

JULY 2026

Current Employment Overview



On August 21st, 2026, the Texas Workforce Commission released employment statistics for **July 2026**. Our detailed regional report for researchers and analysts is at <https://www.wrksolutions.com/regional-economic-data/houston-area-employment-situation>. Below are highlights.

5.1%

JULY Regional Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

- Represents 201,776 people looking for a job
- **DOWN** from a peak of 13.5% in April 2020
- **DOWN** from 5.2% last month
- **UP** from 4.8% last year
- **HIGHER** than the statewide rate of 4.8%
- **HIGHER** than the national rate of 4.4%

Monthly Change – Employers in the Houston region shed 25,000 jobs over the month, which is substantially greater than the long-term average loss of July each year.

- The top-3 drivers of over-the-month Job loss this July were:
 - Government: -23,600
 - Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: -1,700
 - Construction: -1,600

Year-over-Year Change – Total Nonfarm employment was up 50,300 jobs or 1.5%.

- A year prior, growth stood at 58,000. Workforce Solutions currently forecasts a gain of 29,900 jobs by the end of 2026 subject to evolving developments across the local, state, and national economies.
- Currently, 7 of 11 sectors show over-the-year growth led by Professional and Business Services (+17,700), Construction (+13,100), and Private Education and Health Services (+9,800).

If you have any questions, please contact Mohammad Ahmadizadeh: Mohammad.Ahmadizadeh@wrksolutions.net or Parker Harvey: parker.harvey@wrksolutions.net. The Texas Workforce Commission will release August 2026 employment figures on September 18, 2026.

Additional labor market data is available at <https://www.wrksolutions.com/regional-economic-data>

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