



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

May



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2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

May

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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 2024 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 1,200 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.

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May Spotlight

A Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

Between April and May, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates remained stable in 45 states and the District of Columbia. Three states posted a jobless rate increase, while two states declined. In May, unemployment rates ranged from a low of 1.8% in South Dakota to a high of 5.9% in the District of Columbia. Arkansas ranked 21st among states, with a jobless rate of 3.7%. Thirty-six states, including Arkansas, posted jobless rates at or below the national rate of 4.2%.

Compared to May 2024, unemployment rates have increased in 24 states and the District of Columbia. Four states posted jobless rate declines, while 22 states were statistically unchanged over-the-year. Arkansas' unemployment rate is up three-tenths of a percentage point, from 3.4% in May 2024 to 3.7% in May 2025.

Unemployment Rates by State (Seasonally Adjusted)

May 2025

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	South Dakota	1.8	17	Tennessee	3.5	33	Texas	4.1
2	North Dakota	2.5	19	Idaho	3.6	36	New Mexico	4.2
3	Vermont	2.6	19	Iowa	3.6	37	Louisiana	4.5
4	Hawaii	2.8	21	Arkansas	3.7	37	Washington	4.5
4	Montana	2.8	21	Florida	3.7	39	Alaska	4.7
6	Nebraska	3.0	21	Indiana	3.7	40	Colorado	4.8
7	New Hampshire	3.1	21	North Carolina	3.7	40	Illinois	4.8
7	Oklahoma	3.1	25	Connecticut	3.8	40	Massachusetts	4.8
9	Maryland	3.2	25	Kansas	3.8	40	New Jersey	4.8
9	Utah	3.2	25	West Virginia	3.8	40	Oregon	4.8
11	Alabama	3.3	28	Pennsylvania	3.9	45	Ohio	4.9
11	Minnesota	3.3	29	Delaware	4.0	45	Rhode Island	4.9
11	Wisconsin	3.3	29	Mississippi	4.0	47	Kentucky	5.0
11	Wyoming	3.3	29	Missouri	4.0	48	California	5.3
15	Maine	3.4	29	New York	4.0	49	Michigan	5.4
15	Virginia	3.4	33	Arizona	4.1	50	Nevada	5.5
17	Georgia	3.5	33	South Carolina	4.1	51	District of Columbia	5.9

U.S. Unemployment Rate = 4.2%



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State of Arkansas

Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 3.7% between April and May. At 4.2%, the United States' jobless rate was also unchanged.

Arkansas' civilian labor force increased by 615 in May, with 658 more employed Arkansans. The State remains at record high civilian labor force and employment levels. The small changes between April and May were not enough to impact the unemployment rate, which remains at 3.7% for a third consecutive month.

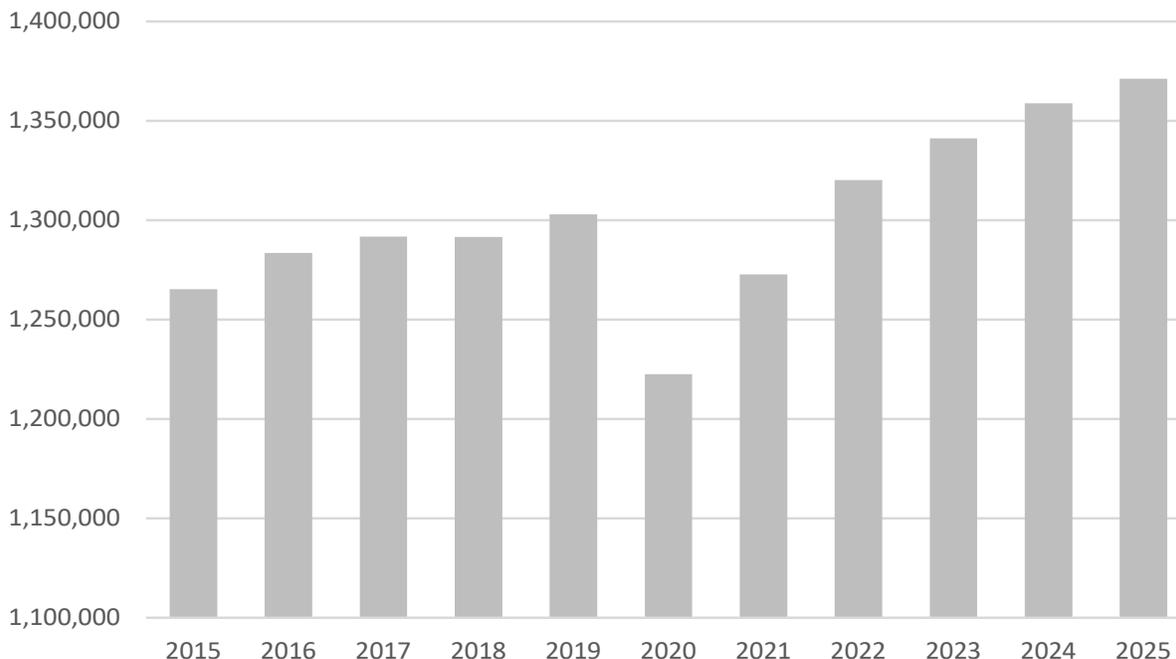
Compared to May 2024, employment in Arkansas rose by 12,386. There are currently 4,701 more unemployed Arkansans actively seeking work. Both added to the size of the civilian labor force, pushing the labor force participation rate up two-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	May 25	Apr 25	May 24	May 25	Apr 25	May 24	
Civilian Labor Force	1,423,306	1,422,691	1,406,219	Civilian Labor Force	1,424,552	1,431,885	1,406,801
Employment	1,371,087	1,370,429	1,358,701	Employment	1,375,292	1,385,525	1,361,341
Unemployment	52,219	52,262	47,518	Unemployment	49,260	46,360	45,460
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.7%	3.4%	Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.2%	3.2%
LF Participation Rate	58.4%	58.4%	58.2%	LF Participation Rate	58.4%	58.8%	58.2%

Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

May: 2015 - 2025



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State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	May 25	Apr 25	May 24	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	1388.5	1385.1	1369.4	3.4	19.1
Goods Producing	234.1	234.6	233.7	-0.5	0.4
Mining, Logging, & Construction	70.3	71.2	72.3	-0.9	-2.0
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	65.1	66.0	67.1	-0.9	-2.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	41.2	41.4	41.7	-0.2	-0.5
Manufacturing	163.8	163.4	161.4	0.4	2.4
Durable Goods	78.3	78.5	77.3	-0.2	1.0
Nondurable Goods	85.5	84.9	84.1	0.6	1.4
Service Providing	1154.4	1150.5	1135.7	3.9	18.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	272.7	272.1	267.4	0.6	5.3
Wholesale Trade	52.8	53.4	53.3	-0.6	-0.5
Retail Trade	146.7	146.0	142.9	0.7	3.8
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	73.2	72.7	71.2	0.5	2.0
Information	11.8	11.7	12.1	0.1	-0.3
Financial Activities	70.9	70.3	69.2	0.6	1.7
Finance & Insurance	55.6	55.2	53.8	0.4	1.8
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	15.3	15.1	15.4	0.2	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	161.4	162.4	160.8	-1.0	0.6
Professional, Scientific & Technical	52.9	53.9	50.9	-1.0	2.0
Management of Companies	41.5	40.9	39.1	0.6	2.4
Administrative & Support Services	67.0	67.6	70.8	-0.6	-3.8
Private Education & Health Services	221.3	221.1	212.4	0.2	8.9
Private Educational Services	19.5	20.1	19.4	-0.6	0.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	201.8	201.0	193.0	0.8	8.8
Ambulatory Health Care	70.4	69.7	67.0	0.7	3.4
Social Assistance	43.1	43.0	40.1	0.1	3.0
Leisure & Hospitality	134.4	130.4	132.1	4.0	2.3
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	14.7	14.2	15.2	0.5	-0.5
Accommodation & Food Services	119.7	116.2	116.9	3.5	2.8
Accommodation Services	11.6	11.1	11.3	0.5	0.3
Food Services	108.1	105.1	105.6	3.0	2.5
Other Services	65.5	65.6	66.0	-0.1	-0.5
Government	216.4	216.9	215.7	-0.5	0.7
Federal Government	21.5	21.6	21.8	-0.1	-0.3
State Government	77.7	78.6	77.7	-0.9	0.0
State Gov, Educational Services	31.7	32.6	31.6	-0.9	0.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.0	46.0	46.1	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	117.2	116.7	116.2	0.5	1.0
Local Gov, Educational Services	71.1	71.3	70.6	-0.2	0.5
Local Gov, Excluding Education	46.1	45.4	45.6	0.7	0.5

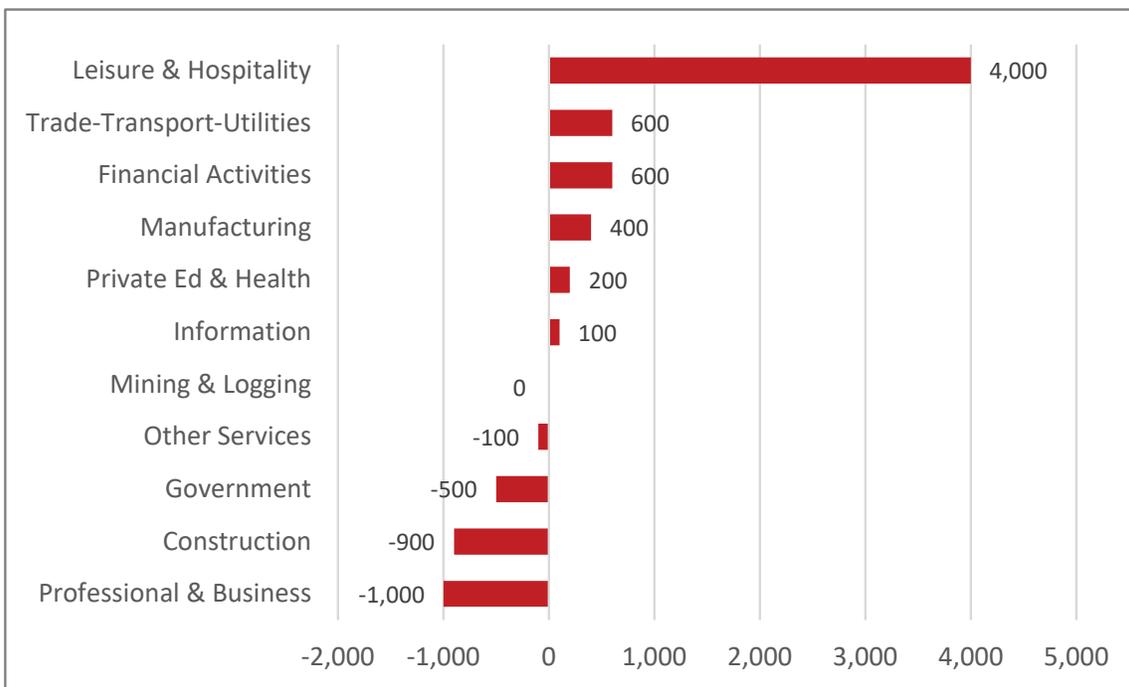
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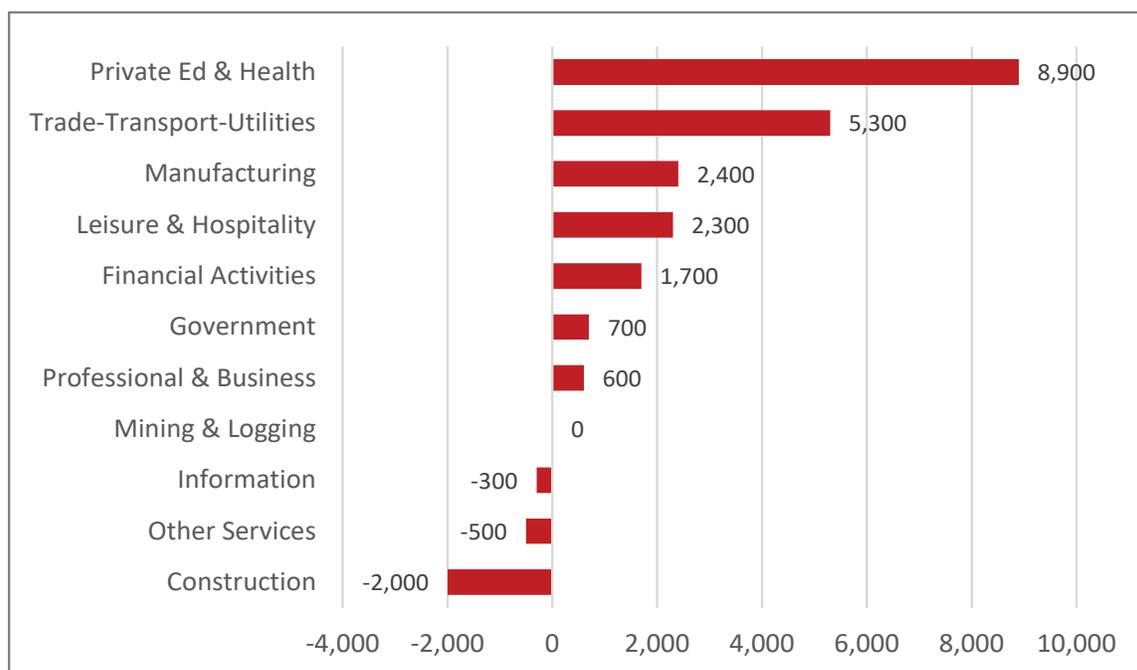
State of Arkansas

