

HOUSTON-THE WOODLANDS-SUGAR LAND METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA Visit our website at www.wrksolutions.com

Labor Market Information

December 2022 data was released January 20, 2023.

Unemployment Rates

The rate of unemployment in The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA fell one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.9 percent in December, see figure 1. The number of individuals employed was up by 18,582 over the month and the number unemployed was down 2,416. The rate of unemployment was nearly one full percentage point lower than a year earlier. The local rate of unemployment is low but remains slightly higher than the state and national rates which also fell one-tenth of a percentage point in December.

Unemployment Rate (Actual)

	DEC 2022	NOV 2022	DEC 2021
Civilian Labor Force	3,565,905	3,549,739	3,460,832
Total Employed	3,425,418	3,406,836	3,294,015
Unemployed	140,487	142,903	166,81 <i>7</i>
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	4.0%	4.8%
Texas	3.6%	3.7%	4.2%
U.S.	3.3%	3.4%	3.7%

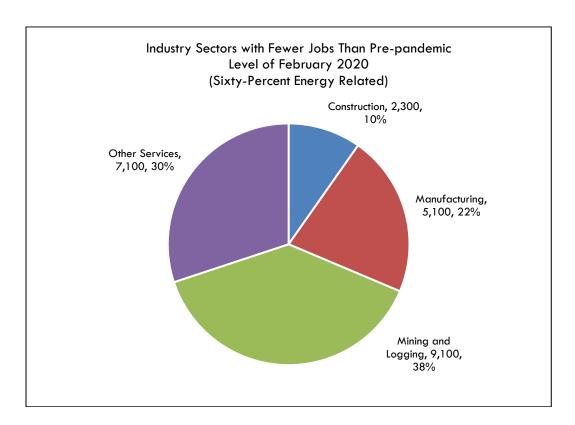


January data is scheduled to be released March 10, 2023.

Pandemic Job Recovery Update

The pandemic took a huge toll to labor markets in the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA resulting in an unprecedented loss of 359,400 jobs during March and April of 2020, down 11.3 percent. Total employment in the Houston MSA reached its pre-pandemic level in April of this year. As of December, payrolls in the Houston MSA were 163,800 jobs or 5.1 percent higher than their pre-pandemic levels of February 2020.

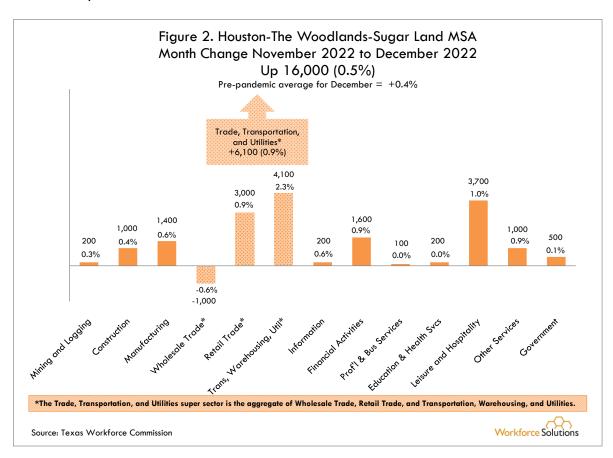
Not all industry sectors have managed full job recovery. More than half of the deficit in jobs is currently in Mining and Manufacturing as they continue to lag due to their ties to the energy sector, together down a total of 14,200 jobs from pre-pandemic levels. Despite the overall weakness in the energy sector, conditions have greatly improved due to high energy prices. While drilling activity has increased by more than two hundred percent from recent lows, businesses are reluctant to continue at a pace that places risk to additional capital investments. The only other industry sectors with a substantial amount of recovery remaining are Other Services where payrolls are down 7,100 jobs from pre-pandemic levels and Construction where payrolls are down 2,300 jobs. Other Services is composed of businesses performing a wide range of services such as automotive repair, car washes, electronic equipment repair, commercial equipment repair, personal household goods repair, barber shops, beauty salons, funeral homes, dry cleaning and laundry services, religious organizations, social advocacy organizations, civic and social organizations, business associations, political organizations, and private organizations, and more. Construction is beginning to struggle as the cost of building rises due to increased interest rates.



Nonagricultural Employment

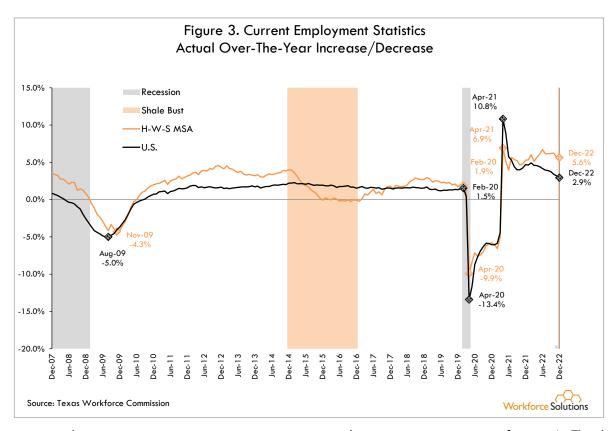
Over the Month

Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA added 16,000 jobs in December, up 0.5 percent, see figure 2. The increase was slightly stronger than an average of 0.4 percent seen during most years excluding 2020 where businesses were in a recovery phase from the pandemic. The largest increase was in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, up 6,100 jobs or 0.9 percent, where gains were below the historical average increase of 1.5 percent. Two-thirds of the increase in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was due to a gain of 4,100 jobs in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities as businesses boost temporary staffing levels to assist in the busy holiday season. Leisure and Hospitality posted its second largest increase on record of 3,700 job, up 1.0 percent. The only other year Leisure and Hospitality has experienced a larger increase was in 2021 when it added 3,800 jobs. Substantial gains were also found in Financial Activities, Manufacturing, Other Services, and Construction. Worth noting, Construction's increase ended three consecutive months of declines and defeats the historical trend of reporting a December loss due to holidays and weather delays.



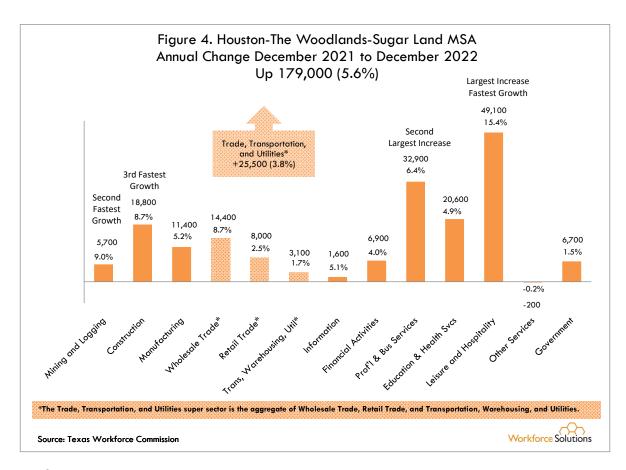
Over the Year

Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA was up 179,000 jobs over the year in December. The 5.6 percent increase in the Houston MSA was more than two and one-half percentage points stronger than the nation's increase of 2.9 percent, see figure 3.



All but one industry super sectors were reporting over-the-year increases, see figure 4. The largest contributor to the increase by far was Leisure and Hospitality, up 49,100 jobs, also reporting the fastest growth of 15.4 percent. Other major contributors were Professional and Business Services, up 32,900 jobs or 6.4 percent, and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, up 25,500 jobs or 3.8 percent. Other Services reported the only over-the-year loss of 200 jobs. Payrolls were 163,800 jobs higher than pre-pandemic levels of February 2020. For a complete list of current, month-ago, and year-ago employment estimates see pages 29 & 30.

