

Texas Workforce Press Release

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Texas Unemployment Rate Two Points Below U.S. Rate

Texas unemployment rate at 7.5 percent, U.S. rate at 9.5 percent

AUSTIN —Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 7.5 percent in June, but remained well below the national rate of 9.5 percent. The Texas unemployment rate was 7.1 percent in May.

“While the national economic recession is having an adverse effect on employment here in Texas, our state unemployment rate remains far below the national rate,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. “The Texas Workforce Commission remains committed to helping out-of-work Texans find new jobs.”

Education and Health Services represents the strongest industry for job growth over the year with 57,300 jobs added since June 2008. The sector reported no job losses for June.

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) experienced the lowest unemployment rate in the state at 5.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted). The Lubbock MSA recorded the second lowest unemployment rate at 6.0 percent, and the Midland MSA was the third lowest at 6.1 percent.

Texas' seasonally adjusted nonagricultural employment fell by 40,600 jobs in June. Texas has recorded a net loss of 266,300 jobs in the past 12 months, compared with job losses of 5.7 million nationwide during the same period.

Industries hardest hit were Trade, Transportation and Utilities, which dropped 21,700 jobs in June, followed by Professional and Business Services with a loss of 11,900 jobs.

“TWC has hired additional employment services staff to help Texans who are out of work at this time find employment,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “With workforce centers and staff located across the state, jobseekers can turn to TWC and the 28 workforce boards for assistance.”

Employment in Manufacturing fell by 10,300 jobs in June, and Construction dropped by 10,200 jobs. Financial Activities and Leisure and Hospitality industries recorded small gains over the month of 1,000 and 900 jobs respectively.

“TWC and our workforce boards remain committed to assisting jobseekers and employers during this economic downturn,” said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar.

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

	June 2009				May 2009				June 2008			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	155,921.0	140,826.0	15,095.0	9.7	154,336.0	140,363.0	13,973.0	9.1	155,582.0	146,649.0	8,933.0	5.7
State of Texas	12,075.2	11,110.2	965.0	8.0	11,919.9	11,098.2	821.7	6.9	11,762.5	11,162.2	600.3	5.1
Abilene	84.2	78.9	5.3	6.3	83.1	78.8	4.3	5.2	82.8	79.4	3.4	4.2
Amarillo	130.9	123.4	7.5	5.7	130.3	124.2	6.1	4.7	129.0	124.1	4.9	3.8
Austin-Round Rock	899.0	835.3	63.7	7.1	889.7	834.7	55.0	6.2	868.8	829.8	39.0	4.5
Beaumont-Port Arthur	183.4	164.7	18.7	10.2	181.9	165.4	16.5	9.1	182.4	170.3	12.1	6.6
Brownsville-Harlingen	150.9	135.2	15.7	10.4	148.0	134.8	13.2	8.9	146.4	136.0	10.4	7.1
College Station-Bryan	105.0	98.2	6.8	6.5	107.1	101.9	5.2	4.9	103.9	99.0	4.9	4.7
Corpus Christi	209.6	193.4	16.2	7.7	207.3	193.8	13.5	6.5	205.8	195.5	10.3	5.0
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,220.6	2,957.6	263.0	8.2	3,179.2	2,952.8	226.4	7.1	3,151.8	2,991.5	160.3	5.1
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,147.7	1,974.2	173.5	8.1	2,118.3	1,967.0	151.3	7.1	2,108.0	1,999.6	108.4	5.1
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,072.9	983.5	89.4	8.3	1,060.9	985.8	75.1	7.1	1,043.9	992.0	51.9	5.0
El Paso	305.2	275.9	29.3	9.6	305.4	280.1	25.3	8.3	297.5	277.8	19.7	6.6
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,835.9	2,608.8	227.1	8.0	2,799.7	2,605.2	194.5	6.9	2,799.4	2,659.5	139.9	5.0
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	162.3	150.7	11.6	7.2	161.1	151.3	9.8	6.1	157.4	148.9	8.5	5.4
Laredo	96.7	87.6	9.1	9.4	95.4	88.0	7.4	7.7	93.1	87.6	5.5	5.9
Longview	111.7	102.7	9.0	8.0	110.4	102.8	7.6	6.9	108.8	104.1	4.7	4.3
Lubbock	143.2	134.6	8.6	6.0	142.6	136.1	6.5	4.6	139.8	133.6	6.2	4.4
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	297.8	264.7	33.1	11.1	294.0	266.4	27.6	9.4	282.7	261.3	21.4	7.6
Midland	78.6	73.8	4.8	6.1	77.6	73.6	4.0	5.2	75.6	73.2	2.4	3.2
Odessa	76.1	69.1	7.0	9.1	75.0	69.2	5.8	7.8	70.7	68.0	2.7	3.8
San Angelo	54.1	50.4	3.7	6.8	53.6	50.5	3.1	5.8	53.1	50.8	2.3	4.4
San Antonio	977.7	910.3	67.4	6.9	964.6	908.3	56.3	5.8	956.2	909.6	46.6	4.9
Sherman-Denison	57.5	52.7	4.8	8.4	56.8	52.6	4.2	7.3	56.0	53.0	3.0	5.4
Texarkana	64.7	60.5	4.2	6.5	63.9	60.2	3.7	5.7	65.1	62.0	3.1	4.7
Tyler	102.9	94.8	8.1	7.9	101.8	94.7	7.1	7.0	99.5	94.5	5.0	5.0
Victoria	59.3	54.7	4.6	7.7	58.6	54.6	4.0	6.8	58.7	56.2	2.5	4.2
Waco	113.9	105.8	8.1	7.1	112.5	105.8	6.7	6.0	112.1	106.5	5.6	5.0
Wichita Falls	74.0	68.0	6.0	8.1	73.1	68.2	4.9	6.6	73.2	69.6	3.6	5.0

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 Chairman Tom Pauken on latest labor market data are available at the following link:

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/news/press/2009/praudio09.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.