



Development District of Central Texas

**October 5th, 2023
9:30 a.m.**

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Agenda



Development District of Central Texas

Thursday, October 5th, 2023

Central Texas Council of Governments Building
2180 North Main Street, Belton, Texas 76513

Regular Meeting: 9:30 AM

Virtual Link: [DDCT Meeting](#)

Call In Number: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](#)

Access Code: [926-436-861](#)

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Opportunity for Public Comment.
3. Staff Update (*pgs. 1-36*)
4. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Approval of Meeting Minutes from the July 6th Meeting. (*pgs.37-40*)
5. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Election of Board Officers. (*pgs.41-42*)
6. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Presentations on Rural Internship Program Participants. (*Pgs.43-58*)
7. **Discussion Item:** Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Implementation. (*pgs.59-62*)
8. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives. (*pgs.63-64*)
9. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Federal and State Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development. (*pgs.65-66*)
10. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Updates on Grant Opportunities. (*pgs.67-82*)
11. Board of Director's Comments.
12. Other Business: Next meeting date Thursday, January 4th, 2024, at 9:30 AM.
13. Adjourn.

The Development District of Central Texas is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations and equal opportunity for effective communications will be provided upon request. Please contact the DDCT office at 254-770-2379 24 hours in advance if accommodation is needed. Citizens who desire to address the Board on any matter may sign up to do so prior to this meeting. Public comments will be received during this portion of the meeting. Comments are limited to 3 minutes maximum. No discussion or final action will be taken by the Board.

Item 3:

Staff Update

Update on CTCOG Planning Grants and Activities

EDA Planning Grant Update:

- Staff has kept up to date with reporting for the EDA Planning Grant, including ED916 and 918 Semi-annual Program Outputs and Annual Capacity Outcomes Questionnaires, Annual Progress Reports, and SF-425 Financial Reports.

CTCOG Activities:

- Leadership Central Texas 2023 held its final class August 17th, covering Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Economic & Business Development for 10 class members (three more were unable to make it) . Graduation will be held October 26th, 12:00 PM at the Killeen Civic Center during the CTCOG Executive Committee meeting.
- Staff has continued managing the Discover Central Texas Tourism Project, marketing listings and events updated by cities on the site. Currently \$1,562.67 have been spent over 198 days, with 4,274 Facebook page likes. There have been 79,457 views of the Facebook ad.
- Staff has continued publishing two weekly newsletters on
 - Economic Development grants, resources and webinars;
 - Economic Development regional highlights, and events.And a biweekly newsletter on Central Texas Transportation, highlighting grants, resources, and updates on implementation of the 2022-26 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Staff attended TxCBDG, TDA, TEDC, TARC, EDA, TML and other partner agency virtual meetings during the last year to receive updates. Staff recently returned from an economic and community development training from Texas Association of Regional Councils.
- Staff has updated the grants and resources page on the DDCT website to include more information on deadlines and eligible uses of funds, as well as deleted older resources and added new ones. These include grants for water and wastewater infrastructure, broadband, TxCBDG grant programs for public infrastructure, and for small businesses and community resiliency.
- Staff has continuously updated the DDCT and Central Texas Transportation Facebooks with grants and other resources.
- Staff is researching and coordinating implementation of programs for the 2022-2026 CEDS and Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Staff is monitoring programs funded and created by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to learn how they can benefit our region.
- CTCOG, HOTCOG, and BVCOG are in the Central Texas Regional Broadband Working Group for the Texas Broadband Development Office.
- Staff is assisting the City of Cameron with reimbursements for engineering and construction fees for their EDA grant.
- Staff is now administering an EDA grant for the City of Belton for their Rockwool project with reimbursements for engineering fees and completing required documentation for construction bid opening and submittal as well as the construction contract.

- Staff has submitted an application for the EDA Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) Grant for Rockdale ISD to construct a career/technical education center from a former hospital.
- Staff is working on an EDA EAA grant application for the city of Copperas Cove for a Downtown Improvements Plan update.
- Staff is assisting the non-profit New Life Village to fund new tiny homes, a water storage tank, and water and street infrastructure for aged out foster youth. Staff is applying for the USDA Community Facilities and Emergency Community Water Assistance grants as well as the EDA Public Works grant.
- Staff is working on an application for USDA's Emergency Community Water Assistance grant for Central Texas Water Supply Corporation for new raw water and high capacity pumps.
- Staff is assisting the the cities of Little River Academy and Rogers in developing a regional Economic Development Alliance and applying for an EDA Public Works or Economic Adjustment Assistance grant.
- Staff is working on a Veteran Entrepreneur Summit held in Lampasas on January 30, 2024.
- Staff continues to provide technical assistance to communities for grant applications and general resource requests.
- New EDA Partnership Planning Grant for FY 2024-26 is expected to open for applications in October 2023.

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas Q2 2023 Economic Snapshot for CTCOG Region:

- **Unemployment Rate:** As of April 2023, the unemployment rate is 4.02%, a decrease from the 4.83% rate at the end of Q2, 2023.
- **Workforce:** 205,203
- **Exports:** \$48.75 billion; a decrease from Q2 2023's \$48.82 billion.
- **Total Jobs Increase:** From 2017 to 2022, jobs increased by 2.6% from 206,225 to 211,639 This change fell short of the national growth rate of 3.8% by 1.2%.
- **Professional & Business Services:** 80,000+ Jobs vs. national average 172,000+ Jobs.
- **Trade, Transportation and Utilities:** 76,000+ Jobs vs. national average of 150,000+ Jobs.
- **Government Sector:** 60,000+ Jobs vs. 35,000+ national average.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.



7 Texas Counties

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas



Texas

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Report Parameters

7 Counties

48027	Bell County, TX	48331	Milam County, TX
48099	Coryell County, TX	48333	Mills County, TX
48193	Hamilton County, TX	48411	San Saba County, TX
48281	Lampasas County, TX		

Class of Worker

QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

The information in this report pertains to the chosen geographical areas.

Economy Overview

542,670

Population (2022)

Population **grew by 54,997** over the last 5 years and is projected to **grow by 59,690** over the next 5 years.

211,639

Total Regional Employment

Jobs **grew by 5,413** over the last 5 years and are projected to **grow by 14,015** over the next 5 years.

\$64.3K

Avg. Earnings Per Job (2022)

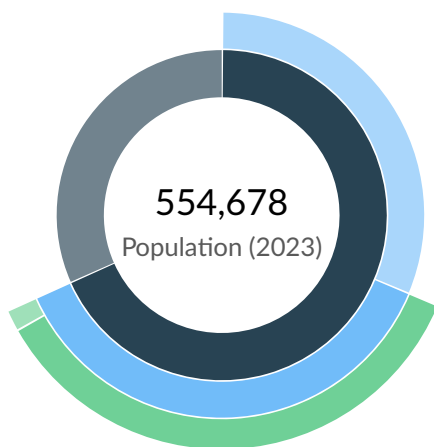
Regional average earnings per job are **\$16.5K below** the national average earnings of \$80.8K per job.

Takeaways

- As of 2022 the region's population **increased by 11.3%** since 2017, growing by 54,997. Population is expected to **increase by 11.0%** between 2022 and 2027, adding 59,690.
- From 2017 to 2022, jobs **increased by 2.6%** in 7 Texas Counties from 206,225 to **211,639**. This change **fell short of the national growth rate of 3.8% by 1.2%**. As the number of jobs increased, the **labor force participation rate decreased from 58.2% to 54.7% between 2017 and 2022**.
- Concerning educational attainment, **16.1% of the selected regions' residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (4.8% below the national average), and **10.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (2.1% above the national average).
- The top three industries in 2022 are Federal Government, Military, Education and Hospitals (Local Government), and Restaurants and Other Eating Places.

	Population (2023)	Labor Force (Apr 2023)	Jobs (2022)	Cost of Living	GRP	Imports	Exports
Region	554,678	205,203	211,639	97.1	\$26.32B	\$41.78B	\$48.75B
State	30,191,899	15,019,717	15,036,699	96.4	\$2.29T	\$1.38T	\$1.80T

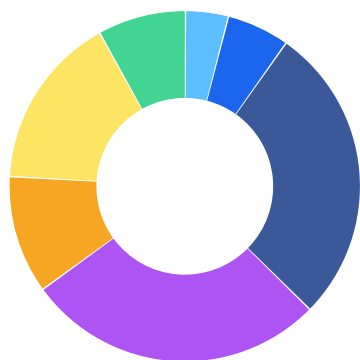
Apr 2023 Labor Force Breakdown



	Population
● 16+ Civilian Non-Institutionalized Population	378,495
● Not in Labor Force (16+)	173,292
● Labor Force	205,203
● Employed	196,963
● Unemployed	8,240
● Under 16, Military, and institutionalized Population	176,183

Educational Attainment

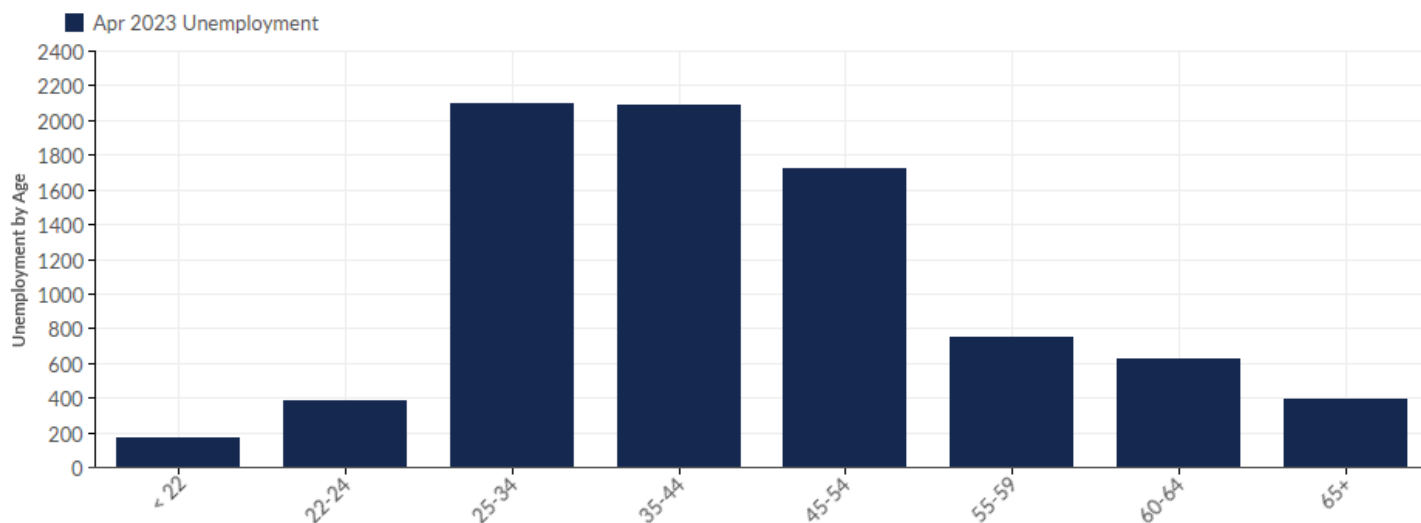
Concerning educational attainment, **16.1% of the selected regions' residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (4.8% below the national average), and **10.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (2.1% above the national average).



	% of Population	Population
● Less Than 9th Grade	3.9%	13,524
● 9th Grade to 12th Grade	5.8%	19,856
● High School Diploma	27.6%	94,642
● Some College	27.6%	94,816
● Associate's Degree	10.9%	37,355
● Bachelor's Degree	16.1%	55,094
● Graduate Degree and Higher	8.1%	27,896

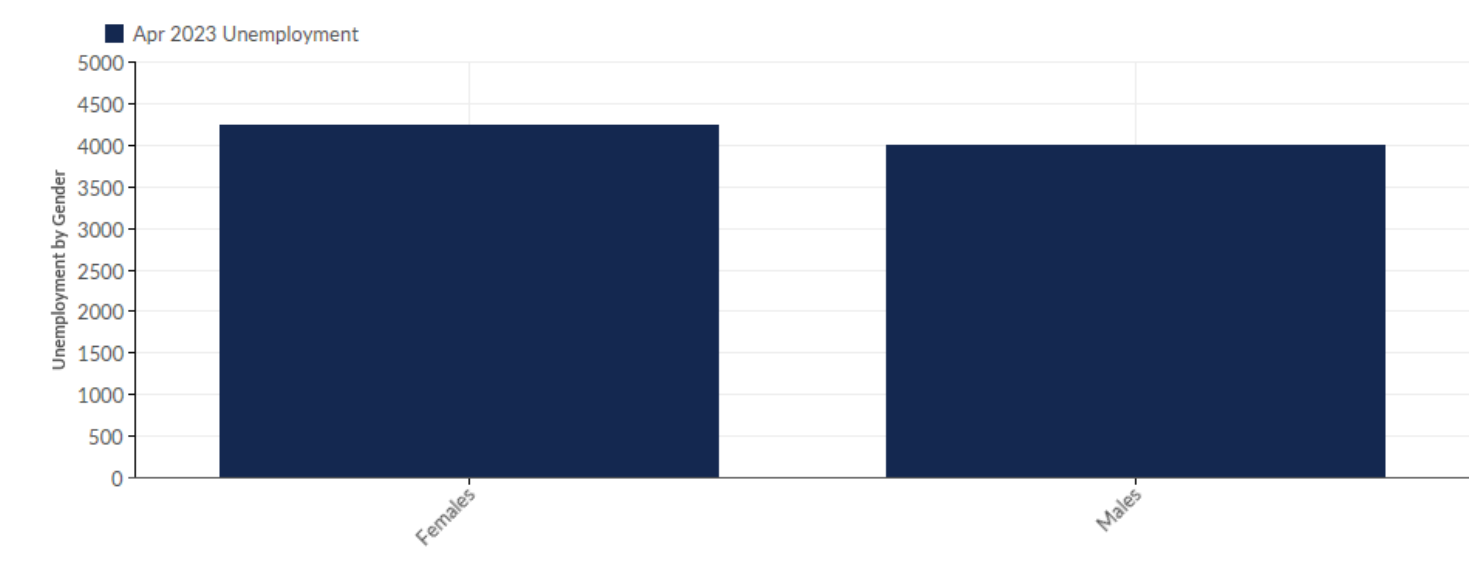
Unemployment by Demographics

Unemployment by Age



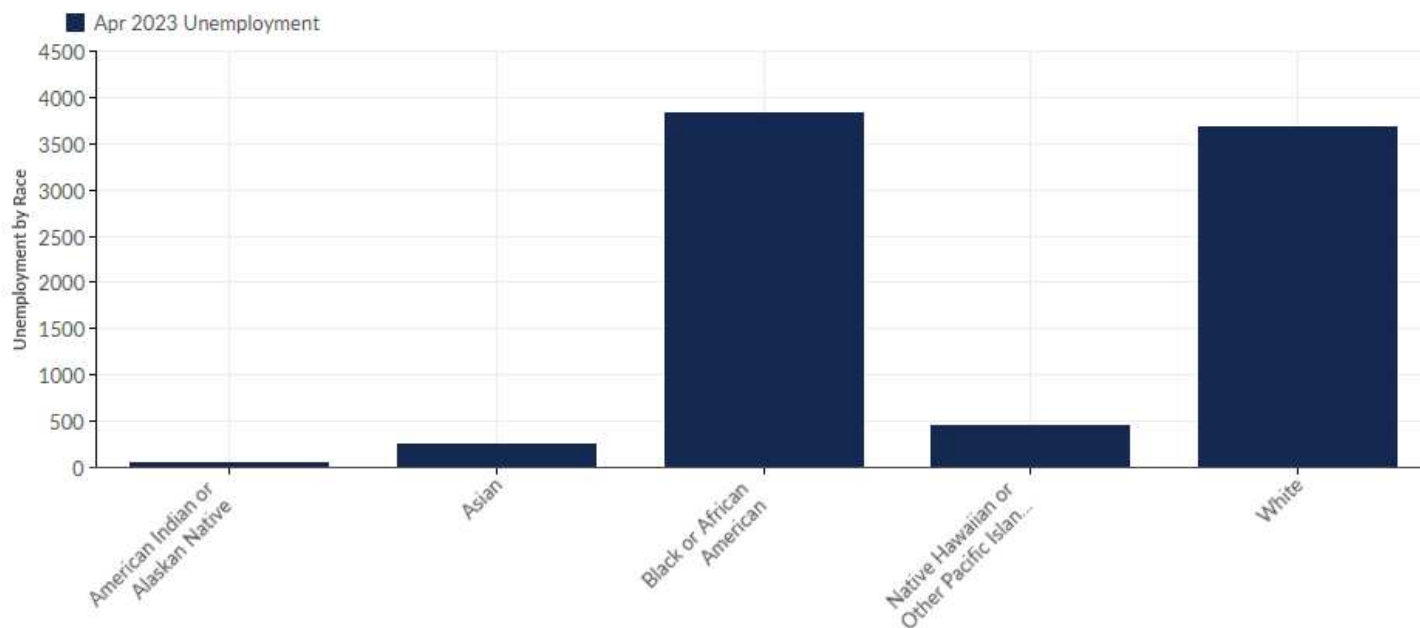
Age	Unemployment (Apr 2023)	% of Unemployed
< 22	169	2.05%
22-24	384	4.66%
25-34	2,100	25.49%
35-44	2,092	25.39%
45-54	1,723	20.91%
55-59	751	9.11%
60-64	628	7.62%
65+	391	4.75%
Total	8,240	100.00%

