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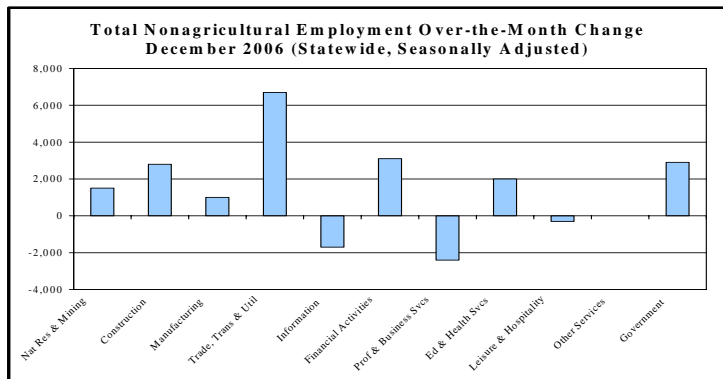
TEXAS

LABOR MARKET REVIEW

JANUARY 2007

Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Total Nonagricultural Employment posted a job gain in December of 15,600 and logged 27 consecutive months of employment growth. This increase is above the average gain recorded for the month of December. Seven of the eleven major industries added jobs in December. The largest contribution came from Trade, Transportation and Utilities, which added 6,700 jobs. A total of 213,200 jobs were created since December 2005, representing an annual growth rate for December 2006 of 2.2 percent.



After three consecutive monthly declines in employment, Trade, Transportation and Utilities experienced a sizeable gain of 6,700 jobs in December. Since 1990, the average gain for the month of December has been 600 jobs. This industry added 15,700 jobs over the year and posted an annual growth rate of 0.8 percent for December 2006.

Financial Activities employment grew 3,100 jobs in December. This was the largest December job gain recorded in the industry in over a decade. Financial Activities has added employment in twenty-three of the past twenty-four months. The annual growth rate was 3.1 percent or 19,300 jobs added since December 2005.

Following two months of job losses, employment in Government expanded by 2,900 jobs in December. Since the beginning of 2006, 23,900 jobs were added in the industry. The annual growth rate improved slightly from 1.3 percent in November to 1.5 percent in December. A total of 25,500 jobs were created in Government since December 2005.

Employment in Construction rose by 2,800 jobs in December, almost mirroring November's gain of 2,700 positions. The annual growth rate increased to 7.7 percent, the highest growth rate posted since

March 1999. A total of 44,700 jobs were added in Construction since December 2005.

Education and Health Services employment increased by 2,000 positions in December, following a gain of 1,700 positions in November. This was the sixth consecutive month of employment growth. The annual growth rate dropped from 2.3 percent in November to 2.2 percent in December, a gain of 26,100 jobs since December 2005.

Natural Resources and Mining employment increased for the seventh consecutive month, adding 1,500 jobs in December. This was the largest December increase in six years. The annual growth rate for December of 6.9 percent was up from a rate of 6.2 percent in November.

The Manufacturing industry added 1,000 jobs in December and logged five consecutive months of payroll additions. The annual growth rate remained strong as well at 1.0 percent or 9,400 jobs added since December 2005.

Following an increase of 1,100 jobs in November, Other Services employment remained unchanged in December. The annual growth rate also remained constant in December at 0.5 percent, an increase of 1,600 jobs since December 2005.

Employment in Leisure and Hospitality lost 300 jobs in December following a gain of 3,600 positions in November. This was the first month of job loss since June 2006. The annual growth rate dropped from 2.6 percent in November to 2.4 percent in December, an increase of 21,900 positions since December 2005.

Following an increase of 6,300 jobs in November, Professional and Business Services employment posted a loss of 2,400 positions in December. This industry added jobs in nine of the twelve months of 2006. The annual growth rate dropped from 4.3 percent in November to 3.9 percent in December, a gain of 46,000 jobs since December 2005.

REMINDER TO OUR READERS:

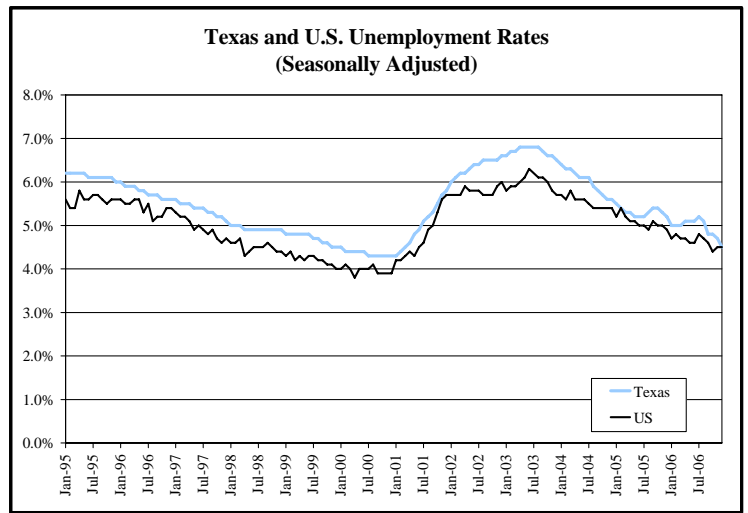
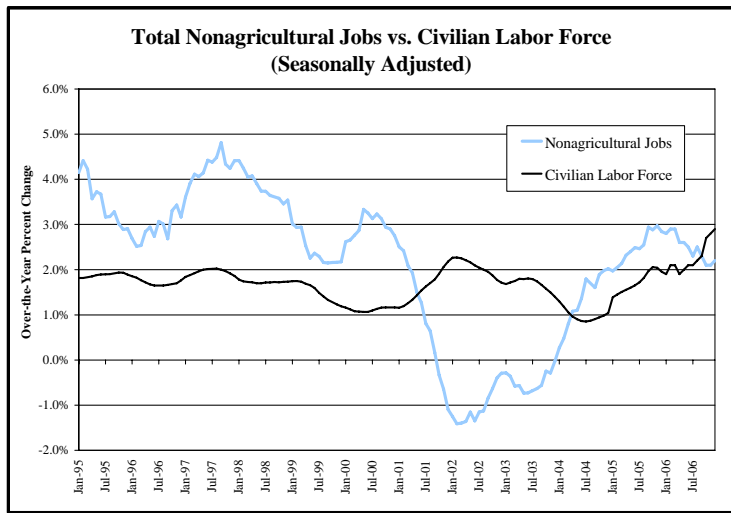
We will not be producing a TLMR issue in February. The next issue will be released on Thursday, March 8th.

For information regarding when data will be released in 2007, please see page 11.

**TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED***

INDUSTRY TITLE	Dec. 2006*	Nov. 2006	Dec. 2005	Nov. '06 to Dec. '06		Dec. '05 to Dec. '06	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
TOTAL NONAG. W&S EMPLOYMENT	10,074,500	10,058,900	9,861,300	15,600	0.2	213,200	2.2
GOODS PRODUCING							
Natural Resources & Mining	183,700	182,200	171,900	1,500	0.8	11,800	6.9
Construction	624,900	622,100	580,200	2,800	0.5	44,700	7.7
Manufacturing	914,500	913,500	905,100	1,000	0.1	9,400	1.0
SERVICE PROVIDING							
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2,028,200	2,021,500	2,012,500	6,700	0.3	15,700	0.8
Information	214,900	216,600	223,700	-1,700	-0.8	-8,800	-3.9
Financial Activities	637,600	634,500	618,300	3,100	0.5	19,300	3.1
Professional & Business Services	1,231,900	1,234,300	1,185,900	-2,400	-0.2	46,000	3.9
Education & Health Services	1,230,700	1,228,700	1,204,600	2,000	0.2	26,100	2.2
Leisure & Hospitality	940,900	941,200	919,000	-300	0.0	21,900	2.4
Other Services	352,800	352,800	351,200	0	0.0	1,600	0.5
Government	1,714,400	1,711,500	1,688,900	2,900	0.2	25,500	1.5

Note: The number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas is without reference to place of residence of workers. Total Nonagricultural employment is additive by summing the individual sectors.
 *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.

