**Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations** is projected to add 182 new jobs to the state economy, an increase of 2.51 percent. Of the 765 annual job openings, 204 are for those created from employees leaving the workforce, while 470 are from people changing jobs. Growth and expansion accounts for 91 annual openings.

**2-Year Projected (2018-2020) Growth Rate: 2.51%  
Biggest Gain: Agriculture and Food Science Technicians (19-4011) – 28 jobs  
Fastest Gain: Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists (19-1042) – 6.06%   
Biggest and Fastest Loser: Forest and Conservation Technicians (19-4093) – 2 jobs (0.73%)**

**.73%**

**Short-Term Outlook 2018-2020**

**Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (19-0000)**

The ***Life Scientists*** occupational family is anticipating 31 new jobs, an increase of 1.84 percent. Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists is estimated to grow by seven employees, or gain 6.09 percent, becoming the fastest growing occupation in the major group. The occupational family is expecting around 165 annual job openings.

The ***Physical Scientists*** occupational familyis predicted to experience a small increase of 25 jobs, an increase of 2.39 percent. Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health is slated to add 18 new jobs, a 5.22 percent gain, becoming the top growing occupation in this occupational group. Around 105 annual job openings are anticipated.

The **Social Scientists and Related Workers** occupational family is forecast to increase by 52 jobs, or 3.58 percent. Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists is slated to add 19 jobs, or 2.62 percent to its workforce. The occupational family anticipates 132 annual job openings.

The **Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians** occupational family is predicted to add 74 new jobs to the Arkansas labor market. Agricultural and Food Science Technicians leads the group with 28 new jobs, a 2.98 percent gain. The occupational family is forecast to have 363 annual job openings.

**Workforce Development Area Outlook  
Life, Physical, and Social Science 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- Totals** |
| Northwest Arkansas | 1,295 | 1,354 | 59 | 4.56% | 38 | 86 | 30 | 154 |
| North Central Arkansas | 225 | 230 | 5 | 2.22% | 4 | 14 | 2 | 20 |
| Northeast Arkansas | 402 | 420 | 18 | 4.48% | 10 | 24 | 9 | 43 |
| Western Arkansas | 549 | 550 | 1 | 0.18% | 15 | 34 | 0 | 49 |
| West Central Arkansas | 685 | 689 | 4 | 0.58% | 18 | 44 | 2 | 64 |
| Central Arkansas | 477 | 480 | 3 | 0.63% | 12 | 28 | 2 | 42 |
| Eastern Arkansas | 171 | 165 | -6 | -3.51% | 4 | 10 | -3 | 11 |
| Southwest Arkansas | 435 | 428 | -7 | -1.61% | 12 | 27 | -4 | 35 |
| Southeast Arkansas | 770 | 763 | -7 | -0.91% | 18 | 49 | -4 | 63 |