

# Texas Workforce Press Release

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**FOR RELEASE: Embargoed until 9 a.m.**  
**DATE:** May 22, 2015

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## **Texas Adds 287,000 Jobs Over the Past Year**

*State unemployment rate remains at lowest level since July 2007*

AUSTIN – Texas has added an estimated 287,000 seasonally adjusted jobs over the past year including a modest gain in April with the addition of 1,200 positions during the month. The state has experienced job gains in three of the first four months of 2015.

“Texas employers added jobs in seven of 11 major industries,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Andres Alcantar. “TWC and our 28 local workforce boards across the state remain focused on connecting the Texas workforce with jobs being created by employers.”

The state unemployment rate remained steady at 4.2 percent in April, down a full percentage point from 5.2 percent a year ago. Texas continues to trend well below the national unemployment rate of 5.4 percent.

“We know that there are still folks who are looking for good-paying jobs in our state and we encourage them to take advantage of the many resources made available through Texas Workforce Solutions,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “Through our Workforce Solutions offices around the state, staff that can help steer job seekers to employment and training opportunities. With more than 260,000 available jobs currently posted on WorkInTexas.com, job seekers have good options here in Texas.”

Job gains for April were led by the Leisure and Hospitality industry, which added 6,900 positions. The Information industry enjoyed its largest monthly gain for the industry since June 2000 with the addition of 3,400 jobs in April. Other Services gained 2,800 jobs during the month followed by Trade, Transportation and Utilities, which expanded by 2,100 positions.

“The employers in Texas are strong and resilient and have a talented pool of workers to choose from,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Hope Andrade. “I encourage all of our employers to take advantage of the programs we offer through the Skills Development Fund to help them create jobs and train workers with the skills needed for today’s job market. More information on these programs is available at [texasworkforce.org/skills](http://texasworkforce.org/skills).”

For the second consecutive month, the Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) boasted the lowest unemployment rate in the state with a 2.7 percent not seasonally adjusted rate in April. The Midland MSA had the second lowest rate for the month at 2.9 percent, followed by the Austin-Round Rock and Lubbock MSAs, each of which posted a rate of 3.0 percent.

Audio downloads with comments from Commissioner Andrade on the latest labor market data are available at: <http://texasworkforce.org/news/press/2015/press-releases-2015.html#pressReleaseAudio>. 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 [www.tracer2.com](http://www.tracer2.com).

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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)

