

# Delta County Economic Overview 2024

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<sup>\*</sup>Note This report was originally produced by Chmura Economics & Analytics Economics, an economic consulting company contracted by the Hibbs Institute.

# **Demographic Profile**

The population in Delta County, Texas was 5,278 per American Community Survey data for 2018-2022. The region has a civilian labor force of 2,467 with a participation rate of 59.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Delta County, Texas, 22.8% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.8% in the nation. The median household income in Delta County, Texas is \$68,491 and the median house value is \$163,700.

### Summary<sup>1</sup>

		Percent			Value	
	Delta County, Texas	Texas	USA	Delta County, Texas	Texas	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	_	_	_	5,278	29,243,342	331,097,593
Male	45.6%	50.0%	49.6%	2,406	14,624,638	164,200,298
Female	54.4%	50.0%	50.4%	2,872	14,618,704	166,897,295
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	40.6	35.2	38.5
Under 18 Years	22.7%	25.3%	22.1%	1,196	7,396,128	73,213,705
18 to 24 Years	7.4%	10.0%	9.4%	391	2,936,266	31,282,896
25 to 34 Years	14.0%	14.4%	13.7%	738	4,224,194	45,388,153
35 to 44 Years	10.9%	13.8%	12.9%	575	4,046,302	42,810,359
45 to 54 Years	11.1%	12.3%	12.4%	585	3,597,088	41,087,357
55 to 64 Years	13.7%	11.2%	12.9%	721	3,274,387	42,577,475
65 to 74 Years	12.1%	7.9%	9.7%	641	2,297,666	32,260,679
75 Years and Over	8.2%	5.0%	6.8%	431	1,471,311	22,476,969
Race: White	82.8%	59.1%	65.9%	4,370	17,293,460	218,123,424
Race: Black or African American	8.8%	12.1%	12.5%	462	3,552,579	41,288,572
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0	169,576	2,786,431
Race: Asian	0.4%	5.2%	5.8%	19	1,511,069	19,112,979
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0	27,350	624,863
Race: Some Other Race	1.2%	7.8%	6.0%	61	2,281,525	20,018,544
Race: Two or More Races	6.9%	15.1%	8.8%	366	4,407,783	29,142,780
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	9.5%	39.9%	18.7%	499	11,665,280	61,755,866
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	5,406	30,029,572	333,287,557
Population Annual Average Growth <sup>4</sup>	0.3%	1.4%	0.6%	17	394,545	1,940,990
People per Square Mile <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	21.0	114.9	94.3
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	59.0%	65.0%	63.3%	2,467	14,674,135	167,857,207
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54) $$	86.8%	81.5%	82.8%	1,647	9,621,423	106,380,520
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0	110,177	1,236,378
Veterans, Age 18-64	4.7%	4.7%	4.3%	141	835,988	8,636,019
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	36.9%	78.7%	77.1%	52	658,147	6,656,238
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	\$68,491	\$73,035	\$75,149
Per Capita Income	_	_	-	\$34,345	\$37,514	\$41,261
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	_	_	_	31.7	26.6	26.7
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	1.0%	3.8%	0	142,353	5,945,723
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	7.7%	13.9%	10.1%	201	2,103,422	17,373,867
High School Graduate	33.6%	24.1%	25.1%	879	3,653,228	43,176,248
Some College, No Degree	24.6%	20.9%	19.7%	643	3,158,279	33,916,989
Associate's Degree	11.5%	7.9%	9.2%	300	1,199,146	15,886,884
Bachelor's Degree	16.0%	21.7%	22.4%	419	3,281,456	38,451,123
Postgraduate Degree	6.8%	11.5%	13.4%	177	1,746,440	23,058,233

### 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.

### Summary<sup>1</sup>

		Percent		Value				
	Delta County, Texas	Texas	USA	Delta County, Texas	Texas	USA		
Housing	TCAGS	TEAUS	USA	Texas	TEAGS	USA		
Total Housing Units	_	_	_	2,435	11,654,971	140,943,613		
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2,5</sup>	_	_	_	\$163,700	\$238,000	\$281,900		
Homeowner Vacancy	2.4%	1.2%	1.1%	43	78,790	931,393		
Rental Vacancy	5.5%	7.4%	5.5%	24	318,227	2,623,236		
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	19.7%	37.6%	35.2%	415	3,944,826	44,238,593		
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	3.3%	5.3%	8.3%	70	551,100	10,474,870		
Social								
Poverty Level (of all people)	14.1%	13.9%	12.5%	736	3,990,326	40,521,584		
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	7.2%	11.5%	11.5%	151	1,209,485	14,486,880		
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.1%	1.5%	1.4%	58	433,670	4,476,703		
Disconnected Youth <sup>3</sup>	1.8%	3.0%	2.5%	5	50,502	430,795		
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	23.8%	34.1%	34.0%	268	2,400,195	23,568,955		
Uninsured	7.0%	17.6%	8.7%	365	5,056,008	28,315,092		
With a Disability, Age 18-64	12.7%	9.7%	10.5%	381	1,710,522	20,879,820		
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	36.0%	49.8%	45.5%	137	851,439	9,492,098		
Foreign Born	1.3%	17.1%	13.7%	70	4,987,855	45,281,071		
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	1.0%	13.0%	8.2%	48	3,538,224	25,704,846		

