

Arkansas Labor Market

September 2011

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Holds at 8.3 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Up 10,400 in September

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	8.3	8.3	7.8
US Unemployment Rate	9.1	9.1	9.6

Nonfarm Payroll Summary

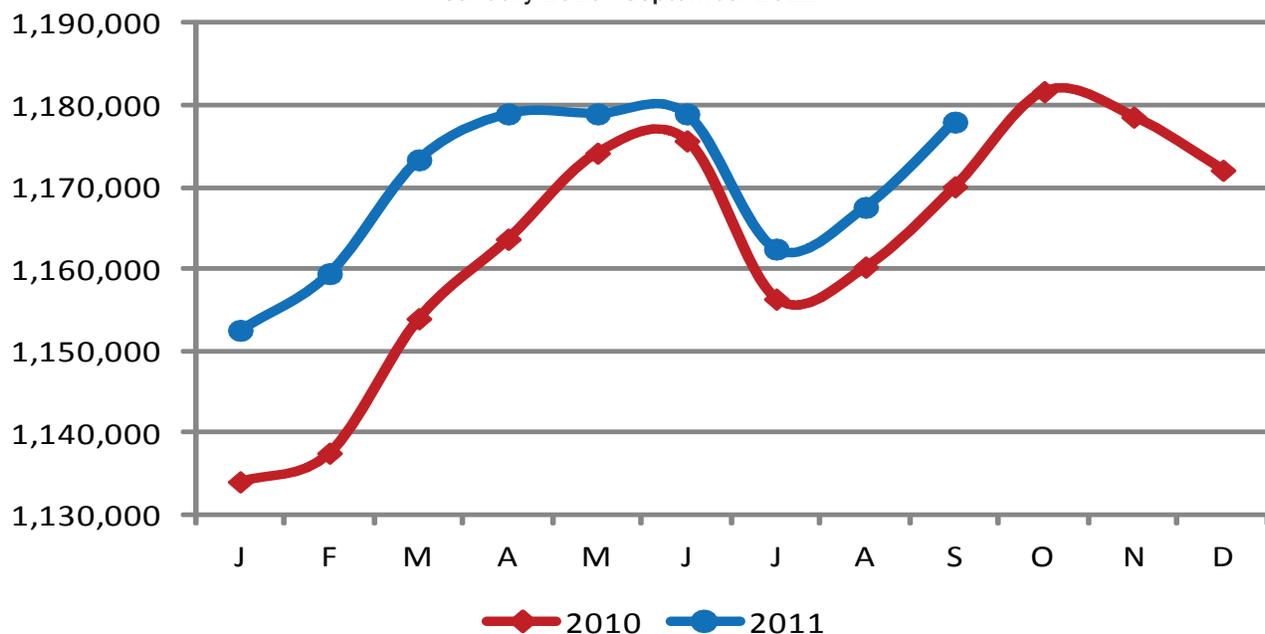
State of Arkansas

	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,178,000	1,167,600	1,170,100
Goods Producing	216,700	216,200	221,500
Service Providing	961,300	951,400	948,600

Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

January 2010 - September 2011



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

August 2011 - September 2011

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 10,400 in September to total 1,178,000. Four major industry sectors added jobs, more than offsetting declines in seven industries. The largest gain occurred in **government** (+13,800), related to seasonal school hiring at both the state (+5,600) and local (+8,800) levels. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 2,600, also attributed in part to school employment. **Construction** added 1,600 jobs, partially related to reported hiring in foundation, structure, and building exterior contracting. The largest decline occurred in **leisure and hospitality**, (-3,100). Losses were mostly seasonal and spread throughout all subsectors.

