

\*If you have any suggestions or content you would like to see, shoot us an email. Thanks!\*



#### **Our Mission:**

The mission of the South Plains workforce system is to meet the needs of the region's employers for a highly skilled workforce by educating and preparing workers.

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## **March Newsletter**

### **Lubbock MSA and Regional Unemployment**

Lubbock's MSA unemployment rate for March 2018 of 3.5%, was up 0.4% of February's 2018 of 3.1%. Midland MSA's recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 2.4% followed by Amarillo and College Station-Bryan MSA's at 3.0%.

\*Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit [tracer2.com](http://tracer2.com).

The TWC Lubbock MSA and South Plains WDA

#### **Upcoming Events:**

South Plains Job Fair  
Lubbock Memorial Civic  
Center  
-April 25, 2018-  
-10:00am - 2:00pm-

South Plains Career Expo  
Lubbock Memorial Civic  
Center  
~October 23, 2018~  
-8:30am - 12:00pm-

South Plains Job Fair

Economic Profiles provide a breakdown of employment by industry. Click on the images to the right to access the profiles.

(Image located on page 3)

Lubbock Memorial Civic  
Center  
-October 2018-

Hiring Red, White & You  
Veterans Job Fair  
-November 8, 2018-  
-10:00am - 2:00pm-

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Metro Areas (Seasonally Adjusted)

Metro Areas	Apr 2017	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Abilene MSA	68,100	100	700	1.0
Amarillo MSA	121,300	-1,100	1,200	1.0
Austin-Round Rock MSA	1,021,900	-400	29,300	3.0
Beaumont-Port Arthur MSA	164,000	900	-800	-0.5
Brownsville-Harlingen MSA	143,000	100	2,700	1.9
College Station-Bryan MSA	115,900	-400	2,500	2.2
Corpus Christi MSA	192,400	-100	1,400	0.7
Dallas-FW-Arlington MSA	3,582,400	-18,000	99,600	2.9
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,555,000	-15,600	76,600	3.1
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,027,800	-3,200	22,600	2.2
El Paso MSA	317,000	400	9,200	3.0
Houston MSA	3,044,300	13,700	44,000	1.5
Killeen-Temple MSA	146,600	500	3,600	2.5
Laredo MSA	104,000	100	2,300	2.3
Longview MSA	96,700	300	-600	-0.6
Lubbock MSA	146,300	-1,000	800	0.5
McAllen MSA	256,700	600	4,900	1.9
Midland MSA	87,800	-100	100	0.1
Odessa MSA	69,800	100	-200	-0.3
San Angelo MSA	48,600	400	-500	-1.0
San Antonio MSA	1,035,600	3,800	24,800	2.5
Sherman-Denison MSA	47,000	100	1,000	2.2
Texarkana MSA	60,200	-500	-800	-1.3
Tyler MSA	106,200	400	2,300	2.2
Victoria MSA	42,000	200	-300	-0.7
Waco MSA	120,400	600	2,200	1.9
Wichita Falls MSA	58,000	400	-100	-0.2

### Highlights

(MSA industry data are not seasonally adjusted)

