	Poverty Rate	Percent of Total	Population Below Poverty Level (%)	In 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that 13.4% percent of Abilene Metropolitan Area residents lived in poverty, with 16.0% of area residents under the age of 18 living below the poverty threshold. Relative to 2020, this represents a slight increase of 0.1% in the area's overall poverty rate, but a drop of 0.5% in the area's youth poverty rate.	The Abilene Metropolitan Area's poverty rate of 13.4% in 2021, while slightly above the national rate of 11.5%, was comparable to other metropolitan areas in the region, ranging from a low of 10.5% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area to a high of 18.1% in the Waco Metro Area.	13.4%	10.9%	10.9%	13.5%	17.8%	11.2%	14.1%	11.8%	13.4%	18.1%	15.8% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	13.9%	
Income	Poverty Rate	Percent of Total	Population Below Poverty Level (%)	Poverty rate is calculated according to household size and pre-tax income, not including capital gains or non-cash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid or food stamps). In 2021, a single person under the age of 65 would be considered to be living in poverty if they had a pre-tax income of less than \$14,097, while for a household of two adults and two children, the poverty threshold would be \$27,479 in household income.	Like-wise, the Abilene Metro Area's youth poverty rate of 16.0% in 2021 fell within the range of other regional metro areas, again with the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Waco metro areas at the extremes, with youth poverty rates of 15.4% and 22.9%, respectively. Nationally, the youth poverty rate was 15.3% in 2021.	16.0%	15.4%	15.4%	18.7%	19.1%	11.9%	19.3%	16.3%	19.0%	22.9%	20.4% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	18.0%	
Income	Poverty Rate	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population Below Poverty Level (%)	This represents a slight increase of 0.1% in the area's overall poverty rate, but a drop of 0.5% in the area's youth poverty rate.	The Abilene Metro Area closely followed national changes in poverty from 2020 to 2021, with the overall poverty rate increasing by 0.1% in both the Abilene area and the nation as a whole. Similarly, over the same time period, the youth poverty rate fell 0.5% in the Abilene Metro Area and 0.7% in the nation overall.	0.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.7%	1.4%	1.1%	-0.9%	-0.2%	-0.8%	-0.8% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	0.1%	
Income	Poverty Rate	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population Below Poverty Level (%)	This represents a slight increase of 0.1% in the area's overall poverty rate, but a drop of 0.5% in the area's youth poverty rate.	The Abilene Metropolitan Area's poverty rate of 13.4% in 2021, while slightly above the national rate of 11.5%, was comparable to other metropolitan areas in the region, ranging from a low of 10.5% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area to a high of 18.1% in the Waco Metro Area.	-0.5%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.5%	-1.2%	2.0%	0.9%	-1.1%	-0.5%	-1.0%	-1.0% Metro		2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	-0.2%	

