

2024

ARKANSAS

LABOR

MARKET

REPORT

MARCH



WWW.DISCOVER.ARKANSAS.GOV



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

Table of Contents

Monthly Spotlight.....2

Arkansas Labor Force Summary.....3

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs.....4

Arkansas Production Workers.....6

Metropolitan Statistical Areas.....7

Micropolitan Statistical Areas/Cities.....14

County Labor Force Statistics.....15

Local Workforce Development Areas.....18

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.



Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

March Spotlight

A Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

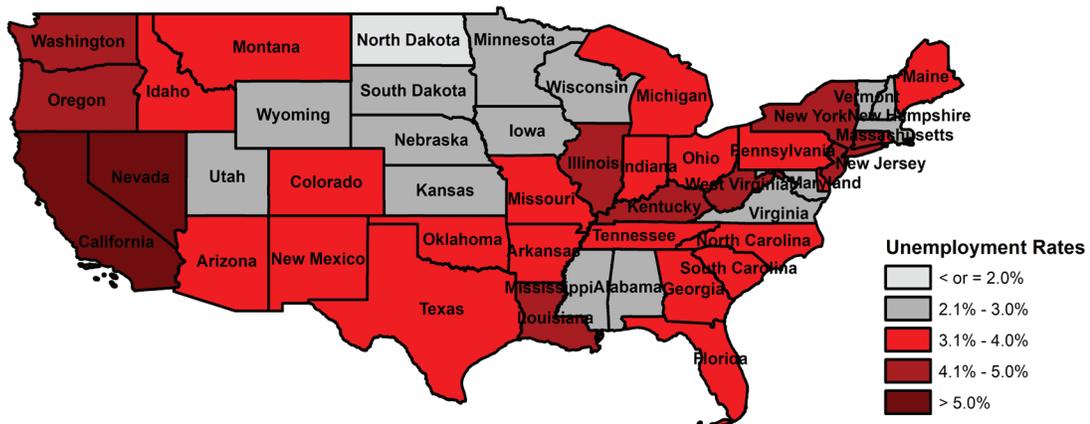
Between February and March, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates remained stable in 43 states and the District of Columbia. Rates declined in 6 states, while one state increased. In March, unemployment rates ranged from a low of 2.0% in North Dakota to a high of 5.3% in California. Arkansas ranked 27th among states, with a jobless rate of 3.5% in March. Thirty-four states, including Arkansas, posted jobless rates at or below the national rate of 3.8%.

Compared to March 2023, unemployment rates have increased in 29 states. The largest rate increase occurred in Rhode Island, up one and three-tenths of a percentage point. Twenty states and the District of Columbia reported no significant change in jobless rates, while Massachusetts posted a rate decline of three-tenths of a percentage point over-the-year. Arkansas' unemployment rate is up seven-tenths of a percentage point, from 2.8% in March 2023 to 3.5% in March 2024.

Unemployment Rates by State (Seasonally Adjusted)
March 2024

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	North Dakota	2.0	17	Hawaii	3.1	35	Delaware	3.9
2	South Dakota	2.1	17	South Carolina	3.1	35	Michigan	3.9
3	Vermont	2.2	20	Florida	3.2	35	Texas	3.9
4	Maryland	2.5	20	Tennessee	3.2	38	Rhode Island	4.0
4	Nebraska	2.5	22	Idaho	3.3	39	Oregon	4.2
6	New Hampshire	2.6	22	Maine	3.3	40	New York	4.3
7	Kansas	2.7	22	Missouri	3.3	40	West Virginia	4.3
7	Minnesota	2.7	22	Montana	3.3	42	Louisiana	4.4
9	Utah	2.8	26	Pennsylvania	3.4	43	Connecticut	4.5
9	Wyoming	2.8	27	Arkansas	3.5	43	Kentucky	4.5
11	Iowa	2.9	27	Indiana	3.5	45	Alaska	4.6
11	Massachusetts	2.9	27	North Carolina	3.5	46	Illinois	4.8
11	Virginia	2.9	27	Oklahoma	3.5	46	New Jersey	4.8
14	Alabama	3.0	31	Colorado	3.7	46	Washington	4.8
14	Mississippi	3.0	32	Arizona	3.8	49	Nevada	5.1
14	Wisconsin	3.0	32	New Mexico	3.8	50	District of Columbia	5.2
17	Georgia	3.1	32	Ohio	3.8	51	California	5.3

U.S. Unemployment Rate = 3.8%



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

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 decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.6% in February to 3.5% in March. The United States' jobless rate also declined one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.9% in February to 3.8% in March.

Arkansas' civilian labor force rose by 519 in March. There were 1,747 more employed Arkansans, while the number of unemployed in the State declined by 1,228. The labor force participation rate remained unchanged at 57.4% between February and March.

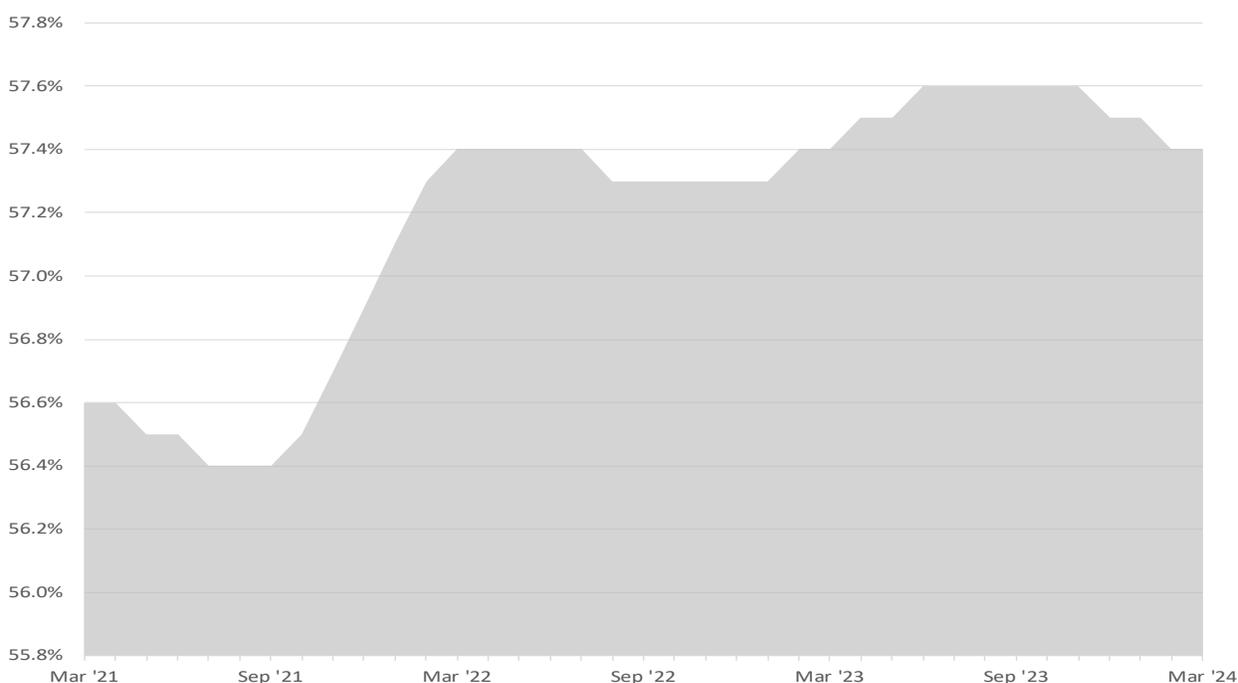
Compared to March 2023, there are 5,316 more employed in Arkansas. An additional 9,276 unemployed Arkansans are actively looking for work, pushing the unemployment rate up seven-tenths of a percentage point. The labor force participation rate remained stable over the year.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	
Civilian Labor Force	1,385,598	1,385,079	1,371,006	Civilian Labor Force	1,391,169	1,378,883	1,375,493
Employment	1,337,337	1,335,590	1,332,021	Employment	1,345,527	1,330,436	1,335,464
Unemployment	48,261	49,489	38,985	Unemployment	45,642	48,447	40,029
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.6%	2.8%	Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.5%	2.9%
LF Participation Rate	57.4%	57.4%	57.4%	LF Participation Rate	57.6%	57.2%	57.6%

