



Click on each item for more detail

AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

AUGUST 2026



4.6%
Unemployment Rate

423,617
Labor Force

17
Avg. Weeks Return to
Work (Last 12 Mos.)

926
Active
UI Claimants

200
Jobs Added

-800
Jobs Lost

53 Hot Jobs
FY 2026



2,049
Current Job
Openings

Click on each item for more detail

QUARTER

415
Number of Grads
2025Q2

\$1,033
Avg. Weekly Wage
2026Q1

88.0
Cost of Living Index
2026Q2

Click on each item for more detail

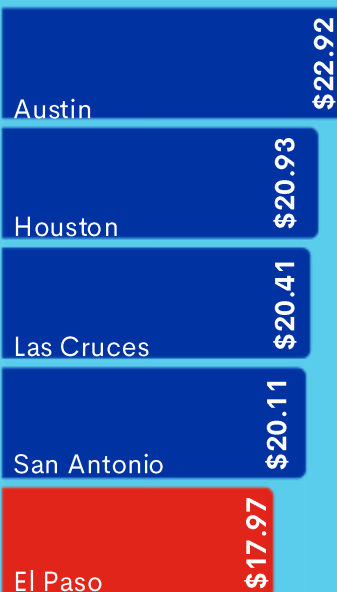
ANNUAL

\$17.97
Living Wage

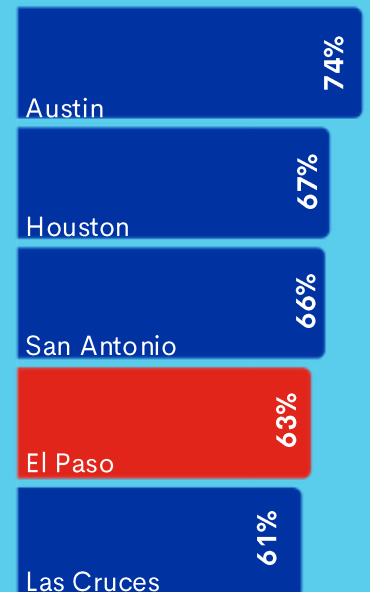
\$17.04
Median Wage

Median vs WSB
Living Wage

Click on each item for more detail



Living Wage FY26
Comparison



Labor Force
Participation 2024

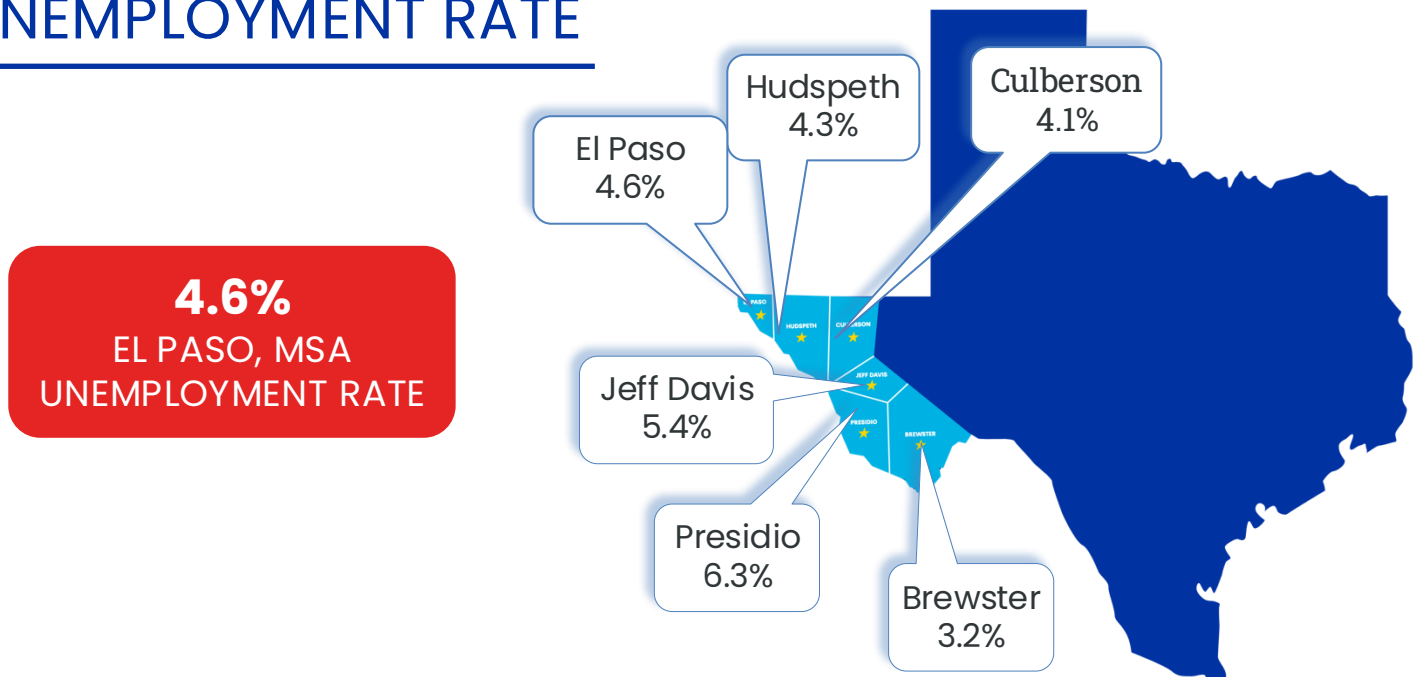


AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT

		August 2026				July 2026				August 2025			
		Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Texas	State	15,967,748	15,231,912	735,836	4.6	15,954,571	15,188,404	766,167	4.8	15,911,237	15,182,502	728,735	4.6
El Paso	MSA	423,617	404,276	19,341	4.6	423,663	403,524	20,139	4.8	423,314	403,209	20,105	4.7
Borderplex	WDA	433,581	413,819	19,762	4.6	433,624	413,052	20,572	4.7	433,185	412,613	20,572	4.7
Brewster	County	5,614	5,437	177	3.2	5,567	5,383	184	3.3	5,501	5,306	195	3.5
Culberson	County	1,148	1,101	47	4.1	1,140	1,096	44	3.9	1,136	1,089	47	4.1
El Paso	County	422,495	403,202	19,293	4.6	422,527	402,442	20,085	4.8	422,199	402,144	20,055	4.8
Hudspeth	County	1,122	1,074	48	4.3	1,136	1,082	54	4.8	1,115	1,065	50	4.5
Jeff Davis	County	616	583	33	5.4	623	592	31	5.0	615	583	32	5.2
Presidio	County	2,586	2,422	164	6.3	2,631	2,457	174	6.6	2,619	2,426	193	7.4
El Paso	City	335,720	320,625	15,095	4.5	335,543	320,021	15,522	4.6	335,231	319,784	15,447	4.6
Socorro	City	19,101	18,258	843	4.4	19,125	18,224	901	4.7	19,099	18,210	889	4.7

