

Arkansas Labor Market

May 2013

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Rises to 7.3 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Decline 2,000 in May

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.2	7.3
US Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.5	8.2

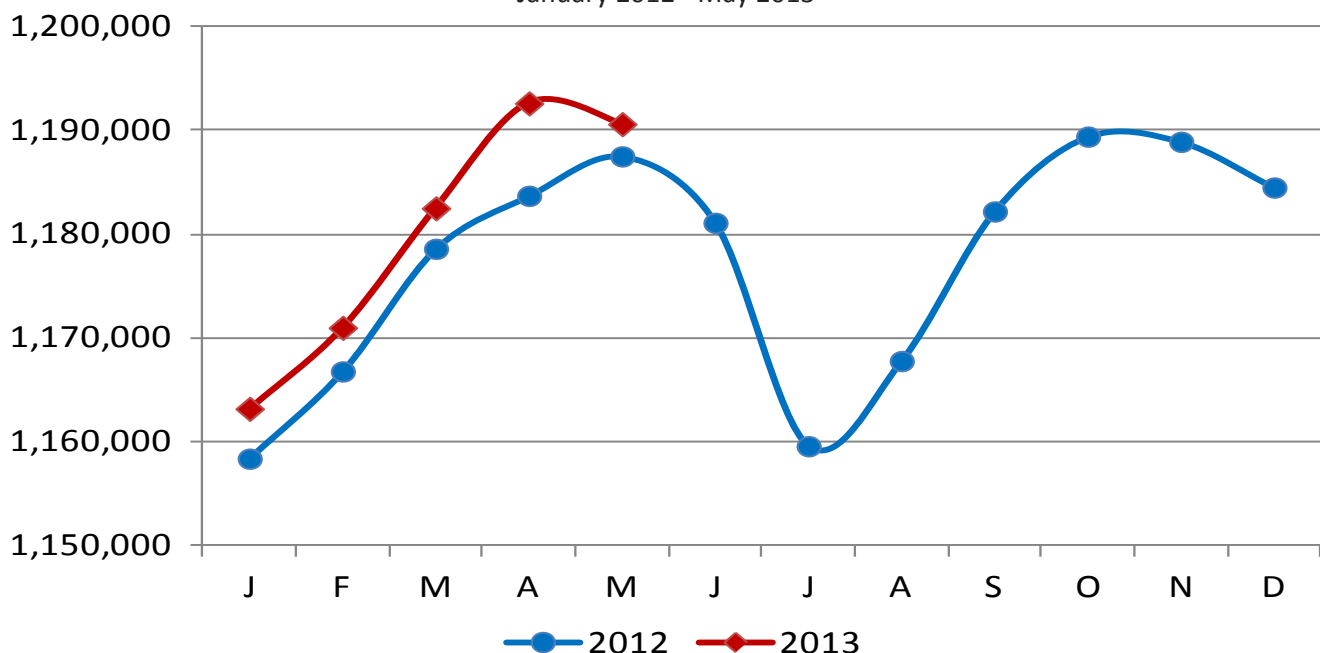
Nonfarm Payroll Summary

State of Arkansas

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,190,600	1,192,600	1,187,500
Goods Producing	212,100	210,000	216,300
Service Providing	978,500	982,600	971,200

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

State of Arkansas
January 2012 - May 2013



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

April 2013 - May 2013

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs declined 2,000 in May to total 1,190,600. Employment decreased in six major industry sectors, offsetting gains in five sectors. **Professional and business services** posted the largest decrease (-2,000). A majority of the loss occurred in professional-scientific-technical services (-1,400), attributed to seasonal declines in accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping and payroll services. Jobs in **educational and health services** declined 1,700. Most of the loss occurred in health care and social assistance (-1,200). Employment in **trade, transportation and utilities** rose 1,900. Most of the gain occurred in retail trade (+1,200), a typical seasonal expansion. **Construction** also experienced a seasonal increase (+1,400).

