

Economic Overview

Fayette County, Texas

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Demographic Profile

The population in Fayette County, Texas was 24,445 per American Community Survey data for 2017-2021.

The region has a civilian labor force of 11,064 with a participation rate of 55.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Fayette County, Texas, 20.8% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.1% in the nation.

The median household income in Fayette County, Texas is \$66,624 and the median house value is \$211,900.

Summary¹

| | | Percent | | Value | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--|--|
| | Fayette County, Texas | Rural Capital, TX WDA | Texas | Fayette County, Texas | Rural Capital, TX WDA | Texas | | |
| Demographics | | | | | | | | |
| Population (ACS) | _ | _ | _ | 24,445 | 1,089,326 | 28,862,581 | | |
| Male | 49.9% | 49.8% | 49.9% | 12,201 | 542,465 | 14,398,171 | | |
| Female | 50.1% | 50.2% | 50.1% | 12,244 | 546,861 | 14,464,410 | | |
| Median Age ² | _ | _ | _ | 47.7 | 37.3 | 35.0 | | |
| Under 18 Years | 20.2% | 24.2% | 25.8% | 4,940 | 263,724 | 7,446,176 | | |
| 18 to 24 Years | 6.5% | 9.7% | 9.7% | 1,580 | 105,534 | 2,796,936 | | |
| 25 to 34 Years | 10.2% | 13.3% | 14.5% | 2,487 | 144,548 | 4,180,029 | | |
| 35 to 44 Years | 10.2% | 14.8% | 13.8% | 2,497 | 161,486 | 3,979,307 | | |
| 45 to 54 Years | 11.4% | 12.7% | 12.4% | 2,780 | 138,694 | 3,575,796 | | |
| 55 to 64 Years | 16.2% | 11.5% | 11.3% | 3,971 | 125,251 | 3,263,539 | | |
| 65 to 74 Years | 14.5% | 8.7% | 7.7% | 3,534 | 94,998 | 2,233,217 | | |
| 75 Years and Over | 10.9% | 5.1% | 4.8% | 2,656 | 55,091 | 1,387,581 | | |
| Race: White | 86.8% | 73.5% | 64.3% | 21,228 | 800,285 | 18,566,027 | | |
| Race: Black or African American | 6.2% | 5.7% | 12.1% | 1,511 | 61,607 | 3,499,862 | | |
| Race: American Indian and Alaska Native | 0.1% | 0.5% | 0.5% | 14 | 5,570 | 147,892 | | |
| Race: Asian | 0.5% | 4.6% | 5.0% | 134 | 50,068 | 1,452,713 | | |
| Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0 | 1,113 | 24,608 | | |
| Race: Some Other Race | 3.6% | 5.1% | 7.0% | 879 | 56,073 | 2,019,394 | | |
| Race: Two or More Races | 2.8% | 10.5% | 10.9% | 679 | 114,610 | 3,152,085 | | |
| Hispanic or Latino (of any race) | 21.9% | 30.2% | 39.8% | 5,344 | 329,497 | 11,479,932 | | |
| Population Growth | | | | | | | | |
| Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴ | _ | _ | _ | 24,913 | 1,225,006 | 30,029,572 | | |
| Population Annual Average Growth ⁴ | 0.1% | 3.7% | 1.4% | 27 | 37,265 | 394,545 | | |
| People per Square Mile | _ | _ | _ | 26.2 | 164.6 | 114.9 | | |
| Economic | | | | | | | | |
| Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over) $ \\$ | 55.0% | 66.8% | 64.9% | 11,064 | 570,724 | 14,390,216 | | |
| Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54) | 81.7% | 84.9% | 81.3% | 6,342 | 376,802 | 9,491,638 | | |
| Armed Forces Labor Force | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.5% | 0 | 1,158 | 102,600 | | |
| Veterans, Age 18-64 | 4.0% | 6.0% | 4.8% | 536 | 40,648 | 841,980 | | |
| Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64 | 76.3% | 81.6% | 78.8% | 409 | 33,188 | 663,239 | | |
| Median Household Income ² | _ | _ | _ | \$66,624 | \$83,685 | \$67,321 | | |
| Per Capita Income | _ | _ | _ | \$33,556 | \$38,744 | \$34,255 | | |
| Mean Commute Time (minutes) | _ | _ | _ | 23.2 | 29.4 | 26.6 | | |
| Commute via Public Transportation | 0.0% | 0.4% | 1.1% | 0 | 2,293 | 152,475 | | |
| Educational Attainment, Age 25-64 | | | | | | | | |
| No High School Diploma | 12.7% | 8.6% | 14.3% | 1,486 | 48,954 | 2,140,415 | | |
| High School Graduate | 39.9% | 22.7% | 24.2% | 4,684 | 129,648 | 3,628,137 | | |
| Some College, No Degree | 18.9% | 21.7% | 21.3% | 2,222 | 123,876 | 3,190,758 | | |

