

2 0 2 3

DECEMBER

ARKANSAS
LABOR
MARKET
REPORT

WWW.DISCOVER.ARKANSAS.GOV



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



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.

December Spotlight Coming in 2024

2024 Publication Schedule

Reference Month	State Press Release	MSA's & Counties*
January	03/11/2024	03/13/2024
February	03/22/2024	04/03/2024
March	04/19/2024	05/01/2024
April	05/17/2024	05/29/2024
May	06/25/2024	07/03/2024
June	07/19/2024	07/30/2024
July	08/16/2024	08/28/2024
August	09/20/2024	10/02/2024
September	10/22/2024	10/30/2024
October	11/19/2024	11/27/2024
November	12/20/2024	01/03/2025
December	01/28/2025	02/05/2025

*Date when Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and county labor force statistics will be available on the Discover Arkansas website

Upcoming Spotlight Topics

Business Employment Dynamics

Labor Underutilization Rates

A Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

Wages by County

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 rose one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.3% in November to 3.4% in December. The United States’ jobless rate remained stable at 3.7%.

Arkansas’ civilian labor force declined by 1,147 in December. The number of employed in the State decreased by 3,638, while 2,491 more unemployed Arkansans began actively looking for work. Arkansas’ labor force participation rate dipped to 57.6% in December.

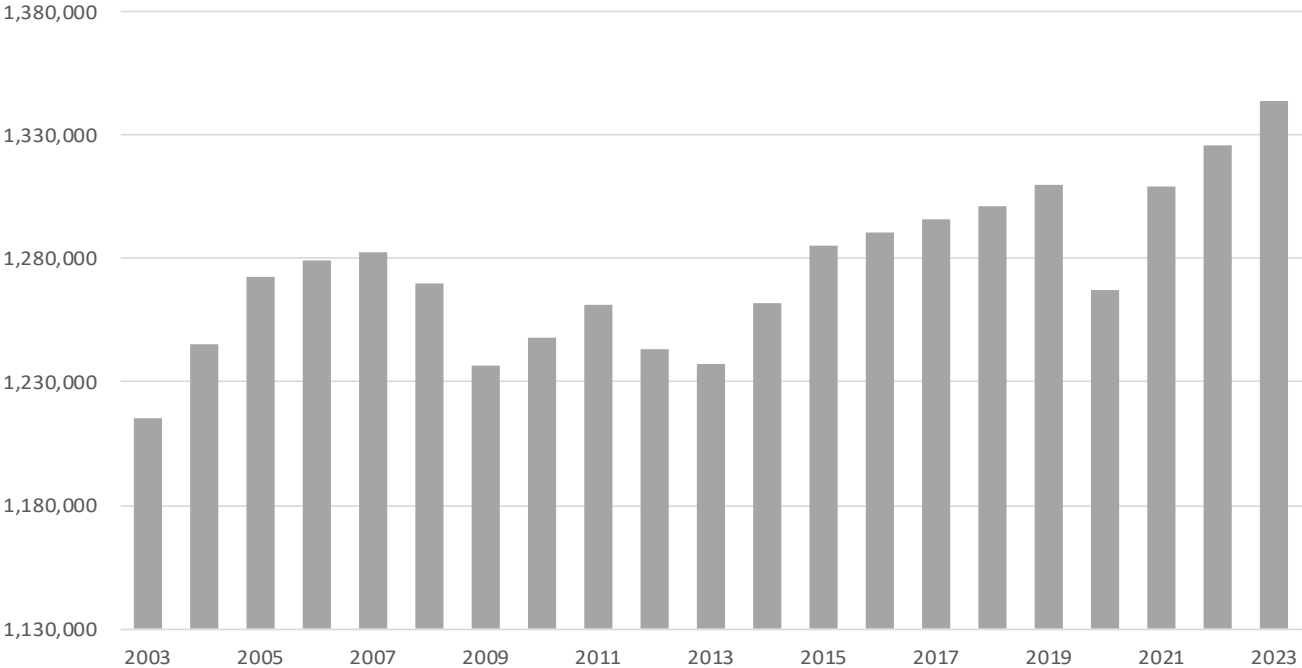
Compared to December 2022, there are 18,263 more employed and 446 additional unemployed Arkansans. The unemployment rate is the same as last December, while the labor force participation rate is up two-tenths of a percentage point.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Dec 23	Nov 23	Dec 22		Dec 23	Nov 23	Dec 22
Civilian Labor Force	1,391,742	1,392,889	1,373,033	Civilian Labor Force	1,372,350	1,380,208	1,362,369
Employment	1,343,944	1,347,582	1,325,681	Employment	1,325,615	1,337,677	1,322,854
Unemployment	47,798	45,307	47,352	Unemployment	46,735	42,531	39,515
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.3%	3.4%	Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.1%	2.9%
LF Participation Rate	57.6%	57.7%	57.4%	LF Participation Rate	56.8%	57.2%	57.0%

Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

December: 2003 - 2023



State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

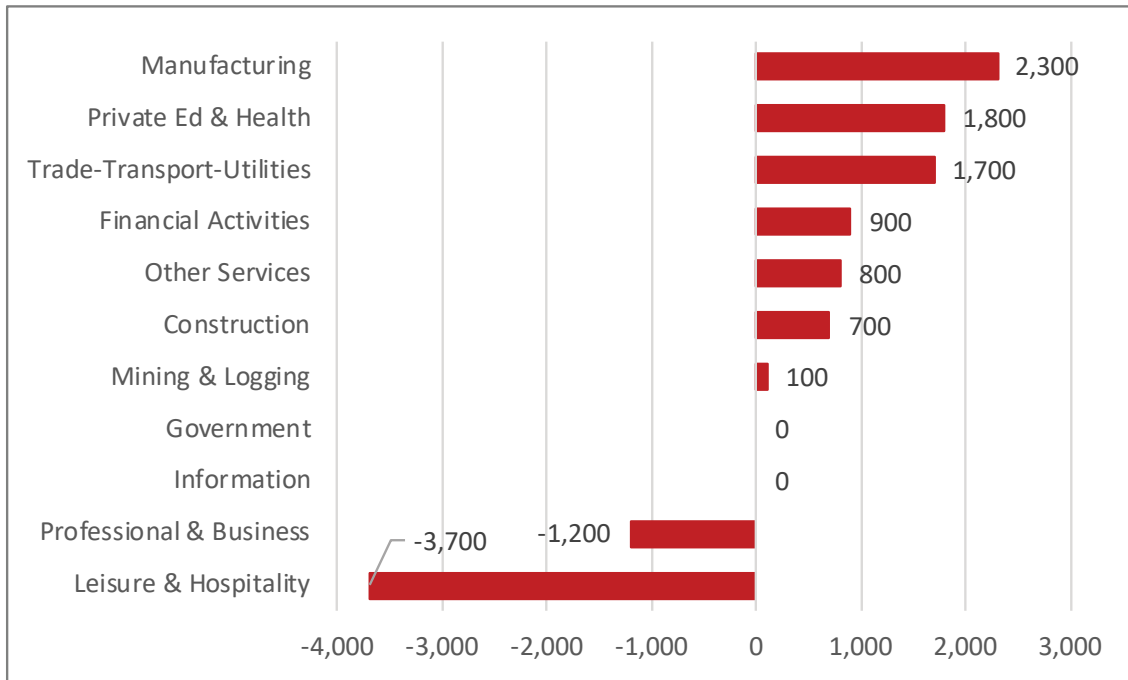
Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

