

Arkansas

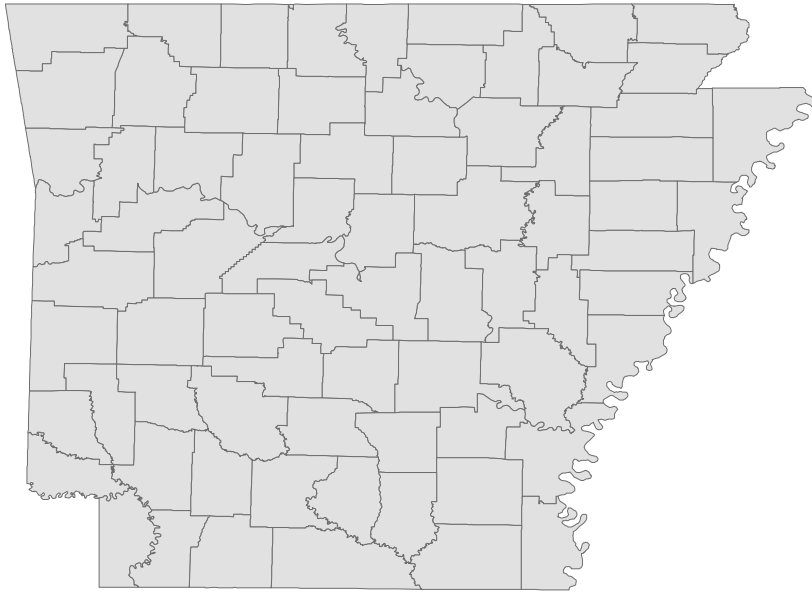
Labor Market Report



20
18

December

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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 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 2017 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

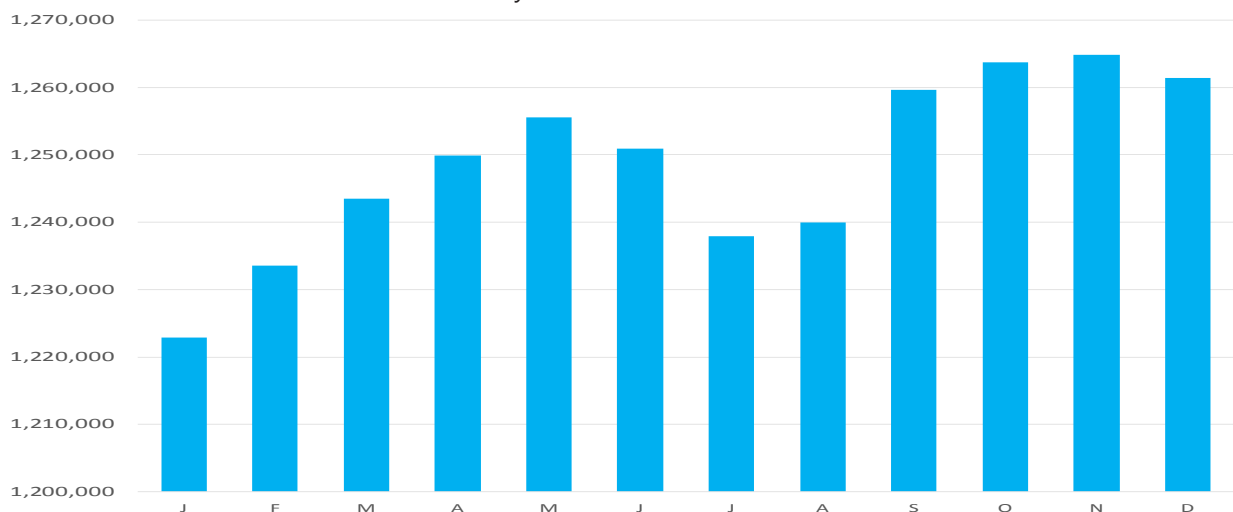
A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to seasonal events such as weather, major holidays, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/closing of schools.

December Spotlight

The Year in Review

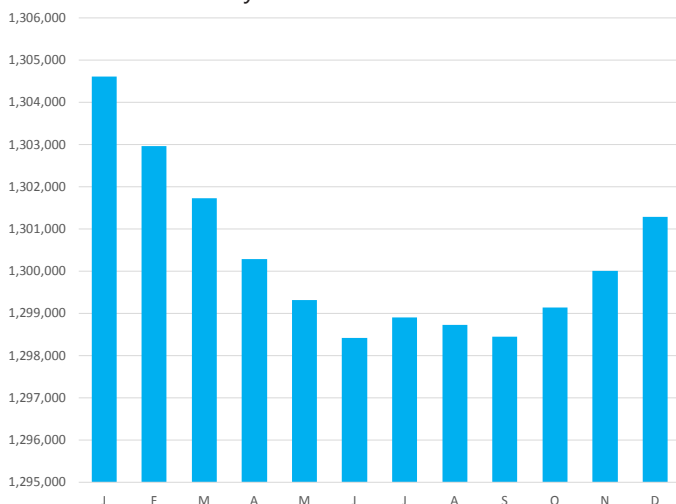
In 2018, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas ranged from a low of 1,222,900 in January to a high of 1,264,900 in November. Job totals in November set a new all-time record high number of jobs in the State. Jobs steadily increased throughout the first half of the year, with typical seasonal declines in the summer. Job totals then leveled off in the latter half of the year. Arkansas' preliminary annual average nonfarm job total for 2018 was 1,248,700, notably higher than the 2017 average of 1,239,200. Annual average nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas have increased each year since 2013.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
January 2018 - December 2018

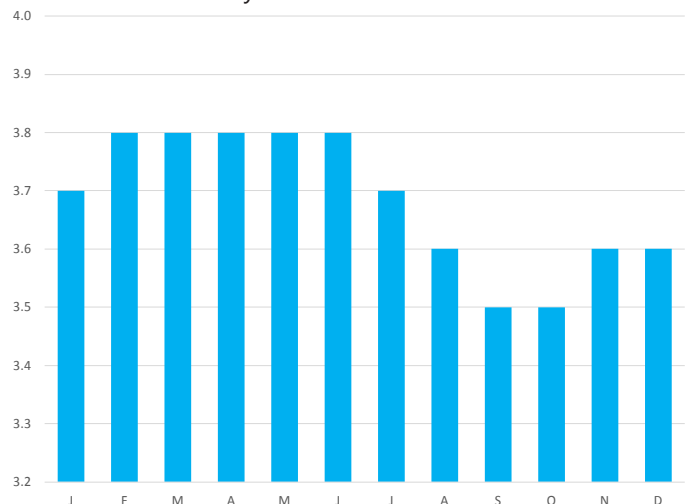


In 2018, employment in Arkansas was at a high of 1,304,610 in January before steadily decreasing to a low of 1,298,410 in June. Employment fluctuated throughout the summer and then steadily increased from September to December, but ended down 3,322 employed over-the-year. The unemployment rate remained fairly stable throughout the year, ranging from 3.8 percent to 3.5 percent. Arkansas ended the year with a jobless rate of 3.6 percent, down from 3.7 percent in January.

