

2021

February

**ARKANSAS
LABOR MARKET
REPORT**



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

www.discover.arkansas.gov

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Technical Notes

The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The current month's estimates are preliminary, while previous 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 2020 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 Areas

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 1,000 Arkansas households are represented in the sample survey.

Civilian Labor Force

The sum of all employed and unemployed persons 16 years of age or older. Members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

Employment

An estimate of the number of persons who worked any time

for pay or profit or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month. Also included are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, and persons involved in labor management disputes.

Unemployment

An estimate of the number of persons who did not have a job, but were available for work and actively seeking work during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month.

Unemployment

Rate

The number of unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labor force. Unemployment rates are calculated from unrounded data.

Seasonal

Adjustment

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



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services



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 1,000 Arkansas households are in the survey each month.

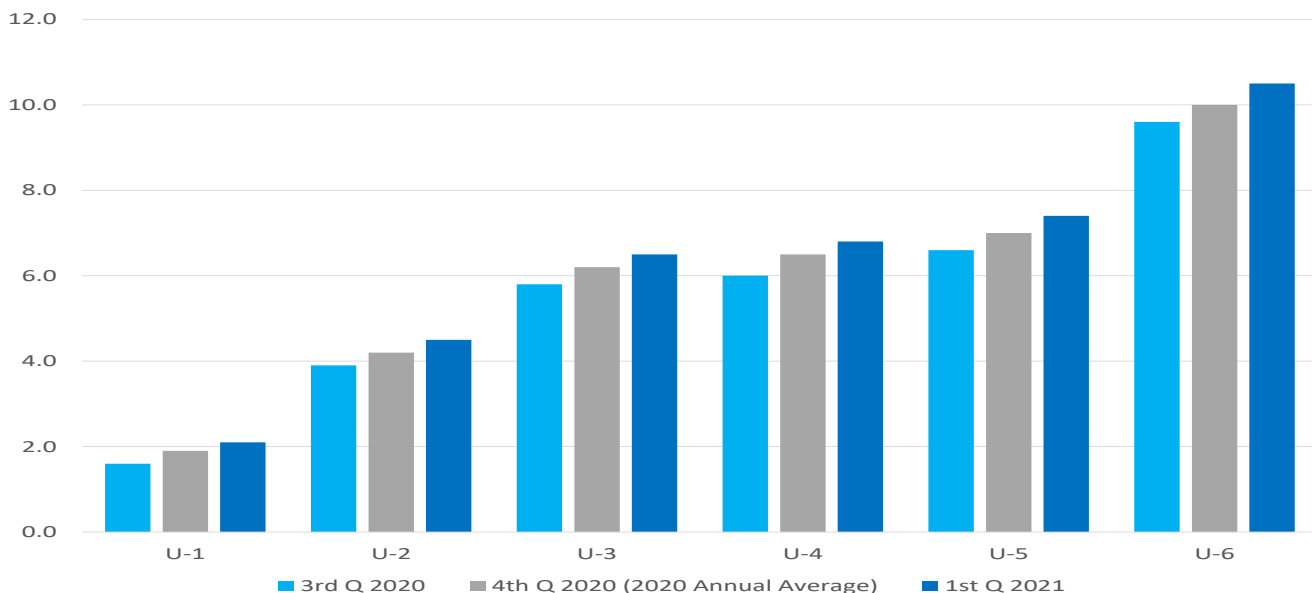
Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization					
State of Arkansas					
2nd Quarter 2020 - 1st Quarter 2021 (Average)					
<u>U-1</u>	<u>U-2</u>	<u>U-3</u>	<u>U-4</u>	<u>U-5</u>	<u>U-6</u>
2.1%	4.5%	6.5%	6.8%	7.4%	10.5%

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 1st Quarter 2021.

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
Three-Quarter Comparison (Quarter Ending)



State of Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary

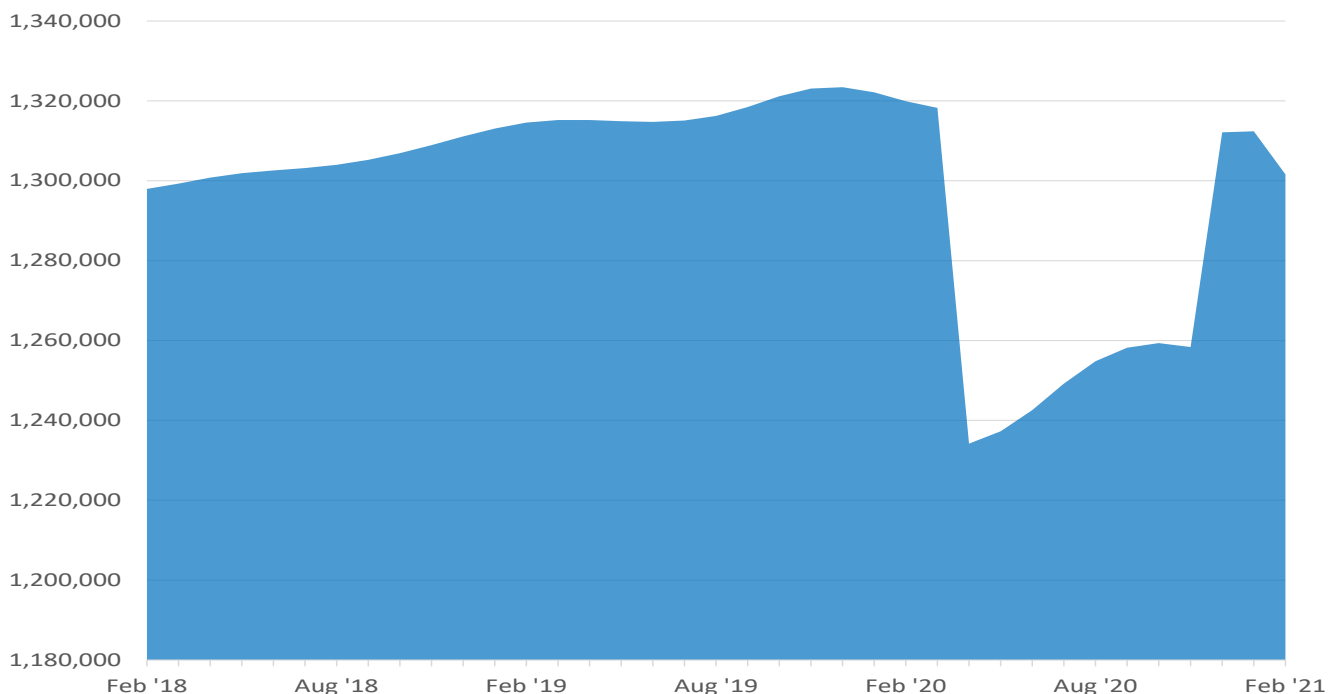
Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 4.6 percent in January to 4.5 percent in February. Arkansas' civilian labor force declined 12,775, a result of 10,820 fewer employed and 1,955 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate also decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, down to 6.2 percent in February.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "The unemployment rate in Arkansas decreased one-tenth of a percentage point in February, due to a decline in the size of the civilian labor force. While still up compared to February 2020, Arkansas' jobless rate is one and seven-tenths of a percentage point lower than the national rate."

