Main Category	Item	Type of Indicator	Measure	What the Data Shows	IMINTO AT THE STATY	Abilene, TX Aetro Area		lington, TX	en-Temple, Lubbock Ietro Area Metro A	, TX Midland, TX rea Area	Metro Odessa, TX Area	K Metro San Angelo Metro Area	o, TX Tulsa, OK N a Area	Metro Wa Are	co, TX Metro Wich a Metr	iita Falls, TX Geogr o Area Level	aphy Year Source		KEY: 1 = Best; 7 = Worst (IF PEER RAI OR	INK)
			City Primary County				Denton Gro	etro Area Killee and Prairie Killee Ilas Bell		Midland	Odessa Ector	San Angelo Tom Green	Tulsa	Wa Mc		ita Falls			Average of Peer Cities (Abilene. Kille	een. Lubbock.
					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 (149,299) and the San Angelo Metro Area (121,839), as well as the Midland Metro Area (177,216) and the Odessa Metro Area (160,869), if the latter two															
					are counted separately. The Waco, Lubbock and Killeen metropolitan areas are all significantly larger than that of Abilene, with estimated 2022 populations of 283,885, 328,283 and 496,228, respectively, but even those are dwarfed in comparison to the Dallas-Fort Worth-	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			
				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.	Arlington Metro Area, at 7,943,685. The city of Abilene itself was the 28th largest incorporated location in Texas in 2022, with a population of 127,385. Of 1,223 incorporated locations in Texas in 2022, the largest was the city of Houston, at 2,302,878, followed by the cities of San Antonio															
People	Population Trends	Count	Population	Callahan County, 19,935 for Jones County and 145,163 for Taylor County. The city of Abilene, which is located almost entirely in Taylor County, had an estimated population of 127,385 in 2022.	and Dallas, at 1,472,909 and 1,299,544, respectively.												U.S. Census, Population	Estimates	PEER RANK: 3 of 7	
				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, outpacing the Wichita Falls, San Angelo and Odessa metro areas - which had growth rates of 0.2%, -															
				All three counties in the Abilene Metropolitan Area were estimated to have grown from 2021 to 2022, with Taylor County up 1,221 residents (0.8%), Callahan County up 132 residents (0.9%) and Jones County up 126 residents (0.6%).	 ve 0.3% and 0.1%, respectively; only the Midland Metro Area expanded more rapidly, growing by 2.2% over the same time frame. Reflective of historic trends toward urban areas growing more rapidly than rural areas, 	0.8%	2.2%	2.2%	1.9%	0.9%	2.2%	0.1%	-0.3%	0.8%	1.1%	0.2% Metro	2022			
People	Population Trends	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population	The city of Abilene itself was estimated to have added 1,225 residents - on 1.0% - growing from 126,160 in 2021 to 127,385 in 2022.	the somewhat more populous metro areas of Killeen, Lubbock and Waco grew at estimated rates of 1.9%, 0.9% and 1.1%, respectively, from 2021 to 2022. Over the same time, the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area was estimated to have grown 2.2%, adding 170,396 residents - or almost the entire population of the Abilene Metro Area.												U.S. Census, Population	Estimates		0.89
					The Abilene Metropolitan Area's percentage of young adults in 2021 - 36.3% of total population - was in the middle of the range of other metropolitan areas in the region, with a high of 38.6% in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area and a low of 34.3% in the Wichita Fall Metro Area.															
				The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that in 2021 there were 63,573 residents of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callaha	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 n, was exceeded only by 2.8% growth in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area. At the low end,	63,573	2,674,861	2,674,861	180,471	122,603	64,728	59,424	42,171	329,521	95,241	50,891 Metro	2021			
					the Midland Metro Area lost 3.1% of its population of young adults from the previous year.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%															
People	Age Groups	Count	Population Ages 20 to 44 Years		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%. The Abilene Metropolitan Area's percentage of young adults in 2021 - 36.3% of total												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages	PEER RANK: 4 of 7	
					population - was in the middle of the range of other metropolitan areas in the region, with a high of 38.6% in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area and a low of 34.3% in the Wichita Fall Metro Area. However, the population of young adults in the Abilene Metro Area grew fairly rapidly															
				The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that in 2021 there were 63,573 residents of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callaha Jones and Taylor counties - between 20 and 44 years old, who are generally classified as young adults.	over the previous year relative to most other regional metro areas, adding 2.0%, which	36.3%	35.5%	35.5%	38.6%	38.4%	37.6%	36.9%	34.6%	32.6%	34.6%	34.3% Metro	2021			
People	Age Groups	Percent of Total	Population 20 to 44 years (% of Total)	year; but as a percentage of the metro area's estimated population of	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%.												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		36.7'
					The Abilene Metropolitan Area's percentage of young adults in 2021 - 36.3% of total population - was in the middle of the range of other metropolitan areas in the region, with a high of 38.6% in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area and a low of 34.3% in the Wichita Fall Metro Area.															
				The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that in 2021 there were 63,573 residents of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callaha	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 n, was exceeded only by 2.8% growth in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area. At the low end,	2.0%	0.8%	0.8%	2.8%	-0.3%	-3.1%	-1.0%	-0.4%	1.1%	1.6%	-1.5% Metro	2021			
					 the Midland Metro Area lost 3.1% of its population of young adults from the previous year. 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% 															
People	Age Groups	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population 20 to years		 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%. The Abilene Metropolitan Area's percentage of young adults in 2021 - 36.3% of total 												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		-0.29
					population - was in the middle of the range of other metropolitan areas in the region, with a high of 38.6% in the Killeen-Temple Metro Area and a low of 34.3% in the Wichita Fall Metro Area. However, the population of young adults in the Abilene Metro Area grew fairly rapidly															
				The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that in 2021 there were 63,573 residents of the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which encompasses Callaha 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 3.1% of its population of young adults from the previous year.	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.3%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.2% Metro	2021			
People	Age Groups	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population 20 to years (% of Total)	year; but as a percentage of the metro area's estimated population of	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%.												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		- <u>∩</u> 1′
					The Abilene Metropolitan Area is somewhat less diverse than most other metropolitan areas in the region, rating 67.4 on the 2022 Esri Diversity Index. Of other similarly-sized metro areas, San Angelo, Midland and Odessa are all more diverse - with ratings													,		0.1/0
					of 75.7, 80.4 and 82.8, 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,	67.4	82.5	82 5	78.8	77 7	80.4	82.8	75 7	67.7	75.6	64.9 Metro	2022			
				In 2022, the Abilene Metropolitan Area - which is composed of Taylor, Callahan and Jones counties - was rated at 67.4 on the Esri Diversity Inde	with Waco at 75.6, Lubbock at 77.7, Killeen-Temple at 78.8 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 micropolitan areas and rural areas had average ratings of 50.8 and 43.3, respectively.	67.4	82.5	82.5	/8.8	//./	80.4	82.8	/3./	07.7	75.0	64.9 Metro	2022			
People	Diversity Index	Index	Diversity Index	which measures the probability that two randomly chosen individuals from	 The Abilene Metro Area is slightly less diverse than the nation as a whole, which in 2022 had a diversity index rating of 72.9. Compared to U.S. national regions, Abilene is more diverse than the Midwest, rated at 52.4, but less diverse than the Northeast, South or West, which were rated at 67.5, 73.2 and 80.6, respectively. 												ESRI			75.
					Median household income in the Abilene Metro Area in 2021 of \$57,356 was comparable to most other metropolitan areas in the region, ranking higher than Waco, Wichita Falls and Lubbock, while slightly lower than Killeen, San Angelo and Odessa.															
					However, both the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Midland metro areas had significantly higher median household income, at \$76,916 and \$87,812, respectively. Between 2020 and 2021, median household income grew slightly less in the Abilene															
				the level at which half of households have more income and half have les income) was \$57,356. This amount consists of all regular income earned		\$57,356	\$76,916	\$76,916	\$58,426	\$56,167	\$87,812	\$64,975	\$61,456	\$60,866	\$52,836	\$55,051 Metro	2021			
				self-employment, dividedends, Social Security and retirement income. This is an increase of 4.6% from 2020 in total dollars (not adjusted for inflation), or about \$2,500. However, when accounting for inflation, media	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 0.1% and 1.6%, respectively. an Taking inflation into account, median household income in the Wichita Falls Metro															
Income	Median Household Income	Count	Median Household Income	household income actually fell 0.1%, or about \$55.	 Area grew by only 2.9%, less than half of the 7.7% nominal growth rate. Median household income in the Abilene Metro Area in 2021 of \$57,356 was comparable to most other metropolitan areas in the region, ranking higher than Waco, 												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		\$63,035
					Wichita Falls and Lubbock, while slightly lower than Killeen, San Angelo and Odessa. However, both the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Midland metro areas had significantly higher median household income, at \$76,916 and \$87,812, respectively.															
				In 2021, the Abilene Metropolitan Area's median household income (i.e., the level at which half of households have more income and half have les income) was \$57,356. This amount consists of all regular income earned		-0.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	1.2%	1.3%	-1.6%	2.2%	1.4%	1.9%	2.9% Metro	2021			
			1 Voar Chango in Modian Housobo	self-employment, dividedends, Social Security and retirement income. This is an increase of 4.6% from 2020 in total dollars (not adjusted for	es, Much 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 0.1% and 1.6%, respectively.															
Income	Median Household Income	1-Year Change		household income actually fell 0.1%, or about \$55.	 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. Median household income in the Abilene Metro Area in 2021 of \$57,356 was 												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		1.0%
					comparable to most other metropolitan areas in the region, ranking higher than Waco, Wichita Falls and Lubbock, while slightly lower than Killeen, San Angelo and Odessa. However, both the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Midland metro areas had significantly higher median household income, at \$76,916 and \$87,812, respectively.															
				the level at which half of households have more income and half have les		4.6%	5.5%	5.5%	5.6%	6.0%	6.1%	3.0%	7.0%	6.1%	6.7%	7.7% Metro	2021			
				income) was \$57,356. This amount consists of all regular income earned by all household members, including wages, salary, commissions, bonuse self-employment, dividedends, Social Security and retirement income. This is an increase of 4.6% from 2020 in total dollars (not adjusted for	es, Much of the nominal growth in median household incomes across the region from															
Income	Median Household Income	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Median Househo Income (No Adjustment)	 Id inflation), or about \$2,500. However, when accounting for inflation, media household income actually fell 0.1%, or about \$55. According to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Living Wage 	 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. Living wages in the Abilene Metro Area are generally comparable to or slightly lower 												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		5.7%
				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 \$21.66 per hour to maintain minimum standards of living and basic family needs.	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 hourly wages of \$21.66 per worker to meet basic needs in Abilene, compared to \$21.49 in Wichita Falls, \$21.81 in San Angelo, \$23.43 in Odessa and \$24.07 in Midland.	\$21.66	\$24.68	\$24.68	\$21.46	\$21.97	\$24.07	\$23.43	\$21.81	\$23.51	\$21.52	\$21.49 Metro	2023			
Incomo		Count		\$38.83 per hour, while a single adult with no children would require only	This is also comperable to the somewhat larger regional metro areas of Killeen, Waco and Lubbock, which require hourly wages of \$21.46, \$21.52 and \$21.97, respectively, to meet the same standards. However, higher costs of living push required hourly												Living Wage Coloulates	NUT (livinguage mit edu)		622.2
Income	Living Wage	Count	with Two Adults Working (Hourly)	\$15.36 per hour.	wages up to \$24.68 for residents of the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area. The Abilene Metropolitan Area's poverty rate of 13.4% in 2021, while slightly above												Living Wage Calculator	, MIT (livingwage.mit.edu)		\$22.2
					the national rate of 11.5%, was comparable to other metropolitan areas in the region, ranging from a low of 10.9% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area to a high of 18.1% in the Waco Metro Area. Likewise, the Abilene Metro Area's youth poverty rate of 16.0% in 2021 fell within the															
				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	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.	13.4%	10.9%	10.9%	13.5%	17.8%	11.2%	14.1%	11.8%	13.4%	18.1%	15.8% Metro	2021			
					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.															
				not including capital gains or noncash 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,	In the region, poverty rates were mostly steady, with the largest increases in the Midland Metro Area, which saw overall poverty rise 1.4% from 2020 to 2021, with of youth poverty up 2.0%. The Waco and Wichita Falls metro areas both had declines in overall poverty of 0.8%, the largest in the region, while the Lubbock Metro Area had															
Income	Poverty Rate	Percent of Total	Population Below Poverty Level (%	the poverty threshold would be \$27,479 in household income.	the largest decline in youth poverty, which fell 1.2%. The Abilene Metropolitan Area's poverty rate of 13.4% in 2021, while slightly above												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		13.9
					the national rate of 11.5%, was comparable to other metropolitan areas in the region, ranging from a low of 10.9% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area to a high of 18.1% in the Waco Metro Area.															
				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	s	16.0%	15.4%	15.4%	18.7%	19.1%	15.9%	19.3%	16.3%	19.0%	22.9%	20.4% Metro	2021			
				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 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.															
			Population Under 18 Years Below	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	 In the region, poverty rates were mostly steady, with the largest increases in the Midland Metro Area, which saw overall poverty rise 1.4% from 2020 to 2021, with youth poverty up 2.0%. The Waco and Wichita Falls metro areas both had declines in overall poverty of 0.8%, the largest in the region, while the Lubbock Metro Area had 															
Income	Poverty Rate	Percent of Total	Poverty Level (%)	the poverty threshold would be \$27,479 in household income.	the largest decline in youth poverty, which fell 1.2%.												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		18.09
					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 10.9% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area to a high of 18.1% in the Waco Metro Area.															
				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		0.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.7%	1.4%	1.1%	-0.3%	-0.2%	-0.8%	-0.8% Metro	2021			
				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.															
			1-Year Change in Devuluit	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	 In the region, poverty rates were mostly steady, with the largest increases in the Midland Metro Area, which saw overall poverty rise 1.4% from 2020 to 2021, with youth poverty up 2.0%. The Waco and Wichita Falls metro areas both had declines in 															
Income	Poverty Rate	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Population Below Poverty Level	 less than \$14,097; while for a household of two adults and two children, the poverty threshold would be \$27,479 in household income. 	overall poverty of 0.8%, the largest in the region, while the Lubbock Metro Area had the largest decline in youth poverty, which fell 1.2%.												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		0.1
					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 10.9% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area to a high of 18.1% in the Waco Metro Area.															
				In 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that 13.4% percent of Abilene		-0.5%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.5%	-1.2%	2.0%	0.9%	-1.1%	-0.5%	-1.0%	-1.0% Metro	2021			
				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,																
			1-Vear Change in P	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	 In the region, poverty rates were mostly steady, with the largest increases in the Midland Metro Area, which saw overall poverty rise 1.4% from 2020 to 2021, with youth poverty up 2.0%. The Waco and Wichita Falls metro areas both had declines in 															
Income	Poverty Rate	1-Year Change		 less than \$14,097; while for a household of two adults and two children, the poverty threshold would be \$27,479 in household income. 	overall poverty of 0.8%, the largest in the region, while the Lubbock Metro Area had the largest decline in youth poverty, which fell 1.2%.												U.S. Census, American	Community Survey 5-Year Averages		-0.2%

				The overall cost of living in Abilene is comparable to that of most other similarly-sized cities in the region, which are generally lower than the national average. In the 2022 C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), overall cost of living was rated at 87 in Wichita Falls, 90 in San Angelo, 91 in Odessa and 101 in Midland, compared to the national													
				 average of 100 and Abilene's rating of 89. Among other cities in the region, Waco, rated at 85, is the least expensive overall, while Denton, at 102, is the most expensive. When considering specific categories of expenses, there is little consistency across the region, with residents of many cities paying significantly greater than average 													
		Cost of Living Index (COLI) (US=10	O) The overall cost of living in Abilene, which in 2022 was rated at 89 in the C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), is significantly lower than the national average, which the index pegs at 100. However, relative costs can vary greatly depending on the category of the expense.	Regional highs and lows in each category, as well as Abilene's rating, are:	89	102	97	88	88	101	91	90	89	85	87 Metro	2022	
			Abilene was similar to the national index of 100 in several categories - receiving ratings of 97 for goods and services, 93 for groceries, 102 for healthcare and 100 for transportation - with somewhat high utility costs, rating at 110 in the index. However, a very low cost of housing - rating at 64 in the index - pushes Abilene's average cost of living well below	Transportation: Abilene, Odessa and San Angelo, 100 - Lubbock, 88 Utilities: Killeen, 123 - Midland, 96 - Abilene, 110													
	Cost of Living Index (US=100) Index			Overall: Denton, 102 - Waco, 85 - Abilene, 89 The overall cost of living in Abilene is comparable to that of most other similarly-sized cities in the region, which are generally lower than the national average. In the 2022 C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), overall cost of living was rated at 87 in Wichita Falls, 90 in San Angelo, 91 in Odessa and 101 in Midland, compared to the national average of 100 and Abilene's rating of 89. Among other cities in the region, Waco, rated at 85, is the least expensive overall, while Denton, at 102, is the most												AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER	
		COLI Goods & Services Index (US=100)		expensive. When considering specific categories of expenses, there is little consistency across the region, with residents of many cities paying significantly greater than average prices in one category while paying much less than the average in another. For example, compared to the national average rating of 100, Denton rated 116 in the	97	116	107	90	97	104	96	97	96	99	100 Metro	2022	
		(03-100)	C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), is significantly lower than the national average, which the index pegs at 100. However, relative costs can vary greatly depending on the category of the expense. Abilene was similar to the national index of 100 in several categories -	Regional highs and lows in each category, as well as Abilene's rating, are: Goods & Services: Denton, 116 - Killeen, 90 - Abilene, 97 Groceries: Wichita Falls, 99 - Killeen and Waco, 79 - Abilene, 93													
Livability	Cost of Living Index (US=100) Index		healthcare and 100 for transportation - with somewhat high utility costs, rating at 110 in the index. However, a very low cost of housing - rating at 64 in the index - pushes Abilene's average cost of living well below average.	Transportation: Abilene, Odessa and San Angelo, 100 - Lubbock, 88 Utilities: Killeen, 123 - Midland, 96 - Abilene, 110 Overall: Denton, 102 - Waco, 85 - Abilene, 89 The overall cost of living in Abilene is comparable to that of most other similarly-sized												AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER	97
				cities in the region, which are generally lower than the national average. In the 2022 C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), overall cost of living was rated at 87 in Wichita Falls, 90 in San Angelo, 91 in Odessa and 101 in Midland, compared to the national average of 100 and Abilene's rating of 89. Among other cities in the region, Waco, rated at 85, is the least expensive overall, while Denton, at 102, is the most expensive.													