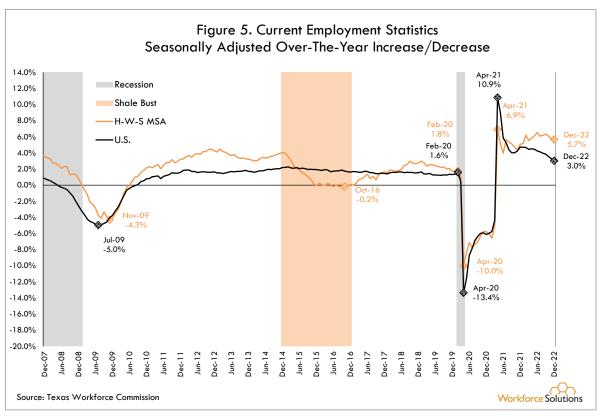
Additional comments by industry super sector can be found beginning on page 7.

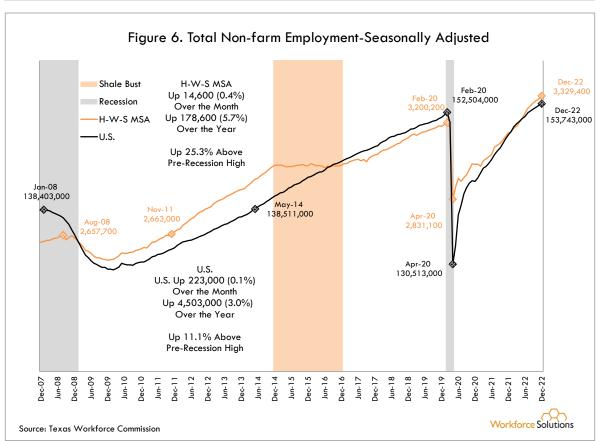


Total Nonfarm Employment – Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted estimates for the H-W-S MSA and U.S. seen in figure 5 and 6 provide an additional view of growth trends removing the erratic month-to-month seasonal patterns. On a seasonally adjusted basis, Total Nonfarm Employment managed its largest one-month increase since July 2022 adding 14,600 jobs, up 0.4 percent, with the pace of growth at 5.7 percent. Total Nonfarm Employment at the national level added 223,000 jobs in December with the pace of growth at 3.0 percent. While the pace of job growth locally has fallen over the last three consecutive months it has fallen for the last seven consecutive months at the national level. Payrolls in the H-W-S MSA were 129,200 jobs higher than pre-pandemic levels of February 2020.

Looking at growth over a more long-term basis, Houston has been among the fastest-growing cities in the U.S. and as a result long-term job growth has historically outpaced that of the nation. Payrolls in the H-W-S MSA are currently up 25.3 percent above their peak prior to The Great Recession while payrolls at the national level are only up 11.1 percent.





Details by Industry Sector

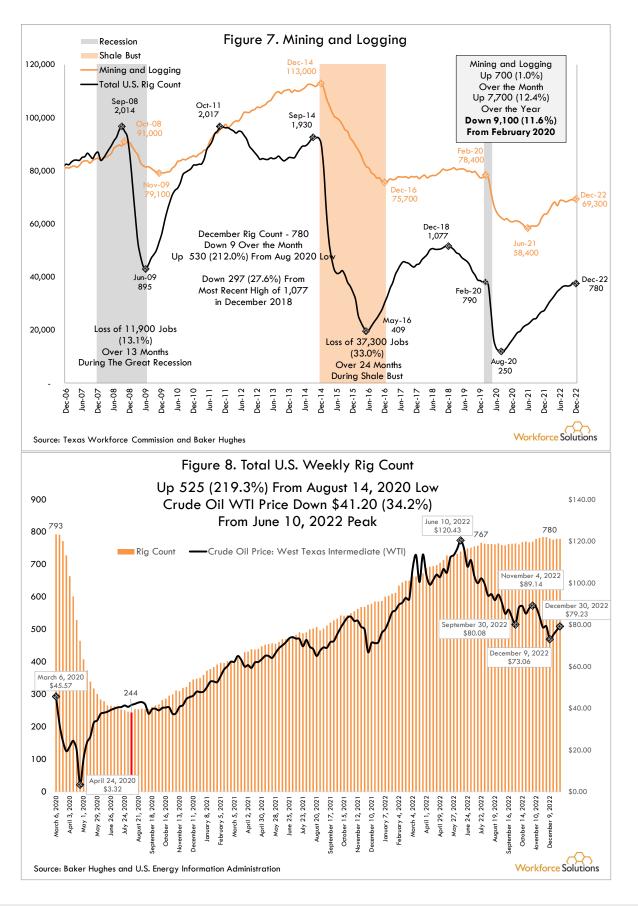
Mining and Logging added 200 jobs in December, up 0.3 percent. Gains were found in Oil and Gas Extraction and Support Activities for Mining, up 200 jobs each. A loss of 200 jobs in undefined areas of Mining and Logging offset the increases.

Mining and Logging was the second fastest growing industry in the Houston MSA with the pace of job growth at 9.0 percent, up 5,700 jobs over the year. Gains have been strong in both Support Activities for Mining, up 3,300 jobs or 10.6 percent, and Oil and Gas Extraction, up 3,200 jobs or 10.6 percent.

Mining and Logging was already struggling before the pandemic began reporting substantial declines near the end of 2019 which continued throughout 2020 and into 2021. Hiring resumed in the Support Activities for Mining sector in the second half of 2021 with job gains during most months in response to increased drilling activity. Oil and Gas Extraction, where companies operate and/or develop oil and gas field properties and in most cases do not work in the field, continued to see declines until fourth quarter 2021 before seeing increases. While Mining and Logging has been making progress in recovering jobs, payrolls are currently down 9,100 jobs or 11.6 percent from pre-pandemic levels in February 2020, see figure 7.

The average U.S. rig count was down 9 in December to 780. The current monthly rig count was down 297 (27.6%) from the most recent high of 1,077 in December 2018. Viewing activity on a weekly basis, drilling activity levelled off for the most part in the middle of July and declined slightly in recent weeks, see figure 8. WTI oil prices fell from the most recent peak of \$120.43 in the week ending June 10th to a low of \$73.06 by December 9, 2022. Since then, prices have risen again and were at \$79.23 by December 30, 2022. Firms seem confident that prices will remain high enough to support continued growth in oil and gas activity.

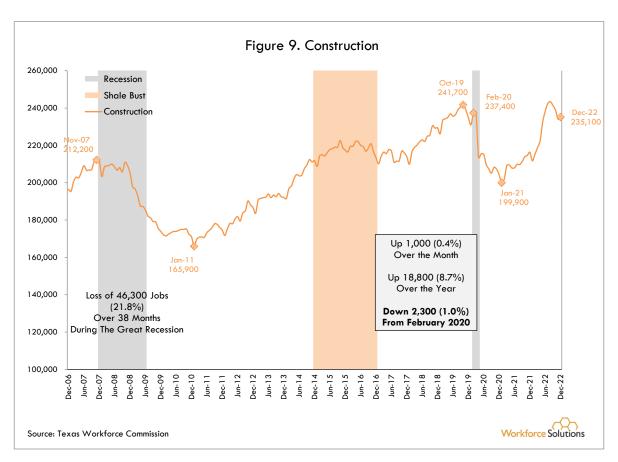
Payrolls in the Mining sector never made it back to pre-pandemic levels. Labor and supply chain constraints have been limiting the pace of drilling and well completion activity and lead times for new oilfield equipment have been extended. Industry outlooks have been optimistic although uncertainty has risen with expectations for possible slowing growth ahead because of limited spare capacity due to supply-chain and labor challenges.



