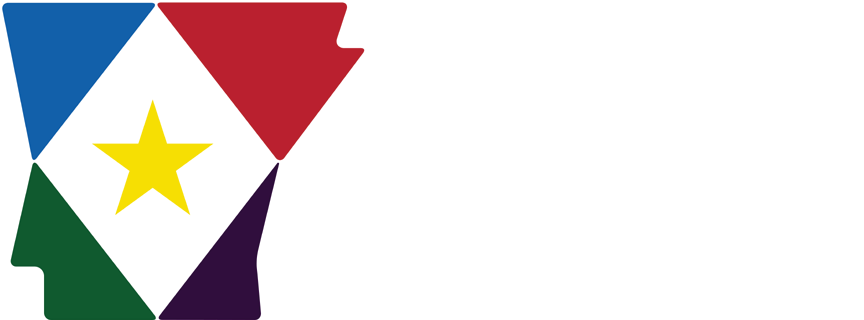
**2024**



**ARKANSAS**

**LABOR**

**MARKET**

**REPORT FEBRUARY**

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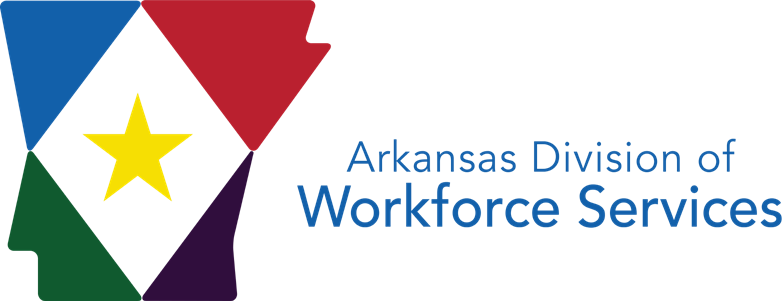
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The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Depart- ment of Labor, Bu- reau of Labor Statis- tics (BLS). The current month’s estimates are preliminary, while pre- vious month’s data is subject to revision.

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 col- lected for production workers in manufactur- ing industries.

Industries are classi- fied according to the North American In- dustry Classification System (NAICS). All estimates are based on a first quarter 2023 benchmark.

#### Explanation of Terms and Concepts

**Monthly Business Survey of Employers**

A monthly sample sur- vey designed to pro- vide industry infor- mation on nonfarm payroll jobs. Data are compiled each month from mail surveys and telephone interviews conducted by the Bu- reau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with Department of Work- force Services. The data are based on establish- ment records and in- clude all workers, full- or part-time, who re- ceived pay during the payroll period which includes the 12th of the month. Approximately

5,000 Arkansas busi- ness establishments are surveyed.

#### Metropolitan Statistical Areas

A term applied by the

U.S. Office of Manage- ment 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 sur- vey of the population 16 years of age and over, designed to pro- vide data on the labor force, the employed and the unemployed. The survey is conduct- ed each month by the Bureau of the Census for BLS. The informa- tion is collected by trained interviewers from a sample of about 60,000 households. The data collected are based on the activity reported for the cal- endar week including the 12th of the month. Approximately 1,000 Arkansas households are represented in the sample survey.

#### Civilian Labor Force

The sum of all em- ployed and unem- ployed 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 work- ers 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 seek- ing work during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month.

#### Unemployment Rate

The number of unem- ployed 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, ma- jor holidays, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/clos- ing of schools.

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

**Februar y Spotlight**

# Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

In addition to the unemployment rate, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) also calculates five additional es- timates based on various definitions of ‘unemployment’. These are known as Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization and are referred to as U1-U6, with U-3 as the official unemployment rate. These measures are calculated using data from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Approximately 1,000 Arkansas households are in the survey each month.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level and are produced quarterly. Estimates are calculated using a four quar- ter moving average. The most recent data available

**Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization**

State of Arkansas

2023 Annual Average

**U-1 U-2 U-3 U-4 U-5 U-6**

1.1% 1.3% 3.5% 3.7% 4.3% 6.2%

is the 2023 Annual Average.

The following definitions are used to calculate each

measure of Labor Underutilization:

* 1. **Measure:** Persons unemployed for 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force.
  2. **Measure:** Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force. **U-3 Measure:** Total number of unemployed persons, as a percent of the civilian labor force (this is the definition used for the official unemployment rate).
  3. **Measure:** Total number of unemployed and discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers.
  4. **Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, and all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.
  5. **Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, marginally attached workers, and those em- ployed part-time for economic reasons (not by choice), as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.

#### Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

State of Arkansas

Three-Year Comparison of Annual Averages

8.0%

7.0%



6.0%

5.0%

4.0%

3.0%

2.0%

1.0%

0.0%

U-4 U-5 U-6

 2021 AA  2022 AA  2023 AA

**State of Arkansas**

# Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, an- nounced Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.7% in January to 3.6% in February. At 3.9%, the United States’ jobless rate increased two-tenths of a percentage point between January and February.

The civilian labor force in Arkansas declined by 260 in February. The number of unemployed in the State decreased by 1,365, while 1,105 more Arkansans are employed compared to January. The labor force participation rate declined one-tenth of a percentage point to 57.4%.

Compared to February 2023, there are 6,481 additional employed Arkansans. There are now 9,746 more unemployed Arkansans actively looking for work and the unemployment rate is up seven-tenths of a percentage point. The labor force participation rate is the same as last February.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Employment 1,335,661 1,334,556 1,329,180 Employment 1,330,829 1,312,339 1,319,442

Unemployment 49,446 50,811 39,700 Unemployment 48,215 53,183 44,653

Unemployment Rate 3.6% 3.7% 2.9% Unemployment Rate 3.5% 3.9% 3.3%

LF Participation Rate 57.4% 57.5% 57.4% LF Participation Rate 57.2% 56.7% 57.2%

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** |  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,385,107 | 1,385,367 | 1,368,880 | Civilian Labor Force | 1,379,044 | 1,365,522 | 1,364,095 |

#### Unemployment Rates (United States vs Arkansas)

February 2021 - February 2024 (Seasonally Adjusted)