Unemployment by Gender



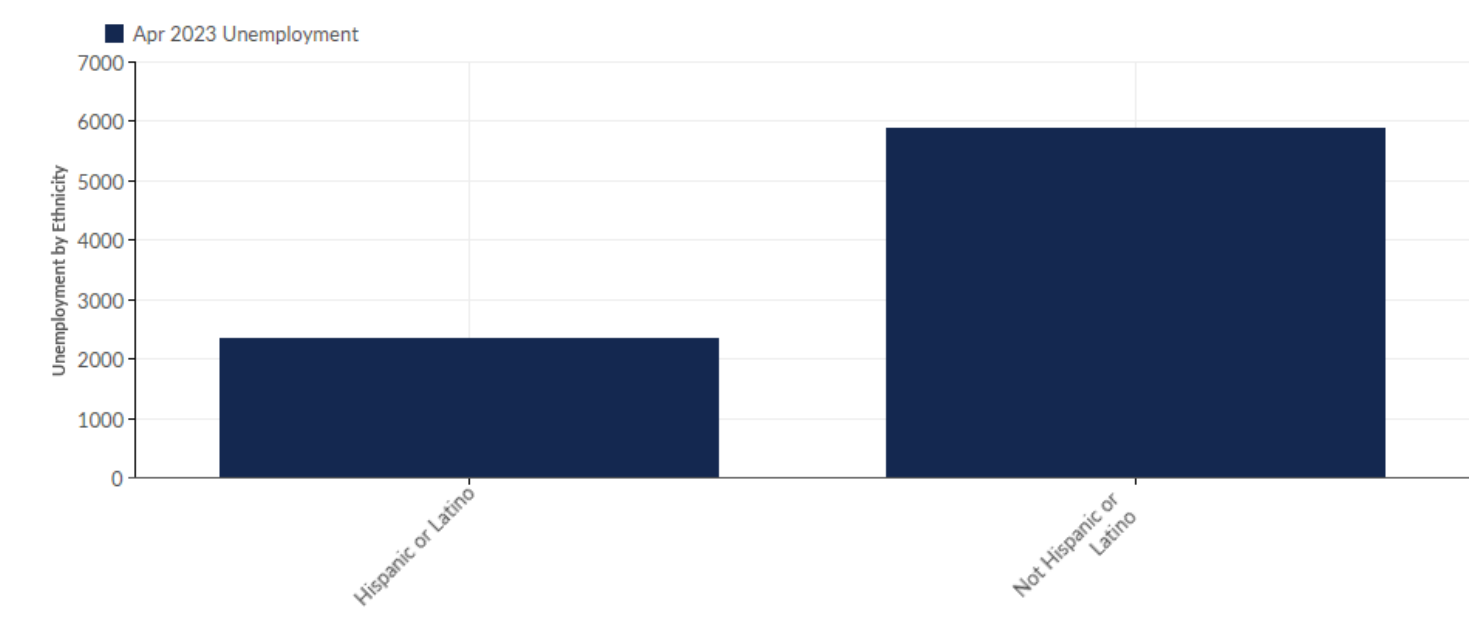
Gender	Unemployment (Apr 2023)	% of Unemployed
Females	4,238	51.43%
Males	4,002	48.57%
Total	8,240	100.00%

Unemployment by Race



Race	Unemployment (Apr 2023)	% of Unemployed
American Indian or Alaskan Native	48	0.58%
Asian	247	3.00%
Black or African American	3,823	46.40%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	447	5.42%
White	3,675	44.60%
Total	8,240	100.00%

Unemployment by Ethnicity

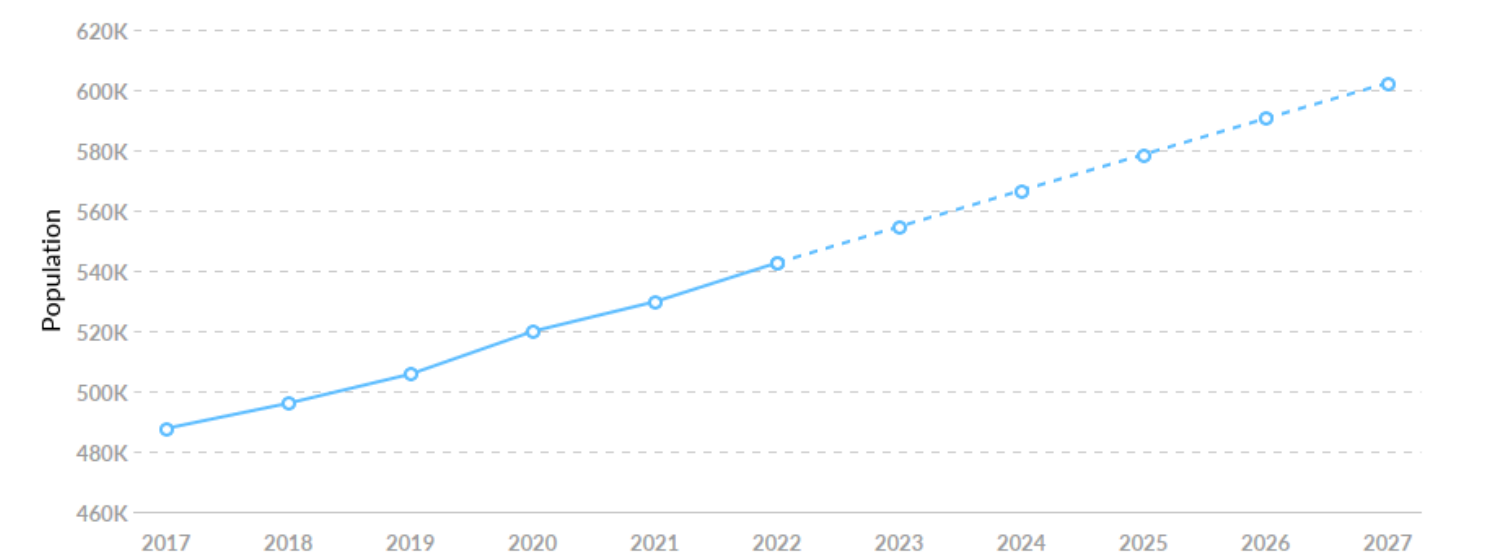


Ethnicity	Unemployment (Apr 2023)	% of Unemployed
Hispanic or Latino	2,351	28.53%
Not Hispanic or Latino	5,889	71.47%
Total	8,240	100.00%

Historic & Projected Trends

Population Trends

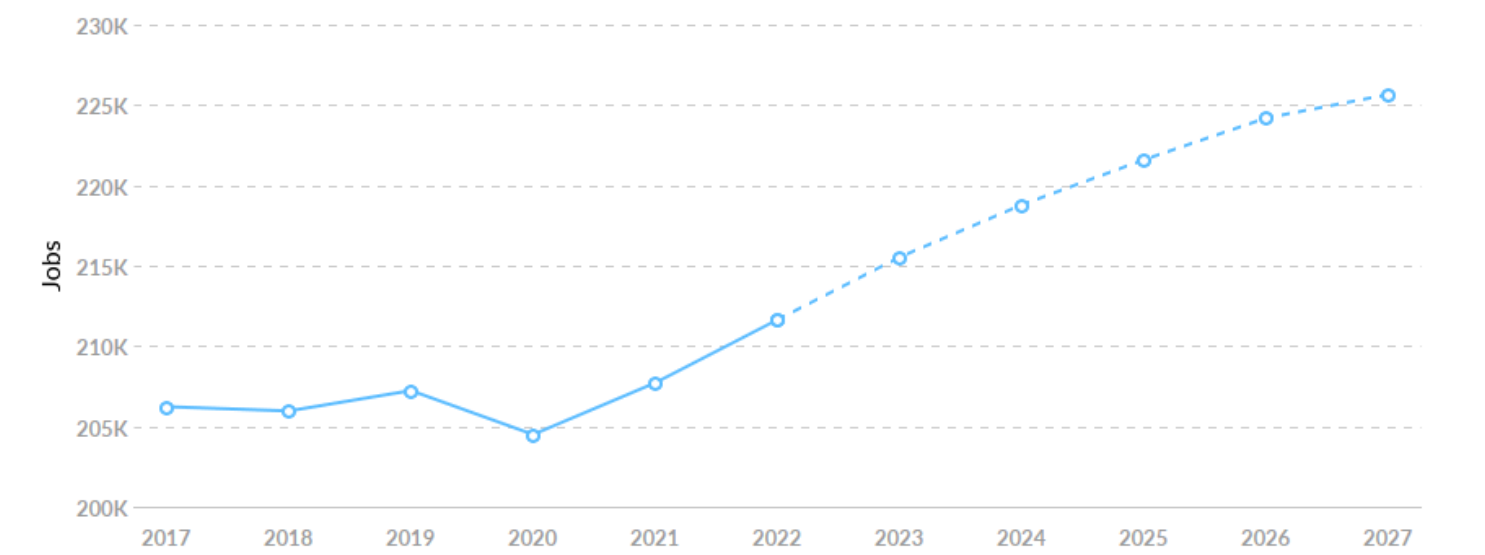
As of 2022 the region's population **increased by 11.3%** since 2017, growing by 54,997. Population is expected to **increase by 11.0%** between 2022 and 2027, adding 59,690.



Timeframe	Population
2017	487,673
2018	496,040
2019	505,732
2020	519,907
2021	529,743
2022	542,670
2023	554,678
2024	566,703
2025	578,615
2026	590,562
2027	602,360

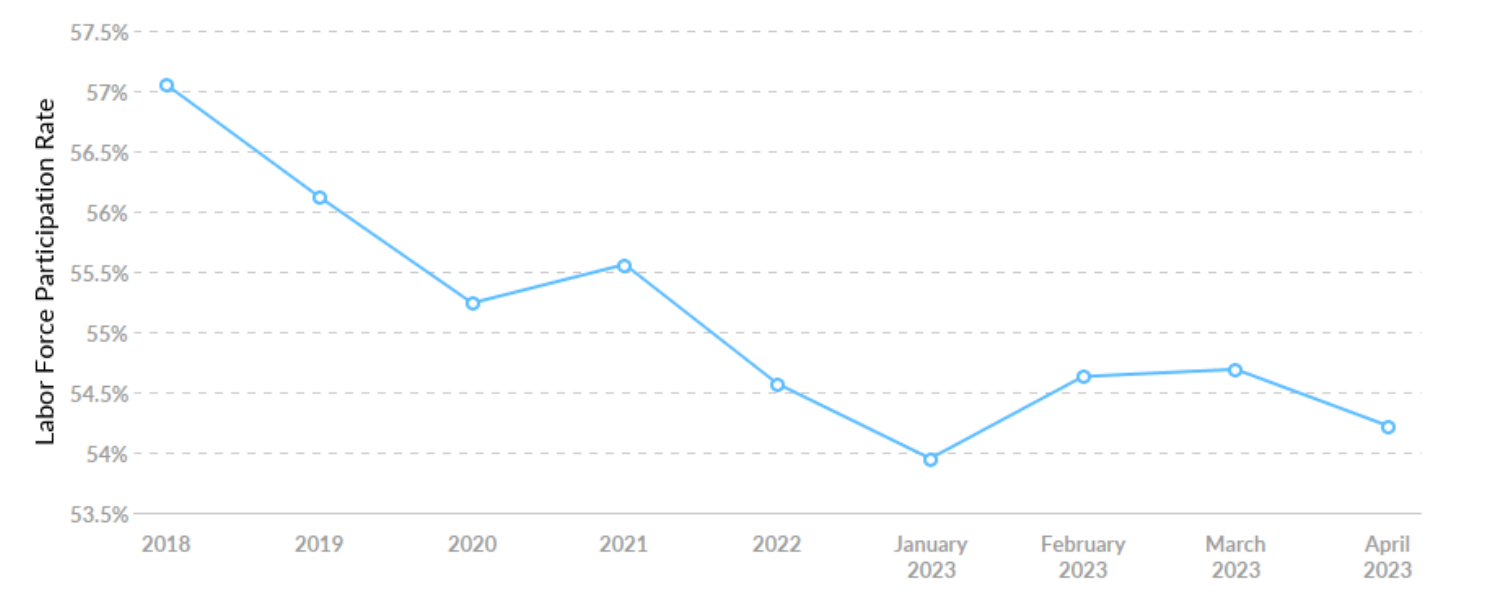
Job Trends

From 2017 to 2022, jobs increased by 2.6% in 7 Texas Counties from 206,225 to 211,639. This change fell short of the national growth rate of 3.8% by 1.2%.



Timeframe	Jobs
2017	206,225
2018	205,960
2019	207,228
2020	204,494
2021	207,713
2022	211,639
2023	215,534
2024	218,789
2025	221,597
2026	224,189
2027	225,654

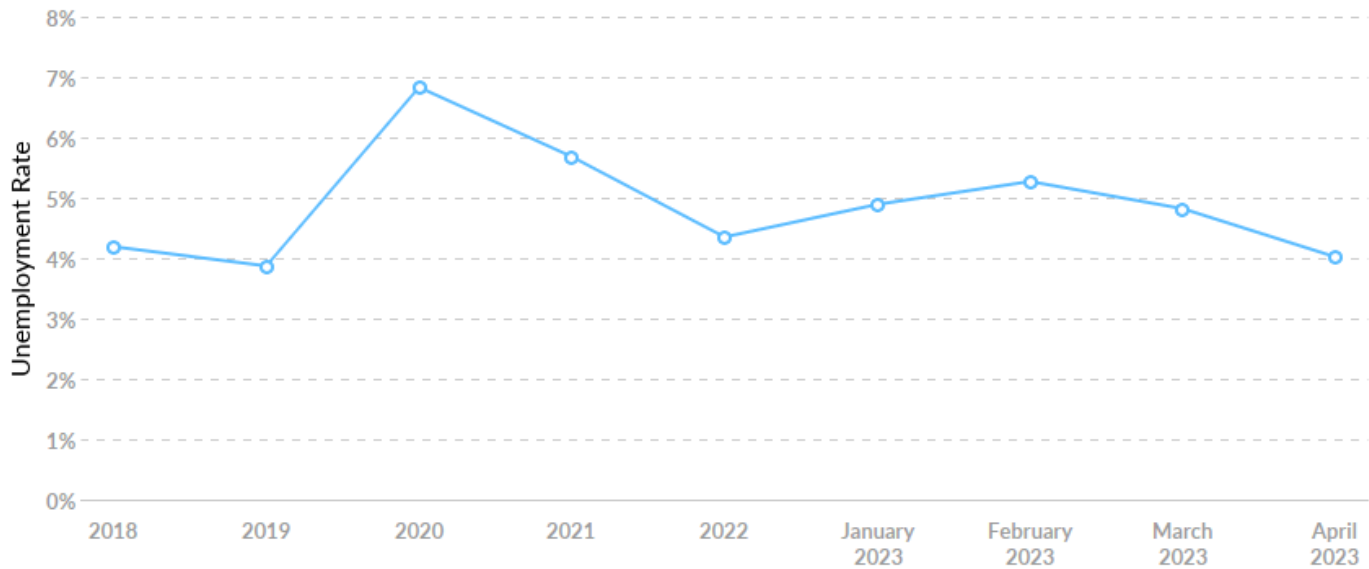
Labor Force Participation Rate Trends



Timeframe	Labor Force Participation Rate
2018	57.05%
2019	56.12%
2020	55.24%
2021	55.56%
2022	54.57%
January 2023	53.95%
February 2023	54.63%
March 2023	54.69%
April 2023	54.22%

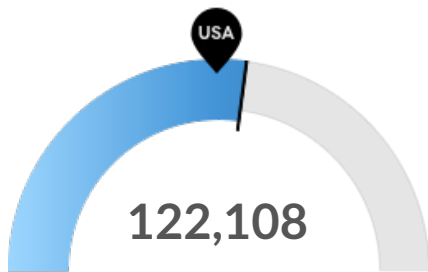
Unemployment Rate Trends

Your areas had an April 2023 unemployment rate of 4.02%, **decreasing from 4.19%** 5 years before.



Timeframe	Unemployment Rate
2018	4.19%
2019	3.87%
2020	6.83%
2021	5.68%
2022	4.35%
January 2023	4.89%
February 2023	5.27%
March 2023	4.82%
April 2023	4.02%

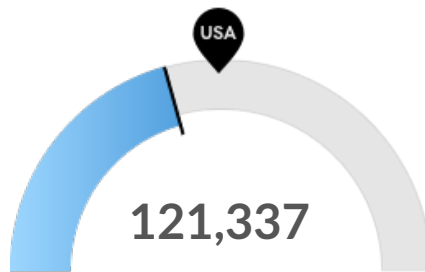
Population Characteristics



122,108

Millennials

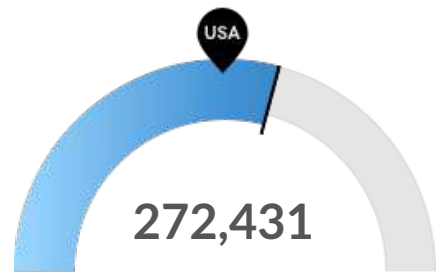
Your area has 122,108 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 108,208.



121,337

Retiring Soon

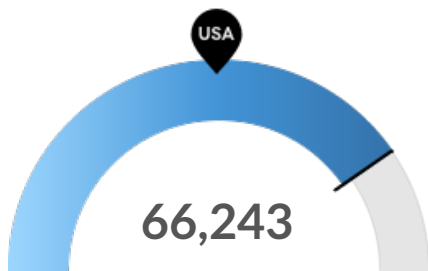
Retirement risk is low in your area. The national average for an area this size is 157,459 people 55 or older, while there are 121,337 here.



