

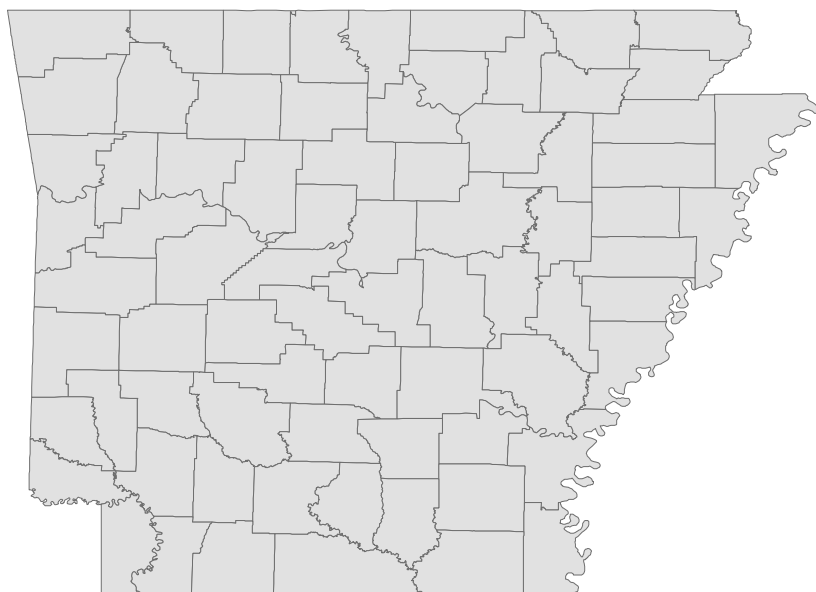
# **Arkansas Labor Market Report**

**February 2017**



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# Table of Contents



|  |    |
|--|----|
| Monthly Spotlight.....                     | 2  |
| Arkansas Labor Force Summary.....          | 3  |
| Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs.....         | 4  |
| Arkansas Production Workers.....           | 6  |
| Metropolitan Statistical Areas.....        | 7  |
| Micropolitan Statistical Areas/Cities..... | 14 |
| County Labor Force Statistics.....         | 15 |
| Local Workforce Development Areas.....     | 18 |

# 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 month's data is 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 2016 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.

### February 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.

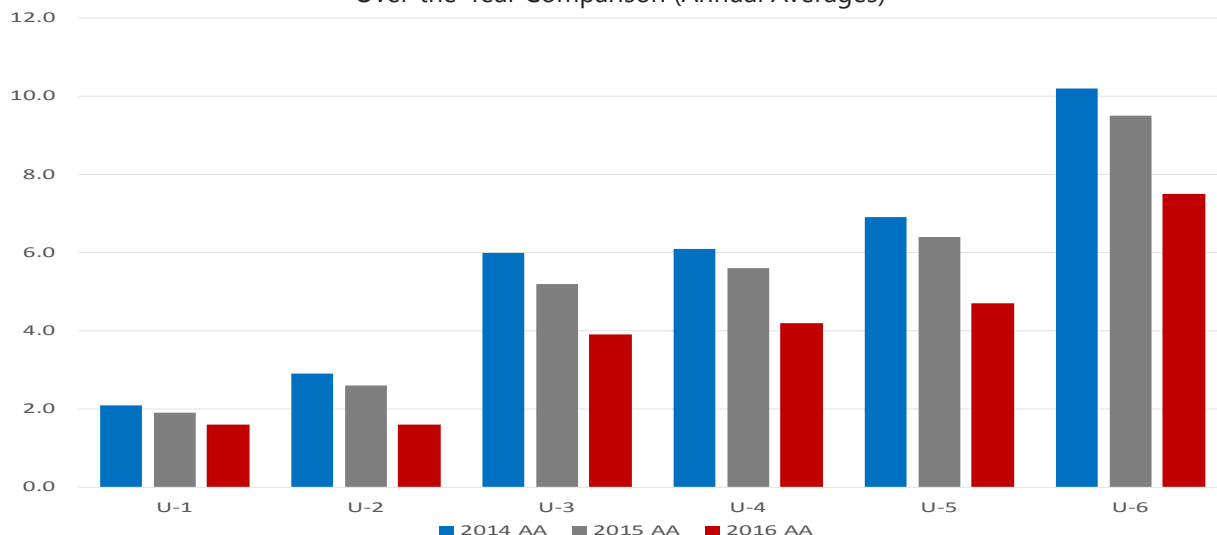
| Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization |      |      |      |      |      |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| State of Arkansas                              |      |      |      |      |      |
| 2016 Annual Average                            |      |      |      |      |      |
| U-1  | U-2  | U-3  | U-4  | U-5  | U-6  |
| 1.6%   | 1.6% | 3.9% | 4.2% | 4.7% | 7.5% |

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 for the 2016 Annual Average.

The following definitions are 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  
Over-the-Year Comparison (Annual Averages)



## Labor Market Report

### 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 declined one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.8 percent in January to 3.7 percent in February. Arkansas' civilian labor force rose 1,436, a result of 2,464 more employed and 1,028 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate decreased from 4.8 percent in January to 4.7 percent in February.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate declined one-tenth of a percentage point in February, breaking last month's record low of 3.8 percent. Dropping to 3.7 percent, this month's unemployment rate is a new record low for Arkansas."

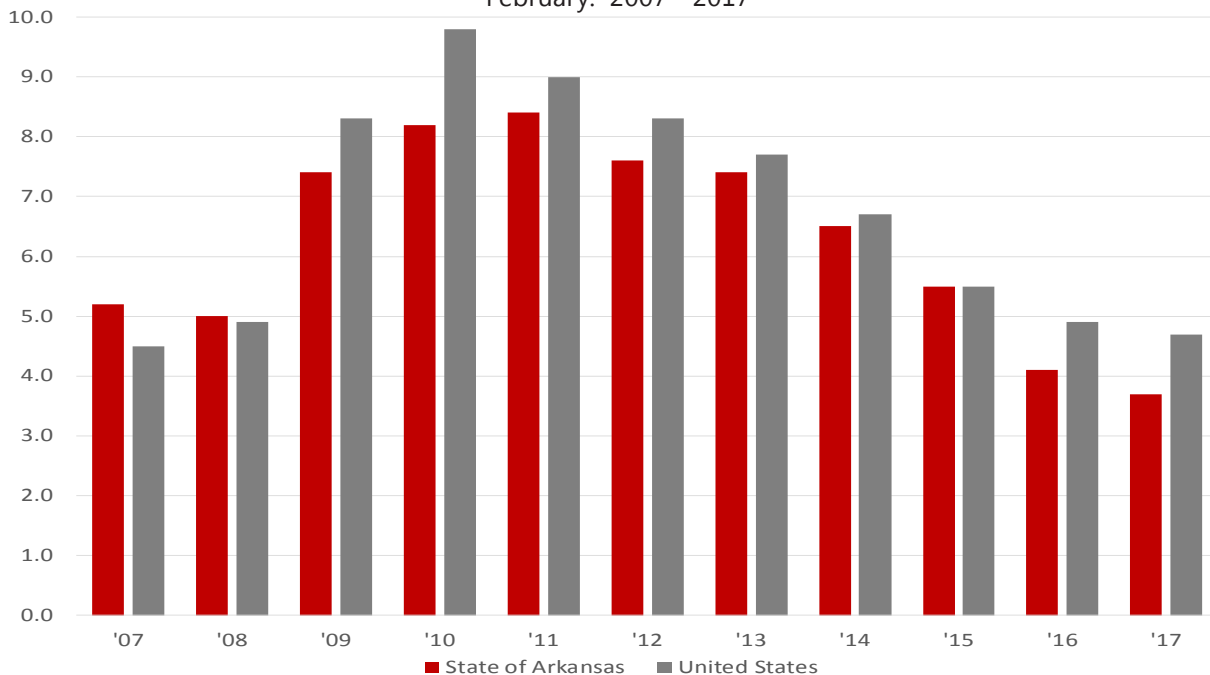
#### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|                      | Seasonally Adjusted |           |           |                      | Not Seasonally Adjusted |           |           |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                      | Feb 17              | Jan 17    | Feb 16    |                      | Feb 17                  | Jan 17    | Feb 16    |
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,337,882           | 1,336,446 | 1,345,280 | Civilian Labor Force | 1,336,527               | 1,316,106 | 1,337,682 |
| Employment           | 1,288,217           | 1,285,753 | 1,289,620 | Employment           | 1,279,561               | 1,261,416 | 1,276,416 |
| Unemployment         | 49,665              | 50,693    | 55,660    | Unemployment         | 56,966                  | 54,690    | 61,266    |
| Unemployment Rate    | 3.7                 | 3.8       | 4.1       | Unemployment Rate    | 4.3                     | 4.2       | 4.6       |
| U.S. Unemployment    | 4.7                 | 4.8       | 4.9       | U.S. Unemployment    | 4.9                     | 5.1       | 5.2       |

#### Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas vs. United States

February: 2007 - 2017



# State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

**Not Seasonally Adjusted**

(In Thousands)

| (NAICS)                                      | <u>Feb 17</u> | <u>Jan 17</u> | <u>Feb 16</u> | <u>OTM</u>  | <u>QTY</u>  |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Nonfarm                                | 1233.8        | 1218.2        | 1216.4        | 15.6        | 17.4        |
| Goods Producing                              | 211.7         | 210.3         | 209.7         | 1.4         | 2.0         |
| Mining, Logging, and Construction            | 55.3          | 54.0          | 55.4          | 1.3         | -0.1        |
| <b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>                  | <b>6.0</b>    | <b>5.9</b>    | <b>6.8</b>    | <b>0.1</b>  | <b>-0.8</b> |
| <b>Construction</b>                          | <b>49.3</b>   | <b>48.1</b>   | <b>48.6</b>   | <b>1.2</b>  | <b>0.7</b>  |
| Specialty Trade Contractors                  | 31.8          | 30.8          | 31.0          | 1.0         | 0.8         |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>                         | <b>156.4</b>  | <b>156.3</b>  | <b>154.3</b>  | <b>0.1</b>  | <b>2.1</b>  |
| Durable Goods                                | 73.5          | 73.7          | 74.9          | -0.2        | -1.4        |
| Nondurable Goods                             | 82.9          | 82.6          | 79.4          | 0.3         | 3.5         |
| Service Providing                            | 1022.1        | 1007.9        | 1006.7        | 14.2        | 15.4        |
| <b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b> | <b>249.9</b>  | <b>250.6</b>  | <b>249.0</b>  | <b>-0.7</b> | <b>0.9</b>  |
| Wholesale Trade                              | 45.5          | 45.3          | 46.1          | 0.2         | -0.6        |
| Retail Trade                                 | 139.6         | 140.7         | 139.6         | -1.1        | 0.0         |
| Transport, Warehousing & Utilities           | 64.8          | 64.6          | 63.3          | 0.2         | 1.5         |
| <b>Information</b>                           | <b>13.1</b>   | <b>13.1</b>   | <b>13.6</b>   | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>-0.5</b> |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>                  | <b>50.7</b>   | <b>51.2</b>   | <b>50.8</b>   | <b>-0.5</b> | <b>-0.1</b> |
| Finance & Insurance                          | 37.8          | 38.3          | 37.8          | -0.5        | 0.0         |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing               | 12.9          | 12.9          | 13.0          | 0.0         | -0.1        |
| <b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>  | <b>146.3</b>  | <b>140.0</b>  | <b>141.2</b>  | <b>6.3</b>  | <b>5.1</b>  |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical         | 44.6          | 44.3          | 43.1          | 0.3         | 1.5         |
| Management of Companies                      | 34.6          | 34.4          | 34.3          | 0.2         | 0.3         |
| Administrative & Support Services            | 67.1          | 61.3          | 63.8          | 5.8         | 3.3         |
| <b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>     | <b>187.1</b>  | <b>184.5</b>  | <b>178.7</b>  | <b>2.6</b>  | <b>8.4</b>  |
| Educational Services                         | 17.0          | 16.0          | 15.2          | 1.0         | 1.8         |
| Health Care & Social Assistance              | 170.1         | 168.5         | 163.5         | 1.6         | 6.6         |
| Ambulatory Health Care                       | 56.3          | 55.5          | 52.6          | 0.8         | 3.7         |
| Social Assistance                            | 39.5          | 39.7          | 39.3          | -0.2        | 0.2         |
| <b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>             | <b>112.5</b>  | <b>110.5</b>  | <b>110.8</b>  | <b>2.0</b>  | <b>1.7</b>  |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation             | 9.7           | 9.2           | 9.7           | 0.5         | 0.0         |
| Accommodation & Food Services                | 102.8         | 101.3         | 101.1         | 1.5         | 1.7         |
| Accommodation Services                       | 10.4          | 10.0          | 10.5          | 0.4         | -0.1        |
| Food Services                                | 92.4          | 91.3          | 90.6          | 1.1         | 1.8         |
| <b>Other Services</b>                        | <b>48.0</b>   | <b>48.5</b>   | <b>46.5</b>   | <b>-0.5</b> | <b>1.5</b>  |
| Government                                   | 214.5         | 209.5         | 216.1         | 5.0         | -1.6        |
| Federal Government                           | 20.3          | 20.4          | 20.3          | -0.1        | 0.0         |
| State Government                             | 79.5          | 74.9          | 80.1          | 4.6         | -0.6        |
| Local Government                             | 114.7         | 114.2         | 115.7         | 0.5         | -1.0        |

### State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

#### January 2017 - February 2017

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment rose 15,600 in February to total 1,233,800. Seven major industry sectors posted gains, while three sectors declined. **Professional and business services** added 6,300 jobs. A majority of the increase was in administrative and support services (+5,800). Jobs in **government** rose 5,000. Gains in state (+4,600) and local (+500) government were attributed to the re-opening of public schools after the winter break. **Educational and health services** added 2,600 jobs, mostly in health care and social assistance (+1,600). **Leisure and hospitality** increased 2,000, due in part to expansions in food services (+1,100). Employment in **construction** rose 1,200, with reported hiring in specialty trade contractors (+1,000).

#### February 2016 - February 2017

Compared to February 2016, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 17,400. Growth was posted in seven major industry sectors, with minor declines in four sectors. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 8,400. Sizable gains were reported in health care and social assistance (+6,600). **Professional and business services** added 5,100 jobs, spread throughout all three subsectors. The largest growth was in administrative and support services (+3,300). **Manufacturing** increased 2,100, with hiring in nondurable goods (+3,500) more than offsetting the losses in durable goods (-1,400). Employment in **leisure and hospitality** rose 1,700, all in accommodation and food services. **Government** posted the largest decrease (-1,600), with losses in both local (-1,000) and state (-600) government.

**Jobs in Health Care and Social Assistance (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

February 2014 - February 2017



## Labor Market Report

# State of Arkansas

## Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

### Manufacturing

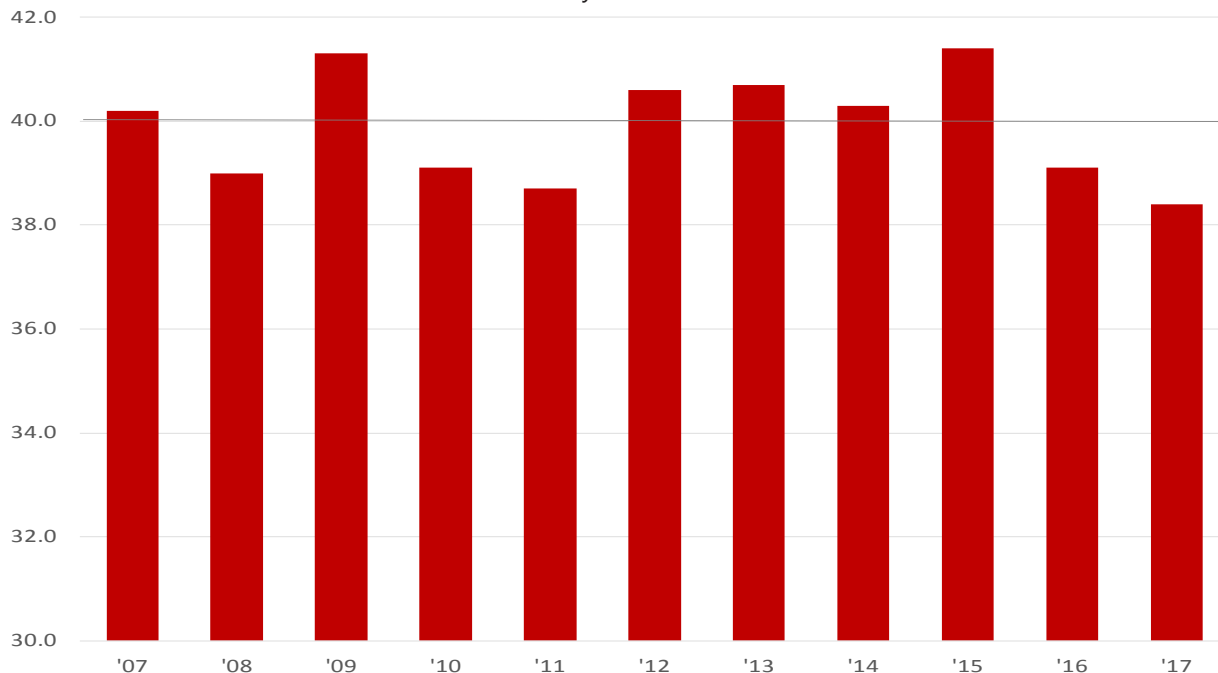
|                         | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Average Weekly Hours    | 38.4          | 38.9          | 39.1          |
| Average Hourly Earnings | 15.93         | 15.81         | 16.05         |
| Average Weekly Earnings | 611.71        | 615.01        | 627.56        |

### Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

| Durable Goods Manufacturing |               |               |               | Nondurable Goods Manufacturing |               |               |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                             | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> |                                | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> |
| Average Weekly Hours        | 40.3          | 40.5          | 40.6          | Average Weekly Hours           | 36.8          | 37.5          | 37.7          |
| Average Hourly Earnings     | 17.28         | 17.33         | 17.67         | Average Hourly Earnings        | 14.66         | 14.37         | 14.40         |
| Average Weekly Earnings     | 696.38        | 701.87        | 717.40        | Average Weekly Earnings        | 539.49        | 538.88        | 542.88        |