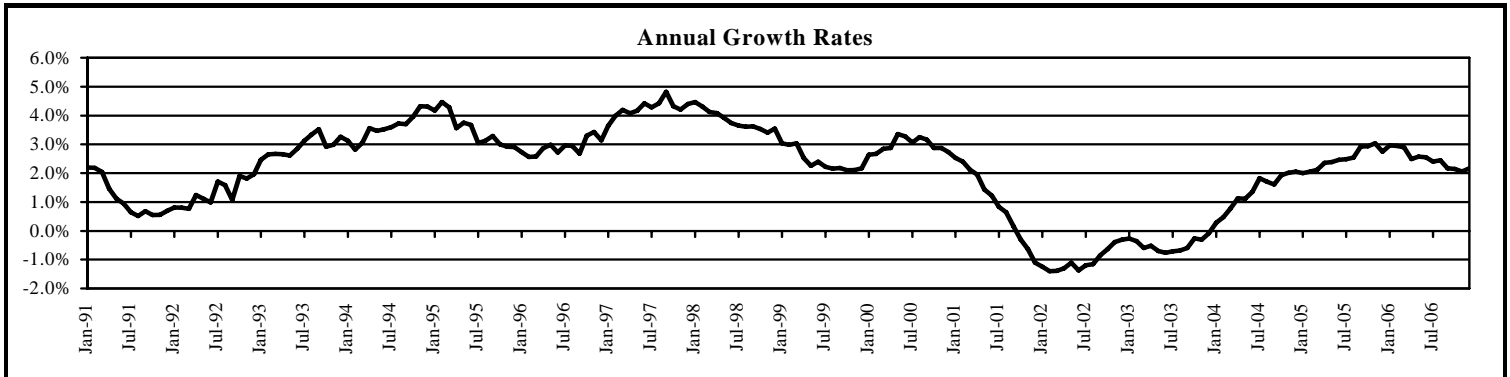


TEXAS AND U.S. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

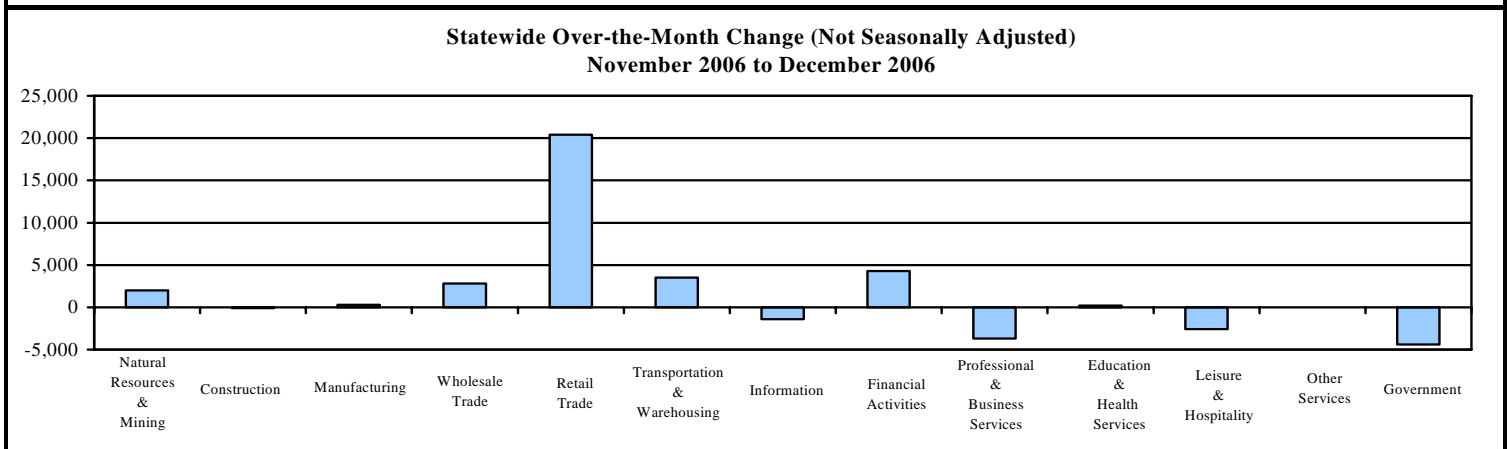
TEXAS*					UNITED STATES**			
Not Seasonally Adjusted	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate
December 2006	11,616,500	11,141,200	475,300	4.1	152,571,000	146,081,000	6,491,000	4.3
November 2006	11,634,900	11,101,900	533,000	4.6	152,590,000	146,014,000	6,576,000	4.3
December 2005	11,325,800	10,785,000	540,800	4.8	149,874,000	142,918,000	6,956,000	4.6
Seasonally Adjusted	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate
December 2006	11,640,100	11,118,200	521,900	4.5	152,775,000	145,926,000	6,849,000	4.5
November 2006	11,629,100	11,077,100	552,000	4.7	152,449,000	145,623,000	6,826,000	4.5
December 2005	11,310,800	10,720,900	589,900	5.2	150,113,000	142,782,000	7,331,000	4.9

Note: Only the actual series estimates for Texas and the U.S. are comparable to sub-state estimates. 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 and Career Information Department, Texas Workforce Commission (model-based methodology)
 **Source - Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor (Current Population Survey)

Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



	Nov '06 to Dec '06		Dec '05 to Dec '06				
	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
TOTAL NONFARM	10,138,400	10,117,100	9,923,700	21,300	0.2%	214,700	2.2%
TOTAL PRIVATE (total nonfarm less government)	8,396,900	8,371,200	8,208,400	25,700	0.3%	188,500	2.3%
GOODS PRODUCING	1,718,900	1,716,700	1,653,000	2,200	0.1%	65,900	4.0%
Natural Resources and Mining (NAICS 1133 [logging], NAICS 21)	184,000	182,000	172,200	2,000	1.1%	11,800	6.9%
Mining (NAICS 21)	180,500	178,600	170,000	1,900	1.1%	10,500	6.2%
Oil and Gas Extraction (NAICS 211)	71,300	70,500	67,200	800	1.1%	4,100	6.1%
Support Activities for Mining (NAICS 213)	103,900	102,500	92,500	1,400	1.4%	11,400	12.3%
Construction (NAICS 23)	620,700	620,800	575,900	-100	0.0%	44,800	7.8%
Construction of Buildings (NAICS 236)	152,200	151,700	137,600	500	0.3%	14,600	10.6%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (NAICS 237)	113,300	113,300	109,300	0	0.0%	4,000	3.7%
Specialty Trade Contractors (NAICS 238)	355,200	355,800	329,000	-600	-0.2%	26,200	8.0%
Manufacturing (NAICS 31-33)	914,200	913,900	904,900	300	0.0%	9,300	1.0%
Durable Goods	588,800	588,300	576,800	500	0.1%	12,000	2.1%
Wood Product Manufacturing (NAICS 321)	27,600	27,900	27,000	-300	-1.1%	600	2.2%
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing (NAICS 327)	45,100	44,900	43,400	200	0.4%	1,700	3.9%
Primary Metal Manufacturing (NAICS 331)	24,600	24,800	24,300	-200	-0.8%	300	1.2%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (NAICS 332)	121,400	121,100	116,300	300	0.2%	5,100	4.4%
Machinery Manufacturing (NAICS 333)	84,500	83,700	81,900	800	1.0%	2,600	3.2%
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing (NAICS 334)	108,400	108,900	111,600	-500	-0.5%	-3,200	-2.9%
Electric Equipment, Appliance, and Component Mfg (NAICS 335)	18,500	18,300	18,000	200	1.1%	500	2.8%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing (NAICS 336)	92,200	92,300	89,700	-100	-0.1%	2,500	2.8%
Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing (NAICS 337)	32,900	32,800	31,800	100	0.3%	1,100	3.5%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing (NAICS 339)	33,600	33,600	32,800	0	0.0%	800	2.4%
Nondurable Goods	325,400	325,600	328,100	-200	-0.1%	-2,700	-0.8%
Food Manufacturing (NAICS 311)	93,100	93,500	93,400	-400	-0.4%	-300	-0.3%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing (NAICS 312)	11,000	11,100	10,800	-100	-0.9%	200	1.9%
Paper Manufacturing (NAICS 322)	20,800	20,900	21,600	-100	-0.5%	-800	-3.7%
Printing and Related Support Manufacturing (NAICS 323)	35,000	35,300	36,100	-300	-0.8%	-1,100	-3.0%
Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing (NAICS 324)	23,400	23,300	22,800	100	0.4%	600	2.6%
Chemical Manufacturing (NAICS 325)	73,300	72,900	73,500	400	0.5%	-200	-0.3%
Plastics and Rubber Manufacturing (NAICS 326)	45,600	45,400	45,900	200	0.4%	-300	-0.7%



*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 Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