7.0%

6.0%

5.0%

4.0%

3.0%

2.0%

1.0%

0.0%

Feb '21 Aug '21 Feb '22 Aug '22 Feb '23 Aug '23 Feb '24

Arkansas United States

**State of Arkansas**

# Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

**Not Seasonally Adjusted**

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(NAICS)** | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| Total Nonfarm | 1355.1 | 1347.1 | 1341.7 | 8.0 | 13.4 |
| Goods Producing | 231.1 | 231.6 | 228.7 | -0.5 | 2.4 |
| Mining, Logging, & Construction | 72.0 | 71.5 | 65.3 | 0.5 | 6.7 |
| **Mining & Logging** | **5.2** | **5.1** | **5.2** | **0.1** | **0.0** |
| **Construction** | **66.8** | **66.4** | **60.1** | **0.4** | **6.7** |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 42.3 | 42.0 | 37.8 | 0.3 | 4.5 |
| **Manufacturing** | **159.1** | **160.1** | **163.4** | **-1.0** | **-4.3** |
| Durable Goods | 76.4 | 76.3 | 79.7 | 0.1 | -3.3 |
| Nondurable Goods | 82.7 | 83.8 | 83.7 | -1.1 | -1.0 |
| Service Providing | 1124.0 | 1115.5 | 1113.0 | 8.5 | 11.0 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **266.5** | **268.5** | **265.3** | **-2.0** | **1.2** |
| Wholesale Trade | 51.1 | 52.2 | 52.0 | -1.1 | -0.9 |
| Retail Trade | 143.4 | 144.4 | 140.6 | -1.0 | 2.8 |
| Transport, Warehousing & Utilities | 72.0 | 71.9 | 72.7 | 0.1 | -0.7 |
| **Information** | **12.2** | **12.5** | **13.0** | **-0.3** | **-0.8** |
| **Financial Activities** | **70.3** | **70.3** | **70.1** | **0.0** | **0.2** |
| Finance & Insurance | 55.2 | 55.3 | 55.2 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 15.1 | 15.0 | 14.9 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **156.7** | **154.2** | **157.0** | **2.5** | **-0.3** |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical | 50.0 | 50.4 | 50.5 | -0.4 | -0.5 |
| Management of Companies | 38.1 | 37.6 | 37.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Administrative & Support Services | 68.6 | 66.2 | 69.1 | 2.4 | -0.5 |
| **Private Education & Health Services** | **213.2** | **210.4** | **205.4** | **2.8** | **7.8** |
| **Private** Educational Services | 19.9 | 19.0 | 19.1 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 193.3 | 191.4 | 186.3 | 1.9 | 7.0 |
| Ambulatory Health Care | 67.3 | 66.5 | 64.4 | 0.8 | 2.9 |
| Social Assistance | 39.7 | 39.5 | 38.5 | 0.2 | 1.2 |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **122.8** | **120.5** | **123.0** | **2.3** | **-0.2** |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 12.6 | 12.4 | 12.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 110.2 | 108.1 | 110.8 | 2.1 | -0.6 |
| Accommodation Services | 10.9 | 10.6 | 11.1 | 0.3 | -0.2 |
| Food Services | 99.3 | 97.5 | 99.7 | 1.8 | -0.4 |
| **Other Services** | **67.5** | **66.7** | **67.0** | **0.8** | **0.5** |
| **Government** | **214.8** | **212.4** | **212.2** | **2.4** | **2.6** |
| Federal Government | 21.8 | 21.8 | 20.9 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| State Government | 77.8 | 75.7 | 77.9 | 2.1 | -0.1 |
| State Gov, Educational Services | 31.7 | 29.6 | 31.7 | 2.1 | 0.0 |
| State Gov, Excluding Education | 46.1 | 46.1 | 46.2 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Local Government | 115.2 | 114.9 | 113.4 | 0.3 | 1.8 |
| Local Gov, Educational Services | 71.2 | 70.9 | 70.2 | 0.3 | 1.0 |
| Local Gov, Excluding Education | 44.0 | 44.0 | 43.2 | 0.0 | 0.8 |

**State of Arkansas**

# Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

#### Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector

January 2024 - February 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Private Ed & Health

Professional & Business

Government Leisure & Hospitality

2,800

2,500

2,400

2,300

Other Services

Construction Mining & Logging Financial Activities

Information Manufacturing

Trade-Transport-Utilities

800

400

100

0

-2,000

-3,000 -2,000 -1,000

0

1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| -1,000 | -300 |
|  |
|  |
|  | |

#### Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector

February 2023 - February 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Private Ed & Health

Construction

7,800

6,700

Government

2,600

Trade-Transport-Utilities

Other Services Financial Activities Mining & Logging

1,200

500

200

0

Leisure & Hospitality

Professional & Business

Information

Manufacturing -4,300

-200

-300

-800

-6,000 -3,500 -1,000 1,500

4,000

6,500

9,000

**State of Arkansas**

# Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

### Manufacturing

**Feb 24**

Average Weekly Hours 39.3

Average Hourly Earnings $21.83

Average Weekly Earnings $857.92

**Jan 24**

37.8

$21.75

$822.15

**Feb 23**

37.8

$21.48

$811.94

**Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing**

Durable Goods Manufacturing

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

**Feb 24**

Average Weekly Hours 42.4

Average Hourly Earnings $23.48

Average Weekly Earnings $995.55

**Jan 24**

40.5

$23.84

$965.52

**Feb 23**

40.7

$23.84

$970.29

**Feb 24**

Average Weekly Hours 36.3

Average Hourly Earnings $20.08

Average Weekly Earnings $728.90

**Jan 24**

35.3

$19.59

$691.53

**Feb 23**

35.1

$19.01

$667.25

#### Average Hourly Earnings - Durable Goods Manufacturing (Production Workers)

February 2021 - February 2024

$25.00

$24.00

$23.00

$22.00

$21.00

$20.00

$19.00

Feb '21 Aug '21 Feb '22 Aug '22 Feb '23 Aug '23 Feb '24

**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)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 369,912 | 366,626 | 362,045 | 3,286 | 7,867 |
| **Employment** | 357,886 | 353,396 | 350,997 | 4,490 | 6,889 |
| **Unemployment** | 12,026 | 13,230 | 11,048 | -1,204 | 978 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.3% | 3.6% | 3.1% | -0.3% | 0.2% |

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

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 392.4 | 391.2 | 386.0 | 1.2 | 6.4 |
| **Goods Producing** 41.8 | 41.8 | 40.2 | 0.0 | 1.6 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 21.8** | **21.6** | **20.2** | **0.2** | **1.6** |
| **Manufacturing 20.0** | **20.2** | **20.0** | **-0.2** | **0.0** |
| **Service Providing** 350.6 | 349.4 | 345.8 | 1.2 | 4.8 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 77.7** | **78.2** | **77.3** | **-0.5** | **0.4** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 17.6 | 17.7 | 17.7 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| **Retail Trade** 38.4 | 38.9 | 38.0 | -0.5 | 0.4 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 21.7 | 21.6 | 21.6 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| **Information 5.3** | **5.3** | **5.8** | **0.0** | **-0.5** |
| **Financial Activities 27.9** | **27.9** | **28.1** | **0.0** | **-0.2** |
| **Professional & Business Services 49.3** | **48.9** | **48.8** | **0.4** | **0.5** |
| **Private Education & Health Services 65.7** | **65.6** | **62.9** | **0.1** | **2.8** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 33.2** | **32.9** | **34.0** | **0.3** | **-0.8** |
| **Other Services 19.7** | **19.4** | **19.2** | **0.3** | **0.5** |
| **Government 71.8** | **71.2** | **69.7** | **0.6** | **2.1** |
| **Federal Government** 10.8 | 10.7 | 10.2 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| **State Government** 34.2 | 33.7 | 34.1 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| **Local Government** 26.8 | 26.8 | 25.4 | 0.0 | 1.4 |

