

Chambers County

Labor Market Information

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County Employment Data*

Chambers County's unemployment rate was 5.4 percent in August 2026, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from one year earlier. The county's rate remained above both the Texas rate of 4.6 percent and the U.S. rate of 4.3 percent.

Chambers County payroll employment declined by 97 jobs (0.4 percent) during the first quarter of 2026. This differed from the county's historical pattern, as first-quarter employment increased by an average of approximately 3.1 percent. Six of the 11 major industry sectors added jobs during the quarter. The overall decline was driven primarily by losses in Education and Health Services, down 477 jobs (32.9 percent), and Natural Resources and Mining, down 137 jobs (18.8 percent). The largest quarterly gains occurred in:

Manufacturing: +165 jobs (+5.0 percent)
Other Services: +159 jobs (+12.4 percent)
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: +146 jobs (+2.1 percent)
Construction: +135 jobs (+7.4 percent)

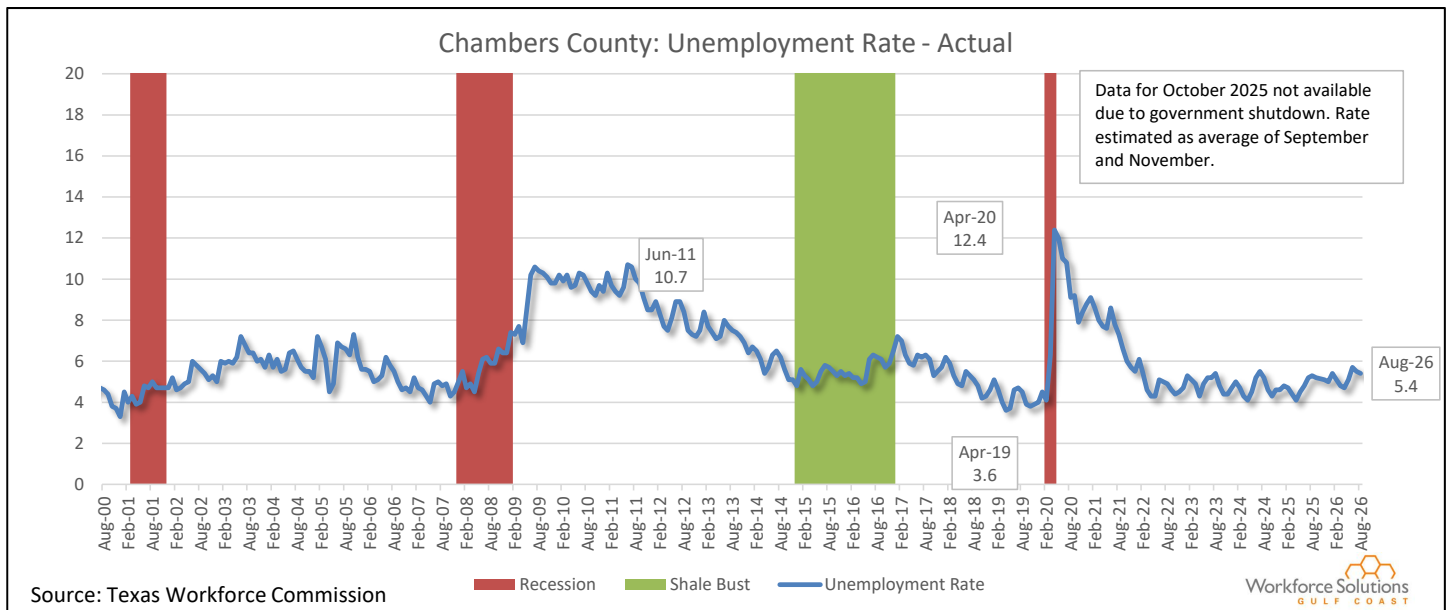
On a year-over-year basis, the county lost 364 jobs (1.6 percent), marking its first annual employment decline since the first quarter of 2021, during the pandemic. Six of the 11 major industry sectors added jobs over the year. The largest gains occurred in:

Manufacturing: +197 jobs (+6.0 percent)
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: +151 jobs (+2.2 percent)
Other Services: +125 jobs (+9.5 percent)

These gains were more than offset by a substantial decline in Education and Health Services, which lost 776 jobs (44.4 percent), primarily because of losses in Ambulatory Health Care Services.

