

Austin County

Labor Market Information

Visit the website at <http://www.wrksolutions.com>.

County Employment Data*

Austin County's unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in August 2026, unchanged from one year earlier. The county's rate was slightly below the Texas rate of 4.6 percent and slightly above the U.S. rate of 4.3 percent.

Austin County lost 37 jobs (0.3 percent) in the first quarter of 2026. Although the county typically experiences a first-quarter decline—averaging 199 jobs (1.8 percent) based on records dating to 2003—this was the smallest first-quarter loss since 2021, when the labor market was recovering from the pandemic. Two industry sectors accounted for most of the decline: Education and Health Services, down 162 jobs (12.1 percent), primarily because of losses in Ambulatory Health Care Services; and Leisure and Hospitality, down 58 jobs (6.7 percent).

On a year-over-year basis, total payroll employment increased by 188 jobs (1.4 percent), although the annual growth rate slowed from 2.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2025. Five of the 11 major industry sectors added jobs over the year, down from eight in the previous quarter. The largest contributors to annual growth were:

Construction: +168 jobs (+15.2 percent)

Professional and Business Services: +132 jobs (+9.0 percent)

Manufacturing: +132 jobs (+6.4 percent)

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: +106 jobs (+3.2 percent)

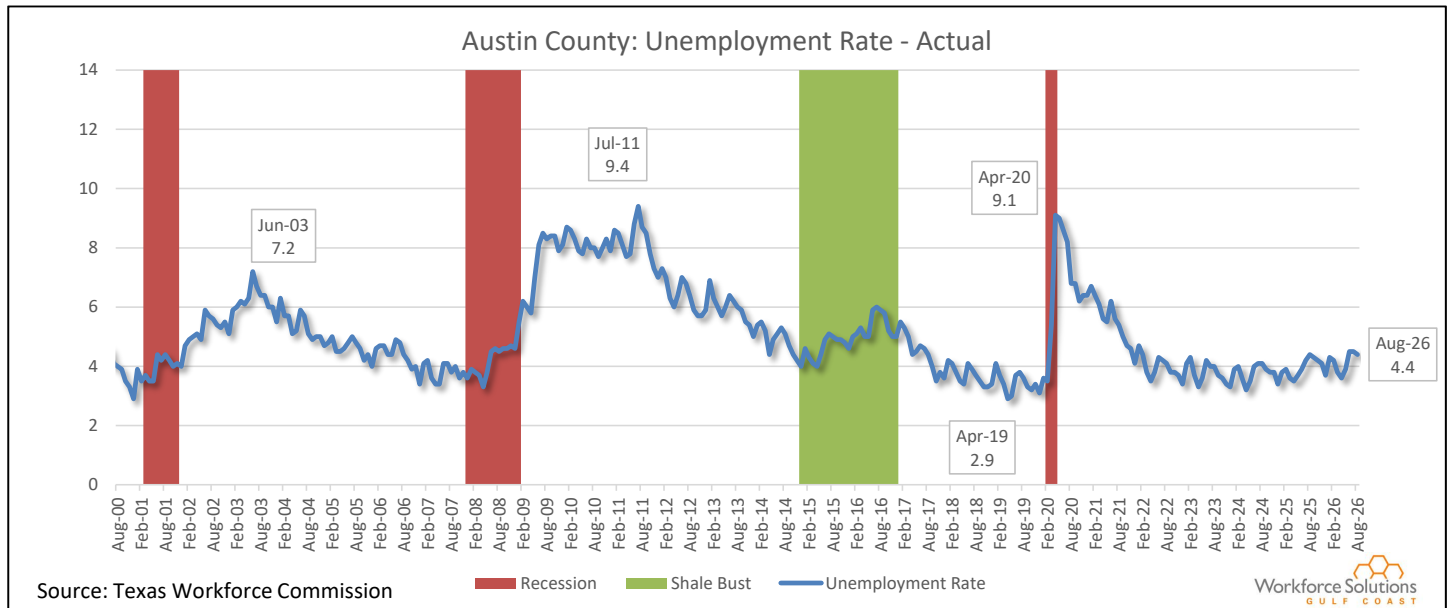
The largest annual job losses occurred in Leisure and Hospitality, down 240 jobs (22.8 percent), and Education and Health Services, down 68 jobs (5.5 percent).

Additional details are provided on pages 2–7.

	AUG 2026	JULY 2026	AUG 2025
Civilian Labor Force	15,512	15,522	15,432
Employed	14,832	14,819	14,751
Unemployed	680	703	681
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.4%

Comparative Actual Rates

Texas	4.6%	4.5%	4.4%
U.S.	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%



*Estimates reflect actual (not seasonal adjusted) data. Civilian Labor Force includes wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family, domestics in private households, agricultural workers, workers involved in labor disputes and the unemployed, all by place of residence. Covered employment data compiled from 1st quarter 2026 contribution and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers' subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Source: Texas Workforce Commission in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. All data is subject to revision.

