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NEWS RELEASE

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Rural Capital Area Unemployment Rate Falls to Pandemic Low of 4.9% in October

CEDAR PARK, Texas – The unadjusted unemployment rate in the Rural Capital Area of Central Texas has shrunk from a high of 11.5 percent during the worst stages of the coronavirus pandemic in April, to a low of 4.9 percent in October 2020, according to figures released today by the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (TWC). The 4.9 percent unemployment rate in the nine-county [Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area](#) (WSRCA) represented 27,446 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment rate remained below both the Texas (6.7 percent)* and national (6.6 percent)* rates.

Within the WSRCA counties, Blanco recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 3.4 percent in October. Burnet and Lee counties came in at 4.2 percent. Fayette County was at 4.5 percent, while Williamson County was at 4.8 percent. Llano and Hays counties were at 5.1 percent, Bastrop County was at 5.2 percent, while Caldwell County was at 5.4 percent.

“The recovery of our Rural Capital Area economy is being fueled by innovative local employers tapping into the talents of our world-class workforce,” said WSRCA CEO Paul Fletcher. “We are proud to play an important role in job matching and upskilling our workforce to meet the needs of industry, and to help our communities find sustainable solutions through this difficult moment, to strengthen opportunities for Central Texas families.”

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.

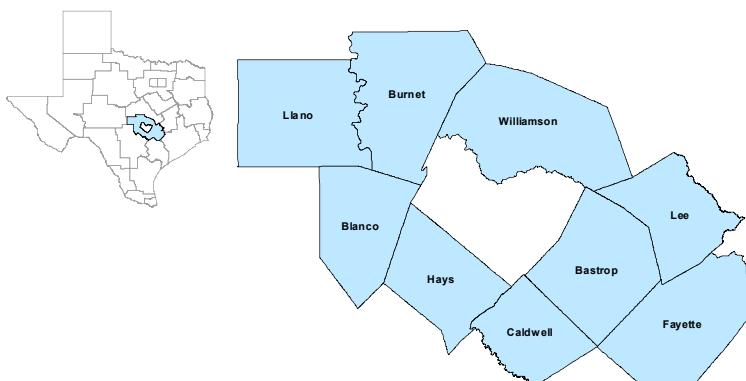
TWC has also begun offering free online training courses for all Texans through [Metrix Learning's Skillsoft courseware](#). When combined with the 16,000-plus virtual courses WSRCA offers through [LinkedIn Learning](#) as well as Academy, there's no better time to ramp up your skills and marketability 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

October 2020
WDA Labor Force Statistics

	Oct-20	Sep-20	Oct-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	563,207	564,370	563,590	-383
Employed	535,761	530,508	548,303	-12,542
Unemployed	27,446	33,862	15,287	12,159
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	6.0%	2.7%	2.2%