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	
Civilian Labor Force	1,363,154	1,375,929	1,371,944	Civilian Labor Force	1,352,184	1,349,496	1,371,586
Employment	1,301,585	1,312,405	1,319,917	Employment	1,280,321	1,280,577	1,316,079
Unemployment	61,569	63,524	52,027	Unemployment	71,863	68,919	55,507
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.6	3.8	Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.1	4.0
U.S. Unemployment	6.2	6.3	3.5	U.S. Unemployment	6.6	6.8	3.8

Number of Employed (Seasonally Adjusted)
February 2018 - February 2021



State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Jan 21</u>	<u>Feb 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1246.1	1245.6	1287.6	0.5	-41.5
Goods Producing	214.3	216.3	218.4	-2.0	-4.1
Mining, Logging, & Construction	57.6	59.0	57.3	-1.4	0.3
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.2	5.5	0.0	-0.3
Construction	52.4	53.8	51.8	-1.4	0.6
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.2	34.1	33.0	-0.9	0.2
Manufacturing	156.7	157.3	161.1	-0.6	-4.4
Durable Goods	76.0	76.3	76.3	-0.3	-0.3
Nondurable Goods	80.7	81.0	84.8	-0.3	-4.1
Service Providing	1031.8	1029.3	1069.2	2.5	-37.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	248.9	250.0	249.1	-1.1	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	46.2	46.6	47.2	-0.4	-1.0
Retail Trade	137.5	138.2	135.0	-0.7	2.5
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	65.2	65.2	66.9	0.0	-1.7
Information	11.4	11.6	12.6	-0.2	-1.2
Financial Activities	63.1	63.9	64.1	-0.8	-1.0
Finance & Insurance	50.1	50.7	50.3	-0.6	-0.2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.0	13.2	13.8	-0.2	-0.8
Professional & Business Services	142.4	140.4	145.4	2.0	-3.0
Professional, Scientific & Technical	44.2	43.2	44.3	1.0	-0.1
Management of Companies	33.4	33.7	34.1	-0.3	-0.7
Administrative & Support Services	64.8	63.5	67.0	1.3	-2.2
Educational & Health Services	188.4	187.5	196.0	0.9	-7.6
Educational Services	16.2	15.8	16.8	0.4	-0.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	172.2	171.7	179.2	0.5	-7.0
Ambulatory Health Care	60.3	59.2	60.4	1.1	-0.1
Social Assistance	35.6	35.8	40.3	-0.2	-4.7
Leisure & Hospitality	104.4	105.7	119.8	-1.3	-15.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10.5	10.0	11.8	0.5	-1.3
Accommodation & Food Services	93.9	95.7	108.0	-1.8	-14.1
Accommodation Services	8.9	8.6	11.5	0.3	-2.6
Food Services	85.0	87.1	96.5	-2.1	-11.5
Other Services	65.6	64.7	66.1	0.9	-0.5
Government	207.6	205.5	216.1	2.1	-8.5
Federal Government	20.2	20.3	20.5	-0.1	-0.3
State Government	77.7	75.6	79.8	2.1	-2.1
State Gov, Educational Services	31.1	29.0	31.9	2.1	-0.8
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.6	46.6	47.9	0.0	-1.3
Local Government	109.7	109.6	115.8	0.1	-6.1
Local Gov, Educational Services	67.5	67.4	71.4	0.1	-3.9
Local Gov, Excluding Education	42.2	42.2	44.4	0.0	-2.2

**State of Arkansas
Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary**

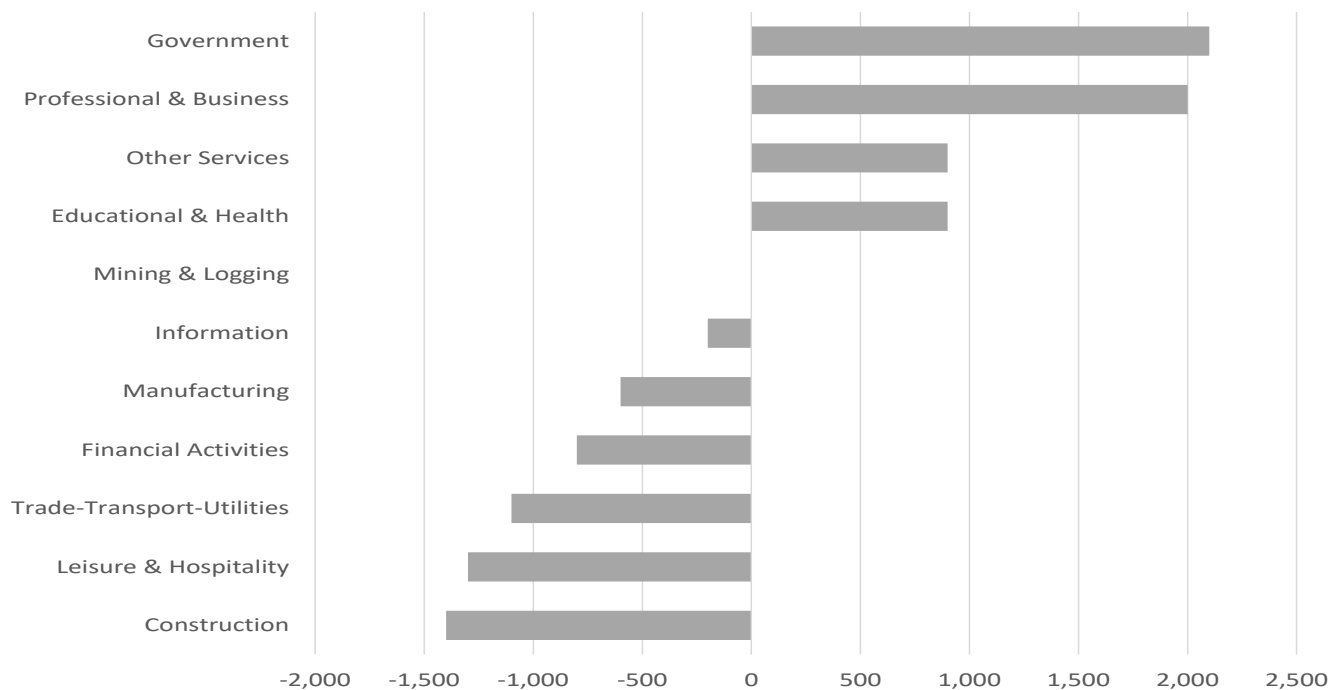
January 2021 - February 2021

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose 500 in February to total 1,246,100. Four major industry sectors added jobs, more than offsetting declines in six sectors. Jobs in **government** increased 2,100. Gains in state government, educational services (+2,100) were largely related to the return of public college and university staff after winter break. **Professional and business services** added 2,000 jobs. Hiring was reported in administrative-support services (+1,300) and professional-scientific-technical services (+1,000), the latter of which includes activities such as accounting and tax preparation services. Smaller gains were posted in **educational and health services** (+900) and **other services** (+900). Employment in **construction** declined 1,400, mostly due to winter weather events in February. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** decreased 1,300, all in food services (-2,100).

