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Van Zandt County Economic Overview

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*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 Van Zandt County, Texas was 55,970 per American Community Survey data for 2016-2020. The region has a civilian labor force of 23,539 with a participation rate of 52.8%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Van Zandt County, Texas, 15.3% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 34.3% in the nation. The median household income in Van Zandt County, Texas is \$57,203 and the median house value is \$152,200.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Van Zandt County, Texas	Texas	USA	Van Zandt County, Texas	Texas	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	55,970	28,635,442	326,569,308
Male	48.7%	49.7%	49.2%	27,237	14,221,720	160,818,530
Female	51.3%	50.3%	50.8%	28,733	14,413,722	165,750,778
Median Age ²	—	—	—	42.3	34.8	38.2
Under 18 Years	23.1%	25.8%	22.4%	12,940	7,381,482	73,296,738
18 to 24 Years	7.5%	9.8%	9.3%	4,198	2,804,109	30,435,736
25 to 34 Years	10.8%	14.7%	13.9%	6,025	4,210,488	45,485,165
35 to 44 Years	11.3%	13.6%	12.7%	6,311	3,888,044	41,346,677
45 to 54 Years	12.7%	12.4%	12.7%	7,111	3,542,967	41,540,736
55 to 64 Years	14.3%	11.2%	12.9%	7,986	3,214,983	42,101,439
65 to 74 Years	11.8%	7.6%	9.4%	6,629	2,166,863	30,547,950
75 Years and Over	8.5%	5.0%	6.7%	4,770	1,426,506	21,814,867
Race: White	92.3%	69.2%	70.4%	51,677	19,805,623	229,960,813
Race: Black or African American	2.9%	12.1%	12.6%	1,608	3,464,424	41,227,384
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	427	137,921	2,688,614
Race: Asian	0.4%	4.9%	5.6%	234	1,415,664	18,421,637
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	6	25,328	611,404
Race: Some Other Race	1.3%	6.2%	5.1%	700	1,788,398	16,783,914
Race: Two or More Races	2.4%	7.0%	5.2%	1,318	1,998,084	16,875,542
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	11.3%	39.4%	18.2%	6,325	11,294,257	59,361,020
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	57,533	29,360,759	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.9%	1.5%	0.6%	496	411,886	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	67.2	111.0	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	52.8%	64.7%	63.2%	23,539	14,214,242	164,759,496
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	74.2%	81.0%	82.4%	14,434	9,378,835	105,137,520
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	7	94,824	1,143,342
Veterans, Age 18-64	6.1%	4.7%	4.5%	1,921	832,547	8,920,267
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	74.2%	78.5%	76.8%	1,426	653,740	6,853,673
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$57,203	\$63,826	\$64,994
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$30,111	\$32,177	\$35,384
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	36.7	26.6	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	1.3%	4.6%	10	166,825	7,044,886
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	13.8%	14.6%	10.5%	3,795	2,171,844	17,929,220
High School Graduate	32.2%	24.4%	25.4%	8,827	3,627,667	43,289,555
Some College, No Degree	28.9%	21.6%	20.5%	7,934	3,213,443	34,959,338
Associate's Degree	9.7%	7.8%	9.3%	2,669	1,163,242	15,776,790
Bachelor's Degree	11.8%	20.8%	21.6%	3,224	3,089,698	36,888,244
Postgraduate Degree	3.6%	10.7%	12.7%	984	1,590,588	21,630,870

About This Report

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Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Van Zandt County, Texas	Texas	USA	Van Zandt County, Texas	Texas	USA
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	23,528	11,112,975	138,432,751
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$152,200	\$187,200	\$229,800
Homeowner Vacancy	1.1%	1.4%	1.4%	183	87,068	1,129,755
Rental Vacancy	5.3%	7.8%	5.8%	244	319,748	2,704,553
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	21.0%	37.7%	35.6%	4,309	3,737,262	43,552,843
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	2.8%	5.2%	8.5%	570	518,950	10,344,521
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	12.7%	14.2%	12.8%	6,995	3,984,260	40,910,326
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	11.7%	11.5%	11.4%	2,401	1,137,919	13,892,407
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	899	414,927	4,358,865
Disconnected Youth ³	3.9%	2.9%	2.5%	111	46,974	433,164
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	30.8%	34.3%	34.0%	3,529	2,407,343	23,628,508
Uninsured	17.5%	17.3%	8.7%	9,666	4,877,069	28,058,903
With a Disability, Age 18-64	14.2%	9.5%	10.3%	4,470	1,635,809	20,231,217
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	31.8%	46.3%	43.2%	1,423	757,894	8,740,236
Foreign Born	3.6%	16.8%	13.5%	1,992	4,822,952	44,125,628
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	2.7%	13.3%	8.2%	1,402	3,531,850	25,312,024

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2016-2020, 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.

