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

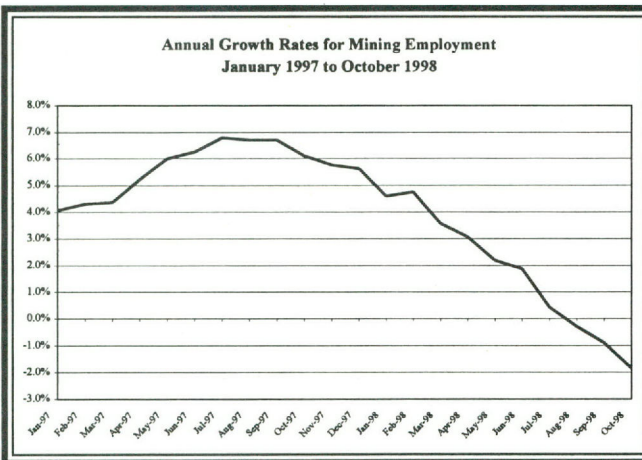
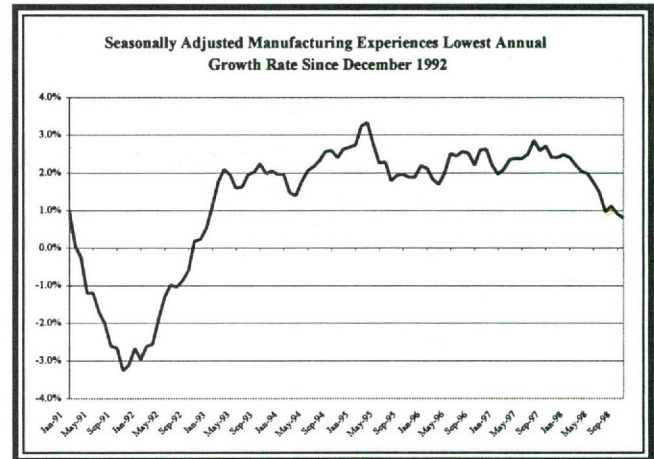
The statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell slightly to 4.9 percent in October, down one-tenth of a percentage point from its August level of 5.0 percent and three-tenths of a percentage point from its year-ago rate. The statewide rate has remained at or below 5.0 percent since November 1997.

Seasonally Adjusted Nonagricultural Employment Grows for Ninth Consecutive Month

✦ Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment added 16,900 jobs in October, marking the ninth consecutive month of employment growth. The 0.2 percent over-the-month growth rate, however, was well below that of the growth-intensive years of 1996 and 1997.

✦ The Service Producing Sector continued to dominate Total Nonagricultural Employment estimates, accounting for 100 percent of the monthly growth. All major industries within the Sector advanced in October. Services and Trade led the growth, combining for a total of 12,100 jobs.

✦ The Goods Producing Sector slipped, losing employment for the fourth time in five months. Construction employment grew by 1,600 but was offset by losses in Mining. Manufacturing followed the same scenario with *Durable Goods Manufacturing* expanding by 800 jobs while *Nondurable Goods Manufacturing* lost 700 jobs.



✦ Mining employment continued to drop in October, falling by 1,800 jobs. The *Oil & Gas Extraction* industries have been profoundly affected by low crude oil prices. At 459.9, the September number of seasonally adjusted well permit applications remained at record lows. The record low for the series was 440.2 reached in August of this year.

✦ Services employment rose by 8,100 jobs over the month, rebounding sharply from September's modest gain of 3,000 jobs. This increase was largely the result of additions in *Business Services*, *Automotive Repair Services*, and *Engineering, Accounting & Management Services*.

Nonseasonally Adjusted Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Employment

✦ Increases in Government employment accounted for a majority of the monthly growth seen in the MSAs. Most gains occurred in *Local Government* as public schools reached full staffing levels for the fall semester. Likewise, hiring at State colleges and universities accounted for a major portion of the increase in *State Government* employment.

✦ Combined MSA employment in Manufacturing lost 700 jobs in October, its second consecutive over-the-month setback. Most of these losses occurred in the Houston MSA. This marks the first time since July-to-September 1992 that this sector has seen back-to-back losses.

✦ The Trade sector posted a gain of 4,300 jobs within the MSAs over the month. October is typically considered the first month of the holiday shopping season, when wholesale and retail businesses hire more staff to serve customers preparing for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Labor Market Review



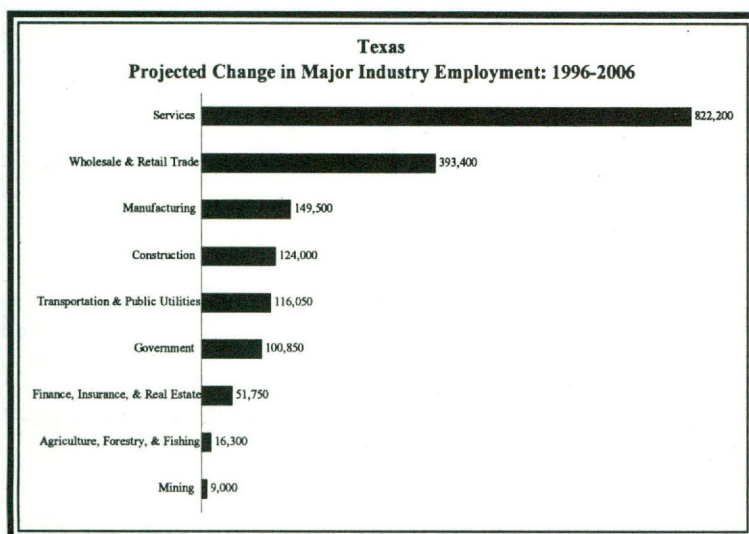
October
1998

Texas Unemployment Rate		Texas Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment	
Actual Series	Seasonally Adjusted	Actual Series	Seasonally Adjusted
4.6%	4.9%	8,989,000	8,955,500

Texas Employment Projections: 1996 – 2006

by Joy Weeks and Renate Rodriguez

Texas nonfarm employment will exceed 10 million in 2006, a 21.5 percent increase from the 1996 level of 8.3 million. This represents an average annual growth rate of 2.2 percent, slower than the annual rate of 2.6 percent that Texas enjoyed from 1986-1996. Although the growth rate is predicted to slow slightly between 1996 and 2006, Texas will still outpace the projected national average of 1.3 percent, adding an average of 178,305 jobs per year for the projection period. Where should Texans expect to find this employment? The current industry projections are produced to provide insight into this question and others concerning the employment trends Texans can expect in the future.



