

# EMPLOYMENT

Approximately 200,000 people are currently employed in the Corpus Christi MSA, with slightly more than 179,000 employed in nonfarm jobs.

## Employment Growth Behind State Average

Nonfarm employment increased by 12.1% in Corpus Christi between 1996 and 2006 compared with a 21.7% increase statewide. Only eight of 24 major Texas metropolitan areas experienced lower employment growth in that period.

The combined labor force in Nueces and San Patricio counties is expected to grow by 3.96% between 2007 and 2012. Nueces County's labor force is expected to grow by 3.79%, while San Patricio County's labor force is expected to grow by 4.77%.

## EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR FOR SELECTED MONTH/CORPUS CHRISTI MSA

	May-04	May-05	May-06	May-07	May-08
Total Non-Farm Employment	167,300	172,200	174,600	178,300	179,200
Natural Resources, Mining and Construction	15,400	18,400	18,300	19,400	21,200
Manufacturing	11,500	10,500	11,400	11,300	10,900
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	29,700	30,300	30,800	31,600	32,200
Professional and Business Services	16,100	16,000	16,700	17,300	16,100
Educational and Health Services	25,700	26,400	26,100	26,800	27,200
Leisure and Hospitality	19,200	20,800	21,000	22,000	21,800
Government	32,600	32,900	33,400	33,100	32,800

Source: Texas Workforce Commission

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## Unemployment Drops While Average Wage Lags Behind State Average

■ The unemployment rate in the Corpus Christi MSA as of May 2008 was 4.3%, a rate equal to the unemployment rate statewide. The unemployment rate has dropped each year since 2004 when the rate was 6.4%.

■ The average hourly wage in the Coastal Bend was \$14.89 an hour as of May 2008 compared with \$17.10 an hour statewide. Only Austin, Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth had an average hourly wage that was above the statewide average.

■ 45.6% of Corpus Christi workers are employed in jobs that pay a wage placing them in the bottom quarter of wage earners, and 65.9% are in the bottom half. By comparison, 35.0% of Austin workers are in the bottom quarter and 55.5% are in the bottom half.

## EMPLOYMENT GROWTH BY INDUSTRY

2006 Employment Growth by Sector (Percent Change)	Corpus Christi MSA	Texas
Natural Resources, Mining and Construction	6.2	7.5
Manufacturing	6.6	3.2
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	1.3	2.5
Information	4.0	-0.4
Financial Activities	1.3	4.6
Professional and Business Services	4.3	6.0
Educational and Health Services	-2.3	2.8
Leisure and Hospitality	3.5	3.9
Government	0.9	1.7

*Source: Texas Workforce Commission and Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University*

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Eight of the top 10 employers in the Corpus Christi MSA were in the healthcare, government or education sectors.

## 2007 MAJOR EMPLOYERS – CORPUS CHRISTI MSA

<b>Business</b>	<b>Type of Product /Service</b>	<b>Civilian Employment</b>
CHRISTUS Spohn Health System	Hospital	5,400
Corpus Christi ISD	School District	5,178
H-E-B	Grocery Company	5,000
Corpus Christi Army Depot	Helicopter Repair	4,876
City of Corpus Christi	City Government	3,171
Bay, Ltd.	Industrial Construction	2,100
Naval Air Station-Corpus Christi	Flight Training	1,630
Del Mar College	Junior College	1,542
Driscoll Children's Hospital	Hospital	1,500
Corpus Christi Medical Center	Hospital	1,300
First Data Corporation	Teleservices	1,200
Whataburger, Inc.	Corporate Offices	1,115
Susser Holdings Corporation	Convenience Stores	1,100
Nueces County	County Government	1,034
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	Four-year University	991
Flint Hills Resources	Crude Oil Refining	920
Kiewit Offshore Services	Offshore Rig Manufacturer	900
Corpus Christi State School	Special-needs Facility	850
Valero Refining	Crude Oil Refining	824
Sherwin Alumina	Alumina	800
Sam Kane Beef Processors	Beef Packing and Processing	800
Flour Bluff ISD	School District	750

