

# Arkansas

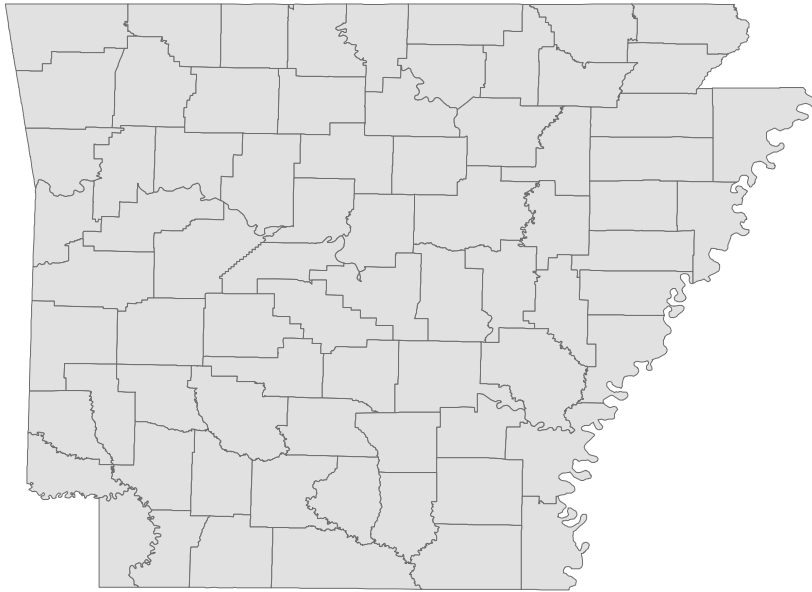
## Labor Market Report



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18

February

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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.

### February Spotlight

## Alternative Measure of Labor Underutilization

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

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level and are produced quarterly. Estimates are calculated using a four quarter moving average. The most recent data available is an Annual Average for 2017.

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

U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
1.1%	1.8%	3.7%	3.9%	4.6%	7.1%

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

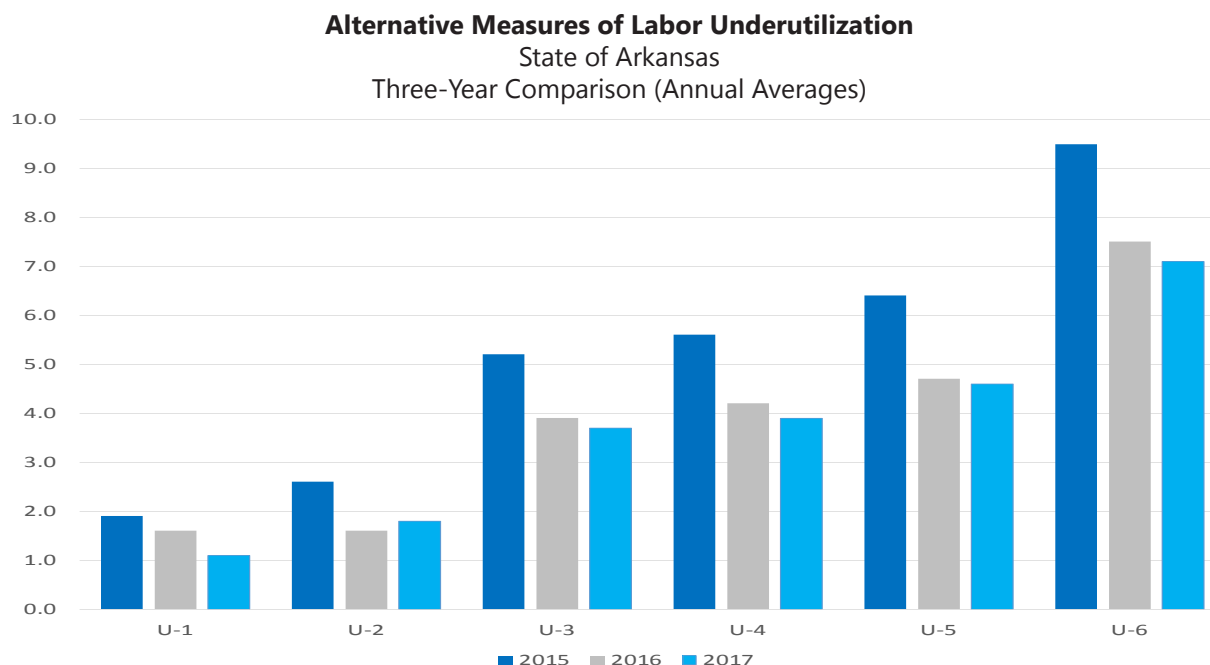
**U-2 Measure:** Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force.

**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.



### 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 increased from 3.7 percent in January to 3.8 percent in February. Arkansas' civilian labor force declined 1,794, a result of 1,811 fewer employed and 17 additional unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate remained stable at 4.1 percent between January and February.

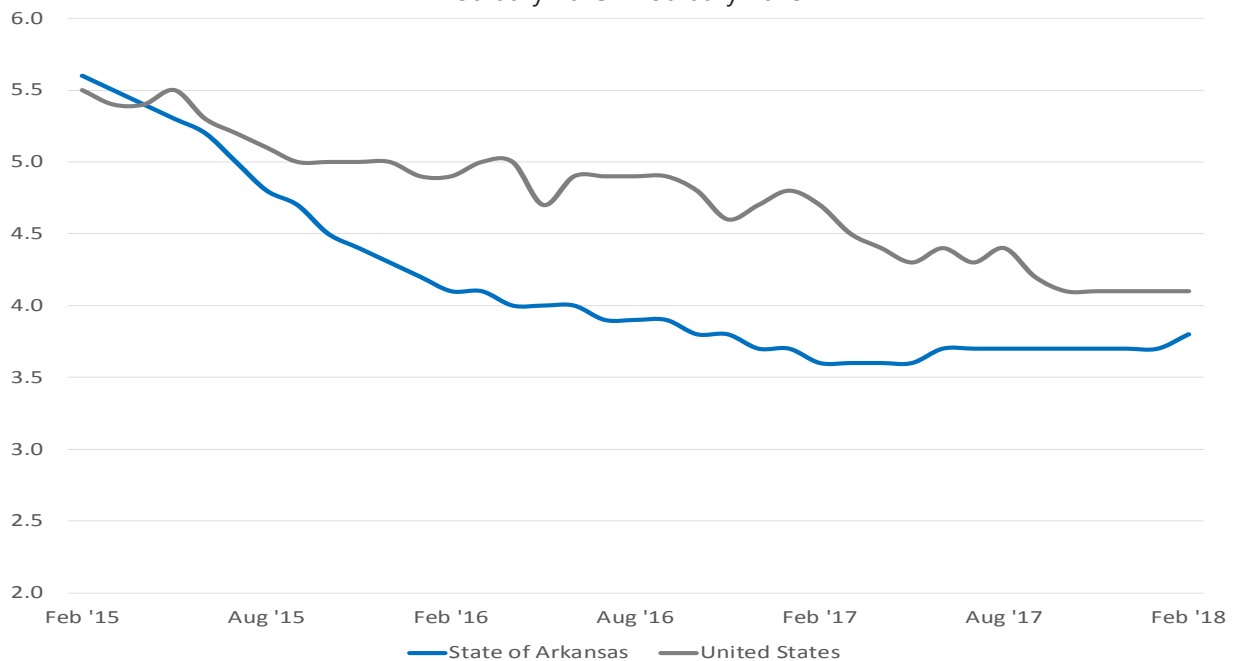
BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate rose one-tenth of percentage point in February, pushed up by the slight decline in the civilian labor force. Compared to February 2017, Arkansas' civilian labor force has grown by 4,659."

#### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	
Civilian Labor Force	1,353,589	1,355,383	1,348,930	Civilian Labor Force	1,341,114	1,326,319	1,342,185
Employment	1,302,799	1,304,610	1,299,810	Employment	1,284,411	1,268,424	1,286,087
Unemployment	50,790	50,773	49,120	Unemployment	56,703	57,895	56,098
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.7	3.6	Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.4	4.2
U.S. Unemployment	4.1	4.1	4.7	U.S. Unemployment	4.4	4.5	4.9

#### Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas vs. United States  
February 2015 - February 2018



### State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

#### Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1232.1	1222.9	1230.1	9.2	2.0
Goods Producing	212.9	212.9	211.5	0.0	1.4
Mining, Logging, and Construction	55.3	54.5	55.4	0.8	-0.1
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	30.3	29.8	31.2	0.5	-0.9
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>157.6</b>	<b>158.4</b>	<b>156.1</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Durable Goods	74.9	75.0	74.5	-0.1	0.4
Nondurable Goods	82.7	83.4	81.6	-0.7	1.1
Service Providing	1019.2	1010.0	1018.6	9.2	0.6
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>246.4</b>	<b>247.8</b>	<b>248.4</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-2.0</b>
Wholesale Trade	46.0	46.0	46.4	0.0	-0.4
Retail Trade	137.8	138.8	139.4	-1.0	-1.6
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	62.6	63.0	62.6	-0.4	0.0
<b>Information</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Finance & Insurance	39.8	40.1	39.4	-0.3	0.4
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.2	13.2	13.0	0.0	0.2
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>143.6</b>	<b>141.0</b>	<b>143.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Professional, Scientific & Technical	43.0	43.1	43.6	-0.1	-0.6
Management of Companies	34.8	34.8	36.0	0.0	-1.2
Administrative & Support Services	65.8	63.1	63.9	2.7	1.9
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>187.9</b>	<b>186.7</b>	<b>186.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Educational Services	15.5	14.6	15.5	0.9	0.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	172.4	172.1	170.9	0.3	1.5
Ambulatory Health Care	56.2	56.4	55.6	-0.2	0.6
Social Assistance	40.1	39.5	39.3	0.6	0.8
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>112.9</b>	<b>110.7</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10.3	9.8	10.0	0.5	0.3
Accommodation & Food Services	102.6	100.9	102.5	1.7	0.1
Accommodation Services	10.8	10.4	10.8	0.4	0.0
Food Services	91.8	90.5	91.7	1.3	0.1
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>214.3</b>	<b>209.4</b>	<b>213.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Federal Government	19.5	19.8	20.1	-0.3	-0.6
State Government	79.5	75.0	79.5	4.5	0.0
Local Government	115.3	114.6	114.2	0.7	1.1

### State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

#### January 2018 - February 2018

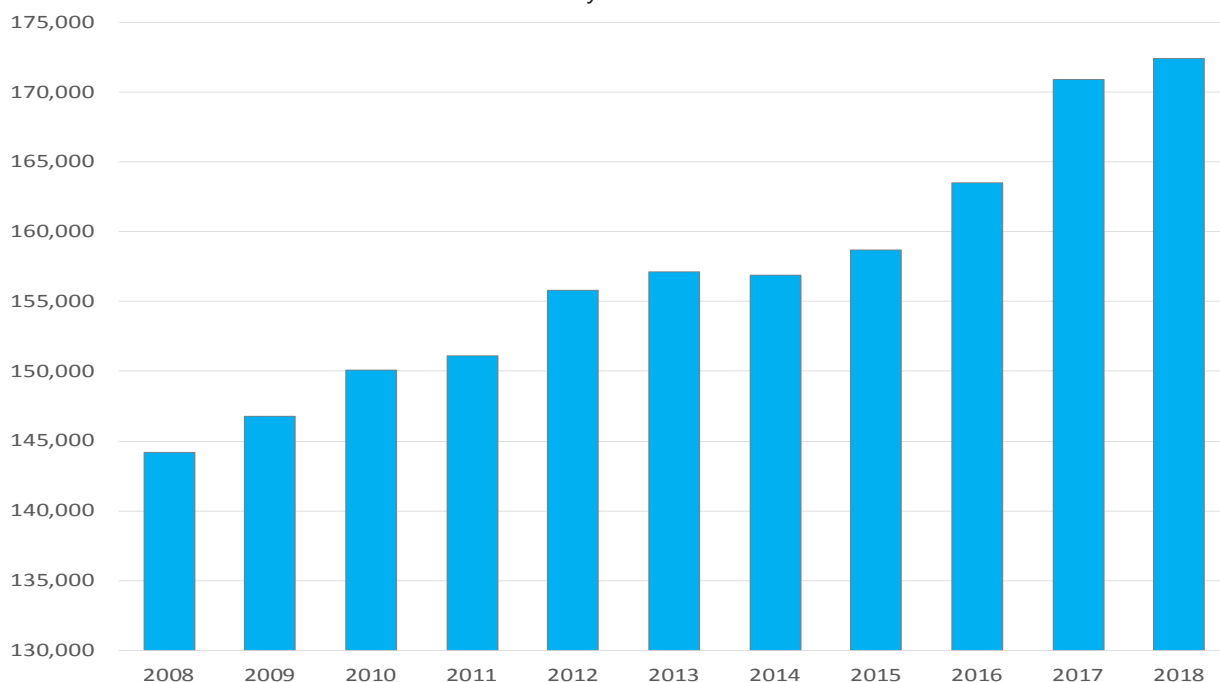
Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment rose 9,200 in February to total 1,232,100. Six major industry sectors added jobs, as four sectors posted minor declines. The largest increase occurred in **government**, up 4,900. Most of the addition was in state government (+4,500), as public colleges and universities returned from the holiday break. Jobs in **professional and business services** rose 2,600. All gains were in administrative and support services (+2,700), a subsector which includes employment agencies. **Leisure and hospitality** added 2,200 jobs. Most of the hiring occurred in food services (+1,300), a typical seasonal expansion. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** reported the greatest loss (-1,400), related in large part to seasonal declines in retail trade (-1,000).

#### February 2017 - February 2018

Compared to February 2017, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 2,000. Eight major industry sectors posted growth, more than offsetting losses in three sectors. Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 1,500. Most of the gains were in nondurable goods (+1,100), due in large part to reported expansions in food manufacturing. **Educational and health services** added 1,500 jobs, all in health care and social assistance (+1,500). Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** declined 2,000. Retail trade posted the largest loss (-1,600), as the subsector continues to experience layoffs and closures. Jobs in **information** decreased 1,100, related to reported contractions in activities such as telecommunications and data processing-hosting.

