



ABILENE CHAMBER

DAILY BUSINESS BRIEF

Skimming the daily updates for your business so you don't have to.

TEXAS SERVICE SECTOR ACTIVITY STABILIZES

For this month's survey, Texas business executives were asked supplemental questions on the impacts of COVID-19. Results for these questions from the Texas Manufacturing Outlook Survey, Texas Service Sector Outlook Survey and Texas Retail Outlook Survey have been released together.

[Read the special questions results.](#)

COMMUTING PATTERNS DURING COVID-19 ENDURE; MINORITIES LESS LIKELY TO WORK FROM HOME

COVID-19 forced many businesses to scale back or cease operations in their regular workplaces because of government-mandated closures, concern for employee health or lack of customers.

Some workers transitioned to working from home relatively easily. In many jobs, however, performing regular work activities from home is impossible, forcing many individuals to become inactive or look for a new job.

In earlier research based on data from the Real Time Population Survey, a novel online labor survey of households, we found that 35.2 percent of those employed in May worked entirely from home, up sharply from 8.2 percent of those employed in February. Subsequently, we find a bounce-back since May in employment growth within the previously low work-from-home sectors.

[Read more.](#)

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION ASKS EMPLOYERS TO HELP PREVENT UNEMPLOYMENT OVERPAYMENTS, FRAUD

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has asked employers to help prevent unemployment benefit overpayments by reporting employees who receive wages through Paycheck Protection Program loans or who refused acceptable work to TWC. To date, Americans have lost approximately \$77 million in fraud related to COVID-19, including federal aid programs and unemployment benefits.

[Read more.](#)

DYESS AFB COVID-19 UPDATE

Earlier this week, Dyess Air Force Base released an update on their COVID-19 Travel and Health Protection Order. The order continues to limit non-duty gatherings of 10 or more people to be extended through 30 Sept.

For details and more information [click here.](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

Four affordable perks to keep your team happy, healthy, and engaged

In the current crisis, business leaders feel a heightened urgency to boost morale with thoughtful extras.

[Read more.](#)

Pivoting During the Pandemic? 16 Tools That Will Help Your Business Adapt

Small businesses have been hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic. These tools will help you rework your business plan.

[Read more.](#)

You don't want to miss these upcoming event for your business.

SEPT 9: REBUILDING YOUR BRAND

An **[interactive discussion](#)** focused on helping businesses strike the right tone with an evolving customer base during COVID-19 and beyond. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 9: INTRO TO GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING AND THE PTAC

Come learn about the basics of getting started in public sector contracting. Learn about registering in the System for Award Management (SAM) and how the government procures goods and services. SAM is the single point of entry for Federal Government contracting opportunities. We will also discuss marketing tips and opportunities for small businesses. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 15: PRWEEK CONVENE: TALKING SHOP – THE FUTURE OF RETAIL

This PRWeek virtual event explores what retail brands must do to renew confidence among consumers and ensure the long-term prosperity of a \$3.8 trillion sector that supports one in four American jobs and remains the backbone of the economy. This event will be on September 15th from 12:00 pm-2:00 pm ET. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 16: INCREASING COMPETITIVENESS: TEAMING JOINT VENTURES, AND THE MENTOR-PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM - PRESENTED BY MATT SCHOONOVER, KOPRINCE LAW

Want to learn how to take your small business to the next level within the realm of government contracting? Join the Northwest Texas PTAC and Koprince Law Firm as Managing Partner, Matt Schoonover of Koprince Law presents this informative webinar about Teaming Arrangements, Joint Ventures and the SBA's Mentor Protégé Program. He'll discuss how each works and how they all fit in together. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 23: VETERAN OWNED SMALL BUSINESS (VOSB) & SDVOSB TOO

Join Northwest Texas PTAC, Program Manager Rich Lyles as he provides you with a general understanding of how the VOSB & the Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business SDVOSB Program works. You'll learn about the benefits of being certified and the eligibility criteria required for certification. They'll discuss the formal certification through the VA as well as the self-certification option. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 29: FAST FORWARD SUMMIT 2020

On September 29 and 30, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation will host a two-day, future-looking summit to highlight the people, ideas, and innovations that are shaping our lives and businesses. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 30: CYBERSECURITY BASICS FOR FEDERAL CONTRACTORS

Join Northwest Texas PTAC, Senior Field Advisor Mark Snyder as he provides you with a general understanding of the basic cybersecurity requirements that the Department of Defense has for all contractors and sub-contractors. You'll learn about the benefits of being prepared and the process for putting a cybersecurity plan in place. [Register here.](#)

OCT 8: ACU VIRTUAL JOB FAIR: GOVERNMENT, NON-PROFIT & SOCIAL SERVICES

This Government, NonProfit & Social Services VIRTUAL Career Fair is brought to you by the West Central Texas Career Consortium. Participating in this event is an excellent way for your organization to gain visibility and maximize recruiting potential! Employers interested in participating in this event are encouraged to register on-line as early as possible. [Register here.](#)

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