September 2010 - September 2011

Since September 2010, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment rose 7,900. Eight major industry sectors enjoyed gains, while two sectors declined and one remained the same. **Government** posted the largest increase (+3,800), all at the state and local levels. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** expanded 3,100. Most of the growth occurred in food services (+2,300). Employment in **other services** rose 2,000. **Professional and business services** added 1,700. A majority of the gain occurred in administrative and support services. **Manufacturing** reported the largest annual decline (-5,600). Losses occurred in both nondurable (-3,600) and durable (-2,000) goods manufacturing, due to multiple layoffs and closures.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Total Nonfarm	1,178,000	1,167,600	1,170,100
Goods Producing	216,700	216,200	221,500
Mining & Logging	10,700	10,800	10,700
Construction	50,600	49,000	49,800
Specialty Trade Contractors	29,900	29,100	29,100
Manufacturing	155,400	156,400	161,000
Durable Goods	76,600	76,400	78,600
Nondurable Goods	78,800	80,000	82,400
Service Providing	961,300	951,400	948,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	234,200	236,700	235,300
Wholesale Trade	45,600	46,100	46,500
Retail Trade	127,500	129,900	129,200
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	61,100	60,700	59,600
Information	15,600	15,800	15,300
Financial Activities	49,900	49,500	48,500
Finance & Insurance	36,200	35,800	34,900
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,700	13,700	13,600
Professional & Business Services	121,200	122,000	119,500
Professional, Scientific & Technical	37,100	36,900	37,800
Management of Companies	26,500	26,300	26,300
Administrative & Support Services	57,600	58,800	55,400
Educational & Health Services	168,600	166,000	167,100
Health Care & Social Assistance	155,000	153,100	153,500
Ambulatory Health Care	46,000	45,500	46,100
Social Assistance	35,200	34,600	34,100
Leisure & Hospitality	104,600	107,700	101,500
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10,700	11,800	10,200
Accommodation & Food Services	93,900	95,900	91,300
Accommodation Services	11,800	12,300	11,500
Food Services	82,100	83,600	79,800
Other Services	45,300	45,600	43,300
Government	221,900	208,100	218,100
Federal Government	20,100	20,700	21,500
State Government	78,100	72,500	76,700
Local Government	123,700	114,900	119,900

Hours & Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Manufacturing	\$609.03	\$576.80	\$575.31	41.8	39.9	41.3	\$14.57	\$14.42	\$13.93
Durable Goods	673.04	639.20	620.11	41.7	39.9	39.7	16.14	16.02	15.62
Nondurable Goods	550.15	518.80	536.74	41.9	40.0	42.7	13.13	12.97	12.57

Spotlight

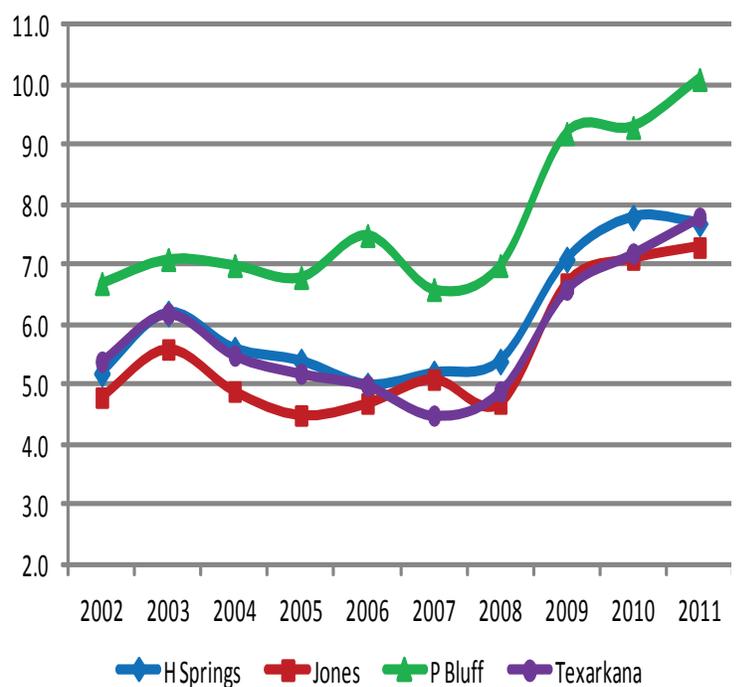
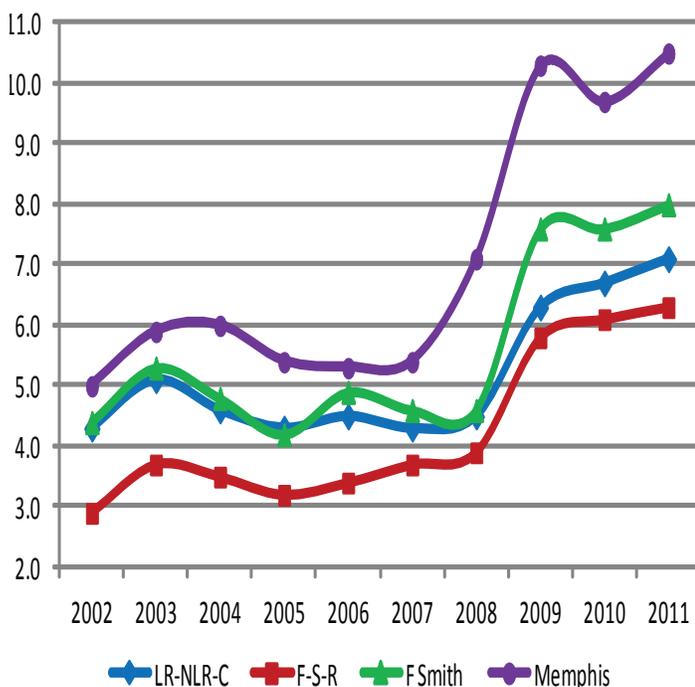
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) are counties or groups of counties that have one or more central cities and high population densities. MSAs also meet certain criteria for commuting patterns and economic integration. Arkansas has eight MSAs, four of which are shared with other states. Arkansas' largest MSA is Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway, followed in size by the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA (includes one county in Missouri) and the Fort Smith MSA (includes two counties in Oklahoma). Smaller MSAs include Jonesboro, Hot Springs, and Pine Bluff. Data for the Memphis MSA is produced by Tennessee, while Texas produces statistics for the Texarkana MSA.

