

News Release



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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains 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 1,348, a result of 951 fewer employed and 397 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate rose two-tenths a percentage point, from 3.8 percent in May to 4.0 percent in June.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate remained stable again at 3.8 percent in June. The U.S. jobless rate increased over-the-month, putting Arkansas two-tenths of a percentage point below the national average."

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	June 2018	May 2018	June 2017	Change From May 2018	Change From June 2017
Civilian Labor Force	1,349,214	1,350,562	1,355,468	-1,348	-6,254
Employment	1,298,363	1,299,314	1,305,806	-951	-7,443
Unemployment	50,851	51,248	49,662	-397	1,189
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.8	3.7	0.0	0.1
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.0	3.8	4.3	0.2	-0.3

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 1, 2018.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs declined 4,900 in June to total 1,250,700. Employment decreased in five major industry sectors, while four sectors expanded and two were unchanged. The largest drop occurred in **government** (-5,400). Losses in state (-4,300) and local (-1,100) government were seasonal, attributed to the start of summer break at public schools and universities. Employment in **educational and health services** declined 1,500. All decreases were in educational services (-1,500), as private schools also began closing for the summer. **Construction** added 1,900 jobs, a typical seasonal expansion. Employment in **professional and business services** rose 1,200. Hiring was reported in both professional-scientific-technical services (+700) and management of companies (+700).

Compared to June 2017, nonfarm payroll employment in Arkansas is up 10,200. Six major industry sectors posted growth, more than offsetting the losses in four sectors. The largest increase occurred in **professional and business services** (+7,100). A majority of the gains were in administrative and support services (+6,500), a subsector which includes activities such as temporary help services, landscaping, and telephone call centers. **Manufacturing** added 2,500 jobs. Gains were posted in both nondurable goods (+1,700) and durable goods (+800) manufacturing. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 2,000. Most of the growth was in educational services (+1,400). **Leisure and hospitality** declined 1,200. Minor losses were posted in all subsectors. Jobs in **information** decreased 1,000. The subsector includes activities such as newspaper publishing, television broadcasting, and satellite telecommunications.

ARKANSAS NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2017	June 2018	May 2018	June 2017	Change From May 2018	Change From June 2017
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1250.7	1255.6	1240.5	-4.9	10.2
Goods Producing	218.1	217.0	215.5	1.1	2.6
Mining, Logging, & Construction	58.5	56.6	58.4	1.9	0.1
Mining & Logging	5.5	5.5	6.0	0.0	-0.5
Construction	53.0	51.1	52.4	1.9	0.6
Specialty Trade Contractors	32.1	30.7	32.6	1.4	-0.5
Manufacturing	159.6	160.4	157.1	-0.8	2.5
Durable Goods	75.6	76.1	74.8	-0.5	0.8
Nondurable Goods	84.0	84.3	82.3	-0.3	1.7
Service Providing	1032.6	1038.6	1025.0	-6.0	7.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	250.9	251.7	250.6	-0.8	0.3
Wholesale Trade	46.7	46.9	47.0	-0.2	-0.3
Retail Trade	140.6	141.2	140.3	-0.6	0.3
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	63.6	63.6	63.3	0.0	0.3
Information	12.3	12.3	13.3	0.0	-1.0
Financial Activities	54.1	53.4	53.5	0.7	0.6
Finance & Insurance	40.2	39.7	39.8	0.5	0.4
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.9	13.7	13.7	0.2	0.2
Professional & Business Services	149.8	148.6	142.7	1.2	7.1
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	43.3	42.6	42.4	0.7	0.9
Management of Companies	35.2	34.5	35.5	0.7	-0.3
Administrative & Support Services	71.3	71.5	64.8	-0.2	6.5
Educational & Health Services	187.6	189.1	185.6	-1.5	2.0
Educational Services	13.8	15.3	12.4	-1.5	1.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	173.8	173.8	173.2	0.0	0.6
Ambulatory Health Care	58.2	57.7	56.5	0.5	1.7
Social Assistance	38.5	40.3	39.9	-1.8	-1.4
Leisure & Hospitality	119.2	119.8	120.4	-0.6	-1.2
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	12.7	12.5	13.1	0.2	-0.4
Accommodation & Food Services	106.5	107.3	107.3	-0.8	-0.8
Accommodation Services	12.0	11.7	12.5	0.3	-0.5
Food Services	94.5	95.6	94.8	-1.1	-0.3
Other Services	49.4	49.0	49.4	0.4	0.0
Government	209.3	214.7	209.5	-5.4	-0.2
Federal Government	19.6	19.6	20.1	0.0	-0.5
State Government	74.4	78.7	74.6	-4.3	-0.2
Local Government	115.3	116.4	114.8	-1.1	0.5

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers.

Notes: Estimates are based on the first quarter 2017 benchmark.

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