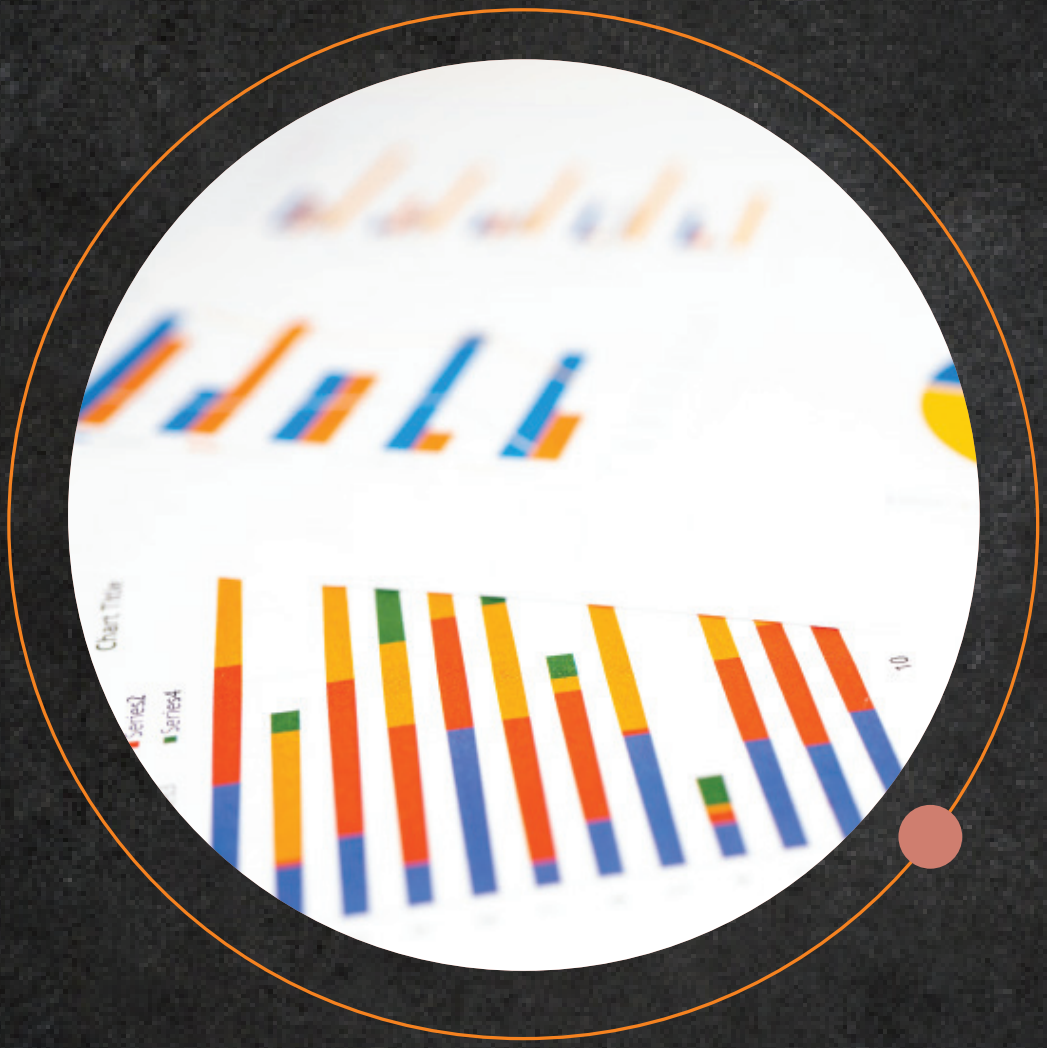


2026 Arkansas Labor Market Report

July

www.discover.arkansas.gov



2026 Arkansas Labor Market Report | July

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.....13

County Labor Force Statistics.....14

Local Workforce Development Areas.....17

Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

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 2025 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 1,200 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.

July Spotlight

A Comparative Look at Labor Force Participation Rates

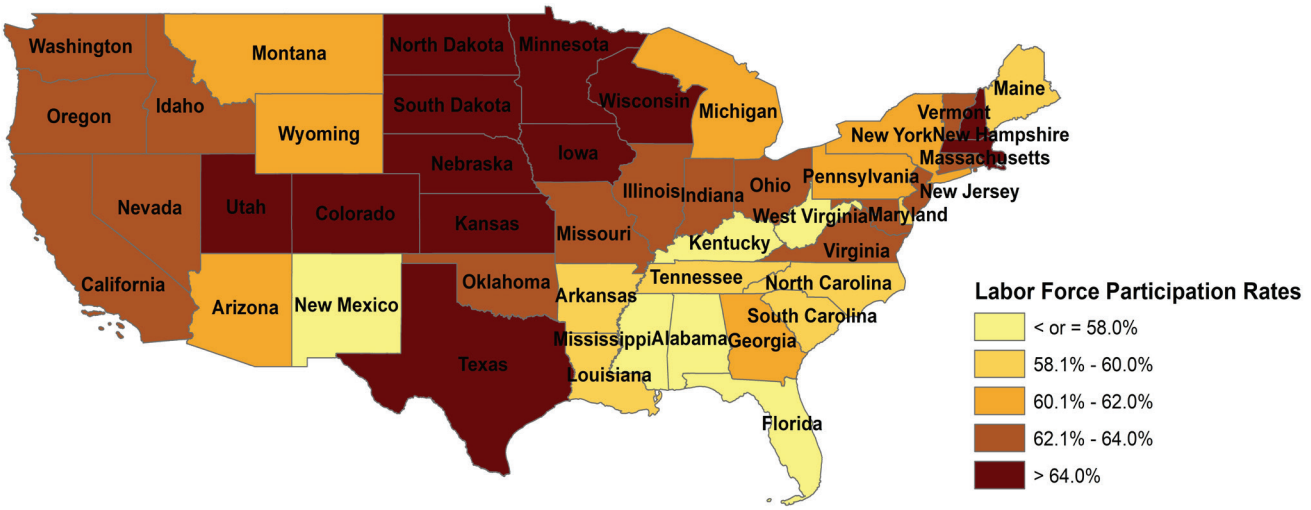
The Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is the number of people in the Civilian Labor Force (Employed + Unemployed) as a percentage of the civilian non-institutionalized population aged 16 and older. It represents the percentage of the population that is either working or actively looking for work. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) calculates LFPRs monthly at the US and Statewide levels. No substate LFPRs are officially calculated by BLS.

In July, LFPRs ranged from a low of 53.8% in West Virginia to a high of 70.2% in the District of Columbia. Arkansas' rate ranked 39th, with a LFPR of 59.2%. Compared to July 2025, LFPRs are down in 41 states and the District of Columbia. Nine states posted rate increases, with Arkansas increasing six-tenths of a percentage point over the year (from 58.6% in July 2025 to 59.2% in July 2026).

Labor Force Participation Rates by State (Seasonally Adjusted)
July 2026 with Over-the-Year Change

State	Jul '26	OTY Change	State	Jul '26	OTY Change	State	Jul '26	OTY Change
Alabama	56.9	-0.6	Kentucky	57.7	-0.6	North Dakota	69.2	-0.4
Alaska	65.7	0.2	Louisiana	58.5	0.6	Ohio	61.4	-1.0
Arizona	60.1	-2.0	Maine	58.8	-1.0	Oklahoma	61.9	-1.3
Arkansas	**59.2**	0.6	Maryland	63.8	-0.8	Oregon	62.4	-0.6
California	61.6	-0.8	Massachusetts	65.3	-1.2	Pennsylvania	62.5	1.1
Colorado	65.5	-1.6	Michigan	59.1	-2.0	Rhode Island	62.1	-2.0
Connecticut	62.2	-1.8	Minnesota	66.9	-1.4	South Carolina	58.8	0.6
Delaware	58.1	-1.7	Mississippi	55.0	-0.7	South Dakota	66.8	-1.4
District Of Columbia	70.2	-1.6	Missouri	63.3	-0.2	Tennessee	59.3	-1.3
Florida	57.5	-0.1	Montana	61.5	-0.9	Texas	64.2	-0.6
Georgia	60.9	0.2	Nebraska	69.4	-0.7	Utah	66.3	-1.5
Hawaii	61.0	0.5	Nevada	62.8	0.0	Vermont	62.1	-1.9
Idaho	61.6	-1.6	New Hampshire	65.0	-0.4	Virginia	63.0	-1.1
Illinois	63.3	-0.7	New Jersey	63.5	-0.1	Washington	62.1	-0.6
Indiana	63.1	-0.7	New Mexico	56.7	-0.9	West Virginia	53.8	-0.6
Iowa	67.1	-0.6	New York	61.3	0.3	Wisconsin	64.5	0.4
Kansas	66.7	-1.2	North Carolina	58.0	-1.4	Wyoming	60.3	-1.0