May 2012 - May 2013

Since May 2012, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas rose 3,100. Two major industry sectors posted growth, more than offsetting declines in nine sectors. Employment in **trade, transportation and utilities** increased 12,400. Gains were reported in both retail trade (+9,700) and transportation, warehousing and utilities (+3,000). **Educational and health services** added 1,600 jobs, largely in ambulatory health care (+900). Jobs in **other services** declined 2,300. The sector includes activities such as repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services, and membership organizations. **Construction** decreased 2,000, related to project completions.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	May 13	Apr 13	May 12
Total Nonfarm	1,190,600	1,192,600	1,187,500
Goods Producing	212,100	210,000	216,300
Mining & Logging	10,200	10,000	11,100
Construction	46,700	45,300	48,700
Specialty Trade Contractors	29,700	29,600	29,300
Manufacturing	155,200	154,700	156,500
Durable Goods	78,300	77,400	77,500
Nondurable Goods	76,900	77,300	79,000
Service Providing	978,500	982,600	971,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	253,600	251,700	241,200
Wholesale Trade	47,800	47,800	48,100
Retail Trade	141,700	140,500	132,000
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	64,100	63,400	61,100
Information	14,200	14,100	14,600
Financial Activities	49,100	49,600	49,300
Finance & Insurance	35,800	36,300	35,900
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,300	13,300	13,400
Professional & Business Services	123,300	125,300	124,700
Professional, Scientific & Technical	38,500	39,900	38,600
Management of Companies	31,800	31,900	30,700
Administrative & Support Services	53,000	53,500	55,400
Educational & Health Services	173,900	175,600	172,300
Educational Services	15,400	15,900	14,900
Health Care & Social Assistance	158,500	159,700	157,400
Ambulatory Health Care	48,500	48,800	47,600
Social Assistance	36,100	36,800	36,200
Leisure & Hospitality	103,800	104,300	105,200
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10,100	10,200	10,700
Accommodation & Food Services	93,700	94,100	94,500
Accommodation Services	11,100	11,100	11,100
Food Services	82,600	83,000	83,400
Other Services	41,500	42,100	43,800
Government	219,100	219,900	220,100
Federal Government	19,900	19,900	20,500
State Government	77,400	79,100	76,700
Local Government	121,800	120,900	122,900

Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 13	Apr 13	May 12	May 13	Apr 13	May 12	May 13	Apr 13	May 12
Manufacturing	\$624.02	\$629.45	\$611.72	40.6	40.9	41.0	\$15.37	\$15.39	\$14.92
Durable Goods	671.16	693.48	673.74	42.0	43.1	42.4	15.98	16.09	15.89
Nondurable Goods	578.59	568.81	552.82	39.2	38.8	39.6	14.76	14.66	13.96