			Nov '06 to Dec '06		Dec '05 to Dec '06		
	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
SERVICE PROVIDING	8,419,500	8,400,400	8,270,700	19,100	0.2%	148,800	1.8%
Private Service Providing	6,678,000	6,654,500	6,555,400	23,500	0.4%	122,600	1.9%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (NAICS 42,44,45,48,49,22)	2,080,300	2,053,600	2,064,300	26,700	1.3%	16,000	0.8%
Wholesale Trade (NAICS 42)	492,100	489,300	483,800	2,800	0.6%	8,300	1.7%
<i>Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods (NAICS 423)</i>	<i>286,400</i>	<i>284,300</i>	<i>277,000</i>	<i>2,100</i>	<i>0.7%</i>	<i>9,400</i>	<i>3.4%</i>
<i>Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods (NAICS 424)</i>	<i>155,900</i>	<i>155,200</i>	<i>155,500</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>0.5%</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>0.3%</i>
Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)	1,176,500	1,156,100	1,165,900	20,400	1.8%	10,600	0.9%
<i>Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers (NAICS 441)</i>	<i>155,000</i>	<i>155,300</i>	<i>150,000</i>	<i>-300</i>	<i>-0.2%</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>3.3%</i>
<i>Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores (NAICS 442)</i>	<i>45,500</i>	<i>44,800</i>	<i>44,900</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>1.6%</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>1.3%</i>
<i>Electronics and Appliance Stores (NAICS 443)</i>	<i>46,000</i>	<i>45,700</i>	<i>47,200</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>0.7%</i>	<i>-1,200</i>	<i>-2.5%</i>
<i>Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies (NAICS 444)</i>	<i>89,400</i>	<i>89,400</i>	<i>85,300</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>4,100</i>	<i>4.8%</i>
<i>Food and Beverage Stores (NAICS 445)</i>	<i>199,000</i>	<i>196,600</i>	<i>194,500</i>	<i>2,400</i>	<i>1.2%</i>	<i>4,500</i>	<i>2.3%</i>
<i>Health and Personal Care Stores (NAICS 446)</i>	<i>61,700</i>	<i>61,000</i>	<i>59,100</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>1.1%</i>	<i>2,600</i>	<i>4.4%</i>
<i>Gasoline Stations (NAICS 447)</i>	<i>67,400</i>	<i>67,300</i>	<i>67,700</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>0.1%</i>	<i>-300</i>	<i>-0.4%</i>
<i>Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores (NAICS 448)</i>	<i>119,400</i>	<i>112,700</i>	<i>116,000</i>	<i>6,700</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>3,400</i>	<i>2.9%</i>
<i>Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores (NAICS 451)</i>	<i>39,200</i>	<i>37,500</i>	<i>41,800</i>	<i>1,700</i>	<i>4.5%</i>	<i>-2,600</i>	<i>-6.2%</i>
<i>General Merchandise Stores (NAICS 452)</i>	<i>269,100</i>	<i>262,200</i>	<i>275,500</i>	<i>6,900</i>	<i>2.6%</i>	<i>-6,400</i>	<i>-2.3%</i>
<i>Miscellaneous Store Retailers (NAICS 453)</i>	<i>62,800</i>	<i>61,500</i>	<i>62,900</i>	<i>1,300</i>	<i>2.1%</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>-0.2%</i>
<i>Nonstore Retailers (NAICS 454)</i>	<i>22,000</i>	<i>22,100</i>	<i>21,000</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>-0.5%</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>4.8%</i>
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (NAICS 48-49,22)	411,700	408,200	414,600	3,500	0.9%	-2,900	-0.7%
Transportation and Warehousing (NAICS 48,49)	366,700	363,400	368,800	3,300	0.9%	-2,100	-0.6%
<i>Air Transportation (NAICS 481)</i>	<i>61,100</i>	<i>60,900</i>	<i>62,900</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>0.3%</i>	<i>-1,800</i>	<i>-2.9%</i>
<i>Rail Transportation (NAICS 482)</i>	<i>18,500</i>	<i>18,600</i>	<i>17,600</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>-0.5%</i>	<i>900</i>	<i>5.1%</i>
<i>Truck Transportation (NAICS 484)</i>	<i>111,400</i>	<i>111,400</i>	<i>110,100</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>1,300</i>	<i>1.2%</i>
<i>Pipeline Transportation (NAICS 486)</i>	<i>11,300</i>	<i>11,200</i>	<i>11,900</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>0.9%</i>	<i>-600</i>	<i>-5.0%</i>
<i>Support Activities for Transportation (NAICS 488)</i>	<i>66,900</i>	<i>66,100</i>	<i>67,000</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>1.2%</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>-0.1%</i>
<i>Couriers and Messengers (NAICS 492)</i>	<i>37,100</i>	<i>36,800</i>	<i>38,100</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>0.8%</i>	<i>-1,000</i>	<i>-2.6%</i>
<i>Warehousing and Storage (NAICS 493)</i>	<i>41,000</i>	<i>41,000</i>	<i>39,800</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>1,200</i>	<i>3.0%</i>
Utilities (NAICS 22)	45,000	44,800	45,800	200	0.4%	-800	-1.7%
Information (NAICS 51)	215,300	216,700	224,100	-1,400	-0.6%	-8,800	-3.9%
<i>Publishing Industries (Except Internet) (NAICS 511)</i>	<i>49,400</i>	<i>49,100</i>	<i>50,100</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>0.6%</i>	<i>-700</i>	<i>-1.4%</i>
<i>Telecommunications (NAICS 517)</i>	<i>89,000</i>	<i>90,100</i>	<i>90,900</i>	<i>-1,100</i>	<i>-1.2%</i>	<i>-1,900</i>	<i>-2.1%</i>
<i>Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals (NAICS 518)</i>	<i>33,600</i>	<i>33,500</i>	<i>35,400</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>0.3%</i>	<i>-1,800</i>	<i>-5.1%</i>
Financial Activities (NAICS 52,53)	638,900	634,600	619,500	4,300	0.7%	19,400	3.1%
Finance and Insurance (NAICS 52)	461,300	457,900	443,500	3,400	0.7%	17,800	4.0%
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities (NAICS 522)</i>	<i>241,700</i>	<i>239,600</i>	<i>232,800</i>	<i>2,100</i>	<i>0.9%</i>	<i>8,900</i>	<i>3.8%</i>
<i>Securities, Commodities Contracts, and Other Financial (NAICS 523)</i>	<i>43,400</i>	<i>43,000</i>	<i>41,200</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>0.9%</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
<i>Insurance Carriers and Related Activities (NAICS 524)</i>	<i>163,100</i>	<i>162,600</i>	<i>159,200</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>0.3%</i>	<i>3,900</i>	<i>2.4%</i>
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (NAICS 53)	177,600	176,700	176,000	900	0.5%	1,600	0.9%
<i>Real Estate (NAICS 531)</i>	<i>117,300</i>	<i>116,700</i>	<i>115,700</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>0.5%</i>	<i>1,600</i>	<i>1.4%</i>
<i>Rental and Leasing Services (NAICS 532)</i>	<i>60,000</i>	<i>59,700</i>	<i>58,600</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>0.5%</i>	<i>1,400</i>	<i>2.4%</i>
Professional and Business Services (NAICS 54,55,56)	1,234,500	1,238,200	1,188,300	-3,700	-0.3%	46,200	3.9%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (NAICS 54)	529,100	525,700	504,500	3,400	0.6%	24,600	4.9%
Management of Companies and Enterprises (NAICS 55)	58,400	57,900	54,700	500	0.9%	3,700	6.8%
Admin and Support and Waste Mgmt and Remediation (NAICS 56)	647,000	654,600	629,100	-7,600	-1.2%	17,900	2.8%
<i>Administrative and Support Services (NAICS 561)</i>	<i>622,100</i>	<i>629,700</i>	<i>604,500</i>	<i>-7,600</i>	<i>-1.2%</i>	<i>17,600</i>	<i>2.9%</i>
Education and Health Services (NAICS 61,62)	1,234,800	1,234,600	1,208,700	200	0.0%	26,100	2.2%
Educational Services (NAICS 61)	144,800	148,000	143,700	-3,200	-2.2%	1,100	0.8%
Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS 62)	1,090,000	1,086,600	1,065,000	3,400	0.3%	25,000	2.3%
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services (NAICS 621)</i>	<i>483,100</i>	<i>479,900</i>	<i>473,100</i>	<i>3,200</i>	<i>0.7%</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>2.1%</i>
<i>Hospitals (NAICS 622)</i>	<i>267,500</i>	<i>267,000</i>	<i>262,200</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>0.2%</i>	<i>5,300</i>	<i>2.0%</i>
<i>Nursing and Residential Care Facilities (NAICS 623)</i>	<i>157,000</i>	<i>157,000</i>	<i>152,800</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>4,200</i>	<i>2.7%</i>
<i>Social Assistance (NAICS 624)</i>	<i>182,400</i>	<i>182,700</i>	<i>176,900</i>	<i>-300</i>	<i>-0.2%</i>	<i>5,500</i>	<i>3.1%</i>
Leisure and Hospitality (NAICS 71,72)	925,000	927,600	902,900	-2,600	-0.3%	22,100	2.4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (NAICS 71)	97,900	101,000	95,300	-3,100	-3.1%	2,600	2.7%
<i>Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation (NAICS 713)</i>	<i>69,200</i>	<i>69,600</i>	<i>66,300</i>	<i>-400</i>	<i>-0.6%</i>	<i>2,900</i>	<i>4.4%</i>
Accommodation and Food Services (NAICS 72)	827,100	826,600	807,600	500	0.1%	19,500	2.4%
<i>Accommodation (NAICS 721)</i>	<i>96,700</i>	<i>97,700</i>	<i>95,900</i>	<i>-1,000</i>	<i>-1.0%</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>0.8%</i>
<i>Food Services and Drinking Places (NAICS 722)</i>	<i>730,400</i>	<i>728,900</i>	<i>711,700</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>0.2%</i>	<i>18,700</i>	<i>2.6%</i>
Other Services (NAICS 81)	349,200	349,200	347,600	0	0.0%	1,600	0.5%
<i>Repair and Maintenance (NAICS 811)</i>	<i>104,400</i>	<i>104,300</i>	<i>104,100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>0.1%</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>0.3%</i>
<i>Personal and Laundry Services (NAICS 812)</i>	<i>88,400</i>	<i>88,200</i>	<i>88,200</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>0.2%</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>0.2%</i>
<i>Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Prof Organizations (NAICS 813)</i>	<i>156,400</i>	<i>156,700</i>	<i>155,300</i>	<i>-300</i>	<i>-0.2%</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>0.7%</i>
Government	1,741,500	1,745,900	1,715,300	-4,400	-0.3%	26,200	1.5%
Federal Government	184,300	183,300	182,300	1,000	0.5%	2,000	1.1%
State Government	354,500	356,800	353,400	-2,300	-0.6%	1,100	0.3%
Local Government	1,202,700	1,205,800	1,179,600	-3,100	-0.3%	23,100	2.0%

*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.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Total Nonagricultural Employment in the MSAs grew by 24,800 jobs in December, marking five consecutive months of growth. This increase was above the average December gain for the past five years of 18,540 jobs. Leading this growth were the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA and the Dallas-Plano-Irving area with gains of 8,900 and 5,600 jobs, respectively. The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA posted the largest over-the-month percentage gain with an increase of 0.9 percent. The annual growth rate for Total Nonagricultural Employment in the MSAs remained unchanged at 2.5 percent. The MSA with the highest annual job growth rate was the Laredo MSA at 5.5 percent, more than twice the state's growth rate.

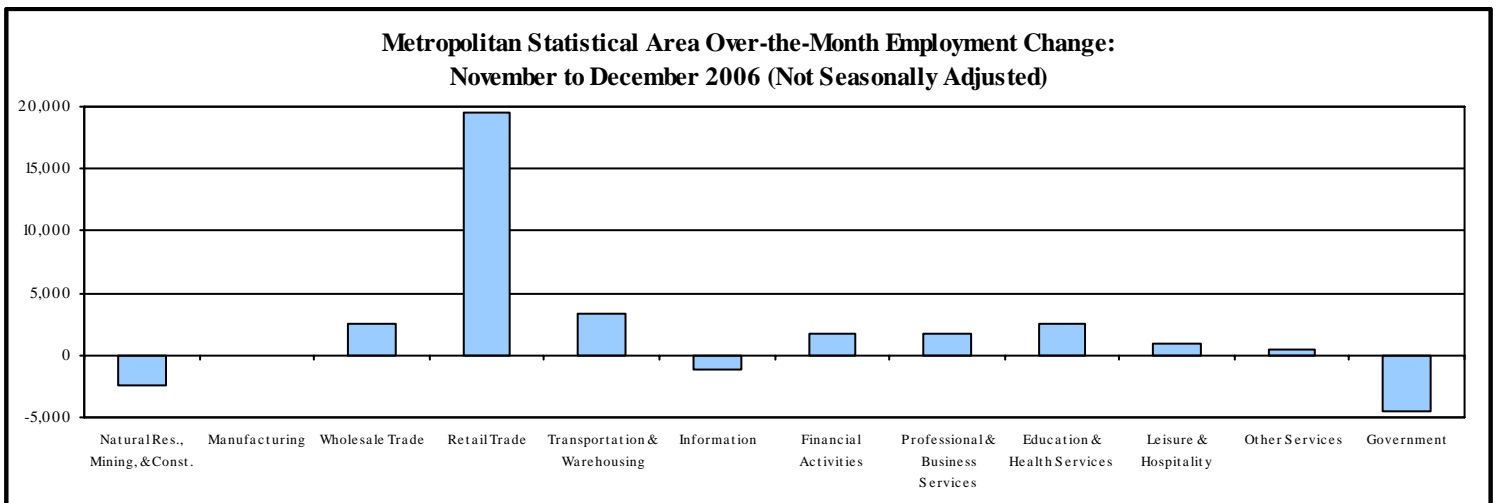
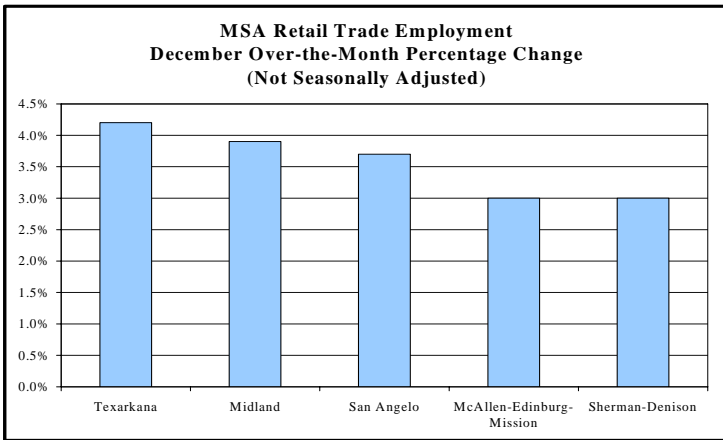
Employment in Professional and Business Services grew by 1,700 jobs over the month. This was the first over-the-month increase since October when 7,500 jobs were added. Since last December, 52,200 jobs have been added to employment, representing a 4.7 percent annual growth rate. The largest over-the-month increase for Professional and Business Services was in the Dallas-Plano-Irving area with 2,800 jobs, followed by the Austin-Round Rock MSA with 400 jobs and the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA with 300 jobs.

Education and Health Services employment gained 2,500 jobs in December. This was an improvement from last December, when 1,800 jobs were added over the month. Over the past five years, this group has averaged an increase of 1,400 jobs in December. The largest employment contributions came from the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA and the Dallas-Plano-Irving area which posted increases of 900 and 600 jobs, respectively.

