

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Arkansas’ unemployment rate holds steady at 3.7% in July

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (Aug 19, 2025)** Today, the Arkansas Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 3.7% in July. The United States’ jobless rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 4.1% in June to 4.2% in July.

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

* The civilian labor force in Arkansas rose by 903 in July, as employment and unemployment increased slightly. Both employment and the size of the civilian labor force remain at record high levels, while the unemployment rate and the labor force participation rate both held steady between June and July.
* Compared to July 2024, Arkansas’ employment is up by 8,555. There are 4,750 more unemployed residents actively seeking work, while the unemployment rate is up three-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

* Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas declined by 8,700 in July, due in large part to summer break at schools. Jobs in Government dropped 10,900, both in local government educational services (-9,600) and state government educational services (-1,500). Six major industry sectors posted gains, including Leisure and Hospitality (+900), Construction (+800), and Financial Activities (+400).
* Compared to July 2024, Arkansas’ nonfarm payroll jobs are up 26,100. Notable expansions occurred in Private Education and Health Services (+12,000), Leisure and Hospitality (+6,000), Trade-Transportation- Utilities (+4,600), Professional and Business Services (+3,200), and Manufacturing (+2,400).

# Arkansas Civilian Labor Force (Seasonally Adjusted)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | July 2025 | June 2025 | July 2024 | Change from June 2025 | Change from July 2024 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,424,739 | 1,423,836 | 1,411,434 | 903 | 13,305 |
| Employment | 1,371,690 | 1,371,134 | 1,363,135 | 556 | 8,555 |
| Unemployment | 53,049 | 52,702 | 48,299 | 347 | 4,750 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.7% | 3.7% | 3.4% | 0.0% | 0.3% |
| Labor Force Participation Rate | 58.4% | 58.4% | 58.3% | 0.0% | 0.1% |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey. More information about the data is available at <https://www.bls.gov/cps/definitions.htm>

# Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted, In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Industry Sector based on 2022 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) | July 2025 | June 2025 | July 2024 | Changefrom June 2025 | Changefrom July 2024 |
| Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs | 1374.1 | 1382.8 | 1348.0 | -8.7 | 26.1 |
| Goods Producing | 235.9 | 235.1 | 235.4 | 0.8 | 0.5 |
| Mining, Logging, & Construction | 71.1 | 70.3 | 73.0 | 0.8 | -1.9 |
| **Mining & Logging** | **5.2** | **5.2** | **5.3** | **0.0** | **-0.1** |
| **Construction** | **65.9** | **65.1** | **67.7** | **0.8** | **-1.8** |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 41.5 | 40.7 | 42.4 | 0.8 | -0.9 |
| **Manufacturing** | **164.8** | **164.8** | **162.4** | **0.0** | **2.4** |
| Durable Goods | 78.6 | 78.8 | 77.5 | -0.2 | 1.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 86.2 | 86.0 | 84.9 | 0.2 | 1.3 |
| Service Providing | 1138.2 | 1147.7 | 1112.6 | -9.5 | 25.6 |
| **Trade, Transportation, & Utilities** | **273.3** | **273.2** | **268.7** | **0.1** | **4.6** |
| Wholesale Trade | 54.0 | 53.9 | 53.6 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Retail Trade | 146.2 | 146.5 | 143.1 | -0.3 | 3.1 |
| Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities | 73.1 | 72.8 | 72.0 | 0.3 | 1.1 |
| **Information** | **12.0** | **11.9** | **12.2** | **0.1** | **-0.2** |
| **Financial Activities** | **71.0** | **70.4** | **70.0** | **0.6** | **1.0** |
| Finance & Insurance | 55.8 | 55.3 | 54.3 | 0.5 | 1.5 |
| Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing | 15.2 | 15.1 | 15.7 | 0.1 | -0.5 |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **160.8** | **160.4** | **157.6** | **0.4** | **3.2** |
| Professional, Scientific, & Technical | 53.6 | 53.1 | 51.4 | 0.5 | 2.2 |
| Management of Companies | 41.7 | 41.4 | 39.8 | 0.3 | 1.9 |
| Administrative & Support Services | 65.5 | 65.9 | 66.4 | -0.4 | -0.9 |
| **Private Education & Health Services** | **220.4** | **220.4** | **208.4** | **0.0** | **12.0** |
| Educational Services | 17.2 | 17.9 | 14.7 | -0.7 | 2.5 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 203.2 | 202.5 | 193.7 | 0.7 | 9.5 |
| Ambulatory Health Care | 72.3 | 71.4 | 67.6 | 0.9 | 4.7 |
| Social Assistance | 43.3 | 43.4 | 39.1 | -0.1 | 4.2 |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **137.3** | **136.4** | **131.3** | **0.9** | **6.0** |
| Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation | 15.9 | 15.8 | 15.7 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 121.4 | 120.6 | 115.6 | 0.8 | 5.8 |
| Accommodation Services | 12.0 | 11.9 | 11.8 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Food Services | 109.4 | 108.7 | 103.8 | 0.7 | 5.6 |
| **Other Services** | **65.2** | **65.9** | **66.3** | **-0.7** | **-1.1** |
| **Government** | **198.2** | **209.1** | **198.1** | **-10.9** | **0.1** |
| Federal Government | 21.3 | 21.2 | 21.9 | 0.1 | -0.6 |
| State Government | 71.3 | 72.8 | 71.3 | -1.5 | 0.0 |
| State Government, Educational Services | 25.3 | 26.8 | 25.2 | -1.5 | 0.1 |
| State Government, Excluding Education | 46.0 | 46.0 | 46.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Local Government | 105.6 | 115.1 | 104.9 | -9.5 | 0.7 |
| Local Government, Educational Services | 58.1 | 67.7 | 57.7 | -9.6 | 0.4 |
| Local Government, Excluding Education | 47.5 | 47.4 | 47.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 |