Spotlight

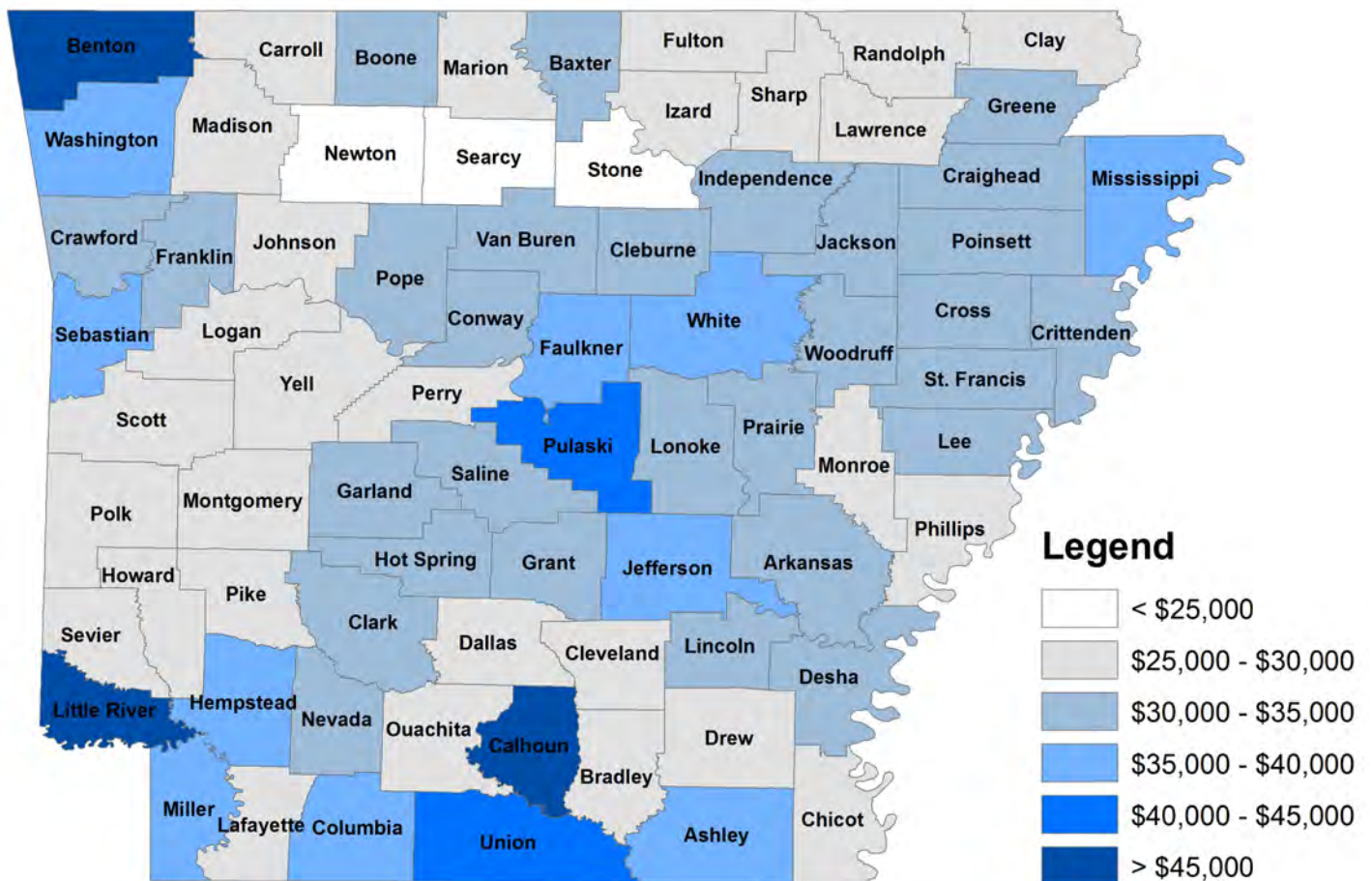
Wages in Arkansas

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) is the most comprehensive data collection program utilized by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The program is based on each state's Unemployment Insurance (UI) program, which enables BLS to produce data using every business that is covered under UI tax law. In addition to calculating covered employment, the program also tracks the wages paid to employees. Due to the comprehensive nature of the information, data can be produced at any level-- national, statewide, counties, and cities.

The information below comes from the QCEW program and provides annual average wage data for each county in Arkansas. Annual average wages are calculated using the total wages earned during the calendar year, divided by annual average employment. The wages are compiled using all industries and includes both private and government jobs, for all workers included under UI tax law. It is also important to note that QCEW data is based on county of employment, not county of residents. So if an individual works in a different county than where they live, their wages are counted in the county where they work.

In 2012, average annual wages ranged from a high of \$49,721, for those employed in Benton County, to a low of \$23,871 in Newton County. The map below represents the wages of Arkansas workers by county, with wages divided into six different monetary ranges.

Wages in Arkansas by County
2012 Annual Average



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	May 13	Apr 13	May 12
Total Nonfarm	348,000	347,100	344,100
Goods Producing	36,500	35,500	37,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	16,500	15,600	17,100
Manufacturing	20,000	19,900	20,300
Service Providing	311,500	311,600	306,700
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	71,200	70,900	66,100
Wholesale Trade	15,800	15,800	16,000
Retail Trade	41,000	40,800	36,300
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,400	14,300	13,800
Information	7,100	7,100	7,300
Financial Activities	19,800	19,800	20,000
Professional & Business Services	43,900	44,000	43,800
Educational & Health Services	52,800	52,900	51,900
Leisure & Hospitality	30,800	30,700	31,000
Other Services	15,600	15,500	15,800
Government	70,300	70,700	70,800
Federal Government	9,300	9,300	9,400
State Government	32,600	33,100	32,800
Local Government	28,400	28,300	28,600