#### Unemployment

February 2021 - February 2024

20,000

#### Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

February: 2014 - 2024

70,000

18,000

65,000

16,000

60,000

14,000

55,000

50,000

12,000

45,000

10,000

40,000

8,000

35,000

6,000

Feb '21 Aug '21 Feb '22 Aug '22 Feb '23 Aug '23 Feb '24

30,000

'14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23 '24

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 314,284 | 308,247 | 307,133 | 6,037 | 7,151 |
| **Employment** | 306,100 | 299,452 | 299,836 | 6,648 | 6,264 |
| **Unemployment** | 8,184 | 8,795 | 7,297 | -611 | 887 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 2.6% | 2.9% | 2.4% | -0.3% | 0.2% |

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

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 309.7 | 305.2 | 303.5 | 4.5 | 6.2 |
| **Goods Producing** 47.7 | 47.5 | 46.1 | 0.2 | 1.6 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 17.3** | **17.1** | **15.8** | **0.2** | **1.5** |
| **Manufacturing 30.4** | **30.4** | **30.3** | **0.0** | **0.1** |
| **Service Providing** 262.0 | 257.7 | 257.4 | 4.3 | 4.6 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 62.4** | **63.2** | **62.3** | **-0.8** | **0.1** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 14.0 | 14.1 | 13.9 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| **Retail Trade** 29.4 | 29.7 | 28.5 | -0.3 | 0.9 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 19.0 | 19.4 | 19.9 | -0.4 | -0.9 |
| **Information 2.3** | **2.3** | **2.4** | **0.0** | **-0.1** |
| **Financial Activities 12.5** | **12.5** | **12.4** | **0.0** | **0.1** |
| **Professional & Business Services 59.3** | **58.3** | **59.6** | **1.0** | **-0.3** |
| **Private Education & Health Services 37.2** | **36.7** | **35.1** | **0.5** | **2.1** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 29.9** | **29.1** | **29.7** | **0.8** | **0.2** |
| **Other Services 13.8** | **13.5** | **13.5** | **0.3** | **0.3** |
| **Government 44.6** | **42.1** | **42.4** | **2.5** | **2.2** |
| **Federal Government** 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| **State Government** 20.9 | 18.5 | 19.5 | 2.4 | 1.4 |
| **Local Government** 20.4 | 20.3 | 19.8 | 0.1 | 0.6 |

#### Employment

February: 2004 - 2024

330,000

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February 2021 - February 2024

320,000

310,000

310,000

290,000

300,000

270,000

250,000 290,000

230,000

280,000

210,000

270,000

190,000

260,000

170,000

150,000

'04 '06 '08 '10 '12 '14 '16 '18 '20 '22 '24

250,000

Feb '21 Aug '21 Feb '22 Aug '22 Feb '23 Aug '23 Feb '24

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Fort Smith MSA

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 120,928 | 119,908 | 117,747 | 1,020 | 3,181 |
| **Employment** | 116,165 | 114,828 | 113,843 | 1,337 | 2,322 |
| **Unemployment** | 4,763 | 5,080 | 3,904 | -317 | 859 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.9% | 4.2% | 3.3% | -0.3% | 0.6% |

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

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 117.0 | 116.2 | 114.7 | 0.8 | 2.3 |
| **Goods Producing** 25.0 | 25.1 | 24.3 | -0.1 | 0.7 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 6.1** | **6.0** | **5.5** | **0.1** | **0.6** |
| **Manufacturing 18.9** | **19.1** | **18.8** | **-0.2** | **0.1** |
| **Service Providing** 92.0 | 91.1 | 90.4 | 0.9 | 1.6 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 24.0** | **24.2** | **24.0** | **-0.2** | **0.0** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.5 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| **Retail Trade** 13.0 | 13.1 | 12.8 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| **Information 1.4** | **1.4** | **1.4** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Financial Activities 4.8** | **4.8** | **4.9** | **0.0** | **-0.1** |
| **Professional & Business Services 12.0** | **11.7** | **11.6** | **0.3** | **0.4** |
| **Private Education & Health Services 19.1** | **19.0** | **18.1** | **0.1** | **1.0** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 9.7** | **9.6** | **9.6** | **0.1** | **0.1** |
| **Other Services 4.0** | **3.9** | **3.8** | **0.1** | **0.2** |
| **Government 17.0** | **16.5** | **17.0** | **0.5** | **0.0** |
| **Federal Government** 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| **State Government** 2.3 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 0.4 | -0.1 |
| **Local Government** 13.3 | 13.2 | 13.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 |

#### Over-the-Year Job Change by Industry Sector

February 2023 vs February 2024

600

400

200

100

100

0

0

0

Private Ed & Health

1,000

Mining-Logging-Construct

Professional & Business

Other Services

Manufacturing

Leisure & Hospitality

Government

Trade-Transport-Utilities

Information

Financial Activities

-100

-200 0 200 400 600 800 1,000 1,200

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 41,189 | 40,948 | 41,181 | 241 | 8 |
| **Employment** | 39,618 | 39,170 | 39,599 | 448 | 19 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,571 | 1,778 | 1,582 | -207 | -11 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.8% | 4.3% | 3.8% | -0.5% | 0.0% |

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

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 40.8 | 40.6 | 40.8 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.4 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| 36.6 | 36.3 | 36.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 |

8.0%

#### Unemployment Rates

February 2021 - February 2024

7.0%

6.0%

5.0%

4.0%

3.0%

2.0%

1.0%

0.0%

Feb '21 Aug '21 Feb '22 Aug '22 Feb '23 Aug '23 Feb '24

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 66,838 | 66,487 | 66,632 | 351 | 206 |
| **Employment** | 64,753 | 64,197 | 64,787 | 556 | -34 |
| **Unemployment** | 2,085 | 2,290 | 1,845 | -205 | 240 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.1% | 3.4% | 2.8% | -0.3% | 0.3% |

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

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 63.6 | 63.6 | 63.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 11.1 | 11.2 | 11.8 | -0.1 | -0.7 |
| 52.5 | 52.4 | 51.8 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| 9.1 | 9.0 | 8.9 | 0.1 | 0.2 |

70,000

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February: 2004 - 2024

65,000

60,000

55,000

50,000

45,000

40,000

35,000

30,000

'04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23 '24

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Pine Bluff MSA

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 31,593 | 31,415 | 31,984 | 178 | -391 |
| **Employment** | 30,126 | 29,813 | 30,510 | 313 | -384 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,467 | 1,602 | 1,474 | -135 | -7 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 4.6% | 5.1% | 4.6% | -0.5% | 0.0% |

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

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.4 | 0.0 | -0.4 |
| 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.5 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| 25.8 | 25.7 | 25.9 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| 8.5 | 8.4 | 8.7 | 0.1 | -0.2 |

35,000

#### Employment

February: 2014 - 2024

34,000

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

33,000

32,000

31,000

30,000

29,000

28,000

27,000

26,000

2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

**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.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 619,653 | 614,328 | 623,987 | 5,325 | -4,334 |
| **Employment** | 598,182 | 587,950 | 598,157 | 10,232 | 25 |
| **Unemployment** | 21,471 | 26,378 | 25,830 | -4,907 | -4,359 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.5% | 4.3% | 4.1% | -0.8% | -0.6% |

