



PRESS RELEASE

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Arkansas' unemployment rate remains at 3.7% in April

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (May 21, 2025) Today, the Arkansas Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 3.7% between March and April. At 4.2%, the United States' jobless rate was also unchanged over the month.

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

- The civilian labor force in Arkansas rose 1,519 in April, with 1,406 more employed and 113 additional unemployed Arkansans actively looking for work. Arkansas is again at record high levels of employment in April, while the labor force participation remained at 58.4%.
- Compared to April 2024, there are 14,459 more employed in the State. The number of unemployed Arkansans actively seeking work is up 4,855, pushing the unemployment rate up three-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

- Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose 7,800 in April, reaching a new record high total of 1,386,400 jobs. Ten major industry sectors posted monthly increases. The largest gains were in Professional and Business Services (+2,600), Leisure and Hospitality (+2,100), Government (+1,100), and Construction (+1,000).
- Compared to April 2024, Arkansas has added 19,100 nonfarm payroll jobs. Notable growth occurred in Private Education and Health Services (+7,800), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (+6,000), Professional and Business Services (+2,100), and Manufacturing (+1,700).

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force (Seasonally Adjusted)

	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024	Change from March 2025	Change from April 2024
Civilian Labor Force	1,422,616	1,421,097	1,403,302	1,519	19,314
Employment	1,370,386	1,368,980	1,355,927	1,406	14,459
Unemployment	52,230	52,117	47,375	113	4,855
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.7%	3.4%	0.0%	0.3%
Labor Force Participation Rate	58.4%	58.4%	58.1%	0.0%	0.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey. More information about the data is available at <https://www.bls.gov/cps/definitions.htm>

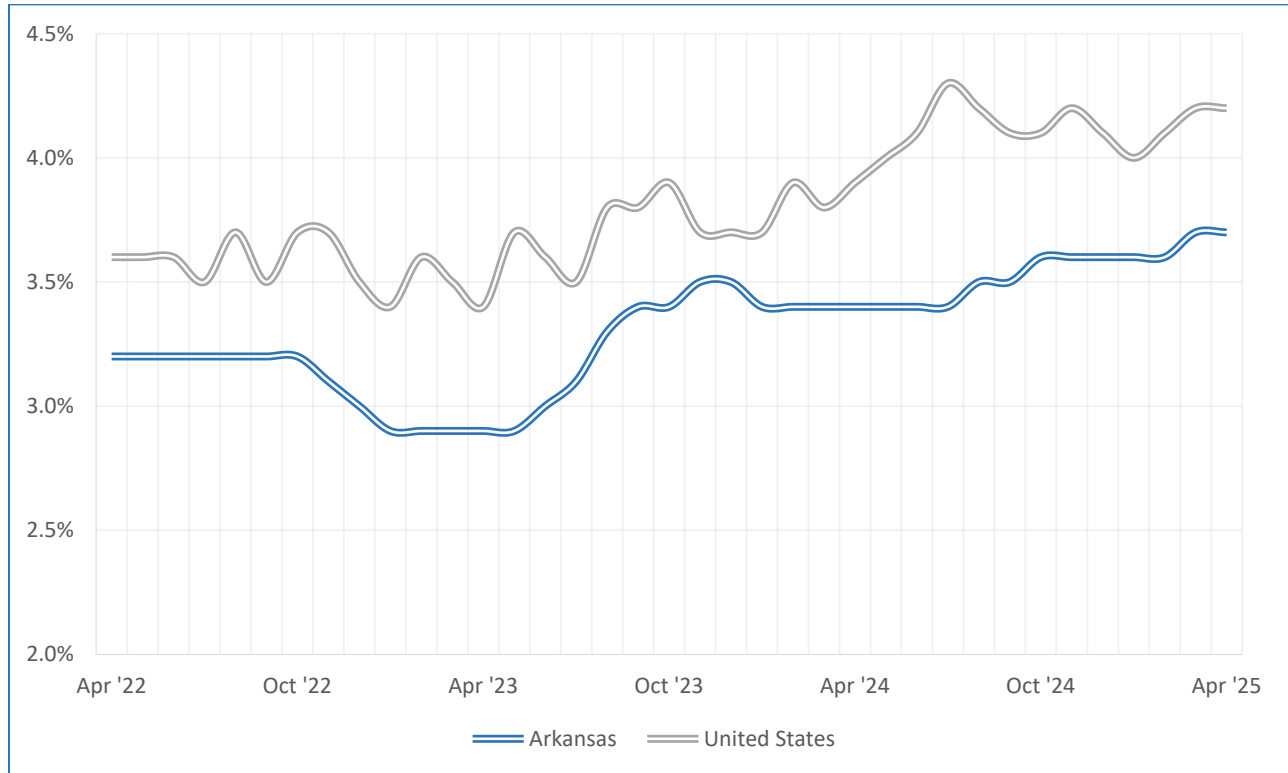
Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted, In Thousands)

