

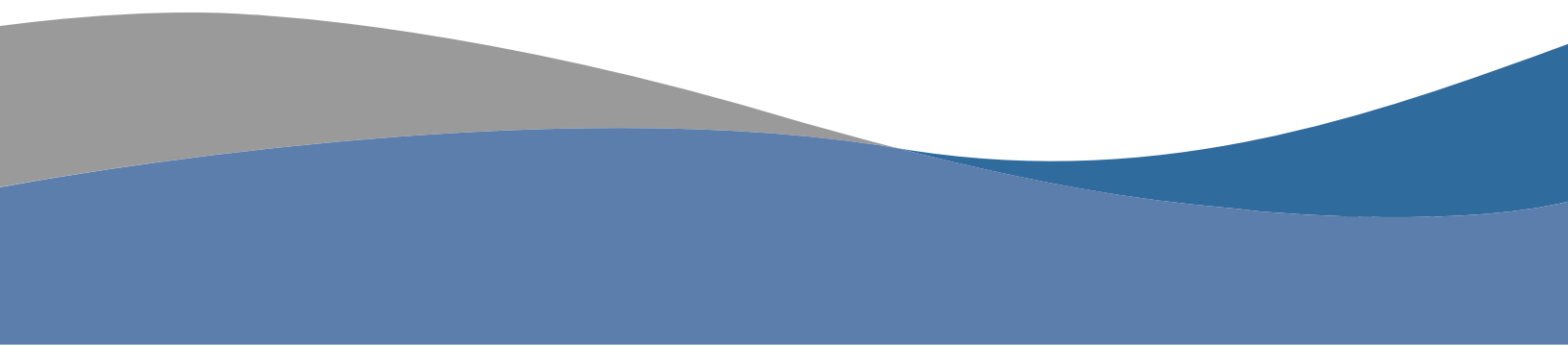


# Economic Overview

---

# Galveston County, Texas

---



Demographic Profile..... 3  
Employment Trends ..... 5  
Unemployment Rate ..... 5  
Wage Trends..... 6  
Cost of Living Index..... 7  
Industry Snapshot..... 8  
Occupation Snapshot ..... 10  
Industry Clusters..... 12  
Education Levels..... 13  
Gross Domestic Product..... 14  
Galveston County, Texas Regional Map ..... 16  
FAQ ..... 17

# Demographic Profile

The population in Galveston County, Texas was 358,990 per American Community Survey data for 2019-2023.

The region has a civilian labor force of 180,394 with a participation rate of 63.7%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Galveston County, Texas, 35.8% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 37.3% in the nation.

The median household income in Galveston County, Texas is \$86,105 and the median house value is \$314,600.

