#12 of 10: 12-month change in the metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026

12-month change in the metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026): -0.1%

12-month change in metro unemployment rate – ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

-0.1%

12-month change in the metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026)

DFW's labor market continues to stabilize, with a modest decline in unemployment across the metropolitan area.

The -0.1% change reflects a slight tightening in the job market, indicating that employment growth is outpacing labor force expansion. While not among the top performers in Texas, this performance signals resilience amid national volatility. The trend suggests that DFW's economic engine remains active, even as broader markets face headwinds.

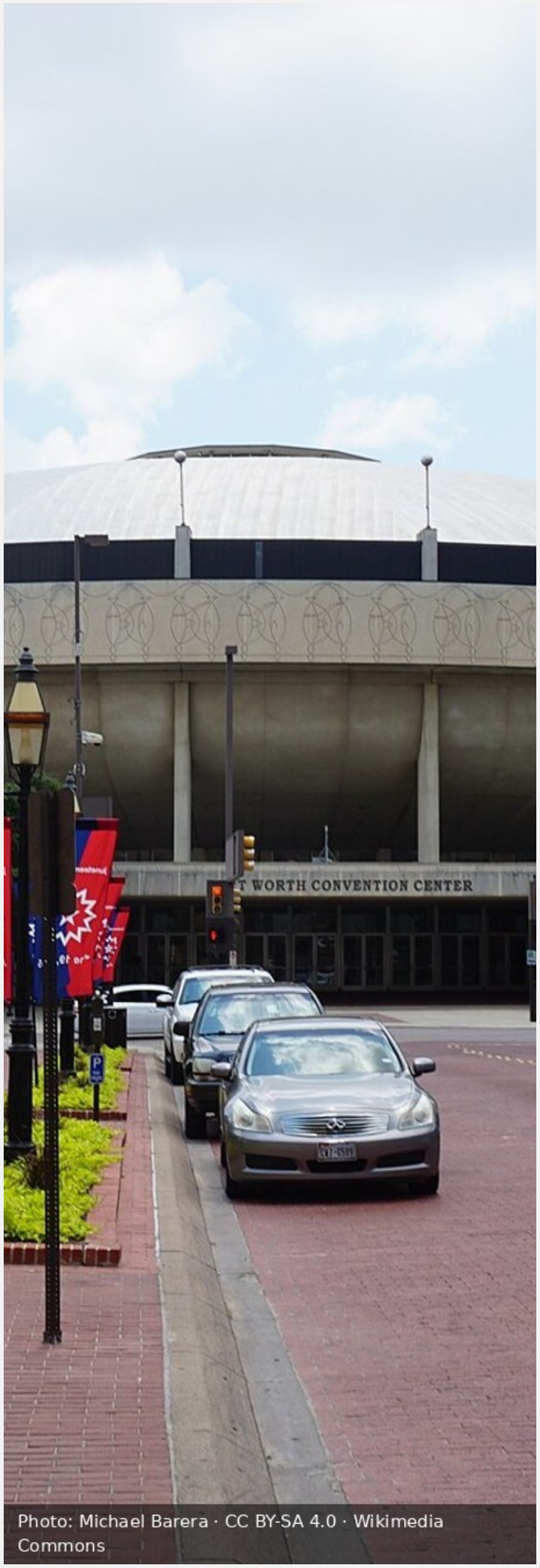


Photo: Michael Barera · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics, September 2026 (seasonally unadjusted, metropolitan) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-15-dfw-msa-lab-bls-unemp-rate-chg-12m-msa

01

Stability Over Speed

DFW’s ranking at #12 does not reflect weakness—it reflects a deliberate, measured pace of labor market adjustment. Unlike metro areas with aggressive job growth, DFW is not overheating. This balance protects against future downturns and maintains affordability in hiring, which supports sustained residential demand. The city’s ability to avoid rapid wage inflation is a structural advantage in a high-interest-rate environment.

Photo: Ranch9613 · CC0 · Wikimedia Commons

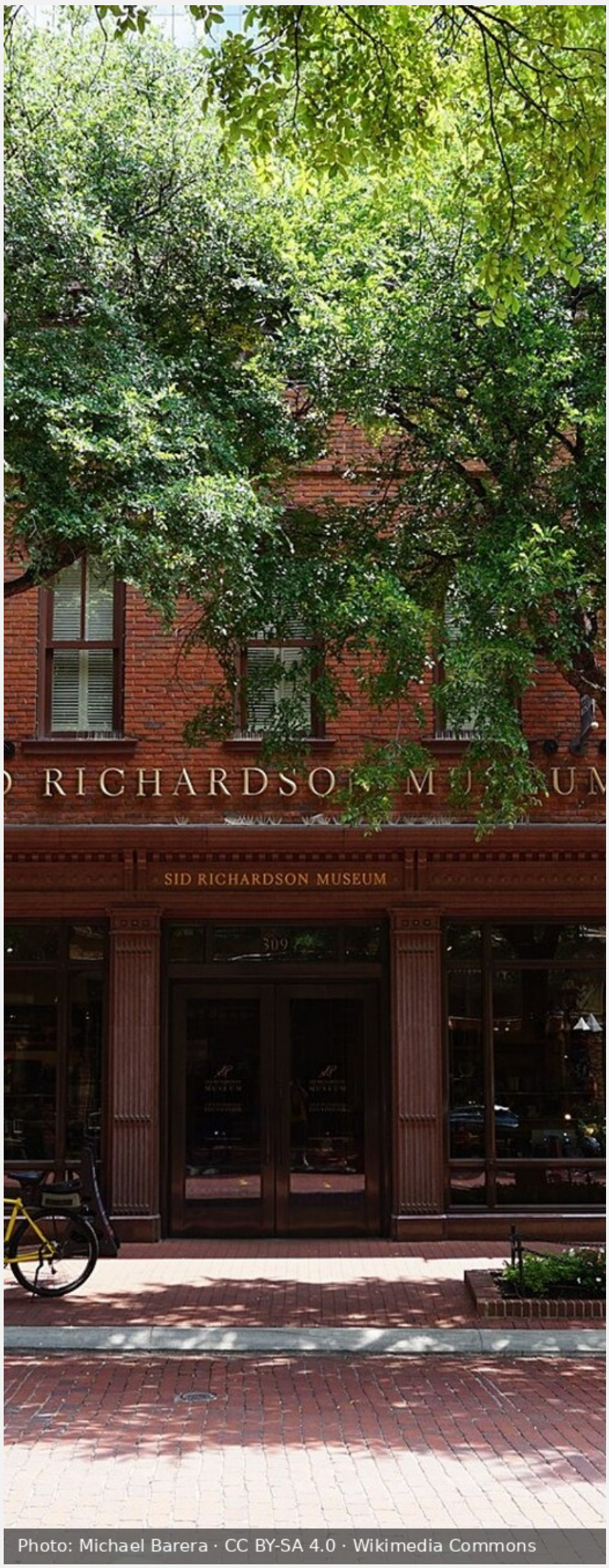


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02

The Quiet Advantage of Resilience

While faster-rising metros like Brownsville and McAllen are chasing momentum, DFW's moderate pace preserves long-term economic health. This stability attracts capital seeking predictability, not just growth. Investors in real estate, especially multifamily and industrial, benefit from a labor market that is not burning through capacity. The data suggests that DFW's infrastructure and institutional depth are turning a slowdown into a strategic advantage.

Real Estate Strategy & Intelligence Leader. Democratized Blue Ocean Strategist & Operator.

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