

Arkansas Labor Market

January 2011

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Declines to 7.8 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Drop 19,900 in January

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	7.8	7.9	8.0
US Unemployment Rate	9.0	9.4	9.7

Nonfarm Payroll Summary

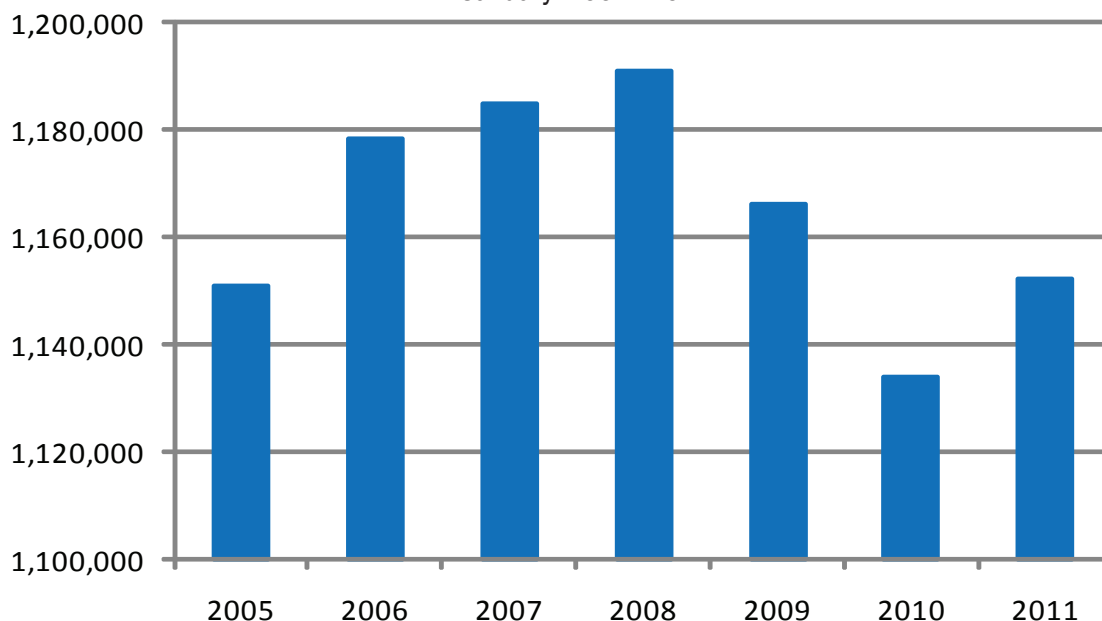
State of Arkansas

	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,152,200	1,172,100	1,134,100
Goods Producing	212,000	216,400	213,500
Service Providing	940,200	955,700	920,600

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

State of Arkansas

January: 2005 - 2011



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

December 2010 - January 2011

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas decreased 19,900 in January to total 1,152,200. Eight major industry sectors posted declines, more than offsetting minor gains in three sectors. The greatest loss occurred in **trade, transportation, and utilities** (-5,600), attributed mostly to the seasonal drop in retail trade. **Government** (-4,800) and **educational and health services** (-1,500) both posted seasonal declines related to school employment. Seasonal fluctuations also caused decreases in **leisure and hospitality** (-3,000) and **construction** (-2,500).

January 2010 - January 2011

Since January 2010, nonfarm payroll employment increased 18,100. Nine major industry sectors enjoyed annual growth, while two posted losses. The largest increase occurred in **professional and business services** (+5,600), with administrative and support services experiencing most of the growth (+5,300). **Leisure and hospitality** and **trade, transportation, and utilities** both added 3,900 jobs, each. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 3,000, mostly caused by growth in social assistance (+2,400). **Construction** posted the largest annual decline (-2,000).