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
April 2025 - May 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
May 2024 - May 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings Not Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturing

	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>
Average Weekly Hours	37.7	37.6	37.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.88	\$23.75	\$22.56
Average Weekly Earnings	\$900.28	\$893.00	\$855.02

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>		<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>
Average Weekly Hours	42.7	42.6	40.8	Average Weekly Hours	33.3	33.2	35.3
Average Hourly Earnings	\$26.11	\$25.75	\$25.27	Average Hourly Earnings	\$21.34	\$21.45	\$19.76
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,114.90	\$1,096.95	\$1,031.02	Average Weekly Earnings	\$710.62	\$712.14	\$697.53

Average Weekly Earnings - Manufacturing (Production Workers)
May 2022 - May 2025



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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>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	385,086	386,988	379,088	-1,902	5,998
Employment	372,485	375,114	367,478	-2,629	5,007
Unemployment	12,601	11,874	11,610	727	991
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.1%	3.1%	0.2%	0.2%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	402.3	401.4	396.9	0.9	5.4
Goods Producing	42.7	42.8	42.3	-0.1	0.4
Mining, Logging & Construction	21.3	21.3	21.6	0.0	-0.3
Manufacturing	21.4	21.5	20.7	-0.1	0.7
Service Providing	359.6	358.6	354.6	1.0	5.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	80.3	80.5	79.0	-0.2	1.3
Wholesale Trade	17.6	17.8	17.9	-0.2	-0.3
Retail Trade	39.8	40.0	39.0	-0.2	0.8
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	22.9	22.7	22.1	0.2	0.8
Information	5.0	4.9	5.2	0.1	-0.2
Financial Activities	28.3	28.2	27.7	0.1	0.6
Professional & Business Services	49.2	49.4	50.4	-0.2	-1.2
Private Education & Health Services	69.7	69.4	65.8	0.3	3.9
Leisure & Hospitality	37.0	35.7	36.7	1.3	0.3
Other Services	18.9	19.0	19.1	-0.1	-0.2
Government	71.2	71.5	70.7	-0.3	0.5
Federal Government	10.7	10.7	10.7	0.0	0.0
State Government	33.9	34.3	33.8	-0.4	0.1
Local Government	26.6	26.5	26.2	0.1	0.4

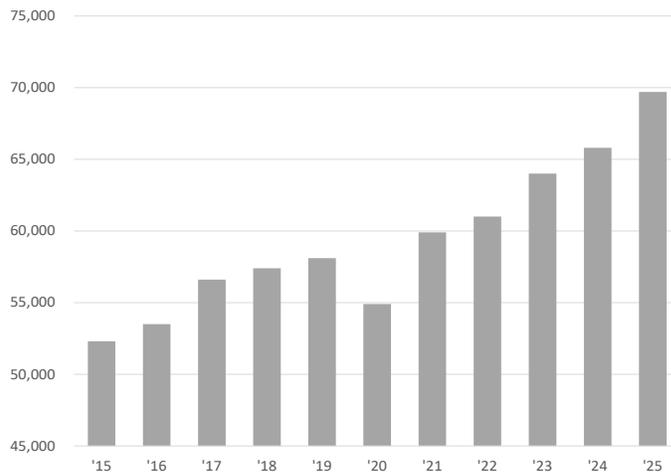
Unemployment

May 2022 - May 2025



Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

May: 2015 - 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA = Benton, Madison, & Washington counties

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

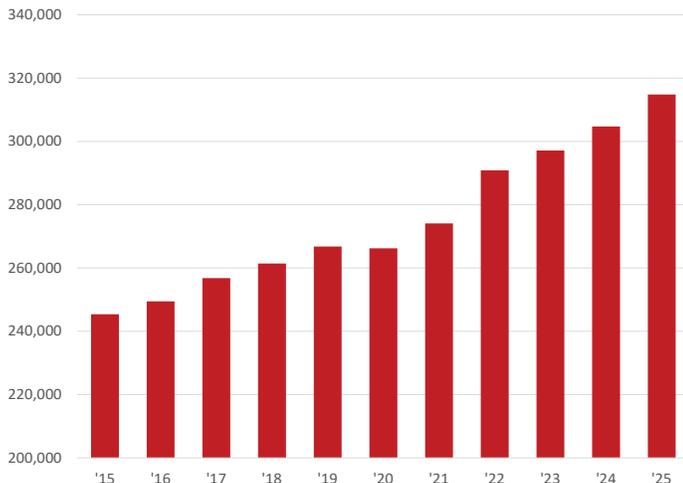
	May 25	Apr 25	May 24	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	314,793	316,174	304,728	-1,381	10,065
Employment	306,190	308,118	297,028	-1,928	9,162
Unemployment	8,603	8,056	7,700	547	903
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	2.5%	2.5%	0.2%	0.2%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

