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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.

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## **May Newsletter**

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

Lubbock's MSA unemployment rate for May 2019 is 2.3%, same as April of 2.3%. Midland MSA recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 1.7%, second lowest was Amarillo and Odessa MSA's at 2.1%.and Austin-Round Rock was third lowest rate at 2.2%.

\*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 [Texas LMI](#).

### **Upcoming Events in 2019:**

#### **-South Plains Job Fairs-**

- October 9, 2019 -

Lubbock Memorial Civic  
Center

-10am - 2pm-

#### **-Jobs Y'all Career Exploration Events-**

September 2019

For 8th graders

Dates/time/locations still

pending

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)

**- South Plains Career Expo -**

-October 22, 2019 -  
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

- 8:00am - 12:00pm -

**Hiring Red, White & You**

Veterans Job Fair

- November 7, 2019 -  
-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)

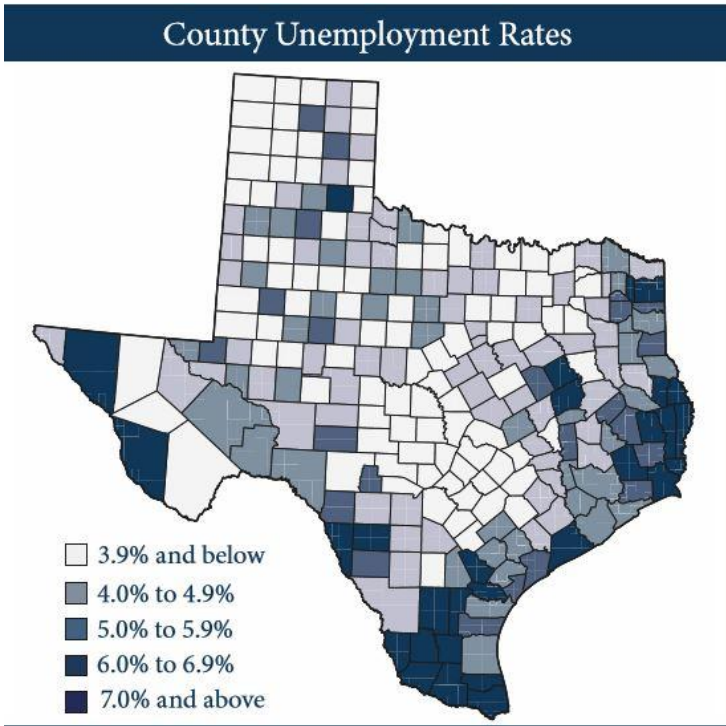
- Seventeen of 26 areas grew in April for a combined increase of 22,700 jobs. Nineteen areas grew over the year, while seven areas contracted.
- The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA accounted for more than half of all area employment gains over the month. The MSA increased its annual growth rate 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													
		February 19			February 18			February 17			February 16		
Year	Rate	Population	Unemployed	Rate	Population	Unemployed	Rate	Population	Unemployed	Rate	Population	Unemployed	
2016	3.9%	1,087,000	42,300	3.8%	1,087,000	41,500	3.7%	1,087,000	40,700	3.6%	1,087,000	39,900	
2015	3.8%	1,087,000	41,300	3.7%	1,087,000	40,300	3.6%	1,087,000	39,300	3.5%	1,087,000	38,300	
2014	3.7%	1,087,000	40,300	3.6%	1,087,000	39,300	3.5%	1,087,000	38,300	3.4%	1,087,000	37,300	
2013	3.6%	1,087,000	39,300	3.5%	1,087,000	38,300	3.4%	1,087,000	37,300	3.3%	1,087,000	36,300	
2012	3.5%	1,087,000	38,300	3.4%	1,087,000	37,300	3.3%	1,087,000	36,300	3.2%	1,087,000	35,300	
2011	3.4%	1,087,000	37,300	3.3%	1,087,000	36,300	3.2%	1,087,000	35,300	3.1%	1,087,000	34,300	
2010	3.3%	1,087,000	36,300	3.2%	1,087,000	35,300	3.1%	1,087,000	34,300	3.0%	1,087,000	33,300	
2009	3.2%	1,087,000	35,300	3.1%	1,087,000	34,300	3.0%	1,087,000	33,300	2.9%	1,087,000	32,300	
2008	3.1%	1,087,000	34,300	3.0%	1,087,000	33,300	2.9%	1,087,000	32,300	2.8%	1,087,000	31,300	
2007	3.0%	1,087,000	33,300	2.9%	1,087,000	32,300	2.8%	1,087,000	31,300	2.7%	1,087,000	30,300	
2006	2.9%	1,087,000	32,300	2.8%	1,087,000	31,300	2.7%	1,087,000	30,300	2.6%	1,087,000	29,300	
2005	2.8%	1,087,000	31,300	2.7%	1,087,000	30,300	2.6%	1,087,000	29,300	2.5%	1,087,000	28,300	
2004	2.7%	1,087,000	30,300	2.6%	1,087,000	29,300	2.5%	1,087,000	28,300	2.4%	1,087,000	27,300	
2003	2.6%	1,087,000	29,300	2.5%	1,087,000	28,300	2.4%	1,087,000	27,300	2.3%	1,087,000	26,300	
2002	2.5%	1,087,000	28,300	2.4%	1,087,000	27,300	2.3%	1,087,000	26,300	2.2%	1,087,000	25,300	
2001	2.4%	1,087,000	27,300	2.3%	1,087,000	26,300	2.2%	1,087,000	25,300	2.1%	1,087,000	24,300	
2000	2.3%	1,087,000	26,300	2.2%	1,087,000	25,300	2.1%	1,087,000	24,300	2.0%	1,087,000	23,300	
1999	2.2%	1,087,000	25,300	2.1%	1,087,000	24,300	2.0%	1,087,000	23,300	1.9%	1,087,000	22,300	
1998	2.1%	1,087,000	24,300	2.0%	1,087,000	23,300	1.9%	1,087,000	22,300	1.8%	1,087,000	21,300	
1997	2.0%	1,087,000	23,300	1.9%	1,087,000	22,300	1.8%	1,087,000	21,300	1.7%	1,087,000	20,300	
1996	1.9%	1,087,000	22,300	1.8%	1,087,000	21,300	1.7%	1,087,000	20,300	1.6%	1,087,000	19,300	
1995	1.8%	1,087,000	21,300	1.7%	1,087,000	20,300	1.6%	1,087,000	19,300	1.5%	1,087,000	18,300	
1994	1.7%	1,087,000	20,300	1.6%	1,087,000	19,300	1.5%	1,087,000	18,300	1.4%	1,087,000	17,300	
1993	1.6%	1,087,000	19,300	1.5%	1,087,000	18,300	1.4%	1,087,000	17,300	1.3%	1,087,000	16,300	
1992	1.5%	1,087,000	18,300	1.4%	1,087,000	17,300	1.3%	1,087,000	16,300	1.2%	1,087,000	15,300	
1991	1.4%	1,087,000	17,300	1.3%	1,087,000	16,300	1.2%	1,087,000	15,300	1.1%	1,087,000	14,300	

