

TEXAS

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



OCTOBER 2021



The monthly Texas Labor Market Review brings you the most current labor market highlights and happenings across the Lone Star State. The information that follows is produced and published on a monthly basis and includes data on nonagricultural job trends, the labor force, job postings, and other relevant indicators for both the state and sub-state areas. Additional data and historical information is available on our website: TexasLMI.com.

For additional information,
please contact:

1-866-938-4444

lmci@twc.state.tx.us

SEPTEMBER 2021 MONTHLY INDICATORS



CES program
Page 2

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (OTM)

↑ 95,800



LAUS program
Page 5

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

↓ 5.6%



HWOL
Page 8

HWOL INDEX (OTM)

↑ 1.8%



More Indicators
Page 10

INITIAL CLAIMS (CHG)
FOUR-WEEK MOVING AVERAGE

↓ 7,381

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Statewide Industry Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

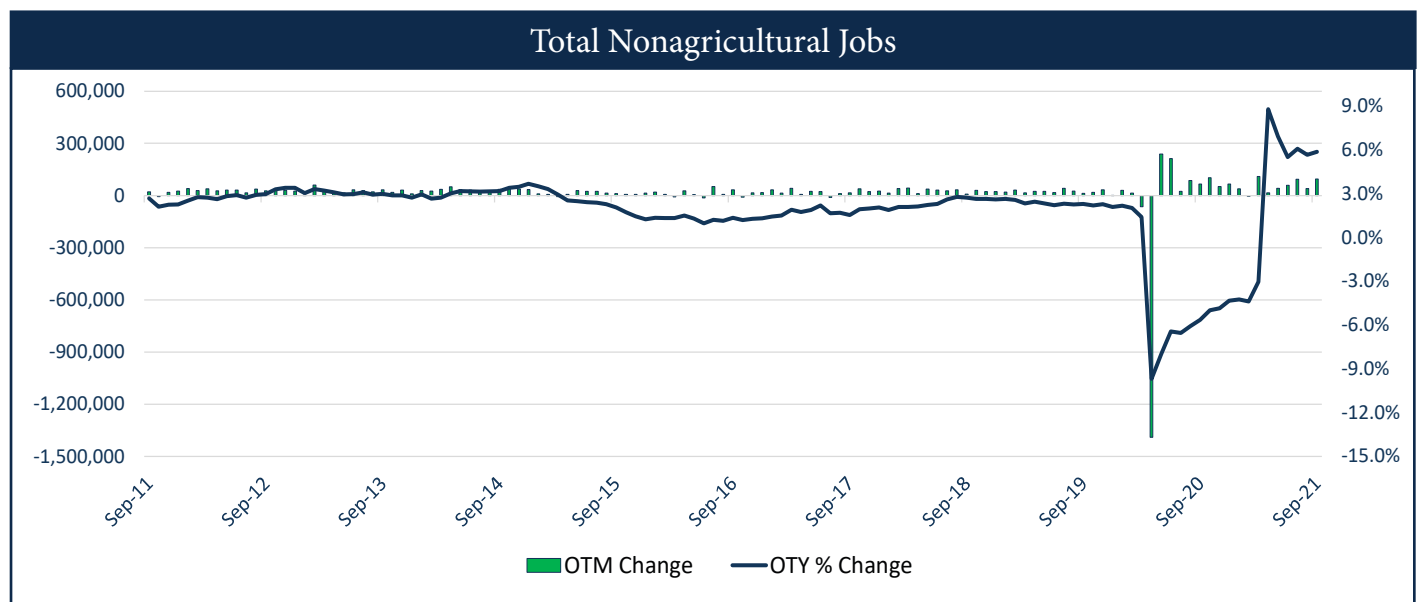
Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary employment increased by 95,800 positions in September following a revised gain of 40,500 jobs for August. The September over-the-month movement was the largest improvement since a 109,700-job increase for March 2021 and indicated the 16th increase in 17 months. Ten of 11 major industries

added jobs over the month. In the 12 months ending September 2021, Total Nonfarm employment grew by 711,500 positions. September marked the sixth consecutive month of annual growth while employment stood at 99.1 percent of the pre-COVID peak recorded in February 2020. Every major industry grew annually.

Industry	Sep 2021	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonagricultural	12,857,300	95,800	711,500	5.9
Private	10,862,800	85,300	694,500	6.8
Goods-Producing	1,816,100	16,600	78,200	4.5
Mining & Logging	197,000	3,000	27,500	16.2
Construction	732,700	8,900	16,400	2.3
Manufacturing	886,400	4,700	34,300	4.0
Service-Providing	11,041,200	79,200	633,300	6.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,601,500	16,700	124,000	5.0
Information	206,500	-200	9,700	4.9
Financial Activities	832,900	1,700	32,500	4.1
Professional & Business Services	1,921,300	16,400	182,100	10.5
Education & Health Services	1,744,200	1,200	67,000	4.0
Leisure & Hospitality	1,321,500	31,900	170,800	14.8
Other Services	418,800	1,000	30,200	7.8
Government	1,994,500	10,500	17,000	0.9

Highlights

- Leisure and Hospitality employment rebounded from an August over-the-month decline to an 11-month high gain of 31,900 positions.
- Trade, Transportation, and Utilities employment grew by 16,700 jobs, marking the largest increase since a gain of 18,100 positions was recorded for September 2020.
- Professional and Business Services employment reached a series-high employment level for the fifth consecutive month.
- Mining and Logging employment increased for the eleventh time in 12 months, adding 3,000 jobs.



CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

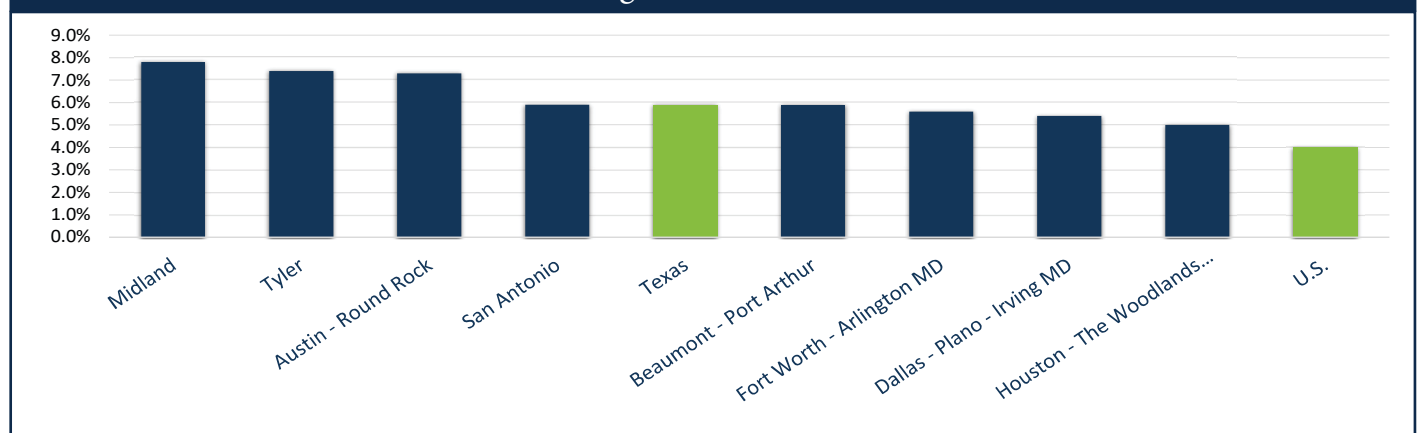
Metro Areas (Seasonally Adjusted)

Metro Areas	Sep 2021	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Abilene MSA	73,200	100	3,400	4.9
Amarillo MSA	123,100	400	4,100	3.4
Austin-Round Rock MSA	1,163,300	11,900	78,700	7.3
Beaumont-Port Arthur MSA	160,000	500	8,900	5.9
Brownsville-Harlingen MSA	143,200	400	3,400	2.4
College Station-Bryan MSA	118,500	-300	2,000	1.7
Corpus Christi MSA	185,800	1,200	6,200	3.5
Dallas-FW-Arlington MSA	3,833,000	17,800	198,800	5.5
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,742,500	10,000	141,400	5.4
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,100,100	19,700	58,200	5.6
El Paso MSA	320,500	400	9,300	3.0
Houston MSA	3,082,600	20,000	145,500	5.0
Killeen-Temple MSA	145,900	500	4,600	3.3
Laredo MSA	102,500	-200	3,500	3.5
Longview MSA	94,700	300	3,600	4.0
Lubbock MSA	150,200	900	4,300	2.9
McAllen MSA	274,900	1,400	12,900	4.9
Midland MSA	98,500	1,200	7,100	7.8
Odessa MSA	68,800	0	1,800	2.7
San Angelo MSA	48,200	300	1,200	2.6
San Antonio MSA	1,081,200	14,100	60,400	5.9
Sherman-Denison MSA	49,500	0	1,400	2.9
Texarkana MSA	58,100	-200	900	1.6
Tyler MSA	112,200	1,200	7,700	7.4
Victoria MSA	38,600	500	900	2.4
Waco MSA	125,600	-100	4,200	3.5
Wichita Falls MSA	58,300	100	1,900	3.4

Highlights

- Twenty out of 26 metro areas added jobs over the month for a combined employment increase of 85,100 positions. Employment in two MSAs held flat, and four MSAs declined. For the third consecutive month, every metro area achieved positive annual growth.
- The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA employment increased by 20,000 jobs over the month in September, totaling 145,500 positions added over the year.
- The Fort Worth-Arlington Metropolitan Division added 19,700 positions in September, leading all metro areas in monthly percentage growth at 1.8 percent.
- The San Antonio-New Braunfels MSA rebounded from 4,800 total jobs shed in the previous two months to add 14,100 positions in September, growing by 1.3 percent over the month.
- The Austin-Round Rock MSA's employment grew by 11,900 jobs over the month in September, bringing the area to 17 consecutive months of uninterrupted employment growth.

