



# UT Tyler<sup>TM</sup>

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### Cherokee County Economic Overview 2025

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## Demographic Profile

The population in Cherokee County, Texas was 50,824 per American Community Survey data for 2018-2022. The region has a civilian labor force of 21,311 with a participation rate of 54.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Cherokee County, Texas, 14.5% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.8% in the nation. The median household income in Cherokee County, Texas is \$56,971 and the median house value is \$138,500.

### Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Percent			Value		
	Cherokee County, Texas	Texas	USA	Cherokee County, Texas	Texas	USA
<b>Demographics</b>						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	50,824	29,243,342	331,097,593
Male	51.1%	50.0%	49.6%	25,996	14,624,638	164,200,298
Female	48.9%	50.0%	50.4%	24,828	14,618,704	166,897,295
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	38.2	35.2	38.5
Under 18 Years	25.4%	25.3%	22.1%	12,893	7,396,128	73,213,705
18 to 24 Years	8.9%	10.0%	9.4%	4,524	2,936,266	31,282,896
25 to 34 Years	12.2%	14.4%	13.7%	6,194	4,224,194	45,388,153
35 to 44 Years	11.8%	13.8%	12.9%	5,981	4,046,302	42,810,359
45 to 54 Years	12.1%	12.3%	12.4%	6,147	3,597,088	41,087,357
55 to 64 Years	12.0%	11.2%	12.9%	6,088	3,274,387	42,577,475
65 to 74 Years	10.5%	7.9%	9.7%	5,338	2,297,666	32,260,679
75 Years and Over	7.2%	5.0%	6.8%	3,659	1,471,311	22,476,969
Race: White	70.2%	59.1%	65.9%	35,699	17,293,460	218,123,424
Race: Black or African American	13.1%	12.1%	12.5%	6,678	3,552,579	41,288,572
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.3%	0.6%	0.8%	643	169,576	2,786,431
Race: Asian	0.5%	5.2%	5.8%	248	1,511,069	19,112,979
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	30	27,350	624,863
Race: Some Other Race	4.4%	7.8%	6.0%	2,220	2,281,525	20,018,544
Race: Two or More Races	10.4%	15.1%	8.8%	5,306	4,407,783	29,142,780
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	24.3%	39.9%	18.7%	12,351	11,665,280	61,755,866
<b>Population Growth</b>						
Population (Pop Estimates) <sup>4</sup>	—	—	—	52,217	30,503,301	334,914,895
Population Annual Average Growth <sup>4</sup>	0.2%	1.4%	0.6%	113	402,366	1,885,495
People per Square Mile <sup>4</sup>	—	—	—	49.6	116.8	94.8
<b>Economic</b>						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	54.0%	65.0%	63.3%	21,311	14,674,135	167,857,207
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	69.6%	81.5%	82.8%	12,754	9,621,423	106,380,520
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0	110,177	1,236,378
Veterans, Age 18-64	3.6%	4.7%	4.3%	1,047	835,988	8,636,019
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	70.2%	78.7%	77.1%	735	658,147	6,656,238
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	\$56,971	\$73,035	\$75,149
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$26,790	\$37,514	\$41,261
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	26.9	26.6	26.7
Commute via Public Transportation	0.4%	1.0%	3.8%	71	142,353	5,945,723
<b>Educational Attainment, Age 25-64</b>						
No High School Diploma	22.3%	13.9%	10.1%	5,441	2,103,422	17,373,867
High School Graduate	33.7%	24.1%	25.1%	8,214	3,653,228	43,176,248
Some College, No Degree	21.9%	20.9%	19.7%	5,351	3,158,279	33,916,989
Associate's Degree	7.6%	7.9%	9.2%	1,854	1,199,146	15,886,884