February 2020 - February 2021

Compared to February 2020, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are down 41,500. Declines occurred in ten major industry sectors. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** fell 15,400. Most of the contraction was in food services (-11,500). Jobs in **government** decreased 8,500, with local government posting the largest decline (-6,100). **Educational and health services** lost 7,600 jobs. Most of the loss occurred in health care and social assistance (-7,000). Jobs in **manufacturing** are down 4,400, largely in nondurable goods manufacturing (-4,100). Notable declines were also posted in **professional and business services** (-3,000), **information** (-1,200) and **financial activities** (-1,000). Jobs in **construction** rose 600, related to large-scale projects across the State.

Over-the-Month Job Change by Industry Sector (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
January 2021 vs February 2021



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

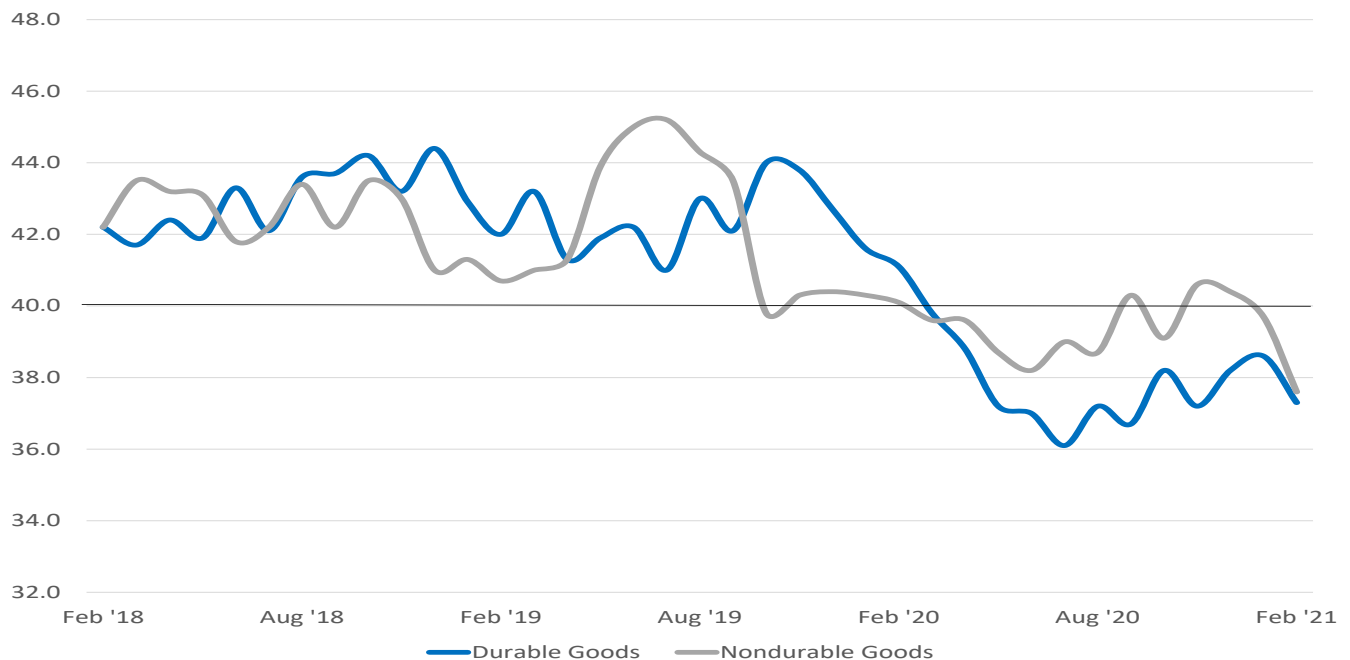
Manufacturing

	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20
Average Weekly Hours	37.5	39.2	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings	19.48	19.57	18.57
Average Weekly Earnings	730.50	767.14	753.94

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20		Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20
Average Weekly Hours	37.3	38.6	41.1	Average Weekly Hours	37.6	39.7	40.1
Average Hourly Earnings	21.21	21.29	20.34	Average Hourly Earnings	17.88	18.02	16.97
Average Weekly Earnings	791.13	821.79	835.97	Average Weekly Earnings	672.29	715.39	680.50

Average Weekly Hours Worked - Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods (Production Workers)
February 2018 - February 2021



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)

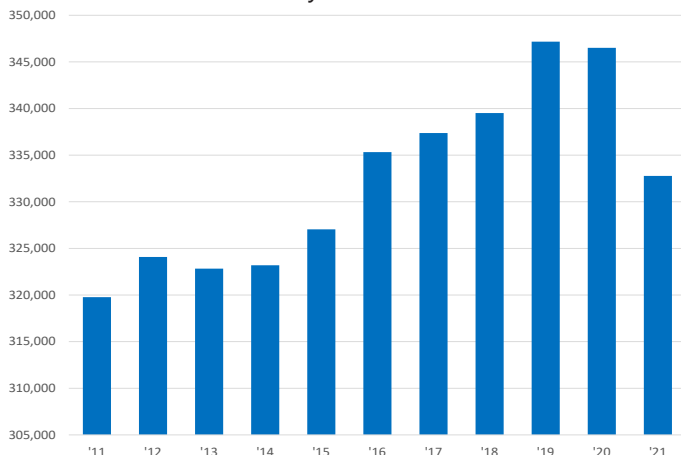
	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	351,939	352,286	359,884	-347	-7,945
Employment	332,775	333,580	346,504	-805	-13,729
Unemployment	19,164	18,706	13,380	458	5,784
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.3	3.7	0.1	1.7

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

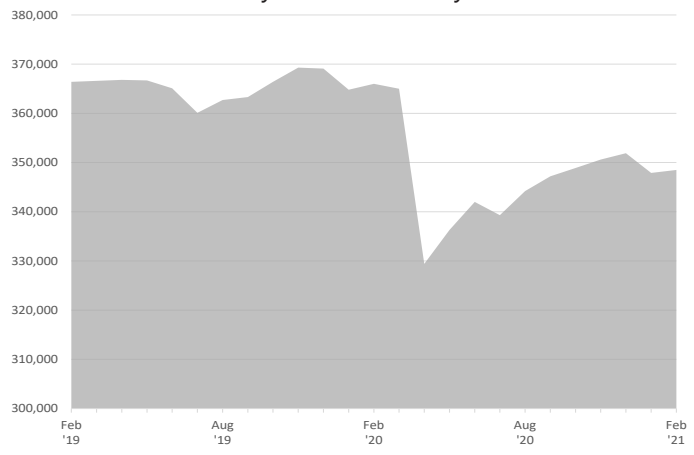
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	348.5	347.9	366.0	0.6	-17.5
Goods Producing	36.3	36.7	38.3	-0.4	-2.0
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.4	17.7	17.7	-0.3	-0.3
Manufacturing	18.9	19.0	20.6	-0.1	-1.7
Service Providing	312.2	311.2	327.7	1.0	-15.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	68.6	68.6	69.5	0.0	-0.9
Wholesale Trade	15.3	15.2	15.8	0.1	-0.5
Retail Trade	37.3	37.4	37.3	-0.1	0.0
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.0	16.0	16.4	0.0	-0.4
Information	5.1	5.1	5.7	0.0	-0.6
Financial Activities	22.5	22.6	22.3	-0.1	0.2
Professional & Business Services	44.5	44.5	46.3	0.0	-1.8
Educational & Health Services	58.5	57.4	59.3	1.1	-0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	27.7	28.5	34.3	-0.8	-6.6
Other Services	17.7	17.6	18.2	0.1	-0.5
Government	67.6	66.9	72.1	0.7	-4.5
Federal Government	9.7	9.6	9.8	0.1	-0.1
State Government	34.3	33.8	36.2	0.5	-1.9
Local Government	23.6	23.5	26.1	0.1	-2.5

