

Texas Workforce Press Release

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Texas Employers Add 47,700 Jobs in June *Texas Unemployment Rate Falls Slightly to 4.4 Percent*

AUSTIN — Texas' seasonally adjusted nonagricultural employment grew by 47,700 jobs in June. Texas employers now have added 245,000 jobs in the past 12 months, for an annual job growth rate of 2.4 percent, compared with a flat annual job growth rate nationally. The Texas unemployment rate fell slightly to 4.4 percent in June from 4.5 percent in May, up from 4.3 percent in June 2007. The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.5 percent in June, up from 4.6 percent a year ago.

“We remain cautiously optimistic as Texas continues to add jobs despite slowing national trends,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. “It is encouraging to note job gains are broad-based across nearly all industries from construction to financial services to leisure and hospitality.”

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) experienced the lowest unemployment rate in the state at 3.1 percent (not seasonally adjusted). The Amarillo MSA was second at 3.6 percent, followed by the Odessa MSA at 3.7 percent.

Professional and Business Services added 10,700 jobs in June, for an industry gain of 66,800 positions in the past year. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities tripled the five- and 10-year averages for growth, adding 8,400 jobs in June. In the past 12 months, the industry has gained 42,900 positions.

“Texas employers continue to show strong performance, countering tough economic conditions on the national front,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ron Lehman. “The addition of nearly 48,000 jobs in June is the second largest monthly job gain since July 2005.”

For the 17th consecutive month, Education and Health Services saw gains, increasing by 7,000 jobs in June, with 38,500 positions added over the year. Leisure and Hospitality gained 4,400 jobs this month, with 38,700 positions added since June 2007.

“Texas still offers good prospects for those seeking work, particularly in the many industries with positive job growth,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton.

Strong growth rates in several goods-producing sectors included Natural Resources and Mining and Construction at 6.8 percent and 3.4 percent, respectively. In June, Construction gained 2,200 jobs, and Natural Resources and Mining increased by 1,600 positions.

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

	June 2008				May 2008				June 2007			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	155,582.0	146,649.0	8,933.0	5.7	154,003.0	145,927.0	8,076.0	5.2	154,252.0	146,958.0	7,295.0	4.7
State of Texas	11,775.4	11,205.7	569.7	4.8	11,675.2	11,174.9	500.3	4.3	11,556.0	11,011.9	544.1	4.7
Abilene	81.7	78.4	3.3	4.0	81.0	78.2	2.8	3.5	80.6	77.3	3.3	4.1
Amarillo	130.6	125.9	4.7	3.6	129.6	125.5	4.1	3.1	129.3	124.4	4.9	3.8
Austin-Round Rock	865.4	829.2	36.2	4.2	862.5	830.6	31.9	3.7	852.3	818.9	33.4	3.9
Beaumont-Port Arthur	182.2	170.6	11.6	6.3	180.7	170.5	10.2	5.6	180.5	170.4	10.1	5.6
Brownsville-Harlingen	146.2	136.2	10.0	6.8	144.1	135.5	8.6	6.0	143.7	134.1	9.6	6.7
College Station-Bryan	101.2	96.7	4.5	4.5	105.5	101.9	3.6	3.4	98.6	94.1	4.5	4.6
Corpus Christi	201.9	192.0	9.9	4.9	200.2	191.6	8.6	4.3	199.6	190.0	9.6	4.8
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,167.7	3,016.1	151.6	4.8	3,147.3	3,010.0	137.3	4.4	3,113.1	2,970.3	142.8	4.6
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,117.1	2,014.5	102.6	4.8	2,101.2	2,009.1	92.1	4.4	2,081.9	1,986.1	95.8	4.6
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,050.7	1,001.6	49.1	4.7	1,046.1	1,000.9	45.2	4.3	1,031.2	984.2	47.0	4.6
El Paso	297.5	279.0	18.5	6.2	296.7	280.5	16.2	5.5	290.8	272.2	18.6	6.4
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,803.0	2,670.2	132.8	4.7	2,777.5	2,660.4	117.1	4.2	2,745.9	2,620.0	125.9	4.6
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	155.0	147.1	7.9	5.1	153.6	146.8	6.8	4.4	151.6	143.9	7.7	5.1
Laredo	90.8	85.6	5.2	5.7	90.2	85.9	4.3	4.8	88.7	83.8	4.9	5.5
Longview	108.8	104.3	4.5	4.2	107.6	103.6	4.0	3.8	105.8	101.2	4.6	4.4
Lubbock	141.5	135.6	5.9	4.2	139.5	134.8	4.7	3.4	140.5	134.5	6.0	4.2
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	281.2	260.9	20.3	7.2	276.7	259.8	16.9	6.1	272.7	253.4	19.3	7.1
Midland	72.9	70.6	2.3	3.1	72.6	70.6	2.0	2.7	72.1	69.7	2.4	3.3
Odessa	69.0	66.5	2.5	3.7	68.6	66.5	2.1	3.1	67.4	64.8	2.6	3.9
San Angelo	53.0	50.8	2.2	4.1	52.9	51.0	1.9	3.6	53.3	51.1	2.2	4.1
San Antonio	950.8	906.7	44.1	4.6	941.9	904.3	37.6	4.0	932.8	890.4	42.4	4.5
Sherman-Denison	57.7	54.8	2.9	5.0	57.5	54.9	2.6	4.6	55.8	53.1	2.7	4.8
Texarkana	63.9	60.9	3.0	4.7	63.3	60.6	2.7	4.3	63.0	59.9	3.1	5.0
Tyler	98.5	93.8	4.7	4.8	97.4	93.2	4.2	4.3	97.1	92.8	4.3	4.5
Victoria	58.0	55.6	2.4	4.1	57.8	55.8	2.0	3.5	58.0	55.7	2.3	4.0
Waco	115.6	110.2	5.4	4.7	114.2	109.7	4.5	3.9	114.0	108.5	5.5	4.8
Wichita Falls	75.0	71.6	3.4	4.6	74.6	71.7	2.9	3.8	73.6	70.3	3.3	4.5

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.

Audio downloads from TWC Commissioner Ron Lehman on latest labor market data are available at the following link:

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/news/press/2008/praudio08.html>

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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 unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.