

2023 SECTOR AR LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services



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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

Technical Notes

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



October Spotlight

A Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

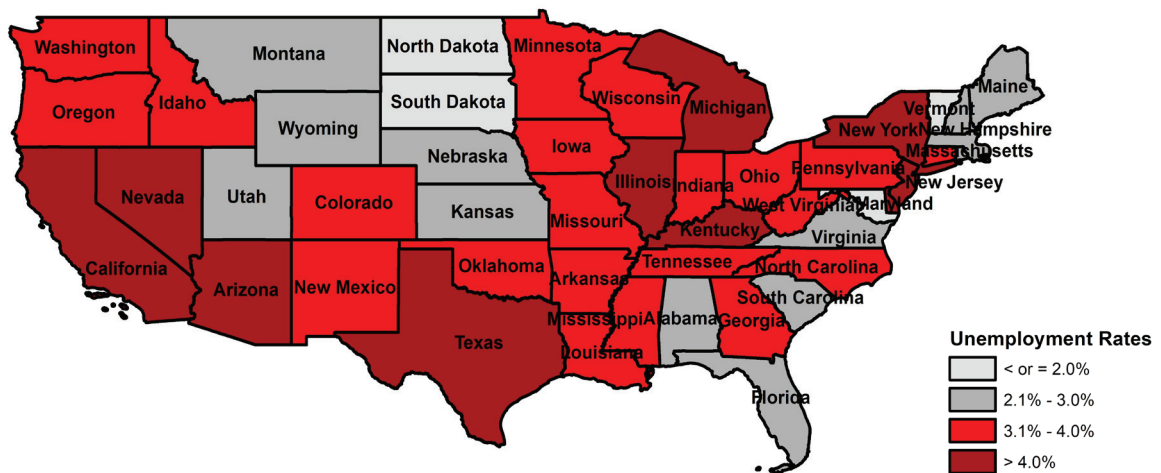
Between September and October, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 26 states while remaining stable in 24 states and the District of Columbia. In October, unemployment rates ranged from a low of 1.7% in Maryland to a high of 5.4% in Nevada. Arkansas ranked 19th among states, with a jobless rate of 3.1% in October. Thirty-eight states, including Arkansas, posted jobless rates at or below the national rate of 3.9%.

Compared to October 2022, unemployment rates have declined in 21 states. The largest rate decrease occurred in Maryland, down one and five-tenths of a percentage point. Twelve states and the District of Columbia reported rate increases, with New Jersey up one and three-tenths of a percentage point over-the-year. Arkansas' unemployment rate is down four-tenths of a percentage point, from 3.5% in October 2022 to 3.1% in October 2023.

Unemployment Rates by State (Seasonally Adjusted)
 October 2023

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Maryland	1.7	15	Wyoming	2.9	34	Ohio	3.6
2	North Dakota	1.9	19	Arkansas	3.1	34	Oregon	3.6
3	South Dakota	2.0	19	Missouri	3.1	37	New Mexico	3.8
3	Vermont	2.0	21	Idaho	3.2	37	Washington	3.8
5	New Hampshire	2.1	21	Iowa	3.2	39	West Virginia	4.0
6	Nebraska	2.2	21	Minnesota	3.2	40	Michigan	4.1
7	Alabama	2.3	21	Oklahoma	3.2	40	Texas	4.1
8	Rhode Island	2.7	21	Wisconsin	3.2	42	Arizona	4.2
8	Utah	2.7	26	Colorado	3.3	42	Delaware	4.2
8	Virginia	2.7	26	Louisiana	3.3	42	Kentucky	4.2
11	Florida	2.8	26	Mississippi	3.3	42	New York	4.2
11	Maine	2.8	26	Tennessee	3.3	46	Alaska	4.3
11	Massachusetts	2.8	30	Georgia	3.4	47	Illinois	4.6
11	Montana	2.8	30	North Carolina	3.4	47	New Jersey	4.6
15	Hawaii	2.9	30	Pennsylvania	3.4	49	California	4.8
15	Kansas	2.9	33	Connecticut	3.5	50	District of Columbia	5.0
15	South Carolina	2.9	34	Indiana	3.6	51	Nevada	5.4

U.S. Unemployment Rate = 3.9 Percent



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 two-tenths of a percentage point, from 2.9% in September to 3.1% in October. At 3.9%, the United States’ jobless rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point between September and October.

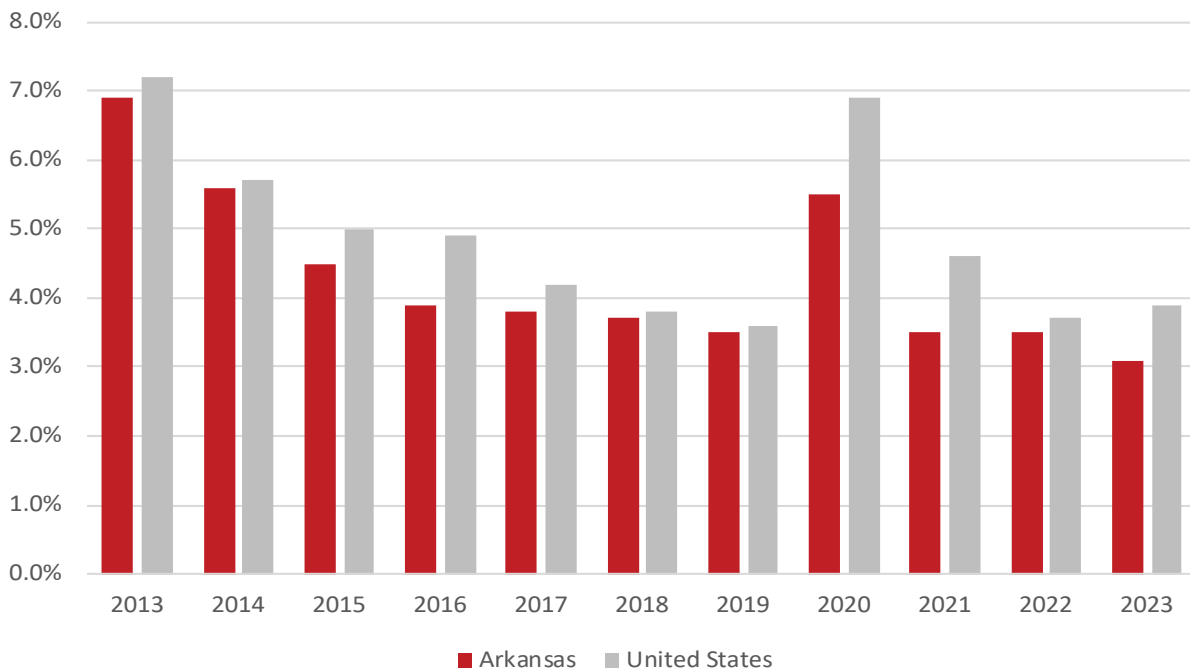
Arkansas’ civilian labor force added 803 in October, remaining at a record high level. Employment declined by 1,813 while unemployment rose 2,616, marking the third month in a row that more Arkansans are actively looking for work. The labor force participation rate was unchanged in October.

