

2024

ARKANSAS

LABOR

MARKET

REPORT

MAY



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Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services



Technical Notes

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 2023 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

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 1,000 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.

May Spotlight

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

In addition to the unemployment rate, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) also calculates five additional estimates based on various definitions of 'unemployment'. These are known as Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization and are referred to as U1-U6, with U-3 as the official unemployment rate. These measures are calculated using data from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Approximately 1,000 Arkansas households are in the survey each month.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

State of Arkansas

2nd Quarter 2023 - 1st Quarter 2024 Average

| U-1 | U-2 | U-3 | U-4 | U-5 | U-6 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1.0% | 1.4% | 3.7% | 3.9% | 4.5% | 6.1% |

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level and are produced quarterly. Estimates are calculated using a four quarter moving average. The most recent data available are for 2nd Quarter 2023 - 1st Quarter 2024.

The following definitions are used to calculate each measure of Labor Underutilization:

U-1 Measure: Persons unemployed for 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force.

U-2 Measure: Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force.

U-3 Measure: Total number of unemployed persons, as a percent of the civilian labor force (this is the definition used for the official unemployment rate).

U-4 Measure: Total number of unemployed and discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers.

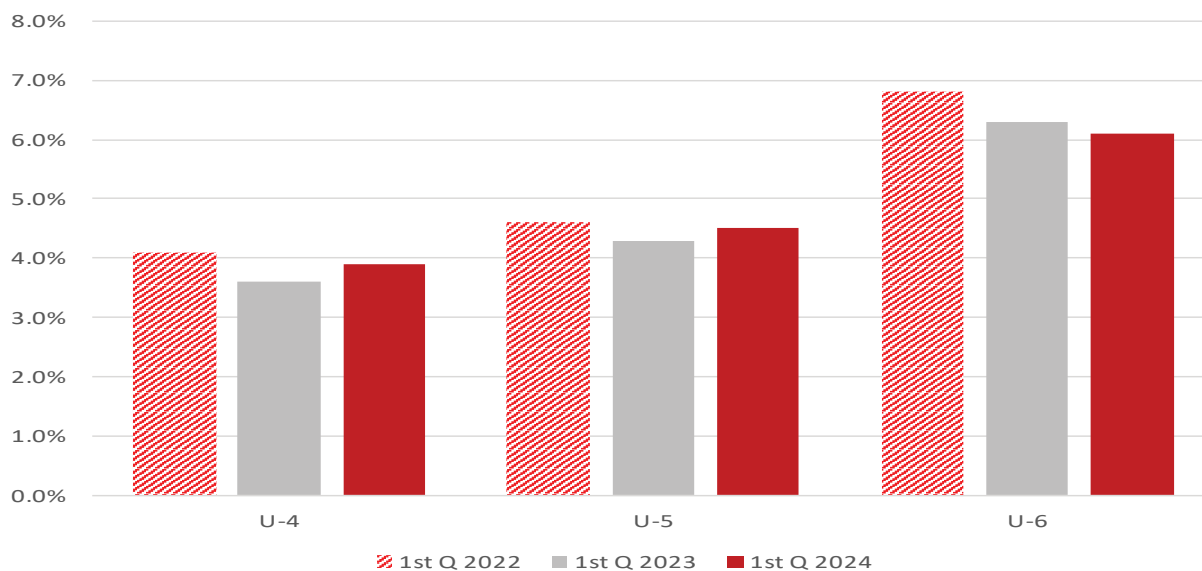
U-5 Measure: Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, and all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.

U-6 Measure: Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, marginally attached workers, and those employed part-time for economic reasons (not by choice), as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

State of Arkansas

Comparison of 1st Quarter Ending Averages



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State of Arkansas

Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 3.4% between April and May. The United States' jobless rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point over the month, from 3.9% in April to 4.0% in May.

Arkansas' civilian labor force rose by 2,798 in May, with 3,406 more Arkansans employed compared to last month. Both the civilian labor force and employment continue to be at record-high levels. Arkansas' labor force participation rate and the unemployment rate remained stable between April and May.

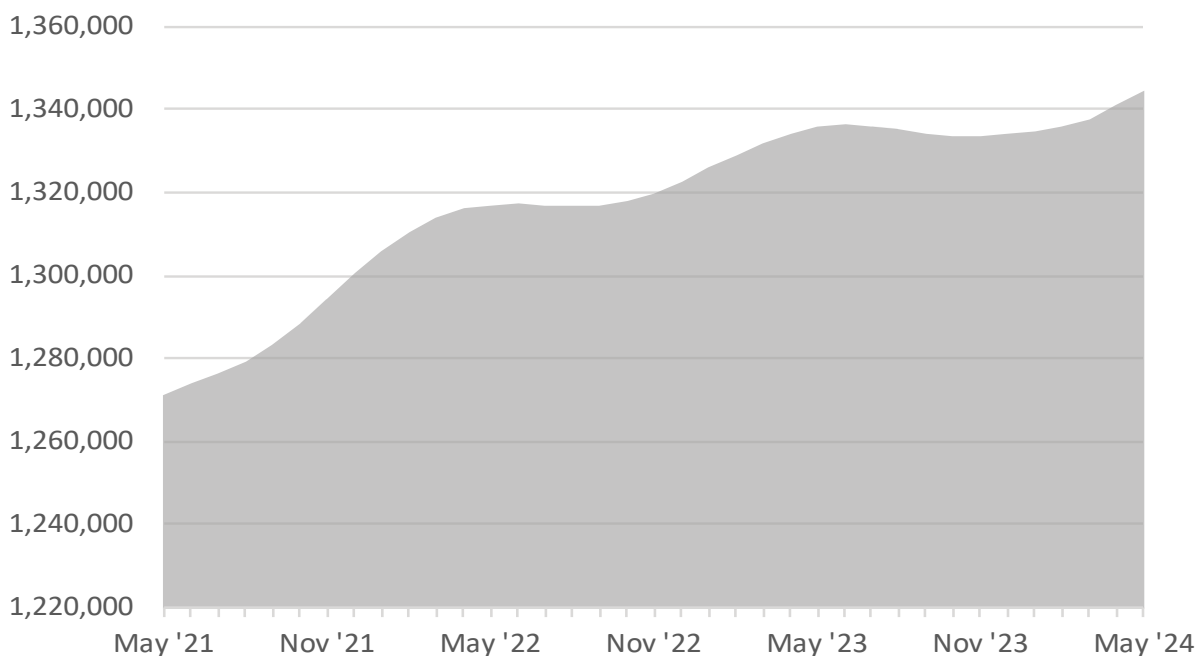
Compared to May 2023, the number of employed in the State is up 8,502. There are now 6,795 more unemployed Arkansans actively seeking work, while the labor force participation rate remains unchanged over the year.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

| | Seasonally Adjusted | | | | Not Seasonally Adjusted | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> |
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,391,151 | 1,388,353 | 1,375,854 | Civilian Labor Force | 1,400,436 | 1,402,460 | 1,377,924 |
| Employment | 1,344,233 | 1,340,827 | 1,335,731 | Employment | 1,354,849 | 1,359,244 | 1,337,723 |
| Unemployment | 46,918 | 47,526 | 40,123 | Unemployment | 45,587 | 43,216 | 40,201 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.4% | 3.4% | 2.9% | Unemployment Rate | 3.3% | 3.1% | 2.9% |
| LF Participation Rate | 57.5% | 57.5% | 57.5% | LF Participation Rate | 57.9% | 58.1% | 57.6% |

Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

May 2021 - May 2023



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State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

