

2020

April



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT



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ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

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Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services



The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The current month's estimates are preliminary, while previous month's data is subject to revision.

Estimates of nonfarm payroll jobs show the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Hours and earnings estimates are based on payroll and worker-hour data collected for production workers in manufacturing industries.

Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). All estimates are based on a first quarter 2019 benchmark.

Explanation of Terms and Concepts

Monthly Business

Survey of Employers

A monthly sample survey designed to provide industry information on nonfarm payroll jobs. Data are compiled each month from mail surveys and telephone interviews conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with Department of Workforce Services. The data are based on establishment records and include all workers, full- or part-time, who received pay during the payroll period which includes the 12th of the month. Approximately

Technical Notes

5,000 Arkansas business establishments are surveyed.

Metropolitan

Statistical Areas

A term applied by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to counties that have one or more central cities and that meet specified criteria of population density, commuting patterns and social and economic integration.

Current Population

Survey (CPS)

A monthly sample survey of the population 16 years of age and over, designed to provide data on the labor force, the employed and the unemployed. The survey is conducted each month by the Bureau of the Census for BLS. The information is collected by trained interviewers from a sample of about 60,000 households. The data collected are based on the activity reported for the calendar week including the 12th of the month. Approximately 800 Arkansas households are represented in the sample survey.

Civilian Labor Force

The sum of all employed and unemployed persons 16 years of age or older. Members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

Employment

An estimate of the number of persons who worked any time

for pay or profit or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month. Also included are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, and persons involved in labor management disputes.

Unemployment

An estimate of the number of persons who did not have a job, but were available for work and actively seeking work during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month.

Unemployment

Rate

The number of unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labor force. Unemployment rates are calculated from unrounded data.

Seasonal

Adjustment

A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to seasonal events such as weather, major holidays, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/closing of schools.



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APRIL SPOTLIGHT

Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the related response, April 2020 unemployment rates increased in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Similarly, all states and the District had jobless rate increases from a year earlier. The national unemployment rate rose by 10.3 percentage points over-the-month to 14.7 percent and was 11.1 percentage points higher than in April 2019.

Nevada had the highest unemployment rate in April at 28.2 percent, followed by Michigan at 22.7 percent, and Hawaii at 22.3 percent. The rates in 43 states set new series highs. (All state series begin in 1976.) The rates in Hawaii and Nevada exceeded their previous series highs by more than 10.0 percentage points each, while the rates in Michigan, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont exceeded their previous highs by more than 5.0 percentage points each.

At 7.9 percent, Connecticut had the lowest unemployment rate. The next lowest rates were in Minnesota and Nebraska, 8.1 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively. In total, 27 states and the District of Columbia had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure, 10 states had higher rates, and 13 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation.

In April, the largest unemployment rate increases occurred in Nevada (+21.3 percentage points), Hawaii (+19.9 percentage points), and Michigan (+18.4 percentage points). Rates rose over-the-month by at least 10.0 percentage points in an additional 17 states. The smallest monthly jobless rate increases occurred in Nebraska (+4.3 percentage points) and Connecticut (+4.5 percentage points).

Arkansas' unemployment rate for April reached 10.2 percent, an increase of 5.2 percentage points from March. The rate was 4.5 percentage points lower than the national. Arkansas' jobless rate did not break record high levels in April. The State's highest recorded unemployment rate of 10.3 percent was set in February 1983.

Unemployment Rates, Ranked by State (Seasonally Adjusted)
April 2020

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Connecticut	7.9	16	New Mexico	11.3	35	Massachusetts	15.1
2	Minnesota	8.1	19	Idaho	11.5	35	Pennsylvania	15.1
3	Nebraska	8.3	20	Georgia	11.9	37	West Virginia	15.2
4	North Dakota	8.5	21	South Carolina	12.1	38	New Jersey	15.3
5	Wyoming	9.2	22	North Carolina	12.2	39	Kentucky	15.4
6	Missouri	9.7	23	Arizona	12.6	39	Mississippi	15.4
6	Utah	9.7	24	Texas	12.8	39	Washington	15.4
8	Maryland	9.9	25	Alabama	12.9	42	California	15.5
9	Arkansas	10.2	25	Alaska	12.9	43	Vermont	15.6
9	Iowa	10.2	25	Florida	12.9	44	New Hampshire	16.3
9	South Dakota	10.2	28	Oklahoma	13.7	45	Illinois	16.4
12	Maine	10.6	29	Wisconsin	14.1	46	Ohio	16.8
12	Virginia	10.6	30	Oregon	14.2	47	Indiana	16.9
14	District of Columbia	11.1	31	Delaware	14.3	48	Rhode Island	17.0
15	Kansas	11.2	32	Louisiana	14.5	49	Hawaii	22.3
16	Colorado	11.3	32	New York	14.5	50	Michigan	22.7
16	Montana	11.3	34	Tennessee	14.7	51	Nevada	28.2

U.S. Unemployment Rate = 14.7 Percent



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STATE OF ARKANSAS Civilian Labor Force Summary

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose from 5.0 percent in March (revised up from the preliminary March estimate of 4.8 percent) to 10.2 percent in April. Arkansas civilian labor force declined 69,598, a result of 133,832 fewer employed and 64,234 additional unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate rose over ten percentage points, from 4.4 percent in March to 14.7 percent in April.

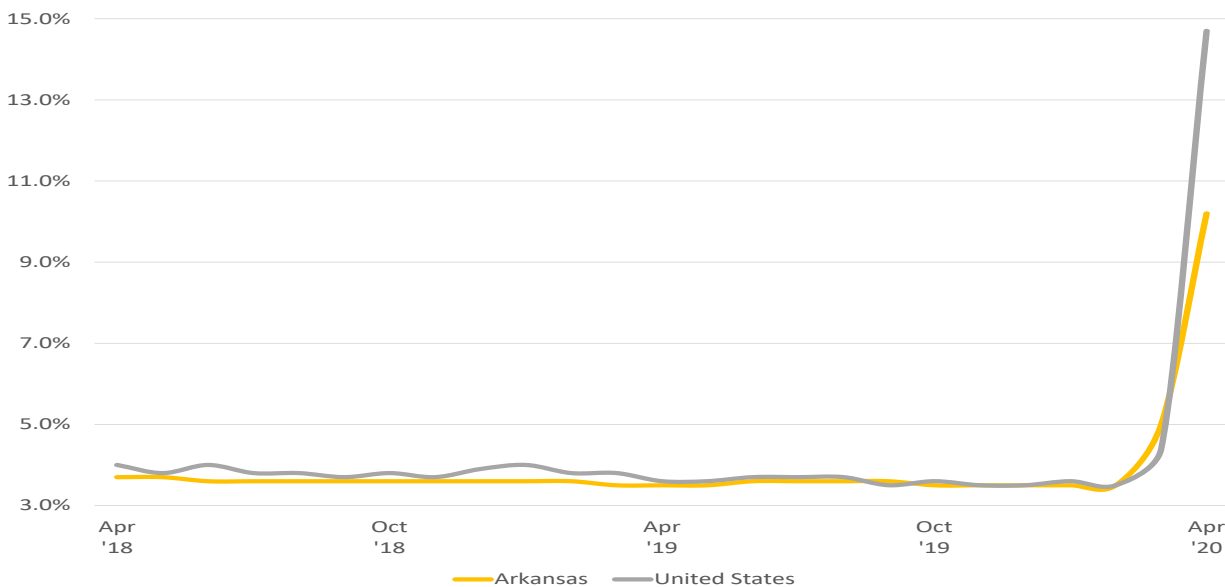
BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate rose sharply in April to 10.2 percent, but is still less than the national rate of 14.7 percent. In addition to the increase in unemployed Arkansans due to the COVID-19 response, the number of employed declined even more. This is related in part to the lack of typical Spring hiring at businesses that were unable to open or expand as scheduled".

Details of the BLS methodology and the impact of COVID-19 on the March and April estimation process can be found [here](#).

