

TEXAS LABOR MARKET REVIEW

MAY 2025

The Texas Labor Market Review brings you the most current labor market highlights and happenings across the Lone Star State. The information that follows is produced and published on a monthly basis and includes data on nonagricultural job trends, the labor force, job postings, and other relevant indicators for both the state and sub-state areas. Additional data and historical information is available at TexasLMI.com.

April 2025 Monthly Indicators

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT



37,700 jobs

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JOB ADS INDEX



0.1%

Page 8

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



0.0 points

Page 5

INITIAL UI CLAIMS



1,196 claims

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Statewide Industry Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

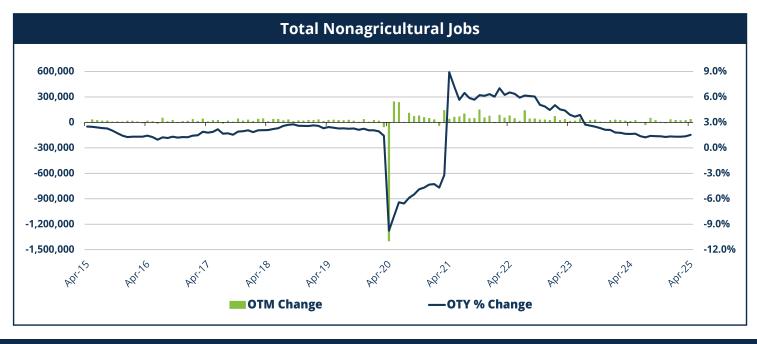
Growth in Total Nonfarm employment accelerated to 37,700 positions over the month in April, which marked the largest monthly increase since a gain of 50,800 jobs in August 2024. This series has marked 39 new series-high job counts in the last 43 months—including each of the last five—which brought employment to a level of 14,320,100.

Total Nonfarm employment rose by 215,500 positions over the year for an annual growth rate of 1.5 percent, the highest rate recorded since a mark of 1.7 percent in May 2024. Nine of the 11 major industries added jobs over the month, all 11 expanded over the year as of April, and six reached new series employment highs.

Industry	Apr 2025	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonagricultural	14,320,100	37,700	215,500	1.5
Total Private	12,173,600	34,000	177,900	1.5
Goods Producing	2,079,600	10,300	38,100	1.9
Mining and Logging	223,700	800	3,000	1.4
Construction	880,600	4,900	32,000	3.8
Manufacturing	975,300	4,600	3,100	0.3
Service Providing	12,240,500	27,400	177,400	1.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,805,500	6,300	37,200	1.3
Information	227,400	-200	800	0.4
Financial Activities	944,600	1,900	21,600	2.3
Professional and Business Services	2,145,700	10,900	25,100	1.2
Private Education & Health Services	1,965,700	7,400	40,000	2.1
Leisure and Hospitality	1,517,600	1,000	9,600	0.6
Other Services	487,500	-3,600	5,500	1.1
Government	2,146,500	3,700	37,600	1.8

Highlights

- Employment in Private Education and Health Services nearly matched a revised gain of 8,200 positions in March with an increase of 7,400 in April.
- The Construction industry job count surged by 4,900 over the month following a revised increase of 6,300 in March.
- Professional and Business Services led all major industries with 10,900 positions gained over the month in April.



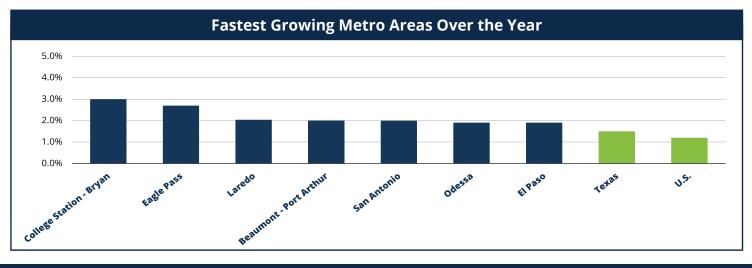
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Metro Areas (Seasonally Adjusted)

