#6 of 10: metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026)

metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026): 3.7%

BLS data shows 3.7% unemployment in September 2026

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THE DATA

3.7%

metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026)

Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos, TX ranks #6 of 24 Texas metros with 100,000+ residents.

This figure reflects a labor market that remains tight despite elevated housing costs and a surge in remote work. The rate is not seasonally adjusted, but the consistency of the ranking across multiple data points underscores structural stability. Austin's economy continues to absorb new entrants without a corresponding spike in joblessness.



Photo: En el nido (Nest) · CC BY 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics, September 2026 (seasonally unadjusted, metropolitan) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-11-austin-msa-lab-bls-unemp-rate-msa

01

Low joblessness fuels housing demand

Austin’s 3.7% unemployment rate is a key driver of sustained housing demand. With more residents employed and financially secure, the pipeline of new homebuyers remains robust. This supports rising home values and keeps mortgage applications elevated, even as interest rates remain above historical norms. The labor market’s strength is a silent engine behind the city’s real estate resilience.

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02

Resilience hides rising wage pressures

A low unemployment rate in a high-cost city like Austin signals tightening labor markets. Employers are increasingly competing for talent, leading to upward pressure on wages. This dynamic is already visible in the industrial and tech sectors, where turnover and retention strategies are evolving. While this benefits workers, it also increases operational costs, which may eventually feed into housing and service prices.

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Diane Hart Alexander, MBA, MHA

Chair & CEO, ALEX Companies

Designated Broker, Alexander Tiffany Southwest, LLC dba ALEX.realestate, et.al.

Texas License #574877-B · Broker License #565194-BB

diane@alex.realestate · +1 713.591.9902

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