## Summary<sup>1</sup>

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Galveston County, Texas	Texas	USA	Galveston County, Texas	Texas	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	358,990	30,188,424	334,922,499
Male	49.3%	49.9%	49.5%	177,108	15,065,957	165,808,018
Female	50.7%	50.1%	50.5%	181,882	15,122,467	169,114,481
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	38.8	35.6	38.9
Under 18 Years	23.6%	25.0%	22.0%	84,684	7,544,648	73,517,834
18 to 24 Years	8.3%	9.7%	9.1%	29,852	2,926,302	30,597,362
25 to 34 Years	12.9%	14.5%	13.7%	46,157	4,366,602	45,806,540
35 to 44 Years	13.8%	14.1%	13.2%	49,400	4,251,075	44,237,292
45 to 54 Years	12.7%	12.3%	12.2%	45,627	3,701,286	40,743,799
55 to 64 Years	13.0%	11.1%	12.7%	46,666	3,342,259	42,386,044
65 to 74 Years	9.9%	8.2%	10.2%	35,604	2,479,193	34,092,907
75 Years and Over	5.8%	5.2%	7.0%	21,000	1,577,059	23,540,721
Race: White	60.3%	48.5%	61.0%	216,591	14,645,129	204,142,876
Race: Black or African American	12.3%	12.2%	12.2%	44,109	3,692,993	40,919,547
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.5%	0.7%	0.9%	1,950	223,484	3,095,754
Race: Asian	3.4%	5.6%	6.0%	12,211	1,683,136	19,937,283
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	297	29,658	631,517
Race: Some Other Race	5.0%	9.3%	7.1%	17,948	2,822,501	23,884,085
Race: Two or More Races	18.4%	23.5%	12.6%	65,884	7,091,523	42,311,437
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	26.4%	39.7%	19.3%	94,669	11,991,467	64,759,370
<b>Population Growth</b>						
Population (Pop Estimates) <sup>4</sup>	—	—	—	367,407	31,290,831	340,110,988
Population Annual Average Growth <sup>4</sup>	1.6%	1.5%	0.7%	5,396	432,774	2,172,466
People per Square Mile <sup>4</sup>	—	—	—	968.7	119.8	96.3
<b>Economic</b>						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	63.7%	65.1%	63.3%	180,394	15,233,563	170,199,520
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	82.5%	82.0%	83.2%	115,756	10,039,712	108,100,165
Work from Home	11.7%	14.4%	15.1%	19,724	2,051,250	24,042,489
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	935	121,089	1,293,756
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.3%	4.5%	4.1%	11,558	832,155	8,225,965
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	80.5%	78.7%	77.1%	9,308	654,566	6,341,643
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	\$86,105	\$78,476	\$80,734
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$44,946	\$40,752	\$44,673
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	27.9	26.7	26.4
Commute via Public Transportation	0.5%	0.9%	3.2%	808	125,840	5,157,401
<b>Educational Attainment, Age 25-64</b>						
No High School Diploma	9.9%	13.2%	9.8%	18,670	2,070,146	17,001,659
High School Graduate	21.6%	24.0%	24.8%	40,502	3,751,982	42,949,236
Some College, No Degree	22.3%	19.9%	18.9%	41,838	3,118,169	32,726,555

## Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Percent			Value		
	Galveston County, Texas	Texas	USA	Galveston County, Texas	Texas	USA
Associate's Degree	10.5%	8.0%	9.2%	19,643	1,257,895	15,888,163
Bachelor's Degree	24.3%	22.5%	23.1%	45,712	3,522,399	40,059,314
Postgraduate Degree	11.4%	12.4%	14.2%	21,485	1,940,631	24,548,748
<b>Housing</b>						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	161,868	12,128,515	143,775,355
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2,5</sup>	—	—	—	\$314,600	\$283,800	\$332,700
Homeowner Vacancy	1.5%	1.1%	0.9%	1,473	76,505	796,730
Rental Vacancy	8.9%	7.7%	5.5%	4,536	345,513	2,645,644
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	32.4%	37.4%	34.8%	45,522	4,113,561	45,017,354
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	67.6%	62.6%	65.2%	95,138	6,879,255	84,210,142
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	5.4%	5.4%	8.4%	7,600	598,470	10,793,323
<b>Social</b>						
Poverty Level (of all people)	11.7%	13.8%	12.5%	41,318	4,074,940	40,735,661
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	10.5%	11.4%	12.1%	14,723	1,249,131	15,572,114
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.4%	1.5%	1.3%	5,073	437,773	4,441,917
Disconnected Youth <sup>3</sup>	3.0%	3.0%	2.4%	542	52,066	430,721
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	29.3%	34.0%	33.9%	23,606	2,444,395	23,651,363
Uninsured	13.6%	17.1%	8.4%	48,254	5,085,788	27,734,911
With a Disability, Age 18-64	11.3%	10.3%	10.9%	24,161	1,872,593	21,803,902
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	53.5%	53.1%	48.5%	12,932	994,848	10,583,510
Foreign Born	10.2%	17.6%	14.1%	36,517	5,302,466	47,349,078
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	6.5%	13.0%	8.6%	22,029	3,666,736	27,139,643

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2020-2024, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