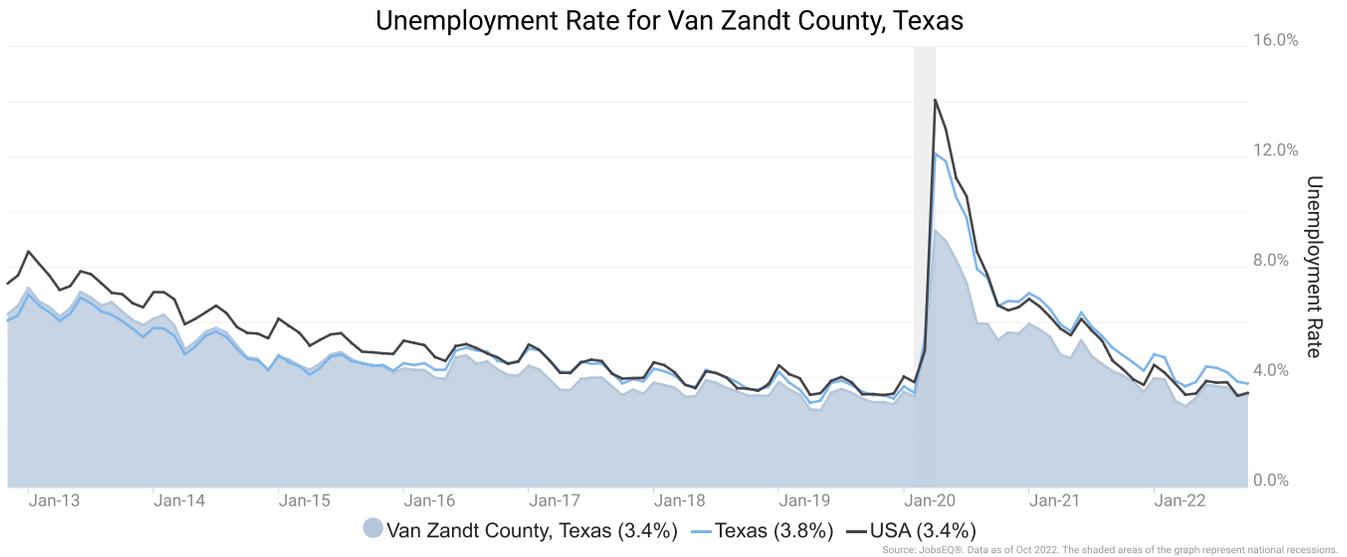
4. Census Population Estimate for 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010.

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Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Van Zandt County, Texas was 3.4% as of October 2022. The regional unemployment rate was the same as the national rate of 3.4%. One year earlier, in October 2021, the unemployment rate in Van Zandt County, Texas was 4.1%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through October 2022.

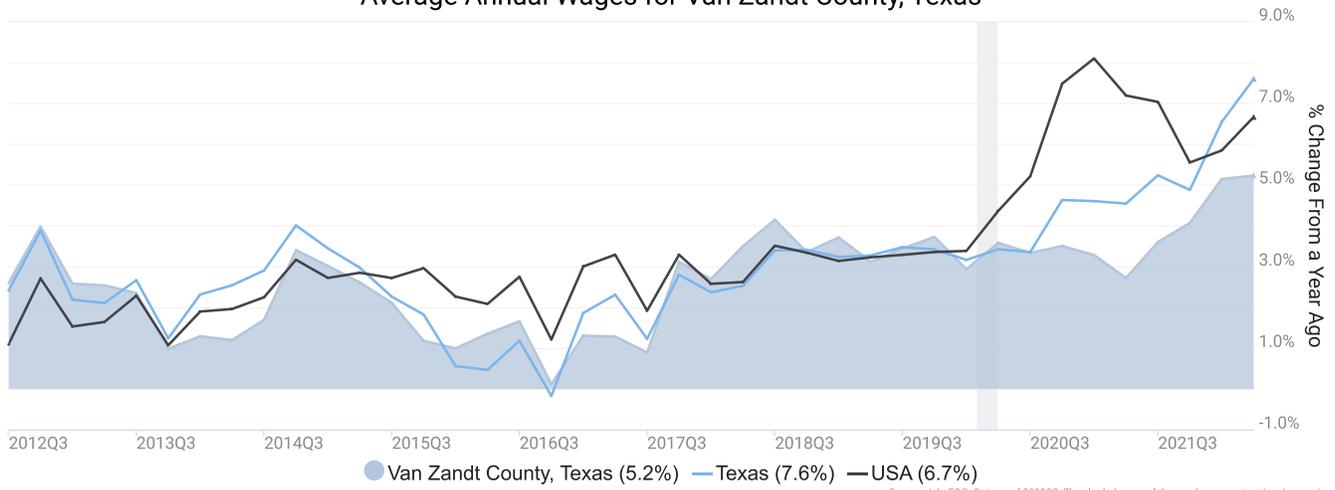
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Wage Trends