		COLI Groceries Index (US=100)		When considering specific categories of expenses, there is little consistency across the region, with residents of many cities paying significantly greater than average prices in one category while paying much less than the average in another. For example, compared to the national average rating of 100, Denton rated 116 in the goods and services category - the highest in the region - but had the region's lowest healthcare costs, with a rating of 82.	93	95	98	79	91	91	91	93	95	79	99 Metro	2022	
			 average, which the index pegs at 100. However, relative costs can vary greatly depending on the category of the expense. Abilene was similar to the national index of 100 in several categories - receiving ratings of 97 for goods and services, 93 for groceries, 102 for healthcare and 100 for transportation - with somewhat high utility costs, 	Regional highs and lows in each category, as well as Abilene's rating, are: Goods & Services: Denton, 116 - Killeen, 90 - Abilene, 97 Groceries: Wichita Falls, 99 - Killeen and Waco, 79 - Abilene, 93 Health Care: Grand Prairie, 112 - Denton, 82 - Abilene, 102 Housing: Wichita Falls, 59 - Midland, 105 - Abilene, 64													
Livability	Cost of Living Index (US=100) Index			Utilities: Killeen, 123 - Midland, 96 - Abilene, 110 Overall: Denton, 102 - Waco, 85 - Abilene, 89 The overall cost of living in Abilene is comparable to that of most other similarly-sized cities in the region, which are generally lower than the national average. In the 2022 C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), overall cost of living was rated at 87 in Wichita												AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER	91
				 Falls, 90 in San Angelo, 91 in Odessa and 101 in Midland, compared to the national average of 100 and Abilene's rating of 89. Among other cities in the region, Waco, rated at 85, is the least expensive overall, while Denton, at 102, is the most expensive. When considering specific categories of expenses, there is little consistency across the region, with residents of many cities paying significantly greater than average 													
		COLI Health Care Index (US=100)	The overall cost of living in Abilene, which in 2022 was rated at 89 in the C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), is significantly lower than the national average, which the index pegs at 100. However, relative costs can vary	prices in one category while paying much less than the average in another. For example, compared to the national average rating of 100, Denton rated 116 in the goods and services category - the highest in the region - but had the region's lowest	102	82	112	110	97	105	99	102	101	92	96 Metro	2022	
			Abilene was similar to the national index of 100 in several categories - receiving ratings of 97 for goods and services, 93 for groceries, 102 for healthcare and 100 for transportation - with somewhat high utility costs, rating at 110 in the index. However, a very low cost of housing - rating at 64 in the index - pushes Abilene's average cost of living well below	Goods & Services: Denton, 116 - Killeen, 90 - Abilene, 97 Groceries: Wichita Falls, 99 - Killeen and Waco, 79 - Abilene, 93 Health Care: Grand Prairie, 112 - Denton, 82 - Abilene, 102 Housing: Wichita Falls, 59 - Midland, 105 - Abilene, 64 Transportation: Abilene, Odessa and San Angelo, 100 - Lubbock, 88 Utilities: Killeen, 123 - Midland, 96 - Abilene, 110													
Livability	Cost of Living Index (US=100) Index		average.	Overall: Denton, 102 - Waco, 85 - Abilene, 89 The overall cost of living in Abilene is comparable to that of most other similarly-sized cities in the region, which are generally lower than the national average. In the 2022 C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), overall cost of living was rated at 87 in Wichita Falls, 90 in San Angelo, 91 in Odessa and 101 in Midland, compared to the national average of 100 and Abilene's rating of 89. Among other cities in the region, Waco,												AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER	102
		COLI Housing Index (US=100)		rated at 85, is the least expensive overall, while Denton, at 102, is the most expensive. When considering specific categories of expenses, there is little consistency across the region, with residents of many cities paying significantly greater than average prices in one category while paying much less than the average in another. For example, compared to the national average rating of 100, Denton rated 116 in the	64	Q1	80	73	72	105	78	68	72	62	59 Metro	2022	
			The overall cost of living in Abilene, which in 2022 was rated at 89 in the C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), is significantly lower than the national average, which the index pegs at 100. However, relative costs can vary greatly depending on the category of the expense.	goods and services category - the highest in the region - but had the region's lowest healthcare costs, with a rating of 82. Regional highs and lows in each category, as well as Abilene's rating, are: Goods & Services: Denton, 116 - Killeen, 90 - Abilene, 97 Groceries: Wichita Falls, 99 - Killeen and Waco, 79 - Abilene, 93													
Livability	Cost of Living Index (US=100) Index		healthcare and 100 for transportation - with somewhat high utility costs, rating at 110 in the index. However, a very low cost of housing - rating at 64 in the index - pushes Abilene's average cost of living well below average.	Utilities: Killeen, 123 - Midland, 96 - Abilene, 110 Overall: Denton, 102 - Waco, 85 - Abilene, 89 The overall cost of living in Abilene is comparable to that of most other similarly-sized												AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER	74
				cities in the region, which are generally lower than the national average. In the 2022 C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), overall cost of living was rated at 87 in Wichita Falls, 90 in San Angelo, 91 in Odessa and 101 in Midland, compared to the national average of 100 and Abilene's rating of 89. Among other cities in the region, Waco, rated at 85, is the least expensive overall, while Denton, at 102, is the most expensive.													
		COLI Transportation Index (US=10	0) The overall cost of living in Abilene, which in 2022 was rated at 89 in the C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), is significantly lower than the national	When considering specific categories of expenses, there is little consistency across the region, with residents of many cities paying significantly greater than average prices in one category while paying much less than the average in another. For example, compared to the national average rating of 100, Denton rated 116 in the goods and services category - the highest in the region - but had the region's lowest healthcare costs, with a rating of 82.	100	94	90	96	88	99	100	100	95	92	98 Metro	2022	
			Abilene was similar to the national index of 100 in several categories - receiving ratings of 97 for goods and services, 93 for groceries, 102 for healthcare and 100 for transportation - with somewhat high utility costs,	Regional highs and lows in each category, as well as Abilene's rating, are: Goods & Services: Denton, 116 - Killeen, 90 - Abilene, 97 Groceries: Wichita Falls, 99 - Killeen and Waco, 79 - Abilene, 93 Health Care: Grand Prairie, 112 - Denton, 82 - Abilene, 102 Housing: Wichita Falls, 59 - Midland, 105 - Abilene, 64													
Livability	Cost of Living Index (US=100) Index		average.	Transportation: Abilene, Odessa and San Angelo, 100 - Lubbock, 88 Utilities: Killeen, 123 - Midland, 96 - Abilene, 110 Overall: Denton, 102 - Waco, 85 - Abilene, 89 The overall cost of living in Abilene is comparable to that of most other similarly-sized cities in the region, which are generally lower than the national average. In the 2022 C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), overall cost of living was rated at 87 in Wichita Falls, 90 in San Angelo, 91 in Odessa and 101 in Midland, compared to the national												AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER	97
				 average of 100 and Abilene's rating of 89. Among other cities in the region, Waco, rated at 85, is the least expensive overall, while Denton, at 102, is the most expensive. When considering specific categories of expenses, there is little consistency across the region, with residents of many cities paying significantly greater than average 													
		COLI Utilities Index (US=100)	The overall cost of living in Abilene, which in 2022 was rated at 89 in the C2ER Cost of Living Index (COLI), is significantly lower than the national average, which the index pegs at 100. However, relative costs can vary greatly depending on the category of the expense.	prices in one category while paying much less than the average in another. For example, compared to the national average rating of 100, Denton rated 116 in the goods and services category - the highest in the region - but had the region's lowest healthcare costs, with a rating of 82. Regional highs and lows in each category, as well as Abilene's rating, are:	110	114	110	123	97	96	100	110	97	107	99 Metro	2022	
Livability	Cost of Living Index (US=100) Index		Abilene was similar to the national index of 100 in several categories - receiving ratings of 97 for goods and services, 93 for groceries, 102 for healthcare and 100 for transportation - with somewhat high utility costs, rating at 110 in the index. However, a very low cost of housing - rating at 64 in the index - pushes Abilene's average cost of living well below													AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER	105
				As of March of 2023, homes in the Abilene Metro Area were similar in price to most other metropolitan areas in the region, with the notable exception of the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Midland metro areas, which had median home sale prices more than 50% higher than Abilene.													
				The median sale price of homes in Abilene of \$208,333 in March 2023 was slightly higher than in the similarly-sized metro areas of Wichita Falls, Odessa and San Angelo - which had median sale prices of \$172,967, \$199,167 and \$200,000, respectively. However, despite having almost exactly the same number of residents as the Abilene Metro Area, the Midland Metro Area dwarfs all of its peers in terms of median home	\$208 333	\$366,000	\$366,000	\$247,824	\$216,000	\$317,333	\$199,167	\$200,000	\$225,667	\$257,100	\$172,967 Metro	Mar-23	
				 price - \$317,333 - higher even than that of the larger metro areas of Waco, Killeen and Lubbock, which had median prices of \$257,100, \$247,824 and \$216,000, respectively. In the region, only the much larger Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area is more expensive, with median home prices of \$366,000. From March 2022 to March 2023, home prices fell in Abilene fell 7.2%, more than in most other metro areas in the region, with the exception of Odessa, where prices 	<i>\</i> 200,000	<i>\$300,000</i>	\$500,000	<i>\\</i>	<i>\$210,000</i>	¢517,555	¢135,107	<i>\$200,000</i>	<i>\$223,007</i>	<i>\$237,</i> 100	<i>Q1/2,507</i> meao		
Livability	Housing Costs Count	Median Sale Price of Homes*	The median sale price of homes in the Abilene Metro Area (i.e., the price where half of homes were more expensive and half were less expensive), was \$208,333 in March of 2023, according to Zillow. This represents a	plummeted 13.0% over the same time period. Conversely, prices jumped 11.0% in the San Angelo Metro Area, and Midland's already high prices climbed another 4.8% over the year. In comparison, prices remained relatively steady across the remaining regional metro areas, ranging from a drop of 1.9% in Wichita Falls to an increase of 3.3% in Lubbock.												Zillow, RedFin (San Angelo)	\$223,089
				As of March of 2023, homes in the Abilene Metro Area were similar in price to most other metropolitan areas in the region, with the notable exception of the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Midland metro areas, which had median home sale prices more than 50% higher than Abilene.													
				The median sale price of homes in Abilene of \$208,333 in March 2023 was slightly higher than in the similarly-sized metro areas of Wichita Falls, Odessa and San Angelo - which had median sale prices of \$172,967, \$199,167 and \$200,000, respectively. However, despite having almost exactly the same number of residents as the Abilene Metro Area, the Midland Metro Area dwarfs all of its peers in terms of median home price - \$317,333 - higher even than that of the larger metro areas of Waco, Killeen and	-7.2%	-1.1%	-1.1%	1.1%	3.3%	4.8%	-13.0%	11.0%	3.1%	2.6%	-1.9% Metro	Mar-23	
				Lubbock, which had median prices of \$257,100, \$247,824 and \$216,000, respectively. In the region, only the much larger Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area is more expensive, with median home prices of \$366,000. From March 2022 to March 2023, home prices fell in Abilene fell 7.2%, more than in most other metro areas in the region, with the exception of Odessa, where prices plummeted 13.0% over the same time period. Conversely, prices jumped 11.0% in the													
Livability	Housing Costs 1-Year Change	1 Year Change in Median Sale Pric of Homes	 where half of homes were more expensive and half were less expensive), was \$208,333 in March of 2023, according to Zillow. This represents a 7.2% decline from March of 2022, or a drop of more than \$16,000 over the 	San Angelo Metro Area, and Midland's already high prices climbed another 4.8% over the year. In comparison, prices remained relatively steady across the remaining regional metro areas, ranging from a drop of 1.9% in Wichita Falls to an increase of 3.3% in Lubbock.												Zillow, RedFin (San Angelo)	-0.3%
				Adjusting for population, the Abilene Metro Area has slightly fewer homes up for sale than similarly sized metropolitan areas in the region, with approximately 296 residents for every unique home listed on Zillow fas of April 2023. This is compared to one home listing for every 205 residents in Wichita Falls, 238 residents in Midland and 283 residents in both Odessa and San Angelo.													
				Home availability varies greatly in the larger metro areas in the region, however, with only 188 residents for every home listing in Killeen, compared to 251 in Waco and 350 in Lubbock, rising up to 407 residents per home listing in the Dallas-Fort Worth- Arlington Metro Area. The number of homes listed in the Abilene Metro Area was relatively stable compared to most other regional metro areas, with a decline of 2.2% from April 2022 to April	606	19,525	19,525	2,633	937	746	568	430	3,365	1,131	725 Metro	Apr-23	
Livability	Housing Availability Count	For Sale Home Inventory (12-Mont Average)	Zillow reported 606 unique homes listed for sale in the Abilene Metro Area in April of 2023. This represents a decline of 2.2% from April of 2022, when 620 homes were listed.	to most other regional metro areas, with a decline of 2.2% from April 2022 to April 2023, compared to declines of 16.4% in Midland and 16.1% in Odessa, and increases of 16.7% in Wichita Falls, 20.9% in Lubbock, 32.6% in San Angelo, 38.6% in Waco and 49.3% in Killeen. Only the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area was more stable, with a decline of just 0.8% over the year.												Zillow PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
				Adjusting for population, the Abilene Metro Area has slightly fewer homes up for sale than similarly sized metropolitan areas in the region, with approximately 296 residents for every unique home listed on Zillow fas of April 2023. This is compared to one home listing for every 205 residents in Wichita Falls, 238 residents in Midland and 283 residents in both Odessa and San Angelo.													
				Home availability varies greatly in the larger metro areas in the region, however, with only 188 residents for every home listing in Killeen, compared to 251 in Waco and 350 in Lubbock, rising up to 407 residents per home listing in the Dallas-Fort Worth- Arlington Metro Area. The number of homes listed in the Abilene Metro Area was relatively stable compared to most other regional metro areas, with a decline of 2.2% from April 2022 to April	-2.2%	-0.8%	-0.8%	49.3%	20.9%	-16.4%	-16.1%	32.6%	9.0%	38.6%	16.7% Metro	Apr-23	
Livability	Housing Availability 1-Year Change	1 Year Change in For Sale Home Inventory	Zillow reported 606 unique homes listed for sale in the Abilene Metro Area in April of 2023. This represents a decline of 2.2% from April of 2022, when 620 homes were listed.	2023, compared to declines of 16.4% in Midland and 16.1% in Odessa, and increases of 16.7% in Wichita Falls, 20.9% in Lubbock, 32.6% in San Angelo, 38.6% in Waco and 49.3% in Killeen. Only the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area was more stable, with a decline of just 0.8% over the year. Typical rent in the Abilene Metro Area is lower than in any other metro area in the												Zillow	12.1%
				region, according to Zillow. Abilene's Observed Rent Index for April of 2023 of \$1,063.45 was \$141.87 lower than the next lowest metro area, with typical rents in Wichita Falls averaging \$1,205.32. Of the other similarly-sized metro areas, typical rents were \$1,257.49 in Odessa, \$1,293.98 in San Angelo and \$1,404.10. Rents were generally higher in the larger metropolitan areas, with typical rents at \$1,335.31 in Killeen, \$1,357.07 in Lubbock and \$1,500.50 in Waco, jumping up to	\$1,063.45	\$1,803.52	\$1,803.52	\$1,335.31 \$	\$1,357.07	\$1,404.10	\$1,257.49	\$1,293.98	\$1,299.29	\$1,500.50	\$1,205.32 Metro	Apr-23	
Livability	Rental Costs Count	Rent Index (12-Month Average)	According to Zillow's Observed Rent Index - which calculates the average rental price of homes and apartments within the 40th and 60th percentile range, weighted to reflect rental housing stock - typical observed market rent within the Abilene Metro Area in April of 2023 was \$1,063.45. This is	 \$1,335.31 in Killeen, \$1,357.07 in Lubbock and \$1,500.50 in Waco, jumping up to \$1,803.52 in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area. Typical rents rose in all metro areas across the region from April 2022 to April 2023, ranging from an increase of just 5.5% in Lubbock to a hike of 15.8% in Odessa, with Abilene's increase of 8.2% close to the middle of the pack. 												Zillow	\$1,273.82
				Typical rent in the Abilene Metro Area is lower than in any other metro area in the region, according to Zillow. Abilene's Observed Rent Index for April of 2023 of \$1,063.45 was \$141.87 lower than the next lowest metro area, with typical rents in Wichita Falls averaging \$1,205.32. Of the other similarly-sized metro areas, typical rents were \$1,257.49 in Odessa, \$1,293.98 in San Angelo and \$1,404.10.			0.001	7 00/	E For		15.001		7.004		10 10/ 14 -	Apr-23	
			According to Zillow's Observed Rent Index - which calculates the average rental price of homes and apartments within the 40th and 60th percentile range, weighted to reflect rental housing stock - typical observed market rent within the Abilene Metro Area in April of 2023 was \$1,063.45. This is	Typical rents rose in all metro areas across the region from April 2022 to April 2023, ranging from an increase of just 5.5% in Lubbock to a hike of 15.8% in Odessa, with	8.2%	9.6%	9.6%	7.8%	5.5%	11.6%	0%.ct	U.0%	۷.۳%	11.7%	10.1% Metro	Apr-23	
Livability	Rental Costs 1-Year Change	1 Year Change in Rent Index		Abilene's increase of 8.2% close to the middle of the pack.												ZIIIOW	9.4%

					Abilene's rate of violent crime - 478.1 per 100,000 residents in 2021 - is moderate														
					compared to other similarly sized cities in the region, with San Angelo the lowest at 333.8, followed by Midland at 392.7, Odessa at 509.6 and Wichita Falls at 567.9. Violent crime rates in the region's more metropolitan areas vary greatly; Grand Prairie and Denton are at the low end, with rates of 220.5 and 277.5, respectively, while Lubbock tops the region at 1062.4.														