Construction reported its first increase since August 2022 adding 1,000 jobs over the month, up 0.4 percent. Construction on average experiences a one-half of a percent decline during the month of December usually due to weather conditions making this better than most years. Most of the increase was in Specialty Trade Contractors, up 900 jobs or 0.7 percent. Additional gains were found in Construction of Buildings, up 400 jobs or 0.7 percent. Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction suffered a slight loss of 300 jobs, down 0.5 percent.

Construction added 18,800 jobs over the year, up 8.7 percent. While it was the third fastest growing industry super sector, the pace of growth has fallen for the fourth consecutive month. Specialty Trade Contractors was responsible for more than half of the increase with payrolls up 11,400 jobs or 10.2 percent. Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction added 4,800 jobs over the year, up 9.3 percent, and Construction of Buildings added 2,600 jobs, up 5.0 percent. Construction made a full recovery of all jobs lost in the early stages of the pandemic in June 2022 but since then payrolls have fallen and are once again below February 2020 levels, down 2,300 jobs or 1.0 percent, see figure 9.

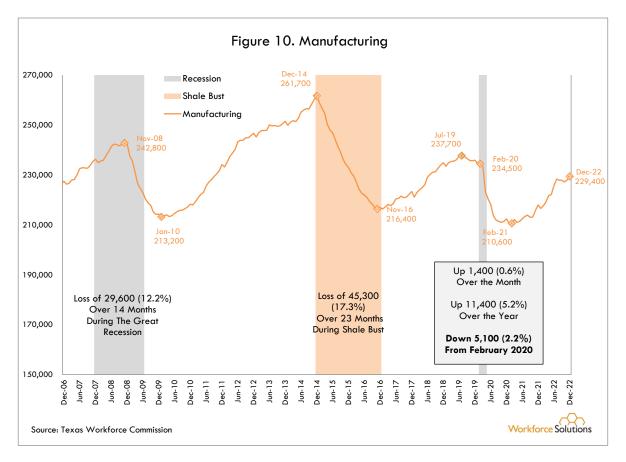
According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, activity in the housing market remains weak. Elevated interest rates and an expected economic slowdown have dimmed expectations for 2023.

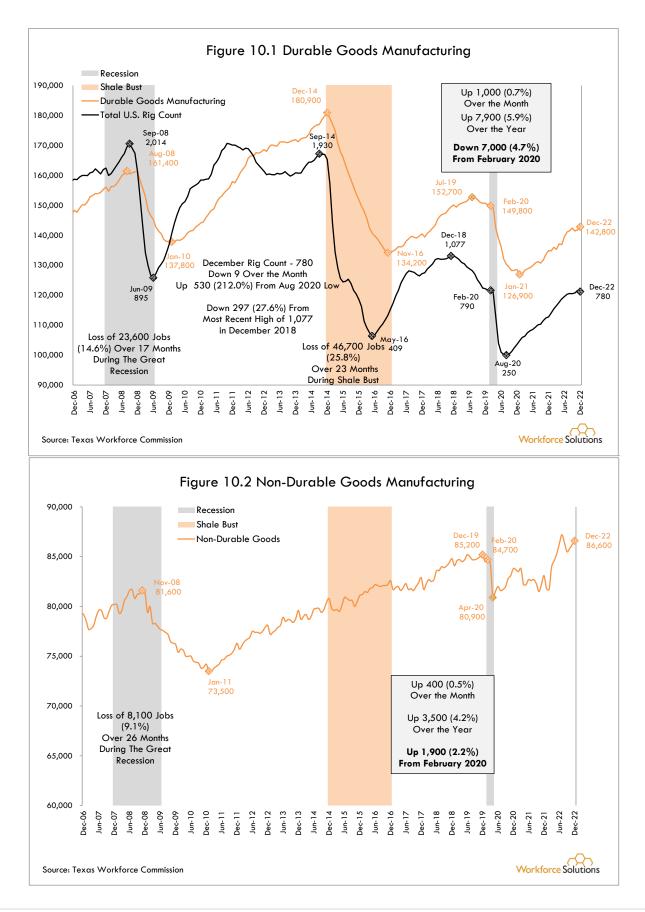


Manufacturing added 1,400 jobs in December, up 0.6 percent. Manufacturing adds jobs during most December's and the current increase was slightly stronger than the historical average of 0.4 percent. The increase was largely driven by an increase of 1,000 jobs in Durable Goods Manufacturing, up 0.7 percent. Non-durable Goods Manufacturing added 400 jobs over the month.

Manufacturing added 11,400 jobs over the year, up 5.2 percent. Most of the increase was in Durable Goods Manufacturing with much of it tied to the energy sector, up 7,900 jobs or 5.9 percent, see figure 10.1. Nondurable Goods Manufacturing payrolls were up 3,500 jobs or 4.2 percent over the year, see figure 10.2. Manufacturing tied to the upstream energy sector continue to be driving demand while petrochemical companies and refineries reported slowing demand. Overall, manufacturing outlooks weakened, with many noting waning demand and/or recession concerns according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Beige Book. In terms of the pandemic, payrolls in Manufacturing remain 5,100 jobs or 2.2 percent below pre-pandemic levels in February 2020, see figure 10.

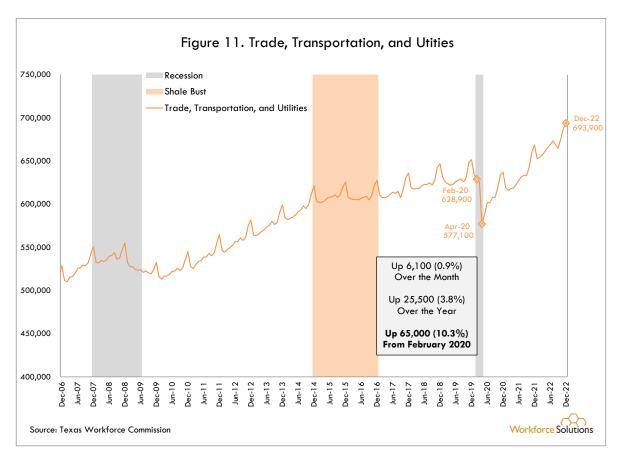
The Houston Purchasing Managers Index fell 0.9 points to 53.8 in December indicating economic activity was expanding but at a slower pace of that in November. The Manufacturing PMI fell 0.8 to 50.2 giving neither an expansion nor contraction signal. The Non-manufacturing PMI fell 0.9 points to 54.5 pointing to continued expansion but at a slower pace than the in November. The Houston PMI provides a measure of current economic activity in the greater Houston area and a forecast of likely shifts in activity over the next several months. Readings over 50 generally indicate goods producing industry expansion over the near term, while readings below 50 show coming contraction. Readings above 45 correlates with expansion of the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Business Cycle Index.