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

February: 2008 - 2018



### State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

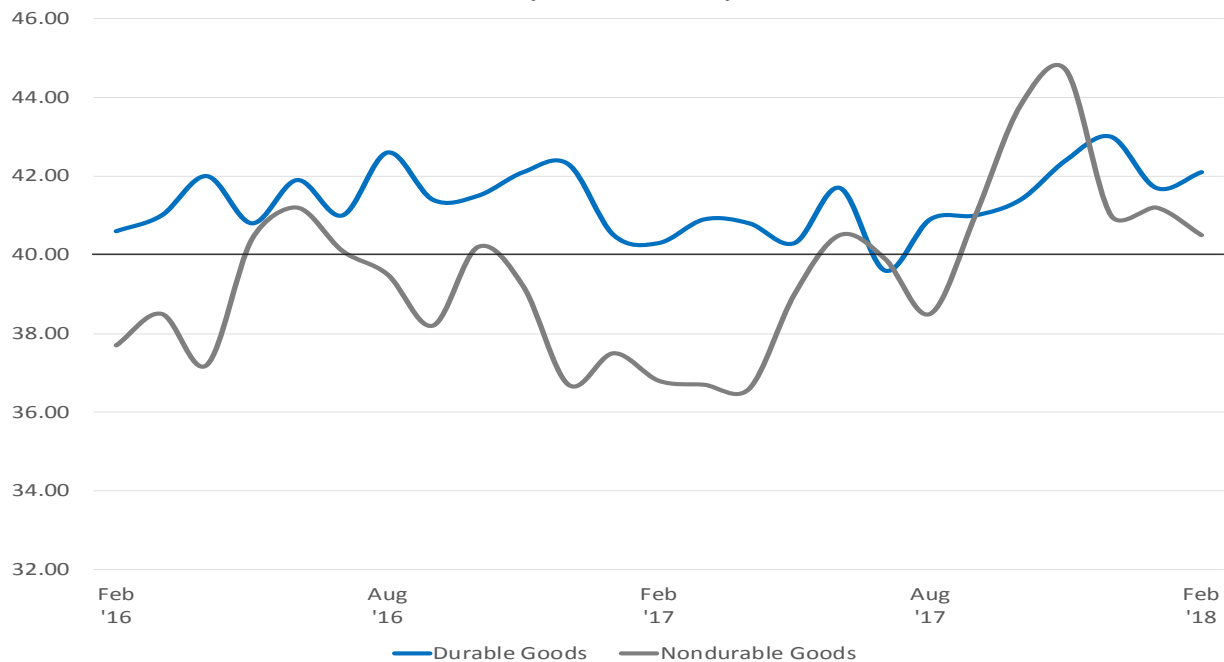
#### Manufacturing

	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>
Average Weekly Hours	41.2	41.4	38.4
Average Hourly Earnings	16.69	16.27	15.95
Average Weekly Earnings	687.63	673.58	612.48

#### Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>		<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>
Average Weekly Hours	42.1	41.7	40.3	Average Weekly Hours	40.5	41.2	36.8
Average Hourly Earnings	18.52	17.84	17.28	Average Hourly Earnings	15.13	14.96	14.66
Average Weekly Earnings	779.69	743.93	696.38	Average Weekly Earnings	612.77	616.35	539.49

**Average Weekly Hours: Durable Goods vs. Nondurable Goods Manufacturing**  
February 2016 - February 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)

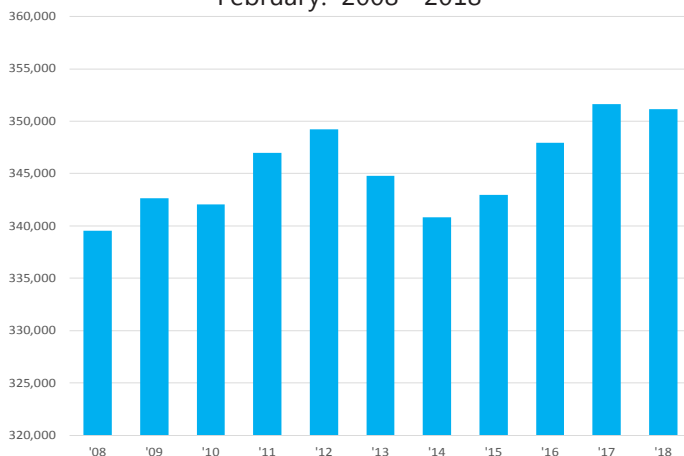
	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	351,173	348,712	351,641	2,461	-468
Employment	337,678	335,292	338,532	2,386	-854
Unemployment	13,495	13,420	13,109	75	386
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.8	3.7	0.0	0.1

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

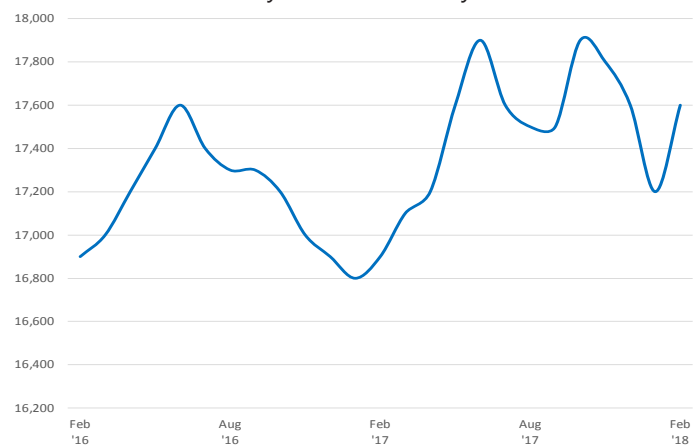
(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Total Nonfarm	356.6	356.7	355.5	-0.1	1.1
Goods Producing	37.7	37.4	37.2	0.3	0.5
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.6	17.2	16.9	0.4	0.7
Manufacturing	20.1	20.2	20.3	-0.1	-0.2
Service Providing	318.9	319.3	318.3	-0.4	0.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	69.0	69.4	69.3	-0.4	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	15.0	15.0	15.0	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	38.1	38.4	38.7	-0.3	-0.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	15.9	16.0	15.6	-0.1	0.3
Information	5.7	5.8	6.2	-0.1	-0.5
Financial Activities	21.0	21.0	20.8	0.0	0.2
Professional & Business Services	46.8	47.3	47.2	-0.5	-0.4
Educational & Health Services	56.7	57.4	55.9	-0.7	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	33.1	32.5	33.2	0.6	-0.1
Other Services	15.4	15.4	15.2	0.0	0.2
Government	71.2	70.5	70.5	0.7	0.7
Federal Government	9.4	9.4	9.5	0.0	-0.1
State Government	35.5	35.0	35.2	0.5	0.3
Local Government	26.3	26.1	25.8	0.2	0.5

Number in the Civilian Labor Force  
February: 2008 - 2018



Jobs in Mining-Logging-Construction  
February 2016 - February 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)

	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	273,003	267,928	269,269	5,075	3,734
Employment	264,709	259,460	261,090	5,249	3,619
Unemployment	8,294	8,468	8,179	-174	115
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.2	3.0	-0.2	0.0

