



**DFW  
LABOR MARKET  
UPDATE  
APRIL 2021**

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# Summary

DFW posted a **net gain of 12,100 jobs** in April. **Employment** was essentially unchanged in nearly all sectors, with a significant rise in the **leisure & hospitality** sector. With a gain of more than **12,000 jobs**, the **leisure & hospitality** sector is **50%** above April 2020 employment. While employment in most sectors was significantly up from last year, **mining, quarrying, and oil & gas** employment was **3% lower** than in April 2020.

The second net employment gain of 2021 raised DFW employment to near-December levels, **98,600 jobs short of February 2020** pre-pandemic employment.

**Unemployment rates improved** in DFW, Texas, and the U.S. nationwide, at **5.7%**, **6.3%**, and **5.7%**, respectively, the lowest rates since March 2020.

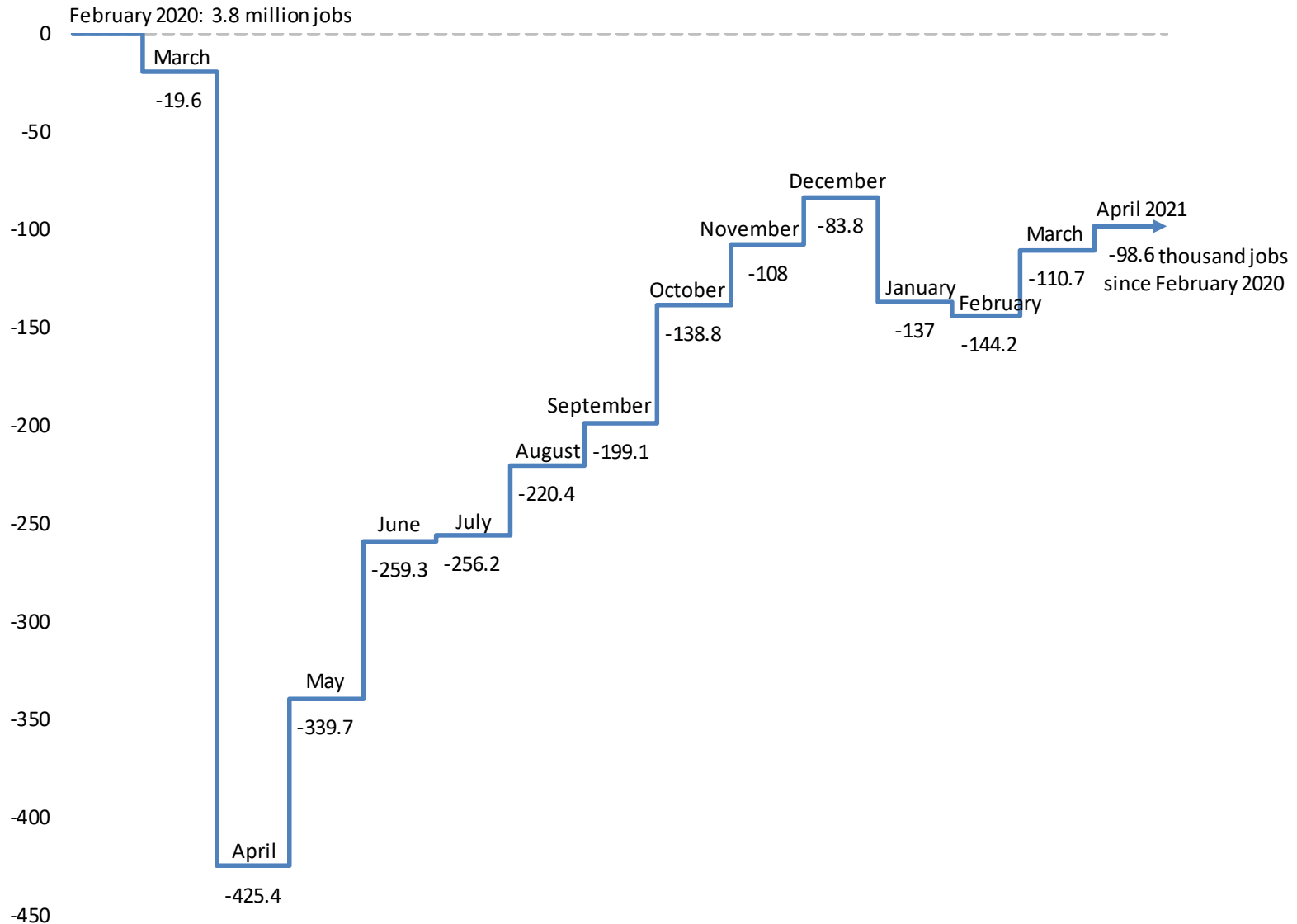
**Job postings in the Dallas-Fort Worth area rose 4%** between March and April 2021, **exceeding April 2020 job postings** by 39 percent. The top three positions posted were **software developers, heavy truck drivers, and registered nurses**.