Metro Areas	Apr 2025	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Abilene MSA	78,900	-100	900	1.2
Amarillo MSA	131,200	500	2,300	1.8
Austin-Round Rock MSA	1,376,000	3,100	22,100	1.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur MSA	170,300	400	3,400	2.0
Brownsville-Harlingen MSA	164,600	300	2,700	1.7
College Station-Bryan MSA	147,200	900	4,300	3.0
Corpus Christi MSA	200,600	700	3,300	1.7
Dallas-FW-Arlington MSA	4,307,100	6,700	56,200	1.3
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	3,100,600	6,900	40,800	1.3
FW-Arlington-Grapevine MD	1,208,000	100	15,500	1.3
Eagle Pass MSA	18,800	0	500	2.7
El Paso MSA	358,100	1,400	6,700	1.9
Houston MSA	3,474,200	2,800	43,100	1.3
Killeen-Temple MSA	155,700	300	400	0.3
Laredo MSA	114,700	300	2,300	2.0
Longview MSA	122,600	200	500	0.4
Lubbock MSA	175,600	600	1,900	1.1
McAllen MSA	305,400	900	4,900	1.6
Midland MSA	127,100	1,100	2,300	1.8
Odessa MSA	84,000	0	1,600	1.9
San Angelo MSA	54,600	300	900	1.7
San Antonio MSA	1,201,300	6,800	23,100	2.0
Sherman-Denison MSA	54,200	100	600	1.1
Texarkana MSA	61,400	300	1,100	1.8
Tyler MSA	118,900	400	1,400	1.2
Victoria MSA	40,600	100	400	1.0
Waco MSA	144,400	100	2,400	1.7
Wichita Falls MSA	59800	200	200	0.3

Highlights

- Employment in 24 of 27 MAs expanded in April for a combined monthly increase of 28,800 jobs. Two MSAs experienced no change over the month, and one saw a monthly employment decline. As of April, all 27 areas experienced positive year-over-year job gains and 16 areas recorded annual growth rates at or above 1.6 percent.
- The Dallas-Plano-Irving MD added 6,900 positions in April, the most of any MA in Texas.
- The San Antonio-New Braunfels MSA posted an increase of 6,800 jobs in April, which added to a series of monthly job gains spanning 48 of the last 50 months.
- The College Station-Bryan MSA set a new series-high employment level for the eighth time in nine months with the addition of 900 jobs in April.
- The El Paso MSA matched or exceeded its previous serieshigh job count for the 12th straight time in April with the addition of 1,400 jobs.



CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Fastest Growing Metro Areas Over-the-Year (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Eagle Pass MSA				
Area Industry Composition		Industry	Annual Change	Annual % Change
		Total Nonagricultural	500	2.7
	1.6% ■	Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0
3.2% 1 9.1% 1		Manufacturing	0	0.0
		Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0
	0.5%	Information	0	0.0
	2.7%	Financial Activities	0	0.0
	4.3%	Professional & Business Services	100	14.3
	23.9%	Private Education & Health Services	100	2.3
	10.1%	Leisure & Hospitality	100	5.6
	1.1%	Other Services	0	0.0
	33.5%	Government	200	3.3

College Station-Bryan MSA				
Area Industry Composition		Industry	Annual Change	Annual % Change
		Total Nonagricultural	3,700	2.5
	5.2% ■	Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-1.3
	4.2%	Manufacturing	0	0.0
	12.8%	Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.5
	1.0%	Information	0	0.0
	3.3%	Financial Activities	100	2.1
	9.7%	Professional & Business Services	100	0.7
	10.9%	Private Education & Health Services	300	1.9
	14.6%	Leisure & Hospitality	1,600	8.0
	2.8%	Other Services	100	2.5
	35.6%	Government	1,500	2.9