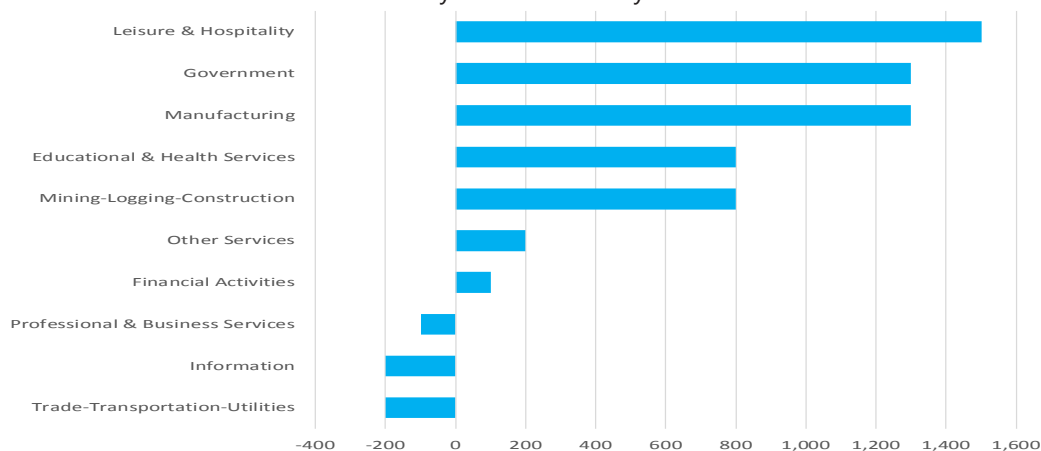
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Total Nonfarm	256.8	253.0	251.3	3.8	5.5
Goods Producing	40.9	40.4	38.8	0.5	2.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	11.5	11.2	10.7	0.3	0.8
Manufacturing	29.4	29.2	28.1	0.2	1.3
Service Providing	215.9	212.6	212.5	3.3	3.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	55.9	56.4	56.1	-0.5	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	13.3	13.3	12.9	0.0	0.4
Retail Trade	26.1	26.6	26.4	-0.5	-0.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.5	16.5	16.8	0.0	-0.3
Information	1.8	1.8	2.0	0.0	-0.2
Financial Activities	7.8	7.8	7.7	0.0	0.1
Professional & Business Services	49.8	49.1	49.9	0.7	-0.1
Educational & Health Services	29.0	28.7	28.2	0.3	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	25.8	25.1	24.3	0.7	1.5
Other Services	9.0	8.9	8.8	0.1	0.2
Government	36.8	34.8	35.5	2.0	1.3
Federal Government	2.5	2.6	2.5	-0.1	0.0
State Government	15.1	13.2	14.2	1.9	0.9
Local Government	19.2	19.0	18.8	0.2	0.4

### Over-the-Year Job Growth by Industry (Ranked)

February 2017 - February 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)

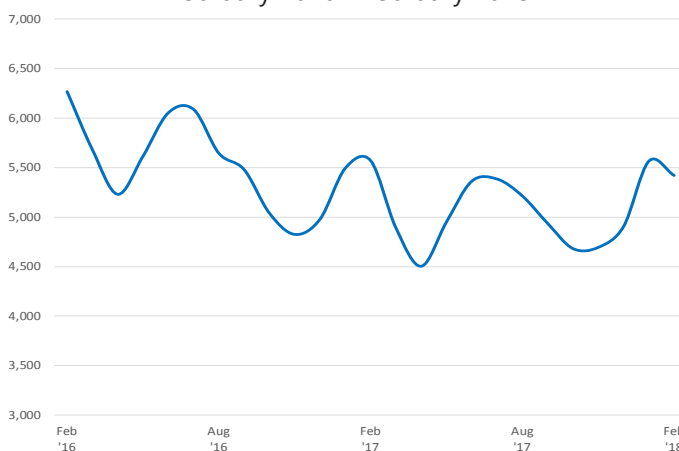
	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	118,264	116,934	119,892	1,330	-1,628
Employment	112,844	111,370	114,322	1,474	-1,478
Unemployment	5,420	5,564	5,570	-144	-150
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.8	4.6	-0.2	0.0

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

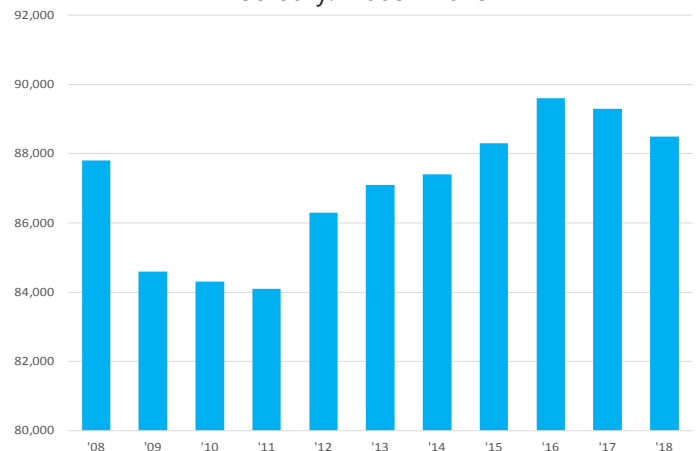
(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>110.7</b>	<b>112.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
Goods Producing	22.9	22.6	23.3	0.3	-0.4
<b>Mining, Logging &amp; Construction</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
Service Providing	88.5	88.1	89.3	0.4	-0.8
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.6</b>
Wholesale Trade	3.9	3.9	3.8	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	12.2	12.3	12.8	-0.1	-0.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.2	6.3	6.3	-0.1	-0.1
<b>Information</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>
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	14.5	14.3	14.3	0.2	0.2

**Number of Unemployed**  
February 2016 - February 2018



**Jobs in Service Providing Industries**  
February: 2008 - 2018



### Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

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

	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	40,052	39,650	40,153	402	-101
Employment	38,189	37,767	38,345	422	-156
Unemployment	1,863	1,883	1,808	-20	55
Unemployment Rate	4.7	4.7	4.5	0.0	0.2

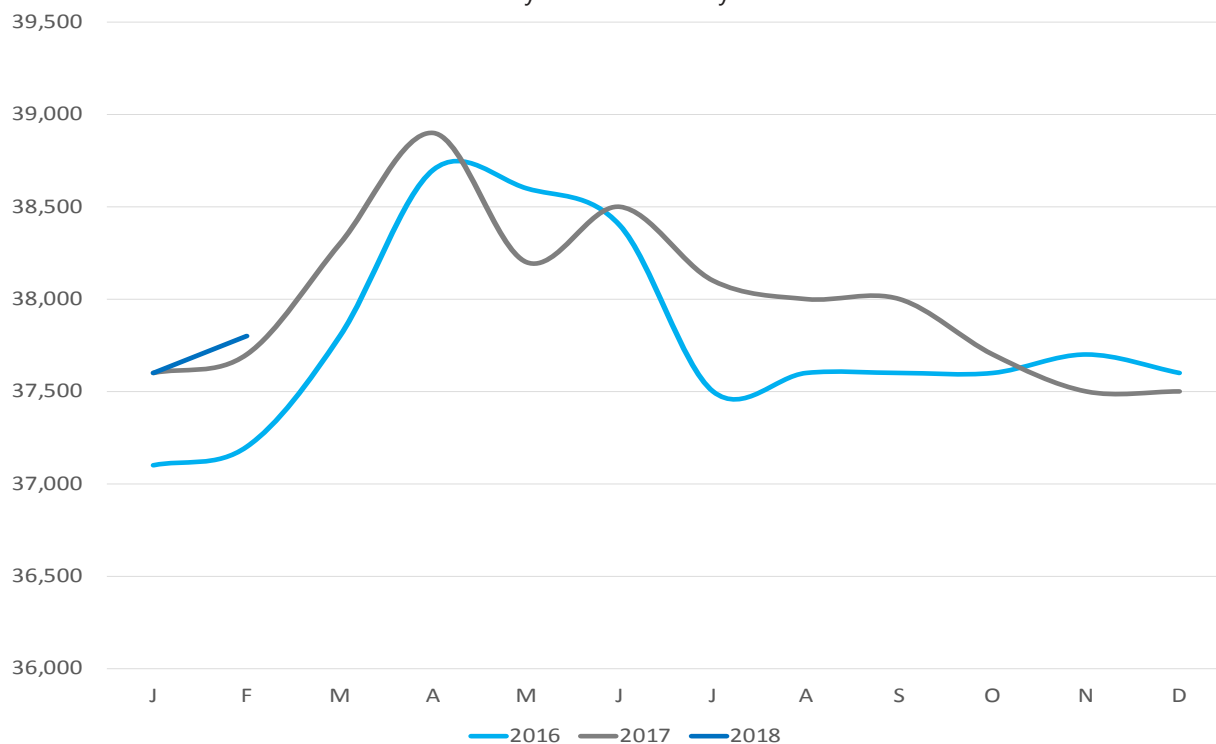
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Total Nonfarm	37.8	37.6	37.7	0.2	0.1
Goods Producing	4.5	4.4	4.3	0.1	0.2
Service Providing	33.3	33.2	33.4	0.1	-0.1
Government	4.6	4.5	4.5	0.1	0.1

