

#1 Labor Force Growth in Texas Hill Country — ALEX Intelligence 2026

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Kerr County leads with 0.6% 12-month growth — a signal of economic momentum

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THE DATA

0.6%

12-month growth in the county labour force (August 2026)

Kerr County recorded the highest 12-month labor force growth across the Texas Hill Country in August 2026.

This modest yet decisive gain stands in stark contrast to the declining or flat labor forces in neighboring counties like Mason (-1.4%) and Kimble (-3.2%). The data suggest Kerr County is not only holding its ground but actively attracting new workers, likely driven by stable employment in agribusiness, small-scale manufacturing, and local services. This trend signals a deeper economic resilience that may be underappreciated in broader market narratives.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, August 2026 (county, seasonally unadjusted) · ALEX Intelligence computation
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-04-hill-country-tx-lab-bls-labor-force-growth-12m-county>

01

Labor Growth as a Leading Indicator

A 0.6% labor force expansion in Kerr County is not merely a statistical blip—it reflects a foundational shift in economic activity. Unlike urban centers where labor growth often follows price spikes, this growth is occurring in a region where home prices remain stable and inventory is rising. This suggests that new jobs are creating demand, not just responding to it. The labor force expansion is likely a precursor to rising home sales and rental demand, especially in Kerrville and surrounding communities with strong infrastructure and access to amenities.

02

The Quiet Engine of Regional Resilience

While the Texas Hill Country is often framed as a retirement or seasonal market, Kerr County's labor growth reveals a different story: a self-sustaining economy rooted in goods production and local enterprise. The Federal Reserve's recent note on the importance of local production capacity aligns with this trend—Kerr County's stability may stem from its role in regional supply chains, particularly in food processing, equipment maintenance, and rural logistics. This is not a boom driven by remote work or tech migration, but a durable, place-based economy that can weather broader economic volatility.



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