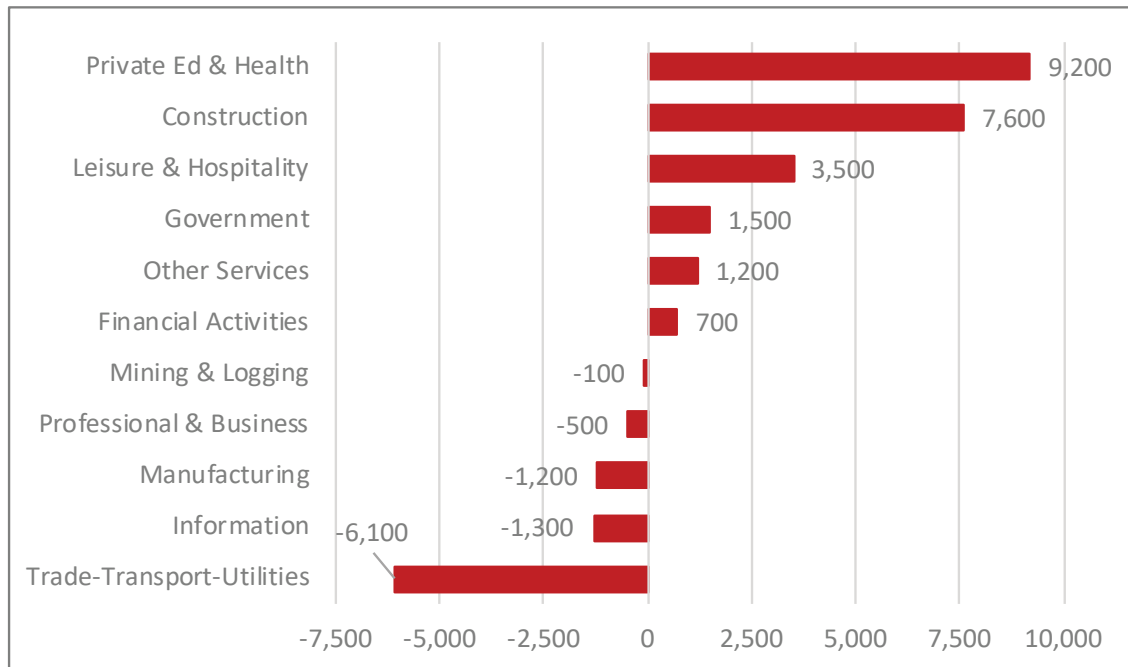
(NAICS)	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1369.0	1365.6	1354.5	3.4	14.5
Goods Producing	234.3	231.2	228.0	3.1	6.3
Mining, Logging, & Construction	71.7	70.9	64.2	0.8	7.5
Mining & Logging	5.0	4.9	5.1	0.1	-0.1
Construction	66.7	66.0	59.1	0.7	7.6
Specialty Trade Contractors	41.6	41.2	36.5	0.4	5.1
Manufacturing	162.6	160.3	163.8	2.3	-1.2
Durable Goods	78.6	76.5	79.7	2.1	-1.1
Nondurable Goods	84.0	83.8	84.1	0.2	-0.1
Service Providing	1134.7	1134.4	1126.5	0.3	8.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	274.0	272.3	280.1	1.7	-6.1
Wholesale Trade	53.1	53.3	53.0	-0.2	0.1
Retail Trade	144.0	142.8	146.9	1.2	-2.9
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	76.9	76.2	80.2	0.7	-3.3
Information	11.5	11.5	12.8	0.0	-1.3
Financial Activities	71.9	71.0	71.2	0.9	0.7
Finance & Insurance	57.2	56.3	56.4	0.9	0.8
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	14.7	14.7	14.8	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	150.3	151.5	150.8	-1.2	-0.5
Professional, Scientific & Technical	51.1	49.9	48.2	1.2	2.9
Management of Companies	41.0	40.9	39.0	0.1	2.0
Administrative & Support Services	58.2	60.7	63.6	-2.5	-5.4
Private Education & Health Services	212.2	210.4	203.0	1.8	9.2
Private Educational Services	19.6	19.5	19.2	0.1	0.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	192.6	190.9	183.8	1.7	8.8
Ambulatory Health Care	68.5	67.7	63.7	0.8	4.8
Social Assistance	39.9	39.7	37.7	0.2	2.2
Leisure & Hospitality	126.0	129.7	122.5	-3.7	3.5
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	12.9	13.3	12.4	-0.4	0.5
Accommodation & Food Services	113.1	116.4	110.1	-3.3	3.0
Accommodation Services	11.3	11.7	11.0	-0.4	0.3
Food Services	101.8	104.7	99.1	-2.9	2.7
Other Services	74.7	73.9	73.5	0.8	1.2
Government	214.1	214.1	212.6	0.0	1.5
Federal Government	22.0	21.6	20.9	0.4	1.1
State Government	77.5	77.9	77.6	-0.4	-0.1
State Gov, Educational Services	31.4	31.8	31.4	-0.4	0.0
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.1	46.1	46.2	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	114.6	114.6	114.1	0.0	0.5
Local Gov, Educational Services	71.0	70.8	70.8	0.2	0.2
Local Gov, Excluding Education	43.6	43.8	43.3	-0.2	0.3

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

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



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



State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

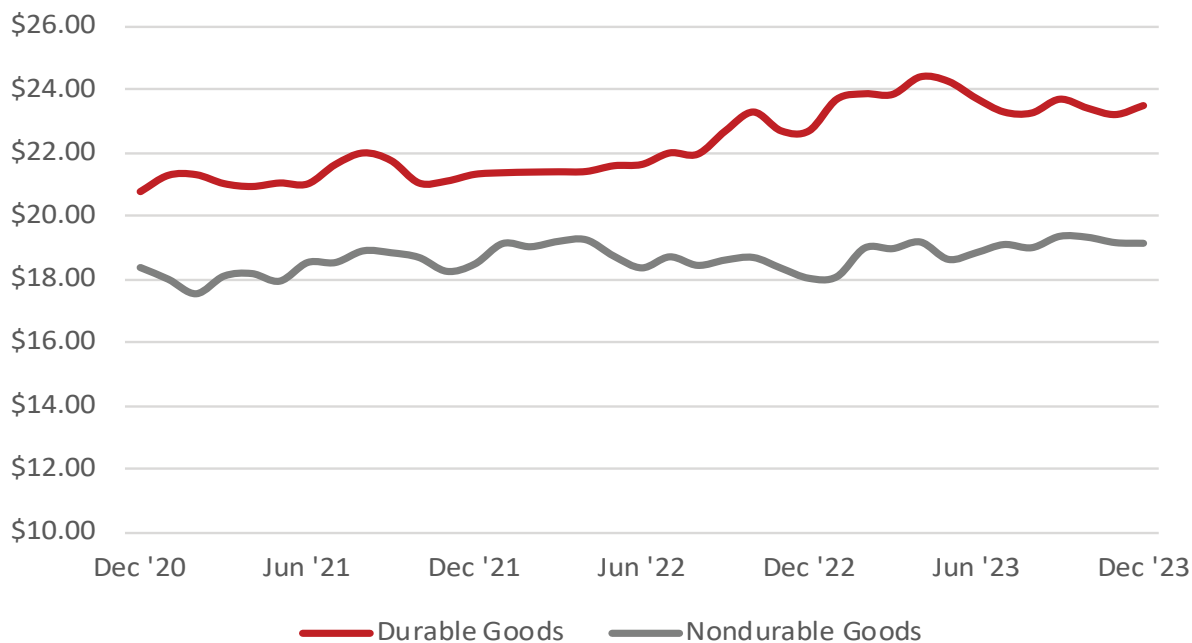
Manufacturing

	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	38.9	39.0	39.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$21.47	\$21.29	\$20.37
Average Weekly Earnings	\$835.18	\$830.31	\$812.76

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>		<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	43.4	43.0	42.3	Average Weekly Hours	34.7	35.3	37.7
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.47	\$23.19	\$22.68	Average Hourly Earnings	\$19.16	\$19.18	\$18.05
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,018.60	\$997.17	\$959.36	Average Weekly Earnings	\$664.85	\$677.05	\$680.49

Average Hourly Earnings - Durable vs Nondurable Goods
December 2020 - December 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>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	362,716	362,725	359,096	-9	3,620
Employment	351,081	352,008	349,357	-927	1,724
Unemployment	11,635	10,717	9,739	918	1,896
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	3.0%	2.7%	0.2%	0.5%

