



# UPDATE

# EMPLOYMENT

*The Partnership sends updates for the most important economic indicators each month. If you would like to opt-in to receive these updates, please click [here](#).*

July 20, 2020

## EMPLOYMENT

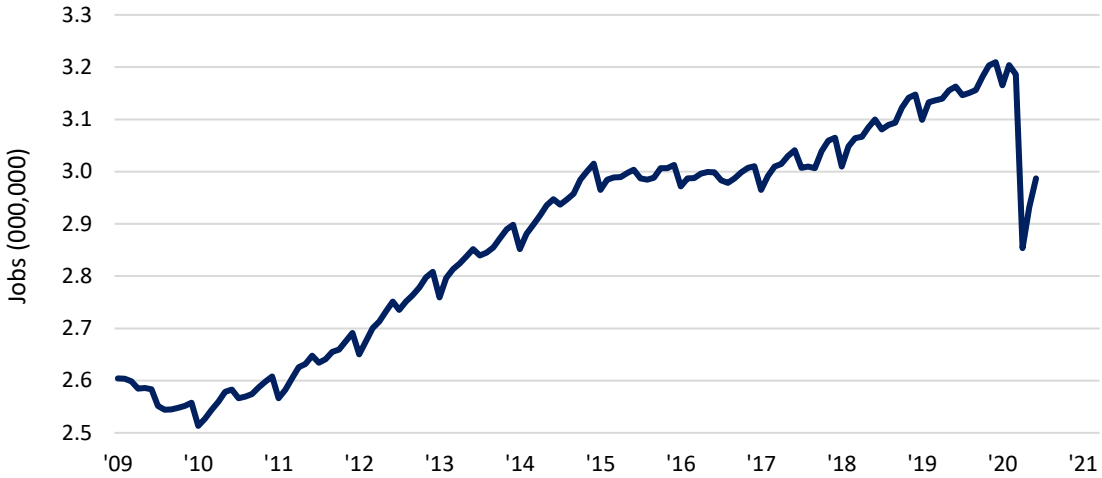
Metro Houston area added 55,000 jobs in June, according to the latest data from the Texas Workforce Commission. That's on top of the 78,200 jobs added in May. Despite the surge, local employment remains 217,700 jobs below its February pre-COVID level. The largest job gains occurred in restaurants and bars, retail and arts, entertainment and recreation. Government, manufacturing and transportation, warehousing and utilities and energy continued to lose jobs. Of the major sectors, only finance and insurance has returned to its pre-COVID employment level.

### IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON METRO HOUSTON PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT SECTOR	Losses March & April	Gains or Losses May & June	Gap from Pre-COVID Level
Total Nonfarm	-350,200	+133,200	217,000
Energy (Exploration, Oil Field Services)	-8,500	-5,200	13,700
Construction	-31,300	+10,300	21,000
Manufacturing	-13,300	+700	12,600
Wholesale Trade	-17,000	+2,300	14,700
Retail Trade	-27,700	+21,400	6,300
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	-3,700	-1,000	4,700
Information	-3,100	-200	3,300
Finance and Insurance	-400	+1,500	NA
Real Estate and Equipment Leasing	-5,000	+1,100	3,900
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	-8,800	+2,000	6,800
Management of Companies and Enterprises	-4,500	+1,600	2,900
Administrative Support and Waste Management	-13,700	+8,600	5,100
Educational Services (Private)	-5,800	-400	6,200
Health Care and Social Assistance	-41,000	+27,500	13,500
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	-18,000	+10,000	8,000
Hotels, Restaurants, Bars	-110,900	+64,300	46,600
Other Services	-27,400	+7,200	20,200
Government	-10,100	-18,500	28,600

Source: Partnership calculations based on Texas Workforce Commission

### Metro Houston Nonfarm Employment\*



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

\* not seasonally adjusted

### UNEMPLOYMENT

The region’s unemployment rate improved from 13.9 in May to 9.9 percent in June. It had been as low as 3.9 percent in February and as high as 14.2 percent in April. Houston’s labor force has shrunk by nearly 99,000 workers since February. If those workers were counted among the unemployed, Houston’s rate would be 12.5 percent.

### Houston Unemployment Rate\*



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

\* not seasonally adjusted

# Payroll Employment

Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment, Year-To-Date Gains/Losses

Year	Gains/Losses June YTD	Jobs Ahead (+) or Behind (-) Previous Year's Pace
'16	-14,100	-2,300
'17	30,600	44,700
'18	35,300	4,700
'19	15,500	-19,800
<b>'20</b>	<b>-222,600</b>	<b>-238,100</b>

Source: Texas Workforce Commission, not seasonally adjusted

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment, Year-End

Year	Nonfarm Payroll Employment	Change from Prior Year
2008	2,668,000	21,500
2009	2,557,500	-110,500
2010	2,608,000	50,500
2011	2,690,900	82,900
2012	2,808,400	117,500
2013	2,898,400	90,000
2014	3,015,100	116,700
2015	3,012,600	-2,500
2016	3,010,200	-2,400
2017	3,064,600	54,400
2018	3,147,300	82,700
2019	3,209,500	62,200
<b>12 months ending June '20</b>	<b>2,986,900</b>	<b>-175,900</b>

Source: Texas Workforce Commission, not seasonally adjusted

Prepared by Greater Houston Partnership Research

Patrick Jankowski, CERP

Senior Vice President, Research

713-844-3616

[pjankowski@houston.org](mailto:pjankowski@houston.org)