

Labor Market Information Department

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Drop Seen in Statewide Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate 1214

The Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped a surprising four-tenths of a percentage point over the month. This represents the largest over-the-month decline since this year's March to April change and the largest (along with 1983) October to November change in the historical series which began in 1978. The current (November) rate of 5.0 percent is the lowest since 1980 and the lowest November rate since 1979.

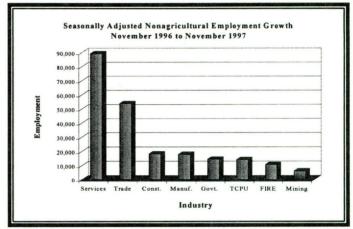
Seasonally Adjusted Total Nonagricultural Employment Continues to Climb

Total Nonagricultural Wage and Salary employment climbed by 36,300 jobs in November, with Trade and Services employment accounting for 65% of the increase. The annual growth rate was comparable to rates experienced over the past two years, however, year-to-date job

growth (Jan-Nov) is the largest since 1994.

Employment in Mining increased by 300 jobs in November. This most recent upturn in Mining employment began in December 1995 as technological innovations made domestic oil and gas production and extraction more profitable. *Oil and Gas Field Services* continued to provide the largest concentration of employment in Mining.

The Services industry gained 11,900 jobs over the month. The majority of this gain was the result of a surge in employment in *Business Services*. Growth in *Health Services* also contributed to the gain.



Retail Trade employment increased by 11,300 in November. This was the largest one-month gain since October 1994. Significant increases were noted in *General Merchandise Stores*, Food Stores, and Miscellaneous Retail. The opening of a mall in the Dallas/Fort Worth area boosted employment in General Merchandise Stores last month and is expected to add as many jobs this month.

Annual growth rates within Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (FIRE) remained strong, increasing to 2.4% for November. Year to date, FIRE employment has outpaced the last three years. The current year-to-date employment increase of 9,900 is the largest for this period since 1993, when the January-to-November gain was 12,600.

Nonseasonally Adjusted Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Employment

All MSAs experienced job growth in November with the exception of San Angelo (which remained unchanged). The Dallas and Houston MSAs contributed the lion's share, accounting for 50% of total MSA employment growth.

Employment in Texas MSAs increased by 50,700 jobs in November, with an above average seasonal gain in Retail Trade accounting for 61% of the growth. While every MSA added jobs in Retail Trade, Christmas hiring in the Dallas, Fort Worth-Arlington, and Houston MSAs accounted for 63% of the overall gain.

Complementing seasonal increases in Retail Trade employment was the addition of 2,300 jobs in Texas' MSAs in Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (TCPU) as transportation companies increased staffing to handle holiday package delivery. The Dallas MSA alone contributed 52% of the new TCPU jobs.

Durable Goods Manufacturing employees who were displaced by an October layoff in the Tyler MSA returned to work this month, accounting for 88% of the employment growth for this MSA. This single event represents 48% of November's statewide MSA growth in Durable Goods Manufacturing.

Labor Market Review



November 1997

Texas Unei	mployment Rate	Texas Nonagricultural	Wage & Salary Employment
Actual Series	Seasonally Adjusted	Actual Series	Seasonally Adjusted
4.9%	5.0%	8,611,300	8,560,200

Macroeconomic Overview of the Texas Economy by Christopher J. Sesler, Ph.D.

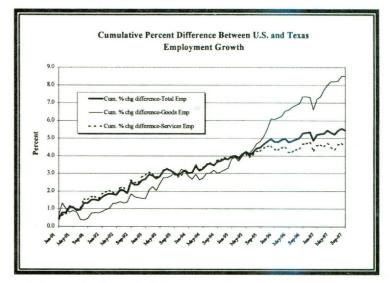
Macroeconomics is concerned with the aggregate nature of an economy. One of the main goals of macroeconomics is to gain an understanding of how an economy works. This can be better understood by analyzing a few key macroeconomic variables. These variables usually fall in the broad categories of economic growth, labor market activity, price inflation, and governmental monetary and fiscal policies. However, microeconomics (the study of firms and individual consumers and the choices they make) is the true underpinning of the macroeconomic environment. If macroeconomics is the forest, microeconomics is the trees.

Economic growth is simply an increase in an economy's productive capacity over time. Economic growth, among other things, is the result of increased factors of production (i.e., labor and capital), education and skills of the workforce, and technological progress. Technological progress is the main driver of increased labor productivity (output per hour of work) and ultimately this rate of productivity improvement is the dominant factor determining longrun economic growth. Economic growth, in turn, helps determine how quickly living standards (output per capita) rise, which represents real improvement in economic quality of life. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the variable most commonly used as a proxy for economic growth. It measures the market value of goods and services produced. Furthermore, the rate of growth of real GDP helps determine whether a nation, as a whole, is rich or poor, and the growth rate of per-capita real GDP helps to determine the standard of living (per person economic well-being) of such a nation. However, GDP is not a perfect measure of either actual output or overall well-being due to not accounting for such things as non-market transactions, externalities, and non-economic qualityof-life improvements.

Since 1991, the start of the current national economic expansion, Texas has averaged approximately 3.91 percent in economic growth annually compared to the U.S. at approximately 2.84 percent as measured by real Gross State Product (GSP) and real GDP respectively. Texas' per-capita real GSP has been growing at approximately 1.95 percent annually compared to the U.S.'s percapita real GDP growth rate of 1.57 percent. Texas has outperformed the U.S. in economic growth during this expansionary period due to its burgeoning economic diversity, productivity gains, export trade, and relatively fast-growing labor force. The labor force growth is largely due to increases in net in-migration and the labor force participation rate (the fraction of the working-age population actually in the labor force).

