

# Texas leads U.S. in construction job gains

Austin Business Journal by Vicky Garza, Staff Writer

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Texas leads the U.S. in construction employment over the past year, but it shed the greatest number of construction jobs in October.



From Oct. 2010 to Oct. 2011, Texas added 17,500 construction jobs, followed by California with 17,100 jobs, according to an analysis of U.S. Department of Labor data by the [Associated General Contractors of America](#).

However, Texas lost 12,800 construction jobs from Sept. to Oct. 2011. Florida, the state with the second most number of losses in the past month, trails far behind with 4,800 jobs lost.

"Construction employment gains are likely to remain spotty for months to come," said [Ken Simonson](#), the association's chief economist.

Local factors, rather than regional or industry trends, have more influence on whether a state has rising or falling construction employment in a given month, Simonson said.

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