Number of Employed
February: 2011 - 2021



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
February 2019 - February 2021



**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)

	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	288,686	286,327	287,952	2,359	734
Employment	277,679	275,873	279,990	1,806	-2,311
Unemployment	11,007	10,454	7,962	553	3,045
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.7	2.8	0.1	1.0

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	267.3	264.1	271.3	3.2	-4.0
Goods Producing	44.4	44.5	43.8	-0.1	0.6
Mining, Logging & Construction	13.2	13.2	12.5	0.0	0.7
Manufacturing	31.2	31.3	31.3	-0.1	-0.1
Service Providing	222.9	219.6	227.5	3.3	-4.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	58.0	57.8	56.6	0.2	1.4
Wholesale Trade	12.1	12.1	12.4	0.0	-0.3
Retail Trade	27.5	27.3	25.6	0.2	1.9
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	18.4	18.4	18.6	0.0	-0.2
Information	1.9	1.9	2.2	0.0	-0.3
Financial Activities	8.6	8.5	8.6	0.1	0.0
Professional & Business Services	50.3	50.8	52.2	-0.5	-1.9
Educational & Health Services	30.6	29.9	31.1	0.7	-0.5
Leisure & Hospitality	24.7	23.9	27.2	0.8	-2.5
Other Services	9.6	9.6	9.9	0.0	-0.3
Government	39.2	37.2	39.7	2.0	-0.5
Federal Government	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0
State Government	16.8	14.9	17.2	1.9	-0.4
Local Government	19.6	19.5	19.7	0.1	-0.1

Jobs in Service Providing Sectors

February 2018 - February 2021



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)

	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	119,140	118,886	118,333	254	807
Employment	112,564	112,895	113,652	-331	-1,088
Unemployment	6,576	5,991	4,681	585	1,895
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.0	4.0	0.5	1.5

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	109.1	109.1	112.0	0.0	-2.9
Goods Producing	22.1	22.2	22.4	-0.1	-0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.4	5.4	5.1	0.0	0.3
Manufacturing	16.7	16.8	17.3	-0.1	-0.6
Service Providing	87.0	86.9	89.6	0.1	-2.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23.5	23.5	23.0	0.0	0.5
Wholesale Trade	4.5	4.5	4.2	0.0	0.3
Retail Trade	12.2	12.2	12.3	0.0	-0.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.8	6.8	6.5	0.0	0.3
Information	1.0	1.1	1.1	-0.1	-0.1
Financial Activities	3.7	3.7	3.8	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	11.5	11.5	12.0	0.0	-0.5
Educational & Health Services	16.7	16.8	17.3	-0.1	-0.6
Leisure & Hospitality	8.0	8.2	9.1	-0.2	-1.1
Other Services	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0
Government	18.1	17.6	18.8	0.5	-0.7
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	2.7	2.3	3.0	0.4	-0.3
Local Government	14.1	14.0	14.5	0.1	-0.4

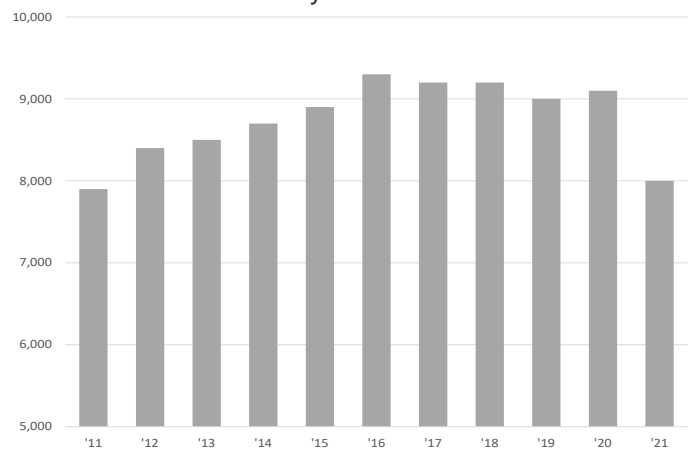
Employment

February 2019 - February 2021



Jobs in Leisure and Hospitality

February: 2011 - 2021



**Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Hot Springs MSA**

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	41,424	41,242	41,513	182	-89
Employment	38,616	38,549	39,792	67	-1,176
Unemployment	2,808	2,693	1,721	115	1,087
Unemployment Rate	6.8	6.5	4.1	0.3	2.7

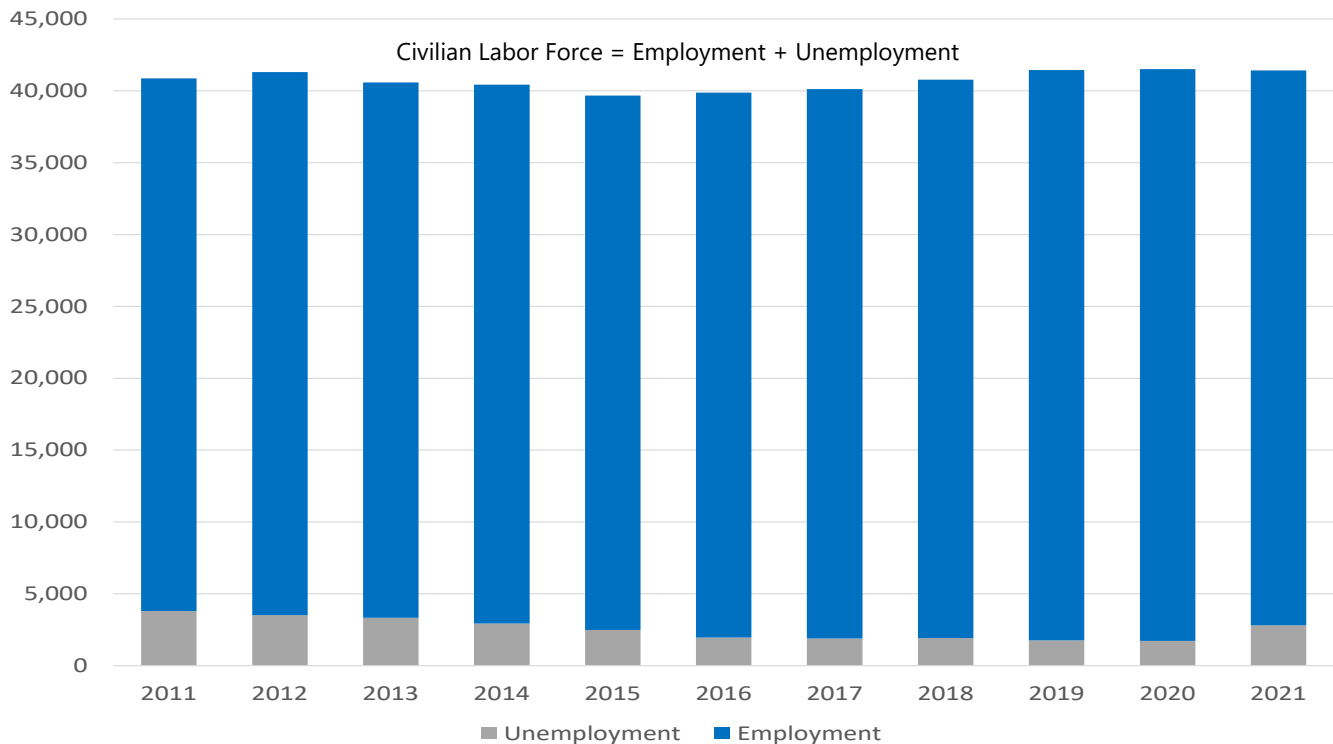
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	38.1	37.9	39.6	0.2	-1.5
Goods Producing	4.5	4.5	4.7	0.0	-0.2
Service Providing	33.6	33.4	34.9	0.2	-1.3
Government	4.1	4.0	4.5	0.1	-0.4

