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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Rural Capital Area Unemployment Rate Drops to 2.8% in February

CEDAR PARK, Texas – The economy of the Rural Capital Area of central Texas saw positive employment growth in February 2020, with 4,902 jobs added, according to figures released today by the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (TWC). The unadjusted unemployment rate in the nine-county [Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area](#) (WSRCA), dropped from 2.9 percent in January, down to 2.8 percent in February. The 2.8 percent unemployment rate represented 15,799 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment rate remained below both the Texas (3.6 percent)\* and national (3.8 percent)\* rates.

The Rural Capital Area's 2.78\* percent annual growth rate represents the addition of 14,944 jobs since February 2019.

Within the WSRCA counties, Blanco recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 2.4 percent in February. Fayette, Hays and Lee counties were at 2.7 percent. Burnet and Williamson counties were at 2.8 percent. Bastrop County was at 2.9 percent, while Caldwell County was at 3.2 percent, and Llano County was at 3.4 percent.

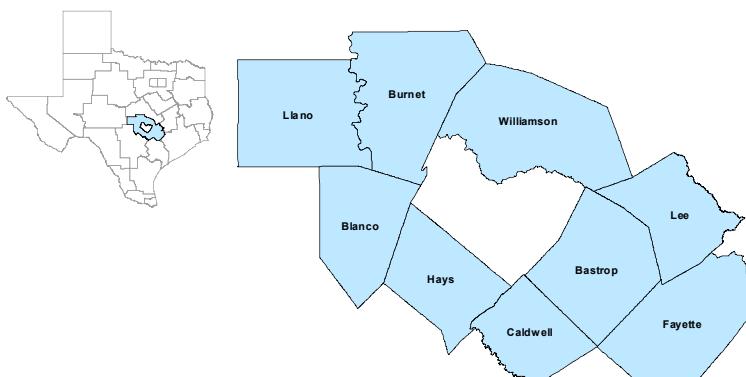
Key Points by Industry for the Rural Capital Area, according to the most recent labor market data:

- The Public Administration Services Industry has experienced the greatest quarterly employment growth with an increase of 2.3 percent.
- Job gains were also experienced in the Professional and Business Services Industry (2.2 percent), as well as the Financial Activities Industry (2.1 percent).
- The Information Services Industry in the Rural Capital Area also experienced the greatest positive annual job growth with an increase of 13.7 percent.
- Significant positive annual job growth was also experienced in the Professional and Business Services Industry (11.2 percent), and the Construction Industry (8.1 percent).

Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit [texaslmi.com](#).

*Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area is a nonprofit community partnership providing no cost recruitment, employment services and childcare assistance, to businesses, employers and job seekers in the Rural Capital Area of central Texas. This nine-county region includes Bastrop; Blanco; Burnet; Caldwell; Fayette; Hays; Lee; Llano; and Williamson counties. For more details on WSRCA, and the services it offers, visit [www.workforcesolutionsrca.com](#).*

*\*All unemployment rates listed are not seasonally adjusted.*

**Rural Capital Workforce Development Area**

**February 2020**
**WDA Labor Force Statistics**

	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	568,227	563,884	553,831	14,396
Employed	552,428	547,526	537,484	14,944
Unemployed	15,799	16,358	16,347	-548
Unemployment Rate	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%	-0.2%

**Texas Labor Force Statistics**

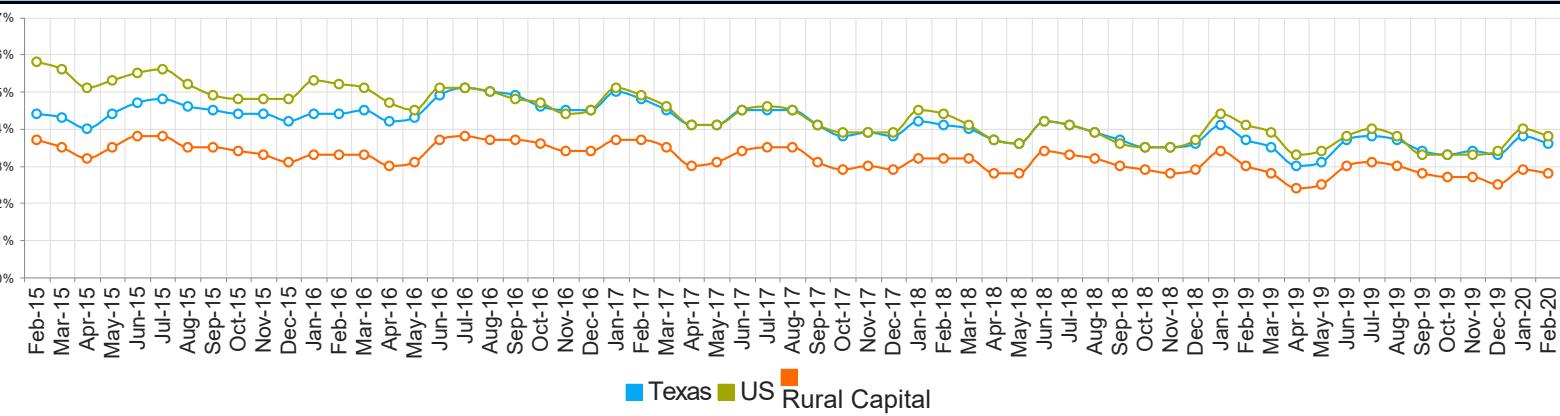
	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	14,286,245	14,188,058	14,001,465	284,780
Employed	13,777,994	13,655,624	13,486,223	291,771
Unemployed	508,251	532,434	515,242	-6,991
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.8%	3.7%	-0.1%

