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GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M.
BY VIRTUAL MEETING**

To register for this Zoom Webinar, please visit
https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sslhTenFTTe_ExLxeHXI-A

- 1. Call Roll**
- 2. Protocols for Virtual Meeting**
- 3. Adopt Agenda**
- 4. Hear Public Comment**
- 5. Review April 2021 meeting minutes**
- 6. Declare Conflicts of Interest**
- 7. Consider Reports**
 - a. Chair's Remarks.
 - b. Audit/Monitoring. Briefing on committee's May meeting.
 - c. Communications. Briefing on committee's May meeting.
 - d. Government Relations. Briefing on state and federal legislative actions.
 - e. Education. Briefing on committee's May meeting.

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8. Take Action

- a. Procurement. Consider recommendation from the Board's Procurement committee to fund contracts to support construction industry employers in amount not to exceed \$364,511.

9. Receive Information


- a. Communications. A look at our communications and outreach activities.
- b. Performance and Production. Report on the system's performance and production.
- c. Expenditures. Report on the Board's budget and expenditures.

10. Look at the Economy.

Report on current employment data and economic trends

11. Take Up Other Business.

12. Adjourn

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If you wish to make public comment you may do so by providing your comments in writing no later than 5:00 pm on **Friday, May 28, 2021** to Deborah Duke at deborah.duke@wrksolutions.net.

Meeting materials are available on our website at www.wrksolutions.com/about-us/meetings.

Workforce Solutions is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Please contact us at 713.627.3200 at least 48 hours in advance to request accommodations.

Deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired customers contact: Relay Texas 1-800-735-2989 (TTY) or 1-800-735-2988 (Voice) or 711.

Equal opportunity is the law.

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**MINUTES OF
THE GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Willie Alexander	Alan Heskamp	Monica Riley
Gerald Andrews	Guy Robert Jackson	Valerie Segovia
Peter Beard	Sarah Janes	Richard Shaw
Sarah Bouse	Doug Karr	Isaac Shi
Carl Bowles	Jeff LaBroski	Gil Staley
Mary Helen Cavazos	Rajen Mahagaokar	Lizandra Vazquez
Renee Dillon	Scott Marshall	Carolyn Watson
Cheryl Guido	Edward Melton	Michael Webster
Mark Guthrie	Adrian Ozuna	
Bobbie Allen Henderson	Paul Puente	

H-GAC STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Borski	Deborah Duke	Mike Temple
Michelle Castrow	Philip Garcia	
AJ Dean	Parker Harvey	

Mark Guthrie, Chair, called the meeting to order by video conference/webinar¹ at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. Deborah Duke called roll to determine a list of members present on the call. Chair Guthrie determined a quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Guthrie presented the agenda. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Anthony Collins signed up for public comment but was not present at the meeting. No one else requested to make a public comment.

¹ Pursuant to Governor's March 16, 2020, Temporary Suspension of Certain Open Meetings Provisions.

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 2, 2021 MEETING

Chair Guthrie asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the February 2, 2021 Board meeting and if none, for approval of the minutes as presented. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried.

DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Chair Guthrie asked for declarations of any conflicts of interest with items on the agenda. Helen Cavazos declared a conflict of interest related to any actions involving The Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans. Chair Guthrie reminded the members that they were welcome to declare additional conflicts with items as they are considered.

CONSIDER REPORTS

a. Chair's Report.

Chair Guthrie reviewed the current COVID-19 situation and the vaccination status in the region. He encouraged members to stay vigilant in protecting themselves.

Chair Guthrie reported that he attended and spoke at Mayor Sylvester Turner's press conference at the Northline Career office to announce the City's summer jobs campaign, Hire Houston Youth. He encouraged Board members to encourage employers they encounter to hire Houston youth on a year-round basis.

Chair Guthrie also commented on the Summer Earn and Learn program coordinated by Board Staff which is the summer job program for young people with disabilities.

Chair Guthrie reported that he attended the virtual National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) directors meeting in March. NAWB's efforts remain focused on recovery from Covid impacts on the national economy. Chair Guthrie said that the proposed federal legislation known as the American Jobs Plan recently announced by President Biden includes a significant amount of funding for national workforce development programs. It includes services for dislocated workers and seeks to increase the number of registered apprenticeships.

Next, Chair Guthrie reported on recent Texas Association of Workforce Board (TAWB) activities. TAWB is actively involved in monitoring a series of bills in the current state legislature session. He reported that there are good efforts on bills related to Career and Technical Education as well as internships.

Locally, Chair Guthrie noted that recently released employment numbers included a significant downward restatement in job growth compared to previously reported numbers.

Chair Guthrie concluded his report and no action was taken.

b. Audit/Monitoring Committee.

Audit/Monitoring Committee Chair Guy Robert Jackson provided the following report.

The Audit/Monitoring Committee met on Thursday, March 25, 2021, by video conference with Chair Guy Jackson and members Willie Alexander, Gerald Andrews, Carl Bowles, Helen Cavazos, Cheryl Guido, Mark Guthrie, Bobbie Henderson, Alan Heskamp, Ernest Lewis, Scott Marshall, Adrian Ozuna, and Richard Shaw attending.

- Staff reviewed results from the most recent compliance reviews of adult education providers.
 - Staff rated the **Adult Education Center, Association for the Advancement for Mexican Americans, Boys and Girls Club of Walker County, Community Family Centers, Harris County Department of Education** all as **Solid Performance**.
 - Staff rated the **Chinese Community Center, Houston Community College, and San Jacinto College** as **Strong Performance**.
- The Financial Aid Payment Office, Financial Aid Support Center, and the three career offices contractors BakerRipley, Equus, and Interfaith of the Woodlands will have final reports issued before the next committee meeting in May.
- **Financial monitoring** - Financial monitors are currently conducting reviews of several contractors. We received a reimbursement payment from the Association for the Advancement for Mexican Americans for \$2,503.08 of disallowed costs found in their 2019 financial review.
- **State monitoring** – On March 5, Workforce Commission monitors completed a review of our COVID national dislocated worker project. Temporary jobs and access to training have been provided to individuals who lost jobs because of the pandemic. The monitors had two small findings, both related to financial aid. The first related to the need for procurement at the Payment Office for a car repair vendor; the second, to a

lack of sufficient documentation to support cost reasonableness for six work-related items, the total amount of potential questioned costs is \$259.

- **Response Testing** – The response testing for the workforce system shows overall improvement. While the response time to voice mail remains unsatisfactory, staff did see an improvement in the response time to voice mail messages. Staff canceled response testing for February due to office closures related to the winter weather event.

Chair Jackson concluded his report and no action was taken.

c. Communications Committee.

Communications Committee Chair Doug Karr provided the following report.

The committee met on Thursday, March 4, 2021 by video conference with committee Chair Doug Karr presiding. The committee's meeting had been reset from mid-February because of the severe weather in the region.

Committee members heard presentations on progress toward the Comprehensive Communications Strategy 2021 key tasks, particularly the brand audit and online presence redesign.

The Board's communications contractors Outreach Strategists and Savage updated schedules for activities and outcomes for the brand audit and web presence tasks.

Committee members plan to meet in the months prior to Board meetings (May, July, September, and November) for the remainder of the year to maintain oversight for 2021 key tasks.

Chair Jackson concluded his report and no action was taken.

d. Government Relations Committee.

Government Relations Committee Chair Guy Robert Jackson provided a brief update on current legislation in the state House and Senate.

Chair Jackson concluded his report and no action was taken.

ACTION ITEMS

a. Procurement.

Procurement Committee Chair Bobbie Henderson presented the following information to the Board:

The Procurement Committee met by video conference on Thursday, March 25, 2021 with Dr. Bobbie Henderson, Committee Chair presiding and with Willie Alexander, Gerald Andrews, Helen Cavazos, Cheryl Guido, Mark Guthrie, Alan Heskamp, Guy Robert Jackson, Ernest Lewis, Scott Marshall, Adrian Ozuna, Richard Shaw, Gil Staley and Michael Webster in attendance.

The committee considered three action items:

1. Contract renewals for the Adult Education Consortium
2. Payrolling/Employer of Record Contract
3. Contracts to offer online learning platforms for customers in professional development, upskilling, reskilling and entry-level skills education.

The committee brings the following items to the Board today for consideration.

Adult Education 2022

Background

The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act authorizes activities for publicly funded adult education and is part of the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (Title II of the Act).

For 2021-2022, the Workforce Board remains the grantee/fiscal agent for the region's adult education consortium. Region VI continues to serve as the lead agency providing technical assistance and support to our fourteen contractors.

Accomplishments and Continuing Work

The committee proposes continuing adult education instruction at the current 250 sites throughout the 13-county region. In March of 2020 at the onset of the pandemic, adult education successfully shifted from in-person instruction to remote and hybrid instruction. Adult Education providers continue to provide English language instruction, literacy classes, adult basic education, adult secondary education, integrated education, GED preparation, and joint basic education-skills training classes to people in the Gulf Coast area.

For 2021-2022, Adult Education will continue:

- Identifying youth customers and working with career offices to inform them of available workforce service.

- The integration of adult education with Employer Service. Staff continue to see an increase in the number of employers requesting on-site basic skills and English language instruction.
- Expanding availability of workforce services to the community by linking adult education providers, career offices and Vocational Rehabilitation together, offering easier access to service, regardless of where customers enter our system.

Working to improve outcomes by:

1. Increasing adult education collaboration meetings from monthly to biweekly check-ins.
2. Meeting with the adult education providers monthly.
3. Working with Region VI to create remote testing assistance for providers.
4. Working with Workforce Solutions Career Navigators to continue trainings promoting workforce services and job readiness skills to Adult Education students and instructors.

Recommendations

Staff estimates the availability of approximately 19.2 million for the adult education 2022 program year.

Provider	Current	Proposed Range	
Adult Education Center	200,000	200,000	240,000
Alliance	525,000	525,000	585,000
Association for the Advancement of Mex Am.	610,000	610,000	650,000
BakerRipley	535,000	535,000	585,000
Boys & Girls Club Walker Co	200,000	200,000	240,000
Brazosport College	650,000	650,000	700,000
Chinese Community Center	220,000	220,000	250,000
College of the Mainland	1,116,000	1,116,000	1,230,000
Community Family Centers	522,000	522,000	567,000
Harris County Department of Education	4,750,000	4,350,000	4,600,000
Houston Community College	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,300,000
Lone Star College	1,350,000	1,350,000	1,430,000
Region 6 ESC	900,000	900,000	990,000
San Jacinto College	650,000	650,000	700,000
Wharton County Junior College	765,000	765,000	845,000
Subtotal	\$ 16,993,000	\$ 16,593,000	\$ 17,912,000
Board Administration	968,028	968,028	968,028
Workforce Integration		400,000	400,000
Total	\$ 17,961,028	\$ 17,961,028	\$ 19,280,028

Staff are currently working with the Acres Homes, Cypress Station and Rosenberg career offices to expand the education opportunity connector, integrating adult education with other Workforce Solutions services. Last year additional funding was received from the state to continue the integration, enabling us to expand the connector to all 15 providers in the consortium. In 2021-2022 Staff will review the progress of the integration, with the goal of connecting all adult education providers to a workforce career office.

Action

The committee recommended that the Board authorize staff to negotiate contracts with adult education providers as shown above for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 in total amount not to exceed \$19,280,028. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommendation. Sarah Janes, Michael Webster and Helen Cavazos declared conflicts of interest and abstained from voting. The motion was approved as presented.

Payrolling/Employer of Record

Background

Workforce Solutions provides subsidized temporary employment and work-based learning for our customers. This requires our career office contractors to pay wages to these individuals. In the past, contractors have either contracted with a staffing agency or paid the youth through their own payroll department. This decentralized structure has posed challenges in the past.

In June 2020, staff contracted with G&A Partners to provide payrolling and employer of record services for subsidized temporary workers due to COVID funding.

Current Situation

The initial one-year contract between G&A Partners and Workforce Solutions expires on May 31, 2021. G&A Partners is local to Houston and has the capacity to support our entire system. G&A Partners has met expectations for reliability, efficiency, and thoroughness in their support of Workforce activities.

An expansion and extension of the contract with G&A Partners to serve as the regionwide, single employer of record for subsidized temporary jobs, work-based learning including summer jobs and will streamline services across Workforce Solutions. Individuals will receive the same information, be on the same payroll schedule, and alleviate some of their concerns including having multiple payroll providers.

Funds were previously allocated to the payment office and will now become part of G&A Partners' budget to provide this service.

Staff recommends a one-year contract with G &A Partners to provide payrolling and employer of record service for Workforce Solutions to serve a minimum of 1,500 individuals during the contract year.

Action

The committee recommended that the Board authorize staff to negotiate a contract with G&A Partners for payrolling/employer of record service for Workforce Solutions subsidized work-based learning jobs in amount not to exceed \$7,000,000. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommendation. The motion was approved as presented.

Online Learning Platforms

Background

There are unprecedented numbers of workers without jobs in the greater Houston-Gulf Coast region. The COVID-19 pandemic has upended the regional economy and it is uncertain how many of the jobs lost during the pandemic will return in the near future. A disproportionate number of jobs have been lost in the accommodation sectors, including in the food service, hospitality, retail, and personal service industries. The workers in those jobs tend to be younger (18-30) and less educated (high school or 1-2 years postsecondary). Additionally, a downturn in the energy industry has dislocated a significant number of workers – many of whom may not be able to return to their previous occupations or jobs.

The path to a new job will require professional development, upskilling or reskilling with skill certifications for the jobs in demand for many unemployed workers. Workforce Solutions believes online learning will provide options for those unemployed workers.

Online learning will be an additional tool to be offered to individuals from any sector of the labor market that may benefit from them. Online learning options will provide basic skills development as well as specific career paths (which may or may not conclude with some type of certification).

Current Situation

Workforce Solutions provides some access through its existing education/training network but needs to expand the availability and scale up the online access to reach the approximately 300,000 unemployed workers in the region.

Staff issued a request for proposals in October 2020 to secure the services of one or more recognized national online learning platforms that offer a wide range of high-quality programs leading to skill certifications for in demand jobs. We received proposals from seven organizations: 180 Skills LLC, Carahsoft, Career

EDGE, Dynamic Workforce Solutions LLC, eSkillz, First 3 Years, and Wired for Education.

Staff recommends contracting with the three highest scoring proposals: Wired for Education, 180 Skills LLC, and Carahsoft.

- **Wired for Education**

This proposal, based on the Metrix Learning platform, incorporates elements that help individuals with identifying and pursuing skills valuable for their desired career paths. Tools include clear pre and post testing to demonstrate skills gains. There are also ties to national certifications at discounted prices.

There are over 5,000 courses in English and 1,387 in Spanish available through this vendor that cover topics such as Business, IT, Logistics, Manufacturing, Healthcare, Sales, and more.

We already have access to the Metrix Learning courses through an arrangement made by the Workforce Commission. Staff recommends accepting the components of the proposal that are not already covered for our region by the contract executed with the Texas Workforce Commission for a cost of \$30,000.

- **180 Skills LLC**

This proposal contained a limited number of courses but incorporated a robust learning approach with the use of vector-based interactive animations and emulations. They also offer third-party certifications at the discounted price of \$35 each.

There are over 960 courses in 66 competency topic areas available through this vendor that cover topics such as employability, manufacturing, and logistics skills.

Staff recommends negotiating a price of \$20/license and purchasing 1,000 licenses for a total cost of \$20,000.

- **Carahsoft**

This proposal is for the well-known LinkedIn Learning platform which offers access to over 8,500 courses and certification agreements with multiple nationally recognized organizations.

There are over 8,700 pre-recorded video courses in English and 2,000 courses in Spanish available through this vendor that cover relevant topics in Business, Technology, Design, Engineering, and more.

Staff recommends purchasing 10,000 standard LinkedIn Learning licenses for the proposed total cost of \$142,000.

Action

The committee recommended that the Board authorize staff to negotiate contracts with Wired for Education (Metrix), 180 Skills LLC, and Carahsoft (LinkedIn Learning) for a total amount not to exceed \$192,000 for Workforce Solutions customers to access their online learning platforms. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommendation. The motion was approved as presented.

Chair Henderson concluded her report and no further action was taken.

b. Education.

Education Committee Chair Bobbie Henderson presented the following information to the Board:

The Education Committee met by video conference on Wednesday, February 24 and again on Thursday, March 25 with committee chair Dr. Bobbie Henderson presiding.

At its February meeting, committee members discussed at length the problem of basic skills functional literacy – particularly in mathematics – among youth and youth adults and resulting difficulties these young people face in starting on paths to good jobs and careers.

At the March meeting, committee members heard a presentation from Dr. Melanie Johnson, Collaborative for Children's CEO, about issues and concerns in early education – particularly about the need to focus on child outcomes, including school readiness. Dr. Johnson also talked about the recent strengthening of the state's early childhood quality rating system, Texas Rising Star, and some of current state legislation to further bolster the public early education and care system in Texas.

Also at its March meeting, the committee considered recommendations to amend three financial aid policies that affect early education and care. Following is detail for these policy recommendations.

Background

Recently, the Workforce Commission made several changes that affect financial aid for customers receiving or applying for early education assistance. The changes give us more flexibility to apply friendlier, local policies and processes to financial aid provided to customers.

As a result of the changes, the Committee is recommending the Board consider adjusting several financial aid policies.

Policy Recommendations

Discounting Parent Share for parents who choose a TRS Provider

Most parents who receive our financial aid must bear a share of the cost of early education. Staff determine that share on a sliding scale, considering the family's income and number in family. Staff then support the family by providing financial aid to cover the early education costs, less the parent share.

Current: The parent share of cost for new customers and welfare recipients who transition to employment upon the parent's selection of and acceptance by a Texas Rising Star-certified provider is discounted by:

- 40% for the first year
- 20% for the second year
- No discount for the third year and beyond

Proposed: A 30% discount will be provided for all customers who select a TRS-certified provider for any full month.

Discussion: This change is in line with the Board's support for increasing the number of families who access higher quality early education and care.

A parent's share of costs can also decreased when the parent experiences extenuating circumstances that temporarily affect the parent's ability to pay.

The effect of this proposed change on our funding has been reviewed and determined that adequate funds are available to provide the discount to parents.

Transferring to a Different Provider

There are times when a change in a parent's circumstances may require a change to a new provider. In these instances, the parent must contact Workforce Solutions to request that change. The parent's choice must be a Workforce Solutions authorized provider before we will pay for service.

Current: A parent's request to transfer to a different provider is accommodated without a waiting period. A parent is not allowed to transfer if the parent has not paid the parent share of cost to the current provider.

Proposed: Staff proposes creating a two-week waiting period before allowing a transfer to a new provider. Staff would continue to not allow a transfer if the parent has not paid the required parent share of cost to the current provider.

Discussion: Providers commonly have policies for private-pay families that require families to give notice before withdrawing their children. Typically, these policies range from two weeks to a full month. Staff believes establishing waiting periods will help providers manage their enrollments efficiently and ensure that they have adequate time to fill empty spots. It also provides greater stability for providers.

Requesting Suspensions

Occasionally parents may need to suspend attendance for their children. A common example is when a parent who is attending school has a break for the summer. To avoid counting the days the child does not attend care as an absence, the parent may request a suspension.

Current: A parent can request a suspension at any time, for any duration.

Proposed: Parents must request a suspension at least one week in advance for suspensions that are one week or more in duration.

Discussion: Staff believes this change would improve customer satisfaction by reducing the number of calls a customer has to make to request suspensions of less than one week. This change eliminates the need for parents to suspend childcare services for shorter periods of time.

Action

The committee recommended that the Board adopt the proposed changes to the financial aid policies as described above. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommendation. The motion was approved as presented.

RECEIVE INFORMATION

a. Communications

Board staff Michelle Castrow presented the following report on activity regarding recent outreach and communication:

For a full year, the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected the job market. Unemployment is more than double the rate from February 2020 and the Houston area has recovered less than half of the jobs lost in March/April 2020.

Workforce Solutions continues to use our media presence to connect employers and prospective job candidates.

Lake Jackson Office

The Workforce Solutions – Lake Jackson office moved to a new location and was spotlighted in this [story](#).

Hire Houston Youth Kick Off

On Friday, March 12, 2021, Mayor Sylvester Turner hosted a press conference at Workforce Solutions – Northline to announce the kick-off of the Hire Houston Youth Summer Jobs participant registration. Chair Guthrie made remarks on behalf of the Board and Workforce Solutions.

The event was streamed live on Workforce Solutions [social media](#) and received positive coverage on ABC 13's Live at Five where a customer shared her [story](#) of success going from homeless to hopeful with the help of Workforce Solutions.

Your Career, Your Choice – powered by Workforce Solutions

While vaccines are becoming more available, the impact on the job market will likely last for several years. As families economize, free over-the-air television stands to grow. To reach job candidates, especially those that are discouraged and not actively reaching out for help, Workforce Solutions is working with a local station to test a 30-minute weekly show that offers viewers advice, guidance and insight to help people find a new or better job.

If picked up, the show would air on the station's secondary channel and run for 13 weeks. The content of the show follows the existing Workforce Solutions job search seminar curriculum. The show's format is that of a talk show allowing the host to interview experts from Workforce Solutions, our employers and other partner agencies.

Other News Stories

Through our strong relationships, particularly with ABC 13 and Fox 26, we also help build awareness of partner organizations. Below are some recent examples.

- [Vocational Rehabilitation Services Virtual Job Fair](#)
- [The Alliance Opening Doors to Employment](#)
- [TWC's MyTXCareer.com](#)
- [HCC and PLU 68](#)
- [PLU 68 Registered Apprenticeship](#)
- [Construction Career Collaborative](#)
- [Turner Industries](#)
- [Summer Jobs at Typhoon Texas and Landry's Properties](#)

Weekly Virtual Job Fair on ABC 13

Since the February meeting, Workforce Solutions has hosted seven more webcasts with ABC 13 to connect job candidates to open jobs. If you have a streaming device like Roku, Apple TV or Firestick, download the ABC 13 app, scroll down the menu to see the most recent 30-minute recordings.

Below are links to the weekly webcasts:

- [02-04-2021 Hundreds of jobs featured in ABC13's weekly job fair in the Mahatma Gandhi District in Houston - ABC13 Houston](#)
- [02-11-2021 ABC13 hosts virtual job fair featuring more than 400 jobs - ABC13 Houston](#)
- [02-25-2021 ABC13 and Workforce Solutions host virtual job fair featuring more than 200 jobs - ABC13 Houston](#)
- [03-04-2021 ABC13 job fair to highlight positions in Lake Jackson area where you can make a difference - ABC13 Houston](#)
- [03-11-2021 ABC13 and Workforce Solutions host virtual job fair featuring more than 700 openings - ABC13 Houston](#)
- [03-18-2021 ABC13 hosts virtual job fair in the Memorial area featuring nearly 100 jobs - ABC13 Houston](#)
- [03-25-2021 ABC13 hosts virtual job fair with more than 1,500 summer jobs available - ABC13 Houston](#)

Ms. Castrow completed her report and no action was taken.

b. Performance and Production.

Board staff Philip Garcia presented Performance and Production measures October 2020 through February 2021.

The pandemic has and is impacting performance. We do not know how the current economy will ultimately affect performance, but staff will keep the Board updated as more is known.

The report provided indicates 3 measures that need additional focus. We are identifying additional strategies for improvement. We will provide you with more information when it becomes available.

Mr. Garcia completed his report and no action was taken.

c. Expenditures

Board staff A.J. Dean reviewed the Financial Status Report representing expenses for the 2 months ending in February 2021. He reported that we are doing well overall we are doing well. Our revenue is just under \$48.2 million.

Mr. Dean completed his report and no action was taken.

LOOK AT THE ECONOMY

Board staff Ron Borski provided the Board with a report of employment data and economic trends within the region. Mr. Borski reported on annual benchmark revisions released in March. Revised data indicates that approximately 45.6% of jobs lost in March through April of 2020 were recovered by the end of the year.

February unemployment data indicates the local rate of unemployment in the region is 8.4% compared to state and national rates of 7.5% and 6.5% respectively.

Mr. Borski completed his report and no action was taken.

Next, Board staff Parker Harvey provided the Board with a report on business formation during the pandemic. Mr. Harvey reviewed data that indicates, while the job losses increased year-over-year from Q3 2019 to Q3 2020 and Q2 2019 to Q2 2020, the pace of new business formation remained relatively constant over those same time periods.

Mr. Harvey completed his report and no action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to be brought before the Board.

ADJOURN

Chair Guthrie adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:50 a.m.

GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD

Board Member	02/02/21	04/06/21	06/01/21	08/03/21	10/05/21	12/07/21
Alexander, Willie	✓	✓				
Allen, Karlos	✓					
Andrews, Gerald	✓	✓				
Beydoun, Mustapha						
Beard, Peter	✓	✓				
Bouse, Sara	✓	✓				
Bowles, Carl	✓	✓				
Cavazos, Mary Helen	✓	✓				
Dillon, Renea	✓	✓				
Edwards, Todd						
Guido, Cheryl	✓	✓				
Guthrie, Mark	✓	✓				
Henderson, Bobbie Allen	✓	✓				
Heskamp, Alan	✓	✓				
Jackson, Guy Robert	✓	✓				
Karr, Doug	✓	✓				
LaBroski, Jeff	✓	✓				
Lewis, Ernest						
Love, Michael						
Lowe, Jonathan						
Mahagaokar, Rajen	✓	✓				
McCleskey, Kendrick						
Melton, Edward	✓	✓				
Nellons-Paige, Stephanie	✓					
Ozuna, Adrian	✓	✓				
Perez, Mary Grace						
Puente, Paul	✓	✓				
Riley, Monica	✓	✓				
Ross, Adria						
Scheiner, Danielle	✓					
Segovia, Valerie	✓	✓				
Shaw, Richard	✓	✓				
Shi, Isaac	✓	✓				
Staley, Gil	✓	✓				
Stewart, Michael	✓					
Vazquez, Lizandra	✓	✓				
Watson, Carolyn	✓	✓				
Webster, Michael	✓	✓				

GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD

ALEXANDER, WILLIE

W J Alexander Associates P.C.
1770 St. James Place, Suite 407
Houston, TX 77056

(713) 802-0900, ext. 12

Fax: (713) 802-1188

Category: Business

County: City of Houston

walex@wjalexander.com

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

ALLEN, KARLOS

PFM Financial Advisors LLC
1200 Smith Street, Suite 1600
Houston, TX 77002

(713) 353-4600

Category: Business

County: City of Houston

allenka@pfm.com

Term: January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2022

ANDREWS, GERALD

Gallagher Victory Insurance
122 West Way, Suite 404
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

(979) 297-8604

Fax: (979) 297-7080

Category: Business

County: Brazoria

geraldandrews36@yahoo.com

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

BEYDOUN, MUSTAPHA

Houston Advanced Research Center
8801 Gosling Road
The Woodlands, TX 77381
(713) 8443601

Category: Business

County: Harris

mbeydoun@harcresearch.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

BEARD, PETER

Greater Houston Partnership
701 Avenida de las Americas, Suite 900
Houston, TX 77010

(713) 844-3602 – office

Fax: (713) 844-0200

Category: Business

County: City of Houston

pbeard@houston.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

BOUSE, SARA

Alvin Community College
3110 Mustang Road
Alvin, TX 77511

(281) 732-8389 – cell

(281) 756-3568 – office

Category: Education

County: Brazoria

sbouse@alvincollege.edu

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

BOWLES, Carl

Bowles, Womack & Company, P.C.
24 Greenway Plaza, Suite 970
Houston, TX 77046

(713) 621-0050

Fax: (713) 621-0046

Category: Business

County: Waller

carl@bowleswomack.com

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

CAVAZOS, MARY HELEN

M.H. Cavazos & Associates
1124 W. Clay Street
Houston, TX 77019

(713) 807-1115

Category: Business

County: Harris

mhcavazos@aol.com

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

EDWARDS, TODD

Midtown Redevelopment Authority
410 Pierce Street, Suite 355
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 526-7577
Fax: (713) 526-7519
Category: Business
todd3e@houstonmidtown.com
Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

GUIDO, CHERYL

Texas Workforce Solutions- Vocational
Rehabilitation Services
4424 North Freeway, Suite A
Houston, TX 77022
(713) 692-7755 ext. 2129
Fax: (713) 697-0485
Category: State Agency
cheryl.guido@twc.state.tx.us
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

GUTHRIE, MARK

Winstead PC
600 Travis Street, Suite 5200
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 650-2730
Fax: (713) 650-2400
Category: Business
County: City of Houston
mguthrie@winstead.com
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

HENDERSON, BOBBIE ALLEN

Texas Southern University
4203 Charleston Street
Houston, TX 77021-1415
(713) 313-7588/(713) 748-6508(h)
Fax: (713) 741-6196
Category: Education
County: City of Houston
bobbie.henderson@att.net
Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

HESKAMP, ALAN

Heskamp & Associates LLC
311 Hoskins Broadway
El Campo, TX 77437
(979) 758-4521
Category: Business
County: Wharton
aheskamp@sbcglobal.net
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

JACKSON, GUY ROBERT

Chambers County Abstract Co. Inc.
P.O. Box 640
Anahuac, TX 77514
(409) 267-6262, ext. 35
Fax: (409) 267-6355
Category: Business
County: Chambers
grj@ccac.net
Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

KARR, DOUG

Pro Staff/Atterro
27 Canoe Birch Place
The Woodlands, TX 77382
832-967-7684
Category: Business
County: Montgomery
raiderkarr@aol.com
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

LaBROSKI, JEFFREY

Plumbers Local Union No. 68
502 Link Road
P.O. Box 8746
Houston, TX 77249
(713) 869-3592
Fax: (713) 869-3671
Category: Labor
County: City of Houston
ski@plu68.com
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

LEWIS, ERNEST

Adult Education Center
2246 N Washington Ave
Pearland, TX 77581
(281) 485-1000

Category: Literacy

County: Brazoria

ernest.lewis@adulthoodeducationcenter.texas.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

McCLESKEY, KENDRICK

PricewaterhouseCoopers-
1903 Crockett St.
Houston, TX 77007
(281) 788-6046

Category: Business

County: City of Houston

klmccleskey@gmail.com

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

LOVE, MICHAEL

Houston Independent School District
4400 West 18th Street
Houston, TX 77092
(713) 556-6715

Category: Education

County: Harris

mlove@houstonisd.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

MELTON, EDWARD

Texas Library Association
5749 South Loop East
Houston, TX 77033
(713) 274-6600

Category: Literacy

County: Harris County

edward.melton@hcpl.net

Term: January 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2019

LOWE, JONATHAN

International Alliance of Theatrical
Stage Employees
3030 North Freeway
Houston, TX 77009
(713) 697-3999

Category: Labor

County: City of Houston

jlowe@iatse51.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

NELLONS-PAIGE, STEPHANIE

Texas Central Rail Holdings
1021 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002
(443) 610-3487

Category: Business

County: Houston

nellonspaige@gmail.com

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 21, 2020

MAHAGAOKAR, RAJEN

Riverstone Holdings LLC
1000 Louisiana St, 1450
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 844-3600

Category: Business

County: Harris

rmahagaikar@riverstonellc.com

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

OZUNA, ADRIAN

Prosperity Bank
80 Sugar Creek Center Blvd
Sugar Land, TX 77478
(832) 259-7692

Category: Business

County: Harris

adrian.ozuna@prosperitybankusa.com

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

PEREZ, MARY GRACE

HHSC – Access Eligibility Services
5425 Polk Street, Suite 230
Houston, TX 77023
(713) 767-2205

Category: Public Assistance

County: Public Assistance

paul@hgcbctc.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

PUENTE, PAUL J.