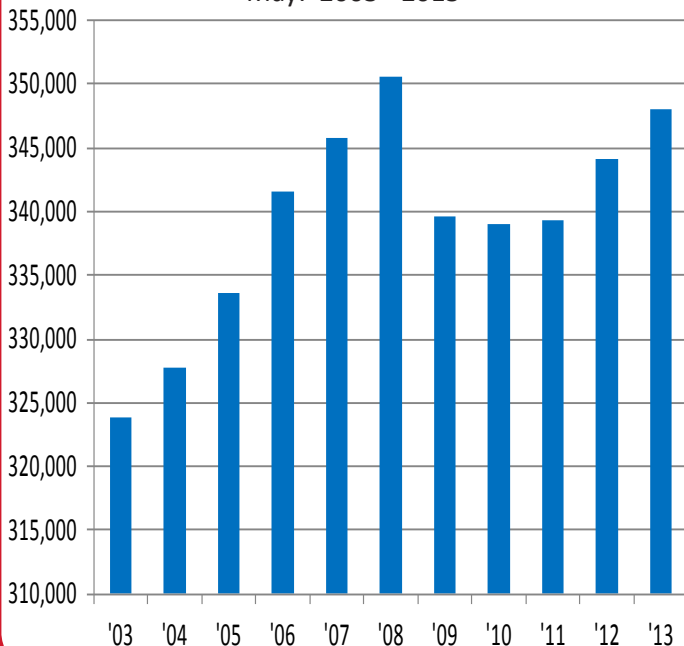
The LR-NLR-Conway MSA consists of the following counties:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	May 13	Apr 13	May 12
Civilian Labor Force	344,825	342,150	347,275
Employment	322,050	320,950	324,900
Unemployment	22,775	21,200	22,375
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.2	6.4

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

May: 2003 - 2013



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	May 13	Apr 13	May 12
Total Nonfarm	219,200	219,300	211,300
Goods Producing	34,900	34,700	34,700
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,400	8,300	8,000
Manufacturing	26,500	26,400	26,700
Service Providing	184,300	184,600	176,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	50,000	49,900	47,600
Wholesale Trade	11,000	10,900	10,500
Retail Trade	23,500	23,500	22,000
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	15,500	15,500	15,100
Information	1,900	1,900	1,900
Financial Activities	6,400	6,500	6,400
Professional & Business Services	41,600	42,200	39,300
Educational & Health Services	25,000	25,200	23,700
Leisure & Hospitality	21,700	21,500	20,800
Other Services	7,000	6,900	6,600
Government	30,700	30,500	30,300
Federal Government	2,300	2,300	2,400
State Government	10,700	10,600	10,400
Local Government	17,700	17,600	17,500

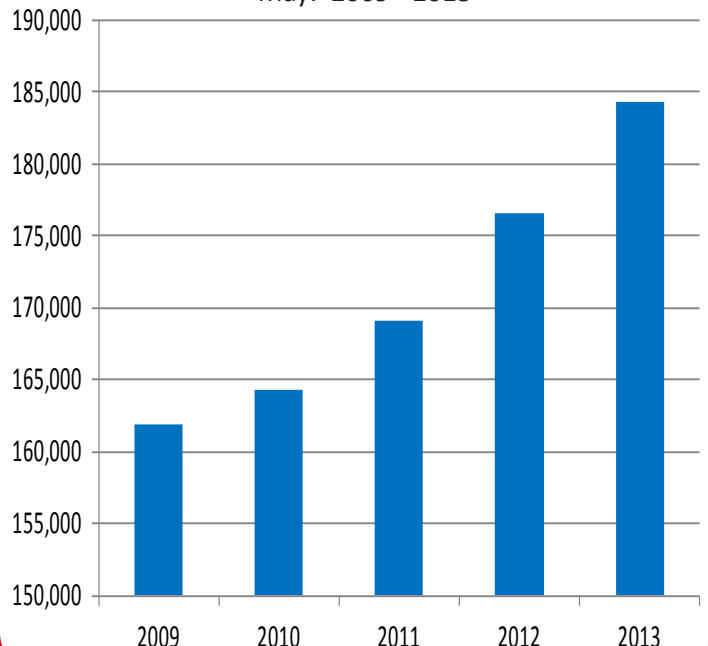
The FSR MSA consists of the following counties:
Benton, Madison, Washington, and McDonald (in Missouri)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	May 13	Apr 13	May 12
Civilian Labor Force	240,275	239,025	236,300
Employment	226,725	226,775	223,100
Unemployment	13,550	12,250	13,200
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.1	5.6