The average worker in Van Zandt County, Texas earned annual wages of \$37,331 as of 2022Q2. Average annual wages per worker increased 5.2% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$67,777 in the nation as of 2022Q2.

Average Annual Wages for Van Zandt County, Texas



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 2022Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2022Q2.

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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 5.3% lower in Van Zandt County, Texas than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index	
		(Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Van Zandt County, Texas	\$37,331	94.7	\$39,420
Texas	\$66,137	94.4	\$70,085
USA	\$67,777	100.0	\$67,777

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2022Q2

Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2022Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

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Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Van Zandt County, Texas is Management Occupations, employing 1,854 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (1,559 workers) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1,519). 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 = 3.45), Management Occupations (1.78), and Construction and Extraction Occupations (1.73).

Occupation groups in Van Zandt County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$97,800), Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$75,700), and Management Occupations (\$75,300). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.1% among Legal Occupations to 6.4% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in Van Zandt County, Texas is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.8% 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 (+42 jobs) and Management Occupations (+23). 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 (299 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (217).

Van Zandt County, Texas, 2022Q2¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			Total Demand	1-Year Forecast			
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11-0000	Management	1,854	\$75,300	1.78	26	1.4%	47	-53	-0.6%	192	83	87	23	1.2%
41-0000	Sales and Related	1,559	\$36,000	1.09	101	4.6%	178	151	2.1%	227	89	128	9	0.6%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,519	\$22,900	1.27	164	6.4%	71	81	1.1%	341	129	170	42	2.7%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	1,380	\$36,500	0.73	82	2.9%	29	7	0.1%	160	67	86	7	0.5%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	1,250	\$44,000	1.53	26	2.3%	26	39	0.6%	130	50	59	21	1.7%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	1,191	\$41,900	1.73	98	5.4%	3	79	1.4%	142	37	87	18	1.5%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	1,046	\$35,900	0.78	108	5.0%	63	134	2.8%	154	51	87	16	1.5%
51-0000	Production	840	\$39,300	0.97	65	4.1%	5	80	2.0%	103	32	63	9	1.0%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	696	\$45,800	1.18	33	2.3%	7	88	2.7%	82	23	48	11	1.6%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	610	\$28,200	1.21	47	4.9%	13	117	4.3%	91	35	47	9	1.4%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	542	\$65,800	0.55	8	1.8%	17	140	6.1%	56	15	33	8	1.5%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	476	\$25,500	0.71	44	3.5%	46	16	0.7%	81	34	33	13	2.8%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	374	\$26,000	1.01	31	5.4%	3	28	1.6%	69	26	32	10	2.8%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	365	\$68,200	0.41	11	1.2%	69	-13	-0.7%	30	10	13	7	1.9%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	341	\$28,800	3.45	20	5.6%	3	4	0.2%	59	15	40	4	1.2%
33-0000	Protective Service	258	\$43,200	0.79	11	2.2%	13	1	0.1%	36	14	17	5	1.8%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	239	\$48,700	0.88	3	1.5%	13	-13	-1.1%	31	9	17	5	2.3%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	226	\$75,700	0.43	2	1.3%	8	74	8.3%	20	5	12	4	1.6%

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Van Zandt County, Texas, 2022Q2¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			1-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	173	\$72,900	0.70	5	1.8%	2	59	8.7%	16	5	9	2	1.4%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	169	\$47,200	0.63	6	4.7%	7	-5	-0.6%	21	7	11	3	1.9%
23-0000	Legal	86	\$97,800	0.66	1	1.1%	1	-4	-0.8%	7	2	3	1	1.4%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	68	\$74,000	0.51	1	2.1%	5	16	5.6%	7	2	4	1	1.6%
Total - All Occupations		15,263	\$44,000	1.00	892	3.8%	629	1,027	1.4%	2,058	740	1,087	231	1.5%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2022Q2 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 are as of 2021 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. 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).

