

**WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS NORTHEAST TEXAS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA**

**Place: Conference Call
ZOOM Platform
Date: April 22, 2021
Time: 2:00 p.m**

**Join ZOOM Meeting:
<https://networks-org.zoom.us/j/95011697596?pwd=YlpRSzFiOGx2cERnVHh6dEEvdlQrQT09>**

**Meeting ID: 950 1169 7596
Passcode: 245313**

**833 548 0276 US Toll-free
833 548 0282 US Toll-free
877 853 5257 US Toll-free
888 475 4499 US Toll-free**

In accordance with section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, Governor Abbott has suspended various provisions that require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. This temporary suspension will leave important open-meeting protections in place:

- Members of the public will be entitled to participate and address the governmental body during any telephonic or videoconference meeting.
- To hold a telephonic or videoconference meeting, a governmental body must post a written notice that gives the public a way to participate remotely, such as a toll-free dial-in number, and that includes an electronic copy of any agenda packet that officials will consider at the meeting.
- A governmental body must provide the public with access to a recording of any telephonic or videoconference meeting.

- 1.** Call To Order/Roll Call
- 2.** Determination of a Quorum
- 3.** Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- 4.** Reminder of Texas Government Code Chapter 551 regarding open meetings that if a member of the public or of the Board inquires about a subject that is not on the agenda, and for which notice has not been given as required, any discussion of or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting.
- 5.** Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding approval of the January 27, 2021 Executive Committee minutes.*
- 6.** Discussion and possible recommendation for action regarding removal of a Board member for cause, in accordance with the Board By-Laws.

Between regularly scheduled meetings of the Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas Board the Executive Committee may discuss, deliberate, and take all appropriate action on behalf of the Board regarding any matter listed on this Agenda. The Executive Committee may discuss any of the following in closed executive session and have action taken in an open meeting; personnel matters relating to officers and/or employees of the Board, certain consultations with an attorney, discussions about the value or transfer of real property, discussions about security personnel or devices, discussions about prospective gifts or donations, discussion of certain economic development matters.

Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Relay Texas TDD: 800-735-2989.

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- 7.** Recess into closed executive session to discuss and consider the performance evaluation of the Executive Director, as provided for in the Open Meetings Act, Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters.
- 8.** Reconvene open meeting to discuss and take action, if any, on items presented in closed executive session.
- 9.** Report and update by the Executive Director and/or staff regarding administrative matters, including internal policies and procedures, customer service issues, status of project assignments, organizational matters, and responsibilities of the Board’s departments.
 - Effects of COVID-19
 - Workforce Center Activity
 - UI Claims*
 - Child Care Impacts
 - Annual Report
- 10.** Announcements
- 11.** Adjourn

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Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas
Executive Committee Minutes

January 27, 2021
Virtual ZOOM Meeting
10:00 AM

In accordance with section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, Governor Abbott has suspended various provisions that require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. This temporary suspension will leave important open-meeting protections in place:

- Members of the public will be entitled to participate and address the governmental body during any telephonic or videoconference meeting.
- To hold a telephonic or videoconference meeting, a governmental body must post a written notice that gives the public a way to participate remotely, such as a toll-free dial-in number, and that includes an electronic copy of any agenda packet that officials will consider at the meeting.
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Item 1. Call to order

Mr. Anthony Pinkham, Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas Board Chair, brought the Executive Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Item 2. Determination of quorum

A quorum was determined to be present.

Item 3. Declaration of conflict of interests

None.

Item 4. Reminder of Texas Government Code Chapter 551 regarding open meetings that if a member of the public or of the Board inquires about a subject that is not on the agenda, and for which notice has not been given as required, any discussion of or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting.

Mr. Pinkham reminded the Executive Committee members that discussion of items other than those listed on the agenda is not allowed and a proposal can be made to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting.

Item 5. Approval of the Executive Committee Minutes of September 23, 2020

Ms. Mary Dwight made the motion to approve the September 23, 2020 Executive Committee minutes. Dr. Kevin Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Item 6. Discussion regarding the February Board Meeting.

The January meeting is the make-up meeting for December. The February meeting is on the schedule, but the last couple of years, the Executive Committee decided to forego the February meeting if there was not sufficient business to discuss. Staff is asking for guidance on how to proceed with the February 2021 meeting, as well.

The Executive Committee decided to leave the decision to the Executive Director, based on whether there was sufficient business to be conducted.