Natural Resources, Mining, and Construction dropped 2,400 jobs over the month. This was the second consecutive over-the-month decrease and almost twice the five-year average loss of 1,400 jobs. The largest decrease was registered in the Dallas-Plano-Irving area with a loss of 1,500 jobs over the month, followed by the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA, with a decrease of 900 jobs. Since January, this group has added 47,600 jobs, 1,300 more jobs than the last December's year-to-date gain. The MSAs with the largest annual growth rates were the Midland MSA and the Austin-Round Rock MSA, with increases of 13.0 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively.

Seasonal increases in Retail Trade drove December's employment growth as employers continued to add staff for the holiday shopping season. The MSAs gained 19,500 jobs in Retail Trade, adding 2,300 more jobs over the month than in December 2005. The largest increases were seen in the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA and the Dallas-Plano-Irving area, which posted increases of 5,800 and 3,300 jobs, respectively. The Texarkana MSA led in over-the-month growth rates with 4.2 percent, followed closely by the Midland and San Angelo MSAs at 3.9 percent and 3.7 percent, respectively. Over the past five years, Retail Trade has experienced an average gain of 19,700 jobs in December.

Government declined by 4,500 jobs over the month primarily due to community colleges and local school districts decreasing staff for the winter break. The Austin-Round Rock MSA accounted for over half of the employment decrease with a loss of 2,500 jobs partly due to the reduction of staff as the November elections came to an end. The Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA followed with a 600-job loss. Since December 2005, employment in this sector has increased by 42,000 jobs for an annual growth rate of 2.9 percent. Over the year, the MSAs with the largest growth rates in Government employment were the Laredo MSA and the Dallas-Plano-Irving area with increases of 10.6 and 5.9 percent, respectively.



Largest Four MSAs Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	DALLAS-FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			DALLAS-PLANO-IRVING MD**			HOUSTON-SUGAR LAND-BAYTOWN		
	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05
TOTAL NONFARM	2,892,300	2,884,500	2,827,100	2,048,500	2,042,900	1,997,300	2,477,200	2,468,300	2,404,100
GOODS PRODUCING	470,000	472,000	465,300	314,600	316,100	314,700	480,700	481,800	462,700
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	178,800	180,600	169,800	120,300	121,800	115,200	263,200	264,100	246,900
Manufacturing	291,200	291,400	295,500	194,300	194,300	199,500	217,500	217,700	215,800
Durable Goods	201,600	201,500	205,600	133,400	133,100	137,700	135,100	136,000	133,900
<i>Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing</i>	-	-	-	20,200	20,200	20,700	45,100	45,400	43,100
<i>Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing</i>	48,500	48,100	49,800	43,300	43,100	44,900	18,800	18,700	19,500
Nondurable Goods	89,600	89,900	89,900	60,900	61,200	61,800	82,400	81,700	81,900
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,422,300	2,412,500	2,361,800	1,733,900	1,726,800	1,682,600	1,996,500	1,986,500	1,941,400
Private Service Providing	2,037,400	2,028,200	1,995,800	1,468,800	1,462,100	1,432,200	1,640,300	1,629,700	1,593,600
Wholesale Trade	164,900	164,500	163,100	125,300	125,100	124,200	127,100	126,200	124,200
<i>Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods</i>	95,000	94,800	94,200	72,500	72,300	71,100	77,000	76,800	75,300
<i>Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods</i>	49,200	49,000	49,100	37,400	37,200	37,200	38,600	38,500	38,100
Retail Trade	321,500	316,500	323,100	218,600	215,300	218,900	260,000	254,200	259,400
<i>Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers</i>	-	-	-	27,100	27,100	26,600	33,800	33,800	33,700
<i>Bldg. Material and Garden Eqpmnt. and Supplies Dlr.</i>	22,900	22,700	21,600	15,400	15,300	14,300	18,400	18,500	18,000
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	49,400	49,500	49,100	33,200	33,200	33,400	49,300	48,900	46,600
<i>Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores</i>	-	-	-	27,200	25,900	25,600	28,600	27,000	28,500
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	75,000	73,100	75,500	52,500	51,100	52,900	63,500	62,000	63,700
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	135,300	134,200	135,700	75,100	74,600	74,700	125,500	124,000	120,300
Utilities	-	-	-	5,400	5,500	5,800	15,200	15,100	15,500
Information	88,200	89,100	92,600	71,900	72,800	75,700	35,200	35,200	35,900
Telecommunications	40,900	41,100	41,100	33,500	33,800	33,200	14,300	14,300	14,800
Financial Activities	229,900	229,000	226,500	179,800	178,800	178,100	144,500	144,400	141,100
Finance and Insurance	174,000	173,000	168,500	138,200	137,300	134,800	94,700	94,500	91,800
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	90,300	89,400	86,500	68,700	68,000	67,100	44,300	44,000	43,400
<i>Insurance Carriers and Related Activities</i>	-	-	-	49,000	48,800	48,200	33,400	33,200	32,700
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	-	-	-	41,600	41,500	43,300	49,800	49,900	49,300
Professional and Business Services	420,800	418,300	397,000	329,100	326,300	304,900	362,200	362,800	344,600
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	177,100	174,600	166,400	144,800	142,400	134,500	163,000	164,000	159,000
Admin. Support and Waste Mgmt. and Remediation	224,600	224,700	211,400	170,400	170,000	155,100	179,400	181,200	170,700
Education and Health Services	306,100	305,300	292,200	214,700	214,100	202,300	276,300	275,400	266,700
Health Care and Social Assistance	261,800	260,600	249,900	182,200	181,300	171,700	234,100	233,200	225,100
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	-	-	-	85,800	85,500	80,500	99,500	98,900	96,100
Hospitals	66,200	65,800	63,600	44,400	44,000	41,600	65,300	65,000	63,100
Leisure and Hospitality	265,800	266,100	258,800	181,200	181,900	179,200	212,900	211,500	207,000
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	-	-	-	23,400	23,700	21,700	24,600	24,500	25,100
Accommodation and Food Services	231,000	230,900	227,200	157,800	158,200	157,500	188,300	187,000	181,900
<i>Food Services and Drinking Places</i>	198,900	198,500	197,200	134,700	135,000	135,100	168,900	167,400	162,900
Other Services	104,900	105,200	106,800	73,100	73,200	74,200	96,600	96,000	94,400
Government	384,900	384,300	366,000	265,100	264,700	250,400	356,200	356,800	347,800
Federal	47,600	47,500	46,000	30,600	30,700	29,900	29,200	28,900	28,300
State	43,900	44,000	45,100	34,200	34,300	35,300	68,200	68,600	68,800
Local	293,400	292,800	274,900	200,300	199,700	185,200	258,800	259,300	250,700
	AUSTIN-ROUND ROCK			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON MD**			SAN ANTONIO		
	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05
TOTAL NONFARM	728,300	727,000	706,700	843,800	841,600	829,800	810,000	808,000	789,900
GOODS PRODUCING	102,000	101,300	98,100	155,400	155,900	150,600	99,600	99,400	96,200
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	44,600	44,400	41,200	58,500	58,800	54,600	51,300	51,600	49,500
Manufacturing	57,400	56,900	56,900	96,900	97,100	96,000	48,300	47,800	46,700
SERVICE PROVIDING	626,300	625,700	608,600	688,400	685,700	679,200	710,400	708,600	693,700
Private Service Providing	469,700	466,600	456,400	568,600	566,100	563,600	562,800	560,800	547,700
Wholesale Trade	38,700	37,800	37,500	39,600	39,400	38,900	26,900	26,700	26,800
Retail Trade	78,700	77,200	77,600	102,900	101,200	104,200	97,300	95,500	95,600
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	14,200	14,200	14,800	16,200	16,300	15,700	15,100	14,900	15,500
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	13,500	13,000	14,400	22,500	22,000	22,600	20,200	19,400	20,400
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	12,100	11,900	11,700	60,200	59,600	61,000	21,200	21,100	21,400
Information	21,900	22,000	22,000	16,300	16,300	16,900	20,400	20,400	20,400
Telecommunications	4,800	4,800	5,000	7,400	7,300	7,900	6,000	6,100	6,400
Financial Activities	42,500	42,200	41,500	50,100	50,200	48,400	64,500	64,300	61,900
Finance and Insurance	29,900	29,800	29,100	35,800	35,700	33,700	49,200	49,000	47,600
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	13,500	13,400	12,700	21,600	21,400	19,400	21,800	21,500	21,200
Professional and Business Services	99,500	99,100	95,500	91,700	92,000	92,100	102,300	102,200	98,600
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	49,400	49,300	47,600	32,300	32,200	31,900	37,000	36,700	36,500
Admin Support and Waste Mgmt and Remediation Svcs	44,200	44,400	43,500	54,200	54,700	56,300	58,100	57,900	55,200
Education and Health Services	75,600	75,500	73,100	91,400	91,200	89,900	112,100	112,100	108,800
Health Care and Social Assistance	65,400	65,300	63,300	79,600	79,300	78,200	96,900	96,800	94,700
Hospitals	16,400	16,400	15,800	21,800	21,800	22,000	20,500	20,400	20,100
Leisure and Hospitality	72,800	73,000	70,200	84,600	84,200	79,600	90,200	90,600	86,700
Accommodation and Food Services	64,500	64,600	62,000	73,200	72,700	69,700	82,000	81,800	79,500
Other Services	27,900	27,900	27,300	31,800	32,000	32,600	27,900	27,900	27,500
Government	156,600	159,100	152,200	119,800	119,600	115,600	147,600	147,800	146,000
Federal	9,600	9,900	9,500	17,000	16,800	16,100	28,800	28,800	28,900
State	71,600	72,900	70,200	9,700	9,700	9,800	16,700	16,800	16,800
Local	75,400	76,300	72,500	93,100	93,100	89,700	102,100	102,200	100,300

*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. **Metropolitan Division (MD). The Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA is comprised of the Dallas-Plano-Irving MD and the Fort Worth-Arlington MD.

Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

INDUSTRY	ABILENE			AMARILLO			BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN		
	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05
TOTAL	66,300	66,400	65,600	112,500	112,300	110,100	154,400	154,600	154,200	122,700	122,200	119,200
Nat. Res., Mining, & Const.	5,400	5,400	5,100	7,100	7,100	6,700	14,100	14,300	14,200	4,700	4,700	4,400
Manufacturing	3,100	3,100	3,100	12,400	12,500	12,100	17,200	17,400	18,300	7,200	7,200	7,300
Wholesale Trade	2,300	2,300	2,300	5,600	5,600	5,600	4,600	4,600	4,300	3,300	3,300	3,300
Retail Trade	8,700	8,700	8,800	14,500	14,400	14,500	18,900	18,700	19,900	16,800	16,500	16,100
Trans., Ware., & Util.	1,400	1,400	1,600	3,600	3,500	3,600	6,700	6,700	6,500	4,100	4,100	4,000
Information	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,700	1,700	1,800	2,600	2,600	2,800	1,200	1,200	1,200
Financial Activities	3,200	3,200	3,200	6,200	6,200	6,000	6,100	6,100	5,900	4,700	4,600	4,700
Prof. & Business Services	4,200	4,200	4,100	10,200	10,300	9,700	12,100	12,200	12,600	8,400	8,400	8,100
Educ. & Health Services	14,500	14,500	14,200	15,200	15,200	14,900	24,400	24,400	23,200	28,500	28,500	27,700
Leisure & Hospitality	6,500	6,600	6,400	11,200	11,000	10,800	13,800	13,700	13,600	12,000	11,800	11,200
Other Services	3,000	3,000	3,000	5,000	5,000	4,900	5,800	5,700	5,900	3,500	3,500	3,500
Government	12,800	12,800	12,600	19,800	19,800	19,500	28,100	28,200	27,000	28,300	28,400	27,700
	COLLEGE STATION-BRYAN			CORPUS CHRISTI			EL PASO			KILLEEN-TEMPLE-FORT HOOD		
INDUSTRY	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05
TOTAL	93,000	93,400	91,200	174,600	174,000	172,100	270,700	270,200	264,800	119,900	119,700	119,100
Nat. Res., Mining, & Const.	6,400	6,400	6,000	19,200	19,000	17,900	14,000	14,000	13,100	5,800	5,800	5,700
Manufacturing	6,300	6,300	6,300	11,100	11,100	11,000	21,800	22,100	22,100	8,600	8,600	8,500
Wholesale Trade	1,600	1,600	1,500	5,300	5,300	5,400	10,400	10,400	10,500	3,700	3,700	3,700
Retail Trade	9,900	9,700	10,100	21,100	20,600	20,900	36,600	35,900	34,900	14,900	14,700	14,700
Trans., Ware., & Util.	1,100	1,100	1,100	5,200	5,100	5,100	14,000	14,000	13,600	4,100	4,000	4,100
Information	1,100	1,100	1,100	2,400	2,400	2,500	4,400	4,400	4,800	2,500	2,500	2,500
Financial Activities	3,900	3,900	3,600	7,900	7,800	7,800	12,400	12,400	11,700	6,300	6,300	6,200
Prof. & Business Services	5,300	5,400	5,400	17,000	17,100	16,300	27,200	27,100	26,900	8,600	8,700	8,900
Educ. & Health Services	9,600	9,600	9,400	27,900	27,900	26,900	35,400	35,200	33,900	15,500	15,500	15,900
Leisure & Hospitality	10,000	10,100	9,700	18,600	18,700	19,000	25,800	25,500	25,300	10,400	10,400	10,100
Other Services	2,800	2,800	2,800	6,100	6,100	6,300	7,800	7,900	7,900	5,500	5,500	5,500
Government	35,000	35,400	34,200	32,800	32,900	33,000	60,900	61,300	60,100	34,000	34,000	33,300
	LAREDO			LONGVIEW			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION		
INDUSTRY	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05
TOTAL	88,600	88,200	84,000	93,800	93,300	92,000	129,300	129,600	128,300	210,900	209,000	203,100
Nat. Res., Mining, & Const.	4,500	4,400	4,200	11,500	11,400	11,200	5,800	5,800	5,500	11,100	11,000	10,700
Manufacturing	1,700	1,700	1,700	13,800	13,800	13,600	5,200	5,200	5,200	8,600	8,600	8,500
Wholesale Trade	2,600	2,600	2,500	3,800	3,800	3,800	5,400	5,400	5,800	7,100	7,000	7,000
Retail Trade	12,500	12,300	12,100	11,800	11,500	11,300	15,800	15,700	16,000	31,000	30,100	30,200
Trans., Ware., & Util.	12,900	12,900	12,200	2,800	2,800	2,800	4,000	3,900	3,900	6,000	6,000	6,000
Information	600	600	700	1,800	1,800	1,900	6,100	6,100	6,200	3,000	3,000	3,100
Financial Activities	3,700	3,700	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,500	6,600	6,600	6,700	8,900	8,800	8,400
Prof. & Business Services	4,300	4,300	4,100	7,300	7,300	7,000	10,700	11,100	10,800	14,500	14,200	13,400
Educ. & Health Services	12,400	12,300	12,000	15,000	15,000	14,600	19,000	19,000	18,600	47,200	46,700	44,800
Leisure & Hospitality	8,600	8,600	8,300	7,600	7,500	7,400	15,300	15,300	14,300	17,300	17,200	16,700
Other Services	1,900	1,900	1,900	3,300	3,300	3,200	5,500	5,500	5,400	4,900	4,900	4,900
Government	22,900	22,900	20,700	11,500	11,500	11,700	29,900	30,000	29,900	51,300	51,500	49,400
	MIDLAND			ODESSA			SAN ANGELO			SHERMAN-DENISON		
INDUSTRY	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05
TOTAL	63,800	63,400	61,100	56,600	56,600	55,300	44,100	44,100	44,100	45,900	45,700	44,400
Nat. Res., Mining, & Const.	13,900	13,900	12,100	9,300	9,300	8,700	3,400	3,400	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,000
Manufacturing	2,400	2,400	2,400	3,700	3,700	3,600	3,700	3,700	3,600	6,700	6,700	6,200
Wholesale Trade	2,700	2,700	2,700	4,300	4,300	4,300	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,000	1,000
Retail Trade	7,900	7,600	7,800	6,800	6,700	7,000	5,600	5,400	5,600	6,800	6,600	6,500
Trans., Ware., & Util.	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,700	1,700	1,700	700	700	800	1,100	1,100	1,200
Information	1,700	1,700	1,700	700	700	700	1,900	1,900	2,000	600	600	600
Financial Activities	3,200	3,200	3,200	2,300	2,300	2,300	1,900	1,900	1,900	2,800	2,800	2,700
Prof. & Business Services	7,300	7,200	6,800	4,100	4,200	4,000	3,900	3,900	3,800	2,800	2,800	2,700
Educ. & Health Services	6,500	6,500	6,300	5,700	5,700	5,500	7,200	7,300	7,200	8,300	8,300	8,300
Leisure & Hospitality	6,100	6,100	6,000	5,700	5,700	5,500	4,200	4,200	4,100	4,400	4,400	4,300
Other Services	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,900	2,900	2,900	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,500
Government	8,300	8,300	8,100	9,400	9,400	9,100	8,400	8,500	8,700	6,500	6,500	6,400
	TEXARKANA			TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO		
INDUSTRY	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05
TOTAL	56,600	56,400	56,100	91,200	91,000	91,900	51,400	51,100	49,700	108,700	108,700	106,800
Nat. Res., Mining, & Const.	2,700	2,700	2,500	5,400	5,400	5,100	7,100	7,000	6,600	6,200	6,200	5,800
Manufacturing	5,600	5,600	5,500	8,000	8,100	9,500	5,800	5,700	5,800	16,000	16,000	15,900
Wholesale Trade	2,600	2,600	2,600	3,900	3,800	3,800	1,800	1,800	1,700	4,200	4,200	4,100
Retail Trade	7,500	7,200	7,600	13,600	13,400	13,100	7,400	7,200	6,700	11,000	10,900	11,700
Trans., Ware., & Util.	2,500	2,500	2,500	3,100	3,100	3,100	1,500	1,500	1,500	3,100	3,100	3,100
Information	200	200	500	2,100	2,100	2,100	600	600	600	1,700	1,800	1,800
Financial Activities	2,600	2,600	2,500	3,900	3,900	4,200	2,100	2,100	2,100	6,400	6,400	6,300
Prof. & Business Services	3,400	3,400	3,300	7,100	7,100	7,500	3,700	3,800	3,600	7,900	7,900	7,500
Educ. & Health Services	9,200	9,200	9,100	18,900	18,900	18,400	6,900	6,900	6,800	20,600	20,600	19,200
Leisure & Hospitality	5,200	5,200	5,100	8,900	8,900	8,500	4,100	4,100	4,000	10,000	10,100	9,800
Other Services	2,100	2,100	2,100	3,800	3,800	3,700	1,500	1,500	1,500	4,200	4,100	4,200
Government	13,000	13,100	12,800	12,500	12,500	12,900	8,900	8,900	8,800	17,400	17,400	17,400
	WICHITA FALLS			<p>Estimates for the current month are preliminary. All estimates are subject to revision. The number of nonagricultural jobs in each MSA 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.</p> <p>Beginning with January 2005 estimates, definitions of the MSAs were updated to reflect the 2000 Census-based configurations. Please see www.tracer2.com for details on these changes.</p>								
INDUSTRY	Dec '06*	Nov '06	Dec '05									
TOTAL	63,200	63,500	62,300									
Nat. Res., Mining, & Const.	4,000	4,000	3,700									
Manufacturing	7,800	7,800	7,700									
Wholesale Trade	1,900	1,900	1,900									
Retail Trade	8,500	8,400	8,200									
Trans., Ware., & Util.	1,500	1,500	1,500									
Information	1,500	1,500	1,500									
Financial Activities	2,200	2,200	2,200									
Prof. & Business Services	2,800	2,900	3,200									
Educ. & Health Services	10,500	10,500	10,300									
Leisure & Hospitality	5,400	5,500	5,400									
Other Services	3,200	3,200	3,100									
Government	13,900	14,100	13,600									

Highlights of the Texas Labor Force (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The Texas unemployment rate declined to 4.1 percent in December and was the lowest rate for the 2006 calendar year. This was the lowest December rate since 1999, indicating a robust labor market. The rate dropped by 0.7 percentage points since December of last year. The Texas unemployment rate has remained at or below 5.5 percent since June of 2005. The United States' jobless rate remained unchanged over the month at 4.3 percent. The U.S. jobless rate has been at or below 6.0 percent since January 2004. In addition, the December U.S. rate is three-tenths of a percentage point lower than last year's rate of 4.6 percent.

The number of Texas jobholders increased over the month, a gain of 39,300 employed. The rise brought the state employment total to 11,141,200. This was the eleventh consecutive over-the-month gain since January 2006. This month's employment gain was above the historical average increase that normally occurs in December. Since last December, the number of Texas jobholders rose by 356,200. This was the highest over-the-year employment gain since May 1984.

Over the month, Texans seeking employment declined by 57,700 to total 475,300 job seekers. Unemployment historically decreases during the month of December. The average decrease in unemployed job seekers occurring during the month of December since 1970 was 21,800. Since December of last year, unemployment declined by 65,500.

The number of people receiving unemployment benefits in Texas rose by 5,600 to total 84,600 claims in December. Eight Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) observed claims count decreases over the month, while seventeen MSAs realized increases in claims activity. The San Angelo MSA recorded the largest decrease with 20.5 percent less claims, followed by the Midland MSA registering an 11.4 percent drop in claims for unemployment benefits. The Tyler MSA posted a 46.8 percent increase in claims, followed by the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA with a 23.7 percent increase for the month of December.