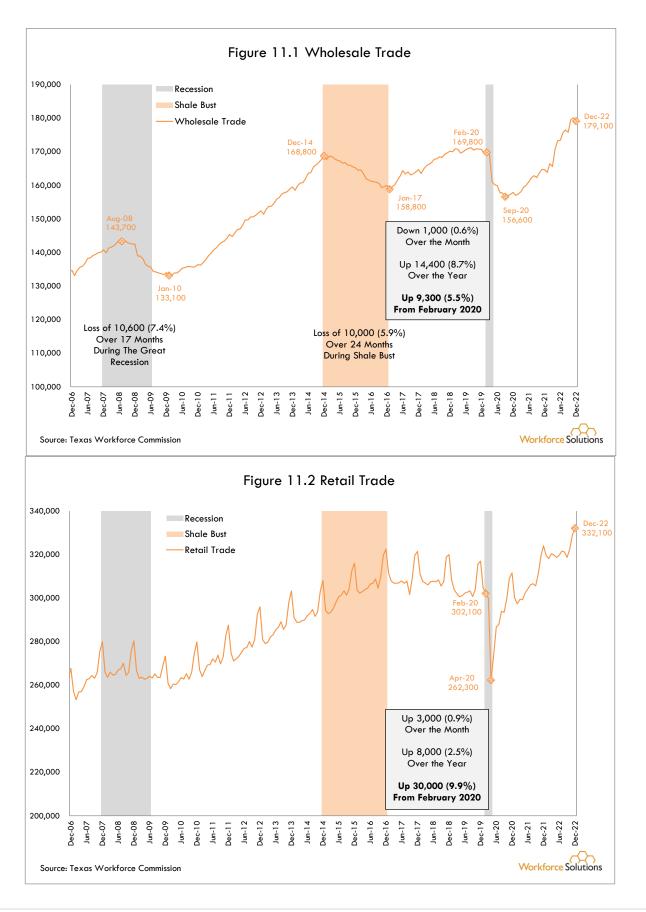


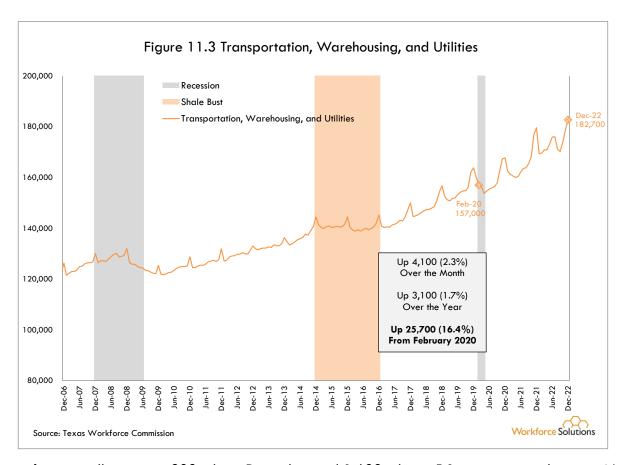


Trade Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities was the largest gaining industry sector over the month in December, up 6,100 jobs or 0.9 percent. December's increases were driven by seasonal gains in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities, up 4,100 jobs or 2.3 percent, and Retail Trade, up 3,000 jobs or 0.9 percent. Wholesale Trade suffered a loss of 1,000 jobs, down 0.6 percent.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was the third largest gaining industry sector in December, up 25,500 jobs or 3.8 percent over the year. Wholesale Trade experienced the strongest growth, up 14,400 jobs or 8.7 percent, see figure 11.1. Retail Trade was up 8,000 jobs or 2.5 percent. While most retail sectors were reporting job gains, General Merchandise Stores experienced a loss of 1,500 jobs over the year, down 2,2 percent, as families are forced to cut back on discretionary spending due to cost-of-living increases. Lastly, Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities was up 3,100 jobs over the year, up 1.7 percent. Largest gains were in Truck Transportation, up 1,500 jobs or 5.4 percent, and Air Transportation, up 1,400 jobs or 7.7 percent. Payrolls in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities are up 65,000 jobs or 10.3 percent above prepandemic levels in February 2020.



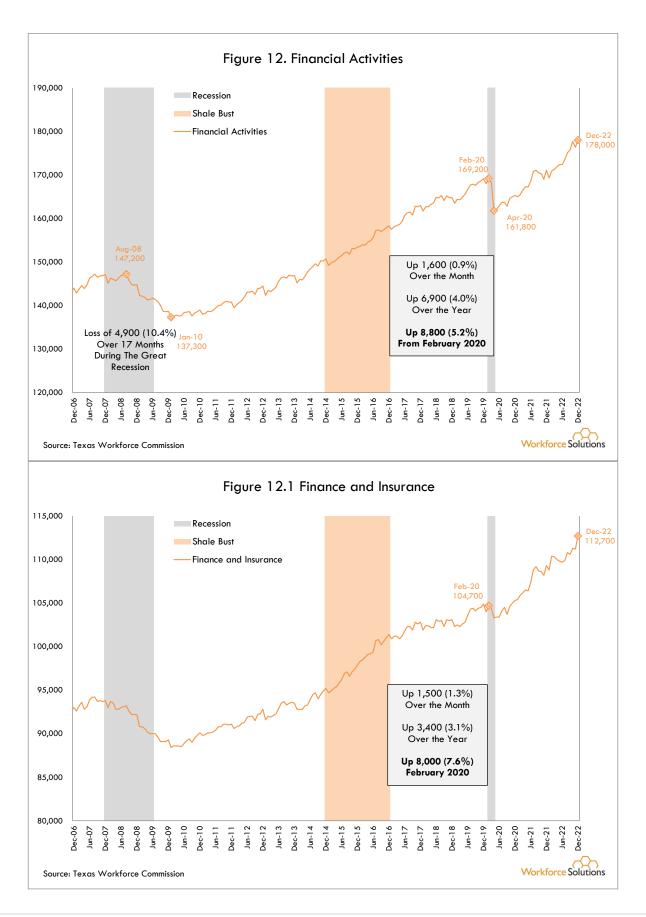


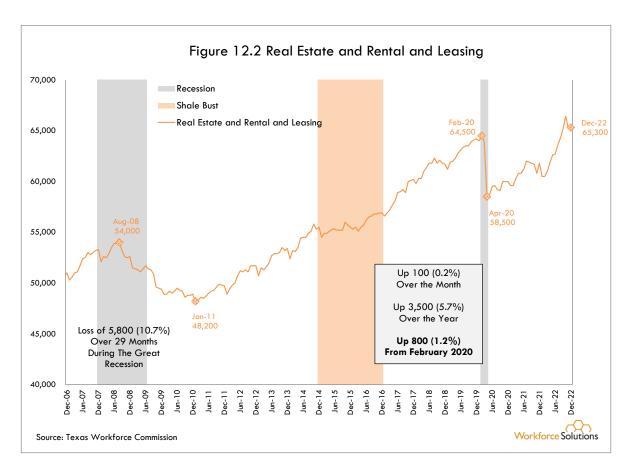


Information payrolls were up 200 jobs in December and 1,600 jobs or 5.1 percent over the year. Nearly half of the employment in Information resides in Telecommunications where payrolls were up 200 jobs or 1.6 percent over the year. This means most of the increase was at other establishments within the Information super sector which include newspaper and periodical publishing, software publishing, motion picture and sound recording, and data processing hosting and related services.

Financial Activities added 1,600 jobs in December, up 0.9 percent. Financial Activities on average experiences a 0.4 percent increase in December making this a strong year. Job gains were primarily in Finance and Insurance, up 1,500 jobs or 1.3 percent. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was up 100 jobs over the month.

