

MARCH 2021

Current Employment Overview



On March 26, 2021 the Texas Workforce Commission released employment statistics for **February 2021**. Our detailed regional report for researchers and analysts is at <http://www.wrksolutions.com/LocalStats>. Below are highlights.

8.0%

MARCH Regional Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

- Represents 271,412 people looking for a **new job**
- **DOWN** from a recent peak of 14.3% in April 2020
- **DOWN** from 8.4% last month
- **UP** from 5.5% from last year as the pandemic closures started
- **HIGHER** than the statewide rate of 7.2%
- **HIGHER** than the national rate of 6.2%

- **Monthly Change: Employers in the Houston-Galveston region ADDED 34,200 jobs in March 2021**

Job growth came from the following sectors:

- Leisure and Hospitality +12,000
- Professional and Business Services +9,400
- Construction +6,500

- **Year-over-Year Change: Total Nonfarm employment was DOWN 5.5%**

This represents a decrease of 175,000 jobs from March 2020 to March 2021

- **COVID-19**

Houston's job market showed considerable strength in March most likely due to the full reopening of the economy towards the middle of the month and continued vaccination momentum. The region has now recovered half of the initial pandemic job losses.

The Texas Workforce Commission will release March 2021 employment figures on May 21, 2021.

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Additional labor market data is available at <http://www.wrksolutions.com/for-employers/understand-the-local-labor-market>

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