

# Texas WDA Newsletters



## December 2005

## Labor Force Estimates

\* Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

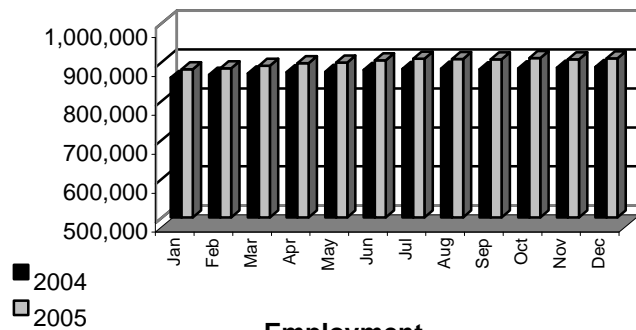
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Alamo WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
<b>Dec-05</b>	948,889	908,367	40,522	4.3	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov</b>	950,399	906,328	44,071	4.6	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	935,124	886,230	48,894	5.2	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

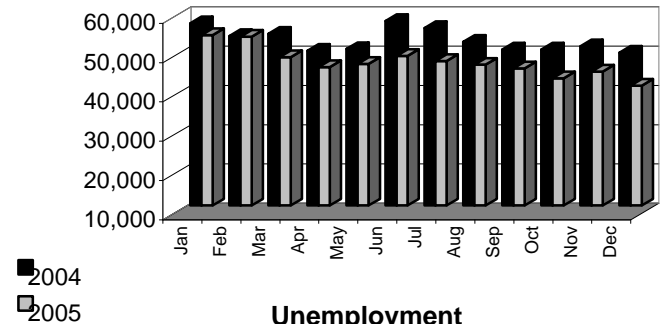
## Alamo WDA

The Alamo WDA's labor force decreased in the month of December by 1,510. The unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.3 percent. A year ago, the Alamo WDA's unemployment rate stood at 5.2 percent, six-tenths of a percentage point below the state rate of 5.8 percent. The number of employed residents rose by 2,039 over the month, and the number of unemployed fell by 3,549. The counties driving the decrease in the unemployment rate are Bexar and Kerr, combining for the majority of employment gain in the WDA. The number of unemployed normally declines during the month of December, while employment normally rises. Claims for unemployment benefits in the WDA dropped by 907 over the month.

## Alamo WDA

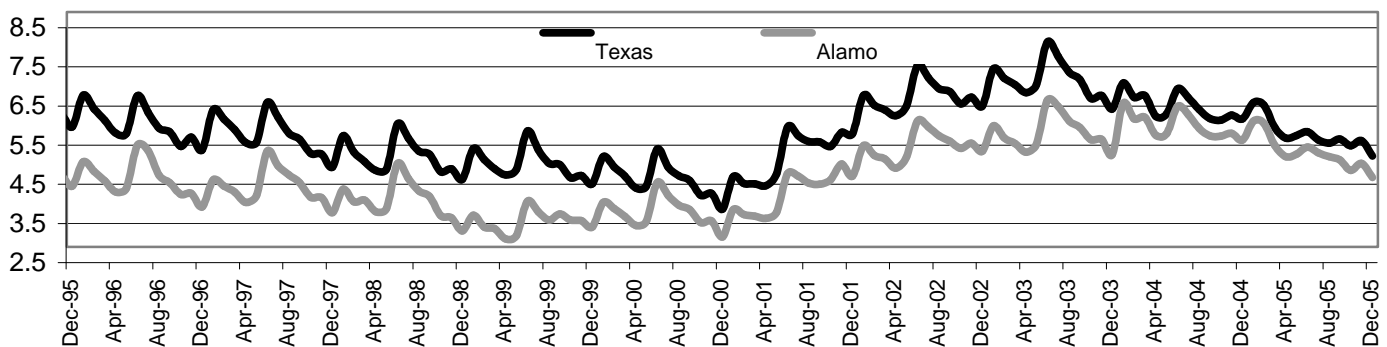


Employment

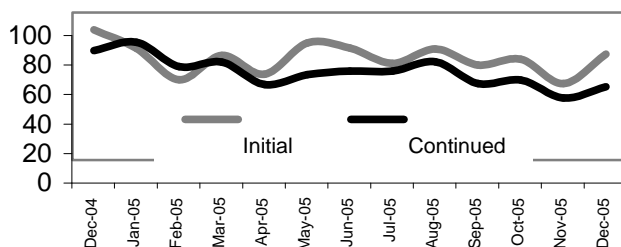


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	4,894	3,537	6,028	-1,134
Continued	28,171	23,814	41,969	-13,798

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

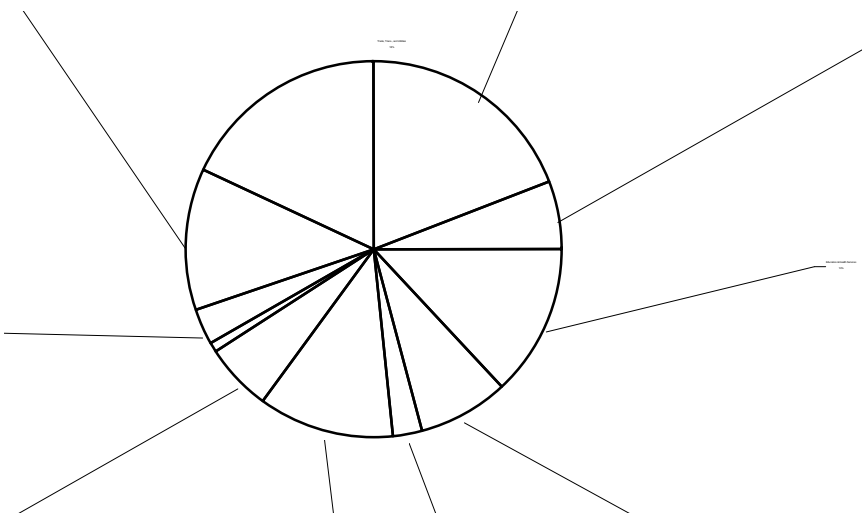
Continued	6,430	7,337	7,647	-1,217
-----------	-------	-------	-------	--------

## Occupational Information

Alamo WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the  
Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	1,450	Customer Service Representatives	670
Cashiers	1,395	Office Clerks, General	595
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	1,385	Child Care Workers	580
Waiters & Waitresses	1,150	Elementary School Teachers	540
Registered Nurses	675	Janitors & Cleaners	530

## Industrial Employment

Alamo WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA  
2nd Quarter 2005

ADMINISTAFF COMPANIES II LP  
 BILL MILLER BAR-B-Q ENTERPRISES LTD  
 CARDELL CABINETRY  
 CAREMARK INC  
 CHRISTUS SANTA ROSA HEALTH CARE CORP  
 CITICORP DATA SYSTEMS INC  
 COLUMBIA HCA HEALTHCARE CORP  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
 HOME DEPOT USA INC  
 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA  
 SEA WORLD OF TEXAS INC  
 SOUTHWEST RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
 SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE LP  
 USAA INSURANCE  
 USAA FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK  
 VALERO SERVICES INC  
 VHS ACQUISITION SUBSIDIARY NUMBER 5  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 WEST TELEMARKETING LP  
 WORLD MORTGAGE COMPANY

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

	2nd Quarter 2005	Change	
<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	5,897	544	-329
<i>Construction</i>	44,646	2,805	4,696
<i>Manufacturing</i>	47,954	144	-609
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	148,458	3,475	655
<i>Information</i>	22,236	-114	-1,861
<i>Financial Activities</i>	62,079	2,508	238
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	89,762	4,827	10,057
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	101,830	837	2,786
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	88,085	7,307	3,226
<i>Other Services</i>	23,862	745	-265
<i>Federal Government</i>	29,283	368	176
<i>State Government</i>	16,987	416	-778
<i>Local Government</i>	102,720	-1,222	-4,827
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	885	-56	405
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>784,684</b>	<b>22,584</b>	<b>13,570</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Alamo</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd Quarter 2005</b>	\$637.82	(\$58.86)	\$737.50	(\$2.40)
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$696.68	\$41.16	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$655.52		\$710.73	

December 2005

## Brazos Valley Workforce Development Area

### Labor Force Estimates

\*2005 Data for the WDA is not comparable to previous years.

#### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

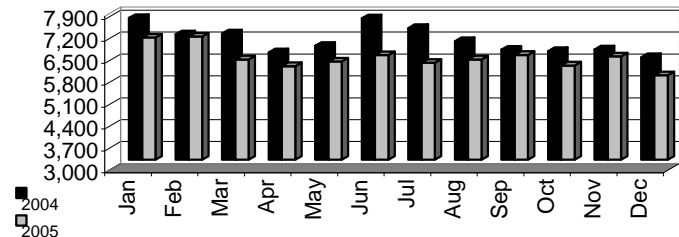
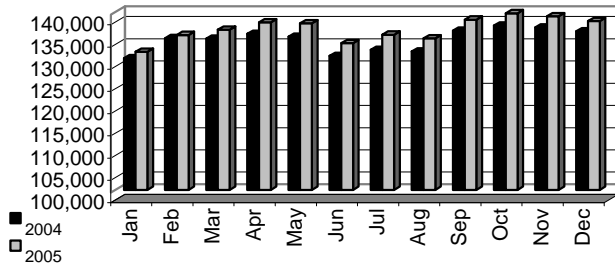
	Brazos Valley WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
December 2005	143,710	138,009	5,701	4.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
November 2005	145,413	139,111	6,302	4.3	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*December 2004	141,963	135,683	6,280	4.4	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

#### Brazos Valley WDA

Employment in the Brazos Valley WDA decreased eight-tenths of a percentage point in December 2005. Of the seven counties, Brazos County had the largest over-the-month decrease in employment with a reduction of 655 workers, followed by Grimes County with a reduction of 169 workers.

Unemployment in the Brazos Valley WDA decreased by 9.5 percent. Brazos Valley WDA's unemployment rate decreased by three-tenths of a percentage point over the month. Brazos County had the lowest unemployment rate in this WDA at 3.6 percent. Grimes County had the highest unemployment rate at 5.6 percent. Continued claims increased by 16.3 percent.

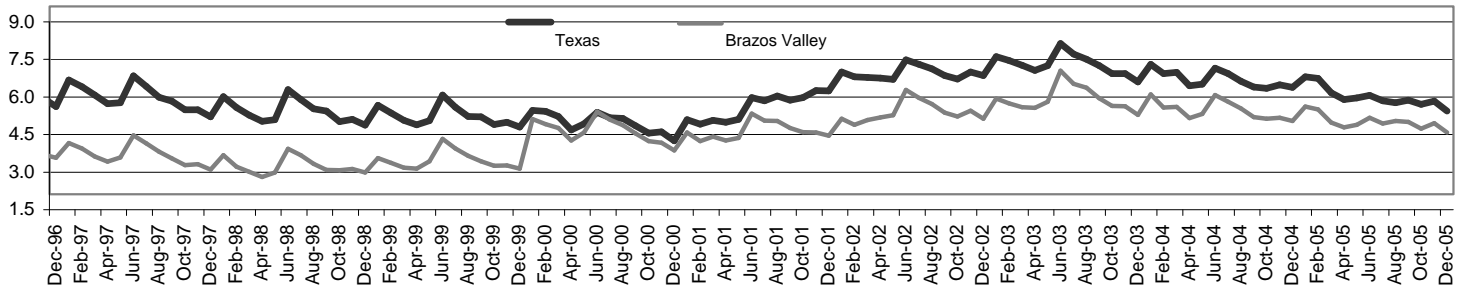
#### Brazos Valley WDA



Employment

Unemployment

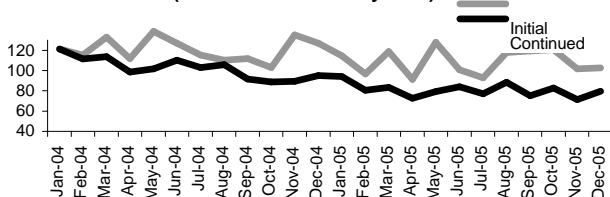
#### Historical Unemployment Rates



### Unemployment Claims Data

#### Indexed Growth Rates for Claims

(Base Period = January 2004)



#### Total Claims

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Initial	486	481	630	-144
Continued	3,310	2,846	4,187	-877

#### Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Continued	879	1,017	748	131

# Brazos Valley Workforce Development Area

December 2005

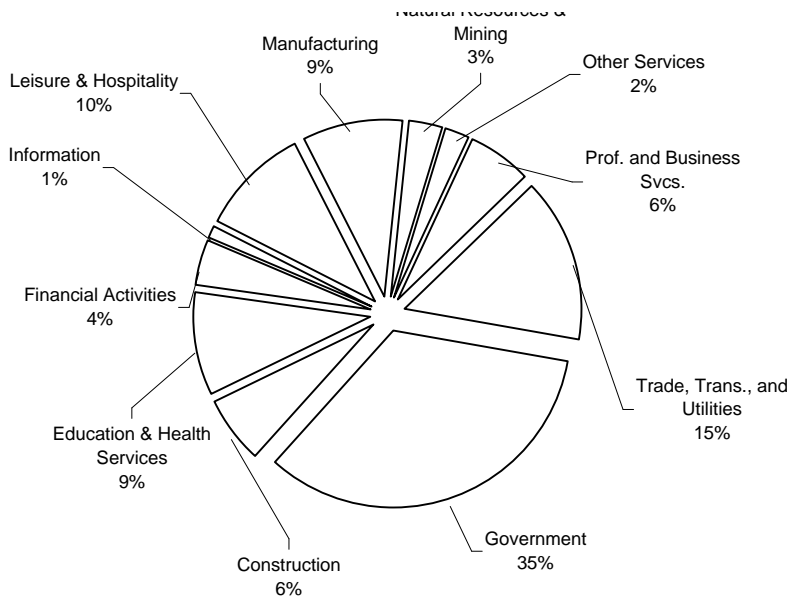
## Occupational Information

### Brazos Valley WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

Occupation	Job Openings	Occupation	Job Openings
Cashiers	205	Office Clerks, General	110
Retail Salespersons	180	Farmers & Ranchers	100
Fast Food Preparation & Serving Workers	180	Graduate Teaching Assistants	95
Waiters & Waitresses	135	Registered Nurses	90
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	110	Janitors & Cleaners	85

## Industrial Employment

### Brazos Valley WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Employers in the WDA 2nd Quarter 2005

BLUE BELL CREAMERIES INC  
 BRAZOS VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION  
 BROOKSHIRE BROTHERS LTD  
 CITIBANK TEXAS LLC  
 COLLEGE STATION MEDICAL CENTER LLC  
 FIRST AMERICAN BANK TEXAS SSB  
 FREEBIRDS SERVICES CO LLC  
 GRANT PRIDECO LP  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
 MCDONALDS RESTAURANTS OF TEXAS  
 MONTEREY MUSHROOMS INC  
 NEW ALENCO WINDOW LTD  
 NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION  
 SANDERSON FARMS INC - PROCESSING  
 SCOTT & WHITE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
 ST JOSEPH HOSPITAL  
 TEXAS HOME HEALTH OF AMERICA INC  
 TEXAS WESTMORELAND COAL COMPANY  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 YOUNG CONTRACTORS INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA 2nd QTR 2005

SUPER SECTOR	Total	Quarter	Year	
Natural Resources & Mining	3,688	4	418	
Construction	7,161	530	290	
Manufacturing	10,666	217	385	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	17,653	434	-46	
Information	1,314	-5	35	
Financial Activities	5,005	142	-404	
Professional and Business Svcs.	6,545	496	562	
Education & Health Services	10,985	152	112	
Leisure & Hospitality	11,593	681	139	
Other Services	2,675	158	-131	
Federal Government	1,251	-54	-147	
State Government	24,667	43	1	
Local Government	13,536	39	231	
Nonclassified & Confidential	102	-50	79	
TOTAL	116,841	2,787	1,524	
Average Weekly Wage	Brazos Valley	Change	Texas	Change
2nd QTR 2005	\$559.49	\$19.73	\$737.50	-\$2.40
2004 Average	\$539.76	-\$8.15	\$739.90	\$29.17
2003 Average	\$547.91		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

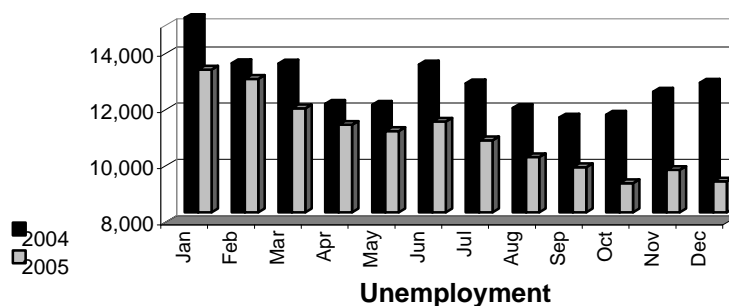
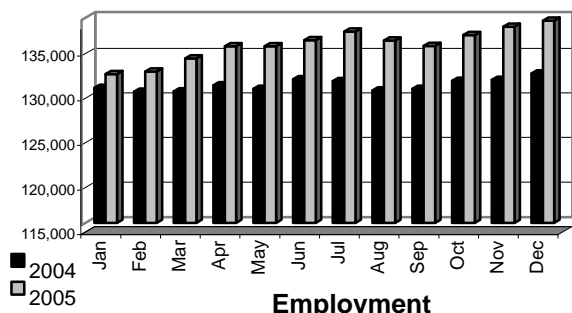
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	Cameron County WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Unempl
<b>Dec-05</b>	146,748	137,645	9,103	6.2	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov-05</b>	146,481	136,967	9,514	6.5	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	144,341	131,724	12,617	8.7	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

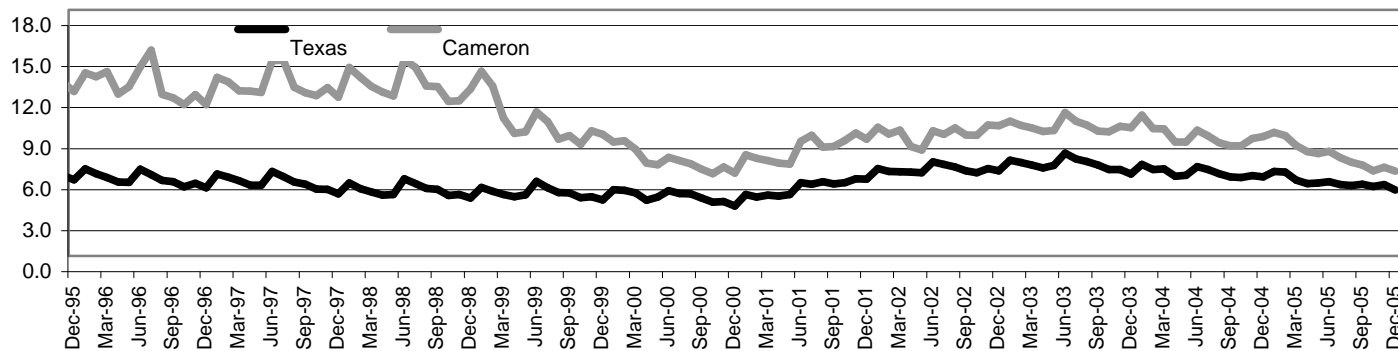
## Cameron County WDA

The civilian labor force in the Cameron County WDA increased slightly in December to 146,748 people. Cameron County's labor force is comprised of 137,645 workers and 9,103 job seekers. The unemployment rate decreased three-tenths of a percentage point in the WDA over the month. Since January 2005, the rate has dropped 2.8 percent and tied with October's rate of 6.2 as the lowest for this year. The unemployment rate stood at 8.7 percent a year ago. Employment in the WDA slightly increased by 678 workers over the month, or 0.5 percent while the number of unemployed decreased by 411, or 4.3 percent. The number of continued claims for the week of the twelfth decreased over the month, posting at 1,795. Since January 2005, the number of continued claims has dropped by 5,089.

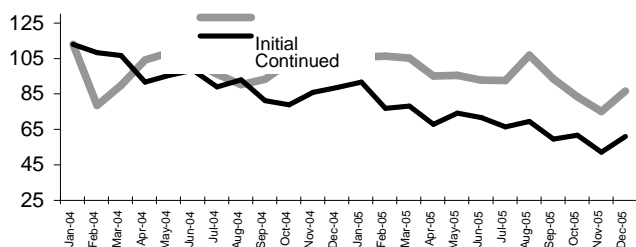
## Cameron County WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

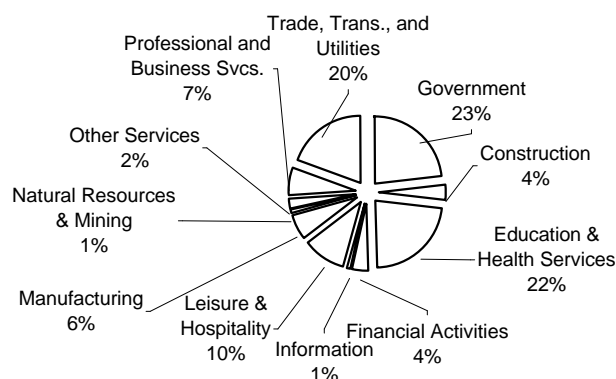
	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
<b>Initial</b>	1,079	913	1,465	-386
<b>Continued</b>	8,021	6,539	12,606	-4,585
<b>Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th</b>				
<b>Continued</b>	1,795	1,839	2,817	-1,022

## Occupational Information

Cameron County WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the  
Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Personal & Home Care Aides	390	Waiters & Waitresses	135
Retail Salespersons	240	Registered Nurses	130
Cashiers	220	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	120
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	170	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	100
Home Health Aides	160	Office Clerks, General	80

## Industrial Employment

Cameron County WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers for the WDA  
2nd Quarter 2005

ABUNDANT LIFE HOME HEALTH INC  
 APC HOME HEALTH SERVICE INC  
 BEE FIRST PRIMARY HOME CARE  
 BROWNSVILLE VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL  
 CARING FOR YOU HOME HEALTH INC  
 CONVERGYS CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT GROUP  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY  
 KEPPEL AMFELS INC  
 MANPOWER OF TEXAS LP  
 NEIGHBORS IN NEED OF SERVICES INC  
 SUNGLO FELLOWSHIP CENTERS INC  
 TEXAS VISITING NURSE SERVICE LTD  
 TRICO TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION  
 UNIQUE HOME HEALTH  
 UNITED HEALTHCARE SERVICES  
 VALLEY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER  
 VICKI ROY HOME HEALTH SERVICES INC  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 WHATABURGER INC  
 ZACHARY CONSTRUCTION CORP

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

SUPER SECTOR	2nd QTR 2005		Change	
	Total	Quarter	Year	
Natural Resources & Mining	1,019	38	-36	
Construction	4,341	69	-408	
Manufacturing	7,231	174	-513	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	22,679	-255	25	
Information	1,245	16	-152	
Financial Activities	4,437	60	46	
Professional and Business Svcs.	7,638	181	289	
Education & Health Services	26,081	685	680	
Leisure & Hospitality	11,665	573	-446	
Other Services	2,871	30	-345	
Federal Government	2,337	-44	-71	
State Government	4,072	382	390	
Local Government	20,535	-41	365	
Nonclassified & Confidential	265	88	178	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>116,416</b>	<b>1,956</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Cameron</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$463.48	-\$36.78	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$500.26	\$20.59	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$479.67		\$710.73	

Dec-05

## Capital Area WDA

## Labor Force Estimates

\* Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

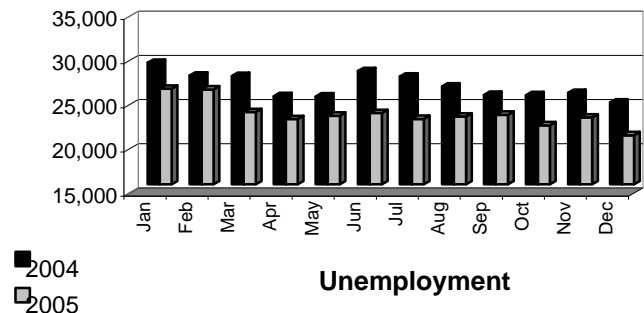
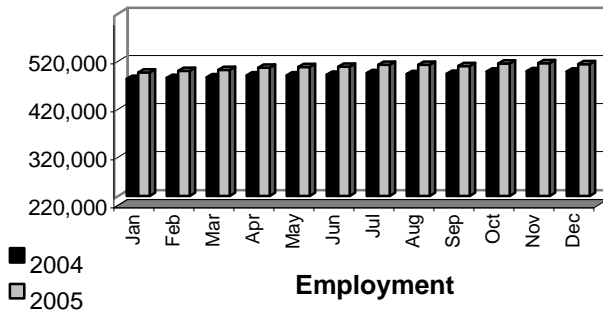
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Capital Area WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
Dec-05	515,474	494,911	20,563	4.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
Nov	519,192	496,625	22,567	4.3	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*Dec-04	503,553	479,278	24,275	4.8	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

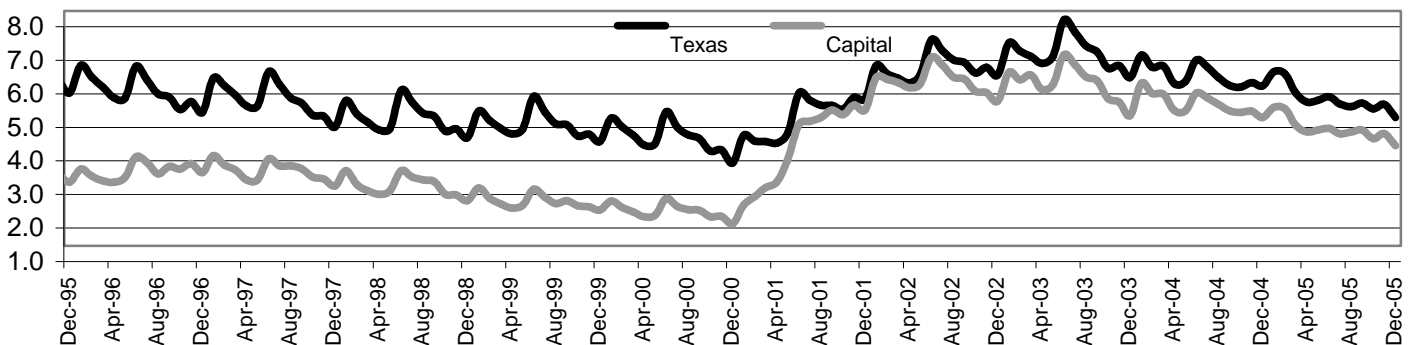
## Capital Area WDA

Capital Area's labor force decreased in December by 3,718. The unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.0 percent. The unemployment rate stood at 4.8 percent a year ago compared to the state rate of 5.8 percent. Over the month, the number of employed Capital Area workers declined by 1,714 and the number of unemployed also decreased by 2,004. Total initial claims for unemployment benefits in the WDA increased over the month to 2,248. The total number of continued claimants for December in Travis County totaled 16,958, a increase of 2,020 over the month. For more information, contact Bruce Davis at (512) 223-7974, bruce.davis@twc.state.tx.us.