U.S. Unemployment Rate = 61.4%



State of Arkansas

Civilian Labor Force Summary

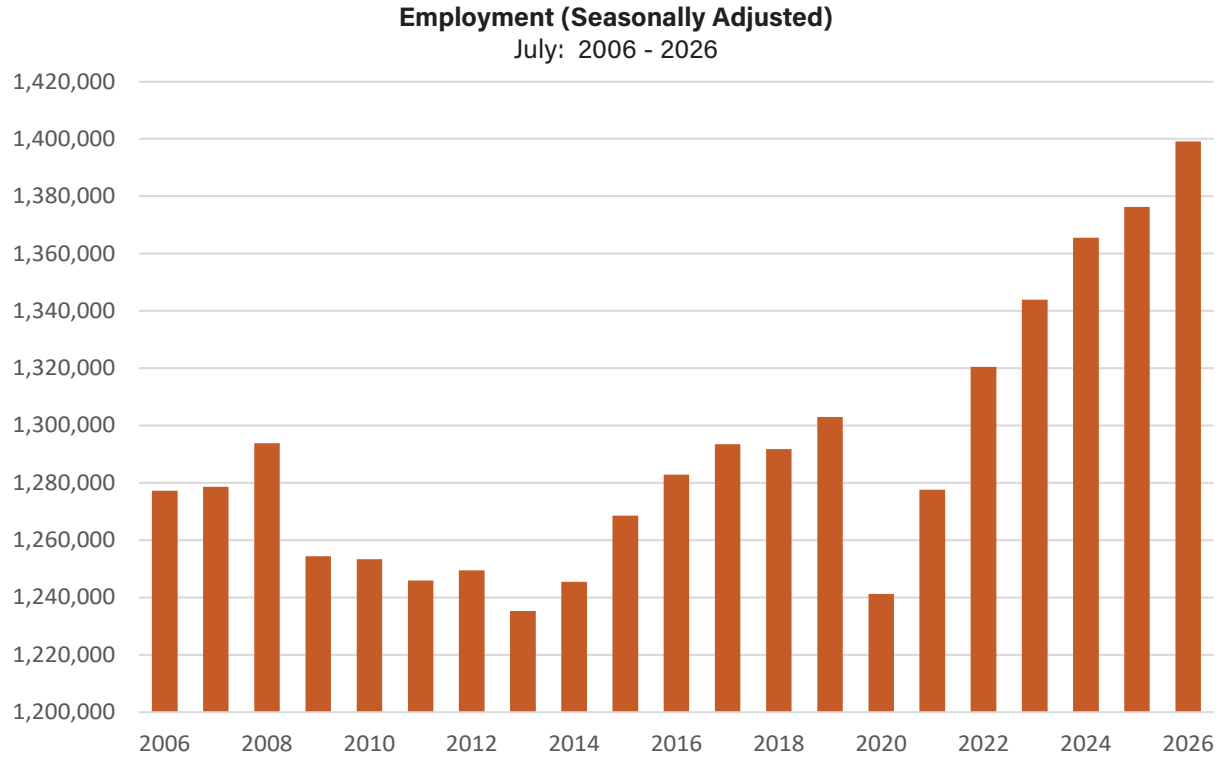
The Arkansas Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined one-tenth of a percentage point, from 4.1% in June to 4.0% in July. At 4.1%, the United States' jobless rate also declined one-tenth of percentage point over the month.

The civilian labor force in Arkansas increased by 163 in July, with 1,135 more employed in the State. Both series remain at record high levels. The number of unemployed Arkansans actively seeking work declined by 972, pushing the unemployment rate down for a third consecutive month.

Compared to July 2025, there are 22,895 additional employed Arkansans. Unemployment is stable over the year (+131) while the size of the labor force is up 23,026, resulting in a labor force participation rate increase of six-tenths of a percentage point.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Jul 26	**Jun 26**	**Jul 25**		**Jul 26**	**Jun 26**	**Jul 25**
Civilian Labor Force	1,457,841	1,457,678	1,434,815	Civilian Labor Force	1,469,156	1,481,680	1,448,455
Employment	1,399,144	1,398,009	1,376,249	Employment	1,404,728	1,417,829	1,382,489
Unemployment	58,697	59,669	58,566	Unemployment	64,428	63,851	65,966
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%	Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.3%	4.6%
LF Participation Rate	59.2%	59.2%	58.6%	LF Participation Rate	59.6%	60.2%	59.2%



State of Arkansas

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

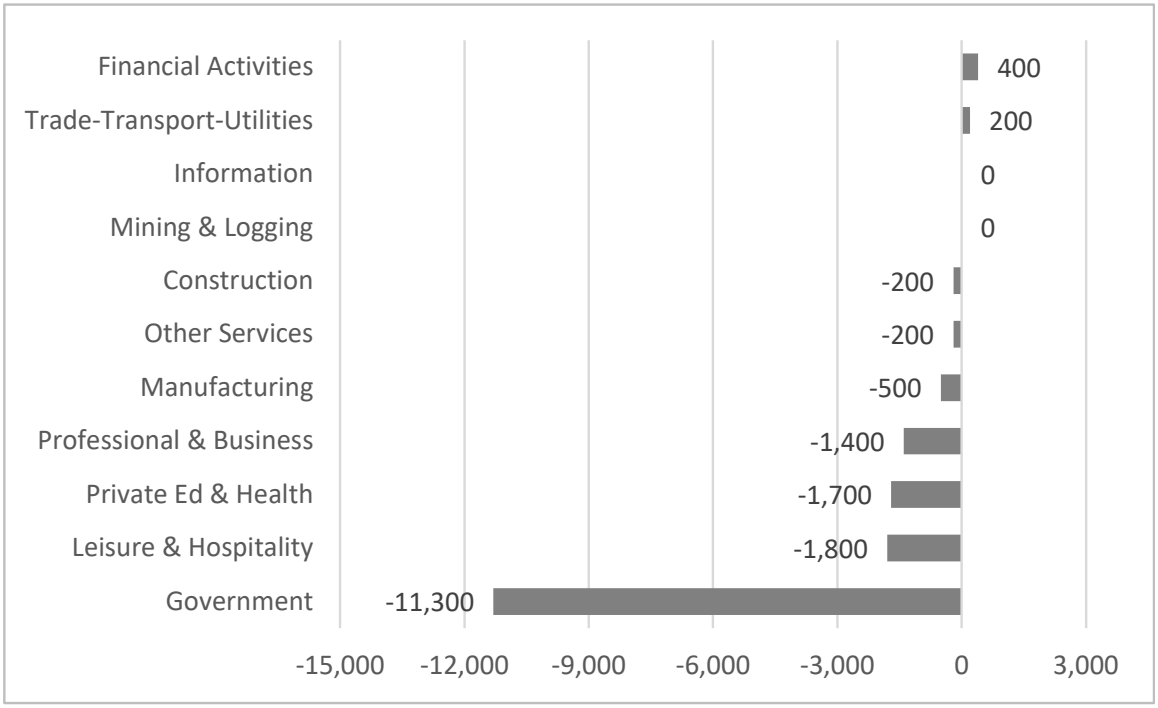
(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Total Nonfarm	1329.9	1346.4	1320.6	-16.5	9.3
Goods Producing	231.7	232.4	230.8	-0.7	0.9
Mining, Logging, & Construction	72.7	72.9	71.7	-0.2	1.0
Mining & Logging	**4.8**	**4.8**	**4.8**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Construction	**67.9**	**68.1**	**66.9**	**-0.2**	**1.0**
Specialty Trade Contractors	42.3	42.4	41.9	-0.1	0.4
Manufacturing	**159.0**	**159.5**	**159.1**	**-0.5**	**-0.1**
Durable Goods	75.4	75.5	75.1	-0.1	0.3
Nondurable Goods	83.6	84.0	84.0	-0.4	-0.4
Service Providing	1098.2	1114.0	1089.8	-15.8	8.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	**273.7**	**273.5**	**270.4**	**0.2**	**3.3**
Wholesale Trade	54.8	54.9	54.1	-0.1	0.7
Retail Trade	144.0	144.5	142.5	-0.5	1.5
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	74.9	74.1	73.8	0.8	1.1
Information	**12.1**	**12.1**	**12.1**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Financial Activities	**59.0**	**58.6**	**60.4**	**0.4**	**-1.4**
Finance & Insurance	43.6	43.4	44.6	0.2	-1.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	15.4	15.2	15.8	0.2	-0.4
Professional & Business Services	**165.5**	**166.9**	**161.3**	**-1.4**	**4.2**
Professional, Scientific & Technical	54.7	54.1	52.8	0.6	1.9
Management of Companies	43.0	43.3	43.0	-0.3	0.0
Administrative & Support Services	67.8	69.5	65.5	-1.7	2.3
Private Education & Health Services	**206.9**	**208.6**	**206.8**	**-1.7**	**0.1**
Private Educational Services	15.8	16.7	15.9	-0.9	-0.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	191.1	191.9	190.9	-0.8	0.2
Ambulatory Health Care	69.9	70.2	69.4	-0.3	0.5
Social Assistance	39.9	40.7	40.3	-0.8	-0.4
Leisure & Hospitality	**137.6**	**139.4**	**133.9**	**-1.8**	**3.7**
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	17.3	17.7	16.2	-0.4	1.1
Accommodation & Food Services	120.3	121.7	117.7	-1.4	2.6
Accommodation Services	11.3	11.4	11.4	-0.1	-0.1
Food Services	109.0	110.3	106.3	-1.3	2.7
Other Services	**52.6**	**52.8**	**53.1**	**-0.2**	**-0.5**
Government	**190.8**	**202.1**	**191.8**	**-11.3**	**-1.0**
Federal Government	20.3	20.2	21.3	0.1	-1.0
State Government	65.2	67.2	65.9	-2.0	-0.7
State Gov, Educational Services	21.0	22.6	21.5	-1.6	-0.5
State Gov, Excluding Education	44.2	44.6	44.4	-0.4	-0.2
Local Government	105.3	114.7	104.6	-9.4	0.7
Local Gov, Educational Services	57.4	66.9	57.4	-9.5	0.0
Local Gov, Excluding Education	47.9	47.8	47.2	0.1	0.7

