



Texas Jobs Snapshot: August 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 Update

- Since December 2007, the Texas working-age population has grown by 10.1%, the highest rate in the country.
- Texas must add 41,000 jobs per month for next three years to return to pre-recession unemployment rate (4.4%). In August Texas added 38,000 net new jobs, fewer than the number needed for a full recovery.
 - o In August, the Texas private sector added 35,800 jobs; job gains in the sector total 279,800 in last 12 months.
 - o In August, the Texas public sector gained 2,200 jobs. Job-killing state budget cuts led to a net total loss of 20,300 public sector jobs in the last 12 months.
 - o State and local govt. jobs peaked at 1,653,100 in June 2010. State budget cuts have since caused the loss of 54,000 jobs, which, along with population growth, have resulted in a 220,900 state and local jobs deficit.

Unemployment

- The Texas unemployment rate remained constant at 7.1% in August 2012 (unemployment rate is seasonally adjusted).
- The average Texas unemployment rate in 2011 was 7.8%.
- Nearly 25,000 long-term unemployed Texans have had their federally funded extended benefits expire since the program began phasing out in June 2012.
- The share of Texas workers experiencing long-term unemployment (longer than six months) more than doubled from 15.8% in 2007 to 35.8% in 2011.
- During the second quarter of 2012, well over half (58%) of Texans (243,321) receiving unemployment insurance were unemployed for more than 6 months.

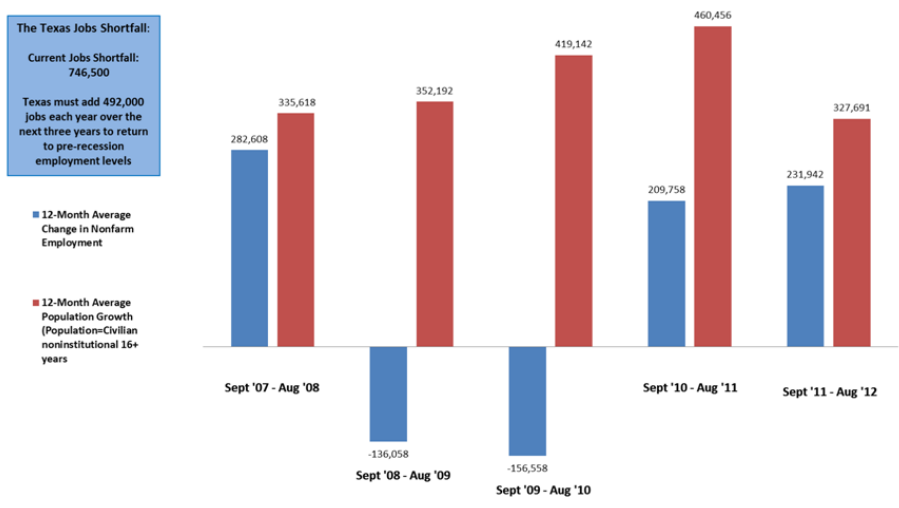
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Texas' Job Growth Can't Catch Up with Booming Population



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

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