**Texarkana MSA**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 24** | **Jan 24** | **Feb 23** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 62,540 | 61,910 | 62,172 | 630 | 368 |
| **Employment** | 59,785 | 59,241 | 59,395 | 544 | 390 |
| **Unemployment** | 2,755 | 2,669 | 2,777 | 86 | -22 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 4.4% | 4.3% | 4.5% | 0.1% | -0.1% |

#### Memphis MSA - Employment

February 2021 - February 2024

615,000

#### Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates

February: 2014 - 2024

8.0%

610,000

7.0%

605,000

6.0%

600,000

595,000 5.0%

590,000

4.0%

585,000

3.0%

580,000

575,000

Feb '21 Aug '21 Feb '22 Aug '22 Feb '23 Aug '23 Feb '24

2.0%

'14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23 '24

**Micropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not Seasonally Adjusted  **February 2024 January 2024 February 2023 Micro Area CLF Emp Unemp Rate CLF Emp Unemp Rate CLF Emp Unemp Rate** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arkadelphia Micro | 8,416 | 8,017 | 399 | 4.7 | 8,245 | 7,804 | 441 | 5.3 | 8,466 | 8,090 | 376 | 4.4 |
| Batesville Micro | 16,725 | 16,191 | 534 | 3.2 | 16,643 | 16,047 | 596 | 3.6 | 16,752 | 16,206 | 546 | 3.3 |
| Blytheville Micro | 16,823 | 16,005 | 818 | 4.9 | 16,728 | 15,825 | 903 | 5.4 | 16,378 | 15,627 | 751 | 4.6 |
| Camden Micro | 12,028 | 11,541 | 487 | 4.0 | 11,949 | 11,430 | 519 | 4.3 | 11,920 | 11,451 | 469 | 3.9 |
| El Dorado Micro | 14,700 | 13,956 | 744 | 5.1 | 14,631 | 13,816 | 815 | 5.6 | 14,733 | 14,064 | 669 | 4.5 |
| Forrest City Micro | 7,356 | 6,953 | 403 | 5.5 | 7,320 | 6,894 | 426 | 5.8 | 7,377 | 6,993 | 384 | 5.2 |
| Harrison Micro | 19,120 | 18,413 | 707 | 3.7 | 18,950 | 18,171 | 779 | 4.1 | 18,921 | 18,298 | 623 | 3.3 |
| Helena-West Helena Micro | 5,066 | 4,740 | 326 | 6.4 | 5,065 | 4,709 | 356 | 7.0 | 5,331 | 4,929 | 402 | 7.5 |
| Hope Micro | 12,256 | 11,806 | 450 | 3.7 | 12,189 | 11,702 | 487 | 4.0 | 12,578 | 12,167 | 411 | 3.3 |
| Magnolia Micro | 8,835 | 8,470 | 365 | 4.1 | 8,762 | 8,368 | 394 | 4.5 | 8,767 | 8,386 | 381 | 4.3 |
| Malvern Micro | 13,573 | 13,052 | 521 | 3.8 | 13,462 | 12,864 | 598 | 4.4 | 13,594 | 13,133 | 461 | 3.4 |
| Mountain Home Micro | 16,723 | 16,043 | 680 | 4.1 | 16,628 | 15,853 | 775 | 4.7 | 16,610 | 16,006 | 604 | 3.6 |
| Paragould Micro | 19,646 | 18,892 | 754 | 3.8 | 19,472 | 18,662 | 810 | 4.2 | 19,605 | 18,969 | 636 | 3.2 |
| Russellville Micro | 36,249 | 34,796 | 1,453 | 4.0 | 35,969 | 34,291 | 1,678 | 4.7 | 36,519 | 35,178 | 1,341 | 3.7 |
| Searcy Micro | 33,868 | 32,576 | 1,292 | 3.8 | 33,551 | 32,194 | 1,357 | 4.0 | 33,736 | 32,533 | 1,203 | 3.6 |

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 Helena-West Helena Micro = Phillips County Hope Micro = Hempstead & Nevada counties Magnolia Micro = Columbia County

### City Labor Force Statistics

**City**

**CLF**

**February 2024**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**January 2024**

**CLF**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

**February 2023**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County Paragould Micro = Greene County Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties Searcy Micro = White County

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bella Vista | 13,478 | 13,072 | 406 | 3.0 | 13,275 | 12,782 | 493 | 3.7 | 13,228 | 12,795 | 433 | 3.3 |
| Benton | 18,381 | 17,886 | 495 | 2.7 | 18,230 | 17,660 | 570 | 3.1 | 17,965 | 17,528 | 437 | 2.4 |
| Bentonville | 32,716 | 31,967 | 749 | 2.3 | 32,099 | 31,257 | 842 | 2.6 | 32,049 | 31,291 | 758 | 2.4 |
| Blytheville | 5,629 | 5,357 | 272 | 4.8 | 5,624 | 5,297 | 327 | 5.8 | 5,499 | 5,231 | 268 | 4.9 |
| Cabot | 12,337 | 11,999 | 338 | 2.7 | 12,217 | 11,857 | 360 | 2.9 | 12,139 | 11,819 | 320 | 2.6 |
| Conway | 35,792 | 34,649 | 1,143 | 3.2 | 35,397 | 34,221 | 1,176 | 3.3 | 35,059 | 34,003 | 1,056 | 3.0 |
| El Dorado | 6,379 | 6,006 | 373 | 5.8 | 6,354 | 5,945 | 409 | 6.4 | 6,357 | 6,052 | 305 | 4.8 |
| Fayetteville | 53,470 | 52,117 | 1,353 | 2.5 | 52,381 | 50,970 | 1,411 | 2.7 | 52,288 | 51,029 | 1,259 | 2.4 |
| Fort Smith | 39,054 | 37,687 | 1,367 | 3.5 | 38,691 | 37,118 | 1,573 | 4.1 | 38,123 | 36,927 | 1,196 | 3.1 |
| Hot Springs | 15,292 | 14,661 | 631 | 4.1 | 15,209 | 14,495 | 714 | 4.7 | 15,280 | 14,654 | 626 | 4.1 |
| Jacksonville | 12,020 | 11,542 | 478 | 4.0 | 11,929 | 11,395 | 534 | 4.5 | 11,761 | 11,308 | 453 | 3.9 |
| Jonesboro | 40,302 | 39,079 | 1,223 | 3.0 | 40,081 | 38,735 | 1,346 | 3.4 | 40,172 | 39,047 | 1,125 | 2.8 |
| Little Rock | 100,384 | 96,871 | 3,513 | 3.5 | 99,505 | 95,635 | 3,870 | 3.9 | 98,027 | 94,907 | 3,120 | 3.2 |
| North Little Rock | 30,982 | 29,788 | 1,194 | 3.9 | 30,715 | 29,408 | 1,307 | 4.3 | 30,285 | 29,184 | 1,101 | 3.6 |
| Paragould | 12,490 | 12,007 | 483 | 3.9 | 12,382 | 11,860 | 522 | 4.2 | 12,479 | 12,056 | 423 | 3.4 |
| Pine Bluff | 14,832 | 14,039 | 793 | 5.3 | 14,730 | 13,883 | 847 | 5.8 | 14,986 | 14,180 | 806 | 5.4 |
| Rogers | 40,246 | 39,218 | 1,028 | 2.6 | 39,405 | 38,347 | 1,058 | 2.7 | 39,272 | 38,388 | 884 | 2.3 |
| Russellville | 13,049 | 12,571 | 478 | 3.7 | 12,920 | 12,383 | 537 | 4.2 | 13,131 | 12,679 | 452 | 3.4 |
| Searcy | 10,189 | 9,837 | 352 | 3.5 | 10,085 | 9,722 | 363 | 3.6 | 10,137 | 9,824 | 313 | 3.1 |
| Sherwood | 16,802 | 16,257 | 545 | 3.2 | 16,643 | 16,049 | 594 | 3.6 | 16,434 | 15,927 | 507 | 3.1 |
| Springdale | 42,636 | 41,622 | 1,014 | 2.4 | 41,777 | 40,706 | 1,071 | 2.6 | 41,648 | 40,751 | 897 | 2.2 |
| Texarkana, AR | 12,759 | 12,221 | 538 | 4.2 | 12,623 | 12,066 | 557 | 4.4 | 12,627 | 12,141 | 486 | 3.8 |
| Van Buren | 10,421 | 10,051 | 370 | 3.6 | 10,300 | 9,903 | 397 | 3.9 | 10,162 | 9,870 | 292 | 2.9 |
| West Memphis | 9,854 | 9,394 | 460 | 4.7 | 9,707 | 9,211 | 496 | 5.1 | 10,005 | 9,506 | 499 | 5.0 |