#### About This Report

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## Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Percent			Value		
	Cherokee County, Texas	Texas	USA	Cherokee County, Texas	Texas	USA
Bachelor's Degree	9.8%	21.7%	22.4%	2,404	3,281,456	38,451,123
Postgraduate Degree	4.7%	11.5%	13.4%	1,146	1,746,440	23,058,233
<b>Housing</b>						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	20,909	11,654,971	140,943,613
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2,5</sup>	—	—	—	\$138,500	\$238,000	\$281,900
Homeowner Vacancy	1.4%	1.2%	1.1%	180	78,790	931,393
Rental Vacancy	5.6%	7.4%	5.5%	302	318,227	2,623,236
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	28.0%	37.6%	35.2%	5,067	3,944,826	44,238,593
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	6.1%	5.3%	8.3%	1,106	551,100	10,474,870
Total Owner Occupied Housing units	72.0%	62.4%	64.8%	13,002	6,545,727	81,497,760
<b>Social</b>						
Poverty Level (of all people)	16.6%	13.9%	12.5%	7,847	3,990,326	40,521,584
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	15.0%	11.5%	11.5%	2,704	1,209,485	14,486,880
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.7%	1.5%	1.4%	357	433,670	4,476,703
Disconnected Youth <sup>3</sup>	1.7%	3.0%	2.5%	46	50,502	430,795
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	34.1%	34.1%	34.0%	4,096	2,400,195	23,568,955
Uninsured	20.8%	17.6%	8.7%	9,934	5,056,008	28,315,092
With a Disability, Age 18-64	10.5%	9.7%	10.5%	2,772	1,710,522	20,879,820
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	44.5%	49.8%	45.5%	1,233	851,439	9,492,098
Foreign Born	9.9%	17.1%	13.7%	5,023	4,987,855	45,281,071
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	8.8%	13.0%	8.2%	4,184	3,538,224	25,704,846

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2018-2022, 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 2023, annual average growth rate since 2013.

5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

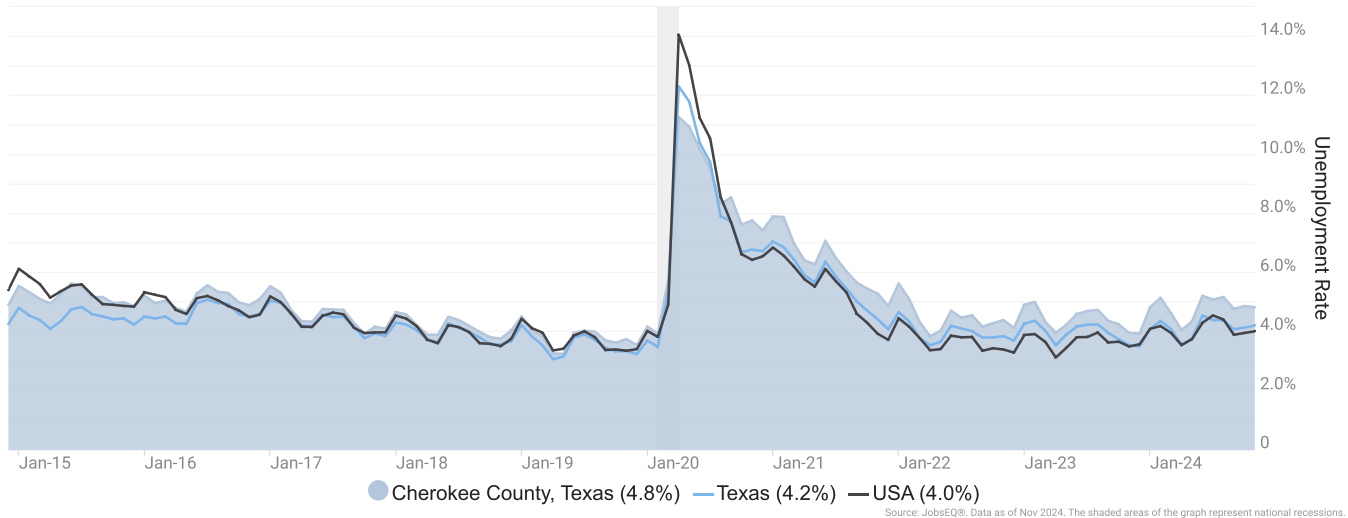
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## Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Cherokee County, Texas was 4.8% as of November 2024. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 4.0%. One year earlier, in November 2023, the unemployment rate in Cherokee County, Texas was 3.9%.

Unemployment Rate for Cherokee County, Texas



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through November 2024.