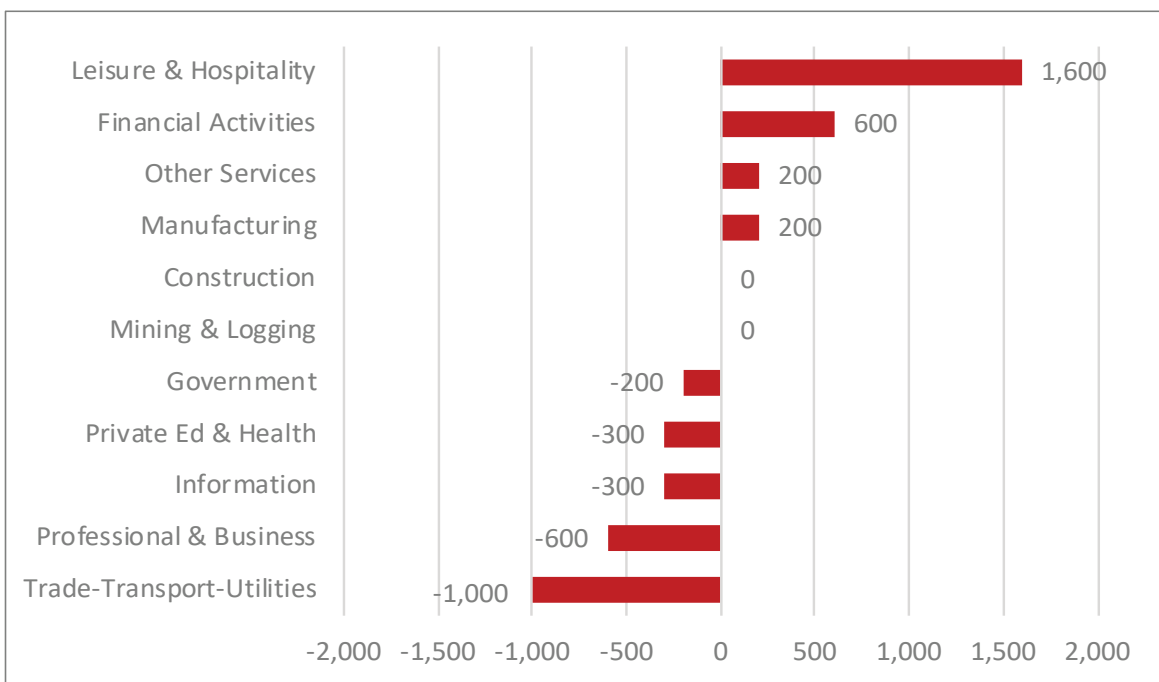
| (NAICS) | May 24 | Apr 24 | May 23 | OTM | QTY |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 1376.0 | 1375.8 | 1357.4 | 0.2 | 18.6 |
| Goods Producing | 233.8 | 233.6 | 231.1 | 0.2 | 2.7 |
| Mining, Logging, & Construction | 72.7 | 72.7 | 68.5 | 0.0 | 4.2 |
| Mining & Logging | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 67.4 | 67.4 | 63.2 | 0.0 | 4.2 |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 42.5 | 42.6 | 39.5 | -0.1 | 3.0 |
| Manufacturing | 161.1 | 160.9 | 162.6 | 0.2 | -1.5 |
| Durable Goods | 77.3 | 77.2 | 78.6 | 0.1 | -1.3 |
| Nondurable Goods | 83.8 | 83.7 | 84.0 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Service Providing | 1142.2 | 1142.2 | 1126.3 | 0.0 | 15.9 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 268.3 | 269.3 | 266.1 | -1.0 | 2.2 |
| Wholesale Trade | 50.8 | 51.4 | 52.4 | -0.6 | -1.6 |
| Retail Trade | 146.0 | 146.0 | 142.2 | 0.0 | 3.8 |
| Transport, Warehousing & Utilities | 71.5 | 71.9 | 71.5 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Information | 12.4 | 12.7 | 12.8 | -0.3 | -0.4 |
| Financial Activities | 70.9 | 70.3 | 70.2 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
| Finance & Insurance | 55.8 | 55.3 | 54.9 | 0.5 | 0.9 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 15.1 | 15.0 | 15.3 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Professional & Business Services | 159.1 | 159.7 | 158.2 | -0.6 | 0.9 |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical | 49.9 | 50.5 | 49.9 | -0.6 | 0.0 |
| Management of Companies | 38.1 | 38.0 | 37.6 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Administrative & Support Services | 71.1 | 71.2 | 70.7 | -0.1 | 0.4 |
| Private Education & Health Services | 213.8 | 214.1 | 207.1 | -0.3 | 6.7 |
| Private Educational Services | 18.6 | 19.6 | 18.8 | -1.0 | -0.2 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 195.2 | 194.5 | 188.3 | 0.7 | 6.9 |
| Ambulatory Health Care | 69.2 | 68.6 | 65.2 | 0.6 | 4.0 |
| Social Assistance | 39.6 | 39.6 | 39.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 133.1 | 131.5 | 130.5 | 1.6 | 2.6 |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 14.5 | 14.2 | 14.6 | 0.3 | -0.1 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 118.6 | 117.3 | 115.9 | 1.3 | 2.7 |
| Accommodation Services | 12.0 | 11.7 | 11.8 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Food Services | 106.6 | 105.6 | 104.1 | 1.0 | 2.5 |
| Other Services | 68.1 | 67.9 | 67.6 | 0.2 | 0.5 |
| Government | 216.5 | 216.7 | 213.8 | -0.2 | 2.7 |
| Federal Government | 21.9 | 21.8 | 21.1 | 0.1 | 0.8 |
| State Government | 77.7 | 78.6 | 77.7 | -0.9 | 0.0 |
| State Gov, Educational Services | 31.6 | 32.5 | 31.5 | -0.9 | 0.1 |
| State Gov, Excluding Education | 46.1 | 46.1 | 46.2 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Local Government | 116.9 | 116.3 | 115.0 | 0.6 | 1.9 |
| Local Gov, Educational Services | 71.5 | 71.6 | 70.5 | -0.1 | 1.0 |
| Local Gov, Excluding Education | 45.4 | 44.7 | 44.5 | 0.7 | 0.9 |

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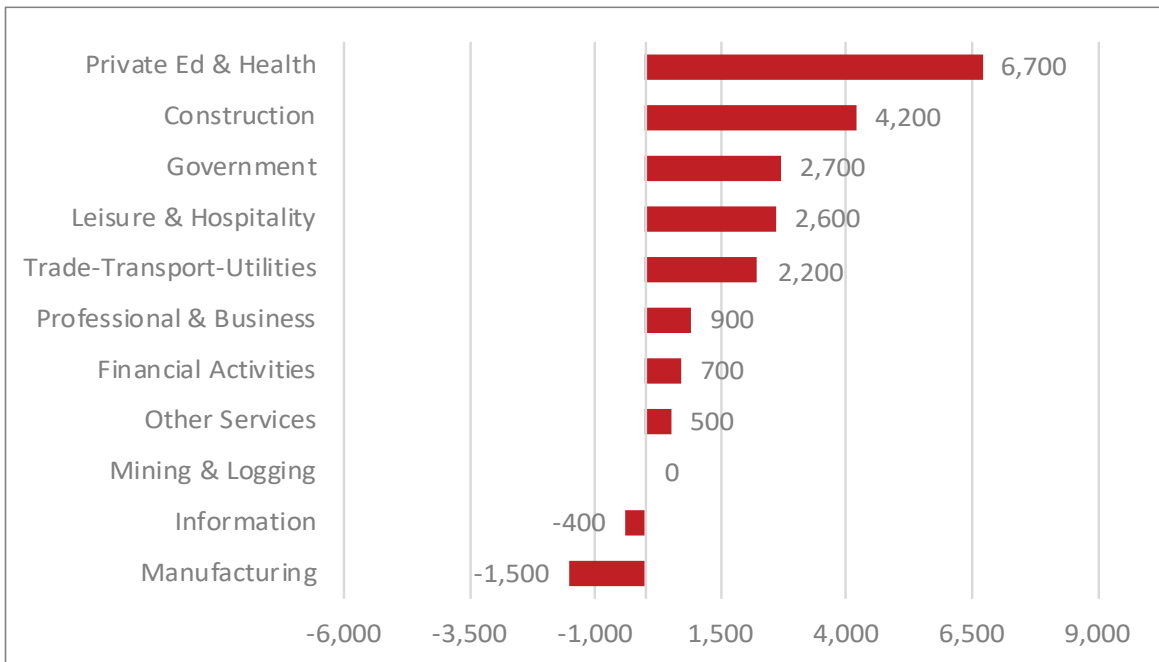
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State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
April 2024 - May 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
May 2023 - May 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

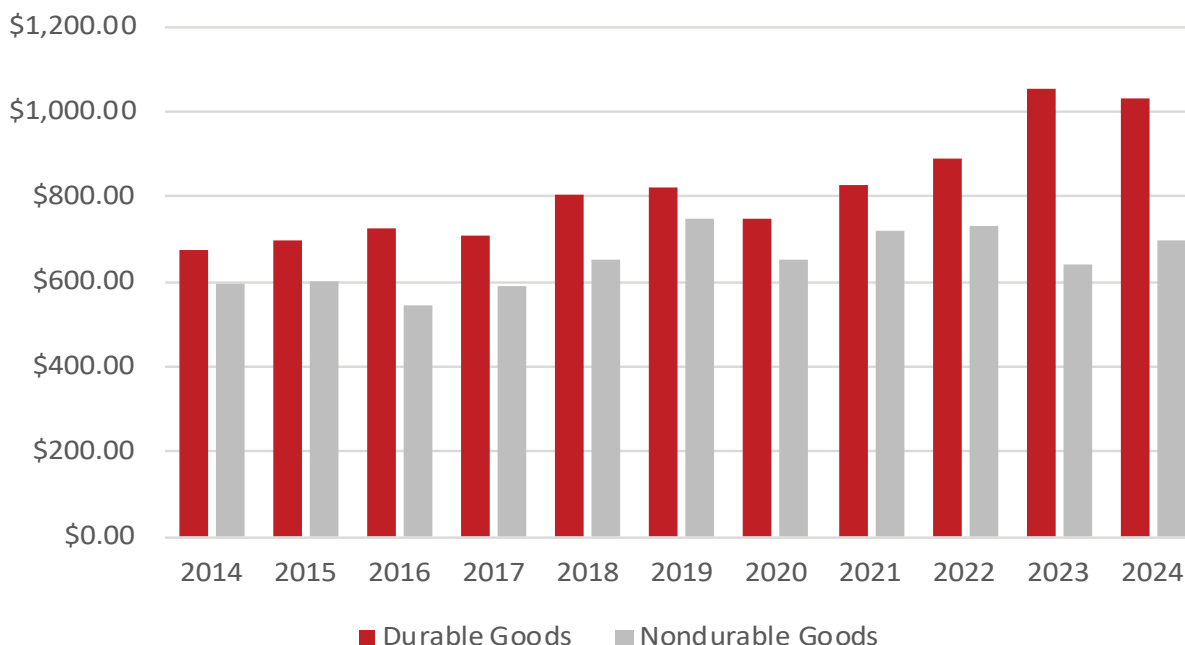
Manufacturing

| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Average Weekly Hours | 37.9 | 38.4 | 38.6 |
| Average Hourly Earnings | \$22.57 | \$22.04 | \$21.63 |
| Average Weekly Earnings | \$855.40 | \$846.34 | \$834.92 |