272,431

Racial Diversity

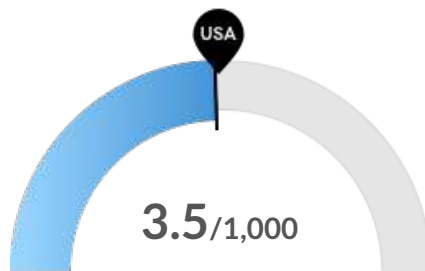
Racial diversity is high in your area. The national average for an area this size is 215,573 racially diverse people, while there are 272,431 here.



66,243

Veterans

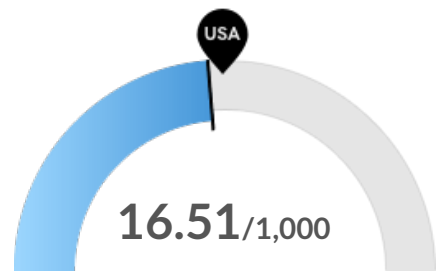
Your area has 66,243 veterans. The national average for an area this size is 27,822.



3.5/1,000

Violent Crime

Your area has 3.5 violent crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 3.59 per 1,000 people.



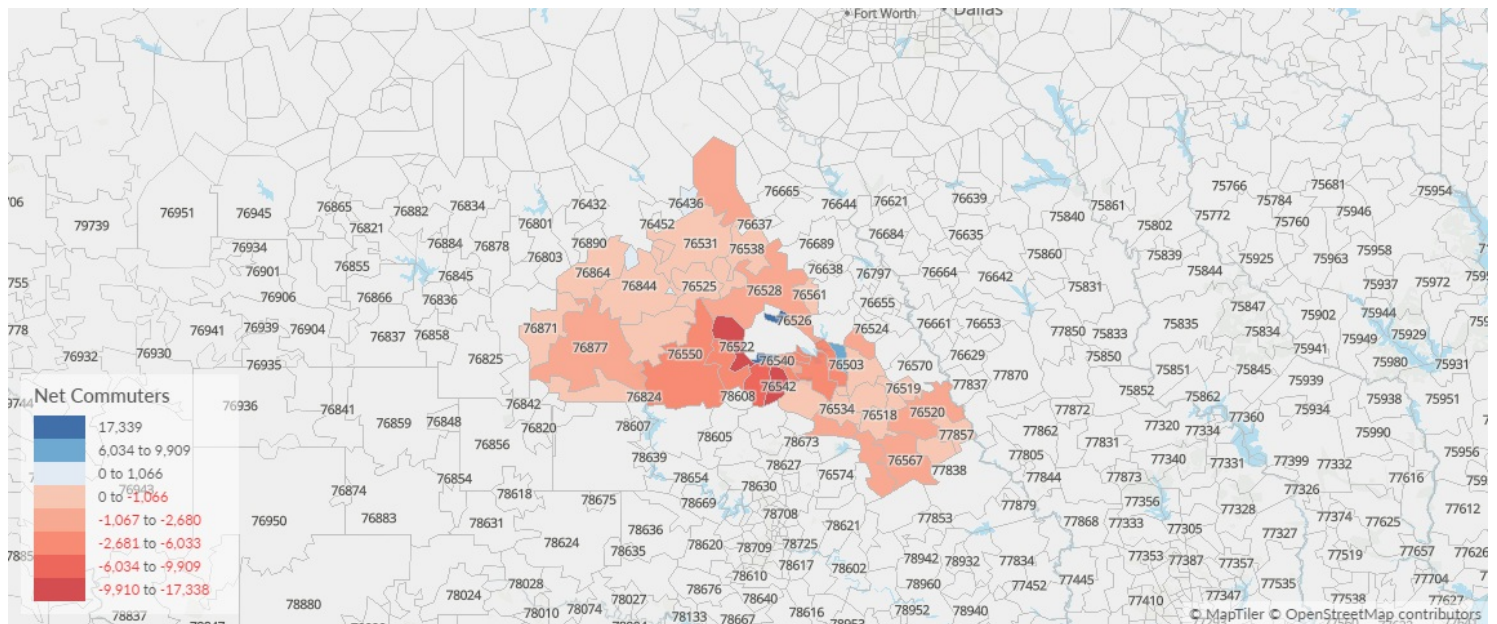
16.51/1,000

Property Crime

Your area has 16.51 property crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 17.8 per 1,000 people.

Place of Work vs Place of Residence

Understanding where talent in the region currently works compared to where talent lives can help you optimize site decisions. For example, the #1 ranked ZIP for employment ranks #13 for resident workers. The top ZIP for resident workers is 76542.



Where Talent Works

ZIP	Name	2022 Employment
76544	Fort Cavazos, TX (in Bel...	24,521
76549	Killeen, TX (in Bell coun...	19,362
76504	Temple, TX (in Bell coun...	18,495
76542	Killeen, TX (in Bell coun...	17,539
76502	Temple, TX (in Bell coun...	16,142

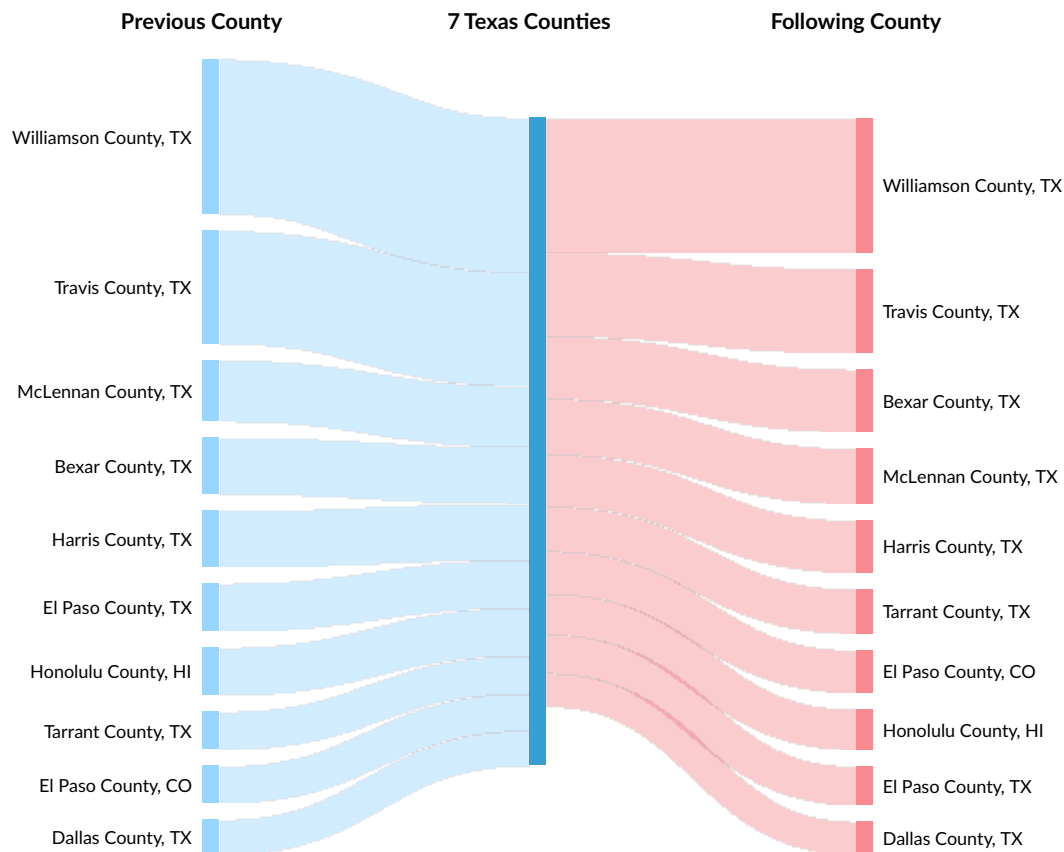
Where Talent Lives

ZIP	Name	2022 Workers
76542	Killeen, TX (in Bell coun...	28,142
76549	Killeen, TX (in Bell coun...	27,062
76522	Copperas Cove, TX (in C...	19,717
76502	Temple, TX (in Bell coun...	18,823
76513	Belton, TX (in Bell count...	18,711

Inbound and Outbound Migration

The table below analyzes past and current residents of 7 Texas Counties. The left column shows residents of other counties migrating to 7 Texas Counties. The right column shows residents migrating from 7 Texas Counties to other counties.

As of 2020, 2,551 people have migrated from Williamson County, TX to 7 Texas Counties. In the same year, 2,213 people left 7 Texas Counties migrating to Williamson County, TX. The total Net Migration for 7 Texas Counties in 2020 was 3,815.

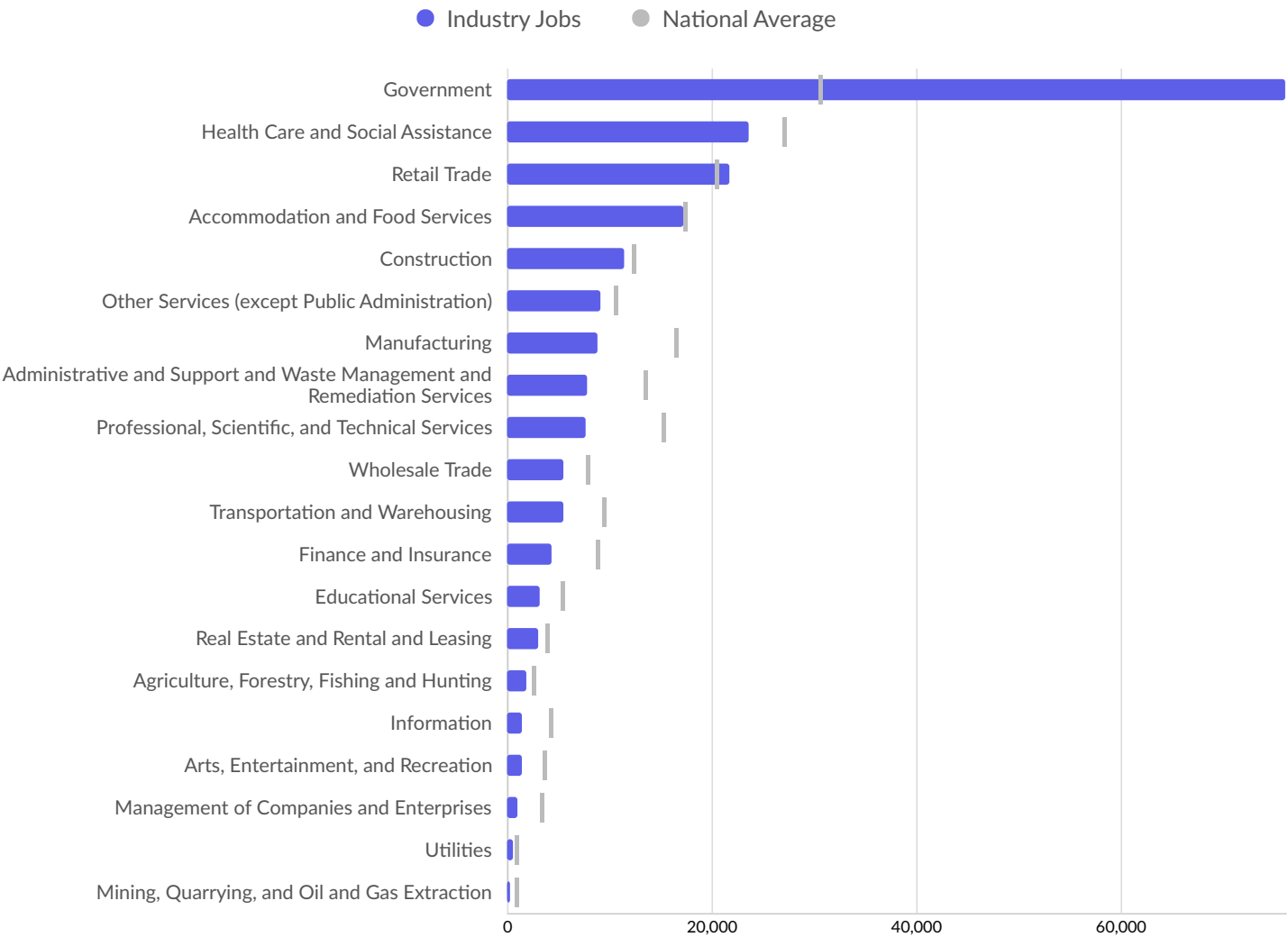


Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Williamson County, TX	2,551
Travis County, TX	1,865
McLennan County, TX	1,005
Bexar County, TX	931
Harris County, TX	930
El Paso County, TX	787

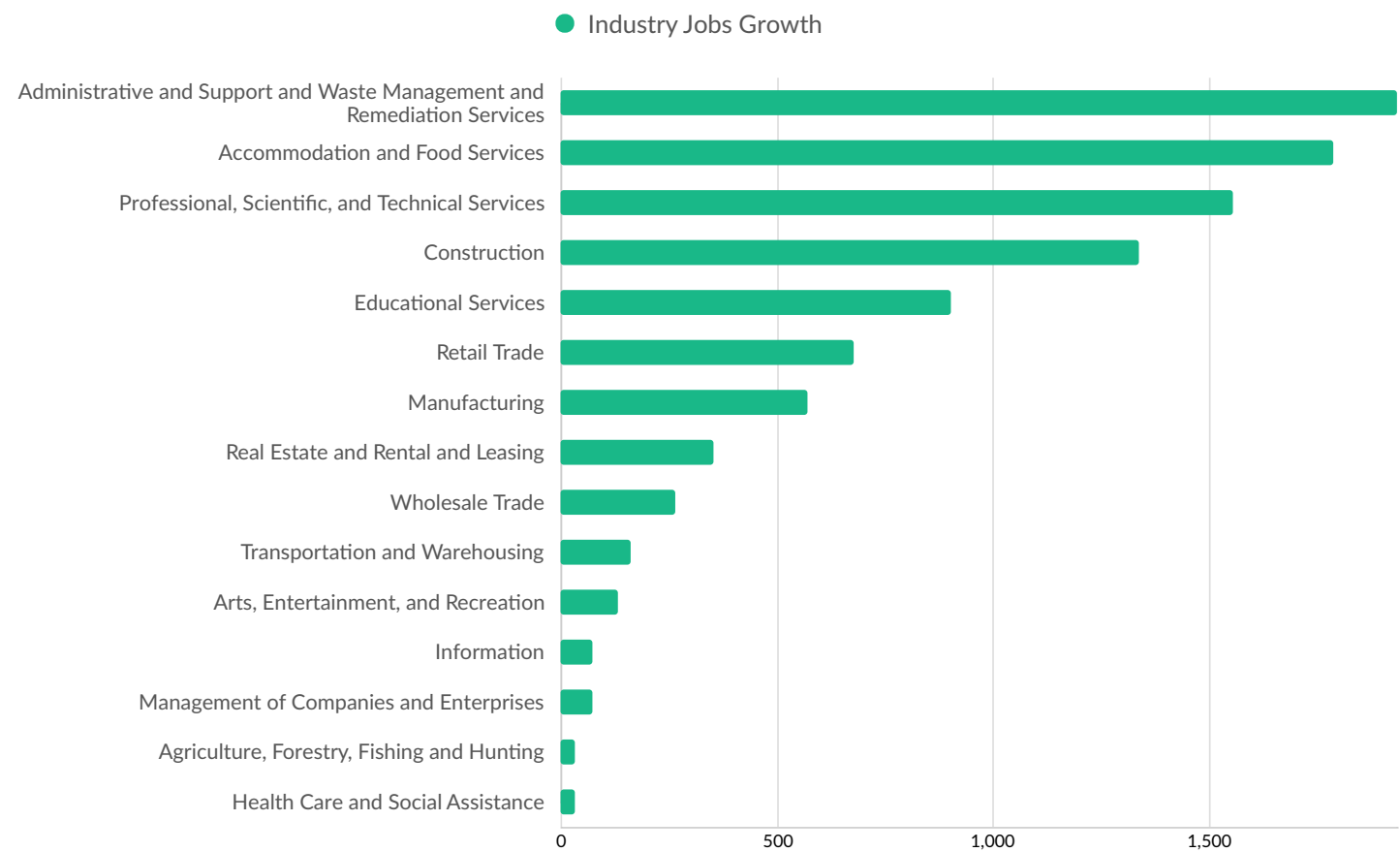
Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Honolulu County, HI	784
Tarrant County, TX	626
El Paso County, CO	611
Dallas County, TX	582
Pierce County, WA	549
Cumberland County, NC	457
Los Angeles County, CA	393
San Diego County, CA	321
Jefferson County, NY	318
Top Following Counties	Migrations
Williamson County, TX	2,213
Travis County, TX	1,382
Bexar County, TX	1,032
McLennan County, TX	913
Harris County, TX	859
Tarrant County, TX	735
El Paso County, CO	703
Honolulu County, HI	668
El Paso County, TX	638
Dallas County, TX	551
Pierce County, WA	384
Cumberland County, NC	366
Montgomery County, TN	355
Brazos County, TX	332
Muscogee County, GA	315

