

AUGUST 2023 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

Table of Contents

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



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services



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 2022 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.

August Spotlight

Business Employment Dynamics (BED)

Business Employment Dynamics, also known as BED, tracks employment gains and losses at individual business locations. BED statistics are calculated from quarterly reports provided by employers to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program. Like QCEW data, BED statistics are produced and published on a quarterly basis. At this time, BED data is only available at the national and statewide levels.

The information produced from BED statistics includes gross job gains and losses at establishments with changes in employment. These employment changes occur when establishments open/expand or close/contract. Gross job gains are a combination of jobs created from both openings of new businesses and expansions at existing businesses. Gross job losses are a combination of jobs lost from both existing businesses that close and those that reduce their number of employees. The net change is the difference between gross job gains and gross job losses.

Gross Job Gains and Losses by Quarter (Private Sector)					
State of Arkansas					
(Seasonally Adjusted)					

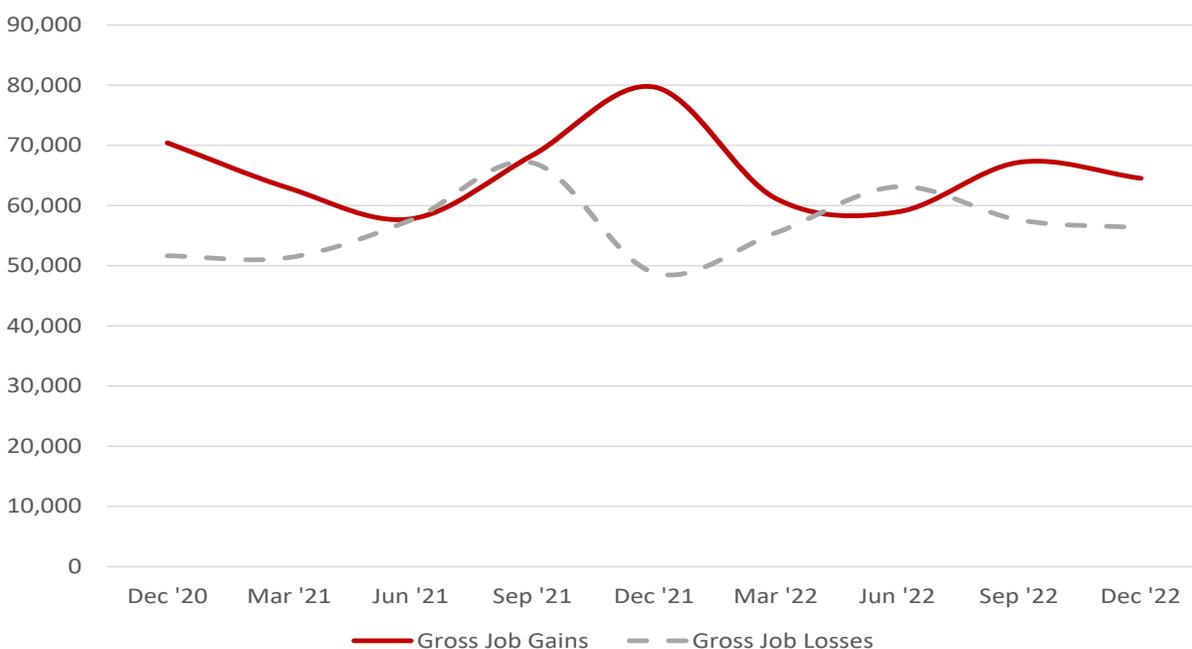
Quarter Ending					

Category	Dec 21	Mar 22	Jun 22	Sep 22	Dec 22*

Employment Levels					
Gross job gains.....	79,698	61,175	58,938	67,192	64,529
Gross job losses....	48,806	55,459	63,128	57,587	56,306
Net Change.....	30,892	5,716	-4,190	9,605	8,223

*Most recent BED data available is for 4th Quarter 2022

Arkansas' Gross Job Gains vs. Gross Job Losses (Private Sector/Seasonally Adjusted)
 4th Quarter 2020 - 4th Quarter 2022



State of Arkansas

Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 2.6% in July to 2.7% in August. The United States' jobless rate rose three-tenths of a percentage point, from 3.5% in July to 3.8% in August.

In August, the civilian labor force in Arkansas increased by 2,556 while adding 895 more employed Arkansans. Both remain at record-high levels. Unemployment rose for the first time since October 2022, with 1,661 more Arkansans actively looking for work in August. Arkansas' labor force participation rate was unchanged at 57.7% over the month.

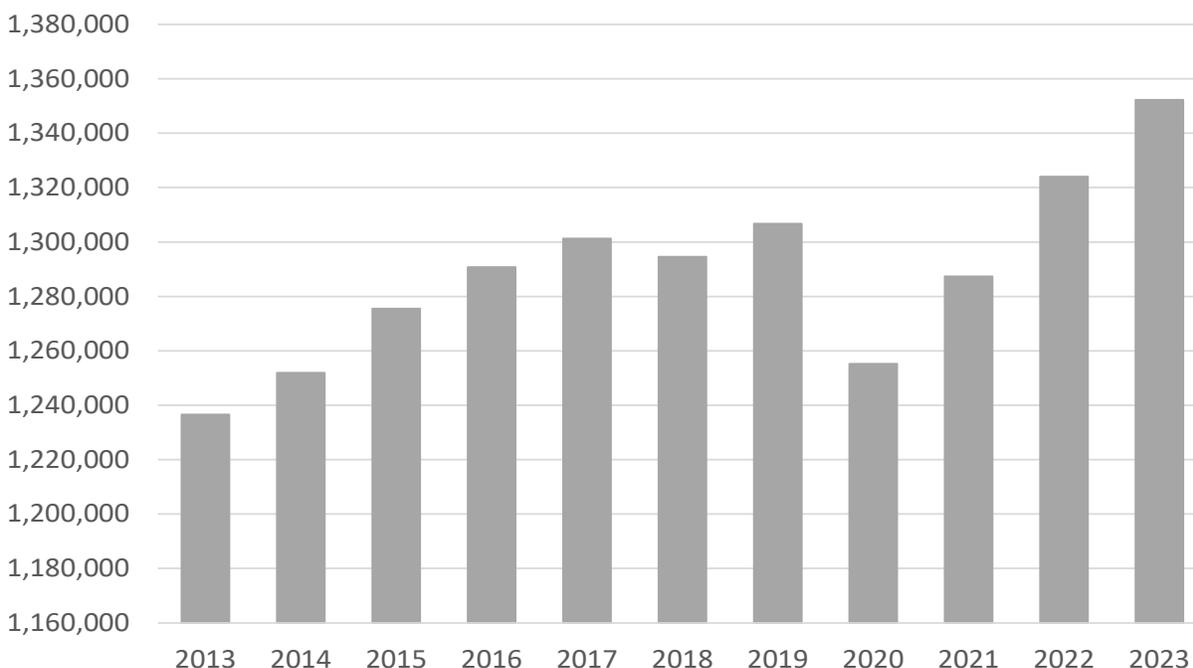
Compared to August 2022, there are 28,229 more employed and 9,525 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The State unemployment rate is down seven-tenths of a percentage point while the labor force participation rate is up a slight one-tenth of a percentage point.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Aug 23	Jul 23	Aug 22	Aug 23	Jul 23	Aug 22
Civilian Labor Force	1,389,550	1,386,994	1,370,846	Civilian Labor Force	1,395,313	1,405,739
Employment	1,352,265	1,351,370	1,324,036	Employment	1,349,500	1,359,888
Unemployment	37,285	35,624	46,810	Unemployment	45,813	45,851
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	2.6%	3.4%	Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.3%
LF Participation Rate	57.7%	57.7%	57.6%	LF Participation Rate	58.0%	58.5%

Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

August: 2013 - 2023



State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

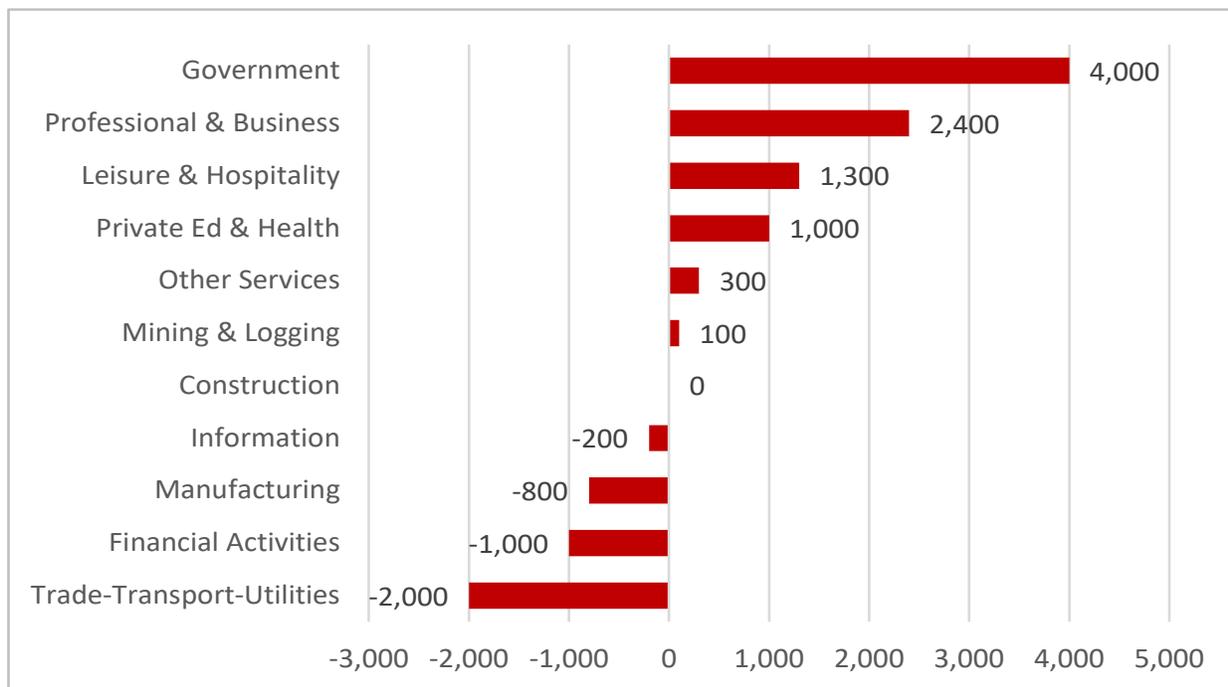
Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

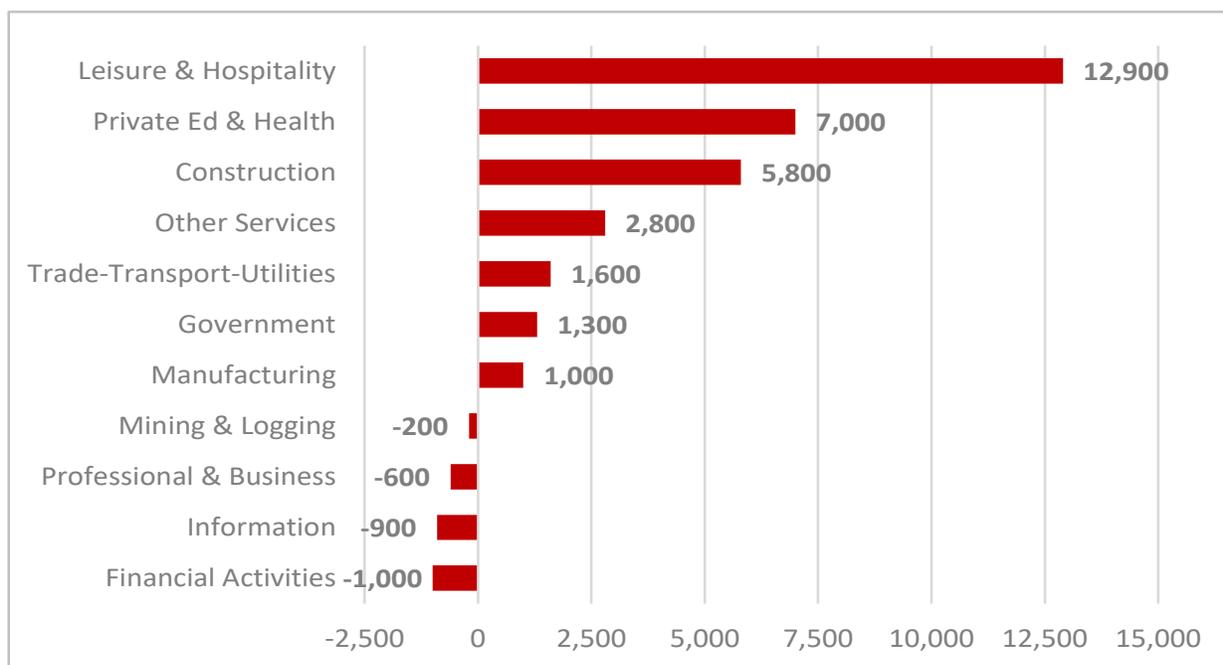
(NAICS)	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1359.1	1354.0	1329.4	5.1	29.7
Goods Producing	234.3	235.0	227.7	-0.7	6.6
Mining, Logging, & Construction	69.8	69.7	64.2	0.1	5.6
Mining & Logging	5.0	4.9	5.2	0.1	-0.2
Construction	64.8	64.8	59.0	0.0	5.8
Specialty Trade Contractors	39.8	40.0	36.9	-0.2	2.9
Manufacturing	164.5	165.3	163.5	-0.8	1.0
Durable Goods	80.4	81.1	79.1	-0.7	1.3
Nondurable Goods	84.1	84.2	84.4	-0.1	-0.3
Service Providing	1124.8	1119.0	1101.7	5.8	23.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	271.2	273.2	269.6	-2.0	1.6
Wholesale Trade	55.3	55.5	51.4	-0.2	3.9
Retail Trade	140.9	142.9	143.1	-2.0	-2.2
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	75.0	74.8	75.1	0.2	-0.1
Information	11.9	12.1	12.8	-0.2	-0.9
Financial Activities	70.6	71.6	71.6	-1.0	-1.0
Finance & Insurance	55.9	56.7	56.5	-0.8	-0.6
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	14.7	14.9	15.1	-0.2	-0.4
Professional & Business Services	153.1	150.7	153.7	2.4	-0.6
Professional, Scientific & Technical	50.0	50.6	48.1	-0.6	1.9
Management of Companies	41.2	39.6	38.2	1.6	3.0
Administrative & Support Services	61.9	60.5	67.4	1.4	-5.5
Private Education & Health Services	206.2	205.2	199.2	1.0	7.0
Private Educational Services	16.9	16.1	15.9	0.8	1.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	189.3	189.1	183.3	0.2	6.0
Ambulatory Health Care	66.4	66.4	63.2	0.0	3.2
Social Assistance	39.1	39.3	37.3	-0.2	1.8
Leisure & Hospitality	138.1	136.8	125.2	1.3	12.9
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	16.9	17.6	13.9	-0.7	3.0
Accommodation & Food Services	121.2	119.2	111.3	2.0	9.9
Accommodation Services	12.6	12.7	11.6	-0.1	1.0
Food Services	108.6	106.5	99.7	2.1	8.9
Other Services	74.5	74.2	71.7	0.3	2.8
Government	199.2	195.2	197.9	4.0	1.3
Federal Government	21.3	21.3	20.5	0.0	0.8
State Government	73.1	71.2	73.2	1.9	-0.1
State Gov, Educational Services	26.9	25.0	26.8	1.9	0.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.2	46.2	46.4	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	104.8	102.7	104.2	2.1	0.6
Local Gov, Educational Services	60.1	57.2	59.7	2.9	0.4
Local Gov, Excluding Education	44.7	45.5	44.5	-0.8	0.2

