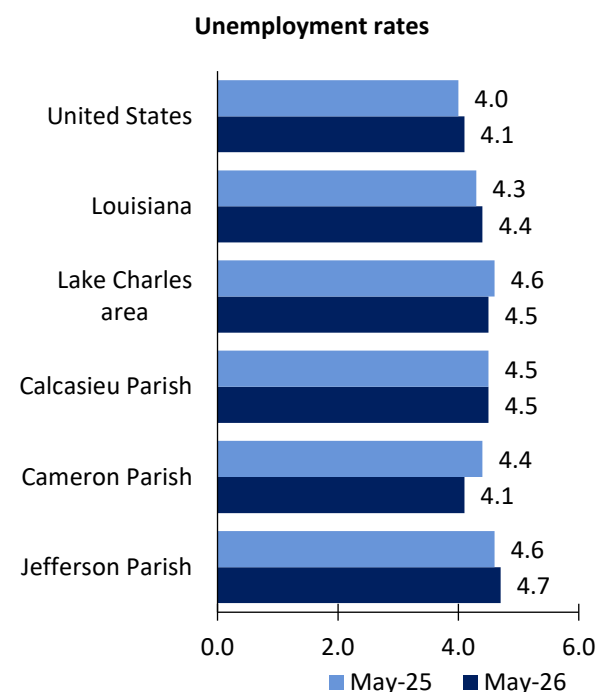


Lake Charles Area Economic Summary

Updated July 01, 2026

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include **unemployment, employment, wages, prices, spending, and benefits**. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see <https://www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm>.

Unemployment rates for the nation and selected areas

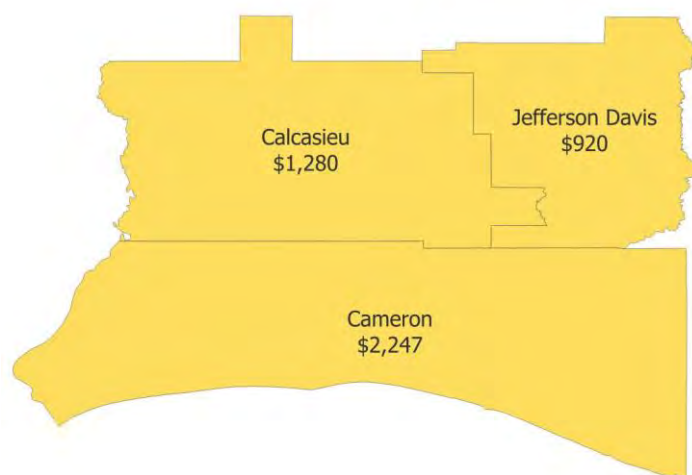


Source: U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Lake Charles area, fourth quarter 2025

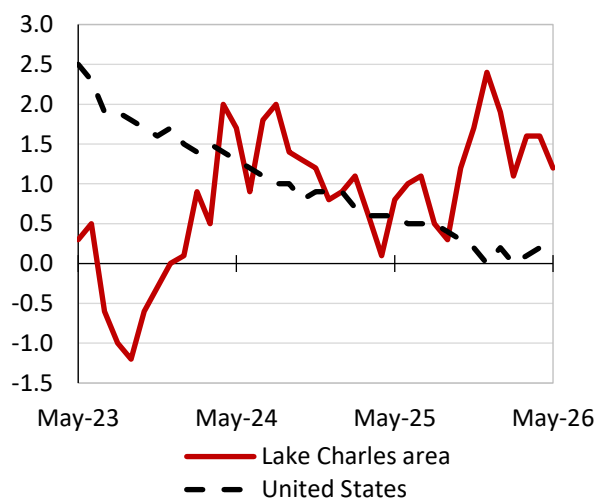
(U.S. = \$1,569; Area = \$1,301)



Source: U.S. BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector, over-the-year changes

