



# GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD

**TENTATIVE AGENDA  
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M.  
IN-PERSON  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, 3555 TIMMONS LANE  
HOUSTON, TX 77027**

The meeting will be in person only and will be open to the public but restrictions regarding masks, allowable room capacity, and seating arrangements may be in place.

**H-GAC Conference Rooms A/B/C  
3555 Timmons Lane, Second Floor, Houston, TX 77027**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Adopt Agenda**
- 3. Hear Public Comment**
- 4. Review April 2022 meeting minutes**
- 5. Declare Conflicts of Interest**
- 6. Consider Reports**
  - a. Chair's Remarks.

A decorative graphic on the left side of the page, consisting of a cluster of blue hexagons of various sizes and orientations, some overlapping, creating a honeycomb-like pattern.

b. Audit/Monitoring.

- i. Briefing on the committee's March meeting
- ii. Update on Next Generation contracts

c. Communications. Briefing on the committee's May meeting

**7. Take Action**

a. Education Hear a briefing on the committee's May meeting and consider a recommendation for a policy update for the child care wait list.

b. Procurement Committee Hear a briefing on the committee's May meeting and consider recommendations from the Board's Procurement Committee for the following:

- Renewal of Adult Education contracts in an amount not to exceed \$21,050,028 and
- Renewal of our payrolling/employer of record in an amount not to exceed \$9,000,000.
- Consider a recommendation for a contract to provide full-service printing in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

**8. 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.

**9. Look at the Economy**

Report on current employment data and economic trends.

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**10. Take Up Other Business.**

**11. Adjourn**

If you wish to make public comment you may do so by providing your comments in writing or requesting to appear in person by no later than 5:00 pm on **Monday, June 6, 2022** to Deborah Duke at [deborah.duke@wrksolutions.net](mailto:deborah.duke@wrksolutions.net).

Meeting materials are available on our website at [www.wrksolutions.com/about-us/meetings](http://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.**

Gulf Coast Workforce Board-Workforce Solutions  
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120, Houston, Texas 77027  
P.O. Box 22777 Houston, Texas 77227-2777  
713.627.3200  
1.888.469.5627 toll-free  
[www.wrksolutions.com](http://www.wrksolutions.com)



**MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
THE GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD  
TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Willie Alexander	Bobbie Henderson	Paul Puente
Gerald Andrews	Alan Heskamp	Monica Riley
Peter Beard	Guy Robert Jackson	Valerie Segovia
Sara Bouse	Doug Karr	Richard Shaw
Carl Bowles	Jeff LaBroski	Gil Staley
Carolyn Bilski	Shareen Larmond	Katherine Taylor
My Helen Cavazos	Michael Love	Lizandra Vazquez
Anthony Gay	Rajen Mahagaokar	Carolyn Watson
Cheryl Guido	Edward Melton	Michael Webster
Mark Guthrie	Adrian Ozuna	

**H-GAC STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ron Borski	Deborah Duke	Mike Temple
Michelle Castrow	Philip Garcia	Chuck Wemple
AJ Dean	Parker Harvey	Brenda William

Mark Guthrie, Chair, called the in-person only meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. Deborah Duke called roll to determine a list of members present. Chair Guthrie determined a quorum was present.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Houston-Galveston Area Council Chair, Mayor Pro-tem and City Councilman of the City of Dickinson, William Henry King III, provided public comments. Mr. King thanked Board Members for their faithful service to the Board and stressed the importance of the

Board's work throughout the region. He expressed his thanks on behalf of the citizens of Dickinson, Galveston County and the region.

There were no additional public comments.

### **MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2021 MEETING**

Chair Guthrie asked 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. No conflicts of interest were declared. Chair Guthrie reminded the members that they were welcome to declare conflicts with items as they are considered.

### **CONSIDER REPORTS**

#### *a. Chair's Report.*

Chair Guthrie provided an update on the anonymous letter some Board Members received in late January. The letter raised some allegations regarding Board Staff activities in connection with a procurement in 2021 as well as personnel complaints. Chair Guthrie, along with Board Officers and the Procurement Committee and Audit Monitoring Committee Chairs, oversaw investigations of the allegations in the letter. The investigations were led by H-GAC's Executive Director and by senior staff at H-GAC. The procurement issue investigation consisted of interviews with all scorers for the proposals in question as well as all of the major participants involved in the procurement process. Chair Guthrie reported that the investigation of the procurement issues has been concluded and no evidence was found that the claim had any validity.

Chair Guthrie invited H-GAC Executive Director, Chuck Wemple, to provide an update on the investigation of the personnel allegations contained in the anonymous letter. Mr. Wemple reported that over a dozen individuals were interviewed regarding the complaints and the investigation was nearly concluded. Disciplinary actions, exit interviews and turnover rate within the department were also reviewed. To date, no evidence of unethical or improper behavior has been found in the personnel issues investigation. While some areas of potential improvement were identified and will be followed up on, no practices or behaviors have been identified that rose to the level of the personnel related complaints included in the letter. Mr. Wemple advised the Board that a formal report of this

investigation will be submitted to the Workforce Board Chair and Vice Chairs in the future when it is completed.

Chair Guthrie reported that the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Annual Forum event begins in Washington DC next week. Chair Guthrie, Board member Cheryl Guido and Board staff Anna Kluth along with several students are scheduled to present a workshop on the Paving the Pathways program during the Forum.

Chair Guthrie also reported that he and Board member Guy Robert Jackson attended the quarterly meeting of the Texas Association of Workforce Boards in Austin in February. The meeting included a preview of what to expect in the next Texas legislative session as well as remarks from the new President of the Texas Association of Business.

On local matters, Chair Guthrie provided an update on a February outreach meeting with the Matagorda County Economic Development Corporation that is part of the Communications Committee's current efforts. He reported that he and Mike Temple attended that meeting and there was a good turnout and informative discussion about the needs of area employers and how the Board can assist them. Participants included the Matagorda County Judge Nate McDonald, representatives of the economic development corporation and local chamber of commerce, representatives of a number of large area employers as well as representatives of colleges, and area middle and high schools. Chair Guthrie reminded the Board that several similar meetings are scheduled around the region in the coming months and encouraged members to attend as many of these meetings as possible.

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 and Monitoring Committee met by videoconference on March 24, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. Members - Guy Robert Jackson, Gerald Andrews, Sara Bouse, Carl Bowles, Helen Cavazos, Mark Guthrie, Bobbie Henderson and Doug Karr attended.

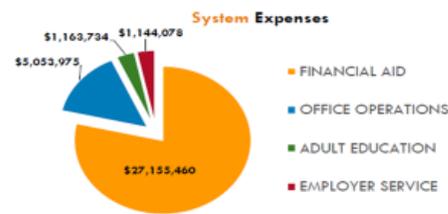
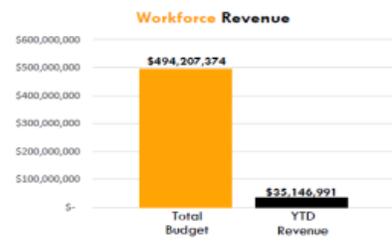
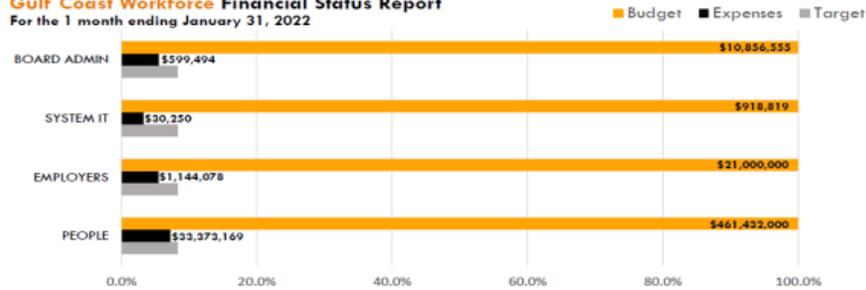
The committee received information on the system review, an update on the system performance, trends and opportunities and a risk management review.

**System Review**

System level review of performance/production and expenditures. Contractor level review for performance/production and expenditures follows this report.

## Audit/Monitoring Committee

### Gulf Coast Workforce Financial Status Report For the 1 month ending January 31, 2022



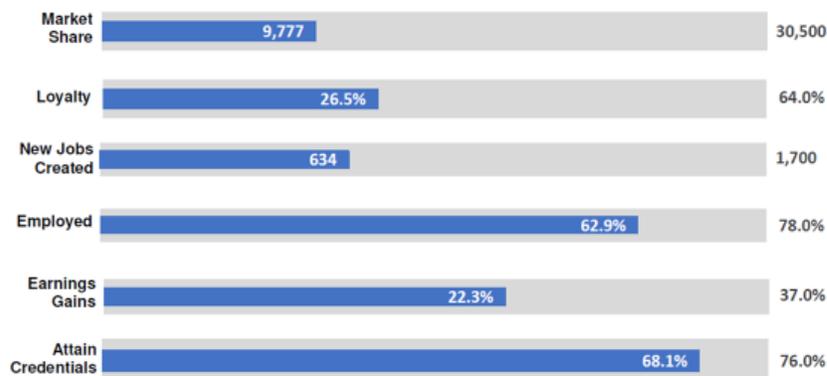
## Audit/Monitoring Committee

### Gulf Coast Workforce Board

System Performance

#### Performance Measures

October 2021 to February 2022



## Audit/Monitoring Committee

### Gulf Coast Workforce Board

System Performance

#### Production Measures



Number of measures meeting or exceeding

#### Measures that require additional focus

October 2021 to February 2022



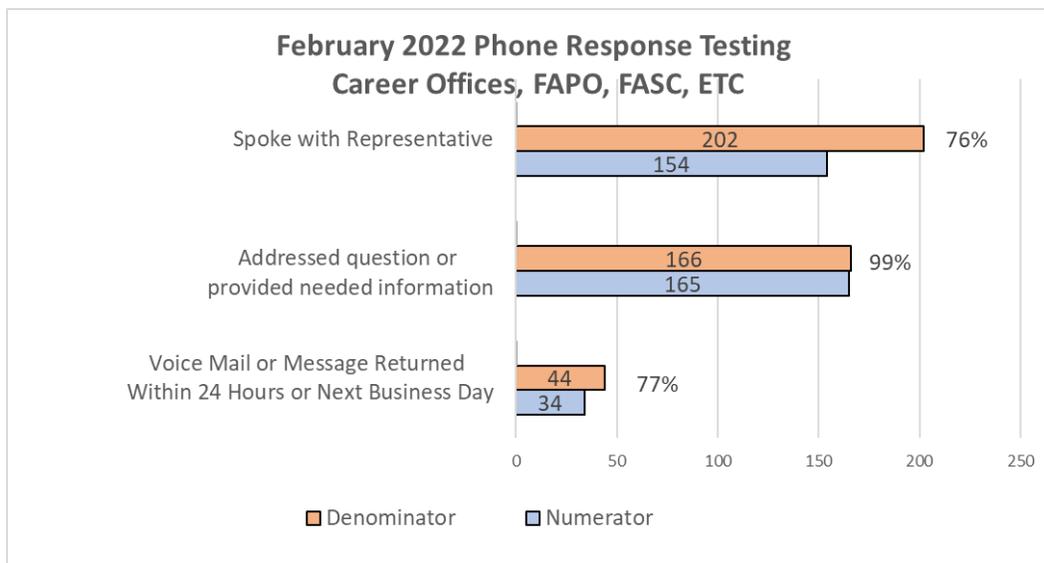
#### Adult Education

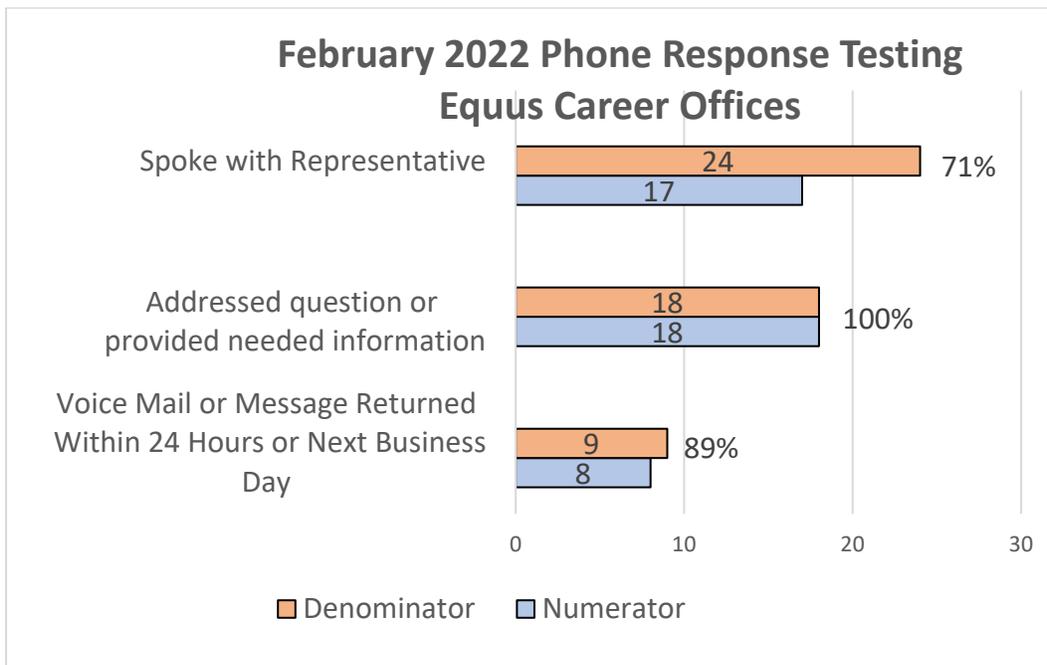
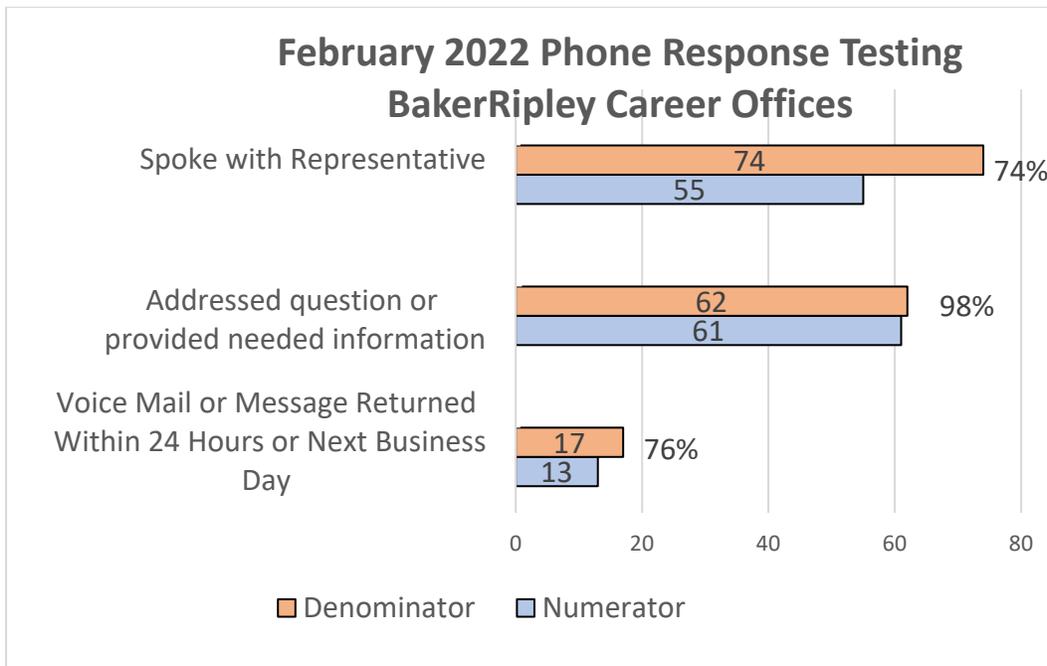
July 2021 to February 2022

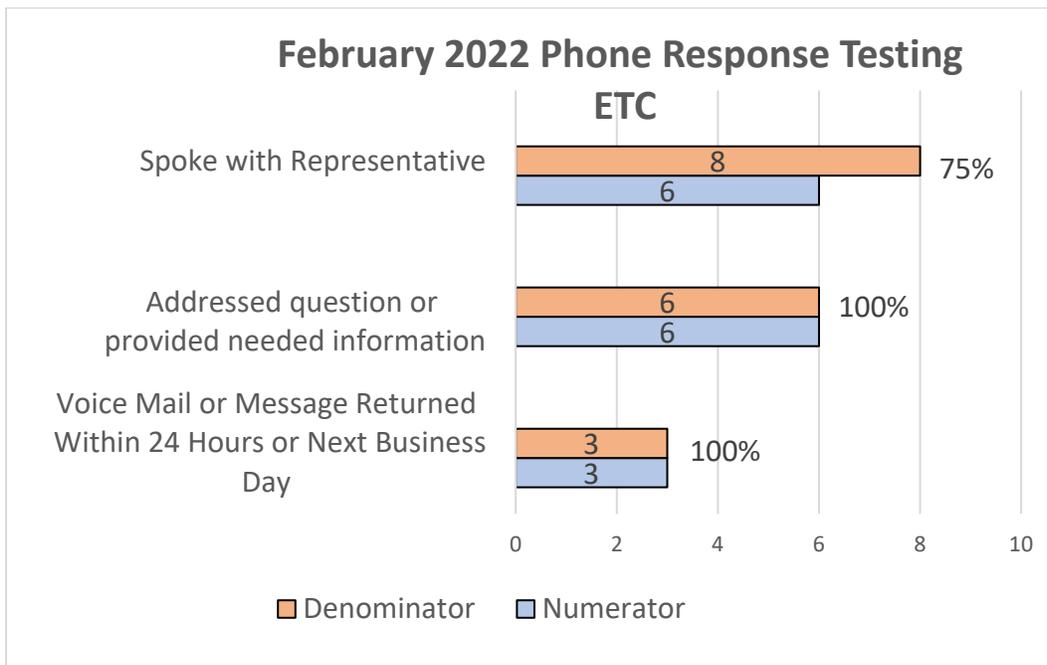
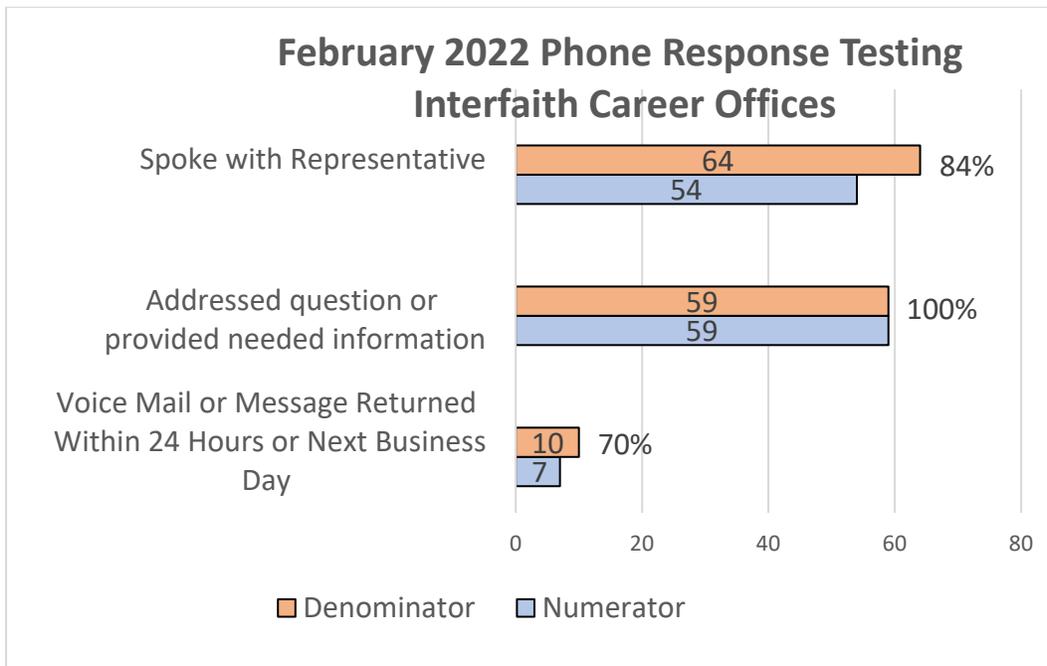


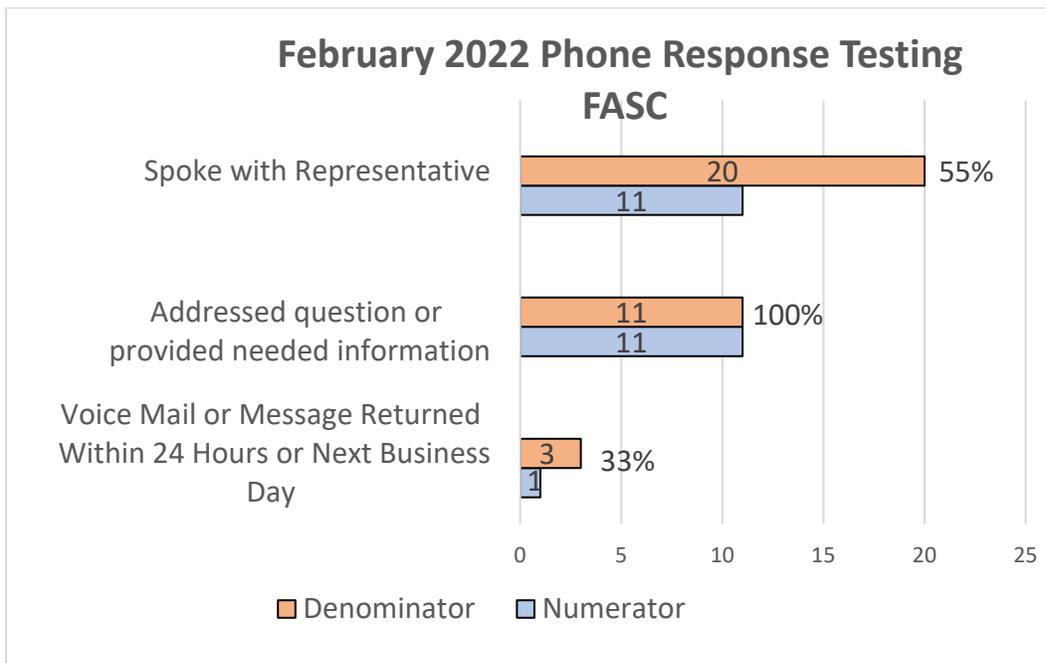
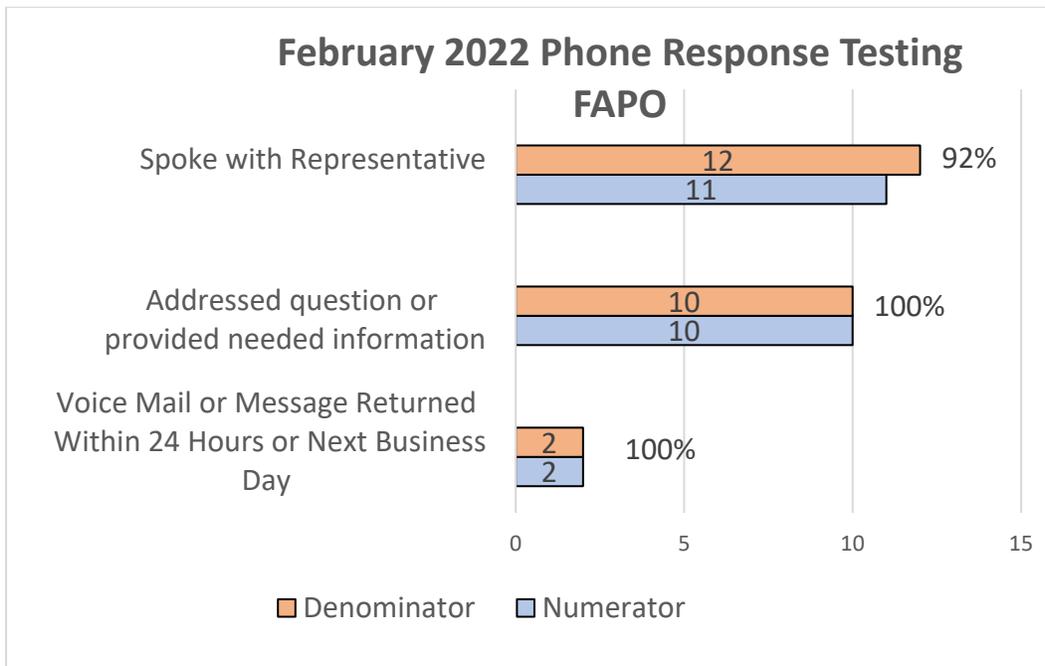
### Responsiveness and Customer Satisfaction

Voice mail responses within 24 hours fell to 77% in February, down from 87% in December and 82% in January. Two contractors, Employment and Training Center and Financial Aid Payment Office, responded to 100% of the voice mails within 24 hours in February.









#### Technical Compliance

Board staff issued the FY2021 annual report for the Financial Aid Support Center and found eligibility regularly exceeded 95%, but there were repeat findings for inaccurate and incomplete counselor notes, TWIST data entry and income calculations. Due to the 2021 corrective action plan, Board staff continues to monitor the FASC quarterly.

No critical issues were identified in the program monitoring for the Financial Aid Payment Office, Alliance for Multicultural Community Services, or Lone Star College.

Staff is continuing to test adult education providers.

#### Financial Systems and Issues

Financial monitoring completed for Alliance for Multicultural Community Services resulted in a disallowed cost of \$2,685.88 for missing documentation for personnel and non-personnel expenditures.

There were no critical issues identified in the financial monitoring report for Financial Aid Payment Office.

#### 2022 System Summary

##### Background

In response to the Audit and Monitoring Committee's request to review the overall state of our workforce system, Board staff reviewed the performance and expenditures for our contractors providing services.

##### 2022 Summary

In Board staff's opinion, the system functions overall at a solid level.

- We are putting people to work – our system is helping customers find jobs and maintain employment.
- We are serving employers and helping them find workers as they recover from the pandemic.
- Our methods of delivering services continue to evolve as we have staff return to offices. The pandemic experience has given us the opportunity to imagine new ways of serving our customers. We anticipate keeping some of the adaptations that allowed us to work with customers remotely as well as in person.

##### Trends

Many of our contractors are continuing to manage increased funding related to the pandemic and efforts to support economic recovery.

We are finding that some of our contractors are not immune to the challenges businesses are facing in a post-pandemic world, including working in new ways, and facing staff shortages and turnover as work grows faster than staffing can take place.

## Opportunities for Improvement

- We can reach more young people and provide educational and career opportunities. Our local offices have difficulty finding and recruiting youth, and our new contractors serving opportunity youth are not yet in full implementation mode.
- Board staff can provide additional technical assistance and training to contractors serving both employers and residents to improve performance. This is especially important as some performance measures set by our funder, the Texas Workforce Commission, are changing or returning from suspension during the pandemic.
- The quality of the services we deliver can improve, ensuring that staff listen to employers and individuals to match their needs and find ways to say “yes” as often as possible in meeting our customers’ needs.
- We can support our financial services contractors with technical assistance and direction in ensuring that applications for financial aid applications are processed quickly and that funds are managed to ensure that vendors can continue to be paid and that we know our obligations for both the present year and future years.

## Conclusions

As we approach the mid-year point of our contract year, Board staff believes that the work of our system supports the Board’s purpose to ensure that the Gulf Coast region remains a great place to live, work and do business. As we move forward into the future, we see opportunities both to continue to innovate and make improvements in our current operations.

## Risk Management Evaluation

### Background

Board staff identified a need to determine the level of risk and to develop a risk management framework for an internal function of the Workforce Board. We met with our contractor, Weaver to discuss the evaluation and to outline the requirements.

### Scope

The evaluation will include evaluating current and anticipated practices for risk management, fraud investigation, compliance, and client appeal processes to develop a proposed framework for establishing a centralized Risk Management function within the H-GAC Workforce Board. The evaluation will include an assessment and recommendations for the following:

- Structure, roles and responsibilities of the Risk Management Function, including inputs and outputs from the collaboration of other departments and functions
- Parameters of the function, including weekly, monthly, and annual activities to be performed
- Performance monitoring framework, including metrics and benchmarks
- System utilization for logging and managing cases and work streams

#### Objectives

Objective A: Evaluate the current deployment of risk management activities performed by the Board to determine which roles and responsibilities will be shared, consolidated, or transferred to the Risk Management function.

Objective B: Develop a Risk Management Framework based on the anticipated roles and responsibilities of the Risk Management function.

#### Next Steps

Board staff will provide updates to the committee and a summary of the final product.

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 by video conference on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. Doug Karr, Committee Chair and members Bobbie Henderson, Richard Shaw and Michael Webster attended.

The Committee heard a summary of progress toward key tasks from Outreach Strategists and Savage Brands, including implementation of the long-term employer engagement strategy, setting priorities for the revamp of wrksolutions.com and Workforce TV.

- The committee heard an update on outreach to economic development corporations. More than 40 persons attended the March 23 Matagorda County EDC event. Discussion centered on expanding the pipeline of opportunity for postsecondary workforce development, women in the workforce and a campaign to encourage individuals to remain in the Bay City area to explore careers and advancement rather than looking elsewhere. Meetings with EDCs representing Pearland, The Woodlands, Tomball and East Harris County will take place next.

- Filming for episodes 2 and 3 of Your Career Your Choice (Workforce TV) are complete; episodes 4 and 5 are in post-production. Production will continue through May, and the team is finalizing dates for a premiere and time slots with KHOU.
- Committee members were informed that a content strategy calendar has been developed as a roadmap to proactively manage and leverage content timing, cadence and subject matter to best serve employers and individuals. With the goal of increasing employer engagement, a newsletter for employers has been created and connected to website landing pages that allow the measurement of the volume of employer web traffic and what types of content that they find most relevant.
- The committee was shown screenshots of the employer-focused newsletter as well as customizable wireframes for three pages on the existing wrksolutions.com site that are receiving a refresh. Those pages are the home page and the landing pages for employers and individuals.
- Finally, the committee was informed that the 90-minute documentary around the Houston-Dallas road trip experience for Roadtrip Nation will premiere in Fall of 2022. The documentary will air on PBS and premiere events will take place in Houston and Dallas.

