**Arkansas**

**Labor Market**

**Report**

**December 2017**

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Technical Notes

The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bu- reau 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 num- ber of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Hours and earnings estimates are based on payroll and worker-hour data col- lected 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 2016 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 Area (MSA)**

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 unem- ployed. 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. Approxi- mately 800 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 dur- ing 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.

December Spotlight

The Year in Review

In 2017, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas ranged from a low of 1,218,200 in January to a high of 1,264,800 in October. Job totals in October set a new all-time record high number of jobs in the State. Jobs steadily increased throughout the first half of the year. Seasonal declines occurred in the summer, while job totals leveled off in the latter half of the year. Arkansas’ preliminary annual average nonfarm employment for 2017 was 1,248,800, notably higher than the 2016 average of 1,227,500. Annual average nonfarm payroll jobs have increased each year since 2013.

1,270,000

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

January 2017 - December 2017

1,260,000

1,250,000

1,240,000

1,230,000

1,220,000

1,210,000

1,200,000

1,190,000

J F M A M J J A S O N D

In 2017, the number of employed Arkansans ranged from a low of 1,285,753 in January to a high of 1,330,975 in September (new record high employment). Seasonally adjusted employment expanded rapidly during the first six months of the year, before peaking and slowly declining after September. Reversely, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates declined from a high of 3.8 percent in January to a low of 3.4 percent in May, June, and July. Rates increased during the second half of the year, ending with a rate of 3.7 percent in December.

1,340,000

**Number of Employed (Seasonally Adjusted)**

January 2017 - December 2017

3.9

**Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)**

January 2017 - December 2017

1,330,000

3.8

1,320,000

3.7

1,310,000

3.6

1,300,000

3.5

3.4

1,290,000

3.3

1,280,000

3.2

1,270,000

3.1

1,260,000

J F M A M J J A S O N D

3.0

J F M A M J J A S O N D

Civilian Labor Force Summar y

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was stable at 3.7 percent between November and December. Arkansas’ civilian labor force de- creased 10,088, a result of 10,167 fewer employed and 79 more unemployed Arkansans. At 4.1 percent, the United States’ jobless rate was also unchanged over the month.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, “Arkansas’ jobless rate remained stable in Decem- ber, mirroring the trend seen at the national level. While the size of the civilian labor force declined, it was not enough to impact the unemployment rate.”

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted Not Seasonally Adjusted

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Civilian Labor Force | **Dec 17**1,362,173 | **Nov 17**1,372,261 | **Dec 16**1,337,311 | Civilian Labor Force | **Dec 17**1,341,053 | **Nov 17**1,359,008 | **Dec 16**1,327,109 |
| Employment | 1,311,977 | 1,322,144 | 1,284,532 | Employment | 1,292,193 | 1,313,850 | 1,276,550 |
| Unemployment | 50,196 | 50,117 | 52,779 | Unemployment | 48,860 | 45,158 | 50,559 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.9 | Unemployment Rate | 3.6 | 3.3 | 3.8 |
| U.S. Unemployment | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.7 | U.S. Unemployment | 3.9 | 3.9 | 4.5 |

1,340,000

**Number of Employed (Seasonally Adjusted)**

December 2014 - December 2017

1,320,000

1,300,000

1,280,000

1,260,000

1,240,000

1,220,000

1,200,000

Dec '14 Jun '15 Dec '15 Jun '16 Dec '16 Jun '17 Dec '17

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)

**Dec 17 Nov 17 Dec 16**

**OTM OT Y**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total Nonfarm | 1256.7 | 1264.0 | 1240.6 | -7.3 | 16.1 |
| Goods Producing | 219.3 | 220.8 | 211.1 | -1.5 | 8.2 |
| Mining, Logging, and Construction | 58.2 | 59.4 | 55.2 | -1.2 | 3.0 |
| **Mining & Logging** | **6.0** | **6.1** | **6.1** | **-0.1** | **-0.1** |
| **Construction** | **52.2** | **53.3** | **49.1** | **-1.1** | **3.1** |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 33.0 | 33.7 | 31.2 | -0.7 | 1.8 |
| **Manufacturing** | **161.1** | **161.4** | **155.9** | **-0.3** | **5.2** |
| Durable Goods | 73.7 | 73.8 | 73.5 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| Nondurable Goods | 87.4 | 87.6 | 82.4 | -0.2 | 5.0 |
| Service Providing | 1037.4 | 1043.2 | 1029.5 | -5.8 | 7.9 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **255.5** | **256.7** | **257.3** | **-1.2** | **-1.8** |
| Wholesale Trade | 47.1 | 47.8 | 46.5 | -0.7 | 0.6 |
| Retail Trade | 142.5 | 144.0 | 144.3 | -1.5 | -1.8 |
| Transport, Warehousing & Utilities | 65.9 | 64.9 | 66.5 | 1.0 | -0.6 |
| I**nformation** | **13.0** | **13.2** | **13.4** | **-0.2** | **-0.4** |
| **Financial Activities** | **51.7** | **51.2** | **51.5** | **0.5** | **0.2** |
| Finance & Insurance | 38.5 | 38.1 | 38.2 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 13.2 | 13.1 | 13.3 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **148.2** | **150.3** | **145.0** | **-2.1** | **3.2** |
|  Professional, Scientific & Technical | 45.2 | 45.3 | 43.2 | -0.1 | 2.0 |
| Management of Companies | 33.8 | 33.8 | 35.5 | 0.0 | -1.7 |
| Administrative & Support Services | 69.2 | 71.2 | 66.3 | -2.0 | 2.9 |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **191.5** | **191.9** | **185.7** | **-0.4** | **5.8** |
| Educational Services | 19.0 | 19.3 | 16.3 | -0.3 | 2.7 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 172.5 | 172.6 | 169.4 | -0.1 | 3.1 |
| Ambulatory Health Care | 59.0 | 59.0 | 55.5 | 0.0 | 3.5 |
| Social Assistance | 39.2 | 39.1 | 39.6 | 0.1 | -0.4 |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 113.2 115.5 112.6 -2.3 0.6** |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.2 | -0.1 | 0.3 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 103.7 | 105.9 | 103.4 | -2.2 | 0.3 |
| Accommodation Services | 11.7 | 12.0 | 10.6 | -0.3 | 1.1 |
| Food Services | 92.0 | 93.9 | 92.8 | -1.9 | -0.8 |
| **Other Services** | **49.9** | **49.2** | **48.5** | **0.7** | **1.4** |
| **Government** | **214.4** | **215.2** | **215.5** | **-0.8** | **-1.1** |
| Federal Government | 20.2 | 20.2 | 20.8 | 0.0 | -0.6 |
| State Government | 79.6 | 80.4 | 79.1 | -0.8 | 0.5 |
| Local Government | 114.6 | 114.6 | 115.6 | 0.0 | -1.0 |