Austin County

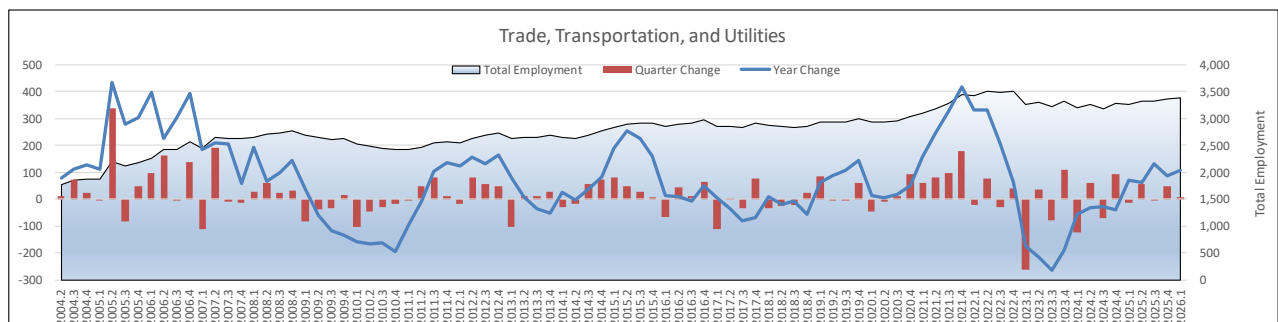
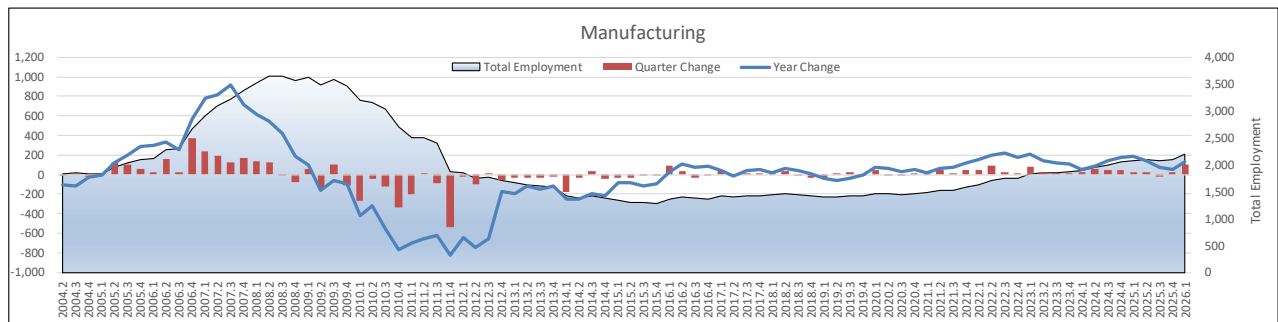
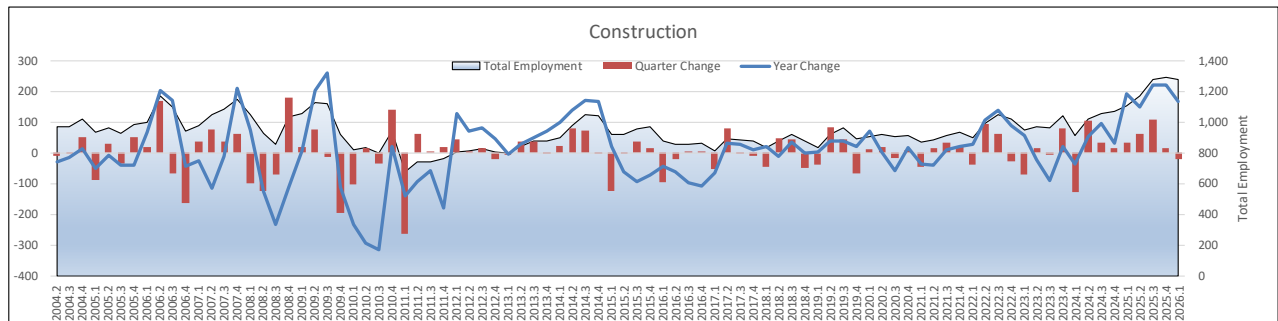
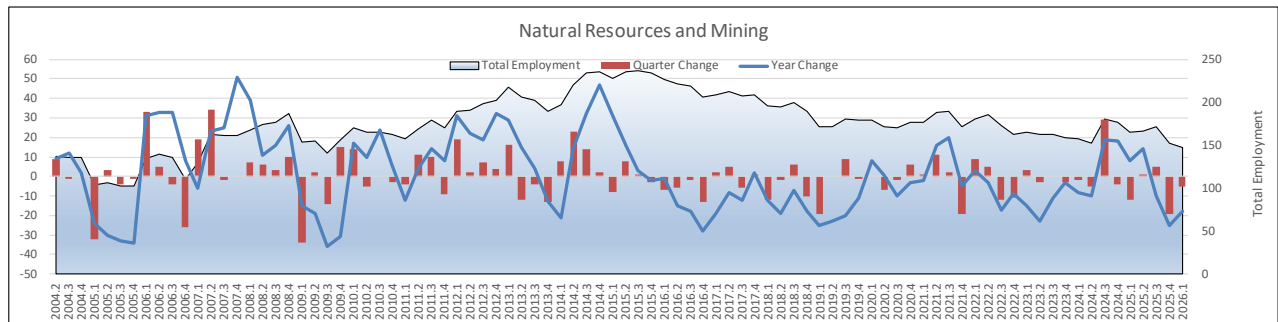
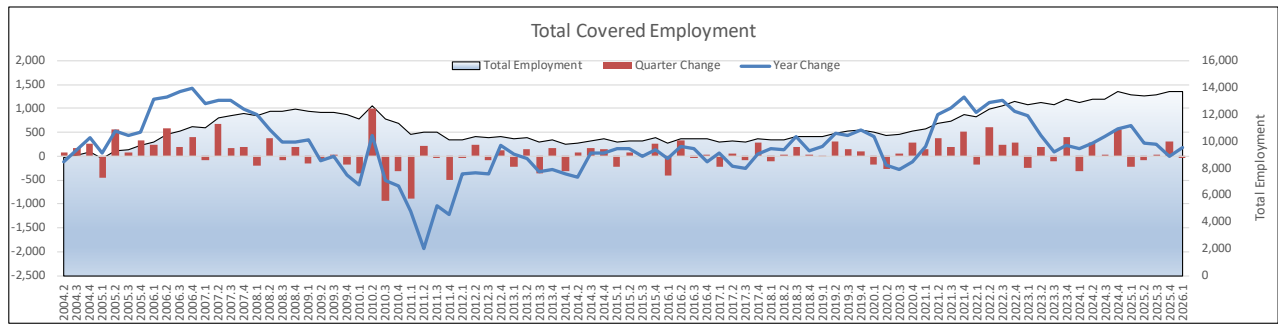
Labor Market Information