Summary¹

| | | Percent | | Value | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--|--|
| | Fayette County, Texas | Rural Capital, TX WDA | Texas | Fayette County, Texas | Rural Capital, TX WDA | Texas | | |
| Associate's Degree | 7.7% | 8.2% | 7.9% | 907 | 46,730 | 1,182,642 | | |
| Bachelor's Degree | 15.4% | 25.9% | 21.3% | 1,806 | 147,540 | 3,189,631 | | |
| Postgraduate Degree | 5.4% | 12.8% | 11.1% | 630 | 73,231 | 1,667,088 | | |
| Housing | | | | | | | | |
| Total Housing Units | _ | _ | _ | 13,227 | 436,267 | 11,433,880 | | |
| Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ² | _ | _ | _ | \$211,900 | \$277,310 | \$202,600 | | |
| Homeowner Vacancy | 1.3% | 1.1% | 1.3% | 123 | 2,990 | 85,038 | | |
| Rental Vacancy | 7.4% | 4.9% | 7.6% | 142 | 6,507 | 320,865 | | |
| Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units) | 17.1% | 31.0% | 37.6% | 1,493 | 122,553 | 3,848,280 | | |
| Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units) | 4.6% | 2.8% | 5.2% | 397 | 10,872 | 533,515 | | |
| Social | | | | | | | | |
| Poverty Level (of all people) | 9.8% | 8.8% | 14.0% | 2,369 | 94,609 | 3,965,117 | | |
| Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP | 6.0% | 6.1% | 11.5% | 519 | 23,964 | 1,178,059 | | |
| Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population) | 1.2% | 1.5% | 1.5% | 300 | 15,807 | 421,868 | | |
| Disconnected Youth ³ | 1.3% | 2.4% | 2.9% | 13 | 1,432 | 48,045 | | |
| Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children) | 17.1% | 25.2% | 34.0% | 816 | 63,774 | 2,410,770 | | |
| Uninsured | 11.7% | 12.6% | 17.6% | 2,812 | 135,685 | 4,995,381 | | |
| With a Disability, Age 18-64 | 12.7% | 9.4% | 9.5% | 1,677 | 62,754 | 1,651,720 | | |
| With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size | 31.5% | 55.6% | 48.0% | 529 | 34,887 | 792,979 | | |
| Foreign Born | 8.3% | 11.8% | 17.0% | 2,033 | 128,058 | 4,904,169 | | |
| Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over) | 4.2% | 7.0% | 13.1% | 978 | 71,419 | 3,532,172 | | |

Source: JobsEQ®

 $^{{\}bf 1.\ American\ Community\ Survey\ 2017-2021,\ unless\ noted\ otherwise}$

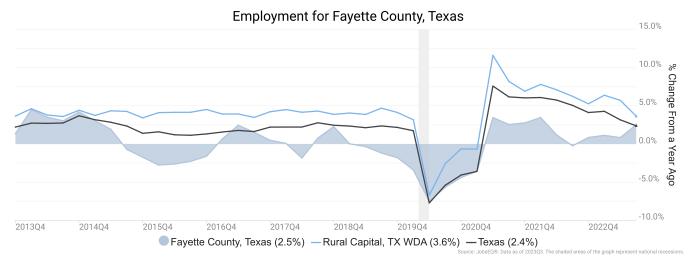
^{2.} Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

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 2022, annual average growth rate since 2012. Post-2019 data for Connecticut counties are imputed by Chmura.

