

Arkansas Labor Market

April 2013

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Declines to 7.1 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs up 10,400 in April

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	7.1	7.2	7.3
US Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.6	8.1

Nonfarm Payroll Summary

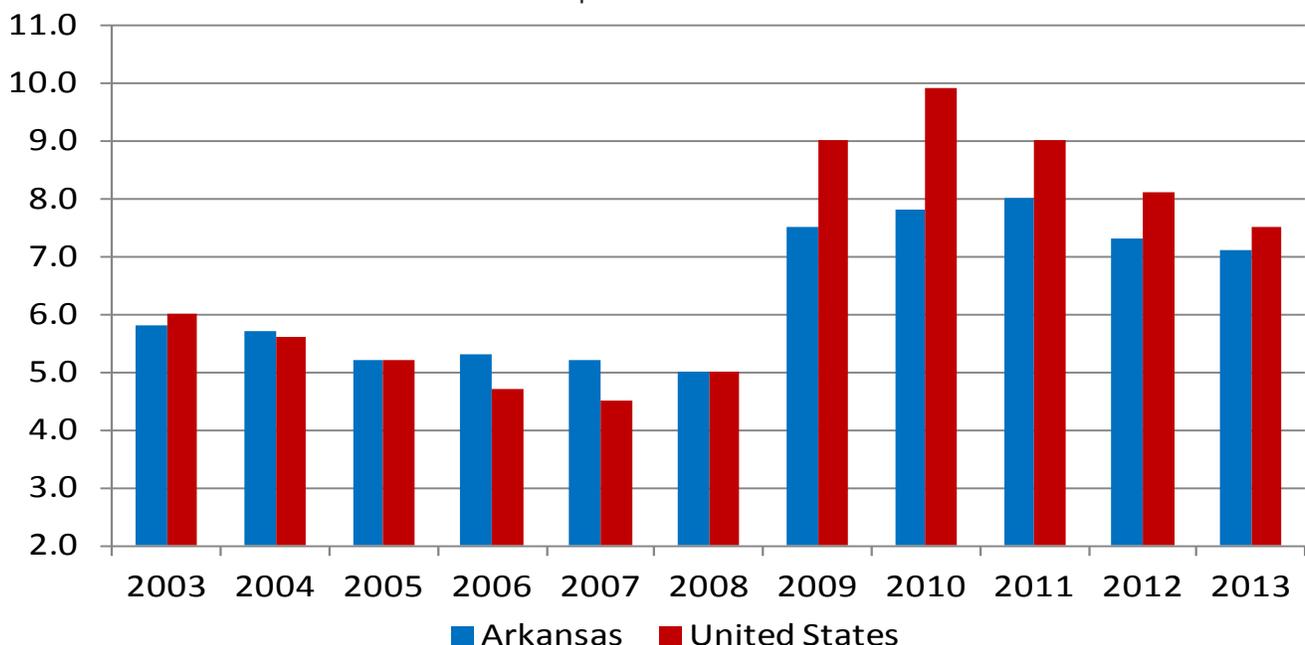
State of Arkansas

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,192,900	1,182,500	1,183,700
Goods Producing	209,900	209,500	214,800
Service Providing	983,000	973,000	968,900

Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas vs. United States

April: 2003 - 2013



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

March 2013 - April 2013

State of Arkansas

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas rose 10,400 in April to total 1,192,900. Expansions occurred in eight major industry sectors, with minor losses in two sectors. **Leisure and hospitality** posted the greatest increase (+4,400). Gains were largely seasonal, occurring mostly in accommodation and food services (+3,100). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 2,900 jobs. A majority of the hiring was reported in retail trade (+3,100), an expected seasonal expansion. **Professional and business services** increased 2,100. All additions occurred in administrative and support services, which includes activities such as landscaping services and travel agencies.

April 2012 - April 2013

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment increased 9,200 since April 2012. Five major industry sectors posted growth, more than offsetting declines in six industries. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 11,600 jobs. A majority of the gain occurred in retail trade (+9,200). Employment in **educational and health services** rose 4,200. Most of the sector's growth was attributed to hiring in health care and social assistance (+3,300). Jobs in **construction** decreased over the year (-2,600), related to the completion of large projects. Employment in **other services** declined 1,500. The sector includes activities such as repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services, and membership associations. **Mining and logging** decreased 1,200. The decline was related to reported losses in support activities for mining.