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

May: 2009 - 2013



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

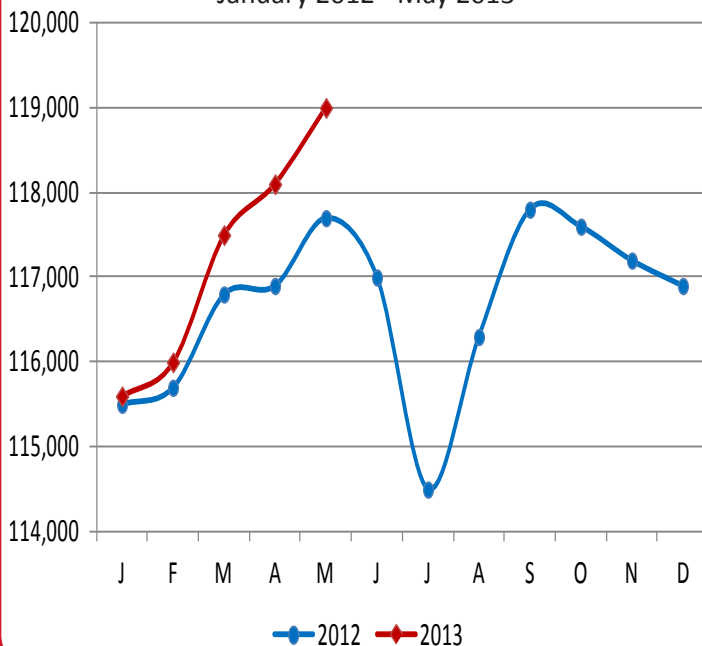
<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	119,000	118,100	117,700
Goods Producing	25,300	25,100	26,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	6,700	6,500	7,100
Manufacturing	18,600	18,600	19,300
Service Providing	93,700	93,000	91,300
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	25,400	25,100	24,000
Wholesale Trade	4,200	4,200	4,100
Retail Trade	13,500	13,300	13,100
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	7,700	7,600	6,800
Information	1,400	1,400	1,400
Financial Activities	4,300	4,300	4,200
Professional & Business Services	11,300	11,400	11,100
Educational & Health Services	17,700	17,600	17,100
Leisure & Hospitality	9,300	9,100	9,200
Other Services	4,400	4,400	4,500
Government	19,900	19,700	19,800
Federal Government	1,600	1,600	1,600
State Government	3,200	3,200	3,200
Local Government	15,100	14,900	15,000

The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	133,750	132,100	133,450
Employment	123,500	122,600	123,725
Unemployment	10,250	9,500	9,725
Unemployment Rate	7.7	7.2	7.3

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs January 2012 - May 2013



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	37,800	38,200	38,200
Goods Producing	4,000	4,100	4,300
Service Providing	33,800	34,100	33,900
Government	5,300	5,200	5,200

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,450	41,725	42,900
Employment	38,275	38,750	39,750
Unemployment	3,175	2,975	3,150
Unemployment Rate	7.7	7.2	7.3

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	52,700	52,400	50,700
Goods Producing	9,300	9,200	8,800
Service Providing	43,400	43,200	41,900
Government	9,100	9,100	8,900

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties:

Craighead and Poinsett

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	60,400	59,775	59,500
Employment	56,225	55,925	55,500
Unemployment	4,175	3,850	4,000
Unemployment Rate	6.9	6.5	6.7

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	36,100	36,200	37,000
Goods Producing	7,100	7,000	7,500
Service Providing	29,000	29,200	29,500
Government	10,600	10,700	10,600

The PB MSA consists of the following counties: Cleveland, Jefferson, and Lincoln

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,875	41,975	43,600
Employment	37,875	38,125	39,725
Unemployment	4,000	3,850	3,875
Unemployment Rate	9.6	9.2	8.9