COVERED EMPLOYMENT Industrial Sector	Number of Jobs			Quarter Chg		Annual Chg		Avg Wkly Wage*
	1ST QTR 2026	4TH QTR 2025	1ST QTR 2025	Actual	%	Actual	%	
Total Employment	13,681	13,718	13,493	-37	-0.3%	188	1.4%	\$ 1,447
Natural Resources & Mining	147	152	165	-5	-3.3%	-18	-10.9%	\$ 1,016
Construction	1,275	1,295	1,107	-20	-1.5%	168	15.2%	\$1,439
Manufacturing	2,204	2,098	2,072	106	5.1%	132	6.4%	\$ 1,411
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3,375	3,368	3,269	7	0.2%	106	3.2%	\$1,352
Information	374	307	302	67	21.8%	72	23.8%	\$ 4,622
Financial Activities	695	740	793	-45	-6.1%	-98	-12.4%	\$2,041
Professional & Business Services	1,598	1,534	1,466	64	4.2%	132	9.0%	\$ 1,909
Education & Health Services	1,173	1,335	1,241	-162	-12.1%	-68	-5.5%	\$1,041
Leisure & Hospitality	814	872	1,054	-58	-6.7%	-240	-22.8%	\$ 693
Other Services	274	265	276	9	3.4%	-2	-0.7%	\$1,108
Nonclassifiable	80	77	57	3	3.9%	23	40.4%	\$ 2,003
Public Administration	1,673	1,675	1,690	-2	-0.1%	-17	-1.0%	\$1,010
Federal Government	75	72	70	3	4.2%	5	7.1%	\$ 1,473
State Government	83	82	87	1	1.2%	-4	-4.6%	\$1,284
Local Government	1,515	1,521	1,533	-6	-0.4%	-18	-1.2%	\$ 972

*Wages compiled from 1st quarter 2026 contribution and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers' subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Data source: the Texas Workforce Commission, Labor Market and Career Information Department in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