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

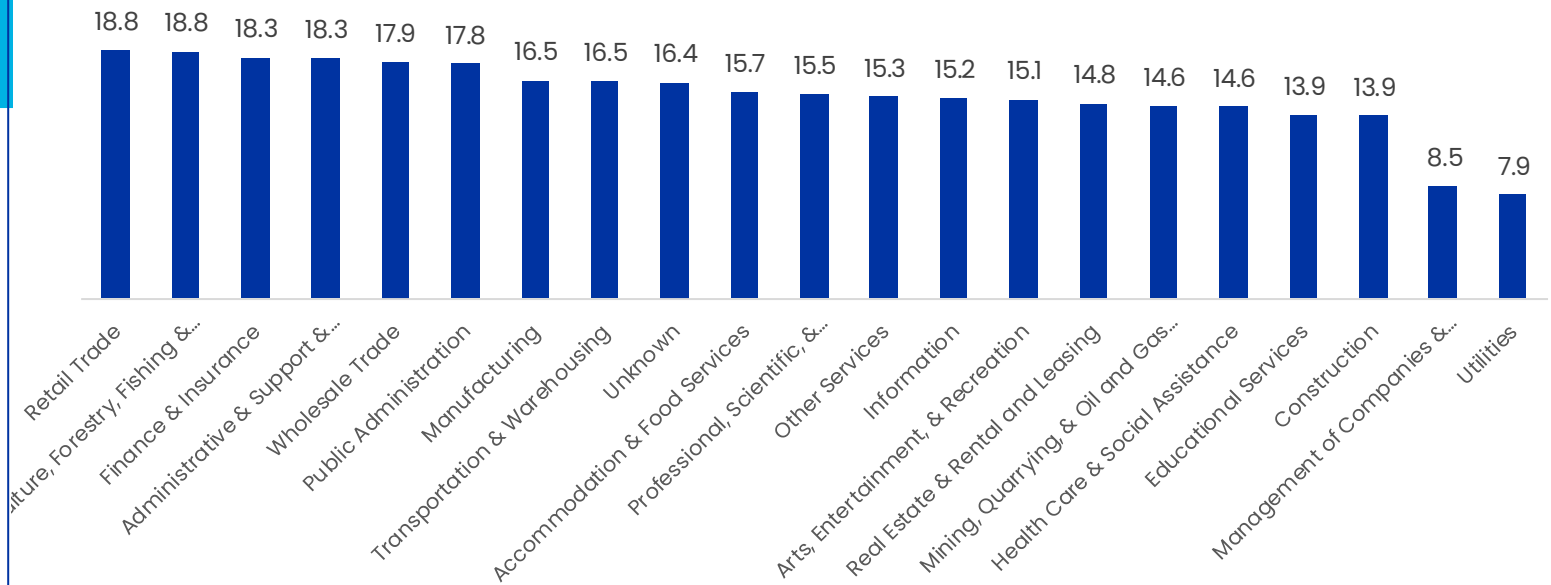




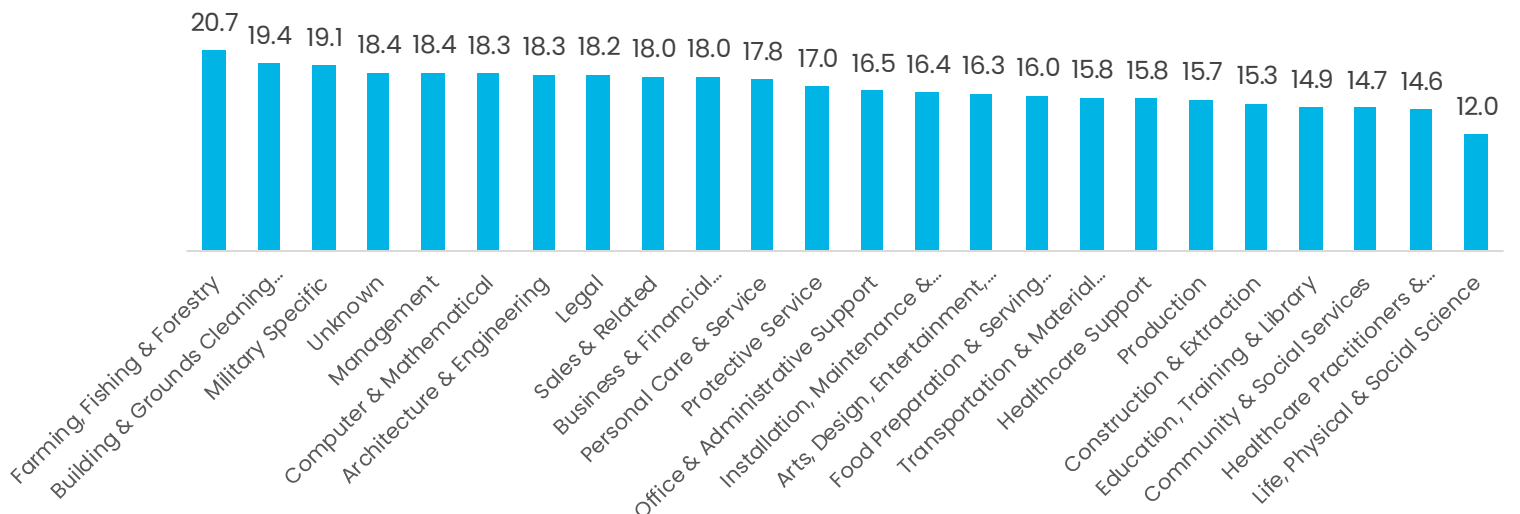
AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

RETURN TO WORK (LAST 12 MOS.)