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

**Why Getting Started is More Important Than Succeeding**  
by [James Clear](#) | [Procrastination](#), [Productivity](#), [Self-Improvement](#)

In 1991, Lindsay Davenport played in her first professional tennis match. She was 15 years old.

Over the next 20 years, Davenport would go on to have one of the greatest tennis careers in recent history. She won three different Grand Slam titles. She won the 1996 Olympic Gold Medal. She was ranked the Number 1 female tennis player in the world eight different times. In total, Davenport earned over \$22 million in prize money throughout her career.

I had the chance to meet Davenport at the 2012 US Open. Later that night, she fielded some questions from our group and I asked her this...

“Lindsay, sports can teach people a lot of lessons. What lessons did you learn during your time as a professional tennis player that you didn’t learn as an amateur?”

Full disclosure: I had a personal motive with this question. I played baseball in college, but not professionally. So I wanted to know, “What did I miss?”

Davenport’s first response was to talk about how she had to grow up fast. She mentioned the power of the media and learning to live her life in front of a crowd.

But then she shifted gears and talked about improving at her craft and the lessons of competition, hard work, and perseverance. Those things, she said, were learned long before she became a professional.

In other words, to learn about what it’s like to live as a professional athlete, you need to be a professional athlete. But to learn the lessons of playing sports, you just need to play your sport.

**Excellence Isn’t Required for Growth**

Our world is becoming more and more obsessed with comparison and validation. The style of thinking that is becoming dangerously common is “If you can’t be number one or number two, then you might as well not play at all.”

(This belief was actually celebrated in my MBA program, which may or may not surprise you.)

But according to Davenport, you don't need to be a professional to learn the most important lessons in sports. You just need to bust your butt as an athlete, regardless of the level you're playing at. I'd say it's that way in the rest of life as well.

Mastering your craft isn't nearly as important as pushing yourself.

To put it another way, you'll learn more from the process of pursuing excellence than from the products of achieving it.

**It's More Important to Start, Than to Succeed**  
**I think a lot of what people call intelligence just boils down to curiosity.**  
**—Aaron Swartz**

What if the choice to be curious was all that was required to become smarter, stronger, and more skilled? What if the willingness to try something new, even if it felt uncomfortable, was all that it took to start the slow march towards greatness?

- Are you curious enough to get in the gym and try it, even if you'll look stupid?
- Are you willing to be vulnerable and put your skin in the game to start your own business?
- Are you eager enough to improve your work that you'll battle through the frustration of producing something mediocre?

It all boils down to this: Whether you'll end up being the best or the worst, are you willing to start? The more I look at things this way, the more I believe that the willingness to start is the littlest thing in life that makes the biggest difference.

Step onto the field. Stand up in the meeting. Raise your hand in class.

Get under the bar. Walk up to the podium. Ask the first question.

Take a risk, get started, and contribute something. To your team, to your family, to your job, to your community. Whether or not you end up being number one in the world is irrelevant. Most of the time, the value you provide isn't nearly as important as pushing yourself to provide it. This is especially true at first.

Having the courage to get started is more important than succeeding because the people who consistently get started are the only ones who can end up finishing anything.

### **Get Started: Life Isn't a Dress Rehearsal**

I often write about what it means to live a healthy life.

I can't think of any skill more critical to the active pursuit of a healthy life than the willingness to start. Everything that signifies a happy, healthy and fulfilled existence — strong relationships, vibrant creativity, valuable work, a physical lifestyle, etc. — it all requires a willingness to get started over and over again.

Take note: being the best isn't required to be happy or fulfilled, but being in the game is necessary.

Life isn't a dress rehearsal. Only one person lives in the spotlight, but everyone benefits from stepping on stage.

Which stage will you step onto? What game will you play? How will you get started?

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## Texas private sector employers has added 277,000 jobs over the year

*State unemployment rate is 3.5 percent in May*

AUSTIN – Texas adds 19,600 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in May. May's unemployment rate of 3.5% is a new record all-time low.

Read the full [press release](#).

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### Sources:

**Texas Labor Market Review**

<https://texaslmi.com/api/GetHomeLinks/TLMR>

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