

**2024**

**ARKANSAS**

**LABOR**

**MARKET**

**REPORT**

**MAY**



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Arkansas Division of  
**Workforce Services**

# 2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

# MAY

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## 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  
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## 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.

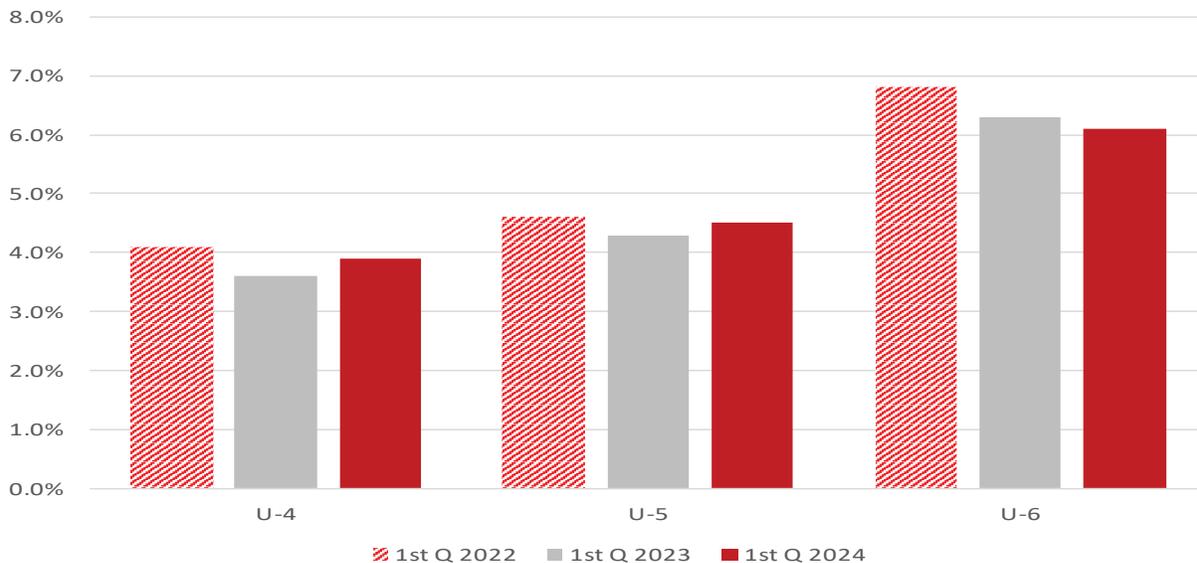
The following definitions are used to calculate each measure of Labor Underutilization:

- 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.

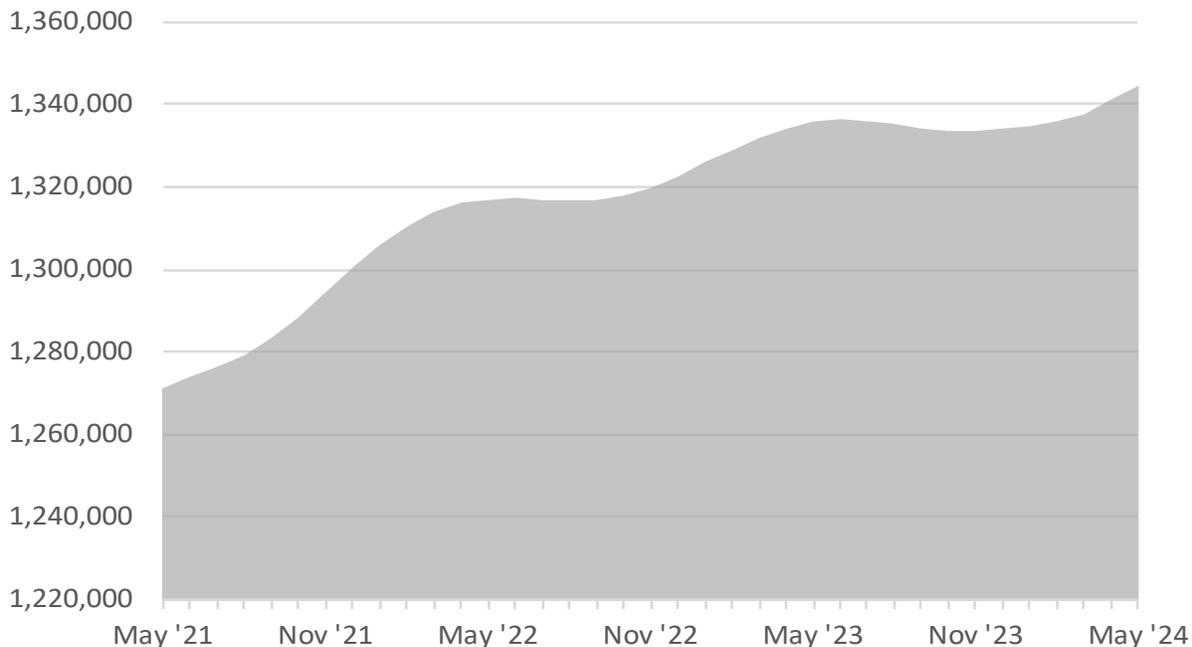
Compared to May 2023, the number of employed in the State is up 8,502. There are now 6,795 more unemployed Arkansans actively seeking work, while the labor force participation rate remains unchanged over the year.

