

Texas Workforce Press Release

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Texas Unemployment Rate Stands at 8.2 Percent

AUSTIN –The Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 8.2 percent in January, unchanged from a revised 8.2 percent in December 2009, and continued to trend well below the U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 9.7 percent. The Texas Civilian Labor Force continued to grow in January, reaching its highest level ever at 12.1 million workers.

“The Texas unemployment rate held steady over the past two months at 8.2 percent and remained lower than the national rate of 9.7 percent,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken.

In January, the Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) experienced the lowest unemployment rate in the state at 6.0 percent (not seasonally adjusted), followed by the Lubbock MSA and the Midland MSA, both with 6.2 percent. The unemployment rate stood at 6.4 percent in the College Station-Bryan MSA.

Labor Department Delays Job Growth Data Release Due to Inclement East Coast Weather

The U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics has informed TWC Labor Market and Career Information of a delay in the release of the seasonally adjusted Current Employment Statistics (CES) due to inclement weather on the eastern coast of the United States. CES data provide information on job growth in Texas and in each major Texas industry. At this time, TWC has not been notified of a time estimate when the data will be available.

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Please note that the unemployment estimates for the United States and Texas in this chart are “Not Seasonally Adjusted” for purposes of comparison to the “Not Seasonally Adjusted” Metropolitan Statistical Area data.

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

	<i>January 2010</i>				<i>December 2009</i>				<i>January 2009</i>			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	152,957.0	136,809.0	16,147.0	10.6	152,693.0	137,953.0	14,740.0	9.7	153,445.0	140,436.0	13,009.0	8.5
State of Texas	12,094.2	11,049.8	1,044.4	8.6	12,027.7	11,069.9	957.8	8.0	11,738.1	10,937.5	800.6	6.8
Abilene	83.8	78.2	5.6	6.7	83.3	78.3	5.0	6.0	81.8	77.6	4.2	5.2
Amarillo	132.5	124.6	7.9	6.0	131.3	124.2	7.1	5.4	127.8	121.7	6.1	4.8
Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos	901.7	833.4	68.3	7.6	892.7	830.0	62.7	7.0	869.5	813.2	56.3	6.5
Beaumont-Port Arthur	185.8	165.3	20.5	11.0	184.3	165.2	19.1	10.4	184.9	169.2	15.7	8.5
Brownsville-Harlingen	156.1	138.0	18.1	11.6	153.9	137.3	16.6	10.8	148.7	134.8	13.9	9.3
College Station-Bryan	114.7	107.4	7.3	6.4	116.4	109.7	6.7	5.7	108.2	102.7	5.5	5.1
Corpus Christi	210.3	192.7	17.6	8.4	209.2	193.1	16.1	7.7	205.3	192.6	12.7	6.2
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,210.0	2,931.8	278.2	8.7	3,194.9	2,939.0	255.9	8.0	3,116.8	2,893.8	223.0	7.2
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,139.0	1,953.6	185.4	8.7	2,129.8	1,959.3	170.5	8.0	2,074.1	1,924.8	149.3	7.2
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,070.9	978.2	92.7	8.7	1,065.0	979.6	85.4	8.0	1,042.6	969.0	73.6	7.1
El Paso	312.8	282.0	30.8	9.9	309.8	281.3	28.5	9.2	302.4	277.5	24.9	8.2
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	2,885.0	2,630.1	254.9	8.8	2,873.1	2,638.2	234.9	8.2	2,810.3	2,626.3	184.0	6.5
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood	165.3	152.4	12.9	7.8	164.3	152.6	11.7	7.1	157.1	146.6	10.5	6.7
Laredo	95.8	86.6	9.2	9.6	94.8	86.5	8.3	8.8	93.9	86.9	7.0	7.4
Longview	110.2	101.1	9.1	8.3	109.8	101.2	8.6	7.8	108.1	101.8	6.3	5.8
Lubbock	146.8	137.7	9.1	6.2	145.7	137.7	8.0	5.5	142.1	135.3	6.8	4.8
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	307.7	270.0	37.7	12.2	304.4	269.3	35.1	11.5	291.5	262.3	29.2	10.0
Midland	73.9	69.3	4.6	6.2	73.6	69.4	4.2	5.7	75.3	72.3	3.0	4.0
Odessa	70.5	64.0	6.5	9.2	70.3	64.2	6.1	8.7	71.8	68.2	3.6	5.0
San Angelo	54.1	50.3	3.8	7.0	53.7	50.3	3.4	6.4	52.7	49.6	3.1	5.8
San Antonio-New Braunfels	973.4	898.2	75.2	7.7	968.8	901.5	67.3	6.9	944.8	884.7	60.1	6.4
Sherman-Denison	57.3	52.2	5.1	8.9	57.0	52.3	4.7	8.2	55.7	51.5	4.2	7.5
Texarkana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	64.6	60.3	4.3	6.7	63.9	60.3	3.6	5.7
Tyler	102.4	93.6	8.8	8.6	101.8	93.7	8.1	8.0	98.9	92.0	6.9	6.9
Victoria	58.4	53.5	4.9	8.3	58.0	53.5	4.5	7.8	58.1	54.6	3.5	6.0
Waco	116.4	107.8	8.6	7.4	115.6	107.7	7.9	6.8	111.4	104.7	6.7	6.0
Wichita Falls	72.5	66.4	6.1	8.4	72.2	66.7	5.5	7.6	72.3	67.4	4.9	6.8

Note: N/A - Not available at time of publication

Audio downloads from TWC Chairman Tom Pauken on latest labor market data are available at the following link:

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/news/press/2010/praudio10.html>.

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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 unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.