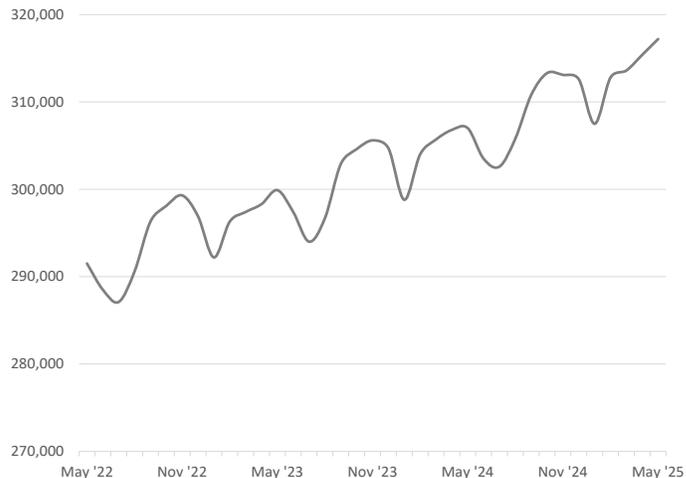
(In Thousands)

NAICS	May 25	Apr 25	May 24	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	317.2	315.4	307.0	1.8	10.2
Goods Producing	46.9	46.8	45.3	0.1	1.6
Mining, Logging & Construction	18.5	18.5	17.7	0.0	0.8
Manufacturing	28.4	28.3	27.6	0.1	0.8
Service Providing	270.3	268.6	261.7	1.7	8.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	62.9	62.8	61.2	0.1	1.7
Wholesale Trade	14.2	14.3	14.1	-0.1	0.1
Retail Trade	29.9	29.7	28.7	0.2	1.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	18.8	18.8	18.4	0.0	0.4
Information	2.3	2.2	2.3	0.1	0.0
Financial Activities	12.3	12.2	12.1	0.1	0.2
Professional & Business Services	62.0	62.2	59.8	-0.2	2.2
Private Education & Health Services	38.6	38.6	36.7	0.0	1.9
Leisure & Hospitality	32.7	31.3	31.7	1.4	1.0
Other Services	13.6	13.7	13.7	-0.1	-0.1
Government	45.9	45.6	44.2	0.3	1.7
Federal Government	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-0.1
State Government	22.7	22.5	21.1	0.2	1.6
Local Government	20.1	20.0	19.9	0.1	0.2

Civilian Labor Force
May: 2015 - 2025



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
May 2022 - May 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

The Fort Smith MSA = Crawford & Sebastian counties in Arkansas and Sequoyah County in Oklahoma

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	102,362	102,556	101,134	-194	1,228
Employment	98,880	99,323	97,779	-443	1,101
Unemployment	3,482	3,233	3,355	249	127
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.2%	3.3%	0.2%	0.1%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	104.7	104.1	103.4	0.6	1.3
Goods Producing	22.8	23.0	22.9	-0.2	-0.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.1	5.1	5.0	0.0	0.1
Manufacturing	17.7	17.9	17.9	-0.2	-0.2
Service Providing	81.9	81.1	80.5	0.8	1.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	22.0	21.9	21.9	0.1	0.1
Wholesale Trade	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	11.6	11.6	11.5	0.0	0.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.0	5.9	6.0	0.1	0.0
Information	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	11.2	11.1	10.8	0.1	0.4
Private Education & Health Services	17.8	17.7	16.9	0.1	0.9
Leisure & Hospitality	9.6	9.2	9.5	0.4	0.1
Other Services	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
Government	12.8	12.7	12.9	0.1	-0.1
Federal Government	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
State Government	1.7	1.7	1.8	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	9.9	9.8	9.9	0.1	0.0

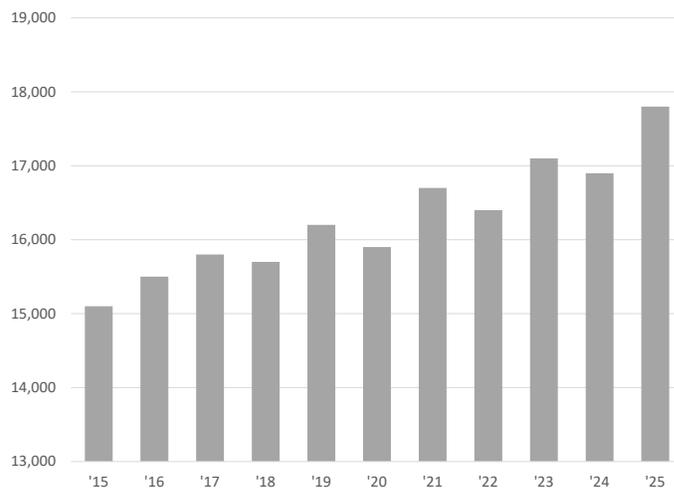
Employment

May 2022 - May 2025



Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

May: 2015 - 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	43,541	44,137	43,547	-596	-6
Employment	41,982	42,625	42,097	-643	-115
Unemployment	1,559	1,512	1,450	47	109
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.4%	3.3%	0.2%	0.3%