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

| Durable Goods Manufacturing | | | | Nondurable Goods Manufacturing | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> |
| Average Weekly Hours | 40.8 | 41.5 | 43.4 | Average Weekly Hours | 35.3 | 35.6 | 34.3 |
| Average Hourly Earnings | \$25.27 | \$24.52 | \$24.23 | Average Hourly Earnings | \$19.76 | \$19.42 | \$18.65 |
| Average Weekly Earnings | \$1,031.02 | \$1,017.58 | \$1,051.58 | Average Weekly Earnings | \$697.53 | \$691.35 | \$639.70 |

Average Hourly Earnings- Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods
May: 2014 - 2024



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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)

| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 375,007 | 375,506 | 365,463 | -499 | 9,544 |
| Employment | 363,469 | 364,398 | 355,487 | -929 | 7,982 |
| Unemployment | 11,538 | 11,108 | 9,976 | 430 | 1,562 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.1% | 3.0% | 2.7% | 0.1% | 0.4% |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <u>NAICS</u> | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 398.3 | 397.3 | 389.1 | 1.0 | 9.2 |
| Goods Producing | 42.9 | 42.6 | 40.6 | 0.3 | 2.3 |
| Mining, Logging & Construction | 22.2 | 22.2 | 20.9 | 0.0 | 1.3 |
| Manufacturing | 20.7 | 20.4 | 19.7 | 0.3 | 1.0 |
| Service Providing | 355.4 | 354.7 | 348.5 | 0.7 | 6.9 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 78.0 | 78.1 | 77.4 | -0.1 | 0.6 |
| Wholesale Trade | 17.6 | 17.7 | 17.6 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Retail Trade | 39.0 | 39.1 | 38.5 | -0.1 | 0.5 |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities | 21.4 | 21.3 | 21.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Information | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.6 | 0.0 | -0.3 |
| Financial Activities | 27.9 | 27.7 | 27.8 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Professional & Business Services | 50.1 | 50.4 | 49.4 | -0.3 | 0.7 |
| Private Education & Health Services | 66.3 | 65.9 | 63.8 | 0.4 | 2.5 |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 36.5 | 35.7 | 35.6 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| Other Services | 19.8 | 19.7 | 19.4 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Government | 71.5 | 71.9 | 69.5 | -0.4 | 2.0 |
| Federal Government | 10.7 | 10.7 | 10.2 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| State Government | 33.8 | 34.2 | 33.7 | -0.4 | 0.1 |
| Local Government | 27.0 | 27.0 | 25.6 | 0.0 | 1.4 |

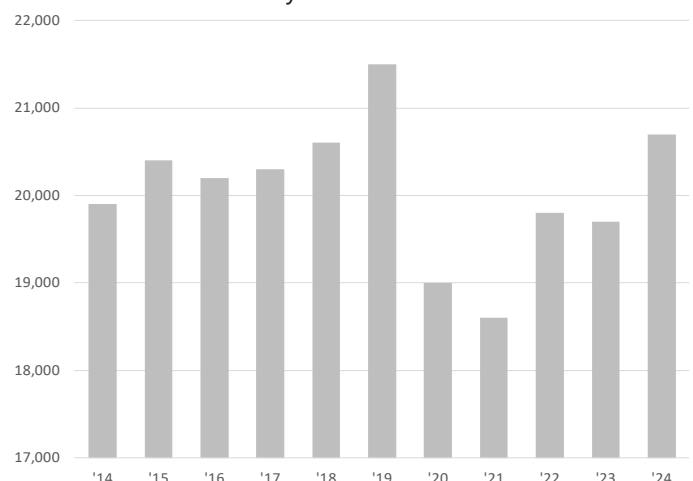
Employment

May 2021 - May 2024



Jobs in Manufacturing

May: 2014 - 2024



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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)

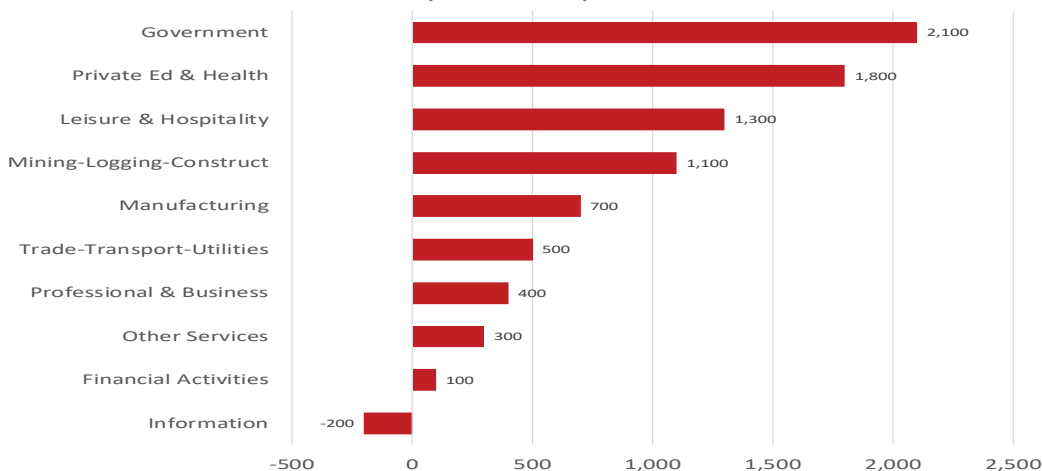
| | May 24 | Apr 24 | May 23 | OTM | QTY |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|-------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 320,004 | 319,829 | 311,358 | 175 | 8,646 |
| Employment | 312,129 | 312,496 | 304,514 | -367 | 7,615 |
| Unemployment | 7,875 | 7,333 | 6,844 | 542 | 1,031 |
| Unemployment Rate | 2.5% | 2.3% | 2.2% | 0.2% | 0.3% |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| NAICS | May 24 | Apr 24 | May 23 | OTM | QTY |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|------|------|
| Total Nonfarm | 315.3 | 313.8 | 307.2 | 1.5 | 8.1 |
| Goods Producing | 48.7 | 48.3 | 46.9 | 0.4 | 1.8 |
| Mining, Logging & Construction | 17.7 | 17.6 | 16.6 | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| Manufacturing | 31.0 | 30.7 | 30.3 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| Service Providing | 266.6 | 265.5 | 260.3 | 1.1 | 6.3 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 63.0 | 63.3 | 62.5 | -0.3 | 0.5 |
| Wholesale Trade | 13.9 | 14.1 | 14.1 | -0.2 | -0.2 |
| Retail Trade | 30.0 | 30.1 | 29.0 | -0.1 | 1.0 |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities | 19.1 | 19.1 | 19.4 | 0.0 | -0.3 |
| Information | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Financial Activities | 12.5 | 12.4 | 12.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Professional & Business Services | 59.6 | 59.4 | 59.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Private Education & Health Services | 37.1 | 37.2 | 35.3 | -0.1 | 1.8 |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 33.0 | 32.3 | 31.7 | 0.7 | 1.3 |
| Other Services | 13.9 | 13.8 | 13.6 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Government | 45.2 | 44.8 | 43.1 | 0.4 | 2.1 |
| Federal Government | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.1 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| State Government | 21.2 | 20.9 | 19.7 | 0.3 | 1.5 |
| Local Government | 20.8 | 20.6 | 20.3 | 0.2 | 0.5 |

Job Change by Major Industry Sector May 2023 vs May 2024



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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>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 122,034 | 121,449 | 119,563 | 585 | 2,471 |
| Employment | 117,670 | 117,450 | 115,882 | 220 | 1,788 |
| Unemployment | 4,364 | 3,999 | 3,681 | 365 | 683 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.6% | 3.3% | 3.1% | 0.3% | 0.5% |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