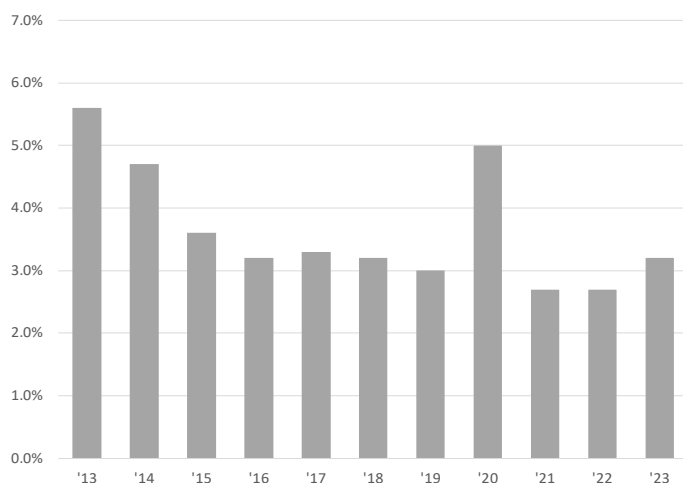
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	389.1	388.3	382.9	0.8	6.2
Goods Producing	41.2	40.9	39.1	0.3	2.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	21.2	21.1	19.2	0.1	2.0
Manufacturing	20.0	19.8	19.9	0.2	0.1
Service Providing	347.9	347.4	343.8	0.5	4.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	79.0	77.8	80.1	1.2	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	18.3	18.3	18.0	0.0	0.3
Retail Trade	38.5	37.7	39.6	0.8	-1.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	22.2	21.8	22.5	0.4	-0.3
Information	5.5	5.5	5.7	0.0	-0.2
Financial Activities	24.9	24.7	24.9	0.2	0.0
Professional & Business Services	47.1	47.3	47.8	-0.2	-0.7
Private Education & Health Services	67.1	66.7	63.0	0.4	4.1
Leisure & Hospitality	34.3	35.5	33.5	-1.2	0.8
Other Services	19.9	19.7	19.2	0.2	0.7
Government	70.1	70.2	69.6	-0.1	0.5
Federal Government	10.5	10.4	10.0	0.1	0.5
State Government	34.3	34.4	34.0	-0.1	0.3
Local Government	25.3	25.4	25.6	-0.1	-0.3

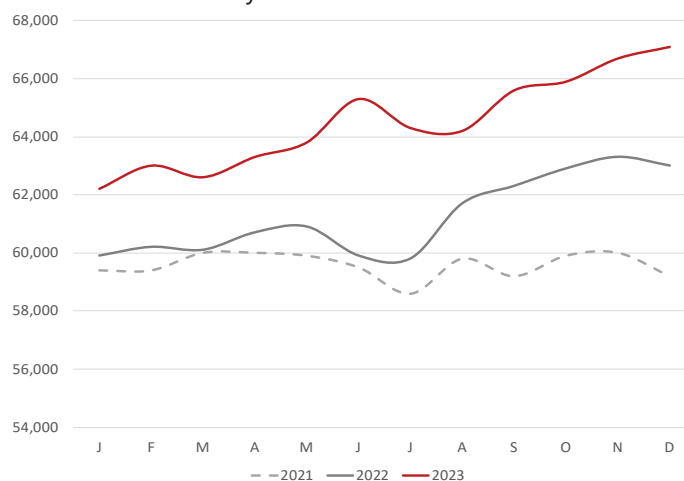
Unemployment Rates

December: 2013 - 2023



Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

January 2021 - December 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)

	Dec 23	Nov 23	Dec 22	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	313,628	316,595	306,071	-2,967	7,557
Employment	306,019	309,417	299,881	-3,398	6,138
Unemployment	7,609	7,178	6,190	431	1,419
Unemployment Rate	2.4%	2.3%	2.0%	0.1%	0.4%

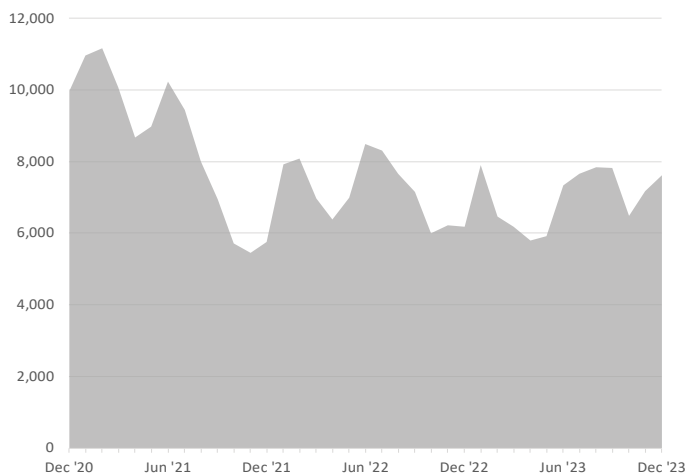
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Dec 23	Nov 23	Dec 22	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	313.3	315.1	303.0	-1.8	10.3
Goods Producing	49.6	48.9	47.2	0.7	2.4
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.3	17.0	15.3	0.3	2.0
Manufacturing	32.3	31.9	31.9	0.4	0.4
Service Providing	263.7	266.2	255.8	-2.5	7.9
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	64.8	64.5	65.1	0.3	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	14.2	14.3	14.1	-0.1	0.1
Retail Trade	29.4	29.3	29.4	0.1	0.0
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	21.2	20.9	21.6	0.3	-0.4
Information	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	10.3	10.3	10.3	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	60.6	61.5	57.2	-0.9	3.4
Private Education & Health Services	35.9	35.6	33.9	0.3	2.0
Leisure & Hospitality	29.3	31.2	29.0	-1.9	0.3
Other Services	16.4	16.2	15.7	0.2	0.7
Government	44.1	44.6	42.2	-0.5	1.9
Federal Government	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	0.2
State Government	20.3	20.9	18.9	-0.6	1.4
Local Government	20.6	20.5	20.3	0.1	0.3

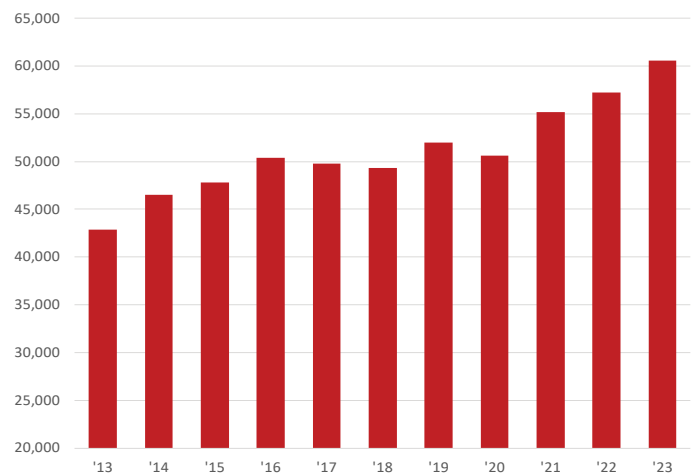
Unemployment

December 2020 - December 2023



Jobs in Professional & Business Services

December: 2013 - 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>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	120,218	120,228	117,984	-10	2,234
Employment	115,696	115,880	114,755	-184	941
Unemployment	4,522	4,348	3,229	174	1,293
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	3.6%	2.7%	0.2%	1.1%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

