

# Arkansas Labor Market

## October 2011

### Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Declines to 8.2 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Rise 3,000 in October

### Employment Quick Facts

#### Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

|                      | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| AR Unemployment Rate | 8.2           | 8.3           | 7.9           |
| US Unemployment Rate | 9.0           | 9.1           | 9.7           |

#### Nonfarm Payroll Summary

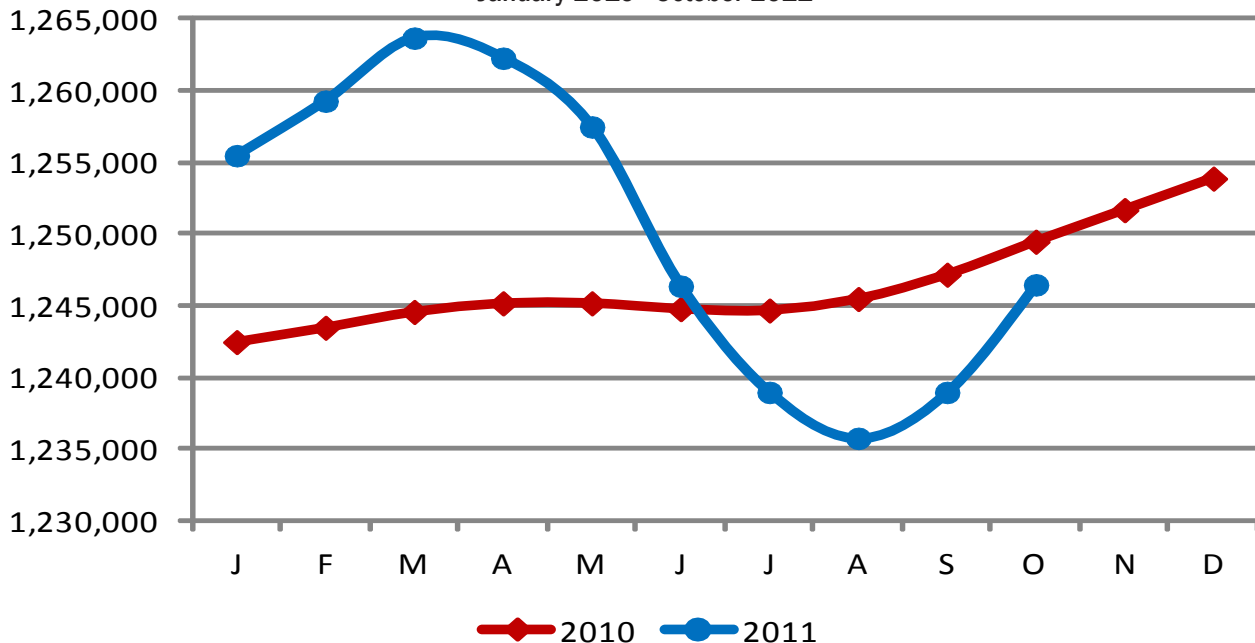
State of Arkansas

|                   | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 1,180,500     | 1,177,500     | 1,181,700     |
| Goods Producing   | 214,500       | 217,100       | 220,600       |
| Service Providing | 966,000       | 960,400       | 961,100       |

#### Number of Employed (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas

January 2010 - October 2011



# Nonfarm Payroll Employment

## State of Arkansas

### September 2011 - October 2011

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment rose 3,000 in October to total 1,180,500. Four major industry sectors added jobs, more than offsetting declines in six major sectors. **Government** posted the largest increase (+3,800). Most of the gains occurred in local government (+2,500), which continues to reflect seasonal public school employment. **Educational and health services** added 2,100 jobs. The increase was mostly related to jobs in private education. Employment in **professional and business services** rose 1,200. Jobs in **construction** declined 1,400, as many businesses finished seasonal projects. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** experienced a decrease of 1,400 jobs, mostly in transportation-warehousing-utilities.

### October 2010 - October 2011

Since October 2010, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas decreased 1,200. Two major industry sectors posted job losses, more than offsetting the growth seen in six industries. Jobs in **manufacturing** decreased 6,400. Most of the drop occurred in nondurable goods manufacturing (-4,000). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** posted a decline of 2,900 jobs. A majority of the drop occurred in retail trade (-3,200), partially offset by gains in transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+1,000). **Government** enjoyed the largest annual growth (+4,000), mostly at the local level. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 1,900.