### Average Weekly Hours Worked (Manufacturing)

February: 2007 - 2017



## 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)

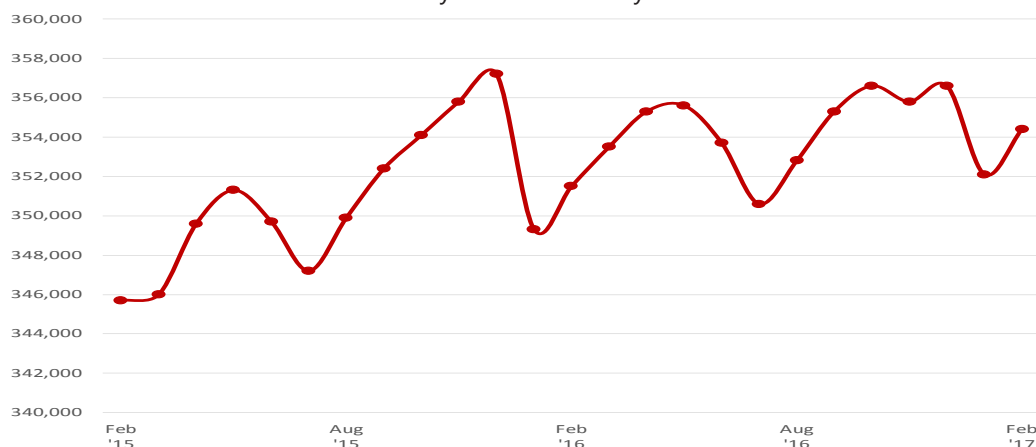
|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 348,275       | 343,533       | 349,151       | 4,742      | -876       |
| Employment           | 334,906       | 331,017       | 335,075       | 3,889      | -169       |
| Unemployment         | 13,369        | 12,516        | 14,076        | 853        | -707       |
| Unemployment Rate    | 3.8           | 3.6           | 4.0           | 0.2        | -0.2       |

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <b>NAICS</b>                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 354.4         | 352.1         | 351.5         | 2.3        | 2.9        |
| Goods Producing                   | 36.5          | 36.2          | 37.1          | 0.3        | -0.6       |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 16.5          | 16.2          | 16.9          | 0.3        | -0.4       |
| Manufacturing                     | 20.0          | 20.0          | 20.2          | 0.0        | -0.2       |
| Service Providing                 | 317.9         | 315.9         | 314.4         | 2.0        | 3.5        |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 70.5          | 71.3          | 69.4          | -0.8       | 1.1        |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 14.9          | 14.8          | 15.1          | 0.1        | -0.2       |
| Retail Trade                      | 39.7          | 40.5          | 38.8          | -0.8       | 0.9        |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 15.9          | 16.0          | 15.5          | -0.1       | 0.4        |
| Information                       | 6.1           | 6.1           | 6.4           | 0.0        | -0.3       |
| Financial Activities              | 20.4          | 20.4          | 20.3          | 0.0        | 0.1        |
| Professional & Business Services  | 47.6          | 46.6          | 47.2          | 1.0        | 0.4        |
| Educational & Health Services     | 55.8          | 55.6          | 53.1          | 0.2        | 2.7        |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 32.5          | 31.6          | 32.4          | 0.9        | 0.1        |
| Other Services                    | 14.6          | 14.5          | 14.3          | 0.1        | 0.3        |
| Government                        | 70.4          | 69.8          | 71.3          | 0.6        | -0.9       |
| Federal Government                | 9.7           | 9.7           | 9.6           | 0.0        | 0.1        |
| State Government                  | 35.2          | 34.7          | 35.0          | 0.5        | 0.2        |
| Local Government                  | 25.5          | 25.4          | 26.7          | 0.1        | -1.2       |

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**  
February 2015 - February 2017





## 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)

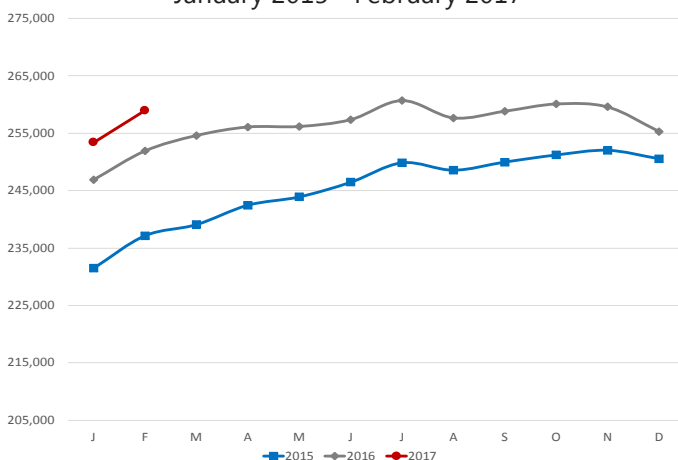
|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 267,161       | 260,799       | 260,461       | 6,362      | 6,700      |
| Employment           | 258,959       | 253,354       | 251,908       | 5,605      | 7,051      |
| Unemployment         | 8,202         | 7,445         | 8,553         | 757        | -351       |
| Unemployment Rate    | 3.1           | 2.9           | 3.3           | 0.2        | -0.2       |

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

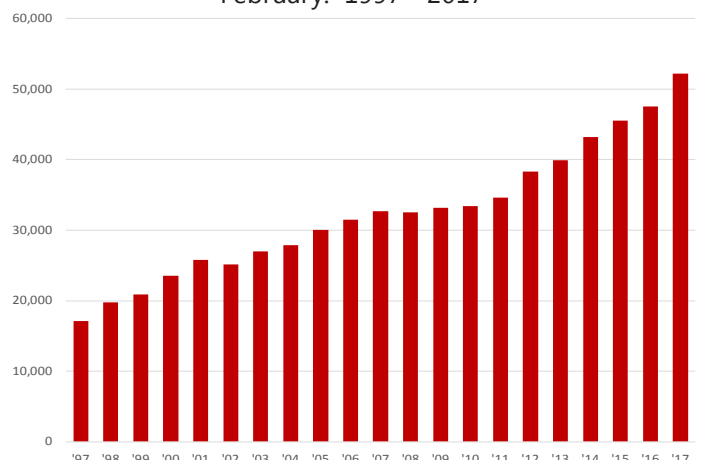
(In Thousands)

| <b>NAICS</b>                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 250.9         | 247.0         | 241.5         | 3.9        | 9.4        |
| Goods Producing                   | 37.9          | 37.7          | 37.2          | 0.2        | 0.7        |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 10.4          | 10.3          | 10.0          | 0.1        | 0.4        |
| Manufacturing                     | 27.5          | 27.4          | 27.2          | 0.1        | 0.3        |
| Service Providing                 | 213.0         | 209.3         | 204.3         | 3.7        | 8.7        |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 55.5          | 55.9          | 54.6          | -0.4       | 0.9        |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 12.5          | 12.5          | 12.1          | 0.0        | 0.4        |
| Retail Trade                      | 25.6          | 26.0          | 26.0          | -0.4       | -0.4       |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 17.4          | 17.4          | 16.5          | 0.0        | 0.9        |
| Information                       | 1.9           | 1.9           | 1.9           | 0.0        | 0.0        |
| Financial Activities              | 7.8           | 7.7           | 7.5           | 0.1        | 0.3        |
| Professional & Business Services  | 52.2          | 50.6          | 47.5          | 1.6        | 4.7        |
| Educational & Health Services     | 27.9          | 27.7          | 26.9          | 0.2        | 1.0        |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 24.5          | 24.1          | 23.8          | 0.4        | 0.7        |
| Other Services                    | 7.6           | 7.6           | 7.4           | 0.0        | 0.2        |
| Government                        | 35.6          | 33.8          | 34.7          | 1.8        | 0.9        |
| Federal Government                | 2.5           | 2.5           | 2.6           | 0.0        | -0.1       |
| State Government                  | 14.2          | 12.5          | 13.4          | 1.7        | 0.8        |
| Local Government                  | 18.9          | 18.8          | 18.7          | 0.1        | 0.2        |

**Number of Employed**  
January 2015 - February 2017



**Jobs in Professional and Business Services**  
February: 1997 - 2017



# 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)

|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 120,126       | 119,017       | 121,370       | 1,109      | -1,244     |
| Employment           | 114,451       | 113,638       | 115,116       | 813        | -665       |
| Unemployment         | 5,675         | 5,379         | 6,254         | 296        | -579       |
| Unemployment Rate    | 4.7           | 4.5           | 5.2           | 0.2        | -0.5       |