**US Labor Force Statistics**

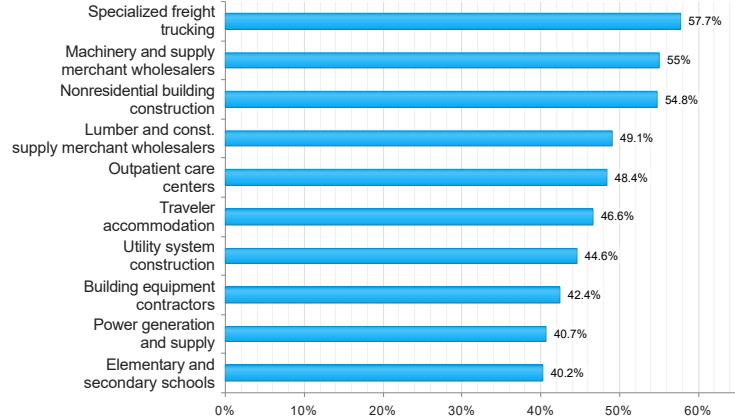
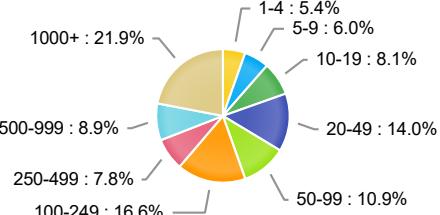
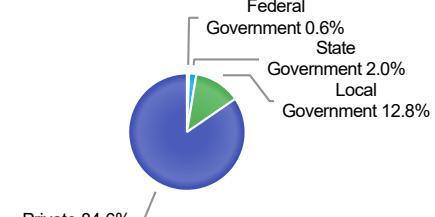
	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	164,235,000	163,497,000	162,793,000	1,442,000
Employed	158,017,000	156,994,000	156,167,000	1,850,000
Unemployed	6,218,000	6,504,000	6,625,000	-407,000
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	4.0%	4.1%	-0.3%

**Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th**

	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Yearly Change
WDA	2,559	2,621	2,530	-29
Texas	104,106	109,335	95,515	8,591

**Historical Unemployment Rates**


■ Texas ■ US ■ Rural Capital

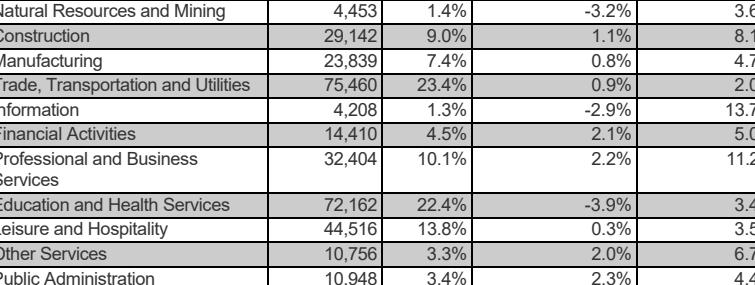
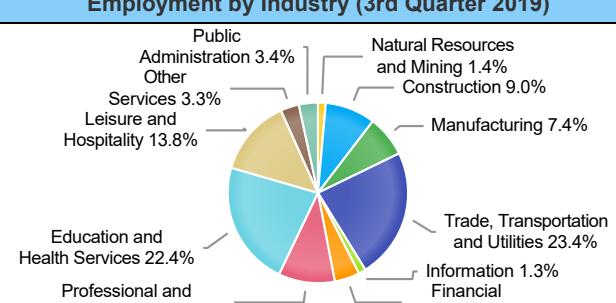
**Projected Top Ten Fastest Growing Industries in WDA (% Growth 2016-2026)**