Additional details are provided on pages 2–7.

	AUG 2026	JULY 2025	AUG 2025
Civilian Labor Force	27,634	27,606	27,424
Total Employment	26,147	26,085	25,967
Unemployed	1,487	1,521	1,457
Unemployment Rate	5.4%	5.5%	5.3%
Comparative Actual Rates			
Texas	4.6%	4.8%	4.6%
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.

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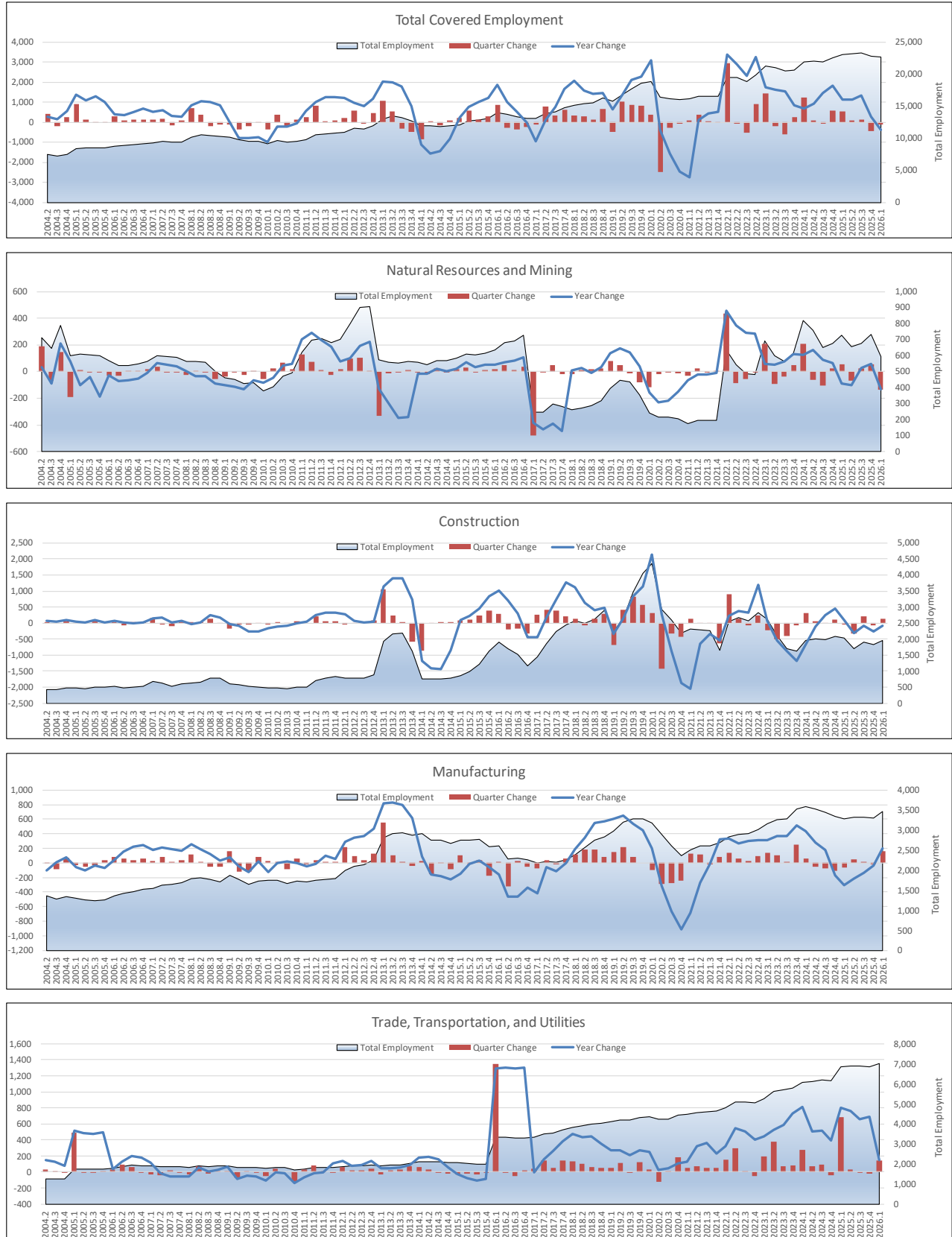
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COVERED EMPLOYMENT Industrial Sector	Number of Jobs			Quarter Chg		Annual Chg		Avg Wkly Wage*
	1ST QTR 2026	4TH QTR 2025	1ST QTR 2025	Actual	%	Actual	%	
Total Employment	22,712	22,809	23,076	-97	-0.4%	-364	-1.6%	\$1,550
Natural Resources & Mining	593	730	728	-137	-18.8%	-135	-18.5%	\$1,640
Construction	1,952	1,817	2,040	135	7.4%	-88	-4.3%	\$1,695
Manufacturing	3,474	3,309	3,277	165	5.0%	197	6.0%	\$2,244
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	7,005	6,859	6,854	146	2.1%	151	2.2%	\$1,681
Information	11	10	15	1	10.0%	-4	-26.7%	\$1,805
Financial Activities	457	476	453	-19	-4.0%	4	0.9%	\$1,590
Professional & Business Services	1,163	1,225	1,173	-62	-5.1%	-10	-0.9%	\$1,522
Education & Health Services	972	1,449	1,748	-477	-32.9%	-776	-44.4%	\$937
Leisure & Hospitality	2,241	2,226	2,167	15	0.7%	74	3.4%	\$457
Other Services	1,443	1,284	1,318	159	12.4%	125	9.5%	\$1,996
Nonclassifiable	27	24	23	3	12.5%	4	17.4%	\$759
Public Administration	3,375	3,399	3,280	-24	-0.7%	95	2.9%	\$1,184
Federal Government	46	52	53	-6	-11.5%	-7	-13.2%	\$1,960
State Government	42	42	47	0	0.0%	-5	-10.6%	\$1,556
Local Government	3,287	3,305	3,180	-18	-0.5%	107	3.4%	\$1,168