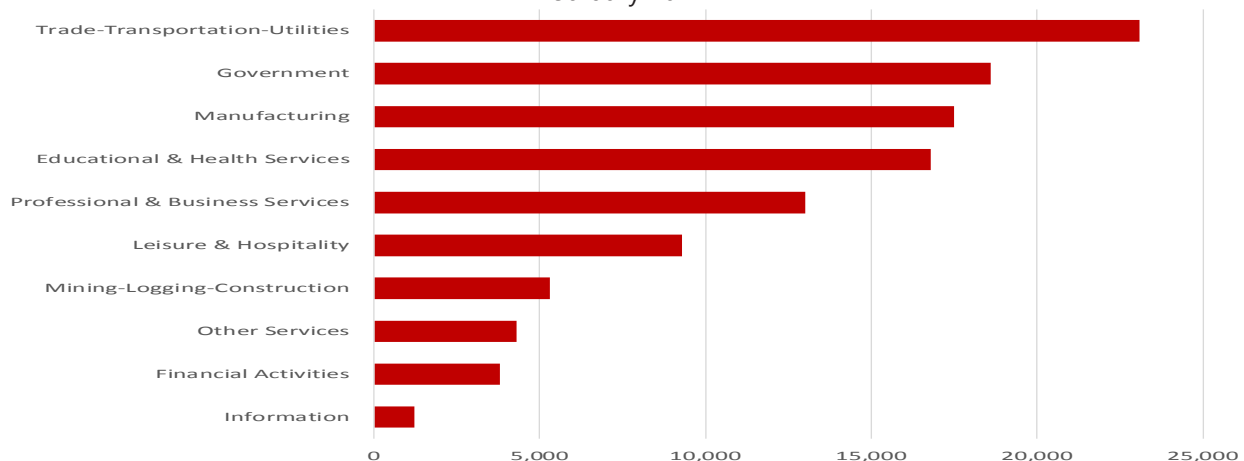
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <b>NAICS</b>                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm                     | 112.9         | 112.9         | 113.3         | 0.0        | -0.4       |
| Goods Producing                   | 22.8          | 23.1          | 23.7          | -0.3       | -0.9       |
| Mining, Logging & Construction    | 5.3           | 5.3           | 5.6           | 0.0        | -0.3       |
| Manufacturing                     | 17.5          | 17.8          | 18.1          | -0.3       | -0.6       |
| Service Providing                 | 90.1          | 89.8          | 89.6          | 0.3        | 0.5        |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 23.1          | 23.5          | 23.4          | -0.4       | -0.3       |
| Wholesale Trade                   | 3.9           | 3.9           | 3.9           | 0.0        | 0.0        |
| Retail Trade                      | 12.7          | 13.0          | 12.8          | -0.3       | -0.1       |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities   | 6.5           | 6.6           | 6.7           | -0.1       | -0.2       |
| Information                       | 1.2           | 1.3           | 1.2           | -0.1       | 0.0        |
| Financial Activities              | 3.8           | 3.9           | 3.7           | -0.1       | 0.1        |
| Professional & Business Services  | 13.0          | 12.5          | 12.7          | 0.5        | 0.3        |
| Educational & Health Services     | 16.8          | 16.8          | 16.5          | 0.0        | 0.3        |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 9.3           | 9.3           | 9.3           | 0.0        | 0.0        |
| Other Services                    | 4.3           | 4.3           | 4.3           | 0.0        | 0.0        |
| Government                        | 18.6          | 18.2          | 18.5          | 0.4        | 0.1        |
| Federal Government                | 1.3           | 1.3           | 1.3           | 0.0        | 0.0        |
| State Government                  | 3.1           | 2.8           | 3.1           | 0.3        | 0.0        |
| Local Government                  | 14.2          | 14.1          | 14.1          | 0.1        | 0.1        |

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs by Sector (Ranked)

February 2017



## Labor Market Report

# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA= Garland County.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 40,279        | 39,701        | 39,821        | 578        | 458        |
| Employment           | 38,434        | 37,904        | 37,899        | 530        | 535        |
| Unemployment         | 1,845         | 1,797         | 1,922         | 48         | -77        |
| Unemployment Rate    | 4.6           | 4.5           | 4.8           | 0.1        | -0.2       |

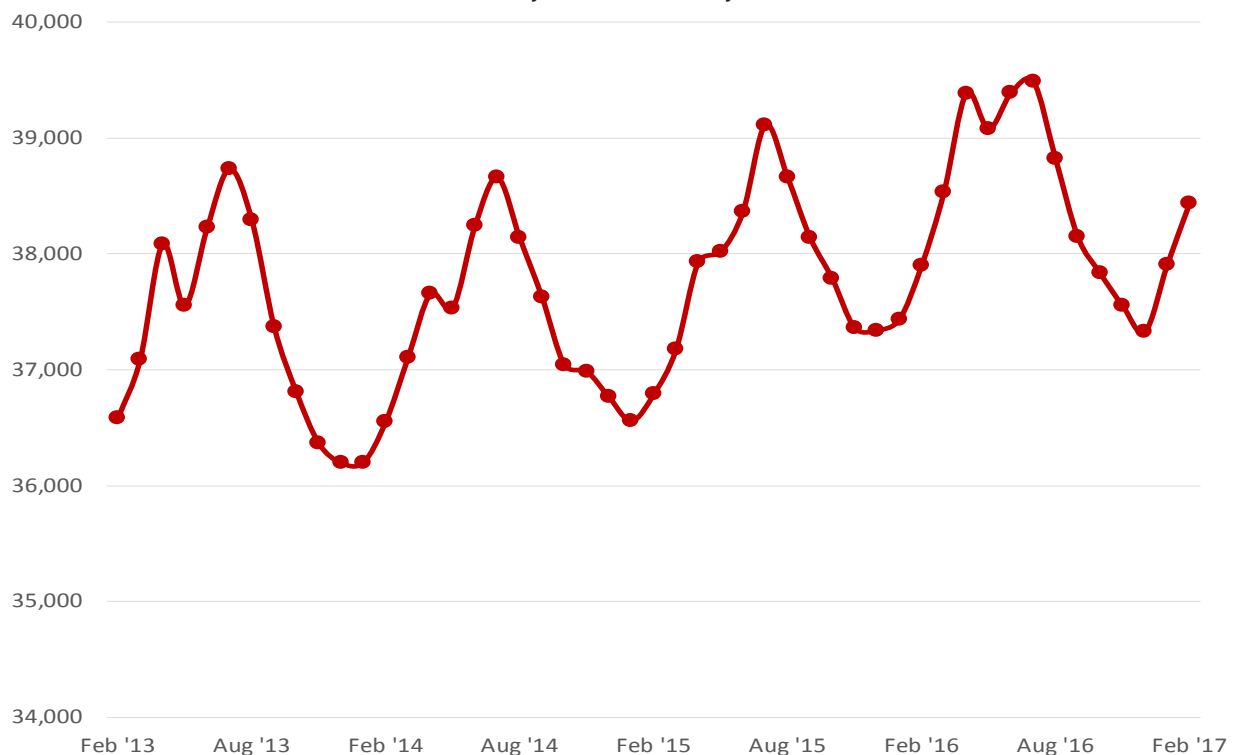
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <b>NAICS</b>      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 38.1          | 37.9          | 37.2          | 0.2        | 0.9        |
| Goods Producing   | 4.4           | 4.4           | 4.3           | 0.0        | 0.1        |
| Service Providing | 33.7          | 33.5          | 32.9          | 0.2        | 0.8        |
| Government        | 4.5           | 4.4           | 4.6           | 0.1        | -0.1       |

### Number of Employed

February 2013 - February 2017



## Labor Market Report

# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA= Craighead & Poinsett counties.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 62,390        | 61,273        | 61,631        | 1,117      | 759        |
| Employment           | 60,107        | 59,056        | 59,148        | 1,051      | 959        |
| Unemployment         | 2,283         | 2,217         | 2,483         | 66         | -200       |
| Unemployment Rate    | 3.7           | 3.6           | 4.0           | 0.1        | -0.3       |

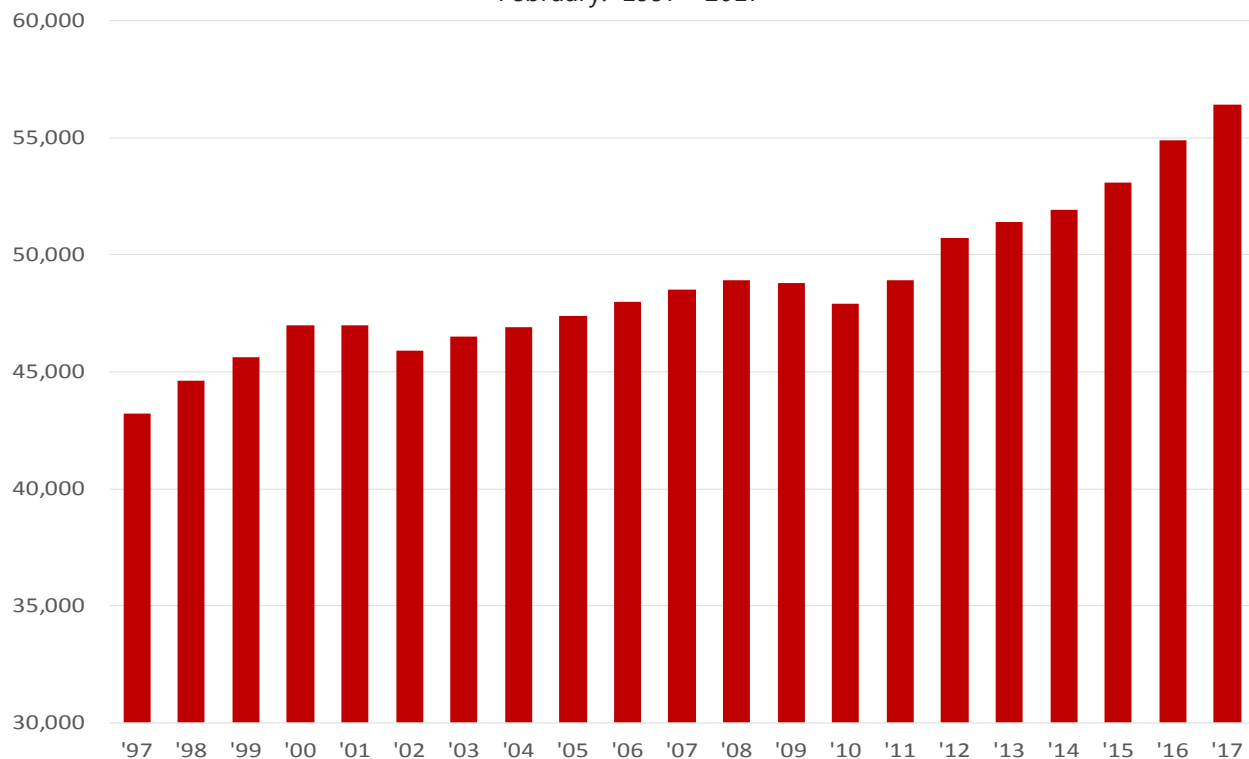
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <b>NAICS</b>      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 56.4          | 55.8          | 54.9          | 0.6        | 1.5        |
| Goods Producing   | 9.4           | 9.1           | 8.9           | 0.3        | 0.5        |
| Service Providing | 47.0          | 46.7          | 46.0          | 0.3        | 1.0        |
| Government        | 9.1           | 9.0           | 8.9           | 0.1        | 0.2        |

