

FEBRUARY 2026

Current Employment Overview



On April 17, 2026, the Texas Workforce Commission released employment statistics for **February 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.

4.7%

FEBRUARY Regional Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

- Represents 184,338 people looking for a job
- **DOWN** from a peak of 13.5% in April 2020
- **DOWN** from 4.9% last month
- **UP** from 4.5% last year
- **HIGHER** than the statewide rate of 4.4%
- **SAME** as the national rate of 4.7%

Monthly Change – Employers in the Houston region added 13,100 jobs over the month, which is moderately below the long-term average of February each year.

- The top-3 drivers of over-the-month Job gain this February were:
 - Government: +7,100
 - Professional and Business Services: +4,800
 - Construction: +3,000

Year-over-Year Change – Total Nonfarm employment was up 7,700 jobs or 0.2%.

- A year prior, growth stood at 53,900. Workforce Solutions currently forecasts a gain of 40,000 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 decline led by Mining and Logging (-5,600), Manufacturing (-3,600), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-3,000).

If you have any questions, please contact Mohammad Ahmadizadeh: Mohammad.Ahmadizadeh@wrksolutions.net or Parker Harvey: parker.harvey@wrksolutions.com. The Texas Workforce Commission will release March 2026 employment figures on May 1st, 2026.

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

www.wrksolutions.com 1.888.469.JOBS (5627)

Workforce Solutions is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. (Please request reasonable accommodations a minimum of two business days in advance.) **Relay Texas:** 1.800.735.2989 (TDD) 1.800.735.2988 (voice) or 711

A proud partner of the **americanjobcenter** network