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,333,300	1,330,900	1,358,500	2,400	-25,200	1,341,900	1,338,800	1,366,500	3,100	-24,600
Employment	1,236,300	1,235,700	1,259,500	600	-23,200	1,243,400	1,246,600	1,269,000	-3,200	-25,600
Unemployment	97,000	95,200	99,000	1,800	-2,000	98,500	92,200	97,500	6,300	1,000
Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.2	7.3	0.1	0.0	7.3	6.9	7.1	0.4	0.2
U.S. Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.5	8.2	0.1	-0.6	7.3	7.1	7.9	0.2	-0.6

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	611,075	608,600	613,650
Employment	552,975	553,850	559,025
Unemployment	58,100	54,750	54,625
Unemployment Rate	9.5	9.0	8.9

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,925	63,850	65,425
Employment	59,425	59,500	61,050
Unemployment	4,500	4,350	4,375
Unemployment Rate	7.1	6.8	6.7

Unemployment Rates by County

Between April and May, unemployment rates increased in 68 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Six counties posted rate declines, while one remained stable.

In May, five counties enjoyed jobless rates at or below six percent. Thirteen counties posted rates at or above ten percent, up from seven counties in April.

Since May 2012, unemployment rates have increased in 55 counties. Sixteen counties posted rate declines, while four remained the same.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Apr 13</u>	<u>May 12</u>
9	Arkansas	6.5	6.2	7.3	72	Lee	11.3	10.7	10.6
72	Ashley	11.3	11.2	11.6	43	Lincoln	8.4	8.5	8.8
35	Baxter	7.9	7.5	7.6	27	Little River	7.5	7.2	6.7
1	Benton	5.5	5.2	5.6	31	Logan	7.8	7.2	7.5
23	Boone	7.3	6.7	6.7	6	Lonoke	6.3	6.0	6.1
53	Bradley	9.2	9.1	10.0	4	Madison	5.9	5.8	5.2
57	Calhoun	9.6	8.7	9.4	40	Marion	8.3	7.6	7.8
1	Carroll	5.5	5.3	5.0	6	Miller	6.3	6.7	6.1
71	Chicot	11.1	10.4	9.9	69	Mississippi	10.9	9.6	10.1
54	Clark	9.3	8.2	9.6	40	Monroe	8.3	7.7	7.5
75	Clay	11.6	10.9	11.8	29	Montgomery	7.7	7.5	6.7
23	Cleburne	7.3	7.4	6.8	21	Nevada	7.2	6.8	6.6
35	Cleveland	7.9	7.6	6.7	8	Newton	6.4	6.5	7.2
52	Columbia	9.1	7.9	9.3	55	Ouachita	9.4	9.1	9.1
43	Conway	8.4	7.7	7.3	40	Perry	8.3	8.4	7.3
13	Craighead	6.7	6.3	6.7	72	Phillips	11.3	10.5	10.1
26	Crawford	7.4	6.9	7.2	50	Pike	8.8	8.1	8.3
57	Crittenden	9.6	9.6	10.8	31	Poinsett	7.8	7.4	7.0
39	Cross	8.1	7.9	7.8	31	Polk	7.8	7.5	7.8
61	Dallas	9.9	9.5	10.0	31	Pope	7.8	6.8	7.2
66	Desha	10.4	10.1	10.1	20	Prairie	7.1	6.8	7.0
68	Drew	10.5	9.9	10.6	13	Pulaski	6.7	6.3	6.6
11	Faulkner	6.6	6.1	6.4	57	Randolph	9.6	9.0	9.7
9	Franklin	6.5	6.6	6.6	69	St. Francis	10.9	10.4	10.7
18	Fulton	7.0	6.5	6.6	5	Saline	6.0	5.7	6.2
29	Garland	7.7	7.2	7.3	18	Scott	7.0	6.5	6.6
15	Grant	6.8	6.5	6.5	38	Searcy	8.0	7.6	7.3
43	Greene	8.4	8.2	8.4	23	Sebastian	7.3	6.8	6.7
15	Hempstead	6.8	6.7	6.7	35	Sevier	7.9	7.2	7.9
17	Hot Spring	6.9	6.5	6.3	65	Sharp	10.2	9.7	9.4
28	Howard	7.6	6.9	6.8	63	Stone	10.0	9.7	9.4
51	Independence	9.0	8.3	8.4	43	Union	8.4	7.9	8.5
49	Izard	8.7	7.7	8.2	48	Van Buren	8.6	8.4	8.5
57	Jackson	9.6	9.3	8.9	3	Washington	5.6	4.9	5.5
61	Jefferson	9.9	9.4	9.1	43	White	8.4	8.1	7.8
21	Johnson	7.2	6.3	6.7	63	Woodruff	10.0	9.9	9.6
66	Lafayette	10.4	9.4	9.2	11	Yell	6.6	5.5	6.4
56	Lawrence	9.5	8.7	9.0					

