

Labor Market Information Department

Statewide Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate Shows Over-the-Month Drop

The Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.7 percent in June, down two-tenths of a percentage point from May's rate of 4.9 percent. Total Employment dropped for the first time since September 1992, falling a little more than 2,000, while Total Unemployment fell by almost 31,000. Total Unemployment in Texas has declined by 15,700 since June of last year.

Statewide Nonagricultural Employment (Seasonally Adjusted) Grows For 41st Straight Month

Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary employment increased by 21,300 jobs in June, the 41st consecutive month of employment growth and the second largest monthly increase of the year. The annual addition of 250,600 jobs represents an annual growth rate of 2.8 percent, compared to the peak rate of 4.8 percent achieved in September 1997.

Employment in Services grew by 14,700 jobs, accounting for 69 percent of the Total Nonagricultural growth in June. The Services industry has consistently added jobs since May 1994. Strong demand for workers in *Business Services*, which added 12,500 jobs for a 1.8 percent increase, provided the catalyst for June's Services growth.

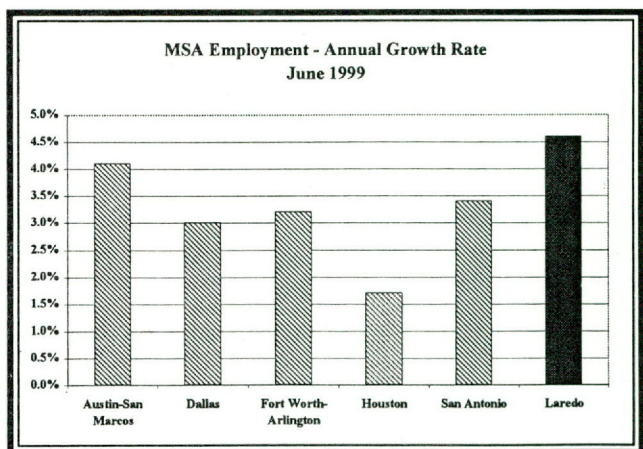
Construction employment grew by 500 jobs in June. So far this year, the average monthly increases in Construction employment have been much smaller than the unusually high monthly gains of 1998. *General Building Contractors* and *Special Trade Contractors* both added employment in June.

Durable Goods Manufacturing recovered from a 9-month slump in June, adding 1,300 jobs. From September 1998 until May 1999, *Durable Goods* saw only three meager over-the-month employment gains and six declines. These losses were spread out among the various industry components. However, in June, almost every industry saw employment gains, with the exception of *Industrial Machinery* which lost 600 jobs.

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing employment fell for the third consecutive month. The drop of 1,200 jobs in June can be attributed primarily to layoffs which occurred in *Apparel and Other Textiles*. Levi Strauss closed a finishing plant in Amarillo affecting 600 workers. This closure was the latest in a series of plant closures across the state for the company. The annual growth rate of -11.1 percent was the largest annual decline since August 1998.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Employment (Non-Seasonally Adjusted)

Total Nonagricultural employment within Texas' MSAs grew by 11,400 jobs, or 0.1 percent, the smallest June increase since 1996. The annual growth rate has gradually slowed to 2.4 percent, which is almost half of last year's rate and is the lowest rate seen since December 1992. This slowdown in new hiring has reduced MSA job growth to levels not seen since the early 1990s.



Growth in Texas MSAs was led by seasonal increases in both *Retail Trade* and *Services*, which gained 36,800 positions collectively. Annually, *Retail Trade* contributed an additional 40,600 jobs to total MSA employment.

Although Laredo experienced a seasonal loss of 200 jobs in June, employment has grown at a solid annual rate of 4.6 percent over the year, giving Laredo the distinction of having the highest current annual growth rate of all Texas MSAs. This is due in part to its small relative size and strategic location at the crossroads of Interstate 35 and the Rio Grande on the Mexican border. Laredo's location has enabled it to capitalize on NAFTA-related job growth in industries such as *Transportation*, *Communications*, and *Public Utilities* (TCPU) and *Wholesale Trade*, with annual growth rates of 8.3 and 6.1 percent respectively.