The committee will meet again on Thursday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m. All Board members are invited to attend.

Mr. Karr concluded his report and no action was taken.

*d. Education Committee.*

Education Committee Chair Bobbie Henderson presented the following report:

**Background**

The Education Committee met by videoconference on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. with committee chair Bobbie Henderson, committee vice chair Doug Karr, Board chair Mark Guthrie, and members Helen Cavazos, Cheryl Guido, Alan Heskamp, Edward Melton, Gerald Andrews, Sara Bouse, Alex Hunt, Guy Robert Jackson, Paul Puente, Valerie Segovia, Carolyn Watson, Michael Love, and Richard Shaw in attendance.

Chair Bobbie Henderson called this meeting after the Board received a letter from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) regarding an intent to sanction status for failure to comply with TWC Child Care Services rules, specifically for not maintaining a waiting list.

Staff provided information to the committee regarding Child Care Rules section §809.18. Maintenance of a Waiting List. A section of the guidance states: “(a) A Board shall ensure that a list of parents waiting for childcare services, because of the lack of funding or lack of providers, is maintained and available to the Commission upon request.”

Every year the Board receives a target of the number of children to enroll from the Texas Workforce Commission. As you are aware, Interfaith has been on a corrective action plan due to failure to meet the target. Our Board area has failed to meet the target for the past two years; a third year missing the target could lead to an intent to sanction. Our performance over the past few years is as listed.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>% of Target</b>	<b>Note</b>
2020	30,146	29,367	97.42%	
2021	26,519	24,746	93.31%	
2022	26,516	28,998	109.36%	As of 12/31/2021

This past year we were on target to meet and had enough potential customers to meet our performance requirement, but our contractor did not determine eligibility and enroll enough customers to meet the target. Interfaith’s review of applications went from a high of 6,262 in April 2021 to a low of 3,419 monthly. Each month more customers were being added to those who wanted to receive childcare. We continued to have funding available and vendors with available openings for children to be placed.

Staff did not go to a wait list because the guidance from TWC is that a wait list is required when there is not adequate funding available and no available vendors. TWC disagreed with us.

Staff is developing the response to send to TWC regarding the corrective action plan. Committee members asked for an update on the corrective action plan in the meeting scheduled for March 2022.

#### Background

The Education Committee met by videoconference on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. with committee chair Bobbie Henderson, committee vice chair Doug Karr, Board chair Mark Guthrie, and members Cheryl Guido, Alan Heskamp, Edward Melton, Sara Bouse, Paul Puente, Valerie Segovia, Jeff LaBroski and Richard Shaw in attendance.

The committee received information on the status of the corrective action plan to respond to TWC's notice of intent to sanction discussed in the February 23, 2022 committee meeting.

The committee also received information on career education specialist activity and on the two priority lists; the scholarship registry and childcare financial aid waiting list. Staff explained the priorities and the Board's role in setting priorities and/or changing the current priorities that have been designated.

#### Current Situation

The Board has flexibility in designating the priority criteria for the final group pulled from the childcare financial aid waiting list.

Possible considerations for changes to the Board's priority criteria for childcare financial aid can include:

- Reordering the list to change the relative position of priority groups (for example, moving parents/families participating in career, employment, or education activities to the first position)
- Removing a group or groups from the list
- Adding a new group or groups to the list (for example, adding parents/families who have received time-limited childcare financial aid under from special funds such as the service industry recovery or essential worker projects. This would provide a "continuity of assistance" for these families that would allow them to continue to receive assistance from our general funds after the special-funded aid has ended.)

The number of applications we receive each month from parents in one of the priority groups is not large. Normally we have been able to fund requests from these parents and those not in a priority group as well without resorting to the use of a waiting list.

Currently the large number of applicants and limited funds necessitate our use of the waiting list and the priority criteria when bringing families off that list.

The committee heard staff recommendations and will be discussing potential changes in a future meeting and will bring information back to the Board.

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

## **RECEIVE INFORMATION**

### *a. Communications*

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

During February and March, our social media content included hiring events, Service Industry Recovery childcare, and Women's History Month. We currently have over 17,000 followers collectively on social media. As we move out of pandemic response, we are focusing on audience segmentation and message alignment.

A February year-to-year comparison illustrates the extraordinary increase in media coverage because of COVID-19 stories, and a potential baseline for post-pandemic media placements.

#### Media Partnerships

- In February 2022, we began a weekly interview segment with Univision providing job search advice in Spanish during the 11:30 am TV newscast. We have two team members that rotate appearances. The newscast is also streamed on Facebook Live, where the station has 1.1 million followers.
- Fox 26 Houston continues to invite us for the weekly segment on Friday mornings at 6:15 a.m.
- The weekly *Who's Hiring* webcast has moved to 10 am, from the previous 11 am timeslot.
- As part of the ABC 13 *Localish* feature, we are planning a show of gratitude for Nick Natario and ABC13 at the Workforce Solutions – Missouri City location on Thursday, March 31, following the weekly *Who's Hiring* live stream.

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

### *b. Performance and Production*

Board staff Philip Garcia presented Performance and Production measures October 2021 through February 2022.

Mr. Garcia stated that the pandemic has affected our ability to meet performance measures. We are currently meeting or exceeding 18 of the 26 measures. The remaining 8 measures require additional focus and additional data that needs to be entered.

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 2022. He reported that we are 12% expended and we are 16% through the year. Our year to date revenue is just over \$61 million.

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

**LOOK AT THE ECONOMY**

Board staff Parker Harvey provided the Board with a report on the benchmark revisions to the local jobs numbers report. Mr. Harvey reminded the Board that job numbers are revised each March improving the value of the data provided by the monthly estimated job numbers throughout the year.

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

Board staff Ron Borski provided the Board with a report on the local economy. He reported that the local unemployment rate rose to 5.3% in February. This compares to unemployment rates of 4.7% state-wide and 4.1% nationally. He also reviewed the status of job recovery compared to the beginning of the pandemic. Currently our region has recovered approximately 95% of the jobs lost in March and April 2019. Approximately 90% of jobs have been recovered nation-wide during the same period.

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

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Guthrie congratulated the Board's Executive Director Mike Temple on his retirement and expressed his appreciation for Mr. Temple's exemplary service to the Board since its inception in 1997. The Board joined Chair Guthrie in thanking Mr. Temple for a job well done and a wonderful career, and wished him a happy retirement.

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

**ADJOURN**

Chair Guthrie adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:10 p.m.

# GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD

Board Member	02/01/22	04/05/22	06/07/22	08/02/22	10/06/22	12/06/22
Alexander, Willie	✓	✓				
Allen, Karlos						
Andrews, Gerald	✓	✓				
Beard, Peter	✓	✓				
Beydoun, Mustapha	✓					
Bouse, Sara	✓	✓				
Bowles, Carl	✓					
Bilski, Carolyn		✓				
Cavazos, Mary Helen		✓				
Edwards, Todd						
Gay, Anthony	✓	✓				
Gonzalez, Melissa	✓					
Guido, Cheryl	✓	✓				
Guthrie, Mark	✓	✓				
Henderson, Bobbie Allen	✓	✓				
Heskamp, Alan		✓				
Hunt, Alex						
Jackson, Guy Robert	✓	✓				
Karr, Doug	✓	✓				
LaBroski, Jeff	✓	✓				
Larmond, Shareen	✓	✓				
Lewis, Ernest	✓					
Love, Michael	✓	✓				
Lowe, Jonathan	✓					
Mahagaokar, Rajen		✓				
McCleskey, Kendrick						
Melton, Edward		✓				
Nellons-Paige, Stephanie						
Ozuna, Adrian	✓	✓				
Perez, Mary Grace						
Puente, Paul		✓				
Reed, Jamarion	✓					
Riley, Monica	✓	✓				
Scheiner, Danielle	✓					
Schmidt, Keri	✓					
Segovia, Valerie	✓	✓				
Shaw, Richard	✓	✓				
Shi, Isaac						
Staley, Gil	✓	✓				
Stewart, Michael						
Taylor, Katherine		✓				
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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:geraldandrews36@yahoo.com)  
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](mailto:pbeard@houston.org)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

## **BEYDOUN, MUSTAPHA**

Houston Advanced Research Center  
8801 Gosling Road  
The Woodlands, TX 77381  
(713) 8443601  
Category: Business  
County: Harris  
[mbeydoun@harcresearch.org](mailto:mbeydoun@harcresearch.org)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

## **BILSKI, CAROLYN CERNY**

Sealy Chamber of Commerce  
721 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sealy, TX 77474  
(979) 256-7028  
Category: Business  
County: Austin County  
[carolyncernybilski@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncernybilski@gmail.com)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

## **BOUSE, SARA**

Alvin Community College  
3110 Mustang Road  
Alvin, TX 77511  
(281) 732-8389 – cell  
Category: Education  
County: Brazoria  
[sbouse@alvincollege.edu](mailto:sbouse@alvincollege.edu)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:mhcavazos@aol.com)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**GAY, ANTHONY**

AG Consultants  
(713) 478-8504

Category: Business

County: Harris

[anthonymg@gmail.com](mailto:anthonymg@gmail.com)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**GONZALEZ, MELISSA**

Lone Star College  
20000 Kingwood Drive  
Kingwood, TX 77339  
(281) 312-1644

Category: Education

County: Harris

[melissa.gonzalez@lonestar.edu](mailto:melissa.gonzalez@lonestar.edu)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bobbie.henderson@att.net)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**HESKAMP, ALAN**

Heskamp & Associates LLC  
311 Hoskins Broadway  
El Campo, TX 77437  
(979) 758-4521

Category: Business

County: Wharton

[aheskamp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aheskamp@sbcglobal.net)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**HUNT, ALEX**

Lamar CISD  
3911 Avenue I  
Rosenberg, TX 77471  
(832) 454-6504

Category: Education

County: Fort Bend County

[alex.hunt@lcisd.org](mailto:alex.hunt@lcisd.org)

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](mailto:grj@ccac.net)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**KARR, DOUG**

Pro Staff/Atterro  
27 Canoe Birch Place  
The Woodlands, TX 77382  
832-967-7684  
Category: Business  
County: Montgomery  
[raiderkarr@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:ski@plu68.com)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**LARMOND, SHAREEN**

West Gulf Maritime Association  
1717 Turning Basin Drive, Suite 200  
Houston, TX 77029  
Category: Business  
County: Harris  
[shareen@wgma.org](mailto:shareen@wgma.org)  
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](mailto:ernest.lewis@adulthoodeducationcenter.texas.org)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**LOVE, MICHAEL**

Houston Independent School District  
4400 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Houston, TX 77092  
(713) 556-6715  
Category: Education  
County: Harris  
[mlove@houstonisd.org](mailto:mlove@houstonisd.org)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**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](mailto:jlowe@iatse51.org)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**MAHAGAOKAR, RAJEN**

Grid United  
Chief Financial Officer  
(281) 300-3926  
Category: Business  
County: Harris  
[rajmahagaikar@gmail.com](mailto:rajmahagaikar@gmail.com)  
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](mailto:klmccleskey@gmail.com)

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](mailto:edward.melton@hcpl.net)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**NELLONS-PAIGE, STEPHANIE**

Nellons Paige Group, Inc.  
14022 Hampton Cove Drive  
Houston, TX 77077  
(443) 610-3487

Category: Business  
County: Houston  
[nellonspaige@gmail.com](mailto:nellonspaige@gmail.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](mailto: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](mailto:paul@hgcbctc.org)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**PUENTE, PAUL J.**

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

Fax: (713) 926-4918  
Category: Labor  
County: City of Houston  
[paul@hgcbctc.org](mailto:paul@hgcbctc.org)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**REED, JAMARIO**

Dollar Tree Family Dollar  
2307 Louisia Street 1213  
Houston, TX 77006  
(404) 931-1924

Category: Business  
County: City of Houston  
[jamarioreed@gmail.com](mailto:jamarioreed@gmail.com)

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](mailto:monicariley7@gmail.com)

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**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

**SCHMIDT, KERI**

Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce  
445 Commerce Green Boulevard  
Sugar Land, TX 77478  
(281) 491-0216

Fax: (281) 491-0112

Category: Business

County: Fort Bend

keri@fortbendcc.org

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**SEGOVIA, VALERIE GARCIA**

Director, Outreach & Education, TEES  
Nuclear Engineering & Science Center  
1095 Nuclear Science Road  
College Station, TX 77843  
979-240-5005

Category: Education

County: Matagorda

vsegovia@tamu.edu

valeriegsegovia@gmail.com

Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**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, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**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

**TAYLOR, KATHERINE**

Genesys Works - Houston  
3100 Main Street, Suite 702  
Houston, TX 77002  
(713) 341-5777

Category: CBO

County: City of Houston

ktaylor@genesysworks.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**

William Stamps Farish Fund  
1100 Louisiana, Suite 2200  
Houston, TX 77002  
(713) 757.7313  
Category: Business  
County: City of Houston  
[carolyn17968@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:michael.webster@hccs.edu)  
Term: January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022

**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.com>

# GULF COAST WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD COMMITTEES

## **Audit/Monitoring**

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

## **Budget**

- Willie Alexander – Chair
- Gerald Andrews – Vice Chair
- Karlos Allen
- Bobbie Henderson
- Guy Robert Jackson
- Doug Karr
- Mike Stewart

## **By-Laws**

Appointed by Board Chair as needed

## **Communications**

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

## **Education**

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





# Audit and Monitoring Committee

## Update for May 2022

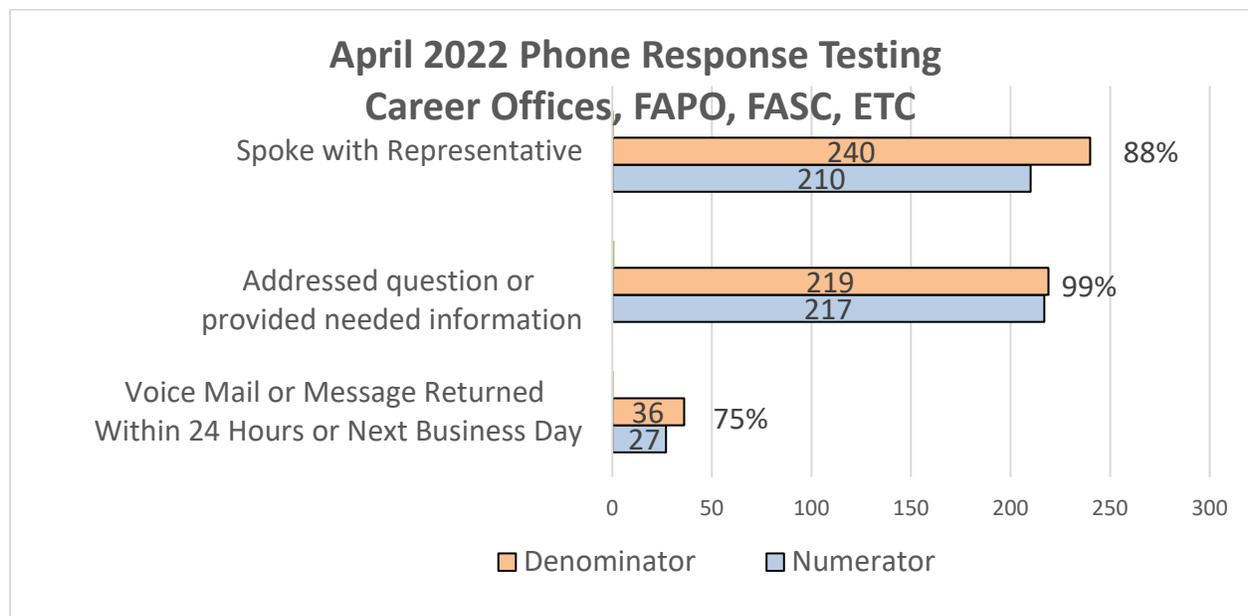
The Audit and Monitoring Committee met on March 24, 2022, at 2:30 PM  
Members - Guy Robert Jackson, Willie Alexander, Gerald Andrews, Sara Bouse, Carl Bowles, Helen Cavazos, Cheryl Guido, Mark Guthrie, Bobbie Henderson, Alan Heskamp, Doug Karr, Jon Lowe, Adrian Ozuna, Danielle Scheiner, and Richard Shaw attended.

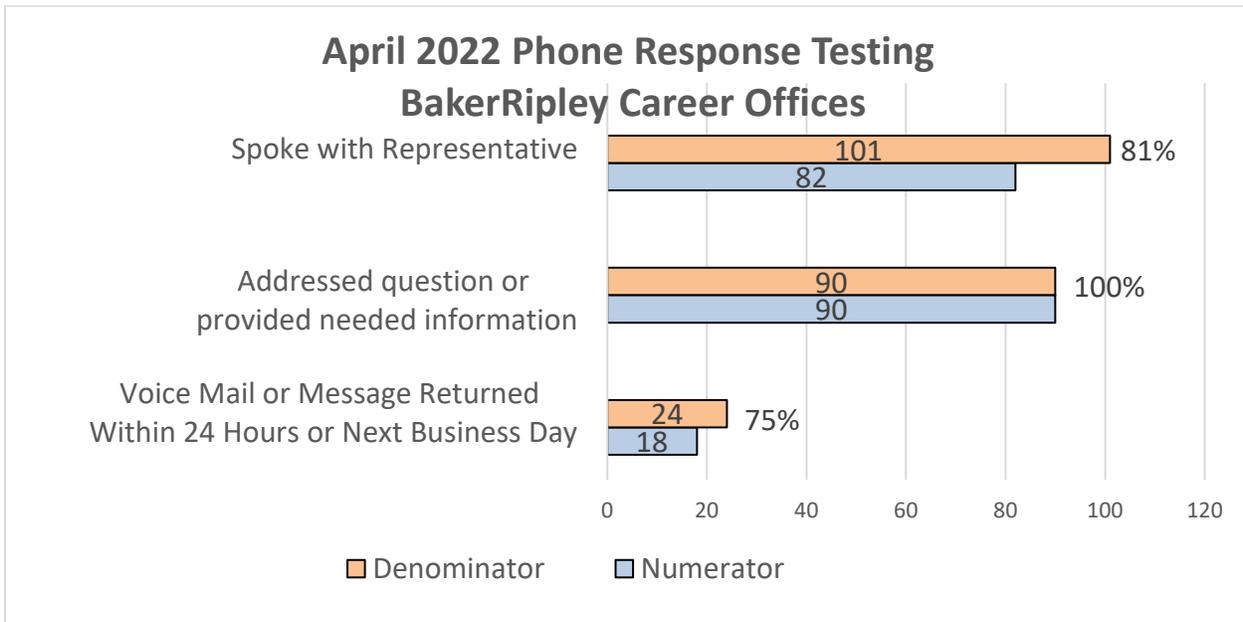
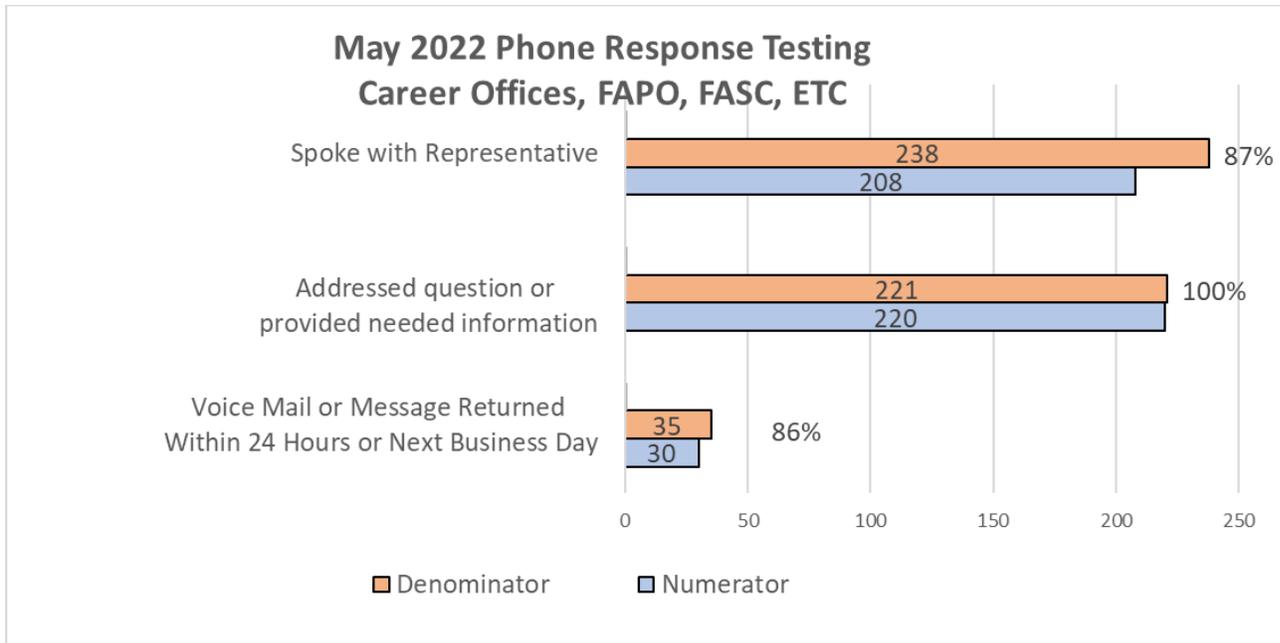
### System Review

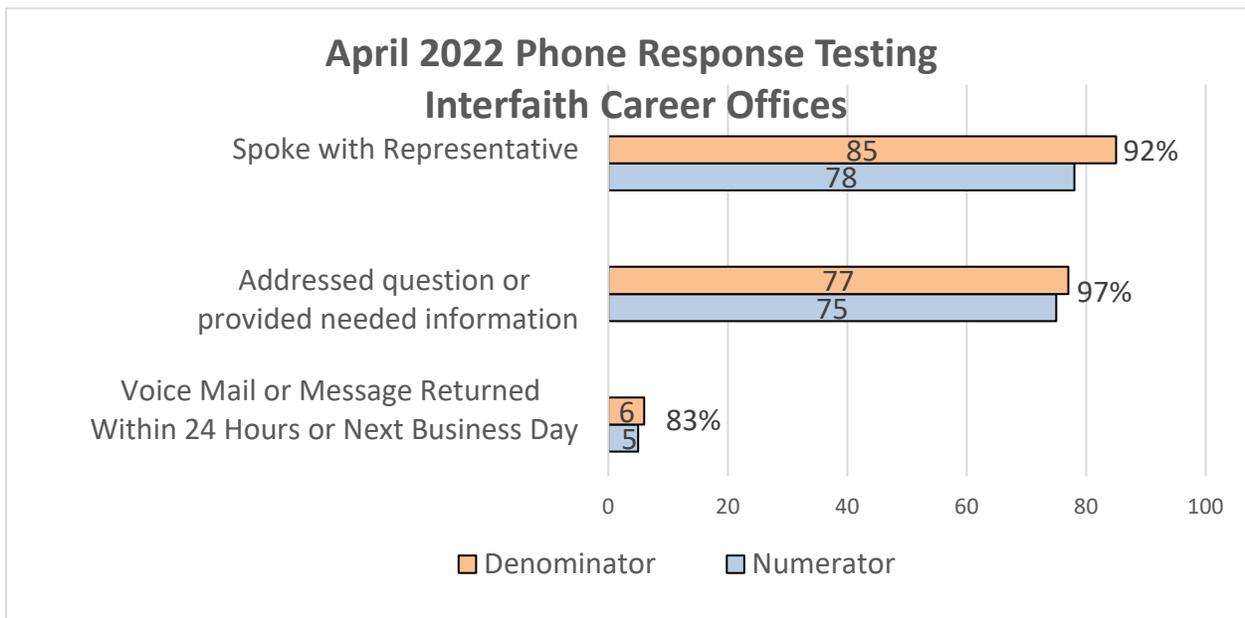
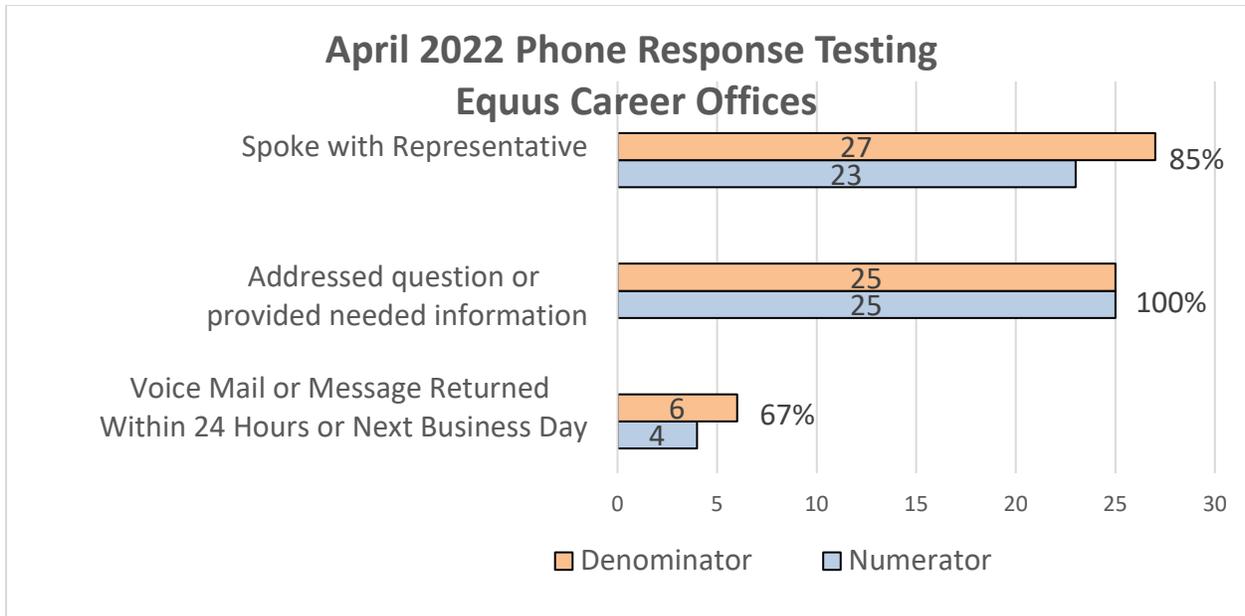
The committee reviewed system level performance and production and a contractor level review for performance/production and expenditures.

