



**DFW  
LABOR MARKET  
UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024**

Published December 11, 2024

## SUMMARY

From September to October, the DFW labor market gained **33,800** jobs (net). This represents about **0.78%** of the labor force as it stood as of October, which totaled **4,352,000**. Primary gains in employment were felt most in the **government** sector which grew by **2.3%**, adding **11,300** jobs. This was followed by the **wholesale and retail trade** sector, which grew by **1.1%** and added **6,900** jobs to the local economy. In contrast, the **mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction** sector experienced a decline, losing **800** jobs - a loss of **0.7%**.

The local unemployment rate in October remained unchanged from September, with DFW's rate at **3.9%**. The state and national labor markets followed suit at **4.1%** and **3.9%**, respectively.

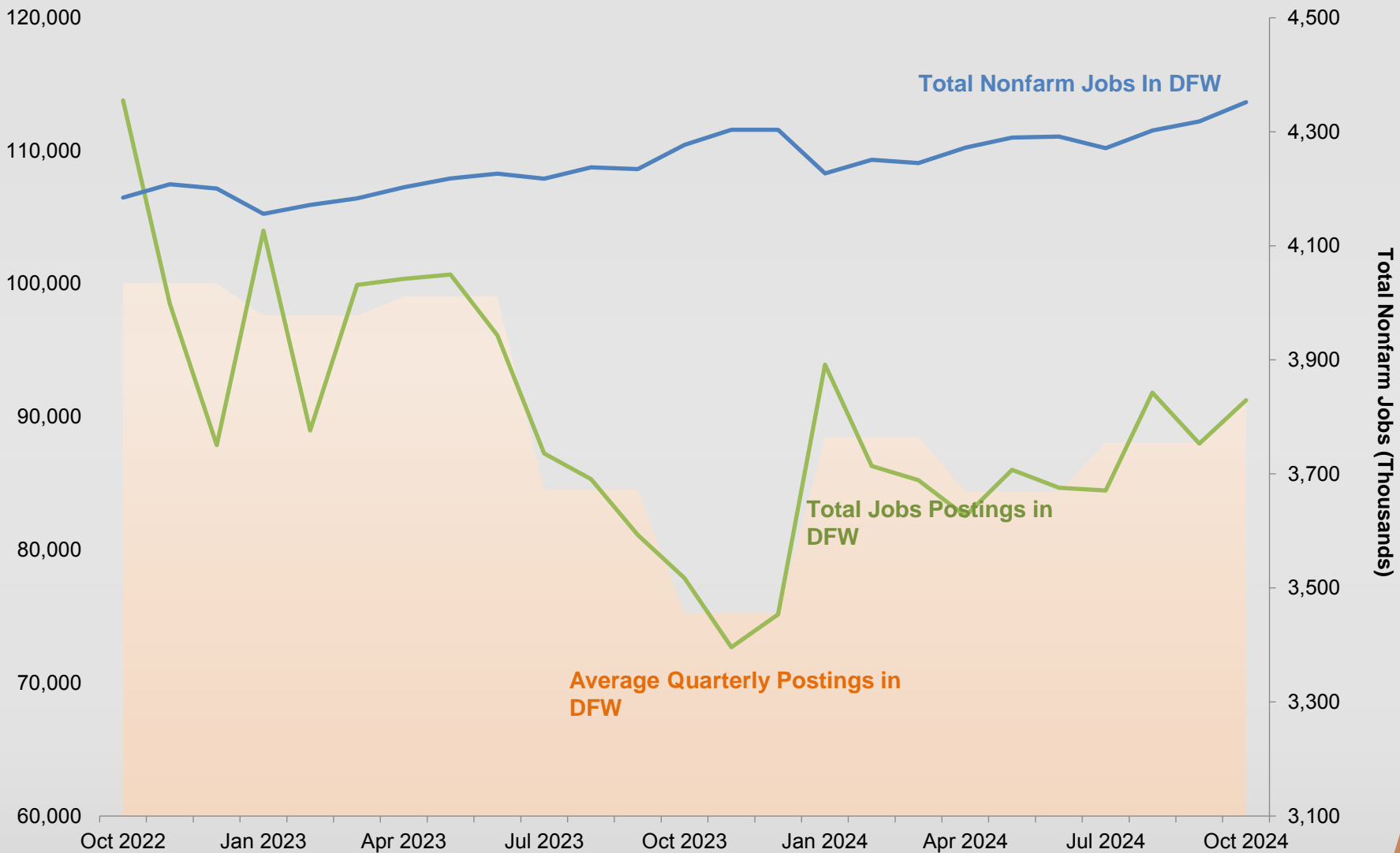
Total job postings saw a month-over-month increase of **3.7%** in October. The top posted job in the region was **financial managers**, with a month-over month gain of over **43.2%**, from **866** to **1,240** postings. This was followed by **customer service representatives** with **194** new postings - representing a month-over-month gain of **12.6%**. In terms of *fastest* growing occupations, **nurse practitioners** took first rank with **115** new jobs, representing a month-over-month growth rate of over **48.1%**. In contrast, the fastest shrinking occupation was **makeup artists, theatrical and performance**, which saw a month-over-month decrease of **81.1%**.

The **Consumer Price Index** for DFW will not be released for this month. The southern region and U.S. measures each rose slightly, by **0.26%** and **0.12%**, respectively, from September to October. Texas experienced a slight increase of **0.06%** in its CPI metric over the same time span.

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



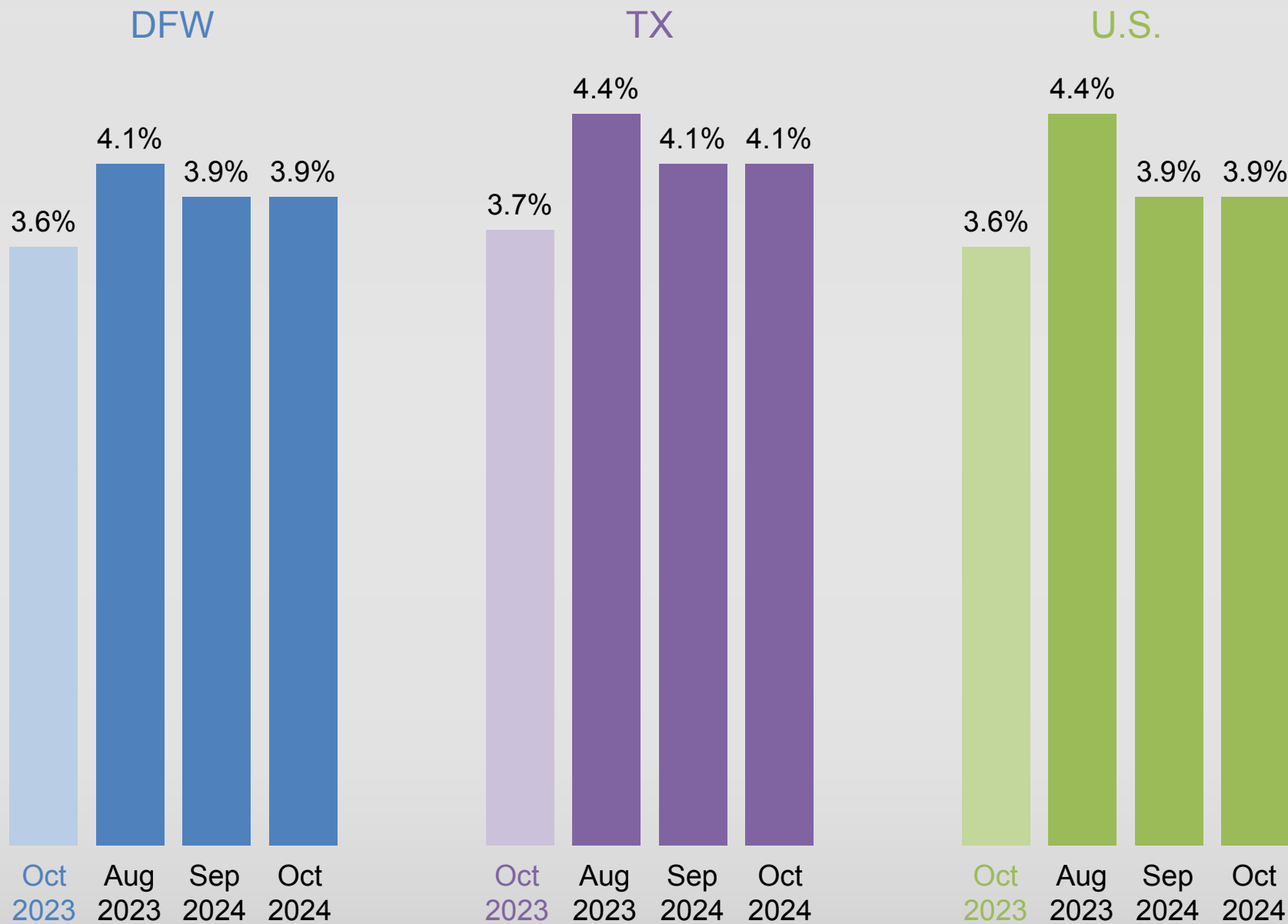
# DFW – Job Postings vs. Nonfarm Jobs



\* 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, Dec 2024. Lightcast, 2024.



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



\*Not seasonally adjusted.

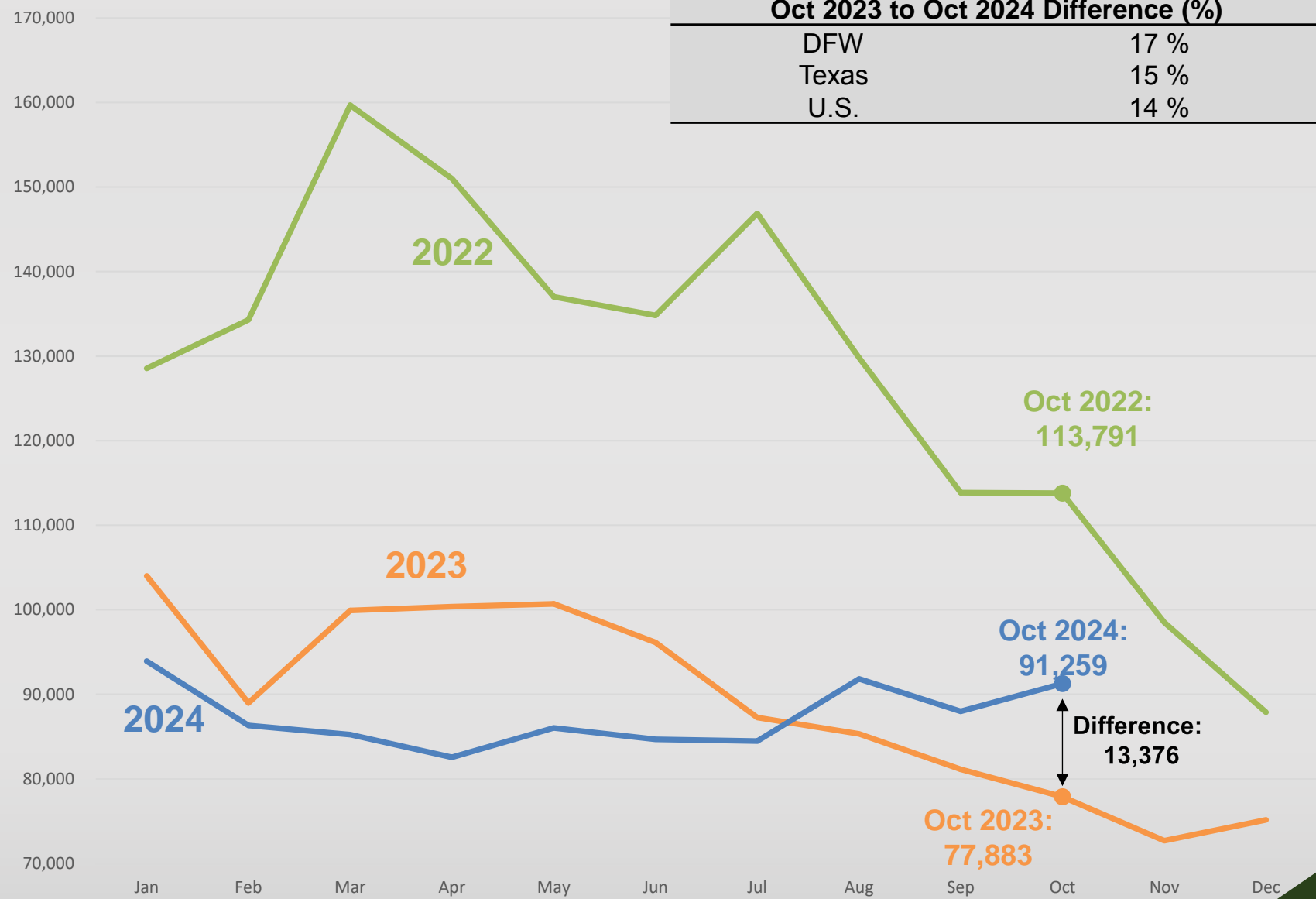
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics, Dec 2024.



# DFW Total Job Postings Over the Years

Job Postings

Oct 2023 to Oct 2024 Difference (%)	
DFW	17 %
Texas	15 %
U.S.	14 %



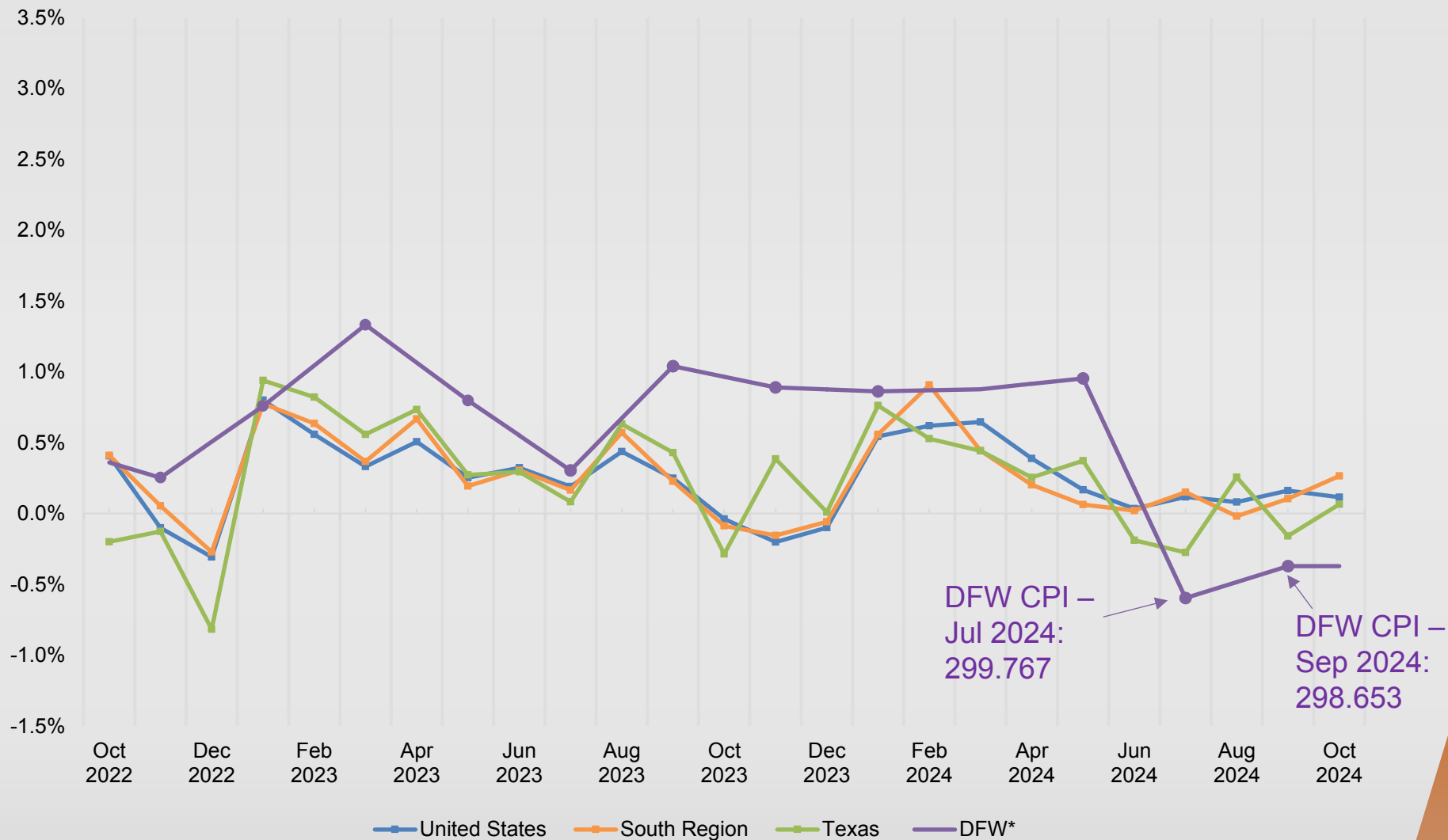
Source: Lightcast, 2024.

Note: Data for 'Unclassified Industries' is unavailable as of time of publication and calculated using total.



# Change in Consumer Price Index

### Monthly Change in Consumer Price Index



Note: Data for DFW is reported every other month. All other figures are reported monthly.

Sources: Texas data sourced from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, *Key Economic Indicators*, Dec 2024.

All data for the U.S., South and DFW sourced from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, *CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)*, Dec 2024, and is not seasonally adjusted.



# Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Average Monthly Hires	Oct. 2023 Unique Job Postings	Oct. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Change, Oct. 2023 to Oct. 2024 (%)
1 Registered nurses	\$93,338	\$87,424	2,172	3,368	3,479	3.3%
2 Software developers	\$129,603	\$129,792	2,044	2,339	3,295	40.9%
3 Retail salespersons	\$31,379	\$33,408	7,253	2,584	2,631	1.8%
4 Computer occupations, all other	\$102,795	\$132,992	735	1,626	2,253	38.6%
5 Customer service representatives	\$40,241	\$39,296	7,700	1,519	1,731	14.0%
6 Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	\$63,505	\$75,136	1,172	1,139	1,577	38.5%
7 Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	\$56,418	\$70,528	3,987	869	1,493	71.8%
8 First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	\$44,520	\$43,904	1,555	1,419	1,428	0.6%
9 Financial managers	\$162,189	\$132,992	826	734	1,240	68.9%
10 Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	\$37,666	\$37,504	8,910	1,142	1,234	8.1%
<b>All occupations</b>	-	-	-	<b>77,860</b>	<b>91,259</b>	<b>17.2%</b>



# Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

	Occupation	Aug. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Sep. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Oct. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Change, Sep. 2024 to Oct. 2024 (%)
1	Registered nurses	3,849	3,472	3,479	0.2%
2	Software developers	3,216	3,391	3,295	-2.8%
3	Retail salespersons	2,390	2,488	2,631	5.7%
4	Computer occupations, all other	2,144	2,173	2,253	3.7%
5	Customer service representatives	1,623	1,537	1,731	12.6%
6	Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	1,476	1,393	1,577	13.2%
7	Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	1,664	1,692	1,493	-11.8%
8	First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	1,398	1,478	1,428	-3.4%
9	Financial managers	1,032	866	1,240	43.2%
10	Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	1,177	1,155	1,234	6.8%
	<b>All occupations</b>	<b>91,808</b>	<b>88,000</b>	<b>91,259</b>	<b>3.7%</b>





# Positive Change in Demand by Jobs Postings in DFW

	Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Average Monthly Hires	Sep. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Oct. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Month-over-month Change
1	Nurse Practitioners	\$127,286	\$125,184	206	239	354	48.1%
2	Cost Estimators	\$74,216	\$82,816	337	255	373	46.3%
3	Lawyers	\$162,855	\$128,896	302	376	485	29.0%
4	Security Guards	\$35,116	\$37,504	2,500	466	593	27.3%
5	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	\$37,035	\$43,136	2,885	592	742	25.3%
6	Fast Food and Counter Workers	\$26,308	\$29,056	15,472	981	1214	23.8%
7	Human Resources Specialists	\$63,263	\$57,472	1,907	605	737	21.8%
8	Waiters and Waitresses	\$27,912	\$37,248	8,069	544	662	21.7%
9	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	\$23,157	\$30,080	5,097	649	751	15.7%
10	Medical and Health Services Managers	\$115,553	\$80,256	629	687	791	15.1%
	<b>All occupations</b>	-	-	-	<b>88,000</b>	<b>91,259</b>	<b>3.7%</b>

# Negative Change in Demand by Jobs Postings in DFW

	Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Average Monthly Hires	Sep. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Oct. 2024 Unique Job Postings	Month-over-month Change
1	Makeup Artists, Theatrical and Performance	\$27,818	\$33,408	6	164	31	-81.1%
2	School Psychologists	\$78,667	\$98,560	41	164	40	-75.6%
3	Food Preparation Workers	\$30,686	\$29,056	2,801	343	177	-48.4%
4	Electrical Engineers	\$97,205	\$107,264	103	252	158	-37.3%
5	Nursing Assistants	\$36,760	\$35,456	2,511	265	178	-32.8%
6	Insurance Sales Agents	\$47,250	\$64,896	1,012	384	279	-27.3%
7	Civil Engineers	\$92,886	\$89,856	208	475	393	-17.3%
8	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$48,863	\$50,048	953	652	540	-17.2%
9	Food Service Managers	\$64,183	\$50,048	328	984	856	-13.0%
10	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$64,070	\$56,192	2,505	1081	965	-10.7%
	<b>All occupations</b>	-	-	-	<b>88,000</b>	<b>91,259</b>	<b>3.7%</b>

# DFW Employment by Industry

Industry	Oct. 2023 Employment	Aug. 2024 Employment	Sep. 2024 Employment	Oct. 2024 Employment	Change, Oct. 2023 to Oct. 2024 (%)	Change, Sep. 2024 to Oct. 2024 (%)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	107,900	113,300	113,100	112,300	4.1%	-0.7%
Construction	142,100	146,200	145,800	146,100	2.8%	0.2%
Manufacturing	309,600	317,000	315,000	316,000	2.1%	0.3%
Wholesale and retail trade	637,400	636,000	636,500	643,400	0.9%	1.1%
Transportation and utilities	270,300	268,200	272,300	274,900	1.7%	1.0%
Information	91,200	91,700	91,700	92,400	1.3%	0.8%
Financial activities	370,100	378,900	378,500	383,000	3.5%	1.2%
Professional and business services	788,500	780,700	786,800	791,000	0.3%	0.5%
Education and health services	511,500	519,000	524,000	525,600	2.8%	0.3%
Leisure and hospitality	427,500	433,400	429,100	430,000	0.6%	0.2%
Other services	137,600	143,800	143,200	143,800	4.5%	0.4%
Government	483,500	474,100	482,200	493,500	2.1%	2.3%
<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>4,277,200</b>	<b>4,302,300</b>	<b>4,318,200</b>	<b>4,352,000</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>0.8%</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, Dec 2024.

# DFW vs. U.S. Employment by Industry

Industry	DFW Oct. 2024 Employment	DFW Oct. 2024 Employment Share (%)	DFW Employment Change, Oct. 2023 to Oct. 2024 (%)	U.S. Oct. 2024 Employment	U.S. Oct. 2024 Employment Share (%)	U.S. Employment Change, Oct. 2023 to Oct. 2024 (%)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	112,300	2.6%	4.1%	642,000	0.4%	-0.9%
Construction	146,100	3.4%	2.8%	8,465,000	5.3%	2.6%
Manufacturing	316,000	7.3%	2.1%	12,868,000	8.0%	-0.4%
Wholesale and retail trade	643,400	14.8%	0.9%	21,877,000	13.7%	0.4%
Transportation and utilities	274,900	6.3%	1.7%	7,274,900	4.5%	1.2%
Information	92,400	2.1%	1.3%	2,990,000	1.9%	0.0%
Financial activities	383,000	8.8%	3.5%	9,284,000	5.8%	0.4%
Professional and business services	791,000	18.2%	0.3%	23,128,000	14.5%	0.1%
Education and health services	525,600	12.1%	2.8%	26,831,000	16.8%	3.8%
Leisure and hospitality	430,000	9.9%	0.6%	16,946,000	10.6%	1.4%
Other services	143,800	3.3%	4.5%	5,922,000	3.7%	1.1%
Government	493,500	11.3%	2.1%	23,807,000	14.9%	2.1%
<b>Total nonfarm</b>	<b>4,352,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>160,035,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.4%</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, Dec 2024.



## Questions?

Please contact us at [economicengine@utdallas.edu](mailto:economicengine@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.