

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR RELEASE: Embargoed until 9 a.m.
DATE: November 20, 2015

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Texas Continues Job Growth with the Addition of 20,000 jobs in October

State has gained 203,900 jobs over the past year

AUSTIN – Texas employers added 20,000 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in October, marking the eighth month of 2015 with jobs added. The state’s job increases have yielded a 1.7 percent annual growth rate continuing its string of positive annual growth for 66 consecutive months.

“Texas employers continue to contribute to the Texas economy by adding jobs, including 203,900 over the past year,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “Thanks to the innovation and efforts of employers in a range of industries, Texas workers continue to have greater opportunities to demonstrate their world class work ethic and skill set.”

Texas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 4.4 percent in October, up from 4.2 percent in September, and remained below the national average of 5.0 percent.

“Texas workers have continued to provide employers with the skills and expertise needed to keep the Texas economy growing,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “Job seekers who need to upgrade their skills to prepare for today’s in-demand jobs should contact their local [Workforce Solutions office](#) for assistance.”

Service providing industries led the state’s October job gains with the addition of 12,400 jobs in Leisure and Hospitality and 3,300 positions in the Professional and Business Services industry. The Construction industry grew by 2,600 jobs in October.

“Private-sector employers added 15,900 jobs in October and have accounted for the addition of 180,800 positions in Texas over the past year as the state has continued to expand its employment,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs. “Our small businesses have contributed to the expanded opportunities and veterans are among the skilled workers who stand ready to fill these needs. We were pleased to honor both this month as we celebrated [National Veterans Small Business Week](#) and [Veterans Day](#).”

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) recorded the month’s lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 3.2 percent. The Austin-Round Rock and Lubbock MSAs ranked 2nd and 3rd with rates of 3.3 and 3.4 consecutively in October.

Audio downloads with comments from Commissioner Hughs 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)**

| | October 2015 | | | | September 2015 | | | | October 2014 | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------|---------|------|----------------|-----------|---------|------|--------------|-----------|---------|------|
| | C.L.F. | Emp. | Unemp. | Rate | C.L.F. | Emp. | Unemp. | Rate | C.L.F. | Emp. | Unemp. | Rate |
| United States | 157,313.0 | 149,716.0 | 7,597.0 | 4.8 | 156,607.0 | 148,980.0 | 7,628.0 | 4.9 | 156,616.0 | 147,936.0 | 8,680.0 | 5.5 |
| Texas | 13,070.8 | 12,486.4 | 584.4 | 4.5 | 13,045.4 | 12,477.6 | 567.8 | 4.4 | 13,208.8 | 12,608.1 | 600.7 | 4.5 |
| Abilene | 75.3 | 72.4 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 75.5 | 72.6 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 77.1 | 74.1 | 3.0 | 3.9 |
| Amarillo | 129.2 | 125.1 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 129.2 | 125.2 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 132.3 | 127.9 | 4.4 | 3.3 |
| Austin-Round Rock | 1,057.6 | 1,022.2 | 35.4 | 3.3 | 1,053.2 | 1,018.8 | 34.4 | 3.3 | 1,059.4 | 1,018.8 | 40.5 | 3.8 |
| Beaumont-Port Arthur | 181.6 | 169.7 | 11.9 | 6.6 | 180.1 | 168.7 | 11.4 | 6.4 | 183.3 | 171.0 | 12.3 | 6.7 |
| Brownsville-Harlingen | 162.4 | 151.4 | 11.0 | 6.8 | 162.4 | 151.7 | 10.7 | 6.6 | 166.3 | 154.2 | 12.1 | 7.3 |
| College Station-Bryan | 119.2 | 115.0 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 118.1 | 114.0 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 121.8 | 117.4 | 4.4 | 3.6 |
| Corpus Christi | 212.3 | 201.3 | 11.1 | 5.2 | 211.5 | 200.9 | 10.6 | 5.0 | 214.3 | 203.9 | 10.4 | 4.8 |
| Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington | 3,576.9 | 3,433.7 | 143.2 | 4.0 | 3,565.8 | 3,426.3 | 139.5 | 3.9 | 3,597.2 | 3,435.5 | 161.7 | 4.5 |
| Dallas-Plano-Irving MD | 2,393.4 | 2,299.5 | 93.8 | 3.9 | 2,381.5 | 2,290.1 | 91.4 | 3.8 | 2,398.3 | 2,290.4 | 108.0 | 4.5 |
| Fort Worth-Arlington MD | 1,183.5 | 1,134.2 | 49.3 | 4.2 | 1,184.3 | 1,136.2 | 48.1 | 4.1 | 1,198.8 | 1,145.1 | 53.7 | 4.5 |
| El Paso | 340.8 | 322.9 | 17.9 | 5.3 | 340.2 | 322.9 | 17.4 | 5.1 | 348.1 | 327.5 | 20.5 | 5.9 |
| Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land | 3,242.6 | 3,088.5 | 154.1 | 4.8 | 3,233.0 | 3,083.6 | 149.4 | 4.6 | 3,288.7 | 3,143.7 | 145.0 | 4.4 |
| Killeen-Temple | 166.0 | 158.0 | 8.0 | 4.8 | 166.4 | 158.7 | 7.7 | 4.7 | 170.2 | 161.0 | 9.2 | 5.4 |
| Laredo | 111.5 | 106.1 | 5.4 | 4.8 | 111.4 | 106.3 | 5.1 | 4.6 | 112.2 | 107.2 | 5.0 | 4.5 |
| Longview | 105.1 | 99.8 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 104.5 | 99.4 | 5.1 | 4.9 | 106.5 | 102.0 | 4.6 | 4.3 |
| Lubbock | 152.6 | 147.4 | 5.2 | 3.4 | 153.3 | 148.2 | 5.1 | 3.4 | 155.1 | 149.7 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| McAllen-Edinburg-Mission | 332.1 | 307.6 | 24.6 | 7.4 | 330.3 | 305.8 | 24.5 | 7.4 | 334.4 | 309.9 | 24.5 | 7.3 |
| Midland | 97.0 | 93.6 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 96.7 | 93.5 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 97.1 | 94.6 | 2.5 | 2.6 |
| Odessa | 86.1 | 82.1 | 4.1 | 4.7 | 86.2 | 82.3 | 3.8 | 4.5 | 85.1 | 82.6 | 2.5 | 3.0 |
| San Angelo | 55.1 | 52.8 | 2.3 | 4.2 | 54.9 | 52.7 | 2.2 | 4.0 | 56.1 | 54.1 | 2.0 | 3.6 |
| San Antonio-New Braunfels | 1,106.7 | 1,064.9 | 41.8 | 3.8 | 1,101.7 | 1,061.0 | 40.7 | 3.7 | 1,102.6 | 1,056.4 | 46.1 | 4.2 |
| Sherman-Denison | 59.7 | 57.3 | 2.4 | 4.0 | 59.4 | 57.1 | 2.3 | 3.9 | 61.0 | 58.3 | 2.7 | 4.4 |
| Texarkana | 63.0 | 59.9 | 3.1 | 4.9 | 63.1 | 60.0 | 3.1 | 4.9 | 64.6 | 61.1 | 3.6 | 5.5 |
| Tyler | 101.1 | 96.4 | 4.7 | 4.6 | 101.2 | 96.6 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 103.3 | 98.4 | 4.9 | 4.7 |
| Victoria | 50.6 | 48.4 | 2.2 | 4.4 | 50.5 | 48.4 | 2.1 | 4.2 | 50.5 | 48.7 | 1.8 | 3.6 |
| Waco | 116.9 | 112.0 | 4.8 | 4.1 | 117.4 | 112.7 | 4.8 | 4.1 | 119.3 | 113.8 | 5.5 | 4.6 |
| Wichita Falls | 63.7 | 60.8 | 2.9 | 4.6 | 63.2 | 60.4 | 2.8 | 4.4 | 66.3 | 63.4 | 2.9 | 4.4 |

