

The U.S. Economy Gained 162,000 Jobs In August, 2026

THREE-MONTH CHANGE IN JOB CREATION ¹

	June, 2026	57,000
	July, 2026	-23,000
¹	August, 2026	162,000

ONE-MONTH CHANGE IN JOB GROWTH BY INDUSTRY ¹

Industry	People Employed July, 2026	People Employed August, 2026	Gain or Loss
Mining	606,000	609,000	3,000
Construction	8,337,000	8,359,000	22,000
Manufacturing	12,622,000	12,638,000	16,000
Wholesale	6,064,300	6,072,100	7,800
Retail	15,486,800	15,488,200	1,400
Transportation	6,601,300	6,606,300	5,000
Utilities	609,000	612,000	3,000
Information	2,768,000	2,745,000	-23,000
Finance	9,097,000	9,086,000	-11,000
Professional	22,517,000	22,527,000	10,000
Health, Private Ed	27,945,000	27,974,000	29,000
Leisure	16,939,000	17,001,000	62,000
^{B1} Associations	6,032,000	6,035,000	3,000
Government	23,288,000	23,323,000	35,000
			162,000

AUGUST, 2026, HIRES BY BUSINESS SIZE ²

Small Business (1-49 employees)	3,000
Mid-Size Business (50-499 employees)	0
Large Business (500+ employees)	34,000
Total U.S. (private-sector hires)	37,000

The U.S. Employment Snapshot

162,746,000 People Were Employed In August, 2026

THREE MONTH CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT

A	June, 2026	162,264,000
		
	July, 2026	162,117,000
		
	August, 2026	162,746,000
		

ONE-YEAR CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION ¹

Occupation	People Employed August, 2025	People Employed August, 2026	Gain or Loss
Management	31,085,000	31,485,000	400,000
Professional	39,781,000	40,283,000	502,000
Services	27,672,000	26,733,000	-939,000
Sales	14,146,000	14,239,000	93,000
Office, administrative	16,415,000	16,154,000	-261,000
Farming, fishing, forestry	1,161,000	1,124,000	-37,000
Construction, extraction	8,714,000	8,075,000	-639,000
Installation, maintenance	5,185,000	4,847,000	-338,000
Production	7,482,000	7,716,000	234,000
Transportation	11,647,000	12,011,000	364,000

PEOPLE WORKING PART TIME FOR ECONOMIC REASONS ¹

A 8	June, 2026	4,681,000
		
	July, 2026	4,804,000
		
	August, 2026	4,390,000
		

ONE YEAR CHANGE IN HOURS AND WAGES ¹

	August, 2025	August, 2026
Average workweek in hours	34.2	34.4
Average manufacturing overtime in hours	2.9	3.1
Average hourly wage	\$36.62	\$37.75
Average weekly earnings	\$2,252.40	\$1,298.60

The U.S. Employment Snapshot

7,031,000 People Were Unemployed In August, 2026

THREE MONTH CHANGE IN UNEMPLOYMENT ¹

June, 2026	7,094,000
July, 2026	6,039,000
August, 2025	7,031,000

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN AUGUST, 2026 ¹

U.S.	Men	Women	Teens	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic	High School Diploma	Bachelor's Degree+	Veterans age 18 years and over
4.1	4.0	3.5	14.1	3.7	6.0	3.2	4.8	4.0	2.7	3.4

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UNEMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION ¹

	People Unemployed In August, 2026	Unemployment Rate
Management	721,000	2.3
Professional	1,399,000	3.4
Services	1,508,000	5.2
Sales	620,000	4.1
Office, administrative	662,000	3.9
Farming, fishing, forestry	44,000	3.9
Construction, extraction	420,000	4.9
Installation, maintenance, repair	106,000	2.1
Production	276,000	3.3
Transportation, material moving	736,000	5.7

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REASON FOR UNEMPLOYMENT AND LENGTH OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST, 2026 ¹

I lost my job	46%
I quit my job	34%
I am reentering the job market	31%
I am new to the job market	10%
1-4 weeks	28%
5-14 weeks	30%
15-26 weeks	17%
27+ weeks	26%

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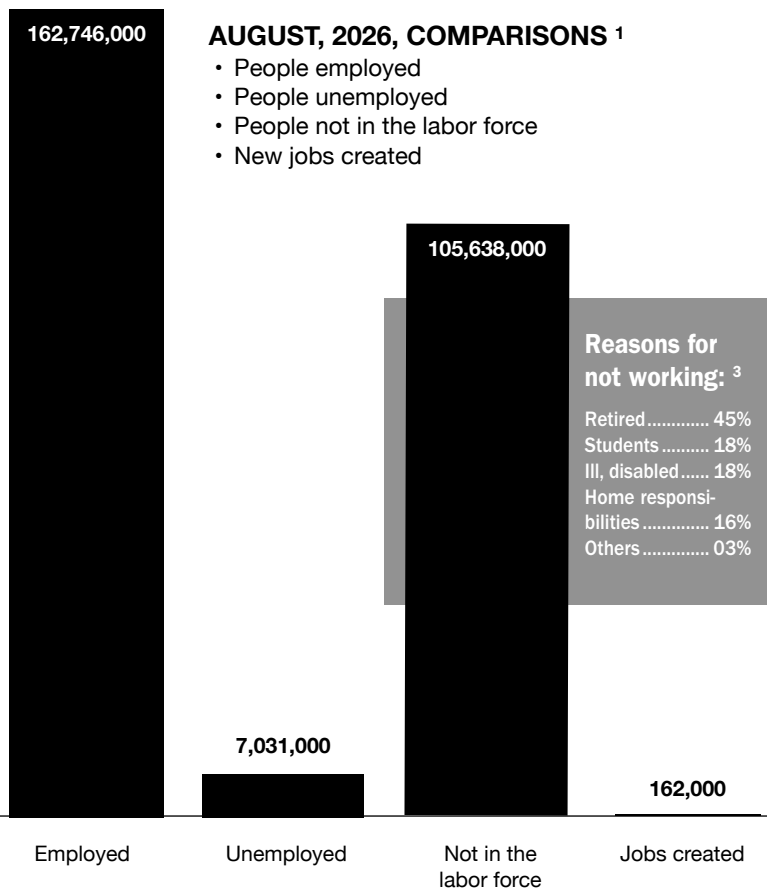
The U.S. Employment Snapshot

105,638,000 People, Age 16 Years And Older, Were Not In The Labor Force In August, 2026

THREE MONTH CHANGE IN THOSE NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE ¹

June, 206	105,808,000
July, 2026	106,189,000
August, 2026	105,638,000

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<https://dahlstromco.com/US-Employment-Snapshot>

by Harry Dahlstrom | author of [The Job Hunting Handbook](#) and [Surviving a Layoff](#)

1. <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>

2. <https://copilot.microsoft.com>, <https://www.adpemploymentreport.com>

3. <https://www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-4/people-who-are-not-in-the-labor-force-why-arent-they-working.htm>