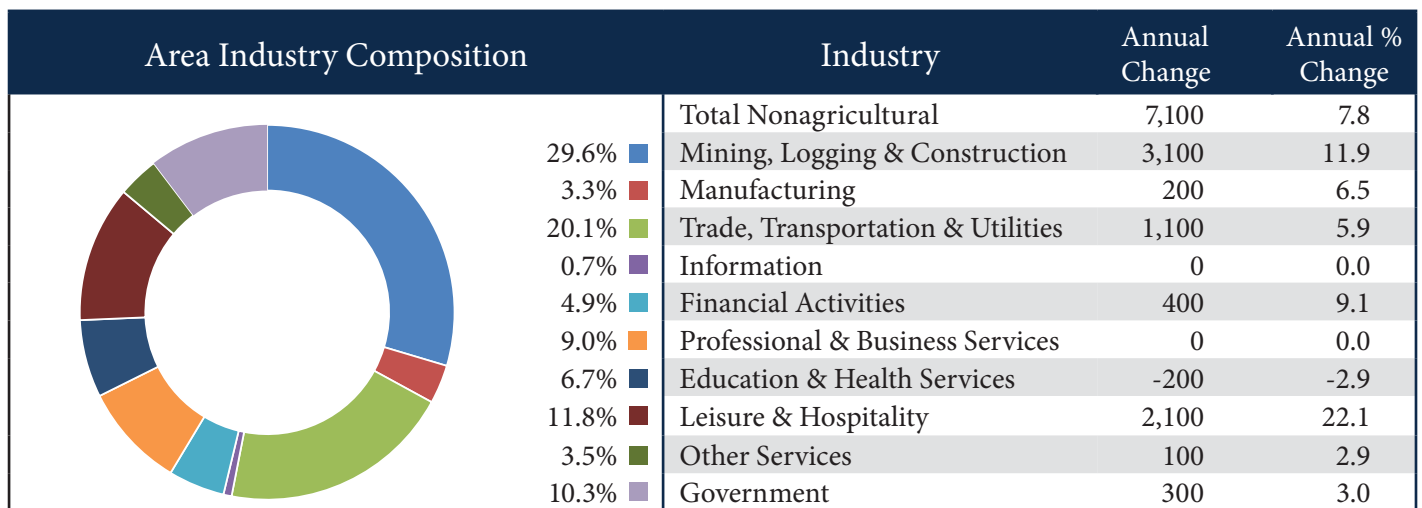
Fastest Growing Metro Areas Over the Year



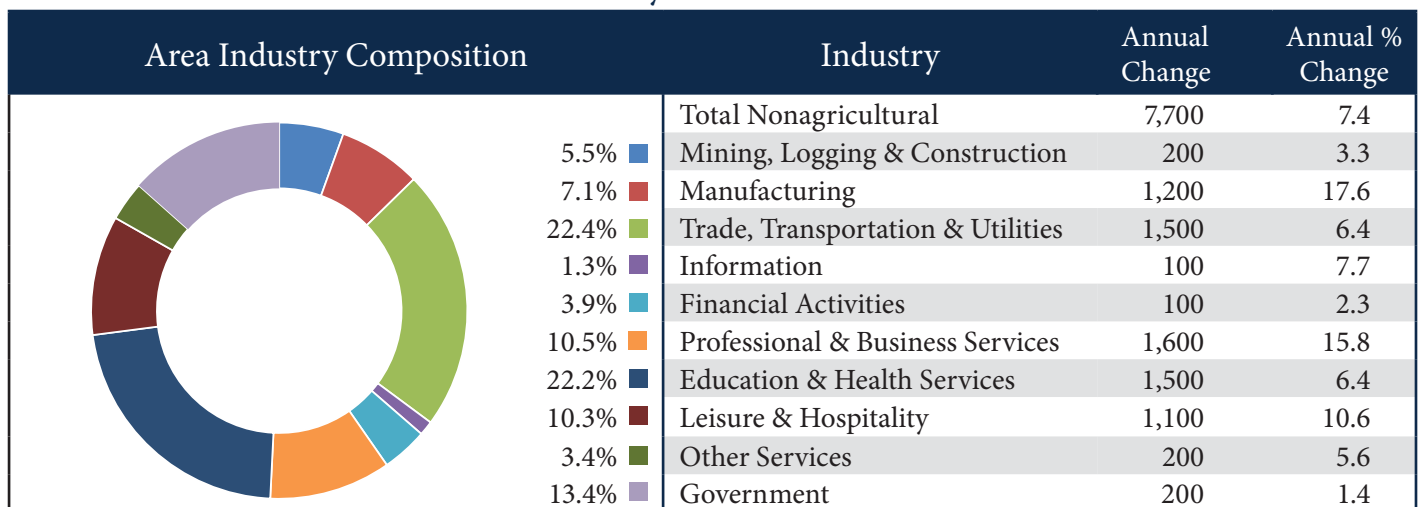
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Fastest Growing Metro Areas Over-the-Year (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