Nonfarm Payroll Job Summar y

November 2017 - December 2017

Arkansas’ nonfarm payroll employment decreased 7,300 in December to total 1,256,700. Nine major industry sectors posted job declines, while two reported small gains. The greatest loss was in **leisure and hospitality** (-2,300). Most of the decrease occurred in food services (-1,900), due to a combination of seasonal factors and recent restaurant closures. Employment in **professional and business services** dropped 2,100. A majority of the loss was posted in administrative and support services (-2,000), an ex- pected seasonal decline for the subsector. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** declined 1,200, largely affected by retail trade (-1,500). This was due in part to reported contractions at stores that do not typically see holiday hiring, such as convenience stores, pharmacies, and grocery stores. **Construc- tion** is down 1,100, a typical seasonal drop.

December 2016 - December 2017

Compared to December 2016, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 16,100. Seven major industries reported growth, with four adding 3,100 or more jobs, each. Employment in **educational and health services** rose 5,800. Gains were posted in both health care and social assistance (+3,100) and educa- tional services (+2,700). **Manufacturing** increased 5,200, largely in nondurable goods manufacturing (+5,000). **Professional and business services** added 3,200 jobs. Expansions in administrative-support services (+2,900) and professional-scientific-technical services (+2,000) more than offset the losses in management of companies (-1,700). Jobs in **construction** rose 3,100, with specialty trade construc- tion up 1,800. Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** declined 1,800. Most of the loss was posted in retail trade (-1,800). Jobs in **government** are down 1,100, mostly in local government (-1,000).

100,000

**Jobs in Nondurable Goods Manufacturing (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

December: 2007 - 2017

95,000

90,000

85,000

80,000

75,000

70,000

65,000

60,000

55,000

50,000

'07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17

Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

Manufacturing

**Dec 17 Nov 17**

**Dec 16**

Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings Average Weekly Earnings

41.9

16.37

685.90

43.7

16.38

715.81

39.3

15.83

622.12

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

**Dec 17 Nov 17**

**Dec 16**

**Dec 17 Nov 17**

**Dec 16**

Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings Average Weekly Earnings

43.0

18.22

783.46

42.4

17.77

753.45

42.3

17.67

747.44

Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings Average Weekly Earnings

41.0

14.78

605.98

44.7

15.27

682.57

36.7

13.91

510.50

46.0

**Average Weekly Hours Worked- Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods Manufacturing**

December 2015 - December 2017

44.0

42.0

40.0

38.0

36.0

34.0

32.0

Dec

'15

Jun

'16

Dec

'16

Durable Goods Nondurable Goods

Jun

'17

Dec

'17

Little Rock-Nor th 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)



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 350,792 | 353,921 | 345,345 | -3,129 | 5,447 |
| Employment | 338,970 | 343,253 | 333,813 | -4,283 | 5,157 |
| Unemployment | 11,822 | 10,668 | 11,532 | 1,154 | 290 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.4 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 0.4 | 0.1 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS**Total Nonfarm | **Dec 17**359.6 | **Nov 17**358.8 | **Dec 16**356.6 | **OTM**0.8 | **OT Y**3.0 |
| Goods Producing | 38.3 | 38.4 | 36.8 | -0.1 | 1.5 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction** | **18.3** | **18.3** | **16.6** | **0.0** | **1.7** |
| **Manufacturing** | **20.0** | **20.1** | **20.2** | **-0.1** | **-0.2** |
| Service Providing 321.3 320.4 319.8 0.9 1.5 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **70.5** | **70.7** | **72.9** | **-0.2** | **-2.4** |
| Wholesale Trade | 14.8 | 14.8 | 15.0 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Retail Trade | 39.4 | 39.8 | 41.5 | -0.4 | -2.1 |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities | 16.3 | 16.1 | 16.4 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| **Information** | **6.0** | **6.0** | **6.2** | **0.0** | **-0.2** |
| **Financial Activities** | **20.7** | **20.5** | **20.6** | **0.2** | **0.1** |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **48.0** | **47.9** | **46.6** | **0.1** | **1.4** |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **58.4** | **58.0** | **55.4** | **0.4** | **3.0** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **32.7** | **32.3** | **32.8** | **0.4** | **-0.1** |
| **Other Services** | **14.8** | **14.7** | **14.6** | **0.1** | **0.2** |
| **Government** | **70.2** | **70.3** | **70.7** | **-0.1** | **-0.5** |
| Federal Government | 9.8 | 9.7 | 10.0 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| State Government | 35.4 | 35.5 | 35.1 | -0.1 | 0.3 |
| Local Government | 25.0 | 25.1 | 25.6 | -0.1 | -0.6 |