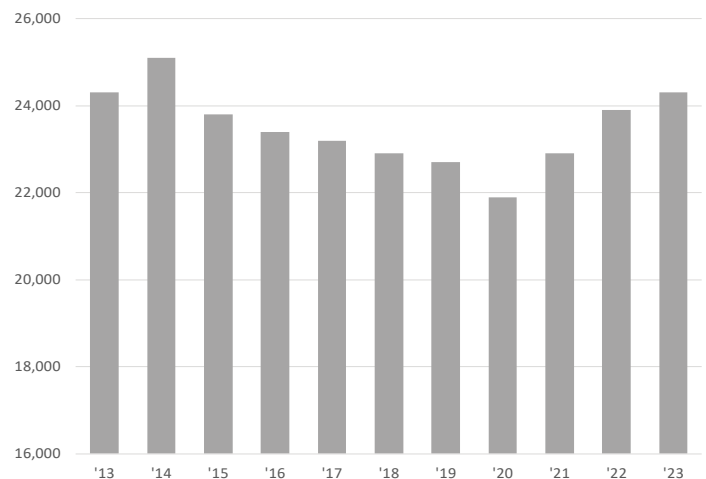
(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	117.0	116.9	116.0	0.1	1.0
Goods Producing	24.3	24.3	23.9	0.0	0.4
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.8	5.8	5.3	0.0	0.5
Manufacturing	18.5	18.5	18.6	0.0	-0.1
Service Providing	92.7	92.6	92.1	0.1	0.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	25.2	24.8	25.2	0.4	0.0
Wholesale Trade	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	13.5	13.2	13.2	0.3	0.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.8	6.7	7.1	0.1	-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	11.3	12.0	-0.2	-0.9
Private Education & Health Services	18.7	18.4	17.8	0.3	0.9
Leisure & Hospitality	9.9	10.2	9.7	-0.3	0.2
Other Services	3.7	3.7	3.6	0.0	0.1
Government	18.5	18.6	18.2	-0.1	0.3
Federal Government	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.1
State Government	2.3	2.4	2.4	-0.1	-0.1
Local Government	14.8	14.8	14.5	0.0	0.3

Civilian Labor Force
December 2020 - December 2023



Jobs in Goods Producing Industries
December: 2013 - 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,316	41,510	41,932	-194	-616
Employment	39,778	40,094	40,507	-316	-729
Unemployment	1,538	1,416	1,425	122	113
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.4%	3.4%	0.3%	0.3%

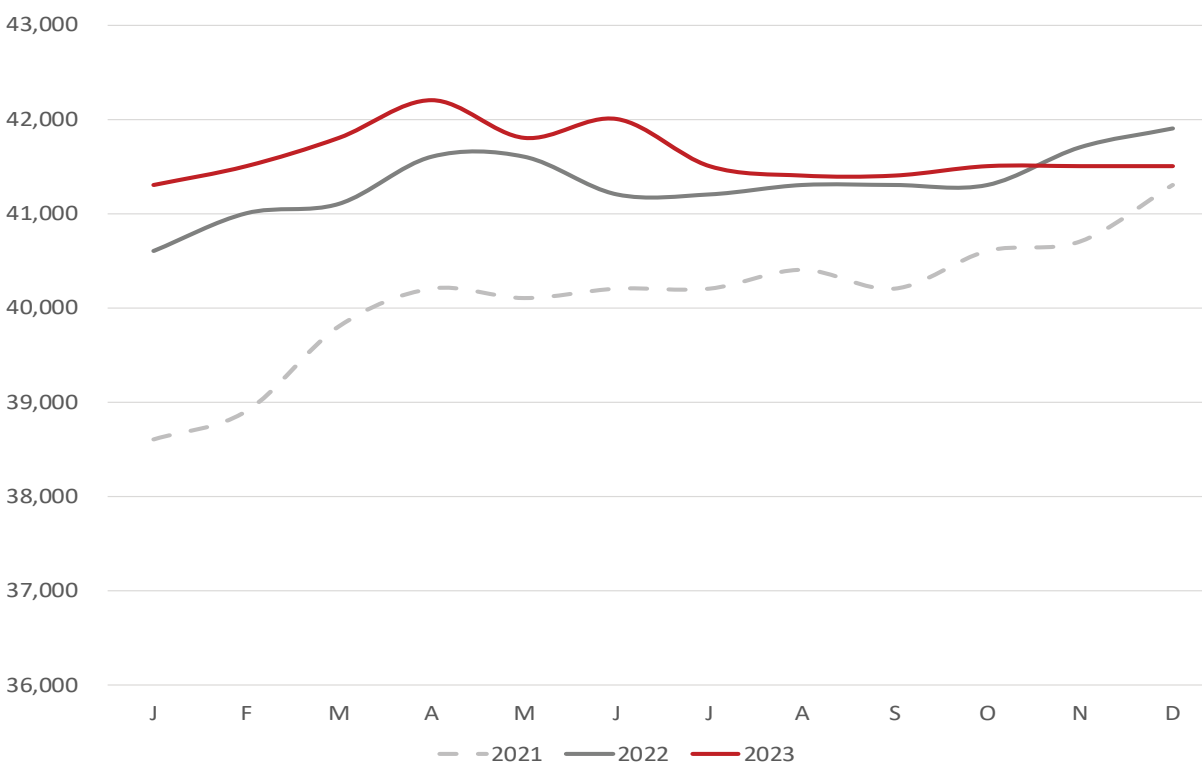
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	41.5	41.5	41.9	0.0	-0.4
Goods Producing	4.6	4.6	4.8	0.0	-0.2
Service Providing	36.9	36.9	37.1	0.0	-0.2
Government	4.1	4.2	4.2	-0.1	-0.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

January 2021 - December 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	66,875	67,754	67,780	-879	-905
Employment	64,926	65,944	66,139	-1,018	-1,213
Unemployment	1,949	1,810	1,641	139	308
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	2.7%	2.4%	0.2%	0.5%

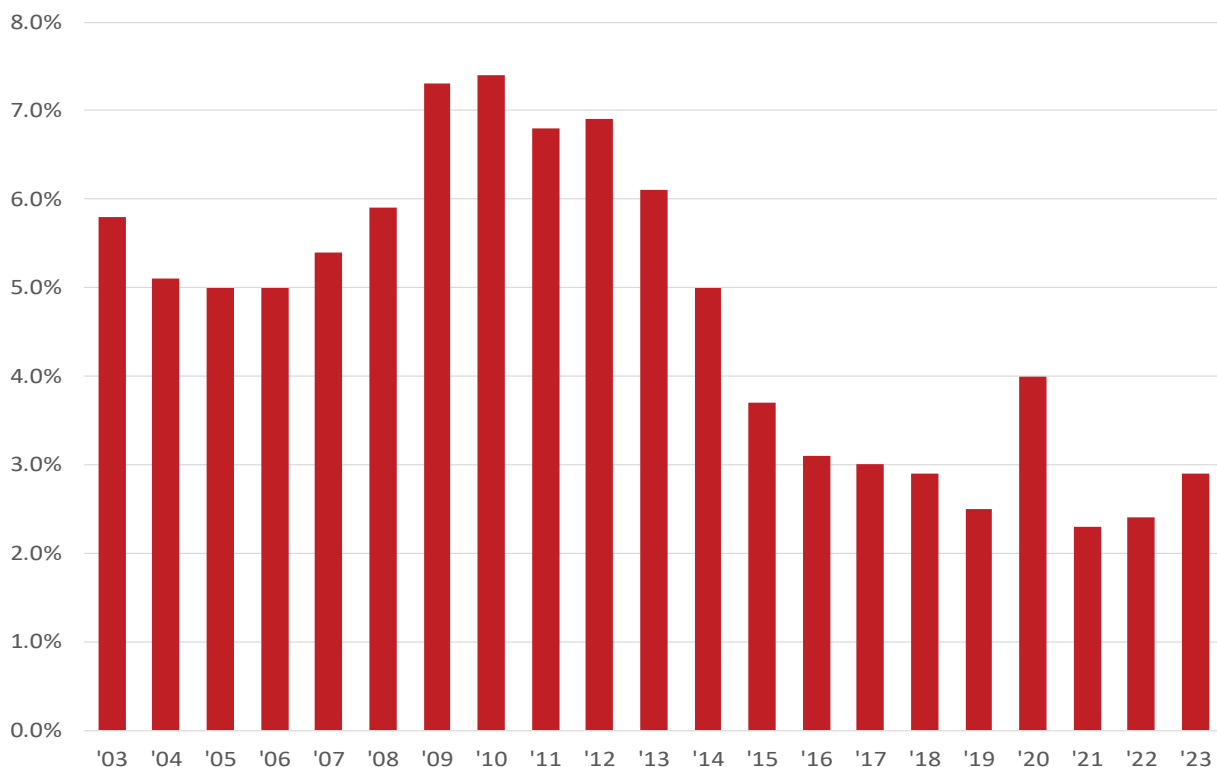
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	64.7	65.1	65.1	-0.4	-0.4
Goods Producing	11.6	11.6	12.4	0.0	-0.8
Service Providing	53.1	53.5	52.7	-0.4	0.4
Government	9.1	9.3	9.1	-0.2	0.0

