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Austin-Area Unemployment Drops to 2.8% in August

AUSTIN – Figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission today show the unemployment rate in the Austin-Round Rock MSA* decreased from 2.9% in July 2019 to 2.8% in August 2019. The 2.8% unemployment rate represented 33,673 residents seeking employment. The region's unemployment rate remained below both the Texas (3.6%)** and national (3.8%)** rates.

The Austin-Round Rock MSA collectively added 100 jobs in August 2019. The region's 2.1% annual growth rate represented the collective addition of 22,200 jobs since August 2018.

Key Points by Industry in the Austin-Round Rock MSA in August 2019:

- Professional and Business Services experienced the greatest increase with the addition of 2,000 jobs.
 - Significant job increases also occurred in Education & Health Services (1,300), Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (1,000), and Financial Activities (300).
- Government again experienced a decrease with the loss of 1,600 jobs.
 - Significant job losses were also experienced in Mining, Logging, & Construction (-900), Manufacturing (-900), and Information (-600).
- Professional & Business Services experienced the greatest regional annual job growth with an increase of 4.1%.
 - Significant annual job growth was also experienced in Information (3.6%), Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (3.3%), and Leisure & Hospitality (3.3%).
- The only industry to experience negative annual job growth was Education & Health Services (-1.6%).

Further, unemployment in the Capital Area/Travis County*** decreased from 2.8% in July 2019 to 2.7% in August 2019. The 2.7% unemployment rate represented 19,476 residents seeking employment. The Capital Area/Travis County unemployment rate remained below the overall Austin-Round Rock MSA, state of Texas and national rates.

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board is the publicly-funded workforce board for Travis County. Through strong partnerships and strategic collaborations, Workforce Solutions is leading the region's workforce system in the development of a world-class workforce.

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

**Unemployment rates listed are not seasonally adjusted.

***The Capital Area Workforce Development Area includes Travis County.