					Abilene's increase in violent crime from 2020 to 2021, up 15.4%, was not generally experienced across the region, with rates changing less than 10% in most cities, although a few had much more extremes shifts. Most improved was Odessa, which had 36.9% less violent crime in 2021 than in 2020, while Wichita Falls experienced the opposite, with violent crime increasing 46.8% over the same time period.	478.1	277.5	220.5	614.4	1062.4	392.7	509.6	333.8	1106.7	720.5	567.9 City Police De	2021		
				According to the Texas Department of Public Safety, the rate of violent crime in the city of Abilene was 478.1 per 100,000 residents in 2021. Under the standards of the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program, violent crime includes murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. This represents a	Abilene has less property crime than most regional cities of similar size, with a rate of 2,064.9 per 100,000 residents, compared to rates 3,064.4 in Wichita Falls, 2,554.5 in r San Angelo, 2,247.4 in Odessa and 1,489.7 in Midland, which had the lowest rate in of any city in the region. As with violent crime, Lubbock has the highest rate of property crime in the region - 3,668.9 per 100,000 residents - although Waco follows closely with 3,336.4.														
Livability	Crime Rate (Per 100,000 residents)	Count	Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 Residents	property offenses such as burglary, larceny-theft and auto theft - was	Rates of property crime dropped across the region between 2020 and 2021, ranging from a minor decline of 0.4% in Wichita Falls to major drop of 28.1% in Midland; compared to Abilene's relatively modest decline of 3.3% over the year.												1	FBI Uniform Crime Reports, Texas Department of Public Safety	565.6
					Abilene's rate of violent crime - 478.1 per 100,000 residents in 2021 - is moderate compared to other similarly sized cities in the region, with San Angelo the lowest at 333.8, followed by Midland at 392.7, Odessa at 509.6 and Wichita Falls at 567.9. Violent crime rates in the region's more metropolitan areas vary greatly; Grand Prairie and Denton are at the low end, with rates of 220.5 and 277.5, respectively, while														
					Lubbock tops the region at 1062.4. Abilene's increase in violent crime from 2020 to 2021, up 15.4%, was not generally experienced across the region, with rates changing less than 10% in most cities, although a few had much more extremes shifts. Most improved was Odessa, which had 36.9% less violent crime in 2021 than in 2020, while Wichita Falls experienced the	2064.9	2042.1	1747.0	1703.4	3668.9	1489.7	2247.4	2554.5	4977.1	3336.4	3064.4 City Police De	2021		
				According to the Texas Department of Public Safety, the rate of violent crime in the city of Abilene was 478.1 per 100,000 residents in 2021. Under	opposite, with violent crime increasing 46.8% over the same time period. Abilene has less property crime than most regional cities of similar size, with a rate of 2,064.9 per 100,000 residents, compared to rates 3,064.4 in Wichita Falls, 2,554.5 in r San Angelo, 2,247.4 in Odessa and 1,489.7 in Midland, which had the lowest rate in of any city in the region. As with violent crime, Lubbock has the highest rate of property														
Livability	Crime Rate	Count	Property Crime Rate per 100,000 Residents	includes murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. This represents a 15.4% increase over Abilene's violent crime rate in 2020. In 2021, Abilene's rate of property crime - which includes nonviolent property offenses such as burglary, larceny-theft and auto theft - was	crime in the region - 3,668.9 per 100,000 residents - although Waco follows closely with 3,336.4. Rates of property crime dropped across the region between 2020 and 2021, ranging from a minor decline of 0.4% in Wichita Falls to major drop of 28.1% in Midland; compared to Abilene's relatively modest decline of 3.3% over the year.													FBI Uniform Crime Reports, Texas Department of Public Safety 2	2399.0
					Abilene's rate of violent crime - 478.1 per 100,000 residents in 2021 - is moderate compared to other similarly sized cities in the region, with San Angelo the lowest at 333.8, followed by Midland at 392.7, Odessa at 509.6 and Wichita Falls at 567.9.														
					Violent crime rates in the region's more metropolitan areas vary greatly; Grand Prairie and Denton are at the low end, with rates of 220.5 and 277.5, respectively, while Lubbock tops the region at 1062.4. Abilene's increase in violent crime from 2020 to 2021, up 15.4%, was not generally experienced across the region, with rates changing less than 10% in most cities,														
				According to the Texas Department of Public Safety, the rate of violent	 although a few had much more extremes shifts. Most improved was Odessa, which had 36.9% less violent crime in 2021 than in 2020, while Wichita Falls experienced the opposite, with violent crime increasing 46.8% over the same time period. Abilene has less property crime than most regional cities of similar size, with a rate of 2,064.9 per 100,000 residents, compared to rates 3,064.4 in Wichita Falls, 2,554.5 in 		4.2%	-10.1%	-8.2%	-2.3%	7.7%	-36.9%	-4.8%	-2.3%	12.2%	46.8% City Police De	2021		
			1 Veer Change in Vielant Crime Det	the standards of the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program, violent crime includes murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. This represents a 15.4% increase over Abilene's violent crime rate in 2020. In 2021, Abilene's rate of property crime - which includes nonviolent	 r San Angelo, 2,247.4 in Odessa and 1,489.7 in Midland, which had the lowest rate in of any city in the region. As with violent crime, Lubbock has the highest rate of property crime in the region - 3,668.9 per 100,000 residents - although Waco follows closely with 3,336.4. Rates of property crime dropped across the region between 2020 and 2021, ranging from a minor decline of 0.4% in Wichita Falls to major drop of 28.1% in Midland; 														
Livability	Crime Rate	1-Year Change	per 100,000 Residents	2,064.9 per 100,000 residents, a decline of 3.3% from 2020.	Abilene's rate of violent crime - 478.1 per 100,000 residents in 2021 - is moderate compared to other similarly sized cities in the region, with San Angelo the lowest at													FBI Uniform Crime Reports, Texas Department of Public Safety	2.5%
					333.8, followed by Midland at 392.7, Odessa at 509.6 and Wichita Falls at 567.9. Violent crime rates in the region's more metropolitan areas vary greatly; Grand Prairie and Denton are at the low end, with rates of 220.5 and 277.5, respectively, while Lubbock tops the region at 1062.4. Abilene's increase in violent crime from 2020 to 2021, up 15.4%, was not generally														
					experienced across the region, with rates changing less than 10% in most cities, although a few had much more extremes shifts. Most improved was Odessa, which had 36.9% less violent crime in 2021 than in 2020, while Wichita Falls experienced the opposite, with violent crime increasing 46.8% over the same time period. Abilene has less property crime than most regional cities of similar size, with a rate of		-6.5%	-9.2%	-10.3%	-10.7%	-28.1%	-10.3%	-14.4%	-2.6%	-3.2%	-0.4% City Police De	2021		
				crime in the city of Abilene was 478.1 per 100,000 residents in 2021. Under the standards of the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program, violent crime includes murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. This represents a	2,064.9 per 100,000 residents, compared to rates 3,064.4 in Wichita Falls, 2,554.5 in r San Angelo, 2,247.4 in Odessa and 1,489.7 in Midland, which had the lowest rate in of any city in the region. As with violent crime, Lubbock has the highest rate of property crime in the region - 3,668.9 per 100,000 residents - although Waco follows closely with 3,336.4.														
Livability	Crime Rate	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Property Crime Rate per 100,000 Residents	property offenses such as burglary, larceny-theft and auto theft - was 2,064.9 per 100,000 residents, a decline of 3.3% from 2020. As of 2023, Walkscore.com, which rates cities and neighborhoods on a	Rates of property crime dropped across the region between 2020 and 2021, ranging from a minor decline of 0.4% in Wichita Falls to major drop of 28.1% in Midland; compared to Abilene's relatively modest decline of 3.3% over the year.													FBI Uniform Crime Reports, Texas Department of Public Safety -	-11.1%
				city is San Francisco, with a Walk Score of 89.	According to Walkscore.com, Abilene is about as walkable as most other cities in the region, with its Walk Score of 31 falling within the range of other similarly-sized cities: Wichita Falls at 29, San Angelo at 32, and both Midland and Odessa tied at 42, the														
				69 range that is classified as "Somewhat Walkable: Some errands can be accomplished on foot." According to Walkscore, the most walkable neighborhood in the nation is Chinatown in San Francisco, rated at a perfect 100.	Likewise, with a Walk Score of 64, downtown Abilene is rated within the range of other downtown areas of similarly-sized cities, with Midland at 62, Odessa at 63, Wichita Falls at 70 and San Angelo at 71. Downtown Denton is rated as the most	31	34	32	30	39	42	42	32	39	35	29 City	2023		
Livability	Walkability/Bikability	Count	Average Walk Score for City (0 to 100: Highest City Score-San Francisco=89)	lanes and trails, road connectivity and destinations - with Abilene receiving a rating of 37, within the 0-49 range categorized as "Somewhat Bikeable: Minimal bike infrastructure." In comparison, the city with the highest Bike	walkable downtown area in the region, with a score of 87. All cities in the region are rated similarly for Bike Score, ranging from 34 for Grand Prairie to 46 for Denton, with Abilene at 37, falling withing the 0-49 range classified by Walkscore as "Somewhat Bikeable: Minimal bike infrastructure."													Walkscore.com	35
					According to Walkscore.com, Abilene is about as walkable as most other cities in the region, with its Walk Score of 31 falling within the range of other similarly-sized cities:														
				Downtown Abilene specifically received a Walk Score of 64, within the 50- 69 range that is classified as "Somewhat Walkable: Some errands can be accomplished on foot." According to Walkscore, the most walkable neighborhood in the nation is Chinatown in San Francisco, rated at a	Wichita Falls at 29, San Angelo at 32, and both Midland and Odessa tied at 42, the highest in the region. All cities in the region fall within the 25-49 range classified by	37	46	34	38	43	40	40	37	47	39	39 City	2023		
Livability	Walkability/Bikability	Count	Average Bike Score for City (0 to 100: Highest City Score- Minneapolis=83)	Walkscore also rates locations by Bike Score - based on access to bike lanes and trails, road connectivity and destinations - with Abilene receiving a rating of 37, within the 0-49 range categorized as "Somewhat Bikeable: Minimal bike infrastructure." In comparison, the city with the highest Bike	Wichita Falls at 70 and San Angelo at 71. Downtown Denton is rated as the most walkable downtown area in the region, with a score of 87. All cities in the region are rated similarly for Bike Score, ranging from 34 for Grand Prairie to 46 for Denton, with Abilene at 37, falling withing the 0-49 range classified by Walkscore as "Somewhat Bikeable: Minimal bike infrastructure."													Walkscore.com	39
				As of 2023, Walkscore.com, which rates cities and neighborhoods on a scale from 0-100 according to walkability - determined by distance to nearby locations and pedestrian friendliness - rates Abilene's Walk Score as 31. Locations with scores ranging from 25-49 are classified as "Car-															
				city is San Francisco, with a Walk Score of 89. Downtown Abilene specifically received a Walk Score of 64, within the 50- 69 range that is classified as "Somewhat Walkable: Some errands can be accomplished on foot." According to Walkscore, the most walkable			87	71	78	68	62	63	71	81	65	70 City/Neighbo	2023		
			Downtown Walk Score for City (0 to 100: Example Chinatown San	perfect 100. Walkscore also rates locations by Bike Score - based on access to bike lanes and trails, road connectivity and destinations - with Abilene receiving a rating of 37, within the 0-49 range categorized as "Somewhat Bikeable:	Likewise, with a Walk Score of 64, downtown Abilene is rated within the range of other downtown areas of similarly-sized cities, with Midland at 62, Odessa at 63, Wichita Falls at 70 and San Angelo at 71. Downtown Denton is rated as the most walkable downtown area in the region, with a score of 87. All cities in the region are rated similarly for Bike Score, ranging from 34 for Grand Prairie to 46 for Denton, with Abilene at 37, falling withing the 0-49 range classified														
Livability	Walkability/Bikability	Count	Francisco=100)	Score is Minneapolis, rated at 83.	Most counties in the region - including Taylor County - met or exceeded the EPA's air quality standards for all pollutants in 2022, and were thus rated as attainment areas. However, several counties in the Dallas-Fort Worth area - Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis,													Walkscore.com	68
			Air Quality (Attainment or	In 2022, Taylor County was rated as an attainment area by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, meaning that the county's air quality met	Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant and Wise - were rated as nonattainment areas due to failing to meet the EPA's standards on ozone exposure. Elsewhere in Texas, several counties around Houston - Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, t Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller - also failed to meet ozone standards. Also, parts of Anderson, Freestone, Howard, Hutchison, Navarro, Panola,	Attainment	Nonattainment	Nonattainment Nona	attainment d	Attainment A	Attainment	Attainment	Attainment	Attainment	Attainment	Attainment County	2022		
Livability	Air Quality	Status	Nonattainment)		Rusk and Titus counties failed to meet EPA standards on levels of sodium dioxide. As of 2021, the Abilene Metro Area had a slightly higher proportion of college graduates than most similarly-sized metro areas in the region, with 33.6% of its residents age 25 years or older having received at least two years of college education and an associate, bachelor or graduate degree, compared to 24.1% in Odessa, 31.3% in Wichita Falls and 32.3% in San Angelo, behind only Midland at													U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Green Book N/A	
					36.7%. However, the region's larger metro areas had even greater numbers of college graduates relative to their populations, with 35.5% in Killeen, 35.7% in Waco, 38.8% in Lubbock and 44.1% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area having college degrees.	33.6%	44.1%	44.1%	35.5%	38.8%	36.7%	24.1%	32.3%	37.9%	35.7%	31.3% Metro	2021		
Education	Educational Attainment	Percent of Total		of the Abilene Metropolitan Area who were at least 25 years old had completed two or more years of college and received an associate, bachelor or graduate degree, an increase of 1.1% from 2020.	Rates of college education were up across most of the region since 2020, with the Abilene Metro Area's increase of 1.1% about in the middle of the pack, which ranged from unchanged in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to an increase of 1.7% in the Waco Metro Area. As of 2021, the Abilene Metro Area had a slightly higher proportion of college													U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	33.2%
					graduates than most similarly-sized metro areas in the region, with 33.6% of its residents age 25 years or older having received at least two years of college education and an associate, bachelor or graduate degree, compared to 24.1% in Odessa, 31.3% in Wichita Falls and 32.3% in San Angelo, behind only Midland at 36.7%.														
