

DECEMBER 2024

Current Employment Overview



On January 24, 2025, the Texas Workforce Commission released employment statistics for **December 2024**. Our detailed regional report for researchers and analysts is at <http://www.wrksolutions.com/LocalStats>. Below are highlights.

4.1%

DECEMBER Regional Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

- Represents 152,847 people looking for a job
- **DOWN** from a peak of 13.5% in April 2020
- **DOWN** from 4.5% last month
- **UP** from 3.8% last year
- **HIGHER** than the statewide rate of 3.7%
- **HIGHER** than the national rate of 3.8%

Monthly Change – Employers in the Houston region added 5,700 jobs over the month below the historical average of 10,400 each December pre-pandemic, but comparable to the average of 4,700 since 2020.

- The top-3 drivers of over-the-month Job growth this December were:
 - Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: +6,900
 - Other Services: +1,300
 - Government: +700

Year-over-Year Change – Total Nonfarm employment was up 57,800 jobs or 1.7%

- A year prior, growth stood at 102,900; growth throughout 2025 is expected to continue 2024's trend of returning to pre-pandemic levels of 60,000 to 70,000 jobs.
- Currently, all 11 sectors show over-the-year growth led by Construction, Private Education and Health Services, and Financial Activities.

The Texas Workforce Commission will release January 2025 employment figures and 2024 benchmark revisions on March 14, 2025.

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Additional labor market data is available at <http://www.wrksolutions.com/for-employers/understand-the-local-labor-market>

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