



Economic Overview

Rural Capital, TX WDA



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Demographic Profile

The population in the Rural Capital, TX WDA was 1,227,112 per American Community Survey data for 2020-2024.

The region has a civilian labor force of 654,819 with a participation rate of 67.4%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Rural Capital, TX WDA, 42.9% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 37.3% in the nation.

The median household income in the Rural Capital, TX WDA is \$98,936 and the median house value is \$402,994.

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Rural Capital, TX WDA	Texas	USA	Rural Capital, TX WDA	Texas	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	1,227,112	30,188,424	334,922,499
Male	49.9%	49.9%	49.5%	611,955	15,065,957	165,808,018
Female	50.1%	50.1%	50.5%	615,157	15,122,467	169,114,481
Median Age ²	—	—	—	37.7	35.6	38.9
Under 18 Years	23.3%	25.0%	22.0%	286,416	7,544,648	73,517,834
18 to 24 Years	9.4%	9.7%	9.1%	115,705	2,926,302	30,597,362
25 to 34 Years	13.7%	14.5%	13.7%	167,651	4,366,602	45,806,540
35 to 44 Years	15.5%	14.1%	13.2%	189,779	4,251,075	44,237,292
45 to 54 Years	12.6%	12.3%	12.2%	154,418	3,701,286	40,743,799
55 to 64 Years	11.0%	11.1%	12.7%	135,403	3,342,259	42,386,044
65 to 74 Years	8.8%	8.2%	10.2%	108,491	2,479,193	34,092,907
75 Years and Over	5.6%	5.2%	7.0%	69,249	1,577,059	23,540,721
Race: White	60.8%	48.5%	61.0%	746,416	14,645,129	204,142,876
Race: Black or African American	5.7%	12.2%	12.2%	70,522	3,692,993	40,919,547
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.6%	0.7%	0.9%	7,632	223,484	3,095,754
Race: Asian	6.1%	5.6%	6.0%	74,772	1,683,136	19,937,283
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	1,289	29,658	631,517
Race: Some Other Race	6.9%	9.3%	7.1%	84,598	2,822,501	23,884,085
Race: Two or More Races	19.7%	23.5%	12.6%	241,883	7,091,523	42,311,437
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	30.6%	39.7%	19.3%	376,051	11,991,467	64,759,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	1,369,412	31,709,821	341,784,857
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	3.8%	1.4%	0.6%	42,897	424,129	2,104,586
People per Square Mile ⁴	—	—	—	184.0	121.4	96.7
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	67.4%	65.1%	63.3%	654,819	15,233,563	170,199,520
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	85.4%	82.0%	83.2%	435,794	10,039,712	108,100,165
Work from Home	21.3%	14.4%	15.1%	132,577	2,051,250	24,042,489
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	2,686	121,089	1,293,756
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.5%	4.5%	4.1%	41,652	832,155	8,225,965
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	83.1%	78.7%	77.1%	34,626	654,566	6,341,643
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$98,936	\$78,476	\$80,734
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$48,225	\$40,752	\$44,673
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	29.6	26.7	26.4
Commute via Public Transportation	0.3%	0.9%	3.2%	1,925	125,840	5,157,401
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	8.2%	13.2%	9.8%	53,158	2,070,146	17,001,659
High School Graduate	20.9%	24.0%	24.8%	135,292	3,751,982	42,949,236

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Rural Capital, TX WDA	Texas	USA	Rural Capital, TX WDA	Texas	USA
Some College, No Degree	19.9%	19.9%	18.9%	129,105	3,118,169	32,726,555
Associate's Degree	8.1%	8.0%	9.2%	52,235	1,257,895	15,888,163
Bachelor's Degree	28.1%	22.5%	23.1%	181,681	3,522,399	40,059,314
Postgraduate Degree	14.8%	12.4%	14.2%	95,780	1,940,631	24,548,748
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	493,293	12,128,515	143,775,355
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ^{2,5}	—	—	—	\$402,994	\$283,800	\$332,700
Homeowner Vacancy	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	2,840	76,505	796,730
Rental Vacancy	3.9%	7.7%	5.5%	5,956	345,513	2,645,644
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	31.7%	37.4%	34.8%	145,803	4,113,561	45,017,354
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	68.3%	62.6%	65.2%	314,171	6,879,255	84,210,142
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	3.4%	5.4%	8.4%	15,502	598,470	10,793,323
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	8.5%	13.8%	12.5%	103,061	4,074,940	40,735,661
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	5.4%	11.4%	12.1%	24,953	1,249,131	15,572,114
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.3%	1.5%	1.3%	16,501	437,773	4,441,917
Disconnected Youth ³	1.9%	3.0%	2.4%	1,232	52,066	430,721
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	24.8%	34.0%	33.9%	68,143	2,444,395	23,651,363
Uninsured	12.3%	17.1%	8.4%	149,825	5,085,788	27,734,911
With a Disability, Age 18-64	9.9%	10.3%	10.9%	74,639	1,872,593	21,803,902
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	62.2%	53.1%	48.5%	46,422	994,848	10,583,510
Foreign Born	13.4%	17.6%	14.1%	164,569	5,302,466	47,349,078
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	8.1%	13.0%	8.6%	93,965	3,666,736	27,139,643