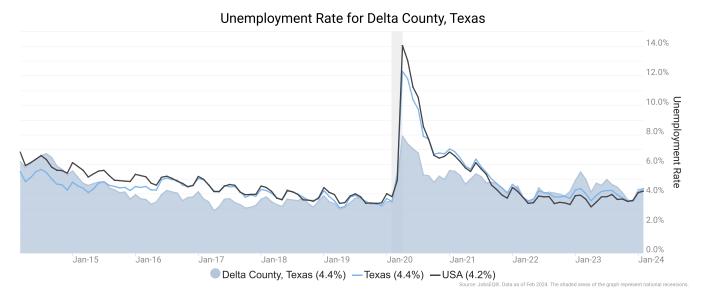
### Source: JobsEQ®

- 1. American Community Survey 2018-2022, 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.
- 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.

### About This Report

# **Unemployment Rate**

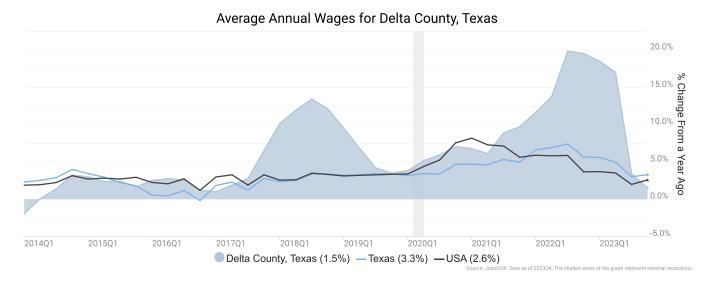
The unemployment rate for Delta County, Texas was 4.4% as of February 2024. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 4.2%. One year earlier, in February 2023, the unemployment rate in Delta County, Texas was 5.5%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through February 2024.

# **Wage Trends**

The average worker in Delta County, Texas earned annual wages of \$36,575 as of 2023Q4. Average annual wages per worker increased 1.5% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$69,861 in the nation as of 2023Q4.



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 2023Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q4.

# **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 7.8% lower in Delta County, Texas than the U.S. average.

### **Cost of Living Information**

		Cost of Living Inde	x
	Annual Average Salary	(Base US)	<b>US Purchasing Power</b>
Delta County, Texas	\$36,575	92.2	\$39,682
Texas	\$69,431	94.2	\$73,686
USA	\$69,861	100.0	\$69,861

Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2023Q4

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

### **Occupation Snapshot**

The largest major occupation group in Delta County, Texas is Management Occupations, employing 258 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Healthcare Support Occupations (185 workers) and Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (133). 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 = 5.41), Healthcare Support Occupations (3.15), and Management Occupations (2.64).

Occupation groups in Delta County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$89,000), Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$73,500), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$69,900). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.6% among Management Occupations to 8.6% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in Delta County, Texas is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +3.5% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+6 jobs) and Management Occupations (+4). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Healthcare Support Occupations (28 jobs) and Management Occupations (25).

### Delta County, Texas, 2023Q41

				Cı	urrent			5-Year	5-Year History			1-Year Forecast		
505	0	F1	Mean Ann			Unempl	Online	Empl	A 0/	Total	F	T	Empl	Ann %
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Rate	Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Change	Ann %	Demand	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Growth
11-0000		258	\$67,200	2.64	6	1.6%	4	-2	-0.2%	30	15	10	4	1.7%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	185	\$23,500	3.15	10	5.1%	4	-86	-7.4%	34	14	14	6	3.5%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	133	\$42,900	1.91	7	2.7%	3	13	2.1%	14	6	6	2	1.8%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	115	\$36,500	0.73	14	4.7%	4	-25	-3.9%	15	6	7	2	1.4%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	83	\$38,400	1.41	10	8.2%	11	-5	-1.2%	9	3	4	2	2.1%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	71	\$67,000	0.93	3	2.0%	6	-50	-10.1%	7	3	2	2	3.3%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	58	\$38,900	0.51	14	7.8%	15	11	4.5%	9	3	4	1	2.3%
41-0000	Sales and Related	43	\$41,000	0.37	10	5.8%	7	-12	-4.7%	6	3	3	1	1.5%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	42	\$23,600	0.40	14	8.6%	4	6	3.1%	9	4	5	1	1.9%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	41	\$29,500	5.41	2	4.8%	1	13	8.2%	7	2	4	1	1.7%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	40	\$28,500	0.95	4	6.5%	0	2	1.1%	7	3	3	1	2.0%
33-0000	Protective Service	37	\$41,200	1.31	2	3.9%	0	4	2.2%	4	2	2	1	1.9%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	36	\$61,500	0.44	3	2.4%	0	5	3.0%	4	1	2	1	2.5%
51-0000	Production	35	\$38,800	0.49	8	5.9%	1	16	13.0%	5	2	2	1	1.8%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	31	\$43,600	0.60	4	4.1%	8	4	3.1%	3	1	2	1	2.0%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	25	\$47,200	1.07	1	2.6%	2	-1	-0.6%	3	1	1	1	2.5%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	22	\$26,900	0.69	3	5.6%	0	0	-0.3%	4	2	2	1	2.6%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	17	\$47,600	0.69	1	3.1%	1	1	1.3%	2	1	1	0	2.2%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	12	\$73,500	0.29	1	2.2%	4	2	4.7%	1	0	1	0	2.8%