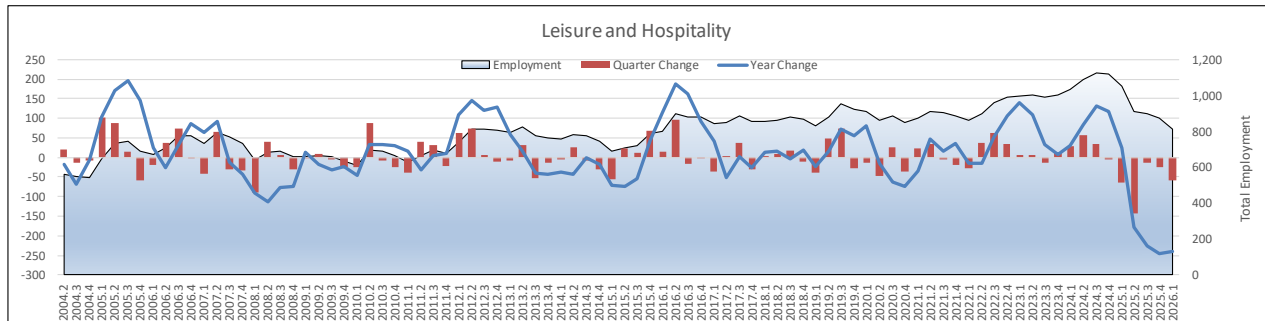
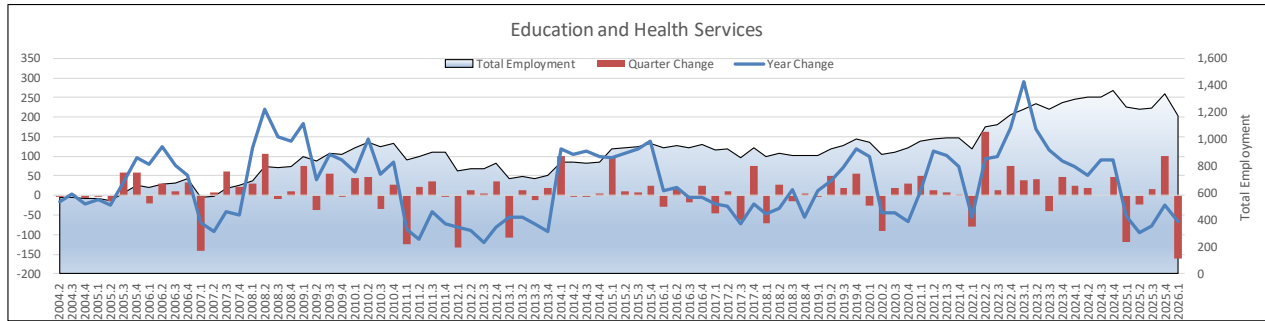
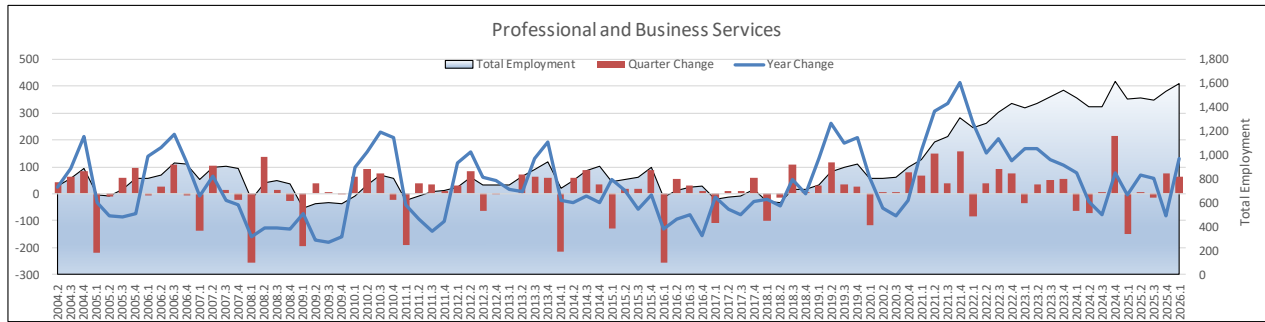
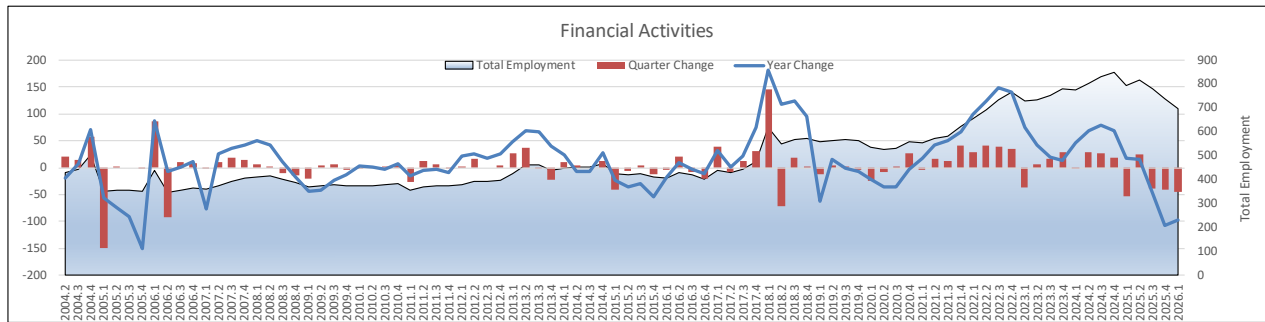
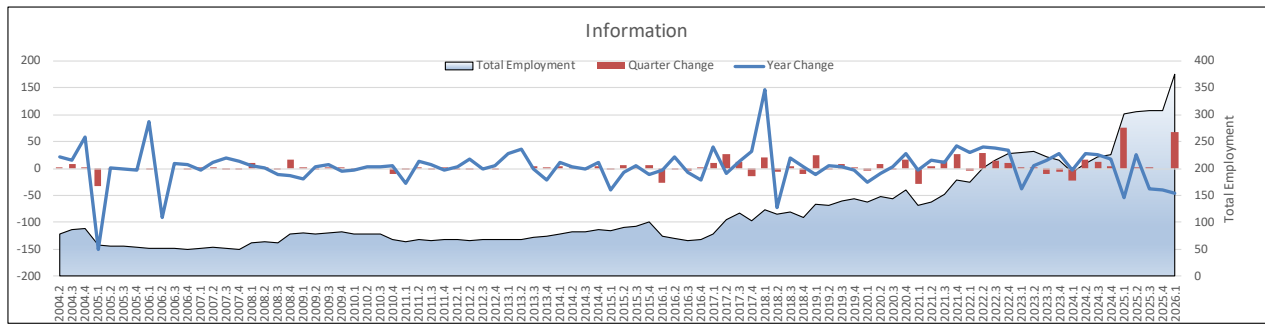
Austin County

