



Economic Overview

Port Lavaca, TX



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Demographic Profile

The population in the Port Lavaca city, TX was 11,654 per American Community Survey data for 2017-2021.

The region has a civilian labor force of 5,918 with a participation rate of 63.3%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Port Lavaca city, TX, 17.7% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.1% in the nation.

The median household income in the Port Lavaca city, TX is \$58,221 and the median house value is \$108,500.

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Port Lavaca city, TX	Texas	USA	Port Lavaca city, TX	Texas	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	11,654	28,862,581	329,725,481
Male	51.4%	49.9%	49.5%	5,987	14,398,171	163,206,615
Female	48.6%	50.1%	50.5%	5,667	14,464,410	166,518,866
Median Age ²	—	—	—	36.7	35.0	38.4
Under 18 Years	24.3%	25.8%	22.5%	2,836	7,446,176	74,234,075
18 to 24 Years	10.0%	9.7%	9.2%	1,161	2,796,936	30,339,089
25 to 34 Years	12.8%	14.5%	13.8%	1,487	4,180,029	45,360,942
35 to 44 Years	12.5%	13.8%	12.9%	1,460	3,979,307	42,441,883
45 to 54 Years	10.6%	12.4%	12.6%	1,235	3,575,796	41,631,458
55 to 64 Years	13.1%	11.3%	13.0%	1,524	3,263,539	42,829,413
65 to 74 Years	7.8%	7.7%	9.6%	911	2,233,217	31,590,619
75 Years and Over	8.9%	4.8%	6.5%	1,040	1,387,581	21,298,002
Race: White	70.7%	64.3%	68.2%	8,241	18,566,027	224,789,109
Race: Black or African American	3.7%	12.1%	12.6%	427	3,499,862	41,393,012
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%	18	147,892	2,722,661
Race: Asian	7.0%	5.0%	5.7%	821	1,452,713	18,782,924
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0	24,608	615,557
Race: Some Other Race	6.7%	7.0%	5.6%	776	2,019,394	18,382,796
Race: Two or More Races	11.8%	10.9%	7.0%	1,371	3,152,085	23,039,422
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	63.0%	39.8%	18.4%	7,346	11,479,932	60,806,969
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	63.3%	64.9%	63.4%	5,918	14,390,216	166,672,597
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	86.8%	81.3%	82.5%	3,630	9,491,638	106,173,534
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0	102,600	1,196,529
Veterans, Age 18-64	4.9%	4.8%	4.4%	336	841,980	8,848,937
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	71.4%	78.8%	77.0%	240	663,239	6,809,906
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$58,221	\$67,321	\$69,021
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$29,509	\$34,255	\$37,638
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	15.8	26.6	26.8
Commute via Public Transportation	0.6%	1.1%	4.2%	34	152,475	6,472,373
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	20.1%	14.3%	10.3%	1,145	2,140,415	17,756,046
High School Graduate	34.5%	24.2%	25.3%	1,967	3,628,137	43,535,564
Some College, No Degree	18.5%	21.3%	20.1%	1,055	3,190,758	34,637,141
Associate's Degree	9.3%	7.9%	9.3%	528	1,182,642	15,944,395
Bachelor's Degree	10.4%	21.3%	22.0%	596	3,189,631	37,890,674
Postgraduate Degree	7.3%	11.1%	13.1%	415	1,667,088	22,499,876
Housing						

