

# JOBS BRIEF

The Greater Memphis Economic Research Group takes an active approach to monitor economic trends and conditions impacting the Greater Memphis region. On May 22nd, 2025, new jobs data for April 2025 was released for metropolitan areas nationwide. Relative to this release, we highlight the updated progress of regional job growth and trends.

## GREATER MEMPHIS REGION



### Market Update

#### Job Growth

National job growth was positive for April 2025, with an increase of 0.1%. The Greater Memphis region saw a comparatively large increase of approximately 0.4% in seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment estimates. Accordingly, the regional unemployment rate fell to 3.7% in April, which is below the national rate of 4.2%.

Between March and April 2025, local seasonally adjusted local estimates show an increase of 2,900 jobs.

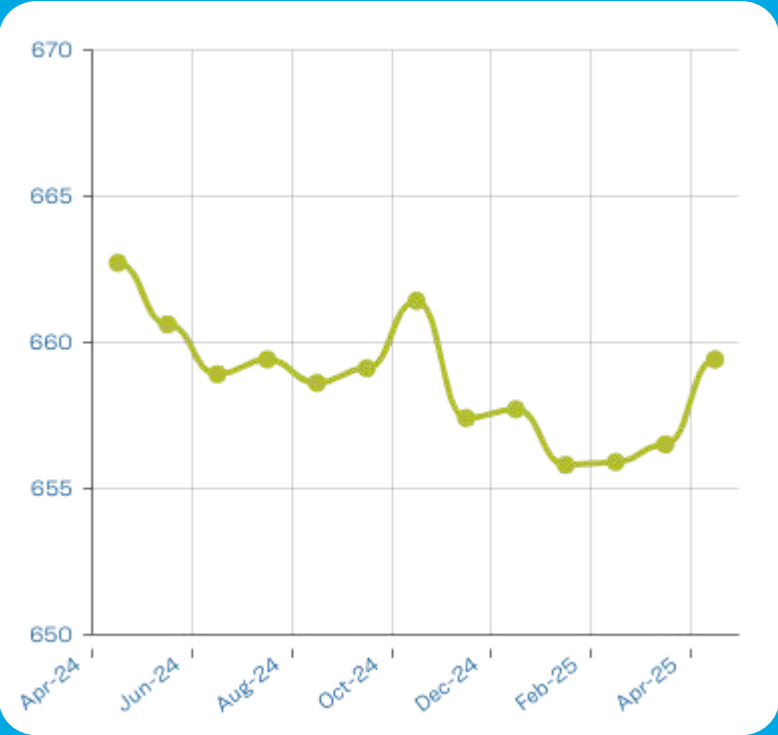
The Greater Memphis region’s local employment estimate for April 2025 is **659,400 jobs**, exceeding pre-pandemic highs.

The April 2025 estimates indicate the market is currently above the pre-pandemic record set in 2020 by 3,600 jobs (0.5%).

As highlighted on the following page, regional growth remains on course compared to major metropolitan areas of similar size and composition. Additionally, industry sector growth is emphasized, illustrating progress in key segments of the regional economy.

### Non-Farm Payroll (Jobs)

Apr. 2024 through Apr. 2025  
Jobs (000s)      Seasonally Adjusted





One Month  
Job Change  
**+2,900**



One Month Job  
Change %  
**+0.4%**



Unemployment  
Rate Change %  
**-0.5%**

Job growth among peer metro areas slowed through 2024, following the rapid rebound seen in 2022.

Of the four peer cities analyzed, only Louisville experienced a slight decline in job growth in April 2025.

Given recent restructuring announcements from major employers, and fluctuations in government employment, these ongoing patterns of growth speak to the strength of private industry.

Tennessee grew by 8,600 jobs (0.3%) in April 2025. Year-over-year, the state gained 24,000 jobs (+0.7%) compared to April 2024, according to the latest data release.