**Employment by Size Class (3rd Quarter 2019)**

**Employment by Ownership (3rd Quarter 2019)**

**Average Weekly Wage (3rd Quarter 2019)**

	Q3 2019	Q2 2019	Q3 2018	Quarterly Change	Yearly Change
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WDA	\$1,003	\$952	\$916	\$51	\$87
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Texas	\$1,109	\$1,101	\$1,065	\$8	\$44
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US	\$1,093	\$1,095	\$1,055	\$-2	\$38
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**Employment by Industry (3rd Quarter 2019, Percent Change)**

**Employment by Industry (3rd Quarter 2019)**


RURAL CAPITAL																	Change from Last Month (February-20 vs. January-20)			Change from Last Year (February-20 vs. February-19)		
February-20					January-20					February-19					Change from Last Month (February-20 vs. January-20)			Change from Last Year (February-20 vs. February-19)				
Area	Area Type	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	
Texas	State	14,286,245	13,777,994	508,251	3.6	14,188,058	13,655,624	532,434	3.8	14,001,465	13,486,223	515,242	3.7	98187	122370	-24183	(0.20)	284780	291771	-6991	0.10	
Austin-Round Rock	MSA	1,263,708	1,230,296	33,412	2.6	1,253,815	1,219,323	34,492	2.8	1,229,192	1,194,664	34,528	2.8	9893	10973	-1080	(0.20)	34516	35632	-1116	0.20	
Rural Capital	WDA	568,227	552,428	15,799	2.8	563,884	547,526	16,358	2.9	553,831	537,484	16,347	3.0	4343	4902	-559	(0.10)	14396	14944	-548	0.20	
Bastrop	County	43,768	42,487	1,281	2.9	43,422	42,083	1,339	3.1	42,576	41,239	1,337	3.1	346	404	-58	(0.20)	1192	1248	-56	0.20	
Blanco	County	6,651	6,494	157	2.4	6,591	6,429	162	2.5	6,430	6,263	167	2.6	60	65	-5	(0.10)	221	231	-10	0.20	
Burnet	County	23,887	23,225	662	2.8	23,617	22,949	668	2.8	23,599	22,941	658	2.8	270	276	-6	0.00	288	284	4	0.00	
Caldwell	County	20,060	19,414	646	3.2	19,898	19,232	666	3.3	19,519	18,845	674	3.5	162	182	-20	(0.10)	541	569	-28	0.30	
Fayette	County	12,114	11,791	323	2.7	12,082	11,746	336	2.8	12,563	12,231	332	2.6	32	45	-13	(0.10)	-449	-440	-9	(0.10)	
Hays	County	122,377	119,078	3,299	2.7	121,493	118,010	3,481	2.9	118,992	115,604	3,388	2.8	886	1068	-182	(0.20)	3385	3474	-89	0.10	
Lee	County	10,078	9,801	277	2.7	10,004	9,721	283	2.8	9,998	9,717	281	2.8	74	80	-6	(0.10)	80	84	-4	0.10	
Llano	County	8,743	8,444	299	3.4	8,685	8,375	310	3.6	8,489	8,168	321	3.8	58	69	-11	(0.20)	254	276	-22	0.40	
Williamson	County	320,549	311,694	8,855	2.8	318,094	308,981	9,113	2.9	311,665	302,476	9,189	2.9	2455	2713	-258	(0.10)	8884	9218	-334	0.10	
Cedar Park	City	43,825	42,605	1,220	2.8	43,428	42,234	1,194	2.7	42,581	41,349	1,232	2.9	397	371	26	0.10	1244	1256	-12	0.10	
Georgetown	City	32,351	31,258	1,093	3.4	32,103	30,986	1,117	3.5	31,436	30,333	1,103	3.5	248	272	-24	(0.10)	915	925	-10	0.10	
Hutto	City	15,223	14,828	395	2.6	15,132	14,699	433	2.9	14,810	14,390	420	2.8	91	129	-38	(0.30)	413	438	-25	0.20	
Kyle	City	25,989	25,310	679	2.6	25,792	25,083	709	2.7	25,278	24,572	706	2.8	197	227	-30	(0.10)	711	738	-27	0.20	
Leander	City	30,769	29,915	854	2.8	30,522	29,655	867	2.8	29,906	29,031	875	2.9	247	260	-13	0.00	863	884	-21	0.10	
Round Rock	City	73,553	71,640	1,913	2.6	72,988	71,016	1,972	2.7	71,466	69,522	1,944	2.7	565	624	-59	(0.10)	2087	2118	-31	0.10	
San Marcos	City	34,350	33,332	1,018	3.0	34,153	33,033	1,120	3.3	33,416	32,360	1,056	3.2	197	299	-102	(0.30)	934	972	-38	0.20	