

# Texas Workforce Press Release

---

**FOR RELEASE:** Embargoed until 9 a.m.  
**DATE:** March 6, 2015

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

## **2015 Begins with Continued Job Growth for Texas**

*Unemployment continues decline as rate falls to 4.4 percent in January*

AUSTIN –The Texas job market began 2015 with continued positive momentum in job growth as seen in 2014. The state added 20,100 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in January for a total increase of 392,900 jobs over the year. The state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.4 percent in January down from 4.6 percent in December 2014.

“We are pleased to see that the growth of jobs in our state is continuing,” said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Andres Alcantar. “Texas employers added 20,100 jobs including growth in nine of 11 major industries in January, which is a great testament to the strength and resilience of our economy and labor market.”

The Trade, Transportation and Utilities industry showed the greatest gains in January with 10,900 jobs added for a total increase of 79,100 jobs over the year.

“The diversity of skills found in the Texas workforce has contributed greatly to the strength of the Texas economy,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “As jobs are added, Texas has skilled workers to fill them and resources available for workers to obtain new skills when needed. I encourage all job seekers to look for available positions through TWC’s online job-matching resource, WorkInTexas.com and to take advantage of the many services and training resources available through their local Workforce Solutions office.”

Other major industries that made notable job gains in January included Professional and Business Services with 4,800 positions added; Information, which grew by 3,600 jobs; and Leisure and Hospitality, which added 1,800 jobs.

“This latest labor market data indicates that our state is approaching the 12 million jobs milestone, with 11,769,600 jobs now in Texas,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Hope Andrade. “Employers continue to propel Texas on a path paved with growth and innovation.”

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the lowest January unemployment rate in the state at 2.6 percent. The Odessa MSA and the Amarillo MSA followed, each at 3.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

Audio downloads from Commissioner Alcantar on the latest labor market data are available at: <http://texasworkforce.org/news/press/2015/press-releases-2015.html#pressReleaseAudio>. 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 [www.tracer2.com](http://www.tracer2.com).

-more-

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)

