

State of Arkansas

Workforce
Development Areas
*Short-Term Industry and
Occupational Projections*

2025
to
2027



LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS SHORT-TERM INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS 2025-2027



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor
State of Arkansas

Charisse Childers, Ph.D., Director
Department of Commerce
Division of Workforce Policy and Innovation

LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS SHORT-TERM INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS 2025-2027

Published By:
Division of Workforce Policy and Innovation
Labor Market Information

“Equal Opportunity Employer/Program”
“Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.”

P.O. Box 2981
Little Rock, AR 72203
Phone: (501) 682-3123
Fax: (501) 682-3186
TTD/TTY Voice: 1-800-285-1121
TDD: 1-800-285-1131

State of Arkansas Home Page: <http://www.arkansas.gov>
Division of Workforce Connections Home Page: <http://dws.arkansas.gov>
Labor Market Information Web Portal: <http://www.discover.arkansas.gov>

Table of Contents

Explanation of Industry Projections Data	6
Explanation of Occupational Projections Data	7
Definition of Important Terms	8
Methodology	9
Total Employment Projections by Workforce Development Area	11
Percent Change of Total Employment	12
Local Workforce Development Areas	13
Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area	14
Area Profile	14
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	15
Industry Rankings	16
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	18
Occupational Rankings	19
North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area	22
Area Profile	22
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	23
Industry Rankings	24
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	26
Occupational Rankings	27

Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area	.....	30
Area Profile	.....	30
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	31
Industry Rankings	.....	32
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	34
Occupational Rankings	.....	35
Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area	.....	38
Area Profile	.....	38
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	39
Industry Rankings	.....	40
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	42
Occupational Rankings	.....	43
West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area	.....	46
Area Profile	.....	46
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	47
Industry Rankings	.....	48
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	50
Occupational Rankings	.....	51
Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area	.....	54
Area Profile	.....	54
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	55
Industry Rankings	.....	56
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	58
Occupational Rankings	.....	59

City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area	.....	62
Area Profile	.....	62
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	63
Industry Rankings	.....	64
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	66
Occupational Rankings	.....	67
Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area	.....	70
Area Profile	.....	70
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	71
Industry Rankings	.....	72
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	74
Occupational Rankings	.....	75
Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area	.....	78
Area Profile	.....	78
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	79
Industry Rankings	.....	80
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	82
Occupational Rankings	.....	83
Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area	.....	86
Area Profile	.....	86
2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division	.....	87
Industry Rankings	.....	88
2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group	.....	90
Occupational Rankings	.....	91

**EXPLANATION OF INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS DATA
LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS
2025-2027**

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Industry code according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Title and Coding Structure	Industry title according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Title and Coding Structure	An estimate of the number of jobs in an industry in 2025	The projected number of jobs expected to be in an industry in 2027	Total number of jobs an industry is expected to gain or lose over the 2025 to 2027 period	Percent change in the number of jobs in an industry over the 2025 to 2027 period

EXPLANATION OF OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS DATA

LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

2025-2027

Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)		Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
Code	Title	2025 Estimated	2027 Projected	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
The occupational code based on the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Coding and Title Structure	The occupational title based on the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Coding and Title Structure	An estimate of the number of jobs in an occupation in 2025	The projected number of jobs expected to be in an occupation in 2027	Total number of jobs an occupation is expected to gain or lose over the 2025 to 2027 period	Percent change in the number of jobs in an occupation over the 2025 to 2027 period	Average number of annual job openings expected to be created during the projection period due to those leaving the workforce for four months or more	Average number of annual job openings expected to be created during the projection period due to those transferring to an occupation in a different SOC Major Group	Average number of annual job openings expected to be created during the projection period due to the gain or decline in an occupation	Average number of annual job openings expected to be created during the projection period due to employment growth and separations

Definition of Important Terms

Base Employment – The average number of jobs in a particular industry or occupation during the benchmark year or quarter.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) – A monthly survey of business establishments that provides estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data by industry for the nation, all states, and most major metropolitan areas.

Employment – The number of jobs in a business or firm at any given time.

Establishment – The physical location of a certain economic activity, for example, a factory, mine, store, or office. Generally, a single establishment produces a single good or provides a single service.

Fastest Growing – Refers to percent growth. The higher the percent growth, the faster an industry or occupation is growing.

Industry – A group of establishments that produce similar products or provide similar services.

Metropolitan Statistical Area – A county or group of contiguous counties that contains an urban center of at least 50,000 residents and has a high degree of economic and social ties.

Net Change – The difference between projected employment and base employment.

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) – A system used in assigning industry-designated code numbers to employers and/or establishments based on the nature of their activities, services rendered, or products delivered. It was established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget and is used by all agencies for data compilation.

Occupation – A set of activities that employees are paid to perform; employees who perform the same tasks are in the same occupation, regardless of the industry they are in.

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) – A federal/state cooperative program that produces employment and wage estimates for over 800 occupations. These are estimates of the number of people employed in certain occupations and estimates of the wages paid to them. The estimates are also used to gather occupational staffing patterns by industry, which are used to project employment needs by occupation.

Percent (%) Change – The rate at which an industry or occupation is expected to grow or decline.

Projected Employment – The average number of jobs expected to be in an industry or occupation in the future.

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) – A federal/state cooperative program that produces employment and wage data for workers covered by state unemployment insurance laws and federal workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees Program; data is arranged by the type of industry according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Sector – A level of industry classification under supersector according to the NAICS structure.

Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) – A coding system used by all federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data.

Subsector – A level of industry classification under sector according to the NAICS structure.

Supersector – The top level of industry classification according to the NAICS structure.

Workforce Development Area – A group of contiguous counties where employment, training, and educational services are provided; established through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to provide services for eligible youth, adults, and dislocated workers.

Methodology

The following is a brief overview of the method used to produce short-term employment projections for the local workforce development areas.

Data Development

Data development is accomplished by using three sources:

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage (QCEW) reports. This source provides data for all the covered employment for Arkansas. A firm or business is considered “covered” if it meets the guidelines established under the Unemployment Insurance Law.

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) Survey. This source provides employment information for non-covered establishments, which are railroads, the Federal Work Study Program, churches, religious-based schools, elected officials, commissioned insurance agents, as well as other establishments not reporting to the *QCEW* program.

Agriculture employment. This is obtained from the Census of Agriculture. The Census of Agriculture is taken every five years in years ending in two and seven. Information from the *QCEW* reports is used to make estimates for years following the Census year until the next Census. Other information from the US Census Bureau is used to supplement agriculture employment.

Other Non-Covered Employment. Data on other agriculture employment, specifically NAICS 113, 114, and 115 as well as private households are supplemented using data from the US Census Bureau.

Industry Projections

The industry projections in this publication were produced using the *Projections Suite System* software, authorized by the U.S. Department of Labor, and developed by the Utah Department of Workforce Services. The software has several components. The system forecasts employment using several models. The analyst chooses an appropriate forecast for each industry. All areas are done at the same time. In addition, business news related to closures, layoffs, openings, and expansions is used in the forecasting process and adjustments are made when necessary.

Occupational Projections

Occupational projections are produced by merging industries and occupations together into an industry-occupational matrix. This matrix is a table showing the occupational pattern of each industry (i.e., the ratios of employment by occupation in a specific industry). The statewide matrix is based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey and uses a Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code for each occupation.

The occupational employment projections contained in this publication were created using the *Projections Suite System* software, authorized by the U.S. Department of Labor, and developed by the Utah Department of Workforce Services. The software applies occupational change factors to the projected patterns to form a projected matrix. In addition, using national Self Employment staffing patterns, the system generates base and projected employment for Self Employed workers.

Data Limitations

The projections contained in this publication are estimates based on historical data. It is important not to take these projections as the actual employment numbers that will occur in 2027. While every attempt is made to utilize current and near future events, such as business closings, corporate layoffs, openings, and expansions, it is not possible to know everything that is occurring or that could occur in the future. Events that take place after the projection period or announcements concerning closings, layoffs, openings, and expansions known after projections were completed are not reflected in the forecasts. In addition, legislative policy could cause employment to change. Events such as these may cause the actual employment numbers to vary significantly from these projections.

It is important to consider both numeric change and percent change when looking at projections. Industries or occupations with small employment will generally have higher growth rates than those with larger employment, but these industries may only add a few employees over the projection period. For occupational projections, it is important to look at both annual exits and annual transfers as well as the annual change. Opportunities in an occupation still exist even if the occupation is in decline.

Total Employment Projections by Workforce Development Area

Workforce Development Area	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change ¹	Total Annual Openings ²
Northwest Arkansas	358,813	371,909	13,096	3.65%	17,533	21,707	6,548	45,788
North Central Arkansas	85,558	87,840	2,282	2.67%	4,406	5,086	1,141	10,633
Northeast Arkansas	122,120	124,200	2,080	1.70%	5,988	7,360	1,040	14,388
Western Arkansas	115,818	117,281	1,463	1.26%	5,728	6,976	732	13,436
West Central Arkansas	121,928	123,083	1,155	0.95%	6,304	7,546	578	14,428
Central Arkansas	189,593	195,104	5,511	2.91%	9,480	11,691	2,756	23,927
City of Little Rock	204,711	205,263	552	0.27%	9,540	11,665	276	21,481
Eastern Arkansas	38,457	38,087	-370	-0.96%	1,944	2,323	-185	4,082
Southwest Arkansas	84,083	82,984	-1,099	-1.31%	4,102	4,984	-550	8,536
Southeast Arkansas	73,973	72,016	-1,957	-2.65%	3,586	4,338	-978	6,946

¹ The Annual Change is the Numeric Change equally distributed between the two years.

² The Total Annual Openings is the sum of the Annual Exits, Transfers and Change.

The Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) is projected to be the top and fastest growing area in the state during the 2025-2027 projection period with 13,096 new jobs anticipated to be added to the job market, a 3.65 percent change. The Central Arkansas WDA is estimated to increase the local workforce by 5,511 jobs. The Northwest Arkansas WDA is projected to lead the state with 45,788 anticipated annual job openings followed by the Central Arkansas WDA with an estimated 23,927 openings. The Eastern Arkansas WDA is predicted to have the fewest annual job openings with 4,082. Three areas are forecast to experience net job losses. The Southeast Arkansas WDA is estimated to lose the most with 1,957 jobs expected to be cut, a decline of 2.65 percent of the local workforce. **Chart 1** on **page 12** shows the percent change of total employment by Workforce Development Area as compared to the statewide percent growth. The red line shows the statewide growth rate. Areas above the line are expected to fare better than the state, while those below the line are predicted to fare worse than the state.

Percent Change of Total Employment by Workforce Development Area 2025-2027

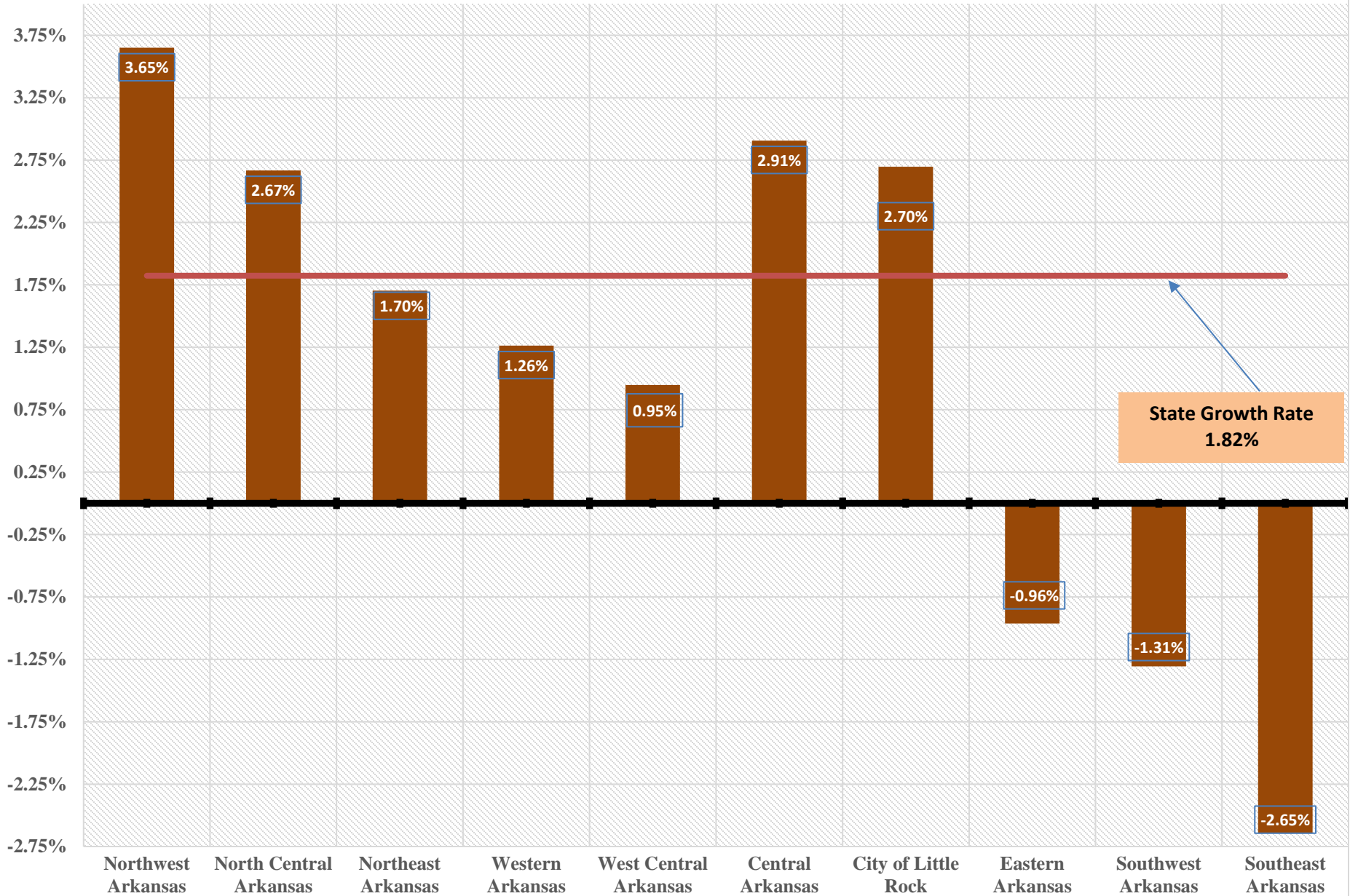
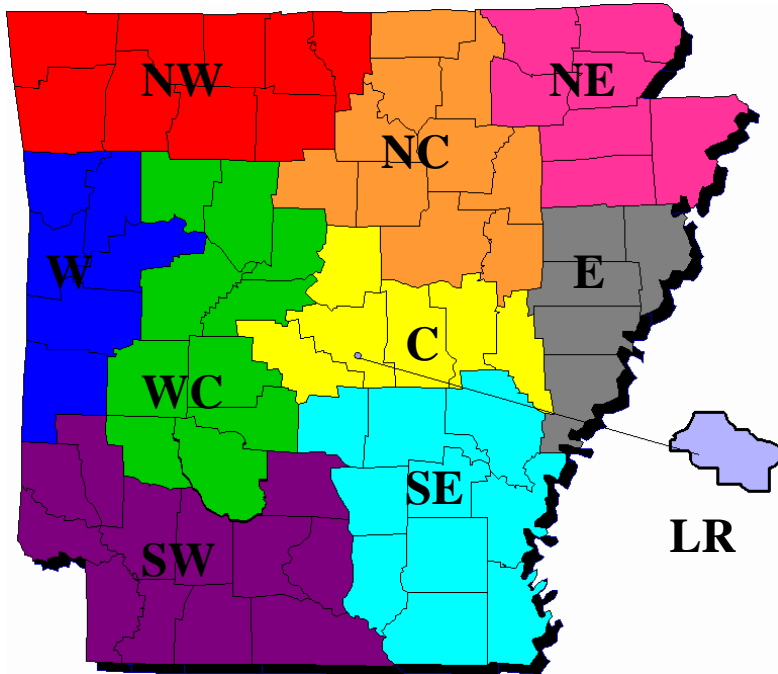


Chart 1

Local Workforce Development Areas



Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy, and Washington counties

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White, and Woodruff counties

Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, and Randolph counties

Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, and Sebastian counties

West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Clark, Conway, Garland, Hot Spring, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Pope, and Yell counties

Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, Saline, and Pulaski counties, except the city of Little Rock

City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area

Inside the city limits of Little Rock

Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Phillips, and St. Francis counties

Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Calhoun, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Sevier, and Union counties

Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, and Lincoln counties

Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

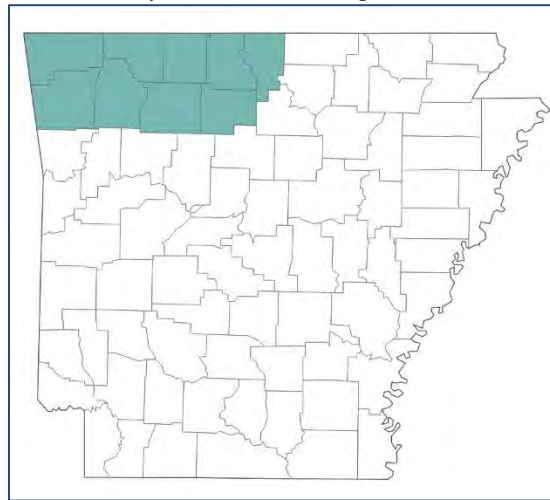
The Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of nine counties: Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy, and Washington. The area borders two states, Missouri to the north and Oklahoma to the west. The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is located within this area. Several large companies, including Wal-Mart and Tyson Foods, have headquarters here, along with many trucking companies.