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| (NAICS)                                      | Oct 11         | Sep 11         | Oct 10         |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total Nonfarm                                | 1,180,500      | 1,177,500      | 1,181,700      |
| Goods Producing                              | 214,500        | 217,100        | 220,600        |
| <b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>                  | <b>10,900</b>  | <b>11,000</b>  | <b>10,600</b>  |
| <b>Construction</b>                          | <b>49,000</b>  | <b>50,400</b>  | <b>49,000</b>  |
| Specialty Trade Contractors                  | 29,200         | 29,800         | 29,100         |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>                         | <b>154,600</b> | <b>155,700</b> | <b>161,000</b> |
| Durable Goods                                | 76,000         | 76,800         | 78,400         |
| Nondurable Goods                             | 78,600         | 78,900         | 82,600         |
| Service Providing                            | 966,000        | 960,400        | 961,100        |
| <b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b> | <b>233,000</b> | <b>234,400</b> | <b>235,900</b> |
| Wholesale Trade                              | 45,800         | 45,700         | 46,500         |
| Retail Trade                                 | 127,500        | 127,600        | 130,700        |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities      | 59,700         | 61,100         | 58,700         |
| <b>Information</b>                           | <b>15,500</b>  | <b>15,600</b>  | <b>15,400</b>  |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>                  | <b>50,300</b>  | <b>49,900</b>  | <b>49,100</b>  |
| Finance & Insurance                          | 36,600         | 36,200         | 35,600         |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing               | 13,700         | 13,700         | 13,500         |
| <b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>  | <b>122,300</b> | <b>121,100</b> | <b>122,300</b> |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical         | 37,800         | 37,100         | 38,200         |
| Management of Companies                      | 26,700         | 26,400         | 26,400         |
| Administrative & Support Services            | 57,800         | 57,600         | 57,700         |
| <b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>     | <b>171,000</b> | <b>168,900</b> | <b>169,100</b> |
| Health Care & Social Assistance              | 155,400        | 154,900        | 153,900        |
| Ambulatory Health Care                       | 46,200         | 46,000         | 46,300         |
| Social Assistance                            | 34,700         | 35,100         | 34,300         |
| <b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>             | <b>104,200</b> | <b>104,600</b> | <b>104,200</b> |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation             | 9,700          | 10,700         | 9,800          |
| Accommodation & Food Services                | 94,500         | 93,900         | 94,400         |
| Accommodation Services                       | 11,400         | 11,800         | 11,500         |
| Food Services                                | 83,100         | 82,100         | 82,900         |
| <b>Other Services</b>                        | <b>45,300</b>  | <b>45,300</b>  | <b>44,700</b>  |
| <b>Government</b>                            | <b>224,400</b> | <b>220,600</b> | <b>220,400</b> |
| Federal Government                           | 20,500         | 20,100         | 21,300         |
| State Government                             | 77,700         | 76,800         | 77,300         |
| Local Government                             | 126,200        | 123,700        | 121,800        |

## Hours & Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

|                         | Average Weekly Earnings |          |          | Average Weekly Hours |        |        | Average Hourly Earnings |         |         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
|                         | Oct 11                  | Sep 11   | Oct 10   | Oct 11               | Sep 11 | Oct 10 | Oct 11                  | Sep 11  | Oct 10  |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>    | \$603.58                | \$609.02 | \$568.55 | 41.2                 | 41.6   | 41.5   | \$14.65                 | \$14.64 | \$13.70 |
| <b>Durable Goods</b>    | 673.04                  | 670.23   | 618.12   | 41.7                 | 41.5   | 40.8   | 16.14                   | 16.15   | 15.15   |
| <b>Nondurable Goods</b> | 540.60                  | 551.62   | 527.50   | 40.8                 | 41.6   | 42.2   | 13.25                   | 13.26   | 12.50   |

# Spotlight

## Business Employment Dynamics

Business Employment Dynamics, also known as BED statistics, are a relatively new employment statistic. BED is primarily concerned with tracking employment changes at the establishment level, meaning each individual business location.

BED statistics are linked closely to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program and calculated from quarterly reports provided by individual employers. Similarly, BED statistics are produced on a quarterly basis, with longitudinal data dating back to 2002. At this time, BED data are only published at the national and individual state levels. No statistics currently exist to provide data at the county or city level in Arkansas.