Unemployment Rates by MSA
Not Seasonally Adjusted
September: 2002 - 2011

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Fay-Spr-Rog MSA	2.9	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.9	5.8	6.1	6.3
Fort Smith MSA	4.4	5.3	4.8	4.2	4.9	4.6	4.6	7.6	7.6	8.0
Hot Springs MSA	5.2	6.2	5.6	5.4	5.0	5.2	5.4	7.1	7.8	7.7
Jonesboro MSA	4.8	5.6	4.9	4.5	4.7	5.1	4.7	6.7	7.1	7.3
LR-NLR-Con MSA	4.3	5.1	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.5	6.3	6.7	7.1
Memphis MSA	5.0	5.9	6.0	5.4	5.3	5.4	7.1	10.3	9.7	10.5
Pine Bluff MSA	6.7	7.1	7.0	6.8	7.5	6.6	7.0	9.2	9.3	10.1
Texarkana MSA	5.4	6.2	5.5	5.2	5.0	4.5	4.9	6.6	7.2	7.8

Unemployment Rates by MSA
Not Seasonally Adjusted
September: 2002 - 2011



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

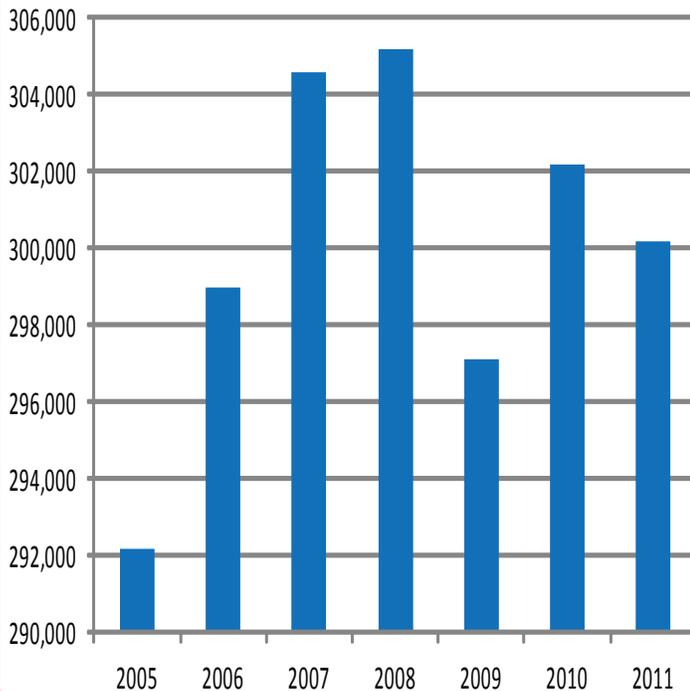
(NAICS)	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Total Nonfarm	337,500	335,900	339,600
Goods Producing	37,300	37,800	37,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	17,600	18,000	17,300
Manufacturing	19,700	19,800	20,100
Service Providing	300,200	298,100	302,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	63,300	64,300	64,600
Wholesale Trade	16,700	16,900	16,900
Retail Trade	34,900	35,700	35,500
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	11,700	11,700	12,200
Information	7,600	7,700	7,800
Financial Activities	18,600	18,600	18,500
Professional & Business Services	45,400	44,900	44,300
Educational & Health Services	48,800	48,700	50,900
Leisure & Hospitality	30,900	30,600	30,200
Other Services	15,100	15,200	15,000
Government	70,500	68,100	70,900
Federal Government	9,300	9,400	9,700
State Government	34,000	32,800	33,400
Local Government	27,200	25,900	27,800