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
 July 2023 - August 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
 August 2022 - August 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

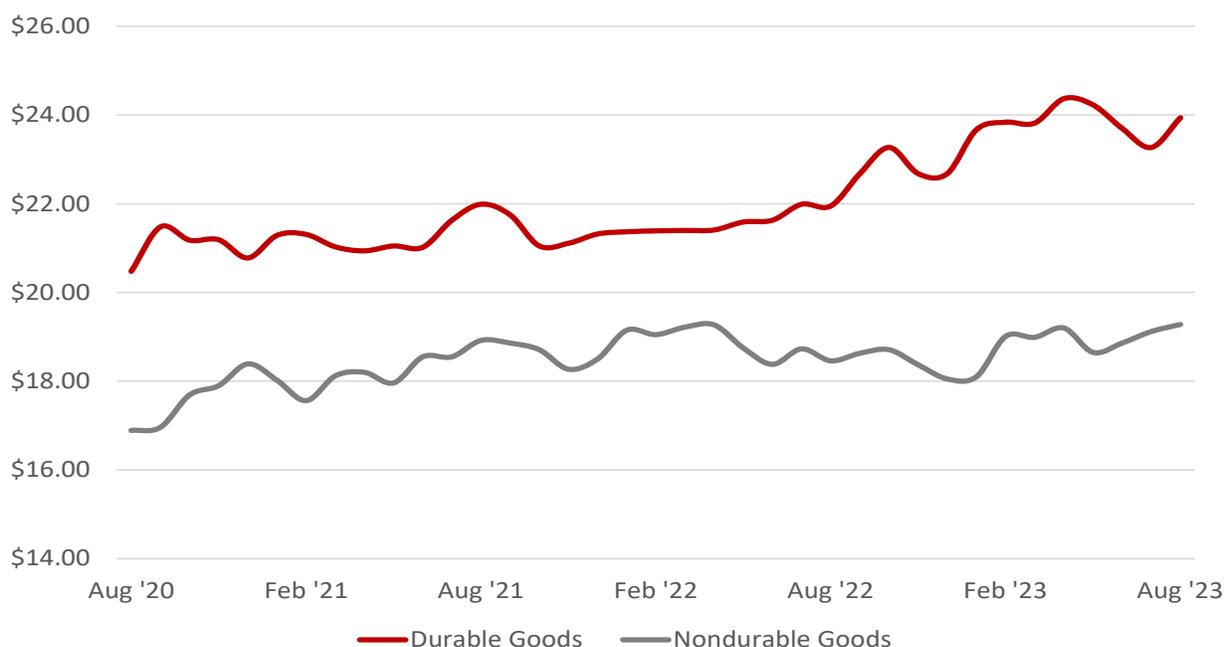
Manufacturing

	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	39.8	38.6	38.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$21.76	\$21.40	\$20.23
Average Weekly Earnings	\$866.05	\$826.04	\$786.95

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>		<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	43.7	43.6	41.5	Average Weekly Hours	36.1	33.9	36.5
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.94	\$23.27	\$21.95	Average Hourly Earnings	\$19.28	\$19.12	\$18.46
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,046.18	\$1,014.57	\$910.93	Average Weekly Earnings	\$696.01	\$648.17	\$673.79

Average Hourly Earnings - Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods (Production Workers)
 August 2020 - August 2023



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>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	366,569	375,720	359,766	-9,151	6,803
Employment	355,556	364,739	347,566	-9,183	7,990
Unemployment	11,013	10,981	12,200	32	-1,187
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	2.9%	3.4%	0.1%	-0.4%

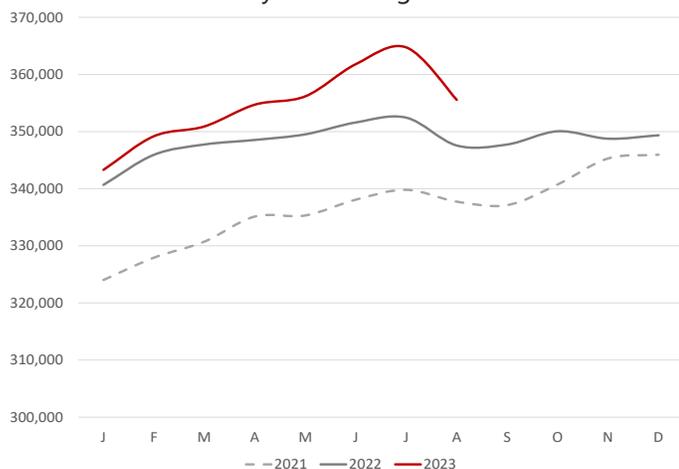
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	384.2	385.8	376.1	-1.6	8.1
Goods Producing	40.7	41.0	39.2	-0.3	1.5
Mining, Logging & Construction	20.7	20.9	19.2	-0.2	1.5
Manufacturing	20.0	20.1	20.0	-0.1	0.0
Service Providing	343.5	344.8	336.9	-1.3	6.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	76.9	77.7	77.0	-0.8	-0.1
Wholesale Trade	18.5	18.5	17.5	0.0	1.0
Retail Trade	37.5	38.4	38.9	-0.9	-1.4
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	20.9	20.8	20.6	0.1	0.3
Information	5.5	5.6	5.7	-0.1	-0.2
Financial Activities	24.7	24.9	25.0	-0.2	-0.3
Professional & Business Services	47.9	48.1	47.9	-0.2	0.0
Private Education & Health Services	63.6	64.3	61.7	-0.7	1.9
Leisure & Hospitality	38.2	38.4	34.1	-0.2	4.1
Other Services	19.8	19.8	18.9	0.0	0.9
Government	66.9	66.0	66.6	0.9	0.3
Federal Government	10.2	10.1	9.8	0.1	0.4
State Government	33.2	32.6	33.5	0.6	-0.3
Local Government	23.5	23.3	23.3	0.2	0.2

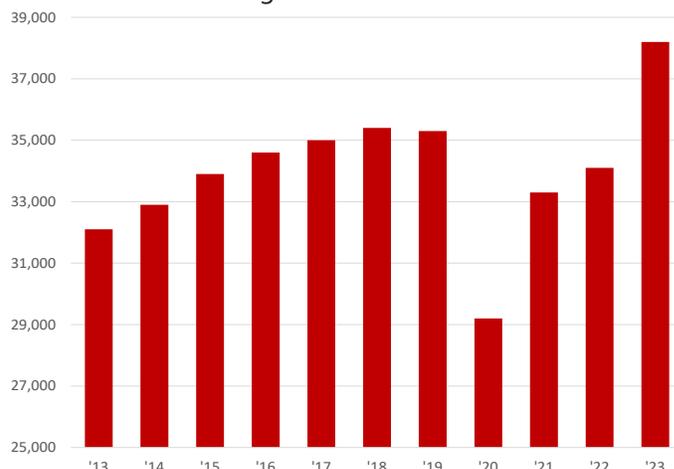
Employment

January 2021 - August 2023



Jobs in Leisure and Hospitality

August: 2013 - 2023



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)

	Aug 23	Jul 23	Aug 22	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	318,231	320,405	305,793	-2,174	12,438
Employment	310,435	312,744	298,133	-2,309	12,302
Unemployment	7,796	7,661	7,660	135	136
Unemployment Rate	2.4%	2.4%	2.5%	0.0%	-0.1%

