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 4113 2003/01
 JANUARY 2003

INDICATORS

Texas Unemployment Rate		
Actual Series		
December 2002		5.7%
November 2002		6.1%
December 2001		5.2%
Seasonally Adjusted		
December 2002		6.2%
November 2002		6.3%
December 2001		5.7%
U.S. Unemployment Rate		
Actual Series		
December 2002		5.7%
November 2002		5.7%
December 2001		5.4%
Seasonally Adjusted		
December 2002		6.0%
November 2002		6.0%
December 2001		5.8%
Texas Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment		
Actual Series		
OTM Change	9,481,700	
	12,300	
OTY Change		-26,700
Seasonally Adjusted		
	9,410,600	
OTM Change		0
OTY Change		-26,400
Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits		
December 2002		98,257
November 2002		90,429
December 2001		96,547

Consumer Price Index (CPI)		
Annual Change		
U.S.	(Dec.)	2.4%
Dallas-Fort Worth	(Nov.)	1.2%
Houston-Galveston	(Dec.)	1.7%

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TEXAS

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Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Total Nonagricultural Employment in Texas was unchanged in December. Construction, Services and Government showed the largest employment increases over the month and helped to offset job losses in Manufacturing and Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities. Only minor fluctuations were noted in the remaining industries. Total Nonagricultural Employment ended 2002 with a preliminary annual growth rate of -.03 percent.

Employment in Construction increased by 2,100 jobs in December, its largest over-the-month gain since December 2000. *Heavy Construction* employment led the way with the addition of 800 jobs, while *Special Trade Contractors* and *General Building Contractors* gained 700 and 600 jobs respectively. Construction employment declined slightly over the year, losing 200 jobs since December 2001.

Following an increase of 1,500 jobs in November, the Services industry added 1,400 additional employees in December. *Personal Services, Engineering & Management Services*, and *Social Services* posted the largest growth within the industry. *Business Services* and *Health Services* experienced the largest drop over the month. Over the year, Services recorded a slight gain of 500 jobs.

Government employment grew by 1,300 positions in December. Employment within *State Government* contributed to the bulk of the growth with the addition of 1,400 jobs, followed by *Local Government* with a gain of

900 jobs. *Federal Government*, however, suffered its largest December decrease since 1992 as employment fell by 1,000 jobs. Annual growth for Total Government fell slightly to 2.2 percent, while year-to-date gains totaled 31,000 jobs.

Employment in Trade expanded by 500 positions in December, ending a string of six straight months of declining employment in the industry. *Wholesale Trade* employment fell by 100 jobs in December, while *Retail Trade* employment increased by 600. Though the annual growth rate for Trade employment has shown improvement for the fourth straight month, it ended the year at -0.5 percent.

Manufacturing posted a loss of 3,500 jobs in December. *Durable Goods* lost 2,600 positions, while *Nondurable Goods* experienced a drop of 900. All of the industries within *Durable Goods* recorded losses, with the most significant drop occurring in *Electronic Equipment*, which declined by 1,000 jobs over the month. The loss in *Nondurable Goods* was dispersed throughout the industry as well. Manufacturing has lost 33,900 jobs since December 2001.

Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (TCPU) continued to experience employment declines with a loss of 1,500 positions in December. This drop was small when compared to the loss of 7,200 jobs in TCPU in December 2001. Losses were concentrated within *Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services*. Employment in TCPU has fallen by 9,400 jobs since December 2001.

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

Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary employment within the Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) grew by 15,500 jobs in December. The Houston MSA led with an increase of 7,300 jobs, followed by the Dallas MSA and Fort Worth-Arlington MSA with a combined total of 5,200 additional jobs. *Retail Trade* was responsible for an upward surge of 20,100 jobs in the MSAs due to seasonal hiring.

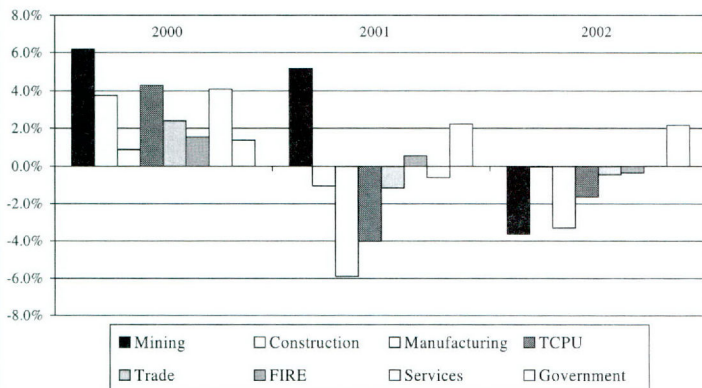
Offsetting job losses were reported in Manufacturing in some areas. The El Paso MSA lost 300 jobs in *Nondurable Good Manufacturing* attributed to several plant closings. The Dallas MSA lost 1,200 jobs in *Durable Goods Manufacturing* with an across the board downturn in this sector.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

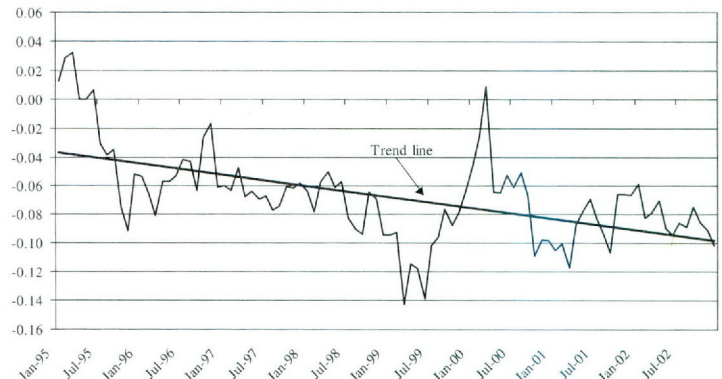
This will be the last release of monthly Nonagricultural Wage and Salary employment estimates under the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system of classifying industries. Beginning with our next release on March 7th (there will be no release in February), industry data will be provided using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Please see the article on page 3 for more details.



**Annual Growth Rates in December from 2000-2002
(Statewide, Seasonally Adjusted)**



**Annual Job Growth in Nondurable Goods Manufacturing
Continues to Decline in the El Paso MSA**



TEXAS AND U.S. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

TEXAS*					UNITED STATES**				
Actual	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	
December 2002	10,715,000	10,103,700	611,300	5.7	142,298,000	134,232,000	8,066,000	5.7	
November 2002	10,757,800	10,104,700	653,100	6.1	142,405,000	134,358,000	8,047,000	5.7	
December 2001	10,531,100	9,984,200	546,900	5.2	141,912,000	134,235,000	7,678,000	5.4	
Seas. Adjusted	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	
December 2002	10,722,300	10,053,400	668,900	6.2	142,542,000	133,952,000	8,590,000	6.0	
November 2002	10,752,000	10,074,500	677,500	6.3	142,733,000	134,225,000	8,508,000	6.0	
December 2001	10,541,900	9,937,500	604,400	5.7	142,314,000	134,055,000	8,259,000	5.8	

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)

**TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED⁺**

INDUSTRY TITLE	Dec. 2002*	Nov. 2002	Dec. 2001	Nov. '02 to Dec. '02		Dec. '01 to Dec. '02	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
TOTAL NONAG. W&S EMPLOYMENT	9,410,600	9,410,600	9,437,000	0	0.0	-26,400	-0.3
GOODS PRODUCING	1,705,900	1,707,000	1,745,900	-1,100	-0.1	-40,000	-2.3
Mining	156,500	156,200	162,400	300	0.2	-5,900	-3.6
Construction	558,300	556,200	558,500	2,100	0.4	-200	0.0
Manufacturing	991,100	994,600	1,025,000	-3,500	-0.4	-33,900	-3.3
Durable Goods	597,800	600,400	621,800	-2,600	-0.4	-24,000	-3.9
Nondurable Goods	393,300	394,200	403,200	-900	-0.2	-9,900	-2.5
SERVICE PRODUCING	7,704,700	7,703,600	7,691,100	1,100	0.0	13,600	0.2
Transportation, Comm., Utilities	565,800	567,300	575,200	-1,500	-0.3	-9,400	-1.6
Trade	2,230,000	2,229,500	2,240,300	500	0.0	-10,300	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	521,000	521,100	525,600	-100	0.0	-4,600	-0.9
Retail Trade	1,709,000	1,708,400	1,714,700	600	0.0	-5,700	-0.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	530,100	530,700	532,000	-600	-0.1	-1,900	-0.4
Services	2,742,400	2,741,000	2,741,900	1,400	0.1	500	0.0
Government	1,636,400	1,635,100	1,601,700	1,300	0.1	34,700	2.2

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.

The Goods Producing Sector and Wholesale Trade estimates are probability-based. (See text box on page 9 for more information)

Current Employment Statistics Program Prepares to Switch to NAICS

by Brandon L. Smith and Veronica S. Downey

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is in the process of converting business establishment classification from the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) structure to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in several programs. Covered Employment and Wages, also known as ES-202, was the first BLS program to change to this new system beginning with the publication of first quarter 2001 data. The second phase of implementation will be in the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. CES publishes estimates of employment, hours, and earnings for the nation, states, and metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) each month. The CES series is also used as a primary input for other key economic indicators.

BLS will begin releasing monthly statistics from the CES program under NAICS in 2003. All national CES employment, hours, and earnings series will begin publication under NAICS in June 2003 with the release of May 2003 preliminary estimates. Texas' data will be published in March 2003 with the release of the January 2003 data. A twelve-year NAICS historical series will also be released at the same time. Employment estimates will be available for all published levels of detail from 1990 to the present. However, BLS will only provide top-line level Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary figures for the period 1939 to 1989.

Concerning the hours and earnings series, no historical series will be available. Data for those series were not reconstructed; therefore, a series break will occur. The NAICS hours and earnings series will start in January 2001 with levels set from the probability sample averages. As in the SIC structure, hours and earnings data will only be available for certain publication levels within *Manufacturing* for the largest four MSAs: Dallas, Fort Worth-Arlington, Houston, and San Antonio. Publication levels for statewide data will vary.

