



**DFW
LABOR MARKET
UPDATE
DECEMBER 2020**

Published February 8, 2021



Summary

Job postings in the Dallas-Fort Worth area rose 10% between November and December 2020, **exceeding December 2019 job postings** by 10 percent. The top three positions posted were **heavy truck drivers, registered nurses, and software developers.**

DFW posted a **net gain of 32,600 jobs** in December. **Employment** remained fairly steady across all sectors, with **transportation & utilities** and **wholesale & retail trade** seeing **2%** increases. While employment in most sectors was down from last year, **financial activities** and **professional & business services** employment was **3% higher**, and **wholesale & retail trade** employment **2% higher**, than in December 2019. Despite large employment gains since the start of the pandemic, DFW remained approximately **51,100 jobs short of February 2020** employment.

Texas and DFW unemployment rates recovered from the November spike, nearly returning to October levels at **7.1% and 6.3%**, respectively. Meanwhile, the U.S. unemployment rate ticked up slightly, from 6.4% to 6.5 percent. See the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas' [Texas Employment Forecast](#) and [DFW Economic Indicators](#) for deeper analysis of these dynamics.



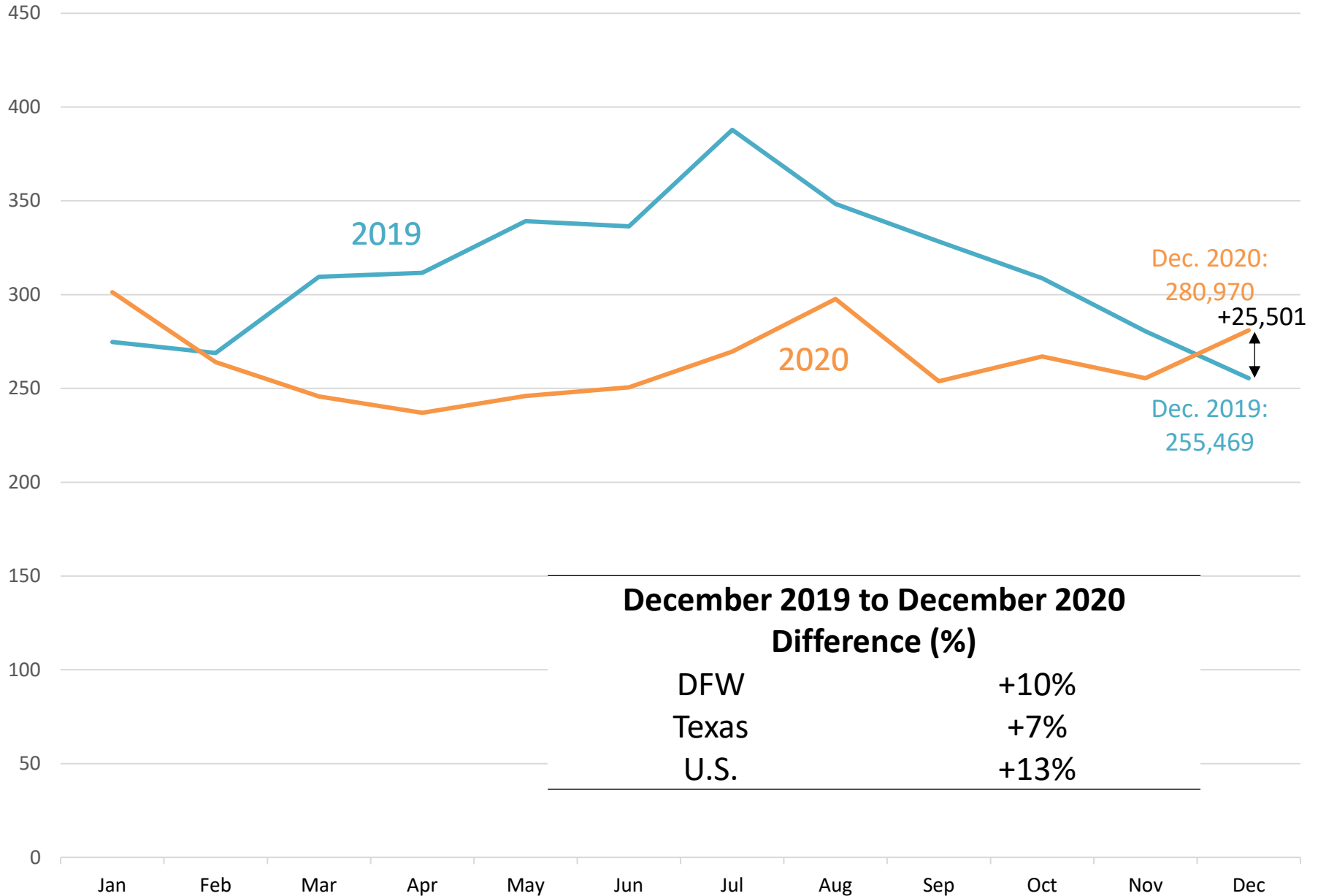
Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Median Posting Duration	December 2020 Unique Job Postings	December 2019 Unique Job Postings	Change, Dec. 2019 to Dec. 2020 (%)
1 Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	\$46,155	\$64,896	22	18,124	10,817	68%
2 Registered nurses	\$75,649	\$91,392	20	16,235	10,078	61%
3 Software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers	\$109,586	\$114,432	25	14,155	10,742	32%
4 Retail salespersons	\$24,520	\$27,136	44	7,448	7,679	-3%
5 First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	\$43,279	\$33,152	48	7,366	7,336	0%
6 Computer occupations, all other	\$94,280	\$107,392	28	7,020	5,670	24%
7 Customer service representatives	\$35,976	\$31,232	34	6,680	5,971	12%
8 Stockers and order fillers	\$28,043	\$29,952	36	4,579	3,419	34%
9 Marketing managers	\$133,457	\$100,096	28	3,903	3,464	13%
10 Accountants and auditors	\$77,254	\$75,008	30	3,588	4,538	-21%
All occupations	-	-	-	280,970	255,469	10%



