

Austin County

Labor Market Information

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County Employment Data*

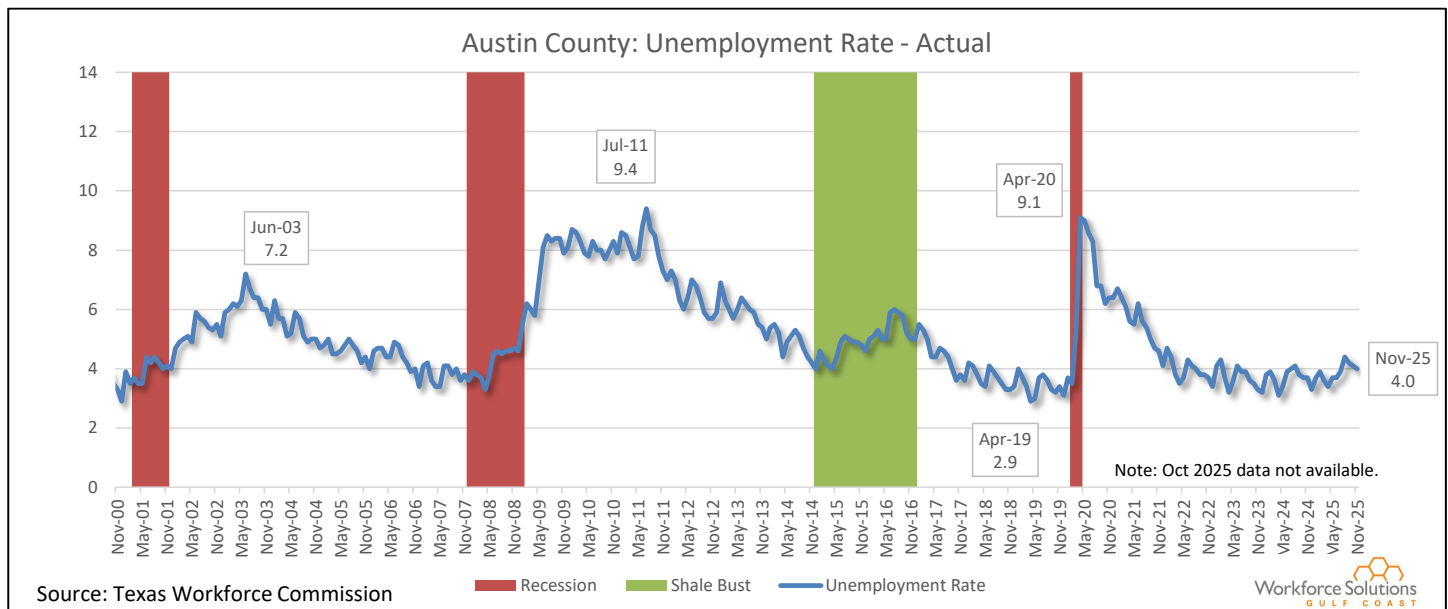
Austin County's unemployment rate measured **4.0 percent in November 2025**, representing a **0.3 percentage-point increase** from one year earlier. Despite the increase, the local rate remained slightly lower than broader labor market conditions, compared with the **Texas rate (4.2 percent)** and the **national rate (4.3 percent)**. October unemployment data were unavailable due to reporting delays associated with the federal government shutdown.

The county recorded a **second-quarter employment loss for the first time since 2020**, declining by **86 jobs (-0.6 percent)**. Historically, Austin County experiences average **second-quarter employment gains of 2.6 percent**, based on records dating back to 2003. Employment movement was mixed throughout the quarter, with no clear directional trend. Two industry sectors accounted for the majority of the decline: **Leisure and Hospitality**, down **144 jobs (-13.7 percent)**—driven primarily by losses in *Food Services and Drinking Places*—and **Local Government**, down **113 jobs (-7.4 percent)**, largely attributable to declines in *Elementary and Secondary Schools*.

On a year-over-year basis, total payroll employment increased by **275 jobs**, though the annual growth rate moderated to **2.1 percent**, down from **5.0 percent** in the previous quarter. **Eight of the eleven major industry sectors** recorded employment gains over the year. The largest contributors to annual growth were **Construction** (+148 jobs; +14.5 percent), **Manufacturing** (+147 jobs; +7.5 percent), and **Information** (+95 jobs; +45.2 percent). Significant job losses occurred in **Leisure and Hospitality** (-178 jobs; -16.4 percent) and **Education and Health Services** (-95 jobs; -7.2 percent).

Additional details are provided on **pages 2–7**.