### Gross Job Gains and Losses by Quarter (Private Sector)

State of Arkansas  
(seasonally adjusted)

| 3 months ended         |              |              |               |               |              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Category               | Mar 10       | Jun 10       | Sep 10        | Dec 10        | Mar 11*      |
| Employment Levels      |              |              |               |               |              |
| Gross job gains.....   | 53,238       | 61,695       | 55,521        | 54,051        | 55,976       |
| Gross job losses....   | 52,035       | 53,119       | 58,241        | 58,156        | 53,905       |
| <b>Net Change.....</b> | <b>1,203</b> | <b>8,576</b> | <b>-2,720</b> | <b>-4,105</b> | <b>2,071</b> |

\*Most recent BED data available is for 1st Quarter 2011

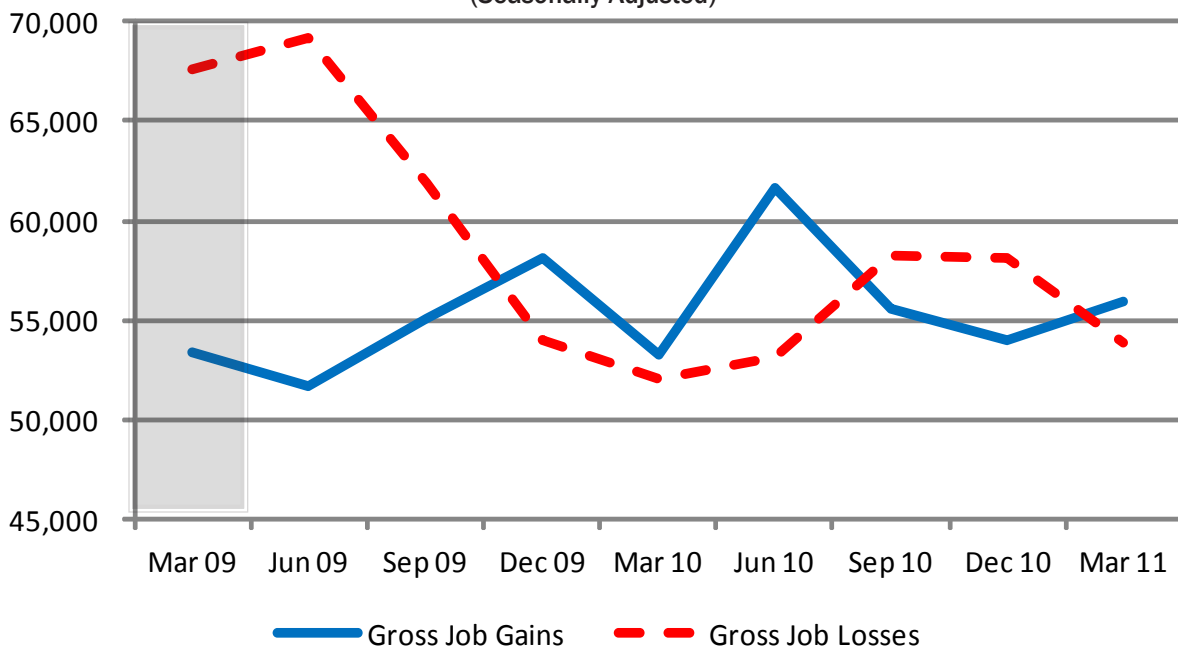
The information that can be obtained from BED statistics includes gross job gains and/or losses at establishments with changes in employment. These employment changes occur when establishments open/expand or close/contract. Gross job gains are a combination of jobs created from both openings of new businesses and expansions at existing businesses. Gross job losses are a combination of jobs lost from both existing businesses that close and those that reduce their number of employees.

The net change is the difference between gross job gains and gross job losses.

The chart below shows gross job gains versus gross job losses for a nine quarter period (1st Quarter 2009- 1st Quarter 2011). Note that the area shaded in gray represents the national recession period, as defined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

### Gross Job Gains vs. Gross Job Losses (Private Sector)

State of Arkansas  
(Seasonally Adjusted)



# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

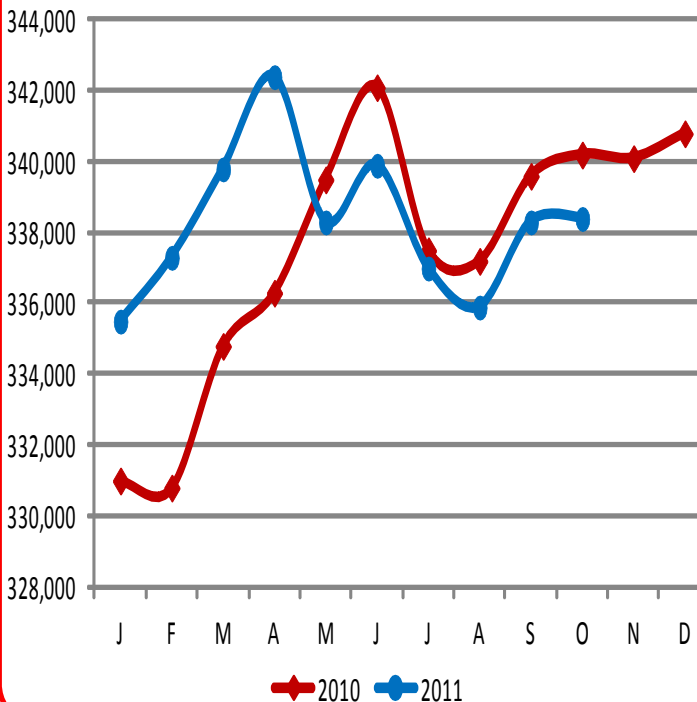
| (NAICS)                           | Oct 11  | Sep 11  | Oct 10  |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 338,400 | 338,300 | 340,200 |
| Goods Producing                   | 37,300  | 37,300  | 37,100  |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 17,800  | 17,600  | 17,100  |
| Manufacturing                     | 19,500  | 19,700  | 20,000  |
| Service Providing                 | 301,100 | 301,000 | 303,100 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 62,500  | 63,600  | 64,600  |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 16,500  | 16,800  | 16,800  |
| Retail Trade                      | 34,600  | 35,000  | 35,700  |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 11,400  | 11,800  | 12,100  |
| Information                       | 7,600   | 7,600   | 7,800   |
| Financial Activities              | 18,600  | 18,600  | 18,500  |
| Professional & Business Services  | 45,200  | 45,400  | 44,500  |
| Educational & Health Services     | 50,200  | 49,300  | 51,400  |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 31,000  | 30,900  | 30,100  |
| Other Services                    | 14,800  | 15,100  | 14,700  |
| Government                        | 71,200  | 70,500  | 71,500  |
| Federal Government                | 9,400   | 9,300   | 9,700   |
| State Government                  | 34,000  | 34,000  | 33,800  |
| Local Government                  | 27,800  | 27,200  | 28,000  |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Statistics

|                      | Oct 11  | Sep 11  | Oct 10  |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 343,550 | 345,600 | 343,600 |
| Employment           | 320,300 | 321,025 | 321,600 |
| Unemployment         | 23,250  | 24,575  | 22,000  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 6.8     | 7.1     | 6.4     |

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs January 2010 - October 2011



## Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

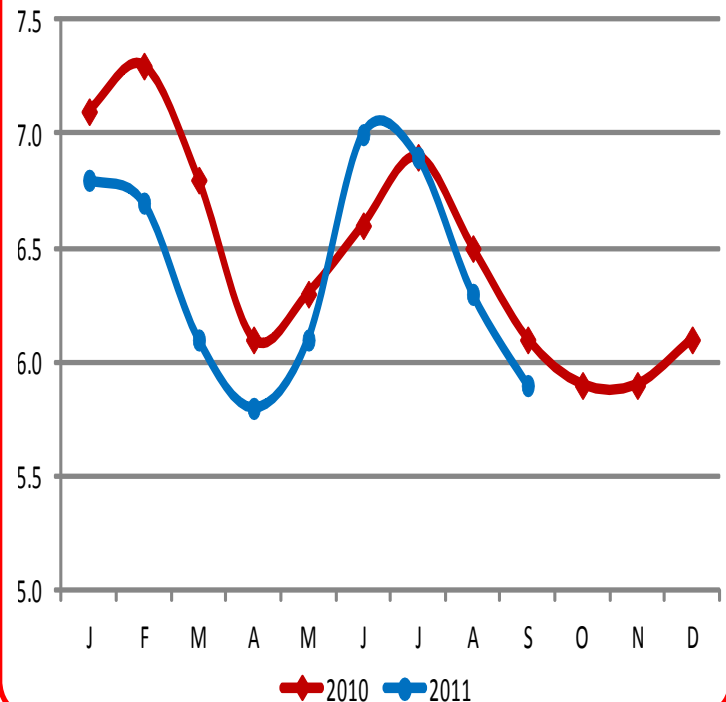
| (NAICS)                           | Oct 11  | Sep 11  | Oct 10  |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 204,200 | 202,200 | 203,100 |
| Goods Producing                   | 35,800  | 35,900  | 37,200  |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 8,100   | 8,200   | 8,000   |
| Manufacturing                     | 27,700  | 27,700  | 29,200  |
| Service Providing                 | 168,400 | 166,300 | 165,900 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 44,200  | 44,300  | 44,700  |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 8,800   | 8,900   | 8,800   |
| Retail Trade                      | 20,300  | 20,200  | 20,900  |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 15,100  | 15,200  | 15,000  |
| Information                       | 2,100   | 2,000   | 2,100   |
| Financial Activities              | 7,100   | 7,100   | 7,200   |
| Professional & Business Services  | 35,400  | 35,200  | 34,800  |
| Educational & Health Services     | 22,900  | 22,500  | 22,500  |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 19,300  | 19,400  | 18,700  |
| Other Services                    | 6,900   | 6,900   | 6,800   |
| Government                        | 30,500  | 28,900  | 29,100  |
| Federal Government                | 2,400   | 2,300   | 2,400   |
| State Government                  | 10,600  | 10,100  | 9,700   |
| Local Government                  | 17,500  | 16,500  | 17,000  |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Statistics