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Total Nonfarm	1,152,200	1,172,100	1,134,100
Goods Producing	212,000	216,400	213,500
Mining & Logging	10,600	10,800	9,900
Construction	44,000	46,500	46,000
Specialty Trade Contractors	26,500	27,700	27,300
Manufacturing	157,400	159,100	157,600
Durable Goods	76,700	77,400	75,500
Nondurable Goods	80,700	81,700	82,100
Service Providing	940,200	955,700	920,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	233,600	239,200	229,700
Wholesale Trade	45,300	44,700	45,300
Retail Trade	128,200	134,100	126,700
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	60,100	60,400	57,700
Information	15,700	15,600	15,300
Financial Activities	49,900	49,400	48,700
Finance & Insurance	36,400	35,700	35,500
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,500	13,700	13,200
Professional & Business Services	118,900	120,300	113,300
Professional, Scientific & Technical	38,400	37,500	38,700
Management of Companies	26,600	26,500	26,000
Administrative & Support Services	53,900	56,300	48,600
Educational & Health Services	166,700	168,200	163,700
Health Care & Social Assistance	153,600	154,000	150,400
Ambulatory Health Care	45,600	45,700	45,500
Social Assistance	35,400	35,100	33,000
Leisure & Hospitality	96,900	99,900	93,000
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,800	8,600	8,400
Accommodation & Food Services	88,100	91,300	84,600
Accommodation Services	10,200	10,800	9,900
Food Services	77,900	80,500	74,700
Other Services	43,000	42,800	42,600
Government	215,500	220,300	214,300
Federal Government	20,800	21,200	21,700
State Government	73,600	76,900	73,600
Local Government	121,100	122,200	119,000

Hours & Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Manufacturing	\$566.60	\$581.74	\$572.36	40.5	41.2	41.0	\$13.99	\$14.12	\$13.96
Durable Goods	630.74	644.32	620.87	40.2	40.6	40.5	15.69	15.87	15.33
Nondurable Goods	511.63	527.92	532.86	40.8	41.7	41.5	12.54	12.66	12.84

Spotlight

New in 2011

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

In accordance with U.S. Department of Labor guidelines, Civilian Labor Force data underwent the annual revision process dating back to January 2006. The revised statewide information is available on the Discover Arkansas website at www.discover.arkansas.gov. Revised data for the Metropolitan Statistical Areas, counties, cities and Workforce Investment Areas should be available May 6, 2011.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs:

Nonfarm employment estimates from April 2009 through December 2010 have been revised and are available on the Discover Arkansas website.

Additionally, due to lack of information, repair and maintenance will no longer be a subset of the other services sector. These jobs will still be counted and included in other services but will not be shown in a separate sub-sector category.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Changes:

The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), is implementing a plan to centralize the process for producing Current Employment Statistics (CES). Beginning with the March 2011 preliminary CES estimates, the production of Statewide and Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) employment estimates will transition from state workforce agencies to national BLS. State agencies will provide limited input into the estimates but will maintain responsibility for disseminating the estimates to the public. Additionally, several methodological changes are being made to the estimation process to ensure standardization throughout each state. These changes were designed to improve cost efficiency in the CES program.

Watch for these Spotlights in the coming months.....

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

A Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

Mass Layoff Statistics

Business Employment Dynamics

Local Employment Dynamics

Seasonal Employment Trends

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

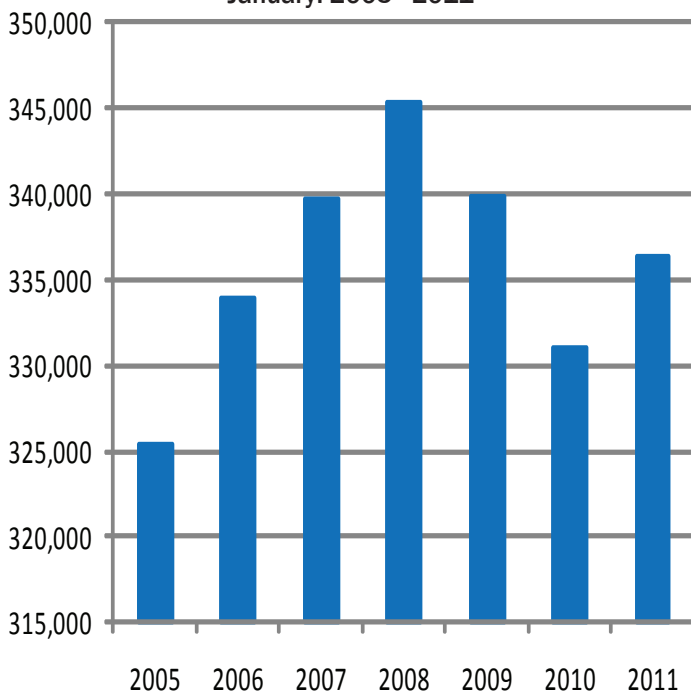
(NAICS)	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Total Nonfarm	336,400	340,800	331,000
Goods Producing	36,200	36,300	36,300
Mining, Logging & Construction	16,500	16,400	15,900
Manufacturing	19,700	19,900	20,400
Service Providing	300,200	304,500	294,700
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	63,600	65,500	62,800
Wholesale Trade	16,900	16,700	16,200
Retail Trade	34,900	36,600	34,700
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	11,800	12,200	11,900
Information	7,700	7,800	7,700
Financial Activities	18,700	18,600	19,000
Professional & Business Services	44,600	44,400	42,100
Educational & Health Services	51,300	51,900	49,300
Leisure & Hospitality	29,500	30,000	28,000
Other Services	14,700	14,700	14,700
Government	70,100	71,600	71,100
Federal Government	9,500	9,700	9,800
State Government	32,700	33,900	33,100
Local Government	27,900	28,000	28,200