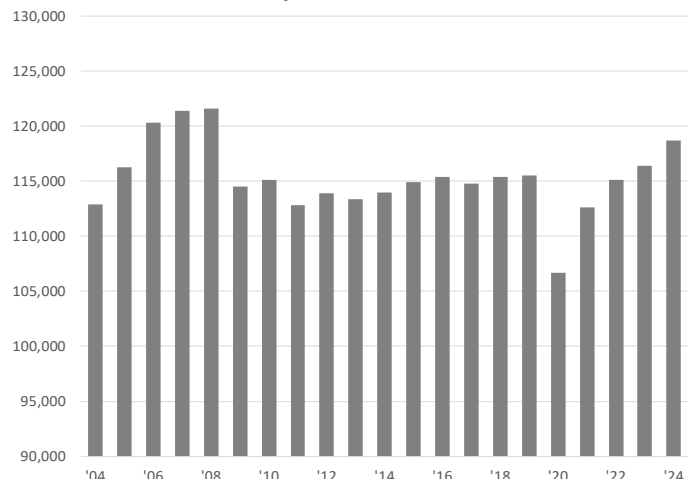
(In Thousands)

| <u>NAICS</u> | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 118.7 | 117.8 | 116.4 | 0.9 | 2.3 |
| Goods Producing | 25.6 | 25.4 | 24.5 | 0.2 | 1.1 |
| Mining, Logging & Construction | 6.3 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| Manufacturing | 19.3 | 19.2 | 18.8 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Service Providing | 93.1 | 92.4 | 91.9 | 0.7 | 1.2 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 24.2 | 24.1 | 23.8 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Wholesale Trade | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.5 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Retail Trade | 13.2 | 13.1 | 12.9 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities | 6.5 | 6.4 | 6.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Information | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Financial Activities | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Professional & Business Services | 11.8 | 11.9 | 12.0 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| Private Education & Health Services | 19.2 | 19.1 | 18.4 | 0.1 | 0.8 |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 10.7 | 10.3 | 10.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| Other Services | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Government | 17.0 | 16.8 | 16.9 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Federal Government | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| State Government | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Local Government | 13.3 | 13.2 | 13.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 |

Employment
May 2021 - May 2024



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
May: 2004 - 2024



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 41,383 | 41,804 | 41,763 | -421 | -380 |
| Employment | 39,920 | 40,372 | 40,352 | -452 | -432 |
| Unemployment | 1,463 | 1,432 | 1,411 | 31 | 52 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.5% | 3.4% | 3.4% | 0.1% | 0.1% |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <u>NAICS</u> | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 41.2 | 41.3 | 41.7 | -0.1 | -0.5 |
| Goods Producing | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Service Providing | 36.8 | 37.0 | 37.3 | -0.2 | -0.5 |
| Government | 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 0.0 | 0.1 |

Employment

May 2021 - May 2024



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>OTY</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 68,311 | 68,230 | 66,986 | 81 | 1,325 |
| Employment | 66,321 | 66,390 | 65,261 | -69 | 1,060 |
| Unemployment | 1,990 | 1,840 | 1,725 | 150 | 265 |
| Unemployment Rate | 2.9% | 2.7% | 2.6% | 0.2% | 0.3% |

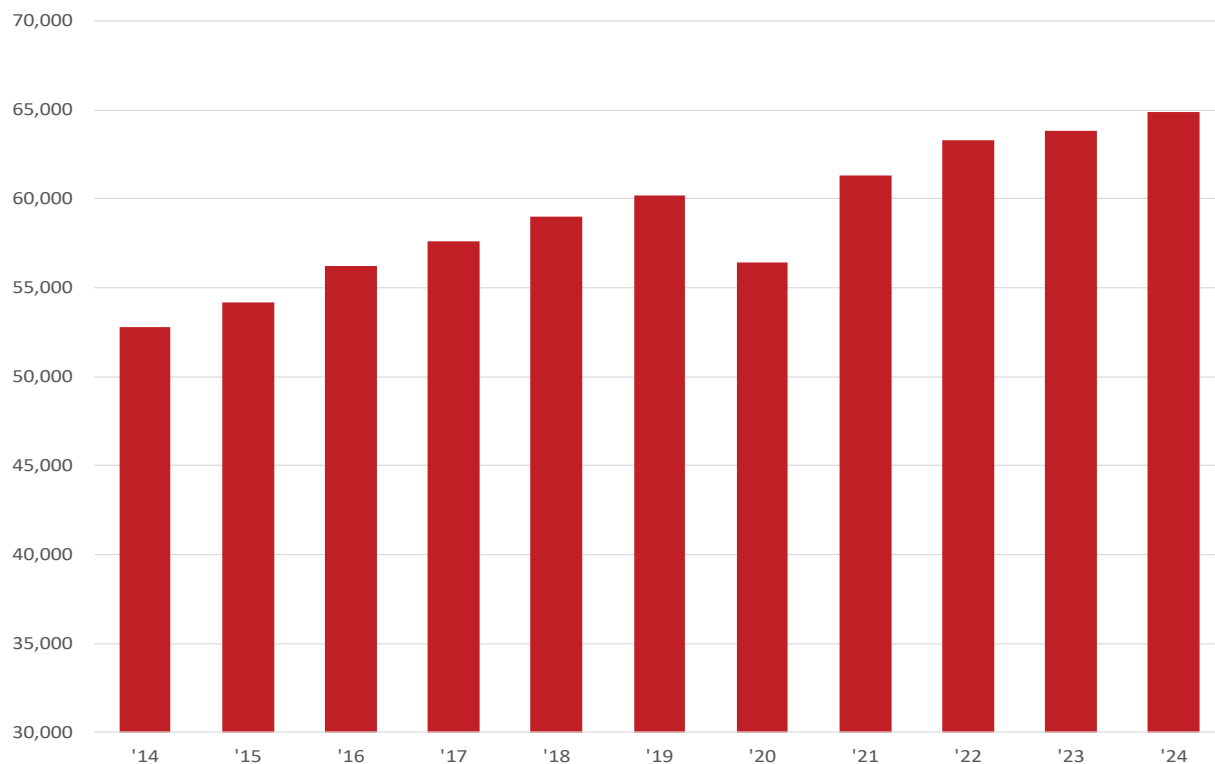
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <u>NAICS</u> | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>OTY</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 64.9 | 64.6 | 63.8 | 0.3 | 1.1 |
| Goods Producing | 11.5 | 11.4 | 11.6 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Service Providing | 53.4 | 53.2 | 52.2 | 0.2 | 1.2 |
| Government | 9.2 | 9.2 | 9.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

May: 2014 - 2014



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 32,064 | 32,100 | 32,289 | -36 | -225 |
| Employment | 30,627 | 30,764 | 30,985 | -137 | -358 |
| Unemployment | 1,437 | 1,336 | 1,304 | 101 | 133 |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.5% | 4.2% | 4.0% | 0.3% | 0.5% |

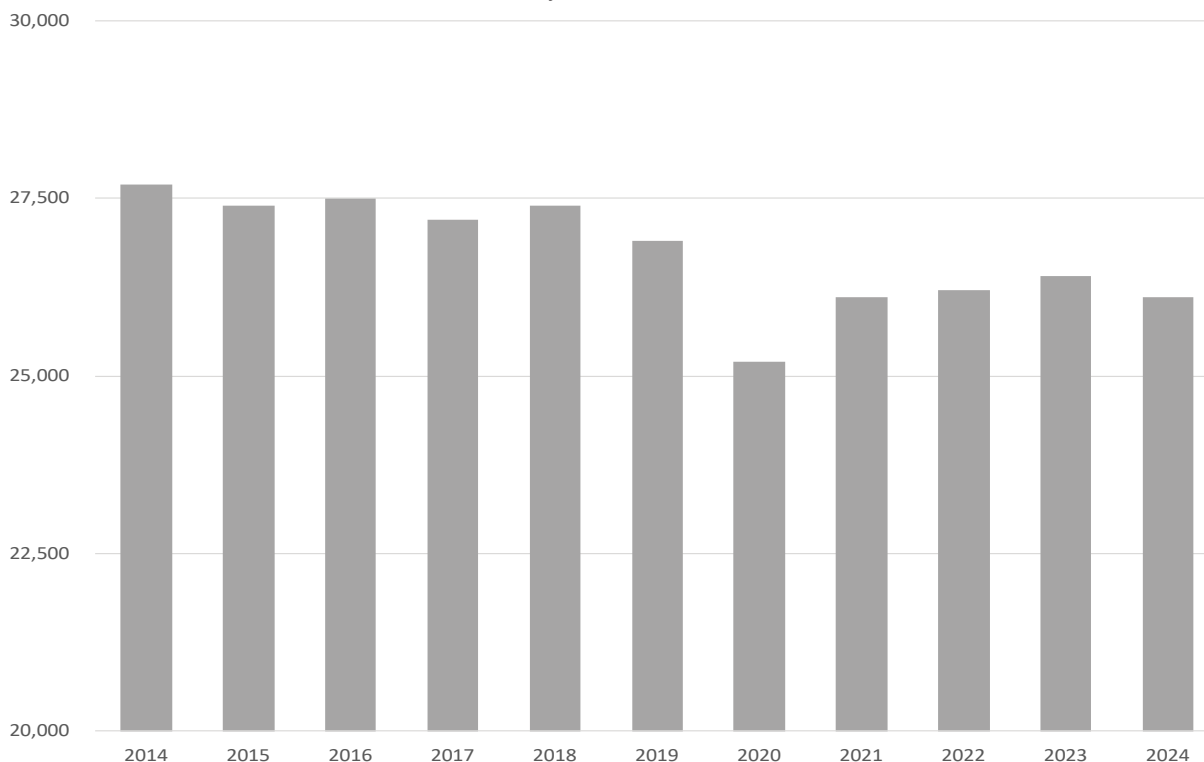
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <u>NAICS</u> | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 31.4 | 31.4 | 31.8 | 0.0 | -0.4 |
| Goods Producing | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.4 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Service Providing | 26.1 | 26.1 | 26.4 | 0.0 | -0.3 |
| Government | 8.5 | 8.5 | 8.8 | 0.0 | -0.3 |

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

May: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MAY

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Out-of-State MSA

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.

