



DFW LABOR MARKET UPDATE **May 2025**

Published July 9, 2025

SUMMARY

From April to May, the DFW labor market gained **14,600** jobs (net). This represents about **0.34%** of its labor force as it stood as of May, which totaled **4,309,200**. Primary gains in employment were felt most in the **leisure and hospitality** sector which grew by **1.6%**, adding **6,900** jobs. This was followed by **mining, and oil and gas extraction** sector, which grew by **2.2%** and added **2,400** jobs to the local economy. In contrast, the **professional and business services** experienced a decline, losing **4,700** jobs – a loss of **0.6%**.

The local unemployment rate increased in May, with DFW's rate going up from **3.5%** to **3.7%**. The state and national labor markets followed suit, with the Texas rate increasing from **3.7%** to **4%** and the US rate from **3.9%** to **4%**.

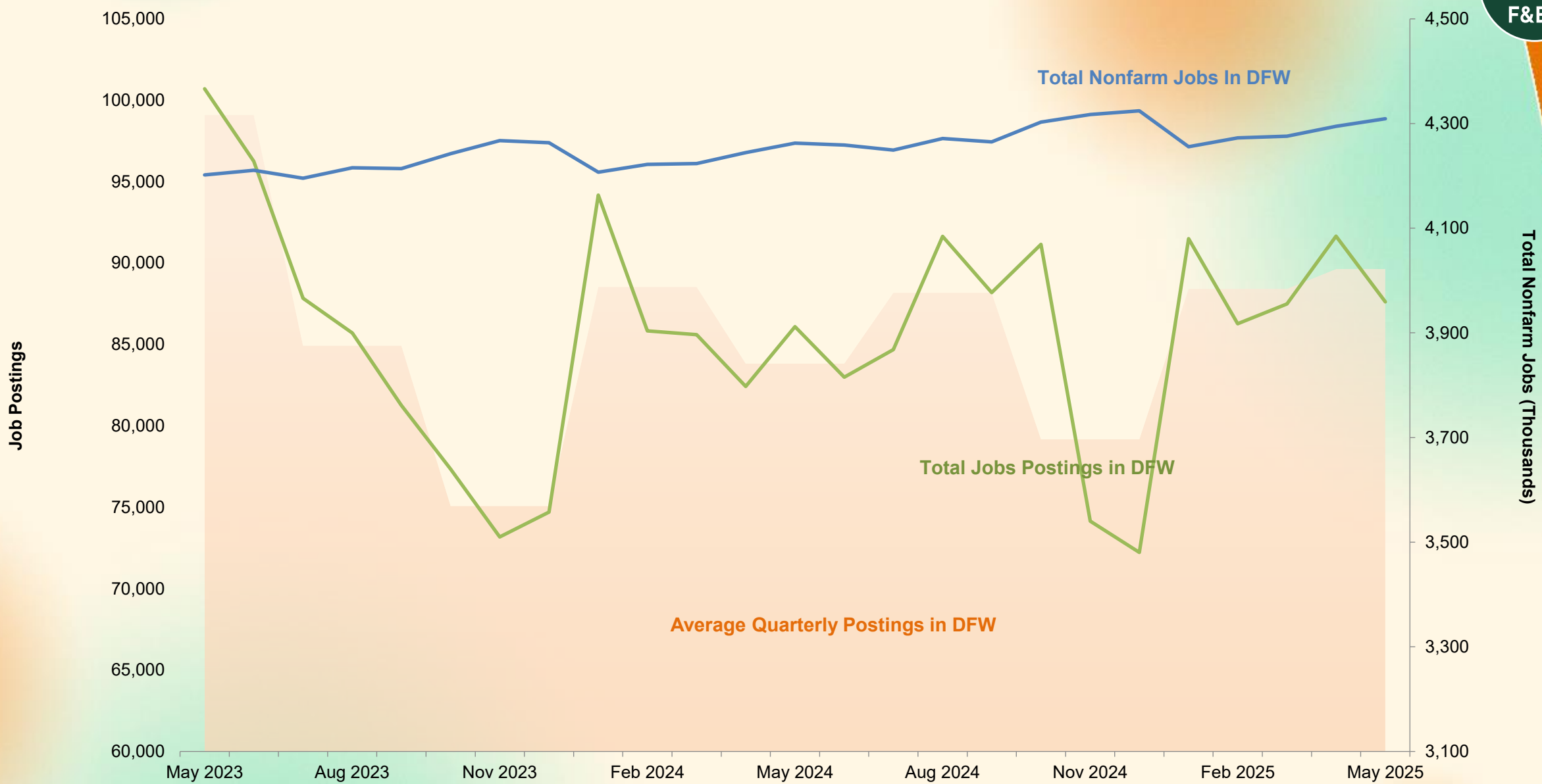
Total job postings saw a month-over-month decrease of **4.4%** in May. The top posted job in the region was **registered nurses**, with a month-over month loss of over **23.7%**, from **5,027** to **3,838** postings. This was followed by **software developers** with **3,298** postings - representing a month-over-month gain of **1.6%**. In terms of fastest growing occupations, **surgical technologists** took first rank with **254** new jobs, representing a month-over-month growth rate of over **128.8%**. In contrast, the fastest shrinking occupation was **drivers/sales workers**, which saw a month-over-month decrease of **33.2%**.

