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SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT CONTINUES TO POWER LOCAL JOB MARKET

June hiring in the Leisure & Hospitality sector on par with previous month's record hiring

(HOUSTON) Houston-area employers added more than 31,000 workers to their payrolls in June making it the second largest gain on record for the month, according to data released today by Workforce Solutions. The region's not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate rose to 4.8 percent compared to May's 4.3 percent, which is in line with typical increases seen at the start of each summer.

Cyclical seasonal employment trends dominated hiring locally for the second month in a row, said Workforce Solutions' principal economist, Parker Harvey. "The Leisure and Hospitality sector added 11,700 jobs in June, which is on par with the 12,100 jobs increase we experienced in May." On the opposite end of the seasonal cycle, governmental entities – primarily in the public education space – fell by 6,500 jobs in June, just slightly below the long-term average for the month.

The Professional and Business Services sector added 8,700 new jobs in June. Harvey said, "while it is the largest June increase on record, this sector has been the most volatile over the last seven months with downward revisions eliminating some or most of the reported gains made in the previous month."

Coming off of May's all-time record increase of 10,000 jobs, the Construction sector added 2,200 jobs in June. "Given that the local housing market is starting to cool off following interest rate hikes to bring down inflation, Construction wasn't going to match May's stellar performance. Still, I expect this space to slow as we enter the latter half of the year" Harvey said.

Additional labor market information, including the detailed June report, can be found online at: www.wrksolutions.com/localstats. The Texas Workforce Commission will release July employment data on August 19, 2022.

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ABOUT WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS: [Workforce Solutions](http://www.wrksolutions.com) is dedicated to keeping the Texas Gulf Coast region a great place to do business, work and live. Our employer-driven, people-focused approach elevates the economic and human potential of the region to attract and retain the best employers, afford everyone the dignity of a job, and remain indispensable to the global economy. As the public workforce system for 13 counties in the Houston-Galveston region, we work in tandem with the Texas Workforce Commission and the statewide Workforce Solutions network to maintain the state's largest job-match database – www.WorkInTexas.com.

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