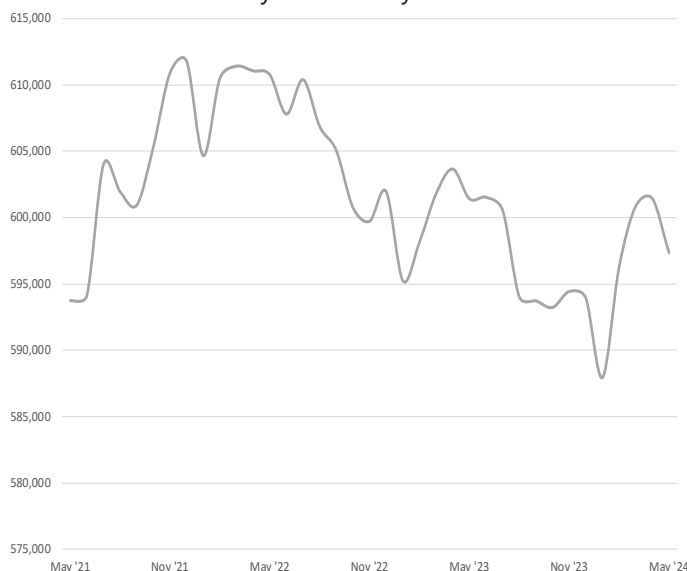
| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 619,289 | 621,615 | 624,628 | -2,326 | -5,339 |
| Employment | 597,368 | 601,429 | 601,416 | -4,061 | -4,048 |
| Unemployment | 21,921 | 20,186 | 23,212 | 1,735 | -1,291 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.5% | 3.2% | 3.7% | 0.3% | -0.2% |

Texarkana MSA

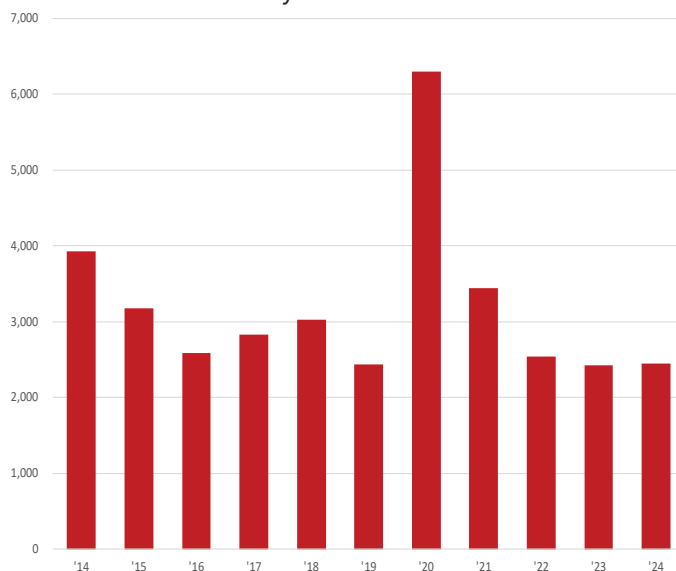
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

| | <u>May 24</u> | <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>May 23</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>QTY</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 62,415 | 62,636 | 62,294 | -221 | 121 |
| Employment | 59,970 | 60,313 | 59,871 | -343 | 99 |
| Unemployment | 2,445 | 2,323 | 2,423 | 122 | 22 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.9% | 3.7% | 3.9% | 0.2% | 0.0% |

Memphis MSA - Employment
May 2021 - May 2024



Texarkana MSA - Unemployment
May: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MAY

Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

| Micro Area | May 2024 | | | | April 2024 | | | | May 2023 | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|--------|-------|------|------------|--------|-------|------|----------|--------|-------|------|
| | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate |
| Arkadelphia Micro | 8,663 | 8,269 | 394 | 4.5 | 8,715 | 8,397 | 318 | 3.6 | 8,492 | 8,138 | 354 | 4.2 |
| Batesville Micro | 16,997 | 16,500 | 497 | 2.9 | 17,075 | 16,607 | 468 | 2.7 | 16,885 | 16,385 | 500 | 3.0 |
| Blytheville Micro | 17,154 | 16,318 | 836 | 4.9 | 17,196 | 16,427 | 769 | 4.5 | 16,648 | 15,831 | 817 | 4.9 |
| Camden Micro | 12,028 | 11,566 | 462 | 3.8 | 12,000 | 11,553 | 447 | 3.7 | 12,035 | 11,626 | 409 | 3.4 |
| El Dorado Micro | 14,623 | 13,875 | 748 | 5.1 | 14,629 | 13,939 | 690 | 4.7 | 14,780 | 14,164 | 616 | 4.2 |
| Forrest City Micro | 7,464 | 7,070 | 394 | 5.3 | 7,480 | 7,107 | 373 | 5.0 | 7,459 | 7,123 | 336 | 4.5 |
| Harrison Micro | 19,096 | 18,468 | 628 | 3.3 | 19,262 | 18,643 | 619 | 3.2 | 19,070 | 18,541 | 529 | 2.8 |
| Helena-West Helena Micro | 5,147 | 4,863 | 284 | 5.5 | 5,183 | 4,914 | 269 | 5.2 | 5,294 | 4,986 | 308 | 5.8 |
| Hope Micro | 12,108 | 11,685 | 423 | 3.5 | 12,170 | 11,768 | 402 | 3.3 | 12,643 | 12,280 | 363 | 2.9 |
| Magnolia Micro | 8,911 | 8,547 | 364 | 4.1 | 8,874 | 8,554 | 320 | 3.6 | 8,836 | 8,478 | 358 | 4.1 |
| Malvern Micro | 13,670 | 13,189 | 481 | 3.5 | 13,754 | 13,296 | 458 | 3.3 | 13,730 | 13,299 | 431 | 3.1 |
| Mountain Home Micro | 17,063 | 16,440 | 623 | 3.7 | 17,073 | 16,468 | 605 | 3.5 | 16,992 | 16,468 | 524 | 3.1 |
| Paragould Micro | 20,031 | 19,339 | 692 | 3.5 | 20,068 | 19,412 | 656 | 3.3 | 19,785 | 19,176 | 609 | 3.1 |
| Russellville Micro | 36,894 | 35,564 | 1,330 | 3.6 | 37,065 | 35,852 | 1,213 | 3.3 | 36,712 | 35,508 | 1,204 | 3.3 |
| Searcy Micro | 34,339 | 33,130 | 1,209 | 3.5 | 34,517 | 33,378 | 1,139 | 3.3 | 33,691 | 32,605 | 1,086 | 3.2 |

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 | May 2024 | | | | April 2024 | | | | May 2023 | | | |
|-------------------|----------|--------|-------|------|------------|--------|-------|------|----------|--------|-------|------|
| | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate |
| Bella Vista | 13,754 | 13,336 | 418 | 3.0 | 13,764 | 13,342 | 422 | 3.1 | 13,359 | 13,004 | 355 | 2.7 |
| Benton | 18,654 | 18,149 | 505 | 2.7 | 18,711 | 18,194 | 517 | 2.8 | 18,214 | 17,752 | 462 | 2.5 |
| Bentonville | 33,383 | 32,612 | 771 | 2.3 | 33,363 | 32,628 | 735 | 2.2 | 32,464 | 31,801 | 663 | 2.0 |
| Blytheville | 5,771 | 5,462 | 309 | 5.4 | 5,770 | 5,499 | 271 | 4.7 | 5,605 | 5,299 | 306 | 5.5 |
| Cabot | 12,576 | 12,238 | 338 | 2.7 | 12,606 | 12,278 | 328 | 2.6 | 12,284 | 11,967 | 317 | 2.6 |
| Conway | 36,218 | 35,188 | 1,030 | 2.8 | 36,299 | 35,297 | 1,002 | 2.8 | 35,387 | 34,423 | 964 | 2.7 |
| El Dorado | 6,380 | 5,971 | 409 | 6.4 | 6,350 | 5,998 | 352 | 5.5 | 6,377 | 6,095 | 282 | 4.4 |
| Fayetteville | 54,429 | 53,141 | 1,288 | 2.4 | 54,360 | 53,196 | 1,164 | 2.1 | 53,049 | 51,836 | 1,213 | 2.3 |
| Fort Smith | 39,538 | 38,242 | 1,296 | 3.3 | 39,451 | 38,224 | 1,227 | 3.1 | 38,664 | 37,582 | 1,082 | 2.8 |
| Hot Springs | 15,412 | 14,773 | 639 | 4.1 | 15,522 | 14,940 | 582 | 3.7 | 15,487 | 14,932 | 555 | 3.6 |
| Jacksonville | 12,132 | 11,713 | 419 | 3.5 | 12,169 | 11,739 | 430 | 3.5 | 11,839 | 11,455 | 384 | 3.2 |
| Jonesboro | 41,200 | 39,972 | 1,228 | 3.0 | 41,102 | 40,001 | 1,101 | 2.7 | 40,382 | 39,335 | 1,047 | 2.6 |
| Little Rock | 101,788 | 98,306 | 3,482 | 3.4 | 101,936 | 98,525 | 3,411 | 3.3 | 99,014 | 96,141 | 2,873 | 2.9 |
| North Little Rock | 31,393 | 30,230 | 1,163 | 3.7 | 31,398 | 30,297 | 1,101 | 3.5 | 30,527 | 29,564 | 963 | 3.2 |
| Paragould | 12,753 | 12,291 | 462 | 3.6 | 12,770 | 12,337 | 433 | 3.4 | 12,588 | 12,187 | 401 | 3.2 |
| Pine Bluff | 15,041 | 14,241 | 800 | 5.3 | 15,035 | 14,288 | 747 | 5.0 | 15,134 | 14,413 | 721 | 4.8 |
| Rogers | 40,940 | 40,009 | 931 | 2.3 | 40,935 | 40,029 | 906 | 2.2 | 39,870 | 39,014 | 856 | 2.1 |
| Russellville | 13,272 | 12,816 | 456 | 3.4 | 13,313 | 12,914 | 399 | 3.0 | 13,254 | 12,801 | 453 | 3.4 |
| Searcy | 10,359 | 10,005 | 354 | 3.4 | 10,412 | 10,079 | 333 | 3.2 | 10,180 | 9,846 | 334 | 3.3 |
| Sherwood | 17,001 | 16,498 | 503 | 3.0 | 17,023 | 16,534 | 489 | 2.9 | 16,568 | 16,134 | 434 | 2.6 |
| Springdale | 43,489 | 42,442 | 1,047 | 2.4 | 43,424 | 42,484 | 940 | 2.2 | 42,278 | 41,398 | 880 | 2.1 |
| Texarkana, AR | 12,780 | 12,266 | 514 | 4.0 | 12,861 | 12,363 | 498 | 3.9 | 12,735 | 12,282 | 453 | 3.6 |
| Van Buren | 10,564 | 10,225 | 339 | 3.2 | 10,549 | 10,222 | 327 | 3.1 | 10,308 | 10,046 | 262 | 2.5 |
| West Memphis | 9,908 | 9,442 | 466 | 4.7 | 9,934 | 9,526 | 408 | 4.1 | 9,997 | 9,553 | 444 | 4.4 |

