

Colorado County

Labor Market Information

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County Employment Data*

Colorado County's unemployment rate was 4.0 percent in August 2026, down 0.2 percentage points from one year earlier. The county's rate was below both the Texas rate of 4.6 percent and the U.S. rate of 4.3 percent.

Colorado County payroll employment declined by 15 jobs (0.2 percent) during the first quarter of 2026. This was smaller than the county's historical average first-quarter decline of 0.6 percent. Five of the 11 major industry sectors added jobs, although employment data for Information were suppressed to protect confidentiality. The largest quarterly losses occurred in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, down 23 jobs (1.5 percent), and Leisure and Hospitality, down 20 jobs (2.0 percent). The most notable gain occurred in Manufacturing, which added 38 jobs (3.4 percent).

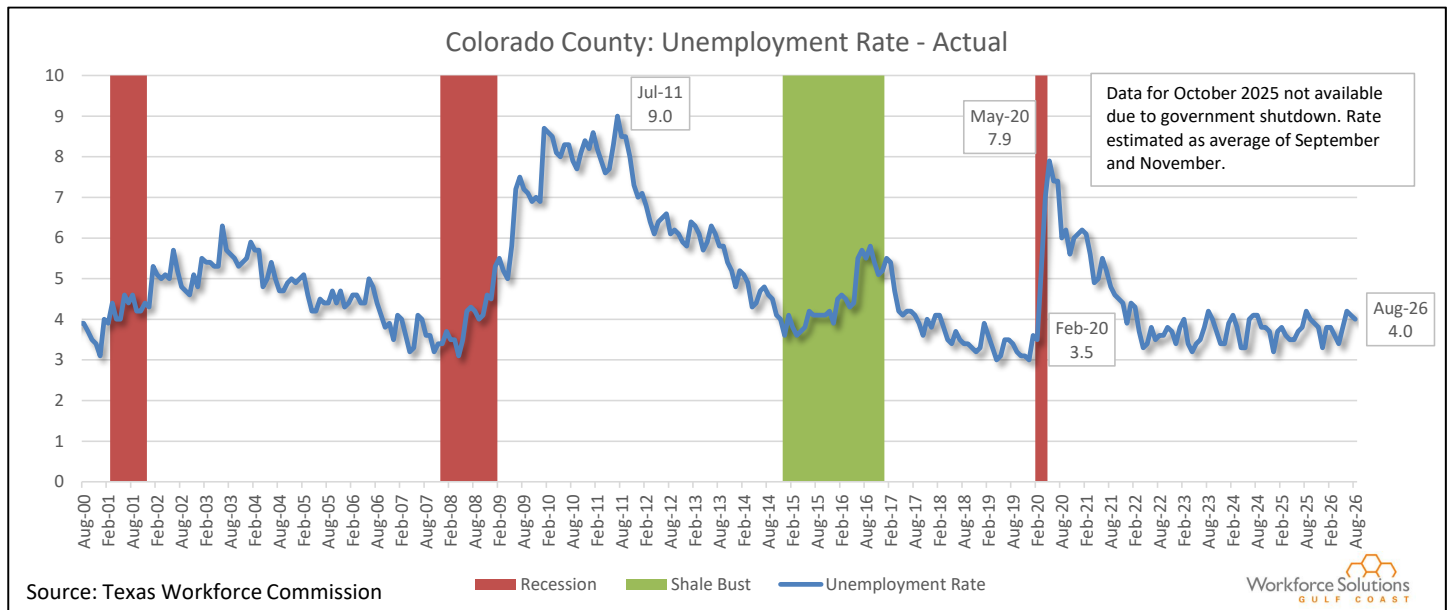
On a year-over-year basis, total employment was essentially unchanged as gains and losses across sectors offset one another. The largest annual declines occurred in:

Natural Resources and Mining: -32 jobs (-6.7 percent)
Education and Health Services: -16 jobs (-1.6 percent)
Leisure and Hospitality: -10 jobs (-1.0 percent)

These losses were offset primarily by gains in:

Manufacturing: +21 jobs (+1.8 percent)
Public Administration: +19 jobs (+1.6 percent)
Additional details are provided on pages 2-7.