Monthly employment estimates will continue to be provided at the statewide level and for the 27 metropolitan statistical areas. However, the level of detail of published data will change. Eight major division levels are currently published within the SIC system. NAICS has ten super-sector levels. BLS has also created one "expanded" super-sector. In the CES program, the super-sector of Trade, Transportation, and Utilities will be expanded into three separate super-sectors in order to provide better detail. Therefore, data will be available for (1) *Wholesale Trade*, (2) *Retail Trade*, and (3) *Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities* (see table 1).

BLS has guaranteed a minimum publication level for the MSAs to be the expanded super-sectors. For statewide data, the guaranteed levels are the expanded super-sectors plus the sectors. Guaranteed levels will be additive to

Goods Producing, Service Providing, Total Private, and Total Nonfarm employment levels. Most of the changes will occur in the Private Sector, however, some changes may also be seen in the Government Sector. Currently, at the statewide SIC level, 150 lines of data are published. Under NAICS, 174 lines of data will be available at the statewide level (see table 2).

Within NAICS, the Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary level will be tabulated in a slightly different manner than under SIC. Private Household (NAICS 814110) will continue to remain out of the CES scope. Under SIC structure, most of agriculture was eliminated with the exception of Veterinary Services (SIC 074), Animal Services (SIC 075), and Landscaping and Horticultural Services (SIC 078). Under NAICS structure, agriculture continues to be out of scope. Logging (NAICS 1133), which was included in agriculture, will be the exception. Logging will be added into the super-sector of Natural Resources and Mining.

Coinciding with the NAICS conversion, BLS will be converting the remainder of the Service Producing Sector to a probability-sample design in 2003. This will complete the final stages of the redesign effort, which began in 2001 with the conversion of Wholesale Trade. The Goods Producing Sector was added in 2002. The sample redesign contains improved techniques for estimating business births and deaths, improved sample solicitation techniques, as well as the application of a weight to each sample unit.

The North American Industry Classification System offers many advantages. NAICS was designed to focus on new and emerging industries; thereby, allowing future revisions to the system to accommodate those industries. Under the SIC structure the emphasis was on manufacturing, whereas under NAICS the emphasis is on services and information. Lastly, converting the CES program to NAICS will allow for the direct comparison of employment data between the U.S., Mexico and Canada.

Table 1

Total Nonfarm (all in-scope NAICS codes)
Total Private (total nonfarm less government)
Goods Producing (NAICS 1133, 21, 23, 31, 32, 33)
<i>Natural Resources and Mining (NAICS 1133 [logging], NAICS 21)</i>
<i>Construction (NAICS 23)</i>
<i>Manufacturing (NAICS 31-33)</i>
Service-Providing (NAICS 42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 22, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 61, 62, 71, 72, 81, Govt)
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (NAICS 42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 22)</i>
Wholesale Trade (NAICS 42)
Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (NAICS 48-49, 22)
<i>Information (NAICS 51)</i>
<i>Financial Activities (NAICS 52, 53)</i>
<i>Professional and Business Services (NAICS 54, 55, 56)</i>
<i>Educational and Health Services (NAICS 61, 62)</i>
<i>Leisure and Hospitality (NAICS 71, 72)</i>
<i>Other Services (NAICS 81)</i>
<i>Government (defined by ownerships 1, 2, 3)</i>
Federal Government
State Government
Local Government

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

Table 2

Total Nonfarm (all in-scope NAICS codes)	
Total Private (total nonfarm less government)	
Goods Producing (NAICS 1133, 21, 23, 31, 32, 33)	
Natural Resources and Mining (NAICS 1133 [logging], NAICS 21)	
<i>Mining (NAICS 21)</i>	
Oil and Gas Extraction (NAICS 211)	
Support Activities for Mining (NAICS 213)	
Construction (NAICS 23)	
Construction of Buildings (NAICS 236)	
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (NAICS 237)	
Utility System Construction (NAICS 2371)	
Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction (NAICS 2373)	
Specialty Trade Contractors (NAICS 238)	
Foundation, Structure, and Building (NAICS 2381)	
Building Equipment Contractors (NAICS 2382)	
Building Finishing Contractors (NAICS 2383)	
Other Specialty Trade Contractors (NAICS 2389)	
Manufacturing (NAICS 31-33)	
<i>Durable Goods</i>	
Wood Product Manufacturing (NAICS 321)	
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing (NAICS 327)	
Cement and Concrete Product Manufacturing (NAICS 3273)	
Primary Metal Manufacturing (NAICS 331)	
Iron and Steel Mills and Ferroalloy Manufacturing (NAICS 3311)	
Alumina and Aluminum Production and Processing (NAICS 3313)	
Foundries (NAICS 3315)	
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (NAICS 332)	
Architectural and Structural Metals (NAICS 3323)	
Machinery Manufacturing (NAICS 333)	
Agriculture, Construction, and Mining Machinery Manufacturing (NAICS 3331)	
Industrial Machinery Manufacturing (NAICS 3332)	
Ventilation, Heating, Air-Conditioning and Commercial Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturing (NAICS 3334)	
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing (NAICS 334)	
Computer and Peripheral Equipment Manufacturing (NAICS 3341)	
Communications Equipment Manufacturing (NAICS 3342)	
Semiconductor and Other Electronic Component Manufacturing (NAICS 3344)	
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical, and Control Instruments Manufacturing (NAICS 3345)	
Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing (NAICS 335)	
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing (NAICS 336)	
Motor Vehicle Manufacturing (NAICS 3361)	
Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing (NAICS 3363)	
Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing (NAICS 3364)	
Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing (NAICS 337)	
Household and Institutional Furniture and Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturing (NAICS 3371)	
Miscellaneous Manufacturing (NAICS 339)	
<i>Nondurable Goods</i>	
Food Manufacturing (NAICS 311)	
Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty Food Manufacturing (NAICS 3114)	
Animal Slaughtering and Processing (NAICS 3116)	
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing (NAICS 312)	
Apparel Manufacturing (NAICS 315)	
Cut and Sew Apparel Manufacturing (NAICS 3152)	
Paper Manufacturing (NAICS 322)	
Printing and Related Support Manufacturing (NAICS 323)	
Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing (NAICS 324)	
Chemical Manufacturing (NAICS 325)	
Basic Chemical Manufacturing (NAICS 3251)	
Resin, Synthetic Rubber, and Artificial and Synthetic Fibers and Filaments Manufacturing (NAICS 3252)	
Plastics and Rubber Manufacturing (NAICS 326)	
Service-Providing (NAICS 42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 22, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 61, 62, 71, 72, 81, Govt)	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (NAICS 42,44,45,48,49,22)	
Wholesale Trade (NAICS 42)	
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods (NAICS 423)	
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4231)	
Lumber and Other Construction Materials Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4233)	
Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4234)	
Electrical and Electronic Goods Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4236)	
Hardware, and Plumbing and Heating Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4237)	
Machinery, Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4238)	
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods (NAICS 424)	
Grocery and Related Product Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4244)	
Chemical and Allied Products Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 4246)	
Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)	
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers (NAICS 441)	
Automobile Dealers (NAICS 4411)	
Automotive Parts, Accessories, and Tire Stores (NAICS 4413)	
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores (NAICS 442)	
Electronics and Appliance Stores (NAICS 443)	
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers (NAICS 444)	
Building Material and Supplies Dealers (NAICS 4441)	
Food and Beverage Stores (NAICS 445)	
Grocery Stores (NAICS 4451)	
Health and Personal Care Stores (NAICS 446)	
Gasoline Stations (NAICS 447)	
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores (NAICS 448)	
Clothing Stores (NAICS 4481)	
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores (NAICS 451)	
General Merchandise Stores (NAICS 452)	
Department Stores (NAICS 4521)	
Other General Merchandise Stores (NAICS 4529)	
Miscellaneous Store Retailers (NAICS 453)	
Office Supplies, Stationary, and Gift Stores (NAICS 4532)	
Nonstore Retailers (NAICS 454)	
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (NAICS 48-49,22)	
<i>Transportation and Warehousing (NAICS 48,49)</i>	
Air Transportation (NAICS 481)	
Rail Transportation (NAICS 482)	
Truck Transportation (NAICS 484)	
General Freight Trucking (NAICS 4841)	
Specialized Freight Trucking (NAICS 4842)	
Pipeline Transportation (NAICS 486)	
Support Activities for Transportation (NAICS 488)	
Couriers and Messengers (NAICS 492)	
Warehousing and Storage (NAICS 493)	
<i>Utilities (NAICS 22)</i>	
Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution (NAICS 2211)	
Natural Gas Distribution (NAICS 2212)	
Information (NAICS 51)	
Publishing Industries (Except Internet) (NAICS 511)	
Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Database Publishers (NAICS 5111)	
Broadcasting (Except Internet) (NAICS 515)	
Radio and Television Broadcasting (NAICS 5151)	
Cable and Other Subscription Program Distribution (NAICS 5152)	
Telecommunications (NAICS 517)	
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals (NAICS 518)	
Financial Activities (NAICS 52,53)	
<i>Finance and Insurance (NAICS 52)</i>	
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities (NAICS 522)	
Depository Credit Intermediation (NAICS 5221)	
Nondepository Credit Intermediation (NAICS 5222)	
Securities, Commodities Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities (NAICS 523)	
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities (NAICS 524)	
Insurance Carriers (NAICS 5241)	
Agencies, Brokerages, and Other Insurance Related Activities (NAICS 5242)	
Funds, Trusts, and Other Financial Vehicles (NAICS 525)	
<i>Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (NAICS 53)</i>	
Real Estate (NAICS 531)	
Rental and Leasing Services (NAICS 532)	
Automotive Equipment Rental and Leasing Services (NAICS 5321)	
Professional and Business Services (NAICS 54,55,56)	
<i>Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (NAICS 54)</i>	
Legal Services (NAICS 5411)	
Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping and Payroll Services (NAICS 5412)	
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services (NAICS 5413)	
Computer Systems Design and Related Services (NAICS 5415)	
Management, Scientific, and Technical Consulting Services (NAICS 5416)	
<i>Management of Companies and Enterprises (NAICS 55)</i>	
<i>Administration and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (NAICS 56)</i>	
Administrative and Support Services (NAICS 561)	
Employment Services (NAICS 5613)	
Business Support Services (NAICS 5614)	
Investigation and Security Services (NAICS 5616)	
Services to Buildings and Dwellings (NAICS 5617)	
Waste Management and Remediation Services (NAICS 562)	
Educational and Health Services (NAICS 61,62)	
<i>Educational Services (NAICS 61)</i>	
Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools (NAICS 6113)	
<i>Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS 62)</i>	
Ambulatory Health Care Services (NAICS 621)	
Offices of Physicians (NAICS 6211)	
Home Health Care Services (NAICS 6216)	
Hospitals (NAICS 622)	
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities (NAICS 623)	
Social Assistance (NAICS 624)	
Child Day Care Services (NAICS 6244)	
Leisure and Hospitality (NAICS 71,72)	
<i>Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (NAICS 71)</i>	
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation (NAICS 713)	
<i>Accommodation and Food Services (NAICS 72)</i>	
Accommodation (NAICS 721)	
Food Services and Drinking Places (NAICS 722)	
Other Services (NAICS 81)	
Repair and Maintenance (NAICS 811)	
Personal and Laundry Services (NAICS 812)	
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations (NAICS 813)	
Government (defined by ownerships 1,2,3)	
<i>Federal Government</i>	
National Security	
U.S. Postal Service	
<i>State and Local Government</i>	
<i>State Government</i>	
State Education	
<i>Local Government</i>	
Local Education	