One of the most consistent labor market patterns of the last decade is the expansion of the Services industry. Texas can expect the Services industry to continue to lead labor growth as approximately 822,000 additional jobs are anticipated in this sector by 2006. *Business Services*, *Health Services*, and *Educational Services* will account for about 70 percent of this growth. Within *Business Services*, *Personnel Supply Services* is projected to experience the greatest growth, 91,750 jobs, as employers continue to outsource peripheral duties. *Health Services* is projected to add approximately 220,000 jobs, due in part to the ever-increasing healthcare demands of an aging Texas population and advances in medical care. Consequently, most of this growth will be found in *Offices & Clinics of Medical Doctors*, *Home Health Care Services*, *Nursing & Personal Care Facilities*, and *Hospitals (Public and Private)*. *Educational Services* will respond to increases in the school age population, contributing a projected 143,300 jobs.

The Trade industry is projected to increase by over 393,000 jobs. Population growth will spur demand for goods in *Wholesale and Retail Trade* sectors. The largest gainer in *Wholesale* will be *Groceries & Related Products*, adding just over 10,000 jobs. In *Retail*, *General Merchandise Stores* and *Food Stores* will add over 68,000 jobs during the projection period. A continuation of the fast food trend is expected to result in large employment increases in *Eating & Drinking Places*, over 169,000 positions, accounting for 53 percent of all growth in *Retail Trade* by 2006.

Employment growth will be slower in the Manufacturing Sector as this industry continues to respond to competition by introducing new technologies and more efficient business practices which yield increases in productivity without increasing employment levels. Growth is estimated at about 149,000 jobs, 79 percent of which will be found in *Durable Goods*. *Industrial Machinery & Equipment* is the fastest growing industry sector within *Durable Goods*, growing at about 27 percent. Following closely are *Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment* and *Fabricated Metal Products*, adding 24,000 and 23,000 jobs, respectively. *Nondurable Goods* production employment is expected to grow by about 32,000 in the next ten years. Following the national trend, most of this increase will be found in *Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics Products* which is forecast to experience over one third of the growth in nondurables. Together, *Chemical & Allied Products* and *Food & Kindred Products* are projected to add about 13,000 jobs.

The Construction industry is projected to experience the fastest rate of growth, almost 29 percent, adding approximately 124,000 jobs to the labor market by the year 2006. This growth results as construction expands to meet the housing, business and infrastructure needs of a growing population. Leading the way in this growth will be the *Special Trade Contractors* sector with a projected job growth of over 84,000 jobs, a 35 percent increase from 1996. Within this sector, *Plumbing, Heating, & Air Conditioning* is expected to add over 20,000 jobs. Other sectors contributing significant growth are *General Contractors, Excluding Building* and *General Building Contractors*, each adding approximately 20,000 jobs by 2006.

The growth in Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities is forecast to exceed 116,000 by 2006. *Transportation* is expected to contribute nearly 74,000 of these jobs. Almost 62 percent of these positions are anticipated in *Trucking & Warehousing* and *Transportation by Air* as growth is fueled by the expanding need to effectively freight goods. The constant technological advances and innovations in *Telephone Communications* ensure its continued dominance of the *Communications* industry. It is projected to account for a remarkable 87 percent of the growth, or 33,000 jobs. Public demand for recycling and conservation efforts is expected to result in 6,200 additional jobs in *Sanitary Services*, a 52 percent growth.

The employment in Government overall (excluding Hospitals and Education) is expected to grow by about 100,900. Almost 79 percent of this increase will be found in *Local Government* throughout the state as responsibility for the delivery of services continues to shift to the local level. Employment in *Federal Government* is expected to remain largely unchanged. The effects of military base realignments and developments in protective services employment should balance each other. The remainder, about 23,400 jobs, will be found in *State Government*.

Moderate growth is projected in the Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate industries. Corporate mergers and advances in technology, automation, and online services should hold the growth rate at just under 12%. Most of the 51,750 jobs projected will be spread over *Nondepository Institutions*, *Insurance Agents, Brokers, & Services*,

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

and Real Estate. Within this sector most growth will occur in Personal Credit Institutions, Medical Service & Health Insurance, Security Brokers & Dealers, and Real Estate Agents & Managers.

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing employment will increase by almost 16,300 by 2006. Of this growth, 79 percent will be found in Agriculture Services, with Landscaping and Veterinarian Services contributing nearly 13,000 jobs. Landscaping Services alone will account for approximately 67 percent of the growth in Agricultural Services. This growth will result from the construction of new landscaping and the maintenance of existing landscapes, along with the trend of individuals to utilize these services as a means of preserving leisure time.

The Mining industry is projected to grow at a rate of about 6 percent over the ten-year projection period. Oil & Gas Extraction will experience the biggest share of growth. Within this industry, technological advances in exploration and extraction of these natural resources are expected to lead to over 13,500 jobs in Oil & Gas Field Services. Metal and Coal Mining employment is expected to remain stable over the period.

For Additional Information

Industry projections are available in more detail for the State of Texas and 28 Workforce Development Board Areas on the LMI website. A companion article on projected occupational growth will be released soon. If you would like additional information, please contact us at our address listed on the back of this publication or call (512) 491-4922 to be added to our mailing list.

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

INDUSTRY TITLE	Oct. 1998*	Sep. 1998	Oct. 1997	Sep. '98 to Oct. '98		Oct. '97 to Oct. '98	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
TOTAL NONAG. W&S EMPLOYMENT	8,955,500	8,938,600	8,703,400	16,900	0.2	252,100	2.9
GOODS PRODUCING	1,749,000	1,749,100	1,718,400	-100	0.0	30,600	1.8
Mining	163,900	165,700	167,000	-1,800	-1.1	-3,100	-1.9
Construction	487,400	485,800	462,400	1,600	0.3	25,000	5.4
Manufacturing	1,097,700	1,097,600	1,089,000	100	0.0	8,700	0.8
Durable Goods	665,000	664,200	650,800	800	0.1	14,200	2.2
Nondurable Goods	432,700	433,400	438,200	-700	-0.2	-5,500	-1.3
SERVICE PRODUCING	7,206,500	7,189,500	6,985,000	17,000	0.2	221,500	3.2
Transportation, Comm., Utilities	548,200	547,400	522,400	800	0.1	25,800	4.9
Trade	2,112,100	2,108,100	2,063,200	4,000	0.2	48,900	2.4
Wholesale Trade	514,300	514,000	502,100	300	0.1	12,200	2.4
Retail Trade	1,597,800	1,594,100	1,561,100	3,700	0.2	36,700	2.4
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	485,900	484,700	469,000	1,200	0.2	16,900	3.6
Services	2,532,800	2,524,700	2,436,500	8,100	0.3	96,300	4.0
Government	1,527,500	1,524,600	1,493,900	2,900	0.2	33,600	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.