Texas Labor Force Statistics

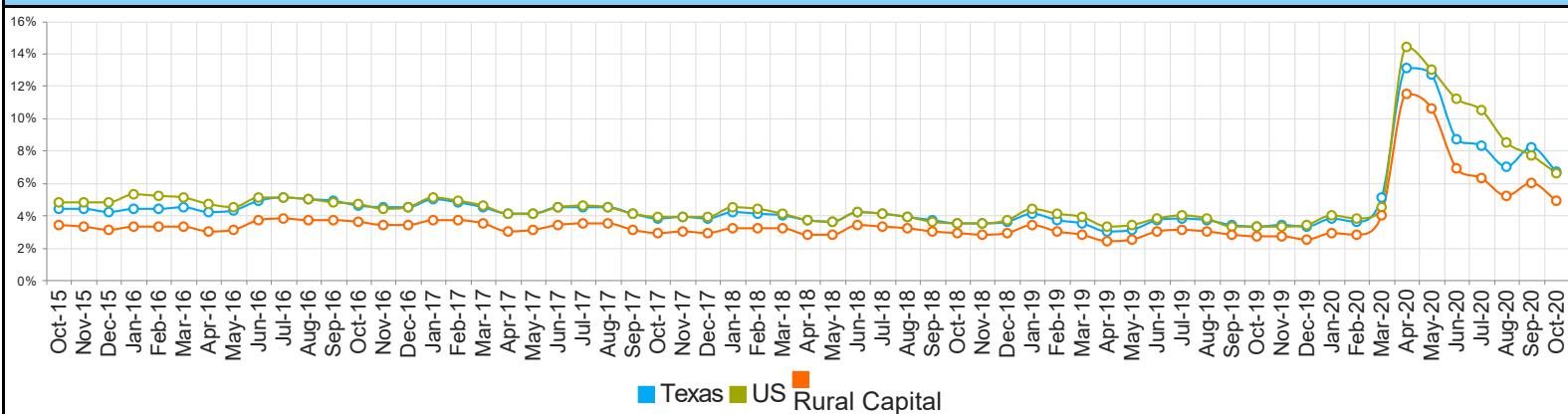
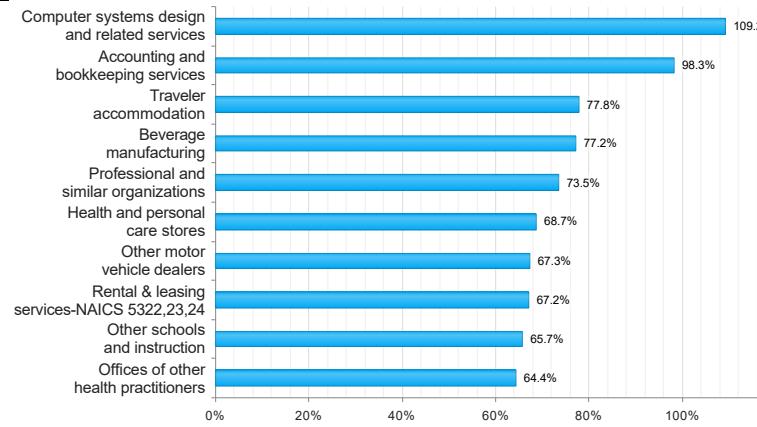
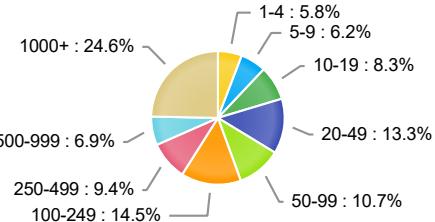
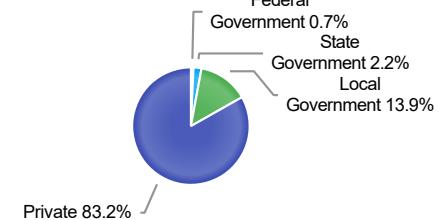
	Oct-20	Sep-20	Oct-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	14,094,292	14,198,955	14,161,315	-67,023
Employed	13,144,000	13,035,174	13,686,986	-542,986
Unemployed	950,292	1,163,781	474,329	475,963
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	8.2%	3.3%	3.4%

US Labor Force Statistics

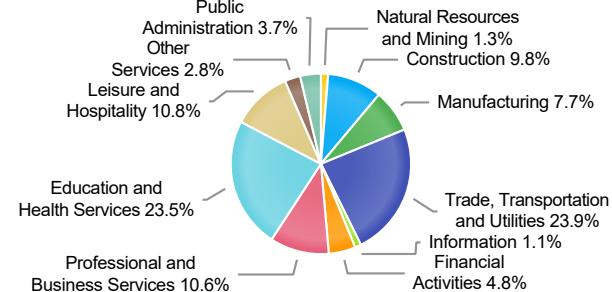
	Oct-20	Sep-20	Oct-19	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	161,053,000	160,073,000	164,576,000	-3,523,000
Employed	150,433,000	147,796,000	159,067,000	-8,634,000
Unemployed	10,620,000	12,277,000	5,510,000	5,110,000
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	7.7%	3.3%	3.3%

Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th

	Oct-20	Sep-20	Oct-19	Yearly Change
WDA	9,748	16,568	2,562	7,186
Texas	394,240	628,584	90,097	304,143

Historical Unemployment Rates

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

Employment by Size Class (2nd Quarter 2020)

Employment by Ownership (2nd Quarter 2020)

Average Weekly Wage (2nd Quarter 2020)
Employment by Industry (2nd Quarter 2020, Percent Change)

	Q2 2020	Q1 2020	Q2 2019	Quarterly Change	Yearly Change
WDA	\$1,045	\$1,111	\$953	\$-66	\$92
Texas	\$1,156	\$1,231	\$1,101	\$-75	\$55
US	\$1,188	\$1,222	\$1,094	\$-34	\$94

