

WACO AT A GLANCE

JUNE 2022

POPULATION

City of Waco: **139,245** 

Waco MSA: **261,906**

7-County Region: **852,051**

CLIMATE

Average Annual Rainfall: 36 inches
Elevation: 515 feet above sea level
Average Annual Temp.: 66.5 degrees F
Minimum: 35.9 degrees F (Jan)
Maximum: 95.1 (July)

EMPLOYMENT

W
Waco
MSA

Labor Force: 131,414
Employment: 127,260
Unemployment: 4,154
Unemployment Rate: 3.2%

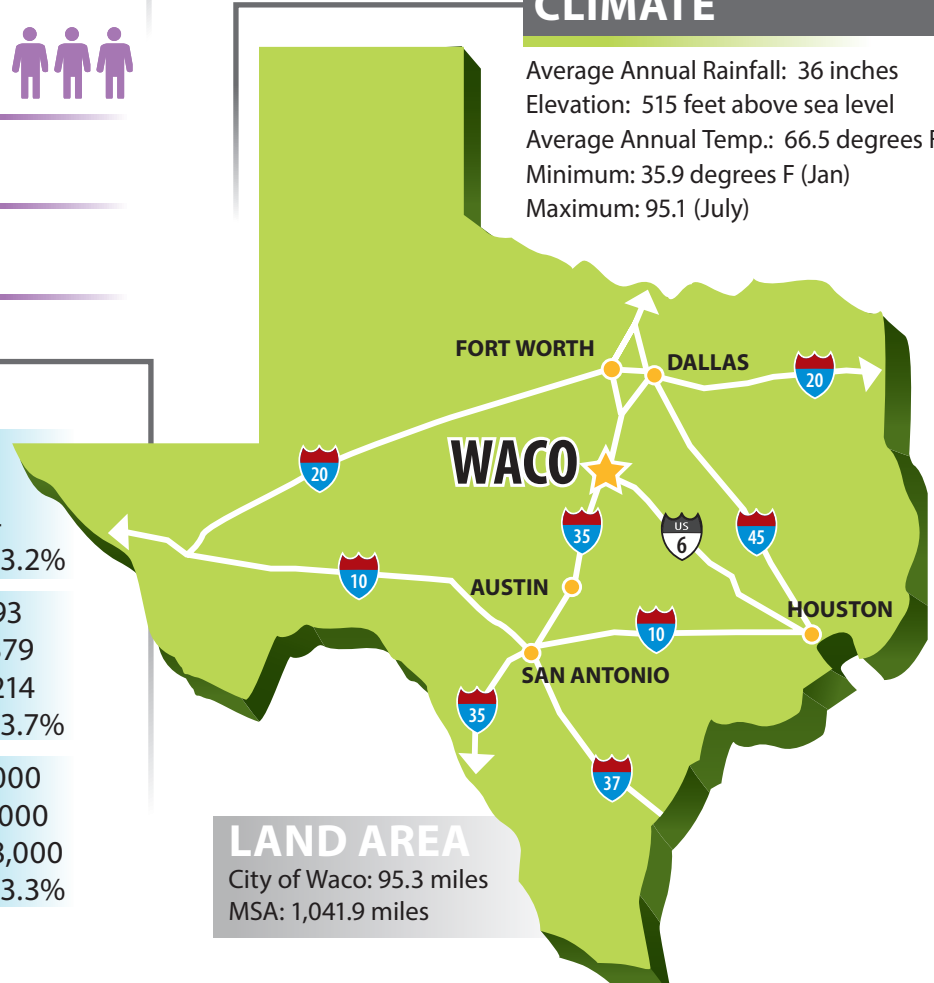

Texas

Labor Force: 14,462,593
Employment: 13,932,379
Unemployment: 530,214
Unemployment Rate: 3.7%


U.S.

