

AUGUST 2026

Current Employment Overview



On September 18th, 2026, the Texas Workforce Commission released employment statistics for **August 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.

5.0%

AUGUST Regional Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

- Represents 194,303 people looking for a job
- **DOWN** from a peak of 13.5% in April 2020
- **DOWN** from 5.1% last month
- **UP** from 4.9% last year
- **HIGHER** than the statewide rate of 4.6%
- **HIGHER** than the national rate of 4.3%

Monthly Change – Employers in the Houston region added 900 jobs over the month, which is substantially below the long-term average gain of August each year.

- The top-3 drivers of over-the-month Job gain this August were:
 - Government: +5,700
 - Private Education and Health Services: +2,900
 - Manufacturing: +700

Year-over-Year Change – Total Nonfarm employment was up 44,700 jobs or 1.3%.

- A year prior, growth stood at 20,700. 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, 6 of 11 sectors show over-the-year growth led by Professional and Business Services (+14,700), Construction (+14,100), and Government (+8,300).

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 September 2026 employment figures on October 16, 2026.

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

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