# REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

## NORTHWEST





The 30-county Northwest region covers about 27,600 square miles in northern Texas, stretching from Oklahoma on the north to the Colorado River on the south and abutting Big Spring on the west and the Fort Worth area on the east.

The region includes two metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs): the Abilene MSA, comprising Callahan, Jones and Taylor counties, and the Wichita Falls MSA, comprising Archer, Clay and Wichita counties.

THIS ANALYSIS PREDATES
THE COVID-19 CRISIS AND
THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS
THAT FOLLOWED.
IT IS OFFERED AS AN
OVERVIEW OF THE
NORTHWEST REGIONAL
ECONOMY AND A
RESOURCE FOR
COMPARATIVE PURPOSES.

### **NORTHWEST REGION COUNTIES:**

ARCHER
BAYLOR
BROWN
CALLAHAN
CLAY
COLEMAN

COMANCHE
COTTLE
EASTLAND
FISHER
FOARD
HARDEMAN

HASKELL JACK JONES KENT KNOX MITCHELL

MONTAGUE NOLAN RUNNELS SCURRY SHACKELFORD STEPHENS STONEWALL TAYLOR THROCKMORTON WICHITA WILBARGER YOUNG

#### **TOP 10 INDUSTRIES BY LOCATION QUOTIENT**

- RAIL TRANSPORTATION
   SUPPORT ACTIVITIES FOR MINING
- 3. OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION
- 4. PIPELINE TRANSPORTATION
- 5. ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND AQUACULTURE
- 6. NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCT MANUFACTURING
- 7. LEATHER AND ALLIED PRODUCT MANUFACTURING
- 8. LESSORS OF NONFINANCIAL INTANGIBLE ASSETS (EXCEPT COPYRIGHTED WORKS)
- MINING (EXCEPT OIL AND GAS)
   10. JUSTICE, PUBLIC ORDER AND
   SAFETY ACTIVITIES

Source: JobsEQ<sup>®</sup>

# POPULATION GROWTH

NORTHWEST REGION VS. TEXAS AND U.S., 2010-2019

0.0%
u.s.
6.30/



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

In 2019, the Northwest region's estimated total population was about 550,500, or nearly 2 percent of the state's total population. The region's population has remained stable since the 2010 Census.

### **JOBS & WAGES**

From 2009 to 2019, the Northwest region's employment increased by more than 2 percent, much lower than the state's total job growth rate. In 2019, the region accounted for nearly 2 percent of the state's total employment.

The Northwest region's most significant occupations are shown below, sorted by numerical growth during the last five years.

# 22.3% 13.7%

**EMPLOYMENT GROWTH, NORTHWEST REGION** 

VS. TEXAS AND U.S., 2009-2019

REGION TEXAS U.S.

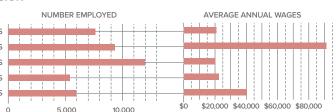
Note: Figures include private- and public-sector employees with the exception of active-duty military personnel, railroad employees, religious institution employees and the self-employed

Sources: JobsEQ and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

### TOP OCCUPATIONS IN NORTHWEST REGION BY NUMERIC GROWTH, 2014-2019

OTHER PERSONAL CARE AND SERVICE WORKERS
HEALTH DIAGNOSING AND TREATING PRACTITIONERS
FOOD- AND BEVERAGE-SERVING WORKERS
BUILDING CLEANING AND PEST CONTROL WORKERS
HEALTH TECHNOLOGISTS AND TECHNICIANS

Note: Data are as of Q4 2019 except wage data, which represent covered employment in 2018.

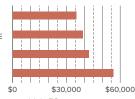


Source: JobsEQ

### **EDUCATION**

AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, NORTHWEST REGION

LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL OR EQUIVALENT, NO COLLEGE SOME COLLEGE OR ASSOCIATE DEGREE BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR ADVANCED DEGREE



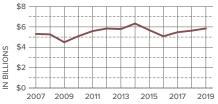
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and JobsEQ

Northwest region workers with some college or associate degrees and stable jobs earned an average of \$3,401 more annually than those with a high school degree, while those with at least a bachelor's degree earned an average of \$16,823 more.

## REGIONAL ECONOMY

In 2019, taxable sales directly attributable to businesses in the region exceeded \$5.8 billion, about 1.1 percent of the state's overall taxable sales.

REGIONAL RECEIPTS SUBJECT TO SALES TAX



Note: Numbers shown are for reported revenue subject to sales tax and directly attributed to the region.

Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Glenn Hegar

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

### SUMMARY

The Northwest region and its 30 counties have many unique economic conditions and challenges. The region's population growth has been stable since 2010, and job growth has been stagnant during the last decade. The region's receipts subject to state sales tax showed a slight upward trend following the 2007-2009 recession, reaching a high point in 2014.