

# Arkansas Labor Market

## April 2014

### Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Declines to 6.6 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Up 6,100 in April

### Employment Quick Facts

#### Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

|                      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| AR Unemployment Rate | 6.6           | 6.9           | 7.5           |
| US Unemployment Rate | 6.3           | 6.7           | 7.5           |

#### Nonfarm Payroll Summary

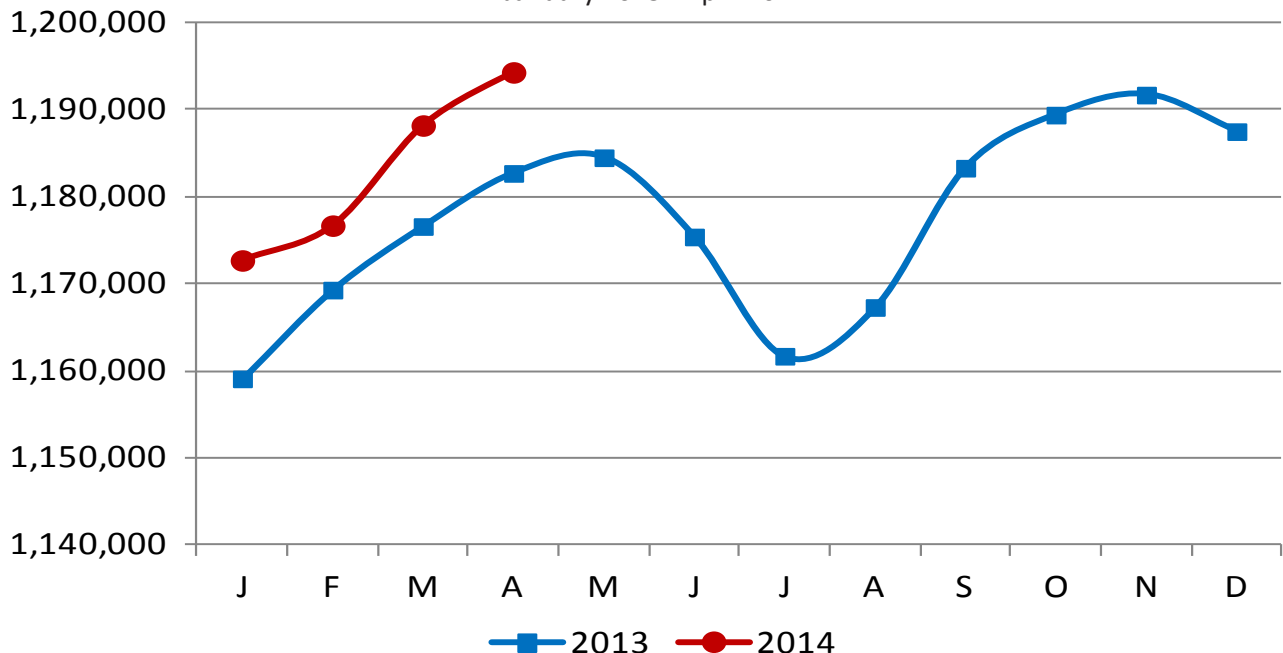
State of Arkansas

|                   | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 1,194,300     | 1,188,200     | 1,182,700     |
| Goods Producing   | 210,900       | 209,500       | 207,300       |
| Service Providing | 983,400       | 978,700       | 975,400       |

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

State of Arkansas

January 2013 - April 2014



# Nonfarm Payroll Employment

## State of Arkansas

### March 2014 - April 2014

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 6,100 in April to total 1,194,300. Eight major industry sectors added jobs, while one sector declined and two were unchanged. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** rose 2,800. Gains occurred mostly in accommodation and food services (+2,000), a typical seasonal increase. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 1,200 jobs. Seasonal hiring in retail trade (+1,400) offset losses in transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-600).