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19
Civilian Labor Force	1,316,871	1,386,469	1,361,142	Civilian Labor Force	1,310,898	1,378,026
Employment	1,182,909	1,316,741	1,312,967	Employment	1,176,326	1,311,083
Unemployment	133,962	69,728	48,175	Unemployment	134,572	66,943
Unemployment Rate	10.2	5.0	3.5	Unemployment Rate	10.3	4.9
U.S. Unemployment	14.7	4.4	3.6	U.S. Unemployment	14.4	4.5
						3.3

Unemployment Rates - Arkansas vs United States (Seasonally Adjusted)
April 2018 - April 2020





ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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STATE OF ARKANSAS Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1172.0	1269.8	1283.2	-97.8	-111.2
Goods Producing	207.3	216.7	220.1	-9.4	-12.8
Mining, Logging, & Construction	56.8	58.6	58.2	-1.8	-1.4
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.6	5.8	-0.4	-0.6
Construction	51.6	53.0	52.4	-1.4	-0.8
Specialty Trade Contractors	32.5	33.6	33.4	-1.1	-0.9
Manufacturing	150.5	158.1	161.9	-7.6	-11.4
Durable Goods	69.2	73.9	77.9	-4.7	-8.7
Nondurable Goods	81.3	84.2	84.0	-2.9	-2.7
Service Providing	964.7	1053.1	1063.1	-88.4	-98.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	239.2	251.0	250.7	-11.8	-11.5
Wholesale Trade	47.4	48.6	47.6	-1.2	-0.2
Retail Trade	124.3	134.2	135.6	-9.9	-11.3
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	67.5	68.2	67.5	-0.7	0.0
Information	10.2	10.9	11.4	-0.7	-1.2
Financial Activities	60.9	61.3	62.6	-0.4	-1.7
Finance & Insurance	47.7	47.6	48.7	0.1	-1.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.2	13.7	13.9	-0.5	-0.7
Professional & Business Services	137.7	148.0	146.8	-10.3	-9.1
Professional, Scientific & Technical	44.2	46.2	45.6	-2.0	-1.4
Management of Companies	34.8	35.3	33.1	-0.5	1.7
Administrative & Support Services	58.7	66.5	68.1	-7.8	-9.4
Educational & Health Services	174.9	195.2	193.9	-20.3	-19.0
Educational Services	14.7	16.7	16.6	-2.0	-1.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	160.2	178.5	177.3	-18.3	-17.1
Ambulatory Health Care	49.2	60.3	59.4	-11.1	-10.2
Social Assistance	36.0	39.9	40.1	-3.9	-4.1
Leisure & Hospitality	80.7	114.3	122.1	-33.6	-41.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10.8	11.1	12.1	-0.3	-1.3
Accommodation & Food Services	69.9	103.2	110.0	-33.3	-40.1
Accommodation Services	10.4	11.4	11.5	-1.0	-1.1
Food Services	59.5	91.8	98.5	-32.3	-39.0
Other Services	53.7	58.6	59.6	-4.9	-5.9
Government	207.4	213.8	216.0	-6.4	-8.6
Federal Government	20.5	20.6	20.1	-0.1	0.4
State Government	77.0	80.2	80.4	-3.2	-3.4
State Gov, Educational Services	29.2	32.2	32.3	-3.0	-3.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	47.8	48.0	48.1	-0.2	-0.3
Local Government	109.9	113.0	115.5	-3.1	-5.6
Local Gov, Educational Services	68.1	69.2	71.6	-1.1	-3.5
Local Gov, Excluding Education	41.8	43.8	43.9	-2.0	-2.1



STATE OF ARKANSAS Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

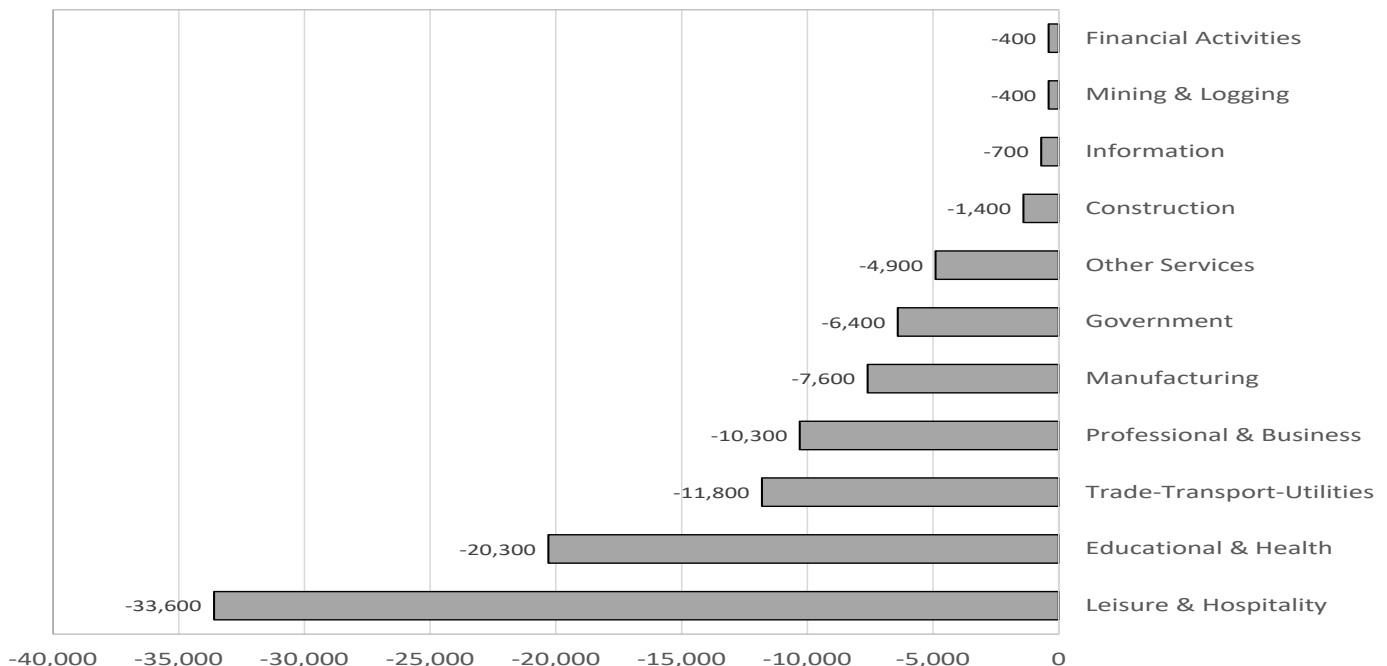
March 2020 - April 2020

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs dropped 97,800 in April to total 1,172,000. Employment decreased in all eleven major industry sectors. **Leisure and hospitality** was hardest hit by the pandemic response, down 33,600 jobs. While all subsectors posted declines, food services (-32,300) accounted for most of the job loss. Employment in **educational and health services** dropped 20,300. Most of the decrease was reported in health care and social assistance (-18,300), due to the temporary closure of certain types of medical facilities. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** declined 11,800, largely in retail trade (-9,900). **Professional and business services** declined 10,300. A majority of the loss occurred in administrative and support services (-7,800), a subsector which includes employment agencies. Jobs in **manufacturing** were down 7,600, related to reductions in both durable (-4,700) and nondurable (-2,900) goods manufacturing. Notable decreases were also posted in **government** (-6,400) and **other services** (-4,900).

April 2019 - April 2020

Compared to April 2019, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are down 111,200. All major industry sectors posted job losses. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** fell 41,400, mostly in accommodation and food services (-40,100). Employment in **educational and health services** dropped 19,000. A majority of the decline occurred in health care and social assistance (-17,100). Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** decreased 11,500, with losses in retail trade at 11,300. **Manufacturing** declined 11,400, mostly in durable goods manufacturing (-8,700). Other sizable reductions occurred in **professional and business services** (-9,100), **government** (-8,600), and **other services** (-5,900).