Labor Market Information



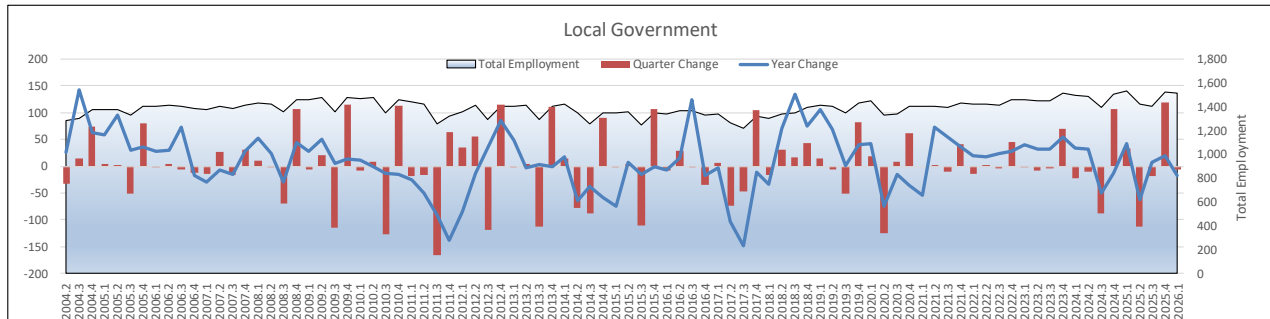
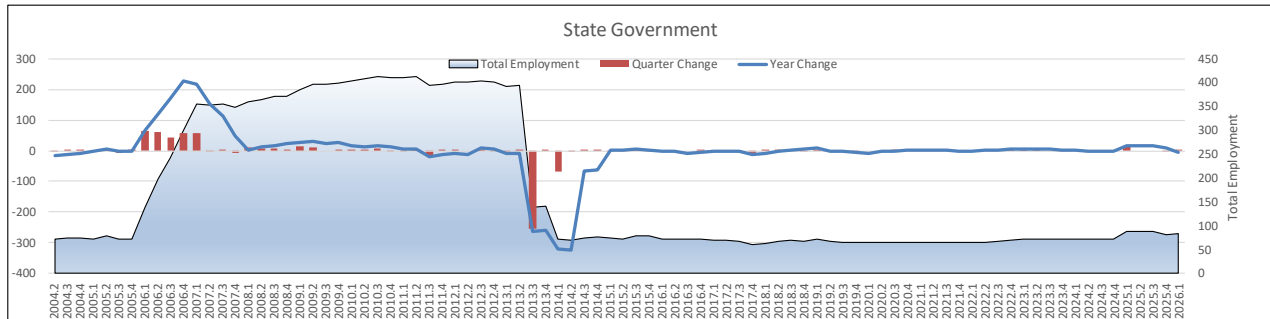
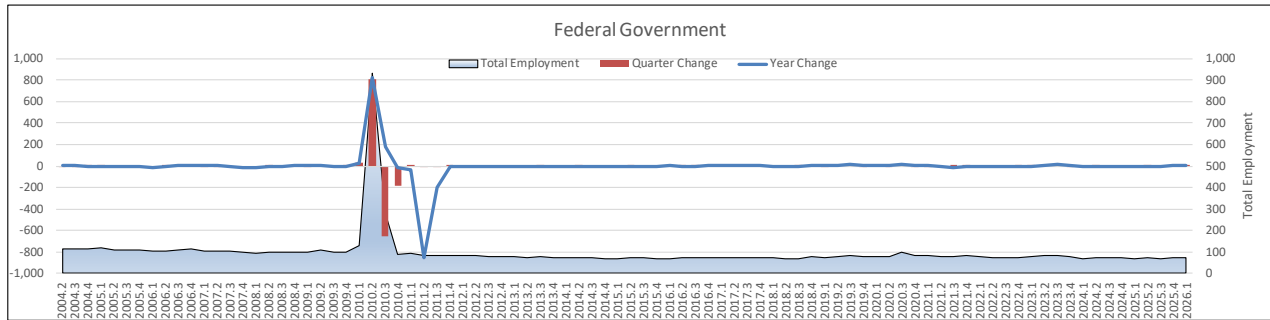
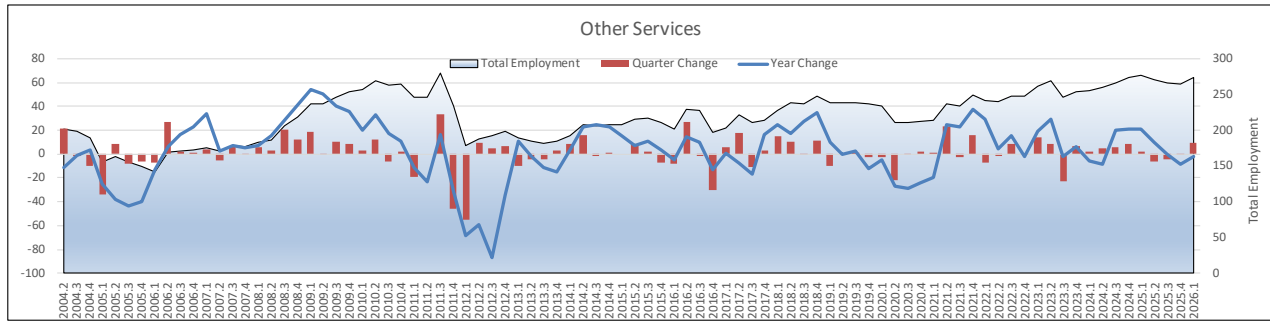
Austin County