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Port Lavaca city, TX	Texas	USA	Port Lavaca city, TX	Texas	USA
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	4,835	11,433,880	139,647,020
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$108,500	\$202,600	\$244,900
Homeowner Vacancy	1.0%	1.3%	1.2%	30	85,038	1,021,651
Rental Vacancy	12.7%	7.6%	5.7%	171	320,865	2,674,125
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	26.7%	37.6%	35.4%	1,131	3,848,280	43,858,831
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	4.1%	5.2%	8.3%	172	533,515	10,349,174
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	11.4%	14.0%	12.6%	1,295	3,965,117	40,661,636
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	17.8%	11.5%	11.4%	754	1,178,059	14,105,231
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.5%	1.5%	1.3%	178	421,868	4,425,322
Disconnected Youth ³	0.0%	2.9%	2.5%	0	48,045	432,389
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	44.7%	34.0%	34.0%	1,090	2,410,770	23,909,672
Uninsured	15.4%	17.6%	8.8%	1,763	4,995,381	28,489,142
With a Disability, Age 18-64	16.1%	9.5%	10.3%	1,095	1,651,720	20,537,729
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	55.3%	48.0%	44.2%	605	792,979	9,068,973
Foreign Born	18.8%	17.0%	13.6%	2,193	4,904,169	44,844,808
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	18.1%	13.1%	8.2%	1,985	3,532,172	25,535,259

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

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.

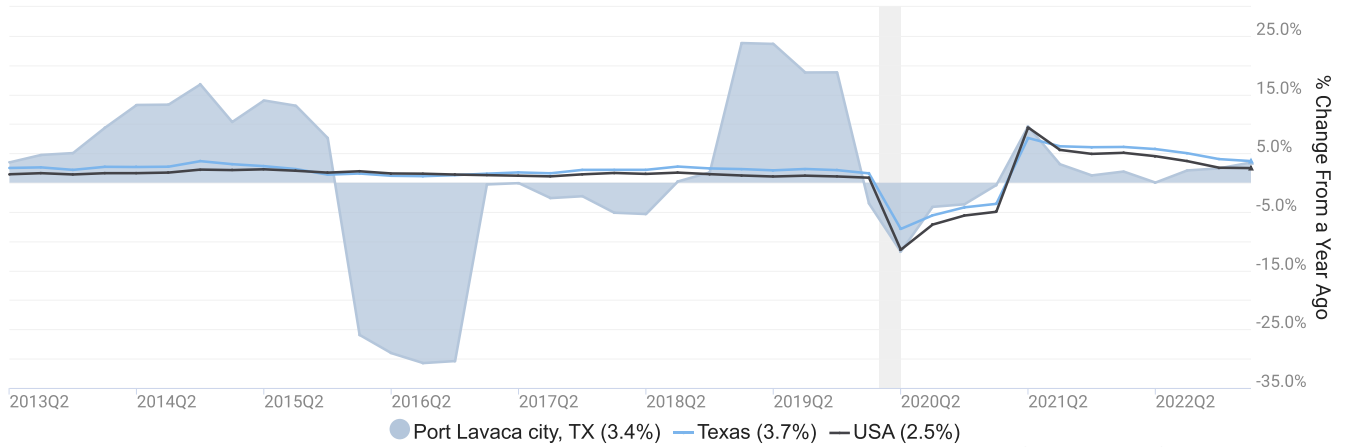
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

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 2023Q1, total employment for the Port Lavaca city, TX was 5,613 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2023Q1, employment increased 3.4% in the region.