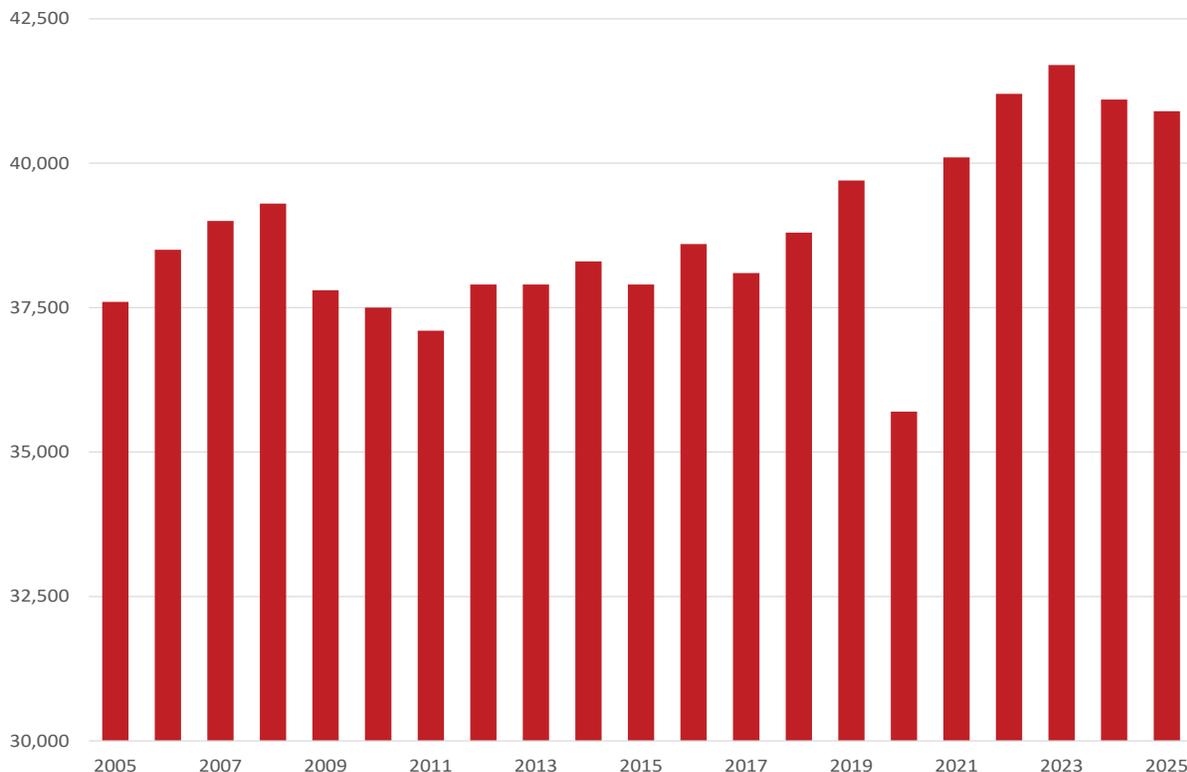
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	40.9	41.0	41.1	-0.1	-0.2
Goods Producing	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	0.1
Service Providing	36.3	36.4	36.6	-0.1	-0.3
Government	4.3	4.3	4.4	0.0	-0.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

May: 2005 - 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	67,056	67,660	65,960	-604	1,096
Employment	64,813	65,537	63,991	-724	822
Unemployment	2,243	2,123	1,969	120	274
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.1%	3.0%	0.2%	0.3%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	65.8	65.8	65.0	0.0	0.8
Goods Producing	11.4	11.4	11.3	0.0	0.1
Service Providing	54.4	54.4	53.7	0.0	0.7
Government	9.1	9.1	9.2	0.0	-0.1

Employment
May 2022 - May 2025



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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.

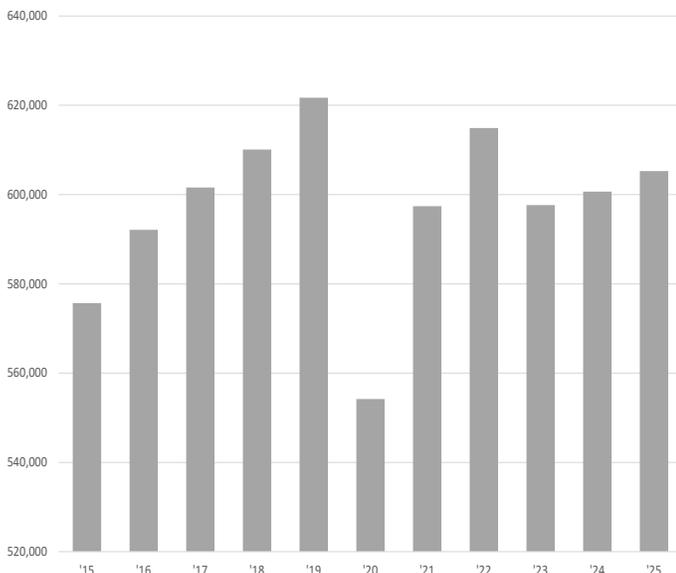
	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	630,853	633,627	622,656	-2,774	8,197
Employment	605,256	610,178	600,668	-4,922	4,588
Unemployment	25,597	23,449	21,988	2,148	3,609
Unemployment Rate	4.1%	3.7%	3.5%	0.4%	0.6%

Texarkana MSA

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

	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	62,889	63,182	61,648	-293	1,241
Employment	60,429	60,899	59,230	-470	1,199
Unemployment	2,460	2,283	2,418	177	42
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	3.6%	3.9%	0.3%	-0.0%

Memphis MSA - Employment
May: 2015 - 2025



Texarkana MSA - Civilian Labor Force
May 2022 - May 2025



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Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	May 2025				April 2025				May 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,656	9,247	409	4.2	9,737	9,390	347	3.6	9,542	9,164	378	4.0
Batesville Micro	18,188	17,633	555	3.1	18,249	17,733	516	2.8	17,843	17,343	500	2.8
Blytheville Micro	20,480	19,621	859	4.2	20,555	19,770	785	3.8	20,695	19,886	809	3.9
Camden Micro	11,356	10,892	464	4.1	11,381	10,939	442	3.9	11,289	10,846	443	3.9
El Dorado Micro	15,524	14,773	751	4.8	15,619	14,906	713	4.6	15,904	15,169	735	4.6
Forrest City Micro	7,727	7,338	389	5.0	7,728	7,365	363	4.7	7,743	7,371	372	4.8
Harrison Micro	19,328	18,676	652	3.4	19,490	18,836	654	3.4	19,960	19,341	619	3.1
Magnolia Micro	8,883	8,526	357	4.0	8,946	8,632	314	3.5	8,937	8,594	343	3.8
Malvern Micro	13,406	12,895	511	3.8	13,516	13,039	477	3.5	13,341	12,873	468	3.5
Mountain Home Micro	17,105	16,478	627	3.7	17,203	16,605	598	3.5	16,617	15,994	623	3.7
Paragould Micro	20,278	19,558	720	3.6	20,376	19,701	675	3.3	20,139	19,450	689	3.4
Pine Bluff Micro	27,222	25,873	1,349	5.0	27,275	26,052	1,223	4.5	27,464	26,229	1,235	4.5
Russellville Micro	37,518	36,027	1,491	4.0	37,754	36,447	1,307	3.5	37,568	36,272	1,296	3.4
Searcy Micro	35,108	33,897	1,211	3.4	35,479	34,334	1,145	3.2	34,528	33,348	1,180	3.4

Arkadelphia Micro = Clark County
 Batesville Micro = Independence County
 Blytheville Micro = Mississippi County
 Camden Micro = Calhoun & Ouachita counties
 El Dorado Micro = Union County

