

Where the JOBS are

HOUSTON-GULF COAST REGION* | OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2009

The Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown Metropolitan Statistical Area's over-the-year job growth was -3.0 percent in September, declining by 76,700 jobs since September 2008. Last year at this time, the area added 34,100 jobs, or 1.3 percent over the previous year. If it wasn't for Hurricane Ike, last September's job count would have been bigger and the over-the-year job loss would have been greater this year. Educational and health services and leisure and hospitality were the two major industry groups adding the most positions, up 7,100 and 4,300 jobs respectively from September 2008. Construction was down 19,400 jobs from this time last year. .



Health services grew by 5,900 jobs, with **hospitals** being up 100 jobs.



Local government educational services was down -2,800 jobs.



Machinery manufacturing jobs were down 100 over the year for September.



Support activities for mining decreased by 9.7 percent, down 4,200 jobs since September 2008.



Retail trade was down 6,400 jobs from September 2008.



Manufacturing was down 16,200 jobs from September 2008.



Within the **construction** industry, **heavy and civil engineering construction** was down 900 jobs, 1.9 percent.



Architectural, engineering, and related services was down 5,200 jobs over the year, -7.8 percent.



Construction of buildings was down 4,800 jobs over the year.

The 13-county region's unemployment rate was 8.5 percent, up from the September 2008 rate of 5.1 percent.

For more detailed job growth information, see the monthly reports located at wrksolutions.com (click on Labor Market Information).



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* The Houston- Sugar Land- Baytown Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the only geographic area with monthly job count data in the Gulf Coast Region. The MSA has ten counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, San Jacinto and Waller.

NEXT UPDATE: WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23