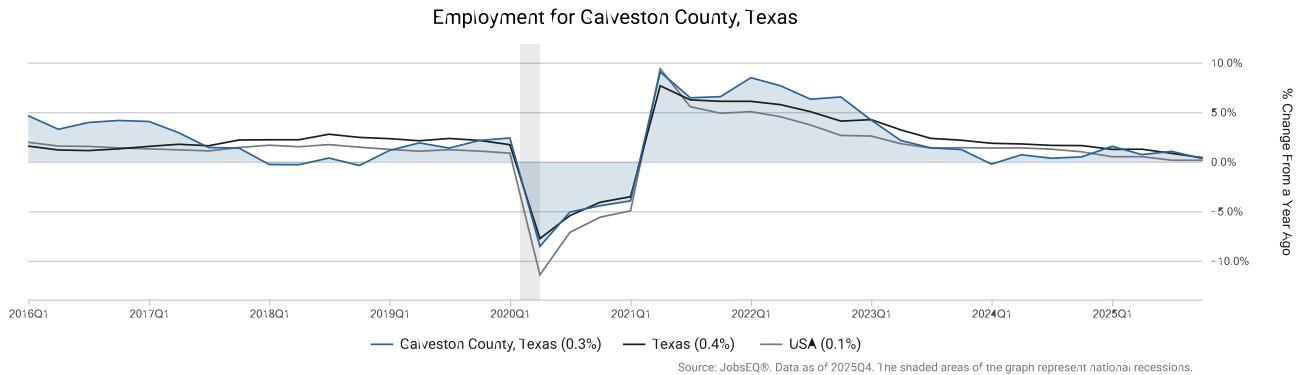
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census Population Estimate for 2024, annual average growth rate since 2014.

5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

# Employment Trends

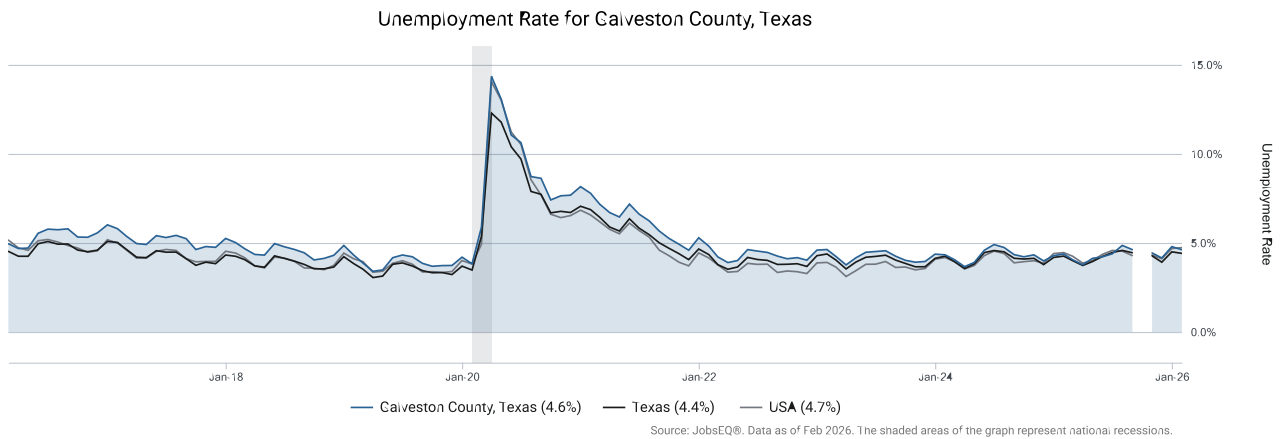
As of 2025Q4, total employment for Galveston County, Texas was 136,651 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2025Q4, employment increased 0.3% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q4.

