

# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



Click on each item for more detail

JULY 2026



**4.8%**  
Unemployment Rate

**423,713**  
Labor Force

**16**  
Avg. Weeks Return to  
Work (Last 12 Mos.)

**1,011**  
Active  
UI Claimants

**700**  
Jobs Added

**-1,700**  
Jobs Lost

**53 Hot Jobs**  
FY 2026



**2,076**  
Current Job  
Openings

Click on each item for more detail

QUARTER

**415**  
Number of Grads  
2025Q2

**\$1,033**  
Avg. Weekly Wage  
2026Q1

**87.7**  
Cost of Living Index  
2026Q1

Click on each item for more detail

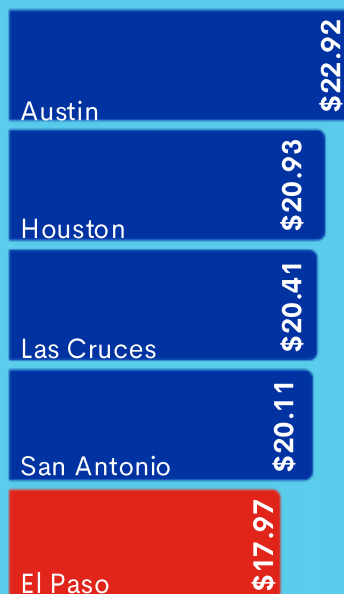
ANNUAL

**\$17.97**  
Living Wage

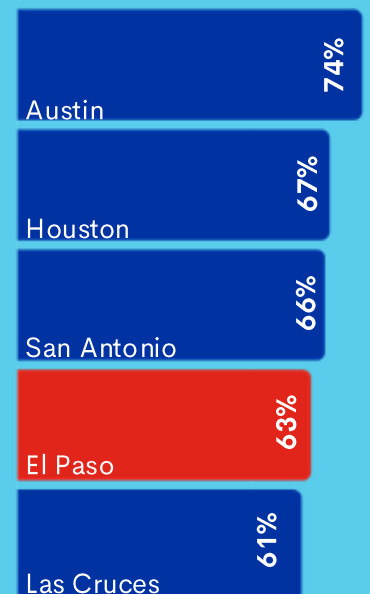
**\$17.04**  
Median Wage

Median vs WSB  
Living Wage

Click on each item for more detail



Living Wage FY26  
Comparison



Labor Force  
Participation 2024

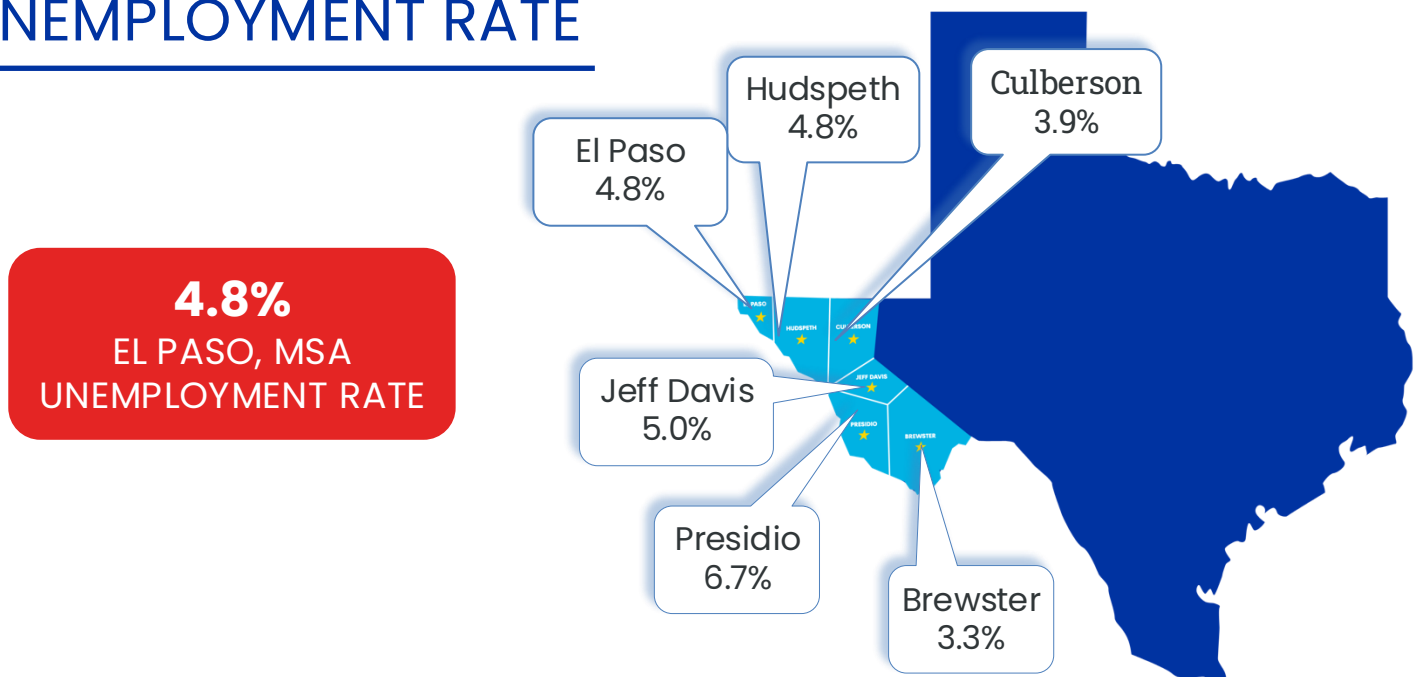


# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

## LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT

|            |        | July 2026   |            |              |      | June 2026   |            |              |      | July 2025   |            |              |      |
|------------|--------|-------------|------------|--------------|------|-------------|------------|--------------|------|-------------|------------|--------------|------|
|            |        | Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | Rate | Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | Rate | Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | Rate |
| Texas      | State  | 15,955,048  | 15,188,778 | 766,270      | 4.8  | 15,921,414  | 15,140,644 | 780,770      | 4.9  | 15,889,771  | 15,180,836 | 708,935      | 4.5  |