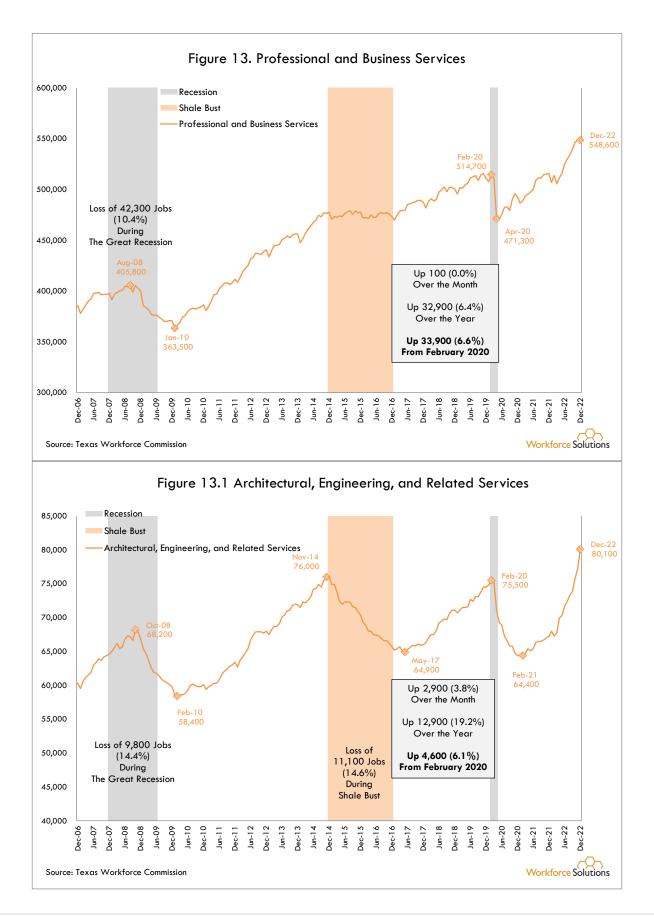
Financial Activities added 6,900 jobs over the year, up 4.0 percent, see figure 12. Job gains were widespread with Finance and insurance adding 3,400 jobs over the year, up 3.1 percent, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing adding 3,500 jobs, up 5.7 percent. Financial Activities are up 8,800 jobs or 5.2 percent from just prior to the pandemic in February 2020, see figure 12.

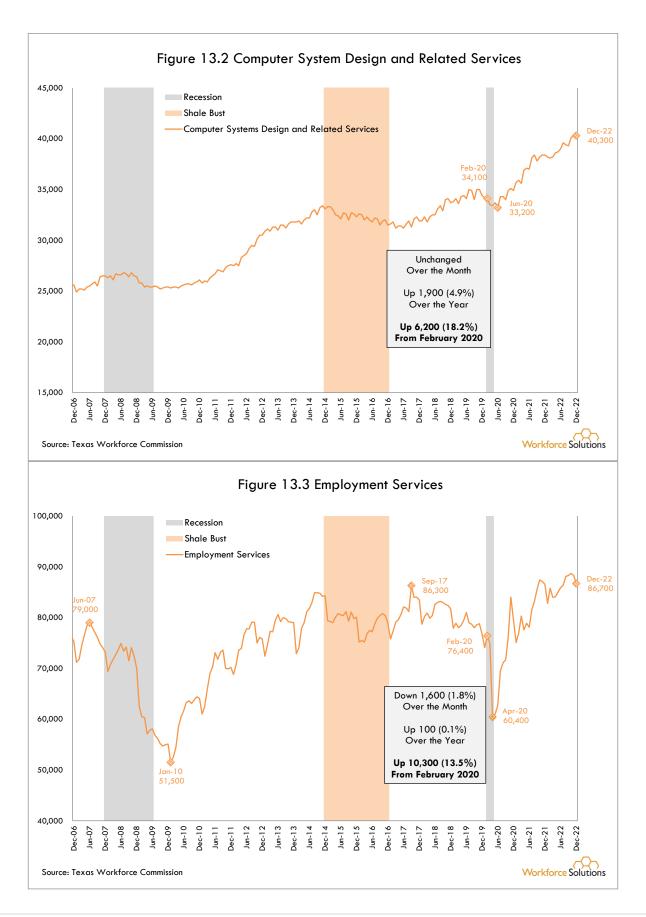




Professional and Business Services payrolls reported a net increase of 100 jobs in December. Job growth was made possible by an addition of 4,600 jobs in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, up 1.7 percent, where Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services reported a strong increase. Gains were offset by a loss of 4,700 jobs in Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, down 2.0 percent. Management of Companies and Enterprises, the third sub-sector, managed a slight increase of 200 jobs, up 0.4 percent.

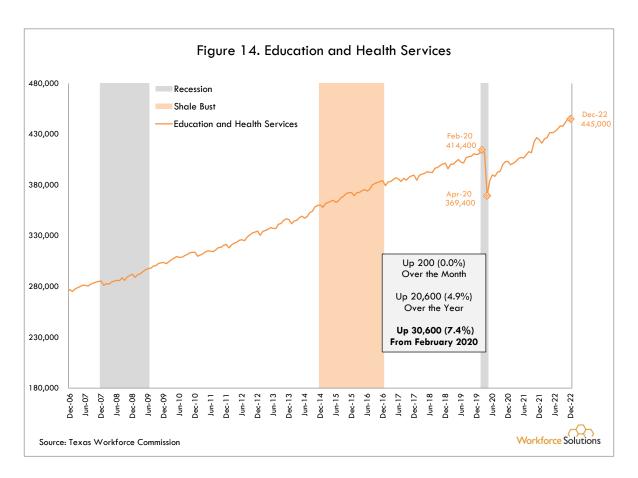
Professional and Business Services was the second largest gaining industry sector over the year adding 32,900 jobs, up 6.4 percent. This was the largest year-over-year increase on record with the prior record of 30,800 back in November 2012 during the U.S. Shale Boom. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services was the largest contributor to the increase, up 24,700 jobs or 10.1 percent, largely driven by gains in Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services, up 12,900 jobs or 19.2 percent, see figure 13.1. While Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services was the second largest contributor to the increase, up 6,200 jobs, the pace of growth in the sub-sector fell sharply to 2.7 percent from 5.0 percent in November due to December losses. Lastly, Management of Companies and Enterprises was up 2,000 jobs or 4.6 percent over the year. Payrolls in Professional and Business Services are up 33,900 jobs or 6.6 percent from their pre-pandemic level in February 2020, see figure 13. Recent gains in Professional and Business Services have been driven by surging global demand for energy products.