The Northwest Arkansas WDA has the largest employment base in the state and is predicted to be the top and fastest growing area in the state, which provides job seekers with a variety of career choices among the many industries and occupations. The area gained 8,215 jobs over the last year, a 2.63 percent increase. According to industry projections, this area is projected to add an estimated 13,096 jobs, an increase of 3.65 percent, making the area one of only four WDA regions growing faster than the state growth of 1.82 percent. Goods-Producing industries are estimated to lose 314 jobs, while Services-Providing industries are forecast to add 12,745 jobs. An increase of 665 Self Employed Workers is anticipated between 2025 and 2027. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 3.3%.

Professional and Business Services is expected to be the top growing supersector, increasing employment by 3,587 jobs, an increase of 6.07 percent. **Other Services (except Government)** is slated to be the fastest growing supersector, raising employment levels by 14.71 percent. *Management of Companies and Enterprises* is projected to be the top growing industry in Northwest

Northwest Arkansas Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): 3.65%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 3.3%



Arkansas, increasing its workforce by 1,925 jobs. *Crop Production* is estimated to be the fastest growing industry, expanding at a rate of 53.72 percent. On the negative side of the labor market, the **Manufacturing** supersector could lose 1,370 jobs. Driving this decline is *Food Manufacturing*, which is expected to see the largest total workforce reduction, losing 905 jobs. *Animal Production and Aquaculture* is forecast to contract at the fastest rate, plunging by 10.17 percent”.

According to occupational projections, the Northwest Arkansas WDA is projected to have 45,788 annual job openings, of which 17,533 would be created from employees leaving the workforce, 21,707 from those changing jobs, and 6,548 from growth and expansion. **Management Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group, adding 1,558 new jobs, while the **Community and Social Service Occupations** major group is slated to increase its workforce by 15.84 percent, becoming the fastest growing major group. *Fast Food and Counter Workers* is estimated to be the top growing occupation, adding 590 jobs to its workforce, while *Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse* is expected to raise employment levels by 27.04 percent, becoming the fastest growing occupation. On the negative side of the labor market, **Production Occupations** could lose 603 jobs, or 2.22 percent of its Northwest Arkansas labor market. Driving this decline, *Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers* is projected to be the top declining occupation, cutting 161 jobs from the local workforce. *Editors* could experience a 17.75 percent reduction in its local workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation.

Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
00000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	358,813	371,909	13,096	3.65%
006010	Self Employed Workers, All Jobs	25,506	26,171	665	2.61%
101000	Goods Producing	57,867	57,553	-314	-0.54%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	3,345	3,461	116	3.47%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	3,221	3,337	116	3.60%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	124	124	0	0.00%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	18,568	19,508	940	5.06%
101300	MANUFACTURING	35,954	34,584	-1,370	-3.81%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	24,133	23,142	-991	-4.11%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	11,821	11,442	-379	-3.21%
102000	Services Providing	275,440	288,185	12,745	4.63%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	67,932	69,022	1,090	1.60%
420000	Wholesale Trade	12,081	12,363	282	2.33%
440000	Retail Trade	34,792	35,457	665	1.91%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	19,742	19,848	106	0.54%
220000	Utilities	1,317	1,354	37	2.81%
102200	INFORMATION	2,563	2,586	23	0.90%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	10,854	11,265	411	3.79%
520000	Finance and Insurance	7,223	7,554	331	4.58%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	3,631	3,711	80	2.20%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	59,056	62,643	3,587	6.07%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	16,214	17,415	1,201	7.41%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	29,405	31,330	1,925	6.55%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	13,437	13,898	461	3.43%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	69,823	72,823	3,000	4.30%
610000	Educational Services	29,286	30,140	854	2.92%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	40,537	42,683	2,146	5.29%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	35,870	37,938	2,068	5.77%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3,872	4,122	250	6.46%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	31,998	33,816	1,818	5.68%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	14,843	17,026	2,183	14.71%
102800	GOVERNMENT	14,499	14,882	383	2.64%

Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	29,405	31,330	1,925	6.55%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	28,963	30,583	1,620	5.59%
813100	Religious Organizations	5,155	6,358	1,203	23.34%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	16,214	17,415	1,201	7.41%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	18,392	19,161	769	4.18%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	14,667	15,406	739	5.04%
622000	Hospitals	11,323	12,006	683	6.03%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	12,889	13,566	677	5.25%
624000	Social Assistance	8,437	9,025	588	6.97%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	12,642	13,098	456	3.61%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Growth)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
111000	Crop Production	497	764	267	53.72%
518000	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	573	689	116	20.24%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	239	264	25	10.46%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	615	676	61	9.92%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	1,504	1,636	132	8.78%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	638	690	52	8.15%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	255	275	20	7.84%
711000	Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	514	554	40	7.78%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	16,214	17,415	1,201	7.41%
712000	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions	716	767	51	7.12%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
311000	Food Manufacturing	18,067	17,162	-905	-5.01%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	2,075	1,864	-211	-10.17%
484000	Truck Transportation	13,022	12,826	-196	-1.51%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	2,873	2,699	-174	-6.06%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	1,424	1,310	-114	-8.01%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	2,075	1,864	-211	-10.17%
315000	Apparel Manufacturing	96	87	-9	-9.38%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	1,424	1,310	-114	-8.01%
513000	Publishing Industries	533	494	-39	-7.32%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	2,873	2,699	-174	-6.06%

Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	358,813	371,909	13,096	3.65%	17,533	21,707	6,548	45,788
11-0000	Management Occupations	34,083	35,641	1,558	4.57%	1,286	1,566	779	3,631
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	22,721	24,093	1,372	6.04%	714	1,118	686	2,518
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	10,358	11,101	743	7.17%	228	348	372	948
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	3,067	3,227	160	5.22%	84	128	80	292
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	1,940	2,040	100	5.15%	40	130	50	220
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	5,399	6,254	855	15.84%	254	267	428	949
23-0000	Legal Occupations	2,031	2,141	110	5.42%	46	68	55	169
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	20,762	21,460	698	3.36%	916	923	349	2,188
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	4,752	4,958	206	4.34%	190	251	103	544
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	18,912	19,908	996	5.27%	562	490	498	1,550
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	12,272	12,980	708	5.77%	860	890	354	2,104
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	5,650	5,880	230	4.07%	226	334	115	675
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	29,559	31,113	1,554	5.26%	2,535	3,140	777	6,452
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	11,326	11,833	507	4.48%	740	812	254	1,806
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	7,872	8,288	416	5.28%	551	766	208	1,525
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	29,283	29,800	517	1.77%	1,740	2,032	258	4,030
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	39,953	41,112	1,159	2.90%	2,092	2,348	580	5,020
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	2,688	2,704	16	0.60%	178	214	8	400
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	15,213	15,929	716	4.71%	487	732	358	1,577
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	14,937	15,421	484	3.24%	569	751	242	1,562
51-0000	Production Occupations	27,190	26,587	-603	-2.22%	1,226	1,786	-302	2,710
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	38,845	39,439	594	1.53%	2,007	2,612	297	4,916

Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,863	10,453	590	5.98%	1,046	1,242	295	2,583
21-2011	Clergy	2,422	2,984	562	23.20%	122	111	281	514
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	8,810	9,255	445	5.05%	209	486	222	917
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	4,422	4,742	320	7.24%	392	280	160	832
29-1141	Registered Nurses	5,677	5,950	273	4.81%	164	125	136	425
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	6,877	7,131	254	3.69%	466	625	127	1,218
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	2,964	3,196	232	7.83%	207	242	116	565
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	5,069	5,297	228	4.50%	427	596	114	1,137
15-1252	Software Developers	2,255	2,471	216	9.58%	40	74	108	222
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,555	7,767	212	2.81%	448	451	106	1,005

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment 25)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	477	606	129	27.04%	36	44	64	144
21-2021	Directors, Religious Activities and Education	245	304	59	24.08%	12	14	30	56
21-2011	Clergy	2,422	2,984	562	23.20%	122	111	281	514
13-1131	Fundraisers	283	342	59	20.85%	9	13	30	52
11-2033	Fundraising Managers	156	187	31	19.87%	4	8	16	28
27-2042	Musicians and Singers	89	105	16	17.98%	6	5	8	19
25-4013	Museum Technicians and Conservators	76	89	13	17.11%	4	4	6	14
17-2081	Environmental Engineers	66	74	8	12.12%	2	2	4	8
19-1031	Conservation Scientists	25	28	3	12.00%	0	2	2	4
13-1121	Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	227	253	26	11.45%	8	14	13	35

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,863	10,453	590	5.98%	1,046	1,242	295	2,583
41-2011	Cashiers	6,335	6,270	-65	-1.03%	616	590	-32	1,174
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	13,925	13,936	11	0.08%	614	784	6	1,404
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	8,550	8,700	150	1.75%	612	287	75	974
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,497	8,677	180	2.12%	572	648	90	1,310
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	6,877	7,131	254	3.69%	466	625	127	1,218
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,555	7,767	212	2.81%	448	451	106	1,005
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	5,069	5,297	228	4.50%	427	596	114	1,137
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	4,422	4,742	320	7.24%	392	280	160	832
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	4,548	4,752	204	4.49%	328	324	102	754

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,863	10,453	590	5.98%	1,046	1,242	295	2,583
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	13,925	13,936	11	0.08%	614	784	6	1,404
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,497	8,677	180	2.12%	572	648	90	1,310
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	6,877	7,131	254	3.69%	466	625	127	1,218
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	5,069	5,297	228	4.50%	427	596	114	1,137
41-2011	Cashiers	6,335	6,270	-65	-1.03%	616	590	-32	1,174
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	8,810	9,255	445	5.05%	209	486	222	917
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,555	7,767	212	2.81%	448	451	106	1,005
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	5,214	5,247	33	0.63%	261	399	16	676
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	5,107	5,232	125	2.45%	291	383	62	736

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,863	10,453	590	5.98%	1,046	1,242	295	2,583
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	13,925	13,936	11	0.08%	614	784	6	1,404
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,497	8,677	180	2.12%	572	648	90	1,310
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	6,877	7,131	254	3.69%	466	625	127	1,218
41-2011	Cashiers	6,335	6,270	-65	-1.03%	616	590	-32	1,174
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	5,069	5,297	228	4.50%	427	596	114	1,137
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,555	7,767	212	2.81%	448	451	106	1,005
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	8,550	8,700	150	1.75%	612	287	75	974
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	8,810	9,255	445	5.05%	209	486	222	917
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	4,422	4,742	320	7.24%	392	280	160	832

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	3,519	3,358	-161	-4.58%	158	242	-80	320
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	1,167	1,053	-114	-9.77%	74	90	-57	107
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	1,774	1,674	-100	-5.64%	116	154	-50	220
41-2011	Cashiers	6,335	6,270	-65	-1.03%	616	590	-32	1,174
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	1,257	1,216	-41	-3.26%	60	78	-20	118

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
27-3041	Editors	74	61	-13	-17.57%	3	4	-6	1
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	96	83	-13	-13.54%	4	5	-6	3
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	56	49	-7	-12.50%	2	3	-4	1
39-3031	Ushers, Lobby Attendants, and Ticket Takers	98	88	-10	-10.20%	10	13	-5	18
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	1,167	1,053	-114	-9.77%	74	90	-57	107

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

The North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of 10 counties: Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren White, and Woodruff, with the state of Missouri bordering the area to the north.

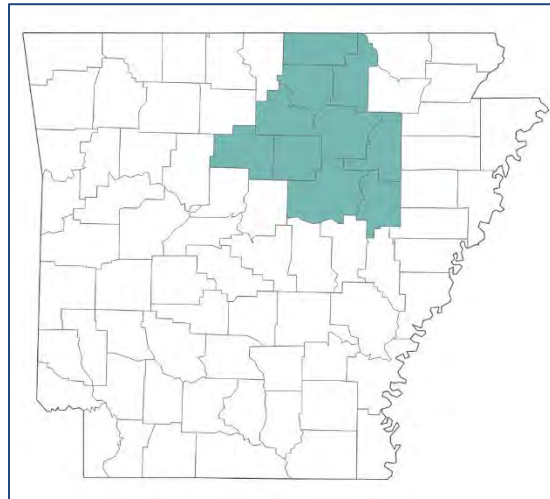
The North Central Arkansas WDA gained 469 jobs over the last year, a 0.65 percent increase. According to industry projections, the area is projected to add 2,282 jobs between 2025 and 2027, increasing employment by 2.67 percent, which is faster than the state growth rate of 1.82 percent. Goods-Producing industries are expected to have a net gain of 227 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries could add 2,027. The area is predicted to experience a gain of just 28 jobs in Self-Employed Workers, an increase of 0.31 percent of its workforce. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 4.4 percent.

Education and Health Services is projected to be the top growing supersector in the North Central Arkansas WDA with a gain of 871 jobs. **Other Services (except Government)** is slated to be the fastest growing supersector, increasing its workforce by 13.38 percent. *Social Assistance* leads the area in growth, adding an estimated 473 jobs between 2025 and 2027. *Social Advocacy Organizations* is projected to be the fastest growing industry, more than doubling its labor force between first quarter 2025 and first quarter 2027. On the negative side of the labor market, the **Trade, Transportation, and Utilities** supersector could experience a net

North Central Arkansas Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): 2.67%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 4.4%

is slated to lose 130 jobs, becoming the top declining industry, while *Civic and Social Organizations* could lose 24.24 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining industry in the area.



loss of 105 jobs, while the **Information** supersector could cut 3.60 percent of its workforce. *Crop Production*

According to occupational projections, the area is expected to have 10,633 total job openings annually between 2025 and 2027. Of these, 4,406 would be from those exiting the workforce, while 5,086 would be from those changing jobs. Another 1,141 would be related to growth and expansion.

Healthcare Support Occupations is projected to be the top growing major group with 308 new jobs. Driving growth is *Home Health and Personal Care Aides*, which is predicted to be the top growing occupation, adding 238 new jobs to the local economy. **Community and Social Service**

Occupations is slated to be the fastest growing major group, increasing its workforce by 9.58 percent. Leading this gain is *Social and Community Service Managers*, slated to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing its workforce by 16.95 percent. On the negative side of the labor market, the **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** major group is expected to experience a net loss of 37 jobs, or 2.77 percent of its local workforce. Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse is projected to lose 75 jobs, becoming the top declining occupation, while *Foundry Mold and Coremakers* is estimated to cut 15.79 percent from its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation.