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MAY

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

| County | May 2024 | | | | April 2024 | | | | May 2023 | | | |
|--------------|----------|---------|-------|------|------------|---------|-------|------|----------|---------|-------|------|
| | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate |
| Arkansas | 9,008 | 8,762 | 246 | 2.7 | 9,012 | 8,761 | 251 | 2.8 | 9,006 | 8,792 | 214 | 2.4 |
| Ashley | 6,651 | 6,280 | 371 | 5.6 | 6,603 | 6,253 | 350 | 5.3 | 6,484 | 6,141 | 343 | 5.3 |
| Baxter | 17,063 | 16,440 | 623 | 3.7 | 17,073 | 16,468 | 605 | 3.5 | 16,992 | 16,468 | 524 | 3.1 |
| Benton | 159,488 | 155,590 | 3,898 | 2.4 | 159,381 | 155,666 | 3,715 | 2.3 | 155,169 | 151,721 | 3,448 | 2.2 |
| Boone | 15,904 | 15,387 | 517 | 3.3 | 16,028 | 15,522 | 506 | 3.2 | 15,885 | 15,448 | 437 | 2.8 |
| Bradley | 4,103 | 3,937 | 166 | 4.0 | 4,111 | 3,950 | 161 | 3.9 | 4,021 | 3,839 | 182 | 4.5 |
| Calhoun | 2,368 | 2,289 | 79 | 3.3 | 2,369 | 2,293 | 76 | 3.2 | 2,358 | 2,298 | 60 | 2.5 |
| Carroll | 12,174 | 11,779 | 395 | 3.2 | 12,101 | 11,737 | 364 | 3.0 | 12,396 | 12,079 | 317 | 2.6 |
| Chicot | 2,848 | 2,685 | 163 | 5.7 | 2,860 | 2,702 | 158 | 5.5 | 2,828 | 2,682 | 146 | 5.2 |
| Clark | 8,663 | 8,269 | 394 | 4.5 | 8,715 | 8,397 | 318 | 3.6 | 8,492 | 8,138 | 354 | 4.2 |
| Clay | 5,359 | 5,136 | 223 | 4.2 | 5,391 | 5,169 | 222 | 4.1 | 5,376 | 5,192 | 184 | 3.4 |
| Cleburne | 9,119 | 8,769 | 350 | 3.8 | 9,135 | 8,779 | 356 | 3.9 | 8,991 | 8,675 | 316 | 3.5 |
| Cleveland | 3,047 | 2,941 | 106 | 3.5 | 3,064 | 2,966 | 98 | 3.2 | 3,063 | 2,972 | 91 | 3.0 |
| Columbia | 8,911 | 8,547 | 364 | 4.1 | 8,874 | 8,554 | 320 | 3.6 | 8,836 | 8,478 | 358 | 4.1 |
| Conway | 8,364 | 8,074 | 290 | 3.5 | 8,377 | 8,095 | 282 | 3.4 | 8,368 | 8,093 | 275 | 3.3 |
| Craighead | 58,242 | 56,601 | 1,641 | 2.8 | 58,145 | 56,642 | 1,503 | 2.6 | 57,140 | 55,700 | 1,440 | 2.5 |
| Crawford | 27,069 | 26,169 | 900 | 3.3 | 27,019 | 26,162 | 857 | 3.2 | 26,445 | 25,711 | 734 | 2.8 |
| Crittenden | 20,191 | 19,349 | 842 | 4.2 | 20,268 | 19,520 | 748 | 3.7 | 20,333 | 19,576 | 757 | 3.7 |
| Cross | 7,019 | 6,775 | 244 | 3.5 | 7,013 | 6,781 | 232 | 3.3 | 6,851 | 6,646 | 205 | 3.0 |
| Dallas | 2,651 | 2,545 | 106 | 4.0 | 2,638 | 2,534 | 104 | 3.9 | 2,667 | 2,572 | 95 | 3.6 |
| Desha | 4,891 | 4,613 | 278 | 5.7 | 4,893 | 4,637 | 256 | 5.2 | 4,849 | 4,648 | 201 | 4.1 |
| Drew | 7,645 | 7,340 | 305 | 4.0 | 7,662 | 7,364 | 298 | 3.9 | 7,483 | 7,206 | 277 | 3.7 |
| Faulkner | 65,752 | 63,914 | 1,838 | 2.8 | 65,862 | 64,112 | 1,750 | 2.7 | 64,249 | 62,526 | 1,723 | 2.7 |
| Franklin | 7,523 | 7,285 | 238 | 3.2 | 7,543 | 7,326 | 217 | 2.9 | 7,417 | 7,204 | 213 | 2.9 |
| Fulton | 4,561 | 4,401 | 160 | 3.5 | 4,582 | 4,424 | 158 | 3.4 | 4,541 | 4,384 | 157 | 3.5 |
| Garland | 41,383 | 39,920 | 1,463 | 3.5 | 41,804 | 40,372 | 1,432 | 3.4 | 41,763 | 40,352 | 1,411 | 3.4 |
| Grant | 8,802 | 8,567 | 235 | 2.7 | 8,802 | 8,581 | 221 | 2.5 | 8,587 | 8,371 | 216 | 2.5 |
| Greene | 20,031 | 19,339 | 692 | 3.5 | 20,068 | 19,412 | 656 | 3.3 | 19,785 | 19,176 | 609 | 3.1 |
| Hempstead | 8,868 | 8,559 | 309 | 3.5 | 8,910 | 8,622 | 288 | 3.2 | 9,252 | 8,989 | 263 | 2.8 |
| Hot Spring | 13,670 | 13,189 | 481 | 3.5 | 13,754 | 13,296 | 458 | 3.3 | 13,730 | 13,299 | 431 | 3.1 |
| Howard | 5,206 | 5,042 | 164 | 3.2 | 5,221 | 5,060 | 161 | 3.1 | 5,268 | 5,107 | 161 | 3.1 |
| Independence | 16,997 | 16,500 | 497 | 2.9 | 17,075 | 16,607 | 468 | 2.7 | 16,885 | 16,385 | 500 | 3.0 |
| Izard | 4,616 | 4,412 | 204 | 4.4 | 4,671 | 4,467 | 204 | 4.4 | 4,484 | 4,282 | 202 | 4.5 |
| Jackson | 5,390 | 5,163 | 227 | 4.2 | 5,382 | 5,164 | 218 | 4.1 | 5,383 | 5,128 | 255 | 4.7 |
| Jefferson | 25,347 | 24,186 | 1,161 | 4.6 | 25,338 | 24,265 | 1,073 | 4.2 | 25,558 | 24,477 | 1,081 | 4.2 |
| Johnson | 9,846 | 9,326 | 520 | 5.3 | 9,831 | 9,359 | 472 | 4.8 | 9,988 | 9,638 | 350 | 3.5 |
| Lafayette | 2,154 | 2,051 | 103 | 4.8 | 2,188 | 2,086 | 102 | 4.7 | 2,223 | 2,124 | 99 | 4.5 |
| Lawrence | 6,861 | 6,626 | 235 | 3.4 | 6,930 | 6,719 | 211 | 3.0 | 6,773 | 6,578 | 195 | 2.9 |
| Lee | 2,500 | 2,382 | 118 | 4.7 | 2,512 | 2,395 | 117 | 4.7 | 2,559 | 2,433 | 126 | 4.9 |
| Lincoln | 3,670 | 3,500 | 170 | 4.6 | 3,698 | 3,533 | 165 | 4.5 | 3,668 | 3,536 | 132 | 3.6 |
| Little River | 5,193 | 4,993 | 200 | 3.9 | 5,220 | 5,018 | 202 | 3.9 | 5,150 | 4,993 | 157 | 3.0 |
| Logan | 8,278 | 7,966 | 312 | 3.8 | 8,307 | 8,003 | 304 | 3.7 | 8,272 | 7,976 | 296 | 3.6 |
| Lonoke | 35,689 | 34,693 | 996 | 2.8 | 35,749 | 34,806 | 943 | 2.6 | 34,793 | 33,924 | 869 | 2.5 |
| Madison | 8,133 | 7,913 | 220 | 2.7 | 8,165 | 7,955 | 210 | 2.6 | 7,902 | 7,724 | 178 | 2.3 |
| Marion | 5,940 | 5,705 | 235 | 4.0 | 6,000 | 5,761 | 239 | 4.0 | 6,036 | 5,826 | 210 | 3.5 |
| Miller | 18,634 | 17,930 | 704 | 3.8 | 18,763 | 18,072 | 691 | 3.7 | 18,593 | 17,953 | 640 | 3.4 |