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2020-2024, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

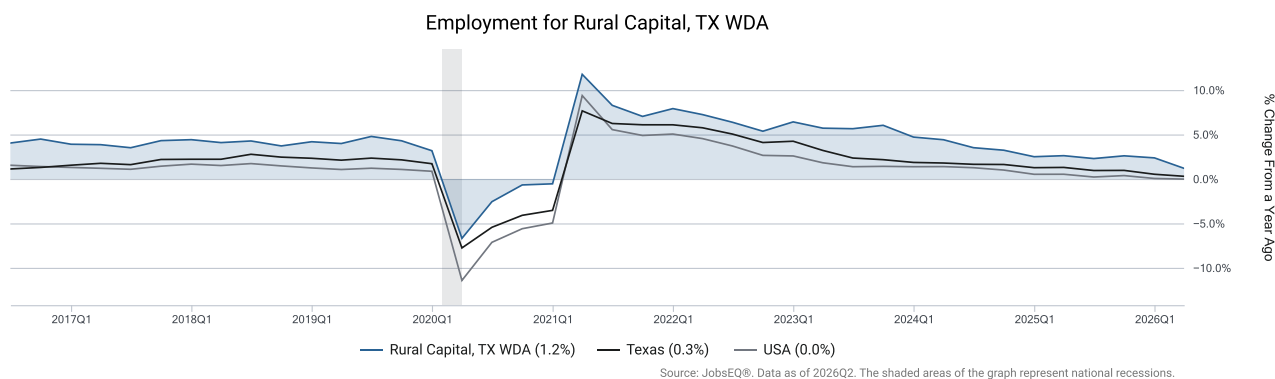
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census Population Estimate for 2025, annual average growth rate since 2015.

5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

Employment Trends

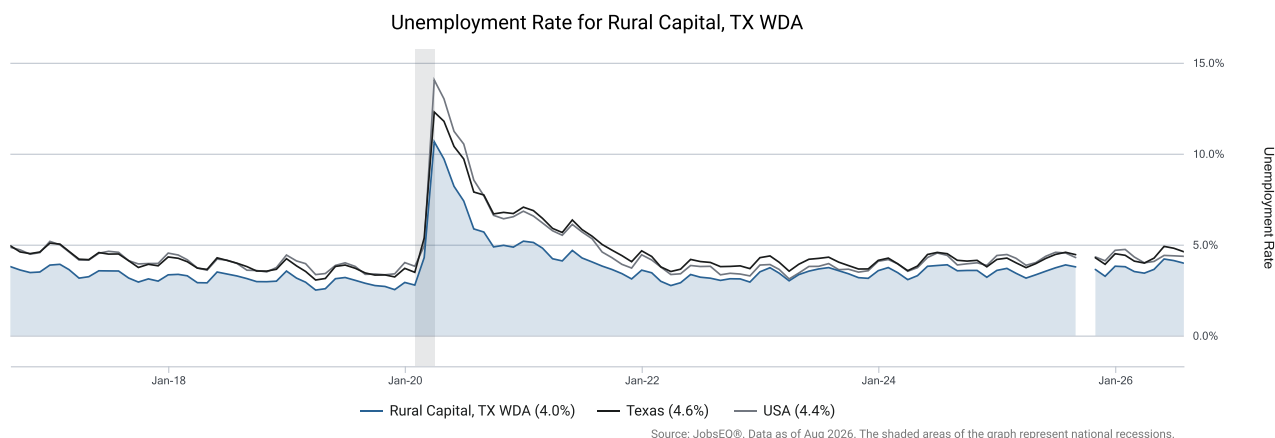
As of 2026Q2, total employment for the Rural Capital, TX WDA was 468,711 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2026Q2, employment increased 1.2% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2.