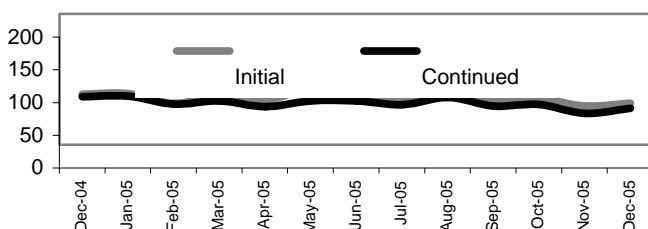
## Capital Area WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	2,248	2,091	2,733	-485
Continued	16,958	14,592	22,332	-5,374

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

Continued	3,936	4,471	3,972	-36
-----------	-------	-------	-------	-----



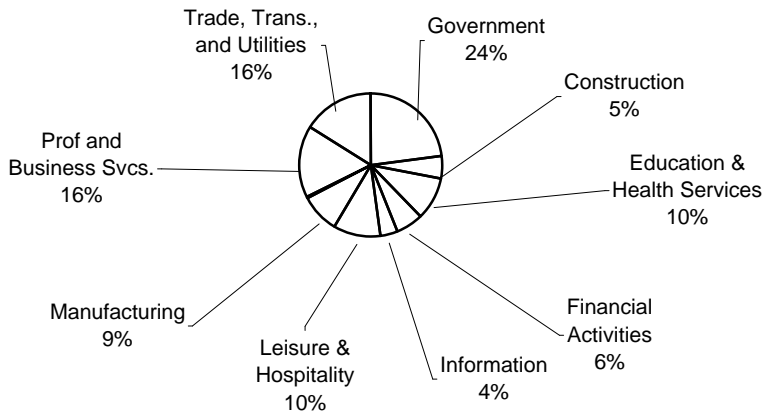
## Occupational Information

### Capital Area WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	850	Customer Service Representatives	370
Retail Salespersons	840	General & Operations Managers	350
Waiters & Waitresses	835	Janitors & Cleaners	345
Cashiers	720	Child Care Workers	345
Office Clerks, General	530	Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	340

## Industrial Employment

### Capital Area WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA 2nd Quarter 2005

ADMINISTAFF COMPANIES II LP  
 ADVANCED MICRO DEVICES INC  
 AEROTEK INC MANAGEMENT INC  
 APPLE COMPUTER INC  
 APPLIED MATERIALS INC  
 DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY HEALTH SERVICES OF AUSTIN  
 DELL PRODUCTS LP  
 DELL USA LP  
 FREESCALE SEMICONDUCTOR INC  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
 HOME DEPOT USA INC  
 HOSPIRA INC  
 I B M CORPORATION MACHINE CORP  
 INSTAFF PERSONNEL LLC  
 NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS CORPORATION  
 ROUND ROCK HOSPITAL INC  
 SOLECTRON TEXAS LP  
 SPHERION ATLANTIC WORKFORCE LLC  
 TARGET STORES DIVISION  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	1,153	49	571
<i>Construction</i>	26,246	758	255
<i>Manufacturing</i>	45,627	94	-1,176
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	83,168	1,552	3,415
<i>Information</i>	18,786	135	707
<i>Financial Activities</i>	33,402	550	-1,226
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	79,731	1,853	5,298
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	51,525	986	1,191
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	52,077	2,507	1,243
<i>Other Services</i>	17,573	331	422
<i>Federal Government</i>	8,622	146	-231
<i>State Government</i>	60,172	1,217	3,102
<i>Local Government</i>	45,062	1,417	121
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	1,232	84	168
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>524,376</b>	<b>11,679</b>	<b>13,860</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd Quarter 2005</b>	\$840.77	(\$83.85)	\$737.50	(\$2.40)
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$924.62	\$61.56	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$863.06		\$710.73	

Dec-05

## Central Texas WDA

## Labor Force Estimates

\* Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

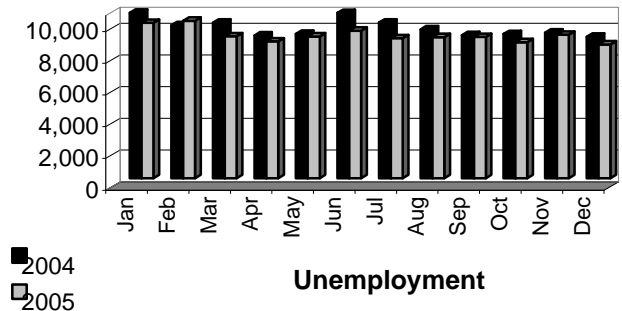
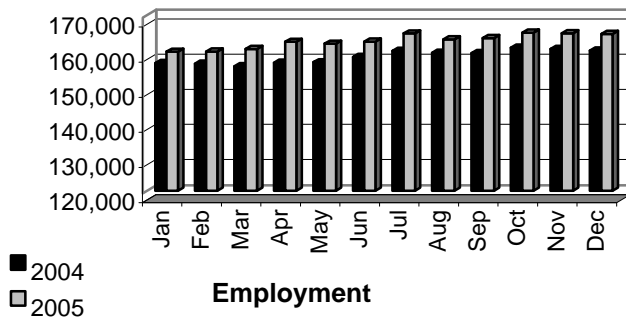
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Central Texas WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
<b>Dec-05</b>	173,169	164,735	8,434	4.9	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov</b>	173,961	164,909	9,052	5.2	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	168,867	159,947	8,920	5.3	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

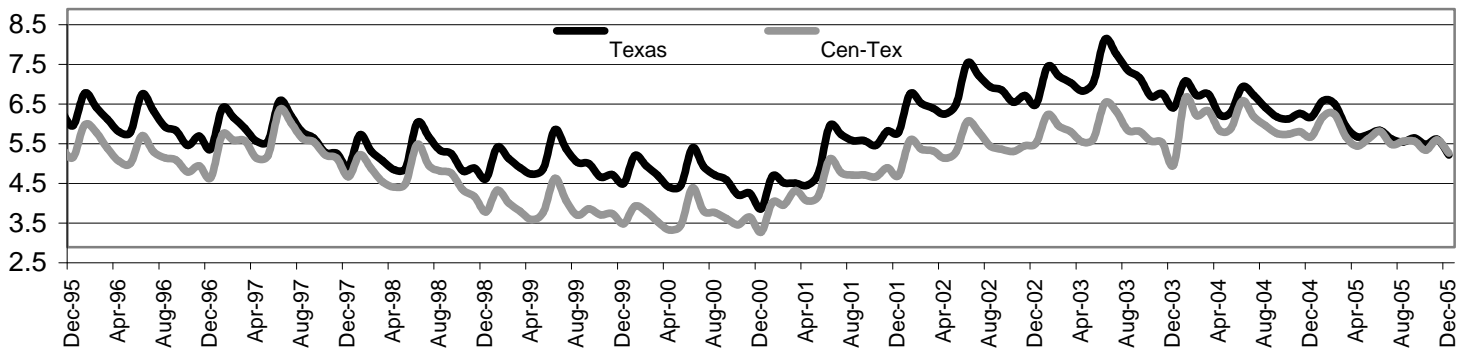
## Central Texas WDA

Central Texas WDA's labor force decreased by 792. The unemployment rate dropped by three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.9 percent in December. The unemployment rate has lingered at or below 5.2 percent since July 2005. The area's unemployment rate stood at 5.3 percent a year ago, five-tenths of a percentage point below the state rate of 5.8 percent. The number of employed workers decreased by 174, with a decrease of 618 in job-seeking residents. The counties driving the unemployment rate decrease are Bell and Coryell, combining for the majority of the unemployment decline. Unemployment historically decreases during the month of December in Central Texas WDA whereas the number employed is variable. Claims for unemployment benefits in the WDA declined over the month by 100.

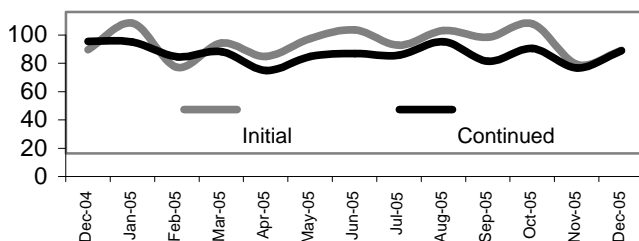
## Central Texas WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY Change
<b>Initial</b>	926	798	932	-6
<b>Continued</b>	7,251	6,037	7,910	-659

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

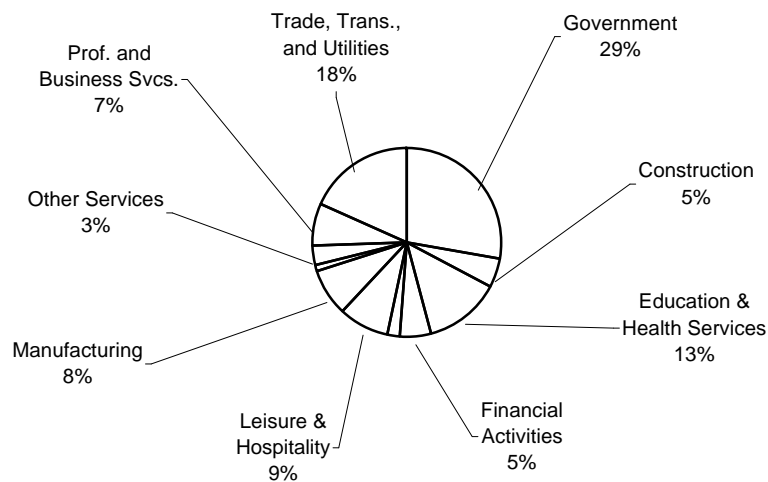
<b>Continued</b>	1,485	1,585	1,202	283
------------------	-------	-------	-------	-----

## Occupational Information

Central Texas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the  
Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	250	Secondary School Teachers	145
Retail Salespersons	235	Waiters & Waitresses	125
Cashiers	220	Teacher Assistants	125
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	185	Janitors & Cleaners	110
Registered Nurses	170	Child Care Workers	105

## Industrial Employment

Central Texas WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA  
2nd Quarter 2005

ALCOA INC

CONVERGYS CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT GROUP

DYNACORP INTERNATIONAL LLC

FIRST NATIONAL BANK TEXAS

GIRLING HEALTH CARE INC

HALJOHN LTD

HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP

HEIGHTS HOME HEALTH

KINGS DAUGHTERS HOSPITAL

MANTECH ADVANCED SYSTEMS INC

MCLANE COMPANY INC

NEXTEL OF TEXAS INC

PACTIV CORPORATION

PERFORMANCE FOOD GROUP OF TEXAS LP

SALLIE MAE INC

SCOTT & WHITE CLINIC

SCOTT & WHITE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

TEXAS HYDRAULICS INC

WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC

WILSONART INTERNATIONAL INC

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

	2nd Quarter 2005	Change	
SUPER SECTOR	Total	Quarter	Year
Natural Resources & Mining	1,301	0	-53
Construction	6,223	335	309
Manufacturing	10,078	106	297
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	22,917	1,011	1,001
Information	1,792	54	842
Financial Activities	6,501	140	485
Professional and Business Svcs.	9,761	27	353
Education & Health Services	16,519	-109	-111
Leisure & Hospitality	10,842	647	201
Other Services	3,677	204	711
Federal Government	7,305	177	780
State Government	4,344	37	10
Local Government	22,640	-248	-170
Nonclassified & Confidential	206	-5	80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>124,106</b>	<b>2,376</b>	<b>4,735</b>

Average Weekly Wage	Cen-Tex	Change	Texas	Change
2nd Quarter 2005	\$564.76	(\$20.76)	\$737.50	(\$2.40)
2004 Average	\$585.52	\$32.05	\$739.90	\$29.17
2003 Average	\$553.47		\$710.73	

Dec-05

## Coastal Bend WDA

## Labor Force Estimates

\* Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

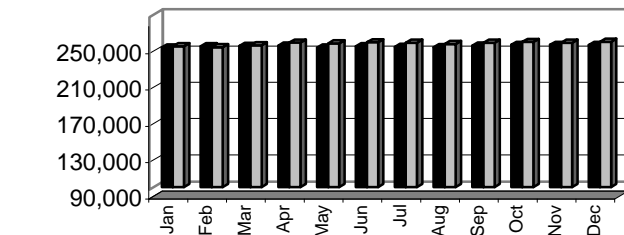
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Coastal Bend WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
<b>Dec-05</b>	263,300	250,198	13,102	5.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov</b>	263,118	249,188	13,930	5.3	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	263,732	246,772	16,960	6.4	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

## Coastal Bend WDA

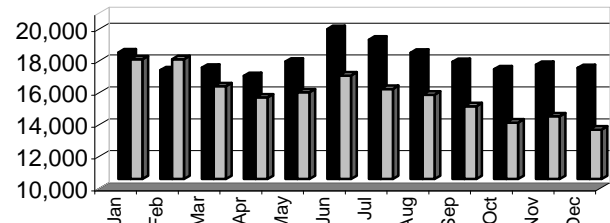
The Coastal Bend WDA's labor force increased by 182 in December. The unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point to 5.0 percent. This rate has remained below 6.0 percent since June 2005. Coastal Bend WDA's rate stood at 6.4 percent in December of last year, while the state was at 5.8 percent. Coastal Bend's employment increased by 1,010 while the number of unemployed decreased by 828. The counties driving the rate in the WDA are Nueces and San Patricio, accounting for the majority of the employment gains. Claims for unemployment benefits are down by 82 over the month. For more information, contact Rick Zamarripa, Planner/Labor Market Specialist at Work-Force1, 4444 Corona Drive, and Ste. 215 Corpus Christi, TX 78411 361/225-1098 ext. 108.

## Coastal Bend WDA



■ 2004  
■ 2005

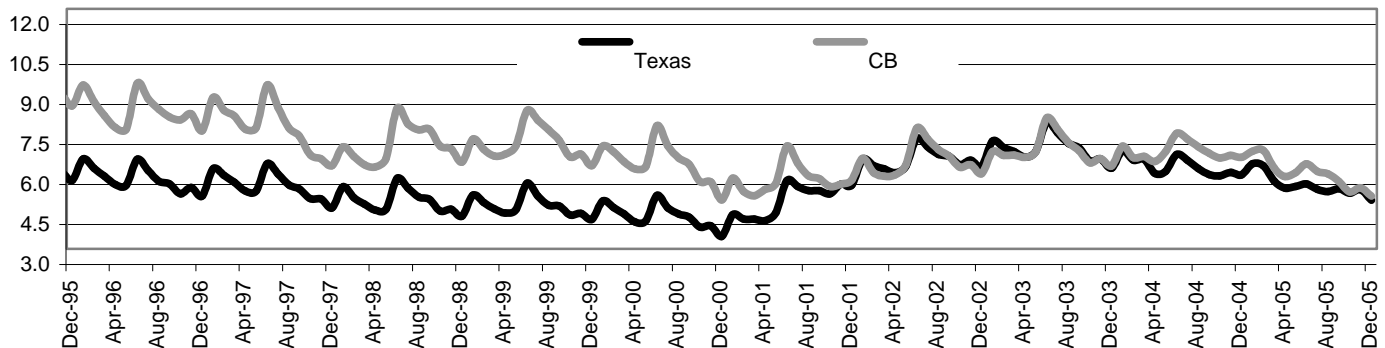
Employment



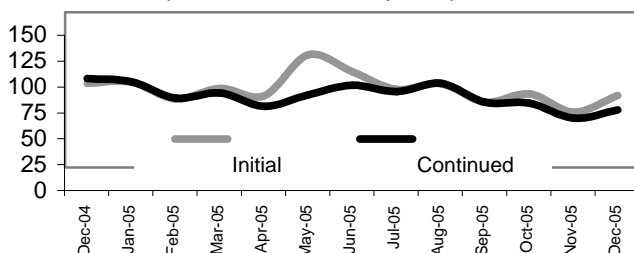
■ 2004  
■ 2005

Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	1,505	1,161	1,764	-259
Continued	9,874	8,426	15,199	-5,325

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

Continued	1,989	2,071	2,805	-816
-----------	-------	-------	-------	------

## Occupational Information

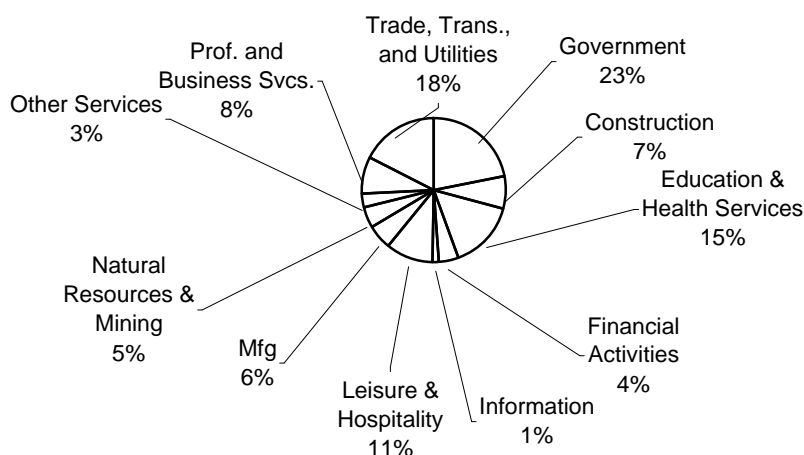
## Coastal Bend WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	375	Registered Nurses	245
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	360	Office Clerks, General	160
Retail Salespersons	330	Child Care Workers	150
Personal & Home Care Aides	305	Elementary School Teachers	140
Waiters & Waitresses	260	General & Operations Managers	130

## Industrial Employment

## Coastal Bend WDA Industry Composition

2nd Quarter 2005



## Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA

2nd Quarter 2005

APAC TELESERVICES  
 BAY AREA HEALTHCARE GROUP LTD  
 BERRY CONTRACTING LP  
 CHRISTUS SPOHN HEALTH SYSTEM CORPORATION  
 DEL CIELO HOME HEALTH  
 DRISCOLL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL  
 FLINT HILLS RESOURCES LP  
 H & S CONSTRUCTORS INC  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
 LANDO INC  
 PIONEER DRILLING SERVICES LTD  
 R E E INC  
 SAM KANE BEEF PROCESSORS INC  
 SSP PARTNERS  
 TELESERVICES  
 UNIQUE STAFF LEASING I LTD  
 VALERO REFINING-TEXAS LP  
 VERTEX AEROSPACE LLC  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 WHATABURGER INC

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005

Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	9,794	600	917
Construction	14,669	463	1,744
Manufacturing	11,717	-63	-423
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	37,760	508	444
Information	3,159	43	-53
Financial Activities	9,562	62	-119
Professional and Business Svcs.	17,455	-73	10
Education & Health Services	32,957	65	327
Leisure & Hospitality	21,938	1,985	1,690
Other Services	6,668	310	80
Federal Government	7,653	-19	-89
State Government	9,473	150	449
Local Government	29,917	62	208
Nonclassified & Confidential	405	-84	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>213,127</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>5,235</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>CB</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd Quarter 2005</b>	\$588.20	(\$52.97)	\$737.50	(\$2.40)
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$641.17	\$33.21	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$607.96		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

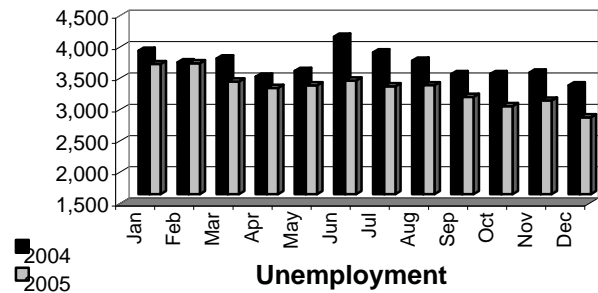
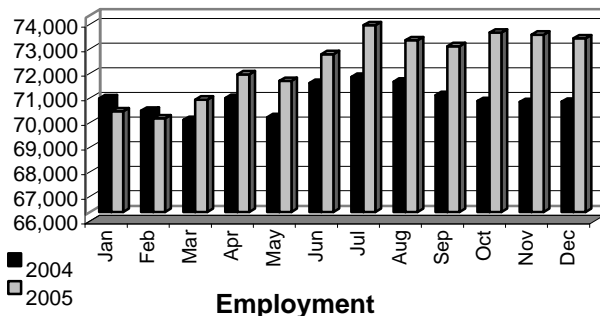
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Concho Valley WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
Dec-05	75,787	73,059	2,728	3.6	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
Nov-05	76,203	73,205	2,998	3.9	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*Dec-04	73,724	70,482	3,242	4.4	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

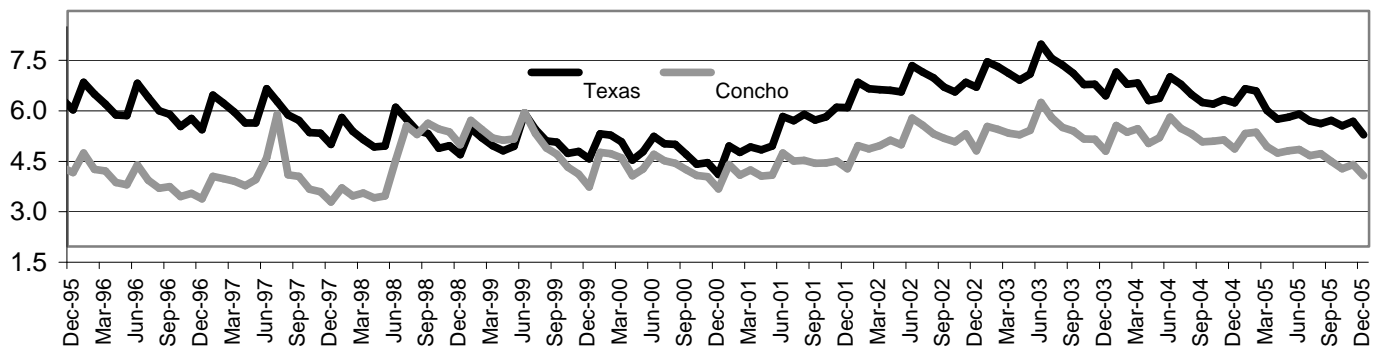
## Concho Valley WDA

The civilian labor force in the Concho Valley WDA decreased slightly in December to 75,787 people. The labor force is comprised of 73,059 workers and 2,728 job seekers. Concho Valley WDA's unemployment rate decreased three-tenths of a percentage point in December to 3.6 percent. The rate stood at 4.4 percent a year ago. Sutton County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.4 percent while Concho County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.0 percent. Employment in the WDA edged downward in December by 146 workers and the number of unemployed dropped slightly by 9.0 percent, or 270 people. Six of the twelve counties within the WDA experienced employment losses over the month with the majority of the decline in Tom Green County (123) followed by Mason County (42). All of the twelve counties within the WDA experienced a drop in unemployment over the month with Tom Green County having the largest drop, posting 212 fewer job seekers. The number of continued claims decreased slightly over the month to 274.

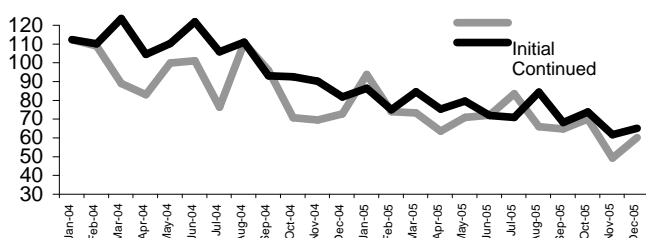
## Concho Valley WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	202	156	255	-53
Continued	1,361	1,274	1,794	-433

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Continued	274	315	346	-72

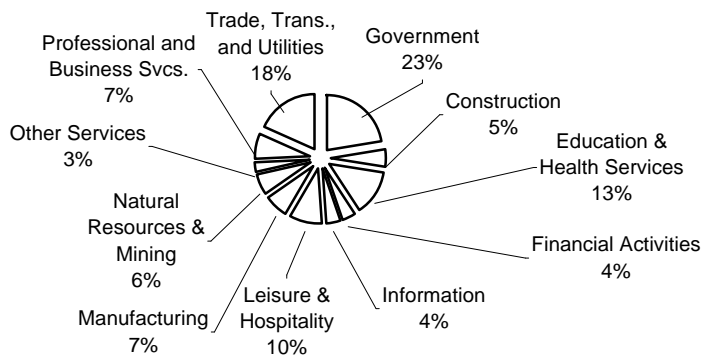
## Occupational Information

### Concho Valley WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	105	Registered Nurses	60
Retail Salespersons	90	Child Care Workers	50
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	90	Customer Service Representatives	45
Waiters & Waitresses	85	Farmers & Ranchers	40
Personal & Home Care Aides	75	Office Clerks, General	40

## Industrial Employment

### Concho Valley WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers for the WDA 2nd Quarter 2005

ACME ENERGY SERVICES INC

ALBERTSONS INC

BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

CELLULAR ONE

CONCEPTS OF CARE

ETHICON INC

FOOD BASKET PARTNERS LP

GTE SOUTHWEST INC

HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP

HIRSCHFELD STEEL CO INC

LONE STAR BEEF PROCESSORS LLC

NURSES UNLIMITED INC

OUTREACH HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE SVCS

PATTERSON-UTI DRILLING SOUTH LLP

POOL COMPANY TEXAS LTD

REECE ALBERT INC

SAN ANGELO PACKING COMPANY INC

SHANNON MEDICAL CENTER

SITEL CORPORATION

TOWN & COUNTRY FOOD STORES INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2005 Total</b>	<b>Change Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	3,376	167	306
Construction	2,775	146	20
Manufacturing	4,107	54	-247
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	10,665	95	580
Information	2,302	75	111
Financial Activities	2,366	55	-62
Professional and Business Svcs.	4,222	-187	145
Education & Health Services	7,697	38	-325
Leisure & Hospitality	5,496	65	32
Other Services	1,738	32	-43
Federal Government	1,511	-9	-9
State Government	2,872	190	37
Local Government	8,704	12	220
Nonclassified & Confidential	54	29	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57,885</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>774</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Concho</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$538.48	-\$55.66	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$594.14	\$36.03	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$558.11		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

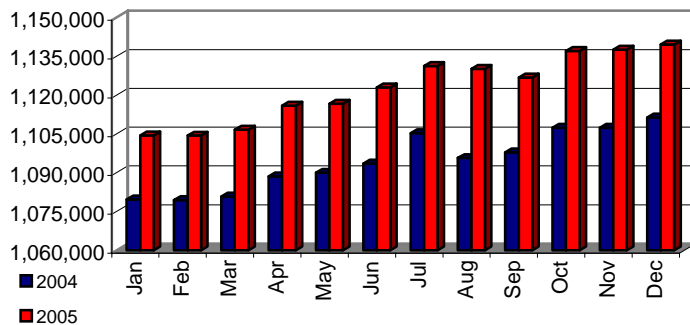
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	Dallas WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
DECEMBER 2005	1,202,326	1,139,503	62,823	5.2	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
NOVEMBER 2005	1,205,845	1,137,510	68,335	5.7	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*DECEMBER 2004	1,188,088	1,111,337	76,751	6.5	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

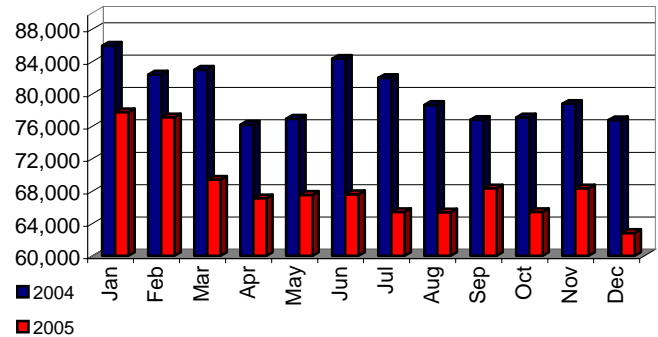
## Dallas WDA

Dallas' jobless rate decreased over the month from November's 5.7 percent to 5.2 percent—the lowest rate since May 2001. This decrease was slightly higher than the average reduction of three-tenths of a percentage point that usually occurs between November and December. The number of jobholders rose for a third straight month, climbing by 1,993 to 1,139,503 employed. Since the beginning of the year, the WDA's employment has grown by 35,115 jobholders. The number of Texans in the WDA seeking work decreased over the month, slipping by 5,512 to 62,823 unemployed—its lowest level since May 2001. Continued claims for unemployment insurance decreased for the first time in the past three months, dipping to 14,070 claims.

