

Arkansas Labor Market

May 2014

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Drops to 6.4 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Increase 1,800 in May

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.6	7.5
US Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.3	7.5

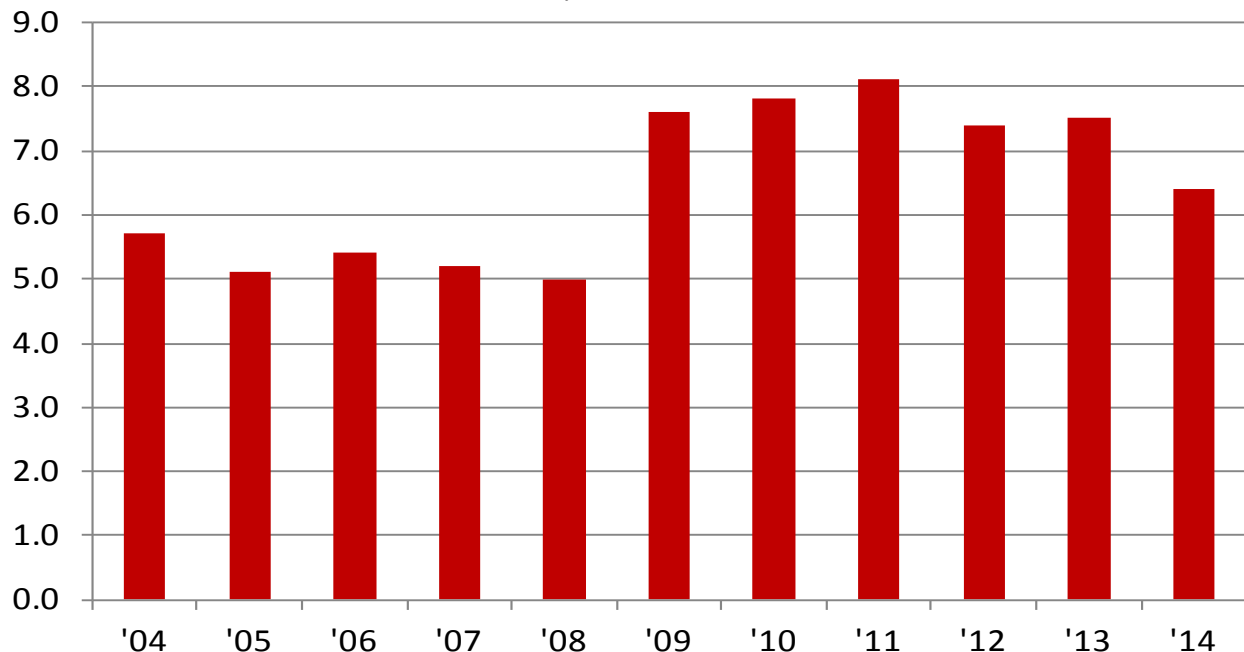
Nonfarm Payroll Summary

State of Arkansas

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,198,000	1,196,200	1,184,500
Goods Producing	211,800	210,700	208,400
Service Providing	986,200	985,500	976,100

Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas
May: 2004 - 2014



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

April 2014 - May 2014

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose 1,800 in May to total 1,198,000. Eight major industry sectors added jobs, with declines posted in three sectors. **Educational and health services** increased 1,100. Gains in health care and social assistance (+1,400) offset the minor seasonal losses in educational services (-300). Employment in **construction** rose 800, a typical seasonal expansion. A large portion of the hiring was reported in heavy and civil engineering construction. Jobs in **government** declined 1,000. All losses were in state government (-1,600), related to the start of summer break at public colleges and universities.

May 2013 - May 2014

Since May 2013, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas have increased 13,500. Six major industry sectors posted growth, while four sectors declined slightly, and one was unchanged. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 4,800 jobs. Retail trade reported a majority of the gain (+3,100). Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** rose 3,000. Most of the expansion was in food services (+2,800), particularly in limited service restaurants. **Educational and health services** increased 2,700. All growth occurred in health care and social assistance (+2,800). **Manufacturing** added 1,900 jobs, mostly in durable goods manufacturing (+1,400). Jobs in **construction** rose 1,500. A majority of the additions were in specialty trade contractors (+800).