Houston Gulf Coast Building and
Construction
Trades Council
1301 West 13th St, Suite D
Deer Park, TX 77536
(713) 926-4433

Fax: (713) 926-4918

Category: Labor

County: City of Houston

paul@hgcbctc.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

RILEY, MONICA

The Community Gatekeepers
P.O. Box 2082
Missouri City, TX 77459
(281) 235-3933

Category: CBO

County: Fort Bend County

monicariley7@gmail.com

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

ROSS, ADRIA

CenterPoint Energy
1111 Louisiana Street
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 289-4569

Category: Business

County: Fort Bend County

adria.ross@centerpointenergy.com

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

SCHEINER, DANIELLE

Conroe Economic Development Council
300 W Davis Street
Conroe, TX 77301
(936) 522-3529

Category: Economic Development

County: Montgomery

scheiner@conroeedc.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

SEGOVIA, VALERIE GARCIA

Director of Outreach and Development
Nuclear Power Institute
101 Gateway Blvd, Suite A
College Station, TX 77845
979-240-5005

Category: CBO

County: Matagorda

vsegovia@tamu.edu

valeriegsegovia@gmail.com

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

SHAW, RICHARD

Harris County Labor Assembly,
AFL-CIO Council
1707 Prism Lane
Houston, TX 77043-3344
(713) 240-2472

Category: Labor

County: City of Houston

shawtrek@aol.com

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

SHI, ISAAC

Golden Section Technology
808 Travis St, Suite 1406
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 806-3020

Category: Business

County: City of Houston

isaac@gstdev.com

Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

STALEY, GIL

The Woodlands Area Economic
Development Partnership
9320 Lakeside Blvd., Bldg. 2, Suite 200
The Woodlands, TX 77381
(281) 363-8130
Fax: (281) 298-6874
Category: Business
County: Montgomery
gil.staley@edpartnership.net
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

STEWART, MICHAEL

United Way of Greater Houston
50 Waugh Drive
Houston, TX 77007
(713) 685-2401
Fax: (844) 768-0346
Category: CBO
County: City of Houston
mstewart@unitedwayhouston.org
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

VAZQUEZ, LIZANDRA

Texas Workforce Commission
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77027
(713) 688-6890
Category: State Agency
lizandra.vazquez@wrksolutions.com
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

WATSON, CAROLYN

JPMorgan Chase
712 Main, 4th Floor
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 216-5008
Category: Business
County: City of Houston
carolyn17968@gmail.com
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

WEBSTER, MICHAEL

Houston Community College
3100 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 718-8030
Fax: (713) 718-5018
Category: Education
County: City of Houston
michael.webster@hccs.edu
Term: January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2020

WORKFORCE BOARD KEY STAFF:

Mike Temple, Director
Brenda Williams, Senior Manager
Michelle Castrow, Program Manager
Susan Dixon, Employer Service Manager
Jenny Johnson, Quality Assurance Manager
Deborah Duke, Administrative Coordinator
Trudy Ray, Grants Management

Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, TX 77227-2777
(713) 627-3200
Fax: (713) 993-4578
<http://www.wrksolutions.org>

GULF COAST WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD COMMITTEES

Audit/Monitoring

- Guy Robert Jackson – Chair
- – Vice Chair
- Karlos Allen
- Carl Bowles
- Sara Bouse
- Helen Cavazos
- Cheryl Guido
- Doug Karr
- Ernest Lewis
- Scott Marshall
- Kendrick McCleskey
- Stephanie Nellons-Paige

Budget

- Willie Alexander – Chair
- Gerald Andrews – Vice Chair
- Karlos Allen
- Bobbie Henderson
- Guy Robert Jackson
- Sarah Janes
- Doug Karr
- Scott Marshall
- Jerry Nevlud
- Mike Stewart

By-Laws

Appointed by Board Chair as needed

Nominating

- Guy Robert Jackson – Chair
- Jeff LaBroski – Vice Chair
- Alan Heskamp

Oversight Committee

- Gerald Andrews
- Bobbie Henderson

Education

- Bobbie Henderson – Chair
- Doug Karr – Vice Chair
- Karlos Allen
- Sara Bouse
- Helen Cavazos
- Cheryl Guido
- Alan Heskamp
- Jeff LaBroski
- Edward Melton
- Stephanie Nellons-Paige
- Paul Puente
- Valerie Segovia
- Richard Shaw
- Carolyn Watson

Career Office

- Karlos Allen – Chair
- – Vice Chair
- Cheryl Guido

Employer Services

- Gerald Andrews – Chair
- Jeff LaBroski – Vice Chair
- Sara Bouse
- Helen Cavazos
- Cheryl Guido
- Alan Heskamp
- Guy Robert Jackson
- Sarah Janes
- Scott Marshall
- Steve Mechler
- Danielle Scheiner
- Richard Shaw
- Gil Staley

Procurement

- Bobbie Henderson – Chair
- Doug Karr – Vice Chair
- Willie Alexander
- Karlos Allen
- Sara Bouse
- Helen Cavazos
- Cheryl Guido
- Alan Heskamp
- Jeff LaBroski
- Stephanie Nellons-Paige
- Adrian Ozuna
- Richard Shaw
- Gil Staley

Report Card

Appointed by Board Chair as needed

Strategic Planning

- – Chair
- – Vice Chair
- Peter Beard
- Sarah Janes
- Doug Karr
- Kendrick McCleskey
- Dexter McCoy
- Stephanie Nellons-Paige
- Adrian Ozuna
- Paul Puente
- Richard Shaw
- Isaac Shi

Communications

- Doug Karr – Chair
- – Vice Chair
- Willie Alexander
- Karlos Allen
- Gerald Andrews
- Bobbie Henderson
- Guy Robert Jackson
- Rajen Mahagaokar
- Stephanie Nellons-Paige
- Richard Shaw
- Mike Webster

Government Relations

- Guy Robert Jackson – Chair
- – Vice Chair
- Gerald Andrews
- Scott Marshall
- Jerry Nevlud
- Richard Shaw

Audit/Monitoring Committee

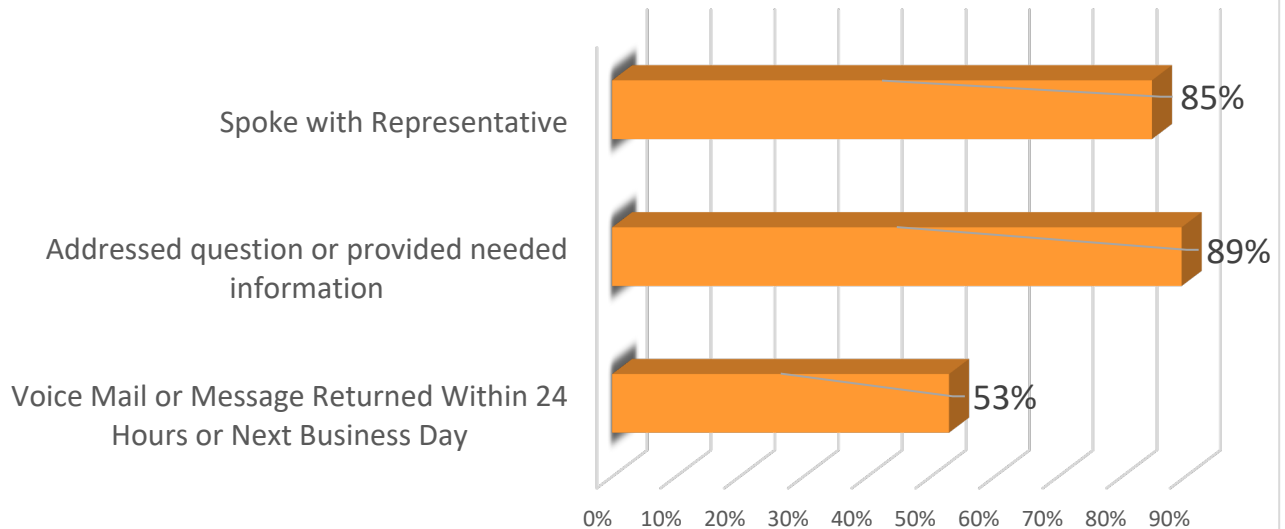
Update for June 2021

The Audit/Monitoring Committee met on Thursday, May 20, 2021, by video conference with members Karlos Allen, Sara Bouse, Carl Bowles, Cheryl Guido, Mark Guthrie, Doug Karr, and Scott Marshall attending.

- We reviewed results from the most recent compliance reviews of career office contractors.
 - **Equus** and **Interfaith of the Woodlands** both received a **Solid Performance** rating. Baker Ripley's report will be final before the next committee meeting in July.
- We issued the final monitoring report for the **Financial Aid Payment Office** with a **Solid Performance** rating. The Financial Aid Support Center operations are tested monthly and reviewed quarterly. We will have the next quarterly report available before the next committee meeting in July.
- **Financial monitoring** - BakerRipley Career Office and Adult Education had no findings. Houston Department of Education had minor findings to strengthen controls over inventory and retention of documentation. We requested reimbursement from Grant Associates for \$3,601.54 of disallowed costs found in their 2019 financial review.
- **Response Testing** – The overall response time to voice mail remains unsatisfactory. We did see improvements in the response time to voice mail messages for individual contractors. We are currently evaluating how to modify response testing as more staff return to the office.

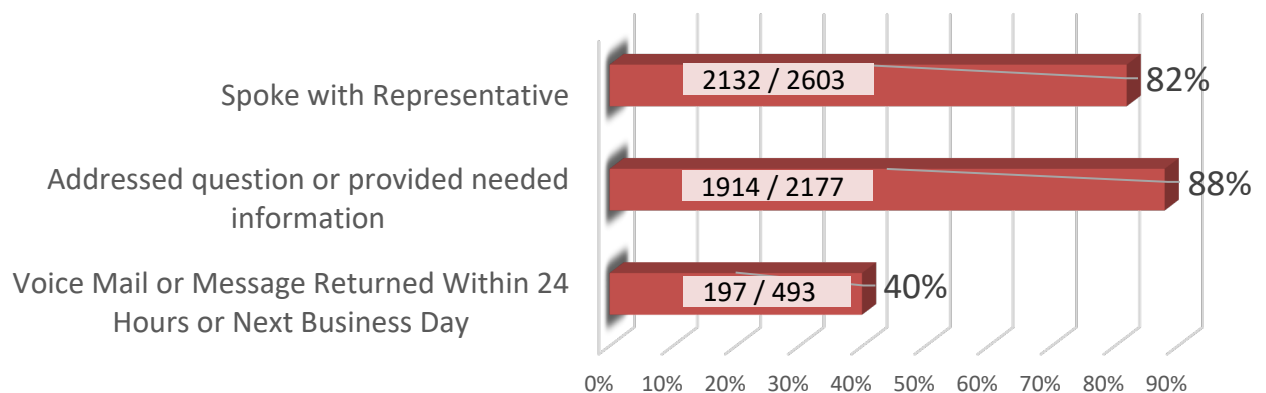
April 2021 Blitz Phone Response Testing

■ Combined - 492 phone calls



2021 Phone Response Testing Career Offices, FASC, FAPO

■ October 2020 to April 2021 (Combined - 2,603 phone calls)



2018 – 2021 Monitoring Report Ratings

Career Office & Support Service Contractor	2018 Rating	2019 Rating	2020 Rating	2021 Rating
ResCare \ Equus	Solid	Solid	Building	Solid
Interfaith Career Offices	Solid	Solid	Solid	Solid
BakerRipley Career Offices	Solid	Solid	Strong	Response pending
Financial Aid Support Center	Solid	Solid	Building	Final pending
Financial Aid Payment Office	Solid	Solid	Solid	Solid

Contractor	2018 Rating	2019 Rating	2020 Rating	2021 Rating
Collaborative for Children	Strong	Strong	Strong	May 2021
ETC	Strong	Solid	Strong	Testing
Grant Associates	Solid	Strong	Solid	Testing
LDI	Strong	Strong	Solid	May 2021
DESI	Solid	Solid	Strong	Jul 2021
SER	Solid	Solid	Solid	Jul 2021

Adult Education	2018 Rating	2019 Rating	2020 Rating	2021 Rating
Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans	N/A	Status	Strong	Solid
Adult Education Center			2021	Solid
Alliance for Multicultural Community Services	Status	Solid	Solid	Solid
BakerRipley Adult Education	N/A	Solid	Solid	Response pending
Boys & Girls Club of Walker County	N/A	Status	Solid	Solid
Brazosport College	Strong	Strong	Strong	Strong
Chinese Community Center	Status	Solid	Strong	Strong
College of the Mainland	Solid	Solid	Solid	Response pending
Community Family Center	N/A	Status	Strong	Solid
Harris County Dept of Education	Strong	Solid	Solid	Solid
Houston Community College	Solid	Solid	Solid	Strong
Lone Star College	Solid	Solid	2021	Solid
Region 6	Solid	Solid	Strong	Response pending
San Jacinto College	Solid	Solid	2021	Strong
Wharton County Junior College	Strong	Strong	2021	Solid

Rating System Definitions

Leading Performance - Performance consistently exceeds expectations in all areas reviewed, and the quality of work overall is exceptional.

Strong Performance - Performance consistently meets or exceeds expectations in all areas reviewed, and the quality of work overall is very good.

Solid Performance - Performance consistently meets expectations in most areas reviewed, and the quality of work overall is good.

Building Performance - Performance does not consistently meet expectations in most areas reviewed, and the overall quality of work is not at an acceptable level.

Communications Committee

Update

The committee met on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 10:30 am by virtual meeting with committee chair Doug Karr presiding. Mark Guthrie, Board Chair and members, Karlos Allen, Bobbie Henderson and Richard Shaw were in attendance.

The Committee members received an update on the progress of our Brand Audit and Website RFP. The Board's communications contractors Outreach Strategists and Savage provided information on directional recommendations for Communications, our Brand, and Media Outreach.

Some recommendations for **Communications** include:

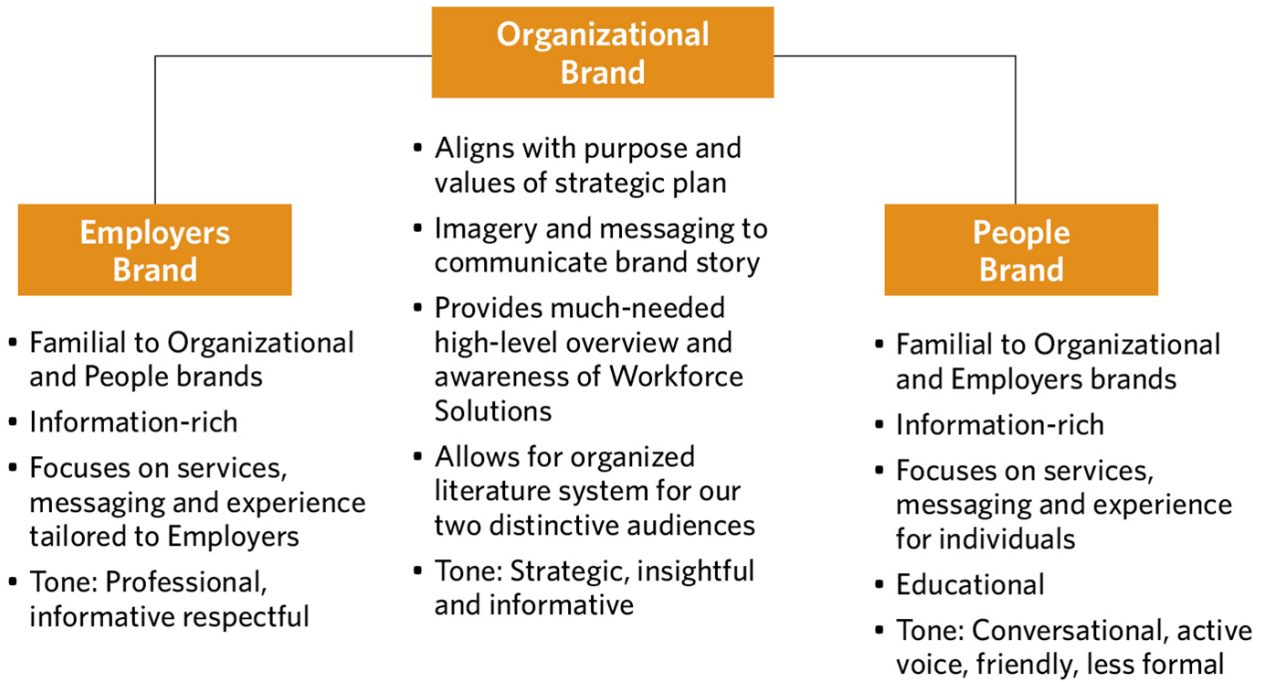
- Engage in meaningful dialogue with customers to understand what they need, where we deliver the greatest value and how we can better serve them so we can focus efforts in the areas of highest impact
- Simply and consistently share messaging around services to reinforce the primary value we offer
- Focus more attention on Employers & other priority audiences
- Automate low-value/high-time activities to free Career Center Staff to deliver more value for People
- Activate the Workforce Solutions team in living values and delivering on customer service vision

Directional Recommendations for **our Brand** focus on three areas: Organizational Brand that flows into an Employer Brand and a separate People Brand as depicted in the attached chart.

Our **Media Outreach** in 2020 -2021 includes 597 instances with an approximate value of \$13.6M. Recommendations include:

- Targeting non-English language media
- Develop new and expand existing story themes
- Continue production of "Your Career Your Choice"
- Build on existing relationship with media outlets

The next committee meeting will take place in July.



Government Relations

Legislative Update

Texas Legislature

We continue to pay attention to the activities of the 87th Texas Legislative session. A number of bills have advanced significantly.

- ***Relating to establishing reimbursement rates for certain child-care providers participating in the subsidized child-care program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission.***
86(R) [SB 1555](#) Author: Zaffirini (Companion Bill [HB 1695](#)) | Last Action 05/6/2021 E Sent to the Governor

As of late 2019, only 46 percent of Texas child-care providers participated in the child-care subsidy program. A barrier to participation is the low reimbursement rates. This bill would align TWC and HHS CCR age group nomenclatures and adjust reimbursement rates to better support providers who care for younger children. It gives workforce development boards a timeframe to implement the new reimbursement rates.

- ***Relating to the participation of open-enrollment charter schools in the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.***
86(R) [SB 346](#) Author: Paxton (Companion Bill [HB 618](#)) | Last Action 05/12/2021 E Sent to the Governor

The Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program funding is used to purchase and install equipment necessary for career and technical education programs, but open-enrollment charter schools and nonprofit organizations are not currently eligible. This bill authorizes both to apply for funds available through this grant.

The companion bill, HB 618, was laid on the table subject to call on 5/3/2021.

- ***Relating to the expansion of the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Program to include certain nonprofit organizations providing job training to veterans.***
86(R) [HB 626](#) Author: Rosenthal, et al. | Last Action 05/6/2021 E Sent to the Governor

The Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Programs provides grants to eligible nonprofit workforce intermediary and job training organizations to develop, support, and expand programs that prepare low-income students to enter careers in high-demand and significantly higher-earning occupations. This bill will provide for an expansion of efforts to allow nonprofit organizations that serve veterans and meet criteria as eligible grant recipients.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 626 does not have a companion bill.

- ***Relating to the development of a model data-sharing agreement for sharing student information between public schools and public and private postsecondary educational institutions.***

86(R) [SB 788](#) Author: Creighton and Powell (Companion Bill [HB 4096](#)) | Last Action 05/12/2021 E Sent to the Governor

This bill directs the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Workforce Commission to develop and make available an additional model Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)-compliant data-sharing agreement for voluntary use.

The companion bill, HB 4096, was returned to Local & Consent Calendars Comm. on 5/11/2021.

- ***Relating to measures to facilitate the award of postsecondary course credit leading to workforce credentialing based on military experience, education, and training and to prepare veterans for employment in certain industries.***

86(R) [HB 33](#) Author: Dominguez | Last Action 05/14/2021 E Sent to the Governor

This bill would require TWC to identify industry-based certifications or other workforce credentials offered by career schools and colleges that align with skills obtained through military experience, education, and training. It further directs TWC to require that the school or college provide credit to a student toward any required course time for skills obtained by the student through military experience, education, or training, unless the school or college can demonstrate that those skills are not appropriately aligned with the program or course.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 33 does not have a companion bill.

- ***Relating to eligibility for job-training programs provided under the self-sufficiency fund.***

86(R) [HB 1791](#) Author: Button & Guillen (Companion Bill [SB 770](#)) | Last Action 05/06/2021 H Laid on the table subject to call

This bill amends the labor code to expand the eligibility for job-training programs provided under the self-sufficiency fund from certain TANF recipients to any individuals who are identified by rule of the Texas Workforce Commission as being low-income or at risk of becoming dependent on public benefits.

The companion bill, SB 770, was sent to the Governor on 5/12/2021.

There are several other bills that have advanced significantly but not yet been sent to the Governor:

- ***Relating to developing a strategic plan to support the childcare workforce.***
86(R) [HB 619](#) Author: Thompson, et al. | Last Action 05/13/2021 S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development

This bill would require TWC to develop a strategic plan that includes recommendations for local workforce development boards to improve, sustain, and support the childcare workforce. This includes reporting and recommendations on: how best to diminish gender and racial disparity; continue to educate current and future workers through a variety of programs; to reduce turnover; and increase opportunities for development.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 619 does not have a companion bill.

- ***Relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Workforce Commission and local workforce development boards regarding the provision of childcare and subsidized childcare program.***
86(R) [HB 2607](#) Author: Talarico et al. (Companion Bill [SB 2087](#)) | Last Action 04/19/2021 S Received from the House

This bill addresses concerns about there not being enough qualified childcare providers offering high-quality care by including an entry level rating for child-care providers to participate in the Texas Rising Star program. It also requires TWC to assess the number of 3-star and 4-star rated providers participating in partnerships with public school districts and public charter schools..

The companion bill, SB 2087, was referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development on 4/1/2021.

- ***Relating to the establishment of the industry-based certification advisory council and the transfer of certain duties to that advisory council.***
86(R) [SB 1198](#) Author: Powell (Companion Bill [HB 3938](#)) | Last Action 03/18/2021 S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development

This bill would, among other things, transfer the development of recognized industry certifications from the Texas Education Agency to a newly created Industry Based Certification Advisory council with representatives from industry, public CTE programs, and others.

The companion bill, HB 3938, passed the house and was referred to the Natural Resources & Economic Development in the senate.

- ***Relating to the establishment of the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) Program to support workforce education at two-year public institutions of higher education.***

86(R) [HB 3003](#) Author: Parker, et al. (Companion Bill [SB 1102](#)) | Last Action 04/28/2021 H Committee report sent to Calendars

This bill would establish the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) Initiative to support workforce education at public junior colleges. It would establish a program for Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to award grants to public junior colleges for creating, redesigning, or expanding workforce training programs.

The companion bill, SB 1102, passed the senate and the committee report sent to Calendars on 5/11/2021.

- ***Relating to measures to facilitate the successful completion of degree and certificate programs by certain adult learners at public institutions of higher education.***

86(R) [SB 994](#) Author: Powell, et al. (Companion Bills [HB 4487](#) and [HB 4491](#)) | Last Action 05/11/2021 S Passed to engrossment as amended

This bill looks to address “stop-outs” by: 1) Providing individuals with a “signing bonus” to decrease their tuition at their chosen institution equivalent to 25 percent of average tuition and required fees, assuming they have completed 75 percent of their coursework toward a certification; 2) Public institutions will receive success points outside the current formula for adult learner completion and additional points for completion in critical needs fields; and 3) Businesses would be provided an incentive to participate in on-the-job-training and work with area institutions to meet regional workforce needs.

Companion bill HB 4487 has advanced significantly further than HB 4491. It has passed the house and is awaiting movement in the senate.

- ***Relating to authorizing school districts to provide funding using money received under the Foundation School Program to community-based organizations for purposes of reimbursing private employers for paid internships provided to certain students in career and technology education programs in the district.***

86(R) [HB 1032](#) Author: Thierry, et al. | Last Action 05/14/2021 H Reported engrossed

This bill authorizes school districts to provide funding using money received under the Foundation School Program to community-based organizations for purposes of reimbursing private employers for paid internships provided to certain students in career and technology education programs in the district.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 1032 does not have a companion bill.

- ***Relating to a sales and use tax refund pilot program for certain persons who employ apprentices.***
86(R) [SB 1524](#) Author: Hughes (Companion Bill [HB 4199](#)) | Last Action 05/13/2021 H Committee report sent to Calendars

This bill would use a sales and use tax to refund a pilot program for certain persons who employ apprentices. This would allow for \$2,500 sales tax refund for each apprentice hired. At least half of all approved tax refunds are to go to employers who create programs in emerging fields, rural regions, with aged-out foster youth, women, veterans, and others.

The companion bill, HB 4199, was referred to Ways & Means on 3/29/2021.

- ***Relating to the display of emergency and other notices by a governmental entity on the entity's Internet website.***
86(R) [HB 3838](#) Author: Dominguez | Last Action 05/12/2021 S Received from the House

This bill seeks to address potential communication gaps and ensure greater access to emergency notices and other official notices. It amends the Government Code to post the following information in a prominent location on the home page of its website: 1) each emergency notification issued by the entity; and 2) any other official notice issued by the entity, including notices regarding the entity's ability or inability to provide services it normally provides to the public.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 3838 does not have a companion bill.

- ***Relating to the evaluation of child-care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program.***
86(R) [HB 1792](#) Author: Button, et al. (Companion Bill [SB 694](#)) | Last Action 05/13/2021 S Committee report printed and distributed

This bill would require TWC to select a single entity to oversee a statewide roster of qualified assessors to evaluate child-care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program during the initial certification process and when a provider applies for a higher level of certification.

The companion bill, SB 694, was referred to Health & Human Services on 3/11/2021.

- ***Relating to the eligibility of foster children to receive college credit for completing the Preparation for Adult Living Program.***
86(R) [HB 700](#) Author: Johnson, et al. | Last Action 05/11/2021 S Referred to Health & Human Services

This bill establishes a work group to develop a plan to ensure that foster youth receive college credit for completing the Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) program.

- ***Relating to the award of grants by the Texas Workforce Commission to facilitate the participation of certain veterans and military personnel in apprenticeship training programs.***

86(R) [SB 337](#) Author: Powell (Companion Bills [HB 1884](#) & [HB 2307](#)) | Last Action 05/13/2021 H Passed

While skills learned during military service are similar to those needed in private industry, there are still challenges related to a successful transition from the military to the workforce. This bill acknowledges those challenges and establishes a grant program to facilitate the participation of certain veterans and military personnel in apprenticeship training programs to assist with the transition.

Companion bill HB 1884 has advanced further than companion bill HB 2307. It was laid on the table subject to call on 5/12/2021.

- ***Relating to a program administered by the Texas Veterans Commission to provide energy industry career training for veterans.***

86(R) [HB 739](#) Author: Lopez, et al. | Last Action 05/06/2021 S Referred to Vet Affairs & Border Security

The growth of the energy sector in Texas provides an opportunity for veterans looking to move upwards in their careers. Veterans seeking employment in the energy sector face financial and other barriers when trying to obtain the necessary certification or training. This bill requires the Texas Veterans Commission to develop and administer a grant program to assist with these issues.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 739 does not have a companion bill.

- ***Relating to the eligibility of the Windham School District to participate in the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.***

86(R) [HB 4279](#) Author: Dominguez | Last Action 05/12/2021 S Received from the House

This bill would allow the Windham School District to receive grants through the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) grant program. The District provides services to inmates in the custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and receiving JET funds will assist in creating positive education outcomes for inmates.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 4279 does not have a companion bill.

- ***Relating to the establishment by the Texas Workforce Commission of a workplace soft skills training pilot program.***

86(R) [HB 3264](#) Author: Dominguez | Last Action 05/14/2021 H Report engrossed

This bill establishes a pilot program that offers courses and training to employees who need help with workplace etiquette, effective communication, leadership skills, and organizational skills – all of which are needed in the workplace.

As of 5/17/2021, HB 3264 does not have a companion bill.

We are also following the bills below and will provide additional information as it develops:

Business Operations

87(R) [HB 29](#) Author: Swanson

Last Action: 5/12/2021 *S Committee report printed and distributed.*

Caption Text: Relating to authorizing the provision of temporary secure storage for weapons at certain public buildings; authorizing fees.

87(R) [SB 865](#) Author: Creighton

Last Action: 5/20/2021 *H Scheduled for public hearing on . . .*

Caption Text: Relating to a study on a statewide disaster alert system and implementation of that system

87(R) [HB 327](#) Author: Howard

Last Action: 4/27/2021 *H Considered in Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to the Internet broadcast or audio recording of certain open meetings.

87(R) [SB 199](#) Author: Nelson

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *H Comm. Report sent to Local & Consent Calendar*

Caption Text: Relating to the automated external defibrillators

87(R) [HB 923](#) Author: Reynolds

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to historically underutilized businesses and to goods and services purchased by governmental entities

87(R) [HB 924](#) Author: Guillen

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to a state employment preference for certain children of veterans with a disability.

87(R) [HB 1660](#) Author: Pacheco

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *S Co-sponsor authorized*

Caption Text: Relating to requiring state contractors and political subdivisions of this state to participate in the federal electronic verification of employment authorizing program, or E-verify.