### 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
Employment	1,344,233	1,340,827	1,335,731	Employment	1,354,849	1,359,244
Unemployment	46,918	47,526	40,123	Unemployment	45,587	43,216
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.4%	2.9%	Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.1%
LF Participation Rate	57.5%	57.5%	57.5%	LF Participation Rate	57.9%	58.1%

### Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

May 2021 - May 2023



# 2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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### State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

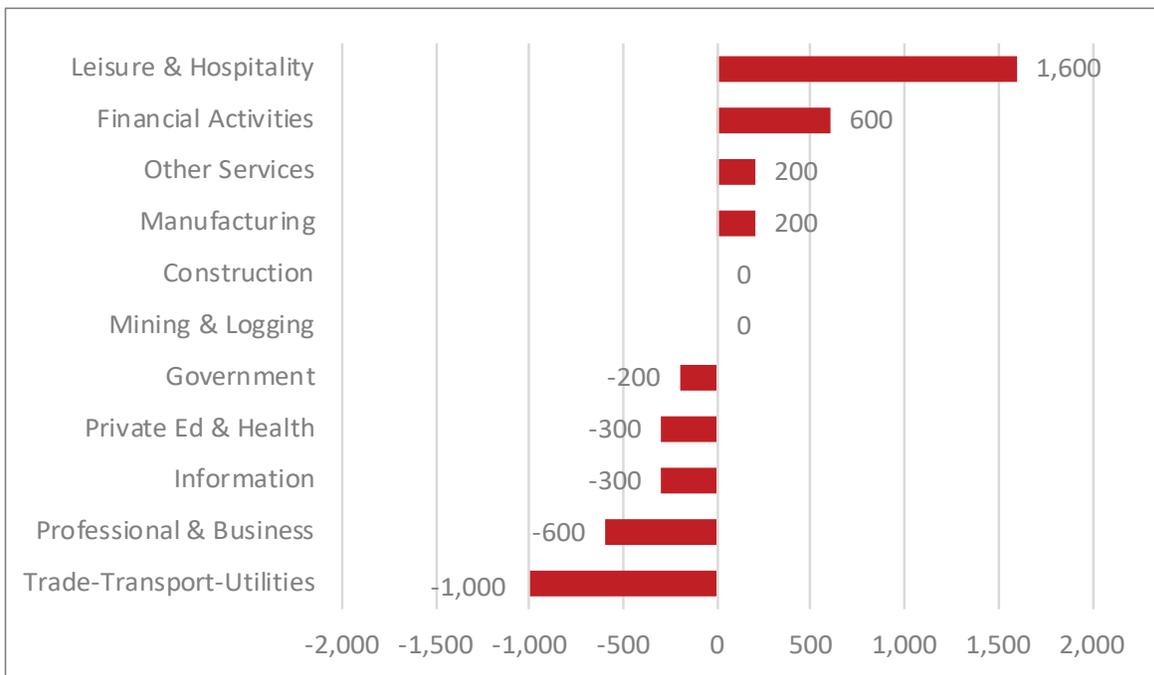
(NAICS)	May 24	Apr 24	May 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	1376.0	1375.8	1357.4	0.2	18.6
Goods Producing	233.8	233.6	231.1	0.2	2.7
Mining, Logging, & Construction	72.7	72.7	68.5	0.0	4.2
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>67.4</b>	<b>67.4</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	42.5	42.6	39.5	-0.1	3.0
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>161.1</b>	<b>160.9</b>	<b>162.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
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
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>268.3</b>	<b>269.3</b>	<b>266.1</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>
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
<b>Information</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>70.3</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>
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
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>159.1</b>	<b>159.7</b>	<b>158.2</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>
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
<b>Private Education &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>213.8</b>	<b>214.1</b>	<b>207.1</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>
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
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>133.1</b>	<b>131.5</b>	<b>130.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>
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
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>216.5</b>	<b>216.7</b>	<b>213.8</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>
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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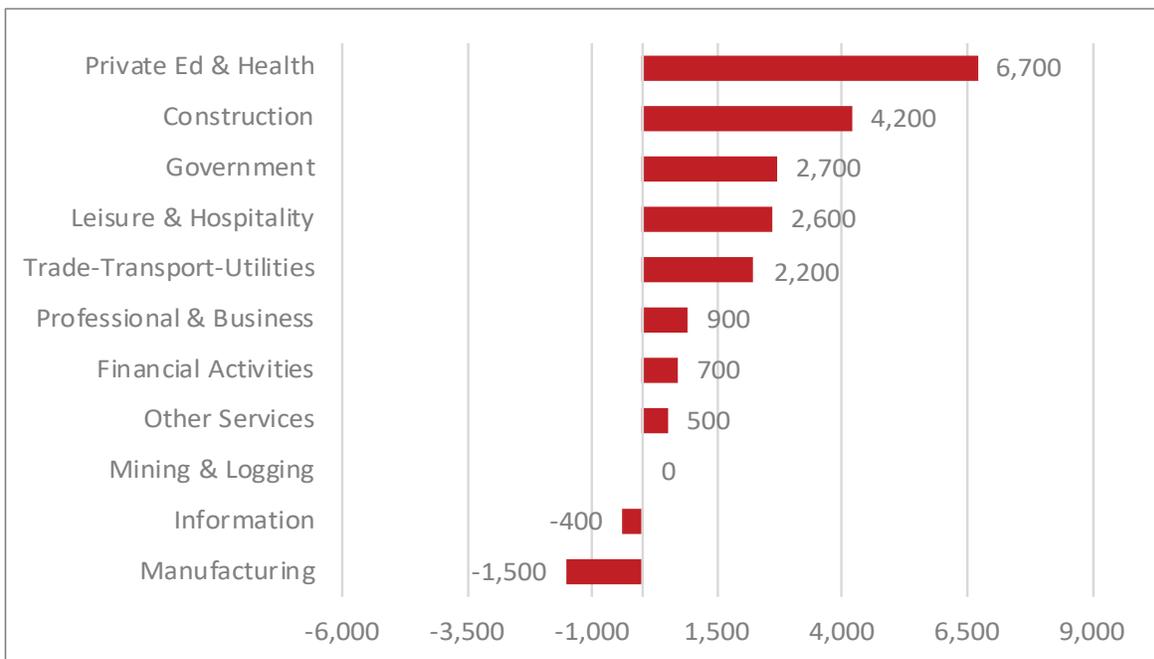
## MAY