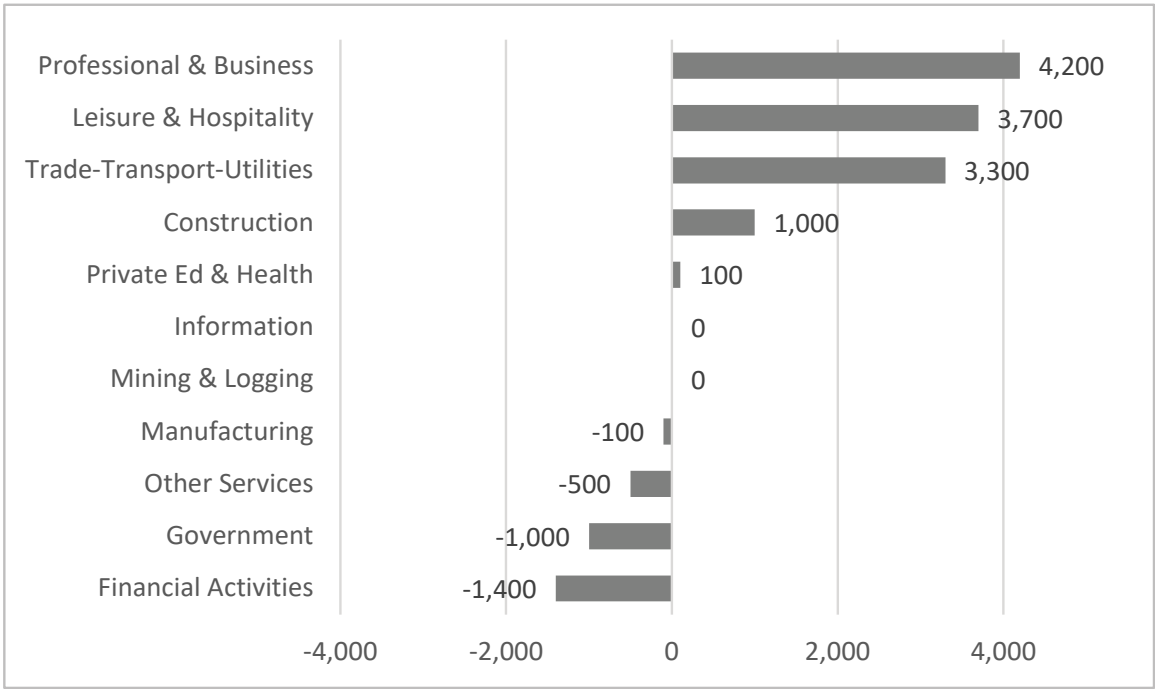
State of Arkansas

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
June 2026 - July 2026 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
July 2025 - July 2026 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



State of Arkansas

Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

Manufacturing

	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25
Average Weekly Hours	40.0	39.8	37.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$25.00	$24.63	$23.66
Average Weekly Earnings	$1,000.00	$980.27	$891.98

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

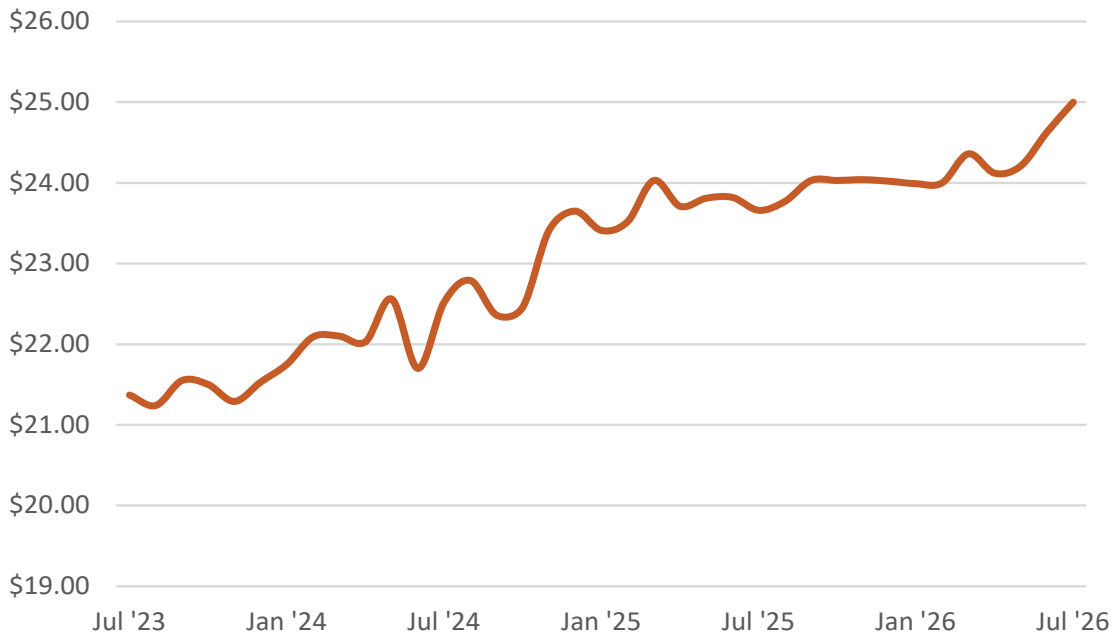
Durable Goods Manufacturing

	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25
Average Weekly Hours	44.6	43.9	42.3
Average Hourly Earnings	$27.25	$26.68	$25.56
Average Weekly Earnings	$1,215.35	$1,171.25	$1,081.19

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25
Average Weekly Hours	35.7	36.1	33.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$22.45	$22.37	$21.60
Average Weekly Earnings	$801.47	$807.56	$730.08

Average Hourly Earnings in Manufacturing - Production Workers
July 2023 - July 2026



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)

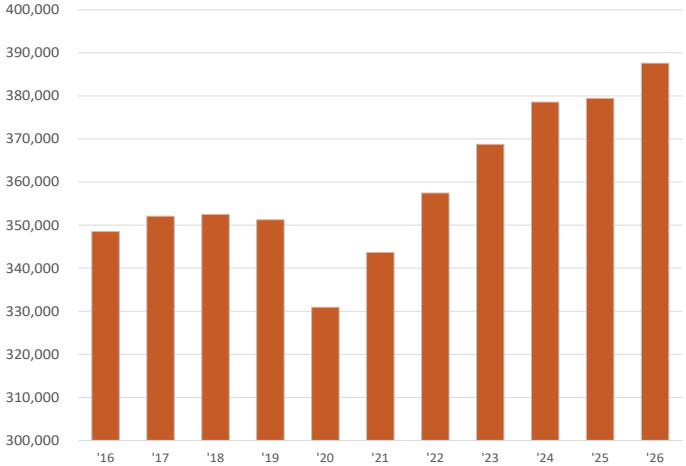
	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	404,468	402,314	396,216	2,154	8,252
Employment	387,590	385,885	379,421	1,705	8,169
Unemployment	16,878	16,429	16,795	449	83
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.1%	4.2%	0.1%	0.0%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