By Industry



By Occupation





AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMANT DATA

This report reflects the
Borderplex Region.

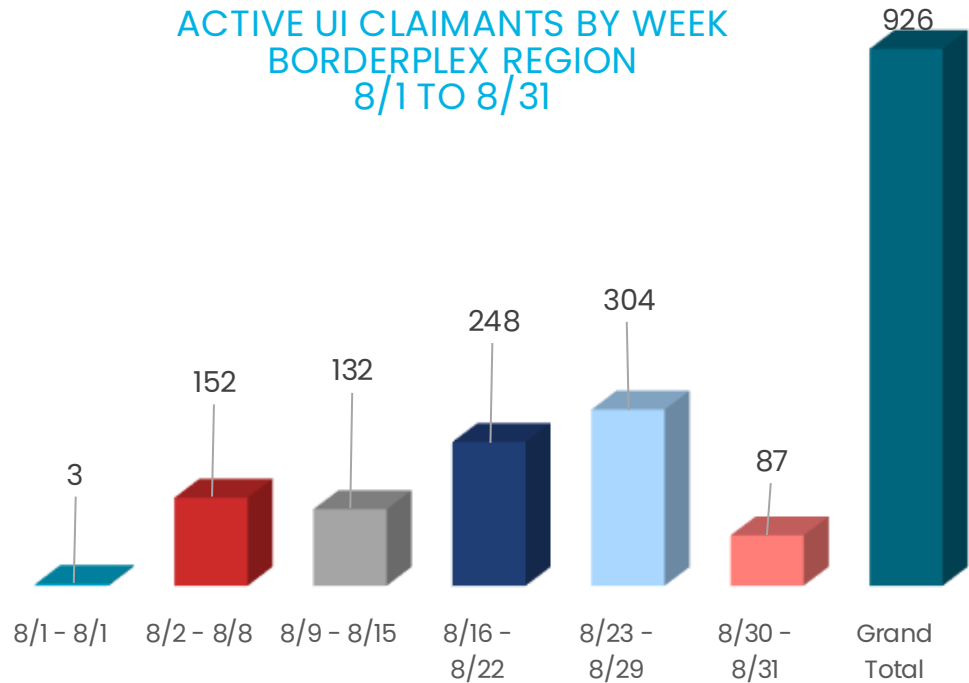
Including these 6 counties:

- Brewster
- Culberson
- El Paso
- Hudspeth
- Jeff Davis
- Presidio

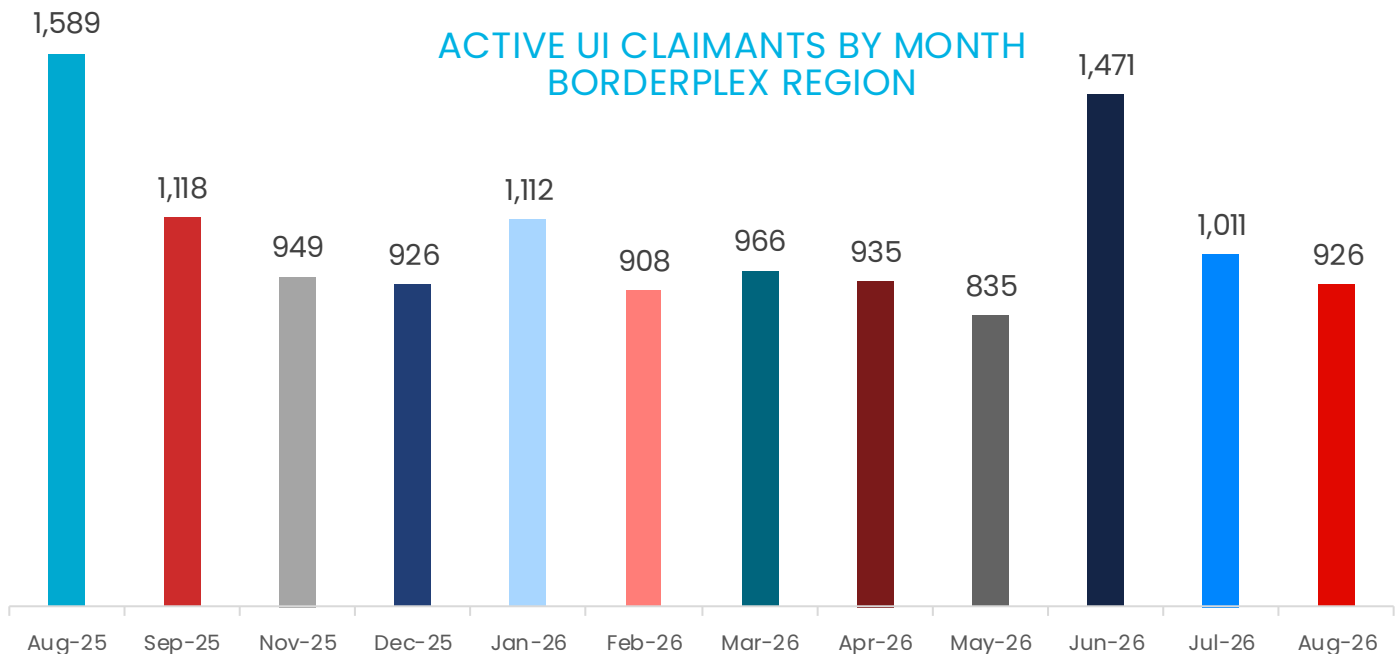
An Active Claimant is
someone who meets any
of these conditions:

- Claimant had to have
a payment within 21
days
- The most recent
Claimant certified date
is within 21 days
- The claim status date is
within 28 days

ACTIVE UI CLAIMANTS BY WEEK
BORDERPLEX REGION
8/1 TO 8/31



ACTIVE UI CLAIMANTS BY MONTH
BORDERPLEX REGION



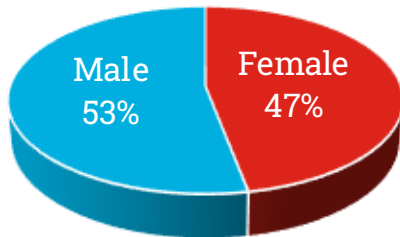
AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



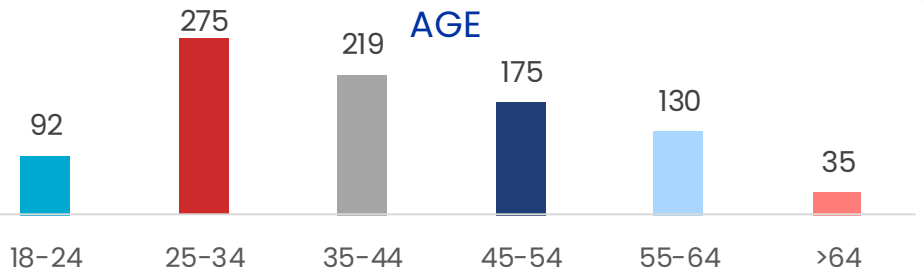
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMANT DATA

