



Texas Jobs Snapshot: May 2012



What we need are good jobs that pay us a living wage, provide health benefits, and allow us to build assets.

And what businesses really need are customers. They hire when we are buying more. Our policies should encourage growth in good jobs that provide ALL of us the opportunity to be productive Texans.

— Don Baylor
Senior Policy Analyst

Jobs Shortfall

- Texas must add 41,000 jobs per month for the next three years to return to our pre-recession unemployment rate. In May the state added 12,500 net new jobs, much lower than the number needed to bring the economy to a full recovery.
 - The public sector lost 2,800 jobs. Job-killing budget cuts have led to a net total loss of 53,800 jobs over the past 12 months.
 - The private sector added 15,300 jobs, bringing total job gains to 237,100 over the last 12 months.
- Since December 2007, the Texas working-age population has grown by 9.6%, the highest rate in the country.

Unemployment

- The Texas unemployment rate remained at 6.9% from April to May 2012 (unemployment rate is seasonally adjusted).
- The average Texas unemployment rate in 2011 was 7.8%.
- Nearly 25,000 long-term unemployed Texans were cut off of federal unemployment insurance extended benefits as the program began phasing out in May 2012.
- The share of Texas workers experiencing long-term unemployment (more than six months) more than doubled from 15.8% in 2007 to 35.8% in 2011.
- During the last half of 2011, 62% of Texans (393,000) receiving unemployment insurance, were unemployed for more than six months.

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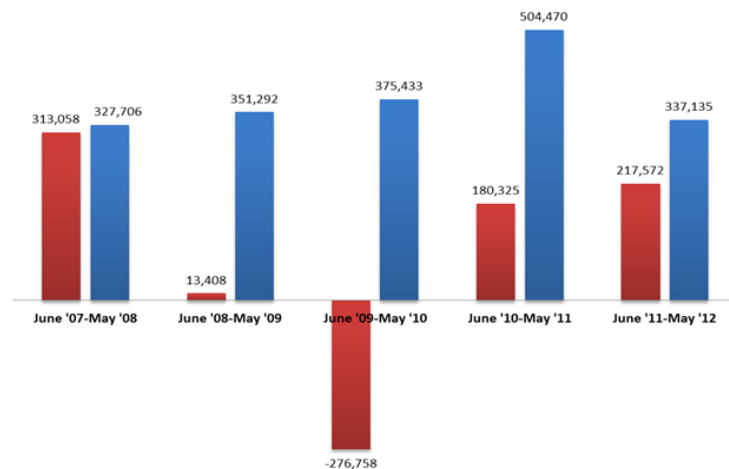


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Texas' Sluggish Job Growth Can't Catch Up with Booming Population

The Texas Jobs Shortfall:
Current Jobs Shortfall: 773,900
Texas must add 492,000 jobs each year over the next three years to return to pre-recession employment levels

■ 12-Month Average Change in Nonfarm Employment
■ 12-Month Average Population Growth (Population = Civilian, noninstitutional, 16+ years)



Note: The average for each statistic is calculated on a 12-month period from June to May of the next year
Source: Center for Public Policy Priorities and Economic Policy Institute Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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