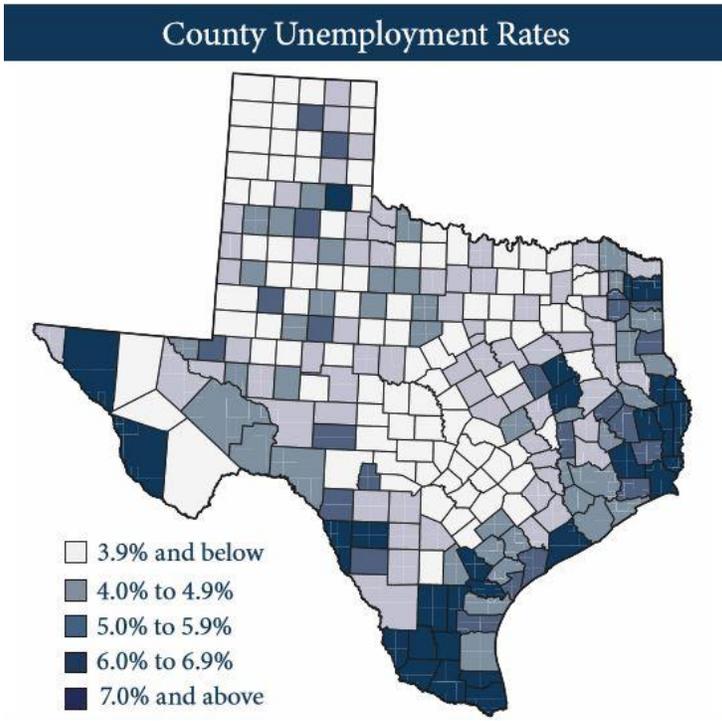
- Seventeen of 26 areas grew in April for a combined increase of 22,700 jobs. Nineteen areas grew over the year, while seven areas contracted.
- The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA accounted for more than half of all area employment gains over the month. The MSA increased its annual growth rate to 1.5 percent.
- The San Angelo MSA grew fastest in percentage terms with a 0.8 percent April expansion. Per not seasonally adjusted industry data, Retail Trade and Other Services each added 200 jobs over the month, while Government was down 200 positions.
- The Dallas-Plano-Irving MD led in actual and percentage job growth annually. Professional and Business Services led all major industries with 21,000 positions gained, followed by Leisure and Hospitality with 10,900 jobs added.
- The Beaumont-PA and the Texarkana MSAs lost the most jobs annually. The loss of 2,100 jobs in Retail was primarily responsible for the contraction in the Beaumont-PA MSA, while employment losses in Texarkana were spread across industries.

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(Image located on page 6)



**Click image to  
view full report:**  
Lubbock Metropolitan  
Statistical Area (MSA)



**Click image to  
view full report:**  
South Plains Regional  
Workforce Development Area

Lubbock												
Area	Area Type	Area Code	2014			2015			2016			2017
			Population	Unemployed	Rate	Population	Unemployed	Rate	Population	Unemployed	Rate	
Lubbock	City	100000	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000
County	County	100000	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000
State	State	100000	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000
US	US	100000	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000	10,000	10.0%	100,000

**Click image to  
view full report:**  
Lubbock LAUS  
County-by-County  
Unemployment Rates

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### Wood supports South Plains Wind Farm

Wood recently supported TerraForm Power with power performance testing (PPT) at South Plains I Wind Farm located near Lockney, Texas.

The 200 MW site, which comprises 100 Vestas V100 wind turbine generators (WTGs), has the capacity to generate enough energy for approximately 60,000 households.

Wood was appointed to undertake power performance testing as part of TerraForm Power's standard process of verifying the WTG power curve guarantee on a subset of its wind turbine generators.

As part of the scope of work, Wood's engineers and consultants designed and installed state-of-the-art calibrated power performance monitoring systems in the six WTGs and filtered and analysed the data from the WTGs and the met masts to assess the performance.

Bob MacDonald, CEO of Wood's Specialist Technical Solutions business, said: "Wind farm owners should have complete confidence in the performance of their wind turbine assets and we are happy to have provided TerraForm with this reassurance.

"By using PPT we can compare the actual power curve for a wind turbine to the warranted power curve provided by the wind turbine manufacturer to identify and correct any sources of underperformance.

"Wood's clean energy business is a MEASNET member for power performance testing services, is accredited to ISO 17025, and is a recognized testing lab by IECRE to undertake power curve tests on wind turbines. These qualifications underpin our significant track record of performing successful power curve

tests on a wide range of wind turbine models. It also ensures that our tests are fully recognized by wind turbine manufacturers and project owners.”

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## **Texas Adds 294,100 Jobs Over the Year**

*State unemployment rate is 4.0 percent in March*

AUSTIN – Texas has added 294,100 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs over the year including 32,000 jobs added in March. The State has experienced 21 consecutive months of employment growth.

[Read the full press release.](#)

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Sources:

Texas Labor Market Review

[http://www.tracer2.com/admin/uploadedPublications/2138\\_TLMR-Current\\_Edition.pdf](http://www.tracer2.com/admin/uploadedPublications/2138_TLMR-Current_Edition.pdf)

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