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February: 1997 - 2017



## Labor Market Report

# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Pine Bluff MSA

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 35,692        | 34,955        | 36,157        | 737        | -465       |
| Employment           | 33,641        | 32,999        | 33,942        | 642        | -301       |
| Unemployment         | 2,051         | 1,956         | 2,215         | 95         | -164       |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.7           | 5.6           | 6.1           | 0.1        | -0.4       |

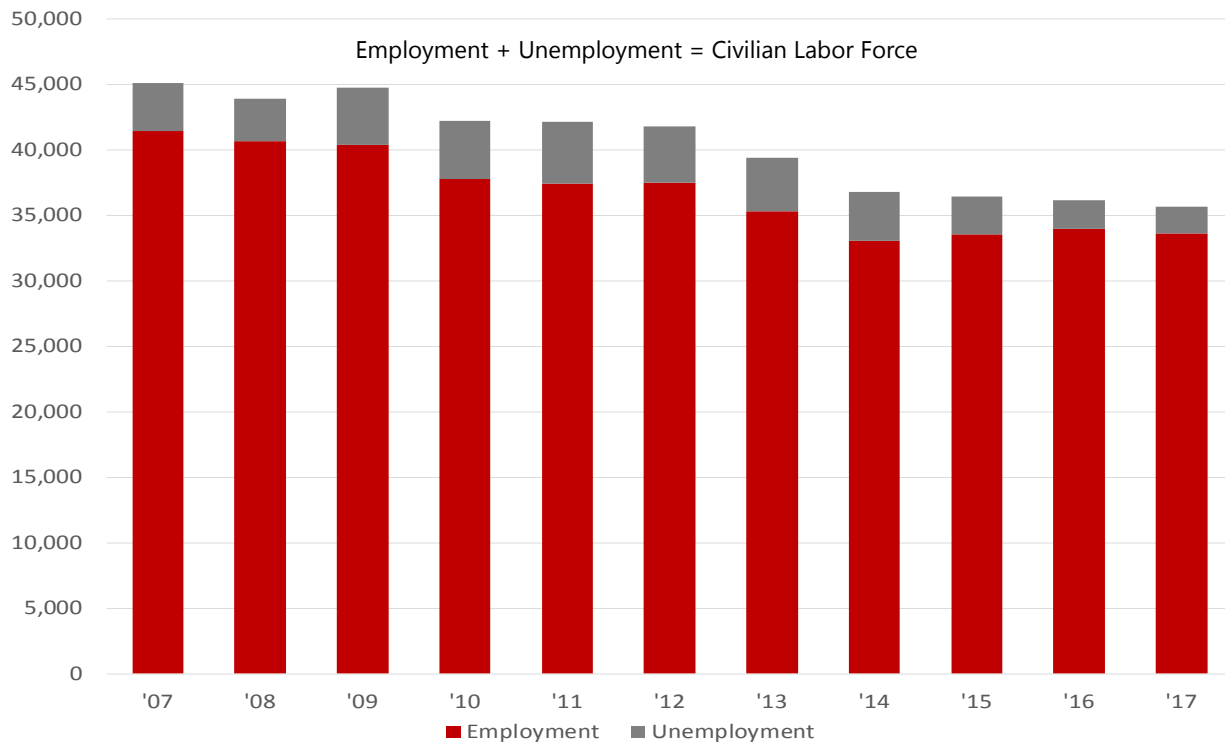
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

| <b>NAICS</b>      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Nonfarm     | 33.3          | 32.8          | 33.4          | 0.5        | -0.1       |
| Goods Producing   | 6.0           | 6.0           | 6.1           | 0.0        | -0.1       |
| Service Providing | 27.3          | 26.8          | 27.3          | 0.5        | 0.0        |
| Government        | 9.6           | 9.3           | 9.8           | 0.3        | -0.2       |

### Employment and Unemployment

February: 2007 - 2017



## 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.

|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 626,450       | 626,795       | 617,350       | -345       | 9,100      |
| Employment           | 594,197       | 589,041       | 586,455       | 5,156      | 7,742      |
| Unemployment         | 32,253        | 37,754        | 30,895        | -5,501     | 1,358      |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.1           | 6.0           | 5.0           | -0.9       | 0.1        |

#### Texarkana MSA

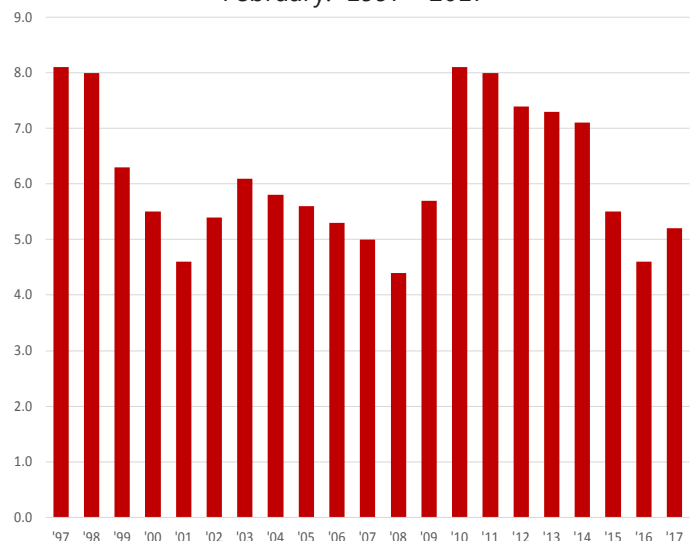
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

|                      | <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>Jan 17</b> | <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>OTM</b> | <b>QTY</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 64,860        | 64,131        | 65,354        | 729        | -494       |
| Employment           | 61,514        | 60,868        | 62,355        | 646        | -841       |
| Unemployment         | 3,346         | 3,263         | 2,999         | 83         | 347        |
| Unemployment Rate    | 5.2           | 5.1           | 4.6           | 0.1        | 0.6        |

**Memphis MSA- Number of Employed**  
February 2015 - February 2017



**Texarkana MSA- Unemployment Rates**  
February: 1997 - 2017



## Labor Market Report

# Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities

## Civilian Labor Force Estimates

### Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| Micro Area               | February 2017 |        |       |      | January 2017 |        |       |      | February 2016 |        |       |      |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|------|--------------|--------|-------|------|---------------|--------|-------|------|
|                          | CLF           | Emp    | Unemp | Rate | CLF          | Emp    | Unemp | Rate | CLF           | Emp    | Unemp | Rate |
| Arkadelphia Micro        | 9,564         | 9,141  | 423   | 4.4  | 9,355        | 8,929  | 426   | 4.6  | 9,455         | 9,019  | 436   | 4.6  |
| Batesville Micro         | 15,985        | 15,170 | 815   | 5.1  | 15,825       | 14,990 | 835   | 5.3  | 16,118        | 15,190 | 928   | 5.8  |
| Blytheville Micro        | 17,976        | 16,724 | 1,252 | 7.0  | 17,881       | 16,684 | 1,197 | 6.7  | 17,908        | 16,599 | 1,309 | 7.3  |
| Camden Micro             | 12,076        | 11,471 | 605   | 5.0  | 11,975       | 11,391 | 584   | 4.9  | 12,273        | 11,602 | 671   | 5.5  |
| El Dorado Micro          | 16,167        | 15,221 | 946   | 5.9  | 15,992       | 15,087 | 905   | 5.7  | 16,767        | 15,790 | 977   | 5.8  |
| Forrest City Micro       | 8,729         | 8,225  | 504   | 5.8  | 8,640        | 8,146  | 494   | 5.7  | 8,905         | 8,322  | 583   | 6.5  |
| Harrison Micro           | 19,381        | 18,581 | 800   | 4.1  | 19,113       | 18,352 | 761   | 4.0  | 19,420        | 18,549 | 871   | 4.5  |
| Helena-West Helena Micro | 6,536         | 6,102  | 434   | 6.6  | 6,473        | 6,042  | 431   | 6.7  | 6,832         | 6,344  | 488   | 7.1  |
| Hope Micro               | 13,534        | 13,012 | 522   | 3.9  | 13,377       | 12,861 | 516   | 3.9  | 13,628        | 13,034 | 594   | 4.4  |
| Magnolia Micro           | 9,160         | 8,619  | 541   | 5.9  | 9,005        | 8,479  | 526   | 5.8  | 9,531         | 8,943  | 588   | 6.2  |
| Malvern Micro            | 14,122        | 13,544 | 578   | 4.1  | 13,949       | 13,392 | 557   | 4.0  | 14,111        | 13,460 | 651   | 4.6  |
| Mountain Home Micro      | 15,838        | 15,054 | 784   | 5.0  | 15,710       | 14,907 | 803   | 5.1  | 16,008        | 15,199 | 809   | 5.1  |
| Paragould Micro          | 19,749        | 18,905 | 844   | 4.3  | 19,448       | 18,617 | 831   | 4.3  | 19,932        | 18,967 | 965   | 4.8  |
| Russellville Micro       | 37,729        | 35,921 | 1,808 | 4.8  | 37,227       | 35,380 | 1,847 | 5.0  | 38,118        | 36,233 | 1,885 | 4.9  |
| Searcy Micro             | 33,839        | 32,041 | 1,798 | 5.3  | 33,459       | 31,694 | 1,765 | 5.3  | 34,501        | 32,344 | 2,157 | 6.3  |

