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Anderson County Economic Overview 2026

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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 Anderson County, Texas was 57,825 per American Community Survey data for 2019-2023. The region has a civilian labor force of 21,670 with a participation rate of 45.2%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Anderson County, Texas, 12.4% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 36.5% in the nation. The median household income in Anderson County, Texas is \$58,846 and the median house value is \$173,400.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Anderson County, Texas	Texas	USA	Anderson County, Texas	Texas	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	57,825	29,640,343	332,387,540
Male	61.1%	49.9%	49.5%	35,335	14,789,987	164,545,087
Female	38.9%	50.1%	50.5%	22,490	14,850,356	167,842,453
Median Age ²	—	—	—	39.5	35.5	38.7
Under 18 Years	19.4%	25.2%	22.2%	11,217	7,482,530	73,645,238
18 to 24 Years	8.4%	9.7%	9.1%	4,859	2,863,182	30,307,641
25 to 34 Years	14.8%	14.4%	13.7%	8,573	4,278,912	45,497,632
35 to 44 Years	16.2%	14.0%	13.1%	9,392	4,141,445	43,492,887
45 to 54 Years	14.5%	12.3%	12.3%	8,361	3,645,897	40,847,713
55 to 64 Years	11.6%	11.2%	12.8%	6,725	3,322,832	42,626,382
65 to 74 Years	9.1%	8.1%	10.0%	5,250	2,399,654	33,293,127
75 Years and Over	6.0%	5.1%	6.8%	3,448	1,505,891	22,676,920
Race: White	60.2%	53.9%	63.4%	34,824	15,984,990	210,875,446
Race: Black or African American	18.8%	12.2%	12.4%	10,860	3,626,137	41,070,890
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.9%	0.6%	0.9%	494	190,706	2,924,996
Race: Asian	0.6%	5.3%	5.8%	330	1,581,798	19,352,659
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	58	29,841	629,292
Race: Some Other Race	3.3%	8.6%	6.6%	1,900	2,540,808	21,940,536
Race: Two or More Races	16.2%	19.2%	10.7%	9,359	5,686,063	35,593,721
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	19.3%	39.5%	19.0%	11,182	11,697,134	63,131,589
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	59,512	31,290,831	340,110,988
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.3%	1.5%	0.7%	167	432,774	2,172,466
People per Square Mile ⁴	—	—	—	56.0	119.8	96.3
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	45.2%	65.1%	63.3%	21,670	14,906,660	168,567,852
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	54.5%	81.8%	83.0%	14,333	9,805,842	107,055,165
Work from Home	4.8%	12.8%	13.5%	979	1,796,441	21,267,373
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	0.5%	0.5%	70	118,359	1,287,774
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.5%	4.6%	4.2%	2,065	832,188	8,410,268
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	61.4%	78.8%	77.0%	1,267	655,396	6,478,181
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$58,846	\$76,292	\$78,538
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$25,793	\$39,446	\$43,289
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	24.6	26.7	26.6
Commute via Public Transportation	1.0%	1.0%	3.5%	205	133,038	5,528,841
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	15.3%	13.5%	10.0%	5,071	2,072,973	17,176,172
High School Graduate	39.7%	24.0%	25.0%	13,105	3,691,942	43,057,491

About This Report

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Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Anderson County, Texas	Texas	USA	Anderson County, Texas	Texas	USA
Some College, No Degree	22.9%	20.4%	19.3%	7,557	3,139,587	33,315,654
Associate's Degree	9.7%	8.1%	9.2%	3,206	1,242,119	15,894,085
Bachelor's Degree	9.4%	22.1%	22.8%	3,120	3,405,293	39,256,774
Postgraduate Degree	3.0%	11.9%	13.8%	992	1,837,172	23,764,438
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	20,474	11,890,808	142,332,876
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ^{2,5}	—	—	—	\$173,400	\$260,400	\$303,400
Homeowner Vacancy	0.9%	1.1%	1.0%	115	75,671	850,724
Rental Vacancy	6.2%	7.4%	5.5%	347	326,361	2,605,688
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	30.0%	37.4%	35.0%	5,136	4,023,511	44,590,828
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	70.0%	62.6%	65.0%	12,006	6,723,729	82,892,037
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	6.3%	5.3%	8.3%	1,088	571,578	10,602,826
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	17.1%	13.8%	12.4%	7,975	4,005,417	40,390,045
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	15.9%	11.4%	11.8%	2,731	1,227,194	15,004,950
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	845	428,613	4,405,676
Disconnected Youth ³	6.9%	2.9%	2.4%	177	49,544	420,352
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	37.6%	33.9%	34.0%	3,950	2,416,209	23,701,745
Uninsured	18.3%	17.4%	8.6%	8,536	5,061,251	28,000,876
With a Disability, Age 18-64	16.6%	10.0%	10.7%	4,539	1,783,307	21,269,700
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	53.0%	51.7%	47.0%	2,404	921,178	10,001,264
Foreign Born	6.5%	17.2%	13.9%	3,770	5,095,888	46,108,901
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	4.6%	12.8%	8.4%	2,521	3,559,545	26,299,012