	NOV 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2024
Civilian Labor Force	15,773	NA	15,425
Employed	15,146	NA	14,851
Unemployed	627	NA	574
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	NA	3.7%
Comparative Actual Rates			
Texas	4.2%	NA	4.1%
U.S.	4.3%	NA	4.0%



*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 2nd quarter 2025 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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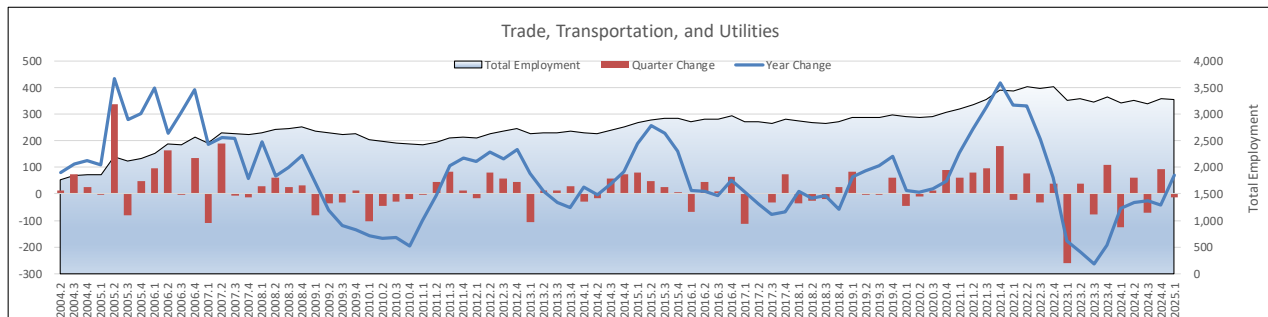
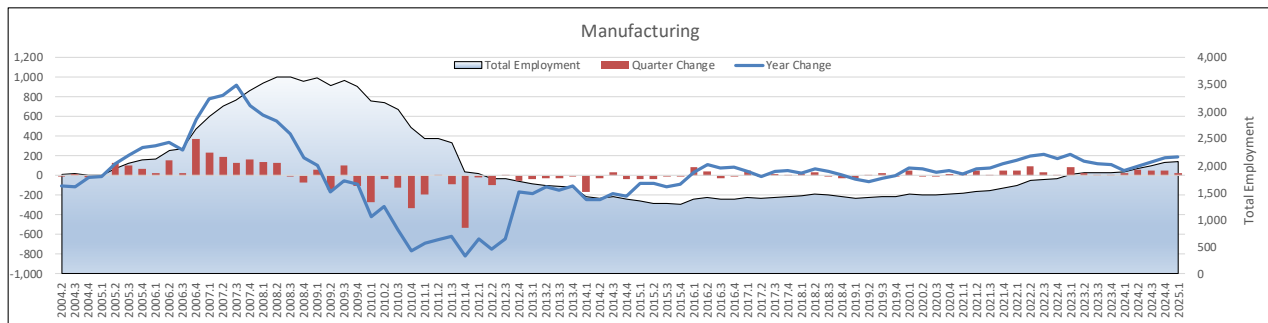
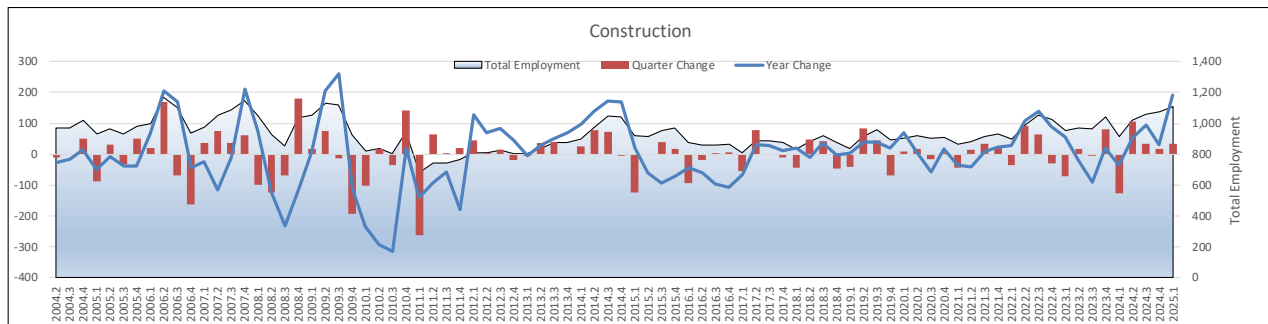
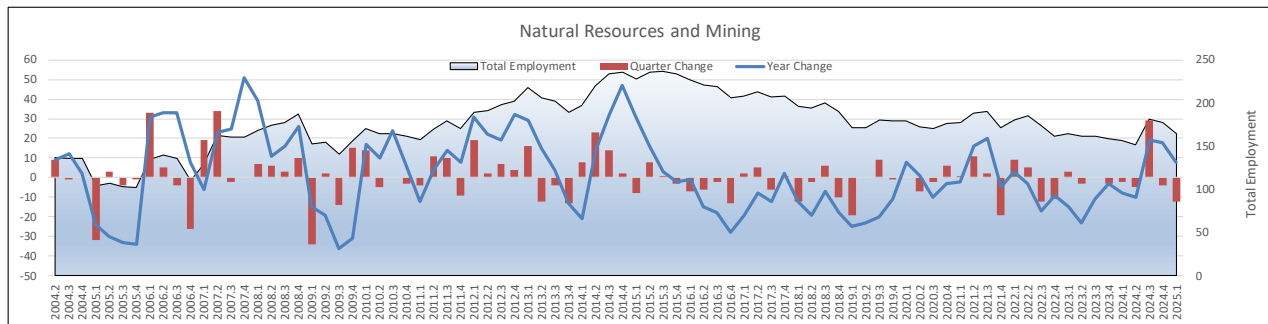
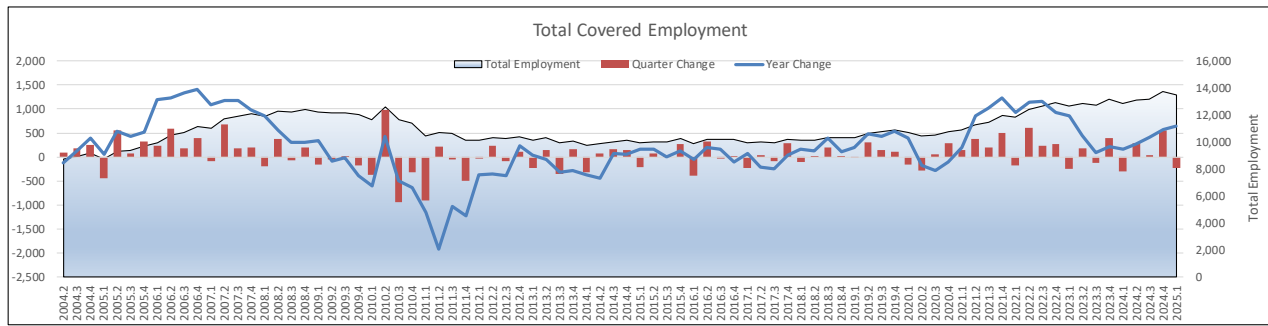
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COVERED EMPLOYMENT Industrial Sector	Number of Jobs			Quarter Chg		Annual Chg		Avg Wkly Wage*
	2ND QTR 2025	1ST QTR 2025	2ND QTR 2024	Actual	%	Actual	%	
Total Employment	13,407	13,493	13,132	-86	-0.6%	275	2.1%	\$ 1,395