## **County Labor Force Statistics**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **February 2024** | |  |  | **January 2024** | |  |  | **February 2023** | |  |
| **County** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** |
| Arkansas | 8,945 | 8,681 | 264 | 3.0 | 8,938 | 8,637 | 301 | 3.4 | 8,954 | 8,695 | 259 | 2.9 |
| Ashley | 6,349 | 5,967 | 382 | 6.0 | 6,316 | 5,895 | 421 | 6.7 | 6,407 | 6,020 | 387 | 6.0 |
| Baxter | 16,723 | 16,043 | 680 | 4.1 | 16,628 | 15,853 | 775 | 4.7 | 16,610 | 16,006 | 604 | 3.6 |
| Benton | 156,604 | 152,514 | 4,090 | 2.6 | 153,599 | 149,126 | 4,473 | 2.9 | 153,024 | 149,285 | 3,739 | 2.4 |
| Boone | 15,919 | 15,357 | 562 | 3.5 | 15,771 | 15,148 | 623 | 4.0 | 15,752 | 15,236 | 516 | 3.3 |
| Bradley | 4,017 | 3,844 | 173 | 4.3 | 4,007 | 3,805 | 202 | 5.0 | 4,022 | 3,808 | 214 | 5.3 |
| Calhoun | 2,344 | 2,263 | 81 | 3.5 | 2,333 | 2,245 | 88 | 3.8 | 2,342 | 2,266 | 76 | 3.2 |
| Carroll | 11,859 | 11,394 | 465 | 3.9 | 11,798 | 11,276 | 522 | 4.4 | 11,959 | 11,553 | 406 | 3.4 |
| Chicot | 2,765 | 2,593 | 172 | 6.2 | 2,789 | 2,582 | 207 | 7.4 | 2,839 | 2,677 | 162 | 5.7 |
| Clark | 8,416 | 8,017 | 399 | 4.7 | 8,245 | 7,804 | 441 | 5.3 | 8,466 | 8,090 | 376 | 4.4 |
| Clay | 5,252 | 4,966 | 286 | 5.4 | 5,262 | 4,941 | 321 | 6.1 | 5,370 | 5,129 | 241 | 4.5 |
| Cleburne | 8,883 | 8,491 | 392 | 4.4 | 8,821 | 8,394 | 427 | 4.8 | 8,864 | 8,473 | 391 | 4.4 |
| Cleveland | 2,981 | 2,873 | 108 | 3.6 | 2,971 | 2,848 | 123 | 4.1 | 3,049 | 2,934 | 115 | 3.8 |
| Columbia | 8,835 | 8,470 | 365 | 4.1 | 8,762 | 8,368 | 394 | 4.5 | 8,767 | 8,386 | 381 | 4.3 |
| Conway | 8,255 | 7,916 | 339 | 4.1 | 8,225 | 7,866 | 359 | 4.4 | 8,254 | 7,933 | 321 | 3.9 |
| Craighead | 57,032 | 55,337 | 1,695 | 3.0 | 56,699 | 54,850 | 1,849 | 3.3 | 56,818 | 55,291 | 1,527 | 2.7 |
| Crawford | 26,677 | 25,724 | 953 | 3.6 | 26,431 | 25,344 | 1,087 | 4.1 | 26,071 | 25,261 | 810 | 3.1 |
| Crittenden | 20,108 | 19,251 | 857 | 4.3 | 19,822 | 18,876 | 946 | 4.8 | 20,350 | 19,479 | 871 | 4.3 |
| Cross | 6,712 | 6,437 | 275 | 4.1 | 6,690 | 6,393 | 297 | 4.4 | 6,730 | 6,482 | 248 | 3.7 |
| Dallas | 2,614 | 2,508 | 106 | 4.1 | 2,622 | 2,499 | 123 | 4.7 | 2,632 | 2,517 | 115 | 4.4 |
| Desha | 4,847 | 4,582 | 265 | 5.5 | 4,850 | 4,557 | 293 | 6.0 | 4,801 | 4,569 | 232 | 4.8 |
| Drew | 7,287 | 6,952 | 335 | 4.6 | 7,248 | 6,875 | 373 | 5.1 | 7,506 | 7,182 | 324 | 4.3 |
| Faulkner | 64,942 | 62,935 | 2,007 | 3.1 | 64,321 | 62,159 | 2,162 | 3.4 | 63,687 | 61,763 | 1,924 | 3.0 |
| Franklin | 7,429 | 7,178 | 251 | 3.4 | 7,390 | 7,110 | 280 | 3.8 | 7,355 | 7,110 | 245 | 3.3 |
| Fulton | 4,481 | 4,297 | 184 | 4.1 | 4,511 | 4,301 | 210 | 4.7 | 4,496 | 4,326 | 170 | 3.8 |
| Garland | 41,189 | 39,618 | 1,571 | 3.8 | 40,948 | 39,170 | 1,778 | 4.3 | 41,181 | 39,599 | 1,582 | 3.8 |
| Grant | 8,643 | 8,389 | 254 | 2.9 | 8,565 | 8,285 | 280 | 3.3 | 8,500 | 8,255 | 245 | 2.9 |
| Greene | 19,646 | 18,892 | 754 | 3.8 | 19,472 | 18,662 | 810 | 4.2 | 19,605 | 18,969 | 636 | 3.2 |
| Hempstead | 8,948 | 8,631 | 317 | 3.5 | 8,898 | 8,557 | 341 | 3.8 | 9,205 | 8,906 | 299 | 3.2 |
| Hot Spring | 13,573 | 13,052 | 521 | 3.8 | 13,462 | 12,864 | 598 | 4.4 | 13,594 | 13,133 | 461 | 3.4 |
| Howard | 5,176 | 4,998 | 178 | 3.4 | 5,131 | 4,936 | 195 | 3.8 | 5,173 | 4,998 | 175 | 3.4 |
| Independence | 16,725 | 16,191 | 534 | 3.2 | 16,643 | 16,047 | 596 | 3.6 | 16,752 | 16,206 | 546 | 3.3 |
| Izard | 4,378 | 4,155 | 223 | 5.1 | 4,354 | 4,101 | 253 | 5.8 | 4,463 | 4,249 | 214 | 4.8 |
| Jackson | 5,262 | 5,003 | 259 | 4.9 | 5,271 | 4,948 | 323 | 6.1 | 5,316 | 5,036 | 280 | 5.3 |
| Jefferson | 25,031 | 23,842 | 1,189 | 4.8 | 24,879 | 23,577 | 1,302 | 5.2 | 25,284 | 24,081 | 1,203 | 4.8 |
| Johnson | 9,792 | 9,243 | 549 | 5.6 | 9,749 | 9,166 | 583 | 6.0 | 9,973 | 9,561 | 412 | 4.1 |
| Lafayette | 2,143 | 2,028 | 115 | 5.4 | 2,132 | 2,014 | 118 | 5.5 | 2,267 | 2,148 | 119 | 5.2 |
| Lawrence | 6,751 | 6,492 | 259 | 3.8 | 6,731 | 6,443 | 288 | 4.3 | 6,823 | 6,606 | 217 | 3.2 |
| Lee | 2,476 | 2,346 | 130 | 5.3 | 2,485 | 2,336 | 149 | 6.0 | 2,549 | 2,411 | 138 | 5.4 |
| Lincoln | 3,581 | 3,411 | 170 | 4.7 | 3,565 | 3,388 | 177 | 5.0 | 3,651 | 3,495 | 156 | 4.3 |
| Little River | 5,193 | 4,967 | 226 | 4.4 | 5,141 | 4,897 | 244 | 4.7 | 5,118 | 4,925 | 193 | 3.8 |
| Logan | 8,162 | 7,825 | 337 | 4.1 | 8,121 | 7,740 | 381 | 4.7 | 8,175 | 7,851 | 324 | 4.0 |
| Lonoke | 35,038 | 34,014 | 1,024 | 2.9 | 34,739 | 33,613 | 1,126 | 3.2 | 34,444 | 33,506 | 938 | 2.7 |
| Madison | 7,885 | 7,663 | 222 | 2.8 | 7,767 | 7,523 | 244 | 3.1 | 7,828 | 7,624 | 204 | 2.6 |
| Marion | 5,869 | 5,580 | 289 | 4.9 | 5,880 | 5,545 | 335 | 5.7 | 6,140 | 5,884 | 256 | 4.2 |
| Miller | 18,600 | 17,864 | 736 | 4.0 | 18,423 | 17,638 | 785 | 4.3 | 18,444 | 17,747 | 697 | 3.8 |