				The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2021, 33.6% percent of residents	However, the region's larger metro areas had even greater numbers of college graduates relative to their populations, with 35.5% in Killeen, 35.7% in Waco, 38.8% in Lubbock and 44.1% in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area having college degrees. Rates of college education were up across most of the region since 2020, with the		1.0%	1.0%	0.4%	0.8%	1.6%	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%	1.7%	0.0% Metro	2021		
Education	Educational Attainment	1-Year Change	1-Year Change with Associate Degree or Higher	completed two or more years of college and received an associate, bachelor or graduate degree, an increase of 1.1% from 2020.	 Abilene Metro Area's increase of 1.1% about in the middle of the pack, which ranged from unchanged in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to an increase of 1.7% in the Waco Metro Area. Taylor County's four-year graduation rate of 92.9% for the Class of 2021 was higher than that of most other counties with metropolitan areas in the region - behind only Denton County at 96.0% and Wichita County at 95.4% - and also above the state average of 00.0% 													U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	0.6%
					average of 90.0%. Counties in the region below the state average include Bell at 77.0%, Dallas at 81.4%, Ector at 84.0% and Midland at 88.8%. Tom Green, Lubbock and McLennan counties all had rates above the state average but below Taylor County, at 90.9%, 91.3% and 91.4%, respectively.	92.9%	96.0%	81.4%	77.0%	91.3%	88.8%	84.0%	90.9%	70.9%	91.4%	95.4% County	2021		
Education	High School Graduation Rate (4- year cohort)		Graduation Rate (4-Year Cohort)**	The Texas Education Agency reported that 92.9% of Taylor County students in the Class of 2021 graduated high school within four years, a decrease of 0.3% from the Class of 2020.	Graduation rates were fairly steady across the region between 2020 and 2021, with rates changing less than one percent in most major counties. Exceptions include a 1.1% decline in McLennan County and increases of 2.3% and 2.6% in Tom Green and Ector counties, respectively. Over the same time period, the state's graduation rate fell 0.3%, the same as in Taylor County. Taylor County's four-year graduation rate of 92.9% for the Class of 2021 was higher													Texas Education Agency, Oklahoma State Dept. of Education	88.6%
					 than that of most other counties with metropolitan areas in the region - behind only Denton County at 96.0% and Wichita County at 95.4% - and also above the state average of 90.0%. Counties in the region below the state average include Bell at 77.0%, Dallas at 81.4%, Ector at 84.0% and Midland at 88.8%. Tom Green, Lubbock and McLennan counties all 														
				The Texas Education Agency reported that 92.9% of Taylor County students	 had rates above the state average but below Taylor County, at 90.9%, 91.3% and 91.4%, respectively. Graduation rates were fairly steady across the region between 2020 and 2021, with rates changing less than one percent in most major counties. Exceptions include a 1.1% decline in McLennan County and increases of 2.3% and 2.6% in Tom Green and 	-0.3%	0.8%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-0.3%	0.1%	2.6%	2.3%	-7.9%	-1.1%	0.3% County	2021		
Education	High School Graduation Rate (4- year cohort)	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Graduation Rate*	 in the Class of 2021 graduated high school within four years, a decrease of 0.3% from the Class of 2020. 	 Ector counties, respectively. Over the same time period, the state's graduation rate fell 0.3%, the same as in Taylor County. In 2021, Taylor County's average SAT score of 1062 was significantly above the state average of 1002, and was higher than most of the other counties in the region with metropolitan areas - coming in above Ector County's average of 956, Midland County's 													Texas Education Agency, Oklahoma State Dept. of Education	0.6%
				 The Texas Education Agency reported that in 2021, the average SAT score of students in Taylor County was 1062, which was 2.2% lower than the county's average in 2020. By school district within Taylor County, average SAT scores for 2021 were 1044 is Abilene ISD, 1023 in Jim Ned CISD, 989 in Merkel ISD, 1104 in 	 972, Lubbock County's 973, Dallas County's 981, Bell County's 1014, Tom Green County's 1038 and McLennan County's 1039, and just below Wichita and Denton counties, which had averages of 1086.8 and 1102, respectively. Taylor County's 2.2% decline in average SAT scores from 2020 to 2021 was fairly stable compared to changes in several other counties over the same time period, with 	1062	1102	981	1014	973	972	956	1038	n/a	1039	1086.8 County	2021		
Education	Secondary School Test Scores (SAT)	Count	Average SAT Score ***	ISD's average not reported. Across Education Service Center Region 14, which includes Taylor County, the average score was 1069.	changes ranging from drops of 6.4% in Midland County and 4.0% in Lubbock County to gains of 6.0% in Wichita County and 3.2% in Odessa County. The state's average fell 1.7% over the same year. In 2021, Taylor County's average SAT score of 1062 was significantly above the state average of 1002, and was higher than most of the other counties in the region with metropolitan areas - coming in above Ector County's average of 956. Midland County's													Texas Education Agency	1014
				The Texas Education Agency reported that in 2021, the average SAT score of students in Taylor County was 1062, which was 2.2% lower than the county's average in 2020. By school district within Taylor County, average SAT scores for 2021 were	 metropolitan areas - coming in above Ector County's average of 956, Midland County's 972, Lubbock County's 973, Dallas County's 981, Bell County's 1014, Tom Green County's 1038 and McLennan County's 1039, and just below Wichita and Denton counties, which had averages of 1086.8 and 1102, respectively. Taylor County's 2.2% decline in average SAT scores from 2020 to 2021 was fairly stable compared to changes in several other counties over the same time period, with 	-2.2%	-0.2%	-1.5%	1.1%	-4.0%	-6.4%	3.2%	0.8%	n/a	1.9%	6.0% County	2021		
Education	Secondary School Test Scores (SAT)	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in SAT Scores ***	Texas College Preporatory Academie and 1149 in Wylie ISD, with Trent ISD's average not reported. Across Education Service Center Region 14, which includes Taylor County, the average SAT score in 2021 was 1069.	changes ranging from drops of 6.4% in Midland County and 4.0% in Lubbock County to gains of 6.0% in Wichita County and 3.2% in Odessa County. The state's average fell 1.7% over the same year.													Texas Education Agency	-0.2%
Education	Technical Education	Count	Public Community College or Other Year School Name	Abilene residents have access to two local public community colleges - 2- Texas State Techinical College West Texas and Cisco College - which had a	the population enrolled - compared to 1.5% in Wichita Falls, 2.7% in San Angelo, 2.9%	TSTC-West Texas, Cisco College	Dallas County Dalla Community College Com District Dist	as County Temple Co munity College Central Ter rict College	ollege, exas South Pla	ins College Midland Colle	ge Odessa Col	llege Howard C	College	a Community TSTC-Wa College Commun		College College	2022	www.txhighereddata.org, Tulsa Community College N/A	
					Compared to similarly-sized metro areas in the region, the Abilene Metro Area has a fairly high number of public community and technical college students, with 3.0% of the population enrolled - compared to 1.5% in Wichita Falls, 2.7% in San Angelo, 2.9% and 4.6% in Odessa.	5,320	58,452	58,452	11,241	8,578	5,118	7,470	3,264	14,391	11,520	2,249 Area	2022		
Education	Technical Education	Count	Fall Enrollment at Public Community or Technical College (2-Yr)	Y Texas State Techinical College West Texas and Cisco College - which had a	In the region's larger metropolitan areas, enrollment rates vary from 2.3% in Killeen- a Temple to 4.1% in Waco, with only 0.7% of Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area residents enrolled in the Dallas County Community College District.													www.txhighereddata.org, Tulsa Community College PEER RANK: 4 of 7	

					Taylor County is typical of most metropolitan counties in the region regarding access to basic broadband Internet service, with 89.3% of the county's households having access to connection speeds of at least 250 Mbps, compared to rates ranging from													
				The FCC National Broadband Map reported in December of 2022 that 89.3% of households in Taylor County had access to a broadband	78.2% in Midland County to 92.9% in Dallas County. However, Taylor County leads the region in high-speed broadband service, with 74.2% of households having access to to connection speeds of 1 Gig or greater, compared to rates ranging from 60.2% in Tom Green County down to just 12.1% in Bell County. Fewer than half of households in Bell, McLennan, Ector, Midland and Wichita counties have access to 1 Gig broadband.	89.3%	89.3%	92.9%	87.9%	88.3%	78.2%	87.8%	89.7%	97.1%	82.0%	92% County	2022	
Infrastructure	Broadband (access)) Count		According to Ookla and M-Labs hosted speed tests, the average recorded speed of downloads in Taylor County was 96.5 Mbps.	Additionally, average connection speeds in Taylor County are higher than in most other counties in the region, at 96.5 Mbps - second only to Denton County's average of 117 Mbps. Elsewhere in the region, average speeds range from 65 Mbps in Wichita County to 92 Mbps in Lubbock County. Taylor County is typical of most metropolitan counties in the region regarding access												Broadband Map (Dec 2022 data)	87.6%
					to basic broadband Internet service, with 89.3% of the county's households having access to connection speeds of at least 250 Mbps, compared to rates ranging from 78.2% in Midland County to 92.9% in Dallas County. However, Taylor County leads the region in high-speed broadband service, with 74.2% of households having access to to connection speeds of 1 Gig or greater, compared to rates ranging from 60.2% in Tom Green County down to just 12.1% in Bell County.	74.2%	59.5%	54.5%	12.1%	59.5%	46.2%	29.3%	60.2%	33.0%	29.1%	47% County	2022	
Infrastructure	Broadband (access)) Count	Households with Fixed Broadband	89.3% of households in Taylor County had access to a broadband connection of at least 250 Mbps, with 74.2% of households having access to connection speeds of 1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) or more. According to Ookla and M-Labs hosted speed tests, the average recorded	 Fewer than half of households in Bell, McLennan, Ector, Midland and Wichita counties have access to 1 Gig broadband. Additionally, average connection speeds in Taylor County are higher than in most other counties in the region, at 96.5 Mbps - second only to Denton County's average of 117 Mbps. Elsewhere in the region, average speeds range from 65 Mbps in Wichita County to 92 Mbps in Lubbock County. 												Broadband Map (Dec 2022 data)	46.9%
					Taylor County is typical of most metropolitan counties in the region regarding access to basic broadband Internet service, with 89.3% of the county's households having access to connection speeds of at least 250 Mbps, compared to rates ranging from 78.2% in Midland County to 92.9% in Dallas County. However, Taylor County leads the region in high-speed broadband service, with 74.2%													
				The FCC National Broadband Map reported in December of 2022 that 89.3% of households in Taylor County had access to a broadband connection of at least 250 Mbps, with 74.2% of households having access to connection speeds of 1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) or more.	of households having access to to connection speeds of 1 Gig or greater, compared to rates ranging from 60.2% in Tom Green County down to just 12.1% in Bell County. Fewer than half of households in Bell, McLennan, Ector, Midland and Wichita counties have access to 1 Gig broadband. Additionally, average connection speeds in Taylor County are higher than in most other counties in the region, at 96.5 Mbps - second only to Denton County's average	96.5	117	85	91	92	68	52.5	66.5	78.5	84.5	65 County	2021	
Infrastructure	Broadband (speed)	Count	Average Speed (Mbps)	speed of downloads in Taylor County was 96.5 Mbps. The U.S. Energy Information Administration reported that in 2021, customers of major energy providers in Abilene paid an average of 8.2	of 117 Mbps. Elsewhere in the region, average speeds range from 65 Mbps in Wichita County to 92 Mbps in Lubbock County. In 2021, electricity prices in Abilene were among the lowest in the region - averaging 8.2 cents per kWh - which was also the average price paid by customers in Grand Prairie, Odessa, San Angelo and Wichita Falls. Customers in Waco paid an average of 8.3 cents, with prices increasing to 8.7 cents in Killeen, 9.6 cents in Denton, 9.7 in Midland and 10.3 cents in Lubbock.	8.2	9.6	8.2	8.7	10.3	9.7	8.2	8.2	6.1	8.3	8.2 City/Area	2021 EIA Sales to Ultimate Customers	75.9
					At 14 hours per year per commuter, traffic delays in Abilene in 2020 were moderate compared to other similarly-sized cities in the region, well below the 30 hours of average delays in Odessa and 18 hours in Midland, but above 7 hours in Wichita Falls and 8 hours in San Angelo. Delays in somewhat larger cities were generally similar - at 10 hours in Killeen, 13 hours in Lubbock and 14 hours in Waco - but climbed higher near the Dallas-Fort Worth area, with delays of 21 hours in Denton and 40 hours in													
					Dallas proper. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic which started to sweep the nation in early 2020, the commuters who remained on the roads spent far less time delayed in traffic than in previous years, with all cities in the region showing sharp declines in traffic congestion. Abilene, which saw delays drop 30.0% from 2019, was one of the least- affected cities in the region; only Odessa had less change, with a decline of 25.0%.	14	21	40	10	13	18	30	8	27	14	7 City	2020	
				The Texas A&M Transporatation Institute reported that in 2020, drivers in Abilene lost an average of about 14 hours per commuter over the year due	Proportionally, however, traffic delays declined the most in Waco and San Angelo - which experienced declines of 54.8% and 55.6%, respectively. Average delays in 2019 were 31 hours in Waco and 18 hours in San Angelo, falling in 2020 to just 14 hours in Waco and 8 hours in San Angelo. However, commuters in Dallas experienced the greatest time savings in the region, with delays dropping from 65 hours in 2019 to 40 hours in 2020 - a decline of 38.5%, but an average savings of 25 hours per year per													
Infrastructure	Roadways/Congesti	tion Count		2019, when commuters spent an average of 20 hours in traffic. Combined, Abilene commuters spent more than 1.7 million hours in traffic delays in 2020, at an economic cost of about \$40 million, with 859,000 gallons of fuel wasted.	Additionally, in its 2021 Urban Mobility Report, the Texas A&M Transporatation Institute said that much of the drop in traffic delays came between March and May of 2020. Around the nation, traffic delays started climbing again in June, and had reverted almost to normal by September. At 14 hours per year per commuter, traffic delays in Abilene in 2020 were moderate												Texas A& M Transportation Institute	14
					compared to other similarly-sized cities in the region, well below the 30 hours of average delays in Odessa and 18 hours in Midland, but above 7 hours in Wichita Falls and 8 hours in San Angelo. Delays in somewhat larger cities were generally similar - at 10 hours in Killeen, 13 hours in Lubbock and 14 hours in Waco - but climbed higher near the Dallas-Fort Worth area, with delays of 21 hours in Denton and 40 hours in Dallas proper.													
					Due to the COVID-19 pandemic which started to sweep the nation in early 2020, the commuters who remained on the roads spent far less time delayed in traffic than in previous years, with all cities in the region showing sharp declines in traffic congestion. Abilene, which saw delays drop 30.0% from 2019, was one of the least-affected cities in the region; only Odessa had less change, with a decline of 25.0%. Proportionally, however, traffic delays declined the most in Waco and San Angelo -	-30.0%	-34.4%	-38.5%	-40.0%	-31.6%	-33.3%	-25.0%	-55.6%	-34.1%	-54.8%	-46.2% City	2020	
				The Texas A&M Transporatation Institute reported that in 2020, drivers in Abilene lost an average of about 14 hours per commuter over the year due to traffic congestion - as measured by total travel time above that needed to complete the trip if traffic was flowing freely - a decline of 30.0% from 2019, when commuters spent an average of 20 hours in traffic.														
Infrastructure	Roadways/Congesti	tion 1-Year C	1-Year Change in Annual Delay per	Combined, Abilene commuters spent more than 1.7 million hours in traffic in 2020, at an economic cost of about \$40 million, with 859,000 gallons of fuel wasted.	Additionally, in its 2021 Urban Mobility Report, the Texas A&M Transporatation Institute said that much of the drop in traffic delays came between March and May of 2020. Around the nation, traffic delays started climbing again in June, and had reverted almost to normal by September. Much of the air travel in the region is routed through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) - which served 30,005,266 passengers in 2021, and is the closest major international airport for residents of cities as far away as Abilene, Lubbock, Waco and												Texas A& M Transportation Institute	-37.4%
					Wichita Falls. Other major international airports serving the region include Austin- Bergstrom Internation (AUS) and Midland International Air and Space Port (MAF), but those are significantly smaller, with enplanements in 2021 numbering 6,666,215 and 504,264, respectively. Additionally, commercial regional airports in the area include Abilene Regional Airport (ABI), Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK), Lubbock Preston Smith International	DFW	DFW	DFW	DFW	AUS	MAF	MAF	MAF	TUL	DFW	DFW Major Interna	2021	
				At approximately 160 miles away, Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) is Abilene's closest major international airport. DFW is the second largest in the nation by passenger volume, with 30,005,266 enplanements in 2021, an increase of 61.38% from 2020. Only	Airport (LBB), San Angelo Regional Airport (SJT), Waco Regional Airport (ACT) and Wichita Falls Regional Airport (SPS) - with passenger volume in 2021 ranging from 32,038 at SPS to 405,157 at LBB. After collapsing in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, air travel rebounded across the region in 2021, with enplanements increasing 112.2% at AUS, 61.4% at DFW and 57.8% at MAF. Regional airports also saw increasing travel in 2021, ranging from an													
Infrastructure	Airport	Count		passengers, with 36,676,010 enplanements.	increase of 39.0% at GFK to one of 71.6% at ACT; Abilene Regional Airport was near the top with an increase of 70.6% in 2021. Much of the air travel in the region is routed through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) - which served 30,005,266 passengers in 2021, and is the closest major international airport for residents of cities as far away as Abilene, Lubbock, Waco and Wichita Falls. Other major international airports serving the region include Austin- Bergstrom Internation (AUS) and Midland International Air and Space Port (MAF), but												Bureau of Transportation Statistics N/A	
				Most travellers seeking flights to or from Abilene will either go through	those are significantly smaller, with enplanements in 2021 numbering 6,666,215 and 504,264, respectively. Additionally, commercial regional airports in the area include Abilene Regional Airport (ABI), Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK), Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (LBB), San Angelo Regional Airport (SJT), Waco Regional Airport (ACT) and Wichita Falls Regional Airport (SPS) - with passenger volume in 2021 ranging from	30,005,266	30,005,266	30,005,266	6,666,215	30,005,266	504,264	504,264	504,264	1,154,527	30,005,266	30,005,266 Major Interna	2021	
Infrastructure	Airport	Count		DFW is the second largest airport in the nation by passenger volume, with 30,005,266 enplanements in 2021, an increase of 61.38% from 2020. Only Hartsfield - Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta served more	32,038 at SPS to 405,157 at LBB. After collapsing in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, air travel rebounded across the region in 2021, with enplanements increasing 112.2% at AUS, 61.4% at DFW and 57.8% at MAF. Regional airports also saw increasing travel in 2021, ranging from an increase of 39.0% at GFK to one of 71.6% at ACT; Abilene Regional Airport was near the top with an increase of 70.6% in 2021.												Bureau of Transportation Statistics N/A	
					Much of the air travel in the region is routed through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) - which served 30,005,266 passengers in 2021, and is the closest major international airport for residents of cities as far away as Abilene, Lubbock, Waco and Wichita Falls. Other major international airports serving the region include Austin-Bergstrom Internation (AUS) and Midland International Air and Space Port (MAF), but those are significantly smaller, with enplanements in 2021 numbering 6,666,215 and 504,264, respectively.													
