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**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN SAN ANTONIO-NEW BRAUNFELS MSA DECREASES TO 5.3 PERCENT**

*Workforce Solutions Alamo Releases May 2021 Job Market Information*

**(June 18, 2021) San Antonio, Texas** – Workforce Solutions Alamo (WSA) reports that the May unemployment rate for the eight-county San Antonio-New Braunfels metropolitan statistical area (MSA) is **5.3%**, a decrease of 0.40 percentage points over the month, from the April rate of **5.7%** after adjustments from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The May unemployment rate is lower than the **state's not seasonally adjusted (actual)** rate of **5.9%**. The Texas **not-seasonally adjusted (actual)** unemployment rate had a decrease of 0.50 percentage points over the month down from a rate of **6.4%** after adjustments from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The state's May unemployment rate is 6.8 percentage points below the peak rate of 12.7 percent recorded in April 2020. Nationally, the U.S. not seasonally unadjusted (actual) unemployment rate decreased to **5.5%** in May, down from the **5.7%** reported in April. The **U.S.** unemployment rate was **13%** in May 2020. The record-high growth was largely attributable to the extreme employment losses that took place in May 2020 due to COVID-19.

Summarizing the **seasonally adjusted** unemployment rates for the state and the nation, the Texas unemployment rate decreased to **6.5%** from the 6.7% in May. Since May 2020, the Texas unemployment rate decreased by 5.1 percentage points from **11.6%** in May 2020. The decrease was largely attributable to the extreme employment losses that took place in May 2020 due to COVID-19 and measures taken to slow its spread resulting in record high unemployment. Nationally, the U.S. **seasonally adjusted** unemployment rate decreased to **5.8%** in May, lower than the **6.1%** reported in April. The U.S. unemployment rate decreased by 7.5 percentage points over the year, from a May 2020 reading of **13.3%**.

Since May of 2020, 83,400 jobs were added, resulting in an annual increase of 8.5%. This contrasted sharply with the May 2020 loss of jobs as COVID-19 caused many employment layoffs. **Four of eleven major industries** in the MSA showed monthly job gains, while **one remained steady**. **Leisure and Hospitality** experienced a gain of 1,800 (1.5%) jobs. **Other Services** reported a gain of 800 (2.3%) jobs, **Education and Health Services** reported a gain of 500 (0.3%) jobs, **Mining and Logging** gained 100 (1.5%) jobs. The **Information** industry indicated no gains (0.0%).

**Losses occurred in six major industries: Professional and Business Services** reported a job loss of 2,200 (-1.4%) jobs, followed by **Financial Activities**, which experienced an employment loss of 1,500 (-1.6%) jobs, **Manufacturing** also reported a loss of 900 (-1.7%), followed by **Trade, Transportation and Utilities** with a loss of 500 (-0.3%) jobs, **Construction** experienced a loss of 400 (-0.7%), and **Government** reported a loss of 200 (-0.1%).

#### **About Workforce Solutions Alamo**

*The Workforce Solutions Alamo Board serves as the governing board for the regional workforce system, a network of service providers and contractors that brings people and jobs together. Workforce Solutions Alamo is composed of the 13-county Alamo region. Workforce Solutions Alamo membership reflects the diverse constituencies of the regional community: business, economic development, education, labor, community organizations, and government. For more information on available workforce programs and services, visit [www.workforcesolutionsalamo.org](http://www.workforcesolutionsalamo.org).*

*Note: Only the actual/unadjusted series unemployment rate estimates for Texas and the US are comparable to sub-state unemployment rates. Adjusted rates are calculated by smoothing out the changes in unemployment due to the typical seasonal hiring and layoffs. Rates reported are estimates and variations in previously reported rates can occur with BLS readjustments.*

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