## Dallas WDA

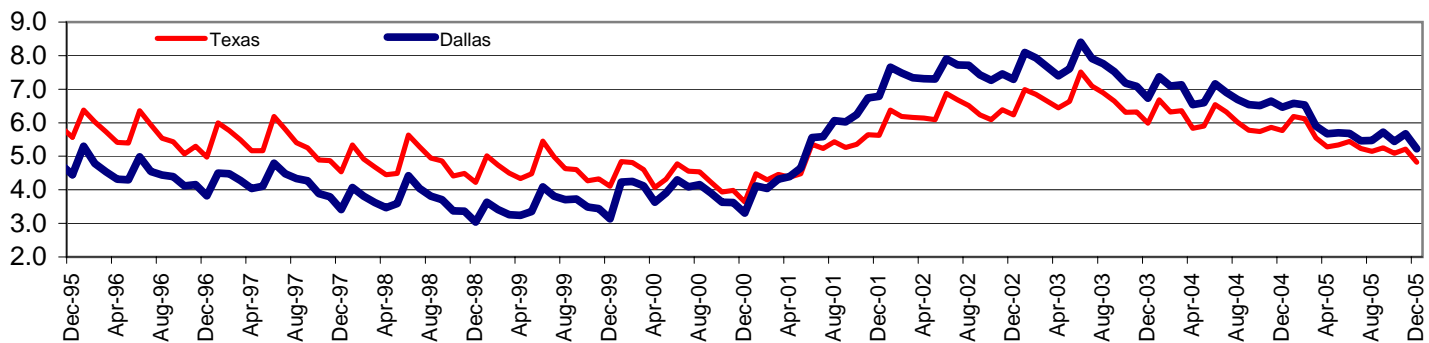


Employment

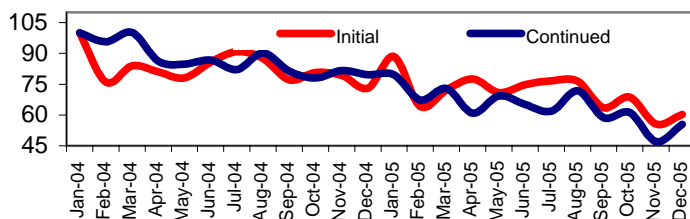


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	6,475	5,973	7,839	-1,364
Continued	55,438	46,972	79,504	-24,066

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Continued	14,070	15,999	14,253	-183



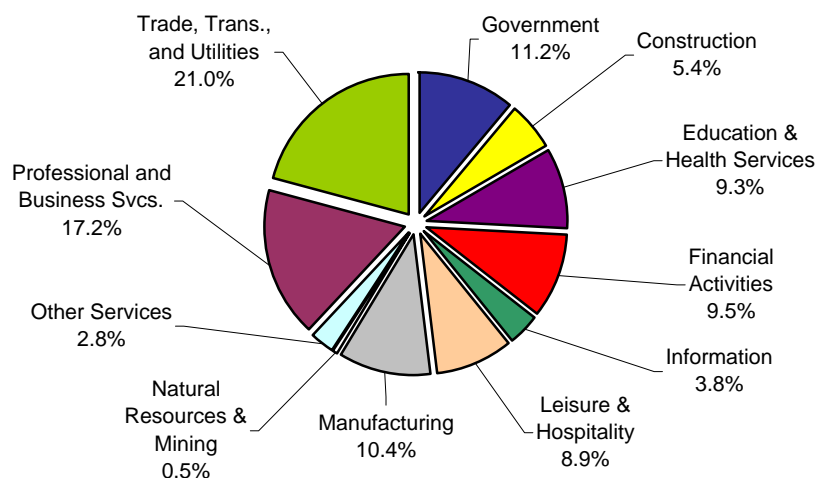
## Occupational Information

### Dallas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	2,470	Office Clerks, General	1,140
Cashiers	1,950	Laborers & Freight, Stock, &	
Waiters & Waitresses	1,850	Material Movers	1,130
Combined Food Prep. & Serving		General & Operations Managers	1,075
Workers, Including Fast Food	1,810	Sales Rep., Wholesale & Mfg, Except	
Customer Service Representatives	1,340	Technical & Scientific Products	1,000
		Registered Nurses	935

## Industrial Employment

### Dallas WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA (2nd Qtr 2005)

ADMINISTAFF COMPANIES II  
BANK OF AMERICA  
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER  
BRINKER INTERNATIONAL PAYROLL CO  
CHILDRENS MEDICAL CENTER  
CITICORP CREDIT SERVICES INC USA  
HEALTH CARE SERVICE CORP  
I B M CORPORATION  
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK  
METHODIST HOSPITALS OF DALLAS  
MINYARD FOOD STORES  
NEIMAN-MARCUS GROUP  
NORTEL NETWORKS  
PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL OF DALLAS  
INC SYSTEM  
RAYTHEON COMPANY  
SOUTHWEST AIRLINES  
SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE  
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED  
UNITED PARCEL SERVICE  
WAL-MART ASSOCIATES

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd QTR 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	7,206	341	792
<i>Construction</i>	76,803	3,558	2,346
<i>Manufacturing</i>	146,957	3,854	3,158
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	296,090	-625	-12,340
<i>Information</i>	53,781	-235	-6,736
<i>Financial Activities</i>	134,390	-870	-4,884
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	242,509	6,337	329
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	130,890	883	762
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	125,402	4,999	-1,189
<i>Other Services</i>	40,059	1,353	-1,367
<i>Federal Government</i>	26,759	20	-227
<i>State Government</i>	16,775	253	2,148
<i>Local Government</i>	114,908	323	1,385
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	2,872	200	1,069
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,415,401</b>	<b>20,391</b>	<b>-14,754</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Dallas</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$907.87	-\$23.08	\$737.50	\$31.66
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$930.95	\$40.65	\$705.84	\$19.33
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$890.30		\$686.51	

December 2005

## Deep East Texas Workforce Development Area

### Labor Force Estimates

\*2005 Data for the WDA is not comparable to previous years.

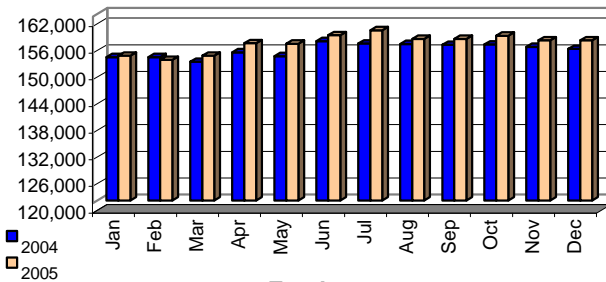
#### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	Deep East Texas WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
December 2005	165,383	156,070	9,313	5.6	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
November 2005	165,713	156,076	9,637	5.8	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*December 2004	165,248	154,122	11,126	6.7	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

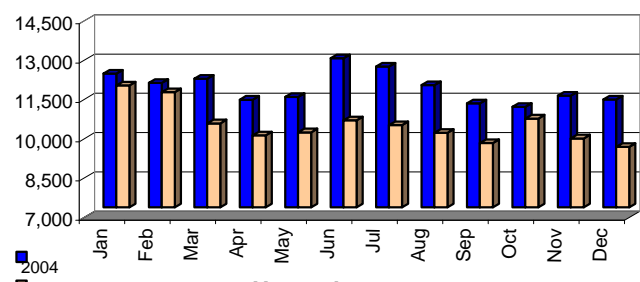
#### Deep East Texas WDA

Employment in the Deep East Texas WDA decreased by 6 workers in December 2005. Of the twelve counties, Angelina County had the largest over-the-month increase in employment by adding 165 workers, followed by Jasper County with an addition of 52 workers. Unemployment in the Deep East Texas WDA decreased by 3.4 percent. The WDA's unemployment rate decreased over the month by two-tenths of a percentage point to 5.6 percent. The highest unemployment rate was found in San Augustine County at 8.6 percent. The lowest unemployment rate was found in Nacogdoches County at 4.4 percent. Continued claims for unemployment benefits increased by 6.3 percent.

#### Deep East WDA

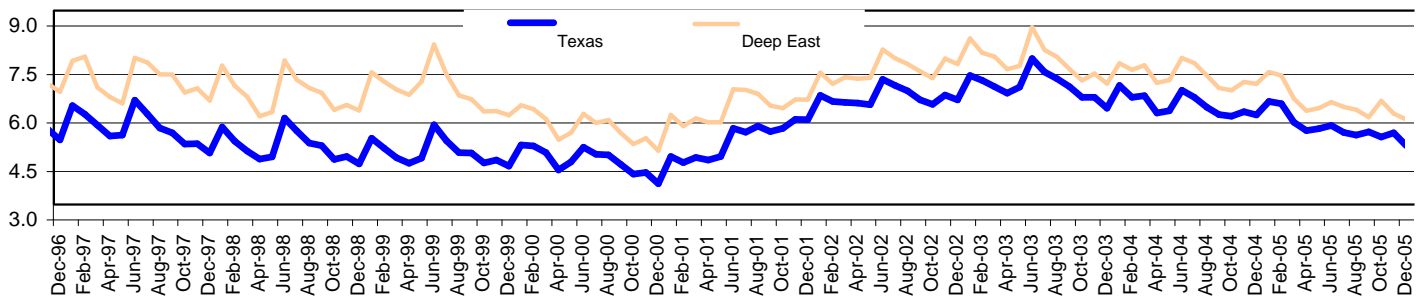


Employment



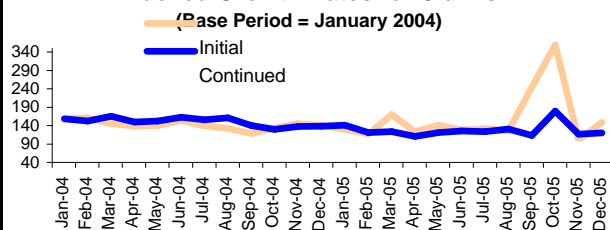
Unemployment

#### Historical Unemployment Rates



### Unemployment Claims Data

#### Indexed Growth Rates for Claims



#### Total Claims

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Initial	1,560	730	1,406	154
Continued	7,713	7,257	9,922	-2,209

#### Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	December 2005	November 2005	December 2004	OTY Change
Continued	1,459	1,278	1,450	9

<http://www.tracer2.com/>

## Deep East Texas Workforce Development Area

December 2005

### Occupational Information

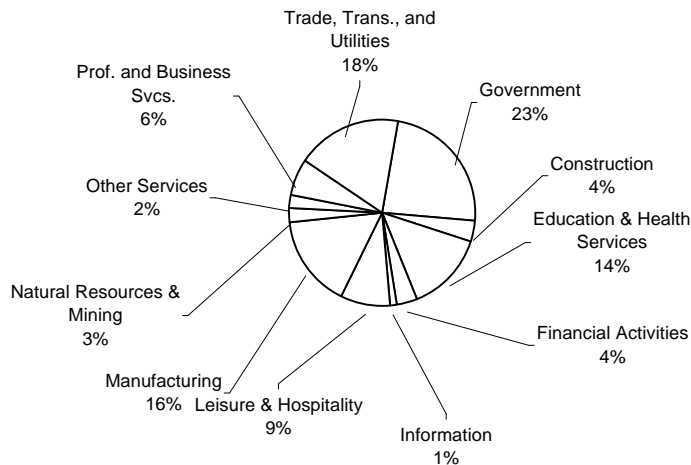
Deep East Texas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

Occupation	Job Openings	Occupation	Job Openings
Cashiers	230	Registered Nurses	100
Bartenders	225	Elementary School Teachers	90
Retail Salespersons	185	Office Clerks, General	90
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	110	Fast Food Preparation & Serving Workers	90
Personal & Home Care Aides	110	Cooks, Fast Food	85

### Industrial Employment

Deep East Texas WDA Industry Composition

2nd Quarter 2005



Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA

2nd Quarter 2005

A PINEYWOODS HOME SERVICES INC  
 ANGELINA HOME & COMMUNITY SUPPORTS  
 ARMSTRONG HARDWOOD FLOORING CO  
 BROOKSHIRE BROTHERS LTD  
 EFFECTIVE TELESERVICES  
 EXPRESS SERVICES  
 FOREST RESOURCES  
 LOWES HOME CENTERS INC  
 LUFKIN INDUSTRIES INC  
 MEADWESTVACO TEXAS LP  
 MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER OF EAST TEXAS  
 NIBCO INCORPORATED  
 PILGRIMS PRIDE CORP  
 TEMPLE-INLAND  
 TENET TEXAS EMPLOYMENT INC  
 TEXAS FOUNDRIES LTD  
 TEXAS HOME HEALTH OF AMERICA INC  
 TYSON FARMS INC  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 WOODLAND HEIGHTS MEDICAL CENTER LLC

NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd QTR 2005

SUPER SECTOR	Change			
	Total	Quarter	Year	
Natural Resources & Mining	2,767	128	48	
Construction	3,980	282	12	
Manufacturing	17,335	108	453	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	19,723	38	702	
Information	1,147	25	110	
Financial Activities	3,633	386	306	
Professional and Business Svcs.	6,924	284	231	
Education & Health Services	14,835	140	67	
Leisure & Hospitality	8,514	568	437	
Other Services	2,364	123	23	
Federal Government	1,140	-4	-46	
State Government	6,392	547	726	
Local Government	18,600	247	364	
Nonclassified & Confidential	121	-89	14	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>107,475</b>	<b>2,783</b>	<b>3,447</b>	
<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Deep East</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
2nd QTR 2005	\$534.31	-\$0.10	\$737.50	-\$2.40
2004 Average	\$534.41	(\$5.01)	\$739.90	\$29.17
2003 Average	\$539.42		\$710.73	

<http://www.tracer2.com/>

December 2005

## East Texas Workforce Development Area

## Labor Force Estimates

\*2005 Data for the WDA is not comparable to previous years.

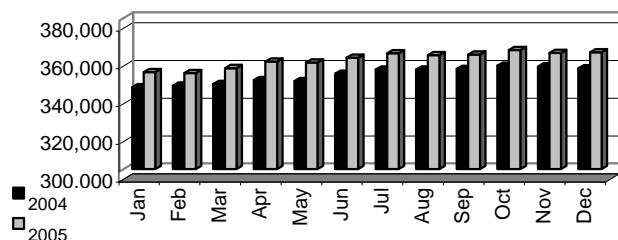
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	East Texas WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
December 2005	378,851	361,915	16,936	4.5	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
November 2005	379,910	361,575	18,335	4.8	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*December 2004	373,964	353,466	20,498	5.5	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

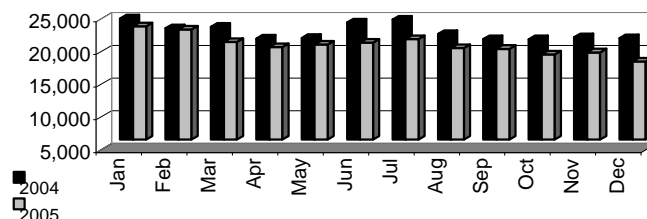
## East Texas WDA

Employment in the East Texas WDA increased by 340 workers or by one-tenth of a percentage point in December 2005. Of the fourteen counties, Harrison County had the largest employment gain over the month with an increase of 161 workers followed by Gregg County with an increase of 127 workers. Van Zandt County had the largest employment decrease with a reduction of 119 workers, followed by Camp County with a reduction of 43 workers. Over-the-month unemployment in the East Texas WDA decreased by 7.6 percent. The WDA's unemployment rate decreased over the month by three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.5 percent. Over the month, continued claims for unemployment benefits increased by 20.0 percent.

## East Texas WDA

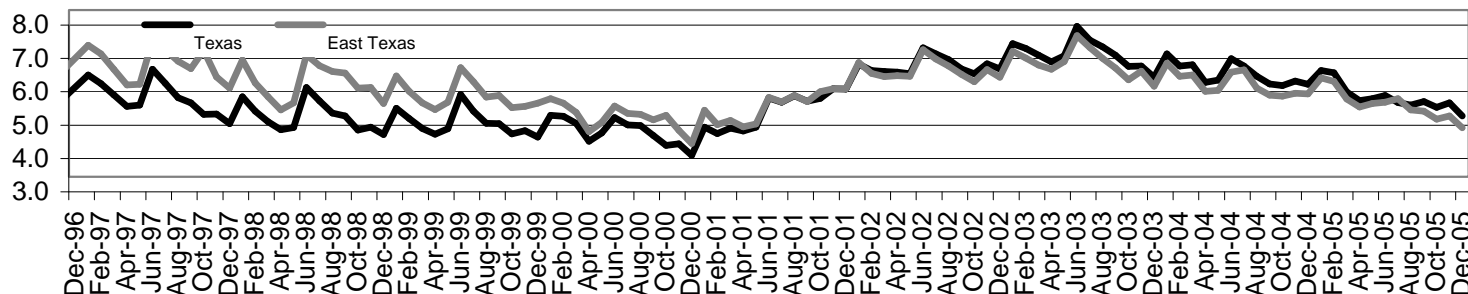


Employment

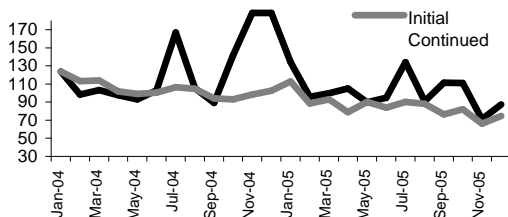


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Initial	1,983	1,477	5,147	-3,164
Continued	12,282	10,233	19,046	-6,764
Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th				
Continued	2,299	2,529	3,136	-837

<http://www.tracer2.com/>

# East Texas Workforce Development Area

December 2005

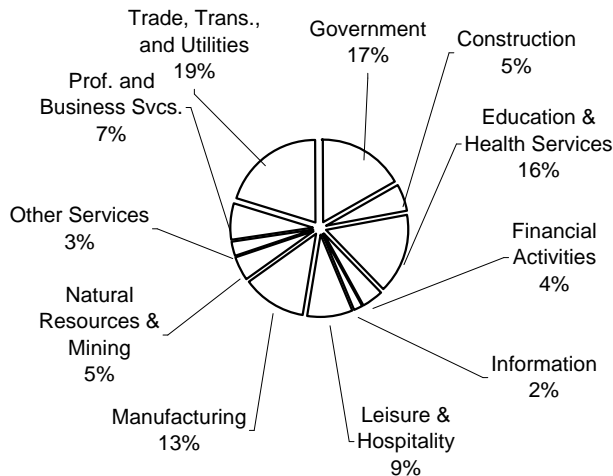
## Occupational Information

### East Texas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	605	Personal & Home Care Aides	265
Cashiers	545	Office Clerks, General	205
Fast Food Preparation & Serving Workers	535	Child Care Workers	190
Waiters & Waitresses	330	Elementary School Teachers	180
Registered Nurses	290	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers	180

## Industrial Employment

### East Texas WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA 2nd Quarter 2005

AMERICAN STANDARD INC  
 BROOKSHIRE GROCERY CO  
 CARRIER CORPORATION  
 COX SOUTHWEST CABLE HOLDINGS LP  
 EAST TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER  
 EXPRESS SERVICES  
 GOOD SHEPHERD MEDICAL CENTER  
 GOODYEAR TIRE-RUBBER CO  
 JORDAN HOME CARE LTD  
 LOWES HOME CENTERS INC  
 MARATHON LETOURNEAU COMPANY  
 MOTHER FRANCES HOSPITAL REGIONAL HEALTH  
 PATTERSON-UTI DRILLING SOUTH LP LLP  
 PILGRIMS PRIDE CORP  
 REGIONAL HOSPITAL OF LONGVIEW LLC  
 TARGET STORES DIVISION  
 TEXAS EASTMAN DIVISION  
 TRINITY TANK CAR INC  
 TYLER PIPE COMPANY  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA 2nd QTR 2005

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Change</b>	
		<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	13,584	46	-74
Construction	14,816	36	153
Manufacturing	35,211	14	44
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	56,879	600	721
Information	4,978	201	429
Financial Activities	11,595	-175	-179
Professional and Business Svcs.	20,136	459	-589
Education & Health Services	43,849	32	-33
Leisure & Hospitality	24,374	46	-74
Other Services	8,009	600	721
Federal Government	2,201	608	-84
State Government	10,438	23	94
Local Government	35,063	-30	29
Nonclassified & Confidential	335	23	94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>281,468</b>	<b>2,483</b>	<b>1,252</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>East Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$583.65	\$0.60	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$583.05	-\$10.14	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$593.19		\$710.73	

Dec-05

## Golden Crescent WDA

## Labor Force Estimates

\* Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

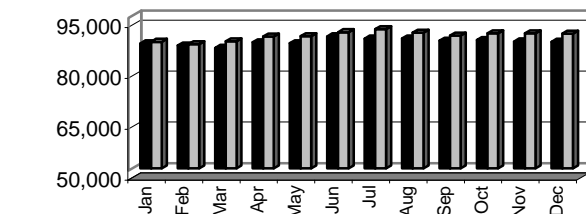
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Golden Crescent WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
<b>Dec-05</b>	93,453	89,713	3,740	4.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov</b>	93,845	89,812	4,033	4.3	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	91,990	87,334	4,656	5.1	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

## Golden Crescent WDA

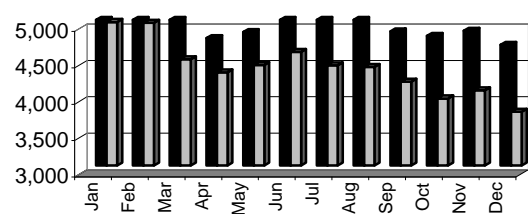
The Golden Crescent's labor force decreased over the month by 392. The unemployment rate dropped by three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.0 percent in December. The Golden Crescent rate has remained below 5.0 percent since March 2005. A year ago, Golden Crescent WDA's rate stood at 5.1 percent with the state rate at 5.8 percent. In December, Golden Crescent's employment decreased by 99 workers. The number of job seekers decreased by 293 over the month. The county influencing the rate drop was Victoria county. Over the past three years Golden Crescent's unemployment decreased during the month of December and the number employed also decreased. Claims for unemployment benefits in the WDA declined over the month by 42.

## Golden Crescent WDA



■ 2004  
□ 2005

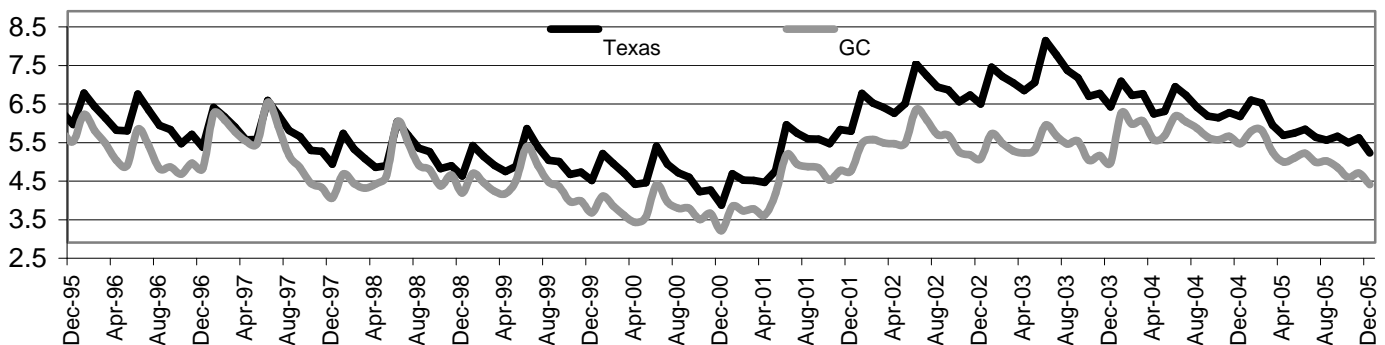
Employment



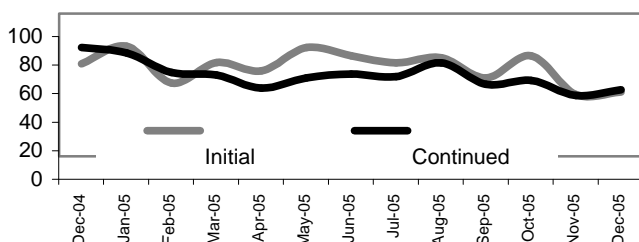
■ 2004  
□ 2005

Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	264	254	380	-116
Continued	2,167	1,982	3,551	-1,384

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

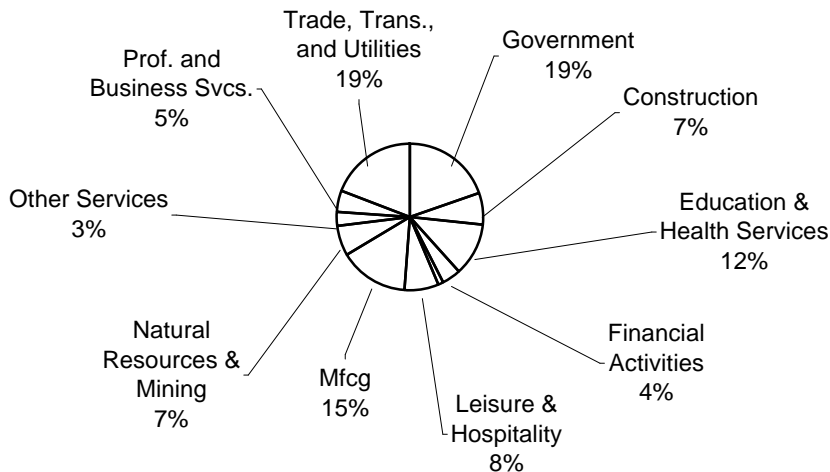
Continued	470	512	710	-240
-----------	-----	-----	-----	------

## Occupational Information

Golden Crescent WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the  
Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	130	Waiters & Waitresses	60
Cashiers	125	Child Care Workers	55
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	100	Elementary School Teachers	50
Farmers & Ranchers	95	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	45
Registered Nurses	75	Secondary School Teachers	45

## Industrial Employment

Golden Crescent WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA  
2nd Quarter 2005

ALCOA INC  
 APS PERSONNEL SERVICES  
 CROSSROADS HOME HEALTH INC  
 DETAR HOSPITAL LLC  
 FORMOSA PLASTICS CORPORATION TEXAS  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
 HOLMES FOODS INC  
 INTEPLAST GROUP LTD  
 J & B SAUSAGE CO INC  
 KASPAR WIRE WORKS INC  
 LA PORTE PLANT TX  
 MARINER HEALTH CENTRAL INC  
 NORCROSS TELESERVICES LP  
 PATTERSON-UTI DRILLING SOUTH LP LLP  
 PLASTICS COMPANY  
 TANDY BRANDS ACCESSORIES INC  
 THE DEVEREUX FOUNDATION  
 TURNER INDUSTRIES GROUP LLC  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 ZACHRY CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	4,530	48	236
Construction	4,945	183	101
Manufacturing	10,554	50	80
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	13,786	317	160
Information	831	-9	-51
Financial Activities	2,952	4	131
Professional and Business Svcs.	3,212	515	779
Education & Health Services	8,071	53	420
Leisure & Hospitality	5,181	89	36
Other Services	2,192	14	-146
Federal Government	520	-9	-11
State Government	1,002	39	28
Local Government	12,540	59	-190
Nonclassified & Confidential	114	-48	-13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70,430</b>	<b>1,305</b>	<b>1,560</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>GC</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd Quarter 2005</b>	\$580.12	(\$116.70)	\$737.50	(\$2.40)
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$696.82	\$103.19	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$593.63		\$710.73	

December 2005

## Gulf Coast Workforce Development Area

### Labor Force Estimates

\*2005 Data for the WDA is not comparable to previous years.

#### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

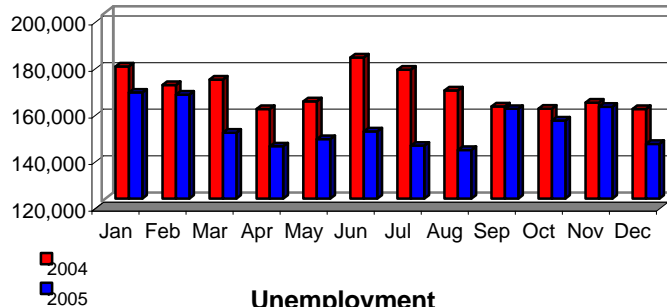
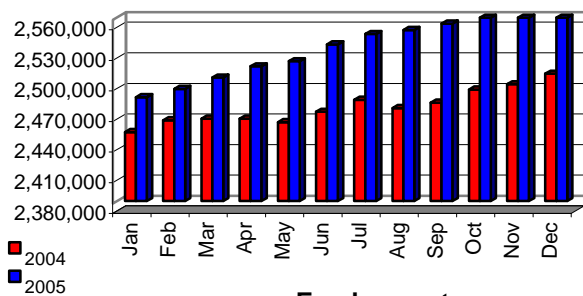
	Gulf Coast WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
December 2005	2,716,987	2,573,378	143,609	5.3	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
November 2005	2,722,577	2,563,059	159,518	5.9	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*December 2004	2,663,485	2,504,968	158,517	6.0	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

#### Gulf Coast WDA

Employment in the Gulf Coast WDA added 10,319 workers in December 2005. Of the thirteen counties, Harris County had the largest over-the-month increase in employment by adding 7,583 workers, followed by Fort Bend County with an addition of 913 workers.

Unemployment in the Gulf Coast WDA decreased by 15,909 workers, which is a decrease of 10.0 percent. The unemployment rate for this WDA decreased by six-tenths of a percentage point over the month. The highest unemployment rate was found in Matagorda County at 7.3 percent. The lowest unemployment rate was found in Austin County at 3.8 percent. Continued claims increased 16.4 percent in December.

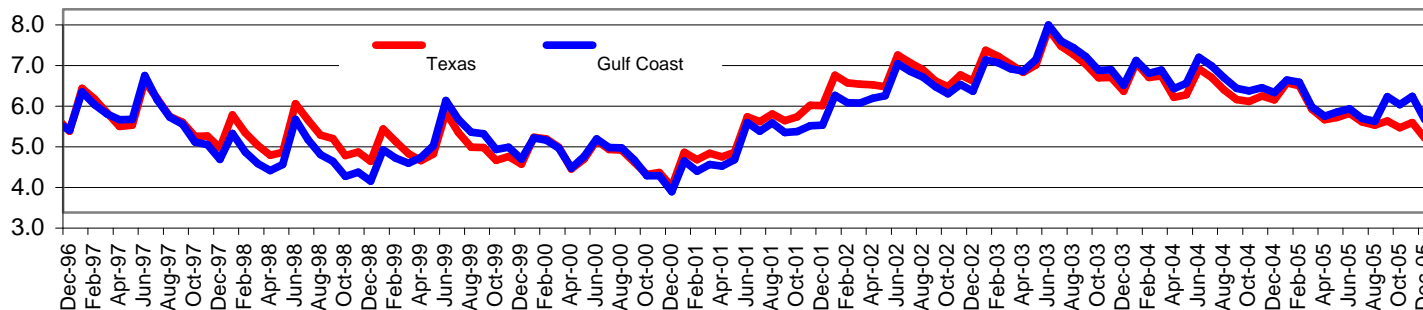
#### Gulf Coast WDA



Employment

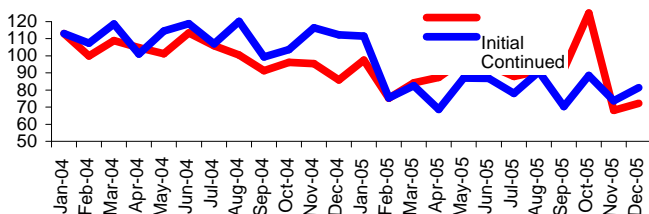
Unemployment

#### Historical Unemployment Rates



### Unemployment Claims Data

#### Indexed Growth Rates for Claims (Base Period = January 2004)



#### Total Claims

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Initial	12,010	11,190	14,783	-2,773
Continued	101,050	86,804	146,588	-45,538
Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th				
Continued	36,173	43,903	28,230	7,943



## Gulf Coast Workforce Development Area

December 2005

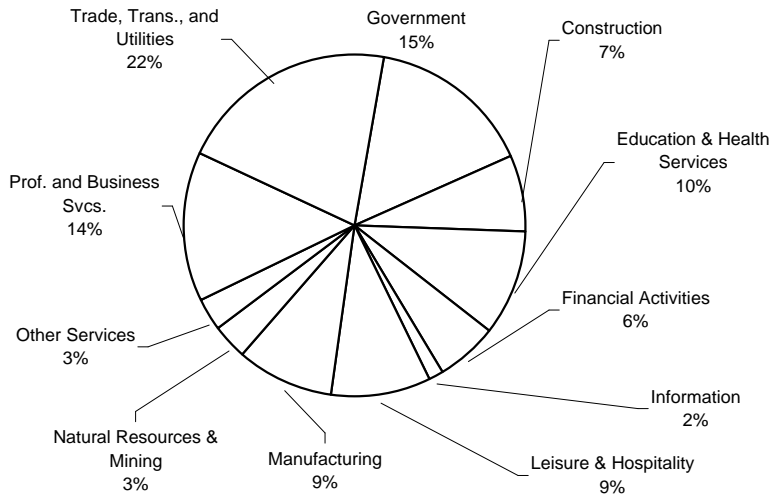
### Occupational Information

#### Gulf Cost WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	4,040	Registered Nurses	1,905
Cashiers	3,630	Office Clerks, General	1,845
Fast Food Preparation & Serving Workers	3,510	General & Operations Managers	1,670
Waiters & Waitresses	3,085	Janitors & Cleaners	1,600
Child Care Workers	2,125	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers	1,540

### Industrial Employment

#### Gulf Coast WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



#### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA 2nd Quarter 2005

ADMINISTAFF COMPANIES II LP  
BAKER HUGHES OILFIELD  
BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
CONTINENTAL AIRLINES INC  
EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION  
FOLEYS DIVISION  
HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
HEWLETT-PACKARD CO  
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA  
KROGER TEXAS LP  
MEMORIAL HERMANN HOSPITAL SYSTEM  
PACESETTER PERSONNEL  
PAPPAS PARTNERS LP  
RANDALL'S FOOD & DRUGS LP  
SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE LP  
ST LUKES EPISCOPAL HOSPITAL  
THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY  
THE METHODIST HOSPITAL  
WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
WALGREEN COMPANY

#### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA 2nd QTR 2005

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Change</b>	
		<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	77,260	46	-74
Construction	169,914	226	138
Manufacturing	214,564	201	429
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	487,985	600	721
Information	36,825	32	-33
Financial Activities	137,082	36	153
Professional and Business Svcs.	333,294	459	-589
Education & Health Services	232,984	151	19
Leisure & Hospitality	217,137	608	-84
Other Services	70,224	14	44
Federal Government	28,345	-90	781
State Government	78,257	23	94
Local Government	254,543	-175	-179
Nonclassified & Confidential	4,413	-30	29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,342,827</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>1,449</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Gulf Coast</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$846.46	-\$3.08	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$849.55	-\$13.73	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$863.27		\$710.73	

<http://www.tracer2.com/>

Dec-05

## Heart of Texas WDA

## Labor Force Estimates

\* Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years.

## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

## HOT WDA

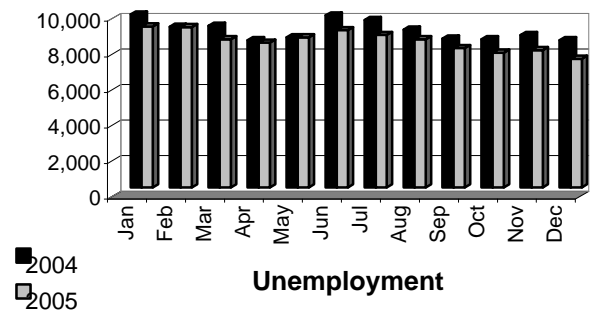
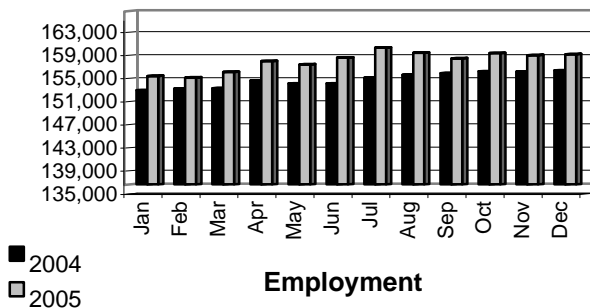
## Texas

	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
<b>Dec-05</b>	164,767	157,534	7,233	4.4	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov</b>	165,085	157,373	7,712	4.7	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	162,993	154,720	8,273	5.1	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

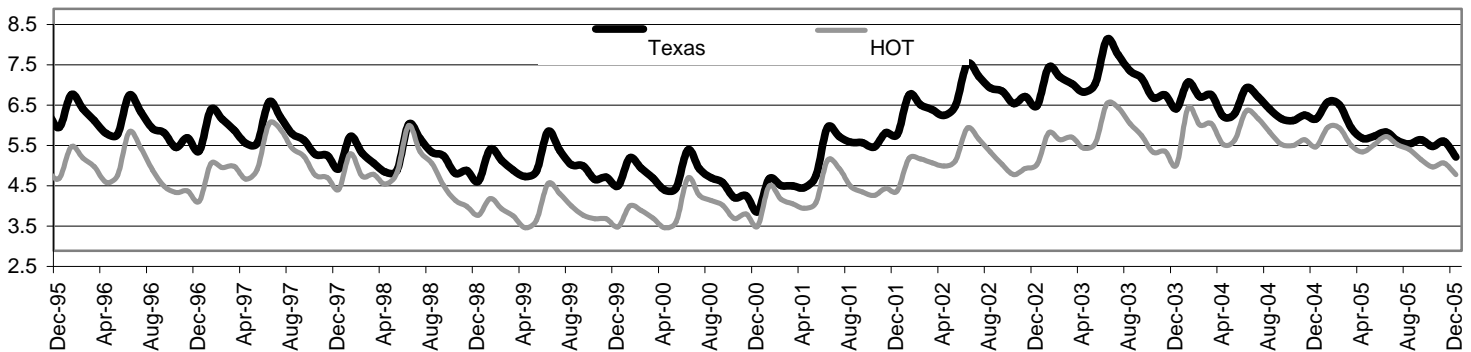
## Heart of Texas WDA

The HOT WDA's labor force slightly declined over the month by 318. The number of residents seeking work decreased by 479 while the number employed in the workforce increased by 161. The unemployment rate decreased by three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.4 percent. The unemployment rate for HOT WDA has been at or below 5.0 percent since August 2005. A year ago, the unemployment rate in HOT stood at 5.1 percent, while the State rate was at 5.8 percent. The counties driving the rate decline in the WDA were McLennan and Freestone. The HOT WDA's unemployment historically tends to decline during the month of December while the employment number is variable. Additionally, claims for unemployment benefits for HOT decreased slightly by 48 claims from last month.

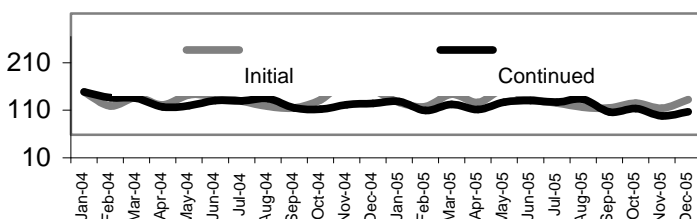
## Heart of Texas WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY
<b>Initial</b>	997	775	1,237	-240
<b>Continued</b>	5,613	4,764	7,306	-1,693

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

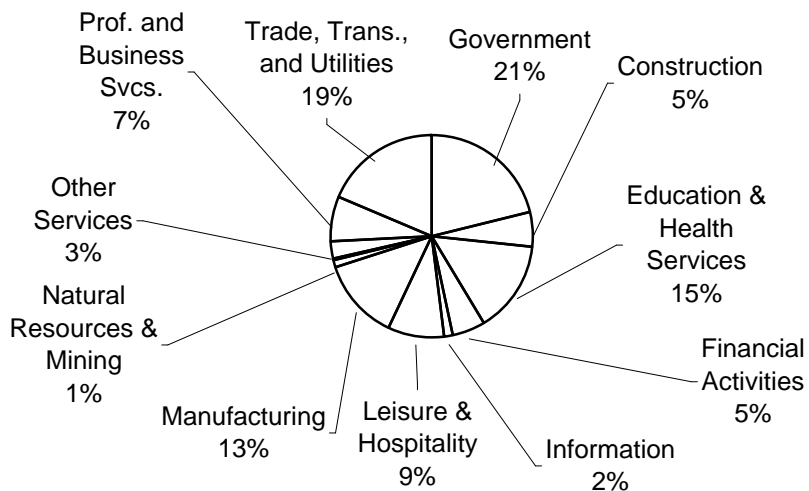
<b>Continued</b>	1,092	1,140	1,196	-104
------------------	-------	-------	-------	------

## Occupational Information

HOT WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the  
Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	230	Registered Nurses	115
Food Preparation & Serving Workers	220	Office Clerks, General	105
Retail Salespersons	200	Secondary School Teachers	95
Elementary School Teachers	135	Teacher Assistants	95
Waiters & Waitresses	130	Farmers & Ranchers	95

## Industrial Employment

HOT WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA  
2nd Quarter 2005

ALLERGAN  
 AMERICAN STANDARD INC  
 ARAMARK MANAGEMENT SERVICES LP  
 ARAMARK SCHOOLS INC  
 AUXI HEALTHCARE SERVICES  
 BAYLOR UNIVERSITY  
 CARGILL MEAT SOLUTIONS CORPORATION  
 EXAMINATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES INC  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
 HILLCREST HEALTH SYSTEM INC  
 HUCK INTERNATIONAL INC  
 L-3 COMMUNICATIONS INTEGRATED SYSTEMS  
 MARS INCORPORATED  
 PILGRIMS PRIDE CORP  
 PROVIDENCE HEALTH CENTER  
 RAYTHEON COMPANY  
 SOUTHERN FARM BUREAU CASUALTY INSURANCE  
 TEXAS HOME HEALTH OF AMERICA INC  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 ZACHRY CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

SUPER SECTOR	2nd Quarter 2005		
	Total	Quarter	Year
Natural Resources & Mining	1,472	45	89
Construction	7,424	254	90
Manufacturing	16,536	-312	2,119
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	23,753	295	170
Information	2,039	22	-53
Financial Activities	6,768	107	25
Professional and Business Svcs.	9,454	-29	-692
Education & Health Services	18,585	320	384
Leisure & Hospitality	11,895	559	534
Other Services	3,695	126	-183
Federal Government	4,965	-37	-109
State Government	5,260	110	199
Local Government	16,877	38	126
Nonclassified & Confidential	125	-41	35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>128,848</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>2,734</b>

Average Weekly Wage	HOT	Change	Texas	Change
2nd Quarter 2005	\$576.47	(\$28.78)	\$737.50	(\$2.40)
2004 Average	\$605.25	\$25.73	\$739.90	\$29.17
2003 Average	\$579.52		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

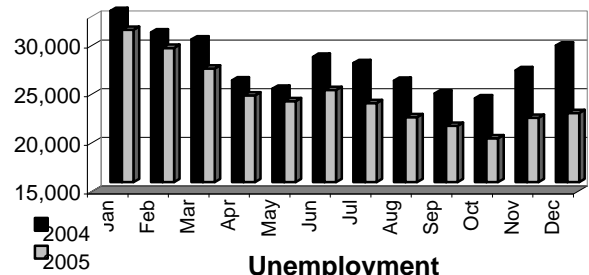
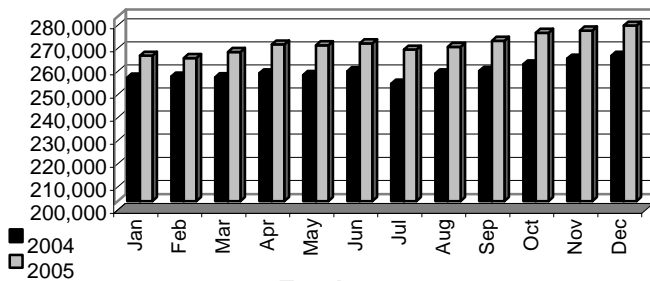
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Lower Rio Grande Valley WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
Dec-05	298,138	276,005	22,133	7.4	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
Nov-05	295,511	273,888	21,623	7.3	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*Dec-04	291,993	262,918	29,075	10.0	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

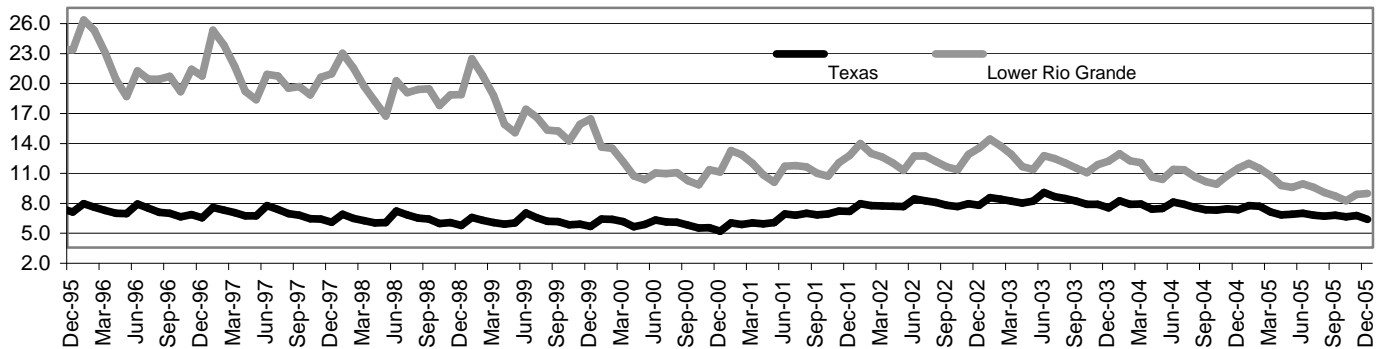
## Lower Rio Grande Valley WDA

The civilian labor force in the Lower Rio Grande WDA increased in December to 298,138. The unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percent over the month. The unemployment rate stood at 10.0 percent a year ago. Hidalgo County had the lowest unemployment rate at 6.9 percent while Starr County had the highest unemployment rate at 12.5 percent. Employment in the WDA increased by 2,117 workers in December and the number of unemployed increased by 2.4 percent, or 510 people. Hidalgo County had the largest over-the-month employment gain of 2,260 workers and the largest unemployment gain of 266 more job seekers. All three counties experienced gains in unemployment over the month. Since January 2005, the number of employed has expanded by 12,988. The number of unemployed stood at 29,075 people a year ago. The number of continued claims increased over the month to 6,145. However, since January 2005, claims had dropped by 6,666.

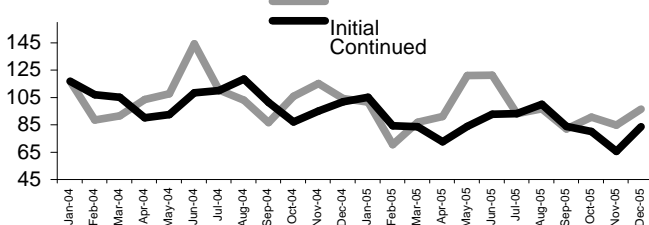
## Lower Rio Grande Valley WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
<b>Initial</b>	2,845	2,425	3,118	-273
<b>Continued</b>	20,633	15,072	26,245	-5,612

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

<b>Continued</b>	6,145	5,377	7,779	-1,634
------------------	-------	-------	-------	--------

## Occupational Information

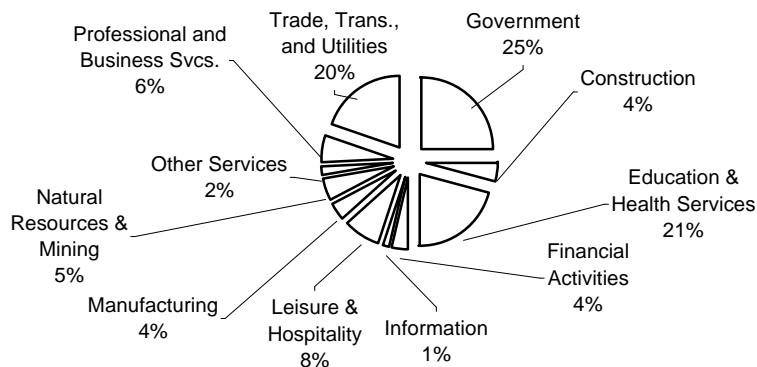
### Lower Rio Grande Valley WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Personal & Home Care Aides	535	Registered Nurses	230
Retail Salespersons	420	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special	215
Cashiers	390	& Vocational Education	
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	335	Home Health Aides	215
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	265	Waiters & Waitresses	190
		Teacher Assistants	170

## Industrial Employment

### Lower Rio Grande Valley WDA Industry Composition

2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers for the WDA

2nd Quarter 2005

ADL SERVICES INC
APC HOME HEALTH SERVICE INC
APEX PRIMARY CARE
CONVERGYS CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT GROUP
CORPSOL INC
DOCTORS HOSPITAL AT RENAISSANCE
EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
HEALTH CARE UNLIMITED
HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP
IPH PRIMARY HOME CARE INC
KNAPP MEDICAL CENTER
MCALLEN HOSPITALS LP
MISSION HOSPITAL INC
NURSES THAT CARE SITTER SVCS INC
R E E INC
RIO GRANDE REGIONAL
STARR HOME HEALTH AGENCY
TEXAS STATE BANK
T-MOBILE USA INC CORPORATION

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	10,580	1,471	-638
Construction	9,037	59	-535
Manufacturing	8,162	-320	-923
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	42,744	1,082	1,662
Information	2,931	71	160
Financial Activities	7,973	112	348
Professional and Business Svcs.	12,973	354	1,489
Education & Health Services	44,696	772	5,412
Leisure & Hospitality	18,010	468	418
Other Services	4,486	159	195
Federal Government	3,126	-36	-42
State Government	5,661	200	274
Local Government	45,373	139	1,302
Nonclassified & Confidential	512	226	366
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>216,264</b>	<b>4,757</b>	<b>9,488</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>LRGV</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$468.60	-\$28.55	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$497.15	\$17.15	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$480.00		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

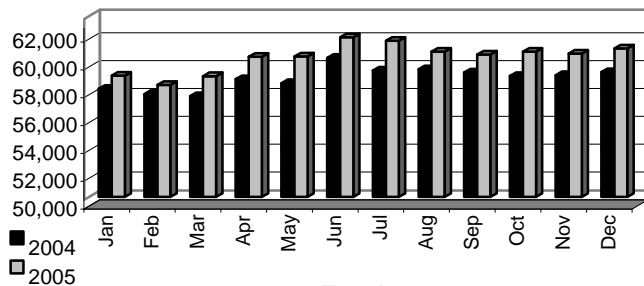
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Middle Rio Grande WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
Dec-05	65,987	60,676	5,311	8.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
Nov-05	65,597	60,306	5,291	8.1	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*Dec-04	65,835	58,966	6,869	10.4	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

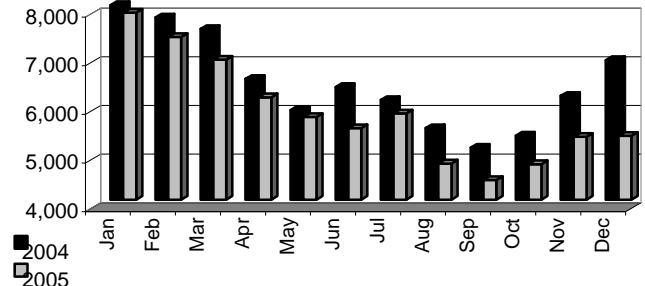
## Middle Rio Grande WDA

The unemployment rate in the Middle Rio Grande WDA dropped slightly by 0.1 percent in December to 8.0 percent. The rate stood at 10.4 percent a year ago. Year-to-date, the rate has dropped by 3.8 percent. Edwards County and Real County tied with the lowest unemployment rate at 3.8 percent while Maverick County had the highest unemployment rate at 12.5 percent. Employment in the WDA edged upward by 0.6 percent in December to 60,676 workers. Seven of the nine counties had over-the-month employment gains with Zavala County having the largest gain of 190 more workers followed by Val Verde County with 93. Three of the nine counties had decreased unemployment over the month with the largest drop in Val Verde County posting 51 fewer job seekers. The number of employed in the WDA increased slightly since the beginning of the year, with 1,963 added workers. The number of unemployed in the WDA increased by 0.4 percent over the month to 5,311 people. Since January 2005, the number of job seekers in the WDA has declined by 2,537. The number of continued claims increased over the month to 1,614. However, since January 2005, the number of claims had dropped by 1,641.