### 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)



# 2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

## MAY

### State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

#### Manufacturing

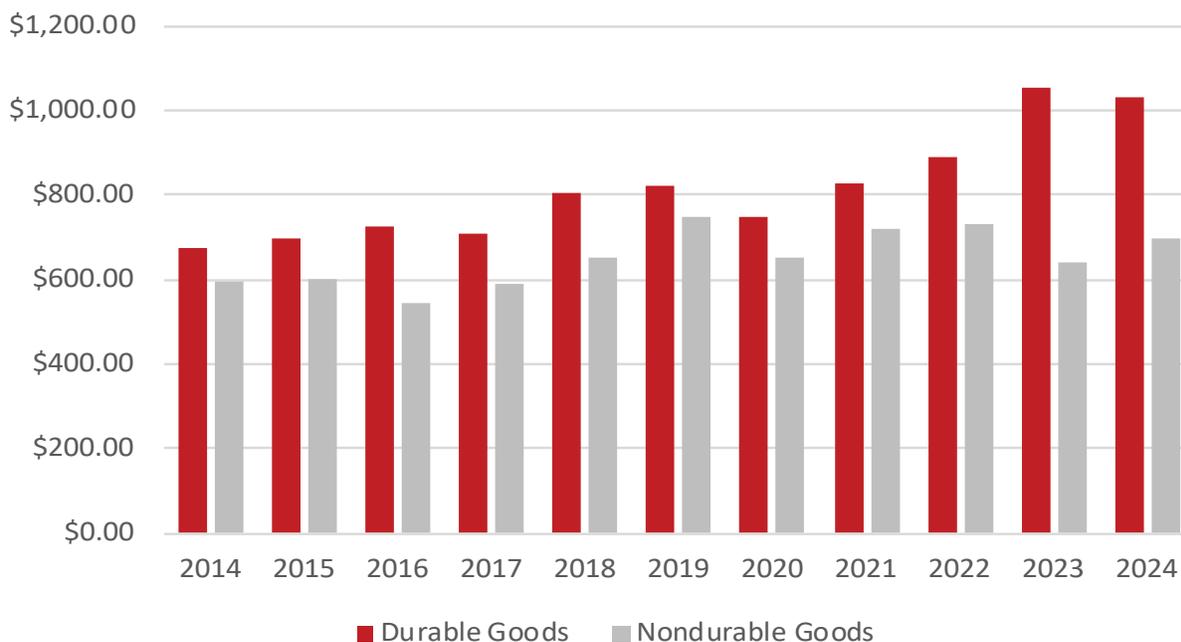
	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>May 23</u>
Average Weekly Hours	37.9	38.4	38.6
Average Hourly Earnings	\$22.57	\$22.04	\$21.63
Average Weekly Earnings	\$855.40	\$846.34	\$834.92

#### 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



# 2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

## MAY

### 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)

	<b>May 24</b>	<b>Apr 24</b>	<b>May 23</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
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)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>May 24</b>	<b>Apr 24</b>	<b>May 23</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	398.3	397.3	389.1	1.0	9.2
<b>Goods Producing</b>	42.9	42.6	40.6	0.3	2.3
<b>Mining, Logging &amp; Construction</b>	22.2	22.2	20.9	0.0	1.3
<b>Manufacturing</b>	20.7	20.4	19.7	0.3	1.0
<b>Service Providing</b>	355.4	354.7	348.5	0.7	6.9
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	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
<b>Information</b>	5.3	5.3	5.6	0.0	-0.3
<b>Financial Activities</b>	27.9	27.7	27.8	0.2	0.1
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	50.1	50.4	49.4	-0.3	0.7
<b>Private Education &amp; Health Services</b>	66.3	65.9	63.8	0.4	2.5
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	36.5	35.7	35.6	0.8	0.9
<b>Other Services</b>	19.8	19.7	19.4	0.1	0.4
<b>Government</b>	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