Unemployment Rates

December: 2003 - 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Dec 23	Nov 23	Dec 22	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	31,571	31,867	32,086	-296	-515
Employment	30,137	30,546	30,680	-409	-543
Unemployment	1,434	1,321	1,406	113	28
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	4.1%	4.4%	0.4%	0.1%

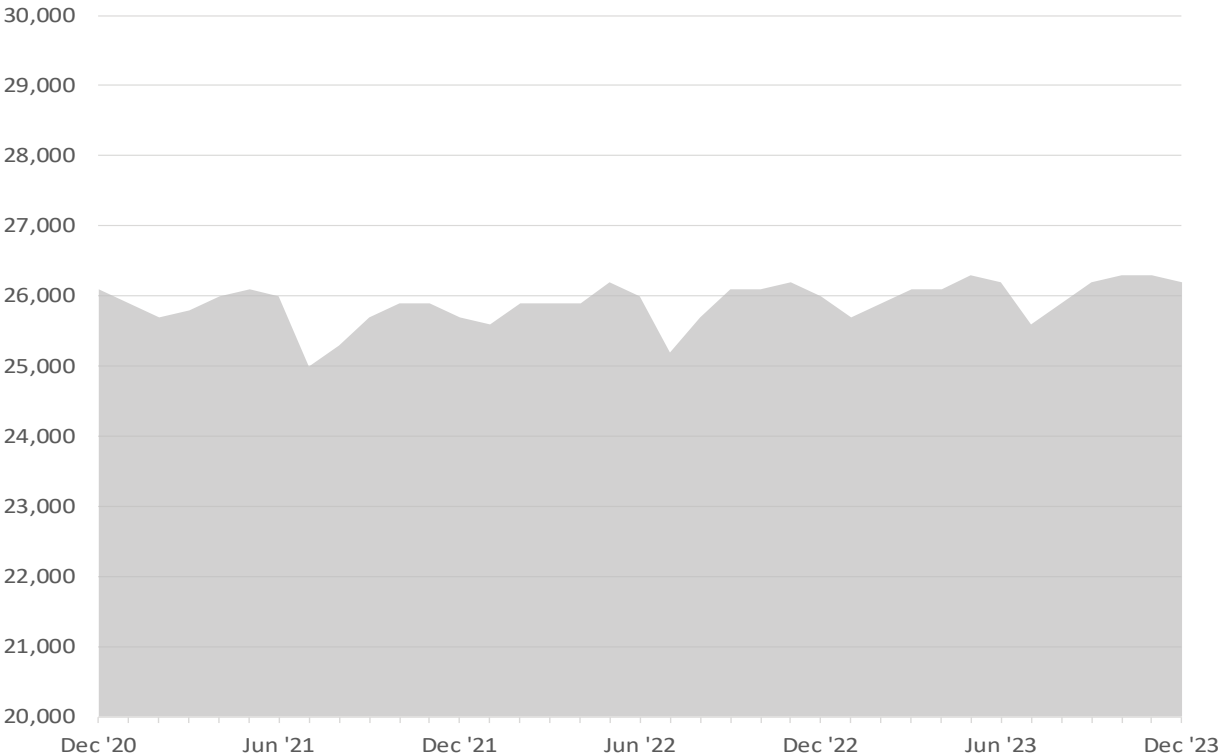
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Dec 23	Nov 23	Dec 22	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	31.5	31.7	31.6	-0.2	-0.1
Goods Producing	5.3	5.4	5.6	-0.1	-0.3
Service Providing	26.2	26.3	26.0	-0.1	0.2
Government	8.5	8.6	8.6	-0.1	-0.1

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

December 2020 - December 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.

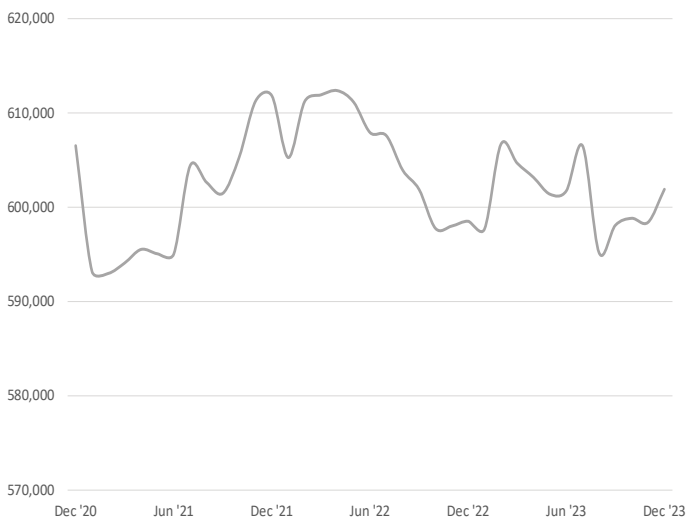
	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	624,962	622,950	620,278	2,012	4,684
Employment	601,890	598,380	598,488	3,510	3,402
Unemployment	23,072	24,570	21,790	-1,498	1,282
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.9%	3.5%	-0.2%	0.2%

Texarkana MSA

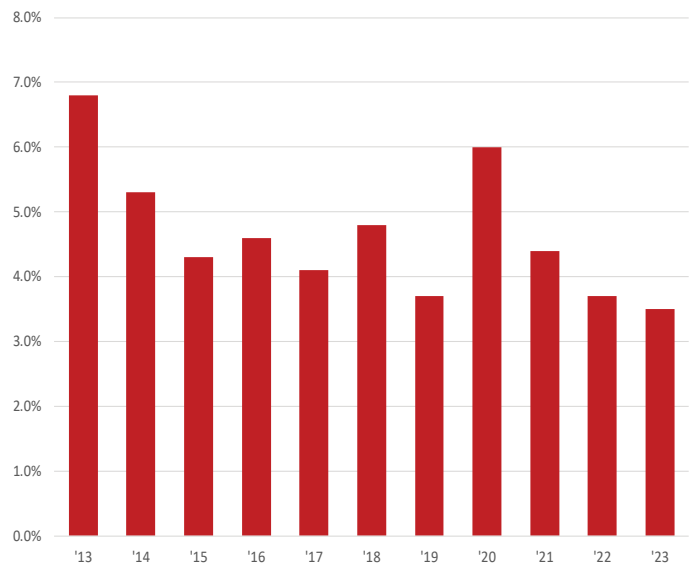
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	62,974	63,448	62,275	-474	699
Employment	60,744	61,263	59,986	-519	758
Unemployment	2,230	2,185	2,289	45	-59
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.4%	3.7%	0.1%	-0.2%