* 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. When one employer comprises 80 percent or more of the employment for an industry group in a county, or there are fewer than three employers for an industry group in a county, a dash (-) is shown.

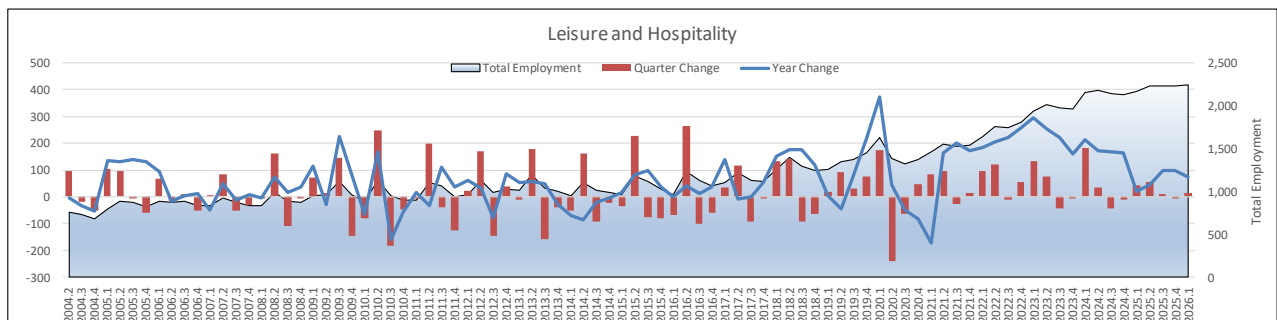
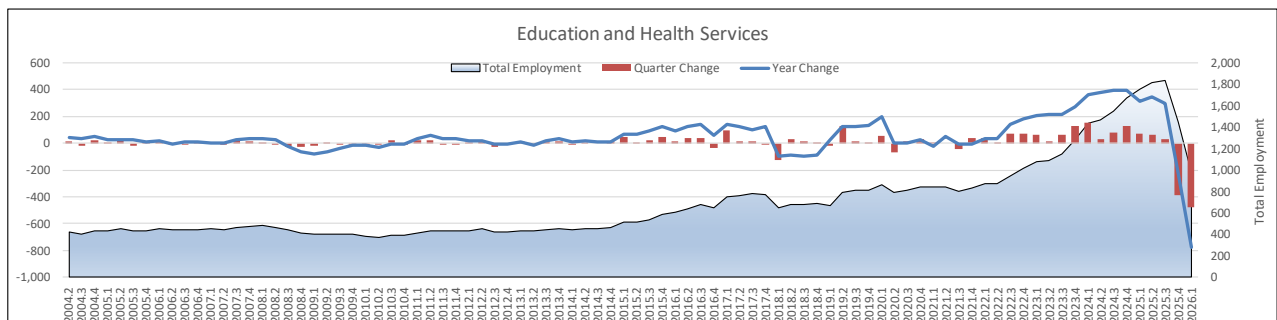
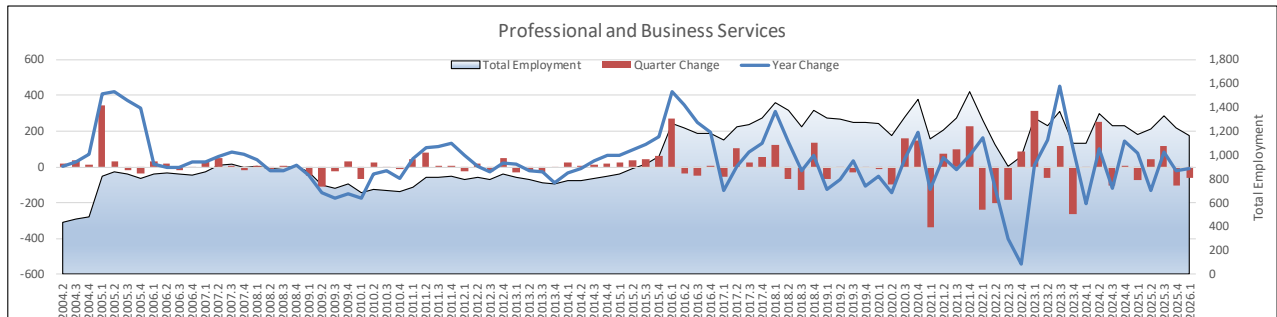
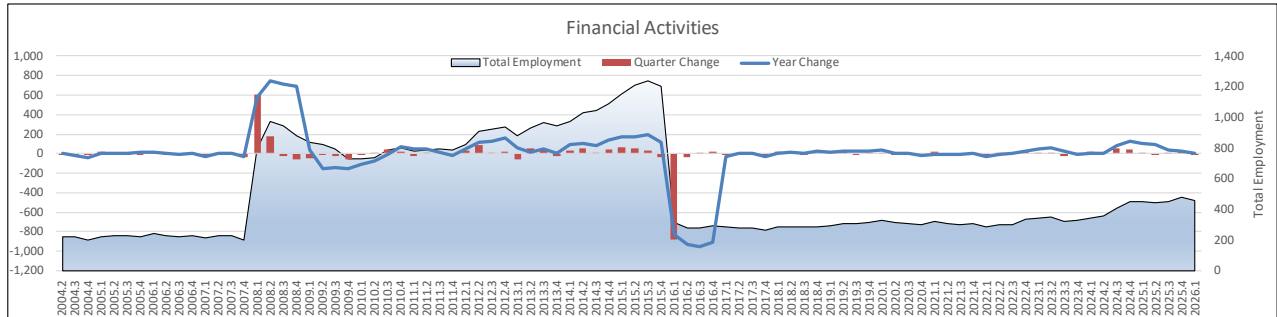
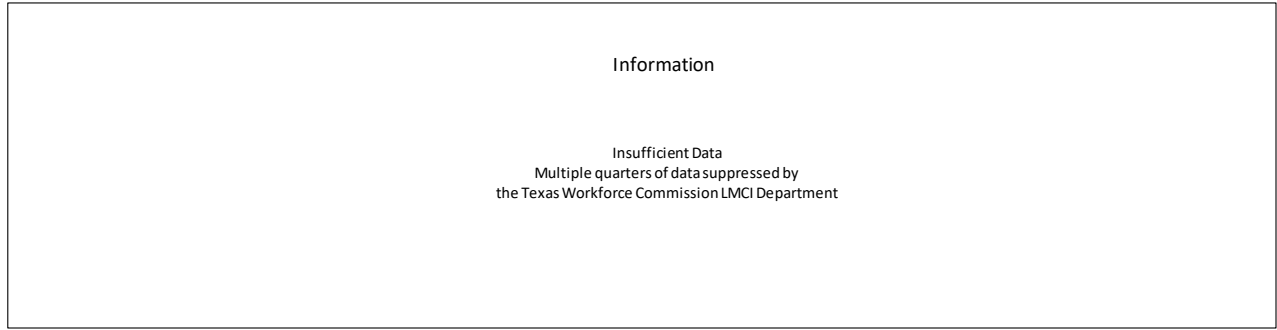
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