Lowest Rates

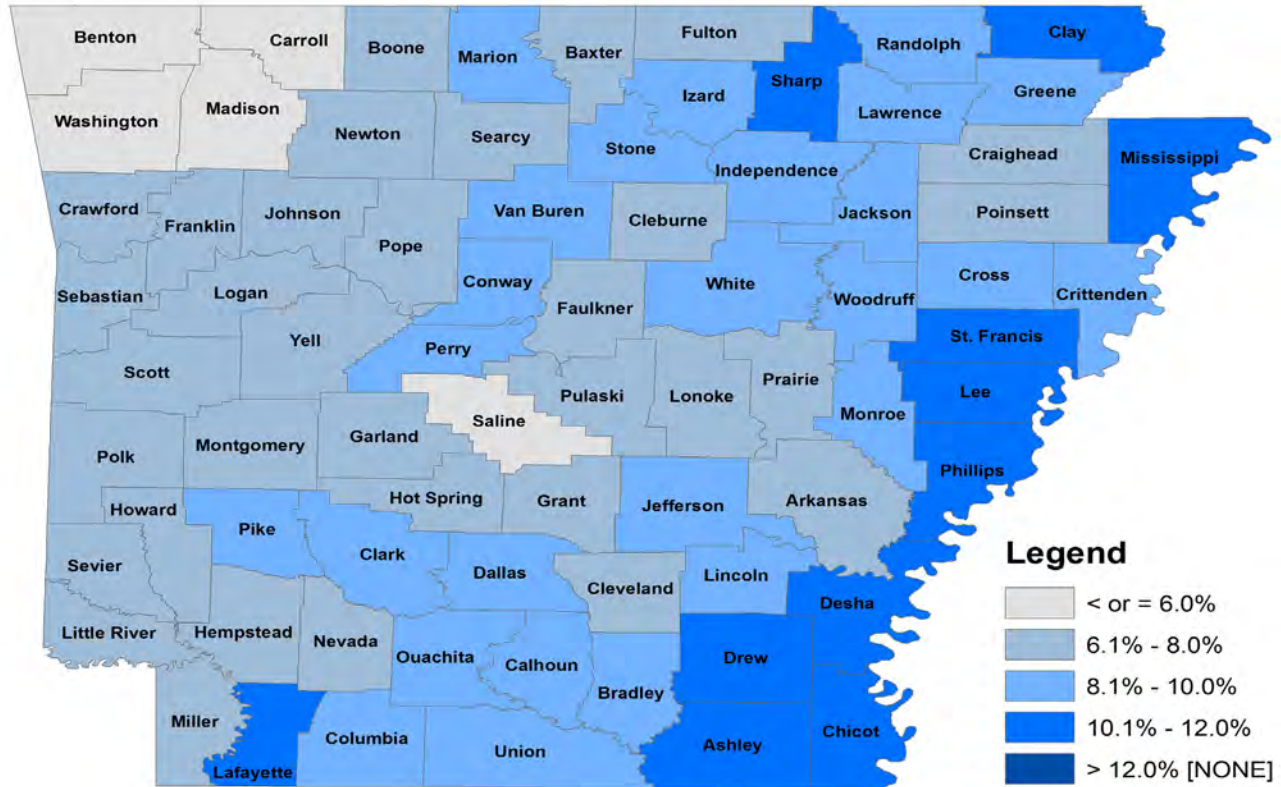
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Benton	5.5
1	Carroll	5.5
3	Washington	5.6
4	Madison	5.9
5	Saline	6.0

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
72	Ashley	11.3
72	Lee	11.3
72	Phillips	11.3
75	Clay	11.6

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 2012 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 5,500 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 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, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/closing of schools.

Arkansas Labor Market

May 2013

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.

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

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