Number of Employed (Seasonally Adjusted)
January 2018 - December 2018



Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)
January 2018 - December 2018



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 remained unchanged at 3.6 percent between November and December. Arkansas' civilian labor force increased 2,202, a result of 1,276 more employed and 926 additional unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate increased two-tenths of a percentage point to 3.9 percent in December, up from 3.7 percent in November.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate remained fairly stable throughout 2018, ending the year down one-tenth of a percentage point compared to January. While the U.S. jobless rate also trended down over the year, Arkansas is still three-tenths of a percentage point below the national rate."

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	
Civilian Labor Force	1,350,399	1,348,197	1,356,940	Civilian Labor Force	1,344,817	1,349,752	1,342,354
Employment	1,301,288	1,300,012	1,306,527	Employment	1,295,633	1,304,705	1,293,891
Unemployment	49,111	48,185	50,413	Unemployment	49,184	45,047	48,463
Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.6	3.7	Unemployment Rate	3.7	3.3	3.6
U.S. Unemployment	3.9	3.7	4.1	U.S. Unemployment	3.7	3.5	3.9

Civilian Labor Force (Seasonally Adjusted)
December 2015 - December 2018



State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1261.4	1264.9	1244.9	-3.5	16.5
Goods Producing	220.2	219.4	214.7	0.8	5.5
Mining, Logging, and Construction	58.3	58.9	56.7	-0.6	1.6
Mining & Logging	5.3	5.5	5.8	-0.2	-0.5
Construction	53.0	53.4	50.9	-0.4	2.1
Specialty Trade Contractors	32.6	32.8	30.8	-0.2	1.8
Manufacturing	161.9	160.5	158.0	1.4	3.9
Durable Goods	76.6	76.1	74.5	0.5	2.1
Nondurable Goods	85.3	84.4	83.5	0.9	1.8
Service Providing	1041.2	1045.5	1030.2	-4.3	11.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	255.3	254.9	253.5	0.4	1.8
Wholesale Trade	48.3	48.2	46.4	0.1	1.9
Retail Trade	143.0	143.2	142.0	-0.2	1.0
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	64.0	63.5	65.1	0.5	-1.1
Information	12.1	12.1	12.8	0.0	-0.7
Financial Activities	54.3	54.4	53.5	-0.1	0.8
Finance & Insurance	40.4	40.5	40.0	-0.1	0.4
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.9	13.9	13.5	0.0	0.4
Professional & Business Services	150.0	151.2	145.8	-1.2	4.2
Professional, Scientific & Technical	44.2	44.2	43.4	0.0	0.8
Management of Companies	35.8	36.0	35.0	-0.2	0.8
Administrative & Support Services	70.0	71.0	67.4	-1.0	2.6
Educational & Health Services	190.8	191.7	188.6	-0.9	2.2
Educational Services	16.5	16.7	15.2	-0.2	1.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	174.3	175.0	173.4	-0.7	0.9
Ambulatory Health Care	58.1	57.9	57.3	0.2	0.8
Social Assistance	39.6	40.0	40.1	-0.4	-0.5
Leisure & Hospitality	114.7	116.7	112.0	-2.0	2.7
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9.5	9.6	9.8	-0.1	-0.3
Accommodation & Food Services	105.2	107.1	102.2	-1.9	3.0
Accommodation Services	10.5	10.9	10.7	-0.4	-0.2
Food Services	94.7	96.2	91.5	-1.5	3.2
Other Services	48.4	48.1	48.6	0.3	-0.2
Government	215.6	216.4	215.4	-0.8	0.2
Federal Government	20.2	20.0	20.0	0.2	0.2
State Government	79.3	80.3	79.2	-1.0	0.1
Local Government	116.1	116.1	116.2	0.0	-0.1

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

November 2018 - December 2018

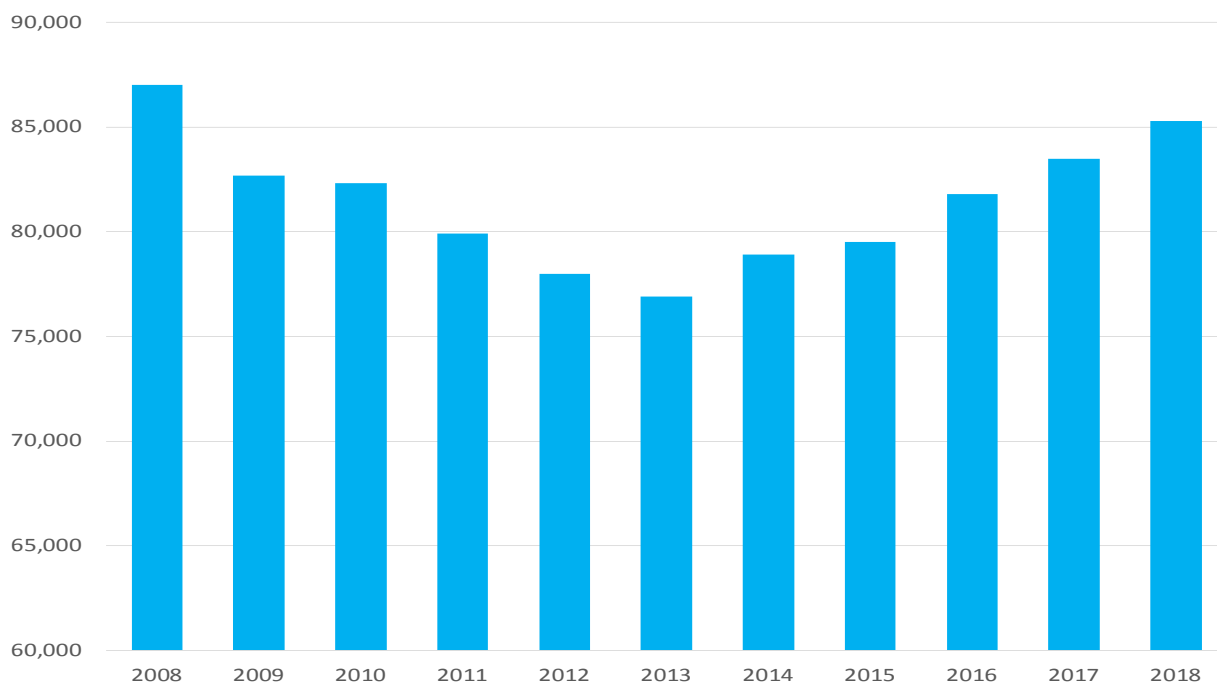
Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs declined 3,500 in December to total 1,261,400. Seven major industry sectors posted losses, as employment in three sectors increased. The greatest decrease was in **leisure and hospitality** (-2,000). Typical seasonal contractions were reported across all subsectors. Employment in **professional and business services** is down 1,200. A majority of the decline occurred in administrative and support services (-1,000), which includes some seasonal business activities and employment agencies. **Manufacturing** posted the largest gain, adding 1,400 jobs. Expansions were reported in both nondurable (+900) and durable (+500) goods manufacturing.

December 2017 - December 2018

Compared to December 2017, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 16,500. Growth occurred in eight major industry sectors, with five adding 2,100 or more jobs, each. Employment in **professional and business services** rose 4,200. Gains were posted across the industry, with administrative and support services adding 2,600 jobs. **Manufacturing** increased 3,900, with reported hiring in both subsectors. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** rose 2,700. Expansions in accommodation and food services (+3,000) more than offset minor losses in arts-entertainment-recreation (-300). **Educational and health services** added 2,200 jobs, mostly in educational services (+1,300). Employment in **construction** increased 2,100, related in part to ongoing projects across the state.