(The following counties make up the LR-NLR-Conway MSA:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Civilian Labor Force	340,425	343,275	336,250
Employment	315,075	320,100	310,500
Unemployment	25,350	23,175	25,750
Unemployment Rate	7.4	6.8	7.7

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs January: 2005 - 2011



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

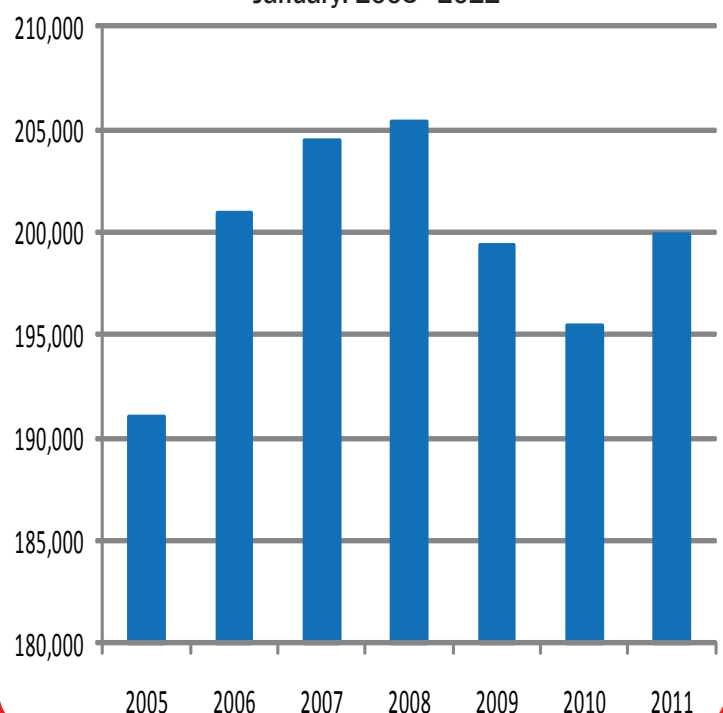
(NAICS)	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Total Nonfarm	199,800	203,000	195,400
Goods Producing	36,100	36,900	36,100
Mining, Logging & Construction	7,500	7,900	7,600
Manufacturing	28,600	29,000	28,500
Service Providing	163,700	166,100	159,300
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	44,300	45,300	43,600
Wholesale Trade	8,800	8,800	8,600
Retail Trade	20,300	21,300	20,400
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	15,200	15,200	14,600
Information	2,100	2,100	2,100
Financial Activities	7,300	7,300	7,400
Professional & Business Services	34,400	34,700	33,300
Educational & Health Services	22,300	22,500	21,300
Leisure & Hospitality	17,700	18,300	16,800
Other Services	6,800	6,800	6,600
Government	28,800	29,100	28,200
Federal Government	2,400	2,400	2,500
State Government	9,400	9,400	8,600
Local Government	17,000	17,300	17,100

(The following counties make up the FSR MSA:
Benton, Madison, and Washington in Arkansas and McDonald in Missouri.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Civilian Labor Force	225,075	227,075	220,600
Employment	209,775	213,150	204,875
Unemployment	15,300	13,925	15,725
Unemployment Rate	6.8	6.1	7.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs January: 2005 - 2011