Highlights of the Texas Labor Force (Non-Seasonally Adjusted)

by Bryce Bayles, LMI Economist

The Texas actual series unemployment rate dropped four-tenths of percentage point to 5.7 percent in December. This matches April's rate for the second lowest rate of 2002 with only March's 5.6 percent ranking lower. The Texas rate remained below the national rate for the first quarter of 2002 but rose above the U.S. seven of the last nine months of the year, matching the U.S. rate in March and December at 5.7 percent. The United States unemployment rate remained flat for the second consecutive month, holding at 5.7 percent in December. December's U.S. rate was three-tenths of percentage point higher than last December's figure of 5.4 percent and was the highest national rate for the month since 1993 when it reached 6.1 percent.

➤ Employment decreased slightly by 1,000 from November's 10,104,700 to December's level of 10,103,700. The average over-the-month change from November to December is a gain of 11,150 (except during periods of economic slowdowns or declines) which has been true for eleven of the last thirteen years. During the past two years, employment has slipped by an average of 2,500. However, employment in Texas was at the highest recorded level ever for December and has remained above the 10 million mark nine of the twelve months of 2002.

➤ The number of unemployed Texans decreased by 41,800 over the month, from 653,100 in November to 611,300 in December. This reduction was more than twice last December's decline of 17,100. Even with this decline, however, December's unemployment level was the highest reported for the month since 1992's level of 652,100, and more than 64,000 higher than last year's level of 546,900.

➤ The number of claims for unemployment benefits without earnings rose by 4,900 over the month, from 166,800 in November to 171,700 in December. In comparing current claims levels with those at the beginning of the economic slowdown, claims in 2001 averaged 131,100 per month, or 42,300 fewer than 2002's average of 173,400. During 2001, continued claims increased throughout the year, showing gains in ten out of the twelve months. In 2002, claims levels began to show some decreases, with six of the months experiencing over-the-month reductions, a sign that layoffs may be starting to ease in the state. December's claims were 7,200 less than last year's level of 178,900.

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

	December 2002*				November 2002				December 2001			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
State of Texas	10,715.0	10,103.7	611.3	5.7	10,757.8	10,104.7	653.1	6.1	10,531.1	9,984.2	546.9	5.2
Abilene	56.1	54.0	2.1	3.8	56.6	54.3	2.3	4.0	56.2	54.3	1.9	3.4
Amarillo	112.1	108.3	3.8	3.4	112.9	108.8	4.1	3.6	112.2	108.8	3.4	3.1
Austin-San Marcos	771.7	734.9	36.8	4.8	776.6	736.6	40.0	5.1	759.1	723.9	35.2	4.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur	180.1	166.0	14.1	7.8	179.5	165.2	14.3	7.9	177.0	164.0	13.0	7.3
Brazoria	109.8	102.1	7.7	7.0	110.2	102.5	7.7	7.0	108.7	102.8	5.9	5.5
Brownsville-Harlingen	135.9	122.0	13.9	10.2	137.1	121.9	15.2	11.1	133.0	121.0	12.0	9.0
Bryan-College Station	80.3	78.9	1.4	1.7	81.1	79.6	1.5	1.8	79.6	78.5	1.1	1.4
Corpus Christi	176.9	167.4	9.5	5.4	177.8	167.4	10.4	5.8	173.0	163.7	9.3	5.4
Dallas	2,049.0	1,924.2	124.8	6.1	2,052.9	1,917.2	135.7	6.6	2,025.4	1,905.8	119.6	5.9
El Paso	284.7	261.6	23.1	8.1	288.1	262.8	25.3	8.8	281.6	260.9	20.7	7.4
Fort Worth-Arlington	948.0	896.4	51.6	5.4	952.3	896.3	56.0	5.9	938.3	892.9	45.4	4.8
Galveston-Texas City	118.3	110.2	8.1	6.9	119.2	110.7	8.5	7.2	117.2	110.1	7.1	6.0
Houston	2,259.4	2,138.2	121.2	5.4	2,272.8	2,142.7	130.1	5.7	2,216.9	2,116.8	100.1	4.5
Killeen-Temple	118.3	112.3	6.0	5.1	118.6	112.4	6.2	5.2	116.8	111.8	5.0	4.3
Laredo	78.5	73.3	5.2	6.6	78.2	73.0	5.2	6.6	76.0	71.1	4.9	6.4
Longview-Marshall	103.3	97.1	6.2	6.0	103.6	97.0	6.6	6.4	102.6	96.9	5.7	5.6
Lubbock	131.2	127.8	3.4	2.6	132.0	128.5	3.5	2.7	128.1	125.3	2.8	2.2
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	223.4	193.8	29.6	13.3	222.6	192.1	30.5	13.7	212.2	185.3	26.9	12.7
Odessa-Midland	122.6	116.3	6.3	5.1	123.7	116.8	6.9	5.6	120.5	115.7	4.8	4.0
San Angelo	51.8	50.1	1.7	3.2	51.8	49.8	2.0	3.8	50.3	49.0	1.3	2.7
San Antonio	807.6	769.5	38.1	4.7	813.9	772.7	41.2	5.1	791.9	758.4	33.5	4.2
Sherman-Denison	49.5	46.6	2.9	5.8	49.6	46.6	3.0	6.0	49.6	46.3	3.3	6.6
Texarkana	Data Not Available				Data Not Available				55.4	53.0	2.4	4.4
Tyler	95.8	91.8	4.0	4.2	95.8	91.6	4.2	4.4	93.9	89.6	4.3	4.6
Victoria	45.2	43.2	2.0	4.4	45.2	43.1	2.1	4.7	44.0	42.2	1.8	4.0
Waco	102.1	98.0	4.1	4.0	102.3	98.0	4.3	4.2	100.8	97.0	3.8	3.8
Wichita Falls	64.0	61.2	2.8	4.4	64.7	61.3	3.4	5.2	63.5	61.2	2.3	3.7

*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.