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	85,558	87,840	2,282	2.67%
006010	Self-Employed, All Jobs	9,042	9,070	28	0.31%
101000	Goods Producing	15,307	15,534	227	1.48%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	2,455	2,371	-84	-3.42%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	2,109	2,043	-66	-3.13%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	346	328	-18	-5.20%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	3,351	3,417	66	1.97%
101300	MANUFACTURING	9,501	9,746	245	2.58%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	4,262	4,501	239	5.61%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	5,239	5,245	6	0.11%
102000	Services Providing	61,209	63,236	2,027	3.31%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	15,617	15,512	-105	-0.67%
420000	Wholesale Trade	1,682	1,735	53	3.15%
440000	Retail Trade	9,881	9,822	-59	-0.60%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	3,393	3,293	-100	-2.95%
220000	Utilities	661	662	1	0.15%
102200	INFORMATION	333	321	-12	-3.60%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,794	2,859	65	2.33%
520000	Finance and Insurance	2,129	2,198	69	3.24%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	665	661	-4	-0.60%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	4,622	4,960	338	7.31%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,383	1,513	130	9.40%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	412	473	61	14.81%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	2,827	2,974	147	5.20%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	22,484	23,355	871	3.87%
610000	Educational Services	8,682	8,780	98	1.13%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	13,802	14,575	773	5.60%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,788	7,129	341	5.02%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	292	300	8	2.74%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	6,496	6,829	333	5.13%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	3,110	3,526	416	13.38%
102800	GOVERNMENT	5,461	5,574	113	2.07%

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
624000	Social Assistance	2,653	3,126	473	17.83%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	5,974	6,293	319	5.34%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,012	5,266	254	5.07%
813100	Religious Organizations	1,203	1,361	158	13.13%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,241	1,389	148	11.93%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,383	1,513	130	9.40%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	2,663	2,789	126	4.73%
814000	Private Households	279	402	123	44.09%
311000	Food Manufacturing	2,773	2,883	110	3.97%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	3,251	3,359	108	3.32%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	37	76	39	105.41%
814000	Private Households	279	402	123	44.09%
624000	Social Assistance	2,653	3,126	473	17.83%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	412	473	61	14.81%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	739	843	104	14.07%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	110	125	15	13.64%
813100	Religious Organizations	1,203	1,361	158	13.13%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	164	185	21	12.80%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	786	886	100	12.72%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,241	1,389	148	11.93%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
111000	Crop Production	854	724	-130	-15.22%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,462	1,347	-115	-7.87%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	741	682	-59	-7.96%
445000	Food and Beverage Retailers	1,220	1,162	-58	-4.75%
457000	Gasoline Stations and Fuel Dealers	1,098	1,042	-56	-5.10%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
813400	Civic and Social Organizations	33	25	-8	-24.24%
524100	Insurance Carriers	61	48	-13	-21.31%
111000	Crop Production	854	724	-130	-15.22%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	60	52	-8	-13.33%
458000	Clothing, Clothing Accessories, Shoe, and Jewelry Retailers	160	140	-20	-12.50%

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	85,558	87,840	2,282	2.67%	4,406	5,086	1,141	10,633
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,330	11,517	187	1.65%	565	460	94	1,119
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	2,521	2,627	106	4.20%	78	119	53	250
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	633	665	32	5.06%	14	21	16	51
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	480	500	20	4.17%	12	20	10	42
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	433	455	22	5.08%	8	28	11	47
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	1,629	1,785	156	9.58%	74	80	78	232
23-0000	Legal Occupations	287	297	10	3.48%	6	8	5	19
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	5,668	5,779	111	1.96%	240	239	56	535
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	616	631	15	2.44%	26	34	8	68
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	5,695	5,849	154	2.70%	172	156	77	405
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	3,895	4,203	308	7.91%	286	278	154	718
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	2,015	2,056	41	2.03%	71	110	20	201
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	6,413	6,693	280	4.37%	552	676	140	1,368
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	2,921	3,076	155	5.31%	192	212	78	482
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	1,296	1,419	123	9.49%	94	130	62	286
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	6,968	6,934	-34	-0.49%	452	504	-17	939
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	8,742	8,911	169	1.93%	460	503	84	1,047
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	1,336	1,299	-37	-2.77%	87	106	-18	175
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	3,129	3,190	61	1.95%	98	152	30	280
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	3,952	4,100	148	3.74%	149	194	74	417
51-0000	Production Occupations	7,214	7,391	177	2.45%	322	480	88	890
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	8,385	8,463	78	0.93%	446	576	39	1,061

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,561	1,799	238	15.25%	144	102	119	365
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,407	2,544	137	5.69%	255	302	68	625
39-9011	Childcare Workers	548	629	81	14.78%	45	54	40	139
21-2011	Clergy	580	651	71	12.24%	28	25	36	89
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	645	711	66	10.23%	52	44	33	129
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,788	1,847	59	3.30%	121	162	30	313
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,293	1,345	52	4.02%	93	92	26	211
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,950	2,000	50	2.56%	46	106	25	177
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	531	568	37	6.97%	37	44	18	99
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	824	860	36	4.37%	36	54	18	108

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
11-9151	Social and Community Service Managers	118	138	20	16.95%	4	6	10	20
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,561	1,799	238	15.25%	144	102	119	365
39-9011	Childcare Workers	548	629	81	14.78%	45	54	40	139
21-2011	Clergy	580	651	71	12.24%	28	25	36	89
21-1093	Social and Human Service Assistants	255	286	31	12.16%	12	16	16	44
13-2051	Financial and Investment Analysts	34	38	4	11.76%	0	2	2	4
49-3021	Automotive Body and Related Repairers	88	98	10	11.36%	4	4	5	13
39-2021	Animal Caretakers	192	213	21	10.94%	12	22	10	44
49-3011	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	37	41	4	10.81%	1	2	2	5
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	228	252	24	10.53%	6	5	12	23
11-9041	Architectural and Engineering Managers	38	42	4	10.53%	1	2	2	5
27-3043	Writers and Authors	38	42	4	10.53%	2	2	2	6

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	5,996	5,986	-10	-0.17%	426	200	-5	621
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,407	2,544	137	5.69%	255	302	68	625
41-2011	Cashiers	2,264	2,201	-63	-2.78%	218	209	-32	395
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,561	1,799	238	15.25%	144	102	119	365
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,899	1,895	-4	-0.21%	126	143	-2	267
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,788	1,847	59	3.30%	121	162	30	313
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,758	1,791	33	1.88%	104	104	16	224
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,446	1,470	24	1.66%	96	104	12	212
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,293	1,345	52	4.02%	93	92	26	211
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,052	1,993	-59	-2.88%	89	114	-30	173

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,407	2,544	137	5.69%	255	302	68	625
41-2011	Cashiers	2,264	2,201	-63	-2.78%	218	209	-32	395
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	5,996	5,986	-10	-0.17%	426	200	-5	621
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,788	1,847	59	3.30%	121	162	30	313
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,899	1,895	-4	-0.21%	126	143	-2	267
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,052	1,993	-59	-2.88%	89	114	-30	173
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,950	2,000	50	2.56%	46	106	25	177
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,758	1,791	33	1.88%	104	104	16	224
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,446	1,470	24	1.66%	96	104	12	212
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,561	1,799	238	15.25%	144	102	119	365

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,407	2,544	137	5.69%	255	302	68	625
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	5,996	5,986	-10	-0.17%	426	200	-5	621
41-2011	Cashiers	2,264	2,201	-63	-2.78%	218	209	-32	395
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,561	1,799	238	15.25%	144	102	119	365
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,788	1,847	59	3.30%	121	162	30	313
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,899	1,895	-4	-0.21%	126	143	-2	267
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,758	1,791	33	1.88%	104	104	16	224
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,446	1,470	24	1.66%	96	104	12	212
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,293	1,345	52	4.02%	93	92	26	211
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	832	863	31	3.73%	70	98	16	184

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	537	462	-75	-13.97%	34	40	-38	36
41-2011	Cashiers	2,264	2,201	-63	-2.78%	218	209	-32	395
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,052	1,993	-59	-2.88%	89	114	-30	173
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	105	94	-11	-10.48%	4	6	-6	4
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	994	984	-10	-1.01%	38	56	-5	89
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	5,996	5,986	-10	-0.17%	426	200	-5	621

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
51-4071	Foundry Mold and Coremakers	38	32	-6	-15.79%	2	2	-3	1
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	537	462	-75	-13.97%	34	40	-38	36
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	105	94	-11	-10.48%	4	6	-6	4
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	73	68	-5	-6.85%	4	6	-2	8
51-9081	Dental Laboratory Technicians	150	145	-5	-3.33%	8	10	-2	16

Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

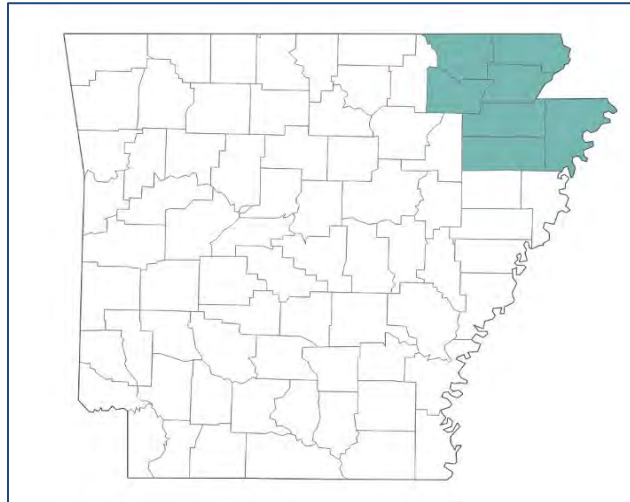
The Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of seven counties: Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, and Randolph, with the state of Missouri bordering the area to the north and Tennessee to the east. The Jonesboro Metropolitan Statistical Area is in this area.

The Northeast Arkansas WDA gained 1,080 jobs over the last year, an increase of slightly less than one percent. The area is expected to gain 2,080 jobs, an increase of 1.70 percent, between 2025 and 2027, slightly less than the state growth rate of 1.82 percent. Goods-Producing industries are predicted to experience a net loss of 72 jobs, while Services-Providing industries could see an increase of 2,101. The Self-Employed ranks could see a small growth of 51 jobs, a gain of 0.64 percent. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 4.2 percent.

Education and Health Services is expected to be the top growing supersector, adding 714 new jobs. **Professional and Business Services** is anticipated to be the fastest growing supersector, increasing its workforce by 5.92 percent. *Food Manufacturing* is estimated to add 464 jobs to the labor market, becoming the top growing industry in the Northeast Arkansas WDA. *Wood Product Manufacturing* could see a 47.92 percent gain in its workforce, becoming the fastest growing

Northeast Arkansas Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): 1.70%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 4.2%



industry in the area. On the negative side of the economy, the **Manufacturing** supersector could lose 119 jobs, while the **Natural Resources and Mining** supersector could experience a 1.87 percent

reduction. *Transportation Equipment Manufacturing* is forecast to be the top declining industry, cutting 729 jobs from the labor market, while *Fishing, Hunting and Trapping* could see a 62.50 percent reduction in its local workforce.

According to occupational projections, the Northeast Arkansas WDA is expected to have 14,388 annual openings during the projection period with 5,988 created due to employees leaving the workforce, 7,360 from those changing jobs, and 1,040 related to growth and expansion. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is estimated to be the top and fastest growing major group,

adding 395 new jobs, a 4.38 percent increase. Driving this growth is *Fast Food and Counter Workers*, slated to raise employment levels by 170 jobs. *Fundraisers* is forecast to grow by 16.13 percent, becoming the fastest growing occupation. On the declining side of the local labor market, the **Production Occupations** major group could lose 204 jobs, or 1.41 percent of its workforce. **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** is predicted to be the fastest declining major group, cutting 1.45 percent of its workforce. *Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers* is predicted to lose 144 jobs, or 8.14 percent of its workforce, becoming the top declining occupation, while *Conservation Scientists* could cut 18.75 percent of its workforce, making it the fastest declining occupation.

Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	122,120	124,200	2,080	1.70%
006010	Self-Employed Workers, All Jobs	7,978	8,029	51	0.64%
101000	Goods Producing	30,801	30,729	-72	-0.23%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	3,586	3,519	-67	-1.87%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	3,510	3,442	-68	-1.94%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	76	77	1	1.32%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	5,374	5,488	114	2.12%
101300	MANUFACTURING	21,841	21,722	-119	-0.54%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	7,839	7,984	145	1.85%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	14,002	13,738	-264	-1.89%
102000	Services Providing	83,341	85,442	2,101	2.52%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	20,430	20,608	178	0.87%
420000	Wholesale Trade	4,361	4,482	121	2.77%
440000	Retail Trade	12,192	12,095	-97	-0.80%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	3,463	3,602	139	4.01%
220000	Utilities	414	429	15	3.62%
102200	INFORMATION	705	744	39	5.53%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,352	3,374	22	0.66%
520000	Finance and Insurance	2,276	2,325	49	2.15%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,076	1,049	-27	-2.51%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	8,044	8,520	476	5.92%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,031	2,181	150	7.39%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	656	681	25	3.81%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	5,357	5,658	301	5.62%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	30,661	31,375	714	2.33%
610000	Educational Services	11,170	11,329	159	1.42%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	19,491	20,046	555	2.85%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	10,004	10,467	463	4.63%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	624	638	14	2.24%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	9,380	9,829	449	4.79%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	3,632	3,760	128	3.52%
102800	GOVERNMENT	6,513	6,594	81	1.24%

Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
311000	Food Manufacturing	4,432	4,896	464	10.47%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	8,742	9,191	449	5.14%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	4,817	5,203	386	8.01%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	6,320	6,639	319	5.05%
622100	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	6,245	6,555	310	4.96%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	4,912	5,198	286	5.82%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,031	2,181	150	7.39%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	3,501	3,637	136	3.88%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	4,187	4,298	111	2.65%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	867	969	102	11.76%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	96	142	46	47.92%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	112	153	41	36.61%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	45	57	12	26.67%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	109	137	28	25.69%
611700	Educational Support Services	30	37	7	23.33%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	157	193	36	22.93%
518000	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	29	35	6	20.69%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	479	555	76	15.87%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	867	969	102	11.76%
611600	Other Schools and Instruction	156	173	17	10.90%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	2,822	2,093	-729	-25.83%
111000	Crop Production	2,087	2,005	-82	-3.93%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	434	358	-76	-17.51%
814000	Private Households	318	261	-57	-17.92%
457000	Gasoline Stations and Fuel Dealers	1,104	1,047	-57	-5.16%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
114000	Fishing, Hunting and Trapping	8	3	-5	-62.50%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	2,822	2,093	-729	-25.83%
814000	Private Households	318	261	-57	-17.92%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	434	358	-76	-17.51%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	286	247	-39	-13.64%

Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	122,120	124,200	2,080	1.70%	5,988	7,360	1,040	14,388
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,130	11,327	197	1.77%	440	492	98	1,030
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	3,752	3,847	95	2.53%	118	178	48	344
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	1,128	1,173	45	3.99%	26	38	22	86
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	990	1,018	28	2.83%	24	38	14	76
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	536	545	9	1.68%	11	36	4	51
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	2,040	2,120	80	3.92%	85	96	40	221
23-0000	Legal Occupations	261	272	11	4.21%	6	10	6	22
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	7,722	7,826	104	1.35%	336	341	52	729
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	868	904	36	4.15%	38	48	18	104
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	8,716	9,013	297	3.41%	262	238	148	648
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	5,162	5,279	117	2.27%	356	366	58	780
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	1,879	1,926	47	2.50%	72	108	24	204
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	9,022	9,417	395	4.38%	764	944	198	1,906
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	3,938	4,042	104	2.64%	259	279	52	590
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	2,579	2,604	25	0.97%	178	236	12	426
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	9,616	9,581	-35	-0.36%	600	685	-18	1,267
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	12,287	12,399	112	0.91%	640	717	56	1,413
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	2,137	2,106	-31	-1.45%	140	170	-16	294
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	5,916	6,099	183	3.09%	186	291	92	569
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	6,278	6,470	192	3.06%	240	310	96	646
51-0000	Production Occupations	14,463	14,259	-204	-1.41%	598	929	-102	1,425
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	11,700	11,973	273	2.33%	610	809	136	1,555

Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,034	3,204	170	5.60%	321	381	85	787
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,587	2,680	93	3.59%	74	56	46	176
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,782	2,863	81	2.91%	66	152	40	258
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,827	1,897	70	3.83%	132	130	35	297
47-2111	Electricians	1,340	1,406	66	4.93%	44	74	33	151
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	1,080	1,139	59	5.46%	42	48	30	120
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	796	854	58	7.29%	56	65	29	150
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,304	2,360	56	2.43%	116	178	28	322
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,178	2,232	54	2.48%	146	196	27	369
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,308	1,359	51	3.90%	110	154	26	290

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
13-1131	Fundraisers	31	36	5	16.13%	1	2	2	5
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	352	390	38	10.80%	8	8	19	35
27-1024	Graphic Designers	113	125	12	10.62%	3	6	6	15
17-2131	Materials Engineers	51	56	5	9.80%	2	2	2	6
51-9162	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Programmers	41	45	4	9.76%	1	2	2	5
15-1212	Information Security Analysts	31	34	3	9.68%	0	1	2	3
51-9012	Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating, and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	163	178	15	9.20%	6	13	8	27
15-1241	Computer Network Architects	46	50	4	8.70%	1	2	2	5
17-3011	Architectural and Civil Drafters	35	38	3	8.57%	2	2	2	6
39-2021	Animal Caretakers	244	264	20	8.20%	16	27	10	53

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,034	3,204	170	5.60%	321	381	85	787
41-2011	Cashiers	2,727	2,656	-71	-2.60%	264	252	-36	480
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,325	3,312	-13	-0.39%	236	110	-6	340
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,670	2,661	-9	-0.34%	178	201	-4	375
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,178	2,232	54	2.48%	146	196	27	369
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,675	1,717	42	2.51%	145	104	21	270
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,306	2,331	25	1.08%	136	136	12	284
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	2,021	2,053	32	1.58%	134	146	16	296
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,827	1,897	70	3.83%	132	130	35	297
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,304	2,360	56	2.43%	116	178	28	322

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,034	3,204	170	5.60%	321	381	85	787
41-2011	Cashiers	2,727	2,656	-71	-2.60%	264	252	-36	480
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,670	2,661	-9	-0.34%	178	201	-4	375
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,178	2,232	54	2.48%	146	196	27	369
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,304	2,360	56	2.43%	116	178	28	322
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,308	1,359	51	3.90%	110	154	26	290
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,782	2,863	81	2.91%	66	152	40	258
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	2,021	2,053	32	1.58%	134	146	16	296
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,306	2,331	25	1.08%	136	136	12	284
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,827	1,897	70	3.83%	132	130	35	297

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,034	3,204	170	5.60%	321	381	85	787
41-2011	Cashiers	2,727	2,656	-71	-2.60%	264	252	-36	480
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,670	2,661	-9	-0.34%	178	201	-4	375
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,178	2,232	54	2.48%	146	196	27	369
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,325	3,312	-13	-0.39%	236	110	-6	340
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,304	2,360	56	2.43%	116	178	28	322
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,827	1,897	70	3.83%	132	130	35	297
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	2,021	2,053	32	1.58%	134	146	16	296
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,308	1,359	51	3.90%	110	154	26	290
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,306	2,331	25	1.08%	136	136	12	284

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	1,768	1,624	-144	-8.14%	51	112	-72	91
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	1,705	1,582	-123	-7.21%	71	104	-62	113
41-2011	Cashiers	2,727	2,656	-71	-2.60%	264	252	-36	480
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	1,194	1,149	-45	-3.77%	79	94	-22	151
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	461	418	-43	-9.33%	17	26	-22	21

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
19-1031	Conservation Scientists	32	26	-6	-18.75%	2	2	-3	1
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	335	294	-41	-12.24%	14	20	-20	14
51-9041	Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	153	136	-17	-11.11%	4	9	-8	5
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	461	418	-43	-9.33%	17	26	-22	21
51-9124	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	318	291	-27	-8.49%	10	18	-14	14

Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area

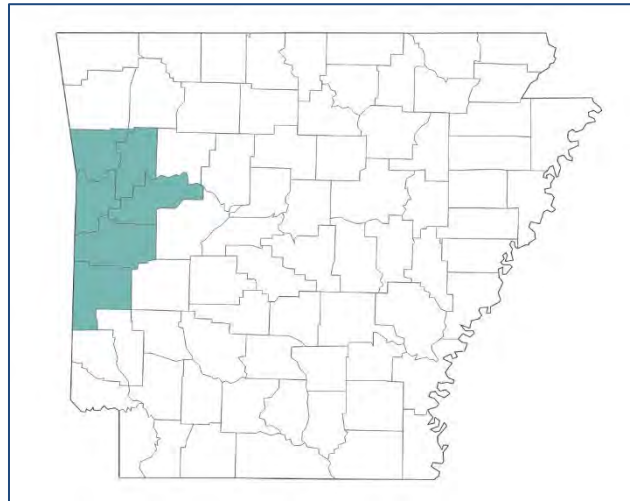
Western Arkansas Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): 1.26%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 4.1%

The Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of six counties: Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, and Sebastian;

and is bordered to the west by the state of Oklahoma. The Arkansas portion of the Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area is in the Western Arkansas WDA.

The Western Arkansas WDA lost 221 jobs over the last year, a 0.21 percent reduction. According to industry projections, the area is expected to add 1,463 jobs, a 1.26 percent increase, which is less than the state growth rate of 1.82 percent. Goods-Producing industries are projected to remain relatively steady, experiencing a net gain of just 12 jobs between 2025 and 2027, an increase of 0.04 percent, while the Services-Providing industries are estimated to gain 1,303 jobs. In addition, an increase of 148 Self-Employed Workers is projected. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 4.1 percent.



Education and Health Services is expected to be the top growing supersector in Western Arkansas with a gain of 501 jobs during the projection period. *Ambulatory Health Care Services* leads all industries in growth, increasing its workforce by 294 jobs. **Other Services (except Government)** is predicted to be the fastest growing supersector, driving employment up 4.89 percent. Social Advocacy Organizations is forecast to be the fastest growing industry, increasing its local workforce by 24.59 percent. On the negative side of the labor market, the **Manufacturing** supersector could lose 110 jobs during the projection period, while the **Information** supersector could cut 6.35 percent of its workforce. *Truck Transportation* is forecast to lose 116 jobs between first quarter 2025 and first quarter 2027, becoming the top declining

percent of its workforce.

According to occupational projections, Western Arkansas employers are projected to have 13,436 annual job openings. Of these, 5,728 are estimated to come from occupational exits, 6,976 from occupational transfers, and 732 due to growth and expansion of jobs.

Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations is slated to be the top growing major group, increasing its workforce by 278 jobs, a 3.69 percent increase. Driving this growth is Registered Nurses, which is predicted to be the top growing occupation, adding 89 jobs to its local workforce. **Community and Social Service Occupations** is projected to be the fastest growing major group, driving employment up 5.14 percent. *Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity* is anticipated to be the

fastest growing industry, increasing by 26.32 percent between 2025 and 2027. On the negative side of the economy, **Production Occupations** could lose 31 jobs during the projection period, becoming the fastest declining major group, while **Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations** could lose 1.34 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining major group. *Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers* is predicted to be the top declining occupation, losing 66 jobs, or 2.95 percent of its workforce, while Broadcast Announcers and Radio Disc Jockeys is set to be the fastest declining occupation, cutting its workforce by 18.75 percent.

industry. *Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers* is predicted to be the fastest declining industry, losing an estimated 64.52

Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	115,818	117,281	1,463	1.26%
006010	Self-Employed Workers, All Jobs	8,485	8,633	148	1.74%
101000	Goods Producing	27,978	27,990	12	0.04%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	1,405	1,457	52	3.70%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	961	973	12	1.25%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	444	484	40	9.01%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	4,497	4,567	70	1.56%
101300	MANUFACTURING	22,076	21,966	-110	-0.50%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	13,131	13,188	57	0.43%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	8,945	8,778	-167	-1.87%
102000	Services Providing	79,355	80,658	1,303	1.64%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	20,630	20,755	125	0.61%
102200	INFORMATION	976	914	-62	-6.35%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,561	3,556	-5	-0.14%
520000	Finance and Insurance	2,337	2,347	10	0.43%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,224	1,209	-15	-1.23%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	9,761	10,009	248	2.54%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,211	2,305	94	4.25%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	2,018	2,107	89	4.41%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	5,532	5,597	65	1.17%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	25,056	25,557	501	2.00%
610000	Educational Services	8,779	8,818	39	0.44%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	16,277	16,739	462	2.84%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	9,254	9,473	219	2.37%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	466	478	12	2.58%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	8,788	8,995	207	2.36%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	3,742	3,925	183	4.89%
102800	GOVERNMENT	6,375	6,469	94	1.47%

Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,802	6,096	294	5.07%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	8,127	8,323	196	2.41%
622100	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	4,217	4,402	185	4.39%
813100	Religious Organizations	1,155	1,264	109	9.44%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,248	1,349	101	8.09%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,276	3,377	101	3.08%
311000	Food Manufacturing	9,737	9,836	99	1.02%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,211	2,305	94	4.25%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	2,670	2,761	91	3.41%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	2,018	2,107	89	4.41%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	61	76	15	24.59%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	110	137	27	24.55%
212000	Mining (except Oil and Gas)	235	275	40	17.02%
814000	Private Households	406	458	52	12.81%
813100	Religious Organizations	1,155	1,264	109	9.44%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,248	1,349	101	8.09%
711000	Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	26	28	2	7.69%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	235	253	18	7.66%
459000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, Book, and Miscellaneous Retailers	1,023	1,096	73	7.14%
812000	Personal and Laundry Services	600	638	38	6.33%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
484000	Truck Transportation	1,600	1,484	-116	-7.25%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	717	621	-96	-13.39%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	2,445	2,362	-83	-3.39%
457000	Gasoline Stations and Fuel Dealers	1,245	1,181	-64	-5.14%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,765	1,710	-55	-3.12%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Growth) (Minimum Decline of 5)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	31	11	-20	-64.52%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	73	51	-22	-30.14%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	58	41	-17	-29.31%
516000	Broadcasting and Content Providers	125	103	-22	-17.60%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	717	621	-96	-13.39%

Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	115,818	117,281	1,463	1.26%	5,728	6,976	732	13,436
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,393	11,576	183	1.61%	474	498	92	1,064
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	4,532	4,584	52	1.15%	140	213	26	379
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	1,465	1,491	26	1.77%	31	48	13	92
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	896	920	24	2.68%	23	38	12	73
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	637	644	7	1.10%	12	46	4	62
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	1,673	1,759	86	5.14%	72	80	43	195
23-0000	Legal Occupations	456	469	13	2.85%	10	14	6	30
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	5,946	5,973	27	0.45%	252	252	14	518
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	823	812	-11	-1.34%	32	42	-6	68
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	7,530	7,808	278	3.69%	228	202	139	569
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	4,938	5,073	135	2.73%	356	344	68	768
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	1,728	1,772	44	2.55%	71	100	22	193
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	8,680	8,867	187	2.15%	728	904	94	1,726
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	3,263	3,336	73	2.24%	216	230	36	482
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	1,680	1,720	40	2.38%	118	164	20	302
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	9,868	9,909	41	0.42%	611	698	20	1,329
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	12,273	12,277	4	0.03%	637	718	2	1,357
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	965	973	8	0.83%	64	76	4	144
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	4,323	4,428	105	2.43%	134	208	52	394
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	5,813	5,876	63	1.08%	222	284	32	538
51-0000	Production Occupations	15,590	15,559	-31	-0.20%	696	1,024	-16	1,704
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	11,346	11,455	109	0.96%	601	790	54	1,445

Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,459	2,548	89	3.62%	70	54	44	168
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,922	3,009	87	2.98%	306	362	44	712
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,489	2,566	77	3.09%	168	226	38	432
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,182	2,232	50	2.29%	189	134	25	348
21-2011	Clergy	558	606	48	8.60%	26	24	24	74
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,893	2,935	42	1.45%	194	220	21	435
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,561	2,601	40	1.56%	119	182	20	321
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,894	3,934	40	1.03%	278	130	20	428
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	862	900	38	4.41%	59	70	19	148
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,776	2,814	38	1.37%	64	150	19	233

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
53-3052	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	57	72	15	26.32%	5	3	8	16
47-5022	Excavating and Loading Machine and Dragline Operators, Surface Mining	36	42	6	16.67%	2	2	3	7
19-2031	Chemists	25	28	3	12.00%	0	2	2	4
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	305	335	30	9.84%	7	6	15	28
21-2021	Directors, Religious Activities and Education	56	61	5	8.93%	2	3	2	7
21-2011	Clergy	558	606	48	8.60%	26	24	24	74
31-9011	Massage Therapists	37	40	3	8.11%	2	2	2	6
29-1071	Physician Assistants	25	27	2	8.00%	0	0	1	1
15-1212	Information Security Analysts	38	41	3	7.89%	0	2	2	4
31-9093	Medical Equipment Preparers	42	45	3	7.14%	2	3	2	7

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,922	3,009	87	2.98%	306	362	44	712
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,894	3,934	40	1.03%	278	130	20	428
41-2011	Cashiers	2,581	2,549	-32	-1.24%	251	240	-16	475
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,893	2,935	42	1.45%	194	220	21	435
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,182	2,232	50	2.29%	189	134	25	348
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,489	2,566	77	3.09%	168	226	38	432
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,296	2,275	-21	-0.91%	134	134	-10	258
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,561	2,601	40	1.56%	119	182	20	321
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,424	1,443	19	1.33%	118	165	10	293
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,025	2,018	-7	-0.35%	114	150	-4	260

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,922	3,009	87	2.98%	306	362	44	712
41-2011	Cashiers	2,581	2,549	-32	-1.24%	251	240	-16	475
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,489	2,566	77	3.09%	168	226	38	432
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,893	2,935	42	1.45%	194	220	21	435
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,561	2,601	40	1.56%	119	182	20	321
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,424	1,443	19	1.33%	118	165	10	293
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,956	1,986	30	1.53%	98	150	15	263
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,025	2,018	-7	-0.35%	114	150	-4	260
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,776	2,814	38	1.37%	64	150	19	233
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,182	2,232	50	2.29%	189	134	25	348

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,922	3,009	87	2.98%	306	362	44	712
41-2011	Cashiers	2,581	2,549	-32	-1.24%	251	240	-16	475
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,893	2,935	42	1.45%	194	220	21	435
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,489	2,566	77	3.09%	168	226	38	432
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,894	3,934	40	1.03%	278	130	20	428
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,182	2,232	50	2.29%	189	134	25	348
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,561	2,601	40	1.56%	119	182	20	321
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,424	1,443	19	1.33%	118	165	10	293
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,956	1,986	30	1.53%	98	150	15	263
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,025	2,018	-7	-0.35%	114	150	-4	260

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,234	2,168	-66	-2.95%	97	124	-33	188
41-2011	Cashiers	2,581	2,549	-32	-1.24%	251	240	-16	475
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,296	2,275	-21	-0.91%	134	134	-10	258
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	867	851	-16	-1.85%	58	76	-8	126
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	438	423	-15	-3.42%	12	28	-8	32

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
27-3011	Broadcast Announcers and Radio Disc Jockeys	32	26	-6	-18.75%	2	2	-3	1
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	124	115	-9	-7.26%	5	6	-4	7
51-7042	Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	92	86	-6	-6.52%	4	6	-3	7
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	124	117	-7	-5.65%	8	6	-4	10
43-5011	Cargo and Freight Agents	143	136	-7	-4.90%	4	7	-4	7

West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

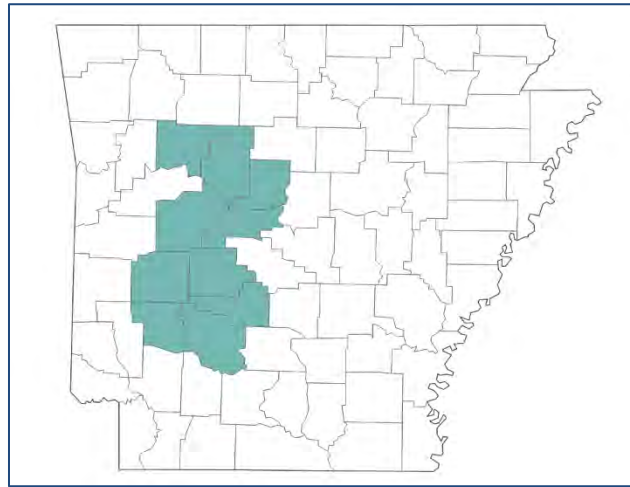
The West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of 10 counties: Clark, Conway, Garland, Hot Spring, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Pope, and Yell; with the Hot Springs Metropolitan Statistical Area located within the WDA.