Unemployment Rate

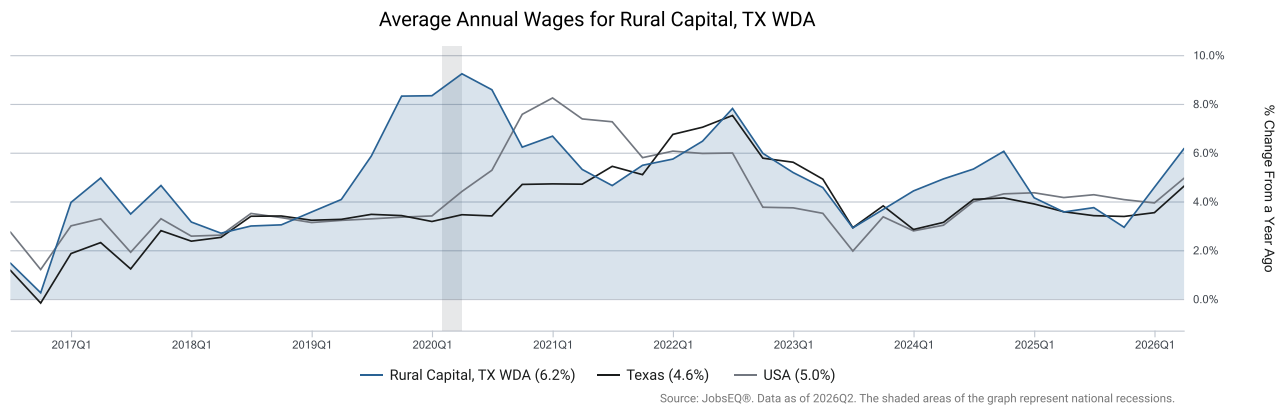
The unemployment rate for the Rural Capital, TX WDA was 4.0% as of August 2026. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 4.4%. One year earlier, in August 2025, the unemployment rate in the Rural Capital, TX WDA was 3.9%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through August 2026.

Wage Trends

The average worker in the Rural Capital, TX WDA earned annual wages of \$71,562 as of 2026Q2. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.2% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$78,700 in the nation as of 2026Q2.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 8.3% lower in Rural Capital, TX WDA than the U.S. average.

	Cost of Living Information		
	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Rural Capital, TX WDA	\$71,562	91.7	\$78,047
Texas	\$77,345	92.5	\$83,576
USA	\$78,700	100.0	\$78,700

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

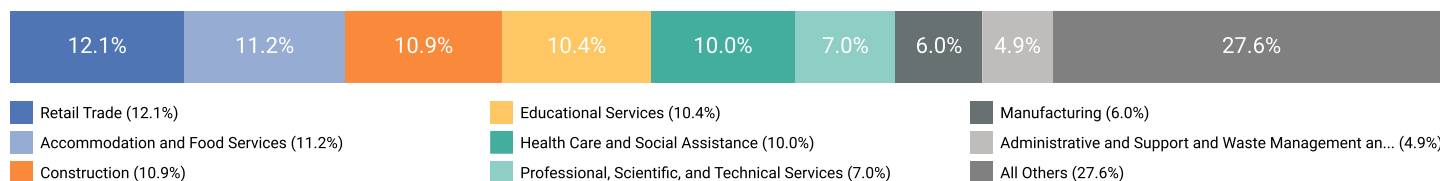
Data as of 2026Q2

Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2026Q2, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in the Rural Capital, TX WDA is Retail Trade, employing 56,519 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Accommodation and Food Services (52,325 workers) and Construction (51,250). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Construction (LQ = 1.82), Utilities (1.68), and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (1.46).

Total Workers for Rural Capital, TX WDA by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q2

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2.

Sectors in the Rural Capital, TX WDA with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$160,833), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$151,726), and Wholesale Trade (\$144,845). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Accommodation and Food Services (+14,978 jobs), Construction (+12,871), and Health Care and Social Assistance (+9,843).

Over the next 5 years, employment in the Rural Capital, TX WDA is projected to expand by 63,467 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services with a +3.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+7,376 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+7,368), and Construction (+7,201).