				Most travellers seeking flights to or from Abilene will either go through	Additionally, commercial regional airports in the area include Abilene Regional Airport (ABI), Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK), Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (LBB), San Angelo Regional Airport (SJT), Waco Regional Airport (ACT) and Wichita Falls Regional Airport (SPS) - with passenger volume in 2021 ranging from	61.4%	61.4%	61.4%	61.4%	112.2%	57.8%	57.8%	57.8%	73.8%	61.4%	61.4% Major Interna	2021	
Infrastructure	Airport	1-Year C	1-Year Change in Major Internationa	DFW is the second largest airport in the nation by passenger volume, with 30,005,266 enplanements in 2021, an increase of 61.38% from 2020. Only Hartsfield - Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta served more passengers, with 36,676,010 enplanements.	After collapsing in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, air travel rebounded across the region in 2021, with enplanements increasing 112.2% at AUS, 61.4% at DFW and 57.8% at MAF. Regional airports also saw increasing travel in 2021, ranging from an increase of 39.0% at GFK to one of 71.6% at ACT; Abilene Regional Airport was near the top with an increase of 70.6% in 2021.												Bureau of Transportation Statistics N/A	
					Airport (DFW) - which served 30,005,266 passengers in 2021, and is the closest major international airport for residents of cities as far away as Abilene, Lubbock, Waco and Wichita Falls. Other major international airports serving the region include Austin- Bergstrom Internation (AUS) and Midland International Air and Space Port (MAF), but those are significantly smaller, with enplanements in 2021 numbering 6,666,215 and 504,264, respectively. Additionally, commercial regional airports in the area include Abilene Regional Airport													
				Most travellers seeking flights to or from Abilene will either go through Abilene Regional Airport - which served 75,402 passengers in 2021, up 70.6% from 2020 - or make the 180-mile drive to or from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), Abilene's closest major international airport.	(ABI), Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK), Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (LBB), San Angelo Regional Airport (SJT), Waco Regional Airport (ACT) and Wichita Falls Regional Airport (SPS) - with passenger volume in 2021 ranging from	ABI	DFW	DFW	GRK	LBB	MAF	MAF	SJT	TUL	ACT	SPS Regional Airp	2021	
Infrastructure	Airport	Count		Hartsfield - Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta served more passengers, with 36,676,010 enplanements.	57.8% at MAF. Regional airports also saw increasing travel in 2021, ranging from an increase of 39.0% at GFK to one of 71.6% at ACT; Abilene Regional Airport was near the top with an increase of 70.6% in 2021. Much of the air travel in the region is routed through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) - which served 30,005,266 passengers in 2021, and is the closest major international airport for residents of cities as far away as Abilene, Lubbock, Waco and												Bureau of Transportation Statistics N/A	
					 Wichita Falls. Other major international airports serving the region include Austin-Bergstrom Internation (AUS) and Midland International Air and Space Port (MAF), but those are significantly smaller, with enplanements in 2021 numbering 6,666,215 and 504,264, respectively. Additionally, commercial regional airports in the area include Abilene Regional Airport (ABI), Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK), Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (ABI), See Appele Pagingel Airport (SIT). Weap Pagingel Airport (ACT) and 	75,402	30,005,266	30,005,266	142,253	405,157	504,264	504,264	60,115	1,154,527	47,541	32,038 Regional Airp	2021	
				Abilene Regional Airport - which served 75,402 passengers in 2021, up 70.6% from 2020 - or make the 180-mile drive to or from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), Abilene's closest major international airport. DFW is the second largest airport in the nation by passenger volume, with 30,005,266 enplanements in 2021, an increase of 61.38% from 2020. Only	Airport (LBB), San Angelo Regional Airport (SJT), Waco Regional Airport (ACT) and Wichita Falls Regional Airport (SPS) - with passenger volume in 2021 ranging from 32,038 at SPS to 405,157 at LBB. After collapsing in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, air travel rebounded across the region in 2021, with enplanements increasing 112.2% at AUS, 61.4% at DFW and 57.8% at MAF. Regional airports also saw increasing travel in 2021, ranging from an increase of 39.0% at GFK to one of 71.6% at ACT; Abilene Regional Airport was near													
Infrastructure	Airport	Count		passengers, with 36,676,010 enplanements.	the top with an increase of 70.6% in 2021. Much of the air travel in the region is routed through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) - which served 30,005,266 passengers in 2021, and is the closest major international airport for residents of cities as far away as Abilene, Lubbock, Waco and Wichita Falls. Other major international airports serving the region include Austin- Bergstrom Internation (AUS) and Midland International Air and Space Port (MAF), but												Bureau of Transportation Statistics Image: space of the second state of the secon	246213
				Most travellers seeking flights to or from Abilene will either go through	 those are significantly smaller, with enplanements in 2021 numbering 6,666,215 and 504,264, respectively. Additionally, commercial regional airports in the area include Abilene Regional Airport (ABI), Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK), Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (LBB), San Angelo Regional Airport (SJT), Waco Regional Airport (ACT) and Wichita Falls Regional Airport (SPS) - with passenger volume in 2021 ranging from 32,038 at SPS to 405,157 at LBB. 	70.6%	61.4%	61.4%	39.0%	60.1%	57.8%	57.8%	68.9%	73.8%	71.6%	50.6% Regional Airp	2021	
Infrastructure	Airport	1-Year C	1-Year Change in Major Internationa	International Airport (DFW), Abilene's closest major international airport. DFW is the second largest airport in the nation by passenger volume, with 30,005,266 enplanements in 2021, an increase of 61.38% from 2020. Only Hartsfield - Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta served more	After collapsing in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, air travel rebounded across the region in 2021, with enplanements increasing 112.2% at AUS, 61.4% at DFW and 57.8% at MAF. Regional airports also saw increasing travel in 2021, ranging from an increase of 39.0% at GFK to one of 71.6% at ACT; Abilene Regional Airport was near the top with an increase of 70.6% in 2021.												Bureau of Transportation Statistics	57.8%
					With \$602.17 million in direct spending by travelers in 2022, the Abilene Metro Area receives a relatively large amount of money from travelers for its size, well above the similarly-sized regional metro areas of Wichita Falls, San Angelo and Odessa, which had direct travel spending \$306.08 million, \$323.09 million and \$473.73 million, respectively. Midland was the only comparably-sized metro area in the region to receive more travel spending in 2022, at \$741.13 million.													
				Travelers to the Abilene Metro Area spent a total of \$602.17 million in 2022, an increase of 15.2% from the \$522.55 million spent in 2021. This	On a per-capita basis, Abilene's travel spending also compares favorably to most of the significantly larger metro areas in the region. In 2022, travelers spent about \$2,938 per resident of the Abilene Metro Area - above that of \$1,390 in Killeen, \$2,010 in Dallas and \$2,713 in Waco, and just short of Lubbock's figure of \$3,133. Coming off of the pandemic, travel spending rose across the region from 2021 to 2022; increases ranged from 7.2% in the Killeen Metro Area up to 23.1% in the Dallas-	\$522.55	\$12,974.63	\$12,974.63	\$643.70	\$892.00	\$741.13	\$400.71	\$290.21	\$1,886.80	\$684.50	\$274.13 Metro	2021	
Tourism	Direct Visitor Spend	ding Count	Total Direct Travel Spending	includes all purchases made by travelers during a trip, including lodging taxes paid at the point of sale.	Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, with Abilene in the middle of the pack with an increase of 15.2%. With \$602.17 million in direct spending by travelers in 2022, the Abilene Metro Area receives a relatively large amount of money from travelers for its size, well above the similarly-sized regional metro areas of Wichita Falls, San Angelo and Odessa, which												Travelstats.com, Dean Runjan Associates	\$537.77
					had direct travel spending \$306.08 million, \$323.09 million and \$473.73 million, respectively. Midland was the only comparably-sized metro area in the region to receive more travel spending in 2022, at \$741.13 million. On a per-capita basis, Abilene's travel spending also compares favorably to most of the significantly larger metro areas in the region. In 2022, travelers spent about \$2,938 per resident of the Abilene Metro Area - above that of \$1,390 in Killeen, \$2,010	\$602.17	\$15,970.25	\$15,970.25	\$689.98	\$1,028.50	\$854.40	\$473.73	\$323.09	n/a	\$770.15	\$306.08 Metro	2022	
Tourism	Direct Visitor Spend	ding Count		Travelers to the Abilene Metro Area spent a total of \$602.17 million in 2022, an increase of 15.2% from the \$522.55 million spent in 2021. This includes all purchases made by travelers during a trip, including lodging	in Dallas and \$2,713 in Waco, and just short of Lubbock's figure of \$3,133. Coming off of the pandemic, travel spending rose across the region from 2021 to 2022; increases ranged from 7.2% in the Killeen Metro Area up to 23.1% in the Dallas- Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, with Abilene in the middle of the pack with an increase of 15.2%.												Travelstats.com, Dean Runjan Associates	\$611.14
					With \$602.17 million in direct spending by travelers in 2022, the Abilene Metro Area receives a relatively large amount of money from travelers for its size, well above the similarly-sized regional metro areas of Wichita Falls, San Angelo and Odessa, which had direct travel spending \$306.08 million, \$323.09 million and \$473.73 million, respectively. Midland was the only comparably-sized metro area in the region to receive more travel spending in 2022, at \$741.13 million.	15.2%	23.1%	23.1%	7.2%	15.3%	15.3%	18.2%	11.3%		12.5%	11.7% Metro	2022	
	1. Verenting	ravel		Travelers to the Abilene Metro Area spent a total of \$602.17 million in 2022, an increase of 15.2% from the \$522.55 million spent in 2021. This	On a per-capita basis, Abilene's travel spending also compares favorably to most of the significantly larger metro areas in the region. In 2022, travelers spent about \$2,938 per resident of the Abilene Metro Area - above that of \$1,390 in Killeen, \$2,010 in Dallas and \$2,713 in Waco, and just short of Lubbock's figure of \$3,133. Coming off of the pandemic, travel spending rose across the region from 2021 to 2022; increases ranged from 7.2% in the Killeen Metro Area up to 23.1% in the Dallas- Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, with Abilene in the middle of the pack with an	LJ.270	23.1%	23.170	, . 2 / 0	/0	/0	/U						
Tourism	1-Year Change in Tr Spending (2021-22)		1-Year Change in Travel Spending	includes all purchases made by travelers during a trip, including lodging	Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, with Abilene in the middle of the pack with an increase of 15.2%.												Travelstats.com, Dean Runjan Associates	13.5%

			Labor Force (12-Month Average)		Labor numbers improved across the region from April 2022 to April 2023 - with all metro areas showing growth in both labor force sizes and total employment along													
				are employed or looking for work - had grown to 81,507, an increase of 1.7% from a year earlier. Of those, 78,662 were actively employed, 2.3% more than in April of 2022,	metro areas showing growth in both labor force sizes and total employment, along with reductions in unemployment - although some areas saw much more improvement than others. Growth rates in total labor force ranged from 0.1% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to													
				with unemployment dropping 0.5% over the previous 12 months, down to just 3.5%.	 6.3% in the Midland Metro Area, with Abilene falling toward the middle with a rate of 1.7%. Similarly, growth rates in total employment ranged from 0.8% in Wichita Falls to 8.1% in Midland, again with Abilene in the middle of the pack at 2.3%. Additionally, unemployment rates fell in all metro areas in the region, ranging from a decline of 0.5% in the Abilene Metro Area to one of 2.5% in the Odessa Metro Area. However, although Abilene saw less of a decline in unemployment than other metro 	81,507	4,308,770	4,308,770	184,665	169,568	111,305	84,746	56,770	489,035	134,963	64,563 Metro	Apr-23	
abor Force	Labor Force (Residents)	Count	1-Year Change in Labor Force	Metro Area's labor force - defined as all residents age 16 and older who are employed or looking for work - had grown to 81,507, an increase of	 areas in the region, its unemployment rate remained lower than most other regional metro areas, at just 3.5%. In comparison, despite its larger decrease, Odessa's unemployment rate remained slightly higher than Abilene's, at 3.6%. Labor numbers improved across the region from April 2022 to April 2023 - with all metro areas showing growth in both labor force sizes and total employment, along with reductions in unemployment - although some areas saw much more improvement than others. 												Bureau of Labor Statistics PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
					 Growth rates in total labor force ranged from 0.1% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to 6.3% in the Midland Metro Area, with Abilene falling toward the middle with a rate of 1.7%. Similarly, growth rates in total employment ranged from 0.8% in Wichita Falls to 8.1% in Midland, again with Abilene in the middle of the pack at 2.3%. Additionally, unemployment rates fell in all metro areas in the region, ranging from a decline of 0.5% in the Abilene Metro Area to one of 2.5% in the Odessa Metro Area. 	1.7%	3.4%	3.4%	0.9%	0.8%	6.3%	3.9%	1.3%	1.1%	1.8%	0.1% Metro	Apr-23	
abor Force	Labor Force	1-Year Change	Employment (12-Month Average)	Metro Area's labor force - defined as all residents age 16 and older who are employed or looking for work - had grown to 81,507, an increase of	 However, although Abilene saw less of a decline in unemployment than other metro areas in the region, its unemployment rate remained lower than most other regional metro areas, at just 3.5%. In comparison, despite its larger decrease, Odessa's unemployment rate remained slightly higher than Abilene's, at 3.6%. Labor numbers improved across the region from April 2022 to April 2023 - with all metro areas showing growth in both labor force sizes and total employment, along with reductions in unemployment - although some areas saw much more improvement 												Bureau of Labor Statistics	2
					 than others. Growth rates in total labor force ranged from 0.1% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to 6.3% in the Midland Metro Area, with Abilene falling toward the middle with a rate of 1.7%. Similarly, growth rates in total employment ranged from 0.8% in Wichita Falls to 8.1% in Midland, again with Abilene in the middle of the pack at 2.3%. Additionally, unemployment rates fell in all metro areas in the region, ranging from a 	78,662	4,154,993	4,154,993	176,386	163,760	108,290	81,710	54,831	474,085	129,950	62,058 Metro	Apr-23	
abor Force	Employment (Residents)	Count	1-Year Change in Employment	Metro Area's labor force - defined as all residents age 16 and older who	 decline of 0.5% in the Abilene Metro Area to one of 2.5% in the Odessa Metro Area. However, although Abilene saw less of a decline in unemployment than other metro areas in the region, its unemployment rate remained lower than most other regional metro areas, at just 3.5%. In comparison, despite its larger decrease, Odessa's unemployment rate remained slightly higher than Abilene's, at 3.6%. Labor numbers improved across the region from April 2022 to April 2023 - with all metro areas showing growth in both labor force sizes and total employment, along with reductions in unemployment - although some areas saw much more improvement 												Bureau of Labor Statistics PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
				1.7% from a year earlier.Of those, 78,662 were actively employed, 2.3% more than in April of 2022,	 With reductions in unemployment - antiough some areas saw much more improvement than others. Growth rates in total labor force ranged from 0.1% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to 6.3% in the Midland Metro Area, with Abilene falling toward the middle with a rate of 1.7%. Similarly, growth rates in total employment ranged from 0.8% in Wichita Falls to 8.1% in Midland, again with Abilene in the middle of the pack at 2.3%. Additionally, unemployment rates fell in all metro areas in the region, ranging from a 	2.3%	4.2%	4.2%	1.6%	1.4%	8.1%	6.7%	2.1%	1.6%	2.4%	0.8% Metro	Apr-23	
abor Force	Employment	1-Year Change	Unemployment (12-Month Average	Metro Area's labor force - defined as all residents age 16 and older who	 decline of 0.5% in the Abilene Metro Area to one of 2.5% in the Odessa Metro Area. However, although Abilene saw less of a decline in unemployment than other metro areas in the region, its unemployment rate remained lower than most other regional metro areas, at just 3.5%. In comparison, despite its larger decrease, Odessa's unemployment rate remained slightly higher than Abilene's, at 3.6%. Labor numbers improved across the region from April 2022 to April 2023 - with all metro areas showing growth in both labor force sizes and total employment, along 												Bureau of Labor Statistics	
				1.7% from a year earlier.Of those, 78,662 were actively employed, 2.3% more than in April of 2022,	 with reductions in unemployment - although some areas saw much more improvement than others. Growth rates in total labor force ranged from 0.1% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to 6.3% in the Midland Metro Area, with Abilene falling toward the middle with a rate of 1.7%. Similarly, growth rates in total employment ranged from 0.8% in Wichita Falls to 8.1% in Midland, again with Abilene in the middle of the pack at 2.3%. 	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%	4.5%	3.4%	2.7%	3.6%	3.4%	3.1%	3.7%	3.9% Metro	Apr-23	
abor Force	Unemployment (Residents)	Count	1-Year Change in Unemployment Rate	Metro Area's labor force - defined as all residents age 16 and older who	Additionally, unemployment rates fell in all metro areas in the region, ranging from a decline of 0.5% in the Abilene Metro Area to one of 2.5% in the Odessa Metro Area. However, although Abilene saw less of a decline in unemployment than other metro areas in the region, its unemployment rate remained lower than most other regional metro areas, at just 3.5%. In comparison, despite its larger decrease, Odessa's unemployment rate remained slightly higher than Abilene's, at 3.6%.												Bureau of Labor Statistics	;
				are employed or looking for work - had grown to 81,507, an increase of 1.7% from a year earlier. Of those, 78,662 were actively employed, 2.3% more than in April of 2022,	 with reductions in unemployment - although some areas saw much more improvement than others. Growth rates in total labor force ranged from 0.1% in the Wichita Falls Metro Area to 6.3% in the Midland Metro Area, with Abilene falling toward the middle with a rate of 1.7%. Similarly, growth rates in total employment ranged from 0.8% in Wichita Falls to 8.1% in Midland, again with Abilene in the middle of the pack at 2.3%. 	-0.5%	-0.7%	-0.7%	-0.6%	-0.6%	-1.6%	-2.5%	-0.8%	-0.5%	-0.6%	-0.7% Metro	Apr-23	
abor Force	Unemployment	1-Year Change	Labor Force within 30-Minute Drive		Additionally, unemployment rates fell in all metro areas in the region, ranging from a decline of 0.5% in the Abilene Metro Area to one of 2.5% in the Odessa Metro Area. However, although Abilene saw less of a decline in unemployment than other metro areas in the region, its unemployment rate remained lower than most other regional metro areas, at just 3.5%. In comparison, despite its larger decrease, Odessa's unemployment rate remained slightly higher than Abilene's, at 3.6%. Indicative of low commute times, most metropolitan areas in the region have relatively large labor draw areas, with more workers living within a 30-minute drive of												Bureau of Labor Statistics	<u> </u>
				slightly higher than the metropolitan area's nominal labor force of 81,507 determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.	the city center than just the nominal labor force as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Abilene, San Angelo, Wichita Falls and Lubbock all have access to several thousand laborers outside of the nominal labor force who live within a reasonable commuting distance, with most or all of the populations of those metro areas living		497,052	1,794,509	160,214	174,086	143,715	159,597	59,659	427,648	131,105	70,405 Labor Draw	(= 2022	
hor Forco	Labor Draw Area	Count			Both Killeen and Waco are minor exceptions to the trend, with a fraction of their labor forces living outside of 30 minutes of their respective city centers, but the region's major exception is Dallas, where only 1,794,509 workers live within a half-hour drive of the city center, compared to the metro area's nominal labor force of 4,308,770. Likewise, significantly less than half of the metro area's population of nearly 8 million lives near downtown Dallas.												ESRI PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
			Population within 30-Minute Drive Time	labor force living within a half-hour drive of downtown Abilene was 84,512, slightly higher than the metropolitan area's nominal labor force of 81,507 determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.	Additionally, due to being only 20 miles apart, the cities of Midland and Odessa both													
					share access to most of each other's labor forces and populations - in particular nearly doubling Odessa's access to labor, with 159,597 workers living within 30 minutes, compared to just 84,746 in its nominal labor force. Both Killeen and Waco are minor exceptions to the trend, with a fraction of their labor forces living outside of 30 minutes of their respective city centers, but the region's major exception is Dallas, where only 1,794,509 workers live within a half-hour drive of the city center, compared to the metro area's nominal labor force of 4,308,770. Likewise, significantly less than half of the metro area's population of nearly 8 million lives near downtown Dallas.		908,918	3,250,756	390,319	332,069	266,261	303,616	122,363	832,758	265,169	143,462 Labor Draw		
oor Force	Labor Draw Area	Count			Aside from those near Dallas/Fort Worth, most counties in the region have only												ESRI PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
	Commuting	Count	Net Commuting Exchange		relatively small differences between the number of people working in the county but living outside of it, versus those living inside the county and working outside of it, with net commuting exchanges ranging from -13,209 in Bell County to +9,012 in Lubbock County - with Taylor County falling on the positive end at +2,785. Midland County, however, is a major exception, with 51,683 commuting into the county, compared to only 25,284 commuting out, for a net commuting exchange of +26,399. Counties near Dallas/Fort Worth vary much more greatly in labor flows, with Denton County losing a net 185,591 workers to other counties. Conversely, Dallas County e gains a net 537,526 workers from outside the county, with 889,941 coming into the county while only 352,415 commute out.	2,785	-185,591	537,526	-13,209	9,012	26,399	-881	-890	74,237	4,089	1,009 County	2020 U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)	
				The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2020, there were 19,844 people living outside Taylor County but working in the county - compared to	Aside from those near Dallas/Fort Worth, most counties in the region have only relatively small differences between the number of people working in the county but living outside of it, versus those living inside the county and working outside of it, with net commuting exchanges ranging from -13,209 in Bell County to +9,012 in Lubbock County - with Taylor County falling on the positive end at +2,785. Midland County, however, is a major exception, with 51,683 commuting into the county, compared to only 25,284 commuting out, for a net commuting exchange of +26,399.	34.6%	2.5%	2.8%	-12.5%	-20.3%	-7.7%	-172.4%	-31.6%	-2.1%	18.6%	-10.2% County	2020	.ر.