### April 2013 - April 2014

Since April 2013, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment rose 11,600. Seven major industry sectors posted gains, while three reported minor declines. One industry sector remained the same. **Leisure and hospitality** added 3,700 jobs. A majority of the increase occurred in food services (+2,800). Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 3,200. Most of the growth was posted in retail trade (+2,200), related in part to reported hiring in building material and supplies dealers. **Construction** added 1,800 jobs, mostly in specialty trade contractors (+1,400). Employment in **educational and health services** increased 1,800. Health care and social assistance reported a majority of the growth (+1,500). Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 1,700. A majority of the additions were in durable goods manufacturing (+1,400), with some reported expansions in transportation equipment manufacturing.

| (NAICS)                                      | Nonfarm Payroll Jobs |                |                |
|--|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | Apr 14               | Mar 14         | Apr 13         |
| Total Nonfarm                                | 1,194,300            | 1,188,200      | 1,182,700      |
| Goods Producing                              | 210,900              | 209,500        | 207,300        |
| <b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>                  | <b>9,700</b>         | <b>9,500</b>   | <b>9,600</b>   |
| <b>Construction</b>                          | <b>47,200</b>        | <b>46,700</b>  | <b>45,400</b>  |
| Specialty Trade Contractors                  | 29,700               | 30,000         | 28,300         |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>                         | <b>154,000</b>       | <b>153,300</b> | <b>152,300</b> |
| Durable Goods                                | 76,800               | 76,600         | 75,400         |
| Nondurable Goods                             | 77,200               | 76,700         | 76,900         |
| Service Providing                            | 983,400              | 978,700        | 975,400        |
| <b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b> | <b>243,200</b>       | <b>242,000</b> | <b>240,000</b> |
| Wholesale Trade                              | 48,300               | 47,900         | 47,200         |
| Retail Trade                                 | 134,000              | 132,600        | 131,800        |
| Transport, Warehousing & Utilities           | 60,900               | 61,500         | 61,000         |
| <b>Information</b>                           | <b>13,800</b>        | <b>13,700</b>  | <b>14,100</b>  |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>                  | <b>49,300</b>        | <b>49,300</b>  | <b>49,400</b>  |
| Finance & Insurance                          | 36,400               | 36,500         | 36,300         |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing               | 12,900               | 12,800         | 13,100         |
| <b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>  | <b>129,500</b>       | <b>128,800</b> | <b>129,500</b> |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical         | 39,900               | 39,700         | 40,500         |
| Management of Companies                      | 31,700               | 31,700         | 31,600         |
| Administrative & Support Services            | 57,900               | 57,400         | 57,400         |
| <b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>     | <b>174,300</b>       | <b>174,500</b> | <b>172,500</b> |
| Educational Services                         | 14,800               | 14,900         | 14,500         |
| Health Care & Social Assistance              | 159,500              | 159,600        | 158,000        |
| Ambulatory Health Care                       | 49,300               | 49,600         | 48,000         |
| Social Assistance                            | 38,700               | 38,100         | 36,500         |
| <b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>             | <b>109,700</b>       | <b>106,900</b> | <b>106,000</b> |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation             | 10,700               | 9,900          | 10,300         |
| Accommodation & Food Services                | 99,000               | 97,000         | 95,700         |
| Accommodation Services                       | 11,300               | 11,000         | 10,800         |
| Food Services                                | 87,700               | 86,000         | 84,900         |
| <b>Other Services</b>                        | <b>43,800</b>        | <b>43,800</b>  | <b>43,300</b>  |
| <b>Government</b>                            | <b>219,800</b>       | <b>219,700</b> | <b>220,600</b> |
| Federal Government                           | 19,900               | 20,000         | 20,400         |
| State Government                             | 79,800               | 79,600         | 79,300         |
| Local Government                             | 120,100              | 120,100        | 120,900        |

## Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

|                      | Average Weekly Earnings |          |          | Average Weekly Hours |        |        | Average Hourly Earnings |         |         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
|                      | Apr 14                  | Mar 14   | Apr 13   | Apr 14               | Mar 14 | Apr 13 | Apr 14                  | Mar 14  | Apr 13  |
| <b>Manufacturing</b> | \$648.44                | \$635.09 | \$627.50 | 41.7                 | 40.4   | 40.8   | \$15.55                 | \$15.72 | \$15.38 |
| Durable Goods        | 694.12                  | 690.56   | 693.48   | 42.9                 | 41.5   | 43.1   | 16.18                   | 16.64   | 16.09   |
| Nondurable Goods     | 604.67                  | 581.64   | 568.81   | 40.5                 | 39.3   | 38.8   | 14.93                   | 14.80   | 14.66   |

# Spotlight

## Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

In addition to the unemployment rate, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) also calculates five additional estimates based on various definitions of 'unemployment'. These are known as Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization and are referred to as U1-U6, with U-3 being the definition used to calculate the official unemployment rate. These measures are calculated using data from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of households (roughly 800 Arkansas households are surveyed each month).

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level, but they are not produced on a monthly basis. Estimates are calculated using a four quarter moving average. The most recent data represents an average of 2nd Quarter 2013 through 1st Quarter 2014.

### Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

State of Arkansas

4 Quarter Average: 2nd Q 2013 - 1st Q 2014

| U-1  | U-2  | U-3  | U-4  | U-5  | U-6   |
|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 3.3% | 3.5% | 7.5% | 7.9% | 9.0% | 12.8% |

The following are the definitions used to calculate each measure of labor underutilization:

**U-1 Measure:** Persons unemployed for 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force.

**U-2 Measure:** Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force.

**U-3 Measure:** Total number of unemployed persons, as a percent of the civilian labor force (this is the definition used for the official unemployment rate).

**U-4 Measure:** Total number of unemployed and discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers.

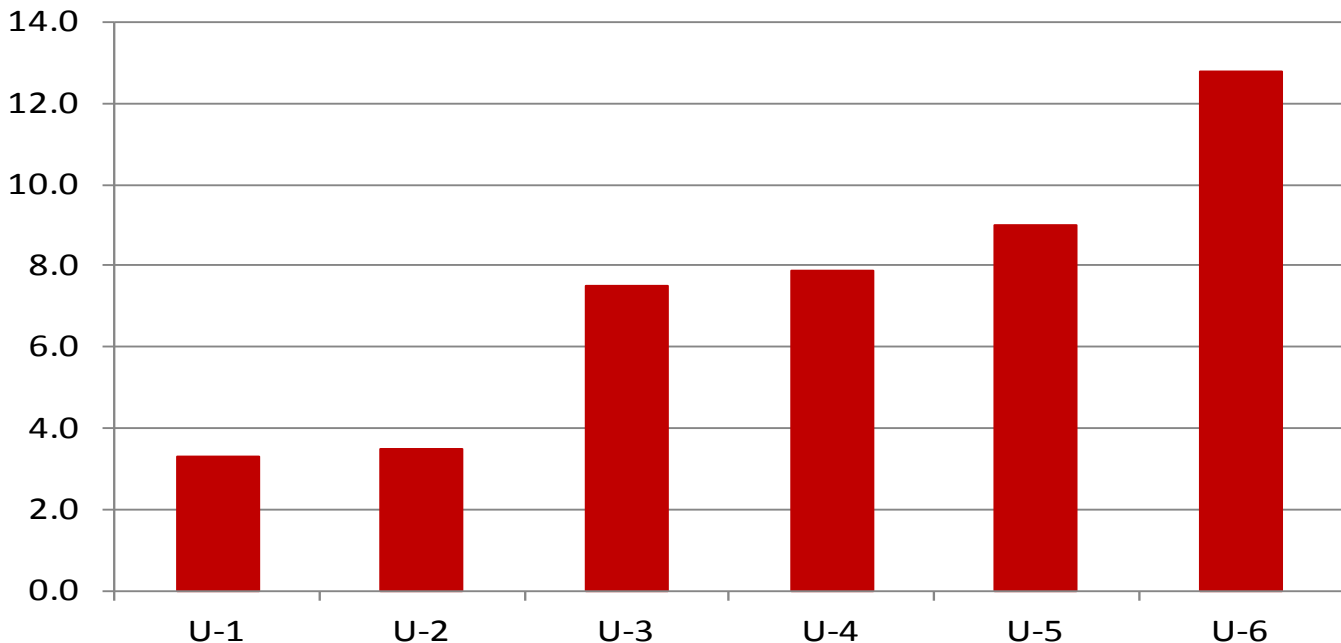
**U-5 Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, and all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.

**U-6 Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, marginally attached workers, and those employed part-time for economic reasons (not by choice), as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.

### Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

State of Arkansas

4 Quarter Average: 2nd Q 2013 - 1st Q 2014



# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

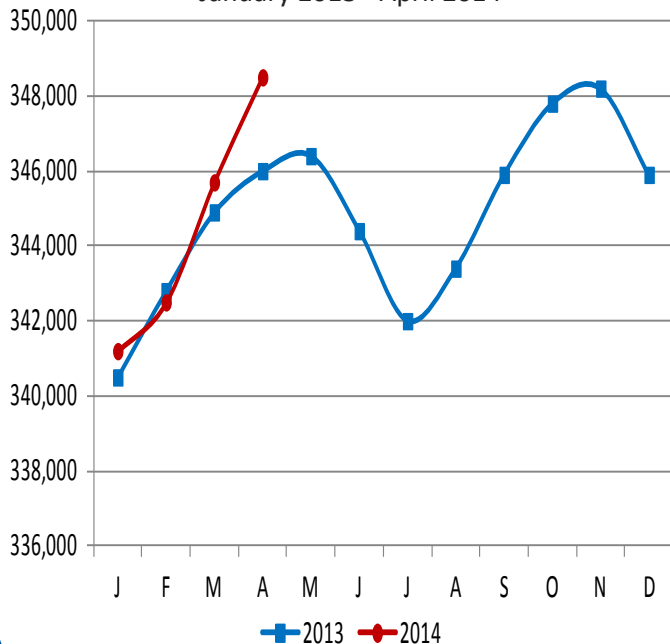
| NAICS                             | Apr 14  | Mar 14  | Apr 13  |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 348,500 | 345,700 | 346,000 |
| Goods Producing                   | 36,900  | 36,200  | 36,200  |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 17,100  | 16,500  | 16,400  |
| Manufacturing                     | 19,800  | 19,700  | 19,800  |
| Service Providing                 | 311,600 | 309,500 | 309,800 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 66,700  | 66,300  | 66,600  |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 15,700  | 15,600  | 15,800  |
| Retail Trade                      | 36,800  | 36,500  | 36,400  |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 14,200  | 14,200  | 14,400  |
| Information                       | 7,000   | 7,000   | 7,200   |
| Financial Activities              | 20,100  | 20,200  | 20,100  |
| Professional & Business Services  | 45,400  | 44,800  | 45,200  |
| Educational & Health Services     | 51,800  | 51,400  | 51,700  |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 32,700  | 31,900  | 31,200  |
| Other Services                    | 15,900  | 15,800  | 15,800  |
| Government                        | 72,000  | 72,100  | 72,000  |
| Federal Government                | 9,500   | 9,600   | 9,600   |
| State Government                  | 34,400  | 34,500  | 34,200  |
| Local Government                  | 28,100  | 28,000  | 28,200  |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|                      | Apr 14  | Mar 14  | Apr 13  |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 335,175 | 338,225 | 341,175 |
| Employment           | 316,550 | 316,900 | 319,525 |
| Unemployment         | 18,625  | 21,325  | 21,650  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.5     | 6.3     | 6.3     |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs  
January 2013 - April 2014



## Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

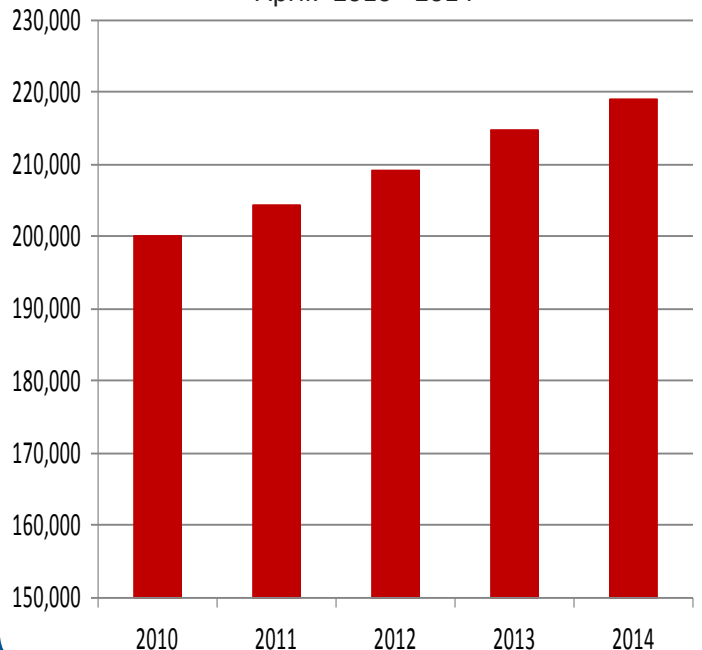
| NAICS                             | Apr 14  | Mar 14  | Apr 13  |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 219,000 | 217,200 | 214,900 |
| Goods Producing                   | 34,900  | 34,800  | 34,500  |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 8,700   | 8,500   | 8,100   |
| Manufacturing                     | 26,200  | 26,300  | 26,400  |
| Service Providing                 | 184,100 | 182,400 | 180,400 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 48,300  | 48,100  | 47,600  |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 10,400  | 10,400  | 10,200  |
| Retail Trade                      | 23,200  | 23,000  | 22,500  |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 14,700  | 14,700  | 14,900  |
| Information                       | 1,800   | 1,800   | 1,800   |
| Financial Activities              | 6,700   | 6,700   | 6,600   |
| Professional & Business Services  | 41,500  | 40,800  | 40,700  |
| Educational & Health Services     | 24,800  | 24,700  | 24,100  |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 22,100  | 21,400  | 21,300  |
| Other Services                    | 6,300   | 6,200   | 6,300   |
| Government                        | 32,600  | 32,700  | 32,000  |
| Federal Government                | 2,500   | 2,500   | 2,500   |
| State Government                  | 12,000  | 12,100  | 11,400  |
| Local Government                  | 18,100  | 18,100  | 18,100  |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|                      | Apr 14  | Mar 14  | Apr 13  |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 233,100 | 235,025 | 234,825 |
| Employment           | 222,500 | 222,450 | 222,300 |
| Unemployment         | 10,600  | 12,575  | 12,525  |
| Unemployment Rate    | 4.5     | 5.4     | 5.3     |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs  
April: 2010 - 2014



# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Fort Smith MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| <u>NAICS</u>                                 | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Nonfarm                                | 116,900       | 116,600       | 116,900       |
| Goods Producing                              | 24,800        | 25,000        | 25,300        |
| <b>Mining, Logging &amp; Construction</b>    | <b>6,600</b>  | <b>6,800</b>  | <b>7,000</b>  |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>                         | <b>18,200</b> | <b>18,200</b> | <b>18,300</b> |
| Service Providing                            | 92,100        | 91,600        | 91,600        |
| <b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b> | <b>24,200</b> | <b>24,100</b> | <b>23,700</b> |
| Wholesale Trade                              | 4,100         | 4,100         | 4,100         |
| Retail Trade                                 | 13,300        | 13,100        | 12,800        |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities              | 6,800         | 6,900         | 6,800         |
| <b>Information</b>                           | <b>1,300</b>  | <b>1,300</b>  | <b>1,300</b>  |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>                  | <b>4,200</b>  | <b>4,200</b>  | <b>4,200</b>  |
| <b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>  | <b>12,500</b> | <b>12,500</b> | <b>12,300</b> |
| <b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>     | <b>16,600</b> | <b>16,500</b> | <b>17,100</b> |
| <b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>             | <b>9,500</b>  | <b>9,300</b>  | <b>9,200</b>  |
| <b>Other Services</b>                        | <b>4,200</b>  | <b>4,100</b>  | <b>4,200</b>  |
| <b>Government</b>                            | <b>19,600</b> | <b>19,600</b> | <b>19,600</b> |
| Federal Government                           | 1,500         | 1,500         | 1,600         |
| State Government                             | 3,200         | 3,200         | 3,200         |
| Local Government                             | 14,900        | 14,900        | 14,800        |

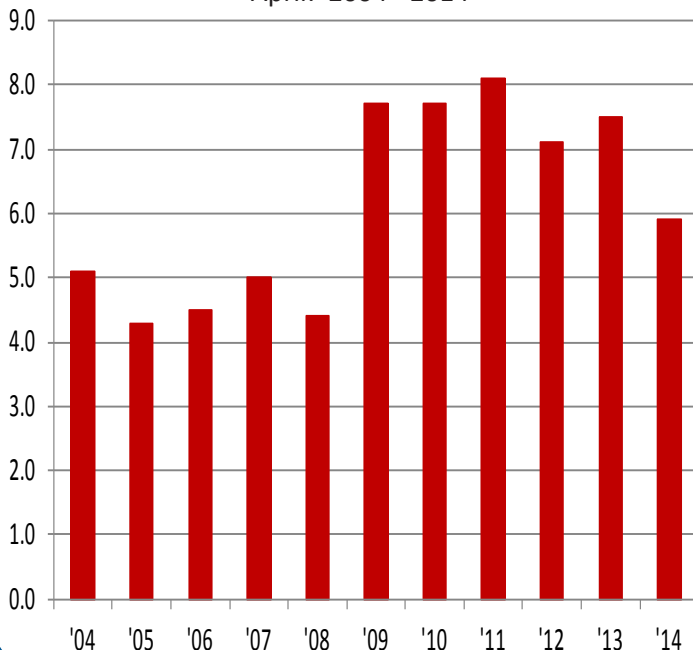
The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|                      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 126,600       | 128,525       | 131,075       |
| Employment           | 119,100       | 119,600       | 121,275       |
| Unemployment         | 7,500         | 8,925         | 9,800         |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.9           | 6.9           | 7.5           |

