

Texas Workforce Press Release

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Texas Adds Jobs for the 11th Straight Month

Addition of 2,100 jobs in February brings over-the-year gain to 170,900

AUSTIN – With the addition of 2,100 nonfarm jobs in February, Texas has now expanded its seasonally adjusted employment for 11 consecutive months.

“Texas gained 170,900 jobs over the past year,” said Texas Workforce Commissioner (TWC) Chairman Andres Alcantar. “We continue to build local partnerships to equip the current and future workforce with the skills needed for the jobs being created by Texas employers.”

Texas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.4 percent in February, down from 4.5 percent in January, and remained below the national average of 4.9 percent.

“Private employers have expanded their payrolls by 142,800 jobs in Texas over the past year,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs. “We are pleased to see that trend continue because it reflects the strength and resiliency of our state’s economy.”

Texas saw employment growth in seven of the 11 major industries, including increases in all but one of the Service Providing industries. Some of those gains were offset by losses in Goods Producing industries.

Employment in the Education and Health Services industry was up in February with the addition of 6,100 jobs, continuing this industry’s upward trend for 37 consecutive months. Solid growth also continued in Trade, Transportation and Utilities which added 5,500 jobs over the month and recorded a 2.3 percent annual growth rate.

“For those job seekers looking for their next employment opportunity, I encourage you to register with WorkInTexas.com, our job-matching website where you’ll find nearly 240,000 job openings and more being added every day,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez.”

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) recorded the month’s lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 2.9 percent, followed by the Austin-Round Rock with a rate of 3.1 percent in February.

Audio downloads with comments from Commissioner Alvarez on the latest labor market data are available on the TWC website [press release page](#). Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics. All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit [tracer2.com](#).

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

	February 2016				January 2016				February 2015			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	158,279.0	150,060.0	8,219.0	5.2	157,347.0	149,037.0	8,309.0	5.3	156,213.0	147,118.0	9,095.0	5.8
Texas	13,221.7	12,654.9	566.8	4.3	13,113.5	12,531.9	581.5	4.4	13,001.4	12,423.2	578.2	4.4
Abilene	75.6	72.8	2.8	3.7	75.2	72.3	2.9	3.8	75.4	72.4	2.9	3.9
Amarillo	130.7	126.8	3.8	2.9	129.4	125.4	3.9	3.0	129.8	125.7	4.1	3.1
Austin-Round Rock	1,092.0	1,058.7	33.3	3.1	1,083.7	1,049.2	34.5	3.2	1,053.4	1,016.2	37.2	3.5
Beaumont-Port Arthur	177.4	166.3	11.1	6.2	176.9	165.1	11.8	6.7	177.9	166.2	11.7	6.6
Brownsville-Harlingen	166.0	154.7	11.4	6.8	164.6	153.0	11.7	7.1	163.2	151.1	12.1	7.4
College Station-Bryan	125.0	120.8	4.2	3.3	120.6	116.4	4.2	3.5	120.4	116.2	4.2	3.5
Corpus Christi	212.0	200.7	11.3	5.3	210.2	198.6	11.6	5.5	206.8	196.6	10.1	4.9
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,642.8	3,508.8	134.0	3.7	3,612.5	3,474.8	137.7	3.8	3,538.0	3,387.7	150.2	4.2
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,451.5	2,363.3	88.1	3.6	2,430.0	2,339.3	90.6	3.7	2,362.9	2,262.9	99.9	4.2
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,191.4	1,145.5	45.9	3.9	1,182.6	1,135.5	47.0	4.0	1,175.1	1,124.8	50.3	4.3
El Paso	350.1	333.7	16.5	4.7	349.2	332.0	17.2	4.9	342.6	324.0	18.6	5.4
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	3,270.2	3,117.1	153.0	4.7	3,255.5	3,099.0	156.6	4.8	3,243.2	3,100.5	142.7	4.4
Killeen-Temple	172.2	165.0	7.2	4.2	171.1	163.6	7.5	4.4	167.7	159.5	8.2	4.9
Laredo	114.4	109.0	5.4	4.7	113.5	108.1	5.5	4.8	111.5	106.4	5.1	4.6
Longview	101.4	96.1	5.3	5.2	100.2	94.9	5.3	5.3	102.1	97.7	4.4	4.3
Lubbock	155.8	150.7	5.1	3.3	154.1	149.0	5.1	3.3	152.6	147.4	5.2	3.4
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	336.2	310.9	25.3	7.5	334.3	307.4	27.0	8.1	330.8	304.5	26.3	8.0
Midland	89.9	86.4	3.6	4.0	89.8	86.3	3.5	3.9	93.2	90.5	2.8	3.0
Odessa	78.9	74.5	4.4	5.6	78.4	74.2	4.2	5.4	82.3	79.2	3.1	3.7
San Angelo	56.1	53.7	2.4	4.3	55.0	52.7	2.3	4.1	55.4	53.3	2.1	3.9
San Antonio-New Braunfels	1,115.6	1,076.0	39.6	3.5	1,105.6	1,064.9	40.7	3.7	1,090.8	1,048.3	42.5	3.9
Sherman-Denison	61.2	58.9	2.3	3.7	60.7	58.4	2.3	3.8	59.9	57.4	2.5	4.2
Texarkana	65.6	62.6	3.0	4.5	65.2	62.1	3.1	4.7	64.2	60.6	3.5	5.5
Tyler	103.6	99.3	4.3	4.1	102.6	98.3	4.4	4.3	101.2	96.7	4.5	4.5
Victoria	49.9	47.7	2.2	4.4	49.3	47.2	2.2	4.4	49.6	47.8	1.9	3.8
Waco	120.1	115.6	4.5	3.8	118.9	114.3	4.6	3.9	118.2	113.3	4.9	4.2
Wichita Falls	64.8	62.0	2.8	4.3	64.6	61.7	2.9	4.5	64.9	62.2	2.8	4.2

**TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

INDUSTRY TITLE	Feb 2016*	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan '16 to Feb '16		Feb '15 to Feb '16	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
Total Nonagricultural	11,964,400	11,962,300	11,793,500	2,100	0.0	170,900	1.4
Total Private	10,093,800	10,092,200	9,951,000	1,600	0.0	142,800	1.4
Goods Producing	1,790,800	1,809,500	1,879,100	-18,700	-1.0	-88,300	-4.7
Mining and Logging	246,000	252,600	304,100	-6,600	-2.6	-58,100	-19.1
Construction	689,000	694,300	679,600	-5,300	-0.8	9,400	1.4
Manufacturing	855,800	862,600	895,400	-6,800	-0.8	-39,600	-4.4
Service Providing	10,173,600	10,152,800	9,914,400	20,800	0.2	259,200	2.6
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,425,200	2,419,700	2,371,300	5,500	0.2	53,900	2.3
Information	201,400	199,100	200,100	2,300	1.2	1,300	0.6
Financial Activities	731,600	733,900	713,700	-2,300	-0.3	17,900	2.5
Professional and Business Services	1,613,500	1,609,600	1,588,000	3,900	0.2	25,500	1.6
Education and Health Services	1,620,500	1,614,400	1,560,600	6,100	0.4	59,900	3.8
Leisure and Hospitality	1,289,700	1,285,800	1,224,000	3,900	0.3	65,700	5.4
Other Services	421,100	420,200	414,200	900	0.2	6,900	1.7
Government	1,870,600	1,870,100	1,842,500	500	0.0	28,100	1.5

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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 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our [email updates](#).