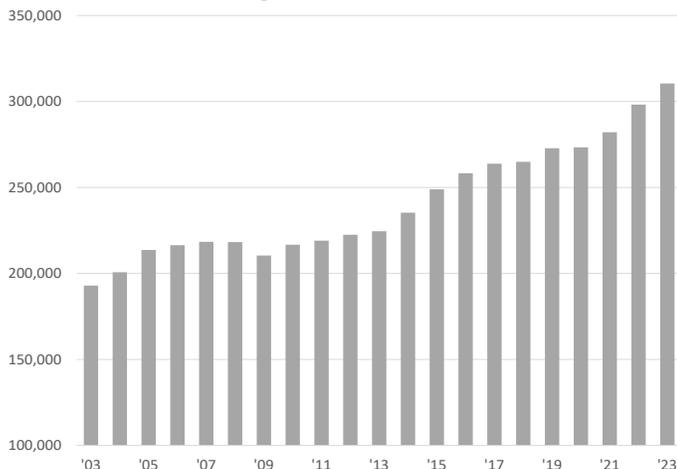
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Aug 23	Jul 23	Aug 22	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	308.8	304.7	296.2	4.1	12.6
Goods Producing	49.2	49.3	46.9	-0.1	2.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	16.6	16.7	15.1	-0.1	1.5
Manufacturing	32.6	32.6	31.8	0.0	0.8
Service Providing	259.6	255.4	249.3	4.2	10.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	64.0	63.9	62.7	0.1	1.3
Wholesale Trade	14.7	14.7	13.5	0.0	1.2
Retail Trade	28.7	28.8	28.7	-0.1	0.0
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	20.6	20.4	20.5	0.2	0.1
Information	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	10.2	10.4	10.4	-0.2	-0.2
Professional & Business Services	60.6	58.5	58.5	2.1	2.1
Private Education & Health Services	34.6	34.5	33.1	0.1	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	32.1	31.5	29.6	0.6	2.5
Other Services	16.2	16.1	15.0	0.1	1.2
Government	39.6	38.2	37.6	1.4	2.0
Federal Government	3.1	3.1	2.9	0.0	0.2
State Government	17.5	16.4	16.2	1.1	1.3
Local Government	19.0	18.7	18.5	0.3	0.5

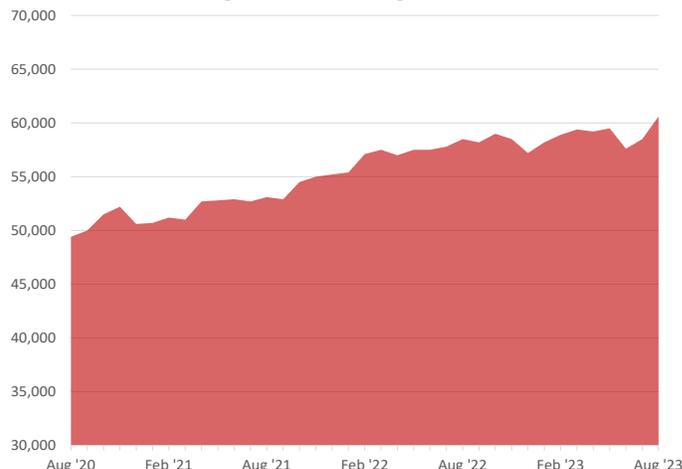
Employment

August: 2003 - 2023



Jobs in Professional & Business Services

August 2020 - August 2023



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)

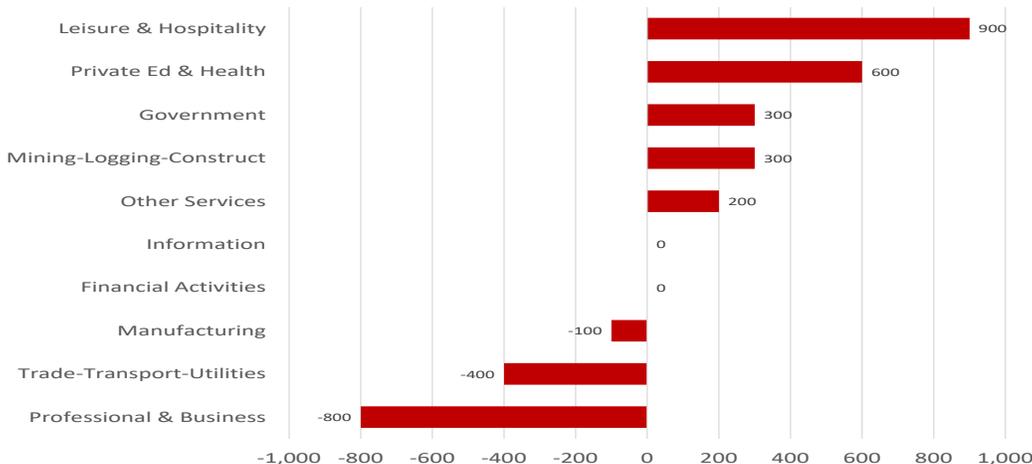
	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	120,449	120,756	118,023	-307	2,426
Employment	115,984	116,315	113,950	-331	2,034
Unemployment	4,465	4,441	4,073	24	392
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%	0.0%	0.2%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	114.6	112.8	113.6	1.8	1.0
Goods Producing	24.2	24.3	24.0	-0.1	0.2
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.6	5.6	5.3	0.0	0.3
Manufacturing	18.6	18.7	18.7	-0.1	-0.1
Service Providing	90.4	88.5	89.6	1.9	0.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24.3	24.5	24.7	-0.2	-0.4
Wholesale Trade	5.0	5.1	4.8	-0.1	0.2
Retail Trade	12.8	12.9	13.1	-0.1	-0.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.5	6.5	6.8	0.0	-0.3
Information	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	11.1	10.3	11.9	0.8	-0.8
Private Education & Health Services	18.2	18.1	17.6	0.1	0.6
Leisure & Hospitality	10.6	10.6	9.7	0.0	0.9
Other Services	3.7	3.7	3.5	0.0	0.2
Government	16.9	15.7	16.6	1.2	0.3
Federal Government	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.1
State Government	2.1	2.1	2.3	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	13.4	12.2	13.0	1.2	0.4

Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector August 2022 vs August 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	42,418	43,422	42,501	-1,004	-83
Employment	40,921	41,854	40,792	-933	129
Unemployment	1,497	1,568	1,709	-71	-212
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.6%	4.0%	-0.1%	-0.5%

