

Arkansas

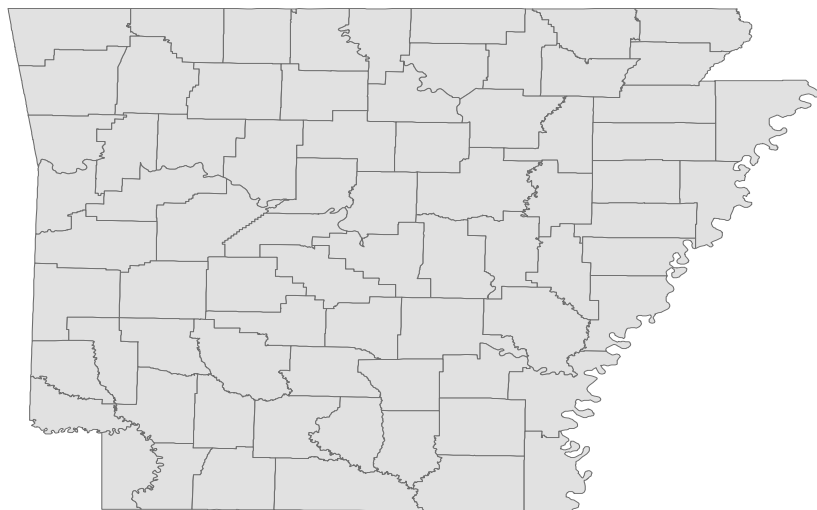
Labor Market Report

March 2016



www.discover.arkansas.gov

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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 2015 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.

March 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 as the official unemployment rate. These measures are calculated using data from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Approximately 800 Arkansas households are in the survey each month.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level and are produced quarterly. Estimates are calculated using a four quarter moving average. The most recent data available is an Annual Average for 2015.

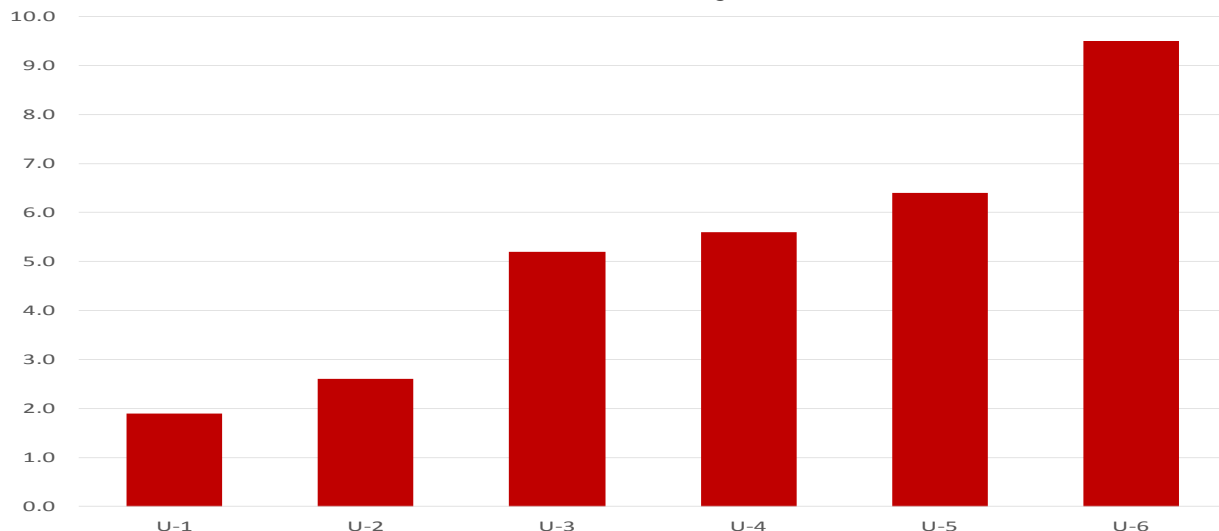
The following definitions are used to calculate each measure of Labor Underutilization:

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization					
State of Arkansas					
2015 Annual Average					
U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
1.9%	2.6%	5.2%	5.6%	6.4%	9.5%

- 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
2015 Annual Average



State of Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point, from 4.2 percent in February to 4.0 percent in March. Arkansas' civilian labor force rose 7,262, a result of 9,569 more employed and 2,307 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.0 percent in March.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate decreased in March, as employment gains increased the size of the civilian labor force. The number of employed rose 9,569, reaching employment levels not seen since 2008."

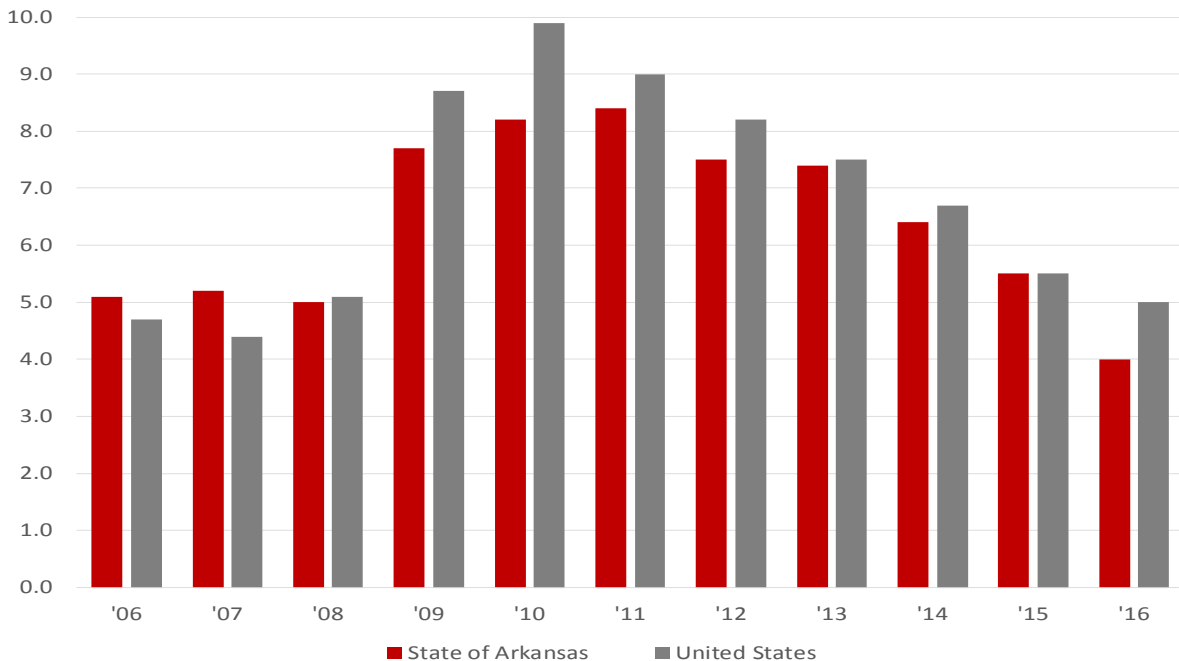
Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15		Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15
Civilian Labor Force	1,358,908	1,351,646	1,324,512	Civilian Labor Force	1,359,339	1,353,789	1,319,136
Employment	1,303,901	1,294,332	1,251,141	Employment	1,304,665	1,289,881	1,244,205
Unemployment	55,007	57,314	73,371	Unemployment	54,674	63,908	74,931
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.2	5.5	Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.7	5.7
U.S. Unemployment	5.0	4.9	5.5	U.S. Unemployment	5.1	5.2	5.6

Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas vs. United States

March: 2006 - 2016



State of Arkansas
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Mar 16</u>	<u>Feb 16</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1223.9	1219.3	1195.0	4.6	28.9
Goods Producing	207.3	208.8	209.6	-1.5	-2.3
Mining, Logging, and Construction	54.6	54.7	54.4	-0.1	0.2
Mining & Logging	7.1	7.0	8.4	0.1	-1.3
Construction	47.5	47.7	46.0	-0.2	1.5
Specialty Trade Contractors	30.8	31.0	29.3	-0.2	1.5
Manufacturing	152.7	154.1	155.2	-1.4	-2.5
Durable Goods	73.7	74.9	76.9	-1.2	-3.2
Nondurable Goods	79.0	79.2	78.3	-0.2	0.7
Service Providing	1016.6	1010.5	985.4	6.1	31.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	254.8	255.1	246.7	-0.3	8.1
Wholesale Trade	47.5	47.7	46.8	-0.2	0.7
Retail Trade	142.6	142.2	137.0	0.4	5.6
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	64.7	65.2	62.9	-0.5	1.8
Information	13.8	13.8	13.1	0.0	0.7
Financial Activities	48.9	49.0	48.7	-0.1	0.2
Finance & Insurance	36.0	36.1	35.9	-0.1	0.1
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12.9	12.9	12.8	0.0	0.1
Professional & Business Services	142.6	139.3	136.1	3.3	6.5
Professional, Scientific & Technical	44.4	44.1	41.9	0.3	2.5
Management of Companies	34.1	34.1	32.3	0.0	1.8
Administrative & Support Services	64.1	61.1	61.9	3.0	2.2
Educational & Health Services	179.9	179.1	173.5	0.8	6.4
Educational Services	15.1	15.3	14.5	-0.2	0.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	164.8	163.8	159.0	1.0	5.8
Ambulatory Health Care	52.2	52.0	50.2	0.2	2.0
Social Assistance	41.5	40.6	38.2	0.9	3.3
Leisure & Hospitality	115.1	113.9	107.9	1.2	7.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10.1	9.6	9.7	0.5	0.4
Accommodation & Food Services	105.0	104.3	98.2	0.7	6.8
Accommodation Services	11.0	10.8	10.6	0.2	0.4
Food Services	94.0	93.5	87.6	0.5	6.4
Other Services	44.5	44.0	43.0	0.5	1.5
Government	217.0	216.3	216.4	0.7	0.6
Federal Government	20.3	20.2	20.1	0.1	0.2
State Government	80.7	80.1	80.2	0.6	0.5
Local Government	116.0	116.0	116.1	0.0	-0.1

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

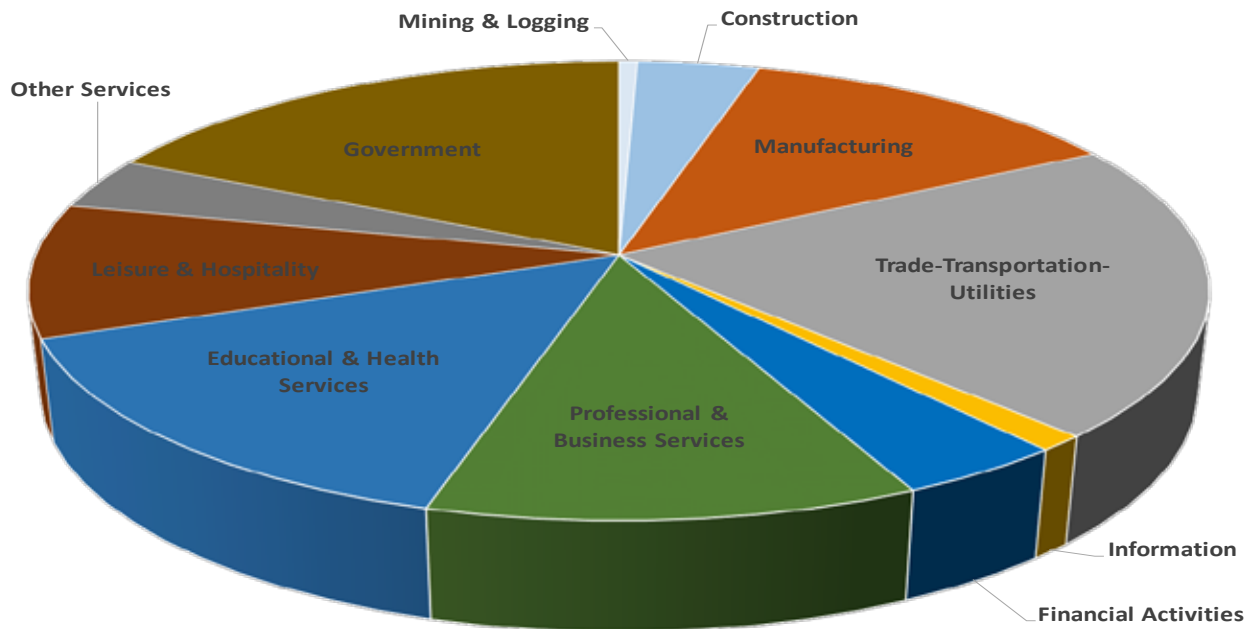
February 2016 - March 2016

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 4,600 in March to total 1,223,900. Employment gains were posted in six major industry sectors, while declines occurred in four sectors. **Professional and business services** added 3,300 jobs. Most of the expansion occurred in administrative and support services (+3,000), a subsector which includes employment agencies and landscaping services. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** rose 1,200. Seasonal hiring was reported across all subsectors. Employment in **manufacturing** declined 1,400, largely in durable goods manufacturing (-1,200). Losses were due in part to reported contractions in various industries, including transportation equipment manufacturing and fabricated metal product manufacturing.

March 2015 - March 2016

Since March 2015, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment has increased 28,900. Nine major industry sectors posted job growth, with four adding 6,400 or more jobs, each. Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 8,100. Most of the hiring was in retail trade (+5,600). **Leisure and hospitality** increased 7,200, attributed in large part to expansions in food services (+6,400). **Professional and business services** added 6,500 jobs. Gains were posted across all three subsectors. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 6,400, with most of the growth occurring in health care and social assistance (+5,800). **Manufacturing** jobs dropped 2,500. Declines in durable goods manufacturing (-3,200) were partially offset by gains in nondurable goods manufacturing (+700).

