

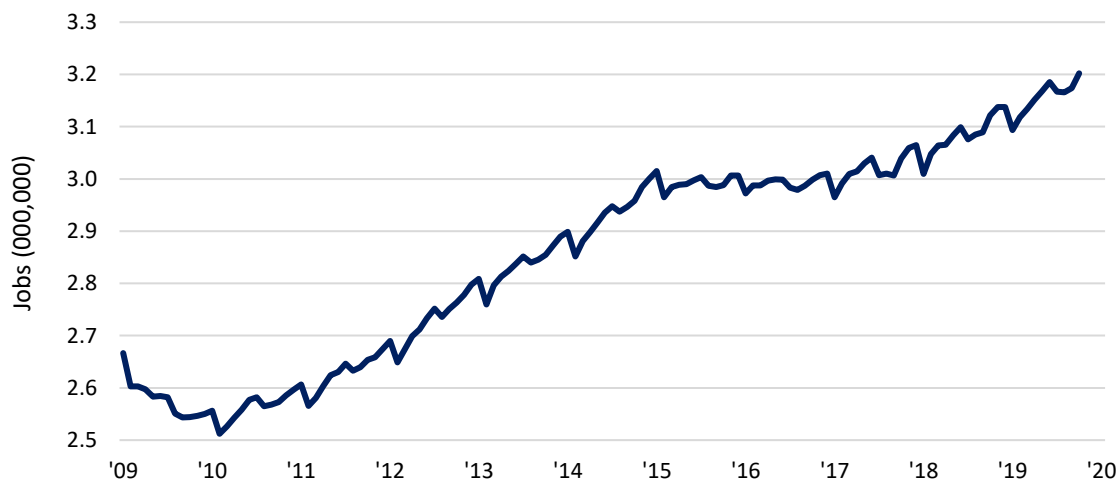
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November 15, 2019

JOB GROWTH

Metro Houston created 80,400 jobs, a 2.6 percent increase, in the 12 months ending October '19, according to data released today by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). Nonfarm payroll employment was 3,202,100 in October, up from 3,173,900 in September.

Metro Houston Nonfarm Employment*



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

* not seasonally adjusted

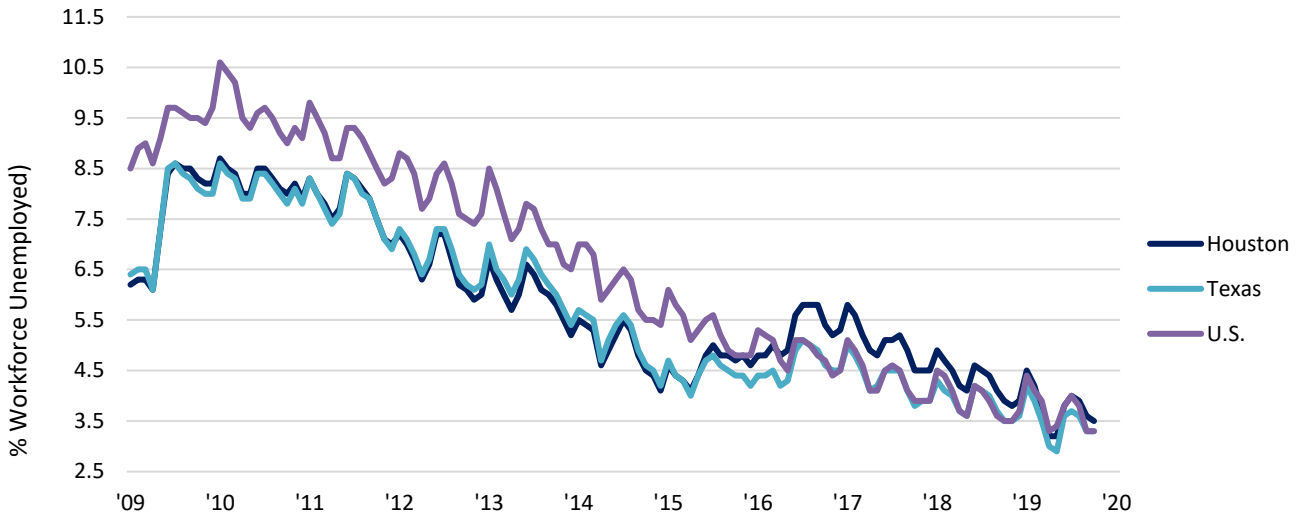
A few items of note:

- Houston continues to show healthy year-over-year gains in professional, scientific and technical services (+22,300 jobs) and manufacturing (+9,100 jobs).
- Employment shrank in retail trade (-3,000 jobs). Other than hiring for the holiday shopping season, local retail employment has been flat to negative for the past two years.
- Growth in health care (+8,400) has returned to trend. Restaurants and bars, however, (+3,100 jobs) remains below the long-term average (+6,600 jobs).

UNEMPLOYMENT

Houston's unemployment rate was 3.5 percent in October, down from 3.6 percent in September and from 3.9 percent in October of last year. The Texas rate in October was 3.3 percent, the U.S. rate 3.3 percent. The rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Houston, Texas and U.S. Unemployment*



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

* not seasonally adjusted

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