

Texas Workforce Press Release

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Texas Unemployment Rate Drops to 8.1 percent

Private employers add 289,900 jobs over the year

AUSTIN — Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 8.1 percent in November, down from 8.4 percent in October, and remains below the national unemployment rate of 8.6 percent. The civilian labor force in Texas grew by more than 21,000 in November, and now stands at 12.3 million workers.

Texas has experienced positive annual job growth during the last 19 months, with annual growth rates above 2.0 percent for the last six consecutive months. Texas added 20,800 nonfarm jobs in November for a total of 226,000 jobs added over the year. This brings total employment to an estimated 10,629,300 positions in November.

“The Texas economy continued to grow as the private sector added 22,700 jobs in November,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. “Over the past 12 months, we have added 289,900 private sector jobs here in Texas.”

Nine of the 11 major industries added jobs in November, led by an increase of 5,600 jobs in Leisure and Hospitality, which totaled 38,500 jobs added over the year. Mining and Logging employment expanded for the third consecutive month with the addition of 2,600 jobs in November. Over the year, Mining and Logging has added 42,600 jobs. The Financial Activities industry posted its largest gain of 2011 in November with the addition of 4,800 jobs, and has added 17,400 jobs over the year.

“It is encouraging to see so many major industries growing in Texas,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “Positive economic growth is good news for the workers of Texas, and TWC is committed to providing services to help them succeed.”

The Manufacturing industry added 3,900 jobs in November, totaling 25,200 jobs added since November 2010. This resulted in an annual growth rate of 3.1 percent, the highest in Manufacturing since October 2006.

“Job growth across a number of industries, including Manufacturing and Financial Activities, and the drop in the unemployment rate are positive signs,” said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. “Our dedicated staff at local Workforce Solutions offices around the state provide job seekers and employers with the resources and tools to gain employment and grow their businesses.”

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the lowest November unemployment rate in the state at 4.1 percent. The Amarillo MSA came in second at 5.1 percent, and the Odessa MSA third at 5.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

Audio downloads from TWC Chairman Tom Pauken on the latest labor market data are available at the following link: <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/news/press/2011/praudio11.html>.

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Please note that the unemployment estimates for the United States and Texas in this chart are “Not Seasonally Adjusted” for purposes of comparison to the “Not Seasonally Adjusted” Metropolitan Statistical Area data.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Not Seasonally Adjusted (In Thousands)