The **Consumer Price Index** for DFW rose slightly by **0.11%**. The CPI for the state of Texas dropped by **0.004%**, Southern Region and U.S experienced an increase of **0.14%** and **0.21%**, respectively.

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

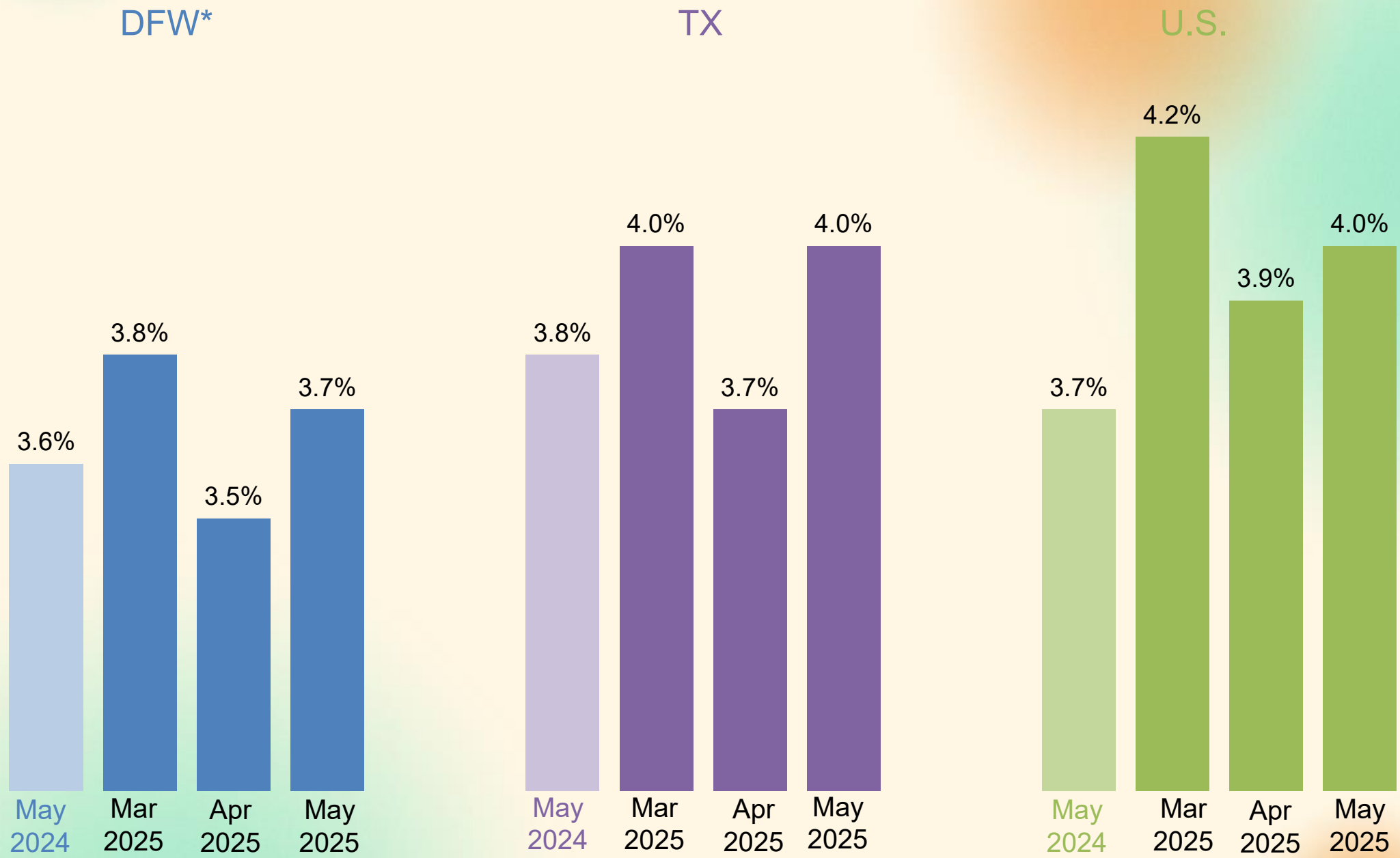