Industry Characteristics

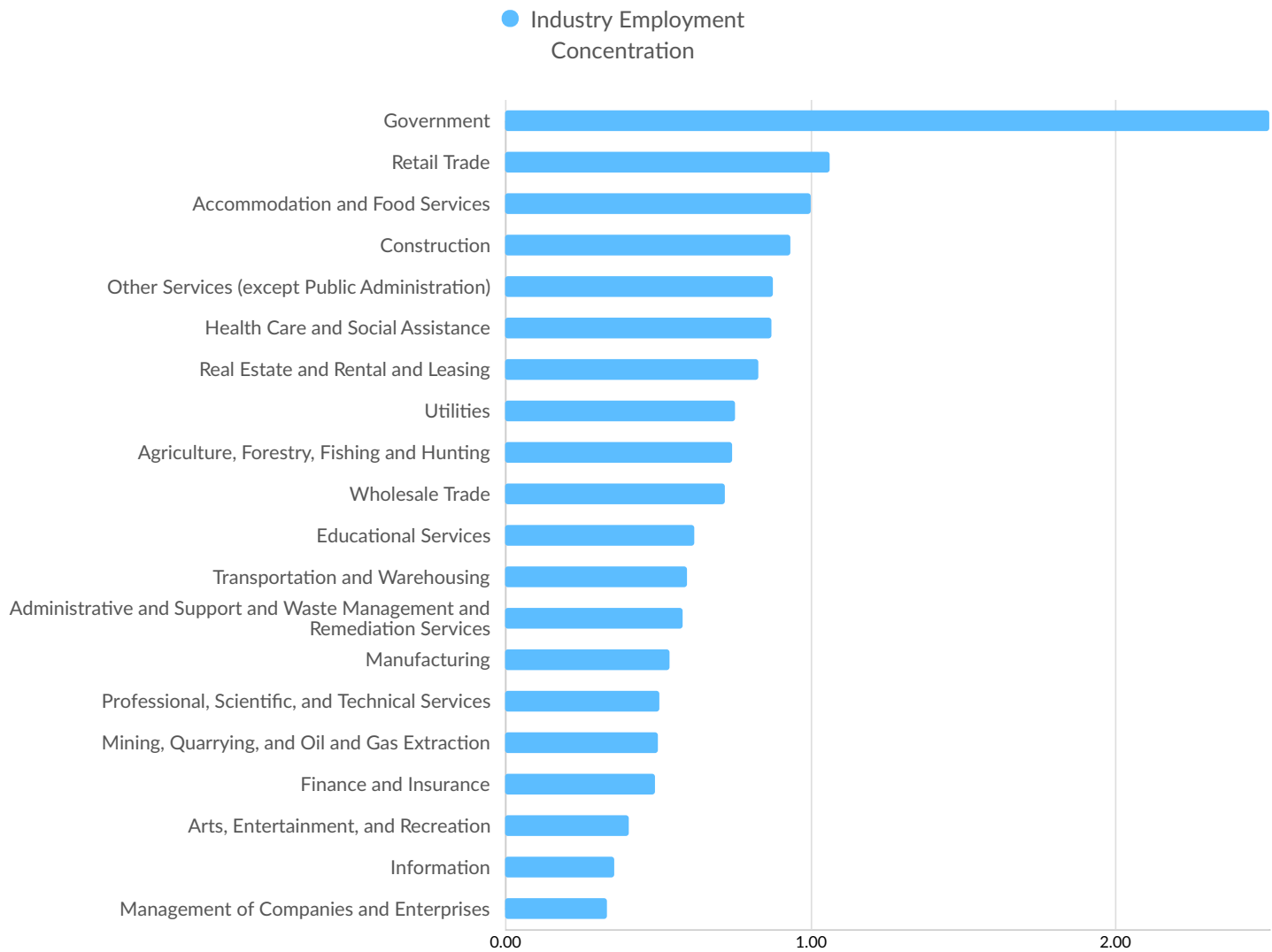
Largest Industries



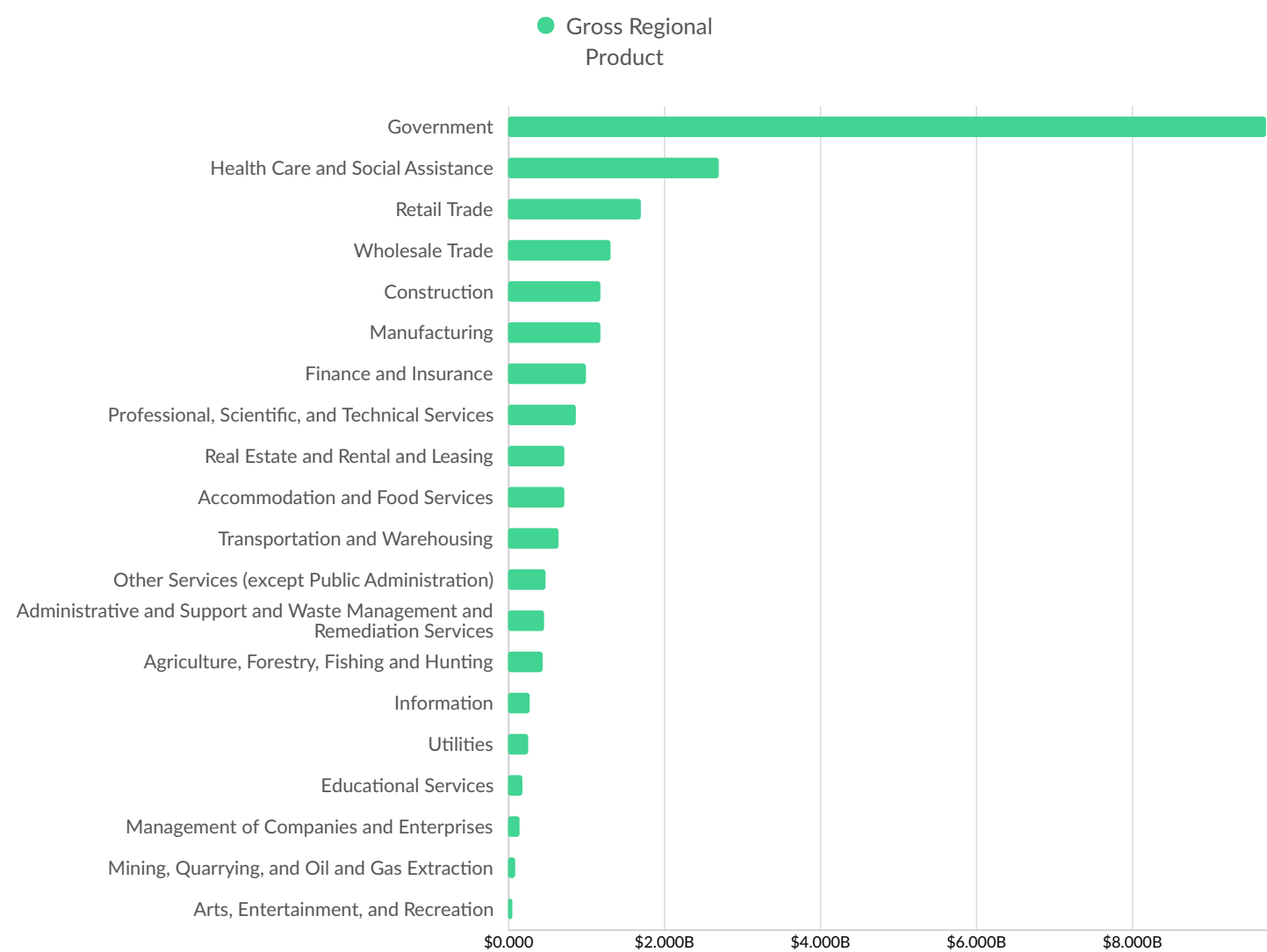
Top Growing Industries



Top Industry Employment Concentration



Top Industry GRP



Top Industry Earnings



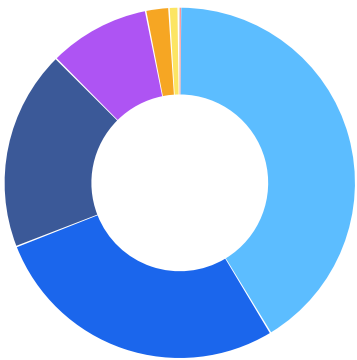
Business Characteristics

30,393 Companies Employ Your Workers

Online profiles for your workers mention 30,393 companies as employers, with the top 10 appearing below. In the last 12 months, 4,659 companies in your area posted job postings, with the top 10 appearing below.

Top Companies	Profiles	Top Companies Posting	Unique Postings
United States Army	17,238	Baylor Scott & White Health	2,646
Baylor Scott & White Health	4,504	State Of Texas	691
Killeen Isd	3,083	Clarence Edison Fikes Company	679
United States Department of Ve...	1,156	AdventHealth	664
Walmart	1,111	United States Department of Ve...	660
State Of Texas	908	Cefco	606
Central Texas College	845	H-E-B	465
McLane Company	714	McLane Company	462
Belton Isd	683	Seton Medical Center Harker He...	435
Texas A&M University	604	Walmart	425

Business Size

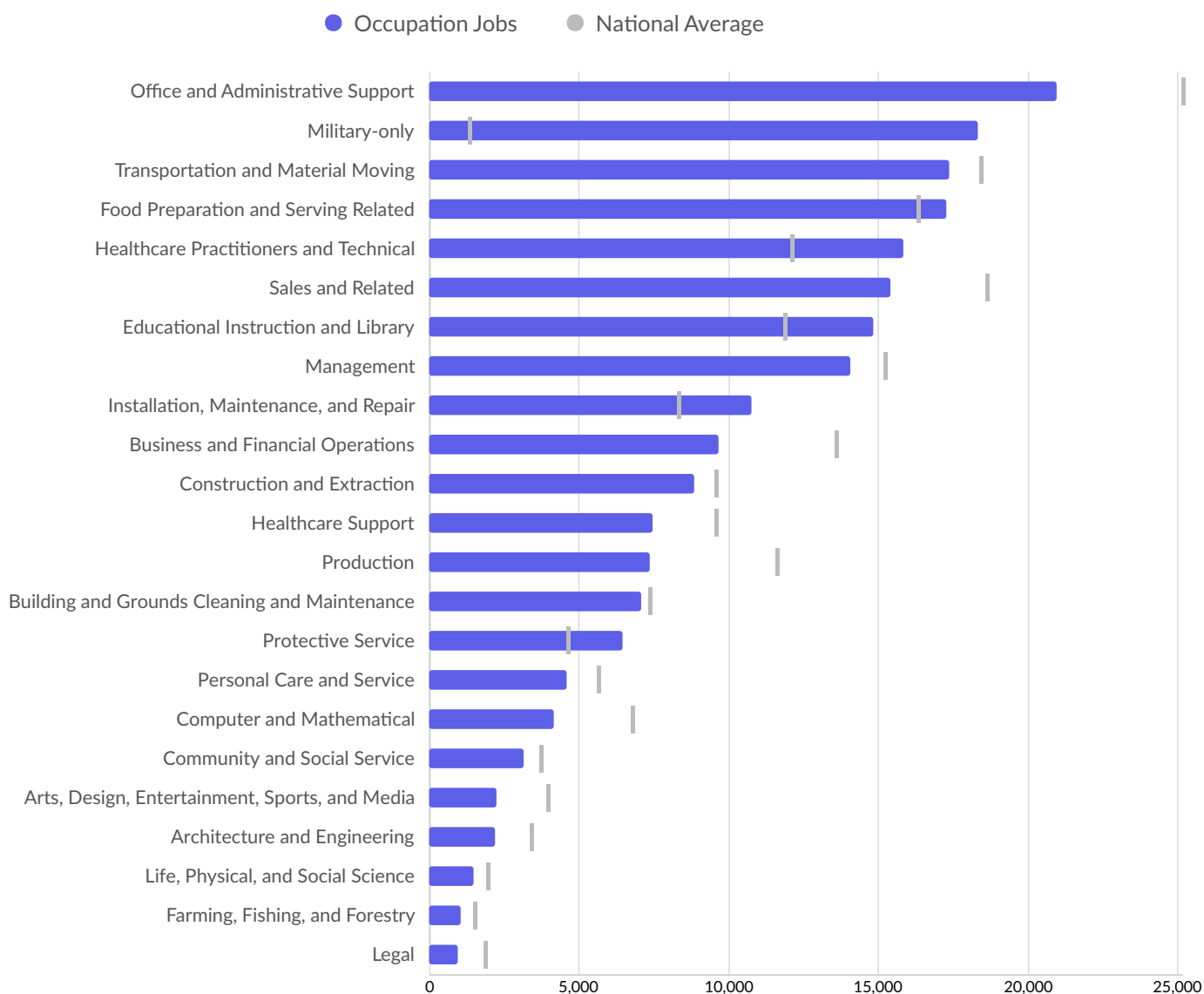


	Percentage	Business Count
1 to 4 employees	41.3%	6,367
5 to 9 employees	27.7%	4,280
10 to 19 employees	18.5%	2,847
20 to 49 employees	9.3%	1,441
50 to 99 employees	2.1%	330
100 to 249 employees	0.8%	130
250 to 499 employees	0.1%	23
500+ employees	0.1%	10

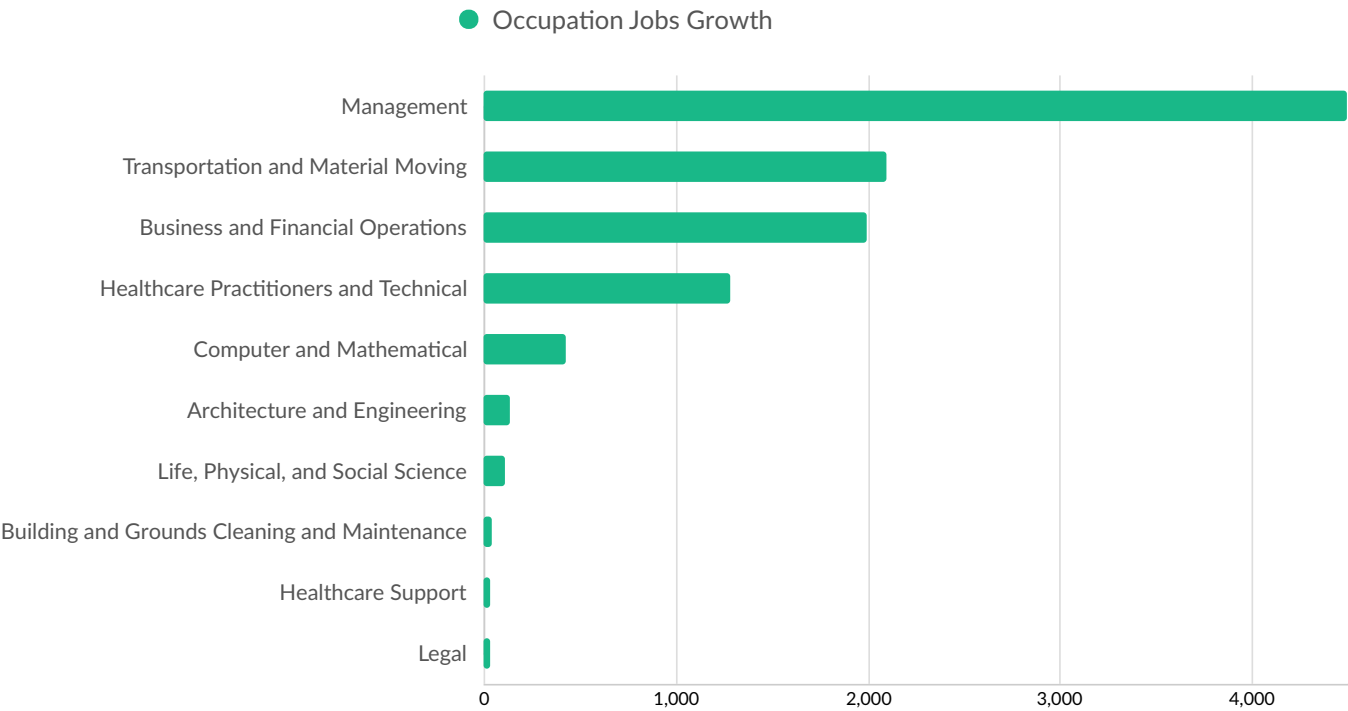
**Business Data by DatabaseUSA.com is third-party data provided by Lightcast to its customers as a convenience, and Lightcast does not endorse or warrant its accuracy or consistency with other published Lightcast data. In most cases, the Business Count will not match total companies with profiles on the summary tab.*