|                      | Oct 11  | Sep 11  | Oct 10  |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 228,975 | 227,625 | 228,375 |
| Employment           | 215,500 | 213,300 | 214,975 |
| Unemployment         | 13,475  | 14,325  | 13,400  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.9     | 6.3     | 5.9     |

### Unemployment Rates January 2010 - October 2011



# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Fort Smith MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

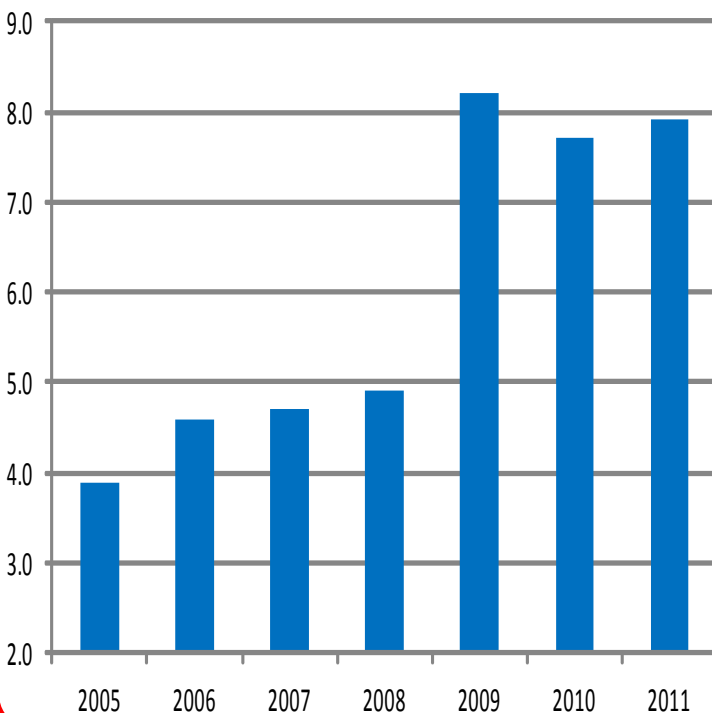
| (NAICS)                           | Oct 11  | Sep 11  | Oct 10  |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 116,600 | 116,300 | 117,400 |
| Goods Producing                   | 28,400  | 28,500  | 28,500  |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 7,700   | 7,800   | 7,200   |
| Manufacturing                     | 20,700  | 20,700  | 21,300  |
| Service Providing                 | 88,200  | 87,800  | 88,900  |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 23,800  | 23,600  | 24,100  |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 4,000   | 3,900   | 4,000   |
| Retail Trade                      | 12,600  | 12,500  | 12,900  |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 7,200   | 7,200   | 7,200   |
| Information                       | 1,100   | 1,100   | 1,200   |
| Financial Activities              | 4,100   | 4,100   | 4,100   |
| Professional & Business Services  | 12,000  | 11,900  | 12,000  |
| Educational & Health Services     | 16,200  | 16,200  | 16,200  |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 9,000   | 9,200   | 8,700   |
| Other Services                    | 3,600   | 3,600   | 3,700   |
| Government                        | 18,400  | 18,100  | 18,900  |
| Federal Government                | 1,600   | 1,600   | 1,600   |
| State Government                  | 3,700   | 3,600   | 3,600   |
| Local Government                  | 13,100  | 12,900  | 13,700  |