(continued on Page 16)

**County Labor Force Statistics**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **February 2024** | |  |  | **January 2024** | |  |  | **February 2023** | |  |
| **County** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** |
| Mississippi | 16,823 | 16,005 | 818 | 4.9 | 16,728 | 15,825 | 903 | 5.4 | 16,378 | 15,627 | 751 | 4.6 |
| Monroe | 2,372 | 2,277 | 95 | 4.0 | 2,364 | 2,265 | 99 | 4.2 | 2,449 | 2,336 | 113 | 4.6 |
| Montgomery | 2,825 | 2,678 | 147 | 5.2 | 2,838 | 2,666 | 172 | 6.1 | 2,749 | 2,605 | 144 | 5.2 |
| Nevada | 3,308 | 3,175 | 133 | 4.0 | 3,291 | 3,145 | 146 | 4.4 | 3,373 | 3,261 | 112 | 3.3 |
| Newton | 3,201 | 3,056 | 145 | 4.5 | 3,179 | 3,023 | 156 | 4.9 | 3,169 | 3,062 | 107 | 3.4 |
| Ouachita | 9,684 | 9,278 | 406 | 4.2 | 9,616 | 9,185 | 431 | 4.5 | 9,578 | 9,185 | 393 | 4.1 |
| Perry | 4,316 | 4,149 | 167 | 3.9 | 4,292 | 4,103 | 189 | 4.4 | 4,244 | 4,097 | 147 | 3.5 |
| Phillips | 5,066 | 4,740 | 326 | 6.4 | 5,065 | 4,709 | 356 | 7.0 | 5,331 | 4,929 | 402 | 7.5 |
| Pike | 3,943 | 3,801 | 142 | 3.6 | 3,954 | 3,790 | 164 | 4.1 | 3,969 | 3,832 | 137 | 3.5 |
| Poinsett | 9,806 | 9,416 | 390 | 4.0 | 9,788 | 9,347 | 441 | 4.5 | 9,814 | 9,496 | 318 | 3.2 |
| Polk | 7,642 | 7,282 | 360 | 4.7 | 7,558 | 7,220 | 338 | 4.5 | 7,814 | 7,525 | 289 | 3.7 |
| Pope | 28,296 | 27,143 | 1,153 | 4.1 | 28,063 | 26,736 | 1,327 | 4.7 | 28,413 | 27,375 | 1,038 | 3.7 |
| Prairie | 3,438 | 3,313 | 125 | 3.6 | 3,448 | 3,311 | 137 | 4.0 | 3,464 | 3,357 | 107 | 3.1 |
| Pulaski | 195,175 | 188,342 | 6,833 | 3.5 | 193,461 | 185,938 | 7,523 | 3.9 | 190,649 | 184,522 | 6,127 | 3.2 |
| Randolph | 7,051 | 6,779 | 272 | 3.9 | 7,017 | 6,697 | 320 | 4.6 | 7,185 | 6,901 | 284 | 4.0 |
| St. Francis | 7,356 | 6,953 | 403 | 5.5 | 7,320 | 6,894 | 426 | 5.8 | 7,377 | 6,993 | 384 | 5.2 |
| Saline | 61,798 | 60,057 | 1,741 | 2.8 | 61,248 | 59,298 | 1,950 | 3.2 | 60,521 | 58,854 | 1,667 | 2.8 |
| Scott | 4,363 | 4,213 | 150 | 3.4 | 4,365 | 4,191 | 174 | 4.0 | 4,285 | 4,169 | 116 | 2.7 |
| Searcy | 2,812 | 2,676 | 136 | 4.8 | 2,794 | 2,645 | 149 | 5.3 | 2,732 | 2,591 | 141 | 5.2 |
| Sebastian | 56,309 | 54,290 | 2,019 | 3.6 | 55,748 | 53,470 | 2,278 | 4.1 | 54,886 | 53,195 | 1,691 | 3.1 |
| Sevier | 5,421 | 5,192 | 229 | 4.2 | 5,367 | 5,123 | 244 | 4.5 | 5,375 | 5,174 | 201 | 3.7 |
| Sharp | 5,945 | 5,692 | 253 | 4.3 | 5,944 | 5,666 | 278 | 4.7 | 5,899 | 5,666 | 233 | 3.9 |
| Stone | 4,422 | 4,208 | 214 | 4.8 | 4,456 | 4,201 | 255 | 5.7 | 4,430 | 4,225 | 205 | 4.6 |
| Union | 14,700 | 13,956 | 744 | 5.1 | 14,631 | 13,816 | 815 | 5.6 | 14,733 | 14,064 | 669 | 4.5 |
| Van Buren | 5,875 | 5,619 | 256 | 4.4 | 5,905 | 5,587 | 318 | 5.4 | 5,915 | 5,656 | 259 | 4.4 |
| Washington | 138,123 | 134,818 | 3,305 | 2.4 | 135,403 | 131,851 | 3,552 | 2.6 | 135,048 | 132,002 | 3,046 | 2.3 |
| White | 33,868 | 32,576 | 1,292 | 3.8 | 33,551 | 32,194 | 1,357 | 4.0 | 33,736 | 32,533 | 1,203 | 3.6 |
| Woodruff | 2,820 | 2,698 | 122 | 4.3 | 2,820 | 2,687 | 133 | 4.7 | 2,855 | 2,740 | 115 | 4.0 |
| Yell | 7,953 | 7,653 | 300 | 3.8 | 7,906 | 7,555 | 351 | 4.4 | 8,106 | 7,803 | 303 | 3.7 |