Labor market activity consists of, among others, the labor force, the labor force participation rate, labor productivity, the real wage, employment growth, and the unemployment rate. These variables along with physical capital stock help determine the output of an economy. Among the most important variables in this category to help judge the well-being of workers and overall macroeconomic health are the last two mentioned above: employment growth and the unemployment rate. Since 1991, Texas has averaged an unemployment rate of 6.5 percent versus 6.2 percent for the U.S. During this same time Texas' employment growth (as measured by nonseasonally adjusted total nonagriculture wage and salary

employment) has averaged 2.78 percent annually while the U.S. has averaged 2.0 percent. Overall, Texas has shown unemployment rate trends similar to that of the national rate. However, Texas' employment growth has exceeded the national rate by a significant margin. Again, this can be attributed to a growing labor force, favorable economic conditions for firm relocation, continuing strong economic growth, the incipient effects of NAFTA (while not without its critics, NAFTA has important implications for direct foreign investment, exports, and the creation of jobs in Texas), and the continuing improvement in infrastructure.



The graph above depicts the cumulative percent difference between U.S. and Texas employment growth. For example, if Texas' employment grew by 2 percent more than the U.S. for each year during a five year period, then the cumulative percent difference between U.S. and Texas employment growth would be 10 percent at the end of year five.

Prices play a paramount role in a capitalist economy, coordinating economic activity, distributing resources, and linking the decisions of firms and consumers. Price inflation is a persistent increase in a nation's general price level. The detrimental effects are commonly espoused in the media and include unfavorable impacts on the distribution of income and wealth, on long-run economic growth, and resource allocation. The severity of these detrimental effects depend largely on whether or not economic agents (i.e., consumers, investors, workers, and firms) are able to predict the inflation before it occurs. Once unleashed, inflation has a tendency to accelerate, thereby necessitating preemptive monetary actions. Moreover, low, non-volatile inflation and expected inflation are instrumental to stable and sustainable economic growth. The consumer price index (CPI) is the variable most commonly used as a proxy for price inflation. The CPI attempts to measure the change in the cost of a basket of goods and services purchased by a typical household. Texas' CPI, which is an average of the Houston and Dallas CPIs, has increased an average of 2.48 percent annually since 1991 as compared to the U.S.'s average annual increase of 2.75 percent. Both national and Texas inflation rates, as measured by their respective CPIs, are very low when judged by historical data. As with the national economy, Texas' moderate to strong economic growth has not accelerated inflation. Interestingly, eminent wage pressure has not materialized and firms are increasing productivity and efficiency instead of output price due to a highly competitive market environment.

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Governmental monetary and fiscal policy, especially at the national level, are tools aimed at influencing <u>real</u> economic activity. The "soft landing" or "fine tuning" of the 1990s is an attempt by the Federal Reserve System of the U.S. to use its control over short-term interest rates (most notably the discount rate), reserve requirements, and open market operations to influence (either cooling or heating up) the national economy. The ultimate goal of the Federal Reserve System and other branches of our government, in general, is to imbue a stable financial environment coupled with sustainable moderate economic growth, price level stability, and full employment through a combination of appropriate monetary (availability of credit, level of interest rates, and supply of money) and fiscal (expenditure and tax) policies. Appropriate state fiscal policy plays a tenable part in state economic performance and prosperity through the aggregate demand of goods and services.

Economic restructuring, a basic theme repeated throughout

economic history, is one of the factors behind Texas' economic revival of the 1990s. With years of economic diversity and restructuring as well as a healthy national economy, Texas' economy is robust and vital. As with the national economy, all areas and groups of workers do not share equally in the prosperity; however, there has been a general improvement in economic conditions for most of Texas. The economic future of Texas is, not surprisingly, tied to the health of the national economy and national monetary and fiscal policy, as well as to the economic vitality of Mexico, the continued growth of the technology sector, economic diversity, productivity, net migration, and state governmental fiscal and economic policies. As with the petrochemical industry years ago and the technology sector today, no one industry or sector is a panacea for economic growth and well-being. However, with prudent economic policies and judicious foresight, especially targeted towards long-run productivity performance, Texas can very well continue in its resurgent economic performance and leadership role for years to come.



Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Seasonally Adjusted⁺

track of the control day of the control of the cont				Oct. '97 to	Nov. '97	Nov. '96 to Nov. '97		
INDUSTRY TITLE	Nov. 1997*	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1996	Absolute	Percent	Absolute	Percent	
				Change	Change	Change	Change	
TOTAL NONAG. W&S EMPLOYMENT	8,560,200	8,523,900	8,335,200	36,300	0.43	225,000	2.70	
GOODS PRODUCING	1,705,100	1,698,200	1,662,700	6,900	0.41	42,400	2.55	
Mining	163,900	163,600	157,700	300	0.18	6,200	3.93	
Construction	462,800	460,200	444,500	2,600	0.56	18,300	4.12	
Manufacturing	1,078,400	1,074,400	1,060,500	4,000	0.37	17,900	1.69	
Durable Goods	634,500	631,100	621,300	3,400	0.54	13,200	2.12	
Nondurable Goods	443,900	443,300	439,200	600	0.14	4,700	1.07	
SERVICE PRODUCING	6,855,100	6,825,700	6,672,500	29,400	0.43	182,600	2.74	
Transportation, Comm., Utilities	504,700	503,000	490,500	1,700	0.34	14,200	2.90	
Trade	2,063,400	2,051,600	2,009,500	11,800	0.58	53,900	2.68	
Wholesale Trade	491,600	491,100	480,800	500	0.10	10,800	2.25	
Retail Trade	1,571,800	1,560,500	1,528,700	11,300	0.72	43,100	2.82	
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	458,200	456,900	447,500	1,300	0.28	10,700	2.39	
Services	2,350,800	2,338,900	2,261,500	11,900	0.51	89,300	3.95	
Government	1,478,000	1,475,300	1,463,500	2,700	0.18	14,500	0.99	

Note: The number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas is without reference to place of residence of workers.