(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

|                      | Oct 11  | Sep 11  | Oct 10  |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 132,175 | 132,200 | 134,025 |
| Employment           | 121,700 | 121,575 | 123,700 |
| Unemployment         | 10,475  | 10,625  | 10,325  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 7.9     | 8.0     | 7.7     |

### Unemployment Rates October: 2005 - 2011



## Hot Springs MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| (NAICS)           | Oct 11 | Sep 11 | Oct 10 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 39,500 | 40,200 | 37,200 |
| Goods Producing   | 4,100  | 4,200  | 4,100  |
| Service Providing | 35,400 | 36,000 | 33,100 |
| Government        | 5,500  | 5,400  | 4,900  |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Statistics

|                      | Oct 11 | Sep 11 | Oct 10 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 44,375 | 45,000 | 42,050 |
| Employment           | 41,150 | 41,550 | 38,950 |
| Unemployment         | 3,225  | 3,450  | 3,100  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 7.3    | 7.7    | 7.3    |

## Jonesboro MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| (NAICS)           | Oct 11 | Sep 11 | Oct 10 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 48,800 | 48,400 | 49,400 |
| Goods Producing   | 8,500  | 8,500  | 8,600  |
| Service Providing | 40,300 | 39,900 | 40,800 |
| Government        | 9,000  | 8,900  | 8,900  |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Statistics

|                      | Oct 11 | Sep 11 | Oct 10 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 57,300 | 57,125 | 58,100 |
| Employment           | 53,350 | 52,875 | 54,175 |
| Unemployment         | 3,950  | 4,250  | 3,925  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 6.9    | 7.4    | 6.8    |

## Pine Bluff MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| (NAICS)           | Oct 11 | Sep 11 | Oct 10 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 36,500 | 36,600 | 37,100 |
| Goods Producing   | 7,500  | 7,500  | 7,500  |
| Service Providing | 29,000 | 29,100 | 29,600 |
| Government        | 11,000 | 10,700 | 10,900 |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Statistics

|                      | Oct 11 | Sep 11 | Oct 10 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 43,400 | 43,500 | 43,825 |
| Employment           | 39,275 | 39,125 | 39,950 |
| Unemployment         | 4,125  | 4,375  | 3,875  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 9.5    | 10.1   | 8.8    |

# Civilian Labor Force Statistics

## State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|                        | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>OTY</u> | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>OTY</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force   | 1,358,300     | 1,351,400     | 1,356,000     | 6,900      | 2,300      | 1,362,900     | 1,361,800     | 1,355,000     | 1,100      | 7,900      |
| Employment             | 1,246,500     | 1,239,000     | 1,249,500     | 7,500      | -3,000     | 1,262,000     | 1,255,300     | 1,259,100     | 6,700      | 2,900      |
| Unemployment           | 111,800       | 112,400       | 106,500       | -600       | 5,300      | 100,900       | 106,500       | 95,900        | -5,600     | 5,000      |
| Unemployment Rate      | 8.2           | 8.3           | 7.9           | -0.1       | 0.3        | 7.4           | 7.8           | 7.1           | -0.4       | 0.3        |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate | 9.0           | 9.1           | 9.7           | -0.1       | -0.7       | 8.5           | 8.8           | 9.0           | -0.3       | -0.5       |

## Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

Texarkana, Texas

|                      | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 628,100       | 627,600       | 604,725       |
| Employment           | 565,475       | 562,025       | 546,675       |
| Unemployment         | 62,625        | 65,575        | 58,050        |
| Unemployment Rate    | 10.0          | 10.4          | 9.6           |

|                      | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 65,550        | 66,075        | 65,375        |
| Employment           | 60,700        | 60,925        | 60,750        |
| Unemployment         | 4,850         | 5,150         | 4,625         |
| Unemployment Rate    | 7.4           | 7.8           | 7.1           |

## Unemployment Rates by County

Between September and October, unemployment rates declined in 63 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Ten counties posted rate increases, while two remained constant. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 4.9 percent in Carroll County to a high of 15.6 percent in Arkansas County.

In October, seven counties enjoyed unemployment rates at or below six percent. Nine counties posted rates at or above ten percent, down from seventeen counties last month.

Since October 2010, jobless rates are up in 53 counties. Seventeen counties posted rates lower than this time last year, while five were the same.

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Oct 11</u> | <u>Sep 11</u> | <u>Oct 10</u> |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 75          | Arkansas      | 15.6          | 16.5          | 14.6          | 67          | Lee           | 10.0          | 10.7          | 9.2           |
| 59          | Ashley        | 9.5           | 10.1          | 8.9           | 54          | Lincoln       | 9.0           | 10.0          | 8.2           |
| 25          | Baxter        | 7.7           | 8.3           | 7.6           | 12          | Little River  | 6.6           | 7.0           | 6.7           |
| 6           | Benton        | 6.0           | 6.3           | 5.7           | 22          | Logan         | 7.4           | 8.2           | 7.2           |
| 18          | Boone         | 6.9           | 7.2           | 6.3           | 8           | Lonoke        | 6.3           | 6.7           | 6.2           |
| 60          | Bradley       | 9.6           | 10.5          | 8.4           | 3           | Madison       | 5.6           | 5.8           | 5.9           |
| 49          | Calhoun       | 8.6           | 9.8           | 8.2           | 41          | Marion        | 8.1           | 8.6           | 8.7           |
| 1           | Carroll       | 4.9           | 5.5           | 5.3           | 2           | Miller        | 5.2           | 5.7           | 5.0           |
| 73          | Chicot        | 10.8          | 11.8          | 10.1          | 60          | Mississippi   | 9.6           | 10.4          | 9.5           |
| 70          | Clark         | 10.4          | 9.8           | 7.6           | 43          | Monroe        | 8.2           | 8.7           | 7.6           |
| 74          | Clay          | 13.1          | 13.0          | 11.5          | 31          | Montgomery    | 7.8           | 8.2           | 7.9           |
| 17          | Cleburne      | 6.8           | 7.1           | 6.4           | 54          | Nevada        | 9.0           | 8.9           | 8.2           |
| 25          | Cleveland     | 7.7           | 7.7           | 7.3           | 31          | Newton        | 7.8           | 7.2           | 6.8           |
| 43          | Columbia      | 8.2           | 8.9           | 8.5           | 41          | Ouachita      | 8.1           | 8.6           | 7.7           |
| 25          | Conway        | 7.7           | 8.1           | 7.2           | 46          | Perry         | 8.3           | 8.1           | 7.1           |
| 15          | Craighead     | 6.7           | 7.2           | 6.6           | 72          | Phillips      | 10.5          | 11.2          | 8.7           |
| 38          | Crawford      | 7.9           | 7.8           | 7.4           | 43          | Pike          | 8.2           | 8.6           | 8.8           |
| 60          | Crittenden    | 9.6           | 10.6          | 9.5           | 25          | Poinsett      | 7.7           | 8.3           | 7.6           |
| 31          | Cross         | 7.8           | 8.9           | 7.8           | 24          | Polk          | 7.6           | 8.1           | 7.0           |
| 69          | Dallas        | 10.1          | 10.8          | 9.5           | 12          | Pope          | 6.6           | 7.4           | 7.0           |
| 70          | Desha         | 10.4          | 11.3          | 9.6           | 49          | Prairie       | 8.6           | 8.4           | 7.9           |
| 67          | Drew          | 10.0          | 10.9          | 9.7           | 12          | Pulaski       | 6.6           | 7.2           | 6.4           |
| 31          | Faulkner      | 7.8           | 7.3           | 6.6           | 57          | Randolph      | 9.3           | 9.8           | 8.6           |
| 23          | Franklin      | 7.5           | 7.2           | 6.0           | 63          | St. Francis   | 9.7           | 10.7          | 9.1           |
| 10          | Fulton        | 6.5           | 7.3           | 6.5           | 9           | Saline        | 6.4           | 6.8           | 6.3           |
| 20          | Garland       | 7.3           | 7.7           | 7.3           | 10          | Scott         | 6.5           | 7.2           | 6.6           |
| 15          | Grant         | 6.7           | 7.4           | 6.4           | 25          | Searcy        | 7.7           | 8.0           | 7.6           |
| 57          | Greene        | 9.3           | 9.9           | 8.9           | 31          | Sebastian     | 7.8           | 7.5           | 6.9           |
| 31          | Hempstead     | 7.8           | 8.4           | 8.5           | 20          | Sevier        | 7.3           | 8.1           | 6.0           |
| 18          | Hot Spring    | 6.9           | 7.3           | 6.8           | 56          | Sharp         | 9.2           | 9.7           | 8.4           |
| 31          | Howard        | 7.8           | 8.3           | 8.2           | 52          | Stone         | 8.7           | 9.7           | 7.8           |
| 25          | Independence  | 7.7           | 8.3           | 7.0           | 53          | Union         | 8.9           | 9.4           | 9.1           |
| 38          | Izard         | 7.9           | 8.7           | 8.1           | 49          | Van Buren     | 8.6           | 8.6           | 8.7           |
| 63          | Jackson       | 9.7           | 10.2          | 9.2           | 3           | Washington    | 5.6           | 6.1           | 5.6           |
| 66          | Jefferson     | 9.8           | 10.3          | 9.0           | 38          | White         | 7.9           | 8.5           | 7.5           |
| 6           | Johnson       | 6.0           | 6.8           | 7.0           | 63          | Woodruff      | 9.7           | 10.7          | 9.1           |
| 48          | Lafayette     | 8.5           | 9.2           | 9.2           | 3           | Yell          | 5.6           | 6.0           | 6.1           |
| 46          | Lawrence      | 8.3           | 9.0           | 8.3           |             |               |               |               |               |