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2019-2023, 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.

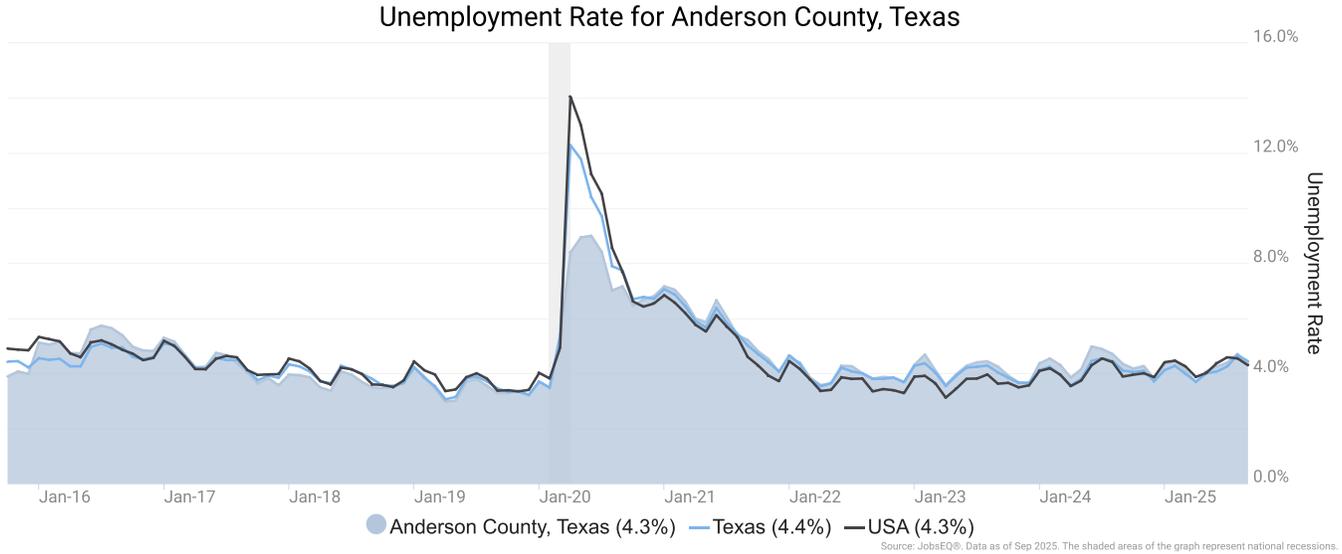
5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data. with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2.

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Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Anderson County, Texas was 4.3% as of September 2025. The regional unemployment rate was the same as the national rate of 4.3%. One year earlier, in September 2024, the unemployment rate in Anderson County, Texas was 4.3%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through September 2025.