| El Paso    | MSA    | 423,713     | 403,559    | 20,154       | 4.8  | 422,311     | 401,645    | 20,666       | 4.9  | 423,339     | 403,691    | 19,648       | 4.6  |
| Borderplex | WDA    | 433,667     | 413,080    | 20,587       | 4.7  | 432,312     | 411,191    | 21,121       | 4.9  | 433,077     | 412,985    | 20,092       | 4.6  |
| Brewster   | County | 5,562       | 5,379      | 183          | 3.3  | 5,627       | 5,434      | 193          | 3.4  | 5,382       | 5,198      | 184          | 3.4  |
| Culberson  | County | 1,139       | 1,095      | 44           | 3.9  | 1,118       | 1,071      | 47           | 4.2  | 1,123       | 1,078      | 45           | 4.0  |
| El Paso    | County | 422,576     | 402,477    | 20,099       | 4.8  | 421,186     | 400,574    | 20,612       | 4.9  | 422,235     | 402,637    | 19,598       | 4.6  |
| Hudspeth   | County | 1,137       | 1,082      | 55           | 4.8  | 1,125       | 1,071      | 54           | 4.8  | 1,104       | 1,054      | 50           | 4.5  |
| Jeff Davis | County | 623         | 592        | 31           | 5.0  | 640         | 606        | 34           | 5.3  | 606         | 578        | 28           | 4.6  |
| Presidio   | County | 2,630       | 2,455      | 175          | 6.7  | 2,616       | 2,435      | 181          | 6.9  | 2,627       | 2,440      | 187          | 7.1  |
| El Paso    | City   | 335,570     | 320,049    | 15,521       | 4.6  | 334,511     | 318,535    | 15,976       | 4.8  | 335,182     | 320,176    | 15,006       | 4.5  |
| Socorro    | City   | 19,130      | 18,225     | 905          | 4.7  | 19,050      | 18,139     | 911          | 4.8  | 19,110      | 18,233     | 877          | 4.6  |