Rural Capital, TX WDA, 2026Q2¹

NAICS	Industry	Current			5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
44	Retail Trade	56,519	\$43,104	1.26	6,360	2.4%	43,599	16,668	20,065	6,865	2.3%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	52,325	\$28,170	1.28	14,978	7.0%	51,392	19,022	25,002	7,368	2.7%
23	Construction	51,250	\$78,164	1.82	12,871	6.0%	27,700	8,023	12,475	7,201	2.7%
61	Educational Services	48,559	\$54,974	1.27	8,577	4.0%	27,408	10,504	11,826	5,078	2.0%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	46,823	\$61,952	0.64	9,843	4.8%	29,997	11,151	11,469	7,376	3.0%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	32,960	\$151,726	0.98	9,653	7.2%	18,108	4,935	7,780	5,393	3.1%
31	Manufacturing	28,061	\$132,954	0.78	3,286	2.5%	17,144	5,255	8,165	3,724	2.5%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	22,946	\$58,101	0.82	4,763	4.8%	15,633	5,254	7,209	3,170	2.6%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	21,601	\$43,604	1.09	3,260	3.3%	14,805	5,125	6,607	3,073	2.7%
52	Finance and Insurance	19,435	\$98,363	1.06	8,616	12.4%	10,169	3,093	4,443	2,633	2.6%
42	Wholesale Trade	18,180	\$144,845	1.06	1,065	1.2%	11,017	3,447	5,116	2,454	2.6%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	17,688	\$54,702	0.75	3,977	5.2%	11,596	4,011	5,053	2,533	2.7%
92	Public Administration	13,205	\$79,735	0.60	2,077	3.5%	7,460	2,417	3,416	1,628	2.4%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8,341	\$64,125	1.02	1,171	3.1%	5,011	1,825	2,061	1,125	2.6%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8,016	\$33,856	0.80	2,263	6.9%	6,819	2,383	3,262	1,174	2.8%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,882	\$21,245	1.40	-188	-0.5%	4,949	2,277	2,191	480	1.2%
51	Information	5,588	\$104,256	0.64	1,694	7.5%	3,026	847	1,388	790	2.7%
22	Utilities	4,170	\$120,723	1.68	1,069	6.1%	2,393	658	1,093	643	2.9%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	2,366	\$82,477	1.46	283	2.6%	1,281	363	643	274	2.2%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	2,263	\$160,833	0.31	1,111	14.5%	1,238	352	544	342	2.9%
99	Unclassified	533	\$50,130	0.70	316	19.7%	356	123	161	72	2.6%
Total - All Industries		468,711	\$71,562	1.00	97,044	4.7%	306,793	106,250	137,076	63,467	2.6%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2026Q2

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in the Rural Capital, TX WDA is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 50,392 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (48,119 workers) and Sales and Related Occupations (47,350). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Construction and Extraction Occupations (LQ = 1.57), Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1.24), and Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (1.23).

Occupation groups in the Rural Capital, TX WDA with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$135,400), Management Occupations (\$129,000), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$113,200). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.3% among Legal Occupations to 7.6% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in the Rural Capital, TX WDA is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +3.2% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+6,795 jobs) and Management Occupations (+6,410). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (46,594 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (30,791).

Rural Capital, TX WDA, 2026Q2¹

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	50,392	\$48,200	0.98	2,822	3.5%	1,089	8,759	3.9%	32,342	12,624	14,719	5,000	1.9%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	48,119	\$32,600	1.24	3,785	6.0%	2,437	12,773	6.4%	53,390	20,129	26,465	6,795	2.7%
41-0000	Sales and Related	47,350	\$51,300	1.17	2,965	4.5%	2,985	6,552	3.0%	36,269	14,120	16,671	5,479	2.2%
11-0000	Management	44,799	\$129,000	1.21	1,275	2.0%	1,914	11,327	6.0%	24,840	6,836	11,593	6,410	2.7%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	38,106	\$43,800	0.95	2,882	5.4%	1,422	7,849	4.7%	30,171	10,796	13,706	5,669	2.8%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	32,912	\$54,100	1.57	1,834	4.4%	450	6,925	4.8%	18,024	5,164	8,150	4,709	2.7%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	31,546	\$56,700	1.23	959	2.5%	848	5,412	3.8%	17,852	6,897	7,526	3,429	2.1%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	25,395	\$87,800	0.83	1,208	2.7%	823	7,315	7.0%	14,155	3,889	6,375	3,891	2.9%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	20,612	\$59,100	1.14	899	3.0%	1,243	3,333	3.6%	12,520	4,035	5,384	3,102	2.8%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	19,492	\$100,000	0.68	489	1.6%	3,260	4,603	5.5%	8,883	2,923	2,821	3,139	3.0%
51-0000	Production	18,656	\$47,600	0.76	1,072	3.7%	644	3,043	3.6%	12,867	4,137	6,377	2,353	2.4%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	15,908	\$37,200	1.03	1,053	4.9%	580	2,908	4.1%	13,102	4,971	6,031	2,099	2.5%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	14,912	\$113,200	0.99	926	3.2%	781	4,202	6.8%	6,536	1,537	2,622	2,377	3.0%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	12,921	\$38,800	0.54	706	3.4%	1,060	2,490	4.4%	11,720	4,694	4,812	2,213	3.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	11,626	\$37,200	0.95	834	4.8%	500	2,569	5.1%	11,627	4,189	5,739	1,699	2.8%
33-0000	Protective Service	7,988	\$60,400	0.77	338	2.6%	251	1,700	4.9%	5,327	1,656	2,709	962	2.3%