Employment Trends

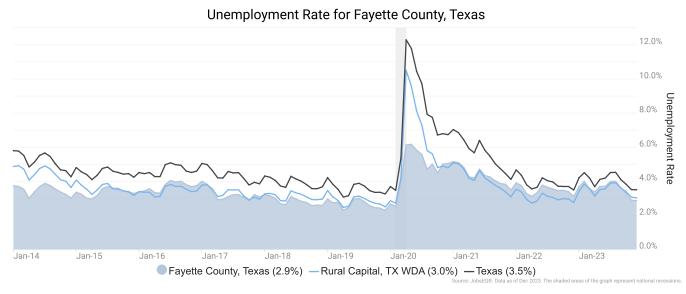
As of 2023Q3, total employment for Fayette County, Texas was 11,393 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2023Q3, employment increased 2.5% in the region.



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 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

Unemployment Rate

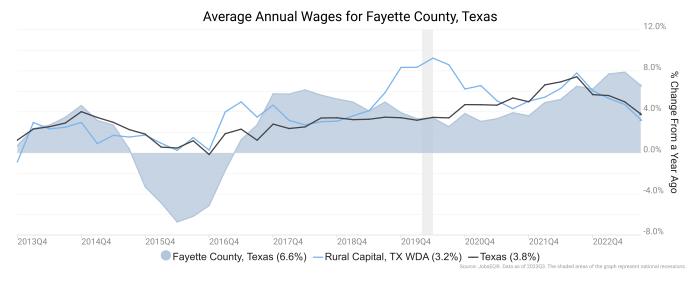
The unemployment rate for Fayette County, Texas was 2.9% as of December 2023. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 3.6%. One year earlier, in December 2022, the unemployment rate in Fayette County, Texas was 3.1%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through December 2023

Wage Trends

The average worker in Fayette County, Texas earned annual wages of \$45,831 as of 2023Q3. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.6% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$70,183 in the nation as of 2023Q3.



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 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

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 8.6% lower in Fayette County, Texas than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

| | | Cost of Living Index | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | Annual Average Salary | (Base US) | US Purchasing Power | | | | |
| Fayette County, Texas | \$45,831 | 91.4 | \$50,150 | | | | |
| Rural Capital, TX WDA | \$62,223 | 94.5 | \$65,824 | | | | |
| Texas | \$69,661 | 94.2 | \$73,930 | | | | |
| USA | \$70,183 | 100.0 | \$70,183 | | | | |

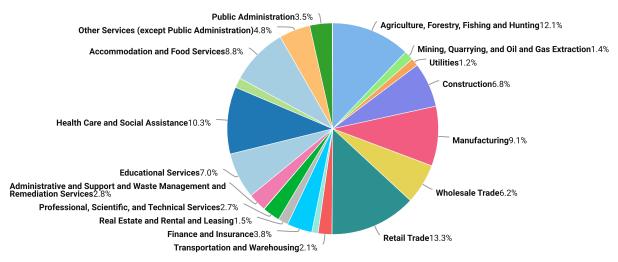
Source: JobsEQ®

Cost of Living per COLI, data as of 2023Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Fayette County, Texas is Retail Trade, employing 1,510 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (1,378 workers) and Health Care and Social Assistance (1,170). 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 Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 9.53), Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (4.01), and Utilities (2.34).

Total Workers for Fayette County, Texas by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®,Data as of 2023Q3

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 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

Sectors in Fayette County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$116,595), Utilities (\$98,090), and Transportation and Warehousing (\$81,502). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Retail Trade (+164 jobs), Manufacturing (+95), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+82).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Fayette County, Texas is projected to contract by 81 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Management of Companies and Enterprises with a +0.9% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+28 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+8), and Manufacturing (+6).