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

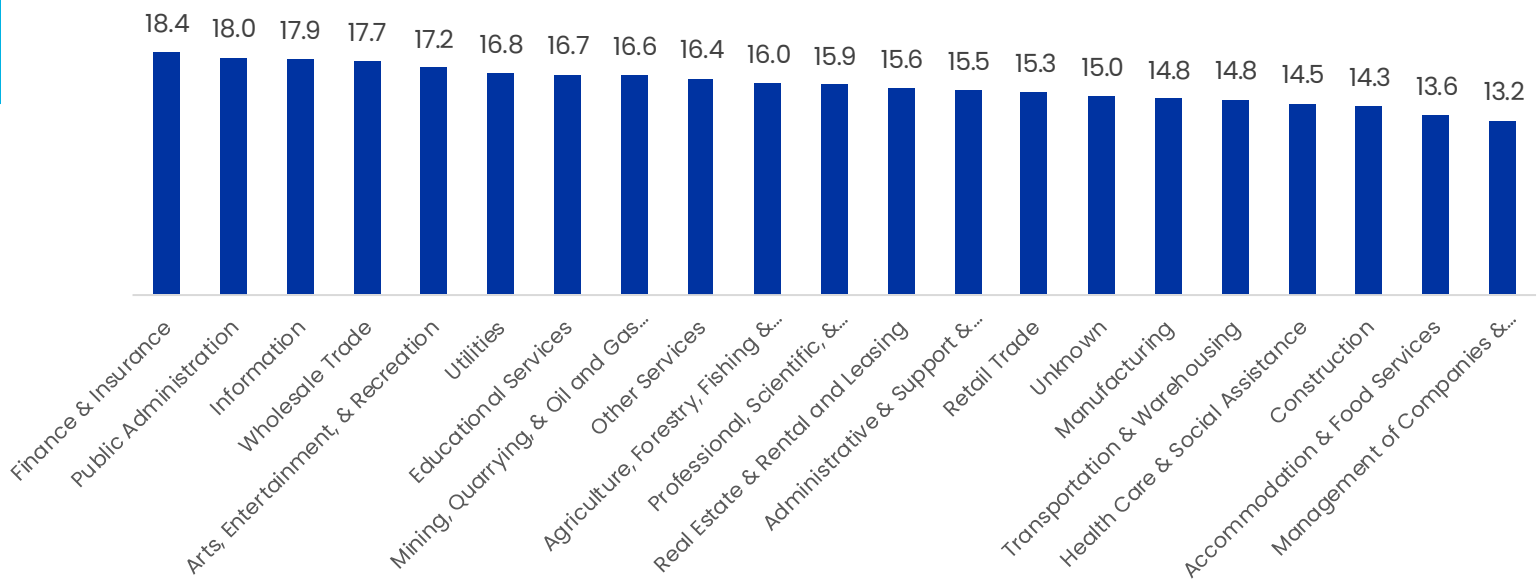




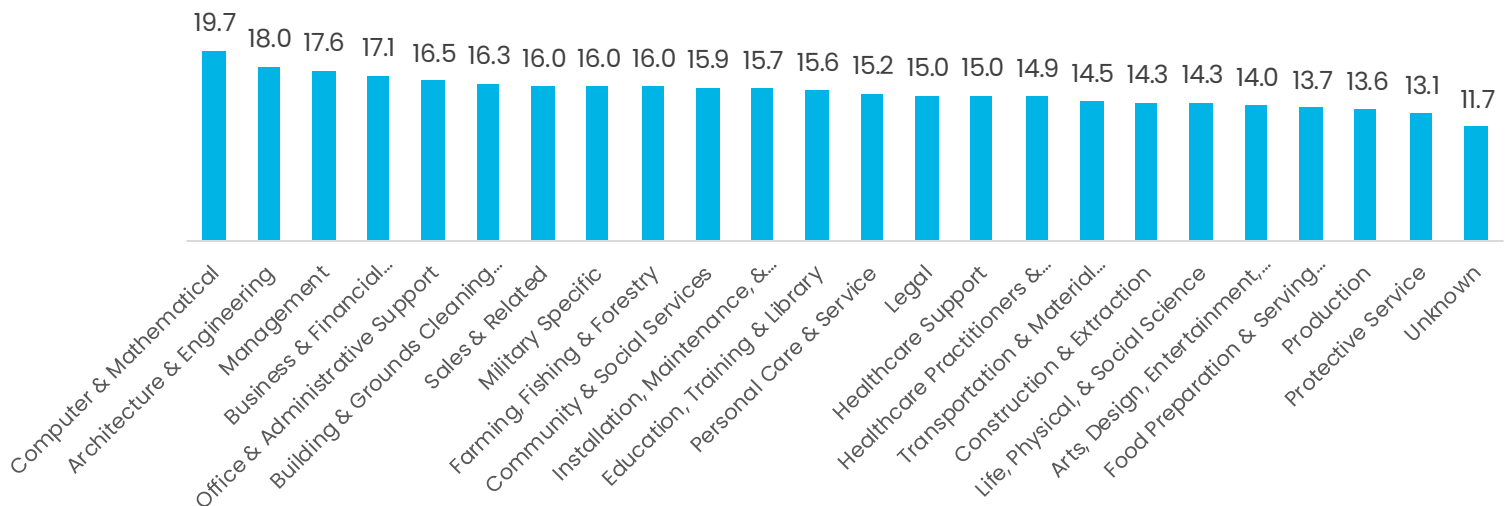
# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

## RETURN TO WORK (LAST 12 MOS.)

### By Industry



### By Occupation



# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMANT DATA

This report reflects the  
**Borderplex Region.**

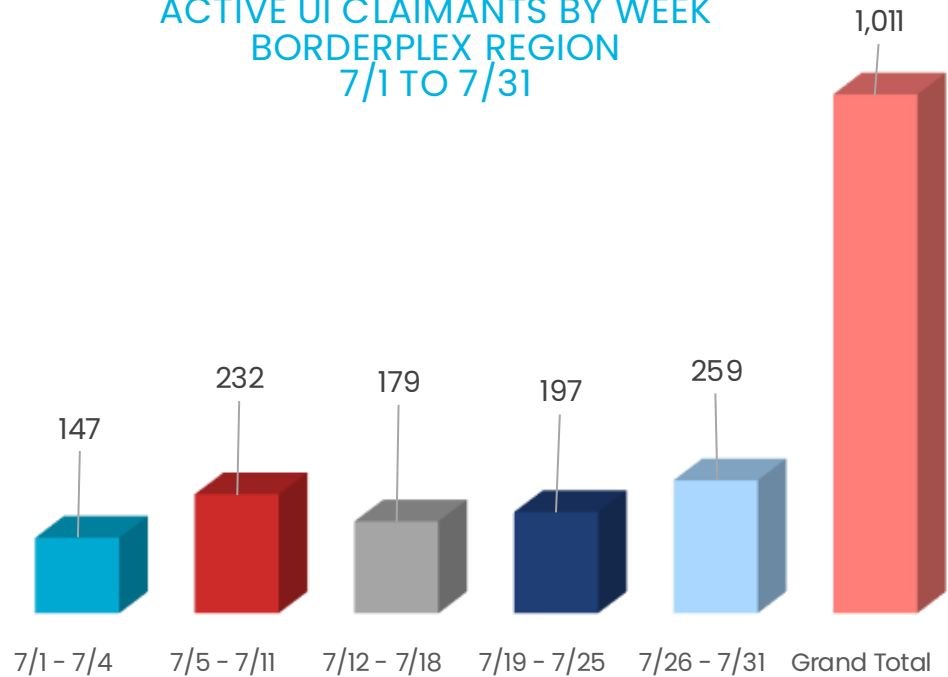
Including these 6 counties:

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

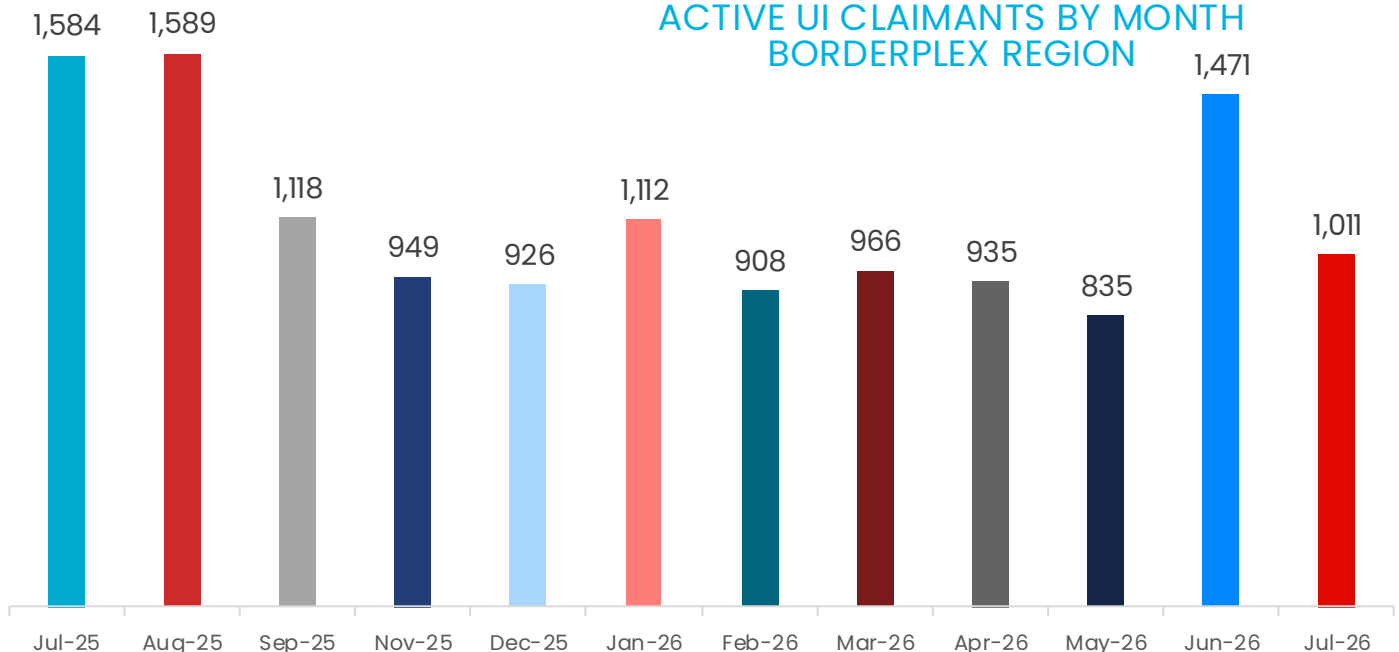
An Active Claimant is  
someone who meets any  
of these conditions:

- 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  
7/1 TO 7/31



ACTIVE UI CLAIMANTS BY MONTH  
BORDERPLEX REGION



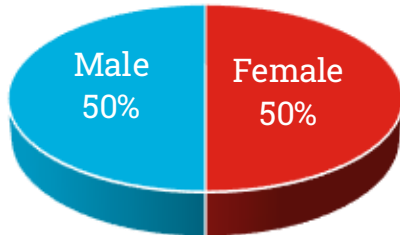
# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



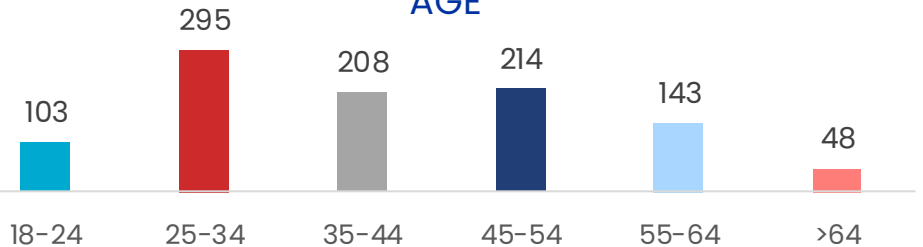
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMANT DATA