Labor Market Review



June
1999

Texas Unemployment Rate		Texas Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment	
Actual Series	Seasonally Adjusted	Actual Series	Seasonally Adjusted
5.4%	4.7%	9,192,600	9,177,200

The 1997 OES Survey: A New Perspective on Wages

by Greg Evans, Kelli Dailey, and Larbi Hanni

For more than 50 years, the Lone Star State has conjured up images of oil wells, ranches, and roughnecks. These Texas icons may soon have to include math scientists, electronic engineers, optometrists, and actuaries. According to findings of the 1997 Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) Survey, Texans are paid a higher wage in these occupations than their counterparts nationwide. As a result of this annual survey, sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and administered by state employment security agencies like the Texas Workforce Commission, comprehensive, comparative wage data is now available as a vital economic statistic.

The OES survey is designed to collect occupational and wage statistics for Texas and its 27 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). During each year of a three-year cycle, questionnaires are mailed to approximately 25,000 Texas employers. Following the initial mailings, which are done over a three-month period, follow-ups are made by mail and by telephone to nonrespondents in order to ensure a statistically valid response rate. Firms completing a survey form report the number of workers they employ by occupational title, categorizing them into pre-defined wage ranges.

Although it takes three years to fully collect the sample, occupational and wage data are published annually based on the current year's survey round. The 1997 survey round, initiated in October of that year and completed in August of 1998, collected data which provided estimates of occupational employment and wages for more than 700 occupations in over 400 industrial classifications. These classifications correspond to the two-and-three digit SIC industrial groups. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands relay their data to the BLS' Washington office where they are used to produce national estimates.

Closer scrutiny of the 1997 survey results will pay dividends. Generations of Texans witnessed the reign of oil as the lifeblood of

the state's economy. Occupying a central place in Texas' mythology and earning the sobriquet "black gold", oil was supreme. Attesting to the strength of that tradition, three of the highest 10 wages on the state survey are oil-related: Geologists, Geophysicists, and Oceanographers at \$35.74 hourly; Petroleum Engineers, \$34.50 an hour; and Mining and Related Managers at \$33.68.

Yet, we know that employment in *Oil and Gas Extraction* (SIC 13) has dropped by nearly 20,000 jobs in the 1990s, following a precipitous decline in the late '80s, and that the state's oil rig count is currently at a 29-year low. Appearance among the top 10 wages, therefore, does not insure an occupation's staying power or speak to its growth potential. In the early 1980s, many Texans looked forward to oil prices at \$60.00 per barrel. However, several forces combined to reverse the upward trend in the price of oil, and when it plunged to \$11.00 a barrel, the oil industry went from boom to bust, and Texas entered a prolonged recession. In due time the state's economy regenerated itself, arising phoenix-like from its own ashes. The net result was a move toward technology and services. Today, oil and gas extraction accounts for less than seven percent of the gross state product, down from nearly 20 percent in 1981.

Undeniably, Texas' economy is now stronger and more diverse. Looking again at the state's highest-paying occupations, we see high-tech entries like Engineer, Math, and Natural Sciences Managers; Nuclear Engineers; Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineers; and Math Scientists. Indeed, Texas boasts hundreds of high-technology firms and is second in the nation only to California in jobs (300,000+ high-tech jobs vs. 700,000+). However, over the past decade, California's high costs have made it difficult for firms to remain there. During this same period, Texas has thrived. The oil industry released a flood of labor into the market, and the real estate collapse which followed greatly reduced the cost of doing business here. Not surprisingly, many of the companies leaving California are relocating to Texas, according to research company DRI/McGraw Hill. At the same time, our state's wages for the occupations noted above are still well below the corresponding wages in California – e.g., Engineer, Math, and Natural Sciences Managers: \$33.68 vs. \$37.44 an hour and Nuclear Engineers: \$30.72 vs. \$35.78 hourly.