Labor Force Participation Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

March 2021 - March 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

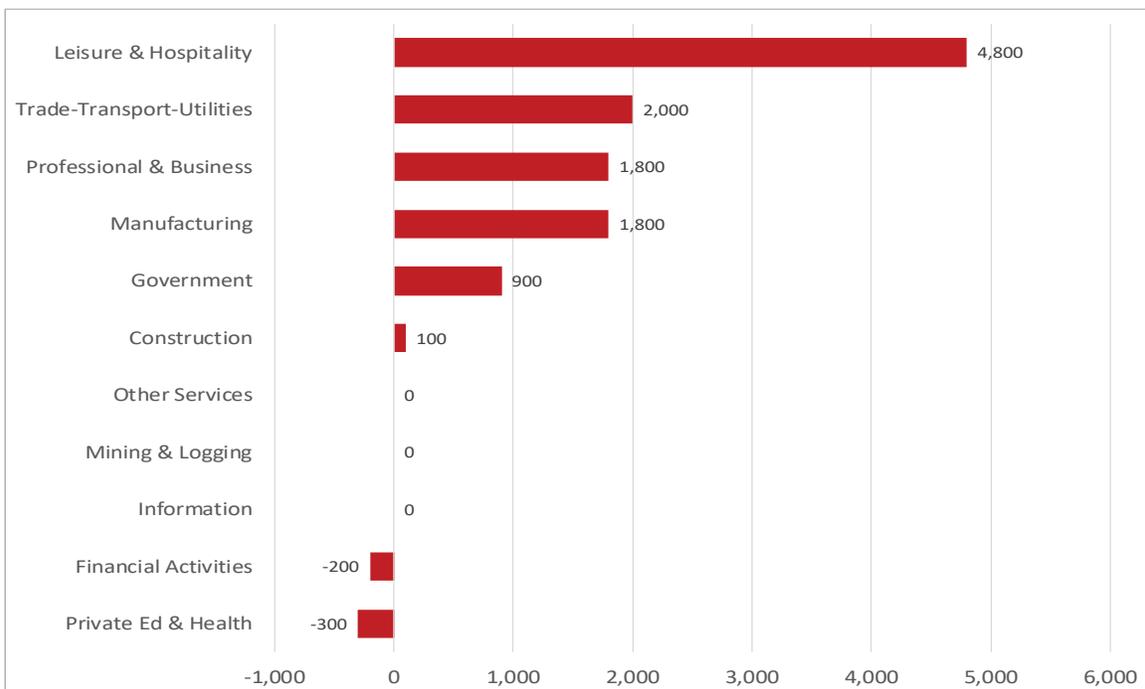
(NAICS)	Mar 24	Feb 24	Mar 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	1363.7	1352.8	1348.3	10.9	15.4
Goods Producing	232.7	230.8	229.3	1.9	3.4
Mining, Logging, & Construction	71.9	71.8	66.4	0.1	5.5
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.2	5.3	0.0	-0.1
Construction	66.7	66.6	61.1	0.1	5.6
Specialty Trade Contractors	42.2	42.2	38.3	0.0	3.9
Manufacturing	160.8	159.0	162.9	1.8	-2.1
Durable Goods	77.9	76.5	79.5	1.4	-1.6
Nondurable Goods	82.9	82.5	83.4	0.4	-0.5
Service Providing	1131.0	1122.0	1119.0	9.0	12.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	267.9	265.9	266.2	2.0	1.7
Wholesale Trade	51.6	50.8	52.1	0.8	-0.5
Retail Trade	144.9	143.2	141.7	1.7	3.2
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	71.4	71.9	72.4	-0.5	-1.0
Information	12.2	12.2	13.0	0.0	-0.8
Financial Activities	70.0	70.2	69.8	-0.2	0.2
Finance & Insurance	55.1	55.1	54.9	0.0	0.2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	14.9	15.1	14.9	-0.2	0.0
Professional & Business Services	158.0	156.2	157.3	1.8	0.7
Professional, Scientific & Technical	50.6	50.1	50.3	0.5	0.3
Management of Companies	37.8	38.1	37.6	-0.3	0.2
Administrative & Support Services	69.6	68.0	69.4	1.6	0.2
Private Education & Health Services	212.7	213.0	206.5	-0.3	6.2
Private Educational Services	19.4	19.7	19.3	-0.3	0.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	193.3	193.3	187.2	0.0	6.1
Ambulatory Health Care	67.5	67.3	64.5	0.2	3.0
Social Assistance	40.6	40.2	39.1	0.4	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	127.2	122.4	126.3	4.8	0.9
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	13.4	12.6	12.8	0.8	0.6
Accommodation & Food Services	113.8	109.8	113.5	4.0	0.3
Accommodation Services	11.4	10.8	11.6	0.6	-0.2
Food Services	102.4	99.0	101.9	3.4	0.5
Other Services	67.3	67.3	66.9	0.0	0.4
Government	215.7	214.8	213.0	0.9	2.7
Federal Government	21.9	21.8	21.0	0.1	0.9
State Government	78.2	77.8	78.2	0.4	0.0
State Gov, Educational Services	32.1	31.7	32.0	0.4	0.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.1	46.1	46.2	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	115.6	115.2	113.8	0.4	1.8
Local Gov, Educational Services	71.4	71.2	70.4	0.2	1.0
Local Gov, Excluding Education	44.2	44.0	43.4	0.2	0.8