(The following counties make up the LR-NLR-Conway MSA:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Civilian Labor Force	344,625	344,375	344,325
Employment	320,250	319,375	321,400
Unemployment	24,375	25,000	22,925
Unemployment Rate	7.1	7.3	6.7

Jobs in Service Providing Industries September: 2005 - 2011



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

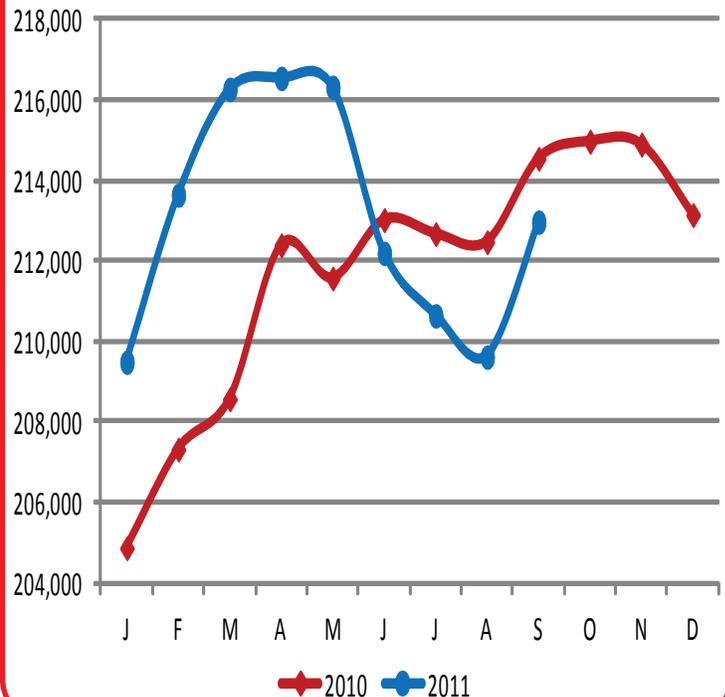
(NAICS)	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Total Nonfarm	201,800	197,700	203,100
Goods Producing	35,700	35,900	37,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,100	8,100	8,100
Manufacturing	27,600	27,800	29,300
Service Providing	166,100	161,800	165,700
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	44,300	44,100	44,800
Wholesale Trade	8,900	8,800	8,900
Retail Trade	20,200	20,300	20,800
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	15,200	15,000	15,100
Information	2,100	2,000	2,100
Financial Activities	7,100	7,000	7,200
Professional & Business Services	35,200	34,900	34,800
Educational & Health Services	22,500	21,800	22,100
Leisure & Hospitality	19,400	19,300	18,800
Other Services	6,900	6,900	6,900
Government	28,600	25,800	29,000
Federal Government	2,300	2,400	2,500
State Government	9,800	8,600	10,000
Local Government	16,500	14,800	16,500

(The following counties make up the FSR MSA:
Benton, Madison, and Washington in Arkansas and McDonald in Missouri.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Civilian Labor Force	227,300	224,450	228,550
Employment	212,975	209,625	214,550
Unemployment	14,325	14,825	14,000
Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.6	6.1