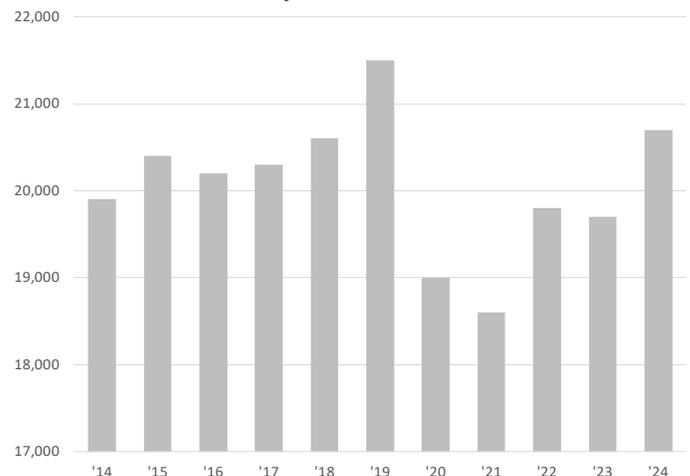
### Employment

May 2021 - May 2024



### Jobs in Manufacturing

May: 2014 - 2024



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## MAY

### 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%

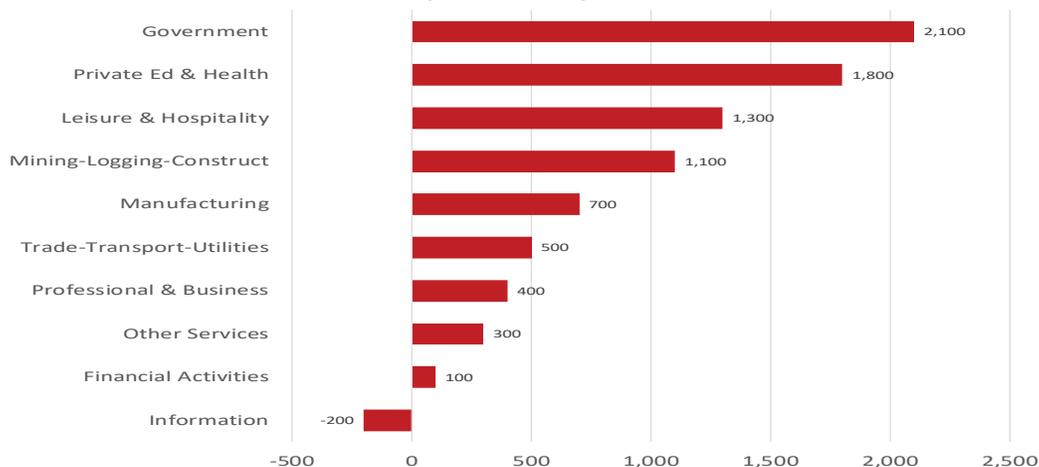
#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(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



# 2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

# MAY

## 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

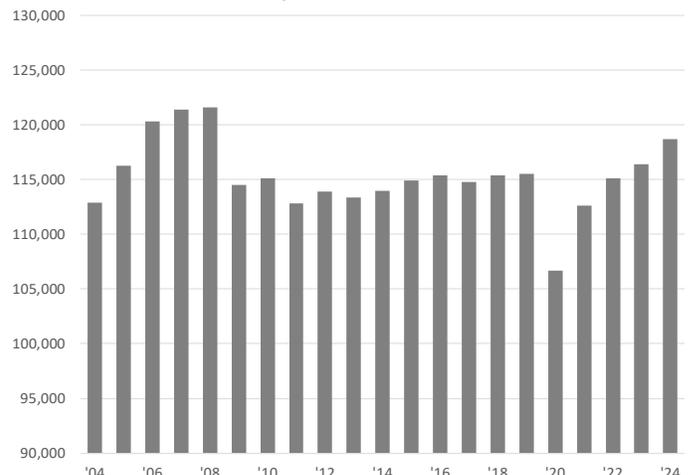