87(R) [SB 621](#) Author: Gutierrez

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating removal from public office or employment for violation of nepotism laws.

87(R) [HB 2215](#) Author: Hernandez

Last Action: 3/15/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to private spaces in certain buildings for diaper changing stations

87(R) [HB 2246](#) Author: Shine

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *H Committee report sent to Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to companies in which employees have ownership interests through employee stock ownership plans

87(R) [HB 3100](#) Author: Campos

Last Action: 3/19/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to requirements for governmental contracts with nonprofit organizations regarding the use of money provided under those contracts.

87(R) [HB 3149](#) Author: Bucy

Last Action: 3/19/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to drug testing and prescription drug policies and certain legal protections for employees and independent contractors of state agencies and political subdivisions and for other persons regarding the medical use of low-THC cannabis and hemp.

87(R) [HB 3329](#) Author: Raymond

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the procurement process of state agencies, including the evaluation of and communication with vendors.

87(R) [HB 3674](#) Author: Capriglione

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to purchase of personal protective equipment made in the United States by certain governmental entities.

87(R) [HB 3796](#) Author: Morales Shaw

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the prohibition of employment discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

87(R) [HB 4233](#) Author: Raymond

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to Public Health*

Caption Text: Relating to prohibiting the use of e-cigarettes in certain bars, restaurants, and places of employment; creating criminal offenses.

87(R) [HB 4473](#) Author: Walle

Last Action: 5/12/2021 *H Placed on General State Calendar*

Caption Text: Relating to the places a public employer may provide for employees to express breast milk.

87(R) [HB 2189](#) Author: Phil King

Last Action: 5/3/2021 *H Laid on the table subject to call*

Caption Text: Relating to state contracts with and investments in companies that boycott certain energy companies

87(R) [SB 1097](#) Author: Creighton

Last Action: 4/13/2021 *S Left pending in committee.*

Caption Text: Relating to retainage requirements for certain public works construction projects

Childcare

87(R) [HB 619](#) Author: Thompson, Senfronia

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to developing a strategic plan to support the child-care workforce

87(R) [HB 2607](#) Author: Talarico

Last Action: 4/19/2021 *S Received from the House*

Caption Text: Relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Workforce Commission and local workforce development boards regarding the provision of child care and the subsidized child care program.

87(R) [HB 1695](#) Author: Raney

Last Action: 5/4/2021 *H Laid on the table subject to call*

Caption Text: Relating to establishing reimbursement rates for certain child-care providers participating in the subsidized child-care program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission.

87(R) [HB 3015](#) Author: Talarico

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to a governmental body's response to a request for public information.

87(R) [SB 1555](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 5/6/2021 *E Sent to the Governor.*

Caption Text: Relating to establishing reimbursement rates for certain child-care providers participating in the subsidized child-care program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission.

87(R) [HB 1073](#) Author: Hernandez

Last Action: 3/4/2021 *H Referred to Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the placement and use of video recording equipment in certain child-care facilities

87(R) [HB 1792](#) Author: Button *TWC Legislation*

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *S Committee report printed and distributed*

Caption Text: Relating to the evaluation of child-care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program.

Companion bill is [SB 694](#).

87(R) [SB 694](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Health & Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the evaluation of child-care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program

87(R) [SB 971](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 4/27/2021 *S Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to referring children to local workforce development boards for subsidized child care services

87(R) [SB 1793](#) Author: West

Last Action: 3/26/2021 *S Referred to Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the eligibility of certain children who are enrolled in a child care services program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission for free prekindergarten programs in public schools.

87(R) [SB 1960](#) Author: West

Last Action: 4/1/2021 *S Referred to Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the eligibility of certain children who are or were in foster care for free prekindergarten programs in public schools.

87(R) [SB 1964](#) Author: West

Last Action: 4/1/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to eligibility for the subsidized child-care program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission.

87(R) [SB 2087](#) Author: Lucio

Last Action: 4/1/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Workforce Commission and local workforce development boards regarding the provision of child care and the subsidized child care program.

87(R) [HB 3105](#) Author: Toth

Last Action: 3/19/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to unlawful acts and practices of social media platforms; providing a civil penalty.

87(R) [SB 1800](#) Author: West

Last Action: 3/26/2021 *S Referred to Health & Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the provision of child care.

87(R) [HB 1583](#) Author: Davis

Last Action: 4/14/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to local workforce development boards and the regulation of child-care providers by the Texas Workforce Commission.

87(R) [HB 1964](#) Author: Lopez

Last Action: 3/24/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to a study on the cost of providing quality child care in this state in comparison to family income.

87(R) [HB 1003](#) Author: Dutton

Last Action: 3/16/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of the private child care task force.

Employment Services

87(R) [SB 50](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *H Reported favorably w/o amendment(s).*

Caption Text: Relating to a competitive and integrated employment initiative for certain Medicaid recipients.

87(R) [HB 602](#) Author: Hinojosa

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to Insurance*

Caption Text: Relating to the provision of comprehensive health care benefits coverage through a publicly funded program to be known as the Healthy Texas Program; authorizing a fee.

General Counsel

87(R) [HB 2683](#) Author: Canales

Last Action: 4/22/2021 *S Received from the House*

Caption Text: Relating to requirements for open meetings that are broadcast over the Internet or held by telephone conference or videoconference call.

87(R) [SB 861](#) Author: Paxton

Last Action: 5/3/2021 *S Not again placed on intent calendar*

Caption Text: Relating to remote meetings under the open meetings law

87(R) [HB 2549](#) Author: Dutton

Last Action: 4/29/2021 *H Committee report sent to Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to suits against certain governmental employees.

87(R) [HB 3627](#) Author: Paddie

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *H Laid on the table subject to call*

Caption Text: Relating to the authority of a governmental body impacted by a catastrophe to temporarily suspend the requirements of the public information law.

87(R) [HB 3535](#) Author: Hunter

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to the availability of dates of birth under the public information law.

87(R) [HB 3345](#) Author: Wu

Last Action: 4/29/2021 *H Committee report sent to Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to public access to the audit records of certain governmental entities

87(R) [HB 1911](#) Author: White

Last Action: 4/22/2021 *H Corrected com rept filed w/ Comte Coordinator*

Caption Text: Relating to provisions governing the carrying of a handgun by certain unlicensed persons and to other provisions related to the carrying, possessing, transporting, or storing of a firearm; providing criminal penalties

87(R) [HB 1315](#) Author: Johnson

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Referred to Health & Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the duration of an appointment of a guardian ad litem or an attorney ad litem for a child in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services

87(R) [HB 614](#) Author: Thompson, Senfronia

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence*

Caption Text: Relating to a cause of action for deprivation of certain rights, privileges, or immunities under color of law.

87(R) [HB 710](#) Author: Coleman

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to statements on the impact of legislation on childhood racial disparity.

87(R) [HB 919](#) Author: Leman

Last Action: 3/1/2020 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the enforcement of certain federal laws regulating firearms, firearms accessories, and firearm ammunition within the State of Texas

87(R) [SB 341](#) Author: West

Last Action: 3/9/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to the Internet broadcast or audio recording of certain open meetings.

87(R) [SB 1587](#) Author: White

Last Action: 3/24/2021 *S Referred to Criminal Justice*

Caption Text: Relating to provisions governing the carrying of a handgun by certain unlicensed persons and to other provisions related to the carrying, possessing, transporting, or storing of a firearm.

87(R) [SB 541](#) Author: Springer

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the enforcement of certain federal laws regulating firearms, firearm accessories, and firearm ammunition within the State of Texas.

87(R) [SB 546](#) Author: Springer

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the places where a person may carry a handgun if the person is licensed to carry a handgun and to certain related criminal offenses.

87(R) [SB 548](#) Author: Springer

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to prohibiting the recognition and enforcement of extreme risk protective orders.

87(R) [HB 1767](#) Author: Anchia

Last Action: 3/10/2021 *H Referred to Homeland Security & Public Safety*

Caption Text: Relating to wrongful exclusion of handgun license holders from certain property owned by or leased to a governmental entity and to certain offenses relating to the carrying of handguns on the property.

87(R) [HB 1833](#) Author: Stucky

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to restrictions on the sale by a state agency of information that identifies an individual.

87(R) [HB 1888](#) Author: Fierro

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the authority of all governmental bodies to hold open and closed meetings by telephone or videoconference call.

87(R) [SB 639](#) Author: Menendez

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to remote meetings under the open meetings law.

87(R) [HB 2500](#) Author: Bailes

Last Action: 3/16/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to Internet posting of notice by governmental entities and representatives as an alternative to newspaper publication of notice.

87(R) [HB 2560](#) Author: Martinez

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to remote meetings under the open meetings law.

87(R) [HB 2662](#) Author: Krause

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the elimination of certain regulations waived during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

87(R) [HB 2789](#) Author: Vasut

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to charges imposed by a governmental body for providing copies of public information under the public information law.

87(R) [HB 2913](#) Author: Capriglione

Last Action: 3/18/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the posting of certain contracts to the Internet websites of governmental bodies.

87(R) [HB 2928](#) Author: Jetton

Last Action: 3/18/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to publication and posting of notice by governmental entities and representatives

87(R) [SB 923](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to open government.

87(R) [SB 924](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to requirements for open meetings that are broadcast over the Internet or held by telephone conference or videoconference call.

87(R) [SB 925](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to the definition of business day for the purposes of the public information law.

87(R) [SB 926](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to the availability of dates of birth under the public information law.

87(R) [SB 927](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to a governmental body's response to a request for public information.

87(R) [SB 928](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to maintenance and production of electronic public information under the public information law.

87(R) [SB 929](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to the posting of certain contracts to the Internet websites of governmental bodies.

87(R) [SB 1001](#) Author: Hughes

Last Action: 3/18/2021 *S Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the capture and retention of biometric identifiers by governmental entities; providing civil penalties.

87(R) [HB 3124](#) Author: Vasut

Last Action: 3/19/2021 *H Referred to Homeland Security & Public Safety*

Caption Text: Relating to carrying a handgun on the premises of a public employer

87(R) [HB 3139](#) Author: Longoria

Last Action: 3/19/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the authority of all governmental bodies to hold open and closed meetings by telephone or videoconference call.

87(R) [HB 3410](#) Author: Goldman

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to publication and posting of notice by governmental entities and representatives

87(R) [HB 3453](#) Author: White

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to access to certain litigation, law enforcement, corrections, and prosecutorial records under the public information law

87(R) [HB 3550](#) Author: Deshotel

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the availability of certain information regarding an application for or the award of disaster recovery funds under the public information law.

87(R) [HB 3663](#) Author: Capriglione

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the availability under the public information law of certain information regarding a business that applies for state or federal disaster recovery funds.

87(R) [HB 3793](#) Author: Shaheen

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to remote meetings under the open meetings law.

87(R) [HB 4275](#) Author: Klick

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the prohibited release by a public agency of information regarding the members, supporters, or volunteers of or donors to certain nonprofit organizations; creating a criminal offense.

87(R) [HB 4340](#) Author: Howard

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to Criminal Jurisprudence*

Caption Text: Relating to a special right of access to certain public information by an individual who is a victim of a crime.

87(R) [HB 4358](#) Author: Spiller

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to Homeland Security & Public Safety*

Caption Text: Relating to the manner of carrying a handgun by a person who holds a license under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code.

87(R) [HB 4388](#) Author: Herrero

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to reemployment protections for certain members of the military.

87(R) [SB 1515](#) Author: Gutierrez

Last Action: 3/24/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to the authority of all governmental bodies to hold open and closed meetings by telephone or videoconference call.

87(R) [SB 1678](#) Author: Campbell

Last Action: 4/19/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to the prohibited release by a public agency of information regarding the members, supporters, or volunteers of or donors to certain nonprofit organizations; creating a criminal offense.

87(R) [SB 2006](#) Author: Bettencourt

Last Action: 4/1/2021 *S Referred to Local Government*

Caption Text: Relating to publication and posting of notice by certain governmental entities and representatives.

87(R) [HB 768](#) Author: Patterson

Last Action: 4/23/2021 *H Reported favorably as substituted*

Caption Text: Relating to the requirement that certain governmental bodies make audio and video recordings of open meetings available on the Internet.

87(R) [SB 1492](#) Author: Bettencourt

Last Action: 4/6/2021 *S Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to an expedited response by a governmental body to a request for public information

87(R) [HB 2900](#) Author: Hefner

Last Action: 3/26/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to provisions government the carrying of a firearm by a person who is not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law from possessing the firearm and to other provisions related to the carrying, possessing, transporting, or storing of a firearm; making conforming changes.

87(R) [HB 3435](#) Author: Smithee

Last Action: 4/8/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to an expedited response by a governmental body to a request for public information.

Foster Care

87(R) [HB 700](#) Author: Johnson, Jarvis

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *S Referred to Health & Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the eligibility of foster children to receive college credit for completing the Preparation for Adult Living Program.

87(R) [HB 1597](#) Author: Johnson, Jarvis

Last Action: 3/8/2021 *H Referred to Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to transitional living services provided to foster youth transitioning to independent living.

87(R) [HB 575](#) Author: Johnson, Jarvis

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the Department of Family and Protective Services enrolling certain foster children in the Preparation for Adult Living Program.

87(R) [HB 2632](#) Author: Minjarez

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Referred to Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the Preparation for Adult Living Program and other services for foster children transitioning to independent living.

87(R) [SB 1084](#) Author: Powell | Johnson

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *S Committee report printed and distributed*

Caption Text: Relating to the Preparation for Adult Living Program and other services for foster children transitioning to independent living.

87(R) [HB 3815](#) Author: Hunter

Last Action: 5/6/2021 *H Committee report sent to Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to transitional living services provided to foster youth transitioning to independent living.

Veteran Services

87(R) [HB 33](#) Author: Dominguez

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *E Sent to the Governor*

Caption Text: Relating to measures to facilitate the award of postsecondary course credit leading to workforce credentialing based on military experience, education, and training.

87(R) [HB 1208](#) Author: Guillen

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *S Referred to Vet Affairs & Border Security*

Caption Text: Relating to a state employment preference for certain children of veterans with a disability.

87(R) [SB 337](#) Author: Powell

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *H Passed*

Caption Text: Relating to the award of grants by the Texas Workforce Commission to facilitate the participation of certain veterans and military personnel in apprenticeship training programs.

87(R) [HB 739](#) Author: Lopez

Last Action: 5/6/2021 *S Referred to Vet Affairs & Border Security*

Caption Text: Relating to a grant program administered by the Texas Veterans Commission to provide energy industry career training for veterans.

Workforce Education

87(R) [SB 663](#) Author: Powell

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the development of and report on tri-agency work-based learning strategic framework by the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

87(R) [HB 819](#) Author: White

Last Action: 4/7/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to the creation of certain pilot programs to encourage economic and educational opportunities in certain regions of this state.

TANF/SNAP E&T

87(R) [HB 926](#) Author: Goodwin

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the exclusion of certain resources in determining eligibility for financial assistance and the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

87(R) [HB 927](#) Author: Goodwin

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to the exclusion of certain resources in determining eligibility for financial assistance

87(R) [SB 1912](#) Author: Blanco

Last Action: 4/1/2021 *S Referred to Health & Human Services*

Caption Text: Relating to continued household eligibility for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits on the ineligibility of the head of household for failure to comply with certain work requirements.

87(R) [HB 2126](#) Author: Walle

Last Action: 4/13/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program and the provision of employment and training services under the program

Labor Law

87(R) [HB 224](#) Author: Ortega

Last Action: 2/25/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to authorization for a county or municipality to establish a local minimum wage.

87(R) [SB 389](#) Author: Eckhardt

Last Action: 3/9/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to authorization for a county or municipality to establish a local minimum wage.

87(R) [SB 469](#) Author: Blanco

Last Action: 3/9/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to a temporary to a temporary waiver of certain unemployment benefit eligibility conditions during a public health disaster.

87(R) [HB 333](#) Author: Talarico

Last Action: 2/25/2021 *H Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to establishing a Texas Service Corps to provide student loan relief, job training, and work experience, in exchange for providing community service in underserved areas.

Skills Development Fund / JET

87(R) [HB 3186](#) Author: Raney | Guillen

Last Action: 5/12/2021 *H Placed on General State Calendar*

Caption Text: Relating to the use of the skills development fund by certain entities.

87(R) [HB 1214](#) Author: Munoz

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to requirements for certain skills development fund grant proposals.

Education

87(R) [HB 618](#) Author: Dutton

Last Action: 5/3/2021 *H Laid on the table subject to call*

Caption Text: Relating to the participation of open-enrollment charter schools in the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.

87(R) [HB 1525](#) Author: Huberty

Last Action: 5/17/2021 *S Committee report printed and distributed*

Caption Text: Relating to the public school finance system.

87(R) [SB 788](#) Author: Creighton | Powell

Last Action: 5/12/2021 *E Sent to the Governor*

Caption Text: Relating to the development of a model data-sharing agreement for sharing student information between public schools and public and private postsecondary educational institutions.

87(R) [HB 2352](#) Author: Parker

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *H Reported engrossed*

Caption Text: Relating to an educational and vocational training pilot program for certain state jail felony defendants and certain inmates released on parole; changing parole eligibility.

87(R) [SB 346](#) Author: Paxton

Last Action: 5/12/2021 *E Sent to the Governor*

Caption Text: Relating to the participation of open-enrollment charter schools in the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.

87(R) [HB 1364](#) Author: Romero, Jr.

Last Action: 5/5/2021 *H Considered in Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to referring children to local workforce development boards for subsidized child care services. **Companion bill is SB 971.**

87(R) [HB 1247](#) Author: Lozano

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the development of and report on tri-agency work-based learning strategic framework by the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

87(R) [HB 2256](#) Author: Guerra

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Referred to Education*

Caption Text: Relating to creating a bilingual special education certification to teach students of limited English proficiency with disabilities.

87(R) [HB 1032](#) Author: Thierry

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *H Reported engrossed*

Caption Text: Relating to certain public school workforce training programs funded by the skills development fund and to authorizing school districts to provide funding using money received under the Foundation School Program to community-based organizations for purposes of reimbursing private employers for paid internships provided to certain students in career and technology education programs in the district.

87(R) [HB 4361](#) Author: Raney

Last Action: 5/16/2021 *H Reported engrossed*

Caption Text: Relating to off-campus workforce education or lower-division programs offered by a public institution of higher education at the request of an employer.

87(R) [HB 626](#) Author: Rosenthal

Last Action: 5/6/2021 *E Sent to Governor*

Caption Text: Relating to the expansion of the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Program to include certain nonprofit organizations providing job training to veterans.

87(R) [SB 1527](#) Author: Perry

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *S Placed on intent calendar.*

Caption Text: Relating to measures to assist small and rural school districts in implementing a collegiate model and expanding broadband access, including the establishment of the Rural Schools and Communities Technical Assistance Center and a grant program.

87(R) [SB 1094](#) Author: West

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *H Reported favorably as substituted*

Caption Text: Relating to the payment of apprenticeship education expenses using the state's programs for paying, prepaying, or saving toward the costs of attending an institution of higher education.

87(R) [SB 1095](#) Author: Creighton

Last Action: 4/30/2021 *H Referred to Public Education.*

Caption Text: Relating to notice regarding the availability to public school students of college credit and work-based education programs and subsidies for fees paid to take certain advanced placement tests.

87(R) [SB 354](#) Author: Miles

Last Action: 3/9/2021 *S Referred to Criminal Justice*

Caption Text: Relating to access to postsecondary courses or programs for inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

87(R) [HB 334](#) Author: Gates

Last Action: 2/25/2021 *H Referred to Public Education*

Caption Text: Relating to funding for career and technology programs in public schools.

87(R) [HB 1528](#) Author: Gates

Last Action: 3/8/2021 *H Referred to Public Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the posting of certain information regarding programs of study offered under a school district's career and technology education program.

87(R) [HB 1542](#) Author: Gates

Last Action: 3/8/2021 *H Referred to Public Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the reporting of certain information on career and technology education in public schools.

87(R) [SB 1321](#) Author: Lucio

Last Action: 3/18/2021 *S Referred to Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the state plan for career and technology education.

87(R) [SB 259](#) Author: Menendez

Last Action: 3/3/2021 *S Referred to Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of a grant program to provide additional resources for public school students with disabilities.

87(R) [SB 661](#) Author: Powell

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Higher Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of the Building Better Futures Program to support educational and occupational skills training opportunities and support services for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities at public and private institutions of higher education.

87(R) [HB 2765](#) Author: Rogers

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Referred to Higher Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the creation of a rural dual credit grant program by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

87(R) [HB 1132](#) Author: Oliverson

Last Action: 3/4/2021 *H Referred to Higher Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the information maintained by the Texas Education Agency regarding postsecondary education and career opportunities.

87(R) [HB 1312](#) Author: Romero, Jr.

Last Action: 3/4/2021 *H Referred to Higher Education*

Caption Text: Relating to student success-based funding recommendations for certain continuing workforce education courses offered by public junior colleges.

87(R) [SB 302](#) Author: Hinojosa

Last Action: 3/9/2021 *S Referred to Higher Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the administration of the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.

87(R) [SB 102](#) Author: Menendez

Last Action: 3/3/2021 *S Referred to Higher Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the enforcement of certain requirements regarding the transfer of course credit between public institutions of higher education.

87(R) [SB 34](#) Author: Zaffirini

Last Action: 3/3/2021 *S Referred to Higher Education*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of the Texas Promise Grant Program for certain students at two-year public institutions of higher education. the participation of open-enrollment charter schools in the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.

87(R) [SB 347](#) Author: Paxton

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *H Failed to receive affirmative vote in comm.*

Caption Text: Relating to the inclusion of local school health advisory councils as governmental bodies for purposes of the open meetings law and the public information law.

87(R) [SB 442](#) Author: Hughes

Last Action: 5/12/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to local school health advisory councils and health education provided by school districts, including requirements regarding human sexuality instruction.

87(R) [SB 167](#) Author: Blanco

Last Action: 4/21/2021 *S Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to a limitation on the amount of tuition charged by public institutions of higher education.

87(R) [HB 755](#) Author: Fierro

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to consumer information regarding career schools and colleges.

87(R) [HB 546](#) Author: Pacheco

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Received from the House*

Caption Text: Relating to the application of certain occupation-related postsecondary educational financial aid and student loan repayment programs.

87(R) [HB 2554](#) Author: Gates

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *H Reported engrossed*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of joint vocational school districts to provide eligible high school students with vocational and educational training under a plan for the issuance of a high school diploma, the funding of those districts under the foundation school program, and the operation of certain vocational education charter programs.

87(R) [HB 434](#) Author: Bell, et al.

Last Action: 3/9/2021 *H Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to the curriculum requirements for public high school students.

87(R) [SB 994](#) Author: Powell

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *S Passed to engrossment as amended*

Caption Text: Relating to measures to facilitate the successful completion of degree and certificate programs by certain adult learners at public institutions of higher education.

87(R) [SB 1277](#) Author: West

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *H Passed*

Caption Text: Relating to an agreement between a school district and public institution of higher education to provide a dual credit program to high school students enrolled in the district.

87(R) [HB 4279](#) Author: Dominguez

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the eligibility of the Windham School District to participate in the Jobs and education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.

Workforce Misc

87(R) [HB 1791](#) Author: Button

Last Action: 5/6/2021 *H Laid on the table subject to call*

Caption Text: Relating to eligibility for job-training programs provided under the self-sufficiency fund.

87(R) [HB 3003](#) Author: Parker

Last Action: 4/28/2021 *H Committee report sent to Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) Initiative to support workforce education at public junior colleges.

87(R) [SB 1102](#) Author: Creighton

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *H Committee report sent to Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) Initiative to support workforce education at public junior colleges

87(R) [HB 3938](#) Author: Bell

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of the industry-based certification advisory council and the transfer of certain duties to that advisory council.

87(R) [HB 2611](#) Author: Raney

Last Action: 3/17/2021 *H Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the direct reimbursement of certain employers under the skills development fund.

87(R) [HB 1815](#) Author: Campos

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *H Referred to Urban Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to administration of the Homeless Management Information System in this state.

87(R) [HB 2466](#) Author: Gervins-Hawkins

Last Action: 3/16/2021 *H Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the application for funding for certain workforce development programs.

87(R) [SB 1524](#) Author: Hughes

Last Action: 5/13/2021 *H Committee report sent to Calendars*

Caption Text: Relating to a sales and use tax refund pilot program for certain persons who employ apprentices.

87(R) [SB 955](#) Author: Hinojosa

Last Action: 3/11/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to economic development and workforce retraining opportunities in the transition to the use of clean energy sources

87(R) [HB 3878](#) Author: Hinojosa

Last Action: 3/24/2021 *H Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to economic development and workforce retraining opportunities in the transition to the use of clean energy sources.

87(R) [HB 4109](#) Author: Guerra

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to Texas Workforce Commission workforce counselors to provide public school students with career counseling.

87(R) [HB 4394](#) Author: Gonzalez

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to Public Education*

Caption Text: Relating to plans by a school district or open-enrollment charter school for mitigating student learning loss due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

87(R) [SB 1184](#) Author: Alvarado

Last Action: 3/18/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the creation of the Commission on Texas Workforce of the Future.

87(R) [SB 1198](#) Author: Powell

Last Action: 3/18/2021 *S Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of the industry-based certification advisory council and the transfer of certain duties to that advisory council.

87(R) [HB 3894](#) Author: Hinojosa

Last Action: 3/24/2021 *S Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the creation by the Texas Workforce Commission of a program to assist with transitioning certain workers to clean energy jobs.

87(R) [HB 3264](#) Author: Dominguez

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *H Reported engrossed*

Caption Text: Relating to the establishment by the Texas Workforce Commission of a workplace soft skills training pilot program.

Finance

87(R) [HB 2](#) Author: Bonnen

Last Action: 4/29/2021 *S Referred to Finance*

Caption Text: Relating to making supplemental appropriations and reductions in appropriations and giving direction and adjustment authority regarding appropriations

87(R) [HB 1](#) Author: Bonnen

Last Action: 3/1/2021 *H Referred to Appropriations*

Caption Text: General Appropriations Bill.

Regulatory Integrity

87(R) [HB 2823](#) Author: Bonnen

Last Action: 3/18/2021 *H Referred to State Affairs*

Caption Text: Relating to requiring state contractors and political subdivisions of this state to participate in the federal electronic verification of employment authorization program ,or E-verify, and authorizing the suspension of certain licenses held by private employers for the knowing employment of persons not lawfully present in this state; authorizing a fee.

87(R) [SB 1928](#) Author: Hughes

Last Action: 4/1/2021 *S Referred to Business & Commerce*

Caption Text: Relating to requiring state contractors and political subdivisions of this state to participate in the federal electronic verification of employment authorization program, or E-verify, and authorizing the suspension of certain licenses held by private employers for the knowing employment of unauthorized aliens; authorizing a fee.

Apprenticeship

87(R) [HB 1799](#) Author: Button

Last Action: 5/11/2021 *S Committee report printed and distributed*

Caption Text: Relating to the administration of apprenticeship training programs.

87(R) [HB 3518](#) Author: Dominguez

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to Business & Industry*

Caption Text: Relating to an annual report by the Texas Division of Emergency Management regarding building trades services following disasters.

Civil Rights

87(R) [HB 3796](#) Author: Morales Shaw

Last Action: 3/22/2021 *H Referred to International Relations & Economic Development*

Caption Text: Relating to the prohibition of employment discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

87(R) [SB 1669](#) Author: Hall

Last Action: 5/10/2021 *S Left pending in committee*

Caption Text: Relating to prohibited discrimination regarding vaccination status and mandates for receiving or participating in the administration of vaccines; authorizing administrative penalties.

External Relations

87(R) [HB 3838](#) Author: Dominguez

Last Action: 5/12/2021 *S Received from the House*

Caption Text: Relating to the display of emergency and other notices by a governmental entity on the entity's Internet website.

Tri-Agency

87(R) [HB 3767](#) Author: Murphy

Last Action: 5/16/2021 *H Reported engrossed*

Caption Text: Relating to measures to support workforce development in the state, including the establishment of the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative and additional employer workforce data reporting.

87(R) [SB 1622](#) Author: Bettencourt

Last Action: 5/14/2021 *S Not again placed on intent calendar*

Caption Text: Relating to measures to support workforce development in the state, including the establishment of the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative and additional employer workforce data reporting.

Unemployment Insurance

87(R) [HB 4393](#) Author: Martinez Fischer

Last Action: 3/29/2021 *H Referred to Appropriations*

Caption Text: Relating to disaster relief and recovery

Education Committee

Building an Educated Workforce

Background

The Education Committee met on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. with committee chair Bobbie Henderson, committee vice chair Doug Karr, Board chair Mark Guthrie, and members Alan Heskamp, Adrian Ozuna, Guy Robert Jackson, Karlos Allen, and Helen Cavazos in attendance.

The Graduate! Network

The Graduate! Network is a national non-profit that helps promote returns to higher education for individuals who, for one reason or another, have stopped-out of degree programs. Committee members discussed the network and how our participation would work and supported partnering with the network to enhance our system's ability to help "comebackers" complete their degree programs and go to work in good jobs.

A copy of The Graduate! Network's full presentation is available for download from the Board's online meeting page at <https://www.wrksolutions.com/about-us/meetings>.

Literacy Blueprint

The Barbara Bush Houston Foundation for Literacy has long been involved in fostering discussion and action on literacy issues. Recently the Foundation, along with Mayor Sylvester Turner's Office of Adult Literacy has commissioned a plan to help us achieve higher levels of literacy in our community. We are supporting the development of this "blueprint" for action on literacy both as the workforce board and as the leader for the region's publicly funded adult education and literacy consortium. Committee members discussed the blueprint and initial ideas on how Workforce Solutions can more fully support individuals with functional literacy needs.

A copy of the executive summary for the blueprint is available for download from the Board's online meeting page at <https://www.wrksolutions.com/about-us/meetings>.

The committee's next meeting will be scheduled for a date in July 2021.

Procurement Committee

Construction Industry Support

The Procurement Committee met on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 2:00 pm with Bobbie Henderson, Committee Chair, Doug Karr, Guy Robert Jackson, Adrian Ozuna, Alan Heskamp, Karlos Allen and Mark Guthrie in attendance.

The committee considered an action item to support the construction industry. With more than 206,000 jobs in residential, commercial, industrial, and heavy/civil construction, this industry continues to be a driver for our region. For more than 20 years, the industry has experienced a shortage of skilled craft professionals.

