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PRESS RELEASE

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Rural Capital Area Unemployment Rate Ticks Up in January; Region Sees 3.13% Annual Job Growth Rate

CEDAR PARK, Texas – The unadjusted unemployment rate in the [Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area](#) (WSRCA) ticked up slightly in January 2020, compared to the month prior, though there was still a favorable drop compared to the rate last year. According to figures released today by the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (TWC), the unemployment rate for the nine-county workforce development area was 2.9 percent*, up from 2.5 percent in December 2019, but below the 3.4 percent recorded in January 2019. The 2.9 percent unemployment rate represented 16,356 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment rate remained below both the Texas (3.8 percent)* and national (4.0 percent)* rates, which both saw increases in January.

The Rural Capital Area's 3.13 percent annual growth rate represents the addition of 16,601 jobs since January 2019.

Within the WSRCA counties, Blanco recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 2.5 percent in January. Burnet, Fayette and Lee counties were at 2.8 percent. Hays and Williamson counties were at 2.9 percent. Bastrop County was at 3.1 percent, while Caldwell County was at 3.4 percent, and Llano County was at 3.6 percent.

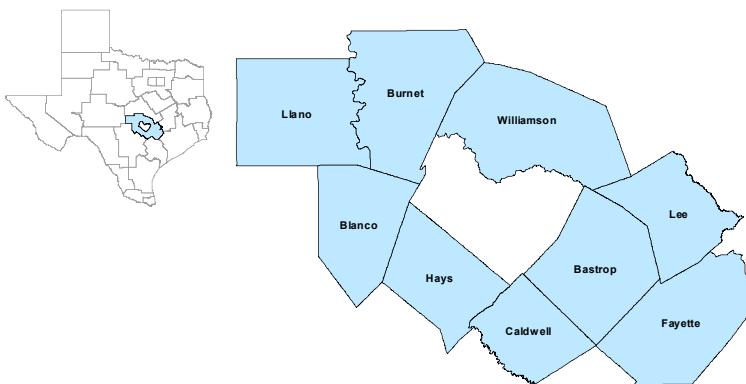
Key Points by Industry for the Rural Capital Area, according to the most recent labor market data:

- 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

January 2020
WDA Labor Force Statistics

	Jan-20	Dec-19	Jan-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	564,184	564,173	549,668	14,516
Employed	547,828	549,805	531,227	16,601
Unemployed	16,356	14,368	18,441	-2,085
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	2.5%	3.4%	-0.5%

Texas Labor Force Statistics

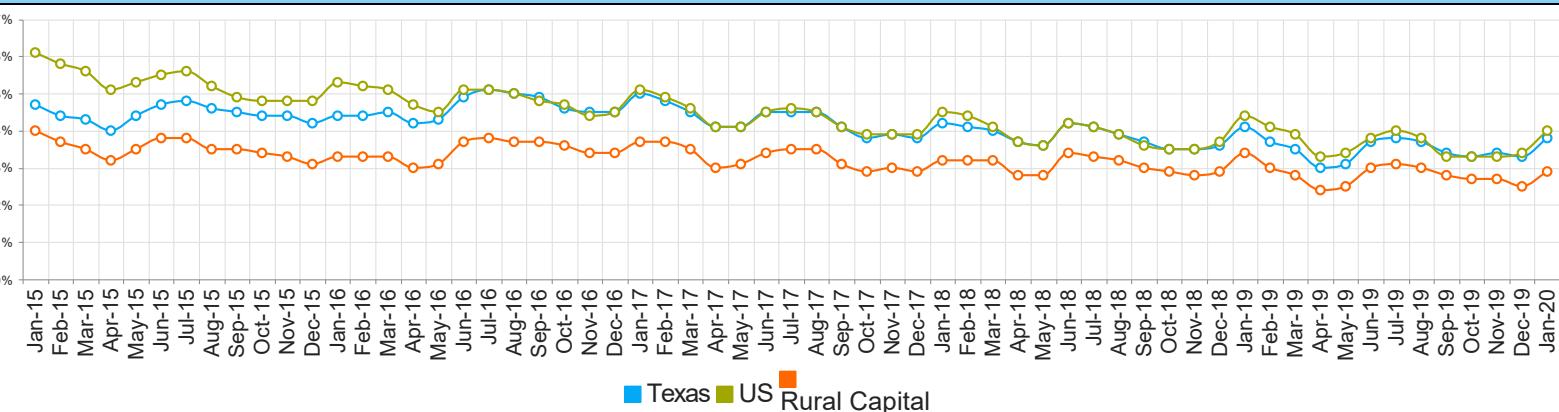
	Jan-20	Dec-19	Jan-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	14,187,439	14,192,255	13,938,076	249,363
Employed	13,654,962	13,722,119	13,365,741	289,221
Unemployed	532,477	470,136	572,335	-39,858
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	3.3%	4.1%	-0.3%