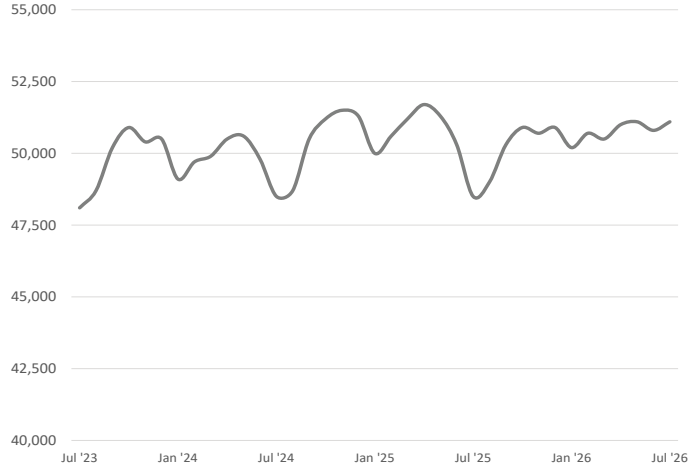
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Total Nonfarm	393.8	396.6	388.9	-2.8	4.9
Goods Producing	42.7	42.7	42.5	0.0	0.2
Mining, Logging & Construction	**21.9**	**21.9**	**21.7**	**0.0**	**0.2**
Manufacturing	**20.8**	**20.8**	**20.8**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Service Providing	351.1	353.9	346.4	-2.8	4.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	**82.2**	**82.2**	**80.3**	**0.0**	**1.9**
Wholesale Trade	18.4	18.5	18.3	-0.1	0.1
Retail Trade	39.9	40.0	39.2	-0.1	0.7
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	23.9	23.7	22.8	0.2	1.1
Information	**4.8**	**4.8**	**4.8**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Financial Activities	**24.8**	**24.8**	**25.5**	**0.0**	**-0.7**
Professional & Business Services	**51.1**	**50.8**	**48.5**	**0.3**	**2.6**
Private Education & Health Services	**67.1**	**67.7**	**65.2**	**-0.6**	**1.9**
Leisure & Hospitality	**36.7**	**37.0**	**36.4**	**-0.3**	**0.3**
Other Services	**18.8**	**18.8**	**19.0**	**0.0**	**-0.2**
Government	**65.6**	**67.8**	**66.7**	**-2.2**	**-1.1**
Federal Government	9.9	9.8	10.5	0.1	-0.6
State Government	30.9	31.3	31.4	-0.4	-0.5
Local Government	24.8	26.7	24.8	-1.9	0.0

Employment
July: 2016 - 2026



Jobs in Professional & Business Services
July 2023 - July 2026



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA = Benton, Madison, & Washington counties

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

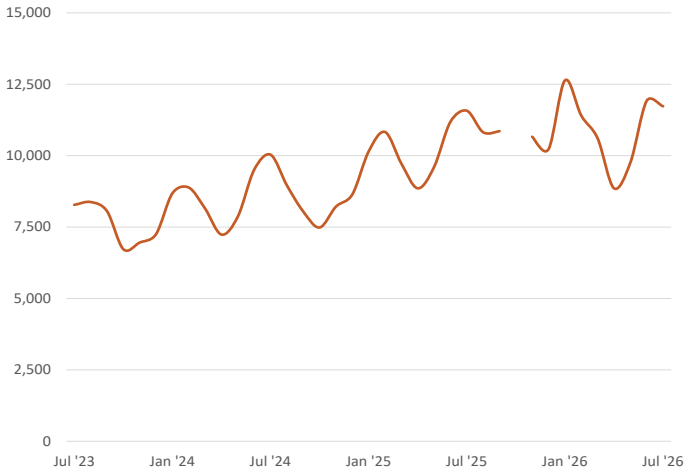
	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	330,934	330,903	320,202	31	10,732
Employment	319,207	318,985	308,630	222	10,577
Unemployment	11,727	11,918	11,572	-191	155
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%	-0.1%	-0.1%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

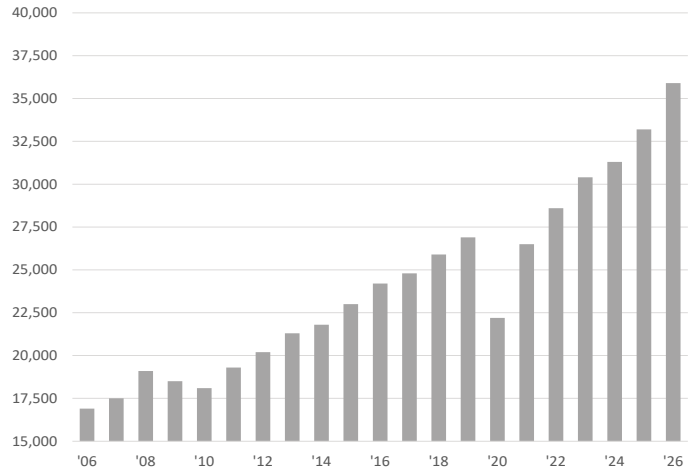
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Total Nonfarm	305.3	308.3	297.5	-3.0	7.8
Goods Producing	46.7	46.8	45.8	-0.1	0.9
Mining, Logging & Construction	**19.4**	**19.3**	**18.5**	**0.1**	**0.9**
Manufacturing	**27.3**	**27.5**	**27.3**	**-0.2**	**0.0**
Service Providing	258.6	261.5	251.7	-2.9	6.9
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	**62.0**	**62.3**	**61.0**	**-0.3**	**1.0**
Wholesale Trade	14.1	14.1	14.0	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	29.7	30.1	28.5	-0.4	1.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	18.2	18.1	18.5	0.1	-0.3
Information	**2.6**	**2.5**	**2.6**	**0.1**	**0.0**
Financial Activities	**10.7**	**10.6**	**11.0**	**0.1**	**-0.3**
Professional & Business Services	**67.8**	**67.2**	**65.1**	**0.6**	**2.7**
Private Education & Health Services	**36.5**	**36.7**	**36.4**	**-0.2**	**0.1**
Leisure & Hospitality	**35.9**	**36.5**	**33.2**	**-0.6**	**2.7**
Other Services	**11.5**	**11.6**	**11.5**	**-0.1**	**0.0**
Government	**31.6**	**34.1**	**30.9**	**-2.5**	**0.7**
Federal Government	3.0	3.0	3.1	0.0	-0.1
State Government	9.6	10.5	9.1	-0.9	0.5
Local Government	19.0	20.6	18.7	-1.6	0.3

Unemployment
July 2023 - July 2026



Jobs in Leisure & Hospitality
July: 2006 - 2026



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

The Fort Smith MSA = Crawford & Sebastian counties in Arkansas and Sequoyah County in Oklahoma

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

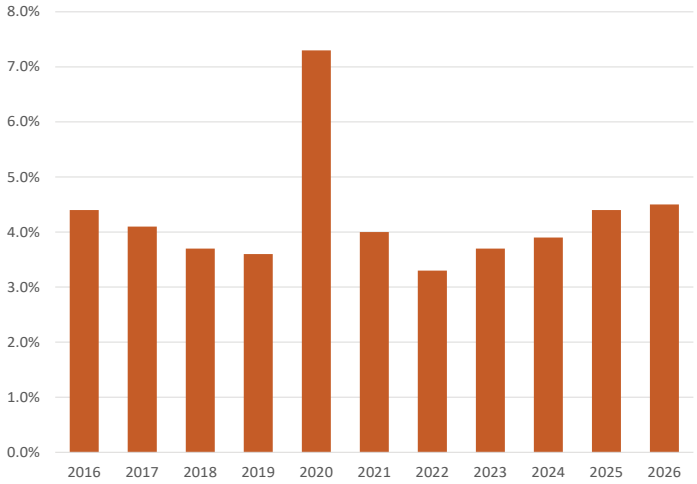
	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	103,732	104,665	103,108	-933	624
Employment	99,087	100,001	98,606	-914	481
Unemployment	4,645	4,664	4,502	-19	143
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	0.0%	0.1%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

