



DFW
LABOR MARKET
UPDATE
February 2026

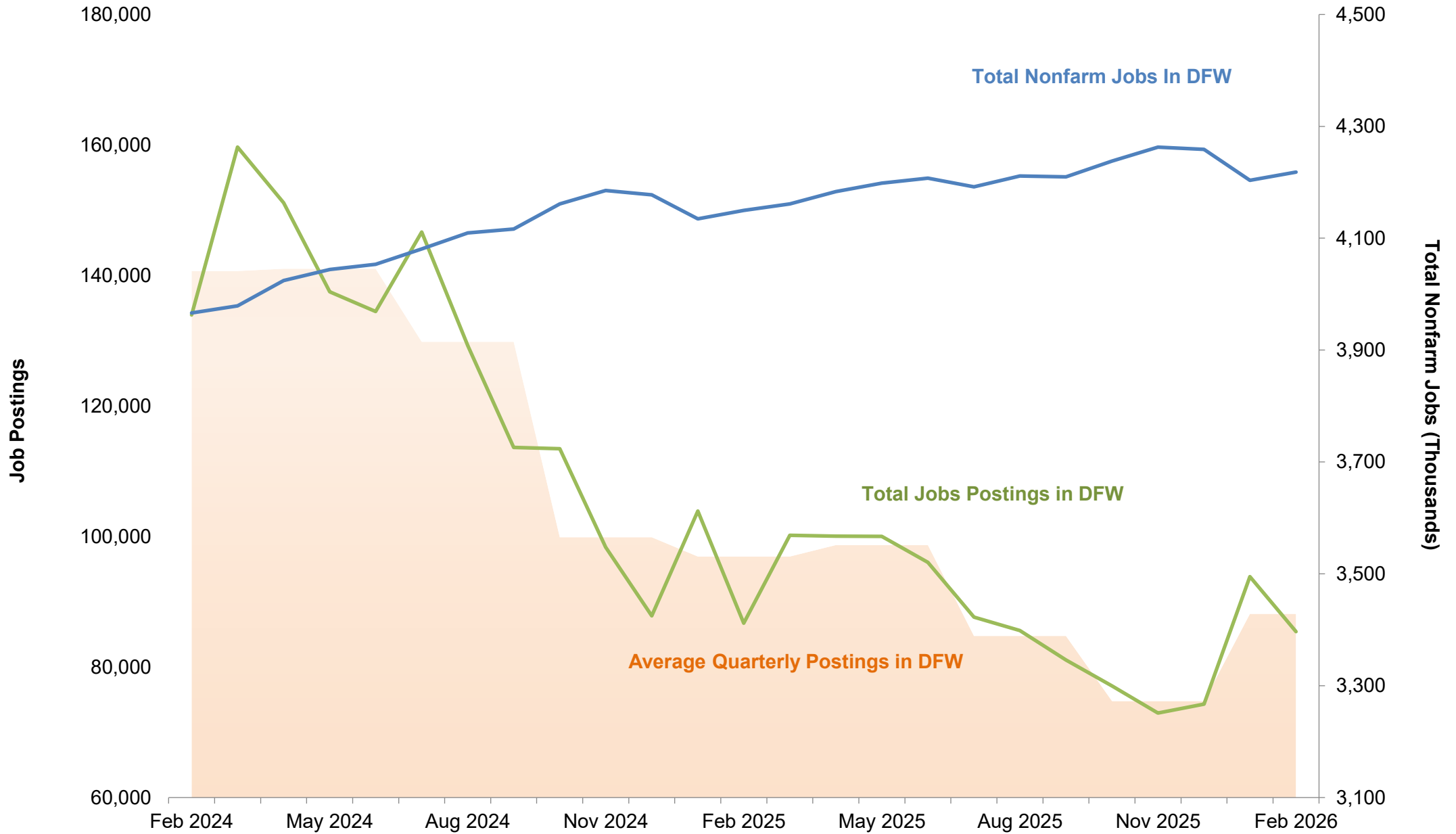
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SUMMARY

