



For the latest data, click [here](#).

November 17, 2017

The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land metro area created 43,200 jobs in October, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. That's the largest single-month job gain on record. The record-setting growth reflects the aftereffects of Hurricane Harvey plus an expected post-summer improvement, not a surge in economic activity.

October's gains recapture jobs lost in the previous three months. July cut 19,500 jobs, primarily in local school districts as educators roll off school payrolls in the summer months. August's and September's losses, 12,100 and 11,200 respectively, occurred primarily in food services and drinking places, retail and construction, as Houstonians stayed home during Hurricane Harvey and construction workers stayed off the job site.

Hurricane Harvey has clouded what's truly happening with local employment. Through June, the region had created 25,200 jobs. Through October, the region has created only 25,600 jobs. Either job growth has slowed considerably or TWC has failed to capture the jobs that are being created.

Note: The Partnership will discuss Harvey's long-term impact on Houston's economy, the employment outlook for '18, and the future of energy, construction, and innovation at its Houston Region Economic Outlook, scheduled for December 8 at the Royal Sonesta. Additional details can be found at the Partnership's website or by clicking [here](#).

CHANGE IN PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT – September '17 to October '17		
Houston Metro Area		
	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	43,200	1.4
Total Private	33,100	1.3
Goods Producing	3,400	0.6
Mining and Logging	600	0.7
Oil and Gas Extraction	-200	-0.5
Support Activities for Mining	1,200	2.9
Construction	5,600	2.6
Manufacturing	-2,800	-1.2
Durable Goods	-2,500	-1.7
Non-Durable Goods	-300	-0.4
Service Providing	39,800	1.6
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	9,000	1.5
Wholesale Trade	1,200	0.7
Retail Trade	8,200	2.7

Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	-400	-0.3
Information	-600	-1.9
Financial Activities	700	0.4
Finance and Insurance	-600	-0.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,300	2.2
Professional and Business Services	6,100	1.3
Educational and Health Services	5,700	1.4
Educational Services	800	1.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	4,900	1.5
Leisure and Hospitality	9,200	2.9
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	-700	-2.1
Accommodation and Food Services	9,900	3.5
Other Services	-400	-0.4
Government	10,100	2.4
Source: Texas Workforce Commission		

Prepared by Greater Houston Partnership Research Department

Patrick Jankowski, CCR
Senior Vice President, Research

713-844-3616

pjankowski@houston.org

Jenny Philip

Director, Economic Research

713-844-3615

jphilip@houston.org