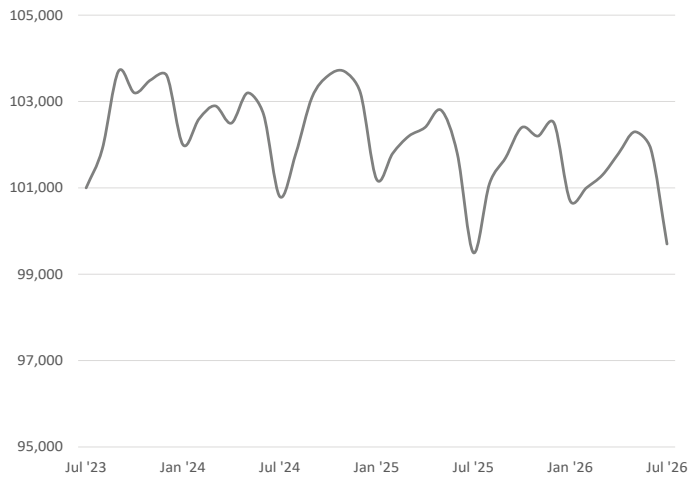
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Total Nonfarm	99.7	101.9	99.5	-2.2	0.2
Goods Producing	23.0	23.0	22.6	0.0	0.4
Mining, Logging & Construction	**5.1**	**5.1**	**4.9**	**0.0**	**0.2**
Manufacturing	**17.9**	**17.9**	**17.7**	**0.0**	**0.2**
Service Providing	76.7	78.9	76.9	-2.2	-0.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	**20.6**	**20.6**	**20.6**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Wholesale Trade	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	11.5	11.5	11.4	0.0	0.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	4.6	4.6	4.7	0.0	-0.1
Information	**1.2**	**1.2**	**1.2**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Financial Activities	**3.8**	**3.8**	**3.9**	**0.0**	**-0.1**
Professional & Business Services	**10.0**	**10.2**	**10.3**	**-0.2**	**-0.3**
Private Education & Health Services	**16.9**	**16.9**	**16.9**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Leisure & Hospitality	**9.9**	**10.0**	**9.5**	**-0.1**	**0.4**
Other Services	**3.6**	**3.6**	**3.6**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Government	**10.7**	**12.6**	**10.9**	**-1.9**	**-0.2**
Federal Government	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
State Government	1.9	2.0	2.0	-0.1	-0.1
Local Government	7.6	9.4	7.7	-1.8	-0.1

Unemployment Rates
July: 2016 - 2026



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
July 2023 - July 2026



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

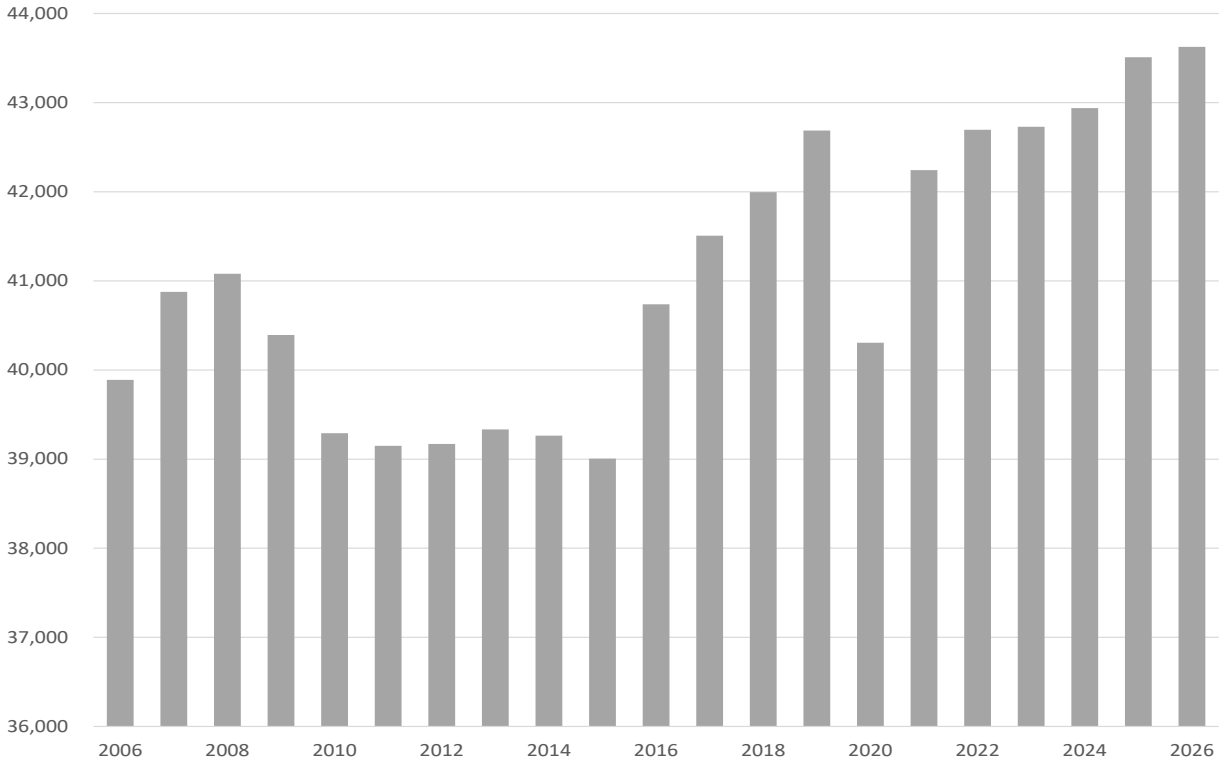
	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	45,651	45,564	45,607	87	44
Employment	43,625	43,561	43,509	64	116
Unemployment	2,026	2,003	2,098	23	-72
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.4%	4.6%	0.0%	-0.2%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Total Nonfarm	40.4	40.7	40.7	-0.3	-0.3
Goods Producing	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	0.1
Service Providing	35.8	36.1	36.2	-0.3	-0.4
Government	3.9	4.1	3.9	-0.2	0.0

Employment
July: 2006 - 2016



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

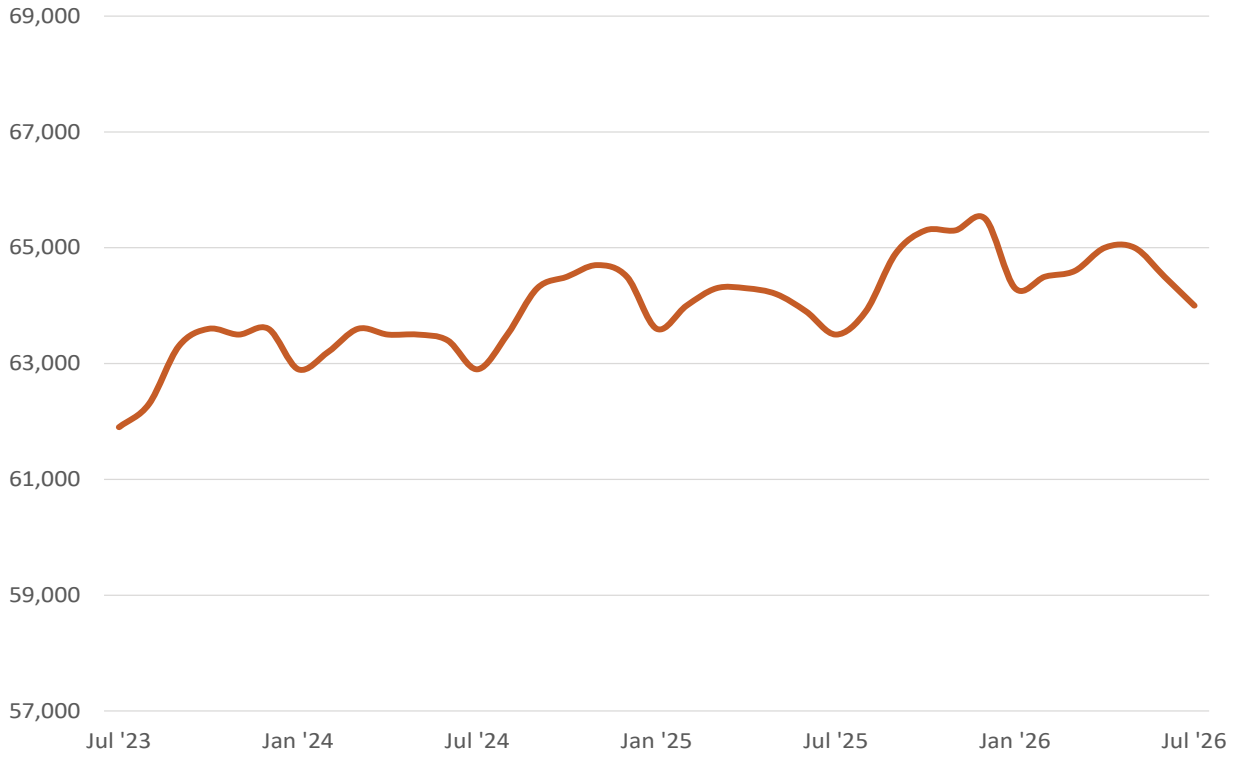
	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	69,369	69,126	68,249	243	1,120
Employment	66,447	66,196	65,182	251	1,265
Unemployment	2,922	2,930	3,067	-8	-145
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.2%	4.5%	0.0%	-0.3%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Total Nonfarm	64.0	64.5	63.5	-0.5	0.5
Goods Producing	11.2	11.2	11.3	0.0	-0.1
Service Providing	52.8	53.3	52.2	-0.5	0.6
Government	8.5	8.9	8.6	-0.4	-0.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
July 2023 - July 2026



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.