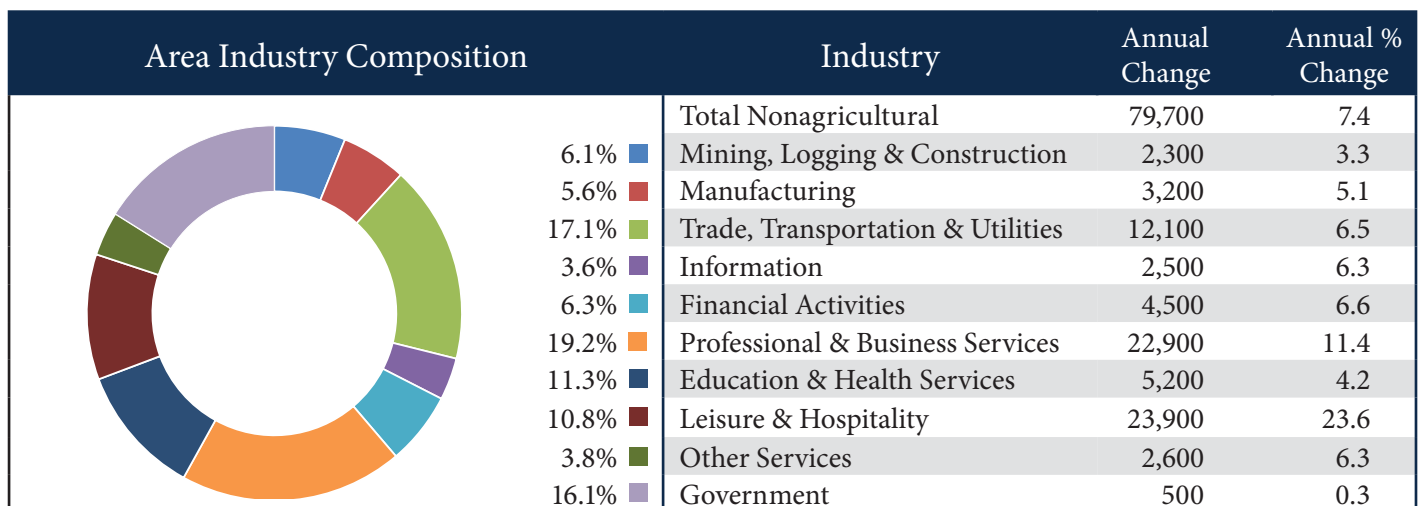
Midland MSA



Tyler MSA



Austin-Round Rock MSA

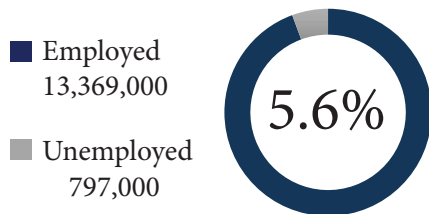


[Download CES excel data sheets \(include industry-level data\)](#)

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

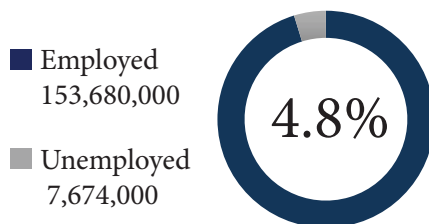
Texas & the U.S. (Seasonally Adjusted)

Texas Sep 2021



Date	CLF	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Sep 2021	14,166,000	13,369,000	797,000	5.6
Aug 2021	14,127,500	13,291,800	835,700	5.9
Sep 2020	13,978,200	12,872,300	1,105,900	7.9

U.S. Sep 2021

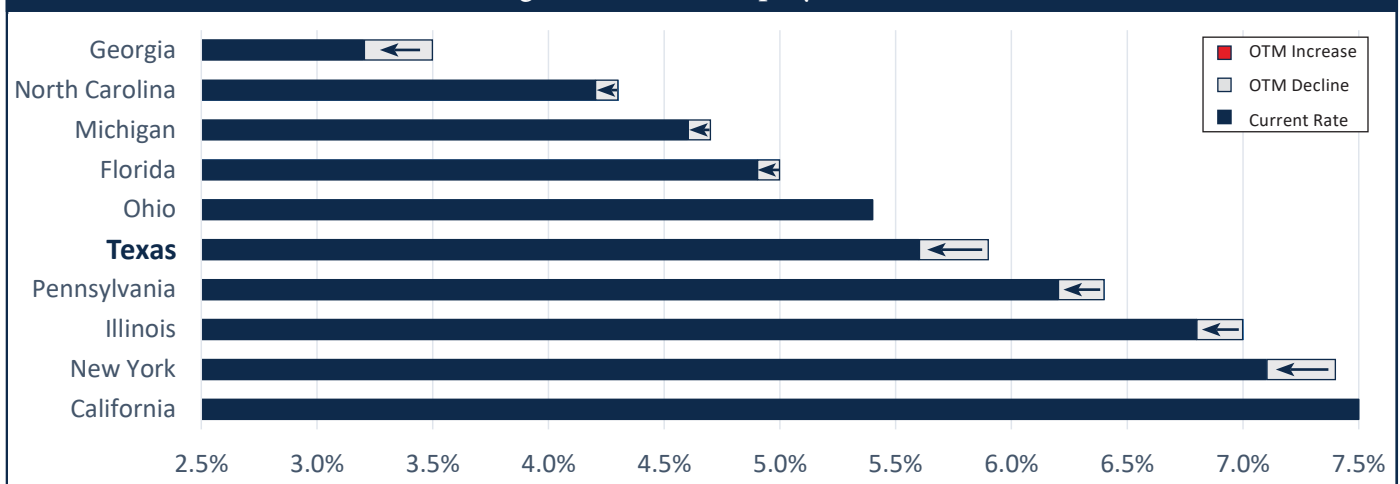


Date	CLF	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Sep 2021	161,354,000	153,680,000	7,674,000	4.8
Aug 2021	161,537,000	153,154,000	8,384,000	5.2
Sep 2020	160,078,000	147,543,000	12,535,000	7.8

Highlights

- Over the month the Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 5.6 percent, eight-tenths of a percentage point higher than the U.S. rate of 4.8 percent.
- The state's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate was 62.4 percent in September.
- Texas' seasonally adjusted LAUS employment was up 77,200 from last month.
- Summarizing the not seasonally adjusted estimates, the Texas unemployment rate decreased to 4.9 percent in September. This was 3.1 percentage points lower than the unemployment rate in September 2020.