**Over-the-Year Change by Industry Sector (Ranked)**

December 2016 - December 2017

Ed ucation and Heal th Services

Min ing-Loggi ng-C onstructi on

Prof essi ona l an d Busi nes s Services

Oth er Services

Fina ncial Activities

Lei sure an d H ospi tality

Manu facturin g

Info rma ti on

Govern ment

Tr ade, Tran sportati on, an d Util ities

-3,000 -2,000 -1,000 0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000

Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA= Benton, Madison, & Washington counties in Arkansas & McDonald county in Missouri.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 269,533 | 275,724 | 262,250 | -6,191 | 7,283 |
| Employment | 262,237 | 268,758 | 255,298 | -6,521 | 6,939 |
| Unemployment | 7,296 | 6,966 | 6,952 | 330 | 344 |
| Unemployment Rate | 2.7 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 0.2 | 0.0 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS**Total Nonfarm | **Dec 17**255.5 | **Nov 17**258.2 | **Dec 16**249.6 | **OTM**-2.7 | **OT Y**5.9 |
| Goods Producing | 39.5 | 39.3 | 37.7 | 0.2 | 1.8 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction** | **11.0** | **11.1** | **10.3** | **-0.1** | **0.7** |
| **Manufacturing** | **28.5** | **28.2** | **27.4** | **0.3** | **1.1** |
| Service Providing 216.0 218.9 211.9 -2.9 4.1 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **56.4** | **56.7** | **56.4** | **-0.3** | **0.0** |
| Wholesale Trade | 12.9 | 12.9 | 12.4 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Retail Trade | 25.6 | 26.1 | 26.4 | -0.5 | -0.8 |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities | 17.9 | 17.7 | 17.6 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| **Information** | **1.9** | **1.9** | **1.9** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Financial Activities** | **8.1** | **8.0** | **7.8** | **0.1** | **0.3** |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **51.2** | **52.5** | **50.9** | **-1.3** | **0.3** |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **29.0** | **29.0** | **27.9** | **0.0** | **1.1** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **25.0** | **25.9** | **23.9** | **-0.9** | **1.1** |
| **Other Services** | **7.9** | **7.8** | **7.7** | **0.1** | **0.2** |
| **Government** | **36.5** | **37.1** | **35.4** | **-0.6** | **1.1** |
| Federal Government | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| State Government | 14.6 | 15.4 | 13.8 | -0.8 | 0.8 |
| Local Government | 19.3 | 19.2 | 19.0 | 0.1 | 0.3 |

285,000

**Number of Employed**

December: 1997 - 2017

225,000

**Jobs in Service Providing Industries**

January 2015 - December 2017

265,000

220,000

245,000

225,000

215,000

210,000

205,000

205,000

200,000

185,000

195,000

190,000

165,000

185,000

145,000

180,000

125,000

'97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17

175,000

J F M A M J J A S O N D

2015 2016 2017

For t Smith MSA

The Fort Smith MSA= Crawford & Sebastian counties in Arkansas & LeFlore & Sequoyah counties in Oklahoma.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 119,998 | 121,636 | 119,853 | -1,638 | 145 |
| Employment | 115,104 | 116,945 | 114,694 | -1,841 | 410 |
| Unemployment | 4,894 | 4,691 | 5,159 | 203 | -265 |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.1 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 0.2 | -0.2 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS**Total Nonfarm | **Dec 17**114.0 | **Nov 17**114.3 | **Dec 16**114.5 | **OTM**-0.3 | **OT Y**-0.5 |
| Goods Producing | 23.1 | 23.0 | 23.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction** | **5.3** | **5.3** | **5.3** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Manufacturing** | **17.8** | **17.7** | **17.8** | **0.1** | **0.0** |
| Service Providing 90.9 91.3 91.4 -0.4 -0.5 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **23.1** | **23.2** | **24.0** | **-0.1** | **-0.9** |
| Wholesale Trade | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 12.6 | 12.7 | 13.3 | -0.1 | -0.7 |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.8 | 0.0 | -0.3 |
| **Information** | **1.2** | **1.3** | **1.2** | **-0.1** | **0.0** |
| **Financial Activities** | **3.8** | **3.8** | **3.9** | **0.0** | **-0.1** |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **13.5** | **13.5** | **13.0** | **0.0** | **0.5** |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **16.9** | **16.9** | **16.9** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **9.3** | **9.5** | **9.4** | **-0.2** | **-0.1** |
| **Other Services** | **4.3** | **4.3** | **4.3** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Government** | **18.8** | **18.8** | **18.7** | **0.0** | **0.1** |
| Federal Government | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| State Government | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Local Government | 14.3 | 14.3 | 14.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 |

7,000

**Number of Unemployed**

December 2015 - December 2017

125,000

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**

December: 2007 - 2017

6,500

6,000

120,000

5,500

115,000

5,000

4,500

110,000

4,000

3,500

105,000

3,000

Dec

'15

Jun

'16

Dec

'16

Jun

'17

Dec

'17

100,000

'07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA= Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 39,467 | 39,937 | 39,037 | -470 | 430 |
| Employment | 37,911 | 38,491 | 37,326 | -580 | 585 |
| Unemployment | 1,556 | 1,446 | 1,711 | 110 | -155 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.9 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 0.3 | -0.5 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| 37.7 | 37.7 | 37.4 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| 33.1 | 33.1 | 33.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 0.0 | -0.1 |

Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government

39,500

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**

January 2015 - December 2017

39,000

38,500

38,000

37,500

37,000

36,500

36,000

35,500

J F M A M J J A S O N D

2015 2016 2017

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA= Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 62,890 | 63,966 | 61,919 | -1,076 | 971 |
| Employment | 60,981 | 62,158 | 59,938 | -1,177 | 1,043 |
| Unemployment | 1,909 | 1,808 | 1,981 | 101 | -72 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.0 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 0.2 | -0.2 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| 57.4 | 57.7 | 56.8 | -0.3 | 0.6 |
| 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.2 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| 48.0 | 48.2 | 47.6 | -0.2 | 0.4 |
| 9.3 | 9.3 | 9.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 |

Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government

65,000

**Employment**

December: 1997 - 2017

60,000

55,000

50,000

45,000

40,000

'97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17

Pine Bluff MSA

The Pine Bluff MSA= Cleveland, Jefferson, & Lincoln counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 35,130 | 35,717 | 35,564 | -587 | -434 |
| Employment | 33,404 | 34,103 | 33,752 | -699 | -348 |
| Unemployment | 1,726 | 1,614 | 1,812 | 112 | -86 |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.9 | 4.5 | 5.1 | 0.4 | -0.2 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| 33.1 | 33.3 | 33.8 | -0.2 | -0.7 |
| 6.0 | 5.9 | 6.2 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| 27.1 | 27.4 | 27.6 | -0.3 | -0.5 |
| 9.6 | 9.6 | 9.7 | 0.0 | -0.1 |

Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government

3,500

**Number of Unemployed**

December 2014 - December 2017

3,000

2,500

2,000

1,500

1,000

500

0

Dec '14 Jun '15 Dec '15 Jun '16 Dec '16 Jun '17 Dec '17

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.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 632,641 | 634,828 | 631,117 | -2,187 | 1,524 |
| Employment | 609,207 | 610,002 | 597,431 | -795 | 11,776 |
| Unemployment | 23,434 | 24,826 | 33,686 | -1,392 | -10,252 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.7 | 3.9 | 5.3 | -0.2 | -1.6 |

Texarkana MSA

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 17** | **Nov 17** | **Dec 16** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 64,849 | 64,973 | 64,581 | -124 | 268 |
| Employment | 62,212 | 62,366 | 61,613 | -154 | 599 |
| Unemployment | 2,637 | 2,607 | 2,968 | 30 | -331 |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 0.1 | -0.5 |

620,000

**Employment - Memphis MSA**

January 2015 - December 2017

8.0

**Unemployment Rates - Texarkana MSA**

December: 2007 - 2017

610,000

7.0

600,000

6.0

590,000

5.0

580,000

4.0

570,000

3.0

560,000

2.0

550,000

1.0

540,000

J F M A M J J A S O N D

2015 2016 2017

0.0

'07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

**December 2017 November 2017 December 2016**

**Micro Area CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Arkadelphia Micro | 9,619 | 9,273 | 346 | 3.6 | 9,724 | 9,390 | 334 | 3.4 | 9,559 | 9,179 | 380 | 4.0 |
| Batesville Micro | 16,299 | 15,684 | 615 | 3.8 | 16,390 | 15,781 | 609 | 3.7 | 15,895 | 15,138 | 757 | 4.8 |
| Blytheville Micro | 17,691 | 16,760 | 931 | 5.3 | 17,923 | 17,066 | 857 | 4.8 | 18,309 | 17,050 | 1,259 | 6.9 |
| Camden Micro | 12,078 | 11,558 | 520 | 4.3 | 12,190 | 11,690 | 500 | 4.1 | 12,048 | 11,500 | 548 | 4.5 |
| El Dorado Micro | 16,073 | 15,234 | 839 | 5.2 | 16,178 | 15,419 | 759 | 4.7 | 16,109 | 15,258 | 851 | 5.3 |
| Forrest City Micro | 8,295 | 7,884 | 411 | 5.0 | 8,378 | 7,990 | 388 | 4.6 | 8,709 | 8,286 | 423 | 4.9 |
| Harrison Micro | 19,095 | 18,399 | 696 | 3.6 | 19,307 | 18,688 | 619 | 3.2 | 19,330 | 18,607 | 723 | 3.7 |
| Helena-West Helena Micro | 6,556 | 6,149 | 407 | 6.2 | 6,594 | 6,225 | 369 | 5.6 | 6,553 | 6,179 | 374 | 5.7 |
| Hope Micro | 13,478 | 13,026 | 452 | 3.4 | 13,623 | 13,204 | 419 | 3.1 | 13,531 | 13,036 | 495 | 3.7 |
| Magnolia Micro | 9,009 | 8,594 | 415 | 4.6 | 9,155 | 8,751 | 404 | 4.4 | 9,187 | 8,649 | 538 | 5.9 |
| Malvern Micro | 14,106 | 13,611 | 495 | 3.5 | 14,234 | 13,757 | 477 | 3.4 | 13,965 | 13,454 | 511 | 3.7 |
| Mountain Home Micro | 16,223 | 15,527 | 696 | 4.3 | 16,438 | 15,781 | 657 | 4.0 | 15,858 | 15,135 | 723 | 4.6 |
| Paragould Micro | 19,506 | 18,826 | 680 | 3.5 | 19,738 | 19,095 | 643 | 3.3 | 19,641 | 18,780 | 861 | 4.4 |
| Russellville Micro | 38,262 | 36,635 | 1,627 | 4.3 | 38,796 | 37,306 | 1,490 | 3.8 | 37,832 | 36,189 | 1,643 | 4.3 |
| Searcy Micro | 33,743 | 32,238 | 1,505 | 4.5 | 33,999 | 32,656 | 1,343 | 4.0 | 33,767 | 32,176 | 1,591 | 4.7 |

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)

