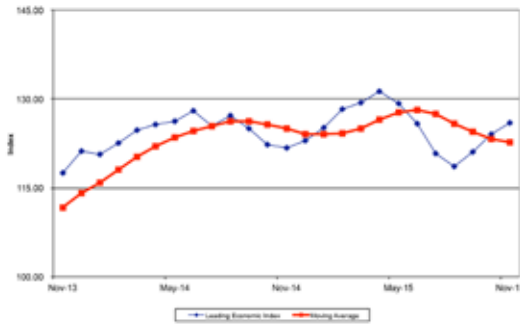


## RECORD SETTING SALES TAX RECEIPTS

The Brazoria County Index of Leading Economic Indicators increased in November to 125.93, which is 1.48 percent above the previous month's index and 3.42 percent above November 2014. The Leading Economic Index, which is designed to forecast the economic performance of the county over the next three to six months, has been above the six-month moving average for seven of the last eleven months. This is significant because if the leading economic index is consistently above the six month moving average the county is likely entering into or currently experiencing a period of positive economic growth (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Leading Economic Index



Two of the three leading economic indicators increased over the last month. The largest increase in the index was in the Brazoria County Stock Index. The stock index, which is made up of the eight largest publicly traded manufacturers in the county, increased 3.10 percent over the last month and 1.77 percent over the last year. By comparison the Dow Jones Industrial Average decreased 0.60 percent over the last month and increased 0.27 percent over the last year (Figure 2). New Single Family Building Permits (seasonally adjusted) increased by 0.50 percent over the last month and 18.81 percent over the last year. The leading indicator that decreased over the last year was the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugarland Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours. The average weekly hours of manufacturing workers decreased in November to 43.30 hours per week compared to 45.70 hours per week in the same month last year, which represents a decrease of 5.25 percent.

Figure 2: BC Stock Index vs. DJIA

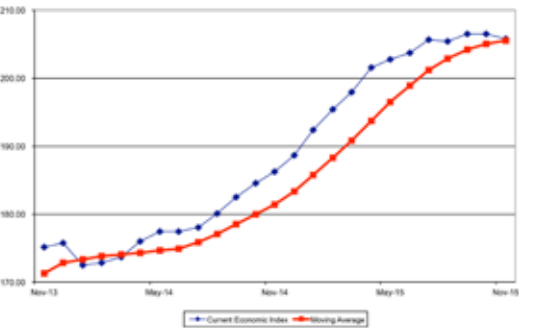


## CURRENT ECONOMIC INDICATORS

The Brazoria County Index of Current Economic Indicators, which is designed to provide information

about the current status of the economy, increased 10.46 percent over the last year to 205.74, but decreased over the last month by 0.34 percent. The largest increase in the index was in Sales Tax Receipts, which increased 11.36 percent to \$2,236,932. This is the highest amount ever reported in the month of November (Figure 3). Over the last year Brazoria County Hotel/Motel Tax Receipts and Employment decreased by 3.44 percent and 1.76 percent after posting the highest amounts ever recorded in the county in the previous year. The Brazoria County Current Economic Index has been above the six-month moving average for over twelve months. This is significant because if the current economic index is consistently above the six month moving average then the county is likely experiencing a period of economic growth (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Current Economic Index



## LAGGING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

The Brazoria County Index of Lagging Economic Indicators is used to confirm the growth or slowdown in the economy. The lagging economic index increased to 132.43, which is 0.69 percent above the previous month and 4.14 percent above November 2014. Brazoria County Foreclosure Notices were at an all-time low for the month of November in 2014. The county remained at that all-time low of 74 notices for the current year (Figure 5). The unemployment rate in the county was 4.79 percent, which is an increase from the record setting low of 4.50 percent recorded last November. The lagging economic index has been above the six-month moving average for over twelve months, which indicates the economy has been experiencing a period of economic growth (Figure 6).

Figure 5: Brazoria County Foreclosure Notices (November)