## Middle Rio Grande WDA

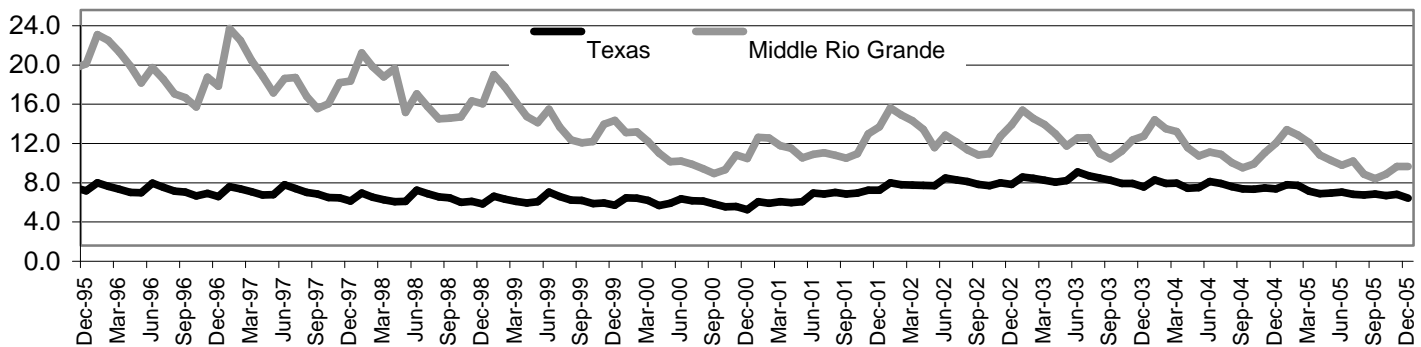


Employment

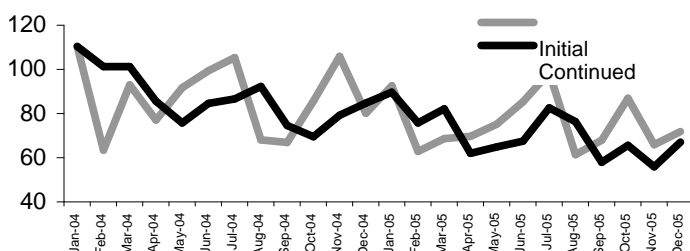


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	514	465	583	-69
Continued	4,115	3,307	5,394	-1,279

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	1,925	-311
Continued	1,614	1,506	1,925	-311

## Occupational Information

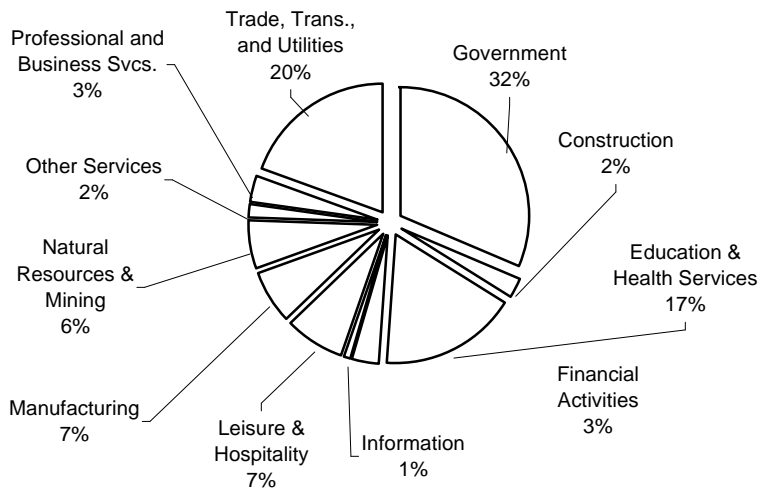
### Middle Rio Grande WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Personal & Home Care Aides	155	Home Health Aides	60
Cashiers	105	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	55
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	100	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	45
Retail Salespersons	80	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special &	40
Registered Nurses	65	Vocational Education	
		Office Clerks, General	35

## Industrial Employment

### Middle Rio Grande WDA Industry Composition

2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers for the WDA

2nd Quarter 2005

ALLIED PRIMARY HOME CARE SERVICES  
 APC HOME HEALTH SERVICE INC  
 CARGIL FARMS PRODUCE  
 DEL MONTE CORPORATION  
 DEL-JEN INC  
 EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
 FORT DUNCAN MEDICAL CENTER  
 GIRLING HEALTH CARE INC  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY  
 J C PENNEY CORPORATION  
 LA GUADALUPENA PRIMARY HOME CARE  
 LABOR AGENT  
 LEAR SIEGLER SERVICES  
 LEWIS PETRO PROPERTIES  
 LOPEZ HEALTH SYSTEMS INC  
 MCDONALDS  
 OUTREACH HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE  
 SAN ANTONIO SHOE INC  
 THE GEO GROUP INC CORPORTION  
 UNITED MEDICAL CENTERS

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005

Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	2,915	749	-17
Construction	1,120	14	33
Manufacturing	3,316	-81	1,477
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	9,682	-125	163
Information	466	12	4
Financial Activities	1,605	31	101
Professional and Business Svcs.	1,667	-39	47
Education & Health Services	8,635	6	151
Leisure & Hospitality	3,711	138	48
Other Services	833	-11	-135
Federal Government	3,109	-22	-69
State Government	1,041	31	53
Local Government	11,481	314	238
Nonclassified & Confidential	51	7	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49,632</b>	<b>1,024</b>	<b>2,119</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>MRG</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$467.29	-\$16.67	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$483.96	\$11.82	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$472.14		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

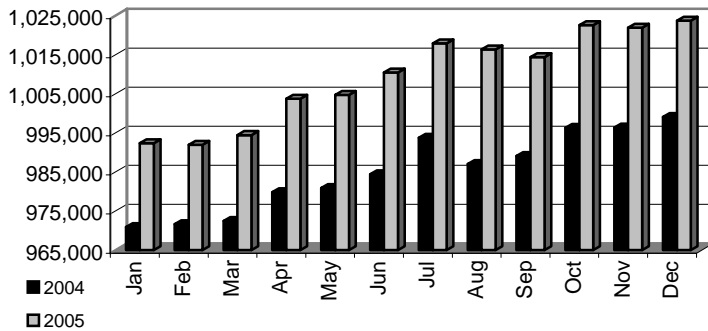
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	North Central WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
DECEMBER 2005	1,066,008	1,023,757	42,251	4.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
NOVEMBER 2005	1,067,332	1,021,960	45,372	4.3	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*DECEMBER 2004	1,047,626	999,125	48,501	4.6	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

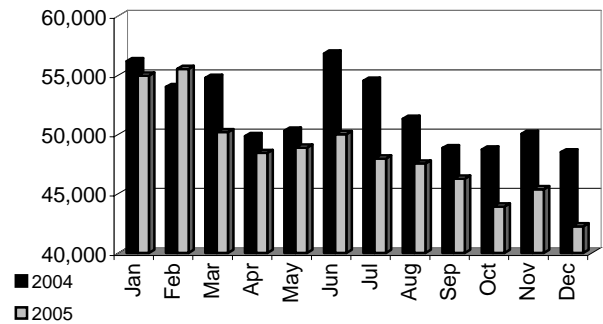
## North Central WDA

The North Central's jobless rate decreased over the month from November's 4.3 percent to 4.0 percent—the lowest rate since May 2001. The number of jobholders rose over the month, increasing by 1,797 to 1,023,757 employed. The largest additions to employment occurred in Collin County (592) and Denton County (515). Of the fourteen counties within the WDA, only three counties recorded decreases in their December employment. The number of Texans in the WDA seeking work decreased over the month, sliding by 3,121 to 42,251 unemployed—its lowest level since July 2001. The largest reductions to unemployment occurred in Collin County (1,277), Denton County (1,044), and Johnson County (176). Continued claims for unemployment insurance decreased for a second straight month, dipping to 8,520 claims.

## North Central WDA

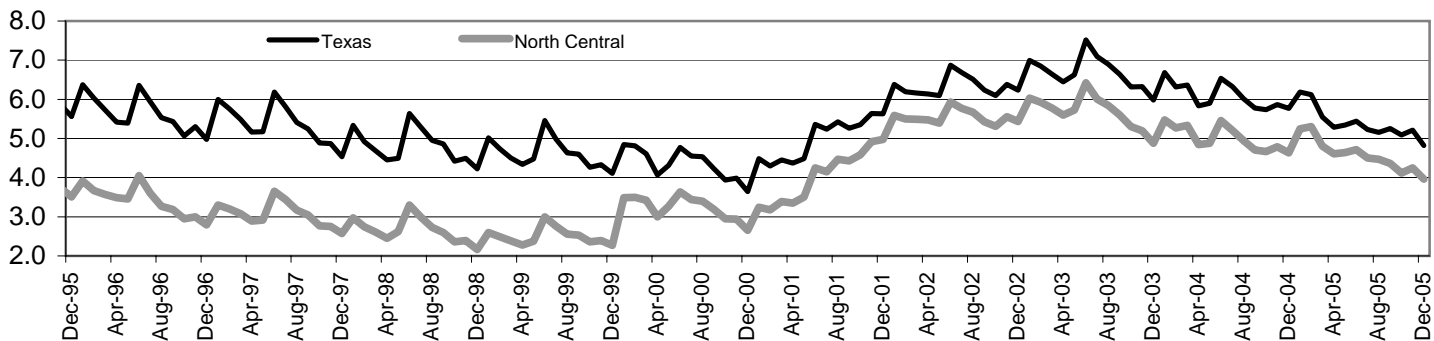


Employment

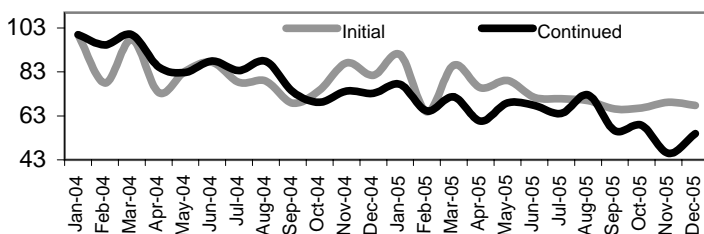


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	4,221	4,305	5,071	-850
Continued	31,189	26,061	41,654	-10,465

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Continued	8,520	9,332	7,810	710



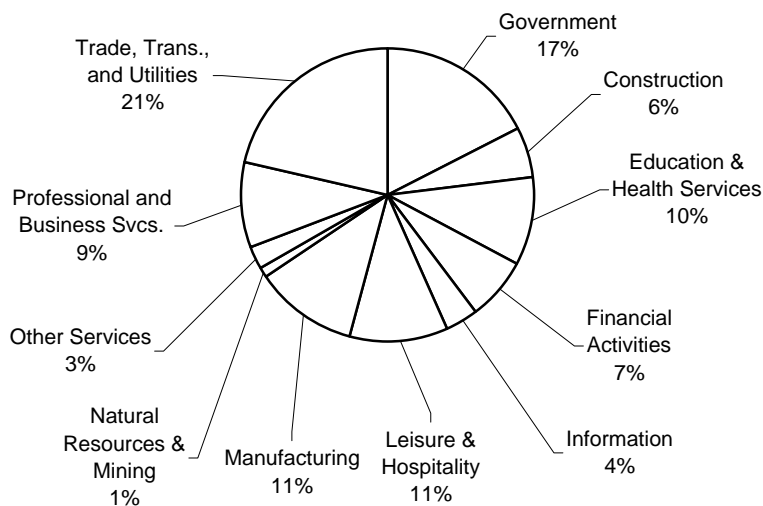
## Occupational Information

### North Central WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

Occupation	Job Openings	Occupation	Job Openings
Retail Salespersons	1,350	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Ed.	565
Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,170	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	470
Cashiers	1,165	Office Clerks, General	445
Waiters & Waitresses	945	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	435
Child Care Workers	625	Customer Service Representatives	425

## Industrial Employment

### North Central WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA (2nd Qtr 2005)

ALBERTSONS  
ALCATEL USA RESOURCES  
AMERICAN AIRLINES INC  
BLOCKBUSTER  
BRINKER INTERNATIONAL PAYROLL CO  
BROOKSHIRE GROCERY CO  
COUNTRYWIDE FUNDING CORP  
ELECTRONIC DATA SYSTEMS CORPORATION  
HOME DEPOT USA  
J C PENNEY CORPORATION INC  
KROGER TEXAS  
L-3 COMMUNICATIONS INTEGRATED SYSTEM  
LIFE TIME FITNESS  
MCI WORLDCOM NETWORK SERVICES INC  
NORTH HILLS HOSPITAL  
PACCAR INC.  
PEROT SYSTEMS CORPORATION  
RAYTHEON COMPANY  
TARGET STORES DIVISION  
WAL-MART ASSOCIATES

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005 Change

SUPER SECTOR	Total	Quarter	Year	
Natural Resources & Mining	6,453	722	628	
Construction	35,657	2,220	3,048	
Manufacturing	70,117	93	499	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	132,475	2,255	14,155	
Information	23,258	345	5,257	
Financial Activities	43,178	952	8,462	
Professional and Business Svcs.	58,119	2,681	8,160	
Education & Health Services	58,871	1,655	5,618	
Leisure & Hospitality	66,544	4,031	7,373	
Other Services	15,434	792	1,377	
Federal Government	4,055	-260	99	
State Government	18,191	34	-952	
Local Government	84,976	274	2,440	
Nonclassified & Confidential	1,401	-30	465	
TOTAL	618,729	15,764	56,629	
Average Weekly Wage	NC	Change	Texas	Change
2nd QTR 2005	\$721.61	\$40.50	\$737.50	\$31.66
2004 Average	\$681.11	\$26.62	\$705.84	\$19.33
2003 Average	\$654.49		\$686.51	

## Labor Force Estimates

\*2005 Data for the WDA is not comparable to previous years.

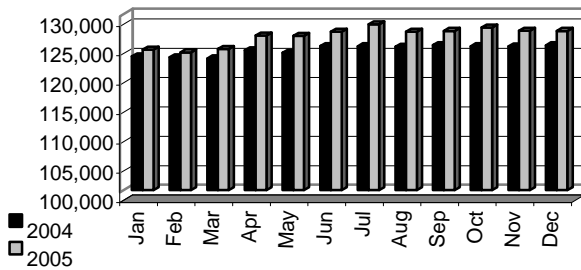
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	North East WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
December 2005	133,349	127,093	6,256	4.7	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
November 2005	133,806	127,115	6,691	5.0	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*December 2004	132,409	124,656	7,753	5.9	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

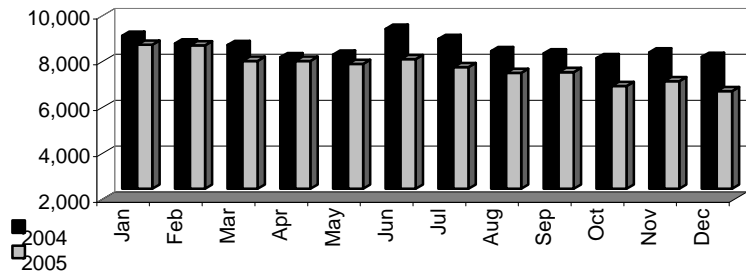
## North East WDA

Employment in the North East Texas WDA decreased in December 2005 with a reduction of 22 workers. Over the month, unemployment decreased by 6.5 percent. Delta County had the largest percentage decrease in unemployment at 13.6 percent followed by Hopkins County at 8.7 percent. The unemployment rate decreased by three-tenths of a percentage point. The number of continued claims increased by 20.9 percent in December.

## North East WDA

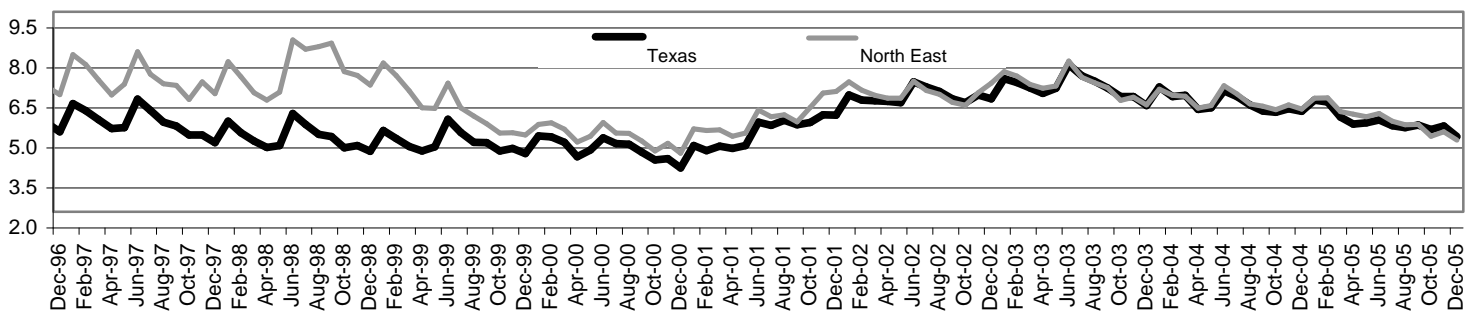


Employment

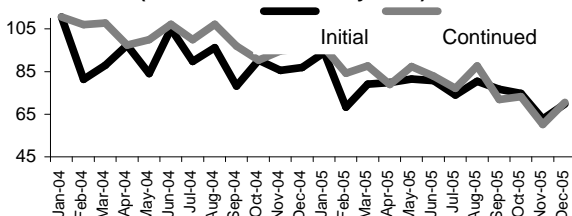


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Initial	701	617	903	-202
Continued	4,942	4,086	7,016	-2,074

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	December 2005	November 2005	December 2004	OTY Change
Continued	795	818	1,435	-640

# North East Workforce Development Area

December 2005

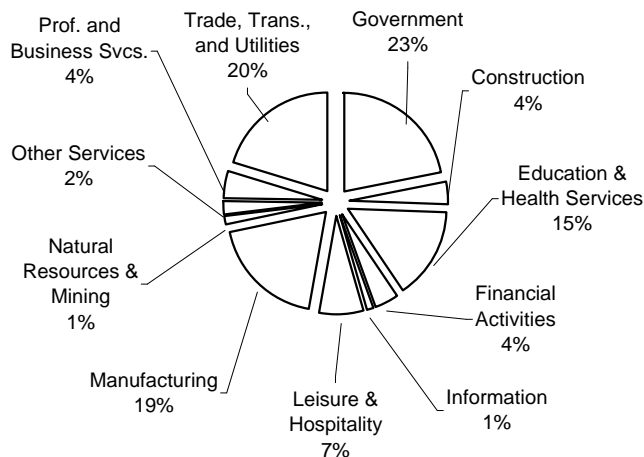
## Occupational Information

### North East WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	210	Waiters & Waitresses	115
Retail Salespersons	205	Slaughterers & Meat Packers	80
Fast Food Preparations & Serving Workers	155	Elementary School Teachers	75
Personal & Home Care Aides	145	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers	75
Registered Nurses	125	Home Health Aides	70

## Industrial Employment

### North East WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA

2nd Quarter 2005

ALUMAX MILL PRODUCTS INC  
 BROOKSHIRE GROCERY CO  
 CAMPBELL SOUP SUPPLY COMPANY LLC  
 CHRISTUS HEALTH ARK-LA-TEX  
 COLLOM & CARNEY CLINIC  
 DAY & ZIMMERMANN INC  
 EARTHGRAINS BAKING COMPANIES INC  
 ESSENT PRMC LP  
 FOREST RESOURCES  
 GROCERY SUPPLY COMPANY  
 JORDAN HOME CARE LTD  
 KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION PAYROLL  
 LEAR SIEGLER SERVICES INC  
 LONE STAR STEEL COMPANY  
 LOWES HOME CENTERS INC  
 PILGRIMS PRIDE CORP  
 PRIEFERT MFG CO INC  
 TXU MINING COMPANY LP  
 WADLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd QTR 2005

Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	1,388	46	-74
<i>Construction</i>	3,775	36	153
<i>Manufacturing</i>	20,021	14	44
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	21,600	600	721
<i>Information</i>	1,070	201	429
<i>Financial Activities</i>	4,110	-175	-179
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	4,649	459	-589
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	15,940	32	-33
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	7,619	46	-74
<i>Other Services</i>	2,411	600	721
<i>Federal Government</i>	5,022	608	-84
<i>State Government</i>	2,264	23	94
<i>Local Government</i>	15,977	-30	29
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	125	23	94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105,971</b>	<b>2,483</b>	<b>1,252</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>North East</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$563.23	\$5.70	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$557.53	-\$12.82	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$570.35		\$710.73	

<http://www.tracer2.com/>

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

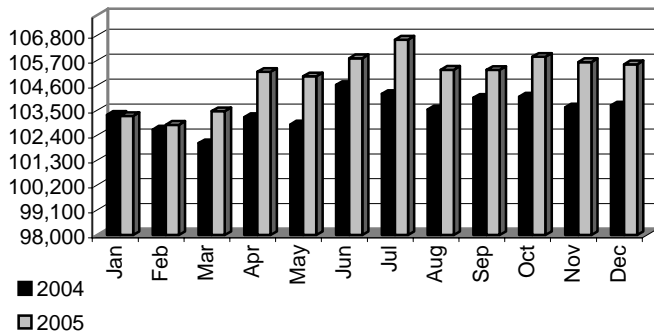
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	North Texas WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
DECEMBER 2005	109,860	105,534	4,326	3.9	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
NOVEMBER 2005	110,310	105,627	4,683	4.2	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*DECEMBER 2004	108,906	103,715	5,191	4.8	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

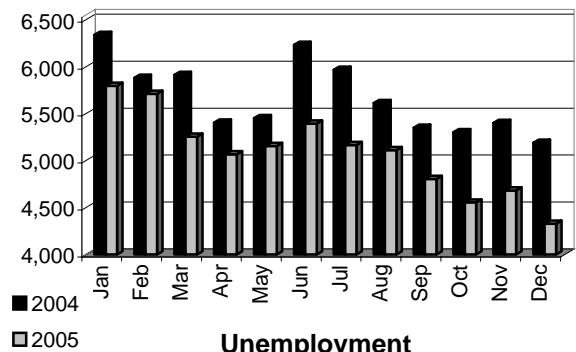
## North Texas WDA

The North Texas' jobless rate decreased over the month from November's 4.2 percent to 3.9 percent—the lowest rate since December 2000. The number of jobholders declined for the second straight month, slipping by 93 to 105,534 employed. Of the eleven counties within the WDA, only three counties recorded slight gains in their employment. The largest reductions to employment occurred in Wichita County (43) and Montague County (26). The number of Texans in the WDA seeking work decreased over the month, sliding by 357 to 4,326 unemployed—its lowest level since May 2001. The majority of the unemployment decrease within the WDA was attributed to Wichita County (258). Continued claims for unemployment insurance decreased for a second straight month, dipping to 480 claims.