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

January 2016 - February 2018



### Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

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

	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	63,930	63,076	63,387	854	543
Employment	61,610	60,664	61,145	946	465
Unemployment	2,320	2,412	2,242	-92	78
Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.8	3.5	-0.2	0.1

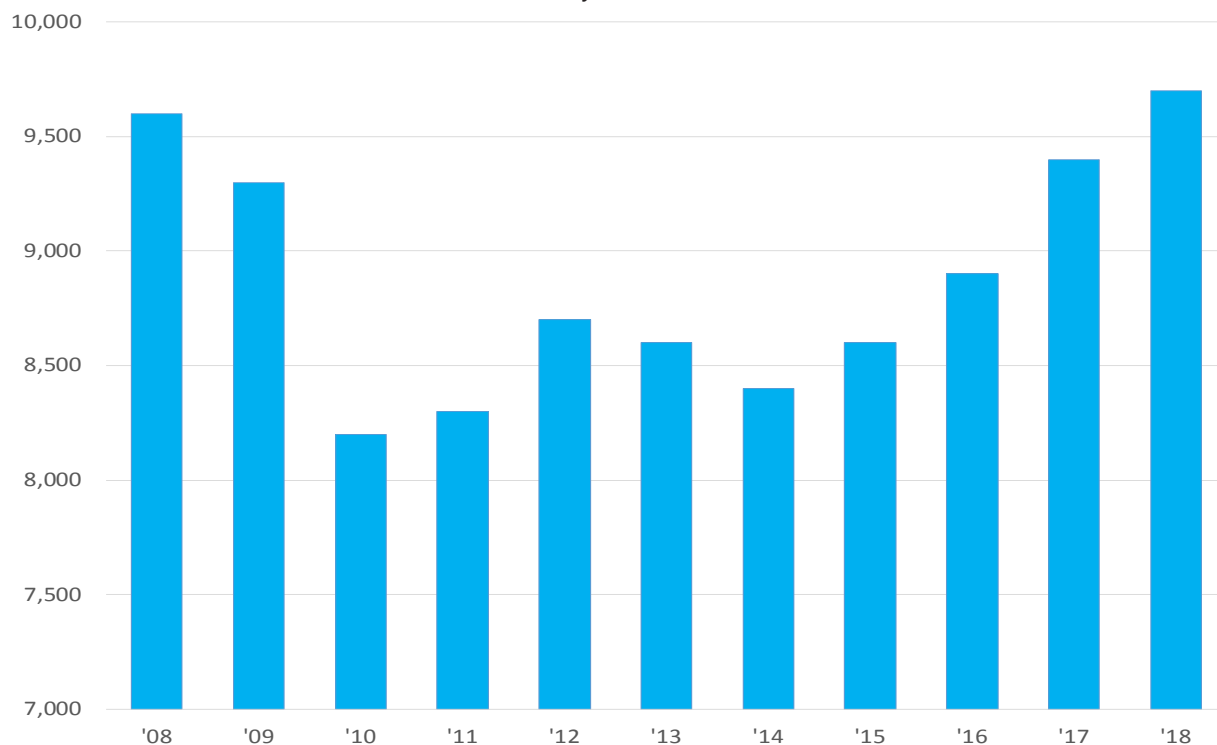
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Total Nonfarm	58.0	57.5	57.0	0.5	1.0
Goods Producing	9.7	9.7	9.4	0.0	0.3
Service Providing	48.3	47.8	47.6	0.5	0.7
Government	9.3	9.2	9.1	0.1	0.2

### Jobs in Goods Producing Industries

February: 2008 - 2018



### Metropolitan Statistical Areas Pine Bluff MSA

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

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

	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	35,016	34,320	35,243	696	-227
Employment	33,042	32,355	33,251	687	-209
Unemployment	1,974	1,965	1,992	9	-18
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.7	5.7	-0.1	-0.1

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Total Nonfarm	32.8	32.2	32.7	0.6	0.1
Goods Producing	6.1	6.0	6.0	0.1	0.1
Service Providing	26.7	26.2	26.7	0.5	0.0
Government	9.6	9.3	9.4	0.3	0.2

**Number of Unemployment**  
February 2013 - February 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.

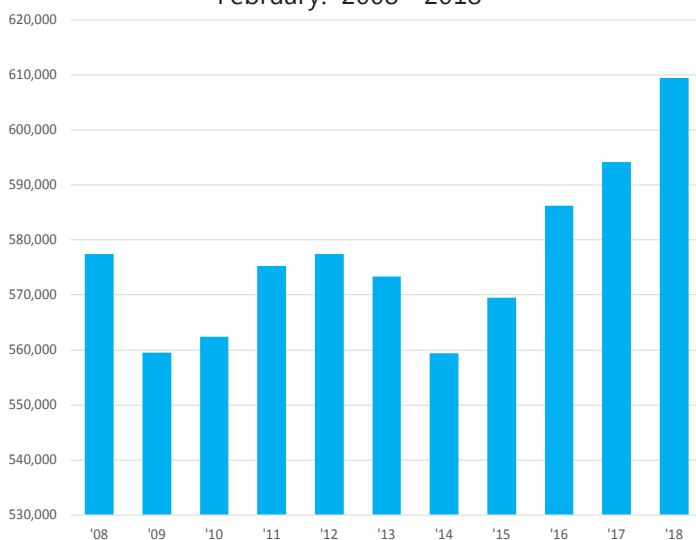
	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	635,623	628,166	624,633	7,457	10,990
Employment	609,527	601,950	594,150	7,577	15,377
Unemployment	26,096	26,216	30,483	-120	-4,387
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.2	4.9	-0.1	-0.8

