

September 2021 Seasonally Adjusted Labor Market Data Audio Text

Commissioner Alvarez

- Good morning Texas, I'm Julian Alvarez, the Commissioner Representing Labor at the Texas Workforce Commission, coming to you from beautiful East Bastrop, Texas today.
- Fall has arrived here in Texas and folks across the state are heading out to enjoy the cooler weather and check out all the activities our unique rural Texas towns have to offer.
- While rural towns may have a smaller population than our larger urban areas, they play an important role in our state's economy.
- Ecotourism is on the rise in Texas. From hunting, fishing and camping, to even stargazing, economic opportunities exist for small Texas towns. According to the US Bureau of Economic Analysis, the outdoor recreation economy in Texas generates as many as 327,000 jobs and \$14.4 billion in wages and salaries.
- Folks venturing out to enjoy the start of hunting and fishing season also generate revenue and jobs in our small towns by staying in hotels, dining at local restaurants, and visiting small businesses, stores and boutiques.
- Speaking of job creation, let's visit the labor market highlights for September 2021.

Voice Over

- In September, the seasonally adjusted Texas unemployment rate fell to 5.6 percent, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from August.
- Texas added 95,800 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs over the month.
- The Leisure and Hospitality industry added 31,900 jobs in September. Trade, Transportation and Utilities gained 16,700 positions. Also of note, Professional and Business Services added 16,400 jobs.

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- Our Lone Star State workforce is the backbone of our economy and the foundation of our state, whether in our rural towns or urban areas, and TWC is here to support continued growth in Texas.
- In fact, if you work in the Leisure and Hospitality or service industries, TWC's got a new program for you! We've launched the Service Industry Recovery (SIR) program to offer free 12-month child care scholarships to parents who qualify and are employed in the service industry. Contact our local Workforce Solutions office to learn more and apply for this program.

- For more information, visit us online.