



WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, February 18, 2026; 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County
309 W. Main Street, Suite 130, Visalia, CA

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (Three minutes per individual/organization, fifteen minutes total)** - Any member of the public wishing to address the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County on a specific matter under its jurisdiction, please notify the Secretary of the Board of your name and provide a brief description on the subject matter prior to the meeting. The Board will not be able to take action on any item not appearing on the agenda.
3. **SUCCESS STORY** - Outstanding Workforce Professional of the Year: Alberto Arzate
4. **CONSENT ITEMS** – All items under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be approved in one action without discussion. If a Board member requests that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar or a citizen wishes to speak on an item, the item will be considered under Regular Items.
 - a. Workforce Investment Board Meeting Minutes
Approve January 14, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes.
 - b. Agreement with Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) Foundation for Edison STEM Internship and Scholarship Funds
Approve an agreement with the TCOE Foundation for the Edison STEM Pathways project and accept funds in the amount not to exceed \$35,000, for the period of January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026.
5. **REGULAR ITEMS**
 - a. Student Training and Employment Program (STEP) Agreement Amendment
 - i. Approve an agreement extension with The Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC) and accept additional grant funds in the amount of \$346,809.33 to continue to operate the STEP program through December 31, 2026.
 - ii. Modify Program Year (PY) 2025-2026 WIOA Title I Out-of-School and PY 2026 In-School Youth Services agreements to incorporate STEP funds to operate the project as follows:
 - a. Community Services Employment Training (CSET) for PY 2025-2026 WIOA Title I Out of School Youth (OSY) Services agreement #3792526 for the West Region for

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD OF TULARE COUNTY

up to \$105,680 to operate the STEP program January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026.

- b. Proteus Inc. for PY 2026 WIOA Title I In-School Youth (ISY) Services Leadership, Education, and Pathways to Employment (LEAP) Program agreement #26-SRC-1 for the designated high school sites and the East Region for up to \$317,040 to operate the STEP program January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Retirement of WIB Members
- b. WIB Member Orientation Update
- c. Agreements Executed by WIB Interim Executive Director Between \$5,000-\$20,000
- d. Performance Report Card and Special Grants Report for WIOA Program Year 25-26 Quarter 2
- e. Workforce Data Newsletter – Volume 10, Issue 12 – December 2025
- f. Tulare County Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) – December 2025

7. WIB COMMITTEES REPORT

- a. Program & Evaluation Committee
- b. Youth Committee

8. CLOSED SESSION

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

As provided in the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code sections 54950 et seq., the Workforce Investment Board may meet in closed session with members of its staff, county employees and its attorneys. These sessions are not open to the public and may not be attended by members of the public. The matters the Board will meet on in closed session are identified below or are matters appropriately identified in open session as requiring immediate attention and arising after the posting of the agenda. Any public reports of action taken in the closed session will be made in accordance with Government Code sections 54957.1.

- a. The Board intends to meet in Closed Session concerning:
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EMPLOYMENT
(Government Code Section 54957(b)(1))
TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (WIB)

9. GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURN

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Laura Gonzalez at (559) 713-5200. Reasonable requests made at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting will help ensure accessibility.

Documents related to the items on this Agenda are available for public inspection online at www.tularewib.org and at the Workforce Investment Board office, 309 W. Main Street, Suite 120, Visalia, CA.



WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD OF TULARE COUNTY

MEETING

January 14, 2026, Minutes

WIB Directors Present: Colby Wells – Chair, Joe Hallmeyer – Vice Chair, Randy Baerg – Treasurer/Secretary, Amy Shuklian, Brandon Lovenburg, Esbeydy Ruvalcaba, Gamaliel Aguilar, Jake Piland, Jeff Hudson-Covolo, Miguel Mora, Robert Kleyn, Rodney Wilson, Thomas Geiger, Yolanda Valdez

WIB Directors Absent: Brent Calvin, Tricia Stever Blattler

1. **Call to Order:** Colby Wells - Chair called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.
2. **Public Comment:** Colby Wells - Chair called for public comments; there were no public comments.
3. **Success Story:** [Workforce Professional of the Year: Ramiro Emigdio](#)
4. **Consent Items:**
 - a. Workforce Investment Board Meeting Minutes
Approve the December 10, 2025, WIB Meeting Minutes.
 - b. WIB Directive TUL 25-07 WIOA Training Expenditure Requirement
Approve WIB Directive TUL 25-07 WIOA Training Expenditure Requirement.
 - c. WIB Directive TUL 25-08 Priority of Services for Veterans and Eligible Spouses
Approve WIB Directive TUL 25-08 Priority of Services for Veterans and Eligible Spouses.
 - d. Revisions to the WIB Bylaws
Approve the revisions to the WIB Bylaws and forward to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors for approval.
 - e. Program Year (PY) 2025-26 WIOA Title I Career Services Agreement
Modify PY 2025-26 WIOA Title I Career Services Agreement No. 3812526 West Region-Visalia with Community Services Employment Training (CSET) to:
 - i. Increase the WIOA Adult training allocation by \$37,000.
 - ii. Increase the transitional jobs performance goal by four for a total of for a total of six (6).

Motion was made by Yolanda Valdez, second by Joe Hallmeyer to approve the consent items, carried by unanimous vote.

5. Regular Items:

- a. Good Jobs Challenge (GJC) Industrial Equipment Funds Award
Approve the Tulare Kings Industrial Partnership Evaluation Committee recommendation to award an agreement to West Hills Community College District (WHCC) - Lemoore College for up to \$100,000 to purchase industrial equipment to serve GJC customers, contingent upon approval from the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Motion was made by Gamaliel Aguilar, second by Robert Kleyn to approve the GJC Industrial Equipment Funds Award, carried by unanimous vote.

6. Information/Discussion Items:

- a. Agreements Executed by WIB Interim Executive Director Between \$5,000-\$20,000
- b. Workforce Data Newsletter – Volume 10, Issue 9 – September 2025
- c. Tulare County Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) – September 2025

7. WIB Committee Reports

- a. Youth Committee

8. Closed Session

- a. The Board intends to meet in Closed Session concerning:
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT
(Government Code Section 54957)
TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (WIB)

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1, the Board reconvened in open session and reported the following action.

Motion was made by Rodney Wilson, second by Yolanda Valdez to recommend Jennie C. Bautista to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors for appointment as Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County; carried by unanimous vote.

9. Good of the Order/Adjourn: There being no further business; the meeting was adjourned by Colby Wells, the Chair, at 8:13 a.m.