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  
 Hope Micro= Hempstead & Nevada counties  
 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              | February 2017 |        |       |      | January 2017 |        |       |      | February 2016 |        |       |      |
|-------------------|---------------|--------|-------|------|--------------|--------|-------|------|---------------|--------|-------|------|
|                   | CLF           | Emp    | Unemp | Rate | CLF          | Emp    | Unemp | Rate | CLF           | Emp    | Unemp | Rate |
| Bella Vista       | 12,188        | 11,694 | 494   | 4.1  | 11,887       | 11,437 | 450   | 3.8  | 11,879        | 11,367 | 512   | 4.3  |
| Benton            | 16,244        | 15,661 | 583   | 3.6  | 16,041       | 15,480 | 561   | 3.5  | 16,218        | 15,660 | 558   | 3.4  |
| Bentonville       | 23,942        | 23,241 | 701   | 2.9  | 23,343       | 22,731 | 612   | 2.6  | 23,353        | 22,592 | 761   | 3.3  |
| Blytheville       | 6,158         | 5,702  | 456   | 7.4  | 6,098        | 5,688  | 410   | 6.7  | 6,139         | 5,659  | 480   | 7.8  |
| Cabot             | 11,598        | 11,185 | 413   | 3.6  | 11,440       | 11,048 | 392   | 3.4  | 11,642        | 11,219 | 423   | 3.6  |
| Conway            | 32,845        | 31,616 | 1,229 | 3.7  | 32,387       | 31,240 | 1,147 | 3.5  | 32,962        | 31,631 | 1,331 | 4.0  |
| El Dorado         | 7,065         | 6,589  | 476   | 6.7  | 6,989        | 6,531  | 458   | 6.6  | 7,317         | 6,835  | 482   | 6.6  |
| Fayetteville      | 46,711        | 45,324 | 1,387 | 3.0  | 45,557       | 44,321 | 1,236 | 2.7  | 45,418        | 44,049 | 1,369 | 3.0  |
| Fort Smith        | 39,762        | 38,175 | 1,587 | 4.0  | 39,304       | 37,833 | 1,471 | 3.7  | 40,329        | 38,597 | 1,732 | 4.3  |
| Hot Springs       | 14,048        | 13,365 | 683   | 4.9  | 13,855       | 13,181 | 674   | 4.9  | 13,886        | 13,179 | 707   | 5.1  |
| Jacksonville      | 11,694        | 11,109 | 585   | 5.0  | 11,542       | 10,982 | 560   | 4.9  | 11,684        | 11,109 | 575   | 4.9  |
| Jonesboro         | 36,665        | 35,422 | 1,243 | 3.4  | 36,002       | 34,811 | 1,191 | 3.3  | 36,201        | 34,818 | 1,383 | 3.8  |
| Little Rock       | 96,032        | 92,376 | 3,656 | 3.8  | 94,742       | 91,323 | 3,419 | 3.6  | 96,134        | 92,379 | 3,755 | 3.9  |
| North Little Rock | 29,666        | 28,486 | 1,180 | 4.0  | 29,262       | 28,161 | 1,101 | 3.8  | 29,775        | 28,487 | 1,288 | 4.3  |
| Paragould         | 12,416        | 11,821 | 595   | 4.8  | 12,222       | 11,641 | 581   | 4.8  | 12,527        | 11,860 | 667   | 5.3  |
| Pine Bluff        | 16,941        | 15,890 | 1,051 | 6.2  | 16,598       | 15,595 | 1,003 | 6.0  | 17,187        | 16,016 | 1,171 | 6.8  |
| Rogers            | 34,047        | 33,017 | 1,030 | 3.0  | 33,251       | 32,293 | 958   | 2.9  | 33,157        | 32,095 | 1,062 | 3.2  |
| Russellville      | 13,476        | 12,905 | 571   | 4.2  | 13,280       | 12,716 | 564   | 4.2  | 13,610        | 13,000 | 610   | 4.5  |
| Searcy            | 10,366        | 9,890  | 476   | 4.6  | 10,216       | 9,783  | 433   | 4.2  | 10,517        | 9,983  | 534   | 5.1  |
| Sherwood          | 15,502        | 14,937 | 565   | 3.6  | 15,316       | 14,767 | 549   | 3.6  | 15,504        | 14,938 | 566   | 3.7  |
| Springdale        | 38,646        | 37,574 | 1,072 | 2.8  | 37,708       | 36,744 | 964   | 2.6  | 37,681        | 36,519 | 1,162 | 3.1  |
| Texarkana, AR     | 13,733        | 13,072 | 661   | 4.8  | 13,535       | 12,887 | 648   | 4.8  | 13,921        | 13,266 | 655   | 4.7  |
| Van Buren         | 10,254        | 9,863  | 391   | 3.8  | 10,132       | 9,771  | 361   | 3.6  | 10,458        | 9,984  | 474   | 4.5  |
| West Memphis      | 10,600        | 9,991  | 609   | 5.7  | 10,429       | 9,875  | 554   | 5.3  | 10,574        | 9,987  | 587   | 5.6  |