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

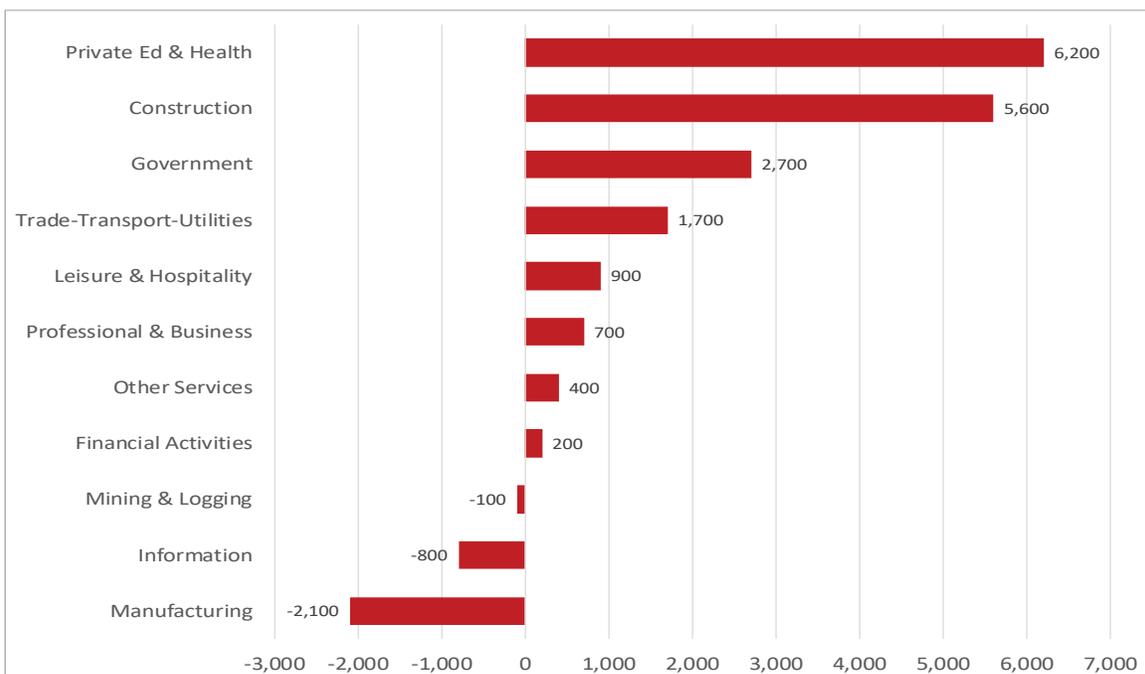
MARCH

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

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



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



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

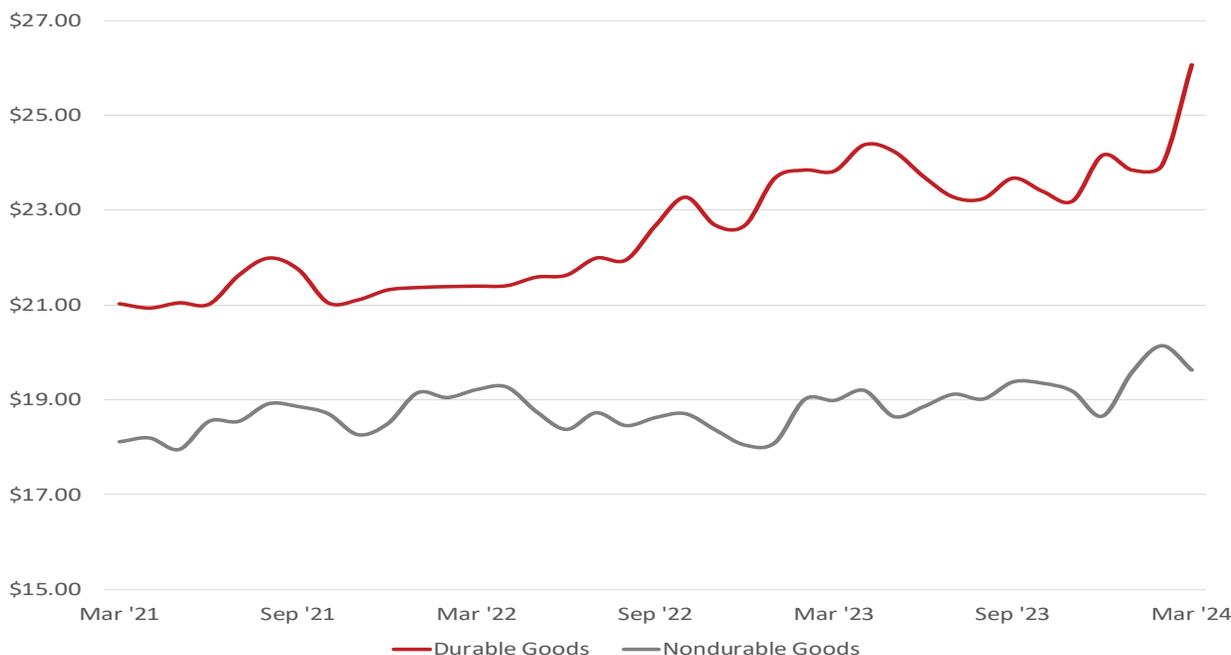
Manufacturing

	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>
Average Weekly Hours	37.8	39.0	37.5
Average Hourly Earnings	\$22.90	\$22.11	\$21.58
Average Weekly Earnings	\$865.62	\$862.29	\$809.25

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>		<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>
Average Weekly Hours	40.4	42.4	41.8	Average Weekly Hours	35.5	35.9	33.6
Average Hourly Earnings	\$26.05	\$23.94	\$23.82	Average Hourly Earnings	\$19.63	\$20.14	\$18.99
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,052.42	\$1,015.06	\$995.68	Average Weekly Earnings	\$696.87	\$723.03	\$638.06

Average Hourly Earnings - Durable vs Nondurable Goods (Production Workers)
March 2021 - March 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

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)

	Mar 24	Feb 24	Mar 23	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	372,277	369,747	364,055	2,530	8,222
Employment	360,724	357,615	354,109	3,109	6,615
Unemployment	11,553	12,132	9,946	-579	1,607
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.3%	2.7%	-0.2%	0.4%