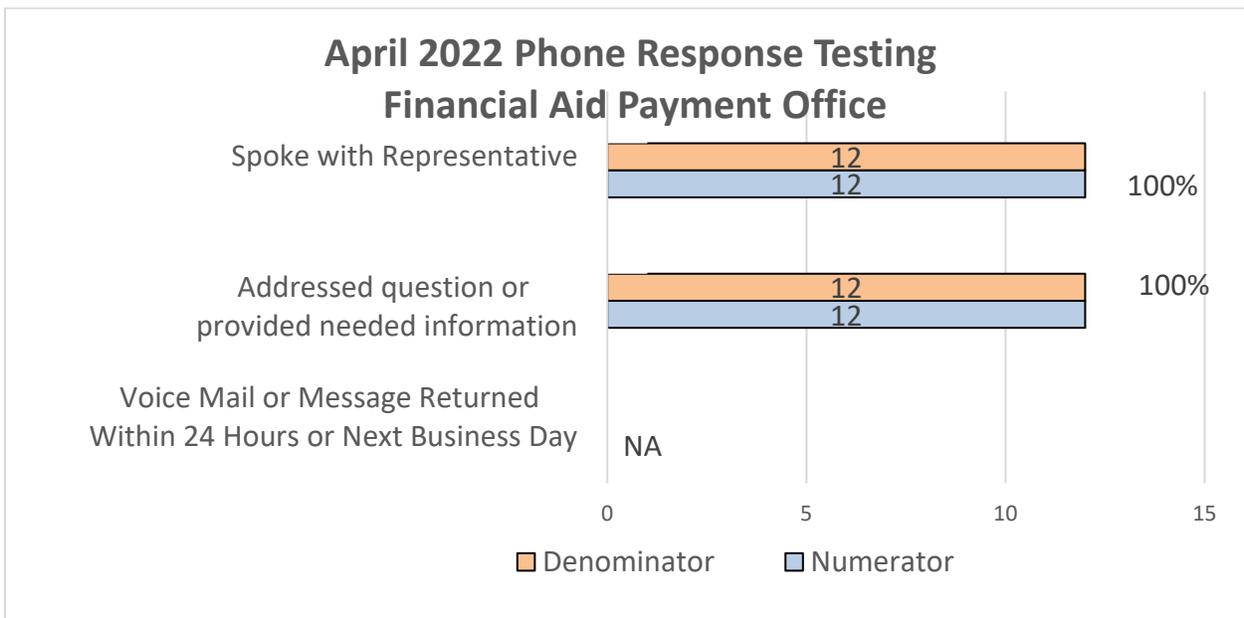
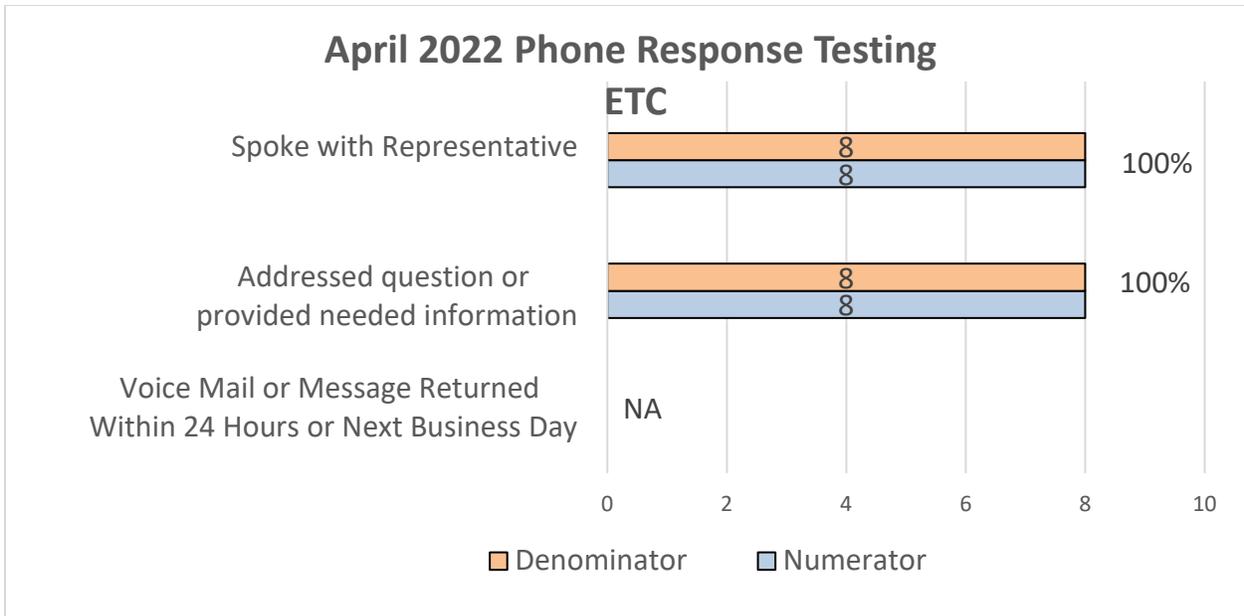
### Responsiveness and Customer Satisfaction

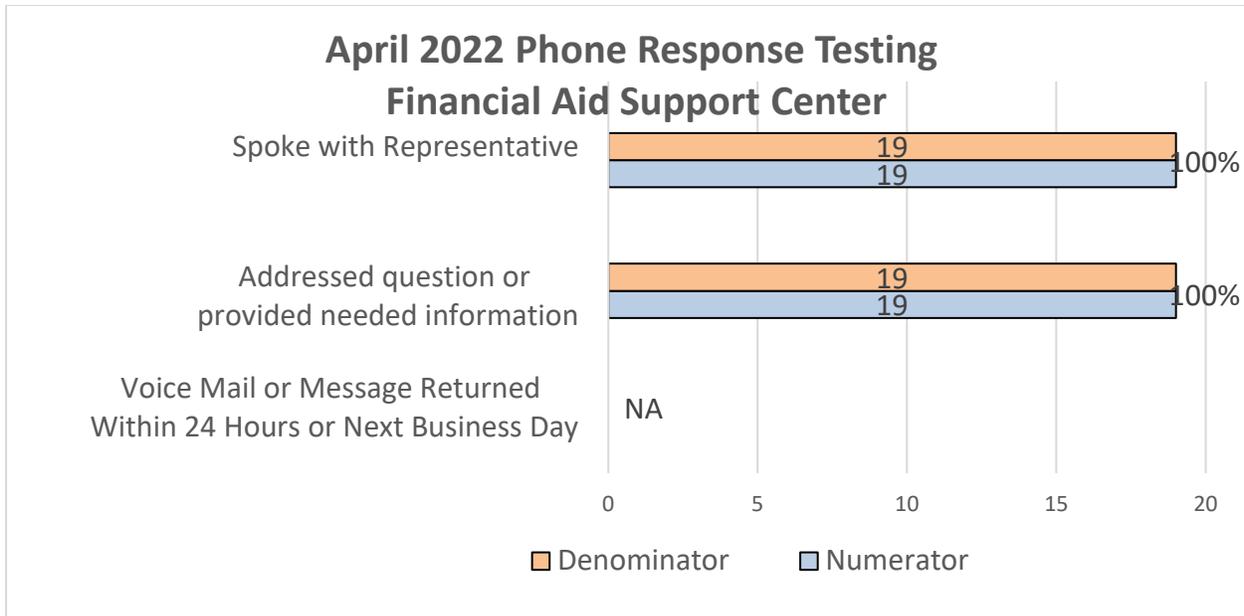
Voice mail responses within 24 hours were at 75% in April, increasing from 67% in March and a slight decrease from 77% in February. May response testing is not ready for distribution, but we can share the combined results showing an improvement in the 24 hours message response rate at 86%.











## Technical Compliance

We issued the FY2021 annual report for the Financial Aid Payment Office and found improvement in maintaining compliance in fact-finding and reporting processes.

The Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans, Brazosport College, Harris County Department of Education, and Houston Community College completed monitoring reviews with no critical issues identified. Wharton County Junior College had no findings below standard for all areas reviewed.

As we head into summer, we are testing compliance in the Financial Aid Support Center and Financial Aid Payment Office operations, completing status reviews on the new Next Gen contractors, and starting the monitoring reviews for the career office contractors.

## Adult Education Monitoring Summary

Our adult education providers offer literacy, basic education, high school equivalency, integrated basic and occupational skills, and English language and civics instruction.

Current consortium partners are The Alliance, Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans, Adult Education Center, BakerRipley, Boys and Girls Club of Walker County, Brazosport College, Chinese Community Center, College of the Mainland, Community Family Centers, Harris County Department of Education, Houston Community College, Lone Star College, San Jacinto College, and

Wharton County Junior College. Region 6 Education Service Center serves as the lead agency.

We saw an overall drop in performance and program monitoring results in 2020 due to the disruption created by the move to virtual student intake and assessment. The 2021 performance period began in July 2020, with most improvements seen in the 2022 performance period starting in July 2021.

During the 2021 – 2022 Adult Education reviews, several trends were noted in the program monitoring of adult education providers:

- Performance and Production – Total student enrollments fell in 2020, with 7 of 14 providers meeting or exceeding an enrollment target in 2021 and 2022.
- Eligibility and Documentation – Attendance tracking is one of several key elements required for adult education compliance. The move to virtual classes and the different platforms used resulted in errors in most reviews. Most documentation collected electronically for the first time contained errors.
- Data Entry – Testing results were below standard for 23 out of 28 reviews in 2021 and 2022. We noted improvements in all 2022 reviews. Harris County Department of Education and Houston Community College were placed on corrective action plans to address repeat issues with data entry accuracy and timeliness.
- Information Security – Completing the required training on time and maintaining the required documentation was a challenge found in most reviews in 2021. Every provider showed improvement in 2022.

## Financial Systems and Issues

FY2020 financial monitoring completed for Grant Associates resulted in a disallowed cost of \$3,828.59, and the financial monitoring for SERJobs resulted in a disallowed cost of \$359.99. Both findings involved missing documentation for personnel and non-personnel expenditures.

FY2021 financial monitoring completed for Region 6 resulted in a disallowed cost of \$218.34 for non-personnel expenditures.

## Next Generation Contracts

Staff provided an update on the Next Generation contractors that have not performed as expected, despite regular monthly contract review meetings and technical assistance. Staff worked with each of the four Next Generation contractors on developing an action plan to help them improve performance.

Board staff are developing corrective action plans (CAPs) based on the action plans submitted by Career Team, SER, and Alliance of Community Assistance Ministries (ACAM). At the request of Career Team, an amendment to their contract will reduce their performance numbers, budget, and potential fee.

The fourth contractor, American Youth Works did not provide an adequate action plan and has not had any noticeable improvement in performance. American Youth Works has also recently lost staff, and currently has one staff person to perform outreach. Current enrollment is 2, or 0.02 % of the contracted enrollment performance. They have billed for \$118,078.88, or 44% of the total contract budget, with 56% being salary expenses.

Charles Wemple, Executive Director, and Board staff will meet with American Youth Works on June 16 to discuss an updated plan and develop a strategy for improvement and technical assistance.

## Critical Issues

Executive Director Charles Wemple shared with the committee his discussion with Chair Jackson and Board Chair Guthrie and the decision to procure an independent audit and monitoring review of the Employment and Training Center payment requests after the grant year and our internal processes and response.

## Outside Audit and Monitoring Results and Issues

In June 2022, the Texas Workforce Commission will monitor the performance and service delivered through the Adult Education providers working on behalf of the Gulf Coast Workforce Board. We are currently responding to Technical Assistance Plans for Child Care, Choices Work Rate, and an excess of data invalidation requests from our Adult Education providers.

## Next Meeting

The committee scheduled the next committee meeting for 1:00 PM on Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

# Communications Committee

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## Background

The Communications Committee met on Thursday, May 26, 2022. Committee Chair Doug Karr and members Bobbie Henderson and Willie Alexander attended.

## Updates

The Committee heard a summary of progress toward key tasks from Outreach Strategists and Savage Brands, including implementation of the long-term employer engagement strategy and various materials developed reflecting the Workforce Solutions brand and Workforce TV.

- Committee members were shown highlights of materials recently developed, including a newsletter for employers, and assets for social media and email communications that reflect the brand identities for the Workforce Solutions agency, employer and individual audiences. An internal site to house this information is being created to ensure that persons within the system have secure access to materials they will need to do their work.
- Outreach Strategists shared an update on ongoing outreach to Economic Development Corporations in the region. A summary of conversations held on April 19 with the Pearland Area Economic Development Partnership and on April 20 with the Woodlands Area Development Partnership was provided. Both events were attended by local employers, leadership from educational institutions and community leaders and focused on programs aimed at upskilling the existing local workforce and building a talent pipeline for the future. It was noted that Board Chair Guthrie was not present at the meeting because he was attending the EDC event with the Tomball Economic Development Corporation that morning.
- Episode 7 of Workforce TV will be taped in early June, and work as has begun on the development of a series of videos spotlighting relationships with local employers who have benefitted from Workforce Solutions service.

The committee will meet again on Thursday, July 21 at 10:30 a.m. Board members are invited to attend.



# Education Committee

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## Building an Educated Workforce

### Background

The Education Committee met on Wednesday, May 25th at 2:00 p.m. with committee chair Bobbie Henderson, committee vice chair Doug Karr and members Gerald Andrews, Sara Bouse, Helen Cavazos, Cheryl Guido, Alan Heskamp, Alex Hunt, Jeff Labroski, Michael Love, Edward Melton and Paul Puente.

### Updates

Committee members received updates on progress in meeting the requirements of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) child care waiting list corrective action plan, the status of the waiting list, development of a plan for enrollments, and additional child care funding.

Board staff has completed most required items for the strategies included in the TWC corrective action plan. Tasks remaining are training for contractor staff on the waiting list processes and procedures and the implementation of a Board waiting list policy (see action item below.) All tasks will be complete by June 7<sup>th</sup>.

- The committee reviewed the status of the waiting list. We currently have more than 17,000 customers and 28,000 children on the waiting list.
- Staff provided information on plans for enrollments. While the Board is currently meeting TWC enrollment targets, we can meet the enrollment target and still have funds left over because the average rate TWC uses to calculate targets is greater than the actual costs of providing care in our region.

Board staff have identified that we can affordably enroll at a minimum 31,498 average children and still have funds remaining. We are committed to enrolling more children in quality care with the additional funding; however, our contractor's performance over the past few months has declined, turnover is high and there are capacity constraints that will likely impact the number of children that will be enrolled.

Board staff is exploring additional ways to support our contractor, Interfaith of The Woodlands, in serving families and increasing enrollments. Simultaneously, we are reviewing options for serving children and providers with the remaining funding and will bring information back to the committee in future meetings.

- The Committee received a funding update noting that the Board received additional funding of \$13,015,395 from the Texas Workforce Commission in May to enroll additional children in care. The funding is available through October 31, 2022.
- The Board has also received special federal funding to pay providers 20% above our approved rates to support child care providers through September 2022. Finally, the Texas Workforce Commission has approved \$75,000,000 to provide grants to Boards to provide child care business outreach and support. We plan to submit a proposal.

## Wait List Policy Update

The Committee reviewed and voted to recommend to the Board the proposed Board waiting list policy:

Applicants will use an online prescreening tool to determine potential eligibility and place those likely to be eligible on the Waiting List.

If the customer is potentially eligible, we:

- Add the parent to the waiting list based on the date of the application and noting their priority status
- Notify the parent(s) no later than the end of every calendar quarter about the status of the waiting list and request that they update their contact information if there are any changes, and
- Advise the parent that they will remain on the waiting list until they are called, or they inform us they no longer want to remain on the waiting list, or they do not respond to the annual letter asking if they wish to remain on the waiting list.

Board staff will determine monthly if funds are available to serve customers from the waiting list and notify Workforce Solutions staff. When funds are available, Workforce Solutions staff will pull customers from the waiting list;

- First, in the order of their priority criteria;
- Second, in the order by the date of the application

## Action Requested

Approve Waiting List Policy as recommended by the Committee.

## Procurement Committee

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The Procurement Committee met on Thursday, March 26, 2022 at 2:30 pm with members, Bobbie Henderson, Committee Chair, Doug Karr, Vice Chair, Willie Alexander, Gerald Andrews, Sara Bouse, Carl Bowles, Helen Cavazos, Mark Guthrie, Alan Heskamp, Guy Robert Jackson, Jon Lowe, Adrian Ozuna and Richard Shaw in attendance.

The committee considered three action items:

1. Contract renewals for the Adult Education Consortium
2. Payrolling/Employer of Record contract renewals
3. Full-Service Printing for the Workforce System

We bring these items to you today for consideration.

### Adult Education 2023

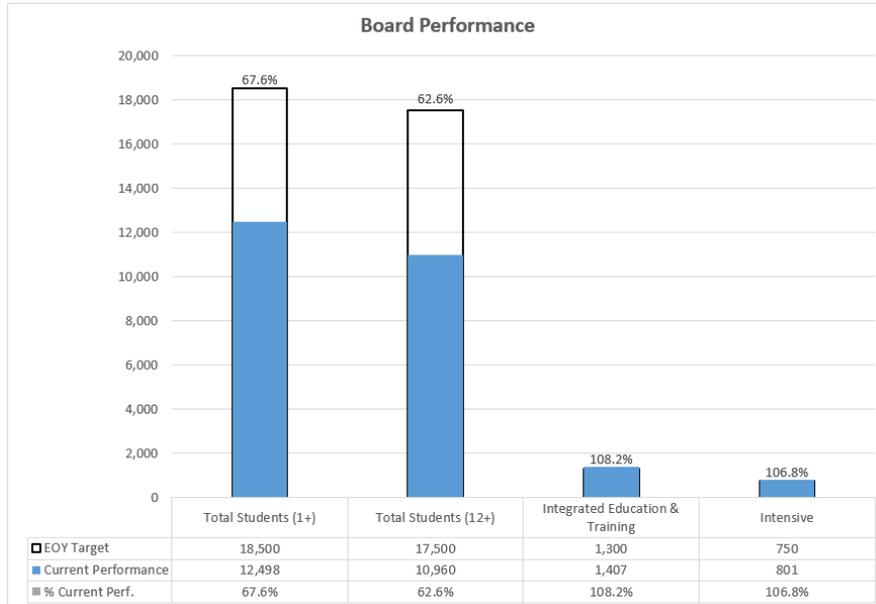
#### Background

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 2022-2023, 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 in the consortium in providing direct service.

#### Current Situation

Texas Workforce Commission has extended the contract for Adult Education for one additional year and will be issuing a procurement for next year. Performance through the month of April indicates we are exceeding two of the four measures and are lagging behind on two. Performance in comparison to last year shows a 20% increase for production numbers. The chart that follows indicates we are missing the measure for enrollment of students who attend 1+ hours of instruction and those who have attended 12+ hours of instruction.



## Accomplishments and Continuing Work

We propose continuing adult education instruction at the current 250 sites throughout the 13-county region and Adult Education will continue:

- Identifying youth customers and working with career offices to inform them of available workforce services.
- The integration of adult education with Employer Service as we 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.

## Recommendations

We estimate the availability of approximately \$20+ million for the adult education 2023 program year.

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed Range</b>	
Adult Reading Center	290,000	290,000	360,000
Alliance	635,000	635,000	705,000
Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans	700,000	700,000	770,000
BakerRipley	635,000	635,000	705,000
Boys & Girls Club	290,000	290,000	360,000
Brazosport College	750,000	750,000	820,000
Chinese Community Center	300,000	300,000	370,000
College of Mainland	1,280,000	1,280,000	1,350,000
Community Family Center	617,000	617,000	687,000
Harris County Department of Education	4,650,000	4,650,000	4,720,000
Houston Community College	4,350,000	4,350,000	4,420,000
Lone Star College	1,480,000	1,480,000	1,550,000
Region 6 ESC	1,040,000	1,040,000	1,110,000
San Jacinto College	750,000	750,000	820,000
Wharton County Junior College	865,000	865,000	935,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>18,632,000</b>	<b>18,632,000</b>	<b>19,682,000</b>
Board Administration	968,028	968,028	968,028
Workforce Integration	400,000	400,000	400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,000,028</b>	<b>20,000,028</b>	<b>21,050,028</b>

<b>2022 – 2023 Enrollment Targets</b>	
1+ Total Students	19,500
12 Hour Students	18,330
Integrated Education/ Training	1,400
Intensive Services	800

## Action

Request the Board authorize staff to negotiate contracts with adult education providers as shown above for July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, in a total amount not to exceed \$21,050,028.

## Payrolling/Employer of Record

### Background

In FY2020, the Gulf Coast Workforce Board, through its operating affiliate, Workforce Solutions, contracted with G&A Partners (G&A) to serve as the employer of record for processing the payroll, filing taxes, and providing other functions usual and customary for payroll processing for Workforce Solutions summer jobs, recovery temporary jobs, and part-time work experience jobs.

### Current Situation

Now in its third year of a four-year annual renewal, G&A continues doing a good job serving as the employer of record for payrolling services for subsidized and temporary workers. We expect G&A to continue:

- Employing eligible individuals designated by Workforce Solutions
- Paying wages and providing fringe benefits and insurance for these individuals.
- Engaging with the worksites where these individuals will work.
- Reporting timely on individuals' wages, work, and experience.

We recommend a contract extension with G&A Partners not to exceed \$9,000,000 to serve 3,000 individuals at an average cost of \$3000 per individual.

### Action

Request the Board authorize staff to negotiate a contract with G&A Partners not to exceed \$9,000,000 to continue performing payrolling/employer of record services for subsidized and temporary workers.

## Full-Service Printing

### Background

Workforce Solutions produces various handouts, flyers, and posters to communicate service information to our customers in addition to purchasing Workforce Solutions branded stationary and other necessary business supplies. Board staff believe it economical to have one full-service print provider to meet our printing needs. This arrangement allows for centralized template management of these documents and a single electronic storefront for purchasing items. It is time to reprocur this service and a request for proposals (RFP) was issued March 17, 2022.

### Current Situation

We received three proposals to our solicitation from 1-Vision, ImageSet, and InfoVine, Inc. Proposals were scored in the follow four categories:

- Price – Respondents were asked to provide cost information for Workforce Solutions printed items at various quantities.
- Platform Demonstration – Respondents were asked to provide a platform demonstration print ordering storefront site.
- Qualifications and Capability – Respondents were asked to provide information demonstrating their qualifications and capability as a firm.
- References – Respondents were asked for references and examples of previous or similar work.

Of the three proposals received and evaluated ImageSet scored the highest. Strengths include a quick production timeline, no charge replacements for damaged goods, a solid demonstration electronic purchasing storefront platform, and reasonable pricing

### Action

Request the Board authorize staff to negotiate a contract with ImageSet for full-service printing and delivery services. System contractors are responsible for purchases made through the electronic storefront and will make payment directly for items purchased. We anticipate total annual purchases collectively to not exceed \$300,000.

# Workforce Solutions Systems Procurement Update

## Background

In August 2021, the Workforce Board approved contracts for several key components of our workforce system. The Board voted to approve one-year contracts for Employer Services, the Financial Aid Payment Office, the Financial Aid Support Center, Staff Professional Development and Early Education Quality with the intent of procuring these services again in 2022 for subsequent years.

## Current Situation

Staff working with H-GAC Procurement Department have issued Requests for Proposal for the following:

- Employers Services Talent Development
- Employer Services Consulting and Marketing
- Staff Professional Development
- Financial Aid Payment Office
- Financial Aid Support Center

The Employer Services, Staff Professional Development, Financial Aid Support Center, and Financial Aid Payment Office RFPs were released by the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) on May 20, 2022. H-GAC will host a pre-proposal meeting on June 1st for bidders, and proposals must be submitted by June 30, 2022.

We anticipate that the Early Education Quality RFPs will be released in the next two weeks, and we plan to also make funding recommendations for those services to the Procurement Committee at the July meeting.

- Early Education Quality – Texas Rising Star
- Early Education Parental Support

We will score proposals and make contracting recommendations to the Procurement Meeting at its meeting in July so the full Board can authorize contracts at its August 2022 meeting.



## Media Outreach June 2022 Update

During April and May, our social media content included job fairs, job search seminars, community events, and employer seminars. We currently have 18,500 followers collectively on social media. With unemployment returning to rates below 5%, social media audiences are less interested in job leads, which will allow us to deliver career information and brand-building messages in addition to job openings and hiring events.

Followers	April 2022	April 2021	Baseline March 2020	Growth to Prior Year	Growth to Baseline
Facebook	9,600	7,848	3,531	22%	172%
Instagram	2,655	2,253	663	18%	300%
Twitter	1,731	1,511	1,460	15%	19%
LinkedIn	4,599	3,896	1,473	18%	212%

Find us on social media at:

- <https://www.facebook.com/advancemycareer/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/workforcesolutions/>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/advancemycareer>
- <https://twitter.com/GulfCoastWFS>

As of April 2022, our cumulative earned-media value exceeded **\$30 million**. Below is a snapshot of April earned media levels from 2020 to 2022. It demonstrates how providing local information and interviews during the lock-down provided media opportunities that we continue to leverage two years later.

Media	Items	Views	Value
April 2022	58	6,988,733	\$1,730,208.79
April 2021	44	3,342,822	\$1,167,552.08
April 2020	81	5,889,359	\$2,495,482.65

Media Partnerships

- Univision is pleased with the content we provide and has extended our weekly segments for the foreseeable future. Johana Lopez and Juan Carlos Quiroga, native Spanish-speakers from our Employer Service team, alternate weeks for the interviews. The segment runs during the 11:30 a.m. TV newscast and is streamed on the station's Facebook Live channel.
- Fox 26 Houston continues to invite us for the weekly segment on Friday mornings at 6:15 a.m.

- The ABC 13 weekly *Who's Hiring* webcast is on hiatus while host Nick Natario is on leave. We are working with ABC 13 producers to refresh and relaunch the streaming show late this summer, with more topics for broadcast news stories.

Below are highlights of recent media stories.

Date	Outlet	Story	Link
04/01/2022	CW 39	Nick Natario Day in Missouri City	<a href="https://youtu.be/F2KjZM7TA9Q">https://youtu.be/F2KjZM7TA9Q</a>
04/01/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	The Return of In-Person Job Fairs	<a href="https://youtu.be/SByFv1V8Iq4">https://youtu.be/SByFv1V8Iq4</a>
04/02/2022	HoustonChronicles.com	Nick Natario Day in Missouri City	<a href="https://bit.ly/38maoio">https://bit.ly/38maoio</a>
04/04/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Jobs for College/High School Graduates	<a href="https://youtu.be/6E6e6qyJT3s">https://youtu.be/6E6e6qyJT3s</a>
04/04/2022	KTRK-HOU (ABC)	Truck Driver Training	<a href="https://abc13.co/3ubqjsv">https://abc13.co/3ubqjsv</a>
04/07/2022	Newsbreak.com	Jobs in STEM	<a href="https://bit.ly/3DPo29n">https://bit.ly/3DPo29n</a>
04/08/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Micro Learning Trend	<a href="https://youtu.be/_Acvc5gaDHM">https://youtu.be/_Acvc5gaDHM</a>
04/11/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Online Learning	<a href="https://youtu.be/CWko_EAdOM8">https://youtu.be/CWko_EAdOM8</a>
04/15/2022	KPRC Ch. 2	March Jobs Report	<a href="https://youtu.be/y1fcIMN9rsQ">https://youtu.be/y1fcIMN9rsQ</a>
04/17/2022	UniMas Ch. 67	Turnaround Houston Job Fair	<a href="https://bit.ly/38P4LcM">https://bit.ly/38P4LcM</a>
04/18/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Jobs for Individuals with Autism	<a href="https://youtu.be/rabhxokqaNk">https://youtu.be/rabhxokqaNk</a>
04/20/2022	CW39.com	Turnaround Houston Job Fair	<a href="https://bit.ly/3L3SY7X">https://bit.ly/3L3SY7X</a>
04/21/2022	KTRK-HOU (ABC)	Two-Year Anniversary – Cole Cameron, Elon Lawdins	<a href="https://youtu.be/1eVIZd20YiM">https://youtu.be/1eVIZd20YiM</a>
04/21/2022	KTRK-HOU (ABC)	Two Year Anniversary (Behind the Scenes)	<a href="https://youtu.be/sHO8wTsen1U">https://youtu.be/sHO8wTsen1U</a>
04/22/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Second Chance Employment	<a href="https://youtu.be/WdMYAgjbzpM">https://youtu.be/WdMYAgjbzpM</a>
04/25/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Mother's Returning to the Workforce	<a href="https://youtu.be/KD1viAnpUNo">https://youtu.be/KD1viAnpUNo</a>
04/26/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Sullivan's Smart Sense Facebook Live	<a href="https://bit.ly/3yx87Mm">https://bit.ly/3yx87Mm</a>
04/26/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Low/no-cost workforce training programs	<a href="https://bit.ly/3KIlqk8">https://bit.ly/3KIlqk8</a>

04/29/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Take Your Kids to Work – Job Shadowing	<a href="https://youtu.be/9H-krxhOPLk">https://youtu.be/9H-krxhOPLk</a>
05/02/2022	KXLN (Univision)	The Right Mindset for your Job Search	<a href="https://youtu.be/ZRdnQivVvuo">https://youtu.be/ZRdnQivVvuo</a>
05/04/2022	Houston Chronicle	Impact of Interest Rates	<a href="https://bit.ly/3w9HDxA">https://bit.ly/3w9HDxA</a>
05/06/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Teaching Careers	<a href="https://youtu.be/84e3dGpa1e0">https://youtu.be/84e3dGpa1e0</a>
05/09/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Job Shadowing, Interning & Apprenticeships	<a href="https://youtu.be/4zxmVrkC3dc">https://youtu.be/4zxmVrkC3dc</a>
05/12/2022	KTRK-HOU (ABC)	It's an MVP Program!	<a href="https://youtu.be/gzczHvfMXN8">https://youtu.be/gzczHvfMXN8</a>
05/13/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Tips for College Grads	<a href="https://youtu.be/spbCOBnh1S0">https://youtu.be/spbCOBnh1S0</a>
05/16/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Creating a Job Search Plan	<a href="https://youtu.be/AslgFu11W4g">https://youtu.be/AslgFu11W4g</a>
05/18/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Tips for New Grads	<a href="https://youtu.be/tRDn6Pmj0tw">https://youtu.be/tRDn6Pmj0tw</a>
05/20/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	Mental Health Awareness	<a href="https://youtu.be/pWyRAvMBwgY">https://youtu.be/pWyRAvMBwgY</a>
05/23/2022	KXLN (Univision)	Networking & Relationship Building	<a href="https://youtu.be/rgznvc8bFMc">https://youtu.be/rgznvc8bFMc</a>
05/27/2022	KRIV-HOU (FOX)	TBD	

Below are the links to our weekly 30-minute *Who's Hiring* show with Nick Nataro on ABC 13. You can also find the most recent episodes online at <https://abc13.com/tag/job-fair/>.

Date	Topic	Link
03/31/2022	Localish: Missouri City	<a href="https://abc13.co/3vloNyG">https://abc13.co/3vloNyG</a>
04/14/2022	Online / Microlearning	<a href="https://abc13.co/3FudBsZ">https://abc13.co/3FudBsZ</a>
04/21/2022	ABC 13 Celebrates Two Year Partnership	<a href="https://abc13.co/3KMFbCu">https://abc13.co/3KMFbCu</a>
04/28/2022	Make yourself more marketable for the higher-paying jobs	<a href="https://abc13.co/3LuVm8K">https://abc13.co/3LuVm8K</a>

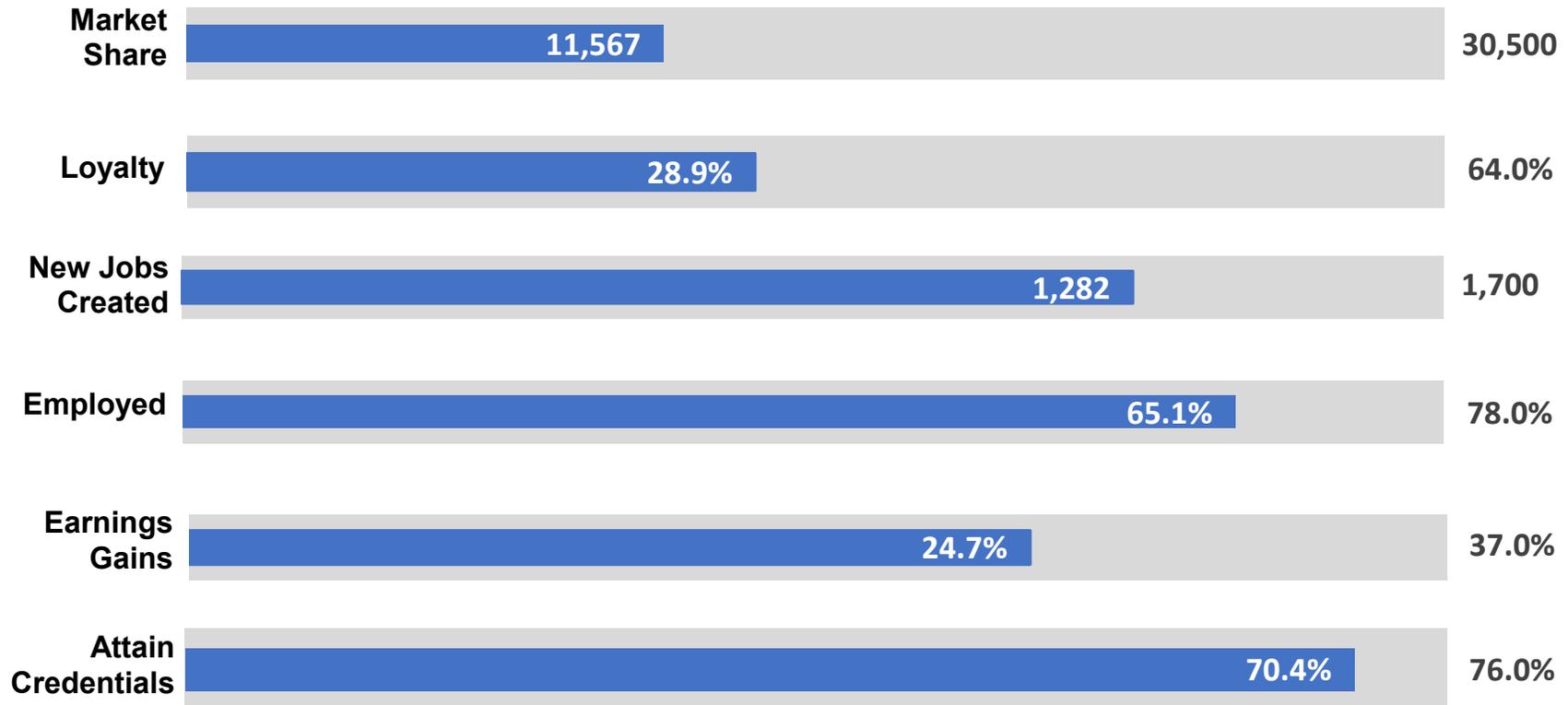
Save the Date! Roadtrip Nation is planning a premiere event for the documentary "Wide Open Range" to be held in Houston the week of September 12, 2022.