Industry Sector based on 2022 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024	Change from March 2025	Change from April 2024
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1386.4	1378.6	1367.3	7.8	19.1
Goods Producing	234.6	234.4	233.2	0.2	1.4
Mining, Logging, & Construction	71.4	70.3	71.7	1.1	-0.3
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.1	5.2	0.1	0.0
Construction	66.2	65.2	66.5	1.0	-0.3
Specialty Trade Contractors	41.6	41.1	41.3	0.5	0.3
Manufacturing	163.2	164.1	161.5	-0.9	1.7
Durable Goods	78.6	78.5	77.3	0.1	1.3
Nondurable Goods	84.6	85.6	84.2	-1.0	0.4
Service Providing	1151.8	1144.2	1134.1	7.6	17.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	272.3	271.7	266.3	0.6	6.0
Wholesale Trade	53.5	53.8	53.1	-0.3	0.4
Retail Trade	145.6	145.3	142.6	0.3	3.0
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	73.2	72.6	70.6	0.6	2.6
Information	11.7	11.6	12.3	0.1	-0.6
Financial Activities	70.5	70.2	69.2	0.3	1.3
Finance & Insurance	55.3	55.2	53.8	0.1	1.5
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	15.2	15.0	15.4	0.2	-0.2
Professional & Business Services	163.4	160.8	161.3	2.6	2.1
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	54.1	54.0	51.6	0.1	2.5
Management of Companies	41.0	41.1	39.1	-0.1	1.9
Administrative & Support Services	68.3	65.7	70.6	2.6	-2.3
Private Education & Health Services	220.4	219.9	212.6	0.5	7.8
Educational Services	20.3	20.2	20.0	0.1	0.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	200.1	199.7	192.6	0.4	7.5
Ambulatory Health Care	69.4	69.0	67.0	0.4	2.4
Social Assistance	42.5	42.8	40.0	-0.3	2.5
Leisure & Hospitality	130.6	128.5	130.6	2.1	0.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	14.5	13.4	14.6	1.1	-0.1
Accommodation & Food Services	116.1	115.1	116.0	1.0	0.1
Accommodation Services	11.1	11.0	11.1	0.1	0.0
Food Services	105.0	104.1	104.9	0.9	0.1
Other Services	65.9	65.6	65.7	0.3	0.2
Government	217.0	215.9	216.1	1.1	0.9
Federal Government	21.7	21.8	21.8	-0.1	-0.1
State Government	78.6	78.2	78.6	0.4	0.0
State Government, Educational Services	32.6	32.2	32.5	0.4	0.1
State Government, Excluding Education	46.0	46.0	46.1	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	116.7	115.9	115.7	0.8	1.0
Local Government, Educational Services	71.3	70.9	70.7	0.4	0.6
Local Government, Excluding Education	45.4	45.0	45.0	0.4	0.4