Rural Capital, TX WDA, 2026Q2¹

SOC	Occupation	Current					5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	7,801	\$71,400	0.95	633	5.0%	276	1,588	4.7%	4,745	1,560	2,144	1,041	2.5%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	6,904	\$103,900	0.92	232	1.9%	841	1,441	4.8%	3,386	869	1,402	1,115	3.0%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	6,393	\$58,900	0.71	250	2.7%	492	1,146	4.0%	3,884	1,270	1,631	982	2.9%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	2,685	\$81,700	0.63	165	3.4%	245	635	5.5%	1,669	295	920	455	3.2%
23-0000	Legal	2,343	\$135,400	0.59	58	1.3%	50	214	1.9%	1,016	271	411	334	2.7%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	1,853	\$37,000	0.67	167	7.6%	13	260	3.1%	1,466	621	717	127	1.3%
Total - All Occupations		468,711	\$63,300	1.00	25,552	3.7%	22,204	97,044	4.7%	325,874	113,483	148,925	63,467	2.6%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2026Q2 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

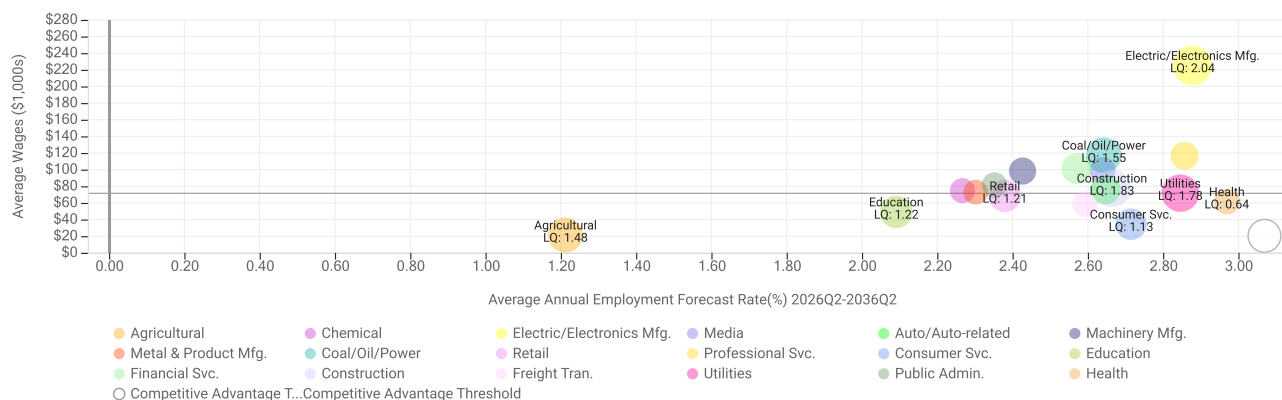
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2026Q1, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2. Wages by occupation are as of 2026 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in the Rural Capital, TX WDA with the highest relative concentration is Electric/Electronics Mfg. with a location quotient of 2.04. This cluster employs 9,386 workers in the region with an average wage of \$225,267. Employment in the Electric/Electronics Mfg. cluster is projected to expand in the region about 2.9% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Rural Capital, TX WDA as of 2026Q2