# Gulf Coast Workforce Board

System Performance

## Performance Measures

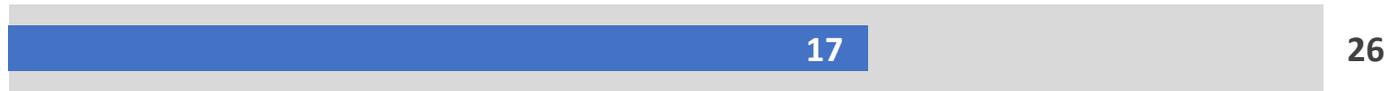
October 2021 to April 2022



# Gulf Coast Workforce Board

System Performance

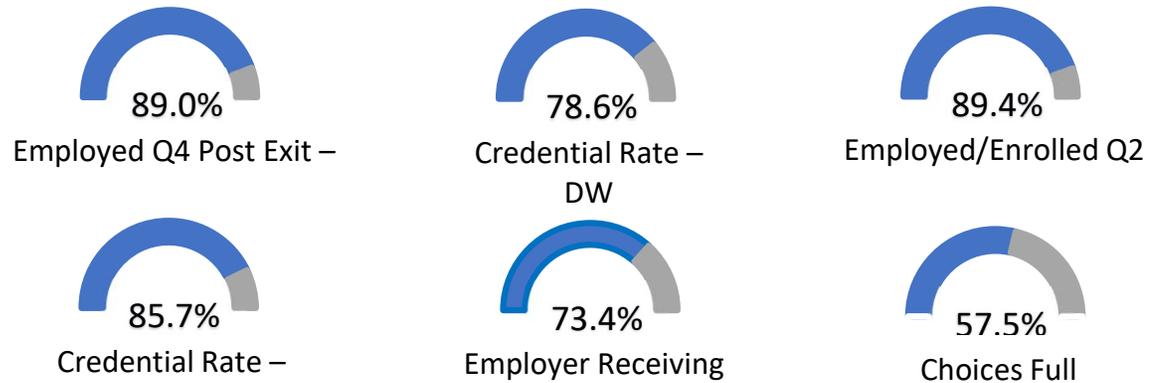
## Production Measures



Number of measures meeting or exceeding

## Measures that require additional focus

October 2021 to April 2022



## Adult Education

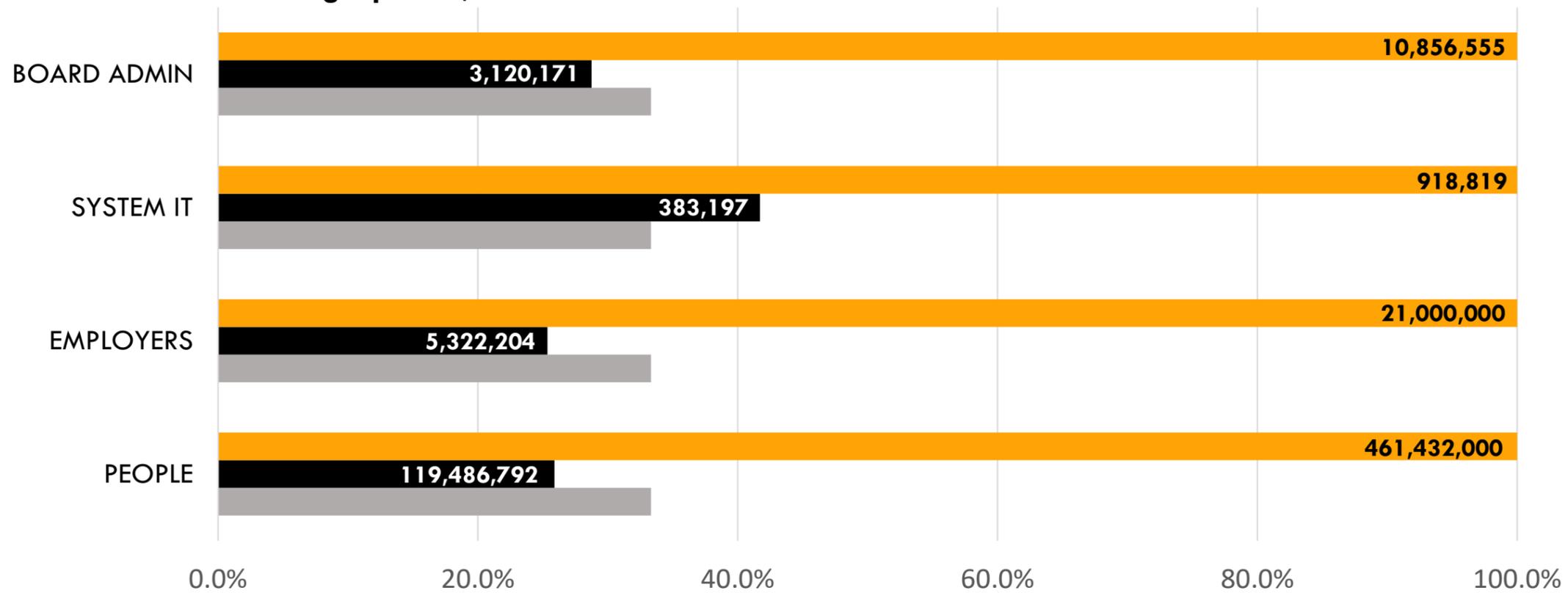
July 2021 to April 2022



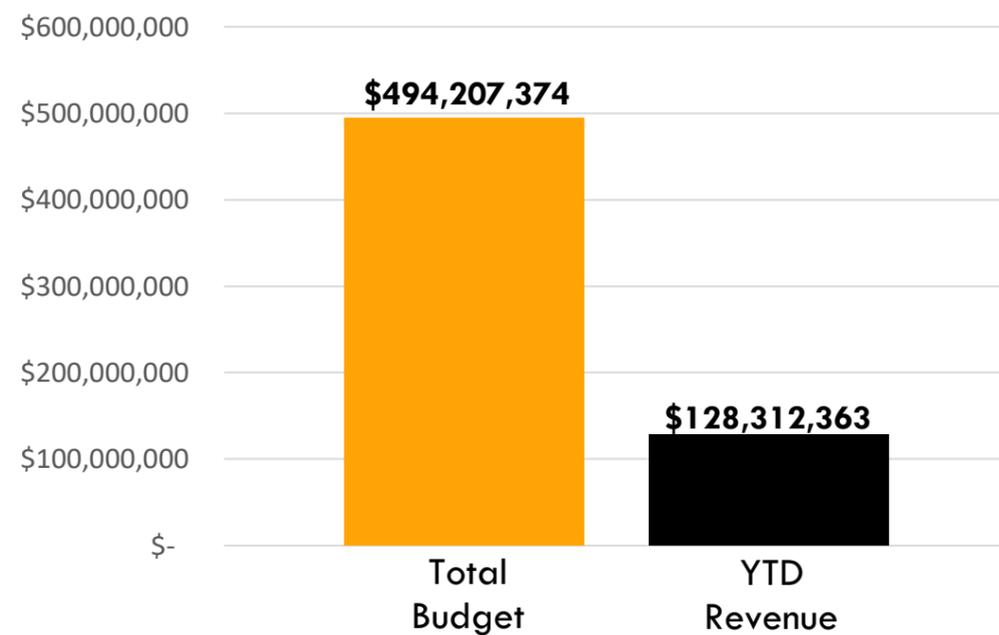
# Gulf Coast Workforce Financial Status Report

For the 4 months ending April 30, 2022

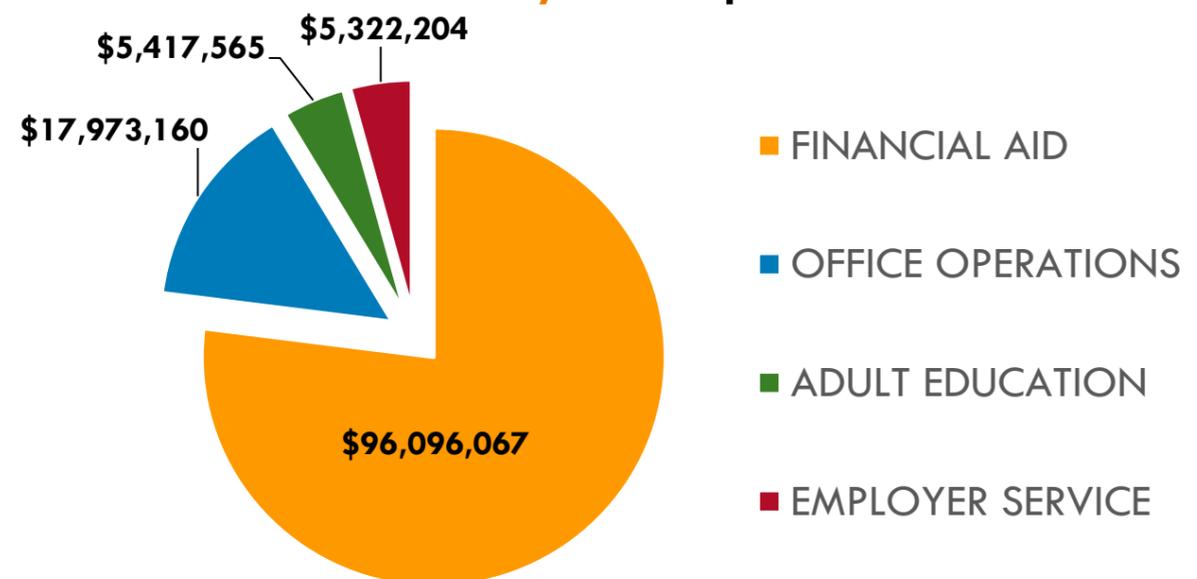
■ Budget ■ Expenses ■ Target



## Workforce Revenue



## System Expenses







HOUSTON-THE WOODLANDS-SUGAR LAND METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA Visit our website at [www.wrksolutions.com](http://www.wrksolutions.com)

**Labor Market Information**

April 2022 data was released May 20, 2022.

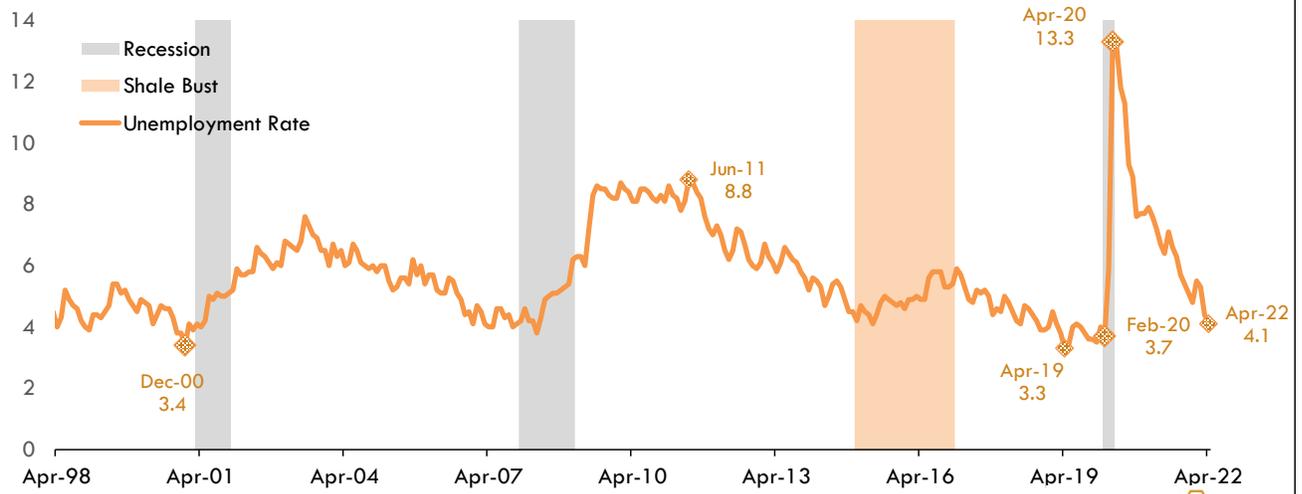
**Unemployment Rates**

The rate of unemployment in The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA fell three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.1 percent in April, see figure 1. The rate of unemployment at the state level fell to a slightly lower level of 3.7 percent while the nation's rate of unemployment fell to a level nearly one full percent lower at 3.3 percent. April's rate of unemployment remains four-tenths of a percentage points higher than it was just prior to the pandemic in February 2020. All but one of the thirteen counties across the Gulf Coast Region, Matagorda County, also experienced declines in April.

**Unemployment Rate (Actual)**

	<b>APR 2022</b>	<b>MAR 2022</b>	<b>APR 2021</b>
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	3,463,565	3,473,736	3,405,099
<b>Total Employed</b>	3,319,829	3,322,160	3,176,193
<b>Unemployed</b>	143,736	151,576	228,906
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	4.1%	4.4%	6.7%
<b>Texas</b>	3.7%	3.9%	5.9%
<b>U.S.</b>	3.3%	3.8%	5.7%

Figure 1. Houston-The-Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA: Unemployment Rate - Actual



Source: Texas Workforce Commission



## Pandemic Job Recovery Update

The pandemic took a huge toll to labor markets in the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA resulting in an unprecedented loss of 359,400 jobs during March and April of 2020, down 11.3 percent. Following this month's increase of 29,700 jobs, April marks the first month since the pandemic began that employment has surpassed February 2020 pre-employment levels.

Although the Houston MSA has seen the total number of jobs recover to pre-pandemic levels, recovery has been uneven with various industry sectors doing much better than others. The economy of Houston is largely based on the energy sector where a substantial amount of recovery is still needed. Despite the overall weakness in the energy sector, conditions have greatly improved due to recent events and the related skyrocketing energy prices. Several industry sectors have not only reached their pre-pandemic employment levels but have managed substantial increases from what they were in February 2020. Retail Trade has reached full recovery plus an additional 17,400 jobs, up 5.8 percent. Education and Health Services has reached full recovery plus an additional 16,800 jobs, up 4.1 percent. Lastly, Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities has reached full recovery plus an additional 13,400 jobs, up 8.5 percent. Other industry sectors reaching full recovery include: Government, Financial Activities, and Wholesale Trade. Professional and Business Services and Leisure and Hospitality are very close to full recovery with Information and Other Services not far behind.

Recovery rates in Manufacturing and Mining continue to lag due to their ties to the energy sector, however, progress has been made in recent months. Construction has the largest number of jobs that still have not been recovered, down 14,900 jobs or 6.3 percent from what they were in February 2020.

### Pandemic Job Recovery - Actual

Industry Sector	March and April Increase (Decrease)	May 2020 through April 2022 Increase (Decrease)	Jobs Left to Recover	Percent Recovered	Percent Change From Feb 2020
H-W-S MSA Total	-359,400	365,500	-6,100	100.00%	0.19%
Retail Trade	-39,800	57,200	-17,400	100.00%	5.80%
Education and Health Services	-45,000	61,800	-16,800	100.00%	4.10%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Government	-3,300	16,700	-13,400	100.00%	8.50%
Financial Activities	-7,200	15,200	-8,000	100.00%	1.90%
Wholesale Trade	-7,400	10,700	-3,300	100.00%	2.00%
Information	-8,700	9,200	-500	100.00%	0.30%
Professional and Business Services	-4,400	3,300	1,100	75.00%	-3.40%
Leisure and Hospitality	-43,400	41,500	1,900	95.62%	-0.40%
Other Services	-128,300	125,800	2,500	98.05%	-0.70%
Mining and Logging	-30,400	21,700	8,700	71.38%	-7.30%
Manufacturing	-6,300	-3,700	10,000	0.00%	-12.80%
Construction	-11,300	-2,900	14,200	0.00%	-6.10%
United States Total	-23,900	9,000	14,900	37.66%	-6.30%
United States Total	-20,715,000	20,730,000	-15,000	100.07%	0.01%

### Job Recovery - Seasonally Adjusted

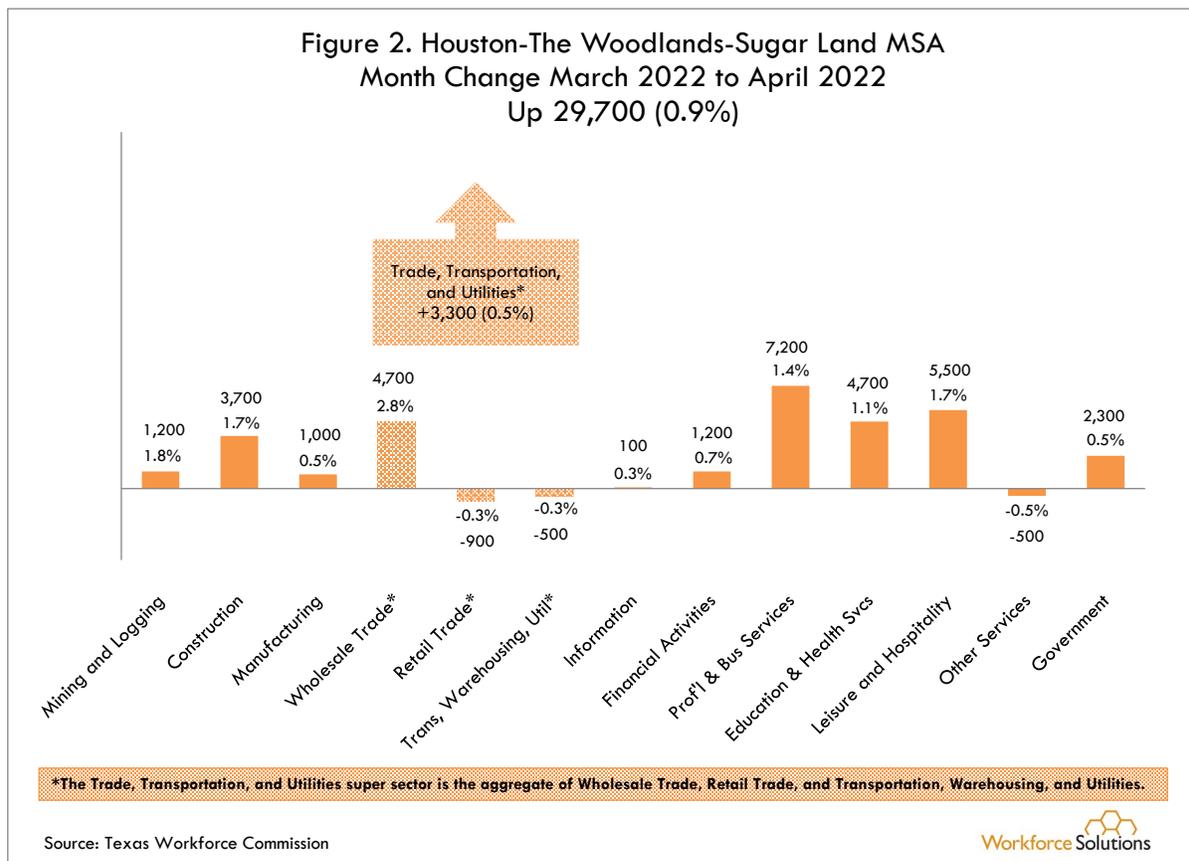
Industry Sector	March and April Increase (Decrease)	May 2020 through April 2022 Increase	Jobs Left to Recover	Percent Recovered	Percent Change From Feb 2020
H-W-S MSA	-369,100	369,400	-300	100.00%	0.08%
United States	-21,991,000	20,801,000	1,190,000	94.59%	-0.78%

## Nonagricultural Employment

### Over the Month

March job numbers were revised indicating growth was stronger than originally estimated but still much weaker than the typical March, up 6,100 jobs over the month compared to the pre-pandemic historical average of 12,600. The bulk of the revisions leading to a stronger March increase were found in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, up 2,700 jobs instead of down 800 jobs, Professional and Business Services, down 8,100 jobs instead of down 9,300 jobs, and Health Care and Social Assistance, up 600 jobs instead of down 600 jobs. On the other end of the spectrum, gains in Leisure and Hospitality were weaker than originally estimated, up 2,500 jobs instead of up 4,600 jobs.

Preliminary estimates are that Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA experienced a record increase of 29,700 jobs in April. The 0.9 percent increase was the strongest for the month of April since 1994 and nearly twice the historical average of 0.5 percent prior to the pandemic. The largest increases were in Professional and Business Services, up 7,200 jobs, Leisure and Hospitality, up 5,500 jobs, and education and Health Services, up 4,700 job, see figure 2. Three industry sectors that remain hardest hit from the pandemic, Mining and Logging, Manufacturing, and Construction, have now seen several consecutive months of increases making progress to recovery from pandemic lows.



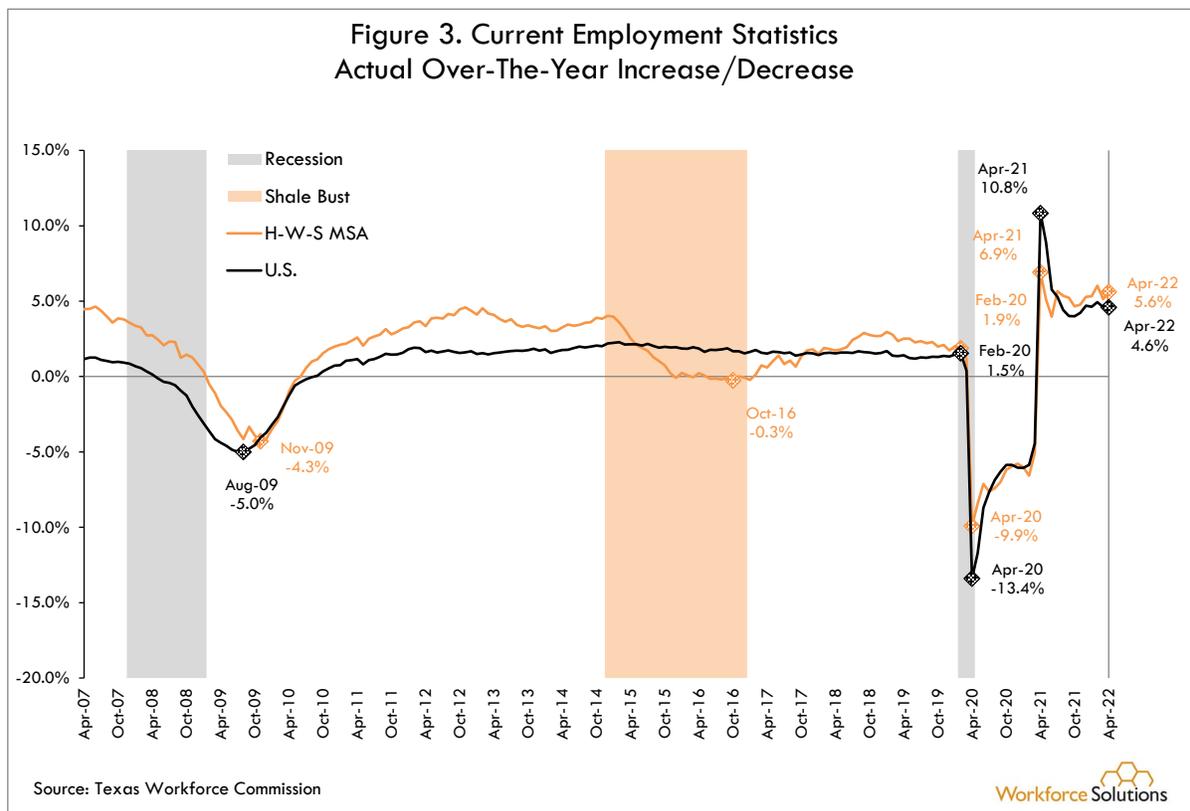
Over the Year

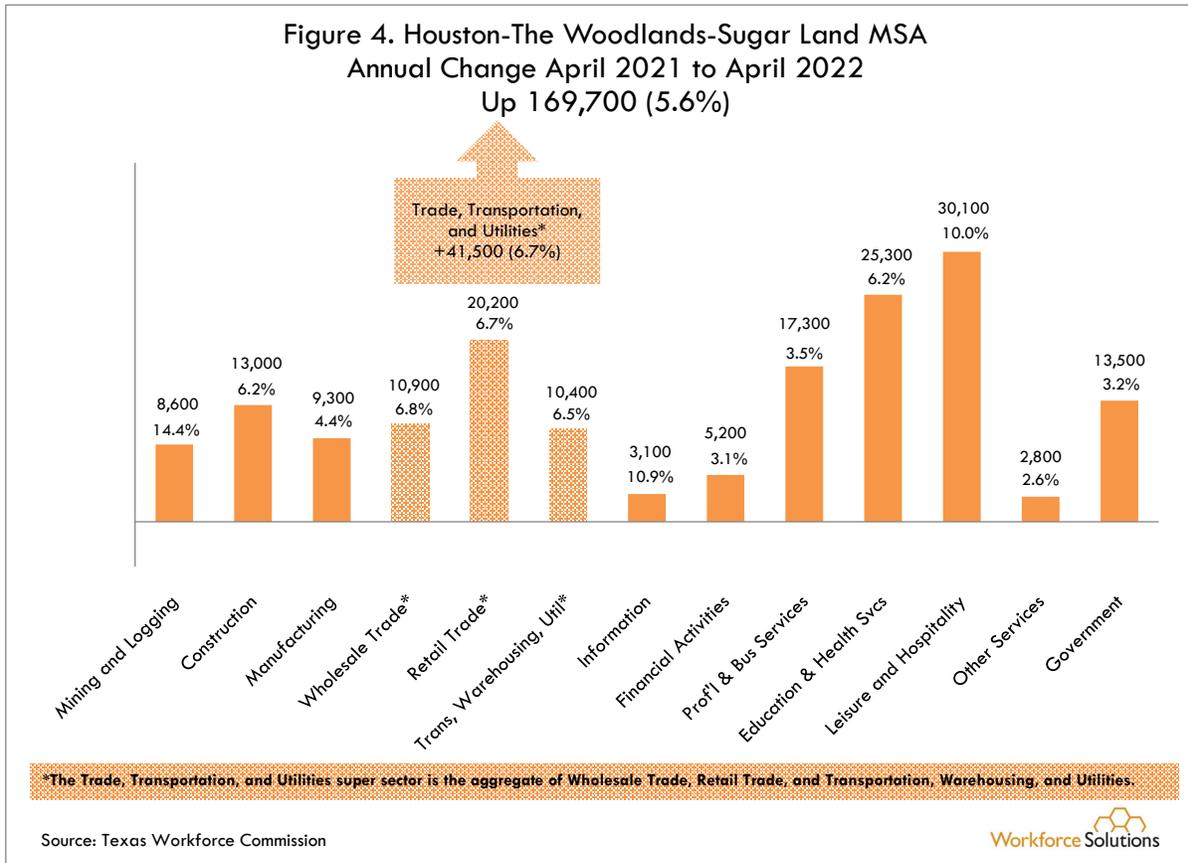
Total Nonfarm Employment in the H-W-S MSA was up 169,700 jobs over the year in April. The 5.6 percent increase in the H-W-S MSA was one percent stronger than the nation's increase of 4.6 percent, see figure 3.

All industry super sectors were reporting over-the-year increases, see figure 4. The largest increases were in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, up 41,500 jobs or 6.7 percent, Leisure and Hospitality, up 30,100 jobs or 10.0 percent, and Education and Health Services, up 25,300 jobs or 6.2 percent. Mining and Logging has seen the strongest growth, up 8,600 jobs or 14.4 percent.

For a complete list of current, month-ago, and year-ago employment estimates see pages 28 & 29.

Additional comments by industry super sector can be found beginning on page 7.