TEXAS AND U.S. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

TEXAS*					UNITED STATES**			
Actual	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate
Oct. '98	10,239,700	9,771,900	467,800	4.6	138,255,000	132,424,000	5,831,000	4.2
Sep. '98	10,198,900	9,691,600	507,300	5.0	137,903,000	131,864,000	6,039,000	4.4
Oct. '97	9,960,400	9,480,500	479,900	4.8	136,666,000	130,671,000	5,995,000	4.4
Seas. Adjusted	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate
Oct. '98	10,215,000	9,713,600	501,400	4.9	137,976,000	131,677,000	6,299,000	4.6
Sep. '98	10,215,300	9,701,300	514,000	5.0	138,075,000	131,765,000	6,310,000	4.6
Oct. '97	9,944,300	9,425,500	518,800	5.2	136,406,000	129,910,000	6,496,000	4.8

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)

Highlights of Local Area Unemployment Statistics

The Texas actual series unemployment rate fell four-tenths of a percentage point to 4.6 percent over the month, the lowest October rate since 1979. Over the last decade, the unemployment rate has decreased an average of four-tenths of a percent from September to October. This seasonal decline in the unemployment rate can be partly explained by increases in retail hiring for the upcoming holiday season and by increases in local government employment as public schools reach full staffing levels for the fall semester.

- ◆ The number of insured unemployed Texans without earnings decreased slightly over the month by 1.8 percent to about 88,700. However, the October level represents an over-the-year increase of 1.4 percent, or 1,200 claims. The county with the most significant increase in claims was Maverick followed by Harris, Starr, and El Paso Counties. Hidalgo and Bexar Counties had the largest decreases in claims. The Mining industry had the highest increase in claims as a result of the effect of persistently low crude oil prices on employment. Other than Mining, over-the-month increases in claims also occurred in the Manufacturing industry.
- ◆ Texas' civilian labor force increased by 40,700 in October, bringing the number of labor force participants to 10,239,700. The number of employed Texans increased by 80,300 over the month to 9,771,900 while the number of unemployed fell by 39,600 to 467,800. The October level of employment is more than 291,000 higher than a year ago while the number of unemployed is estimated at about 12,000 fewer than last year.
- ◆ Of the state's 27 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), two remained unchanged and 24 had a decrease in their unemployment rates over the month (Texarkana data was not available). Compared to their year-ago unemployment rates, 10 MSAs had an increase, one remained unchanged and 15 showed a decrease. Bryan-College Station had the state's lowest MSA unemployment rate at 1.7 percent while McAllen-Edinburg-Mission had the highest rate at 16.3 percent. Among counties, Hartley had the lowest county rate of 1.3 percent and Presidio had the highest rate at 29.2 percent.

Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Ranked by Unemployment Rate October 1998

1	Bryan-College Station	1.7
2	Austin-San Marcos	2.5
3	Lubbock	2.6
4	Dallas	3.0
5	Fort Worth-Arlington	3.1
6	Amarillo	3.2
7	San Antonio	3.3
8	Abilene	3.5
9	Waco	3.6
10	Houston	3.9
11	Killeen-Temple	4.0
12 (tie)	Victoria	4.2
	Wichita Falls	4.2
14	Tyler	4.9
15	San Angelo	5.3
16	Sherman-Denison	5.4
17	Brazoria	5.6
18	Odessa-Midland	5.9
19	Galveston-Texas City	6.1
20	Corpus Christi	6.7
21	Beaumont-Port Arthur	7.1
22	Longview-Marshall	7.2
23	Laredo	9.2
24	El Paso	10.0
25	Brownsville-Harlingen	11.5
26	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	16.3
	Texarkana data not available	

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

	October 1998*				September 1998				October 1997			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
State of Texas	10,239.7	9,771.9	467.8	4.6	10,198.9	9,691.6	507.3	5.0	9,960.4	9,480.5	479.9	4.8
Abilene	62.6	60.4	2.2	3.5	62.3	59.9	2.4	3.8	60.4	58.4	2.0	3.4
Amarillo	113.2	109.6	3.6	3.2	113.1	108.7	4.4	3.9	110.6	106.9	3.7	3.3
Beaumont-Port Arthur	184.2	171.1	13.1	7.1	184.4	170.1	14.3	7.8	181.5	168.1	13.4	7.4
Brownsville-Harlingen	128.3	113.5	14.8	11.5	128.2	112.0	16.2	12.6	125.6	111.1	14.5	11.6
Bryan-College Station	74.3	73.0	1.3	1.7	72.5	71.3	1.2	1.7	73.0	71.7	1.3	1.7
Corpus Christi	178.3	166.3	12.0	6.7	178.8	165.7	13.1	7.4	176.3	164.7	11.6	6.6
Dallas	1,901.8	1,844.0	57.8	3.0	1,890.7	1,828.5	62.2	3.3	1,841.5	1,778.8	62.7	3.4
El Paso	301.2	271.2	30.0	10.0	301.1	269.1	32.0	10.6	294.7	262.7	32.0	10.9
Fort Worth-Arlington	881.8	854.7	27.1	3.1	878.3	848.6	29.7	3.4	853.3	825.7	27.6	3.2
Galveston-Texas City	125.6	117.9	7.7	6.1	125.8	117.4	8.4	6.7	125.1	116.1	9.0	7.2
Houston	2,121.2	2,039.5	81.7	3.9	2,119.6	2,031.8	87.8	4.1	2,069.9	1,978.4	91.5	4.4
Killeen-Temple	117.6	112.9	4.7	4.0	117.3	112.1	5.2	4.4	114.3	108.8	5.5	4.8
Longview-Marshall	71.9	65.3	6.6	9.2	71.3	64.3	7.0	9.8	70.0	63.9	6.1	8.8
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	193.4	161.9	31.5	16.3	192.1	157.6	34.5	18.0	187.7	157.5	30.2	16.1
Odessa-Midland	129.5	121.9	7.6	5.9	129.1	121.1	8.0	6.2	124.7	119.4	5.3	4.3
San Angelo	53.1	50.3	2.8	5.3	52.7	49.9	2.8	5.3	51.4	49.8	1.6	3.0
Sherman-Denison	775.5	749.6	25.9	3.3	773.7	744.3	29.4	3.8	751.1	722.9	28.2	3.8
Sherman-Denison	51.9	49.1	2.8	5.4	51.5	48.5	3.0	5.8	50.2	48.3	1.9	3.8
Victoria	92.2	87.7	4.5	4.9	91.4	86.7	4.7	5.1	90.0	82.2	7.8	8.6
Victoria	44.9	43.0	1.9	4.2	44.8	42.7	2.1	4.6	43.4	41.6	1.8	4.0
Wichita Falls	103.3	99.5	3.8	3.6	102.6	98.4	4.2	4.0	101.6	97.3	4.3	4.2
Wichita Falls	66.9	64.1	2.8	4.2	67.0	63.8	3.2	4.8	65.4	62.8	2.6	3.9
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.