*Source: Texas Workforce Commission*

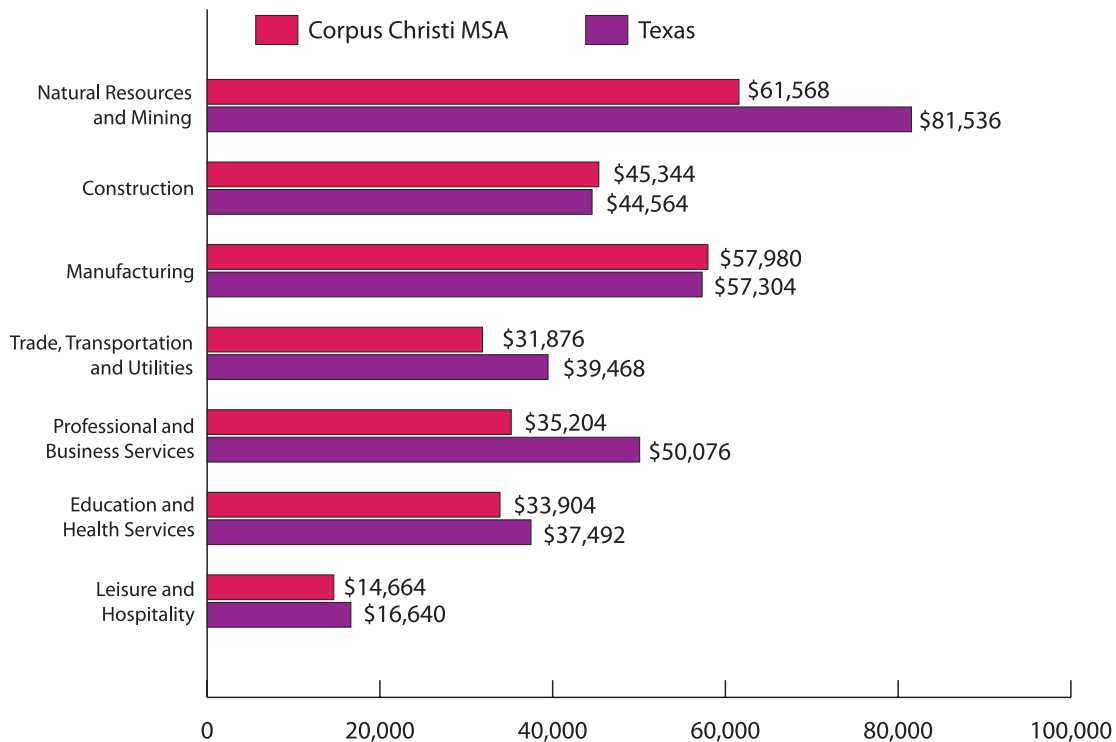
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## 2007 OCCUPATIONAL MAKEUP

Occupations	Number of Regional Jobs	Percentage of Regional Jobs	Percentage of State Jobs
Management, Business and Financial Occupations	22,560	10%	12.9%
Professional and Related Occupations	37,740	16.8%	18.2%
Service Occupations	44,130	19.7%	17.5%
Sales and Related Occupations	27,636	12.3%	13.2%
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	32,612	14.5%	14.7%
Farming, Fishing and Forestry Occupations	607	0.3%	0.3%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	17,457	7.8%	5.8%
Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations	12,573	5.6%	3.9%
Production Occupations	11,362	5.1%	5.9%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	11,069	4.9%	6.3%
Military Occupations	6,756	3%	1.3%

Source: EMSI Complete Employment – Spring 2008 Release v.2

## AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGES FROM 3RD QUARTER 2007



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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## Coastal Bend Losing Young Educated Citizens

Between 1995 and 2000, Corpus Christi had a net migration rate of -7.3% for young, single and college-educated residents, meaning that more people in this category moved away from the city than to the city. The statewide net migration rate in that same period was 4.9%

### OCCUPATION SIZE AND GROWTH NUECES AND SAN PATRICIO COUNTIES

Description	2007 Jobs	Projected 2017 Jobs	Growth	Percent Growth	2007 Median Hourly Earnings
Management, Business and Financial Occupations	22,560	26,620	4,059	18%	\$25.78
Service Occupations	44,130	54,225	10,094	23%	\$8.70
Sales and Related Occupations	27,636	31,995	4,359	16%	\$13.73
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	32,612	36,627	4,015	12%	\$12.26
Farming, Fishing and Forestry Occupations	607	548	-58	-10%	\$7.94
Construction and Extraction Occupations	17,457	19,544	2,087	12%	\$18.26
Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations	12,573	14,120	1,547	12%	\$16.80
Production Occupations	11,362	12,347	985	9%	\$16.68
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	11,069	11,982	913	8%	\$15.33
Military Occupations	6,756	6,252	-504	-7%	\$19.96
<b>Totals</b>	<b>224,502</b>	<b>259,701</b>	<b>35,199</b>	<b>16%</b>	

Source: EMSI Complete Employment – Spring 2008 Release v.2

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## HIGHEST WAGE JOBS WITH 20 OR MORE ANNUAL OPENINGS TO 2014

	<b>Annual Openings</b>	<b>Median Wage</b>
Pharmacists	20	\$92,738
Lawyers	40	\$81,387
Financial Managers	20	\$72,965
Physical Therapists	20	\$72,632
General and Operations Managers	140	\$67,053
Medical and Health Services Managers	25	\$64,990
Administrative Services Managers	25	\$61,600
Education Administrators, Elementary/Secondary School	20	\$59,080
Computer Systems Analysts	25	\$55,154
Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators and Gauge	40	\$53,434

CBPSS 05/2008

### Questions We Need to Consider

1. Why is our employment growth lagging behind the statewide average?
2. Although unemployment continues to drop, average wages lag behind statewide average. What does this mean to the Coastal Bend now and in the future?
3. With 35% of Coastal Bend jobs in healthcare, education and the government, can these employment sectors grow? Should they?
4. Should other employment sectors grow significantly in the future? How?
5. Why are we losing our young educated citizens?
6. How can we reverse this trend?
7. Continuing as they are today, how will these changes impact the Coastal Bend over the next 10 to 20 years?

### Sources:

*Bureau of Labor Statistics*

*CBPPS*

*EMSI Complete Employment*

*Real Estate Center, Texas A&M University*

*Texas Workforce Commission*

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*

*U.S. Census*