



**DFW
LABOR MARKET
UPDATE
SEPTEMBER 2020**

Published November 4, 2020



Summary

Job postings in the Dallas-Fort Worth area fell 13% between August and September 2020, 21% below September 2019 job postings. The top-three positions posted were **registered nurses, heavy truck drivers, and software developers.**

Employment in September remained near August levels for most sectors, with notable increases of **3% in government** and **2% in transportation and utilities.** While employment in most sectors was down from last year, **financial activities** employment was **3% higher** and **mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction** employment **4% higher** than in September 2019.

Texas and DFW unemployment rates* rose slightly in September, returning to July levels, but nonetheless remained much lower than peak unemployment in April. DFW saw an increase from **6.3%** in August to **7.5%** in September, slightly lower than the national unemployment rate (**7.7%**). See the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas' [Texas Employment Forecast](#) and [DFW Economic Indicators](#) for deeper analysis of these dynamics.

*Not seasonally adjusted.



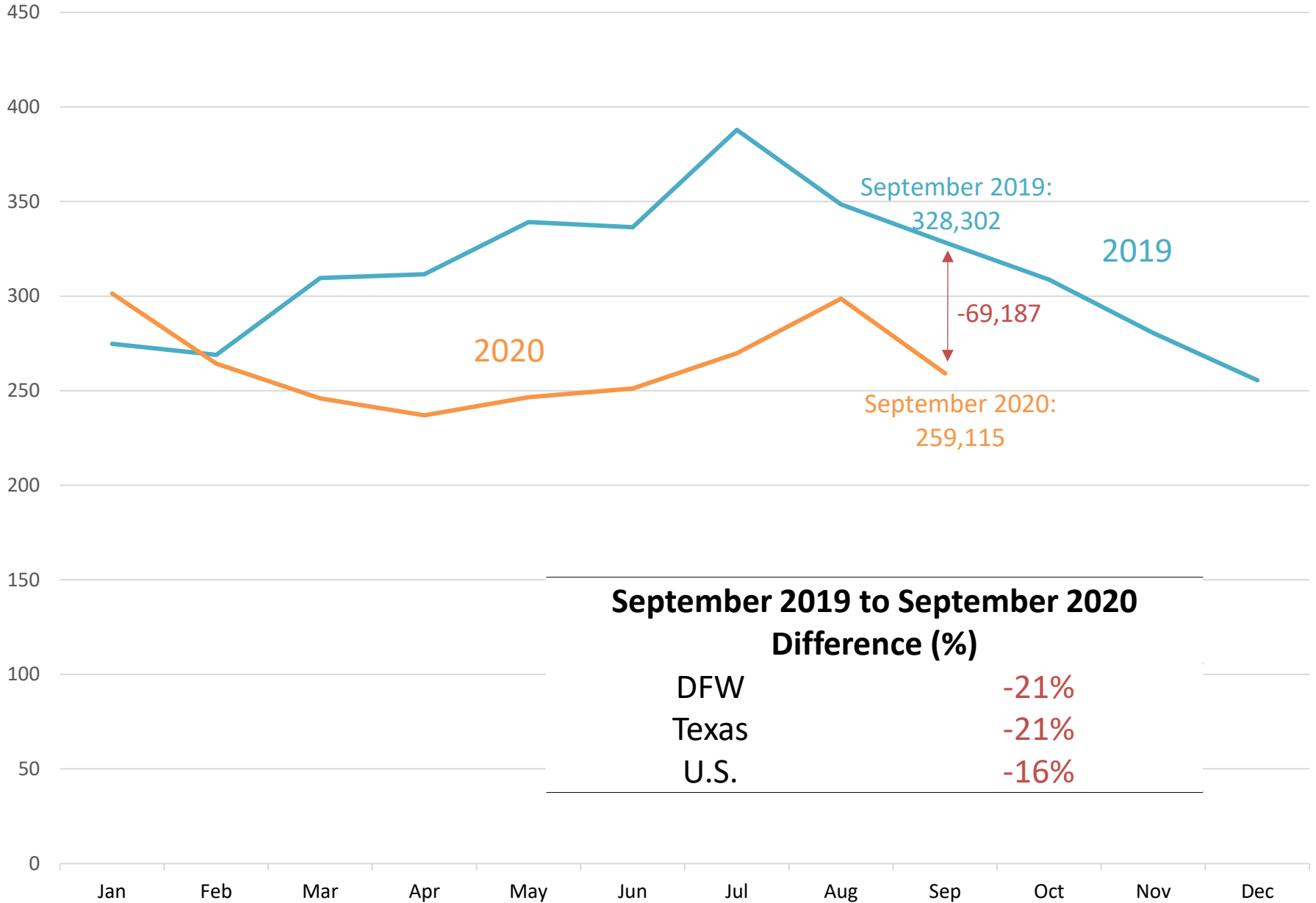
Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

	Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Median Posting Duration	September 2020 Unique Job Postings	September 2019 Unique Job Postings	Change, Sep. 2019 to Sep. 2020 (%)
1	Registered nurses	\$75,822	\$87,808	27	12,940	13,361	-3%
2	Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	\$46,155	\$67,456	22	12,924	15,104	-14%
3	Software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers	\$109,557	\$114,432	30	12,593	14,097	-11%
4	Retail salespersons	\$24,518	\$27,136	44	7,417	9,194	-19%
5	First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	\$43,279	\$32,000	42	7,297	9,467	-23%
6	Computer occupations, all other	\$94,294	\$109,440	34	6,212	7,446	-17%
7	Customer service representatives	\$35,992	\$32,128	39	5,940	7,881	-25%
8	Stockers and order fillers	\$28,048	\$31,104	37	4,804	4,611	4%
9	Accountants and auditors	\$77,266	\$69,888	42	3,467	5,122	-32%
10	First-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers	\$32,526	\$33,920	47	3,405	4,463	-24%
	All occupations	-	-	-	259,115	328,302	-21%



DFW Total Job Postings: 2020 vs. 2019

Job postings, thousands



Source: Emsi, 2020.



Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

		July 2020	August 2020	September 2020	Change, Aug. 2020 to Sep. 2020
	Occupation	Unique Job Postings	Unique Job Postings	Unique Job Postings	(%)
1	Registered nurses	10,536	13,080	12,940	-1%
2	Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	13,196	14,418	12,924	-10%
3	Software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers	12,212	13,782	12,593	-9%
4	Retail salespersons	7,159	7,802	7,417	-5%
5	First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	7,580	8,294	7,297	-12%
6	Computer occupations, all other	6,234	6,977	6,212	-11%
7	Customer service representatives	6,000	6,534	5,940	-9%
8	Stockers and order fillers	4,035	4,813	4,804	0%
9	Accountants and auditors	3,712	4,128	3,467	-16%
10	First-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers	3,691	3,806	3,405	-11%
	All occupations	269,844	298,606	259,115	-13%



DFW Employment by Industry

Industry	September 2019 Employment	July 2020 Employment	August 2020 Employment	September 2020 Employment	Change, Sep. 2019 to Sep. 2020 (%)	Change, Aug. 2020 to Sep. 2020 (%)
Professional and business services	648,500	634,000	646,200	644,500	-1%	0%
Wholesale and retail trade	575,400	574,300	581,200	577,900	0%	-1%
Government	444,100	419,000	427,900	441,400	-1%	3%
Education and health services	464,300	428,200	434,700	435,800	-6%	0%
Financial activities	321,900	331,400	332,000	331,000	3%	0%
Leisure and hospitality	398,400	327,300	322,200	320,800	-19%	0%
Manufacturing	290,600	279,800	278,900	280,000	-4%	0%
Transportation and utilities	219,000	206,000	206,500	210,600	-4%	2%
Construction	131,800	130,900	129,300	128,600	-2%	-1%
Other services	129,500	118,100	120,900	119,500	-8%	-1%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	96,900	99,000	99,600	100,300	4%	1%
Information	81,200	79,500	79,300	79,800	-2%	1%
Total nonfarm	3,801,600	3,627,500	3,658,700	3,670,200	-3%	0%

Numbers may not sum due to rounding. Employment is not seasonally adjusted.

* DFW includes Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise counties.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics State and Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings, October 2020.



DFW vs. U.S. Employment by Industry

Industry	DFW September 2020 Employment	DFW September 2020 Employment Share (%)	DFW Employment Change, Sep. 2019 to Sep. 2020 (%)	U.S. September 2020 Employment	U.S. September 2020 Employment Share (%)	U.S. Employment Change, Sep. 2019 to Sep. 2020 (%)
Professional and business services	644,500	18%	-1%	20,239,000	14%	-6%
Wholesale and retail trade	577,900	16%	0%	20,680,600	15%	-3%
Government	441,400	12%	-1%	21,796,000	15%	-4%
Education and health services	435,800	12%	-6%	23,125,000	16%	-5%
Financial activities	331,000	9%	3%	8,682,000	6%	-1%
Leisure and hospitality	320,800	9%	-19%	13,124,000	9%	-22%
Manufacturing	280,000	8%	-4%	12,224,000	9%	-5%
Transportation and utilities	210,600	6%	-4%	5,910,100	4%	-4%
Construction	128,600	4%	-2%	7,415,000	5%	-4%
Other services	119,500	3%	-8%	5,433,000	4%	-8%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	100,300	3%	4%	619,000	<1%	-16%
Information	79,800	2%	-2%	2,607,000	2%	-9%
Total nonfarm	3,670,200	100%	-3%	141,855,000	100%	-6%