	AUG 2026	JULY 2025	AUG 2025
Civilian Labor Force	10,007	10,188	9,964
Total Employment	9,607	9,774	9,545
Unemployed	400	414	419
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	4.1%	4.2%
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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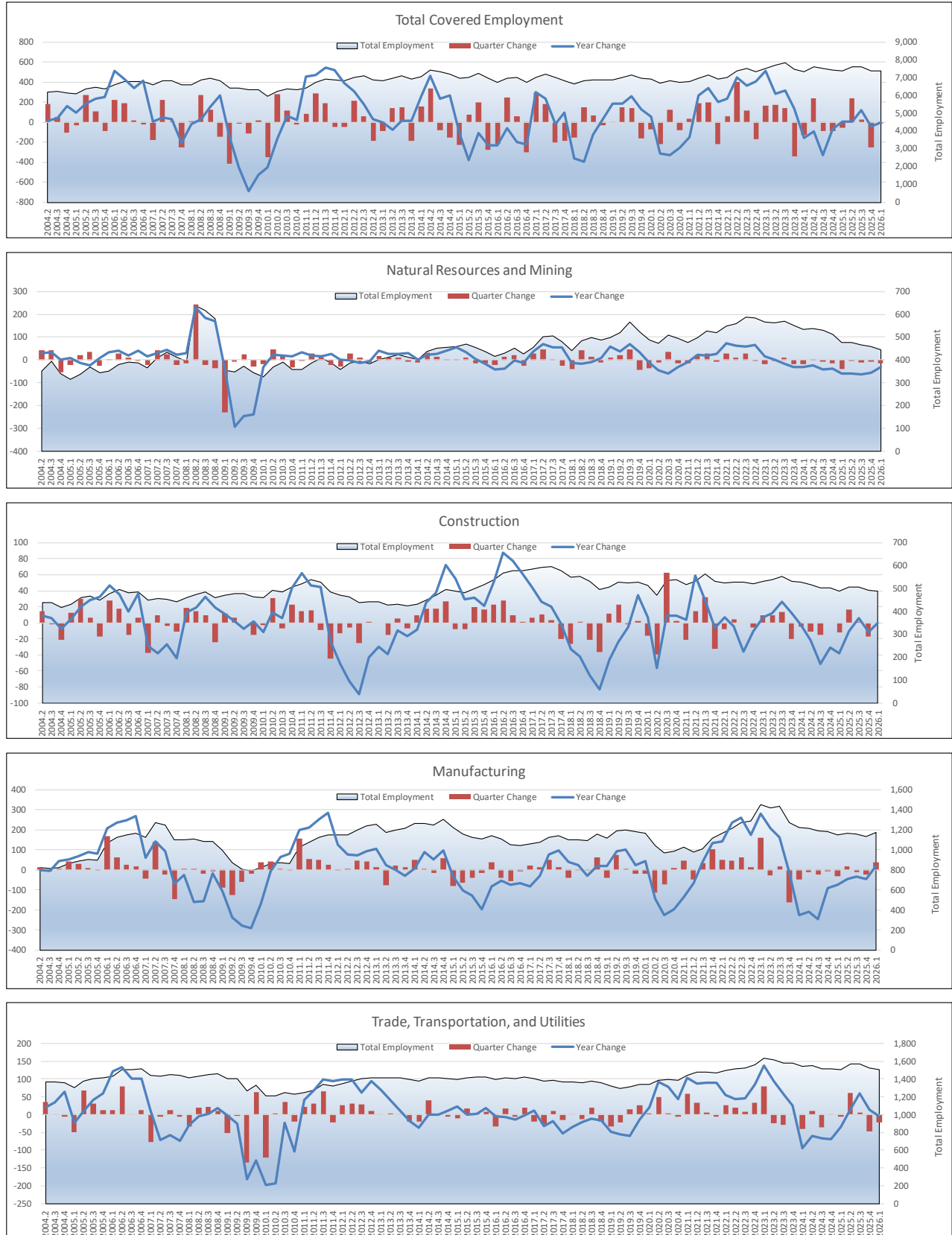
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COVERED EMPLOYMENT Industrial Sector	Number of Jobs			Quarter Chg		Annual Chg		Avg Wkly Wage*
	1ST QTR 2026	4TH QTR 2025	1ST QTR 2025	Actual	%	Actual	%	
Total Employment	7,364	7,379	7,365	-15	-0.2%	-1	0.0%	\$1,046
Natural Resources & Mining	444	457	476	-13	-2.8%	-32	-6.7%	\$1,219
Construction	490	491	490	-1	-0.2%	0	0.0%	\$1,403
Manufacturing	1,172	1,134	1,151	38	3.4%	21	1.8%	\$1,321
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,502	1,525	1,506	-23	-1.5%	-4	-0.3%	\$1,003
Information	---	---	---	na	na	na	na	na
Financial Activities	192	190	184	2	1.1%	8	4.3%	\$1,300
Professional & Business Services	235	228	238	7	3.1%	-3	-1.3%	\$1,280
Education & Health Services	1,009	1,008	1,025	1	0.1%	-16	-1.6%	\$980
Leisure & Hospitality	974	994	984	-20	-2.0%	-10	-1.0%	\$568
Other Services	119	127	119	-8	-6.3%	0	0.0%	\$1,036
Nonclassifiable	49	45	32	4	0.0%	17	53.1%	\$ 807
Public Administration	1,178	1,181	1,159	-3	-0.3%	19	1.6%	\$1,003
Federal Government	52	47	52	5	10.6%	0	0.0%	\$1,389
State Government	98	101	104	-3	-3.0%	-6	-5.8%	\$1,116
Local Government	1,028	1,033	1,003	-5	-0.5%	25	2.5%	\$973