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	May 14	Apr 14	May 13
Total Nonfarm	1,198,000	1,196,200	1,184,500
Goods Producing	211,800	210,700	208,400
Mining & Logging	9,700	9,600	9,700
Construction	47,800	47,000	46,300
Specialty Trade Contractors	29,800	29,600	29,000
Manufacturing	154,300	154,100	152,400
Durable Goods	77,100	76,800	75,700
Nondurable Goods	77,200	77,300	76,700
Service Providing	986,200	985,500	976,100
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	244,800	244,100	240,000
Wholesale Trade	48,600	48,300	47,300
Retail Trade	134,800	134,900	131,700
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	61,400	60,900	61,000
Information	13,800	13,700	14,200
Financial Activities	49,500	49,300	49,600
Finance & Insurance	36,300	36,400	36,300
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,200	12,900	13,300
Professional & Business Services	129,500	130,000	129,700
Professional, Scientific & Technical	39,500	39,900	39,600
Management of Companies	31,600	31,700	31,500
Administrative & Support Services	58,400	58,400	58,600
Educational & Health Services	175,300	174,200	172,600
Educational Services	14,400	14,700	14,500
Health Care & Social Assistance	160,900	159,500	158,100
Ambulatory Health Care	48,800	49,100	48,200
Social Assistance	39,200	38,700	36,400
Leisure & Hospitality	110,500	110,600	107,500
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10,800	10,900	10,700
Accommodation & Food Services	99,700	99,700	96,800
Accommodation Services	11,300	11,300	11,200
Food Services	88,400	88,400	85,600
Other Services	44,000	43,800	43,400
Government	218,800	219,800	219,100
Federal Government	19,900	19,900	20,400
State Government	78,200	79,800	77,600
Local Government	120,700	120,100	121,100

Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 14	Apr 14	May 13	May 14	Apr 14	May 13	May 14	Apr 14	May 13
Manufacturing	\$630.70	\$647.60	\$622.08	40.3	41.7	40.5	\$15.65	\$15.53	\$15.36
Durable Goods	676.37	692.93	671.16	41.7	42.8	42.0	16.22	16.19	15.98
Nondurable Goods	588.12	604.13	578.59	39.0	40.6	39.2	15.08	14.88	14.76