Compared to October 2022, there are 27,041 more employed and 5,413 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The unemployment rate is down four-tenths of a percentage point, while the labor force participation rate has grown by three-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,393,177	1,392,374	1,371,549	Civilian Labor Force	1,385,640	1,397,759
Employment	1,350,628	1,352,441	1,323,587	Employment	1,346,390	1,352,546
Unemployment	42,549	39,933	47,962	Unemployment	39,250	45,213
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	2.9%	3.5%	Unemployment Rate	2.8%	3.2%
LF Participation Rate	57.8%	57.8%	57.5%	LF Participation Rate	57.5%	58.0%

Unemployment Rates- Arkansas vs United States (Seasonally Adjusted)
 October: 2013 - 2023



State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

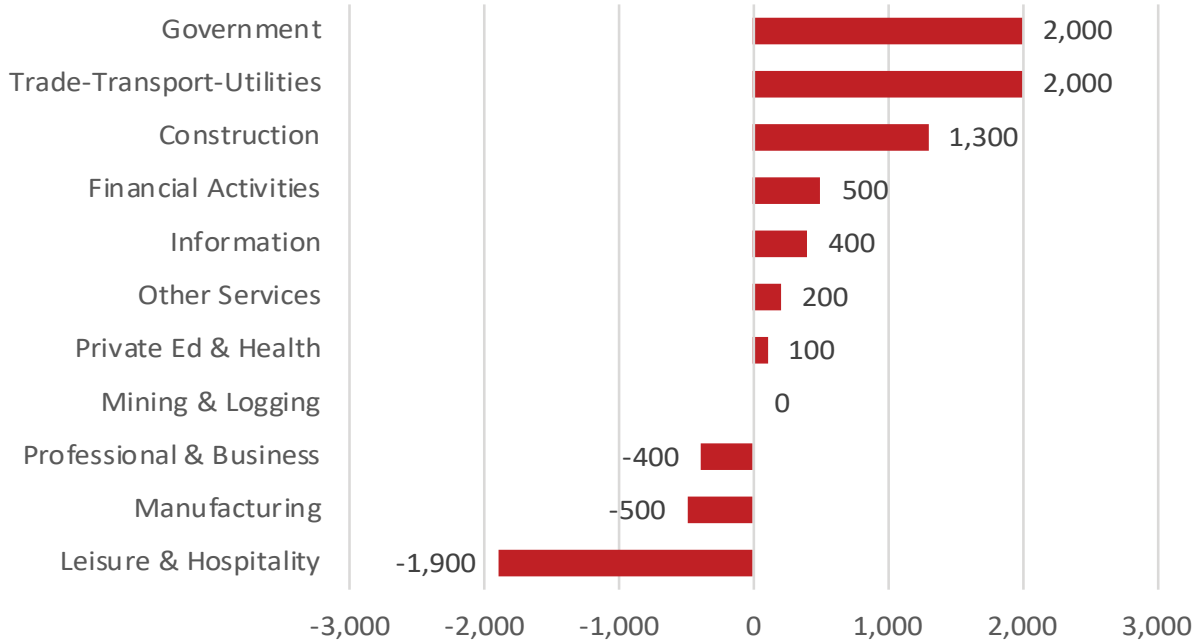
Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

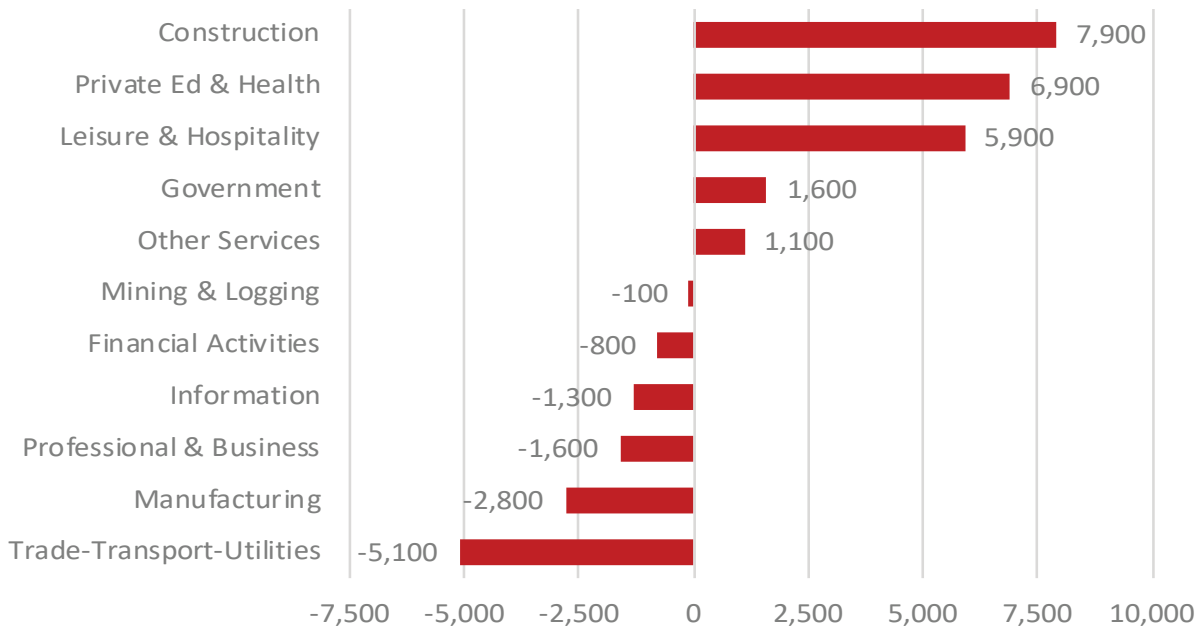
(NAICS)	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1370.4	1366.7	1358.7	3.7	11.7
Goods Producing	234.1	233.3	229.1	0.8	5.0
Mining, Logging, & Construction	72.3	71.0	64.5	1.3	7.8
Mining & Logging	5.0	5.0	5.1	0.0	-0.1
Construction	67.3	66.0	59.4	1.3	7.9
Specialty Trade Contractors	42.1	41.1	36.8	1.0	5.3
Manufacturing	161.8	162.3	164.6	-0.5	-2.8
Durable Goods	77.9	78.3	79.7	-0.4	-1.8
Nondurable Goods	83.9	84.0	84.9	-0.1	-1.0
Service Providing	1136.3	1133.4	1129.6	2.9	6.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	270.8	268.8	275.9	2.0	-5.1
Wholesale Trade	54.1	53.7	53.1	0.4	1.0
Retail Trade	141.4	140.2	144.9	1.2	-3.5
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	75.3	74.9	77.9	0.4	-2.6
Information	11.7	11.3	13.0	0.4	-1.3
Financial Activities	70.9	70.4	71.7	0.5	-0.8
Finance & Insurance	55.9	55.7	56.7	0.2	-0.8
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	15.0	14.7	15.0	0.3	0.0
Professional & Business Services	152.8	153.2	154.4	-0.4	-1.6
Professional, Scientific & Technical	50.0	49.4	48.0	0.6	2.0
Management of Companies	41.5	41.9	38.4	-0.4	3.1
Administrative & Support Services	61.3	61.9	68.0	-0.6	-6.7
Private Education & Health Services	210.3	210.2	203.4	0.1	6.9
Private Educational Services	19.6	19.3	19.1	0.3	0.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	190.7	190.9	184.3	-0.2	6.4
Ambulatory Health Care	68.2	67.6	63.4	0.6	4.8
Social Assistance	39.3	39.5	37.8	-0.2	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	131.2	133.1	125.3	-1.9	5.9
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	14.2	14.8	13.0	-0.6	1.2
Accommodation & Food Services	117.0	118.3	112.3	-1.3	4.7
Accommodation Services	11.8	12.2	11.4	-0.4	0.4
Food Services	105.2	106.1	100.9	-0.9	4.3
Other Services	74.4	74.2	73.3	0.2	1.1
Government	214.2	212.2	212.6	2.0	1.6
Federal Government	21.7	21.5	20.6	0.2	1.1
State Government	77.8	77.6	78.1	0.2	-0.3
State Gov, Educational Services	31.7	31.5	31.8	0.2	-0.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.1	46.1	46.3	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	114.7	113.1	113.9	1.6	0.8
Local Gov, Educational Services	70.9	69.1	70.5	1.8	0.4
Local Gov, Excluding Education	43.8	44.0	43.4	-0.2	0.4