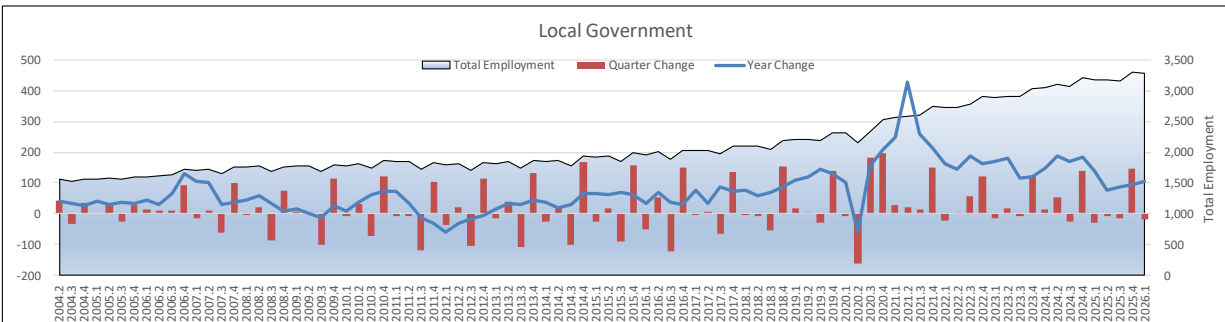
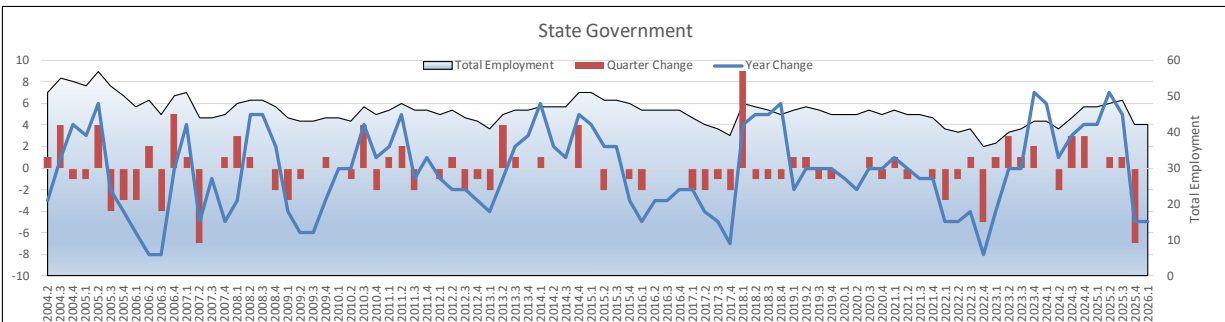
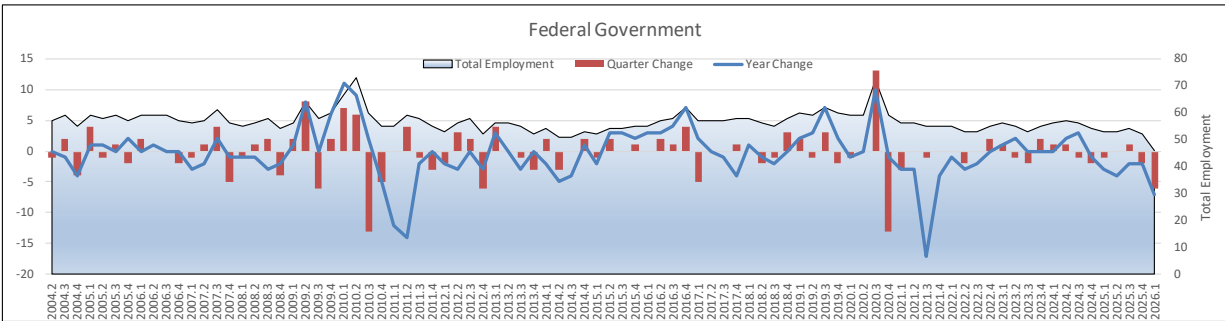
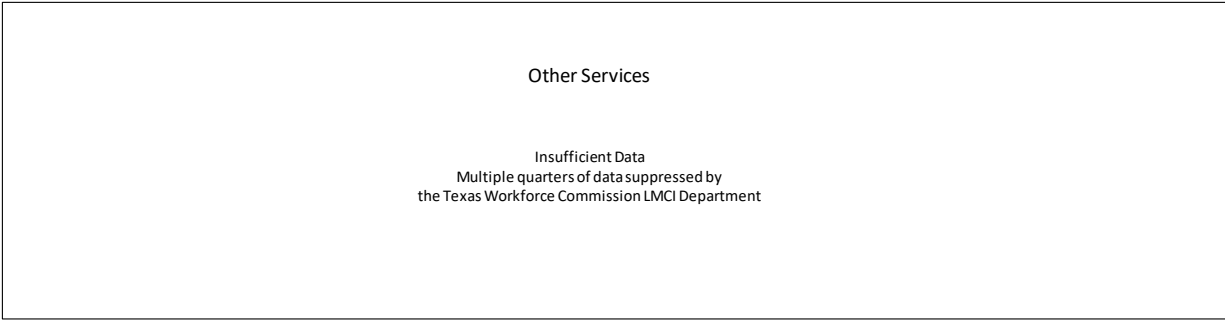
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Historical Employment Highlights