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

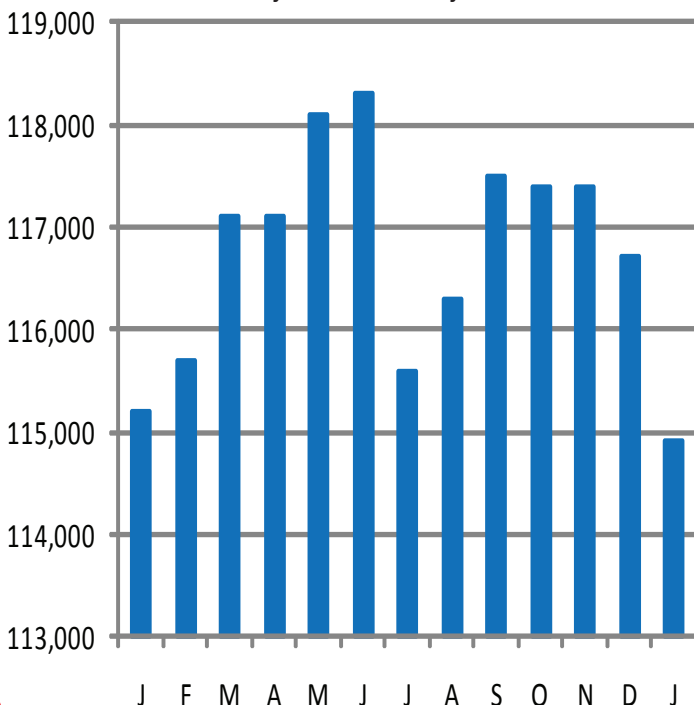
(NAICS)	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Total Nonfarm	114,900	116,700	115,200
Goods Producing	27,700	28,100	27,700
Mining, Logging & Construction	6,900	7,100	7,000
Manufacturing	20,800	21,000	20,700
Service Providing	87,200	88,600	87,500
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23,800	24,300	24,100
Wholesale Trade	4,000	4,000	3,900
Retail Trade	12,600	13,100	12,900
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	7,200	7,200	7,300
Information	1,200	1,200	1,200
Financial Activities	4,200	4,200	4,100
Professional & Business Services	11,600	11,700	11,300
Educational & Health Services	16,100	16,200	16,000
Leisure & Hospitality	8,400	8,600	8,400
Other Services	3,600	3,600	3,700
Government	18,300	18,800	18,700
Federal Government	1,600	1,600	1,700
State Government	3,300	3,700	3,000
Local Government	13,400	13,500	14,000

(The following counties make up the Fort Smith MSA: Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian in Arkansas and LeFlore and Sequoyah in Oklahoma.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Civilian Labor Force	132,400	133,325	133,150
Employment	120,175	121,975	120,750
Unemployment	12,225	11,350	12,400
Unemployment Rate	9.2	8.5	9.3

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs January 2010 - January 2011



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Total Nonfarm	37,000	37,400	36,600
Goods Producing	4,000	4,100	3,800
Service Providing	33,000	33,300	32,800
Government	4,800	4,900	4,900

(The following county makes up the Hot Springs MSA: Garland.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Civilian Labor Force	41,900	42,225	41,575
Employment	38,150	38,825	37,900
Unemployment	3,750	3,400	3,675
Unemployment Rate	8.9	8.0	8.8

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Total Nonfarm	48,500	49,300	47,800
Goods Producing	8,300	8,500	8,300
Service Providing	40,200	40,800	39,500
Government	8,900	9,000	8,600

(The following counties make up the Jonesboro MSA: Craighead and Poinsett.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Civilian Labor Force	57,500	57,900	56,525
Employment	52,725	53,625	51,775
Unemployment	4,775	4,275	4,750
Unemployment Rate	8.3	7.4	8.4

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Total Nonfarm	35,800	36,600	36,600
Goods Producing	7,300	7,400	7,400
Service Providing	28,500	29,200	29,200
Government	10,700	11,000	10,700

(The following counties make up the PB MSA: Cleveland, Jefferson, and Lincoln.)