Natural Resources & Mining	166	165	152	1	0.6%	14	9.2%	\$ 1,104
Construction	1,170	1,107	1,022	63	5.7%	148	14.5%	\$1,314
Manufacturing	2,095	2,072	1,948	23	1.1%	147	7.5%	\$ 1,356
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3,324	3,269	3,260	55	1.7%	64	2.0%	\$1,385
Information	305	302	210	3	1.0%	95	45.2%	\$ 3,131
Financial Activities	818	793	803	25	3.2%	15	1.9%	\$1,627
Professional & Business Services	1,472	1,466	1,401	6	0.4%	71	5.1%	\$ 2,095
Education & Health Services	1,218	1,241	1,313	-23	-1.9%	-95	-7.2%	\$1,596
Leisure & Hospitality	910	1,054	1,088	-144	-13.7%	-178	-16.4%	\$ 599
Other Services	270	276	260	-6	-2.2%	10	3.8%	\$1,053
Nonclassifiable	79	57	45	22	38.6%	34	75.6%	\$ 1,726
Public Administration	1,579	1,690	1,629	-111	-6.6%	-50	-3.1%	\$911
Federal Government	72	70	75	2	2.9%	-3	-4.0%	\$ 1,520
State Government	87	87	72	0	0.0%	15	20.8%	\$1,132
Local Government	1,420	1,533	1,482	-113	-7.4%	-62	-4.2%	\$ 871