10 Largest States' Unemployment Rates



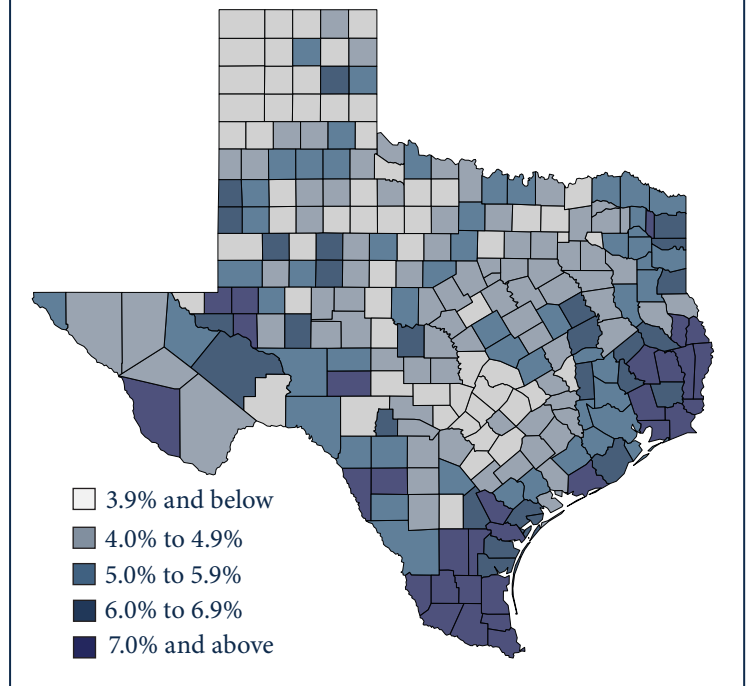
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Substate Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

County Highlights

- Unemployment rates varied considerably across counties, ranging from a low of 0.9 percent in King County to a high of 14.4 percent in Starr County.
- Thirteen counties had an unemployment rate of 3.0 percent or less.
- Presidio County experienced the largest unemployment rate decrease of 7.5 percentage points over the year.
- In September 2021, 15 counties experienced an increase in their unemployment rates over the month, while 225 counties experienced a decrease and 14 experienced no change.
- Over the year, the civilian labor force increased in 127 counties, while 127 counties in the state experienced a decline.

County Unemployment Rates



Texas Metro Areas Ranked by Unemployment Rate

Rank	Area	Rate	Rank	Area	Rate
1	Amarillo	3.4	14	Midland	4.9
2	Austin-Round Rock	3.5	0	Texas	4.9
3	Abilene	3.9	15	Killeen-Temple	5.1
3	College Station-Bryan	3.9	16	El Paso	5.4
3	Lubbock	3.9	16	Laredo	5.4
6	Sherman-Denison	4.1	18	Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	5.5
7	Waco	4.3	18	Longview	5.5
8	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	4.4	20	Victoria	5.7
8	San Angelo	4.4	21	Corpus Christi	6.4
8	Tyler	4.4	22	Odessa	7.1
8	Wichita Falls	4.4	23	Brownsville-Harlingen	7.3
12	San Antonio-New Braunfels	4.5	24	Beaumont-Port Arthur	8.0
0	United States	4.6	24	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	8.0
13	Texarkana	4.6			

Metro Area Highlights

- Over the month, all 25 metropolitan areas experienced a decrease in their unemployment rates.
- Over the year, all Texas metropolitan areas experienced a decrease in their unemployment rates.
- The Odessa MSA experienced the largest over the year change, falling 6.4 percentage points.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY

12-Month Moving Average Unemployment Rates

Texas Unemployment Rates by Demographic

Gender (age 16+)	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2020
Female	6.1%	6.4%	7.0%
Male	6.5%	6.7%	6.3%

Age (16+)	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2020
Age 16-19	12.3%	12.6%	18.3%
Age 20-24	10.8%	11.2%	11.1%
Age 25-34	6.8%	7.2%	7.2%
Age 35-44	5.5%	5.6%	4.8%
Age 45-54	5.1%	5.3%	4.9%
Age 55-64	4.7%	4.9%	5.8%
Age 65+	4.6%	4.9%	5.4%

Race (age 16+)	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2020
White	5.8%	6.1%	6.2%
Black	10.0%	10.1%	9.6%
Hispanic	7.5%	7.8%	7.9%

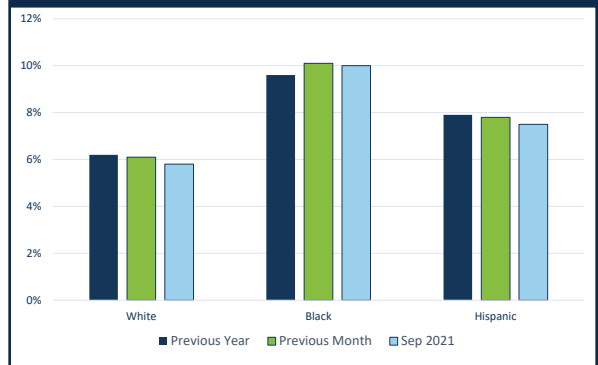
Other Categories (age 18+)	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2020
Veterans	5.4%	5.4%	4.5%

Education (age 25+)	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2020
Less than High School	8.6%	8.8%	9.0%
High School Diploma	7.2%	7.5%	7.3%
Some College or Associate Degree	6.1%	6.4%	6.0%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%

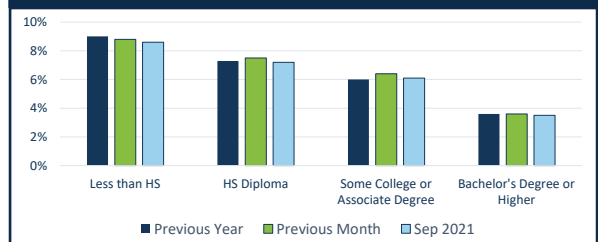
Highlights

- The unemployment rate for males increased by 0.2 percentage points over the year to a rate of 6.5 percent, while the rate for women decreased by 0.9 percentage points to 6.1 percent.
- Over the month, the veteran unemployment rate remained at 5.4 percent in September.
- Individuals with some college education or associate degree had an unemployment rate of 6.1 percent. Those with a bachelor's degree and higher had an unemployment rate of 3.5 percent and those with a high school diploma had a rate of 7.2 percent.
- Of the new entrants into Texas' labor force in September, more were men (28,200) than women (25,500).
- The number of people not in the labor force because they are discouraged over job prospects in Texas increased to 51,000, up from a level of 49,100 a year ago.