(continued on Page 16)

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MAY

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

| County | May 2024 | | | | April 2024 | | | | May 2023 | | | |
|-------------|----------|---------|-------|------|------------|---------|-------|------|----------|---------|-------|------|
| | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate | CLF | Emp | Unemp | Rate |
| Mississippi | 17,154 | 16,318 | 836 | 4.9 | 17,196 | 16,427 | 769 | 4.5 | 16,648 | 15,831 | 817 | 4.9 |
| Monroe | 2,466 | 2,368 | 98 | 4.0 | 2,467 | 2,374 | 93 | 3.8 | 2,491 | 2,404 | 87 | 3.5 |
| Montgomery | 3,031 | 2,899 | 132 | 4.4 | 3,051 | 2,917 | 134 | 4.4 | 2,937 | 2,811 | 126 | 4.3 |
| Nevada | 3,240 | 3,126 | 114 | 3.5 | 3,260 | 3,146 | 114 | 3.5 | 3,391 | 3,291 | 100 | 2.9 |
| Newton | 3,192 | 3,081 | 111 | 3.5 | 3,234 | 3,121 | 113 | 3.5 | 3,185 | 3,093 | 92 | 2.9 |
| Ouachita | 9,660 | 9,277 | 383 | 4.0 | 9,631 | 9,260 | 371 | 3.9 | 9,677 | 9,328 | 349 | 3.6 |
| Perry | 4,371 | 4,224 | 147 | 3.4 | 4,397 | 4,251 | 146 | 3.3 | 4,268 | 4,138 | 130 | 3.0 |
| Phillips | 5,147 | 4,863 | 284 | 5.5 | 5,183 | 4,914 | 269 | 5.2 | 5,294 | 4,986 | 308 | 5.8 |
| Pike | 4,085 | 3,928 | 157 | 3.8 | 4,082 | 3,959 | 123 | 3.0 | 4,043 | 3,921 | 122 | 3.0 |
| Poinsett | 10,069 | 9,720 | 349 | 3.5 | 10,085 | 9,748 | 337 | 3.3 | 9,846 | 9,561 | 285 | 2.9 |
| Polk | 7,747 | 7,416 | 331 | 4.3 | 7,779 | 7,470 | 309 | 4.0 | 7,805 | 7,565 | 240 | 3.1 |
| Pope | 28,709 | 27,672 | 1,037 | 3.6 | 28,827 | 27,884 | 943 | 3.3 | 28,575 | 27,638 | 937 | 3.3 |
| Prairie | 3,598 | 3,491 | 107 | 3.0 | 3,614 | 3,513 | 101 | 2.8 | 3,481 | 3,386 | 95 | 2.7 |
| Pulaski | 197,753 | 191,132 | 6,621 | 3.3 | 197,986 | 191,557 | 6,429 | 3.2 | 192,447 | 186,923 | 5,524 | 2.9 |
| Randolph | 7,100 | 6,839 | 261 | 3.7 | 7,130 | 6,872 | 258 | 3.6 | 7,085 | 6,868 | 217 | 3.1 |
| St. Francis | 7,464 | 7,070 | 394 | 5.3 | 7,480 | 7,107 | 373 | 5.0 | 7,459 | 7,123 | 336 | 4.5 |
| Saline | 62,640 | 60,939 | 1,701 | 2.7 | 62,710 | 61,091 | 1,619 | 2.6 | 61,119 | 59,605 | 1,514 | 2.5 |
| Scott | 4,415 | 4,279 | 136 | 3.1 | 4,443 | 4,309 | 134 | 3.0 | 4,382 | 4,264 | 118 | 2.7 |
| Searcy | 2,913 | 2,798 | 115 | 3.9 | 2,879 | 2,771 | 108 | 3.8 | 2,967 | 2,856 | 111 | 3.7 |
| Sebastian | 56,928 | 55,090 | 1,838 | 3.2 | 56,832 | 55,064 | 1,768 | 3.1 | 55,695 | 54,139 | 1,556 | 2.8 |
| Sevier | 5,545 | 5,345 | 200 | 3.6 | 5,548 | 5,360 | 188 | 3.4 | 5,429 | 5,247 | 182 | 3.4 |
| Sharp | 6,124 | 5,884 | 240 | 3.9 | 6,123 | 5,898 | 225 | 3.7 | 6,006 | 5,792 | 214 | 3.6 |
| Stone | 4,640 | 4,458 | 182 | 3.9 | 4,686 | 4,517 | 169 | 3.6 | 4,473 | 4,308 | 165 | 3.7 |
| Union | 14,623 | 13,875 | 748 | 5.1 | 14,629 | 13,939 | 690 | 4.7 | 14,780 | 14,164 | 616 | 4.2 |
| Van Buren | 5,944 | 5,706 | 238 | 4.0 | 5,949 | 5,724 | 225 | 3.8 | 5,938 | 5,726 | 212 | 3.6 |
| Washington | 140,714 | 137,466 | 3,248 | 2.3 | 140,571 | 137,608 | 2,963 | 2.1 | 136,955 | 134,089 | 2,866 | 2.1 |
| White | 34,339 | 33,130 | 1,209 | 3.5 | 34,517 | 33,378 | 1,139 | 3.3 | 33,691 | 32,605 | 1,086 | 3.2 |
| Woodruff | 2,820 | 2,724 | 96 | 3.4 | 2,829 | 2,731 | 98 | 3.5 | 2,827 | 2,732 | 95 | 3.4 |
| Yell | 8,185 | 7,892 | 293 | 3.6 | 8,238 | 7,968 | 270 | 3.3 | 8,137 | 7,870 | 267 | 3.3 |

County Labor Force Summary

Between April and May, unemployment rates increased in 65 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Jobless rates remained stable in seven counties, while declining in three counties. May unemployment rates ranged from a low of 2.3% in Washington County to a high of 5.7% in Chicot and Desha counties.

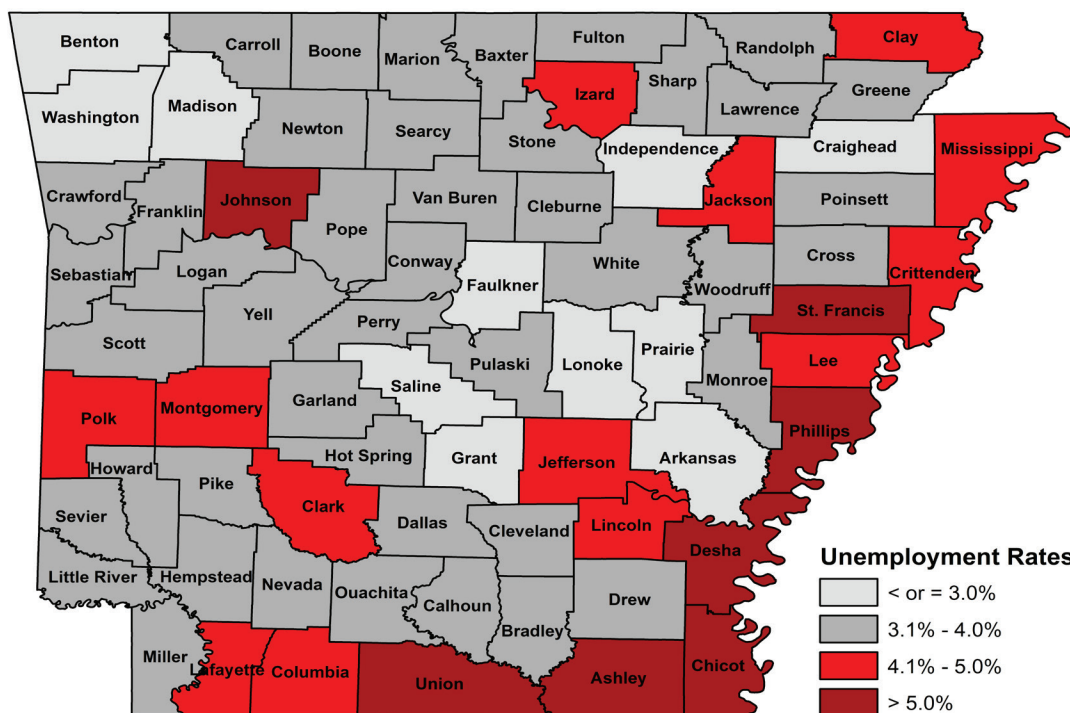
In May, eleven counties posted jobless rates at or below 3%. That is down from 16 counties at or below 3% last month. For the fourth month in a row, no county in Arkansas had a rate at or above seven percent.