El Paso MSA				
Area Industry Composition		Industry	Annual Change	Annual % Change
		Total Nonagricultural	7,200	2.1
	4.5%	Mining, Logging & Construction	200	1.3
	4.9%	Manufacturing	200	1.2
	21.1%	Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,300	1.8
	1.8%	Information	-200	-3.1
	4.1%	Financial Activities	100	0.7
	12.3%	Professional & Business Services	1,000	2.3
	15.6%	Private Education & Health Services	2,000	3.7
	11.9%	Leisure & Hospitality	600	1.4
	2.9%	Other Services	100	1.0
	21.1%	Government	1,900	2.6

Download CES data (including industry-level data) in Excel

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Texas & the U.S. (Seasonally Adjusted)

Texas April 2025

■ Employed 15,171,500

Unemployed 642,900



Date	CLF	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
April 2025	15,814,400	15,171,500	642,900	4.1
March 2025	15,778,500	15,137,600	641,000	4.1
April 2024	15,522,000	14,898,300	623,700	4.0

U.S. April 2025

Employed 163,944,000

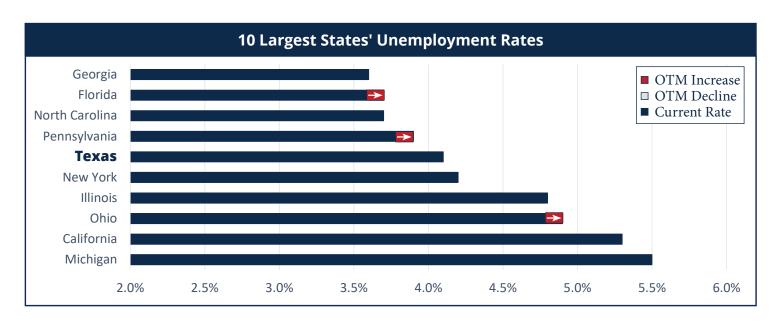
■ Unemployed 7,165,000



Date	CLF	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
April 2025	171,109,000	163,944,000	7,165,000	4.2
March 2025	170,591,000	163,508,000	7,083,000	4.2
April 2024	167,988,000	161,495,000	6,492,000	3.9

Highlights

- Over the month the Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 4.1 percent, one-tenth of a percentage point lower than the U.S. rate of 4.2 percent.
- The state's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate was 64.9 percent in April.
- Texas' seasonally adjusted LAUS employment was up 33,900 from last month.
- Summarizing the not seasonally adjusted estimates, the Texas unemployment rate decreased to 3.7 percent in April. This was 0.1 percentage points higher than the unemployment rate in April 2024.

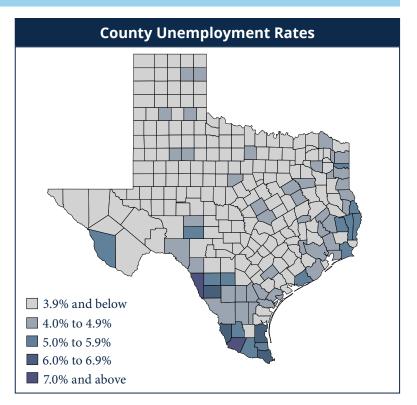


LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Substate Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

County Highlights

- Unemployment rates varied considerably across counties, ranging from a low of 1.2 percent in Upton County to a high of 10.6 percent in Maverick County.
- Sixty-nine counties had an unemployment rate of 3.0 percent or less.
- McMullen County experienced the largest unemployment rate decrease of 1.6 percentage points over the year.
- In April 2025, three counties experienced an increase in their unemployment rates over the month, while 248 counties experienced a decrease and three experienced no change.
- Over the year, the civilian labor force increased in 211 counties, while 43 counties in the state experienced a decline.



