

Construction Employment, Average Hourly Earnings, and Unemployment, 2022-2025

Employment (thousands)								1-month change				12-month change					
								Jan2026		Dec2025		Jan2026		Dec2025		Jan2025	
	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%
Total nonfarm	156,930	157,049	158,942	158,268	158,449	158,497	158,627	130	0.08%	48	0.0%	359	0.2%	-445	-0.3%	1,219	0.8%
Construction	8,099	8,113	8,289	8,264	8,279	8,275	8,308	33	0.4%	-4	-0.05%	44	0.5%	-14	-0.2%	151	1.9%
Residential building	929	931	953	937	928	925	925	0.3	0.0%	-3.6	-0.4%	-12.2	-1.3%	-28.4	-3.0%	6.8	0.7%
Nonresidential building	896	898	915	922	926	927	930	3.6	0.4%	1.1	0.1%	7.9	0.9%	11.5	1.3%	24.0	2.7%
Heavy and civil engineering construction	1,138	1,139	1,173	1,174	1,190	1,197	1,196	-0.8	-0.1%	6.4	0.5%	21.7	1.8%	23.9	2.0%	34.8	3.1%
Residential specialty trade contractors	2,388	2,388	2,407	2,402	2,366	2,365	2,370	5.6	0.2%	-1.1	0.0%	-31.4	-1.3%	-42.1	-1.7%	13.2	0.6%
Nonresidential specialty trade contractors	2,748	2,757	2,841	2,829	2,869	2,862	2,887	25.1	0.9%	-7.0	-0.2%	58.1	2.1%	20.6	0.7%	72.2	2.6%
Residential building + specialty trades	3,317	3,319	3,360	3,339	3,294	3,289	3,295	5.9	0.2%	-4.7	-0.1%	-43.6	-1.3%	-70.5	-2.1%	20.0	0.6%
Nonres building + trades + heavy/civil	4,782	4,794	4,929	4,925	4,985	4,985	5,013	27.9	0.6%	0.5	0.0%	87.7	1.8%	56.0	1.1%	131.0	2.7%
Average hourly earnings (AHE) for production and nonsupervisory employees																	
Private sector total	\$ 29.48	\$ 29.61	\$ 30.67	\$ 30.79	\$ 31.79	\$ 31.83	\$ 31.95	\$ 0.12	0.4%	\$ 0.04	0.1%	\$ 1.16	3.8%	\$ 1.16	3.8%	\$ 1.18	4.0%
Construction	\$ 34.95	\$ 35.21	\$ 36.43	\$ 36.53	\$ 37.92	\$ 38.07	\$ 38.26	\$ 0.19	0.5%	\$ 0.15	0.5%	\$ 1.73	4.7%	\$ 1.64	4.5%	\$ 1.32	3.7%
Residential building	\$ 30.92	\$ 31.05	\$ 33.99	\$ 34.48	\$ 34.78	\$ 34.87	\$ -			\$ 0.09	0.3%			\$ 0.88	2.6%	\$ 3.43	11.0%
Nonresidential building	\$ 37.92	\$ 38.29	\$ 39.09	\$ 39.15	\$ 39.86	\$ 39.96	\$ -			\$ 0.10	0.3%			\$ 0.87	2.2%	\$ 0.86	2.2%
Heavy and civil engineering construction	\$ 37.29	\$ 37.84	\$ 38.09	\$ 38.40	\$ 39.57	\$ 39.76	\$ -			\$ 0.19	0.6%			\$ 1.67	4.4%	\$ 0.56	1.5%
Specialty trade contractors	\$ 34.45	\$ 34.69	\$ 35.98	\$ 36.05	\$ 37.62	\$ 37.80	\$ -			\$ 0.18	0.6%			\$ 1.82	5.1%	\$ 1.36	3.9%
Construction AHE premium over private	18.6%	18.9%	18.8%	18.6%	19.3%	19.6%	19.7%										
Unemployment (not seasonally adjusted)																	
	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026										
								Jan2026		Dec2025		Jan2025					
Total nonfarm rate (%)	3.5	4.1	3.8	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.6	0.2		-		0.3					
Construction rate (%)	4.4	6.9	5.2	6.5	4.1	5.0	6.9	0.4		-		-0.4					
Construction workers (thousands)	442.0	699.0	550.0	669.0	431.0	541.0	742.0	73.0		-		-30.0					

Source:AGC of America, from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, www.bls.gov/ces, updated 2/11/2026