



Austin job growth holds up in May

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Austin's job market continues to hold up in the recession, with a job growth rate of 0.5 percent in May, up slightly from 0.4 percent in April, the Texas Workforce Commission said today.

That translates to 4,200 more jobs than in May 2008, for a total job count of 781,400.

Unemployment rose to 6.1 percent from 5.8 percent a year ago. Economists have said that partly reflects the fact that people continue to move to Central Texas, expanding the workforce.

Statewide, the unemployment rate rose to 7.1 percent from 6.6 percent in April. The state had 24,700 fewer jobs than in May 2008, a 0.2 percent decline.

In Central Texas, hiring by government agencies and in the broad services sector accounted for most of the job gains. The region continues to lose construction and manufacturing jobs.

Courtesy of JB Goodwin