## North Texas WDA

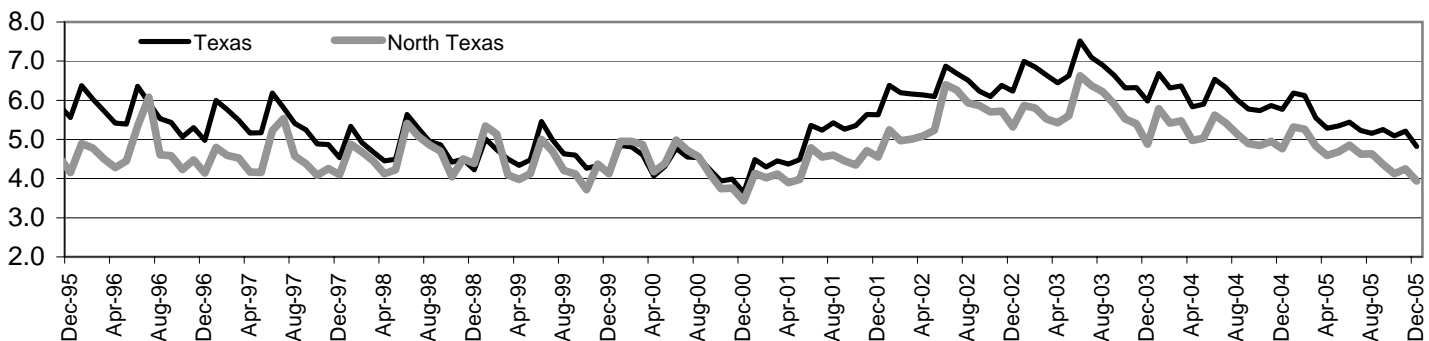


Employment

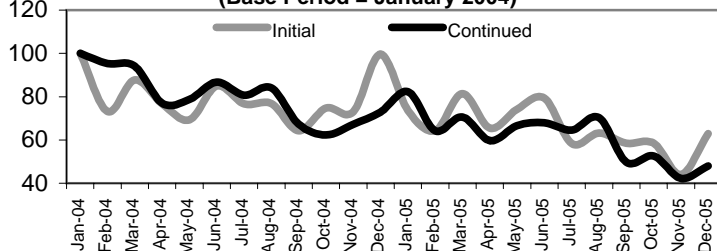


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	435	304	689	-254
Continued	2,370	2,087	3,592	-1,222

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	Dec-04	OTY Change
Continued	480	515	644	-164

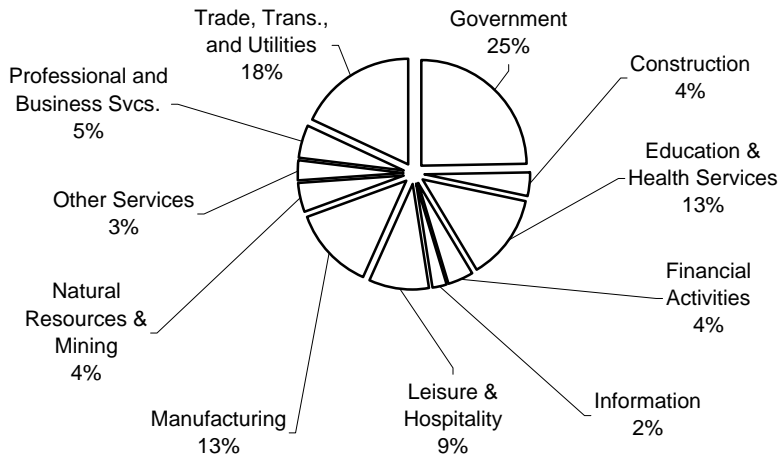
## Occupational Information

### North Texas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	150	Personal & Home Care Aides	70
Retail Salespersons	130	Farmers & Ranchers	65
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	130	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	55
Registered Nurses	85	Office Clerks, General	50
Waiters & Waitresses	80	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	45

## Industrial Employment

### North Texas WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA (2nd Qtr 2005)

AVIS CAR RENTAL GROUP INC  
 CINGULAR WIRELESS EMPLOYEE  
 CLINICS OF NORTH TEXAS  
 CONCEPTS OF CARE  
 CRYOVAC  
 G-P GYPSUM CORPORATION  
 HEALTHPRO HOME HEALTH  
 HELPSOURCE  
 HOWMET CASTINGS & SERVICES INC  
 KELL WEST REGIONAL HOSPITAL LLC  
 LEAR SIEGLER SERVICES  
 ODYSSEY ONE SOURCE  
 PPG INDUSTRIES  
 SAINT-GOBAIN VETROTEx  
 TOWER EXTRUSIONS  
 TURBINE AIRFOIL REFURBISHMENT  
 TYSON REFRIGERATED PROCESSED  
 UNITED REGIONAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM  
 UNITED SUPERMARKETS  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd QTR 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	3,628	166	451
<i>Construction</i>	3,063	185	122
<i>Manufacturing</i>	10,310	138	570
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	14,830	273	430
<i>Information</i>	1,855	-23	-48
<i>Financial Activities</i>	3,253	119	65
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	3,900	-22	-105
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	10,570	119	180
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	7,477	376	-3
<i>Other Services</i>	2,682	33	-98
<i>Federal Government</i>	2,828	-26	-115
<i>State Government</i>	4,966	56	88
<i>Local Government</i>	12,327	-40	102
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	145	-13	38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81,834</b>	<b>1,341</b>	<b>1,677</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$541.49	\$11.86	\$737.50	\$31.66
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$529.63	\$15.30	\$705.84	\$19.33
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$514.34		\$686.51	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

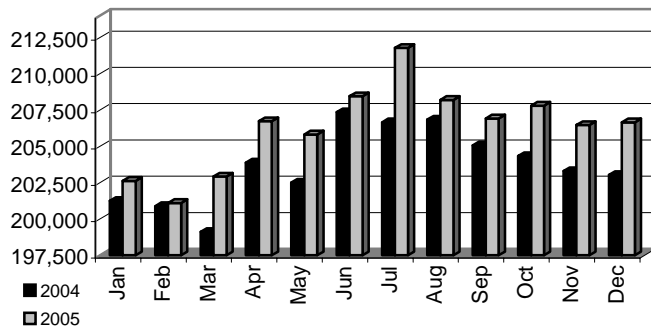
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	Panhandle WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
DECEMBER 2005	214,187	206,652	7,535	3.5	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
NOVEMBER 2005	214,526	206,467	8,059	3.8	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*DECEMBER 2004	212,116	203,022	9,094	4.3	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

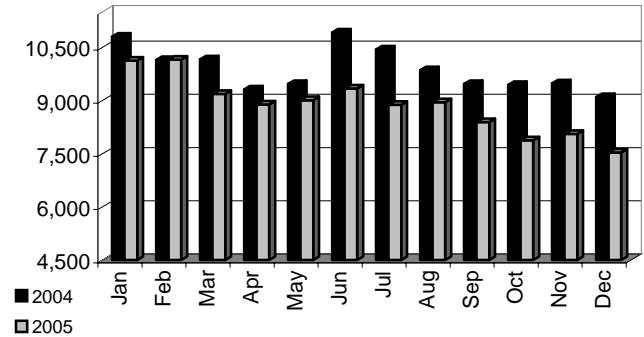
## Panhandle WDA

The Panhandle's jobless rate decreased over the month from November's 3.8 percent to 3.5 percent—the lowest rate since December 2000. The number of jobholders nudged upward over the month, increasing by 185 to 206,652 employed. Of the twenty-six counties within the WDA, only eleven counties recorded increases in their employment. The largest employment increase was recorded in Hemphill County with an addition of 133 workers. The number of Texans in the WDA seeking work decreased over the month, sliding by 524 to 7,535 unemployed—its lowest level since May 2001. Of all the counties in the WDA, only Collingsworth and Childress counties had slight increases in their unemployment. The largest decreases to unemployment occurred in Potter County (189) and Randall County (113). Continued claims for unemployment insurance rose for the first time in the past four months, rising to 734 claims.

## Panhandle WDA

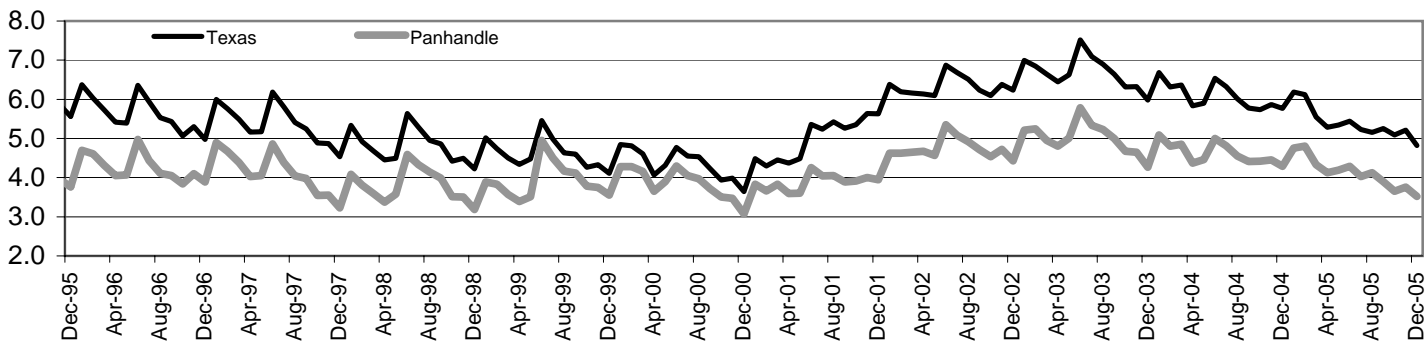


Employment

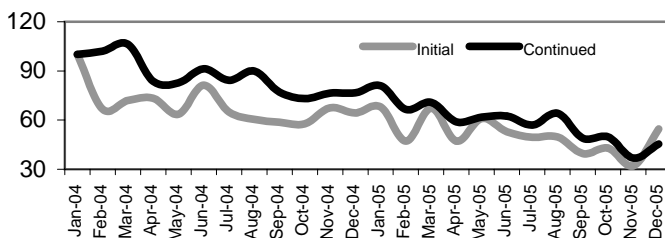


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	716	422	844	-128
Continued	3,547	2,880	5,984	-2,437

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Continued	734	712	1,036	-302

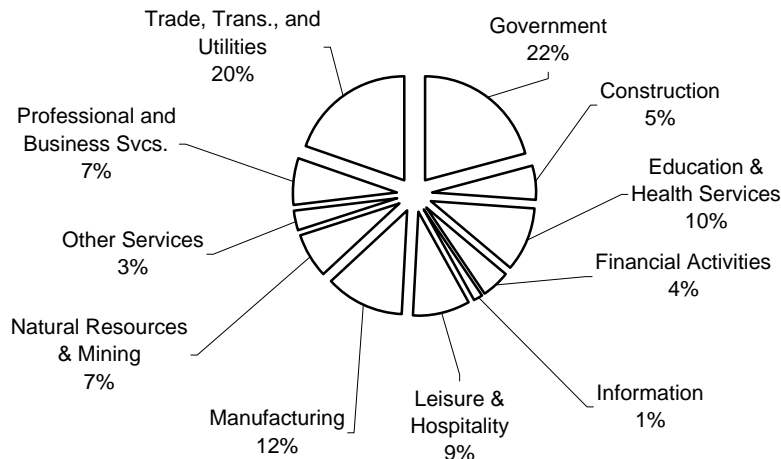
## Occupational Information

### Panhandle WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	295	Registered Nurses	130
Retail Salespersons	250	Child Care Workers	115
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	235	Elementary School Teachers, Except	
Waiters & Waitresses	185	Special Education	110
Slaughterers & Meat Packers	135	Office Clerks, General	105
		Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers	105

## Industrial Employment

### Panhandle WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA (2nd Qtr 2005)

A L STAFFING  
 AFFILIATED FOODS  
 AMARILLO NATIONAL BANK  
 AMERICAN GENERAL ANNUITY  
 ANDERSON MERCHANDISERS LP  
 BACKYARD VENTURES LP  
 BAPTIST ST ANTHONYS HOSPITAL  
 BELL HELICOPTER TEXTRON  
 BWXT PANTEX  
 CARGILL MEAT SOLUTIONS CORP.  
 CENTRAL TX STAFFING LTD  
 HASTINGS ENTERTAINMENT INC  
 NORTHWEST TEXAS HEALTHCARE  
 OUTREACH HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES  
 OWENS CORNING CORP  
 SWIFT BEEF COMPANY  
 TYSON FRESH MEATS  
 UNITED SUPERMARKETS LTD  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES  
 XCEL ENERGY SERVICES INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

	2nd QTR 2005		Change	
<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>	
Natural Resources & Mining	11,414	313	807	
Construction	8,904	648	533	
Manufacturing	20,451	-527	-776	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	33,131	194	-29	
Information	2,296	60	-630	
Financial Activities	7,508	93	-138	
Professional and Business Svcs.	11,796	1,042	1,413	
Education & Health Services	16,848	264	-434	
Leisure & Hospitality	14,894	658	-738	
Other Services	5,441	169	455	
Federal Government	2,725	-7	-53	
State Government	7,081	-61	65	
Local Government	24,830	253	503	
Nonclassified & Confidential	224	43	85	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>167,543</b>	<b>3,142</b>	<b>1,063</b>	
<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Panhandle</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
2nd QTR 2005	\$582.80	-\$0.14	\$737.50	\$31.66
2004 Average	\$582.94	\$20.49	\$705.84	\$19.33
2003 Average	\$562.45		\$686.51	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

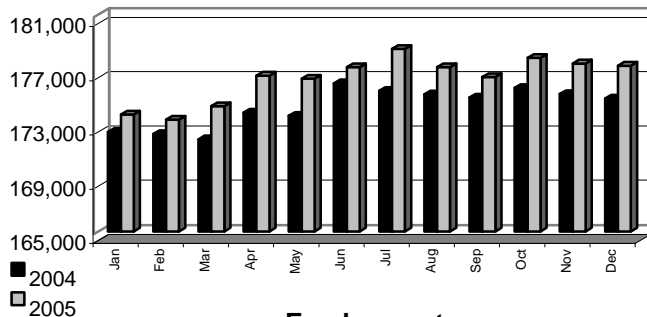
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Permian Basin WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
<b>Dec-05</b>	184,489	177,223	7,266	3.9	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov-05</b>	185,184	177,389	7,795	4.2	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	184,070	174,813	9,257	5.0	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

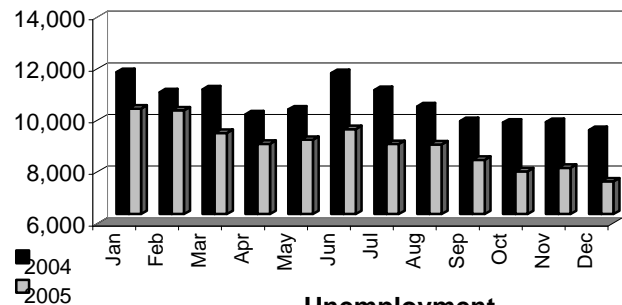
## Permian Basin WDA

The civilian labor force in the Permian Basin WDA decreased slightly by 695 in December to 184,489 people. The labor force is comprised of 177,223 workers and 7,266 job seekers. The unemployment rate in the WDA decreased 0.3 percent over the month to 3.9 percent. Borden County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.3 percent while Reeves County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.7 percent. Employment in the WDA edged downward by 0.1 percent or 166 workers in December. Since January 2005, employment has expanded by 3,602. Of the seventeen counties within the WDA, nine had employment losses over the month. The majority of employment losses occurred in Midland County (118), Ector County (95), and Pecos County (91). The number of unemployed in the WDA declined by 6.8 percent or 529 people over the month. All counties within this WDA experienced either a decrease or no change in job seekers over the month. The number of continued claims dropped slightly over the month to 692 and since the beginning of the year, claims had declined by 2,961.

## Permian Basin WDA

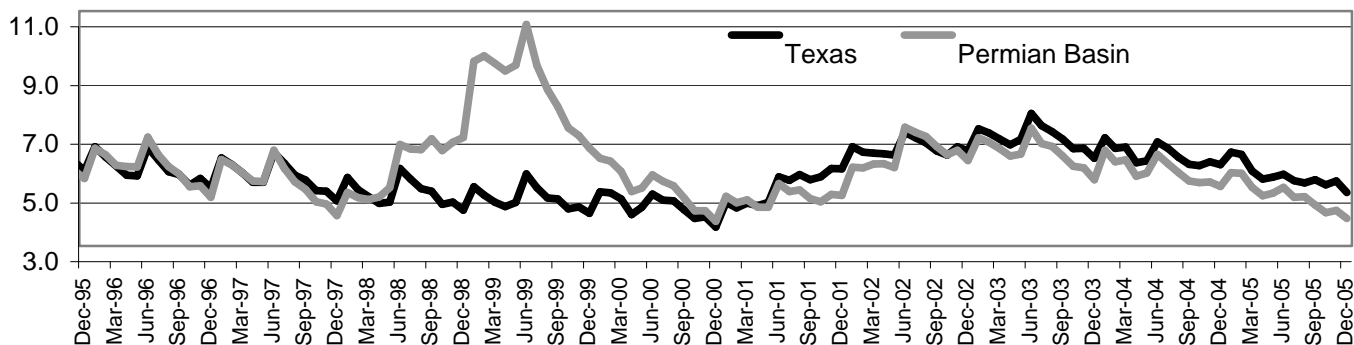


Employment

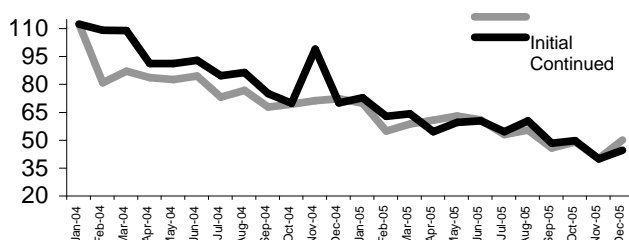


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
<b>Initial</b>	608	447	965	-357
<b>Continued</b>	3,367	2,884	6,029	-2,662

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

<b>Continued</b>	692	704	1,165	-473
------------------	-----	-----	-------	------



## Occupational Information

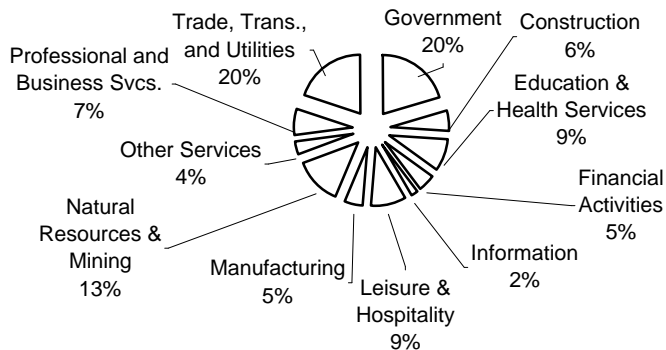
### Permian Basin WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

Occupation	Job Openings	Occupation	Job Openings
Cashiers	250	Child Care Workers	125
Retail Salespersons	225	Registered Nurses	125
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	205	Office Clerks, General	105
Waiters & Waitresses	170	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	100
Personal & Home Care Aides	160	General & Operations Managers	95

## Industrial Employment

### Permian Basin WDA Industry Composition

2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers for the WDA

2nd Quarter 2005

ACCUTEL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE INC  
ALBERTSONS INC  
AMS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS & STERLING  
BASIC ENERGY SERVICES LP  
CINGULAR WIRELESS EMPLOYEE SERVICES  
CONOCOPHILLIPS COMPANY  
CORNELL CORRECTIONS OF TEXAS INC  
DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL CO  
ENDEAVOR PETROLEUM LP  
HALLIBURTON ENERGY SERVICES INC  
HEB GROCERY COMPANY  
IN HOME CARE INC  
LOGANS ROADHOUSE INC  
NURSES UNLIMITED INC  
PATTERSON-UTI DRILLING SOUTH LP  
ROSA'S CAFE & TORILLA FACTORY  
SCHLUMBERGER TECHNOLOGY CORP  
SOUTHWEST CONVENIENCE STORES INC  
WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
YALE E KEY INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005

Change

SUPER SECTOR	Total	Quarter	Year
Natural Resources & Mining	20,053	383	1,666
Construction	8,712	247	17
Manufacturing	7,876	246	38
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	30,626	509	637
Information	2,879	-84	133
Financial Activities	7,216	174	384
Professional and Business Svcs.	11,329	427	665
Education & Health Services	13,673	-59	-1,008
Leisure & Hospitality	14,464	432	370
Other Services	5,498	140	19
Federal Government	1,914	-41	-59
State Government	4,175	20	7
Local Government	25,565	4	67
Nonclassified & Confidential	276	67	179
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>154,256</b>	<b>2,465</b>	<b>3,115</b>

Average Weekly Wage	PB	Change	Texas	Change
2nd QTR 2005	\$623.87	-\$41.49	\$737.50	-\$2.40
2004 Average	\$665.36	\$39.37	\$739.90	\$29.17
2003 Average	\$625.99		\$710.73	

Dec-05

## Rural Capital WDA

## Labor Force Estimates

\* Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

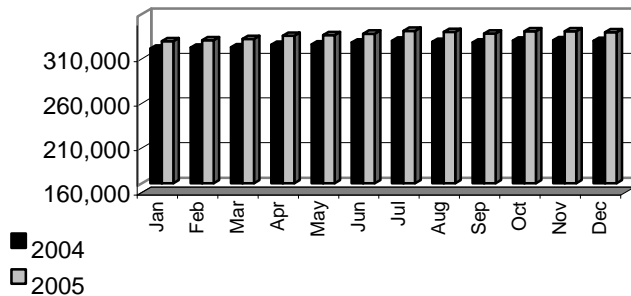
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Rural Capital WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
<b>Dec-05</b>	342,533	329,776	12,757	3.7	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
<b>Nov</b>	344,630	330,960	13,670	4.0	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
<b>*Dec-04</b>	334,945	320,149	14,796	4.4	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

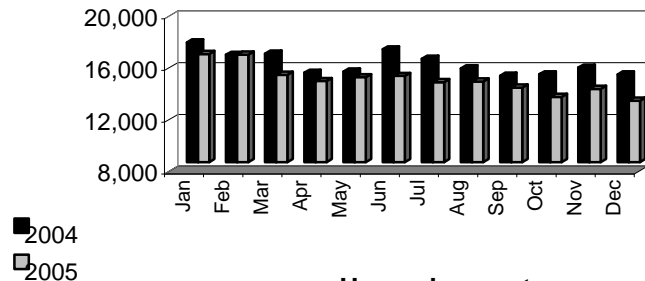
## Rural Capital WDA

Rural Capital's labor force decreased in size by 2,097 in December. The number of employed residents decreased by 1,184 over the month and the number of job seekers decreased by 913. The unemployment rate for the Rural Capital area decreased by three-tenths of a percentage point to 3.7 percent in December. The unemployment rate in the Rural Capital has been below 4.5 percent since March 2005. The counties driving the unemployment rate down in the WDA are Hays and Williamson, combining for the majority of unemployment declines. There is historically a decrease in the number of employed and as well an decrease in the number unemployed for Rural Capital during the month of December. In addition, the number of claims for unemployment benefits dropped over the month by 234 claims.

## Rural Capital WDA

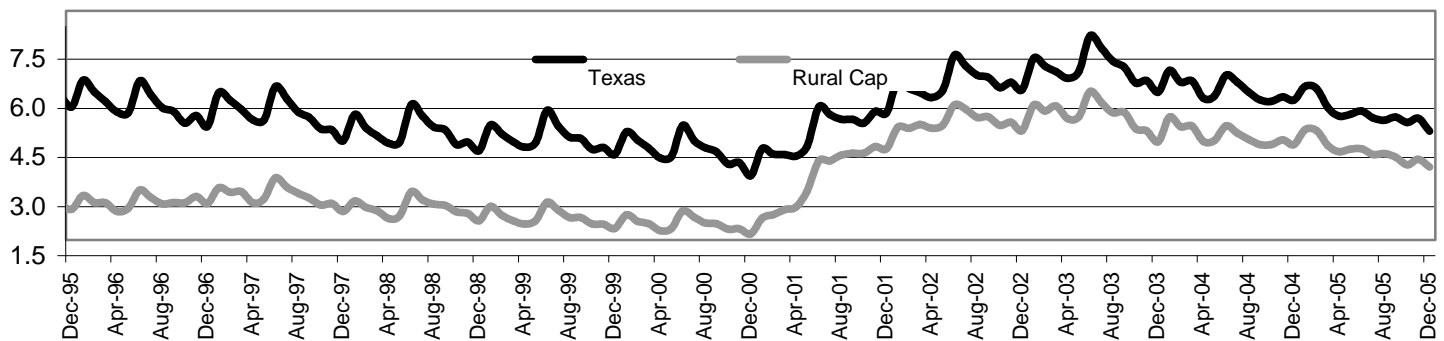


Employment

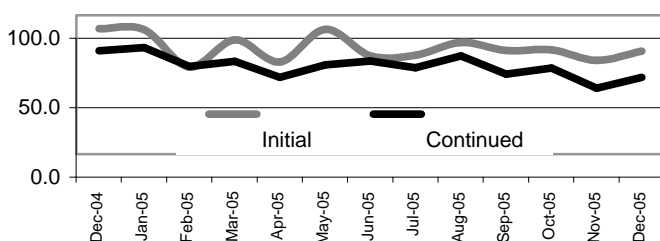


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY Change
<b>Initial</b>	1,375	1,248	1,673	-298
<b>Continued</b>	9,405	8,065	12,648	-3,243

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

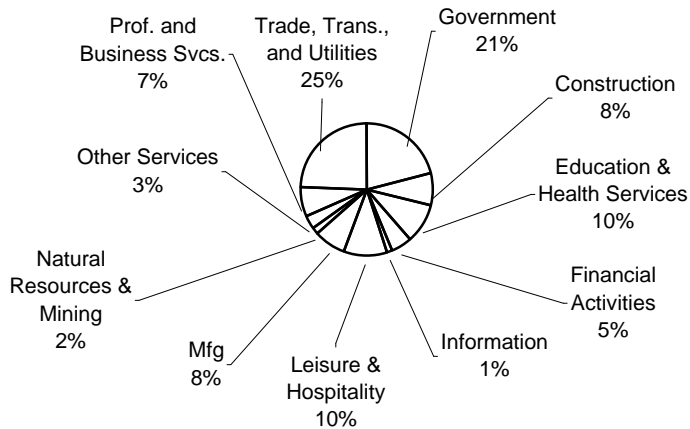
	Dec-05	Nov	*Dec-04	OTY Change
<b>Continued</b>	2,140	2,374	2,508	-368

## Occupational Information

Rural Capital WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the  
Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	375	Secondary School Teachers	170
Cashiers	365	Janitors & Cleaners	160
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	330	Teacher Assistants	150
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	220	General & Operations Managers	125
Waiters & Waitresses	200	Child Care Workers	125

## Industrial Employment

Rural Capital WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA  
2nd Quarter 2005

ADMINISTAFF COMPANIES II LP  
 ALBERTSONS INC  
 CCA ACQUISITION SUB INC  
 CENTRAL TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER  
 DELL FINANCIAL SERVICES LP  
 DELL MARKETING USA LP  
 DELL PRODUCTS LP  
 DELL USA LP  
 GEORGETOWN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM INC  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY LP  
 HOME DEPOT USA INC  
 JC EVANS CONSTRUCTION CO LP  
 MTC/GSA - TEXAS  
 PEDERNALES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC  
 ROUND ROCK HOSPITAL INC  
 SEARS AND ROEBUCK AND COMPANY  
 STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE  
 TARGET STORES DIVISION  
 TEXAS GUARANTEED STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

	2nd Quarter 2005	Change	
<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	2,826	190	556
Construction	13,474	954	2,218
Manufacturing	13,680	-102	743
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	43,014	1,712	4,101
Information	2,183	31	365
Financial Activities	7,481	192	2,237
Professional and Business Svcs.	12,878	469	1,650
Education & Health Services	16,852	43	1,496
Leisure & Hospitality	18,941	1,983	2,162
Other Services	5,667	123	744
Federal Government	1,339	38	1
State Government	6,462	22	29
Local Government	30,873	-922	923
Nonclassified & Confidential	437	77	137
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176,107</b>	<b>4,810</b>	<b>17,362</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Rural</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd Quarter 2005</b>	\$652.44	(\$77.81)	\$737.50	(\$2.40)
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$730.25	\$89.76	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$640.49		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\*2005 Data for the WDA is not comparable to previous years.

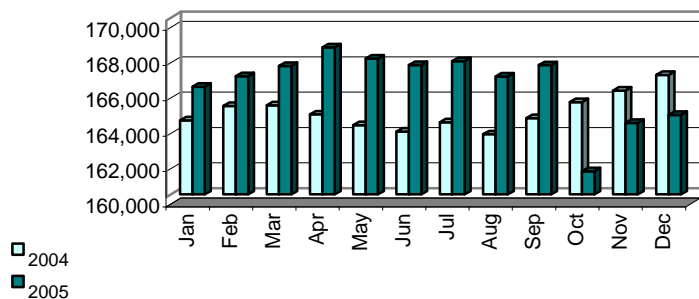
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

South East Texas WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
December 2005	177,514	164,499	13,015	7.3	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
November 2005	179,412	164,056	15,356	8.6	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*December 2004	181,419	166,770	14,649	8.1	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

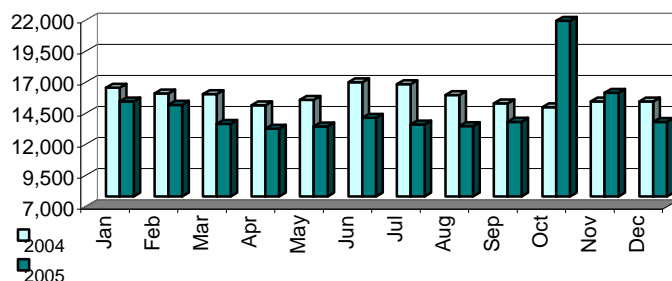
## South East Texas WDA

Employment for December 2005 in the South East Texas WDA increased by 443 workers, which is an increase of three-tenths of a percentage point. Of the three counties, Jefferson County had the largest over-the-month increase in employment with a gain of 281 workers, followed by Orange County with a gain of 101 workers. Unemployment within the Southeast Texas WDA decreased over the month by 15.2 percent. The WDA's unemployment rate decreased by 1.3 percent. The highest unemployment rate was found in Jefferson County at 7.6 percent. The lowest unemployment rate was found in Hardin County at 5.9 percent. Continued claims decreased 27.1 percent.