- From January 2026 to February 2026, the DFW labor market gained **6,600** jobs, taking its total workforce to **4,298,500**. *(Total workforce for January was revised to 4,291,900 from 4,298,800 in the latest BLS release.)*
- The **professional and business services** sector saw its employment grow by **0.5%**, while **other services** experienced a decline of **0.5%**.
- Unemployment rates declined slightly across **DFW** (4.2% to 4.1%) and **Texas** (4.5% to 4.4%), while the **U.S** remain unchanged at 4.7%.
- Overall job postings increased by **2.4%** in February. Postings for **registered nurses** saw the largest increase by **13.4%**, while **retail salesperson** experienced a **19.7%** loss.
- The fastest growing occupation was **police and sheriff's patrol** by 221% increase in new postings.
(Note: The significant number of job postings were driven by Department of Homeland Security.)
- **Personal and Financial Advisors** saw the largest decline in job postings at **32.4%**.
- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for **DFW** will not be released for February. However, inflation increased in **Texas** (0.32%), the **Southern Region** (0.34%), and the **U.S.** (0.37%).

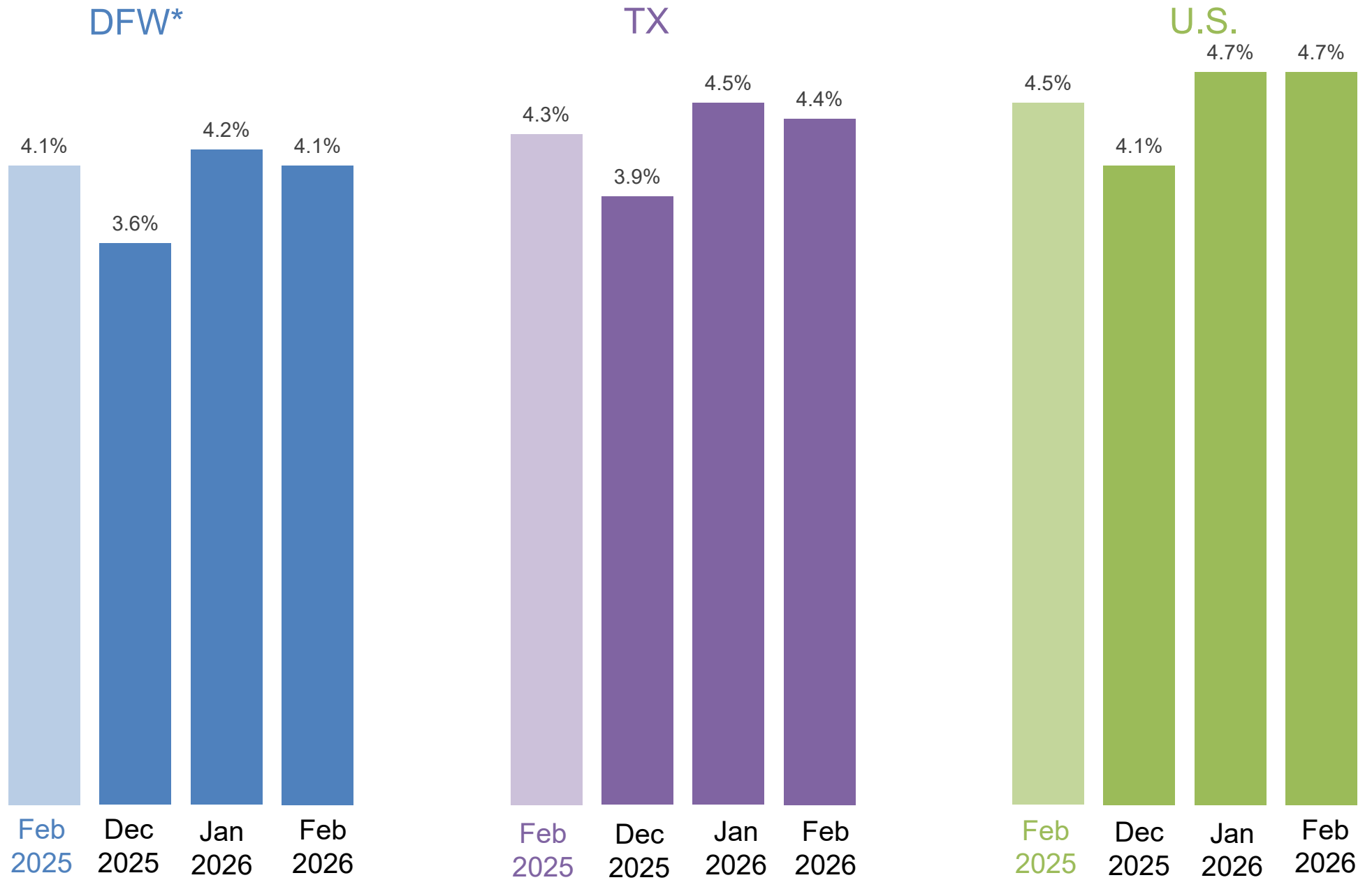
For deeper analysis of these dynamics, see the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas' [Texas Employment Forecast](#), [DFW Economic Indicators](#), and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' [DFW](#) and [Southwest](#) CPI releases.