Memphis MSA - Employment
December 2020 - December 2023



Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates
December: 2013 - 2023



Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	December 2023				November 2023				December 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	8,571	8,187	384	4.5	8,672	8,303	369	4.3	8,421	8,071	350	4.2
Batesville Micro	16,896	16,391	505	3.0	16,974	16,483	491	2.9	16,657	16,172	485	2.9
Blytheville Micro	16,755	15,932	823	4.9	16,783	16,085	698	4.2	16,208	15,481	727	4.5
Camden Micro	11,899	11,419	480	4.0	11,929	11,497	432	3.6	11,916	11,500	416	3.5
El Dorado Micro	14,690	13,955	735	5.0	14,716	14,038	678	4.6	14,698	14,058	640	4.4
Forrest City Micro	7,294	6,901	393	5.4	7,326	6,982	344	4.7	7,330	7,000	330	4.5
Harrison Micro	18,972	18,304	668	3.5	19,049	18,474	575	3.0	18,978	18,459	519	2.7
Helena-West Helena Micro	5,018	4,687	331	6.6	5,070	4,783	287	5.7	5,437	5,076	361	6.6
Hope Micro	12,465	12,025	440	3.5	12,634	12,227	407	3.2	12,694	12,300	394	3.1
Magnolia Micro	8,825	8,479	346	3.9	8,918	8,583	335	3.8	8,904	8,538	366	4.1
Malvern Micro	13,705	13,174	531	3.9	13,709	13,238	471	3.4	13,698	13,294	404	2.9
Mountain Home Micro	17,032	16,333	699	4.1	17,021	16,424	597	3.5	16,386	15,839	547	3.3
Paragould Micro	19,638	18,877	761	3.9	19,793	19,153	640	3.2	19,536	18,978	558	2.9
Russellville Micro	36,897	35,440	1,457	3.9	37,114	35,823	1,291	3.5	35,496	34,218	1,278	3.6
Searcy Micro	33,940	32,733	1,207	3.6	33,994	32,923	1,071	3.2	34,096	33,086	1,010	3.0

Arkadelphia Micro = Clark County

Batesville Micro = Independence County

Blytheville Micro = Mississippi County

Camden Micro = Calhoun & Ouachita counties

El Dorado Micro = Union County

Forrest City Micro = St. Francis County

Harrison Micro = Boone & Newton counties

Helena-West Helena Micro = Phillips County

Hope Micro = Hempstead & Nevada counties

Magnolia Micro = Columbia County

Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County

Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County

Paragould Micro = Greene County

Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties

Searcy Micro = White County

City Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

City	December 2023				November 2023				December 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	13,513	13,072	441	3.3	13,604	13,217	387	2.8	13,154	12,803	351	2.7
Benton	18,040	17,555	485	2.7	18,050	17,589	461	2.6	17,886	17,458	428	2.4
Bentonville	32,689	31,966	723	2.2	33,020	32,322	698	2.1	31,918	31,309	609	1.9
Blytheville	5,616	5,333	283	5.0	5,643	5,384	259	4.6	5,463	5,182	281	5.1
Cabot	12,067	11,740	327	2.7	12,114	11,815	299	2.5	11,994	11,721	273	2.3
Conway	35,004	33,983	1,021	2.9	35,038	34,088	950	2.7	34,744	33,827	917	2.6
El Dorado	6,377	6,005	372	5.8	6,413	6,041	372	5.8	6,372	6,050	322	5.1
Fayetteville	53,330	52,115	1,215	2.3	53,892	52,699	1,193	2.2	52,153	51,047	1,106	2.1
Fort Smith	38,731	37,300	1,431	3.7	38,717	37,391	1,326	3.4	38,401	37,398	1,003	2.6
Hot Springs	15,357	14,720	637	4.1	15,399	14,837	562	3.6	15,570	14,990	580	3.7
Jacksonville	11,803	11,329	474	4.0	11,782	11,349	433	3.7	11,686	11,265	421	3.6
Jonesboro	40,426	39,223	1,203	3.0	40,917	39,792	1,125	2.7	40,905	39,918	987	2.4
Little Rock	98,512	95,082	3,430	3.5	98,331	95,253	3,078	3.1	97,351	94,547	2,804	2.9
North Little Rock	30,411	29,238	1,173	3.9	30,362	29,291	1,071	3.5	30,023	29,074	949	3.2
Paragould	12,492	11,997	495	4.0	12,589	12,172	417	3.3	12,433	12,061	372	3.0
Pine Bluff	14,872	14,071	801	5.4	14,967	14,228	739	4.9	15,112	14,299	813	5.4
Rogers	40,096	39,217	879	2.2	40,494	39,654	840	2.1	39,199	38,411	788	2.0
Russellville	13,310	12,830	480	3.6	13,368	12,941	427	3.2	12,802	12,358	444	3.5
Searcy	10,228	9,885	343	3.4	10,251	9,942	309	3.0	10,266	9,991	275	2.7
Sherwood	16,461	15,957	504	3.1	16,451	15,985	466	2.8	16,271	15,867	404	2.5
Springdale	42,560	41,620	940	2.2	42,984	42,087	897	2.1	41,560	40,766	794	1.9
Texarkana, AR	12,850	12,395	455	3.5	12,923	12,486	437	3.4	12,798	12,347	451	3.5
Van Buren	10,262	9,933	329	3.2	10,291	9,977	314	3.1	10,256	9,976	280	2.7
West Memphis	9,972	9,527	445	4.5	9,970	9,564	406	4.1	10,062	9,647	415	4.1

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	December 2023				November 2023				December 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	8,969	8,717	252	2.8	9,041	8,808	233	2.6	9,281	9,038	243	2.6
Ashley	6,271	5,904	367	5.9	6,351	6,019	332	5.2	6,574	6,215	359	5.5
Baxter	17,032	16,333	699	4.1	17,021	16,424	597	3.5	16,386	15,839	547	3.3
Benton	156,382	152,509	3,873	2.5	157,817	154,207	3,610	2.3	152,558	149,374	3,184	2.1
Boone	15,825	15,280	545	3.4	15,868	15,402	466	2.9	15,828	15,394	434	2.7
Bradley	3,913	3,733	180	4.6	3,958	3,796	162	4.1	3,966	3,755	211	5.3
Calhoun	2,307	2,226	81	3.5	2,323	2,258	65	2.8	2,326	2,256	70	3.0
Carroll	12,025	11,621	404	3.4	12,252	11,926	326	2.7	12,155	11,820	335	2.8
Chicot	2,708	2,540	168	6.2	2,761	2,614	147	5.3	2,807	2,666	141	5.0
Clark	8,571	8,187	384	4.5	8,672	8,303	369	4.3	8,421	8,071	350	4.2
Clay	5,212	4,932	280	5.4	5,275	5,067	208	3.9	5,235	5,021	214	4.1
Cleburne	8,849	8,465	384	4.3	8,892	8,577	315	3.5	8,780	8,447	333	3.8
Cleveland	2,964	2,855	109	3.7	3,021	2,916	105	3.5	3,022	2,924	98	3.2
Columbia	8,825	8,479	346	3.9	8,918	8,583	335	3.8	8,904	8,538	366	4.1
Conway	8,379	8,053	326	3.9	8,364	8,074	290	3.5	8,325	8,051	274	3.3
Craighead	57,133	55,541	1,592	2.8	57,838	56,346	1,492	2.6	57,876	56,525	1,351	2.3
Crawford	26,348	25,422	926	3.5	26,423	25,534	889	3.4	26,233	25,531	702	2.7
Crittenden	20,385	19,523	862	4.2	20,389	19,598	791	3.9	20,510	19,768	742	3.6
Cross	6,592	6,348	244	3.7	6,700	6,480	220	3.3	6,693	6,475	218	3.3
Dallas	2,636	2,521	115	4.4	2,659	2,560	99	3.7	2,674	2,573	101	3.8
Desha	4,803	4,553	250	5.2	4,829	4,630	199	4.1	4,870	4,636	234	4.8
Drew	7,528	7,216	312	4.1	7,615	7,337	278	3.7	7,377	7,078	299	4.1
Faulkner	63,590	61,726	1,864	2.9	63,644	61,917	1,727	2.7	63,108	61,442	1,666	2.6
Franklin	7,341	7,094	247	3.4	7,421	7,187	234	3.2	7,311	7,116	195	2.7
Fulton	4,480	4,297	183	4.1	4,519	4,351	168	3.7	4,900	4,753	147	3.0
Garland	41,316	39,778	1,538	3.7	41,510	40,094	1,416	3.4	41,932	40,507	1,425	3.4
Grant	8,456	8,209	247	2.9	8,496	8,256	240	2.8	8,409	8,194	215	2.6
Greene	19,638	18,877	761	3.9	19,793	19,153	640	3.2	19,536	18,978	558	2.9
Hempstead	9,092	8,781	311	3.4	9,232	8,939	293	3.2	9,270	8,991	279	3.0
Hot Spring	13,705	13,174	531	3.9	13,709	13,238	471	3.4	13,698	13,294	404	2.9
Howard	5,068	4,886	182	3.6	5,119	4,957	162	3.2	5,193	5,032	161	3.1
Independence	16,896	16,391	505	3.0	16,974	16,483	491	2.9	16,657	16,172	485	2.9
Izard	4,585	4,340	245	5.3	4,611	4,395	216	4.7	4,539	4,288	251	5.5
Jackson	5,145	4,856	289	5.6	5,234	4,992	242	4.6	5,338	5,059	279	5.2
Jefferson	25,068	23,897	1,171	4.7	25,241	24,163	1,078	4.3	25,453	24,283	1,170	4.6
Johnson	10,058	9,536	522	5.2	10,157	9,678	479	4.7	10,004	9,638	366	3.7
Lafayette	2,171	2,059	112	5.2	2,205	2,108	97	4.4	2,266	2,153	113	5.0
Lawrence	6,759	6,515	244	3.6	6,893	6,673	220	3.2	6,777	6,569	208	3.1
Lee	2,419	2,287	132	5.5	2,482	2,361	121	4.9	2,444	2,331	113	4.6
Lincoln	3,539	3,385	154	4.4	3,605	3,467	138	3.8	3,611	3,473	138	3.8
Little River	5,244	5,040	204	3.9	5,239	5,072	167	3.2	5,179	5,018	161	3.1
Logan	8,189	7,836	353	4.3	8,241	7,928	313	3.8	8,112	7,828	284	3.5
Lonoke	34,272	33,281	991	2.9	34,422	33,492	930	2.7	34,042	33,227	815	2.4
Madison	7,801	7,585	216	2.8	7,962	7,766	196	2.5	7,687	7,523	164	2.1
Marion	6,007	5,727	280	4.7	6,025	5,784	241	4.0	6,218	5,990	228	3.7
Miller	18,789	18,118	671	3.6	18,870	18,252	618	3.3	18,651	18,048	603	3.2

