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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Laura Cavazos
PHONE: (956) 212-8297
E-MAIL: laura@wfsolutions.org

Workforce Solutions Releases October 2015 Labor Market Report

McAllen, TX – The Hidalgo County unemployment remained steady at 7.4 percent in October, the lowest rate in the tri-county area.

The Government Sector led all major industries in the McAllen Metropolitan Statistical Area with an increase of 1,900 jobs in October. The second largest growth is in the Trade and Transportation Sector which added 700 jobs last month.

Two of our larger Rio Grande Valley cities McAllen and Edinburg, for the second month in a row, are tied for the lowest reported city unemployment rate at 4.9%. Harlingen was third at 5.8%, edging out Weslaco at 5.9%.

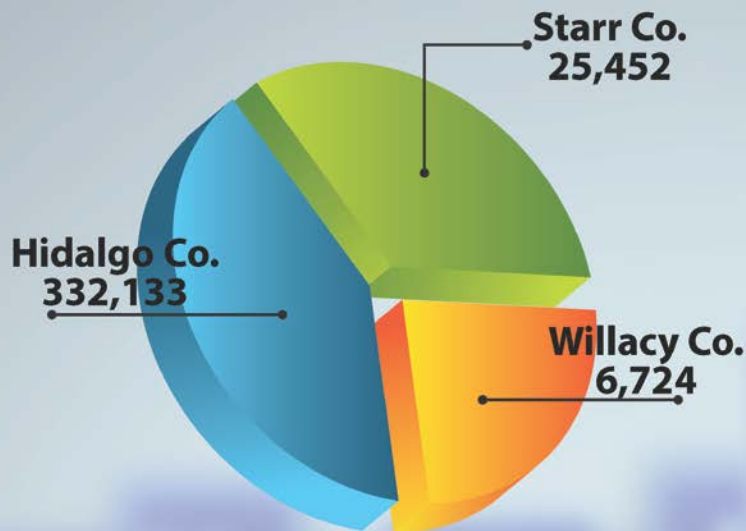
"The large increase in the government sector consists primarily in border protection jobs in our area," said Francisco Almaraz, Chief Executive Officer Workforce Solutions. "We are helping federal agencies with the job recruitment process, and so far have had a successful partnership."

Texas employers added 20,000 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in October, marking the eighth month of 2015 with jobs added. The state's job increases have yielded a 1.7 percent annual growth rate, continuing its string of positive annual growth for 66 consecutive months.

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October 2015 Labor Market Report Tri-County Area



Total Civilian Labor Force in Tri-County Area: 364,309

Unemployment Rate

	Oct. 2015	Sept. 2015	Oct. 2014
Hidalgo Co.	7.4	7.4%	7.3%
Starr Co.	12.9%	12.3%	11.4%
Willacy Co.	12.8%	11.5%	10.3%

Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Employment by Industry McAllen-Edinburg-Mission

1. Education and Health- 28%
2. Government- 23%
3. Trade and Transportation- 21%
4. Leisure and Hospitality- 9%
5. Business Services- 6%
6. Construction- 4%
7. Financial Activities- 4%
8. Other - 2%
9. Manufacturing- 2%
10. Information- 1%



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.

Workforce Solutions

Workforce Solutions (WFS), under the direction of the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (TWC), is one of 28 local workforce boards located throughout the state. This workforce board services Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties. The primary goal of TWC and the 28 workforce boards is to respond to needs of Texas employers and workers through locally designed market-driven workforce development initiatives and services. All employers, workers, and job seekers are encouraged to take advantage of these services. To learn more about the programs and services WFS has to offer, please call (877) 687-1121 or visit WFSolutions.org.

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