	All-Time High	All-Time High Quarter	All-Time Low	All-Time Low Qtr
Total	23,269	2025.3	6,941	2003.4
Natural Resources and Mining	905	2012.4	176	2021.1
Construction	4,361	2020.1	371	2003.2
Manufacturing	3,583	2024.1	1,235	2005.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	7,005	2026.1	1,106	2003.2
Information	25	2005.1	7	2016.2
Financial Activities	1,236	2015.3	197	2007.4
Professional and Business Services	1,535	2021.4	406	2003.4
Education and Health Services	1,838	2025.3	372	2003.3
Leisure and Hospitality	2,241	2026.1	658	2004.1
Other Services	1,885	2023.1	87	2003.4
Federal Government	73	2010.2	46	2026.1
State Government	57	2005.2	36	2022.4
Local Government	3,305	2025.4	1,492	2003.3

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	1st Qtr Avg Chg #	1st Qtr Avg Chg %	2nd Qtr Avg Chg #	2nd Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	425	3.1%	162	1.9%
Natural Resources and Mining	-15	5.6%	12	3.0%
Construction	78	8.5%	-40	1.3%
Manufacturing	89	4.2%	6	0.5%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	133	6.3%	61	1.8%
Information	na	na	na	na
Financial Activities	-10	11.1%	20	2.2%
Professional and Business Services	9	3.6%	5	1.2%
Education and Health Services	-2	0.8%	11	2.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	37	2.5%	110	11.6%
Other Services	na	na	na	na
Federal Government	0	0.3%	1	1.4%
State Government	0	0.3%	0	0.2%
Local Government	-10	-0.5%	11	0.6%

