

FEBRUARY 2019

Current Employment Overview



On March 22, 2019, the Texas Workforce Commission released employment statistics for **February 2019**. Our complete and detailed Gulf Coast regional [report](#) for researchers and analysts is at www.wrksolutions.com/LocalStats.

The highlights below tell us what is happening in the current job market that is relevant to people looking for work and employers who need to fill open jobs.

4.2%

FEBRUARY Regional Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

- Represents 144,617 individuals looking for a **new job**
- **DOWN** from 4.5% last month
- **DOWN** from 4.7% from last year
- **HIGHER** than the statewide rate of 3.9%
- **HIGHER** than the national rate of 4.1%

Monthly Change – Employers in the Houston-Galveston region **ADDED 26,900 JOBS** in February 2019

- February growth was stronger than average, but not as strong as last year.
- Growth sectors included...
 - Manufacturing +5,200 jobs
 - Professional & Business Services +8,200 jobs
 - Government +8,700 jobs
- Declining sectors included...
 - Trade, Transportation & Utilities lost jobs in February –6,000
 - Leisure & Hospitality –1,200

Year-over-Year Change – Employers in the region **ADDED 72,600 JOBS** February-2018 to February-2019

- The Manufacturing sector remains strong as the fastest growing sector +17,100
- Professional & Business services gained +17,000 jobs
- Educational & Health Services gained +11,800 jobs

What This Means for our Customers

- Gulf Coast area Manufacturing jobs are usually energy-related - [machinists](#), for example.
- Despite losses in Leisure & Hospitality, look for openings in Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, which added 900 new jobs and typically increases as summer approaches.

The Texas Workforce Commission will release March 2019 employment figures on April 19, 2019.

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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