Employment and Unemployment Estimates for Texas Counties - December 2002

County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
Anderson	19,308	930	4.6	Donley	1,712	60	3.4	Kaufman	33,273	3,180	8.7	Real	1,362	49	3.5
Andrews	4,845	250	4.9	Duval	5,197	433	7.7	Kendall	16,982	478	2.7	Red River	4,731	430	8.3
Angelina	34,747	1,976	5.4	Eastland	9,519	354	3.6	Kenedy	231	5	2.1	Reeves	5,238	835	13.7
Aransas	10,085	620	5.8	Ector	56,961	3,990	6.5	Kent	361	11	3.0	Refugio	2,343	104	4.3
Archer	3,936	132	3.2	Edwards	809	35	4.1	Kerr	18,112	529	2.8	Roberts	392	4	1.0
Armstrong	1,095	11	1.0	Ellis	56,010	3,088	5.2	Kimble	2,352	40	1.7	Robertson	6,412	321	4.8
Atascosa	19,350	1,147	5.6	El Paso	261,594	23,124	8.1	King	175	4	2.2	Rockwall	22,996	1,293	5.3
Austin	14,515	512	3.4	Erath	17,020	416	2.4	Kinney	1,076	104	8.8	Runnels	4,730	151	3.1
Bailey	3,456	166	4.6	Falls	7,606	279	3.5	Kleberg	12,625	615	4.6	Rusk	21,194	1,103	4.9
Bandera	7,374	272	3.6	Fannin	12,662	1,077	7.8	Knox	1,789	40	2.2	Sabine	3,632	476	11.6
Bastrop	29,143	1,736	5.6	Fayette	11,113	332	2.9	Lamar	20,513	1,398	6.4	San Augustine	3,080	188	5.8
Baylor	1,533	82	5.1	Fisher	1,754	75	4.1	Lamb	6,539	290	4.2	San Jacinto	9,355	481	4.9
Bee	9,804	576	5.5	Floyd	2,807	188	6.3	Lampasas	10,368	350	3.3	San Patricio	28,632	1,615	5.3
Bell	91,503	4,994	5.2	Foard	657	33	4.8	La Salle	2,548	140	5.2	San Saba	2,668	58	2.1
Bexar	670,225	33,117	4.7	Fort Bend	189,680	8,393	4.2	Lavaca	7,992	146	1.8	Schleicher	1,591	42	2.6
Blanco	3,655	124	3.3	Franklin	4,659	184	3.8	Lee	6,339	323	4.8	Scurry	7,130	266	3.6
Borden	416	4	1.0	Freestone	8,385	412	4.7	Leon	6,342	452	6.7	Shackelford	1,370	55	3.9
Bosque	6,286	403	6.0	Frio	5,240	428	7.6	Liberty	28,421	2,492	8.1	Shelby	8,535	667	7.2
Bowie	36,945	2,038	5.2	Gaines	6,506	213	3.2	Limestone	9,905	452	4.4	Sherman	1,973	22	1.1
Brazoria	102,146	7,664	7.0	Galveston	110,247	8,130	6.9	Lipscomb	1,486	33	2.2	Smith	91,832	4,007	4.2
Brazos	78,897	1,389	1.7	Garza	2,898	84	2.8	Live Oak	4,461	128	2.8	Somervell	2,094	213	9.2
Brewster	5,930	128	2.1	Gillespie	10,242	202	1.9	Llano	5,156	197	3.7	Starr	17,874	4,982	21.8
Briscoe	841	35	4.0	Glasscock	724	18	2.4	Loving	51	2	3.8	Stephens	3,475	308	8.1
Brooks	3,640	224	5.8	Goliad	2,626	124	4.5	Lubbock	127,825	3,363	2.6	Sterling	555	18	3.1
Brown	17,214	669	3.7	Gonzales	7,459	350	4.5	Lynn	2,551	80	3.0	Stonewall	547	20	3.5
Burleson	7,225	332	4.4	Gray	8,381	393	4.5	Mc Culloch	3,106	124	3.8	Sutton	2,137	42	1.9
Burnet	14,699	766	5.0	Grayson	46,573	2,862	5.8	Mc Lennan	97,972	4,071	4.0	Swisher	3,379	124	3.5
Caldwell	16,609	953	5.4	Gregg	55,079	3,503	6.0	Mc Mullen	292	9	3.0	Tarrant	774,538	44,628	5.4
Calhoun	8,854	673	7.1	Grimes	8,001	715	8.2	Madison	4,317	155	3.5	Taylor	53,998	2,127	3.8
Callahan	6,524	230	3.4	Guadalupe	43,522	2,098	4.6	Marion	3,001	270	8.3	Terrell	636	31	4.6
Cameron	121,955	13,924	10.2	Hale	16,456	700	4.1	Martin	1,766	55	3.0	Terry	5,431	244	4.3
Camp	5,366	408	7.1	Hall	1,934	44	2.2	Mason	1,461	22	1.5	Throckmorton	697	24	3.3
Carson	3,090	106	3.3	Hamilton	4,462	122	2.7	Matagorda	14,561	1,881	11.4	Titus	12,716	741	5.5
Cass	13,655	1,181	8.0	Hansford	2,427	64	2.6	Maverick	14,225	5,004	26.0	Tom Green	50,144	1,657	3.2
Castro	3,203	117	3.5	Hardeman	1,791	82	4.4	Medina	14,880	738	4.7	Travis	479,870	24,587	4.9
Chambers	11,710	564	4.6	Hardin	21,758	1,819	7.7	Menard	842	22	2.5	Trinity	4,768	235	4.7
Cherokee	18,321	848	4.4	Harris	1,751,007	102,253	5.5	Midland	59,339	2,292	3.7	Tyler	6,006	771	11.4
Childress	2,881	84	2.8	Harrison	25,903	1,622	5.9	Milam	9,091	600	6.2	Upshur	16,088	1,087	6.3
Clay	5,309	179	3.3	Hartley	2,958	27	0.9	Mills	2,539	40	1.6	Upton	1,586	69	4.2
Cochran	1,115	73	6.1	Haskell	3,288	104	3.1	Mitchell	3,319	144	4.2	Uvalde	9,745	917	8.6
Coke	1,434	24	1.6	Hays	54,642	2,703	4.7	Montague	6,529	374	5.4	Val Verde	17,820	1,309	6.8
Coleman	2,829	193	6.4	Hemphill	1,899	27	1.4	Montgomery	144,724	6,687	4.4	Van Zandt	20,336	1,068	5.0
Collin	284,200	17,688	5.9	Henderson	30,345	1,435	4.5	Moore	9,306	334	3.5	Victoria	43,183	1,996	4.4
Collingsworth	1,663	13	0.8	Hidalgo	193,815	29,623	13.3	Morris	6,009	810	11.9	Walker	22,170	563	2.5
Colorado	8,089	319	3.8	Hill	14,883	1,032	6.5	Motley	773	13	1.7	Waller	12,706	778	5.8
Comal	39,993	2,256	5.3	Hockley	11,624	412	3.4	Nacogdoches	27,712	953	3.3	Ward	3,453	303	8.1
Comanche	6,364	177	2.7	Hood	17,206	1,062	5.8	Navarro	21,186	1,108	5.0	Washington	14,708	394	2.6
Concho	1,583	27	1.7	Hopkins	13,739	660	4.6	Newton	4,719	982	17.2	Webb	73,345	5,170	6.6
Cooke	18,197	678	3.6	Houston	10,250	421	3.9	Nolan	6,684	275	4.0	Wharton	18,192	990	5.2
Coryell	20,775	1,033	4.7	Howard	13,943	649	4.4	Nueces	138,765	7,915	5.4	Wheeler	2,607	84	3.1
Cottle	828	44	5.0	Hudspeth	1,382	75	5.1	Ochiltree	4,670	120	2.5	Wichita	57,236	2,697	4.5
Crane	1,274	217	14.6	Hunt	36,208	2,257	5.9	Oldham	1,246	29	2.3	Wilbarger	7,577	224	2.9
Crockett	1,727	51	2.9	Hutchinson	8,666	578	6.3	Orange	37,333	3,621	8.8	Willacy	5,006	913	15.4
Crosby	3,034	109	3.5	Irion	790	24	2.9	Palo Pinto	11,135	605	5.2	Williamson	154,653	6,860	4.2
Culberson	974	84	7.9	Jack	2,985	93	3.0	Panola	7,892	558	6.6	Wilson	15,779	591	3.6
Dallam	3,547	77	2.1	Jackson	8,061	284	3.4	Parker	42,789	1,957	4.4	Winkler	2,659	266	9.1
Dallas	1,206,067	84,807	6.6	Jasper	12,123	1,718	12.4	Parmer	4,381	100	2.2	Wise	25,825	1,037	3.9
Dawson	6,259	257	3.9	Jeff Davis	1,217	31	2.5	Pecos	5,707	339	5.6	Wood	14,063	775	5.2
Deaf Smith	7,061	374	5.0	Jefferson	106,862	8,661	7.5	Polk	13,651	1,010	6.9	Yoakum	2,843	122	4.1
Delta	2,317	120	4.9	Jim Hogg	1,982	142	6.7	Potter	51,812	3,007	5.5	Young	7,531	392	4.9
Denton	255,129	11,015	4.1	Jim Wells	18,495	1,193	6.1	Presidio	2,549	667	20.7	Zapata	4,716	419	8.2
De Witt	8,433	348	4.0	Johnson	61,871	3,918	6.0	Rains	3,615	230	6.0	Zavala	3,758	682	15.4
Dickens	668	24	3.5	Jones	8,784	272	3.0	Randall	56,530	754	1.3				
Dimmit	3,370	399	10.6	Karnes	5,809	257	4.2	Reagan	1,708	42	2.4				

Estimates reflect actual (not seasonally adjusted) data. Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. To obtain the civilian labor force, add total employment to total unemployment. Estimates of the TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Employment and Unemployment Estimates for Texas Cities - December 2002