### Lowest Rates

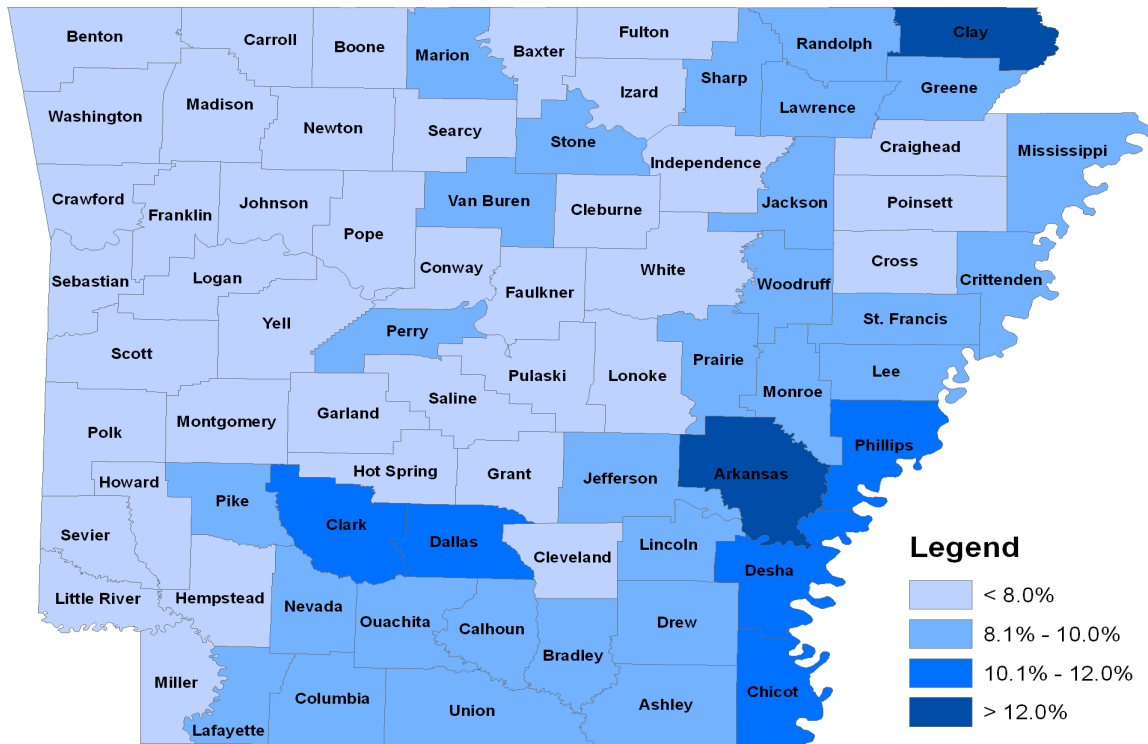
| <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1           | Carroll       | 4.9         |
| 2           | Miller        | 5.2         |
| 3           | Madison       | 5.6         |
| 3           | Washington    | 5.6         |
| 3           | Yell          | 5.6         |

### Highest Rates

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 72          | Phillips      | 10.5        |
| 73          | Chicot        | 10.8        |
| 74          | Clay          | 13.1        |
| 75          | Arkansas      | 15.6        |

# Civilian Labor Force Statistics

For complete County Labor Force Statistics, please visit our website at [www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://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

## October 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.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



Voice: 1-800-285-1121

TDD: 1-800-285-1131

Mike Beebe- Governor  
Artee Williams- DWS Director



Department of Workforce Services  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
P.O. Box 2981  
Little Rock, AR 72203-2981