

# Texas Workforce Press Release

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**FOR RELEASE:** Embargoed until 9 a.m.  
**DATE:** October 22, 2010

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Ann Hatchitt  
**PHONE:** (512) 463-8556

## **Texas Unemployment Rate Drops to 8.1 Percent in September**

*Texas employers add 152,800 jobs since September 2009*

AUSTIN — The Texas unemployment rate declined in September to 8.1 percent, down from 8.3 percent in August 2010, the lowest unemployment rate for Texas in 2010. The Texas unemployment rate continued to trend well below the U.S. unemployment rate for September at 9.6 percent. Texas total nonfarm employment was up by 3,700 jobs in September representing the addition of 152,800 jobs in the last year.

“Texas continued to display strong job growth across many industries in September,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. “More Texans are back to work as reflected in the lower unemployment rate.”

Manufacturing employment continued to grow with 2,000 positions added in September. Texas added 24,500 Manufacturing jobs over the year representing 68 percent of all Manufacturing jobs added in the United States since September 2009. Employment in Mining and Logging rose in September adding 3,800 jobs with 28,000 positions added since September 2009.

“It’s encouraging to see so many jobs added over the past year,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “For those qualified Texas workers who remain unemployed, staff at TWC and the 240 workforce centers across the state remain committed to provide the job-search and referral services necessary to match those unemployed individuals with new jobs.”

Leisure and Hospitality employment increased by 10,300 jobs representing the industry with the largest job gain over the month and a total of 27,500 positions since September 2009. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities added 4,000 jobs in September and Financial Activities employment increased by 200 jobs in September. Education and Health Services added 49,500 jobs over the year, and Professional and Business Services recorded annual job growth of 50,300 positions.

“Job growth in the Texas Manufacturing industry, as well as growth in other industries, is encouraging,” said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. “TWC and our 28 boards across the state stand ready to assist job seekers and employers.”

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the lowest September unemployment rate in the state at 5.1 percent. The Amarillo MSA had the second lowest unemployment rate in September at 5.3 percent, followed by the Lubbock MSA at 5.8 percent (not seasonally adjusted). All were significantly lower than the unemployment rates for those MSAs in August.

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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)