**December 2017 November 2017 December 2016**

**City CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bella Vista | 12,305 | 11,860 | 445 | 3.6 | 12,584 | 12,157 | 427 | 3.4 | 11,916 | 11,524 | 392 | 3.3 |
| Benton | 16,348 | 15,850 | 498 | 3.0 | 16,510 | 16,051 | 459 | 2.8 | 16,092 | 15,607 | 485 | 3.0 |
| Bentonville | 24,249 | 23,572 | 677 | 2.8 | 24,819 | 24,162 | 657 | 2.6 | 23,434 | 22,903 | 531 | 2.3 |
| Blytheville | 6,063 | 5,714 | 349 | 5.8 | 6,154 | 5,818 | 336 | 5.5 | 6,318 | 5,813 | 505 | 8.0 |
| Cabot | 11,749 | 11,321 | 428 | 3.6 | 11,804 | 11,461 | 343 | 2.9 | 11,494 | 11,158 | 336 | 2.9 |
| Conway | 33,078 | 31,991 | 1,087 | 3.3 | 33,434 | 32,395 | 1,039 | 3.1 | 32,652 | 31,512 | 1,140 | 3.5 |
| El Dorado | 6,990 | 6,594 | 396 | 5.7 | 7,023 | 6,674 | 349 | 5.0 | 7,030 | 6,605 | 425 | 6.0 |
| Fayetteville | 47,109 | 45,954 | 1,155 | 2.5 | 48,256 | 47,104 | 1,152 | 2.4 | 45,826 | 44,661 | 1,165 | 2.5 |
| Fort Smith | 39,805 | 38,411 | 1,394 | 3.5 | 40,448 | 39,106 | 1,342 | 3.3 | 39,689 | 38,324 | 1,365 | 3.4 |
| Hot Springs | 13,799 | 13,183 | 616 | 4.5 | 13,940 | 13,385 | 555 | 4.0 | 13,652 | 12,980 | 672 | 4.9 |
| Jacksonville | 11,834 | 11,244 | 590 | 5.0 | 11,855 | 11,387 | 468 | 3.9 | 11,542 | 11,071 | 471 | 4.1 |
| Jonesboro | 36,991 | 35,937 | 1,054 | 2.8 | 37,653 | 36,638 | 1,015 | 2.7 | 36,393 | 35,312 | 1,081 | 3.0 |
| Little Rock | 96,575 | 93,504 | 3,071 | 3.2 | 97,632 | 94,692 | 2,940 | 3.0 | 95,189 | 92,061 | 3,128 | 3.3 |
| North Little Rock | 29,987 | 28,834 | 1,153 | 3.8 | 30,216 | 29,200 | 1,016 | 3.4 | 29,467 | 28,389 | 1,078 | 3.7 |
| Paragould | 12,211 | 11,772 | 439 | 3.6 | 12,370 | 11,940 | 430 | 3.5 | 12,345 | 11,743 | 602 | 4.9 |
| Pine Bluff | 16,749 | 15,777 | 972 | 5.8 | 17,015 | 16,112 | 903 | 5.3 | 16,896 | 15,939 | 957 | 5.7 |
| Rogers | 34,418 | 33,487 | 931 | 2.7 | 35,226 | 34,326 | 900 | 2.6 | 33,455 | 32,538 | 917 | 2.7 |
| Russellville | 13,655 | 13,164 | 491 | 3.6 | 13,908 | 13,408 | 500 | 3.6 | 13,512 | 12,998 | 514 | 3.8 |
| Searcy | 10,335 | 9,950 | 385 | 3.7 | 10,428 | 10,079 | 349 | 3.3 | 10,323 | 9,931 | 392 | 3.8 |
| Sherwood | 15,606 | 15,120 | 486 | 3.1 | 15,721 | 15,312 | 409 | 2.6 | 15,380 | 14,886 | 494 | 3.2 |
| Springdale | 39,098 | 38,098 | 1,000 | 2.6 | 39,976 | 39,051 | 925 | 2.3 | 37,938 | 37,025 | 913 | 2.4 |
| Texarkana, AR | 13,777 | 13,227 | 550 | 4.0 | 13,966 | 13,393 | 573 | 4.1 | 13,696 | 13,087 | 609 | 4.4 |
| Van Buren | 10,278 | 9,926 | 352 | 3.4 | 10,458 | 10,103 | 355 | 3.4 | 10,234 | 9,905 | 329 | 3.2 |
| West Memphis | 10,731 | 10,230 | 501 | 4.7 | 10,854 | 10,407 | 447 | 4.1 | 10,685 | 10,132 | 553 | 5.2 |