### Employment

May 2021 - May 2024



### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

May: 2004 - 2024



# 2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

## MAY

### 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>OTY</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%

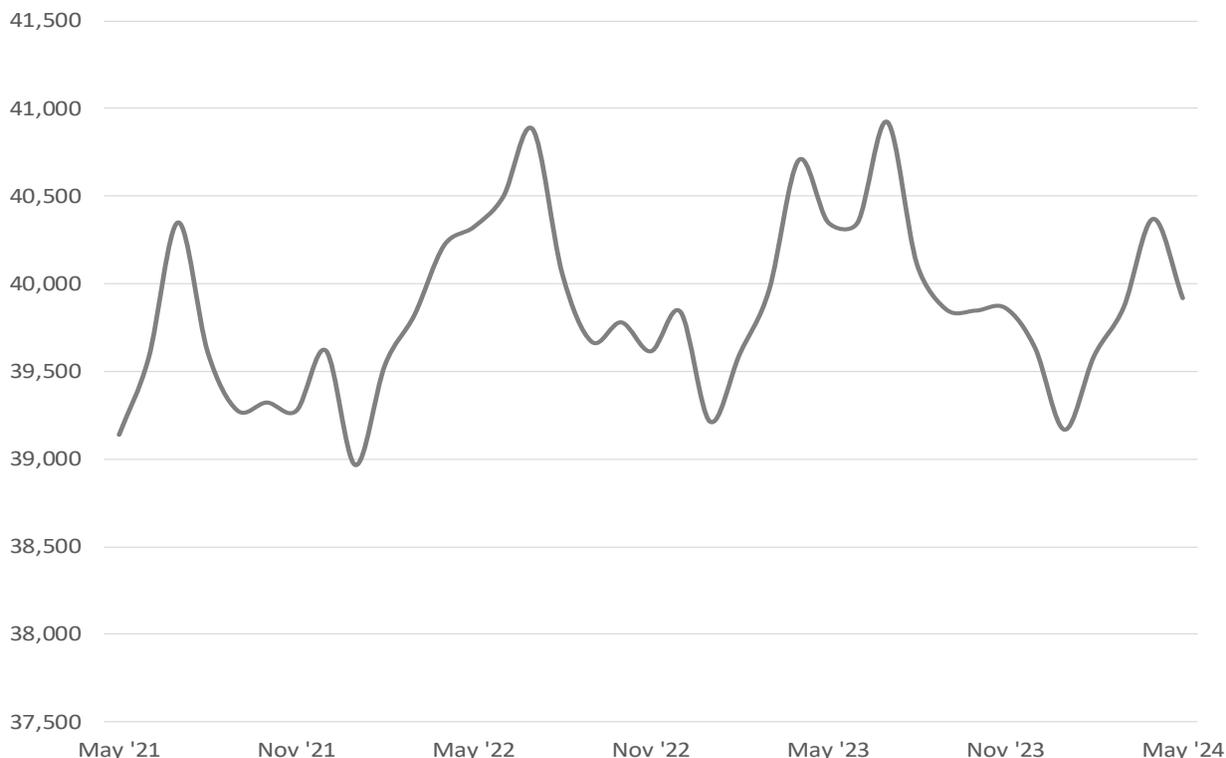
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>May 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</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



