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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.

July Newsletter

Lubbock MSA and Regional Unemployment

Lubbock's MSA unemployment rate for July 2018 was 3.4%, down 0.2% from June's 3.6%. Midland MSA's recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 2.2%, followed by Amarillo and Odessa MSA's at 2.9%. Austin Round Rock was the fourth lowest at 3.1% for July.

*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:

- Governors Small Business Forum -

Overton Hotel &
Conference Center
2322 Mac Davis Lane

- September 6 -
- 8:00am - 2:00pm -

- Save the Date -

Fall 2018 Rural Careers in
Texas Industries Events

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)

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.

for 8th grade students
8am - 12:00pm for all
events below

- Muleshoe -

Tuesday, September 11,
2018

- Plainview -

Thursday, September 13,
2018

- Crosbyton -

Tuesday, September 18,
2018

- Levelland -

Thursday, September 20,
2018

- South Plains Job Fair - Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

- October 10, 2018 -

- 10:00am - 2:00pm -

- South Plains Career Expo -

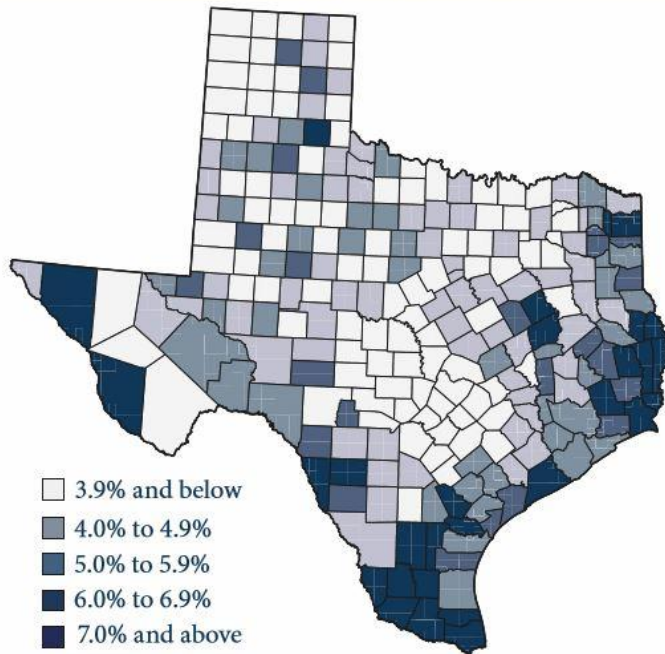
Lubbock Memorial Civic
Center

~ October 23, 2018 ~

- 8:30am - 1:00pm -

Hiring Red, White & You

County Unemployment Rates





(Image located on page 6)


Veterans Job Fair

- November 8, 2018 -

-10:00am - 2:00pm-

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



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

CARRIERS									
Area	Line	May 17		April 17		May 16		April 16	
		Rate	Volume	Rate	Volume	Rate	Volume	Rate	Volume
Atlanta	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Boston	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Chicago	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Denver	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Los Angeles	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Memphis	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Minneapolis	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
New York	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Phoenix	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Portland	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
San Francisco	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Seattle	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00
Wash. DC	1000	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00	10,000.00	100,000.00

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

Cotton Incorporated Combats FOV4 In The Southwest

July 1, 2018 in [Feature Story](#), Southwest Report



By Shelley Heinrich
Slaton, Texas

Across the South Plains, Texas Panhandle, Oklahoma and Kansas, the vast diversity of challenges in this year's crop is clearly noticeable. Weather conditions, seed varieties and weed control issues have brought growers together on the turnrow to discuss critical production practice decisions for the 2018 cotton crop.

In recent months, the discovery of *Fusarium* wilt race 4 (FOV4) in fields in the Southwest has been quite alarming in the cotton industry. This race of *Fusarium* devastated the Pima cotton industry until resistant varieties were screened, developed and made commercially available.

Acres and markets were lost, and financial viability was diminished. As quickly as FOV4 was discovered in the Southwest, Cotton Incorporated began developing a strategy to keep Upland cotton production protected and viable.

Tolerance And Containment



Fusarium wilt race 4 can cause plant mortality. Cotton Incorporated is investing funds to screen and breed for FOV4 tolerance and containment in Upland cotton - photo by Bob Hutmacher, University of California

“Even when FOV4 was predominately a Pima problem, we knew it could attack Upland cotton,” says Dr. Kater Hake, vice president of ag research for Cotton Incorporated. “Cotton Incorporated proactively invested in breeders and pathologists to address this threat.

“With FOV4 now expanding into the Upland production area, this investment has been substantially ramped up in both Upland screening/breeding for FOV4 tolerance and for FOV4 containment. Through Cotton Incorporated, growers are funding six scientists to screen and breed Upland varieties with FOV4 tolerance and four scientists to work on management and detection of FOV4.”

Cotton Incorporated is investing both core funds from the ag research department and funds from the Texas State Support program into combatting FOV4. Today, 17 programs are working diligently on genetic development and resistance, plant pathology and field research.

The goal is to minimize the financial impact to producers and maximize their knowledge of the influences of FOV4. Without this type of diligence and quick reaction, the pathogen’s spread could overcome existing cotton acres with no remedy or crop options.

“Hopefully in 2018, scientists will identify readily available commercial Upland varieties with good tolerance to FOV4. But if they don’t, we will have advanced the development of tolerant germplasm and learned more about FOV4 management practices under Southwest conditions,” Hake says.

Quick Reaction Pays Off

Scientists do not know how FOV4 was introduced in the field. However, it is a soil pathogen that can be spread from field to field. It can be carried on planting seed or in dirt on equipment, such as cotton harvesters or module haulers. Symptoms, such as dead seedlings and black streaks inside tap roots, have been seen in El Paso area screening trials.

Although there is still much work being done to combat and contain FOV4, cotton producers can be proud that Cotton Incorporated's ag research team has reacted quickly when cotton production profitability, quality and viability are being threatened. A quality crop delivered to the marketplace is the end goal and that is where investment in the Cotton Research and Promotion Program pays dividends.

Shelley Heinrich is the Cotton Board Southern Plains regional communication manager. Email her at sheinrich@cottonboard.org.

Texas Adds 377,100 Jobs Over the Year

State unemployment rate is 4.0 percent in July

AUSTIN – Texas has added 377,100 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs over the year including 23,500 jobs added in July. The State has experienced 25 consecutive months of employment growth.

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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