Over-the-Month Job Loss by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
March 2020 vs April 2020





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STATE OF ARKANSAS

Production Workers - Hours and Earnings

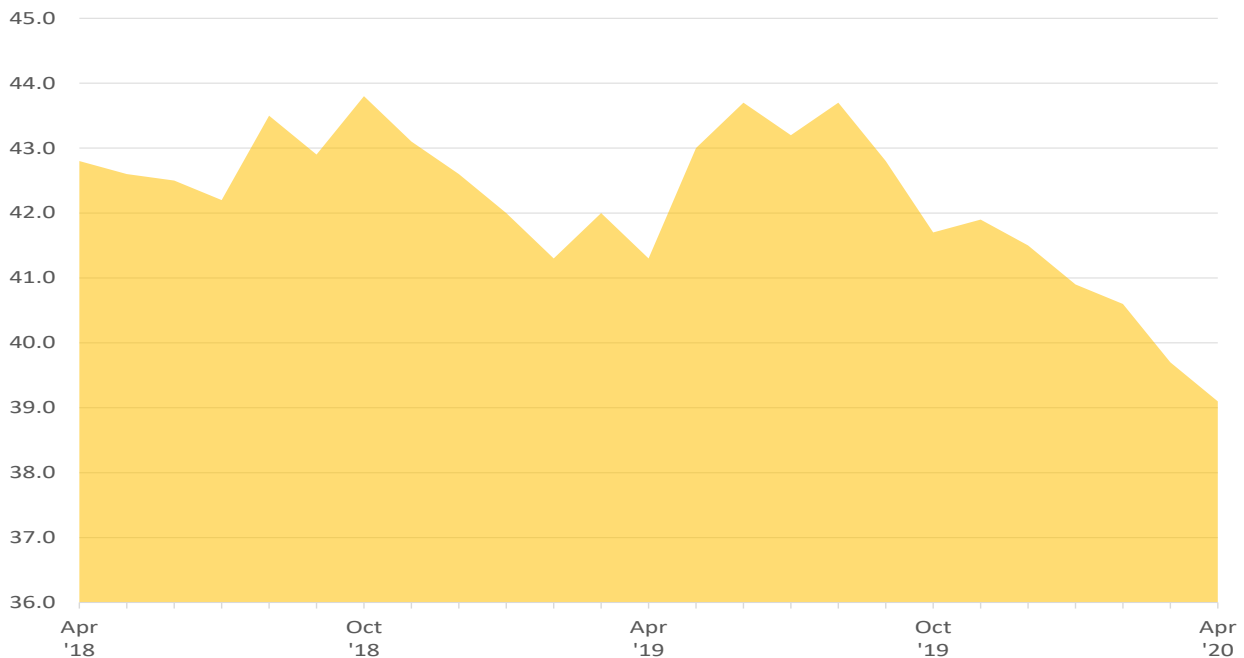
Manufacturing

	<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>
Average Weekly Hours	39.1	39.7	41.3
Average Hourly Earnings	18.24	18.41	18.69
Average Weekly Earnings	713.18	730.88	769.83

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>		<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>
Average Weekly Hours	38.6	39.8	41.3	Average Weekly Hours	39.6	39.6	41.3
Average Hourly Earnings	20.33	20.33	20.24	Average Hourly Earnings	16.54	16.75	17.23
Average Weekly Earnings	784.74	809.13	835.91	Average Weekly Earnings	654.98	663.30	711.60

Average Weekly Hours Worked in Manufacturing
April 2018 - April 2020





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METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS Little Rock - North Little Rock - Conway MSA

The Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA = Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, & Saline counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

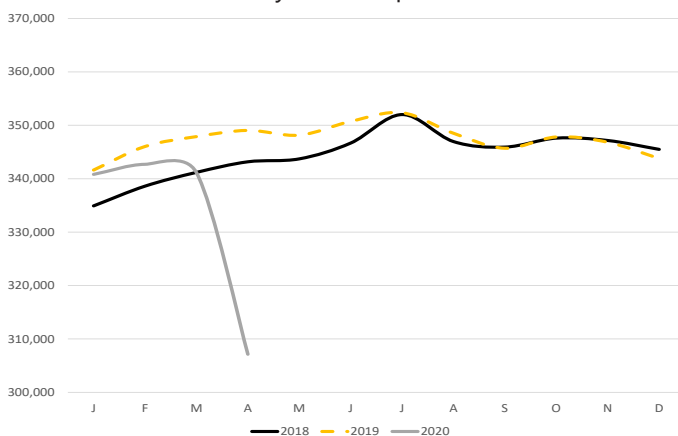
	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	344,518	357,479	359,094	-12,961	-14,576
Employment	307,133	341,148	347,889	-34,015	-40,756
Unemployment	37,385	16,331	11,205	21,054	26,180
Unemployment Rate	10.9	4.6	3.1	6.3	7.8

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

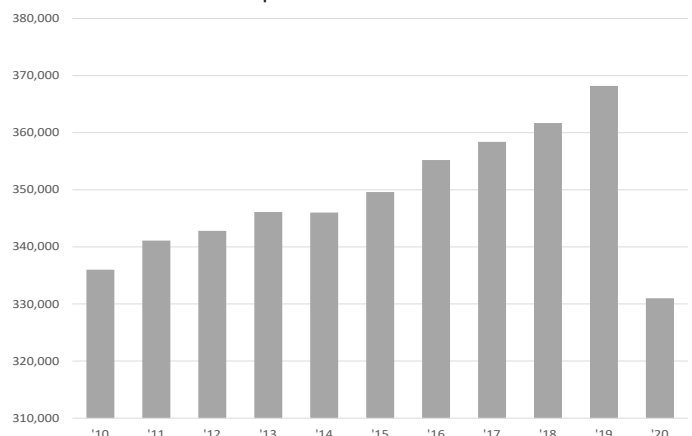
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	331.0	359.5	368.2	-28.5	-37.2
Goods Producing	36.9	38.5	38.8	-1.6	-1.9
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.5	18.1	17.5	-0.6	0.0
Manufacturing	19.4	20.4	21.3	-1.0	-1.9
Service Providing	294.1	321.0	329.4	-26.9	-35.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	65.0	69.1	70.3	-4.1	-5.3
Wholesale Trade	15.3	15.9	15.8	-0.6	-0.5
Retail Trade	32.9	36.3	37.5	-3.4	-4.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.8	16.9	17.0	-0.1	-0.2
Information	3.8	4.0	4.4	-0.2	-0.6
Financial Activities	20.9	21.3	22.0	-0.4	-1.1
Professional & Business Services	44.3	48.0	49.4	-3.7	-5.1
Educational & Health Services	51.5	57.7	58.2	-6.2	-6.7
Leisure & Hospitality	23.8	32.1	35.0	-8.3	-11.2
Other Services	16.4	18.0	18.4	-1.6	-2.0
Government	68.4	70.8	71.7	-2.4	-3.3
Federal Government	9.8	9.8	9.6	0.0	0.2
State Government	34.9	36.3	35.9	-1.4	-1.0
Local Government	23.7	24.7	26.2	-1.0	-2.5

Number of Employed
January 2018 - April 2020



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
April: 2010 - 2020





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METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Fayetteville - Springdale - Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA = Benton, Madison, & Washington counties in Arkansas and McDonald county in Missouri.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	267,670	286,187	278,115	-18,517	-10,445
Employment	246,273	276,372	271,131	-30,099	-24,858
Unemployment	21,397	9,815	6,984	11,582	14,413
Unemployment Rate	8.0	3.4	2.5	4.6	5.5