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	December 2023				November 2023				December 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	16,755	15,932	823	4.9	16,783	16,085	698	4.2	16,208	15,481	727	4.5
Monroe	2,379	2,287	92	3.9	2,406	2,325	81	3.4	2,491	2,389	102	4.1
Montgomery	2,650	2,485	165	6.2	2,767	2,635	132	4.8	2,608	2,476	132	5.1
Nevada	3,373	3,244	129	3.8	3,402	3,288	114	3.4	3,424	3,309	115	3.4
Newton	3,147	3,024	123	3.9	3,181	3,072	109	3.4	3,150	3,065	85	2.7
Ouachita	9,592	9,193	399	4.2	9,606	9,239	367	3.8	9,590	9,244	346	3.6
Perry	4,238	4,056	182	4.3	4,248	4,089	159	3.7	4,176	4,054	122	2.9
Phillips	5,018	4,687	331	6.6	5,070	4,783	287	5.7	5,437	5,076	361	6.6
Pike	3,897	3,756	141	3.6	3,968	3,840	128	3.2	3,862	3,744	118	3.1
Poinsett	9,742	9,385	357	3.7	9,916	9,598	318	3.2	9,904	9,614	290	2.9
Polk	7,745	7,428	317	4.1	7,850	7,577	273	3.5	7,715	7,458	257	3.3
Pope	28,842	27,702	1,140	4.0	28,959	27,941	1,018	3.5	27,681	26,682	999	3.6
Prairie	3,432	3,311	121	3.5	3,503	3,393	110	3.1	3,482	3,398	84	2.4
Pulaski	191,517	184,864	6,653	3.5	191,235	185,195	6,040	3.2	189,308	183,822	5,486	2.9
Randolph	7,018	6,740	278	4.0	7,073	6,839	234	3.3	7,051	6,833	218	3.1
St. Francis	7,294	6,901	393	5.4	7,326	6,982	344	4.7	7,330	7,000	330	4.5
Saline	60,643	58,945	1,698	2.8	60,680	59,059	1,621	2.7	60,053	58,618	1,435	2.4
Scott	4,307	4,161	146	3.4	4,358	4,223	135	3.1	4,179	4,089	90	2.2
Searcy	2,803	2,677	126	4.5	2,859	2,745	114	4.0	2,731	2,609	122	4.5
Sebastian	55,818	53,733	2,085	3.7	55,815	53,864	1,951	3.5	55,309	53,874	1,435	2.6
Sevier	5,402	5,186	216	4.0	5,422	5,221	201	3.7	5,398	5,218	180	3.3
Sharp	5,908	5,669	239	4.0	5,946	5,731	215	3.6	5,820	5,611	209	3.6
Stone	4,245	4,035	210	4.9	4,342	4,165	177	4.1	4,419	4,244	175	4.0
Union	14,690	13,955	735	5.0	14,716	14,038	678	4.6	14,698	14,058	640	4.4
Van Buren	5,962	5,679	283	4.7	5,990	5,757	233	3.9	5,868	5,632	236	4.0
Washington	137,873	134,811	3,062	2.2	139,258	136,323	2,935	2.1	134,660	132,048	2,612	1.9
White	33,940	32,733	1,207	3.6	33,994	32,923	1,071	3.2	34,096	33,086	1,010	3.0
Woodruff	2,778	2,665	113	4.1	2,795	2,705	90	3.2	2,778	2,690	88	3.2
Yell	8,055	7,738	317	3.9	8,155	7,882	273	3.3	7,815	7,536	279	3.6

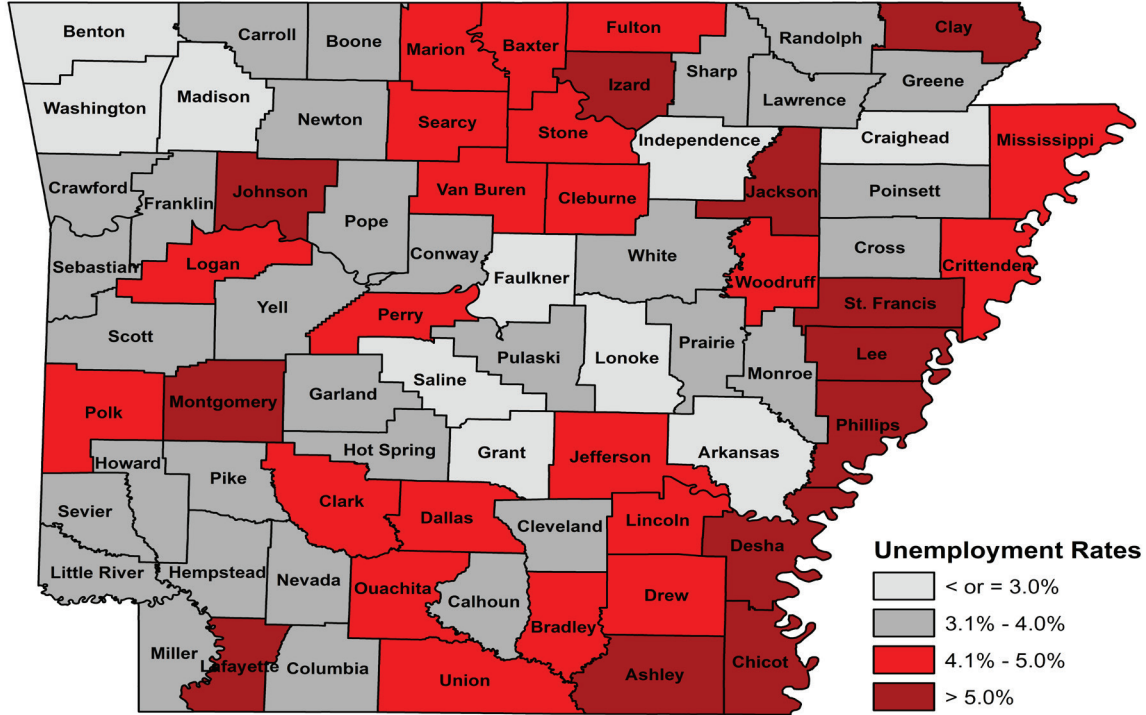
County Labor Force Summary

Between November and December, unemployment rates increased in all 75 Arkansas counties. Four counties--Jackson, Desha, Montgomery, and Clay-- rose by one full percentage point or more over the month. The average rate increase was five-tenths of a percentage point. Jobless rates in December ranged from a low of 2.2% in Washington County to a high of 6.6% in Phillips County.