Health Services (SIC 80) occupations are well represented among the highest-paying OES occupations, from number one Physicians to Physical Therapists in 20th place, and the forecast for medical jobs in Texas is exceptionally bright. This reflects a different set of supply and demand conditions facing the *Health Services* industry as compared with other industries. *Health Services* is an important component of the Texas economy, accounting for roughly 7.6 percent of total nonfarm employment. After growing by a whopping 230,000+ jobs in the 1990s, *Health Services* will continue to add

Comparison of Texas and U.S. Wages

OCCUPATION	TEXAS		U.S.	
	Hourly Mean	Annual Mean	Hourly Mean	Annual Mean
Physicians	\$49.22	\$102,370	\$48.52	\$100,920
Dentists	\$41.71	\$86,750	\$43.89	\$91,280
Podiatrists	\$41.19	\$85,680	\$39.92	\$83,040
Lawyers	\$36.89	\$76,730	\$35.02	\$72,840
Geologists, Geophysicists, Ocean	\$35.74	\$74,330	\$26.73	\$55,600
Petroleum Engineers	\$34.50	\$71,750	\$32.84	\$68,300
Mining & Related Managers	\$34.28	\$71,290	\$29.18	\$60,700
Engineer, Math, Nat Sci Managers	\$33.68	\$70,050	\$32.99	\$68,620
Chiropractors	\$33.23	\$69,110	\$32.69	\$68,000
Optometrists	\$32.68	\$67,970	\$31.33	\$65,170
Physicists & Astronomers	\$32.03	\$66,630	\$32.72	\$68,060
Actuaries	\$31.29	\$65,090	\$30.85	\$64,160
Medical Scientists	\$31.08	\$64,650	\$27.13	\$56,430
Nuclear Engineers	\$30.72	\$63,900	\$30.95	\$64,380
Brokers, Real Estate	\$30.08	\$62,570	\$26.50	\$55,120
Chemical Engineers	\$29.92	\$62,230	\$28.08	\$58,400
Aeronautical & Astro Engineers	\$29.90	\$62,180	\$30.35	\$63,130
Math Scientists	\$28.50	\$59,290	\$20.26	\$42,150
Market/Adver/Public Rel Mgrs	\$28.10	\$58,450	\$27.45	\$57,100
Physical Therapists	\$28.06	\$58,360	\$26.95	\$56,060

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

jobs to meet the needs of the state's expanding population. In addition to the steady pressure of demographic change and the indispensable nature of its services, the lengthening of life expectancies and the expansion of services offered – e.g., sports medicine, cosmetic surgery, psychotherapy – will contribute to robust growth for this industry.

A glance at a few of the lowest-paying occupations in the OES survey, Ushers/Lobby Attendants/Ticket Takers (\$5.87 an hour), Combination Food Preparation/Service Workers (\$5.84 hourly), and Dining Room/Cafe Helper (\$5.75 an hour) – jobs requiring negligible skills – reinforces the perception that more education and a longer training period will result in higher wages for many Texans. In Texas, as elsewhere, education, training, and experience are the great equalizers and will reward those seeking upward mobility in the job market.

The success of a program such as the Occupational Employment and Wage Survey depends upon active participation, without which reliable results will not be available. Thanks to the state's employers, OES has emerged as one of the most viable responses to the needs of Texas business. Data from the 1997 survey will now provide counselors, economists, educators, and job seekers with useful information. Moreover, broader application of this data will denote the trend of occupational wages, make relative job and area comparisons possible, and help in monitoring the direction and health of regional and national economics.

For more information, please call the OES Unit toll-free at 1-800-252-3616 or check our Internet website: www.bls.gov/oes/state/oes_tx.htm.

**Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
Seasonally Adjusted⁺**

INDUSTRY TITLE	June 1999*	May 1999	June 1998	May '99 to June '99		June '98 to June '99	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
TOTAL NONAG. W&S EMPLOYMENT	9,177,200	9,155,900	8,926,600	21,300	0.2	250,600	2.8
GOODS PRODUCING	1,775,000	1,775,200	1,771,400	-200	0.0	3,600	0.2
Mining	152,400	153,200	168,200	-800	-0.5	-15,800	-9.4
Construction	524,000	523,500	495,000	500	0.1	29,000	5.9
Manufacturing	1,098,600	1,098,500	1,108,200	100	0.0	-9,600	-0.9
Durable Goods	674,200	672,900	675,600	1,300	0.2	-1,400	-0.2
Nondurable Goods	424,400	425,600	432,600	-1,200	-0.3	-8,200	-1.9
SERVICE PRODUCING	7,402,200	7,380,700	7,155,200	21,500	0.3	247,000	3.5
Transportation, Comm., Utilities	561,600	560,300	539,600	1,300	0.2	22,000	4.1
Trade	2,155,900	2,150,100	2,108,000	5,800	0.3	47,900	2.3
Wholesale Trade	532,900	532,600	517,700	300	0.1	15,200	2.9
Retail Trade	1,623,000	1,617,500	1,590,300	5,500	0.3	32,700	2.1
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	513,300	512,200	494,300	1,100	0.2	19,000	3.8
Services	2,630,000	2,615,300	2,510,100	14,700	0.6	119,900	4.8
Government	1,541,400	1,542,800	1,503,200	-1,400	-0.1	38,200	2.5

Note: The number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas is without reference to place of residence of workers.

*Estimates for the current month are preliminary. All estimates are subject to revision.

⁺All elements of seasonality are factored out to achieve an estimate which reflects the basic underlying trend.

TEXAS AND U.S. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

TEXAS*					UNITED STATES**			
Actual	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate
June '99	10,472,300	9,907,500	564,800	5.4	140,666,000	134,395,000	6,271,000	4.5
May '99	10,305,800	9,831,000	474,800	4.6	138,918,000	133,411,000	5,507,000	4.0
June '98	10,263,300	9,681,100	582,200	5.7	138,799,000	132,265,000	6,534,000	4.7
Seas. Adjusted	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate
June '99	10,330,400	9,848,500	481,900	4.7	139,407,000	133,432,000	5,975,000	4.3
May '99	10,363,500	9,850,800	512,700	4.9	139,019,000	133,224,000	5,795,000	4.2
June '98	10,122,200	9,624,600	497,600	4.9	137,498,000	131,253,000	6,245,000	4.5

Note: Only the actual series estimates for Texas and the U.S. are comparable to sub-state estimates. Current month estimates for Texas are preliminary. All estimates are subject to revision. In seasonally adjusted estimates all elements of seasonality are factored out to achieve an estimate which reflects the basic underlying trend.

*Source - Labor Market Information Department, Texas Workforce Commission (model-based methodology)

**Source - Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor (Current Population Survey)

Highlights of Local Area Unemployment Statistics

The Texas actual series unemployment rate rose eight-tenths of a percentage point, from 4.6 percent in May to 5.4 percent in June. An increase in the actual rate is typical for June and is mainly due to summer job seekers (primarily students) entering the labor market. While the over-the-month change appears large, it should be noted that the increase was the lowest percentage point change in the rate for the May to June time period since 1978. While June's rate is at its highest point since June of last year, it is still the lowest June rate since 1979.

The Civilian Labor Force annual growth rate fell from 2.8 percent in May to 2.0 percent in June. This is the lowest growth rate since November 1997 and the lowest rate for June since 1997.

The total number of employed Texans increased by more than 76,000 from May, reaching a level of 9,907,500—a new all-time high for Total Employment. Since June of last year, Texas' Total Employment figure has grown by over 226,500.

Total Unemployment in Texas also increased over the month, from 474,800 in May to 564,800 in June. While this represents an increase of almost 90,000, it is the smallest over-the-month change (positive or negative) for the May to June period since 1984.

Claims for unemployment benefits without earnings increased by over 2,400 to 112,900, the highest level for June since 1992. Agriculture; Construction; Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities; Trade; Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate; Services; and Government saw increases in weekly claims for unemployment benefits. Meanwhile, Manufacturing fell slightly over-the-month and Mining experienced its second straight monthly decrease in claims.

Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Ranked by Unemployment Rate June 1999

1	Bryan-College Station	2.4
2	Austin-San Marcos	2.6
3 (tie)	Dallas	3.6
	Forth Worth-Arlington	3.6
	San Antonio	3.6
6 (tie)	Killeen-Temple	4.0
	Waco	4.0
8 (tie)	Abilene	4.1
	Lubbock	4.1
10	Amarillo	4.6
11	Tyler	4.7
12	San Angelo	4.9
13	Sherman-Denison	5.0
14 (tie)	Victoria	5.1
	Wichita Falls	5.1
16	Houston	5.3
17	Corpus Christi	7.5
18	Galveston-Texas City	7.9
19	Longview-Marshall	8.0
20	Brazoria	8.1
21 (tie)	Beaumont-Port Arthur	10.3
	Laredo	10.3
23	Odessa-Midland	10.4
24	Brownsville-Harlingen	10.7
25	El Paso	10.8
26	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	15.1
	Texarkana data not available	

Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas (In Thousands)

	June 1999*				May 1999				June 1998			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
State of Texas	10,472.3	9,907.5	564.8	5.4	10,305.8	9,831.0	474.8	4.6	10,263.3	9,681.1	582.2	5.7
Abilene	63.0	60.4	2.6	4.1	62.5	60.2	2.3	3.7	61.8	59.2	2.6	4.3
Amarillo	116.6	111.3	5.3	4.6	114.7	111.3	3.4	2.9	114.3	109.3	5.0	4.4
Austin-San Marcos	707.9	689.3	18.6	2.6	703.0	687.5	15.5	2.2	683.1	661.8	21.3	3.1
Beaumont-Port Arthur	194.7	174.7	20.0	10.3	190.5	173.8	16.7	8.8	187.4	171.7	15.7	8.4
Brazoria	108.5	99.7	8.8	8.1	107.2	99.9	7.3	6.8	108.1	100.1	8.0	7.4
Brownsville-Harlingen	127.8	114.1	13.7	10.7	125.6	113.8	11.8	9.4	132.3	113.2	19.1	14.4
Bryan-College Station	72.5	70.8	1.7	2.4	76.9	75.5	1.4	1.8	70.4	68.8	1.6	2.2
Corpus Christi	182.5	168.8	13.7	7.5	178.4	166.8	11.6	6.5	181.1	166.1	15.0	8.3
Dallas	1,946.9	1,877.5	69.4	3.6	1,918.5	1,860.9	57.6	3.0	1,896.1	1,821.7	74.4	3.9
El Paso	297.3	265.2	32.1	10.8	291.2	263.6	27.6	9.5	293.5	260.3	33.2	11.3
Fort Worth-Arlington	921.7	888.7	33.0	3.6	903.7	876.0	27.7	3.1	893.9	859.1	34.8	3.9
Galveston-Texas City	128.0	117.9	10.1	7.9	124.6	116.2	8.4	6.7	128.8	118.5	10.3	8.0
Houston	2,209.4	2,091.8	117.6	5.3	2,172.8	2,073.1	99.7	4.6	2,164.0	2,057.0	107.0	4.9
Killeen-Temple	117.0	112.3	4.7	4.0	115.3	111.4	3.9	3.4	116.7	110.7	6.0	5.2
Laredo	77.1	69.1	8.0	10.3	75.5	69.0	6.5	8.5	74.0	66.2	7.8	10.6
Longview-Marshall	108.7	100.0	8.7	8.0	106.4	98.9	7.5	7.0	107.3	98.9	8.4	7.9
Lubbock	125.1	119.9	5.2	4.1	123.2	119.7	3.5	2.8	124.3	118.1	6.2	5.0
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	194.9	165.4	29.5	15.1	193.9	168.4	25.5	13.1	198.7	162.2	36.5	18.4
Odessa-Midland	132.1	118.4	13.7	10.4	129.8	117.8	12.0	9.2	130.5	122.5	8.0	6.1
San Angelo	53.8	51.2	2.6	4.9	53.0	50.7	2.3	4.4	52.2	50.1	2.1	4.0
San Antonio	786.9	758.7	28.2	3.6	773.2	751.3	21.9	2.8	769.9	734.3	35.6	4.6
Sherman-Denison	51.3	48.7	2.6	5.0	51.0	48.8	2.2	4.4	50.4	47.8	2.6	5.2
Tyler	93.2	88.8	4.4	4.7	91.4	87.7	3.7	4.1	91.2	85.9	5.3	5.8
Victoria	43.9	41.6	2.3	5.1	43.4	41.5	1.9	4.4	44.0	41.4	2.6	5.9
Waco	104.4	100.2	4.2	4.0	101.9	98.7	3.2	3.2	102.1	96.4	5.7	5.6
Wichita Falls	66.9	63.5	3.4	5.1	66.1	63.3	2.8	4.2	66.7	63.0	3.7	5.6
Texarkana data not available												