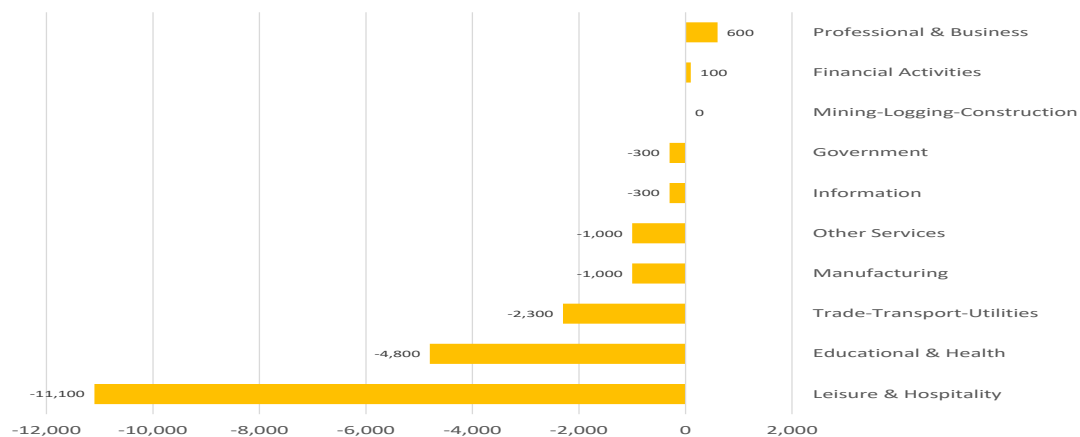
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	243.1	267.1	263.2	-24.0	-20.1
Goods Producing	41.1	43.0	42.1	-1.9	-1.0
Mining, Logging & Construction	12.2	12.7	12.2	-0.5	0.0
Manufacturing	28.9	30.3	29.9	-1.4	-1.0
Service Providing	202.0	224.1	221.1	-22.1	-19.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	53.9	57.0	56.2	-3.1	-2.3
Wholesale Trade	11.9	12.4	12.2	-0.5	-0.3
Retail Trade	23.8	26.0	25.7	-2.2	-1.9
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	18.2	18.6	18.3	-0.4	-0.1
Information	1.8	2.0	2.1	-0.2	-0.3
Financial Activities	8.3	8.3	8.2	0.0	0.1
Professional & Business Services	50.3	52.2	49.7	-1.9	0.6
Educational & Health Services	25.1	30.0	29.9	-4.9	-4.8
Leisure & Hospitality	16.2	25.5	27.3	-9.3	-11.1
Other Services	8.6	9.4	9.6	-0.8	-1.0
Government	37.8	39.7	38.1	-1.9	-0.3
Federal Government	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	0.1
State Government	15.7	17.3	16.1	-1.6	-0.4
Local Government	19.3	19.6	19.3	-0.3	0.0

Over-the-Year Change by Industry

April 2019 vs April 2020





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METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Fort Smith MSA

The Fort Smith MSA = Crawford & Sebastian counties in Arkansas & LeFlore & Sequoyah counties in Oklahoma.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

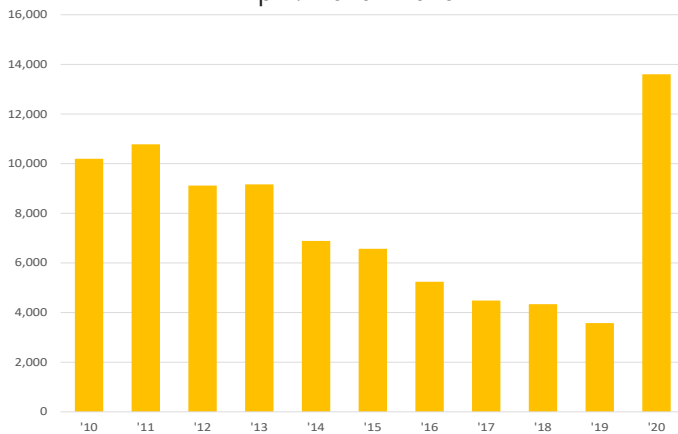
	<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	114,295	118,566	118,290	-4,271	-3,995
Employment	100,692	113,417	114,159	-12,725	-13,467
Unemployment	13,603	5,149	4,131	8,454	9,472
Unemployment Rate	11.9	4.3	3.5	7.6	8.4

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

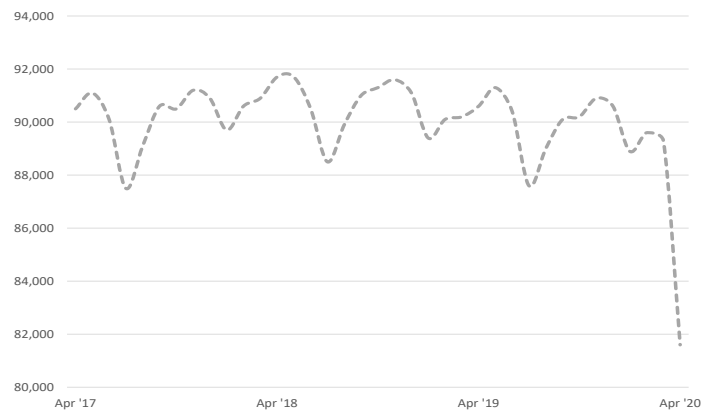
(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	103.5	112.2	113.8	-8.7	-10.3
Goods Producing	21.9	22.9	23.2	-1.0	-1.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.5	5.7	5.8	-0.2	-0.3
Manufacturing	16.4	17.2	17.4	-0.8	-1.0
Service Providing	81.6	89.3	90.6	-7.7	-9.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	21.1	22.6	22.8	-1.5	-1.7
Wholesale Trade	4.0	4.1	4.2	-0.1	-0.2
Retail Trade	11.3	12.6	12.2	-1.3	-0.9
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	5.8	5.9	6.4	-0.1	-0.6
Information	1.1	1.2	1.2	-0.1	-0.1
Financial Activities	4.2	4.2	4.0	0.0	0.2
Professional & Business Services	10.8	12.0	12.7	-1.2	-1.9
Educational & Health Services	15.7	17.1	17.3	-1.4	-1.6
Leisure & Hospitality	6.5	9.1	9.3	-2.6	-2.8
Other Services	4.0	4.4	4.6	-0.4	-0.6
Government	18.2	18.7	18.7	-0.5	-0.5
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	13.8	14.3	14.2	-0.5	-0.4

Number of Unemployed
April: 2010 - 2020



Jobs in Service Providing Sectors
April 2017 - April 2020





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METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

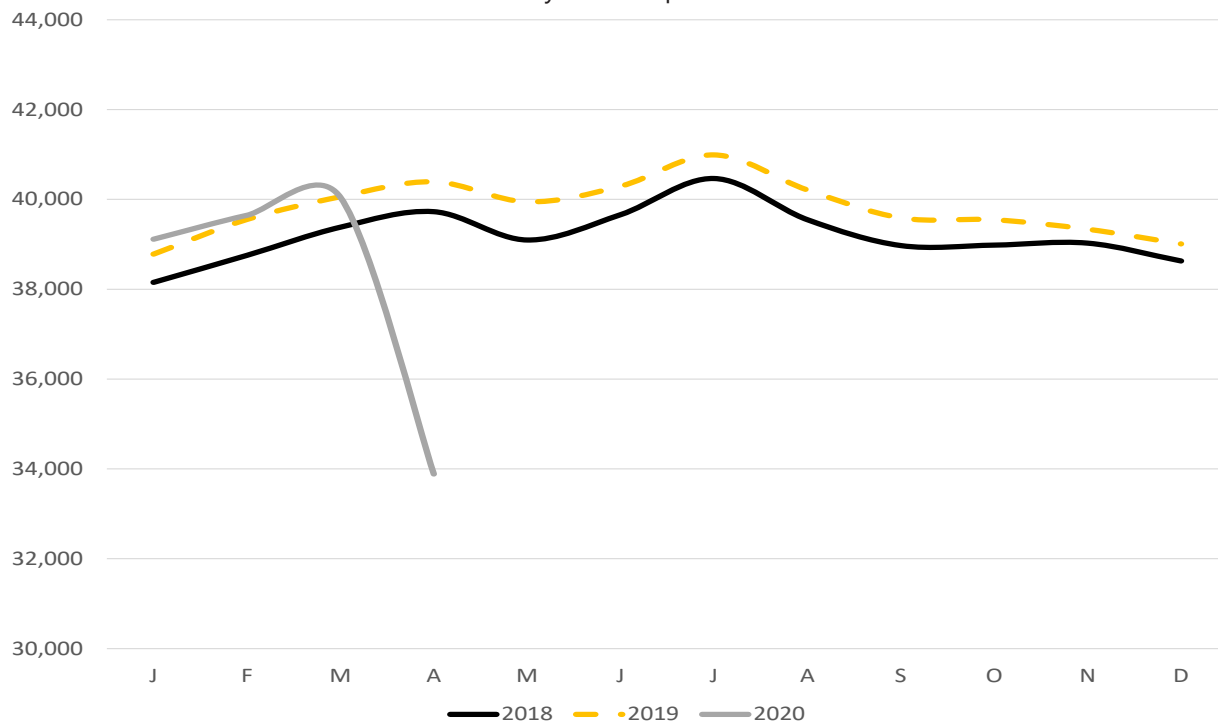
	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	40,003	42,119	41,557	-2,116	-1,554
Employment	33,887	40,049	40,059	-6,162	-6,172
Unemployment	6,116	2,070	1,498	4,046	4,618
Unemployment Rate	15.3	4.9	3.6	10.4	11.7