**December 2017 November 2017 December 2016**

**County CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Arkansas | 9,022 | 8,695 | 327 | 3.6 | 9,038 | 8,752 | 286 | 3.2 | 9,210 | 8,900 | 310 | 3.4 |
| Ashley | 7,643 | 7,213 | 430 | 5.6 | 7,709 | 7,334 | 375 | 4.9 | 7,870 | 7,334 | 536 | 6.8 |
| Baxter | 16,223 | 15,527 | 696 | 4.3 | 16,438 | 15,781 | 657 | 4.0 | 15,858 | 15,135 | 723 | 4.6 |
| Benton | 129,519 | 125,719 | 3,800 | 2.9 | 132,438 | 128,867 | 3,571 | 2.7 | 125,596 | 122,154 | 3,442 | 2.7 |
| Boone | 15,746 | 15,170 | 576 | 3.7 | 15,930 | 15,410 | 520 | 3.3 | 15,913 | 15,339 | 574 | 3.6 |
| Bradley | 4,510 | 4,336 | 174 | 3.9 | 4,529 | 4,359 | 170 | 3.8 | 4,533 | 4,296 | 237 | 5.2 |
| Calhoun | 2,361 | 2,265 | 96 | 4.1 | 2,377 | 2,290 | 87 | 3.7 | 2,351 | 2,256 | 95 | 4.0 |
| Carroll | 12,985 | 12,529 | 456 | 3.5 | 13,166 | 12,804 | 362 | 2.7 | 12,870 | 12,379 | 491 | 3.8 |
| Chicot | 3,476 | 3,234 | 242 | 7.0 | 3,487 | 3,276 | 211 | 6.1 | 3,501 | 3,254 | 247 | 7.1 |
| Clark | 9,619 | 9,273 | 346 | 3.6 | 9,724 | 9,390 | 334 | 3.4 | 9,559 | 9,179 | 380 | 4.0 |
| Clay | 5,770 | 5,515 | 255 | 4.4 | 5,854 | 5,623 | 231 | 3.9 | 5,908 | 5,576 | 332 | 5.6 |
| Cleburne | 9,218 | 8,779 | 439 | 4.8 | 9,352 | 8,949 | 403 | 4.3 | 9,321 | 8,825 | 496 | 5.3 |
| Cleveland | 3,244 | 3,116 | 128 | 3.9 | 3,303 | 3,177 | 126 | 3.8 | 3,296 | 3,148 | 148 | 4.5 |
| Columbia | 9,009 | 8,594 | 415 | 4.6 | 9,155 | 8,751 | 404 | 4.4 | 9,187 | 8,649 | 538 | 5.9 |
| Conway | 8,203 | 7,833 | 370 | 4.5 | 8,253 | 7,926 | 327 | 4.0 | 8,288 | 7,858 | 430 | 5.2 |
| Craighead | 52,626 | 51,120 | 1,506 | 2.9 | 53,547 | 52,117 | 1,430 | 2.7 | 51,786 | 50,230 | 1,556 | 3.0 |
| Crawford | 26,439 | 25,502 | 937 | 3.5 | 26,847 | 25,958 | 889 | 3.3 | 26,380 | 25,448 | 932 | 3.5 |
| Crittenden | 21,682 | 20,786 | 896 | 4.1 | 21,959 | 21,146 | 813 | 3.7 | 21,548 | 20,588 | 960 | 4.5 |
| Cross | 7,651 | 7,345 | 306 | 4.0 | 7,723 | 7,441 | 282 | 3.7 | 7,896 | 7,531 | 365 | 4.6 |
| Dallas | 2,925 | 2,810 | 115 | 3.9 | 2,965 | 2,849 | 116 | 3.9 | 2,899 | 2,767 | 132 | 4.6 |
| Desha | 5,379 | 5,121 | 258 | 4.8 | 5,452 | 5,227 | 225 | 4.1 | 5,384 | 5,092 | 292 | 5.4 |
| Drew | 7,987 | 7,596 | 391 | 4.9 | 8,027 | 7,671 | 356 | 4.4 | 8,052 | 7,612 | 440 | 5.5 |
| Faulkner | 60,286 | 58,322 | 1,964 | 3.3 | 60,924 | 59,060 | 1,864 | 3.1 | 59,530 | 57,449 | 2,081 | 3.5 |
| Franklin | 7,481 | 7,228 | 253 | 3.4 | 7,579 | 7,341 | 238 | 3.1 | 7,201 | 6,932 | 269 | 3.7 |
| Fulton | 4,692 | 4,487 | 205 | 4.4 | 4,731 | 4,554 | 177 | 3.7 | 4,644 | 4,443 | 201 | 4.3 |
| Garland | 39,467 | 37,911 | 1,556 | 3.9 | 39,937 | 38,491 | 1,446 | 3.6 | 39,037 | 37,326 | 1,711 | 4.4 |
| Grant | 8,282 | 8,027 | 255 | 3.1 | 8,369 | 8,124 | 245 | 2.9 | 8,189 | 7,905 | 284 | 3.5 |
| Greene | 19,506 | 18,826 | 680 | 3.5 | 19,738 | 19,095 | 643 | 3.3 | 19,641 | 18,780 | 861 | 4.4 |
| Hempstead | 9,832 | 9,506 | 326 | 3.3 | 9,936 | 9,635 | 301 | 3.0 | 9,884 | 9,515 | 369 | 3.7 |
| Hot Spring | 14,106 | 13,611 | 495 | 3.5 | 14,234 | 13,757 | 477 | 3.4 | 13,965 | 13,454 | 511 | 3.7 |
| Howard | 5,796 | 5,620 | 176 | 3.0 | 5,842 | 5,685 | 157 | 2.7 | 5,739 | 5,554 | 185 | 3.2 |
| Independence | 16,299 | 15,684 | 615 | 3.8 | 16,390 | 15,781 | 609 | 3.7 | 15,895 | 15,138 | 757 | 4.8 |
| Izard | 4,935 | 4,643 | 292 | 5.9 | 4,970 | 4,706 | 264 | 5.3 | 5,007 | 4,723 | 284 | 5.7 |
| Jackson | 5,834 | 5,468 | 366 | 6.3 | 5,849 | 5,556 | 293 | 5.0 | 6,003 | 5,614 | 389 | 6.5 |
| Jefferson | 27,922 | 26,488 | 1,434 | 5.1 | 28,386 | 27,051 | 1,335 | 4.7 | 28,245 | 26,760 | 1,485 | 5.3 |
| Johnson | 10,700 | 10,263 | 437 | 4.1 | 10,836 | 10,421 | 415 | 3.8 | 10,487 | 10,014 | 473 | 4.5 |
| Lafayette | 2,518 | 2,398 | 120 | 4.8 | 2,551 | 2,434 | 117 | 4.6 | 2,590 | 2,447 | 143 | 5.5 |
| Lawrence | 6,914 | 6,657 | 257 | 3.7 | 7,028 | 6,797 | 231 | 3.3 | 6,906 | 6,619 | 287 | 4.2 |
| Lee | 2,887 | 2,757 | 130 | 4.5 | 2,913 | 2,790 | 123 | 4.2 | 3,042 | 2,897 | 145 | 4.8 |
| Lincoln | 3,964 | 3,800 | 164 | 4.1 | 4,028 | 3,875 | 153 | 3.8 | 4,023 | 3,844 | 179 | 4.4 |
| Little River | 5,625 | 5,357 | 268 | 4.8 | 5,691 | 5,425 | 266 | 4.7 | 5,547 | 5,295 | 252 | 4.5 |
| Logan | 8,838 | 8,512 | 326 | 3.7 | 8,912 | 8,612 | 300 | 3.4 | 9,004 | 8,646 | 358 | 4.0 |
| Lonoke | 33,491 | 32,172 | 1,319 | 3.9 | 33,569 | 32,569 | 1,000 | 3.0 | 32,759 | 31,708 | 1,051 | 3.2 |
| Madison | 7,366 | 7,163 | 203 | 2.8 | 7,515 | 7,326 | 189 | 2.5 | 7,209 | 6,993 | 216 | 3.0 |
| Marion | 6,389 | 6,117 | 272 | 4.3 | 6,458 | 6,224 | 234 | 3.6 | 6,466 | 6,193 | 273 | 4.2 |
| Miller | 19,938 | 19,145 | 793 | 4.0 | 20,162 | 19,386 | 776 | 3.8 | 19,759 | 18,942 | 817 | 4.1 |

(continued on Page 16)

(continued from Page 15)