## Labor Market Report

# County Labor Force Statistics

## Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

| County       | February 2017 |         |       |      | January 2017 |         |       |      | February 2016 |         |       |      |
|--------------|---------------|---------|-------|------|--------------|---------|-------|------|---------------|---------|-------|------|
|              | CLF           | Emp     | Unemp | Rate | CLF          | Emp     | Unemp | Rate | CLF           | Emp     | Unemp | Rate |
| Arkansas     | 9,075         | 8,728   | 347   | 3.8  | 9,017        | 8,665   | 352   | 3.9  | 9,262         | 8,891   | 371   | 4.0  |
| Ashley       | 7,846         | 7,316   | 530   | 6.8  | 7,802        | 7,274   | 528   | 6.8  | 7,890         | 7,347   | 543   | 6.9  |
| Baxter       | 15,838        | 15,054  | 784   | 5.0  | 15,710       | 14,907  | 803   | 5.1  | 16,008        | 15,199  | 809   | 5.1  |
| Benton       | 128,026       | 123,955 | 4,071 | 3.2  | 124,938      | 121,236 | 3,702 | 3.0  | 124,689       | 120,493 | 4,196 | 3.4  |
| Boone        | 15,963        | 15,318  | 645   | 4.0  | 15,746       | 15,136  | 610   | 3.9  | 15,997        | 15,284  | 713   | 4.5  |
| Bradley      | 4,525         | 4,263   | 262   | 5.8  | 4,481        | 4,233   | 248   | 5.5  | 4,314         | 4,093   | 221   | 5.1  |
| Calhoun      | 2,354         | 2,249   | 105   | 4.5  | 2,333        | 2,227   | 106   | 4.5  | 2,410         | 2,284   | 126   | 5.2  |
| Carroll      | 12,731        | 12,156  | 575   | 4.5  | 12,557       | 11,907  | 650   | 5.2  | 12,575        | 11,945  | 630   | 5.0  |
| Chicot       | 3,496         | 3,210   | 286   | 8.2  | 3,469        | 3,181   | 288   | 8.3  | 3,592         | 3,309   | 283   | 7.9  |
| Clark        | 9,564         | 9,141   | 423   | 4.4  | 9,355        | 8,929   | 426   | 4.6  | 9,455         | 9,019   | 436   | 4.6  |
| Clay         | 5,865         | 5,514   | 351   | 6.0  | 5,821        | 5,461   | 360   | 6.2  | 6,097         | 5,669   | 428   | 7.0  |
| Cleburne     | 9,311         | 8,742   | 569   | 6.1  | 9,212        | 8,620   | 592   | 6.4  | 9,536         | 8,829   | 707   | 7.4  |
| Cleveland    | 3,304         | 3,136   | 168   | 5.1  | 3,226        | 3,071   | 155   | 4.8  | 3,348         | 3,175   | 173   | 5.2  |
| Columbia     | 9,160         | 8,619   | 541   | 5.9  | 9,005        | 8,479   | 526   | 5.8  | 9,531         | 8,943   | 588   | 6.2  |
| Conway       | 8,324         | 7,817   | 507   | 6.1  | 8,221        | 7,743   | 478   | 5.8  | 8,573         | 8,015   | 558   | 6.5  |
| Craighead    | 52,180        | 50,387  | 1,793 | 3.4  | 51,256       | 49,517  | 1,739 | 3.4  | 51,500        | 49,528  | 1,972 | 3.8  |
| Crawford     | 26,418        | 25,339  | 1,079 | 4.1  | 26,108       | 25,105  | 1,003 | 3.8  | 26,890        | 25,652  | 1,238 | 4.6  |
| Crittenden   | 21,391        | 20,300  | 1,091 | 5.1  | 21,062       | 20,065  | 997   | 4.7  | 21,393        | 20,292  | 1,101 | 5.1  |
| Cross        | 7,841         | 7,449   | 392   | 5.0  | 7,717        | 7,340   | 377   | 4.9  | 7,927         | 7,495   | 432   | 5.4  |
| Dallas       | 2,927         | 2,780   | 147   | 5.0  | 2,904        | 2,762   | 142   | 4.9  | 2,896         | 2,730   | 166   | 5.7  |
| Desha        | 5,320         | 4,988   | 332   | 6.2  | 5,252        | 4,944   | 308   | 5.9  | 5,516         | 5,141   | 375   | 6.8  |
| Drew         | 7,985         | 7,523   | 462   | 5.8  | 7,892        | 7,415   | 477   | 6.0  | 7,993         | 7,462   | 531   | 6.6  |
| Faulkner     | 59,986        | 57,639  | 2,347 | 3.9  | 59,137       | 56,953  | 2,184 | 3.7  | 60,394        | 57,667  | 2,727 | 4.5  |
| Franklin     | 7,199         | 6,904   | 295   | 4.1  | 7,123        | 6,839   | 284   | 4.0  | 7,410         | 7,049   | 361   | 4.9  |
| Fulton       | 4,669         | 4,422   | 247   | 5.3  | 4,604        | 4,365   | 239   | 5.2  | 4,687         | 4,438   | 249   | 5.3  |
| Garland      | 40,279        | 38,434  | 1,845 | 4.6  | 39,701       | 37,904  | 1,797 | 4.5  | 39,821        | 37,899  | 1,922 | 4.8  |
| Grant        | 8,246         | 7,921   | 325   | 3.9  | 8,130        | 7,831   | 299   | 3.7  | 8,313         | 7,951   | 362   | 4.4  |
| Greene       | 19,749        | 18,905  | 844   | 4.3  | 19,448       | 18,617  | 831   | 4.3  | 19,932        | 18,967  | 965   | 4.8  |
| Hempstead    | 9,882         | 9,494   | 388   | 3.9  | 9,772        | 9,382   | 390   | 4.0  | 9,961         | 9,519   | 442   | 4.4  |
| Hot Spring   | 14,122        | 13,544  | 578   | 4.1  | 13,949       | 13,392  | 557   | 4.0  | 14,111        | 13,460  | 651   | 4.6  |
| Howard       | 5,923         | 5,703   | 220   | 3.7  | 5,827        | 5,626   | 201   | 3.4  | 6,012         | 5,782   | 230   | 3.8  |
| Independence | 15,985        | 15,170  | 815   | 5.1  | 15,825       | 14,990  | 835   | 5.3  | 16,118        | 15,190  | 928   | 5.8  |
| Izard        | 4,992         | 4,712   | 280   | 5.6  | 4,901        | 4,595   | 306   | 6.2  | 5,022         | 4,679   | 343   | 6.8  |
| Jackson      | 6,013         | 5,577   | 436   | 7.3  | 5,967        | 5,536   | 431   | 7.2  | 6,124         | 5,681   | 443   | 7.2  |
| Jefferson    | 28,343        | 26,678  | 1,665 | 5.9  | 27,784       | 26,183  | 1,601 | 5.8  | 28,684        | 26,889  | 1,795 | 6.3  |
| Johnson      | 10,417        | 9,916   | 501   | 4.8  | 10,343       | 9,826   | 517   | 5.0  | 10,477        | 9,907   | 570   | 5.4  |
| Lafayette    | 2,587         | 2,437   | 150   | 5.8  | 2,551        | 2,405   | 146   | 5.7  | 2,600         | 2,423   | 177   | 6.8  |
| Lawrence     | 6,898         | 6,595   | 303   | 4.4  | 6,836        | 6,494   | 342   | 5.0  | 7,098         | 6,736   | 362   | 5.1  |
| Lee          | 3,075         | 2,891   | 184   | 6.0  | 3,039        | 2,852   | 187   | 6.2  | 3,134         | 2,952   | 182   | 5.8  |
| Lincoln      | 4,045         | 3,827   | 218   | 5.4  | 3,945        | 3,745   | 200   | 5.1  | 4,125         | 3,878   | 247   | 6.0  |
| Little River | 5,564         | 5,286   | 278   | 5.0  | 5,498        | 5,218   | 280   | 5.1  | 5,654         | 5,372   | 282   | 5.0  |
| Logan        | 9,021         | 8,624   | 397   | 4.4  | 8,903        | 8,527   | 376   | 4.2  | 9,109         | 8,643   | 466   | 5.1  |
| Lonoke       | 33,030        | 31,784  | 1,246 | 3.8  | 32,593       | 31,395  | 1,198 | 3.7  | 33,156        | 31,881  | 1,275 | 3.8  |
| Madison      | 7,315         | 7,071   | 244   | 3.3  | 7,134        | 6,901   | 233   | 3.3  | 7,215         | 6,947   | 268   | 3.7  |
| Marion       | 6,474         | 6,167   | 307   | 4.7  | 6,389        | 6,096   | 293   | 4.6  | 6,518         | 6,207   | 311   | 4.8  |
| Miller       | 19,822        | 18,920  | 902   | 4.6  | 19,537       | 18,653  | 884   | 4.5  | 20,126        | 19,202  | 924   | 4.6  |

(continued on Page 16)



## County Labor Force Statistics

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(continued from Page 15)

| County      | February 2017 |         |       |      | January 2017 |         |       |      | February 2016 |         |       |      |
|-------------|---------------|---------|-------|------|--------------|---------|-------|------|---------------|---------|-------|------|
|             | CLF           | Emp     | Unemp | Rate | CLF          | Emp     | Unemp | Rate | CLF           | Emp     | Unemp | Rate |
| Mississippi | 17,976        | 16,724  | 1,252 | 7.0  | 17,881       | 16,684  | 1,197 | 6.7  | 17,908        | 16,599  | 1,309 | 7.3  |
| Monroe      | 2,814         | 2,667   | 147   | 5.2  | 2,787        | 2,629   | 158   | 5.7  | 2,960         | 2,800   | 160   | 5.4  |
| Montgomery  | 2,829         | 2,657   | 172   | 6.1  | 2,763        | 2,582   | 181   | 6.6  | 3,078         | 2,882   | 196   | 6.4  |
| Nevada      | 3,652         | 3,518   | 134   | 3.7  | 3,605        | 3,479   | 126   | 3.5  | 3,667         | 3,515   | 152   | 4.1  |
| Newton      | 3,418         | 3,263   | 155   | 4.5  | 3,367        | 3,216   | 151   | 4.5  | 3,423         | 3,265   | 158   | 4.6  |
| Ouachita    | 9,722         | 9,222   | 500   | 5.1  | 9,642        | 9,164   | 478   | 5.0  | 9,863         | 9,318   | 545   | 5.5  |
| Perry       | 4,190         | 3,965   | 225   | 5.4  | 4,126        | 3,910   | 216   | 5.2  | 4,224         | 3,973   | 251   | 5.9  |
| Phillips    | 6,536         | 6,102   | 434   | 6.6  | 6,473        | 6,042   | 431   | 6.7  | 6,832         | 6,344   | 488   | 7.1  |
| Pike        | 4,157         | 3,965   | 192   | 4.6  | 4,116        | 3,921   | 195   | 4.7  | 4,158         | 3,949   | 209   | 5.0  |
| Poinsett    | 10,210        | 9,720   | 490   | 4.8  | 10,017       | 9,539   | 478   | 4.8  | 10,131        | 9,620   | 511   | 5.0  |
| Polk        | 8,125         | 7,702   | 423   | 5.2  | 8,029        | 7,603   | 426   | 5.3  | 8,151         | 7,696   | 455   | 5.6  |
| Pope        | 29,045        | 27,642  | 1,403 | 4.8  | 28,689       | 27,236  | 1,453 | 5.1  | 29,302        | 27,845  | 1,457 | 5.0  |
| Prairie     | 3,609         | 3,430   | 179   | 5.0  | 3,549        | 3,384   | 165   | 4.6  | 3,648         | 3,476   | 172   | 4.7  |
| Pulaski     | 186,616       | 179,345 | 7,271 | 3.9  | 184,086      | 177,301 | 6,785 | 3.7  | 186,835       | 179,352 | 7,483 | 4.0  |
| Randolph    | 6,427         | 6,085   | 342   | 5.3  | 6,320        | 5,975   | 345   | 5.5  | 6,302         | 5,934   | 368   | 5.8  |
| St. Francis | 8,729         | 8,225   | 504   | 5.8  | 8,640        | 8,146   | 494   | 5.7  | 8,905         | 8,322   | 583   | 6.5  |
| Saline      | 56,207        | 54,252  | 1,955 | 3.5  | 55,461       | 53,627  | 1,834 | 3.3  | 56,229        | 54,251  | 1,978 | 3.5  |
| Scott       | 4,388         | 4,237   | 151   | 3.4  | 4,343        | 4,195   | 148   | 3.4  | 4,457         | 4,265   | 192   | 4.3  |
| Searcy      | 3,014         | 2,868   | 146   | 4.8  | 2,989        | 2,827   | 162   | 5.4  | 2,943         | 2,792   | 151   | 5.1  |
| Sebastian   | 57,117        | 54,806  | 2,311 | 4.0  | 56,401       | 54,315  | 2,086 | 3.7  | 57,905        | 55,411  | 2,494 | 4.3  |
| Sevier      | 5,647         | 5,348   | 299   | 5.3  | 5,579        | 5,280   | 299   | 5.4  | 5,670         | 5,351   | 319   | 5.6  |
| Sharp       | 6,000         | 5,628   | 372   | 6.2  | 5,940        | 5,577   | 363   | 6.1  | 6,056         | 5,655   | 401   | 6.6  |
| Stone       | 4,604         | 4,326   | 278   | 6.0  | 4,560        | 4,270   | 290   | 6.4  | 4,631         | 4,345   | 286   | 6.2  |
| Union       | 16,167        | 15,221  | 946   | 5.9  | 15,992       | 15,087  | 905   | 5.7  | 16,767        | 15,790  | 977   | 5.8  |
| Van Buren   | 5,861         | 5,442   | 419   | 7.1  | 5,793        | 5,388   | 405   | 7.0  | 6,258         | 5,783   | 475   | 7.6  |
| Washington  | 120,957       | 117,543 | 3,414 | 2.8  | 118,054      | 114,942 | 3,112 | 2.6  | 117,868       | 114,238 | 3,630 | 3.1  |
| White       | 33,839        | 32,041  | 1,798 | 5.3  | 33,459       | 31,694  | 1,765 | 5.3  | 34,501        | 32,344  | 2,157 | 6.3  |
| Woodruff    | 2,904         | 2,734   | 170   | 5.9  | 2,887        | 2,716   | 171   | 5.9  | 3,004         | 2,798   | 206   | 6.9  |
| Yell        | 8,684         | 8,279   | 405   | 4.7  | 8,538        | 8,144   | 394   | 4.6  | 8,816         | 8,388   | 428   | 4.9  |

