



Texas Job Growth Not Dependent on Government

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“In fact, if you look at net job creation between 2007 and 2010, it’s clear the only thing keeping Texas buoyant was government jobs.” –The Daily Kos

Recently there have been allegations that the Texas Miracle has been fueled by its own brand of big government. Adding to the quote above, another claim is that 65 percent of new net jobs in Texas have been in the government sector.

What is the truth? Here are the numbers according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

Texas Job Growth—Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Net Job Growth	Govt. Job Growth	Govt. % of Total
2001-07	688,400	150,600	21.88%
2007-11	481,500	45,900	9.53%
2001-11	1,169,900	196,500	16.80%

As can be seen from the data above, government jobs make up only 9.5% of job growth in Texas since 2007. Another data set does show a higher percentage of government jobs:

Texas Job Growth—Seasonally Adjusted

	Net Job Growth	Govt. Job Growth	Govt. % of Total
2001-07	689,100	149,800	21.74%
2007-11	384,700	125,800	32.70%
2001-11	1,073,800	275,600	25.67%

But, even while the seasonally adjusted data shows the percentage of government jobs is over three times greater, it remains less than half of the number claimed above.

The Texas Model, i.e., low spending and taxes; a predictable, low level of regulation and strong property rights protection; a sound civil justice system; and minimal dependence on/interference from the federal government, continues to outshine other models, create jobs, and grow the economy. ★