Unemployment Rates by Race



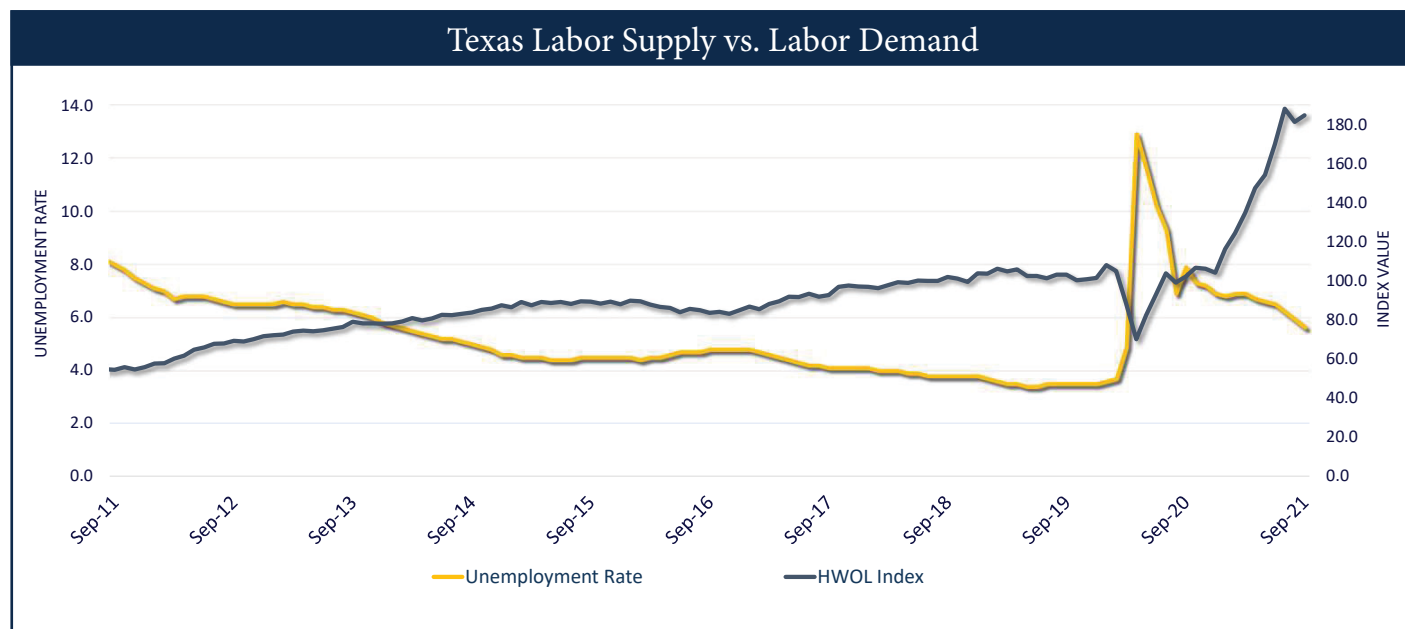
Unemployment Rates by Education



[Download all LAUS excel data sheets](#)

HELP WANTED ONLINE

Statewide Online Job Postings Data (Seasonally Adjusted)



Highlights

- The Conference Board®-Burning Glass® Help Wanted OnLine™ (HWOL) Index increased over the month to 184.9 in September, a change of 3.3 points or 1.8 percent.
- The seasonally adjusted September Supply/Demand rate was 1.2 unemployed for each advertised vacancy with a total of 114,680 more unemployed workers than advertised vacancies.

Top Employers by Postings

Employer	Sep 2021
Baylor Scott & White Health	7,358
Deloitte	5,165
Hospital Corporation of America	4,615
Houston Methodist	3,176
Anthem Blue Cross	3,034
Christus Health	2,955
HEB	2,752
UnitedHealth Group	2,682
Wells Fargo	2,409
Walmart / Sam's	2,342

Top Occupations by Postings

Occupation	Sep 2021
Registered Nurses	29,201
Retail Salespersons	18,826
Customer Service Representatives	18,466
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manuf., Except Technical and Scientific Products	18,341
Software Developers, Applications	17,513
Computer Occupations, All Other	16,039
Managers, All Other	15,722
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	15,428
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	13,494
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	10,559

EMPLOYMENT NEWS

Media Update

Job Gains

New VA outpatient clinic set to open in South Tyler end of November

KLTV

TYLER, Texas — In a few more months East Texas veterans will have a new option for outpatient services in Tyler. Construction is complete on the \$10.7 million facility, and it's in the final phases before opening. A more than 50 thousand square-foot facility on Centennial Parkway behind Studio Movie Grill, will expand many services already in Tyler and offer new services to veterans, the largest healthcare expansion by VA standards in East Texas according to Lehebron Farr, operations administrator for Tyler VA OPC.

“We’ll be offering optometry services, physical therapy, radiology, MRI, expanded mental health, expanded primary care, nutrition, and several other services that we’ll be offering,” Farr said. “And we’ll continue to assess those needs as we progress throughout the years. “The clinic will also have a functioning pharmacy. Farr said it will bring more than 100 new jobs to the area and has the capacity to serve 18,000 veterans.