Spotlight

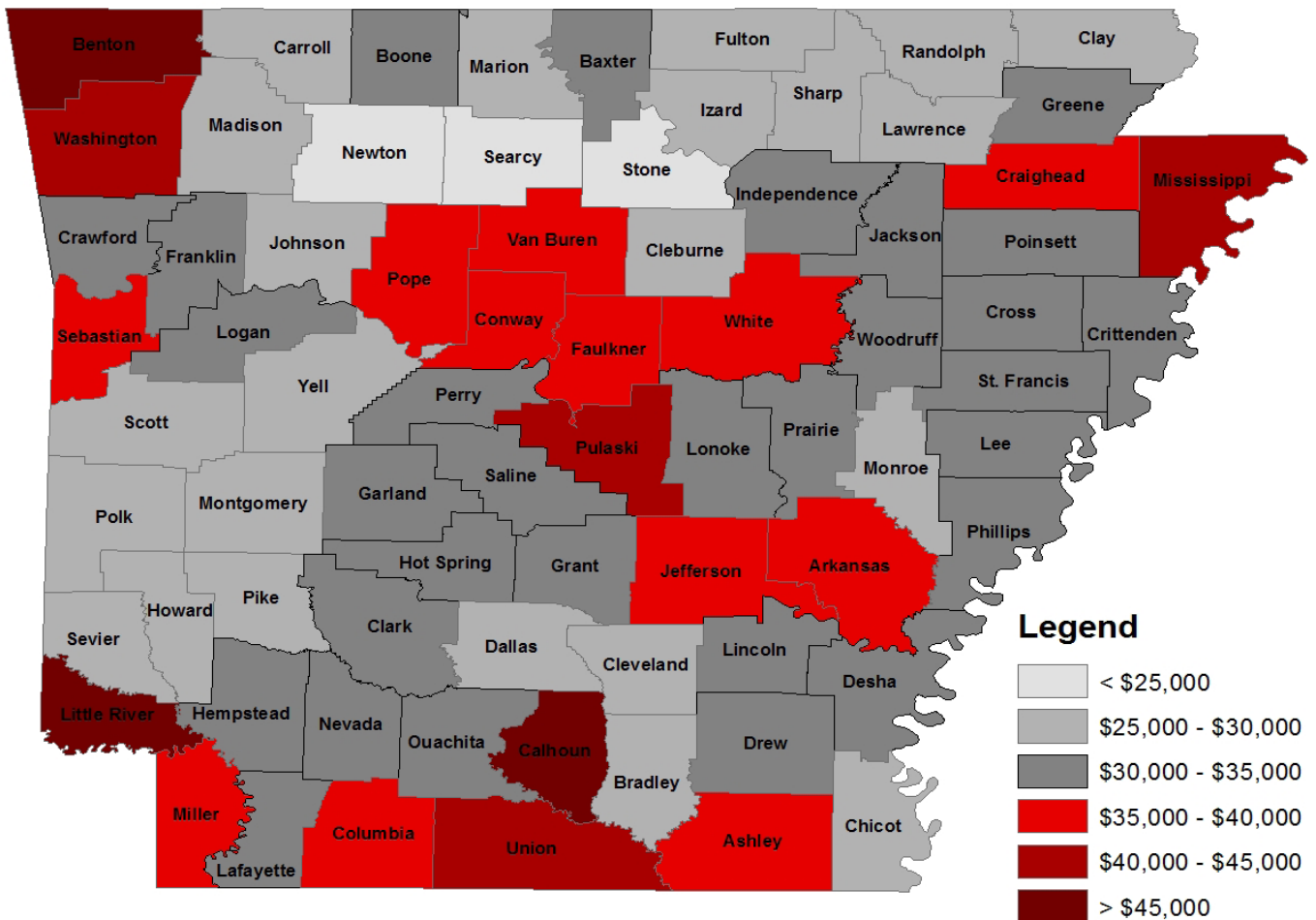
Wages in Arkansas

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 residency. So if an individual works in a different county than where they live, their wages are counted in the county where they work.

In 2013, average annual wages ranged from a high of \$52,752, for those employed in Benton County, to a low of \$23,727 in Searcy 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
2013 Annual Average



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	May 14	Apr 14	May 13
Total Nonfarm	349,100	349,200	346,400
Goods Producing	36,800	36,900	36,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	17,000	17,100	16,800
Manufacturing	19,800	19,800	19,600
Service Providing	312,300	312,300	310,000
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	66,800	66,400	66,400
Wholesale Trade	15,700	15,700	15,700
Retail Trade	36,800	36,500	36,300
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,300	14,200	14,400
Information	7,000	7,000	7,300
Financial Activities	20,200	20,100	20,200
Professional & Business Services	45,500	45,900	45,300
Educational & Health Services	51,700	51,700	51,500
Leisure & Hospitality	33,400	33,300	32,000
Other Services	16,000	15,900	15,800
Government	71,700	72,000	71,500
Federal Government	9,500	9,500	9,500
State Government	33,900	34,400	33,700
Local Government	28,300	28,100	28,300