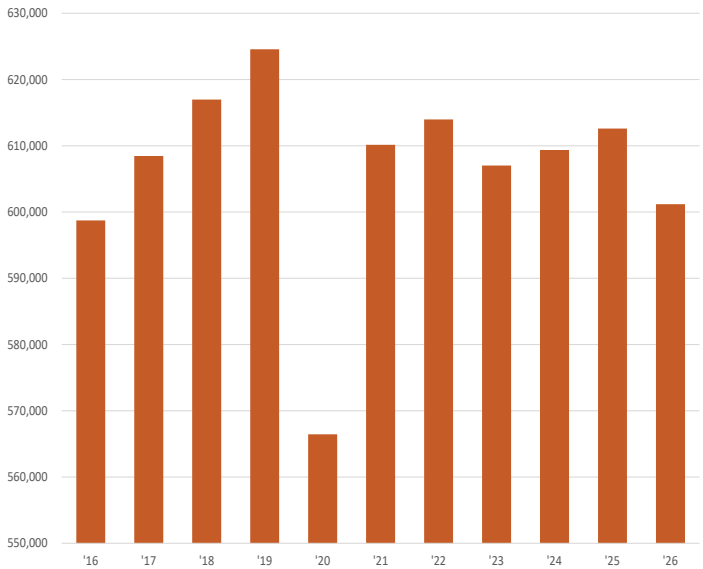
	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	630,842	627,603	644,447	3,239	-13,605
Employment	601,183	597,215	612,593	3,968	-11,410
Unemployment	29,659	30,388	31,854	-729	-2,195
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	4.8%	4.9%	-0.1%	-0.2%

Texarkana MSA

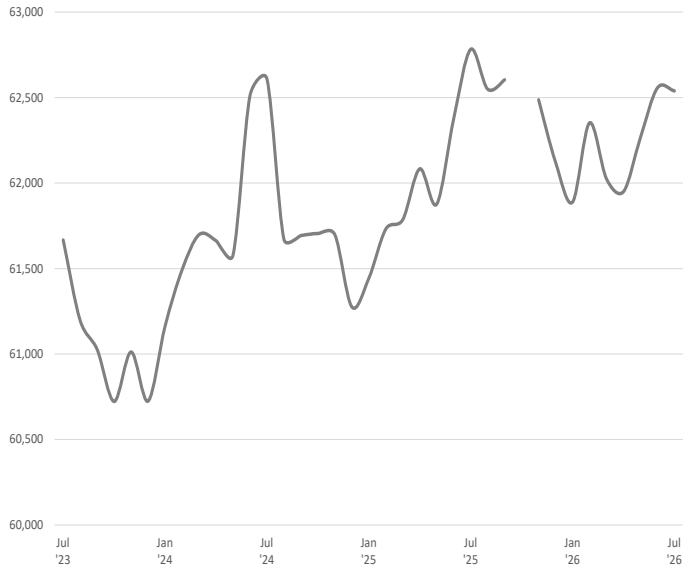
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	Jul 26	Jun 26	Jul 25	OTM	OTY
Civilian Labor Force	62,539	62,557	62,782	-18	-243
Employment	59,530	59,532	59,829	-2	-299
Unemployment	3,009	3,025	2,953	-16	56
Unemployment Rate	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%	0.0%	0.1%

Memphis MSA - Employment
July: 2016 - 2026



Texarkana MSA - Civilian Labor Force
July 2023 - July 2026



Micropolitan Statistical Areas

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	July 2026				June 2026				July 2025			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,628	9,111	517	5.4	9,865	9,340	525	5.3	9,626	9,059	567	5.9
Batesville Micro	18,821	18,098	723	3.8	19,199	18,448	751	3.9	18,268	17,526	742	4.1
Blytheville Micro	20,694	19,665	1,029	5.0	20,851	19,887	964	4.6	21,032	19,696	1,336	6.4
Camden Micro	11,201	10,651	550	4.9	11,662	11,127	535	4.6	11,113	10,500	613	5.5
El Dorado Micro	15,613	14,778	835	5.3	16,112	15,309	803	5.0	15,785	14,817	968	6.1
Forrest City Micro	7,785	7,337	448	5.8	7,853	7,429	424	5.4	7,792	7,311	481	6.2
Harrison Micro	18,810	17,939	871	4.6	19,658	18,785	873	4.4	19,108	18,145	963	5.0
Magnolia Micro	8,602	8,124	478	5.6	9,099	8,589	510	5.6	8,908	8,389	519	5.8
Malvern Micro	13,482	12,851	631	4.7	13,653	13,019	634	4.6	13,415	12,758	657	4.9
Mountain Home Micro	17,674	16,854	820	4.6	17,970	17,154	816	4.5	17,424	16,596	828	4.8
Paragould Micro	19,749	18,815	934	4.7	20,172	19,198	974	4.8	20,306	19,352	954	4.7
Pine Bluff Micro	27,668	25,921	1,747	6.3	27,889	26,224	1,665	6.0	28,110	26,236	1,874	6.7
Russellville Micro	37,137	35,136	2,001	5.4	38,321	36,356	1,965	5.1	36,885	34,867	2,018	5.5
Searcy Micro	35,084	33,500	1,584	4.5	36,105	34,515	1,590	4.4	34,946	33,343	1,603	4.6

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
Magnolia Micro = Columbia County
Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County
Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County
Paragould Micro = Greene County
Pine Bluff Micro = Cleveland & Jefferson counties
Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell Counties
Searcy Micro = White County

City Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

City	July 2026				June 2026				July 2025			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	15,764	15,091	673	4.3	15,739	15,078	661	4.2	15,218	14,590	628	4.1
Benton	21,504	20,767	737	3.4	21,402	20,675	727	3.4	21,087	20,330	757	3.6
Bentonville	36,660	35,557	1,103	3.0	36,688	35,525	1,163	3.2	35,536	34,376	1,160	3.3
Blytheville	7,023	6,598	425	6.1	7,013	6,672	341	4.9	7,155	6,608	547	7.6
Cabot	14,441	13,913	528	3.7	14,357	13,849	508	3.5	14,113	13,620	493	3.5
Centerton	15,723	15,213	510	3.2	15,680	15,199	481	3.1	15,193	14,708	485	3.2
Conway	39,528	37,974	1,554	3.9	39,406	37,807	1,599	4.1	38,758	37,174	1,584	4.1
El Dorado	6,883	6,490	393	5.7	7,086	6,723	363	5.1	6,973	6,507	466	6.7
Fayetteville	59,707	57,382	2,325	3.9	59,756	57,344	2,412	4.0	57,825	55,481	2,344	4.1
Fort Smith	42,629	40,838	1,791	4.2	42,988	41,186	1,802	4.2	42,301	40,421	1,880	4.4
Hot Springs	17,789	16,997	792	4.5	17,758	16,972	786	4.4	17,763	16,952	811	4.6
Jacksonville	13,470	12,799	671	5.0	13,408	12,743	665	5.0	13,231	12,529	702	5.3
Jonesboro	41,462	39,651	1,811	4.4	41,327	39,500	1,827	4.4	40,811	38,896	1,915	4.7
Little Rock	110,541	105,682	4,859	4.4	109,852	105,220	4,632	4.2	108,352	103,455	4,897	4.5
North Little Rock	35,024	33,404	1,620	4.6	34,826	33,258	1,568	4.5	34,298	32,700	1,598	4.7
Paragould	12,870	12,262	608	4.7	13,157	12,511	646	4.9	13,242	12,612	630	4.8
Pine Bluff	15,080	14,018	1,062	7.0	15,168	14,152	1,016	6.7	15,355	14,154	1,201	7.8
Rogers	42,965	41,613	1,352	3.1	42,977	41,575	1,402	3.3	41,576	40,230	1,346	3.2
Russellville	13,443	12,737	706	5.3	13,871	13,152	719	5.2	13,308	12,588	720	5.4
Searcy	10,173	9,685	488	4.8	10,500	9,978	522	5.0	10,160	9,639	521	5.1
Sherwood	17,905	17,158	747	4.2	17,777	17,083	694	3.9	17,533	16,796	737	4.2
Springdale	46,772	45,174	1,598	3.4	46,800	45,142	1,658	3.5	45,270	43,676	1,594	3.5
Texarkana, AR	12,585	11,972	613	4.9	12,556	11,940	616	4.9	12,565	11,876	689	5.5
Van Buren	10,784	10,331	453	4.2	10,885	10,419	466	4.3	10,693	10,225	468	4.4
West Memphis	9,756	9,067	689	7.1	9,622	8,986	636	6.6	9,770	8,967	803	8.2