(NAICS)	Nonfarm Payroll Jobs		
	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12
Total Nonfarm	1,192,900	1,182,500	1,183,700
Goods Producing	209,900	209,500	214,800
Mining & Logging	9,900	10,000	11,100
Construction	45,000	44,600	47,600
Specialty Trade Contractors	29,600	29,400	28,700
Manufacturing	155,000	154,900	156,100
Durable Goods	77,700	77,300	77,300
Nondurable Goods	77,300	77,600	78,800
Service Providing	983,000	973,000	968,900
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	252,200	249,300	240,600
Wholesale Trade	47,900	47,600	47,900
Retail Trade	140,900	137,800	131,700
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	63,400	63,900	61,000
Information	14,100	14,500	14,500
Financial Activities	49,300	49,100	48,900
Finance & Insurance	36,100	36,000	35,700
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,200	13,100	13,200
Professional & Business Services	125,400	123,300	124,900
Professional, Scientific & Technical	40,000	40,000	39,700
Management of Companies	31,900	32,000	30,800
Administrative & Support Services	53,500	51,300	54,400
Educational & Health Services	175,800	175,400	171,600
Educational Services	16,000	16,100	15,100
Health Care & Social Assistance	159,800	159,300	156,500
Ambulatory Health Care	48,800	48,600	47,400
Social Assistance	36,900	36,900	36,200
Leisure & Hospitality	104,300	99,900	104,000
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10,200	8,900	10,100
Accommodation & Food Services	94,100	91,000	93,900
Accommodation Services	11,100	10,200	10,900
Food Services	83,000	80,800	83,000
Other Services	42,100	41,700	43,600
Government	219,800	219,800	220,800
Federal Government	19,800	20,100	20,400
State Government	79,100	78,800	78,300
Local Government	120,900	120,900	122,100

Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12
Manufacturing	\$629.45	\$617.01	\$631.08	40.9	40.7	42.1	\$15.39	\$15.16	\$14.99
Durable Goods	694.34	660.01	696.60	43.1	42.2	43.0	16.11	15.64	16.20
Nondurable Goods	568.42	578.79	568.15	38.8	39.4	41.2	14.65	14.69	13.79

Spotlight

Business Employment Dynamics (BED)

Business Employment Dynamics, also known as BED statistics, are a relatively new employment statistic. BED is primarily concerned with tracking employment changes at the establishment level, meaning each individual business location.

BED statistics are linked closely to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program and are calculated from quarterly reports provided by individual employers. Like QCEW data, BED statistics are produced on a quarterly basis, with longitudinal data dating back to 1992. At this time, BED data are only published at the national and state level. No statistics currently exist to provide data at the county or city levels in Arkansas.

Gross Job Gains and Losses by Quarter (Private Sector)

State of Arkansas
(Seasonally Adjusted)

3 months ended

Category	Sep 11	Dec 11	Mar 12	Jun 12	Sep 12*
Employment Levels					
Gross job gains.....	63,861	60,670	53,381	50,617	51,092
Gross job losses....	54,625	50,505	52,324	52,617	55,826
Net Change.....	9,236	10,165	1,057	-2,000	-4,734