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 2022Q1, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2022Q2. Wages by occupation are as of 2021 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.

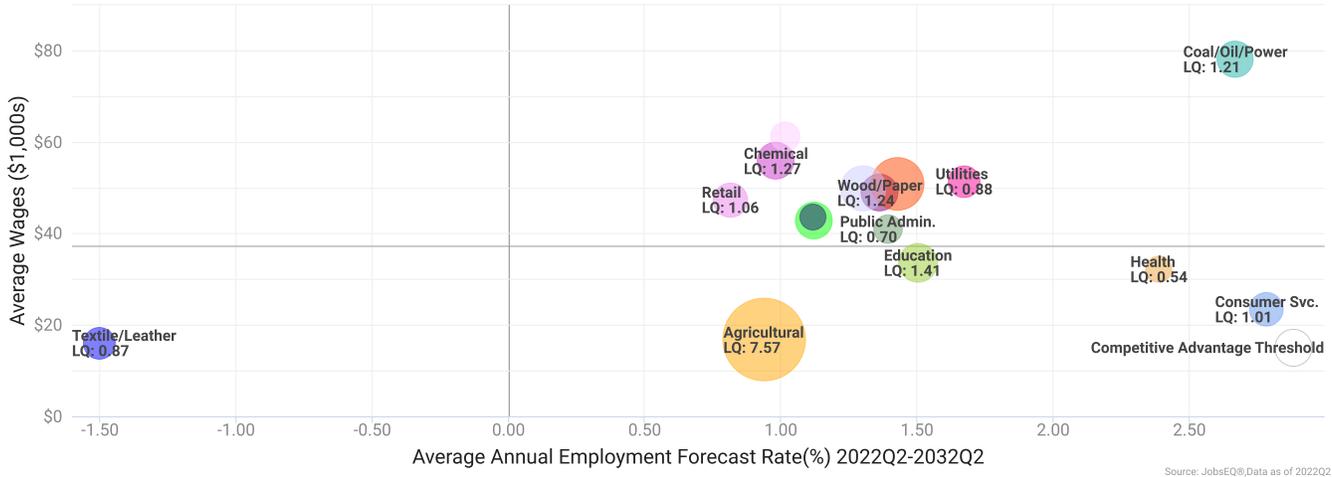
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Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Van Zandt County, Texas with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 7.57. This cluster employs 1,638 workers in the region with an average wage of \$16,821. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.9% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Van Zandt County, Texas as of 2022Q2



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 2022Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2022Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

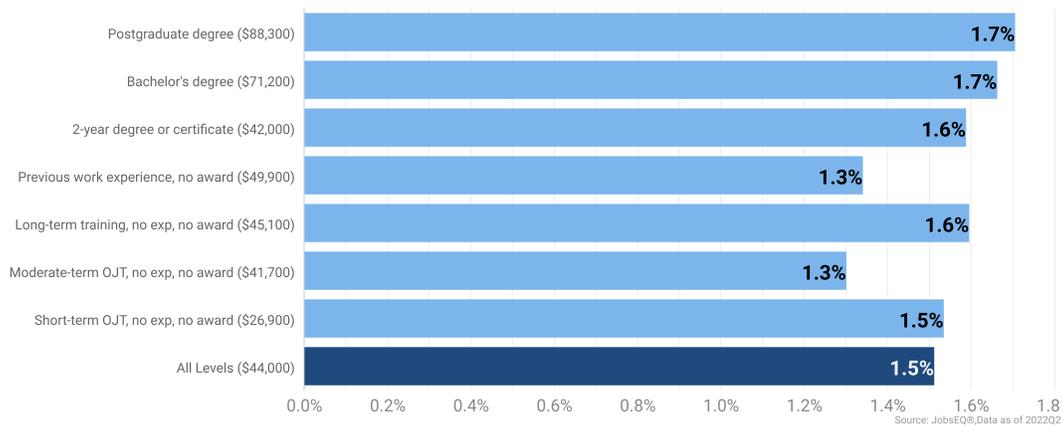
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Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Van Zandt County, Texas is projected to grow 1.5% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.7% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 1.7% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.6% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required