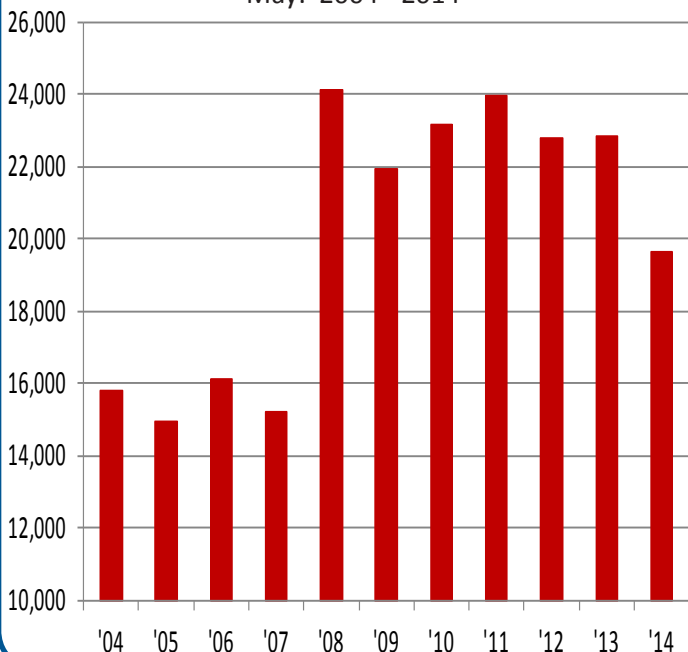
The LR-NLR-Conway MSA consists of the following counties:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	May 14	Apr 14	May 13
Civilian Labor Force	336,875	335,050	343,275
Employment	317,225	316,525	320,450
Unemployment	19,650	18,525	22,825
Unemployment Rate	5.8	5.5	6.7

Number of Unemployed

May: 2004 - 2014



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	May 14	Apr 14	May 13
Total Nonfarm	219,000	219,000	215,900
Goods Producing	35,000	34,900	34,700
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,800	8,700	8,200
Manufacturing	26,200	26,200	26,500
Service Providing	184,000	184,100	181,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	47,700	48,200	47,700
Wholesale Trade	10,400	10,400	10,300
Retail Trade	22,900	23,100	22,500
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,400	14,700	14,900
Information	1,800	1,800	1,900
Financial Activities	6,700	6,700	6,700
Professional & Business Services	41,500	41,500	40,600
Educational & Health Services	24,900	24,800	24,200
Leisure & Hospitality	22,400	22,200	21,700
Other Services	6,300	6,300	6,400
Government	32,700	32,600	32,000
Federal Government	2,500	2,500	2,500
State Government	12,100	12,000	11,500
Local Government	18,100	18,100	18,000

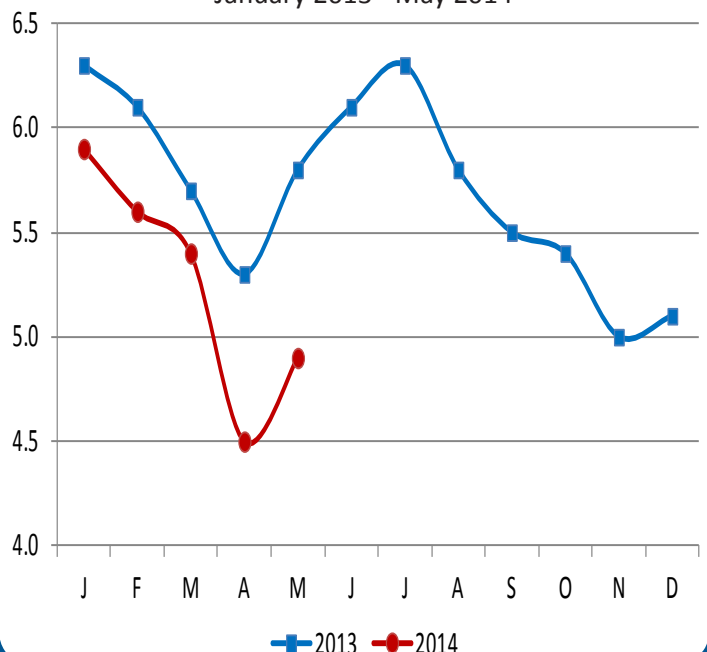
The FSR MSA consists of the following counties:
Benton, Madison, Washington, and McDonald (in Missouri)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	May 14	Apr 14	May 13
Civilian Labor Force	234,200	232,825	236,750
Employment	222,725	222,250	223,125
Unemployment	11,475	10,575	13,625
Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.5	5.8

