

JANUARY 2021

Current Employment Overview



On March 12, 2021 the Texas Workforce Commission released employment statistics for **January 2021**. Our detailed regional report for researchers and analysts is at <http://www.wrksolutions.com/LocalStats>. Below are highlights.

8.3%

JANUARY Regional Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

- Represents 278,201 people looking for a **new job**
- **DOWN** from a recent peak of 14.3% in April 2020
- **UP** from 7.6% last month
- **UP** from 4.1% from last year
- **HIGHER** than the statewide rate of 7.3%
- **HIGHER** than the national rate of 6.8%

- **Monthly Change – Employers in the Houston-Galveston region LOST 47,900 jobs in January 2021**
 - The primary drivers of decline were decreases in Trade, Transportation and Utilities; Government; and Professional and Business Services.
 - Over-the-month losses are typical each January in most sectors due to the conclusion of holiday-related seasonal jobs.
- **Year-over-Year Change – Total Nonfarm employment was DOWN 6.8%**
 - This represents a decrease of 214,100 jobs from January 2020 to January 2021
- **Pandemic Job Loss and Recovery**
 - The greater Houston area has recovered 46% of the 350,200 jobs lost in March-April 2020 in the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. This number has been revised downward from December when estimates predicted a 60% job recovery.
 - Monthly job statistics are estimated from surveys of employers. The Labor Department revises state and local employment figures annually, based on additional reporting on payrolls by employers over the course of the year.

The Texas Workforce Commission will release February 2021 employment figures on March 26, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Borski: ron.borski@wrksolutions.com or Parker Harvey: parker.harvey@wrksolutions.com

Additional labor market data is available at <http://www.wrksolutions.com/for-employers/understand-the-local-labor-market>

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The Texas Workforce Commission will release April 2018 employment figures on May 23, 2018.

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