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, May 2026. Lightcast, 2026.

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



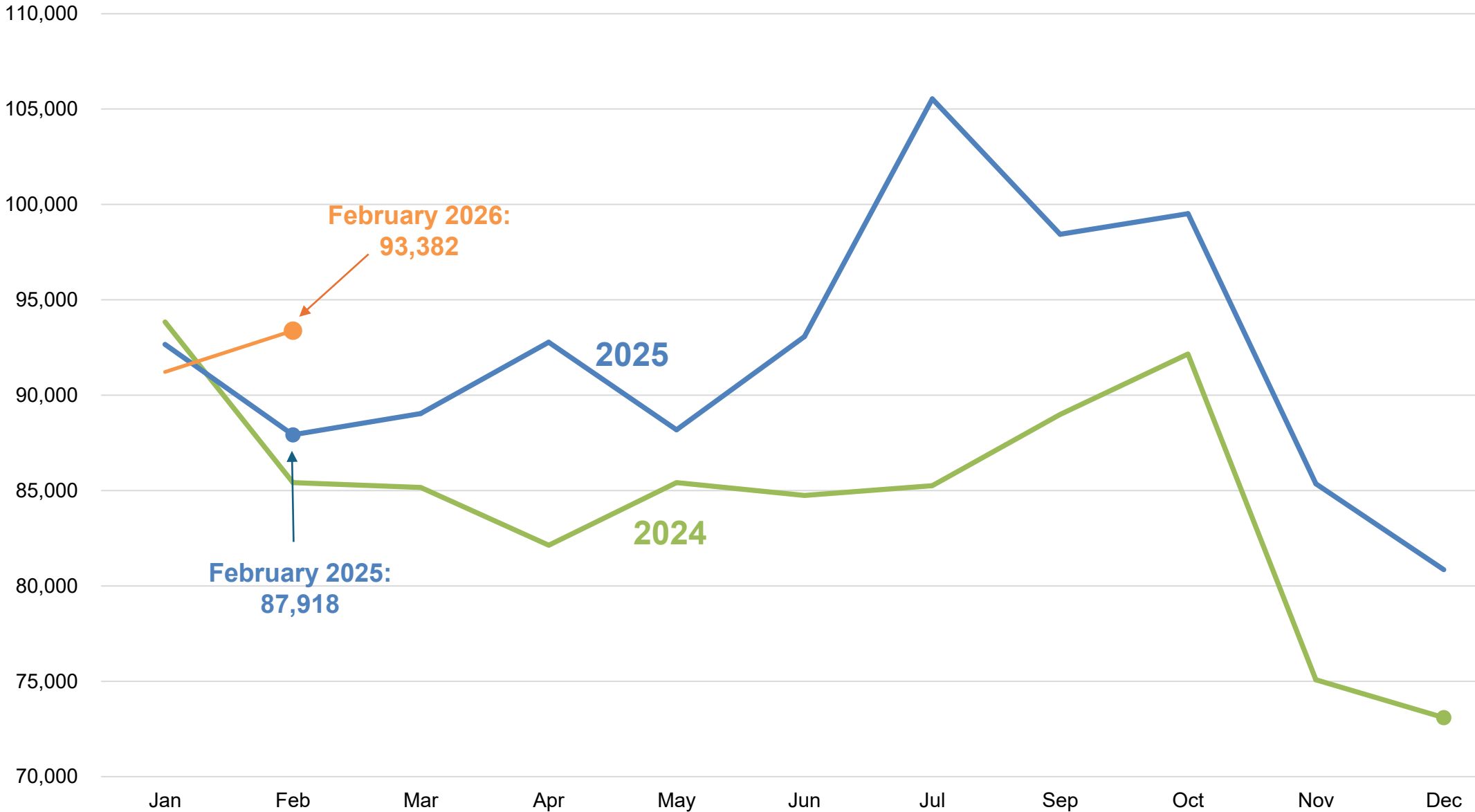
*Not seasonally adjusted.