Workforce Characteristics

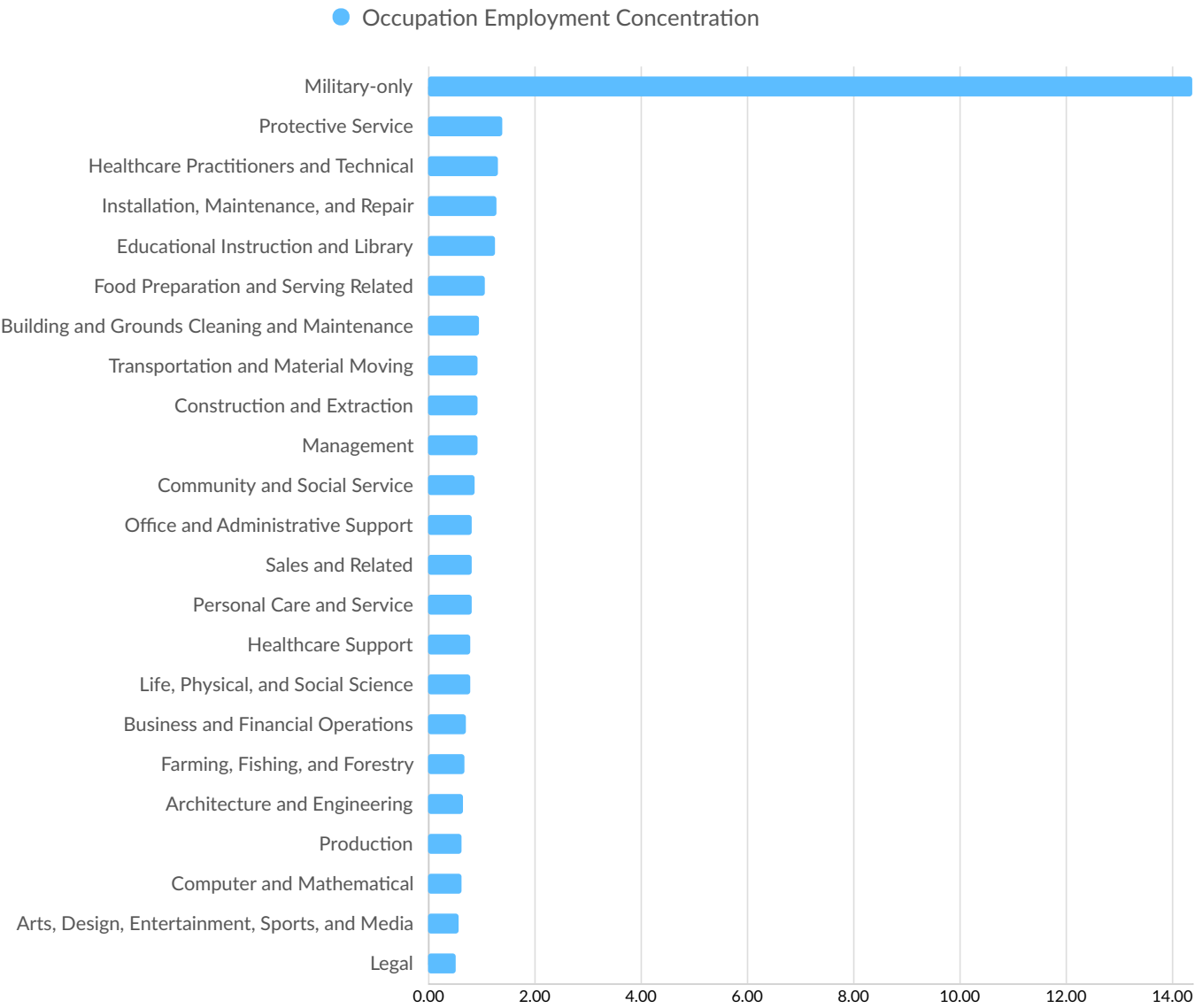
Largest Occupations



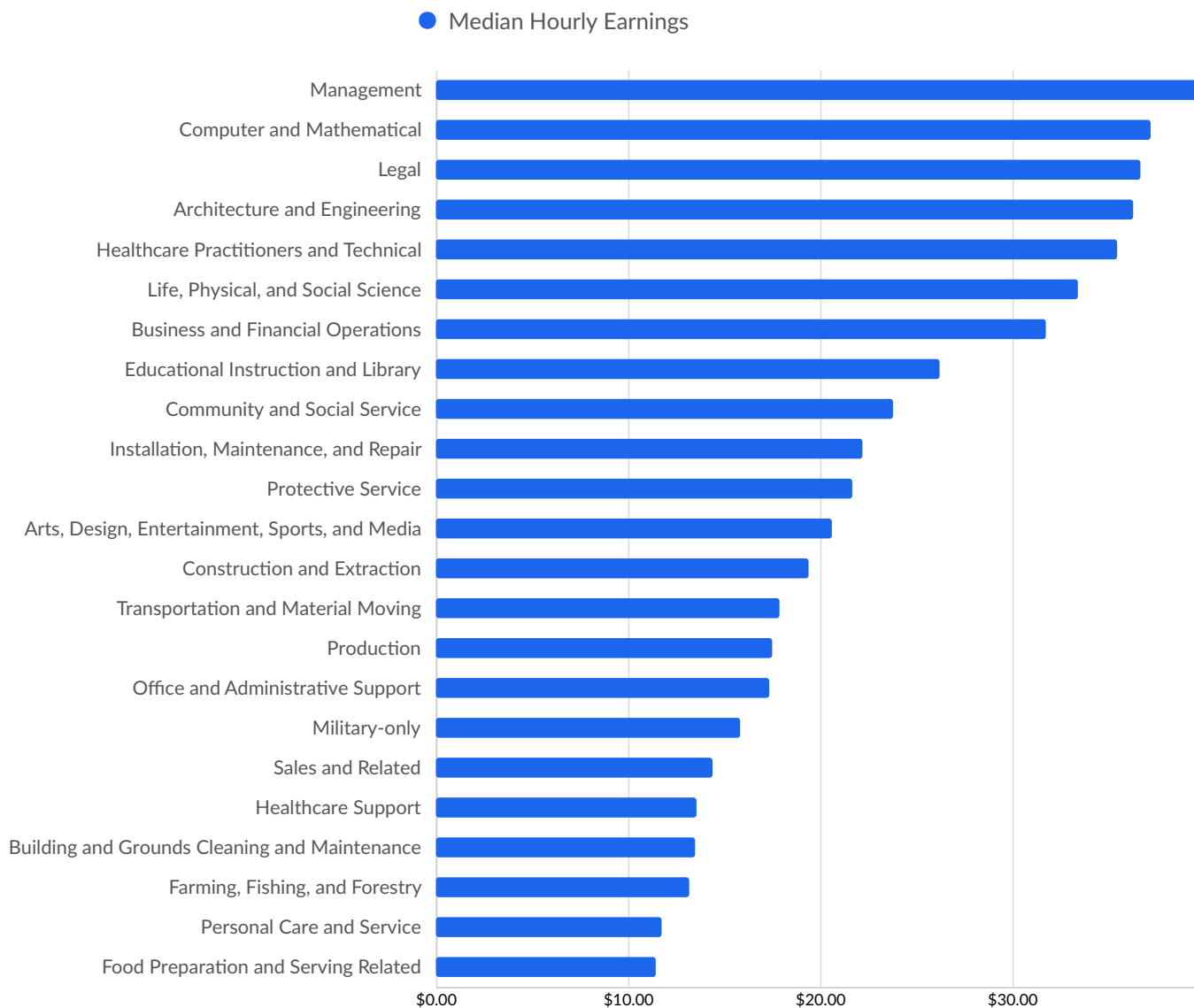
Top Growing Occupations



Top Occupation Employment Concentration



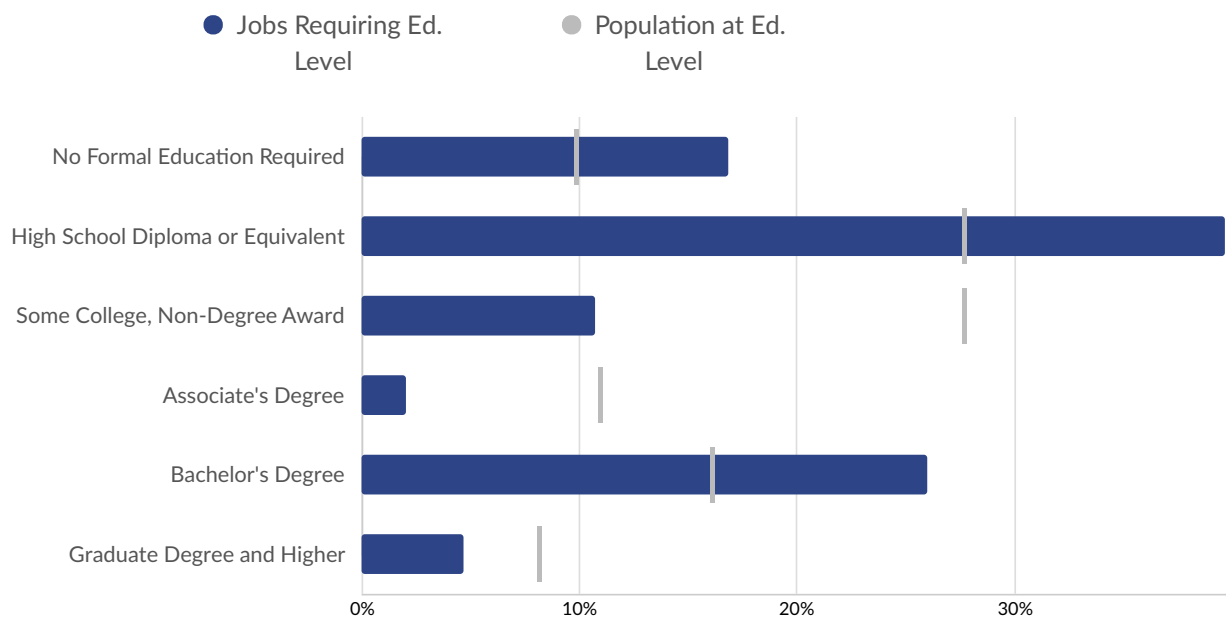
Top Occupation Earnings



Top Posted Occupations



Underemployment



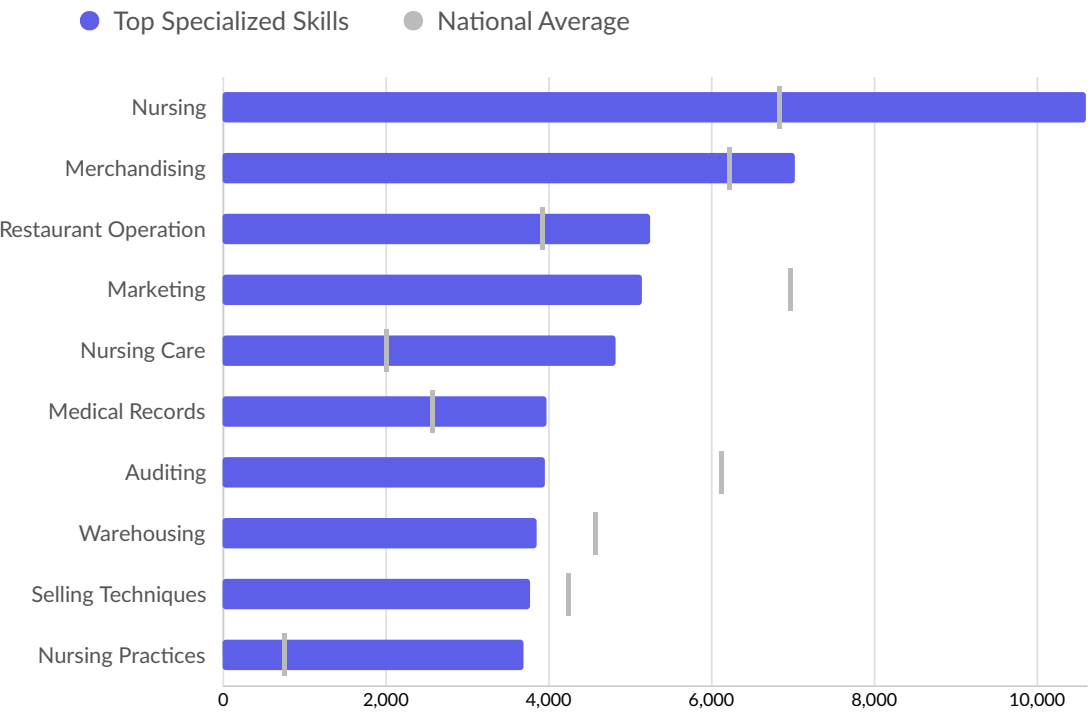
Educational Pipeline

In 2021, there were 4,799 graduates in 7 Texas Counties. This pipeline has shrunk by 22% over the last 5 years. The highest share of these graduates come from "General Studies" (Associate's), "Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies" (Associate's), and "Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse" (Bachelor's).

School	Total Graduates (2021)		Graduate Trend (2017 - 2021)
Central Texas College	2,323		
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor	891		
Texas A&M University-Central Texas	774		
Temple College	735		
Central Texas Beauty College-Temple	49		
Yahweh Beauty Academy	27		
National American University-Killeen	0		

● Certificate
 ● Associate's
 ● Bachelor's
 ● Master's or Higher

In-Demand Skills



Item 4:

Meeting Minutes



**Development District of Central Texas
Board of Directors**

Central Texas Council of Governments 2180
North Main Street, Belton, Texas 76513

Thursday, July 6, 2023—9:30 AM

Board Members Present:

Jamie LaDuke: Hamilton EDC
Dean Roome: Bartlett Municipal Development District
Jim Gibson: Rockdale Municipal Development District
Jason Johnson: JJ Realty Group
Ginger Watkins: Cameron Industrial Foundation
Dexter Morris: City of Mullin
Charley Ayres: Workforce Solutions of Central Texas
Stacey Ybarra: Lampasas Economic Development Corporation

Others Present:

Anna Barge: CTCOG
Dominic Elizondo: CTCOG
Hope Geiger: KTMPO
Connie Quinto: CTCOG
Anita Janke: KTMPO

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Ginger Watkins, Chair of the Board, at 9:30 AM. A quorum was present.
2. **Public Comments.** No public comments were made.
3. **Staff Updates.**

Dominic Elizondo gave an update about CTCOG activities, including the application for an IEDC Economic Development Fellow, Newly Elected Officials Class successes, Leadership Central Texas class with 13 class members. Additionally, staff are working on the administration and application for EDA and TxCDBG Community Development Fund grants. The Central Texas Public Transportation Summit event was a success. Mr. Elizondo also provided economic updates for Q2 2023, noting that the unemployment rate went up almost a percentage point.
4. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Approval of Meeting Minutes from the April 6th, 2023 Meeting.

Dean Roome made a motion to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Dexter Morris; the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Texas A&M Central Texas Research Park Presentation

Russ Porter of Texas A&M University-Central Texas, VP for Research, Economic Development and Innovation of presented about the upcoming Research Park. They average over a million dollars a year in external funding for research. The Research Park is focusing on technology research specifically with chips, AI, and machine learning. They are also in the process of renovating a building in downtown Killeen for a military transition program. They are applying for an EDA Tech Hubs grant for \$4-60 million for the park to increase prime age employment.

6. Discussion Item: Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Implementation

Dominic Elizondo discussed the CEDS objective “strengthening the conditions of growth for new and existing businesses”.

Mr. Elizondo presented the first strategy which was to start a broadband advisory council. Dominic gave some broadband updates which are also in Anna’s broadband update below.

The next strategy Mr. Elizondo presented was “develop a regional water/sewer plan prioritizing investments needed for industry growth. We opened for discussion on what the board’s priorities area. Ginger Watkins gave her opinion stating this is more of a local issue and technical assistance might be how the DDCT can help, especially with making local governments aware of resources and funding options. There was additional discussion by board members about how local governments know where their needs are for their water and sewer systems. The real issue is needing quality funding. There was sentiment that small towns do not want to do a regional plan. Local governments will reach out with assistance they need.

The third strategy Mr. Elizondo presented was “identify and prepare additional sites for industrial and distribution facilities; conduct site assessment and preliminary site design to aid in prioritization and site marketing”. Mr. Elizondo highlighted that this should be an EDC role. Some members mentioned they already have sites identified and some need funding for site selection. Members highlighted that some areas do not want growth.

The fourth strategy Mr. Elizondo presented was “build on momentum of the Research Park to further cultivate high tech industry clusters; study the potential to develop a broader “innovation zone” with the Park as its hub.” Mr. Elizondo mentioned the Tech Hubs Grant Program for a future project.

The fifth strategy Mr. Elizondo presented was “create a regional outreach effort to promote entrepreneurial opportunities to Fort Cavazos personnel transitioning into the civilian workforce, with a focus on defense contractor opportunities”. Mr. Elizondo updated board members with the plan of doing a resource fair for veteran entrepreneurs. Some board members felt like this sounded redundant.

The sixth strategy Mr. Elizondo presented was “collaborate with Tesla to connect local businesses to related supply chain opportunities.” Mr. Elizondo discussed how this objective is not a high priority and he would try to get a speaker from Tesla.

The seventh strategy Mr. Elizondo presented was “Encourage greater utilization of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers to help local businesses capture greater federal procurement opportunities and Fort Cavazos economic impact; host education/awareness events in collaboration with PTACs”. Mr. Elizondo and Ms. Barge updated on trying to reach out to our PTAC about doing a class in our region.

The eighth strategy Mr. Elizondo presented was “promote digital literacy in small businesses, leveraging existing training models. Mr. Elizondo mentioned he is trying to build a toolkit for this strategy.

7. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

Anna Barge updated on the state’s new broadband programs including the Regional Working Group. Uryan Nelson is now the leader of the Central Texas Regional Working Group which comprises CTCOG, HOTCOG, BVCOG areas. She gave updates on the State Digital Opportunity Plan including the public meeting and surveys. Mrs. Barge also gave updates on the BEAD program receiving the Texas allocation.

8. Discussion Item: Regarding Federal and State Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development

Anna Barge discussed bills about water, certificates of obligation, broadband, agenda posting among others.

9. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on Grant Opportunities

Dominic Elizondo provided an update on State and Federal grant opportunities and their eligible projects and match, including the TxCDBG Community Development Fund and Downtown Revitalization Program, the EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs, Recompete Pilot Program, MPDG Program, and the Tech Hubs Program.

10. Board of Directors' Comments.

Jamie LaDuke brought up that the HOP will no longer be providing transportation services to the City of Hamilton since the city voted to not provide financial support. There was discussion of public transportation issues in our region, funding and feasibility, and micro transit.