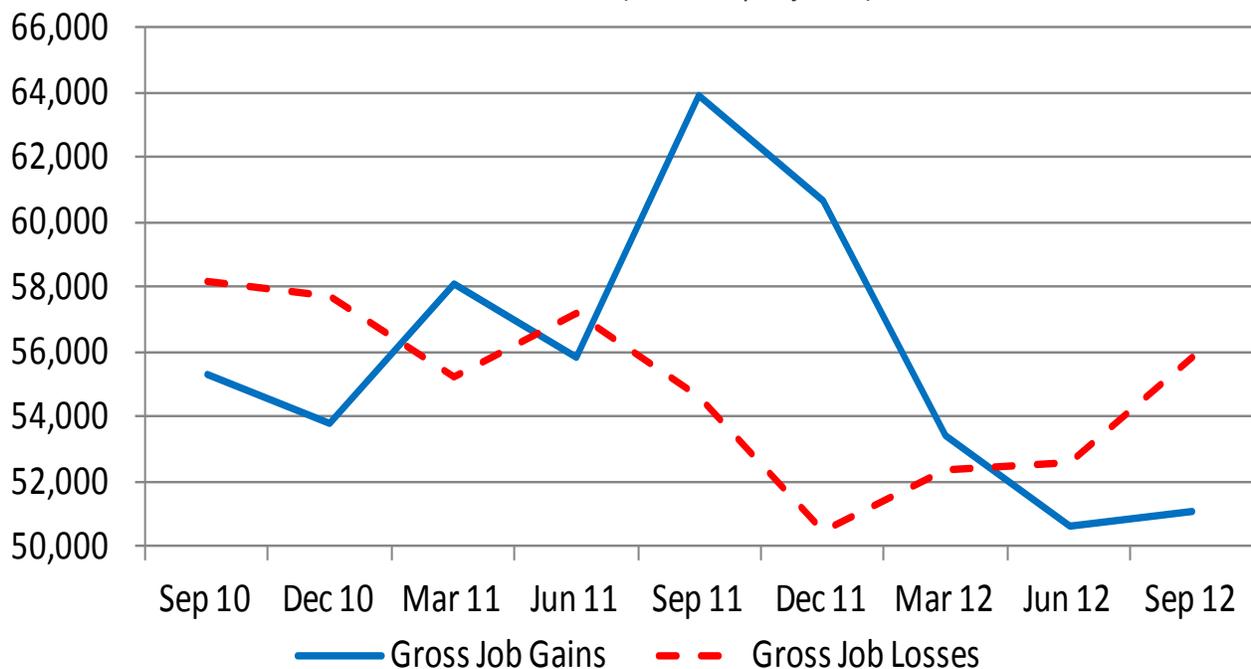
*Most recent BED data available is for 3rd Quarter 2012

The information produced from BED statistics includes gross job gains and losses at establishments with changes in employment. These employment changes occur when establishments open/expand or close/contract. Gross job gains are a combination of jobs created from both openings of new businesses and expansions at existing businesses. Gross job losses are a combination of jobs lost from both existing businesses that close and those that reduce their number of employees. The net change is the difference between gross job gains and gross job losses.

The chart below shows gross job gains versus gross job losses for a nine quarter period (3rd Q 2010- 3rd Q 2012).

Gross Job Gains vs. Gross Job Losses (Private Sector)

State of Arkansas (Seasonally Adjusted)



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

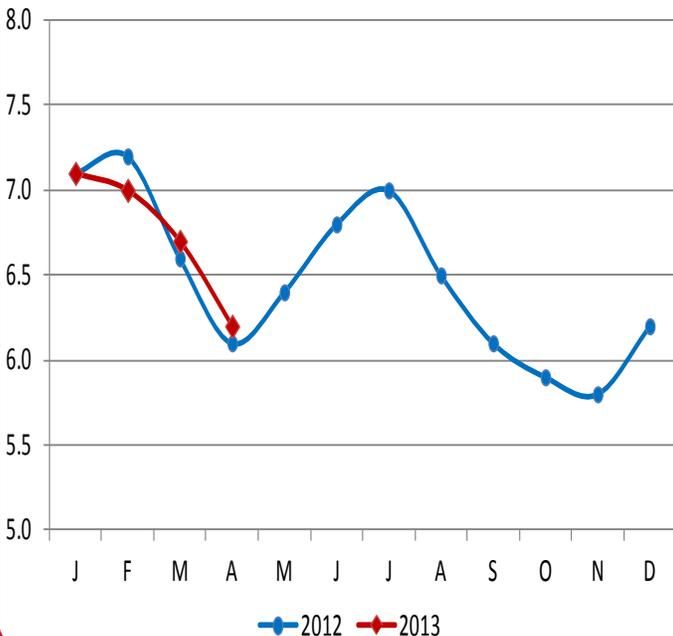
NAICS	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12
Total Nonfarm	347,700	343,700	343,200
Goods Producing	35,600	35,800	37,200
Mining, Logging & Construction	15,600	15,900	16,900
Manufacturing	20,000	19,900	20,300
Service Providing	312,100	307,900	306,000
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	71,300	70,600	66,100
Wholesale Trade	15,800	15,700	16,000
Retail Trade	41,200	40,700	36,300
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,300	14,200	13,800
Information	7,100	7,200	7,200
Financial Activities	19,700	19,700	19,900
Professional & Business Services	44,000	41,900	43,600
Educational & Health Services	53,100	52,500	51,700
Leisure & Hospitality	30,700	29,700	30,700
Other Services	15,500	15,400	15,600
Government	70,700	70,900	71,200
Federal Government	9,300	9,400	9,400
State Government	33,100	33,300	33,300
Local Government	28,300	28,200	28,500