There are several issues surrounding this shortage, including the numbers of small and medium-sized businesses in the industry, pay and benefits, and safety. Smaller businesses in particular have had difficulty in acquiring talent, developing workers' skills and retaining them, and ensuring worksite safety.

After discussions with construction industry employers Board staff identified two projects that would support the industry in improving human resource functions, safety, and awareness.

Project 1 will assist small to medium-sized construction employers with developing their talent/HR systems and worksite safety programs. The top proposer, Construction Career Collaborative proposes to provide management and Human Resource professional training and workshops for NCCER Core, OSHA 10 and 30, along with talent management and sharing best practices for Human Resource professionals for over 200 companies during the next year.

Project 2 will assist small to medium-sized construction companies by developing talent through industry awareness workshops for high schools, community colleges, and trade schools. The top proposer, Construction Career Collaborative will provide multiple industry awareness workshops through a hybrid approach (in-person/online) to a minimum of eleven (11) school districts in our region.

Action

Recommend Board authorize staff to execute a contract with Construction Career Collaborative for a total amount not to exceed \$199,891 for Project 1 and a total amount not to exceed \$164,620 for Project 2. The combined total not to exceed \$364,511 in the first year, with an option to renew the contract for up to an additional two years pending a review by the Board and fund availability.

Outreach and Communications

June 2021 Update

For over a year, we have operated in a remote environment in which our media outreach was essential to communicating with our stakeholders. When pandemic unemployment soared to 14% in April 2020, Workforce Solutions used social and broadcast media so that we could continue to elevate the economic and human potential of our community.

Since March 2020, the number of followers on our Facebook and LinkedIn pages more than doubled, while Instagram tripled.

Followers	March 2020	May 2021	Increase
Instagram	663	2,387	260%
Twitter	1,460	1,619	11%
LinkedIn	1,473	4,007	172%
Facebook	3,531	8,633	144%

Currently, Facebook is our largest social media platform – both in terms of people and the built-in features that allow for engagements. Based on the information we can see in Facebook, other Board areas grew too, but at a much lesser rate.

Facebook “Likes”	June 2020	May 2021	Increase
Gulf Coast	3,073	8,633	181%
Heart of Texas	3,800	5,100	34%
Capital Area	1,300	1,600	23%

At the beginning of the pandemic, we collected over 752,000 views on Facebook with our weekly ABC 13 webcast. In December 2020, we became the first Workforce Board in the country to provide content on a Disney-owned station’s connected TV app. Through May 1, 2021, over 60,000 people have viewed the weekly webcast.

ABC 13 Digital Content	
CTV Minutes Watched	777,397
CTV On-Demand Views	45,924
CTV Live Views	21,119

We've experienced exponential growth with our broadcast media placements, as well. Prior to the pandemic Workforce Solutions averaged about one mention per month – usually in connection to the monthly jobs report. Today, we have weekly appearances on two TV stations – ABC 13 and Fox 26, both have been in place for more than a year now.

More importantly, we've transitioned away from addressing the problems with unemployment claims processing to having an entire week of success stories on ABC 13 celebrating our partnership.

Throughout the pandemic, we have helped our neighbors navigate the uncertainty of the pandemic. Below are some of the stories that demonstrate the impact of our service and help draw more people and employers to us.

- **Registered Apprenticeships**
Violeta Nunez learned about the Houston Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trade Council's pre-apprenticeship through the ABC 13 job fair. Now this military veteran and mother is a pipefitter apprentice and couldn't be happier with her decision. <https://abc13.co/3uj8bth>
- **Summer Jobs**
Dominic Taylor landed his first job thanks to the weekly ABC 13 job fair. The high school student is set to graduate this month and hopes the skills he learns will help him with a future career in criminal justice. <https://abc13.co/33xpGel>
- **Second Chance Opportunities**
Ten workers landed new jobs where they are now giving back to the community. Akene Harper describes the positive feeling of a job that allows him to demonstrate responsibility and provide for his family. <https://abc13.co/3ukXo1O>
- **Financial Aid for Child Care**
Childcare is an issue that every working parent faces. Thanks to financial aid from Workforce Solutions, Belinda Russell can focus on work and school knowing her son is cared for in a safe environment. <https://youtu.be/P4G7R0UqST8>

- **Work-based Learning**

Cole Cameron joined Tony's Tex-Mex in Katy three months ago, and it's changed his life. Cameron has autism, but that didn't stop him from landing a job.

<https://abc13.co/3wzuyfA>

- **Reskilling**

A tanker truck shortage could lead to higher gas prices this summer. Ricky Luna is training to drive fuel tankers at Alvin Community College.

<https://abc13.co/3vnQEBN>

- **Employers**

Premier Worldwide is Conroe-based commercial distributor. After partnering with Workforce Solutions, general manager Ricky Garcia received several viable candidates within hours of the television story. <https://abc13.co/3fl9TpP>

- **Dedicated Staff**

Meet Terri Edmunds and Kapre McKinney, two of the many people behind the scenes at Workforce Solutions who are helping put people back to work.

<https://abc13.co/3uOkdw9>

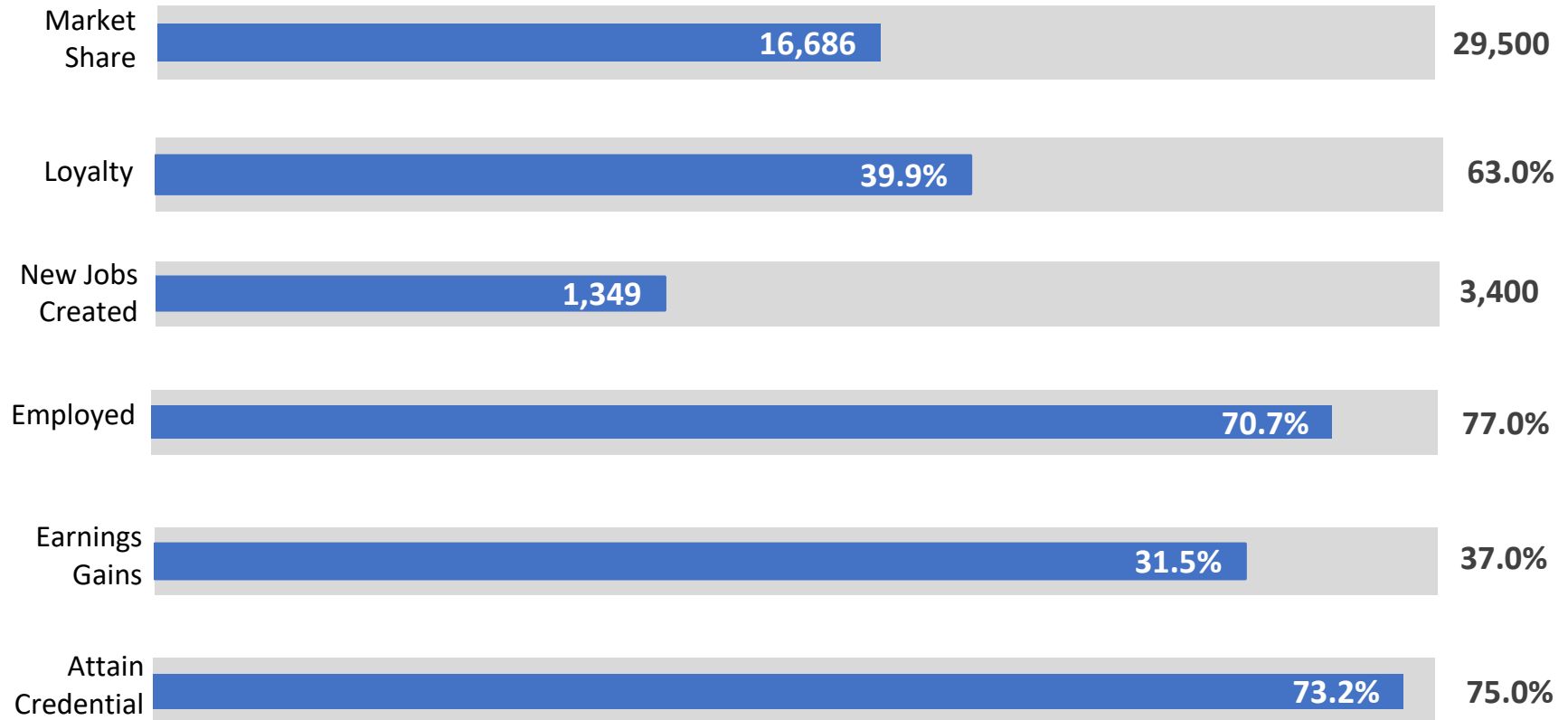
- **Partnership Success**

In the six-month period of October 1 through March 14, employers report hiring 145 individuals from our weekly job fair with ABC 13. <https://youtu.be/h303Jqzm6tk>

Our media placements during the pandemic have an estimated publicity value of over 13-million dollars.

Performance Measures

October 2020 to April 2021



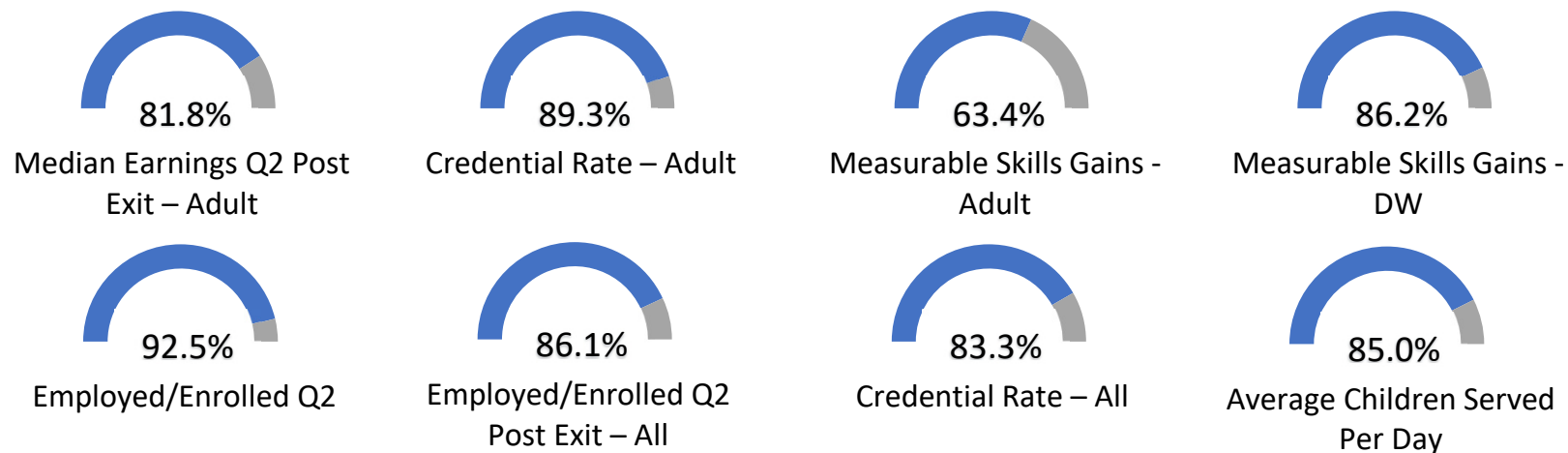
Production Measures

Number of measures meeting or exceeding



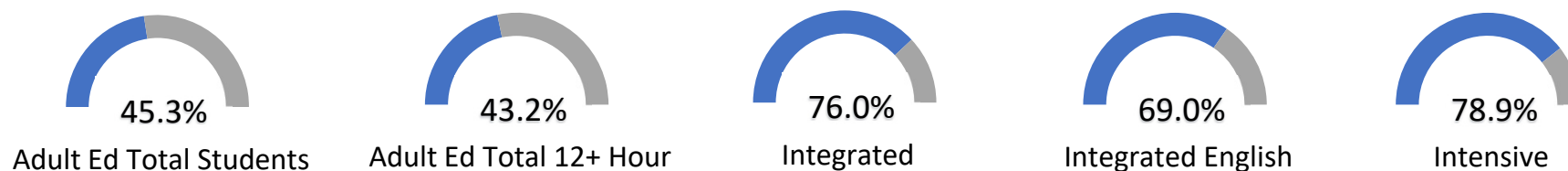
Measures that require additional focus

October 2020 to April 2021



Adult Education

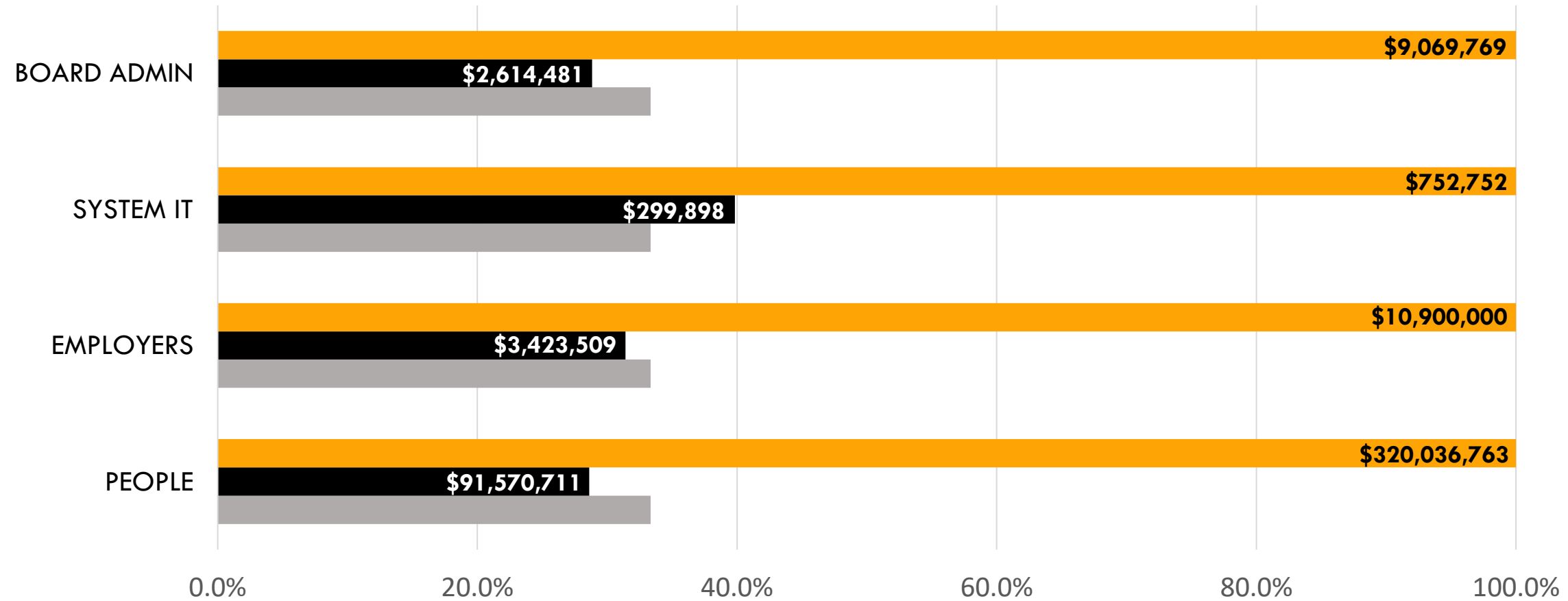
July 2018 to April 2021



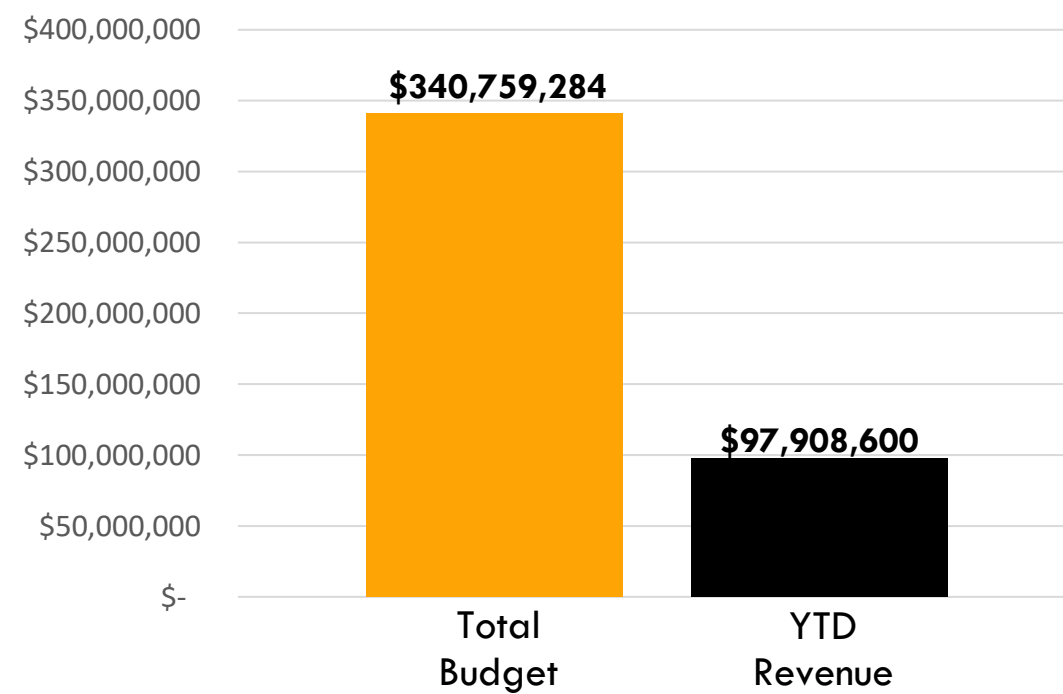
Gulf Coast Workforce Financial Status Report

For the 4 months ending April 30, 2021

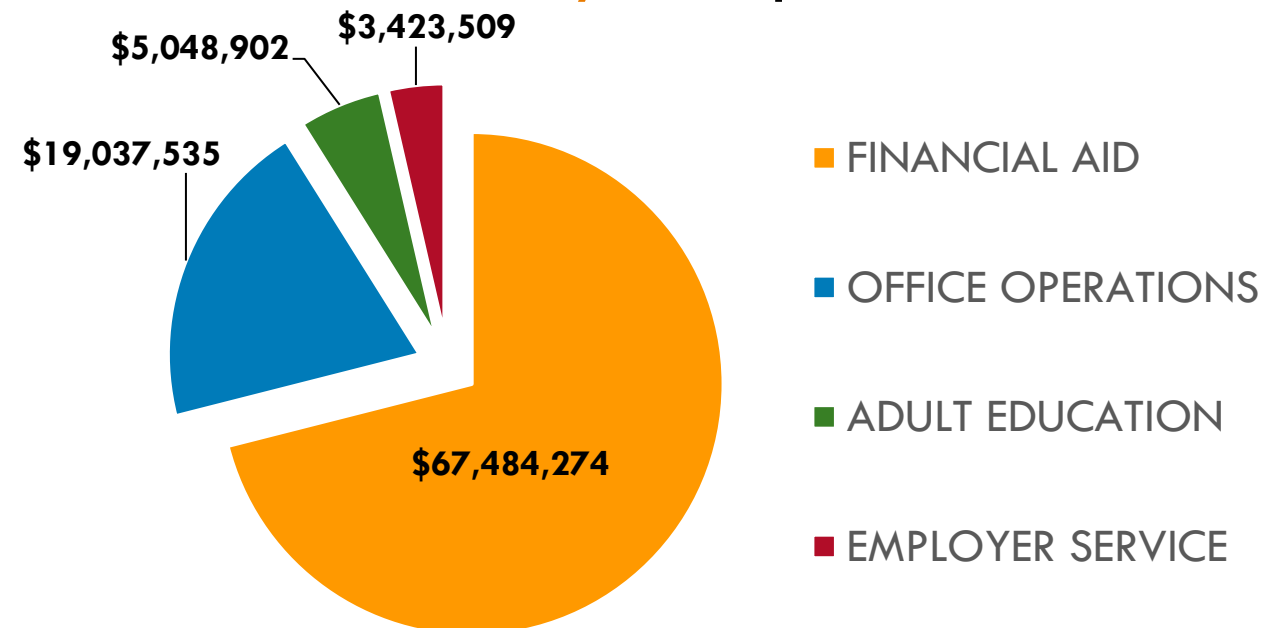
Budget Expenses Target



Workforce Revenue



System Expenses



HOUSTON-THE WOODLANDS-SUGAR LAND METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA Visit our website at www.wrksolutions.com

Labor Market Information

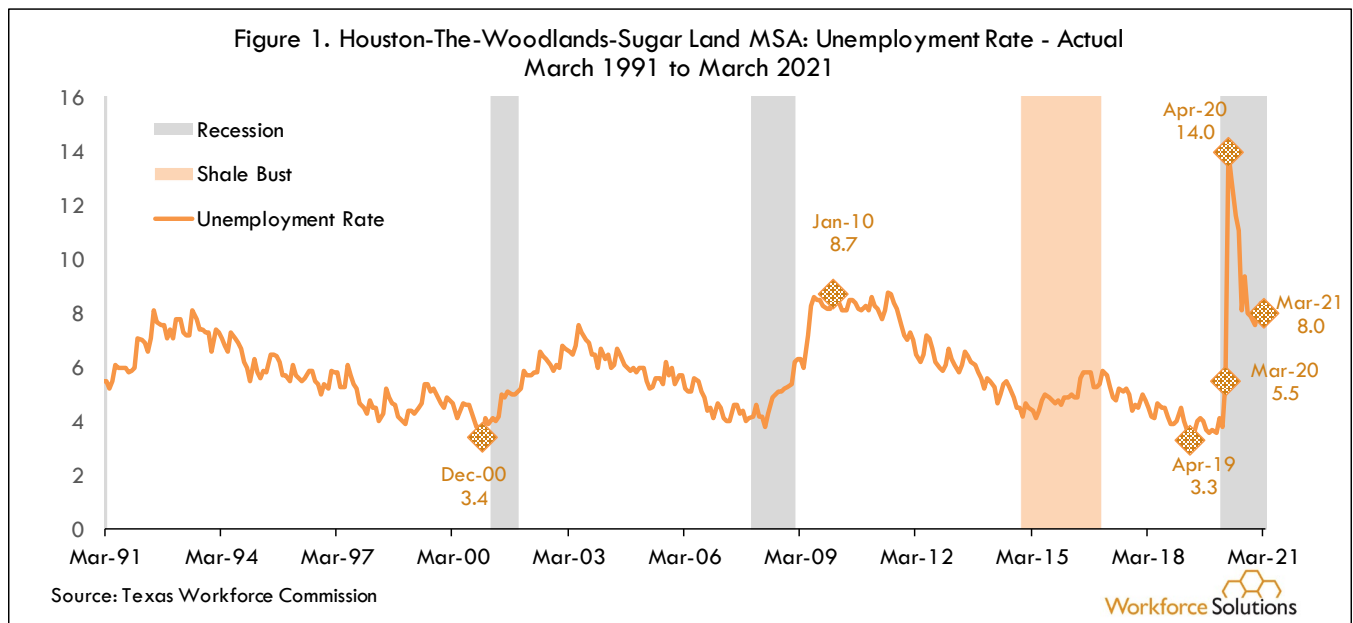
March 2021 Employment Data

Unemployment Rates

The rate of unemployment in The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA fell four-tenths of a percentage point to 8.0 percent in March, see figure 1. The local rate of unemployment remains higher than the state rate which fell three-tenths of a percentage point and the national rate which declined four-tenths of a percentage point. There were more than eighty-three thousand additional unemployed than there were a year earlier. While the current rate is two and one-half percentage-points higher than a year ago, it is seven-tenths of a percentage point lower than an 8.7 percent peak during The Great Recession.

Unemployment Rate (Actual)

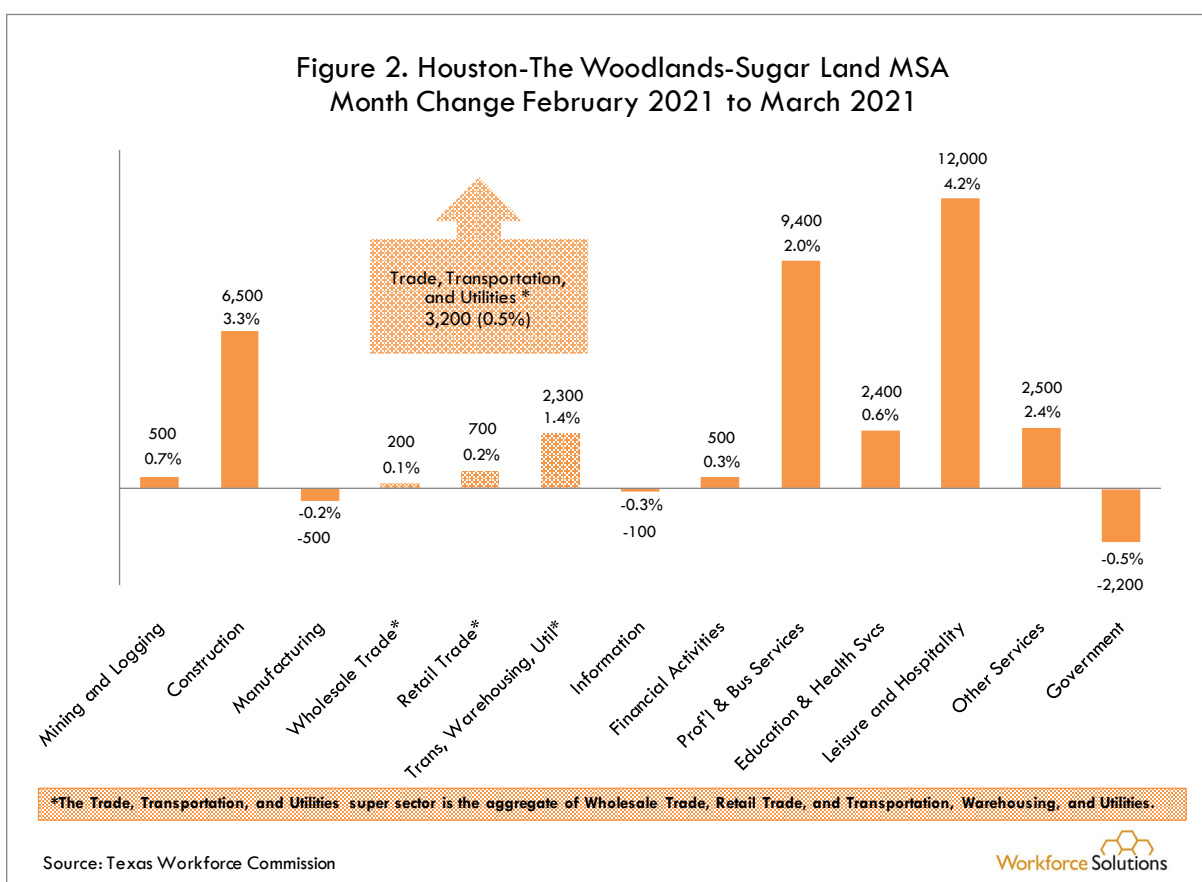
	MAR 2021	FEB 2021	MAR 2020
Civilian Labor Force	3,395,317	3,377,102	3,411,243
Total Employed	3,123,905	3,093,572	3,223,351
Unemployed	271,412	283,530	187,892
Unemployment Rate	8.0%	8.4%	5.5%
Texas	7.2%	7.5%	5.1%
U.S.	6.2%	6.6%	4.5%



Nonagricultural Employment - Actual

Over the Month

Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA experienced its largest March increase ever according to records dating back to 1990, up 34,200 jobs or 1.2 percent. The largest March increase on record had been in 2012 when the H-W-S MSA added 25,100 jobs. The increase was made possible by an increasing number of individuals getting vaccinated and by Governor Greg Abbot lifting the masked mandate in Texas and increasing the capacity of all businesses and facilities to 100 percent effective March 10th. While most industry sectors saw gains, the majority of the increase was due to record gains in three industry sectors: Leisure and Hospitality, up 12,000 jobs or 4.2 percent, Professional and Business Services, up 9,400 jobs or 2.0 percent, and Construction, up 6,500 jobs or 3.3 percent. The only declines were found in Government, down 2,200 jobs or 0.5 percent, and Manufacturing, down 500 jobs or 0.2 percent.



Over the Year

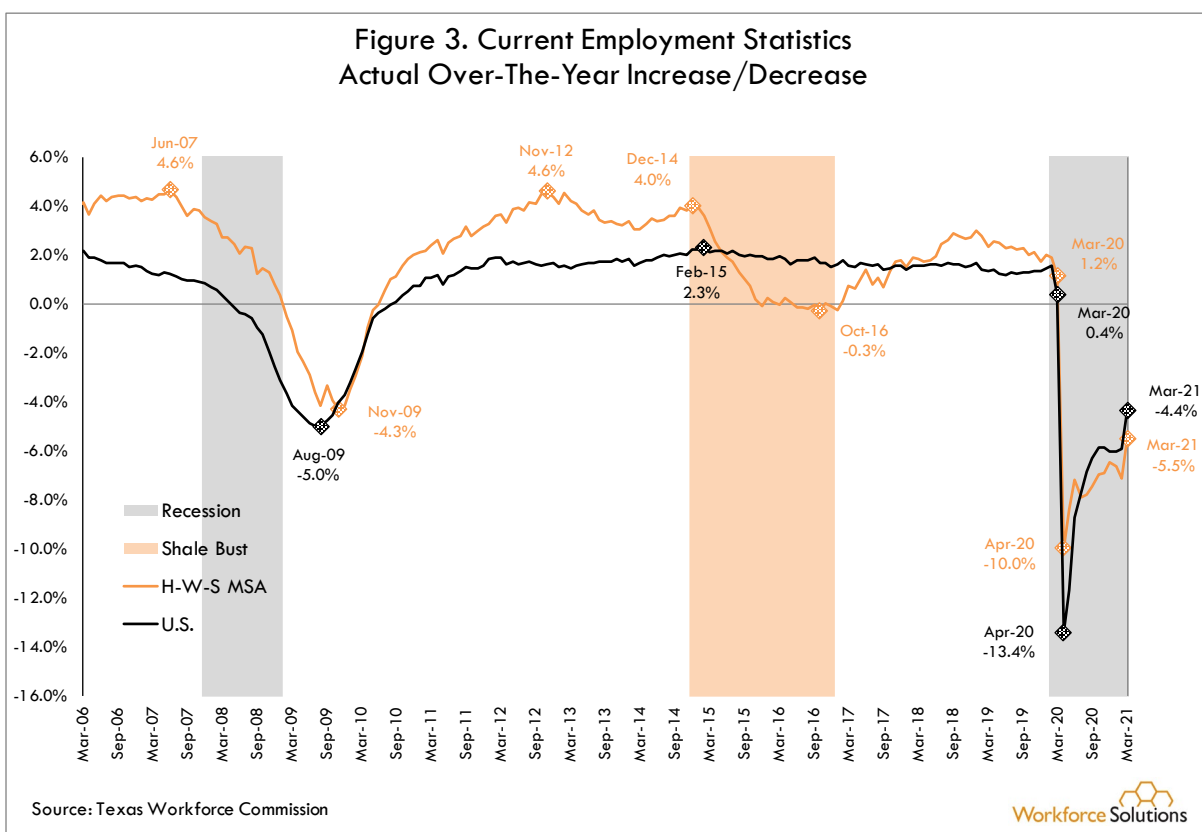
Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA was down 175,000 jobs over the year in March with the pace of losses falling to 5.5 percent, down from 7.1 percent in February. The 5.5 percent pace of over-the-year losses in the H-W-S MSA was more than one full percentage-point deeper than 4.4 percent at the national level, see figure 3.

