

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

Labor Market Information

July 2024 data was released August 16, 2024.

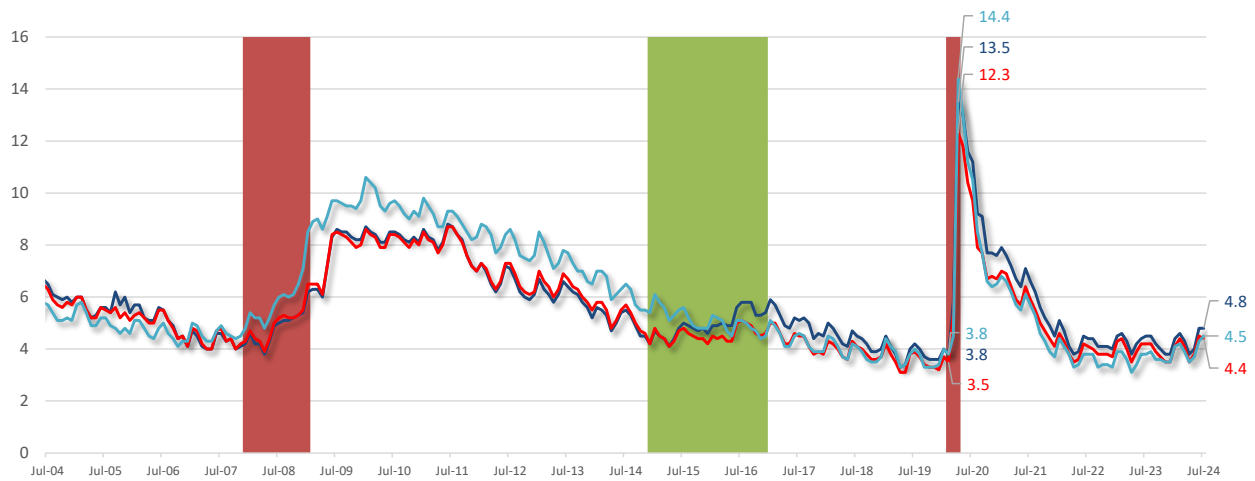
Unemployment Rates

The rate of unemployment in The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA was unchanged at 4.8 percent in July. The current rate of unemployment is the highest for the month of July in three years with an additional 17,000 unemployed than a year earlier. The local rate of unemployment was slightly higher than 4.4 percent at the state level and 4.5 percent at the national level.

Unemployment Rate (Actual)

	JULY 2024	JUNE 2024	JULY 2023
Civilian Labor Force	3,736,648	3,731,868	3,630,440
Total Employed	3,555,948	3,552,467	3,467,278
Unemployed	180,700	179,401	163,162
Unemployment Rate	4.8%	4.8%	4.5%
Texas	4.4%	4.5%	4.2%
U.S.	4.5%	4.3%	3.8%

Figure 1. Unemployment Rate - Actual



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Recession Shale Bust Houston MSA Texas U.S.

Workforce Solutions

August data is scheduled to be released September 20, 2024.