11. Discuss agenda items for next meeting on Thursday, October 5th, 2023, at 9:30 AM.

12. Adjourned at 11:04 AM

Ginger Watkins, DDCT Chair

Uryan Nelson, Planning Director

Item 5:
**Regarding Election of Board
Officers**

Regarding Election of Board Officers

According to the DDCT Bylaws, Board elections are to be held every year with each officer only able to succeed themselves in the same position no more than once. Both Chair Ginger Watkins and Vice-Chair Cynthia Hernandez have fulfilled their term limits. All other Board members are eligible to be elected to both officer positions.

The Chairman

The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the district and at all meetings of the Members at which he/she is present. He/She shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried to effect.

Vice-Chairman

The Vice-Chairman shall, during the absence of the Chairman, or in the case of his/her inability to act, be vested with powers and shall perform the duties of the Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall also perform such other duties and exercise such other powers, as may from time to time be imposed upon or vested in him/her by resolution of the board.

Action Needed: Nomination and Approval of New Board Chair and Vice-Chair.

Item 6:

**Presentations on Rural
Internship Program
Participants**

Regarding Presentations on Rural Internship Program Participants

In 2023 our Rural Internship Program participants were Cameron EDC and Chamber of Commerce, Hamilton EDC, and San Saba Chamber of Commerce. Ginger Watkins, Jamie LaDuke, and Regina Baker will discuss their interns' accomplishments at their organizations.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.



Rural Internship Program Internship Activity Log

Economic Development Organization: Hamilton EDC

Intern Name:

Brooklyn Bragg 2023

Dates of Intern Work (Weekly)	Hours Worked (Target = 60-100 hours)
<u>6/1 - 6/2</u>	<u>5.5</u>
<u>6/5 - 6/9</u>	<u>12.0</u>
<u>6/12 - 6/16</u>	<u>13.0 - Pay Period 30.5</u>
<u>6/19 - 6/23</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>6/26 - 6/30</u>	<u>15 - Pay Period 30</u>
<u>7/10 - 7/14</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>7/17 - 7/21</u>	<u>12.5</u>
<u>7/24</u>	<u>2 - Pay Period 19.5</u>

Internship Supervisor:

[Signature]

Date:

7/25/23

More pages may be printed as needed.

Rural Internship Program



Rural Internship Program Report Form

Economic Development Organization: Hamilton EDC
Intern Name: Brooklyn Bragg
Date: 7/24/2023 Hours Worked: 80

List of Activities Completed:
See attached

Intern Experience Gained or Lessons Learned:
See attached

Internship Supervisor: [Signature]

Date: 7/24/2023

More pages may be printed as needed.



HAMILTON, TEXAS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Economic Development Corporation | 108 N Bell Street | PO Box 224 | Hamilton, Texas | 76634
(254) 386-5954 | edc@hamiltontx.com | hamiltontexas.com

July 21, 2023

To: Jamie LaDuke
From: Brooklyn Bragg
RE: Program Summary

During this internship at the EDC, I have done many tasks. I have made a sideshow about the Hamilton EDC and Mainstreet program, made a post about our magazine exposure, grants, the 5 goals of the EDC, the Merchant Beginnings program, a park clean up reel on Instagram and lawn services. I also went around the town to various businesses and took pictures of the inside and outside for the Texas Film Commission. I researched different self-service kayak kiosks and provided information comparing the cost and amount of direct work needed, and I have also made many templates on Canva for the EDC and Mainstreet to use in the future. After working as an intern at the EDC, I have more experience about what goes on behind the scenes to make Hamilton a successful place. I now understand the challenges it takes to recruit businesses, the value of sales tax and the work that the EDC and Mainstreet program put into Hamilton. The social media aspect of this internship led me to gain more experience on recognizing what the audience was most interested in. I had to take into consideration the feedback on posts that I was posting, and it led to more creative ways to engage them. While working at the EDC, I learned it is important to review all options before choosing a path to take. Such as thinking about how others will view the decision, how much it will benefit others, and keeping into consideration how much it will be worth it in the future. Overall, I would recommend this internship to my peers due to the amount of experience that you get learning about how our city works to improve itself.

Rural Internship Program

Sponsored by:

Hamilton Economic Development Corporation
Historic Hamilton Main Street

Brooklyn Bragg

Hamilton High School

Incoming Senior

Rural Internship Program Summary

- Intern averaged two hours a day, four days a week.
- Paid \$12.50 an hour, maximum of 80 hours.
- EDC provided a desk in the office with a laptop, extra monitor, keyboard and mouse.
- Reported to EDC Executive Director.

PAID INTERNSHIP

The Hamilton EDC and Main Street Program is looking for a Summer Intern!

Requirements

- Must be a Junior or Senior in High School, as of Fall 2023.
- Able to work 10 - 15 hours a week.
- Ideal candidate will be energetic, creative and have some experience with social media.

Benefits

- Hourly pay of \$12.50 an hour, maximum of 80 hours.
- Letter of recommendation from staff and Mayor.
- Skills, knowledge and abilities based on professional experiences.



Interested Students

Send an email to Jamie LaDuke, EDC Director at edc@hamiltontx.com. Include the following:

- First and last name
- Contact number
- Incoming grade level (11th/12th)
- Why you want to be an intern?
- Describe your social media experience



 **\$12.50 an hour**

 edc@hamiltontx.com



HAMILTON, TEXAS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Intern Responsibilities



- Social Media
 - Managed the 'All Things Hamilton' Facebook page.
 - Created templates for us to utilize going forward.
- Took pictures for the Texas Film Commission website.
- Researched Kayak Kiosks for City Lake, presented information.
- Met downtown business and property owners.
- Created a slideshow about the EDC and Main Street Program.
- Attended Main Street and EDC Board Meetings.

Intern Accomplishments

Public social media experience

Increased public service awareness

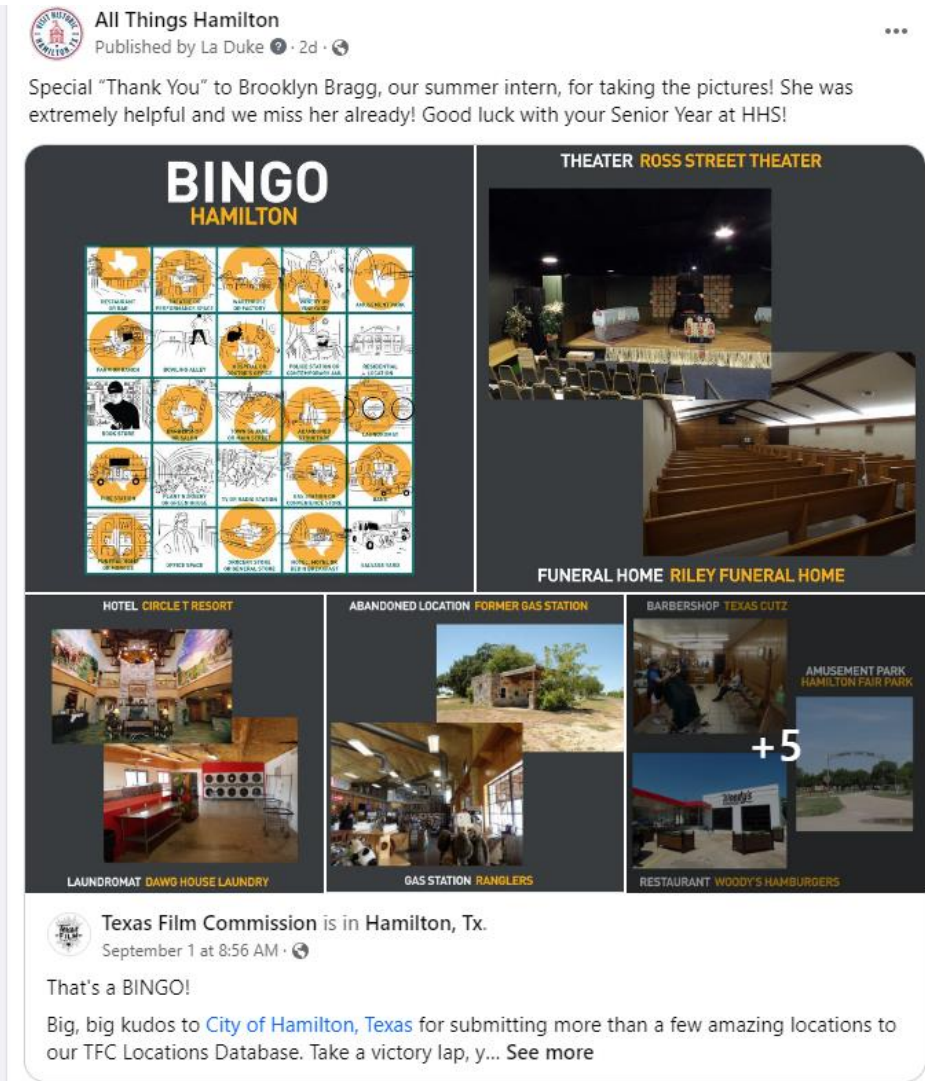
Communication

Customer service

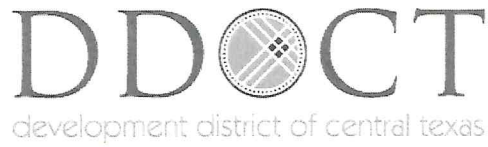
Financial responsibility

“I have more experience about what goes on behind the scenes to make Hamilton a successful place.”

“I now understand the challenges to recruit businesses, the value of sales tax and the work that the EDC and Main Street program put into Hamilton.”



Thank You



Rural Internship Program Internship Activity Log

Economic Development Organization: Cameron Economic Development
Intern Name: Kalip White

Dates of Intern Work (Weekly)	Hours Worked (Target = 60-100 hours)
Monday, June 12, 2023	9am to 3pm = 6
Tuesday, June 13, 2023	9am to 12 1pm to 3 = 5
Thursday, June 15, 2023	9am to 12 1pm to 3 = 5
Wednesday, June 21, 2023	9am to 12 1pm to 3 = 5
Thursday, June 22, 2023	9am to 12 1pm to 3 = 5
Friday, June 23, 2023	9am to 12 1pm to 3 = 5
Monday, June 26, 2023	9am to 12 1pm to 3 = 5
Tuesday, June 27, 2023	9am to 12 1pm to 3 = 5
Wednesday, June 28, 2023	9a to 12 1p to 3 = 5
Wednesday, July 5, 2023	9am to 3pm = 6
Thursday, July 6, 2023	9am to 12 1p to 3 = 5
Friday, July 7, 2023	9am to 3p = 6

500 hrs 6/23
 16.12/hour
 31 hours
 515.84
 32 hours
 16.12/hour

Internship Supervisor:

Doug Walker

Date:

7/7/2023

More pages may be printed as needed.



Rural Internship Program Report Form

Economic Development Organization: *Cameron Chamber & EDC*
Intern Name: *Kathy White*
Date: _____ Hours Worked: _____

List of Activities Completed:

Farmers Market Ads & flyers in Canva
Constant Contact Newsletters
Business ~~practice~~ writing
Meeting visitors
Phone etiquette
Meta Business application Marketing

Intern Experience Gained or Lessons Learned:

met with Marketing and Business entrepreneurs to learn about Facebook ads and as a mentorships
One on One with young litigation attorney to learn about the path to law school and the legal profession.
Kathy also spoke to the Cameron Rotary Club about her experience and had the opportunity to learn about tourism & tourism marketing. She also had a one on one with a young professional financial advisor.

Internship Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Shirley D. Walker

7/7/2023

More pages may be printed as needed.

My name is Kaly white, I am a graduate from Yoe high School, class of 2023! I will be attending the University of Texas at Austin in August, and majoring in Undeclared Science! I received the Rural internship for The Cameron Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development towards the end of my senior year in high school. I thought it would be interesting to gain this internship, and learn more about economic development, and how our Chamber is organized. I was Entirely Unaware of the many perks that would come from this internship when first learning about it. Through my internship I was able to learn how Economic Development works, and how the Chamber does business Retention and Expansion. Not only did I see what my two mentors do in their day to day life, I was also able to have hands-on-experience! This was very exciting for me. I was able to learn how to run a business facebook, how to create posts and flyers in a design program named Canva, how to answer a phone with proper phone etiquette, how to properly greet visitors, and so much more!

An interesting fact about me is that I am completely unaware of what I want to major in, and what I would like to do for the rest of my life. This bothers me alot. So, I informed my two mentors of this fact, and also stated a few careers I am interested in. These careers include becoming an attorney, becoming a surgeon, business marketing, and business finance. I am lucky to say that my mentors quickly set up times for me to talk to professionals in these professions! I have been able to have conversations with professionals in three out of four of these fields. I talked to an attorney about law, a marketer about marketing, and a financial advisor about business finance! My mom is a nurse so I am well-informed about the healthcare field. After having all of these amazing-informative conversations I am currently in love with the idea of going to law school and becoming an attorney! If I was not presented with the opportunity of talking to an attorney, by my mentors, the idea of becoming an attorney would have become completely abstained. Words cannot describe how thankful I am that I was able to speak with this amazing individual! I still plan to keep my options open though, and to continue to explore as many careers as possible. With that being stated I am so grateful for the many things this internship has enlightened me with. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to be selected as an intern for this rural internship, and gain the knowledge and experience I was presented with!



Rural Internship Program Internship Activity Log

Economic Development Organization: San Saba County Chamber of Commerce
Intern Name: Payton Duggan

Dates of Intern Work (Weekly)	Hours Worked (Target = 60-100 hours)
5/29/23 – 06/2/23	6.5
6/5/23 – 6/9/23	17.5
6/12/23 – 6/16/23	15
6/19/23 – 6/23/23	20.75
6/26/23 – 6/30/23	16
7/3/23 – 7/8/23	0
7/10/23 – 7/14/23	0
7/17/23 – 7/21/23	15.90

Internship Supervisor:

Regina Baker

Date:

July 24, 2023

More pages may be printed as needed.

Rural Internship Program



Rural Internship Program Report Form

Economic Development Organization:

Intern Name: Payton Duggan

Date: July 24, 2023

Hours Worked: 91.65

List of Activities Completed: Helped greet Visitors, organized the storage closet, taught The ED some Instagram skills, helped make flyers for upcoming events, helped make a Downtown map, assisted with filing, helped organize our Junior Chamber program, helped Plan the float for the rodeo parade, went out to businesses with the ED, assisted with Ribbon Cuttings, and helped with other various office tasks.

Intern Experience Gained or Lessons Learned:

Payton was very shy with not a lot of people skills when she started. I saw Payton growing her people skills as she started to come out of her shell when talking to Visitors. Payton Was also taught responsibility. When she first started, she was on her phone a lot taking Selfies and left early every day. We worked on that and we saw a huge improvement. She Also learned to enter AR and AP and to cut checks. She was taught how to do payroll. She learned how to answer the phone and talk to Visitors. Payton also was out in charge of the Junior Chambers and will continue that role for the year as the Junior Chamber Chair. She learned how to run those meetings and how to delegate and plan.

Internship Supervisor:

Reg. Baker

Date:

July 24, 2023

Rural Internship Program

Central Texas Council of Governments
PO Box 729
Belton, TX 76513

July 21, 2023

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for letting me take part in this Internship. I really enjoyed it and learned a lot of helpful things for the future. I learned how to use quickbooks, which is an online checkbook that helps keep track of all the money so you make sure you don't give too much or too little. My people skills also improved. If some people came into the visitors center I would greet them and give them information on San Saba and what there is to do while visiting. I would also answer the phone to give information to people who had questions. I learned how to make flyers to promote businesses or to promote events that were happening around town. I also learned how to cut checks and do payroll.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Payton Duggan". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Payton" and last name "Duggan" clearly distinguishable.

Payton Duggan

Item 7:

**Regarding 2022-2026
Comprehensive Economic
Development Strategy
(CEDS) Implementation**

**Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
Implementation**

The 2022-26 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was approved by the DDCT Board on January 6th, 2022.

As a result of the DDCT Board CEDS Workshop on January 12th, 2023, the Board decided to have a recurring agenda item for Board discussion on strategizing implementation of CEDS objectives and strategies.

This meeting the focus will be the objective to “Cultivate, attract, and retain a talented workforce.” The strategies under this objective are to:

- Strengthen and continue partnerships between institutions of higher education and high/middle schools in the region to provide apprenticeships opportunities and increase participation of youth in skilled jobs and post-secondary degrees.
- Further leverage and scale mechanisms for facilitating entry of Fort Cavazos personnel into local private sector talent pool (e.g. the Heroes MAKE America and Hiring Our Heroes programs). Create a marketing campaign and associated "concierge service" to encourage Fort Cavazos personnel to remain local after service, supporting them in career exploration and accessing transitional services.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.