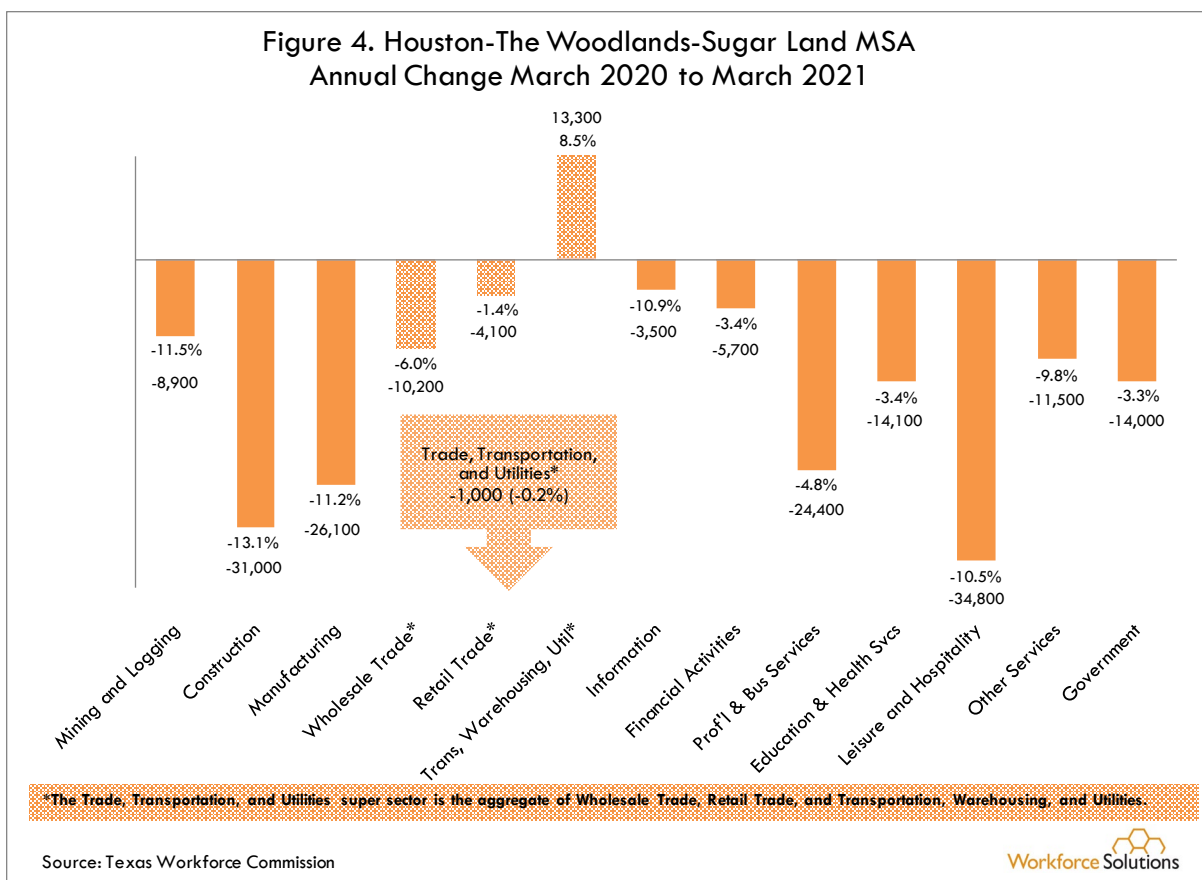
All industry super sectors were reporting over-the-year losses, see figure 4. While Leisure and Hospitality continued to be the largest contributor to losses, down 34,800 jobs, it moved from being the fastest declining industry super sector to the fourth fastest. Construction was now ranked as the fastest declining

industry super sector with payrolls down 31,000 jobs or 13.1 percent followed by Mining and Logging, down 8,900 jobs or 11.5 percent, and Manufacturing, down 26,100 jobs or 11.2 percent. Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities, found within the Trade, Transportation, and Utilities super sector, was the only major industry sector reporting an over-the-year increase, up 13,300 jobs or 8.5 percent. On a seasonally adjusted basis, job recovery in the H-W-S MSA was approaching the halfway mark recovering some 48.5 percent of 361,400 jobs lost during the initial months of the pandemic, up from 41.5 percent in February.

For a complete list of current, month-ago, and year-ago employment estimates see pages 26 & 27.

Additional comments by industry super sector can be found beginning on page 6.

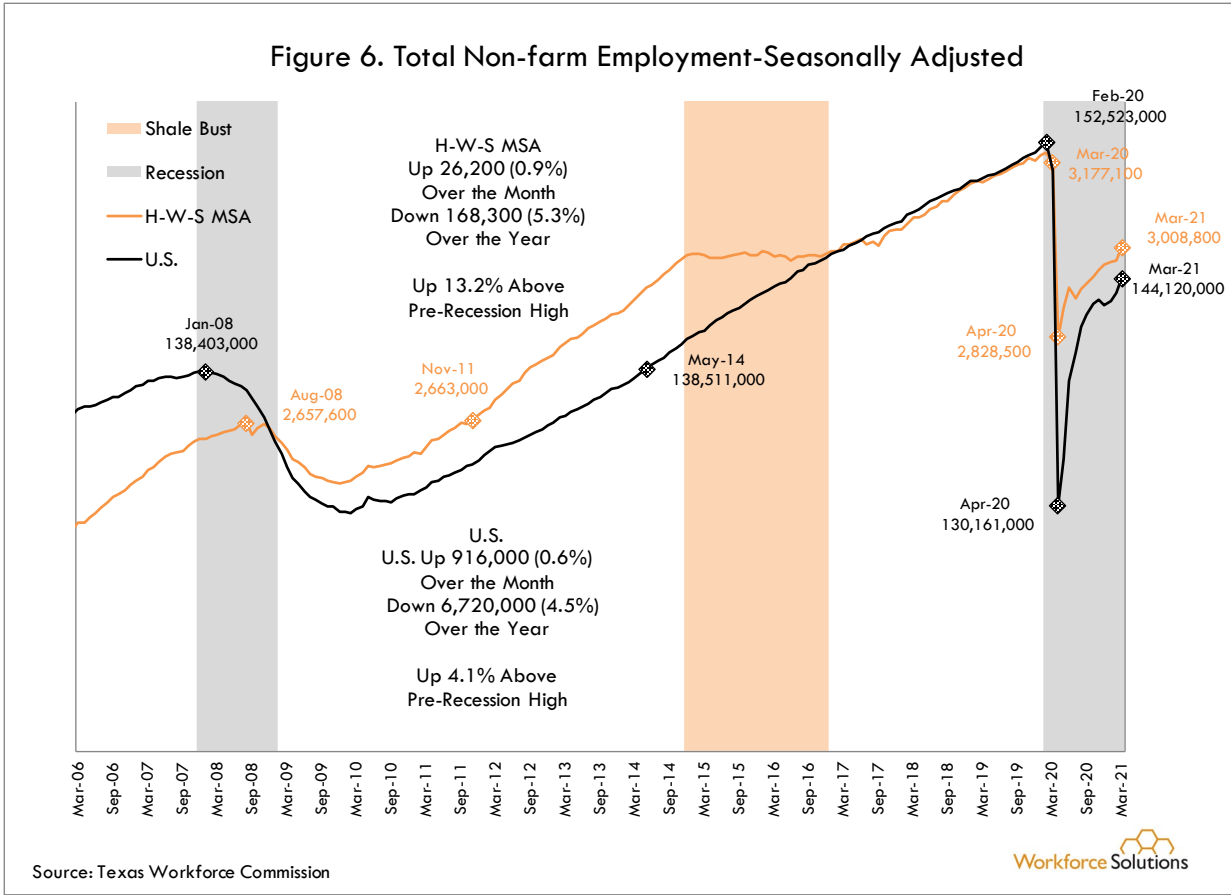
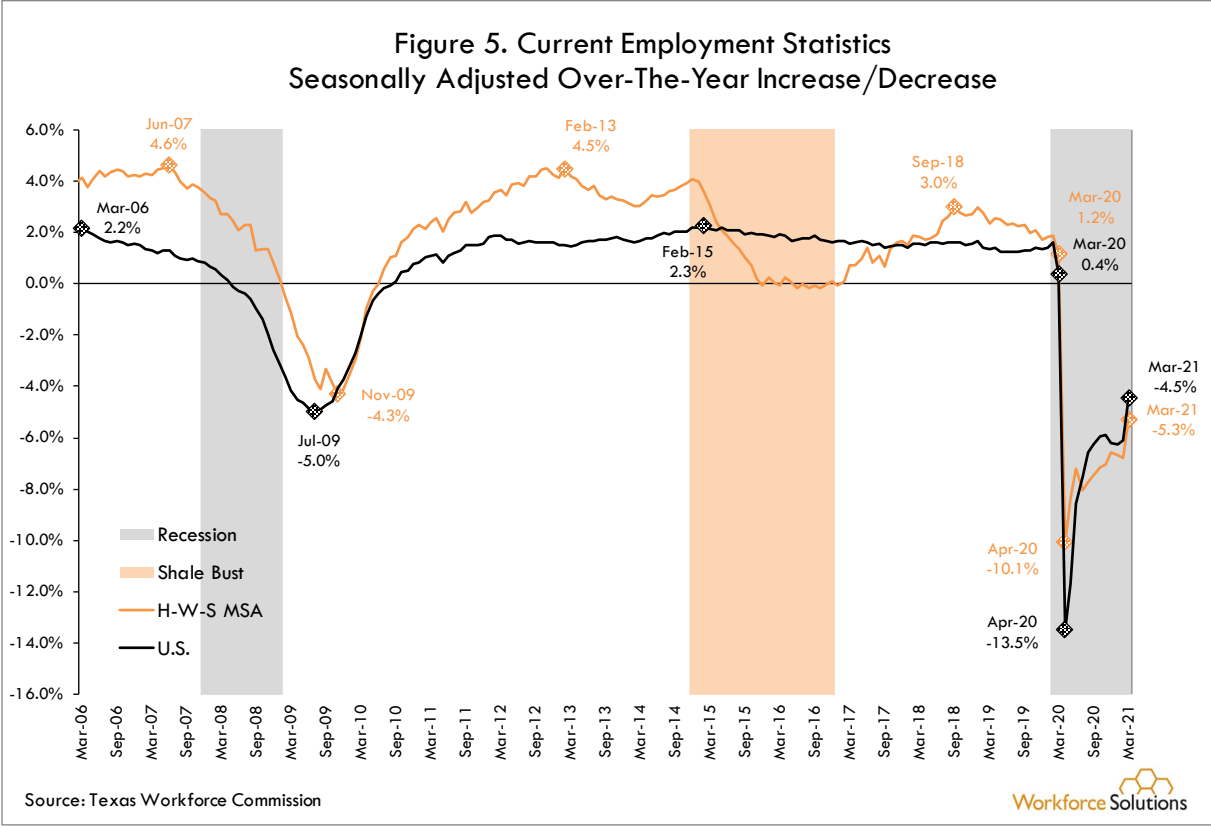




Total Nonfarm Employment – Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted estimates for the H-W-S MSA and U.S. seen in figure 5 and 6 provide an additional view of growth trends removing the erratic month-to-month seasonal patterns. On a seasonally adjusted basis, Total Nonfarm Employment saw its largest one-month increase since June 2020 adding 26,200 jobs in March. The increase drove the pace of losses down one and one-half of a percentage point to 5.3 percent representing a loss of 168,300 jobs over the year. Total Nonfarm Employment at the national level added 916,000 jobs in March with the pace of losses falling more than one and one-half of a percentage point to 4.5 percent representing a loss of 6,720,000 jobs over the year.

Long-term job growth in the H-W-S MSA continues to outpace that of the nation. Payrolls in the H-W-S MSA are currently up 13.2 percent above their peak prior to The Great Recession while payrolls at the national level are only up 4.1 percent.

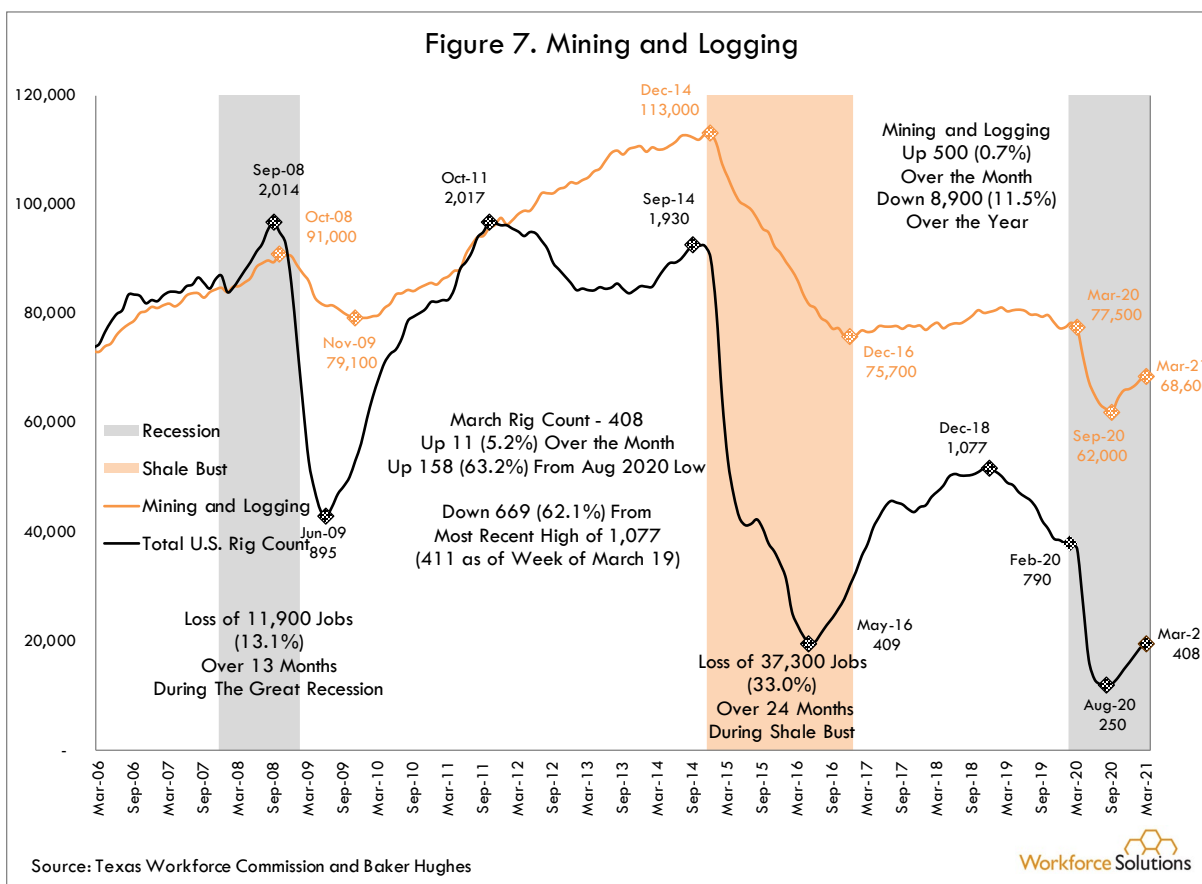


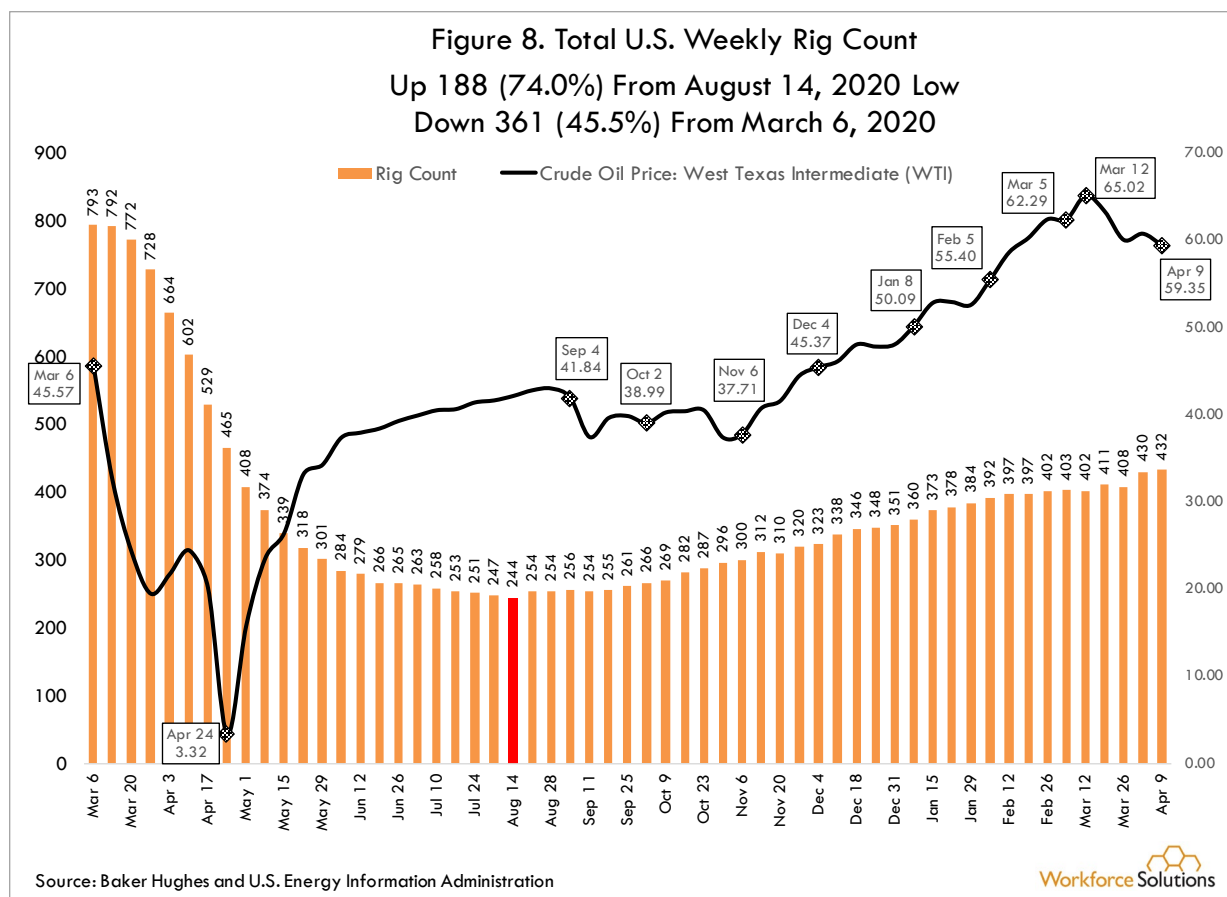
Details by Industry Sector

Mining and Logging added jobs for the sixth consecutive month in March, up 500 jobs or 0.7 percent. Most of the increase was in Support Activities for Mining in support of a rise in drilling activity, up 500 jobs or 1.5 percent.

Mining and Logging was down 8,900 jobs or 11.5 percent over the year in March making it the second fastest declining super sector in the H-W-S MSA. Support Activities for Mining was the largest contributor to the loss, down 6,400 jobs or 161 percent. Oil and Gas Extraction was down 2,700 jobs or 7.4 percent. Mining and Logging was already struggling before the pandemic began reporting steady declines until fourth quarter 2020 when hiring resumed in Support Activities for Mining in response to an increase in drilling activity. As a result, Mining and Logging payrolls are up 6,600 jobs from a low of 62,000 in September 2020, see figure 7. While Mining and Logging is not expected to experience a major increase in activity, it is not expected to be a negative factor on the local economy as it was in 2020.

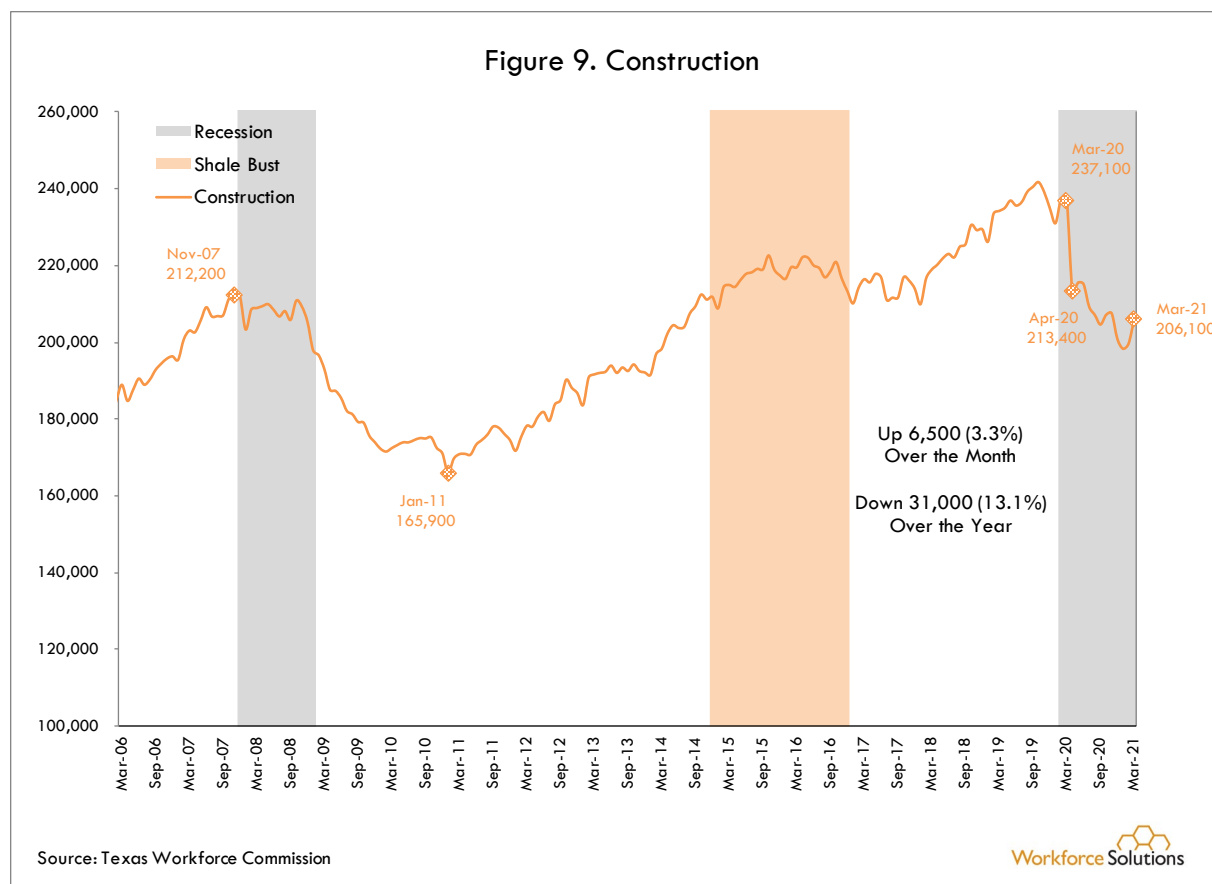
The average U.S. rig count rose for the seventh consecutive month in March, up by 11 to 408. The monthly rig count was down 669 (62.1%) from the most recent high of 1,077 in December 2018. Looking at rig counts on a weekly basis, rising oil prices and attempts to make up for declining production from cutbacks in early 2020 have driven a 74.0 percent increase in drilling activity since hitting a bottom during the week of August 14th, see figure 8.





Construction reported its largest March increase on record and its largest one-month increase since February 2019, up 6,500 jobs or 3.3 percent. Job gains were found across all industry sub-sectors with the largest increase found at Specialty Trade Contractors, up 3,700 jobs or 3.6 percent. Construction of Buildings and Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction were up 1,600 jobs and 1,200 jobs respectively.

Construction was the fastest declining industry super sector in March, down 31,000 jobs or 13.1 percent over the year. The unknowns of the duration of the pandemic had companies pausing many projects in progress and cancelling many in the pipeline. Hardest hit sectors include Construction of Buildings, down 9,800 jobs or 17.8 percent, and Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction, down 11,600 jobs or 17.8 percent. Specialty Trade Contractors lost a similar number of jobs with declines that were about half as deep, down 9,600 jobs or 8.2 percent.



Manufacturing was one of two declining industry super sectors in March, down 500 jobs or 0.2 percent. All the loss was in Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing, down 700 jobs or 0.9 percent. Durable Goods Manufacturing managed a slight increase of 200 jobs over the month helping offset overall losses in Manufacturing.

Manufacturing was the third fastest declining industry super sector in March, down 26,100 jobs or 11.2 percent over the year, see figure 10. Manufacturing losses are at some of their highest levels ever according to records dating back to 1990 with current declines near levels seen during The Great Recession when they peaked at 28,600 jobs or 11.8 percent. Manufacturing's decline began prior to the pandemic back in August 2019, not long after the active rig count began to decline with losses only worsening once the pandemic began. Most of the decline was in Durable Goods Manufacturing with much of the loss tied to the energy sector, down 22,000 jobs or 14.7 percent, see figure 10.1. Within Durable Goods Manufacturing, Agriculture, Construction, and Mining Machinery Manufacturing was hardest hit losing more than one in four jobs, down 8,000 jobs or 27.5 percent. Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing was also hit hard losing one in five jobs, down 11,400 jobs or 21.5 percent. Non-durable Goods Manufacturing accounted for the remainder of declines in Manufacturing due to weak demand resulting from the pandemic and the associated global recession, down 4,100 jobs or 4.9 percent over the year, see figure 10.2.

The Houston Purchasing Managers Index rose 3.5 points to 57.8 in March, its highest level since early 2019. The Institute for Supply Management reports that the three underlying indicators having a strong direct correlation with the economy, employment index, sales/new orders and lead times, are now showing significant strength. The Houston PMI provides a measure of current economic activity in the greater Houston area and a forecast of likely shifts in activity over the next several months. Readings over 50 generally indicate goods producing industry expansion over the near term, while readings below 50 show coming

contraction. Readings above 45 correlates with expansion of the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Business Cycle Index.

