

Texas businesses get break on unemployment taxes

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Texas businesses will pay lower unemployment insurance taxes for 2012, the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) said.

The *Houston Chronicle* reports that 64 percent of Texas employers will pay a minimum tax of \$54.90 per worker, a 22 percent dip from the \$70.20 paid in 2011. The tax is based on the first \$9,000 of each worker's wages.

The tax rate is determined by the amount of benefits that have been paid to former employees, meaning that a company that has regularly reported layoffs in the past pays a higher rate than employers with few layoffs.

The 2012 rate is still more than twice the \$23 minimum in effect in 2009. The rate was boosted to \$64.80 in 2010 to offset rising jobless claims, the *Chronicle* reported.



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