Employment and Unemployment Estimates for Texas Counties - October 1998

County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
Anderson	19,473	1,383	6.6	Donley	1,591	91	5.4	Kaufman	31,369	1,246	3.8	Real	1,193	48	3.9
Andrews	5,304	556	9.5	Duval	4,384	845	16.2	Kendall	13,396	350	2.5	Red River	5,933	396	6.3
Angelina	35,554	1,992	5.3	Eastland	8,804	459	5.0	Kenedy	223	11	4.7	Reeves	6,006	852	12.4
Aransas	9,506	553	5.5	Ector	60,277	4,728	7.3	Kent	448	8	1.8	Refugio	2,913	155	5.1
Archer	4,127	113	2.7	Edwards	880	58	6.2	Kerr	17,983	447	2.4	Roberts	525	27	4.9
Armstrong	975	20	2.0	Ellis	52,201	1,855	3.4	Kimble	2,445	56	2.2	Robertson	6,406	292	4.4
Atascosa	16,020	741	4.4	El Paso	271,175	29,966	10.0	King	100	10	9.1	Rockwall	20,546	488	2.3
Austin	11,909	487	3.9	Erath	16,046	431	2.6	Kinney	1,090	63	5.5	Runnels	5,261	213	3.9
Bailey	3,805	185	4.6	Falls	7,785	373	4.6	Kleberg	12,388	920	6.9	Rusk	20,215	1,276	5.9
Bandera	5,974	200	3.2	Fannin	12,568	774	5.8	Knox	2,480	132	5.1	Sabine	3,917	360	8.4
Bastrop	25,912	853	3.2	Fayette	10,539	292	2.7	Lamar	20,544	1,728	7.8	San Augustine	3,395	266	7.3
Baylor	1,683	89	5.0	Fisher	1,785	99	5.3	Lamb	6,768	408	5.7	San Jacinto	8,168	348	4.1
Bee	11,116	690	5.8	Floyd	3,417	200	5.5	Lampasas	7,783	363	4.5	San Patricio	27,336	1,974	6.7
Bell	91,840	3,795	4.0	Foard	815	23	2.7	La Salle	2,812	299	9.6	San Saba	2,357	84	3.4
Bexar	658,706	23,571	3.5	Fort Bend	165,932	4,901	2.9	Lavaca	9,416	254	2.6	Schleicher	1,588	127	7.4
Blanco	3,815	71	1.8	Franklin	4,419	181	3.9	Lee	7,252	246	3.3	Scurry	8,182	492	5.7
Borden	420	8	1.9	Freestone	7,736	386	4.8	Leon	5,546	408	6.9	Shackelford	1,388	81	5.5
Bosque	6,409	211	3.2	Frio	5,740	563	8.9	Liberty	27,010	1,592	5.6	Shelby	9,030	599	6.2
Bowie	37,961	2,905	7.1	Gaines	6,703	350	5.0	Limestone	8,979	462	4.9	Sherman	1,528	25	1.6
Brazoria	100,800	5,944	5.6	Galveston	117,933	7,695	6.1	Lipscomb	1,583	48	2.9	Smith	87,674	4,524	4.9
Brazos	73,025	1,271	1.7	Garza	2,154	132	5.8	Live Oak	4,398	206	4.5	Somervell	1,994	129	6.1
Brewster	5,214	132	2.5	Gillespie	10,161	193	1.9	Llano	5,008	185	3.6	Starr	15,185	5,034	24.9
Briscoe	897	28	3.0	Glasscock	708	13	1.8	Loving	80	8	9.1	Stephens	4,563	241	5.0
Brooks	2,693	259	8.8	Goliad	2,488	89	3.5	Lubbock	123,395	3,308	2.6	Sterling	785	20	2.5
Brown	16,545	700	4.1	Gonzales	6,891	266	3.7	Lynn	3,234	145	4.3	Stonewall	785	66	7.8
Burleson	7,298	317	4.2	Gray	10,509	615	5.5	Mc Culloch	3,956	218	5.2	Sutton	2,135	142	6.2
Burnet	13,517	495	3.5	Grayson	49,145	2,791	5.4	Mc Lennan	99,478	3,760	3.6	Swisher	3,875	147	3.7
Caldwell	15,414	649	4.0	Gregg	56,258	4,246	7.0	Mc Mullen	263	15	5.4	Tarrant	743,551	23,480	3.1
Calhoun	8,289	543	6.1	Grimes	8,715	444	4.8	Madison	4,146	109	2.6	Taylor	60,423	2,167	3.5
Callahan	6,241	254	3.9	Groesbeke	40,470	963	2.3	Marion	3,344	383	10.3	Terrell	548	33	5.7
Cameron	113,502	14,768	11.5	Hale	16,878	873	4.9	Martin	1,603	89	5.3	Terry	5,905	368	5.9
Camp	5,416	498	8.4	Hall	1,696	117	6.5	Mason	1,697	38	2.2	Throckmorton	762	20	2.6