*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. 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.

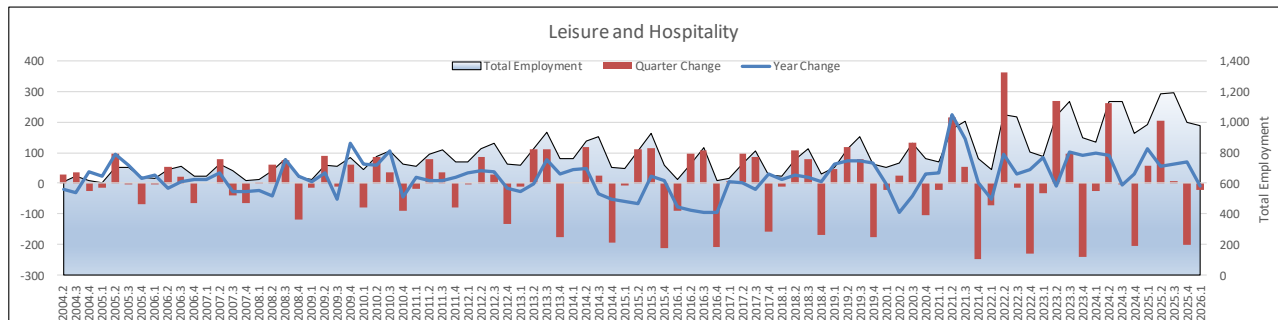
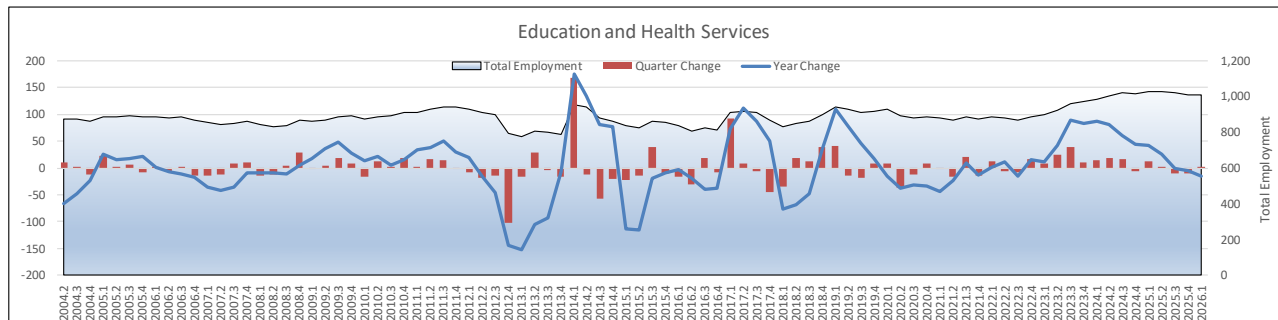