The West Central Arkansas WDA lost 1,379 jobs over the last year, a 1.27 percent employment reduction. According to industry projections, the area is estimated to experience a gain of 1,155 jobs, a 0.95 percent increase by March 2027, less than the state growth rate of 1.82 percent. This growth represents an 84.54 percent recovery of previously lost jobs. Goods-Producing industries are projected to see a net loss of 54 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to add 1,178. There is estimated to be a minimal change among Self Employed Workers in this area by 2027 with only 31 additional workers. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 4.5 percent.

Education and Health Services is predicted to be the top growing supersector, adding 516 new jobs. **Information** is estimated to be the fastest growing supersector, increasing its workforce by 4.08 percent. *Food Services and Drinking Places* is projected to be the top growing industry, increasing by 330 jobs. *Waste Management and Remediation Services* is slated to increase its workforce by 16.58 percent, becoming the fastest growing industry. On the negative side of the labor market, four supersectors could experience job loss with **Trade, Transportation,**

West Central Arkansas Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): 0.95%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 4.5%



to lose 126 jobs during the projection period, becoming the top declining industry in West Central Arkansas, while *Social Advocacy Organizations* is anticipated to be the fastest declining industry, cutting 40.53 percent from its workforce between 2025 and 2027.

According to occupational projections, the West Central Arkansas WDA is estimated to have 14,428 annual job openings during the projection period. Of these, 6,304 openings could be due to those exiting the workforce, 7,546 due to those changing jobs, and 578 due to growth and expansion. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is estimated to be the top growing major group, adding 295 jobs to the labor market, a 2.55 percent increase. Driving this growth is *Fast Food and Counter Workers*, which is estimated to be the top growing occupation, adding 132 new jobs during the projection period. **Computer and Mathematical Occupations** is predicted to be the fastest growing supersector, increasing its workforce by 3.37 percent. *Career/Technical Education Teachers, Postsecondary* is anticipated to be the fastest growing occupation, raising employment levels by 14.69 percent. On the negative side of the economy, the **Sales and Related Occupations** major group is set to lose 132 jobs, while the **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** major group could cut 3.28 percent of its local workforce. *Cashiers* is projected to be the top declining occupation, losing 81 jobs, while *News Analysts, Reporters, and Journalists* could experience a 20.83 percent reduction in its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation.

and Utilities losing the most, cutting 93 jobs, while **Natural Resources and Mining** could cut 1.86 percent of its workforce. *Food Manufacturing* is expected

West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	121,928	123,083	1,155	0.95%
006010	Self-Employed, All Jobs	9,865	9,896	31	0.31%
101000	Goods Producing	23,869	23,815	-54	-0.23%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	3,717	3,648	-69	-1.86%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	3,270	3,198	-72	-2.20%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	447	450	3	0.67%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	4,675	4,749	74	1.58%
101300	MANUFACTURING	15,477	15,418	-59	-0.38%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	8,719	8,617	-102	-1.17%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	6,758	6,801	43	0.64%
102000	Services Providing	88,194	89,372	1,178	1.34%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	21,585	21,492	-93	-0.43%
420000	Wholesale Trade	2,041	2,080	39	1.91%
440000	Retail Trade	13,833	13,734	-99	-0.72%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	4,394	4,320	-74	-1.68%
220000	Utilities	1,317	1,358	41	3.11%
102200	INFORMATION	858	893	35	4.08%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,471	3,489	18	0.52%
520000	Finance and Insurance	2,481	2,522	41	1.65%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	990	967	-23	-2.32%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	6,871	7,061	190	2.77%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,341	2,503	162	6.92%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	504	513	9	1.79%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	4,026	4,045	19	0.47%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	28,567	29,083	516	1.81%
610000	Educational Services	12,057	12,258	201	1.67%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	16,510	16,825	315	1.91%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	14,687	15,125	438	2.98%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,985	2,047	62	3.12%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	12,702	13,078	376	2.96%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	4,584	4,532	-52	-1.13%
102800	GOVERNMENT	7,571	7,697	126	1.66%

West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	11,013	11,343	330	3.00%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,750	6,040	290	5.04%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,341	2,503	162	6.92%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	4,001	4,122	121	3.02%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	4,224	4,342	118	2.79%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	597	696	99	16.58%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	8,074	8,171	97	1.20%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	3,417	3,504	87	2.55%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	1,051	1,123	72	6.85%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	530	600	70	13.21%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	597	696	99	16.58%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	530	600	70	13.21%
516000	Broadcasting and Content Providers	76	85	9	11.84%
518000	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	273	299	26	9.52%
312000	Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	326	357	31	9.51%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,341	2,503	162	6.92%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	1,051	1,123	72	6.85%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,750	6,040	290	5.04%
814000	Private Households	565	592	27	4.78%
111000	Crop Production	202	211	9	4.46%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
311000	Food Manufacturing	5,960	5,834	-126	-2.11%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	301	179	-122	-40.53%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	3,429	3,349	-80	-2.33%
457000	Gasoline Stations and Fuel Dealers	1,480	1,404	-76	-5.14%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	941	877	-64	-6.80%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	301	179	-122	-40.53%
316000	Leather and Allied Product Manufacturing	54	33	-21	-38.89%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	49	38	-11	-22.45%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	135	109	-26	-19.26%
813400	Civic and Social Organizations	265	220	-45	-16.98%

West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	121,928	123,083	1,155	0.95%	6,304	7,546	578	14,428
11-0000	Management Occupations	12,540	12,629	89	0.71%	549	540	44	1,133
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	3,934	4,003	69	1.75%	124	186	34	344
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	1,068	1,104	36	3.37%	24	35	18	77
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	841	861	20	2.38%	22	34	10	66
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	743	750	7	0.94%	14	54	4	72
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	2,410	2,455	45	1.87%	102	116	22	240
23-0000	Legal Occupations	303	310	7	2.31%	8	12	4	24
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	8,075	8,203	128	1.59%	338	338	64	740
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	1,558	1,584	26	1.67%	78	94	13	185
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	6,820	6,981	161	2.36%	209	188	80	477
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	4,776	4,901	125	2.62%	335	336	62	733
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	2,293	2,329	36	1.57%	101	142	18	261
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	11,553	11,848	295	2.55%	978	1,209	148	2,335
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	4,044	4,081	37	0.91%	266	283	18	567
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	3,103	3,108	5	0.16%	214	308	2	524
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	10,242	10,110	-132	-1.29%	658	740	-66	1,332
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	12,468	12,471	3	0.02%	655	720	2	1,377
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	2,010	1,944	-66	-3.28%	132	155	-33	254
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	4,783	4,901	118	2.47%	153	232	59	444
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	5,731	5,815	84	1.47%	218	282	42	542
51-0000	Production Occupations	10,343	10,315	-28	-0.27%	460	688	-14	1,134
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	12,290	12,380	90	0.73%	668	858	45	1,571

West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,961	4,093	132	3.33%	414	492	66	972
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,786	2,866	80	2.87%	188	252	40	480
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,674	1,732	58	3.46%	146	104	29	279
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	1,154	1,211	57	4.94%	80	93	28	201
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,935	1,983	48	2.48%	55	42	24	121
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,807	1,841	34	1.88%	150	210	17	377
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,225	1,258	33	2.69%	62	113	16	191
13-1082	Project Management Specialists	382	414	32	8.38%	9	18	16	43
27-2022	Coaches and Scouts	785	816	31	3.95%	48	53	16	117
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	612	641	29	4.74%	24	27	14	65

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
25-1194	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Postsecondary	143	164	21	14.69%	6	5	10	21
27-3011	Broadcast Announcers and Radio Disc Jockeys	36	40	4	11.11%	2	2	2	6
47-4041	Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	116	128	12	10.34%	6	6	6	18
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	274	301	27	9.85%	6	6	14	26
53-7081	Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	141	154	13	9.22%	6	10	6	22
13-1082	Project Management Specialists	382	414	32	8.38%	9	18	16	43
49-3021	Automotive Body and Related Repairers	101	109	8	7.92%	4	4	4	12
17-1022	Surveyors	27	29	2	7.41%	1	1	1	3
15-1211	Computer Systems Analysts	165	177	12	7.27%	4	5	6	15
15-1252	Software Developers	206	220	14	6.80%	4	6	7	17

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,961	4,093	132	3.33%	414	492	66	972
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	4,916	4,895	-21	-0.43%	348	164	-10	502
41-2011	Cashiers	3,284	3,203	-81	-2.47%	317	304	-40	581
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,786	2,866	80	2.87%	188	252	40	480
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,794	2,766	-28	-1.00%	185	210	-14	381
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,846	2,834	-12	-0.42%	166	167	-6	327
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,807	1,841	34	1.88%	150	210	17	377
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,674	1,732	58	3.46%	146	104	29	279
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,912	1,935	23	1.20%	127	138	12	277
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,669	1,677	8	0.48%	118	116	4	238

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,961	4,093	132	3.33%	414	492	66	972
41-2011	Cashiers	3,284	3,203	-81	-2.47%	317	304	-40	581
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,786	2,866	80	2.87%	188	252	40	480
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,794	2,766	-28	-1.00%	185	210	-14	381
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,807	1,841	34	1.88%	150	210	17	377
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,332	2,345	13	0.56%	116	178	6	300
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,846	2,834	-12	-0.42%	166	167	-6	327
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	4,916	4,895	-21	-0.43%	348	164	-10	502
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,895	2,918	23	0.79%	68	156	12	236
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,535	2,523	-12	-0.47%	112	142	-6	248

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,961	4,093	132	3.33%	414	492	66	972
41-2011	Cashiers	3,284	3,203	-81	-2.47%	317	304	-40	581
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	4,916	4,895	-21	-0.43%	348	164	-10	502
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,786	2,866	80	2.87%	188	252	40	480
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,794	2,766	-28	-1.00%	185	210	-14	381
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,807	1,841	34	1.88%	150	210	17	377
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,846	2,834	-12	-0.42%	166	167	-6	327
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,332	2,345	13	0.56%	116	178	6	300
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,674	1,732	58	3.46%	146	104	29	279
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,912	1,935	23	1.20%	127	138	12	277

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
41-2011	Cashiers	3,284	3,203	-81	-2.47%	317	304	-40	581
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	574	534	-40	-6.97%	38	44	-20	62
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,794	2,766	-28	-1.00%	185	210	-14	381
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	1,438	1,416	-22	-1.53%	54	80	-11	123
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	4,916	4,895	-21	-0.43%	348	164	-10	502

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
27-3023	News Analysts, Reporters, and Journalists	24	19	-5	-20.83%	1	2	-2	1
13-1131	Fundraisers	66	55	-11	-16.67%	2	3	-6	0
39-9032	Recreation Workers	183	164	-19	-10.38%	12	22	-10	24
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	574	534	-40	-6.97%	38	44	-20	62
53-3052	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	77	72	-5	-6.49%	6	4	-2	8

Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Central Arkansas Profile

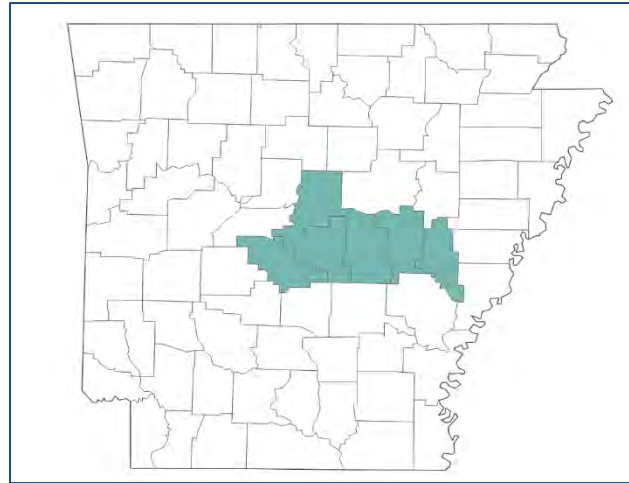
Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): 2.91%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 3.7%

The Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of six counties, all within commuting distance of the city of

Little Rock WDA: Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, Saline, and the portion of Pulaski County outside of Little Rock. The majority of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area is in this area.

The Central Arkansas WDA gained 1,559 jobs over the last year, a 0.92 percent increase. According to industry projections, the area is expected to experience a gain of 5,511 jobs, an increase of 2.91 percent, faster than the state growth rate of 1.82 percent and second fastest overall among the WDA regions. Goods-Producing industries are projected to experience a net gain of 235 new jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to gain 4,950 jobs. Self-Employed Workers is slated to experience a gain of 326 workers. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 3.7 percent.

Education and Health Services is predicted to be the top growing supersector, adding 1,349 jobs to the local economy. **Other Services (except Government)** is estimated to be the fastest growing major group, increasing its workforce by 7.84 percent. *Food Services and Drinking Places* leads all industries in numeric change, expecting to add 582 jobs between first quarter 2025 and first quarter 2027. *Private Households* is forecast to increase its workforce by 32.34 percent, becoming the fastest growing industry in Central Arkansas. On the negative side of the economy, **Manufacturing** could be the top declining supersector with a loss of 157 jobs, while



Data for area does not include city of Little Rock

Fuel Dealers could struggle during the projection period, being estimated to lose 105 jobs, or 5.16 percent of its workforce. *Fishing, Hunting and Trapping* is projected to

cut 70.27 percent of its local workforce.

