

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

Employment (thousands)								1-month change				12-month change					
								May2025		Apr2025		May2025		Apr2025		May2024	
	Apr 2023	May 2023	Apr 2024	May 2024	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%
Total nonfarm	155,387	155,614	157,635	157,828	159,275	159,422	159,561	139	0.1%	147	0.1%	1,733	1.1%	1,787	1.1%	2,214	1.4%
Construction	7,955	7,965	8,173	8,188	8,303	8,310	8,314	4	0.0%	7	0.1%	126	1.5%	137	1.7%	223	2.8%
Residential building	922	921	941	943	958	959	963	3.6	0.4%	1.3	0.1%	20.2	2.1%	18.4	2.0%	21.6	2.3%
Nonresidential building	869	873	905	909	918	920	923	3.1	0.3%	1.9	0.2%	14.5	1.6%	15.2	1.7%	35.8	4.1%
Heavy and civil engineering construction	1,104	1,102	1,147	1,150	1,178	1,176	1,180	3.7	0.3%	-2.2	-0.2%	30.2	2.6%	28.8	2.5%	47.7	4.3%
Residential specialty trade contractors	2,359	2,359	2,404	2,401	2,387	2,391	2,380	-11.0	-0.5%	4.1	0.2%	-21.2	-0.9%	-12.4	-0.5%	42.1	1.8%
Nonresidential specialty trade contractors	2,702	2,710	2,777	2,786	2,861	2,863	2,868	4.5	0.2%	2.0	0.1%	81.8	2.9%	86.6	3.1%	76.5	2.8%
Residential building + specialty trades	3,281	3,280	3,344	3,344	3,345	3,350	3,343	-7.4	-0.2%	5.4	0.2%	-1.0	0.0%	6.0	0.2%	63.7	1.9%
Nonres building + trades + heavy/civil	4,674	4,684	4,829	4,844	4,958	4,960	4,971	11.3	0.2%	1.7	0.0%	126.5	2.6%	130.6	2.7%	160.0	3.4%
Average hourly earnings (AHE) for production and nonsupervisory employees																	
Private sector total	\$ 28.69	\$ 28.78	\$ 29.85	\$ 29.97	\$ 30.97	\$ 31.06	\$ 31.18	\$ 0.12	0.4%	\$ 0.09	0.3%	\$ 1.21	4.0%	\$ 1.21	4.1%	\$ 1.19	4.1%
Construction	\$ 33.89	\$ 33.99	\$ 35.40	\$ 35.46	\$ 36.80	\$ 36.98	\$ 37.13	\$ 0.15	0.4%	\$ 0.18	0.6%	\$ 1.67	4.7%	\$ 1.58	4.5%	\$ 1.47	4.3%
Residential building	\$ 29.85	\$ 29.92	\$ 31.26	\$ 31.99	\$ 34.23	\$ 34.53				\$ 0.30	1.0%			\$ 3.27	10.5%	\$ 2.07	6.9%
Nonresidential building	\$ 36.44	\$ 36.51	\$ 38.77	\$ 38.87	\$ 39.37	\$ 39.32				\$ (0.05)	-0.2%			\$ 0.55	1.4%	\$ 2.36	6.5%
Heavy and civil engineering construction	\$ 35.31	\$ 35.53	\$ 37.58	\$ 37.50	\$ 38.80	\$ 39.10				\$ 0.30	1.0%			\$ 1.52	4.0%	\$ 1.97	5.5%
Specialty trade contractors	\$ 33.65	\$ 33.80	\$ 34.89	\$ 34.91	\$ 36.23	\$ 36.39				\$ 0.16	0.5%			\$ 1.50	4.3%	\$ 1.11	3.3%
Construction AHE premium over private	18.1%	18.1%	18.6%	18.3%	18.8%	19.1%	19.1%										
Unemployment (not seasonally adjusted)								12-month change									
	Apr 2023	May 2023	Apr 2024	May 2024	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	May2025		Apr2025		May2024					
Total nonfarm rate (%)	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.7	4.2	3.9	4.0	0.3		0.4		0.3					
Construction rate (%)	4.1	3.5	5.2	3.9	5.4	5.6	3.5	-0.4		0.4		0.4					
Construction workers (thousands)	424.0	355.0	555.0	406.0	573.0	594.0	373.0	-33.0		39.0		51.0					

Source:AGC of America, from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, www.bls.gov/ces, updated 6/06/2025