Coastal Bend Economic Update

December 17, 2021

Overall Conditions

The Corpus Christi economy continued to expand and add jobs in November. The labor market improved modestly amid tight labor supply. As consumers have shifted more of their spending from services to goods, the trade and transportation industries have dominated local economic growth so far during the pandemic. Home construction and sales have cooled from their recent peaks but remained elevated near record levels.

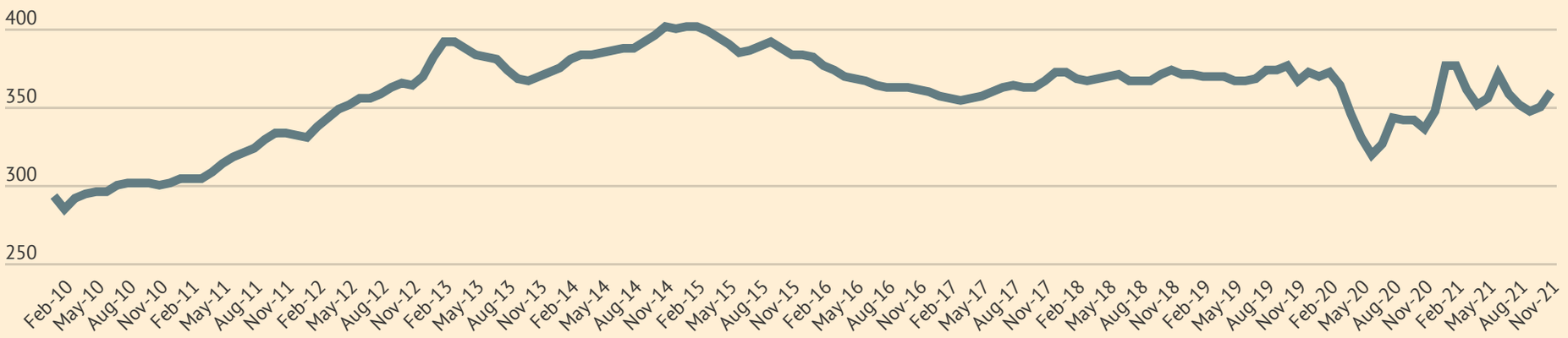
Labor Market

According to the Texas Workforce Commission's employment data released on December 17, the metro area added nearly 1,300 jobs between October and November. The trade and transportation industries together gained 510 jobs, followed by 407 jobs in the government sector. Despite strong employment gains, Corpus Christi's unemployment rate inched down slightly to 6 percent after more than 1,000 persons entered or returned to the local workforce. Economic recovery in the rural communities of the Coastal Bend followed the pace of the metro area, as the regional jobless rate remained elevated at 6.2 percent.