Carson	3,136	129	4.0	Hamilton	3,637	233	6.0	Matagorda	14,515	1,647	10.2	Titus	12,651	840	6.2
Cass	15,478	1,515	8.9	Hansford	2,478	84	3.3	Maverick	13,465	3,646	21.3	Tom Green	50,306	2,801	5.3
Castro	4,060	173	4.1	Hardeman	2,042	147	6.7	Medina	15,500	743	4.6	Travis	450,639	11,948	2.6
Chambers	11,216	454	3.9	Hardin	21,504	1,469	6.4	Menard	1,048	38	3.5	Trinity	4,539	261	5.4
Cherokee	19,348	830	4.1	Harris	1,698,692	70,032	4.0	Midland	61,657	2,921	4.5	Tyler	5,739	512	8.2
Childress	3,071	127	4.0	Harrison	26,648	2,161	7.5	Milam	8,935	403	4.3	Upshur	15,841	1,278	7.5
Clay	5,397	178	3.2	Hartley	2,951	40	1.3	Mills	2,281	71	3.0	Upton	1,696	152	8.2
Cochran	1,465	76	4.9	Haskell	2,717	96	3.4	Mitchell	3,190	261	7.6	Uvalde	9,500	1,126	10.6
Coke	1,534	46	2.9	Hays	48,069	1,456	2.9	Montague	7,445	348	4.5	Val Verde	16,460	1,662	9.2
Coleman	3,511	277	7.3	Hemphill	1,929	63	3.2	Montgomery	124,735	4,227	3.3	Van Zandt	20,449	832	3.9
Collin	239,485	5,066	2.1	Henderson	29,128	1,105	3.7	Moore	9,135	292	3.1	Victoria	43,037	1,888	4.2
Collingsworth	1,832	28	1.5	Hidalgo	161,880	31,498	16.3	Morris	6,140	1,120	15.4	Walker	23,877	490	2.0
Colorado	7,847	299	3.7	Hill	16,035	589	3.5	Motley	615	25	3.9	Waller	11,956	509	4.1
Comal	36,089	967	2.6	Hockley	10,820	784	6.8	Nacogdoches	24,201	1,050	4.2	Ward	4,224	464	9.9
Comanche	6,572	274	4.0	Hood	15,792	621	3.8	Navarro	21,610	1,068	4.7	Washington	15,520	396	2.5
Concho	1,687	53	3.0	Hopkins	14,781	860	5.5	Newton	5,470	652	10.7	Webb	65,265	6,589	9.2
Cooke	16,853	474	2.7	Houston	8,529	350	3.9	Nolan	7,200	502	6.5	Wharton	18,516	964	4.9
Coryell	21,104	929	4.2	Howard	13,918	723	4.9	Nueces	138,996	10,042	6.7	Wheeler	2,895	89	3.0
Cottle	808	41	4.8	Hudspeth	1,413	41	2.8	Ochiltree	4,717	160	3.3	Wichita	60,003	2,678	4.3
Crane	2,019	200	9.0	Hunt	35,420	1,275	3.5	Oldham	1,233	36	2.8	Wilbarger	6,850	170	2.4
Crockett	2,130	183	7.9	Hutchinson	8,969	535	5.6	Orange	38,193	3,759	9.0	Willacy	5,827	1,304	18.3
Crosby	3,044	180	5.6	Irion	731	20	2.7	Palo Pinto	11,618	662	5.4	Williamson	127,071	2,500	1.9
Culberson	1,357	99	6.8	Jack	3,529	142	3.9	Panola	7,487	850	10.2	Wilson	14,343	441	3.0
Dallam	3,389	89	2.6	Jackson	9,824	348	3.4	Parker	38,745	1,093	2.7	Winkler	2,936	345	10.5
Dallas	1,208,574	42,484	3.4	Jasper	13,910	1,591	10.3	Parmer	4,279	129	2.9	Wise	22,651	695	3.0
Dawson	5,604	353	5.9	Jeff Davis	1,463	46	3.0	Pecos	6,478	515	7.4	Wood	13,438	852	6.0
Deaf Smith	7,537	619	7.6	Jefferson	111,394	7,823	6.6	Polk	14,342	974	6.4	Yoakum	3,531	363	9.3
Delta	3,075	99	3.1	Jim Hogg	2,167	216	9.1	Potter	52,915	2,745	4.9	Young	8,167	474	5.5
Denton	227,292	4,324	1.9	Jim Wells	15,718	1,882	10.7	Presidio	2,371	977	29.2	Zapata	3,969	619	13.5
De Witt	7,584	403	5.0	Johnson	56,626	1,917	3.3	Rains	3,474	183	5.0	Zavala	3,491	726	17.2
Dickens	1,127	46	3.9	Jones	10,211	310	2.9	Randall	56,700	893	1.6				
Dimmit	3,278	573	14.9	Karnes	6,049	254	4.0	Reagan	1,895	178	8.6				