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Item 7. Report and update by the Executive Director and/or staff regarding administrative matters, including internal policies and procedures, customer service issues, status of project assignments, organizational matters, and responsibilities of the Board's departments.

Mr. Reed reported on the following items:

- **Effects of COVID-19**

- Workforce Centers Re-Opening

All workforce centers have been opened since the first of October on an appointment only basis. Those who walk-in are not being turned away.

Average number of customers visiting the workforce centers from October thru December on a weekly basis are:

Texarkana - 74 customers

Paris - 48 customers

Sulphur Springs - 31 customers

Mount Pleasant - 18 customers

Average number of customers visiting the workforce centers in the first three weeks of January:

Texarkana – 79 customers

Paris – 73 customers due to the large layoff with Turner Pipe

Sulphur Springs – 31 customers

Mount Pleasant – 25 customers

Virtual service numbers for October thru December:

Texarkana – 303 calls

Paris – 140 calls

Sulphur Springs – 62 calls

Mount Pleasant – 46 calls

Virtual services provided for the first three weeks of January

Texarkana – 415 calls

Paris – 198 calls

Sulphur Springs – 59 calls

Mount Pleasant – 49 calls

These numbers indicate that staff is engaged with customers who are availing themselves of workforce services. Employers continue to have a difficulty filling all open positions, but every effort is being taken to encourage dislocated workers to reengage in the workforce. Virtual job fairs are being held and other hiring events are being publicized to help employers fill open positions.

- UI Claims

Claimants by week October 31 – January 16

Week of	Total Claimants
WE 10/31	250
WE 11/7	257
WE 11/14	300

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WE 11/21	299
WE 11/28	314
WE 12/5	336
WE 12/12	236
WE 12/19	272
WE 12/26	384
WE 1/2	326
WE 1/9	435
WE 1/16	343

Claimants by Zip Code

Zip Code	City	Claimants
75501	Texarkana	4261
75460	Paris	2999
75503	Texarkana	2601
75455	Mount Pleasant	2518
75482	Sulphur Springs	2104
75462	Paris	1017
75551	Atlanta	1010
75638	Daingerfield	785
75570	New Boston	729
75457	Mount Vernon	475

Claimants by Month

Month	Total Claimants
January	483
February	461
March	3262
April	5484
May	3368
June	2770
July	2076
August	1748
September	1575
October	1210
November	1234
December	1423

Claimants by Industry

Occupation	Claimants
Production	2868
Food Prep and Service	2740
Sales and Related	2241
Construction and Extraction	1878

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Healthcare Support	1466
Personal Care and Service	1346
Installation, Maintenance, Repair	1229
Transportation and Warehousing	1117
Management	1081
Office and Admin	878
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint	853

Claimants by County

County	2020	2019
Bowie	8,719	1,863
Cass	2,811	787
Delta	367	113
Franklin	533	183
Hopkins	2,596	611
Lamar	4,978	1,178
Morris	1,545	320
Red River	933	285
Titus	2,660	806
Total	25,142	6,146

○ Child Care Impacts

Staff has been ramping up child care due to the influx of child care dollars. The wait list has been exhausted and outreach efforts are underway, publicizing the open enrollment for child care. Staff has placed 620 children since the end of September. There are currently 1615 children in care. The target for the year is 1570.

Mr. Pinkham asked how many employees are currently working remotely.

Mr. Reed stated that those continuing to work remotely are those that are in an at-risk category. Out of the 58 or so Contractor employees, about 15 fall in that category.

● **Annual Report**

Due to the impact of COVID-19, the annual celebration was cancelled and the Texas Workforce Commission Annual Conference was cancelled.

Ms. April Corbit, Board Relations Coordinator will begin working on the annual report which will be digital and made available at the April board meeting.

Mr. Roger Feagley asked if the support provided by the federal government and the state is prohibiting employers from finding employees.

Mr. Reed stated that a number of employees have learned to live on the support provided by the state and federal governments and there is also a certain amount of fear about turning to the workplace because of the potential to be exposed to the virus. The vast majority probably has to do with the support provided. This issue is not unique to Hopkins County or to Northeast Texas. It is a challenge being faced statewide.

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Item 8. Announcements

None.

