

# TEXAS-SIZED OPPORTUNITIES



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## SHELBY COUNTY WORKFORCE HIGHLY SKILLED IN MANUFACTURING

Workforce Costs are 58% Less Than State of Texas



Center, Texas, located in the East Texas Piney Woods, is home to one of the most skilled manufacturing workforces in the State of Texas and comes at a premium

Panola College is a key partner in training our local workforce. The Shelby County Center offers general academic classes and Panola operates the Shelby Regional Training Center, which offers vocational training in areas such as welding, electrical, motor control, GIS, and petroleum technology.

**Panola works with local industry to customize training programs. Micro-Seismic, an energy industry service company, chose to locate in Center because of a customized training program.**

The average weekly wage in Shelby County is considerably less than the State of Texas and other metro counties.

	2009	2010	2011
Shelby	\$577	\$600	\$605
State of Texas	1,250	1,313	1,364
Dallas	1,057	1,080	1,114
Harris	1,105	1,135	1,193
Travis	964	1,003	1,016

Location quotients (LQ) indicate the relative strength of an area's workforce. Shelby County's forte is manufacturing. Shelby County boasts a 3.39 LQ in manufacturing, the 5th largest in the State of Texas.

The unemployment rate in Shelby County closely tracks that of the State of Texas.

Unemployment Rate -  
December 2012 - 6.4%

This does not mean that our workforce is cheap. Center would not possess a growing industrial base if that were so. Tyson Foods recently completed a \$25 million plant expansion and created nearly 200 new jobs. Other industrial citizens are: Port-A-Cool, Hallmark - Center Fixture Operations, General Shelters, Ameri-Tech/Steel Building Supply.

For More Information  
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