The LR-NLR-Conway MSA consists of the following counties:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12
Civilian Labor Force	342,625	335,375	346,550
Employment	321,350	313,000	325,350
Unemployment	21,275	22,375	21,200
Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.7	6.1

Unemployment Rates
January 2012 - April 2013



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

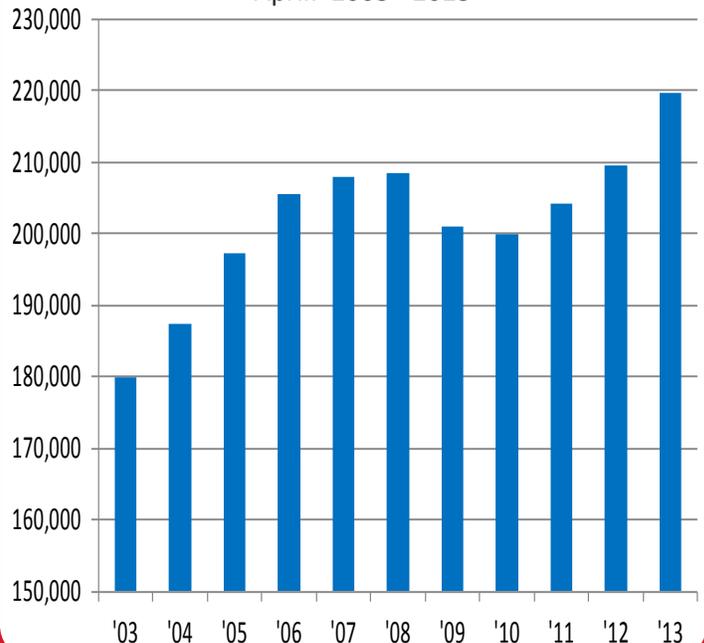
NAICS	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12
Total Nonfarm	219,800	217,000	209,700
Goods Producing	34,600	35,400	34,600
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,200	8,400	7,900
Manufacturing	26,400	27,000	26,700
Service Providing	185,200	181,600	175,100
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	50,100	49,100	47,300
Wholesale Trade	11,000	10,700	10,500
Retail Trade	23,600	23,000	21,900
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	15,500	15,400	14,900
Information	1,900	1,900	1,900
Financial Activities	6,500	6,400	6,300
Professional & Business Services	42,300	41,200	39,200
Educational & Health Services	25,300	24,900	23,500
Leisure & Hospitality	21,600	20,500	20,300
Other Services	7,000	6,800	6,600
Government	30,500	30,800	30,000
Federal Government	2,300	2,300	2,300
State Government	10,600	10,700	10,200
Local Government	17,600	17,800	17,500

The FSR MSA consists of the following counties:
Benton, Madison, Washington, and McDonald (in Missouri)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Apr 13	Mar 13	Apr 12
Civilian Labor Force	239,625	234,750	234,250
Employment	227,375	221,925	221,825
Unemployment	12,250	12,825	12,425
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.5	5.3