### ACTIVE UI CLAIMANTS BY WEEK BORDERPLEX REGION 7/1 TO 7/31

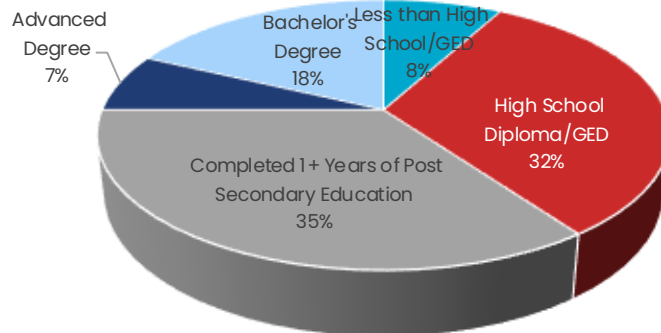
#### GENDER



#### AGE



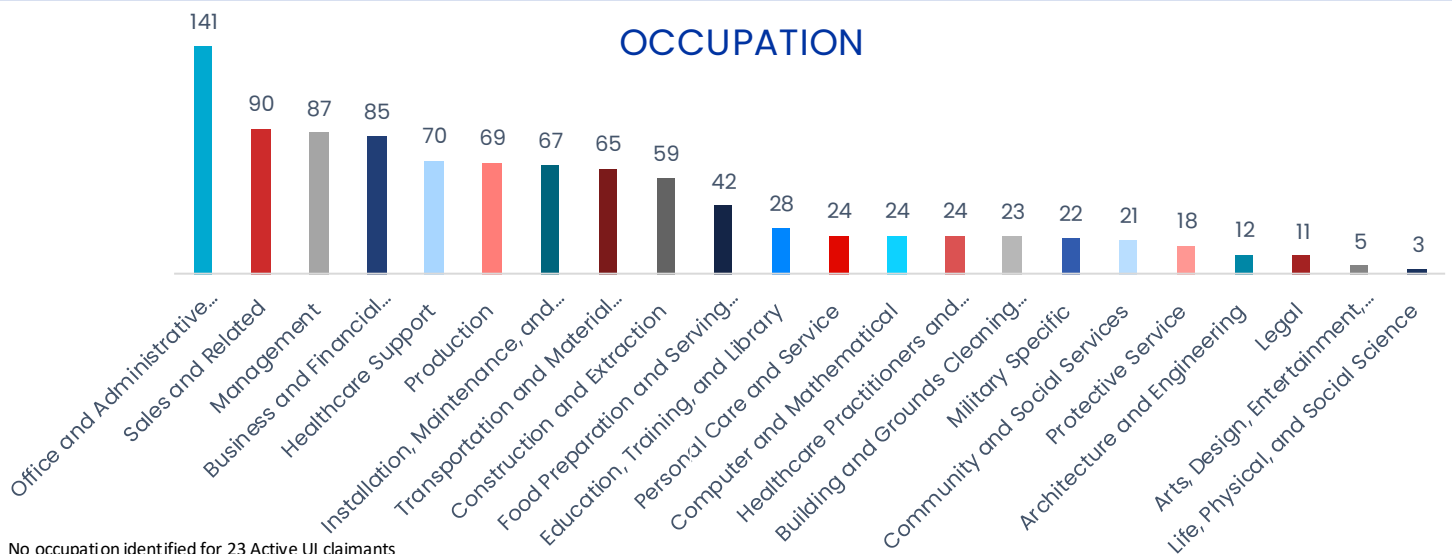
#### EDUCATION



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

#### OCCUPATION



No occupation identified for 23 Active UI claimants



# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

## JOBS ADDED

### INDUSTRIES SECTORS THAT ADDED JOBS

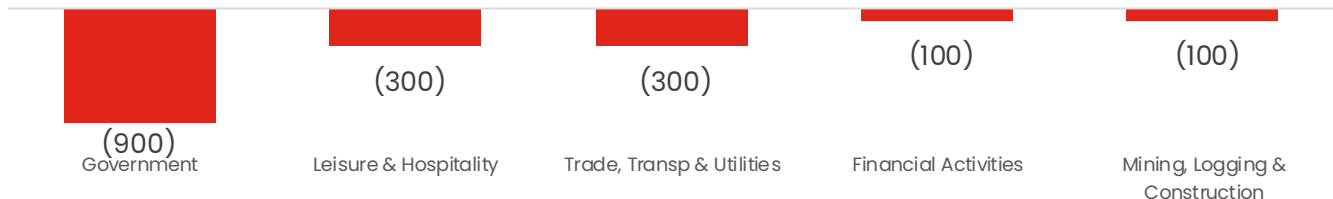


### TOP 5 JOB POSTINGS IN THE EL PASO, TX MSA

| Occupation                                                     | Vacancies | Median Hourly Earnings BLS 2025 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Retail Salespersons                                            | 689       | \$13.14                         |
| Registered Nurses                                              | 501       | \$41.39                         |
| First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers                 | 391       | \$17.54                         |
| Medical and Health Services Managers                           | 378       | \$48.30                         |
| First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers | 377       | \$14.67                         |