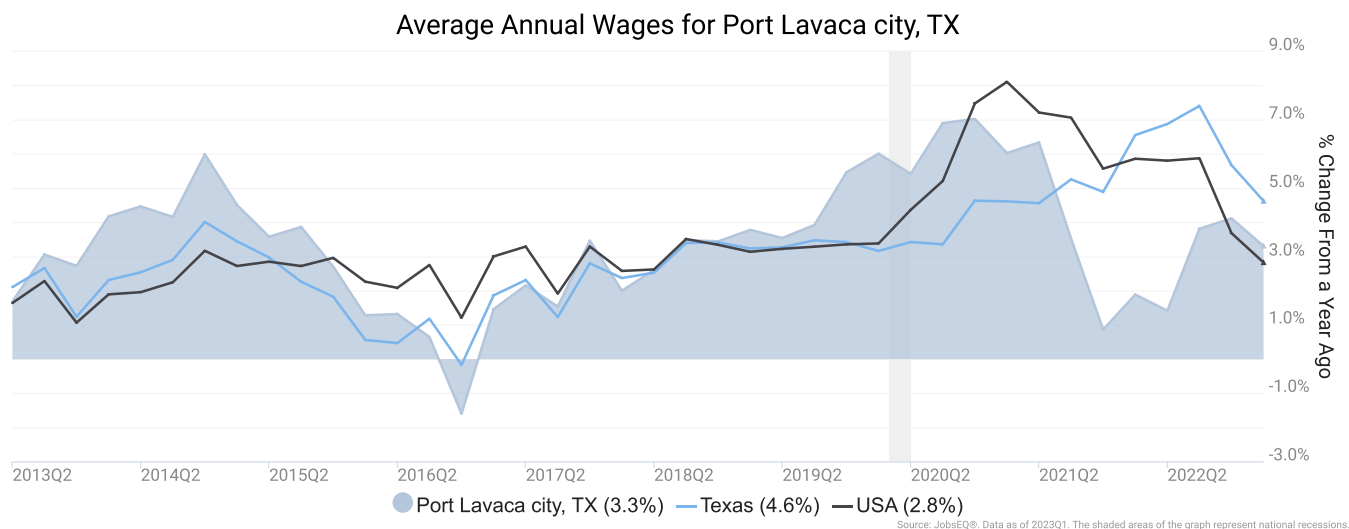
Employment for Port Lavaca city, TX



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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1.

Wage Trends

The average worker in the Port Lavaca city, TX earned annual wages of \$73,207 as of 2023Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 3.3% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$68,501 in the nation as of 2023Q1.



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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1.

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 13.5% lower in Port Lavaca city, TX than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information			
	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Port Lavaca city, TX	\$73,207	86.5	\$84,659
Texas	\$67,839	94.5	\$71,789
USA	\$68,501	100.0	\$68,501

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

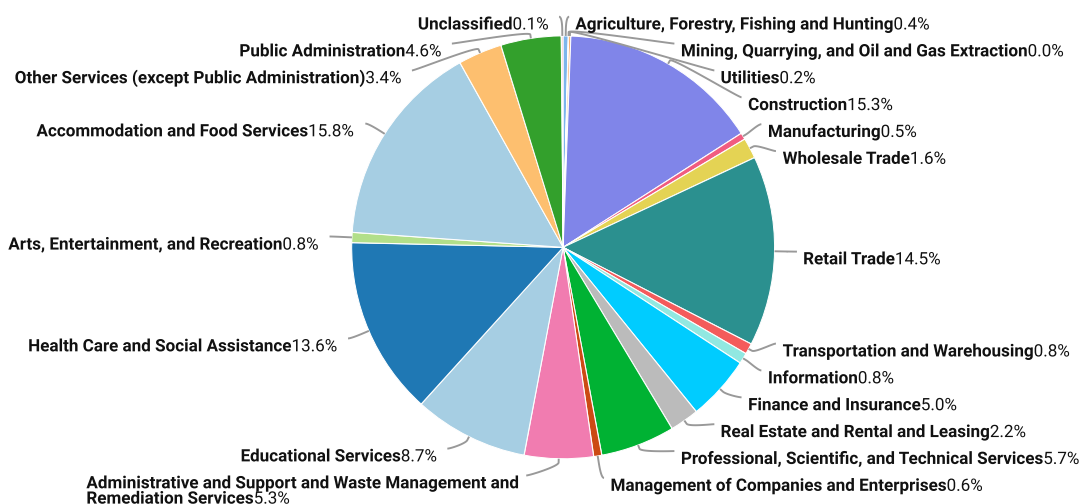
Data as of 2023Q1

Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2023Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in the Port Lavaca city, TX is Accommodation and Food Services, employing 884 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Construction (861 workers) and Retail Trade (816). 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 Construction (LQ = 2.58), Accommodation and Food Services (1.84), and Retail Trade (1.46).