MSAs Ranked by Unemployment Rate December 2006 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

1	Midland	2.7
2	College Station-Bryan	3.0
3 (tie)	Amarillo	3.1
	Lubbock	3.1
5 (tie)	Austin-Round Rock	3.2
	Odessa	3.2
7	Abilene	3.3
8 (tie)	San Angelo	3.5
	Victoria	3.5
10 (tie)	San Antonio	3.7
	Waco	3.7
12 (tie)	Longview	3.8
	Sherman-Denison	3.8
	Wichita Falls	3.8
15 (tie)	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	4.0
	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	4.0
	Texas	4.1
17	Laredo	4.2
	United States	4.3
18	Corpus Christi	4.5
19	Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	4.6
20	Texarkana	4.7
21	Tyler	5.0
22	Beaumont-Port Arthur	5.4
23	Brownsville-Harlingen	5.7
24	El Paso	6.0
25	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	6.6

Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Not Seasonally Adjusted (In Thousands)

	December 2006				November 2006				December 2005			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	152,571.0	146,081.0	6,491.0	4.3	152,590.0	146,014.0	6,576.0	4.3	149,874.0	142,918.0	6,956.0	4.6
State of Texas	11,616.5	11,141.2	475.3	4.1	11,634.9	11,101.9	533.0	4.6	11,325.8	10,785.0	540.8	4.8
Abilene	83.7	80.9	2.8	3.3	84.0	80.7	3.3	3.9	82.0	79.0	3.0	3.6
Amarillo	133.4	129.3	4.1	3.1	133.3	128.5	4.8	3.6	129.7	125.3	4.4	3.4
Austin-Round Rock	841.1	814.2	26.9	3.2	844.8	813.8	31.0	3.7	814.1	782.7	31.4	3.9
Beaumont-Port Arthur	175.5	165.9	9.6	5.4	176.5	166.1	10.4	5.9	176.7	163.7	13.0	7.3
Brownsville-Harlingen	146.5	138.1	8.4	5.7	146.2	137.1	9.1	6.2	142.1	133.0	9.1	6.4
College Station-Bryan	107.8	104.5	3.3	3.0	108.6	104.7	3.9	3.6	105.5	101.6	3.9	3.7
Corpus Christi	203.4	194.3	9.1	4.5	203.5	193.7	9.8	4.8	199.3	189.5	9.8	4.9
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,146.4	3,021.5	124.9	4.0	3,157.4	3,016.3	141.1	4.5	3,066.0	2,925.9	140.1	4.6
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,110.5	2,026.6	83.9	4.0	2,115.7	2,020.7	95.0	4.5	2,053.7	1,958.4	95.3	4.6
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,036.0	995.0	41.0	4.0	1,041.7	995.5	46.2	4.4	1,012.2	967.5	44.7	4.4
El Paso	303.2	284.9	18.3	6.0	305.3	284.9	20.4	6.7	294.0	275.8	18.2	6.2
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,744.3	2,634.4	109.9	4.0	2,751.9	2,627.8	124.1	4.5	2,668.8	2,531.9	136.9	5.1
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	155.0	147.9	7.1	4.6	155.9	147.7	8.2	5.3	152.7	145.1	7.6	5.0
Laredo	93.3	89.4	3.9	4.2	93.5	89.1	4.4	4.7	88.4	84.0	4.4	5.0
Longview	106.7	102.7	4.0	3.8	106.5	101.9	4.6	4.3	104.3	99.8	4.5	4.4
Lubbock	144.4	139.9	4.5	3.1	145.0	139.7	5.3	3.7	142.4	137.5	4.9	3.5
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	281.4	262.8	18.6	6.6	278.4	259.9	18.5	6.6	269.1	250.4	18.7	6.9
Midland	71.4	69.4	2.0	2.7	71.3	68.9	2.4	3.3	68.5	66.3	2.2	3.1
Odessa	65.9	63.8	2.1	3.2	66.2	63.7	2.5	3.8	64.2	61.7	2.5	3.8
San Angelo	53.4	51.5	1.9	3.5	53.4	51.2	2.2	4.2	52.9	50.9	2.0	3.8
San Antonio	929.6	894.8	34.8	3.7	933.2	893.1	40.1	4.3	902.8	864.1	38.7	4.3
Sherman-Denison	59.0	56.7	2.3	3.8	59.1	56.5	2.6	4.4	57.2	54.6	2.6	4.6
Texarkana	64.7	61.7	3.0	4.7	64.5	61.3	3.2	4.9	63.7	60.8	2.9	4.5
Tyler	98.7	93.7	5.0	5.0	97.8	93.4	4.4	4.5	97.3	93.3	4.0	4.1
Victoria	59.6	57.5	2.1	3.5	59.5	57.1	2.4	4.0	57.7	55.3	2.4	4.2
Waco	116.2	112.0	4.2	3.7	116.7	111.7	5.0	4.3	113.7	108.8	4.9	4.3
Wichita Falls	77.0	74.1	2.9	3.8	77.3	74.0	3.3	4.2	75.4	72.4	3.0	3.9

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. Beginning with January 2005 estimates, definitions of the MSAs were updated to reflect the 2000 Census-based configurations. Please see www.tracer2.com for details on these changes. The Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA is comprised of the Dallas-Plano-Irving Metropolitan Division (MD) and the Fort Worth-Arlington MD.