Minutes submitted for approval by Randy Baerg, Secretary.

Randy Baerg, Secretary

Date Approved



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Rodarte, Workforce Services Program Manager

FROM: Gicel Angeles, Youth Services Coordinator

DATE: February 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Agreement with Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) Foundation for Edison STEM Internship and Scholarship Funds

Item	Comments
Agenda Date	WIB Meeting – Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Request	Approve an agreement with the TCOE Foundation for the Edison STEM Pathways project and accept funds in the amount not to exceed \$35,000, for the period of January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026.
Summary	<p>The Edison STEM Incentives Project is an initiative by Southern California Edison to provide STEM pathway students in the Southern California Edison service territory with internship stipends and scholarships for specific STEM occupations. Approval of this agreement will allow the WIB to distribute student incentives tied to completion of structured STEM-related internships, project-based learning activities, and the Jump Start Industrial Maintenance Summer Cohort during the 2026 program period.</p> <p>Through this agreement, the WIB will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a \$500 incentive for up to 24 students who complete the College of Sequoias Jump Start Industrial Maintenance Summer Cohort. • Provide a \$500 incentive for up to 29 students involved in a work-based learning project focusing on the underrepresented and rural school districts. • Coordinate with school districts to identify work-based learning and internship projects for students enrolled in a STEM-related activity.
Fiscal Impact	Accepting the funds will increase the WIB budget by \$35,000 for the administration of the Edison STEM Internship and Scholarship incentives.

Alternatives	If the recommendations are not approved, staff will develop alternative plans.
Involvement of Other Stakeholders	Participating education partners: Dinuba Unified School District, Tulare Joint Union High School District, Lindsay Unified School District, Exeter Unified School District, Farmersville Unified School District, Woodlake Unified School District, Visalia Unified School District, Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified School District, and College of Sequoias
Attachment(s)	Agreement between the Tulare County Office of Education Foundation and the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County.

AGENCY AGREEMENT

Edison STEM Internship and Scholarship

This **AGREEMENT**, is entered into between the **Tulare County Office of Education Foundation**, referred to as **FOUNDATION** and, **Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County** referred to as **AGENCY**.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS AGREED:

1. **TERM:** This Agreement shall become effective as of January 1, 2026, and shall expire on September 30, 2026.
2. **SERVICES: AGENCY** shall provide services as set forth in Exhibit A. (See attached Exhibit A for details.)
3. **COST OF SERVICES: FOUNDATION** shall pay **AGENCY** amount not to exceed the sum of \$35,000.00
4. **METHOD OF PAYMENT: FOUNDATION** agrees to pay **AGENCY** the fixed fee of \$35,000.00 upon acceptance of this agreement and receipt of invoice.
5. **REPORTING: AGENCY** is responsible for maintaining verifiable records for all expenditures and data relating to internship and scholarship as identified in Exhibit A.
6. **INDEMNIFICATION: FOUNDATION** and **AGENCY** shall hold each other harmless, defend and indemnify their respective agents, officers, and employees from and against any liability, claims, actions, costs, damages, or losses of any kind, including death or injury to any person and/or damage to property, arising out of the activities of **FOUNDATION** or **AGENCY** or their agents, officers, and employees under this Agreement. This indemnification shall be provided by each party to the other party regarding its own activities undertaken pursuant to this Agreement, or as a result of the relationship thereby created, including any claims that may be made against either party by any taxing authority asserting that an employer-employee relationship exists by reason of this Agreement, or any claims made against either party alleging civil rights violations by such party under Government Code section 12920 et seq. (California Fair Employment and Housing Act). This indemnification obligation shall continue beyond the term of this Agreement as to any acts or omissions occurring under this Agreement or any extension of this Agreement.
7. **AMENDMENTS:** This Agreement may be amended as mutually agreed upon.
8. **TERMINATION:** Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause by giving thirty (30) calendar days advance written notice to the other party.

THE PARTIES, having read and considered the above provisions, indicate their agreement by their authorized signatures below.

AGENCY

Jennie C. Bautista
Interim Executive Director
Workforce Investment Board of
Tulare County
309 W. Main St. Ste. 120
Visalia, CA 93291

By: _____

Date: _____

FOUNDATION

Janice Castle
Chair
Tulare County Office of Education
Foundation
P.O. Box 4353
Visalia, CA 93278-5091

By: _____

Date: _____

Please return an original copy to:

Tulare County Office of Education
ATTN: Marlene Moreno
P.O. Box 5091
Visalia, CA 93278-5091

Revised: 1/18/24



EXHIBIT A

STEM Scholarship and Internship Funds will be used for all products and services needed to support delivery of internship stipends and scholarships to identified students. Services will include evaluation of students and support for student success. Evaluations will include student reflections and internship evaluations. TCOE Foundation INNOVATE, TCOE College and Career staff and Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County (WIB) leadership will collaborate with business, college, and community partners to collect mentor support, and garner additional scholarship/internship funding for sustainability and growth. The program will include processes for reporting measurable outcomes consistent with SCE Funding criteria. WIB Leadership will provide access to SCE Reporting Portal.

Communities to be served include Hanford, Lindsay, Porterville, Tulare, Visalia, Woodlake, and other areas within the SCE service territory. As per budget, funding will be focused on stipends and scholarships for students from STEM related programs and pathways as outlined in the attached list (ATTACHMENT A).

TERM: This Agreement shall become effective as of January 1, 2026 and shall expire on September 30, 2026.

SERVICES/OUTCOMES:

1. **Communication and outreach** of the STEM Scholarship and Internship program.
2. **Provide** financial support and direction of student-centered STEM related work-based learning experiences from districts in Tulare and Kings County with a focus on under-served and rural school districts and schools.
3. **Provide, support and organize** student-centered learning opportunities focusing on STEM careers in the Summer of 2026. **Attachment A**

4. Support and collaborate with local community college CTE (Career and Technical Education) programs in the implementation of the JumpStart programs in the summer of 2026.
5. **Identify, engage and promote** under-represented populations in STEM related CTE Pathways, including but not limited to, Engineering, Welding, Information Systems and Construction, Natural Resources and Conservation.
6. **Collect** student data and report to appropriate entities

Tentative Budget

STEM-related work-based learning support and expansion in Tulare and Kings counties, with an emphasis on under-represented and rural school districts. Internships	29 @ \$500/each \$14,500.00
College of the Sequoias JumpStart Industrial Maintenance Summer Cohort support Event Support and Scholarships	24 @ \$500/each \$12,000.00
Staff management and expenses for Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County. Staff Management, Event support, Data Collection & Reporting	 \$8,500.00
TOTAL	\$35,000.00

*Scholarship and Stipend amounts may be adjusted based on student service or need. In addition, scholarships and stipends may be awarded based on experiences within a student's STEM-related pathways and/or majors.



