

News Release



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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains Stable at 3.4 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 3.4 percent between May and June. Arkansas' civilian labor force increased 9,243, a result of 9,481 more employed and 238 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point, from 4.3 percent in May to 4.4 percent in June.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Employment in Arkansas increased 9,481 in June, breaking last month's record high for the State. There are now 28,681 more employed Arkansans than in June 2016.

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	June 2017	May 2017	June 2016	Change From May 2017	Change From June 2016
Civilian Labor Force	1,364,533	1,355,290	1,343,919	9,243	20,614
Employment	1,318,145	1,308,664	1,289,464	9,481	28,681
Unemployment	46,388	46,626	54,455	-238	-8,067
Unemployment Rate	3.4	3.4	4.1	0.0	-0.7
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.3	4.9	0.1	-0.5

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

Note: Data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas and minorities and youth will be available online August 2, 2017.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs decreased 2,700 in June to total 1,251,700. Three major industry sectors posted declines, more than offsetting moderate gains in eight sectors. Employment in **government** fell 5,300. Typical seasonal losses were reported in state (-4,200) and local (-1,300) government, related to the end of the 2016-2017 school year. Jobs in **professional and business services** dropped 4,900. All decreases were posted in administrative and support services (-5,500), attributed in part to a decline in seasonal jobs provided by employment agencies. **Leisure and hospitality** added 2,800 jobs. Most of the gains were in accommodation and food services (+2,200). Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 2,700, with hiring reported across all subsectors.

Since June 2016, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 25,700. Employment increased in eight major industry sectors, while three sectors declined. **Educational and health services** added 7,400 jobs, mostly in health care and social assistance (+5,700). Jobs in **professional and business services** rose 6,400. Gains in administrative-support services (+5,200) and professional-scientific-technical services (+2,000) more than offset the loss in management of companies (-800). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** increased 4,000, with most of the expansion in transportation-warehousing-utilities (+2,300). **Leisure and hospitality** added 3,800 jobs. Food services posted a majority of the growth (+2,400). Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 2,900, all in nondurable goods (+4,300).

ARKANSAS NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2012	June		Change From		Change From	
	2017	May 2017	June 2016	May 2017	June 2016	June 2016
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1251.7	1254.4	1226.0	-2.7	25.7	
Goods Producing	215.5	213.8	212.6	1.7	2.9	
Mining, Logging, & Construction	57.7	56.8	57.7	0.9	0.0	
Mining & Logging	6.1	6.0	6.2	0.1	-0.1	
Construction	51.6	50.8	51.5	0.8	0.1	
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.2	32.4	33.0	0.8	0.2	
Manufacturing	157.8	157.0	154.9	0.8	2.9	
Durable Goods	73.4	73.4	74.8	0.0	-1.4	
Nondurable Goods	84.4	83.6	80.1	0.8	4.3	
Service Providing	1036.2	1040.6	1013.4	-4.4	22.8	
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	256.1	253.4	252.1	2.7	4.0	
Wholesale Trade	47.7	47.1	46.4	0.6	1.3	
Retail Trade	142.6	141.9	142.2	0.7	0.4	
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	65.8	64.4	63.5	1.4	2.3	
Information	13.2	13.1	13.6	0.1	-0.4	
Financial Activities	52.3	52.1	51.4	0.2	0.9	
Finance & Insurance	39.0	38.8	38.0	0.2	1.0	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.3	13.3	13.4	0.0	-0.1	
Professional & Business Services	147.1	152.0	140.7	-4.9	6.4	
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	44.0	43.6	42.0	0.4	2.0	
Management of Companies	34.1	33.9	34.9	0.2	-0.8	
Administrative & Support Services	69.0	74.5	63.8	-5.5	5.2	
Educational & Health Services	185.2	186.2	177.8	-1.0	7.4	
Educational Services	13.8	16.3	12.1	-2.5	1.7	
Health Care & Social Assistance	171.4	169.9	165.7	1.5	5.7	
Ambulatory Health Care	57.0	56.2	53.4	0.8	3.6	
Social Assistance	40.6	39.9	39.5	0.7	1.1	
Leisure & Hospitality	123.0	120.2	119.2	2.8	3.8	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	13.2	12.6	12.9	0.6	0.3	
Accommodation & Food Services	109.8	107.6	106.3	2.2	3.5	
Accommodation Services	13.3	11.5	12.2	1.8	1.1	
Food Services	96.5	96.1	94.1	0.4	2.4	
Other Services	50.1	49.1	47.9	1.0	2.2	
Government	209.2	214.5	210.7	-5.3	-1.5	
Federal Government	20.4	20.2	20.4	0.2	0.0	
State Government	74.6	78.8	75.1	-4.2	-0.5	
Local Government	114.2	115.5	115.2	-1.3	-1.0	

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers.

Notes: Estimates are based on the first quarter 2016 benchmark.

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