

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR RELEASE: Embargoed until 9 a.m. **CONTACT:** Labor Market and Career Information
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Texas Adds 41,700 Jobs in October

Texas unemployment rate nearly two percentage points below U.S. rate

AUSTIN — Total nonagricultural employment in Texas increased by 41,700 positions in October with significant increases in Professional and Business Services and Education and Health Services.

The Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly to 8.3 percent in October, up from 8.2 percent a month ago, and continued to trend well below the U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 10.2 percent.

“In October, the Texas job market regained some lost ground experienced over the past several months, although it is too soon to indicate a trend,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. “The Texas unemployment rate continued to edge upward as our state continues to feel the effects of the national economic downturn.”

Education and Health Services employment grew in October with the addition of 14,900 jobs, and Professional and Business Services added 10,800 positions in October. Employment in the Financial Activities industry increased by 4,500 jobs in October.

“Reports of job gains in October are good news, and certainly better than the alternative, but we remain concerned about the many Texans who still cannot find work,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “We want to encourage those seeking work to take advantage of the job-search and training services available at our workforce centers across Texas.”

Employment in the Leisure and Hospitality industry was up in October by 2,600 jobs, while Trade, Transportation and Utilities reported an increase of 2,500 positions in October. Construction employment continued to experience job losses with a decrease of 9,400 jobs last month.

“We are encouraged by increased employment reports across most industries in October specifically in the service providing sector which includes health care, business and finance,” said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. “TWC and the 28 local workforce development boards remain determined to help out-of-work Texans find jobs.”

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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)**

	October 2009				September 2009				October 2008			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	153,635.0	139,088.0	14,547.0	9.5	153,617.0	139,079.0	14,538.0	9.5	155012.0	145,543.0	9,469.0	6.1
State of Texas	12,073.2	11,090.2	983.0	8.1	12,067.8	11,073.0	994.8	8.2	11,812.2	11,200.3	611.9	5.2
Abilene	83.5	78.4	5.1	6.1	83.9	78.6	5.3	6.3	82.8	79.6	3.2	3.9
Amarillo	131.3	124.0	7.3	5.5	131.3	123.7	7.6	5.8	130.3	125.6	4.7	3.6
Austin-Round Rock	906.9	842.0	64.9	7.2	903.5	838.4	65.1	7.2	877.6	837.0	40.6	4.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur	183.5	163.6	19.9	10.8	183.0	163.4	19.6	10.7	183.2	168.7	14.5	7.9
Brownsville-Harlingen	150.0	134.2	15.8	10.5	150.8	134.6	16.2	10.7	145.7	135.4	10.3	7.1
College Station-Bryan	109.8	103.2	6.6	6.0	108.5	101.5	7.0	6.5	110.9	106.5	4.4	4.0
Corpus Christi	207.6	191.6	16.0	7.7	206.6	190.2	16.4	7.9	206.3	196.3	10.0	4.8
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,228.2	2,960.5	267.7	8.3	3,225.8	2,956.5	269.3	8.3	3,158.5	2,991.4	167.1	5.3
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,149.2	1,970.7	178.5	8.3	2,149.6	1,970.1	179.5	8.4	2,112.9	1,998.8	114.1	5.4
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,079.0	989.7	89.3	8.3	1,076.2	986.4	89.8	8.3	1,045.8	992.7	53.1	5.1
El Paso	309.8	280.3	29.5	9.5	310.1	279.8	30.3	9.8	301.3	281.8	19.5	6.5
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,843.9	2,603.3	240.6	8.5	2,837.3	2,596.0	241.3	8.5	2,809.6	2,663.0	146.6	5.2
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	162.4	150.8	11.6	7.1	161.8	150.0	11.8	7.3	160.1	151.9	8.2	5.1
Laredo	96.8	88.3	8.5	8.8	96.9	88.0	8.9	9.2	92.9	88.0	4.9	5.3
Longview	111.4	102.5	8.9	8.0	111.2	102.1	9.1	8.2	109.3	104.6	4.7	4.3
Lubbock	143.8	136.0	7.8	5.4	143.9	135.7	8.2	5.7	143.3	138.0	5.3	3.7
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	301.0	267.3	33.7	11.2	298.8	264.3	34.5	11.5	282.9	261.9	21.0	7.4
Midland	77.7	73.2	4.5	5.8	78.5	73.7	4.8	6.1	76.8	74.6	2.2	2.8
Odessa	75.7	68.9	6.8	9.0	75.8	68.8	7.0	9.2	72.8	70.3	2.5	3.4
San Angelo	53.7	50.1	3.6	6.7	53.8	50.0	3.8	7.0	52.8	50.5	2.3	4.3
San Antonio	975.1	906.9	68.2	7.0	976.1	906.7	69.4	7.1	953.8	906.9	46.9	4.9
Sherman-Denison	57.4	52.5	4.9	8.6	57.6	52.6	5.0	8.7	56.4	53.4	3.0	5.3
Texarkana	65.0	60.4	4.6	7.0	64.6	60.2	4.4	6.8	64.5	61.4	3.1	4.8
Tyler	102.2	94.0	8.2	8.0	102.3	93.8	8.5	8.3	101.8	95.6	6.2	6.1
Victoria	59.1	54.5	4.6	7.8	59.3	54.5	4.8	8.1	58.8	56.4	2.4	4.1
Waco	113.7	105.8	7.9	6.9	113.5	105.4	8.1	7.1	112.1	107.0	5.1	4.5
Wichita Falls	73.9	68.1	5.8	7.8	74.0	68.1	5.9	7.9	73.0	69.2	3.8	5.2

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.