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

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



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



State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

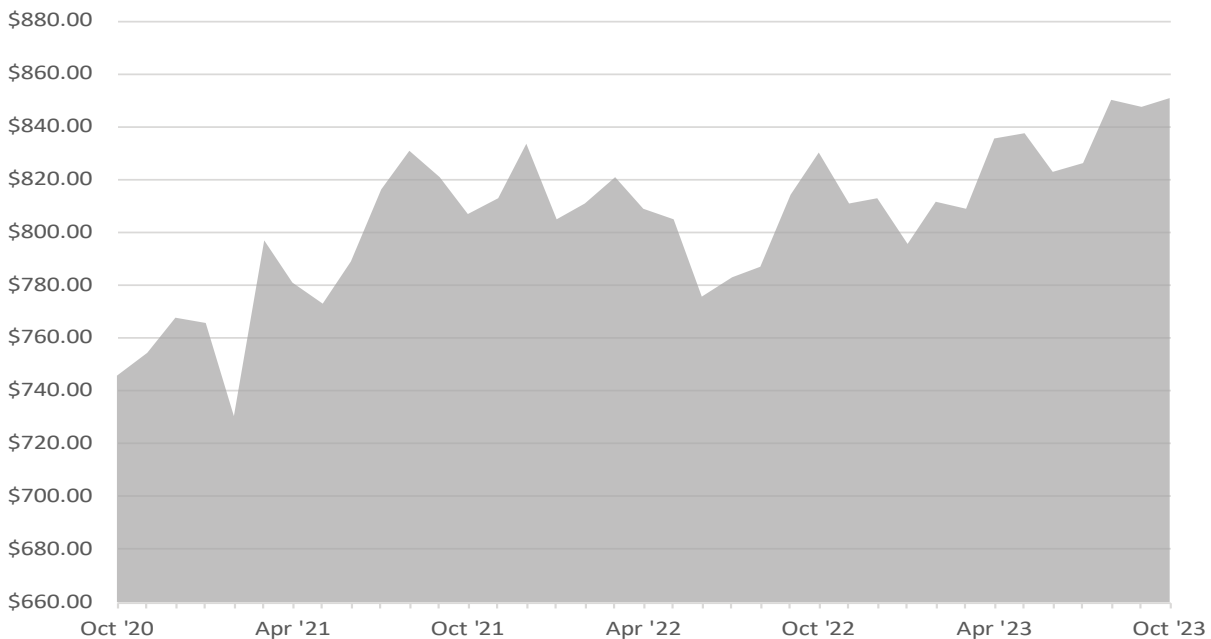
Manufacturing

	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	39.7	39.3	39.6
Average Hourly Earnings	\$21.44	\$21.56	\$20.96
Average Weekly Earnings	\$851.17	\$847.31	\$830.02

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>		<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	42.6	41.9	41.5	Average Weekly Hours	37.0	37.0	37.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.47	\$23.67	\$23.27	Average Hourly Earnings	\$19.30	\$19.38	\$18.71
Average Weekly Earnings	\$999.82	\$991.77	\$965.71	Average Weekly Earnings	\$714.10	\$717.06	\$709.11

Average Weekly Earnings in Manufacturing (Production Workers)
 October 2020 - October 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>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	363,637	365,701	360,028	-2,064	3,609
Employment	353,738	354,470	350,059	-732	3,679
Unemployment	9,899	11,231	9,969	-1,332	-70
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	3.1%	2.8%	-0.4%	-0.1%

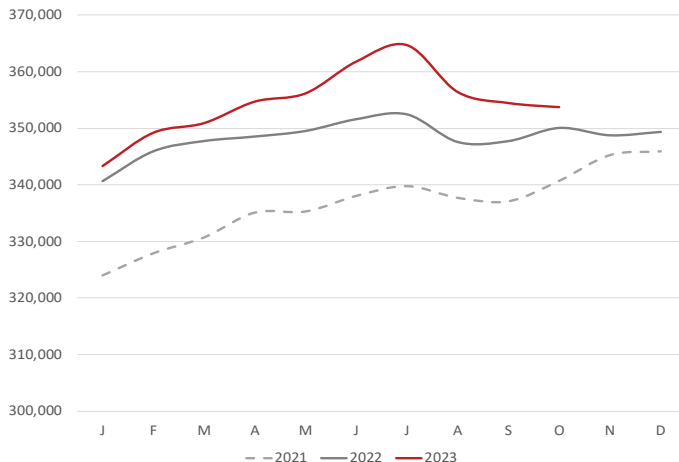
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	388.7	386.3	383.6	2.4	5.1
Goods Producing	41.1	41.0	39.4	0.1	1.7
Mining, Logging & Construction	21.2	21.2	19.2	0.0	2.0
Manufacturing	19.9	19.8	20.2	0.1	-0.3
Service Providing	347.6	345.3	344.2	2.3	3.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	76.8	76.5	78.6	0.3	-1.8
Wholesale Trade	18.6	18.3	18.1	0.3	0.5
Retail Trade	37.0	37.2	38.9	-0.2	-1.9
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	21.2	21.0	21.6	0.2	-0.4
Information	5.6	5.4	5.8	0.2	-0.2
Financial Activities	24.7	24.6	25.1	0.1	-0.4
Professional & Business Services	47.9	47.6	48.7	0.3	-0.8
Private Education & Health Services	66.0	65.6	62.9	0.4	3.1
Leisure & Hospitality	36.7	36.9	33.9	-0.2	2.8
Other Services	19.8	19.7	19.3	0.1	0.5
Government	70.1	69.0	69.9	1.1	0.2
Federal Government	10.4	10.3	9.8	0.1	0.6
State Government	34.3	34.1	34.5	0.2	-0.2
Local Government	25.4	24.6	25.6	0.8	-0.2

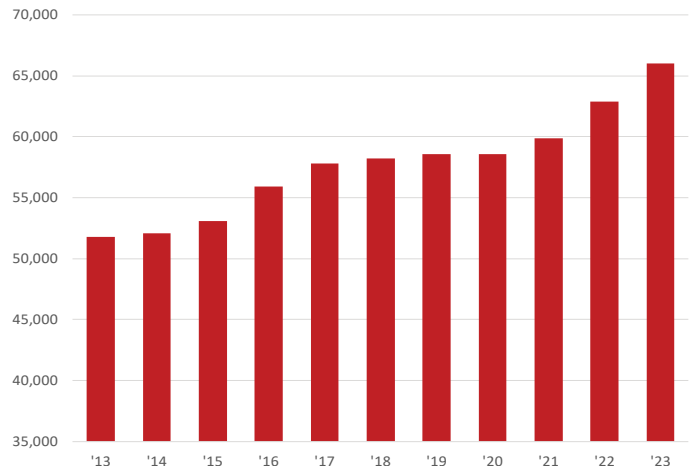
Employment

January 2021 - October 2023



Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

October: 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)

	Oct 23	Sep 23	Oct 22	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	316,488	318,652	309,213	-2,164	7,275
Employment	310,037	310,827	303,221	-790	6,816
Unemployment	6,451	7,825	5,992	-1,374	459
Unemployment Rate	2.0%	2.5%	1.9%	-0.5%	0.1%