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	34.4	39.7	40.1	-5.3	-5.7
Goods Producing	4.2	4.6	4.7	-0.4	-0.5
Service Providing	30.2	35.1	35.4	-4.9	-5.2
Government	4.5	4.6	4.5	-0.1	0.0

Number of Employed
January 2018 - April 2020





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METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	64,258	67,658	65,204	-3,400	-946
Employment	58,458	64,955	63,378	-6,497	-4,920
Unemployment	5,800	2,703	1,826	3,097	3,974
Unemployment Rate	9.0	4.0	2.8	5.0	6.2

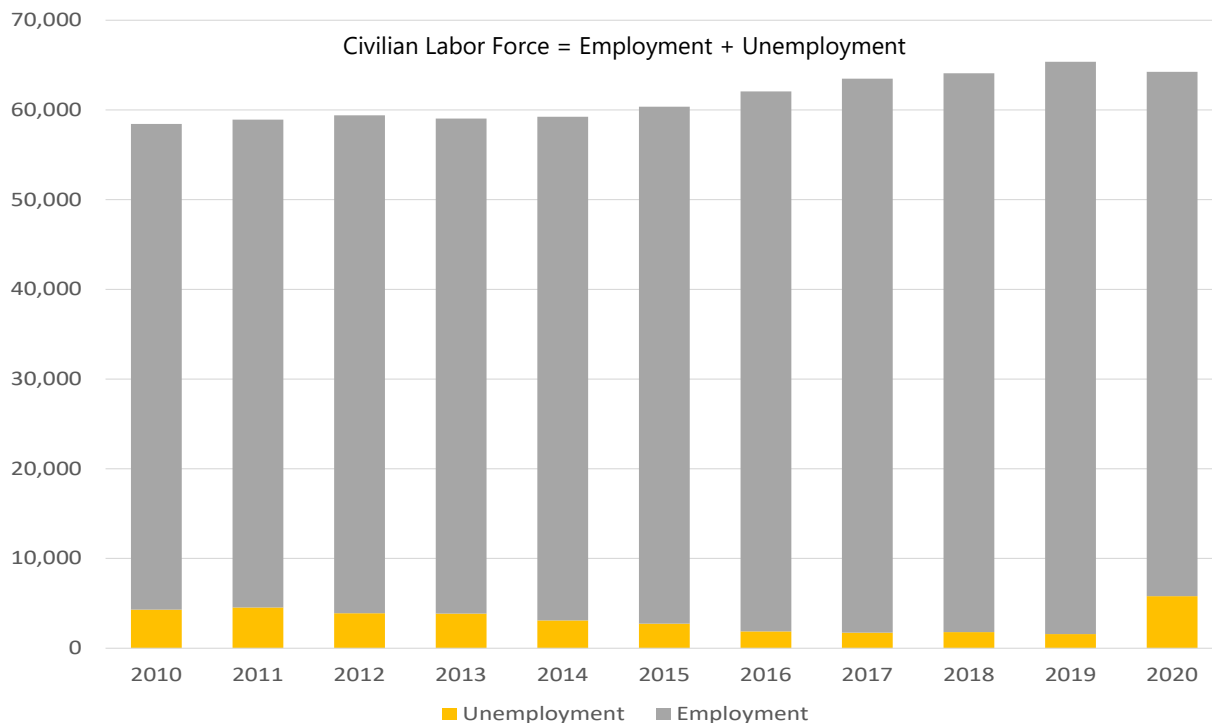
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 20</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>Apr 19</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	56.3	61.1	60.0	-4.8	-3.7
Goods Producing	10.1	10.2	10.2	-0.1	-0.1
Service Providing	46.2	50.9	49.8	-4.7	-3.6
Government	8.4	9.1	9.3	-0.7	-0.9

Composition of the Civilian Labor Force

April: 2010 - 2020





ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Pine Bluff MSA

The Pine Bluff MSA = Cleveland, Jefferson, & Lincoln counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	32,753	35,177	34,840	-2,424	-2,087
Employment	29,369	32,688	33,074	-3,319	-3,705
Unemployment	3,384	2,489	1,766	895	1,618
Unemployment Rate	10.3	7.1	5.1	3.2	5.2

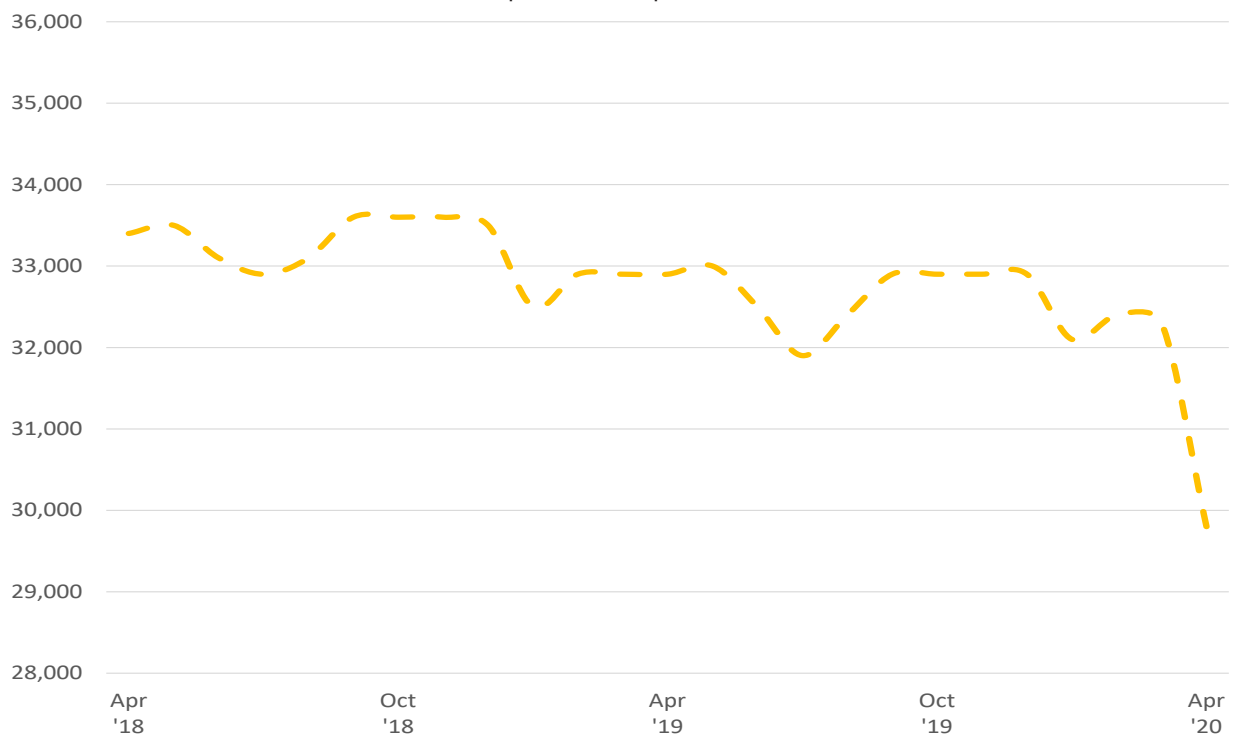
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	OTY
Total Nonfarm	29.8	32.3	32.9	-2.5	-3.1
Goods Producing	5.2	5.8	5.9	-0.6	-0.7
Service Providing	24.6	26.5	27.0	-1.9	-2.4
Government	8.9	9.1	9.2	-0.2	-0.3

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

April 2018 - April 2020





ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Out-of-State MSAs

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA

The Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA = Fayette, Shelby, & Tipton counties in Tennessee; Benton, Desoto, Marshall, Tate, & Tunica counties in Mississippi; & Crittenden County in Arkansas.