### Unemployment Rates

April: 2004 - 2014



## Hot Springs MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| <u>NAICS</u>      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 38,400        | 38,100        | 38,600        |
| Goods Producing   | 4,500         | 4,500         | 4,500         |
| Service Providing | 33,900        | 33,600        | 34,100        |
| Government        | 4,800         | 4,800         | 4,900         |

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|                      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 41,050        | 41,400        | 42,000        |
| Employment           | 38,525        | 38,475        | 38,975        |
| Unemployment         | 2,525         | 2,925         | 3,025         |
| Unemployment Rate    | 6.1           | 7.1           | 7.2           |

## Jonesboro MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| <u>NAICS</u>      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 53,500        | 53,200        | 51,700        |
| Goods Producing   | 8,700         | 8,700         | 8,600         |
| Service Providing | 44,800        | 44,500        | 43,100        |
| Government        | 9,100         | 9,100         | 9,000         |

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties:

Craighead and Poinsett

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|                      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 59,275        | 60,050        | 59,025        |
| Employment           | 55,950        | 56,125        | 55,100        |
| Unemployment         | 3,325         | 3,925         | 3,925         |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.6           | 6.5           | 6.7           |

## Pine Bluff MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

| <u>NAICS</u>      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 35,400        | 35,400        | 35,600        |
| Goods Producing   | 7,100         | 7,100         | 6,900         |
| Service Providing | 28,300        | 28,300        | 28,700        |
| Government        | 10,000        | 10,000        | 10,300        |

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|                      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 40,375        | 40,875        | 41,350        |
| Employment           | 37,000        | 37,050        | 37,475        |
| Unemployment         | 3,375         | 3,825         | 3,875         |
| Unemployment Rate    | 8.4           | 9.3           | 9.4           |

# Civilian Labor Force Statistics

## State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|                        | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>OTY</u> | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> | <u>OTM</u> | <u>OTY</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force   | 1,322,300     | 1,330,600     | 1,326,900     | -8,300     | -4,600     | 1,308,500     | 1,322,900     | 1,328,900     | -11,800    | -20,400    |
| Employment             | 1,235,600     | 1,238,800     | 1,227,900     | -3,200     | 7,700      | 1,229,000     | 1,230,300     | 1,235,100     | 1,300      | -6,100     |
| Unemployment           | 86,700        | 91,800        | 99,000        | -5,100     | -12,300    | 79,500        | 92,600        | 93,800        | -13,100    | -14,300    |
| Unemployment Rate      | 6.6           | 6.9           | 7.5           | -0.3       | -0.9       | 6.1           | 7.0           | 7.1           | -0.9       | -1.0       |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate | 6.3           | 6.7           | 7.5           | -0.4       | -1.2       | 5.9           | 6.8           | 7.1           | -0.9       | -1.2       |

## Out-of-State MSAs

### Memphis, Tennessee

|                      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 584,950       | 591,725       | 603,825       |
| Employment           | 544,175       | 543,000       | 549,975       |
| Unemployment         | 40,775        | 48,725        | 53,850        |
| Unemployment Rate    | 7.0           | 8.2           | 8.9           |

### Texarkana, Texas

|                      | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 62,075        | 62,650        | 62,900        |
| Employment           | 58,500        | 58,525        | 58,600        |
| Unemployment         | 3,575         | 4,125         | 4,300         |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.7           | 6.6           | 6.9           |

## Unemployment Rates by County

Between March and April, unemployment rates declined in all 75 Arkansas' counties. Rates ranged from a low of 4.5 percent to a high of 10.1 percent.

In April, twenty-nine counties enjoyed jobless rates at or below six percent. Only one county posted a rate at or above ten percent, down from twelve counties in March.

Compared to April 2013, unemployment rates are down in 74 counties. Only one county posted an over-the-year increase.