Composition of the Civilian Labor Force

February: 2011 - 2021



**Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Jonesboro MSA**

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	65,699	65,557	66,619	142	-920
Employment	62,742	62,735	64,429	7	-1,687
Unemployment	2,957	2,822	2,190	135	767
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.3	3.3	0.2	1.2

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	58.6	58.3	60.6	0.3	-2.0
Goods Producing	10.3	10.2	10.2	0.1	0.1
Service Providing	48.3	48.1	50.4	0.2	-2.1
Government	8.2	8.2	9.0	0.0	-0.8

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February 2018 - February 2021



**Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Pine Bluff MSA**

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	34,589	34,577	34,512	12	77
Employment	32,001	32,078	32,450	-77	-449
Unemployment	2,588	2,499	2,062	89	526
Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.2	6.0	0.3	1.5

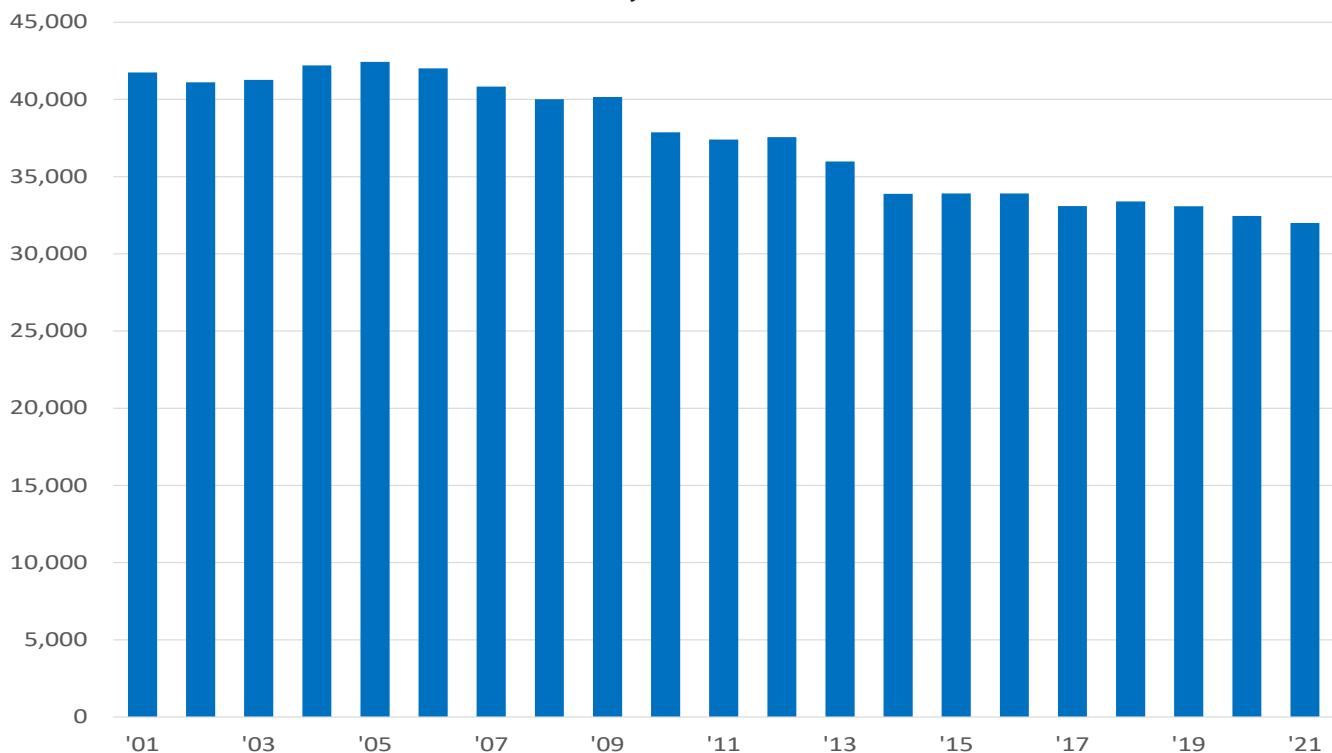
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	31.6	31.5	32.2	0.1	-0.6
Goods Producing	5.6	5.6	5.8	0.0	-0.2
Service Providing	26.0	25.9	26.4	0.1	-0.4
Government	9.0	8.7	9.0	0.3	0.0

Number of Employed

February: 2001 - 2021



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.

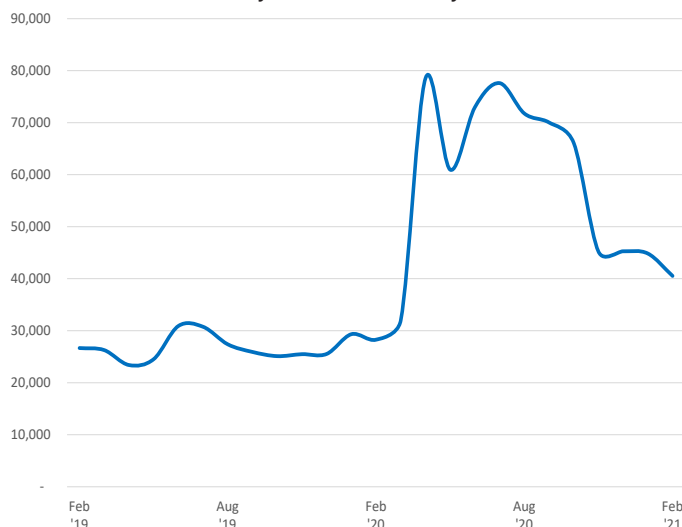
	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	639,972	642,572	640,978	-2,600	-1,006
Employment	599,450	597,746	612,714	1,704	-13,264
Unemployment	40,522	44,826	28,264	-4,304	12,258
Unemployment Rate	6.3	7.0	4.4	-0.7	1.9