*Wages compiled from 1st quarter 2025 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.

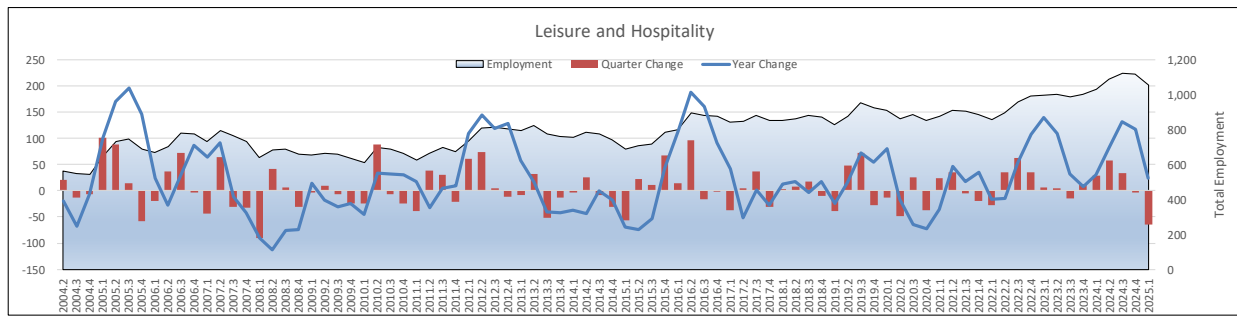
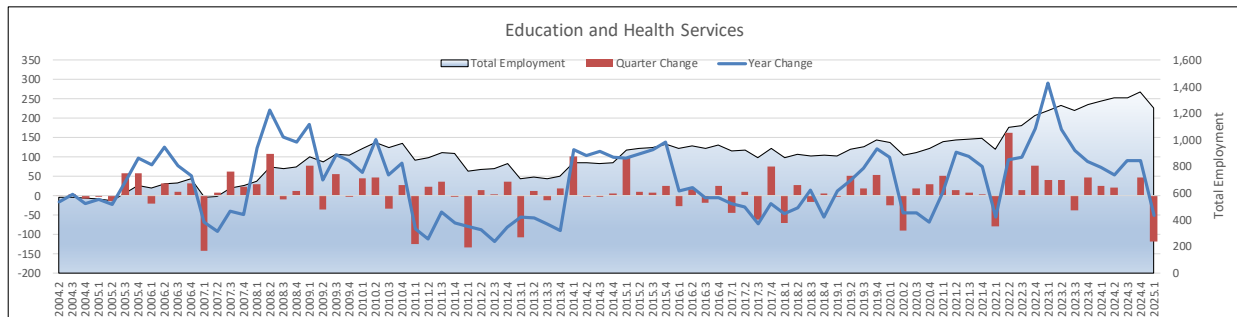
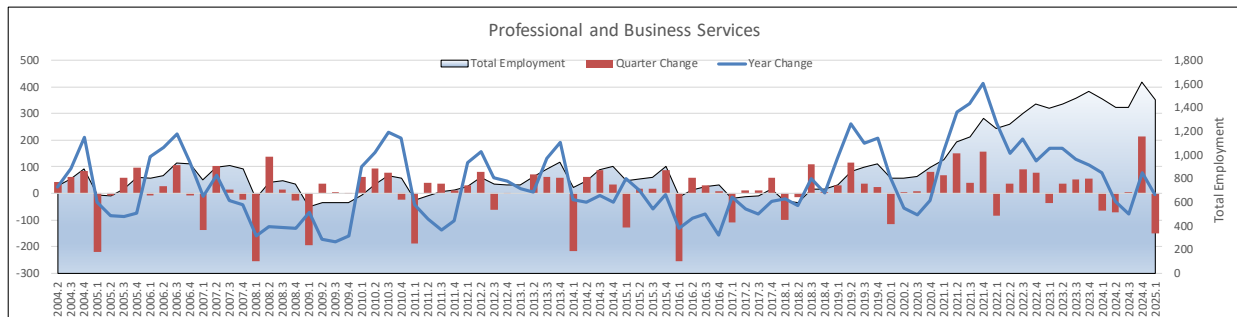
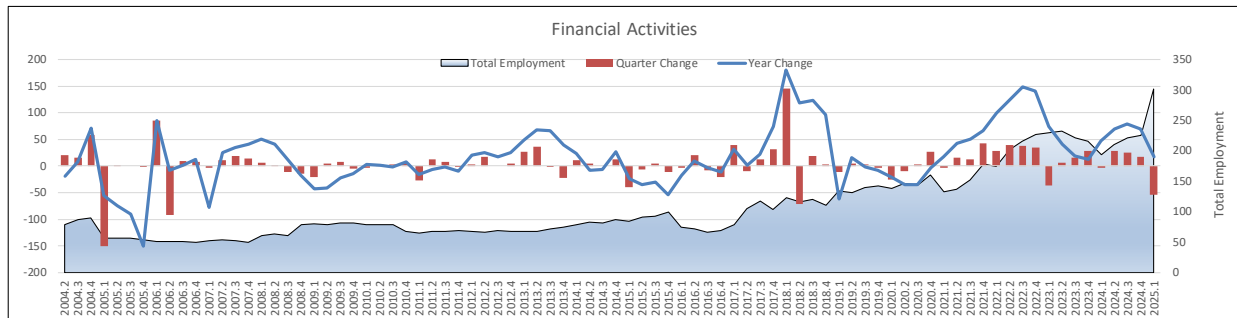
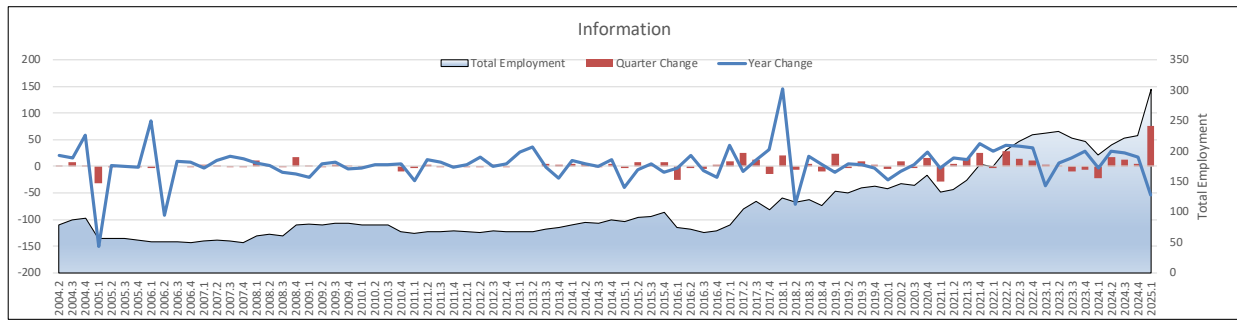