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
April: 2003 - 2013



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	117,400	117,500	116,900
Goods Producing	25,000	25,100	26,100
Mining, Logging & Construction	6,400	6,500	6,900
Manufacturing	18,600	18,600	19,200
Service Providing	92,400	92,400	90,800
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24,900	24,800	23,900
Wholesale Trade	4,200	4,100	4,100
Retail Trade	13,200	13,100	13,100
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	7,500	7,600	6,700
Information	1,400	1,400	1,400
Financial Activities	4,200	4,300	4,200
Professional & Business Services	11,300	11,200	11,100
Educational & Health Services	17,500	17,600	17,000
Leisure & Hospitality	9,100	8,800	9,100
Other Services	4,400	4,400	4,500
Government	19,600	19,900	19,600
Federal Government	1,500	1,600	1,600
State Government	3,200	3,200	3,200
Local Government	14,900	15,100	14,800

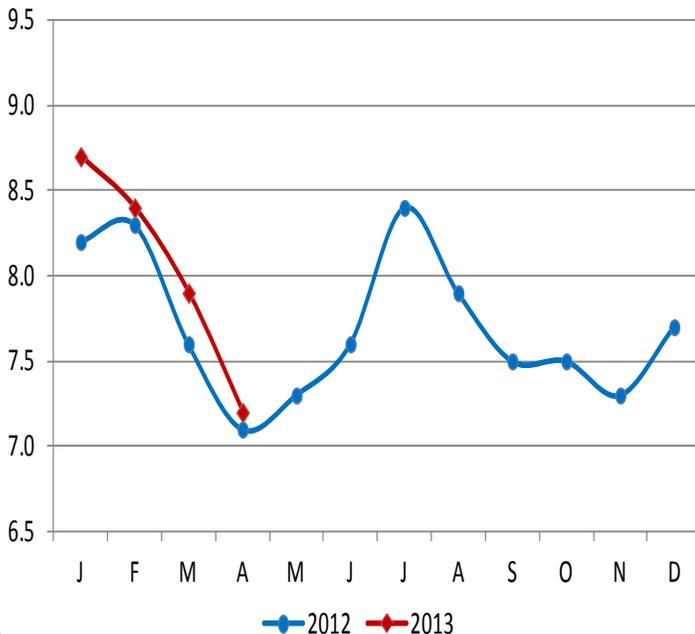
The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	131,675	131,525	132,525
Employment	122,200	121,150	123,175
Unemployment	9,475	10,375	9,350
Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.9	7.1

Unemployment Rates

January 2012 - April 2013



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	38,200	38,000	38,000
Goods Producing	4,100	4,100	4,100
Service Providing	34,100	33,900	33,900
Government	5,200	5,200	5,100

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,725	40,975	42,850
Employment	38,750	37,825	39,850
Unemployment	2,975	3,150	3,000
Unemployment Rate	7.1	7.7	7.0

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	52,400	52,200	51,000
Goods Producing	9,200	9,100	8,700
Service Providing	43,200	43,100	42,300
Government	9,100	9,100	8,900

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties:

Craighead and Poinsett

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	59,775	59,250	59,550
Employment	55,900	55,150	55,750
Unemployment	3,875	4,100	3,800
Unemployment Rate	6.5	6.9	6.4

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	36,200	36,100	37,200
Goods Producing	7,000	7,000	7,500
Service Providing	29,200	29,100	29,700
Government	10,700	10,700	10,800

The PB MSA consists of the following counties: Cleveland, Jefferson, and Lincoln

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,975	41,550	43,650
Employment	38,125	37,500	39,925
Unemployment	3,850	4,050	3,725
Unemployment Rate	9.2	9.8	8.5

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,330,900	1,330,000	1,362,100	900	-31,200	1,338,700	1,320,300	1,360,700	18,400	-22,000
Employment	1,235,700	1,234,000	1,263,200	1,700	-27,500	1,246,600	1,222,600	1,267,100	24,000	-20,500
Unemployment	95,200	96,000	98,900	-800	-3,700	92,100	97,700	93,600	-5,600	-1,500
Unemployment Rate	7.1	7.2	7.3	-0.1	-0.2	6.9	7.4	6.9	-0.5	0.0
U.S. Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.6	8.1	-0.1	-0.6	7.1	7.6	7.7	-0.5	-0.6

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	607,875	606,850	609,325
Employment	553,050	550,675	557,475
Unemployment	54,825	56,175	51,850
Unemployment Rate	9.0	9.3	8.5

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,850	63,450	65,375
Employment	59,600	59,075	61,150
Unemployment	4,250	4,375	4,225
Unemployment Rate	6.7	6.9	6.5

Between March and April, unemployment rates decreased in 70 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates increased in two counties, while remaining the same in three.