Employment by Industry (2nd Quarter 2020)


RURAL CAPITAL																	Change from Last Month (October-20 vs. September-20)				
October-20									September-20					October-19			Change from Last Month (October-20 vs. September-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	14,094,292	13,144,000	950,292	6.7	14,198,955	13,035,174	1,163,781	8.2	14,161,315	13,686,986	474,329	3.3	-104663	108826	-213489	(1.50)	-67023	-542986	475963	(3.40)
Austin-Round Rock	MSA	1,256,957	1,193,275	63,682	5.1	1,262,182	1,182,206	79,976	6.3	1,251,714	1,219,674	32,040	2.6	-5225	11069	-16294	(1.20)	5243	-26399	31642	(2.50)
Rural Capital	WDA	563,207	535,761	27,446	4.9	564,370	530,508	33,862	6.0	563,590	548,303	15,287	2.7	-1163	5253	-6416	(1.10)	-383	-12542	12159	(2.20)
Bastrop	County	43,484	41,234	2,250	5.2	43,507	40,807	2,700	6.2	43,412	42,168	1,244	2.9	-23	427	-450	(1.00)	72	-934	1006	(2.30)
Blanco	County	6,479	6,260	219	3.4	6,473	6,203	270	4.2	6,509	6,361	148	2.3	6	57	-51	(0.80)	-30	-101	71	(1.10)
Burnet	County	23,319	22,328	991	4.2	23,327	22,151	1,176	5.0	23,604	22,983	621	2.6	-8	177	-185	(0.80)	-285	-655	370	(1.60)
Caldwell	County	19,917	18,840	1,077	5.4	19,953	18,648	1,305	6.5	19,889	19,267	622	3.1	-36	192	-228	(1.10)	28	-427	455	(2.30)
Fayette	County	11,859	11,320	539	4.5	11,822	11,184	638	5.4	12,104	11,799	305	2.5	37	136	-99	(0.90)	-245	-479	234	(2.00)
Hays	County	121,786	115,526	6,260	5.1	122,238	114,418	7,820	6.4	121,348	118,096	3,252	2.7	-452	1108	-1560	(1.30)	438	-2570	3008	(2.40)
Lee	County	9,930	9,514	416	4.2	9,909	9,414	495	5.0	10,110	9,850	260	2.6	21	100	-79	(0.80)	-180	-336	156	(1.60)
Llano	County	8,617	8,174	443	5.1	8,641	8,121	520	6.0	8,731	8,456	275	3.1	-24	53	-77	(0.90)	-114	-282	168	(2.00)
Williamson	County	317,816	302,565	15,251	4.8	318,500	299,562	18,938	5.9	317,883	309,323	8,560	2.7	-684	3003	-3687	(1.10)	-67	-6758	6691	(2.10)
Cedar Park	City	43,370	41,353	2,017	4.7	43,517	40,947	2,570	5.9	43,456	42,276	1,180	2.7	-147	406	-553	(1.20)	-86	-923	837	(2.00)
Georgetown	City	32,117	30,342	1,775	5.5	32,214	30,041	2,173	6.7	32,053	31,020	1,033	3.2	-97	301	-398	(1.20)	64	-678	742	(2.30)
Hutto	City	15,149	14,394	755	5.0	15,229	14,251	978	6.4	15,108	14,715	393	2.6	-80	143	-223	(1.40)	41	-321	362	(2.40)
Kyle	City	25,950	24,555	1,395	5.4	26,070	24,320	1,750	6.7	25,785	25,101	684	2.7	-120	235	-355	(1.30)	165	-546	711	(2.70)
Leander	City	30,491	29,038	1,453	4.8	30,581	28,751	1,830	6.0	30,514	29,687	827	2.7	-90	287	-377	(1.20)	-23	-649	626	(2.10)
Round Rock	City	72,644	69,540	3,104	4.3	72,762	68,851	3,911	5.4	72,924	71,093	1,831	2.5	-118	689	-807	(1.10)	-280	-1553	1273	(1.80)
San Marcos	City	34,285	32,338	1,947	5.7	34,491	32,028	2,463	7.1	34,098	33,057	1,041	3.1	-206	310	-516	(1.40)	187	-719	906	(2.60)