Total Workers for Port Lavaca city, TX by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2023Q1

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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1.

Sectors in the Port Lavaca city, TX with the highest average wages per worker are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (\$148,563), Manufacturing (\$116,660), and Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$114,609). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Construction (+494 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+205), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+192).

Over the next 5 years, employment in the Port Lavaca city, TX is projected to expand by 65 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction with a +1.3% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Accommodation and Food Services (+57 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+17), and Other Services (except Public Administration) (+10).

Port Lavaca city, TX, 2023Q1¹

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
72	Accommodation and Food Services	884	\$22,125	1.84	205	5.4%	850	359	435	57	1.2%
23	Construction	861	\$67,106	2.58	494	18.6%	428	151	271	6	0.1%
44	Retail Trade	816	\$54,838	1.46	30	0.8%	561	247	326	-12	-0.3%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	766	\$57,377	0.95	-8	-0.2%	415	183	215	17	0.4%
61	Educational Services	491	\$47,911	1.10	-94	-3.5%	210	112	124	-26	-1.1%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	319	\$89,917	0.77	192	20.3%	149	53	91	5	0.3%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	296	\$45,293	0.82	70	5.6%	179	73	106	0	0.0%
52	Finance and Insurance	278	\$90,368	1.24	70	6.0%	137	50	82	5	0.4%
92	Public Administration	259	\$52,338	1.01	2	0.1%	126	53	75	-2	-0.2%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	189	\$25,176	0.78	69	9.5%	127	49	68	10	1.1%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	125	\$101,969	1.25	14	2.4%	63	29	35	-1	-0.2%
42	Wholesale Trade	88	\$81,146	0.42	30	8.5%	49	18	31	0	0.0%
51	Information	47	\$63,021	0.41	-14	-5.0%	26	8	15	3	1.2%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	46	\$77,622	0.16	4	2.1%	27	11	16	0	-0.2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	44	\$30,604	0.40	-13	-5.2%	35	14	19	2	1.0%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	35	\$114,609	0.40	9	6.4%	17	6	10	0	0.1%
31	Manufacturing	29	\$116,660	0.06	-118	-27.8%	15	6	10	0	-0.2%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	22	\$46,637	0.30	-6	-4.5%	13	6	8	0	-0.4%
22	Utilities	10	\$81,947	0.34	7	35.6%	4	2	3	0	-0.7%
99	Unclassified	7	\$55,514	0.66	1	4.0%	4	2	2	0	0.1%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	2	\$148,563	0.09	-17	-37.4%	1	0	1	0	1.3%
Total - All Industries		5,613	\$73,207	1.00	929	3.7%	3,316	1,358	1,893	65	0.2%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2023Q1

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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in the Port Lavaca city, TX is Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations, employing 731 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (632 workers) and Construction and Extraction Occupations (593). 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 Construction and Extraction Occupations (LQ = 2.34), Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1.63), and Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (1.19).

Occupation groups in the Port Lavaca city, TX with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$119,300), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$108,000), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$106,900). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.6% among Management Occupations to 6.0% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in the Port Lavaca city, TX is expected to be Personal Care and Service Occupations with a +1.3% 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 (+43 jobs) and Management Occupations (+9). 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 (718 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (408).