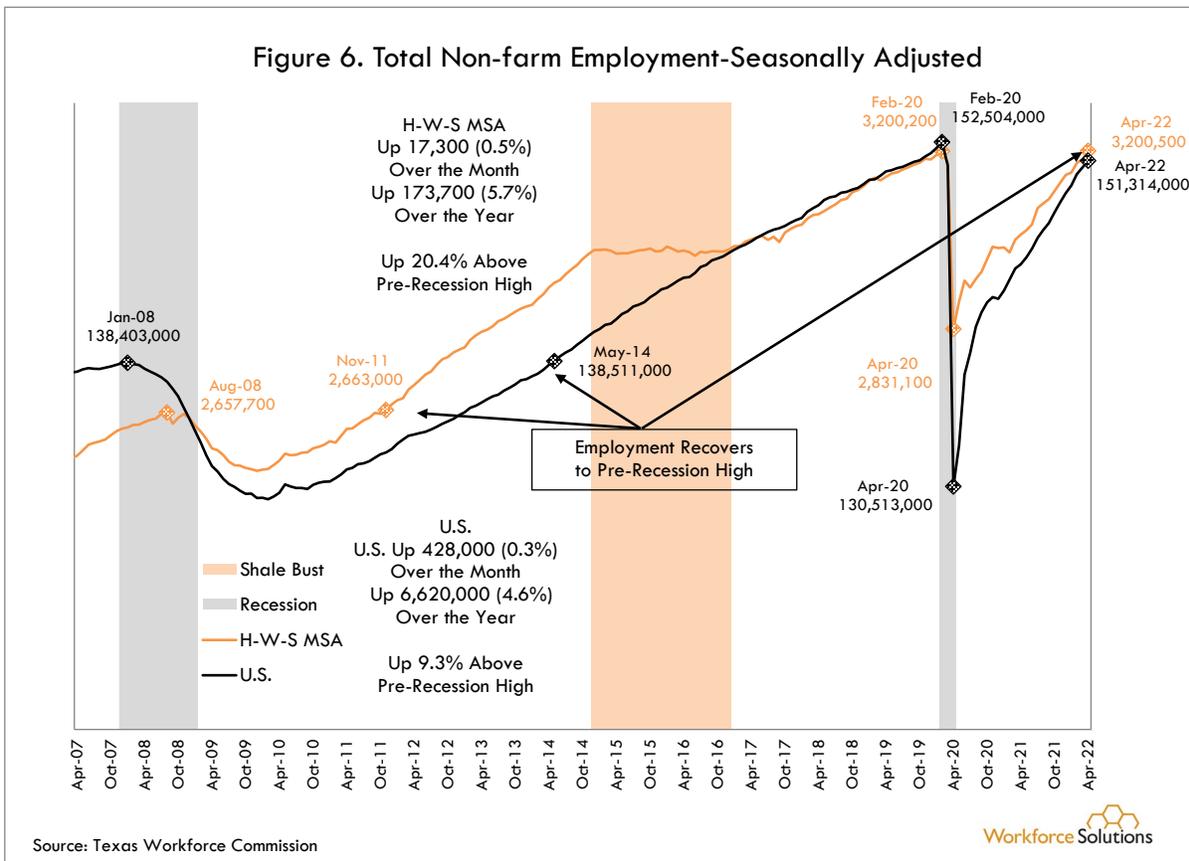
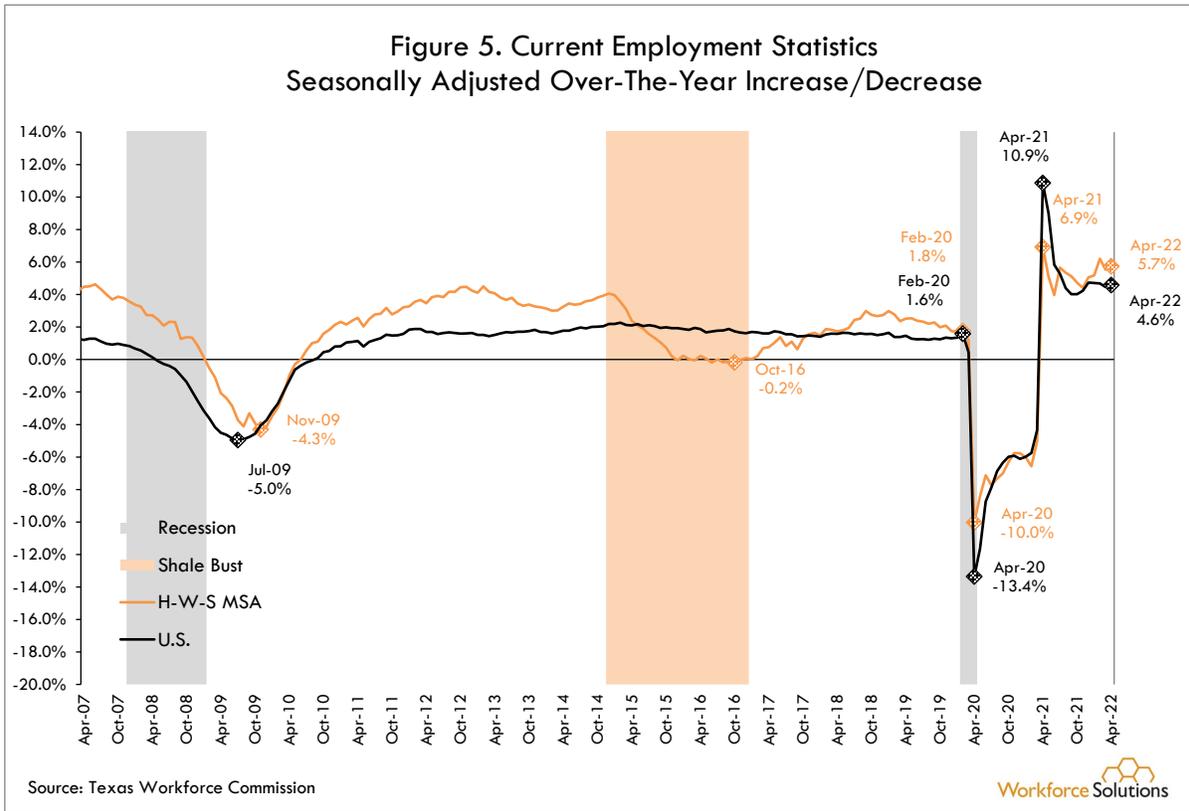




### Total Nonfarm Employment – Seasonally Adjusted

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 increased by 17,300 jobs over the month in April with the pace of growth rising to 5.7 percent. This placed employment on a seasonally adjusted basis back to pre-pandemic levels, up 300 jobs from February 2020. Total Nonfarm Employment at the national level added 428,000 jobs in April with the pace of growth rising to 4.6 percent.

Houston has been among the fastest-growing cities in the U.S. and as a result long-term job growth has historically outpaced that of the nation. Payrolls in the H-W-S MSA are currently up 20.4 percent above their peak prior to The Great Recession while payrolls at the national level are only up 9.3 percent.



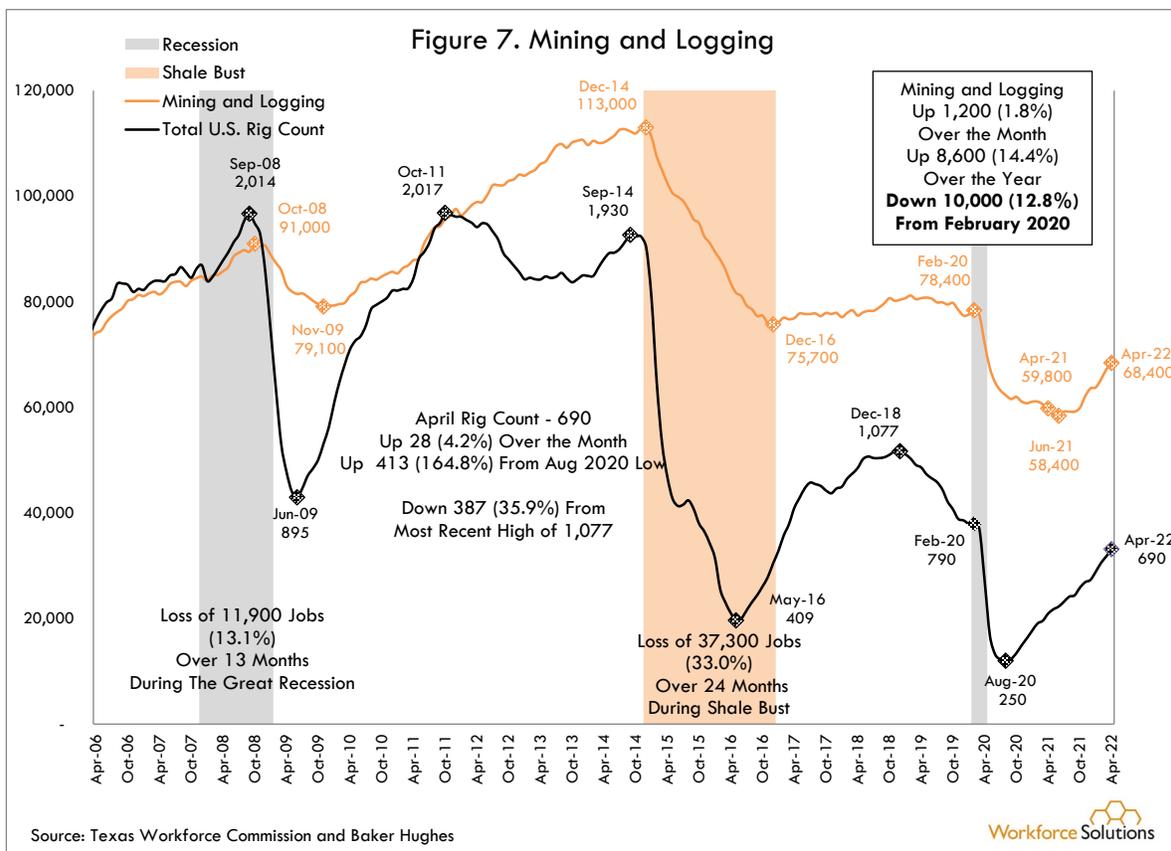
## Details by Industry Sector

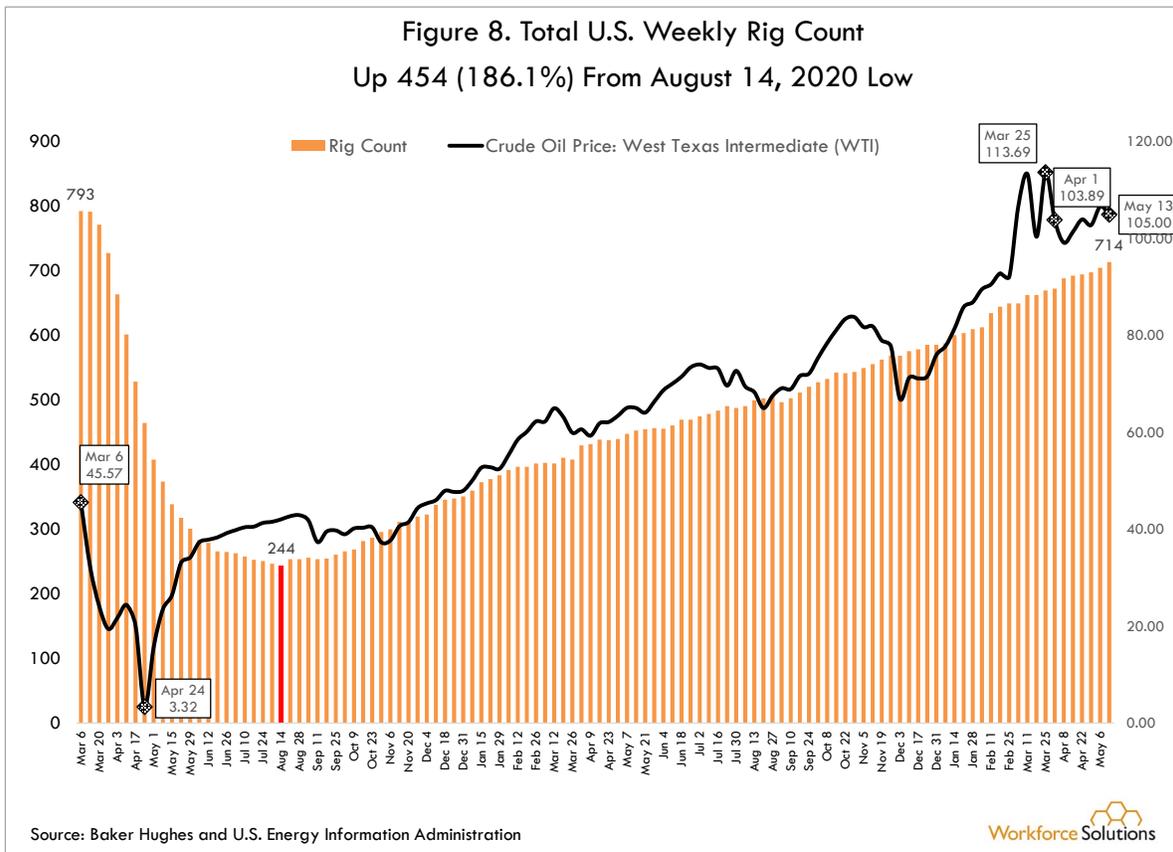
**Mining and Logging** experienced its seventh consecutive increase in April, up 1,200 jobs or 1.8 percent. The industry sector has added 9,200 jobs over the last seven months driving payrolls up 15.5 percent.

Mining and Logging was up 8,600 jobs over the year. The 14.4 percent increase makes it the fastest growing industry sector. Support Activities for Mining was the largest contributor to the increase adding 4,400 jobs over the year, up 15.1 percent. Oil and Gas Extraction also managed strong growth, up 3,300 jobs or 11.3 percent. The remainder of the increase was in undefined areas of Mining and Logging, up 900 jobs.

Mining and Logging was already struggling before the pandemic began reporting substantial declines near the end of 2019 which continued throughout 2020 and into 2021. Hiring resumed in the Support Activities for Mining sector in the second half of 2021 with increases during most months in response to increased drilling activity. Oil and Gas Extraction, where companies operate and/or develop oil and gas field properties and in most cases do not work in the field, continued to see declines until fourth quarter 2021 before seeing increases. While Mining and Logging has been making progress in recovering jobs, payrolls are currently down 10,000 jobs or 12.8 percent from pre-pandemic levels in February 2020, see figure 7.

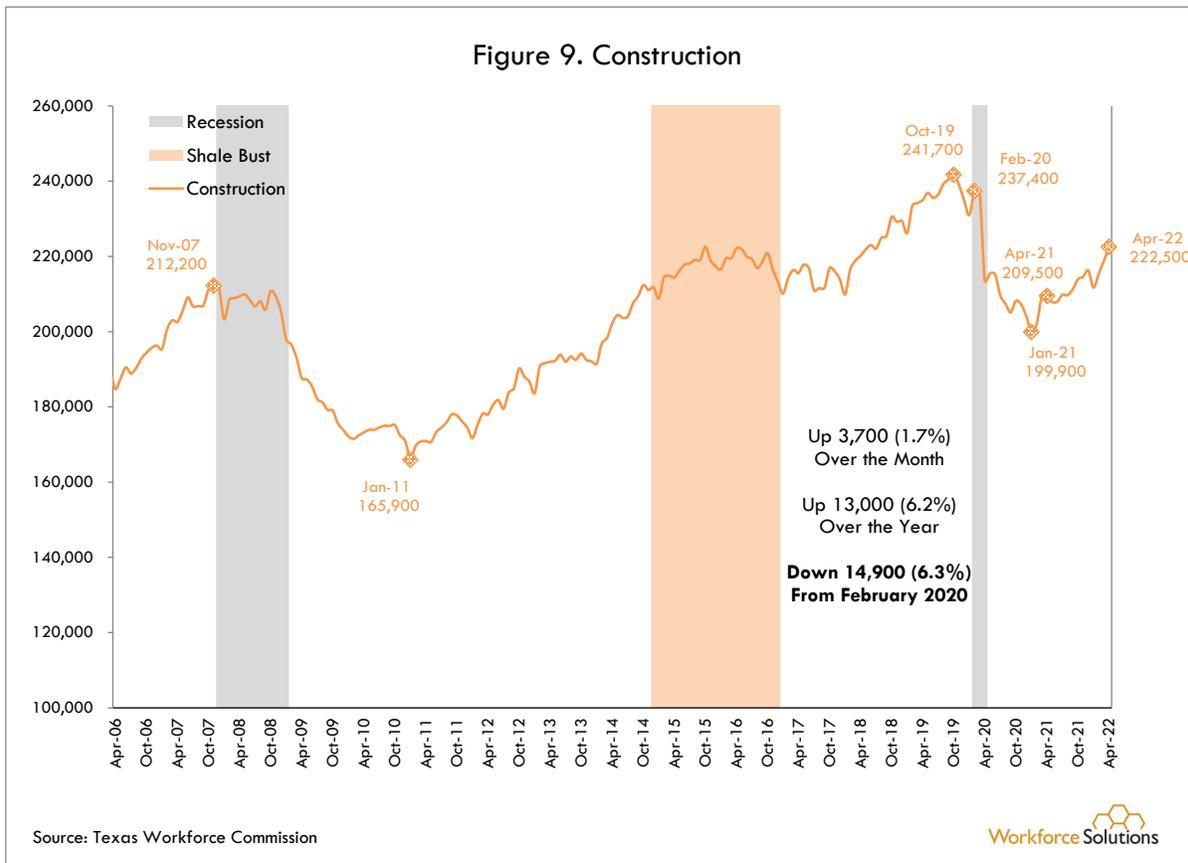
The average U.S. rig count rose for the twenty-first consecutive month in April, up by 28 to 690. The monthly rig count was down 387 (35.9%) from the most recent high of 1,077 in December 2018. Looking at rig counts on a weekly basis, rising oil prices and attempts to make up for declining production from cutbacks in early 2020 have driven a 186.1 percent increase in drilling activity since hitting a bottom during the week of August 14, 2020, see figure 8.





**Construction** experienced its second largest ever April increase of 3,700 jobs in April, up 1.7 percent. The previous largest April increase was in 2014 when 3,900 jobs were added. Often Construction loses jobs in April but it can go either way. Most of the increase was in Construction of Buildings and Specialty Trade Contractors, up 1,400 jobs each, with the remainder found in Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction, up 900 jobs.

Construction added 13,000 jobs over the year, up 6.2 percent over the year, see figure 9. Strongest growth has been in Construction of Buildings, up 4,800 jobs or 9.7 percent. While Construction has made steady gains in recent months, the pace of home sales has, however, slowed due to rising interest rates with home sales flat from a year ago according to Houston Association of Realtors. Healthy gains were also found in Specialty Trade Contractors, up 5,400 jobs or 4.9 percent, and Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction, up 2,800 jobs or 5.5 percent. Construction has the largest number of jobs of any industry super sector to recover to get to pre-pandemic levels, down 14,900 jobs or 6.3 percent from February 2020.



**Manufacturing** added 1,000 jobs, up 0.5 percent in April. April's increase follows a revised March increase of 1,600 jobs instead of the originally estimated 900. The increase was the largest for the month of April since 2012 and in contrast to the pre-pandemic historical average loss of about 300 jobs. Most of the increase was in Durable Goods Manufacturing in support of increased drilling activity, up 700 jobs or 0.5 percent. Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing added 300 jobs over the month.

Manufacturing added 9,300 jobs over the year, up 4.4 percent, see figure 10. Most of the increase was in Durable Goods Manufacturing with much of it tied to the energy sector, up 7,200 jobs or 5.6 percent, see figure 10.1. Nondurable Goods Manufacturing payrolls were up 2,100 jobs or 2.6 percent over the year, see figure 10.2. Payrolls in Manufacturing remain 14,200 jobs or 6.1 percent below pre-pandemic levels in February 2020.

The Houston Purchasing Managers Index declined 1.2 points to 57.3 in April indicating continued increased economic activity but at a slightly slower rate. Starting January 2022, ISM-Houston began reporting separate indices for manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries in addition to the overall Houston Purchasing Managers Index. The Houston Manufacturing PMI rose 1.6 points to 60.8 continuing to point to strong expansion. The non-manufacturing PMI fell 1.7 points to 56.6 showing a lower rate of expansion. 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.

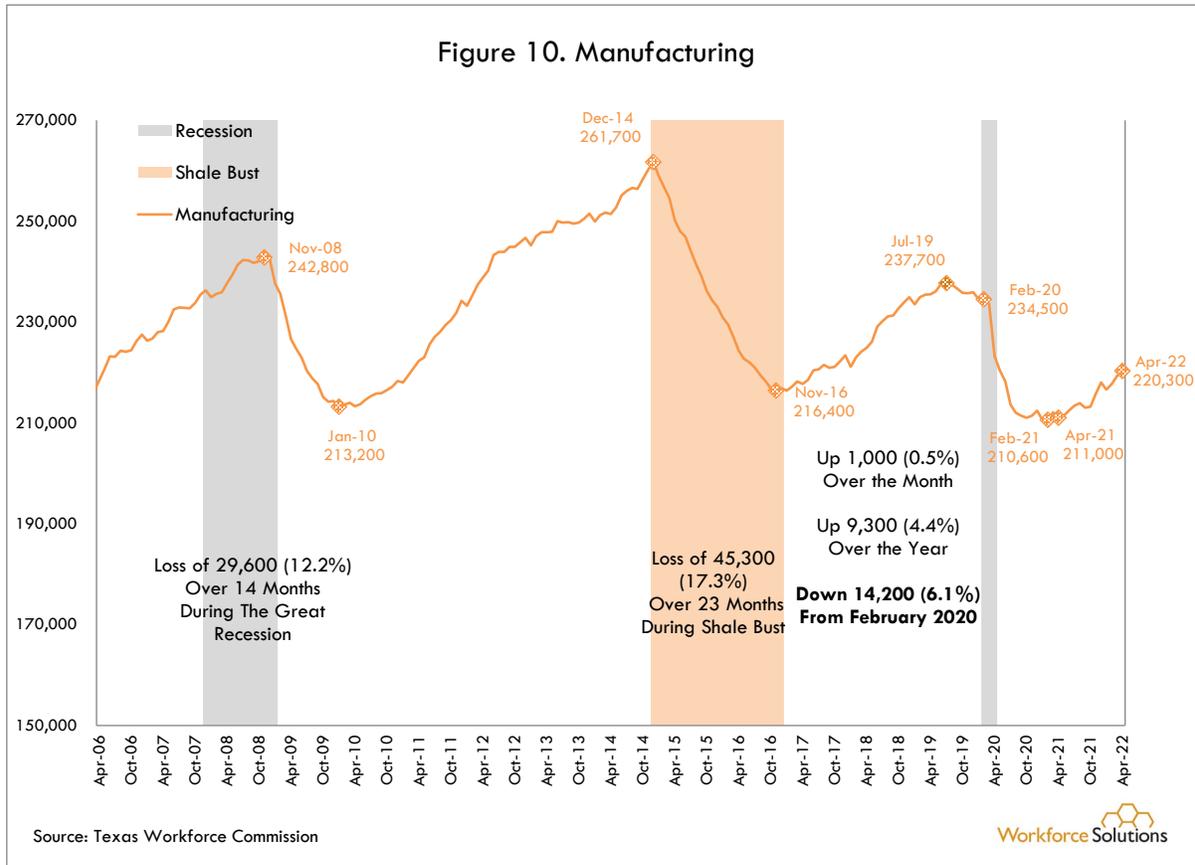
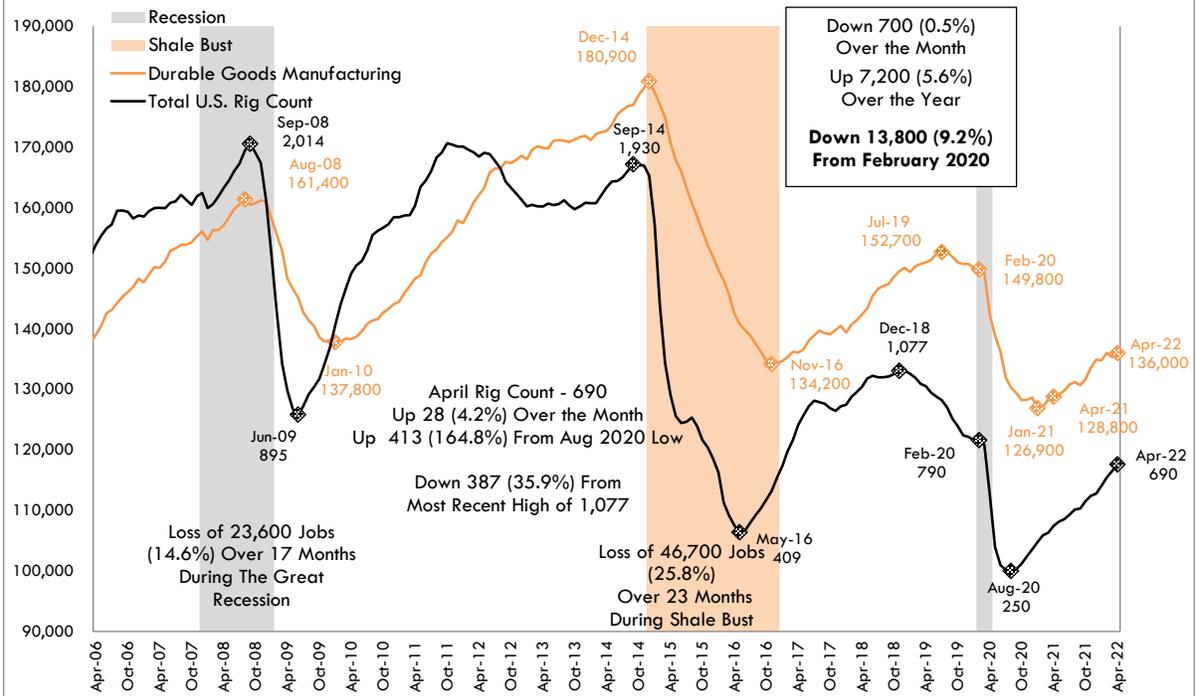
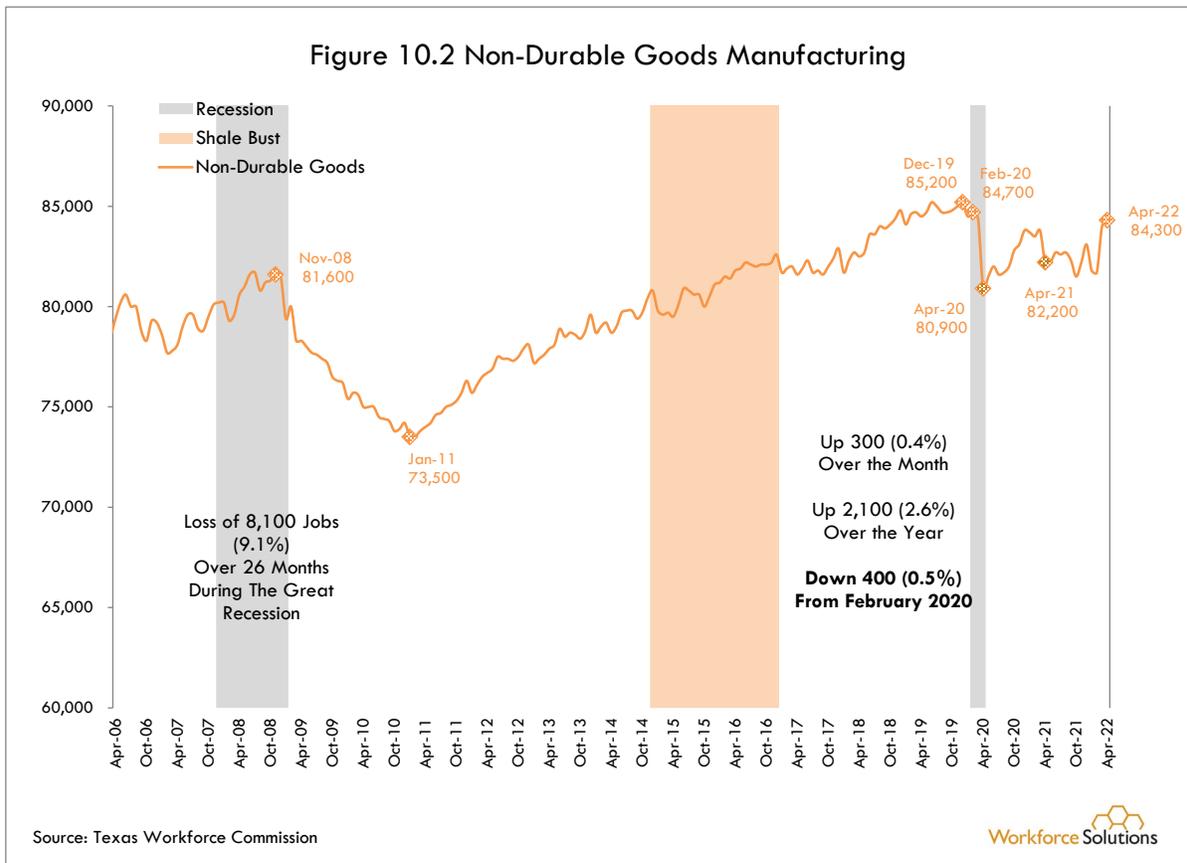