Forrest City Micro = St. Francis County
 Harrison Micro = Boone & Newton counties
 Magnolia Micro = Columbia County
 Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County
 Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County

Paragould Micro = Greene County
 Pine Bluff Micro = Cleveland & Jefferson counties
 Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties
 Searcy Micro = White County

City Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

City	May 2025				April 2025				May 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	14,959	14,456	503	3.4	15,040	14,541	499	3.3	14,467	14,022	445	3.1
Benton	20,384	19,811	573	2.8	20,494	19,948	546	2.7	20,052	19,547	505	2.5
Bentonville	34,574	33,699	875	2.5	34,713	33,897	816	2.4	33,464	32,686	778	2.3
Blytheville	6,902	6,610	292	4.2	6,957	6,660	297	4.3	6,996	6,699	297	4.2
Cabot	13,632	13,251	381	2.8	13,682	13,337	345	2.5	13,423	13,081	342	2.5
Conway	37,335	36,171	1,164	3.1	37,472	36,427	1,045	2.8	36,715	35,680	1,035	2.8
El Dorado	6,904	6,502	402	5.8	6,925	6,561	364	5.3	7,073	6,676	397	5.6
Fayetteville	57,364	55,679	1,685	2.9	57,625	56,033	1,592	2.8	55,437	54,012	1,425	2.6
Fort Smith	41,834	40,468	1,366	3.3	41,969	40,667	1,302	3.1	41,320	40,007	1,313	3.2
Hot Springs	16,993	16,386	607	3.6	17,258	16,637	621	3.6	17,054	16,431	623	3.7
Jacksonville	12,857	12,376	481	3.7	12,991	12,465	526	4.0	12,638	12,207	431	3.4
Jonesboro	39,786	38,390	1,396	3.5	40,120	38,819	1,301	3.2	39,113	37,896	1,217	3.1
Little Rock	105,551	101,855	3,696	3.5	106,044	102,585	3,459	3.3	103,987	100,466	3,521	3.4
North Little Rock	33,541	32,358	1,183	3.5	33,761	32,590	1,171	3.5	33,051	31,917	1,134	3.4
Paragould	13,207	12,730	477	3.6	13,261	12,823	438	3.3	13,124	12,659	465	3.5
Pine Bluff	14,912	14,069	843	5.7	14,895	14,169	726	4.9	15,010	14,233	777	5.2
Rogers	41,120	40,107	1,013	2.5	41,299	40,342	957	2.3	39,847	38,901	946	2.4
Russellville	13,527	13,007	520	3.8	13,611	13,158	453	3.3	13,538	13,094	444	3.3
Searcy	10,192	9,803	389	3.8	10,266	9,930	336	3.3	9,990	9,645	345	3.5
Sherwood	17,107	16,531	576	3.4	17,159	16,650	509	3.0	16,812	16,306	506	3.0
Springdale	45,082	43,895	1,187	2.6	45,206	44,171	1,035	2.3	43,680	42,580	1,100	2.5
Texarkana, AR	12,351	11,868	483	3.9	12,372	11,920	452	3.7	12,190	11,681	509	4.2
Van Buren	10,574	10,218	356	3.4	10,596	10,267	329	3.1	10,438	10,100	338	3.2
West Memphis	9,467	8,888	579	6.1	9,528	8,980	548	5.8	9,343	8,889	454	4.9

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

May

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	May 2025				April 2025				May 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	7,417	7,125	292	3.9	7,444	7,147	297	4.0	7,462	7,230	232	3.1
Ashley	6,635	6,265	370	5.6	6,621	6,261	360	5.4	6,748	6,388	360	5.3
Baxter	17,105	16,478	627	3.7	17,203	16,605	598	3.5	16,617	15,994	623	3.7
Benton	167,242	162,738	4,504	2.7	167,929	163,691	4,238	2.5	161,899	157,844	4,055	2.5
Boone	16,654	16,111	543	3.3	16,777	16,232	545	3.2	17,260	16,743	517	3.0
Bradley	3,900	3,679	221	5.7	3,907	3,695	212	5.4	3,882	3,721	161	4.1
Calhoun	2,096	2,012	84	4.0	2,090	2,016	74	3.5	2,040	1,966	74	3.6
Carroll	11,823	11,430	393	3.3	11,847	11,461	386	3.3	12,037	11,639	398	3.3
Chicot	3,149	2,968	181	5.7	3,147	2,988	159	5.1	3,155	2,995	160	5.1
Clark	9,656	9,247	409	4.2	9,737	9,390	347	3.6	9,542	9,164	378	4.0
Clay	6,054	5,839	215	3.6	6,067	5,866	201	3.3	6,104	5,886	218	3.6
Cleburne	10,104	9,709	395	3.9	10,104	9,718	386	3.8	10,119	9,771	348	3.4
Cleveland	2,945	2,833	112	3.8	2,963	2,849	114	3.8	3,021	2,920	101	3.3
Columbia	8,883	8,526	357	4.0	8,946	8,632	314	3.5	8,937	8,594	343	3.8
Conway	9,184	8,846	338	3.7	9,232	8,913	319	3.5	9,030	8,745	285	3.2
Craighead	56,949	55,073	1,876	3.3	57,451	55,688	1,763	3.1	55,998	54,364	1,634	2.9
Crawford	26,064	25,135	929	3.6	26,131	25,256	875	3.3	25,726	24,845	881	3.4
Crittenden	20,633	19,662	971	4.7	20,796	19,866	930	4.5	20,482	19,665	817	4.0
Cross	7,451	7,174	277	3.7	7,510	7,251	259	3.4	7,360	7,115	245	3.3
Dallas	2,687	2,588	99	3.7	2,675	2,584	91	3.4	2,704	2,605	99	3.7
Desha	3,903	3,647	256	6.6	3,927	3,677	250	6.4	4,100	3,830	270	6.6
Drew	7,788	7,456	332	4.3	7,788	7,471	317	4.1	7,791	7,499	292	3.7
Faulkner	66,655	64,596	2,059	3.1	66,961	65,053	1,908	2.8	65,572	63,719	1,853	2.8
Franklin	7,411	7,141	270	3.6	7,451	7,199	252	3.4	7,277	7,049	228	3.1
Fulton	4,056	3,886	170	4.2	4,031	3,873	158	3.9	4,043	3,887	156	3.9
Garland	43,541	41,982	1,559	3.6	44,137	42,625	1,512	3.4	43,547	42,097	1,450	3.3
Grant	8,835	8,578	257	2.9	8,891	8,643	248	2.8	8,705	8,474	231	2.7
Greene	20,278	19,558	720	3.6	20,376	19,701	675	3.3	20,139	19,450	689	3.4
Hempstead	8,512	8,220	292	3.4	8,561	8,283	278	3.2	8,395	8,103	292	3.5
Hot Spring	13,406	12,895	511	3.8	13,516	13,039	477	3.5	13,341	12,873	468	3.5
Howard	4,924	4,735	189	3.8	4,921	4,738	183	3.7	5,004	4,844	160	3.2
Independence	18,188	17,633	555	3.1	18,249	17,733	516	2.8	17,843	17,343	500	2.8
Izard	4,088	3,879	209	5.1	4,120	3,912	208	5.0	4,371	4,167	204	4.7
Jackson	5,687	5,458	229	4.0	5,711	5,486	225	3.9	5,704	5,482	222	3.9
Jefferson	24,277	23,040	1,237	5.1	24,312	23,203	1,109	4.6	24,443	23,309	1,134	4.6
Johnson	10,050	9,594	456	4.5	10,104	9,708	396	3.9	10,264	9,756	508	4.9
Lafayette	2,327	2,209	118	5.1	2,349	2,226	123	5.2	2,317	2,219	98	4.2
Lawrence	6,700	6,455	245	3.7	6,819	6,594	225	3.3	6,622	6,391	231	3.5
Lee	2,312	2,187	125	5.4	2,335	2,209	126	5.4	2,366	2,253	113	4.8
Lincoln	3,323	3,160	163	4.9	3,342	3,187	155	4.6	3,336	3,169	167	5.0
Little River	5,192	5,021	171	3.3	5,202	5,035	167	3.2	5,143	4,945	198	3.8
Logan	8,836	8,496	340	3.8	8,922	8,591	331	3.7	8,877	8,576	301	3.4
Lonoke	37,077	35,968	1,109	3.0	37,237	36,203	1,034	2.8	36,513	35,508	1,005	2.8
Madison	8,424	8,187	237	2.8	8,538	8,301	237	2.8	8,195	7,969	226	2.8
Marion	5,357	5,088	269	5.0	5,403	5,145	258	4.8	5,459	5,216	243	4.5
Miller	17,257	16,562	695	4.0	17,288	16,634	654	3.8	16,994	16,301	693	4.1