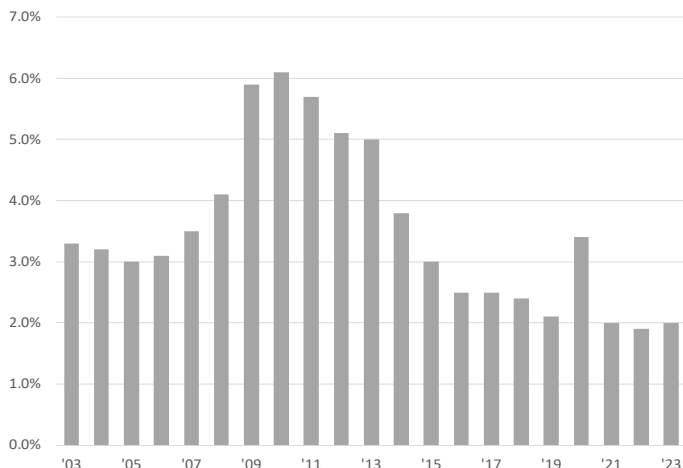
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Oct 23	Sep 23	Oct 22	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	314.0	312.1	305.7	1.9	8.3
Goods Producing	49.0	49.2	47.5	-0.2	1.5
Mining, Logging & Construction	16.9	16.9	15.4	0.0	1.5
Manufacturing	32.1	32.3	32.1	-0.2	0.0
Service Providing	265.0	262.9	258.2	2.1	6.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	64.3	63.6	64.5	0.7	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	14.5	14.4	14.1	0.1	0.4
Retail Trade	29.1	28.7	29.4	0.4	-0.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	20.7	20.5	21.0	0.2	-0.3
Information	2.3	2.2	2.4	0.1	-0.1
Financial Activities	10.3	10.2	10.4	0.1	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	60.4	60.9	59.0	-0.5	1.4
Private Education & Health Services	35.4	35.3	33.8	0.1	1.6
Leisure & Hospitality	31.4	30.7	30.2	0.7	1.2
Other Services	16.3	16.1	15.6	0.2	0.7
Government	44.6	43.9	42.3	0.7	2.3
Federal Government	3.2	3.2	2.9	0.0	0.3
State Government	21.0	20.5	19.4	0.5	1.6
Local Government	20.4	20.2	20.0	0.2	0.4

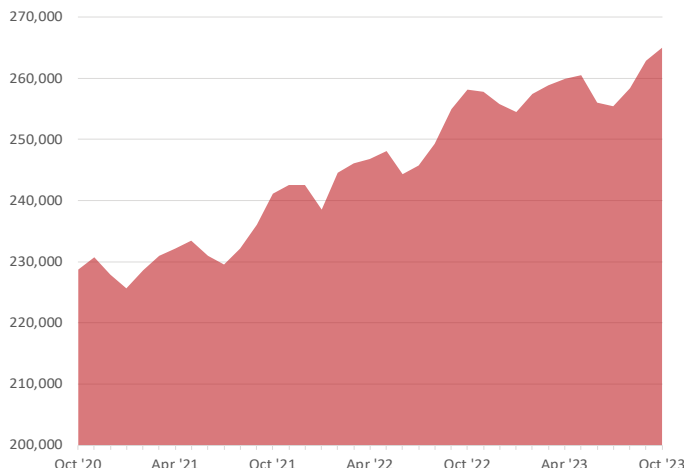
Unemployment Rates

October: 2003 - 2023



Jobs in Service Providing Industries

October 2020 - October 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>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	120,155	120,494	118,196	-339	1,959
Employment	115,861	115,901	114,741	-40	1,120
Unemployment	4,294	4,593	3,455	-299	839
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.8%	2.9%	-0.2%	0.7%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	116.1	115.6	115.5	0.5	0.6
Goods Producing	24.4	24.3	24.1	0.1	0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.8	5.7	5.4	0.1	0.4
Manufacturing	18.6	18.6	18.7	0.0	-0.1
Service Providing	91.7	91.3	91.4	0.4	0.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24.3	24.2	24.7	0.1	-0.4
Wholesale Trade	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	12.8	12.7	13.0	0.1	-0.2
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	4.3	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	11.1	10.9	11.9	0.2	-0.8
Private Education & Health Services	18.3	18.3	17.7	0.0	0.6
Leisure & Hospitality	10.3	10.3	9.7	0.0	0.6
Other Services	3.7	3.7	3.6	0.0	0.1
Government	18.4	18.3	18.1	0.1	0.3
Federal Government	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.1
State Government	2.3	2.3	2.5	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	14.7	14.6	14.3	0.1	0.4

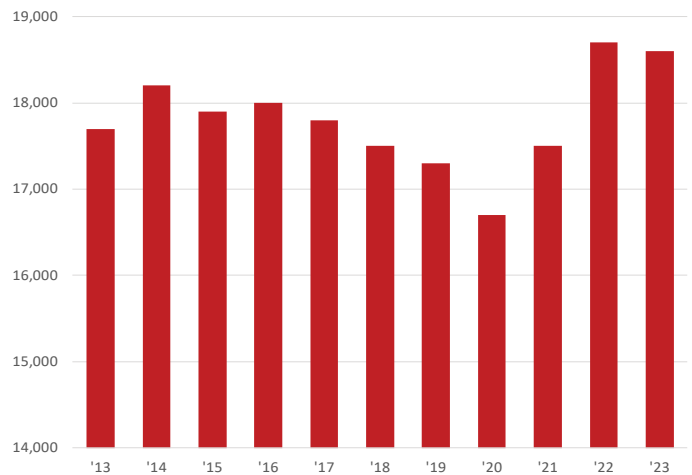
Employment

October 2020 - October 2023



Jobs in Manufacturing

October: 2013 - 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,625	42,068	41,769	-443	-144
Employment	40,319	40,532	40,351	-213	-32
Unemployment	1,306	1,536	1,418	-230	-112
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.7%	3.4%	-0.6%	-0.3%

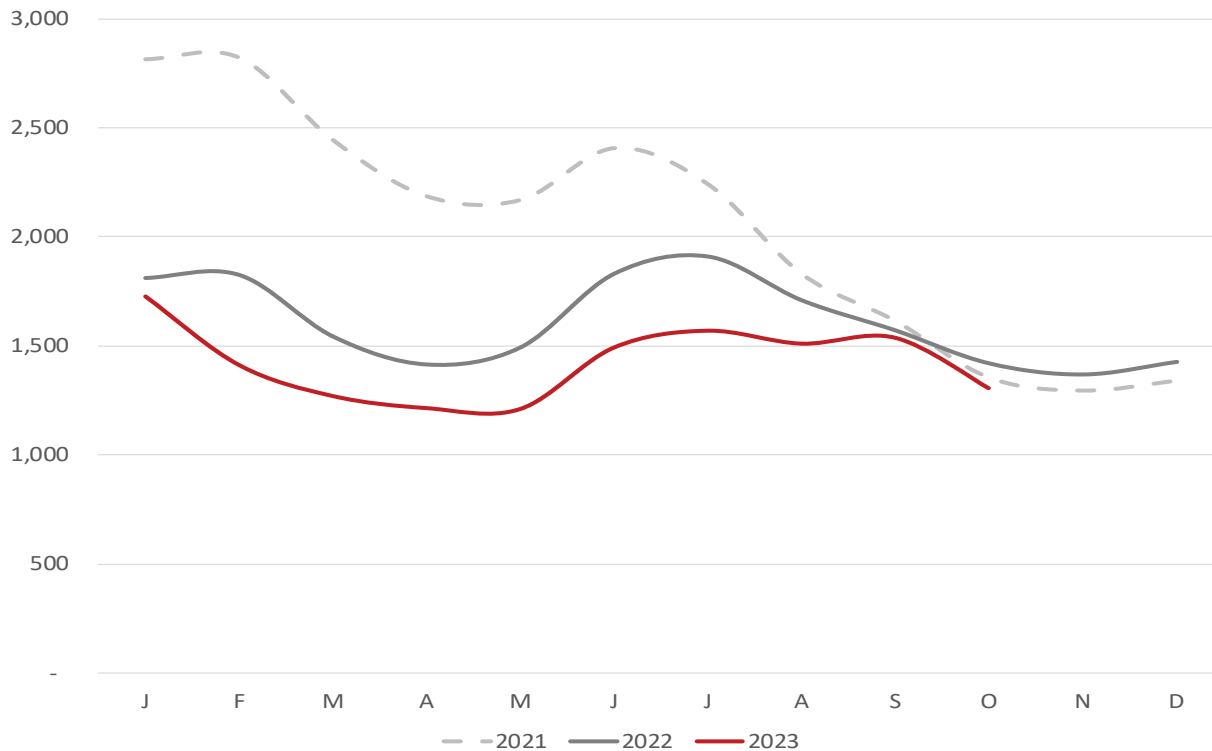
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	41.6	41.4	41.3	0.2	0.3
Goods Producing	4.7	4.7	4.7	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	36.9	36.7	36.6	0.2	0.3
Government	4.2	4.1	4.2	0.1	0.0