	Create a regional outreach effort to promote entrepreneurial opportunities to Fort Cavazos personnel transitioning into the civilian workforce, with a focus on defense contractor opportunities	CTCOG, SBDCs, area incubators, PTACs	Med	DOD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation; SBA Office of Veterans Business Development	Started	Event to take place in Jan/Feb 2023	
	Collaborate with Tesla to connect local businesses to related supply chain opportunities.	CTCOG and Tesla with local chambers and advisement from TMAC (Texas' Manufacturing Extension)	Low	N/A	Not Started	What lense do we want to look at this through?	
	Encourage greater utilization of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers to help local businesses capture greater federal procurement opportunities and Fort Cavazos economic impact; host education/awareness events in collaboration with PTACs.*	PTACs, Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), CTCOG, Fort Cavazos	Low	N/A	Not Started	Try to do event/webinar/summit with PTAC in 2023, incorporate into entrepreneurial event, tried reaching out but no response	
	Promote digital literacy in small businesses, leveraging existing training models.*	Chambers	Low	N/A	Not Started	CTCOG creates fact sheet, type based on feedback from DDCT	
Cultivate, attract, and retain a talented workforce.	Strengthen and continue partnerships between institutions of higher education and high/middle schools in the region to provide apprenticeships opportunities and increase participation of youth in skilled jobs and post-secondary degrees.	High schools and middle schools, higher education institutions, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Chambers, major employers	High	Texas Workforce Commission programs (Skills Development Fund), employer contributions	Complete	P20 Council. Rockdale technical education/career development center with EDA Public Works grant.	
	Further leverage and scale mechanisms for facilitating entry of Fort Cavazos personnel into local private sector talent pool (e.g. the Heroes MAKE America and Hiring Our Heroes programs). Create a marketing campaign and associated "concierge service" to encourage Fort Cavazos personnel to remain local after service, supporting them in career exploration and accessing transitional services.	CTCOG coordinate with area higher education institutions, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Heart of Texas Defense Alliance, Chambers, Hiring our Heroes (U.S. Chamber Foundation), Heroes Make America (The Manufacturing Institute)	High	CTCOG and partner staff time with potential employer contributions/sponsorships	Started	Veteran Employer Summit-May 17th, Maybe reoccurring summit (entrepreneurship and/or milspouse). Possibly hold annually. TAP at Fort Cavazos concierge service. Milspouse Event was on 11/1/22. Approx a dozen attendees Maybe have discussions with partners when planning entrep. event on what our role can be on this topic	
Proactively shape growth to ensure quality of place.	Study the region's housing stock and develop strategies to ensure adequate housing product for current and future residents. Product should outline tactics for municipalities to help induce both new construction and improvements to substandard homes.	CTCOG and Jurisdictions	High	Community Development Block Grant	Started	How does the DDCT want us to address this?	
	Create a Regional Trails Plan that enhances multi-modal transportation options and ensures robust access to outdoor amenities and water features. -probably 2023	CTCOG and KTMO, jurisdictions, Texas Parks, and Wildlife, US Army Corp	High	KTMO; Texas Parks & Wildlife Department	Not Started	Maybe start looking into this in winter 23?-KTMO	
	<u>Encourage a diversity of retail, services, and entertainment establishments, particularly in downtowns; conduct retail leakage studies; host a small-town "Texas Downtowns" regional gathering to discuss strategies to increase foot traffic</u>	CTCOG and local EDCs	High	N/A	Started	Small Town Summit 9 Ask if retail leakage studies is something DDCT is interested in	
	Develop a regional land use plan and master plans for cities, setting the foundation for decisions affecting where growth and development are channeled.	CTCOG and Jurisdictions	Med	Texas Dept. of Agriculture Programs	Not Started	Master plans should be developed via consultants, CTCOG can help with land use planning as needed - we can look into funding sources (state and federal level)	
	Assist jurisdictions with updating ordinances and policies in anticipation of subdivision development interest; with attention to policies requiring developer contribution to utilities expansion.	CTCOG and Jurisdictions	Low	N/A	Not Started	CTCOG can assist in a contract level as needed	
Enhance the region's economic connectivity.	Expand broadband, creating a Broadband Advisory Council to accelerate the audit/survey/buildout process across jurisdictions.	CTCOG with Connected Nation and locally active ISPs	High	ARPA, Connected Nation, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund	Started	Same as another above objective-CAPCOG, BVCOG, CTCOG Regional Working Group on broadband.	
	Expand public transit offerings to provide reliable, affordable public transportation options for connecting <u>rural residents</u> with employment centers	CTCOG, Hill Country Transit District, TXDOT, MPO's	High	Federal formula funds	Started	Rural service for the HOP is free for a year, Killeen has a city wide dial for a ride service, upcoming changes will be announced soon. Plans for microtransit zones. HOP is trying to secure funding from cities/counties to make up for budget shortfalls. April 2024- microtransit stops getting rolled out, TMAs later that year Secured contributions from every county but Hamilton, still in the talks with Hamilton RFP out for 60-90 microtransit vehicles and a tech vendor to do trip planning	



TEXAS VETERANS
COMMISSION
"Helping Veterans Start Here"



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
CENTRAL TEXAS™

Central Texas Veteran Entrepreneurial Summit

January 30, 2024

9:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Calvert Building

302 E. 3rd Street

Lampasas, TX 76550

9:00am – 9:05am	Welcome and Updates <i>Mayor Herb Pearce, City of Lampasas</i>
9:05am – 9:45am	Panel: Best Practices for a Business Plan <i>Alysia Perkins, Business Counselor, Central Texas Business Resource Center</i> <i>Dr. Lucas Loafman, Interim Dean of College of Business Administration Texas A&M-Central Texas</i> <i>Ryan Shahan, General Manager, Cadence Bank</i> <i>Aaron Cornish, Owner, Alamo Coffee</i>
9:45am – 10:00am	Texas Veterans Commission – Veteran Entrepreneur Services <i>Megan Tamez, Director of Veteran Entrepreneur Program, TVC Veterans Commission</i>
10:00am – 10:15am	Break/Networking
10:15am – 10:45am	Panel: Financing, Tax, and Legal Resources <i>Ryan Shahan, General Manager, Cadence Bank</i> <i>Venture Capitalist-Name Here, Company/Agency (Someone from outside of Lampasas)</i> <i>SBA Loans-Name Here, Company/Agency –(Focus on Credit Unions-Maybe Navy Federal, First State Bank?, maybe Fort Hood Credit Union, maybe someone from SBA?)</i> <i>Sid Ball, CPA and Managing Partner, Ball and Ball</i> <i>Kelvin Barkowsky, President, First Texas Bank</i>
10:45am – 11:45am	Resource Fair
11:45am – 12:00pm	Acknowledgements/Wrap-Up <i>Maria De La Luz Gonzalez, Rural Veterans Career Advisor, Texas Veterans Commission</i>

Item 8:
Regarding Updates on
Regional Broadband
Initiatives

Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

Staff will provide an update on various broadband initiatives and opportunities for the region.

- Texas BDO Regional Working Group Central Texas Region has been established (CTCOG, BVCOG, HOTCOG)
- The BOOT program will see more eligible locations due to SB 1238.
- Local Gov Broadband Roundtable meets virtually on first Thursday of each month at 10am (BDO program). The event link can be found [here](#).
- In November, the BDO will accept comments for the BEAD Program's Initial Proposal draft and their Texas Digital Opportunity Plan draft. More information is coming and will be posted on the BDO site.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only

Item 9:

**Regarding Federal and
State Legislative Updates
Pertaining to Economic
Development**

Regarding Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development Texas

Legislative Updates

On November 7th, there will be several propositions on the ballot. The following propositions relate to broadband, economic development, and other relevant topics:

- **Proposition 2** – SJR 64 "The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county or municipality of all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility."
- **Proposition 7** – SJR 93 "The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities."
- **Proposition 8** – HJR 125 "The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects."

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.

Item 10:

**Regarding Updates on
Grant Opportunities**

Other Grant Opportunities

Texas Community Development Block Grant

- **State Urgent Need (SUN) Fund:** **Deadline is 1 year from event**

Fund is by invitation only. Funds can only be utilized for activities that will restore water or sewer infrastructure whose sudden failure has resulted in either death, illness, injury or pose an imminent threat to life or health within the affected applicant's jurisdiction and the problem being addressed must be of recent origin (no more than 30 days from date of event).

Match: Varies 70/30-80/20

Award minimum: \$25,000

Award maximum: \$350,000

[https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/DisasterReliefFundApplicationandGuide.aspx](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/DisasterReliefFundApplicationandGuide.aspx)

- **Community Development Fund:** **Reopens Spring 2025**

The objectives of the TxCDBG Program are to improve public facilities to meet basic human needs, principally for low-to-moderate income persons, to improve housing conditions, principally for persons of low-to-moderate income, to expand economic opportunities by creating or retaining jobs, principally for low-to-moderate income persons, to provide assistance and public facilities to eliminate conditions hazardous to the public health and of an emergency nature. For the Community Development Fund, although most funds are used for Public Facilities (water/wastewater infrastructure, street and drainage improvements and housing activities), there are numerous other activities for which these funds may be used. Scoring of applicants will be done by the State out of 200 points, with 150 determined by the Unified Scoring Committee Criteria and TDA State Scoring Factors. 50 points are determined by the applicant's project being one of our region's priorities. The Regional Priorities for the CTCOG region have been selected;. CTCOG's priorities will be flood drainage improvements, water/sewer improvements, street improvements, first time public service water/wastewater yard line projects.

Non-Federal Match: <2%->20% depending on population

Award:

Application Minimum: Single Jurisdiction: \$200,000; Multi-Jurisdiction: \$200,000

Application Maximum: Single Jurisdiction: \$500,000; Multi-Jurisdiction: \$500,000

Contact Aubrey-Ann Gilmore by email at

Aubrey-Ann.Gilmore@TexasAgriculture.gov or by calling (512) 936-7894.

[https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/CommunityDevelopmentFundApplicationGuide.aspx](https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/CommunityDevelopmentFundApplicationGuide.aspx)

• **Downtown Revitalization and Main Street Programs: Reopens Spring 2025**

Addresses the objective of eliminating slum or blight conditions in the downtown area of a city or town. The assistance must be for public infrastructure improvements, which will aid in the elimination of a slum or blighted area. Eligible applicants are cities with less than 50,000 people, and counties with less than 200,000 people, with a designated downtown district satisfying two or more of the following:

- The city's historic area of commerce
- May be the area around the courthouse or city square;
- Commercial area for the community
- Buildings of historical significance, but not primarily residential
- Must be areas included in or contiguous to the economic center of the community; and
- The retail area for the community that does not include single-family dwellings.

Match: Minimum 3.5%

Award Minimum: \$250,000

Award Maximum: \$500,000

Contact Crystal Ortegon by email at

Crystal.Ortegon@TexasAgriculture.gov

<https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant%28CDBG%29/CDBGResources/Applications/DRPMS.aspx>

• **Planning and Capacity Building Fund: Reopens 2023**

The Planning and Capacity Building Fund is a competitive grant program for local public facility and housing planning activities. Localities apply for financial assistance to prepare a "comprehensive plan" or any of its components.

Match: Depends on population of localities

Award Maximum: Grant maximum depends on population of localities

Beneficiary Population	Maximum Grant Amount	Minimum Match Commitment
200 to 1,000 persons	\$35,000	5%
1,001 to 1,500 persons	\$37,500	5%
1,501 to 2,500 persons	\$40,000	10%
2,501 to 5,000 persons	\$45,000	10%
5,001 to 7,500 persons	\$55,000	15%
7,501 to 10,000 persons	\$65,000	15%
10,001 to 25,000 persons	\$75,000	20%
25,000 to 50,000 persons	\$75,000	25%

Contact Aubrey-Ann Gilmore at (512) 936-7894 or Aubrey-Ann.Gilmore@TexasAgriculture.gov
[https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/PCBApplicationandGuide.aspx](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/PCBApplicationandGuide.aspx)

- **Fire, Ambulance and Services Truck (FAST) Fund: Reopens 2023**

The Fire, Ambulance, & Service Truck (FAST) Fund provides funds for eligible vehicles to provide emergency response and special services to rural communities.

Match: 50%

Award Amounts:

Application Minimum:

Single Jurisdiction: \$50,000

Multi-jurisdiction: \$50,000

Application Maximum:

Single Jurisdiction: \$750,000

Multi-jurisdiction: \$750,000

Contact Michelle Phares by email at

Michelle.Phares@TexasAgriculture.gov or by calling (512) 936-6702

[https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/FASTFund.aspx](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/FASTFund.aspx)

EDA

- **EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs: Applications Ongoing**

These Programs provide funding for cities, counties, states, private and public institutes of higher education, and non-profits for build, design, or engineer critical infrastructure and facilities that will help implement regional development strategies and advance bottom-up economic development goals to promote regional prosperity if aligned with the current 2022-26 CEDS, and any construction and non-construction activities that help communities experiencing or anticipating economic dislocation.

Examples of previously funded Public Works projects include:

- Acquisition and development of land and improvements for use in public works or other types of development facilities;
- Design and engineering, construction, rehabilitation, alteration, expansion, or improvement of public works, public service, or related development facilities, including related machinery and equipment;
- Water and sewer system improvements;
- Creation or expansion of industrial parks;
- Creation or expansion of business incubator and accelerator facilities;

- Expansion of port and harbor facilities;
- Construction or expansion of facilities for workforce development;
- Redevelopment of brownfield sites;
- Expansion, construction, or improvements of technology-based facilities and research and development commercialization centers, including the procurement of necessary equipment;
- Construction, expansion, or improvement of wet labs, including the procurement of necessary equipment;
- Construction of multi-tenant manufacturing facilities;
- Expansion or improvement of research, business and science parks; and
- Expansion or enhancement of public facilities with higher quality fiber optic cables and
- Telecommunications infrastructure and broadband infrastructure deployment.

Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) projects include infrastructure, design and engineering, technical assistance, economic recovery strategies, and capitalization or re-capitalization of revolving loan funds in regions experiencing adverse economic changes. Examples of prior funded projects include:

- Construction or upgrading of public infrastructure;
- Design and implementation of sectoral partnerships;
- Activities necessary to strengthen cluster acceleration and expansion;
- Capitalization or recapitalization of revolving loan funds (RLFs);
- Development and implementation of long-term disaster recovery and resiliency plans;
- Enhancement of infrastructure to make it more resilient to natural disasters;
- Implementation of military base realignments and closures (BRAC) responses;
- Development or expansion of commercialization and proof of concept centers;
- Procurement of equipment for workforce training programs;
- Market or industry research and analysis for larger hard or soft economic projects;
- Creation or expansion of foreign direct investment, trade, or export initiatives;
- Economic development projects that enhance density in the vicinity of other economic development;
- “Strategy grants” to develop, update, or refine a CEDS; and

-
- Development of projects that provide technical assistance to enhance the capacity of key economic development actors in the region to promote the region's locally owned strategies.

Awards are expected to be \$600,000-\$5 million for the Public Works Program and \$150,000-\$2.5 million for the EAA. Match ranges from 50-80% based on the average per capita income and unemployment rate as well as the actual or threatened economic situation of the region where the project is located.

<https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?dpp=1&oppPkgId=255947>

- **Recompete Pilot Program:** Applications for Phase One Due October 5th, 2023

This program will award grants of between \$250,000 and \$500,000 to local governments, political subdivisions of the state, a public entity or non-profit in cooperation with a political subdivision, or a coalition of these entities in Phase One to develop Strategy Development Grants and approve Recompete Plans that address persistent economic distress and support long-term, comprehensive economic development and job creation in places with a high prime-age (25 to 54 years) employment gap. Plans can include:

- Coordination and execution of an inclusive, locally-defined planning process, across jurisdictions and agencies, to develop a comprehensive regional strategy to address high prime-age employment gaps in the regions (i.e., a PAEG strategy)
- Identification and fostering of regional partnerships for developing and implementing a comprehensive regional PAEG strategy
- Implementation or updating of assessments to determine regional needs and capabilities; Development or updating of goals and strategies to implement an existing comprehensive regional PAEG strategy
- Identification or implementation of planning, local zoning, and other changes to code, law, or policy necessary to implement a comprehensive regional PAEG strategy
- Development of plans for promoting broad-based economic growth in a region
- Hiring of the coalition's RPC to lead the overall effort and other necessary staff
- Formation of a workforce development strategy, according to the needs for a skilled and diverse technical workforce aligned with the region's strengths
- Activities necessary to prepare for strategy implementation, which may include workforce development strategies, environmental, and engineering documentation, if applicable

Eligible project areas must either be a Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area with a Prime Age Employment Gap (difference between national 5-year average prime-age employment rate and the 5-year average prime-age employment rate of the eligible area) of at least 2.5% and a local community with a PAEG of at least 5% and median income of no more than \$75,000.

Approved Recompete Plans will be eligible for Phase Two Implementation grants.

For more information and to apply, go here: [Recompete Pilot Program NOFO phase 1 vF.pdf \(eda.gov\)](#)

SBA

- **7(a) Loans**

The 7(a) Program is the SBA's most common loan program, and provides up to \$5 million in working capital for for-profit small business, as defined by SBA. Eligibility is determined by income, credit history, and where the business operates. Eligible uses of funds include

- Long- and short-term working capital
- Revolving funds based on the value of existing inventory and receivables
- The purchase of equipment, machinery, furniture, fixtures, supplies, or materials
- The purchase of real estate, including land and buildings
- The construction a new building or renovation an existing building
- Establishing a new business or assisting in the acquisition, operation or expansion of an existing business
- Refinancing existing business debt, under certain conditions

Loan terms are worked out with the SBA. For more information and how to apply, visit the SBA 7(a) page- <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/7a-loans>

USDA

- **Community Facilities Grant and Loan Program:** Applications are accepted throughout the year

This grant and/or loan is for the purchase, construction, and/or improvement of essential community facilities, including health care facilities such as hospitals and medical clinics, public facilities such as town halls and courthouses, community support services, public safety services, utility services, and local food systems such as community gardens and kitchens. For FY 2022, Texas has approximately \$30 million for loans, and <\$1 million for grants. Eligible recipients include public bodies and community-based nonprofits. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

Non-Federal Match: 25-85% depending on population and median household income of community

Award: Grant funds portion of project depending on population and median household income of community. Loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes, the applicants authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less.