Texas Metro Areas Ranked by Unemployment Rate

Rank	Area	Rate	Rank	Area	Rate
1	Midland	2.6	14	Victoria	3.5
2	Amarillo	2.7	16	Texarkana	3.6
2	San Angelo	2.7		Texas	3.7
4	College Station-Bryan	2.9	17	Corpus Christi	3.8
5	Abilene	3.0		United States	3.9
5	Lubbock	3.0	18	El Paso	3.9
7	Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos	3.1	18	Houston-Pasadena-The Woodlands	3.9
7	Odessa	3.1	20	Longview	4.0
9	Wichita Falls	3.2	21	Killeen-Temple	4.1
10	Sherman-Denison	3.3	22	Laredo	4.5
10	Tyler	3.3	23	Beaumont-Port Arthur	4.6
10	Waco	3.3	24	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	5.5
13	San Antonio-New Braunfels	3.4	25	Brownsville-Harlingen	6.9
14	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	3.5	26	Eagle Pass	10.6

Metro Area Highlights

- Over the month, 25 MAs experienced a decrease in their unemployment rates while one experienced an increase.
- Over the year, four MAs saw a decrease in their unemployment rates, while 15 experienced an increase and seven experienced no change.

Download LAUS data in Excel

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY

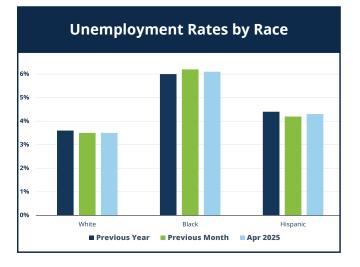
12-Month Moving Average State Unemployment Rates

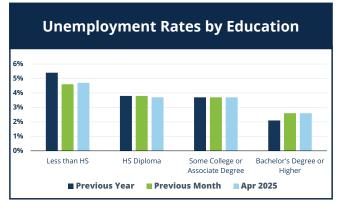
Unemployment Rates by Demographic

Sex (age 16+)	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2024
Female	4.3%	4.3%	4.0%
Male	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%
Age (16+)	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2024
Age 16-19	13.0%	13.0%	11.5%
Age 20-24	6.8%	6.5%	6.8%
Age 25-34	4.0%	4.0%	4.6%
Age 35-44	3.2%	3.3%	2.6%
Age 45-54	3.0%	3.0%	2.4%
Age 55-64	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%
Age 65+	2.7%	2.7%	3.8%
Race (age 16+)	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2024
White	3.5%	3.5%	3.6%
Black	6.1%	6.2%	6.0%
Hispanic	4.3%	4.2%	4.4%
Education (age 25+)	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2024
Less than High School	4.7%	4.6%	5.4%
High School Diploma	3.7%	3.8%	3.8%
Some College/Associate Degree	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2.6%	2.6%	2.1%
Other Categories (age 18+)	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2024
Veterans	1.9%	1.9%	2.7%

Highlights

- The unemployment rate for males increased by 0.1 percentage points over the year to a rate of 3.9 percent, while the rate for women increased by 0.3 percentage points to 4.3 percent.
- The veteran unemployment rate over the month remained at 1.9 percent in April.
- Individuals with some college education or associate degree had an unemployment rate of 3.7 percent. Those with a bachelor's degree and higher had an unemployment rate of 2.6 percent and those with a high school diploma had a rate of 3.7 percent.
- Of the new entrants into Texas' labor force in April, less were men (30,500) than women (35,500).

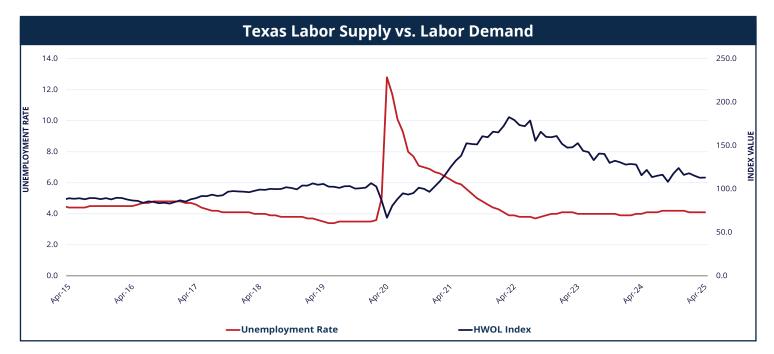




View notes on CPS data

HELP WANTED ONLINE

Statewide Online Job Ads Data (Seasonally Adjusted)