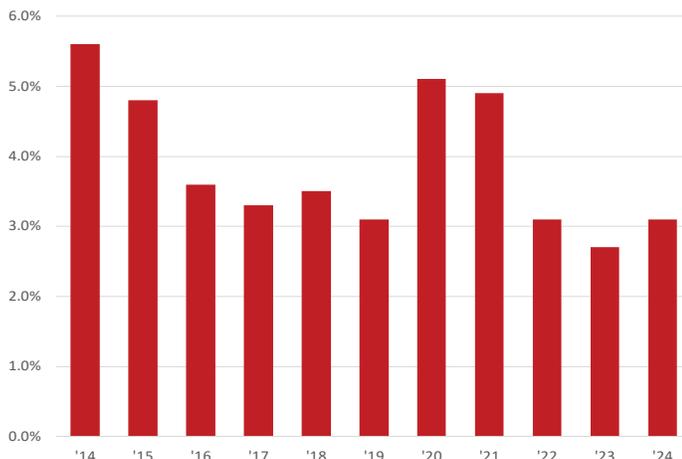
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 24	Feb 24	Mar 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	395.3	392.2	387.6	3.1	7.7
Goods Producing	42.3	41.7	40.2	0.6	2.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	21.9	21.7	20.3	0.2	1.6
Manufacturing	20.4	20.0	19.9	0.4	0.5
Service Providing	353.0	350.5	347.4	2.5	5.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	78.1	77.5	77.5	0.6	0.6
Wholesale Trade	17.7	17.6	17.6	0.1	0.1
Retail Trade	38.9	38.4	38.3	0.5	0.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	21.5	21.5	21.6	0.0	-0.1
Information	5.3	5.3	5.8	0.0	-0.5
Financial Activities	27.7	27.8	28.1	-0.1	-0.4
Professional & Business Services	50.3	49.6	49.0	0.7	1.3
Private Education & Health Services	65.8	65.7	63.2	0.1	2.6
Leisure & Hospitality	34.3	33.1	34.7	1.2	-0.4
Other Services	19.7	19.7	19.2	0.0	0.5
Government	71.8	71.8	69.9	0.0	1.9
Federal Government	10.7	10.8	10.2	-0.1	0.5
State Government	34.3	34.2	34.2	0.1	0.1
Local Government	26.8	26.8	25.5	0.0	1.3

Unemployment Rates

March: 2014 - 2024



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

March 2021 - March 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

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)

	Mar 24	Feb 24	Mar 23	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	316,955	314,165	309,543	2,790	7,412
Employment	309,117	305,958	302,720	3,159	6,397
Unemployment	7,838	8,207	6,823	-369	1,015
Unemployment Rate	2.5%	2.6%	2.2%	-0.1%	0.3%

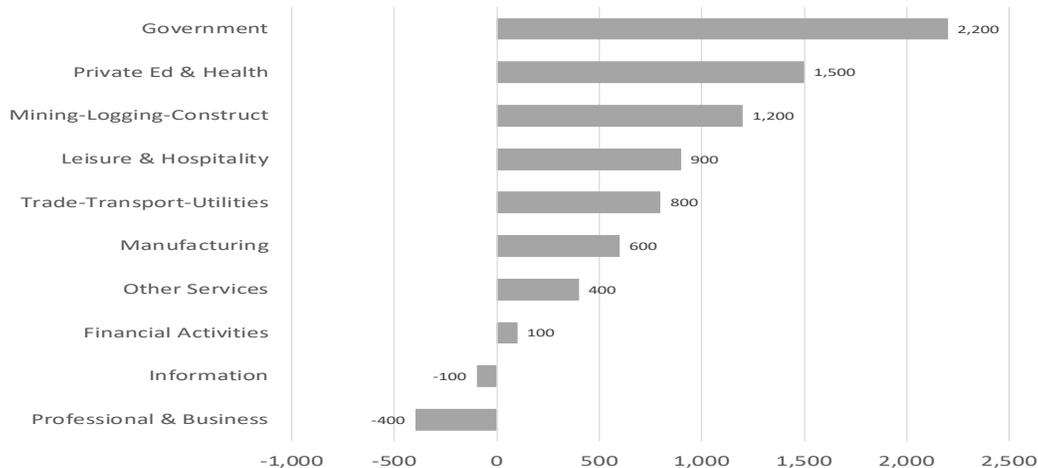
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 24	Feb 24	Mar 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	311.8	309.3	304.6	2.5	7.2
Goods Producing	48.0	47.6	46.2	0.4	1.8
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.3	17.2	16.1	0.1	1.2
Manufacturing	30.7	30.4	30.1	0.3	0.6
Service Providing	263.8	261.7	258.4	2.1	5.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	63.2	62.6	62.4	0.6	0.8
Wholesale Trade	14.1	13.9	14.0	0.2	0.1
Retail Trade	29.7	29.3	28.6	0.4	1.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	19.4	19.4	19.8	0.0	-0.4
Information	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	12.3	12.4	12.2	-0.1	0.1
Professional & Business Services	59.0	59.0	59.4	0.0	-0.4
Private Education & Health Services	37.0	37.1	35.5	-0.1	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	31.2	29.9	30.3	1.3	0.9
Other Services	13.8	13.8	13.4	0.0	0.4
Government	45.0	44.6	42.8	0.4	2.2
Federal Government	3.3	3.3	3.1	0.0	0.2
State Government	21.1	20.9	19.6	0.2	1.5
Local Government	20.6	20.4	20.1	0.2	0.5

Job Change by Major Industry Sector

March 2023 vs March 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

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>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	120,900	120,870	118,635	30	2,265
Employment	116,642	116,083	115,042	559	1,600
Unemployment	4,258	4,787	3,593	-529	665
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	4.0%	3.0%	-0.5%	0.5%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	117.4	117.0	115.3	0.4	2.1
Goods Producing	25.2	25.0	24.3	0.2	0.9
Mining, Logging & Construction	6.1	6.0	5.6	0.1	0.5
Manufacturing	19.1	19.0	18.7	0.1	0.4
Service Providing	92.2	92.0	91.0	0.2	1.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24.0	24.0	24.0	0.0	0.0
Wholesale Trade	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	13.0	13.0	12.9	0.0	0.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.5	6.5	6.6	0.0	-0.1
Information	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	4.8	4.8	4.8	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	11.8	11.9	11.7	-0.1	0.1
Private Education & Health Services	19.1	19.1	18.3	0.0	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	10.1	9.8	9.9	0.3	0.2
Other Services	4.0	4.0	3.9	0.0	0.1
Government	17.0	17.0	17.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Government	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.1
State Government	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	13.3	13.3	13.3	0.0	0.0