##### Texarkana MSA

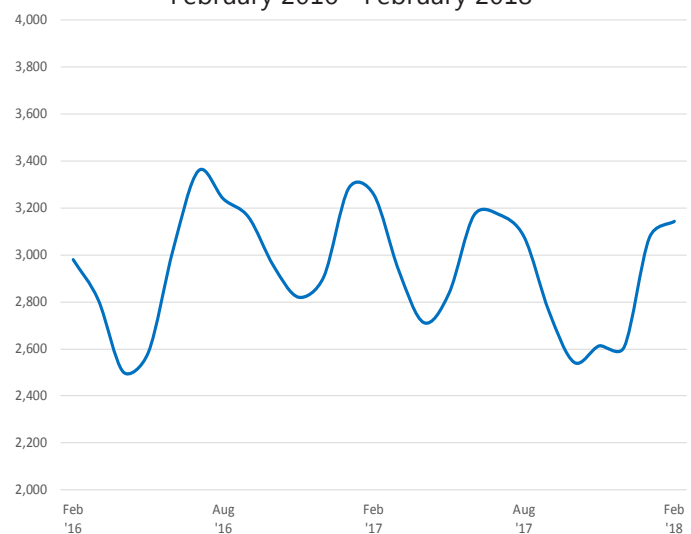
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	65,025	64,272	64,998	753	27
Employment	61,882	61,199	61,741	683	141
Unemployment	3,143	3,073	3,257	70	-114
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.8	5.0	0.0	-0.2

**Memphis MSA- Employment**  
February: 2008 - 2018



**Texarkana MSA- Number of Unemployed**  
February 2016 - February 2018



### Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities Civilian Labor Force Estimates

#### Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	February 2018				January 2018				February 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,570	9,171	399	4.2	9,339	8,925	414	4.4	9,460	9,045	415	4.4
Batesville Micro	16,287	15,572	715	4.4	16,137	15,359	778	4.8	16,258	15,457	801	4.9
Blytheville Micro	17,327	16,265	1,062	6.1	17,300	16,209	1,091	6.3	17,720	16,500	1,220	6.9
Camden Micro	12,007	11,402	605	5.0	11,926	11,305	621	5.2	12,064	11,470	594	4.9
El Dorado Micro	16,186	15,114	1,072	6.6	15,969	14,972	997	6.2	16,065	15,144	921	5.7
Forrest City Micro	8,199	7,690	509	6.2	8,146	7,613	533	6.5	8,386	7,894	492	5.9
Harrison Micro	19,126	18,288	838	4.4	18,914	18,057	857	4.5	19,202	18,402	800	4.2
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,456	5,950	506	7.8	6,428	5,915	513	8.0	6,511	6,088	423	6.5
Hope Micro	13,348	12,845	503	3.8	13,239	12,714	525	4.0	13,480	12,962	518	3.8
Magnolia Micro	8,984	8,504	480	5.3	8,873	8,375	498	5.6	9,231	8,700	531	5.8
Malvern Micro	14,144	13,569	575	4.1	14,023	13,426	597	4.3	14,085	13,523	562	4.0
Mountain Home Micro	16,156	15,402	754	4.7	16,058	15,227	831	5.2	16,263	15,483	780	4.8
Paragould Micro	19,665	18,856	809	4.1	19,422	18,590	832	4.3	19,682	18,858	824	4.2
Russellville Micro	37,795	35,944	1,851	4.9	37,378	35,404	1,974	5.3	37,571	35,796	1,775	4.7
Searcy Micro	33,506	31,747	1,759	5.2	33,230	31,417	1,813	5.5	33,742	31,961	1,781	5.3

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 2018				January 2018				February 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,413	11,871	542	4.4	12,198	11,636	562	4.6	12,199	11,706	493	4.0
Benton	17,095	16,472	623	3.6	16,984	16,354	630	3.7	17,089	16,502	587	3.4
Bentonville	25,343	24,612	731	2.9	24,889	24,124	765	3.1	24,988	24,269	719	2.9
Blytheville	5,907	5,538	369	6.2	5,894	5,519	375	6.4	6,064	5,618	446	7.4
Cabot	11,690	11,283	407	3.5	11,607	11,206	401	3.5	11,754	11,352	402	3.4
Conway	33,132	31,892	1,240	3.7	32,899	31,661	1,238	3.8	33,193	31,982	1,211	3.6
El Dorado	7,074	6,568	506	7.2	6,988	6,506	482	6.9	7,047	6,581	466	6.6
Fayetteville	47,273	45,899	1,374	2.9	46,313	44,983	1,330	2.9	46,629	45,261	1,368	2.9
Fort Smith	39,204	37,519	1,685	4.3	38,640	37,010	1,630	4.2	39,702	38,147	1,555	3.9
Hot Springs	14,426	13,697	729	5.1	14,304	13,546	758	5.3	14,440	13,753	687	4.8
Jacksonville	11,665	11,115	550	4.7	11,586	11,036	550	4.7	11,703	11,134	569	4.9
Jonesboro	37,720	36,412	1,308	3.5	37,190	35,847	1,343	3.6	37,307	36,087	1,220	3.3
Little Rock	96,830	93,086	3,744	3.9	96,087	92,428	3,659	3.8	96,817	93,249	3,568	3.7
North Little Rock	29,829	28,528	1,301	4.4	29,612	28,326	1,286	4.3	29,733	28,578	1,155	3.9
Paragould	12,355	11,824	531	4.3	12,210	11,657	553	4.5	12,408	11,825	583	4.7
Pine Bluff	16,661	15,610	1,051	6.3	16,343	15,282	1,061	6.5	16,699	15,676	1,023	6.1
Rogers	35,005	34,012	993	2.8	34,357	33,338	1,019	3.0	34,571	33,538	1,033	3.0
Russellville	13,687	13,086	601	4.4	13,480	12,886	594	4.4	13,563	13,002	561	4.1
Searcy	10,273	9,836	437	4.3	10,173	9,733	440	4.3	10,374	9,902	472	4.5
Sherwood	15,618	15,079	539	3.5	15,566	14,972	594	3.8	15,659	15,105	554	3.5
Springdale	39,063	37,933	1,130	2.9	38,314	37,177	1,137	3.0	38,475	37,405	1,070	2.8
Texarkana, AR	13,654	12,964	690	5.1	13,504	12,814	690	5.1	13,752	13,060	692	5.0
Van Buren	10,234	9,804	430	4.2	10,086	9,675	411	4.1	10,370	9,986	384	3.7
West Memphis	10,759	10,200	559	5.2	10,644	10,052	592	5.6	10,722	10,122	600	5.6