TEXAS AND U.S. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

		TEXAS*	UNITED STATES**							
Actual	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate		
Nov. '97	10,013,600	9,523,400	490,200	4.9	136,913,000	130,999,000	5,914,000	4.3		
Oct. '97	10,006,800	9,514,500	492,300	4.9	136,666,000	130,671,000	5,995,000	4.4		
Nov. '96	9,846,300	9,322,100	524,200	5.3	134,973,000	128,157,000	6,816,000	5.0		
Seas. Adjusted	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate	CLF	Employment	Unemp.	Rate		
Nov. '97	9,978,300	9,476,000	502,300	5.0	136,814,000	130,565,000	6,249,000	4.6		
Oct. '97	9,995,200	9,457,800	537,400	5.4	136,361,000	129,894,000	6,467,000	4.7		
Nov. '96	9,804,000	9,274,600	529,400	5.4	134,831,000	127,644,000	7,187,000	5.3		

Note: Only the actual series estimates for Texas and the U.S. are comparable to sub-state estimates. Current month estimates for Texas are preliminary. 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.

^{*}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.

^{*}Source - Labor Market Information Department, Texas Workforce Commission (model-based methodology)

^{**}Source - Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor (Current Population Survey)

Highlights of Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Although the Texas actual series unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.9% from October to November, the rate is still four tenths below last year's rate of 5.3%. A robust economy coupled with the holiday season are largely responsible for the state rate remaining unchanged. The statewide jobless rate for November has not been this low since the 4.2% level of 1979. In addition, the number of insured unemployed without earnings in Texas fell from 87,619 in October to 87,250 in November. This level is still below the year-ago claimant count of 92,169.

- ◆ For most of this year, the Construction industry has experienced declines in the number of claims for benefits. In November, however, the industry saw a 9.1% increase due primarily to project completions. The Mining and Services sectors also experienced an increase in claims. The industry having the largest decrease from October was Manufacturing, which fell 15.6% from October due to the return of employees from temporary factory shutdowns. Industry sectors which also experienced a decline in claims were: Government; Trade; Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (TCPU); Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (FIRE); and Agriculture. Claims filed in Manufacturing, TCPU, and Trade are at their lowest points since the beginning of the year.
- Of the state's 27 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), 22 had unemployment rates which either decreased or remained unchanged over the year, while five MSAs saw an increase in their unemployment rate. Of the 254 Texas counties, 167 had unemployment rates that were either the same or lower than the previous year while 87 had rates that increased.
- ◆ The Bryan-College Station MSA had the state's lowest unemployment rate at 1.8% and the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA had the highest rate at 17.7%. Borden County had the lowest county rate at 0.7% and Presidio County had the highest rate at 27.6%.

Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Ranked by Unemployment Rate November 1997

1	Bryan-College Station	1.8
2	Austin-San Marcos	2.9
3	San Angelo	3.1
4	Amarillo	3.2
5	Fort Worth-Arlington	3.3
6(tie)	Dallas	3.4
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Lubbock	3.4
8	Abilene	3.5
9(tie)	San Antonio	3.8
	Sherman-Denison	3.8
11	Victoria	4.0
12	Waco	4.2
13(tie)	Odessa-Midland	4.3
	Wichita Falls	4.3
15	Houston	4.4
16	Killeen-Temple	4.8
17	Tyler	6.0
18(tie)	Brazoria	6.4
	Corpus Christi	6.4
20(tie)	Galveston-Texas City	7.1
	Longview-Marshall	7.1
22	Texarkana	7.3
23	Beaumont-Port Arthur	7.6
24	Laredo	9.1
25	El Paso	10.0
26	Brownsville-Harlingen	12.2
27	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	17.7

Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas (In Thousands)

		November 1997*					997**		November 1996				
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	
State of Texas	10,013.6	9,523.4	490.2	4.9	10,006.8	9,514.5	492.3	4.9	9,846.3	9,322.1	524.2	5.3	
Abilene	61.0	58.9	2.1	3.5	61.1	59.0	2.1	3.4	61.0	58.5	2.5	4.1	
Amarillo	115.7	112.0	3.7	3.2	115.7	111.9	3.8	3.3	114.1	109.5	4.6	4.0	
Austin-San Marcos	648.5	629.7	18.8	2.9	647.6	628.6	19.0	2.9	644.4	623.5	20.9	3.2	
Beaumont-Port Arthur	181.6	167.9	13.7	7.6	181.0	167.3	13.7	7.6	180.8	165.7	15.1	8.4	
Brazoria	107.8	100.9	6.9	6.4	107.8	100.9	6.9	6.4	107.2	100.1	7.1	6.6	
Brownsville-Harlingen	128.7	112.9	15.8	12.2	128.2	113.2	15.0	11.7	124.4	109.7	14.7	11.8	
Bryan-College Station	72.6	71.3	1.3	1.8	72.6	71.3	1.3	1.8	72.0	70.4	1.6	2.2	
Corpus Christi	180.4	168.9	11.5	6.4	180.9	168.9	12.0	6.6	181.6	166.4	15.2	8.4	
Dallas	1,842.9	1,779.9	63.0	3.4	1,839.7	1,775.4	64.3	3.5	1,786.9	1,720.6	66.3	3.7	
El Paso	291.4	262.2	29.2	10.0	295.4	262.5	32.9	11.1	292.5	258.9	33.6	11.5	
Fort Worth-Arlington	869.1	840.8	28.3	3.3	869.0	840.6	28.4	3.3	846.2	816.0	30.2	3.6	
Galveston-Texas City	127.7	118.6	9.1	7.1	128.1	118.8	9.3	7.2	126.6	116.0	10.6	8.3	
Houston	2,067.1	1,975.3	91.8	4.4	2,065.7	1,972.0	93.7	4.5	2,035.0	1,934.2	100.8	5.0	
Killeen-Temple	116.5	110.9	5.6	4.8	116.7	111.0	5.7	4.9	113.5	108.2	5.3	4.7	
Laredo	71.3	64.8	6.5	9.1	71.0	64.7	6.3	8.9	69.3	61.4	7.9	11.4	
Longview-Marshall	103.2	95.9	7.3	7.1	103.3	96.0	7.3	7.0	103.7	96.1	7.6	7.3	
Lubbock	126.5	122.2	4.3	3.4	126.4	122.1	4.3	3.4	124.0	120.0	4.0	3.3	
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	199.1	163.9	35.2	17.7	191.3	160.2	31.1	16.2	192.9	156.7	36.2	18.8	
Odessa-Midland	121.1	115.8	5.3	4.3	121.3	115.9	5.4	4.5	120.8	114.7	6.1	5.0	
San Angelo	50.7	49.1	1.6	3.1	50.7	49.1	1.6	3.1	51.1	49.5	1.6	3.1	
San Antonio	752.3	723.5	28.8	3.8	752.0	723.1	28.9	3.8	736.0	706.9	29.1	4.0	
Sherman-Denison	49.8	47.9	1.9	3.8	50.0	48.0	2.0	3.9	50.0	47.9	2.1	4.2	
Texarkana	57.2	53.0	4.2	7.3	56.7	53.0	3.7	6.5	57.8	53.6	4.2	7.3	
Tyler	89.2	83.9	5.3	6.0	90.4	82.4	8.0	8.8	87.8	82.5	5.3	6.0	
Victoria	42.9	41.2	1.7	4.0	43.1	41.3	1.8	4.1	42.2	40.2	2.0	4.8	
Waco	102.6	98.3	4.3	4.2	103.2	98.8	4.4	4.3	101.1	97.0	4.1	4.0	
Wichita Falls	65.9	63.1	2.8	4.3	65.7	63.1	2.6	4.0	66.0	63.3	2.7	4.1	