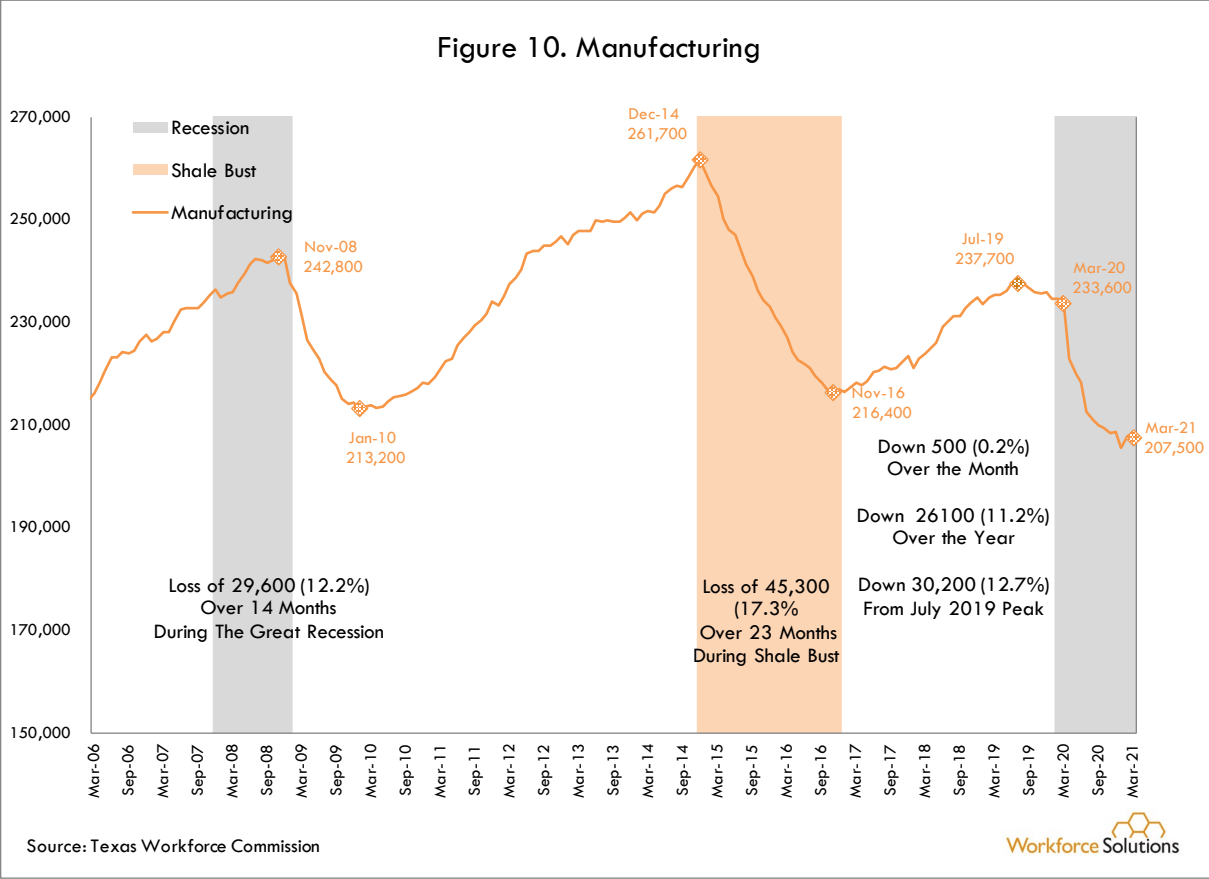
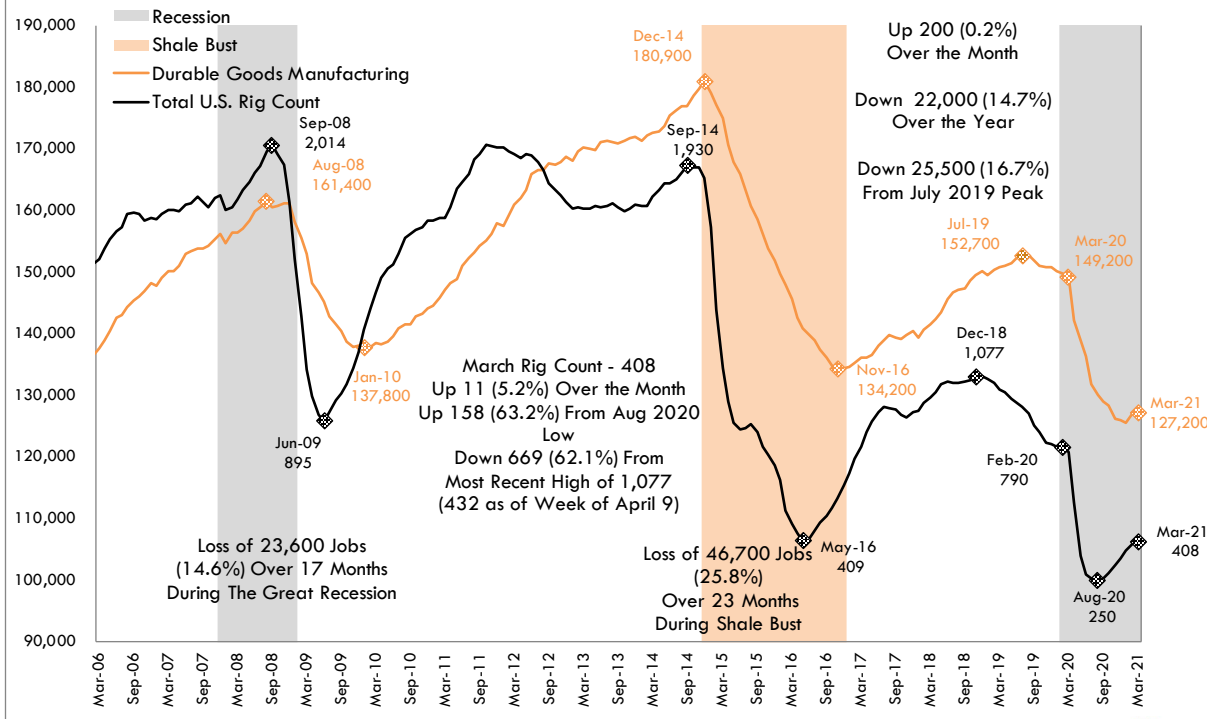


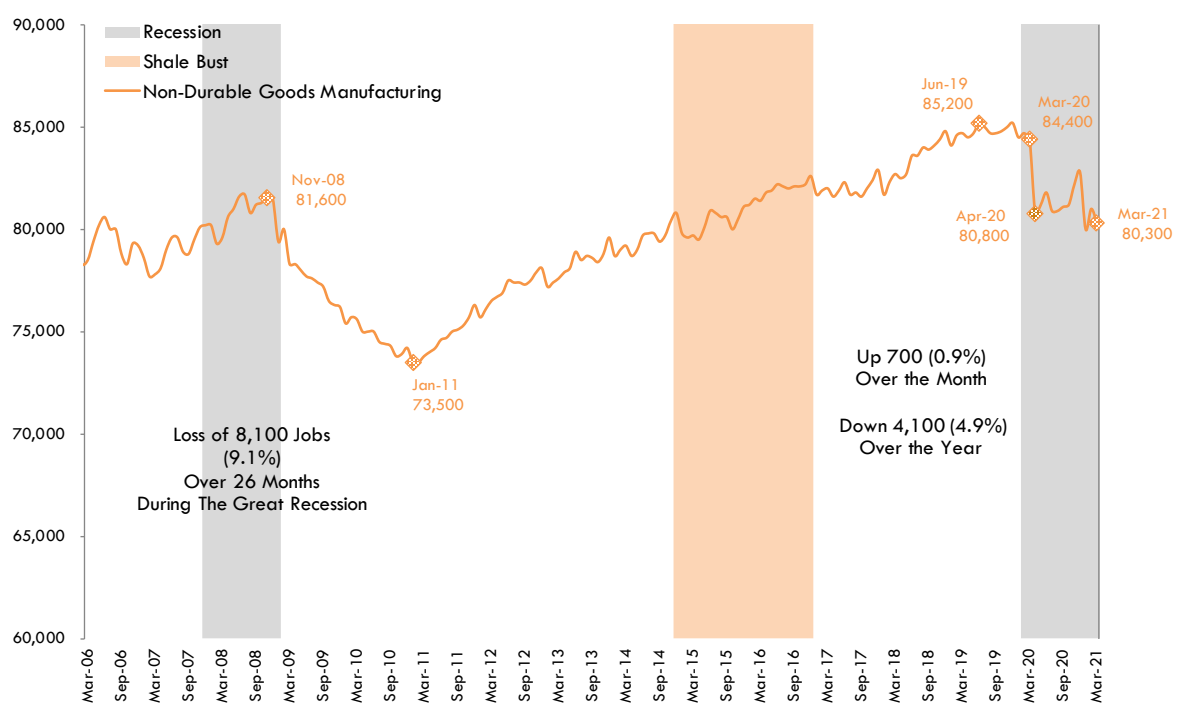
Figure 10.1 Durable Goods Manufacturing



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

Figure 10.2 Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

Trade, Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities added 3,200 jobs in March, up 0.5 percent. Revisions were also made to February estimates indicating it added 1,500 jobs over the month as opposed to the preliminary estimated loss of 1,400 jobs. While Trade, Transportation, and Utilities adds jobs during the month of March most years, this was the first March increase in three years. Most of the increase was in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities, up 2,300 jobs or 1.4 percent. Wholesale and Retail Trade also managed increases, up 200 jobs and 700 jobs respectively.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was the best performing industry super sector when compared to one year ago with payrolls only down slightly, down 1,000 jobs or 0.2 percent, see figure 11. An increase of 13,300 jobs, 8.5 percent, in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities was responsible, see figure 11.3. While details of the increase are not published, they were likely made possible by hiring related to warehousing, distribution, and related courier services. Overall gains in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities were offset losses in Air Transportation, down 2,400 jobs or 11.4 percent, Truck Transportation, down 900 jobs or 3.3 percent, and Pipeline Transportation, down 900 jobs or 7.3 percent. Wholesale Trade, which has substantial ties to energy and manufacturing, was the hardest hit sector with payrolls down 10,200 jobs or 6.0 percent, see figure 11.1. Retail Trade was also reporting a loss that was not nearly as deep, down 4,100 jobs or 1.4 percent, see figure 11.2. More than half of the declines in Retail Trade were at Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores, down 4,300 jobs or 15.5 percent. Some areas of Retail Trade have added staff during the pandemic due to shifts in consumers shopping habits. The strongest gains were in General Merchandise Stores (including warehouse clubs and supercenters) as consumers attempt to complete all of their shopping in one stop, up 2,300 jobs, up 6.1 percent, and Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers as homeowners spend their spare time making improvements, up 2,100 jobs or 9.3 percent. Food and Beverage Stores also reported a substantial increase of 2,900 jobs or 4.4 percent.

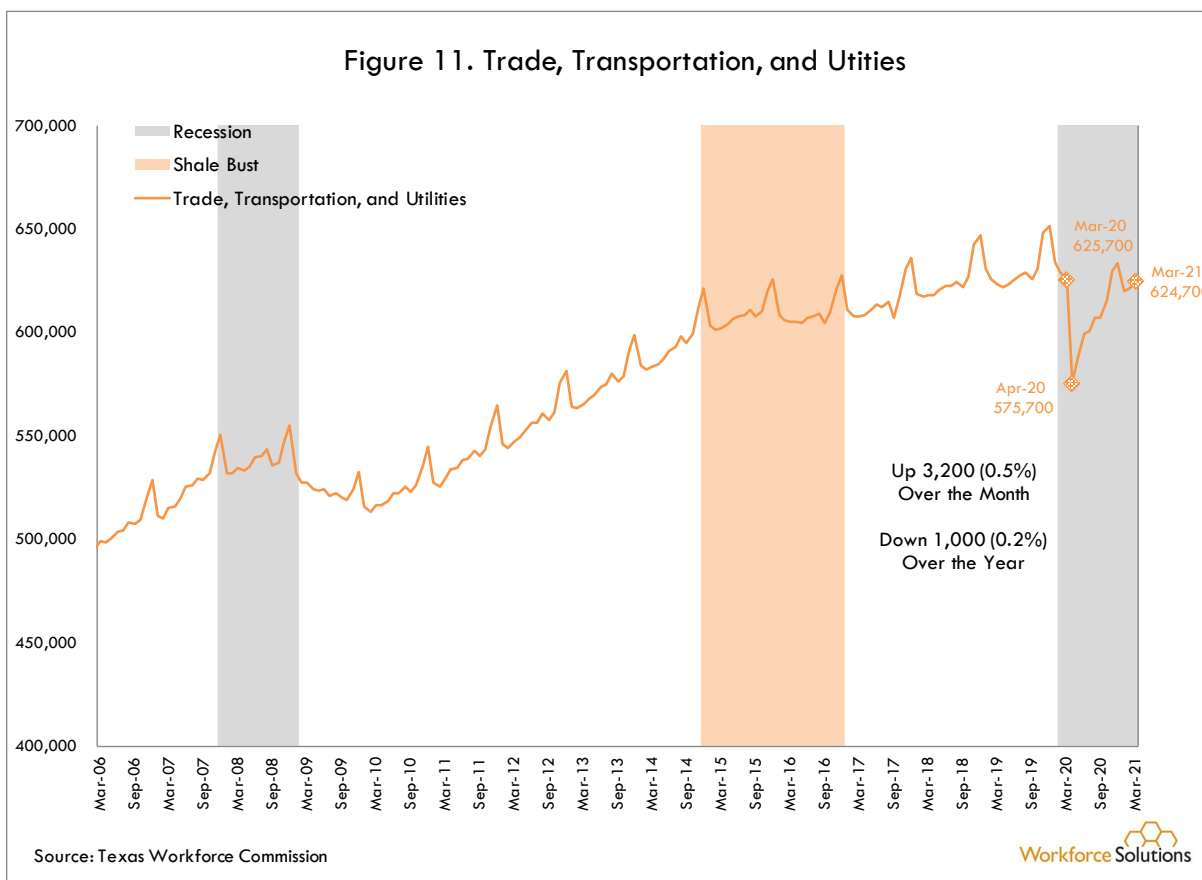
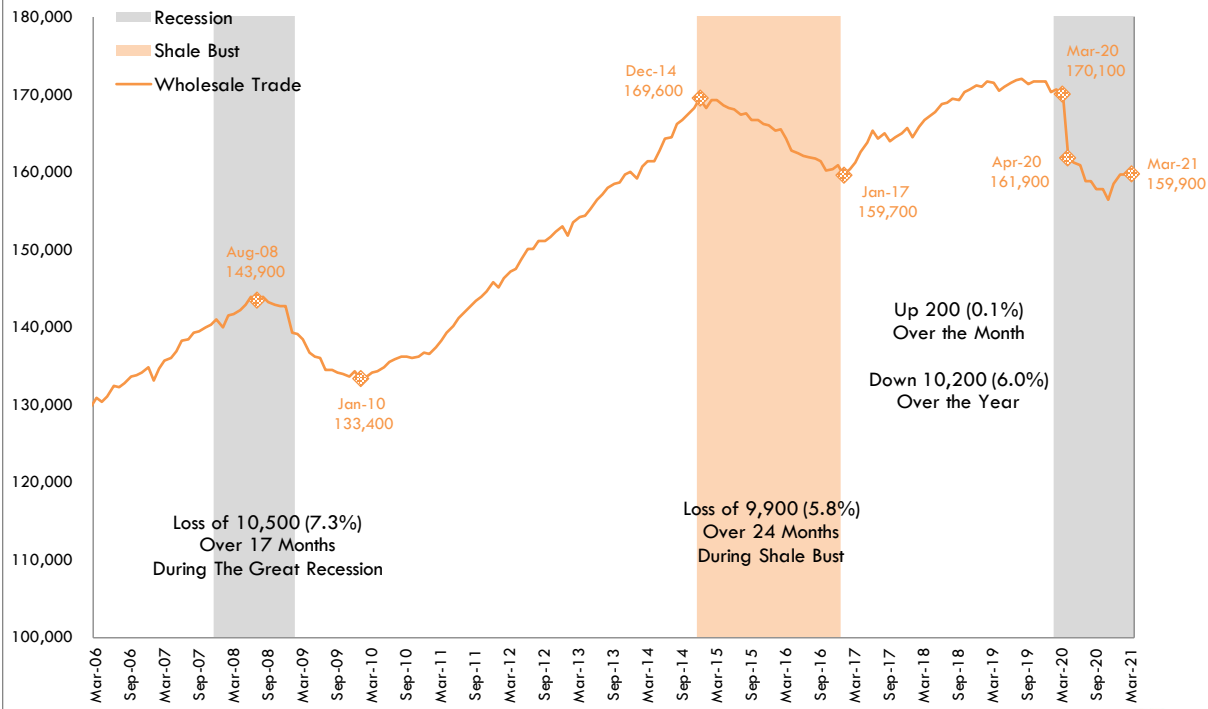


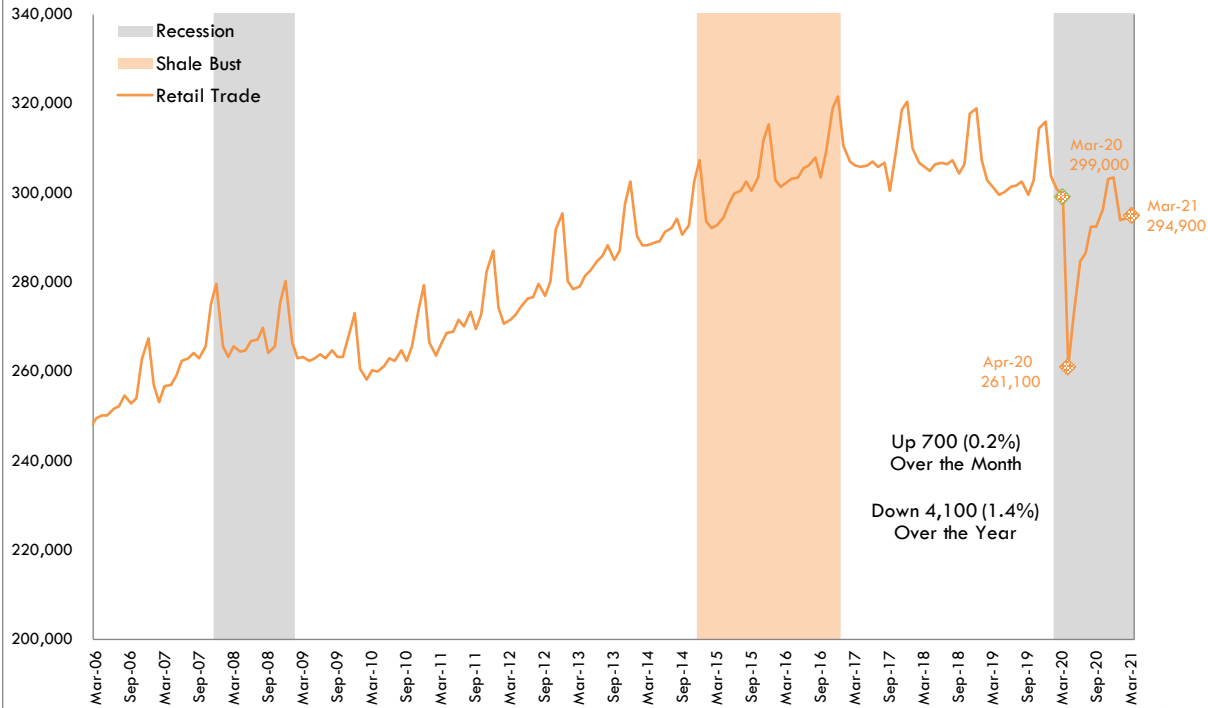
Figure 11.1 Wholesale Trade



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

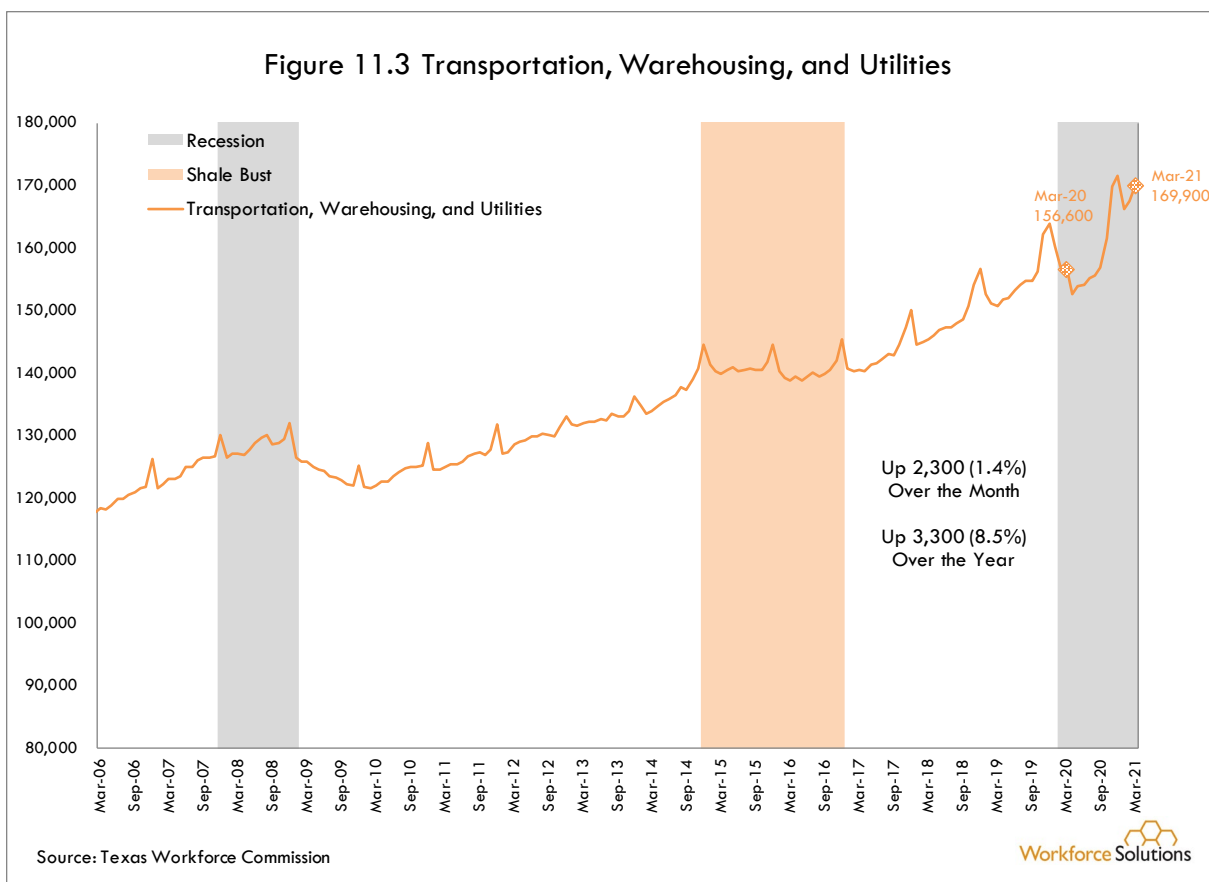
Workforce Solutions

Figure 11.2 Retail Trade



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions



Information experienced a slight loss of 100 jobs in March with payrolls down 3,500 jobs or 10.9 percent over the year. Nearly half of the employment in Information resides in Telecommunications where payrolls were down 600 jobs or 4.5 percent over the year. The remainder of the loss, some 2,900 jobs, was at other establishments within the Information super sector which include newspaper and periodical publishing, software publishing, motion picture and sound recording, and data processing hosting and related services.

Financial Activities reported its largest March increase since 2012 adding 500 jobs, up 0.3 percent. Most of the increase was found in Real Estate and Rental and Leasing which reported its first increase since last October, up 400 jobs or 0.7 percent.

Financial Activities was down 5,700 jobs or 3.4 percent over the year in March, see figure 12. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was responsible for most of the loss in the super sector, down 5,400 jobs or 8.5 percent, see figure 12.2. Finance and Insurance was reporting a loss of 300 jobs or 0.3 percent over the year, see figure 12.1. Losses in Finance and Insurance were in areas of Finance and were offset by gains in Insurance Carriers and Related Activities, up 1,500 jobs or 3.8 percent.

Figure 12. Financial Activities

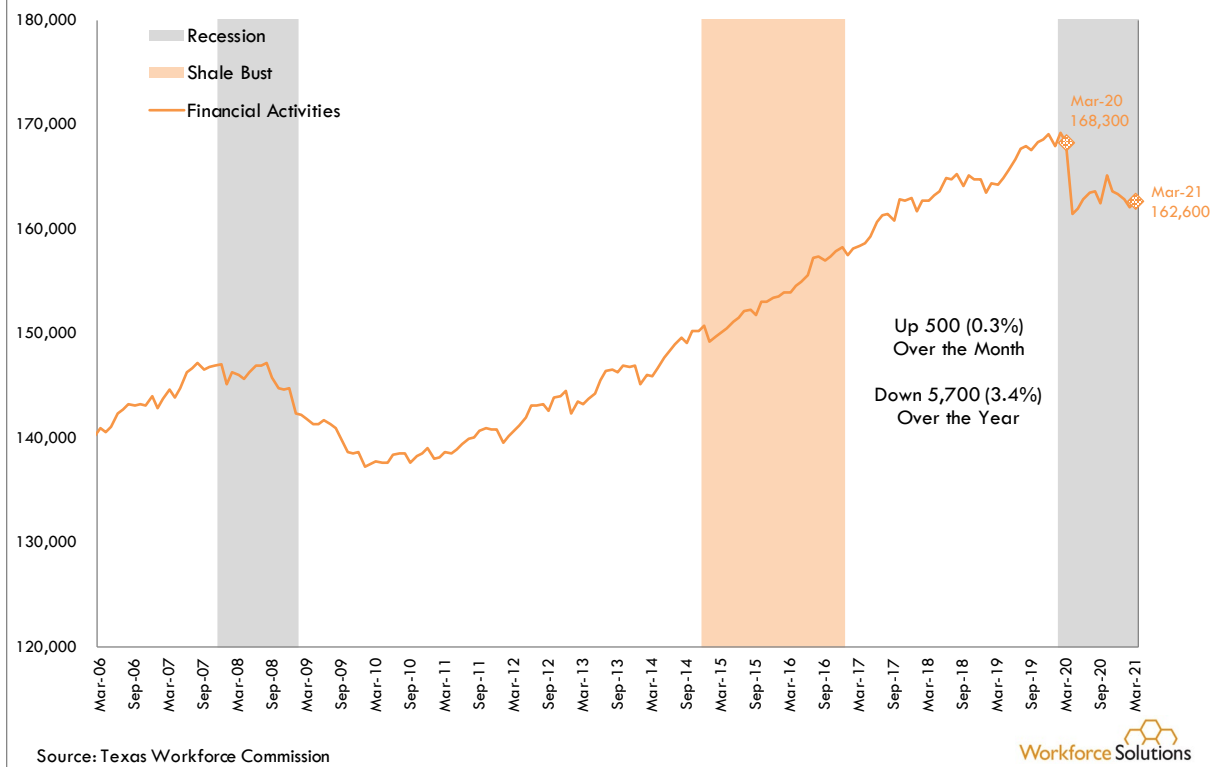
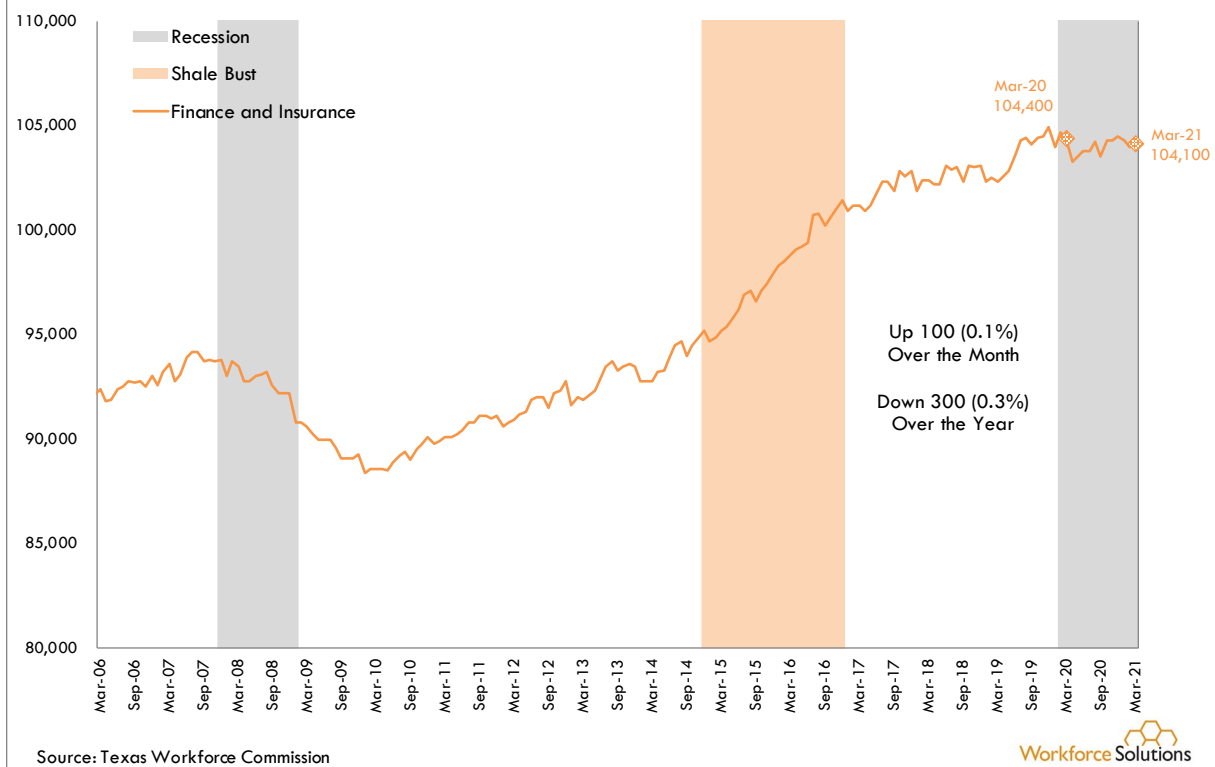
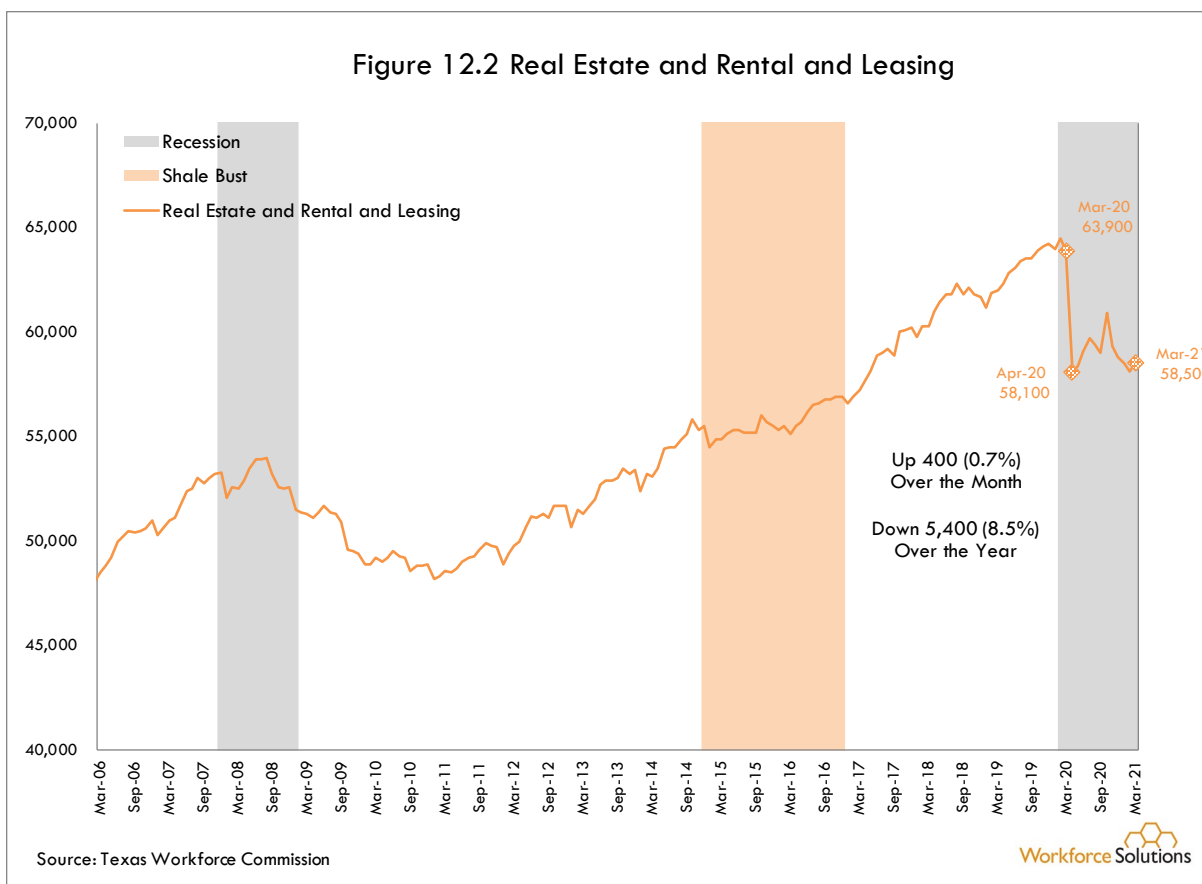


Figure 12.1 Finance and Insurance





Professional and Business Services reported its largest ever March increase of 9,400 jobs. March's 2.0 percent increase was more than twice as strong as the historical average of 0.8 percent. The increase was made possible by gains in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, up 4,200 jobs or 1.8 percent, and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, up 5,200 jobs or 2.6 percent. Management of Companies and Enterprises, the third large sub-sector, saw no change over the month.