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs by Industry (Percent of Total)
March 2016



State of Arkansas

Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

Manufacturing

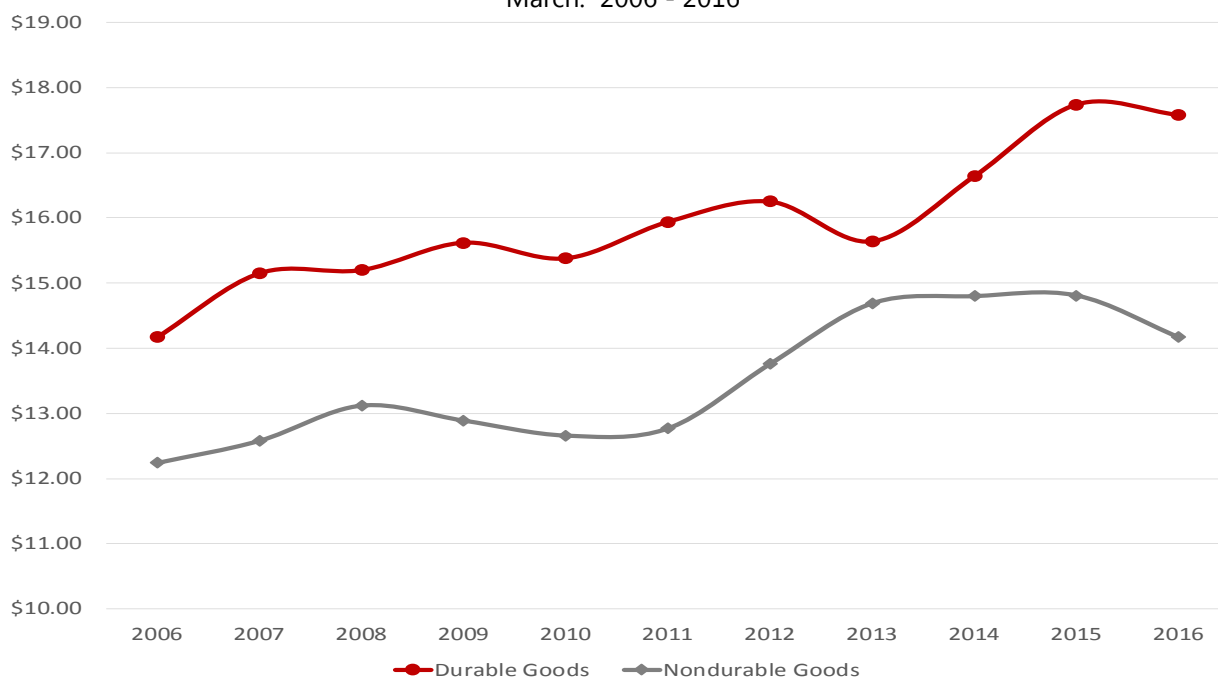
	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15
Average Weekly Hours	39.4	39.1	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings	15.87	16.05	16.23
Average Weekly Earnings	625.28	627.56	657.32

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15		Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15
Average Weekly Hours	40.6	40.6	40.0	Average Weekly Hours	38.2	37.7	40.9
Average Hourly Earnings	17.58	17.67	17.74	Average Hourly Earnings	14.17	14.40	14.81
Average Weekly Earnings	713.75	717.40	709.60	Average Weekly Earnings	541.29	542.88	605.73

Average Hourly Earnings: Durable Goods vs. Nondurable Goods

March: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

The Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA= Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, & Saline counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

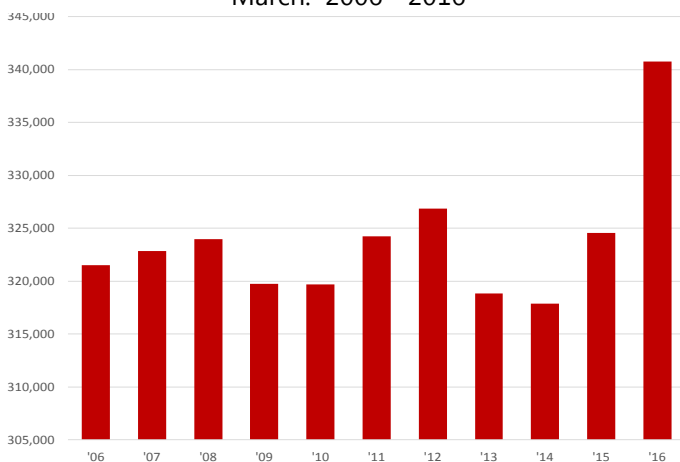
	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	353,453	353,053	341,891	400	11,562
Employment	340,751	338,362	324,550	2,389	16,201
Unemployment	12,702	14,691	17,341	-1,989	-4,639
Unemployment Rate	3.6	4.2	5.1	-0.6	-1.5

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

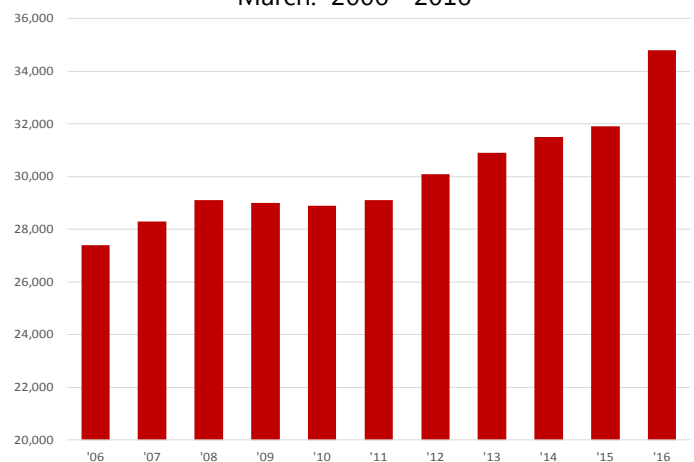
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	353.1	352.1	346.3	1.0	6.8
Goods Producing	36.5	36.9	36.8	-0.4	-0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	16.2	16.6	16.5	-0.4	-0.3
Manufacturing	20.3	20.3	20.3	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	316.6	315.2	309.5	1.4	7.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	69.1	69.1	67.1	0.0	2.0
Wholesale Trade	15.2	15.2	15.2	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	39.2	39.2	37.6	0.0	1.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14.7	14.7	14.3	0.0	0.4
Information	6.4	6.3	6.1	0.1	0.3
Financial Activities	20.6	20.6	20.4	0.0	0.2
Professional & Business Services	46.6	45.9	45.7	0.7	0.9
Educational & Health Services	52.4	52.3	52.3	0.1	0.1
Leisure & Hospitality	34.8	34.7	31.9	0.1	2.9
Other Services	15.1	15.0	14.7	0.1	0.4
Government	71.6	71.3	71.3	0.3	0.3
Federal Government	9.7	9.6	9.6	0.1	0.1
State Government	35.1	35.0	34.8	0.1	0.3
Local Government	26.8	26.7	26.9	0.1	-0.1

Number of Employed
March: 2006 - 2016



Jobs in Leisure and Hospitality
March: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA= Benton, Madison, & Washington counties in Arkansas & McDonald county in Missouri.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