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	July 2026				June 2026				July 2025			
County	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	7,431	7,087	344	4.6	7,446	7,109	337	4.5	7,544	7,178	366	4.9
Ashley	6,775	6,358	417	6.2	7,093	6,682	411	5.8	6,884	6,430	454	6.6
Baxter	17,674	16,854	820	4.6	17,970	17,154	816	4.5	17,424	16,596	828	4.8
Benton	176,988	170,875	6,113	3.5	176,903	170,721	6,182	3.5	171,187	165,199	5,988	3.5
Boone	16,175	15,444	731	4.5	16,880	16,144	736	4.4	16,442	15,620	822	5.0
Bradley	3,634	3,428	206	5.7	3,847	3,635	212	5.5	3,697	3,435	262	7.1
Calhoun	2,212	2,123	89	4.0	2,249	2,159	90	4.0	2,144	2,039	105	4.9
Carroll	12,462	11,928	534	4.3	12,853	12,313	540	4.2	12,234	11,719	515	4.2
Chicot	3,244	3,019	225	6.9	3,241	3,031	210	6.5	3,315	3,100	215	6.5
Clark	9,628	9,111	517	5.4	9,865	9,340	525	5.3	9,626	9,059	567	5.9
Clay	5,988	5,712	276	4.6	6,150	5,878	272	4.4	6,004	5,723	281	4.7
Cleburne	10,635	10,120	515	4.8	11,024	10,516	508	4.6	10,559	10,025	534	5.1
Cleveland	2,904	2,759	145	5.0	2,985	2,841	144	4.8	3,001	2,849	152	5.1
Columbia	8,602	8,124	478	5.6	9,099	8,589	510	5.6	8,908	8,389	519	5.8
Conway	9,584	9,168	416	4.3	9,825	9,401	424	4.3	9,312	8,880	432	4.6
Craighead	59,051	56,593	2,458	4.2	58,843	56,377	2,466	4.2	58,104	55,515	2,589	4.5
Crawford	26,482	25,294	1,188	4.5	26,711	25,509	1,202	4.5	26,245	25,035	1,210	4.6
Crittenden	21,342	20,084	1,258	5.9	21,063	19,904	1,159	5.5	21,246	19,863	1,383	6.5
Cross	7,585	7,253	332	4.4	7,760	7,425	335	4.3	7,621	7,277	344	4.5
Dallas	2,809	2,678	131	4.7	2,832	2,705	127	4.5	2,812	2,677	135	4.8
Desha	3,915	3,611	304	7.8	3,969	3,689	280	7.1	4,023	3,712	311	7.7
Drew	7,641	7,261	380	5.0	8,049	7,654	395	4.9	7,713	7,284	429	5.6
Faulkner	70,359	67,583	2,776	3.9	70,074	67,286	2,788	4.0	68,945	66,158	2,787	4.0
Franklin	7,344	6,987	357	4.9	7,568	7,217	351	4.6	7,278	6,929	349	4.8
Fulton	4,102	3,874	228	5.6	4,345	4,107	238	5.5	3,988	3,755	233	5.8
Garland	45,651	43,625	2,026	4.4	45,564	43,561	2,003	4.4	45,607	43,509	2,098	4.6
Grant	9,332	8,981	351	3.8	9,300	8,944	356	3.8	9,129	8,791	338	3.7
Greene	19,749	18,815	934	4.7	20,172	19,198	974	4.8	20,306	19,352	954	4.7
Hempstead	8,631	8,217	414	4.8	8,980	8,561	419	4.7	8,624	8,204	420	4.9
Hot Spring	13,482	12,851	631	4.7	13,653	13,019	634	4.6	13,415	12,758	657	4.9
Howard	4,730	4,465	265	5.6	4,831	4,579	252	5.2	4,750	4,483	267	5.6
Independence	18,821	18,098	723	3.8	19,199	18,448	751	3.9	18,268	17,526	742	4.1
Izard	4,086	3,825	261	6.4	4,288	4,023	265	6.2	4,215	3,926	289	6.9
Jackson	5,632	5,374	258	4.6	5,816	5,556	260	4.5	5,643	5,355	288	5.1
Jefferson	24,764	23,162	1,602	6.5	24,904	23,383	1,521	6.1	25,109	23,387	1,722	6.9
Johnson	9,770	9,154	616	6.3	10,298	9,706	592	5.7	9,777	9,178	599	6.1
Lafayette	2,190	2,075	115	5.3	2,329	2,217	112	4.8	2,212	2,075	137	6.2
Lawrence	6,726	6,413	313	4.7	6,995	6,669	326	4.7	6,821	6,500	321	4.7
Lee	2,383	2,234	149	6.3	2,392	2,257	135	5.6	2,397	2,232	165	6.9
Lincoln	3,216	3,019	197	6.1	3,307	3,121	186	5.6	3,197	2,997	200	6.3
Little River	5,284	5,052	232	4.4	5,263	5,035	228	4.3	5,227	5,010	217	4.2
Logan	9,046	8,623	423	4.7	9,401	8,981	420	4.5	8,926	8,508	418	4.7
Lonoke	38,948	37,456	1,492	3.8	38,763	37,285	1,478	3.8	38,114	36,667	1,447	3.8
Madison	8,762	8,459	303	3.5	8,793	8,484	309	3.5	8,499	8,191	308	3.6
Marion	5,448	5,106	342	6.3	5,665	5,327	338	6.0	5,311	4,951	360	6.8
Miller	17,586	16,713	873	5.0	17,539	16,669	870	5.0	17,548	16,579	969	5.5

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	July 2026				June 2026				July 2025			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	20,694	19,665	1,029	5.0	20,851	19,887	964	4.6	21,032	19,696	1,336	6.4
Monroe	2,641	2,492	149	5.6	2,688	2,540	148	5.5	2,691	2,531	160	5.9
Montgomery	3,198	3,037	161	5.0	3,408	3,246	162	4.8	3,145	2,977	168	5.3
Nevada	2,618	2,439	179	6.8	2,701	2,526	175	6.5	2,634	2,467	167	6.3
Newton	2,635	2,495	140	5.3	2,778	2,641	137	4.9	2,666	2,525	141	5.3
Ouachita	8,989	8,528	461	5.1	9,413	8,968	445	4.7	8,969	8,461	508	5.7
Perry	4,559	4,347	212	4.7	4,539	4,330	209	4.6	4,481	4,255	226	5.0
Phillips	4,477	4,096	381	8.5	4,673	4,316	357	7.6	4,700	4,309	391	8.3
Pike	4,074	3,871	203	5.0	4,346	4,144	202	4.6	4,052	3,863	189	4.7
Poinsett	10,318	9,854	464	4.5	10,283	9,819	464	4.5	10,145	9,667	478	4.7
Polk	7,316	6,932	384	5.2	7,646	7,270	376	4.9	7,269	6,897	372	5.1
Pope	27,960	26,393	1,567	5.6	28,788	27,253	1,535	5.3	27,664	26,083	1,581	5.7
Prairie	3,581	3,417	164	4.6	3,698	3,537	161	4.4	3,532	3,380	152	4.3
Pulaski	210,850	201,385	9,465	4.5	209,532	200,504	9,028	4.3	206,572	197,141	9,431	4.6
Randolph	8,184	7,848	336	4.1	8,452	8,094	358	4.2	8,030	7,656	374	4.7
St. Francis	7,785	7,337	448	5.8	7,853	7,429	424	5.4	7,792	7,311	481	6.2
Saline	70,420	67,838	2,582	3.7	70,106	67,536	2,570	3.7	68,975	66,409	2,566	3.7
Scott	4,139	3,958	181	4.4	4,226	4,046	180	4.3	4,173	3,994	179	4.3
Searcy	3,200	3,049	151	4.7	3,467	3,320	147	4.2	3,265	3,117	148	4.5
Sebastian	60,467	57,902	2,565	4.2	60,978	58,396	2,582	4.2	59,916	57,311	2,605	4.3
Sevier	7,343	7,067	276	3.8	7,515	7,223	292	3.9	7,285	7,005	280	3.8
Sharp	6,709	6,389	320	4.8	7,006	6,686	320	4.6	6,529	6,197	332	5.1
Stone	4,162	3,930	232	5.6	4,344	4,106	238	5.5	4,140	3,885	255	6.2
Union	15,613	14,778	835	5.3	16,112	15,309	803	5.0	15,785	14,817	968	6.1
Van Buren	5,944	5,614	330	5.6	6,194	5,872	322	5.2	5,909	5,584	325	5.5
Washington	145,184	139,873	5,311	3.7	145,207	139,780	5,427	3.7	140,516	135,240	5,276	3.8
White	35,084	33,500	1,584	4.5	36,105	34,515	1,590	4.4	34,946	33,343	1,603	4.6
Woodruff	3,029	2,905	124	4.1	3,145	3,028	117	3.7	3,074	2,959	115	3.7
Yell	9,177	8,743	434	4.7	9,533	9,103	430	4.5	9,221	8,784	437	4.7