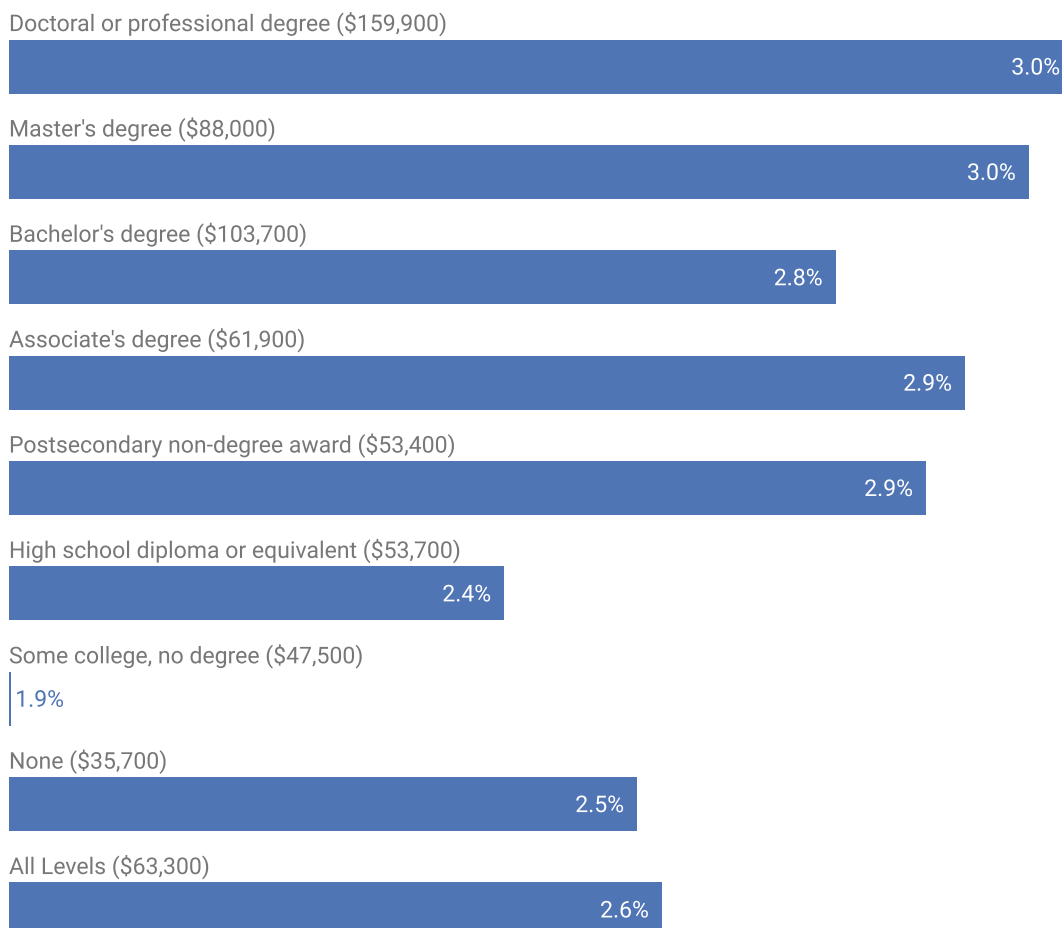
Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2026Q2

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in the Rural Capital, TX WDA is projected to grow 2.6% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 3.0% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 2.8% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 2.9% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