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

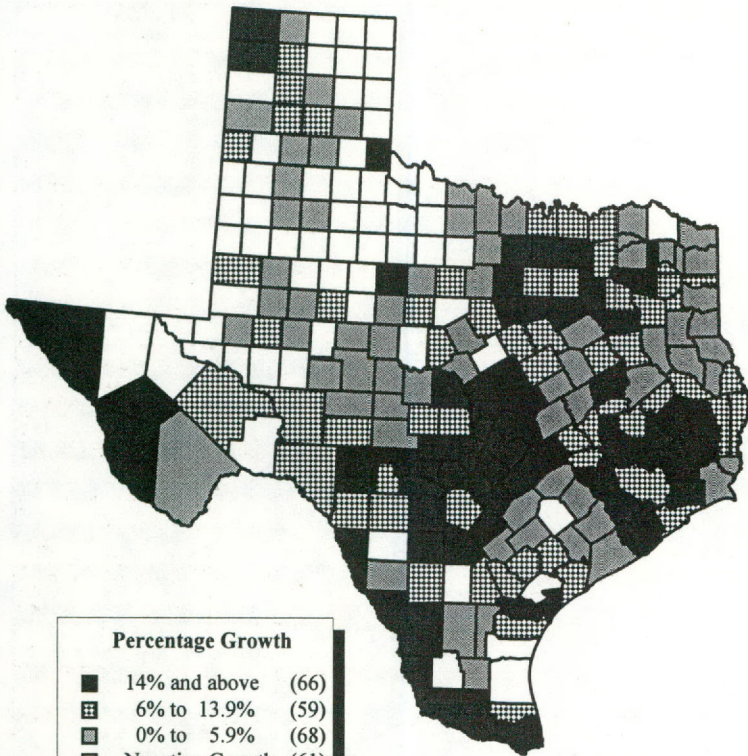
	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Sep. '98 to Oct. '98		Oct. '97 to Oct. '98	
				Change	% Change	Change	% Change
TOTAL NONAG. W & S EMPLOYMENT	8,989,000	8,943,000	8,736,500	46,000	0.5	252,500	2.9
GOODS PRODUCING	1,755,100	1,754,600	1,724,500	500	0.0	30,600	1.8
<i>Mining</i>	164,700	165,700	167,800	-1,000	-0.6	-3,100	-1.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	156,600	157,500	159,500	-900	-0.6	-2,900	-1.8
<i>Construction</i>	491,300	489,200	466,300	2,100	0.4	25,000	5.4
<i>Manufacturing</i>	1,099,100	1,099,700	1,090,400	-600	-0.1	8,700	0.8
Durable Goods	664,700	665,000	650,500	-300	0.0	14,200	2.2
Lumber & Wood Products	47,300	47,200	45,900	100	0.2	1,400	3.1
Lumber Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills	7,600	7,500	7,600	100	1.3	0	0.0
Furniture & Fixtures	20,100	19,900	19,500	200	1.0	600	3.1
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	43,000	42,900	41,500	100	0.2	1,500	3.6
Concrete, Gypsum, & Plaster Products	20,400	20,300	19,400	100	0.5	1,000	5.2
Primary Metal Industries	30,000	30,000	30,700	0	0.0	-700	-2.3
Fabricated Metal Industries	102,300	102,300	100,900	0	0.0	1,400	1.4
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	52,500	52,500	51,400	0	0.0	1,100	2.1
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	148,900	149,500	144,400	-600	-0.4	4,500	3.1
Oil & Gas Field Machinery	31,500	31,800	31,100	-300	-0.9	400	1.3
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	130,200	130,400	126,900	-200	-0.2	3,300	2.6
Transportation Equipment	81,200	81,100	79,000	100	0.1	2,200	2.8
Aircraft & Parts	45,200	45,200	45,100	0	0.0	100	0.2
Instruments & Related Products	42,000	42,100	41,700	-100	-0.2	300	0.7
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	19,700	19,600	20,000	-100	0.5	-300	-1.5
Nondurable Goods	434,400	434,700	439,900	-300	-0.1	-5,500	-1.3
Food & Kindred Products	102,000	101,600	102,500	400	0.4	-500	-0.5
Meat Products	34,900	34,600	34,600	300	0.9	300	0.9
Dairy Products	5,200	5,300	5,200	-100	-1.9	0	0.0
Bakery Products	9,100	8,800	9,900	300	3.4	-800	-8.1
Malt Beverages	2,400	2,500	2,500	-100	-4.0	-100	-4.0
Textile Mill Products	4,300	4,200	4,100	100	2.4	200	4.9
Apparel & Other Finished Textile Products	52,500	53,000	57,000	-500	-0.9	-4,500	-7.9
Paper & Allied Products	29,400	29,500	29,700	-100	-0.3	-300	-1.0
Printing & Publishing	75,400	75,600	75,400	-200	-0.3	0	0.0
Newspapers, Periodicals, Books, & Miscellaneous	33,300	33,400	33,100	-100	-0.3	200	0.6
Chemicals & Allied Products	83,900	83,900	83,800	0	0.0	100	0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	25,300	25,400	26,300	-100	-0.4	-1,000	-3.8
Petroleum Refining	21,700	21,900	22,800	-200	-0.9	-1,100	-4.8
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	54,300	54,200	53,300	100	0.2	1,000	1.9
Leather & Leather Products	7,200	7,200	7,600	0	0.0	-400	-5.3
SERVICE PRODUCING	7,233,900	7,188,400	7,012,000	45,500	0.6	221,900	3.2
<i>Transportation, Communications, Utilities</i>	550,400	547,400	524,500	3,000	0.5	25,900	4.9
Transportation	342,300	339,600	327,000	2,700	0.8	15,300	4.7
Railroad Transportation	17,800	17,800	17,200	0	0.0	600	3.5
Transportation by Air	109,800	108,800	104,700	1,000	0.9	5,100	4.9
Communications	138,300	137,700	126,800	600	0.4	11,500	9.1
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	69,800	70,100	70,700	-300	-0.4	-900	-1.3
Electric Services	30,100	30,200	30,600	-100	-0.3	-500	-1.6
Gas Production & Distribution	22,500	22,700	23,500	-200	-0.9	-1,000	-4.3
<i>Trade</i>	2,113,200	2,106,800	2,064,500	6,400	0.3	48,700	2.4
Wholesale Trade	515,100	513,700	502,900	1,400	0.3	12,200	2.4
Retail Trade	1,598,100	1,593,100	1,561,600	5,000	0.3	36,500	2.3
Building Materials & Gardening Supplies	62,000	62,000	58,500	0	0.0	3,500	6.0
General Merchandise Stores	208,700	207,200	205,800	1,500	0.7	2,900	1.4
Food Stores	245,900	245,100	248,000	800	0.3	-2,100	-0.8
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	169,600	169,500	164,900	100	0.1	4,700	2.9
Apparel & Accessory Stores	71,800	71,600	75,500	200	0.3	-3,700	-4.9
Home Furniture, Furnishings, & Equipment Stores	70,300	69,800	68,800	500	0.7	1,500	2.2
Eating & Drinking Places	595,100	597,200	571,300	-2,100	-0.4	23,800	4.2
Other Retail Trade	174,700	170,700	168,800	4,000	2.3	5,900	3.5
<i>Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate</i>	485,900	485,300	469,000	600	0.1	16,900	3.6
Depository Institutions including Banks	120,700	120,700	117,900	0	0.0	2,800	2.4
Insurance Carriers, Agents, Brokers, & Service	158,100	157,700	153,700	400	0.3	4,400	2.9
Other Finance Insurance & Real Estate	207,100	206,900	197,400	200	0.1	9,700	4.9
<i>Services</i>	2,541,800	2,533,600	2,445,300	8,200	0.3	96,500	3.9
Hotel & Other Lodging Places	91,400	91,600	90,000	-200	-0.2	1,400	1.6
Personal Services	88,200	88,000	87,700	200	0.2	500	0.6
Business Services	658,300	653,700	615,900	4,600	0.7	42,400	6.9
Auto Repair Services	86,300	85,800	83,000	500	0.6	3,300	4.0
Miscellaneous Repair Services	31,600	31,500	31,400	100	0.3	200	0.6
Amusement & Recreation, including Motion Pictures	113,800	116,400	113,900	-2,600	-2.2	-100	-0.1
Health Services	706,300	704,600	681,700	1,700	0.2	24,600	3.6
Legal Services	67,900	67,800	66,800	100	0.1	1,100	1.6
Educational Services	108,500	105,900	105,600	2,600	2.5	2,900	2.7
Social Services	172,000	171,000	164,600	1,000	0.6	7,400	4.5
Membership Organizations	135,200	135,700	132,700	-500	-0.4	2,500	1.9
Engineering & Management Services	224,700	223,300	215,600	1,400	0.6	9,100	4.2
Agricultural Services	48,800	49,600	48,100	-800	-1.6	700	1.5
<i>Government</i>	1,542,600	1,515,300	1,508,700	27,300	1.8	33,900	2.2
Federal	183,200	184,200	184,800	-1,000	-0.5	-1,600	-0.9
State	338,200	330,300	332,000	7,900	2.4	6,200	1.9
Local	1,021,200	1,000,800	991,900	20,400	2.0	29,300	3.0