In December, ten counties posted an unemployment rate at or below 3%. That is down slightly from 13 counties at or below three percent in November. For the 11th consecutive month, no county in Arkansas reported a jobless rate above 7%.

Compared to December 2022, unemployment rates are up in 68 Arkansas counties. Rates decreased in four counties and remained stable in three counties.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

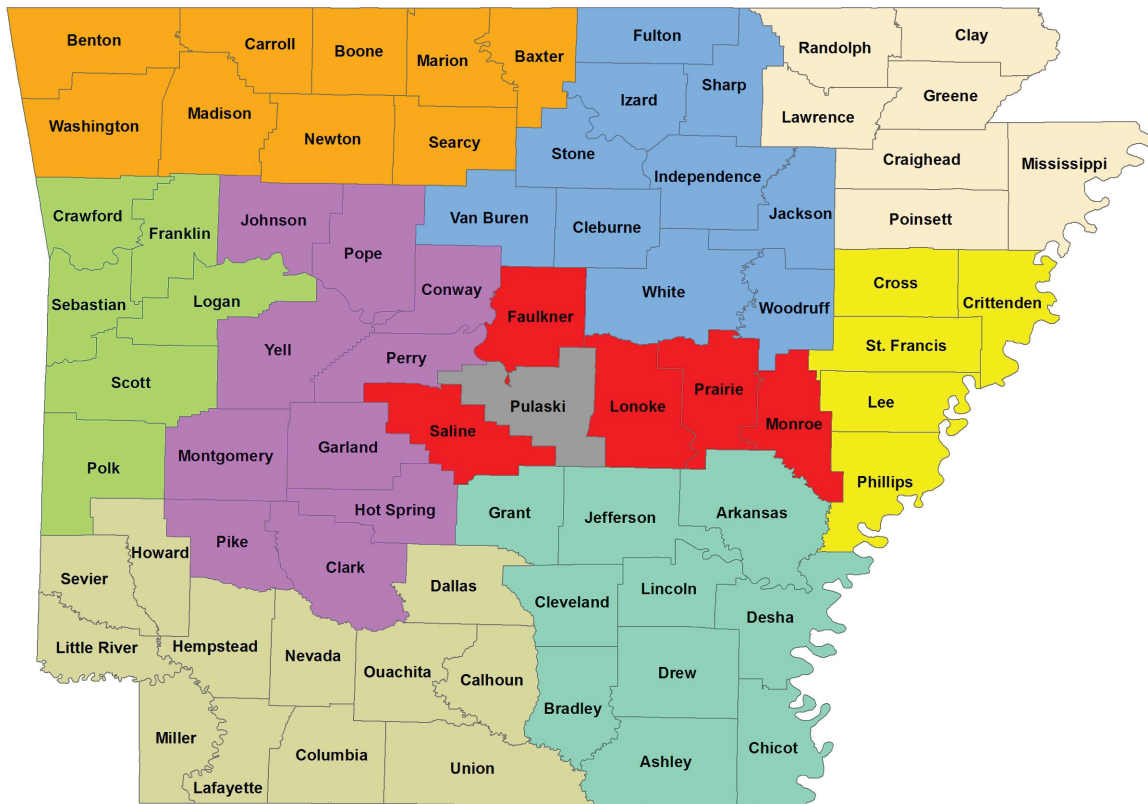
December 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.2	25	Cross	3.7	50	Logan	4.3
2	Benton	2.5	25	Garland	3.7	50	Perry	4.3
3	Arkansas	2.8	25	Poinsett	3.7	53	Dallas	4.4
3	Craighead	2.8	25	Sebastian	3.7	53	Lincoln	4.4
3	Madison	2.8	30	Nevada	3.8	55	Clark	4.5
3	Saline	2.8	31	Columbia	3.9	55	Searcy	4.5
7	Faulkner	2.9	31	Conway	3.9	57	Bradley	4.6
7	Grant	2.9	31	Greene	3.9	58	Jefferson	4.7
7	Lonoke	2.9	31	Hot Spring	3.9	58	Marion	4.7
10	Independence	3.0	31	Little River	3.9	58	Van Buren	4.7
11	Boone	3.4	31	Monroe	3.9	61	Mississippi	4.9
11	Carroll	3.4	31	Newton	3.9	61	Stone	4.9
11	Franklin	3.4	31	Yell	3.9	63	Union	5.0
11	Hempstead	3.4	39	Pope	4.0	64	Desha	5.2
11	Scott	3.4	39	Randolph	4.0	64	Johnson	5.2
16	Calhoun	3.5	39	Sevier	4.0	64	Lafayette	5.2
16	Crawford	3.5	39	Sharp	4.0	67	Izard	5.3
16	Prairie	3.5	43	Baxter	4.1	68	Clay	5.4
16	Pulaski	3.5	43	Drew	4.1	68	St. Francis	5.4
20	Howard	3.6	43	Fulton	4.1	70	Lee	5.5
20	Lawrence	3.6	43	Polk	4.1	71	Jackson	5.6
20	Miller	3.6	43	Woodruff	4.1	72	Ashley	5.9
20	Pike	3.6	48	Crittenden	4.2	73	Chicot	6.2
20	White	3.6	48	Ouachita	4.2	73	Montgomery	6.2
25	Cleveland	3.7	50	Cleburne	4.3	75	Phillips	6.6

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	December 2023				November 2023				December 2022			
LWDA	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	257,321	249,332	7,989	3.1	257,559	250,128	7,431	2.9	255,133	248,349	6,784	2.7
City of Little Rock	98,512	95,082	3,430	3.5	98,331	95,253	3,078	3.1	97,351	94,547	2,804	2.9
Eastern	41,708	39,746	1,962	4.7	41,967	40,204	1,763	4.2	42,414	40,650	1,764	4.2
North Central	92,788	89,130	3,658	3.9	93,297	90,079	3,218	3.4	93,195	89,982	3,213	3.4
Northeast	122,257	117,922	4,335	3.5	123,571	119,761	3,810	3.1	122,587	119,021	3,566	2.9
Northwest	358,895	349,567	9,328	2.6	362,243	353,649	8,594	2.4	351,373	343,662	7,711	2.2
Southeast	74,219	71,009	3,210	4.3	74,918	72,006	2,912	3.9	75,370	72,262	3,108	4.1
Southwest	87,189	83,688	3,501	4.0	87,711	84,515	3,196	3.6	87,573	84,438	3,135	3.6
West Central	129,711	124,465	5,246	4.0	130,509	125,774	4,735	3.6	128,522	124,053	4,469	3.5
Western	109,748	105,674	4,074	3.7	110,108	106,313	3,795	3.4	108,859	105,896	2,963	2.7



 Central	 City of Little Rock/Pulaski County	 Northeast	 West Central
 Eastern	 North Central	 Northwest	 Western
 Southeast	 Southwest		