

News Release



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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains Stable at 3.8 Percent

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released today by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 3.8 percent between May and June. Arkansas' civilian labor force declined 2,803, a result of 3,147 fewer employed and 344 more unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate rose two-tenths of a percentage point, from 4.7 percent in May to 4.9 percent in June.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "While the number of employed in Arkansas declined slightly in June, employment is still up 48,742 over the year. Changes in employment and unemployment were not enough to raise the unemployment rate this month."

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	June 2016	May 2016	June 2015	Change From May 2016	Change From June 2015
Civilian Labor Force	1,359,425	1,362,228	1,328,930	-2,803	30,495
Employment	1,307,136	1,310,283	1,258,394	-3,147	48,742
Unemployment	52,289	51,945	70,536	344	-18,247
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.8	5.3	0.0	-1.5
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.7	5.3	0.2	-0.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Notes: Unemployment rates were computed from unrounded data.

Data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas and minorities and youth will be available online August 3, 2016.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs declined 5,200 in June to total 1,230,500. Small gains occurred in seven major industry sectors, while three sectors posted losses. Jobs in **government** dropped 5,300. Declines in both state (-4,200) and local (-1,400) government were attributed to summer closures at public schools and universities. Employment in **educational and health services** decreased 2,800. Most of the loss was seasonal, posted in educational services (-2,300). The largest increase occurred in **professional and business services** (+900), with gains in all three subsectors.

Compared to June 2015, nonfarm payroll employment is up 23,200. Eight major industry sectors posted growth, while jobs in three sectors declined. **Professional and business services** added 8,200 jobs. A majority of the gains were in administrative and support services (+4,300), which includes employment agencies. Jobs in **educational and health services** increased 6,900, mostly in health care and social assistance (+6,300). Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 5,000. Growth occurred in both retail (+3,500) and wholesale (+1,700) trade. **Leisure and hospitality** added 2,400 jobs, mostly in food services (+2,000). **Mining and logging** posted the largest decline, down 1,400. Losses were attributed to layoffs and closures throughout the industry.

ARKANSAS NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS
Not Seasonally Adjusted
(In Thousands)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2012	June 2016	May 2016	June 2015	Change From May 2016	Change From June 2015
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1230.5	1235.7	1207.3	-5.2	23.2
Goods Producing	210.4	209.3	212.3	1.1	-1.9
Mining, Logging, & Construction	55.9	55.2	57.4	0.7	-1.5
Mining & Logging	6.6	6.5	8.0	0.1	-1.4
Construction	49.3	48.7	49.4	0.6	-0.1
Specialty Trade Contractors	32.7	32.3	31.4	0.4	1.3
Manufacturing	154.5	154.1	154.9	0.4	-0.4
Durable Goods	73.6	74.4	76.2	-0.8	-2.6
Nondurable Goods	80.9	79.7	78.7	1.2	2.2
Service Providing	1020.1	1026.4	995.0	-6.3	25.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	257.9	258.5	252.9	-0.6	5.0
Wholesale Trade	49.3	49.4	47.6	-0.1	1.7
Retail Trade	144.6	145.5	141.1	-0.9	3.5
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	64.0	63.6	64.2	0.4	-0.2
Information	14.1	13.9	13.3	0.2	0.8
Financial Activities	49.6	49.6	49.4	0.0	0.2
Finance & Insurance	36.5	36.5	36.3	0.0	0.2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.1	13.1	13.1	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	144.8	143.9	136.6	0.9	8.2
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	43.0	42.9	40.7	0.1	2.3
Management of Companies	35.2	34.8	33.6	0.4	1.6
Administrative & Support Services	66.6	66.2	62.3	0.4	4.3
Educational & Health Services	179.1	181.9	172.2	-2.8	6.9
Educational Services	12.3	14.6	11.7	-2.3	0.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	166.8	167.3	160.5	-0.5	6.3
Ambulatory Health Care	52.9	52.6	51.1	0.3	1.8
Social Assistance	39.9	41.1	38.3	-1.2	1.6
Leisure & Hospitality	118.2	117.5	115.8	0.7	2.4
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	12.8	12.2	12.6	0.6	0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	105.4	105.3	103.2	0.1	2.2
Accommodation Services	12.5	11.6	12.3	0.9	0.2
Food Services	92.9	93.7	90.9	-0.8	2.0
Other Services	45.1	44.5	44.2	0.6	0.9
Government	211.3	216.6	210.6	-5.3	0.7
Federal Government	20.6	20.3	20.3	0.3	0.3
State Government	75.1	79.3	74.5	-4.2	0.6
Local Government	115.6	117.0	115.8	-1.4	-0.2

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers.

Notes: Estimates are based on the first quarter 2015 benchmark.

Current month's data are preliminary; previous month's data are revised.