Businesses & Jobs	Self-Employment	Percent of Total	Self-Employed	<p>Abilene Metro Area residents reported the lowest rate of self-employment compared to the other comparably sized metro areas of Wichita Falls at 9.2%, Odessa at 9.5%, San Angelo at 10.0% and Midland at 12.2%. However, Abilene's self-employment rate was slightly higher than the larger metro area of Killeen at 8.1% and of both Lubbock and Waco at 8.0%, although slightly under the 10.0% reported in the Dallas-Fort Worth Arlington Metro Area.</p> <p>Self-employment rates were largely unchanged across the region between 2020 and 2021, ranging from a decline of 0.7% in Wichita Falls to an increase of 1.1% in Odessa, with Abilene's rate falling 0.4%.</p>	9.0%	10.0%	10.0%	8.1%	8.8%	12.2%	9.5%	10.9%	10.2%	8.8%	9.2% Metro	2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5 Year Averages	9.7%
Businesses & Jobs	Self-Employment	1 Year Change	1 Year Change in Self-Employment	<p>Abilene Metro Area residents reported the lowest rate of self-employment compared to the other comparably sized metro areas of Wichita Falls at 9.2%, Odessa at 9.5%, San Angelo at 10.0% and Midland at 12.2%. However, Abilene's self-employment rate was slightly higher than the larger metro area of Killeen at 8.1% and of both Lubbock and Waco at 8.0%, although slightly under the 10.0% reported in the Dallas-Fort Worth Arlington Metro Area.</p> <p>Self-employment rates were largely unchanged across the region between 2020 and 2021, ranging from a decline of 0.7% in Wichita Falls to an increase of 1.1% in Odessa, with Abilene's rate falling 0.4%.</p>	-0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.9%	1.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.7% Metro	2021	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5 Year Averages	0.2%
Businesses & Jobs	Exports	Count	Exports (thousands)	<p>The International Trade Administration reported that the Abilene Metropolitan Area exported \$52.1 million worth of goods to other countries in 2021, an increase of 3.5% from 2020.</p> <p>Abilene's largest export sector in 2021 was transportation equipment, at \$28.2 million, followed by fabricated metal products at \$6.1 million. Abilene's largest export region, accounting for \$54.7 million of exports, was Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), which includes Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.</p> <p>Abilene's growth in international exports between 2020 and 2021 was moderate, but positive, higher than Midland's decline of 13.5%, but lower than Odessa's 5.9%, 9.2% and 20.1% in Wichita Falls, Odessa and San Angelo, respectively.</p> <p>In the region's larger metro areas, international exports ranged from \$167.9 million in Killeen to more than \$43 billion from the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, which was up 12.2% from 2020.</p>	\$62,579.61	\$41,189,011.34	\$41,189,011.34	\$167,945.61	\$406,669.47	\$49,948.53	\$74,288.85	\$148,439.34	\$1,064,817.26	\$866,402.91	\$184,164.04 Metro	2021	International Trade Administration, Metropolitan Exports	FEER RANK: 6 of 7
Businesses & Jobs	Exports	1 Year Change	1 Year Change in Exports	<p>The International Trade Administration reported that the Abilene Metropolitan Area exported \$52.1 million worth of goods to other countries in 2021, an increase of 3.5% from 2020.</p> <p>Abilene's largest export sector in 2021 was transportation equipment, at \$28.2 million, followed by fabricated metal products at \$6.1 million. Abilene's largest export region, accounting for \$54.7 million of exports, was Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), which includes Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.</p> <p>Abilene's growth in international exports between 2020 and 2021 was moderate, but positive, higher than Midland's decline of 13.5%, but lower than Odessa's 5.9%, 9.2% and 20.1% in Wichita Falls, Odessa and San Angelo, respectively.</p> <p>In the region's larger metro areas, international exports ranged from \$167.9 million in Killeen to more than \$43 billion from the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, which was up 12.2% from 2020.</p>	3.5%	21.2%	21.2%	15.8%	-6.5%	-13.5%	9.2%	20.1%	15.4%	32.2%	5.5% Metro	2021	International Trade Administration, Metropolitan Exports	4.9%
Businesses & Jobs	GDP/GSP	Count	GDP (billions)	<p>The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$6.1 billion in 2021 is similar to most other metro areas in the region, accounting for population differences, with the exception of the Dallas and Midland metro areas - and to a lesser extent Odessa - which have disproportionately high GDPs for the region. Midland's GDP of \$20.5 billion is larger than that of Killeen, \$20.0 billion, despite having only about a third of the population.</p> <p>Likewise, average annual wages per worker in the Abilene Metro Area of \$49,833 fall in the middle of most metro areas in the region outside of Dallas - ranging from \$47,046 in Wichita Falls to \$53,647 in Killeen - again the exception of Midland and Odessa, which have average wages of \$63,991 and \$67,755, respectively. Average wages in Dallas are \$73,523 per worker.</p> <p>Both GDP and average wages grew across the region from 2020 to 2021, with Abilene's GDP growth of 8.9% and wage growth of 9.5% typical for the region. GDP growth in the region ranged from 4.7% in Odessa to 13.8% in Dallas, while wage growth ranged from 6.2% in Waco to 13.4% in Odessa.</p>	\$6.1	\$625.9	\$625.9	\$20.0	\$16.1	\$20.5	\$9.6	\$5.6	\$08.5	\$14.8	\$6.3 Metro	2021	IBREIQ	FEER RANK: 5 of 7