DFW Total Job Postings: 2020 vs. 2019

Job postings, thousands



December 2019 to December 2020 Difference (%)

DFW	+10%
Texas	+7%
U.S.	+13%



Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

		October 2020	November 2020	December 2020	Change, Nov. 2020 to Dec. 2020 (%)
	Occupation	Unique Job Postings	Unique Job Postings	Unique Job Postings	
1	Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	13,696	13,916	18,124	30%
2	Registered nurses	13,398	11,371	16,235	43%
3	Software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers	12,965	13,143	14,155	8%
4	Retail salespersons	7,752	7,589	7,448	-2%
5	First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	7,444	7,507	7,366	-2%
6	Computer occupations, all other	6,434	6,477	7,020	8%
7	Customer service representatives	6,325	5,997	6,680	11%
8	Stockers and order fillers	5,028	4,484	4,579	2%
9	Marketing managers	3,315	3,509	3,903	11%
10	Accountants and auditors	3,517	3,312	3,588	8%
	All occupations	267,052	255,438	280,970	10%



DFW Employment by Industry

Industry	December 2019 Employment	October 2020 Employment	November 2020 Employment	December 2020 Employment	Change, Dec. 2019 to Dec. 2020 (%)	Change, Nov. 2020 to Dec. 2020 (%)
Professional and business services	651,400	656,200	664,600	672,600	3%	1%
Wholesale and retail trade	599,300	587,700	594,300	608,600	2%	2%
Government	454,400	448,900	448,900	448,700	-1%	0%
Education and health services	475,200	439,400	437,600	442,800	-7%	1%
Leisure and hospitality	401,900	332,100	336,200	337,900	-16%	1%
Financial activities	324,300	334,800	336,300	335,200	3%	0%
Manufacturing	290,500	279,800	279,900	281,200	-3%	0%
Transportation and utilities	233,200	217,900	227,200	231,200	-1%	2%
Construction	132,700	130,800	128,900	129,300	-3%	0%
Other services	127,500	121,900	124,900	124,600	-2%	0%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	101,900	102,500	102,300	101,300	-1%	-1%
Information	83,300	80,200	80,300	80,600	-3%	0%
Total nonfarm	3,875,600	3,732,200	3,761,400	3,794,000	-2%	1%

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, January 2021.