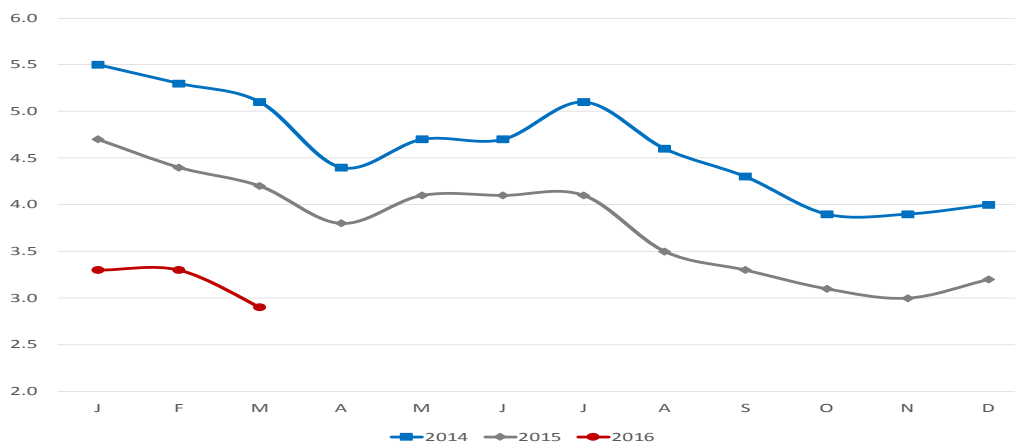
	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	263,576	262,600	248,450	976	15,126
Employment	255,973	253,813	238,086	2,160	17,887
Unemployment	7,603	8,787	10,364	-1,184	-2,761
Unemployment Rate	2.9	3.3	4.2	-0.4	-1.3

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	242.2	241.6	231.2	0.6	11.0
Goods Producing	35.9	35.8	36.2	0.1	-0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	9.8	9.7	9.0	0.1	0.8
Manufacturing	26.1	26.1	27.2	0.0	-1.1
Service Providing	206.3	205.8	195.0	0.5	11.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	55.3	55.3	52.4	0.0	2.9
Wholesale Trade	12.0	12.0	11.4	0.0	0.6
Retail Trade	26.9	26.9	25.1	0.0	1.8
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.4	16.4	15.9	0.0	0.5
Information	2.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	0.1
Financial Activities	6.8	6.8	6.7	0.0	0.1
Professional & Business Services	48.9	48.4	45.5	0.5	3.4
Educational & Health Services	26.5	26.5	25.2	0.0	1.3
Leisure & Hospitality	24.8	24.9	22.4	-0.1	2.4
Other Services	7.2	7.2	7.1	0.0	0.1
Government	34.7	34.6	33.7	0.1	1.0
Federal Government	2.6	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.0
State Government	13.5	13.4	12.8	0.1	0.7
Local Government	18.6	18.6	18.3	0.0	0.3

Unemployment Rates
January 2014 - March 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Fort Smith MSA

The Fort Smith MSA= Crawford & Sebastian counties in Arkansas & LeFlore & Sequoyah counties in Oklahoma.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	122,827	122,336	120,360	491	2,467
Employment	117,191	116,044	113,270	1,147	3,921
Unemployment	5,636	6,292	7,090	-656	-1,454
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.1	5.9	-0.5	-1.3

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

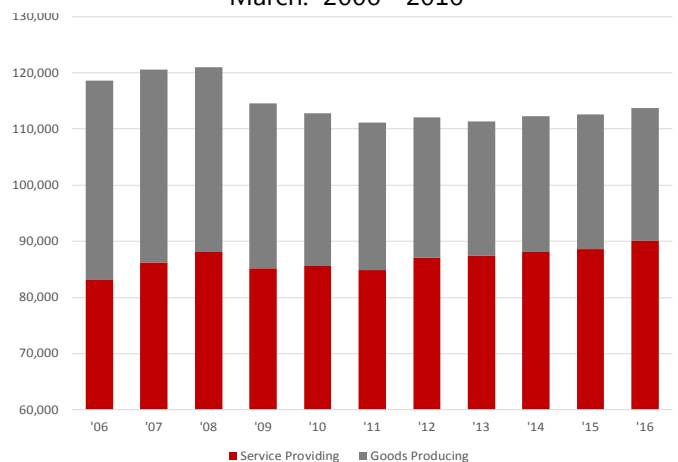
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	113.7	112.9	112.6	0.8	1.1
Goods Producing	23.6	23.5	24.0	0.1	-0.4
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.8	5.7	6.2	0.1	-0.4
Manufacturing	17.8	17.8	17.8	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	90.1	89.4	88.6	0.7	1.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23.9	24.0	23.5	-0.1	0.4
Wholesale Trade	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	13.2	13.1	12.6	0.1	0.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.5	6.7	6.8	-0.2	-0.3
Information	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	3.7	3.8	3.8	-0.1	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	12.3	11.7	12.2	0.6	0.1
Educational & Health Services	16.6	16.6	16.2	0.0	0.4
Leisure & Hospitality	9.3	9.1	9.1	0.2	0.2
Other Services	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	-0.1
Government	18.9	18.8	18.3	0.1	0.6
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	3.2	3.1	3.1	0.1	0.1
Local Government	14.4	14.4	13.9	0.0	0.5

Number of Unemployed
March 2014 - March 2016



Jobs in Service Providing vs. Goods Producing
March: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA= Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	41,081	40,705	39,606	376	1,475
Employment	39,347	38,694	37,210	653	2,137
Unemployment	1,734	2,011	2,396	-277	-662
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.9	6.0	-0.7	-1.8

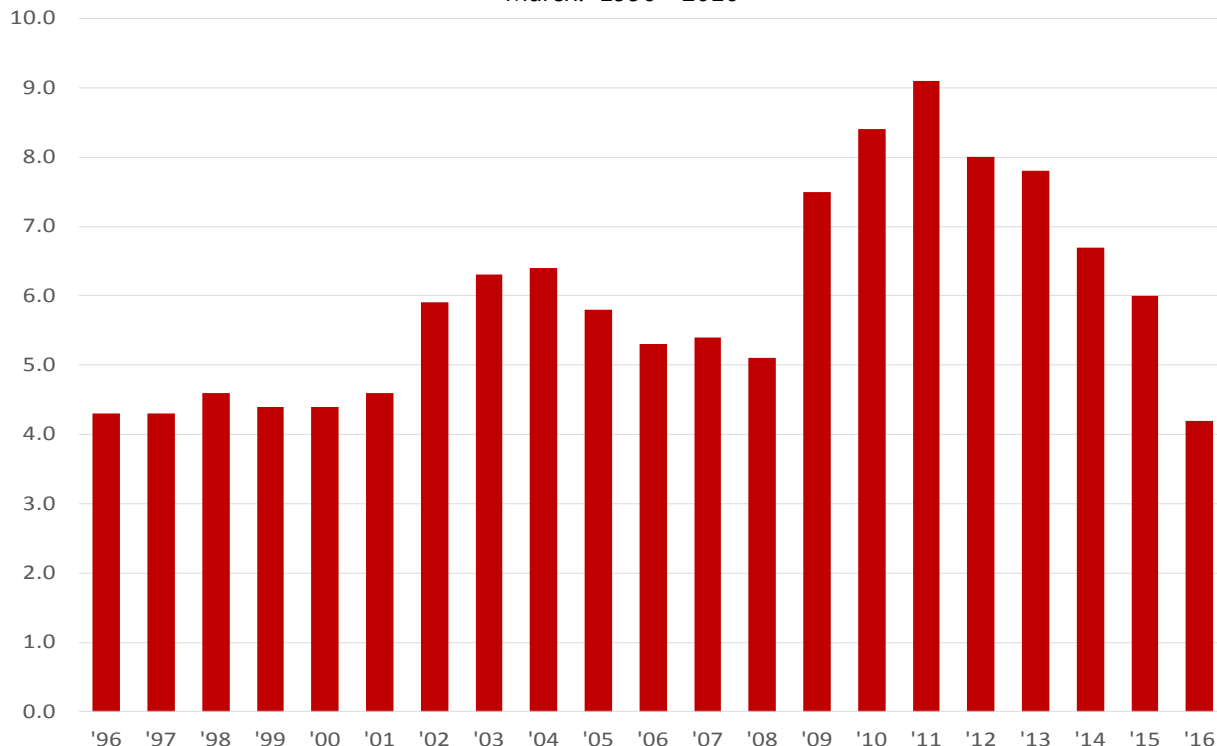
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	38.2	37.7	37.3	0.5	0.9
Goods Producing	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	33.8	33.3	32.9	0.5	0.9
Government	4.8	4.7	4.7	0.1	0.1