*Estimates for the current month are preliminary. 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. Percent Unemployed is based upon unrounded Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment numbers. A discrepancy can occur when rounded numbers are used to calculate the Unemployment Rate. Estimates of TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Employment and Unemployment Estimates for Texas Counties - November 1997

County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	County	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
Anderson	19,218	1,121	5.5	Donley	1,692	68	3.9	Kaufman	30,212	1,615	5.1	Real	1,344	47	3.4
Andrews	4,980	278	5.3	Duval	4,135	344	7.7	Kendall	13,465	301	2.2	Red River	6,046	403	6.2
Angelina	34,012	1,855	5.2	Eastland	8,715	335	3.7	Kenedy	226	2	0.9	Reeves	6,015	498	7.6
Aransas	9,106	618	6.4	Ector	57,315	3,100	5.1	Kent	472	21	4.3	Refugio	2,823	152	5.1
Archer	4,101	88	2.1	Edwards	864	52	5.7	Kerr	17,314	396	2.2	Roberts	515	14	2.6
Armstrong	978	31	3.1	El Paso	262,179	29,246	10.0	Kimhle	2,322	92	3.8	Robertson	6,208	338	5.2
Atascosa	15,657	707	4.3	Ellis	50,434	1,962	3.7	King	91	8	8.1	Rockwall	19,593	539	2.7
Austin	11,456	461	3.9	Erath	16,288	411	2.5	Kinney	1,080	65	5.7	Runnels	5,303	165	3.0
Bailey	3,530	173	4.7	Falls	7,822	341	4.2	Kleberg	12,566	794	5.9	Rusk	19,561	1,318	6.3
Bandera	6,343	225	3.4	Fannin	12,296	561	4.4	Knox	2,128	97	4.4	Sabine	3,913	333	7.8
Bastrop	24,195	911	3.6	Fayette	10,236	286	2.7	La Salle	2,524	178	6.6	San Augustine	3,366	231	6.4
Baylor	1,694	92	5.2	Fisher	1,905	60	3.1	Lamar	21,013	1,087	4.9	San Jacinto	7,698	359	4.5
Bee	10,283	527	4.9	Floyd	3,339	251	7.0	Lamb	6,746	338	4.8	San Patricio	27,257	1,914	6.6
Bell	90,421	4,598	4.8	Foard	1,042	39	3.6	Lampasas	7,425	333	4.3	San Saba	2,284	126	5.2
Bexar	637,975	26,258	4.0	Fort Bend	156,642	5,009	3.1	Lavaca	9,279	165	1.7	Schleicher	1,505	39	2.5
Blanco	3,703	94	2.5	Franklin	4,121	220	5.1	Lee	6,528	293	4.3	Scurry	7,764	291	3.6
Borden	411	3	0.7	Freestone	7,271	351	4.6	Leon	5,350	382	6.7	Shackelford	1,372	60	4.2
Bosque	6,260	283	4.3	Frio	5,411	440	7.5	Liberty	24,932	1,940	7.2	Shelby	9,138	665	6.8
Bowie	36,846	3,578	8.9	Gaines	6,813	265	3.7	Limestone	9,311	500	5.1	Sherman	1,388	37	2.6
Brazoria	100,851	6,947	6.4	Galveston	118,567	9,093	7.1	Lipscomb	1,709	31	1.8	Smith	83,902	5,323	6.0
Brazona Brazos	71,305	1,305	1.8	Garza	2,163	141	6.1	Live Oak	4,118	186	4.3	Somervell	1,907	134	6.6
	4,996	121	2.4	Gillespie	10,002	152	1.5	Llano	4,626	199	4.1	Starr	16,798	6,418	27.6
Brewster	928	31	3.2	Glasscock	703	132	1.8	Loving	84	8	8.7	Stephens	4,070	149	3.5
Briscoe		304	9.7	Goliad	2,515	105	4.0	Lubbock	122,209	4,330	3.4	Sterling	551	16	2.8
Brooks	2,819	878	5.1	Gonzales	7,370	288	3.8		3,445	126	3.5	Stonewall	755	21	2.7
Brown	16,248							Lynn	4,169	160	3.7	Sutton	2,180	71	3.2
Burleson	7,250	293	3.9	Gray	10,359	1 979	4.1	Madison		382	10.1	Swisher	3,694	134	3.5
Burnet	13,822	492	3.4	Grayson	47,916	1,878	3.8	Marion	3,391		MACHINE CONTRACTOR			24,579	3.2
Caldwell	14,440	630	4.2	Gregg	54,679	4,143	7.0	Martin	1,748	92 50	5.0 3.0	Tarrant	732,961 58,948	2,127	3.5
Calhoun	8,930	576	6.1	Grimes	8,417	390	4.4	Mason	1,614		************	Taylor Terrell	526	37	6.6
Callahan	6,343	231	3.5	Guadalupe	38,471	1,016	2.6	Matagorda	13,817	2,056	13.0			338	5.2
Cameron	112,897	15,757	12.2	Hale	16,776	946	5.3	Maverick	13,212	4,815	26.7	Terry	6,205 768	21	2.7