City	Emp	Unemp	Rate	City	Emp	Unemp	Rate	City	Emp	Unemp	Rate	City	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Abilene	47,687	1,972	4.0	Denton	56,737	3,599	6.0	La Joya	1,129	276	19.6	Quanah	1,116	59	5.0
Addison	8,014	423	5.0	Diboll	1,669	193	10.4	La Marque	6,569	706	9.7	Rankin	358	22	5.8
Alamo	2,487	250	9.1	Dickinson	4,802	430	8.2	La Porte	17,341	749	4.1	Raymondville	2,495	486	16.3
Alamo Heights	4,239	106	2.4	Donna	5,868	1,188	16.8	Lago Vista	1,526	87	5.4	Rendon	4,818	228	4.5
Aldine	6,070	428	6.6	Dripping Springs	832	22	2.6	Lake Jackson	13,608	643	4.5	Richardson	55,616	2,773	4.7
Alice	9,770	621	6.0	Dumas	6,785	250	3.6	Lakeway	2,934	79	2.6	Richland Hills	4,952	201	3.9
Allen	19,627	1,121	5.4	Duncanville	23,821	1,196	4.8	Lamesa	4,620	230	4.7	Richmond	7,347	691	8.6
Alton	1,432	260	15.4	Eagle Pass	8,452	2,618	23.6	Lampasas	4,490	200	4.3	Rio Grande City	4,996	1,034	17.1
Alvarado	1,588	55	3.3	Edcouch	1,178	325	21.6	Lancaster	13,998	837	5.6	River Oaks	3,644	284	7.2
Alvin	10,714	714	6.2	Edinburg	16,978	2,261	11.8	Laredo	68,754	4,704	6.4	Roanoke	1,434	62	4.1
Amarillo	90,235	3,398	3.6	El Campo	4,638	290	5.9	League City	17,812	564	3.1	Robert Lee	538	9	1.6
Anderson Mill	10,882	537	4.7	El Paso	235,929	19,922	7.8	Leander	3,593	101	2.7	Robinson	4,320	80	1.8
Andrews	3,567	194	5.2	Eldorado	999	35	3.4	Leon Valley	6,497	207	3.1	Robstown	4,476	386	7.9
Angleton	9,495	729	7.1	Electra	1,291	68	5.0	Levelland	6,798	229	3.3	Rockdale	1,889	118	5.9
Arlington	189,226	9,472	4.8	Elgin	3,229	266	7.6	Lewisville	45,482	1,746	3.7	Rockwall	9,413	683	6.8
Athens	6,020	293	4.6	Elsa	2,474	352	12.5	Liberty	4,148	569	12.1	Rosenberg	15,866	892	5.3
Atlanta	2,977	206	6.5	Ennis	8,514	535	5.9	Linden	1,062	78	6.8	Round Rock	35,312	1,448	3.9
Austin	388,011	21,237	5.2	Eules	29,902	1,224	3.9	Littlefield	2,792	129	4.4	Rowlett	16,759	571	3.3
Azle	5,739	324	5.3	Everman	3,408	335	9.0	Live Oak	6,794	178	2.6	Saginaw	5,584	438	7.3
Balch Springs	10,689	611	5.4	Fabens	1,954	253	11.5	Llano	1,652	81	4.7	San Angelo	42,451	1,500	3.4
Bastrop	2,914	263	8.3	Fairfield	1,673	60	3.5	Lockhart	5,539	376	6.4	San Antonio	525,410	28,314	5.1
Bay City	7,335	959	11.6	Falfurrias	2,448	79	3.1	Longview	37,248	2,448	6.2	San Benito	9,311	1,116	10.7
Baytown	34,803	2,339	6.3	Farmers Branch	16,639	993	5.6	Lubbock	107,965	2,857	2.6	San Juan	5,539	777	12.3
Beaumont	52,692	4,129	7.3	First Colony	15,623	322	2.0	Lufkin	15,302	827	5.1	San Marcos	22,833	1,668	6.8
Bedford	34,150	1,184	3.4	Flower Mound	13,858	499	3.5	Lumberton	4,110	207	4.8	Santa Fe	4,412	242	5.2
Beeville	5,383	372	6.5	Forest Hill	6,979	424	5.7	Mc Allen	50,193	5,253	9.5	Schertz	7,422	343	4.4
Bellaire	9,938	216	2.1	Fort Stockton	3,358	227	6.3	Mc Gregor	2,286	82	3.5	Seabrook	5,434	216	3.8
Bellmead	4,105	144	3.4	Fort Worth	267,644	20,667	7.2	Mc Kinney	18,916	2,106	10.0	Seagoville	4,751	377	7.4
Belton	6,327	335	5.0	Fredericksburg	3,802	76	2.0	Mansfield	9,877	518	5.0	Seguin	11,107	746	6.3
Benbrook	13,811	497	3.5	Freeport	5,303	781	12.8	Marble Falls	2,926	107	3.5	Seminole	3,236	76	2.3
Bertram	509	46	8.3	Friendswood	14,144	498	3.4	Marlin	2,686	130	4.6	Sherman	15,691	1,064	6.4
Big Lake	1,329	39	2.9	Frisco	6,270	466	6.9	Marshall	10,241	650	6.0	Silsbee	3,222	316	8.9
Big Spring	9,540	499	5.0	Gainesville	7,820	345	4.2	Marshall Creek	231	16	6.5	Sinton	2,361	161	6.4
Blanco	691	31	4.3	Galena Park	4,863	345	6.6	Mason	803	21	2.5	Smithville	2,066	140	6.3
Bonham	2,992	354	10.6	Galveston	28,636	2,796	8.9	Mathis	2,006	198	9.0	Snyder	4,768	193	3.9
Borger	5,318	415	7.2	Garland	123,185	6,635	5.1	Memphis	1,184	33	2.7	Socorro	9,009	1,354	13.1
Bowie	1,818	118	6.1	Gatesville	3,349	145	4.1	Menard	578	22	3.7	Sonora	1,423	26	1.8
Brady	1,939	88	4.3	Georgetown	14,701	800	5.2	Mercedes	5,803	1,118	16.2	South Houston	7,347	515	6.6
Brenham	6,302	198	3.0	Gladewater	2,763	237	7.9	Merkel	1,102	64	5.5	South Padre Island	1,280	43	3.3
Bridge City	3,776	330	8.0	Glen Rose	590	109	15.6	Mertzon	353	10	2.8	Southlake	5,020	149	2.9
Bridgeport	2,366	99	4.0	Graham	3,729	198	5.0	Mesquite	68,178	3,549	4.9	Spring	21,931	805	3.5
Brownsville	45,056	6,048	11.8	Granbury	2,413	105	4.2	Mexia	3,158	163	4.9	Stafford	7,510	331	4.2
Brownwood	8,773	402	4.4	Grand Prairie	64,062	4,178	6.1	Midland	50,039	1,912	3.7	Stanton	911	33	3.5
Bryan	37,440	669	1.8	Grapevine	21,601	654	2.9	Midlothian	3,438	192	5.3	Stephenville	8,338	247	2.9
Buda	1,582	50	3.1	Greenville	12,872	797	5.8	Mineral Wells	6,251	424	6.4	Sterling City	414	18	4.2
Burkburnett	5,056	281	5.3	Gregory	1,289	81	5.9	Mission Bend	19,827	646	3.2	Sugar Land	21,439	780	3.5
Burleson	10,643	656	5.8	Groesbeck	1,474	72	4.7	Mission	14,058	1,777	11.2	Sulphur Springs	6,546	380	5.5
Cameron	2,138	182	7.8	Groves	7,234	347	4.6	Missouri City	32,891	943	2.8	Sweetwater	4,723	221	4.5
Canyon	6,956	114	1.6	Haltom City	20,966	1,178	5.3	Monahans	2,150	196	8.4	Taylor	10,444	814	7.2
Canyon Lake	7,284	571	7.3	Harker Heights	6,529	218	3.2	Mount Pleasant	6,492	264	3.9	Temple	26,925	1,068	3.8
Carrollton	71,451	2,793	3.3	Harlingen	25,884	2,057	7.4	Mount Vernon	1,234	71	5.4	Terrell	7,120	1,009	12.4
Carthage	2,322	165	6.6	Haslet	583	22	3.6	Nacogdoches	15,563	627	3.9	Texarkana	13,542	895	6.2
Cedar Hill	12,987	511	3.8	Henderson	5,483	268	4.7	Navasota	2,877	209	6.8	Texas City	19,486	1,706	8.1
Cedar Park	5,551	345	5.9	Henrietta	1,522	66	4.2	Nederland	8,319	307	3.6	The Colony	19,356	893	4.4
Channelview	14,745	876	5.6	Hereford	5,331	351	6.2	New Braunfels	20,249	1,118	5.2	The Woodlands	23,954	664	2.7
Clarksville	1,444	164	10.2	Hewitt	5,926	80	1.3	Nocona	1,079	58	5.1	Trophy Club	3,636	110	2.9
Cleburne	12,673	1,099	8.0	Hidalgo	1,375	164	10.7	N Richland Hills	32,985	1,435	4.2	Tyler	45,564	2,363	4.9
Clifton	1,276	71	5.3	Highland Park	4,819	115	2.3	Odessa	43,775	3,013	6.4	Universal City	7,909	268	3.3
Cloverleaf	10,789	729	6.3	Highland Village	6,173	217	3.4	Olney	1,228	74	5.7	University Park	13,408	404	2.9
Clute	5,065	348	6.4	Hillsboro	3,568	316	8.1	Orange	8,174	846	9.4	Uvalde	5,939	653	9.9
College Station	31,388	582	1.8	Houston	1,005,256	70,449	6.5	Ozona	1,378	46	3.2	Vernon	5,767	183	3.1
Colleyville	8,633	263	3.0	Humble	8,229	351	4.1	Paducah	636	42	6.2	Victoria	32,023	1,572	4.7
Columbus	1,414	49	3.3	Huntsville	11,907	358	2.9	Paint Rock	149	2	1.3	Vidor	5,116	403	7.3
Commerce	3,537	339	8.7	Hurst	23,675	1,295	5.2	Palacios	1,530	346	18.4	Waco	49,208	2,705	5.2
Conroe	21,810	1,068	4.7	Iowa Park	3,016	127	4.0	Palestine	8,930	442	4.7	Waller	807	33	3.9
Converse	5,575	191	3.3	Irving	114,550	6,619	5.5	Pampa	6,994	319	4.4	Watauga	13,714	438	3.1
Cooper	903	92	9.2	Jacinto City	4,436	485	9.9	Paris	10,837	827	7.1	Waxahachie	11,339	781	6.4
Coppell	12,407	302	2.4	Jacksonville	5,672	305	5.1	Pasadena	68,963	4,319	5.9	Weatherford	9,098	390	4.1
Copperas Cove	10,316	569	5.2	Jasper	2,841	298	9.5	Pearland	11,847	526	4.3	Webster	3,695	88	2.3
Corpus Christi	124,777	7,059	5.4	Johnson City	520	27	4.9	Pearsall	2,575	285	10.0	Wells Branch	7,764	181	2.3
Corsicana	12,167	685	5.3	Jonestown	987	75	7.1	Pecan Grove	8,416	213	2.5	Weslaco	10,912	2,136	16.4
Cotulla	1,786	96	5.1	Junction	1,424	32	2.2	Pecos	4,041	748	15.6	West Odessa	7,304	526	6.7
Crane	979	176	15.2	Katy	4,947	151	3.0	Perryton	3,887	109	2.7	West University Pl	8,283	109	1.3
Crockett	3,464	187	5.1	Keller	9,483	268	2.7	Pflugerville	3,888	106	2.7	Wharton	3,798	293	7.2
Crowley	4,502	252	5.3	Kennedale	2,657	89	3.2	Pharr	14,967	2,802	15.8	White Settlement	9,105	525	5.5
Cuero	2,810	143	4.8	Kermit	2,048	226	9.9	Plainview	10,518	429	3.9	Wichita Falls	44,224	2,132	4.6
Dalhart	4,351	83	1.9	Kerrville	8,110	272	3.2	Plano	140,150	7,434	5.0	Wink	398	22	5.2
Dallas	658,269	54,801	7.9	Kilgore	5,830	346	5.6	Pleasanton	4,792	297	5.8	Woodway	5,440	57	1.0
Daingerfield	1,133	168	12.7	Killeen	26,293	2,375	8.3	Port Arthur	22,303	3,018	11.9	Wylie	8,496	613	6.7
De Soto	21,374	959	4.3	Kingsville	10,684	529	4.7	Port Isabel	2,544	184	6.7	Yoakum	2,415	75	3.0
Deer Park	17,363	761	4.2	Kingwood	22,999	450	1.9	Port Lavaca	4,983	478	8.8				
Del Rio	14,736	1,133	7.1	Kirby	5,126	292	5.4	Port Neches	6,444	368	5.4				
Denison	10,067	691	6.4	Kyle	1,531	116	7.0	Portland	7,416	231	3.0				