	January 2015				December 2014				January 2014			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	156,050	146,552	9,498	6.1	155,521	147,190	8,331	5.4	154,381	143,526	10,855	7.0
Texas	13,126.9	12,524.1	602.8	4.6	13,152.2	12,612.1	540.1	4.1	12,965.4	12,223.8	741.6	5.7
Abilene	76.8	73.8	3.0	3.9	76.8	74.2	2.6	3.4	76.8	73.1	3.7	4.8
Amarillo	130.3	126.0	4.3	3.3	130.7	126.9	3.8	2.9	131.4	126.0	5.4	4.1
Austin-Round Rock	1,049.8	1,010.5	39.3	3.7	1,052.2	1,016.8	35.4	3.4	1,037.1	989.4	47.7	4.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur	182.6	169.7	12.9	7.1	181.6	169.8	11.8	6.5	179.3	162.0	17.3	9.6
Brownsville-Harlingen	166.8	153.9	12.9	7.7	165.7	154.0	11.7	7.1	168.4	152.4	16.0	9.5
College Station-Bryan	116.6	112.2	4.4	3.7	120.3	116.6	3.7	3.1	117.0	111.7	5.3	4.5
Corpus Christi	211.9	201.4	10.5	5.0	212.8	203.2	9.6	4.5	209.2	197.0	12.2	5.8
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3,585.9	3,427.9	158.0	4.4	3,590.5	3,447.8	142.7	4.0	3,511.6	3,315.5	196.1	5.6
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,388.8	2,283.5	105.3	4.4	2,392.3	2,297.2	95.1	4.0	2,336.3	2,206.0	130.3	5.6
Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,197.2	1,144.5	52.7	4.4	1,198.1	1,150.6	47.5	4.0	1,175.3	1,109.5	65.8	5.6
El Paso	344.9	324.9	20.0	5.8	346.1	327.9	18.2	5.3	351.8	326.2	25.6	7.3
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	3,268.7	3,122.6	146.1	4.5	3,280.6	3,149.2	131.4	4.0	3,215.5	3,039.5	176.0	5.5
Killeen-Temple	170.0	161.1	8.9	5.2	170.7	162.5	8.2	4.8	170.3	159.3	11.0	6.5
Laredo	112.4	107.2	5.2	4.6	112.6	108.1	4.5	4.0	111.1	104.8	6.3	5.7
Longview	105.7	101.2	4.5	4.3	106.1	102.1	4.0	3.8	103.7	97.8	5.9	5.7
Lubbock	154.1	148.6	5.5	3.5	153.9	149.2	4.7	3.0	152.8	146.2	6.6	4.3
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	335.4	307.7	27.7	8.3	336.2	310.8	25.4	7.5	336.3	302.2	34.1	10.1
Midland	97.4	94.8	2.6	2.6	96.6	94.4	2.2	2.2	91.0	88.1	2.9	3.2
Odessa	85.6	82.8	2.8	3.3	85.7	83.3	2.4	2.8	80.4	77.3	3.1	3.9
San Angelo	55.8	53.7	2.1	3.8	56.0	54.2	1.8	3.2	55.0	52.5	2.5	4.6
San Antonio-New Braunfels	1,093.8	1,048.8	45.0	4.1	1,096.6	1,056.5	40.1	3.7	1,080.2	1,023.9	56.3	5.2
Sherman-Denison	60.3	57.7	2.6	4.4	60.9	58.5	2.4	3.9	60.6	57.3	3.3	5.5
Texarkana	64.2	60.4	3.8	5.9	64.4	61.0	3.4	5.3	64.2	59.5	4.7	7.4
Tyler	103.1	98.3	4.8	4.7	103.6	99.4	4.2	4.1	102.2	95.9	6.3	6.1
Victoria	50.6	48.7	1.9	3.7	50.7	49.1	1.6	3.2	49.5	47.2	2.3	4.6
Waco	119.1	113.8	5.3	4.5	118.3	113.6	4.7	4.0	118.4	111.9	6.5	5.5
Wichita Falls	65.8	63.0	2.8	4.3	65.9	63.4	2.5	3.8	66.5	63.0	3.5	5.3

**TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT**  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED<sup>+</sup>

INDUSTRY TITLE	Jan 2015*	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec '14 to Jan '15		Jan '14 to Jan '15	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
<b>Total Nonagricultural</b>	<b>11,769,600</b>	<b>11,749,500</b>	<b>11,376,700</b>	<b>20,100</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>392,900</b>	<b>3.5</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>9,927,000</b>	<b>9,908,200</b>	<b>9,557,600</b>	<b>18,800</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>369,400</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Goods Producing</b>	<b>1,886,600</b>	<b>1,888,700</b>	<b>1,799,500</b>	<b>-2,100</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>87,100</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Mining and Logging	316,200	319,600	295,100	-3,400	-1.1	21,100	7.2
Construction	678,300	677,900	628,700	400	0.1	49,600	7.9
Manufacturing	892,100	891,200	875,700	900	0.1	16,400	1.9
<b>Service Providing</b>	<b>9,883,000</b>	<b>9,860,800</b>	<b>9,577,200</b>	<b>22,200</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>305,800</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,359,000	2,348,100	2,279,900	10,900	0.5	79,100	3.5
Information	207,800	204,200	202,800	3,600	1.8	5,000	2.5
Financial Activities	713,800	713,200	692,000	600	0.1	21,800	3.2
Professional and Business Services	1,580,900	1,576,100	1,508,500	4,800	0.3	72,400	4.8
Education and Health Services	1,553,500	1,553,100	1,505,800	400	0.0	47,700	3.2
Leisure and Hospitality	1,214,300	1,212,500	1,164,700	1,800	0.1	49,600	4.3
Other Services	411,100	412,300	404,400	-1,200	-0.3	6,700	1.7
Government	1,842,600	1,841,300	1,819,100	1,300	0.1	23,500	1.3

###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 programs it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).