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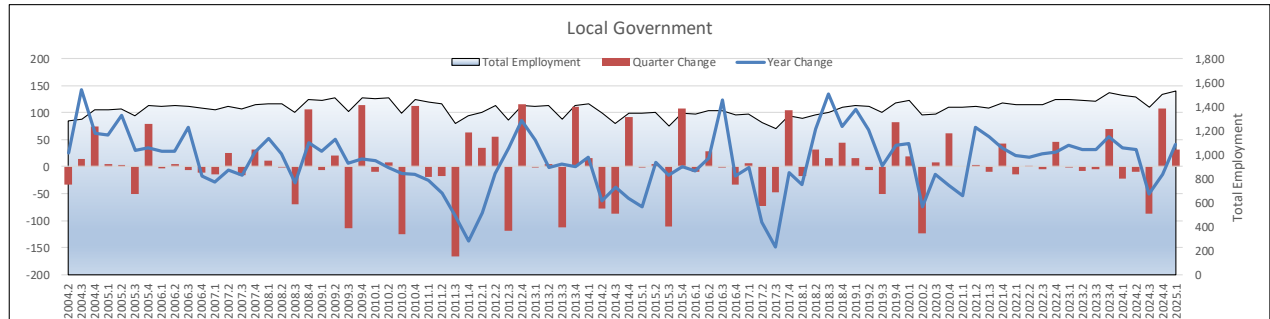
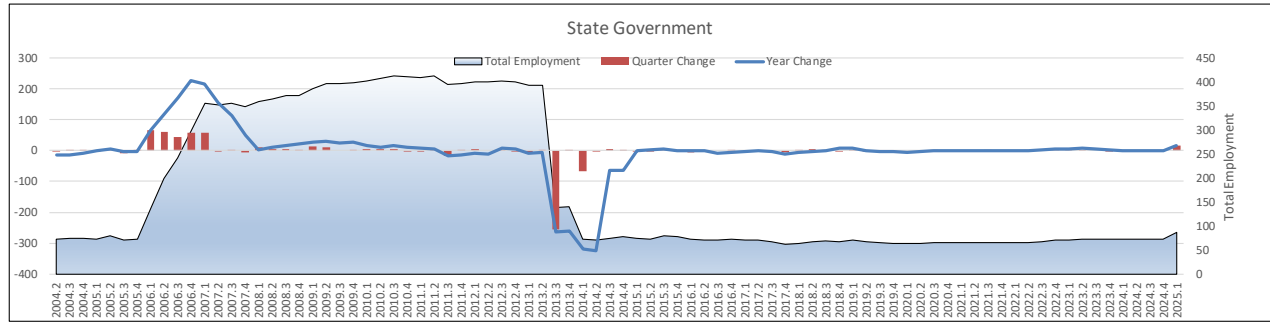
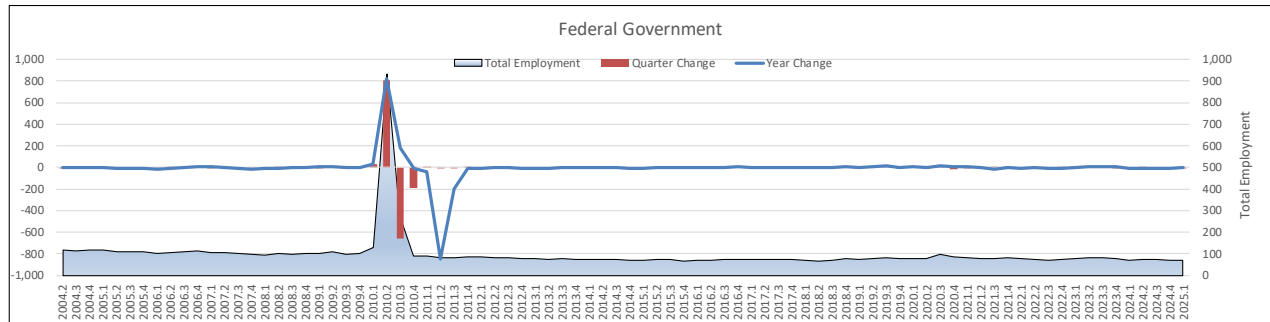
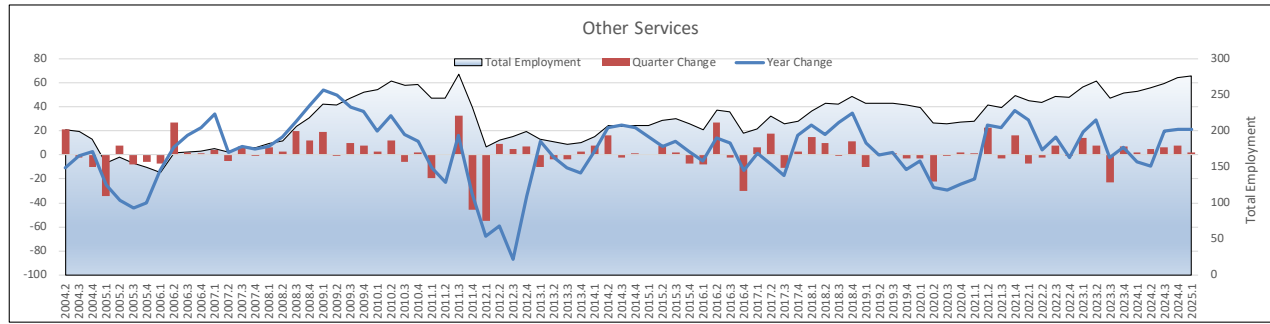
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Historical Employment Highlights