DFW – Job Postings vs. Nonfarm Jobs



* 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, July 2025. Lightcast, 2025.

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



*Not seasonally adjusted.

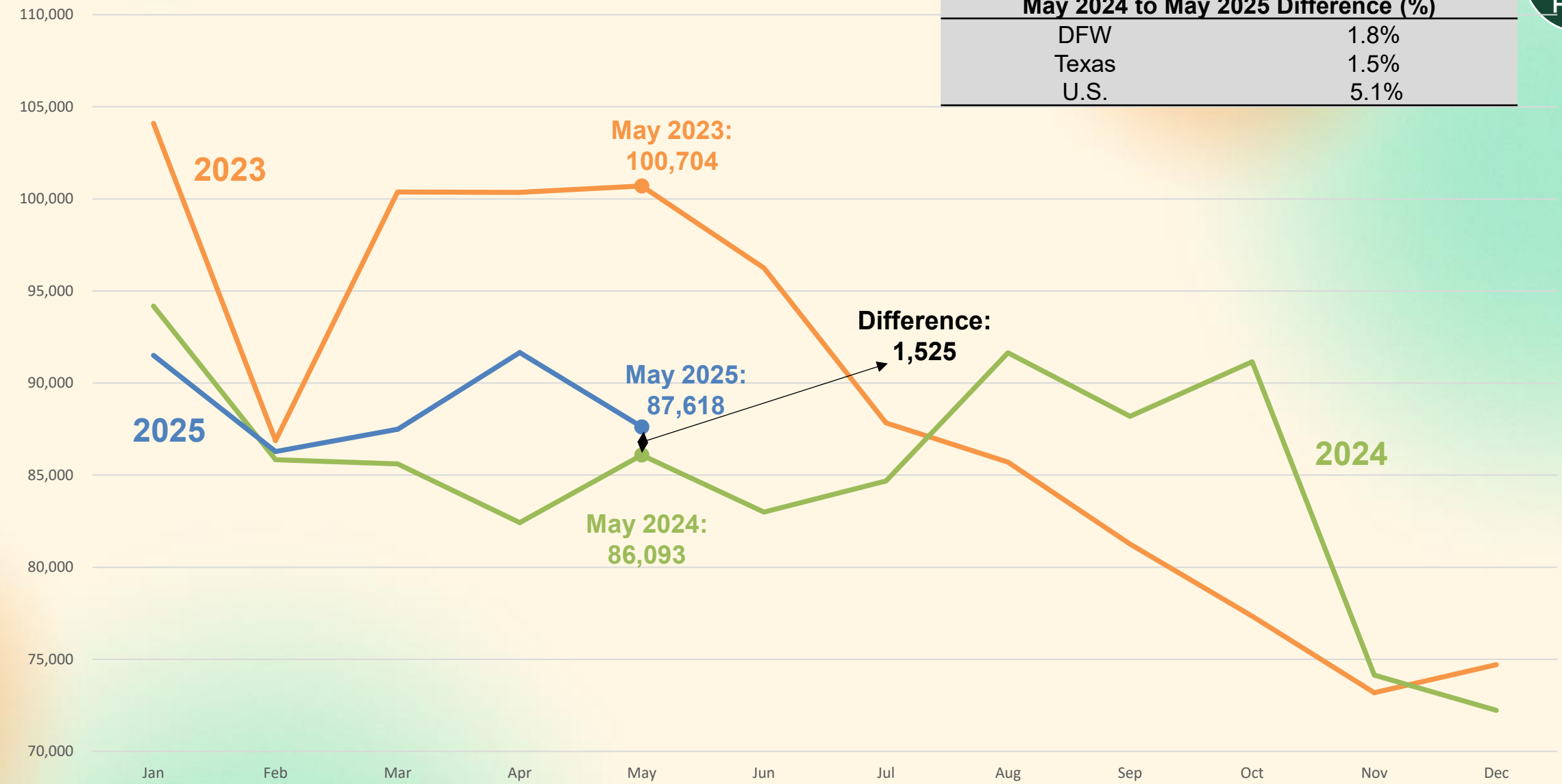
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics, July 2025.