ATTACHMENT A

Scholarship funding received from Edison International must be directed towards STEM education as it relates to the following specific majors **only**:

Business:

Management Information Systems

Computer and Information Services

Computer Programming

Computer Science

Information Systems

Information Technology

Engineering

Bioengineering

Chemical Engineering

Civil Engineering

Electrical and Communication

Industrial Engineering

Materials Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Nuclear Engineering

Software Engineering

Nano Engineering

Mathematics

Applied Mathematics

Mathematics

Statistics

Engineering Technology

Computer Engineering Technology

Construction Technology

Drafting and Design Technology

Electrical Engineering Technology

Mechanical Engineering Technology

Surveying Technology

Telecommunication Technology

Natural Resources and Conservation

Environmental Science

Environmental Studies

Forestry

Natural Resources and Conservation

Wildlife and Wilderness Management

Physical Sciences

Applied Physics

Applied Chemistry

Chemistry

Geology/Earth Science

Geophysics

Physics

Comprehensive Science



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Rodarte, Workforce Services Manager

FROM: Gicel Angeles, Youth Services Coordinator

DATE: February 2, 2026

SUBJECT: Student Training and Employment Program (STEP) Agreement Amendment

Item	Comments
Agenda Date	WIB Meeting – Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve an agreement extension with The Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC) and accept additional grant funds in the amount of \$346,809.33 to continue to operate the STEP program through December 31, 2026. ii. Modify Program Year (PY) 2025-2026 WIOA Title I Out-of-School and PY 2026 In-School Youth Services agreements to incorporate STEP funds to operate the project as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Community Services Employment Training (CSET) for PY 2025-2026 WIOA Title I Out of School Youth (OSY) Services agreement #3792526 for the West Region for up to \$105,680 to operate the STEP program January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026. b. Proteus Inc. for PY 2026 WIOA Title I In-School Youth (ISY) Services Leadership, Education, and Pathways to Employment (LEAP) Program agreement #26-SRC-1 for the designated high school sites and the East Region for up to \$317,040 to operate the STEP program January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.
Summary	<p>Background</p> <p>In August 2023, the Department of Rehabilitation, in collaboration with the FCCC, released a Solicitation for Proposals for STEP, funded through WIOA Title IV Vocational Rehabilitation funds. The WIB submitted a proposal and was awarded a three-year contract on November 15, 2023, providing funding of up to \$750,000 annually to operate</p>

the STEP program. STEP provides paid work readiness training and paid work experience to students with disabilities aged 16 to 21 in the WIB’s youth service areas.

The WIB took initial action in November 2023 to accept \$750,000 in STEP funds from the FCCC. In December 2024, the WIB took subsequent action to accept a second round of STEP funding in the amount of \$574,526 to continue program operations.

Board Action	FCCC Allocation	Participants Enrolled/ Projected 2026 Enrollment
November 2023	\$750,000	83
December 2024	\$574,526	83
February 2026	\$346,809.33	80
Total	\$1,671,335.33	246

Recommendation

Staff request WIB approval to accept an additional \$346,809.33 in STEP funds, increasing our current allocation to \$1,671,335.33. The additional funds will allow the WIB to serve 80 additional students and support 65 additional work experience opportunities.

The WIB’s youth@work Subrecipients provide direct youth services. The WIB has contracts with two providers for OSY services and one provider for ISY LEAP services. STEP services were added to the OSY contracts from July 2025 through December 2025. Because STEP activities overlap with both OSY and ISY LEAP program design, particularly in the East Region, staff recommend transitioning the STEP services into the ISY LEAP contract for the East Region to better align resources, service delivery areas, and maximize funding at partner high schools.

Accordingly, staff recommend allocating STEP funds into the WIOA Title I OSY contract with CSET to continue STEP operations from January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026, and into the WIOA Title I ISY LEAP contract with Proteus, Inc. to operate STEP services from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026. Funds will be allocated to provide work-readiness training, develop worksites, and provide case management and work experience (wages and fringe benefits), as follows:

Allocation by Region:

Provider	Designated Educational Service Sites	Term	Contract No.	Total
CSET	West Region *High Schools, Adult Schools, and Colleges	1/1/2026 – 6/30/2026	3792526	\$105,680
Proteus Inc.	ISY LEAP High School Sites (Orosi High School, Tulare Union High School, Dinuba High School, Woodlake High School), East Region High Schools, Adult Schools, and Colleges	1/1/2026 – 12/31/26	26-SRC-1	\$317,040

**Excludes Tulare Union High School*

	<u>Performance by Region:</u>			
	Provider	Enrollments	Stipends	Work Experiences
	CSET	16	16	13
	Proteus Inc.	48	48	39
Fiscal Impact	Accepting the funds will increase the WIB budget by \$346,809.33 to administer the STEP program and expand program capacity to serve additional students with disabilities.			
Alternatives	If the recommendations are not approved, staff will develop alternative plans.			
Involvement of Other Stakeholders	Department of Rehabilitation, K-12 School District Partners, College of the Sequoias, Porterville College, Porterville Adult School, Tulare Adult School, and Visalia Adult School			
Attachment(s)	Agreement between the Foundation for California Community Colleges and the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County			



FOUNDATION *for* CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

AMENDED STUDENT TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (STEP) AGREEMENT

between

THE FOUNDATION FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

and

TULARE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (TULARE COUNTY WIB)

*Parent Agreement No. 00008491
Amendment # 02*

Effective **January 25, 2024**, the Foundation for California Community Colleges (“Foundation”), a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, and **Tulare County Workforce Investment Board (Tulare County WIB)** (“Awardee”), a California 501(c)(3) corporation, entered into a Student Training and Employment Program (STEP) Agreement (“Agreement”).

WHEREAS, the parties now wish to add additional terms, revise the project plan, and increase the amount of the agreement.

WHEREAS, notwithstanding anything contrary in the Agreement, the parties now intend to limit SWDs to working no more than 120 total hours during their work experience.