Jobs in Nondurable Goods Manufacturing (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

December: 2008 - 2018



State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

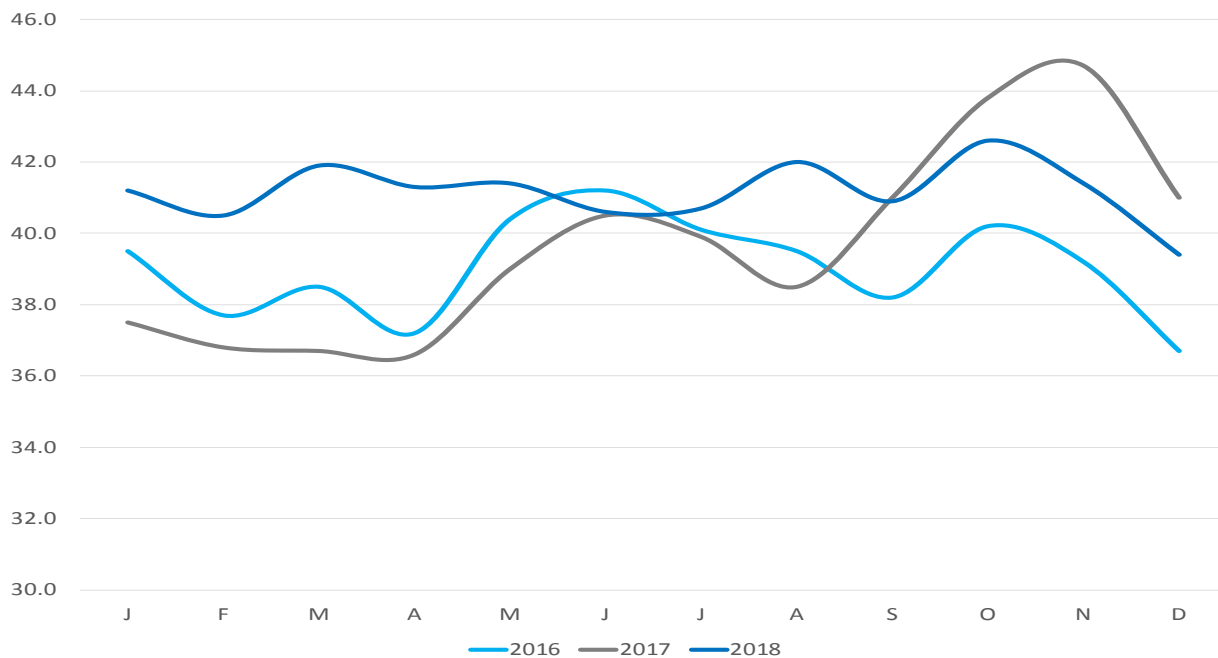
Manufacturing

	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>
Average Weekly Hours	42.4	42.3	41.9
Average Hourly Earnings	18.10	18.03	16.37
Average Weekly Earnings	767.44	762.67	685.90

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>		<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>
Average Weekly Hours	45.9	43.3	43.0	Average Weekly Hours	39.4	41.4	41.0
Average Hourly Earnings	20.60	20.72	18.22	Average Hourly Earnings	15.65	15.67	14.78
Average Weekly Earnings	945.54	897.18	783.46	Average Weekly Earnings	616.61	648.74	605.98

Average Weekly Hours Worked-- Nondurable Goods Manufacturing
January 2016 - December 2018



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)

	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	355,941	356,071	353,050	-130	2,891
Employment	344,269	345,339	341,315	-1,070	2,954
Unemployment	11,672	10,732	11,735	940	-63
Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.0	3.3	0.3	0.0

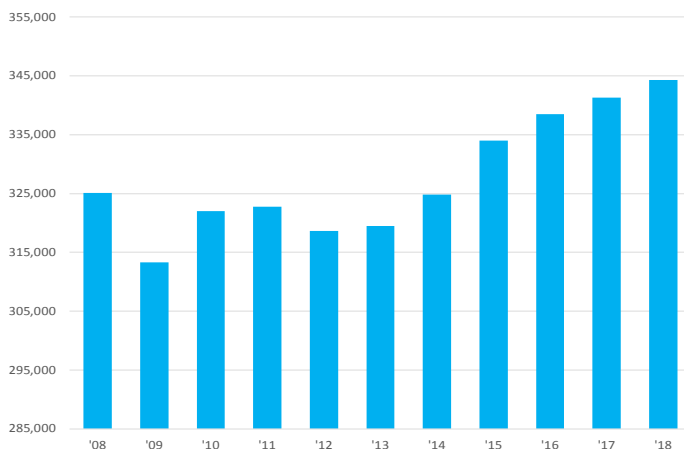
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	370.1	369.6	362.8	0.5	7.3
Goods Producing	37.3	37.2	37.8	0.1	-0.5
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.0	17.0	17.6	0.0	-0.6
Manufacturing	20.3	20.2	20.2	0.1	0.1
Service Providing	332.8	332.4	325.0	0.4	7.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	72.4	72.0	71.2	0.4	1.2
Wholesale Trade	15.1	15.1	15.2	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	40.4	40.3	39.6	0.1	0.8
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.9	16.6	16.4	0.3	0.5
Information	5.5	5.5	5.9	0.0	-0.4
Financial Activities	21.3	21.2	21.1	0.1	0.2
Professional & Business Services	52.0	52.0	48.7	0.0	3.3
Educational & Health Services	59.7	59.6	57.5	0.1	2.2
Leisure & Hospitality	34.7	35.0	33.8	-0.3	0.9
Other Services	15.5	15.5	15.4	0.0	0.1
Government	71.7	71.6	71.4	0.1	0.3
Federal Government	9.8	9.6	9.6	0.2	0.2
State Government	35.7	35.9	35.4	-0.2	0.3
Local Government	26.2	26.1	26.4	0.1	-0.2

