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August 18, 2017

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Austin-Area Unemployment Inches Down in July

AUSTIN – Figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission today show the unemployment rate in the Austin-Round Rock MSA* inched down from 3.4%** in June 2017 to 3.2% in July 2017. The 3.2% unemployment rate represented 36,400 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment remained more than one point below both the Texas (4.3%)** and national (4.6%)** rates.

Despite the decrease in the overall unemployment rate, the Austin-Round Rock MSA collectively lost 8,200 jobs in July 2017. The region's 2.4% annual growth rate represented the addition of 24,400 jobs since July 2016.

Key Points by Industry in the Austin-Round Rock MSA in July 2017:

- Mining, Logging, & Construction experienced the greatest increase with the addition of 1,400 jobs.
 - Significant job gains were also seen in Financial Activities (700), Manufacturing (500), and Education & Health Services (600).
- Government experienced the greatest decline with the loss of 10,100 jobs.
 - Job losses were also seen in Leisure & Hospitality (-500), Professional & Business Services (-400), Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (-400), and Other Services (-100).
- Mining, Logging, & Construction continued to experience the greatest regional annual job growth with an increase of 7.0%.
 - Significant annual job growth was also experienced in Education & Health Services (5.2%), Leisure & Hospitality (4.1%), and Other Services (3.8%).
 - Manufacturing continued a trend of positive annual job growth (3.5%).
- Information was again the only industry to experience a decline in annual job growth with a decrease of 2.4%.

Further, unemployment in the Capital Area/Travis County*** decreased from 3.3%** in June 2017 to 3.1% in July 2017. The 3.1% unemployment rate represented 21,406 residents seeking employment. The Capital Area/Travis County unemployment rate remained below the overall Austin-Round Rock MSA, state of Texas and national rates.

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board is the publicly-funded workforce board for Travis County. Through strong partnerships and strategic collaborations, Workforce Solutions is leading the region's workforce system in the development of a world-class workforce.

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*The Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area includes Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson counties.

**Unemployment rates listed are not seasonally adjusted.

***The Capital Area Workforce Development Area includes Travis County.