bor Force	Commuting	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Net Commuting	commuting increased only slightly from 2019 - up 0.1% - but a 4.0% decline	Counties near Dallas/Fort Worth vary much more greatly in labor flows, with Denton County losing a net 185,591 workers to other counties. Conversely, Dallas County gains a net 537,526 workers from outside the county, with 889,941 coming into the county while only 352,415 commute out. Aside from those near Dallas/Fort Worth, most counties in the region have only relatively small differences between the number of people working in the county but living outside of it, versus those living inside the county and working outside of it, with net commuting exchanges ranging from -13,209 in Bell County to +9,012 in Lubbock County - with Taylor County falling on the positive end at +2,785. Midland County, however, is a major exception, with 51,683 commuting into the county,	19,844	140,949	889,941	40,715	35,869	51,683	30,297	12,064	128,656	40,150	13,598 County	U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) 2020	31
abor Force	Commuting	Count	Inbound Commuting		Counties near Dallas/Fort Worth vary much more greatly in labor flows, with Denton County losing a net 185,591 workers to other counties. Conversely, Dallas County gains a net 537,526 workers from outside the county, with 889,941 coming into the county while only 352,415 commute out. Aside from those near Dallas/Fort Worth, most counties in the region have only relatively small differences between the number of people working in the county but living outside of it, versus those living inside the county and working outside of it,			. , - • •	,	,			,+			, Sounty	U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)	29
bor Force	Commuting	1-Year Change	1-Year Change Inbound Commuting	The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2020, there were 19,844 people living outside Taylor County but working in the county - compared to 17,059 people living in the county and working outside of it - for a net commuting exchange of 2,785, an increase of 34.6% from 2019. Inbound commuting increased only slightly from 2019 - up 0.1% - but a 4.0% decline g in outbound commuting resulted in the larger net change.	with net commuting exchanges ranging from -13,209 in Bell County to +9,012 in Lubbock County - with Taylor County falling on the positive end at +2,785. Midland County, however, is a major exception, with 51,683 commuting into the county, compared to only 25,284 commuting out, for a net commuting exchange of +26,399. Counties near Dallas/Fort Worth vary much more greatly in labor flows, with Denton County losing a net 185,591 workers to other counties. Conversely, Dallas County gains a net 537,526 workers from outside the county, with 889,941 coming into the county while only 352,415 commute out.	0.1%	1.8%	0.6%	3.5%	-5.7%	-5.1%	-10.2%	-2.3%	-1.7%	-0.5%	-5.6% County	2020 U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)	
				The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2020, there were 19,844 people living outside Taylor County but working in the county - compared to 17,059 people living in the county and working outside of it - for a net commuting exchange of 2,785, an increase of 34.6% from 2019. Inbound	Aside from those near Dallas/Fort Worth, most counties in the region have only relatively small differences between the number of people working in the county but living outside of it, versus those living inside the county and working outside of it, with net commuting exchanges ranging from -13,209 in Bell County to +9,012 in Lubbock County - with Taylor County falling on the positive end at +2,785. Midland County, however, is a major exception, with 51,683 commuting into the county, compared to only 25,284 commuting out, for a net commuting exchange of +26,399. Counties near Dallas/Fort Worth vary much more greatly in labor flows, with Denton County losing a net 185,591 workers to other counties. Conversely, Dallas County	17,059	326,540	352,415	53,924	26,857	25,284	31,178	12,954	54,419	36,061	12,589 County	2020	
abor Force	Commuting	Count	Outbound Commuting	commuting increased only slightly from 2019 - up 0.1% - but a 4.0% decline in outbound commuting resulted in the larger net change.	 gains a net 537,526 workers from outside the county, with 889,941 coming into the county while only 352,415 commute out. Aside from those near Dallas/Fort Worth, most counties in the region have only relatively small differences between the number of people working in the county but living outside of it, versus those living inside the county and working outside of it, with net commuting exchanges ranging from -13,209 in Bell County to +9,012 in Lubbock County - with Taylor County falling on the positive end at +2,785. Midland County, however, is a major exception, with 51,683 commuting into the county, 	-4.0%	2.2%	-2.6%	-0.9%	0.5%	-2.3%	-4.1%	-5.1%	-1.2%	-2.2%	-5.2% County	2020	25
bor Force	Commuting	1-Year Change	1-Year Change Outbound Commut	The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2020, there were 19,844 people living outside Taylor County but working in the county - compared to 17,059 people living in the county and working outside of it - for a net commuting exchange of 2,785, an increase of 34.6% from 2019. Inbound commuting increased only slightly from 2019 - up 0.1% - but a 4.0% decline ing in outbound commuting resulted in the larger net change.	compared to only 25,284 commuting out, for a net commuting exchange of +26,399. Counties near Dallas/Fort Worth vary much more greatly in labor flows, with Denton County losing a net 185,591 workers to other counties. Conversely, Dallas County gains a net 537,526 workers from outside the county, with 889,941 coming into the county while only 352,415 commute out. With the exception of the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, where 11.10% of employed residents reported working from home in 2021, the Abilene Metropolitan Area had the highest work from home rate of any metro area in the region, at 6,80%												U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)	-3
bor Force	Work from home	Percent of Total	Worked from home	employed residents reported working from home in 2021, an increase of	Area had the highest work-from-home rate of any metro area in the region, at 6.80%. In other regional metro areas, work-from-home rates ranged from 3.30% in Odessa to 6.20% in both Killeen and San Angelo. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, work from home rates increased across the region from 2020 to 2021, with the largest increase in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area of 2.7%. Growth in work-from-home rates in smaller metro areas ranged from 0.2% in Odessa to 1.2% in Waco, with Abilene's rate growing 0.5%.	6.80%	11.10%	11.10%	6.20%	5.00%	5.10%	3.30%	6.20%	7.10%	5.70%	5.60% Metro	2021 U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	5
bor Force	Work from home	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Working from Home		 With the exception of the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, where 11.10% of employed residents reported working from home in 2021, the Abilene Metropolitan Area had the highest work-from-home rate of any metro area in the region, at 6.80%. In other regional metro areas, work-from-home rates ranged from 3.30% in Odessa to 6.20% in both Killeen and San Angelo. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, work from home rates increased across the region from 2020 to 2021, with the largest increase in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area of 2.7%. Growth in work-from-home rates in smaller metro areas ranged from 0.2% in Odessa to 1.2% in Waco, with Abilene's rate growing 0.5%. 	0.5%	2.7%	2.7%	1.1%	0.7%	0.8%	0.2%	0.9%	1.5%	1.2%	0.9% Metro	2021 U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	
					The Abilene Metro Area had relatively low rates of labor force participation in 2021, with only 61.8% of residents aged 16 years and older either employed or actively seeking work, which was lowest rate of any metro area in the region besides Waco, at 60.7%. The Midland Metro Area had the highest labor participation rate in the region, 71.1%, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 69.1% and Odessa at 67.6%. Among residents between the ages of 20 and 64 in 2021, Abilene had the lowest rate of labor participation in the region - at 74.0% - just under Killeen at 74.2% and Waco	61.8%	69.1%	69.1%	63.3%	65.3%	71.1%	67.6%	65.7%	63.8%	60.7%	62.6% Metro	2021	
bor Form	Labor Force Deutini	Percent		Among residents aged 20 to 64 years, 74.0% were employed or looking for	 and Wichita Falls, both at 74.7%. Again, Midland had the highest rate at 81.9%, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 80.7% and San Angelo at 80.0%. However, Abilene had significant growth in both categories from 2020, increasing 0.7% for ages 16 and older and 0.8% for ages 20 to 64 - higher than any other metro area in the region except Midland, where those rates grew 1.2% and 1.4% from 2020, 												IIS Census American Community Survey 5 Vees Augusts	65
or ruice	Labor Force Participation	Percent of Total	Population 16 Years and Older)	work in 2021, up 0.8% from 2020.	respectively.										1		U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	6

				The Abilene Metro Area had relatively low rates of labor force participation in 2021, with only 61.8% of residents aged 16 years and older either employed or actively seeking work, which was lowest rate of any metro area in the region besides Waco, at											
				60.7%. The Midland Metro Area had the highest labor participation rate in the region, 71.1%, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 69.1% and Odessa at 67.6%.Among residents between the ages of 20 and 64 in 2021, Abilene had the lowest rate	74.0%	80.7%	80.7% 74.2	% 77.8%	81.9% 78	78.0% 80.0%	77.5%	74.7%	74.7% Metro	2021	
			The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2021, 61.8% of Abilene Metropolitan Area residents aged 16 years and older were either employ	of labor participation in the region - at 74.0% - just under Killeen at 74.2% and Waco and Wichita Falls, both at 74.7%. Again, Midland had the highest rate at 81.9%, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 80.7% and San Angelo at 80.0%.											
Labor Force Labor Force Participation	Percent of Total	Labor Force Participation Rate (% Population 20 to 64 Years)	or actively looking for work, an increase of 0.7% from 2020.	However, Abilene had significant growth in both categories from 2020, increasing 0.7% for ages 16 and older and 0.8% for ages 20 to 64 - higher than any other metro area in the region except Midland, where those rates grew 1.2% and 1.4% from 2020, respectively.										U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	77.2%
				The Abilene Metro Area had relatively low rates of labor force participation in 2021,											
				with only 61.8% of residents aged 16 years and older either employed or actively seeking work, which was lowest rate of any metro area in the region besides Waco, at 60.7%. The Midland Metro Area had the highest labor participation rate in the region, 71.1%, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 69.1% and Odessa at 67.6%.											
				Among residents between the ages of 20 and 64 in 2021, Abilene had the lowest rate of labor participation in the region - at 74.0% - just under Killeen at 74.2% and Waco and Wichita Falls, both at 74.7%. Again, Midland had the highest rate at 81.9%,	0.7%	6 0.1%	0.1% -0.19	% 0.5%	1.2% -(-0.8% 0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.5% Metro	2021	
		1-Year Change in Labor Force	Metropolitan Area residents aged 16 years and older were either employ or actively looking for work, an increase of 0.7% from 2020.	However, Abilene had significant growth in both categories from 2020, increasing 0.7% for ages 16 and older and 0.8% for ages 20 to 64 - higher than any other metro											
Labor Force Labor Force Participation	1-Year Change	Participation Rate: Age 16 Years an Over	Among residents aged 20 to 64 years, 74.0% were employed or looking for work in 2021, up 0.8% from 2020.	or area in the region except Midland, where those rates grew 1.2% and 1.4% from 2020, respectively.										U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	0.3%
				The Abilene Metro Area had relatively low rates of labor force participation in 2021, with only 61.8% of residents aged 16 years and older either employed or actively seeking work, which was lowest rate of any metro area in the region besides Waco, at 60.7%. The Midland Metro Area had the highest labor participation rate in the region,											
				71.1%, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 69.1% and Odessa at 67.6%.Among residents between the ages of 20 and 64 in 2021, Abilene had the lowest rate of labor participation in the region - at 74.0% - just under Killeen at 74.2% and Waco	0.8%	6 0.2%	0.2% -0.3'	% 0.7%	1.4% -(-0.1% 0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.6% Metro	2021	
			The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2021, 61.8% of Abilene Metropolitan Area residents aged 16 years and older were either employ or actively looking for work, an increase of 0.7% from 2020.	and Wichita Falls, both at 74.7%. Again, Midland had the highest rate at 81.9%, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 80.7% and San Angelo at 80.0%.											
Labor Force Labor Force Participation	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Labor Force Participation Rate: Age 20 to 64 Years		0.7% for ages 16 and older and 0.8% for ages 20 to 64 - higher than any other metro area in the region except Midland, where those rates grew 1.2% and 1.4% from 2020, respectively.										U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	0.5%
				In addition to Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, the region is also home to several other military installations - with the Air Force also operating Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo and Shepard AFB in Wichita Falls, the Army operating Fort Cavazos in Killeen and the Navy operating Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth.											
				ts Nearly 85,000 of the region's residents are employed directly at a military installation: 55,374 at Fort Cavazos; 9,690 at Goodfellow AFB; 8,638 at Shepard AFB; 5,533 at	Dyess AFB	8 NAS JRB Ft. Worth NAS	JRB Ft. Worth Fort Cavazo	s		Goodfellow AFB			Shepard AFB Milita	ry Insta 2021	
			130J transport aircraft, respectively.	Many other residents are veterans, the number of which is closely correlated to the presence of military bases. In 2021, 20.2% of Killeen's residents were veterans,											
Military & Veterans Military installations	Name	Military Installation Name	2020.	In addition to Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, the region is also home to several other military installations - with the Air Force also operating Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo										Texas Comptroller, Economic Impact Reports N/A	
			The militany plays a major role in Abilano's economy with 5 522 resident	and Shepard AFB in Wichita Falls, the Army operating Fort Cavazos in Killeen and the Navy operating Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth.											
				55,374 at Fort Cavazos; 9,690 at Goodfellow AFB; 8,638 at Shepard AFB; 5,533 at Dyess AFB; and 5,199 at NAS JRB Fort Worth.	5,533	5,199	5,199 55,37	4		9,690			8,638 Milita	ry Insta 2021	
Military & Veterans Military installations	Count	Total Direct Employment at Military Installations	The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2021, 9.5% of Abilene Metro Are residents aged 18 years and older were veterans, a decline of 0.5% from 2020.	Many other residents are veterans, the number of which is closely correlated to the presence of military bases. In 2021, 20.2% of Killeen's residents were veterans, followed by 11.8% in Wichita Falls, 9.5% in Abilene and 9.2% in San Angelo - all higher than any regional metro area without a military base.										Texas Comptroller, Economic Impact Reports PEER RANK: 4 of 7	
				In addition to Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, the region is also home to several other military installations - with the Air Force also operating Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo and Shepard AFB in Wichita Falls, the Army operating Fort Cavazos in Killeen and the Naw operating Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth											
			directly employed at Dyess Air Force Base - home of both the 7th Bomb	Navy operating Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth. Is Nearly 85,000 of the region's residents are employed directly at a military installation: 55,374 at Fort Cavazos; 9,690 at Goodfellow AFB; 8,638 at Shepard AFB; 5,533 at Direct AFB: and 5,199 at NAS, IRB, Fort Worth	9.5%	6.0%	6.0% 20.2	% 5.5%	5.9%	4.9% 9.2%	8.0%	7.2%	11.8% Metro	2021	
				Many other residents are veterans, the number of which is closely correlated to the presence of military bases. In 2021, 20.2% of Killeen's residents were veterans,											
Military & Veterans Veteran Population	Percent of Total		residents aged 18 years and older were veterans, a decline of 0.5% from 2020.	followed by 11.8% in Wichita Falls, 9.5% in Abilene and 9.2% in San Angelo - all higher than any regional metro area without a military base. In addition to Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, the region is also home to several other										U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	9.6%
				military installations - with the Air Force also operating Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo and Shepard AFB in Wichita Falls, the Army operating Fort Cavazos in Killeen and the Navy operating Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth.											