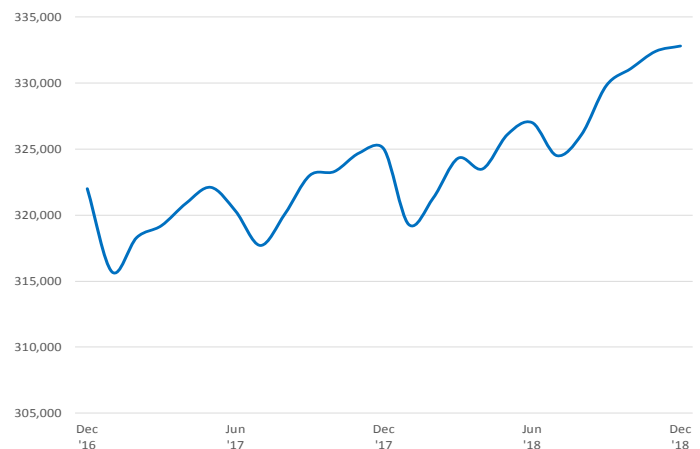
Employment

December 2008 - 2018



Jobs in Service Providing Industries

December 2016 - December 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

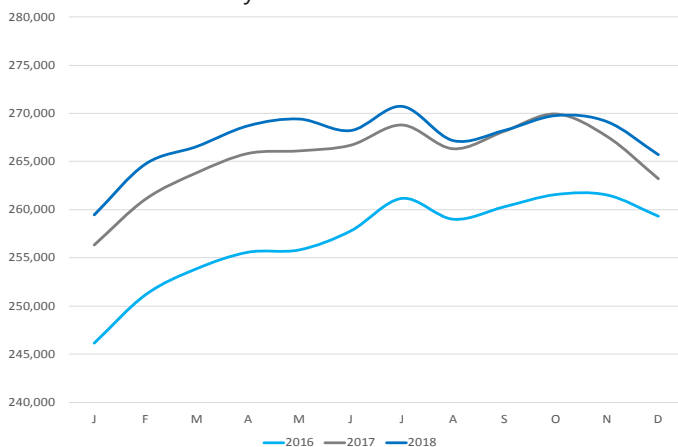
	Dec 18	Nov 18	Dec 17	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	272,975	275,930	270,541	-2,955	2,434
Employment	265,705	269,128	263,215	-3,423	2,490
Unemployment	7,270	6,802	7,326	468	-56
Unemployment Rate	2.7	2.5	2.7	0.2	0.0

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

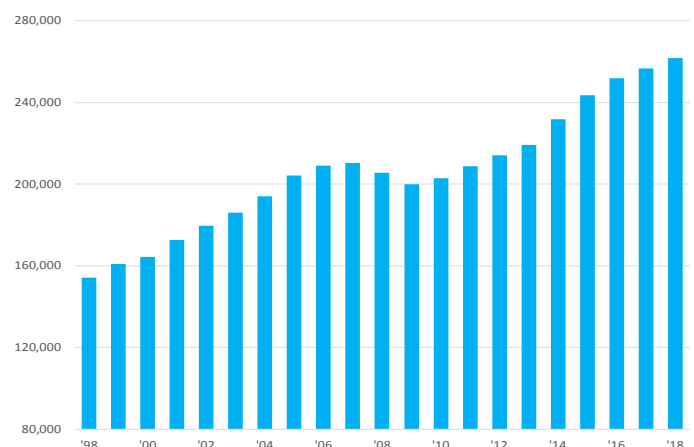
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Dec 18	Nov 18	Dec 17	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	261.7	264.0	256.6	-2.3	5.1
Goods Producing	42.5	42.4	40.7	0.1	1.8
Mining, Logging & Construction	12.3	12.3	11.4	0.0	0.9
Manufacturing	30.2	30.1	29.3	0.1	0.9
Service Providing	219.2	221.6	215.9	-2.4	3.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	57.6	57.7	57.1	-0.1	0.5
Wholesale Trade	13.6	13.6	13.3	0.0	0.3
Retail Trade	27.0	27.1	27.0	-0.1	0.0
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	17.0	17.0	16.8	0.0	0.2
Information	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	8.0	8.0	8.0	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	49.5	50.1	49.4	-0.6	0.1
Educational & Health Services	30.0	30.0	29.0	0.0	1.0
Leisure & Hospitality	25.4	26.5	25.1	-1.1	0.3
Other Services	9.1	9.1	9.0	0.0	0.1
Government	37.7	38.3	36.4	-0.6	1.3
Federal Government	2.6	2.6	2.5	0.0	0.1
State Government	15.5	16.3	14.6	-0.8	0.9
Local Government	19.6	19.4	19.3	0.2	0.3

Number of Employed
January 2016 - December 2018



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
December: 1998 - 2018



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)

	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	116,445	117,220	118,045	-775	-1,600
Employment	112,121	113,244	113,141	-1,123	-1,020
Unemployment	4,324	3,976	4,904	348	-580
Unemployment Rate	3.7	3.4	4.2	0.3	-0.5

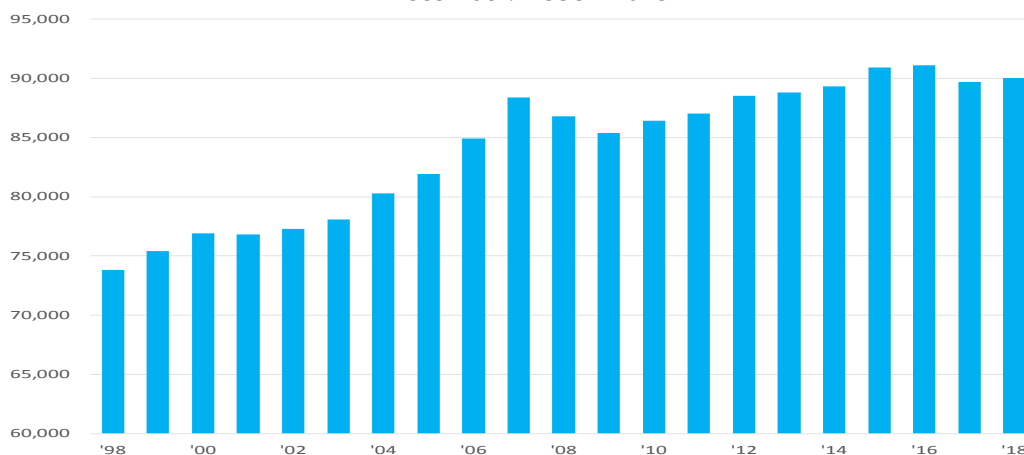
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	113.0	113.3	112.4	-0.3	0.6
Goods Producing	23.0	23.0	22.7	0.0	0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.3	5.3	5.3	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	17.7	17.7	17.4	0.0	0.3
Service Providing	90.0	90.3	89.7	-0.3	0.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	22.8	22.8	23.0	0.0	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	3.8	3.8	3.9	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	12.6	12.6	12.6	0.0	0.0
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.4	6.4	6.5	0.0	-0.1
Information	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	3.9	3.9	3.8	0.0	0.1
Professional & Business Services	12.8	13.0	12.5	-0.2	0.3
Educational & Health Services	16.6	16.6	16.8	0.0	-0.2
Leisure & Hospitality	9.3	9.4	9.1	-0.1	0.2
Other Services	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Government	19.1	19.1	18.9	0.0	0.2
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	3.2	3.3	3.2	-0.1	0.0
Local Government	14.6	14.5	14.4	0.1	0.2

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

December: 1998 - 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	39,136	39,143	39,164	-7	-28
Employment	37,530	37,631	37,622	-101	-92
Unemployment	1,606	1,512	1,542	94	64
Unemployment Rate	4.1	3.9	3.9	0.2	0.2

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	37.9	37.9	37.5	0.0	0.4
Goods Producing	4.7	4.7	4.5	0.0	0.2
Service Providing	33.2	33.2	33.0	0.0	0.2
Government	4.6	4.7	4.6	-0.1	0.0