DFW Total Job Postings Over the Years



Job Postings

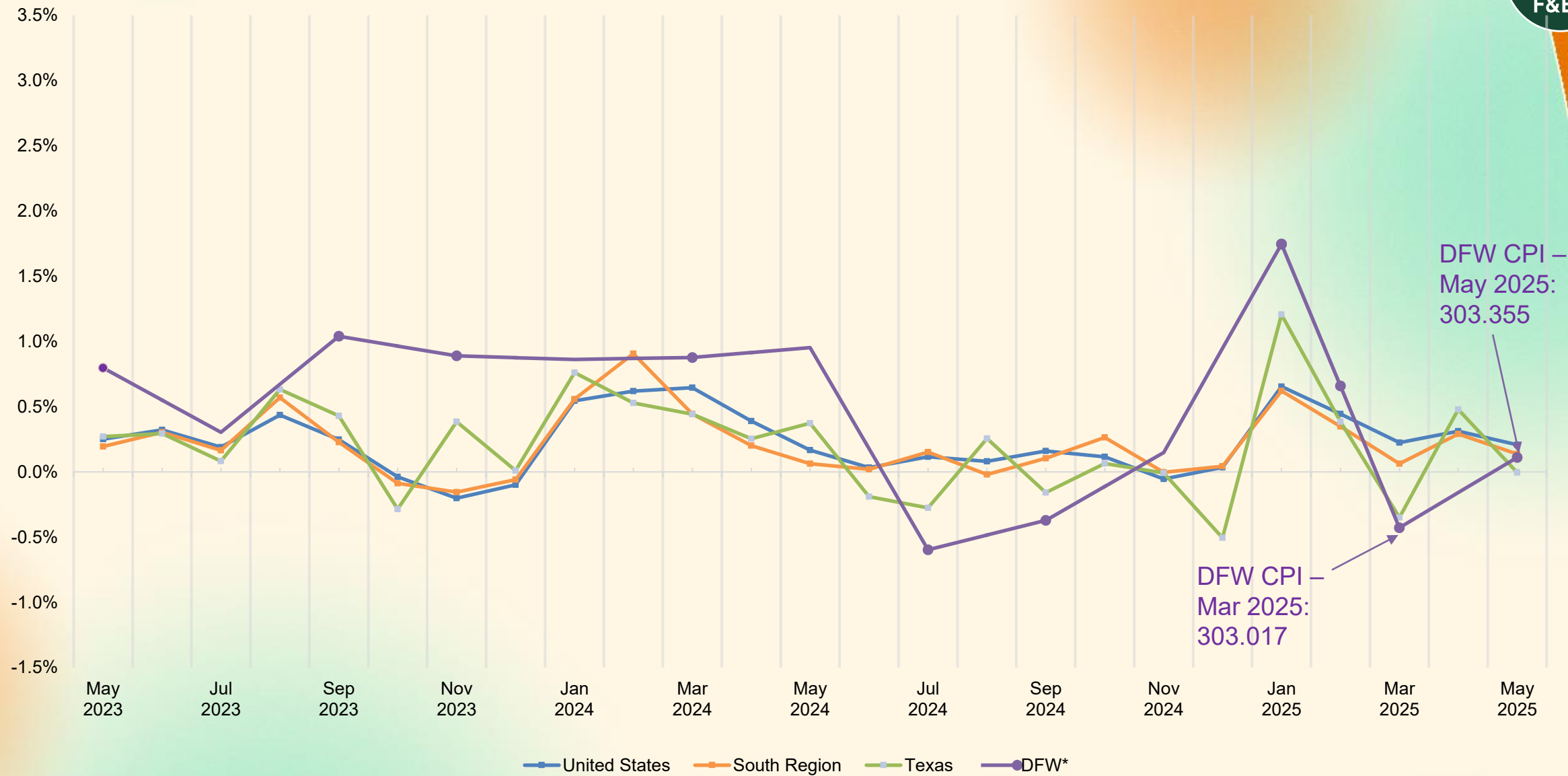
| May 2024 to May 2025 Difference (%) | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| DFW | 1.8% |
| Texas | 1.5% |
| U.S. | 5.1% |