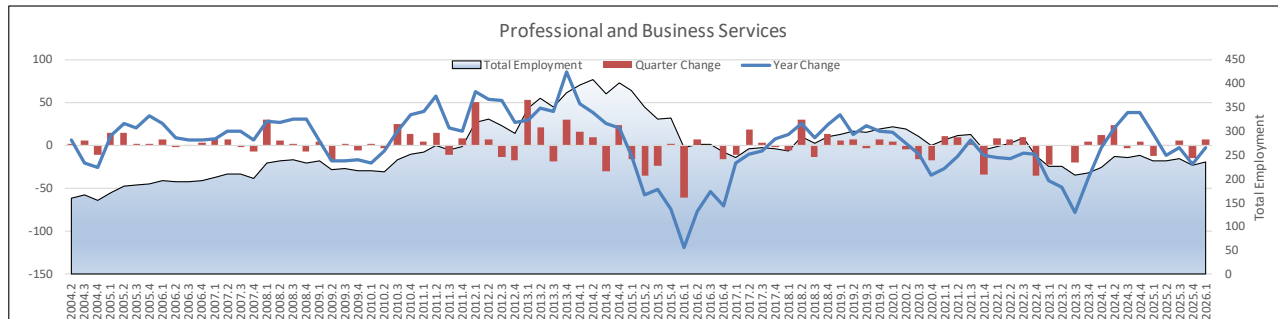
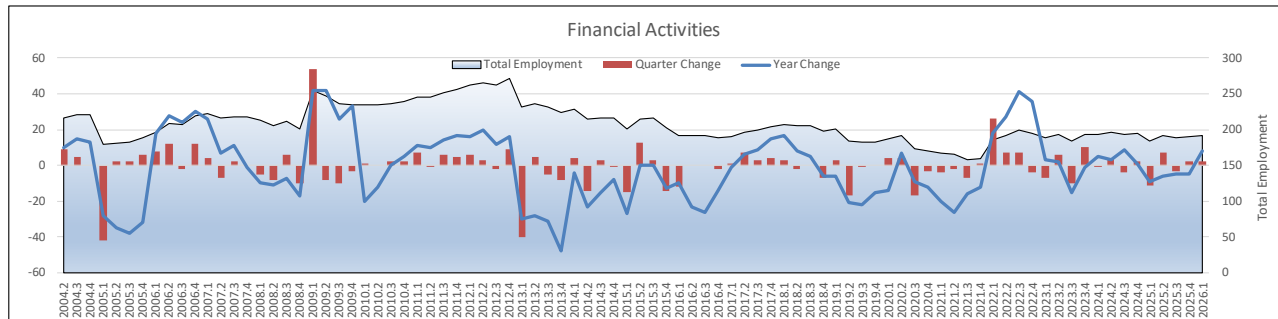
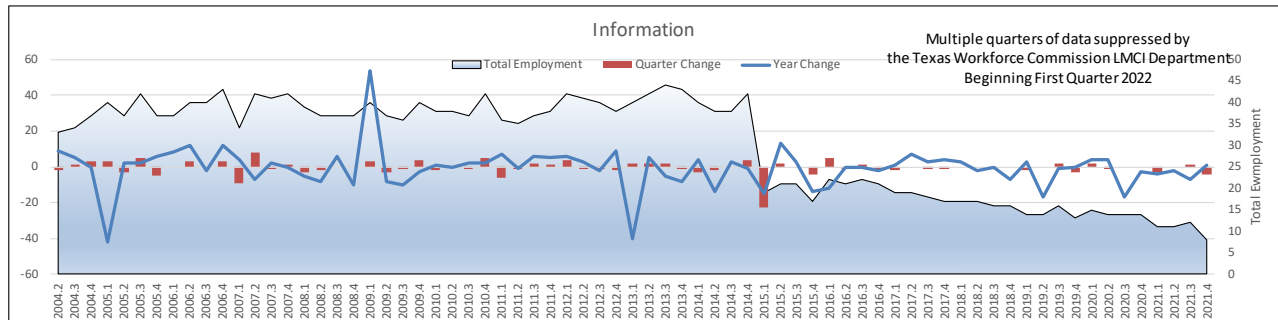
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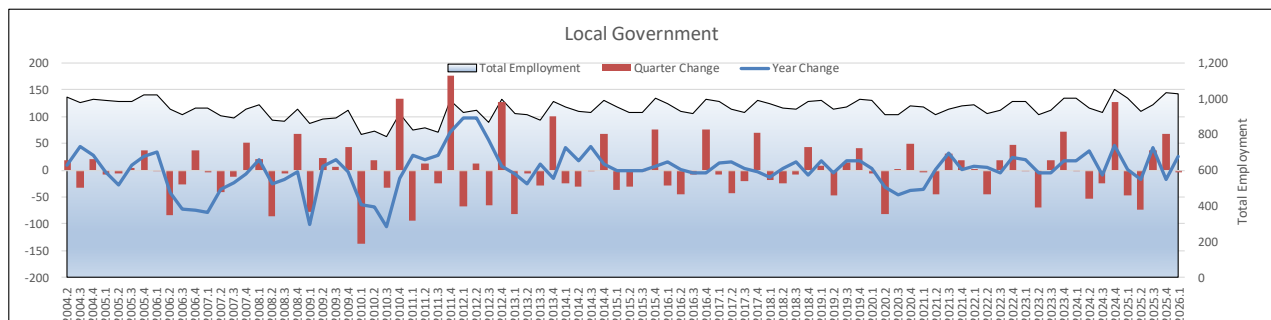