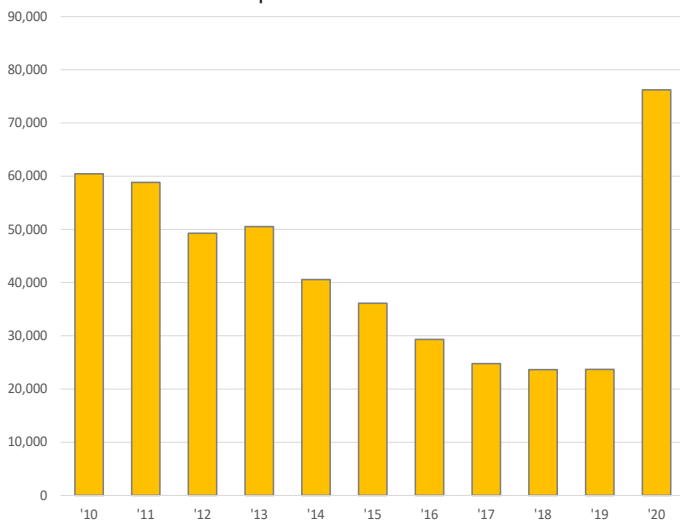
	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	598,956	646,222	640,352	-47,266	-41,396
Employment	522,735	621,371	616,661	-98,636	-93,926
Unemployment	76,221	24,851	23,691	51,370	52,530
Unemployment Rate	12.7	3.8	3.7	8.9	9.0

Texarkana MSA

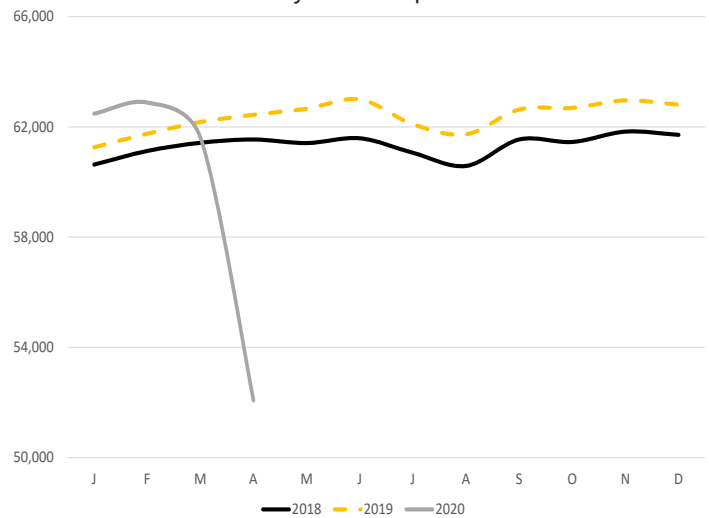
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	Apr 20	Mar 20	Apr 19	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	60,404	65,367	64,872	-4,963	-4,468
Employment	52,074	61,616	62,441	-9,542	-10,367
Unemployment	8,330	3,751	2,431	4,579	5,899
Unemployment Rate	13.8	5.7	3.7	8.1	10.1

Memphis MSA - Number of Unemployed
April: 2010 - 2020



Texarkana MSA - Employment
January 2018 - April 2020





ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS AND CITIES

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	April 2020				March 2020				April 2019			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,312	8,452	860	9.2	9,780	9,326	454	4.6	9,701	9,406	295	3.0
Batesville Micro	16,688	14,711	1,977	11.8	17,125	16,245	880	5.1	16,649	16,042	607	3.6
Blytheville Micro	17,062	14,822	2,240	13.1	17,667	16,375	1,292	7.3	17,223	16,411	812	4.7
Camden Micro	11,747	10,662	1,085	9.2	12,504	11,704	800	6.4	12,267	11,605	662	5.4
El Dorado Micro	15,225	13,422	1,803	11.8	16,029	14,843	1,186	7.4	15,915	15,108	807	5.1
Forrest City Micro	7,961	7,013	948	11.9	8,310	7,752	558	6.7	8,142	7,692	450	5.5
Harrison Micro	19,111	17,114	1,997	10.4	19,856	18,959	897	4.5	19,446	18,807	639	3.3
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,170	5,312	858	13.9	6,404	5,878	526	8.2	6,453	6,070	383	5.9
Hope Micro	12,890	11,755	1,135	8.8	13,664	12,934	730	5.3	13,661	13,155	506	3.7
Magnolia Micro	8,983	8,131	852	9.5	9,488	8,938	550	5.8	9,178	8,792	386	4.2
Malvern Micro	13,492	12,075	1,417	10.5	14,185	13,518	667	4.7	13,970	13,465	505	3.6
Mountain Home Micro	15,910	14,207	1,703	10.7	16,509	15,643	866	5.2	16,288	15,596	692	4.2
Paragould Micro	19,693	17,578	2,115	10.7	20,503	19,504	999	4.9	20,059	19,387	672	3.4
Russellville Micro	36,076	32,805	3,271	9.1	37,968	36,108	1,860	4.9	37,323	35,820	1,503	4.0
Searcy Micro	32,600	29,313	3,287	10.1	34,629	32,391	2,238	6.5	34,037	32,430	1,607	4.7

Arkadelphia Micro = Clark County

Batesville Micro = Independence County

Blytheville Micro = Mississippi County

Camden Micro = Calhoun & Ouachita counties

El Dorado Micro = Union County

Forrest City Micro = St. Francis County

Harrison Micro = Boone & Newton counties

Helena-West Helena Micro = Phillips County

Hope Micro = Hempstead & Nevada counties

Magnolia Micro = Columbia County

Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County

Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County

Paragould Micro = Greene County

Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties

Searcy Micro = White County

City Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

City	April 2020				March 2020				April 2019			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	11,775	10,636	1,139	9.7	12,531	11,948	583	4.7	12,175	11,735	440	3.6
Benton	16,763	15,107	1,656	9.9	17,498	16,782	716	4.1	17,633	17,126	507	2.9
Bentonville	25,502	23,719	1,783	7.0	27,489	26,643	846	3.1	26,744	26,169	575	2.2
Blytheville	5,760	4,992	768	13.3	6,008	5,515	493	8.2	5,807	5,527	280	4.8
Cabot	11,731	10,488	1,243	10.6	12,145	11,651	494	4.1	12,203	11,833	370	3.0
Conway	33,097	29,237	3,860	11.7	33,891	32,491	1,400	4.1	34,056	33,112	944	2.8
El Dorado	6,768	5,814	954	14.1	6,999	6,430	569	8.1	6,976	6,544	432	6.2
Fayetteville	47,022	42,157	4,865	10.3	48,966	47,381	1,585	3.2	47,720	46,528	1,192	2.5
Fort Smith	38,398	33,924	4,474	11.7	39,399	37,649	1,750	4.4	39,248	37,974	1,274	3.2
Hot Springs	14,990	12,046	2,944	19.6	15,019	14,237	782	5.2	14,810	14,240	570	3.8
Jacksonville	11,447	9,939	1,508	13.2	11,810	11,037	773	6.5	11,721	11,267	454	3.9
Jonesboro	38,434	34,775	3,659	9.5	40,209	38,637	1,572	3.9	38,792	37,741	1,051	2.7
Little Rock	94,827	83,637	11,190	11.8	97,328	92,883	4,445	4.6	97,964	94,813	3,151	3.2
North Little Rock	29,642	25,659	3,983	13.4	30,100	28,496	1,604	5.3	30,209	29,087	1,122	3.7
Paragould	12,717	11,107	1,610	12.7	12,989	12,323	666	5.1	12,708	12,250	458	3.6
Pine Bluff	15,514	13,750	1,764	11.4	16,628	15,293	1,335	8.0	16,462	15,516	946	5.7
Rogers	34,136	31,399	2,737	8.0	36,517	35,270	1,247	3.4	35,540	34,642	898	2.5
Russellville	12,983	11,805	1,178	9.1	13,667	12,989	678	5.0	13,384	12,913	471	3.5
Searcy	9,922	8,937	985	9.9	10,437	9,875	562	5.4	10,289	9,887	402	3.9
Sherwood	15,562	13,851	1,711	11.0	16,137	15,382	755	4.7	16,176	15,702	474	2.9
Springdale	37,501	34,728	2,773	7.4	40,382	39,030	1,352	3.3	39,241	38,329	912	2.3
Texarkana, AR	13,262	11,299	1,963	14.8	13,875	13,067	808	5.8	13,544	12,947	597	4.4
Van Buren	9,994	9,023	971	9.7	10,477	10,012	465	4.4	10,384	10,079	305	2.9
West Memphis	10,549	8,833	1,716	16.3	10,679	10,031	648	6.1	10,446	9,966	480	4.6



ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

COUNTY LABOR FORCE STATISTICS Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	April 2020				March 2020				April 2019			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	8,817	8,368	449	5.1	9,608	9,223	385	4.0	9,347	9,045	302	3.2
Ashley	7,234	6,320	914	12.6	7,644	6,951	693	9.1	7,761	7,321	440	5.7
Baxter	15,910	14,207	1,703	10.7	16,509	15,643	866	5.2	16,288	15,596	692	4.2
Benton	130,669	120,253	10,416	8.0	140,012	135,081	4,931	3.5	136,211	132,674	3,537	2.6
Boone	15,883	14,181	1,702	10.7	16,427	15,700	727	4.4	16,112	15,594	518	3.2
Bradley	4,393	3,919	474	10.8	4,547	4,304	243	5.3	4,460	4,260	200	4.5
Calhoun	2,311	2,139	172	7.4	2,506	2,351	155	6.2	2,434	2,313	121	5.0
Carroll	12,569	11,231	1,338	10.6	12,844	12,284	560	4.4	12,410	11,991	419	3.4
Chicot	3,075	2,644	431	14.0	3,263	2,924	339	10.4	3,231	2,989	242	7.5
Clark	9,312	8,452	860	9.2	9,780	9,326	454	4.6	9,701	9,406	295	3.0
Clay	5,334	4,859	475	8.9	5,759	5,342	417	7.2	5,641	5,349	292	5.2
Cleburne	9,334	7,844	1,490	16.0	9,320	8,685	635	6.8	9,184	8,759	425	4.6
Cleveland	3,021	2,745	276	9.1	3,265	3,062	203	6.2	3,200	3,070	130	4.1
Columbia	8,983	8,131	852	9.5	9,488	8,938	550	5.8	9,178	8,792	386	4.2
Conway	8,107	7,194	913	11.3	8,425	7,943	482	5.7	8,211	7,879	332	4.0
Craighead	54,418	49,399	5,019	9.2	57,073	54,886	2,187	3.8	55,107	53,612	1,495	2.7
Crawford	25,653	23,208	2,445	9.5	26,947	25,752	1,195	4.4	26,789	25,924	865	3.2
Crittenden	20,921	18,020	2,901	13.9	21,617	20,465	1,152	5.3	21,202	20,331	871	4.1
Cross	7,240	6,478	762	10.5	7,524	7,131	393	5.2	7,289	6,975	314	4.3
Dallas	2,656	2,411	245	9.2	2,834	2,669	165	5.8	2,841	2,703	138	4.9
Desha	5,106	4,617	489	9.6	5,427	5,095	332	6.1	5,369	5,133	236	4.4
Drew	7,528	6,712	816	10.8	7,960	7,398	562	7.1	7,864	7,425	439	5.6
Faulkner	60,024	53,537	6,487	10.8	62,110	59,495	2,615	4.2	62,445	60,632	1,813	2.9
Franklin	7,186	6,553	633	8.8	7,612	7,244	368	4.8	7,408	7,176	232	3.1
Fulton	4,781	4,420	361	7.6	5,140	4,881	259	5.0	4,916	4,720	196	4.0
Garland	40,003	33,887	6,116	15.3	42,119	40,049	2,070	4.9	41,557	40,059	1,498	3.6
Grant	7,851	7,200	651	8.3	8,389	7,984	405	4.8	8,369	8,117	252	3.0
Greene	19,693	17,578	2,115	10.7	20,503	19,504	999	4.9	20,059	19,387	672	3.4
Hempstead	9,412	8,596	816	8.7	9,993	9,459	534	5.3	9,983	9,607	376	3.8
Hot Spring	13,492	12,075	1,417	10.5	14,185	13,518	667	4.7	13,970	13,465	505	3.6
Howard	5,333	4,898	435	8.2	5,711	5,428	283	5.0	5,708	5,528	180	3.2
Independence	16,688	14,711	1,977	11.8	17,125	16,245	880	5.1	16,649	16,042	607	3.6
Izard	4,814	4,152	662	13.8	5,027	4,613	414	8.2	4,945	4,695	250	5.1
Jackson	5,402	4,835	567	10.5	5,854	5,362	492	8.4	5,795	5,434	361	6.2
Jefferson	26,039	23,272	2,767	10.6	27,917	25,883	2,034	7.3	27,719	26,261	1,458	5.3
Johnson	9,989	8,857	1,132	11.3	10,401	9,836	565	5.4	10,436	9,975	461	4.4
Lafayette	2,360	2,114	246	10.4	2,492	2,332	160	6.4	2,473	2,362	111	4.5
Lawrence	6,697	6,060	637	9.5	7,061	6,683	378	5.4	6,817	6,555	262	3.8
Lee	2,648	2,383	265	10.0	2,841	2,625	216	7.6	2,788	2,657	131	4.7
Lincoln	3,693	3,352	341	9.2	3,995	3,743	252	6.3	3,921	3,743	178	4.5
Little River	5,143	4,586	557	10.8	5,627	5,292	335	6.0	5,483	5,250	233	4.2
Logan	8,235	7,208	1,027	12.5	8,486	8,003	483	5.7	8,552	8,212	340	4.0
Lonoke	32,581	29,506	3,075	9.4	34,512	32,776	1,736	5.0	34,318	33,288	1,030	3.0
Madison	6,911	6,507	404	5.8	7,592	7,321	271	3.6	7,277	7,103	174	2.4
Marion	6,331	5,763	568	9.0	6,748	6,377	371	5.5	6,636	6,363	273	4.1
Miller	19,080	16,444	2,636	13.8	20,133	19,016	1,117	5.5	19,666	18,841	825	4.2

(continued on Page 16)



ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

COUNTY LABOR FORCE STATISTICS Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	April 2020				March 2020				April 2019			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,062	14,822	2,240	13.1	17,667	16,375	1,292	7.3	17,223	16,411	812	4.7
Monroe	2,611	2,391	220	8.4	2,807	2,637	170	6.1	2,748	2,629	119	4.3
Montgomery	2,773	2,483	290	10.5	3,010	2,797	213	7.1	2,931	2,794	137	4.7
Nevada	3,478	3,159	319	9.2	3,671	3,475	196	5.3	3,678	3,548	130	3.5
Newton	3,228	2,933	295	9.1	3,429	3,259	170	5.0	3,334	3,213	121	3.6
Ouachita	9,436	8,523	913	9.7	9,998	9,353	645	6.5	9,833	9,292	541	5.5
Perry	4,022	3,625	397	9.9	4,260	4,037	223	5.2	4,276	4,090	186	4.3
Phillips	6,170	5,312	858	13.9	6,404	5,878	526	8.2	6,453	6,070	383	5.9
Pike	4,075	3,716	359	8.8	4,318	4,083	235	5.4	4,205	4,051	154	3.7
Poinsett	9,840	9,059	781	7.9	10,585	10,069	516	4.9	10,097	9,766	331	3.3
Polk	7,806	6,988	818	10.5	8,327	7,755	572	6.9	8,012	7,717	295	3.7
Pope	28,071	25,390	2,681	9.6	29,388	27,938	1,450	4.9	28,937	27,774	1,163	4.0
Prairie	3,379	3,129	250	7.4	3,674	3,449	225	6.1	3,519	3,371	148	4.2
Pulaski	184,178	162,476	21,702	11.8	189,472	180,437	9,035	4.8	190,490	184,185	6,305	3.3
Randolph	7,196	6,493	703	9.8	7,607	7,190	417	5.5	7,227	6,946	281	3.9
St. Francis	7,961	7,013	948	11.9	8,310	7,752	558	6.7	8,142	7,692	450	5.5
Saline	55,862	50,789	5,073	9.1	58,736	56,419	2,317	3.9	59,196	57,577	1,619	2.7
Scott	4,100	3,846	254	6.2	4,463	4,267	196	4.4	4,291	4,146	145	3.4
Searcy	2,793	2,488	305	10.9	2,946	2,747	199	6.8	2,857	2,719	138	4.8
Sebastian	54,975	48,886	6,089	11.1	56,856	54,255	2,601	4.6	56,510	54,723	1,787	3.2
Sevier	5,226	4,790	436	8.3	5,718	5,342	376	6.6	5,403	5,150	253	4.7
Sharp	5,619	4,980	639	11.4	5,914	5,512	402	6.8	5,808	5,539	269	4.6
Stone	4,584	4,041	543	11.8	4,746	4,445	301	6.3	4,736	4,497	239	5.0
Union	15,225	13,422	1,803	11.8	16,029	14,843	1,186	7.4	15,915	15,108	807	5.1
Van Buren	5,595	4,945	650	11.6	5,875	5,480	395	6.7	5,726	5,438	288	5.0
Washington	119,589	109,705	9,884	8.3	127,460	123,300	4,160	3.3	124,010	121,081	2,929	2.4
White	32,600	29,313	3,287	10.1	34,629	32,391	2,238	6.5	34,037	32,430	1,607	4.7
Woodruff	2,575	2,365	210	8.2	2,793	2,604	189	6.8	2,725	2,578	147	5.4
Yell	8,005	7,415	590	7.4	8,580	8,170	410	4.8	8,386	8,046	340	4.1