Figure 10.1 Durable Goods Manufacturing



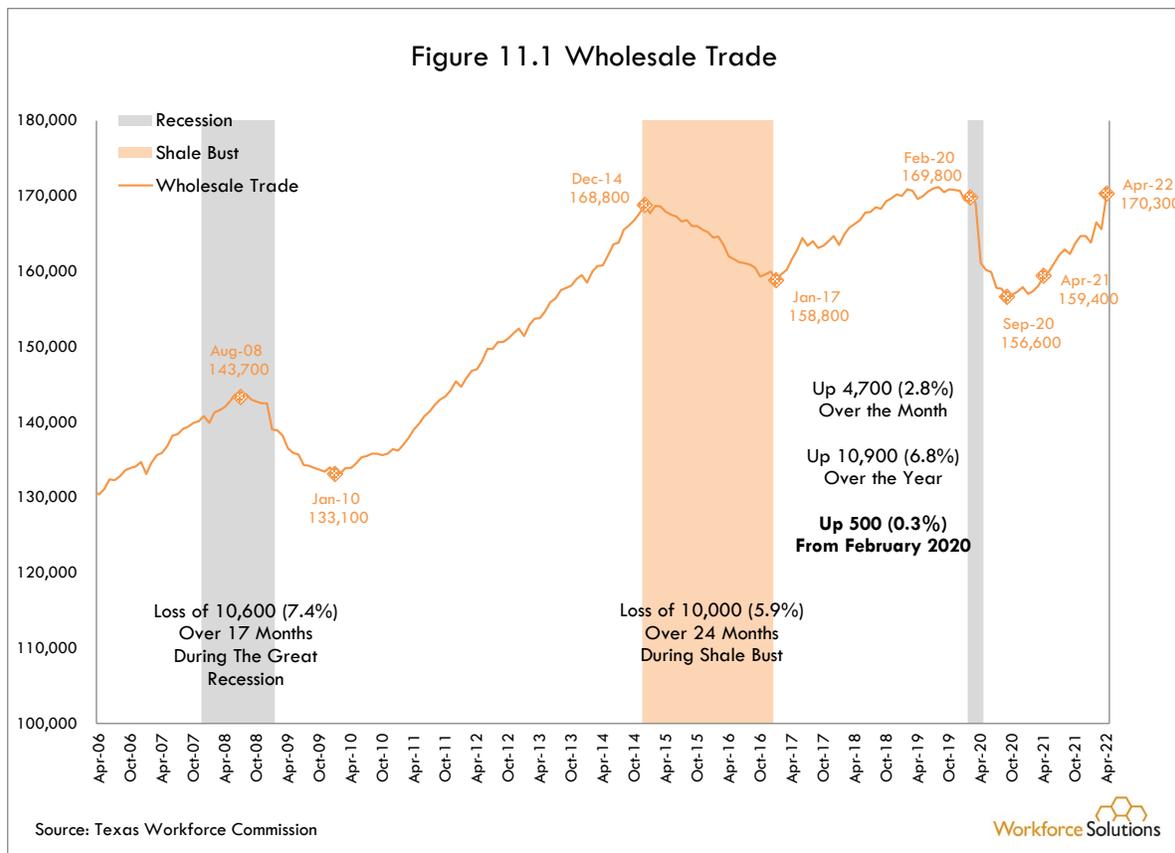
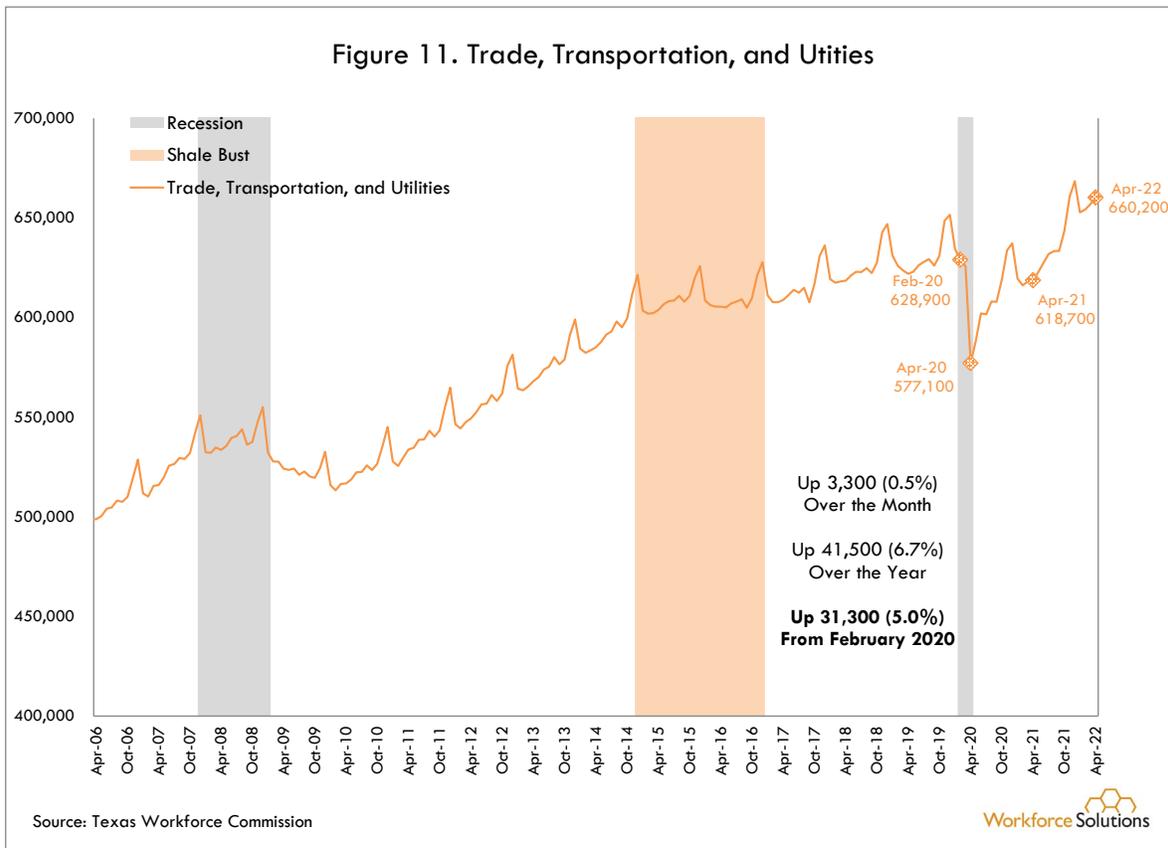
Source: Texas Workforce Commission

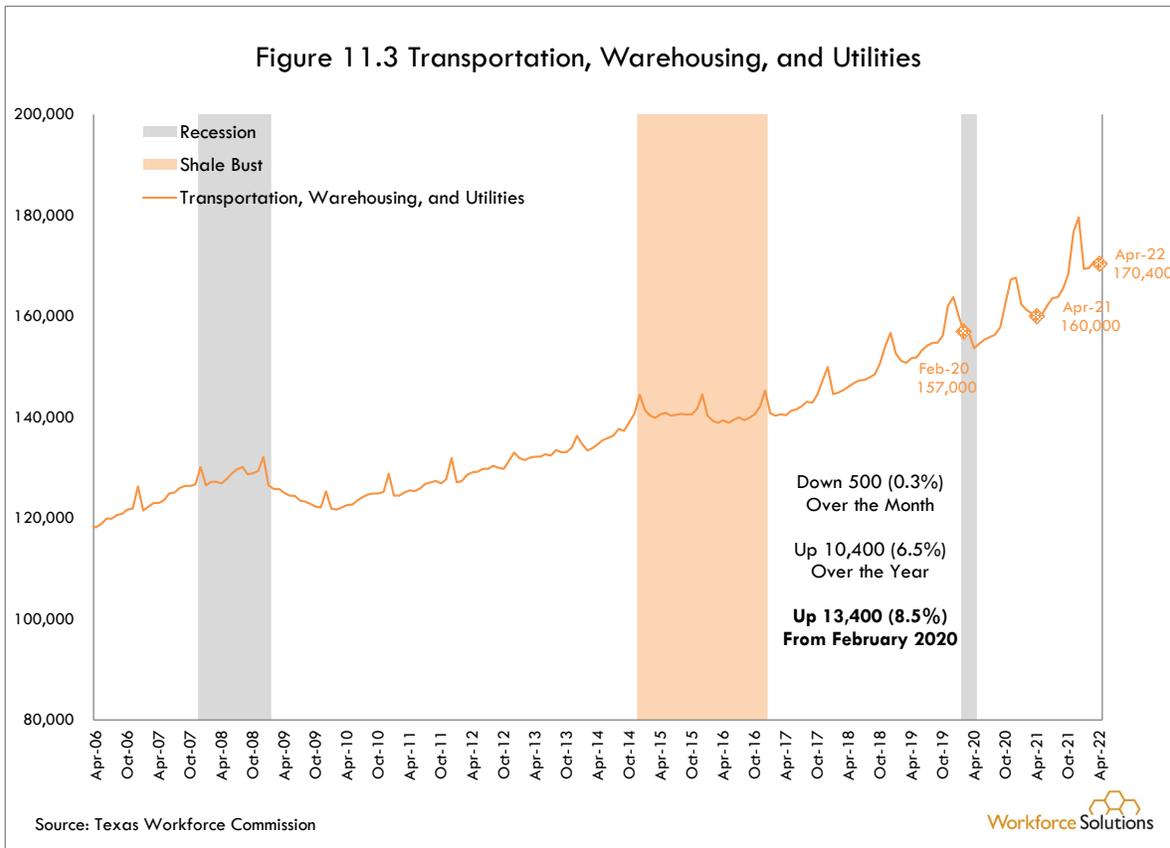
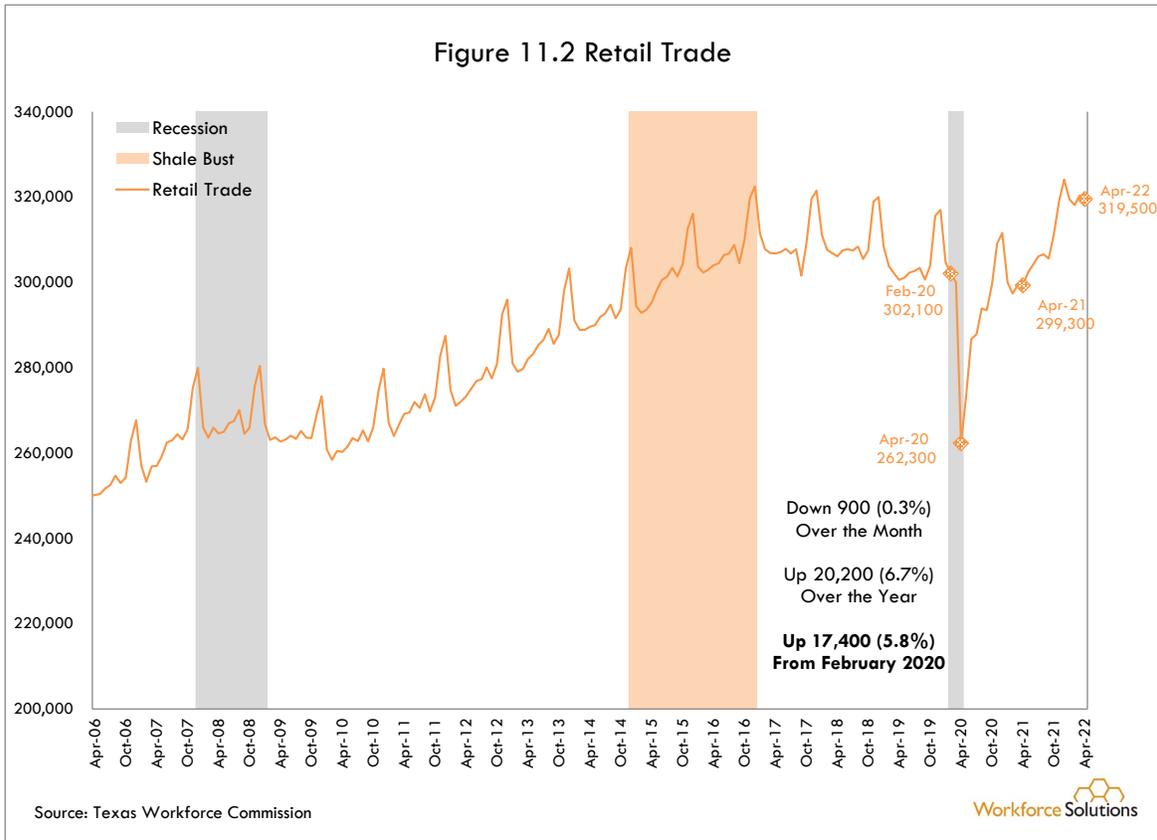




**Trade Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities** added 3,300 jobs in April, up 0.5 percent. The increase follows a large revision to March estimates indicating the super sector added 2,700 jobs over the month instead of an originally estimated loss of 800 jobs. All of this month's increase was in Wholesale Trade which posted its largest ever April increase of 4,700 jobs, up 2.8 percent. Retail Trade and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities suffered declines offsetting the increase, down 900 jobs and 500 jobs respectively. Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers was the largest declining retail sector suffering a loss of 1,000 jobs due to slower home improvement spending.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was the largest gaining industry super sector in April, up 41,500 jobs or 6.7 percent over the year. Retail Trade accounted for roughly half of the increase with payrolls up 20,200 jobs or 6.7 percent, see figure 11.2. General Merchandise Stores reported the largest increase of 6,000 jobs, up 10.4 percent. Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores added jobs at a similar pace, up 2,300 jobs or 10.8 percent. Building Material and Garden Equipment Supplies Dealers was now reporting an over-the-year loss of 1,400 jobs or 5.6 percent. Wholesale Trade added 10,900 jobs over the year, up 6.8 percent, see figure 11.1. Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities added 10,400 jobs over the year, up 6.5 percent. While data for many detailed sectors are not published, the majority gains were likely related to warehousing, distribution, and related courier services. Of the published sub-sectors, Air Transportation reported the strongest growth, up 1,300 jobs or 7.3 percent. Truck Transportation reported the largest increase of 1,700 jobs or 6.3 percent. Payrolls in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities are up 31,300 jobs or 5.0 percent above pre-pandemic levels in February 2020.





**Information** payrolls were up 3,100 jobs or 10.9 percent over the year. Nearly half of the employment in Information resides in Telecommunications where payrolls were up a mere 100 jobs over the year. This means the increase 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** experienced a net increase of 1,200 jobs in April, up 0.7 percent. An addition of 1,100 jobs in Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was responsible for the increase, up 1.8 percent. Finance and Insurance managed a net gain of 100 jobs over the month driven by gains in Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including Monetary Authorities, up 600 jobs, up 1.3 percent.

Financial Activities added 5,200 jobs over the year, up 3.1 percent, see figure 12. Gains in Finance and Insurance were responsible for much of the increase, up 3,900 jobs or 3.7 percent, see figure 12.1. Insurance Carriers and Related Activities accounted for 2,100 of those jobs, up 5.2 percent, with Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including Monetary Authorities accounting for another 1,400 jobs, up 3.1 percent. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing payrolls were up 1,300 jobs or 2.1 percent over the year, see figure 12.2. Payrolls in Financial Activities are up 3,300 jobs or 2.0 percent from just prior to the pandemic in February 2020. While the Finance and Insurance subsector recovered all jobs lost in March and April of 2020 and added an additional 5,700 jobs by April, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing payrolls remain 2,400 jobs below what they were in February 2020, down 3.7 percent.

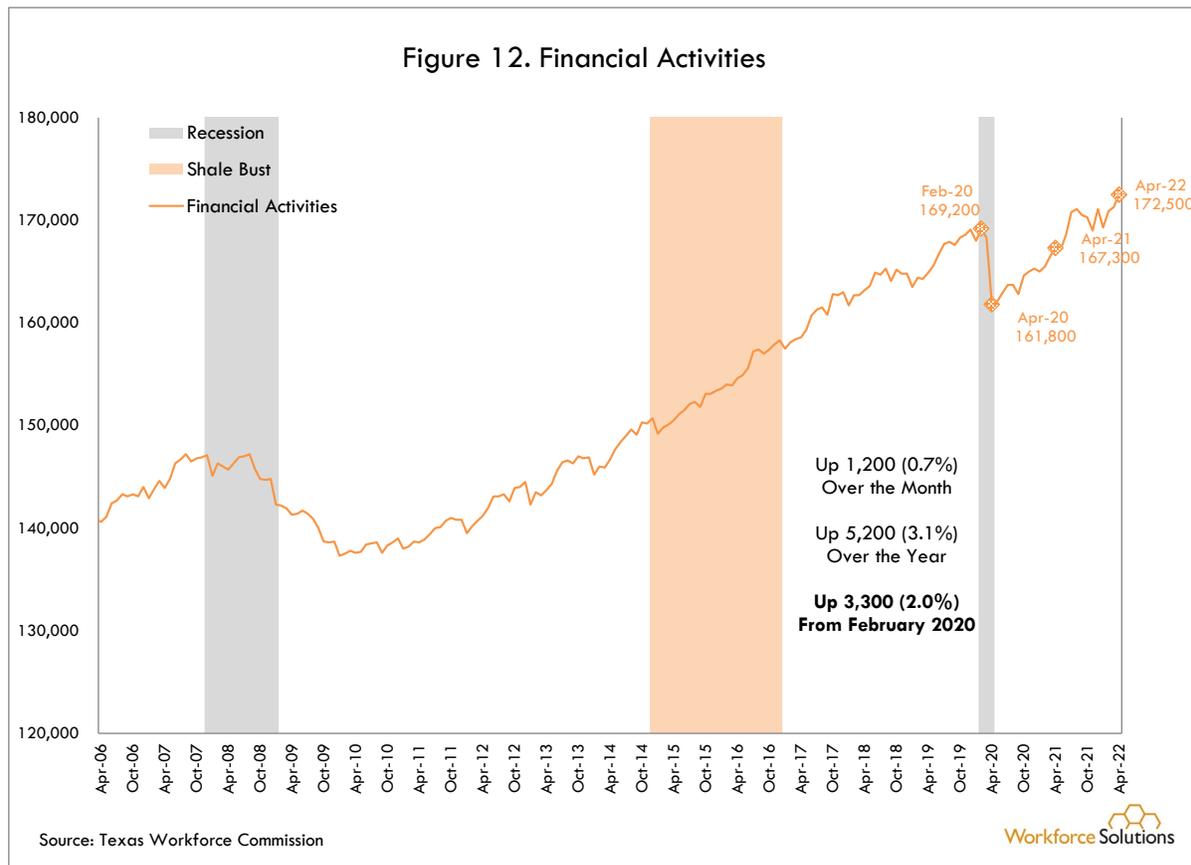
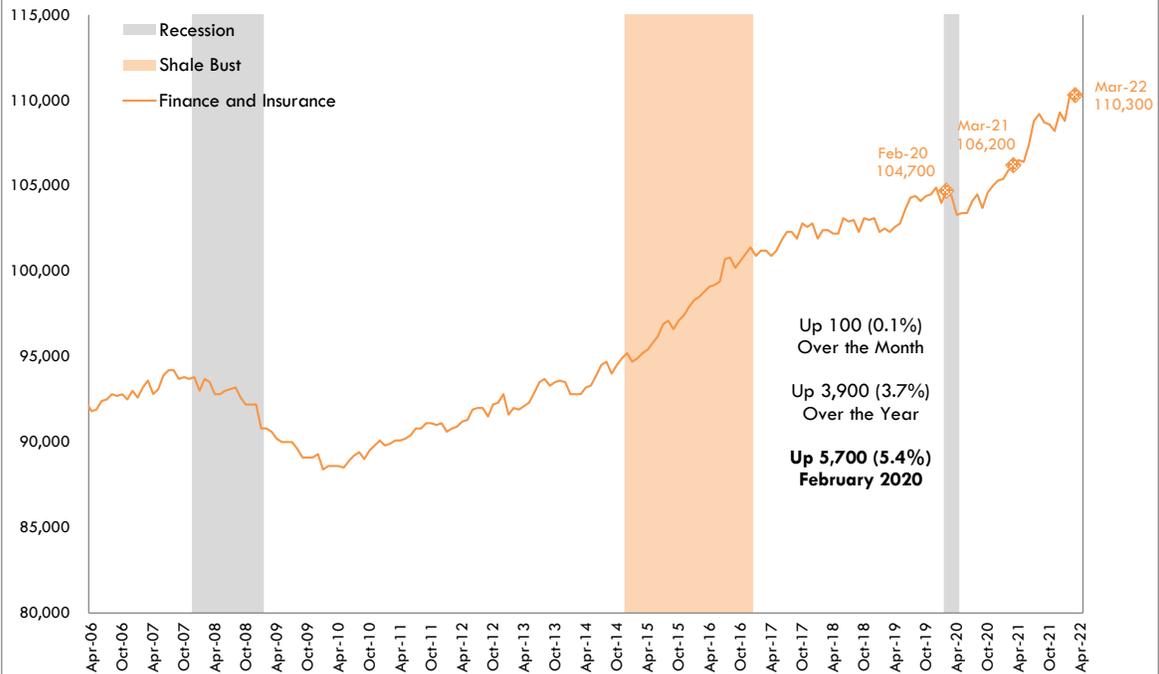


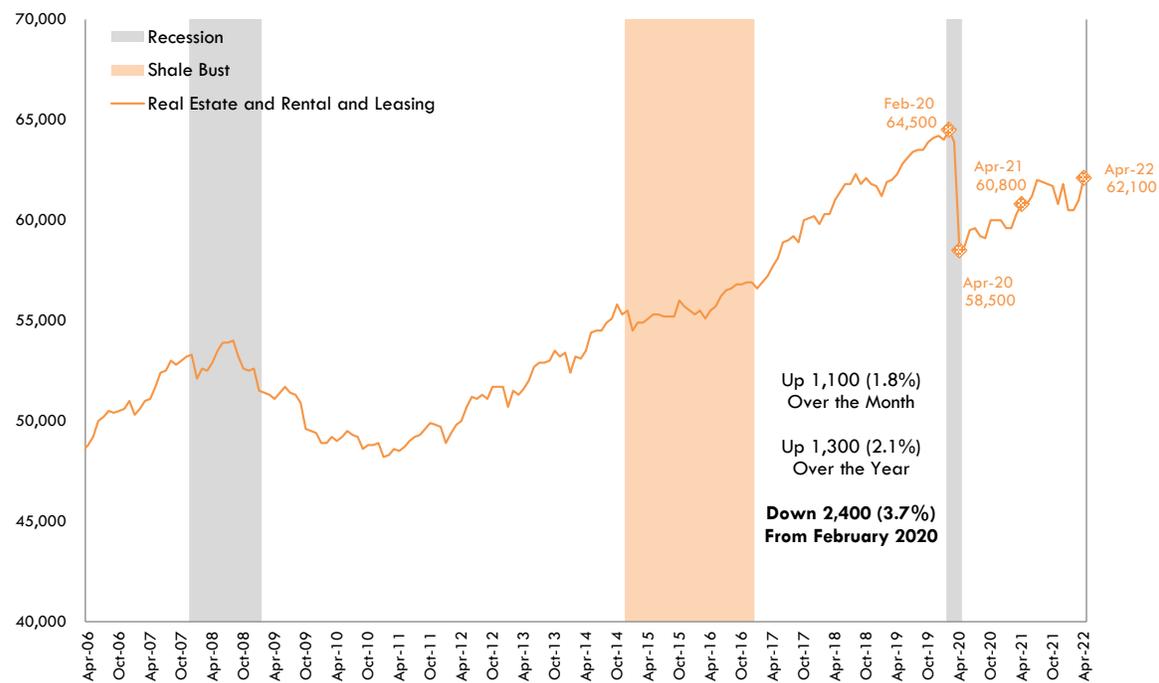
Figure 12.1 Finance and Insurance



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

Figure 12.2 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

Revised estimates for **Professional and Business Services** indicate that losses were the worse ever for the month of March as originally estimated but not quite as deep, down 8,100 jobs compared to the original estimate of 9,300. Professional and Business Services was the largest gaining industry sector in April reporting its largest ever April increase of 7,200 jobs, up 1.4 percent. Most of the increase was in Administrative and Support Services, up 5,500 jobs or 2.7 percent. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services accounted for the remainder of the increase, up 1,600 jobs or 0.7 percent, driven by an increase of 2,100 jobs in Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services, up 3.1 percent. With the rise in oil prices and affiliated rise in drilling activity conditions favor growth in Professional and Business Services.

Professional and Business Services added 17,300 jobs over the year, up 3.5 percent from April 2021, see figure 13. Administrative and Support Services and Waste Management and Remediation Services was the largest contributor to the increase, up 9,000 jobs or 4.2 percent, with hiring at staffing agencies the primary contributor to the increase, see figure 13.3. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services was the second largest contributor to the increase, up 7,600 jobs or 3.2 percent, where Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services was the largest contributor, up 4,400 jobs or 6.7 percent, see figure 13.1. Payrolls in Professional and Business Services are down 1,900 jobs or 0.4 percent from what they were in February 2020.

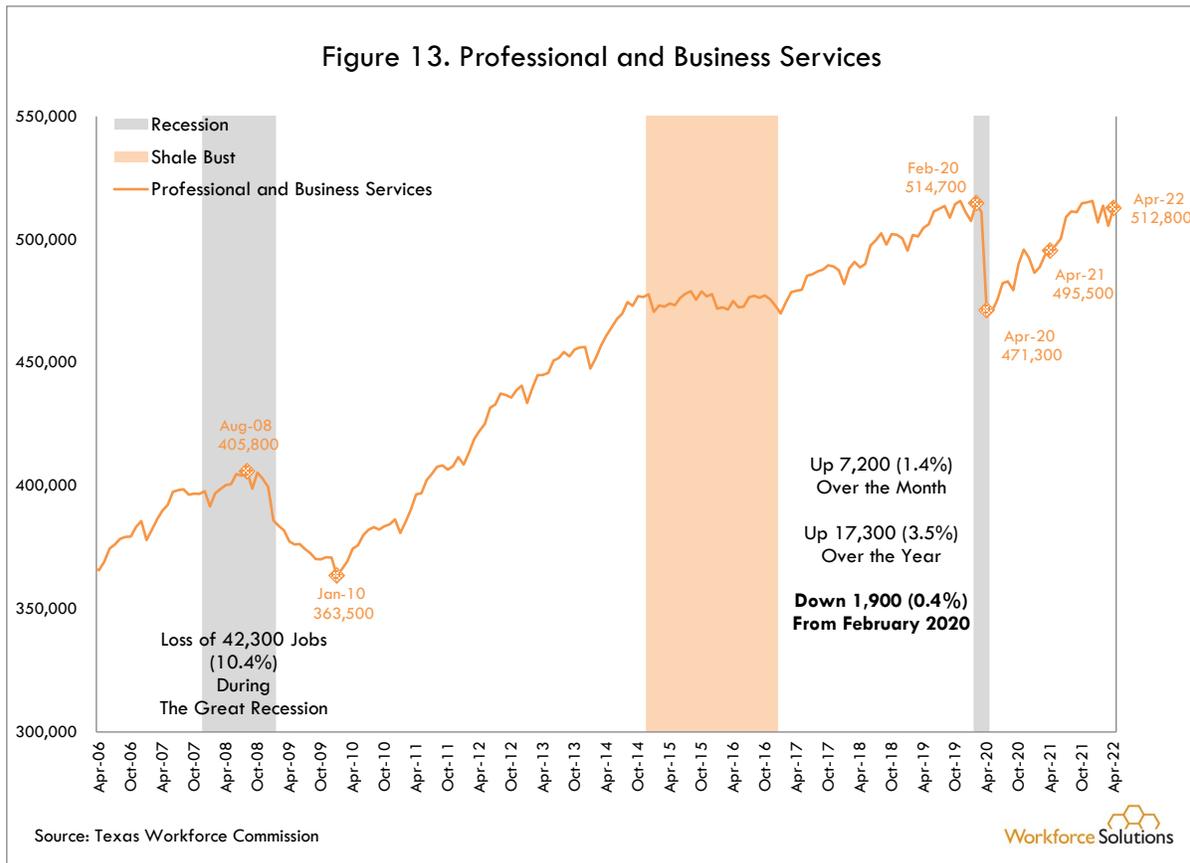
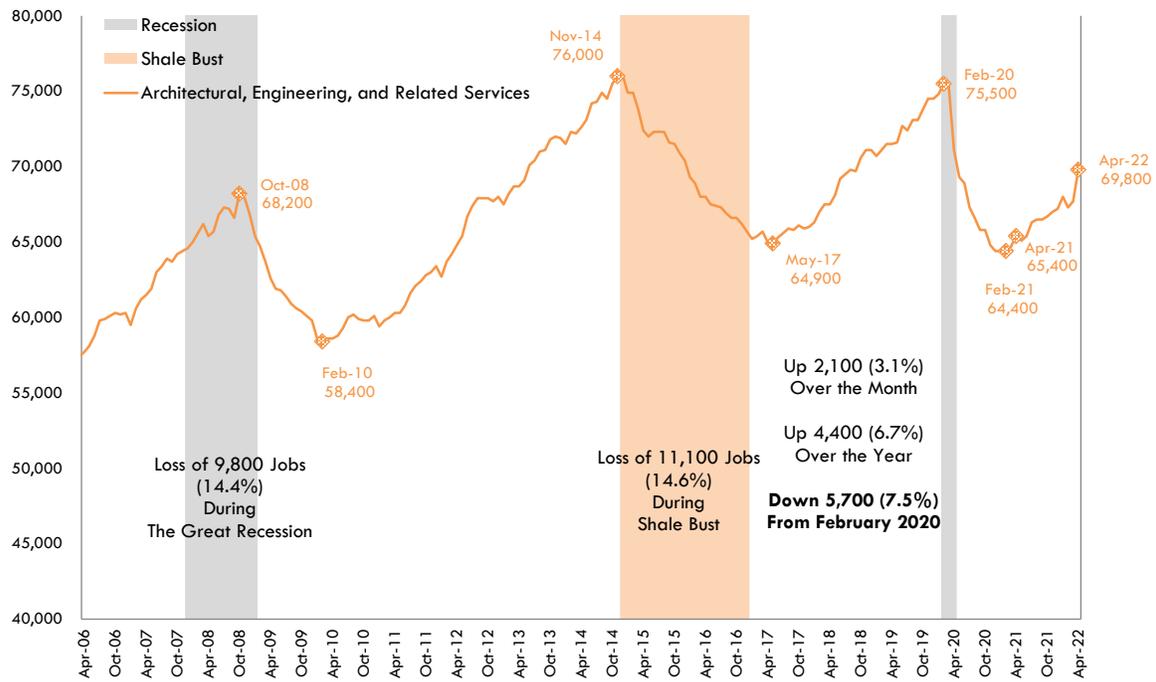