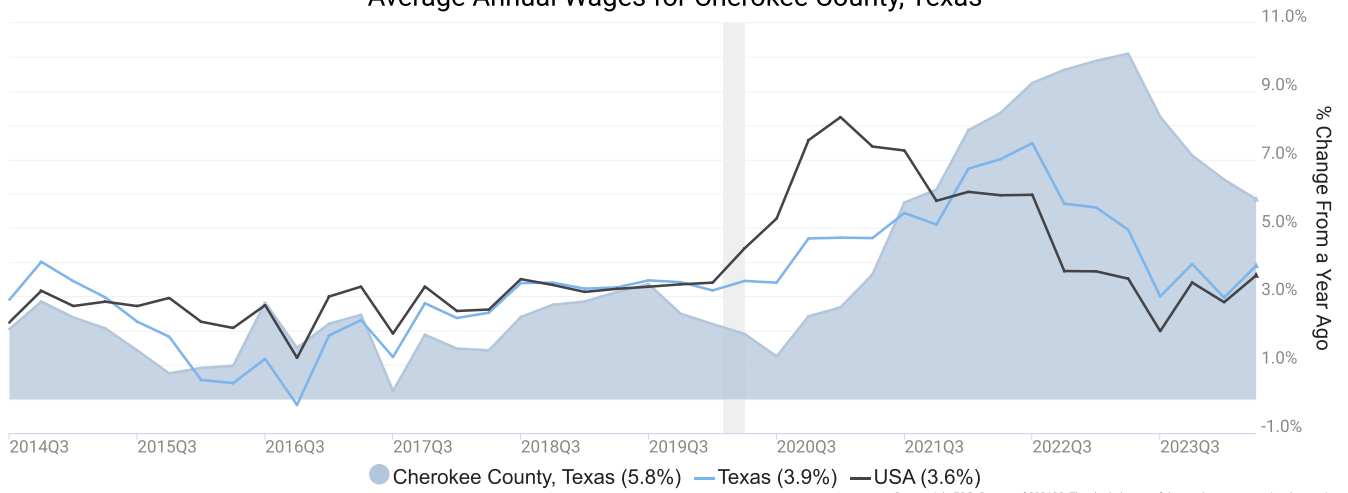
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## Wage Trends

The average worker in Cherokee County, Texas earned annual wages of \$47,428 as of 2024Q2. Average annual wages per worker increased 5.8% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$72,405 in the nation as of 2024Q2.

Average Annual Wages for Cherokee County, Texas



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 2024Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q2.

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## 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 10.6% lower in Cherokee County, Texas than the U.S. average.

### Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Cherokee County, Texas	\$47,428	89.4	\$53,058
Texas	\$71,898	93.6	\$76,845
USA	\$72,405	100.0	\$72,405

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2024Q2

Cost of Living per [COLI](#) data as of 2024Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

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## Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Cherokee County, Texas is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 1,841 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Management Occupations (1,701 workers) and Production Occupations (1,540). 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 Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 4.07), Protective Service Occupations (1.88), and Production Occupations (1.65).

Occupation groups in Cherokee County, Texas with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$108,200), Management Occupations (\$98,400), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$90,100). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 0.9% among Legal Occupations to 7.0% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in Cherokee County, Texas is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.6% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Management Occupations (+21 jobs) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (+16). 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 (265 jobs) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (206).

### Cherokee County, Texas, 2024Q2<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current					5-Year History			1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	1,841	\$42,000	0.92	83	3.7%	68	-92	-1.0%	213	89	117	7	0.4%
11-0000	Management	1,701	\$98,400	1.29	35	1.9%	77	118	1.4%	171	66	84	21	1.2%
51-0000	Production	1,540	\$44,600	1.65	99	5.0%	13	-14	-0.2%	186	61	111	13	0.9%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,319	\$28,200	0.94	146	7.0%	87	119	1.9%	281	115	150	15	1.2%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	1,306	\$42,600	0.88	152	7.0%	66	-191	-2.7%	187	66	104	16	1.2%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	1,249	\$52,300	1.35	38	2.9%	27	59	1.0%	122	50	58	13	1.1%
41-0000	Sales and Related	1,206	\$45,300	0.80	96	5.7%	99	4	0.1%	168	70	92	5	0.4%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	1,017	\$84,600	1.00	20	1.6%	298	95	2.0%	74	31	31	12	1.2%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	885	\$46,300	1.16	95	6.3%	10	32	0.7%	89	28	48	12	1.4%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	701	\$53,200	1.05	30	3.0%	39	31	0.9%	73	26	37	10	1.4%
33-0000	Protective Service	691	\$48,800	1.88	19	2.7%	9	-29	-0.8%	73	26	42	5	0.8%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	682	\$73,500	0.62	18	2.7%	25	59	1.8%	66	20	37	9	1.3%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	618	\$32,700	0.79	40	4.1%	74	-87	-2.6%	99	39	49	10	1.6%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	557	\$33,600	0.99	56	6.1%	12	21	0.8%	82	33	43	6	1.0%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	406	\$38,100	4.07	28	6.5%	1	148	9.5%	65	26	37	3	0.6%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	331	\$51,900	1.05	11	3.4%	18	-12	-0.7%	34	13	17	4	1.3%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	301	\$31,000	0.69	16	4.6%	8	11	0.8%	57	21	32	4	1.3%