According to occupational projections, the Central Arkansas WDA is expected to have 23,927 annual job openings during the projection period, with 9,480 being created due to employees exiting the workforce, 11,691 created due to employees changing jobs, and 2,756 due to growth and expansion. **Transportation and Material Moving Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group, increasing staffing by 724 jobs. **Community and Social Service Occupations** is forecast to be the fastest growing major group, driving employment up 7.98 percent. *Stockers and Order Fillers* is estimated to be the top growing occupation, increasing

employment by 270 jobs, while *Directors, Religious Activities and Education* is anticipated to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing its workforce by 11.38 percent. On the negative side of the local economy, *Computer Systems Analysts* could see a loss of 15 jobs, becoming the top declining occupation in the area, while *Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technologists and Technicians* could see a 10.71 percent reduction in its workforce by March 2027, becoming the fastest declining occupation.

the **Information** supersector is projected to experience a net loss of 88 jobs, 4.52 percent of its workforce. *Gasoline Stations and*

Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	189,593	195,104	5,511	2.91%
006010	Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs	11,684	12,010	326	2.79%
101000	Goods Producing	26,186	26,421	235	0.90%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	2,161	2,155	-6	-0.28%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,808	1,804	-4	-0.22%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	353	351	-2	-0.57%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	12,287	12,685	398	3.24%
101300	MANUFACTURING	11,738	11,581	-157	-1.34%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	3,914	3,904	-10	-0.26%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	7,824	7,677	-147	-1.88%
102000	Services Providing	151,723	156,673	4,950	3.26%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	42,677	44,014	1,337	3.13%
420000	Wholesale Trade	7,884	8,175	291	3.69%
440000	Retail Trade	23,968	24,651	683	2.85%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	10,204	10,556	352	3.45%
220000	Utilities	621	632	11	1.77%
102200	INFORMATION	1,945	1,857	-88	-4.52%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	6,863	7,077	214	3.12%
520000	Finance and Insurance	4,559	4,691	132	2.90%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,304	2,386	82	3.56%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	16,192	16,740	548	3.38%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	6,169	6,472	303	4.91%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	1,220	1,250	30	2.46%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	8,803	9,018	215	2.44%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	39,998	41,347	1,349	3.37%
610000	Educational Services	14,415	14,592	177	1.23%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	25,583	26,755	1,172	4.58%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	19,991	20,623	632	3.16%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,491	1,541	50	3.35%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	18,500	19,082	582	3.15%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	9,378	10,113	735	7.84%
102800	GOVERNMENT	14,679	14,902	223	1.52%

Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	17,448	18,030	582	3.34%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	9,360	9,764	404	4.32%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	3,402	3,790	388	11.41%
813100	Religious Organizations	3,490	3,872	382	10.95%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	6,169	6,472	303	4.91%
445000	Food and Beverage Retailers	2,740	3,038	298	10.88%
624000	Social Assistance	5,795	6,059	264	4.56%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	2,567	2,818	251	9.78%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4,401	4,632	231	5.25%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	5,807	6,020	213	3.67%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
814000	Private Households	637	843	206	32.34%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	186	220	34	18.28%
611700	Educational Support Services	51	60	9	17.65%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	3,402	3,790	388	11.41%
813100	Religious Organizations	3,490	3,872	382	10.95%
445000	Food and Beverage Retailers	2,740	3,038	298	10.88%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	829	918	89	10.74%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	2,567	2,818	251	9.78%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	319	349	30	9.40%
444000	Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	2,732	2,942	210	7.69%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
457000	Gasoline Stations and Fuel Dealers	2,034	1,929	-105	-5.16%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	4,566	4,504	-62	-1.36%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	959	904	-55	-5.74%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,092	1,045	-47	-4.30%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	260	217	-43	-16.54%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
114000	Fishing, Hunting and Trapping	37	11	-26	-70.27%
611400	Business Schools and Computer and Management Training	28	20	-8	-28.57%
486000	Pipeline Transportation	28	22	-6	-21.43%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	260	217	-43	-16.54%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	238	199	-39	-16.39%

Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	189,593	195,104	5,511	2.91%	9,480	11,691	2,756	23,927
11-0000	Management Occupations	15,870	16,348	478	3.01%	544	742	239	1,525
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	8,238	8,449	211	2.56%	256	392	106	754
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	2,862	2,900	38	1.33%	62	92	19	173
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	1,619	1,659	40	2.47%	42	69	20	131
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	921	952	31	3.37%	19	54	16	89
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	4,121	4,450	329	7.98%	184	198	164	546
23-0000	Legal Occupations	974	1,001	27	2.77%	22	32	14	68
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	10,576	10,752	176	1.66%	456	459	88	1,003
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	1,878	1,933	55	2.93%	80	104	28	212
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	12,025	12,485	460	3.83%	359	322	230	911
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	7,599	8,026	427	5.62%	532	549	214	1,295
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	4,042	4,158	116	2.87%	178	248	58	484
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	18,083	18,655	572	3.16%	1,534	1,881	286	3,701
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	5,411	5,647	236	4.36%	355	386	118	859
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	4,785	5,026	241	5.04%	336	472	120	928
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	18,427	18,821	394	2.14%	1,138	1,310	197	2,645
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	20,577	20,882	305	1.48%	1,091	1,209	152	2,452
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	1,181	1,185	4	0.34%	78	96	2	176
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	9,835	10,204	369	3.75%	313	478	184	975
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	9,820	10,075	255	2.60%	364	500	128	992
51-0000	Production Occupations	10,512	10,535	23	0.22%	466	686	12	1,164
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	20,237	20,961	724	3.58%	1,072	1,412	362	2,846

Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	4,556	4,826	270	5.93%	312	418	135	865
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	5,650	5,868	218	3.86%	593	704	109	1,406
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,596	2,803	207	7.97%	231	165	104	500
21-2011	Clergy	1,638	1,822	184	11.23%	78	71	92	241
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,481	5,646	165	3.01%	370	420	82	872
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	4,973	5,126	153	3.08%	117	272	76	465
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,822	1,954	132	7.24%	63	116	66	245
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,087	1,193	106	9.75%	88	74	53	215
39-9011	Childcare Workers	1,743	1,847	104	5.97%	137	162	52	351
29-1141	Registered Nurses	3,324	3,428	104	3.13%	95	72	52	219

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
21-2021	Directors, Religious Activities and Education	167	186	19	11.38%	8	9	10	27
21-2011	Clergy	1,638	1,822	184	11.23%	78	71	92	241
29-2053	Psychiatric Technicians	294	325	31	10.54%	10	15	16	41
21-1015	Rehabilitation Counselors	78	86	8	10.26%	4	4	4	12
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,087	1,193	106	9.75%	88	74	53	215
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	388	424	36	9.28%	9	8	18	35
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	123	133	10	8.13%	4	4	5	13
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,596	2,803	207	7.97%	231	165	104	500
49-9012	Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	38	41	3	7.89%	2	2	2	6
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	510	548	38	7.45%	18	23	19	60

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	5,650	5,868	218	3.86%	593	704	109	1,406
41-2011	Cashiers	4,610	4,625	15	0.33%	452	432	8	892
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,481	5,646	165	3.01%	370	420	82	872
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	4,556	4,826	270	5.93%	312	418	135	865
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	3,060	3,130	70	2.29%	255	356	35	646
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	4,280	4,338	58	1.36%	252	254	29	535
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,342	5,437	95	1.78%	238	304	48	590
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,596	2,803	207	7.97%	231	165	104	500
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	2,792	2,839	47	1.68%	200	94	24	318
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	2,566	2,634	68	2.65%	184	181	34	399

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	5,650	5,868	218	3.86%	593	704	109	1,406
41-2011	Cashiers	4,610	4,625	15	0.33%	452	432	8	892
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,481	5,646	165	3.01%	370	420	82	872
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	4,556	4,826	270	5.93%	312	418	135	865
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	3,060	3,130	70	2.29%	255	356	35	646
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,342	5,437	95	1.78%	238	304	48	590
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	4,973	5,126	153	3.08%	117	272	76	465
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	4,280	4,338	58	1.36%	252	254	29	535
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,916	2,996	80	2.74%	148	226	40	414
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,904	2,924	20	0.69%	164	216	10	390

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	5,650	5,868	218	3.86%	593	704	109	1,406
41-2011	Cashiers	4,610	4,625	15	0.33%	452	432	8	892
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,481	5,646	165	3.01%	370	420	82	872
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	4,556	4,826	270	5.93%	312	418	135	865
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	3,060	3,130	70	2.29%	255	356	35	646
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,342	5,437	95	1.78%	238	304	48	590
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	4,280	4,338	58	1.36%	252	254	29	535
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,596	2,803	207	7.97%	231	165	104	500
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	4,973	5,126	153	3.08%	117	272	76	465
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,916	2,996	80	2.74%	148	226	40	414

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
15-1211	Computer Systems Analysts	744	729	-15	-2.02%	18	22	-8	32
25-1194	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Postsecondary	309	296	-13	-4.21%	12	10	-6	16
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	120	111	-9	-7.50%	4	8	-4	8
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	190	183	-7	-3.68%	6	12	-4	14
17-3023	Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technologists and Technicians	56	50	-6	-10.71%	2	2	-3	1
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	225	219	-6	-2.67%	8	12	-3	17
43-3071	Tellers	517	511	-6	-1.16%	26	28	-3	51

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
17-3023	Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technologists and Technicians	56	50	-6	-10.71%	2	2	-3	1
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	120	111	-9	-7.50%	4	8	-4	8
25-1194	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Postsecondary	309	296	-13	-4.21%	12	10	-6	16
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	190	183	-7	-3.68%	6	12	-4	14
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	225	219	-6	-2.67%	8	12	-3	17

City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area

City of Little Rock Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): 0.27%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 4.0%

The City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area (WDA) is a center for government operations, serving as the county seat of Pulaski County as well as the state's capital. The WDA is recognized as part of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area.

The City of Little Rock WDA gained 3,551 jobs over the last year, a 1.97 percent increase. However, according to industry projections, the area is expected to experience a net gain of only 552 jobs, an increase of 0.27 percent between 2025 and 2027, much slower than the state growth rate of 1.82 percent. Goods-Producing industries are projected to experience a net gain of 1,404 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to see a net loss of 1,005 jobs. Self Employed Workers is expected to increase by 153 jobs. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 4.0 percent.

Education and Health Services is estimated to be the top growing supersector, adding 1,545 new jobs, a 2.77 percent gain. *Ambulatory Health Care Services* is predicted to raise employment levels by 575 jobs between 2025 and 2027.

Manufacturing is forecast to be the fastest growing supersector, increasing its workforce by 16.88 percent. Driving this growth is *Wood Product Manufacturing*, which is estimated to grow by 346 new jobs, a growth rate of 388.76 percent. On the negative side of the labor market, Overall, the **Trade, Transportation, and Utilities** supersector is slated to experience a net loss of 3,617 jobs, 10.95 percent of its local workforce. *Truck Transportation* is predicted to lose 186 jobs, or 10.63 percent of



its workforce, becoming the top declining industry, while *Animal Production and Aquaculture* could see a 38.10 percent reduction in its local workforce, becoming the fastest declining industry.

According to occupational projections, City of Little Rock WDA employers are expected to have 21,481 annual openings during the projection period. Of these, 9,540 would be created due to employees leaving the workforce, while 11,665 would be created due to employees changing jobs. Around 276 job openings could be available annually due to growth and expansion of the workforce. **Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations** is estimated to be the top growing major group, increasing its workforce by 785 jobs. Registered Nurses leads the area in numeric change, adding 294 jobs to the local economy. **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** is slated to be the fastest growing major group, raising employment levels by 15.72 percent. *Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders* is projected to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing its local workforce by 29.10 percent. On the negative side of the local job market, the **Transportation and Material Moving Occupations** major group is forecast to cut 2,471 jobs, 15.41 percent of its workforce. Driving this decline is *Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators*, slated to lose 1,327 jobs by March 2027, a loss of 69.37 percent, becoming the top and fastest declining occupation.

City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	204,711	205,263	552	0.27%
006010	Self-Employed, All Jobs	10,265	10,418	153	1.49%
101000	Goods Producing	14,566	15,970	1,404	9.64%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	762	839	77	10.10%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	5,939	5,938	-1	-0.02%
101300	MANUFACTURING	7,865	9,193	1,328	16.88%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	3,823	3,851	28	0.73%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	4,047	5,342	1,295	32.00%
102000	Services Providing	179,880	178,875	-1,005	-0.56%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	33,022	29,405	-3,617	-10.95%
420000	Wholesale Trade	7,164	7,250	86	1.20%
440000	Retail Trade	14,577	14,677	100	0.69%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	9,475	5,642	-3,833	-40.45%
220000	Utilities	1,806	1,836	30	1.66%
102200	INFORMATION	2,146	2,026	-120	-5.59%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	17,121	17,330	209	1.22%
520000	Finance and Insurance	14,216	14,435	219	1.54%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,905	2,895	-10	-0.34%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	25,139	25,335	196	0.78%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	9,328	9,197	-131	-1.40%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,062	5,336	274	5.41%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	10,749	10,802	53	0.49%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	55,756	57,301	1,545	2.77%
610000	Educational Services	11,714	11,836	122	1.04%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	44,042	45,465	1,423	3.23%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	14,745	15,127	382	2.59%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,851	1,982	131	7.08%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	12,894	13,145	251	1.95%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	10,104	10,070	-34	-0.34%
102800	GOVERNMENT	21,847	22,281	434	1.99%
900000	Government	21,847	22,281	434	1.99%

City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area

Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	11,398	11,973	575	5.04%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	89	435	346	388.76%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	11,634	11,933	299	2.57%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,062	5,336	274	5.41%
813100	Religious Organizations	2,045	2,273	228	11.15%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	4,300	4,521	221	5.14%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	9,780	9,965	185	1.89%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	4,639	4,800	161	3.47%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	832	961	129	15.50%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	5,208	5,334	126	2.42%
524100	Insurance Carriers	7,760	7,886	126	1.62%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	89	435	346	388.76%
111000	Crop Production	195	270	75	38.46%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	288	364	76	26.39%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	760	879	119	15.66%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	832	961	129	15.50%
611600	Other Schools and Instruction	381	434	53	13.91%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	826	933	107	12.95%
813100	Religious Organizations	2,045	2,273	228	11.15%
444000	Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	1,257	1,355	98	7.80%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,427	1,536	109	7.64%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
484000	Truck Transportation	1,749	1,563	-186	-10.63%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	9,328	9,197	-131	-1.40%
814000	Private Households	1,958	1,857	-101	-5.16%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	1,291	1,195	-96	-7.44%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	2,278	2,204	-74	-3.25%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	21	13	-8	-38.10%
611700	Educational Support Services	80	70	-10	-12.50%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,749	1,563	-186	-10.63%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	502	450	-52	-10.36%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	1,291	1,195	-96	-7.44%

City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	204,711	205,263	552	0.27%	9,540	11,665	276	21,481
11-0000	Management Occupations	18,274	18,604	330	1.81%	499	869	165	1,533
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	14,474	14,668	194	1.34%	448	672	97	1,217
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	4,799	4,827	28	0.58%	102	155	14	271
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	2,325	2,381	56	2.41%	62	96	28	186
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	1,926	1,918	-8	-0.42%	48	130	-4	174
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	4,736	4,929	193	4.08%	196	230	96	522
23-0000	Legal Occupations	1,922	1,924	2	0.10%	40	52	1	93
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	10,361	10,549	188	1.81%	440	430	94	964
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	3,016	3,034	18	0.60%	120	158	9	287
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	22,007	22,792	785	3.57%	637	538	392	1,567
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	9,814	10,095	281	2.86%	677	696	140	1,513
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	5,697	5,766	69	1.21%	232	336	34	602
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	12,391	12,672	281	2.27%	1,025	1,266	140	2,431
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	7,068	7,059	-9	-0.13%	464	491	-4	951
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	4,530	4,603	73	1.61%	316	438	36	790
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	17,902	17,856	-46	-0.26%	939	1,122	-23	2,038
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	25,877	25,629	-248	-0.96%	1,351	1,510	-124	2,737
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	318	368	50	15.72%	22	29	25	76
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	5,854	5,936	82	1.40%	191	274	41	506
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	7,307	7,375	68	0.93%	272	358	34	664
51-0000	Production Occupations	8,077	8,713	636	7.87%	376	546	318	1,240
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	16,036	13,565	-2,471	-15.41%	1,080	1,268	-1,236	1,112

City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
29-1141	Registered Nurses	8,542	8,836	294	3.44%	245	186	147	578
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	1,074	1,282	208	19.37%	51	75	104	230
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	1,798	1,912	114	6.34%	48	80	57	185
21-2011	Clergy	1,033	1,144	111	10.75%	50	44	56	150
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	3,617	3,717	100	2.76%	314	224	50	588
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,074	3,170	96	3.12%	322	382	48	752
25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	1,435	1,524	89	6.20%	58	48	44	150
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	775	856	81	10.45%	18	17	40	75
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	1,302	1,364	62	4.76%	90	105	31	226
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	3,669	3,730	61	1.66%	132	154	30	316