**December 2017 November 2017 December 2016**

**County CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mississippi | 17,691 | 16,760 | 931 | 5.3 | 17,923 | 17,066 | 857 | 4.8 | 18,309 | 17,050 | 1,259 | 6.9 |
| Monroe | 2,776 | 2,653 | 123 | 4.4 | 2,789 | 2,672 | 117 | 4.2 | 2,778 | 2,623 | 155 | 5.6 |
| Montgomery | 2,939 | 2,789 | 150 | 5.1 | 2,981 | 2,847 | 134 | 4.5 | 2,811 | 2,645 | 166 | 5.9 |
| Nevada | 3,646 | 3,520 | 126 | 3.5 | 3,687 | 3,569 | 118 | 3.2 | 3,647 | 3,521 | 126 | 3.5 |
| Newton | 3,349 | 3,229 | 120 | 3.6 | 3,377 | 3,278 | 99 | 2.9 | 3,417 | 3,268 | 149 | 4.4 |
| Ouachita | 9,717 | 9,293 | 424 | 4.4 | 9,813 | 9,400 | 413 | 4.2 | 9,697 | 9,244 | 453 | 4.7 |
| Perry | 4,176 | 4,006 | 170 | 4.1 | 4,219 | 4,055 | 164 | 3.9 | 4,137 | 3,952 | 185 | 4.5 |
| Phillips | 6,556 | 6,149 | 407 | 6.2 | 6,594 | 6,225 | 369 | 5.6 | 6,553 | 6,179 | 374 | 5.7 |
| Pike | 4,280 | 4,092 | 188 | 4.4 | 4,306 | 4,140 | 166 | 3.9 | 4,112 | 3,939 | 173 | 4.2 |
| Poinsett | 10,264 | 9,861 | 403 | 3.9 | 10,419 | 10,041 | 378 | 3.6 | 10,133 | 9,708 | 425 | 4.2 |
| Polk | 7,913 | 7,579 | 334 | 4.2 | 8,011 | 7,699 | 312 | 3.9 | 8,173 | 7,772 | 401 | 4.9 |
| Pope | 29,481 | 28,195 | 1,286 | 4.4 | 29,897 | 28,718 | 1,179 | 3.9 | 29,121 | 27,840 | 1,281 | 4.4 |
| Prairie | 3,731 | 3,549 | 182 | 4.9 | 3,737 | 3,593 | 144 | 3.9 | 3,583 | 3,447 | 136 | 3.8 |
| Pulaski | 187,952 | 181,536 | 6,416 | 3.4 | 189,641 | 183,841 | 5,800 | 3.1 | 184,999 | 178,734 | 6,265 | 3.4 |
| Randolph | 6,889 | 6,604 | 285 | 4.1 | 6,981 | 6,709 | 272 | 3.9 | 6,457 | 6,142 | 315 | 4.9 |
| St. Francis | 8,295 | 7,884 | 411 | 5.0 | 8,378 | 7,990 | 388 | 4.6 | 8,709 | 8,286 | 423 | 4.9 |
| Saline | 56,605 | 54,907 | 1,698 | 3.0 | 57,199 | 55,604 | 1,595 | 2.8 | 55,731 | 54,065 | 1,666 | 3.0 |
| Scott | 4,476 | 4,319 | 157 | 3.5 | 4,521 | 4,364 | 157 | 3.5 | 4,391 | 4,246 | 145 | 3.3 |
| Searcy | 2,839 | 2,711 | 128 | 4.5 | 2,897 | 2,771 | 126 | 4.3 | 3,034 | 2,887 | 147 | 4.8 |
| Sebastian | 57,158 | 55,145 | 2,013 | 3.5 | 58,085 | 56,143 | 1,942 | 3.3 | 56,989 | 55,019 | 1,970 | 3.5 |
| Sevier | 5,709 | 5,455 | 254 | 4.4 | 5,774 | 5,534 | 240 | 4.2 | 5,615 | 5,346 | 269 | 4.8 |
| Sharp | 5,962 | 5,704 | 258 | 4.3 | 6,047 | 5,799 | 248 | 4.1 | 5,969 | 5,636 | 333 | 5.6 |
| Stone | 4,712 | 4,489 | 223 | 4.7 | 4,793 | 4,592 | 201 | 4.2 | 4,674 | 4,415 | 259 | 5.5 |
| Union | 16,073 | 15,234 | 839 | 5.2 | 16,178 | 15,419 | 759 | 4.7 | 16,109 | 15,258 | 851 | 5.3 |
| Van Buren | 5,969 | 5,653 | 316 | 5.3 | 6,060 | 5,771 | 289 | 4.8 | 5,843 | 5,463 | 380 | 6.5 |
| Washington | 122,148 | 119,177 | 2,971 | 2.4 | 125,033 | 122,159 | 2,874 | 2.3 | 118,733 | 115,823 | 2,910 | 2.5 |
| White | 33,743 | 32,238 | 1,505 | 4.5 | 33,999 | 32,656 | 1,343 | 4.0 | 33,767 | 32,176 | 1,591 | 4.7 |
| Woodruff | 2,919 | 2,784 | 135 | 4.6 | 2,948 | 2,814 | 134 | 4.5 | 2,937 | 2,778 | 159 | 5.4 |
| Yell | 8,781 | 8,440 | 341 | 3.9 | 8,899 | 8,588 | 311 | 3.5 | 8,711 | 8,349 | 362 | 4.2 |

County Labor Force Summar y

Between November and December, unemployment rates increased in 73 of Arkansas’ 75 counties.

Two counties-- Dallas and Scott-- were unchanged over the month. Rates ranged from a low of

2.4 percent in Washington County to a high of 7.0 percent in Chicot County.

In December, thirty-four counties posted jobless rates at or below four percent. That is down from 50 counties at or below four percent in November. For the tenth month in a row, no county reported an unemployment rate above 8 percent.

Compared to December 2016, unemployment rates are down in 55 Arkansas counties. Rates in-

creased in 14 counties and were the same in six counties.

Benton

Washington

Carroll

Madison

Boone

Newton

Marion

Searcy

Baxter

Stone

Fulton

Izard

Sharp

Randolph

Lawrence

Clay

Greene

Craighead

Mississippi

Crawford

Franklin

Logan

Johnson

Pope

Van Buren

Conway

Cleburne

Independence

White

Jackson

Poinsett

Cross

Crittenden

Sebastian

Scott

Polk

Yell

Montgomery

Garland

Perry

Saline

Faulkner

Pulaski

Lonoke

Prairie

Woodruff

Monroe

St. Francis

Lee

Phillips

Sevier

Howard

Pike

Hot Spring

Clark

Dallas

Grant

Jefferson

Lincoln

Cleveland

Arkansas

Desha

Little River

Hempstead

Miller

Nevada

Ouachita

Calhoun

Bradley

Drew

Chicot

Unemployment Rates

< or = 3.0%

3.1% - 5.0%

Lafayette

Columbia

Union

Ashley

5.1% - 7.0%

> 7.0% [NONE]