Camp	5,079	362	6.7	Hall	1,846	100	5.1	Mc Culloch	4,038	170	4.0	Throckmorton Titus	12,244	796	6.1
Carson	3,670	144	3.8	Hamilton	3,814	118	3.0	Mc Lennan	98,323	4,335	4.2		49,075		3.1
Cass	14,802	1,166	7.3	Hansford	2,491	68	2.7	Mc Mullen	272	8	2.9	Tom Green		1,569	3.0
Castro	3,976	170	4.1	Hardeman	2,090	110	5.0	Medina	16,393	728	4.3	Travis	430,420	13,352	
Chambers	10,733	550	4.9	Hardin	20,735	1,527	6.9	Menard	1,124	39	3.4	Trinity	4,619	241 574	5.0
Cherokee	20,431	872	4.1	Harris	1,653,707	78,948	4.6	Midland	58,492	2,152	3.5	Tyler	6,307		8.3
Childress	3,259	123	3.6	Harrison	25,800	2,129	7.6	Milam	9,112	503	5.2	Upshur	15,419	1,047	6.4
Clay	5,562	189	3.3	Hartley	2,493	38	1.5	Mills	2,404	65	2.6	Upton	1,675	63	3.6
Cochran	1,709	52	3.0	Haskell	2,872	121	4.0	Mitchell	2,947	152	4.9	Uvalde	10,332	1,305	11.2
Coke	1,619	65	3.9	Hays	44,796	1,368	3.0	Montague	7,447	309	4.0	Val Verde	15,966	1,878	10.5
Coleman	3,450	396	10.3	Hemphill	1,883	65	3.3	Montgomery	117,305	4,726	3.9	Van Zandt	19,503	870	4.3
Collin	221,557	5,311	2.3	Henderson	28,383	1,316	4.4	Moore	8,813	293	3.2	Victoria	41,206	1,734	4.0
Collingsworth	1,866	68	3.5	Hidalgo	163,891	35,184	17.7	Morris	5,930	592	9.1	Walker	22,689	487	2.1
Colorado	7,701	320	4.0	Hill	15,991	639	3.8	Motley	683	16	2.3	Waller	11,937	601	4.8
Comal	33,682	1,047	3.0	Hockley	10,424	461	4.2	Nacogdoches	26,610	1,551	5.5	Ward	4,060	275	6.3
Comanche	6,664	207	3.0	Hood	15,167	654	4.1	Navarro	21,889	1,045	4.6	Washington	15,135	390	2.5
Concho	1,435	34	2.3	Hopkins	16,020	713	4.3	Newton	5,292	626	10.6	Webb	64,794	6,518	9.1
Cooke	15,362	605	3.8	Houston	7,831	333	4.1	Nolan	7,419	432	5.5	Wharton	17,817	1,074	5.7
Coryell	20,520	990	4.6	Howard	13,596	461	3.3	Nueces	141,639	9,581	6.3	Wheeler	2,833	73	2.5
Cottle	857	39	4.4	Hudspeth	1,612	31	1.9	Ochiltree	4,720	121	2.5	Wichita	59,011	2,757	4.5
Crane	2,289	89	3.7	Hunt	34,764	1,555	4.3	Oldham	1,143	45	3.8	Wilbarger	6,817	233	3.3
Crockett	1,996	63	3.1	Hutchinson	9,071	537	5.6	Orange	37,679	3,822	9.2	Willacy	6,219	1,349	200000000000000000000000000000000000000
Crosby	2,940	162	5.2	Irion	772	24	3.0	Palo Pinto	11,643	739	6.0	Williamson	115,893	2,534	2.1
Culberson	1,252	152	10.8	Jack	3,255	123	3.6	Panola	7,264	642	8.1	Wilson	13,352	432	3.1
Dallam	3,979	117	2.9	Jackson	9,743	283	2.8	Parker	37,819	1,138	2.9	Winkler	2,644	160	
Dallas	1,178,146	45,978	3.8	Jasper	13,310	1,915	12.6	Parmer	4,238	136	3.1	Wise	21,369	678	CONTRACTOR SALES
Dawson	6,232	278	4.3	Jeff Davis	1,227	24	1.9	Pecos	6,835	472	6.5	Wood	13,563	762	
De Witt	7,574	348	4.4	Jefferson	109,456	8,367	7.1	Polk	14,995	899	5.7	Yoakum	3,659	170	
Deaf Smith	8,022	479	5.6	Jim Hogg	1,923	183	8.7	Potter	53,282	2,889	5.1	Young	7,602	479	5.9
Delta	2,838	123	4.2	Jim Wells	15,347	1,128	6.8	Presidio	2,159	825	27.6	Zapata	4,687	401	7.9
Denton	216,859	4,689	2.1	Johnson	54,829	1,945	3.4	Rains	3,776	157	4.0	Zavala	3,295	1,092	24.9
Dickens	925	47	4.8	Jones	9,945	267	2.6	Randall	58,737	860	1.4				
Annual Control of the	3,131	650	17.2	Karnes	5,707	207	3.5	Reagan	1,940	71	3.5	Total Control of the			

Estimates reflect actual (not seasonally adjusted) data. Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. To obtain the civilian labor force, add total employment to total unemployment. Estimates of TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