Item 9. Adjourn

Mr. Pinkham adjourned the Executive Committee meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Executive Committee Members Present

Anthony Pinkham/Board Chair
Mary Dwight/Vice Chair
Keitha Nilsson/Treasurer
Roger Feagley
Dr. Kevin Rose
Adam Routon

Board Staff Present

Randy Reed/Executive Director
April Corbit/Board Relations Coordinator
Mark Shortridge/IT Support

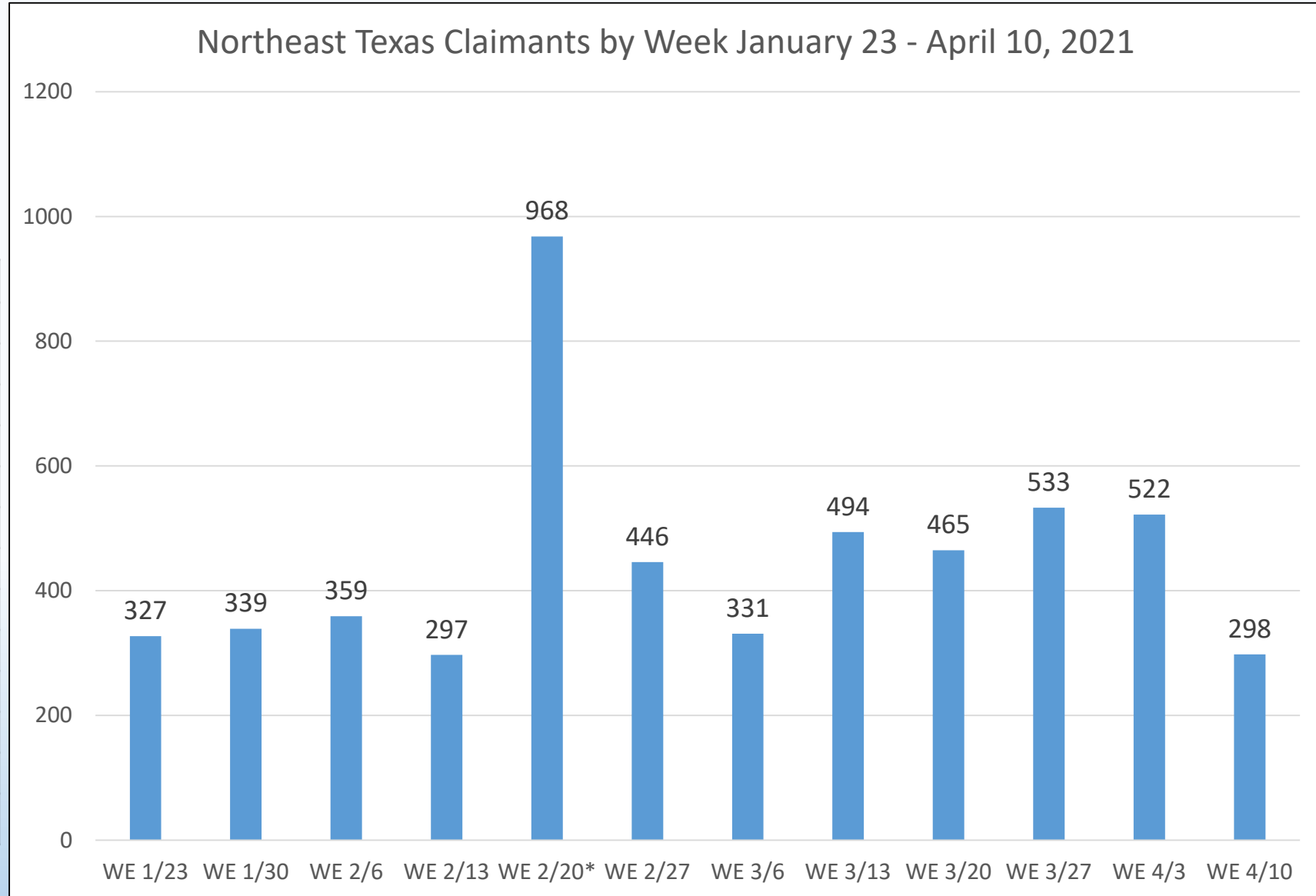


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This weekly report reflects the Northeast Texas Region, including the following counties: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus.