*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.

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

INDUSTRY	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN-SAN MARCOS			BMT.-PT. ARTHUR			BRAZORIA		
	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97
TOTAL	58.0	57.9	56.0	96.0	95.7	93.9	599.6	596.5	578.2	161.1	160.9	158.6	75.7	75.6	74.7
Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.3	1.4
Construction	2.5	2.5	2.3	5.1	5.1	4.9	34.2	33.9	30.7	14.5	14.8	15.2	8.9	8.7	9.3
Manufacturing-Dur.	1.7	1.8	1.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	63.6	63.6	64.7	10.3	10.3	9.1	5.5	5.6	5.5
Manufacturing-Nondur.	1.7	1.7	1.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	12.5	12.5	12.3	15.5	15.5	15.3	11.1	11.2	11.1
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2.5	2.5	2.4	5.7	5.7	5.4	19.9	20.0	18.8	8.1	8.0	8.1	2.7	2.7	2.6
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.7	2.6	6.0	6.0	6.0	24.7	24.7	23.0	5.6	5.6	5.3	2.4	2.4	2.4
Retail Trade	12.2	12.2	11.8	20.8	20.7	20.3	104.6	104.3	100.4	31.3	31.4	30.6	12.8	12.8	12.4
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	2.5	2.5	2.4	5.1	5.1	4.9	30.9	30.8	30.0	5.4	5.4	5.2	1.8	1.8	1.8
Services	20.2	20.1	19.4	26.5	26.8	25.8	174.5	173.8	166.6	42.5	42.3	41.7	14.3	14.3	14.0
Federal Government	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.9	1.9	8.7	8.8	9.4	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.4	0.4	0.4
State Government	2.2	2.2	2.2	4.8	4.7	4.7	66.9	65.8	65.5	6.3	6.2	6.3	2.8	2.8	2.9
Local Government	6.5	6.4	6.4	10.1	9.8	10.1	57.8	57.0	55.6	17.8	17.6	17.7	11.7	11.6	10.9
INDUSTRY	BROWNSVILLE-HARL.			BRYAN-COLL. STA.			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS			EL PASO		
	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97
TOTAL	100.7	99.7	98.7	71.5	70.2	70.4	157.2	157.2	155.6	1861.9	1853.1	1799.2	255.6	254.9	248.3
Mining	**	**	**	0.8	0.8	0.9	2.4	2.4	2.4	11.5	11.4	11.6	**	**	**
Construction	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.0	10.3	10.3	11.6	88.8	88.6	84.7	12.6	12.5	11.9
Manufacturing-Dur.	5.0	4.9	4.9	2.7	2.7	2.5	4.9	4.9	4.7	172.7	172.7	169.7	16.1	15.8	15.8
Manufacturing-Nondur.	7.4	7.3	7.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	8.5	8.5	8.5	79.1	79.2	77.9	25.4	25.9	28.1
Trans., Comm. & Util.	4.7	4.7	4.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	6.4	6.5	6.4	131.1	130.7	123.3	14.7	14.6	13.7
Wholesale Trade	4.0	3.9	4.2	1.7	1.7	1.7	6.0	6.0	6.0	141.3	141.0	137.6	12.9	13.0	13.2
Retail Trade	20.0	19.8	19.6	13.8	13.6	13.5	30.4	30.6	30.0	302.6	302.1	296.0	46.4	46.4	44.6
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	3.7	3.7	3.7	2.3	2.3	2.3	6.5	6.5	6.5	146.4	146.4	141.4	10.5	10.3	9.8
Services	28.8	28.7	27.8	15.5	15.5	15.1	49.9	50.0	48.1	580.9	577.1	555.7	59.2	59.1	56.1
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	5.6	5.7	6.0	30.3	30.5	29.8	8.5	8.6	8.9
State Government	3.8	3.7	3.7	20.7	19.7	20.8	4.5	4.4	4.4	28.4	28.3	27.7	8.9	8.6	8.2
Local Government	18.0	17.7	18.1	6.4	6.2	6.4	21.8	21.4	21.0	148.8	147.1	143.8	40.4	40.1	38.0
INDUSTRY	FT. WORTH-ARL.			GALVESTON-TX. CITY			HOUSTON			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO		
	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97
TOTAL	740.5	738.9	715.3	90.2	90.4	88.9	1979.5	1977.7	1923.9	102.0	101.6	98.1	62.3	62.1	61.6
Mining	4.3	4.3	4.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	69.6	70.1	69.4	**	**	**	1.5	1.6	3.2
Construction	37.3	37.5	35.1	4.3	4.2	4.6	137.8	136.8	130.6	4.3	4.3	4.2	2.3	2.3	2.2
Manufacturing-Dur.	75.1	75.2	74.5	2.2	2.2	1.9	133.5	134.2	128.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.8	0.8	0.7
Manufacturing-Nondur.	36.1	36.2	36.1	5.8	5.9	6.0	82.8	83.0	84.4	5.1	5.1	4.9	0.8	0.8	0.9
Trans., Comm. & Util.	70.0	69.8	66.9	4.5	4.5	4.4	139.9	139.7	135.7	3.8	3.8	3.5	11.3	11.2	10.4
Wholesale Trade	40.0	40.1	39.3	1.9	1.9	2.0	125.6	124.6	124.7	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.2
Retail Trade	149.1	147.8	141.2	18.0	18.1	17.2	324.1	324.6	315.9	19.5	19.4	19.2	13.7	13.7	13.3
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	33.2	33.3	32.0	5.6	5.6	5.5	105.4	105.4	101.8	4.3	4.3	4.0	2.5	2.5	2.3
Services	203.0	203.2	193.9	19.5	19.6	19.0	602.9	603.3	582.0	28.2	28.3	27.0	11.6	11.5	11.0
Federal Government	14.3	14.2	14.3	0.9	0.9	0.9	25.7	25.9	25.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	1.6	1.6	1.5
State Government	8.0	8.0	8.7	13.1	13.1	13.4	43.9	44.4	43.0	4.1	4.0	3.9	1.6	1.6	1.6
Local Government	70.1	69.3	69.0	13.7	13.7	13.3	188.3	185.7	183.1	16.4	16.1	15.4	11.3	11.2	11.3