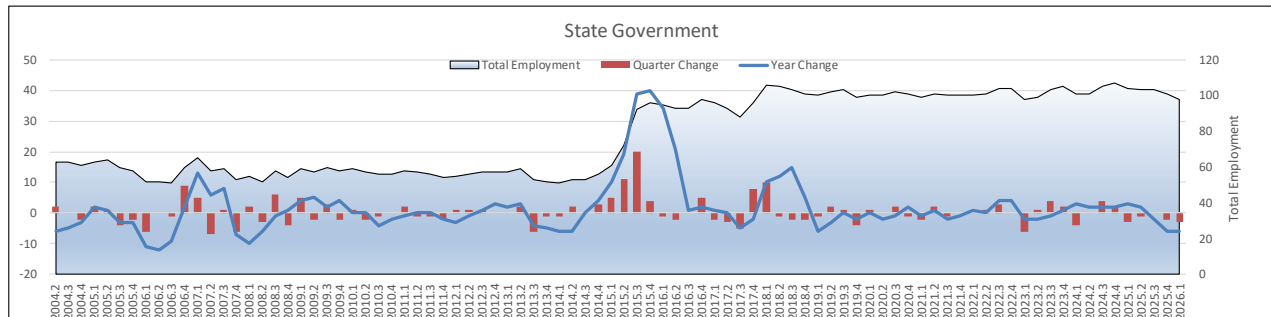
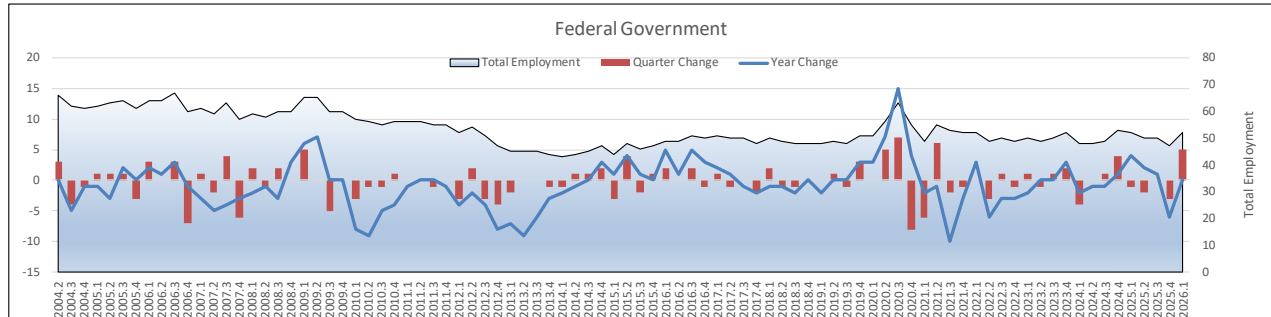
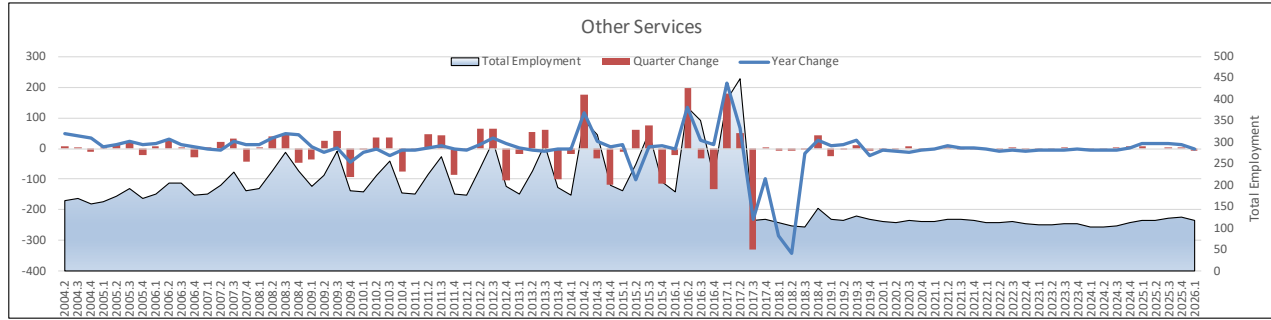
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Historical Employment Highlights