THEREFORE, the parties hereby amend the Agreement as follows effective at the time of execution:

1. **Amendment to the maximum amount of the Agreement (Entire Agreement).** The maximum amount of the Agreement is hereby increased to “\$1,671,335.33”.
2. **Amendment to Exhibit A. (Services and Deliverables).** Exhibit A of the Agreement is hereby amended by adding Exhibit A-2. Exhibit A-2 is attached hereto and incorporated herein and shall be considered part of this Agreement.
3. **Amendment to Exhibit A, Section 6 (Eligible Activities) Subsection b (Work Experience)** Exhibit A, Section 6 (Eligible Activities) Subsection b (Work Experience) is hereby amended by adding “AWARDEE shall ensure each SWD does not exceed 120 work experience hours, unless otherwise approved in writing by Foundation or DOR. AWARDEE shall promptly inform each Worksite of this 120 hour limitation and shall ensure Worksite prohibits SWDs from working in excess of 120 hours, which includes amending any Worksite Agreement (if applicable) to effectuate that limitation.”

*00008491_Tulare County Workforce Investment Board (Tulare County WIB)_Amend 02
Salesforce # 00013208*

4. **Amendment to Exhibit B, (Budget Details and Payment Provisions)** Exhibit B of the Agreement is hereby amended by replacing the total not-to-exceed of “\$1,324,526.00” with “\$1,671,335.33”.

5. **Amendment to Exhibit B, Project Budget.** Exhibit B, Section 4, of the Agreement is hereby amended by added Exhibit B-2. Exhibit B-2 is attached hereto, incorporated herein, and shall be considered part of this Agreement. This amendment reflects the understanding that the award is designated annually for Year 2024, Year 2025, and Year 2026, with Exhibit B-2 covering the budget through Year 2026. All other terms of the Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

THE PARTIES HEREBY EXECUTE THIS AMENDED AGREEMENT.

AWARDEE

**FOUNDATION FOR CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

By: _____

By: _____

Print Name: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

**FOUNDATION FOR CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES – if second
signature is required**

By: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit A-2 Project Plan Revisions

2026 Services

80 SWD to be served

65 SWD with 120 hrs paid work experience at \$20/hr

\$200 stipends upon completion of at least three of four workplace readiness training modules

Providing workplace readiness training; paid work-based learning experience; job exploration counseling; postsecondary enrollment counseling; and self-advocacy training

Cost per participant: \$5,969.05

Percentage of Staff Costs of Overall Budget: 5.2%

Federally procured EoR service

Exhibit B-2 Budget Update

Tulare County Workforce Investment Board (Tulare County WIB)

Expense Item	Amount Requested
Personnel Salaries	\$ 64,624.05
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$ 22,514.36
Subcontractor Fees	\$ 1,060,722.37
Total Administrative Fees	\$ 10,643.69
Work Experience Wages	\$ 450,479.70
Work Experience Taxes	\$ 62,351.16
TOTAL	\$1,671,335.33



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Rodarte, Workforce Services Program Manager

FROM: Desiree Landeros, Career Services Coordinator

DATE: February 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Performance Report Card and Special Grants Report for WIOA Program Year 2025-2026 Quarter 2

Item	Comments						
Agenda Date	WIB Meeting – Wednesday, February 18, 2026						
Summary	<p>This informational item will provide the Board with a mid-program year update on workforce program implementation, regional performance trends, and the strategic impact of special grant investments in strengthening services across Tulare County.</p> <p>WIOA Quarter 2 Report Card by Region</p> <p>WIB staff will present Quarter 2 WIOA Regional Performance Report Cards highlighting key outcomes in Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs, including their successes and areas for improvement.</p> <p>Special Grants Overview</p> <p>WIB staff will also present a high-level snapshot of ten active special grant initiatives, outlining each grant’s purpose, funding source, target population, and performance outcomes to date. These initiatives support priority populations, pilot innovative workforce strategies, and extend service capacity beyond formula-funded programs.</p> <p>Special Grant Workforce Initiatives, Funding Sources, and Target Populations:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <th style="width: 40%;">Grant Name</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Funding Source</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Target Population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Students Training and Employment Program (STEP)</td> <td>The Foundation for Community Colleges</td> <td>Students with Disabilities ages 16-24</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Grant Name	Funding Source	Target Population	Students Training and Employment Program (STEP)	The Foundation for Community Colleges	Students with Disabilities ages 16-24
Grant Name	Funding Source	Target Population					
Students Training and Employment Program (STEP)	The Foundation for Community Colleges	Students with Disabilities ages 16-24					

	Leading, Educating, Advocating, and Dedication (LEAD)	Tulare County Health and Human Services	High School Juniors or Seniors
	Environmental Cleanup Opportunities (ECO)	City of Visalia	Unhoused adults in Visalia area
	Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE)	Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency	Individuals referred by TulareWORKS
	Good Jobs Challenge	Fresno Economic Development Corporation	Individuals interested in industrial, construction, transportation, or manufacturing careers
	Ag Skills Advancement Project (ASAP)	Employment Development Department (EDD) National Dislocated Worker Grant (NDWG)	Farmworkers, their adult children or other members of their household
	Prison 2 Employment (P2E)	San Joaquin Employment & Economic Development Department	Justice involved adults
	Readiness for Employment through Sustainable Education & Training (RESET)	Tulare County Probation	For individuals referred by Tulare County Probation
	Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership (RERP)	Stanislaus County Workforce	Individuals interested in industrial, transportation, or manufacturing careers
	Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3)	Sequoias Community College District	Individuals interested in building trades
Involvement of Other Stakeholder(s)	CSET, Proteus, Inc., Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency, City of Visalia, EDD, Tulare County Probation, Foundation for Community Colleges, Fresno Economic Development Corporation, San Joaquin Employment & Economic Development Department, Stanislaus County Workforce, Sequoias Community College District		
Attachment(s)	Career Services Regional Report Card- Quarter 2, and Youth Services Regional Report Card- Quarter 2		

WIOA Youth Regional Report Card
 July 1, 2025- December 31, 2025
 WIOA Quarterly Key Results by Subrecipient

