



A proud partner of the [AmericanJobCenter](#) network

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 26, 2021

MEDIA CONTACT: BRIAN HERNANDEZ

PHONE: 512-244-7966 EXT. 5020

Rural Capital Area Unemployment Rate Inches Up to 5.6% in February

CEDAR PARK, Texas – The unadjusted unemployment rate of the Rural Capital Area of Central Texas rose to 5.6 percent in February 2021, a slight increase from the 5.3 percent rate recorded in January 2021, according to figures released today by the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (TWC). The 5.6 percent unemployment rate in the nine-county [Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area](#) (WSRCA) represented 31,735 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment rate remained below both the Texas (7.5 percent) * and national (6.6 percent) * rates.

All counties within the Rural Capital Area region saw unemployment rate increases in February. Among them, Blanco County recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 4.0 percent (up from 3.9 percent in January), followed by Burnet County at 5.0 percent (up from 4.7 percent), and Williamson County at 5.4 percent (up from 5.2 percent). Fayette County was at 5.6 percent (up from 5.4 percent), while Hays County was at 5.7 percent (up from 5.5 percent). Lee County was at 5.9 percent (up from 5.6 percent), while Bastrop County was at 6.0 percent (up from 5.8 percent), Caldwell County was at 6.3 percent (up from 6.2 percent), and Llano County was at 6.7 percent (up from 6.4 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

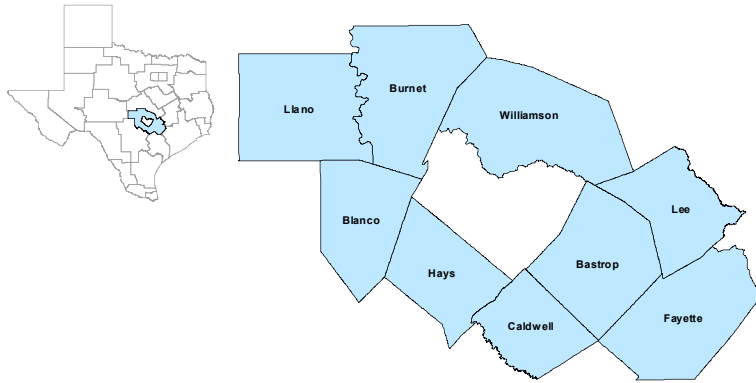
Bureau of Labor Statistics. All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit texaslmi.com.

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

February 2021



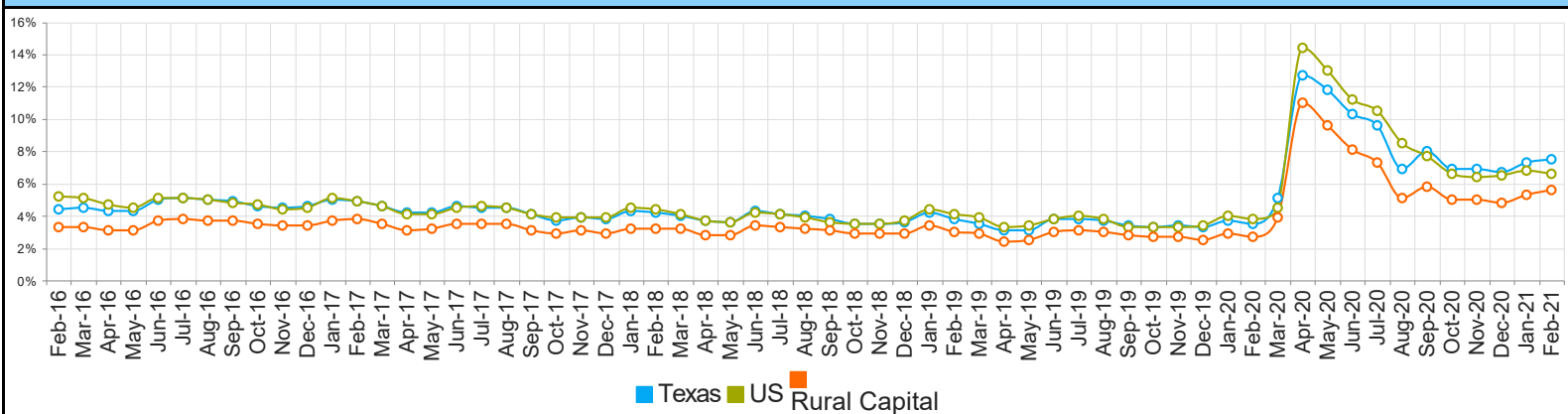
WDA Labor Force Statistics				
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	570,671	568,025	576,580	-5,909
Employed	538,936	537,753	560,797	-21,861
Unemployed	31,735	30,272	15,783	15,952
Unemployment Rate	5.6%	5.3%	2.7%	2.9%