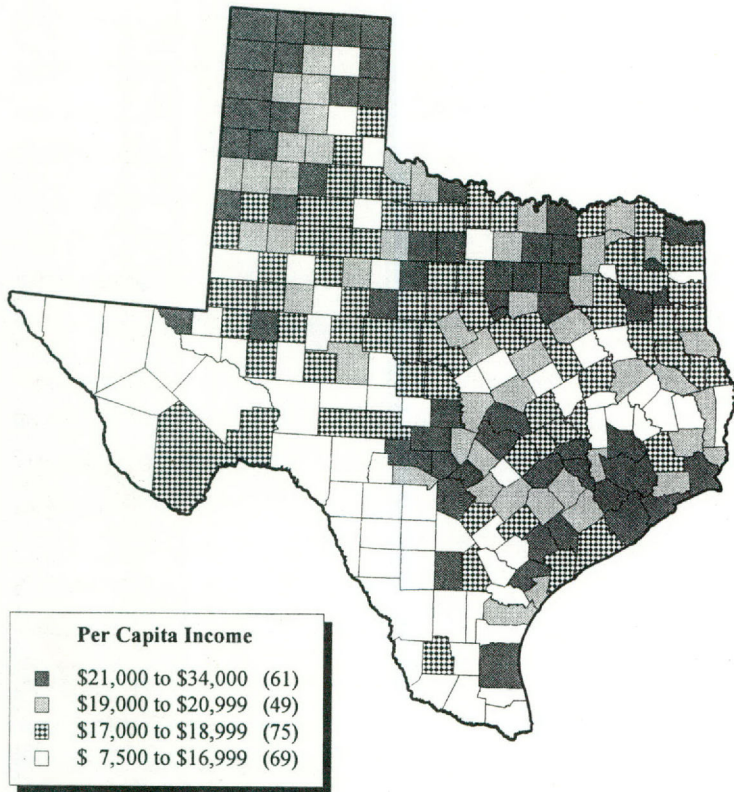
*Estimates for the current month are preliminary. All estimates are subject to revision. Estimates reflect actual (not seasonally adjusted) data. Civilian Labor Force (C.L.F.) includes wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family, domestics in private households, agricultural workers, workers involved in labor disputes and the unemployed, all by place of residence. Employment and Unemployment data are first rounded then added together to derive the rounded CLF total. Because of this rounding technique, this rounded total of the CLF may not agree with a rounding of the CLF total itself. Percent Unemployed is based upon unrounded Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment numbers. Estimates of the TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