## South East Texas WDA

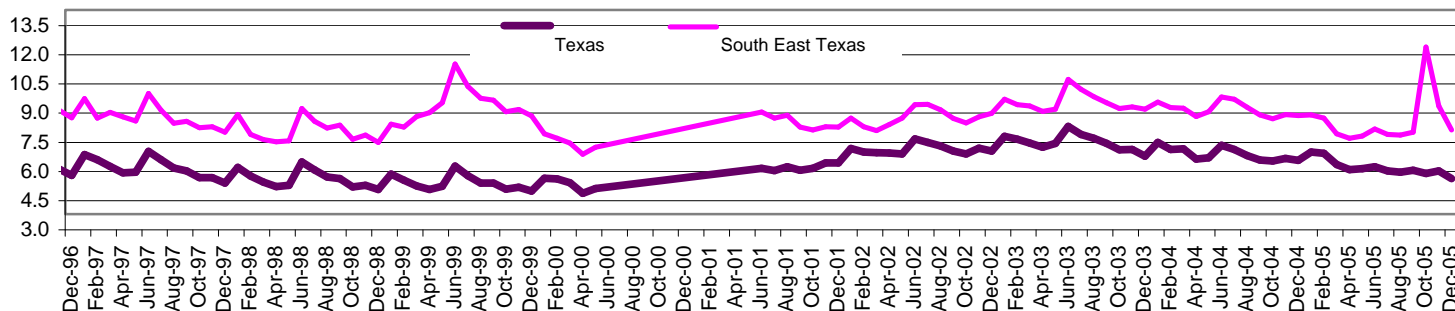


Employment

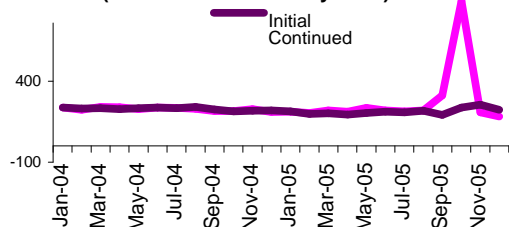


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period - January 2004)

## Total Claims

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Initial	1,105	1,728	1,758	-653
Continued	16,170	22,179	15,319	851

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	December 2005	November 2005	December 2004	OTY Change
Continued	3,714	5,224	2,902	812

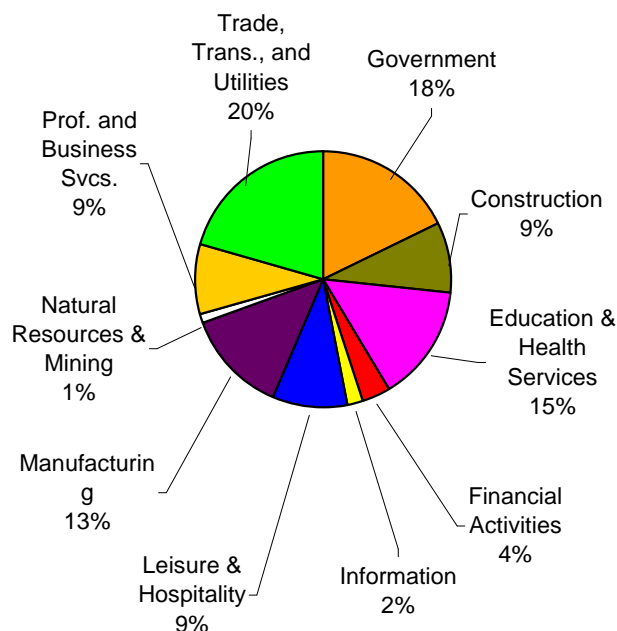
## Occupational Information

### South East Texas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	310	Elementary School Teachers	130
Fast Food Preparation & Serving Workers	245	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers	110
Cashiers	240	Office Clerks, General	105
Waiters & Waitresses	150	Personal & Home Care Aides	105
Registered Nurses	130	Secondary School Teachers	100

## Industrial Employment

### South East Texas WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA

2nd Quarter 2005

A & B BUILDERS LTD

AMERICARE PROFESSIONALS

BAPTIST HOSPITALS OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS INC

BEAUMONT HOME HEALTH SERVICE INC

CAI LP

CHRISTUS HEALTH SOUTHEAST TEXAS

CONEX INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

E I DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND CO

EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION

HUNTSMAN PETROCHEMICAL CORPORATION

J J FLANAGAN SHIPPING CRP

MOTIVA COMPANY

R E E INC

RETAIL INVESTORS OF TEXAS LTD

TEXAS HOME HEALTH OF AMERICA INC

THE MEDICAL CENTER OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS

THE PREMCOR REFINING GROUP INC

TRIPLE S INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

TURNER INDUSTRIES GROUP LLC

WAL MART ASSOCIATES INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

SUPER SECTOR	2nd QTR 2005		Change	
	Total	Quarter	Year	
Natural Resources & Mining	1,388	-64	590	
Construction	13,114	605	940	
Manufacturing	19,505	-470	65	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	30,364	1,131	740	
Information	2,691	225	309	
Financial Activities	5,532	213	438	
Professional and Business Svcs.	13,216	572	1,029	
Education & Health Services	21,576	342	1,351	
Leisure & Hospitality	13,776	1,361	523	
Other Services	4,265	238	99	
Federal Government	3,107	12	-10	
State Government	5,145	156	114	
Local Government	18,082	-24	304	
Nonclassified & Confidential	122	-96	170	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151,883</b>	<b>4,201</b>	<b>6,662</b>	
<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
2nd QTR 2005	\$658.57	-\$8.44	\$737.50	-\$2.40
2004 Average	\$667.01	-\$35.54	\$739.90	\$29.17
2003 Average	\$702.55		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

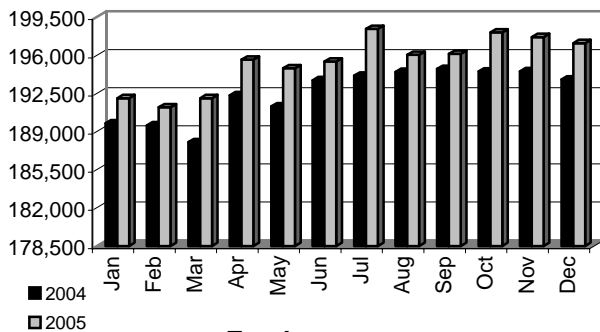
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	South Plains WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
DECEMBER 2005	204,659	197,125	7,534	3.7	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
NOVEMBER 2005	205,659	197,677	7,982	3.9	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*DECEMBER 2004	202,979	193,786	9,193	4.5	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

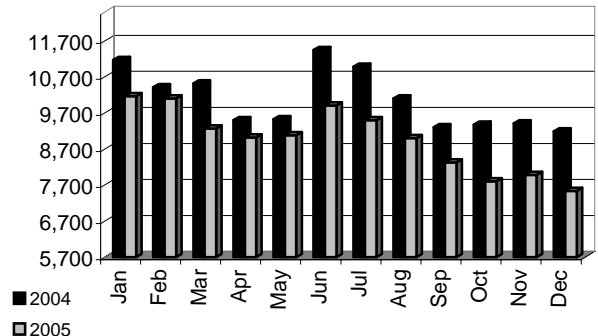
## South Plains WDA

The South Plains' jobless rate decreased over the month from November's 3.9 percent to 3.7 percent—the lowest rate since December 2000. The number of jobholders declined for the second straight month, slipping by 552 to 197,125 employed. The largest employment increase was recorded in Hale County with an addition of 117 workers. The majority of the employment loss within the WDA was attributed to Lubbock County's reduction of 535 employed. The number of Texans in the WDA seeking work decreased over the month, sliding by 448 to 7,534 unemployed—its lowest level since December 2001. Of the fifteen counties within the WDA, only three counties recorded slight gains in their unemployment. The majority of the unemployment decrease within the WDA was attributed to Lubbock County (334). Continued claims for unemployment insurance rose for the first time in the past five months, rising to 853 claims.

## South Plains WDA

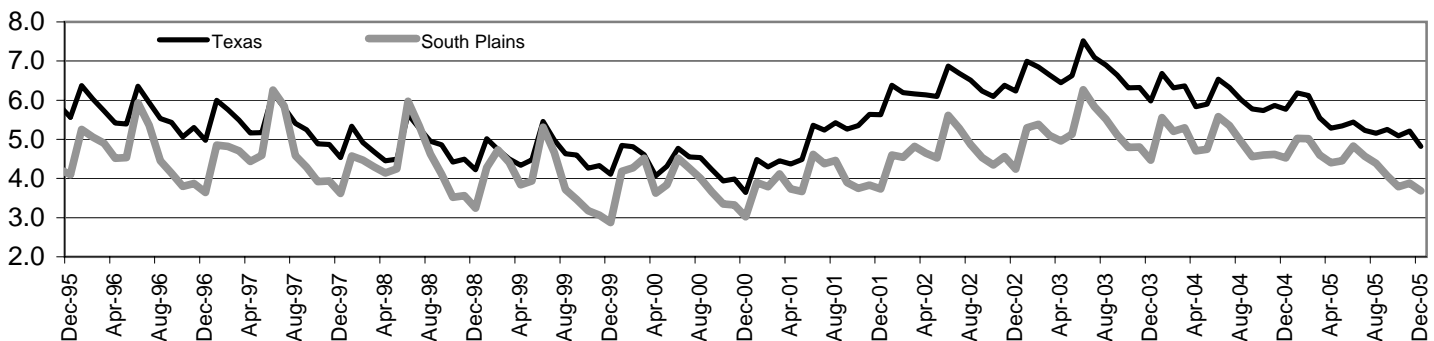


Employment

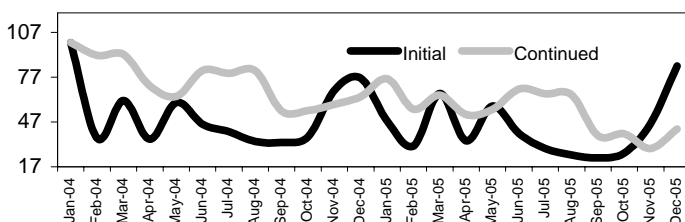


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	2,114	1,149	1,909	205
Continued	4,601	3,187	6,948	-2,347

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	1,161	-308
Continued	853	789	1,161	-308

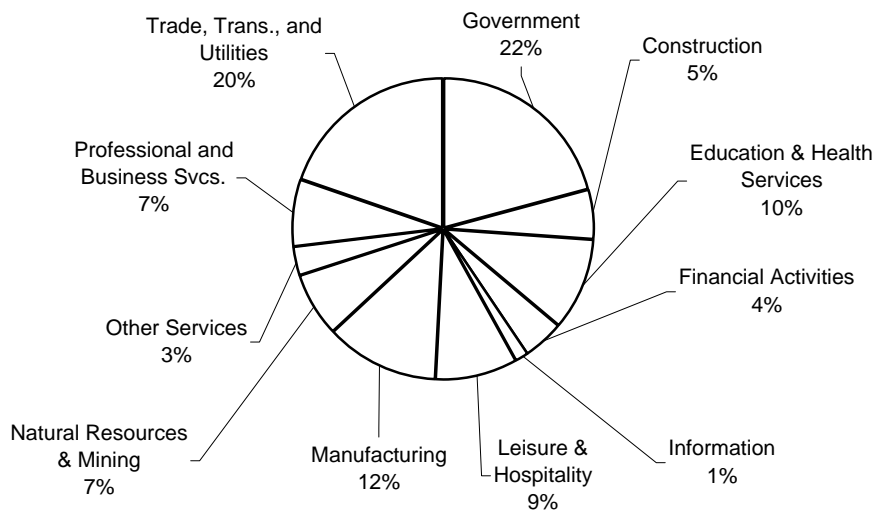
### Occupational Information

#### South Plains WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	285	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop,	
Retail Salespersons	260	Nursery, & Greenhouse	135
Combined Food Preparation & Serving		Personal & Home Care Aides	130
Workers, Including Fast Food	260	Office Clerks, General	115
Waiters & Waitresses	205	Child Care Workers	115
Registered Nurses	180	Customer Service Representatives	110

### Industrial Employment

#### South Plains WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



#### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA (2nd Qtr 2005)

ARAMARK SCHOOLS INC  
 BENEFIT STAFFING  
 BUFFET PARTNERS  
 CARGILL MEAT SOLUTIONS CORP.  
 CINGULAR WIRELESS EMPLOYEE  
 CONVERGYS CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT  
 COVENANT HEALTH SYSTEM  
 COX SOUTHWEST CABLE HOLDINGS LP  
 EXCELL SERVICES  
 LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
 MCDONALDS  
 PAY & SAVE CORPORATION  
 PLAINS COTTON COOPERATIVE  
 SHEILS SERVICE INC  
 SOUTH PLAINS COMMUNITY ACTION  
 SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE  
 ST MARY MEDICAL GROUP  
 UNITED SUPERMARKETS LTD  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 WELLS FARGO BANK

#### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA 2nd QTR 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	8,558	-905	233
<i>Construction</i>	6,786	509	-16
<i>Manufacturing</i>	9,361	98	-204
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	32,766	153	226
<i>Information</i>	6,640	334	545
<i>Financial Activities</i>	8,217	194	-81
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	11,339	-364	-550
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	20,512	59	56
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	17,471	915	276
<i>Other Services</i>	5,669	162	-186
<i>Federal Government</i>	1,657	-154	-38
<i>State Government</i>	10,956	-9	277
<i>Local Government</i>	22,877	131	734
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	122	-165	-6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>162,931</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>1,266</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>South Plains</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$548.42	\$1.56	\$737.50	\$31.66
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$546.86	\$15.35	\$705.84	\$19.33
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$531.51		\$686.51	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

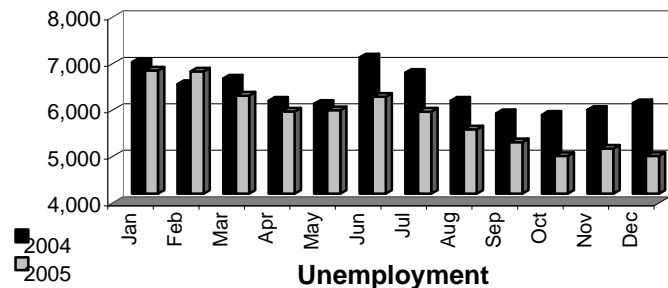
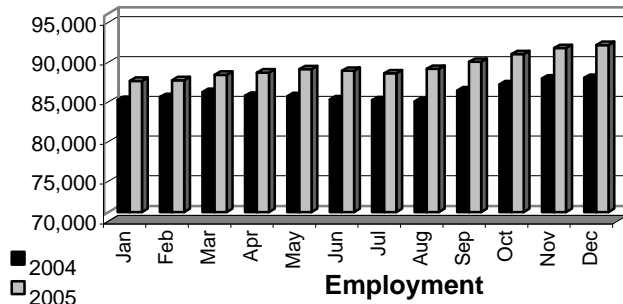
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

South Texas WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
Dec-05	95,826	91,015	4,811	5.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
Nov-05	95,608	90,637	4,971	5.2	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*Dec-04	92,848	86,898	5,950	6.4	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

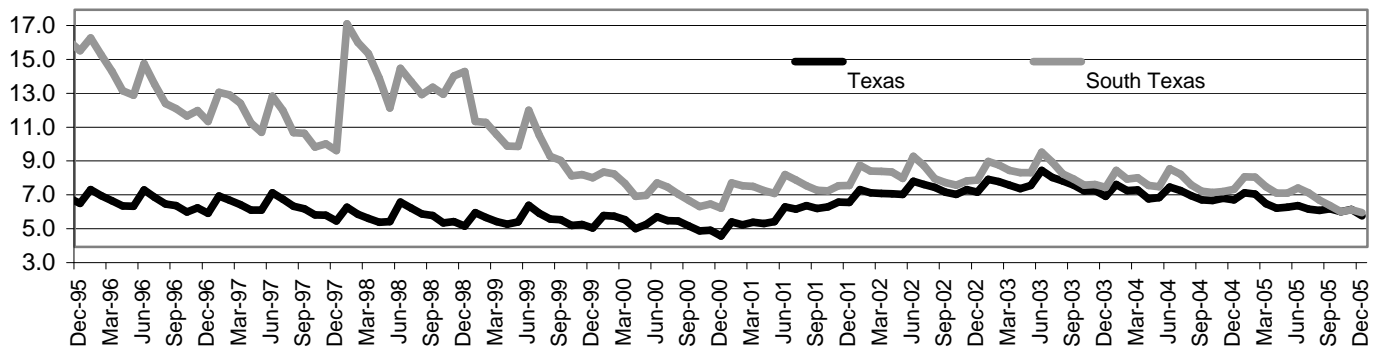
## South Texas WDA

The unemployment rate in the South Texas WDA dropped two-tenths of a percentage point in December to 5.0 percent. The unemployment rate stood at 6.4 percent a year ago. Jim Hogg County had the lowest unemployment rate at 4.0 percent while Zapata County had the highest at 5.4 percent. Employment in the WDA increased slightly by 0.4 percent in December to 91,015. Two counties within the WDA experienced employment gains over the month with the majority of employment gains occurring in Webb County (395). Since January 2005, employment has expanded by 4,493 additional workers. The number of unemployed in the WDA edged downward by 3.2 percent to 4,811 people. The number of job seekers decreased in two of the three counties over the month with the majority occurring in Webb County (150). The number of continued claims slightly increased over the month to 761. However, since January 2005, claims had dropped by 1,606.

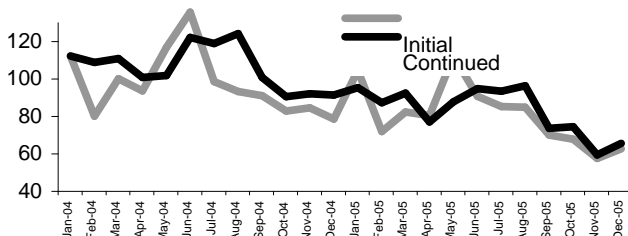
## South Texas WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	350	315	461	-111
Continued	2,862	2,538	4,256	-1,394

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Continued	761	705	1,029	-268



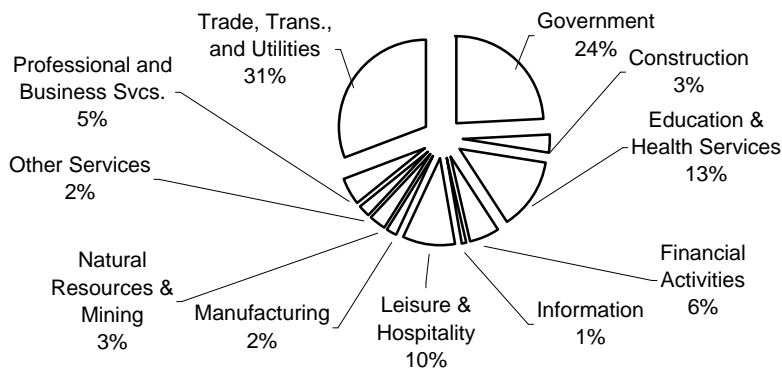
## Occupational Information

### South Texas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	180	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	95
Cashiers	150	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	85
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	145	Waiters & Waitresses	80
Personal & Home Care Aides	135	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special &	75
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	130	Vocational Education	
		Office Clerks, General	70

## Industrial Employment

### South Texas WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers for the WDA 2nd Quarter 2005

APC HOME HEALTH SERVICE INC  
 HEB GROCERY COMPANY  
 HELMERICH & PAYNE INTNATL DRILLING  
 INTERNATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE  
 LAREDO COCA COLA BOTTLING  
 LAREDO PRIMARY CARE  
 LAREDO REAL FOODS INC  
 LAREDO REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
 LAREDO TEXAS HOSPITAL COMPANY INC  
 MATT DIETZ COMPANY LTD  
 NURSING SERVICES & CONSULTANTS  
 ORTIZ MANAGEMENT GROUP  
 PALOMITA PRIMARY HOME CARE  
 POPEYES OF LAREDO  
 QSR BURGERS ONE LP  
 SANDS CARE HEALTH SERVICES LC  
 STAFF FORCE INC  
 SWIFT TRANSPORTATION CO INC  
 THE LAREDO NATIONAL BANK  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	2,736	453	108
<i>Construction</i>	2,954	24	69
<i>Manufacturing</i>	1,750	56	80
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	26,449	217	593
<i>Information</i>	706	5	17
<i>Financial Activities</i>	4,710	101	399
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	4,289	54	-269
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	11,476	144	412
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	8,178	-81	-238
<i>Other Services</i>	1,683	82	216
<i>Federal Government</i>	2,389	26	-89
<i>State Government</i>	1,948	41	158
<i>Local Government</i>	16,234	155	1,319
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	138	82	86
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85,640</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>2,861</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>South TX</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$541.77	-\$1.12	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$542.89	\$26.74	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$516.15		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

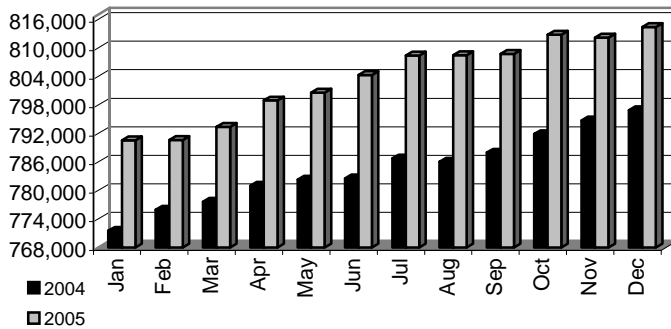
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	Tarrant WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
DECEMBER 2005	853,422	814,421	39,001	4.6	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
NOVEMBER 2005	854,548	812,180	42,368	5.0	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*DECEMBER 2004	841,434	796,888	44,546	5.3	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

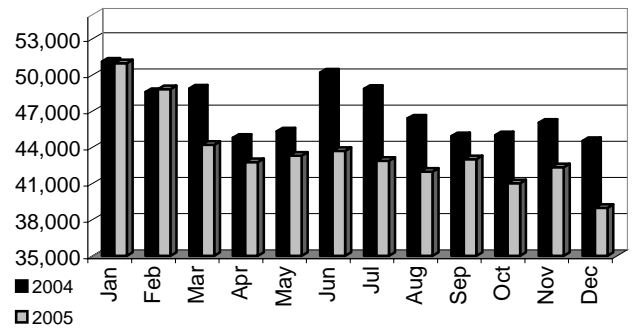
## Tarrant County WDA

Tarrant County's jobless rate decreased over the month from November's 5.0 percent to 4.6 percent—the lowest rate since May 2001. This decrease was slightly higher than the average reduction of three-tenths of a percentage point that usually occurs between November and December. The number of jobholders rebounded from November's loss of 571 by adding 2,241 employed in December. Since the beginning of the year, the WDA's employment has grown by 23,896 jobholders. The number of Texans in the WDA seeking work decreased over the month, slipping by 3,367 to 39,001 unemployed—its lowest level since September 2001. Continued claims for unemployment insurance decreased for a second straight month, dipping to 8,162 claims.

## Tarrant County WDA

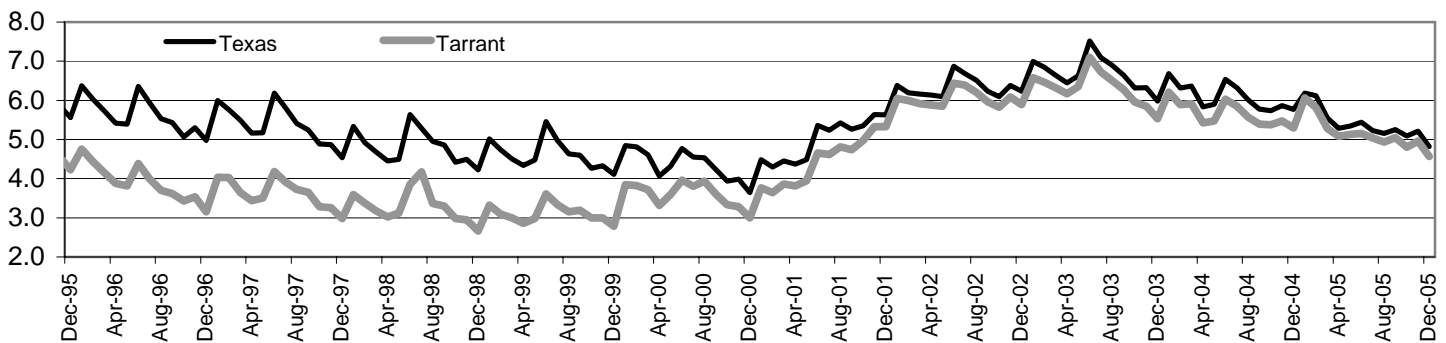


Employment



Unemployment

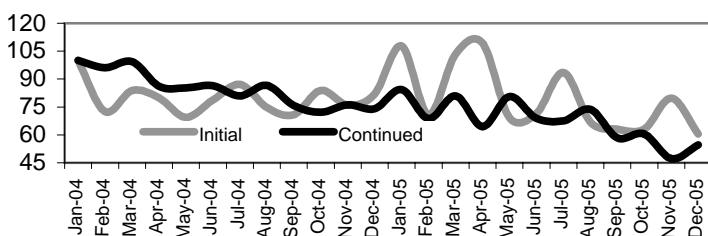
## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

## Indexed Growth Rates for Claims

(Base Period = January 2004)



## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	3,946	5,207	5,353	-1,407
Continued	30,118	26,040	40,900	-10,782

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

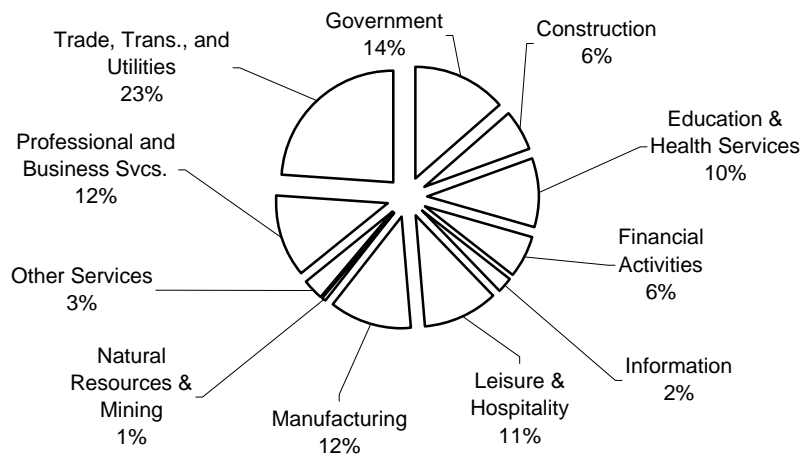
Continued	8,162	9,205	7,487	675
-----------	-------	-------	-------	-----

## Occupational Information

Tarrant County WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the  
Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	1,300	Office Clerks, General	525
Cashiers	1,070	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers	515
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,070	Customer Service Rep.	510
Waiters & Waitresses	990	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Ed.	490
Registered Nurses	560	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	480

## Industrial Employment

Tarrant County WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA  
(2nd Qtr 2005)

ALBERTSONS  
 AMERICAN AIRLINES  
 AMERICAN EAGLE AIRLINES  
 BELL HELICOPTER TEXTRON  
 BRINKER INTERNATIONAL PAYROLL COMPANY  
 COOK CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER  
 DILLARD TEXAS OPERATING LP  
 GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION  
 HARRIS METHODIST FORT WORTH  
 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK  
 KROGER TEXAS  
 LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP  
 NORTH HILLS HOSPITAL  
 RADIO SHACK CORPORATION  
 SABRE  
 SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE  
 TARGET STORES DIVISION  
 TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
 UNITED PARCEL SERVICE INC  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd QTR 2005      Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	4,765	340	257
<i>Construction</i>	40,426	1,698	471
<i>Manufacturing</i>	85,838	1,029	-2,872
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	170,513	-147	4,188
<i>Information</i>	15,506	-59	-823
<i>Financial Activities</i>	43,442	856	2,363
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	84,172	2,741	2,521
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	72,573	904	819
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	75,873	4,549	3,869
<i>Other Services</i>	21,452	529	471
<i>Federal Government</i>	14,783	-211	200
<i>State Government</i>	9,073	265	351
<i>Local Government</i>	73,632	281	2,186
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	1,467	25	700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>713,515</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>14,701</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>TC</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$770.51	-\$3.46	\$737.50	\$31.66
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$773.97	\$28.58	\$705.84	\$19.33
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$745.40		\$686.51	

December 2005

# Texoma Workforce Development Area

## Labor Force Estimates

\*2005 Data for the WDA is not comparable to previous years.