Businesses & Jobs	GDP/GSP	1 Year Change	1 Year Change in GDP	<p>The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$6.1 billion in 2021 is similar to most other metro areas in the region, accounting for population differences, with the exception of the Dallas and Midland metro areas - and to a lesser extent Odessa - which have disproportionately high GDPs for the region. Midland's GDP of \$20.5 billion is larger than that of Killeen, \$20.0 billion, despite having only about a third of the population.</p> <p>Likewise, average annual wages per worker in the Abilene Metro Area of \$49,833 fall in the middle of most metro areas in the region outside of Dallas - ranging from \$47,046 in Wichita Falls to \$53,647 in Killeen - again the exception of Midland and Odessa, which have average wages of \$63,991 and \$67,755, respectively. Average wages in Dallas are \$73,523 per worker.</p> <p>Both GDP and average wages grew across the region from 2020 to 2021, with Abilene's GDP growth of 8.9% and wage growth of 9.5% typical for the region. GDP growth in the region ranged from 4.7% in Odessa to 13.8% in Dallas, while wage growth ranged from 6.2% in Waco to 13.4% in Odessa.</p>	8.9%	13.8%	13.8%	9.4%	8.9%	10.1%	4.7%	7.1%	7.9%	11.9%	8.8% Metro	2021	IBREIQ	8.3%
Businesses & Jobs	Average Wage	Count	Annual Average Wages per Worker	<p>The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$6.1 billion in 2021 is similar to most other metro areas in the region, accounting for population differences, with the exception of the Dallas and Midland metro areas - and to a lesser extent Odessa - which have disproportionately high GDPs for the region. Midland's GDP of \$20.5 billion is larger than that of Killeen, \$20.0 billion, despite having only about a third of the population.</p> <p>Likewise, average annual wages per worker in the Abilene Metro Area of \$49,833 fall in the middle of most metro areas in the region outside of Dallas - ranging from \$47,046 in Wichita Falls to \$53,647 in Killeen - again the exception of Midland and Odessa, which have average wages of \$63,991 and \$67,755, respectively. Average wages in Dallas are \$73,523 per worker.</p> <p>Both GDP and average wages grew across the region from 2020 to 2021, with Abilene's GDP growth of 8.9% and wage growth of 9.5% typical for the region. GDP growth in the region ranged from 4.7% in Odessa to 13.8% in Dallas, while wage growth ranged from 6.2% in Waco to 13.4% in Odessa.</p>	\$49,833	\$73,523	\$73,523	\$51,647	\$50,775	\$63,991	\$67,755	\$49,845	\$55,763	\$53,006	\$47,046 Metro	2021	IBREIQ	\$57,533
Businesses & Jobs	Average Wage	1 Year Change	1 Year Change in Average Annual Wages per Worker	<p>The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$6.1 billion in 2021 is similar to most other metro areas in the region, accounting for population differences, with the exception of the Dallas and Midland metro areas - and to a lesser extent Odessa - which have disproportionately high GDPs for the region. Midland's GDP of \$20.5 billion is larger than that of Killeen, \$20.0 billion, despite having only about a third of the population.</p> <p>Likewise, average annual wages per worker in the Abilene Metro Area of \$49,833 fall in the middle of most metro areas in the region outside of Dallas - ranging from \$47,046 in Wichita Falls to \$53,647 in Killeen - again the exception of Midland and Odessa, which have average wages of \$63,991 and \$67,755, respectively. Average wages in Dallas are \$73,523 per worker.</p> <p>Both GDP and average wages grew across the region from 2020 to 2021, with Abilene's GDP growth of 8.9% and wage growth of 9.5% typical for the region. GDP growth in the region ranged from 4.7% in Odessa to 13.8% in Dallas, while wage growth ranged from 6.2% in Waco to 13.4% in Odessa.</p>	9.5%	6.7%	6.7%	6.6%	6.5%	8.7%	13.4%	7.0%	6.1%	6.2%	7.8% Metro	2021	IBREIQ	8.5%

* San Angelo data for 2022 was not available for comparison. Data from Redfin source was used to compare sale price trends.

** Graduation rate reflects the Tulsa (OK) area, not county level due to the absence of data for the county.

*** SAT Scores for Tulsa Schools not available. Texas participation for SAT is strong, while ACT participation is very low. Oklahoma has high ACT participation and very low or non-reporting SAT scores on the local level.

**** Dallas-FT Worth used for Grand Prairie as it was the closest available option.

***** Tulsa did not have 2022 tourism data.