

# Unemployment Down In Lubbock, Up In Texas

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The Lubbock area added 800 nonagricultural jobs in October, a share of 23,000 Texas added to claim the strongest job growth in the country. Lubbock and Crosby counties added 900 state government jobs for the month, an increase of 7 percent, according to the Texas Workforce Commission.

The area's unemployment rate fell slightly to 3.9 percent. Retailers and professional and business service employers each added 100 jobs; education and health service employers also added 100. Leisure and hospitality jobs fell by 200, and other services fell 100.

Texas added 23,000 jobs in October, the strongest job growth in the United States, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Missouri came in second, adding 5,300 jobs, according to the bureau.

But Texas's unemployment rate still rose, to 5.6 percent, from 5.1 percent in September and 4.3 percent a year ago.

The Lubbock area tied Amarillo for the third-lowest unemployment rate. Midland continued to lead with a rate of 3.1 percent, followed by Odessa at 3.7 percent.