Employment and Unemployment Estimates for Texas Counties - December 2006

County	CLF	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	CLF	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	CLF	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
Anderson	20,257	19,208	1,049	5.2	Gillespie	13,551	13,261	290	2.1	Moore	10,336	10,020	316	3.1
Andrews	6,803	6,584	219	3.2	Glasscock	631	607	24	3.8	Morris	6,365	6,062	303	4.8
Angelina	39,484	37,767	1,717	4.3	Goliad	3,571	3,446	125	3.5	Motley	707	683	24	3.4
Aransas	11,114	10,660	454	4.1	Gonzales	9,792	9,448	344	3.5	Nacogdoches	30,927	29,763	1,164	3.8
Archer	5,558	5,386	172	3.1	Gray	11,132	10,759	373	3.4	Navarro	21,923	20,983	940	4.3
Armstrong	1,190	1,155	35	2.9	Grayson	58,956	56,703	2,253	3.8	Newton	5,619	5,195	424	7.5
Atascosa	19,802	19,098	704	3.6	Gregg	63,337	60,983	2,354	3.7	Nolan	7,521	7,227	294	3.9
Austin	13,644	13,185	459	3.4	Grimes	10,468	10,009	459	4.4	Nueces	162,152	155,061	7,091	4.4
Bailey	3,261	3,108	153	4.7	Guadalupe	53,035	51,181	1,854	3.5	Ochiltree	5,327	5,194	133	2.5
Bandera	10,138	9,790	348	3.4	Hale	16,745	16,034	711	4.2	Oldham	1,004	964	40	4.0
Bastrop	35,665	34,445	1,220	3.4	Hall	1,587	1,513	74	4.7	Orange	40,224	38,057	2,167	5.4
Baylor	1,799	1,729	70	3.9	Hamilton	3,573	3,440	133	3.7	Palo Pinto	14,619	14,078	541	3.7
Bee	10,800	10,161	639	5.9	Hansford	2,327	2,248	79	3.4	Panola	12,010	11,543	467	3.9
Bell	117,629	112,304	5,325	4.5	Hardeman	2,282	2,196	86	3.8	Parker	52,622	50,676	1,946	3.7
Bexar	744,087	715,679	28,408	3.8	Hardin	24,189	23,064	1,125	4.7	Parmer	4,548	4,404	144	3.2
Blanco	4,887	4,741	146	3.0	Harris	1,934,335	1,854,777	79,558	4.1	Pecos	6,409	6,146	263	4.1
Borden	484	468	16	3.3	Harrison	31,654	30,298	1,356	4.3	Polk	16,654	15,821	833	5.0
Bosque	8,627	8,286	341	4.0	Hartley	2,241	2,161	80	3.6	Potter	59,437	57,323	2,114	3.6
Bowie	44,311	42,160	2,151	4.9	Haskell	3,294	3,191	103	3.1	Presidio	3,091	2,785	306	9.9
Brazoria	139,621	133,915	5,706	4.1	Hays	69,580	67,464	2,116	3.0	Rains	5,030	4,854	176	3.5
Brazos	90,873	88,237	2,636	2.9	Hemphill	2,444	2,393	51	2.1	Randall	69,081	67,263	1,818	2.6
Brewster	5,415	5,259	156	2.9	Henderson	34,762	33,251	1,511	4.3	Reagan	2,524	2,471	53	2.1
Briscoe	696	669	27	3.9	Hidalgo	281,444	262,795	18,649	6.6	Real	1,042	993	49	4.7
Brooks	3,092	2,928	164	5.3	Hill	15,467	14,770	697	4.5	Red River	6,336	6,010	326	5.1
Brown	18,986	18,130	856	4.5	Hockley	10,752	10,356	396	3.7	Reeves	4,188	3,962	226	5.4
Burleson	8,986	8,683	303	3.4	Hooper	22,716	21,837	879	3.9	Refugio	3,912	3,756	156	4.0
Burnet	20,560	19,950	610	3.0	Hopkins	18,023	17,392	631	3.5	Roberts	598	585	13	2.2
Caldwell	17,231	16,602	629	3.7	Houston	8,427	8,008	419	5.0	Robertson	7,919	7,606	313	4.0
Calhoun	9,746	9,361	385	4.0	Howard	12,896	12,343	553	4.3	Rockwall	32,196	31,122	1,074	3.3
Callahan	7,187	6,959	228	3.2	Hudspeth	1,405	1,324	81	5.8	Runnels	4,480	4,280	200	4.5
Cameron	146,494	138,090	8,404	5.7	Hunt	41,108	39,316	1,792	4.4	Rusk	23,903	22,930	973	4.1
Camp	5,286	5,039	247	4.7	Hutchinson	9,596	9,135	461	4.8	Sabine	3,394	3,110	284	8.4
Carson	3,646	3,545	101	2.8	Irion	953	930	23	2.4	San Augustine	3,637	3,438	199	5.5
Cass	13,435	12,729	706	5.3	Jack	4,010	3,861	149	3.7	San Jacinto	10,892	10,364	528	4.8
Castro	3,210	3,079	131	4.1	Jackson	6,523	6,273	250	3.8	San Patricio	30,108	28,595	1,513	5.0
Chambers	14,899	14,247	652	4.4	Jasper	15,576	14,657	919	5.9	San Saba	2,607	2,501	106	4.1
Cherokee	20,718	19,718	1,000	4.8	Jeff Davis	1,022	985	37	3.6	Schleicher	1,354	1,305	49	3.6
Childress	3,057	2,910	147	4.8	Jefferson	111,010	104,742	6,268	5.6	Scurry	7,036	6,782	254	3.6
Clay	6,621	6,415	206	3.1	Jim Hogg	2,725	2,626	99	3.6	Shackelford	1,963	1,909	54	2.8
Cochran	1,543	1,470	73	4.7	Jim Wells	20,442	19,575	867	4.2	Shelby	11,642	11,151	491	4.2
Coke	1,300	1,247	53	4.1	Johnson	75,078	72,278	2,800	3.7	Sherman	1,295	1,246	49	3.8
Coleman	4,311	4,144	167	3.9	Jones	8,346	7,985	361	4.3	Smith	98,685	93,735	4,950	5.0
Collin	375,730	363,548	12,182	3.2	Karnes	5,489	5,212	277	5.0	Somervell	3,778	3,616	162	4.3
Collingsworth	1,618	1,567	51	3.2	Kaufman	44,311	42,430	1,881	4.2	Starr	21,950	19,213	2,737	12.5
Colorado	10,510	10,139	371	3.5	Kendall	14,433	13,993	440	3.0	Stephens	4,250	4,093	157	3.7
Comal	49,463	47,854	1,609	3.3	Kenedy	266	258	8	3.0	Sterling	1,040	1,014	26	2.5
Comanche	6,207	5,951	256	4.1	Kent	449	432	17	3.8	Stonewall	854	828	26	3.0
Concho	1,425	1,364	61	4.3	Kerr	24,156	23,486	670	2.8	Sutton	3,017	2,954	63	2.1
Cooke	20,631	19,998	633	3.1	Kimble	2,333	2,266	67	2.9	Swisher	3,698	3,548	150	4.1
Coryell	26,441	24,972	1,469	5.6	King	151	141	10	6.6	Tarrant	879,606	844,282	35,324	4.0
Cottle	833	797	36	4.3	Kinney	1,446	1,380	66	4.6	Taylor	68,120	65,922	2,198	3.2
Crane	1,569	1,502	67	4.3	Kleberg	17,934	17,242	692	3.9	Terrell	353	333	20	5.7
Crockett	2,077	2,011	66	3.2	Knox	1,732	1,666	66	3.8	Terry	5,833	5,592	241	4.1
Crosby	3,006	2,873	133	4.4	Lamar	22,928	21,801	1,127	4.9	Throckmorton	935	904	31	3.3
Culberson	1,659	1,603	56	3.4	Lamb	7,192	6,923	269	3.7	Titus	15,182	14,632	550	3.6
Dallam	3,049	2,955	94	3.1	Lampasas	10,931	10,598	333	3.0	Tom Green	52,416	50,583	1,833	3.5
Dallas	1,222,715	1,169,223	53,492	4.4	La Salle	2,968	2,838	130	4.4	Travis	533,638	516,187	17,451	3.3
Dawson	5,116	4,837	279	5.5	Lavaca	10,706	10,403	303	2.8	Trinity	5,777	5,493	284	4.9
Deaf Smith	8,754	8,417	337	3.8	Lee	8,838	8,565	273	3.1	Tyler	8,302	7,856	446	5.4
Delta	2,603	2,496	107	4.1	Leon	7,593	7,284	309	4.1	Upshur	19,464	18,750	714	3.7
Denton	323,201	312,459	10,742	3.3	Liberty	33,314	31,730	1,584	4.8	Upton	1,700	1,649	51	3.0
DeWitt	9,312	8,971	341	3.7	Limestone	10,593	10,193	400	3.8	Uvalde	11,781	11,180	601	5.1
Dickens	1,013	963	50	4.9	Lipscomb	1,727	1,677	50	2.9	Val Verde	20,423	19,320	1,103	5.4
Dimmit	3,838	3,531	307	8.0	Live Oak	5,116	4,916	200	3.9	Van Zandt	25,966	25,007	959	3.7
Donley	1,852	1,789	63	3.4	Llano	8,160	7,897	263	3.2	Victoria	46,255	44,709	1,546	3.3
Duval	5,301	5,055	246	4.6	Loving	35	31	4	11.4	Walker	25,741	24,698	1,043	4.1
Eastland	8,396	8,079	317	3.8	Lubbock	141,383	137,010	4,373	3.1	Waller	17,006	16,320	686	4.0
Ector	65,921	63,780	2,141	3.2	Lynn	2,719	2,588	131	4.8	Ward	4,590	4,406	184	4.0
Edwards	987	948	39	4.0	McCulloch	3,825	3,689	136	3.6	Washington	16,536	16,003	533	3.2
Ellis	68,588	65,960	2,628	3.8	McLennan	116,240	111,992	4,248	3.7	Webb	93,295	89,359	3,936	4.2
El Paso	303,152	284,870	18,282	6.0	McMullen	370	354	16	4.3	Wharton	21,119	20,263	856	4.1
Erath	17,837	17,277	560	3.1	Madison	4,908	4,685	223	4.5	Wheeler	2,623	2,543	80	3.0
Falls	7,312	6,943	369	5.0	Marion	5,157	4,937	220	4.3	Wichita	64,867	62,311	2,556	3.9
Fannin	14,019	13,360	659	4.7	Martin	2,106	2,032	74	3.5	Wilbarger	7,342	7,118	224	3.1
Fayette	12,110	11,767	343	2.8	Mason	2,500	2,440	60	2.4	Willacy	7,912	7,295	617	7.8
Fisher	1,922	1,845	77	4.0	Matagorda	16,245	15,246	999	6.1	Williamson	184,985	179,539	5,446	2.9
Floyd	3,233	3,072	161	5.0	Maverick	20,116	17,400	2,716	13.5	Wilson	18,345	17,688	657	3.6
Foard	608	584	24	3.9	Medina	20,219	19,470	749	3.7	Winkler	3,040	2,917	123	4.0
Fort Bend	240,596	232,312	8,284	3.4	Menard	1,132	1,092	40	3.5	Wise	28,687	27,727	960	3.3
Franklin	5,244	5,041	203	3.9	Midland	71,390	69,436	1,954	2.7	Wood	17,801	17,090	711	4.0
Freestone	10,242	9,909	333	3.3	Milam	12,278	11,839	439	3.6	Yoakum	3,355	3,239	116	3.5
Frio	6,523	6,210	313	4.8	Mills	2,645	2,564	81	3.1	Young	9,587	9,290	297	3.1
Gaines	6,662	6,429	233	3.5	Mitchell	3,289	3,139	150	4.6	Zapata	5,289	5,039	250	4.7
Galveston	145,029	138,910	6,119	4.2	Montague	10,085	9,755	330	3.3	Zavala	4,076	3,593	483	11.8
Garza	2,470	2,386	84	3.4	Montgomery	195,021	188,674	6,347	3.3	Texas	11,616,514	11,141,181	475,333	4.1

Estimates reflect actual (not seasonally adjusted) data. All estimates are subject to revision. Estimates of the TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Employment and Unemployment Estimates for Texas Cities - December 2006

City	CLF	Emp.	Unemp	Rate	City	CLF	Emp.	Unemp	Rate	City	CLF	Emp.	Unemp	Rate
Abilene	58,978	56,989	1,989	3.4	Friendswood	18,524	17,965	559	3.0	New Braunfels	24,089	23,371	718	3.0
Allen	38,355	37,222	1,133	3.0	Frisco	37,065	36,057	1,008	2.7	North Richland Hills	36,487	35,209	1,278	3.5
Amarillo	102,550	99,449	3,101	3.0	Galveston	28,384	27,031	1,353	4.8	Odessa	49,427	47,796	1,631	3.3
Arlington	211,708	203,801	7,907	3.7	Garland	119,165	114,125	5,040	4.2	Paris	11,615	10,977	638	5.5
Austin	421,924	408,464	13,460	3.2	Georgetown	18,560	18,000	560	3.0	Pasadena	69,992	66,596	3,396	4.9
Baytown	33,010	31,118	1,892	5.7	Grand Prairie	75,125	71,967	3,158	4.2	Pearland	30,981	30,100	881	2.8
Beaumont	52,941	50,221	2,720	5.1	Grapevine	29,491	28,619	872	3.0	Pflugerville	16,033	15,659	374	2.3
Bedford	32,331	31,240	1,091	3.4	Greenville	12,307	11,748	559	4.5	Pharr	23,456	22,278	1,178	5.0
Big Spring	8,873	8,449	424	4.8	Haltom City	22,447	21,486	961	4.3	Plano	147,736	142,755	4,981	3.4
Brownsville	61,591	58,082	3,509	5.7	Harlingen	25,421	24,220	1,201	4.7	Port Arthur	22,435	20,725	1,710	7.6
Bryan	38,067	36,929	1,138	3.0	Houston	1,033,676	989,412	44,264	4.3	Richardson	59,274	57,261	2,013	3.4
Burleson	15,837	15,350	487	3.1	Huntsville	14,483	13,905	578	4.0	Rockwall	15,450	15,003	447	2.9
Carrington	73,197	70,722	2,475	3.4	Hurst	21,981	21,172	809	3.7	Rosenberg	14,884	14,414	470	3.2
Cedar Hill	23,538	22,500	1,038	4.4	Irving	117,482	113,142	4,340	3.7	Round Rock	48,319	46,990	1,329	2.8
Cedar Park	26,741	26,183	558	2.1	Keller	19,581	19,026	555	2.8	Rowlett	30,172	29,118	1,054	3.5
Cleburne	14,180	13,591	589	4.2	Killeen	41,588	39,423	2,165	5.2	San Angelo	44,092	42,526	1,566	3.6
College Station	41,541	40,406	1,135	2.7	Kingsville	14,333	13,817	516	3.6	San Antonio	613,360	591,114	22,246	3.6
Conroe	22,672	21,973	699	3.1	Lake Jackson	14,467	13,948	519	3.6	San Juan	12,281	11,484	797	6.5
Coppell	22,455	21,753	702	3.1	Lancaster	15,724	14,851	873	5.6	San Marcos	26,508	25,832	676	2.6
Copperas Cove	13,631	12,998	633	4.6	La Porte	19,129	18,346	783	4.1	Sherman	17,956	17,237	719	4.0
Corpus Christi	145,542	139,384	6,158	4.2	Laredo	88,008	84,489	3,519	4.0	Socorro	10,736	9,883	853	7.9
Corsicana	11,132	10,629	503	4.5	League City	34,260	33,229	1,031	3.0	Sugar Land	41,373	40,159	1,214	2.9
Dallas	624,945	596,831	28,114	4.5	Lewisville	57,779	56,008	1,771	3.1	Temple	29,371	28,289	1,082	3.7
Deer Park	16,709	16,075	634	3.8	Longview	40,613	39,051	1,562	3.8	Texarkana	16,923	16,038	885	5.2
Del Rio	15,995	15,186	809	5.1	Lubbock	117,776	114,246	3,530	3.0	Texas City	21,179	20,090	1,089	5.1
Denton	58,159	56,290	1,869	3.2	Lufkin	16,186	15,458	728	4.5	The Colony	21,848	21,122	726	3.3
DeSoto	25,109	23,978	1,131	4.5	McAllen	60,737	58,093	2,644	4.4	Tyler	47,655	45,239	2,416	5.1
Duncanville	19,727	18,820	907	4.6	McKinney	47,584	46,213	1,371	2.9	Victoria	33,300	32,191	1,109	3.3
Edinburg	27,921	26,752	1,169	4.2	Mansfield	20,110	19,414	696	3.5	Waco	56,443	54,176	2,267	4.0
El Paso	260,238	245,674	14,564	5.6	Mesquite	74,679	71,628	3,051	4.1	Weslaco	13,408	12,594	814	6.1
Eules	32,456	31,368	1,088	3.4	Midland	58,493	56,899	1,594	2.7	Wichita Falls	49,136	47,146	1,990	4.0
Farmers Branch	15,475	14,881	594	3.8	Mission	25,087	23,830	1,257	5.0	Wylie	14,731	14,239	492	3.3
Flower Mound	35,957	34,862	1,095	3.0	Missouri City	39,204	37,861	1,343	3.4					
Fort Worth	304,146	291,291	12,855	4.2	Nacogdoches	15,996	15,390	606	3.8					