Number of Employed

December 2015 - December 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

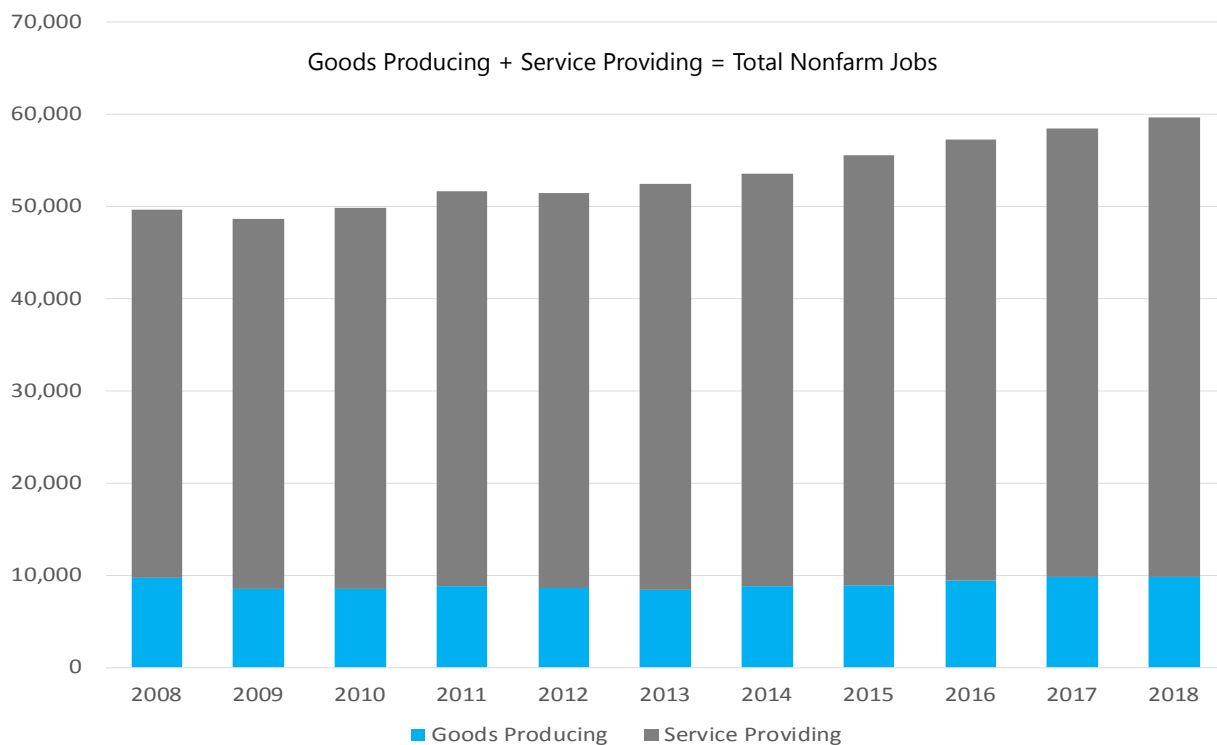
	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	64,483	64,892	63,720	-409	763
Employment	62,514	63,082	61,826	-568	688
Unemployment	1,969	1,810	1,894	159	75
Unemployment Rate	3.1	2.8	3.0	0.3	0.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	59.7	60.0	58.4	-0.3	1.3
Goods Producing	9.8	9.8	9.8	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	49.9	50.2	48.6	-0.3	1.3
Government	9.4	9.5	9.4	-0.1	0.0

Goods Producing and Service Providing Jobs

December: 2008 - 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

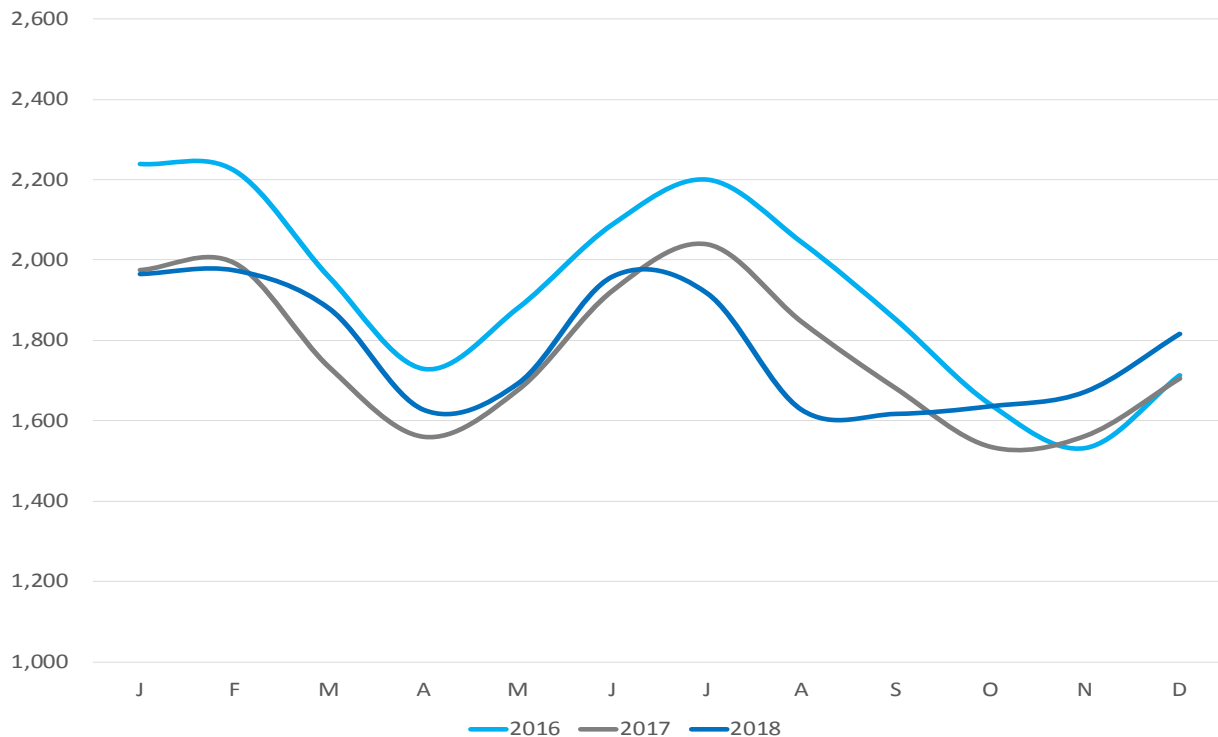
	Dec 18	Nov 18	Dec 17	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	34,484	34,621	34,995	-137	-511
Employment	32,668	32,949	33,290	-281	-622
Unemployment	1,816	1,672	1,705	144	111
Unemployment Rate	5.3	4.8	4.9	0.5	0.4

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Dec 18	Nov 18	Dec 17	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	32.8	32.9	33.2	-0.1	-0.4
Goods Producing	6.1	6.0	6.2	0.1	-0.1
Service Providing	26.7	26.9	27.0	-0.2	-0.3
Government	9.6	9.6	9.7	0.0	-0.1

Number of Unemployed
January 2016 - December 2018



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.