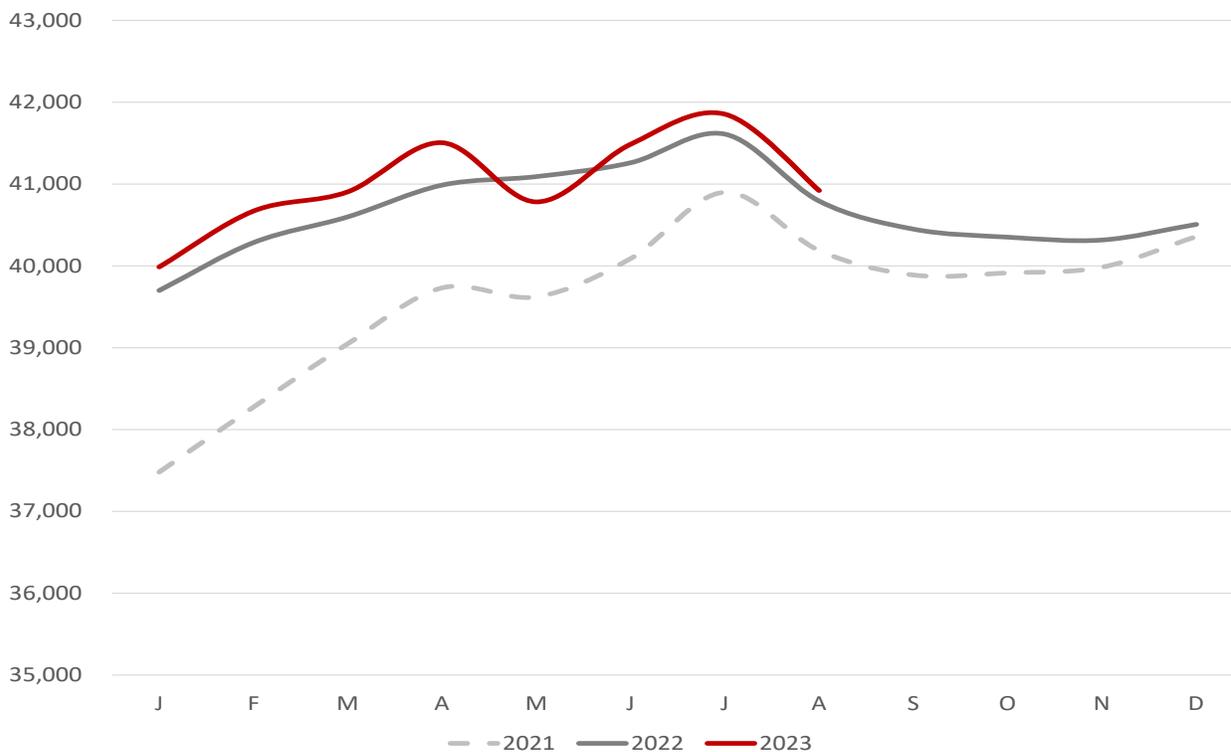
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	41.4	41.5	41.3	-0.1	0.1
Goods Producing	4.7	4.7	4.7	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	36.7	36.8	36.6	-0.1	0.1
Government	3.9	3.7	4.1	0.2	-0.2

Employment

January 2021 - August 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	69,224	70,402	67,658	-1,178	1,566
Employment	67,232	68,442	65,552	-1,210	1,680
Unemployment	1,992	1,960	2,106	32	-114
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	2.8%	3.1%	0.1%	-0.2%

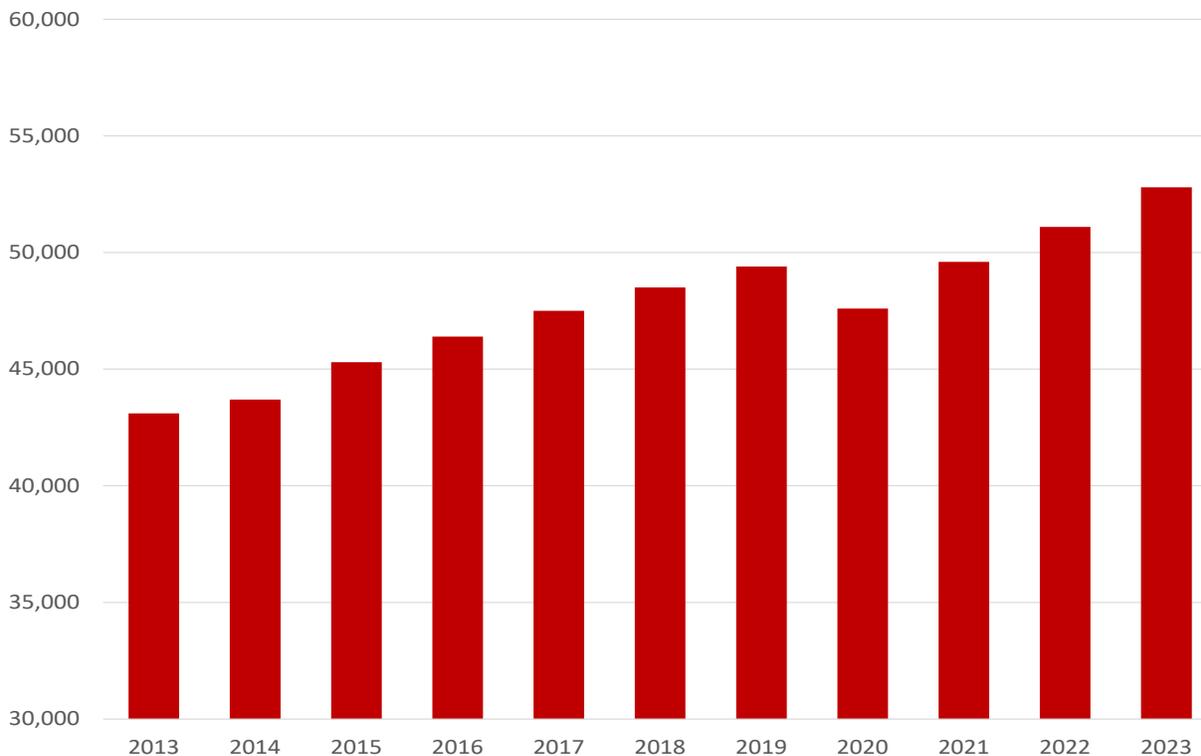
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	64.8	64.7	63.0	0.1	1.8
Goods Producing	12.0	12.1	11.9	-0.1	0.1
Service Providing	52.8	52.6	51.1	0.2	1.7
Government	8.8	8.7	8.5	0.1	0.3

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

August: 2013 - 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	32,534	32,959	32,519	-425	15
Employment	31,148	31,472	30,769	-324	379
Unemployment	1,386	1,487	1,750	-101	-364
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.5%	5.4%	-0.2%	-1.1%

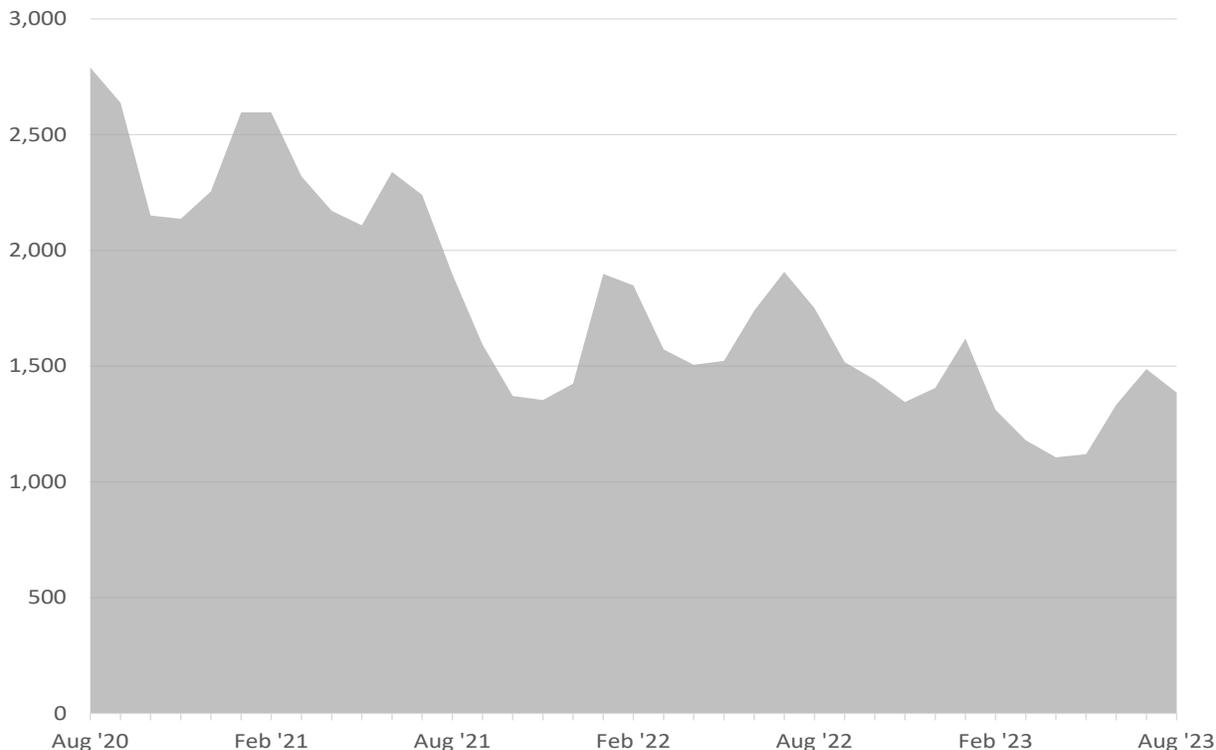
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	31.5	31.2	31.1	0.3	0.4
Goods Producing	5.6	5.6	5.4	0.0	0.2
Service Providing	25.9	25.6	25.7	0.3	0.2
Government	8.3	8.0	8.3	0.3	0.0