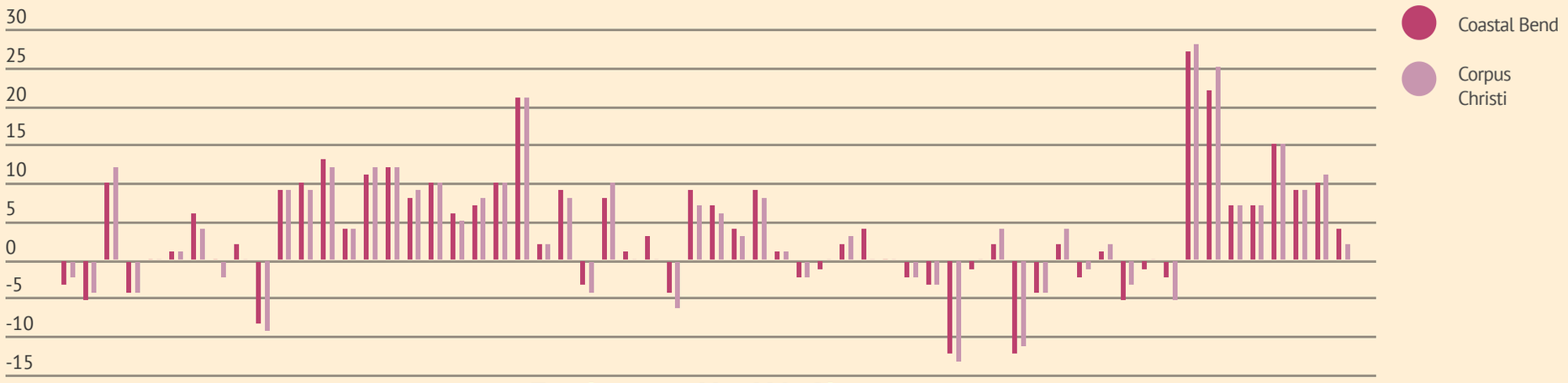
Housing Market

Corpus Christi's housing market is staying steady at its peak. For the past three months, the inventory volume of existing homes has remained at 2.1 months after dipping to a record low of 1.7 months in May. The median home price has also remained unchanged at $260,000. Demand is even stronger within the city of Corpus Christi, with an inventory level at 1.7 months.

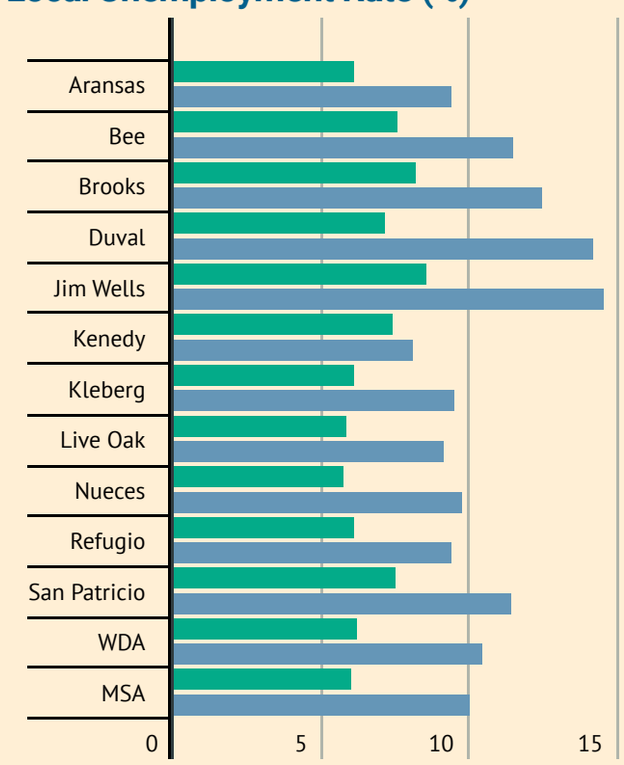
Corpus Christi Metro Area Business Cycle Index



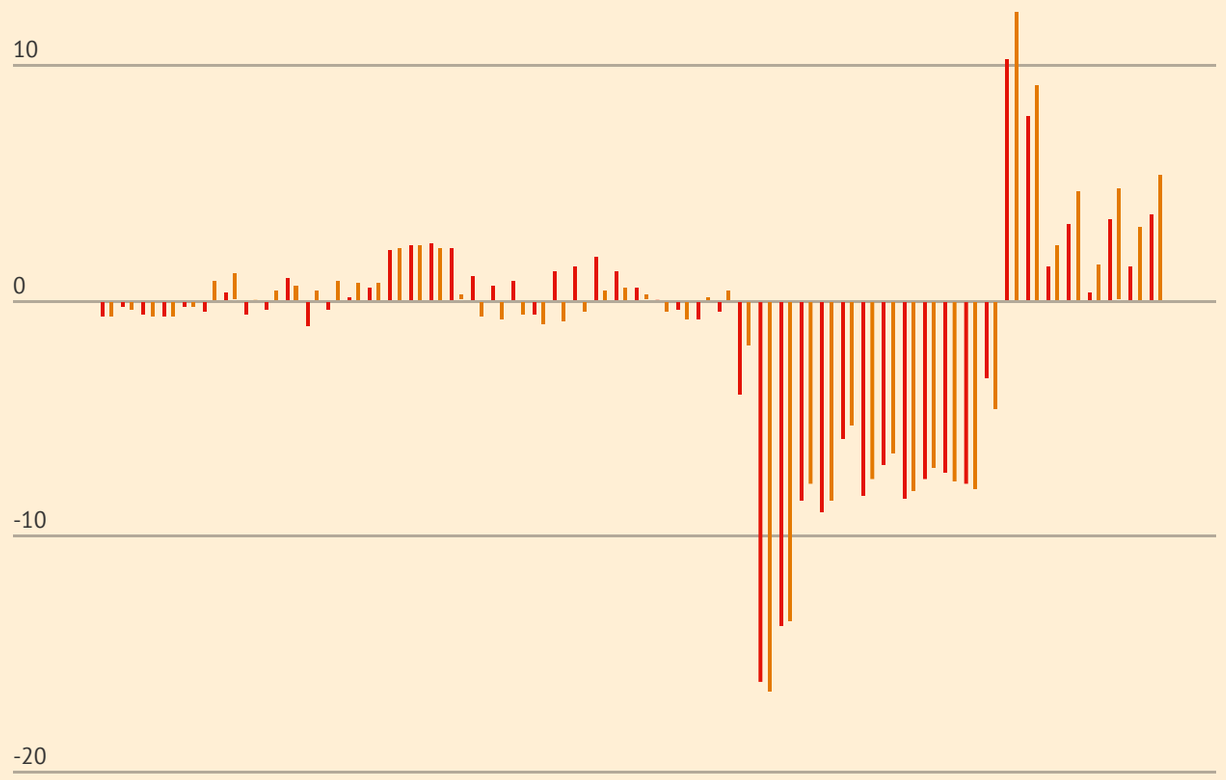
Sales Tax by Report Month, Y-o-Y % Change