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### Cherokee County, Texas, 2024Q2<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	223	\$90,100	0.41	5	2.4%	8	11	1.0%	17	5	8	3	1.4%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	183	\$86,500	0.67	3	2.5%	9	1	0.1%	16	5	8	3	1.6%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	171	\$54,200	0.55	3	3.8%	11	2	0.2%	19	7	10	2	1.1%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	112	\$74,400	0.72	2	2.2%	4	8	1.5%	11	2	8	2	1.4%
23-0000	Legal	77	\$108,200	0.54	1	0.9%	1	-10	-2.3%	5	2	2	1	1.2%
<b>Total - All Occupations</b>		<b>17,115</b>	<b>\$53,600</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>2,107</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2024Q2 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

3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

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 2024Q1, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q2. Wages by occupation are as of 2024 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.

#### About This Report

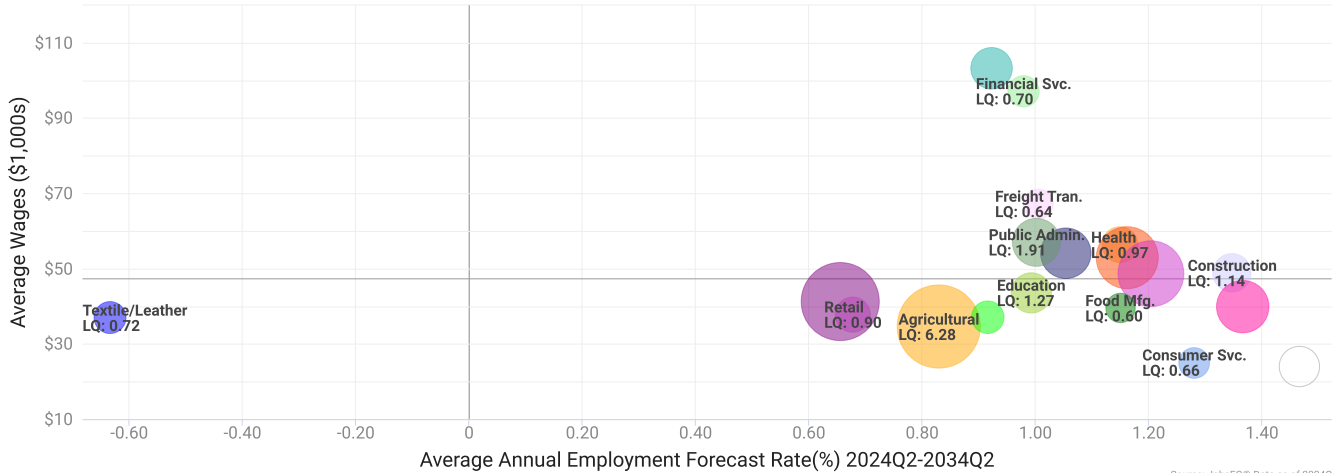
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## Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Cherokee County, Texas with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 6.28. This cluster employs 1,093 workers in the region with an average wage of \$34,635. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.8% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Cherokee County, Texas as of 2024Q2



Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2024Q2

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2024Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