Compared to May 2023, unemployment rates are up in 65 Arkansas counties. Six counties posted jobless rate declines, while four counties were unchanged. Jobless rate increases averaged five-tenths of a percentage point over the year, with the largest increase in Johnson County (+1.8%). Bradley and Jackson counties posted the largest annual rate decline, both down five-tenths of a percentage point.

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MAY

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

May 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| Rank | County | Rate | Rank | County | Rate | Rank | County | Rate |
|------|--------------|------|------|--------------|------|------|-------------|------|
| 1 | Washington | 2.3 | 24 | Cross | 3.5 | 49 | Drew | 4.0 |
| 2 | Benton | 2.4 | 24 | Fulton | 3.5 | 49 | Marion | 4.0 |
| 3 | Arkansas | 2.7 | 24 | Garland | 3.5 | 49 | Monroe | 4.0 |
| 3 | Grant | 2.7 | 24 | Greene | 3.5 | 49 | Ouachita | 4.0 |
| 3 | Madison | 2.7 | 24 | Hempstead | 3.5 | 49 | Van Buren | 4.0 |
| 3 | Saline | 2.7 | 24 | Hot Spring | 3.5 | 56 | Columbia | 4.1 |
| 7 | Craighead | 2.8 | 24 | Nevada | 3.5 | 57 | Clay | 4.2 |
| 7 | Faulkner | 2.8 | 24 | Newton | 3.5 | 57 | Crittenden | 4.2 |
| 7 | Lonoke | 2.8 | 24 | Poinsett | 3.5 | 57 | Jackson | 4.2 |
| 10 | Independence | 2.9 | 24 | White | 3.5 | 60 | Polk | 4.3 |
| 11 | Prairie | 3.0 | 36 | Pope | 3.6 | 61 | Izard | 4.4 |
| 12 | Scott | 3.1 | 36 | Sevier | 3.6 | 61 | Montgomery | 4.4 |
| 13 | Carroll | 3.2 | 36 | Yell | 3.6 | 63 | Clark | 4.5 |
| 13 | Franklin | 3.2 | 39 | Baxter | 3.7 | 64 | Jefferson | 4.6 |
| 13 | Howard | 3.2 | 39 | Randolph | 3.7 | 64 | Lincoln | 4.6 |
| 13 | Sebastian | 3.2 | 41 | Cleburne | 3.8 | 66 | Lee | 4.7 |
| 17 | Boone | 3.3 | 41 | Logan | 3.8 | 67 | Lafayette | 4.8 |
| 17 | Calhoun | 3.3 | 41 | Miller | 3.8 | 68 | Mississippi | 4.9 |
| 17 | Crawford | 3.3 | 41 | Pike | 3.8 | 69 | Union | 5.1 |
| 17 | Pulaski | 3.3 | 45 | Little River | 3.9 | 70 | Johnson | 5.3 |
| 21 | Lawrence | 3.4 | 45 | Searcy | 3.9 | 70 | St. Francis | 5.3 |
| 21 | Perry | 3.4 | 45 | Sharp | 3.9 | 72 | Phillips | 5.5 |
| 21 | Woodruff | 3.4 | 45 | Stone | 3.9 | 73 | Ashley | 5.6 |
| 24 | Cleveland | 3.5 | 49 | Bradley | 4.0 | 74 | Chicot | 5.7 |
| 24 | Conway | 3.5 | 49 | Dallas | 4.0 | 74 | Desha | 5.7 |

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

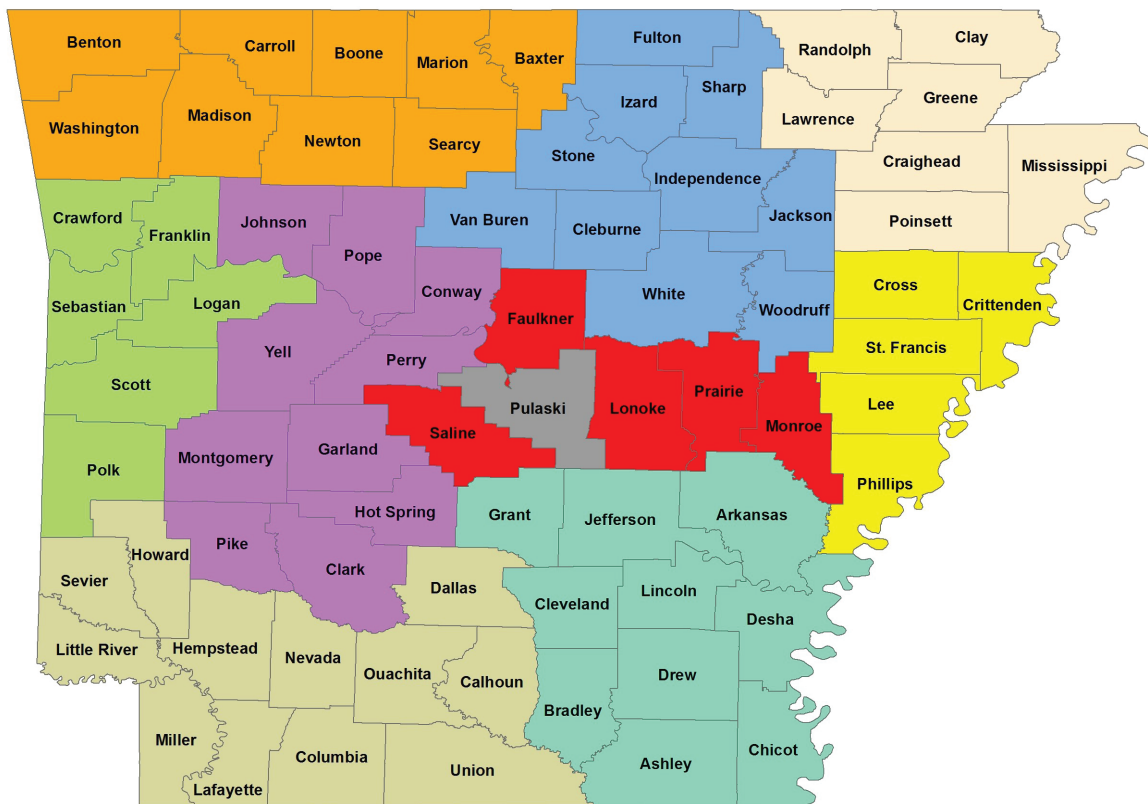
MAY

Local Workforce Development Areas

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

| | May 2024 | | | | April 2024 | | | | May 2023 | | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>LWDA</u> | <u>CLF</u> | <u>Emp</u> | <u>Unemp</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>CLF</u> | <u>Emp</u> | <u>Unemp</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>CLF</u> | <u>Emp</u> | <u>Unemp</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
| Central (minus LR) | 266,110 | 258,231 | 7,879 | 3.0 | 266,452 | 258,928 | 7,524 | 2.8 | 259,566 | 252,627 | 6,939 | 2.7 |
| City of Little Rock | 101,788 | 98,306 | 3,482 | 3.4 | 101,936 | 98,525 | 3,411 | 3.3 | 99,014 | 96,141 | 2,873 | 2.9 |
| Eastern | 42,321 | 40,439 | 1,882 | 4.4 | 42,456 | 40,717 | 1,739 | 4.1 | 42,496 | 40,764 | 1,732 | 4.1 |
| North Central | 94,550 | 91,147 | 3,403 | 3.6 | 94,949 | 91,689 | 3,260 | 3.4 | 93,219 | 90,017 | 3,202 | 3.4 |
| Northeast | 124,816 | 120,579 | 4,237 | 3.4 | 124,945 | 120,989 | 3,956 | 3.2 | 122,653 | 118,906 | 3,747 | 3.1 |
| Northwest | 365,521 | 356,159 | 9,362 | 2.6 | 365,432 | 356,609 | 8,823 | 2.4 | 357,487 | 349,304 | 8,183 | 2.3 |
| Southeast | 76,012 | 72,811 | 3,201 | 4.2 | 76,043 | 73,012 | 3,031 | 4.0 | 75,547 | 72,664 | 2,883 | 3.8 |
| Southwest | 87,053 | 83,579 | 3,474 | 4.0 | 87,251 | 83,944 | 3,307 | 3.8 | 87,624 | 84,544 | 3,080 | 3.5 |
| West Central | 130,307 | 125,393 | 4,914 | 3.8 | 131,076 | 126,498 | 4,578 | 3.5 | 130,301 | 125,898 | 4,403 | 3.4 |
| Western | 111,960 | 108,205 | 3,755 | 3.4 | 111,923 | 108,334 | 3,589 | 3.2 | 110,016 | 106,859 | 3,157 | 2.9 |



| | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------|--|--------------|
| | Central | | Northeast | | West Central |
| | City of Little Rock/Pulaski County | | Northwest | | Western |
| | Eastern | | Southeast | | |
| | North Central | | Southwest | | |