Labor Market Information



Austin County

Labor Market Information



Austin County

Labor Market Information

Historical Employment Highlights

	All-Time High	All-Time High Quarter	All-Time Low	All-Time Low Qtr
Total	13,719	2024.4	8,683	2004.1
Natural Resources and Mining	237	2015.3	102	2005.4
Construction	1,295	2025.4	679	2011.1
Manufacturing	3,645	2008.2	1,284	2015.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	3,516	2022.4	1,688	2003.2
Information	374	2026.1	49	2006.4
Financial Activities	847	2024.4	347	2006.2
Professional and Business Services	1,615	2024.4	559	2009.1
Education and Health Services	1,359	2024.4	543	2005.2
Leisure and Hospitality	1,122	2024.3	542	2004.1
Other Services	279	2011.3	142	2006.1
Federal Government	933	2010.2	68	2015.4
State Government	413	2010.3	61	2017.4
Local Government	1,533	2025.1	1,155	2003.3

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	1st Qtr Avg Chg #	1st Qtr Avg Chg %	2nd Qtr Avg Chg #	2nd Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	-199	-1.8%	277	2.6%
Natural Resources and Mining	0	0.6%	4	2.8%
Construction	-46	-4.6%	40	4.6%
Manufacturing	7	0.5%	23	1.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	-23	-1.0%	53	2.3%
Information	2	0.0%	4	3.5%
Financial Activities	-4	-0.1%	2	0.5%
Professional and Business Services	-86	-9.3%	49	6.8%
Education and Health Services	-27	-2.5%	21	2.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	-13	-1.3%	37	5.2%
Other Services	-3	-1.4%	8	4.1%
Federal Government	0	-0.4%	38	29.8%
State Government	3	3.1%	4	2.4%
Local Government	1	0.1%	-8	-0.5%

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	3rd Qtr Avg Chg #	3rd Qtr Avg Chg %	4th Qtr Avg Chg #	4th Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	-7	0.0%	158	1.4%
Natural Resources and Mining	1	0.7%	-3	-1.6%
Construction	11	1.2%	6	1.1%
Manufacturing	10	0.5%	-29	-1.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	4	0.3%	52	1.8%
Information	3	2.3%	2	2.1%
Financial Activities	6	1.1%	9	1.5%
Professional and Business Services	36	4.6%	42	4.3%
Education and Health Services	4	0.8%	27	3.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	11	1.4%	-16	-2.1%
Other Services	1	0.4%	-2	-0.7%
Federal Government	-28	-2.5%	-9	-3.1%
State Government	-9	-1.3%	2	0.5%
Local Government	-55	-4.0%	76	5.8%

