

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR RELEASE: Embargoed until 9 a.m.
DATE: January 22, 2016

MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Givens
PHONE: 512-463-8556

Texas Ends 2015 with Another Month of Job Growth

24,900 jobs added in December, 166,900 total jobs added over the year

AUSTIN – Texas employers expanded their payrolls in December with the addition of 24,900 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs, marking the tenth month of job increases for Texas in 2015.

“Texas finished 2015 on a strong note in December with employers adding 166,900 jobs over the year across a diverse range of industries,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “Our state offers many advantages to employers who choose to do business in Texas and we are pleased employers continue to create opportunities for Texas workers.”

Texas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 4.7 percent in December, up from 4.6 percent in November, and remained below the national average of 5.0 percent.

Professional and Business Services employment surged in December with the addition of 12,500 positions. This marked the industry’s largest over-the-month gain since November 2014. The Education and Health Services industry recorded the second largest employment gain over the month in Texas with 7,400 jobs added. This marked 21 consecutive months of growth within the industry and a total of 66,700 jobs added since January 2015.

“Private-sector employment was strong over the year with the overall job growth of 141,300 jobs in December,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs. “Texas employers continue to be strong and resilient in providing employment and training opportunities.”

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) recorded the month’s lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.9 percent, followed by the Austin-Round Rock and Lubbock MSAs each with rates of 3.1 percent in December.

Audio downloads with comments from Commissioner Hughs on the latest labor market data are available on the TWC website [press release page](#). 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](#).

-more-

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

Area	December 2015				November 2015				December 2014			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	157,245	149,703	7,542	4.8	157,340	149,766	7,573	4.8	155,521	147,190	8,331	5.4
Texas	13,077.4	12,522.2	555.2	4.2	13,100.0	12,506.5	593.5	4.5	13,152.2	12,612.1	540.1	4.1
Abilene	75.4	72.7	2.7	3.5	75.5	72.6	2.9	3.9	76.7	74.1	2.6	3.4
Amarillo	128.5	124.8	3.7	2.9	128.8	124.7	4.1	3.2	130.7	126.9	3.8	2.9
Austin-Round Rock	1,059.4	1,027.1	32.3	3.1	1,063.8	1,028.6	35.1	3.3	1,052.1	1,016.7	35.4	3.4
Beaumont-Port Arthur	182.0	170.3	11.8	6.5	182.1	169.7	12.4	6.8	181.6	169.8	11.8	6.5
Brownsville-Harlingen	163.4	152.2	11.2	6.9	163.5	151.9	11.6	7.1	165.7	154.0	11.7	7.1
College Station-Bryan	118.2	114.4	3.9	3.3	119.5	115.3	4.2	3.5	120.2	116.5	3.7	3.1
Corpus Christi	211.9	200.8	11.1	5.2	212.9	201.3	11.5	5.4	212.8	203.1	9.6	4.5
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,591.7	3,460.5	131.2	3.7	3,595.2	3,452.5	142.7	4.0	3,590.1	3,447.4	142.6	4.0
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,403.4	2,317.4	86.1	3.6	2,409.1	2,315.6	93.6	3.9	2,392.1	2,296.9	95.1	4.0
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,188.2	1,143.1	45.2	3.8	1,186.1	1,137.0	49.1	4.1	1,198.0	1,150.5	47.5	4.0
El Paso	341.4	324.9	16.5	4.8	341.8	324.0	17.8	5.2	346.0	327.8	18.2	5.3
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	3,246.3	3,096.9	149.4	4.6	3,247.7	3,088.9	158.8	4.9	3,280.2	3,148.8	131.4	4.0
Killeen-Temple	166.3	159.0	7.3	4.4	166.2	158.3	7.9	4.8	170.6	162.4	8.1	4.8
Laredo	112.5	107.4	5.1	4.5	112.8	107.4	5.4	4.8	112.5	108.1	4.5	4.0
Longview	105.2	100.1	5.1	4.8	105.7	100.4	5.3	5.0	106.2	102.1	4.0	3.8
Lubbock	152.9	148.2	4.7	3.1	153.0	147.9	5.1	3.4	153.9	149.2	4.7	3.0
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	335.6	309.3	26.3	7.8	334.9	308.2	26.7	8.0	336.1	310.8	25.4	7.6
Midland	96.9	93.7	3.2	3.3	96.9	93.5	3.4	3.5	96.6	94.4	2.2	2.2
Odessa	86.3	82.3	4.0	4.6	86.5	82.3	4.2	4.8	85.7	83.3	2.4	2.8
San Angelo	55.2	53.0	2.2	4.0	55.0	52.7	2.4	4.3	55.9	54.1	1.8	3.2
San Antonio-New Braunfels	1,103.2	1,064.7	38.5	3.5	1,107.9	1,066.1	41.8	3.8	1,096.5	1,056.4	40.1	3.7
Sherman-Denison	59.8	57.5	2.2	3.7	60.1	57.7	2.4	4.0	60.9	58.5	2.4	3.9
Texarkana	63.1	60.2	2.9	4.6	63.1	60.0	3.0	4.8	64.4	60.9	3.4	5.3
Tyler	101.6	97.0	4.5	4.5	101.4	96.7	4.7	4.6	103.6	99.4	4.2	4.1
Victoria	50.9	48.8	2.1	4.0	50.8	48.6	2.2	4.4	50.7	49.1	1.6	3.2
Waco	116.2	111.9	4.4	3.8	116.8	112.0	4.8	4.1	118.3	113.6	4.7	4.0
Wichita Falls	63.3	60.5	2.7	4.3	63.4	60.5	2.9	4.6	66.0	63.4	2.5	3.8

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

INDUSTRY TITLE	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov '15 to Dec '15		Dec '14 to Dec '15	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
Total Nonagricultural	11,916,400	11,891,500	11,749,500	24,900	0.2	166,900	1.4
Total Private	10,049,500	10,028,300	9,908,200	21,200	0.2	141,300	1.4
Goods Producing	1,820,100	1,821,200	1,888,700	-1,100	-0.1	-68,600	-3.6
Mining and Logging	286,000	286,100	319,600	-100	0.0	-33,600	-10.5
Construction	684,800	681,000	677,900	3,800	0.6	6,900	1.0
Manufacturing	849,300	854,100	891,200	-4,800	-0.6	-41,900	-4.7
Service Providing	10,096,300	10,070,300	9,860,800	26,000	0.3	235,500	2.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,378,400	2,379,300	2,348,100	-900	0.0	30,300	1.3
Information	207,800	207,400	204,200	400	0.2	3,600	1.8
Financial Activities	715,500	712,200	713,200	3,300	0.5	2,300	0.3
Professional and Business Services	1,620,900	1,608,400	1,576,100	12,500	0.8	44,800	2.8
Education and Health Services	1,621,400	1,614,000	1,553,100	7,400	0.5	68,300	4.4
Leisure and Hospitality	1,267,800	1,268,200	1,212,500	-400	0.0	55,300	4.6
Other Services	417,600	417,600	412,300	0	0.0	5,300	1.3
Government	1,866,900	1,863,200	1,841,300	3,700	0.2	25,600	1.4

###dhp

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our [email updates](#).