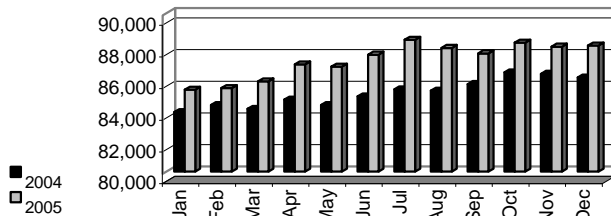
### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	Texoma WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
December 2005	92,124	87,955	4,169	4.5	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
November 2005	92,313	87,889	4,424	4.8	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*December 2004	91,009	85,942	5,067	5.6	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

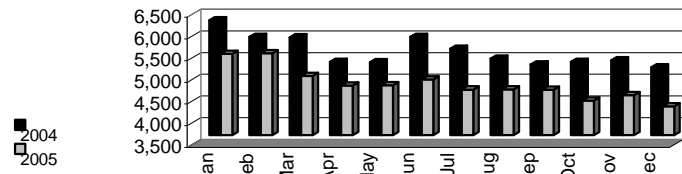
### Texoma WDA

Employment for the Texoma WDA increased by 66 workers in December 2005, which is an increase of one-tenth of a percentage point. Of the three counties, Cooke County had the largest over-the-month increase in employment by adding 122 workers. The number of unemployed workers in the Texoma WDA decreased 5.8 percent and the unemployment rate decreased three-tenths of a percentage point. Fannin County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.0 percent. Cooke County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.7 percent. Continued claims increased 18.5 percent in December 2005.

### Texoma WDA

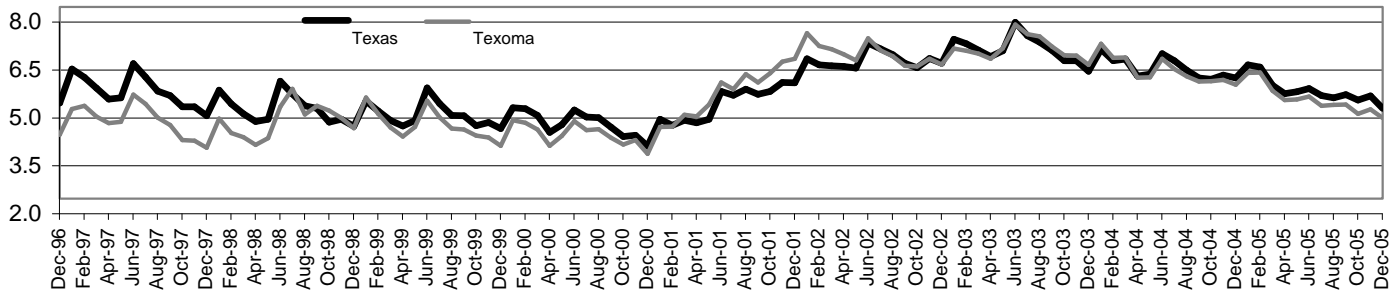


Employment



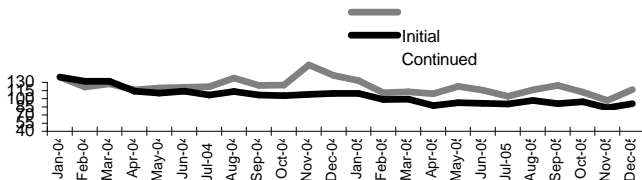
Unemployment

### Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

### Indexed Growth Rates for Claims (Base Period = January 2004)

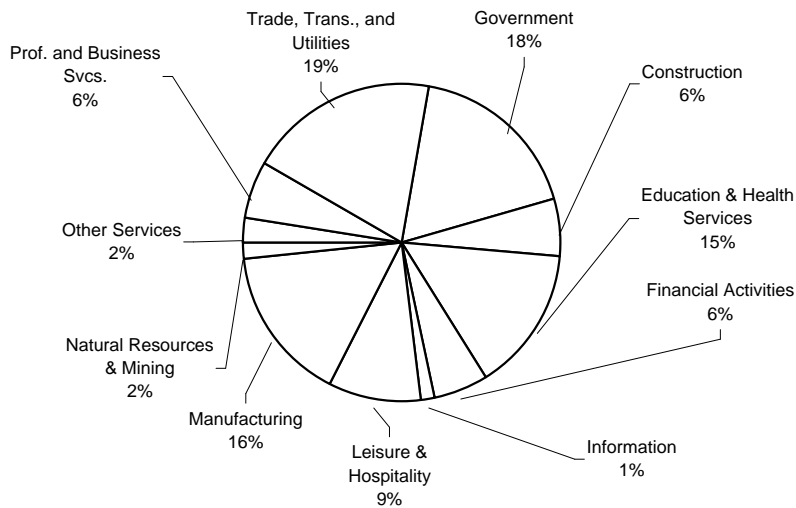


### Total Claims

	December 2005	November 2005	*December 2004	OTY Change
Initial	496	366	660	-164
Continued	3,387	2,859	4,637	-1,250
Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th				
Continued	743	763	834	-91

**Occupational Information**
**Texoma WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings**

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	135	Personal & Home Care Aides	55
Retail Salespersons	125	Elementary School Teachers	45
Fast Food Preparation & Serving Workers	95	Office Clerks, General	45
Waiters & Waitresses	80	Janitors & Cleaners	40
Registered Nurses	70	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	40

**Industrial Employment**
**Texoma WDA Industry Composition**
**2nd Quarter 2005**

**Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA**
**2nd Quarter 2005**

ALAN RITCHEY INC  
 ALCOA BUILDING PRODUCTS INC  
 AMERICAN BANK OF TEXAS  
 AMS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS & STERLING PERSONNEL  
 AUSTIN COLLEGE  
 CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE  
 KAISER ALUMINUM & CHEMICAL CORPORATION  
 KWIKSET CORPORATION  
 MEMC SOUTHWEST INC  
 QUALITY HOME HEALTH CARE INC  
 RAYTHEON COMPANY  
 RED RIVER WELL SERVICE LLC  
 SHALE TANK TRUCK LP  
 TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED  
 TEXOMA MEDICAL CENTER INC  
 TRAILBLAZER HEALTH ENTERPRISES LLC  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC  
 WEBER AIRCRAFT LP  
 WEST ASSET MANAGEMENT INC  
 WILSON N JONES REGIONAL

**NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA**
**2nd QTR 2005**
**Change**

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	1,187	-94	23
Construction	3,638	11	22
Manufacturing	9,935	285	-132
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	12,265	544	-498
Information	725	23	-13
Financial Activities	3,600	280	-258
Professional and Business Svcs.	3,688	129	-28
Education & Health Services	9,242	584	-426
Leisure & Hospitality	5,964	1,248	-1,017
Other Services	1,465	135	-64
Federal Government	873	-1	13
State Government	1,189	5	71
Local Government	9,132	48	79
Nonclassified & Confidential	58	-36	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62,961</b>	<b>3,161</b>	<b>-2,188</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>Texoma</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$585.79	-\$2.31	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$588.10	-\$15.42	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$603.52		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 Data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

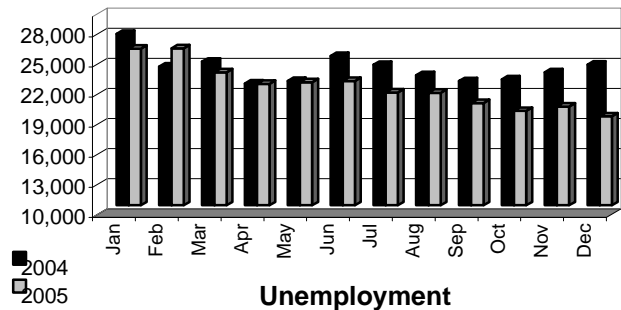
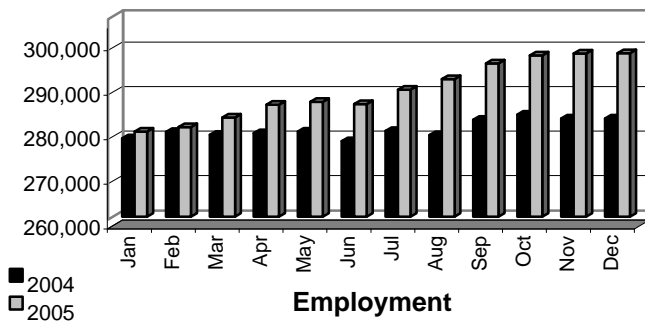
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

Upper Rio Grande WDA					Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
Dec-05	315,685	296,807	18,878	6.0	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
Nov-05	316,557	296,708	19,849	6.3	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*Dec-04	306,114	282,080	24,034	7.9	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

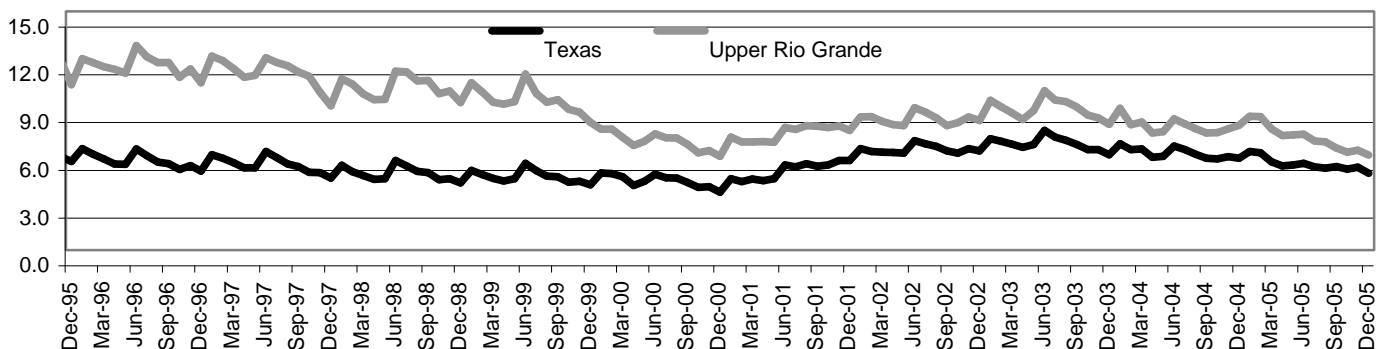
## Upper Rio Grande WDA

The civilian labor force in the Upper Rio Grande WDA decreased slightly in December to 315,685 people. The labor force is comprised of 296,807 workers and 18,878 job seekers. The unemployment rate in the WDA dropped by three-tenths of a percentage point in December to 6.0 percent. Brewster County and Jeff Davis County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.9 percent while Presidio County had the highest rate at 9.0 percent. Employment in the WDA increased slightly by 99 workers in December while the number of unemployed decreased slightly by 4.9 percent or 971 people. Employment had expanded by 17,629 since the beginning of the year while the number of job seekers declined by 6,750. Of the six counties within the WDA, only Brewster County had a decrease in employment over the month. Four of the six counties had a decrease in job seekers over the month with the majority of the decline being in El Paso County (967). The number of continued claims decreased slightly over the month to 3,592. Since January 2005, the number of continued claims had dropped by 10,569.

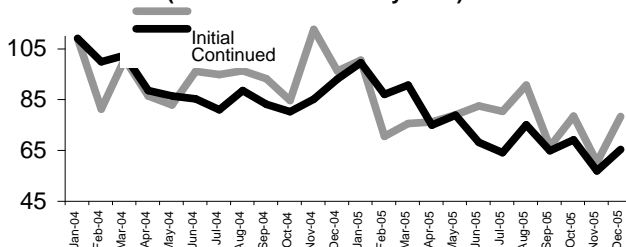
## Upper Rio Grande WDA



## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	2,337	1,730	2,942	-605
Continued	17,443	14,846	26,054	-8,611

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

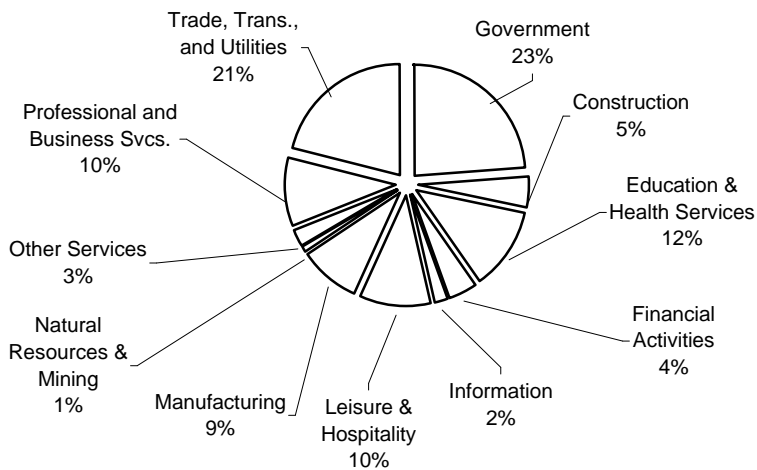
	Dec-05	Nov-05	*Dec-04	OTY Change
Continued	3,592	3,707	4,954	-1,362

## Occupational Information

## Upper Rio Grande WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Retail Salespersons	485	Registered Nurses	210
Cashiers	460	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	200
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	420	Office Clerks, General	195
Waiters & Waitresses	345	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	190
Personal & Home Care Aides	235	Customer Service Representatives	190

## Industrial Employment

Upper Rio Grande WDA Industry Composition  
2nd Quarter 2005Top 20 Private Employers for the WDA  
2nd Quarter 2005

AES EMPLOYER SERVICES INC  
 ALBERTSONS INC  
 BIG & FOODS LTD  
 BRYLANE LP  
 DILLARD TEXAS OPERATING INC  
 ECHOSPHERE LLC  
 EL PASO ELECTRIC CO  
 EL PASO HEALTHCARE SYSTEM LTD  
 G C SERVICES LIMITED PARTNERS  
 M V T SERVICES INC  
 NATIONAL CENTER FOR EMPLOYMENT  
 OUTREACH HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE  
 R M PERSONNEL INC  
 SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE LP  
 T & T STAFF MANAGEMENT LP  
 TENET EMPLOYMENT INC  
 THE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION OF EL PASO TEXAS  
 WALGREEN COMPANY  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES  
 WHATACO OF EL PASO LTD

## NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Change Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	2,088	82	-2
<i>Construction</i>	12,005	302	421
<i>Manufacturing</i>	23,315	450	-847
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	56,162	392	-758
<i>Information</i>	4,849	77	-1,123
<i>Financial Activities</i>	11,478	199	248
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	26,421	358	-75
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	31,467	514	2,656
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	27,317	1,347	950
<i>Other Services</i>	6,826	290	222
<i>Federal Government</i>	9,840	81	190
<i>State Government</i>	9,033	-54	849
<i>Local Government</i>	44,156	-795	504
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	578	157	307
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>265,535</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,542</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>URG</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$538.59	-\$39.90	\$737.50	-\$2.40
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$578.49	\$27.15	\$739.90	\$29.17
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$551.34		\$710.73	

## Labor Force Estimates

\* 2005 data for the WDA are not comparable to previous years

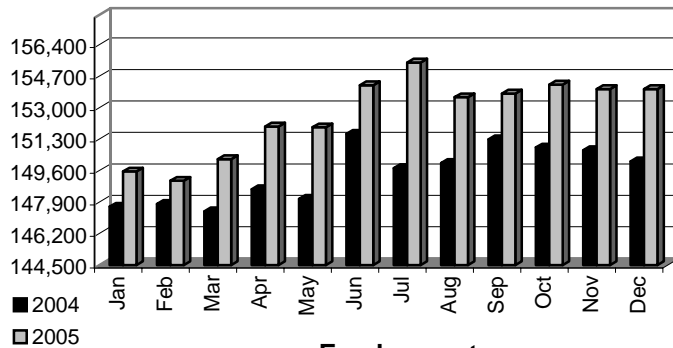
## Civilian Labor Force Estimates (non-seasonally adjusted)

	West Central WDA				Texas			
	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate	CLF	Empl	Unempl	Rate
DECEMBER 2005	160,101	153,991	6,110	3.8	11,302,720	10,757,559	545,161	4.8
NOVEMBER 2005	160,565	153,994	6,571	4.1	11,329,296	10,738,586	590,710	5.2
*DECEMBER 2004	157,366	150,099	7,267	4.6	11,128,145	10,485,895	642,250	5.8

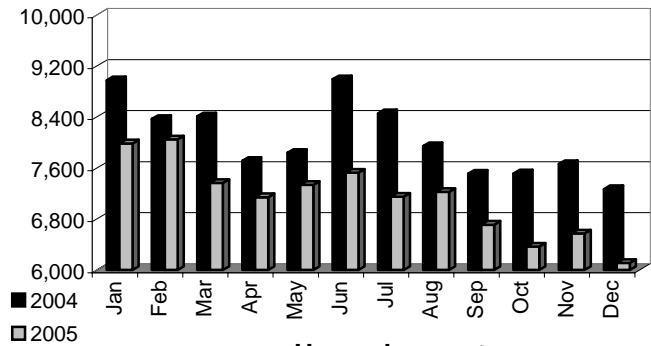
## West Central Texas WDA

The West Central's jobless rate decreased over the month from November's 4.1 percent to 3.8 percent—the lowest rate since December 2000. The number of jobholders remained virtually unchanged over the month, holding at 153,991 employed. The largest employment increases were recorded in Coleman County (97), Shackelford County (60), and Stephens County (55). The largest reductions to employment occurred in Taylor County (88) and Nolan County (42). The number of Texans in the WDA seeking work decreased over the month, slipping by 461 to 6,110 unemployed—its lowest level since December 2000. All nineteen counties within the WDA recorded decreases in their unemployment. The majority of the decrease in unemployment for the month was attributed to Taylor County (189), Brown County (42) and Eastland County (39). Continued claims for unemployment insurance decreased for a second straight month, dipping to 645 claims.

## West Central Texas WDA

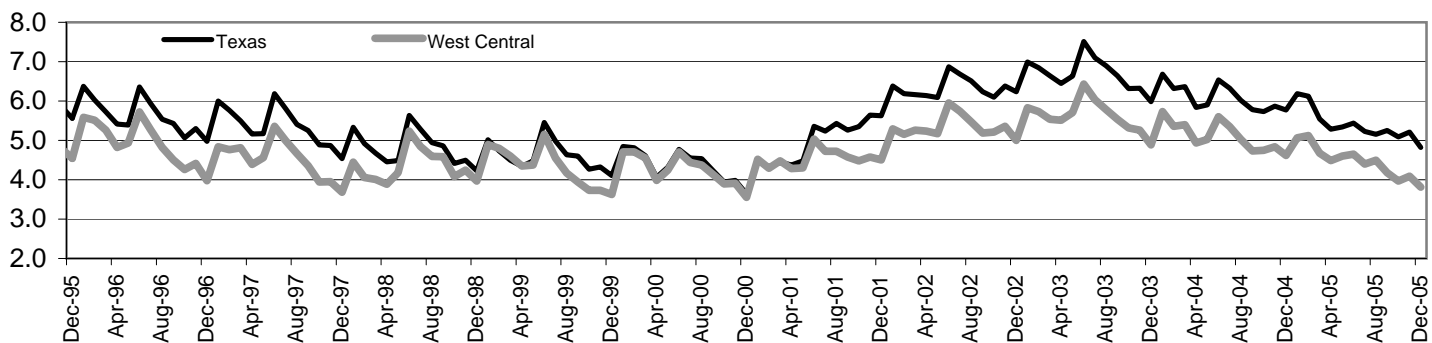


Employment

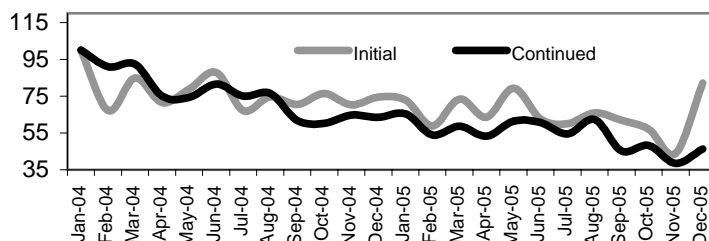


Unemployment

## Historical Unemployment Rates



## Unemployment Claims Data

Indexed Growth Rates for Claims  
(Base Period = January 2004)

## Total Claims

	Dec-05	Nov-05	* Dec-04	OTY Change
Initial	769	410	697	72
Continued	3,226	2,680	4,423	-1,197

## Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

Continued	645	647	793	-148
-----------	-----	-----	-----	------



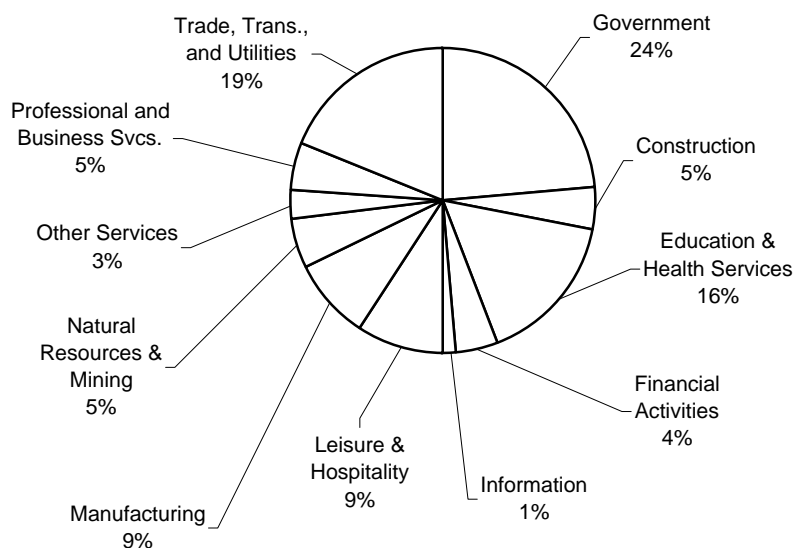
## Occupational Information

### West Central Texas WDA's Top Ten Occupations with the Most Projected Annual Average Job Openings

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Job Openings</u>
Cashiers	220	Waiters & Waitresses	110
Retail Salespersons	175	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	90
Combined Food Prep. & Serving		Personal & Home Care Aides	90
Workers, Including Fast Food	175	Office Clerks, General	85
Farmers & Ranchers	160	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Ed.	75
Registered Nurses	145		

## Industrial Employment

### West Central Texas WDA Industry Composition 2nd Quarter 2005



### Top 20 Private Employers in the WDA (2nd Qtr 2005)

3M COMPANY  
 ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
 ABILENE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
 ABTEX BEVERAGE  
 AMS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS & STERLING PERSONNAL  
 BASIC ENERGY SERVICES LP  
 BROWNWOOD MEDICAL CENTER  
 COMPLETE CARE SERVICES  
 CONCEPTS OF CARE  
 GIRLING HEALTH CARE  
 HEALTH CARE SERVICE  
 HENDRICK MEDICAL CENTER  
 HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY  
 KOHLER COMPANY  
 MCMURRY UNIVERSITY  
 SEARS METHODIST CENTERS  
 SUPERIOR ESSEX COMMUNICATIONS  
 UNITED SUPERMARKETS  
 WAL-MART ASSOCIATES  
 WILKS MASONRY CORPORATION

### NAICS COVERED EMPLOYMENT QUARTERLY DATA

2nd Quarter 2005 Change

<b>SUPER SECTOR</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Year</b>
<i>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</i>	5,932	-171	284
<i>Construction</i>	5,343	563	19
<i>Manufacturing</i>	9,876	81	296
<i>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</i>	21,554	64	-165
<i>Information</i>	1,704	86	11
<i>Financial Activities</i>	5,113	57	173
<i>Professional and Business Svcs.</i>	5,949	-188	64
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	18,307	-115	-164
<i>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</i>	10,494	518	396
<i>Other Services</i>	3,581	101	-221
<i>Federal Government</i>	1,682	-41	-72
<i>State Government</i>	6,022	67	61
<i>Local Government</i>	19,311	-32	17
<i>Nonclassified &amp; Confidential</i>	128	-62	48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>114,996</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>747</b>

<b>Average Weekly Wage</b>	<b>WCT</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>2nd QTR 2005</b>	\$528.35	\$12.78	\$737.50	\$31.66
<b>2004 Average</b>	\$515.57	\$22.62	\$705.84	\$19.33
<b>2003 Average</b>	\$492.96		\$686.51	