	All-Time High	All-Time High Quarter	All-Time Low	All-Time Low Qtr
Total	13,719	2024.4	8,683	2004.1
Natural Resources and Mining	237	2015.3	102	2005.4
Construction	1,168	2006.2	679	2011.1
Manufacturing	3,645	2008.2	1,284	2015.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	3,516	2022.4	1,688	2003.2
Information	302	2025.1	49	2006.4
Financial Activities	847	2024.4	347	2006.2
Professional and Business Services	1,615	2024.4	559	2009.1
Education and Health Services	1,359	2024.4	543	2005.2
Leisure and Hospitality	1,122	2024.3	542	2004.1
Other Services	279	2011.3	142	2006.1
Federal Government	933	2010.2	68	2015.4
State Government	413	2010.3	61	2017.4
Local Government	1,533	2025.1	1,155	2003.3

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	1st Qtr Avg Chg #	1st Qtr Avg Chg %	2nd Qtr Avg Chg #	2nd Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	-206	-1.9%	277	2.6%
Natural Resources and Mining	0	0.7%	4	2.8%
Construction	-47	-4.7%	40	4.6%
Manufacturing	3	0.3%	23	1.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	-23	-1.1%	53	2.3%
Information	-1	-1.0%	4	3.5%
Financial Activities	-3	0.2%	2	0.5%
Professional and Business Services	-93	-9.9%	49	6.8%
Education and Health Services	-21	-2.1%	21	2.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	-11	-1.1%	37	5.2%
Other Services	-4	-1.6%	8	4.1%
Federal Government	0	-0.6%	38	29.8%
State Government	4	3.2%	4	2.4%
Local Government	1	0.1%	-8	-0.5%

Average Change from Previous Quarter

	3rd Qtr Avg Chg #	3rd Qtr Avg Chg %	4th Qtr Avg Chg #	4th Qtr Avg Chg %
Total	-8	0.0%	158	1.4%
Natural Resources and Mining	1	0.6%	-3	-1.6%
Construction	7	0.8%	6	1.1%
Manufacturing	11	0.5%	-29	-1.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5	0.3%	52	1.8%
Information	3	2.4%	2	2.1%
Financial Activities	8	1.4%	9	1.5%
Professional and Business Services	38	4.8%	42	4.3%
Education and Health Services	3	0.8%	27	3.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	12	1.6%	-16	-2.1%
Other Services	1	0.4%	-2	-0.7%
Federal Government	-29	-2.5%	-9	-3.1%
State Government	-9	-1.4%	2	0.5%
Local Government	-57	-4.1%	76	5.8%