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10
Civilian Labor Force	42,900	43,350	43,500
Employment	38,225	39,125	38,800
Unemployment	4,675	4,225	4,700
Unemployment Rate	10.9	9.8	10.8

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,362,400	1,361,100	1,350,000	1,300	12,400	1,338,000	1,350,600	1,327,700	-12,600	10,300
Employment	1,255,500	1,253,900	1,242,500	1,600	13,000	1,222,000	1,245,500	1,210,100	-23,500	11,900
Unemployment	106,900	107,200	107,500	-300	-600	116,000	105,100	117,600	10,900	-1,600
Unemployment Rate	7.8	7.9	8.0	-0.1	-0.2	8.7	7.8	8.9	0.9	-0.2
U.S. Unemployment Rate	9.0	9.4	9.7	-0.4	-0.7	9.8	9.1	10.6	0.7	-0.8

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>
Civilian Labor Force	603,325	609,800	608,225
Employment	540,800	552,325	541,175
Unemployment	62,525	57,475	67,050
Unemployment Rate	10.4	9.4	11.0

	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>
Civilian Labor Force	65,175	65,500	64,950
Employment	60,075	60,875	59,725
Unemployment	5,100	4,625	5,225
Unemployment Rate	7.8	7.1	8.1

Unemployment Rates by County

Between December 2010 and January 2011, unemployment rates increased in 74 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Nevada County was the only county to enjoy a rate decline over-the-month. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 6.2 percent in Miller County to a high of 18.7 percent in Arkansas County.

In January, no county posted rates at or below six percent. Thirty-two counties had rates at or above ten percent, up from seventeen counties in December.

Compared to January 2010, unemployment rates are down in 45 counties. Twenty-four counties posted rate increases, while six remained the same.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Jan 11</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Jan 10</u>
75	Arkansas	18.7	17.5	18.7	61	Lee	11.6	10.9	10.8
60	Ashley	11.5	10.6	11.6	58	Lincoln	11.3	9.1	12.3
41	Baxter	9.8	8.6	10.6	15	Little River	7.9	7.8	8.0
3	Benton	6.7	6.0	7.1	21	Logan	8.5	7.7	9.6
26	Boone	8.8	6.8	9.3	12	Lonoke	7.8	6.9	7.3
59	Bradley	11.4	9.9	10.1	4	Madison	7.2	6.8	8.3
65	Calhoun	11.7	10.1	10.3	55	Marion	11.0	9.5	12.2
35	Carroll	9.3	7.1	9.4	1	Miller	6.2	5.3	6.5
72	Chicot	13.3	11.9	13.3	67	Mississippi	12.0	11.0	13.4
39	Clark	9.7	7.9	8.9	37	Monroe	9.6	8.7	9.8
74	Clay	14.4	13.1	13.8	45	Montgomery	10.3	9.0	9.4
21	Cleburne	8.5	7.2	8.6	26	Nevada	8.8	9.1	10.6
33	Cleveland	9.1	7.9	9.2	17	Newton	8.1	7.5	8.5
37	Columbia	9.6	8.5	10.3	26	Ouachita	8.8	7.9	9.0
26	Conway	8.8	7.9	8.8	32	Perry	9.0	7.7	9.8
12	Craighead	7.8	6.9	7.9	61	Phillips	11.6	10.1	11.3
33	Crawford	9.1	8.3	8.7	48	Pike	10.5	9.5	9.3
69	Crittenden	12.7	11.6	11.8	48	Poinsett	10.5	9.4	10.8
41	Cross	9.8	8.5	10.2	21	Polk	8.5	7.5	8.5
61	Dallas	11.6	10.3	10.2	17	Pope	8.1	7.3	8.5
73	Desha	13.7	12.3	14.2	43	Prairie	9.9	9.2	10.0
70	Drew	12.8	11.1	12.5	5	Pulaski	7.3	6.7	7.6
12	Faulkner	7.8	6.7	8.3	53	Randolph	10.9	9.4	10.6
9	Franklin	7.4	6.7	7.8	56	St. Francis	11.1	10.1	11.6
15	Fulton	7.9	7.0	8.8	5	Saline	7.3	6.6	7.2
31	Garland	8.9	8.0	8.8	5	Scott	7.3	6.7	7.4
19	Grant	8.2	7.1	7.6	36	Searcy	9.5	8.6	9.9
46	Greene	10.4	9.7	11.5	24	Sebastian	8.7	8.4	8.1
44	Hempstead	10.0	9.0	10.0	10	Sevier	7.6	6.3	6.6
19	Hot Spring	8.2	7.3	8.9	53	Sharp	10.9	9.6	11.0
26	Howard	8.8	8.3	9.2	66	Stone	11.9	9.2	11.0
24	Independence	8.7	7.9	9.7	50	Union	10.6	9.9	12.4
46	Izard	10.4	9.3	11.2	61	Van Buren	11.6	10.0	11.5
68	Jackson	12.3	10.9	12.7	2	Washington	6.6	5.9	6.9
56	Jefferson	11.1	10.1	10.8	39	White	9.7	8.2	9.4
11	Johnson	7.7	7.0	8.0	70	Woodruff	12.8	11.3	12.8
50	Lafayette	10.6	9.6	11.0	5	Yell	7.3	6.5	8.4
52	Lawrence	10.8	9.5	10.7					

