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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 12, 2021

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Rural Capital Area Unemployment Rate Ticks Up to 5.3% in January

CEDAR PARK, Texas – The unadjusted unemployment rate of the Rural Capital Area of Central Texas ticked up to 5.3 percent in January 2021, a slight increase from the 4.8 percent rate recorded in December 2020, according to figures released today by the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (TWC). The 5.3 percent unemployment rate in the nine-county [Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area](#) (WSRCA) represented 30,272 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment rate remained below both the Texas (7.3 percent) * and national (6.8 percent) * rates.

All counties within the Rural Capital Area region saw unemployment rate increases in January. Among them, Blanco County recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 3.9 percent (up from 3.4 percent in December), followed by Burnet County at 4.7 percent (up from 4.3 percent), and Williamson County at 5.2 percent (up from 4.7 percent). Fayette County was at 5.4 percent (up from 5.0 percent), while Hays County was at 5.5 percent (up from 4.9 percent). Lee County was at 5.6 percent (up from 4.7 percent), while Bastrop County was at 5.8 percent (up from 5.1 percent), Caldwell County was at 6.2 percent (up from 5.5 percent), and Llano County was at 6.4 percent (up from 5.7 percent).

The WSRCA team is eager to help you find workforce solutions and offers curbside and in-center assistance by appointment. Services continue to be available virtually. Utilize our [Skill-Based Career Progression Lattices](#) and work with our teams to develop a customized training plan to help you enhance your skills and create sustainable career outcomes.

Looking for work? The [Workforce Wednesdays Virtual Career Expo](#) connects employers and job seekers at weekly online hiring events. Workforce Wednesdays represents a collective effort among Rural Capital Area communities and industries to empower their workforce through virtual interactive events and continue to help the region compete at a global level.

Employers looking to host free hiring booths and interview sessions should email the WSRCA Business Services Team at businessservices@ruralcapital.net, or visit <https://ruralcapitalarea.getyourbooth.com>.

For those looking to upskill, our partners at TWC are offering free online training courses for all Texans through [Metrix Learning's Skillsoft courseware](#). When combined with the 16,000-plus virtual courses WSRCA offers through [LinkedIn Learning](#) as well as Academy, there's no better time to ramp up your skills and marketability for local careers in high-demand industries.

For more information please visit WSRCA at www.workforcesolutionsrca.com, call toll free, at 1-844-344-2780, and begin your job search on www.workintexas.com.

Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's

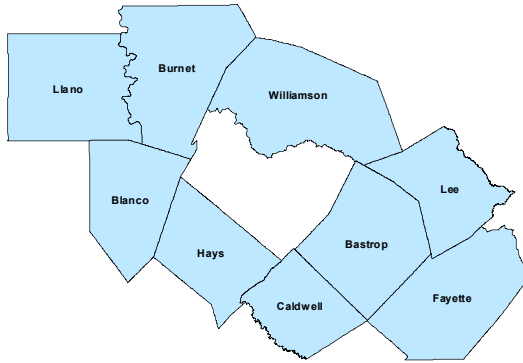
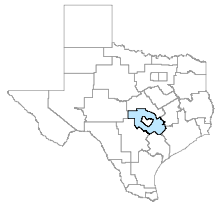
Bureau of Labor Statistics. All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit texaslmi.com.

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 2021



WDA Labor Force Statistics

	Jan-21	Dec-20	Jan-20	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	568,907	571,109	571,784	-2,877
Employed	538,635	543,690	555,392	-16,757
Unemployed	30,272	27,419	16,392	13,880
Unemployment Rate	5.3%	4.8%	2.9%	2.4%

Texas Labor Force Statistics

	Jan-21	Dec-20	Jan-20	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	14,027,811	14,139,874	14,161,146	-133,335
Employed	13,000,052	13,191,324	13,634,710	-634,658
Unemployed	1,027,759	948,550	526,436	501,323
Unemployment Rate	7.3%	6.7%	3.7%	3.6%