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
51-9124	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	134	173	39	29.10%	5	10	20	35
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	164	209	45	27.44%	7	11	22	40
17-2011	Aerospace Engineers	80	98	18	22.50%	2	3	9	14
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	1,074	1,282	208	19.37%	51	75	104	230
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	172	205	33	19.19%	8	10	16	34
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	125	147	22	17.60%	4	8	11	23
51-4021	Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	160	188	28	17.50%	6	10	14	30
49-9043	Maintenance Workers, Machinery	44	51	7	15.91%	2	2	4	8
51-2028	Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	150	173	23	15.33%	8	10	12	30
11-3051	Industrial Production Managers	171	197	26	15.20%	4	8	13	25

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,913	586	-1,327	-69.37%	332	332	-664	0
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,074	3,170	96	3.12%	322	382	48	752
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	3,617	3,717	100	2.76%	314	224	50	588
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,139	4,194	55	1.33%	278	314	28	620
41-2011	Cashiers	2,644	2,591	-53	-2.00%	256	245	-26	475
29-1141	Registered Nurses	8,542	8,836	294	3.44%	245	186	147	578
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	3,842	3,809	-33	-0.86%	224	225	-16	433
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	3,723	3,705	-18	-0.48%	209	276	-9	476
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	2,426	2,462	36	1.48%	202	281	18	501
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	2,797	2,804	7	0.25%	198	195	4	397

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,074	3,170	96	3.12%	322	382	48	752
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,913	586	-1,327	-69.37%	332	332	-664	0
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,139	4,194	55	1.33%	278	314	28	620
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	2,426	2,462	36	1.48%	202	281	18	501
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	3,723	3,705	-18	-0.48%	209	276	-9	476
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	4,828	4,885	57	1.18%	112	262	28	402
41-2011	Cashiers	2,644	2,591	-53	-2.00%	256	245	-26	475
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	3,008	2,353	-655	-21.78%	178	239	-328	89
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	3,842	3,809	-33	-0.86%	224	225	-16	433
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	3,617	3,717	100	2.76%	314	224	50	588

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,074	3,170	96	3.12%	322	382	48	752
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,139	4,194	55	1.33%	278	314	28	620
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	3,617	3,717	100	2.76%	314	224	50	588
29-1141	Registered Nurses	8,542	8,836	294	3.44%	245	186	147	578
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	2,426	2,462	36	1.48%	202	281	18	501
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	3,723	3,705	-18	-0.48%	209	276	-9	476
41-2011	Cashiers	2,644	2,591	-53	-2.00%	256	245	-26	475
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	3,842	3,809	-33	-0.86%	224	225	-16	433
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	4,828	4,885	57	1.18%	112	262	28	402
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	2,797	2,804	7	0.25%	198	195	4	397

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,913	586	-1,327	-69.37%	332	332	-664	0
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	3,008	2,353	-655	-21.78%	178	239	-328	89
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,771	2,498	-273	-9.85%	116	148	-136	128
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,894	2,712	-182	-6.29%	140	214	-91	263
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,634	1,540	-94	-5.75%	54	84	-47	91

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,913	586	-1,327	-69.37%	332	332	-664	0
43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	110	42	-68	-61.82%	17	17	-34	0
19-5012	Occupational Health and Safety Technicians	89	43	-46	-51.69%	12	12	-23	1
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	3,008	2,353	-655	-21.78%	178	239	-328	89
43-5061	Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	195	153	-42	-21.54%	10	10	-21	0

Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Eastern Arkansas Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): -0.96%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 5.7%

The Eastern Arkansas WDA consists of five counties: Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Phillips, and St. Francis. With Tennessee bordering this area to

the east, Crittenden County makes up a portion of the Memphis Metropolitan Statistical Area, the forty-fourth largest in population in the United States according to the Census Bureau.

The Eastern Arkansas WDA gained 252 jobs over the last year, a 0.75 percent gain. The area is forecast to experience a net loss of 370 jobs, a drop of 0.96 percent of its local workforce, one of three WDA areas slated to have net job cuts. Goods-Producing industries are projected to experience a net loss of 86 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to lose 244. Self Employed Workers are predicted to lose 40 jobs, or 1.49 percent of the workforce. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 5.7 percent, the highest in the state.

Leisure and Hospitality is estimated to be the top growing supersector, adding 71 jobs, a 1.68 percent increase. **Professional and Business Services** is slated to add 2.12 percent to its local workforce, becoming the fastest growing supersector. *Ambulatory Health Care Services* leads the area in growth, adding 102 new jobs between 2025 and 2027. *Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation* is predicted to be the fastest growing industry, increasing its workforce by 21.74 percent. On the negative side of the job market, six supersectors are forecast to experience net job loss, with **Trade, Transportation, and Utilities** leading with a decline of 228 jobs. **Information** is anticipated to be the fastest declining supersector, cutting 10.23 percent of its workforce. *Social Assistance* is predicted to be the top declining

industry, with a decline of 160 jobs, 9.99 percent of its workforce, while *Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers* is estimated to cut 30.77 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining industry.

According to occupational projections, the Eastern Arkansas WDA is expected to have the fewest annual job openings in the state with 4,082 expected during the projection period. Of these, 1,944 would be created due to employees leaving the workforce and 2,323 related to those changing jobs. Job opportunities related to growth and expansion could be reduced by 185 jobs annually.

Food Preparation and Serving Related

Occupations is expected to be the top growing major group, increasing its workforce by 40 new jobs. *Fast Food and Counter Workers* is anticipated to be the top growing occupation, adding 21 jobs to the local economy. **Architecture and Engineering Occupations** is projected to increase its workforce by 3.76 percent, becoming the fastest growing major group. *Nurse Practitioners* is forecast to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing its workforce by 10.26 percent. On the negative side of the labor market, more than half of the major groups are predicted to experience job loss. **Sales and Related Occupations** is slated to lose 105 jobs between 2025 and 2027, while **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** is slated to decline by 5.43 percent of its local workforce. *Cashiers* is forecast to cut 55 jobs from its workforce, while *Education and Childcare Administrators, Preschool and Daycare* is predicted to lose 9.43 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation.



Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	38,457	38,087	-370	-0.96%
006010	Self-Employed, All Jobs	2,681	2,641	-40	-1.49%
101000	Goods Producing	6,144	6,058	-86	-1.40%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	2,110	2,063	-47	-2.23%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	662	641	-21	-3.17%
101300	MANUFACTURING	3,372	3,354	-18	-0.53%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	1,641	1,565	-76	-4.63%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	1,731	1,789	58	3.35%
102000	Services Providing	29,632	29,388	-244	-0.82%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	8,871	8,643	-228	-2.57%
420000	Wholesale Trade	1,846	1,822	-24	-1.30%
440000	Retail Trade	4,126	4,026	-100	-2.42%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	2,707	2,600	-107	-3.95%
220000	Utilities	192	195	3	1.56%
102200	INFORMATION	88	79	-9	-10.23%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	1,099	1,103	4	0.36%
520000	Finance and Insurance	678	695	17	2.51%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	421	408	-13	-3.09%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	1,365	1,394	29	2.12%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	484	502	18	3.72%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	119	116	-3	-2.52%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	762	776	14	1.84%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	8,800	8,661	-139	-1.58%
610000	Educational Services	3,552	3,470	-82	-2.31%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	5,248	5,191	-57	-1.09%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	4,231	4,302	71	1.68%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	1,257	1,273	16	1.27%
102800	GOVERNMENT	3,921	3,933	12	0.31%

Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,005	2,107	102	5.09%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	629	667	38	6.04%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	1,009	1,043	34	3.37%
813100	Religious Organizations	412	444	32	7.77%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	1,345	1,375	30	2.23%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	116	141	25	21.55%
814000	Private Households	271	295	24	8.86%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	531	555	24	4.52%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	92	112	20	21.74%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	301	321	20	6.64%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	92	112	20	21.74%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	116	141	25	21.55%
814000	Private Households	271	295	24	8.86%
524100	Insurance Carriers	25	27	2	8.00%
813100	Religious Organizations	412	444	32	7.77%
516000	Broadcasting and Content Providers	29	31	2	6.90%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	301	321	20	6.64%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	629	667	38	6.04%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	83	88	5	6.02%
491100	Postal Service	204	215	11	5.39%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
624000	Social Assistance	1,602	1,442	-160	-9.99%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	606	477	-129	-21.29%
111000	Crop Production	1,464	1,379	-85	-5.81%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	811	761	-50	-6.17%
445000	Food and Beverage Retailers	860	813	-47	-5.47%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	26	18	-8	-30.77%
236000	Construction of Buildings	69	52	-17	-24.64%
517000	Telecommunications	28	22	-6	-21.43%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	606	477	-129	-21.29%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	65	53	-12	-18.46%

Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	38,457	38,087	-370	-0.96%	1,944	2,323	-185	4,082
11-0000	Management Occupations	4,018	3,969	-49	-1.22%	169	170	-24	315
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	1,150	1,157	7	0.61%	34	54	4	92
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	268	269	1	0.37%	5	8	0	13
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	186	193	7	3.76%	4	8	4	16
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	279	283	4	1.43%	5	19	2	26
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	781	805	24	3.07%	32	38	12	82
23-0000	Legal Occupations	164	166	2	1.22%	4	4	1	9
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	2,664	2,582	-82	-3.08%	108	109	-41	176
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	179	178	-1	-0.56%	8	10	0	18
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	2,098	2,130	32	1.53%	62	58	16	136
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	1,532	1,509	-23	-1.50%	111	102	-12	201
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	1,293	1,294	1	0.08%	46	72	0	118
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	3,083	3,123	40	1.30%	257	318	20	595
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	1,173	1,191	18	1.53%	78	84	9	171
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	1,025	1,004	-21	-2.05%	70	98	-10	158
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	3,210	3,105	-105	-3.27%	210	234	-52	392
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	4,119	4,082	-37	-0.90%	214	235	-18	431
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	1,196	1,131	-65	-5.43%	76	94	-32	138
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	854	849	-5	-0.59%	28	38	-2	64
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	1,743	1,740	-3	-0.17%	64	85	-2	147
51-0000	Production Occupations	2,690	2,637	-53	-1.97%	112	172	-26	258
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	4,752	4,690	-62	-1.30%	248	314	-31	531

Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,122	1,143	21	1.87%	116	138	10	264
21-2011	Clergy	201	218	17	8.46%	10	8	8	26
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	255	267	12	4.71%	18	20	6	44
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	160	170	10	6.25%	6	7	5	18
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	842	852	10	1.19%	56	76	5	137
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	78	86	8	10.26%	2	2	4	8
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	163	171	8	4.91%	4	7	4	15
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	429	437	8	1.86%	34	28	4	66
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	98	105	7	7.14%	3	5	4	12
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	126	133	7	5.56%	4	4	4	12
43-3071	Tellers	137	144	7	5.11%	7	8	4	19
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	413	420	7	1.69%	30	29	4	63

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	78	86	8	10.26%	2	2	4	8
21-2011	Clergy	201	218	17	8.46%	10	8	8	26
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	98	105	7	7.14%	3	5	4	12
17-2051	Civil Engineers	30	32	2	6.67%	0	1	1	2
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	160	170	10	6.25%	6	7	5	18
37-2021	Pest Control Workers	51	54	3	5.88%	2	5	2	9
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	126	133	7	5.56%	4	4	4	12
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	36	38	2	5.56%	2	4	1	7
43-5051	Postal Service Clerks	55	58	3	5.45%	3	2	2	7
29-2053	Psychiatric Technicians	111	117	6	5.41%	4	6	3	13

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
41-2011	Cashiers	1,227	1,172	-55	-4.48%	118	112	-28	202
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,122	1,143	21	1.87%	116	138	10	264
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	1,467	1,432	-35	-2.39%	103	48	-18	133
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	804	769	-35	-4.35%	68	48	-18	98
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,505	1,497	-8	-0.53%	66	84	-4	146
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	842	852	10	1.19%	56	76	5	137
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	813	764	-49	-6.03%	53	64	-24	93
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	861	837	-24	-2.79%	50	50	-12	88
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	599	577	-22	-3.67%	39	44	-11	72
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	759	722	-37	-4.87%	37	56	-18	75

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,122	1,143	21	1.87%	116	138	10	264
41-2011	Cashiers	1,227	1,172	-55	-4.48%	118	112	-28	202
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,505	1,497	-8	-0.53%	66	84	-4	146
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	842	852	10	1.19%	56	76	5	137
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	813	764	-49	-6.03%	53	64	-24	93
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	759	722	-37	-4.87%	37	56	-18	75
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	861	837	-24	-2.79%	50	50	-12	88
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	918	907	-11	-1.20%	21	49	-6	64
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	1,467	1,432	-35	-2.39%	103	48	-18	133
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	804	769	-35	-4.35%	68	48	-18	98

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,122	1,143	21	1.87%	116	138	10	531
41-2011	Cashiers	1,227	1,172	-55	-4.48%	118	112	-28	404
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,505	1,497	-8	-0.53%	66	84	-4	293
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	842	852	10	1.19%	56	76	5	274
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	1,467	1,432	-35	-2.39%	103	48	-18	267
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	804	769	-35	-4.35%	68	48	-18	196
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	813	764	-49	-6.03%	53	64	-24	184
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	861	837	-24	-2.79%	50	50	-12	175
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	759	722	-37	-4.87%	37	56	-18	150
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	367	370	3	0.82%	30	42	2	149

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
41-2011	Cashiers	1,227	1,172	-55	-4.48%	118	112	-28	202
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	813	764	-49	-6.03%	53	64	-24	93
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	759	722	-37	-4.87%	37	56	-18	75
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	804	769	-35	-4.35%	68	48	-18	98
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	1,467	1,432	-35	-2.39%	103	48	-18	133

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
11-9031	Education and Childcare Administrators, Preschool and Daycare	53	48	-5	-9.43%	1	2	-2	1
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	108	99	-9	-8.33%	5	6	-4	7
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	146	134	-12	-8.22%	10	12	-6	16
21-1093	Social and Human Service Assistants	94	88	-6	-6.38%	4	6	-3	7
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	813	764	-49	-6.03%	53	64	-24	93

Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Southwest Arkansas Profile

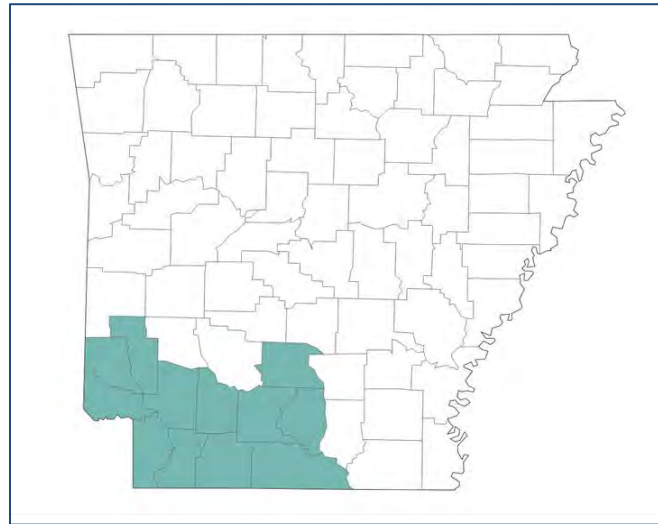
Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): -1.31%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 4.7%

The Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) is the largest Workforce Area in the state in terms of the number of counties represented.

Twelve counties are located within this region: Calhoun, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Sevier, and Union. Three states border the area: Oklahoma to the west, Texas to the southwest, and Louisiana to the south. Miller County is part of the Texarkana AR/TX Metropolitan Statistical Area.