INDUSTRY	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDIN.-MIS.			ODESSA-MIDLAND			SAN ANGELO		
	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97
TOTAL	90.9	90.4	89.3	118.8	117.7	115.3	141.9	139.5	137.5	107.6	106.9	105.6	44.1	44.1	43.8
Mining	3.3	3.3	3.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	12.6	12.5	13.9	0.7	0.7	0.7
Construction	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.3	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.2	5.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Manufacturing-Dur.	13.2	13.2	12.9	4.7	4.7	4.5	3.4	3.4	3.2	4.8	4.7	4.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Manufacturing-Nondur.	5.9	5.8	6.2	3.4	3.3	3.3	9.9	9.6	10.2	2.6	2.6	2.7	1.7	1.8	2.4
Trans., Comm. & Util.	4.3	4.2	4.1	5.7	5.7	5.6	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.2	4.1	4.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Wholesale Trade	4.3	4.3	4.3	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.1	6.4	6.7	7.2	7.2	7.4	1.9	1.9	1.8
Retail Trade	18.7	18.7	18.0	25.6	25.5	24.8	32.4	32.2	31.4	20.6	20.3	20.3	8.5	8.5	8.2
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	3.3	3.3	3.2	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.0	4.9	4.9	3.5	3.5	3.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Services	21.4	21.3	20.9	36.1	36.1	34.7	32.4	32.3	31.1	25.3	25.6	24.4	13.4	13.3	13.0
Federal Government	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.4	1.3	1.5	3.0	3.1	2.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.3	1.3
State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	13.1	12.6	12.6	4.8	4.6	4.6	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.3	2.4
Local Government	10.6	10.4	10.5	10.8	10.5	11.0	30.4	29.6	29.4	17.0	16.6	15.6	5.7	5.6	5.3
INDUSTRY	SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA			TYLER			VICTORIA		
	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97
TOTAL	696.9	693.9	673.2	44.8	44.7	44.2	52.6	52.4	51.7	81.2	80.8	76.0	37.3	37.1	36.0
Mining	2.0	2.0	1.9	**	**	**	**	**	**	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8
Construction	37.8	37.7	35.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.5	2.6	2.3
Manufacturing-Dur.	26.8	26.7	25.9	7.5	7.5	7.5	3.2	3.2	3.3	7.0	7.1	5.7	1.1	1.1	1.1
Manufacturing-Nondur.	24.1	24.0	24.2	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	2.2	2.2	2.1
Trans., Comm. & Util.	31.4	31.3	30.9	1.7	1.7	1.6	2.3	2.3	2.2	4.1	4.0	3.8	1.7	1.6	1.5
Wholesale Trade	30.3	30.2	29.7	1.2	1.2	1.2	2.6	2.6	2.7	4.2	4.2	3.8	2.0	2.0	1.8
Retail Trade	135.8	136.1	132.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	10.9	10.9	10.7	16.7	16.7	15.9	7.8	7.7	7.7
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	45.6	45.6	44.8	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	4.1	4.2	4.0	1.3	1.3	1.6
Services	226.7	225.0	213.3	12.7	12.7	12.3	15.0	15.0	14.4	25.3	25.1	23.4	10.0	10.0	9.8
Federal Government	36.3	36.8	38.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	3.7	3.7	4.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.2
State Government	14.8	14.8	14.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.7	1.7	1.6	3.1	3.0	3.0	0.5	0.5	0.5
Local Government	85.3	83.7	81.8	5.2	5.1	5.1	6.5	6.3	6.2	7.2	7.0	7.2	6.3	6.1	5.6
INDUSTRY	WACO			WICHITA FALLS											
	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97	Oct. '98*	Sep. '98	Oct. '97									
TOTAL	99.4	98.6	97.0	61.1	61.0	59.5									
Mining	**	**	**	1.1	1.1	1.1									
Construction	5.0	5.0	4.4	2.4	2.4	2.2									
Manufacturing-Dur.	9.3	9.1	8.8	6.3	6.3	6.2									
Manufacturing-Nondur.	7.5	7.5	7.6	2.2	2.2	2.2									
Trans., Comm. & Util.	3.9	3.9	3.9	2.8	2.8	2.9									
Wholesale Trade	4.9	4.8	4.												

Texas Population Growth by County
April 1990-July 1997



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census

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What's New

A new Texas Labor Market Monograph is now available. *The Natural Rate of Unemployment: Fact or Fiction* is the second article in the Texas Labor Market Monograph Series by author Christopher J. Sessler, Ph.D. This article provides an intriguing look at the natural, or non-accelerating inflation rate of unemployment (NAIRU), a concept especially interesting given recent historically low unemployment rates.

Contacting the LMI Department

Additional statistics are available from the Labor Market Information (LMI) Department. Contact LMI at:

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