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*, July 2025.
All data for the U.S., South and DFW sourced from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, *CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)*, July 2025, and is not seasonally adjusted.

Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

| Occupation | | Median Annual Earnings | Median Advertised Salary | Average Monthly Hires | May. 2024 Unique Job Postings | May. 2025 Unique Job Postings | Change, May. 2024 to May. 2025 (%) |
|-----------------|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Registered nurses | \$98,522 | \$87,936 | 3,021 | 3,634 | 3,838 | 5.6% |
| 2 | Software developers | \$132,024 | \$133,888 | 3,229 | 2,686 | 3,298 | 22.8% |
| 3 | Retail salespersons | \$31,918 | \$36,480 | 7,007 | 2,519 | 2,330 | -7.5% |
| 4 | Computer occupations, all other | \$120,926 | \$145,280 | 833 | 1,515 | 1,759 | 16.1% |
| 5 | Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers | \$57,252 | \$78,208 | 3,753 | 1,713 | 1,709 | -0.2% |
| 6 | Customer service representatives | \$42,298 | \$40,576 | 6,744 | 1,586 | 1,445 | -8.9% |
| 7 | Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products | \$63,842 | \$80,256 | 833 | 1,333 | 1,435 | 7.7% |
| 8 | First-line supervisors of retail sales workers | \$46,429 | \$44,672 | 1,084 | 1,440 | 1,416 | -1.7% |
| 9 | Maintenance and repair workers, general | \$47,038 | \$50,816 | 2,003 | 1,143 | 1,059 | -7.3% |
| 10 | Project management specialists | \$94,821 | \$105,728 | 1,732 | 900 | 1,030 | 14.4% |
| All occupations | | - | - | - | 86,077 | 87,618 | 1.8% |

Source: Lightcast, 2025.

Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW

| | Occupation | Mar. 2025 Unique Job Postings | Apr. 2025 Unique Job Postings | May. 2025 Unique Job Postings | Change, Apr. 2025 to May. 2025 (%) |
|----|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Registered nurses | 3,433 | 5,027 | 3,838 | -23.7% |
| 2 | Software developers | 3,057 | 3,247 | 3,298 | 1.6% |
| 3 | Retail salespersons | 2,089 | 2,049 | 2,330 | 13.7% |
| 4 | Computer occupations, all other | 1,699 | 1,726 | 1,759 | 1.9% |
| 5 | Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers | 1,616 | 1,868 | 1,709 | -8.5% |
| 6 | Customer service representatives | 1,528 | 1,757 | 1,445 | -17.8% |
| 7 | Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products | 1,519 | 1,443 | 1,435 | -0.6% |
| 8 | First-line supervisors of retail sales workers | 1,444 | 1,380 | 1,416 | 2.6% |
| 9 | Maintenance and repair workers, general | 978 | 1,133 | 1,059 | -6.5% |
| 10 | Project management specialists | 982 | 1,082 | 1,030 | -4.8% |
| | All occupations | 87,471 | 91,657 | 87,618 | -4.4% |

Source: Lightcast, 2025.



Positive Change in Demand by Jobs Postings in DFW

| | Occupation | Median Annual Earnings | Median Advertised Salary | Average Monthly Hires | Apr. 2025 Unique Job Postings | May. 2025 Unique Job Postings | Month-over-month Change |
|----|---|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Surgical Technologists | \$76,753 | \$78,592 | 170 | 111 | 254 | 128.8% |
| 2 | Sales and Related Workers, All Other | \$33,647 | \$42,624 | 253 | 177 | 315 | 78.0% |
| 3 | Speech-Language Pathologists | \$86,348 | \$103,168 | 217 | 288 | 439 | 52.4% |
| 4 | Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers | \$58,208 | \$65,792 | 552 | 199 | 319 | 60.3% |
| 5 | Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary | \$28,673 | \$32,256 | 1,294 | 372 | 476 | 28.0% |
| 6 | Database Architects | \$135,842 | \$142,080 | 113 | 352 | 445 | 26.4% |
| 7 | Postsecondary Teachers | \$87,674 | \$65,408 | 934 | 286 | 401 | 40.2% |
| 8 | Marketing Managers | \$148,086 | \$139,008 | 890 | 600 | 756 | 26.0% |
| 9 | Data Scientists | \$119,620 | \$126,720 | 480 | 891 | 969 | 8.8% |
| 10 | Stockers and Order Fillers | \$36,472 | \$35,200 | 7,150 | 536 | 655 | 22.2% |
| | All occupations | - | - | - | 91,657 | 87,618 | -4.4% |

Source: Lightcast, 2025.



Negative Change in Demand by Jobs Postings in DFW

| | Occupation | Median Annual Earnings | Median Advertised Salary | Average Monthly Hires | Apr. 2025 Unique Job Postings | May. 2025 Unique Job Postings | Month-over-month Change |
|----|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Driver/Sales Workers | \$39,475 | \$38,528 | 462 | 554 | 370 | -33.2% |
| 2 | Food Service Managers | \$65,836 | \$54,912 | 287 | 1111 | 809 | -27.2% |
| 3 | First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers | \$38,204 | \$36,480 | 1,651 | 769 | 574 | -25.4% |
| 4 | Production Workers, All Other | \$34,776 | \$39,552 | 512 | 630 | 512 | -18.7% |
| 5 | Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel | \$61,567 | \$60,032 | 2,205 | 1040 | 874 | -16.0% |
| 6 | Fast Food and Counter Workers | \$26,458 | \$29,056 | 19,292 | 972 | 817 | -15.9% |
| 7 | Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics | \$53,284 | \$50,048 | 969 | 626 | 530 | -15.3% |
| 8 | Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products | \$84,209 | \$75,648 | 459 | 913 | 773 | -15.3% |
| 9 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | \$38,363 | \$37,504 | 8,335 | 1149 | 1023 | -11.0% |
| 10 | Financial Managers | \$165,974 | \$128,384 | 794 | 1001 | 898 | -10.3% |
| | All occupations | - | - | - | 91,657 | 87,618 | -4.4% |

Source: Lightcast, 2025.





