

Texas Veterans Foreign Wars Employment Committee Report

January 2023

The December jobs report is a healthy one, with the United States economy adding some 20,000 more jobs than economists had forecast and most employment sectors seeing gains.

The number of leisure and hospitality jobs, such as those at hotels and restaurants, grew by about 67,000 in December, although employment in the sector remains below its February 2020 pre-pandemic level.

Health care employment increased by 55,000, and the construction sector added 28,000 jobs as contractors prepare for a flurry of federal spending on infrastructure projects expected to begin in 2023.

Overall, the United States added 4.5 million payroll jobs in 2022, and more than 650,000 of those jobs had been added in Texas as of November.

The oil and gas industry continues to hire, with the mining and logging sector, which includes fossil fuel production, adding 4,000 jobs during December and 60,000, about 10 percent, during 2022.

The National Veteran unemployment rate for the month December was 3.2% up from 2.7% from the previous month.

The Veteran unemployment rate for the State of Texas in November was 4.0%.

Unemployment rates for Cities across Texas (November 2022):

Amarillo: 2.8%

Austin/Round Rock: 2.8%

Abilene: 3.2%

Beaumont-Port Arthur: 6.0%

Brownsville/ Harlingen: 5.7%

College Station: 3.1%

Dallas/Plano/Fort Worth: 3.3%

El Paso: 4.2%

Houston: 4.0%

Killeen: 4.1%

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Laredo: 3.8%

Longview: 4.1%

McAllen: 6.4%

Midland: 2.8%

San Antonio: 3.4%

Sherman-Denison:3.3%

Texarkana: 3.8%

Tyler: 3.4%

Wichita Falls: 3.5%

Texas specific Veteran programs:

At the VFW job fair yesterday, we are showing XX Veterans gained employment.

In January, the Texas Workforce Commission and Workforce Solutions of Central Texas were awarded a \$7.8 million Department of Labor Dislocated Worker Grant to retrain military members and their spouses as they transition to civilian employment. As of December 2022, they were at 70% of their grant completion. The grant is paying for training and supportive services, including purchasing mechanic tool sets up to \$4,000.

The numbers for the 2022 Hiring Red, White and You statewide job fair:

	Year	Employers	Veterans	Non-Veterans	Total Job- Jobseekers	On Site Hires
	2022	2153	3071	7969	11040	634
	2021	1863	1832	4695	6500	400
Difference		290	1239	3274	4540	234

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We Hire Vets, sponsored by TWC and TVC, has issued 922 to deserving Texas Employers.

Military Family Support Program Highlights:

Completed Program Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Number of Military Spouses Outreached	394	350	397	708	1,849
Number of Military Spouses Assisted in the MFSP/ Registered in WIT	186	230	337	479	1,232
Number of Military Spouses Receiving Credentials	34	38	9	100	181
Number of Employers Targeted to Hire Military Spouses	76	156	28	147	407
Number of Military Spouses Hired	72	74	17	51	214

The current military spouses unemployment rate between 21%.

The Military Spouse Career Accelerator Pilot program is free to employers, and spouses will be paid by the Department of Defense during their 12-week fellowships.

It's open to spouses of currently serving members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Space Force, to include active, reserve and National Guard components. Spouses can find information about how to apply at the Military OneSource: [Spouse Education and Career Opportunities website](#).

President Biden signed a provision into law earlier this month making it easier across the board for military spouses to transfer professional license when making a military move.

This is the first time a federal law requires states to provide reciprocity in accepting valid occupational license from previous jurisdictions. The law also applies to service members.

Highlights DOLVETS Veterans Employment Report:

- Annual Unemployment Rates January 2022-December 2022
Women Veterans 2.8%, Women Nonveterans 3.5%, Male Veterans 2.8% Male Nonveterans 3.7%
- Averaged Unemployment Rate for Veterans with Disabilities was 5.9%. nonveterans with a disability were 7.9%.
- Average Unemployment Rate for Veterans without a Disability was 2.5%. Nonveterans without a Disability is 3.4%.

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