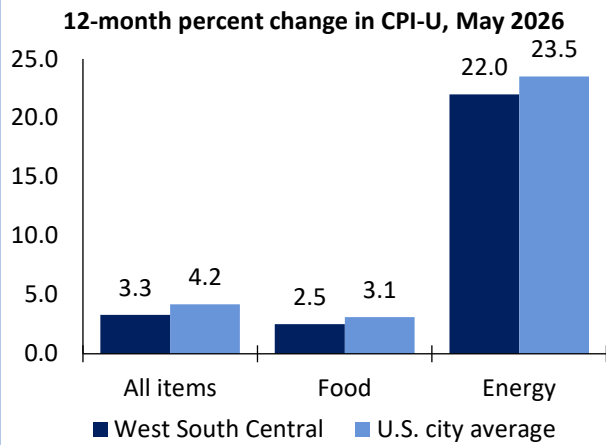
12-month percent changes in employment



Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

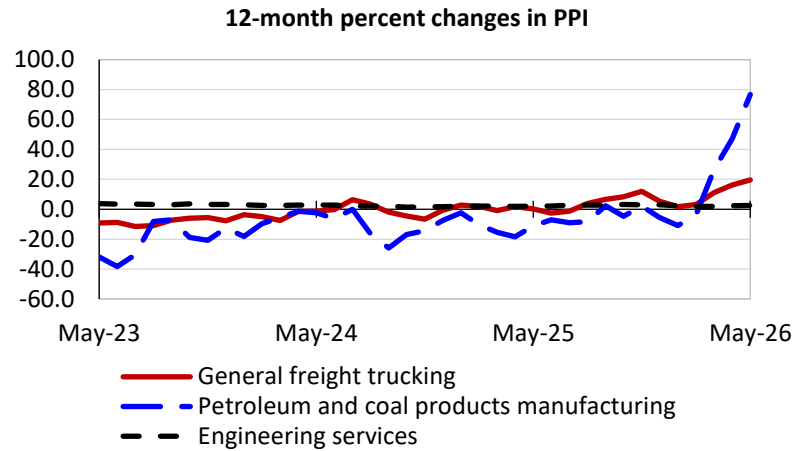
Lake Charles area employment (number in thousands)	May 2026	Change from May 2025 to May 2026	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	106.9	1.3	1.2
Mining and logging	0.4	0.0	0.0
Construction	11.4	0.2	1.8
Manufacturing	12.7	0.4	3.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18.6	0.3	1.6
Information	0.6	0.0	0.0
Financial activities	3.7	0.1	2.8
Professional and business services	10.0	0.2	2.0
Education and health services	15.1	0.2	1.3
Leisure and hospitality	14.7	0.0	0.0
Other services	3.4	0.0	0.0
Government	16.3	-0.1	-0.6

Prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories, over-the-year change



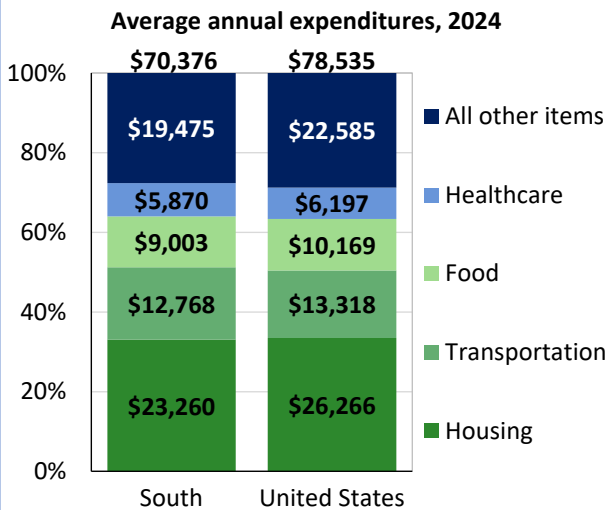
Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

Selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide, over-the-year change



Source: U.S. BLS, Producer Price Index.

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories



Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Average hourly wages for selected occupations, May 2025

Occupation	Lake Charles area	United States
All occupations	\$27.23	\$33.54
Educational, guidance, and career counselors and advisors	39.89	34.34
Chemical equipment operators and tenders	36.64	29.19
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	28.41	38.08
Construction laborers	22.08	25.02
Medical assistants	17.46	22.17
Food preparation workers	12.59	16.96

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics.

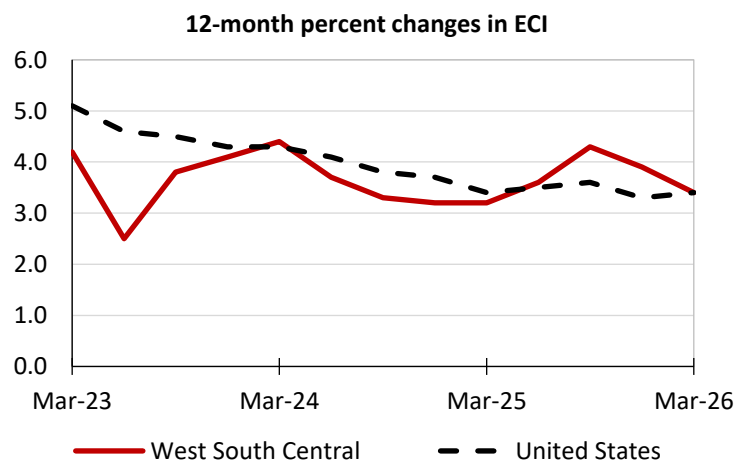
Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by census division

Private industry, March 2026	West South Central	United States
Total compensation	\$40.64	\$46.60
Wages and salaries	28.97	32.60
Total benefits	11.67	14.01
Paid leave	2.92	3.54
Vacation	1.47	1.77
Supplemental pay	1.67	1.90
Insurance	3.06	3.62
Retirement and savings	1.18	1.57
Legally required benefits	2.85	3.38

Map of Census Regions and Divisions

Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

Changes in wages and salaries over-the-year



Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.