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	3rd Qtr Avg Chg #	3rd Qtr Avg Chg %	4th Qtr Avg Chg #	4th Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	-69	-0.6%	198	1.3%
Natural Resources and Mining	1	0.8%	0	-0.2%
Construction	41	3.3%	5	2.2%
Manufacturing	-21	-1.3%	13	1.0%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	17	0.6%	25	0.7%
Information	na	na	na	na
Financial Activities	5	0.9%	-4	-0.6%
Professional and Business Services	0	0.2%	22	1.9%
Education and Health Services	11	1.0%	21	2.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	-49	-4.0%	-27	-3.0%
Other Services	na	na	na	na
Federal Government	0	0.7%	-2	-2.4%
State Government	0	0.2%	0	-0.8%
Local Government	-42	-2.4%	118	6.0%

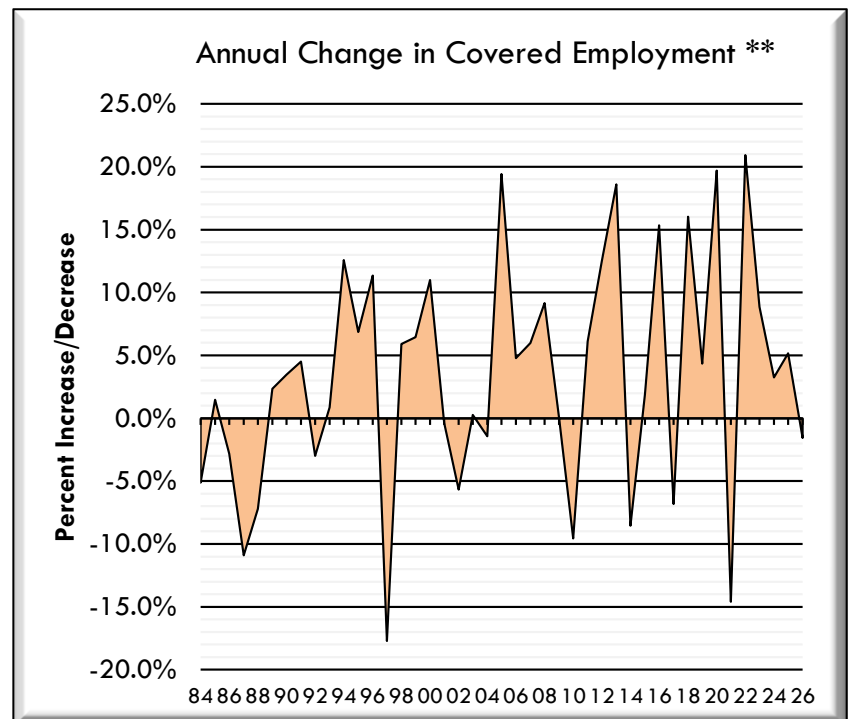
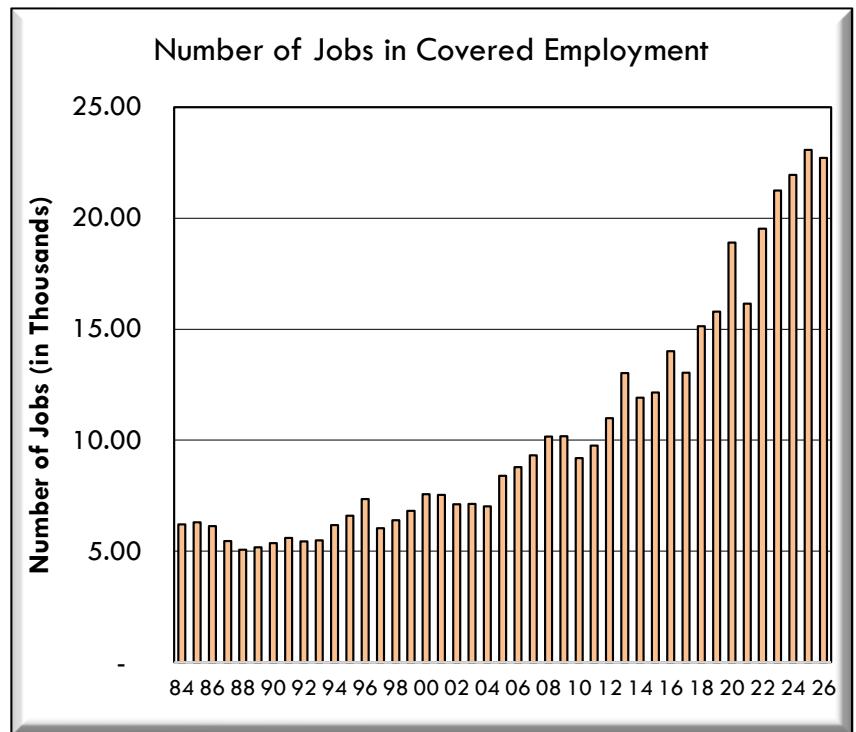
Covered employment data compiled from contribution and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers' subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Source: Texas Workforce Commission in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Historical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