Nonagricultural Employment

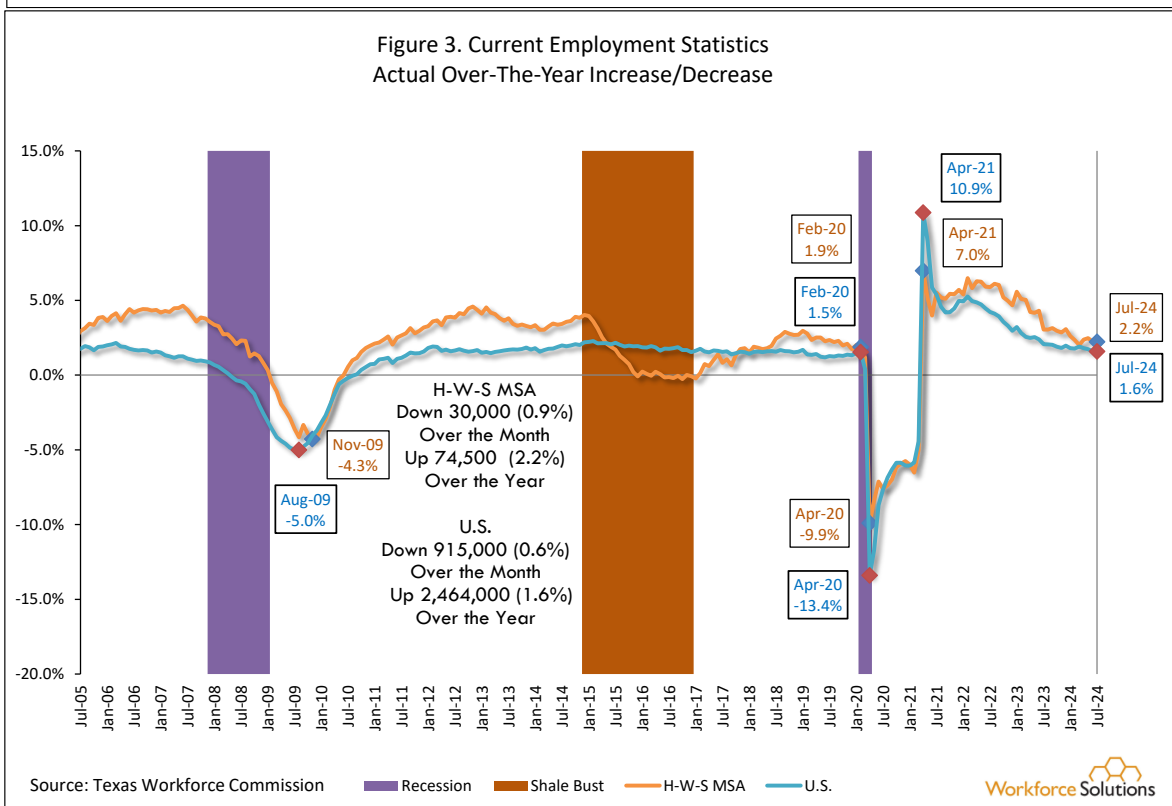
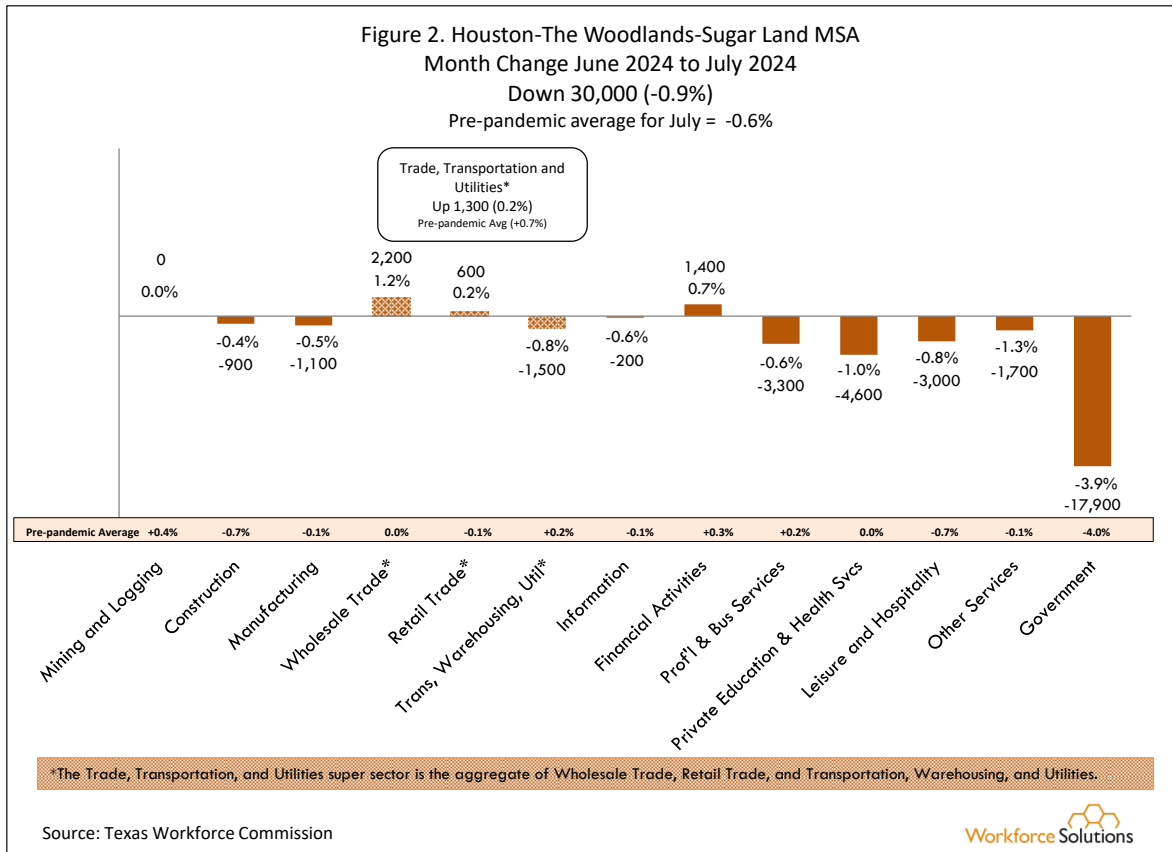
Over the Month

Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA reported its second consecutive weak month shedding some 30,000 jobs in July, down 0.9 percent. During a typical year the MSA typically only sees a decline of around 0.6 percent. A loss occurs every July as educational institutions reduce staffing for the summer, but several additional sectors had a weak month many of which were worsened by Hurricane Beryl. Additionally, June estimates, which were already weak, were revised down indicating job gains were only one-fifth of what is typically seen indicating we may have entered a change in momentum in the job market.

July highlights:

- Government was the largest contributor to the loss, down 17,900 jobs driven by declines in Local Government.
- Private Education and Health Services was down 4,600 jobs or 1.0 percent when it typically sees no change in July.
- Professional and Business Services was down 3,300 jobs or 0.6 percent when it has historically seen an increase of 0.2 percent.
- Leisure and Hospitality suffered an expected seasonal loss of 3,000 jobs in July, down 0.8 percent.
- Other Services shed 1,700 jobs, down 1.3 percent when it typically declines 0.1 percent in July.
- Trade, Transportation, and Utilities added 1,300 jobs in July.
 - Wholesale Trade had a good month with payrolls up 2,200 jobs or 1.2 percent when on average it sees no change in July.
 - Retail Trade added 600 jobs over the month.
 - Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities lost some 1,600 jobs, down 0.8 percent, compared to the typical increase of 0.2 percent in July. Much of the loss was likely related to the sudden closure of U.S. Logistics Solutions.

For a comparison of historical average changes to the current month's see figure 2.



Over the Year

Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA was up 74,500 jobs over the year in July with the pace of job growth at 2.2 percent, down from 2.5 percent in May. Houston MSA's growth rate was six-tenths of a percentage point higher than the nation's 1.6 percent, see figure 3 above.

Ten of the eleven industry super sectors were reporting over-the-year increases, see figure 4. The top contributors to the increase were:

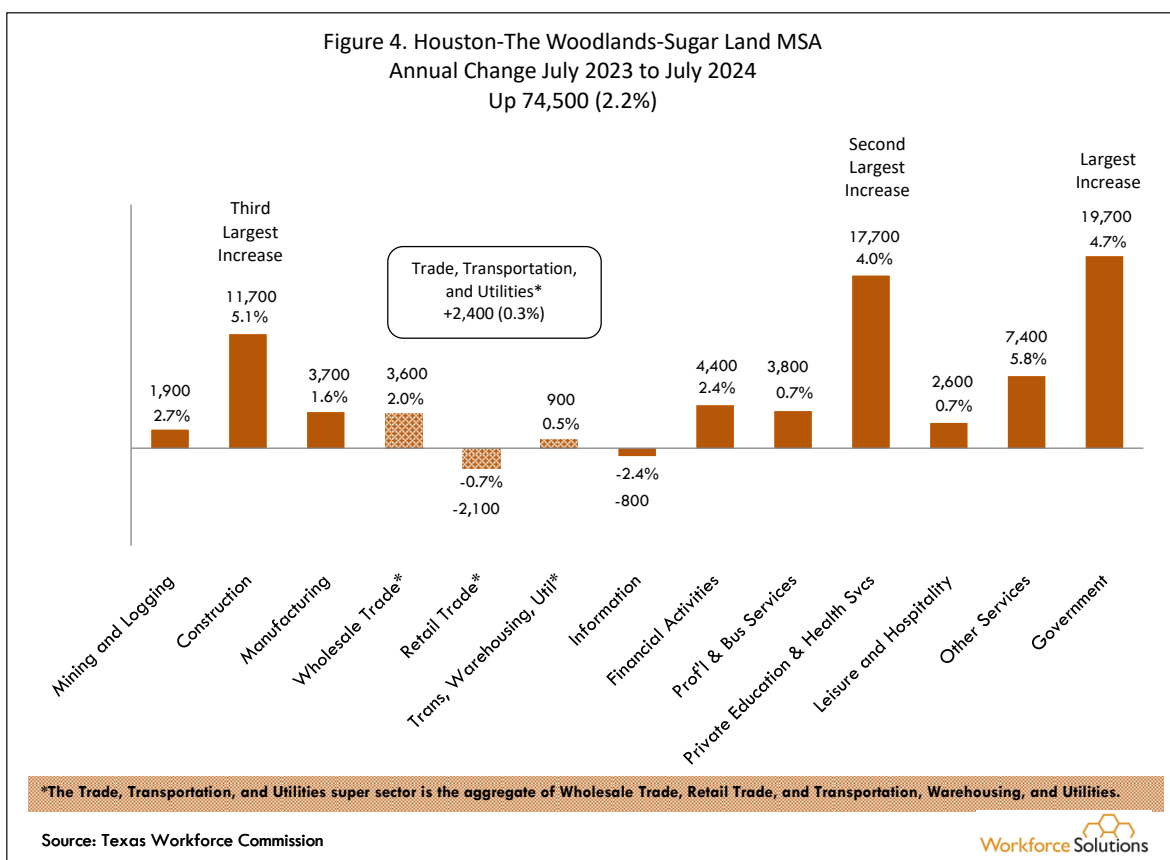
- Government, up 19,700 jobs or 4.7 percent.
- Private Education and Health Services, up 17,700 jobs or 4.0 percent.
- Construction, up 11,700 jobs or 5.1 percent.
- Other Services, up 7,400 jobs or 5.8 percent.
- Financial Activities, up 4,400 jobs or 2.4 percent.
- Professional and Business Services, up 3,800 jobs or 0.7 percent.