Fayette County, Texas, 2023Q31

| | | | Current | | 5-Year History | | 5-Year Forecast | | | | |
|-------|--|--------|-----------|------|----------------|--------|-----------------|-------|-----------|--------|--------|
| | | | Avg Ann | | Empl | | Total | | | Empl | Ann % |
| NAICS | Industry | Empl | Wages | LQ | Change | Ann % | Demand | Exits | Transfers | Growth | Growth |
| 44 | Retail Trade | 1,510 | \$39,707 | 1.33 | 164 | 2.3% | 986 | 454 | 569 | -38 | -0.5% |
| 11 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 1,378 | \$15,187 | 9.53 | -65 | -0.9% | 757 | 392 | 415 | -50 | -0.7% |
| 62 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 1,170 | \$51,001 | 0.71 | -43 | -0.7% | 605 | 278 | 299 | 28 | 0.5% |
| 31 | Manufacturing | 1,041 | \$52,303 | 1.14 | 95 | 1.9% | 532 | 210 | 315 | 6 | 0.1% |
| 72 | Accommodation and Food Services | 1,003 | \$23,667 | 1.02 | -87 | -1.6% | 888 | 399 | 487 | 3 | 0.1% |
| 61 | Educational Services | 802 | \$54,096 | 0.88 | 26 | 0.7% | 348 | 182 | 189 | -24 | -0.6% |
| 23 | Construction | 780 | \$57,557 | 1.14 | 56 | 1.5% | 338 | 137 | 200 | 1 | 0.0% |
| 42 | Wholesale Trade | 703 | \$75,805 | 1.64 | 78 | 2.4% | 339 | 141 | 211 | -13 | -0.4% |
| 81 | Other Services (except Public Administration) | 542 | \$24,076 | 1.12 | 16 | 0.6% | 312 | 135 | 175 | 2 | 0.1% |
| 52 | Finance and Insurance | 436 | \$76,113 | 0.96 | 31 | 1.5% | 185 | 77 | 106 | 2 | 0.1% |
| 92 | Public Administration | 393 | \$49,685 | 0.75 | 8 | 0.4% | 181 | 80 | 101 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 56 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 320 | \$46,493 | 0.44 | 82 | 6.1% | 187 | 79 | 105 | 3 | 0.2% |
| 54 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 305 | \$49,385 | 0.36 | 29 | 2.0% | 134 | 51 | 75 | 8 | 0.5% |
| 48 | Transportation and Warehousing | 239 | \$81,502 | 0.42 | -176 | -10.4% | 131 | 57 | 74 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 53 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 176 | \$48,475 | 0.87 | -57 | -5.4% | 88 | 41 | 45 | 2 | 0.3% |
| 71 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 173 | \$28,445 | 0.78 | 19 | 2.4% | 136 | 55 | 75 | 5 | 0.6% |
| 21 | Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction | 164 | \$69,108 | 4.01 | -416 | -22.3% | 75 | 29 | 47 | -1 | -0.1% |
| 22 | Utilities | 136 | \$98,090 | 2.34 | 3 | 0.4% | 39 | 23 | 33 | -17 | -2.6% |
| 51 | Information | 111 | \$63,544 | 0.49 | -5 | -0.8% | 44 | 19 | 29 | -4 | -0.8% |
| 99 | Unclassified | 6 | \$24,899 | 0.23 | -4 | -9.7% | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | -0.1% |
| 55 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 5 | \$116,595 | 0.03 | 1 | 6.3% | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.9% |
| | Total - All Industries | 11,393 | \$45,831 | 1.00 | -243 | -0.4% | 6,102 | 2,725 | 3,458 | -81 | -0.1% |

Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2023Q3

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

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 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Fayette County, Texas is Management Occupations, employing 1,809 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (1,188 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (1,168). 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 Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 3.10), Management Occupations (2.11), and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations (1.21).

Occupation groups in Fayette County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$90,900), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$86,900), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$81,200). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.2% among Management Occupations to 6.2% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Fayette County, Texas is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +0.7% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+14 jobs) and Healthcare Support Occupations (+13). 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 (923 jobs) and Management Occupations (796).