### County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	February 2018				January 2018				February 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	8,696	8,315	381	4.4	8,686	8,280	406	4.7	8,838	8,499	339	3.8
Ashley	7,649	7,144	505	6.6	7,617	7,093	524	6.9	7,716	7,195	521	6.8
Baxter	16,156	15,402	754	4.7	16,058	15,227	831	5.2	16,263	15,483	780	4.8
Benton	132,533	128,318	4,215	3.2	130,194	125,774	4,420	3.4	130,629	126,529	4,100	3.1
Boone	15,777	15,088	689	4.4	15,603	14,898	705	4.5	15,809	15,165	644	4.1
Bradley	4,441	4,205	236	5.3	4,389	4,177	212	4.8	4,299	4,045	254	5.9
Calhoun	2,317	2,206	111	4.8	2,298	2,188	110	4.8	2,339	2,237	102	4.4
Carroll	12,739	12,192	547	4.3	12,613	11,995	618	4.9	12,559	11,990	569	4.5
Chicot	3,415	3,109	306	9.0	3,386	3,085	301	8.9	3,521	3,240	281	8.0
Clark	9,570	9,171	399	4.2	9,339	8,925	414	4.4	9,460	9,045	415	4.4
Clay	5,680	5,364	316	5.6	5,650	5,320	330	5.8	5,902	5,558	344	5.8
Cleburne	9,127	8,630	497	5.4	9,064	8,522	542	6.0	9,284	8,729	555	6.0
Cleveland	3,248	3,091	157	4.8	3,172	3,029	143	4.5	3,294	3,132	162	4.9
Columbia	8,984	8,504	480	5.3	8,873	8,375	498	5.6	9,231	8,700	531	5.8
Conway	8,135	7,710	425	5.2	8,066	7,648	418	5.2	8,289	7,795	494	6.0
Craighead	53,696	51,841	1,855	3.5	52,948	51,037	1,911	3.6	53,141	51,378	1,763	3.3
Crawford	26,219	25,108	1,111	4.2	25,876	24,776	1,100	4.3	26,629	25,573	1,056	4.0
Crittenden	21,662	20,648	1,014	4.7	21,393	20,350	1,043	4.9	21,555	20,490	1,065	4.9
Cross	7,510	7,144	366	4.9	7,474	7,083	391	5.2	7,699	7,317	382	5.0
Dallas	2,928	2,785	143	4.9	2,924	2,780	144	4.9	2,846	2,705	141	5.0
Desha	5,229	4,939	290	5.5	5,206	4,902	304	5.8	5,373	5,048	325	6.0
Drew	7,923	7,457	466	5.9	7,833	7,360	473	6.0	7,797	7,337	460	5.9
Faulkner	60,515	58,178	2,337	3.9	60,066	57,758	2,308	3.8	60,653	58,343	2,310	3.8
Franklin	7,414	7,114	300	4.0	7,330	7,037	293	4.0	7,343	7,058	285	3.9
Fulton	4,669	4,437	232	5.0	4,634	4,386	248	5.4	4,735	4,487	248	5.2
Garland	40,052	38,189	1,863	4.7	39,650	37,767	1,883	4.7	40,153	38,345	1,808	4.5
Grant	8,201	7,919	282	3.4	8,162	7,868	294	3.6	8,283	7,966	317	3.8
Greene	19,665	18,856	809	4.1	19,422	18,590	832	4.3	19,682	18,858	824	4.2
Hempstead	9,750	9,396	354	3.6	9,689	9,302	387	4.0	9,880	9,493	387	3.9
Hot Spring	14,144	13,569	575	4.1	14,023	13,426	597	4.3	14,085	13,523	562	4.0
Howard	5,874	5,668	206	3.5	5,803	5,595	208	3.6	5,938	5,725	213	3.6
Independence	16,287	15,572	715	4.4	16,137	15,359	778	4.8	16,258	15,457	801	4.9
Izard	4,863	4,572	291	6.0	4,790	4,458	332	6.9	4,935	4,654	281	5.7
Jackson	5,719	5,320	399	7.0	5,718	5,279	439	7.7	5,968	5,545	423	7.1
Jefferson	27,795	26,185	1,610	5.8	27,257	25,636	1,621	5.9	27,915	26,296	1,619	5.8
Johnson	10,601	10,072	529	5.0	10,562	9,990	572	5.4	10,640	10,145	495	4.7
Lafayette	2,474	2,317	157	6.3	2,448	2,298	150	6.1	2,543	2,398	145	5.7
Lawrence	6,867	6,553	314	4.6	6,812	6,471	341	5.0	6,904	6,607	297	4.3
Lee	2,798	2,629	169	6.0	2,793	2,618	175	6.3	2,965	2,788	177	6.0
Lincoln	3,973	3,766	207	5.2	3,891	3,690	201	5.2	4,034	3,823	211	5.2
Little River	5,534	5,247	287	5.2	5,486	5,190	296	5.4	5,568	5,284	284	5.1
Logan	8,787	8,391	396	4.5	8,695	8,297	398	4.6	8,891	8,500	391	4.4
Lonoke	33,315	32,061	1,254	3.8	33,104	31,844	1,260	3.8	33,488	32,258	1,230	3.7
Madison	7,374	7,126	248	3.4	7,256	6,996	260	3.6	7,371	7,128	243	3.3
Marion	6,385	6,074	311	4.9	6,343	6,008	335	5.3	6,454	6,155	299	4.6
Miller	19,747	18,756	991	5.0	19,520	18,539	981	5.0	19,832	18,895	937	4.7

(continued on Page 16)



### County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted												
County	February 2018				January 2018				February 2018			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,327	16,265	1,062	6.1	17,300	16,209	1,091	6.3	17,720	16,500	1,220	6.9
Monroe	2,737	2,603	134	4.9	2,727	2,581	146	5.4	2,805	2,665	140	5.0
Montgomery	2,872	2,700	172	6.0	2,830	2,649	181	6.4	3,010	2,843	167	5.5
Nevada	3,598	3,449	149	4.1	3,550	3,412	138	3.9	3,600	3,469	131	3.6
Newton	3,349	3,200	149	4.4	3,311	3,159	152	4.6	3,393	3,237	156	4.6
Ouachita	9,690	9,196	494	5.1	9,628	9,117	511	5.3	9,725	9,233	492	5.1
Perry	4,157	3,941	216	5.2	4,121	3,910	211	5.1	4,187	3,969	218	5.2
Phillips	6,456	5,950	506	7.8	6,428	5,915	513	8.0	6,511	6,088	423	6.5
Pike	4,250	4,050	200	4.7	4,232	4,010	222	5.2	4,187	3,992	195	4.7
Poinsett	10,234	9,769	465	4.5	10,128	9,627	501	4.9	10,246	9,767	479	4.7
Polk	7,779	7,403	376	4.8	7,713	7,305	408	5.3	8,012	7,584	428	5.3
Pope	29,246	27,803	1,443	4.9	28,926	27,378	1,548	5.4	29,005	27,625	1,380	4.8
Prairie	3,632	3,470	162	4.5	3,607	3,437	170	4.7	3,703	3,531	172	4.6
Pulaski	187,889	180,490	7,399	3.9	186,563	179,215	7,348	3.9	187,908	180,807	7,101	3.8
Randolph	6,829	6,489	340	5.0	6,777	6,393	384	5.7	6,912	6,578	334	4.8
St. Francis	8,199	7,690	509	6.2	8,146	7,613	533	6.5	8,386	7,894	492	5.9
Saline	57,096	55,089	2,007	3.5	56,696	54,697	1,999	3.5	57,122	55,189	1,933	3.4
Scott	4,399	4,213	186	4.2	4,367	4,184	183	4.2	4,396	4,244	152	3.5
Searcy	2,831	2,671	160	5.7	2,800	2,633	167	6.0	2,842	2,697	145	5.1
Sebastian	56,300	53,907	2,393	4.3	55,541	53,176	2,365	4.3	57,076	54,810	2,266	4.0
Sevier	5,645	5,361	284	5.0	5,603	5,304	299	5.3	5,591	5,292	299	5.3
Sharp	5,967	5,665	302	5.1	5,935	5,606	329	5.5	6,044	5,676	368	6.1
Stone	4,662	4,401	261	5.6	4,642	4,363	279	6.0	4,750	4,474	276	5.8
Union	16,186	15,114	1,072	6.6	15,969	14,972	997	6.2	16,065	15,144	921	5.7
Van Buren	6,024	5,660	364	6.0	6,016	5,633	383	6.4	6,065	5,654	411	6.8
Washington	122,439	118,964	3,475	2.8	119,997	116,590	3,407	2.8	120,693	117,309	3,384	2.8
White	33,506	31,747	1,759	5.2	33,230	31,417	1,813	5.5	33,742	31,961	1,781	5.3
Woodruff	2,821	2,666	155	5.5	2,823	2,663	160	5.7	2,929	2,764	165	5.6
Yell	8,549	8,141	408	4.8	8,452	8,026	426	5.0	8,566	8,171	395	4.6