Week of	Total Claimants
WE 1/23	327
WE 1/30	339
WE 2/6	359
WE 2/13	297
WE 2/20*	968
WE 2/27	446
WE 3/6	331
WE 3/13	494
WE 3/20	465
WE 3/27	533
WE 4/3	522
WE 4/10	298

488 UI claimants from a temporary layoff due to winter storm - workers returned after one week layoff

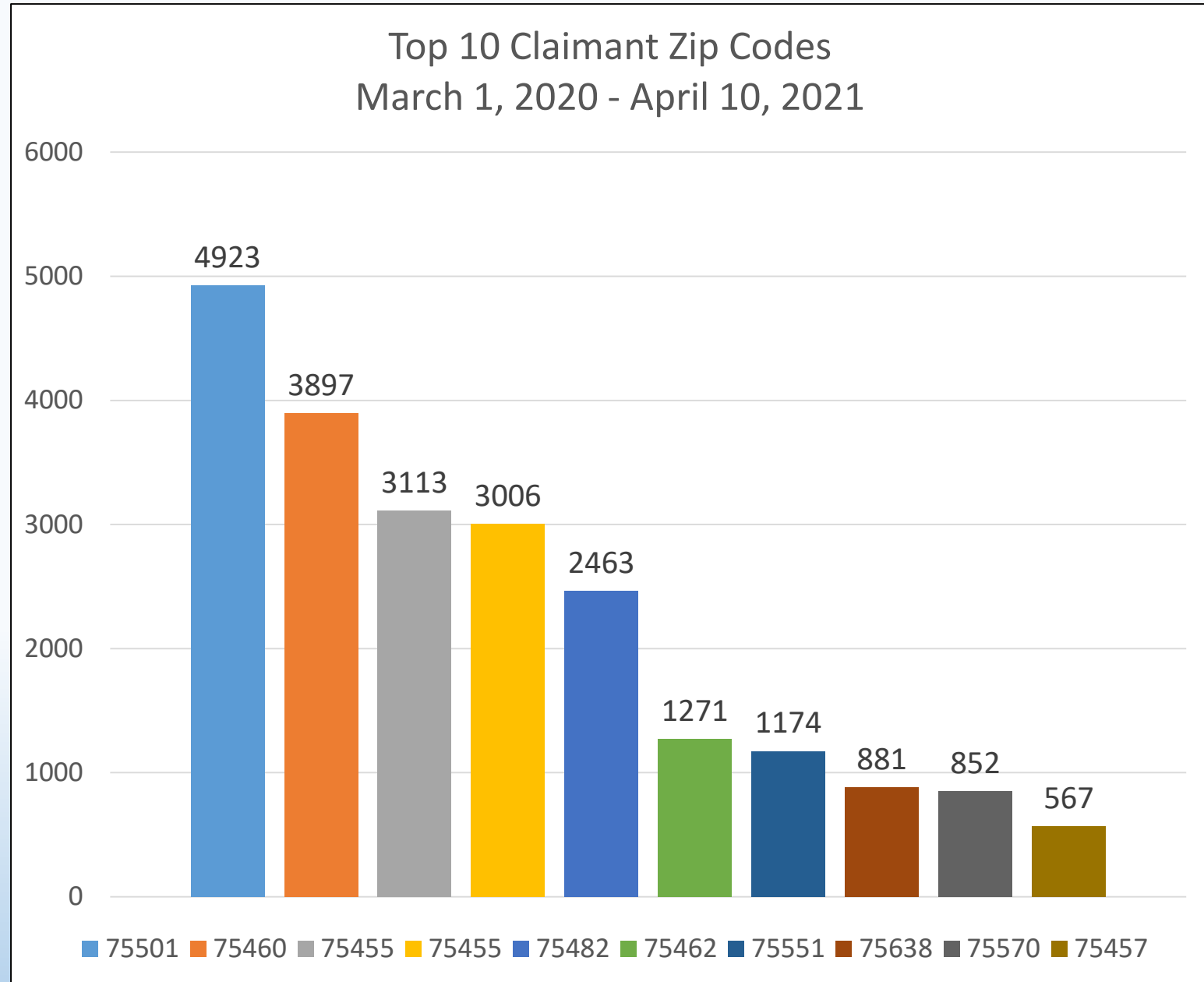




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Zip Code	City	Claimants
75501	Texarkana	4923
75460	Paris	3897
75455	Mount Pleasant	3113
75503	Texarkana	3006
75482	Sulphur Springs	2463
75462	Paris	1271
75551	Atlanta	1174
75638	Daingerfield	881
75570	New Boston	852
75457	Mount Vernon	567

*Zip Code Data is where UI Claimant Lives



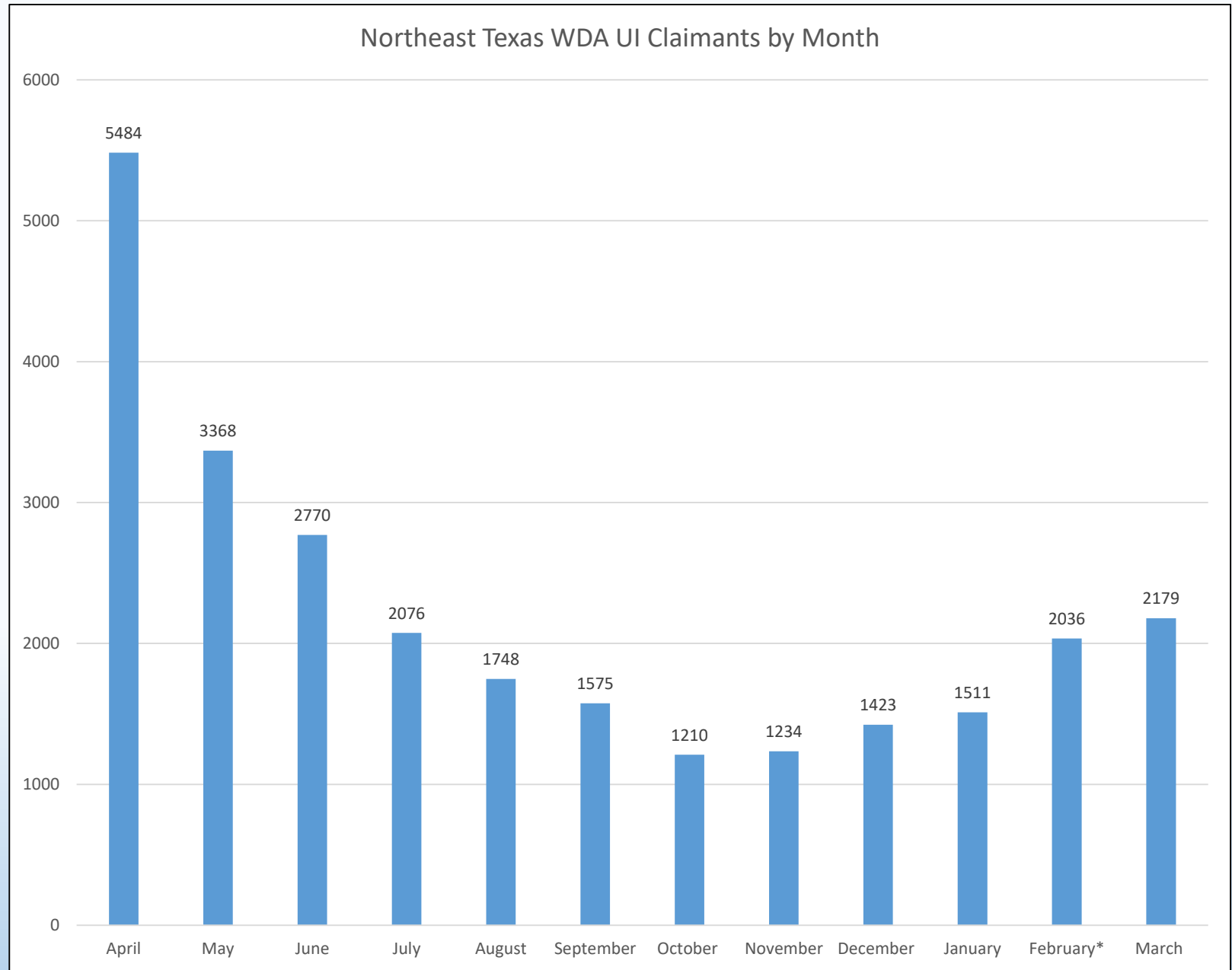


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This report reflects the Northeast Texas Region, including the following counties: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus.

Month	Total Claimants
April	5484
May	3368
June	2770
July	2076
August	1748
September	1575
October	1210
November	1234
December	1423
January	1511
February*	2016
March	2179

*488 UI claimants from a temporary layoff due to winter storm - workers returned after one week layoff

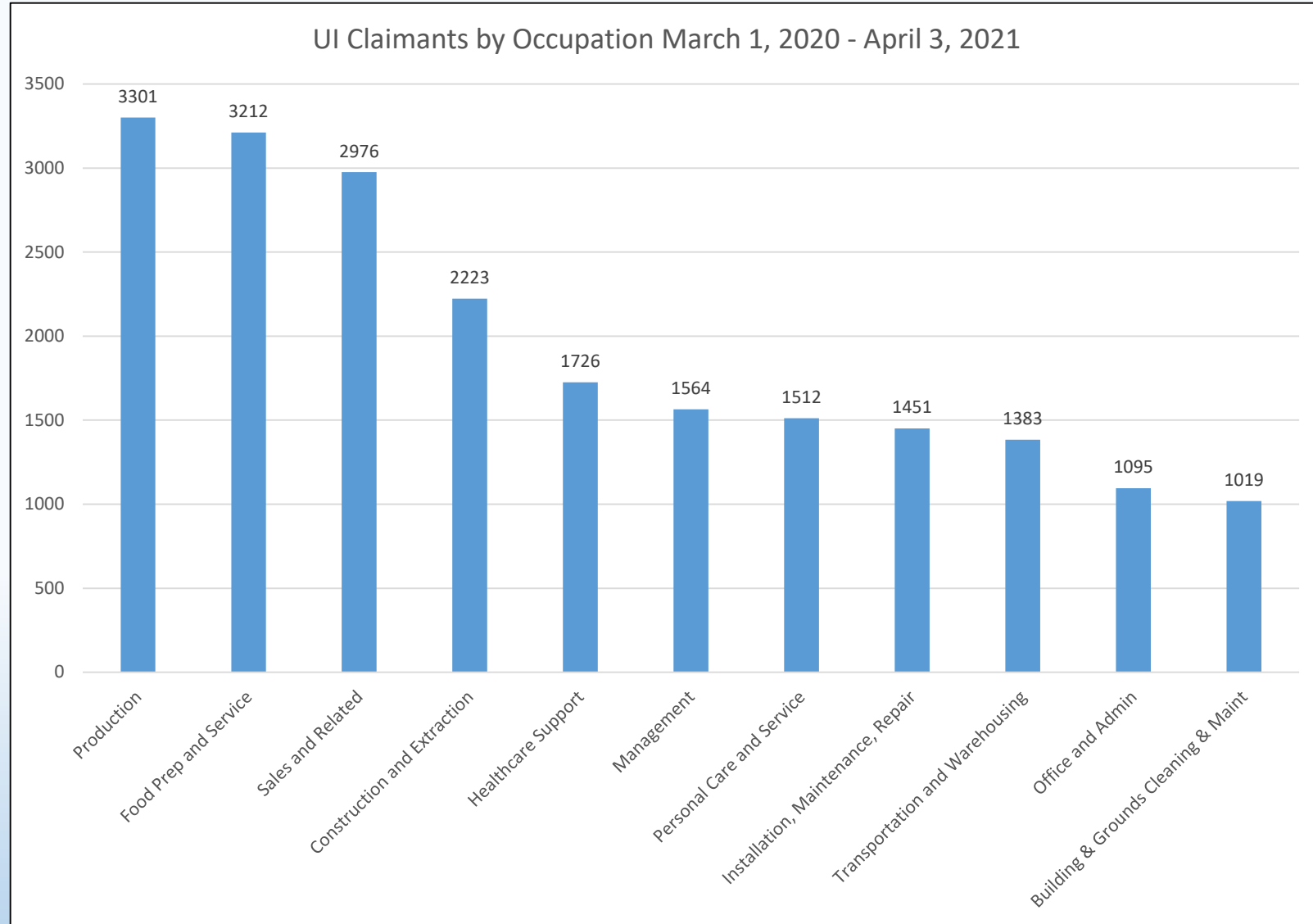




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This report reflects the Northeast Texas Region, including the following counties: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris,, Red River, and Titus.

Occupation	Claimants
Production	3301
Food Prep and Service	3212
Sales and Related	2976
Construction and Extraction	2223
Healthcare Support	1726
Management	1564
Personal Care and Service	1512
Installation, Maintenance, Repair	1451
Transportation and Warehousing	1383
Office and Admin	1095
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint	1019
*No Occupation Listed on UI Claim (10261)	





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This report reflects the Northeast Texas Region. UI Claimants by county.

County	2020/2021	2019/2020
Bowie	8,822	3,144
Cass	2,939	1,039
Delta	400	133
Franklin	529	288
Hopkins	2,605	974
Lamar	5,613	1,954
Morris	1,621	451
Red River	1,120	381
Titus	2,827	1,130
Total	26,476	9,494