While the Trade, Transportation, and Utilities super sector was reporting the weakest growth, a net increase of 2,400 jobs or 0.3 percent, the Retail Trade sub-sector was reflecting a loss of 2,100 jobs offsetting overall gains.

Leisure and Hospitality and Professional and Business Services were reporting the second weakest growth rates of 0.7 percent.

The only super sector reporting a loss was Information, down 800 jobs or 2.4 percent.

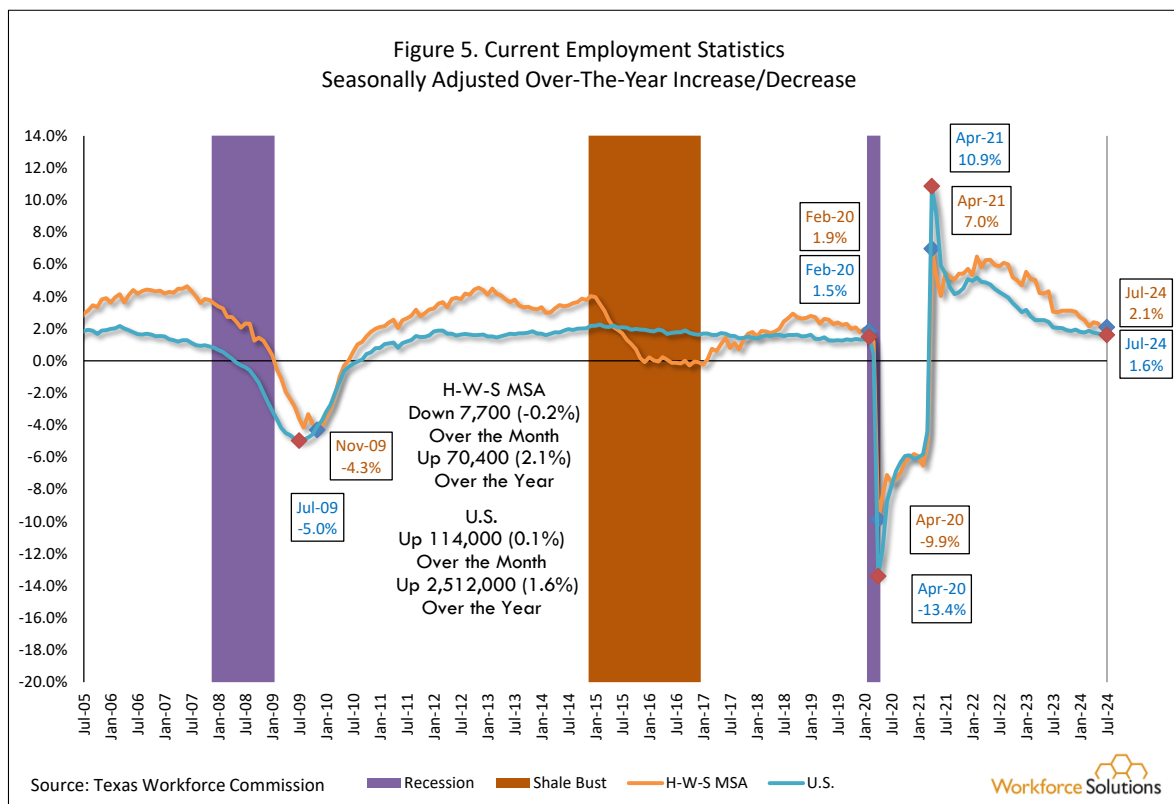
For a complete list of current, month-ago, and year-ago employment estimates see pages 7 & 8.

