

The Business Journal of Phoenix - April 5, 2007

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## Phoenix again claims top spot for job growth

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by [Adam Kress](#)

The Business Journal

As per the usual, the Phoenix area is No.1 for new jobs.

Arizona State University's Blue Chip Job Growth Update ranks the area first among the nation's largest metro markets for employment growth between February 2007 over February 2006.

The area's 4.8 percent increase in total nonagricultural employment represents 89,200 new jobs. In metropolitan markets with less than 1 million workers, the Gulfport-Biloxi, Miss., area ranked No. 1, posting a 14.5 percent gain equating to 13,500 jobs.

Among states, Utah holds the top position in nonagricultural job growth for February, with a 4.4 percent increase, representing 52,000 jobs. Michigan remains in last place, with a 1 percent decrease, losing nearly 45,000 jobs.

Overall, the U.S. economy grew by close to 2 million jobs in February 2007 over February 2006, an increase of 1.5 percent.

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