## JOBS LOST

### INDUSTRIES SECTORS THAT LOST JOBS



### TOP 5 UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMANTS OCCUPATIONS

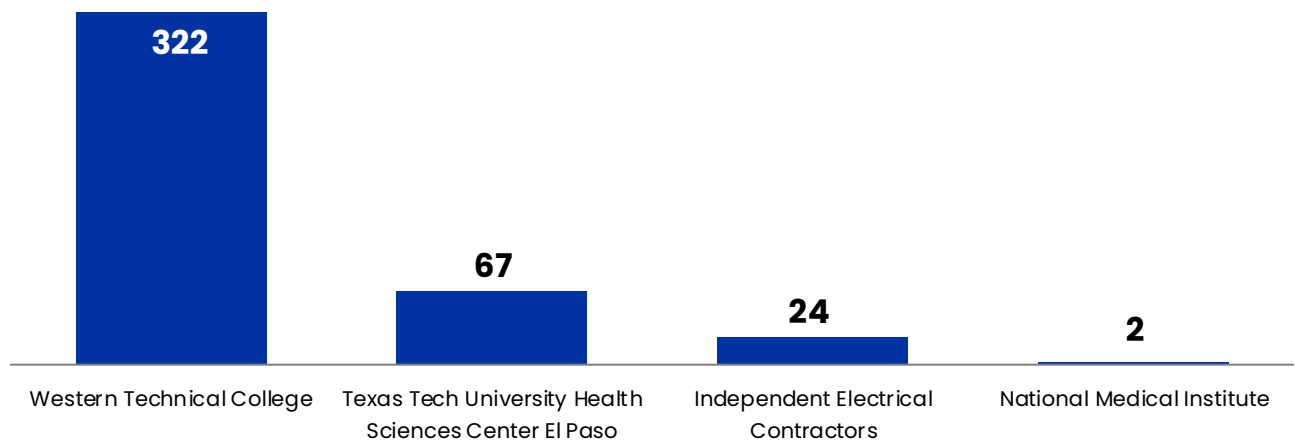


No occupation identified for 23 Active UI claimants



# JULY 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

# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW



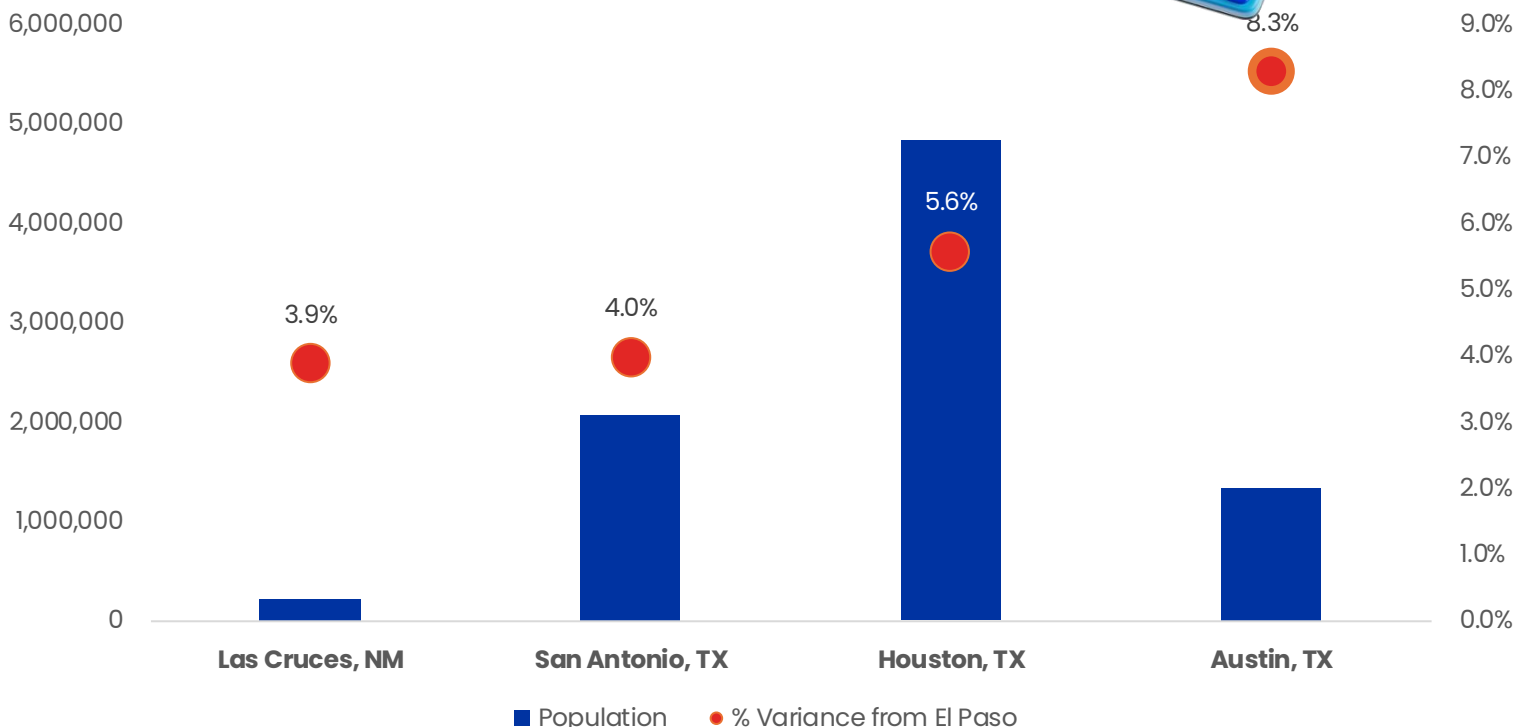
## AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES (Q1 2026)

| Average Weekly Wage (1 <sup>st</sup> 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                                                | N/A      | \$1,569 | \$1,592 | N/A              | N/A           |