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Civilian Labor Force Estimates for WDAs				
December 2006				
	CLF	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
Alamo	979,241	942,922	36,319	3.7
Brazos Valley	147,283	142,507	4,776	3.2
Cameron County	146,494	138,090	8,404	5.7
Capital Area	533,638	516,187	17,451	3.3
Central Texas	176,104	168,218	7,886	4.5
Coastal Bend	270,607	258,561	12,046	4.5
Concho Valley	75,896	73,366	2,530	3.3
Dallas	1,222,715	1,169,223	53,492	4.4
Deep East Texas	160,331	152,623	7,708	4.8
East Texas	384,030	367,343	16,687	4.3
Golden Crescent	95,905	92,611	3,294	3.4
Gulf Coast	2,807,080	2,694,416	112,664	4.0
Heart Of Texas	168,481	162,093	6,388	3.8
Lower Rio Grande Valley	311,306	289,303	22,003	7.1
Middle Rio Grande	66,677	61,183	5,494	8.2
North Central Texas	1,122,394	1,083,307	39,087	3.5
North East Texas	134,427	128,323	6,104	4.5
North Texas	113,592	109,442	4,150	3.7
Panhandle	216,073	209,062	7,011	3.2
Permian Basin	193,893	187,462	6,431	3.3
Rural Capital	362,016	350,970	11,046	3.1
South East Texas	175,423	165,863	9,560	5.4
South Plains	203,363	196,438	6,925	3.4
South Texas	101,309	97,024	4,285	4.2
Tarrant County	879,606	844,282	35,324	4.0
Texoma	93,606	90,061	3,545	3.8
Upper Rio Grande	315,744	296,826	18,918	6.0
West Central Texas	159,278	153,466	5,812	3.6

Hours and Earnings for Texas and Selected Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas & Metro Divisions									
Area	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec '06	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06	Nov '06	Dec '05	Dec '06	Nov '06	Dec '05
Texas									
Manufacturing	\$564.01	\$561.80	\$557.39	40.2	40.1	39.7	\$14.03	\$14.01	\$14.04
Durable Goods	\$554.06	\$553.66	\$556.91	40.8	40.8	41.1	\$13.58	\$13.57	\$13.55
Nondurable Goods	\$581.25	\$573.78	\$559.11	39.3	38.9	37.6	\$14.79	\$14.75	\$14.87
Dallas-Ft. Worth-Arlington MSA									
Manufacturing	\$620.06	\$616.10	\$628.30	40.5	40.4	41.2	\$15.31	\$15.25	\$15.25
Durable Goods	\$667.45	\$661.60	\$680.92	39.8	40.0	41.8	\$16.77	\$16.54	\$16.29
Nondurable Goods	\$537.10	\$535.46	\$533.05	41.7	41.0	40.2	\$12.88	\$13.06	\$13.26
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown MSA									
Manufacturing	\$703.60	\$703.35	\$679.39	40.6	40.1	38.8	\$17.33	\$17.54	\$17.51
Durable Goods	\$605.64	\$594.11	\$563.33	41.2	39.9	38.4	\$14.70	\$14.89	\$14.67
Nondurable Goods	\$864.47	\$887.36	\$861.10	39.6	40.5	39.5	\$21.83	\$21.91	\$21.80
San Antonio MSA									
Manufacturing	\$487.52	\$478.08	\$442.38	42.1	41.5	40.4	\$11.58	\$11.52	\$10.95
Durable Goods	\$529.25	\$520.68	\$482.24	44.7	44.2	43.8	\$11.84	\$11.78	\$11.01
Nondurable Goods	\$434.17	\$421.83	\$388.07	38.8	37.9	35.8	\$11.19	\$11.13	\$10.84
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD*									
Manufacturing	\$550.82	\$548.57	\$549.25	38.9	39.1	39.6	\$14.16	\$14.03	\$13.87
Durable Goods	\$548.16	\$548.55	\$551.94	37.7	38.2	39.2	\$14.54	\$14.36	\$14.08
Nondurable Goods	\$555.70	\$547.42	\$544.31	40.8	40.4	40.2	\$13.62	\$13.55	\$13.54
Ft. Worth-Arlington MD*									
Manufacturing	\$737.44	\$737.02	\$777.02	43.1	42.8	44.3	\$17.11	\$17.22	\$17.54
Durable Goods	\$848.56	\$837.84	\$894.34	42.9	42.9	46.1	\$19.78	\$19.53	\$19.40
Nondurable Goods	\$495.30	\$510.43	\$508.59	43.6	42.5	40.3	\$11.36	\$12.01	\$12.62

Estimates of the TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Estimates reflect actual (not seasonally adjusted) data. All estimates are subject to revision. *Metropolitan Division (MD). The Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA is comprised of the Dallas-Plano-Irving MD and the Fort Worth-Arlington MD.

GLOSSARY OF LABOR MARKET TERMS

Actual or Not Seasonally Adjusted - This term is used to describe data series not subject to the seasonal adjustment process. In other words, the effects of regular, or seasonal, patterns have not been removed from these series.

Civilian Labor Force (CLF) - Is that portion of the population age 16 and older who are employed or unemployed. To be considered unemployed, a person has to be not working but willing and able to work and actively seeking work.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) - Is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. The CPI provides a way for consumers to compare what the market basket of goods and services costs this month with what the same market basket cost a month or a year ago.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) - A monthly survey of nonfarm business establishments used to collect wage and salary employment, workers hours, and payroll, by industry and area. It is sometimes known as Nonagricultural Employment.

Employed (Emp) - Persons 16 years and over in the civilian noninstitutional population who, during the reference week, (a) did any work at all (at least 1 hour) as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of the family, and (b) all those who were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, childcare problems, maternity or paternity leave, labor-management dispute, job training, or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off or were seeking other jobs. Each employed person is counted only once, even if he or she holds more than one job.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) - The Federal/State cooperative program which produces employment and unemployment

estimates for states and local areas. These estimates are developed by State Employment Security Agencies in accordance with Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) definitions and procedures. Data is used for planning and budgetary purposes as an indication of need for employment and training services programs. Estimates are also used to allocate Federal funds.

Metropolitan Division (MD) - A Metropolitan Statistical Area which contains a single core with a population of 2.5 million or more may be subdivided into smaller groupings of counties referred to as Metropolitan Divisions. Titles of Metropolitan Divisions are typically based on principal city names. Texas has two Metropolitan Divisions, the Dallas-Plano-Irving MD and the Fort Worth-Arlington MD, which combine to form the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) - A geographic area that contains at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core urban area. An MSA in Texas is made up of one or more counties. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget defines metropolitan areas according to published standards that are applied to Census Bureau data. Texas has 25 MSAs and two Metropolitan Divisions (MD).

Seasonally Adjusted (SA) - Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year. These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other non-seasonal movements in a data series.

Unemployed (Unemp) - Persons 16 years and over who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

“HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE”

Retail Development to Start

TEMPLE, TX (Temple KCEN (NBC) 6)-A retail development project in Temple will add 400,000 square feet of retail space on 45 acres of land in Bell County. Bird Creek Crossing is designed to bring big retail business to Temple and could bring up to 800 new jobs. Target, Home Depot, and Best Buy will be featured stores at the new center.

John Clary with the Temple Economic Development Corporation says, the retail project is "going to retain shoppers in Temple that might be going out of town to shop currently." The first phase of construction is expected to be complete by the summer. Home Depot will be the first store to open this spring, with Target following soon after.

New Hospital Complex Planned for Hays County

KYLE, TX (Austin American Statesman-Mary Ann Roser)-The Seton Family of Hospitals has put 205 acres of land in Kyle under contract for more than \$6 million and is exploring plans for a major medical center. Seton envisions getting the necessary approvals by the end of this year and opening the hospital in 2010 or 2011.

The new hospital could have 110 to 120 beds and a staff of about 400 people, said Herbert Dyer, Seton's vice president for business operations. As Hays County grows, the hospital would expand to 200 beds and 700 to 800 employees, he said.

2007 Labor Market & Career Information Release Dates

Reference Month	Release Date
December 2006	* Friday, January 19, 2007
January 2007	* Thursday, March 8th
February 2007	* Thursday, March 29th
March 2007	* Friday, April 20th
April 2007	* Friday, May 18th
May 2007	* Friday, June 15th
June 2007	* Friday, July 20th
July 2007	* Friday, August 17th
August 2007	* Friday, September 21st
September 2007	* Friday, October 19th
October 2007	* Friday, November 16th
November 2007	* Friday, December 21st
December 2007	* Friday, January 18, 2008

*Statewide (seasonally adjusted and actual series) data will be released on these dates. Sub-state estimates may be delayed depending on availability of data from other states.

INDICATORS

Texas Unemployment Rate

Actual (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			Seasonally Adjusted		
DEC	2006	4.1%	DEC	2006	4.5%
NOV	2006	4.6%	NOV	2006	4.7%
DEC	2005	4.8%	DEC	2005	5.2%

U.S. Unemployment Rate

Actual (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			Seasonally Adjusted		
DEC	2006	4.3%	DEC	2006	4.5%
NOV	2006	4.3%	NOV	2006	4.5%
DEC	2005	4.6%	DEC	2005	4.9%

Texas Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment

Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
DEC	2006	10,138,400	DEC	2006	10,074,500
NOV	2006	10,117,100	NOV	2006	10,058,900
DEC	2005	9,923,700	DEC	2005	9,861,300
OTM Change		21,300	OTM Change		15,600
OTY Change		214,700	OTY Change		213,200

Unemployment Insurance Claims

Initial Claims			Continued Claims		
DEC	2006	60,277	DEC	2006	444,341
NOV	2006	60,102	NOV	2006	408,182
DEC	2005	63,436	DEC	2005	621,724

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Annual Change			Help Wanted Index - Texas		
U.S.	DEC 2006	2.5%	DEC	2006	56.4
Dallas-Fort Worth	NOV 2006	0.3%	NOV	2006	56.4
Houston-Galveston	DEC 2006	1.1%	DEC	2005	62.7

West Texas Intermediate Crude Oil (\$/barrel)

DEC	2006	\$ 62.03	OTM Change	\$ 2.66
NOV	2006	\$ 59.37	OTY Change	\$ 2.60
DEC	2005	\$ 59.43		

Texas Labor Market Review Labor Market & Career Information



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