## County Labor Force Summary

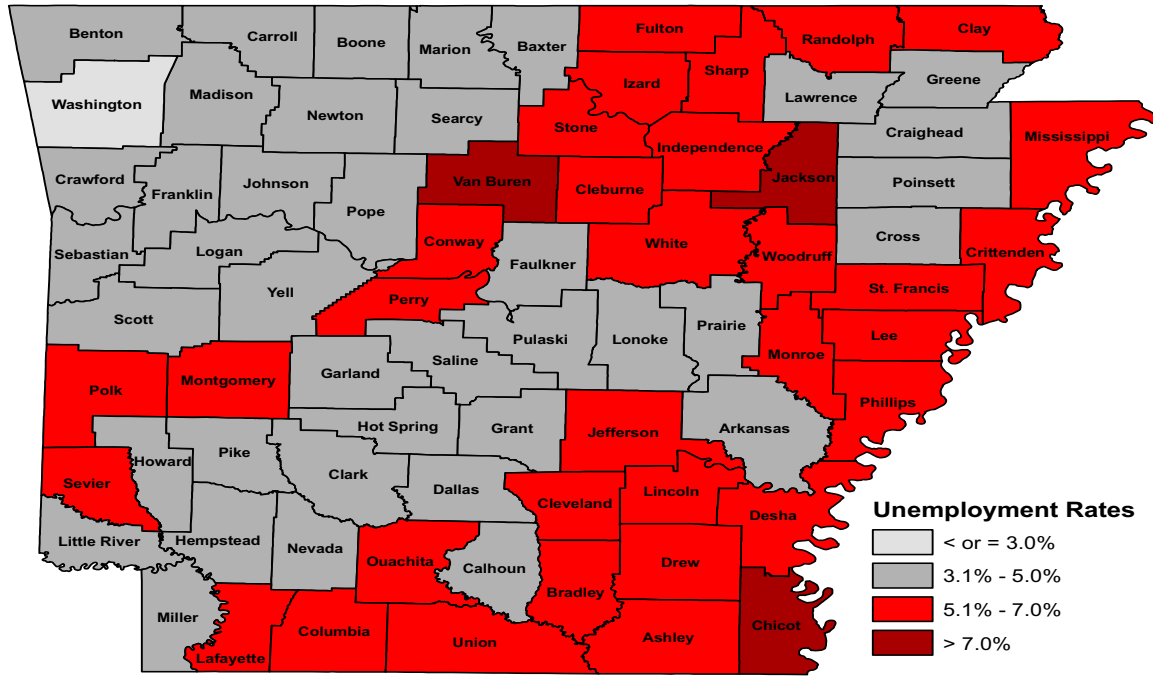
Between January and February, unemployment rates increased in 40 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates declined in twenty-five counties while remaining stable in ten. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.8 percent in Washington County to a high of 8.2 percent in Chicot County.

In February, sixteen counties posted unemployment rates at or below four percent. That is down from nineteen counties with rates at or below four percent last month. Only one-- Chicot County-- reported a jobless rate above eight percent.

Compared to February 2016, unemployment rates are down in 63 Arkansas counties. Six counties posted higher jobless rates, while another six counties were the same compared to last year.

## Labor Market Report

### County Labor Force Statistics



### Ranked by Unemployment Rates

February 2017- Not Seasonally Adjusted

| Rank | County     | Rate | Rank | County       | Rate | Rank | County      | Rate |
|------|------------|------|------|--------------|------|------|-------------|------|
| 1    | Washington | 2.8  | 24   | Newton       | 4.5  | 51   | Lincoln     | 5.4  |
| 2    | Benton     | 3.2  | 27   | Garland      | 4.6  | 51   | Perry       | 5.4  |
| 3    | Madison    | 3.3  | 27   | Miller       | 4.6  | 53   | Izard       | 5.6  |
| 4    | Craighead  | 3.4  | 27   | Pike         | 4.6  | 54   | Bradley     | 5.8  |
| 4    | Scott      | 3.4  | 30   | Marion       | 4.7  | 54   | Drew        | 5.8  |
| 6    | Saline     | 3.5  | 30   | Yell         | 4.7  | 54   | Lafayette   | 5.8  |
| 7    | Howard     | 3.7  | 32   | Johnson      | 4.8  | 54   | St. Francis | 5.8  |
| 7    | Nevada     | 3.7  | 32   | Poinsett     | 4.8  | 58   | Columbia    | 5.9  |
| 9    | Arkansas   | 3.8  | 32   | Pope         | 4.8  | 58   | Jefferson   | 5.9  |
| 9    | Lonoke     | 3.8  | 32   | Searcy       | 4.8  | 58   | Union       | 5.9  |
| 11   | Faulkner   | 3.9  | 36   | Baxter       | 5.0  | 58   | Woodruff    | 5.9  |
| 11   | Grant      | 3.9  | 36   | Cross        | 5.0  | 62   | Clay        | 6.0  |
| 11   | Hempstead  | 3.9  | 36   | Dallas       | 5.0  | 62   | Lee         | 6.0  |
| 11   | Pulaski    | 3.9  | 36   | Little River | 5.0  | 62   | Stone       | 6.0  |
| 15   | Boone      | 4.0  | 36   | Prairie      | 5.0  | 65   | Cleburne    | 6.1  |
| 15   | Sebastian  | 4.0  | 41   | Cleveland    | 5.1  | 65   | Conway      | 6.1  |
| 17   | Crawford   | 4.1  | 41   | Crittenden   | 5.1  | 65   | Montgomery  | 6.1  |
| 17   | Franklin   | 4.1  | 41   | Independence | 5.1  | 68   | Desha       | 6.2  |
| 17   | Hot Spring | 4.1  | 41   | Ouachita     | 5.1  | 68   | Sharp       | 6.2  |
| 20   | Greene     | 4.3  | 45   | Monroe       | 5.2  | 70   | Phillips    | 6.6  |
| 21   | Clark      | 4.4  | 45   | Polk         | 5.2  | 71   | Ashley      | 6.8  |
| 21   | Lawrence   | 4.4  | 47   | Fulton       | 5.3  | 72   | Mississippi | 7.0  |
| 21   | Logan      | 4.4  | 47   | Randolph     | 5.3  | 73   | Van Buren   | 7.1  |
| 24   | Calhoun    | 4.5  | 47   | Sevier       | 5.3  | 74   | Jackson     | 7.3  |
| 24   | Carroll    | 4.5  | 47   | White        | 5.3  | 75   | Chicot      | 8.2  |

## Labor Market Report

# Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

### LWDA Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| LWDA                | February 2017 |         |        |      | January 2017 |         |       |      | February 2016 |         |        |      |
|---------------------|---------------|---------|--------|------|--------------|---------|-------|------|---------------|---------|--------|------|
|                     | CLF           | Emp     | Unemp  | Rate | CLF          | Emp     | Unemp | Rate | CLF           | Emp     | Unemp  | Rate |
| Central (minus LR)  | 246,230       | 236,741 | 9,489  | 3.9  | 242,871      | 233,966 | 8,905 | 3.7  | 247,088       | 237,048 | 10,040 | 4.1  |
| City of Little Rock | 96,032        | 92,376  | 3,656  | 3.8  | 94,742       | 91,323  | 3,419 | 3.6  | 96,134        | 92,379  | 3,755  | 3.9  |
| Eastern             | 47,572        | 44,967  | 2,605  | 5.5  | 46,931       | 44,445  | 2,486 | 5.3  | 48,191        | 45,405  | 2,786  | 5.8  |
| North Central       | 94,178        | 88,794  | 5,384  | 5.7  | 93,148       | 87,751  | 5,397 | 5.8  | 95,937        | 89,742  | 6,195  | 6.5  |
| Northeast           | 119,305       | 113,930 | 5,375  | 4.5  | 117,579      | 112,287 | 5,292 | 4.5  | 118,968       | 113,053 | 5,915  | 5.0  |
| Northwest           | 313,736       | 303,395 | 10,341 | 3.3  | 306,884      | 297,168 | 9,716 | 3.2  | 307,236       | 296,370 | 10,866 | 3.5  |
| Southeast           | 82,185        | 77,590  | 4,595  | 5.6  | 80,998       | 76,542  | 4,456 | 5.5  | 83,037        | 78,136  | 4,901  | 5.9  |
| Southwest           | 93,407        | 88,797  | 4,610  | 4.9  | 92,245       | 87,762  | 4,483 | 4.9  | 95,157        | 90,229  | 4,928  | 5.2  |
| West Central        | 131,611       | 125,360 | 6,251  | 4.7  | 129,801      | 123,587 | 6,214 | 4.8  | 132,015       | 125,337 | 6,678  | 5.1  |
| Western             | 112,268       | 107,612 | 4,656  | 4.1  | 110,907      | 106,584 | 4,323 | 3.9  | 113,922       | 108,716 | 5,206  | 4.6  |