Ranked by Unemployment Rates

December 2017- Not Seasonally Adjusted



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank**1 | **County**Washington | **Rate**2.4 | **Rank**26 | **County**Bradley | **Rate**3.9 | **Rank**45 | **County**Sevier | **Rate**4.4 |
| 2 | Madison | 2.8 | 26 | Cleveland | 3.9 | 52 | Conway | 4.5 |
| 3 | Benton | 2.9 | 26 | Dallas | 3.9 | 52 | Lee | 4.5 |
| 3 | Craighead | 2.9 | 26 | Garland | 3.9 | 52 | Searcy | 4.5 |
| 5 | Howard | 3.0 | 26 | Lonoke | 3.9 | 52 | White | 4.5 |
| 5 | Saline | 3.0 | 26 | Poinsett | 3.9 | 56 | Columbia | 4.6 |
| 7 | Grant | 3.1 | 26 | Yell | 3.9 | 56 | Woodruff | 4.6 |
| 8 | Faulkner | 3.3 | 33 | Cross | 4.0 | 58 | Stone | 4.7 |
| 8 | Hempstead | 3.3 | 33 | Miller | 4.0 | 59 | Cleburne | 4.8 |
| 10 | Franklin | 3.4 | 35 | Calhoun | 4.1 | 59 | Desha | 4.8 |
| 10 | Pulaski | 3.4 | 35 | Crittenden | 4.1 | 59 | Lafayette | 4.8 |
| 12 | Carroll | 3.5 | 35 | Johnson | 4.1 | 59 | Little River | 4.8 |
| 12 | Crawford | 3.5 | 35 | Lincoln | 4.1 | 63 | Drew | 4.9 |
| 12 | Greene | 3.5 | 35 | Perry | 4.1 | 63 | Prairie | 4.9 |
| 12 | Hot Spring | 3.5 | 35 | Randolph | 4.1 | 65 | St. Francis | 5.0 |
| 12 | Nevada | 3.5 | 41 | Polk | 4.2 | 66 | Jefferson | 5.1 |
| 12 | Scott | 3.5 | 42 | Baxter | 4.3 | 66 | Montgomery | 5.1 |
| 12 | Sebastian | 3.5 | 42 | Marion | 4.3 | 68 | Union | 5.2 |
| 19 | Arkansas | 3.6 | 42 | Sharp | 4.3 | 69 | Mississippi | 5.3 |
| 19 | Clark | 3.6 | 45 | Clay | 4.4 | 69 | Van Buren | 5.3 |
| 19 | Newton | 3.6 | 45 | Fulton | 4.4 | 71 | Ashley | 5.6 |
| 22 | Boone | 3.7 | 45 | Monroe | 4.4 | 72 | Izard | 5.9 |
| 22 | Lawrence | 3.7 | 45 | Ouachita | 4.4 | 73 | Phillips | 6.2 |
| 22 | Logan | 3.7 | 45 | Pike | 4.4 | 74 | Jackson | 6.3 |
| 25 | Independence | 3.8 | 45 | Pope | 4.4 | 75 | Chicot | 7.0 |

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

LWDA Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

**December 2017 November 2017 December 2016**

**LWDA CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

**CLF Emp Unemp**

**Rate**

Central (minus LR) 248,266

239,635

8,631

3.5

250,227

242,647

7,580

3.0

244,191

235,965

8,226

3.4

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| City of Little Rock | 96,575 | 93,504 | 3,071 | 3.2 | 97,632 | 94,692 | 2,940 | 3.0 | 95,189 | 92,061 | 3,128 | 3.3 |
| Eastern | 47,071 | 44,921 | 2,150 | 4.6 | 47,567 | 45,592 | 1,975 | 4.2 | 47,748 | 45,481 | 2,267 | 4.7 |
| North Central | 94,283 | 89,929 | 4,354 | 4.6 | 95,139 | 91,178 | 3,961 | 4.2 | 94,060 | 89,211 | 4,849 | 5.2 |
| Northeast | 119,660 | 115,343 | 4,317 | 3.6 | 121,490 | 117,448 | 4,042 | 3.3 | 119,140 | 114,105 | 5,035 | 4.2 |
| Northwest | 316,564 | 307,342 | 9,222 | 2.9 | 323,252 | 314,620 | 8,632 | 2.7 | 309,096 | 300,171 | 8,925 | 2.9 |
| Southeast | 81,429 | 77,626 | 3,803 | 4.7 | 82,328 | 78,846 | 3,482 | 4.2 | 82,303 | 78,145 | 4,158 | 5.1 |
| Southwest | 93,149 | 89,197 | 3,952 | 4.2 | 94,131 | 90,377 | 3,754 | 4.0 | 93,024 | 88,794 | 4,230 | 4.5 |
| West Central | 131,752 | 126,413 | 5,339 | 4.1 | 133,286 | 128,333 | 4,953 | 3.7 | 130,228 | 124,556 | 5,672 | 4.4 |
| Western | 112,305 | 108,285 | 4,020 | 3.6 | 113,955 | 110,117 | 3,838 | 3.4 | 112,138 | 108,063 | 4,075 | 3.6 |

Benton

Washington

Carroll

Madison

Boone

Newton

Marion

Searcy

Baxter

Stone

Fulton

Izard

Sharp

Randolph

Lawrence

Clay

Greene

Craighead

Mississippi

Crawford

Franklin

Johnson

Pope

Van Buren

Cleburne

Independence

Jackson

Poinsett

Cross

Sebastian

Scott

Logan

Yell

Conway

Perry

Saline

Faulkner

Pulaski

White

Lonoke

Prairie

Woodruff

Monroe

St. Francis

Lee

Crittenden

Polk

Sevier

Montgomery

Pike

Howard

Garland

Hot Spring

Clark

Dallas

Grant

Jefferson

Lincoln

Cleveland

Arkansas

Desha

Phillips

Little River

Hempstead

Miller

Nevada

Ouachita

Calhoun

Bradley

Drew

Chicot

Lafayette

Columbia

Union

Ashley

Central (minus LR) Eastern

North Central

Northeast

Northwest

Southeast

Southwest

West Central

Western

[www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov/) **18**