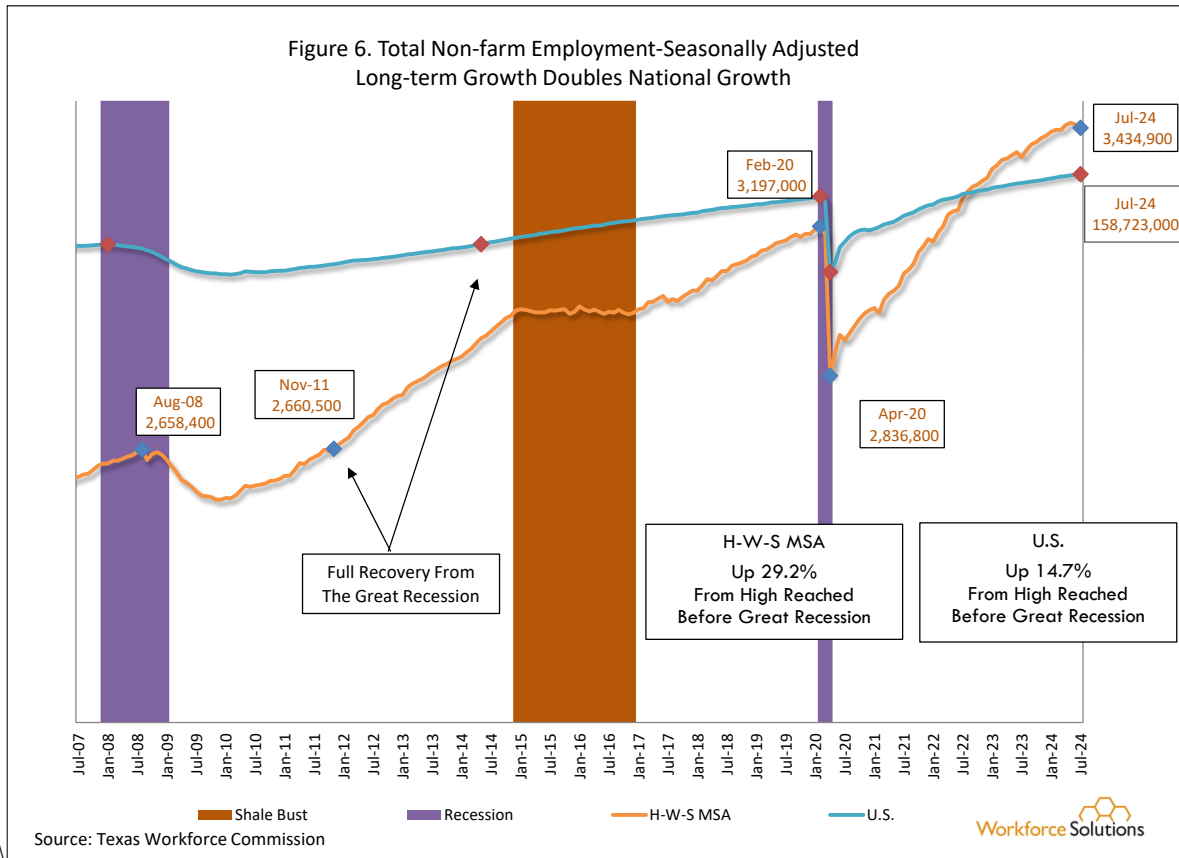


Total Nonfarm Employment – Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted estimates for the H-W-S MSA and U.S. seen in figures 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 has posted a loss for the second consecutive month, down 7,700 jobs or 0.2 percent in July. The pace of job growth has suffered as a result, currently up 2.1 percent compared to 2.4 percent in April. Total Nonfarm Employment at the national level was up 114,000 jobs or 0.1 percent in July with the pace of job growth falling one-tenth of a percentage point to 1.6 percent, one-half of a percent weaker than Houston's pace. The pace of job growth at the local and national level has slowed considerably from what it was a year ago.