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Apr 14</u> | <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Apr 13</u> |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 4           | Arkansas      | 4.9           | 5.4           | 6.3           | 71          | Lee           | 9.4           | 11.2          | 10.5          |
| 74          | Ashley        | 9.8           | 11.1          | 11.4          | 52          | Lincoln       | 7.5           | 8.3           | 8.6           |
| 35          | Baxter        | 6.4           | 7.4           | 7.7           | 33          | Little River  | 6.2           | 7.2           | 7.8           |
| 1           | Benton        | 4.5           | 5.2           | 5.4           | 17          | Logan         | 5.7           | 6.6           | 7.6           |
| 30          | Boone         | 6.1           | 7.3           | 7.0           | 9           | Lonoke        | 5.2           | 6.1           | 6.2           |
| 58          | Bradley       | 8.1           | 8.9           | 9.1           | 4           | Madison       | 4.9           | 5.9           | 6.1           |
| 42          | Calhoun       | 6.8           | 8.1           | 8.5           | 40          | Marion        | 6.7           | 7.6           | 7.8           |
| 1           | Carroll       | 4.5           | 5.6           | 5.4           | 35          | Miller        | 6.4           | 7.5           | 6.9           |
| 75          | Chicot        | 10.1          | 11.3          | 10.3          | 66          | Mississippi   | 9.1           | 10.2          | 10.0          |
| 30          | Clark         | 6.1           | 7.4           | 8.5           | 26          | Monroe        | 5.9           | 7.1           | 7.6           |
| 66          | Clay          | 9.1           | 11.2          | 10.6          | 56          | Montgomery    | 7.7           | 8.6           | 7.4           |
| 48          | Cleburne      | 7.3           | 8.6           | 7.7           | 10          | Nevada        | 5.4           | 6.4           | 7.4           |
| 55          | Cleveland     | 7.6           | 8.0           | 7.8           | 6           | Newton        | 5.0           | 6.2           | 6.8           |
| 42          | Columbia      | 6.8           | 8.1           | 8.3           | 57          | Ouachita      | 8.0           | 8.7           | 9.2           |
| 35          | Conway        | 6.4           | 7.3           | 7.7           | 46          | Perry         | 7.1           | 8.5           | 8.7           |
| 10          | Craighead     | 5.4           | 6.3           | 6.5           | 68          | Phillips      | 9.3           | 10.7          | 10.3          |
| 26          | Crawford      | 5.9           | 6.7           | 7.1           | 45          | Pike          | 7.0           | 8.2           | 8.3           |
| 73          | Crittenden    | 9.7           | 10.6          | 9.9           | 34          | Poinsett      | 6.3           | 7.6           | 7.7           |
| 38          | Cross         | 6.6           | 7.9           | 7.9           | 38          | Polk          | 6.6           | 7.3           | 7.6           |
| 65          | Dallas        | 9.0           | 9.8           | 9.9           | 20          | Pope          | 5.8           | 7.0           | 6.9           |
| 68          | Desha         | 9.3           | 10.4          | 10.0          | 20          | Prairie       | 5.8           | 6.3           | 6.4           |
| 63          | Drew          | 8.7           | 9.9           | 10.0          | 15          | Pulaski       | 5.6           | 6.3           | 6.5           |
| 20          | Faulkner      | 5.8           | 6.8           | 6.2           | 52          | Randolph      | 7.5           | 8.7           | 8.9           |
| 29          | Franklin      | 6.0           | 7.0           | 6.7           | 71          | St. Francis   | 9.4           | 10.5          | 10.4          |
| 17          | Fulton        | 5.7           | 6.9           | 6.8           | 6           | Saline        | 5.0           | 5.7           | 5.8           |
| 30          | Garland       | 6.1           | 7.1           | 7.2           | 8           | Scott         | 5.1           | 5.8           | 6.2           |
| 14          | Grant         | 5.5           | 6.4           | 6.7           | 17          | Searcy        | 5.7           | 7.3           | 7.4           |
| 44          | Greene        | 6.9           | 8.2           | 8.5           | 15          | Sebastian     | 5.6           | 6.3           | 7.0           |
| 20          | Hempstead     | 5.8           | 6.7           | 7.2           | 20          | Sevier        | 5.8           | 7.1           | 7.6           |
| 10          | Hot Spring    | 5.4           | 6.3           | 6.9           | 63          | Sharp         | 8.7           | 10.1          | 9.7           |
| 26          | Howard        | 5.9           | 6.6           | 7.1           | 68          | Stone         | 9.3           | 10.9          | 10.0          |
| 50          | Independence  | 7.4           | 8.6           | 8.3           | 48          | Union         | 7.3           | 8.1           | 8.0           |
| 40          | Izard         | 6.7           | 7.6           | 8.0           | 50          | Van Buren     | 7.4           | 8.3           | 8.8           |
| 61          | Jackson       | 8.6           | 9.8           | 9.1           | 1           | Washington    | 4.5           | 5.3           | 5.1           |
| 61          | Jefferson     | 8.6           | 9.7           | 9.7           | 52          | White         | 7.5           | 8.7           | 8.4           |
| 20          | Johnson       | 5.8           | 6.7           | 6.4           | 60          | Woodruff      | 8.5           | 10.1          | 9.4           |
| 59          | Lafayette     | 8.2           | 9.7           | 9.4           | 10          | Yell          | 5.4           | 6.1           | 5.6           |
| 46          | Lawrence      | 7.1           | 8.5           | 8.6           |             |               |               |               |               |