Unemployment Rates

January 2013 - May 2014



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Total Nonfarm	117,100	116,800	117,300
Goods Producing	24,700	24,800	25,500
Mining, Logging & Construction	6,500	6,600	7,100
Manufacturing	18,200	18,200	18,400
Service Providing	92,400	92,000	91,800
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24,300	24,300	23,700
Wholesale Trade	4,100	4,100	4,100
Retail Trade	13,200	13,200	12,900
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	7,000	7,000	6,700
Information	1,300	1,300	1,300
Financial Activities	4,200	4,200	4,200
Professional & Business Services	12,500	12,500	12,200
Educational & Health Services	16,500	16,500	17,100
Leisure & Hospitality	9,700	9,400	9,500
Other Services	4,200	4,200	4,200
Government	19,700	19,600	19,600
Federal Government	1,500	1,500	1,600
State Government	3,200	3,200	3,200
Local Government	15,000	14,900	14,800

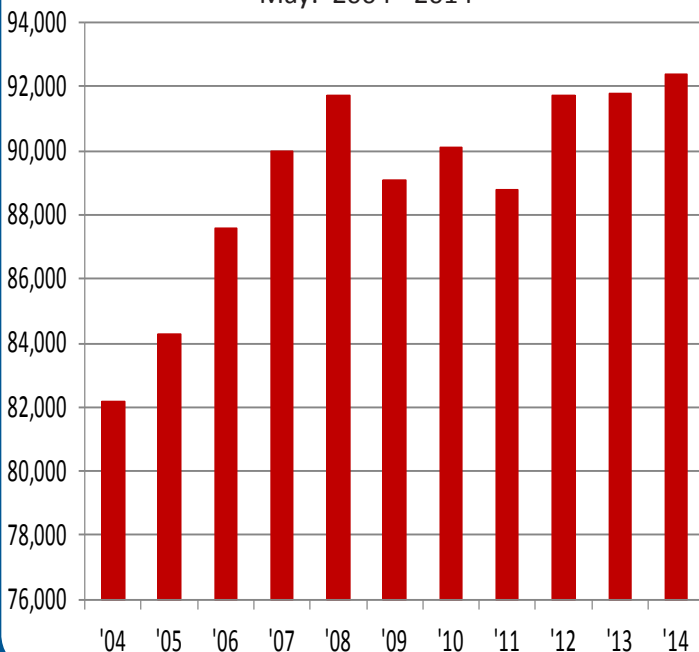
The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Civilian Labor Force	127,075	126,525	131,675
Employment	119,000	118,975	121,400
Unemployment	8,075	7,550	10,275
Unemployment Rate	6.3	5.9	7.8

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

May: 2004 - 2014



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Total Nonfarm	38,200	38,400	37,800
Goods Producing	4,700	4,500	4,500
Service Providing	33,500	33,900	33,300
Government	4,800	4,800	4,800

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Civilian Labor Force	40,650	40,975	41,450
Employment	38,050	38,475	38,300
Unemployment	2,600	2,500	3,150
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.1	7.6

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Total Nonfarm	53,500	53,500	51,500
Goods Producing	8,800	8,700	8,600
Service Providing	44,700	44,800	42,900
Government	9,000	9,100	8,700

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties:

Craighead and Poinsett

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Civilian Labor Force	59,375	59,175	59,175
Employment	55,900	55,875	54,975
Unemployment	3,475	3,300	4,200
Unemployment Rate	5.8	5.6	7.1

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Total Nonfarm	35,300	35,500	35,500
Goods Producing	7,000	7,100	6,900
Service Providing	28,300	28,400	28,600
Government	10,000	10,000	10,300

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Civilian Labor Force	40,100	40,300	41,300
Employment	36,700	36,950	37,375
Unemployment	3,400	3,350	3,925
Unemployment Rate	8.4	8.3	9.5

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,315,200	1,322,500	1,326,100	-7,300	-10,900	1,314,100	1,308,700	1,334,900	5,400	-20,800
Employment	1,231,100	1,235,700	1,226,400	-4,600	4,700	1,231,600	1,229,100	1,236,200	2,500	-4,600
Unemployment	84,100	86,800	99,700	-2,700	-15,600	82,500	79,600	98,700	2,900	-16,200
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.6	7.5	-0.2	-1.1	6.3	6.1	7.4	0.2	-1.1
U.S. Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.3	7.5	0.0	-1.2	6.1	5.9	7.3	0.2	-1.2

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Civilian Labor Force	593,775	586,200	606,750
Employment	549,350	545,425	550,875
Unemployment	44,425	40,775	55,875
Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.0	9.2

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
Civilian Labor Force	61,950	62,025	63,300
Employment	58,200	58,400	58,850
Unemployment	3,750	3,625	4,450
Unemployment Rate	6.0	5.8	7.0

Unemployment Rates by County

Between April and May, unemployment rates increased in 46 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Twenty-one counties enjoyed jobless rate declines, while eight remained stable.