Highlights

- The Conference Board–Lightcast Help Wanted OnLine® (HWOL) Index increased over the month to 113.1 in April, a gain of 0.1 points.
- The April Supply/Demand rate was 1.2 unemployed for each advertised vacancy, with a total of 117,772 more unemployed workers than advertised vacancies.

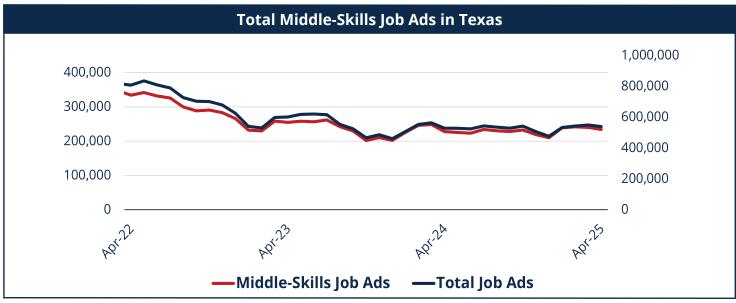
Top Employers by Postings

Employer	Apr 2025
CHRISTUS Health	6,358
HCA Healthcare	5,329
Domino's Pizza	4,838
Baylor Scott & White Health	3,443
State Of Texas	3,032
Walmart	2,584
Houston Methodist	2,457
AutoZone	2,309
Starbucks	2,167
H-E-B	2,103

Top Occupations by Postings

Occupation	Apr 2025
Registered Nurses	27,073
Retail Salespersons	17,807
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	11,573
Customer Service Representatives	11,030
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	10,729
Sales Reps, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	9,085
Software Developers	8,487
Fast Food and Counter Workers	7,476
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	7,312
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	7,163

DEMAND FOR MIDDLE-SKILLS JOBS



Source: Lightcast® and TWC Long Term Projections 2022-2032

Highlights

- Middle-Skill occupations require more education than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree.
- April Help Wanted OnLine® Middle-Skills Job Ads increased 2.7 percent over the year to 234,283.
- Job ads for Middle-Skill occupations represented 43.5 percent of all live postings in April.

Top Middle-Skills Employers by Postings

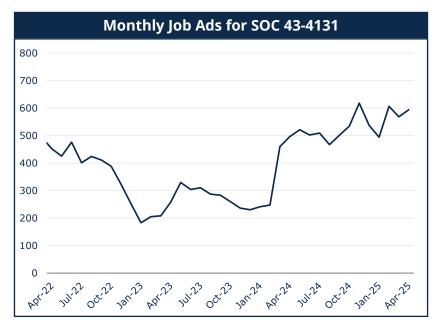
Employer	Apr 2025
CHRISTUS Health	4,569
HCA Healthcare	3,944
Domino's Pizza	3,403
Baylor Scott & White Health	2,117
State Of Texas	1,456
Houston Methodist	1,424
Memorial Hermann	1,219
Texas Health Resources	1,155
Methodist Health System	1,145
H-E-B	1,025

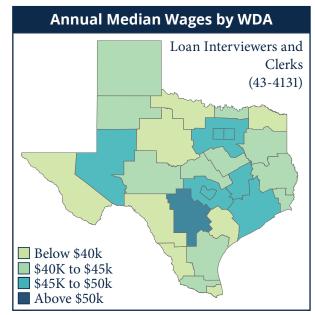
Top Middle-Skills Occupations by Postings

Occupation	Apr 2025
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Customer Service Representatives	11,030
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	10,729
Sales Reps, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	9,085
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	7,312
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	7,163
Food Service Managers	6,854
Sales Reps of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel	6,013
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	4,956
Driver/Sales Workers	4,490

OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE

Standard Occupational Classification: Loan Interviewers and Clerks (43-4131)

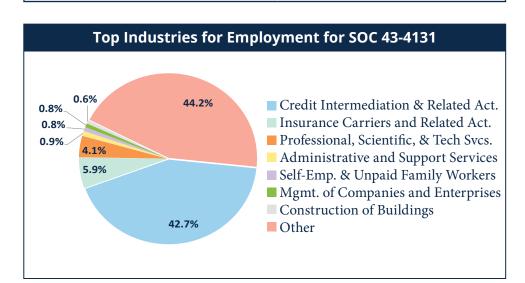




Job Description

- Process Loan Applications: Verify accuracy, interview applicants, and compile necessary documentation.
- Customer Service: Answer inquiries, advise on loan options, and communicate application status.
- Loan Administration & Closing: Prepare documents, schedule closings, and ensure compliance with loan terms.
- Financial Calculations & Analysis: Calculate interest, review costs, and evaluate collateral.
- Risk Assessment & Credit Management: Check credit history, establish limits, and monitor account payments.

Education, Experience & Training for SOC 43-4131 Typical education needed for entry: High school diploma or equivalent Work experience in a related occupation: None Typical training needed: Short-term on-the-job training



Occupational Outlook

- The 2023 median annual wage for this occupation in Texas is \$47,102, ranging from \$35,339 to \$51,329 among WDAs.
- Wages in the 90th percentile averaged \$63,154 in Texas.
- 2022-2032 Occupational Projections estimate this occupation will grow 12.2 percent in Texas, with high growth expected in North Central WDA at 47.0 percent.
- Job ads for this occupation have increased 130.2 percent since April 2023.
- Learn more: TexasLMI.com.

UNDERSTANDING THE ECONOMY

Data in Context

May Flowers: Texas Graduates have Opportunities to Bloom

by Mindy Vu

May can be an eventful month for many, as friends and families arrange celebrations and gifts while beloved graduates of all ages mark the end of a chapter and eagerly anticipate their future. Whether you're a high school student preparing to enter the workforce, a proud new owner of a 4-year degree, or somewhere in between or even beyond, new entrants to the Texas labor market can expect ample options post-graduation. Data from the Labor Market Information (LMI) department not only provides folks insight on current unemployment levels and job gains by industry, but also guidance on earnings by experience, and projected occupational growth.

Robust economic conditions in the state provide many job seekers with a well-equipped starting place for a flourishing career. The latest numbers indicate total nonfarm jobs in Texas rose by 37,700 over-themonth, with a seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 4.1 percent that was 0.1 percentage points lower than that of the U.S. Eight out of 11 supersector industries have seen consecutive annual gains in the past 12 months, with Private Education and Health Services adding the most jobs, and Construction growing the fastest over-the-year as of April 2025.



By 2032, these eight supersectors are expected to increase by a combined total of nearly 1.5 million jobs, as Private Education and Health Services leads the pack with a 10-year addition of 444,390 positions. At the four-digit industry level, Restaurants and Other Eating Places, Computer Systems Design and Related Services, and Elementary and Secondary Schools is forecasted to add the most jobs from 2022 to 2032, while Railroad Rolling Stock Manufacturing, Computer Systems Design and Related Services, and Warehousing and Storage will grow at the fastest rates. Across all industries and occupations, Texas is projected to add 2,109,298 jobs (or increase by 14.7 percent) from 2022.

"In 2023, more than 1.5 million Texans were enrolled at over 9,000 different universities, community/technical colleges, career schools and colleges, and health-related institutions."

Continued growth in the civilian labor force further suggests an attractive statewide job market as over-the-year change has remained positive for 56 months. A thriving workforce with the desire to develop their skillset and education is supported by the state's massive inventory of post-secondary options. In 2023, more than 1.5 million Texans were enrolled at over 9,000 different universities, community/technical colleges, career schools and colleges, and health-related institutions. Graduates from programs of all shapes and sizes will be greeted by career opportunities of both longevity and fair pay.