ACTIVE UI CLAIMANTS BY WEEK BORDERPLEX REGION 8/1 TO 8/31

GENDER



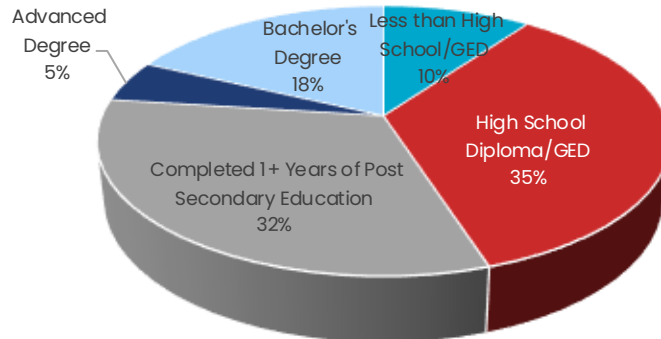
AGE



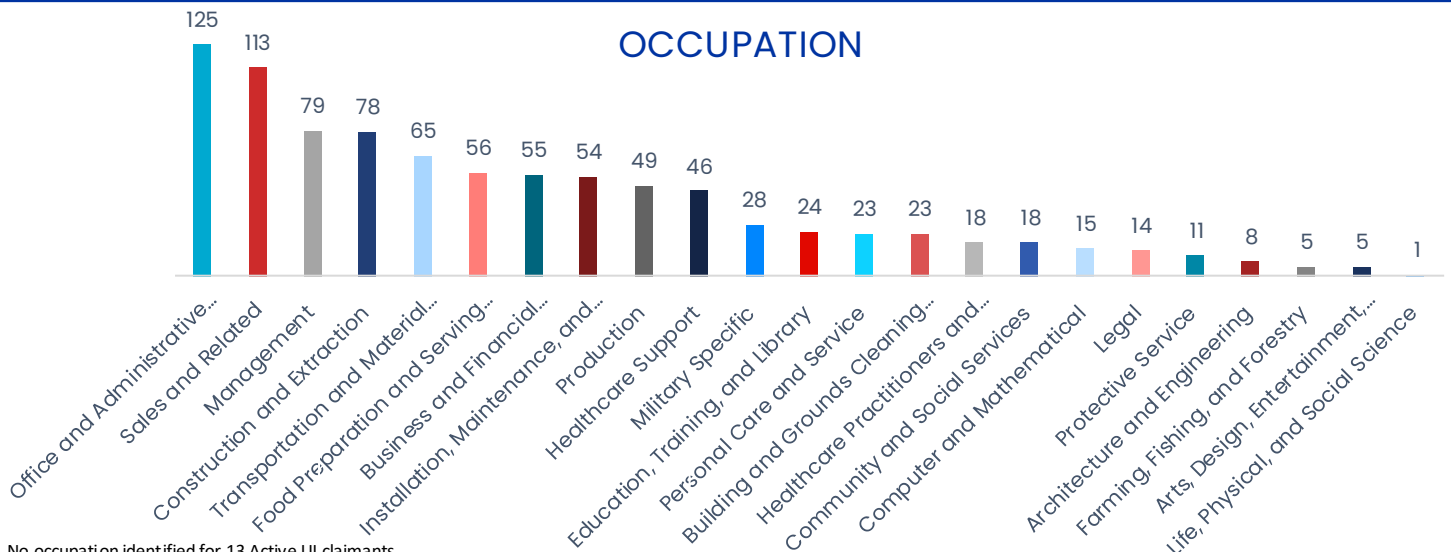
An Active Claimant is someone who meets any of these conditions:

- Claimant had to have a payment within 21 days
- The most recent Claimant certified date is within 21 days
- The claim status date is within 28 days

EDUCATION



OCCUPATION





AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

JOBS ADDED

INDUSTRIES SECTORS THAT ADDED JOBS

200



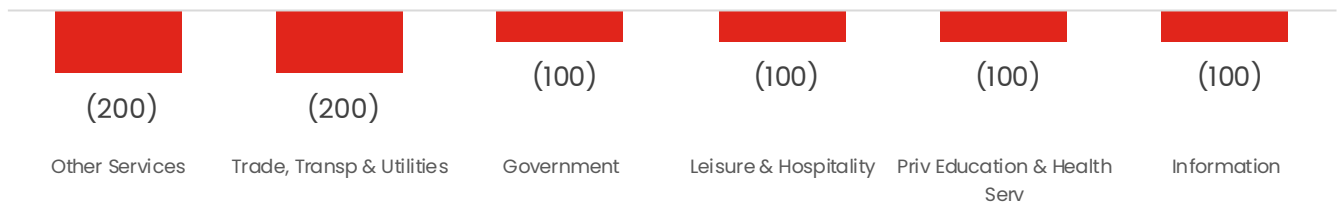
Mining, Logging & Construction

TOP 5 JOB POSTINGS IN THE EL PASO, TX MSA

Occupation	Vacancies	Median Hourly Earnings BLS 2025
Retail Salespersons	691	\$13.14
Registered Nurses	474	\$41.39
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	392	\$17.54
Fast Food and Counter Workers	379	\$11.07
Medical and Health Services Managers	352	\$48.30

JOBS LOST

INDUSTRIES SECTORS THAT LOST JOBS



TOP 5 UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMANTS OCCUPATIONS

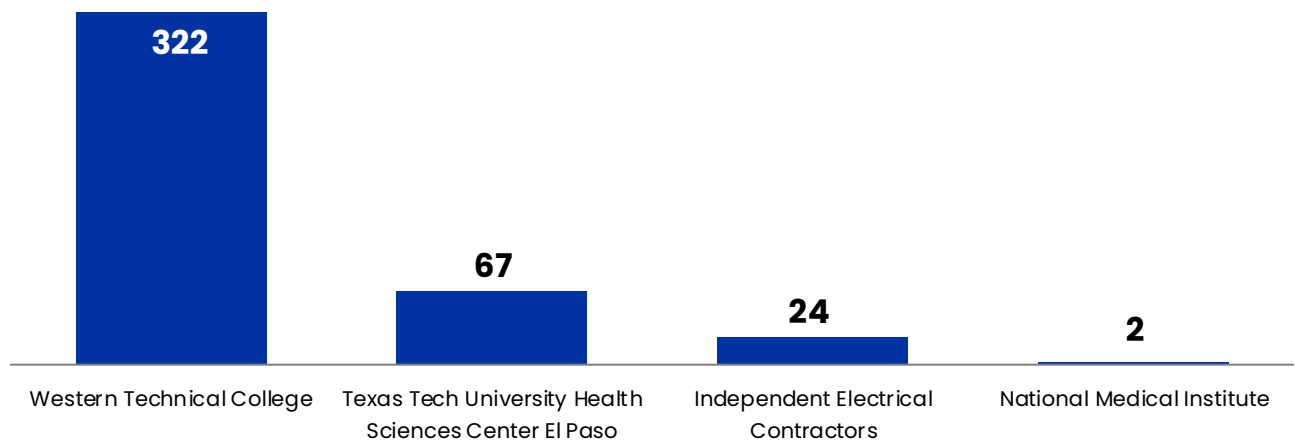
Office and Administrative Support	125
Sales and Related	113
Management	79
Construction and Extraction	78
Transportation and Material Moving	65