Unemployment

January 2021 - October 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	68,105	68,912	67,858	-807	247
Employment	66,449	66,970	66,221	-521	228
Unemployment	1,656	1,942	1,637	-286	19
Unemployment Rate	2.4%	2.8%	2.4%	-0.4%	0.0%

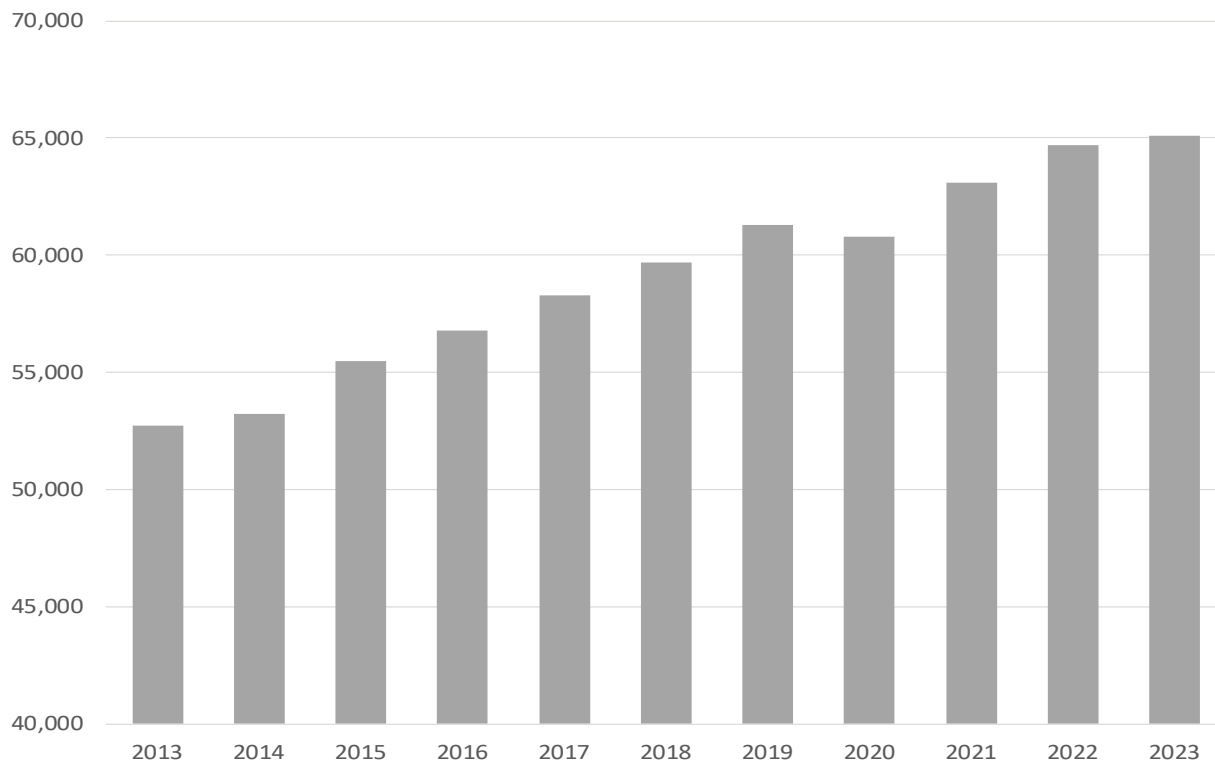
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	65.1	65.1	64.7	0.0	0.4
Goods Producing	11.7	11.9	12.1	-0.2	-0.4
Service Providing	53.4	53.2	52.6	0.2	0.8
Government	9.3	9.3	9.3	0.0	0.0

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

October: 2013 - 2023



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	32,065	32,404	32,191	-339	-126
Employment	30,815	31,028	30,750	-213	65
Unemployment	1,250	1,376	1,441	-126	-191
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	4.2%	4.5%	-0.3%	-0.6%

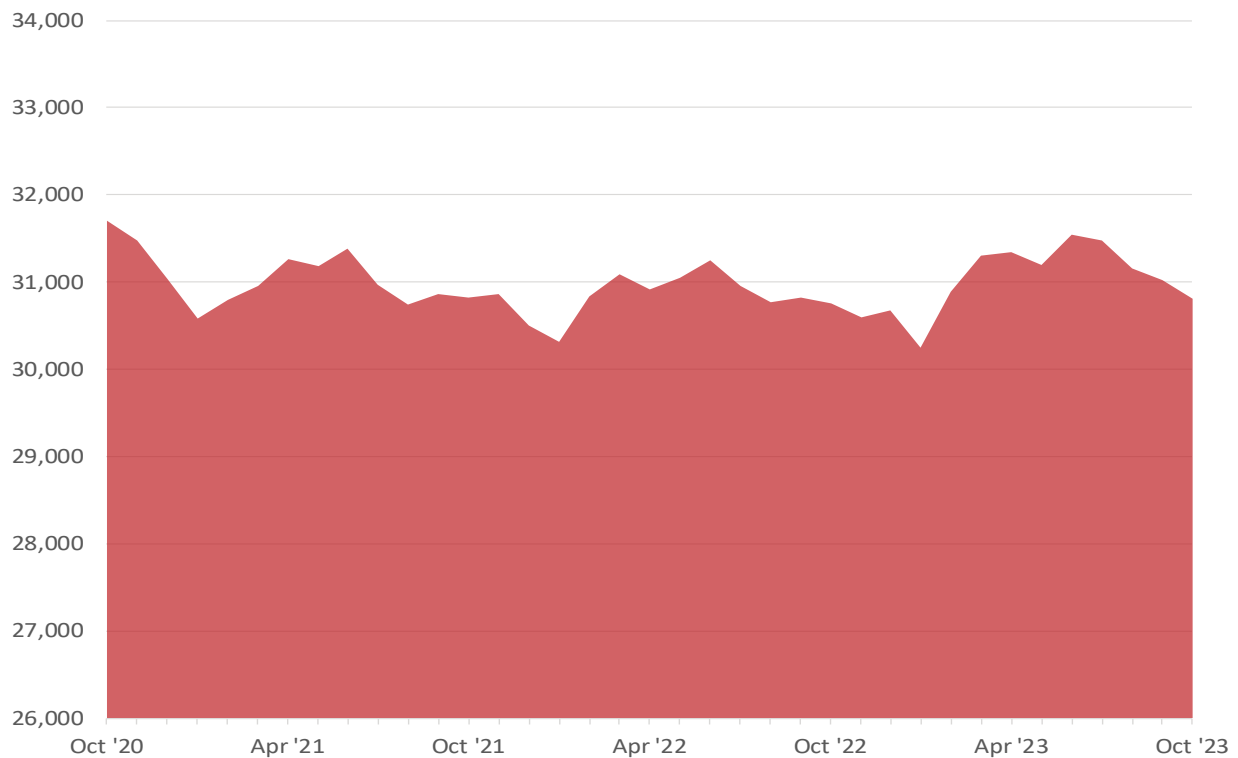
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	31.8	31.7	31.5	0.1	0.3
Goods Producing	5.5	5.5	5.4	0.0	0.1
Service Providing	26.3	26.2	26.1	0.1	0.2
Government	8.6	8.6	8.6	0.0	0.0

Employment

October 2020 - October 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.