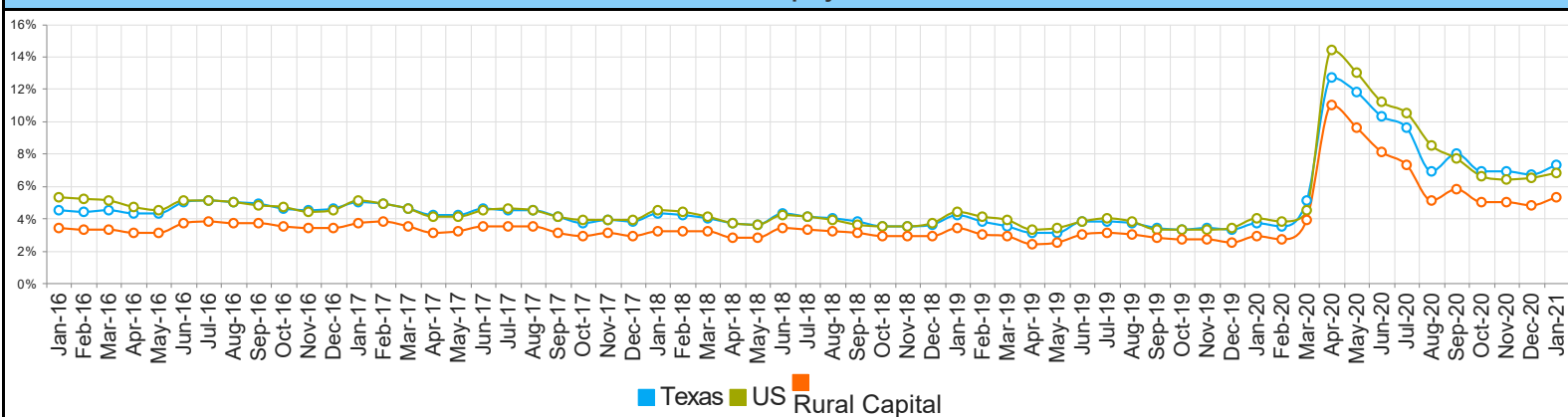
US Labor Force Statistics

	Jan-21	Dec-20	Jan-20	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	159,234,000	160,017,000	163,497,000	-4,263,000
Employed	148,383,000	149,613,000	156,994,000	-8,611,000
Unemployed	10,851,000	10,404,000	6,504,000	4,347,000
Unemployment Rate	6.8%	6.5%	4.0%	2.8%

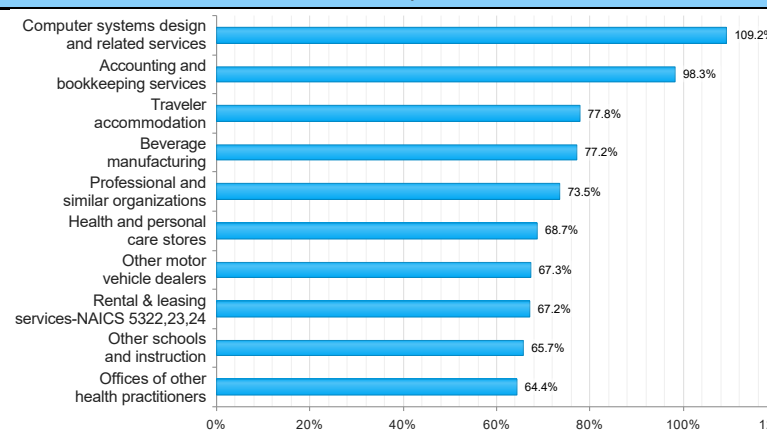
Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Jan-21	Dec-20	Jan-20	Yearly Change
WDA	5,476	5,784	2,659	2,817
Texas	229,574	244,808	110,507	119,067

Historical Unemployment Rates



Projected Top Ten Fastest Growing Industries in WDA (% Growth 2018-2028)



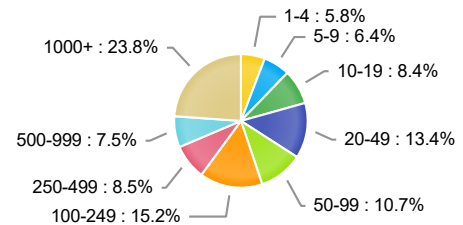
Average Weekly Wage (3rd Quarter 2020)

	Q3 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2019	Quarterly Change	Yearly Change
WDA	\$1,072	\$1,045	\$1,003	\$27	\$69
Texas	\$1,149	\$1,156	\$1,108	\$-7	\$41
US	\$1,173	\$1,188	\$1,092	\$-15	\$81

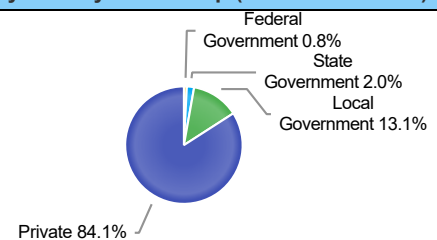
Employment by Industry (3rd Quarter 2020, Percent Change)

Industry	Employment	% of Total	% Quarterly Change	% Yearly Change
Natural Resources and Mining	3,963	1.3%	-0.9%	-13.0%
Construction	29,282	9.4%	-0.6%	-0.3%
Manufacturing	23,378	7.5%	0.4%	-1.9%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	75,955	24.3%	6.3%	1.1%
Information	3,227	1.0%	-2.9%	-23.3%
Financial Activities	14,582	4.7%	2.0%	1.0%
Professional and Business Services	33,107	10.6%	4.1%	2.3%
Education and Health Services	70,556	22.6%	-0.2%	-2.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	37,088	11.9%	14.5%	-16.7%
Other Services	9,946	3.2%	17.3%	-7.8%
Public Administration	11,568	3.7%	5.4%	5.7%

