



ABILENE CHAMBER

## DAILY BUSINESS BRIEF

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

### HOLIDAY AND MASK THEMED POSTERS AVAILABLE TO ENCOURAGE CUSTOMERS TO WEAR MASKS

As we enter into the holiday season, it's important to us that our community and economy stay healthy. Let's mask up to protect our loved ones.

Help your customers know the importance and need of wearing a mask into your business with one of these holiday and mask themed printable posters.

[Download here.](#)

---

### SOME BIG COUNTRY FARMERS GLAD TO SEE EARLY FREEZE

Some farmers around the Big Country say they were glad to see the recent precipitation, even if it was wintry.

"It's a record snowfall, the last time it snowed this early was back on October the 29th 1993," Hector Guererro with the National Weather Service in San Angelo said.

He said his property saw a mixed bag of icy weather.

"We saw patches of sleet mixed with freezing rain," he said.

"Overall this is a blessing in disguise," Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Abilene's Steve Estes said.

He said after a big rain in September, things were drying out faster than expected.

"We were already seeing some stress in some of our crops in range and pasture conditions," he said.

Estes says wheat farmers just now planting are getting much needed moisture, but cotton farmers are also seeing the positives from the ice. Farmers are getting ready to harvest an industry bringing in more than \$237 million annually to the Big Country.

[Read more.](#)

---

### US ECONOMY GREW AT RECORD 33% RATE IN Q3 BUT RECOVERY IS INCOMPLETE

The U.S. economy grew at a sizzling 33.1% annual rate in the July-September quarter — by far the largest quarterly gain on record — rebounding from an epic plunge in the spring, when the eruption of the coronavirus closed businesses and threw tens of millions out of work.

Yet the recovery from the deepest recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s remains far from complete. The Commerce Department's estimate Thursday of third-quarter growth regained only about two-thirds of the output that was lost early this year when the economy essentially froze as safety orders forced restaurants, bars and many retailers to shut down.

The third quarter GDP gain was powered by a record 40.7% increase in consumer spending. Americans began shopping again after the spring shutdown, which had sent consumer spending plunging by a record 31.4%. Consumer spending accounts for roughly two-thirds of economic activity.

[Read more.](#)

---

## HENDRICK MEDICAL CENTER WARNS THAT ONLY ONE ICU BED LEFT IN BIG COUNTRY

Hendrick Health System is out of ICU beds in Abilene, with only one available at Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital in Sweetwater, according to a Hendrick news release.

"The reality is that Hendrick manages 95 percent of the ICU beds in (Trauma Service Area D)," said Brad Holland, Hendrick's president and chief executive officer.

The service area includes 19 healthcare facilities in Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanches, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor and Throckmorton counties, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

[Read more.](#)

---

**ELEVATE YOUR  
BRAND AWARENESS**  
**ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE.**

[Reserve this space here.](#)

---

### WHAT WE'RE READING

#### **HEB Feast of Sharing to be drive-thru event at Abilene Convention Center**

*HEB's annual Feast of Sharing will be a drive-thru event at the Abilene Convention Center this year.*

[Read more.](#)

---



*[Reserve this space here.](#)*

---

## MORE FROM THE CHAMBER:

- [Attracting, Retaining and Engaging](#)
- [Business Spotlight: Clavel Corporation](#)
- [AYP Seeking Nominations for 20 Under 40 Program](#)
- [Your Chamber Commitment for Fall Events](#)
- [Update your newsletter preferences](#)
- [Hiring? Add your job to AbileneWorks.com for free](#)
- [Previous Business Briefs](#)

[LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Member Directory](#)

[Update your email preferences](#)