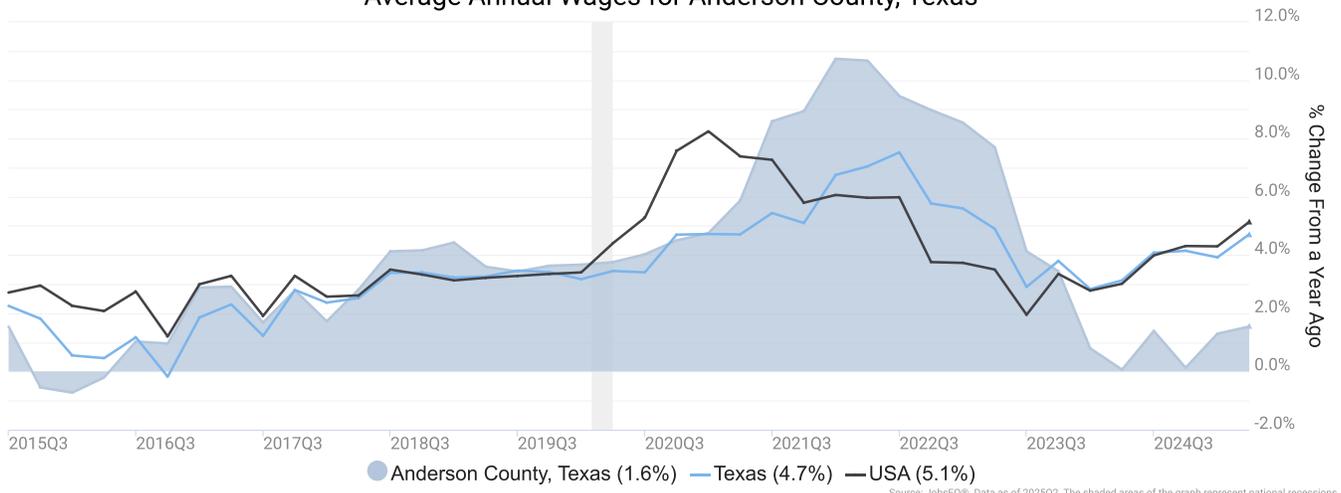
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Wage Trends

The average worker in Anderson County, Texas earned annual wages of \$57,311 as of 2025Q2. Average annual wages per worker increased 1.6% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$75,686 in the nation as of 2025Q2.

Average Annual Wages for Anderson 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 2025Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2.

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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 9.6% lower in Anderson County, Texas than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Anderson County, Texas	\$57,311	90.4	\$63,415
Texas	\$74,720	93.1	\$80,256
USA	\$75,686	100.0	\$75,686

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2025Q2

Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2025Q2, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

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Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Anderson County, Texas is Transportation and Material Moving Occupations, employing 2,997 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (2,300 workers) and Management Occupations (2,244). 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 Protective Service Occupations (LQ = 2.51), Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (1.55), and Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (1.49).

Occupation groups in Anderson County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$107,400), Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$105,200), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$102,000). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.3% among Legal Occupations to 7.0% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in Anderson County, Texas is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.5% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (+19 jobs) and Management Occupations (+16). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (362 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (297).

Anderson County, Texas, 2025Q2¹

SOC	Occupation	Current					5-Year History			1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	2,997	\$46,400	1.55	179	5.9%	56	41	0.3%	381	152	210	19	0.6%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	2,300	\$46,400	0.90	89	3.7%	29	-267	-2.2%	248	117	132	0	0.0%
11-0000	Management	2,244	\$107,400	1.26	35	1.8%	51	194	1.8%	205	87	103	16	0.7%
41-0000	Sales and Related	1,784	\$46,900	0.91	104	5.8%	82	105	1.2%	240	112	128	0	0.0%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,560	\$30,600	0.84	112	6.6%	83	89	1.2%	307	133	164	9	0.6%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	1,277	\$56,500	1.04	32	3.3%	15	24	0.4%	115	55	56	4	0.3%
33-0000	Protective Service	1,246	\$56,900	2.51	20	2.0%	11	-404	-5.5%	115	44	69	1	0.1%
51-0000	Production	1,243	\$47,800	1.03	67	4.7%	10	46	0.8%	150	57	86	7	0.5%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	1,073	\$102,000	0.79	15	1.9%	226	141	2.9%	73	32	29	12	1.1%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	1,051	\$58,500	1.21	40	3.1%	28	-20	-0.4%	102	41	53	8	0.8%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	999	\$53,600	0.98	62	5.2%	3	-107	-2.0%	90	32	49	8	0.8%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	993	\$81,000	0.67	26	3.4%	7	96	2.0%	89	31	49	10	1.0%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	824	\$35,100	0.76	33	3.8%	62	-6	-0.1%	126	55	60	12	1.5%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	634	\$36,300	0.85	32	4.9%	6	-25	-0.8%	90	41	46	3	0.5%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	586	\$105,200	0.81	16	3.7%	3	157	6.4%	41	13	20	8	1.4%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	439	\$35,600	0.75	22	5.0%	11	83	4.3%	77	30	44	3	0.8%