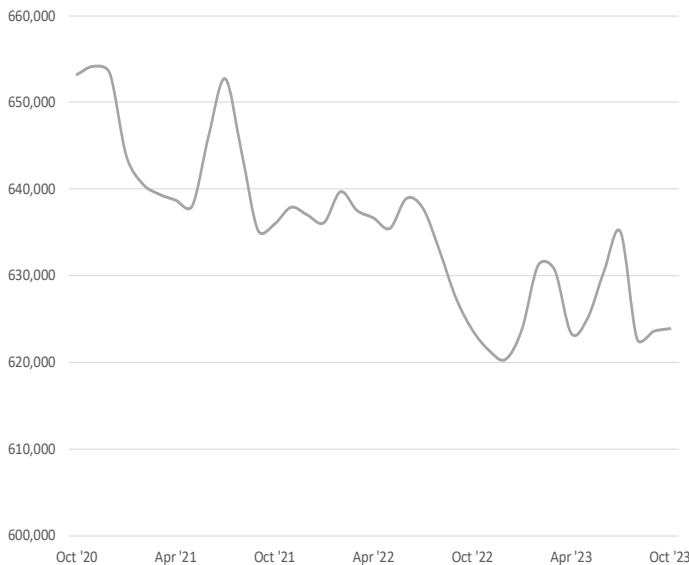
	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	623,856	623,536	623,711	320	145
Employment	597,581	598,061	597,735	-480	-154
Unemployment	26,275	25,475	25,976	800	299
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.1%	4.2%	-0.1%	0.0%

Texarkana MSA

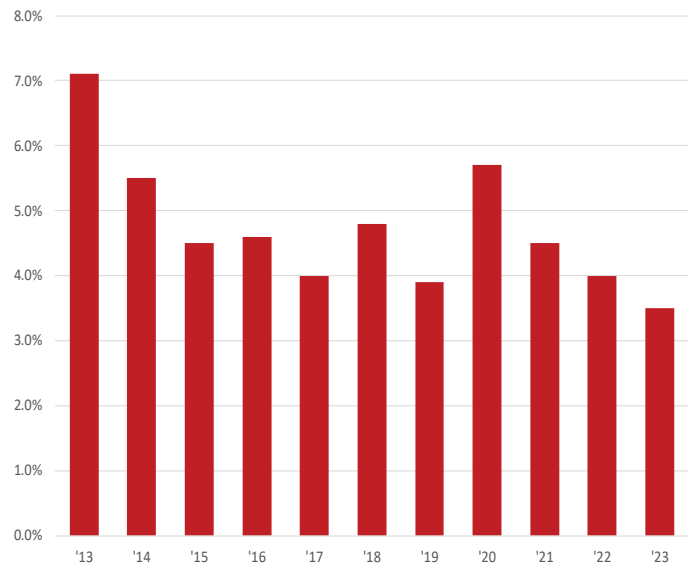
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,086	63,289	62,240	-203	846
Employment	60,853	60,824	59,737	29	1,116
Unemployment	2,233	2,465	2,503	-232	-270
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.9%	4.0%	-0.4%	-0.5%

Memphis MSA - Civilian Labor Force
 October 2020 - October 2023



Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates
 October: 2013 - 2023



Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	October 2023				September 2023				October 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	8,720	8,347	373	4.3	8,877	8,471	406	4.6	8,504	8,178	326	3.8
Batesville Micro	16,947	16,497	450	2.7	17,146	16,607	539	3.1	16,576	16,126	450	2.7
Blytheville Micro	17,052	16,344	708	4.2	17,141	16,385	756	4.4	16,460	15,758	702	4.3
Camden Micro	11,958	11,584	374	3.1	12,093	11,669	424	3.5	11,903	11,484	419	3.5
El Dorado Micro	14,755	14,112	643	4.4	14,899	14,241	658	4.4	14,731	14,089	642	4.4
Forrest City Micro	7,397	7,053	344	4.7	7,503	7,139	364	4.9	7,452	7,110	342	4.6
Harrison Micro	19,157	18,669	488	2.5	19,314	18,700	614	3.2	19,124	18,649	475	2.5
Helena-West Helena Micro	5,194	4,910	284	5.5	5,229	4,929	300	5.7	5,536	5,202	334	6.0
Hope Micro	12,735	12,337	398	3.1	12,917	12,466	451	3.5	12,908	12,519	389	3.0
Magnolia Micro	8,914	8,596	318	3.6	9,019	8,641	378	4.2	8,906	8,580	326	3.7
Malvern Micro	13,755	13,330	425	3.1	13,913	13,429	484	3.5	13,745	13,317	428	3.1
Mountain Home Micro	16,991	16,472	519	3.1	17,314	16,687	627	3.6	16,384	15,867	517	3.2
Paragould Micro	19,864	19,339	525	2.6	20,153	19,516	637	3.2	19,717	19,197	520	2.6
Russellville Micro	37,414	36,205	1,209	3.2	37,638	36,233	1,405	3.7	35,640	34,566	1,074	3.0
Searcy Micro	34,033	33,045	988	2.9	34,412	33,255	1,157	3.4	34,150	33,161	989	2.9

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	October 2023				September 2023				October 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	13,557	13,237	320	2.4	13,660	13,266	394	2.9	13,245	12,939	306	2.3
Benton	18,065	17,662	403	2.2	18,181	17,697	484	2.7	17,890	17,474	416	2.3
Bentonville	32,998	32,372	626	1.9	33,198	32,442	756	2.3	32,182	31,643	539	1.7
Blytheville	5,731	5,471	260	4.5	5,782	5,485	297	5.1	5,545	5,275	270	4.9
Cabot	12,199	11,924	275	2.3	12,304	11,951	353	2.9	12,123	11,816	307	2.5
Conway	35,159	34,278	881	2.5	35,374	34,346	1,028	2.9	34,805	33,931	874	2.5
El Dorado	6,433	6,073	360	5.6	6,457	6,128	329	5.1	6,380	6,063	317	5.0
Fayetteville	53,936	52,796	1,140	2.1	54,345	52,906	1,439	2.6	52,676	51,619	1,057	2.0
Fort Smith	38,698	37,370	1,328	3.4	38,988	37,487	1,501	3.8	38,293	37,320	973	2.5
Hot Springs	15,453	14,920	533	3.4	15,617	14,999	618	4.0	15,490	14,932	558	3.6
Jacksonville	11,813	11,393	420	3.6	11,895	11,417	478	4.0	11,699	11,271	428	3.7
Jonesboro	41,068	40,039	1,029	2.5	41,520	40,352	1,168	2.8	40,878	39,886	992	2.4
Little Rock	98,549	95,620	2,929	3.0	99,005	95,818	3,187	3.2	97,630	94,594	3,036	3.1
North Little Rock	30,415	29,404	1,011	3.3	30,544	29,465	1,079	3.5	30,053	29,088	965	3.2
Paragould	12,634	12,291	343	2.7	12,823	12,403	420	3.3	12,543	12,200	343	2.7
Pine Bluff	15,048	14,309	739	4.9	15,177	14,409	768	5.1	15,074	14,266	808	5.4
Rogers	40,458	39,714	744	1.8	40,719	39,801	918	2.3	39,581	38,821	760	1.9
Russellville	13,451	13,045	406	3.0	13,556	13,053	503	3.7	12,815	12,437	378	2.9
Searcy	10,260	9,979	281	2.7	10,389	10,042	347	3.3	10,289	10,014	275	2.7
Sherwood	16,458	16,047	411	2.5	16,532	16,080	452	2.7	16,303	15,875	428	2.6
Springdale	42,957	42,163	794	1.8	43,231	42,251	980	2.3	41,966	41,221	745	1.8
Texarkana, AR	12,932	12,505	427	3.3	12,988	12,525	463	3.6	12,793	12,339	454	3.5
Van Buren	10,312	9,993	319	3.1	10,418	10,026	392	3.8	10,233	9,986	247	2.4
West Memphis	9,980	9,564	416	4.2	10,095	9,672	423	4.2	10,052	9,612	440	4.4