OBJECTIVE	KEY RESULTS		System Results Q2	Proteus, Inc. EAST Region		CSET West Region	
				Comprehensive	BOC	Comprehensive	BOC
New Enrollment	NEW ENROLLMENTS (CaJOBS 433) - Distinct Users (WIOA OSY)	Planned	138	31	39	25	43
		Actual	262	78	74	46	64
		POP	190%	252%	190%	184%	149%
OKR 1 BUILDING ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE NEEDED	A.Total number of participants who enrolled in a Work Experience (OSY)	Planned	63	15	10	18	20
		Actual	59	9	12	18	20
		POP	94%	60%	120%	100%	100%
	B. Percent of young adults who enrolled in a work experience and either gain employment, education, or training during participation (30 percent)	Planned	18	3	4	5	6
		Actual	11	5	3	0	3
		POP	62%	185%	83%	0%	50%
OKR 2 INCREASE EDUCATION OR TECHNICAL SKILLS	A. Total number of young adults enrolled in any education or training (B+C+D)	Planned	40	11	12	6	11
		Actual	47	17	4	8	18
		POP	118%	155%	33%	133%	164%
	B. Total number of young adults enrolled in any education or training (Not enrolled in either C or D) (Local Status "Enrollment into Education or Training")	Planned	17	5	6	2	4
		Actual	13	5	1	2	5
		POP	76%	100%	17%	100%	125%
	C. Total number of young adults enrolled in a WIOA Youth funded OST (Activity Code 416)	Planned	13	3	4	2	4
		Actual	18	7	2	2	7
		POP	138%	233%	50%	100%	175%
	D. Number of young adults enrolled in a high school diploma or high school equivalency (Activity 429 or 418)	Planned	10	3	2	2	3
		Actual	16	5	1	4	6
		POP	160%	167%	50%	200%	200%
E. Percent of young adults enrolled in occupational skills training activity who were employed in the 2nd quarter after exit (66%)	POP	Delayed Reporting					
	F. Median quarterly earning of young adults wage earners who were enrolled education/training the 2nd quarter after exit (\$4,600)	POP	Delayed Reporting				
OKR 3 ESTABLISH A TALENT POOL	A. Percent of participants who enrolled in the talent pool (15 percent)	Planned	39	12	11	7	10
		Actual	42	15	8	7	12
		POP	107%	128%	72%	101%	125%
OKR 4 HIGH QUALITY CANDIDATES	A. Percent of young adults retained by the employer following the work experience (rate at 18 percent of WEX enrollments) (Local Status "WEX Retained")	Planned	11	2	2	3	4
		Actual	9	3	3	1	2
		POP	85%	185%	139%	31%	56%
OKR 5 CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE	A. Number of system wide surveys recieved B. Average customer satisfaction survey for young adults C. Number of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) co-designed and established by the WIB and Subrecipient for 3-5 key processes and or staff roles	Actual	3	3	0	0	0
		Actual	94%	94%	0%	0%	0%
			Prototype: No Data to Report				
WIOA Expenditures	Total Work Experience Expenditures	Planned	\$318,000	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$132,000	\$120,000
		Actual	\$167,042	\$24,704	\$21,830	\$39,709	\$80,799
		POP	53%	75%	66%	30%	67%
	Total WIOA Expenditures	Planned	\$1,234,726	\$291,294	\$343,182	\$285,150	\$315,100
		Actual	\$1,188,848	\$204,355	\$277,359	\$325,187	\$381,947
		POP	96%	70%	81%	114%	121%
Cost Per			\$2,619.94	\$3,748.09	\$7,069.28	\$5,967.92	
Cost Per (WEX)			\$2,744.83	\$1,819.17	\$2,206.06	\$4,039.95	
STATE PERFORMANCE	A. Employment, Education or Training Rate 2nd quarter (Goal 66%) 07/01/2024	POP	Delayed Reporting				
	B. Employment, Education or Training Rate 4th quarter (Goal 67%) 01/01/2024	POP	Delayed Reporting				
	C. Median Earnings 2nd quarter after exit (Goal \$4,600) 07/01/2024	POP	Delayed Reporting				
	D. Total number of participants who attained a degree or certificate within one year after exit (Goal 60%) 01/01/2024	POP	Delayed Reporting				
	E. Total number of students earned a Measurable Skill Gains during reporting period (70%) 07/01/2025	POP	Delayed Reporting				

Region	
East	Porterville, Dinuba, Lindsay, Woodlake, Cutler-Orosi
West	Visalia, Farmersville/ Exeter, Pixley, Earlimart, Tulare
POP	
	90% and above
	80 - 89 %
	79% or below
	Prototype or Delayed Reporting

WORKFORCE DATA NEWSLETTER

an In-Depth Analysis of Labor Market Information

A Note Before the Data Newsletter Begins:

Because of the federal government shutdown in October of 2025, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) experienced delays in producing and publishing their regular data releases. The California Employment Development Department (EDD) updates rely on BLS inputs and timelines so those delays have cascaded to the state level as well. While publication schedules are resuming, it may take the next few months for releases to fully normalize and return to their regular cadence.

From December 2024 to December 2025...



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
remained steady at **10.2%**



FARM JOBS
increased by **700**



LARGEST GAINS:
Educational and Health Services | **1,000**



LABOR FORCE
increased by **2,700**



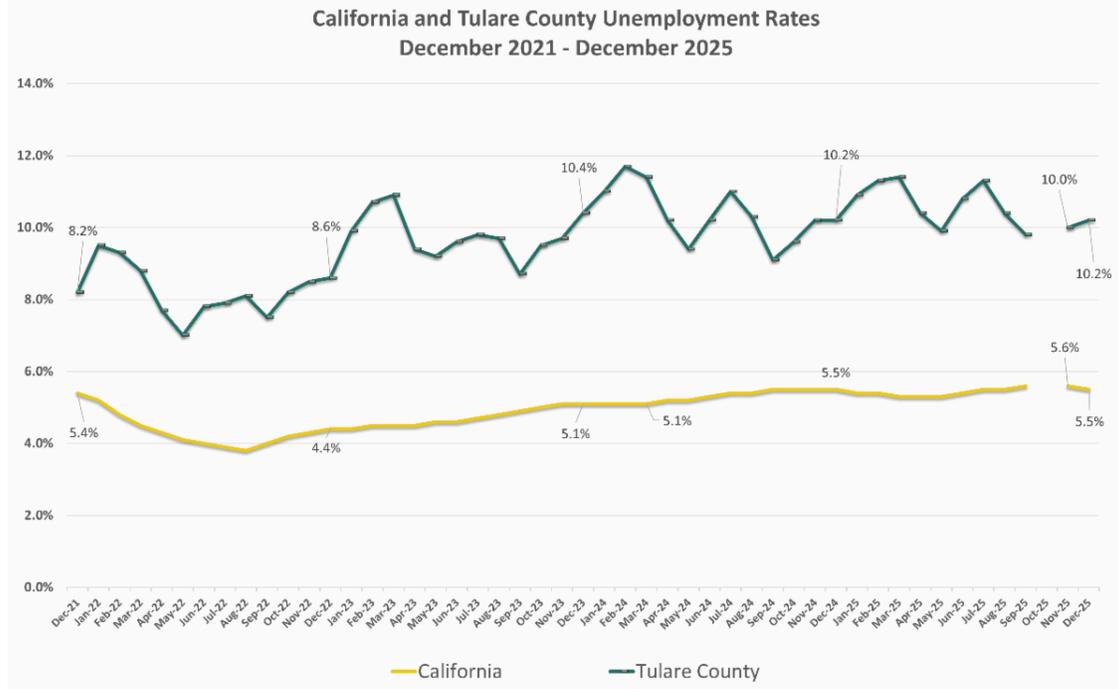
NON FARM JOBS
decreased by **500**



LARGEST DECLINE
Transportation, Warehousing,
& Utilities | **-600**
Professional & Business Services | **-600**