	Jun. '99	May '99	Jun. '98	May'99 to Jun. '99		Jun. '98 to Jun. '99	
				Change	% Change	Change	% Change
TOTAL NONAG. W & S EMPLOYMENT	9,192,600	9,173,100	8,954,900	19,500	0.2	237,700	2.7
GOODS PRODUCING	1,786,400	1,773,100	1,783,900	13,300	0.8	2,500	0.1
Mining	153,200	152,600	168,500	600	0.4	-15,300	-9.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	144,700	144,200	159,900	500	0.3	-15,200	-9.5
Construction	530,400	522,900	501,600	7,500	1.4	28,800	5.7
Manufacturing	1,102,800	1,097,600	1,113,800	5,200	0.5	-11,000	-1.0
Durable Goods	676,900	672,900	679,600	4,000	0.6	-2,700	-0.4
Lumber & Wood Products	48,300	47,900	46,800	400	0.8	1,500	3.2
Lumber Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills	7,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.0	0	0.0
Furniture & Fixtures	19,900	19,800	19,100	100	0.5	800	4.2
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	44,600	44,100	43,100	500	1.1	1,500	3.5
Concrete, Gypsum, & Plaster Products	22,200	21,900	20,600	300	1.4	1,600	7.8
Primary Metal Industries	30,000	29,700	31,300	300	1.0	-1,300	-4.2
Fabricated Metal Industries	104,400	103,900	104,600	500	0.5	-200	-0.2
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	56,000	55,500	54,800	500	0.9	1,200	2.2
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	150,100	149,800	153,800	300	0.2	-3,700	-2.4
Oil & Gas Field Machinery	28,800	29,200	33,200	-400	-1.4	-4,400	-13.3
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	131,600	130,800	133,100	800	0.6	-1,500	-1.1
Transportation Equipment	85,700	84,900	84,700	800	0.9	1,000	1.2
Aircraft & Parts	44,800	44,700	45,800	100	0.2	-1,000	-2.2
Instruments & Related Products	40,900	40,800	42,200	100	0.2	-1,300	-3.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	21,400	21,200	20,900	200	0.9	500	2.4
Nondurable Goods	425,900	424,700	434,200	1,200	0.3	-8,300	-1.9
Food & Kindred Products	96,900	96,300	98,200	600	0.6	-1,300	-1.3
Meat Products	34,300	34,000	34,300	300	0.9	0	0.0
Dairy Products	5,000	4,900	5,100	100	2.0	-100	-2.0
Bakery Products	9,100	9,200	9,100	-100	-1.1	0	0.0
Malt Beverages	2,200	2,200	2,300	0	0.0	-100	-4.3
Textile Mill Products	4,000	3,900	3,900	100	2.6	100	2.6
Apparel & Other Finished Textile Products	47,100	47,600	53,200	-500	-1.1	-6,100	-11.5
Paper & Allied Products	28,700	28,600	29,800	100	0.3	-1,100	-3.7
Printing & Publishing	75,900	75,800	76,100	100	0.1	-200	-0.3
Newspapers, Periodicals, Books, & Miscellaneous	33,700	33,600	34,000	100	0.3	-300	-0.9
Chemicals & Allied Products	84,800	84,300	84,400	500	0.6	400	0.5
Petroleum & Coal Products	24,800	24,800	26,200	0	0.0	-1,400	-5.3
Petroleum Refining	20,900	21,000	22,300	-100	-0.5	-1,400	-6.3
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	57,200	56,900	55,700	300	0.5	1,500	2.7
Leather & Leather Products	6,500	6,400	6,700	100	1.6	-200	-3.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	7,406,200	7,400,000	7,171,000	6,200	0.1	235,200	3.3
Transportation, Communications, Utilities	562,700	559,700	541,900	3,000	0.5	20,800	3.8
Transportation	356,000	354,300	340,200	1,700	0.5	15,800	4.6
Railroad Transportation	17,300	17,300	17,400	0	0.0	-100	-0.6
Transportation by Air	116,300	115,300	109,200	1,000	0.9	7,100	6.5
Communications	136,400	135,500	130,600	900	0.7	5,800	4.4
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	70,300	69,900	71,100	400	0.6	-800	-1.1
Electric Services	31,100	30,900	31,300	200	0.6	-200	-0.6
Gas Production & Distribution	23,100	23,100	23,900	0	0.0	-800	-3.3
Trade	2,161,000	2,146,900	2,117,300	14,100	0.7	43,700	2.1
Wholesale Trade	534,400	532,300	519,700	2,100	0.4	14,700	2.8
Retail Trade	1,626,600	1,614,600	1,597,600	12,000	0.7	29,000	1.8
Building Materials & Gardening Supplies	67,400	67,000	63,800	400	0.6	3,600	5.6
General Merchandise Stores	206,000	203,400	205,300	2,600	1.3	700	0.3
Food Stores	248,800	245,700	247,300	3,100	1.3	1,500	0.6
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	167,500	166,600	165,800	900	0.5	1,700	1.0
Apparel & Accessory Stores	78,400	78,400	79,800	0	0.0	-1,400	-1.8
Home Furniture, Furnishings, & Equipment Stores	73,500	73,200	70,500	300	0.4	3,000	4.3
Eating & Drinking Places	615,100	610,100	596,200	5,000	0.8	18,900	3.2
Other Retail Trade	169,900	170,200	168,900	-300	-0.2	1,000	0.6
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	516,200	511,900	497,100	4,300	0.8	19,100	3.8
Depository Institutions including Banks	130,500	129,100	126,600	1,400	1.1	3,900	3.1
Insurance Carriers, Agents, Brokers, & Service	163,000	162,100	158,800	900	0.6	4,200	2.6
Other Finance Insurance & Real Estate	222,700	220,700	211,700	2,000	0.9	11,000	5.2
Services	2,651,800	2,621,600	2,538,500	30,200	1.2	113,300	4.5
Hotel & Other Lodging Places	97,200	95,100	94,900	2,100	2.2	2,300	2.4
Personal Services	85,500	85,800	86,200	-300	-0.3	-700	-0.8
Business Services	694,800	679,700	645,700	15,100	2.2	49,100	7.6
Auto Repair Services	89,500	88,300	86,100	1,200	1.4	3,400	3.9
Miscellaneous Repair Services	33,900	33,900	33,000	0	0.0	900	2.7
Amusement & Recreation, including Motion Pictures	136,100	131,700	134,300	4,400	3.3	1,800	1.3
Health Services	696,300	694,200	683,900	2,100	0.3	12,400	1.8
Legal Services	69,000	67,700	67,500	1,300	1.9	1,500	2.2
Educational Services	101,300	107,100	97,800	-5,800	-5.4	3,500	3.6
Social Services	184,400	184,100	174,700	300	0.2	9,700	5.6
Membership Organizations	146,800	142,400	140,100	4,400	3.1	6,700	4.8
Engineering & Management Services	249,800	246,200	231,200	3,600	1.5	18,600	8.0
Agricultural Services	56,000	54,800	53,200	1,200	2.2	2,800	5.3
Government	1,514,500	1,559,900	1,476,200	-45,400	-2.9	38,300	2.6
Federal	187,400	186,600	185,300	800	0.4	2,100	1.1
State	305,000	323,500	306,400	-18,500	-5.7	-1,400	-0.5
Local	1,022,100	1,049,800	984,500	-27,700	-2.6	37,600	3.8