Unemployment

August 2020 - August 2023



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>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	622,650	635,018	632,931	-12,368	-10,281
Employment	595,428	606,491	603,914	-11,063	-8,486
Unemployment	27,222	28,527	29,017	-1,305	-1,795
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.6%	-0.1%	-0.2%

Texarkana MSA

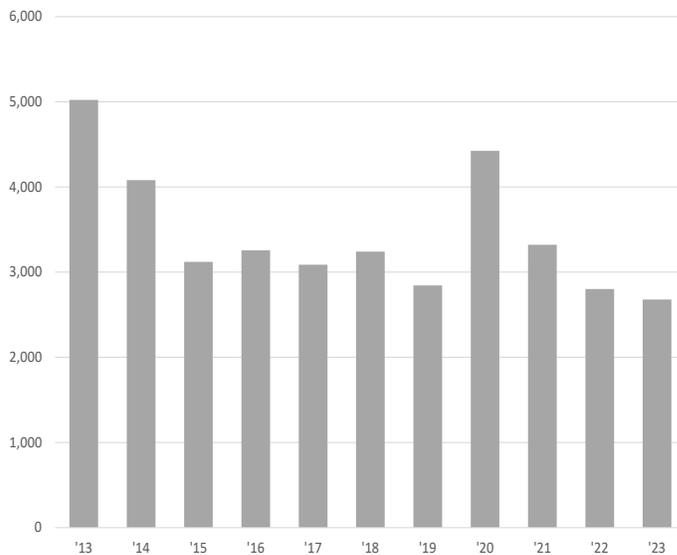
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Aug 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,430	63,986	62,329	-556	1,101
Employment	60,751	61,227	59,528	-476	1,223
Unemployment	2,679	2,759	2,801	-80	-122
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.3%	4.5%	-0.1%	-0.3%

Memphis MSA - Civilian Labor Force
 August 2020 - August 2023



Texarkana MSA - Unemployment
 August: 2013 - 2023



Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	August 2023				July 2023				August 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	8,581	8,142	439	5.1	8,332	7,884	448	5.4	8,551	8,103	448	5.2
Batesville Micro	17,000	16,163	837	4.9	16,824	16,190	634	3.8	16,453	15,860	593	3.6
Blytheville Micro	17,126	16,220	906	5.3	17,046	16,083	963	5.6	16,543	15,589	954	5.8
Camden Micro	11,945	11,532	413	3.5	11,803	11,385	418	3.5	11,901	11,456	445	3.7
El Dorado Micro	14,888	14,220	668	4.5	14,766	14,070	696	4.7	14,809	14,065	744	5.0
Forrest City Micro	7,507	7,127	380	5.1	7,449	7,058	391	5.2	7,628	7,224	404	5.3
Harrison Micro	19,024	18,424	600	3.2	19,023	18,404	619	3.3	18,873	18,273	600	3.2
Helena-West Helena Micro	5,269	4,948	321	6.1	5,137	4,803	334	6.5	5,639	5,261	378	6.7
Hope Micro	12,366	11,911	455	3.7	12,398	11,928	470	3.8	12,668	12,213	455	3.6
Magnolia Micro	8,804	8,398	406	4.6	8,353	7,962	391	4.7	8,704	8,302	402	4.6
Malvern Micro	13,859	13,367	492	3.6	14,080	13,556	524	3.7	13,844	13,302	542	3.9
Mountain Home Micro	17,059	16,476	583	3.4	17,134	16,538	596	3.5	16,457	15,822	635	3.9
Paragould Micro	19,958	19,335	623	3.1	20,192	19,552	640	3.2	19,819	19,176	643	3.2
Russellville Micro	36,786	35,218	1,568	4.3	36,461	34,880	1,581	4.3	35,940	34,396	1,544	4.3
Searcy Micro	34,359	33,155	1,204	3.5	33,771	32,591	1,180	3.5	34,200	32,973	1,227	3.6

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	August 2023				July 2023				August 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	13,659	13,254	405	3.0	13,782	13,357	425	3.1	13,102	12,716	386	2.9
Benton	18,236	17,745	491	2.7	18,761	18,212	549	2.9	17,843	17,338	505	2.8
Bentonville	33,165	32,412	753	2.3	33,403	32,665	738	2.2	31,832	31,097	735	2.3
Blytheville	5,865	5,429	436	7.4	5,826	5,384	442	7.6	5,651	5,218	433	7.7
Cabot	12,343	12,007	336	2.7	12,606	12,290	316	2.5	12,149	11,773	376	3.1
Conway	35,501	34,455	1,046	2.9	36,351	35,338	1,013	2.8	34,801	33,702	1,099	3.2
El Dorado	6,448	6,119	329	5.1	6,382	6,055	327	5.1	6,421	6,053	368	5.7
Fayetteville	54,333	52,855	1,478	2.7	54,639	53,271	1,368	2.5	52,191	50,733	1,458	2.8
Fort Smith	39,032	37,522	1,510	3.9	39,308	37,778	1,530	3.9	38,327	37,106	1,221	3.2
Hot Springs	15,719	15,143	576	3.7	16,114	15,488	626	3.9	15,806	15,095	711	4.5
Jacksonville	11,884	11,448	436	3.7	12,167	11,749	418	3.4	11,693	11,181	512	4.4
Jonesboro	41,677	40,489	1,188	2.9	42,431	41,246	1,185	2.8	40,724	39,436	1,288	3.2
Little Rock	99,200	96,078	3,122	3.1	101,796	98,609	3,187	3.1	97,487	93,844	3,643	3.7
North Little Rock	30,586	29,545	1,041	3.4	31,381	30,323	1,058	3.4	30,089	28,858	1,231	4.1
Paragould	12,697	12,288	409	3.2	12,851	12,426	425	3.3	12,623	12,187	436	3.5
Pine Bluff	15,240	14,450	790	5.2	15,446	14,618	828	5.4	15,259	14,243	1,016	6.7
Rogers	40,679	39,764	915	2.2	40,930	40,074	856	2.1	39,063	38,150	913	2.3
Russellville	13,235	12,669	566	4.3	13,119	12,558	561	4.3	12,882	12,349	533	4.1
Searcy	10,379	10,012	367	3.5	10,196	9,842	354	3.5	10,346	9,957	389	3.8
Sherwood	16,577	16,124	453	2.7	17,005	16,548	457	2.7	16,259	15,749	510	3.1
Springdale	43,162	42,210	952	2.2	43,476	42,542	934	2.1	41,455	40,514	941	2.3
Texarkana, AR	13,058	12,549	509	3.9	13,354	12,813	541	4.1	12,875	12,334	541	4.2
Van Buren	10,458	10,045	413	3.9	10,537	10,103	434	4.1	10,270	9,947	323	3.1
West Memphis	10,131	9,686	445	4.4	10,419	9,912	507	4.9	10,281	9,705	576	5.6