Source**:** Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1st Quarter 2024 benchmark. Notes: Current month’s data are preliminary; previous month’s data are revised.

# Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates Arkansas vs. United States (3-Year Comparison)

4.5%

4.0%

3.5%

3.0%

2.5%

2.0%

Jul '22

Jan '22

Jul '23

Jan '23

Jul '24

Jan '24

Jul '25

Arkansas

United States

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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**Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sectors July 2024 to July 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

P R I V AT E E D & H E AL T H

12,000

LEI S U R E & HO S P I T A LI T Y

6,000

T R A D E - T RA N S P O RT - U T I LI T I ES

4,600

P R O F E S S I O N A L & B U S I N E S S

3,200

M A N U F A CT U R I NG

2,400

F I NA N CI A L A CT I V I T I ES

1,000

G OV E R N M E N T

100

M I NI NG & LO GG I NG

-100

I N FOR M AT I ON

-200

OT H E R SE R V I C E S

-1,100

CO NS T R U CT I O N -1,800

-3,500 -1,000

1,500

4,000

6,500

9,000

11,500 14,000

For more Labor Market Data, visit our website at [www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov/)

**About the Arkansas Department of Commerce**

The Arkansas Department of Commerce is the umbrella department for workforce and economic development drivers. Its divisions and regulatory boards include the Division of Aeronautics, Waterways Commission, Wine Producers Council, Workforce Services, State Bank Department, Insurance Department, Securities Department, Economic Development Commission, and Development Finance Authority.



**About Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics measures labor market activity, working conditions, price changes, and productivity In the U.S. economy to support public and private decision making.

**About Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)**

The LAUS program produces monthly and annual employment, unemployment, and labor force data for Census regions and divisions, States, counties, metropolitan areas, and many cities, by place of residence.

**About Current Employment Statistics (CES)**

The CES program produces detailed industry estimates of employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls. CES State and Metro Area produces data for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.