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October 20, 2017

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Austin-Area Unemployment Drops in September

AUSTIN – Figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission today show the unemployment rate in the Austin-Round Rock MSA* dropped from 3.4%** in August 2017 to 2.9% in September 2017. The 2.9% unemployment rate represented 33,300 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment remained more than one point below both the Texas (4.0%)** and national (4.1%)** rates.

The Austin-Round Rock MSA collectively added 8,300 jobs in September 2017. The region's 2.9% annual growth rate represented the collective addition of 23,500 jobs since September 2016.

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

- Government experienced the greatest increase with the addition of 10,500 jobs.
 - Job gains were also seen Trade, Transportation & Utilities (1,500), Education & Health Services (1,400), and Financial Activities (500).
- Leisure & Hospitality experienced the greatest decline with the loss of 3,200 jobs.
 - Significant job losses were also seen in Professional & Business Services (-1,000), Mining, Logging, & Construction (-900), and Manufacturing (-400).
- Despite the month over month job decline, Mining, Logging, & Construction continued to experience the greatest regional annual job growth with an increase of 6.2%.
 - Significant annual job growth was also experienced in Education & Health Services (5.6%), Manufacturing (4.1%), and Government (3.3%).
- Information continued to experience the greatest decline in annual job growth with a decrease of 3.2%.
 - An annual job growth decrease was also seen in Professional & Business Services (-1.4%).

Further, unemployment in the Capital Area/Travis County*** decreased from 3.2%** in August 2017 to 2.8% in September 2017. The 2.8% unemployment rate represented 19,661 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.