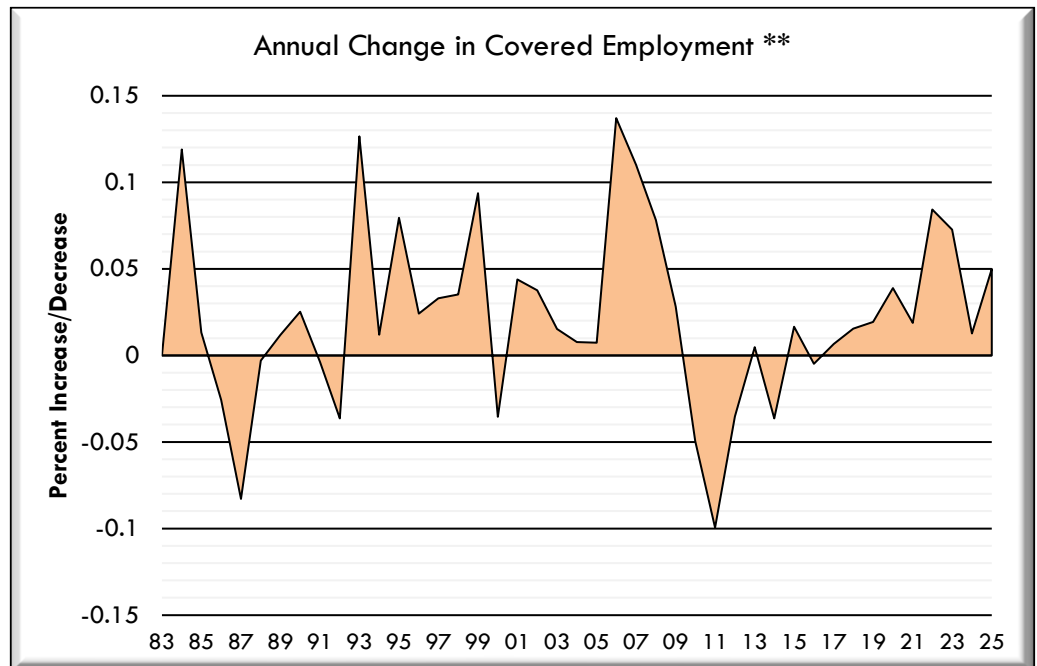
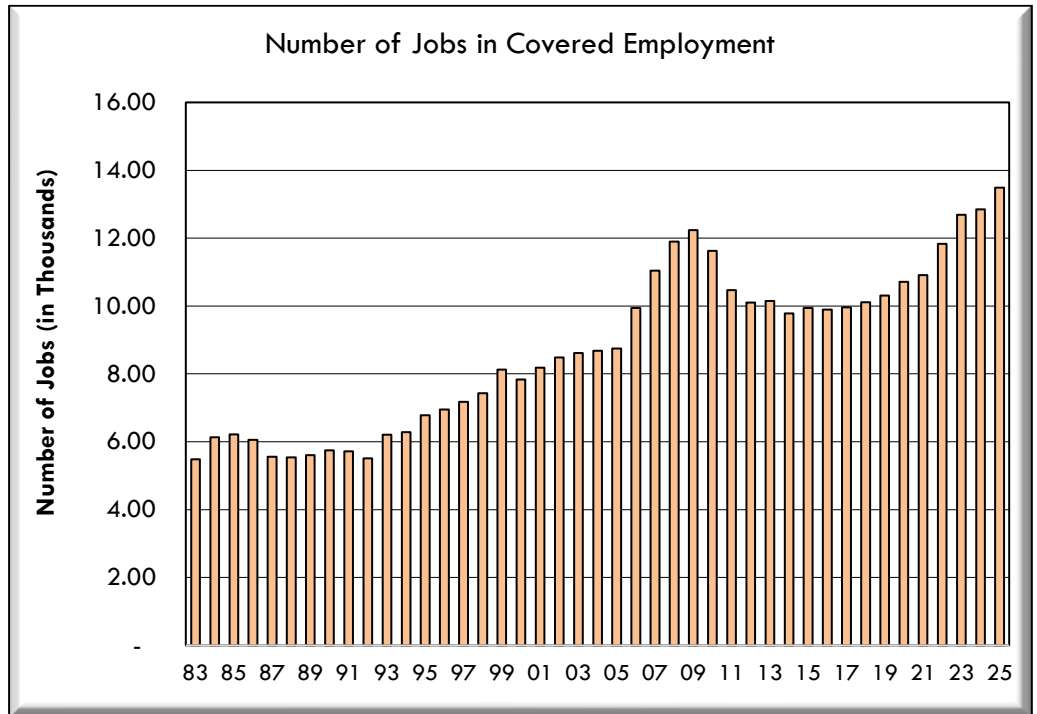
Covered employment data compiled from contribution and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers' subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Source: Texas Workforce Commission in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Historical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

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Austin County 1983-2025 Covered Employment**

