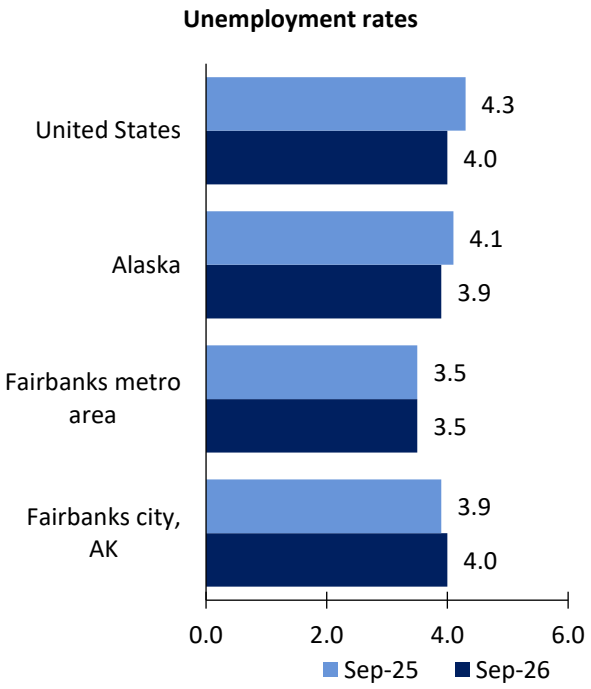
Fairbanks Area Economic Summary

Updated November 02, 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.

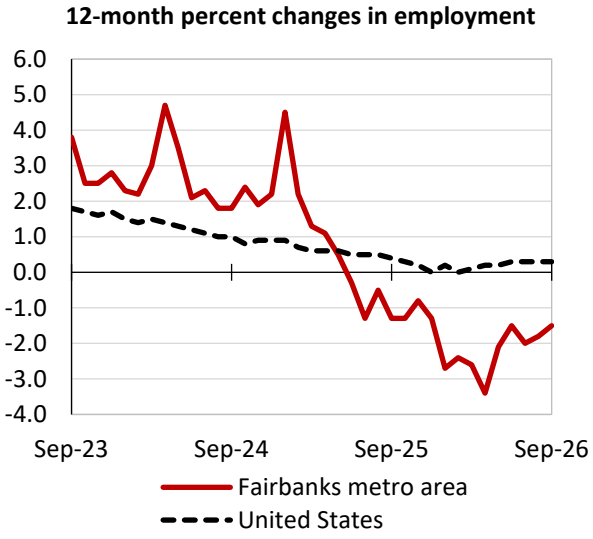
Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Fairbanks metro area, first quarter 2026

(U.S. = $1,654; Area = $1,433)

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

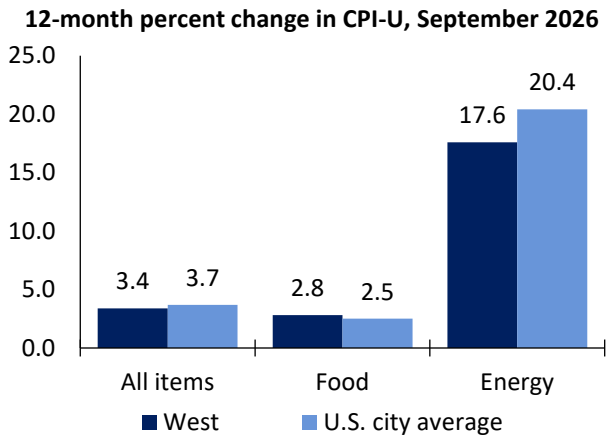
Employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector, over-the-year changes



Fairbanks metro area employment (number in thousands)	Sep. 2026	Change from Sep. 2025 to Sep. 2026	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	38.2	-0.6	-1.5
Mining and logging	1.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	2.6	-0.2	-7.1
Manufacturing	0.7	0.0	0.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	8.1	-0.1	-1.2
Information	0.3	0.0	0.0
Financial activities	1.1	0.0	0.0
Professional and business services	2.5	0.0	0.0
Education and health services	6.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure and hospitality	4.4	0.0	0.0
Other services	1.4	0.1	7.7
Government	10.1	-0.4	-3.8