Highlights from the recent report include:

- From December 2024 to December 2025, the labor force increased by an estimated 2,700 people. Educational and Health Services continued to show robust gains over the last year while the overall unemployment rate increased from a revised 10.0% to 10.2% year-over-year.
- Despite the large growth in labor force, Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities and Professional & Business Services registered 600 fewer workers each compared to the same time last year.



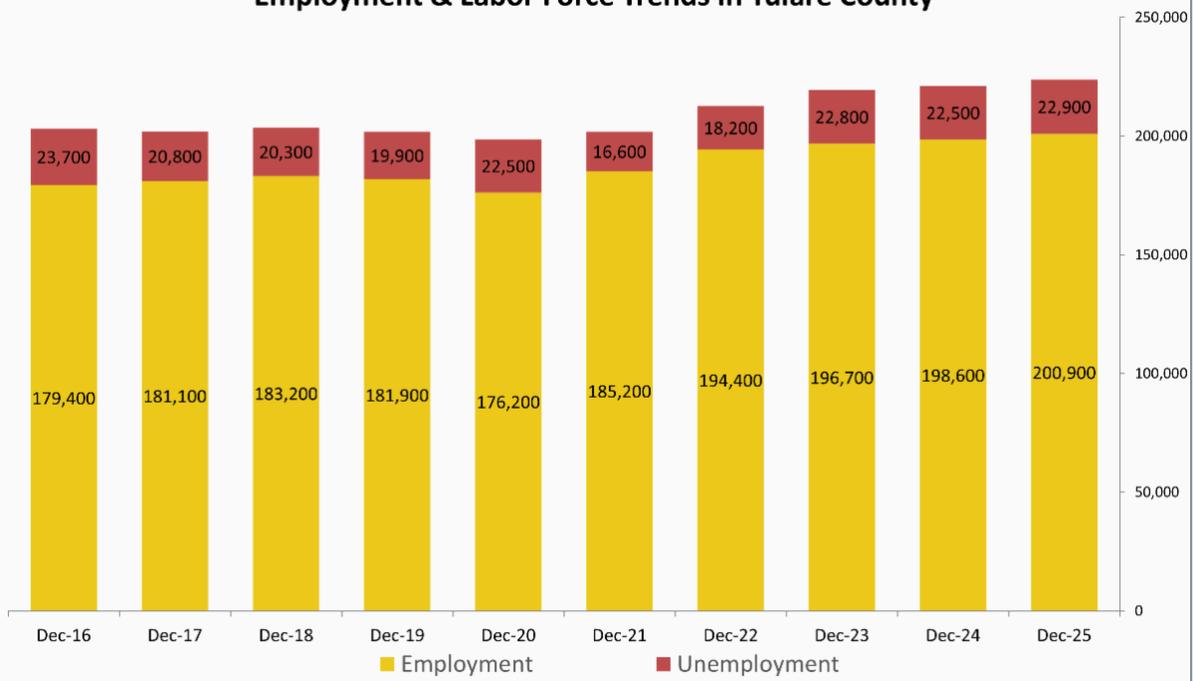
The California Employment Development Department (EDD) reported that the rate of unemployment remained steady at 10.2% from December 2024 to December 2025.

However, month to month from November to December of 2025, the unemployment rate in Tulare County increased from a revised 10.0% to 10.2%.

	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	Change	
				Month	Year
Labor Force	221,100	225,100	223,800	-1,300	2,700
Employment	198,600	202,500	200,900	-1,600	2,300
Unemployment	22,500	22,600	22,900	300	400

The graph below shows December employment and labor force trends over the last 10 years.

Employment & Labor Force Trends in Tulare County



Gains + Losses | The Number of Jobs in Tulare County

HOW MANY JOBS HAVE COME AND GONE IN THE LAST YEAR & THE LAST MONTH?

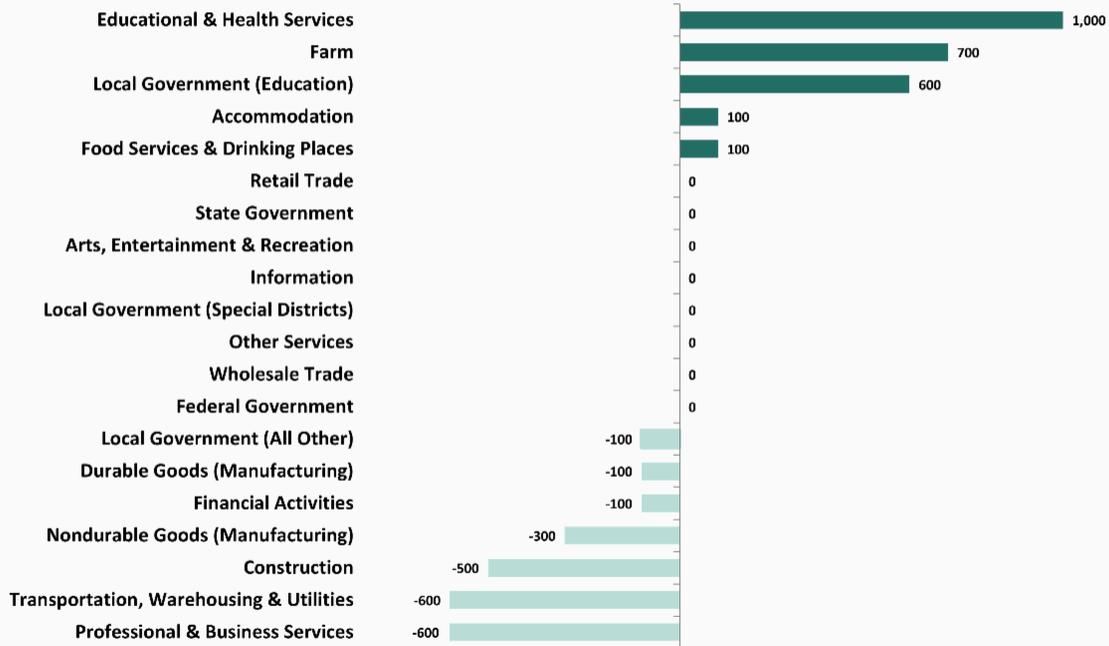
YEAR OVER YEAR | A COMPARISON

From December 2024 to December 2025, Educational & Health Services and Local Government (Education) both showed robust gains along with Farm jobs.