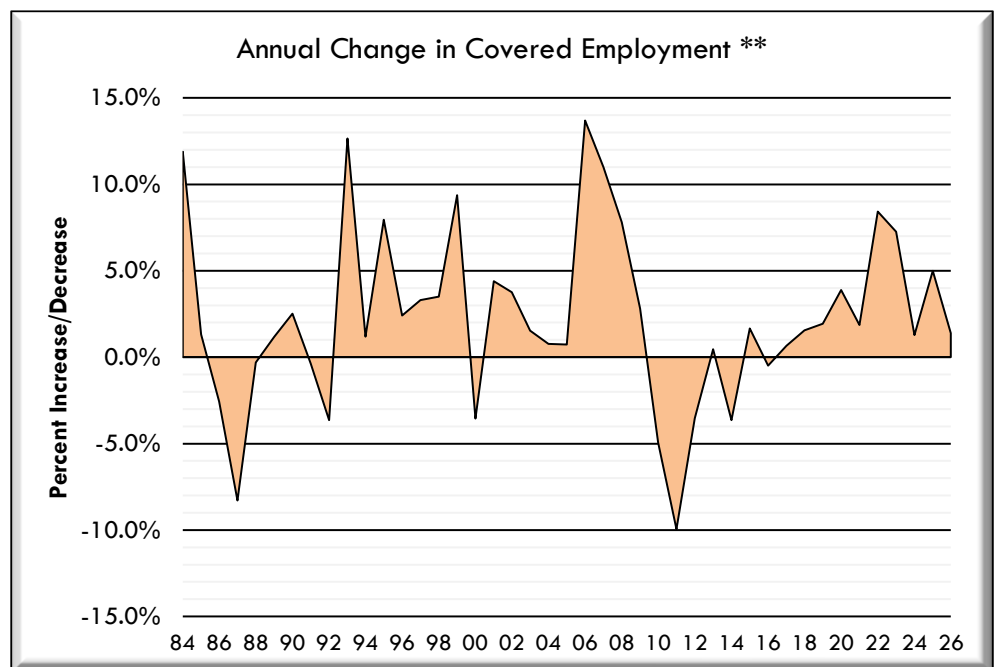
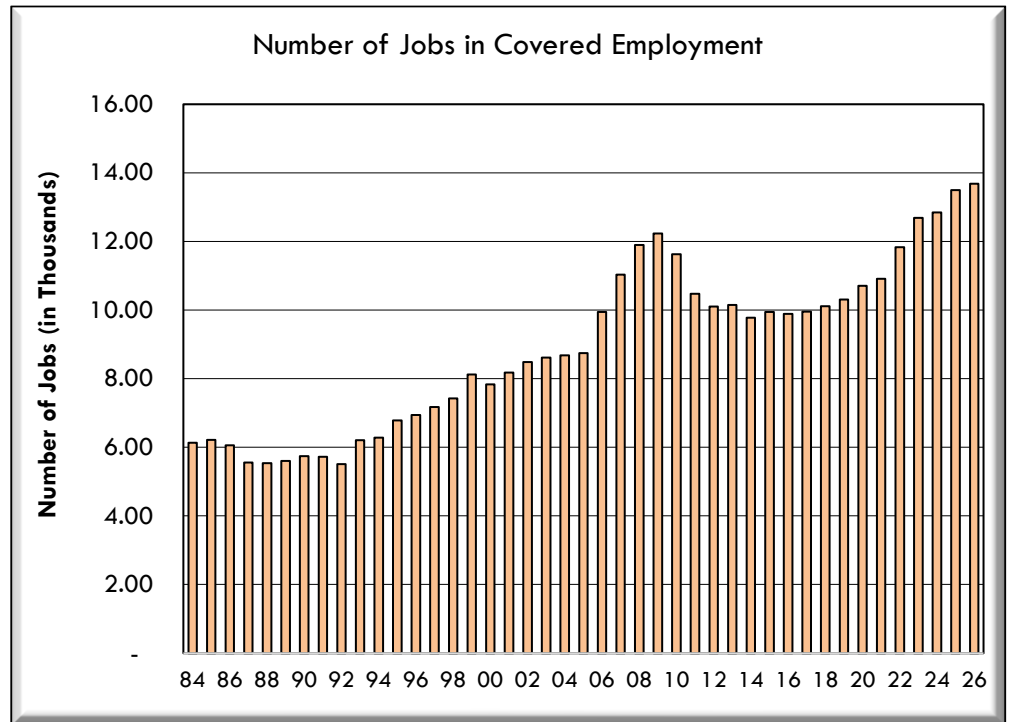
Covered employment data compiled from contribution and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers' subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Source: Texas Workforce Commission in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Historical data was only available for second quarter 2003 and forward. All data is subject to revision.

Austin County

Labor Market Information

Austin County 1983-2026 Covered Employment**

YEAR	JOBS	+ / (-)	% +/-
83	5,482		
84	6,134	652	11.9%
85	6,215	81	1.3%
86	6,055	(160)	-2.6%
87	5,553	(502)	-8.3%
88	5,536	(17)	-0.3%
89	5,601	65	1.2%
90	5,742	141	2.5%
91	5,720	(22)	-0.4%
92	5,512	(208)	-3.6%
93	6,209	697	12.6%
94	6,283	74	1.2%
95	6,782	499	7.9%
96	6,946	164	2.4%
97	7,175	229	3.3%
98	7,427	252	3.5%
99	8,123	696	9.4%
00	7,835	(288)	-3.5%
01	8,179	344	4.4%
02	8,487	308	3.8%
03	8,615	128	1.5%
04	8,683	68	0.8%
05	8,746	63	0.7%
06	9,944	1,198	13.7%
07	11,038	1,094	11.0%
08	11,900	862	7.8%
09	12,235	335	2.8%
10	11,630	(605)	-4.9%
11	10,473	(1,157)	-9.9%
12	10,103	(370)	-3.5%
13	10,150	47	0.5%
14	9,780	(370)	-3.6%
15	9,942	162	1.7%
16	9,893	(49)	-0.5%
17	9,959	66	0.7%
18	10,113	154	1.5%
19	10,309	196	1.9%
20	10,709	400	3.9%
21	10,909	200	1.9%
22	11,829	920	8.4%
23	12,688	859	7.3%
24	12,850	162	1.3%
25	13,493	643	5.0%
26	13,681	188	1.4%