The fastest growing occupations that typically require more than a high school diploma – but less than a Bachelor's degree – and no work experience, include: Wind Turbine Service Technicians, Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, and Physical Therapist Assistants. Similarly, no work experience in a related occupation is needed for these professions adding the most jobs by 2032 that typically require a Bachelor's degree: Software Developers, Registered Nurses, and Accountants and Auditors. These top titles will not only expand by more than 1,000 jobs each, but also offer decent compensation as Veterinary Technologists and Technicians is the only position mentioned above that pays less than the statewide median annual rate of \$45,972.

Using mean annual wage data, 44.0 percent of occupations in Texas earn more than the statewide average of \$61,240 per year, allowing job seekers the ability to explore, and then blossom within their chosen vocation. Furnished with the tools and knowledge to succeed, the state's new entrants to the labor market are decidedly well-prepared for their employment journeys. The LMI numbers provided in this article and more can be found on <u>TexasLMI.com</u>.

KEY INDICATORS



The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is an index of the variation in prices paid by typical consumers for retail goods and other items.

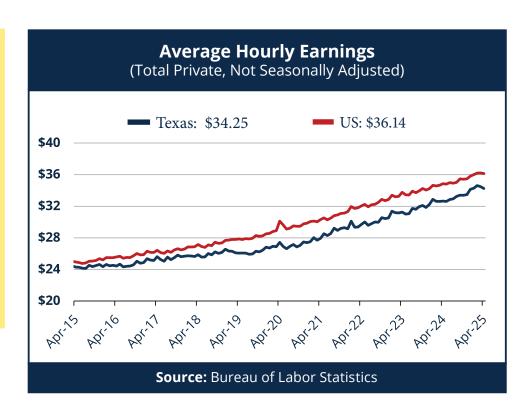
Highlights

- Houston-The Woodlands -Sugar Land CPI annual growth rate increased by 0.2 percentage points from the previous reading to 1.2 percent in April, 1.1 percentage points lower than the U.S city average of 2.3 percent.
- Since April 2024, Food increased by 2.6 percent while Motor fuel decreased by 13.5 percent.

Highlights

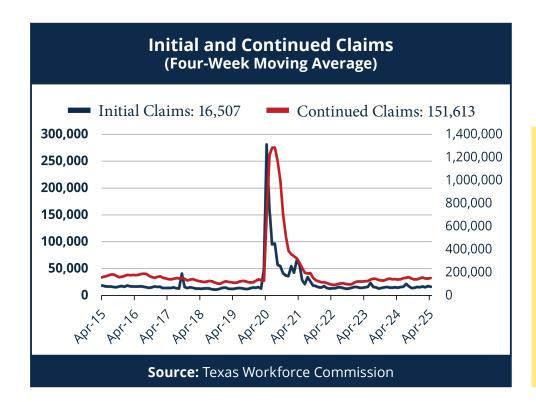
- AHE for Texas employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by \$1.59 over the year to \$34.25, an increase of 4.9 percent.
- Over the year, Texas AHE increased by 4.8 percent in the Goods Producing Sector and by 4.9 percent in the Private Service Providing sector.
- U.S. AHE increased by \$1.28 over the year to \$36.14, an increase of 3.7 percent.

Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of hours and payrolls for all employees.



Download Key Indicators data in Excel

KEY INDICATORS



Initial Claims refers to the number of requests for unemployment benefits; a person can file multiple claims. Continued Claims is the number of claimants receiving benefits.

