



## SEPTEMBER 2011

## AMARILLO ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Retail sales and job gains helped Amarillo's economy improve even as the drought worsens.

Retail sales for July were 10% higher than last year and are up 9% year to date.

The Household Survey shows an increase of 1,200 jobs which was only half of Lubbock's increase. The Employer's Survey indicates gains of 500 jobs in Manufacturing, 600 jobs in Utilities, and 500 in oil and gas field workers. Used car sales were up 22% from last year and new car sales are up 6%.

Airline boardings are down 3% from last year and the hotel/motel tax is up 2%.

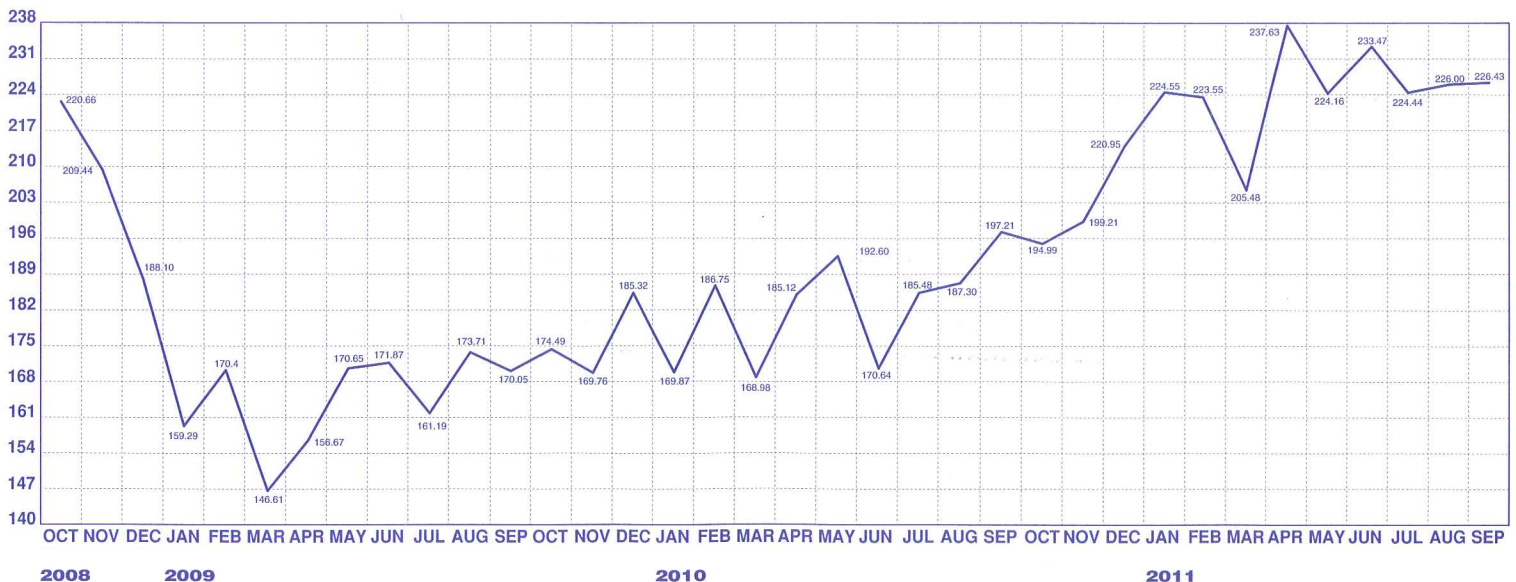
Residential starts are up 38% from 12 months ago and 30 year mortgage rates remain between 4.25% and 4.38%. Building permits are down 40% from last year and year to date are down 10%. Construction in process is down 5% compared to 12 months ago.

Commodity prices are still high, but the drought is still hurting farmers and ranchers. Fed cattle prices are at \$112 and profits are varying weekly. Milk prices (per hundred weight) are \$21.67 for dairies.

Energy activity continues to boom in the eastern Panhandle.