# County Labor Force Summary

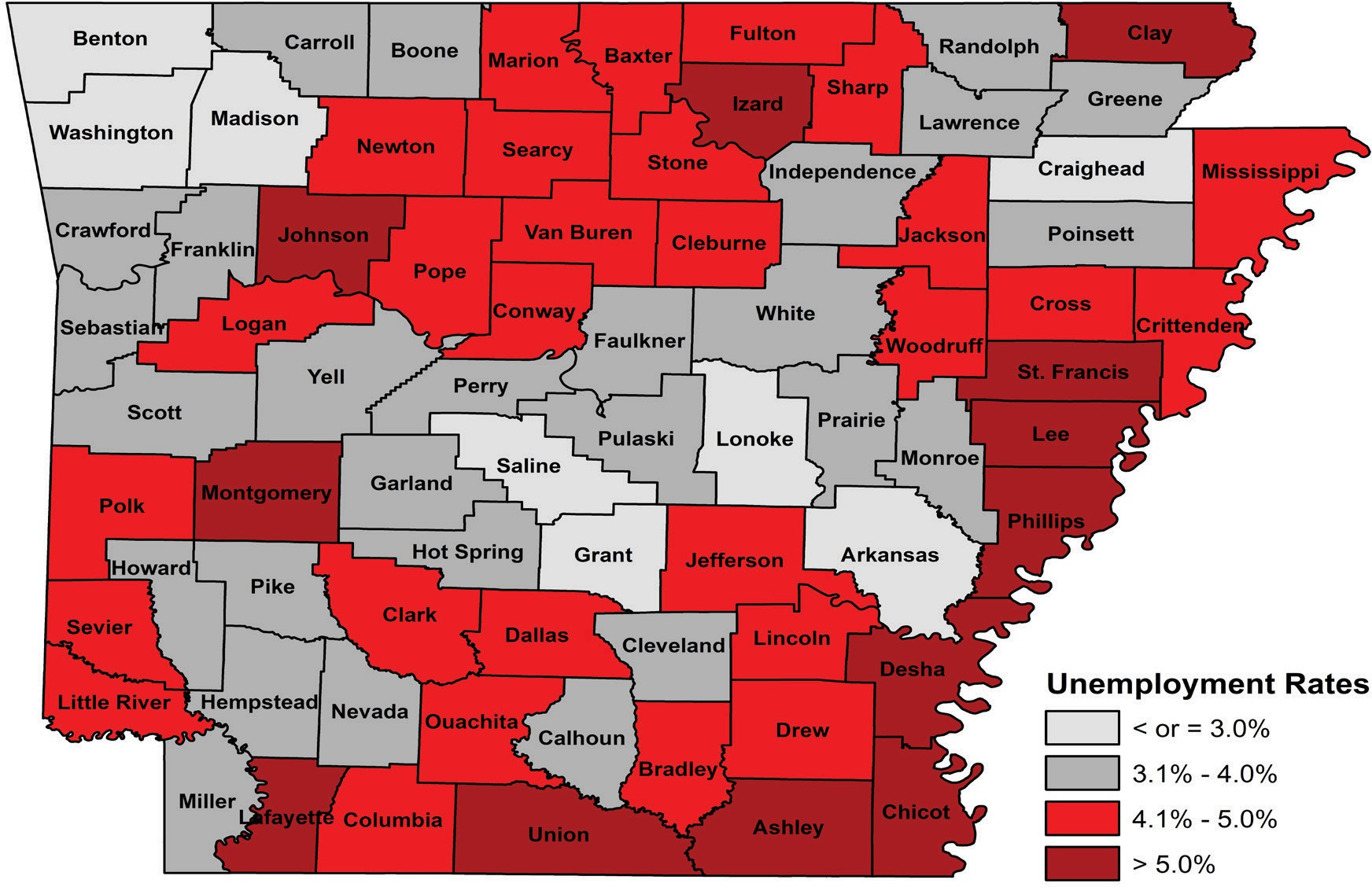
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Between January and February, unemployment rates declined in 74 of Arkansas’ 75 counties. One county- Polk County- posted a jobless rate increase over-the-month. Rates ranged from a low of 2.4% in Washington County to a high of 6.4% in Phillips County.

In February, eight counties in Arkansas reported an unemployment rate at or below 3%. That is up from two counties at or below three percent last month. No county posted a jobless rate above 7%, down from two counties above seven percent in January.

Compared to February 2023, jobless rates are up in 54 Arkansas counties. Rates were down in 11 counties while rates in ten counties remained stable. Johnson County posted the largest rate increase, up one and five-tenths of a percentage point over-the-year. The greatest decline was in Phillips County, down one and one-tenth of a percentage point compared to February 2023.