					-0.5%	-0.1%	-0.1% -0.8%	-0.4%	0.2%	0.1% -1.1%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.1% Metro	2021	
Military & Veterans Veteran Population	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Veterans Population	The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2021, 9.5% of Abilene Metro Are residents aged 18 years and older were veterans, a decline of 0.5% from 2020.	Many other residents are veterans, the number of which is closely correlated to the presence of military bases. In 2021, 20.2% of Killeen's residents were veterans, followed by 11.8% in Wichita Falls, 9.5% in Abilene and 9.2% in San Angelo - all higher than any regional metro area without a military base.										U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	-0.4%
				The number of tech jobs in Abilene is similar in proportion to those of other comperably-sized metro areas in the region, at 2.0% as 2022, compared to 1.4% in Odessa, 1.8% in Wichita Falls, 2.0% in Midland and 2.1% in San Angelo.											
			According to Jobs EQ, 79,326 people worked in the Abilene Metropolitan Area in the fourth quarter of 2022, an increase of 2.3% from the fourth	The larger metro areas of Waco, Lubbock and Killeen all have slightly higher proportions of tech jobs - at 2.3%, 2.3% and 2.4%, respectively. However, even those are dwarfed by the much larger Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, at 4.7%, with	79,326	5 4,168,196	4,168,196 160,19	3 162,509	116,600 80	0,300 54,731	470,331	134,084	61,930 Metro	2022 (Q4)	
			quarter of 2021. The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) reported that 2022, 1,467 jobs in Abilene were were classified as "tech jobs" - up 5.5%	its nearly 181,000 tech workers outnumbering the total labor force of any other metro area in the region.											
Businesses & Jobs Jobs (Workplace-Based)	Count	Jobs (4Q Average)	from 2021 - accounting for 2.0% of all jobs in Abilene.	growth rate of 5.5% falling in the middle of those shown by other regional metro areas, ranging from 3.3% in Killeen to 16.4% in Midland. The number of tech jobs in Abilene is similar in proportion to those of other										JobsEQ PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
				comperably-sized metro areas in the region, at 2.0% as 2022, compared to 1.4% in Odessa, 1.8% in Wichita Falls, 2.0% in Midland and 2.1% in San Angelo. The larger metro areas of Waco, Lubbock and Killeen all have slightly higher											
			According to Jobs EQ, 79,326 people worked in the Abilene Metropolitan Area in the fourth quarter of 2022, an increase of 2.3% from the fourth quarter of 2021.	proportions of tech jobs - at 2.3%, 2.3% and 2.4%, respectively. However, even those are dwarfed by the much larger Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, at 4.7%, with its nearly 181,000 tech workers outnumbering the total labor force of any other metro	2.3%	3.9%	3.9% 2.3	% 2.0%	6.5%	5.9% 3.8%	2.8%	1.9%	2.0% Metro	2023 (Q4)	
	1 Veen Chenner		The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) reported that 2022, 1,467 jobs in Abilene were were classified as "tech jobs" - up 5.5% from 2021 - accounting for 2.0% of all jobs in Abilene.	5 Tech jobs grew significantly across the region from 2021 to 2022, with Abilene's growth rate of 5.5% falling in the middle of those shown by other regional metro											2.5%
Businesses & Jobs Jobs (Workplace-Based)	1-Year Change	Quarter Average)		areas, ranging from 3.3% in Killeen to 16.4% in Midland. The number of tech jobs in Abilene is similar in proportion to those of other comperably-sized metro areas in the region, at 2.0% as 2022, compared to 1.4% in										JobsEQ	3.5%
				Odessa, 1.8% in Wichita Falls, 2.0% in Midland and 2.1% in San Angelo. The larger metro areas of Waco, Lubbock and Killeen all have slightly higher proportions of tech jobs - at 2.3%, 2.3% and 2.4%, respectively. However, even those	1,467	180,996	180,996 3,52	6 3,440	2,186 1	1,023 1,034	11,421	2,783	1,260 Metro	2022	
			Area in the fourth quarter of 2022, an increase of 2.3% from the fourth quarter of 2021. The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) reported that	its nearly 181,000 tech workers outnumbering the total labor force of any other metro area in the region. t in						_,					
Businesses & Jobs Tech Jobs (Workplace-Based	d) Count	Tech Job 1-Year Change in Tech Jobs	2022, 1,467 jobs in Abilene were were classified as "tech jobs" - up 5.5% from 2021 - accounting for 2.0% of all jobs in Abilene.	Tech jobs grew significantly across the region from 2021 to 2022, with Abilene's growth rate of 5.5% falling in the middle of those shown by other regional metro areas, ranging from 3.3% in Killeen to 16.4% in Midland.										JobsEQ PEER RANK: 4 of 7	
				The number of tech jobs in Abilene is similar in proportion to those of other comperably-sized metro areas in the region, at 2.0% as 2022, compared to 1.4% in Odessa, 1.8% in Wichita Falls, 2.0% in Midland and 2.1% in San Angelo.											
				The larger metro areas of Waco, Lubbock and Killeen all have slightly higher proportions of tech jobs - at 2.3%, 2.3% and 2.4%, respectively. However, even those are dwarfed by the much larger Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, at 4.7%, with its nearly 181,000 tech workers outnumbering the total labor force of any other metro	5.5%	5 11.9%	11.9% 3.3	% 3.5%	16.4%	7.8% 7.1%	7.7%	6.1%	4.8% Metro	2022	
			The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) reported that 2022, 1,467 jobs in Abilene were were classified as "tech jobs" - up 5.5% from 2021 - accounting for 2.0% of all jobs in Abilene.	Tech jobs grew significantly across the region from 2021 to 2022, with Abilene's growth rate of 5.5% falling in the middle of those shown by other regional metro											
Businesses & Jobs Tech Jobs (Workplace-Based	d) 1-Year Change			areas, ranging from 3.3% in Killeen to 16.4% in Midland. The number of tech jobs in Abilene is similar in proportion to those of other comperably-sized metro areas in the region, at 2.0% as 2022, compared to 1.4% in										JobsEQ.	6.9%
			According to Jobs EQ, 79,326 people worked in the Abilene Metropolitan	Odessa, 1.8% in Wichita Falls, 2.0% in Midland and 2.1% in San Angelo. The larger metro areas of Waco, Lubbock and Killeen all have slightly higher proportions of tech jobs - at 2.3%, 2.3% and 2.4%, respectively. However, even those	2.0%	4 70/	4 79/ 2 4	V 2.29V	2.0%	1.4% 2.1%	2.6%	2.3%	1.9% Motro	2022	
			Area in the fourth quarter of 2022, an increase of 2.3% from the fourth quarter of 2021. The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) reported that	are dwarfed by the much larger Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, at 4.7%, with its nearly 181,000 tech workers outnumbering the total labor force of any other metro area in the region.	2.0%	b 4.7%	4.7% 2.4	% 2.3%	2.0%	1.4% 2.1%	2.6%	2.3%	1.8% Metro		
Businesses & Jobs Tech Jobs (Workplace-Based	d) Percent of Total	Tech Jobs (% of Total Employment)	2022, 1,467 jobs in Abilene were were classified as "tech jobs" - up 5.5% from 2021 - accounting for 2.0% of all jobs in Abilene.	Tech jobs grew significantly across the region from 2021 to 2022, with Abilene's growth rate of 5.5% falling in the middle of those shown by other regional metro areas, ranging from 3.3% in Killeen to 16.4% in Midland.										JobsEQ	2.0%
				Abilene's ratio of 7.04 resumes on file for each active job posting in 2023 on WorkInTexas.com - an indicator of both competition between job-seekers for jobs and of competition between businesses for labor - is moderate relative to most other metro areas in the region											
			WorkInTexas.com, the employment website sponsored by the Texas Workforce Commission, reported an average of 7.04 resumes on file for	metro areas in the region. Excluding the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, the ratio of resumes to job postings in 2023 ranged from 4.54 in Lubbock to 11.85 in Wichita Falls, with lower numbers favoring job-seekers and higher numbers favoring employers. There were	7.04	0.64	0.64 5.2	8 4.54	5.94	8.35 10.63	0.63	5.85	11.85 Metro	2023	
Businesses & Jobs Talent Availability	Count	Candidates per Job Opening	every active job posting for the Abilene Metropolitan Region in 2023.	numbers favoring job-seekers and higher numbers favoring employers. There were only 0.64 resumes posted for every job posting the Dallas area. Relative to its size, the Abilene Metro Area had large number of online job postings in red May of 2023 as observed by JobsEQ, and was tied with the Waco and Wichita Falls	4,358	185,387	185,387 6,76	8 7,339	5,287 3	3,771 2,846	24,772	7,341	3,422 Metro	May-23	7.66
Businesses & Jobs Job Postings	Count	Online Job Ads		to metro areas for the highest ratio of job postings to total employment at 5.5%. Other metro areas in the region ranged from 4.2% in Killeen to 5.2% in San Angelo.	4,358	103,387	6,76	7,539	3	2,846	24,772	/,341	J,+∠∠ Vletro	May-23 JobsEQ PEER RANK: 4 of 7	
Businesses & Jobs Job Postings	Count	Ads per Jobs		 Relative to its size, the Abilene Metro Area had large number of online job postings in May of 2023 as observed by JobsEQ, and was tied with the Waco and Wichita Falls to metro areas for the highest ratio of job postings to total employment at 5.5%. Other metro areas in the region ranged from 4.2% in Killeen to 5.2% in San Angelo. 	5.5%	5 4.4%	4.4% 4.2	% 4.5%	4.5%	4.7% 5.2%	5.3%	5.5%	5.5% Metro	2023 JobsEQ	4.9%
				With about 2.5 businesses for every hundred residents, the Abilene Metro Area falls in the middle of most other metro areas in the region, which generally two to three businesses per hundred residents, with the exception of the Killeen and Midland											
				businesses per hundred residents, with the exception of the Killeen and Midland metro areas. Killeen, likely due to its disproportionately high military population, has just 1.6 businesses per hundred residents. Conversely, Midland has 3.7 businesses per	4,554	210,484	210,484 8,05	8 8,725	6,548 4	4,258 3,285	31,417	6,215	3,871 Metro	2022 (Q3)	
		Establishment (0		businesses per hundred residents. Conversely, Midland has 3.7 businesses per hundred residents, falling in line with its high degree of self-employment. Abilene's increase in its number of business - up 1.6% from the third quarter of 2021 to the third quarter of 2022 - was moderate relative to other regional metro areas											
Businesses & Jobs Establishments	Count	Establishments (Covered Establishments)												JobsEQ (Covered Establishments reported by BLS) PEER RANK: 4 of 7	
				With about 2.5 businesses for every hundred residents, the Abilene Metro Area falls in the middle of most other metro areas in the region, which generally two to three businesses per hundred residents, with the exception of the Killeen and Midland metro areas.											
				Killeen, likely due to its disproportionately high military population, has just 1.6 businesses per hundred residents. Conversely, Midland has 3.7 businesses per hundred residents, falling in line with its high degree of self-employment.	1.6%	2.9%	2.9% 2.4	% 1.0%	0.3% -(-0.5% 1.3%	7.4%	2.5%	0.7% Metro	2022 (Q3)	
Businesses & Jobs Establishments	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Establishments	there were 4,554 businesses in the Abilene Metropolitan Area in that pa	Abilene's increase in its number of business - up 1.6% from the third quarter of 2021 to the third quarter of 2022 - was moderate relative to other regional metro areas, which ranged from a decline of 0.5% in Odessa to an increase of 2.9% in Dallas.										JobsEQ (Covered Establishments reported by BLS)	1.0%
				Likely as a result of the pandemic, relatively few new businesses opened in the region in 2020, with most metro areas showing declines in new businesses opening as											
			Business Dynamics - based on U.S. Census data - reported that in the	compared to 2019. Odessa and Wichita Falls both saw double-digit declines - falling 22.8% and 15.5%, respectively - with a fairly large drop of 8.5% in Abilene; while the largest increases were of just 3.9% and 3.1% in San Angelo and Lubbock, respectively.	289	17,199	17,199 57	9 638	596	304 187	1,956	405	212 Metro	2020	
		New Establishments (last 12	Abilene Metro Area, 289 new places of business were opened or formed 2020, a decrease of 8.5% from 2019.	 in Likewise, relative to 2019, new businesses accounted for a smaller percentage of total businesses around the region in 2020, with largest decline of 2.7% in Odessa and 1.2% in Wichita Falls - versus the greatest increases being just 0.3% in San in Angelo and 0.2% in Lubbock. Abilene, again, had a significant decline of 0.8%, with 											
Businesses & Jobs New Establishments	Count	months)	operation in 2020, 0.8% lower than 2019's rate.	Likely as a result of the pandemic, relatively few new businesses opened in the region										U.S. Census, Business Dynamics PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
				Likely as a result of the pandemic, relatively few new businesses opened in the region in 2020, with most metro areas showing declines in new businesses opening as compared to 2019. Odessa and Wichita Falls both saw double-digit declines - falling 22.8% and 15.5%, respectively - with a fairly large drop of 8.5% in Abilene; while the largest increases were of just 3.9% and 3.1% in San Angelo and Lubbock, respectively.	7.6%	5 11.1%	11.1% 9.6'	% 9.2%	11.0%	8.5% 7.0%	8.7%	7.8%	6.7% Metro	2020	
			Business Dynamics - based on U.S. Census data - reported that in the Abilene Metro Area, 289 new places of business were opened or formed 2020, a decrease of 8.5% from 2019.	in Likewise, relative to 2019, new businesses accounted for a smaller percentage of total businesses around the region in 2020, with largest decline of 2.7% in Odessa	7.6%	11.1%	9.6	5.2%	±±.070	7.0%	8.7%	/.8%	u. / 76 Metro		
Businesses & Jobs New Establishments	Count	Rate of New Establishments (last 12 months)	2 The 289 new businesses represented 7.6% of all of Abilene's businesses operation in 2020, 0.8% lower than 2019's rate.	and 1.2% in Wichita Falls - versus the greatest increases being just 0.3% in San in Angelo and 0.2% in Lubbock. Abilene, again, had a significant decline of 0.8%, with new businesses accounting for 7.6% of all business.										U.S. Census, Business Dynamics	8.5%
				Likely as a result of the pandemic, relatively few new businesses opened in the region in 2020, with most metro areas showing declines in new businesses opening as compared to 2019. Odessa and Wichita Falls both saw double-digit declines - falling 22.8% and 15.5% respectively, with a fairly large drop of 8.5% in Abilance while the											
				 22.8% and 15.5%, respectively - with a fairly large drop of 8.5% in Abilene; while the largest increases were of just 3.9% and 3.1% in San Angelo and Lubbock, respectively. in Likewise, relative to 2019, new businesses accounted for a smaller percentage of total businesses around the region in 2020, with largest decline of 2.7% in Odessa. 	-8.5%	6 0.3%	0.3% -7.8	% 3.1%	-2.3% -22	22.8% 3.9%	-1.7%	-5.4%	-15.5% Metro	2020	
Businesses & Jobs New Establishments	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in New Establishments	2020, a decrease of 8.5% from 2019.	total businesses around the region in 2020, with largest decline of 2.7% in Odessa and 1.2% in Wichita Falls - versus the greatest increases being just 0.3% in San in Angelo and 0.2% in Lubbock. Abilene, again, had a significant decline of 0.8%, with new businesses accounting for 7.6% of all business.										U.S. Census, Business Dynamics	-7.2%
				Likely as a result of the pandemic, relatively few new businesses opened in the region in 2020, with most metro areas showing declines in new businesses opening as											
			Business Dynamics - based on U.S. Census data - reported that in the	compared to 2019. Odessa and Wichita Falls both saw double-digit declines - falling 22.8% and 15.5%, respectively - with a fairly large drop of 8.5% in Abilene; while the largest increases were of just 3.9% and 3.1% in San Angelo and Lubbock, respectively.	-0.8%	-0.1%	-0.1% -1.09	% 0.2%	-0.6% -2	-2.7% 0.3%	-0.2%	-0.5%	-1.2% Metro	2020	
				in Likewise, relative to 2019, new businesses accounted for a smaller percentage of											
Businesses & Jobs New Establishments	1-Year Change	1-Year Change in Rate of New Establishments	2020, a decrease of 8.5% from 2019. The 289 new businesses represented 7.6% of all of Abilene's businesses operation in 2020, 0.8% lower than 2019's rate.	 total businesses around the region in 2020, with largest decline of 2.7% in Odessa and 1.2% in Wichita Falls - versus the greatest increases being just 0.3% in San in Angelo and 0.2% in Lubbock. Abilene, again, had a significant decline of 0.8%, with new businesses accounting for 7.6% of all business. 										U.S. Census, Business Dynamics	

Businesses & Jobs Self-Employment	Percent of Total Self-Employe		Abilene Metro Area residents reported the lowest rate of self-employment compared to the other comperably-sized metro areas of Wichita Falls at 9.2%, Odessa at 9.5%, San Angelo at 10.9% 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 8.8%, although slightly under the 10.0% reported in the Dallas-Fort Worth Arlington Metro Area.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%.Abilene Metro Area residents reported the lowest rate of self-employment compared to the other comperably-sized metro areas of Wichita Falls at 9.2%, Odessa at 9.5%, San Angelo at 10.9% 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 8.8%, although slightly under the 10.0% reported in the Dallas-Fort Worth Arington Metro Area.	9.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.9%	9.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%	9.2% Metro	2021 U.S. Cen 2021	sus, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages		9.7%
Businesses & Jobs Self-Employment	1-Year Change 1-Year Chan	According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 9.0% of Abilene Metro Area residence in Self-Employment reported being self-employed in 2021, a decline of 0.4% from 2020.	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%.												U.S. Cen	isus, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages		0.2%
		The International Trade Administration reported that the Abilene Metropolitan Area exported \$62.6 million worth of goods to other cour in 2021, an increase of 3.5% from 2020.	The Abilene Metro Area has relatively few international exports compared to most other similarly-sized metro areas in the region, at \$62.5 million in 2021 - higher than htries Midland's \$49.9 million, but lower than Odessa's \$74.3 million, Wichita Falls' \$184.2 million and San Angelo's \$348.4 million.															