# Unemployment Rate

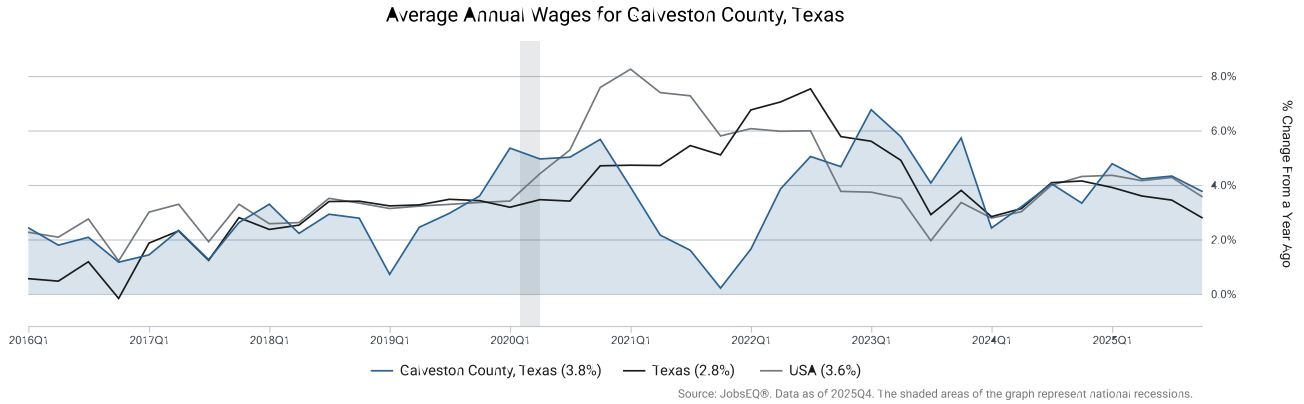
The unemployment rate for Galveston County, Texas was 4.6% as of February 2026. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 4.7%. One year earlier, in February 2025, the unemployment rate in Galveston County, Texas was 4.4%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through February 2026.

# Wage Trends

The average worker in Galveston County, Texas earned annual wages of \$62,716 as of 2025Q4. Average annual wages per worker increased 3.8% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$76,205 in the nation as of 2025Q4.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q4.

# Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 7.9% lower in Galveston County, Texas than the U.S. average.

## Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Galveston County, Texas	\$62,716	92.1	\$68,121
Texas	\$74,843	92.2	\$81,196
USA	\$76,205	100.0	\$76,205

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

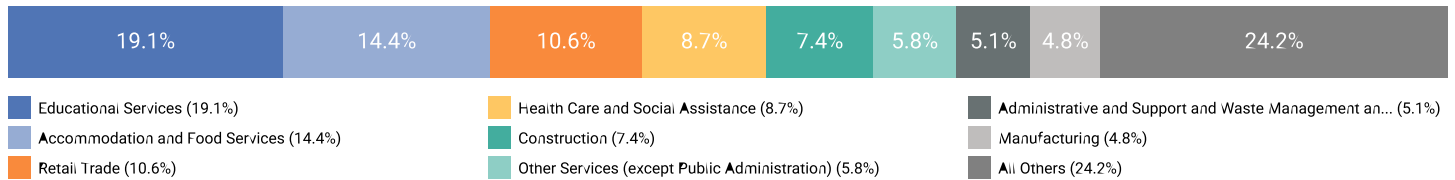
Data as of 2025Q4

Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2025Q4, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

# Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Galveston County, Texas is Educational Services, employing 26,067 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Accommodation and Food Services (19,658 workers) and Retail Trade (14,447). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Educational Services (LQ = 2.35), Accommodation and Food Services (1.66), and Other Services (except Public Administration) (1.36).

Total Workers for Galveston County, Texas by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®  
Data as of 2025Q4  
Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q4.

Sectors in Galveston County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Manufacturing (\$139,729), Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (\$135,736), and Wholesale Trade (\$98,616). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Accommodation and Food Services (+4,374 jobs), Educational Services (+3,696), and Transportation and Warehousing (+1,763).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Galveston County, Texas is projected to expand by 7,268 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +1.5% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Accommodation and Food Services (+1,154 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+944), and Educational Services (+929).