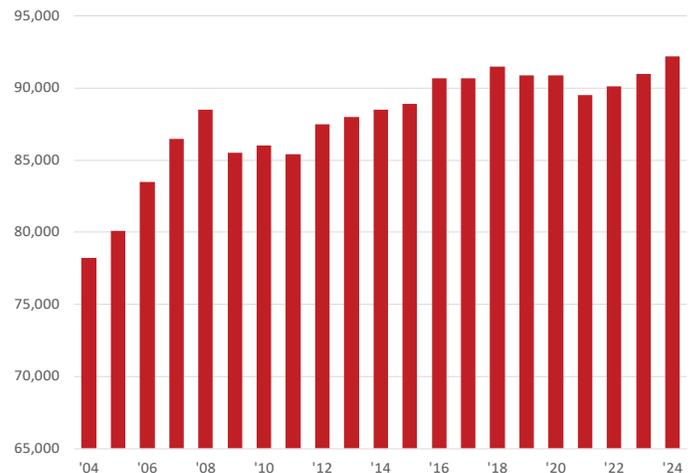
Employment

March 2021 - March 2024



Jobs in Service Providing Industries

March: 2004 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

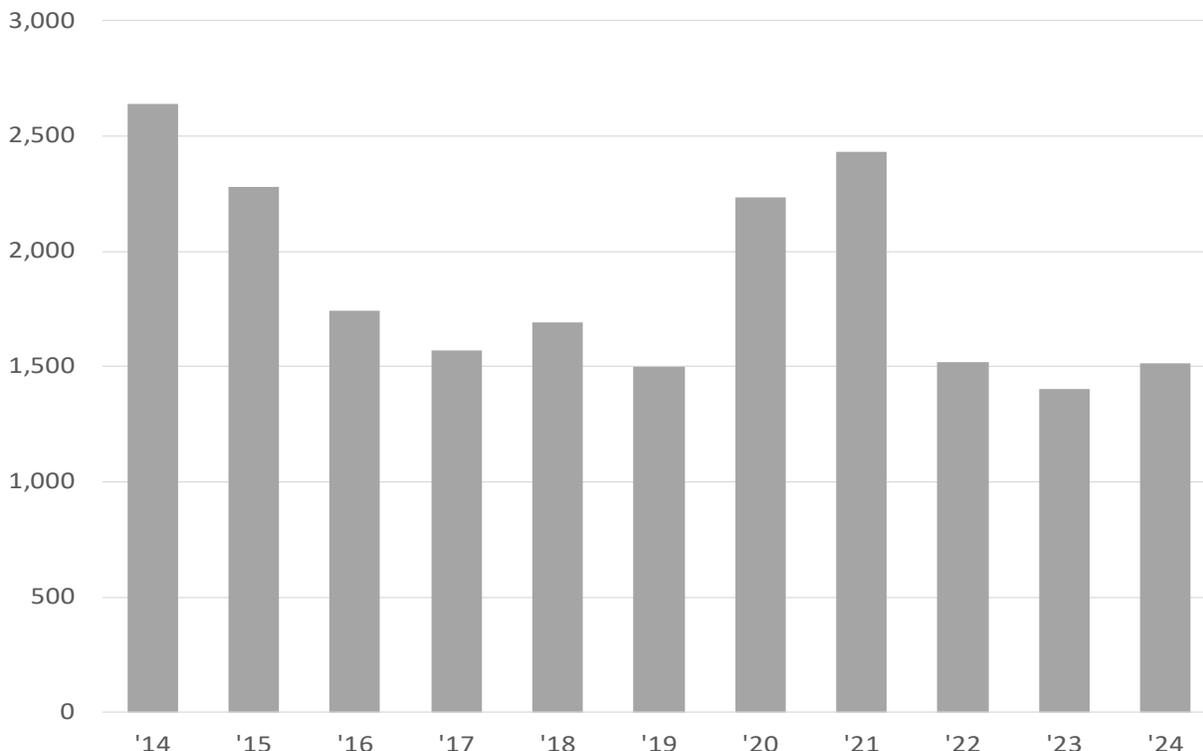
	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,342	41,176	41,367	166	-25
Employment	39,827	39,590	39,966	237	-139
Unemployment	1,515	1,586	1,401	-71	114
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.9%	3.4%	-0.2%	0.3%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	41.0	40.7	41.2	0.3	-0.2
Goods Producing	4.3	4.2	4.3	0.1	0.0
Service Providing	36.7	36.5	36.9	0.2	-0.2
Government	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	0.1

Unemployment
March: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	67,451	66,864	67,151	587	300
Employment	65,496	64,776	65,472	720	24
Unemployment	1,955	2,088	1,679	-133	276
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	3.1%	2.5%	-0.2%	0.4%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	64.0	63.6	63.7	0.4	0.3
Goods Producing	11.2	11.1	11.7	0.1	-0.5
Service Providing	52.8	52.5	52.0	0.3	0.8
Government	9.1	9.1	8.9	0.0	0.2

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
March 2021 - March 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	31,796	31,599	32,305	197	-509
Employment	30,416	30,126	31,005	290	-589
Unemployment	1,380	1,473	1,300	-93	80
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.7%	4.0%	-0.4%	0.3%