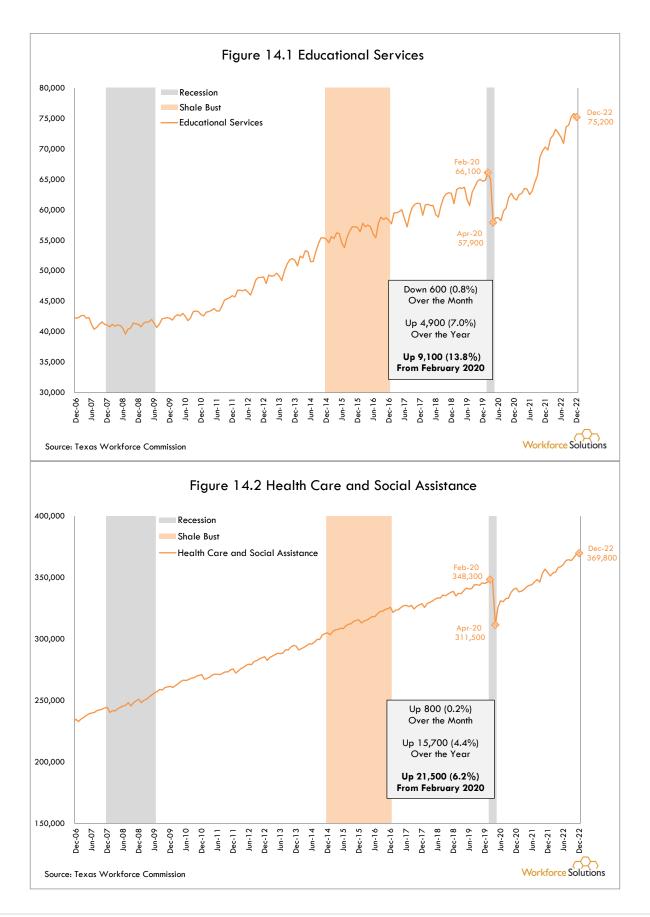


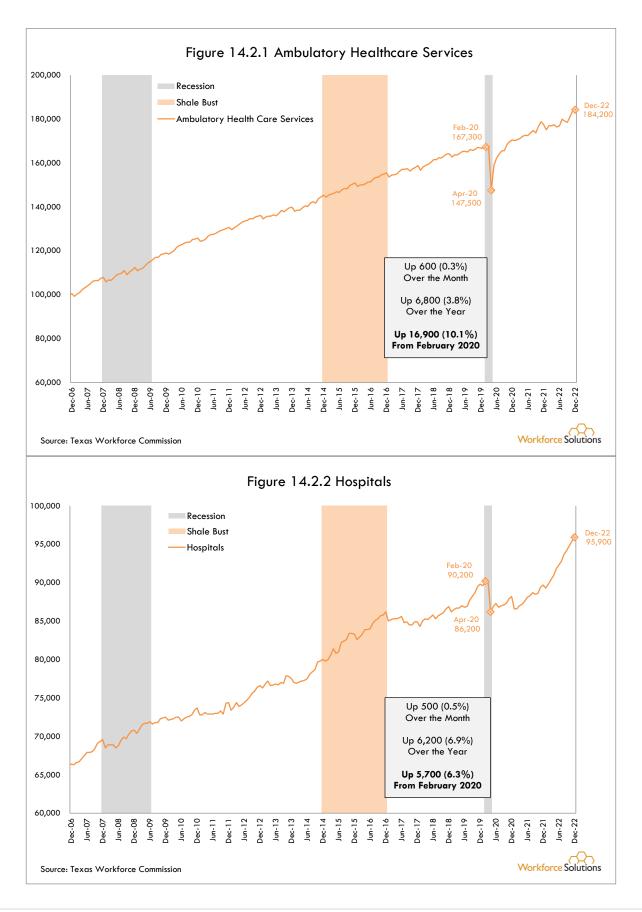


Education and Health Services experienced a net increase of 200 jobs in December. Health Care and Social Assistance was responsible for the increase with payrolls up 600 jobs or 0.8 percent. Gains in Health Care and Social Assistance were driven by increase in Ambulatory Health Care Services, up 600 jobs or 0.3 percent, and Hospitals, up 500 jobs or 0.5 percent, which were offset by declines in undisclosed areas of Social Assistance. Educational Services experienced a loss of 600 jobs over the month, down 0.8 percent.

Education and Health Services added 20,600 jobs over the year in December, up 4.9 percent. About three-fourths of the increase was in Health Care and Social Assistance, up 15,700 jobs or 4.4 percent, see figure 14.2. Job gains in Health Care and Social Assistance were found across all its subsectors including Ambulatory Health Care Services, up 6,800 jobs or 3.8 percent, Hospitals, up 6,200 jobs or 6.9 percent, and the remainder of the increase in nursing care facilities, community care facilities, and various providers of social assistance that include child day care services. Educational Services was reporting the strongest over-the-year growth in October, up 4,900 jobs or 7.0 percent, see figure 14.1. Education and Health Services payrolls are up 30,600 jobs or 7.4 percent from their pre-pandemic levels in February 2020, see figure 14.

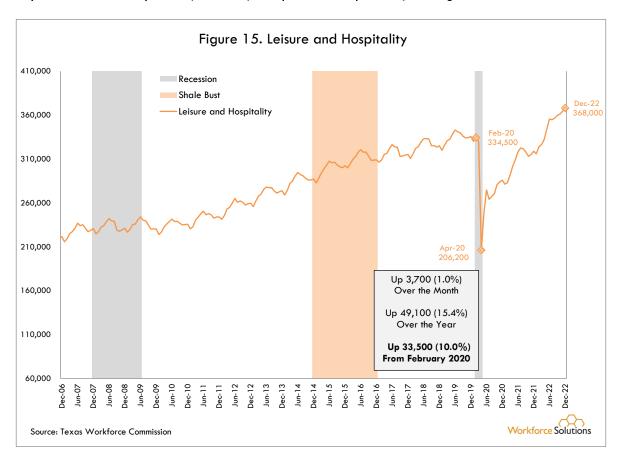


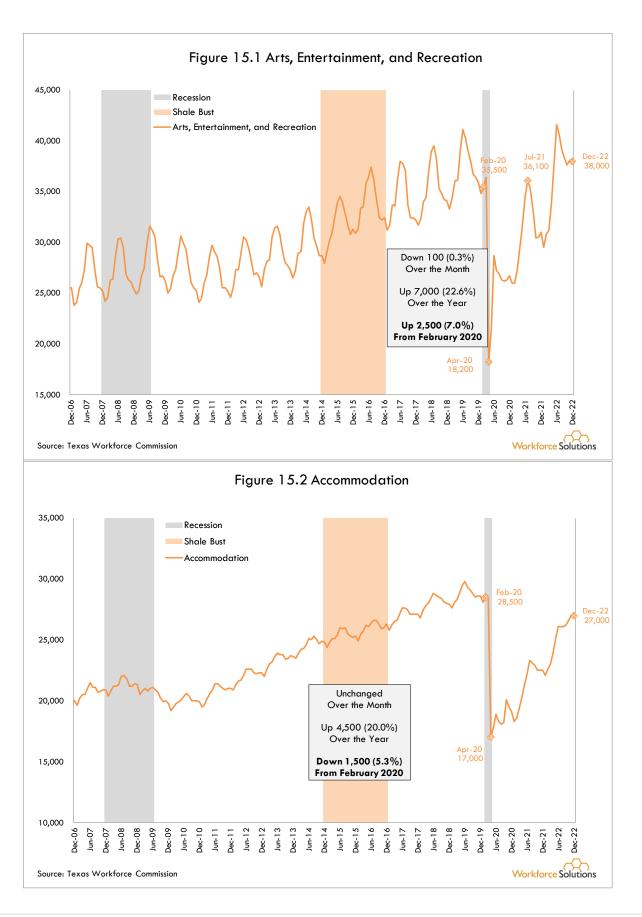


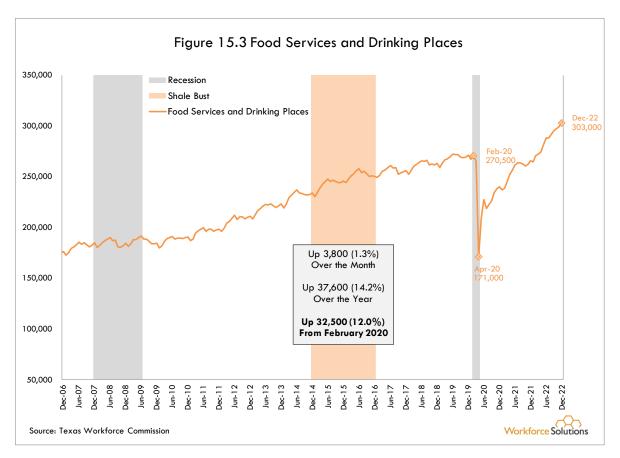


Leisure and Hospitality was the second largest gaining industry sector in December with a seasonal increase of 3,700 jobs, up 1.0 percent. The increase was substantially stronger than the historical average increase of 0.3 percent. All the increase was at Food Services and Drinking Places, up 3,800 jobs or 1.3 percent.