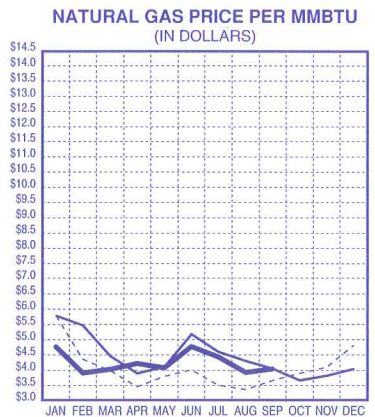
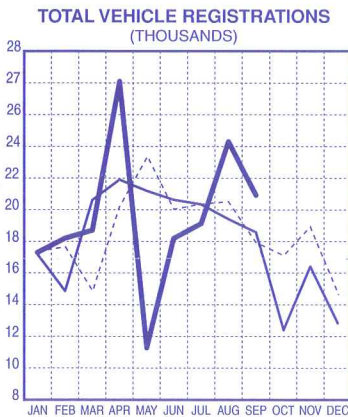
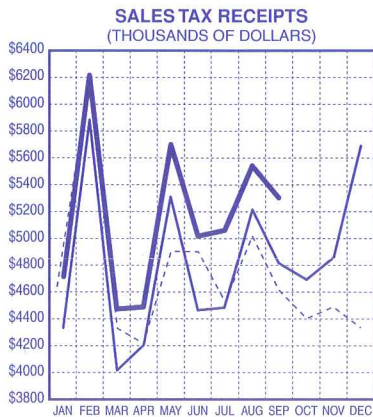
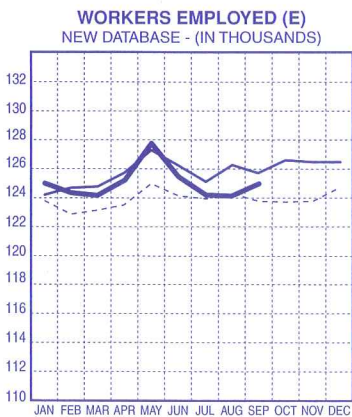
Corn prices are 66% higher than last year. Cotton prices are 22% higher and wheat is up 20%, but sharply lower yields due to the drought will hurt farm income.

Amarillo's CPI for the year is 3.14% versus 3.8% nationwide. For Amarillo, groceries were up 3.4%, transportation is up 3.8%, while health, housing and utilities were flat.



# AMARILLO ECONOMIC PULSE COMPONENTS

	CURRENT MONTH	LAST MONTH	ONE YEAR AGO
Index (Base Jan. 88 @ 100)	226.43	226.00	197.21
Sales Tax Collections	\$ 5,301,623	\$ 5,577,960	\$ 4,821,248
Sales Tax Collections-Year To Date	\$ 46,687,738	\$ 41,386,115	\$ 42,726,036
New Vehicle Sales	1,003	1,032	945
Used Vehicle Sales	2,020	1,968	1,645
Vehicle Registrations (Stickers)	21,916	24,269	18,613
Airline Boardings	35,672	38,818	36,731
Hotel/Motel Receipt Tax	\$ 554,671	\$ 512,288	\$ 541,433
Population	191,514	191,514	191,514
Employment - CLF*	132,900	132,400	131,400
Unemployment Rate*	% 5.90	% 6.30	% 5.80
Total Workers Employed*	125,000	124,100	123,800
Average Weekly Wages	\$ 696.22	\$ 696.22	\$ 686.21
Gas	65,981	65,863	65,910
Water Connections	67,911	67,711	67,355
Interest Rates: 30 year mortgage rates	% 4.38	% 4.38	% 4.38
Building Permits: Dollar Amount	\$ 24,862,488	\$ 24,742,133	\$ 41,378,828
Year to Date Permits	\$ 194,319,651	\$ 169,357,162	\$ 216,656,490
Residential Starts	51	46	37
Drilling Rigs in Panhandle	83	80	74
Oil Per Barrel	\$ 85.53	\$ 87.62	\$ 69.78
Natural Gas	\$ 4.04	\$ 3.93	\$ 4.05
Wheat Per Bushel	\$ 7.67	\$ 7.59	\$ 6.37
Fed Cattle Per CWT	\$ 112.50	\$ 109.00	\$ 99.00
Corn	\$ 7.61	\$ 7.19	\$ 4.59
Cotton (Cents Per Pound)	\$ 106.22	\$ 102.71	\$ 87.14
Milk	\$ 21.67	\$ 21.94	\$ 16.00



--- 2009      — 2010      — 2011