	All-Time High	All-Time High Quarter	All-Time Low	All-Time Low Qtr
Total	7,834	2023.3	5,959	2003.4
Natural Resources and Mining	639	2008.2	308	2004.1
Construction	597	2017.3	417	2004.4
Manufacturing	1,450	2023.1	777	2003.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1,635	2023.1	1,207	2010.1
Information	44	2013.3	8	2021.4
Financial Activities	272	2012.4	158	2021.3
Professional and Business Services	407	2014.2	154	2003.2
Education and Health Services	1,028	2025.2	777	2013.1
Leisure and Hospitality	1,194	2025.3	582	2004.1
Other Services	449	2017.2	103	2018.3
Federal Government	67	2003.3	43	2014.1
State Government	107	2024.4	51	2006.3
Local Government	1,050	2024.4	785	2010.3

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	1st Qtr Avg Chg #	1st Qtr Avg Chg %	2nd Qtr Avg Chg #	2nd Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	-40	-0.6%	189	2.8%
Natural Resources and Mining	-21	-4.3%	32	8.3%
Construction	0	0.1%	8	1.7%
Manufacturing	20	2.3%	-1	0.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	-23	-0.8%	17	1.3%
Information	na	na	na	na
Financial Activities	-1	0.1%	1	0.4%
Professional and Business Services	4	1.8%	6	2.5%
Education and Health Services	9	1.1%	-2	-0.2%
Leisure and Hospitality	-14	-1.9%	121	17.2%
Other Services	3	1.1%	38	20.0%
Federal Government	0	0.0%	1	1.3%
State Government	0	0.6%	0	0.3%
Local Government	-26	-2.7%	-31	-3.1%

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	3rd Qtr Avg Chg #	3rd Qtr Avg Chg %	4th Qtr Avg Chg #	4th Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	62	0.9%	-148	-2.1%
Natural Resources and Mining	17	4.2%	-20	-4.5%
Construction	4	0.7%	-8	-1.6%
Manufacturing	0	-0.1%	-3	-0.2%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1	0.2%	1	0.1%
Information	na	na	na	na
Financial Activities	-1	-0.5%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	-3	-0.1%	-2	-1.1%
Education and Health Services	2	0.3%	-7	-0.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	48	6.1%	-136	-15.1%
Other Services	3	5.7%	-43	-13.9%
Federal Government	0	0.4%	-1	-1.8%
State Government	1	1.3%	0	0.0%
Local Government	-10	-1.1%	69	7.8%