Professional and Business Services was down 24,400 jobs over the year in March with the pace of losses falling substantially to 4.8 percent, down from 7.3 percent in February, see figure 13. Administrative and Support Services and Waste Management and Remediation Services was the largest contributor to the decline, down 12,400 jobs or 5.7 percent, with nearly half of the loss in Employment Services, down 5,400 jobs or 7.2 percent, see figure 13.2. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services was the second largest contributor to the loss, down 9,300 jobs or 3.8 percent, where Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services was hit hardest due to its strong affiliation with civil engineering and construction as well as energy exploration, down 8,700 jobs or 11.6 percent, see figure 13.1. Lastly, Management of Companies and Enterprises also reported a loss of 2,700 jobs, down 5.7 percent.

Figure 13. Professional and Business Services

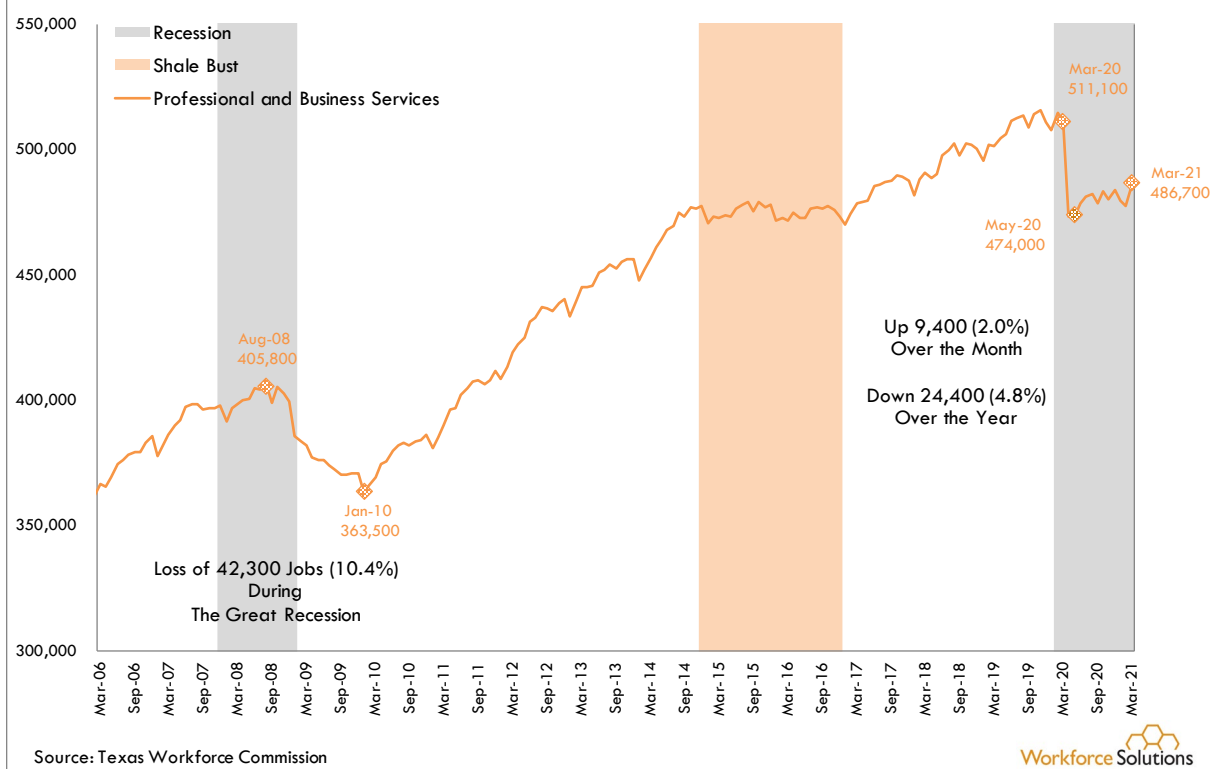
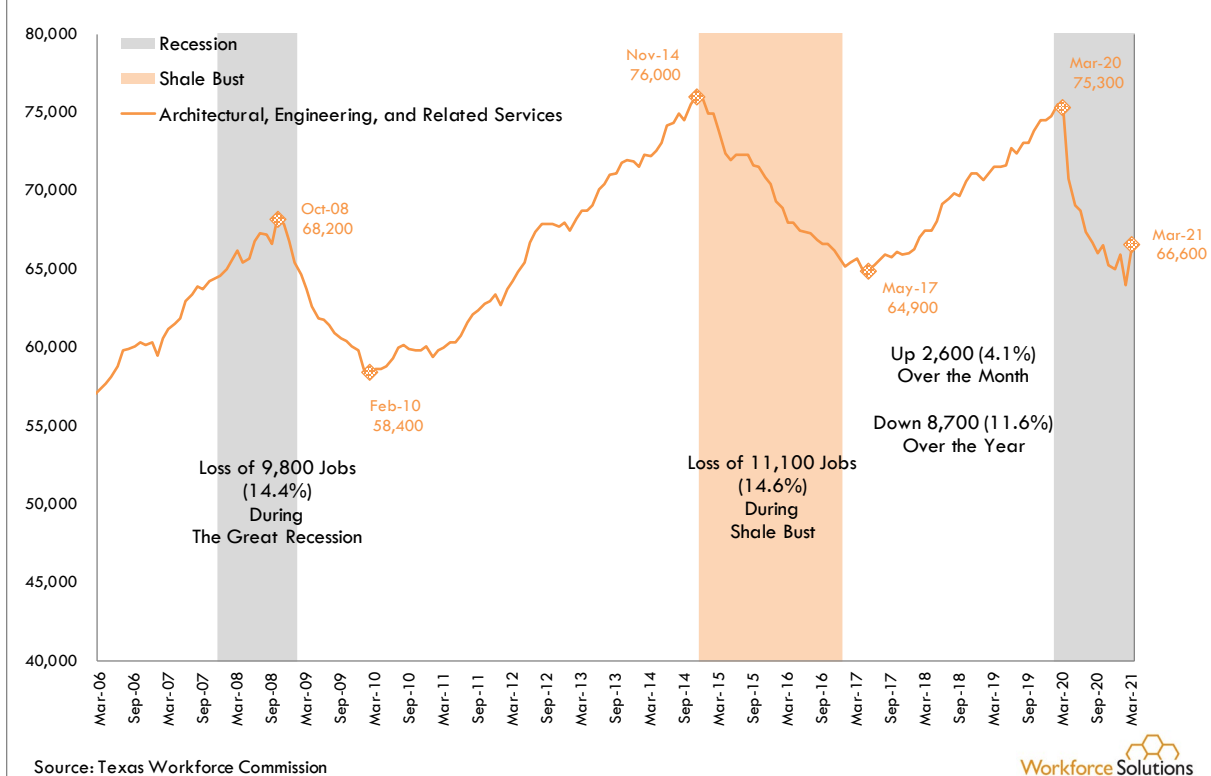
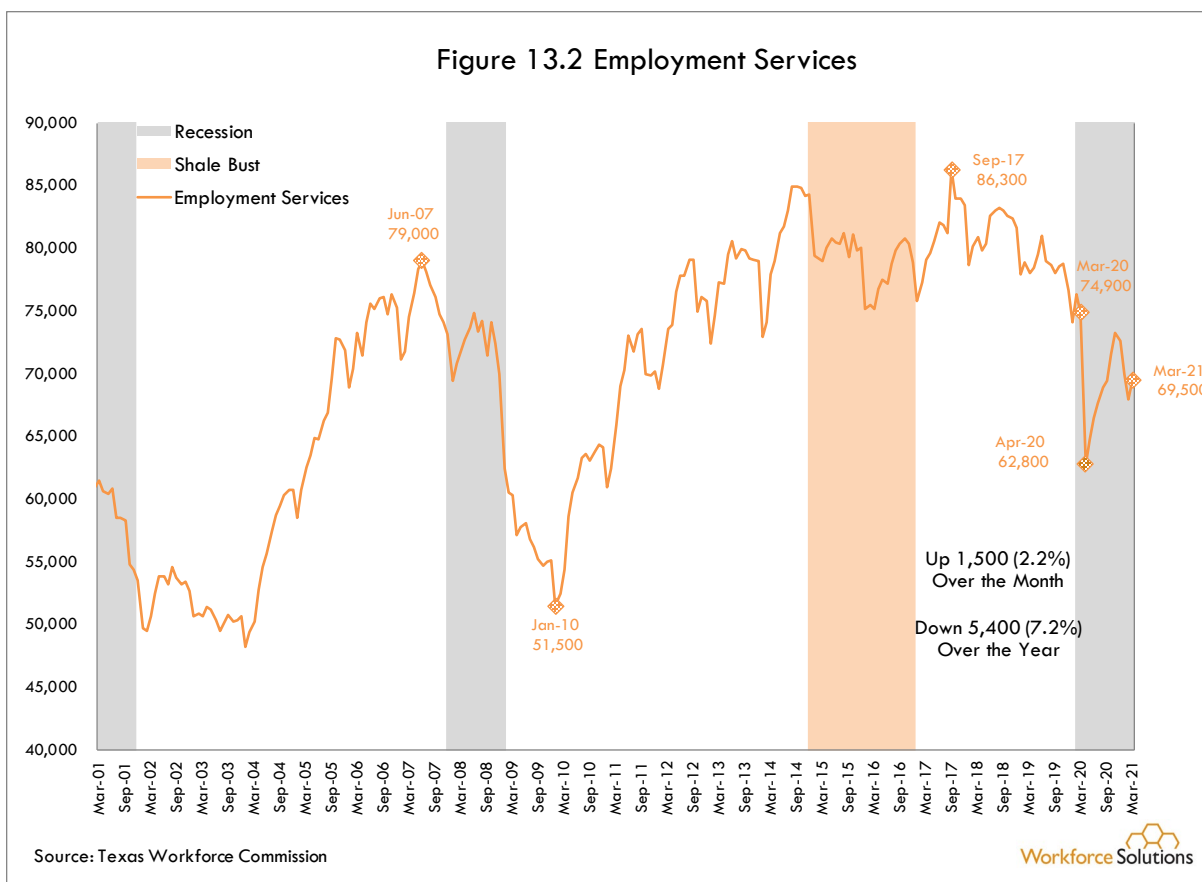


Figure 13.1 Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services





Education and Health Services was up 2,400 jobs or 0.6 percent in March. The last year Education and Health Services saw this strong of an increase in March was 2012. All the increase was in Health Care and Social Assistance, up 2,500 jobs or 0.8 percent.

Education and Health Services was down 14,100 jobs over the year with the pace of losses falling to 3.4 percent, down from 4.7 percent in February, see figure 14. Most of the loss was in Health Care and Social Assistance, down 12,000 jobs or 3.5 percent, see figure 14.2. Declines were largely concentrated in areas such as nursing care facilities, community care facilities, and various providers of social assistance that include child day care services. Educational Services was also reporting a loss of 2,100 jobs, down 3.2 percent, see figure 14.1.

Figure 14. Education and Health Services

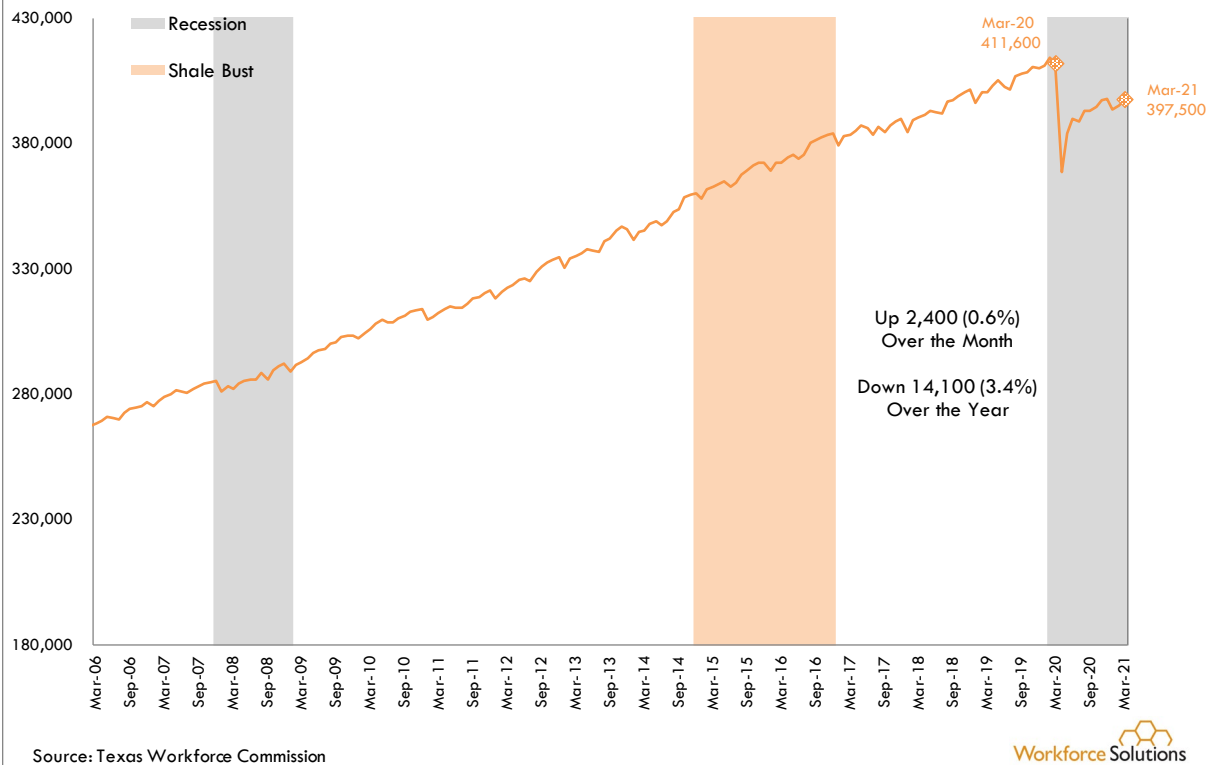
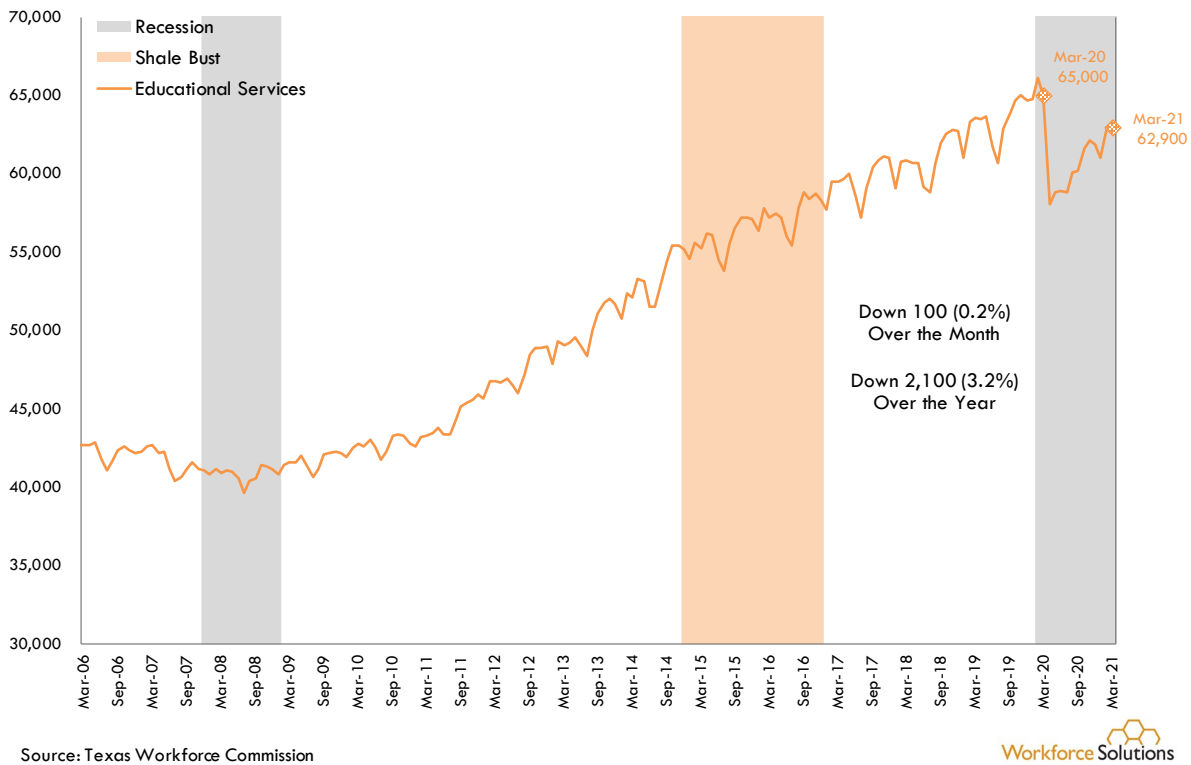
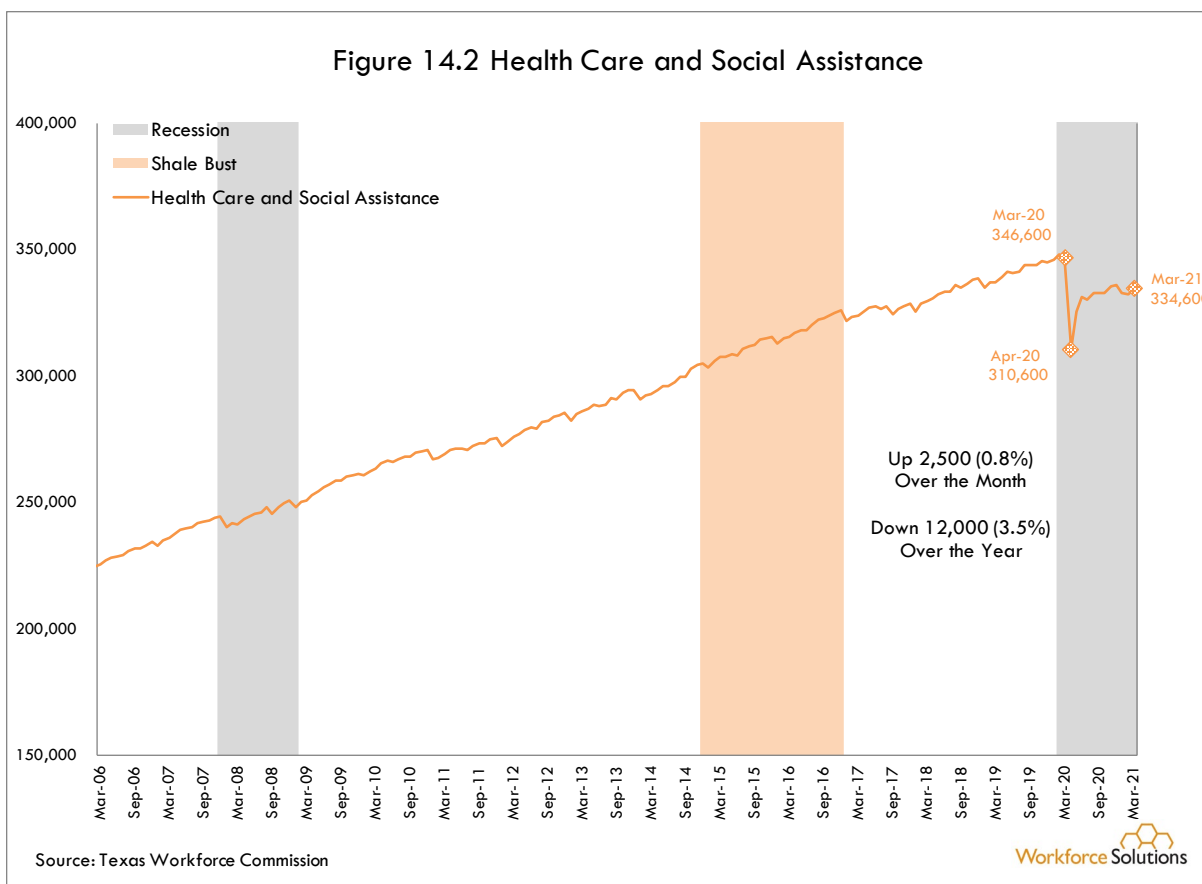


Figure 14.1 Educational Services





Leisure and Hospitality was the largest gaining industry super sector in March, up 12,000 jobs or 4.2 percent. This was the largest ever March increase on record. The increase was made possible by an growing number of individuals getting vaccinated driving up confidence to venture out into public and by Governor Greg Abbot lifting the masked mandate in Texas and increasing the capacity of all businesses and facilities to 100 percent effective March 10th. Food Services and Drinking Places accounted for most of the increase, up 9,900 jobs or 4.2 percent. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation saw the strongest increase, up 1,700 jobs, or 6.6 percent, and lastly, Accommodation was up 400 jobs or 2.1 percent.

The pandemic continues to have its largest impact on Leisure and Hospitality making it the largest declining super sector, down 34,800 jobs or 10.5 percent, see figure 15. Accommodation was the hardest hit sub-sector as travelling continues to be affected by the pandemic, down 8,900 jobs or 31.2 percent, see figure 15.2. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation suffered similar declines, down 9,100 jobs or 25.0 percent, see figure 15.1. Job losses in Food Services and Drinking Places represented less than half of the total losses in the industry super sector for the first time since the pandemic began as many restaurants returned to full capacity, down 16,800 jobs or 6.3 percent, see figure 15.3.

Figure 15. Leisure and Hospitality

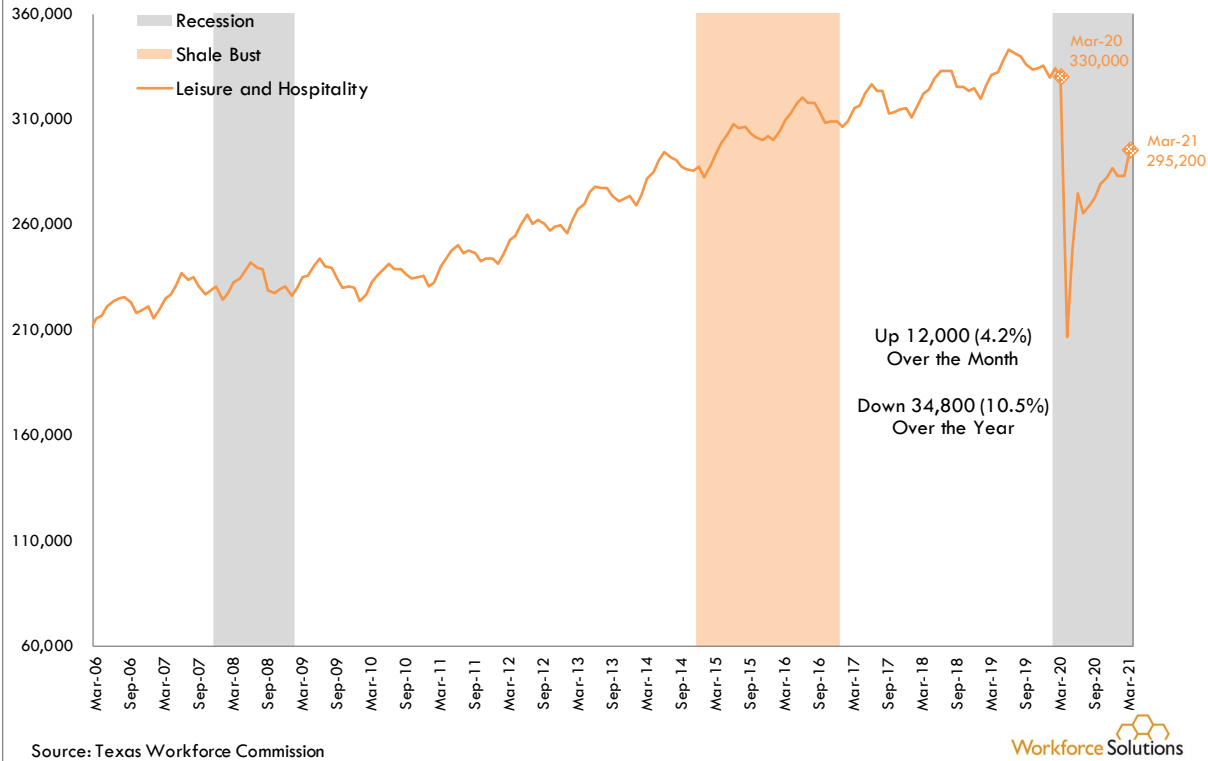


Figure 15.1 Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation

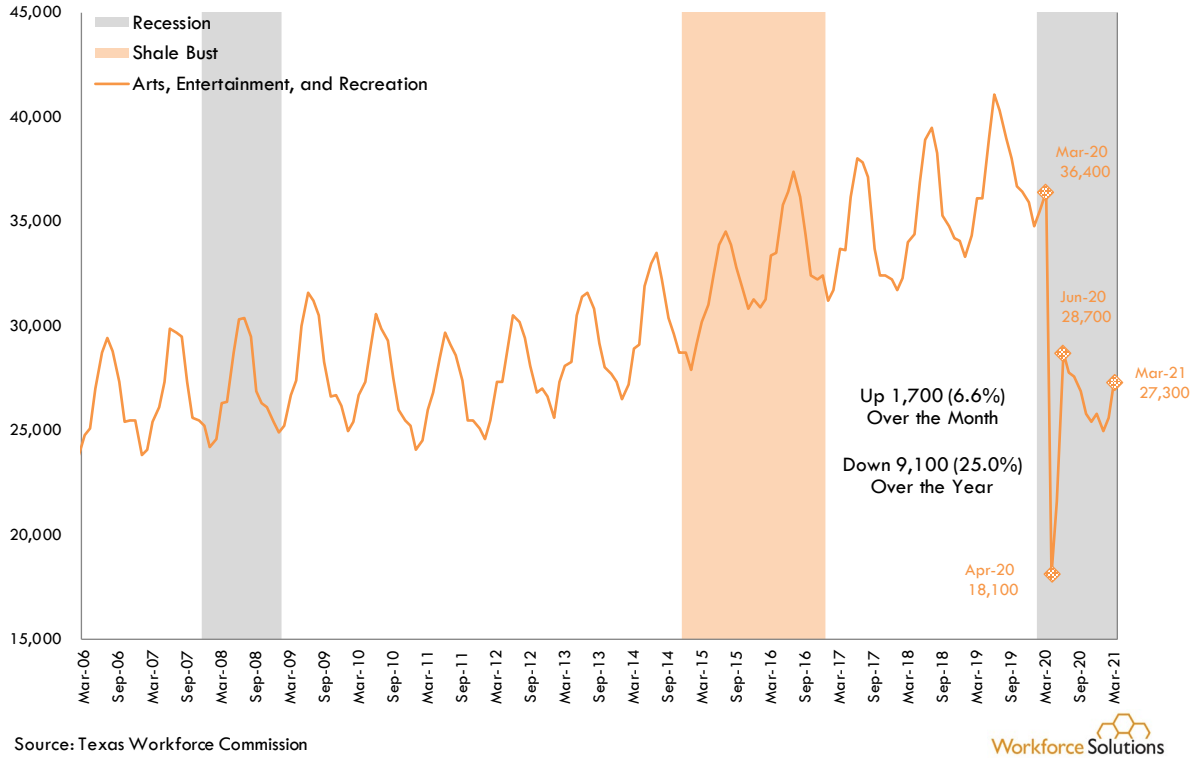
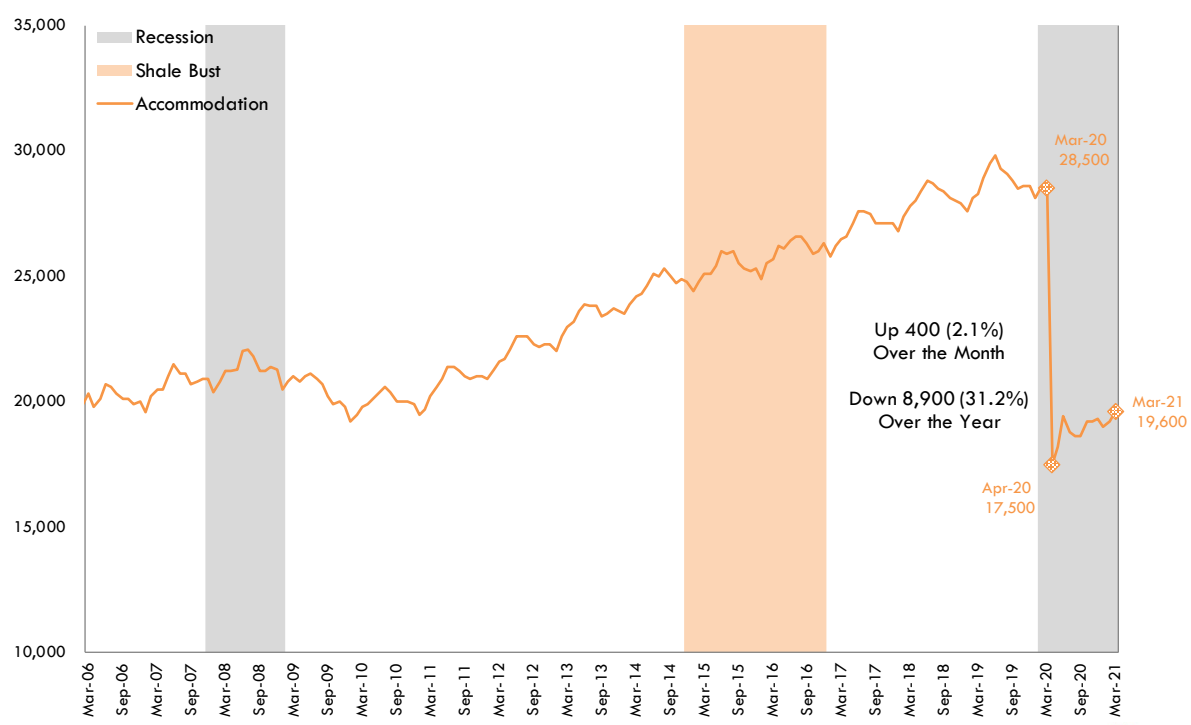