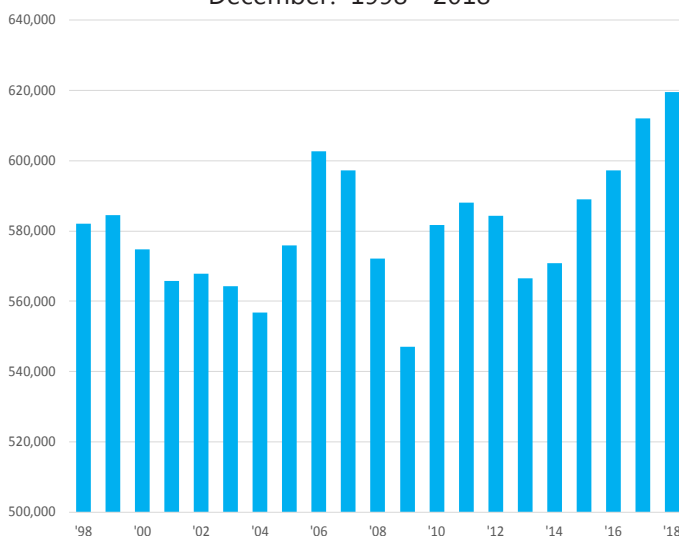
	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	643,207	645,689	635,161	-2,482	8,046
Employment	619,585	621,128	611,935	-1,543	7,650
Unemployment	23,622	24,561	23,226	-939	396
Unemployment Rate	3.7	3.8	3.7	-0.1	0.0

Texarkana MSA

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

	<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	65,309	65,520	64,594	-211	715
Employment	62,162	62,413	61,985	-251	177
Unemployment	3,147	3,107	2,609	40	538
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.7	4.0	0.1	0.8

Memphis MSA - Employment
December: 1998 - 2018



Texarkana MSA - Civilian Labor Force
December 2016 - December 2018



Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	December 2018				November 2018				December 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,859	9,515	344	3.5	9,906	9,562	344	3.5	9,611	9,271	340	3.5
Batesville Micro	16,241	15,585	656	4.0	16,186	15,533	653	4.0	16,282	15,672	610	3.7
Blytheville Micro	17,458	16,584	874	5.0	17,612	16,786	826	4.7	17,617	16,701	916	5.2
Camden Micro	12,099	11,564	535	4.4	12,125	11,622	503	4.1	12,047	11,535	512	4.3
El Dorado Micro	15,780	14,978	802	5.1	15,769	15,025	744	4.7	16,050	15,223	827	5.2
Forrest City Micro	8,254	7,802	452	5.5	8,249	7,853	396	4.8	8,286	7,881	405	4.9
Harrison Micro	18,977	18,322	655	3.5	19,002	18,425	577	3.0	19,069	18,381	688	3.6
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,543	6,166	377	5.8	6,576	6,221	355	5.4	6,516	6,115	401	6.2
Hope Micro	13,517	13,016	501	3.7	13,577	13,091	486	3.6	13,433	12,990	443	3.3
Magnolia Micro	8,865	8,461	404	4.6	8,914	8,543	371	4.2	9,005	8,598	407	4.5
Malvern Micro	13,839	13,342	497	3.6	13,819	13,353	466	3.4	14,088	13,599	489	3.5
Mountain Home Micro	16,506	15,783	723	4.4	16,490	15,850	640	3.9	16,200	15,511	689	4.3
Paragould Micro	19,456	18,763	693	3.6	19,546	18,932	614	3.1	19,554	18,874	680	3.5
Russellville Micro	37,340	35,700	1,640	4.4	37,461	36,024	1,437	3.8	38,111	36,504	1,607	4.2
Searcy Micro	33,749	32,210	1,539	4.6	33,623	32,291	1,332	4.0	33,693	32,204	1,489	4.4

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	December 2018				November 2018				December 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,421	11,916	505	4.1	12,519	12,067	452	3.6	12,252	11,806	446	3.6
Benton	17,306	16,779	527	3.0	17,332	16,826	506	2.9	17,143	16,637	506	3.0
Bentonville	25,329	24,705	624	2.5	25,607	25,019	588	2.3	25,168	24,477	691	2.7
Blytheville	5,949	5,647	302	5.1	6,017	5,716	301	5.0	6,031	5,687	344	5.7
Cabot	11,906	11,549	357	3.0	11,940	11,601	339	2.8	11,871	11,444	427	3.6
Conway	33,564	32,511	1,053	3.1	33,563	32,612	951	2.8	33,317	32,235	1,082	3.2
El Dorado	6,902	6,509	393	5.7	6,882	6,529	353	5.1	7,008	6,616	392	5.6
Fayetteville	47,275	46,051	1,224	2.6	47,788	46,626	1,162	2.4	46,791	45,633	1,158	2.5
Fort Smith	38,896	37,500	1,396	3.6	38,990	37,698	1,292	3.3	39,070	37,688	1,382	3.5
Hot Springs	14,098	13,461	637	4.5	14,120	13,497	623	4.4	14,115	13,494	621	4.4
Jacksonville	11,810	11,324	486	4.1	11,804	11,356	448	3.8	11,810	11,227	583	4.9
Jonesboro	38,034	36,893	1,141	3.0	38,261	37,212	1,049	2.7	37,541	36,492	1,049	2.8
Little Rock	98,167	94,836	3,331	3.4	98,173	95,105	3,068	3.1	97,069	94,026	3,043	3.1
North Little Rock	30,190	29,064	1,126	3.7	30,172	29,147	1,025	3.4	29,961	28,816	1,145	3.8
Paragould	12,250	11,765	485	4.0	12,289	11,871	418	3.4	12,275	11,835	440	3.6
Pine Bluff	16,417	15,395	1,022	6.2	16,471	15,518	953	5.8	16,662	15,699	963	5.8
Rogers	35,045	34,141	904	2.6	35,449	34,575	874	2.5	34,762	33,826	936	2.7
Russellville	13,459	12,960	499	3.7	13,530	13,069	461	3.4	13,752	13,263	489	3.6
Searcy	10,400	9,979	421	4.0	10,395	10,004	391	3.8	10,358	9,977	381	3.7
Sherwood	15,832	15,362	470	3.0	15,855	15,406	449	2.8	15,713	15,231	482	3.1
Springdale	39,031	38,059	972	2.5	39,456	38,537	919	2.3	38,711	37,715	996	2.6
Texarkana, AR	13,659	12,978	681	5.0	13,717	13,057	660	4.8	13,599	13,055	544	4.0
Van Buren	10,192	9,824	368	3.6	10,223	9,884	339	3.3	10,218	9,869	349	3.4
West Memphis	10,860	10,384	476	4.4	10,925	10,485	440	4.0	10,843	10,344	499	4.6