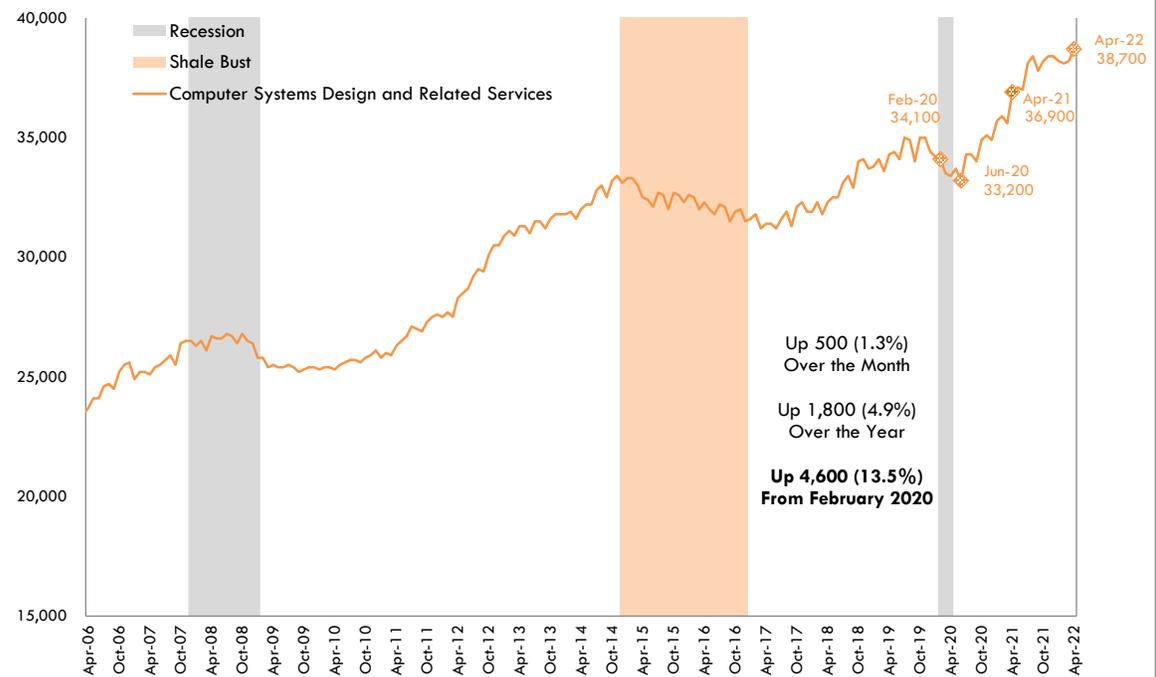
Figure 13.1 Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

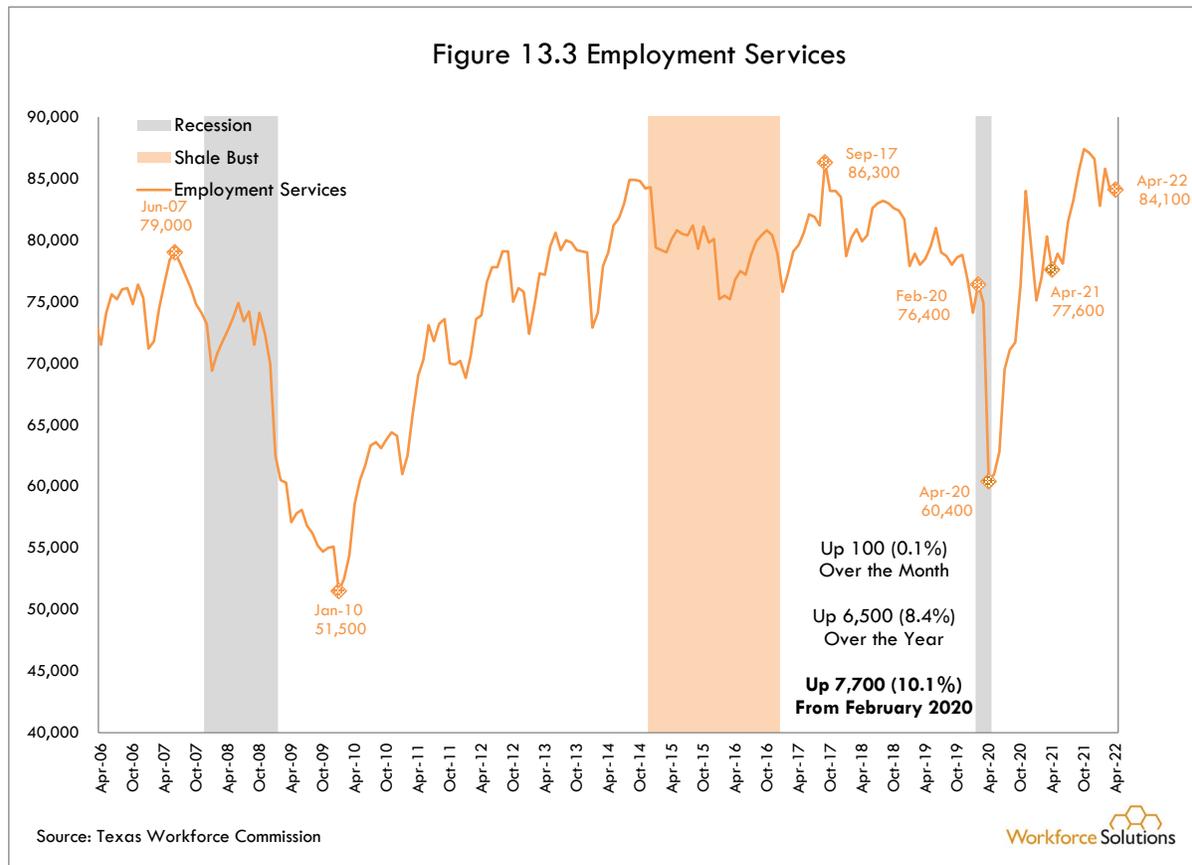


Figure 13.2 Computer System Design and Related Services



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

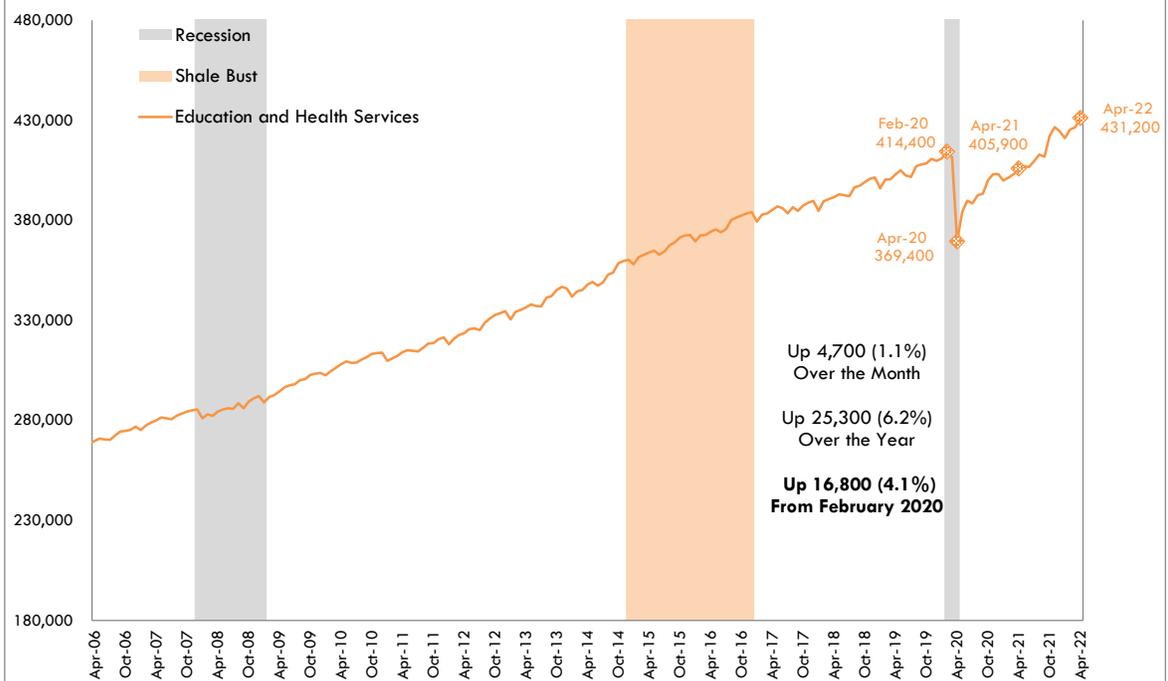




**Education and Health Services** was the third-largest gaining industry sector in April adding 4,700 jobs, up 1.1 percent. The increase was the largest ever for the month of April and well above the historical pre-pandemic average of roughly 1,000 jobs. Job gains were found in Educational Services, up 900 jobs or 1.2 percent, and Health Care and Social Assistance, up 3,800 jobs or 1.1 percent.

Education and Health Services added 25,300 jobs over the year in April, up 6.2 percent, see figure 14. More than half of the increase was in Health Care and Social Assistance, up 15,700 jobs or 4.6 percent, see figure 14.2. Job gains in Health Care and Social Assistance were found across all its subsectors including Ambulatory Health Care Services, up 5,000 jobs, Hospitals, up 3,800 jobs, and the remainder of the increase in nursing care facilities, community care facilities, and various providers of social assistance that include child day care services. Educational Services was reporting the strongest over-the-year growth in April adding 9,600 jobs over the year, up 15.1 percent, see figure 14.1. Education and Health Services payrolls are up 16,800 jobs or 4.1 percent from their pre-pandemic levels in February 2020.

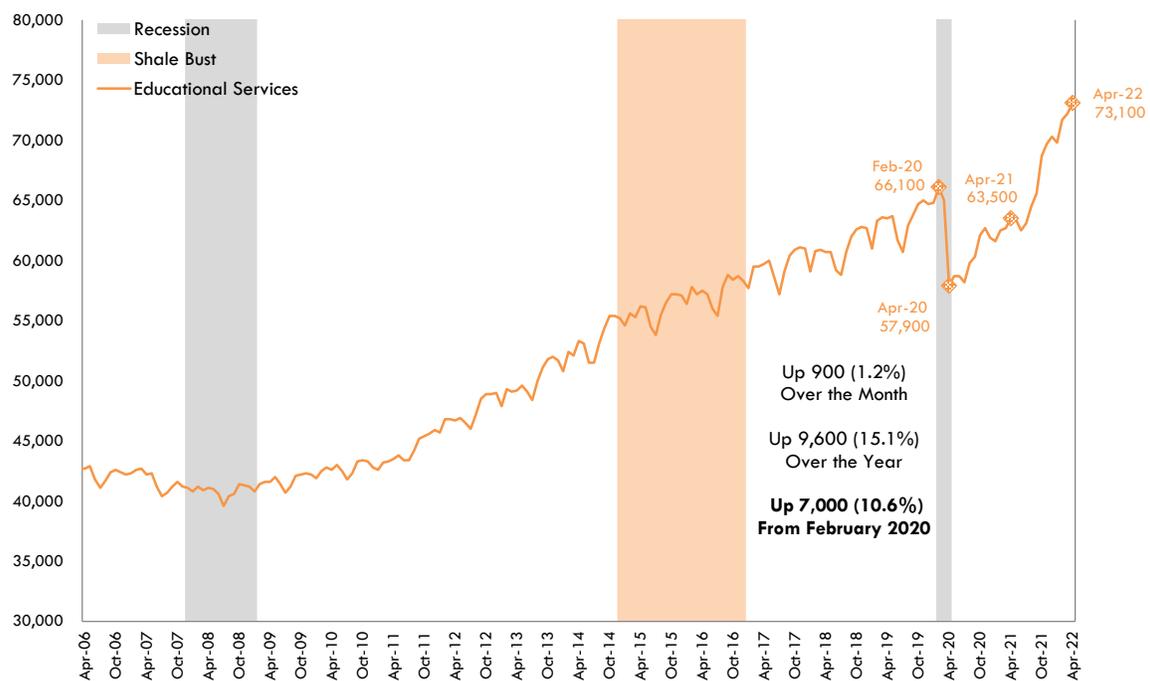
Figure 14. Education and Health Services



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

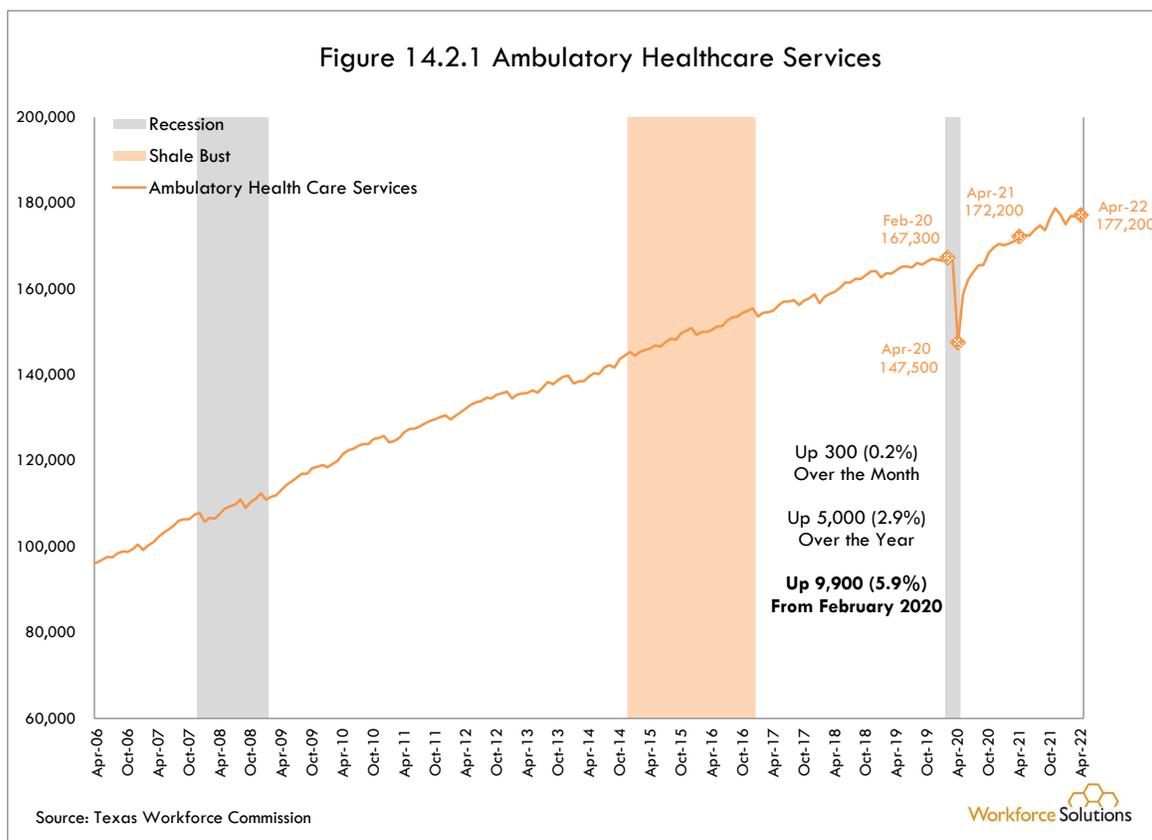
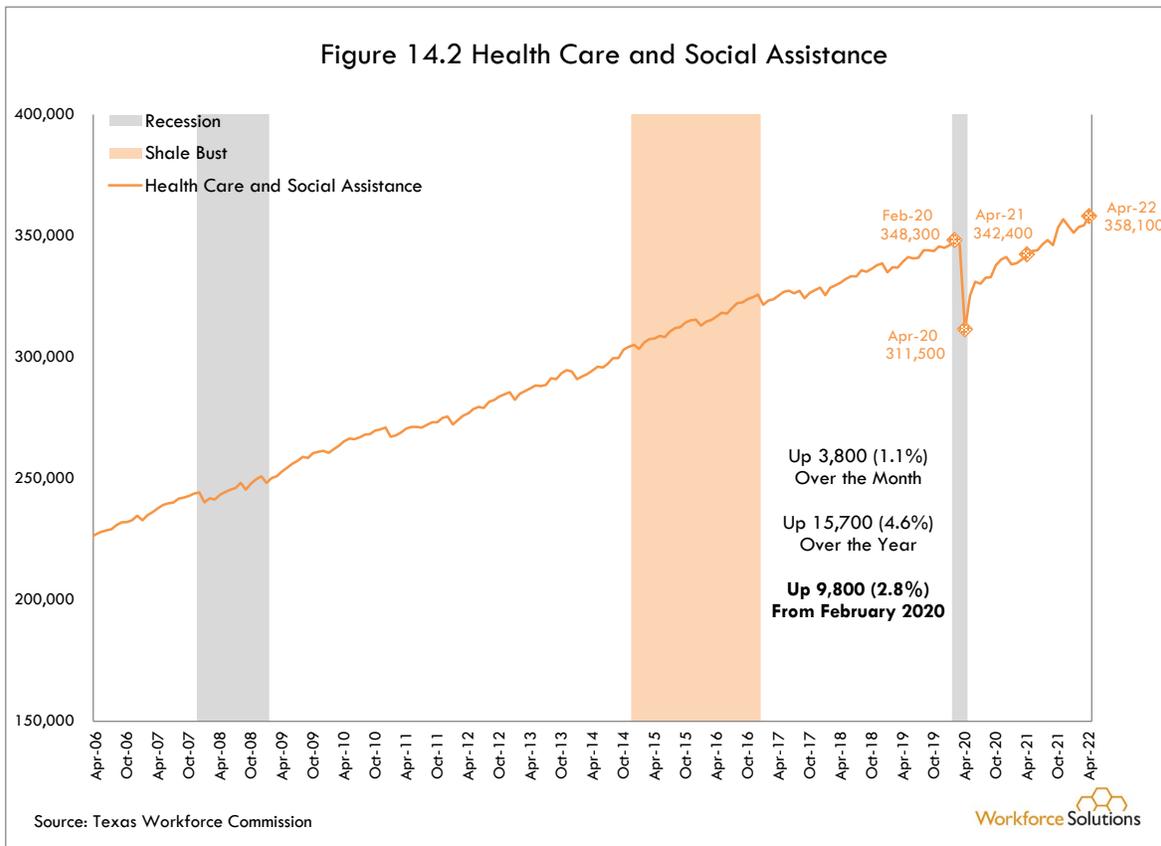


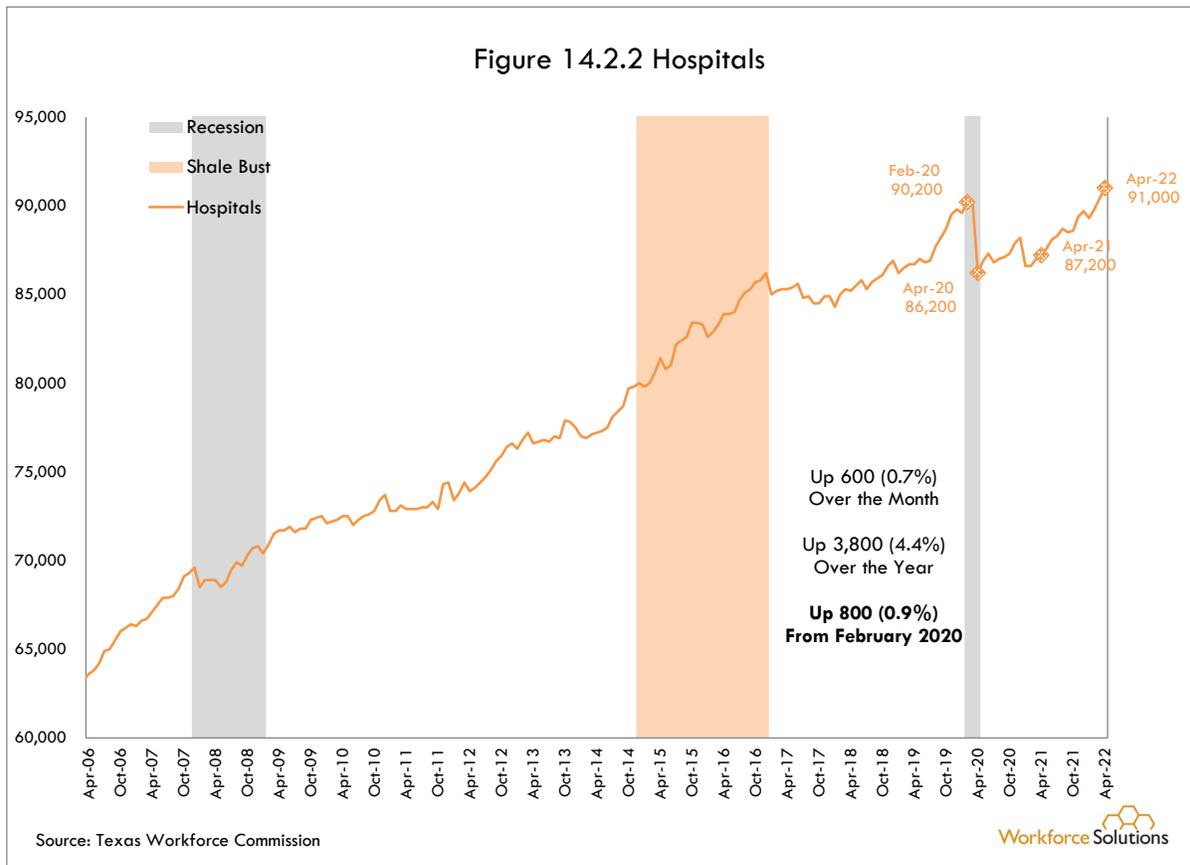
Figure 14.1 Educational Services



Source: Texas Workforce Commission







March estimates for **Leisure and Hospitality** were revised reflecting weaker growth than originally estimated, up 2,500 jobs compared to the preliminary estimate of 4,600 jobs. Leisure and Hospitality was the second largest gaining industry sector in April, up 5,500 jobs or 1.7 percent. The increase was much larger than the pre-pandemic historical average of about 2,200 jobs. Job gains were found across all sub-sectors with the strongest hiring in Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation in preparation for the summer, up 2,700 jobs or 8.7 percent. Food Services and Drinking Places was also a major contributor, up 1,900 jobs or 0.7 percent. Lastly, Accommodation added 900 jobs in April, up 3.9 percent.

Leisure and Hospitality was the second largest gaining industry sector with payrolls up 30,100 jobs or 10.0 percent in April, see figure 15. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation added 4,400 jobs over the year, up 14.9 percent, see figure 15.1. Accommodation was the fastest growing sub-sector with payrolls up 3,600 jobs or 17.7 percent over the year, see figure 15.2. Most of the increase was in Food Services and Drinking Places, up 22,100 jobs or 8.8 percent, see figure 15.3. Leisure and Hospitality payrolls are down 2,500 jobs or 0.7 percent from what they were just prior to the pandemic in February 2020. While Food Services and Drinking Places has reached pre-pandemic employment levels, Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation as well as Accommodation continue to see payrolls well below what they were in February 2020.

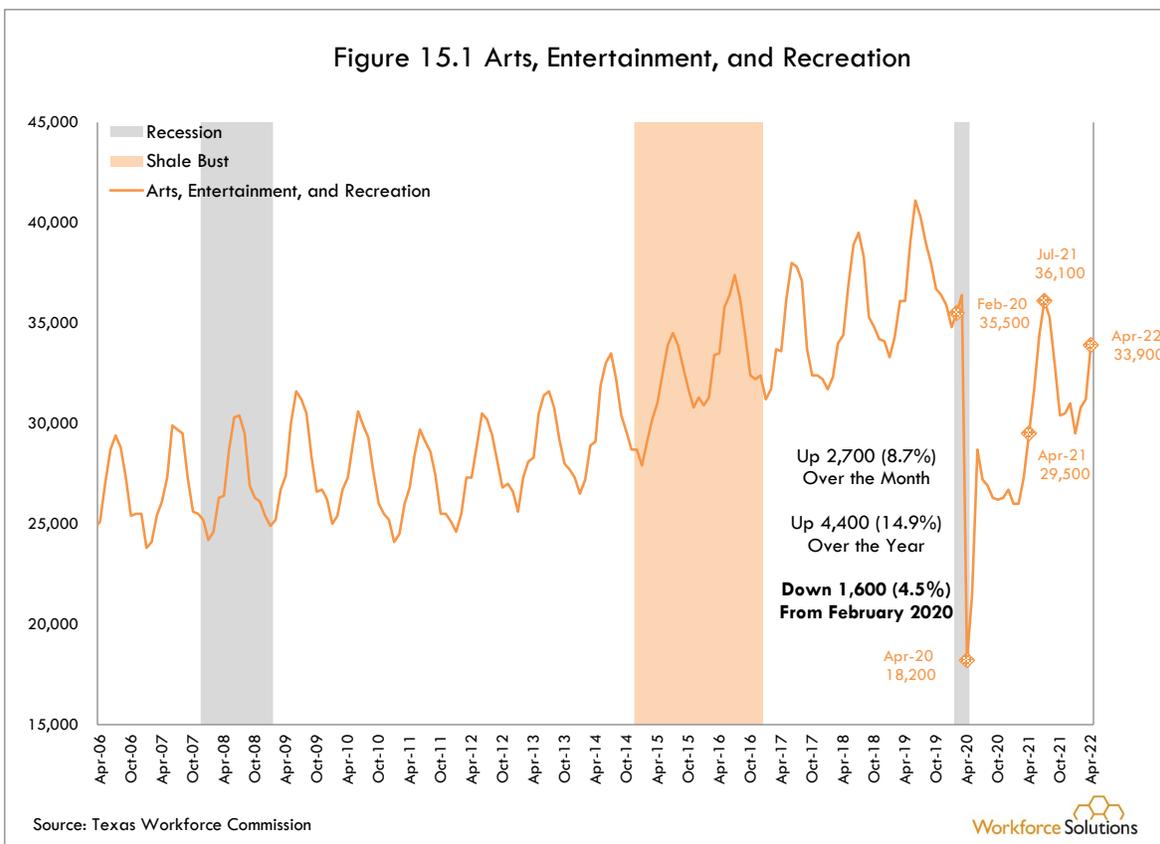
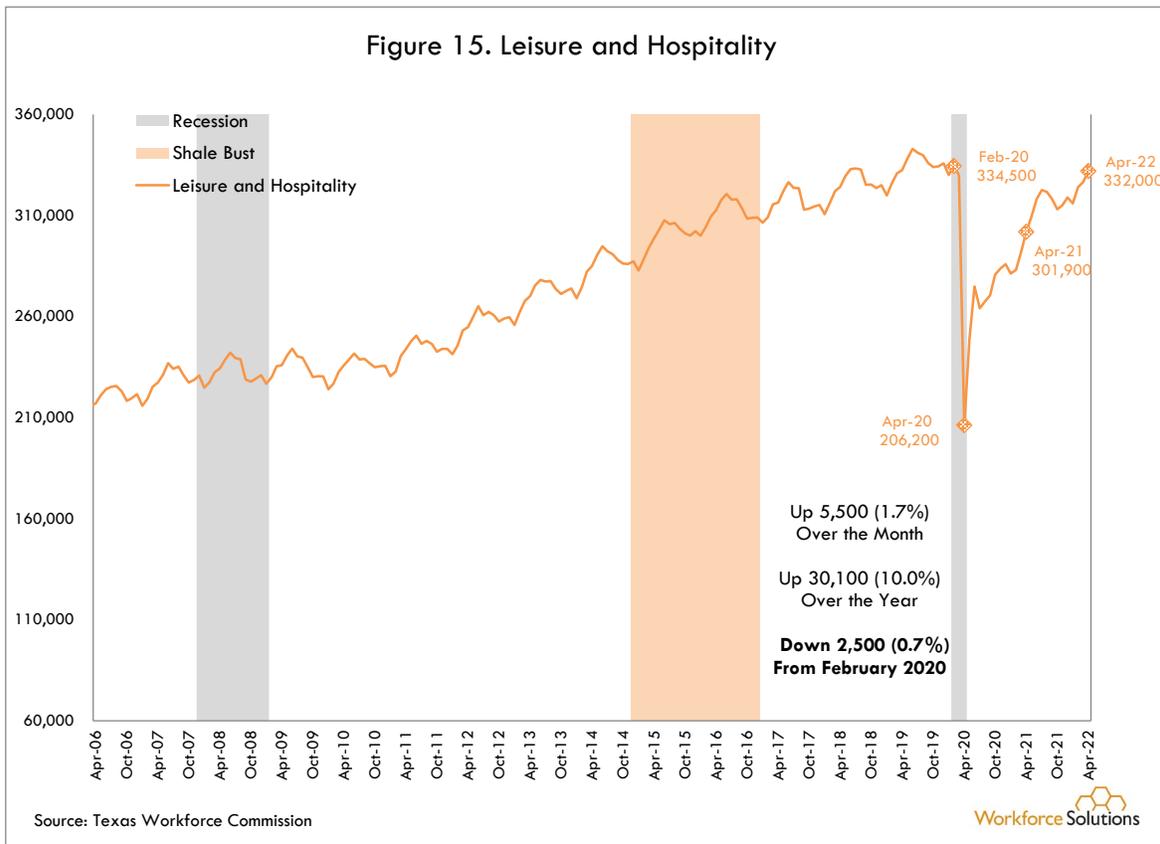
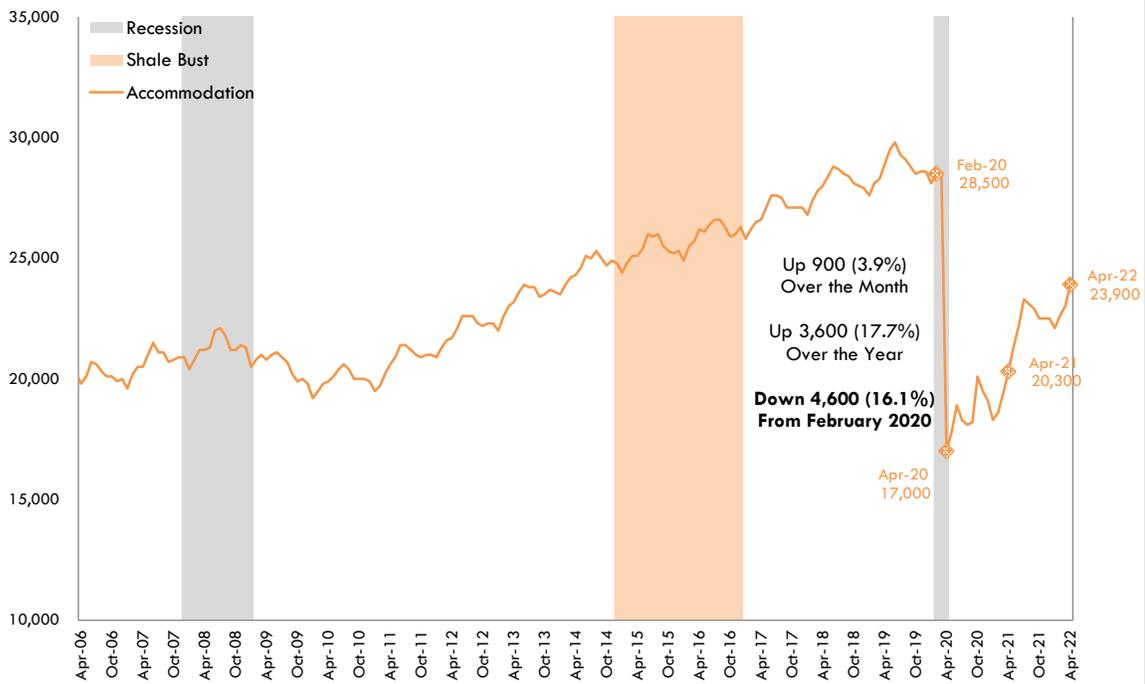