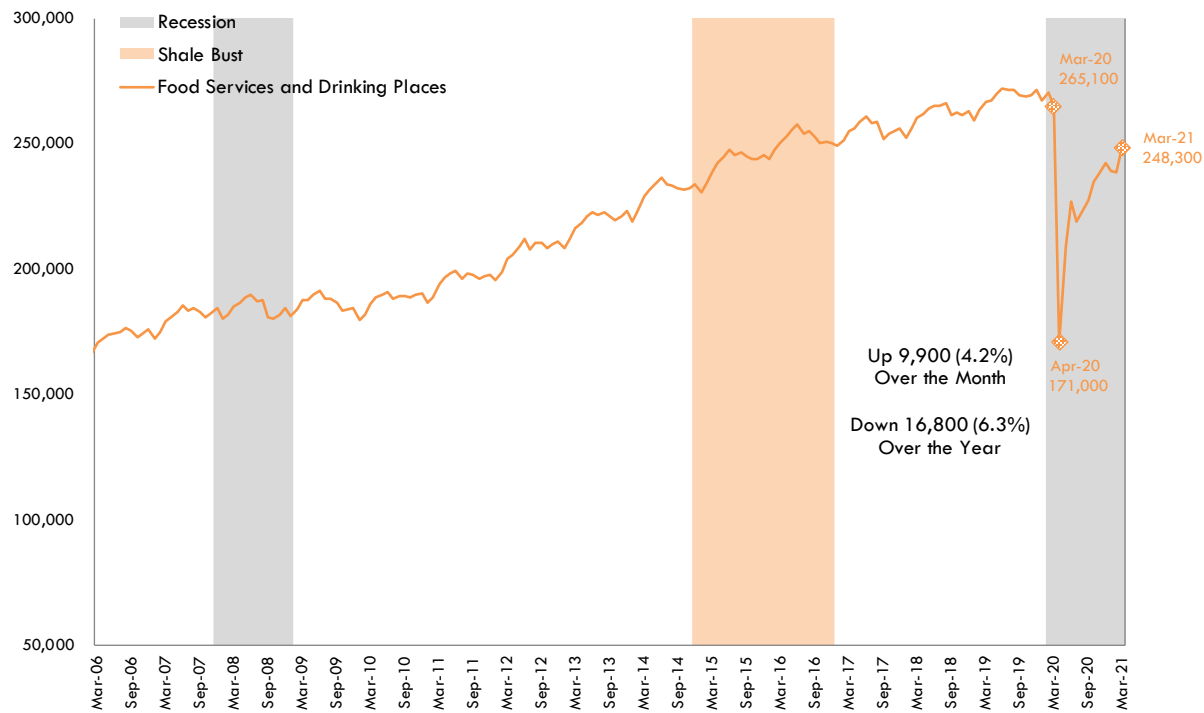
Figure 15.2 Accommodation



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

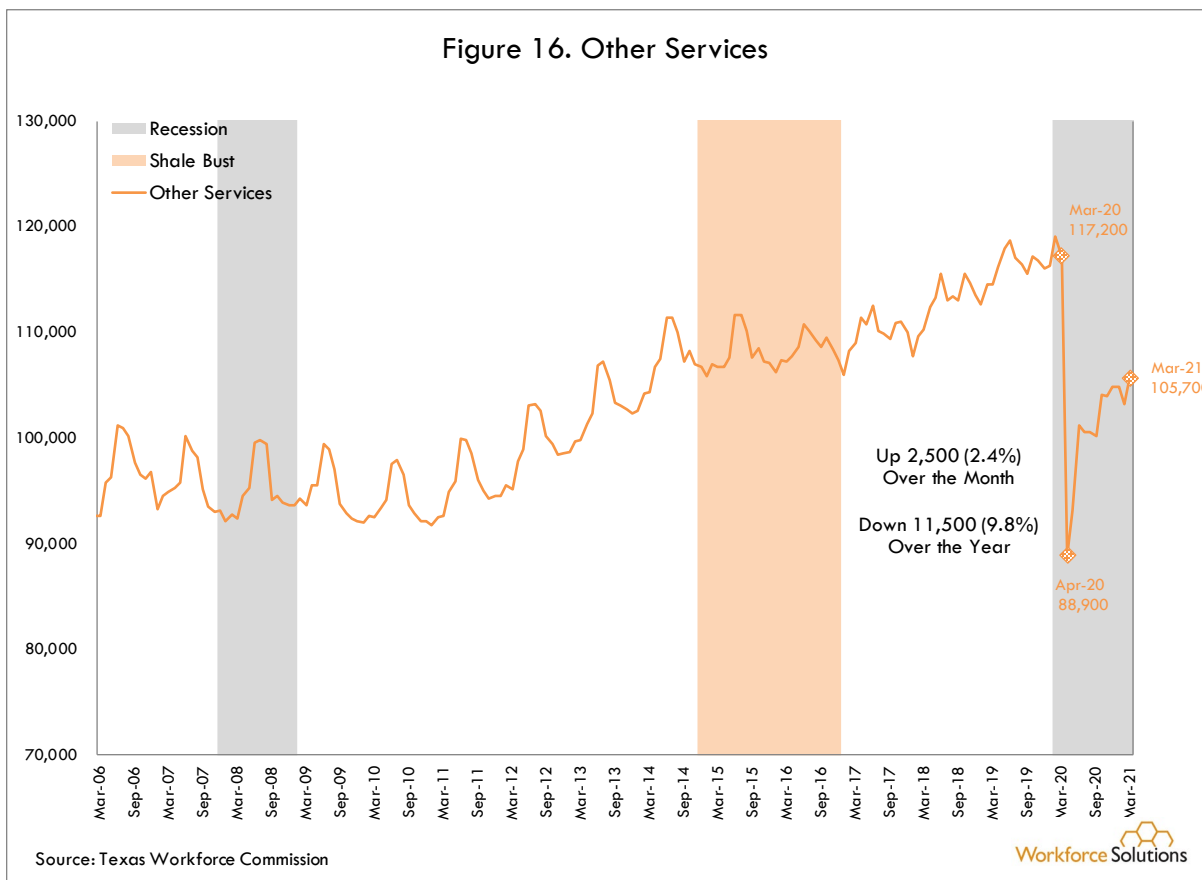
Figure 15.3 Food Services and Drinking Places



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

Other Services reported its largest March increase ever on record, up 2,500 jobs or 2.4 percent. The super sector was down 11,500 jobs with the pace of losses falling to 9.8 percent over the year, see figure 16. Other Services is comprised of personal care services, dry cleaning and laundry services, various repair service companies (industrial equipment, mining machinery and equipment), as well as religious and social advocacy organizations and others.



Government reported its first March decline in twenty-five years, down 2,200 jobs or 0.5 percent. The loss was driven by declines in Local Government Educational Services, down 3,100 jobs or 1.6 percent.

Government was down 14,000 jobs over the year with the pace of losses rising to 3.3 percent, up from 2.2 percent in February. Most of the loss was at educational institutions due to a shift to on-line learning. The largest contributor to the loss was Local Government Educational Services, down 17,600 jobs or 8.2 percent, see figure 19.1. State Government Educational Services also contributed to the decline, down 500 jobs or 0.9 percent, see figure 18.1. Federal Government was reporting a slight increase of 200 jobs, up 0.7 percent, see figure 17.

Figure 17. Federal Government

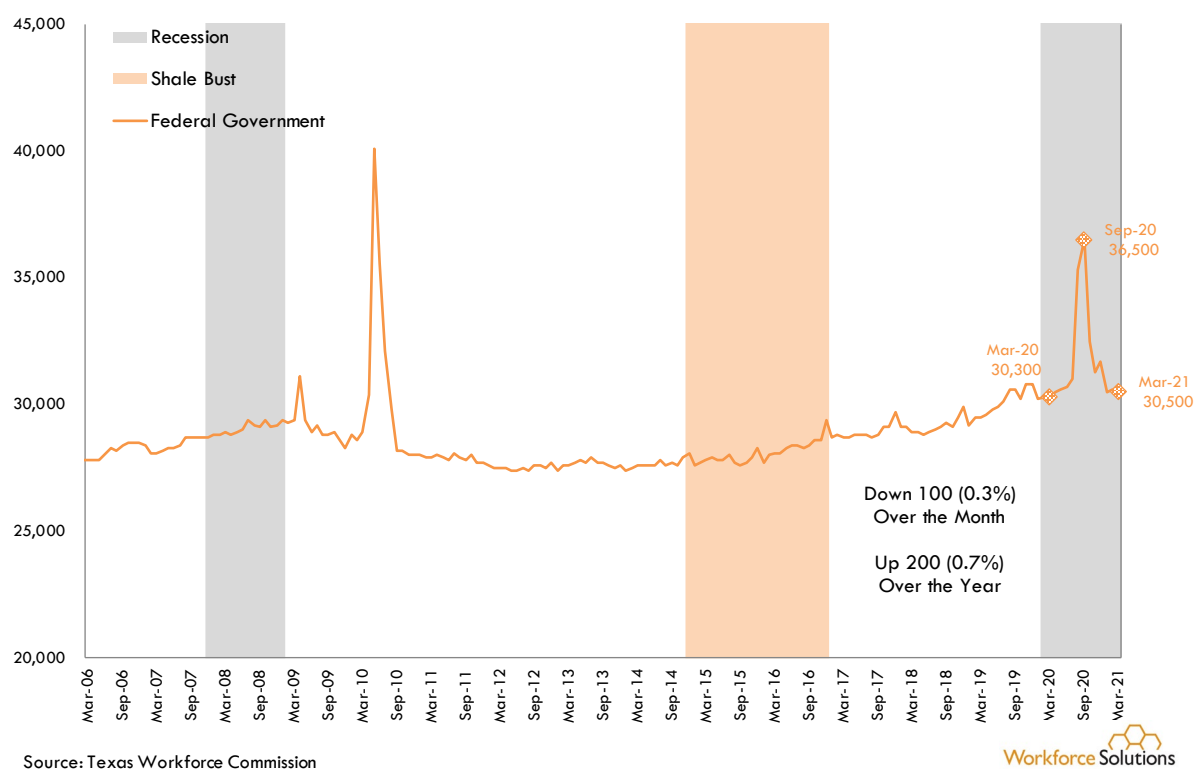


Figure 18. State Government

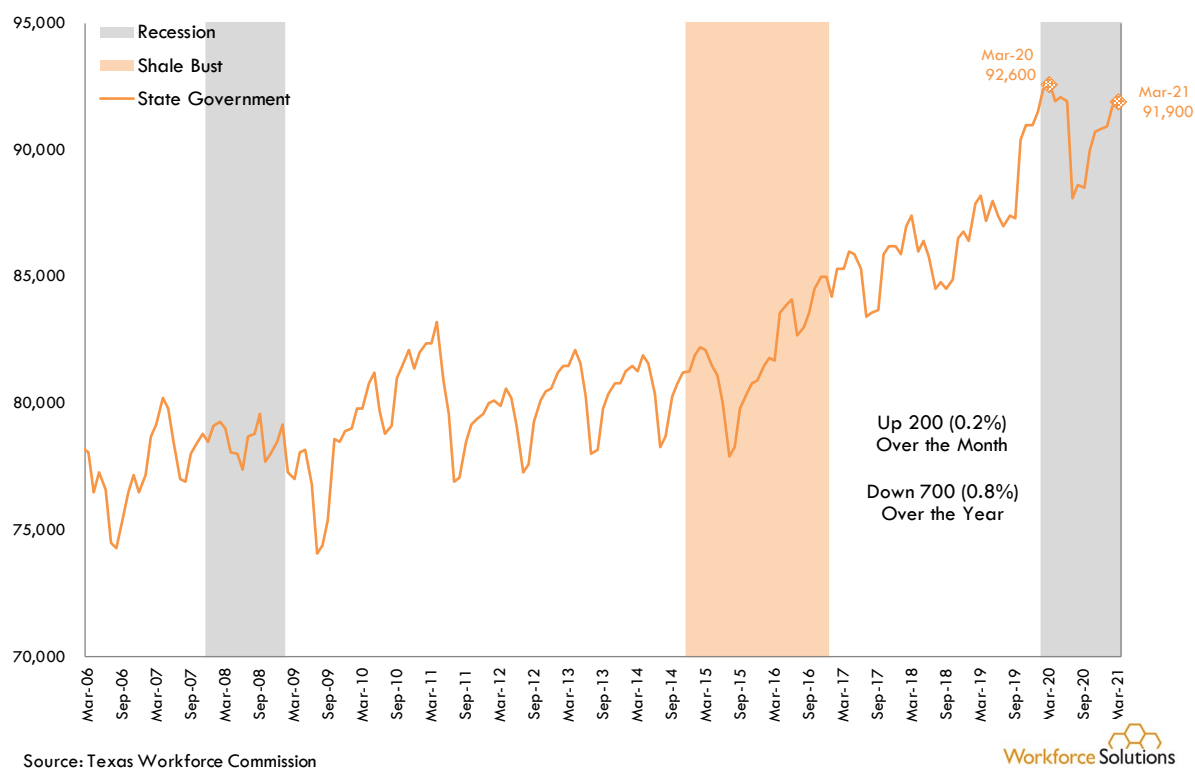


Figure 18.1 State Government Educational Services

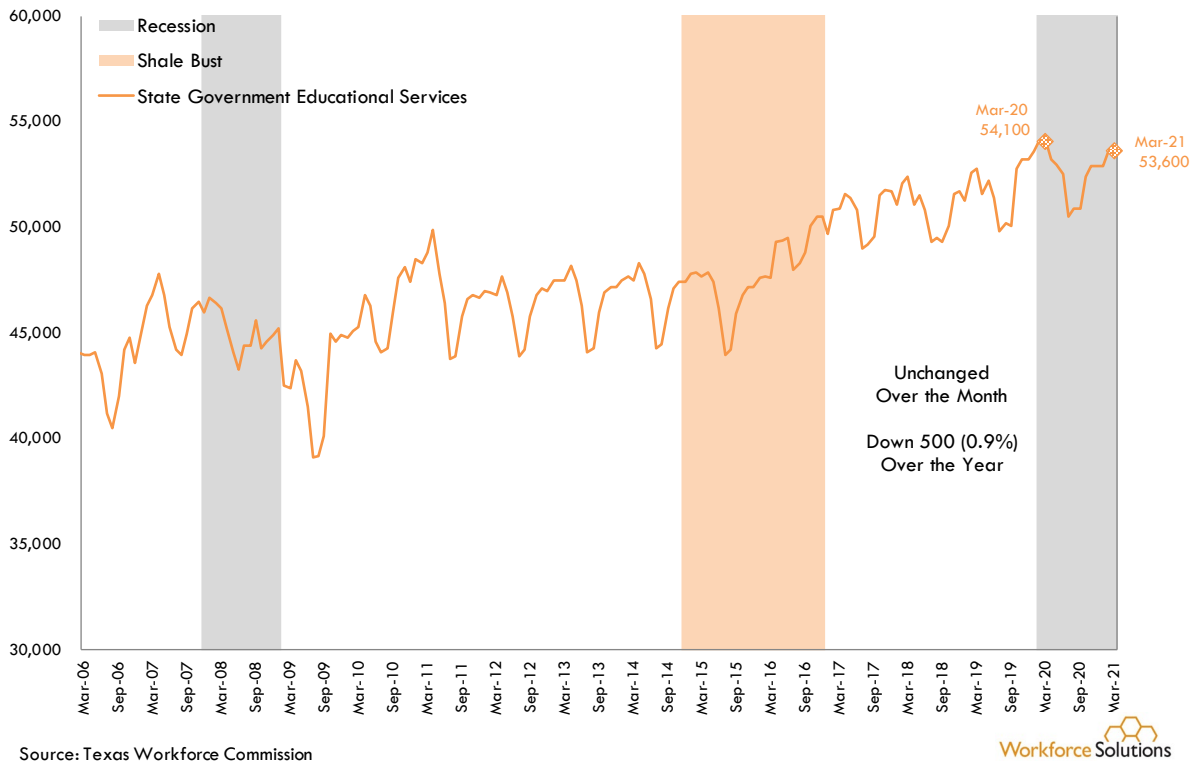
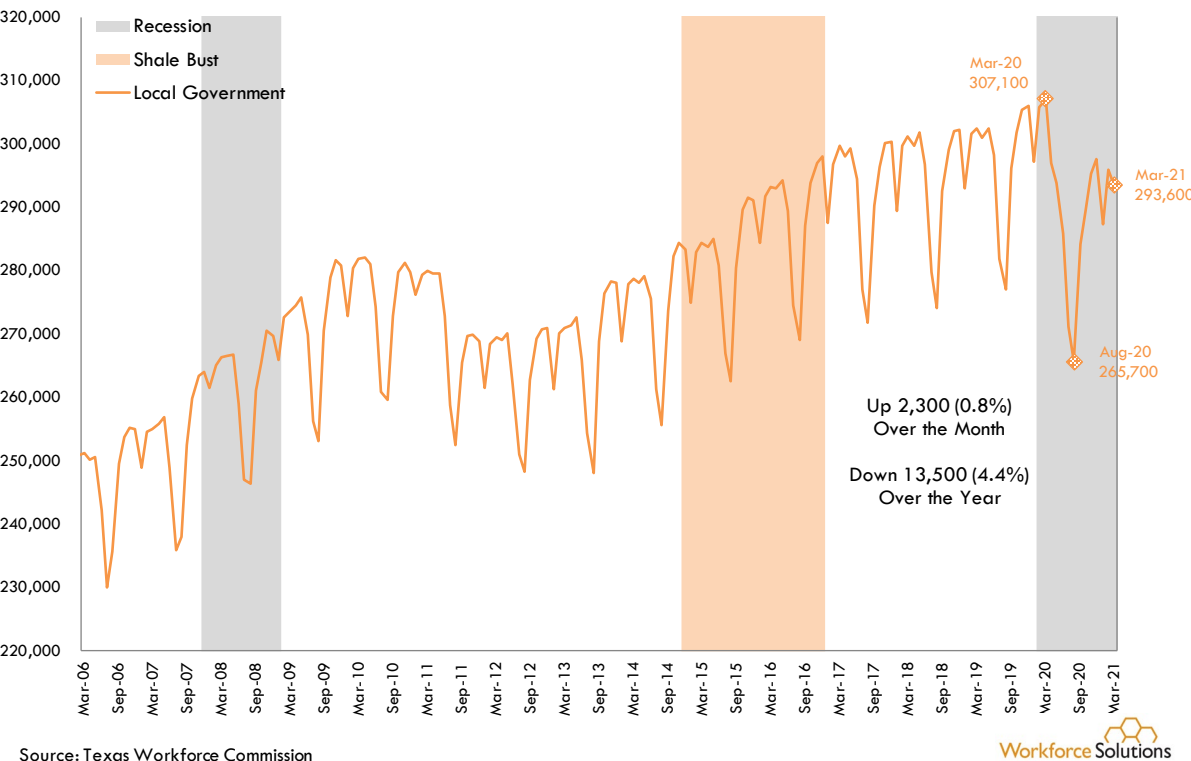
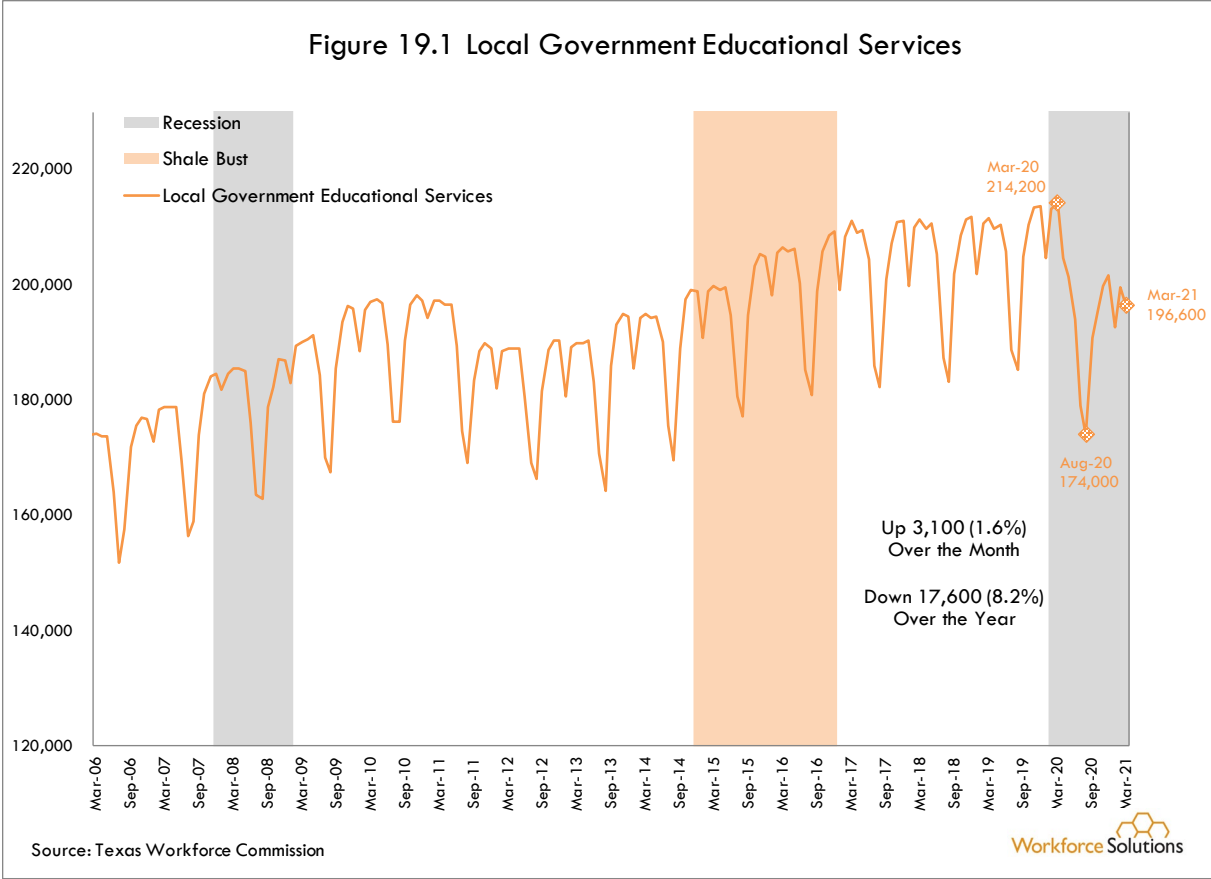


Figure 19. Local Government





NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT				Month Change		Year Change	
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA	MAR 2021	FEB 2020	MAR 2020	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Total Nonfarm	2,999,200	2,965,000	3,174,200	34,200	1.2%	-175,000	-5.5%
.Total Private	2,583,200	2,546,800	2,744,200	36,400	1.4%	-161,000	-5.9%
.Goods Producing	482,200	475,700	548,200	6,500	1.4%	-66,000	-12.0%
..Mining, Logging and Construction	274,700	267,700	314,600	7,000	2.6%	-39,900	-12.7%
...Mining and Logging	68,600	68,100	77,500	500	0.7%	-8,900	-11.5%
.....Oil and Gas Extraction	33,600	33,500	36,300	100	0.3%	-2,700	-7.4%
.....Support Activities for Mining	33,400	32,900	39,800	500	1.5%	-6,400	-16.1%
...Construction	206,100	199,600	237,100	6,500	3.3%	-31,000	-13.1%
.....Construction of Buildings	45,400	43,800	55,200	1,600	3.7%	-9,800	-17.8%
.....Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	53,700	52,500	65,300	1,200	2.3%	-11,600	-17.8%
.....Specialty Trade Contractors	107,000	103,300	116,600	3,700	3.6%	-9,600	-8.2%
..Manufacturing	207,500	208,000	233,600	-500	-0.2%	-26,100	-11.2%
...Durable Goods	127,200	127,000	149,200	200	0.2%	-22,000	-14.7%
....Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	41,600	41,500	53,000	100	0.2%	-11,400	-21.5%
....Machinery Manufacturing	38,400	38,900	46,400	-500	-1.3%	-8,000	-17.2%
....Agriculture, Construction, and Mining Machinery Manufacturing	20,000	20,300	27,600	-300	-1.5%	-7,600	-27.5%
....Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	12,900	12,900	14,000	0	0.0%	-1,100	-7.9%
...Non-Durable Goods	80,300	81,000	84,400	-700	-0.9%	-4,100	-4.9%
....Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	8,500	8,500	8,600	0	0.0%	-100	-1.2%
....Chemical Manufacturing	38,900	38,900	40,800	0	0.0%	-1,900	-4.7%
.Service-Providing	2,517,000	2,489,300	2,626,000	27,700	1.1%	-109,000	-4.2%
.Private Service Providing	2,101,000	2,071,100	2,196,000	29,900	1.4%	-95,000	-4.3%
..Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	624,700	621,500	625,700	3,200	0.5%	-1,000	-0.2%
...Wholesale Trade	159,900	159,700	170,100	200	0.1%	-10,200	-6.0%
....Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	98,200	97,500	106,000	700	0.7%	-7,800	-7.4%
....Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	16,700	16,700	17,700	0	0.0%	-1,000	-5.6%
....Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	50,400	50,700	53,000	-300	-0.6%	-2,600	-4.9%
...Retail Trade	294,900	294,200	299,000	700	0.2%	-4,100	-1.4%
....Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	41,100	41,000	42,900	100	0.2%	-1,800	-4.2%
....Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	24,600	23,700	22,500	900	3.8%	2,100	9.3%
....Food and Beverage Stores	69,200	69,200	66,300	0	0.0%	2,900	4.4%
....Health and Personal Care Stores	18,600	18,300	18,600	300	1.6%	0	0.0%
....Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	23,400	23,300	27,700	100	0.4%	-4,300	-15.5%
....General Merchandise Stores	55,700	56,100	56,100	-400	-0.7%	-400	-0.7%
....Department Stores	15,600	15,700	18,300	-100	-0.6%	-2,700	-14.8%
....General Merchandise Stores, including Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters	40,100	40,400	37,800	-300	-0.7%	2,300	6.1%
...Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	169,900	167,600	156,600	2,300	1.4%	13,300	8.5%
....Utilities	17,200	17,200	16,900	0	0.0%	300	1.8%
....Air Transportation	18,600	18,700	21,000	-100	-0.5%	-2,400	-11.4%
....Truck Transportation	26,600	26,600	27,500	0	0.0%	-900	-3.3%
....Pipeline Transportation	11,500	11,500	12,400	0	0.0%	-900	-7.3%
..Information	28,600	28,700	32,100	-100	-0.3%	-3,500	-10.9%
....Telecommunications	12,700	12,700	13,300	0	0.0%	-600	-4.5%
..Financial Activities	162,600	162,100	168,300	500	0.3%	-5,700	-3.4%
...Finance and Insurance	104,100	104,000	104,400	100	0.1%	-300	-0.3%
....Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including Monetary Authorities	43,100	43,000	44,500	100	0.2%	-1,400	-3.1%
....Depository Credit Intermediation including Monetary Authorities - Central Bank	28,400	28,300	30,000	100	0.4%	-1,600	-5.3%
....Financial Investments and Related Activities including Financial Vehicles	20,200	20,300	20,600	-100	-0.5%	-400	-1.9%
....Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	40,800	40,700	39,300	100	0.2%	1,500	3.8%
...Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	58,500	58,100	63,900	400	0.7%	-5,400	-8.5%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT				Month Change		Year Change	
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA	MAR 2021	FEB 2020	MAR 2020	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
..Professional and Business Services	486,700	477,300	511,100	9,400	2.0%	-24,400	-4.8%
...Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	236,800	232,600	246,100	4,200	1.8%	-9,300	-3.8%
.....Legal Services	27,800	27,700	27,900	100	0.4%	-100	-0.4%
.....Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, and Payroll Services	25,900	26,100	27,100	-200	-0.8%	-1,200	-4.4%
.....Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	66,600	64,000	75,300	2,600	4.1%	-8,700	-11.6%
.....Computer Systems Design and Related Services	34,700	35,500	33,500	-800	-2.3%	1,200	3.6%
...Management of Companies and Enterprises	44,700	44,700	47,400	0	0.0%	-2,700	-5.7%
...Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	205,200	200,000	217,600	5,200	2.6%	-12,400	-5.7%
.....Administrative and Support Services	192,300	187,200	205,800	5,100	2.7%	-13,500	-6.6%
.....Employment Services	69,500	68,000	74,900	1,500	2.2%	-5,400	-7.2%
.....Services to Buildings and Dwellings	51,400	50,600	51,100	800	1.6%	300	0.6%
..Education and Health Services	397,500	395,100	411,600	2,400	0.6%	-14,100	-3.4%
...Educational Services	62,900	63,000	65,000	-100	-0.2%	-2,100	-3.2%
...Health Care and Social Assistance	334,600	332,100	346,600	2,500	0.8%	-12,000	-3.5%
.....Ambulatory Health Care Services	166,900	166,900	166,500	0	0.0%	400	0.2%
.....Hospitals	88,400	88,000	90,300	400	0.5%	-1,900	-2.1%
..Leisure and Hospitality	295,200	283,200	330,000	12,000	4.2%	-34,800	-10.5%
...Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	27,300	25,600	36,400	1,700	6.6%	-9,100	-25.0%
...Accommodation and Food Services	267,900	257,600	293,600	10,300	4.0%	-25,700	-8.8%
.....Accommodation	19,600	19,200	28,500	400	2.1%	-8,900	-31.2%
.....Food Services and Drinking Places	248,300	238,400	265,100	9,900	4.2%	-16,800	-6.3%
..Other Services	105,700	103,200	117,200	2,500	2.4%	-11,500	-9.8%
..Government	416,000	418,200	430,000	-2,200	-0.5%	-14,000	-3.3%
...Federal Government	30,500	30,600	30,300	-100	-0.3%	200	0.7%
...State Government	91,900	91,700	92,600	200	0.2%	-700	-0.8%
.....State Government Educational Services	53,600	53,600	54,100	0	0.0%	-500	-0.9%
...Local Government	293,600	295,900	307,100	-2,300	-0.8%	-13,500	-4.4%
.....Local Government Educational Services	196,600	199,700	214,200	-3,100	-1.6%	-17,600	-8.2%
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE							
	MAR 2021	FEB 2020	MAR 2020				
H-W-S MSA	8.0	8.4	5.5				
Texas (Actual)	7.2	7.5	5.1				
United States (Actual)	6.2	6.6	4.5				

Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA: Includes Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Ft. Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties. All Data is Subject to Revision.

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, BLS, Texas Workforce Commission, Institute for Supply Management, Baker Hughes, and The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.