Port Lavaca city, TX, 2023Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	731	\$29,900	1.63	34	6.0%	n/a	152	4.8%	762	326	392	43	1.2%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	632	\$44,600	0.91	25	3.4%	n/a	56	1.9%	359	169	211	-21	-0.7%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	593	\$52,700	2.34	51	4.8%	n/a	311	16.0%	302	103	192	7	0.2%
41-0000	Sales and Related	587	\$50,900	1.12	24	4.6%	n/a	37	1.3%	399	182	226	-9	-0.3%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	376	\$43,900	0.77	33	5.6%	n/a	72	4.4%	277	105	165	6	0.3%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	356	\$55,900	1.19	6	2.8%	n/a	-35	-1.9%	141	74	79	-12	-0.7%
11-0000	Management	341	\$119,300	0.89	8	1.6%	n/a	87	6.1%	158	49	100	9	0.5%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	340	\$90,900	1.05	4	1.7%	n/a	28	1.7%	107	52	52	4	0.2%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	268	\$86,200	0.74	7	2.2%	n/a	111	11.3%	124	40	78	6	0.4%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	249	\$61,200	1.15	10	2.1%	n/a	52	4.8%	125	45	77	2	0.2%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	191	\$33,700	1.03	11	5.4%	n/a	-4	-0.4%	135	62	69	4	0.4%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	165	\$34,900	0.67	5	3.5%	n/a	-35	-3.7%	128	53	68	7	0.9%
33-0000	Protective Service	140	\$54,000	1.17	3	3.2%	n/a	-4	-0.6%	75	34	41	0	0.1%
51-0000	Production	134	\$61,200	0.42	31	3.2%	n/a	-11	-1.6%	77	31	48	-1	-0.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	127	\$33,300	0.92	4	4.4%	n/a	11	1.9%	125	48	69	8	1.3%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	114	\$106,900	0.59	2	2.1%	n/a	49	11.9%	46	13	28	5	0.9%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	94	\$108,000	1.02	5	2.2%	n/a	24	6.2%	37	13	23	1	0.2%

Port Lavaca city, TX, 2023Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
21-0000	Community and Social Service	61	\$57,200	0.61	0	n/a	n/a	5	1.8%	32	12	18	2	0.7%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	49	\$55,400	0.50	1	4.0%	n/a	8	3.4%	26	10	15	1	0.2%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	32	\$85,100	0.64	2	2.2%	n/a	6	4.3%	15	3	12	0	0.1%
23-0000	Legal	25	\$103,400	0.53	0	n/a	n/a	10	10.7%	10	4	5	1	0.8%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	7	\$33,700	0.21	3	5.5%	n/a	-1	-2.9%	6	2	4	0	0.1%
Total - All Occupations		5,613	\$62,300	1.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	929	3.7%	3,469	1,431	1,972	66	0.2%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2023Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

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

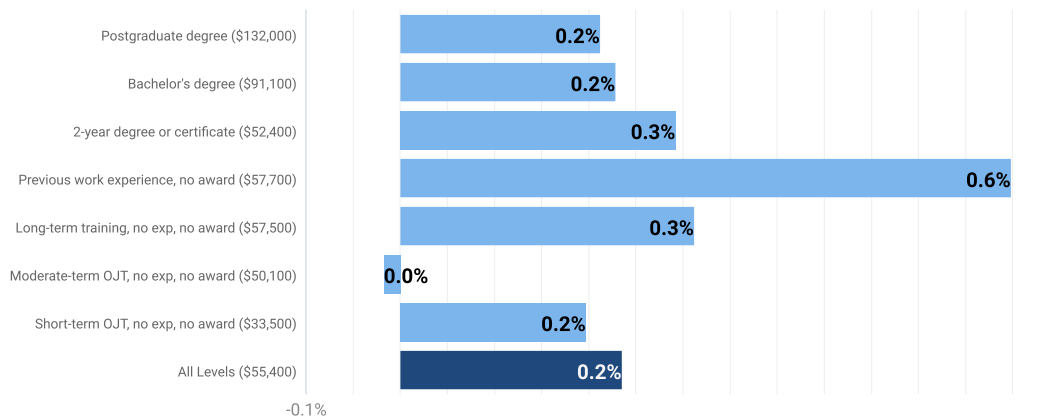
2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

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 2022Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1. 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.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in the Port Lavaca city, TX is projected to grow 0.2% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.2% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.2% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.3% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2023Q1

Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2023Q1. 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.

Port Lavaca city, TX 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

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