# 2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

# MAY

## 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%

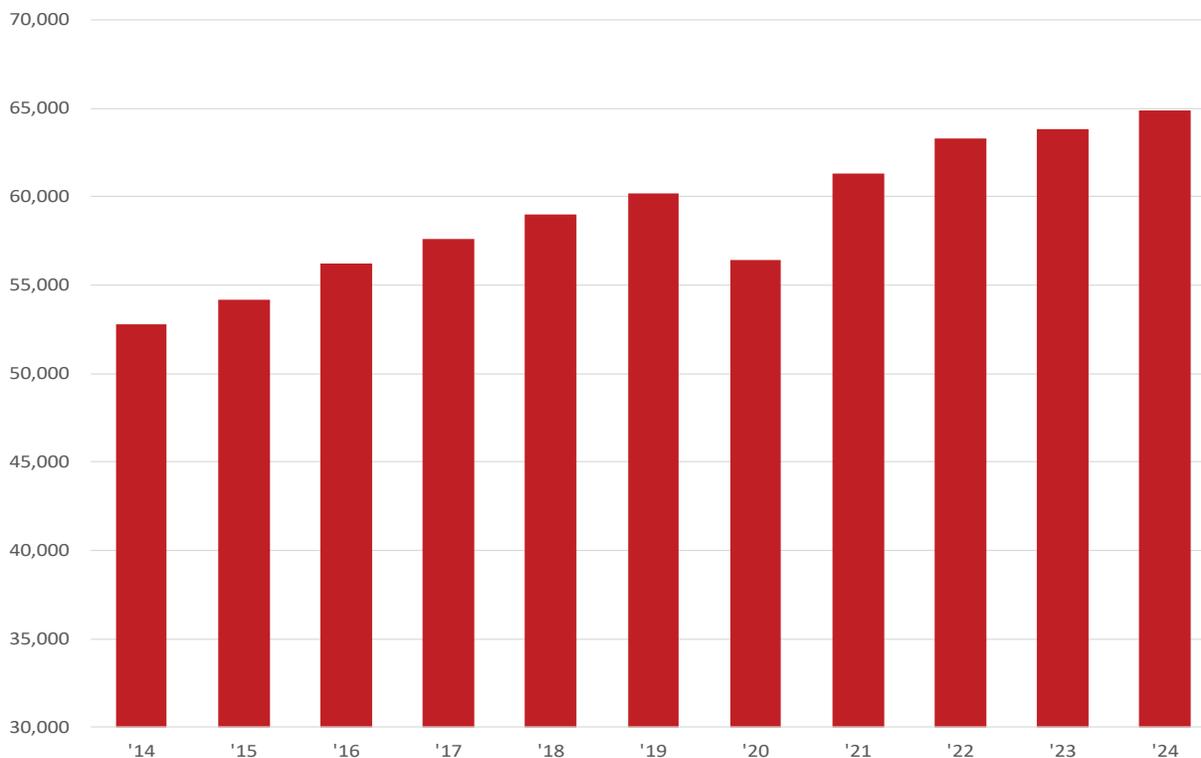
#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(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