DFW vs. U.S. Employment by Industry

Industry	DFW December 2020 Employment	DFW December 2020 Employment Share (%)	DFW Employment Change, Dec. 2019 to Dec. 2020 (%)	U.S. December 2020 Employment	U.S. December 2020 Employment Share (%)	U.S. Employment Change, Dec. 2019 to Dec. 2020 (%)
Professional and business services	672,600	18%	3%	20,632,000	14%	-4%
Wholesale and retail trade	608,600	16%	2%	21,387,600	15%	-3%
Government	448,700	12%	-1%	21,811,000	15%	-5%
Education and health services	442,800	12%	-7%	23,401,000	16%	-5%
Leisure and hospitality	337,900	9%	-16%	12,858,000	9%	-22%
Financial activities	335,200	9%	3%	8,788,000	6%	-1%
Manufacturing	281,200	7%	-3%	12,251,000	9%	-4%
Transportation and utilities	231,200	6%	-1%	6,554,100	5%	-1%
Construction	129,300	3%	-3%	7,305,000	5%	-2%
Other services	124,600	3%	-2%	5,446,000	4%	-8%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	101,300	3%	-1%	601,000	<1%	-13%
Information	80,600	2%	-3%	2,665,000	2%	-8%
Total nonfarm	3,794,000	100%	-2%	143,700,000	100%	-6%

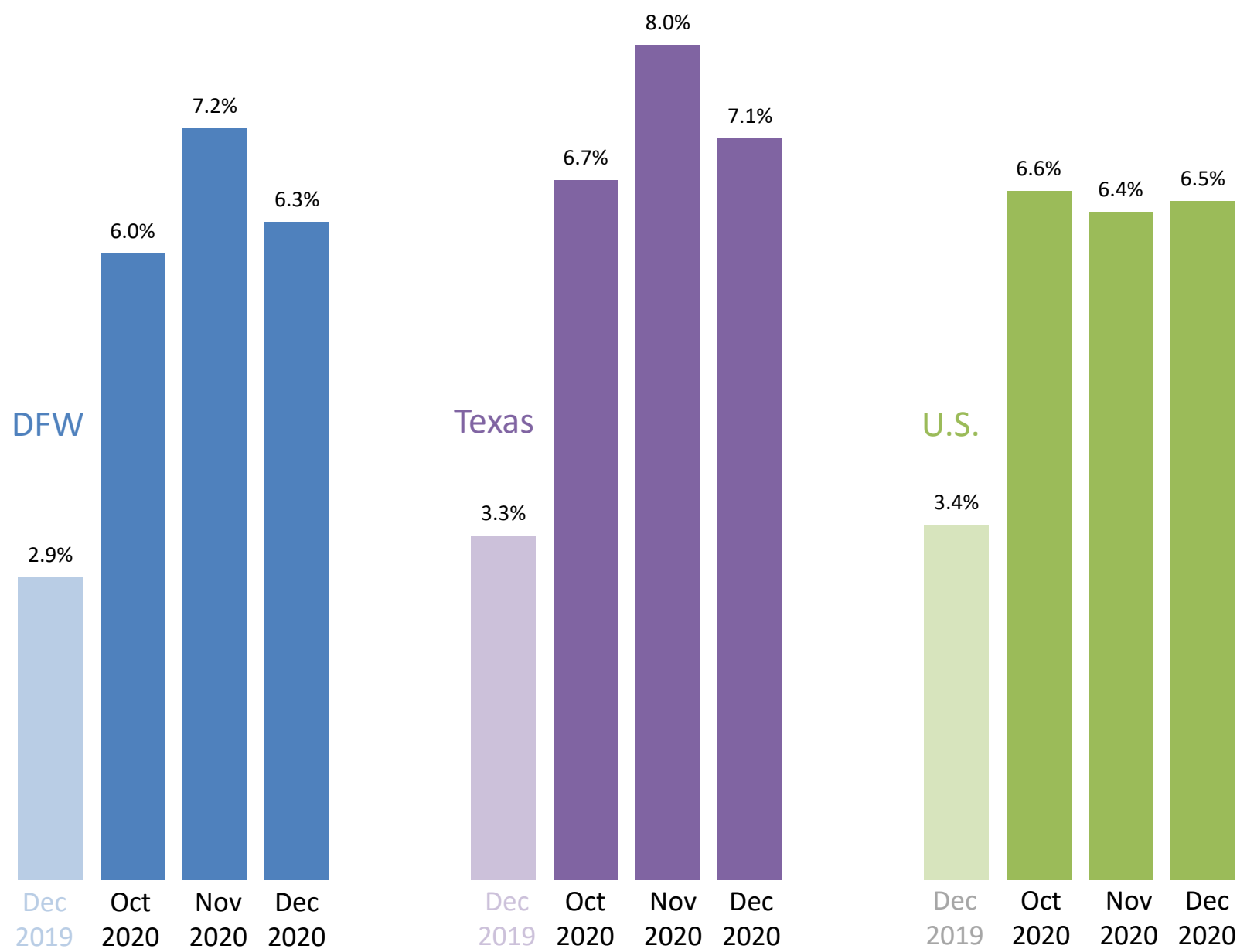
Numbers may not sum due to rounding. Employment is not seasonally adjusted.