Texarkana MSA

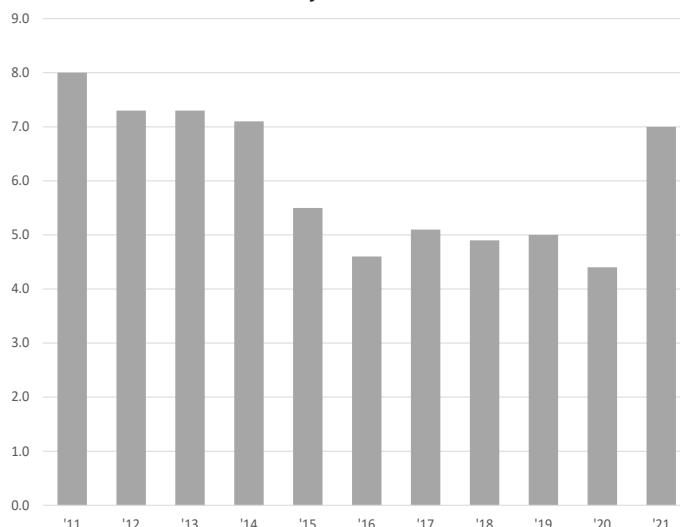
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	Feb 21	Jan 21	Feb 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	63,787	63,560	64,656	227	-869
Employment	59,340	59,366	61,811	-26	-2,471
Unemployment	4,447	4,194	2,845	253	1,602
Unemployment Rate	7.0	6.6	4.4	0.4	2.6

Memphis MSA - Unemployment
February 2019 - February 2021



Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates
February: 2011 - 2021



Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	February 2021				January 2021				February 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,320	8,827	493	5.3	9,212	8,730	482	5.2	9,527	9,148	379	4.0
Batesville Micro	16,661	15,794	867	5.2	16,613	15,789	824	5.0	16,872	16,123	749	4.4
Blytheville Micro	16,808	15,371	1,437	8.5	16,796	15,441	1,355	8.1	17,637	16,579	1,058	6.0
Camden Micro	12,207	11,604	603	4.9	12,195	11,620	575	4.7	12,377	11,689	688	5.6
El Dorado Micro	15,386	14,233	1,153	7.5	15,392	14,282	1,110	7.2	15,729	14,753	976	6.2
Forrest City Micro	7,913	7,274	639	8.1	7,904	7,314	590	7.5	8,186	7,727	459	5.6
Harrison Micro	18,964	18,146	818	4.3	18,834	18,091	743	3.9	19,446	18,710	736	3.8
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,451	5,848	603	9.3	6,439	5,877	562	8.7	6,429	5,963	466	7.2
Hope Micro	12,898	12,313	585	4.5	12,906	12,356	550	4.3	13,350	12,755	595	4.5
Magnolia Micro	9,075	8,452	623	6.9	9,112	8,455	657	7.2	9,200	8,760	440	4.8
Malvern Micro	14,166	13,466	700	4.9	14,146	13,468	678	4.8	14,277	13,729	548	3.8
Mountain Home Micro	16,496	15,652	844	5.1	16,427	15,632	795	4.8	16,551	15,826	725	4.4
Paragould Micro	19,188	18,225	963	5.0	19,119	18,237	882	4.6	19,960	19,106	854	4.3
Russellville Micro	35,557	33,726	1,831	5.1	35,346	33,557	1,789	5.1	36,671	35,000	1,671	4.6
Searcy Micro	33,927	32,077	1,850	5.5	33,889	32,082	1,807	5.3	34,435	32,592	1,843	5.4

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	February 2021				January 2021				February 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,578	11,913	665	5.3	12,441	11,834	607	4.9	12,497	12,013	484	3.9
Benton	17,198	16,526	672	3.9	17,178	16,562	616	3.6	17,746	17,202	544	3.1
Bentonville	29,269	28,334	935	3.2	29,072	28,144	928	3.2	29,306	28,570	736	2.5
Blytheville	5,651	5,163	488	8.6	5,690	5,186	504	8.9	5,990	5,568	422	7.0
Cabot	11,805	11,251	554	4.7	11,811	11,294	517	4.4	12,148	11,736	412	3.4
Conway	33,702	32,201	1,501	4.5	33,778	32,284	1,494	4.4	34,680	33,533	1,147	3.3
El Dorado	6,696	6,139	557	8.3	6,725	6,160	565	8.4	6,835	6,363	472	6.9
Fayetteville	49,374	47,331	2,043	4.1	48,975	47,016	1,959	4.0	48,979	47,727	1,252	2.6
Fort Smith	38,822	36,806	2,016	5.2	38,846	36,949	1,897	4.9	39,074	37,597	1,477	3.8
Hot Springs	15,508	14,296	1,212	7.8	15,473	14,271	1,202	7.8	15,390	14,731	659	4.3
Jacksonville	11,691	10,729	962	8.2	11,681	10,752	929	8.0	11,792	11,168	624	5.3
Jonesboro	39,295	37,586	1,709	4.3	39,209	37,563	1,646	4.2	39,812	38,568	1,244	3.1
Little Rock	96,258	90,192	6,066	6.3	96,353	90,384	5,969	6.2	97,576	93,879	3,697	3.8
North Little Rock	29,735	27,655	2,080	7.0	29,798	27,714	2,084	7.0	30,171	28,786	1,385	4.6
Paragould	12,210	11,545	665	5.4	12,156	11,552	604	5.0	12,658	12,103	555	4.4
Pine Bluff	16,554	14,985	1,569	9.5	16,519	15,008	1,511	9.1	16,250	15,172	1,078	6.6
Rogers	36,713	35,467	1,246	3.4	36,472	35,230	1,242	3.4	36,734	35,763	971	2.6
Russellville	12,633	12,077	556	4.4	12,576	12,005	571	4.5	13,044	12,519	525	4.0
Searcy	10,152	9,732	420	4.1	10,172	9,733	439	4.3	10,323	9,888	435	4.2
Sherwood	15,952	15,075	877	5.5	15,949	15,107	842	5.3	16,268	15,692	576	3.5
Springdale	40,144	38,665	1,479	3.7	39,833	38,407	1,426	3.6	40,037	38,988	1,049	2.6
Texarkana, AR	13,390	12,433	957	7.1	13,333	12,440	893	6.7	13,471	12,824	647	4.8
Van Buren	10,209	9,782	427	4.2	10,251	9,827	424	4.1	10,398	10,004	394	3.8
West Memphis	10,446	9,586	860	8.2	10,401	9,591	810	7.8	10,442	9,892	550	5.3