# MAY

## 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%

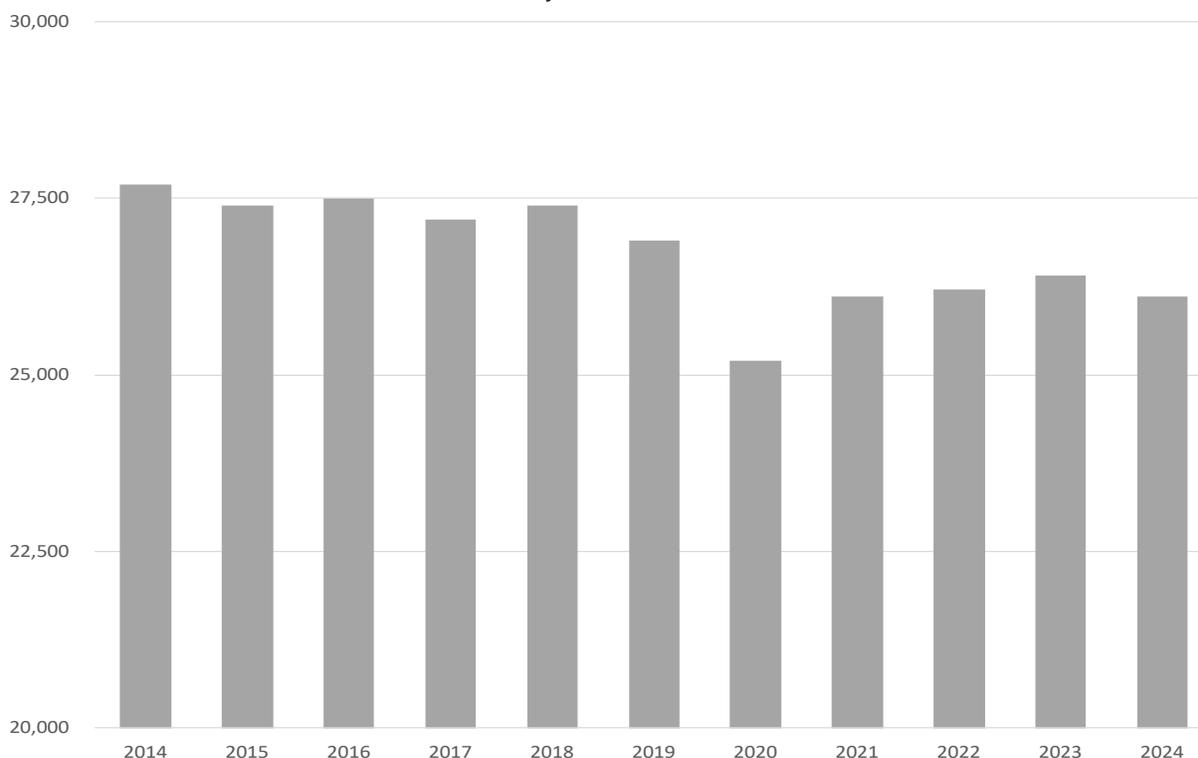
#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(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.

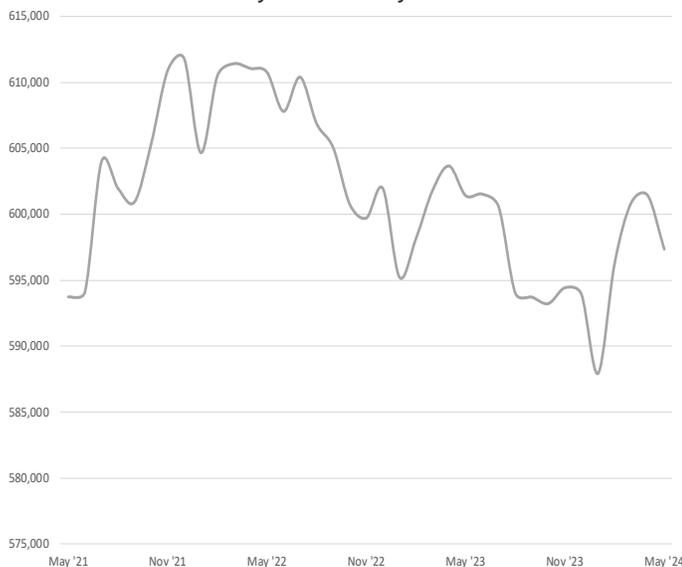
	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>May 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	619,289	621,615	624,628	-2,326	-5,339
Employment	597,368	601,429	601,416	-4,061	-4,048
Unemployment	21,921	20,186	23,212	1,735	-1,291
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.2%	3.7%	0.3%	-0.2%