		\$28.2 million, followed by fabricated metal products at \$4.1 million. Abilene's largest export region, accounting for \$54.7 million of exports was Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) - which includes Austra			\$43,189,011.34	\$43,189,011.34	\$167,945.61	\$406,669.47	\$49,948.53	\$74,288.85	\$348,439.34	\$3,064,817.26	\$866,402.91	\$184,164.04 Metro	2021			
Businesses & Jobs Exports	Count Exports (tho	Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines	 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 21.2% from 2020. 												Internati	ional Trade Administration, Metropolitan Exports	PEER RANK: 6 of 7	
		The International Trade Administration reported that the Abilene Metropolitan Area exported \$62.6 million worth of goods to other cour in 2021, an increase of 3.5% from 2020.	The Abilene Metro Area has relatively few international exports compared to most other similarly-sized metro areas in the region, at \$62.5 million in 2021 - higher than Midland's \$49.9 million, but lower than Odessa's \$74.3 million, Wichita Falls' \$184.2 million and San Angelo's \$348.4 million.															
		\$28.2 million, followed by fabricated metal products at \$4.1 million. Abilene's largest export region, accounting for \$54.7 million of exports was Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) - which includes Austra Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Kore	a, In the region's larger metro areas, international exports ranged from \$167.9 million in	3.5%	21.2%	21.2%	15.8%	-6.5%	-13.5%	9.2%	20.1%	19.4%	32.2%	5.5% Metro	2021			
Businesses & Jobs Exports	1-Year Change 1-Year Chan		, Killeen to more than \$43 billion from the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metro Area, which was up 21.2% from 2020. The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$8.1 billion in 2021 is similar to most other metro												Internati	ional Trade Administration, Metropolitan Exports		4.9%
			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.															
		product/gross regional product - which measures the final market valual goods and services produced in the area - increased 8.9% between	2020	\$8.1	\$625.9	\$625.9	\$20.0	\$16.1	\$20.5	\$9.6	\$5.6	\$58.5	\$14.8	\$6.3 Metro	2021			
Businesses & Jobs GDP/GRP	Count GDP (billions		 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. 												Jobs EQ.		PEER RANK: 5 of 7	
			The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$8.1 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.															
		JobsEQ reported that the Abilene Metropolitan Area's gross domestic product/gross regional product - which measures the final market valu all goods and services produced in the area - increased 8.9% between and 2021, to \$8.1 billion.		8.9%	13.8%	13.8%	9.4%	8.9%	10.1%	4.7%	7.1%	7.9%	11.9%	8.8% Metro	2021			
Businesses & Jobs GDP/GRP	1-Year Change 1-Year Chan	Average annual wages for workers employed in the area increased 9.5	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.												JobsEQ			8.3%
			The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$8.1 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.															
		JobsEQ reported that the Abilene Metropolitan Area's gross domestic product/gross regional product - which measures the final market valu all goods and services produced in the area - increased 8.9% between		\$49,833	\$73,523	\$73,523	\$53,647	\$50,776	\$83,991	\$67,755	\$49,685	\$55,763	\$53,006	\$47,046 Metro	2021			
Rusinesses & John Augment Mart	Count Annual Aver	and 2021, to \$8.1 billion. Average annual wages for workers employed in the area increased 9.5	 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 												JobsEQ			\$57.533
Businesses & Jobs Average Wage	Annual Aver	rage Wages per Worker from 2020 to 2021, to \$49,833.	growth ranged from 6.2% in Waco to 13.4% in Odessa. The Abilene Metro Area's GDP of \$8.1 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.															<u>ک</u> کر, <i>ا</i> حک
		JobsEQ reported that the Abilene Metropolitan Area's gross domestic product/gross regional product - which measures the final market valu all goods and services produced in the area - increased 8.9% between and 2021, to \$8.1 billion.		9.5%	6.7%	6.7%	6.6%	6.5%	8.7%	13.4%	7.0%	6.1%	6.2%	7.4% Metro	2021			
Businesses & Jobs Average Wage	1-Year Change Wages per V	nge in Average AnnualAverage annual wages for workers employed in the area increased 9.5Workerfrom 2020 to 2021, to \$49,833.													JobsEQ			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 ISD only, 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 nonreporting 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.

	Item	Measure	Description	Source	Link	Source Notes
People	Population Trends	Population	Count of all persons living in geographical area	U.S. Census, Population Estimates	www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/data/tables.html	Note: The U.S. Census published only 5-year estimates for ACS data in 2020 due to the
People	Age Groups	Population Ages 20 to 44 Years	Count of all persons who were aged 20 to 44 years	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	data.census.gov	pandemic. These are "period" estimates that represent data collected over a period of time. These are compared to 5-Year estimates for 2021.
People	Diversity Index	Diversity Index	Represents the likelihood that two persons, chosen at random from the same area, belong to different races or ethnic groups. The Diversity Index ranges from 0 (no diversity) to 100 (complete diversity), where an area's index tends toward 100 when the population is more evenly divided across race and ethnic groups.	ESRI	Proprietary access	
Income	Median Household Income	Median Household Income	Mathematical median calculation of income by members of a household received on a regular basis from wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, self-employment, dividends, Social Security, retirement, etc.	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	data.census.gov	
Income	Living Wage	MIT Living Wage (Hourly)	Developed by Amy Glasmeier of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Living Wage is an estimated local wage rate that a full-time worker requires to cover the costs o their family's basic needs - minimum standards of living - where they reside. A family of 4: two adults, two children, with both adults working.	f Living Wage Calculator, MIT (livingwage.mit.edu)	livingwage.mit.edu/	
Income	Poverty Rate	Population Below Poverty Level (%)	The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family (and every individual in it) or unrelated individual is considered in poverty. Shown here as a percentage of the total population.	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	data.census.gov	
· · ·	Cost of Living Index Housing Costs	Cost of Living Index (COLI) Median Sale Price of Homes	Area Vibes sources C2ER Cost of Living Index and models upon that data. The median price at which homes were sold, mm/yy to mm/yy comparison	AreaVibes, Modeled on C2ER Zillow	www.areavibes.com www.zillow.com/research/data/	
Livability	Housing Costs	Median Sale Price of Homes	The median price at which homes were sold.	RedFin (San Angelo)	www.redfin.com/city/16534/TX/San-Angelo/housing-market	Note: Data for San Angelo was not available from Zillow for comparison. Redfin data was
Livability	Housing Availability	For Sale Home Inventory (12-Month Average)	The count of unique listings that were active at any time in a given month.	Zillow	www.zillow.com/research/data/	used for San Angelo in this measure.
Livability	Rental Costs	Rent Index (12-Month Average)	Observed Rent Index is a measure of the typical, observed market rate rent and is weighted to the rental housing stock to ensure representativeness across the entire market, not just those homes currently listed for rent. The index computes the mean of listed rents that fall into the 40th to 60th percentile range for all homes and apartments in a given region, which is once again weighted to reflect the rental housing stock.		www.zillow.com/research/data/	
Livability	Crime Rate	Violent Crime Rate per 100,000	Rate includes violent offenses reported to city law enforcement department using the FB Uniform Crime Reporting Program standards per 100,000 residents in the city. Crimes include murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.	FBI Uniform Crime Reports, Texas Department of Public Safety	cde.ucr.cjis.gov; www.dps.texas.gov/section/crime-records/crime-texas	
Livability	Crime Rate	Property Crime Rate per 100,000	Rate includes property (non-violent) offenses reported to city law enforcement department using the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program standards per 100,000 residents in the city. Crimes include burglary, larceny-theft, and auto theft.	FBI Uniform Crime Reports, Texas Department of Public Safety	cde.ucr.cjis.gov; www.dps.texas.gov/section/crime-records/crime-texas	
Livability	Walkability/Bikability	Average Walk Score for City	Walk Score is a number between 0 and 100 that measures the walkability of any address. Walk Score for a city or neighborhood is an average for that area. The highest city score is San Francisco at 89.	s Walkscore.com	Walkscore.com	
Livability	Walkability/Bikability	Average Bike Score for City	Bike Score service measures whether a location is good for biking on a scale from 0 - 100. An average is calculated for the city or neighborhood level. The highest city score is Minneapolis at 83.	Walkscore.com	Walkscore.com	
Livability	Walkability/Bikability	Downtown Walk Score for City	Neighborhood Walk Score is an average for that small area as a collection of address scores. An example of a perfect 100 score is Chinatown in San Francisco.	Walkscore.com	Walkscore.com	
Livability	Air Quality	Air Quality (Attainment or Nonattainment)	If the air quality in a geographic area meets or is cleaner than the national standard determined by the EPA, it is called an attainment area while areas that don't meet the	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Green Book	https://www.epa.gov/green-book	
Education	Educational Attainment	Population 25 Years or Older with Associate Degree or Higher (%)	national standard are called nonattainment areas.Population 25 years or older who have completed 2 or more years of college obtaining a	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	data.census.gov	
	High School Graduation Rate (4		degree of Associate, Bachelor's, or graduate degree.The percentage of students that graduate high school and obtain a diploma within four			Graduation rate reflects the Tulsa ISD only, not the county level due to the absence of 2020
Education Education	year cohort) Secondary School Test Scores	Graduation Rate (4-Year Cohort)** Average SAT Score ***	years. The SAT is a standardized test that is an accepted measure of students' knowledge of	Texas Education Agency, Oklahoma State Dept. of Education Texas Education Agency	tea.texas.gov/reports-and-data, oklaschools.com tea.texas.gov/reports-and-data/school-performance/accountability-research/ap/ib-an	data for the remaining school districts in the county.
Education	(SAT) Technical Education	Fall Enrollment at Public Community or Technical College (2-Yr)	math, reading, and writing, as well as their college readiness. Fall enrollment at nearby 2-year public community or technical colleges	www.txhighereddata.org, Tulsa Community College	sat/act www.txhighereddata.org; www.tulsacc.edu/about-us/institutional-research	SAT scores on the local level.
Infrastructure	Broadband (access)	Households with Fixed Broadband Access at 250 Mbps +	The percent of households with access to fixed broadband internet service at or above	Broadband Map (Dec 2022 data)	broadbandmap.fcc.gov/area-summary/	
Infrastructure	Broadband (access)	Households with Fixed Broadband Access at 1,000 Mbps (1 Gig) +	250 Megabits per second (Mbps) The percent of households with access to fixed broadband internet service at or above 1,000 Megabits per second (Mbps) or 1 Gig	Broadband Map (Dec 2022 data)	broadbandmap.fcc.gov/area-summary/	
Infrastructure	Broadband (speed)	Average Speed (Mbps)	The average recorded speed of downloads captured through Ookla and M-Labs hosted	Ookla & M-Lab download speeds (Mbps)	https://nbam.ntia.gov/pages/bbusacomm-reports-202106	
Infrastructure	Electric	Electricity Rate (Cents per kWh)	speed tests. Average price of electricity reported per prominent provider	EIA Sales to Ultimate Customers	www.eia.gov/electricity/sales_revenue_price/	
Infrastructure	Roadways/Congestion	Annual delay per Commuter **** Maier International Airport Englangments	Excess travel time per commuter	Texas A& M Transportation Institute	https://mobility.tamu.edu/umr/ https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/passenger_allcargo_stats	
Infrastructure Infrastructure	Airport Airport	Major International Airport Enplanements Regional Airport Enplanements	Number of passengers boarding planes at specified airport.Number of passengers boarding planes at specified airport.	Bureau of Transportation Statistics Bureau of Transportation Statistics	https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/passenger_allcargo_stats	
Tourism Labor Force	Direct Visitor Spending Labor Force (Residents)	Total Direct Travel Spending (Millions) Labor Force (12-Month Average)	Purchases by travelers during a trip, including lodging taxes and other applicable local and state taxes paid by the traveler at the point of sale. Resident population 16 years and older employed or actively looking for work.	d Travelstats.com, Dean Runjan Associates Bureau of Labor Statistics	travelstats.com	
Labor Force	Employment (Residents)	Employment (12-Month Average)	Resident population 16 years and older employed regardless of where the job is located.		www.bls.org	
Labor Force	Unemployment (Residents)	Unemployment (12-Month Average)	Resident population 16 years and older not employed and actively searching for work.	Bureau of Labor Statistics	www.bls.org	
Labor Force	Labor Draw Area	Labor Force within 30-Minute Drive Time	Resident population 16 years and older not employed and actively searching for work. Resident population 16 years or older within a 30-minute drive of city center.	ESRI	Proprietary access	
Labor Force	Labor Draw Area	Population within 30-Minute Drive Time	Population within a 30-minute drive of city center.	ESRI	Proprietary access	
Labor Force	Commuting	Net Commuting Exchange	 Number of workers (negative or positive) from the exchange of in-commuters and out- commuters from county. One primary job per worker is counted. People who work in the county but live outside the county. One primary job per worker is counted. 	U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)	onthemap.ces.census.gov	
Labor Force	Commuting	Inbound Commuting			onthemap.ces.census.gov	
Labor Force Labor Force	Commuting Work from home	Outbound Commuting Worked from home	County residents who work outside the county. One primary job per worker is counted. Percent of residents that reported that they work from home.	U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	data.census.gov	
	Labor Force Participation	Labor Force Participation Rate (% Population 16 Years and Older)	Resident population 16 years or older that is employed or actively looking for work.	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	data.census.gov data.census.gov	
	Labor Force Participation Military installations	Labor Force Participation Rate (% Population 20 to 64 Years) Military Installation Name	Resident population 20 to 64 years that is employed or actively looking for work. Nearest major military installation	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages Texas Comptroller, Economic Impact Reports	data.census.gov comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/military	
Military & Veterans	Military installations	Total Direct Employment at Military Installations	Employment of active military, civilian contractors, and Dept. of Defense workers.	Texas Comptroller, Economic Impact Reports	comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/military	
	Veteran Population Jobs (Workplace-Based)	Veteran Population 18 Years and Older (%) Jobs (4Q Average)	Percent of total population that reported veteran status. Number of people employed in geography regardless of where they live.	U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages JobsEQ	data.census.gov Proprietary access	
	Tech Jobs (Workplace-Based)		Number of tech jobs as defined by CompTIA (SOC codes 11-3021, 15-1211, 15-1212, 15-1221, 15-1221, 15-1231, 15-1232, 15-1241, 15-1242, 15-1243, 15-1244, 15-1251, 15-1252, 15-1253,		Proprietary access	
Businesses & Jobs	Talent Availability	Candidates per Job Opening	15-1254, 15-1255, 15-1299, 15-2051, 17-2061, 49-2011)Number of resumes on file at state employment organization per active job posting on	Work in Texas, OK Job Match	texaslmi.com/EconomicProfiles/MSAProfiles, okjobmatch.com	
Businesses & Jobs	· · ·	Online Job Ads	the same state-sponsored employment site.Number of online job postings observed in area for past 30 days.	JobsEQ	Proprietary access	
Businesses & Jobs	<u> </u>	Ads per Jobs	Number of online job postings observed per total employment.	JobsEQ	Proprietary access	
Businesses & Jobs	Establishments	Establishments (Covered Establishments)	Number of covered establishments or places of business. Covered establishments have employers that pay into state unemployment insurance.	JobsEQ (Covered Establishments reported by BLS)	Proprietary access	
Businesses & Jobs Businesses & Jobs	New Establishments	New establishments (last 12 months)	Number of new establishments that were begun in past 12-months. Percent of residents that reported self-employment.	U.S. Census, Business Dynamics U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Averages	data.census.gov data.census.gov	
Businesses & Jobs Businesses & Jobs		Self-Employed Exports (billions)	Value of products from area that were exported to another country for sale.	International Trad Administration, Metropolitan Exports	data.census.gov www.trade.gov/ita-metropolitan-export-series	
Businesses & Jobs	GDP/GRP	GDP (billions)	GDP (sometimes referred to as GRP for regions smaller than the national level) measures the final market value of all goods and services produced in the region.	JobsEQ	Proprietary access	
Businesses & Jobs	Average Wage	Annual Average Wages per Worker	The mathematical average of wages paid to workers employed in the area, regardless of	JobsEQ	Proprietary access	
			where they live.			

* 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 ISD only, 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.

Peer Cities: Killeen, Lubbock, Odessa, Midland, Wichita Falls, Grand Prarie, San Angelo

Aspirational: Waco, Denton and Tulsa, OK