

Texas Workforce Press Release

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Texas Unemployment Rate Remains at 8.2 Percent for March

32,500 jobs gained during the past six months

AUSTIN — The Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March remained unchanged at 8.2 percent for the fifth consecutive month, and continues to trend well below the March U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 9.7 percent. At more than 12.1 million workers, the Texas Civilian Labor Force grew by nearly 29,000 workers in March.

Total nonagricultural employment in Texas increased by 8,500 positions in March. Texas has gained a total of 32,500 jobs over the past six months.

“Texas has started to experience job growth over the past several months despite the challenges of the national recession,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. “Growth in industries such as Manufacturing and Mining and Logging are positive signs.”

Leisure and Hospitality added 10,300 jobs in March for the largest job gain among all the major industries. Education and Health Services employment grew by 6,000 jobs in March for a total of 56,300 jobs added over the year.

“Many Texans continue to face the challenges of unemployment despite reports of job growth,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “TWC has job-search assistance and other services at workforce centers across Texas.”

In the Goods Producing sector, employment in Mining and Logging increased by 6,100 jobs in March, and the Manufacturing industry added 2,100 jobs.

“Employment in Education and Health Services continued its strong pattern of growth during March, and there were noteworthy gains in the Leisure and Hospitality industry,” said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. “For those who remain out of work, TWC and the 28 local workforce boards offer innovative programs to assist in job-search efforts.”

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) experienced the lowest unemployment rate in the state at 5.6 percent (not seasonally adjusted), followed by the Midland MSA with 5.7 percent, and third lowest was the Lubbock MSA and College Station-Bryan MSA, each at 5.9 percent.

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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)**

	March 2010				February 2010				March 2009			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	153,660.0	137,983.0	15,678.0	10.2	153,194.0	137,203.0	15,991.0	10.4	153,728.0	139,833.0	13,895.0	9.0
State of Texas	12,123.1	11,127.9	995.2	8.2	12,092.2	11,085.5	1,006.7	8.3	11,776.9	10,948.1	828.8	7.0
Abilene	84.1	78.7	5.4	6.4	83.9	78.5	5.4	6.5	81.6	77.1	4.5	5.5
Amarillo	133.2	125.8	7.4	5.6	132.3	124.8	7.5	5.7	128.1	122.0	6.1	4.8
Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos	909.6	845.0	64.6	7.1	904.5	838.8	65.7	7.3	873.0	815.6	57.4	6.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur	186.3	166.1	20.2	10.8	185.6	165.9	19.7	10.6	184.6	168.3	16.3	8.8
Brownsville-Harlingen	156.5	139.2	17.3	11.0	155.8	138.2	17.6	11.3	148.5	134.6	13.9	9.4
College Station-Bryan	117.9	111.0	6.9	5.9	117.6	110.5	7.1	6.0	111.5	105.9	5.6	5.0
Corpus Christi	211.6	194.9	16.7	7.9	210.2	193.3	16.9	8.1	207.3	194.0	13.3	6.4
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,215.4	2,947.9	267.5	8.3	3,209.9	2,940.0	269.9	8.4	3,119.2	2,890.0	229.2	7.3
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,144.2	1,965.6	178.6	8.3	2,138.9	1,958.9	180.0	8.4	2,076.6	1,922.3	154.3	7.4
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,071.2	982.3	88.9	8.3	1,070.8	981.0	89.8	8.4	1,042.6	967.7	74.9	7.2
El Paso	313.3	283.7	29.6	9.4	312.2	282.3	29.9	9.6	303.0	277.1	25.9	8.5
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,891.7	2,646.8	244.9	8.5	2,881.5	2,635.7	245.8	8.5	2,818.6	2,626.3	192.3	6.8
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	165.9	153.8	12.1	7.3	165.6	153.4	12.2	7.3	157.9	147.8	10.1	6.4
Laredo	95.0	86.3	8.7	9.2	95.5	86.7	8.8	9.2	94.1	86.6	7.5	8.0
Longview	109.7	101.3	8.4	7.6	110.1	101.4	8.7	7.9	108.5	101.4	7.1	6.5
Lubbock	147.2	138.5	8.7	5.9	146.9	138.1	8.8	6.0	142.4	135.6	6.8	4.8
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	306.6	270.9	35.7	11.6	307.2	271.0	36.2	11.8	290.9	262.3	28.6	9.8
Midland	74.1	69.9	4.2	5.7	73.9	69.6	4.3	5.9	74.6	71.0	3.6	4.8
Odessa	70.4	64.4	6.0	8.5	70.3	64.2	6.1	8.7	71.5	66.7	4.8	6.7
San Angelo	54.8	51.3	3.5	6.5	54.2	50.6	3.6	6.7	53.4	50.2	3.2	6.0
San Antonio-New Braunfels	974.6	903.7	70.9	7.3	975.0	903.0	72.0	7.4	951.7	891.8	59.9	6.3
Sherman-Denison	57.6	52.7	4.9	8.5	57.4	52.4	5.0	8.7	56.4	51.9	4.5	8.0
Texarkana	65.2	60.3	4.9	7.5	65.5	60.4	5.1	7.8	63.8	60.2	3.6	5.6
Tyler	101.9	94.0	7.9	7.8	102.3	94.0	8.3	8.1	99.0	92.0	7.0	7.1
Victoria	58.4	53.7	4.7	8.0	58.4	53.6	4.8	8.3	57.8	54.0	3.8	6.6
Waco	117.5	109.2	8.3	7.1	116.4	108.2	8.2	7.1	111.9	104.9	7.0	6.3
Wichita Falls	72.9	67.1	5.8	7.9	73.0	67.1	5.9	8.1	72.6	67.6	5.0	6.9

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/2010/praudio10.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 coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.