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 29.2 percent above their peak prior to The Great Recession while payrolls at the national level are only up 14.7 percent.





NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT				Month Change		Year Change	
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA	JUL 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2023	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Total Nonfarm	3,429,000	3,459,000	3,354,500	-30,000	-0.9%	74,500	2.2%
.Total Private	2,989,600	3,001,700	2,934,800	-12,100	-0.4%	54,800	1.9%
.Goods Producing	553,100	555,100	535,800	-2,000	-0.4%	17,300	3.2%
...Mining, Logging and Construction	315,300	316,200	301,700	-900	-0.3%	13,600	4.5%
...Mining and Logging	72,700	72,700	70,800	0	0.0%	1,900	2.7%
.....Oil and Gas Extraction	32,700	32,800	31,800	-100	-0.3%	900	2.8%
.....Support Activities for Mining	38,400	38,400	37,600	0	0.0%	800	2.1%
...Construction	242,600	243,500	230,900	-900	-0.4%	11,700	5.1%
.....Construction of Buildings	65,000	64,800	60,000	200	0.3%	5,000	8.3%
.....Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	57,900	57,900	52,600	0	0.0%	5,300	10.1%
.....Specialty Trade Contractors	119,700	120,800	118,300	-1,100	-0.9%	1,400	1.2%
..Manufacturing	237,800	238,900	234,100	-1,100	-0.5%	3,700	1.6%
...Durable Goods	149,100	150,400	145,400	-1,300	-0.9%	3,700	2.5%
....Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	52,600	53,100	50,800	-500	-0.9%	1,800	3.5%
....Machinery Manufacturing	43,100	43,500	42,600	-400	-0.9%	500	1.2%
....Agriculture, Construction, and Mining Machinery Manufacturing	23,100	23,200	22,800	-100	-0.4%	300	1.3%
....Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	14,600	14,700	14,500	-100	-0.7%	100	0.7%
...Non-Durable Goods	88,700	88,500	88,700	200	0.2%	0	0.0%
....Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	8,200	8,100	8,000	100	1.2%	200	2.5%
....Chemical Manufacturing	42,200	42,000	42,500	200	0.5%	-300	-0.7%
.Service-Providing	2,875,900	2,903,900	2,818,700	-28,000	-1.0%	57,200	2.0%
.Private Service Providing	2,436,500	2,446,600	2,399,000	-10,100	-0.4%	37,500	1.6%
..Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	688,500	687,200	686,100	1,300	0.2%	2,400	0.3%
...Wholesale Trade	181,800	179,600	178,200	2,200	1.2%	3,600	2.0%
.....Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	114,000	112,500	111,200	1,500	1.3%	2,800	2.5%
.....Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	19,000	18,600	18,800	400	2.2%	200	1.1%
.....Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	56,000	55,300	55,100	700	1.3%	900	1.6%
...Retail Trade	316,900	316,300	319,000	600	0.2%	-2,100	-0.7%
....Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	44,400	44,300	44,300	100	0.2%	100	0.2%
....Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	23,900	24,000	24,300	-100	-0.4%	-400	-1.6%
....Food and Beverage Retailers	74,700	74,400	74,300	300	0.4%	400	0.5%
....General Merchandise Retailers	61,600	61,400	61,900	200	0.3%	-300	-0.5%
.....Department Stores	19,400	19,300	19,400	100	0.5%	0	0.0%
.....Warehouse Clubs, Supercenters, and Other General Merchandise Retailers	42,200	42,100	42,500	100	0.2%	-300	-0.7%
....Health and Personal Care Retailers	20,800	20,900	21,200	-100	-0.5%	-400	-1.9%
....Clothing, Clothing Accessories, Shoe, and Jewelry Retailers	26,200	26,100	26,600	100	0.4%	-400	-1.5%
...Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	189,800	191,300	188,900	-1,500	-0.8%	900	0.5%
....Utilities	23,200	23,300	22,000	-100	-0.4%	1,200	5.5%
.....Air Transportation	22,600	22,700	22,300	-100	-0.4%	300	1.3%
.....Truck Transportation	30,000	30,100	30,200	-100	-0.3%	-200	-0.7%