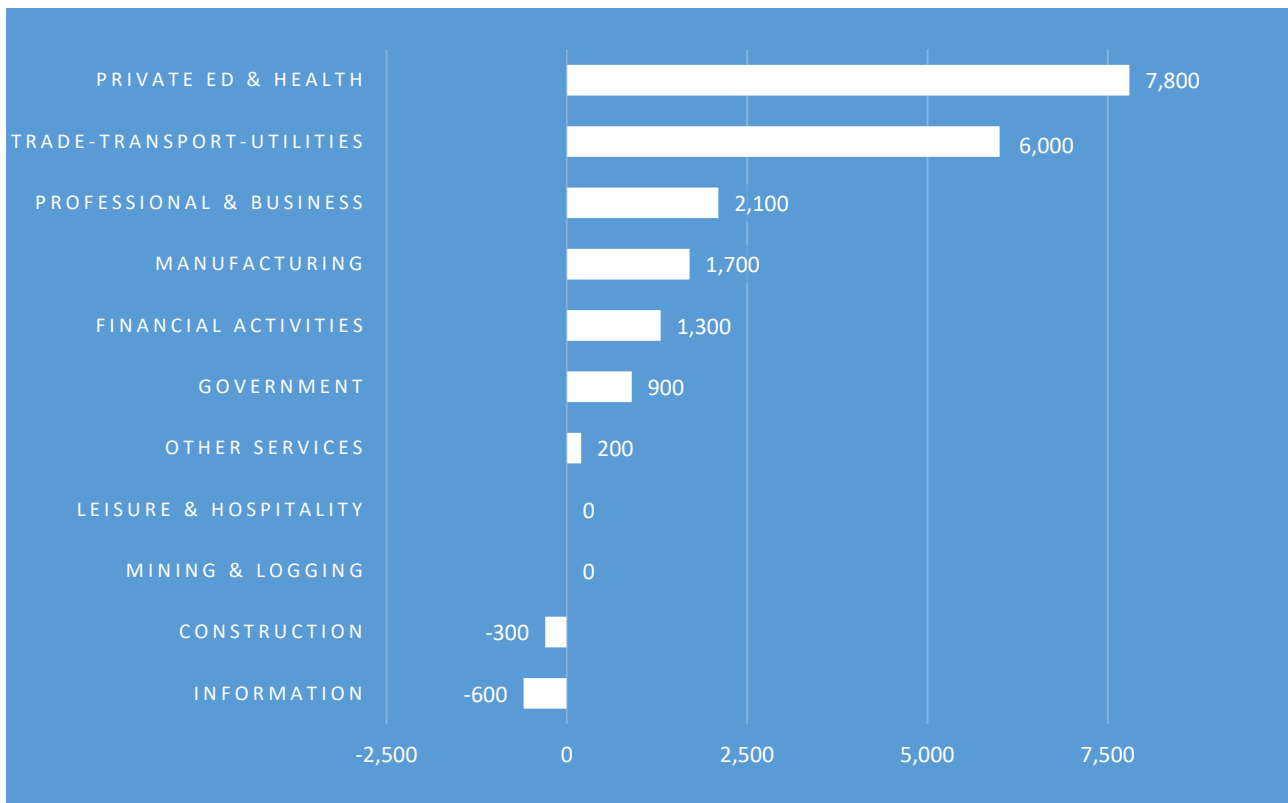
Source: Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1st Quarter 2024 benchmark.

Notes: Current month's data are preliminary; previous month's data are revised.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates Arkansas vs. United States (3-Year Comparison)



Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sectors April 2024 to April 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



For more Labor Market Data, visit our website at www.discover.arkansas.gov



About the Arkansas Department of Commerce

The Arkansas Department of Commerce is the umbrella department for workforce and economic development drivers. Its divisions and regulatory boards include the Division of Aeronautics, Waterways Commission, Wine Producers Council, Workforce Services, State Bank Department, Insurance Department, Securities Department, Economic Development Commission, and Development Finance Authority.



U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

About Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

The Bureau of Labor Statistics measures labor market activity, working conditions, price changes, and productivity in the U.S. economy to support public and private decision making.

About Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

The LAUS program produces monthly and annual employment, unemployment, and labor force data for Census regions and divisions, States, counties, metropolitan areas, and many cities, by place of residence.

About Current Employment Statistics (CES)

The CES program produces detailed industry estimates of employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls. CES State and Metro Area produces data for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.