YEAR	JOBS	+ / (-)	% +/-
83	5,482		
84	6,134	652	11.9%
85	6,215	81	1.3%
86	6,055	(160)	-2.6%
87	5,553	(502)	-8.3%
88	5,536	(17)	-0.3%
89	5,601	65	1.2%
90	5,742	141	2.5%
91	5,720	(22)	-0.4%
92	5,512	(208)	-3.6%
93	6,209	697	12.6%
94	6,283	74	1.2%
95	6,782	499	7.9%
96	6,946	164	2.4%
97	7,175	229	3.3%
98	7,427	252	3.5%
99	8,123	696	9.4%
00	7,835	(288)	-3.5%
01	8,179	344	4.4%
02	8,487	308	3.8%
03	8,615	128	1.5%
04	8,683	68	0.8%
05	8,746	63	0.7%
06	9,944	1,198	13.7%
07	11,038	1,094	11.0%
08	11,900	862	7.8%
09	12,235	335	2.8%
10	11,630	(605)	-4.9%
11	10,473	(1,157)	-9.9%
12	10,103	(370)	-3.5%
13	10,150	47	0.5%
14	9,780	(370)	-3.6%
15	9,942	162	1.7%
16	9,893	(49)	-0.5%
17	9,959	66	0.7%
18	10,113	154	1.5%
19	10,309	196	1.9%
20	10,709	400	3.9%
21	10,909	200	1.9%
22	11,829	920	8.4%
23	12,688	859	7.3%
24	12,850	162	1.3%
25	13,493	643	5.0%



**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. Data source: 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** 2024 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	\$45.18	\$93,971	27,680
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$27.04	\$56,235	14,890
19-4021	Biological Technicians	\$25.05	\$52,098	1,870
43-3031	Bookkeepers, Acctg and Auditing Clerks	\$24.62	\$51,211	28,210
49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$29.78	\$61,932	6,510
53-3052	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	\$23.45	\$48,772	3,260
13-1020	Buyers and Purchasing Agents	\$39.83	\$82,839	9,420
47-2031	Carpenters	\$24.91	\$51,806	9,590
41-2011	Cashiers	\$14.07	\$29,273	62,770
39-9011	Childcare Workers	\$14.17	\$29,467	13,190
17-2051	Civil Engineer	\$53.01	\$110,264	11,330
15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists	\$28.97	\$60,262	11,360
47-2061	Construction Laborers	\$20.10	\$41,802	33,540
35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	\$16.33	\$33,958	7,620
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	\$15.97	\$33,215	32,510
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	\$20.38	\$42,385	64,870
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	\$39.15	\$81,435	3,310
47-3013	Electrician Helpers	\$21.58	\$44,897	1,940
47-2111	Electricians	\$28.40	\$59,077	18,100
43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	\$35.86	\$74,596	7,400
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	\$12.76	\$26,537	91,450
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$34.90	\$72,590	40,050
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	\$24.00	\$49,913	21,900
35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	\$15.25	\$31,728	23,480
11-9051	Food Service Managers	\$37.16	\$77,300	3,640
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	\$66.54	\$138,394	107,460
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	\$19.02	\$39,552	5,520
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics	\$28.68	\$59,648	7,090
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$33.43	\$69,541	18,750
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operator	\$21.96	\$45,678	24,150
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$15.20	\$31,618	47,750
53-7062	Laborers and Freight Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$18.93	\$39,380	53,740
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$30.06	\$62,530	11,660
11-9081	Lodging Managers	\$44.31	\$92,155	490
51-4041	Machinists	\$28.61	\$59,501	7,640
11-2021	Marketing Managers	\$75.16	\$156,330	9,250
31-9092	Medical Assistants	\$20.17	\$41,949	16,880
49-3042	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	\$31.75	\$66,044	5,460
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	\$18.70	\$38,892	19,970
19-5011	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	\$40.82	\$84,898	5,200
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	\$19.61	\$40,780	46,500
29-1051	Pharmacists	\$65.44	\$136,114	6,310
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	\$29.24	\$60,814	11,280
33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$35.89	\$74,659	16,170
43-5061	Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	\$26.87	\$55,891	8,140
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$16.93	\$35,212	19,050
29-1141	Registered Nurses	\$46.42	\$96,552	66,090
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	\$16.25	\$33,805	77,290
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	\$24.28	\$50,512	5,900
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, except Technical and Scientific Products	\$38.17	\$79,398	24,900
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	\$22.01	\$45,783	34,340
33-9032	Security Guards	\$18.27	\$37,994	27,390
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	\$18.19	\$37,829	64,370
53-1047	Supervisors of Transportation and Material Moving Workers, Exc. Aircraft Cargo Handling	\$31.12	\$64,727	13,970
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy on Tractor-Trailer	\$27.46	\$57,112	50,120
53-3033	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	\$23.24	\$48,334	17,180
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$27.16	\$56,496	18,010

*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. **The Gulf Coast Region is defined as Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton Counties.