Galveston County, Texas, 2025Q4<sup>1</sup>

NAICS	Industry	Current			5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
61	Educational Services	26,067	\$73,765	2.35	3,696	3.1%	13,374	6,020	6,425	929	0.7%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	19,658	\$25,977	1.66	4,374	5.2%	18,586	7,747	9,686	1,154	1.1%
44	Retail Trade	14,447	\$38,497	1.10	145	0.2%	10,381	4,498	5,367	516	0.7%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	11,843	\$54,265	0.56	1,031	1.8%	7,007	3,027	3,037	944	1.5%
23	Construction	10,084	\$79,068	1.23	1,534	3.4%	4,947	1,721	2,557	669	1.3%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	7,895	\$47,133	1.36	1,349	3.8%	5,032	2,005	2,538	489	1.2%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	7,029	\$49,817	0.86	1,731	5.8%	4,380	1,740	2,277	363	1.0%
31	Manufacturing	6,573	\$139,729	0.62	396	1.3%	3,589	1,336	1,972	282	0.8%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	6,438	\$81,720	0.65	1,192	4.2%	3,063	1,050	1,562	452	1.4%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	6,006	\$59,398	0.87	1,763	7.2%	3,596	1,450	1,810	336	1.1%
92	Public Administration	5,391	\$74,346	0.84	985	4.1%	2,746	1,066	1,426	254	0.9%
52	Finance and Insurance	4,272	\$90,252	0.80	-437	-1.9%	2,008	746	1,023	239	1.1%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3,599	\$29,548	1.24	1,215	8.6%	2,929	1,134	1,531	265	1.4%
42	Wholesale Trade	2,238	\$98,616	0.45	-128	-1.1%	1,240	459	659	122	1.1%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,126	\$55,644	0.89	-14	-0.1%	1,155	495	542	118	1.1%
51	Information	870	\$80,920	0.34	157	4.1%	418	145	227	47	1.0%
22	Utilities	762	\$91,733	1.06	-9	-0.2%	352	131	202	20	0.5%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	589	\$135,736	1.23	-339	-8.7%	295	100	170	26	0.9%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	456	\$22,176	0.28	-67	-2.7%	288	142	133	13	0.6%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	168	\$86,551	0.08	8	0.9%	81	29	42	11	1.2%
99	Unclassified	138	\$60,204	0.71	90	23.6%	85	34	43	7	1.0%
<b>Total - All Industries</b>		<b>136,651</b>	<b>\$62,716</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>18,672</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>82,011</b>	<b>33,284</b>	<b>41,459</b>	<b>7,268</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2025Q4

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. All data based upon a four-quarter moving average.

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q4. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Galveston County, Texas is Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations, employing 17,615 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (14,598 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (14,151). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (LQ = 1.95), Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1.56), and Protective Service Occupations (1.30).

Occupation groups in Galveston County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$131,200), Legal Occupations (\$130,300), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$105,500). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.7% among Legal Occupations to 11.2% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Galveston County, Texas is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.8% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+1,006 jobs) and Management Occupations (+745). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (17,025 jobs) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (7,959).

Galveston County, Texas, 2025Q4<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current					5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	17,615	\$30,800	1.56	1,349	7.0%	611	3,703	4.8%	18,031	7,556	9,469	1,006	1.1%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	14,598	\$67,600	1.95	424	2.8%	500	2,498	3.8%	7,018	3,266	3,212	539	0.7%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	14,151	\$46,600	0.91	899	3.8%	301	908	1.3%	8,249	3,765	4,194	289	0.4%
41-0000	Sales and Related	11,082	\$45,100	0.94	884	5.5%	898	143	0.3%	7,863	3,535	4,022	306	0.5%
11-0000	Management	11,022	\$131,200	1.03	338	2.1%	596	2,060	4.2%	5,160	1,557	2,857	745	1.3%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	10,567	\$47,100	0.91	941	6.6%	284	2,019	4.3%	7,585	3,035	3,879	671	1.2%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	7,292	\$53,500	1.18	560	6.1%	120	786	2.3%	3,586	1,230	1,849	507	1.4%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	6,429	\$85,400	0.72	343	3.0%	266	880	3.0%	3,029	1,021	1,588	420	1.3%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	5,682	\$58,800	1.08	297	3.6%	223	698	2.7%	3,012	1,151	1,479	382	1.3%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	5,148	\$97,600	0.62	158	1.7%	663	794	3.4%	1,953	809	754	390	1.5%
51-0000	Production	5,060	\$54,200	0.70	395	5.4%	99	370	1.5%	3,013	1,090	1,729	195	0.8%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	5,035	\$33,900	1.12	325	5.9%	152	642	2.8%	3,788	1,687	1,854	248	1.0%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	4,187	\$34,800	1.18	336	6.0%	184	920	5.1%	3,999	1,540	2,185	274	1.3%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	4,023	\$33,600	0.60	235	3.7%	236	422	2.2%	3,461	1,568	1,509	385	1.8%
33-0000	Protective Service	3,903	\$55,900	1.30	207	3.8%	101	810	4.8%	2,329	885	1,270	174	0.9%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	2,593	\$102,000	0.60	167	3.1%	147	274	2.3%	920	293	444	183	1.4%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	2,304	\$60,800	0.89	73	2.7%	146	250	2.3%	1,250	492	590	168	1.4%