### About This Report

### Delta County, Texas, 2023Q41

		Current					5-Year History					1-Year Forecast			
			Mean Ann			Unempl	Online	Empl		Total			Empl	Ann %	
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Rate	Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Change	Ann %	Demand	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Growth	
23-0000	Legal	7	\$89,000	0.65	0	n/a	n/a	-1	-1.5%	1	0	0	0	2.5%	
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	6	\$69,900	0.29	1	3.6%	2	1	3.6%	1	0	0	0	2.1%	
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	5	\$62,800	0.42	0	n/a	1	1	4.5%	1	0	0	0	2.3%	
	Total - All Occupations	1,303	\$44,700	1.00	118	4.5%	78	-100	-1.5%	176	72	76	29	2.2%	

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2023Q4 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 add 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.

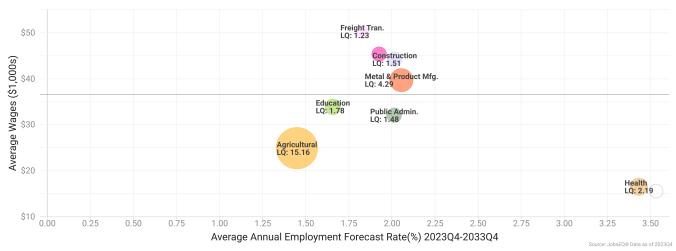
Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2023Q3, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q4. 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.

### About This Report

## **Industry Clusters**

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Delta County, Texas with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 15.16. This cluster employs 258 workers in the region with an average wage of \$24,879. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to expand in the region about 1.4% per year over the next ten years.

# Industry Clusters for Delta County, Texas as of 2023Q4

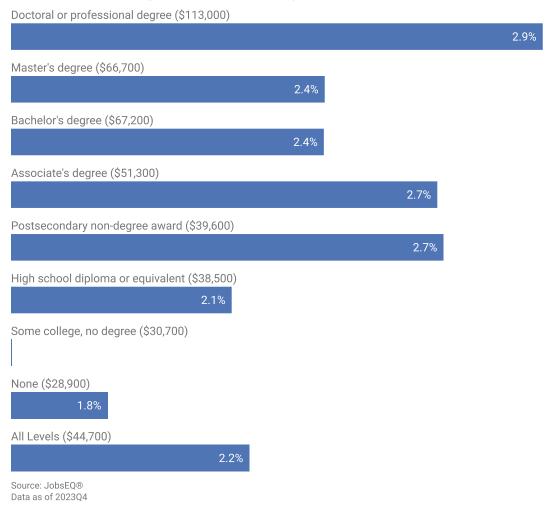


Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2023Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q4. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from 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 Delta County, Texas is projected to grow 2.2% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 2.9% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 2.4% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 2.7% per year.

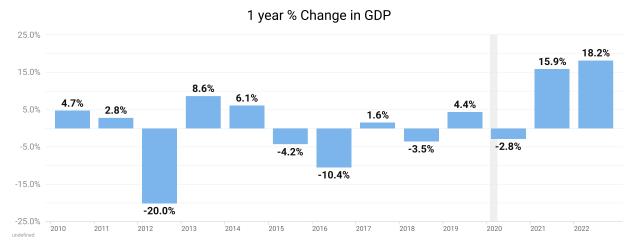
# Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2023Q4. 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 Delta County, Texas expanded 18.2%. This follows growth of 15.9% in 2021. As of 2022, total GDP in Delta County, Texas was \$87,618,000.



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

Of the sectors in Delta County, Texas, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2022, \$18,278,000 The next-largest contributions came from Educational Services (\$11,439,000); Construction (\$10,081,000); and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$9,725,000).

# GDP (in \$ millions)

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (11) **Educational Services (61)** Construction (23) \$10 Health Care and Social Assistance (62) \$10 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53) Transportation and Warehousing (48) \$5 Public Administration (92) \$4 Manufacturing (31) Finance and Insurance (52) Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (56)

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