No occupation identified for 13 Active UI claimants

AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



NUMBER OF GRADUATES (Apr – Jun 2025, Q2)



THANK YOU TO OUR SURVEY PARTICIPANTS!

- WESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE
- TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO
- INDEPENDENT ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
- NATIONAL MEDICAL INSTITUTE

AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



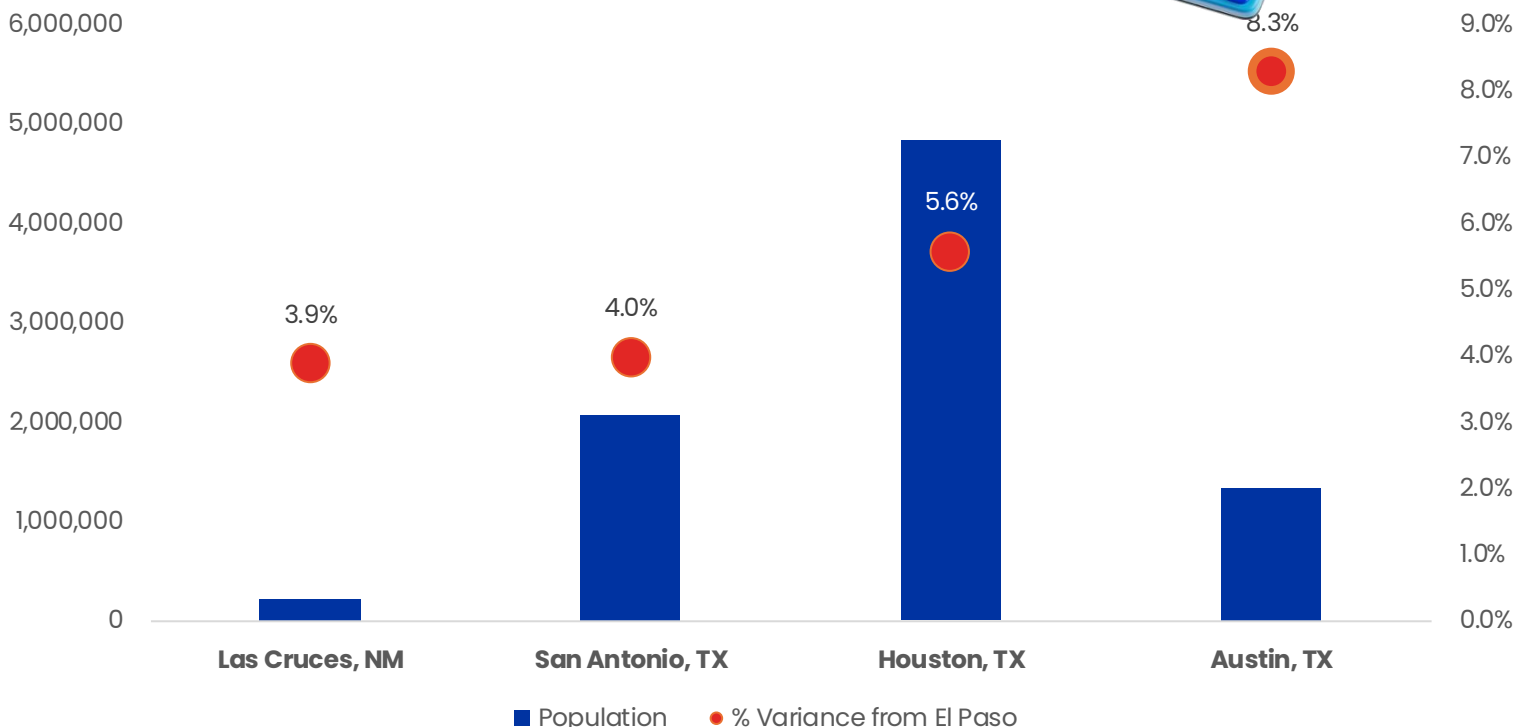
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES (Q1 2026)

Average Weekly Wage (1 st Quarter 2026)					
	Q1 2026	Q4 2025	Q1 2025	Quarterly Change	Yearly Change
Borderplex	\$ 1,033	\$1,029	\$1,003	\$4	\$30
Texas	\$1,646	\$1,548	\$1,586	\$98	\$60
USA	\$1,654	\$1,569	\$1,592	\$85	\$62

COST OF LIVING COMPARISON (2025)



