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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.

May Newsletter

Lubbock MSA and Regional Unemployment

Lubbock's MSA unemployment rate for May remained the same as April's at 3.2% in the state. Amarillo's MSA recorded the lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSA's at 3.1%. College Station-Bryan, Austin Round-Rock and Lubbock's MSA's are at 3.2%.

*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.

Upcoming Events:

Annual Awards of
Excellence &
Board Meeting
~July 26, 2017~

South Plains Career Expo
~October 18, 2017~

South Plains Job Fair
-October 24, 2017-

Hiring Red, White & You
Veterans Job Fair
-November 9, 2017-

The TWC Lubbock MSA and South Plains WDA 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)

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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

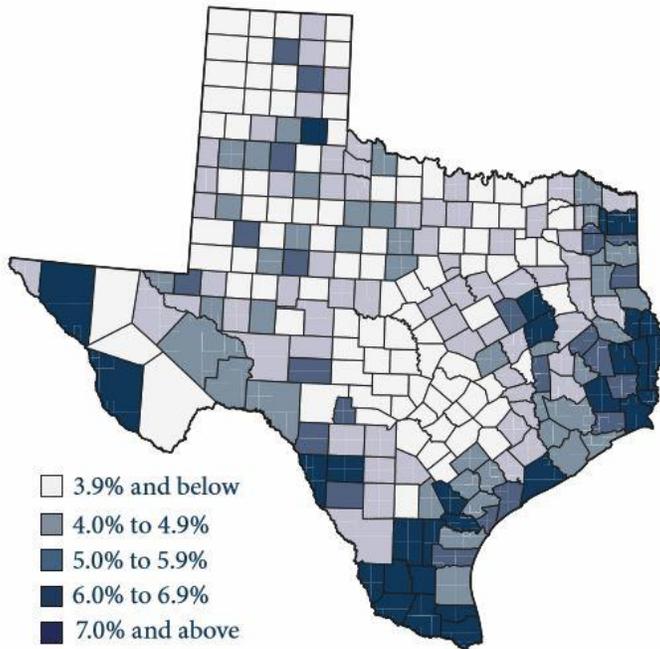
(MSA industry data are not seasonally adjusted)

- 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.



Click image to view full report:

County Unemployment Rates



(Image located on page 6)

Lubbock Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)



Click image to view full report:

South Plains Regional Workforce Development Area

Area	2010-11				2011-12				2012-13			
	Area	Unemp	Unemp	Rate	Area	Unemp	Unemp	Rate	Area	Unemp	Unemp	Rate
State	10,000,000	1,000,000	10,000,000	10.0%	10,000,000	1,000,000	10,000,000	10.0%	10,000,000	1,000,000	10,000,000	10.0%
Lubbock MSA	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000	10.0%	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000	10.0%	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000	10.0%
County	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000	10.0%	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000	10.0%	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000	10.0%

Click image to view full report:

Lubbock LAUS County-by-County Unemployment Rates

Why Summer Jobs Are Important

by Denise Brown Chron.com



A summer job teaches a teenager many skills.

High school students may want the freedom to do whatever they want, but often lack the funds to pay for it. Some rely on their parents to provide the money, but many parents realize that the teenage years are a good time for their children to earn their spending money and to learn money-management skills. Even after a young person goes to college, summer jobs continue to provide important life-skills training.

Spending Money

As a teenager earns money from their summer job, she has the choice of spending it on food and clothes they can use, or saving the money for college. Ideally, she should put some money into the college fund and also enjoy the thrill of spending some hard-earned cash any way she wants. As she goes from paycheck to paycheck, she begins to learn how to manage the money and ways to stretch it. She also learns what happens when she doesn't budget appropriately, especially if her parents don't advance her any money.

Business Skills

Colleges and future employers look for experience on resumes, and summer

jobs provide opportunities to expand basic work skills. No matter what type of summer job a teenager has, he is expected to be at work on time and to finish his assigned shift. Teenage workers also learn how to listen for directions so they can carry out work tasks properly. Jobs often require workers to improve their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Young workers also learn how to handle constructive criticism.

Career Opportunities

A teenager may not know what career path he wants to follow. By trying a variety of part-time jobs during high school and college, he gets an inside look into careers without investing a lot of money. For example, if he is considering a career in sales, working in a retail store teaches him valuable job skills and provides insight on how sales affect the company's bottom line. He also gains experience working with a wide range of customers.

Networking

The young person learns how to develop positive relationships with a wide variety of personalities as she works on her daily tasks. Summer jobs provide a way for a young person to network with older, experienced business associates. A successful summer job may turn into a full-time job after the young person completes college or vocational training. Knowing someone who can help you find a job gives you an edge, especially in a tight job market.

Texas Ends 2016 with 210,200 Jobs Added Over the Year

State unemployment rate remains at 4.6 percent in December

AUSTIN – Texas has added an estimated 210,200 seasonally adjusted jobs since December 2015 with the addition of 800 nonfarm jobs this December. The state has added jobs in 20 of the past 21 months. Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate maintained a 4.6 percent rate in December.

Read the full [press release](#).

Sources:

Texas Labor Market Review

http://www.tracer2.com/admin/uploadedPublications/2138_TLMR-Current_Edition.pdf

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