Texas Labor Force Statistics				
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	14,049,170	14,026,650	14,262,779	-213,609
Employed	12,989,548	13,000,673	13,761,203	-771,655
Unemployed	1,059,622	1,025,977	501,576	558,046
Unemployment Rate	7.5%	7.3%	3.5%	4.0%

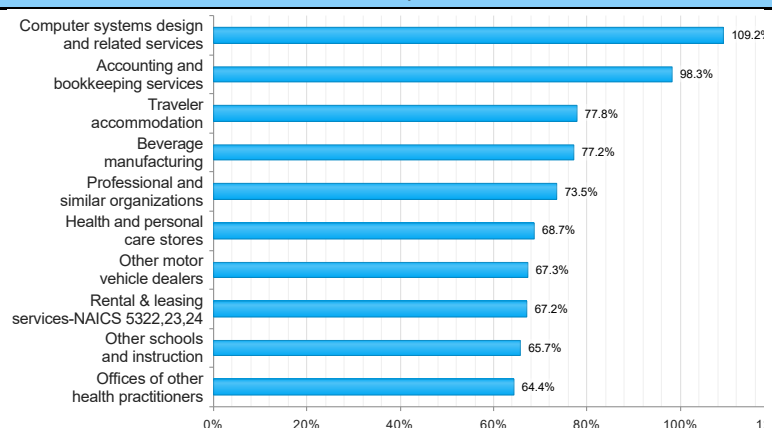
US Labor Force Statistics				
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Yearly Change
Civilian Labor Force	160,008,000	159,234,000	164,235,000	-4,227,000
Employed	149,522,000	148,383,000	158,017,000	-8,495,000
Unemployed	10,486,000	10,851,000	6,218,000	4,268,000
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	6.8%	3.8%	2.8%

Continued Claims for the Week of the 12th				
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Yearly Change
WDA	5,230	5,590	2,647	2,583
Texas	213,437	232,165	107,395	106,042

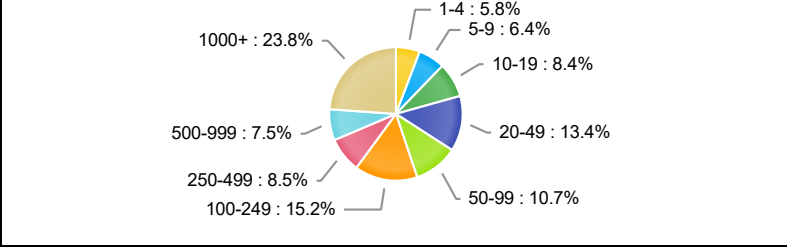
Historical Unemployment Rates



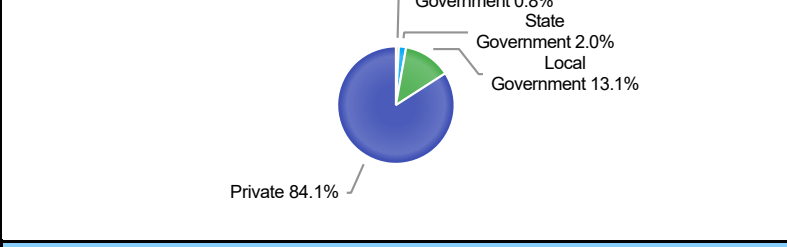
Projected Top Ten Fastest Growing Industries in WDA (% Growth 2018-2028)



Employment by Size Class (3rd Quarter 2020)



Employment by Ownership (3rd Quarter 2020)

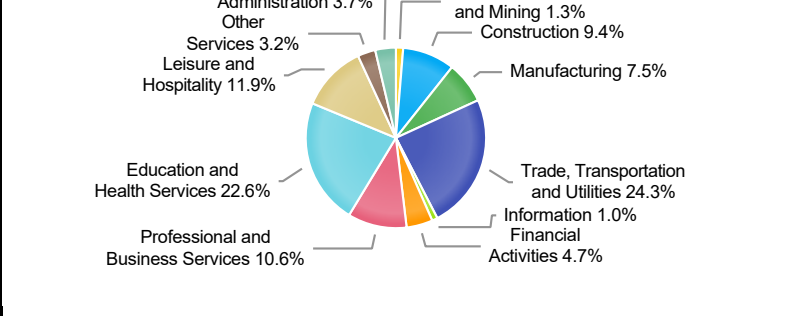


Average Weekly Wage (3rd Quarter 2020)					
	Q3 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2019	Quarterly Change	Yearly Change
WDA	\$1,072	\$1,045	\$1,003	\$27	\$69
Texas	\$1,149	\$1,156	\$1,108	-\$7	\$41
US	\$1,173	\$1,188	\$1,092	-\$15	\$81