	April 2015				March 2015				April 2014			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	156,554	148,587	7,966	5.1	156,318	147,635	8,682	5.6	154,845	145,767	9,079	5.9
Texas	13,094.9	12,572.9	522.0	4.0	13,088.6	12,534.2	554.4	4.2	13,049.1	12,426.5	622.6	4.8
Abilene	76.6	73.9	2.7	3.5	76.9	74.1	2.8	3.7	77.3	74.2	3.1	4.0
Amarillo	129.9	126.4	3.5	2.7	129.8	126.0	3.8	3.0	132.4	128.0	4.4	3.3
Austin-Round Rock	1,056.5	1,024.9	31.6	3.0	1,050.0	1,015.8	34.2	3.3	1,047.5	1,007.4	40.1	3.8
Beaumont-Port Arthur	179.9	169.2	10.7	6.0	180.2	169.0	11.2	6.2	179.7	165.9	13.8	7.7
Brownsville-Harlingen	165.1	154.0	11.1	6.7	165.8	154.1	11.7	7.1	168.2	154.8	13.4	8.0
College Station-Bryan	117.7	114.0	3.7	3.2	118.5	114.6	3.9	3.3	120.7	116.4	4.3	3.6
Corpus Christi	214.5	204.9	9.6	4.5	213.0	203.2	9.8	4.6	210.8	200.5	10.3	4.9
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,573.7	3,442.0	131.7	3.7	3,559.9	3,416.6	143.3	4.0	3,532.3	3,364.9	167.4	4.7
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,379.5	2,292.7	86.8	3.6	2,372.2	2,277.5	94.7	4.0	2,348.8	2,236.8	112.0	4.8
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,194.2	1,149.3	44.9	3.8	1,187.7	1,139.1	48.6	4.1	1,183.5	1,128.0	55.5	4.7
El Paso	342.1	325.5	16.6	4.9	341.4	323.5	17.9	5.2	350.9	329.1	21.8	6.2
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	3,246.0	3,115.5	130.5	4.0	3,254.6	3,117.6	137.0	4.2	3,234.6	3,086.2	148.4	4.6
Killeen-Temple	167.7	160.5	7.2	4.3	168.4	160.6	7.8	4.6	170.4	161.1	9.3	5.5
Laredo	112.0	107.1	4.9	4.4	111.9	106.9	5.0	4.5	111.3	106.0	5.3	4.8
Longview	105.5	101.0	4.5	4.3	105.5	101.1	4.4	4.2	104.3	99.4	4.9	4.7
Lubbock	153.6	149.0	4.6	3.0	153.2	148.2	5.0	3.3	154.3	148.9	5.4	3.5
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	331.3	307.2	24.1	7.3	333.5	308.3	25.2	7.6	334.3	306.3	28.0	8.4
Midland	97.2	94.4	2.8	2.9	97.2	94.4	2.8	2.9	92.7	90.3	2.4	2.6
Odessa	85.6	82.4	3.2	3.8	85.7	82.5	3.2	3.7	81.5	78.9	2.6	3.2
San Angelo	55.7	53.6	2.1	3.8	56.0	53.8	2.2	3.9	55.3	53.2	2.1	3.7
San Antonio-New Braunfels	1,097.8	1,060.6	37.2	3.4	1,097.7	1,057.6	40.1	3.7	1,090.0	1,043.3	46.7	4.3
Sherman-Denison	60.2	58.0	2.2	3.6	60.5	58.1	2.4	3.9	60.7	58.0	2.7	4.5
Texarkana	63.7	60.6	3.1	4.8	63.8	60.5	3.3	5.2	64.3	60.5	3.8	5.9
Tyler	102.1	97.9	4.2	4.1	102.1	97.7	4.4	4.3	102.3	97.3	5.0	4.9
Victoria	50.4	48.6	1.8	3.6	50.5	48.6	1.9	3.7	49.8	47.9	1.9	3.9
Waco	117.5	113.2	4.3	3.7	117.9	113.1	4.8	4.0	119.0	113.5	5.5	4.6
Wichita Falls	64.7	62.2	2.5	3.9	65.1	62.4	2.7	4.1	66.2	63.3	2.9	4.4

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

INDUSTRY TITLE	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2014	Mar '15 to Apr '15		Apr '14 to Apr '15	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
<b>Total Nonagricultural</b>	<b>11,754,600</b>	<b>11,753,400</b>	<b>11,467,600</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>287,000</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>9,916,400</b>	<b>9,917,100</b>	<b>9,646,000</b>	<b>-700</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>270,400</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Goods Producing</b>	<b>1,842,900</b>	<b>1,860,900</b>	<b>1,824,300</b>	<b>-18,000</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Mining and Logging	299,600	307,900	300,900	-8,300	-2.7	-1,300	-0.4
Construction	667,300	672,700	642,000	-5,400	-0.8	25,300	3.9
Manufacturing	876,000	880,300	881,400	-4,300	-0.5	-5,400	-0.6
<b>Service Providing</b>	<b>9,911,700</b>	<b>9,892,500</b>	<b>9,643,300</b>	<b>19,200</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>268,400</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,364,900	2,362,800	2,292,400	2,100	0.1	72,500	3.2
Information	208,200	204,800	203,000	3,400	1.7	5,200	2.6
Financial Activities	715,600	715,700	695,400	-100	0.0	20,200	2.9
Professional and Business Services	1,573,400	1,571,600	1,533,400	1,800	0.1	40,000	2.6
Education and Health Services	1,563,200	1,562,800	1,514,400	400	0.0	48,800	3.2
Leisure and Hospitality	1,233,500	1,226,600	1,176,400	6,900	0.6	57,100	4.9
Other Services	414,700	411,900	406,700	2,800	0.7	8,000	2.0
Government	1,838,200	1,836,300	1,821,600	1,900	0.1	16,600	0.9

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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](http://www.texasworkforce.org).