

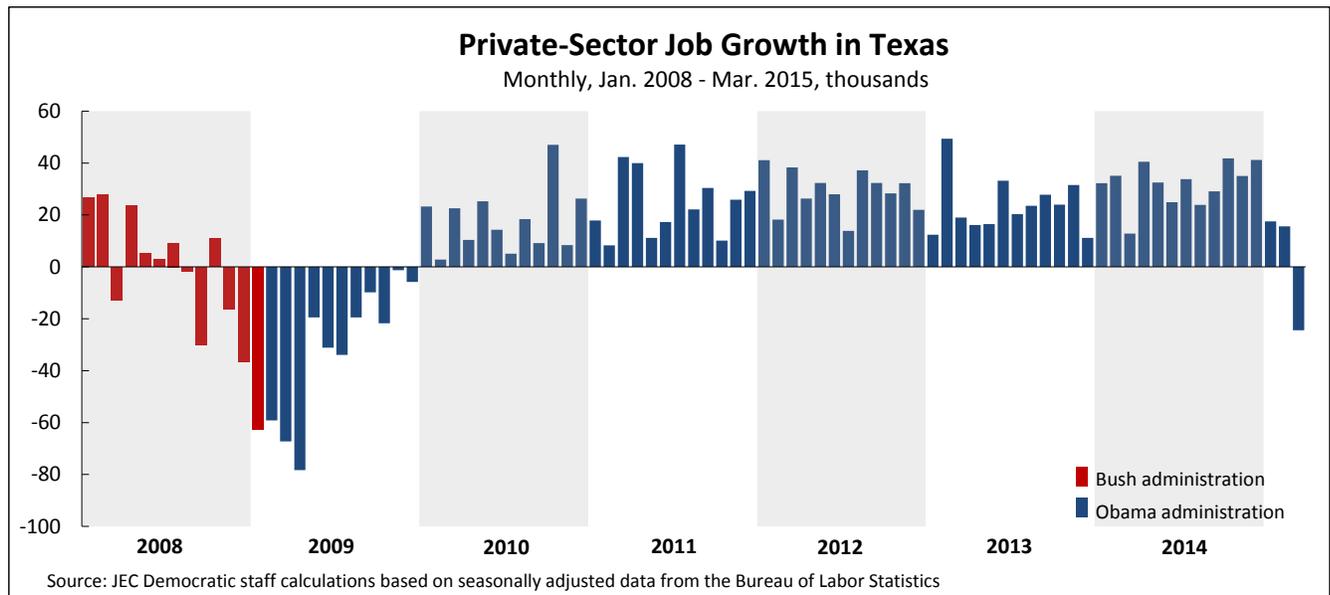


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: TEXAS

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through March 2015

JOBS

- In March, private-sector employment in Texas fell by 24,400 jobs. Over the past year, Texas businesses have added 311,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 284,200 jobs over the 12 months through March 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Texas businesses have added 1,515,400 jobs (an increase of 18.0 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 11.3 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging at 59.6 percent (115,200 jobs), professional and business services at 24.9 percent (313,200 jobs) and leisure and hospitality at 22.6 percent (225,700 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Texas was 4.2 percent in March 2015, down 0.1 percentage point from February. The rate was 1.3 percentage points below the national rate of 5.5 percent.
- Unemployment is down 1.1 percentage points from one year earlier and is 4.2 percentage points below its recent peak of 8.4 percent in October 2009.
- There were 558,900 Texas residents unemployed in March 2015.

EARNINGS

- In March 2015, average weekly earnings of private-sector workers in Texas were \$896.90. Average hourly earnings were \$24.64, and the average workweek was 36.4 hours.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average weekly earnings have risen by 2.8 percent over the past year. Real hourly earnings have increased by 4.0 percent, and the length of the average workweek has gone down 0.4 hour. Nationally, real average weekly earnings have increased by 2.3 percent over the past year.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Texas	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	311,400	3.1 million
	Since Feb. 2010	1,515,400	12.1 million
Unemployment Rate	March 2015	4.2%	5.5%
	March 2014	5.3%	6.6%
	Recession-Era Peak	8.4%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$53,000	\$51,900
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$51,700	\$56,400
Poverty Rate	2013	16.8%	14.5%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	16.5%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	4.1%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	5.2%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	22.1%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Texas grew by 3.7 percent in 2013 (the most recent year for which data are available), above the national average growth rate of 1.8 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Texas GDP growth has averaged 4.4 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 2.0 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Texas increased by 6.4 percent from the fourth quarter of 2013 to the fourth quarter of 2014. They are up 23.7 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011.
- In February 2015, builders in Texas broke ground on 164,920 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 162,269 units. That marks an increase of 14.0 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Texas, goods exports totaled \$19.5 billion in February and \$271.3 billion over the past year, up 1.2 percent from the 12 months ending in February 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 55.4 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

** A list of sources used to compile the Texas economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

*** For additional Texas-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Texas office: <http://www.tracer2.com/?PAGEID=133>