## Galveston County, Texas, 2025Q4<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	1,939	\$59,700	0.81	146	4.3%	109	230	2.6%	1,080	425	546	109	1.1%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	1,718	\$105,500	0.80	104	2.4%	69	158	1.9%	699	232	358	109	1.2%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	1,497	\$81,500	1.19	81	3.4%	83	156	2.2%	802	160	539	103	1.3%
23-0000	Legal	598	\$130,300	0.52	19	1.7%	11	4	0.1%	199	69	95	35	1.1%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	209	\$40,400	0.27	31	11.2%	1	-52	-4.4%	155	68	82	5	0.5%
<b>Total - All Occupations</b>		<b>136,651</b>	<b>\$60,500</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>8,312</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>5,803</b>	<b>18,672</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>87,205</b>	<b>35,434</b>	<b>44,504</b>	<b>7,268</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2025Q4 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2025Q3, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q4. Wages by occupation are as of 2025 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Galveston County, Texas with the highest relative concentration is Coal/Oil/Power with a location quotient of 2.83. This cluster employs 3,137 workers in the region with an average wage of \$154,893. Employment in the Coal/Oil/Power cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.6% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Galveston County, Texas as of 2025Q4



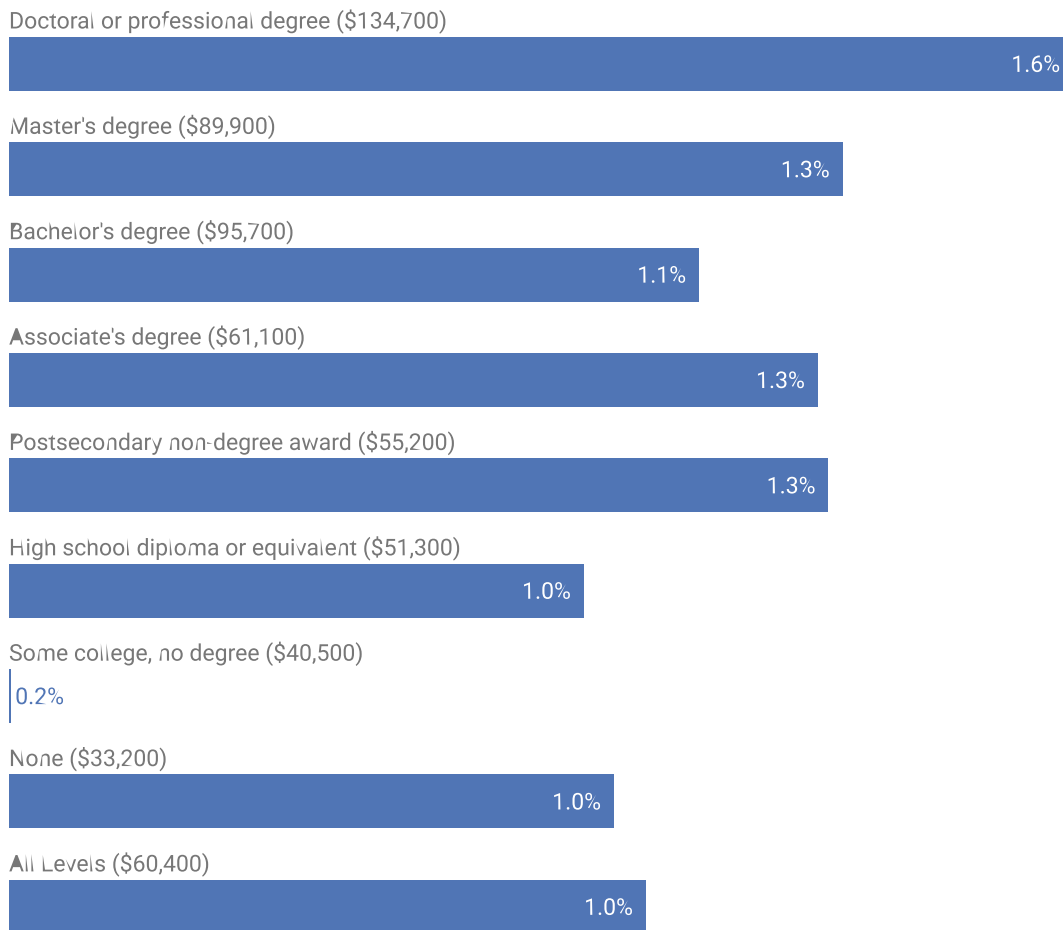
Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2025Q4