Unemployment Rates

March: 1996 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA= Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	62,901	62,552	59,936	349	2,965
Employment	60,718	59,975	56,808	743	3,910
Unemployment	2,183	2,577	3,128	-394	-945
Unemployment Rate	3.5	4.1	5.2	-0.6	-1.7

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	55.6	55.2	53.2	0.4	2.4
Goods Producing	8.9	8.8	8.6	0.1	0.3
Service Providing	46.7	46.4	44.6	0.3	2.1
Government	9.0	9.0	8.8	0.0	0.2

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

March 2013 - March 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Pine Bluff MSA

The Pine Bluff MSA= Cleveland, Jefferson, & Lincoln counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	36,930	36,842	36,776	88	154
Employment	34,928	34,522	34,076	406	852
Unemployment	2,002	2,320	2,700	-318	-698
Unemployment Rate	5.4	6.3	7.3	-0.9	-1.9

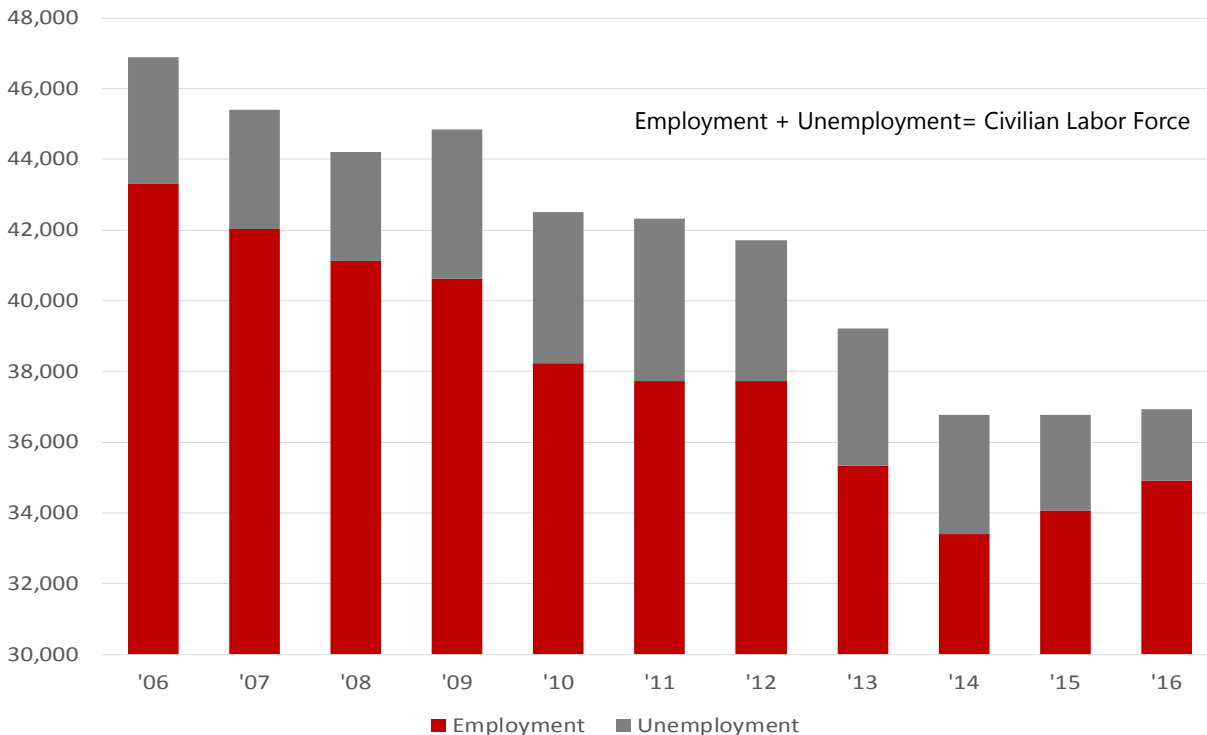
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	33.7	33.6	33.9	0.1	-0.2
Goods Producing	6.1	6.1	6.3	0.0	-0.2
Service Providing	27.6	27.5	27.6	0.1	0.0
Government	9.6	9.6	9.7	0.0	-0.1

Number of Employment and Unemployment

March: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Out-of-State MSA

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA

The Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA= Fayette, Shelby, & Tipton counties in Tennessee; Benton, Desoto, Marshall, Tate, & Tunica counties in Mississippi; & Crittenden County in Arkansas.

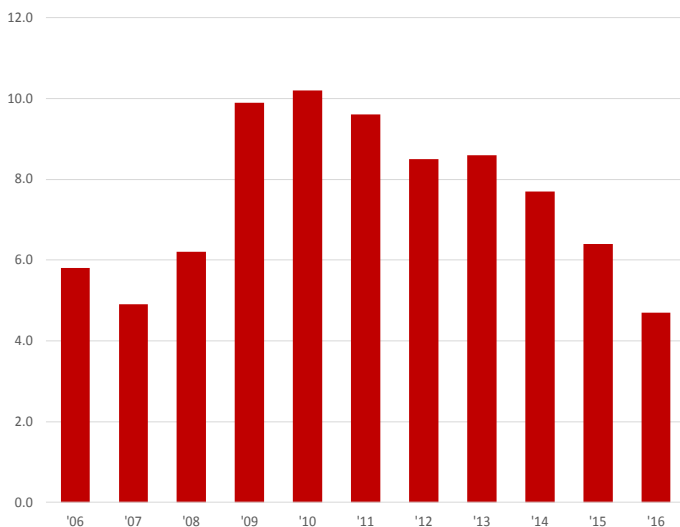
	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	617,395	620,344	609,708	-2,949	7,687
Employment	588,318	589,452	570,773	-1,134	17,545
Unemployment	29,077	30,892	38,935	-1,815	-9,858
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.0	6.4	-0.3	-1.7

Texarkana MSA

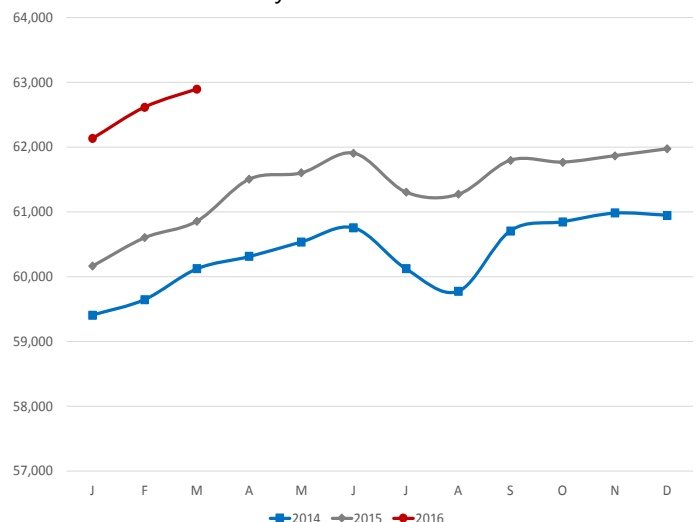
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	Mar 16	Feb 16	Mar 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	65,700	65,641	64,163	59	1,537
Employment	62,898	62,620	60,859	278	2,039
Unemployment	2,802	3,021	3,304	-219	-502
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.6	5.1	-0.3	-0.8