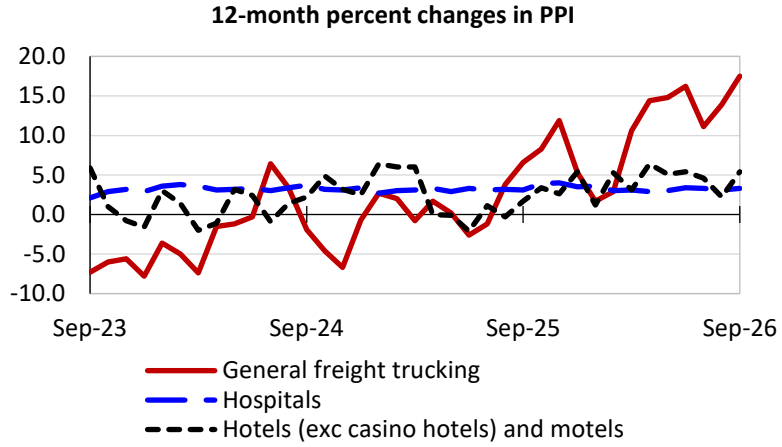
Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

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



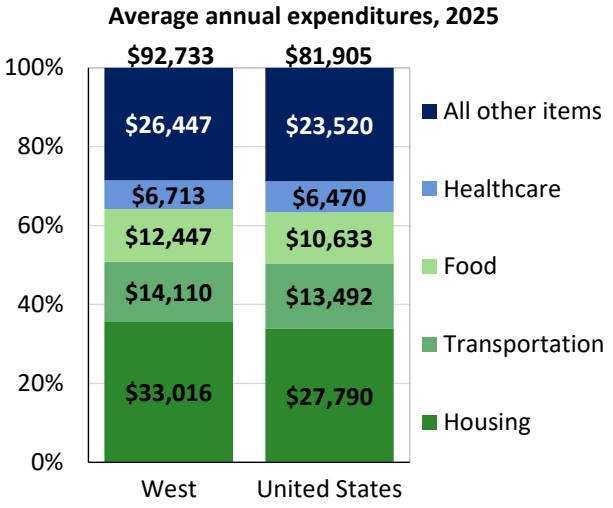
Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

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	Fairbanks metro area	United States
All occupations	$35.32	$33.54
Civil engineers	55.75	52.24
Mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines	46.28	33.29
Office clerks, general	24.04	22.32
Customer service representatives	22.57	22.40
Retail salespersons	19.87	17.94
Fast food and counter workers	16.09	15.46

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

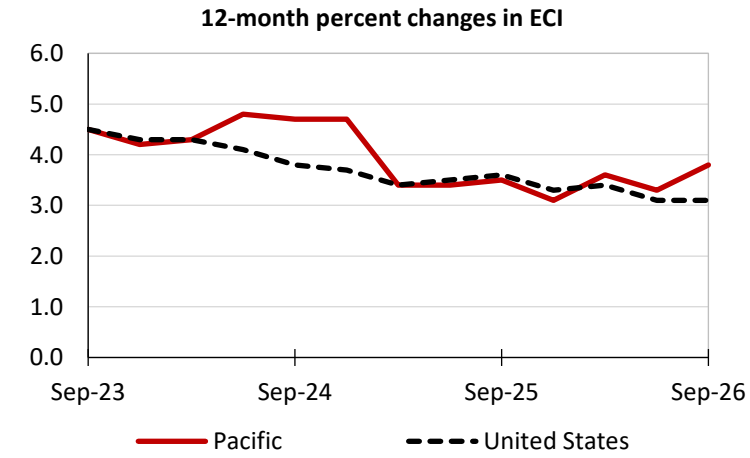
Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by census division

Private industry, June 2026	Pacific	United States
Total compensation	$55.49	$46.89
Wages and salaries	38.03	32.82
Total benefits	17.45	14.07
Paid leave	4.41	3.54
Vacation	2.18	1.76
Supplemental pay	2.62	1.88
Insurance	4.05	3.69
Retirement and savings	2.10	1.57
Legally required benefits	4.27	3.40

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.

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