In April, eight counties enjoyed jobless rates at or below six percent. Seven counties posted rates at or above ten percent, down from seventeen counties in March.

Since April 2012, unemployment rates are up in 43 counties. Twenty-two counties posted declines over the year, while ten remained the same.

Unemployment Rates by County

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>
10	Arkansas	6.2	6.8	7.5	73	Lee	10.6	11.5	10.6
75	Ashley	11.2	11.9	12.2	53	Lincoln	8.5	8.6	8.5
35	Baxter	7.5	8.1	7.4	22	Little River	6.8	7.1	6.5
2	Benton	5.2	5.5	5.4	30	Logan	7.2	7.6	7.4
20	Boone	6.7	7.5	6.8	7	Lonoke	6.0	6.4	5.6
57	Bradley	9.1	9.3	10.3	6	Madison	5.8	5.9	5.1
55	Calhoun	8.8	8.8	9.6	37	Marion	7.6	8.3	7.7
2	Carroll	5.2	5.8	5.0	7	Miller	6.0	6.7	6.4
70	Chicot	10.3	10.9	10.0	62	Mississippi	9.6	10.3	9.1
49	Clark	8.3	9.0	9.1	40	Monroe	7.7	8.3	7.7
74	Clay	10.8	12.0	11.6	35	Montgomery	7.5	7.4	7.2
32	Cleburne	7.4	7.9	6.6	22	Nevada	6.8	7.1	6.2
37	Cleveland	7.6	7.2	6.7	16	Newton	6.6	6.6	6.5
43	Columbia	7.9	8.5	8.4	57	Ouachita	9.1	9.7	9.0
40	Conway	7.7	8.5	7.2	51	Perry	8.4	9.5	7.4
11	Craighead	6.3	6.8	6.3	72	Phillips	10.5	11.2	10.1
28	Crawford	7.0	7.7	6.9	46	Pike	8.1	8.4	8.1
62	Crittenden	9.6	10.0	11.8	32	Poinsett	7.4	7.6	6.9
45	Cross	8.0	8.7	7.6	32	Polk	7.4	7.7	7.5
62	Dallas	9.6	10.0	10.3	22	Pope	6.8	7.2	6.7
69	Desha	10.1	11.4	10.1	22	Prairie	6.8	7.2	6.8
67	Drew	9.8	10.5	10.8	11	Pulaski	6.3	6.8	6.2
9	Faulkner	6.1	6.9	6.1	56	Randolph	8.9	9.5	9.5
20	Franklin	6.7	7.2	6.4	71	St. Francis	10.4	11.1	10.4
14	Fulton	6.5	7.0	6.1	5	Saline	5.7	6.1	5.9
29	Garland	7.1	7.7	7.0	14	Scott	6.5	6.6	6.2
16	Grant	6.6	6.6	6.2	37	Searcy	7.6	8.3	7.5
48	Greene	8.2	9.1	8.2	27	Sebastian	6.9	7.5	6.6
16	Hempstead	6.6	7.1	6.8	31	Sevier	7.3	7.6	7.4
16	Hot Spring	6.6	7.0	5.9	65	Sharp	9.7	10.3	9.1
22	Howard	6.8	7.3	6.7	65	Stone	9.7	10.5	9.1
49	Independence	8.3	8.9	7.8	43	Union	7.9	8.4	8.2
40	Izard	7.7	8.1	7.4	51	Van Buren	8.4	9.1	8.2
60	Jackson	9.4	10.1	8.9	1	Washington	4.9	5.3	5.1
61	Jefferson	9.5	10.2	8.8	46	White	8.1	8.9	7.5
11	Johnson	6.3	6.7	6.2	68	Woodruff	9.9	10.5	9.8
59	Lafayette	9.2	10.0	9.0	4	Yell	5.6	6.0	5.5
54	Lawrence	8.7	9.5	8.5					