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	February 2021				January 2021				February 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,383	8,973	410	4.4	9,377	9,013	364	3.9	9,536	9,214	322	3.4
Ashley	7,102	6,433	669	9.4	7,120	6,463	657	9.2	7,264	6,702	562	7.7
Baxter	16,496	15,652	844	5.1	16,427	15,632	795	4.8	16,551	15,826	725	4.4
Benton	142,240	136,921	5,319	3.7	141,059	136,006	5,053	3.6	142,134	138,064	4,070	2.9
Boone	15,714	15,046	668	4.3	15,604	14,992	612	3.9	16,092	15,503	589	3.7
Bradley	4,347	4,102	245	5.6	4,376	4,136	240	5.5	4,492	4,292	200	4.5
Calhoun	2,430	2,313	117	4.8	2,436	2,323	113	4.6	2,472	2,343	129	5.2
Carroll	12,293	11,602	691	5.6	12,265	11,607	658	5.4	12,663	12,145	518	4.1
Chicot	3,207	2,848	359	11.2	3,239	2,879	360	11.1	3,250	2,958	292	9.0
Clark	9,320	8,827	493	5.3	9,212	8,730	482	5.2	9,527	9,148	379	4.0
Clay	5,456	5,124	332	6.1	5,461	5,172	289	5.3	5,632	5,292	340	6.0
Cleburne	9,023	8,415	608	6.7	8,966	8,395	571	6.4	9,194	8,668	526	5.7
Cleveland	3,192	3,021	171	5.4	3,207	3,037	170	5.3	3,242	3,080	162	5.0
Columbia	9,075	8,452	623	6.9	9,112	8,455	657	7.2	9,200	8,760	440	4.8
Conway	8,432	7,973	459	5.4	8,424	7,994	430	5.1	8,426	8,021	405	4.8
Craighead	55,722	53,292	2,430	4.4	55,588	53,260	2,328	4.2	56,439	54,685	1,754	3.1
Crawford	26,376	25,109	1,267	4.8	26,403	25,224	1,179	4.5	26,695	25,680	1,015	3.8
Crittenden	20,995	19,586	1,409	6.7	20,977	19,597	1,380	6.6	21,184	20,212	972	4.6
Cross	7,193	6,764	429	6.0	7,187	6,788	399	5.6	7,488	7,143	345	4.6
Dallas	2,866	2,732	134	4.7	2,873	2,748	125	4.4	2,806	2,662	144	5.1
Desh	5,197	4,829	368	7.1	5,222	4,876	346	6.6	5,464	5,179	285	5.2
Drew	7,665	7,173	492	6.4	7,739	7,240	499	6.4	7,923	7,433	490	6.2
Faulkner	61,274	58,466	2,808	4.6	61,370	58,615	2,755	4.5	63,040	60,884	2,156	3.4
Franklin	7,424	7,065	359	4.8	7,442	7,106	336	4.5	7,495	7,199	296	3.9
Fulton	4,870	4,601	269	5.5	4,871	4,623	248	5.1	5,036	4,814	222	4.4
Garland	41,424	38,616	2,808	6.8	41,242	38,549	2,693	6.5	41,513	39,792	1,721	4.1
Grant	8,157	7,820	337	4.1	8,186	7,847	339	4.1	8,497	8,157	340	4.0
Greene	19,188	18,225	963	5.0	19,119	18,237	882	4.6	19,960	19,106	854	4.3
Hempstead	9,425	9,005	420	4.5	9,432	9,041	391	4.1	9,773	9,334	439	4.5
Hot Spring	14,166	13,466	700	4.9	14,146	13,468	678	4.8	14,277	13,729	548	3.8
Howard	5,525	5,295	230	4.2	5,536	5,311	225	4.1	5,640	5,413	227	4.0
Independence	16,661	15,794	867	5.2	16,613	15,789	824	5.0	16,872	16,123	749	4.4
Izard	4,399	4,085	314	7.1	4,433	4,112	321	7.2	4,720	4,383	337	7.1
Jackson	5,891	5,475	416	7.1	5,890	5,495	395	6.7	5,926	5,491	435	7.3
Jefferson	27,553	25,361	2,192	8.0	27,526	25,400	2,126	7.7	27,363	25,677	1,686	6.2
Johnson	10,214	9,627	587	5.7	10,206	9,642	564	5.5	10,416	9,940	476	4.6
Lafayette	2,420	2,227	193	8.0	2,431	2,243	188	7.7	2,429	2,299	130	5.4
Lawrence	6,809	6,427	382	5.6	6,820	6,467	353	5.2	6,972	6,642	330	4.7
Lee	2,760	2,567	193	7.0	2,792	2,599	193	6.9	2,836	2,652	184	6.5
Lincoln	3,844	3,619	225	5.9	3,844	3,641	203	5.3	3,907	3,693	214	5.5
Little River	5,400	5,070	330	6.1	5,386	5,071	315	5.8	5,523	5,230	293	5.3
Logan	8,672	8,185	487	5.6	8,669	8,228	441	5.1	8,710	8,291	419	4.8
Lonoke	33,275	31,767	1,508	4.5	33,339	31,887	1,452	4.4	34,438	33,136	1,302	3.8
Madison	7,588	7,266	322	4.2	7,537	7,258	279	3.7	7,606	7,393	213	2.8
Marion	6,032	5,651	381	6.3	6,024	5,665	359	6.0	6,446	6,126	320	5.0
Miller	19,351	18,145	1,206	6.2	19,297	18,155	1,142	5.9	19,603	18,715	888	4.5

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	February 2021				January 2021				February 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	16,808	15,371	1,437	8.5	16,796	15,441	1,355	8.1	17,637	16,579	1,058	6.0
Monroe	2,714	2,537	177	6.5	2,737	2,557	180	6.6	2,760	2,621	139	5.0
Montgomery	2,942	2,766	176	6.0	2,966	2,789	177	6.0	2,967	2,793	174	5.9
Nevada	3,473	3,308	165	4.8	3,474	3,315	159	4.6	3,577	3,421	156	4.4
Newton	3,250	3,100	150	4.6	3,230	3,099	131	4.1	3,354	3,207	147	4.4
Ouachita	9,777	9,291	486	5.0	9,759	9,297	462	4.7	9,905	9,346	559	5.6
Perry	4,177	3,961	216	5.2	4,183	3,977	206	4.9	4,325	4,133	192	4.4
Phillips	6,451	5,848	603	9.3	6,439	5,877	562	8.7	6,429	5,963	466	7.2
Pike	4,295	4,041	254	5.9	4,293	4,072	221	5.1	4,251	4,051	200	4.7
Poinsett	9,977	9,450	527	5.3	9,969	9,475	494	5.0	10,180	9,744	436	4.3
Polk	7,959	7,479	480	6.0	7,962	7,510	452	5.7	8,154	7,674	480	5.9
Pope	27,557	26,139	1,418	5.1	27,376	25,982	1,394	5.1	28,406	27,095	1,311	4.6
Prairie	3,617	3,425	192	5.3	3,629	3,454	175	4.8	3,679	3,515	164	4.5
Pulaski	187,237	175,371	11,866	6.3	187,374	175,744	11,630	6.2	190,047	182,540	7,507	4.0
Randolph	7,567	7,153	414	5.5	7,538	7,145	393	5.2	7,446	7,097	349	4.7
St. Francis	7,913	7,274	639	8.1	7,904	7,314	590	7.5	8,186	7,727	459	5.6
Saline	57,819	55,390	2,429	4.2	57,834	55,510	2,324	4.0	59,537	57,654	1,883	3.2
Scott	4,358	4,169	189	4.3	4,393	4,206	187	4.3	4,423	4,254	169	3.8
Searcy	2,781	2,616	165	5.9	2,762	2,608	154	5.6	2,849	2,673	176	6.2
Sebastian	55,865	53,042	2,823	5.1	55,955	53,249	2,706	4.8	56,317	54,183	2,134	3.8
Sevier	5,480	5,145	335	6.1	5,469	5,158	311	5.7	5,598	5,289	309	5.5
Sharp	5,670	5,276	394	6.9	5,664	5,294	370	6.5	5,760	5,413	347	6.0
Stone	4,521	4,183	338	7.5	4,539	4,216	323	7.1	4,620	4,350	270	5.8
Union	15,386	14,233	1,153	7.5	15,392	14,282	1,110	7.2	15,729	14,753	976	6.2
Van Buren	5,722	5,313	409	7.1	5,746	5,356	390	6.8	5,750	5,407	343	6.0
Washington	128,073	123,135	4,938	3.9	126,992	122,317	4,675	3.7	127,477	124,167	3,310	2.6
White	33,927	32,077	1,850	5.5	33,889	32,082	1,807	5.3	34,435	32,592	1,843	5.4
Woodruff	2,823	2,629	194	6.9	2,839	2,662	177	6.2	2,848	2,702	146	5.1
Yell	8,000	7,587	413	5.2	7,970	7,575	395	5.0	8,265	7,905	360	4.4