In May, twenty-three counties posted rates at or below six percent. No county had an unemployment rate above ten percent, down from one county in April.

Compared to May 2013, jobless rates are down in 74 counties. Only one county posted a higher rate than this time last year.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>Apr 14</u>	<u>May 13</u>
4	Arkansas	5.0	4.8	6.5	73	Lee	9.5	9.3	10.7
71	Ashley	9.4	9.9	11.2	56	Lincoln	7.9	7.4	8.3
33	Baxter	6.5	6.4	8.0	36	Little River	6.6	6.2	8.1
2	Benton	4.7	4.5	5.7	24	Logan	6.1	5.7	8.1
15	Boone	5.9	6.1	7.4	9	Lonoke	5.6	5.2	6.4
57	Bradley	8.0	8.1	9.0	5	Madison	5.1	5.1	6.1
39	Calhoun	6.9	6.7	9.0	39	Marion	6.9	6.7	8.3
1	Carroll	4.5	4.6	5.4	27	Miller	6.2	6.9	6.8
75	Chicot	9.8	10.2	10.8	71	Mississippi	9.4	9.1	11.1
45	Clark	7.2	6.1	9.4	24	Monroe	6.1	5.9	7.9
66	Clay	8.9	9.1	11.1	52	Montgomery	7.6	7.7	7.3
47	Cleburne	7.3	7.3	7.4	6	Nevada	5.4	5.3	7.6
43	Cleveland	7.0	7.7	7.9	24	Newton	6.1	5.0	6.7
54	Columbia	7.7	6.8	9.3	57	Ouachita	8.0	7.9	9.2
36	Conway	6.6	6.4	8.2	33	Perry	6.5	7.1	8.4
10	Craighead	5.7	5.4	6.8	69	Phillips	9.1	9.2	10.7
15	Crawford	5.9	5.9	7.4	47	Pike	7.3	6.9	8.9
66	Crittenden	8.9	9.8	10.0	31	Poinsett	6.4	6.3	8.1
38	Cross	6.8	6.6	8.0	43	Polk	7.0	6.7	7.8
68	Dallas	9.0	9.1	10.0	33	Pope	6.5	5.8	7.7
65	Desha	8.8	9.3	10.0	12	Prairie	5.8	5.8	6.6
63	Drew	8.6	8.8	10.4	15	Pulaski	5.9	5.6	6.8
15	Faulkner	5.9	5.8	6.6	51	Randolph	7.5	7.5	9.2
27	Franklin	6.2	6.1	6.5	69	St. Francis	9.1	9.3	10.6
15	Fulton	5.9	5.7	7.3	8	Saline	5.5	5.0	6.1
31	Garland	6.4	6.1	7.6	6	Scott	5.4	5.1	6.5
12	Grant	5.8	5.4	6.8	21	Searcy	6.0	5.7	7.4
39	Greene	6.9	6.9	8.6	10	Sebastian	5.7	5.5	7.3
21	Hempstead	6.0	5.8	7.1	27	Sevier	6.2	5.8	8.1
12	Hot Spring	5.8	5.4	7.2	62	Sharp	8.5	8.7	10.0
21	Howard	6.0	5.9	7.6	73	Stone	9.5	9.3	10.0
52	Independence	7.6	7.3	8.8	47	Union	7.3	7.3	8.3
39	Izard	6.9	6.9	8.9	45	Van Buren	7.2	7.4	8.7
61	Jackson	8.4	8.6	9.2	3	Washington	4.9	4.4	5.7
64	Jefferson	8.7	8.6	9.9	54	White	7.7	7.6	8.5
30	Johnson	6.3	5.8	7.2	57	Woodruff	8.0	8.5	9.2
60	Lafayette	8.2	8.3	10.3	15	Yell	5.9	5.5	6.5
50	Lawrence	7.4	7.2	9.3					