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	October 2023				September 2023				October 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,169	8,971	198	2.2	9,251	9,009	242	2.6	9,388	9,142	246	2.6
Ashley	6,477	6,163	314	4.8	6,588	6,250	338	5.1	6,751	6,399	352	5.2
Baxter	16,991	16,472	519	3.1	17,314	16,687	627	3.6	16,384	15,867	517	3.2
Benton	157,698	154,443	3,255	2.1	158,728	154,780	3,948	2.5	154,017	150,968	3,049	2.0
Boone	15,938	15,539	399	2.5	16,072	15,566	506	3.1	15,915	15,516	399	2.5
Bradley	4,001	3,852	149	3.7	4,078	3,909	169	4.1	4,015	3,806	209	5.2
Calhoun	2,355	2,297	58	2.5	2,385	2,314	71	3.0	2,359	2,285	74	3.1
Carroll	12,596	12,311	285	2.3	12,793	12,426	367	2.9	12,697	12,405	292	2.3
Chicot	2,826	2,683	143	5.1	2,874	2,718	156	5.4	2,905	2,758	147	5.1
Clark	8,720	8,347	373	4.3	8,877	8,471	406	4.6	8,504	8,178	326	3.8
Clay	5,379	5,202	177	3.3	5,466	5,253	213	3.9	5,385	5,211	174	3.2
Cleburne	8,999	8,719	280	3.1	9,203	8,856	347	3.8	8,945	8,631	314	3.5
Cleveland	3,055	2,972	83	2.7	3,097	2,991	106	3.4	3,085	2,974	111	3.6
Columbia	8,914	8,596	318	3.6	9,019	8,641	378	4.2	8,906	8,580	326	3.7
Conway	8,402	8,140	262	3.1	8,497	8,182	315	3.7	8,327	8,070	257	3.1
Craighead	58,067	56,696	1,371	2.4	58,751	57,140	1,611	2.7	57,839	56,479	1,360	2.4
Crawford	26,440	25,576	864	3.3	26,637	25,660	977	3.7	26,256	25,556	700	2.7
Crittenden	20,400	19,598	802	3.9	20,652	19,820	832	4.0	20,458	19,696	762	3.7
Cross	6,798	6,599	199	2.9	6,885	6,654	231	3.4	6,857	6,635	222	3.2
Dallas	2,658	2,577	81	3.0	2,694	2,601	93	3.5	2,689	2,596	93	3.5
Desha	4,926	4,732	194	3.9	4,940	4,735	205	4.1	4,964	4,742	222	4.5
Drew	7,710	7,452	258	3.3	7,800	7,512	288	3.7	7,469	7,181	288	3.9
Faulkner	63,837	62,262	1,575	2.5	64,273	62,386	1,887	2.9	63,217	61,631	1,586	2.5
Franklin	7,521	7,312	209	2.8	7,558	7,310	248	3.3	7,491	7,277	214	2.9
Fulton	4,588	4,447	141	3.1	4,645	4,474	171	3.7	4,996	4,860	136	2.7
Garland	41,625	40,319	1,306	3.1	42,068	40,532	1,536	3.7	41,769	40,351	1,418	3.4
Grant	8,534	8,323	211	2.5	8,593	8,343	250	2.9	8,481	8,243	238	2.8
Greene	19,864	19,339	525	2.6	20,153	19,516	637	3.2	19,717	19,197	520	2.6
Hempstead	9,319	9,034	285	3.1	9,450	9,128	322	3.4	9,441	9,168	273	2.9
Hot Spring	13,755	13,330	425	3.1	13,913	13,429	484	3.5	13,745	13,317	428	3.1
Howard	5,209	5,052	157	3.0	5,317	5,125	192	3.6	5,300	5,123	177	3.3
Independence	16,947	16,497	450	2.7	17,146	16,607	539	3.1	16,576	16,126	450	2.7
Izard	4,654	4,476	178	3.8	4,706	4,493	213	4.5	4,583	4,379	204	4.5
Jackson	5,325	5,080	245	4.6	5,423	5,166	257	4.7	5,452	5,205	247	4.5
Jefferson	25,347	24,300	1,047	4.1	25,593	24,470	1,123	4.4	25,414	24,227	1,187	4.7
Johnson	10,159	9,692	467	4.6	10,128	9,728	400	3.9	10,017	9,689	328	3.3
Lafayette	2,242	2,153	89	4.0	2,258	2,157	101	4.5	2,324	2,221	103	4.4
Lawrence	6,978	6,775	203	2.9	7,059	6,812	247	3.5	6,921	6,715	206	3.0
Lee	2,547	2,427	120	4.7	2,557	2,436	121	4.7	2,532	2,431	101	4.0
Lincoln	3,663	3,543	120	3.3	3,714	3,567	147	4.0	3,692	3,549	143	3.9
Little River	5,222	5,068	154	2.9	5,259	5,079	180	3.4	5,168	4,995	173	3.3
Logan	8,313	8,020	293	3.5	8,457	8,125	332	3.9	8,201	7,943	258	3.1
Lonoke	34,643	33,802	841	2.4	34,882	33,879	1,003	2.9	34,309	33,495	814	2.4
Madison	8,073	7,901	172	2.1	8,138	7,921	217	2.7	7,926	7,771	155	2.0
Marion	6,086	5,872	214	3.5	6,203	5,956	247	4.0	6,305	6,099	206	3.3
Miller	18,850	18,280	570	3.0	18,951	18,309	642	3.4	18,672	18,037	635	3.4

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	October 2023				September 2023				October 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,052	16,344	708	4.2	17,141	16,385	756	4.4	16,460	15,758	702	4.3
Monroe	2,469	2,393	76	3.1	2,520	2,426	94	3.7	2,542	2,442	100	3.9
Montgomery	2,878	2,756	122	4.2	2,952	2,808	144	4.9	2,792	2,684	108	3.9
Nevada	3,416	3,303	113	3.3	3,467	3,338	129	3.7	3,467	3,351	116	3.3
Newton	3,219	3,130	89	2.8	3,242	3,134	108	3.3	3,209	3,133	76	2.4
Ouachita	9,603	9,287	316	3.3	9,708	9,355	353	3.6	9,544	9,199	345	3.6
Perry	4,285	4,138	147	3.4	4,306	4,147	159	3.7	4,221	4,104	117	2.8
Phillips	5,194	4,910	284	5.5	5,229	4,929	300	5.7	5,536	5,202	334	6.0
Pike	4,051	3,929	122	3.0	4,128	3,986	142	3.4	3,976	3,860	116	2.9
Poinsett	10,038	9,753	285	2.8	10,161	9,830	331	3.3	10,019	9,742	277	2.8
Polk	7,933	7,692	241	3.0	8,031	7,747	284	3.5	7,863	7,628	235	3.0
Pope	29,129	28,165	964	3.3	29,296	28,184	1,112	3.8	27,693	26,852	841	3.0
Prairie	3,572	3,475	97	2.7	3,594	3,481	113	3.1	3,593	3,503	90	2.5
Pulaski	191,575	185,910	5,665	3.0	192,509	186,294	6,215	3.2	189,707	183,914	5,793	3.1
Randolph	7,115	6,903	212	3.0	7,192	6,946	246	3.4	7,155	6,957	198	2.8
St. Francis	7,397	7,053	344	4.7	7,503	7,139	364	4.9	7,452	7,110	342	4.6
Saline	60,763	59,303	1,460	2.4	61,138	59,421	1,717	2.8	60,093	58,672	1,421	2.4
Scott	4,440	4,317	123	2.8	4,483	4,335	148	3.3	4,275	4,186	89	2.1
Searcy	2,867	2,765	102	3.6	3,002	2,888	114	3.8	2,810	2,696	114	4.1
Sebastian	55,724	53,833	1,891	3.4	56,056	54,002	2,054	3.7	55,205	53,761	1,444	2.6
Sevier	5,488	5,307	181	3.3	5,589	5,371	218	3.9	5,461	5,287	174	3.2
Sharp	5,955	5,786	169	2.8	6,059	5,833	226	3.7	5,879	5,689	190	3.2
Stone	4,451	4,307	144	3.2	4,527	4,354	173	3.8	4,613	4,461	152	3.3
Union	14,755	14,112	643	4.4	14,899	14,241	658	4.4	14,731	14,089	642	4.4
Van Buren	6,033	5,832	201	3.3	6,115	5,884	231	3.8	5,976	5,765	211	3.5
Washington	139,228	136,574	2,654	1.9	140,215	136,858	3,357	2.4	136,074	133,528	2,546	1.9
White	34,033	33,045	988	2.9	34,412	33,255	1,157	3.4	34,150	33,161	989	2.9
Woodruff	2,871	2,785	86	3.0	2,897	2,800	97	3.3	2,838	2,764	74	2.6
Yell	8,285	8,040	245	3.0	8,342	8,049	293	3.5	7,947	7,714	233	2.9