Contact Daniel Torres, Acting State Director at USDA Rural Development Texas, at (254) 742-9700

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/tx>

- **Community Connect:** Reopens 2024

The Community Connect program provides \$100,000-\$5 million grants to eligible applicants that will provide broadband service in rural, economically-challenged communities where service does not exist.

Eligible applicants include:

- Incorporated organizations
- State and local units of government
- Any other legal entity, including cooperatives, private corporations, or limited liability companies organized on a for-profit or not-for-profit basis

Eligible areas must be rural areas that lack any existing broadband speed of at least 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream are eligible.

Funds may be used for:

- The construction, acquisition, or leasing of facilities, spectrum, land or buildings used to deploy broadband service
- The cost of providing broadband service free of charge to the critical community facilities for 2 years
- Less than 10% of the grant amount or up to \$150,000 may be used for the improvement, expansion, construction or acquisition of a community center that provides online access to the public
-

At least 15% match required. Projects must provide 100 Mbps/20 Mbps service.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/community-connect-grants>

- **Rural Utilities Service Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantee:**
Applications are Accepted Throughout the Year

This program provides financing for the construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of telephone service and broadband in rural areas. Eligible areas include

1. Rural areas and towns with a population of 5,000 or less
2. Areas without telecommunications facilities or areas where the applicant is the recognized telecommunications provider

Loans are available for improvements, expansions, construction, and acquisition and refinancing in certain cases.

- **Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant: Applications Accepted Year Round**

This program helps eligible communities prepare, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water. Water transmission line grants up to \$150,000 are to construct waterline extensions, repair breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, and address related maintenance necessary to replenish the water supply. Water source grants up to \$1,000,000 are to construct a water source, intake or treatment facility. Funds can be obtained in up to 6 months.

Non-Federal Match: No Match Required

Award Maximum:

Water Transmission Line Grants: \$150,000

Water Source Grants: \$1,000,000

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants/tx>

- **Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program:** **Applications Accepted Year Round**
This program provides \$150,000-approximately \$20 million in long term, low interest loans (and grants if funds are available) for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in cities with populations less than 10,000. While it is primarily for drinking water sourcing and treatment as well as sewer collection, funds may also be used for start up operations and maintenance. Loan term is 40 years and fixed interest rate is determined by the need for the project and median household of the area to be served. Funds can be obtained in 18-24 months.
- **Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program:** **Application deadlines quarterly, with the next deadline being December 31st, 2023**

The USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program provides zero-interest loans and grants to current and former eligible Rural Utilities Service borrowers to then use the funds to help local businesses finance projects to create and retain jobs or finance community facility projects. Up to \$300,000 in grants and \$2 million in loans may be requested to establish revolving loan funds. Eligible entities include:

- A former Rural Utilities Service borrower who borrowed, repaid or pre-paid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan.
- Nonprofit utilities that are eligible to receive assistance from the Rural Development Electric or Telecommunication Programs.
- Current Rural Development Electric or Telecommunication Programs borrowers.

Eligible areas are rural with a population of less than 50,000. Eligible projects include:

- Business incubators.
- Community development assistance to nonprofits and public bodies (particularly for job creation or enhancement).
- Facilities and equipment to educate and train rural residents to facilitate economic development.
- Start-up venture costs, including, but not limited to, financing fixed assets such as real estate, buildings, equipment or working capital.
- Business expansion.
- Technical assistance.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-economic-development-loan-grant-program?fbclid=IwAR1H3uTwNP-QWIOskRltyTeG8PZwJSuKfMMSdEiJuEnTEDr1xANljCttBoE>

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- **Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program-**Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline December 31st, 2023

The USDA's Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP) for fiscal year (FY) 2023 provides loans and grants to a non-profit entity, or public institutions of higher education as a Microenterprise Development Organization (MDO) to establish revolving loan funds to provide loans to rural microenterprises and micro entrepreneurs. Loan funds are used by the MDO to establish or recapitalize a revolving loan program for making microloans to a rural microentrepreneur business. Grant funds are used by the MDO to provide technical assistance and entrepreneurship training to rural individuals and businesses. Maximum awards are \$500,000 for loans, and \$100,000 for grants. Match is 15-25%.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program/tx>

- **Intermediary Relending Program-**Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline December 31st, 2023

The USDA's Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) for FY 2023 provides low-interest loans to local lenders or "intermediaries" that re-lend the funds to businesses to improve economic conditions and create new opportunities in rural communities. Eligible applicants include private non-profit corporations, public agencies, or a cooperative entity, identified as eligible intermediary. Maximum loan amounts are expected to be \$1 million. Match will be 25% minimum.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/intermediary-relending-program/tx>

- **Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans & Grant Program-** Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline December 31st, 2023

This program provides loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Projects must be located in rural areas with populations of 50,000 or less. Loan guarantees are available up to 75% of eligible project costs and grants up to 50% of project costs. Grant terms are:

Renewable Energy System Grants:

- \$2,500 minimum.
- \$1 million maximum.

Energy Efficiency Grants:

- \$1,500 minimum.
- \$500,000 maximum.
-

Match is 50-75% depending on certain criteria.

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/energy-programs/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency-improvement-guaranteed-loans?fbclid=IwAR3a6rtFHKaw4Yj0R2qvfBbL2LfYTBuFWWf5up9diGfH5iA9K70UY_8Wdh

[W](#)

Texas Broadband Development Office

- **Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT) Program- Reopens 2024, Eligibility Will Broaden to Include Low Latency Areas**

The BOOT Program has released its NOFA! Eligible applicants, including political subdivisions of the State and broadband service providers are now eligible to apply for \$200,000-\$4,999,999 grants with no required match for broadband infrastructure projects that are designed to deliver 100 Mbps symmetrical service through last mile connections to unserved or underserved areas. Eligible expenses include the repair, rehabilitation, construction, improvement, and acquisition of real property, equipment (e.g., devices and office equipment), and facilities (e.g., telecommunications equipment, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle, and last mile networks).

<https://www.txsmartbuy.com/esbddetails/view/BDO-NOFA-001>

Texas Water Development Board

- **Texas Water Development Fund (DFund): Applications are accepted year-round**

The Texas Water Development Fund (DFund) is a state funded loan program that enables the Texas Water Development Board to fund multiple eligible components in one loan to borrowers for planning, design, acquisition, and construction of projects for

- Water supply
- Wastewater
- Water quality enhancement.

Loans are 20-30 year fixed interest and projects must be consistent with the current TWDB State Water Plan. To apply, reach out to one of the TWDB's Regional Project Implementation Teams to determine if the proposed project is eligible.

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/TWDF/index.asp>

Office of the Governor

- **Event Trust Fund Program: Application Period Rolling**

The Event Trust Program can assist Texas communities with paying costs related to preparing for or conducting an event by depositing projected gains in various local and state taxes generated from the event in a dedicated event-specific trust fund to cover allowable expenses. Eligible entities include municipalities, counties, or non-profit local organizing committees endorsed by a Texas municipality or county which has been selected to host a qualified event.

Match: Applicants must contribute \$1 in local tax gains for every \$6.25 the state contributes to the fund. Events Trust Fund grant awards are disbursed on a reimbursement basis following a review by the Governor's Office of submitted costs after the completion of the qualified event.

Award Maximum: One-hundred percent of allowable expenses may be funded, provided sufficient tax receipts are deposited in the trust fund. The program is funded through event-generated tax increase; there is no maximum or minimum amount of funds available.

<https://gov.texas.gov/business/page/event-trust-funds-program>

Texas Workforce Commission

- **Skills for Small Business for Employers: Apply All Year**

Through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Skills for Small Business program, up to \$2 million from the Skills Development Fund is dedicated to training for employees of small employers. Small businesses can apply to TWC for training offered by their local community or technical college, or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). TWC processes the applications and works with the college to fund the specific courses selected by businesses for their employees.

This opportunity supports businesses with fewer than 100 employees and emphasizes training for new workers though it also may help upgrade the skills of incumbent workers.

- Skills for Small Business emphasizes training newly hired employees, those who have been hired by the business up to twelve months prior to the date that TWC receives an application.
- The program pays up to \$1,800 for each new employee being trained and \$900 for existing employees per 12-month period.
- Funding for training is for full-time employees.
- All training must be provided by a public community or technical college, or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). No third-party vendor training is allowed.
- Training must be selected from active course catalogs/schedules— credit, continuing education, online or other available unpublished courses.
- Employers must pay the prevailing wages in the local labor market for the trainees funded under the grant.

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/businesses/skills-small-business-employers#overview>

Texas Parks and Wildlife

- **Local Parks Grant Programs-Application deadline August 1st, Annual**

TPWD administers the Local Parks Grant Programs consisting of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities. Match is 50%. The five programs are:

Local Parks Urban Outdoor Recreation: Up to \$1.5 million

Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation: \$750,000

Local Parks Small Community Recreation: \$150,000

Local Parks Urban Indoor Recreation: \$1.5 million, Application deadline TBD

Local Parks Non-Urban Indoor Recreation: \$1 million, Application Deadline TBD

[Local Parks Grants — Texas Parks & Wildlife Department](#)

TX-PACE Program

The Texas Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (TX-PACE) is a long term financing tool for improvements to energy efficiency, water-conservation, and on-site generation for commercial, industrial, and multifamily properties. The program allows property owners to finance 100% of their project costs with private funding paid off through a senior lien as long as the useful life of the equipment, allowing all PACE Projects to be cashflow positive. A non-profit, Texas PACE Authority, can administer the financing and is paid a user fee by the property owner. The Texas Pace Authority has also created a “PACE in a Box” toolkit for local governments to use to create uniform and sustainable local PACE programs.

<https://www.texaspaceauthority.org/>

Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)

General Assistance Fund-Application Deadline December 4th, 2023

This program will open for applications for 2024-25 on October 2nd, 2023. The General Assistance Fund provides \$5,000-\$300,000 in incremental funding requests to local governments, nonprofit organizations, and Veteran’s service organizations for:

- Financial Assistance: Provide limited emergency assistance and financial relief to clients who can demonstrate financial need.
- Supportive Services: Services identified through case management that provide support for low-income clients to enable stability and promote family integration with the community, including meal delivery services elder care services, and family support services
- Homeless Veteran Support: Supportive services and rapid rehousing for clients who are homeless or have transitioned out of a homeless status and are identified in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Supportive services are identified through case management to address acute and chronic conditions underlying the homeless status.
- Employment Support: Resources that support clients to prepare, secure, and maintain employment.
- Pro Bono Legal Services: Civil legal services.
- Referral Services: Programs that provide contact information of organization(s) that

provide services needed by the client.

- Transportation Programs & Services: Provide a transportation service to clients in the local area, county, or region with the use of the organization's fleet.
- Veteran Small Business Support: Stabilizing or growing 100% veteran-owned businesses for the purpose of maintaining self-employment.

<https://www.tvc.texas.gov/2024-2025-grant-cycle/?fbclid=IwAR1cm2VVCqnjTSk1NvKaKuGkmrGUbUbBPhSJVEa-22kEMvyvjnzysS9uanY>

Communities Unlimited Financing

Communities Unlimited is a non-profit U.S. Treasury-certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that finances small businesses, water and waste wastewater projects, and community facilities projects for nonprofit corporations and local government entities. Financing for water/community facilities projects will be up to \$750,000 at 6% interest and for small businesses \$1,000-\$100,000 at around 3% interest with a turnaround time on receiving funds of several months. Eligible recipients must serve a significant number of low-income customers and have a population of less than 20,000.

- Small Business Loans can be used for working capital, equipment purchase, and business purchase.
- Community Facilities projects include public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, fire departments and/or fire trucks, safety services, etc.
- Water and wastewater projects must improve public health and system security, extend service to new customers or improve service to existing customers, and create opportunities for economic development.

Housing and Urban Development

Thriving Communities Program- Applications Ongoing

HUD's Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Program is now open for local governments and political subdivisions to request technical assistance!

The Program will provide technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support to teams of community partners that may lack the staffing or technical expertise to scope, fund, and develop infrastructure projects that advance broader community goals. USDOT and HUD funded capacity building teams in late 2022 to provide this technical assistance for 2023-25- local governments and other political subdivisions are now able to request technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support including assistance with grant applications, project scoping, planning and predevelopment activities, and pre-engineering studies from these teams for transportation and community revitalization activities that

1. Increase mobility

2. Reduce pollution from transportation sources
3. Expand affordable transportation and housing options
4. Improve health outcomes
5. Facilitate efficient land use
6. Preserve or expand jobs, and
7. Enhance connections to health care, education, and food security to benefit disadvantaged populations and communities.

Priority will be given to cities and political subdivisions with populations of less than 250,000 people, as well as to those receiving certain Department of Transportation competitive funds.

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/cpdta/tcta?fbclid=IwAR3XIX3oE1W2TA3oozFjN9WEbdMBZ3tTJXRZRFHanJkvGUrgnn_jvJDxD9g

HOPE VI Main Street Grant Program-Application Deadline October 12th, 2023

This program provides grants up to \$1 million to local governments and political subdivisions smaller than 50,000 to assist in the renovation of an historic or traditional central business district, or “Main Street” area, by replacing unused, obsolete, commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units. Match will be at least 5%. The objectives of the program are to:

- Redevelop central business districts (Main Street areas);
- Preserve historic or traditional Main Street area properties by replacing unused commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units;
- Enhance economic development efforts in Main Street areas; and
- Provide affordable housing in Main Street areas.

OneStar Foundation

AmeriCorps Program-Application Deadline to Apply is February 1st, 2024

This program provides grants to support the development of an AmeriCorps program and AmeriCorps member positions that engage members in service to meet critical needs in Texas. Project periods are for three years with continuation grants required for the second and third year. Eligible applicants include local governments, ISDs, nonprofits, and institutions of higher education. AmeriCorps VISTA areas include disaster services, economic opportunity, and education.

Websites:

Texas Economic Development Council: <https://texasedc.org/>

American Planning Association: <https://planning.org/>

Texas Department of Agriculture: <https://texasagriculture.gov/>

Grants.Gov: <https://www.grants.gov/>

EDA: <https://www.eda.gov/>

USDA: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/telecom-programs>

USDOT: <https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law>

Texas PACE Authority: <https://www.texaspaceauthority.org/>

Texas Office of the Governor Economic Development: <https://gov.texas.gov/business>

Texas Parks and Wildlife: <https://tpwd.texas.gov>

National Telecommunications and Information Administration: <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/>

Texas Water Development Board: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/>

Texas Workforce Commission: <https://www.twc.texas.gov/>

Department of Housing and Urban Development: <https://www.hud.gov/>

Staff requests discussion of other grants that DDCT would like to make known to the region.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.

DDCT Board Members

DDCT Board Membership 2023 Contact Information

Name	Board position	County Represented	Title	Organization	Address	Email	Phone
Cynthia Hernandez	Vice-Chair	Bell	Executive Director	Belton EDC	2180 N. Main Belton, TX 76513	chernandez@beltonedc.org	254-770-2270
Bobby Whitson		Bell	Chief Executive Officer	Bell County Commissioners Court	3305 E. Elms Rd. Killeen TX 76542	bobby.whitson@bellcounty.texas.gov	254-690-2274
Ginger Watkins	Chair	Milam	Economic Development Director	Cameron Industrial Foundation	102 E. First Cameron TX 76520	gwatkins@cameronindustrialfoundation.com	254-697-4970
Dean Roome		Bell	Municipal Development District Board Member	City of Bartlett	140 W Clark St Bartlett TX 76511	deana001@aol.com	254-527-3219
Charley Ayres		Bell	Director, Industry/Education Partnership	Workforce Solutions of Central Texas	200 Main St. Belton, TX 76513	charley.ayres@workforcesolutionsctx.com	972-983-1411
Cheri Shepherd		Coryell	Director	City of Gatesville Convention and Visitor's Bureau	110 N 8th St, Gatesville, TX 76528	cshepherd@gatesvilletx.com	(254)499-0102
Jamie LaDuke		Hamilton	Executive Director	Economic and Community Development City of Hamilton	103 ½ N Rice, Hamilton, TX 76531	edc@hamiltontx.com	(254) 386-5954
Ted Gonzalez		Bell	Associate Deputy Chancellor	Business Services at Central Texas College	Academic Dr, Killeen, TX 76549	ted.gonzalez@ctcd.edu	254.526.1668
Jim Gibson		Milam	Economic Development	Rockdale Municipal Development District	134 North Main Street, Rockdale, TX 76567	jim.gibson@rockdalemdd.org	
Michael Boyd		Bell	Councilmember	City of Killeen		mboyd@killeentexas.gov	254-952-7837
Brian O'Connor		Bell	Director	City of Nolanville EDC	101 N 5th Street	boconnor@nolanvilletx.gov	
Jason Johnson		Bell	Owner	JJ Realty Group	Morgan's Point Resort, TX, 76513	jasonj@jjrealtygroup.com	(254)541-0318
Stacey Ybarra		Lampasas	Economic Development Director	City of Lampasas	312 E. Third St. Lampasas, TX 76550	sybarra@cityoflampasas.com	512-556-6831
Dexter Morris		Mills	City Manager	City of Mullin	105 N. 3rd Street Mullin, TX 76864	dexter.morris.tx@gmail.com	(325) 985-3909

Bell, Milam, Hamilton,
Coryell, Lampasas, = Counties represented by Board Members
and Mills

End of Packet