				Oct. '97 to	Nov. '97	Nov. '96 to	Nov. '97
	Nov. '97*	Oct. '97	Nov. '96	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
TOTAL NONAG. W & S EMPLOYMENT	8,611,300	8,558,900	8,386,000	52,400	0.6	225,300	2.7
GOODS PRODUCING	1,710,400	1,707,600	1,667,800	2,800	0.2	42,600	2.6
Mining	164,900	164,600	158,600	300	0.2	6,300	4.0
Oil & Gas Extraction Construction	156,700 465,600	156,500 466,200	150,300 447,100	200 -600	0.1 -0.1	6,400	4.3
Manufacturing	1,079,900	1,076,800	1,062,100	3,100	0.3	18,500 17,800	4.1
Durable Goods	635,100	631,700	622,000	3,400	0.5	13,100	2.1
Lumber & Wood Products	44,500	44,700	43,600	-200	-0.4	900	2.1
Lumber Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills Furniture & Fixtures	7,800 18,200	7,800 18,200	7,500	0	0.0	300	4.0
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	41,100	41,000	18,500 40,200	0 100	0.0 0.2	-300 900	-1.6
Concrete, Gypsum, & Plaster Products	19,200	19,200	18,500	0	0.0	700	3.8
Primary Metal Industries	30,700	30,500	29,800	200	0.7	900	3.0
Fabricated Metal Industries	98,400	98,100	95,800	300	0.3	2,600	2.
Fabricated Structural Metal Products Industrial Machinery & Equipment	49,500 141,500	49,400 139,400	48,600 136,200	100 2,100	0.2 1.5	900 5,300	1.9
Oil & Gas Field Machinery	29,000	28,900	26,700	100	0.3	2,300	8.0
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	120,400	120,100	119,500	300	0.2	900	0.8
Transportation Equipment	79,000	78,700	76,700	300	0.4	2,300	3.0
Aircraft & Parts Instruments & Related Products	45,300	45,200	43,600	100	0.2	1,700	3.9
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	41,600 19,700	41,400 19,600	42,600 19,100	200 100	0.5 0.5	-1,000 600	-2 3.
Nondurable Goods	444,800	445,100	440,100	-300	-0.1	4,700	1.
Food & Kindred Products	102,900	103,500	101,100	-600	-0.6	1,800	1.5
Meat Products	33,900	33,900	32,900	0	0.0	1,000	3.0
Dairy Products Bakery Products	4,900 10,400	5,000 10,300	5,100	-100	-2.0	-200	-3.5
Malt Beverages	3,000	3,000	10,400 2,900	100	1.0 0.0	100	3.4
Textile Mill Products	3,900	3,900	3,600	0	0.0	300	8
Apparel & Other Finished Textile Products	59,500	59,800	60,000	-300	-0.5	-500	-0.
Paper & Allied Products	30,000	29,700	29,800	300	1.0	200	0.
Printing & Publishing Newspapers, Periodicals, Books, & Miscellaneous	76,600 35,200	76,300 34,700	74,800 34,300	300 500	0.4	1,800	2.
Chemicals & Allied Products	83,000	83,000	83,200	0	1.4 0.0	9 00 -200	2. -0.
Petroleum & Coal Products	26,800	26,900	27,300	-100	-0.4	-500	-1.
Petroleum Refining	23,500	23,500	24,100	0	0.0	-600	-2.5
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	54,400	54,300	52,600	100	0.2	1,800	3,0
Leather & Leather Products	7,600	7,600	7,600	0	0.0	0	0.0
SERVICE PRODUCING Transportation, Communications, Utilities	6,900,900	6,851,300	6,718,200	49,600	0.7	182,700	2.7
Transportation	506,700 315,400	504,000 313,700	492,300 307,400	2,700 1,700	0.5 0.5	14,400 8,000	2.5
Railroad Transportation	16,800	16,800	16,600	0	0.0	200	1.2
Transportation by Air	105,200	104,200	102,500	1,000	1.0	2,700	2.0
Communications Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	123,200 68,100	122,000 68,300	113,400	1,200 -200	1.0 -0.3	9,800	8.0
Electric, Gas, & Sumary Services Electric Services	29,700	30,000	71,500 31,800	-300	-1.0	-3,400 -2,100	-4.1 -6.0
Gas Production & Distribution	23,600	23,600	24,200	0	0.0	-600	-2.:
Trade	2,087,500	2,054,200	2,032,400	33,300	1.6	55,100	2.
Wholesale Trade Retail Trade	492,100 1,595,400	490,600	481,200	1,500 31,800	0.3	10,900	2
Building Materials & Gardening Supplies	57,700	1,563,600 57,700	1,551,200 55,100	31,800	2.0 0.0	44,200 2,600	2. 4.
General Merchandise Stores	224,200	213,200	218,100	11,000	5.2	6,100	2.
Food Stores	258,700	254,600	255,900	4,100	1.6	2,800	1.
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	162,600	163,100	159,200	-500	-0.3	3,400	2.
Apparel & Accessory Stores Home Furniture, Furnishings, & Equipment Stores	75,500 72,600	69,900	78,600 69,400	5,600	8.0	-3,100	-3.
Eating & Drinking Places	567,800	69 ,800 566,500	545,800	2,800 1,300	4.0 0.2	3,200 22,000	4.
Other Retail Trade	176,300	168,800	169,100	7,500	4.4	7,200	4.
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	458,200	456,900	447,600	1,300	0.3	10,600	2.
Depository Institutions including Banks	119,600	119,300	115,600	300	0.3	4,000	3,
Insurance Carriers, Agents, Brokers, & Service Other Finance Insurance & Real Estate	150,200 188,400	149,800 187,800	148,700 183,300	400 600	0.3 0.3	1,500 5,100	1. 2.
Services	2,348,400	2,345,900	2,260,400	2,500	0.1	88,000	3.
Hotel & Other Lodging Places	86,000	86,200	85,400	-200	-0.2	600	0.
Personal Services	83,400	83,000	84,300	400	0.5	-900	-1.
Business Services	574,600	570,800	537,600	3,800	0.7	37,000	6.
Auto Repair Services Miscellaneous Repair Services	81,900 31,000	82,100 31,100	78,700 29,600	-200 -100	-0.2 -0.3	3,200 1,400	4. 4.
Amusement & Recreation, including Motion Pictures	104,700	107,900	103,100	-3,200	-3.0	1,600	1.
Health Services	669,300	666,800	645,800	2,500	0.4	23,500	3.
Legal Services	65,000	64,700	64,200	300	0.5	800	1.
Educational Services Social Services	101,200	100,300	100,200	900	0.9	1,000	1.
DOCIMI DEI VICES	159,800 129,100	159,400 129,700	154,900 128,300	400 -600	0.3 -0.5	4,900 800	3. 0.
Membership Organizations	**/5100		198,500	200	0.1	11,500	5.
Membership Organizations Engineering & Management Services	210,000	209,800					
Engineering & Management Services Agricultural Services	44,000	45,800	42,300	-1,800	-3.9	1,700	4.
Engineering & Management Services Agricultural Services Government	44,000 1,500,100	45,800 1,490,300	42,300 1,485,500	9,800	0.7	1,7 0 0 14,600	1.
Engineering & Management Services Agricultural Services	44,000	45,800	42,300			1,700	