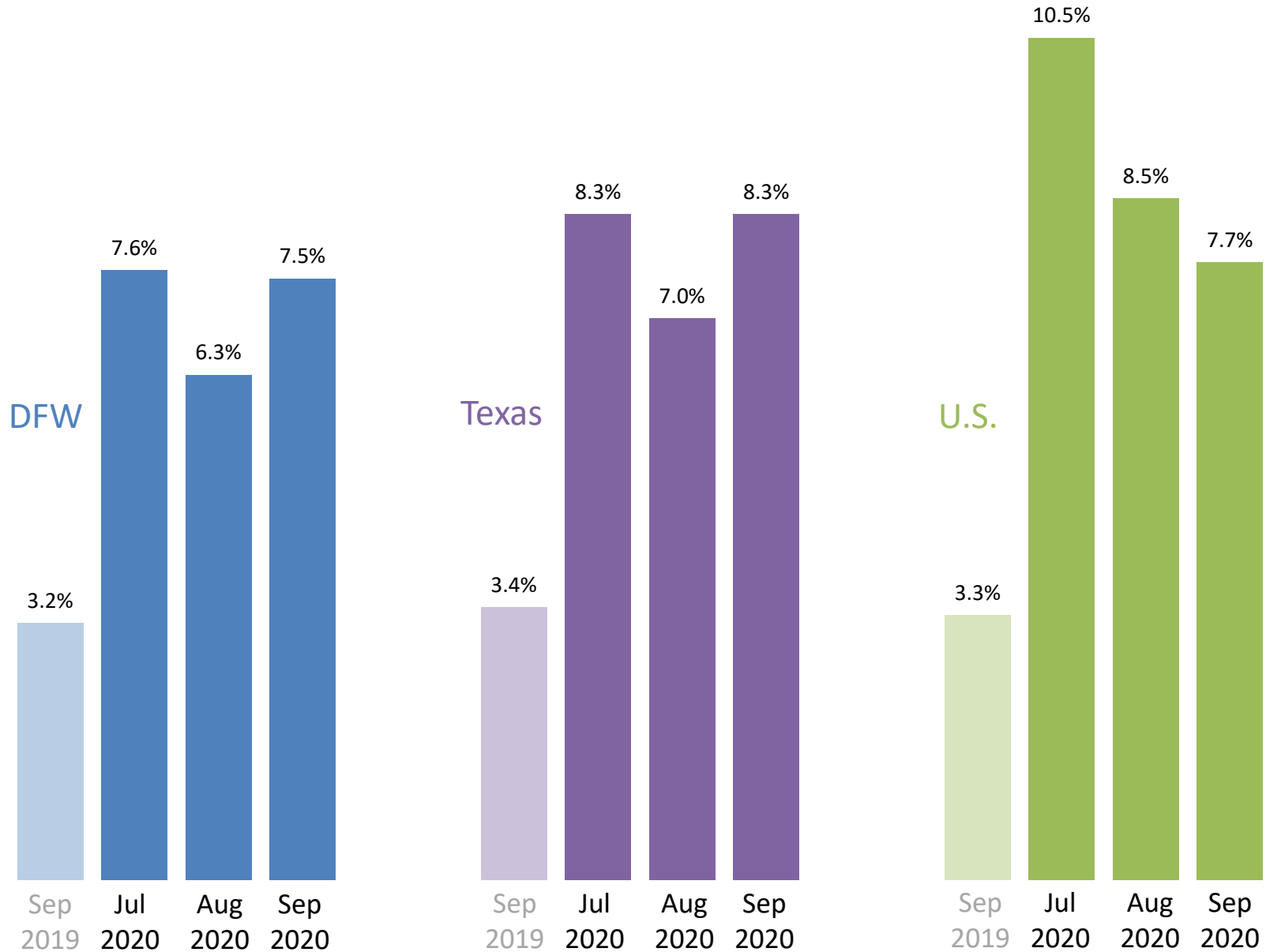
Numbers may not sum due to rounding. Employment is not seasonally adjusted.

* DFW includes Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise counties.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics State and Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings, and Current Employment Statistics, October 2020.



Unemployment Rates* in DFW, Texas, and U.S.



*Not seasonally adjusted.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics, October 2020.



Questions?

Please contact Rachel Brasier at Rachel.Brasier@UTDallas.edu

Visit us at <http://utdallas.edu/economicengine>