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

| INDUSTRY TITLE | Oct 2015* | Sep 2015 | Oct 2014 | Sep '15 to Oct '15 | | Oct '14 to Oct '15 | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | | | | Absolute Change | Percent Change | Absolute Change | Percent Change |
| Total Nonagricultural | 11,868,500 | 11,848,500 | 11,664,600 | 20,000 | 0.2 | 203,900 | 1.7 |
| Total Private | 10,012,800 | 9,996,900 | 9,832,000 | 15,900 | 0.2 | 180,800 | 1.8 |
| Goods Producing | 1,807,100 | 1,811,300 | 1,870,200 | -4,200 | -0.2 | -63,100 | -3.4 |
| Mining and Logging | 282,900 | 284,900 | 315,800 | -2,000 | -0.7 | -32,900 | -10.4 |
| Construction | 670,500 | 667,900 | 665,300 | 2,600 | 0.4 | 5,200 | 0.8 |
| Manufacturing | 853,700 | 858,500 | 889,100 | -4,800 | -0.6 | -35,400 | -4.0 |
| Service Providing | 10,061,400 | 10,037,200 | 9,794,400 | 24,200 | 0.2 | 267,000 | 2.7 |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 2,386,300 | 2,384,000 | 2,339,100 | 2,300 | 0.1 | 47,200 | 2.0 |
| Information | 207,400 | 208,900 | 202,000 | -1,500 | -0.7 | 5,400 | 2.7 |
| Financial Activities | 708,100 | 705,500 | 707,300 | 2,600 | 0.4 | 800 | 0.1 |
| Professional and Business Services | 1,601,400 | 1,598,100 | 1,550,600 | 3,300 | 0.2 | 50,800 | 3.3 |
| Education and Health Services | 1,612,700 | 1,611,300 | 1,540,300 | 1,400 | 0.1 | 72,400 | 4.7 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 1,273,900 | 1,261,500 | 1,209,400 | 12,400 | 1.0 | 64,500 | 5.3 |
| Other Services | 415,900 | 416,300 | 413,100 | -400 | -0.1 | 2,800 | 0.7 |
| Government | 1,855,700 | 1,851,600 | 1,832,600 | 4,100 | 0.2 | 23,100 | 1.3 |

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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](#).