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	August 2023				July 2023				August 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,409	9,177	232	2.5	9,398	9,166	232	2.5	9,597	9,301	296	3.1
Ashley	6,462	6,112	350	5.4	6,350	5,974	376	5.9	6,865	6,474	391	5.7
Baxter	17,059	16,476	583	3.4	17,134	16,538	596	3.5	16,457	15,822	635	3.9
Benton	158,506	154,636	3,870	2.4	159,628	155,843	3,785	2.4	152,201	148,360	3,841	2.5
Boone	15,813	15,325	488	3.1	15,818	15,316	502	3.2	15,686	15,181	505	3.2
Bradley	4,007	3,837	170	4.2	3,963	3,783	180	4.5	4,164	3,912	252	6.1
Calhoun	2,358	2,298	60	2.5	2,324	2,262	62	2.7	2,371	2,295	76	3.2
Carroll	12,834	12,489	345	2.7	12,619	12,288	331	2.6	12,897	12,528	369	2.9
Chicot	2,939	2,769	170	5.8	2,922	2,755	167	5.7	3,060	2,863	197	6.4
Clark	8,581	8,142	439	5.1	8,332	7,884	448	5.4	8,551	8,103	448	5.2
Clay	5,527	5,323	204	3.7	5,446	5,223	223	4.1	5,568	5,357	211	3.8
Cleburne	9,084	8,729	355	3.9	9,098	8,757	341	3.7	9,044	8,659	385	4.3
Cleveland	3,120	3,013	107	3.4	3,142	3,032	110	3.5	3,120	2,997	123	3.9
Columbia	8,804	8,398	406	4.6	8,353	7,962	391	4.7	8,704	8,302	402	4.6
Conway	8,404	8,094	310	3.7	8,408	8,084	324	3.9	8,378	8,048	330	3.9
Craighead	58,974	57,333	1,641	2.8	60,037	58,406	1,631	2.7	57,581	55,842	1,739	3.0
Crawford	26,664	25,707	957	3.6	26,830	25,857	973	3.6	26,337	25,457	880	3.3
Crittenden	20,710	19,848	862	4.2	21,258	20,312	946	4.5	20,866	19,887	979	4.7
Cross	6,946	6,725	221	3.2	6,813	6,588	225	3.3	7,063	6,784	279	4.0
Dallas	2,641	2,543	98	3.7	2,653	2,550	103	3.9	2,713	2,590	123	4.5
Desha	4,992	4,768	224	4.5	4,920	4,675	245	5.0	5,037	4,763	274	5.4
Drew	7,667	7,356	311	4.1	7,348	7,030	318	4.3	7,636	7,277	359	4.7
Faulkner	64,457	62,584	1,873	2.9	66,015	64,187	1,828	2.8	63,234	61,216	2,018	3.2
Franklin	7,610	7,359	251	3.3	7,445	7,207	238	3.2	7,535	7,265	270	3.6
Fulton	4,515	4,338	177	3.9	4,534	4,354	180	4.0	4,878	4,700	178	3.6
Garland	42,418	40,921	1,497	3.5	43,422	41,854	1,568	3.6	42,501	40,792	1,709	4.0
Grant	8,626	8,383	243	2.8	8,846	8,581	265	3.0	8,493	8,209	284	3.3
Greene	19,958	19,335	623	3.1	20,192	19,552	640	3.2	19,819	19,176	643	3.2
Hempstead	9,054	8,730	324	3.6	9,068	8,737	331	3.7	9,271	8,956	315	3.4
Hot Spring	13,859	13,367	492	3.6	14,080	13,556	524	3.7	13,844	13,302	542	3.9
Howard	5,203	5,010	193	3.7	5,202	5,012	190	3.7	5,342	5,143	199	3.7
Independence	17,000	16,163	837	4.9	16,824	16,190	634	3.8	16,453	15,860	593	3.6
Izard	4,590	4,309	281	6.1	4,341	4,102	239	5.5	4,602	4,343	259	5.6
Jackson	5,526	5,236	290	5.2	5,354	5,069	285	5.3	5,637	5,348	289	5.1
Jefferson	25,677	24,541	1,136	4.4	26,050	24,825	1,225	4.7	25,640	24,188	1,452	5.7
Johnson	9,709	9,300	409	4.2	9,740	9,308	432	4.4	9,869	9,410	459	4.7
Lafayette	2,231	2,127	104	4.7	2,187	2,075	112	5.1	2,281	2,179	102	4.5
Lawrence	6,907	6,665	242	3.5	6,625	6,396	229	3.5	6,835	6,580	255	3.7
Lee	2,622	2,496	126	4.8	2,595	2,463	132	5.1	2,622	2,501	121	4.6
Lincoln	3,737	3,594	143	3.8	3,767	3,615	152	4.0	3,759	3,584	175	4.7
Little River	5,265	5,088	177	3.4	5,372	5,196	176	3.3	5,201	4,990	211	4.1
Logan	8,454	8,112	342	4.0	8,325	7,959	366	4.4	8,421	8,087	334	4.0
Lonoke	35,023	34,039	984	2.8	35,788	34,839	949	2.7	34,409	33,373	1,036	3.0
Madison	8,161	7,959	202	2.5	8,172	7,973	199	2.4	7,930	7,738	192	2.4
Marion	6,267	6,030	237	3.8	6,307	6,044	263	4.2	6,337	6,097	240	3.8
Miller	19,025	18,344	681	3.6	19,455	18,729	726	3.7	18,792	18,029	763	4.1

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	August 2023				July 2023				August 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,126	16,220	906	5.3	17,046	16,083	963	5.6	16,543	15,589	954	5.8
Monroe	2,514	2,418	96	3.8	2,446	2,356	90	3.7	2,622	2,515	107	4.1
Montgomery	2,979	2,845	134	4.5	2,934	2,789	145	4.9	3,012	2,867	145	4.8
Nevada	3,312	3,181	131	4.0	3,330	3,191	139	4.2	3,397	3,257	140	4.1
Newton	3,211	3,099	112	3.5	3,205	3,088	117	3.7	3,187	3,092	95	3.0
Ouachita	9,587	9,234	353	3.7	9,479	9,123	356	3.8	9,530	9,161	369	3.9
Perry	4,317	4,166	151	3.5	4,411	4,261	150	3.4	4,252	4,096	156	3.7
Phillips	5,269	4,948	321	6.1	5,137	4,803	334	6.5	5,639	5,261	378	6.7
Pike	4,183	4,041	142	3.4	4,049	3,904	145	3.6	4,119	3,977	142	3.4
Poinsett	10,250	9,899	351	3.4	10,365	10,036	329	3.2	10,077	9,710	367	3.6
Polk	8,054	7,773	281	3.5	7,798	7,512	286	3.7	8,041	7,745	296	3.7
Pope	28,598	27,353	1,245	4.4	28,369	27,114	1,255	4.4	27,877	26,663	1,214	4.4
Prairie	3,619	3,512	107	3.0	3,521	3,412	109	3.1	3,607	3,500	107	3.0
Pulaski	192,892	186,800	6,092	3.2	197,830	191,720	6,110	3.1	189,427	182,457	6,970	3.7
Randolph	7,205	6,958	247	3.4	7,098	6,843	255	3.6	7,253	6,998	255	3.5
St. Francis	7,507	7,127	380	5.1	7,449	7,058	391	5.2	7,628	7,224	404	5.3
Saline	61,254	59,584	1,670	2.7	62,830	61,151	1,679	2.7	59,951	58,215	1,736	2.9
Scott	4,408	4,266	142	3.2	4,363	4,226	137	3.1	4,379	4,251	128	2.9
Searcy	2,884	2,768	116	4.0	2,777	2,650	127	4.6	2,965	2,829	136	4.6
Sebastian	56,084	54,052	2,032	3.6	56,458	54,422	2,036	3.6	55,262	53,454	1,808	3.3
Sevier	5,558	5,346	212	3.8	5,487	5,281	206	3.8	5,568	5,339	229	4.1
Sharp	5,957	5,663	294	4.9	5,907	5,687	220	3.7	5,754	5,506	248	4.3
Stone	4,729	4,535	194	4.1	4,576	4,393	183	4.0	4,760	4,568	192	4.0
Union	14,888	14,220	668	4.5	14,766	14,070	696	4.7	14,809	14,065	744	5.0
Van Buren	6,033	5,807	226	3.7	5,990	5,770	220	3.7	5,973	5,708	265	4.4
Washington	140,051	136,725	3,326	2.4	140,980	137,802	3,178	2.3	134,562	131,237	3,325	2.5
White	34,359	33,155	1,204	3.5	33,771	32,591	1,180	3.5	34,200	32,973	1,227	3.6
Woodruff	2,900	2,810	90	3.1	2,770	2,676	94	3.4	2,872	2,766	106	3.7
Yell	8,188	7,865	323	3.9	8,092	7,766	326	4.0	8,063	7,733	330	4.1