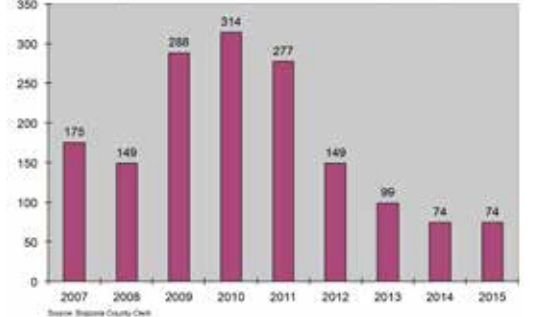


Figure 6: Lagging Economic Index

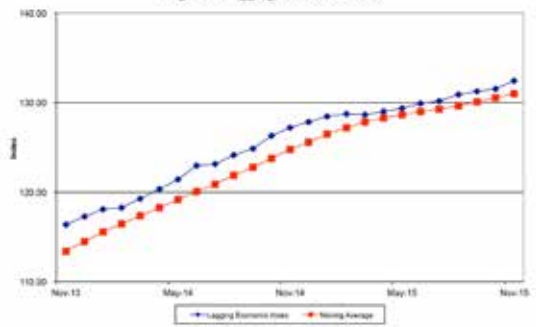
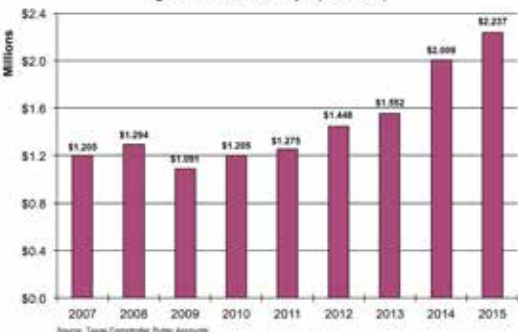


Figure 3: Sales Tax Receipts (November)



# BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS BUSINESS CYCLE INDICATORS

## JANUARY 2016

<b>Brazoria County Economic Indices:</b>	<b>Nov 2015</b>	<b>Oct 2015</b>	<b>Sep 2015</b>	<b>Aug 2015</b>	<b>Jul 2015</b>
Leading Economic Index (2003 = 100)	125.93	124.10	121.11	118.61	120.86
Current Economic Index (2003=100)	205.74	206.45	206.45	205.41	205.69
Lagging Economic Index (2003 = 100)	132.43	131.52	131.22	130.93	130.15

<b>Brazoria County Leading Economic Index*</b>	<b>Nov 2015</b>	<b>Oct 2015</b>	<b>Nov 2014</b>	<b>Oct-2015 to Nov-2015</b>	<b>Nov-2014 to Nov-2015</b>
Leading Economic Index (2003 = 100)	125.93	124.10	121.77	1.48%	3.42%
<b>Components:</b>					
Brazoria County Stock Index (12/31/2003 = 100)	174.19	168.95	171.16	3.10%	1.77%
New Single Family Building Permits (Seasonally Adjusted)	248	247	209	0.50%	18.81%
<i>New Single Family Building Permits (Unadjusted)</i>	200	154	206	29.87%	-2.91%
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugarland Avg. Wkly. Mfg. Hrs. (Seasonally Adjusted)	43.83	43.93	46.49	-0.22%	-5.71%
<i>Houston-The Woodlands-Sugarland Avg. Wkly. Mfg. Hrs. (Unadjusted)</i>	43.30	42.90	45.70	0.93%	-5.25%

\*(Data for the Leading Index is one month behind due to the lag in obtaining building permits)

<b>Brazoria County Current Economic Index**</b>	<b>Nov 2015</b>	<b>Oct 2015</b>	<b>Nov 2014</b>	<b>Oct-2015 to Nov-2015</b>	<b>Nov-2014 to Nov-2015</b>
Current Economic Index (2003 = 100)	205.74	206.45	186.26	-0.34%	10.46%
<b>Components:</b>					
Sales Tax Receipts (Constant 1982-1984 \$'s, Seasonally Adjusted)	1,104,709	1,105,964	934,039	-0.11%	18.27%
<i>Sales Tax Receipts (Current \$'s, Unadjusted)</i>	2,236,932	2,173,364	2,008,770	2.92%	11.36%
Household Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)	159,797	159,933	159,585	-0.09%	0.13%
<i>Household Employment (Unadjusted)</i>	159,313	159,183	162,163	0.08%	-1.76%
West South Central Consumer Confidence (Present Situation)	121.55	123.16	125.19	-1.30%	-2.90%
Hotel/Motel Tax Receipts (Constant 1982-1984 \$'s, Seasonally Adjusted)	2,487,675	2,493,626	2,148,090	-0.24%	15.81%
<i>Hotel/Motel Tax Receipts (Current \$'s, Unadjusted)</i>	4,129,901	4,995,121	4,277,074	-17.32%	-3.44%

\*\* (Data for the Current Index is one month behind due to the lag in obtaining the data for hotel/motel tax receipts)

<b>Brazoria County Lagging Economic Index***</b>	<b>Nov 2015</b>	<b>Oct 2015</b>	<b>Nov 2014</b>	<b>Oct-2015 to Nov-2015</b>	<b>Nov-2014 to Nov-2015</b>
Lagging Economic Index (2003 = 100)	132.43	131.52	127.16	0.69%	4.14%
<b>Components:</b>					
Brazoria County Foreclosure Notices (Seasonally Adjusted)	73	73	87	-0.35%	-16.39%
<i>Brazoria County Foreclosure Notices (Unadjusted)</i>	74	69	74	7.25%	0.00%
Prime Rate Charged By Banks	3.37	3.25	3.25	3.69%	3.69%
Unemployment Rate (Adjusted)	4.79%	4.74%	4.50%	0.95%	6.44%
<i>Unemployment Rate (Unadjusted)</i>	4.79%	4.65%	4.50%	3.01%	6.44%

\*\*\* (Data for the Lagging Index is one month behind due to lag in obtaining unemployment data)