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 Industry (3rd Quarter 2020)



RURAL CAPITAL

Area	Area Type	February-21				January-21				February-20				Change from Last Month (Feb-21 vs. Jan-21)				Change from Last Year (Feb-21 vs. Feb-20)			
		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	14,049,170	12,989,548	1,059,622	7.5	14,026,650	13,000,673	1,025,977	7.3	14,262,779	13,761,203	501,576	3.5	22520	-11125	33645	0.20	-213609	-771655	558046	(4.00)
Austin-Round Rock	MSA	1,261,065	1,190,617	70,448	5.6	1,256,476	1,189,047	67,429	5.4	1,272,971	1,239,664	33,307	2.6	4589	1570	3019	0.20	-11906	-49047	37141	(3.00)
Rural Capital	WDA	570,671	538,936	31,735	5.6	568,025	537,753	30,272	5.3	576,580	560,797	15,783	2.7	2646	1183	1463	0.30	-5909	-21861	15952	(2.90)
Bastrop	County	43,512	40,905	2,607	6.0	43,294	40,797	2,497	5.8	43,804	42,537	1,267	2.9	218	108	110	0.20	-292	-1632	1340	(3.10)
Blanco	County	6,729	6,457	272	4.0	6,700	6,440	260	3.9	6,755	6,600	155	2.3	29	17	12	0.10	-26	-143	117	(1.70)
Burnet	County	24,356	23,150	1,206	5.0	24,087	22,956	1,131	4.7	24,164	23,511	653	2.7	269	194	75	0.30	192	-361	553	(2.30)
Caldwell	County	19,750	18,496	1,254	6.3	19,680	18,451	1,229	6.2	19,870	19,236	634	3.2	70	45	25	0.10	-120	-740	620	(3.10)
Fayette	County	11,813	11,146	667	5.6	11,723	11,092	631	5.4	12,238	11,924	314	2.6	90	54	36	0.20	-425	-778	353	(3.00)
Hays	County	123,081	116,063	7,018	5.7	122,597	115,891	6,706	5.5	124,113	120,810	3,303	2.7	484	172	312	0.20	-1032	-4747	3715	(3.00)
Lee	County	9,045	8,513	532	5.9	8,839	8,342	497	5.6	9,453	9,182	271	2.9	206	171	35	0.30	-408	-669	261	(3.00)
Llano	County	8,571	8,001	570	6.7	8,501	7,954	547	6.4	8,645	8,351	294	3.4	70	47	23	0.30	-74	-350	276	(3.30)
Williamson	County	323,814	306,205	17,609	5.4	322,604	305,830	16,774	5.2	327,538	318,646	8,892	2.7	1210	375	835	0.20	-3724	-12441	8717	(2.70)
Cedar Park	City	43,744	41,462	2,282	5.2	43,648	41,411	2,237	5.1	44,369	43,150	1,219	2.7	96	51	45	0.10	-625	-1688	1063	(2.50)
Georgetown	City	33,752	31,623	2,129	6.3	33,586	31,584	2,002	6.0	34,031	32,907	1,124	3.3	166	39	127	0.30	-279	-1284	1005	(3.00)
Hutto	City	15,766	14,780	986	6.3	15,651	14,762	889	5.7	15,781	15,380	401	2.5	115	18	97	0.60	-15	-600	585	(3.80)
Kyle	City	26,177	24,632	1,545	5.9	26,108	24,595	1,513	5.8	26,317	25,639	678	2.6	69	37	32	0.10	-140	-1007	867	(3.30)
Leander	City	33,218	31,473	1,745	5.3	33,080	31,434	1,646	5.0	33,648	32,752	896	2.7	138	39	99	0.30	-430	-1279	849	(2.60)
Round Rock	City	73,687	69,969	3,718	5.0	73,392	69,884	3,508	4.8	74,710	72,812	1,898	2.5	295	85	210	0.20	-1023	-2843	1820	(2.50)
San Marcos	City	34,253	32,047	2,206	6.4	34,128	32,000	2,128	6.2	34,363	33,358	1,005	2.9	125	47	78	0.20	-110	-1311	1201	(3.50)