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	December 2018				November 2018				December 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,073	8,757	316	3.5	9,072	8,785	287	3.2	8,995	8,673	322	3.6
Ashley	7,673	7,235	438	5.7	7,674	7,293	381	5.0	7,618	7,197	421	5.5
Baxter	16,506	15,783	723	4.4	16,490	15,850	640	3.9	16,200	15,511	689	4.3
Benton	132,521	128,802	3,719	2.8	133,908	130,439	3,469	2.6	131,452	127,614	3,838	2.9
Boone	15,631	15,102	529	3.4	15,664	15,182	482	3.1	15,722	15,152	570	3.6
Bradley	4,543	4,333	210	4.6	4,517	4,343	174	3.9	4,483	4,311	172	3.8
Calhoun	2,346	2,257	89	3.8	2,358	2,276	82	3.5	2,343	2,249	94	4.0
Carroll	12,373	11,952	421	3.4	12,476	12,143	333	2.7	12,960	12,510	450	3.5
Chicot	3,306	3,069	237	7.2	3,306	3,105	201	6.1	3,466	3,226	240	6.9
Clark	9,859	9,515	344	3.5	9,906	9,562	344	3.5	9,611	9,271	340	3.5
Clay	5,809	5,520	289	5.0	5,843	5,617	226	3.9	5,753	5,501	252	4.4
Cleburne	9,108	8,694	414	4.5	9,134	8,768	366	4.0	9,195	8,762	433	4.7
Cleveland	3,210	3,082	128	4.0	3,232	3,115	117	3.6	3,259	3,133	126	3.9
Columbia	8,865	8,461	404	4.6	8,914	8,543	371	4.2	9,005	8,598	407	4.5
Conway	8,192	7,836	356	4.3	8,178	7,852	326	4.0	8,214	7,849	365	4.4
Craighead	54,129	52,526	1,603	3.0	54,464	52,980	1,484	2.7	53,454	51,955	1,499	2.8
Crawford	26,097	25,160	937	3.6	26,163	25,313	850	3.2	26,203	25,274	929	3.5
Crittenden	21,890	21,021	869	4.0	22,031	21,226	805	3.7	21,827	20,940	887	4.1
Cross	7,373	7,024	349	4.7	7,397	7,094	303	4.1	7,614	7,312	302	4.0
Dallas	2,835	2,722	113	4.0	2,857	2,749	108	3.8	2,920	2,806	114	3.9
Desha	5,465	5,211	254	4.6	5,516	5,299	217	3.9	5,363	5,110	253	4.7
Drew	7,945	7,543	402	5.1	7,953	7,596	357	4.5	7,971	7,584	387	4.9
Faulkner	61,281	59,308	1,973	3.2	61,284	59,492	1,792	2.9	60,759	58,805	1,954	3.2
Franklin	7,308	7,064	244	3.3	7,352	7,122	230	3.1	7,434	7,185	249	3.3
Fulton	4,755	4,548	207	4.4	4,737	4,560	177	3.7	4,678	4,474	204	4.4
Garland	39,136	37,530	1,606	4.1	39,143	37,631	1,512	3.9	39,164	37,622	1,542	3.9
Grant	8,374	8,117	257	3.1	8,380	8,156	224	2.7	8,291	8,039	252	3.0
Greene	19,456	18,763	693	3.6	19,546	18,932	614	3.1	19,554	18,874	680	3.5
Hempstead	9,917	9,536	381	3.8	9,968	9,596	372	3.7	9,835	9,515	320	3.3
Hot Spring	13,839	13,342	497	3.6	13,819	13,353	466	3.4	14,088	13,599	489	3.5
Howard	5,803	5,595	208	3.6	5,826	5,627	199	3.4	5,795	5,622	173	3.0
Independence	16,241	15,585	656	4.0	16,186	15,533	653	4.0	16,282	15,672	610	3.7
Izard	4,875	4,583	292	6.0	4,860	4,598	262	5.4	4,930	4,642	288	5.8
Jackson	5,810	5,413	397	6.8	5,817	5,482	335	5.8	5,808	5,446	362	6.2
Jefferson	27,344	25,825	1,519	5.6	27,431	26,032	1,399	5.1	27,752	26,335	1,417	5.1
Johnson	10,433	9,985	448	4.3	10,456	10,062	394	3.8	10,689	10,255	434	4.1
Lafayette	2,524	2,392	132	5.2	2,525	2,410	115	4.6	2,503	2,384	119	4.8
Lawrence	6,937	6,654	283	4.1	7,001	6,748	253	3.6	6,931	6,676	255	3.7
Lee	2,904	2,774	130	4.5	2,931	2,807	124	4.2	2,859	2,734	125	4.4
Lincoln	3,930	3,761	169	4.3	3,958	3,802	156	3.9	3,984	3,822	162	4.1
Little River	5,545	5,262	283	5.1	5,575	5,298	277	5.0	5,555	5,291	264	4.8
Logan	8,699	8,346	353	4.1	8,702	8,380	322	3.7	8,807	8,484	323	3.7
Lonoke	33,863	32,817	1,046	3.1	33,933	32,966	967	2.8	33,832	32,521	1,311	3.9
Madison	7,453	7,250	203	2.7	7,552	7,365	187	2.5	7,378	7,176	202	2.7
Marion	6,417	6,131	286	4.5	6,428	6,160	268	4.2	6,385	6,114	271	4.2
Miller	19,666	18,776	890	4.5	19,755	18,891	864	4.4	19,672	18,888	784	4.0

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted												
County	December 2018				November 2018				December 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,458	16,584	874	5.0	17,612	16,786	826	4.7	17,617	16,701	916	5.2
Monroe	2,687	2,567	120	4.5	2,696	2,587	109	4.0	2,749	2,631	118	4.3
Montgomery	2,984	2,839	145	4.9	3,010	2,878	132	4.4	2,925	2,776	149	5.1
Nevada	3,600	3,480	120	3.3	3,609	3,495	114	3.2	3,598	3,475	123	3.4
Newton	3,346	3,220	126	3.8	3,338	3,243	95	2.8	3,347	3,229	118	3.5
Ouachita	9,753	9,307	446	4.6	9,767	9,346	421	4.3	9,704	9,286	418	4.3
Perry	4,217	4,027	190	4.5	4,211	4,044	167	4.0	4,160	3,994	166	4.0
Phillips	6,543	6,166	377	5.8	6,576	6,221	355	5.4	6,516	6,115	401	6.2
Pike	4,236	4,069	167	3.9	4,253	4,095	158	3.7	4,269	4,084	185	4.3
Poinsett	10,354	9,988	366	3.5	10,428	10,102	326	3.1	10,266	9,871	395	3.8
Polk	7,951	7,621	330	4.2	7,961	7,676	285	3.6	7,905	7,573	332	4.2
Pope	28,821	27,537	1,284	4.5	28,894	27,767	1,127	3.9	29,453	28,180	1,273	4.3
Prairie	3,579	3,426	153	4.3	3,595	3,459	136	3.8	3,734	3,554	180	4.8
Pulaski	190,367	183,883	6,484	3.4	190,384	184,406	5,978	3.1	188,674	182,314	6,360	3.4
Randolph	7,206	6,921	285	4.0	7,204	6,964	240	3.3	6,878	6,591	287	4.2
St. Francis	8,254	7,802	452	5.5	8,249	7,853	396	4.8	8,286	7,881	405	4.9
Saline	57,839	56,117	1,722	3.0	57,879	56,275	1,604	2.8	57,334	55,642	1,692	3.0
Scott	4,375	4,219	156	3.6	4,386	4,245	141	3.2	4,434	4,281	153	3.5
Searcy	2,887	2,764	123	4.3	2,904	2,783	121	4.2	2,833	2,706	127	4.5
Sebastian	55,826	53,880	1,946	3.5	55,969	54,165	1,804	3.2	56,148	54,151	1,997	3.6
Sevier	5,525	5,266	259	4.7	5,546	5,309	237	4.3	5,681	5,433	248	4.4
Sharp	5,729	5,450	279	4.9	5,731	5,477	254	4.4	5,962	5,706	256	4.3
Stone	4,817	4,572	245	5.1	4,876	4,650	226	4.6	4,740	4,520	220	4.6
Union	15,780	14,978	802	5.1	15,769	15,025	744	4.7	16,050	15,223	827	5.2
Van Buren	5,894	5,577	317	5.4	5,900	5,618	282	4.8	5,999	5,688	311	5.2
Washington	122,423	119,356	3,067	2.5	123,759	120,848	2,911	2.4	121,244	118,275	2,969	2.4
White	33,749	32,210	1,539	4.6	33,623	32,291	1,332	4.0	33,693	32,204	1,489	4.4
Woodruff	2,837	2,680	157	5.5	2,841	2,709	132	4.6	2,899	2,766	133	4.6
Yell	8,519	8,163	356	4.2	8,567	8,257	310	3.6	8,658	8,324	334	3.9