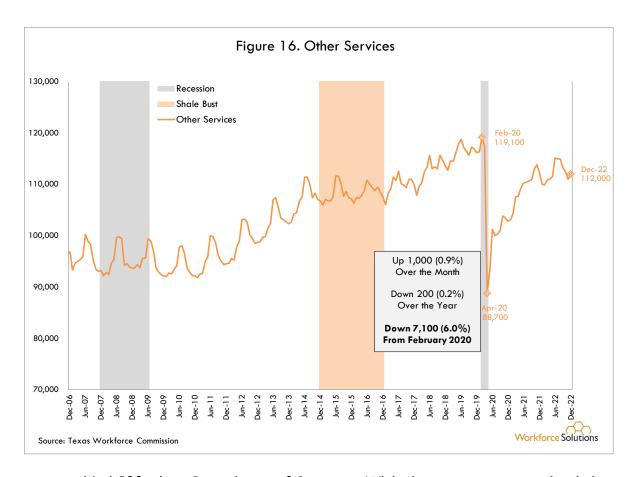
Leisure and Hospitality was the largest gaining industry sector over the year with payrolls up 49,100 jobs or 15.4 percent from December 2021. Strong gains were found across all industry sectors. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation was up 7,000 jobs or 22.6 percent, Accommodation was up 4,500 jobs or 20.0 percent, and lastly Food Services and Drinking Places was up 37,600 jobs or 14.2 percent. Leisure and Hospitality payrolls are up 33,500 jobs or 10.0 percent from what they were just prior to the pandemic in February 2020, see figure 15. While Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation and Food Services and Drinking Places have reached pre-pandemic employment levels, Accommodation continues to see payrolls below what they were in February 2020, down 1,500 jobs or 5.3 percent, see figure 15.2.





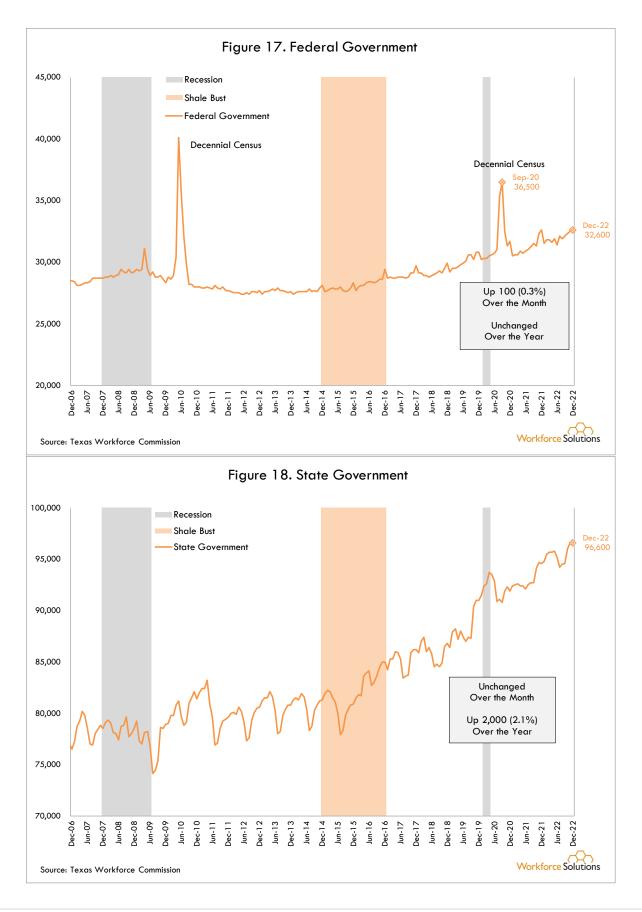


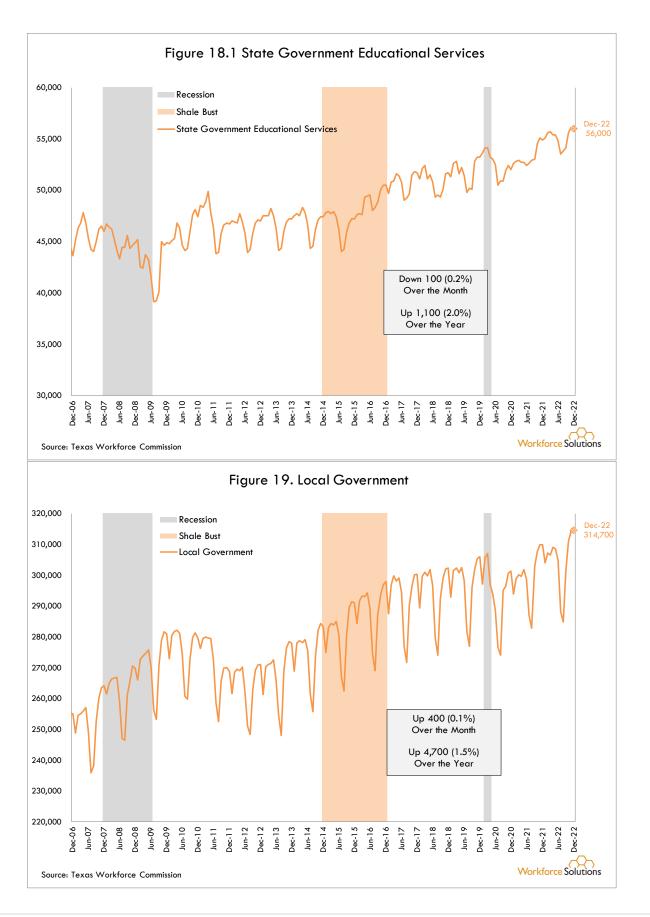
Other Services experienced its largest December increase ever adding 1,000 jobs, up 0.9 percent. The On average, Other Services reports a slight loss of 0.1 percent in December. The super sector was down 200 jobs or 0.2 percent over the year. Other Services is comprised of personal care services, dry cleaning and laundry services, various repair service companies (industrial equipment, mining machinery and equipment), as well as religious and social advocacy organizations and others. Other Services payrolls remain 7,100 jobs or 6.0 percent below their pre-pandemic levels in February 2020, see figure 16.

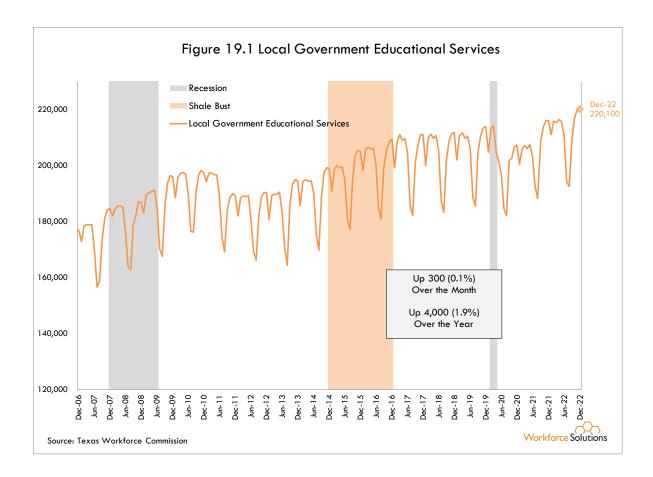


Government added 500 jobs in December, up 0.1 percent. While the increase contrasted with the overall historical average loss of some 300 jobs, the last December loss in Government was back in 2014.

Government payrolls were up 6,700 jobs or 1.5 percent over the year in December.







NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA	DEC 2022	NOV 2022		Month Change		Year Change	
				Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Total Nonfarm		3,340,000	3,177,000	16,000	0.5%	179,000	5.6%
.Total Private		2,896,600	2,739,800	15,500	0.5%	172,300	6.3%
.Goods Producing	533,800	531,200	497,900	2,600	0.5%	35,900	7.2%
Mining, Logging and Construction	304,400	303,200	279,900	1,200	0.4%	24 , 500	8.8%
Mining and Logging	69,300	69,100	63,600	200	0.3%	<i>5,</i> 700	9.0%
Oil and Gas Extraction	33,400	33,200	30,200	200	0.6%	3,200	10.6%
Support Activities for Mining	34,400	34,200	31,100	200	0.6%	3,300	10.6%
Construction	235,100	234,100	216,300	1,000	0.4%	18,800	8.7%
Construction of Buildings	54,900	<i>54,</i> 500	52,300	400	0.7%	2,600	5.0%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	56,500	56,800	<i>5</i> 1,700	-300	-0.5%	4,800	9.3%
Specialty Trade Contractors	123,700	122,800	112,300	900	0.7%	11,400	10.2%
Manufacturing	229,400	228,000	218,000	1,400	0.6%	11,400	5.2%
Durable Goods	142,800	141,800	134,900	1,000	0.7%	<i>7,</i> 900	5.9%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	49,500	49,200	46,700	300	0.6%	2,800	6.0%
Machinery Manufacturing	40,600	40,200	39,300	400	1.0%	1,300	3.3%
Agriculture, Construction, and Mining Machinery							
Manufacturing	20,700	20,500	19,900	200	1.0%	800	4.0%
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	13,200	13,200	12,800	0	0.0%	400	3.1%
Non-Durable Goods	86,600	86,200	83,100	400	0.5%	3,500	4.2%
Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	8,300	8,200	8,200	100	1.2%	100	1.2%
Chemical Manufacturing	40,200	40,300	39,500	-100	-0.2%	700	1.8%
.Service-Providing	2,822,200	2,808,800	2,679,100	13,400	0.5%	143,100	5.3%
Private Service Providing	2,378,300	2,365,400	2,241,900	12,900	0.5%	136,400	6.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	693,900	687,800	668,400	6,100	0.9%	25,500	3.8%
Wholesale Trade	179,100	180,100	164,700	-1,000	-0.6%	14,400	8.7%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	109,200	108,700	99,900	500	0.5%	9,300	9.3%
Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies	•	•	•			•	
Merchant Wholesalers	18,200	18,100	1 <i>7</i> ,200	100	0.6%	1,000	5.8%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	57,100	56,900	53,500	200	0.4%	3,600	6.7%
Retail Trade	332,100	329,100	324,100	3,000	0.9%	8,000	2.5%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	43,600	43,600	42,200	0	0.0%	1,400	3.3%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies	,	,	/	-		.,	0.0,0
Dealers	24,200	23,200	23,500	1,000	4.3%	700	3.0%
Food and Beverage Stores	73,700	73,500	71,600	200	0.3%	2,100	2.9%
Health and Personal Care Stores	21,400	21,300	21,200	100	0.5%	200	0.9%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	26,600	25,700	25,900	900	3.5%	700	2.7%
General Merchandise Stores	66,700	65,700	68,200	1,000	1.5%	-1,500	-2.2%
Department Stores	22,400	21,700	23,000	700	3.2%	-600	-2.6%
•	22,400	21,700	23,000	700	3.270	-000	-2.070
General Merchandise Stores, including Warehouse Clubs	44200	44,000	45 200	200	0.70/	000	2.00/
and Supercenters	44,300	44,000	45,200	300	0.7%	-900 2.100	-2.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	182,700	178,600	179,600	4,100	2.3%	3,100	1.7%
Utilities	18,100	17,900	17,400	200	1.1%	700	4.0%
Air Transportation	19,600	19,400	18,200	200	1.0%	1,400	7.7%
Truck Transportation	29,200	29,300	27,700	-100	-0.3%	1,500	5.4%
Pipeline Transportation	13,000	12,900	12,400	100	0.8%	600	4.8%
Information	32,800	32,600	31,200	200	0.6%	1,600	5.1%
Telecommunications	12,400	12,400	12,200	0	0.0%	200	1.6%
"Financial Activities	178,000	176,400	171,100	1,600	0.9%	6,900	4.0%
Finance and Insurance	112,700	111,200	109,300	1,500	1.3%	3,400	3.1%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including							
Monetary Authorities - Central Bank	47,800	46,800	46,400	1,000	2.1%	1,400	3.0%
Depository Credit Intermediation including Monetary							
Authorities - Central Bank	30,600	30,000	29,800	600	2.0%	800	2.7%
Financial Investments and Related Activities including Financial							
Vehicles	22,300	22,100	21,700	200	0.9%	600	2.8%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	42,600	42,300	41,200	300	0.7%	1,400	3.4%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	65,300	65,200	61,800	100	0.2%	3,500	5.7%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT			Month Change		Year Change		
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA	DEC 2022	NOV 2022	DEC 2021	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Professional and Business Services	548,600	548,500	515 , 700	100	0.0%	32,900	6.4%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	270,000	265,400	245,300	4,600	1.7%	24,700	10.1%
Legal Services	31,400	31,300	29,700	100	0.3%	1,700	5.7%
Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, and Payroll							
Services	27,500	27,300	26,400	200	0.7%	1,100	4.2%
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	80,100	<i>77,</i> 200	67,200	2,900	3.8%	12,900	19.2%
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	40,300	40,300	38,400	0	0.0%	1,900	4.9%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	45 , 500	45,300	43,500	200	0.4%	2,000	4.6%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and							
Remediation Services	233,100	237,800	226,900	-4,700	-2.0%	6,200	2.7%
Administrative and Support Services	222,300	226,900	214,900	-4,600	-2.0%	7,400	3.4%
Employment Services	86,700	88,300	86,600	-1,600	-1.8%	100	0.1%
Services to Buildings and Dwellings	51 , 500	52,700	48,900	-1,200	-2.3%	2,600	5.3%
Education and Health Services	445,000	444,800	424,400	200	0.0%	20,600	4.9%
Educational Services	75 , 200	<i>75,</i> 800	70,300	-600	-0.8%	4,900	7.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	369,800	369,000	354,100	800	0.2%	15,700	4.4%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	184,200	183,600	1 <i>77,</i> 400	600	0.3%	6,800	3.8%
Hospitals	95,900	95,400	89,700	500	0.5%	6,200	6.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	368,000	364,300	318,900	3,700	1.0%	49,100	15.4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	38,000	38,100	31,000	-100	-0.3%	7,000	22.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	330,000	326,200	287,900	3,800	1.2%	42,100	14.6%
Accommodation	27,000	27,000	22,500	0	0.0%	4,500	20.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	303,000	299,200	265,400	3,800	1.3%	37,600	14.2%
Other Services	112,000	111,000	112,200	1,000	0.9%	-200	-0.2%
Government	443,900	443,400	437,200	500	0.1%	6,700	1.5%
Federal Government	32,600	32,500	32,600	100	0.3%	0	0.0%
State Government	96,600	96,600	94,600	0	0.0%	2,000	2.1%
State Government Educational Services	56,000	56,100	54,900	-100	-0.2%	1,100	2.0%
Local Government	314,700	314,300	310,000	400	0.1%	4,700	1.5%
Local Government Educational Services	220,100	219,800	216,100	300	0.1%	4,000	1.9%
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	DEC 2022	NOV 2022	DEC 2021				
H-W-S MSA	3.9	4.0	4.8				
Texas (Actual)	3.6	3.7	4.2				
United States (Actual)	3.3	3.4	3.7				

Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA: Includes Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Ft. Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties. All Data is Subject to Revision.

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, BLS, Texas Workforce Commission, Institute for Supply Management, Baker Hughes, and The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.