	November 2011				October 2011				November 2010			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	153,683.0	141,070.0	12,613.0	8.2	154,088.0	140,987.0	13,102.0	8.5	153,698.0	139,415.0	14,282.0	9.3
State of Texas	12,344.7	11,423.8	920.9	7.5	12,367.0	11,378.4	988.6	8.0	12,212.3	11,207.1	1,005.2	8.2
Abilene	80.0	75.1	4.9	6.2	78.8	73.4	5.4	6.8	83.3	77.8	5.5	6.5
Amarillo	135.0	128.1	6.9	5.1	134.0	126.5	7.5	5.6	132.4	124.9	7.5	5.7
Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos	919.7	859.4	60.3	6.6	923.5	858.0	65.5	7.1	911.4	846.5	64.9	7.1
Beaumont-Port Arthur	189.4	169.8	19.6	10.3	190.5	170.0	20.5	10.8	188.9	168.4	20.5	10.9
Brownsville-Harlingen	159.6	141.7	17.9	11.2	159.4	140.4	19.0	11.9	159.4	140.8	18.6	11.7
College Station-Bryan	115.6	108.9	6.7	5.8	117.0	109.7	7.3	6.2	117.8	110.3	7.5	6.3
Corpus Christi	219.9	204.4	15.5	7.1	220.1	203.5	16.6	7.5	213.9	196.2	17.7	8.3
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,268.7	3,026.5	242.2	7.4	3,273.0	3,011.5	261.5	8.0	3,237.3	2,970.7	266.6	8.2
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,188.2	2,024.6	163.6	7.5	2,186.9	2,010.4	176.5	8.1	2,162.8	1,984.0	178.8	8.3
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,080.5	1,001.9	78.6	7.3	1,085.9	1,001.0	84.9	7.8	1,074.5	986.7	87.8	8.2
El Paso	324.0	293.0	31.0	9.6	326.4	293.1	33.3	10.2	323.1	291.1	32.0	9.9
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,977.0	2,751.6	225.4	7.6	2,987.6	2,746.6	241.0	8.1	2,919.2	2,670.8	248.4	8.5
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	168.4	155.1	13.3	7.9	169.6	155.3	14.3	8.4	169.2	155.6	13.6	8.0
Laredo	98.4	91.3	7.1	7.2	99.0	91.4	7.6	7.7	96.0	88.0	8.0	8.4
Longview	113.4	106.2	7.2	6.4	114.1	106.3	7.8	6.8	112.7	104.6	8.1	7.2
Lubbock	151.7	143.3	8.4	5.5	150.6	141.5	9.1	6.0	147.0	137.8	9.2	6.2
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	319.3	284.1	35.2	11.0	314.4	278.1	36.3	11.5	310.6	273.1	37.5	12.1
Midland	79.4	76.2	3.2	4.1	79.4	75.8	3.6	4.5	77.7	73.8	3.9	5.0
Odessa	73.8	69.9	3.9	5.3	75.4	71.1	4.3	5.7	74.0	68.7	5.3	7.1
San Angelo	56.2	53.0	3.2	5.7	55.3	51.8	3.5	6.3	54.8	51.3	3.5	6.4
San Antonio-New Braunfels	994.1	924.4	69.7	7.0	1,001.5	926.0	75.5	7.5	990.9	916.3	74.6	7.5
Sherman-Denison	57.8	53.2	4.6	8.0	58.1	53.2	4.9	8.5	57.5	52.6	4.9	8.5
Texarkana	65.9	61.4	4.5	6.9	65.5	60.6	4.9	7.4	65.5	60.8	4.7	7.1
Tyler	105.3	96.8	8.5	8.1	105.4	96.4	9.0	8.5	102.5	94.4	8.1	7.9
Victoria	61.5	57.6	3.9	6.4	60.7	56.6	4.1	6.8	58.8	54.4	4.4	7.4
Waco	117.1	108.8	8.3	7.1	118.1	109.1	9.0	7.6	116.3	107.5	8.8	7.6
Wichita Falls	71.4	66.6	4.8	6.7	71.6	66.4	5.2	7.2	72.6	67.1	5.5	7.6

TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED⁺

INDUSTRY TITLE	Nov. 2011*	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2010	Oct. '11 to Nov. '11		Nov. '10 to Nov. '11	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
Total Nonagricultural	10,629,300	10,608,500	10,403,300	20,800	0.2	226,000	2.2
Total Nongovernment**	8,835,200	8,812,500	8,545,300	22,700	0.3	289,900	3.4
Goods-Producing							
Mining and Logging	256,600	254,000	214,000	2,600	1.0	42,600	19.9
Construction	586,700	588,900	576,100	-2,200	-0.4	10,600	1.8
Manufacturing	835,500	831,600	810,300	3,900	0.5	25,200	3.1
Service-Providing							
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,111,800	2,111,100	2,052,200	700	0.0	59,600	2.9
Information	186,200	185,800	193,800	400	0.2	-7,600	-3.9
Financial Activities	637,200	632,400	619,800	4,800	0.8	17,400	2.8
Professional and Business Services	1,345,700	1,342,300	1,290,600	3,400	0.3	55,100	4.3
Education and Health Services	1,444,700	1,443,000	1,409,300	1,700	0.1	35,400	2.5
Leisure and Hospitality	1,053,100	1,047,500	1,014,600	5,600	0.5	38,500	3.8
Other Services	377,700	375,900	364,600	1,800	0.5	13,100	3.6
Government	1,794,100	1,796,000	1,858,000	-1,900	-0.1	-63,900	-3.4

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.