**Data unavailable

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics, May 2026

DFW Total Job Postings Over the Years

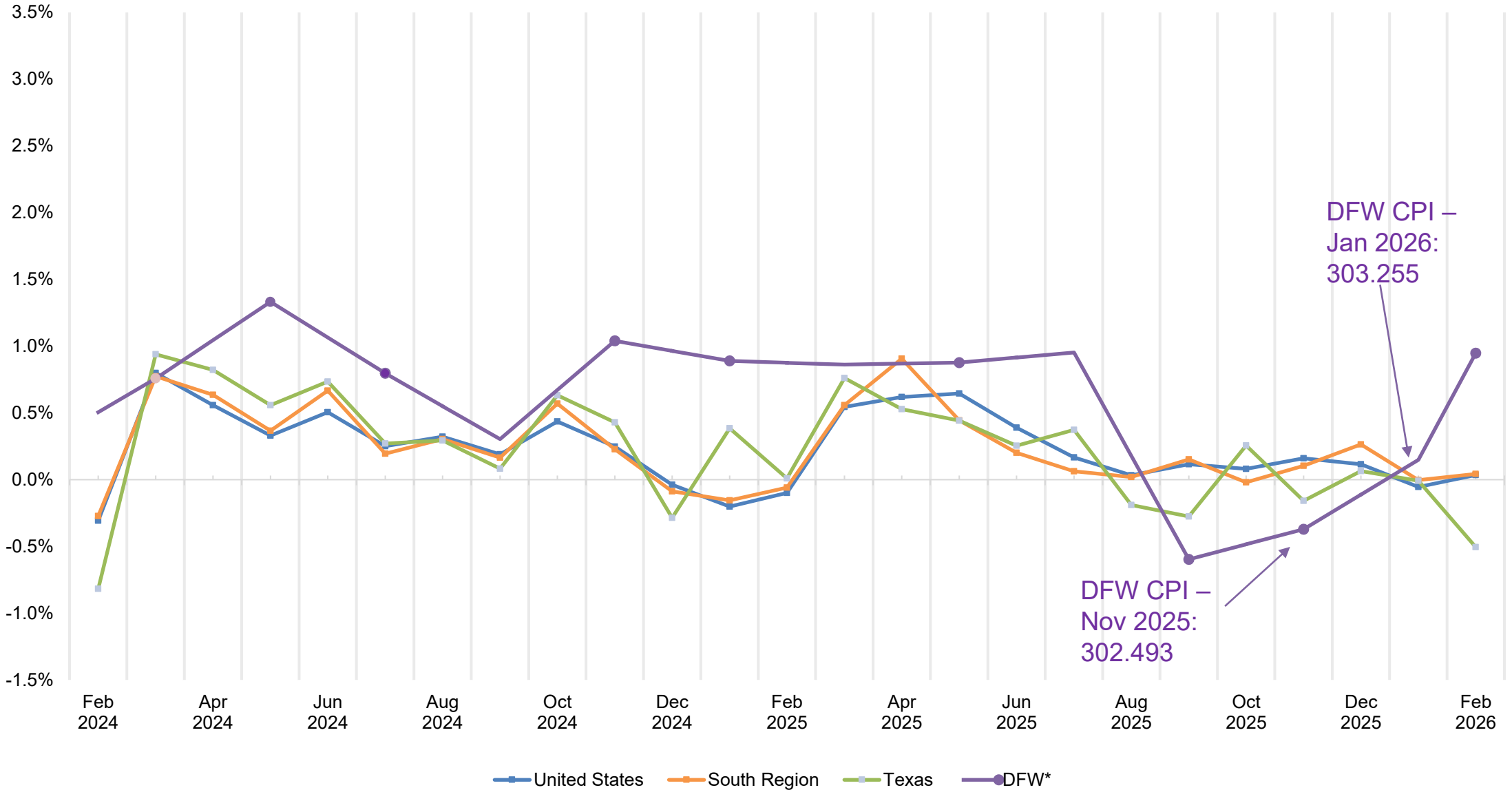
Job Postings



Source: Lightcast, 2026.