Fayette County, Texas, 2023Q31

| | | Current | | | | | 5-Year | History | | | 5-Year Forecast | | | |
|---------|---|---------|--------------------------------|------|--------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------|
| soc | Occupation | Empl | Mean Ann Wages ² | LQ | Unempl | Unempl Rate | Online Job Ads ³ | Empl Change | Ann % | Total Demand | Exits | Transfers | Empl Growth | Ann % Growth |
| 11-0000 | Management | 1,809 | \$80,100 | 2.11 | 21 | 1.2% | 27 | -12 | -0.1% | 758 | 444 | 352 | -37 | -0.4% |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related | 1,188 | \$41,300 | 1.18 | 62 | 4.6% | 24 | 63 | 1.1% | 762 | 365 | 428 | -31 | -0.5% |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support | 1,168 | \$40,200 | 0.85 | 42 | 3.3% | 28 | -29 | -0.5% | 579 | 297 | 334 | -52 | -0.9% |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related | 974 | \$27,200 | 1.06 | 69 | 5.9% | 48 | -65 | -1.3% | 923 | 421 | 502 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving | 887 | \$38,700 | 0.89 | 64 | 5.1% | 32 | -114 | -2.4% | 567 | 228 | 331 | 8 | 0.2% |
| 51-0000 | Production | 737 | \$42,400 | 1.16 | 35 | 3.8% | 33 | 18 | 0.5% | 389 | 159 | 239 | -9 | -0.2% |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction | 585 | \$46,200 | 1.13 | 38 | 4.8% | 4 | -170 | -5.0% | 256 | 100 | 152 | 4 | 0.1% |
| 25-0000 | Educational Instruction and Library | 577 | \$51,900 | 0.95 | 15 | 2.7% | 9 | 16 | 0.6% | 229 | 120 | 120 | -12 | -0.4% |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair | 539 | \$49,600 | 1.21 | 14 | 2.0% | 18 | 1 | 0.1% | 238 | 103 | 131 | 3 | 0.1% |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical | 469 | \$81,200 | 0.70 | 7 | 1.6% | 66 | 23 | 1.0% | 156 | 76 | 66 | 14 | 0.6% |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations | 419 | \$70,200 | 0.58 | 9 | 2.2% | 7 | 41 | 2.1% | 169 | 63 | 103 | 3 | 0.1% |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance | 369 | \$31,000 | 0.99 | 24 | 5.1% | 9 | 7 | 0.4% | 247 | 115 | 131 | 1 | 0.0% |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support | 354 | \$30,600 | 0.69 | 14 | 3.6% | 50 | -16 | -0.9% | 264 | 114 | 137 | 13 | 0.7% |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service | 235 | \$32,500 | 0.83 | 11 | 4.2% | 2 | 11 | 1.0% | 212 | 79 | 125 | 8 | 0.7% |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 211 | \$32,800 | 3.10 | 13 | 6.2% | 6 | 11 | 1.1% | 145 | 58 | 92 | -6 | -0.5% |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service | 202 | \$50,900 | 0.99 | 2 | 1.5% | 14 | 15 | 1.6% | 95 | 41 | 49 | 4 | 0.4% |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service | 183 | \$48,800 | 0.75 | 6 | 3.1% | 1 | 0 | 0.1% | 88 | 40 | 48 | -1 | -0.1% |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Fayette County, Texas, 2023Q31

| | | | | C | urrent | | | 5-Year History | | | | 5-Year Forecast | | |
|---------|--|--------|--------------------------------|------|--------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| soc | Occupation | Empl | Mean Ann Wages ² | LQ | Unempl | Unempl Rate | Online Job Ads ³ | Empl Change | Ann % | Total Demand | Exits | Transfers | Empl Growth | Ann % Growth |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media | 165 | \$51,000 | 0.79 | 6 | 4.2% | 2 | 17 | 2.2% | 81 | 36 | 45 | -1 | -0.1% |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical | 122 | \$80,100 | 0.33 | 2 | 2.0% | 3 | 9 | 1.5% | 40 | 14 | 23 | 3 | 0.4% |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering | 106 | \$86,900 | 0.58 | 2 | 1.8% | 3 | -10 | -1.8% | 37 | 15 | 20 | 1 | 0.3% |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science | 52 | \$69,600 | 0.52 | 1 | 2.5% | 5 | -9 | -3.1% | 25 | 6 | 19 | 1 | 0.3% |
| 23-0000 | Legal | 43 | \$90,900 | 0.46 | 0 | n/a | 0 | -5 | -2.3% | 13 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 0.3% |
| | Total - All Occupations | 11,393 | \$50,500 | 1.00 | 458 | 3.6% | 392 | -196 | -0.3% | 6,275 | 2,903 | 3,454 | -81 | -0.1% |

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2023Q3 unless noted otherwise