Civilian Labor Force Employment January 2010 - September 2011



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

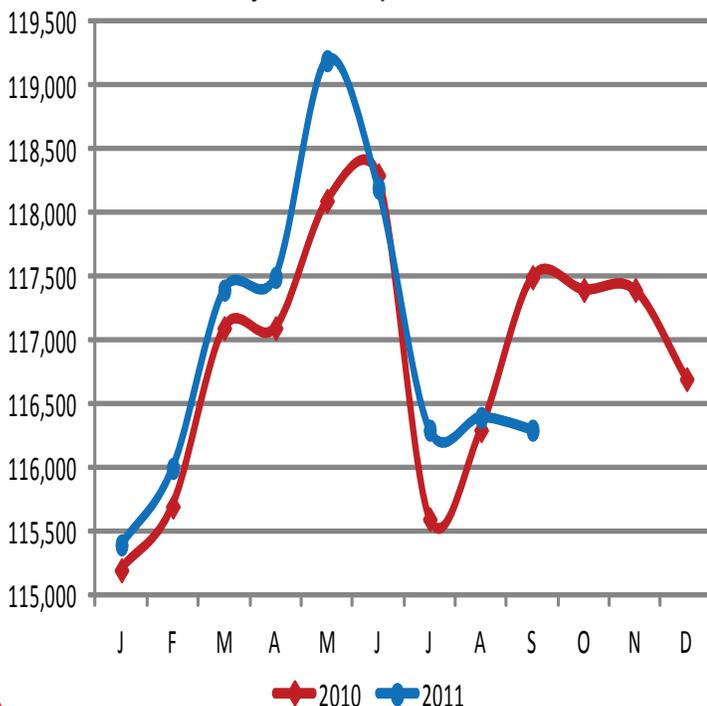
(NAICS)	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Total Nonfarm	116,300	116,400	117,500
Goods Producing	28,500	28,700	28,600
Mining, Logging & Construction	7,800	7,800	7,200
Manufacturing	20,700	20,900	21,400
Service Providing	87,800	87,700	88,900
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23,800	24,000	24,100
Wholesale Trade	4,000	4,000	4,000
Retail Trade	12,600	12,800	12,900
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	7,200	7,200	7,200
Information	1,100	1,200	1,200
Financial Activities	4,100	4,200	4,100
Professional & Business Services	11,900	12,100	11,900
Educational & Health Services	16,200	16,300	16,300
Leisure & Hospitality	9,200	9,400	8,900
Other Services	3,600	3,700	3,700
Government	17,900	16,800	18,700
Federal Government	1,600	1,600	1,700
State Government	3,400	3,300	3,500
Local Government	12,900	11,900	13,500

(The following counties make up the Fort Smith MSA: Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian in Arkansas and LeFlore and Sequoyah in Oklahoma.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Civilian Labor Force	132,275	132,900	134,175
Employment	121,625	122,350	124,000
Unemployment	10,650	10,550	10,175
Unemployment Rate	8.0	7.9	7.6

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs January 2010 - September 2011



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Total Nonfarm	40,100	40,400	37,000
Goods Producing	4,100	4,100	4,200
Service Providing	36,000	36,300	32,800
Government	5,400	4,700	4,900

(The following county makes up the Hot Springs MSA: Garland.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Civilian Labor Force	44,975	45,525	41,775
Employment	41,525	41,975	38,525
Unemployment	3,450	3,550	3,250
Unemployment Rate	7.7	7.8	7.8

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Total Nonfarm	48,800	48,900	49,200
Goods Producing	8,500	8,500	8,600
Service Providing	40,300	40,400	40,600
Government	9,300	8,500	8,600

(The following counties make up the Jonesboro MSA: Craighead and Poinsett.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Civilian Labor Force	57,475	58,000	58,100
Employment	53,275	53,575	53,975
Unemployment	4,200	4,425	4,125
Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.6	7.1

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Total Nonfarm	36,600	36,500	37,100
Goods Producing	7,500	7,500	7,500
Service Providing	29,100	29,000	29,600
Government	10,700	10,400	10,800

(The following counties make up the PB MSA: Cleveland, Jefferson, and Lincoln.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Sep 11	Aug 11	Sep 10
Civilian Labor Force	43,425	43,575	43,775
Employment	39,050	39,100	39,700
Unemployment	4,375	4,475	4,075
Unemployment Rate	10.1	10.3	9.3

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,351,500	1,347,800	1,353,300	3,700	-1,800	1,361,700	1,358,200	1,357,700	3,500	4,000
Employment	1,239,100	1,235,800	1,247,200	3,300	-8,100	1,255,300	1,249,100	1,257,400	6,200	-2,100
Unemployment	112,400	112,000	106,100	400	6,300	106,400	109,100	100,300	-2,700	6,100
Unemployment Rate	8.3	8.3	7.8	0.0	0.5	7.8	8.0	7.4	-0.2	0.4
U.S. Unemployment Rate	9.1	9.1	9.6	0.0	-0.5	8.8	9.1	9.2	-0.3	-0.4

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>
Civilian Labor Force	627,525	627,800	604,400
Employment	561,800	563,475	546,050
Unemployment	65,725	64,325	58,350
Unemployment Rate	10.5	10.2	9.7

	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>
Civilian Labor Force	66,050	64,900	65,075
Employment	60,875	59,725	60,375
Unemployment	5,175	5,175	4,700
Unemployment Rate	7.8	8.0	7.2

Unemployment Rates by County

Between August and September, unemployment rates decreased in 56 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Ten counties posted rate increases, while nine remained the same. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 5.5 percent in Carroll County to a high of 16.5 percent in Arkansas County.