### Lowest Rates

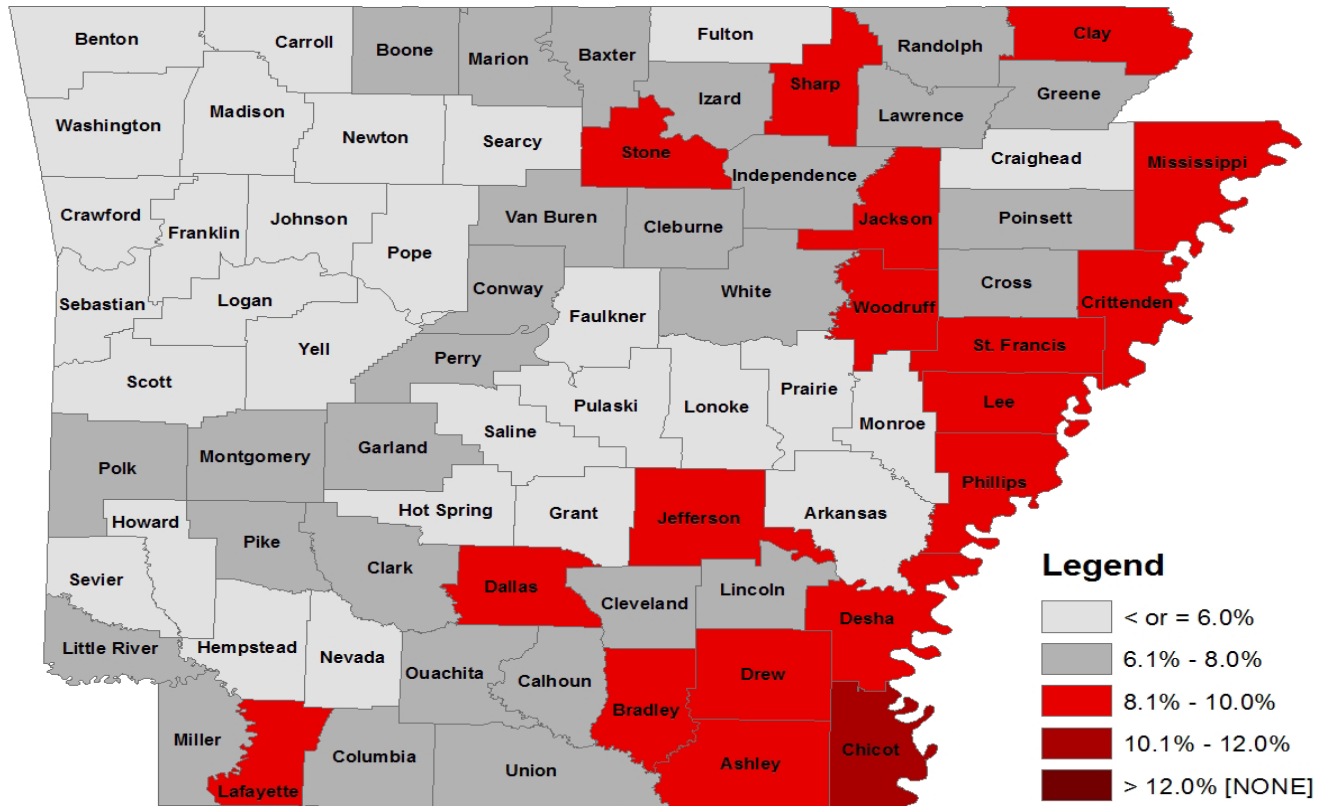
| <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1           | Benton        | 4.5         |
| 1           | Carroll       | 4.5         |
| 1           | Washington    | 4.5         |
| 4           | Arkansas      | 4.9         |
| 4           | Madison       | 4.9         |

### Highest Rates

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 71          | Lee           | 9.4         |
| 71          | St. Francis   | 9.4         |
| 73          | Crittenden    | 9.7         |
| 74          | Ashley        | 9.8         |
| 75          | Chicot        | 10.1        |

# 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 2013 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 5,000 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 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

## April 2014

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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