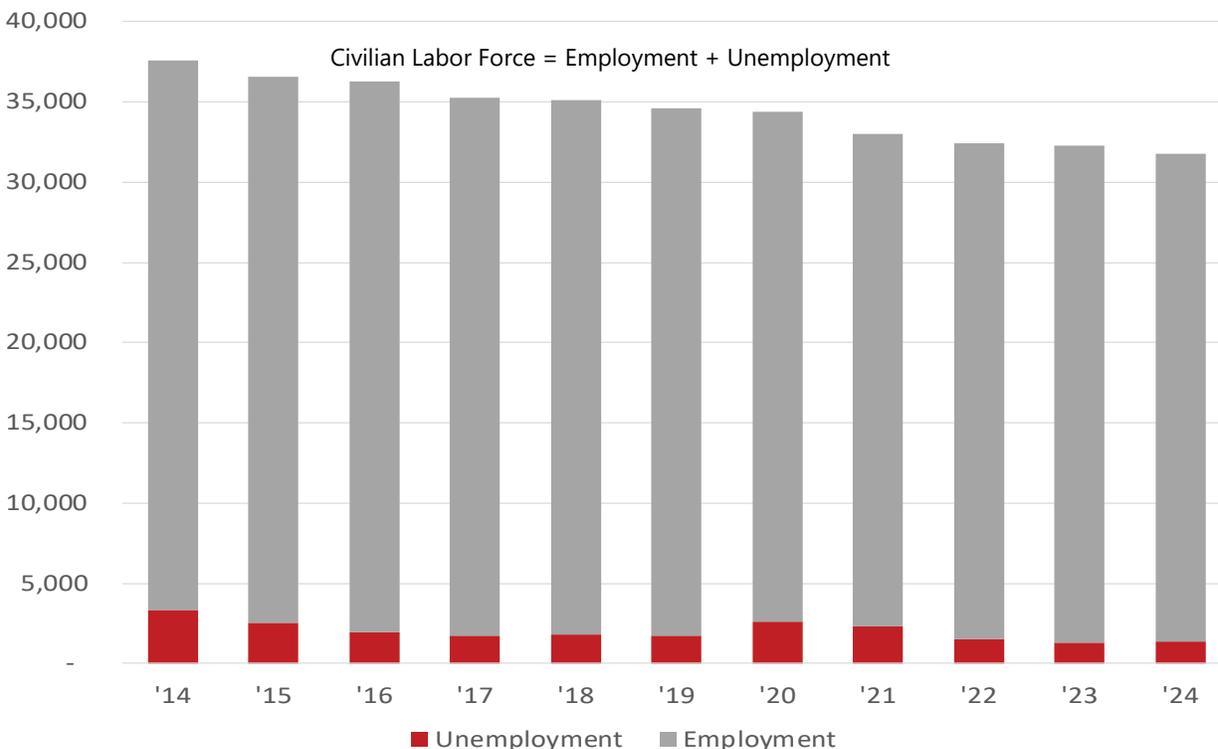
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	31.2	31.0	31.7	0.2	-0.5
Goods Producing	5.3	5.2	5.5	0.1	-0.2
Service Providing	25.9	25.8	26.2	0.1	-0.3
Government	8.5	8.5	8.8	0.0	-0.3

Composition of the Civilian Labor Force

March: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

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>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	622,784	617,640	626,633	5,144	-3,849
Employment	599,785	596,261	601,799	3,524	-2,014
Unemployment	22,999	21,379	24,834	1,620	-1,835
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.5%	4.0%	0.2%	-0.3%

Texarkana MSA

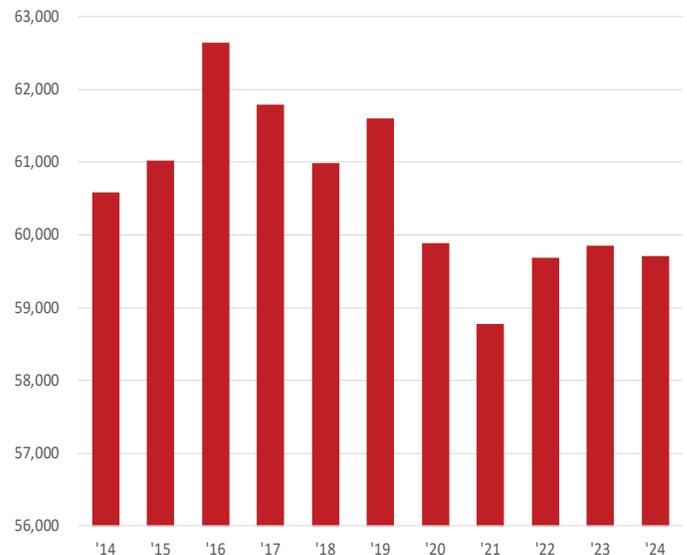
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	62,302	62,422	62,346	-120	-44
Employment	59,712	59,660	59,852	52	-140
Unemployment	2,590	2,762	2,494	-172	96
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.4%	4.0%	-0.2%	0.2%

Memphis MSA - Unemployment
March 2021 - March 2024



Texarkana MSA - Employment
March: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	March 2024				February 2024				March 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	8,449	8,099	350	4.1	8,422	8,021	401	4.8	8,537	8,197	340	4.0
Batesville Micro	16,853	16,357	496	2.9	16,734	16,198	536	3.2	16,897	16,414	483	2.9
Blytheville Micro	17,092	16,345	747	4.4	16,834	16,012	822	4.9	16,668	15,980	688	4.1
Camden Micro	12,161	11,695	466	3.8	12,036	11,546	490	4.1	12,070	11,642	428	3.5
El Dorado Micro	14,791	14,087	704	4.8	14,714	13,961	753	5.1	14,850	14,244	606	4.1
Forrest City Micro	7,454	7,072	382	5.1	7,362	6,952	410	5.6	7,480	7,153	327	4.4
Harrison Micro	19,225	18,571	654	3.4	19,125	18,421	704	3.7	19,025	18,477	548	2.9
Helena-West Helena Micro	5,175	4,883	292	5.6	5,069	4,742	327	6.5	5,446	5,098	348	6.4
Hope Micro	12,347	11,931	416	3.4	12,266	11,811	455	3.7	12,604	12,241	363	2.9
Magnolia Micro	8,891	8,545	346	3.9	8,843	8,474	369	4.2	8,834	8,496	338	3.8
Malvern Micro	13,670	13,181	489	3.6	13,571	13,050	521	3.8	13,718	13,290	428	3.1
Mountain Home Micro	16,915	16,253	662	3.9	16,731	16,050	681	4.1	16,906	16,386	520	3.1
Paragould Micro	19,902	19,199	703	3.5	19,653	18,900	753	3.8	19,883	19,284	599	3.0
Russellville Micro	36,633	35,349	1,284	3.5	36,262	34,811	1,451	4.0	37,032	35,848	1,184	3.2
Searcy Micro	34,104	32,864	1,240	3.6	33,884	32,582	1,302	3.8	33,882	32,807	1,075	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	March 2024				February 2024				March 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	13,610	13,198	412	3.0	13,469	13,066	403	3.0	13,302	12,921	381	2.9
Benton	18,512	18,006	506	2.7	18,383	17,873	510	2.8	18,094	17,665	429	2.4
Bentonville	33,016	32,275	741	2.2	32,709	31,953	756	2.3	32,269	31,598	671	2.1
Blytheville	5,720	5,471	249	4.4	5,635	5,360	275	4.9	5,572	5,349	223	4.0
Cabot	12,524	12,167	357	2.9	12,333	11,990	343	2.8	12,285	11,982	303	2.5
Conway	36,006	34,934	1,072	3.0	35,770	34,622	1,148	3.2	35,255	34,305	950	2.7
El Dorado	6,387	6,062	325	5.1	6,389	6,008	381	6.0	6,418	6,130	288	4.5
Fayetteville	53,881	52,605	1,276	2.4	53,460	52,094	1,366	2.6	52,685	51,502	1,183	2.2
Fort Smith	39,127	37,812	1,315	3.4	39,058	37,674	1,384	3.5	38,333	37,278	1,055	2.8
Hot Springs	15,342	14,738	604	3.9	15,274	14,650	624	4.1	15,350	14,790	560	3.6
Jacksonville	12,057	11,619	438	3.6	12,017	11,533	484	4.0	11,783	11,398	385	3.3
Jonesboro	40,590	39,448	1,142	2.8	40,322	39,093	1,229	3.0	40,419	39,395	1,024	2.5
Little Rock	101,000	97,520	3,480	3.4	100,373	96,797	3,576	3.6	98,523	95,662	2,861	2.9
North Little Rock	31,114	29,988	1,126	3.6	30,965	29,766	1,199	3.9	30,372	29,417	955	3.1
Paragould	12,670	12,202	468	3.7	12,496	12,012	484	3.9	12,633	12,256	377	3.0
Pine Bluff	14,867	14,123	744	5.0	14,855	14,038	817	5.5	15,103	14,376	727	4.8
Rogers	40,563	39,596	967	2.4	40,233	39,200	1,033	2.6	39,586	38,765	821	2.1
Russellville	13,110	12,725	385	2.9	13,058	12,576	482	3.7	13,285	12,885	400	3.0
Searcy	10,268	9,924	344	3.4	10,193	9,839	354	3.5	10,202	9,907	295	2.9
Sherwood	16,846	16,366	480	2.8	16,778	16,244	534	3.2	16,491	16,054	437	2.6
Springdale	42,996	42,013	983	2.3	42,615	41,604	1,011	2.4	42,015	41,131	884	2.1
Texarkana, AR	12,714	12,202	512	4.0	12,739	12,199	540	4.2	12,636	12,219	417	3.3
Van Buren	10,459	10,119	340	3.3	10,430	10,048	382	3.7	10,261	9,994	267	2.6
West Memphis	9,859	9,422	437	4.4	9,824	9,363	461	4.7	10,007	9,588	419	4.2