Lowest Rates

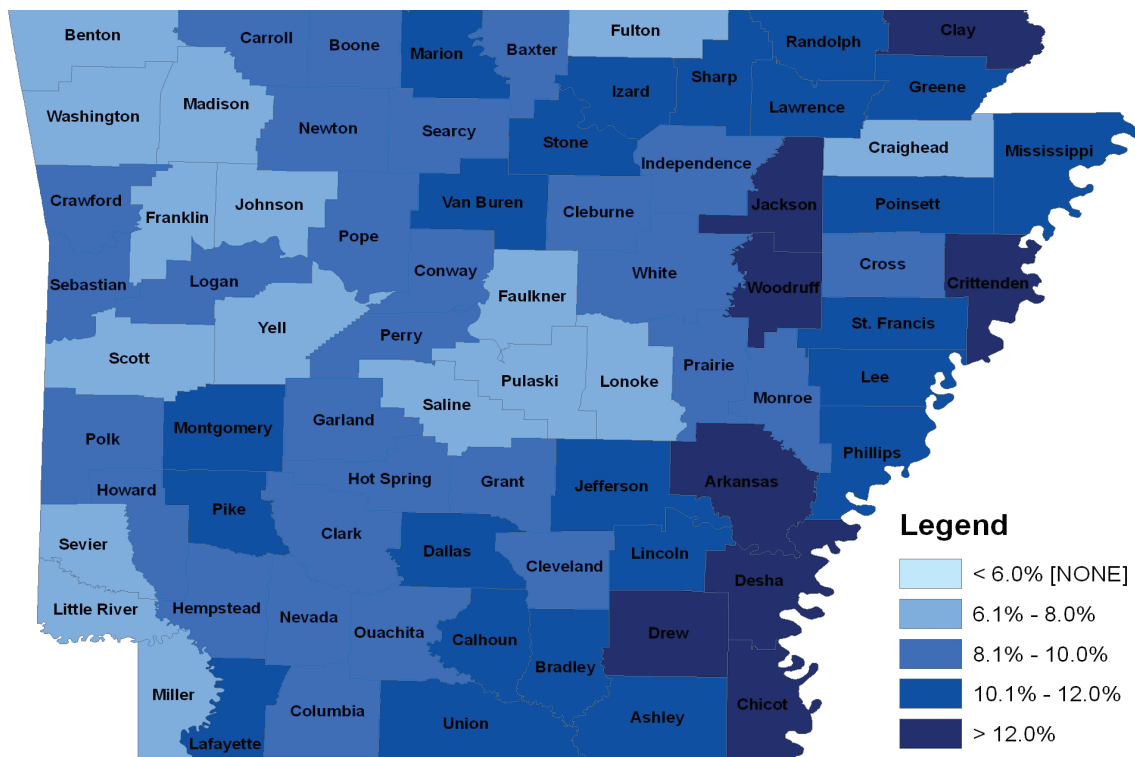
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Miller	6.2
2	Washington	6.6
3	Benton	6.7
4	Madison	7.2

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
72	Chicot	13.3
73	Desha	13.7
74	Clay	14.4
75	Arkansas	18.7

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

For complete County Labor Force Statistics, please visit our website at www.discover.arkansas.gov



Technical Notes

The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The current month's estimates are preliminary, while previous data are 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 collected 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 2010 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 3,000 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 unemployed. 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. Approximately 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 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 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 in this publication 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, shifts in schedules, harvest times, and the opening/closing of schools.

Arkansas Labor Market

January 2011

The *Arkansas Labor Market* is produced by the Department of Workforce Services, Bureau of Labor Statistics. All Statistics are published in cooperation with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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