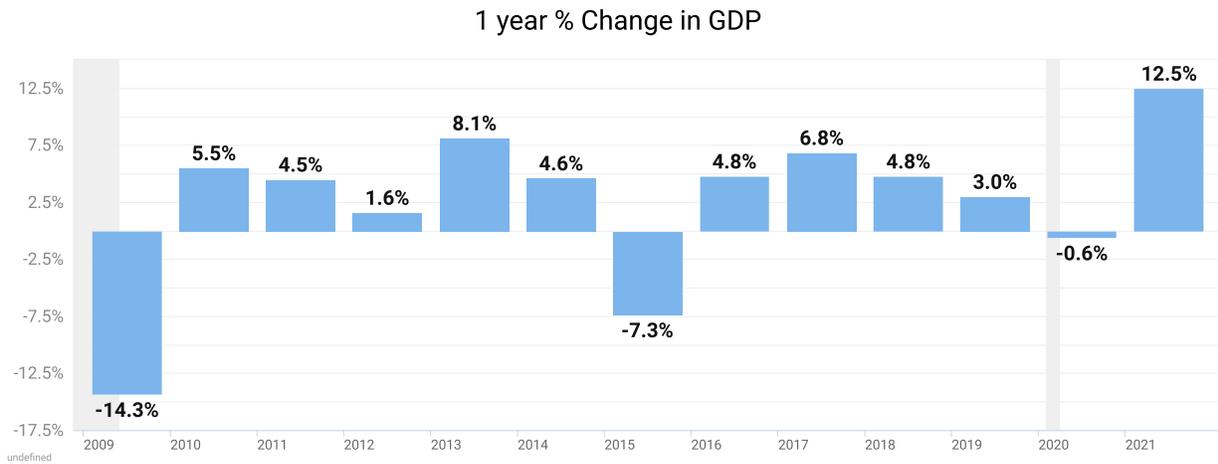
Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2022Q2. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

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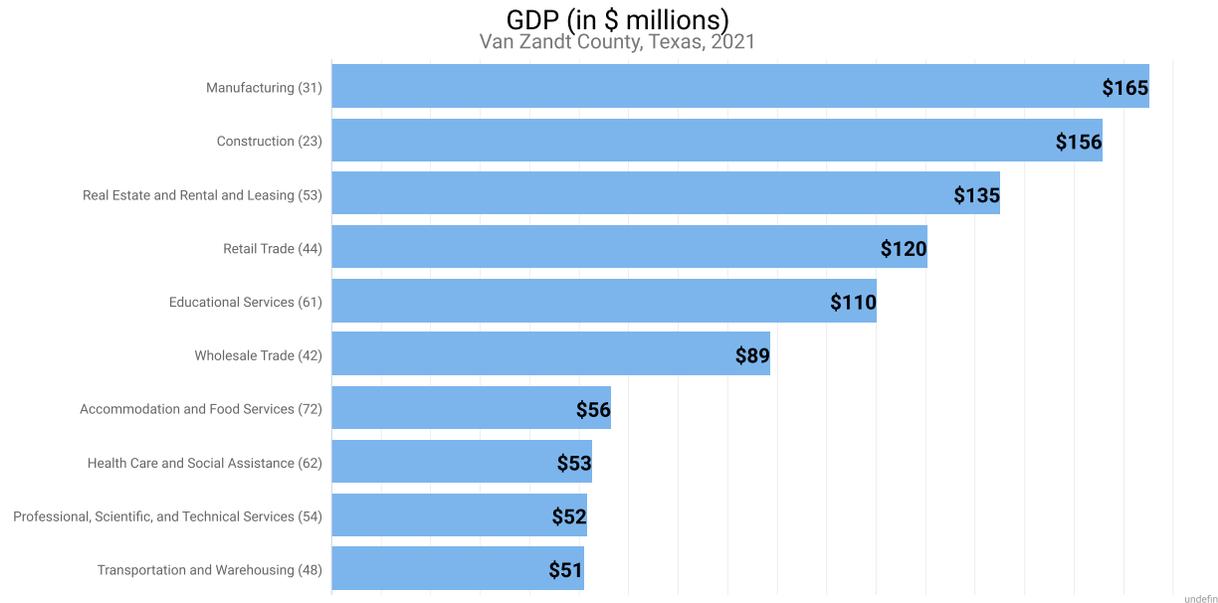
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2021, nominal GDP in Van Zandt County, Texas expanded 12.5%. This follows a contraction of 0.6% in 2020. As of 2021, total GDP in Van Zandt County, Texas was \$1,248,814,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2021.

Of the sectors in Van Zandt County, Texas, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2021, \$165,115,000. The next-largest contributions came from Construction (\$155,687,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$135,051,000); and Retail Trade (\$120,280,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2021.

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