Unfortunately, most other industry categories registered little or negative gains in employment. Notably the labor markets for Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities, Construction, Nondurable Goods (Manufacturing), and Professional & Business Services all lost jobs year to year, further evidence of a softening labor market especially for private firms in the area.

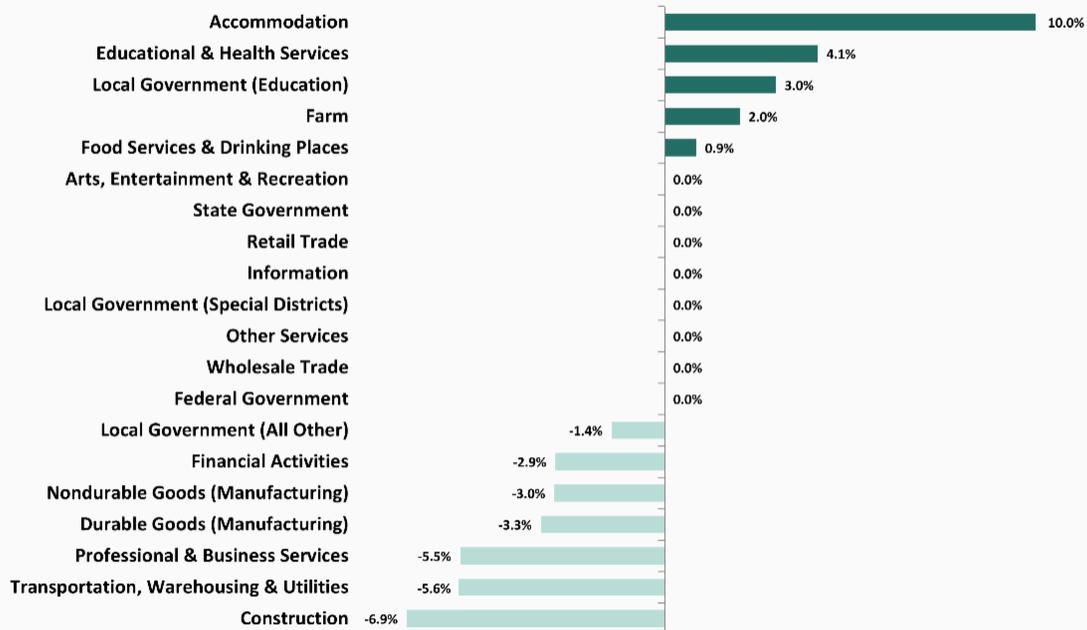
Tulare County 2024-2025 Change in Jobs

December 2024 - December 2025



Tulare County 2024-2025 Percent Change in Jobs

December 2024 - December 2025

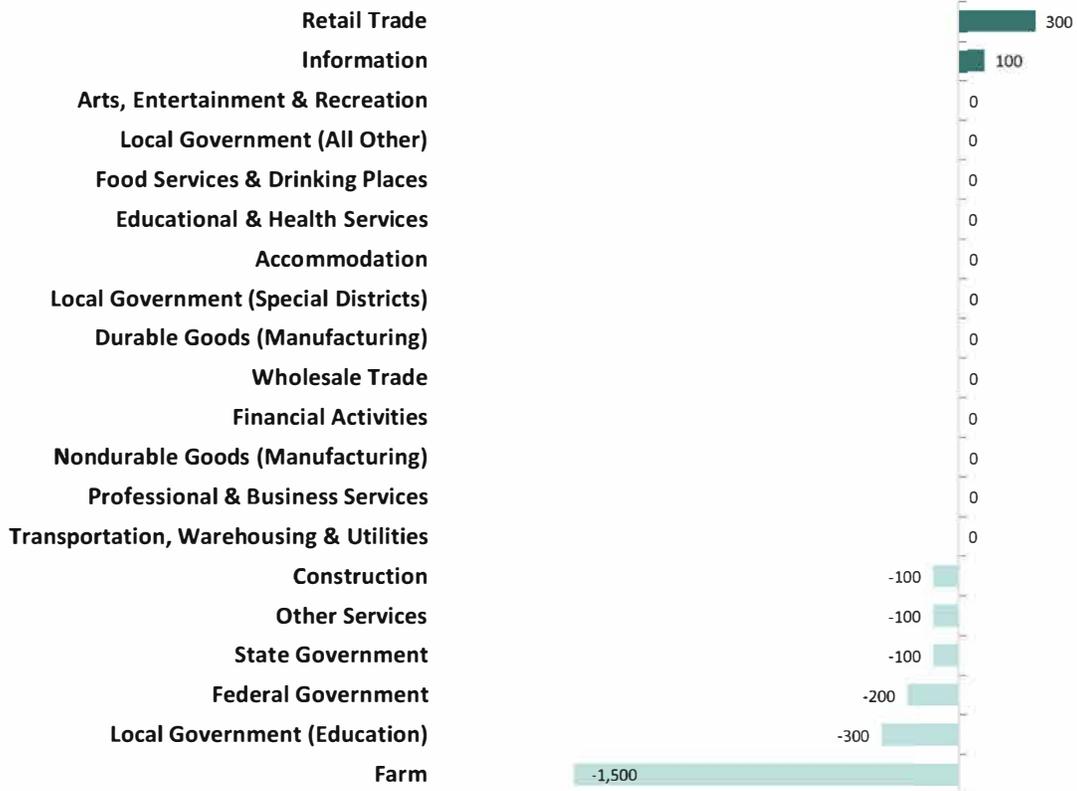


MONTH OVER MONTH | A COMPARISON

On a month to month basis, Retail Trade showed gains, likely from seasonal hiring for the Holidays. A large month to month change in farm employment is not unexpected. On a percentage basis, much like last month, Information jobs registered a large percentage gain because of a small baseline. 100 jobs is the smallest change that can be registered under this survey system and can often times be much smaller. This, paired with the registered loss of 100 jobs previously likely means that the true number is bouncing back and forth between the calculated rounding parameters.