DFW Employment by Industry

| Industry | May. 2024 Employment | Mar. 2025 Employment | Apr. 2025 Employment | May. 2025 Employment | Change, May. 2024 to May. 2025 (%) | Change, May. Apr. 2025 to May. 2025 (%) |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction | 108,600 | 109,900 | 110,800 | 113,200 | 4.2% | 2.2% |
| Construction | 145,000 | 146,600 | 147,500 | 148,600 | 2.5% | 0.7% |
| Manufacturing | 310,900 | 308,500 | 308,100 | 308,800 | -0.7% | 0.2% |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 622,900 | 630,500 | 632,500 | 634,300 | 1.8% | 0.3% |
| Transportation and utilities | 261,300 | 260,800 | 257,400 | 258,800 | -1.0% | 0.5% |
| Information | 88,200 | 89,400 | 89,000 | 87,900 | -0.3% | -1.2% |
| Financial activities | 378,100 | 382,600 | 383,300 | 384,900 | 1.8% | 0.4% |
| Professional and business services | 774,800 | 764,700 | 771,200 | 766,500 | -1.1% | -0.6% |
| Education and health services | 512,000 | 518,200 | 520,100 | 522,100 | 2.0% | 0.4% |
| Leisure and hospitality | 433,100 | 429,500 | 437,400 | 444,300 | 2.6% | 1.6% |
| Other services | 140,700 | 140,200 | 140,300 | 141,100 | 0.3% | 0.6% |
| Government | 486,800 | 494,900 | 497,000 | 498,700 | 2.4% | 0.3% |
| Total nonfarm | 4,262,400 | 4,275,800 | 4,294,600 | 4,309,200 | 1.1% | 0.3% |

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

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics State and Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings, and Current Employment Statistics, July 2025.



DFW vs. U.S. Employment by Industry

| Industry | DFW May. 2025 Employment | DFW May. 2025 Employment Share (%) | DFW Employment Change, May. 2024 to May. 2025 (%) | U.S. May. 2025 Employment | U.S. May. 2025 Employment Share (%) | U.S. Employment Change, May. 2024 to May. 2025 (%) |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction | 113,200 | 2.6% | 4.2% | 623,000 | 0.4% | -0.2% |
| Construction | 148,600 | 3.4% | 2.5% | 8,352,000 | 5.2% | 1.4% |
| Manufacturing | 308,800 | 7.2% | -0.7% | 12,738,000 | 8.0% | -0.7% |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 634,300 | 14.7% | 1.8% | 21,696,200 | 13.6% | 0.3% |
| Transportation and utilities | 258,800 | 6.0% | -1.0% | 7,253,100 | 4.5% | 1.1% |
| Information | 87,900 | 2.0% | -0.3% | 2,934,000 | 1.8% | -0.2% |
| Financial activities | 384,900 | 8.9% | 1.8% | 9,224,000 | 5.8% | 1.1% |
| Professional and business services | 766,500 | 17.8% | -1.1% | 22,633,000 | 14.1% | -0.2% |
| Education and health services | 522,100 | 12.1% | 2.0% | 27,289,000 | 17.1% | 3.5% |
| Leisure and hospitality | 444,300 | 10.3% | 2.6% | 17,307,000 | 10.8% | 1.4% |
| Other services | 141,100 | 3.3% | 0.3% | 6,063,000 | 3.8% | 1.3% |
| Government | 498,700 | 11.6% | 2.4% | 23,846,000 | 14.9% | 1.1% |
| Total nonfarm | 4,309,200 | 100.0% | 1.1% | 159,958,000 | 100.0% | 1.1% |

Numbers may not sum due to rounding. Employment is not seasonally adjusted.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics State and Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings, and Current Employment Statistics, July 2025.

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