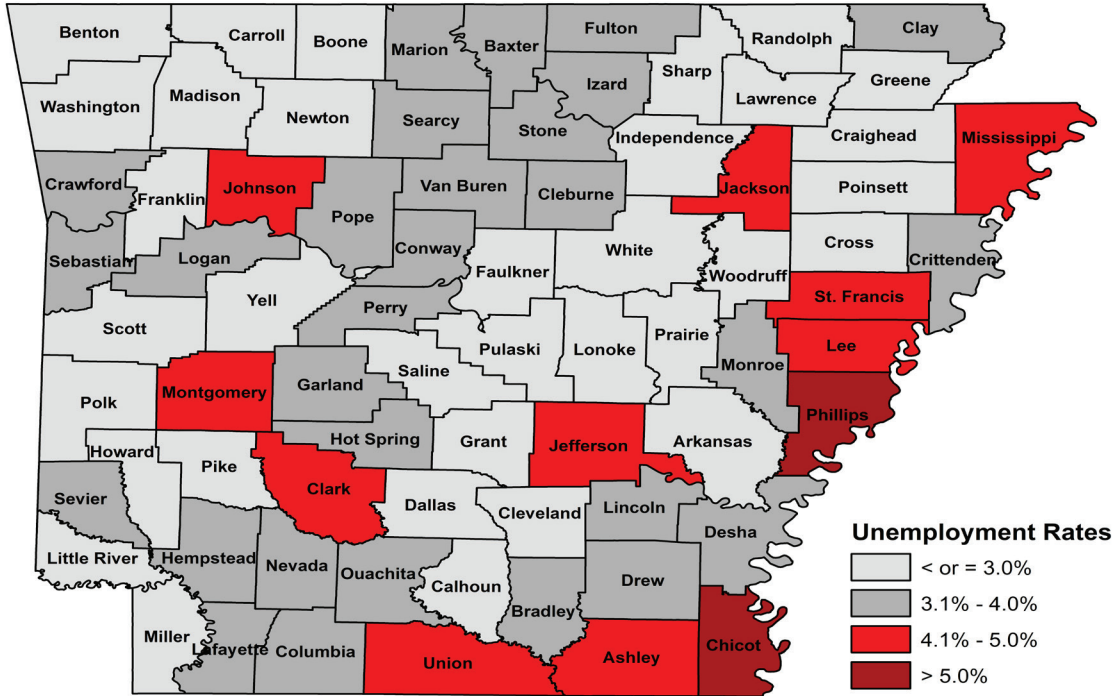
County Labor Force Summary

Between September and October, unemployment rates declined in 72 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates in two counties- Lee and Union- remained stable over the month while Johnson County reported a rate increase. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 1.9% in Washington County to a high of 5.5% in Phillips County.

In October, thirty-four counties posted an unemployment rate at or below 3%. That is up sharply from 11 counties at or below 3% last month. For the 9th consecutive month, no county reported a jobless rate above seven percent.

Compared to October 2022, unemployment rates are down in 32 Arkansas counties. Rates increased in 26 counties while 17 counties were unchanged compared to last year. Rate changes ranged from a one and five-tenths of a percentage point drop in Bradley County to a gain of one and three-tenths of a percentage point in Johnson County.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

October 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	1.9	26	Dallas	3.0	44	Sevier	3.3
2	Benton	2.1	26	Howard	3.0	44	Van Buren	3.3
2	Madison	2.1	26	Miller	3.0	53	Perry	3.4
4	Arkansas	2.2	26	Pike	3.0	53	Sebastian	3.4
5	Carroll	2.3	26	Polk	3.0	55	Logan	3.5
6	Craighead	2.4	26	Pulaski	3.0	55	Marion	3.5
6	Lonoke	2.4	26	Randolph	3.0	57	Columbia	3.6
6	Saline	2.4	26	Woodruff	3.0	57	Searcy	3.6
9	Boone	2.5	26	Yell	3.0	59	Bradley	3.7
9	Calhoun	2.5	35	Baxter	3.1	60	Izard	3.8
9	Faulkner	2.5	35	Cleburne	3.1	61	Crittenden	3.9
9	Grant	2.5	35	Conway	3.1	61	Desha	3.9
13	Greene	2.6	35	Fulton	3.1	63	Lafayette	4.0
14	Cleveland	2.7	35	Garland	3.1	64	Jefferson	4.1
14	Independence	2.7	35	Hempstead	3.1	65	Mississippi	4.2
14	Prairie	2.7	35	Hot Spring	3.1	65	Montgomery	4.2
17	Franklin	2.8	35	Monroe	3.1	67	Clark	4.3
17	Newton	2.8	43	Stone	3.2	68	Union	4.4
17	Poinsett	2.8	44	Clay	3.3	69	Jackson	4.6
17	Scott	2.8	44	Crawford	3.3	69	Johnson	4.6
17	Sharp	2.8	44	Drew	3.3	71	Lee	4.7
22	Cross	2.9	44	Lincoln	3.3	71	St. Francis	4.7
22	Lawrence	2.9	44	Nevada	3.3	73	Ashley	4.8
22	Little River	2.9	44	Ouachita	3.3	74	Chicot	5.1
22	White	2.9	44	Pope	3.3	75	Phillips	5.5

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	October 2023				September 2023				October 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	258,310	251,525	6,785	2.6	259,911	252,069	7,842	3.0	255,831	249,063	6,768	2.6
City of Little Rock	98,549	95,620	2,929	3.0	99,005	95,818	3,187	3.2	97,630	94,594	3,036	3.1
Eastern	42,336	40,587	1,749	4.1	42,826	40,978	1,848	4.3	42,835	41,074	1,761	4.1
North Central	93,856	90,974	2,882	3.1	95,133	91,722	3,411	3.6	94,008	91,041	2,967	3.2
Northeast	124,493	121,012	3,481	2.8	125,923	121,882	4,041	3.2	123,496	120,059	3,437	2.8
Northwest	362,696	355,007	7,689	2.1	365,707	356,216	9,491	2.6	355,337	347,983	7,354	2.1
Southeast	75,708	72,991	2,717	3.6	76,528	73,504	3,024	4.0	76,164	73,021	3,143	4.1
Southwest	88,031	85,066	2,965	3.4	88,996	85,659	3,337	3.7	88,062	84,931	3,131	3.6
West Central	131,289	126,856	4,433	3.4	132,507	127,516	4,991	3.8	128,991	124,819	4,172	3.2
Western	110,371	106,750	3,621	3.3	111,222	107,179	4,043	3.6	109,291	106,351	2,940	2.7