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	March 2024				February 2024				March 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,157	8,899	258	2.8	8,948	8,685	263	2.9	9,129	8,904	225	2.5
Ashley	6,389	6,035	354	5.5	6,352	5,969	383	6.0	6,400	6,076	324	5.1
Baxter	16,915	16,253	662	3.9	16,731	16,050	681	4.1	16,906	16,386	520	3.1
Benton	157,908	153,983	3,925	2.5	156,545	152,443	4,102	2.6	154,205	150,753	3,452	2.2
Boone	15,994	15,463	531	3.3	15,924	15,363	561	3.5	15,829	15,370	459	2.9
Bradley	4,107	3,939	168	4.1	4,016	3,845	171	4.3	4,122	3,936	186	4.5
Calhoun	2,400	2,322	78	3.3	2,345	2,264	81	3.5	2,396	2,327	69	2.9
Carroll	12,150	11,762	388	3.2	11,874	11,399	475	4.0	12,190	11,864	326	2.7
Chicot	2,842	2,678	164	5.8	2,763	2,594	169	6.1	2,896	2,743	153	5.3
Clark	8,449	8,099	350	4.1	8,422	8,021	401	4.8	8,537	8,197	340	4.0
Clay	5,391	5,149	242	4.5	5,252	4,968	284	5.4	5,438	5,232	206	3.8
Cleburne	8,983	8,602	381	4.2	8,882	8,492	390	4.4	8,901	8,575	326	3.7
Cleveland	3,042	2,934	108	3.6	2,982	2,873	109	3.7	3,103	3,006	97	3.1
Columbia	8,891	8,545	346	3.9	8,843	8,474	369	4.2	8,834	8,496	338	3.8
Conway	8,284	7,975	309	3.7	8,259	7,916	343	4.2	8,265	7,980	285	3.4
Craighead	57,450	55,860	1,590	2.8	57,055	55,357	1,698	3.0	57,182	55,785	1,397	2.4
Crawford	26,812	25,897	915	3.4	26,677	25,716	961	3.6	26,316	25,577	739	2.8
Crittenden	20,097	19,307	790	3.9	20,052	19,187	865	4.3	20,423	19,647	776	3.8
Cross	6,862	6,609	253	3.7	6,714	6,439	275	4.1	6,855	6,650	205	3.0
Dallas	2,650	2,545	105	4.0	2,617	2,509	108	4.1	2,641	2,539	102	3.9
Desha	4,992	4,731	261	5.2	4,850	4,584	266	5.5	4,922	4,716	206	4.2
Drew	7,415	7,106	309	4.2	7,290	6,955	335	4.6	7,636	7,348	288	3.8
Faulkner	65,332	63,454	1,878	2.9	64,899	62,887	2,012	3.1	64,045	62,310	1,735	2.7
Franklin	7,526	7,280	246	3.3	7,435	7,180	255	3.4	7,423	7,209	214	2.9
Fulton	4,538	4,364	174	3.8	4,482	4,299	183	4.1	4,520	4,365	155	3.4
Garland	41,342	39,827	1,515	3.7	41,176	39,590	1,586	3.9	41,367	39,966	1,401	3.4
Grant	8,753	8,510	243	2.8	8,642	8,384	258	3.0	8,604	8,379	225	2.6
Greene	19,902	19,199	703	3.5	19,653	18,900	753	3.8	19,883	19,284	599	3.0
Hempstead	9,039	8,742	297	3.3	8,956	8,635	321	3.6	9,237	8,977	260	2.8
Hot Spring	13,670	13,181	489	3.6	13,571	13,050	521	3.8	13,718	13,290	428	3.1
Howard	5,291	5,126	165	3.1	5,177	5,000	177	3.4	5,301	5,135	166	3.1
Independence	16,853	16,357	496	2.9	16,734	16,198	536	3.2	16,897	16,414	483	2.9
Izard	4,450	4,228	222	5.0	4,382	4,156	226	5.2	4,463	4,278	185	4.1
Jackson	5,402	5,171	231	4.3	5,263	5,005	258	4.9	5,416	5,175	241	4.4
Jefferson	25,084	23,985	1,099	4.4	25,037	23,841	1,196	4.8	25,478	24,414	1,064	4.2
Johnson	9,864	9,365	499	5.1	9,796	9,247	549	5.6	9,986	9,633	353	3.5
Lafayette	2,180	2,079	101	4.6	2,144	2,029	115	5.4	2,289	2,185	104	4.5
Lawrence	6,911	6,662	249	3.6	6,756	6,495	261	3.9	6,944	6,752	192	2.8
Lee	2,562	2,444	118	4.6	2,475	2,347	128	5.2	2,630	2,510	120	4.6
Lincoln	3,670	3,497	173	4.7	3,580	3,412	168	4.7	3,724	3,585	139	3.7
Little River	5,161	4,961	200	3.9	5,184	4,957	227	4.4	5,132	4,968	164	3.2
Logan	8,297	7,948	349	4.2	8,165	7,827	338	4.1	8,303	8,020	283	3.4
Lonoke	35,494	34,490	1,004	2.8	35,014	33,989	1,025	2.9	34,824	33,968	856	2.5
Madison	8,110	7,887	223	2.7	7,882	7,661	221	2.8	7,995	7,810	185	2.3
Marion	5,900	5,641	259	4.4	5,874	5,583	291	5.0	6,134	5,921	213	3.5
Miller	18,552	17,837	715	3.9	18,568	17,832	736	4.0	18,473	17,862	611	3.3