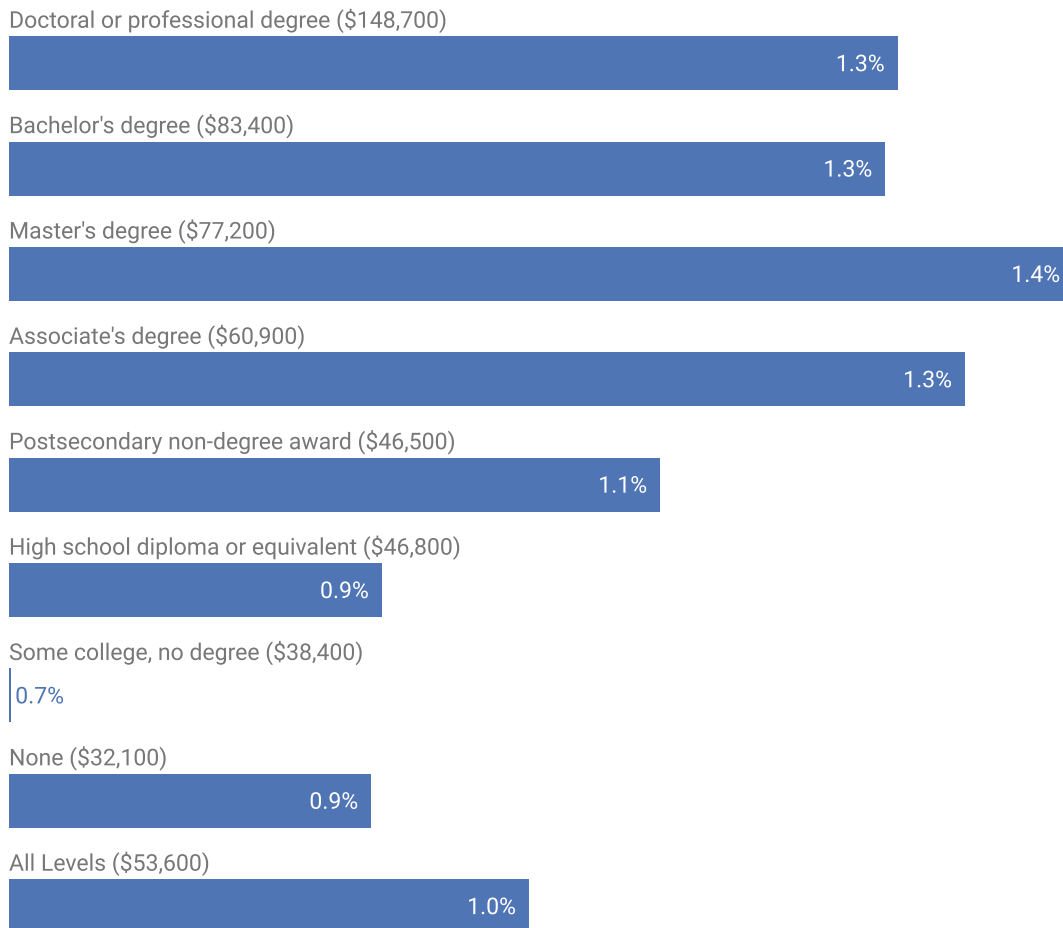
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## Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Cherokee County, Texas is projected to grow 1.0% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.3% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 1.3% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.3% per year.

### Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Source: JobsEQ®  
Data as of 2024Q2

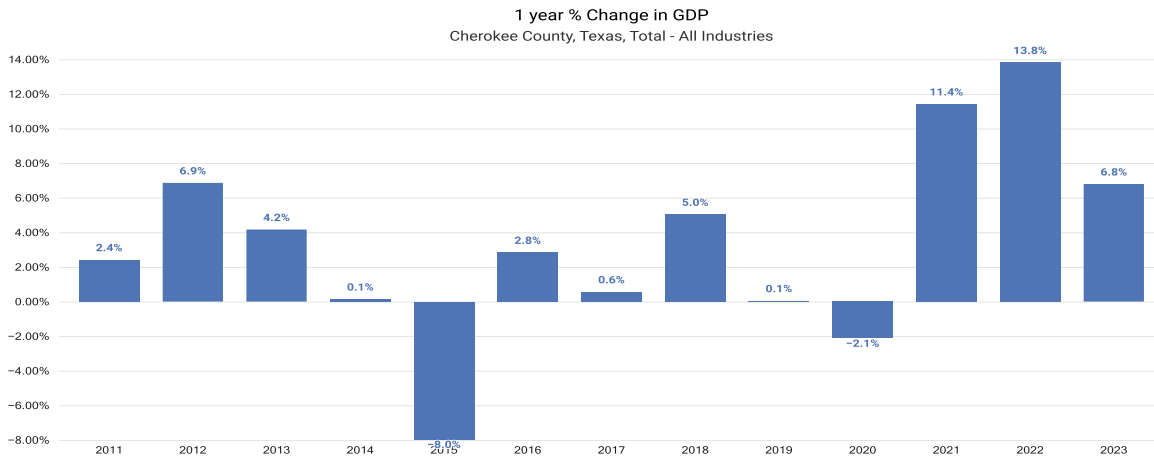
Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2024Q2. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

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## Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2023, nominal GDP in Cherokee County, Texas expanded 6.8%. This follows growth of 13.8% in 2022. As of 2023, total GDP in Cherokee County, Texas was \$1,695,736,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2023.

Of the sectors in Cherokee County, Texas, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2023, \$298,544,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$194,482,000); Educational Services (\$144,855,000); and Retail Trade (\$133,557,000).

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# GDP (in \$ millions)

Cherokee County, Texas, 2023

Manufacturing (31)



Health Care and Social Assistance (62)



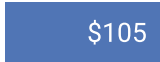
Educational Services (61)



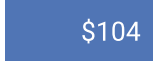
Retail Trade (44)



Public Administration (92)



Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)



Construction (23)



Wholesale Trade (42)



Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (11)



Utilities (22)



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2023.

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