

## **December 2009 Labor Market Data Audio Text**

Presented by TWC Chairman Tom Pauken

- Texas continues to feel the effects of this serious national recession with unemployment in our state now at 8.3 percent. Nonetheless, unemployment in Texas remains well below the national level of 10 percent.
- In December, Texas saw job losses of nearly 24,000 positions. However, Texas has had a net gain of 50,000 jobs over the past three months.
- Education and Health Services remained the bright spot in Texas adding 4,800 jobs in December for a total net gain of 60,400 jobs for the year. Mining and Logging recorded a slight gain of 300 jobs in December.
- The Trade, Transportation and Utilities industry was the hardest hit with employment losses of 7,400 jobs in December. Leisure and Hospitality, Professional and Business Services, and Construction employment also declined in December as well.
- In spite of the fact that Texas has consistently done better than any other large state in the nation in terms of lower levels of unemployment, nonetheless, Texas continues to be adversely affected by the negative economic trends on the national level.