## COST OF LIVING COMPARISON (2025)



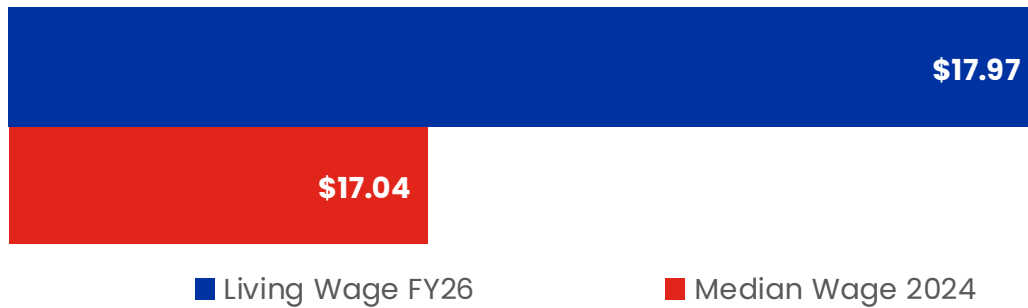
87.7  
El Paso, MSA  
[Cost of Living Calculator](#)



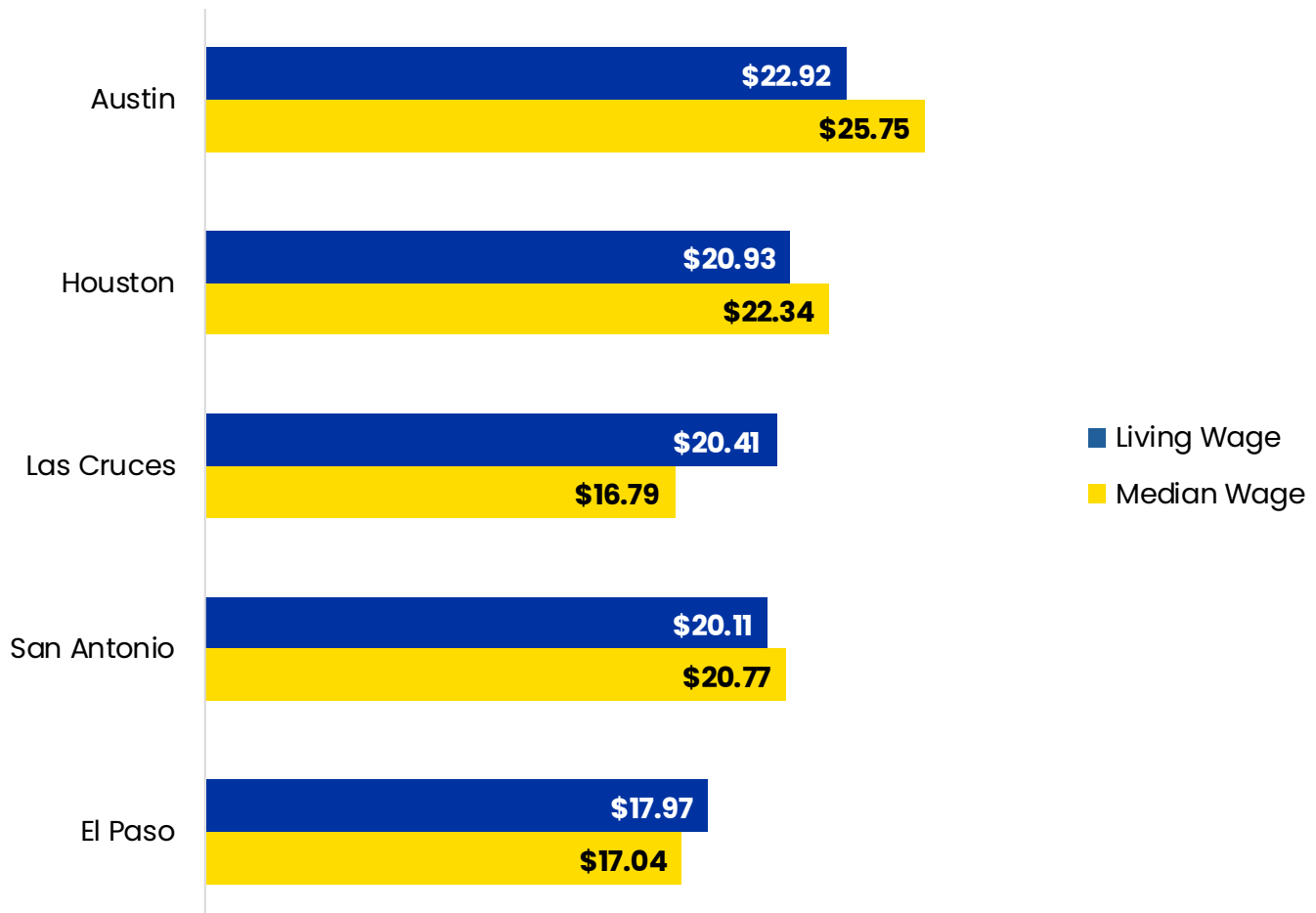
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## MEDIAN VS LIVING WAGE (FY26 VS 2024)