See the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas' [Texas Employment Forecast](#) and [DFW Economic Indicators](#) for deeper analysis of these dynamics.



# DFW Cumulative Job Change Since Before the Pandemic

Cumulative change in jobs since February 2020 (thousands)



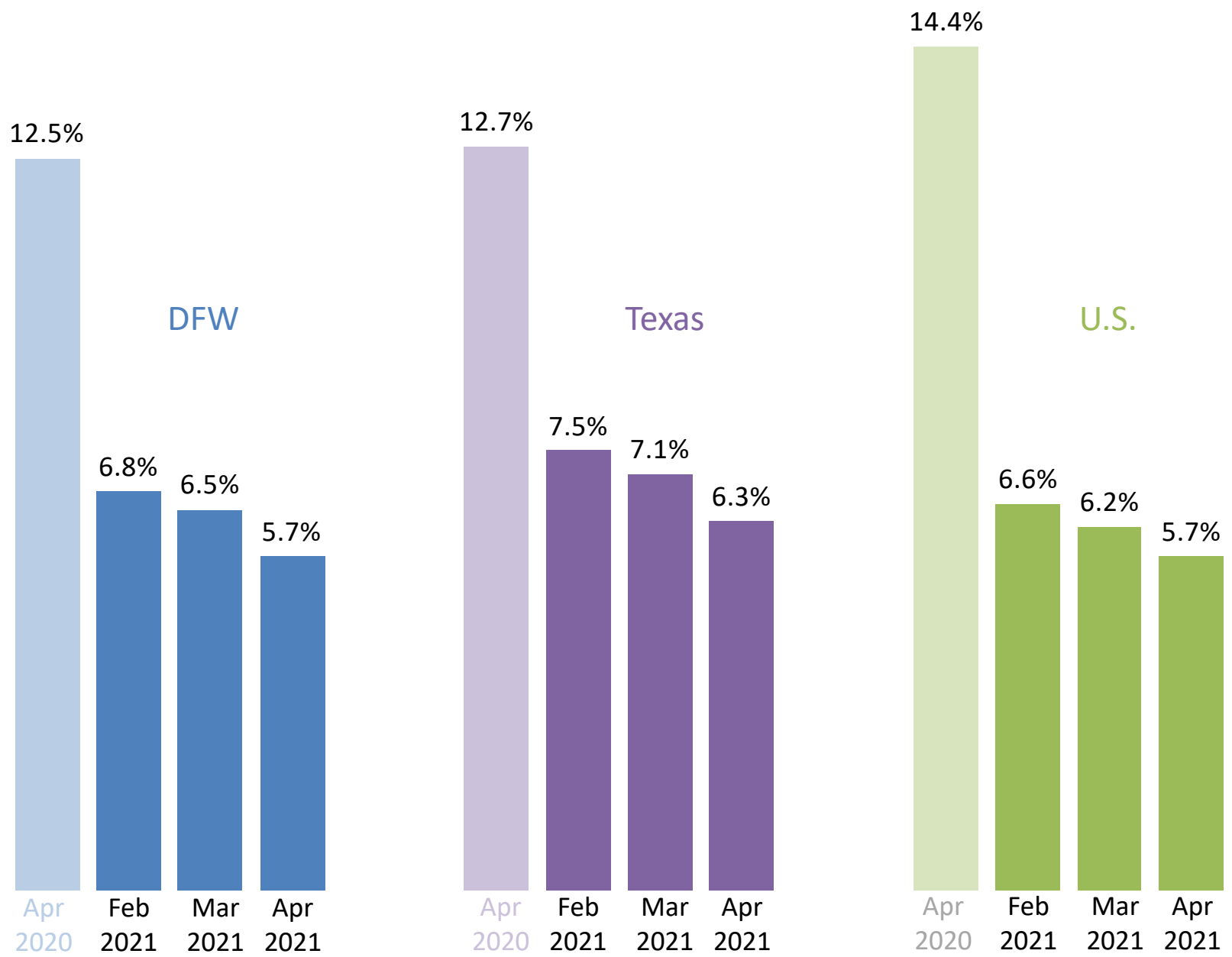
Numbers may not sum due to rounding. Employment is not seasonally adjusted.

\* 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, June 2021.



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



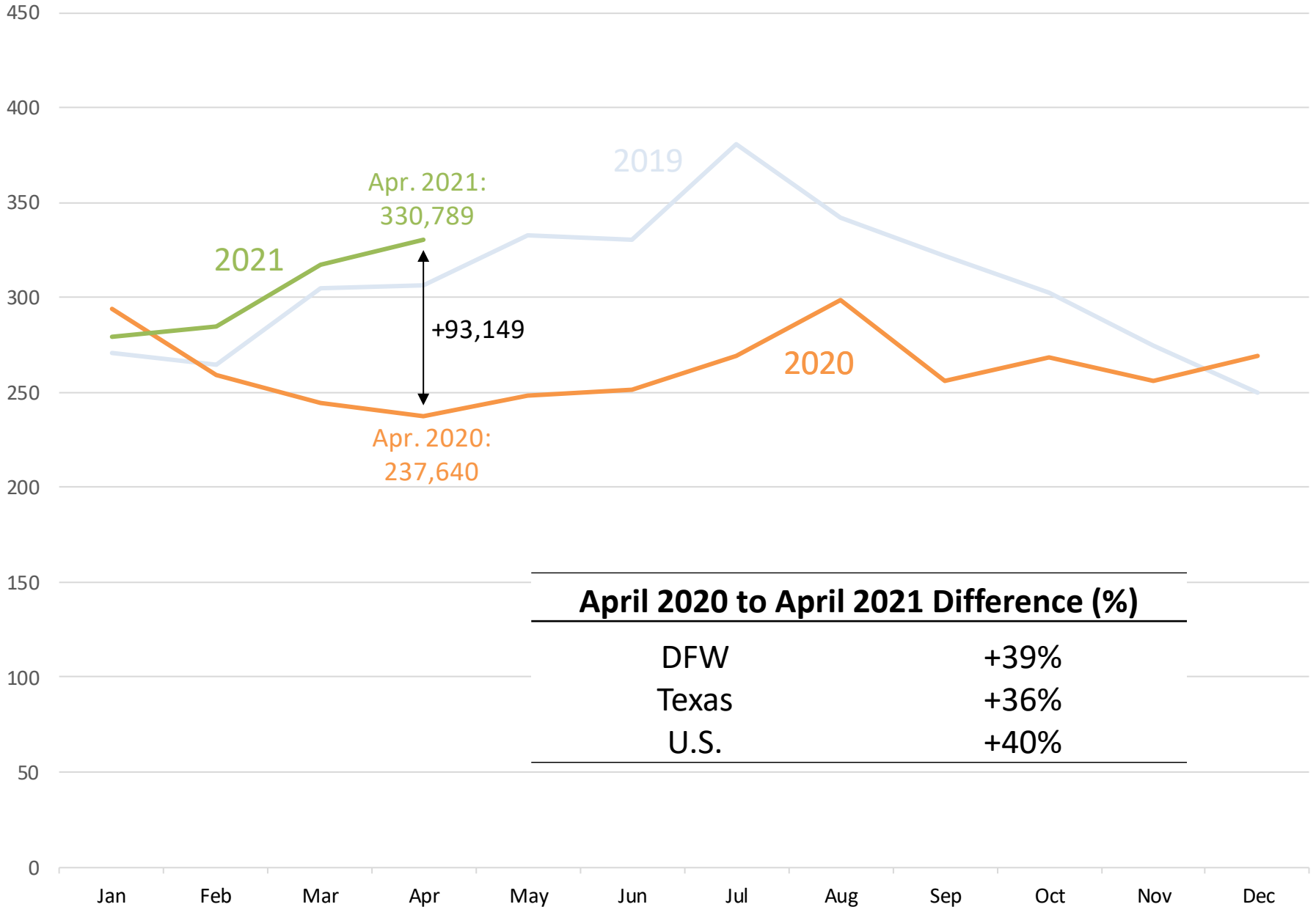
\*Not seasonally adjusted.

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



# DFW Total Job Postings: 2021 vs. 2020

Job postings, thousands



## April 2020 to April 2021 Difference (%)

DFW	+39%
Texas	+36%
U.S.	+40%



# Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

	Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Median Posting Duration	April 2021 Unique Job Postings	April 2020 Unique Job Postings	Change, Apr. 2020 to Apr. 2021 (%)
1	Software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers	\$110,114	\$117,504	30	16,099	10,612	52%
2	Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	\$48,613	\$67,968	17	15,305	10,256	49%
3	Registered nurses	\$76,915	\$93,440	28	13,849	7,889	76%
4	Computer occupations, all other	\$97,047	\$106,368	31	9,272	6,357	46%
5	Retail salespersons	\$25,731	\$31,168	34	8,607	6,479	33%
6	First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	\$42,582	\$33,408	40	8,554	6,570	30%
7	Customer service representatives	\$37,210	\$33,408	28	7,651	5,476	40%
8	Stockers and order fillers	\$30,326	\$31,104	27	6,329	3,268	94%
9	Marketing managers	\$146,858	\$110,848	33	5,379	3,257	65%
10	First-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers	\$60,630	\$42,624	28	4,654	3,549	31%
	<b>All occupations</b>	-	-	-	<b>330,789</b>	<b>237,640</b>	<b>39%</b>



# Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

	Occupation	February 2021 Unique Job Postings	March 2021 Unique Job Postings	April 2021 Unique Job Postings	Change, Mar. 2021 to Apr. 2021 (%)
1	Software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers	15,502	16,476	16,099	-2%
2	Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	16,868	15,541	15,305	-2%
3	Registered nurses	15,215	16,258	13,849	-15%
4	Computer occupations, all other	8,629	9,456	9,272	-2%
5	Retail salespersons	7,015	7,705	8,607	12%
6	First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	7,332	7,798	8,554	10%
7	Customer service representatives	6,501	7,173	7,651	7%
8	Stockers and order fillers	4,423	5,064	6,329	25%
9	Marketing managers	4,711	5,309	5,379	1%
10	First-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers	3,765	4,490	4,654	4%
	<b>All occupations</b>	<b>284,392</b>	<b>316,900</b>	<b>330,789</b>	<b>4%</b>



# DFW Employment by Industry

Industry	April 2020	February	March 2021	April 2021	Change,	Change,
	Employment	2021 Employment	Employment	Employment	Apr. 2020 to Apr. 2021 (%)	Mar. 2021 to Apr. 2021 (%)
Professional and business services	597,500	636,000	642,800	646,800	8%	1%
Wholesale and retail trade	522,900	574,800	578,500	579,400	11%	0%
Government	448,300	454,400	455,200	458,400	2%	1%
Education and health services	414,700	449,700	452,700	451,500	9%	0%
Leisure and hospitality	236,400	332,900	341,900	354,000	50%	4%
Financial activities	318,600	327,000	328,200	326,900	3%	0%
Manufacturing	271,600	279,400	281,600	280,700	3%	0%
Transportation and utilities	215,500	232,800	234,000	232,600	8%	-1%
Construction	125,400	126,500	128,500	126,600	1%	-1%
Other services	94,000	113,800	115,500	115,800	23%	0%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	91,300	88,100	90,000	88,800	-3%	-1%
Information	77,200	79,200	79,200	78,700	2%	-1%
<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>3,413,400</b>	<b>3,694,600</b>	<b>3,728,100</b>	<b>3,740,200</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>0%</b>

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, June 2021.



# DFW vs. U.S. Employment by Industry

Industry	DFW			U.S.		
	DFW April 2021 Employment	DFW April 2021 Employment Share (%)	DFW Employment Change, Apr. 2020 to Apr. 2021 (%)	U.S. April 2021 Employment	U.S. April 2021 Employment Share (%)	U.S. Employment Change, Apr. 2020 to Apr. 2021 (%)
Professional and business services	646,800	17%	8%	20,714,000	14%	9%
Wholesale and retail trade	579,400	15%	11%	20,712,400	14%	11%
Government	458,400	12%	2%	21,991,000	15%	-1%
Education and health services	451,500	12%	9%	23,571,000	16%	8%
Leisure and hospitality	354,000	9%	50%	14,003,000	10%	62%
Financial activities	326,900	9%	3%	8,773,000	6%	3%
Manufacturing	280,700	8%	3%	12,246,000	8%	8%
Transportation and utilities	232,600	6%	8%	6,136,600	4%	7%
Construction	126,600	3%	1%	7,375,000	5%	14%
Other services	115,800	3%	23%	5,576,000	4%	23%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	88,800	2%	-3%	611,000	0%	-1%
Information	78,700	2%	2%	2,689,000	2%	2%
<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>3,740,200</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>144,398,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>11%</b>

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, June 2021.



## Questions?

Please contact Jenny Mizutowicz at [Jenny.Mizutowicz@UTDallas.edu](mailto:Jenny.Mizutowicz@UTDallas.edu)  
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