Unemployment Rates- Memphis MSA
March: 2006 - 2016



Number of Employed- Texarkana MSA
January 2014 - March 2016



Labor Market Report

Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Micro Area	March 2016				February 2016				March 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,727	9,318	409	4.2	9,672	9,215	457	4.7	9,485	8,895	590	6.2
Batesville Micro	15,823	15,018	805	5.1	15,773	14,804	969	6.1	15,489	14,430	1,059	6.8
Blytheville Micro	18,050	16,808	1,242	6.9	17,933	16,556	1,377	7.7	18,701	16,941	1,760	9.4
Camden Micro	12,339	11,731	608	4.9	12,304	11,595	709	5.8	12,299	11,409	890	7.2
El Dorado Micro	17,094	16,189	905	5.3	17,042	16,023	1,019	6.0	16,527	15,410	1,117	6.8
Forrest City Micro	8,951	8,452	499	5.6	8,961	8,349	612	6.8	8,959	8,234	725	8.1
Harrison Micro	19,437	18,661	776	4.0	19,267	18,357	910	4.7	19,265	18,162	1,103	5.7
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,950	6,517	433	6.2	6,894	6,382	512	7.4	7,131	6,516	615	8.6
Magnolia Micro	9,681	9,158	523	5.4	9,655	9,043	612	6.3	9,574	8,917	657	6.9
Malvern Micro	14,656	14,049	607	4.1	14,605	13,926	679	4.6	14,031	13,242	789	5.6
Mountain Home Micro	16,598	15,893	705	4.2	16,507	15,661	846	5.1	16,231	15,227	1,004	6.2
Paragould Micro	20,566	19,695	871	4.2	20,520	19,514	1,006	4.9	19,937	18,782	1,155	5.8
Russellville Micro	39,432	37,689	1,743	4.4	39,061	37,091	1,970	5.0	38,587	36,365	2,222	5.8
Searcy Micro	34,967	33,087	1,880	5.4	35,031	32,783	2,248	6.4	34,476	32,015	2,461	7.1

Arkadelphia Micro= Clark County

Batesville Micro= Independence County

Blytheville Micro= Mississippi County

Camden Micro= Calhoun & Ouachita counties

El Dorado Micro= Union County

Forrest City Micro= St. Francis County

Harrison Micro= Boone & Newton counties

Helena-West Helena Micro= Phillips County

Magnolia Micro= Columbia County

Malvern Micro= Hot Spring County

Mountain Home Micro= Baxter County

Paragould Micro= Greene County

Russellville Micro= Pope & Yell counties

Searcy Micro= White County

City Labor Force Statistics (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

City	March 2016				February 2016				March 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,128	11,695	433	3.6	12,114	11,595	519	4.3	11,399	10,866	533	4.7
Benton	16,256	15,717	539	3.3	16,222	15,614	608	3.7	15,712	14,959	753	4.8
Bentonville	22,632	21,981	651	2.9	22,576	21,793	783	3.5	21,215	20,422	793	3.7
Blytheville	6,238	5,739	499	8.0	6,159	5,653	506	8.2	6,530	5,784	746	11.4
Cabot	11,860	11,491	369	3.1	11,823	11,384	439	3.7	11,473	10,985	488	4.3
Conway	33,177	32,048	1,129	3.4	33,198	31,811	1,387	4.2	32,105	30,527	1,578	4.9
El Dorado	7,401	6,981	420	5.7	7,391	6,910	481	6.5	7,152	6,645	507	7.1
Fayetteville	45,849	44,613	1,236	2.7	45,623	44,225	1,398	3.1	43,222	41,441	1,781	4.1
Fort Smith	40,489	38,951	1,538	3.8	40,348	38,541	1,807	4.5	39,595	37,402	2,193	5.5
Hot Springs	14,321	13,677	644	4.5	14,189	13,450	739	5.2	13,861	12,934	927	6.7
Jacksonville	11,964	11,396	568	4.7	11,922	11,322	600	5.0	11,545	10,846	699	6.1
Jonesboro	36,594	35,371	1,223	3.3	36,386	34,968	1,418	3.9	34,807	33,040	1,767	5.1
Little Rock	97,465	94,083	3,382	3.5	97,390	93,477	3,913	4.0	94,315	89,545	4,770	5.1
North Little Rock	30,359	29,187	1,172	3.9	30,360	28,999	1,361	4.5	29,442	27,779	1,663	5.6
Paragould	12,824	12,263	561	4.4	12,792	12,150	642	5.0	12,401	11,694	707	5.7
Pine Bluff	17,542	16,480	1,062	6.1	17,535	16,313	1,222	7.0	17,514	16,057	1,457	8.3
Rogers	33,454	32,496	958	2.9	33,327	32,219	1,108	3.3	31,666	30,191	1,475	4.7
Russellville	14,012	13,425	587	4.2	13,904	13,228	676	4.9	13,708	12,928	780	5.7
Searcy	10,661	10,197	464	4.4	10,658	10,103	555	5.2	10,508	9,866	642	6.1
Sherwood	15,651	15,180	471	3.0	15,648	15,082	566	3.6	15,126	14,448	678	4.5
Springdale	38,373	37,366	1,007	2.6	38,240	37,042	1,198	3.1	36,160	34,711	1,449	4.0
Texarkana, AR	13,945	13,380	565	4.1	13,952	13,257	695	5.0	13,467	12,693	774	5.7
Van Buren	10,569	10,179	390	3.7	10,551	10,061	490	4.6	10,408	9,793	615	5.9
West Memphis	10,813	10,266	547	5.1	10,809	10,193	616	5.7	10,658	9,819	839	7.9