In September, four counties enjoyed unemployment rates at or below six percent. Sixteen counties posted rates at or above ten percent, down from 19 counties last month.

Since September 2010, jobless rates are up in 56 counties. Twelve counties posted lower rates than this time last year, while seven were the same.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Sep 11</u>	<u>Aug 11</u>	<u>Sep 10</u>
75	Arkansas	16.5	16.4	16.2	68	Lee	10.8	11.4	8.5
60	Ashley	10.1	10.3	9.1	56	Lincoln	9.8	9.8	8.4
34	Baxter	8.2	8.6	8.2	11	Little River	7.1	7.4	7.4
6	Benton	6.3	6.5	6.0	28	Logan	8.1	8.4	7.4
11	Boone	7.1	6.9	6.6	7	Lonoke	6.7	6.7	6.3
62	Bradley	10.4	10.6	9.2	2	Madison	5.8	6.4	6.1
52	Calhoun	9.5	8.9	8.5	43	Marion	8.6	8.7	9.3
1	Carroll	5.5	5.7	5.4	3	Miller	6.0	5.9	5.4
73	Chicot	11.9	11.9	10.2	62	Mississippi	10.4	10.9	10.4
56	Clark	9.8	9.8	7.7	43	Monroe	8.6	9.0	8.0
74	Clay	12.9	14.0	11.1	28	Montgomery	8.1	7.6	7.9
10	Cleburne	7.0	7.4	6.6	46	Nevada	8.7	9.1	8.3
23	Cleveland	7.6	7.9	7.0	17	Newton	7.3	7.6	7.0
49	Columbia	9.0	9.9	9.0	43	Ouachita	8.6	8.9	8.1
28	Conway	8.1	8.1	7.8	28	Perry	8.1	8.7	6.8
11	Craighead	7.1	7.5	6.9	70	Phillips	11.2	11.6	9.1
26	Crawford	7.8	7.7	7.5	41	Pike	8.5	8.5	8.8
70	Crittenden	11.2	11.2	10.3	34	Poinsett	8.2	8.2	8.0
48	Cross	8.9	8.5	7.8	28	Polk	8.1	8.4	7.2
65	Dallas	10.7	10.8	10.7	17	Pope	7.3	7.8	7.3
70	Desha	11.2	11.6	10.2	38	Prairie	8.4	8.4	8.0
69	Drew	11.1	11.5	9.8	11	Pulaski	7.1	7.4	6.7
22	Faulkner	7.4	7.5	6.8	56	Randolph	9.8	10.4	8.8
17	Franklin	7.3	7.0	6.3	65	St. Francis	10.7	10.8	9.2
17	Fulton	7.3	7.7	6.7	7	Saline	6.7	6.9	6.6
25	Garland	7.7	7.8	7.8	15	Scott	7.2	7.4	6.7
17	Grant	7.3	7.1	6.6	27	Searcy	8.0	8.3	7.6
56	Greene	9.8	10.2	9.2	23	Sebastian	7.6	7.2	6.5
38	Hempstead	8.4	8.8	8.8	28	Sevier	8.1	8.3	6.3
15	Hot Spring	7.2	7.4	7.2	54	Sharp	9.6	10.2	8.8
34	Howard	8.2	8.3	8.3	55	Stone	9.7	9.8	8.0
37	Independence	8.3	9.0	7.6	52	Union	9.5	9.6	9.7
41	Izard	8.5	9.7	8.6	46	Van Buren	8.7	8.9	9.3
61	Jackson	10.2	10.6	9.6	5	Washington	6.1	6.4	6.0
62	Jefferson	10.4	10.6	9.7	38	White	8.4	8.8	7.6
7	Johnson	6.7	7.5	7.1	65	Woodruff	10.7	11.1	9.1
51	Lafayette	9.2	9.8	9.4	3	Yell	6.0	6.6	6.0
50	Lawrence	9.1	9.7	8.6					

Lowest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Carroll	5.5
2	Madison	5.8
3	Miller	6.0
3	Yell	6.0
5	Washington	6.1

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
73	Chicot	11.9
74	Clay	12.9
75	Arkansas	16.5

Arkansas Labor Market

September 2011

The *Arkansas Labor Market* is produced by the Department of Workforce Services, Bureau of Labor Statistics. All Statistics are published in cooperation with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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