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2025Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q4. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Galveston County, Texas is projected to grow 1.0% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.6% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 1.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.3% per year.

## Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

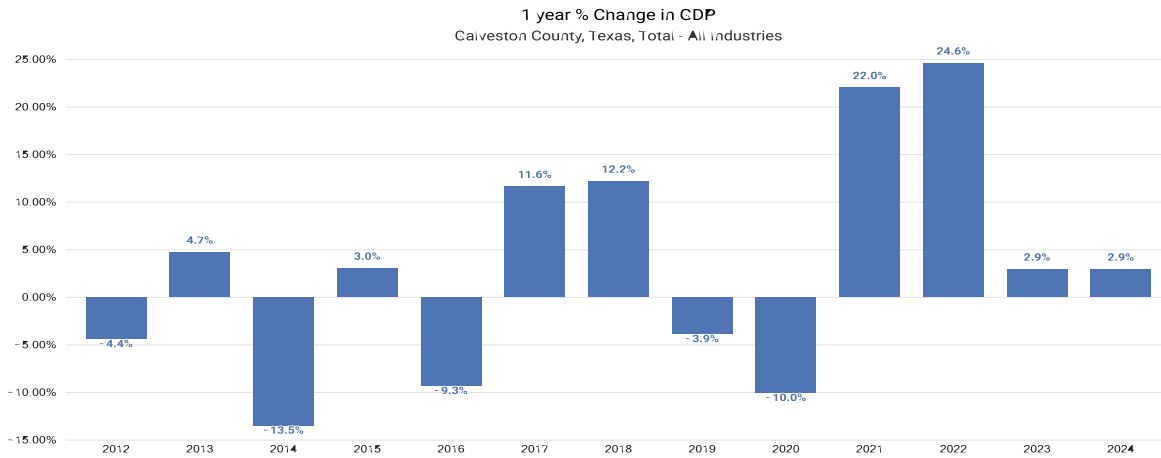


Source: JobsEQ®  
Data as of 2025Q4

Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2025Q4. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2024, nominal GDP in Galveston County, Texas expanded 2.9%. This follows growth of 2.9% in 2023. As of 2024, total GDP in Galveston County, Texas was \$23,496,387,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2024.

Of the sectors in Galveston County, Texas, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2024, \$8,042,425,000. The next-largest contributions came from Educational Services (\$3,069,270,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$1,697,787,000); and Retail Trade (\$1,427,865,000).

## GDP (in \$ millions)

Galveston County, Texas, 2024

Manufacturing (31)

\$8,042

Educational Services (61)

\$3,069

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)

\$1,698

Retail Trade (44)

\$1,428

Construction (23)

\$1,215

Accommodation and Food Services (72)

\$929

Health Care and Social Assistance (62)

\$922

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54)

\$886

Finance and Insurance (52)

\$840

Wholesale Trade (42)

\$682

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2024.

# Galveston County, Texas Regional Map



# FAQ

## What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

## What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

## What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

## What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

## What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

## What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

## About This Report

This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.