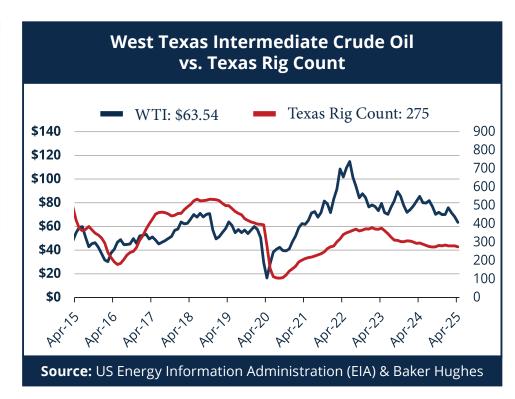
Highlights

- Over the month, the fourweek moving average decreased by 1,196 claims to 16,507 for initial claims and increased by 4,610 claims to 151,613 for continued claims.
- Over the year, the four-week moving average increased by 10.6 percent for initial claims and by 9.5 percent for continued claims.

Highlights

- In April, the West Texas Intermediate Spot Price averaged \$63.54, a decrease of \$4.70 over the month and \$21.81 over the year.
- Rig count in Texas decreased by 6 over the month and decreased by 21 rigs over the year, averaging 275 rigs in April.

West Texas Intermediate is a crude oil stream produced in Texas and southern Oklahoma that serves as reference for pricing a number of other streams. Rig Count refers to a weekly census of drilling rigs that are actively exploring for or developing oil or natural gas in the United States and Canada.



Download Key Indicators data in Excel

GLOSSARY

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES)

- **Nonagricultural Jobs:** The total number of persons on establishment payrolls employed full or part time. Persons on the payroll of more than one establishment are counted in each. Data exclude proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family or volunteer workers, farm workers, and domestic workers. Government employment only covers civilian employees.
- Actual or Not Seasonally Adjusted: Describes data series not subject to the seasonal adjustment process. In other words, the effects of regular, or seasonal, patterns have not been removed from these series.
- **Seasonally Adjusted**: Effects of regular, or seasonal, patterns of hiring or layoffs (holidays, weather, etc.) have been removed from these series. These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other non-seasonal movements in a data series.

HELP WANTED ONLINE (HWOL)

- **Supply-Demand Rate:** Ratio measuring the number of unemployed persons per HWOL job openings.
- **Middle-Skills Jobs:** Jobs requiring more than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree.

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

- **Employed:** All persons 16 years and over who, during the reference week, (a) did any work (at least one hour) as paid employees, worked on their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid family workers, or (b) were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Each employed person is counted only once, even if the person holds more than one job.
- **Unemployed:** All persons aged 16 years and over who had no employment, but were available for work and had made specific efforts to find employment. Includes persons who were waiting to be recalled to jobs from which they had been laid off.
- <u>Civilian Labor Force (CLF)</u>: All persons classified as employed or unemployed.
- **Unemployment Rate:** The unemployed number divided by the civilian labor force number.

OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT & WAGE STATISTICS (OEWS)

- Mean Wage: The average wage, calculated by summing the wages of all the employees in an occupation and dividing the sum by the number of employees.
- Percentile Wage: The wage below which a certain percentage of employees in an occupation earn. E.g., 25th Percentile Wage: 25 percent of employees in an occupation earn at or below this wage.
- **Median Wage:** A percentile wage boundary demarcating the 50th percentile; half of employees in an occupation earn more than the median wage, and half earn less than the median wage.
- Standard Occupational Classification: A hierarchical taxonomy that assigns a numeric code to an occupation according to tasks performed. This allows narrowly defined occupations to be grouped together at higher levels of aggregation reflecting common functions among similar occupations.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA):
 Geographic area containing 1+ urban center with a population of 50,000+, plus adjacent territory with high social/economic integration with the urban center. In Texas, an MSA consists of 1+ counties.
- **Metropolitan Division (MD):** Smaller areas within a large MSA. The MSA must have a population of 2.5 million+ to be subdivided into Metropolitan Divisions (MDs).
- Metro Area (MA): Refers to either an MSA or MD. Texas has 25 MSAs, including the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA, which is subdivided into two MDs.
- Workforce Development Area (WDA): The State of Texas is divided into 28 local workforce development areas.

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