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Anderson County, Texas, 2025Q2¹

SOC	Occupation	Current					5-Year History			1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
21-0000	Community and Social Service	396	\$60,300	0.93	6	2.9%	20	-16	-0.8%	41	16	20	4	1.1%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	228	\$60,700	0.57	4	4.5%	6	25	2.3%	22	9	12	1	0.6%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	209	\$95,100	0.59	4	3.2%	4	22	2.3%	16	5	8	2	1.0%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	193	\$39,600	1.49	10	7.0%	2	40	4.7%	28	13	15	0	0.0%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	186	\$77,000	0.89	2	3.8%	2	19	2.2%	18	4	12	2	1.0%
23-0000	Legal	125	\$101,700	0.66	1	1.3%	0	-34	-4.7%	7	3	4	1	0.7%
Total - All Occupations		22,587	\$59,600	1.00	912	4.3%	717	205	0.2%	2,583	1,080	1,370	133	0.6%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2025Q2 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 2025Q1, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2. 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.

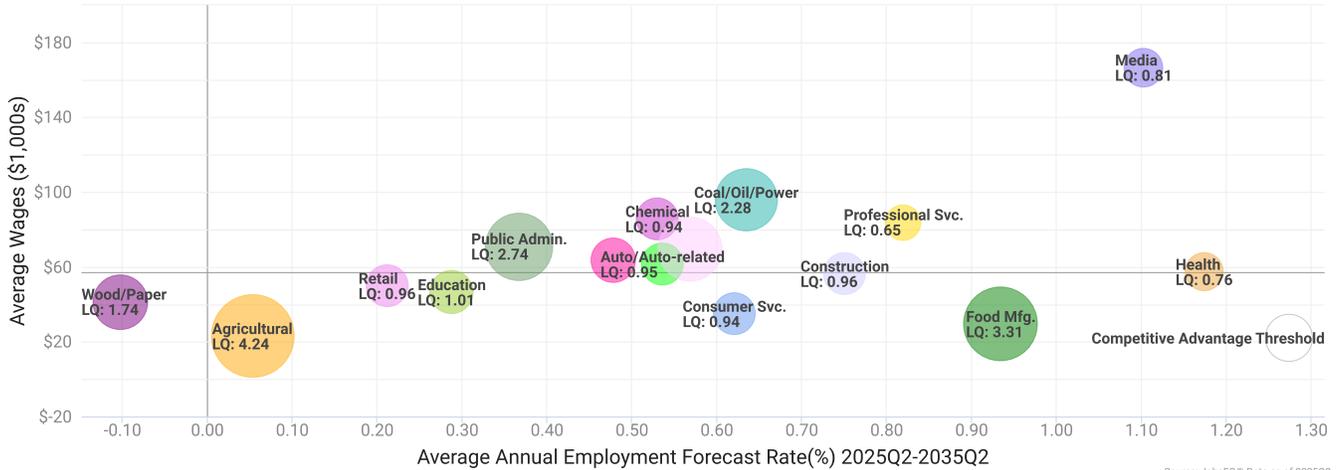
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Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Anderson County, Texas with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 4.24. This cluster employs 925 workers in the region with an average wage of \$23,066. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.1% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Anderson County, Texas as of 2025Q2



Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2025Q2

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 2025Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