## LIVING WAGE COMPARISON (FY26)

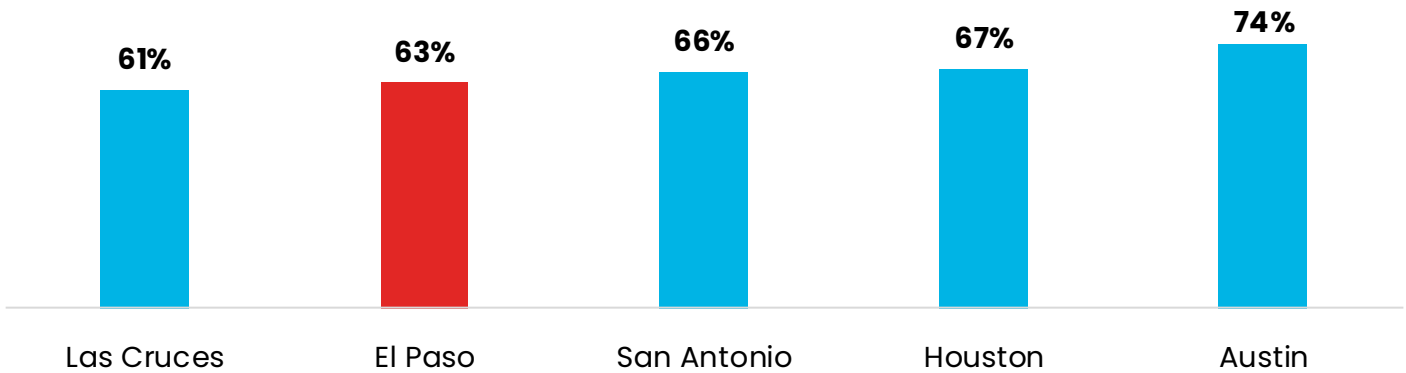




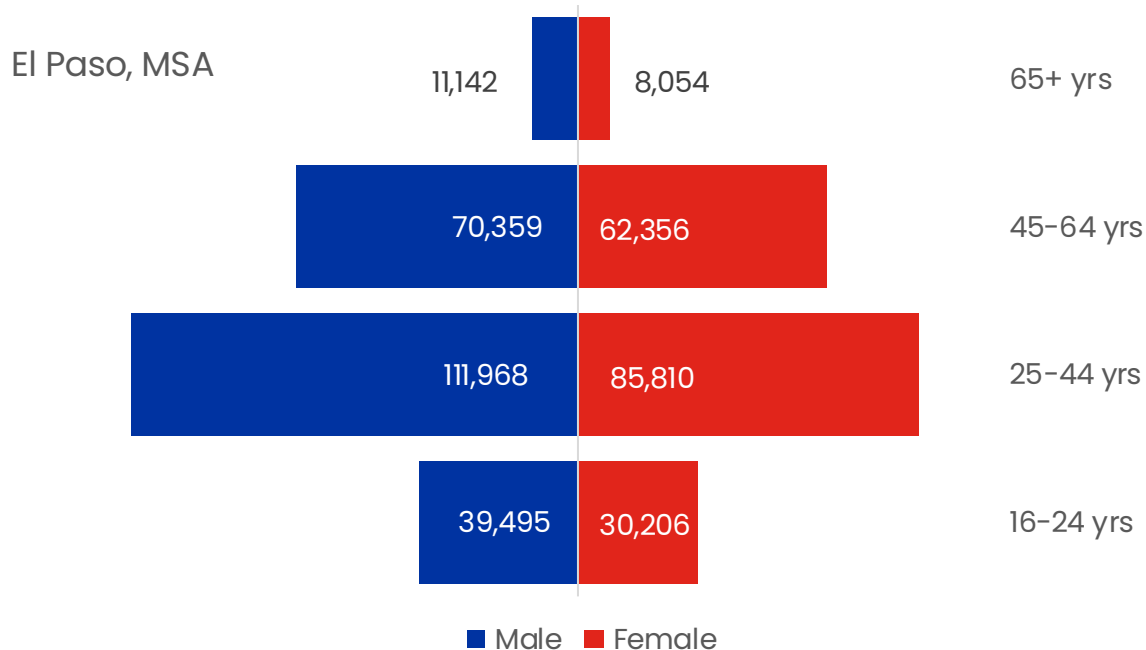
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## LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (2024)

POPULATION OVER 16 YEARS, BY COUNTY



## LABOR FORCE DEMOGRAPHICS (2024)



# JULY 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.

**WORKFORCE**  
SOLUTIONS BORDERPLEX  
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 [borderplexjobs.com](https://borderplexjobs.com)

# JULY 2026 LABOR MARKET REVIEW

## SOURCES

Labor Market & Career Information, Texas Workforce Commission July 2026, JobsEQ July 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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