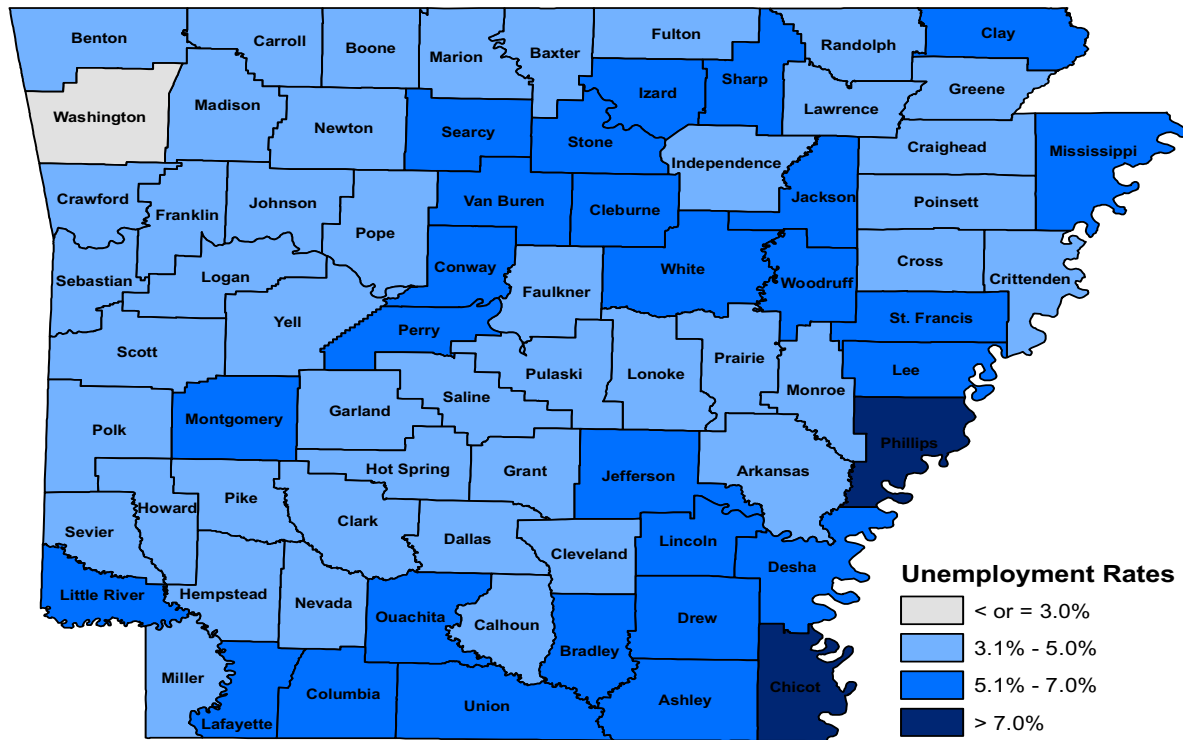
### County Labor Force Summary

Between January and February, unemployment rates declined in 54 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Thirteen counties were unchanged over the month, while rates in eight counties increased. Unemployment rates ranged from a low of 2.8 percent in Washington County to a high of 9.0 percent in Chicot County.

In February, twelve counties posted jobless rates at or below four percent. That is compared to 13 counties at or below four percent in January. Only one-- Chicot County-- reported an unemployment rate above eight percent.

Compared to February 2017, jobless rates are up in thirty-four Arkansas counties. Rates in 33 counties are down over the year, while eight counties were the same.

### County Unemployment Rates



### Ranked by Unemployment Rates

February 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.8	25	Poinsett	4.5	49	Little River	5.2
2	Benton	3.2	25	Prairie	4.5	49	Perry	5.2
3	Grant	3.4	28	Lawrence	4.6	49	White	5.2
3	Madison	3.4	29	Baxter	4.7	54	Bradley	5.3
5	Craighead	3.5	29	Crittenden	4.7	54	Columbia	5.3
5	Howard	3.5	29	Garland	4.7	56	Cleburne	5.4
5	Saline	3.5	29	Pike	4.7	57	Desha	5.5
8	Hempstead	3.6	33	Calhoun	4.8	57	Woodruff	5.5
9	Lonoke	3.8	33	Cleveland	4.8	59	Clay	5.6
10	Faulkner	3.9	33	Polk	4.8	59	Stone	5.6
10	Pulaski	3.9	33	Yell	4.8	61	Searcy	5.7
12	Franklin	4.0	37	Cross	4.9	62	Jefferson	5.8
13	Greene	4.1	37	Dallas	4.9	63	Drew	5.9
13	Hot Spring	4.1	37	Marion	4.9	64	Izard	6.0
13	Nevada	4.1	37	Monroe	4.9	64	Lee	6.0
16	Clark	4.2	37	Pope	4.9	64	Montgomery	6.0
16	Crawford	4.2	42	Fulton	5.0	64	Van Buren	6.0
16	Scott	4.2	42	Johnson	5.0	68	Mississippi	6.1
19	Carroll	4.3	42	Miller	5.0	69	St. Francis	6.2
19	Sebastian	4.3	42	Randolph	5.0	70	Lafayette	6.3
21	Arkansas	4.4	42	Sevier	5.0	71	Ashley	6.6
21	Boone	4.4	47	Ouachita	5.1	71	Union	6.6
21	Independence	4.4	47	Sharp	5.1	73	Jackson	7.0
21	Newton	4.4	49	Conway	5.2	74	Phillips	7.8
25	Logan	4.5	49	Lincoln	5.2	75	Chicot	9.0

### Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	February 2018				January 2018				February 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	248,354	238,805	9,549	3.8	246,676	237,104	9,572	3.9	248,862	239,544	9,318	3.7
City of Little Rock	96,830	93,086	3,744	3.9	96,087	92,428	3,659	3.8	96,817	93,249	3,568	3.7
Eastern	46,625	44,061	2,564	5.5	46,234	43,579	2,655	5.7	47,116	44,577	2,539	5.4
North Central	93,645	88,670	4,975	5.3	92,989	87,686	5,303	5.7	94,710	89,401	5,309	5.6
Northeast	120,298	115,137	5,161	4.3	119,037	113,647	5,390	4.5	120,507	115,246	5,261	4.4
Northwest	319,583	309,035	10,548	3.3	314,175	303,280	10,895	3.5	316,013	305,693	10,320	3.3
Southeast	80,570	76,130	4,440	5.5	79,599	75,120	4,479	5.6	81,070	76,581	4,489	5.5
Southwest	92,727	87,999	4,728	5.1	91,791	87,072	4,719	5.1	93,158	88,575	4,583	4.9
West Central	131,576	125,346	6,230	4.7	130,201	123,729	6,472	5.0	131,582	125,453	6,129	4.7
Western	110,898	106,136	4,762	4.3	109,522	104,775	4,747	4.3	112,347	107,769	4,578	4.1