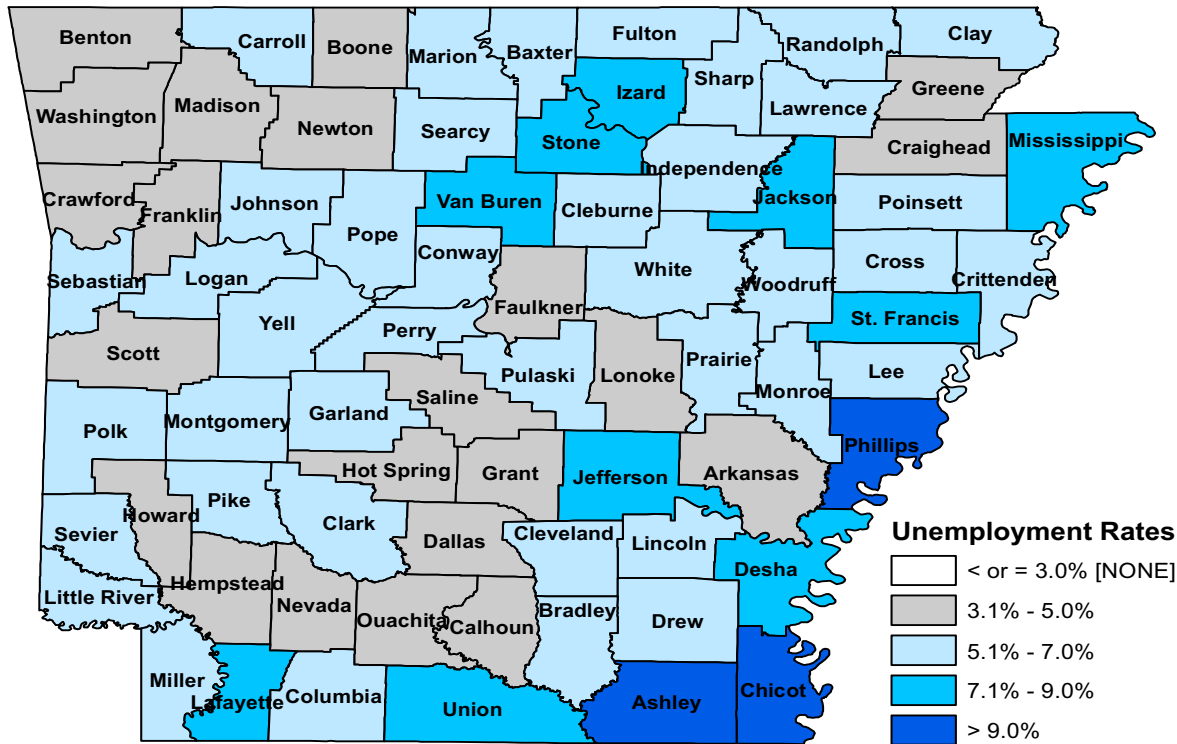
County Labor Force Summary

Between January and February, unemployment rates increased in 67 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates remained stable in five counties, while three counties declined. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 3.7 percent in Benton County to a high of 11.2 percent in Chicot County.

In February, fourteen counties posted unemployment rates at or above seven percent. That is up from eleven counties above seven percent last month. Two counties reported jobless rates at or below four percent, down from six counties at or below four percent in January.

Compared to February 2020, unemployment rates are up in 68 Arkansas counties. Rates declined in five counties, while two counties were unchanged. Jobless rate changes ranged from a decrease of six-tenths of a percentage point in Ouachita County to a gain of two and seven-tenths of a percentage point in Garland County.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

February 2021 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Benton	3.7	26	Independence	5.2	51	Miller	6.2
2	Washington	3.9	26	Perry	5.2	52	Marion	6.3
3	Grant	4.1	26	Yell	5.2	52	Pulaski	6.3
4	Howard	4.2	29	Clark	5.3	54	Drew	6.4
4	Madison	4.2	29	Poinsett	5.3	55	Monroe	6.5
4	Saline	4.2	29	Prairie	5.3	56	Cleburne	6.7
7	Boone	4.3	32	Cleveland	5.4	56	Crittenden	6.7
7	Scott	4.3	32	Conway	5.4	58	Garland	6.8
9	Arkansas	4.4	34	Fulton	5.5	59	Columbia	6.9
9	Craighead	4.4	34	Randolph	5.5	59	Sharp	6.9
11	Hempstead	4.5	34	White	5.5	59	Woodruff	6.9
11	Lonoke	4.5	37	Bradley	5.6	62	Lee	7.0
13	Faulkner	4.6	37	Carroll	5.6	63	Desha	7.1
13	Newton	4.6	37	Lawrence	5.6	63	Izard	7.1
15	Dallas	4.7	37	Logan	5.6	63	Jackson	7.1
16	Calhoun	4.8	41	Johnson	5.7	63	Van Buren	7.1
16	Crawford	4.8	42	Lincoln	5.9	67	Stone	7.5
16	Franklin	4.8	42	Pike	5.9	67	Union	7.5
16	Nevada	4.8	42	Searcy	5.9	69	Jefferson	8.0
20	Hot Spring	4.9	45	Cross	6.0	69	Lafayette	8.0
21	Greene	5.0	45	Montgomery	6.0	71	St. Francis	8.1
21	Ouachita	5.0	45	Polk	6.0	72	Mississippi	8.5
23	Baxter	5.1	48	Clay	6.1	73	Phillips	9.3
23	Pope	5.1	48	Little River	6.1	74	Ashley	9.4
23	Sebastian	5.1	48	Sevier	6.1	75	Chicot	11.2

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	February 2021				January 2021				February 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	249,678	236,764	12,914	5.2	249,930	237,383	12,547	5.0	255,925	246,471	9,454	3.7
City of Little Rock	96,258	90,192	6,066	6.3	96,353	90,384	5,969	6.2	97,576	93,879	3,697	3.8
Eastern	45,312	42,039	3,273	7.2	45,299	42,175	3,124	6.9	46,123	43,697	2,426	5.3
North Central	93,507	87,848	5,659	6.1	93,450	88,024	5,426	5.8	95,161	89,943	5,218	5.5
Northeast	121,527	115,042	6,485	5.3	121,291	115,197	6,094	5.0	124,266	119,145	5,121	4.1
Northwest	334,467	320,989	13,478	4.0	331,900	319,184	12,716	3.8	335,172	325,104	10,068	3.0
Southeast	79,647	74,179	5,468	6.9	79,836	74,532	5,304	6.6	80,938	76,385	4,553	5.6
Southwest	90,608	85,216	5,392	6.0	90,597	85,399	5,198	5.7	92,255	87,565	4,690	5.1
West Central	130,527	123,003	7,524	5.8	130,018	122,778	7,240	5.6	132,373	126,607	5,766	4.4
Western	110,654	105,049	5,605	5.1	110,824	105,523	5,301	4.8	111,794	107,281	4,513	4.0