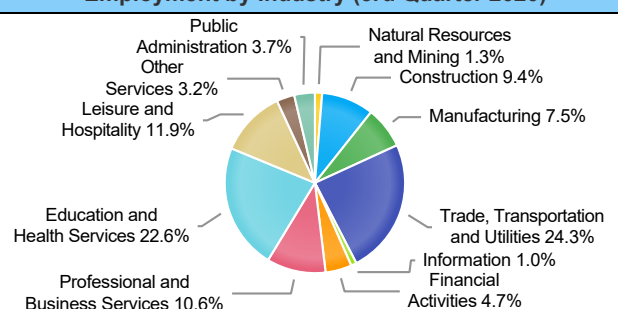
Employment by Size Class (3rd Quarter 2020)



Employment by Ownership (3rd Quarter 2020)



Employment by Industry (3rd Quarter 2020)



RURAL CAPITAL																					
January-21						December-20				January-20				Change from Last Month (Jan-21 vs.Dec-20)				Change from Last Year (Jan-21 vs. Jan-20)			
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	14,027,811	13,000,052	1,027,759	7.3	14,139,874	13,191,324	948,550	6.7	14,161,146	13,634,710	526,436	3.7	-112063	-191272	79209	0.60	-133335	-634658	501323	(3.60)
Austin-Round Rock	MSA	1,258,589	1,191,134	67,455	5.4	1,264,319	1,202,616	61,703	4.9	1,262,235	1,227,759	34,476	2.7	-5730	-11482	5752	0.50	-3646	-36625	32979	(2.70)
Rural Capital	WDA	568,907	538,635	30,272	5.3	571,109	543,690	27,419	4.8	571,784	555,392	16,392	2.9	-2202	-5055	2853	0.50	-2877	-16757	13880	(2.40)
Bastrop	County	43,366	40,868	2,498	5.8	43,425	41,215	2,210	5.1	43,436	42,102	1,334	3.1	-59	-347	288	0.70	-70	-1234	1164	(2.70)
Blanco	County	6,702	6,442	260	3.9	6,722	6,493	229	3.4	6,718	6,558	160	2.4	-20	-51	31	0.50	-16	-116	100	(1.50)
Burnet	County	24,103	22,972	1,131	4.7	24,020	22,989	1,031	4.3	23,803	23,143	660	2.8	83	-17	100	0.40	300	-171	471	(1.90)
Caldwell	County	19,707	18,483	1,224	6.2	19,737	18,644	1,093	5.5	19,702	19,042	660	3.3	-30	-161	131	0.70	5	-559	564	(2.90)
Fayette	County	11,724	11,096	628	5.4	11,752	11,162	590	5.0	12,159	11,831	328	2.7	-28	-66	38	0.40	-435	-735	300	(2.70)
Hays	County	122,802	116,094	6,708	5.5	123,233	117,196	6,037	4.9	123,133	119,644	3,489	2.8	-431	-1102	671	0.60	-331	-3550	3219	(2.70)
Lee	County	8,843	8,349	494	5.6	9,014	8,592	422	4.7	9,446	9,164	282	3.0	-171	-243	72	0.90	-603	-815	212	(2.60)
Llano	County	8,505	7,957	548	6.4	8,540	8,056	484	5.7	8,553	8,248	305	3.6	-35	-99	64	0.70	-48	-291	243	(2.80)
Williamson	County	323,155	306,374	16,781	5.2	324,666	309,343	15,323	4.7	324,834	315,660	9,174	2.8	-1511	-2969	1458	0.50	-1679	-9286	7607	(2.40)
Cedar Park	City	43,713	41,485	2,228	5.1	43,853	41,886	1,967	4.5	43,942	42,745	1,197	2.7	-140	-401	261	0.60	-229	-1260	1031	(2.40)
Georgetown	City	33,650	31,640	2,010	6.0	33,853	31,947	1,906	5.6	33,749	32,599	1,150	3.4	-203	-307	104	0.40	-99	-959	860	(2.60)
Hutto	City	15,681	14,788	893	5.7	15,770	14,931	839	5.3	15,681	15,236	445	2.8	-89	-143	54	0.40	0	-448	448	(2.90)
Kyle	City	26,164	24,638	1,526	5.8	26,192	24,872	1,320	5.0	26,100	25,392	708	2.7	-28	-234	206	0.80	64	-754	818	(3.10)
Leander	City	33,133	31,490	1,643	5.0	33,274	31,795	1,479	4.4	33,354	32,445	909	2.7	-141	-305	164	0.60	-221	-955	734	(2.30)
Round Rock	City	73,523	70,008	3,515	4.8	73,891	70,686	3,205	4.3	74,107	72,130	1,977	2.7	-368	-678	310	0.50	-584	-2122	1538	(2.10)
San Marcos	City	34,186	32,056	2,130	6.2	34,171	32,360	1,811	5.3	34,154	33,036	1,118	3.3	15	-304	319	0.90	32	-980	1012	(2.90)