**Data Compiled from 1st quarter contribution and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. For more information on a specific industry, please call 832/681-2535. Data source: Texas Workforce Commission, Labor Market and Career Information Department in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Austin County

Labor Market Information

Gulf Coast** 2025 Wages*

(High-Skill High-Growth Occupations Targeted by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board)

Std. Occ. Code	Occupation	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage	Employment
13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	\$45.86	\$95,386	28,750
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$26.34	\$54,782	15,230
19-4021	Biological Technicians	\$25.84	\$53,744	1,660
43-3031	Bookkeepers, Acctg and Auditing Clerks	\$25.08	\$52,163	26,620
49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$30.77	\$64,003	7,530
53-3052	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	\$23.81	\$49,528	3,420
13-1020	Buyers and Purchasing Agents	\$39.17	\$81,470	10,990
47-2031	Carpenters	\$25.47	\$52,975	9,700
41-2011	Cashiers	\$14.46	\$30,074	56,290
39-9011	Childcare Workers	\$14.44	\$30,033	8,820
17-2051	Civil Engineer	\$53.47	\$111,213	12,200
15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists	\$30.15	\$62,706	12,980
47-2061	Construction Laborers	\$21.06	\$43,800	34,510
35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	\$17.03	\$35,414	5,000
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	\$15.84	\$32,938	33,180
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	\$20.83	\$43,328	66,170
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	\$40.16	\$83,541	4,490
47-3013	Electrician Helpers	\$21.33	\$44,357	1,830
47-2111	Electricians	\$29.60	\$61,574	19,980
43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	\$36.71	\$76,367	7,680
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	\$13.27	\$27,601	108,070
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$35.04	\$72,889	37,870
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	\$24.31	\$50,556	23,290
35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	\$15.94	\$33,156	16,660
11-9051	Food Service Managers	\$33.35	\$69,374	5,130
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	\$70.07	\$145,740	98,820
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	\$19.53	\$41,255	5,540
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics	\$28.98	\$60,282	7,780
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$32.99	\$68,617	18,630
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operator	\$21.95	\$45,652	21,160
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$15.70	\$32,658	49,540
53-7062	Laborers and Freight Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$19.14	\$39,820	53,160
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$31.31	\$65,117	11,150
11-9081	Lodging Managers	\$35.49	\$73,827	780
51-4041	Machinists	\$29.98	\$62,351	8,250
11-2021	Marketing Managers	\$77.60	\$161,401	8,980
31-9092	Medical Assistants	\$19.97	\$41,532	18,580
49-3042	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	\$32.46	\$67,511	5,400
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	\$19.38	\$40,316	19,690
19-5011	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	\$43.34	\$90,153	5,730
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	\$20.78	\$43,216	50,990
29-1051	Pharmacists	\$65.90	\$137,073	6,500
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	\$30.66	\$63,782	11,090
33-3051	Police and Sherriff's Patrol Officers	\$35.62	\$74,090	16,560
43-5061	Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	\$29.43	\$61,210	8,940
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$17.19	\$35,760	17,430
29-1141	Registered Nurses	\$48.13	\$100,112	66,750
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	\$16.64	\$34,610	80,470
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	\$24.01	\$49,931	6,040
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, except Technical and Scientific Products	\$39.67	\$82,520	25,940
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	\$22.72	\$47,248	34,870
33-9032	Security Guards	\$18.46	\$34,802	29,550
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	\$18.57	\$38,630	74,310
53-1047	Supervisors of Transportation and Material Moving Workers, Exc.Aircraft Cargo Handling	\$31.40	\$65,307	15,500
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy an Tractor-Trailer	\$27.93	\$58,091	50,590
53-3033	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	\$23.42	\$48,712	19,220
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$28.60	\$59,491	16,090

*Data compiled by the Texas Workforce Commission, LMCI Dept. in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics as part of the Occupational Employment Survey. Employment is the estimate of employment based upon the sample, not the sample employment. Wages for the OES survey are straight-time, gross pay, exclusive of premium pay. Base rate, cost-of-living allowances, guaranteed pay, hazardous-duty pay, incentive pay including commissions and production bonuses, tips, and on-call pay are included. Excluded are back pay, jury duty pay, overtime pay, severance pay, shift differentials, nonproduction bonuses, employer cost of supplementary benefits, and tuition reimbursements. **Data by individual county is not available for many occupations. The Gulf Coast Region is defined as Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton Counties.