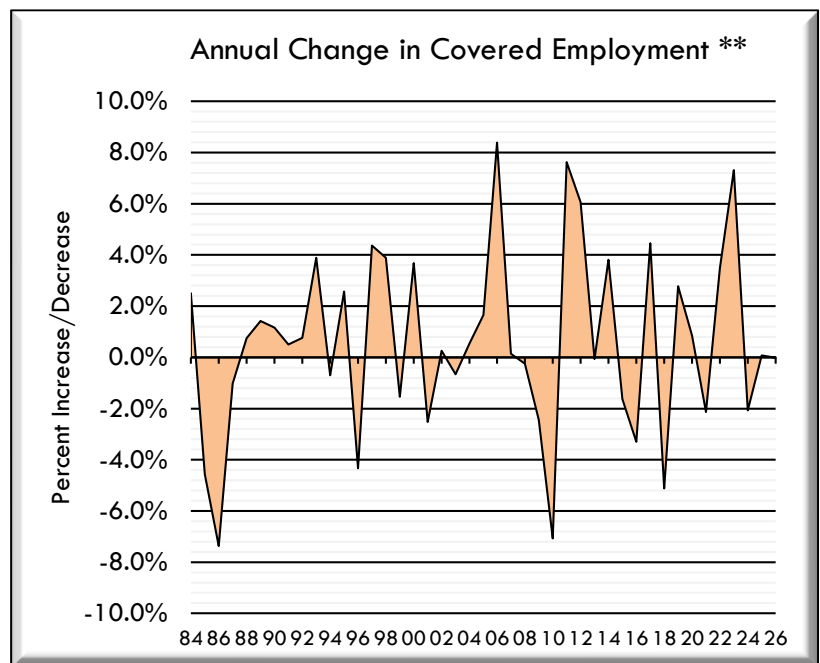
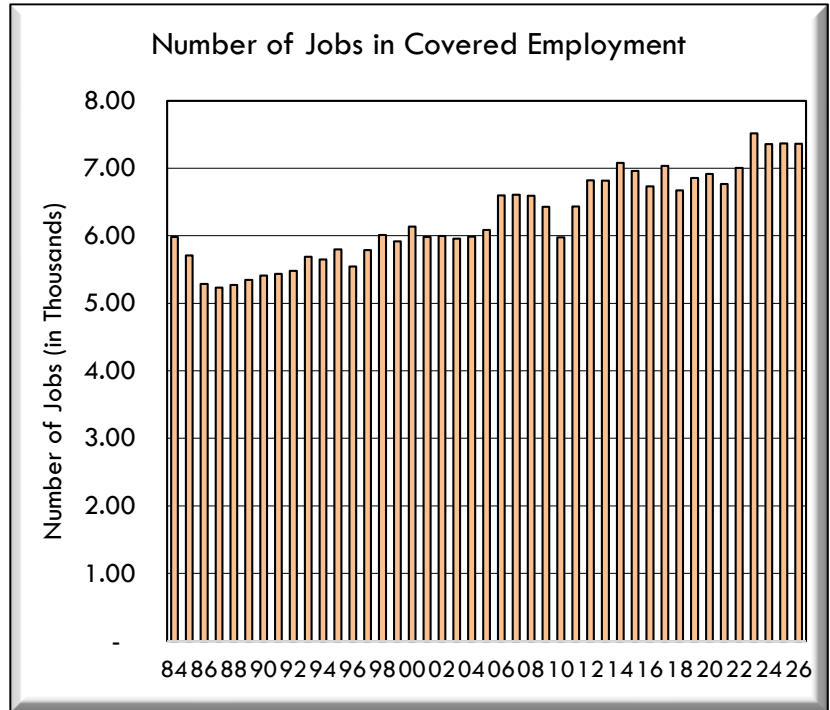
Covered employment data compiled from contribution and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers' subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Source: Texas Workforce Commission in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Historical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

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Colorado County 1983-2026 Covered Employment**

YEAR	JOBS	+ / (-)	% +/-
83	5,836		
84	5,982	146	2.5%
85	5,709	(273)	-4.6%
86	5,288	(421)	-7.4%
87	5,234	(54)	-1.0%
88	5,273	39	0.7%
89	5,348	75	1.4%
90	5,410	62	1.2%
91	5,437	27	0.5%
92	5,478	41	0.8%
93	5,691	213	3.9%
94	5,651	(40)	-0.7%
95	5,796	145	2.6%
96	5,545	(251)	-4.3%
97	5,787	242	4.4%
98	6,012	225	3.9%
99	5,919	(93)	-1.5%
00	6,137	218	3.7%
01	5,982	(155)	-2.5%
02	5,997	15	0.3%
03	5,957	(40)	-0.7%
04	5,989	32	0.5%
05	6,088	99	1.7%
06	6,599	511	8.4%
07	6,608	9	0.1%
08	6,592	(16)	-0.2%
09	6,431	(161)	-2.4%
10	5,976	(455)	-7.1%
11	6,432	456	7.6%
12	6,822	390	6.1%
13	6,817	(5)	-0.1%
14	7,077	260	3.8%
15	6,962	(115)	-1.6%
16	6,732	(230)	-3.3%
17	7,032	300	4.5%
18	6,672	(360)	-5.1%
19	6,857	185	2.8%
20	6,915	58	0.8%
21	6,767	(148)	-2.1%
22	7,003	236	3.5%
23	7,515	512	7.3%
24	7,359	(156)	-2.1%
25	7,365	6	0.1%
26	7,364	(1)	0.0%



**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.