Lowest Rates

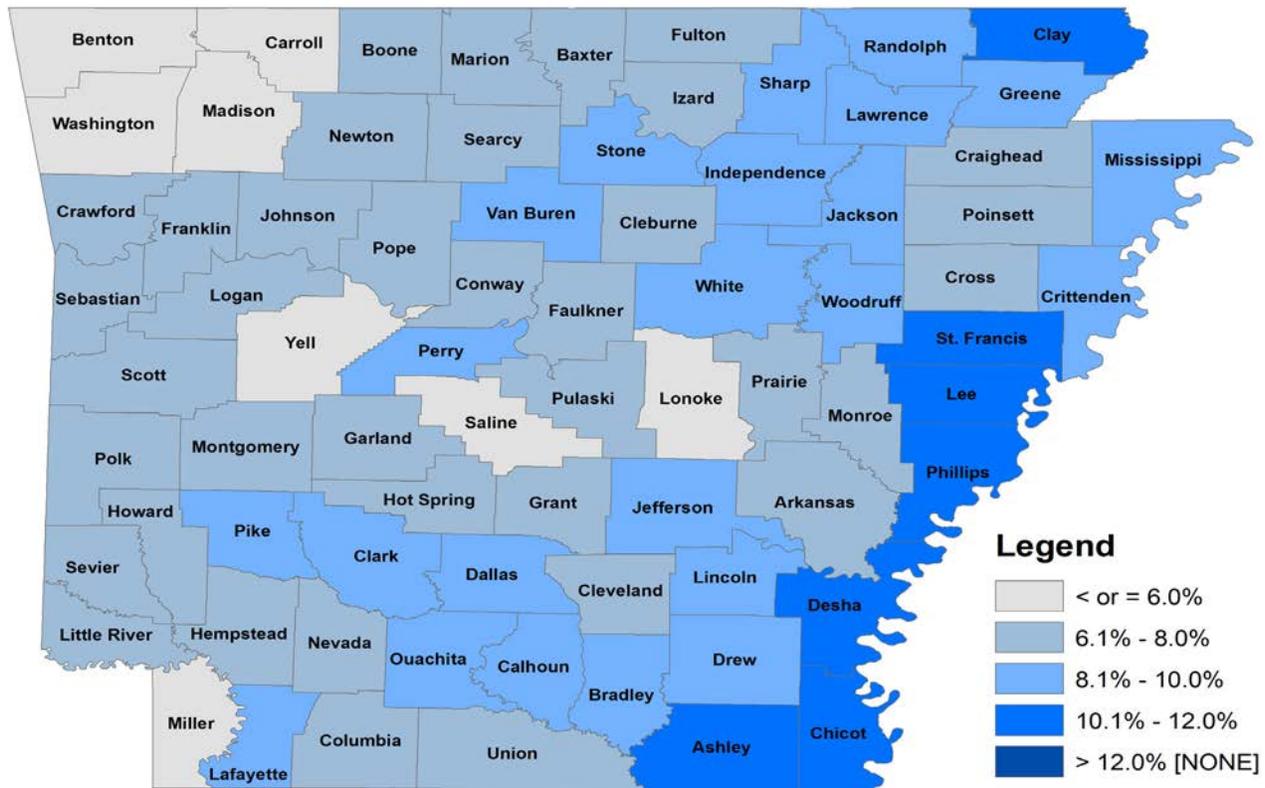
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Washington	4.9
2	Benton	5.2
2	Carroll	5.2
4	Yell	5.6
5	Saline	5.7

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
72	Phillips	10.5
73	Lee	10.6
74	Clay	10.8
75	Ashley	11.2

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

For complete County Labor Force Statistics, please visit our website at www.discover.arkansas.gov



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 data are 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 2012 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 5,500 Arkansas business establishments are surveyed.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

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.

Arkansas Labor Market

April 2013

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.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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