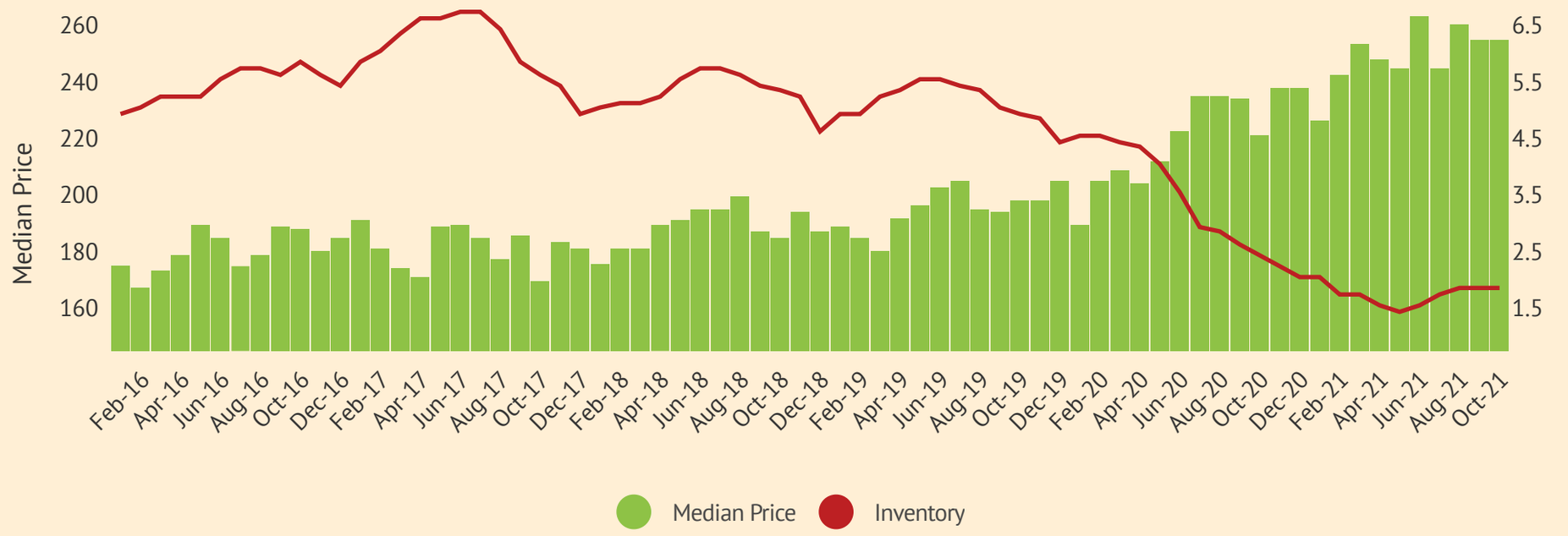
Local Unemployment Rate (%)



Employment Y-o-Y % Change



Corpus Christi Median Home Price ($000) & Inventory (Months)



South Texas Economic Development Center

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