County Labor Force Summary

Due to the COVID-19 response, unemployment rates in all 75 Arkansas counties increased between March and April. Jobless rates across counties varied greatly based on affected population, amount of tourism, and the type of industries located in each county. April rates ranged from a low of 5.1 percent in Arkansas County to a high of 16.0 percent in Cleburne County.

In April, 72 of Arkansas' 75 counties posted unemployment rates above seven percent. Over-the-month rate changes ranged from as low as a one and one-tenth of a percentage point gain in Arkansas County to as high as a ten and four-tenths of a percentage point increase in Garland County.

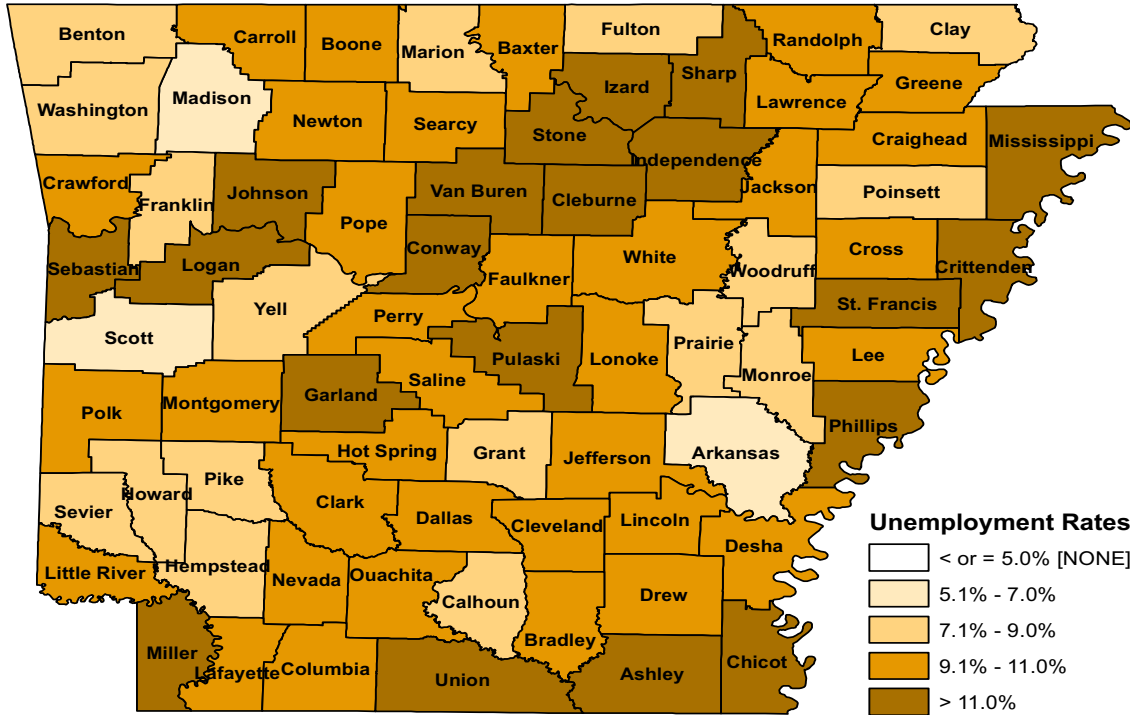
Compared to April 2019, jobless rates were up in all 75 Arkansas counties. Over-the-year unemployment rate changes were generally higher than the monthly gains, with an average rate increase of 6.0 percentage points.



ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

April 2020 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Arkansas	5.1	24	Dallas	9.2	51	Bradley	10.8
2	Madison	5.8	24	Lincoln	9.2	51	Drew	10.8
3	Scott	6.2	24	Nevada	9.2	51	Faulkner	10.8
4	Calhoun	7.4	29	Lonoke	9.4	51	Little River	10.8
4	Prairie	7.4	30	Columbia	9.5	55	Searcy	10.9
4	Yell	7.4	30	Crawford	9.5	56	Sebastian	11.1
7	Fulton	7.6	30	Lawrence	9.5	57	Conway	11.3
8	Poinsett	7.9	33	Desha	9.6	57	Johnson	11.3
9	Benton	8.0	33	Pope	9.6	59	Sharp	11.4
10	Howard	8.2	35	Ouachita	9.7	60	Van Buren	11.6
10	Woodruff	8.2	36	Randolph	9.8	61	Independence	11.8
12	Grant	8.3	37	Perry	9.9	61	Pulaski	11.8
12	Sevier	8.3	38	Lee	10.0	61	Stone	11.8
12	Washington	8.3	39	White	10.1	61	Union	11.8
15	Monroe	8.4	40	Lafayette	10.4	65	St. Francis	11.9
16	Hempstead	8.7	41	Cross	10.5	66	Logan	12.5
17	Franklin	8.8	41	Hot Spring	10.5	67	Ashley	12.6
17	Pike	8.8	41	Jackson	10.5	68	Mississippi	13.1
19	Clay	8.9	41	Montgomery	10.5	69	Izard	13.8
20	Marion	9.0	41	Polk	10.5	69	Miller	13.8
21	Cleveland	9.1	46	Carrroll	10.6	71	Crittenden	13.9
21	Newton	9.1	46	Jefferson	10.6	71	Phillips	13.9
21	Saline	9.1	48	Baxter	10.7	73	Chicot	14.0
24	Clark	9.2	48	Boone	10.7	74	Garland	15.3
24	Craighead	9.2	48	Greene	10.7	75	Cleburne	16.0



ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

April

LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	April 2020				March 2020				April 2019			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	243,808	218,191	25,617	10.5	253,983	242,330	11,653	4.6	254,752	246,869	7,883	3.1
City of Little Rock	94,827	83,637	11,190	11.8	97,328	92,883	4,445	4.6	97,964	94,813	3,151	3.2
Eastern	44,940	39,206	5,734	12.8	46,696	43,851	2,845	6.1	45,874	43,725	2,149	4.7
North Central	91,992	81,606	10,386	11.3	96,423	90,218	6,205	6.4	94,521	90,132	4,389	4.6
Northeast	120,240	108,270	11,970	10.0	126,255	120,049	6,206	4.9	122,171	118,026	4,145	3.4
Northwest	313,883	287,268	26,615	8.5	333,967	321,712	12,255	3.7	325,135	316,334	8,801	2.7
Southeast	76,757	69,149	7,608	9.9	82,015	76,567	5,448	6.6	81,241	77,364	3,877	4.8
Southwest	88,643	79,213	9,430	10.6	94,200	88,498	5,702	6.1	92,595	88,494	4,101	4.4
West Central	127,849	113,094	14,755	11.5	134,466	127,697	6,769	5.0	132,610	127,539	5,071	3.8
Western	107,955	96,689	11,266	10.4	112,691	107,276	5,415	4.8	111,562	107,898	3,664	3.3