^{*}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 TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (In Thousands)

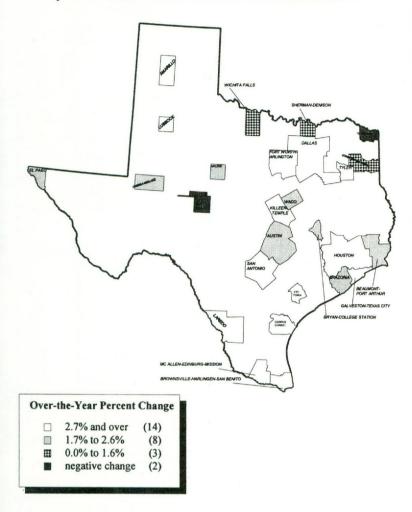
						,	ousand:								
INDUSTRY	Nov. '97*	ABILENE	Nov. '96		MARILLO	O Nov. '96		N-SAN M. Oct. '97		BMT Nov. '97*	PT. AR7	THUR Nov. '96		BRAZORIA Oct. '97	Nov. '96
TOTAL	55.7	55.5	54.6	97.0	96.4	93.6	557.7	554.3		155.7	154.5		74.9	74.5	73.5
Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.2	1.2		0.7	0.7		1.5	1.5	1.4
Construction	2.3	2.3	2.2	4.7	4.8	4.4	27.3	27.5			13.5		8.5	8.3	8.8
Manufacturing-Dur.	1.6	1.6	1.6	3.6	3.6	3.2	62.0	61.6		8.8	8.7		5.4	5.5	5.2
Manufacturing-Nondur.	1.7 2.5	1.7 2.5	1.6 2.7	6.1 5.3	6.2 5.2	6.0 5.7	11.8 18.1	11.8 18.0		15.9 7.9	15.9 7.9		11.2 2.9	11.2	11.5 2.8
Trans., Comm. & Util. Wholesale Trade	2.6	2.6	2.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	21.4	21.3		5.2	5.2		2.9	2.9	2.1
Retail Trade	12.1	11.9	11.8	22.1	21.7	20.7	100.5	99.1	97.7	31.5	30.8		12.7	12.4	12.1
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	2.2	2.2	2.0		4.8	4.8	29.7	29.6			5.0		1.8	1.8	1,8
Services	19.2	19.2	18.7	26.4	26.3	25.3	157.4	156.6		40.0	39.9		14.1	14.3	13.6
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5		1.9	1.9	9.6	9.6		2.7	2.7		0.4 3.0	0.4 3.0	0.4 3.1
State Government Local Government	2.3 6.3	2.3 6.3	2.2 6.3	4.8 10.8	4.8 10.7	4.6 10.6	64.3 54.4	63.9 54.1	64.2 53.6	6.4 17.9	6.4 17.8			11.0	10.7
Bocar Government		NSVILLE			AN-COLL.			PUS CHE		1 11.0	DALLAS			EL PASO	20.7
INDUSTRY	Nov. '97*	Oct. '97		Nov. '97*	Oct. '97	Nov. '96	Nov. '97*	Oct. '97		Nov. '97*	Oct. '97		Nov. '97*	Oct. '97	Nov. '96
TOTAL	98.8	98.1	94.8	69.2	68.7	67.5	157.8	156.5			1760.0			242.0	237.9
Mining	3.5	3.4	3.1	0.8 3.0	0.8 3.0	0.7 2.7	2.5 13.4	2.5 13.5		12.0 83.6	12.1 83.1		11.7	11.6	11.2
Construction Manufacturing-Dur.	5.0	5.0	4.6	2.4	2.4	2.3	4.8	4.7		165.8			13.4	13.4	14.2
Manufacturing-Nondur.	7.3	7.3	8.0		1.4	1.3	8.9	8.9						30.4	29.9
Trans., Comm. & Util.	4.2	4.2	4.2	1.4	1.4	1.3	6.3	6.3		124.8			12.9	12.7	13.1
Wholesale Trade	4.2	4.2	4.0	1.6	1.6		5.8	5.7						13.0	13.0
Retail Trade	20.6	20.4	19.5	13.6			30.6	29.9		308.6			44.7	43.8	44.3
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	3.7	3.7	3.6		2.4 14.2		6.4 47.6	6.4 47.3		134.5 531.2				8.8 55.3	8.7 51.7
Services Federal Government	26.5 1.6	26.4 1.6	25.5 1.4	14.2	0.9		5.5							8.4	8.3
State Government	3.8	3.7	3.7	20.9	20.5		4.5			27.1	27.1			7.8	7.7
Local Government	18.4	18.2	17.2	6.6	6.5	6.4	21.5	21.3	21.2	141.5	140.7	138.4		36.8	35.8
		WORTH-			ESTON-TY			HOUSTO			LEEN-TE		121 1074	LAREDO	N 107
INDUSTRY TOTAL	Nov. '97* 718.3	Oct. '97 713.5	Nov. '96 689.9	Nov. '97* 89.6	Oct. '97 89.4		Nov. '97* 1893.9	Oct. '97 1879.9		Nov. '97* 98.7			Nov. '97* 61.1	Oct. '97 60.8	Nov. '96 57.0
Mining	4.4	4.5	4.5	0.8	0.8		68.1	68.2		70./ **	70.2		3.4	3.5	3.2
Construction	35.7	35.7	33.2				137.5			4.3	4.4	3,8		2.1	2.1
Manufacturing-Dur.	73.4	73.6	72.2	1.9	1.9		123.9	123.1			4.1		0.7	0.7	0.6
Manufacturing-Nondur.	36.2	36.3	35.7				82.1	81.8						0.9	0.8
Trans., Comm. & Util.	66.0	66.0	62.5				130.3	129.8						10.0	8.8 2.9
Wholesale Trade Retail Trade	39.3 147.2	39.3 142.2	38.2 138.0			1.8 16.6	119.5 321.1	119.6 313.9					A	3.1 13.4	12.6
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	32.5	32.5	31.0				98.5								2.0
Services	189.7	190.0	182.4				559.6				27.0	24.7		10.5	9.8
Federal Government	13.4	13.5	13.3				25.0								1.4
State Government	9.1	9.1	9.2				42.9							1.5 11.4	1.5 11.3
Local Government	71.4 LONGV	70.8 IEW-MAI	69.7		12.6 LUBBOCI		185.4 MCAL	183.8 LEN-EDI			15.1 SSA-MID			N ANGE	
INDUSTRY	Nov. '97*		Nov. '96			Nov. '96				Nov. '97*		Nov. '96		Oct. '97	
TOTAL	86.9	86.5	86.3				137.8							42.3	42.4