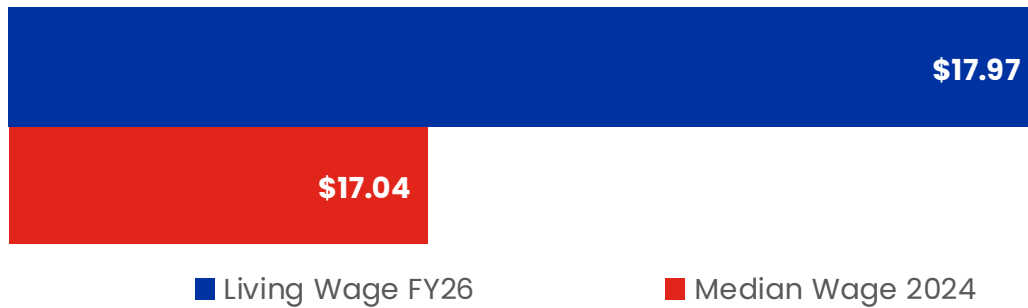
88.0
El Paso, MSA
[Cost of Living Calculator](#)



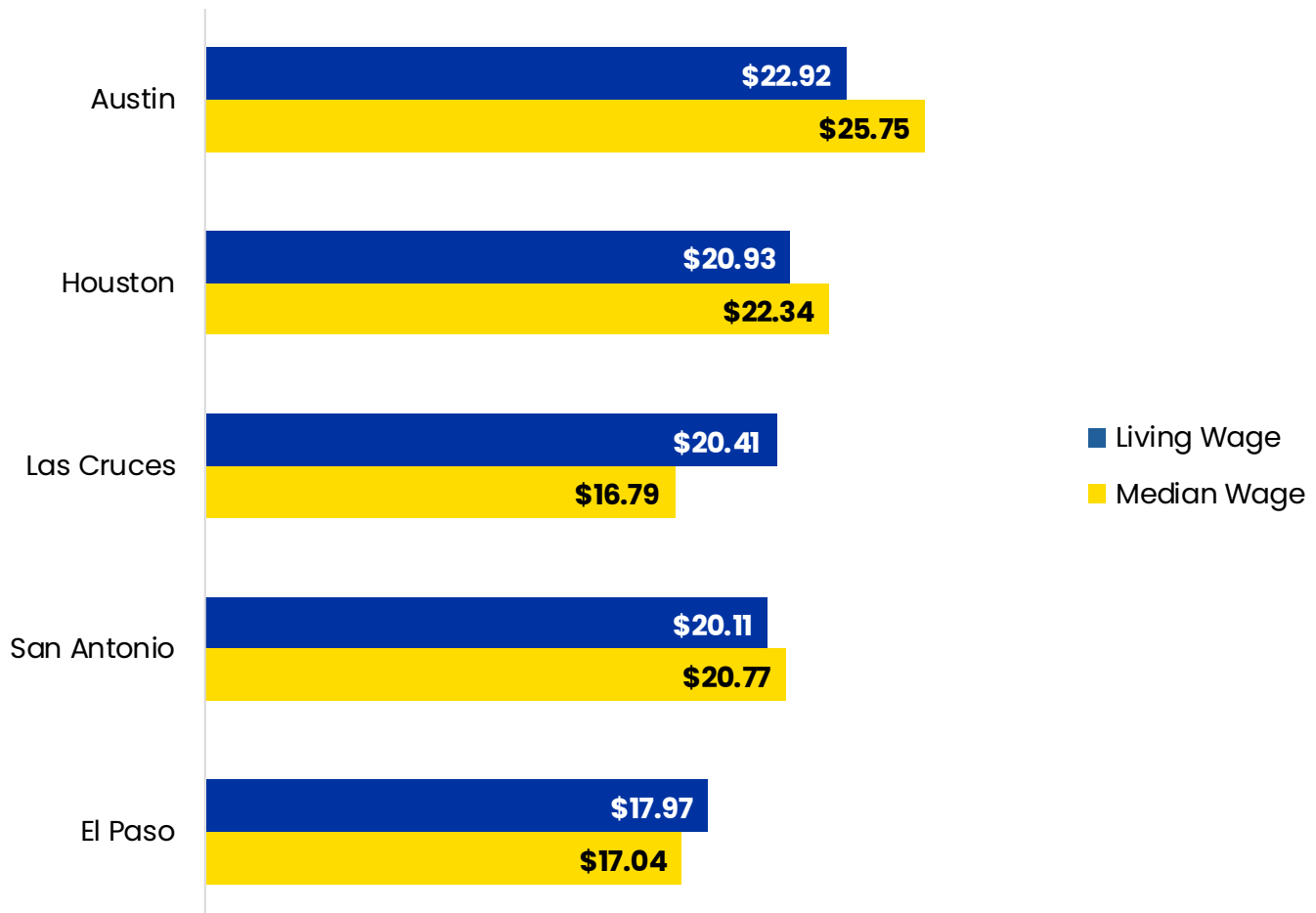
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MEDIAN VS LIVING WAGE (FY26 VS 2024)



LIVING WAGE COMPARISON (FY26)