	September 2010				August 2010				September 2009			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	153,854.0	139,715.0	14,140.0	9.2	154,678.0	139,919.0	14,759.0	9.5	153,617.0	139,079.0	14,538.0	9.5
State of Texas	12,165.7	11,209.1	956.6	7.9	12,190.4	11,169.0	1,021.4	8.4	12,004.5	11,031.5	973.0	8.1
Abilene	84.9	79.6	5.3	6.2	84.6	78.9	5.7	6.7	83.8	78.5	5.3	6.3
Amarillo	134.1	126.9	7.2	5.3	133.4	125.8	7.6	5.7	131.6	124.0	7.6	5.8
Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos	917.2	855.3	61.9	6.8	917.2	851.1	66.1	7.2	893.3	829.0	64.3	7.2
Beaumont-Port Arthur	186.9	167.5	19.4	10.4	187.0	166.6	20.4	10.9	183.7	164.9	18.8	10.2
Brownsville-Harlingen	157.3	140.1	17.2	10.9	157.7	139.3	18.4	11.7	153.0	137.2	15.8	10.3
College Station-Bryan	117.7	110.8	6.9	5.9	112.7	105.0	7.7	6.8	114.8	107.6	7.2	6.3
Corpus Christi	212.0	195.3	16.7	7.9	212.4	194.8	17.6	8.3	208.2	192.2	16.0	7.7
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,228.7	2,973.4	255.3	7.9	3,243.0	2,971.1	271.9	8.4	3,181.8	2,919.2	262.6	8.3
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,154.3	1,983.3	171.0	7.9	2,164.4	1,982.4	182.0	8.4	2,121.4	1,946.1	175.3	8.3
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,074.5	990.1	84.4	7.9	1,078.6	988.7	89.9	8.3	1,060.3	973.0	87.3	8.2
El Paso	314.3	283.9	30.4	9.7	312.2	280.4	31.8	10.2	310.2	280.6	29.6	9.5
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,887.4	2,651.8	235.6	8.2	2,900.1	2,649.2	250.9	8.7	2,862.8	2,627.6	235.2	8.2
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	168.6	156.0	12.6	7.5	167.9	154.7	13.2	7.9	163.2	151.4	11.8	7.2
Laredo	95.6	87.9	7.7	8.1	95.5	86.9	8.6	9.0	94.6	85.9	8.7	9.2
Longview	110.9	103.0	7.9	7.1	111.2	102.8	8.4	7.6	109.7	100.9	8.8	8.1
Lubbock	148.1	139.5	8.6	5.8	148.1	138.7	9.4	6.4	146.7	138.4	8.3	5.7
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	305.5	271.1	34.4	11.2	305.9	268.6	37.3	12.2	297.8	264.5	33.3	11.2
Midland	74.6	70.8	3.8	5.1	75.0	70.8	4.2	5.6	75.0	70.2	4.8	6.4
Odessa	70.7	65.5	5.2	7.4	70.8	65.0	5.8	8.2	70.8	64.1	6.7	9.4
San Angelo	54.9	51.5	3.4	6.2	55.3	51.7	3.6	6.5	53.9	50.1	3.8	7.0
San Antonio-New Braunfels	985.6	915.0	70.6	7.2	986.7	911.6	75.1	7.6	971.0	901.7	69.3	7.1
Sherman-Denison	58.0	53.3	4.7	8.1	58.5	53.5	5.0	8.6	57.3	52.4	4.9	8.5
Texarkana	65.9	61.2	4.7	7.1	65.2	60.1	5.1	7.8	64.7	60.4	4.3	6.6
Tyler	102.6	95.1	7.5	7.3	103.4	95.4	8.0	7.8	101.6	93.4	8.2	8.1
Victoria	59.1	54.8	4.3	7.3	58.9	54.3	4.6	7.8	58.4	53.7	4.7	8.0
Waco	118.8	110.7	8.1	6.8	119.2	110.3	8.9	7.4	115.7	107.6	8.1	7.0
Wichita Falls	73.8	68.4	5.4	7.3	73.5	67.6	5.9	8.0	72.6	66.8	5.8	7.9

**TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT**  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED<sup>+</sup>

INDUSTRY TITLE	Sept. 2010*	Aug. 2010	Sept. 2009	Aug. '10 to Sept. '10		Sept. '09 to Sept. '10	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
<b>TOTAL NONAG. W&amp;S EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>10,364,600</b>	<b>10,360,900</b>	<b>10,211,800</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>152,800</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>TOTAL NONGOVERNMENT**</b>	<b>8,546,500</b>	<b>8,538,600</b>	<b>8,392,400</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>154,100</b>	<b>1.8</b>
<b>GOODS-PRODUCING</b>							
Mining & Logging	225,200	221,400	197,200	3,800	1.7	28,000	14.2
Construction	563,200	570,200	578,700	-7,000	-1.2	-15,500	-2.7
Manufacturing	842,100	840,100	817,600	2,000	0.2	24,500	3.0
<b>SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>							
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	2,044,900	2,040,900	2,044,900	4,000	0.2	0	0.0
Information	187,100	189,600	201,700	-2,500	-1.3	-14,600	-7.2
Financial Activities	627,900	627,700	623,500	200	0.0	4,400	0.7
Profess. & Business Svcs	1,275,000	1,275,400	1,224,700	-400	0.0	50,300	4.1
Education & Health Svcs	1,392,100	1,393,000	1,342,600	-900	-0.1	49,500	3.7
Leisure & Hospitality	1,028,000	1,017,700	1,000,500	10,300	1.0	27,500	2.7
Other Services	361,000	362,600	361,000	-1,600	-0.4	0	0.0
Government	1,818,100	1,822,300	1,819,400	-4,200	-0.2	-1,300	-0.1

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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) 463-8556 or visit [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).