**Job Growth % Relative to April 2024 | Select Comparable Metropolitan Areas**  
April 2025, Seasonally Adjusted

**-0.5%**

**Memphis Metro**

**+0.5%**

**Louisville Metro**

**+0.4%**

**Birmingham Metro**

**+1.0%**

**Oklahoma City Metro**

**Job Trends by Industry | Change vs Last Month, vs Last Year**

Industry	Mar-25	Apr-25	% Change vs Last Month	Apr-24	% Change vs Last Year
Business Services	89,186	89,213	0.03%	90,192	-1.09%
Construction	24,585	24,424	-0.66%	25,316	-3.52%
Education & Health	100,185	102,450	2.26%	100,459	1.98%
Financial Activities	30,006	30,005	0.00%	29,704	1.01%
Government	86,361	86,425	0.07%	85,754	0.78%
Information	5,178	5,248	1.36%	5,348	-1.86%
Leisure & Hospitality	62,124	62,370	0.40%	63,057	-1.09%
Manufacturing	40,178	40,025	-0.38%	41,234	-2.93%
Other Services	28,301	28,350	0.17%	27,985	1.30%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	189,811	191,552	0.92%	192,927	-0.71%

Employment changes in April saw most industries trending positively. However, the Education & Health sector rallied to grow 2.26% following an unusual decline in March. In contrast, the Construction sector declined by -0.66%, followed by Manufacturing at -0.38%.

On a year-over-year basis, the Education & Health sector performed well, growing by nearly 2%, while the Construction industry declined by -3.52% compared to April 2024. Additionally, the other services sector (which includes personal services) has shown consistent growth through 2024 and into 2025, reflecting rising consumer confidence and a greater willingness to spend.

NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Current Employment Statistics (CES) program have revised employment data to reflect the incorporation of the latest benchmarks and the recalculation of seasonal adjustment factors. This process affects not seasonally adjusted data from April 2022 to December 2023 and seasonally adjusted data from January 2019 to December 2023. This will impact our figures moving forward in 2024 by providing a more accurate and up-to-date baseline for employment trends. For more information please visit: [CES State and Area Benchmark Article \(bls.gov\)](#).

# Greater Memphis Labor Force Participation Rate: 62.6%

April 2025

Labor Force Participation Rate: the percentage of regional residents over 16-years-old who are either employed or unemployed but actively seeking work.

## Job Market Demand

In April 2025, 33,776 jobs were posted in the Memphis MSA. Of these, 12,749 (38%) were determined to be unique and not duplicative of another live posting. This is a slight decrease of 1.2% versus March 2025's 12,913 unique postings.

As a result of the current 3.7% unemployment rate, 23,583 individuals are available for work. This equates to 1.8 unemployed persons per unique job posting.

Among the 12,749 unique job postings, only 4,781 (38%) included salary information. The median advertised salary was \$25.54 per hour, identical to February's 2025 median.

Compared to April 2024, there were 204 more unique job postings (1.6%) and the median advertised wage rose by \$2.19 (+9.3%) year-over-year.

## HOT Jobs

Occupation	Unique Postings – Apr. 2025	Median Advertised Wage
Registered Nurses	1,044	\$52.13
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Drivers	491	\$42.03
Retail Salespersons	350	\$15.20
Retail Supervisors	240	\$21.23
Maintenance & Repair Workers	216	\$25.54
Laborers; Material Movers	211	\$18.65
Customer Service Reps	188	\$17.54
Wholesale Sales Reps	183	\$39.82
Food Service Managers	180	\$21.11
General/Ops Managers	178	\$33.91

## Who's Hiring?



- 1. Methodist Health: 265 posts
- 2. Baptist Corporate: 256 posts
- 3. Baptist Health: 196 posts
- 4. FedEx: 156 posts
- 5. Walmart: 147 posts

## Critical Skills

### Common Skills

- 1. Communication  
4,508 posts
- 2. Customer Service  
3,595 posts
- 3. Management  
2,835 posts

### Specialized Skills

- 1. Nursing  
979 posts
- 2. Merchandising  
761 posts
- 3. Auditing  
711 posts



One Month  
Job Posting  
Change  
-164



1 Month  
Median  
Advertised  
Wage Change  
\$0



1 Year Median  
Advertised  
Wage Change  
+\$2.19

## Ready to learn more?

Contact the Greater Memphis Economic Research Group (a Greater Memphis Chamber Initiative) for custom industry reporting, workforce supply and demand data, economic impact research, regional benchmarking, and all of your economic research needs.

