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PRESS RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT: BRIAN HERNANDEZ

PHONE: 512-244-7966

Rural Capital Area Unemployment Ticks Up in January

CEDAR PARK, Texas – Figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) show the unemployment rate in the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)* was 3.3 percent in January 2019, up from 2.7 percent in December. The 3.3 percent unemployment rate represented 40,161 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment rate remained nearly one point below both the Texas (4.2 percent)** and national (4.4 percent)** rates.

The region's 2.6 percent annual growth rate represented the collective addition of 26,154 jobs since January 2018.

Key Points by Industry for WSRCA in the Third Quarter of 2018:

- The Natural Resources and Mining Industry has experienced the greatest employment growth with an increase of 2.9 percent.
- Job gains were also experienced in Manufacturing (2.4 percent), Other Services (1.4 percent), Financial Activities (1.2 percent) and Public Administration (1.2 percent).
- Information Services experienced the greatest positive annual job growth with an increase of 17.1 percent.
- Significant positive annual job growth was also experienced in Manufacturing (7.4 percent), Other Services (5.5 percent) and Construction (4.9 percent).

Further, unemployment in the nine-county Rural Capital Workforce Development Area was 3.5 percent in January, up from 2.9 percent in December. The 3.5 percent unemployment rate represented 18,828 residents seeking employment. The Rural Capital Area unemployment rate remained below the state of Texas and national rates.

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.

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Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area is a community partnership providing no cost recruitment, employment services and child care assistance, to businesses 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.

**The Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area includes Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson counties.*

***Unemployment rates listed are not seasonally adjusted.*

The Texas Workforce Commission in partnership with 28 local workforce development boards forms Texas Workforce Solutions

Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities

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