*Estimates for the current month are preliminary. All estimates are subject to revision. The number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas is without reference to place of residence of workers. Estimates of the TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Per Capita Personal Income by County for 1997



Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

TLMR Editor: Clayton Griffis. Also contributing to this publication were: Bryce Bayles, Monique Beausoleil, Alan Cox, Mark Dermitt, Kathy DeLaRosa-Duran, Yassine El aammouri, Sandra Everett, Becky Frye, Jorge Garcia, Moses Garcia, Jennifer Hall, David Jesus, Katie Koch, John Kruse, Camile Pahwa, Rachel Tello-Sanchez, Felicia Svendsen, and John Villarreal.

Texas Workforce Commission Labor Market Information Department

What's New

The 1998 *Openings and Wages by Occupation* (OWBO) report is now available. This publication provides low, median, high, and average hourly wages by occupation, as well as number of openings, for those jobs posted with the Texas Workforce Commission during 1998. Data is available statewide and by Workforce Development Board Area (WDBA). Contact the LMI department for ordering information.

Contacting the LMI Department

Contact the Labor Market Information (LMI) Department for additional statistics at:

Phone (512) 491-4922
 Fax (512) 491-4904
 Website <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/lmi/lmi.html>
 E-mail lmi@twc.state.tx.us
 Fax-on-demand system (512) 491-4939

The *Texas Labor Market Review* (TLMR) is a monthly publication produced by the Labor Market Information Department of the Texas Workforce Commission. Material in the TLMR is not copyrighted and may be reproduced. The TWC would appreciate credit for the material used and a copy of the reprint. For a free subscription to the TLMR or to change your mailing address, mark the correct space below and fax to (512) 491-4906 or mail this page to LMI. Please make sure to return the old address label with any change.

like to subscribe cancel change address

Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

www.twc.state.tx.us/lmi/lmi.html

LMI DEPARTMENT
 TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION
 101 E 15TH ST STE 103A2
 AUSTIN TX 78778-0001

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
 PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Bulk Rate
 Postage and Fees Paid
 Texas Workforce Commission
 Permit No. G-12