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Chambers County 1983-2026 Covered Employment**

YEAR	JOBS	+ / (-)	% +/-
83	6,545		
84	6,210	(335)	-5.1%
85	6,302	92	1.5%
86	6,124	(178)	-2.8%
87	5,456	(668)	-10.9%
88	5,063	(393)	-7.2%
89	5,181	118	2.3%
90	5,361	180	3.5%
91	5,603	242	4.5%
92	5,436	(167)	-3.0%
93	5,483	47	0.9%
94	6,173	690	12.6%
95	6,596	423	6.9%
96	7,344	748	11.3%
97	6,043	(1,301)	-17.7%
98	6,400	357	5.9%
99	6,813	413	6.5%
00	7,561	748	11.0%
01	7,534	(27)	-0.4%
02	7,107	(427)	-5.7%
03	7,126	19	0.3%
04	7,024	(102)	-1.4%
05	8,389	1,365	19.4%
06	8,791	402	4.8%
07	9,316	525	6.0%
08	10,168	852	9.1%
09	10,172	4	0.0%
10	9,200	(972)	-9.6%
11	9,763	563	6.1%
12	10,984	1,221	12.5%
13	13,028	2,044	18.6%
14	11,914	(1,114)	-8.6%
15	12,140	226	1.9%
16	14,003	1,863	15.3%
17	13,046	(957)	-6.8%
18	15,137	2,091	16.0%
19	15,793	656	4.3%
20	18,905	3,112	19.7%
21	16,144	(2,761)	-14.6%
22	19,523	3,379	20.9%
23	21,250	1,727	8.8%
24	21,942	692	3.3%
25	23,076	1,134	5.2%
26	22,712	(364)	-1.6%



**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. Date source: the Texas Workforce Commission, Labor Market and Career Information Department in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

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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.