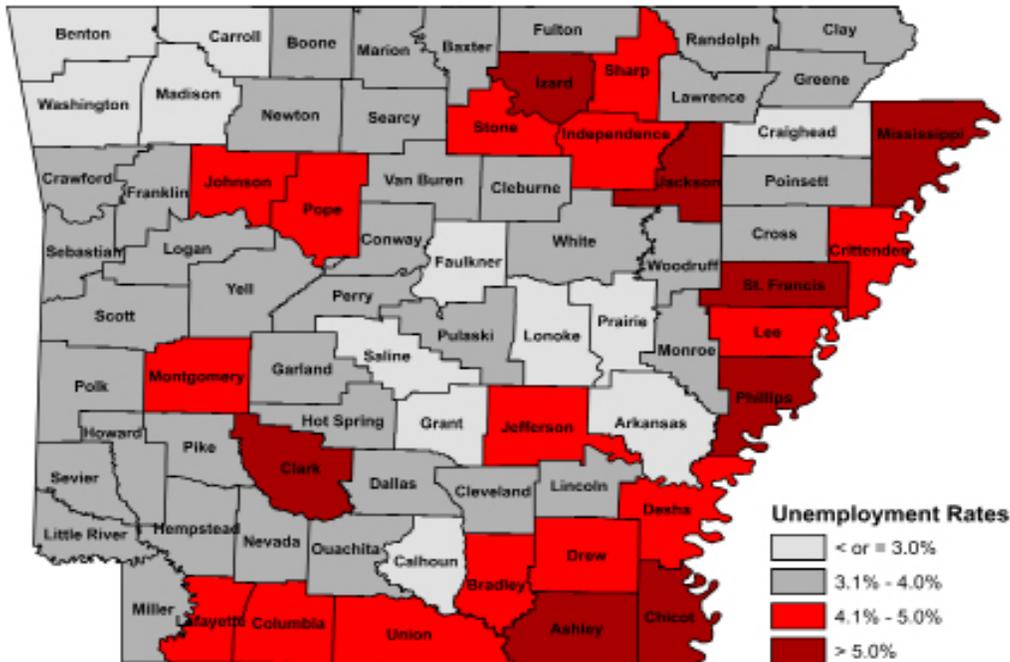
County Labor Force Summary

Between July and August, unemployment rates declined in 45 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Nineteen counties posted increases, while rates in 11 counties remained stable. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.4% in Benton and Washington counties to a high of 6.1% in Izard and Phillips counties.

In August, twelve counties had unemployment rates at or below 3%. That is up slightly from 11 counties at or below 3% in July. For the 7th consecutive month, no county in Arkansas posted a jobless rate above seven percent.

Compared to August 2022, unemployment rates are lower in 54 Arkansas counties. Rates were up in 14 counties, while 7 counties were unchanged over-the-year. Bradley County had the largest annual rate decline, dropping from 6.1% in August 2022 to 4.2% in August 2023. The largest jobless rate increase occurred in Independence County, up one and three-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

August 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Benton	2.4	26	Garland	3.5	50	Nevada	4.0
1	Washington	2.4	26	Lawrence	3.5	50	Searcy	4.0
3	Arkansas	2.5	26	Newton	3.5	53	Drew	4.1
3	Calhoun	2.5	26	Perry	3.5	53	Stone	4.1
3	Madison	2.5	26	Polk	3.5	55	Bradley	4.2
6	Carroll	2.7	26	White	3.5	55	Crittenden	4.2
6	Saline	2.7	32	Crawford	3.6	55	Johnson	4.2
8	Craighead	2.8	32	Hempstead	3.6	58	Jefferson	4.4
8	Grant	2.8	32	Hot Spring	3.6	58	Pope	4.4
8	Lonoke	2.8	32	Miller	3.6	60	Desha	4.5
11	Faulkner	2.9	32	Sebastian	3.6	60	Montgomery	4.5
12	Prairie	3.0	37	Clay	3.7	60	Union	4.5
13	Boone	3.1	37	Conway	3.7	63	Columbia	4.6
13	Greene	3.1	37	Dallas	3.7	64	Lafayette	4.7
13	Woodruff	3.1	37	Howard	3.7	65	Lee	4.8
16	Cross	3.2	37	Ouachita	3.7	66	Independence	4.9
16	Pulaski	3.2	37	Van Buren	3.7	66	Sharp	4.9
16	Scott	3.2	43	Lincoln	3.8	68	Clark	5.1
19	Franklin	3.3	43	Marion	3.8	68	St. Francis	5.1
20	Baxter	3.4	43	Monroe	3.8	70	Jackson	5.2
20	Cleveland	3.4	43	Sevier	3.8	71	Mississippi	5.3
20	Little River	3.4	47	Cleburne	3.9	72	Ashley	5.4
20	Pike	3.4	47	Fulton	3.9	73	Chicot	5.8
20	Poinsett	3.4	47	Yell	3.9	74	Izard	6.1
20	Randolph	3.4	50	Logan	4.0	74	Phillips	6.1

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	August 2023				July 2023				August 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	260,559	252,859	7,700	3.0	266,634	259,056	7,578	2.8	255,763	247,432	8,331	3.3
City of Little Rock	99,200	96,078	3,122	3.1	101,796	98,609	3,187	3.1	97,487	93,844	3,643	3.7
Eastern	43,054	41,144	1,910	4.4	43,252	41,224	2,028	4.7	43,818	41,657	2,161	4.9
North Central	94,693	90,745	3,948	4.2	93,165	89,589	3,576	3.8	94,173	90,431	3,742	4.0
Northeast	125,947	121,733	4,214	3.3	126,809	122,539	4,270	3.4	123,676	119,252	4,424	3.6
Northwest	364,786	355,507	9,279	2.5	366,640	357,542	9,098	2.5	352,222	342,884	9,338	2.7
Southeast	76,636	73,550	3,086	4.0	76,706	73,436	3,270	4.3	77,371	73,568	3,803	4.9
Southwest	87,926	84,519	3,407	3.9	87,676	84,188	3,488	4.0	87,979	84,306	3,673	4.2
West Central	131,236	126,094	5,142	3.9	131,837	126,520	5,317	4.0	130,466	124,991	5,475	4.2
Western	111,274	107,269	4,005	3.6	111,219	107,183	4,036	3.6	109,975	106,259	3,716	3.4