Lowest Rates

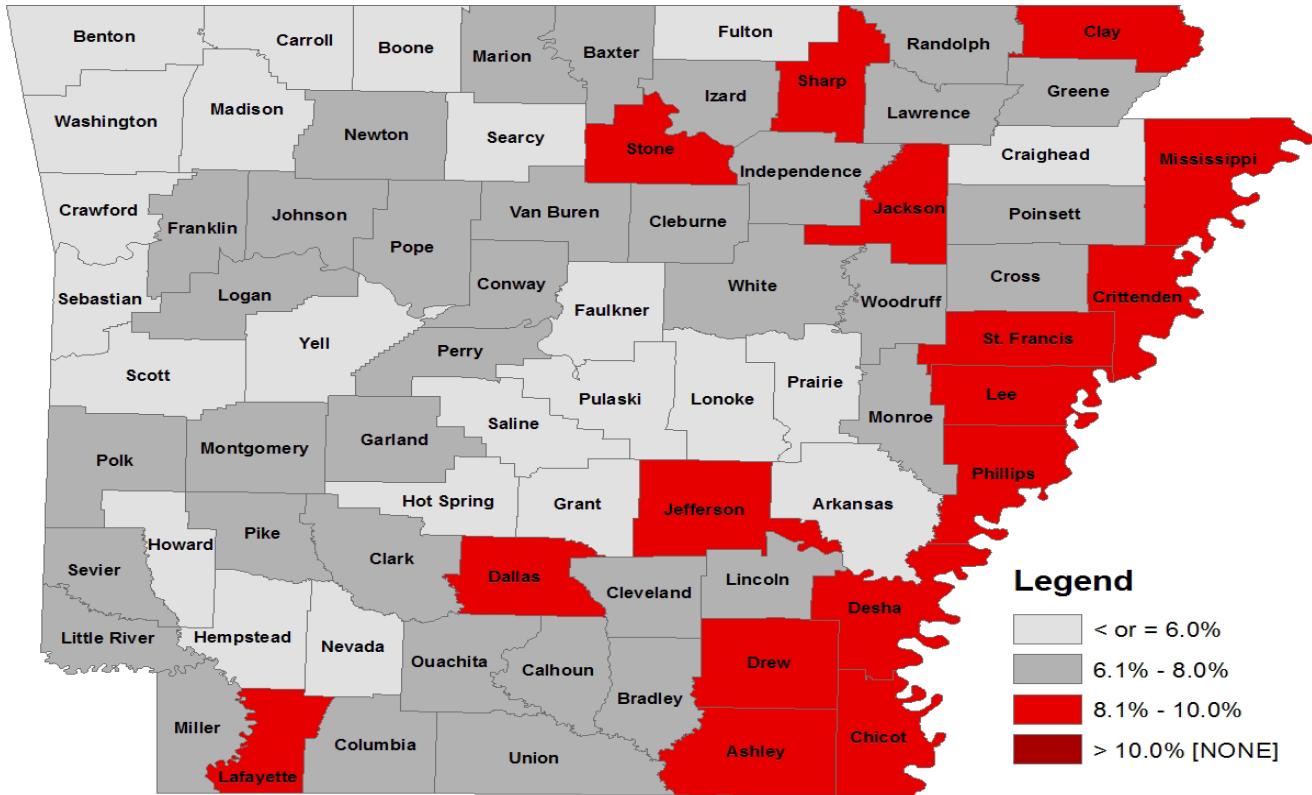
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Carroll	4.5
2	Benton	4.7
3	Washington	4.9
4	Arkansas	5.0
5	Madison	5.1

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
71	Ashley	9.4
71	Mississippi	9.4
73	Lee	9.5
73	Stone	9.5
75	Chicot	9.8

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 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

May 2014

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

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