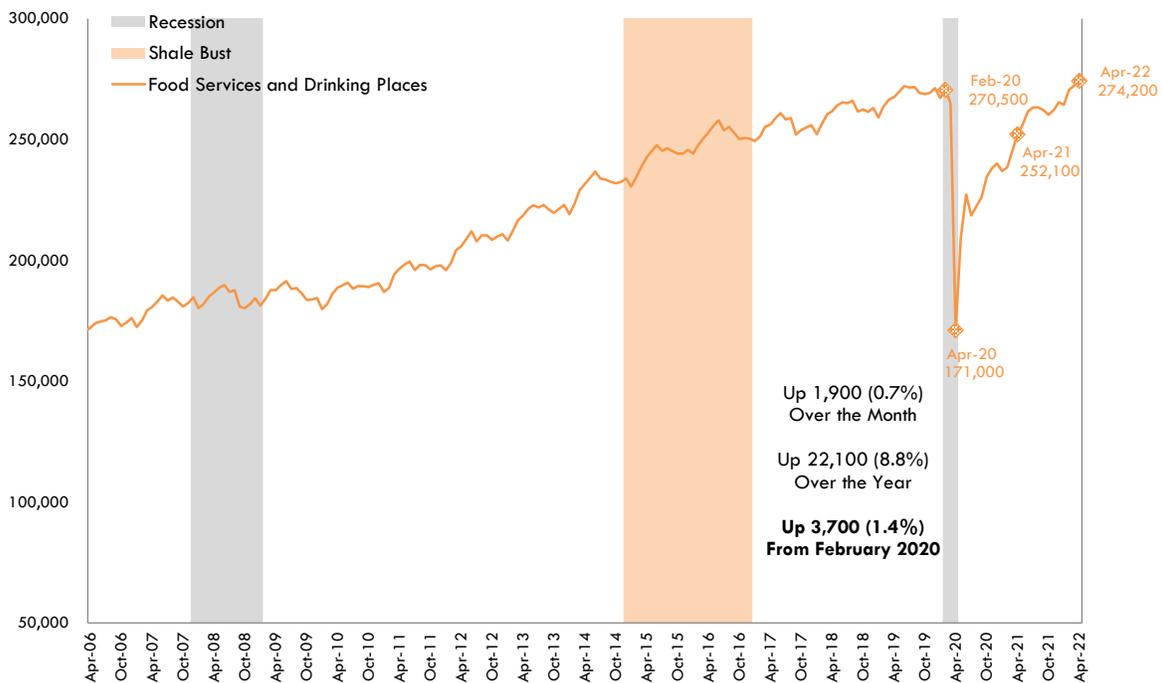
Figure 15.2 Accommodation



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

Figure 15.3 Food Services and Drinking Places

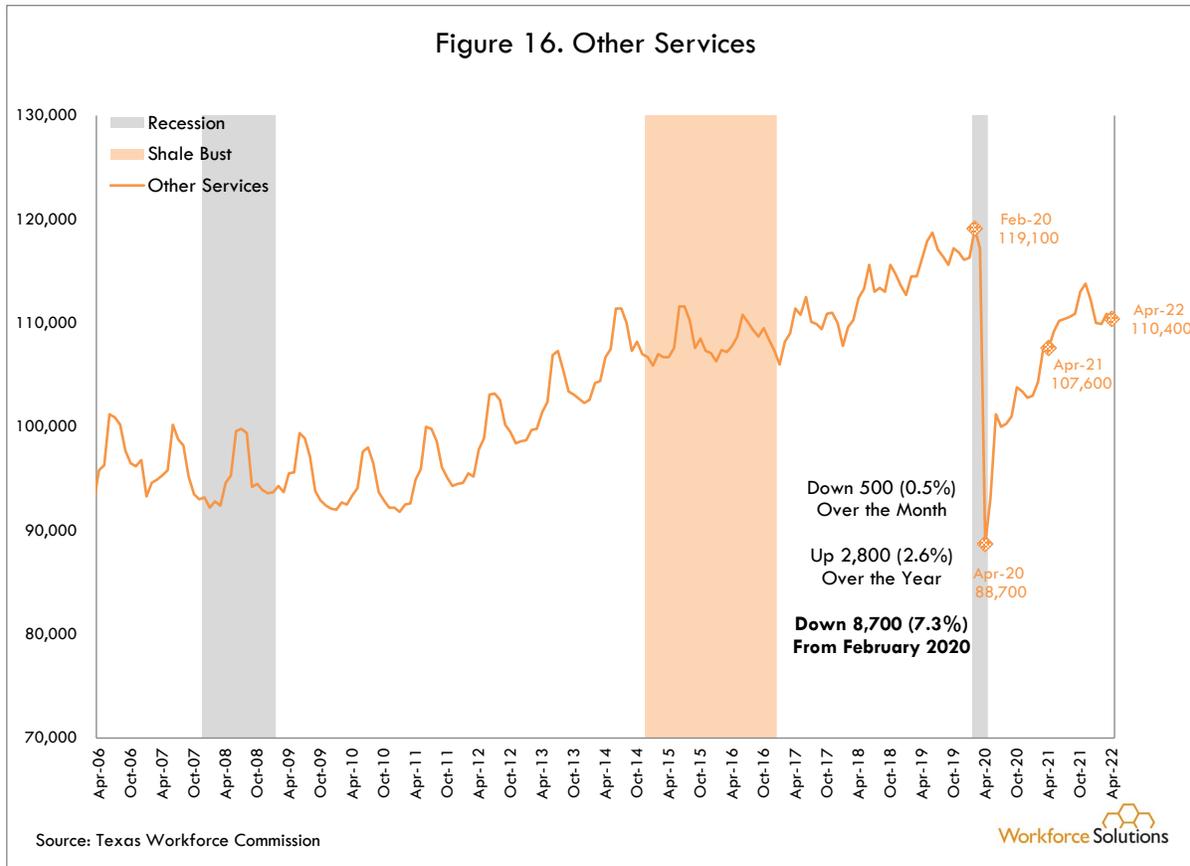


Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Workforce Solutions

**Other Services** lost 500 jobs in April, down 0.5 percent. Prior to the pandemic the only other April loss was back in 2004.

Other Services added 2,800 jobs or 2.5 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. Other Services payrolls remain 8,700 jobs or 7.3 percent below their pre-pandemic levels in February 2020.



**Government** added 2,300 jobs in April, up 0.5 percent. All the increase was in Local Government, up 2,500 jobs or 0.8 percent. Government was up 13,500 jobs or 3.2 percent over the year. Most of the increase was at educational institutions with Local Government Educational Services up 10,400 jobs or 5.0 percent and State Government Educational Services up 3,300 jobs or 3.6 percent. Federal Government was reporting an increase of 700 jobs. Employment in all three major branches of government are now above pre-pandemic levels.

Figure 17. Federal Government

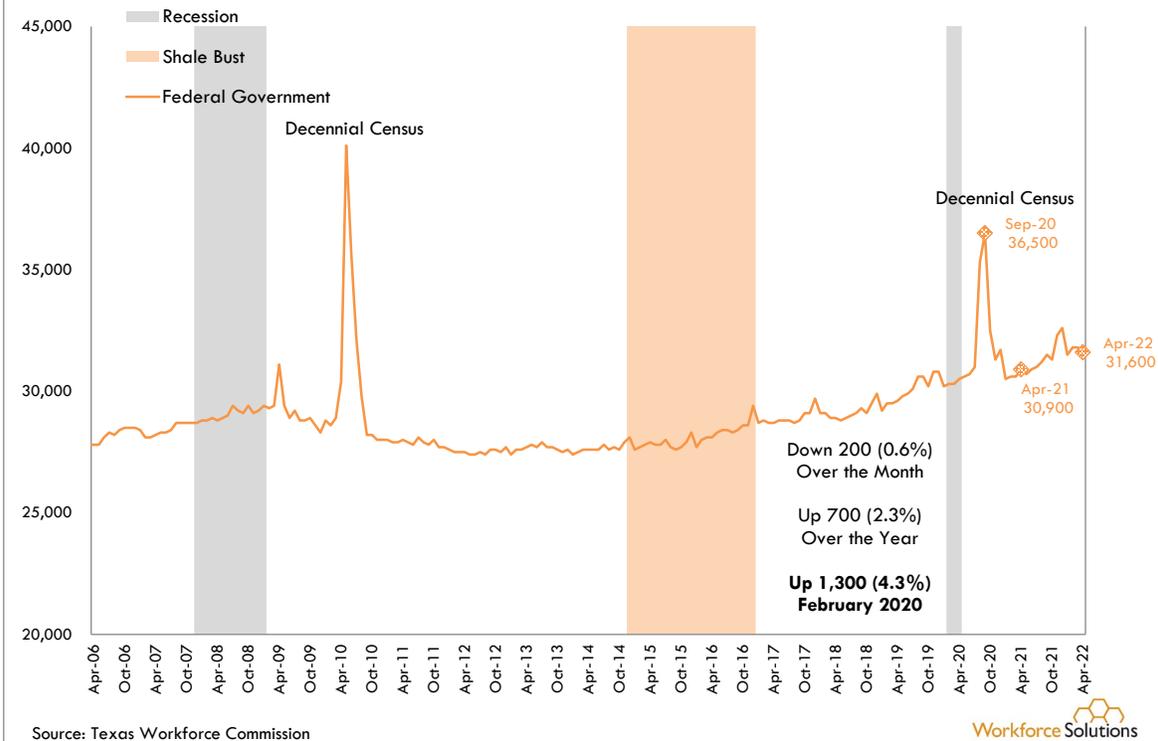
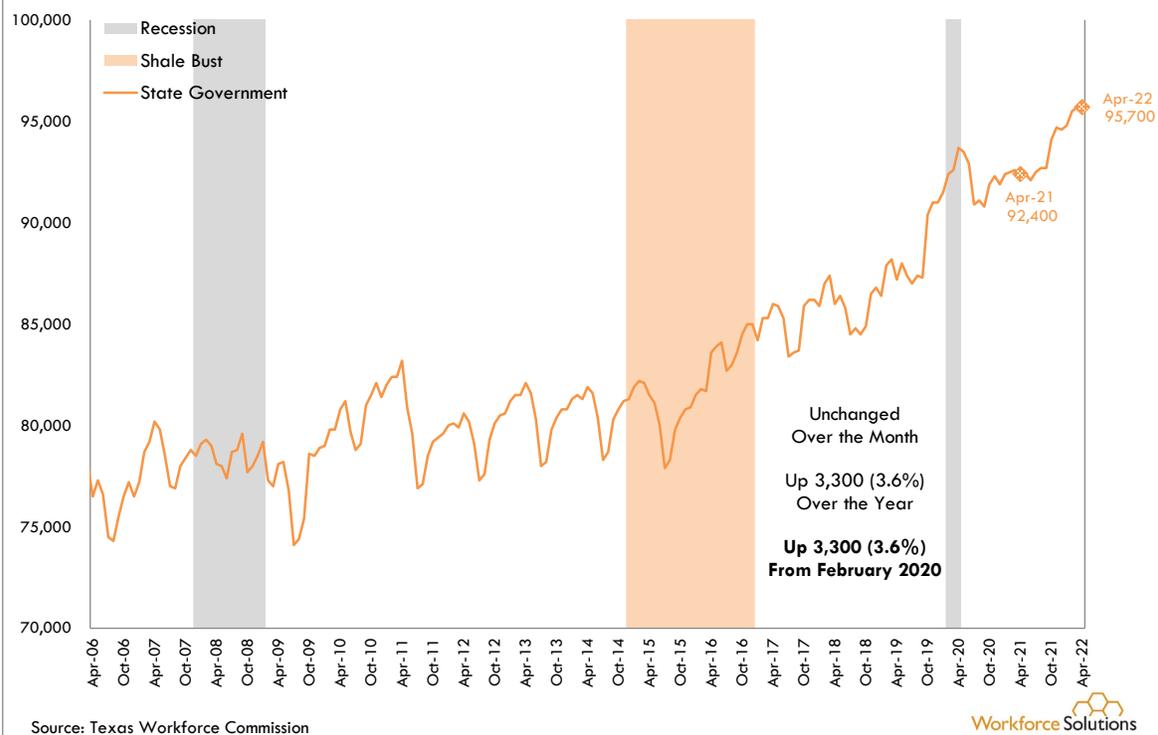


Figure 18. State Government



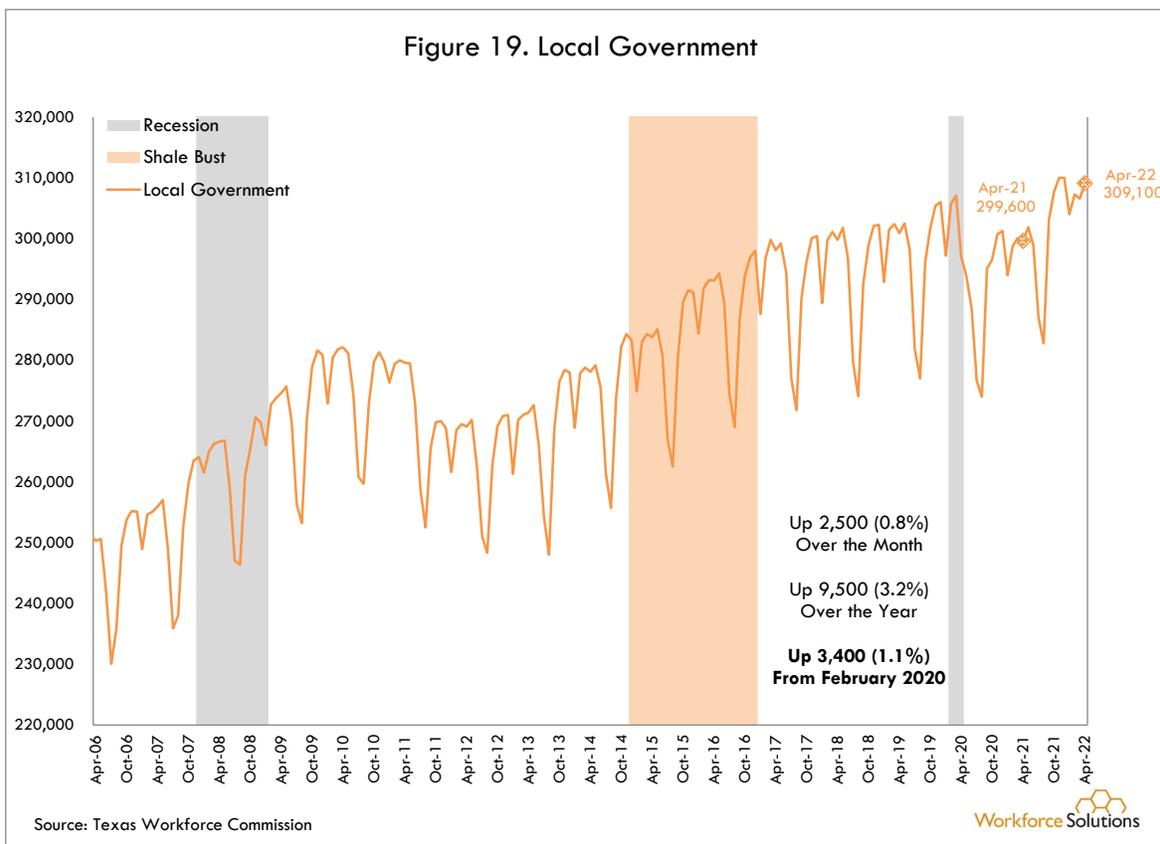
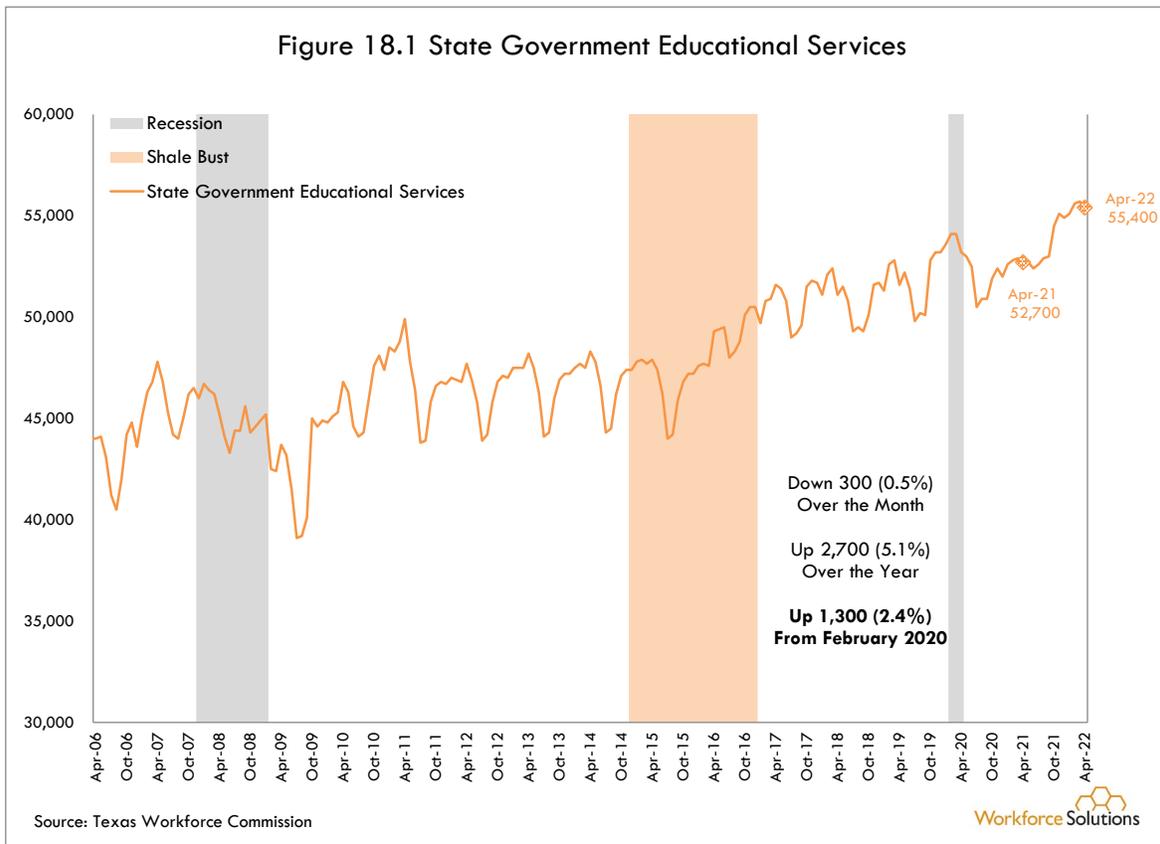
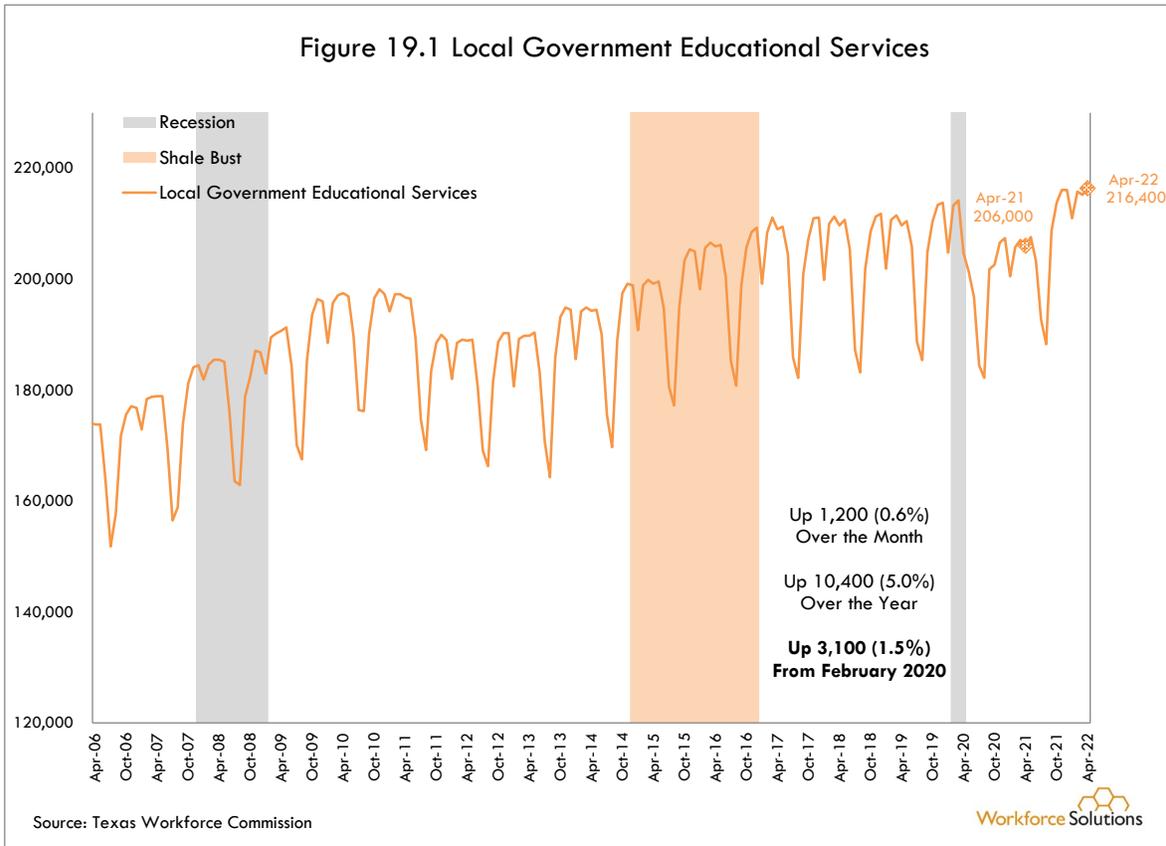


Figure 19.1 Local Government Educational Services



NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA	APR 2022	MAR 2022	APR 2021	Month Change		Year Change	
				Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Total Nonfarm	3,198,300	3,168,600	3,028,600	29,700	0.9%	169,700	5.6%
.Total Private	2,761,900	2,734,500	2,605,700	27,400	1.0%	156,200	6.0%
.Goods Producing	511,200	505,300	480,300	5,900	1.2%	30,900	6.4%
...Mining, Logging and Construction	290,900	286,000	269,300	4,900	1.7%	21,600	8.0%
...Mining and Logging	68,400	67,200	59,800	1,200	1.8%	8,600	14.4%
.....Oil and Gas Extraction	32,600	32,000	29,300	600	1.9%	3,300	11.3%
.....Support Activities for Mining	33,500	33,000	29,100	500	1.5%	4,400	15.1%
...Construction	222,500	218,800	209,500	3,700	1.7%	13,000	6.2%
.....Construction of Buildings	54,200	52,800	49,400	1,400	2.7%	4,800	9.7%
.....Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	53,800	52,900	51,000	900	1.7%	2,800	5.5%
.....Specialty Trade Contractors	114,500	113,100	109,100	1,400	1.2%	5,400	4.9%
...Manufacturing	220,300	219,300	211,000	1,000	0.5%	9,300	4.4%
...Durable Goods	136,000	135,300	128,800	700	0.5%	7,200	5.6%
...Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	47,200	47,400	44,200	-200	-0.4%	3,000	6.8%
...Machinery Manufacturing	39,500	39,100	38,300	400	1.0%	1,200	3.1%
.....Agriculture, Construction, and Mining Machinery Manufacturing	20,000	20,000	19,700	0	0.0%	300	1.5%
...Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	12,800	12,800	12,700	0	0.0%	100	0.8%
...Non-Durable Goods	84,300	84,000	82,200	300	0.4%	2,100	2.6%
...Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	8,400	8,200	8,100	200	2.4%	300	3.7%
...Chemical Manufacturing	40,300	39,700	39,600	600	1.5%	700	1.8%
.Service-Providing	2,687,100	2,663,300	2,548,300	23,800	0.9%	138,800	5.4%
.Private Service Providing	2,250,700	2,229,200	2,125,400	21,500	1.0%	125,300	5.9%
..Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	660,200	656,900	618,700	3,300	0.5%	41,500	6.7%
...Wholesale Trade	170,300	165,600	159,400	4,700	2.8%	10,900	6.8%
...Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	105,600	100,600	97,700	5,000	5.0%	7,900	8.1%
.....Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	17,600	17,400	16,600	200	1.1%	1,000	6.0%
...Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	53,500	53,600	51,100	-100	-0.2%	2,400	4.7%
...Retail Trade	319,500	320,400	299,300	-900	-0.3%	20,200	6.7%
...Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	43,100	43,000	41,400	100	0.2%	1,700	4.1%
...Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	23,600	24,600	25,000	-1,000	-4.1%	-1,400	-5.6%
...Food and Beverage Stores	71,200	71,300	69,300	-100	-0.1%	1,900	2.7%
...Health and Personal Care Stores	20,700	20,900	19,300	-200	-1.0%	1,400	7.3%
...Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	23,500	23,600	21,200	-100	-0.4%	2,300	10.8%
...General Merchandise Stores	63,500	63,800	57,500	-300	-0.5%	6,000	10.4%
.....Department Stores	20,000	20,300	18,200	-300	-1.5%	1,800	9.9%
.....General Merchandise Stores, including Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters	43,500	43,500	39,300	0	0.0%	4,200	10.7%
...Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	170,400	170,900	160,000	-500	-0.3%	10,400	6.5%
...Utilities	17,400	17,400	17,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
.....Air Transportation	19,100	18,900	17,800	200	1.1%	1,300	7.3%
.....Truck Transportation	28,700	28,300	27,000	400	1.4%	1,700	6.3%
.....Pipeline Transportation	12,500	12,500	12,200	0	0.0%	300	2.5%
..Information	31,600	31,500	28,500	100	0.3%	3,100	10.9%
...Telecommunications	12,200	12,300	12,100	-100	-0.8%	100	0.8%
..Financial Activities	172,500	171,300	167,300	1,200	0.7%	5,200	3.1%
...Finance and Insurance	110,400	110,300	106,500	100	0.1%	3,900	3.7%
...Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including Monetary Authorities - Central Bank	46,600	46,000	45,200	600	1.3%	1,400	3.1%
.....Depository Credit Intermediation including Monetary Authorities - Central Bank	29,800	29,700	29,200	100	0.3%	600	2.1%
...Financial Investments and Related Activities including Financial Vehicles	21,500	21,500	21,100	0	0.0%	400	1.9%
...Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	42,300	42,800	40,200	-500	-1.2%	2,100	5.2%
...Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	62,100	61,000	60,800	1,100	1.8%	1,300	2.1%

<b>NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b>				<b>Month Change</b>		<b>Year Change</b>	
<b>Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA</b>	<b>APR 2022</b>	<b>MAR 2022</b>	<b>APR 2021</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Percent</b>
..Professional and Business Services	512,800	505,600	495,500	7,200	1.4%	17,300	3.5%
...Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	247,200	245,600	239,600	1,600	0.7%	7,600	3.2%
.....Legal Services	29,800	29,500	28,500	300	1.0%	1,300	4.6%
.....Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, and Payroll Services	27,200	27,100	26,300	100	0.4%	900	3.4%
.....Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	69,800	67,700	65,400	2,100	3.1%	4,400	6.7%
.....Computer Systems Design and Related Services	38,700	38,200	36,900	500	1.3%	1,800	4.9%
.....Management of Companies and Enterprises	43,500	43,400	42,800	100	0.2%	700	1.6%
...Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	222,100	216,600	213,100	5,500	2.5%	9,000	4.2%
.....Administrative and Support Services	212,300	206,800	201,800	5,500	2.7%	10,500	5.2%
.....Employment Services	84,100	84,000	77,600	100	0.1%	6,500	8.4%
.....Services to Buildings and Dwellings	50,100	49,500	51,200	600	1.2%	-1,100	-2.1%
..Education and Health Services	431,200	426,500	405,900	4,700	1.1%	25,300	6.2%
...Educational Services	73,100	72,200	63,500	900	1.2%	9,600	15.1%
...Health Care and Social Assistance	358,100	354,300	342,400	3,800	1.1%	15,700	4.6%
.....Ambulatory Health Care Services	177,200	176,900	172,200	300	0.2%	5,000	2.9%
.....Hospitals	91,000	90,400	87,200	600	0.7%	3,800	4.4%
..Leisure and Hospitality	332,000	326,500	301,900	5,500	1.7%	30,100	10.0%
...Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	33,900	31,200	29,500	2,700	8.7%	4,400	14.9%
...Accommodation and Food Services	298,100	295,300	272,400	2,800	0.9%	25,700	9.4%
.....Accommodation	23,900	23,000	20,300	900	3.9%	3,600	17.7%
.....Food Services and Drinking Places	274,200	272,300	252,100	1,900	0.7%	22,100	8.8%
..Other Services	110,400	110,900	107,600	-500	-0.5%	2,800	2.6%
..Government	436,400	434,100	422,900	2,300	0.5%	13,500	3.2%
...Federal Government	31,600	31,800	30,900	-200	-0.6%	700	2.3%
...State Government	95,700	95,700	92,400	0	0.0%	3,300	3.6%
.....State Government Educational Services	55,400	55,700	52,700	-300	-0.5%	2,700	5.1%
...Local Government	309,100	306,600	299,600	2,500	0.8%	9,500	3.2%
.....Local Government Educational Services	216,400	215,200	206,000	1,200	0.6%	10,400	5.0%
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE</b>	<b>APR 2022</b>	<b>MAR 2022</b>	<b>APR 2021</b>				
H-W-S MSA	4.1	4.4	6.7				
Texas (Actual)	3.7	3.9	5.9				
United States (Actual)	3.3	3.8	5.7				

**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.