**Business and Financial Occupations** is projected to add 2,270 new jobs to the state economy, an   
increase of 3.82 percent. Of the 6,461 annual job openings, 1,802 are for those created from employees leaving the workforce, while 3,524 are from people changing jobs. Growth and expansion accounts for 1,135 annual openings.   
  
 The ***Business Operations Specialists*** occupational family is anticipating 1,601 new jobs, an increase of 4.11 percent. Management Analysts leads the **Business and Financial Operations** major group with 396 new jobs expected making the Top 20 Growing Industries list. Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists is set to add 279 jobs, a 5.95 percent increase. On the negative side, Labor Relations Specialists is estimated to lose six jobs, a 1.59 percent decline. The occupational family is expecting around 4,402 annual job openings.

**2-Year Projected (2018-2020) Growth Rate: 3.82%  
Biggest Gain: Management Analysts (13-1111) – 396 jobs  
Fastest Gain: Insurance Underwriters (13-2053) – 9.70%  
Biggest and Fastest Loser: Labor Relations Specialists (13-1075) – 6 jobs (1.59%)**

**Short-Term Outlook 2018-2020**

**Business and Financial Operations Occupations (13-0000)**

The ***Financial Specialists*** occupational familyis predicted to increase jobs by 669, an increase of 3.27 percent. Accountants and Auditors is estimated to be the top growing occupation in the occupational family with a gain of 292. At 9.70 percent, Insurance Underwriters is predicted to be the fastest growing in the major group and sixth statewide in percent change. The occupational family is expecting around 2,058 annual job openings.

**Workforce Development Area Outlook  
Business and Financial Operations Occupations**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Workforce Development Area** | **2018 Estimated Employment** | **2020 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Openings- Exits** | **Annual Openings- Transfers** | **Annual Openings- Change** | **Annual Openings- Total** |
| Northwest Arkansas | 16,857 | 17,494 | 637 | 3.78% | 509 | 1,034 | 318 | 1,861 |
| North Central Arkansas | 1,958 | 2,008 | 50 | 2.55% | 56 | 114 | 25 | 195 |
| Northeast Arkansas | 2,941 | 3,042 | 101 | 3.43% | 89 | 174 | 50 | 313 |
| Western Arkansas | 3,394 | 3,467 | 73 | 2.15% | 104 | 199 | 36 | 339 |
| West Central Arkansas | 3,109 | 3,196 | 87 | 2.80% | 94 | 180 | 44 | 318 |
| Central Arkansas | 6,200 | 6,419 | 219 | 3.53% | 191 | 364 | 110 | 665 |
| City of Little Rock | 13,778 | 14,253 | 475 | 3.45% | 412 | 792 | 238 | 1,442 |
| Eastern Arkansas | 849 | 849 | 0 | 0.00% | 24 | 50 | 0 | 74 |
| Southwest Arkansas | 2,411 | 2,429 | 18 | 0.75% | 69 | 138 | 9 | 216 |
| Southeast Arkansas | 2,429 | 2,464 | 35 | 1.44% | 72 | 142 | 18 | 232 |