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	March 2016				February 2016				March 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,524	9,197	327	3.4	9,423	9,033	390	4.1	9,422	8,983	439	4.7
Ashley	8,391	7,903	488	5.8	8,316	7,745	571	6.9	8,341	7,620	721	8.6
Baxter	16,598	15,893	705	4.2	16,507	15,661	846	5.1	16,231	15,227	1,004	6.2
Benton	125,358	121,673	3,685	2.9	124,946	120,635	4,311	3.5	118,069	113,044	5,025	4.3
Boone	15,990	15,360	630	3.9	15,865	15,123	742	4.7	15,844	14,940	904	5.7
Bradley	4,706	4,507	199	4.2	4,659	4,427	232	5.0	4,485	4,149	336	7.5
Calhoun	2,392	2,280	112	4.7	2,376	2,243	133	5.6	2,379	2,231	148	6.2
Carroll	12,578	12,094	484	3.8	12,418	11,759	659	5.3	12,407	11,723	684	5.5
Chicot	3,686	3,434	252	6.8	3,660	3,363	297	8.1	3,780	3,384	396	10.5
Clark	9,727	9,318	409	4.2	9,672	9,215	457	4.7	9,485	8,895	590	6.2
Clay	6,377	5,982	395	6.2	6,305	5,857	448	7.1	6,386	5,894	492	7.7
Cleburne	9,694	9,064	630	6.5	9,655	8,916	739	7.7	9,599	8,849	750	7.8
Cleveland	3,463	3,303	160	4.6	3,431	3,249	182	5.3	3,475	3,237	238	6.8
Columbia	9,681	9,158	523	5.4	9,655	9,043	612	6.3	9,574	8,917	657	6.9
Conway	8,756	8,289	467	5.3	8,806	8,223	583	6.6	8,544	7,985	559	6.5
Craighead	52,320	50,591	1,729	3.3	52,058	50,015	2,043	3.9	49,756	47,257	2,499	5.0
Crawford	27,256	26,162	1,094	4.0	27,151	25,859	1,292	4.8	26,748	25,170	1,578	5.9
Crittenden	21,799	20,801	998	4.6	21,806	20,653	1,153	5.3	21,420	19,896	1,524	7.1
Cross	8,194	7,815	379	4.6	8,096	7,645	451	5.6	8,175	7,664	511	6.3
Dallas	2,942	2,782	160	5.4	2,943	2,769	174	5.9	2,891	2,625	266	9.2
Desha	5,584	5,248	336	6.0	5,524	5,129	395	7.2	5,610	5,139	471	8.4
Drew	8,191	7,742	449	5.5	8,152	7,611	541	6.6	8,052	7,434	618	7.7
Faulkner	60,878	58,491	2,387	3.9	60,900	58,058	2,842	4.7	58,793	55,715	3,078	5.2
Franklin	7,640	7,304	336	4.4	7,575	7,194	381	5.0	7,448	7,041	407	5.5
Fulton	4,876	4,660	216	4.4	4,827	4,571	256	5.3	4,777	4,494	283	5.9
Garland	41,081	39,347	1,734	4.2	40,705	38,694	2,011	4.9	39,606	37,210	2,396	6.0
Grant	8,478	8,145	333	3.9	8,450	8,073	377	4.5	8,224	7,790	434	5.3
Greene	20,566	19,695	871	4.2	20,520	19,514	1,006	4.9	19,937	18,782	1,155	5.8
Hempstead	9,996	9,605	391	3.9	9,932	9,468	464	4.7	9,899	9,322	577	5.8
Hot Spring	14,656	14,049	607	4.1	14,605	13,926	679	4.6	14,031	13,242	789	5.6
Howard	6,186	5,979	207	3.3	6,095	5,856	239	3.9	6,275	5,992	283	4.5
Independence	15,823	15,018	805	5.1	15,773	14,804	969	6.1	15,489	14,430	1,059	6.8
Izard	5,123	4,840	283	5.5	5,094	4,737	357	7.0	4,964	4,622	342	6.9
Jackson	6,325	5,908	417	6.6	6,230	5,760	470	7.5	6,268	5,721	547	8.7
Jefferson	29,232	27,607	1,625	5.6	29,208	27,327	1,881	6.4	29,081	26,898	2,183	7.5
Johnson	10,609	10,106	503	4.7	10,606	10,011	595	5.6	10,349	9,689	660	6.4
Lafayette	2,672	2,512	160	6.0	2,657	2,471	186	7.0	2,688	2,463	225	8.4
Lawrence	7,147	6,844	303	4.2	7,088	6,710	378	5.3	7,181	6,685	496	6.9
Lee	3,264	3,109	155	4.7	3,232	3,040	192	5.9	3,320	3,067	253	7.6
Lincoln	4,235	4,018	217	5.1	4,203	3,946	257	6.1	4,220	3,941	279	6.6
Little River	5,735	5,500	235	4.1	5,751	5,455	296	5.1	5,558	5,222	336	6.0
Logan	9,394	8,955	439	4.7	9,310	8,822	488	5.2	9,129	8,560	569	6.2
Lonoke	33,716	32,565	1,151	3.4	33,596	32,263	1,333	4.0	32,689	31,131	1,558	4.8
Madison	7,500	7,261	239	3.2	7,415	7,137	278	3.7	7,161	6,845	316	4.4
Marion	6,578	6,310	268	4.1	6,525	6,192	333	5.1	6,479	6,088	391	6.0
Miller	20,175	19,372	803	4.0	20,153	19,194	959	4.8	19,450	18,378	1,072	5.5

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(continued from Page 15)

County	March 2016				February 2016				March 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	18,050	16,808	1,242	6.9	17,933	16,556	1,377	7.7	18,701	16,941	1,760	9.4
Monroe	3,014	2,873	141	4.7	2,977	2,805	172	5.8	3,063	2,865	198	6.5
Montgomery	3,276	3,104	172	5.3	3,206	3,001	205	6.4	3,247	2,995	252	7.8
Nevada	3,705	3,563	142	3.8	3,683	3,522	161	4.4	3,654	3,443	211	5.8
Newton	3,447	3,301	146	4.2	3,402	3,234	168	4.9	3,421	3,222	199	5.8
Ouachita	9,947	9,451	496	5.0	9,928	9,352	576	5.8	9,920	9,178	742	7.5
Perry	4,311	4,092	219	5.1	4,314	4,048	266	6.2	4,208	3,912	296	7.0
Phillips	6,950	6,517	433	6.2	6,894	6,382	512	7.4	7,131	6,516	615	8.6
Pike	4,245	4,056	189	4.5	4,182	3,961	221	5.3	4,212	3,919	293	7.0
Poinsett	10,581	10,127	454	4.3	10,494	9,960	534	5.1	10,180	9,551	629	6.2
Polk	8,495	8,087	408	4.8	8,414	7,935	479	5.7	8,381	7,866	515	6.1
Pope	30,188	28,843	1,345	4.5	29,942	28,419	1,523	5.1	29,481	27,775	1,706	5.8
Prairie	3,845	3,695	150	3.9	3,796	3,618	178	4.7	3,792	3,595	197	5.2
Pulaski	189,739	182,940	6,799	3.6	189,581	181,761	7,820	4.1	183,544	174,115	9,429	5.1
Randolph	6,037	5,734	303	5.0	6,037	5,650	387	6.4	6,257	5,716	541	8.6
St. Francis	8,951	8,452	499	5.6	8,961	8,349	612	6.8	8,959	8,234	725	8.1
Saline	56,331	54,518	1,813	3.2	56,212	54,159	2,053	3.7	54,433	51,887	2,546	4.7
Scott	4,645	4,477	168	3.6	4,594	4,397	197	4.3	4,540	4,298	242	5.3
Searcy	3,152	3,011	141	4.5	3,096	2,936	160	5.2	2,970	2,761	209	7.0
Sebastian	58,241	56,017	2,224	3.8	58,030	55,427	2,603	4.5	56,912	53,789	3,123	5.5
Sevier	5,735	5,454	281	4.9	5,674	5,337	337	5.9	5,619	5,259	360	6.4
Sharp	6,050	5,700	350	5.8	6,023	5,598	425	7.1	5,924	5,460	464	7.8
Stone	4,634	4,388	246	5.3	4,557	4,256	301	6.6	4,642	4,314	328	7.1
Union	17,094	16,189	905	5.3	17,042	16,023	1,019	6.0	16,527	15,410	1,117	6.8
Van Buren	6,702	6,246	456	6.8	6,643	6,144	499	7.5	6,420	5,949	471	7.3
Washington	119,609	116,403	3,206	2.7	119,120	115,390	3,730	3.1	112,599	108,127	4,472	4.0
White	34,967	33,087	1,880	5.4	35,031	32,783	2,248	6.4	34,476	32,015	2,461	7.1
Woodruff	3,065	2,889	176	5.7	3,033	2,813	220	7.3	3,136	2,915	221	7.0
Yell	9,244	8,846	398	4.3	9,119	8,672	447	4.9	9,106	8,590	516	5.7

