



## July 2021 Labor Market Report - Workforce Solutions Lower Rio

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) released the July Labor Market and Employment reports. The seasonally adjusted national unemployment rate decreased by -0.5% to 5.4%. Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by -0.3% to 6.2%.

**Statewide Overview:** Texas had a gain of 80,900 non-agricultural jobs in July and a gain of 714,800 jobs in the past year (seasonally adjusted). This represents an annual employment increase rate of 6.0%.

Goods-Producing employment increased by 8,200 jobs in July and a total of 57,200 jobs were gained in the past twelve months. The Goods-Producing sector has seen an increase of 3.3% over the past twelve months. The Manufacturing sector had the most job growth for this month with 8,300 jobs added.

The Service-Providing sector increased by 72,700 jobs in July and has a total gain of 657,600 jobs in the past year. This sector is increasing at a 6.4% annual rate. The Leisure & Hospitality sector had the most job growth with an additional 20,600 jobs increasing at a 20.0% annual rate. The Government sector had the second most job gains in July with an estimated 19,000 employees hired and an annual increasing rate of 1.6%.

**Regional Unemployment Recap:** The July unemployment rates had significant changes across the region with Hidalgo, Starr and Willacy counties reflecting decreases of -0.8%, -1.4%, -1.4% respectively.

### Counties:

- Hidalgo County decreased by -0.8% to 10.0%
- Cameron County decreased by -0.9% to 8.8%
- Starr County decreased by -1.4%, to 17.2%
- Willacy County increased by -1.4% to 12.0%
- Webb County increased by -1.0% to 6.7%

### Cities:

- Edinburg has the lowest unemployment rates in the Rio Grande Valley (RGV) at a rate of 6.9%.
- McAllen has the second lowest unemployment rate in the RGV at a rate of 7.0%
- Laredo unemployment rate decreased by -1.0% to 6.6%
- Harlingen unemployment rate decreased by -0.7% to 8.0%.
- Brownsville unemployment rate increased by -1.0% and a rate of 9.2%.

### Hidalgo, Cameron, and Webb County MSA Regional Employment Change Estimates for July 2021:

Employment Sectors	McAllen MSA	Brownsville MSA	Laredo MSA	Total Region
<b>Healthcare &amp; Private Education</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>1,300</b>
Leisure & Hospitality	300	-400		-100
<b>Government (Public Ed, Law Enforcement)</b>	<b>-2,800</b>	<b>-800</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-3,800</b>
Professional & Business Services		-200	100	-100
Mining & Construction				
Trade, Transportation & Utilities		100	-100	
Manufacturing	-100			-100
Information				
Financial Activities				
Other Services				
<b>Total All Non-Agriculture Sectors:</b>	<b>-2,200</b>	<b>-700</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-2,800</b>

The July 2021 Employment Change Estimates reflect a decrease for the border region from last month's estimates. The primary sector with the largest job growth in the border region is the Healthcare & Private Education sector with an estimated 1,300 new jobs. The Government sector reflects the most significant job loss with -3,800 jobs lost. The July total non-agricultural job loss for the border region is an estimated -2,800 jobs, causing a slight setback from last month's positive estimates.

#### Healthcare Industry:

Workforce Solutions (WFS) continues to partner with healthcare employers that have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to upskill their current workforce through the COVID-19 Skills Development Fund Grant. WFS in partnership with Weslaco Regional Rehabilitation Hospital was awarded a \$36,750 grant to train 25 Registered Nurses in the areas of operational planning and safety protocols and procedures.

#### Information Technology

Workforce Solutions (WFS) worked with Thomas P. Miller and Associates (TPMA) on the Information Technology (IT) Workforce Assessment for the Rio Grande Valley. The WFS IT Taskforce will be hosting a meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup> to unveil the assessment final report and initiate discussions on next steps and future initiatives. The WFS IT Taskforce is an initiative led by local employers from different sizes and industry sectors to bring attention and awareness to the current state, challenges, and growth potential of the IT field in the Rio Grande Valley. To get involve and register for the upcoming WFS IT Taskforce meeting [click here](#) or connect with Aaron Gonzalez, Business Relations Specialist, at [aaron@wfsolutions.org](mailto:aaron@wfsolutions.org).

**As always, thanks again for your support and participation!**

**Texas Labor Market Review from TWC:** <https://texaslmi.com/api/GetHomeLinks/TLMR>

**Local Labor Market Reports:** <https://www.wfsolutions.org/workforce-intelligence.html>