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.
 October CPI data for the US, Texas and the South Region is unavailable due to the 2025 lapse in appropriations.
 Sources: Texas data sourced from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, *Key Economic Indicators*, May 2026.
 All data for the U.S., South and DFW sourced from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, *CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)*, May 2026, and is not seasonally adjusted.

Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW (Yearly)

Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Average Monthly Hires	Feb. 2025 Unique Job Postings	Feb. 2026 Unique Job Postings	Change, Feb. 2025 to Feb. 2026 (%)
1 Registered nurses	\$98,541	\$83,328	2,760	3,966	4,860	22.5%
2 Software developers	\$131,994	\$133,888	2,948	3,153	2,937	-6.9%
3 Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	\$57,253	\$80,256	3,398	1,688	2,188	29.6%
4 Retail salespersons	\$31,926	\$34,432	6,534	2,264	1,916	-15.4%
5 First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	\$46,443	\$43,648	992	1,682	1,480	-12.0%
6 Computer occupations, all other	\$120,902	\$137,984	778	1,546	1,393	-9.9%
7 Customer service representatives	\$42,306	\$40,576	6,253	1,505	1,393	-7.4%
8 Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	\$63,778	\$77,696	744	1,464	1,393	-4.8%
9 Maintenance and repair workers, general	\$47,016	\$52,096	1,867	1,070	1,210	13.1%
10 Financial managers	\$165,892	\$141,056	736	1,038	1,167	12.4%
All occupations	-	-	-	87,891	93,382	6.2%

Source: Lightcast, 2026.

Top Occupations by Job Postings in DFW (Monthly)

	Occupation	Dec. 2025 Unique Job Postings	Jan. 2026 Unique Job Postings	Feb. 2026 Unique Job Postings	Change, Jan. 2026 to Feb. 2026 (%)
1	Registered nurses	4,269	4,286	4,860	13.4%
2	Software developers	2,203	2,621	2,937	12.1%
3	Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	2,008	1,952	2,188	12.1%
4	Retail salespersons	1,775	2,385	1,916	-19.7%
5	First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	1,376	1,700	1,480	-12.9%
6	Computer occupations, all other	1,168	1,554	1,393	-10.4%
7	Customer service representatives	1,297	1,512	1,393	-7.9%
8	Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	1,057	1,470	1,393	-5.2%
9	Maintenance and repair workers, general	1,001	1,181	1,210	2.5%
10	Financial managers	1,128	1,046	1,167	11.6%
	All occupations	80,823	91,219	93,382	2.4%

Source: Lightcast, 2026.

Positive Change in Demand by Jobs Postings in DFW

	Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Average Monthly Hires	Jan. 2026 Unique Job Postings	Feb. 2026 Unique Job Postings	Month-over-month Change
1	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$91,292	\$76,032	343	90	289	221.1%
2	Nursing Assistants	\$37,496	\$37,504	2,059	253	360	42.3%
3	Physical Therapists	\$107,878	\$102,400	206	553	713	28.9%
4	Accountants and Auditors	\$83,499	\$85,376	1,458	707	963	36.2%
5	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$69,589	\$64,128	1,633	863	1040	20.5%
6	Construction Managers	\$101,306	\$107,392	591	613	724	18.1%
7	Project Management Specialists	\$94,827	\$107,264	1,614	968	1135	17.3%
8	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	\$84,124	\$76,160	426	826	961	16.3%
9	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$102,166	\$89,856	346	352	461	31.0%
10	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$38,379	\$38,272	7,393	1032	1145	10.9%
	All occupations	-	-	-	91,219	93,382	2.4%

*The significant percentage gain is largely attributable to the low number from the prior month. Source: Lightcast, 2026.