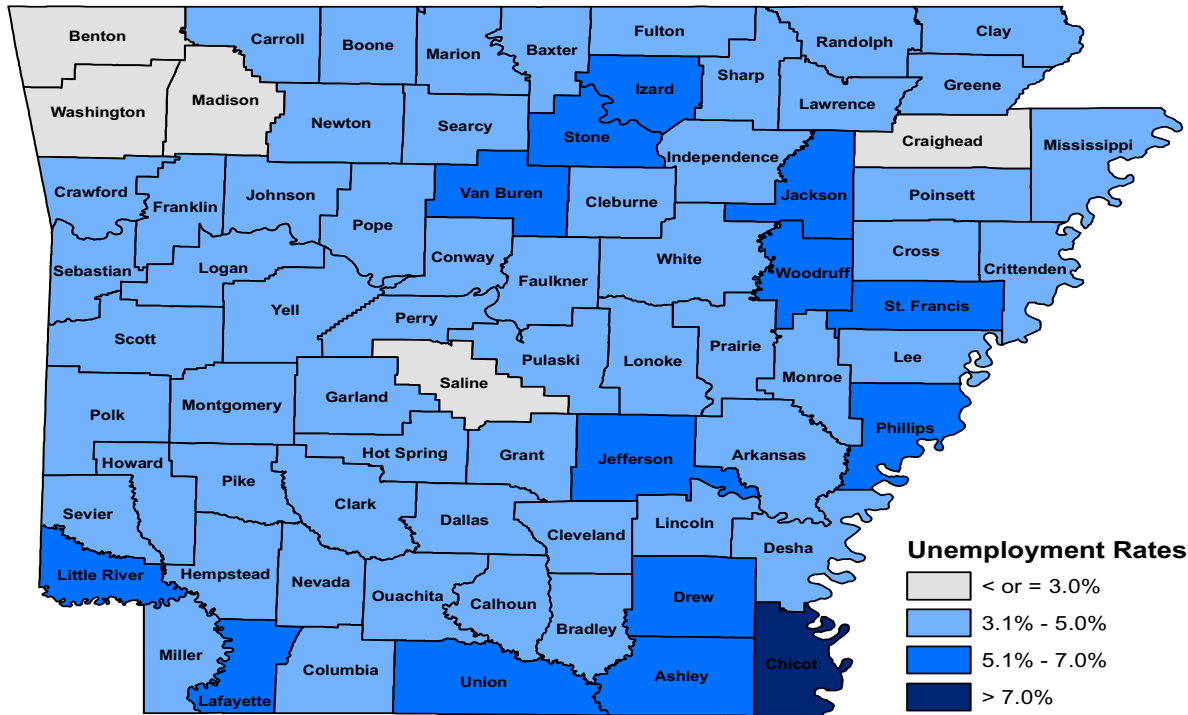
County Labor Force Summary

Between November and December, unemployment rates increased in 73 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Two counties-- Clark and Independence-- were unchanged over-the-month. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.5 percent in Washington County to a high of 7.2 percent in Chicot County.

In December, thirty-one counties posted unemployment rates at or below four percent. This is down sharply from the 50 counties at or below four percent in November. For the 7th month in a row, no county reported a jobless rate above eight percent.

Compared to December 2017, unemployment rates are up in 46 Arkansas counties. Twenty-one counties posted rate declines over-the-year, while 8 counties were the same.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

December 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.5	26	Pike	3.9	51	Bradley	4.6
2	Madison	2.7	27	Cleveland	4.0	51	Columbia	4.6
3	Benton	2.8	27	Crittenden	4.0	51	Desha	4.6
4	Craighead	3.0	27	Dallas	4.0	51	Ouachita	4.6
4	Saline	3.0	27	Independence	4.0	51	White	4.6
6	Grant	3.1	27	Randolph	4.0	56	Cross	4.7
6	Lonoke	3.1	32	Garland	4.1	56	Sevier	4.7
8	Faulkner	3.2	32	Lawrence	4.1	58	Montgomery	4.9
9	Franklin	3.3	32	Logan	4.1	58	Sharp	4.9
9	Nevada	3.3	35	Polk	4.2	60	Clay	5.0
11	Boone	3.4	35	Yell	4.2	60	Mississippi	5.0
11	Carroll	3.4	37	Conway	4.3	62	Drew	5.1
11	Pulaski	3.4	37	Johnson	4.3	62	Little River	5.1
14	Arkansas	3.5	37	Lincoln	4.3	62	Stone	5.1
14	Clark	3.5	37	Prairie	4.3	62	Union	5.1
14	Poinsett	3.5	37	Searcy	4.3	66	Lafayette	5.2
14	Sebastian	3.5	42	Baxter	4.4	67	Van Buren	5.4
18	Crawford	3.6	42	Fulton	4.4	68	St. Francis	5.5
18	Greene	3.6	44	Cleburne	4.5	68	Woodruff	5.5
18	Hot Spring	3.6	44	Lee	4.5	70	Jefferson	5.6
18	Howard	3.6	44	Marion	4.5	71	Ashley	5.7
18	Scott	3.6	44	Miller	4.5	72	Phillips	5.8
23	Calhoun	3.8	44	Monroe	4.5	73	Izard	6.0
23	Hempstead	3.8	44	Perry	4.5	74	Jackson	6.8
23	Newton	3.8	44	Pope	4.5	75	Chicot	7.2

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	December 2018				November 2018				December 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	251,449	243,282	8,167	3.2	251,598	244,080	7,518	3.0	250,013	241,441	8,572	3.4
City of Little Rock	98,167	94,836	3,331	3.4	98,173	95,105	3,068	3.1	97,069	94,026	3,043	3.1
Eastern	46,964	44,787	2,177	4.6	47,184	45,201	1,983	4.2	47,102	44,982	2,120	4.5
North Central	93,815	89,312	4,503	4.8	93,705	89,686	4,019	4.3	94,186	89,880	4,306	4.6
Northeast	121,349	116,956	4,393	3.6	122,098	118,129	3,969	3.3	120,453	116,169	4,284	3.6
Northwest	319,557	310,360	9,197	2.9	322,519	314,013	8,506	2.6	317,521	308,287	9,234	2.9
Southeast	80,863	76,933	3,930	4.9	81,039	77,526	3,513	4.3	81,182	77,430	3,752	4.6
Southwest	92,159	88,032	4,127	4.5	92,469	88,565	3,904	4.2	92,661	88,770	3,891	4.2
West Central	130,236	124,843	5,393	4.1	130,437	125,501	4,936	3.8	131,231	125,954	5,277	4.0
Western	110,256	106,290	3,966	3.6	110,533	106,901	3,632	3.3	110,931	106,948	3,983	3.6