(continued on Page 16)

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

May

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	May 2025				April 2025				May 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	20,480	19,621	859	4.2	20,555	19,770	785	3.8	20,695	19,886	809	3.9
Monroe	2,595	2,466	129	5.0	2,603	2,484	119	4.6	2,655	2,560	95	3.6
Montgomery	3,088	2,963	125	4.0	3,062	2,942	120	3.9	3,132	3,006	126	4.0
Nevada	2,525	2,410	115	4.6	2,550	2,437	113	4.4	2,461	2,348	113	4.6
Newton	2,674	2,565	109	4.1	2,713	2,604	109	4.0	2,700	2,598	102	3.8
Ouachita	9,260	8,880	380	4.1	9,291	8,923	368	4.0	9,249	8,880	369	4.0
Perry	4,339	4,156	183	4.2	4,351	4,189	162	3.7	4,252	4,106	146	3.4
Phillips	4,829	4,550	279	5.8	4,847	4,576	271	5.6	4,928	4,663	265	5.4
Pike	4,215	4,063	152	3.6	4,241	4,095	146	3.4	4,405	4,255	150	3.4
Poinsett	10,107	9,740	367	3.6	10,209	9,849	360	3.5	9,962	9,627	335	3.4
Polk	7,366	7,093	273	3.7	7,427	7,173	254	3.4	7,428	7,107	321	4.3
Pope	28,109	26,949	1,160	4.1	28,288	27,263	1,025	3.6	28,143	27,129	1,014	3.6
Prairie	3,732	3,607	125	3.3	3,731	3,614	117	3.1	3,658	3,553	105	2.9
Pulaski	201,466	194,397	7,069	3.5	202,490	195,790	6,700	3.3	198,386	191,746	6,640	3.3
Randolph	7,815	7,546	269	3.4	7,835	7,592	243	3.1	7,712	7,447	265	3.4
St. Francis	7,727	7,338	389	5.0	7,728	7,365	363	4.7	7,743	7,371	372	4.8
Saline	66,714	64,790	1,924	2.9	67,058	65,236	1,822	2.7	65,660	63,925	1,735	2.6
Scott	4,043	3,902	141	3.5	4,048	3,925	123	3.0	4,156	4,024	132	3.2
Searcy	3,203	3,087	116	3.6	3,171	3,054	117	3.7	3,275	3,162	113	3.5
Sebastian	59,404	57,431	1,973	3.3	59,586	57,713	1,873	3.1	58,619	56,776	1,843	3.1
Sevier	6,999	6,796	203	2.9	7,038	6,843	195	2.8	7,047	6,859	188	2.7
Sharp	6,671	6,418	253	3.8	6,673	6,440	233	3.5	6,601	6,354	247	3.7
Stone	4,081	3,888	193	4.7	4,108	3,925	183	4.5	4,091	3,914	177	4.3
Union	15,524	14,773	751	4.8	15,619	14,906	713	4.6	15,904	15,169	735	4.6
Van Buren	5,967	5,707	260	4.4	5,989	5,732	257	4.3	5,925	5,694	231	3.9
Washington	139,127	135,265	3,862	2.8	139,707	136,126	3,581	2.6	134,634	131,215	3,419	2.5
White	35,108	33,897	1,211	3.4	35,479	34,334	1,145	3.2	34,528	33,348	1,180	3.4
Woodruff	2,943	2,849	94	3.2	2,951	2,860	91	3.1	2,944	2,851	93	3.2
Yell	9,409	9,078	331	3.5	9,466	9,184	282	3.0	9,425	9,143	282	3.0

County Labor Force Summary

Between April and May, unemployment rates increased in 68 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates in four counties were unchanged, while three counties posted rate declines over the month. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.7% in Benton County to a high of 6.6% in Desha County.