Labor Force: 163,449,000
Employment: 157,991,000
Unemployment: 5,458,000
Unemployment Rate: 3.3%

Numbers from April 2022

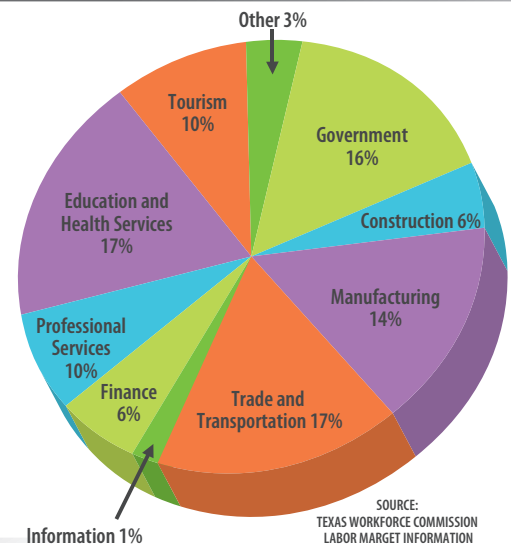


LAND AREA

City of Waco: 95.3 miles
MSA: 1,041.9 miles

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

- 5698 Baylor University
- 2518 Ascension Providence
- 2373 Waco ISD
- 2283 Baylor Scott & White Hillcrest Hospital
- 2000 HEB Stores
- 1706 Texas State Technical College
- 1522 City of Waco
- 1200 Sanderson Farms, Inc. (Waco Production & Processing)
- 1302 Midway ISD
- 1088 McLennan County
- 1174 WAL-MART
- 886 Veterans Administration Medical Center
- 843 L3Harris
- 796 Dept of Veterans Affairs Regional Office
- 747 AbbVie



KEY POLICY PRIORITIES

PURPOSE

To promote policies conducive to the economic development and growth of Waco and the Central Texas region.

WORKFORCE & EDUCATION

- Support Re-Authorization of H.R. 7309 The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2022 to support federal investment into the WIOA to its authorized levels to enable the employer-led, locally and demand driven national workforce system to increase the skills of the American workforce and the ability of our businesses to have the skilled workforce they need to innovate and become more productive.
- Expand and increase funding for the year-round Pell Grant to support short-term credentials sought by local employers.
- Support funding and solutions to support high quality childcare, broadband access, affordable housing, and food security.
- Support funding and solutions for training and re-training the workforce and efforts to unlock and retain more workers.

BUSINESS CLIMATE

- Support policies that reduce long-term debt – with attention to the debt to GDP ratio – to achieve long-term fiscal stability, curb inflation and promote economic growth.
- Support H.R. 1812 - One Federal Decision Act of 2021 to streamline regulations and permitting across federal agencies.
- Model corporate tax benefits for small businesses in a way that is congruent with larger corporate entities to achieve fair and equitable taxation across all business sizes.
- Support H.R. 968 - Lessening Regulatory Costs and Establishing a Federal Regulatory Budget Act of 2021 to advocate for regulatory reform and streamlining across all industry sectors to ensure there is no harm regulation enacted on businesses.
- Do not support any regulations or policies that incentivize able-bodied workers to not join or return to the workforce.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Support S. 2802 - Balance the Highway Trust Fund Act to achieve a permanent, legislative fix to make the

Highway Trust Fund solvent, including but not limited to a federal fuel tax increase and index, VMT, freight and dedicated user fees.

- Support re-authorization of H.R. 7776 The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022, funding of the Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI Program as revamped under Section 4909 of the WIIN Act and any legislation that works to facilitate water reuse and conservation projects that will help meet our area industries' water needs and conserve our valuable water resources now and for the future.
- Support H.R. 1812 - One Federal Decision Act of 2021 for federal regulatory reforms that would streamline water and infrastructure project permitting.
- Support programs that support and fund diverse aspects of vital infrastructure projects, including air transportation, broadband, energy, and water infrastructure.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support S. 902/H.R. 2126 The Housing Supply & Affordability Act, S.98/H.R. 2143 The Neighborhood Homes Investment Act and any additional legislation focused on the development of projects, zoning, regulatory reforms, and other policies that support and expand the affordable housing supply, particularly in higher opportunity areas.
- Support reauthorization and funding for programs and agencies that aid small businesses and entrepreneurs, or foster community development and economic impact, including Opportunity Zones, EDA, CDBG, SBA, USDA, NIH, MEP and NIST.
- Support S. 3682 American Small Business Competition Act, S. 2709 Continuing Access to 504 Capital Act and similar legislation that simplifies and provides greater access to capital, such as the State Small Business Credit Initiative, as well as continuing support for existing access to capital programs like SBA's 504 and 7(a) programs.
- Support S. 1260 United States Innovation and Competition Act of 2021 and similar legislation that oppose policies that impede foreign investment in order to promote an open and competitive global climate for investment.