(continued on Page 16)

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	March 2024				February 2024				March 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,092	16,345	747	4.4	16,834	16,012	822	4.9	16,668	15,980	688	4.1
Monroe	2,459	2,366	93	3.8	2,375	2,278	97	4.1	2,505	2,409	96	3.8
Montgomery	2,998	2,857	141	4.7	2,830	2,679	151	5.3	2,883	2,758	125	4.3
Nevada	3,308	3,189	119	3.6	3,310	3,176	134	4.0	3,367	3,264	103	3.1
Newton	3,231	3,108	123	3.8	3,201	3,058	143	4.5	3,196	3,107	89	2.8
Ouachita	9,761	9,373	388	4.0	9,691	9,282	409	4.2	9,674	9,315	359	3.7
Perry	4,361	4,207	154	3.5	4,310	4,146	164	3.8	4,284	4,148	136	3.2
Phillips	5,175	4,883	292	5.6	5,069	4,742	327	6.5	5,446	5,098	348	6.4
Pike	4,065	3,927	138	3.4	3,946	3,802	144	3.6	4,083	3,962	121	3.0
Poinsett	10,001	9,636	365	3.6	9,809	9,419	390	4.0	9,969	9,687	282	2.8
Polk	7,787	7,449	338	4.3	7,646	7,285	361	4.7	7,937	7,678	259	3.3
Pope	28,462	27,474	988	3.5	28,307	27,154	1,153	4.1	28,738	27,820	918	3.2
Prairie	3,546	3,430	116	3.3	3,437	3,314	123	3.6	3,538	3,446	92	2.6
Pulaski	196,173	189,603	6,570	3.3	195,110	188,198	6,912	3.5	191,461	185,991	5,470	2.9
Randolph	7,123	6,862	261	3.7	7,051	6,782	269	3.8	7,178	6,961	217	3.0
St. Francis	7,454	7,072	382	5.1	7,362	6,952	410	5.6	7,480	7,153	327	4.4
Saline	62,164	60,460	1,704	2.7	61,772	60,011	1,761	2.9	60,837	59,313	1,524	2.5
Scott	4,468	4,327	141	3.2	4,362	4,214	148	3.4	4,402	4,290	112	2.5
Searcy	2,852	2,734	118	4.1	2,811	2,677	134	4.8	2,737	2,619	118	4.3
Sebastian	56,386	54,470	1,916	3.4	56,299	54,272	2,027	3.6	55,250	53,701	1,549	2.8
Sevier	5,493	5,289	204	3.7	5,420	5,194	226	4.2	5,472	5,290	182	3.3
Sharp	5,997	5,752	245	4.1	5,946	5,695	251	4.2	5,908	5,695	213	3.6
Stone	4,552	4,364	188	4.1	4,420	4,209	211	4.8	4,536	4,368	168	3.7
Union	14,791	14,087	704	4.8	14,714	13,961	753	5.1	14,850	14,244	606	4.1
Van Buren	5,949	5,703	246	4.1	5,877	5,620	257	4.4	5,962	5,742	220	3.7
Washington	139,259	136,078	3,181	2.3	138,072	134,757	3,315	2.4	136,095	133,226	2,869	2.1
White	34,104	32,864	1,240	3.6	33,884	32,582	1,302	3.8	33,882	32,807	1,075	3.2
Woodruff	2,926	2,815	111	3.8	2,819	2,699	120	4.3	2,946	2,843	103	3.5
Yell	8,171	7,875	296	3.6	7,955	7,657	298	3.7	8,294	8,028	266	3.2

County Labor Force Summary

Between February and March, unemployment rates declined in 73 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Lincoln County remained stable over-the-month, while the rate in Logan County increased slightly. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.3% in Washington County to a high of 5.8% in Chicot County.

In March, ten counties in Arkansas posted an unemployment rate at or below 3%. That is up from eight counties at or below 3% last month. For the second month in a row, no county reported a jobless rate above 7%.

Compared to March 2023, jobless rates are up in 67 Arkansas counties. The average rate increase was five-tenths of a percentage point. Four counties posted rate declines over-the-year, with Phillips County down eight-tenths of a percentage point. Rates in four counties were unchanged.

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

MARCH

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	March 2024				February 2024				March 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	264,168	256,283	7,885	3.0	262,234	253,880	8,354	3.2	258,687	251,775	6,912	2.7
City of Little Rock	101,000	97,520	3,480	3.4	100,373	96,797	3,576	3.6	98,523	95,662	2,861	2.9
Eastern	42,150	40,315	1,835	4.4	41,672	39,667	2,005	4.8	42,834	41,058	1,776	4.1
North Central	93,754	90,220	3,534	3.8	92,689	88,955	3,734	4.0	93,431	90,262	3,169	3.4
Northeast	123,870	119,713	4,157	3.4	122,410	117,933	4,477	3.7	123,262	119,681	3,581	2.9
Northwest	362,319	352,909	9,410	2.6	358,914	348,991	9,923	2.8	355,287	347,056	8,231	2.3
Southeast	75,451	72,314	3,137	4.2	74,460	71,142	3,318	4.5	76,014	73,107	2,907	3.8
Southwest	87,517	84,095	3,422	3.9	86,969	83,313	3,656	4.2	87,666	84,602	3,064	3.5
West Central	129,666	124,787	4,879	3.8	128,572	123,262	5,310	4.1	130,155	125,782	4,373	3.4
Western	111,276	107,371	3,905	3.5	110,584	106,494	4,090	3.7	109,631	106,475	3,156	2.9