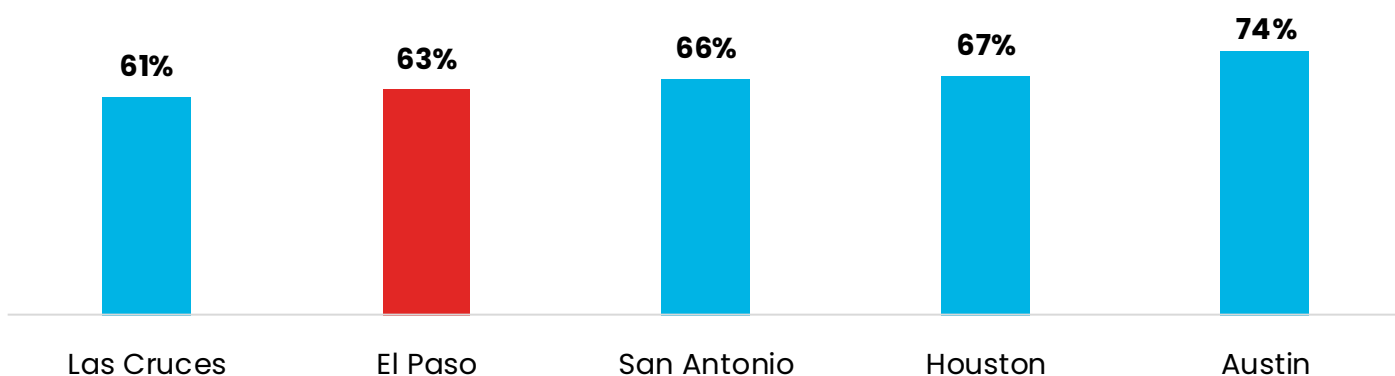




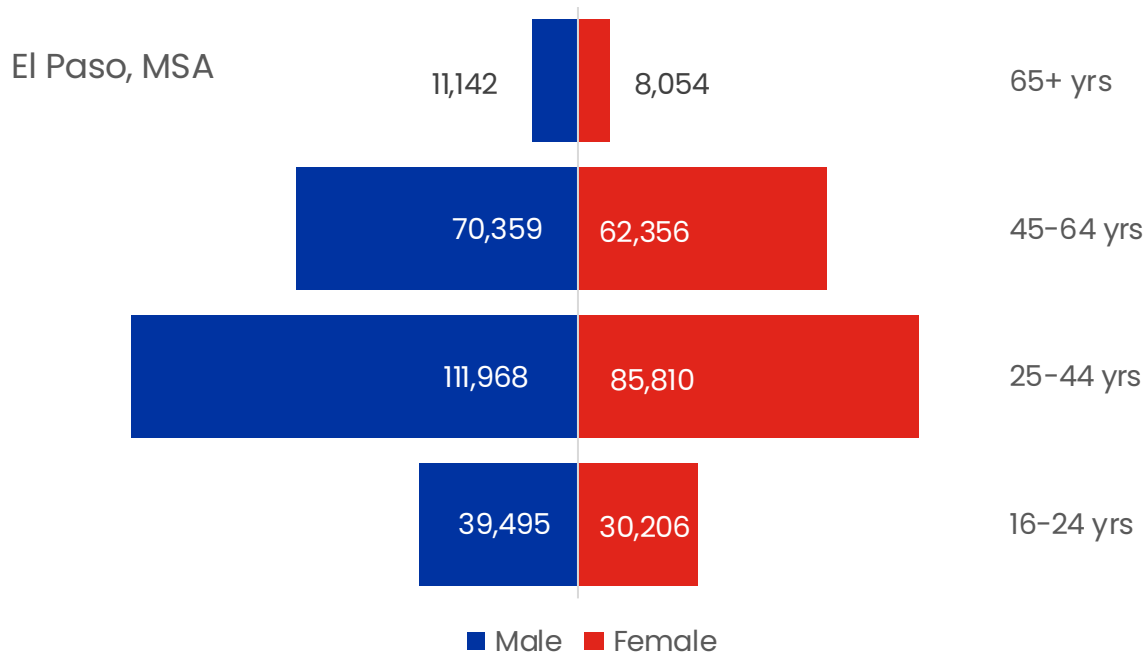
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LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (2024)

POPULATION OVER 16 YEARS, BY COUNTY



LABOR FORCE DEMOGRAPHICS (2024)



AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



WSB HOT JOBS (FY 2026)

A HOT JOB HAS:

- AN ENTRY WAGE OF **\$17.97 OR MORE**
- **10% OR MORE** GROWTH IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS
- **20 OR MORE** ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS



WSB DIRECTS TRAINING FUNDS
TOWARDS THESE OCCUPATIONS



UPDATED ANNUALLY



CURRENTLY 53 HOT JOBS



WSB CAN MAKE EXCEPTIONS AS
NEEDED (LOCAL WISDOM)

[WSB HOT JOBS LINK](#) 



2026 HOT JOBS

YOUR *GUIDE* TO JOBS, PATHWAYS,
AND TALENT IN THE BORDERPLEX

**Inside the 2026 Hot Jobs
You'll Discover:**

-  **What Makes These Jobs So Hot:**
Wages, Growth, and Opportunity
-  **Where You Fit In:** Pathways for
Students, Jobseekers and Employers
-  **Your First Look** at AI-Enhanced
Careers in the Borderplex region.

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 borderplexjobs.com

AUGUST 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

SOURCES

Labor Market & Career Information, Texas Workforce Commission August 2026, JobsEQ August 2026, Bureau of Labor Statistics May 2025, US Census 2024. To access previous reports, please visit our website: [Labor Market Reviews](#)

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