County Labor Force Summary

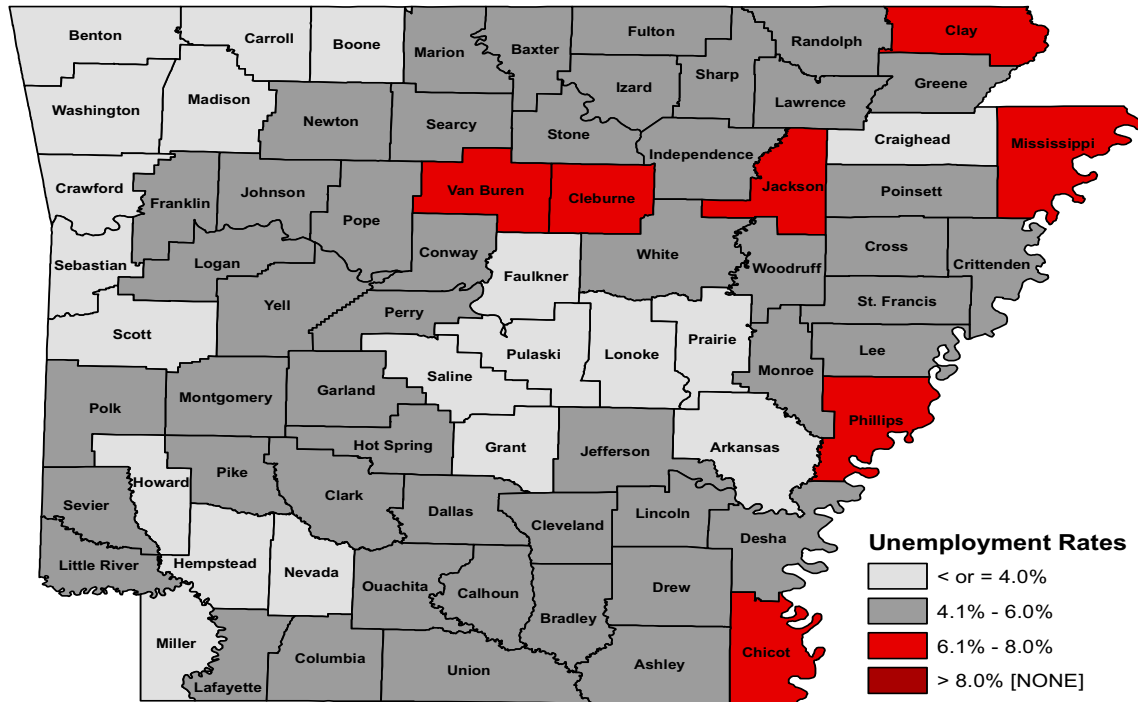
Between February and March, unemployment rates declined in all 75 Arkansas counties. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.7 percent in Washington County to a high 6.9 percent in Mississippi County.

In March, twenty counties posted unemployment rates at or below four percent. For the second month in a row, no county reported a jobless rate above eight percent.

Compared to March 2015, unemployment rates are down in all 75 counties.

Labor Market Report

County Labor Force Statistics



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

March 2016- Not Seasonally Adjusted

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.7	24	Clark	4.2	50	Lincoln	5.1
2	Benton	2.9	24	Garland	4.2	50	Perry	5.1
3	Madison	3.2	24	Greene	4.2	53	Conway	5.3
3	Saline	3.2	24	Lawrence	4.2	53	Montgomery	5.3
5	Craighead	3.3	24	Newton	4.2	53	Stone	5.3
5	Howard	3.3	31	Poinsett	4.3	53	Union	5.3
7	Arkansas	3.4	31	Yell	4.3	57	Columbia	5.4
7	Lonoke	3.4	33	Franklin	4.4	57	Dallas	5.4
9	Pulaski	3.6	33	Fulton	4.4	57	White	5.4
9	Scott	3.6	35	Pike	4.5	60	Drew	5.5
11	Carroll	3.8	35	Pope	4.5	60	Izard	5.5
11	Nevada	3.8	35	Searcy	4.5	62	Jefferson	5.6
11	Sebastian	3.8	38	Cleveland	4.6	62	St. Francis	5.6
14	Boone	3.9	38	Crittenden	4.6	64	Woodruff	5.7
14	Faulkner	3.9	38	Cross	4.6	65	Ashley	5.8
14	Grant	3.9	41	Calhoun	4.7	65	Sharp	5.8
14	Hempstead	3.9	41	Johnson	4.7	67	Desha	6.0
14	Prairie	3.9	41	Lee	4.7	67	Lafayette	6.0
19	Crawford	4.0	41	Logan	4.7	69	Clay	6.2
19	Miller	4.0	41	Monroe	4.7	69	Phillips	6.2
21	Hot Spring	4.1	46	Polk	4.8	71	Cleburne	6.5
21	Little River	4.1	47	Sevier	4.9	72	Jackson	6.6
21	Marion	4.1	48	Ouachita	5.0	73	Chicot	6.8
24	Baxter	4.2	48	Randolph	5.0	73	Van Buren	6.8
24	Bradley	4.2	50	Independence	5.1	75	Mississippi	6.9

Labor Market Report

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

LWDA Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

LWDA	March 2016				February 2016				March 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	250,058	240,999	9,059	3.6	249,672	239,187	10,485	4.2	241,999	229,763	12,236	5.1
City of Little Rock	97,465	94,083	3,382	3.5	97,390	93,477	3,913	4.0	94,315	89,545	4,770	5.1
Eastern	49,158	46,694	2,464	5.0	48,989	46,069	2,920	6.0	49,005	45,377	3,628	7.4
North Central	97,259	91,800	5,459	5.6	96,866	90,382	6,484	6.7	95,695	88,769	6,926	7.2
Northeast	121,078	115,781	5,297	4.4	120,435	114,262	6,173	5.1	118,398	110,826	7,572	6.4
Northwest	310,810	301,306	9,504	3.1	309,294	298,067	11,227	3.6	295,181	281,977	13,204	4.5
Southeast	85,490	81,104	4,386	5.1	85,026	79,903	5,123	6.0	84,690	78,575	6,115	7.2
Southwest	96,260	91,845	4,415	4.6	95,889	90,733	5,156	5.4	94,434	88,440	5,994	6.3
West Central	136,093	130,050	6,043	4.4	135,157	128,170	6,987	5.2	132,269	124,212	8,057	6.1
Western	115,671	111,002	4,669	4.0	115,074	109,634	5,440	4.7	113,158	106,724	6,434	5.7