.....Pipeline Transportation	14,300	14,200	13,700	100	0.7%	600	4.4%
..Information	32,600	32,800	33,400	-200	-0.6%	-800	-2.4%
....Telecommunications	11,300	11,400	11,600	-100	-0.9%	-300	-2.6%
..Financial Activities	191,500	190,100	187,100	1,400	0.7%	4,400	2.4%
...Finance and Insurance	122,300	121,500	119,900	800	0.7%	2,400	2.0%
....Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including Monetary Authorities - Central Bank	48,700	48,500	47,800	200	0.4%	900	1.9%
.....Depository Credit Intermediation including Monetary Authorities - Central Bank	31,300	31,200	30,800	100	0.3%	500	1.6%
....Financial Investments and Related Activities including Financial Vehicles	25,100	24,900	25,000	200	0.8%	100	0.4%
....Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	48,500	48,100	47,100	400	0.8%	1,400	3.0%
...Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	69,200	68,600	67,200	600	0.9%	2,000	3.0%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT				Month Change		Year Change	
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA	JUL 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2023	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
..Professional and Business Services	560,800	564,100	557,000	-3,300	-0.6%	3,800	0.7%
...Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	283,100	281,500	276,500	1,600	0.6%	6,600	2.4%
.....Legal Services	32,800	32,800	32,400	0	0.0%	400	1.2%
.....Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, and Payroll Services	29,000	28,900	29,100	100	0.3%	-100	-0.3%
.....Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	78,600	77,200	74,300	1,400	1.8%	4,300	5.8%
.....Computer Systems Design and Related Services	41,000	41,000	42,500	0	0.0%	-1,500	-3.5%
...Management of Companies and Enterprises	47,100	47,400	46,900	-300	-0.6%	200	0.4%
...Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	230,600	235,200	233,600	-4,600	-2.0%	-3,000	-1.3%
.....Administrative and Support Services	217,400	222,000	221,000	-4,600	-2.1%	-3,600	-1.6%
.....Employment Services	78,500	80,600	79,800	-2,100	-2.6%	-1,300	-1.6%
.....Services to Buildings and Dwellings	55,900	56,900	57,400	-1,000	-1.8%	-1,500	-2.6%
..Private Education and Health Services	462,900	467,500	445,200	-4,600	-1.0%	17,700	4.0%
...Private Educational Services	69,800	73,800	67,700	-4,000	-5.4%	2,100	3.1%
...Health Care and Social Assistance	393,100	393,700	377,500	-600	-0.2%	15,600	4.1%
.....Ambulatory Health Care Services	197,800	199,000	191,100	-1,200	-0.6%	6,700	3.5%
.....Hospitals	99,200	98,600	93,600	600	0.6%	5,600	6.0%
..Leisure and Hospitality	365,900	368,900	363,300	-3,000	-0.8%	2,600	0.7%
...Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	42,300	42,300	42,200	0	0.0%	100	0.2%
...Accommodation and Food Services	323,600	326,600	321,100	-3,000	-0.9%	2,500	0.8%
.....Accommodation	27,100	27,600	27,600	-500	-1.8%	-500	-1.8%
.....Food Services and Drinking Places	296,500	299,000	293,500	-2,500	-0.8%	3,000	1.0%
..Other Services	134,300	136,000	126,900	-1,700	-1.3%	7,400	5.8%
..Government	439,400	457,300	419,700	-17,900	-3.9%	19,700	4.7%
...Federal Government	34,600	34,200	33,300	400	1.2%	1,300	3.9%
...State Government	96,400	97,000	93,300	-600	-0.6%	3,100	3.3%
.....State Government Educational Services	51,700	52,700	50,700	-1,000	-1.9%	1,000	2.0%
...Local Government	308,400	326,100	293,100	-17,700	-5.4%	15,300	5.2%
.....Local Government Educational Services	207,600	224,400	196,200	-16,800	-7.5%	11,400	5.8%
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE							
	JUL 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2023				
H-W-S MSA	4.8	4.8	4.5				
Texas (Actual)	4.4	4.5	4.2				
U.S.	4.5	4.3	3.8				

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.