Mining	3.3	3.3	3.2		0.1		1.1	1.1					0.7	0.7	0.7
Construction	3.9 12.3	3,9 12.3			4.2 4.4		7.0 3.0							1.9 2.9	1.8 3.0
Manufacturing-Dur. Manufacturing-Nondur.	6.2	6.3					10.2								2.4
Trans., Comm. & Util.	3.8						4.6							2.1	2.2
Wholesale Trade	4.2	4.2					7.4								1.7
Retail Trade	17.9	17.5					31.6								8.6
Fin., Ins., & Real Est. Services	3.1 20.5	3.1 20.5				5.4 31.7	4.9 30.1	4.9 29.8							1.7 11.5
Federal Government	0.6														1.3
State Government	0.7	0.7											2.3	2.3	2.4
Local Government	10.4	10.3	10.3	11.2	11.2	11.3	30.0	29.6	29.2		14.8	3 15.2	5.1	5.1	
INDUCTRY.		N ANTON			MAN-DE			EXARKA		N 10**	TYLER			VICTORIA Oct. 197	A Nov. '96
INDUSTRY TOTAL	Nov. '97* 664.1	Oct. '97 660.1	Nov. '96 641.0	Nov. '97* 43.3			Nov. '97* 50.6		Nov. '96			7 Nov. '96			
Mining	1.9			A 000000000000000000000000000000000000			30.0			1.7					0.500.500.000.0000.000.000.000.000.000.
Construction	34.8				2.1	1.9	2.2			2.7	2.8	3 2.8	2.2	2.2	2.1
Manufacturing-Dur.	25.3						3.3								1.0
Manufacturing-Nondur.	24.8														
Trans., Comm. & Util.	32.1 30.1	31.8					2.1 2.6								
Wholesale Trade Retail Trade	134.9						11.0								7.6
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	44.7														1.7
Services	201.7			12.0	12.0	11.4	13.7	13.7	13.5	22.4	22.5	5 21.5	9.1		
Federal Government	36.8														
State Government	15.1	15.1					1.6 6.3								
Local Government	81.9	WACO	80.2		5.2 CHITA FA		0.3	0.2	. 0.4	1 7.4	72	. 1.3	3.0	3.3	3.3
INDUSTRY	Nov. '97*		Nov. '96			Nov. '96	1								
TOTAL	96.9	96.8													
Mining	**		**												
Construction	4.5						I	listorical o	estimates o	f the numb	er of non:	agricultura	l wage and	l salary job	os
Manufacturing-Dur. Manufacturing-Nondur.	8.8 7.6						1		e available						
Trans., Comm. & Util.	3.8						1	•	, 1975, or 1	-	_				
Wholesale Trade	4.8	4.8	4.8	2.5	2.5	2.4			88 are thos				-		
Retail Trade	17.6						1		For inform		-				
Fin., Ins., & Real Est.	5.7														
Services Federal Government	28.8 3.1														
State Government	2.3														
	9.9														
*Estimates for the current mo															

^{*}Estimates for the current month are preliminary. All estimates are subject to revision. The number of nonagricultural jobs in the MSAs is without reference to place of residence of workers.

^{**}Mining estimates are included in Construction estimates for these MSAs.

Estimates of TWC are in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Percent Change in Nonagricultural W&S Employment by MSA from November 1996 to November 1997



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TWC Direct and Other Information

ATTENTION: The LMI Department has moved to a new location. Please note that our phone and fax numbers have changed. Mail will reach us at our old address, with the addition of our new suite number (103 A.2). BBS and internet access has not been affected by this move.

Additional statistics are available from the Labor Market Information (LMI) Department of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The LMI Department can be reached at (512) 491-4807 (see below). Data can also be obtained through our Bulletin Board System (BBS). With a computer and a modem, you can reach the BBS directly by dialing (512) 475-4893 or indirectly (through the Comptroller's BBS) by dialing toll-free 1-800-227-8392 (in Texas only). TWC's internet address is http://www.twc.state.tx.us. The Texas Labor Market Review (TLMR) is housed on both the BBS and on the web site in both text only and executable file versions. The LMI Department now has an E-mail address [lmi@twc.state.tx.us].

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