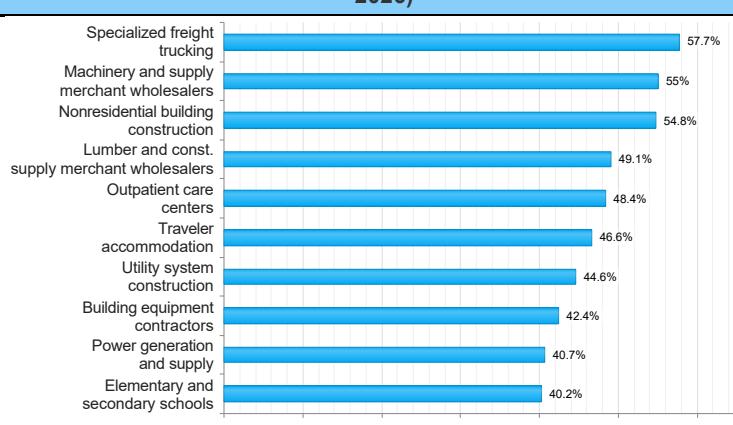
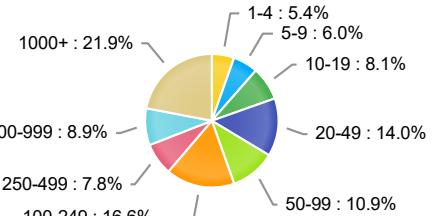
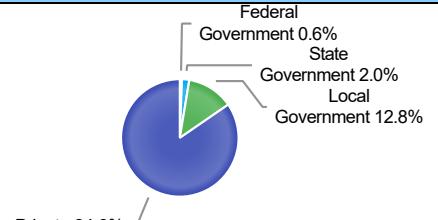
US Labor Force Statistics

	Jan-20	Dec-19	Jan-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	163,497,000	164,007,000	162,104,000	1,393,000
Employed	156,994,000	158,504,000	154,964,000	2,030,000
Unemployed	6,504,000	5,503,000	7,140,000	-636,000
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	3.4%	4.4%	-0.4%

Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Jan-20	Dec-19	Jan-19	Yearly Change
WDA	2,611	2,514	2,526	85
Texas	109,138	102,136	99,498	9,640

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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RURAL CAPITAL AREA																																
January-20															December-19					January-19					Change from Last Month (January-20 vs. December-19)				Change from Last Year (January-20 vs. January-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	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate			
Texas	State	14,187,439	13,654,962	532,477	3.8	14,192,255	13,722,119	470,136	3.3	13,938,076	13,365,741	572,335	4.1	-4816	-67157	62341	0.50	249363	289221	-39858	0.30											
Austin-Round Rock	MSA	1,254,494	1,220,005	34,489	2.7	1,255,200	1,224,993	30,207	2.4	1,221,167	1,181,941	39,226	3.2	-706	-4988	4282	0.30	33327	38064	-4737	0.50											
Rural Capital	WDA	564,184	547,828	16,356	2.9	564,173	549,805	14,368	2.5	549,668	531,227	18,441	3.4	11	-1977	1988	0.40	14516	16601	-2085	0.50											
Bastrop	County	43,447	42,107	1,340	3.1	43,487	42,291	1,196	2.8	42,322	40,753	1,569	3.7	-40	-184	144	0.30	1125	1354	-229	0.60											
Blanco	County	6,594	6,432	162	2.5	6,515	6,376	139	2.1	6,383	6,200	183	2.9	79	56	23	0.40	211	232	-21	0.40											
Burnet	County	23,627	22,960	667	2.8	23,540	22,958	582	2.5	23,279	22,556	723	3.1	87	2	85	0.30	348	404	-56	0.30											
Caldwell	County	19,909	19,242	667	3.4	19,898	19,326	572	2.9	19,416	18,626	790	4.1	11	-84	95	0.50	493	616	-123	0.70											
Fayette	County	12,088	11,752	336	2.8	12,026	11,740	286	2.4	12,477	12,117	360	2.9	62	12	50	0.40	-389	-365	-24	0.10											
Hays	County	121,554	118,075	3,479	2.9	121,589	118,563	3,026	2.5	118,372	114,345	4,027	3.4	-35	-488	453	0.40	3182	3730	-548	0.50											
Lee	County	10,008	9,726	282	2.8	10,003	9,749	254	2.5	9,723	9,409	314	3.2	5	-23	28	0.30	285	317	-32	0.40											
Llano	County	8,689	8,379	310	3.6	8,678	8,399	279	3.2	8,426	8,075	351	4.2	11	-20	31	0.40	263	304	-41	0.60											
Williamson	County	318,268	309,155	9,113	2.9	318,437	310,403	8,034	2.5	309,270	299,146	10,124	3.3	-169	-1248	1079	0.40	8998	10009	-1011	0.40											
Cedar Park	City	43,452	42,258	1,194	2.7	43,542	42,428	1,114	2.6	42,259	40,896	1,363	3.2	-90	-170	80	0.10	1193	1362	-169	0.50											
Georgetown	City	32,122	31,003	1,119	3.5	32,082	31,128	954	3.0	31,192	30,000	1,192	3.8	40	-125	165	0.50	930	1003	-73	0.30											
Hutto	City	15,141	14,707	434	2.9	15,138	14,767	371	2.5	14,695	14,231	464	3.2	3	-60	63	0.40	446	476	-30	0.30											
Kyle	City	25,804	25,097	707	2.7	25,885	25,201	684	2.6	25,223	24,304	919	3.6	-81	-104	23	0.10	581	793	-212	0.90											
Leander	City	30,534	29,671	863	2.8	30,567	29,791	776	2.5	29,657	28,712	945	3.2	-33	-120	87	0.30	877	959	-82	0.40											
Round Rock	City	73,030	71,056	1,974	2.7	73,038	71,343	1,695	2.3	70,933	68,757	2,176	3.1	-8	-287	279	0.40	2097	2299	-202	0.40											
San Marcos	City	34,173	33,051	1,122	3.3	34,104	33,188	916	2.7	33,196	32,007	1,189	3.6	69	-137	206	0.60	977	1044	-67	0.30											