Estimates reflect actual (not seasonally adjusted) data. Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. To obtain the civilian labor force, add total employment to total unemployment. Estimates of the TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

				Nov. '02 to Dec. '02		Dec. '01 to Dec. '02	
	Dec. '02	Nov. '02	Dec. '01	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
TOTAL NONAG. W & S EMPLOYMENT	9,481,700	9,469,400	9,508,400	12,300	0.1	-26,700	-0.3
GOODS PRODUCING	1,703,500	1,707,500	1,743,900	-4,000	-0.2	-40,400	-2.3
Mining	156,700	156,200	162,700	500	0.3	-6,000	-3.7
<i>Oil & Gas Extraction</i>	147,900	147,400	153,600	500	0.3	-5,700	-3.7
Construction	553,400	555,100	553,700	-1,700	-0.3	-300	-0.1
Manufacturing	993,400	996,200	1,027,500	-2,800	-0.3	-34,100	-3.3
Durable Goods	598,100	600,800	622,100	-2,700	-0.4	-24,000	-3.9
Lumber & Wood Products	44,000	44,500	45,200	-500	-1.1	-1,200	-2.7
<i>Lumber Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills</i>	6,000	6,000	6,800	0	0.0	-800	-11.8
Furniture & Fixtures	19,200	19,000	19,800	200	1.1	-600	-3.0
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	45,900	46,300	46,300	-400	-0.9	-400	-0.9
Concrete, Gypsum, & Plaster Products	24,300	24,600	24,500	-300	-1.2	-200	-0.8
Primary Metal Industries	28,500	28,500	30,000	0	0.0	-1,500	-5.0
Fabricated Metal Industries	97,100	97,500	100,600	-400	-0.4	-3,500	-3.5
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	52,500	52,700	53,400	-200	-0.4	-900	-1.7
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	128,300	128,700	131,900	-400	-0.3	-3,600	-2.7
Oil & Gas Field Machinery	30,500	30,500	31,300	0	0.0	-800	-2.6
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	111,300	112,100	121,500	-800	-0.7	-10,200	-8.4
Transportation Equipment	72,100	72,400	73,400	-300	-0.4	-1,300	-1.8
Aircraft & Parts	37,800	37,700	39,200	100	0.3	-1,400	-3.6
Instruments & Related Products	33,300	33,200	34,100	100	0.3	-800	-2.3
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	18,400	18,600	19,300	-200	-1.1	-900	-4.7
Nondurable Goods	395,300	395,400	405,400	-100	0.0	-10,100	-2.5
Food & Kindred Products	99,900	99,900	100,100	0	0.0	-200	-0.2
Meat Products	37,200	37,300	36,800	-100	-0.3	400	1.1
Dairy Products	5,400	5,300	5,300	100	1.9	100	1.9
Bakery Products	9,900	10,000	9,700	-100	-1.0	200	2.1
Malt Beverages	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	0.0	-100	-5.6
Textile Mill Products	3,800	3,900	4,000	-100	-2.6	-200	-5.0
Apparel & Other Finished Textile Products	29,400	29,500	34,400	-100	-0.3	-5,000	-14.5
Paper & Allied Products	26,600	26,600	27,400	0	0.0	-800	-2.9
Printing & Publishing	72,500	72,500	73,200	0	0.0	-700	-1.0
Newspapers, Periodicals, Books, & Miscellaneous	34,700	34,600	34,500	100	0.3	200	0.6
Chemicals & Allied Products	80,700	81,100	81,700	-400	-0.5	-1,000	-1.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	24,900	24,800	24,900	100	0.4	0	0.0
Petroleum Refining	21,400	21,300	21,200	100	0.5	200	0.9
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	52,700	52,400	54,400	300	0.6	-1,700	-3.1
Leather & Leather Products	4,600	4,500	5,200	100	2.2	-600	-11.5
SERVICE PRODUCING	7,778,200	7,761,900	7,764,500	16,300	0.2	13,700	0.2
Transportation, Communications, Utilities	571,500	570,700	580,800	800	0.1	-9,300	-1.6
Transportation	356,200	354,900	357,500	1,300	0.4	-1,300	-0.4
Railroad Transportation	15,700	15,700	16,000	0	0.0	-300	-1.9
Transportation by Air	115,200	114,700	115,900	500	0.4	-700	-0.6
Communications	141,200	141,300	148,300	-100	-0.1	-7,100	-4.8
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	74,100	74,500	75,000	-400	-0.5	-900	-1.2
Electric Services	35,400	35,400	35,600	0	0.0	-200	-0.6
Gas Production & Distribution	21,000	21,500	22,000	-500	-2.3	-1,000	-4.5
Trade	2,278,500	2,257,600	2,289,800	20,900	0.9	-11,300	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	522,200	521,500	527,000	700	0.1	-4,800	-0.9
Retail Trade	1,756,300	1,736,100	1,762,800	20,200	1.2	-6,500	-0.4
Building Materials & Gardening Supplies	68,100	67,900	65,800	200	0.3	2,300	3.5
General Merchandise Stores	238,800	234,400	244,500	4,400	1.9	-5,700	-2.3
Food Stores	244,600	243,300	255,800	1,300	0.5	-11,200	-4.4
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	177,600	178,000	178,100	-400	-0.2	-500	-0.3
Apparel & Accessory Stores	93,000	86,900	92,200	6,100	7.0	800	0.9
Home Furniture, Furnishings, & Equipment Stores	88,000	86,700	87,500	1,300	1.5	500	0.6
Eating & Drinking Places	650,200	647,600	640,700	2,600	0.4	9,500	1.5
Other Retail Trade	196,000	191,300	198,200	4,700	2.5	-2,200	-1.1
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	530,400	530,300	532,300	100	0.0	-1,900	-0.4
Depository Institutions including Banks	132,500	132,600	132,500	-100	-0.1	0	0.0
Insurance Carriers, Agents, Brokers, & Service	165,300	165,100	165,400	200	0.1	-100	-0.1
Other Finance Insurance & Real Estate	232,600	232,600	234,400	0	0.0	-1,800	-0.8
Services	2,737,500	2,739,800	2,737,000	-2,300	-0.1	500	0.0
Hotel & Other Lodging Places	92,700	93,300	92,200	-600	-0.6	500	0.5
Personal Services	95,900	92,500	97,100	3,400	3.7	-1,200	-1.2
Business Services	660,800	662,000	687,200	-1,200	-0.2	-26,400	-3.8
Auto Repair Services	95,000	95,100	94,400	-100	-0.1	600	0.6
Miscellaneous Repair Services	33,800	33,500	34,300	300	0.9	-500	-1.5
Amusement & Recreation, including Motion Pictures	110,200	111,700	111,800	-1,500	-1.3	-1,600	-1.4
Health Services	745,000	745,400	730,300	-400	-0.1	14,700	2.0
Legal Services	71,500	71,400	71,100	100	0.1	400	0.6
Educational Services	128,200	129,900	126,100	-1,700	-1.3	2,100	1.7
Social Services	209,100	209,000	204,600	100	0.0	4,500	2.2
Membership Organizations	144,100	144,700	143,700	-600	-0.4	400	0.3
Engineering & Management Services	271,100	269,700	268,800	1,400	0.5	2,300	0.9
Agricultural Services	59,100	60,800	57,400	-1,700	-2.8	1,700	3.0
Government	1,660,300	1,663,500	1,624,600	-3,200	-0.2	35,700	2.2
Federal	185,600	184,100	181,000	1,500	0.8	4,600	2.5
State	344,800	347,100	340,200	-2,300	-0.7	4,600	1.4
Local	1,129,900	1,132,300	1,103,400	-2,400	-0.2	26,500	2.4

*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. Wholesale Trade estimates are probability-based. (See text box on page 9 for more information)

Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN-SAN MARCOS			BMT.-PT. ARTHUR			BRAZORIA		
	Dec. '02	Nov. '02	Dec. '01	Dec. '02	Nov. '02	Dec. '01	Dec. '02	Nov. '02	Dec. '01	Dec. '02	Nov. '02	Dec. '01	Dec. '02	Nov. '02	Dec. '01
TOTAL	53.8	53.5	54.4	98.1	97.8	99.3	676.9	678.8	675.5	159.7	159.5	159.7	78.6	78.8	80.0
Mining	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.6
Construction	2.3	2.4	2.3	4.7	4.7	5.1	39.0	39.2	39.9	16.2	16.1	15.6	11.2	11.4	11.7
Manufacturing-Dur.	1.4	1.4	1.5	3.3	3.2	3.3	55.2	55.5	60.6	7.5	7.5	7.9	3.2	3.3	3.7
Manufacturing-Nondur.	1.5	1.5	1.6	5.8	5.9	5.7	13.0	13.1	13.1	13.9	13.9	14.0	10.2	10.2	10.4
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2.3	2.3	2.4	4.9	4.8	4.9	20.5	20.5	21.1	8.3	8.2	8.5	3.0	3.0	3.2
Wholesale Trade	2.6	2.6	2.7	5.8	5.9	6.0	38.1	37.9	37.5	4.7	4.7	4.7	2.6	2.6	2.5
Retail Trade	11.5	11.4	11.7	21.9	21.7	21.7	120.4	118.8	120.3	31.5	31.2	31.1	13.5	13.3	14.1
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	2.6	2.5	2.5	5.1	5.1	5.4	34.4	34.3	34.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	2.1	2.1	2.0
Services	19.0	18.9	19.3	28.8	28.7	28.6	204.0	204.2	203.4	44.3	44.3	43.9	15.8	15.9	15.7
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.9	1.9	1.9	10.0	10.0	9.2	2.8	2.9	3.0	0.5	0.5	0.5
State Government	2.0	2.0	2.0	4.5	4.5	4.6	70.0	71.3	67.9	6.3	6.3	6.0	3.0	3.0	2.8
Local Government	6.3	6.3	6.3	10.7	10.7	11.4	70.6	72.3	66.6	18.3	18.4	18.9	12.0	12.0	11.8
INDUSTRY	BROWNSVILLE-HARL.			BRYAN-COLL. STA.			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS			EL PASO		
TOTAL	111.8	111.9	112.3	79.7	80.3	80.1	162.4	162.0	160.7	1989.4	1984.8	1994.6	254.9	254.8	256.4
Mining	**	**	**	0.9	0.9	0.9	2.4	2.4	2.3	9.2	9.1	9.2	**	**	**
Construction	4.5	4.5	4.4	3.5	3.5	3.6	14.4	14.4	13.5	104.0	105.1	104.4	12.3	12.3	12.0
Manufacturing-Dur.	5.5	5.5	5.5	2.8	2.8	2.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	152.3	153.5	158.0	13.9	13.9	14.5
Manufacturing-Nondur.	4.6	4.8	5.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	7.8	7.9	8.0	75.0	74.9	74.7	17.7	18.0	19.7
Trans., Comm. & Util.	5.3	5.3	5.5	1.2	1.2	1.3	8.1	8.0	8.0	138.3	137.7	140.5	14.1	14.0	14.8
Wholesale Trade	4.4	4.5	4.3	1.6	1.6	1.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	144.2	144.3	149.5	11.6	11.7	11.6
Retail Trade	23.5	23.3	22.7	14.6	14.6	14.8	30.9	30.6	30.6	353.0	348.2	351.2	50.8	50.3	50.5
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	3.9	3.9	3.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	6.4	6.3	6.4	156.9	157.0	157.3	11.3	11.3	11.2
Services	33.6	33.5	33.1	17.2	17.2	17.4	49.9	49.8	50.0	620.9	621.0	619.6	62.2	62.4	62.8
Federal Government	2.3	2.3	2.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	6.2	6.2	6.1	33.0	32.1	32.0	8.9	8.9	8.7
State Government	3.8	3.9	4.1	24.4	24.9	24.2	5.2	5.3	4.6	28.6	28.4	28.5	9.4	9.4	9.0
Local Government	20.4	20.4	20.9	7.2	7.2	7.2	20.4	20.4	20.5	174.0	173.5	169.7	42.7	42.6	41.6
INDUSTRY	FT. WORTH-ARL.			GALVESTON-TX. CITY			HOUSTON			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO		
TOTAL	796.1	794.5	801.4	86.5	86.7	87.4	2136.0	2128.7	2131.5	103.8	103.7	104.4	72.9	72.7	71.2
Mining	4.6	4.6	4.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	67.0	66.8	69.3	**	**	**	1.2	1.2	1.2
Construction	45.4	45.4	44.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	161.0	161.2	158.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	2.1	2.2	2.2
Manufacturing-Dur.	69.1	69.0	71.3	2.5	2.4	2.5	129.5	129.8	130.8	3.8	3.8	4.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
Manufacturing-Nondur.	35.9	35.8	35.7	5.0	5.0	5.3	80.9	80.6	81.5	4.8	4.8	4.9	0.5	0.5	0.6
Trans., Comm. & Util.	77.7	77.9	79.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	145.0	145.2	149.3	3.9	3.9	3.8	12.0	12.0	12.1
Wholesale Trade	42.7	42.7	43.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	123.8	123.4	124.6	3.8	3.8	3.9	2.8	2.8	2.9
Retail Trade	155.5	153.2	160.0	18.0	17.9	18.1	367.2	360.9	366.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	16.7	16.5	15.8
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	41.6	41.6	41.6	5.3	5.3	5.5	115.6	115.3	115.7	4.4	4.3	4.3	3.1	3.1	2.9
Services	216.6	217.4	215.9	20.0	20.1	19.9	665.3	665.0	659.6	28.3	28.2	28.4	15.9	15.8	15.6
Federal Government	15.7	15.6	14.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	28.1	27.5	26.7	7.9	7.9	8.0	2.3	2.3	2.1
State Government	9.2	9.2	9.6	11.8	11.8	11.9	50.6	51.1	48.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	1.6	1.6	1.5
Local Government	82.1	82.1	81.4	13.0	13.2	13.1	202.0	201.9	199.9	16.9	17.0	17.1	13.8	13.8	13.4
INDUSTRY	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDIN.-MIS.			ODESSA-MIDLAND			SAN ANGELO		
TOTAL	92.3	92.0	93.4	125.9	126.4	124.9	171.9	170.2	166.2	105.7	105.6	106.1	45.6	45.3	45.0
Mining	4.0	4.0	4.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.5	1.6	1.6	12.4	12.4	12.3	1.0	1.0	0.9
Construction	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.9	4.9	4.9	8.7	8.6	8.4	5.3	5.5	5.5	2.2	2.2	2.2
Manufacturing-Dur.	11.0	11.0	11.2	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.3	3.3	3.4	5.3	5.3	5.1	2.5	2.5	2.5
Manufacturing-Nondur.	4.5	4.5	4.8	3.1	3.1	3.0	6.8	6.7	7.7	1.6	1.6	1.9	2.3	2.3	2.3
Trans., Comm. & Util.	4.2	4.2	4.2	8.5	8.4	8.5	6.6	6.5	6.4	5.3	5.1	5.2	2.3	2.2	2.5
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.1	4.1	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.0	7.4	7.0	7.0	7.0	1.8	1.8	1.8
Retail Trade	20.3	20.2	20.6	26.8	26.7	26.4	38.2	37.4	36.9	21.1	20.8	21.3	8.5	8.5	8.7
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	3.7	3.6	3.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.1	6.0	5.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	1.8	1.8	1.8
Services	23.4	23.4	23.8	36.9	37.3	36.7	47.9	47.7	44.9	25.2	25.1	25.2	13.2	13.1	13.1
Federal Government	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.3
State Government	0.8	0.8	0.8	14.2	14.4	13.6	5.0	4.9	4.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.6	2.6	2.5
Local Government	11.0	10.9	11.1	12.2	12.3	12.5	37.8	37.7	36.0	15.7	15.9	15.8	6.0	5.9	5.4
INDUSTRY	SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA			TYLER			VICTORIA		
TOTAL	736.9	735.8	731.7	43.8	43.8	44.2	53.2	53.2	53.6	87.1	87.0	85.9	37.6	37.7	37.6
Mining	2.4	2.4	2.3	**	**	**	**	**	**	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.4	2.4	2.4
Construction	44.9	44.6	41.5	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.4	2.1	2.1	1.9
Manufacturing-Dur.	28.8	29.0	29.8	5.5	5.5	5.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	8.9	8.9	7.8	1.0	1.1	1.1
Manufacturing-Nondur.	23.6	23.5	23.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.4	3.5	2.0	2.0	2.0
Trans., Comm. & Util.	34.4	34.4	35.7	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.6	3.6	3.6	1.7	1.7	1.7
Wholesale Trade	31.8	31.3	31.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.8	3.8	4.0	1.8	1.8	1.9
Retail Trade	146.6	145.3	149.5	8.4	8.4	8.8	11.1	11.0	11.3	19.2	19.2	19.7	7.8	7.7	8.0
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	51.7	51.7	51.8	3.0	3.0	2.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	4.4	4.3	4.4	1.6	1.6	1.6
Services	234.9	235.5	232.0	12.8	12.8	12.6	14.6	14.6	14.7	26.7	26.7	26.3	10.2	10.2	10.1
Federal Government	28.8	28.8	28.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
State Government	15.6	15.6	15.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	3.0	3.0	2.9	0.4	0.5	0.5
Local Government	93.4	93.7	90.4	5.7	5.8	5.7	6.5	6.6	6.4	8.3	8.3	8.0	6.4	6.4	6.2
INDUSTRY	WACO			WICHITA FALLS			In accordance with Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) procedures, estimates produced for the Goods Producing sector and Wholesale Trade industry, beginning with the release of the 2001 Benchmark data, will incorporate a new probability-based sample design for the payroll survey. The areas affected by this change include: Statewide, Austin-San Marcos MSA, Beaumont-Port Arthur MSA, Corpus Christi MSA, Dallas MSA, El Paso MSA, Fort Worth-Arlington MSA, Houston MSA, Odessa-Midland MSA, San Antonio MSA, Tyler MSA and the Waco MSA.								
TOTAL	100.8	100.6	100.9	59.8	59.6	60.4									
Mining	**	**	**	1.0	1.0	1.0									
Construction	5.5	5.5	5.4	2.0	2.0	2.0									
Manufacturing-Dur.	7.5	7.6	8.0	5.8	5.8	6.4									
Manufacturing-Nondur.	6.4	6.3	6.5	1.6	1.6	1.6									
Trans., Comm. & Util.	4.4	4.4	4.5	2.7	2.6	2.6									
Wholesale Trade	4.5	4.5	4.5	2.2	2.2	2.2									
Retail Trade	18.5	18.4	18.4	12.0	11.9	12.3									
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	6.3	6.3	6.4	2.3	2.3	2.3									
Services	30.3	30.2	30.3	17.2	17.2	16.6									
Federal Government	3.5	3.5	3.4	2.6	2.6	2.6									
State Government	2.7	2.7	2.6	3.4	3.4	3.5									
Local Government	11.2	11.2	10.9	7.0	7.0	7.3									

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

“ASK THE EXPERT”

Q. What is the Economic Impact of Hosting the Super Bowl?
by Craig A. Depken, II and Dennis P. Wilson

Since Houston hosts the National Football League’s (NFL) 2004 Super Bowl, this question is timely. The Super Bowl is unique amongst the major professional sports championships in that the teams playing do not determine the event’s location. Rather, the host city is decided four to five years in advance based on its attractiveness to tourists, spectators, and sponsors. The major incentive for hosting the Super Bowl is the potential impact on the local economy.