Negative Change in Demand by Jobs Postings in DFW

Occupation	Median Annual Earnings	Median Advertised Salary	Average Monthly Hires	Jan. 2026 Unique Job Postings	Feb. 2026 Unique Job Postings	Month-over-month Change
1 Personal Financial Advisors	\$92,175	\$87,936	161	380	257	-32.4%
2 Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers	\$37,187	\$35,456	255	589	414	-29.7%
3 Postsecondary Teachers	\$87,299	\$60,032	859	371	265	-28.6%
4 Stockers and Order Fillers	\$36,497	\$31,104	6,174	664	545	-17.9%
5 Medical Assistants	\$40,974	\$41,600	1,141	571	479	-16.1%
6 Food Service Managers	\$65,787	\$54,912	258	820	704	-14.1%
7 Sales Managers	\$137,665	\$105,344	1,012	1106	961	-13.1%
8 Fast Food and Counter Workers	\$26,476	\$30,080	17,413	690	600	-13.0%
9 Home Health and Personal Care Aides	\$25,980	\$33,920	5,177	923	804	-12.9%
10 Medical and Health Services Managers	\$111,670	\$77,696	495	985	903	-8.3%
All occupations	-	-	-	91,219	93,382	2.4%

Source: Lightcast, 2026.

DFW Employment by Industry

Industry	Feb. 2025 Employment	Dec. 2025 Employment	Jan. 2026 Employment	Feb. 2026 Employment	Change, Feb. 2025 to Feb. 2026 (%)	Change, Jan. 2026 to Feb. 2026 (%)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	111,200	111,500	111,800	112,000	0.7%	0.2%
Construction	148,900	154,200	154,100	154,300	3.6%	0.1%
Manufacturing	313,900	313,000	310,700	310,700	-1.0%	0.0%
Wholesale and retail trade	620,600	638,600	621,200	618,600	-0.3%	-0.4%
Transportation and utilities	267,700	278,100	266,200	265,200	-0.9%	-0.4%
Information	87,200	87,600	85,100	85,000	-2.5%	-0.1%
Financial activities	387,800	393,500	388,200	388,000	0.1%	-0.1%
Professional and business services	767,800	785,900	779,700	783,600	2.1%	0.5%
Education and health services	521,500	527,100	522,800	523,800	0.4%	0.2%
Leisure and hospitality	420,200	427,100	424,000	425,200	1.2%	0.3%
Other services	140,500	142,700	141,500	140,800	0.2%	-0.5%
Government	487,000	496,800	486,600	491,300	0.9%	1.0%
Total nonfarm	4,274,300	4,356,100	4,291,900	4,298,500	0.6%	0.2%

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, May 2026.

DFW vs. U.S. Employment by Industry

Industry	DFW Feb. 2026 Employment	DFW Feb. 2026 Employment Share (%)	DFW Employment Change, Feb. 2025 to Feb. 2026 (%)	U.S. Feb. 2026 Employment	U.S. Feb. 2026 Employment Share (%)	U.S. Employment Change, Feb. 2025 to Feb. 2026 (%)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	112,000	2.6%	0.7%	594,000	0.4%	-3.6%
Construction	154,300	3.6%	3.6%	8,005,000	5.1%	0.5%
Manufacturing	310,700	7.2%	-1.0%	12,524,000	8.0%	-0.8%
Wholesale and retail trade	618,600	14.4%	-0.3%	21,273,600	13.5%	-0.3%
Transportation and utilities	265,200	6.2%	-0.9%	7,103,500	4.5%	-2.3%
Information	85,000	2.0%	-2.5%	2,769,000	1.8%	-3.2%
Financial activities	388,000	9.0%	0.1%	9,102,000	5.8%	-0.5%
Professional and business services	783,600	18.2%	2.1%	22,148,000	14.1%	-0.3%
Education and health services	523,800	12.2%	0.4%	27,799,000	17.7%	2.3%
Leisure and hospitality	425,200	9.9%	1.2%	16,338,000	10.4%	0.8%
Other services	140,800	3.3%	0.2%	5,975,000	3.8%	0.9%
Government	491,300	11.4%	0.9%	23,573,000	15.0%	-1.1%
Total nonfarm	4,298,500	100.0%	0.6%	157,204,000	100.0%	0.0%

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, May 2026.

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