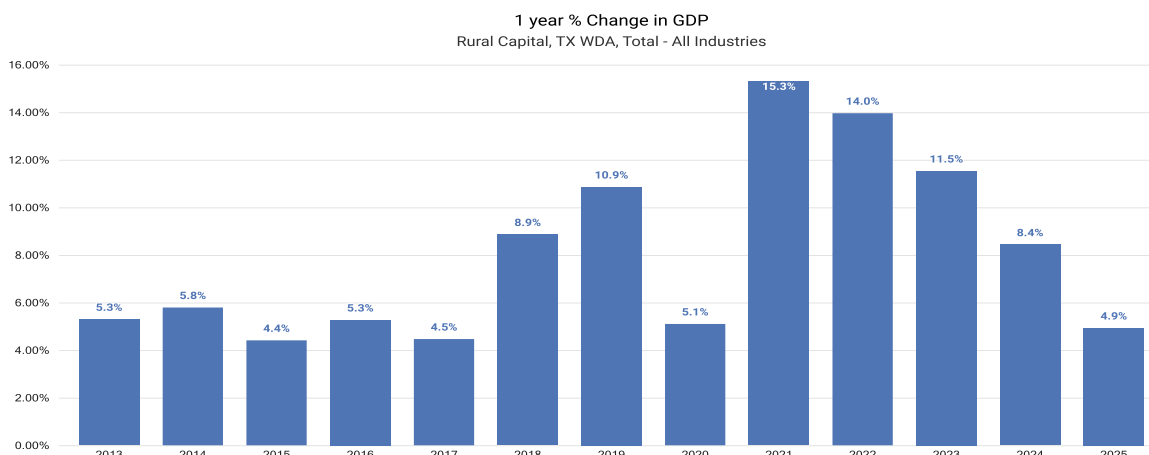


Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q2

Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2026Q2. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2025, nominal GDP in the Rural Capital, TX WDA expanded 4.9%. This follows growth of 8.4% in 2024. As of 2025, total GDP in the Rural Capital, TX WDA was \$73,028,804,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2025.

Of the sectors in the Rural Capital, TX WDA, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2025, \$8,350,615,000 The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$7,674,279,000); Retail Trade (\$7,070,133,000); and Wholesale Trade (\$7,008,652,000).

GDP (in \$ millions)

Rural Capital, TX WDA, 2025

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)

\$8,351

Manufacturing (31)

\$7,674

Retail Trade (44)

\$7,070

Wholesale Trade (42)

\$7,009

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54)

\$6,813

Construction (23)

\$6,497

Health Care and Social Assistance (62)

\$4,153

Finance and Insurance (52)

\$4,076

Educational Services (61)

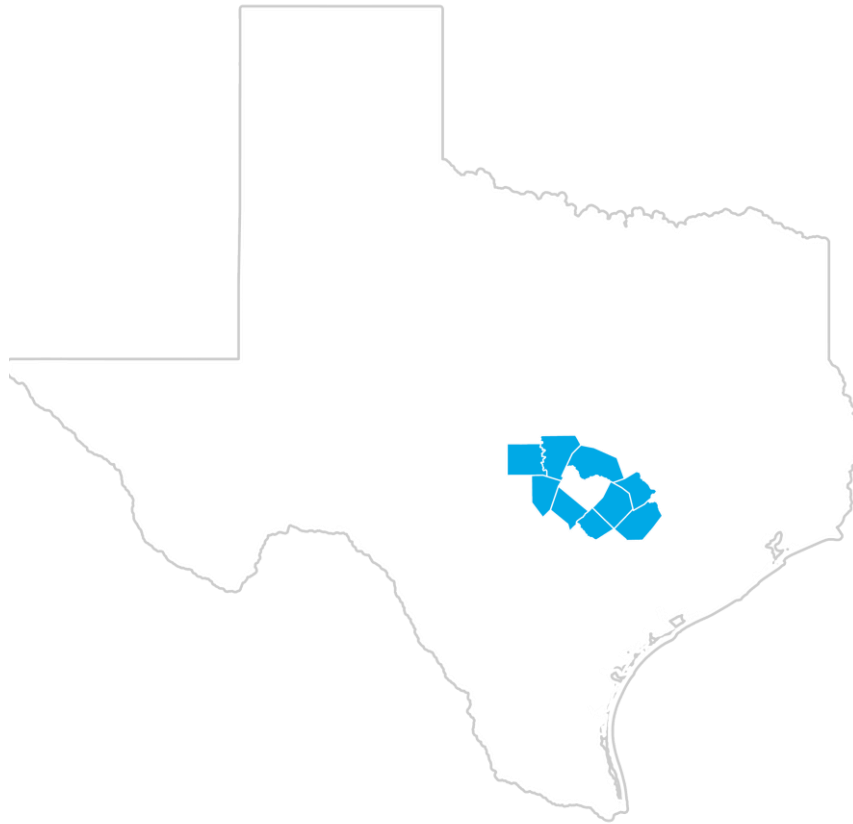
\$4,060

Accommodation and Food Services (72)

\$2,731

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2025.

Rural Capital, TX WDA Regional Map



Region Definition

Rural Capital, TX WDA is defined as the following counties:

Bastrop County, Texas
Blanco County, Texas
Burnet County, Texas
Caldwell County, Texas
Fayette County, Texas

Hays County, Texas
Lee County, Texas
Llano County, Texas
Williamson County, Texas

FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

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