#### Texarkana MSA

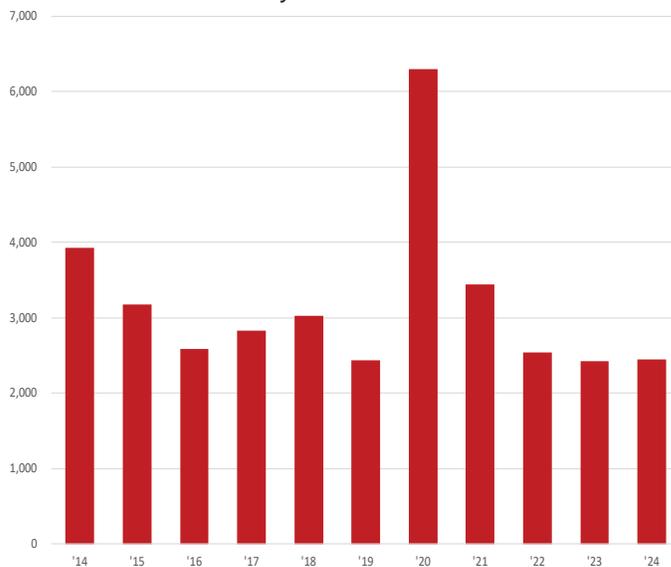
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<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.

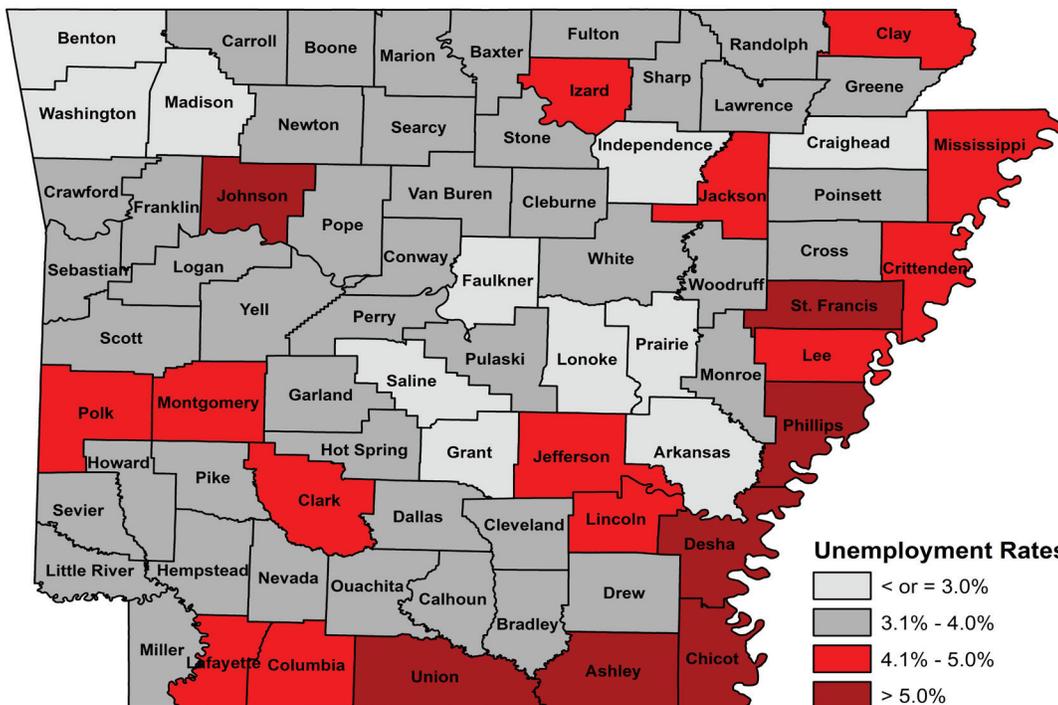
In May, eleven counties posted jobless rates at or below 3%. That is down from 16 counties at or below 3% last month. For the fourth month in a row, no county in Arkansas had a rate at or above seven percent.

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

LWDA	May 2024				April 2024				May 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
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