**County Unemployment Rates**



# Ranked by Unemployment Rates

February 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

**Rank County Rate**

1 Washington 2.4

2 Benton 2.6

3 Madison 2.8

3 Saline 2.8

5 Grant 2.9

5 Lonoke 2.9

7 Arkansas 3.0

7 Craighead 3.0

9 Faulkner 3.1

10 Independence 3.2

11 Franklin 3.4

11 Howard 3.4

11 Scott 3.4

14 Boone 3.5

14 Calhoun 3.5

14 Hempstead 3.5

14 Pulaski 3.5

18 Cleveland 3.6

18 Crawford 3.6

18 Pike 3.6

18 Prairie 3.6

18 Sebastian 3.6

23 Garland 3.8

23 Greene 3.8

23 Hot Spring 3.8

**Rank County**

23 Lawrence

23 White

23 Yell

29 Carroll

29 Perry

29 Randolph

32 Miller

32 Monroe

32 Nevada

32 Poinsett

36 Baxter

36 Columbia

36 Conway

36 Cross

36 Dallas

36 Fulton

36 Logan

36 Pope

44 Ouachita

44 Sevier

46 Bradley

46 Crittenden

46 Sharp

46 Woodruff

50 Cleburne

**Rate**

3.8

3.8

3.8

3.9

3.9

3.9

4.0

4.0

4.0

4.0

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.2

4.2

4.3

4.3

4.3

4.3

4.4

**Rank County**

50 Little River

50 Van Buren

53 Newton

54 Drew

55 Clark

55 Lincoln

55 Polk

58 Jefferson

58 Searcy

58 Stone

61 Jackson

61 Marion

61 Mississippi

64 Izard

64 Union

66 Montgomery

67 Lee

68 Clay

68 Lafayette

70 Desha

70 St. Francis

1. Johnson
2. Ashley
3. Chicot
4. Phillips

**Rate**

4.4

4.4

4.5

4.6

4.7

4.7

4.7

4.8

4.8

4.8

4.9

4.9

4.9

5.1

5.1

5.2

5.3

5.4

5.4

5.5

5.5

5.6

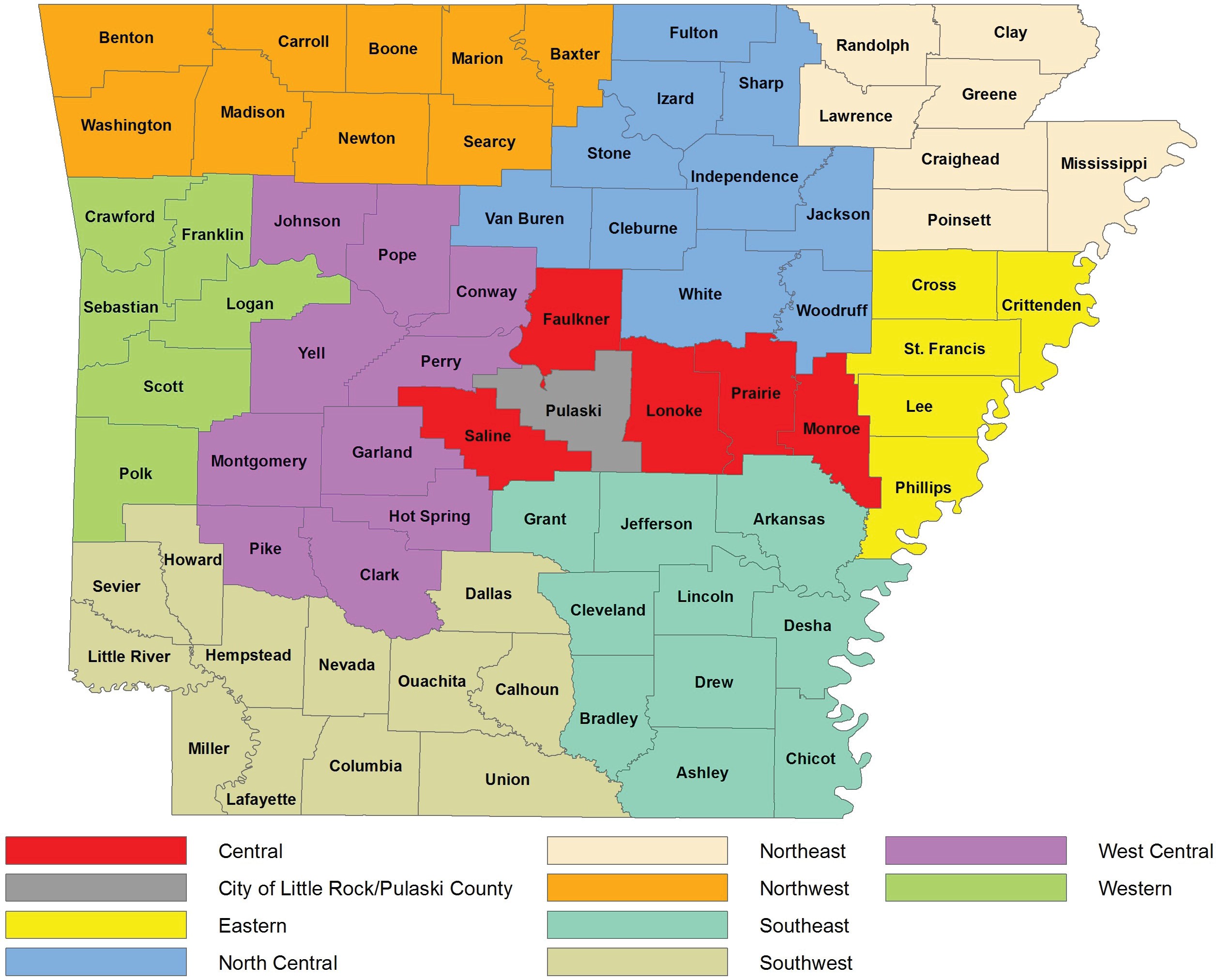
6.0

6.2

6.4

## **Local Workforce Development Areas**

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**



Not Seasonally Adjusted

**LWDA**

**February 2024**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**January 2024**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**February 2023**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

Central (minus LR) 262,379 254,067

City of Little Rock 100,384 96,871

Eastern 41,718 39,727

North Central 92,659 88,930

Northeast 122,361 117,887

Northwest 358,995 349,101

Southeast 74,446 71,134

Southwest 86,966 83,330

West Central 128,558 123,270

Western 110,582 106,512

8,312

3,513

1,991

3,729

4,474

9,894

3,312

3,636

5,288

4,070

3.2

3.5

4.8

4.0

3.7

2.8

4.4

4.2

4.1

3.7

260,076 250,949

99,505 95,635

41,382

39,208

92,276 88,126

121,697 116,765

352,819 341,990

74,128 70,449

86,347 82,423

127,682 121,720

109,613 105,075

9,127 3.5

3,870 3.9

2,174 5.3

4,150 4.5

4,932 4.1

10,829 3.1

3,679 5.0

3,924 4.5

5,962 4.7

4,538 4.1

257,187 249,431 7,756 3.0

98,027 94,907 3,120 3.2

42,337 40,294 2,043 4.8

92,726 89,110 3,616 3.9

121,993 118,019 3,974 3.3

352,262 343,243 9,019 2.6

75,013 71,716 3,297 4.4

87,007 83,577 3,430 3.9

128,949 124,028 4,921 3.8

108,586 105,111 3,475 3.2