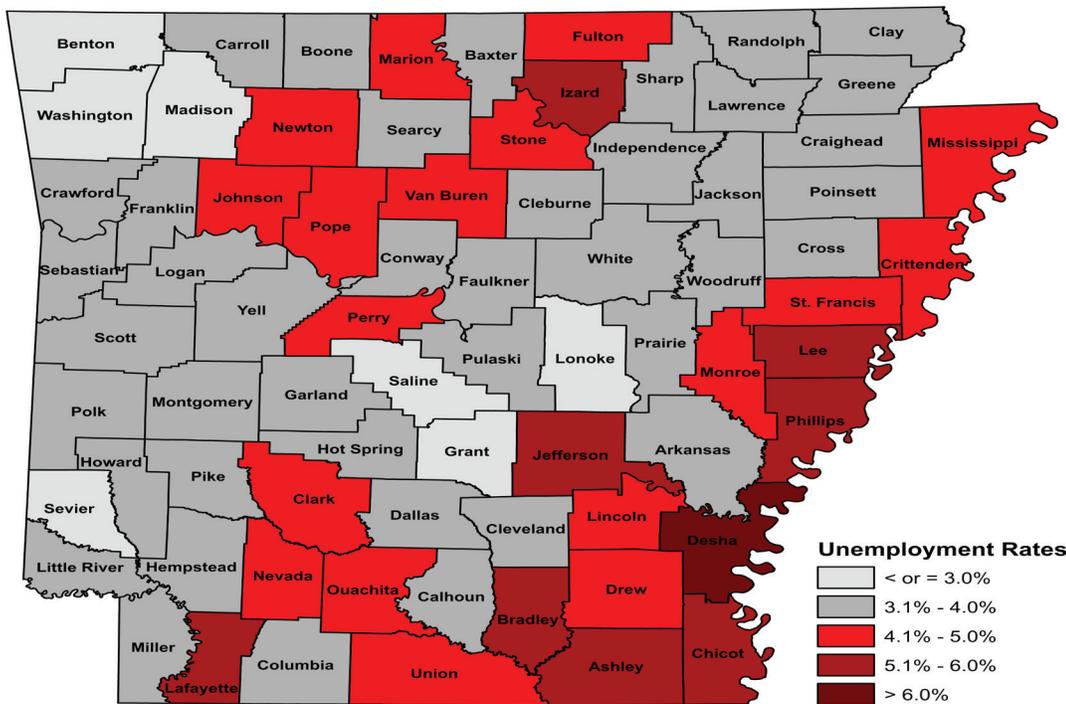
In May, seven counties reported unemployment rates at or below 3%. That is down from eleven counties at or below 3% last month. For a third month in a row, no county had a jobless rate above seven percent.

Compared to May 2024, unemployment rates are up in 58 Arkansas counties. Eleven counties had the same rate as last May, while 6 counties were down over the year. Bradley and Monroe counties posted the largest annual increases, up 1.6% and 1.4%, respectively. The largest annual rate decline was in Polk County, down six-tenths of a percentage point.

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

May

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

May 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Benton	2.7	23	Garland	3.6	49	Pope	4.1
2	Madison	2.8	23	Greene	3.6	52	Clark	4.2
2	Washington	2.8	23	Pike	3.6	52	Fulton	4.2
4	Grant	2.9	23	Poinsett	3.6	52	Mississippi	4.2
4	Saline	2.9	23	Searcy	3.6	52	Perry	4.2
4	Sevier	2.9	31	Baxter	3.7	56	Drew	4.3
7	Lonoke	3.0	31	Conway	3.7	57	Van Buren	4.4
8	Faulkner	3.1	31	Cross	3.7	58	Johnson	4.5
8	Independence	3.1	31	Dallas	3.7	59	Nevada	4.6
10	Woodruff	3.2	31	Lawrence	3.7	60	Crittenden	4.7
11	Boone	3.3	31	Polk	3.7	60	Stone	4.7
11	Carroll	3.3	37	Cleveland	3.8	62	Union	4.8
11	Craighead	3.3	37	Hot Spring	3.8	63	Lincoln	4.9
11	Little River	3.3	37	Howard	3.8	64	Marion	5.0
11	Prairie	3.3	37	Logan	3.8	64	Monroe	5.0
11	Sebastian	3.3	37	Sharp	3.8	64	St. Francis	5.0
17	Hempstead	3.4	42	Arkansas	3.9	67	Izard	5.1
17	Randolph	3.4	42	Cleburne	3.9	67	Jefferson	5.1
17	White	3.4	44	Calhoun	4.0	67	Lafayette	5.1
20	Pulaski	3.5	44	Columbia	4.0	70	Lee	5.4
20	Scott	3.5	44	Jackson	4.0	71	Ashley	5.6
20	Yell	3.5	44	Miller	4.0	72	Bradley	5.7
23	Clay	3.6	44	Montgomery	4.0	72	Chicot	5.7
23	Crawford	3.6	49	Newton	4.1	74	Phillips	5.8
23	Franklin	3.6	49	Ouachita	4.1	75	Desha	6.6

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

May

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	May 2025				April 2025				May 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	272,688	263,969	8,719	3.2	274,036	265,795	8,241	3.0	268,457	260,545	7,912	2.9
City of Little Rock	105,551	101,855	3,696	3.5	106,044	102,585	3,459	3.3	103,987	100,466	3,521	3.4
Eastern	42,952	40,911	2,041	4.8	43,216	41,267	1,949	4.5	42,879	41,067	1,812	4.2
North Central	96,893	93,324	3,569	3.7	97,415	94,013	3,402	3.5	96,169	92,811	3,358	3.5
Northeast	128,383	123,832	4,551	3.5	129,312	125,060	4,252	3.3	127,232	123,051	4,181	3.3
Northwest	371,609	360,949	10,660	2.9	373,288	363,219	10,069	2.7	362,076	352,380	9,696	2.7
Southeast	72,172	68,751	3,421	4.7	72,342	69,121	3,221	4.5	72,643	69,535	3,108	4.3
Southwest	86,186	82,732	3,454	4.0	86,530	83,257	3,273	3.8	86,195	82,833	3,362	3.9
West Central	134,997	129,773	5,224	3.9	136,134	131,348	4,786	3.5	135,081	130,274	4,807	3.6
Western	113,124	109,198	3,926	3.5	113,565	109,857	3,708	3.3	112,083	108,377	3,706	3.3