Self-taught scientist and inventor brings 150 jobs to Sugar Land

Houston Chronicles

SUGAR LAND, Texas — New York-based producer of sleep and home comfort products Soft-Tex International’s new Sugar Land facility will be an industry game-changer, says Soft-Tex principal Mark Smiderle. The 170,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art manufacturing plant in Sugar Land’s Covington Woods area is expected to double Soft-Tex’s production capacity and add 150 new jobs over the course of 2021.

Soft-Tex selected Sugar Land for its second facility because of its strategic location. The new, high-efficiency facility can produce approximately 445 pillows an hour, Smiderle said.

Job Losses

Garland Behavioral Hospital will close

The Dallas Morning News

GARLAND, Texas — Garland Behavioral Hospital is closing and laying off 119 employees, according to a notice provided to the Texas Workforce Commission. The facility, at 2300 Marie Curie Blvd., will close in September, according to the company. In the notice, Garland Behavioral Health Hospital said all affected staff members had been notified of their layoffs.

CEO Kimberly Bunnell said Garland Behavioral Hospital will continue to provide treatment and care to its admitted patients until they have completed treatment. “We thank the physicians and staff for their expertise and dedication to the patients we have been privileged to serve. The community will be supported by other behavioral health care providers within the region,” Bunnell said in a statement provided to The Dallas Morning News.

El Paso Electric offers retirement incentives

El Paso Times

EL PASO, Texas — Ninety El Paso Electric employees have chosen to take cash incentives from the company and retire as part of a company plan to restructure its workforce. “This is not a workforce reduction, but a workforce refocus,” George De La Torre, an EPE spokesman said.

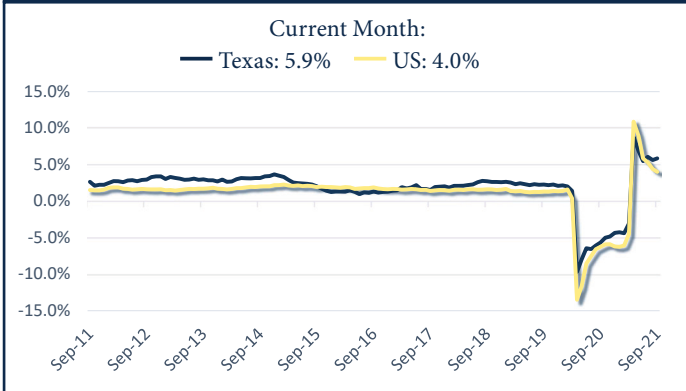
Jobs held by the 90 workers will be filled, he said. Many of the people opting to leave the company are supervisors, managers, and executives. The incentives, in the form of a payment equal to nine months of a worker’s base salary, were offered to 150 retirement-eligible employees.

“We’re trying to bring in employees with different skill sets,” especially technology skills as the company moves toward developing a smart grid, smart metering, and a focus on green energy options, including solar energy, he said.



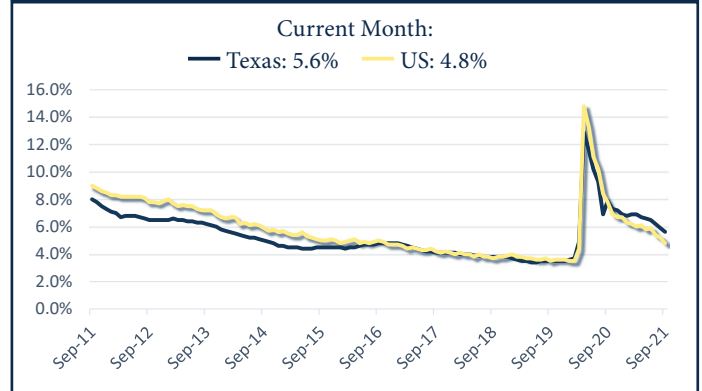
KEY INDICATORS

Total Nonag Annual Employment Growth (Seasonally Adjusted)



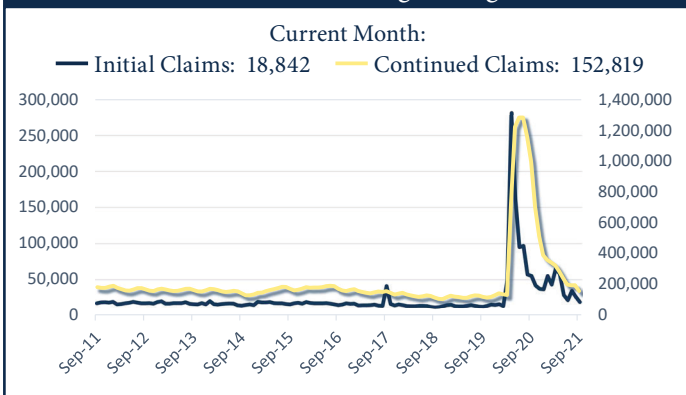
Source: TWC/Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)



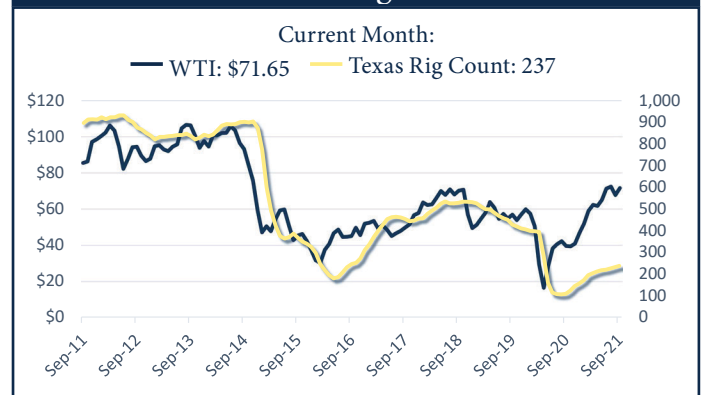
Source: TWC/Bureau of Labor Statistics

Initial and Continued Claims (Four-Week Moving Average)