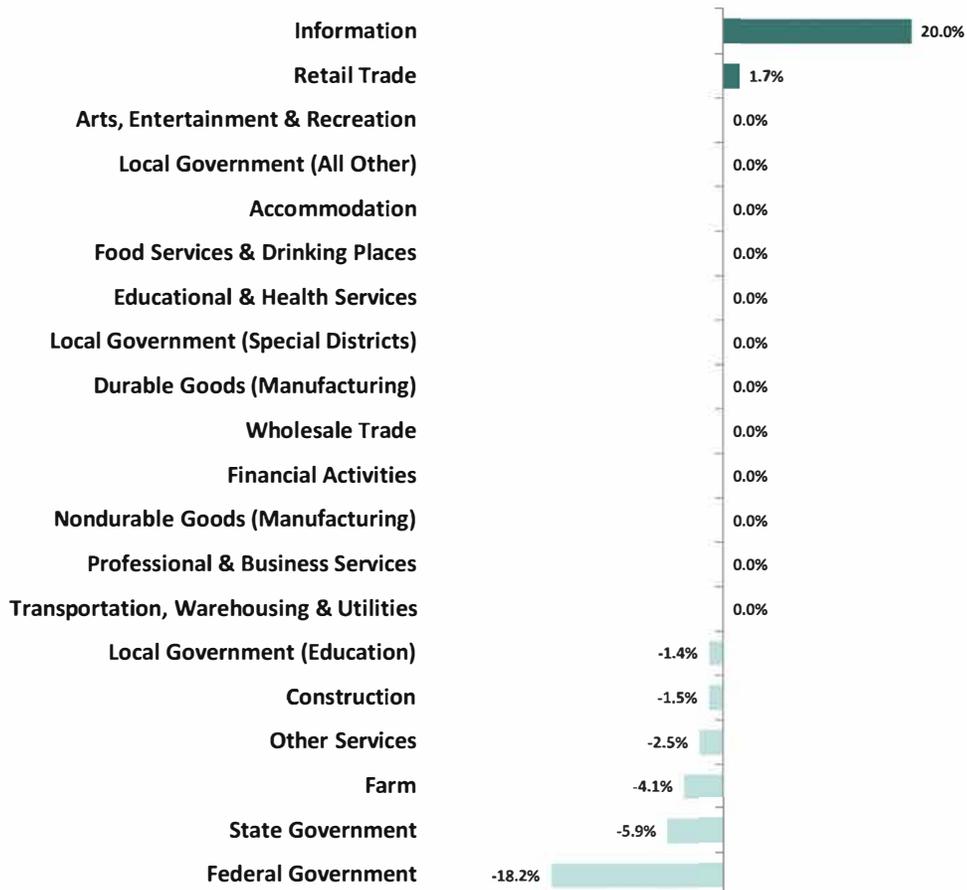
Tulare County Month-Over Change in Jobs

November 2025 - December 2025



Tulare County Month-Over Percent Change in Jobs

November 2025 - December 2025



The Tulare County WIB is excited to share our new [Economic Overview Dashboard](#) located directly on our website. This interactive tool provides stakeholders, partners, and the public with up-to-date, localized data on employment trends, industry growth, unemployment rates, job postings, and wage information.

We invite you to revisit this dashboard on a regular basis as data sets will be continuously updated with fresh information and insights. If you have further questions or want additional details on all of the labor market information that the Tulare County WIB has to offer, [please contact us!](#)

The employment data referenced in this newsletter is provided by the Employment Development Department of California.



we're your data hub

The Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County strives to bring you accurate and understandable data on workforce intelligence, industry trends, and labor market insight.

Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County | 309 W. Main St. Suite 120 | Visalia, CA 93291 US
Please visit www.tularewib.org to learn more about our initiatives in Tulare County.

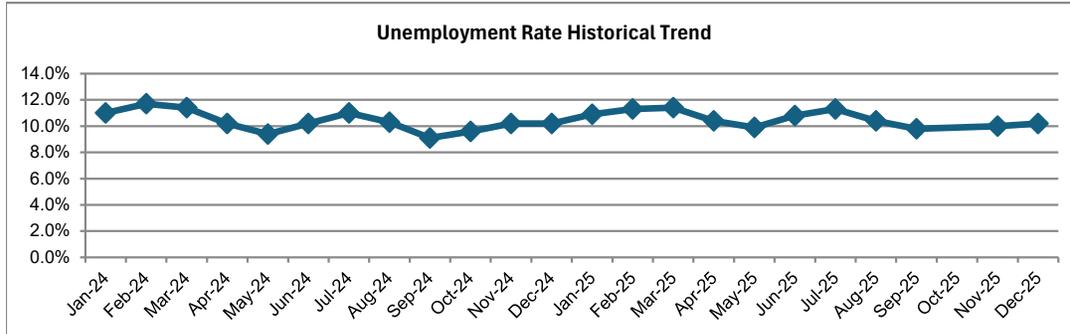
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Agenda Item 6e - Attachment

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 VISALIA METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)
 (Tulare County)

The unemployment rate in Tulare County was 10.2 percent in December 2025, up from a revised 10.0 percent in November 2025, and unchanged the year-ago estimate of 10.2 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 5.1 percent for California and 4.1 percent for the nation during the same period.



Industry	Nov-2025	Dec-2025	Change		Dec-2024	Dec-2025	Change
	Revised	Prelim				Prelim	
Total, All Industries	184,300	182,400	(1,900)		182,200	182,400	200
Total Farm	36,700	35,200	(1,500)		34,500	35,200	700
Total Nonfarm	147,600	147,200	(400)		147,700	147,200	(500)
Mining, Logging, and Construction	6,800	6,700	(100)		7,200	6,700	(500)
Manufacturing	12,700	12,700	0		13,100	12,700	(400)
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	32,100	32,400	300		33,000	32,400	(600)
Information	500	600	100		600	600	0
Financial Activities	3,300	3,300	0		3,400	3,300	(100)
Professional and Business Services	10,300	10,300	0		10,900	10,300	(600)
Private Education and Health Services	25,200	25,200	0		24,200	25,200	1,000
Leisure and Hospitality	14,000	14,000	0		13,800	14,000	200
Other Services	4,000	3,900	(100)		3,900	3,900	0
Government	38,700	38,100	(600)		37,600	38,100	500

Notes: Data not adjusted for seasonality. Data may not add due to rounding
 Labor force data are revised month to month
 Additional data are available on line at www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov