



Gulf Coast Workforce Board
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WEAK JUNE HIRING INDICATES SLOWING LABOR MARKET

(HOUSTON, Texas, July 18, 2025) Houston-area employers added just 2,300 new workers during June, according to figures released this morning by Workforce Solutions – Gulf Coast. It's the second month in a row the number of jobs added has been "substantially below the long-term average."

Job losses in Government and the Professional and Business Services sectors were the biggest drags on the month's employment figures, shedding 4,800 and 3,600 workers respectively. The loss of government sector jobs was not unexpected with the end of the academic year for both public schools and universities. "The Professional and Business Services sector, however, continues to be a point of weakness in the job market," explained Parker Harvey, regional manager of economic analysis at Workforce Solutions – Gulf Coast. "Historically, the sector adds nearly as many jobs as it lost in June, 3,600, so last month's outcome stands in contrast to the long-term average."

Both the Construction and Manufacturing sectors reported strong hiring last month, adding 2,700 and 2,500 new jobs respectively. Construction hiring was spread mostly evenly across its sub-components with specialty trade contractors adding the most (1,200), followed by heavy construction (+800) and construction of buildings (+700). The sector was also revised upwards by 1,600 in May, wiping away all of that month's reported losses and adding 700 jobs.

And the Leisure and Hospitality sector continues to be a safe haven for workers. The sector added 4,200 jobs last month, primarily at restaurants and bars, which alone hired 2,800 new workers. The remaining 1,400 jobs the sector added in June were in the entertainment venues (+1,000) and accommodations (+800) subsectors.

Unemployment ticked upward one-tenth of a percent to 4.3% on a not-seasonally adjusted basis. Following months of methodological changes, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released seasonally adjusted unemployment for the Houston-Pasadena-The Woodlands MSA. The seasonally adjusted average, which is always reported for the previous month the data is released - in this case - May, stood at 4.3%.

Additional labor market information, including the detailed June report, can be found online at wrksolutions.com/localstats. The Texas Workforce Commission will release July employment data on August 15, 2025.

ABOUT WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – GULF COAST: [Workforce Solutions - Gulf Coast](http://WorkforceSolutions-GulfCoast) is dedicated to keeping the Texas Gulf Coast region a great place to do business, work and live. Our employer-driven, people-focused approach elevates the economic and human potential of the region to attract and retain the best employers, afford everyone the dignity of a job, and remain indispensable to the global economy. As the public workforce system for 13 counties in the Houston-Galveston region, we work in tandem with the Texas Workforce Commission and the statewide Workforce Solutions network to maintain the state's largest job-match database – www.WorkInTexas.com.

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