The NFL, local governments, and hotel/restaurant associations generally provide a prediction of the economic impact of hosting the Super Bowl to justify any expenditure the city incurs hosting the event, such as overtime pay for police and fire services. Table 1 reports the predicted economic impact of Super Bowls from 1994-2006, in current and 1992 dollars. The predicted net real impacts of the Super Bowl are consistently between \$220 and \$350 million, but are these numbers accurate?

Table 1: Predicted Economic Impact for Various Super Bowls

Super Bowl	Year	Host City	Predicted Economic Impact (Millions of Dollars)	
			Nominal Dollars	1992 Dollars
XXVIII	1994	Atlanta, Georgia	166	158
XXIX	1995	Miami, Florida	365	340
XXX	1996	Phoenix, Arizona	306	278
XXXI	1997	New Orleans, Louisiana	200	179
XXXII	1998	San Diego, California	295	260
XXXIII	1999	Miami, Florida	365	318
XXXIV	2000	Atlanta, Georgia	292	250
XXXV	2001	Tampa, Florida	250	209
XXXVI	2002	New Orleans, Louisiana	310	254
XXXVII	2003	San Diego, California	300	242
XXXVIII	2004	Houston, Texas	336	264
XXXIX	2005	Jacksonville, Florida	300	235
XL	2006	Detroit, Michigan	372	291

Sources: Various economic impact studies

Most economists consider the forecasted impacts offered by advocates inflated. An appropriate measure of the economic impact is the net change in economic activity associated with the event. This change depends on how many people from outside the city attend the event, how much additional money is spent at local businesses, and the extent to which this additional spending remains in the city.

There are two components to the estimated economic benefits of a Super Bowl (or similar event): direct and indirect economic impacts. Direct impacts include new spending by local residents and out-of-towners that *would not have been spent otherwise*, e.g. on hotels,

restaurants, rental cars, taxi services, shopping, and visits to local attractions. An accurate measure of direct spending must include only new spending, not merely money spent at the event that would have been spent anyway, e.g. attending the Super Bowl instead of attending the theater.

The indirect benefits are derived from so-called multiplier effects that arise from the assumption that a portion of a dollar spent on a local good or service is re-spent (locally) by firm owners and employees, and these expenditures lead to additional rounds of spending. Multiplying the direct impacts by the multiplier calculates the indirect impacts, and adding this to the direct impacts equals the total economic impact.

Obviously the variables included in the calculation of direct and indirect spending dramatically affect the predicted economic impact of the Super Bowl or other event. Whereas event supporters and government officials often fail to confirm the predicted impacts, several economists have found significant differences between the predicted and the actual economic impacts of events like the Super Bowl. These differences have three major sources: practitioner bias, data measurement errors, and overstated multiplier effects.

Practitioner bias arises because promoters and hotel/restaurateurs generally desire large estimated impacts to justify any public subsidization of the event. Such upward bias in estimated impacts may be inevitable because of political pressures. Those who do not support the project may be convinced to do so if the event will lead to a net increase in government revenues, say through increased sales tax revenues. However, the economic impact studies by local advocates are rarely subject to scholarly review, and inflated estimates can go unquestioned and perhaps unconfirmed after the event.

Measurement errors have several sources. One predominant source is that many studies consider only gross impacts and assume that much or all spending surrounding the event is re-spent locally. For example, various studies have shown that hotel occupancy rates when hosting a Super Bowl are between 1.24% and 7.3% higher than the same month

Continued on page 11

Have a question for us?

If you have a question regarding labor markets, the economy, or anything related, please let us hear from you. All questions will be answered, with selected questions being featured in this section of the *Texas Labor Market Review*. Depending on the topic, questions will be answered by LMI staff or by guest "experts" from academia or government who have graciously volunteered their expertise.

Continued from page 10

of the previous year. While hotel prices likely increase the week of the Super Bowl, thereby increasing hotel revenues, most economic impact studies implicitly assume the hotel occupancy would have been zero without the event. In a city that does not have a lot of tourism in January, e.g., Detroit (the host of Super Bowl XL in 2006), the event may have a much larger net impact than in a city with significant tourism in January, e.g., New Orleans. These and other measurement errors make accuracy in economic impact studies questionable.

An additional problem is what economists term leakage. Leakage occurs when spending in a locality is transferred out of the local economy, thereby precluding the “rounds of spending” the multiplier effect assumes. For example, it is unlikely that the majority of revenue increases at a company-owned Marriott or Holiday Inn will remain and be re-spent in the local economy. Much of the revenue increases may be transferred to a parent company in another city, state, or country.

Finally, there is considerable variation in the multipliers themselves. The multiplier effect is sensitive to assumptions regarding the amount of leakage and whether each dollar spent is new spending or relocated spending. Since the size of the multiplier is often at the discretion of the study’s practitioner and can greatly impact the final estimated results, the estimate of an event’s impact can be easily manipulated and is often questionable.

Academic economists have undertaken independent estimations of the economic impact of the Super Bowl. Philip Porter suggests that practitioner bias, measurement error, and local constraints on (hotel)

capacity may cause the actual net economic impacts to be zero. Robert Baade and Victor Matheson find the actual economic impacts of Super Bowl XXXIII in Miami were approximately one tenth that predicted before the event. They speculate that the net impacts of the Super Bowl generally range from \$21 million to \$32 million.

Admittedly, there may be intangible or hard-to-measure impacts of hosting the Super Bowl. Hosting the game offers a unique promotional opportunity for local tourism and convention industries. Since the Super Bowl attracts many high level corporate executives, there are potential economic gains if executives wish to return to the city for conventions, retreats, or corporate relocations. Additionally, increased tourism may be a legacy of hosting a Super Bowl.

As mentioned, Houston hosts the 2004 Super Bowl in the new Reliant Stadium and perhaps the economic impact of the event will be as substantial as predicted. However, as this publication is primarily concerned with labor issues, the number of jobs created by the Super Bowl is of interest. Baade and Matheson estimate that the Super Bowl creates approximately 500 new jobs, although most jobs are generally short-term and perhaps part-time. Most likely those who are already employed, especially in service sectors where overtime is compensated, e.g., police and fire services, ultimately experience the greatest economic benefits from the Super Bowl, while elected officials gain substantial political capital.

Craig A. Depken, II is an associate professor and Dennis P. Wilson is a senior lecturer of economics at the University of Texas at Arlington. Both specialize in business strategy and sports economics.

“HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE”

Sitel to Add Workers

LONGVIEW, Tex (Longview News-Journal-Mike Elswick)—Telecommunications operator Sitel Corp. plans to add 400 employees by this summer according to company officials. Bill Simms, Sitel’s director of investor relations, said the company recently signed a new contract with a major wireless telecommunications provider, but also added it was against company policy to reveal the specific client.

Simms indicates, “We’ll be handling customer service and customer support functions.” The company currently employs about 450 workers.

Boeing Increases Workforce

SAN ANTONIO, Tex (San Antonio Express-News-Sanford Nolan)—Boeing Corp. is expecting to add 200 new workers in San Antonio during the next year to install air traffic devices on military aircraft. The company will install the new systems on KC-10 air refueling tankers at KellyUSA industrial park.

The aviation giant is also installing similar equipment for KC-135 tankers for the Air Force. Boeing currently employs an estimated 2,300 workers at KellyUSA.

Defense Contract Adds Workers

WACO, Tex (Waco Tribune-Herald-Mike Copeland)—An U.S. Airforce contract has been awarded to L-3 Communications, a New York-based defense

company, which should add 100 employees and bring nearly 40 air force families to the Waco area. Construction is under way on a warehouse and repair facility at the Texas State Technical College airport needed to fulfill the “Compass Call” contract that should provide work in Waco for the next ten years.

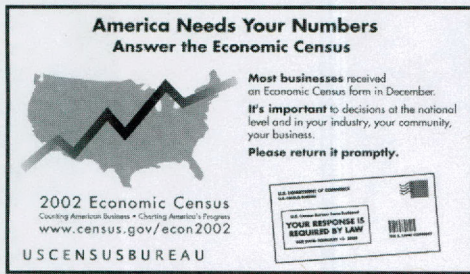
EC-130H aircraft will fly to the facility to have the communications-disrupting equipment installed. Currently L-3 Communications employs nearly 1,600 at the airport facility.

Texas Airports Rank High

WALNUT CREEK, Cal (Austin Business Journal)—Two Texas airports were ranked in the top five airports out of 80 surveyed in the United States. According to Elite Services Group LLC, an airport consulting group, the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport was ranked second while Austin-Bergstrom International Airport was ranked fourth highest in terms of wireless-communications technology and other needs of business travelers.

Denver International Airport was rated highest with a 4.651 rating followed by Dallas-Fort Worth with a 4.231 rating. San Diego was third with a 4.230 rating, followed by Austin’s 4.195 rating. Rounding out the top five was Pittsburgh International Airport with a 4.075 rating.

BUSINESSES: AMERICA NEEDS YOUR NUMBERS



There's an important count underway. It's the Economic Census, taken every five years, and now under way for 2002. The Economic Census is a tally of businesses - and its important, just like the nation's population census taken in 2000.

The Economic Census produces a portrait of business activities in industries and communities all across the nation. Alan Greenspan calls the Economic Census "indispensable to understanding America's economy."

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Best of all, the Economic Census is a real bargain. All of the statistics will be available for free on the Internet for you to use.

So, if yours is among the 5 million businesses that received an Economic Census form in December - fill it out. Send it in. America needs your numbers.

Texas Labor Market Review Labor Market Information



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