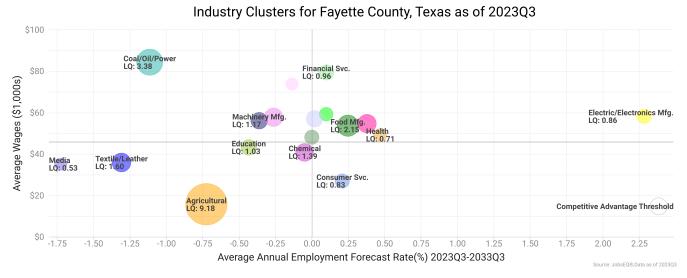
Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

- 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 2023Q2, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Wages by occupation are as of 2023 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 Fayette County, Texas with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 9.18. This cluster employs 1,393 workers in the region with an average wage of \$15,715. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.7% per year over the next ten years.

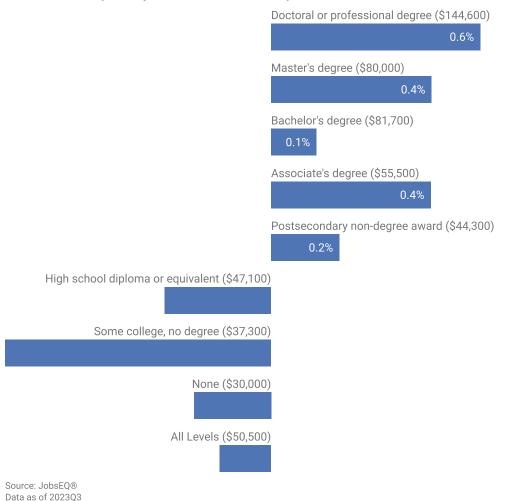


Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from 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 Fayette County, Texas is projected to contract 0.1% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.6% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.4% per year.

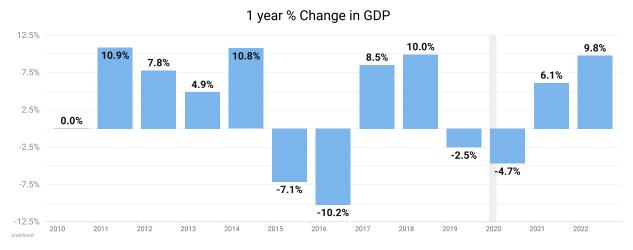
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2023Q3. 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 2022, nominal GDP in Fayette County, Texas expanded 9.8%. This follows growth of 6.1% in 2021. As of 2022, total GDP in Fayette County, Texas was \$1,127,037,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

Of the sectors in Fayette County, Texas, Wholesale Trade contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2022, \$148,962,000 The next-largest contributions came from Retail Trade (\$124,871,000); Manufacturing (\$121,835,000); and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$102,977,000).

GDP (in \$ millions)

Wholesale Trade (42) \$149 Retail Trade (44) \$125 Manufacturing (31) \$122 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53) \$103 Health Care and Social Assistance (62) **Educational Services (61)** Construction (23) \$69 Finance and Insurance (52) \$56 Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (11)

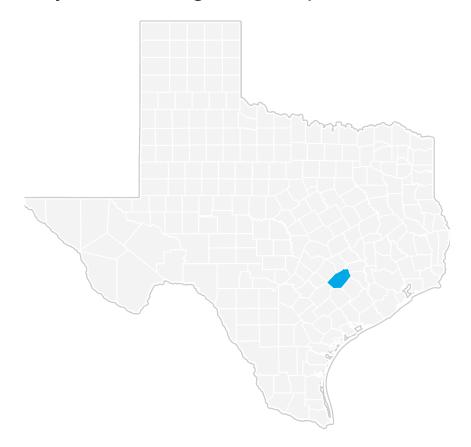
Transportation and Warehousing (48)

\$44

\$50

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

Fayette County, Texas Regional Map



Region Definition

Rural Capital, TX WDA is defined as the following counties:

| Bastrop County, Texas | Hays County, Texas |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Blanco County, Texas | Lee County, Texas |
| Burnet County, Texas | Llano County, Texas |
| Caldwell County, Texas | Williamson County, Texas |
| Fayette County, Texas | |

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

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