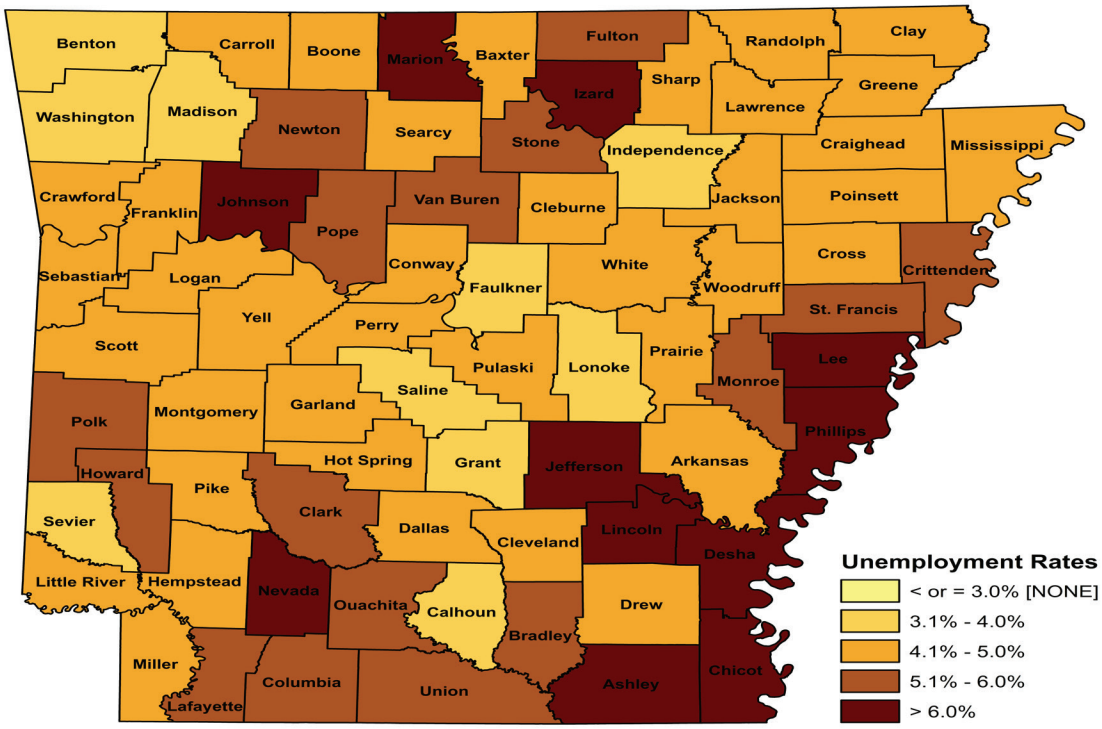
County Labor Force Summary

Between June and July, unemployment rates rose in 54 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates were unchanged in sixteen counties, while five counties posted declines over the month. July jobless rates ranged from a low of 3.5% in Benton and Washington counties to a high of 8.5% in Phillips County.

In July, no county had a jobless rate at or below three percent. This is the second consecutive month with no county rates below 3%. Two counties had unemployment rates at or above 7%, the same number as last month.

Compared to July 2025, unemployment rates are down in 49 Arkansas counties. Rates are up in 16 counties and stable in ten. Bradley and Mississippi counties had the largest declines, both down 1.4% over the year. Nevada County had the greatest annual increase, up five-tenths of a percentage point.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Benton	3.5	26	Arkansas	4.6	51	Lafayette	5.3
1	Madison	3.5	26	Baxter	4.6	51	Newton	5.3
3	Saline	3.7	26	Clay	4.6	51	Union	5.3
3	Washington	3.7	26	Jackson	4.6	54	Clark	5.4
5	Grant	3.8	26	Prairie	4.6	55	Columbia	5.6
5	Independence	3.8	31	Dallas	4.7	55	Fulton	5.6
5	Lonoke	3.8	31	Greene	4.7	55	Howard	5.6
5	Sevier	3.8	31	Hot Spring	4.7	55	Monroe	5.6
9	Faulkner	3.9	31	Lawrence	4.7	55	Pope	5.6
10	Calhoun	4.0	31	Logan	4.7	55	Stone	5.6
11	Randolph	4.1	31	Perry	4.7	55	Van Buren	5.6
11	Woodruff	4.1	31	Searcy	4.7	62	Bradley	5.7
13	Craighead	4.2	31	Yell	4.7	63	St. Francis	5.8
13	Sebastian	4.2	39	Cleburne	4.8	64	Crittenden	5.9
15	Carroll	4.3	39	Hempstead	4.8	65	Lincoln	6.1
15	Conway	4.3	39	Sharp	4.8	66	Ashley	6.2
17	Cross	4.4	42	Franklin	4.9	67	Johnson	6.3
17	Garland	4.4	43	Cleveland	5.0	67	Lee	6.3
17	Little River	4.4	43	Drew	5.0	67	Marion	6.3
17	Scott	4.4	43	Miller	5.0	70	Izard	6.4
21	Boone	4.5	43	Mississippi	5.0	71	Jefferson	6.5
21	Crawford	4.5	43	Montgomery	5.0	72	Nevada	6.8
21	Poinsett	4.5	43	Pike	5.0	73	Chicot	6.9
21	Pulaski	4.5	49	Ouachita	5.1	74	Desha	7.8
21	White	4.5	50	Polk	5.2	75	Phillips	8.5

Local Workforce Development Areas

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	July 2026 CLF	July 2026 Emp	July 2026 Unemp	July 2026 Rate	June 2026 CLF	June 2026 Emp	June 2026 Unemp	June 2026 Rate	July 2025 CLF	July 2025 Emp	July 2025 Unemp	July 2025 Rate
Central (minus LR)	286,258	274,489	11,769	4.1	285,009	273,468	11,541	4.0	280,477	268,831	11,646	4.2
City of Little Rock	110,541	105,682	4,859	4.4	109,852	105,220	4,632	4.2	108,352	103,455	4,897	4.5
Eastern	43,572	41,004	2,568	5.9	43,741	41,331	2,410	5.5	43,756	40,992	2,764	6.3
North Central	98,204	93,629	4,575	4.7	101,466	96,857	4,609	4.5	97,271	92,555	4,716	4.8
Northeast	130,710	124,900	5,810	4.4	131,746	125,922	5,824	4.4	130,442	124,109	6,333	4.9
Northwest	388,528	374,083	14,445	3.7	390,516	375,884	14,632	3.7	377,544	363,158	14,386	3.8
Southeast	72,856	68,685	4,171	5.7	74,141	70,089	4,052	5.5	73,612	69,163	4,449	6.0
Southwest	86,607	82,259	4,348	5.0	88,863	84,540	4,323	4.9	86,898	82,206	4,692	5.4
West Central	137,083	130,300	6,783	4.9	139,819	133,103	6,716	4.8	136,300	129,346	6,954	5.1
Western	114,794	109,696	5,098	4.4	116,530	111,419	5,111	4.4	113,807	108,674	5,133	4.5