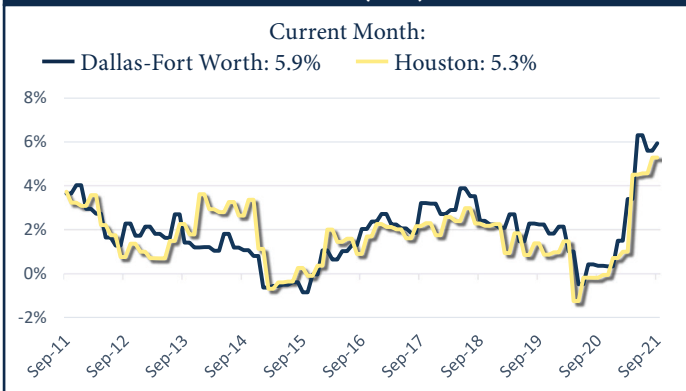
Source: TWC

West Texas Intermediate Crude Oil vs. Texas Rig Count



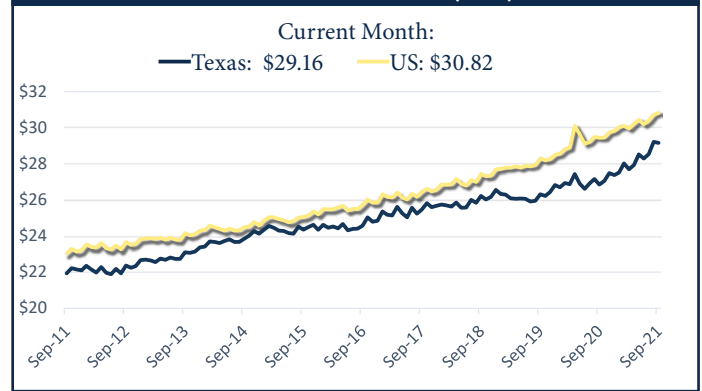
Source: US Energy Information Administration (EIA) & Baker Hughes

Consumer Price Index Annual Growth (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Average Hourly Earnings (Total Private, Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

[Download Key Indicators data in excel](#)



GLOSSARY

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

This Federal/State cooperative program produces estimates drawn from a monthly survey of nonfarm business establishments used to collect wage and salary employment, worker hours and payroll by industry and area. It counts the number of jobs, not of people.

Nonagricultural Jobs - The total number of persons on establishment payrolls employed full or part time. Persons on the payroll of more than one establishment are counted in each. Data exclude proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family or volunteer workers, farm workers, and domestic workers. Government employment only covers civilian employees.

Actual or Not Seasonally Adjusted - Describes the data series not subject to the seasonal adjustment process. In other words, the effects of regular, or seasonal, patterns have not been removed from these series.

Seasonally Adjusted - The effects of regular, or seasonal, patterns of hiring or layoffs (holidays, weather, etc.) have been removed from these series. These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other non-seasonal movements in a data series.

HELP WANTED ONLINE

The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine® (HWOL) data series and index (July 2018=100) provides monthly measures of labor demand (advertised vacancies) at the national, regional, state, and metropolitan area levels.

Supply-Demand rate - A ratio measuring the number of unemployed persons per Help Wanted Online job openings.

INDICATORS

Initial Claims - A count of notices of unemployment received requesting a determination of eligibility for UI benefits. A person can file multiple claims.

Continued Claims - A count of claimants who have qualified for and are receiving UI benefits.

Consumer Price Index - An index of the variation in prices paid by typical consumers for retail goods and other items.

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

This Federal/State cooperative program produces employment and unemployment estimates by place of residence.

Employed - All persons 16 years and over who, during the reference week, (a) did any work at all (at least 1 hour) as paid employees, worked on their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid family workers, or (b) were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Each employed person is counted only once, even if the person holds more than one job.

Unemployed - All persons aged 16 years and over who had no employment, were available for work, and had made specific efforts to find employment. Includes persons who were waiting to be recalled to jobs from which they had been laid off.

Civilian Labor Force (CLF) - All persons classified as employed or unemployed.

Unemployment Rate - The unemployed number divided by the civilian labor force number.

MISCELLANEOUS

Metropolitan Division (MD) - A Metropolitan Statistical Area with a population of 2.5 million which is subdivided into smaller groupings is referred to as Metropolitan Divisions (MDs).

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) - A geographic area that contains at least one urbanized center of 50,000 or more population plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core urban location. An MSA in Texas is made up of one or more counties.

Metro Area - Can refer either to a Metropolitan Statistical Area or a Metropolitan Division. Texas has 25 MSAs, including the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA which is subdivided into two MDs.

Workforce Development Area (WDA) - The State of Texas is divided into twenty-eight (28) local workforce development areas.

LMCI Director: Mariana Vega

Editor: Gabriel Guzman

Layout and Design: Nancy Moore

TLMR Contributors:

Joann Coronado, Terry Dittberner, Gabriel Guzman, Mark Lavergne,
William Lutz, Nancy Moore, Josue Perez, Robert Sparkman, and Chase Winters



Another quality product from
Texas Workforce Commission
Labor Market and Career Information
101 East 15th Street, Room 354
Austin, Texas 78778-0001
1-866-938-4444
(512) 936-3278
FAX: (512) 936-3208
www.lmci.state.tx.us

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<http://www.texasworkforce.org>