* 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, January 2021.



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



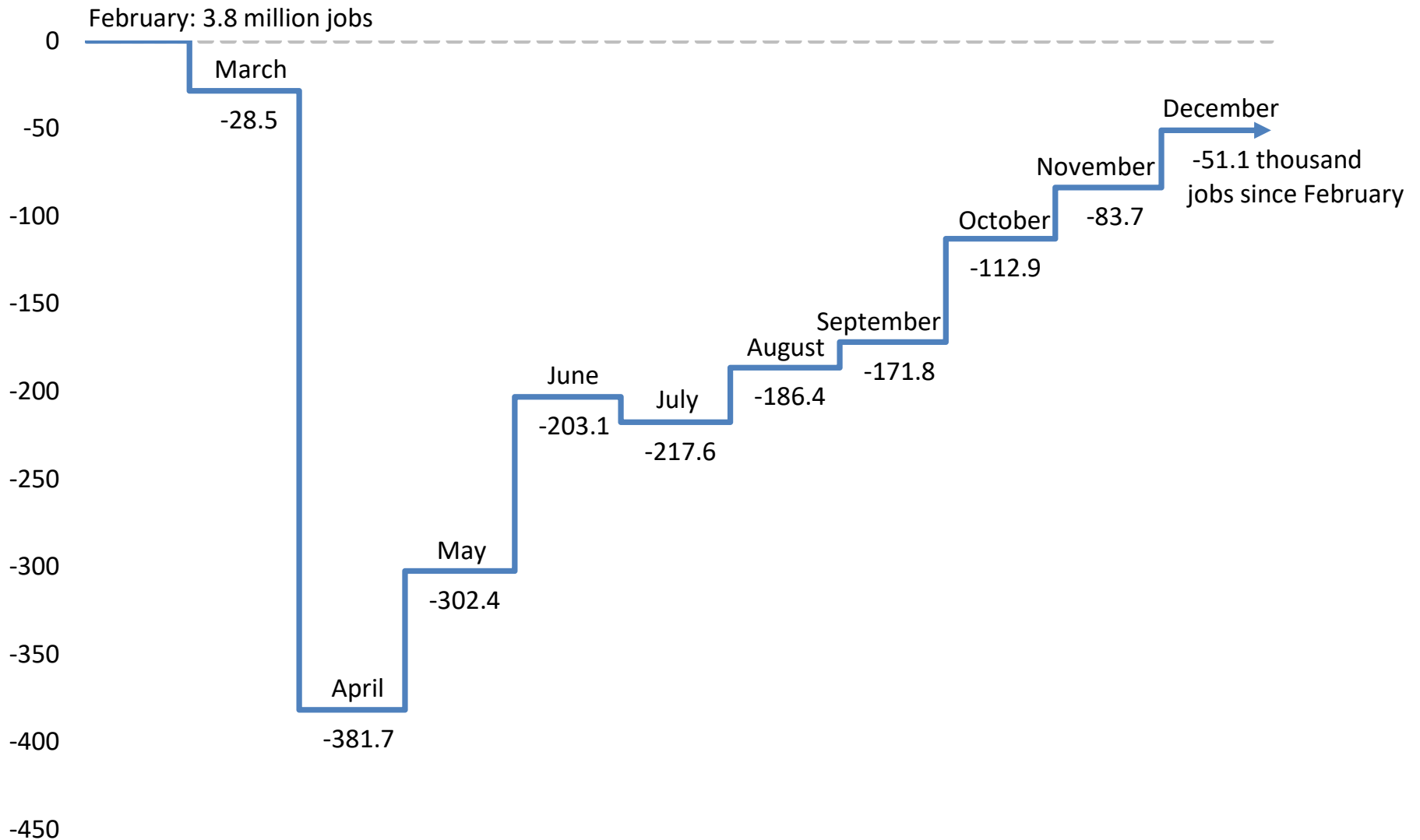
*Not seasonally adjusted.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics, January 2021.



DFW Cumulative Job Change Since Before the Pandemic

Cumulative change in jobs since February 2020 (thousands)



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, January 2021.



Questions?

Please contact Rachel Brasier at Rachel.Brasier@UTDallas.edu
or visit us at <https://economicengine.utdallas.edu/>

[Subscribe](#) to the Economic Development Update, released the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.