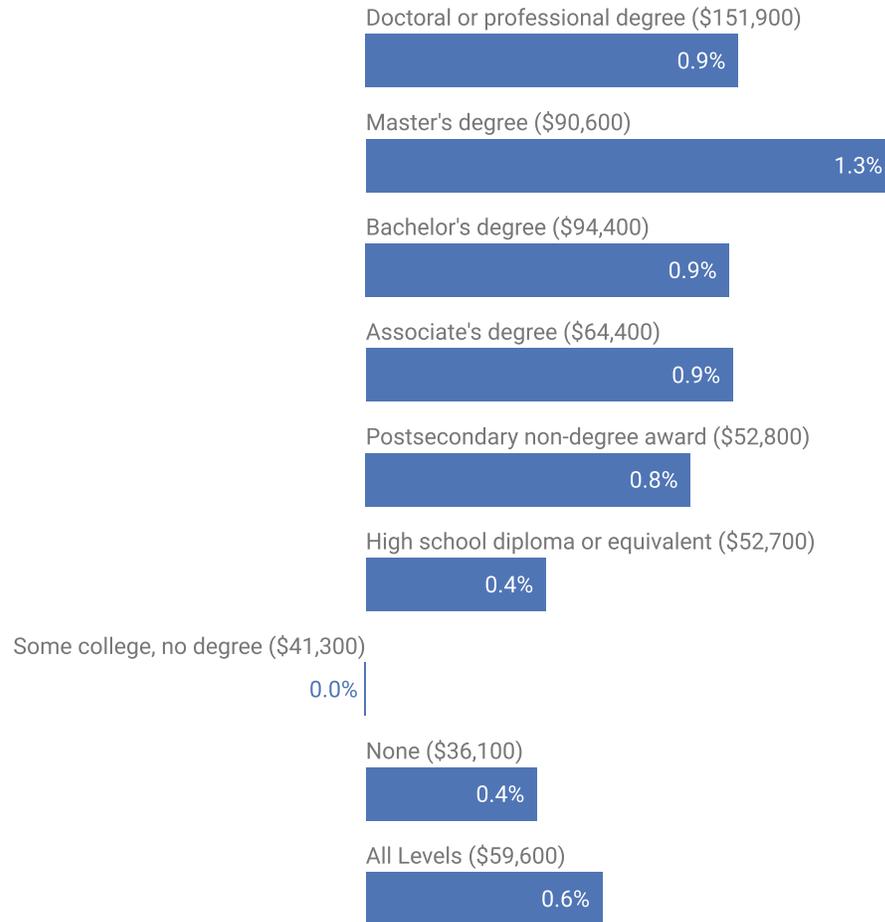
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Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Anderson County, Texas is projected to grow 0.6% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.9% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.9% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.9% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2025Q2

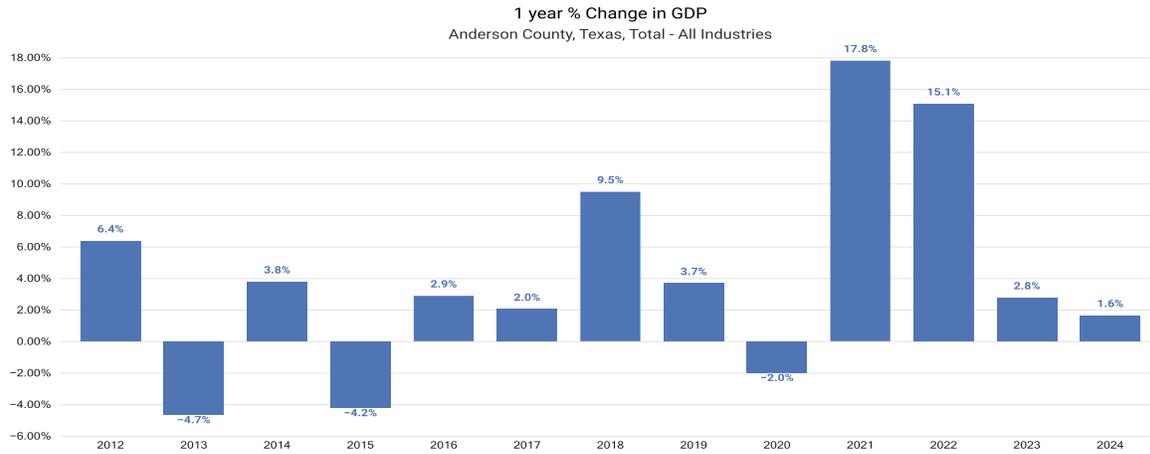
Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2025Q2. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

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Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2024, nominal GDP in Anderson County, Texas expanded 1.6%. This follows growth of 2.8% in 2023. As of 2024, total GDP in Anderson County, Texas was \$2,924,838,000.



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

Of the sectors in Anderson County, Texas, Transportation and Warehousing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2024, \$312,394,000. The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$266,117,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$264,783,000); and Retail Trade (\$241,506,000).

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GDP (in \$ millions)

Anderson County, Texas, 2024

Transportation and Warehousing (48)



Manufacturing (31)



Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)



Retail Trade (44)



Public Administration (92)



Information (51)



Health Care and Social Assistance (62)



Educational Services (61)



Wholesale Trade (42)



Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54)



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

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