The Southwest Arkansas WDA lost 1,317 jobs between 2024 and 2025, a decline of 1.76 percent. According to industry projections, employment is projected to see a reduction of 1,099 jobs between 2025 and 2027, or 1.31 percent of its local workforce. Goods-Producing industries are predicted to experience a net loss of 347 jobs, while Services-Providing industries are predicted to see a net loss of 584 jobs. The area is expected to lose 168 Self Employed Workers by March 2027. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 4.7 percent.

Other Services (except Government) is expected to be the top and fastest growing supersector, gaining 256 jobs, an increase of 6.17 percent. Driving this growth is *Religious Organizations*, which is predicted to add 177 new jobs, or a 9.33 increase in employment. *Crop Production* is slated to be the fastest growing industry, increasing its local workforce by 20.65 percent. On the negative side of the local market, nine supersectors are expected to experience a net job loss with **Trade, Transportation, and Utilities** anticipated to lose 317 jobs, becoming the top declining supersector. **Natural Resources and Mining** could experience a 6.93



lose most of its workforce between 2025 and 2027, cutting 360 jobs, becoming the top and fastest declining industry in the area.

According to occupational projections, the Southwest Arkansas WDA employers are estimated to have 8,536 job openings annually. Of these, 4,102 annual openings are due to employees leaving the workforce and 4,984 from those changing jobs. However, the overall decline in employment could reduce annual job openings by 550. **Community and Social Service Occupations** is set to be the top and fastest growing major group, adding 113 jobs, an increase of 5.91 percent. Driving this growth is Clergy, estimated to gain 81 new jobs, becoming the top growing occupation. *Directors, Religious Activities and Education* is projected to increase its workforce by 10.11 percent, becoming the fastest growing

occupation. On the negative side of the local economy, 17 major groups are forecast to experience a decline in jobs during the 2025-2027 projection cycle. **Sales and Related Occupations** is forecast to be the top declining major group, losing 204 jobs. **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** is predicted to be the fastest declining major group, cutting 5.09 percent of its local workforce. *Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers* is estimated to lose 112 jobs between 2025 and 2027, becoming the top declining occupation. *Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators* could experience a 17.81 percent reduction in staffing, becoming the fastest declining occupation.

percent reduction, becoming the fastest declining supersector. *Machinery Manufacturing* is slated to

Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	84,083	82,984	-1,099	-1.31%
006010	Self-Employed Workers, All Jobs	6,346	6,178	-168	-2.65%
101000	Goods Producing	24,445	24,098	-347	-1.42%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	2,454	2,284	-170	-6.93%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,629	1,499	-130	-7.98%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	825	785	-40	-4.85%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	2,970	2,870	-100	-3.37%
101300	MANUFACTURING	19,021	18,944	-77	-0.40%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	10,176	10,117	-59	-0.58%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	8,845	8,827	-18	-0.20%
102000	Services Providing	53,292	52,708	-584	-1.10%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	13,610	13,293	-317	-2.33%
420000	Wholesale Trade	1,982	2,014	32	1.61%
440000	Retail Trade	8,055	7,851	-204	-2.53%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	3,020	2,875	-145	-4.80%
220000	Utilities	553	553	0	0.00%
102200	INFORMATION	327	309	-18	-5.50%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,290	2,263	-27	-1.18%
520000	Finance and Insurance	1,628	1,616	-12	-0.74%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	662	647	-15	-2.27%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	4,352	4,159	-193	-4.43%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,087	1,108	21	1.93%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	730	611	-119	-16.30%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	2,535	2,440	-95	-3.75%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	17,255	17,016	-239	-1.39%
610000	Educational Services	7,565	7,285	-280	-3.70%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	9,690	9,731	41	0.42%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	5,557	5,478	-79	-1.42%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	440	452	12	2.73%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	5,117	5,026	-91	-1.78%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	4,151	4,407	256	6.17%
102800	GOVERNMENT	5,750	5,783	33	0.57%

Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
813100	Religious Organizations	1,898	2,075	177	9.33%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	3,082	3,238	156	5.06%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	2,849	2,993	144	5.05%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,821	1,941	120	6.59%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	1,463	1,552	89	6.08%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	2,830	2,900	70	2.47%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	857	919	62	7.23%
311000	Food Manufacturing	4,784	4,830	46	0.96%
111000	Crop Production	184	222	38	20.65%
814000	Private Households	661	699	38	5.75%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
111000	Crop Production	184	222	38	20.65%
513000	Publishing Industries	97	107	10	10.31%
813100	Religious Organizations	1,898	2,075	177	9.33%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	243	263	20	8.23%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	857	919	62	7.23%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,821	1,941	120	6.59%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	1,463	1,552	89	6.08%
814000	Private Households	661	699	38	5.75%
812000	Personal and Laundry Services	322	339	17	5.28%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	3,082	3,238	156	5.06%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	383	23	-360	-93.99%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	684	521	-163	-23.83%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	5,716	5,557	-159	-2.78%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	1,678	1,521	-157	-9.36%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,784	1,636	-148	-8.30%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	383	23	-360	-93.99%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	37	21	-16	-43.24%
524100	Insurance Carriers	34	22	-12	-35.29%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	684	521	-163	-23.83%
611500	Technical and Trade Schools	40	32	-8	-20.00%

Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	84,083	82,984	-1,099	-1.31%	4,102	4,984	-550	8,536
11-0000	Management Occupations	8,817	8,620	-197	-2.23%	380	368	-98	650
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	2,739	2,709	-30	-1.10%	85	128	-15	198
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	521	503	-18	-3.45%	10	16	-9	17
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	1,082	1,098	16	1.48%	28	42	8	78
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	544	542	-2	-0.37%	10	40	-1	49
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	1,912	2,025	113	5.91%	86	88	56	230
23-0000	Legal Occupations	191	189	-2	-1.05%	4	6	-1	9
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	5,299	5,117	-182	-3.43%	214	217	-91	340
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	493	491	-2	-0.41%	20	26	-1	45
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	3,878	3,947	69	1.78%	120	116	34	270
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	3,085	3,119	34	1.10%	222	214	17	453
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	1,622	1,622	0	0.00%	59	89	0	148
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	5,143	5,050	-93	-1.81%	424	524	-46	902
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	2,718	2,640	-78	-2.87%	178	186	-39	325
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	1,158	1,156	-2	-0.17%	84	111	-1	194
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	5,871	5,667	-204	-3.47%	380	424	-102	702
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	7,962	7,803	-159	-2.00%	408	448	-80	776
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	1,415	1,343	-72	-5.09%	92	106	-36	162
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	3,495	3,461	-34	-0.97%	109	170	-17	262
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	4,592	4,551	-41	-0.89%	173	221	-20	374
51-0000	Production Occupations	11,817	11,715	-102	-0.86%	516	794	-51	1,259
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	9,729	9,616	-113	-1.16%	497	650	-56	1,091

Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
21-2011	Clergy	890	971	81	9.10%	42	38	40	120
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	444	473	29	6.53%	14	34	14	62
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,446	1,473	27	1.87%	97	130	14	241
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,257	1,280	23	1.83%	108	78	12	198
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	209	224	15	7.18%	14	18	8	40
47-4041	Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	188	201	13	6.91%	8	10	6	24
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	135	147	12	8.89%	3	3	6	12
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	426	437	11	2.58%	26	29	6	61
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	604	615	11	1.82%	28	43	6	77
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	151	161	10	6.62%	5	7	5	17

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
21-2021	Directors, Religious Activities and Education	89	98	9	10.11%	4	5	4	13
21-2011	Clergy	890	971	81	9.10%	42	38	40	120
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	135	147	12	8.89%	3	3	6	12
51-2051	Fiberglass Laminators and Fabricators	105	114	9	8.57%	4	7	4	15
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	209	224	15	7.18%	14	18	8	40
47-4041	Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	188	201	13	6.91%	8	10	6	24
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	151	161	10	6.62%	5	7	5	17
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	444	473	29	6.53%	14	34	14	62
53-3052	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	63	67	4	6.35%	5	3	2	10
39-4021	Funeral Attendants	33	35	2	6.06%	4	2	1	7

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,426	3,314	-112	-3.27%	240	112	-56	296
41-2011	Cashiers	2,144	2,054	-90	-4.20%	206	196	-45	357
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,977	1,955	-22	-1.11%	202	240	-11	431
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,639	2,547	-92	-3.49%	114	146	-46	214
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,257	1,280	23	1.83%	108	78	12	198
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,171	2,162	-9	-0.41%	108	166	-4	270
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,699	1,651	-48	-2.83%	98	98	-24	172
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,446	1,473	27	1.87%	97	130	14	241
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,321	1,317	-4	-0.30%	87	94	-2	179
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,269	1,222	-47	-3.70%	83	94	-24	153

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,977	1,955	-22	-1.11%	202	240	-11	431
41-2011	Cashiers	2,144	2,054	-90	-4.20%	206	196	-45	357
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,171	2,162	-9	-0.41%	108	166	-4	270
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,639	2,547	-92	-3.49%	114	146	-46	214
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,446	1,473	27	1.87%	97	130	14	241
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,426	3,314	-112	-3.27%	240	112	-56	296
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,924	1,877	-47	-2.44%	44	102	-24	122
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,699	1,651	-48	-2.83%	98	98	-24	172
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,321	1,317	-4	-0.30%	87	94	-2	179
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,269	1,222	-47	-3.70%	83	94	-24	153

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,977	1,955	-22	-1.11%	202	240	-11	431
41-2011	Cashiers	2,144	2,054	-90	-4.20%	206	196	-45	357
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,426	3,314	-112	-3.27%	240	112	-56	296
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,171	2,162	-9	-0.41%	108	166	-4	270
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,446	1,473	27	1.87%	97	130	14	241
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,639	2,547	-92	-3.49%	114	146	-46	214
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,257	1,280	23	1.83%	108	78	12	198
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,321	1,317	-4	-0.30%	87	94	-2	179
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,699	1,651	-48	-2.83%	98	98	-24	172
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	1,020	1,016	-4	-0.39%	68	91	-2	157

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,426	3,314	-112	-3.27%	240	112	-56	296
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,639	2,547	-92	-3.49%	114	146	-46	214
41-2011	Cashiers	2,144	2,054	-90	-4.20%	206	196	-45	357
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	415	351	-64	-15.42%	26	31	-32	25
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,699	1,651	-48	-2.83%	98	98	-24	172

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	73	60	-13	-17.81%	3	4	-6	1
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	30	25	-5	-16.67%	2	2	-2	2
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	415	351	-64	-15.42%	26	31	-32	25
51-8013	Power Plant Operators	69	59	-10	-14.49%	2	4	-5	1
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	57	50	-7	-12.28%	2	3	-4	1

Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Southeast Arkansas Profile

Projected Employment Growth (2025-2027): -2.65%
Unemployment Rate (Not-seasonally-adjusted Avg.) (2025Q1): 5.5%

The Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of 10 counties: Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley,

Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, and Lincoln. Two states border the Southeast Arkansas WDA: Louisiana to the south and Mississippi to the east.

The Southeast Arkansas WDA lost 908 jobs over the last year, a 1.38 percent decline. According to industry projections, the Southeast Arkansas WDA is expected to continue to struggle, losing the most jobs of any workforce area, cutting 1,957 jobs between 2025 and 2027, a 2.65 percent decline. Goods-Producing industries are projected to experience a net loss of 730 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to lose 882 jobs. The area could see a decline of 345 Self Employed Workers. The not-seasonally-adjusted average unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2025 was 5.5 percent.

Government is predicted to be the only supersector to experience net job gain during the between 2025 and 2027, gaining an estimated 64 jobs, or a 0.77 percent rise in employment. *Ambulatory Health Care Services* leads Southeast Arkansas with a growth of 135 new jobs, an increase of 5.07 percent. *Forestry* is slated to be the fastest growing industry, raising employment levels by 7.84 percent. On the other side of the labor market, nine supersectors are forecast to experience job loss, where **Manufacturing** could see the toughest outlook, cutting 408 jobs, or 3.02 percent of its workforce. The **Information** supersector could cut 11.06 percent of its workforce between 2025 and 2027. *Food Services and Drinking Places* is set to lose



262 jobs, becoming the top declining industry, while *Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers* is forecast to cut 46.15

percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining industry.

Southeast Arkansas WDA employers are expected to have 6,946 job openings annually during the 2025-2027 projection period. Of these, 3,586 would be from employees leaving the workforce, while 4,338 could be created from those changing jobs. Growth and expansion could be reduced by 978 job openings each year.

Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations is projected to be the top and fastest growing major group, gaining 45 new jobs, an increase of 1.16 percent, one of only two major groups to experience job growth. Two

occupations top the local area with 12 new jobs each. *Nurse Practitioners* is forecast to raise its employment ranks by 9.84 percent, becoming the fastest growing occupation in Southeast Arkansas, while *Medical and Health Services Managers* is predicted to increase by 3.82. On the negative side of the local economy, 20 of the 22 major groups are set to experience a net loss of jobs between 2025 and 2027.

Management Occupations is estimated to be the top declining major group losing 326 jobs, while **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** could be the fastest declining major group, cutting 8.15 percent of its local workforce. *Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers* is forecast to experience a decline of 203 jobs, or 7.09 percent of its workforce to become the top declining occupation. *Machine Feeders and Offbearers* is slated to lose 13.11 percent of its already small local workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation.

Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Industry Projections by Major Division

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
000000	TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	73,973	72,016	-1,957	-2.65%
000067	Self-Employed, All Jobs	5,471	5,126	-345	-6.31%
101000	Goods Producing	18,906	18,176	-730	-3.86%
101100	NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	3,283	2,972	-311	-9.47%
110000	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	3,240	2,933	-307	-9.48%
210000	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	43	39	-4	-9.30%
101200	CONSTRUCTION	2,094	2,083	-11	-0.53%
101300	MANUFACTURING	13,529	13,121	-408	-3.02%
	Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	7,172	6,960	-212	-2.96%
	Durable Goods Manufacturing	6,357	6,161	-196	-3.08%
102000	Services Providing	49,596	48,714	-882	-1.78%
102100	TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES	11,699	11,418	-281	-2.40%
420000	Wholesale Trade	1,772	1,806	34	1.92%
440000	Retail Trade	7,229	7,046	-183	-2.53%
480000	Transportation and Warehousing	2,129	1,988	-141	-6.62%
220000	Utilities	569	578	9	1.58%
102200	INFORMATION	199	177	-22	-11.06%
102300	FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,166	2,043	-123	-5.68%
520000	Finance and Insurance	1,655	1,547	-108	-6.53%
530000	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	511	496	-15	-2.94%
102400	PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	2,985	2,969	-16	-0.54%
540000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	949	943	-6	-0.63%
550000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	319	310	-9	-2.82%
560000	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,717	1,716	-1	-0.06%
102500	EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	16,618	16,369	-249	-1.50%
610000	Educational Services	6,919	6,779	-140	-2.02%
620000	Health Care and Social Assistance	9,699	9,590	-109	-1.12%
102600	LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	5,099	4,844	-255	-5.00%
710000	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	987	987	0	0.00%
720000	Accommodation and Food Services	4,112	3,857	-255	-6.20%
102700	OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)	2,492	2,492	0	0.00%
102800	GOVERNMENT	8,338	8,402	64	0.77%

Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Industry Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

Top 10 Growing Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,661	2,796	135	5.07%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,606	1,675	69	4.30%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,868	2,927	59	2.06%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	2,298	2,336	38	1.65%
999200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,805	3,840	35	0.92%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	852	880	28	3.29%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	868	896	28	3.23%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	369	389	20	5.42%
814000	Private Households	685	705	20	2.92%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	1,947	1,960	13	0.67%

Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
113132	Forestry	51	55	4	7.84%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	369	389	20	5.42%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,661	2,796	135	5.07%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,606	1,675	69	4.30%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	93	97	4	4.30%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	852	880	28	3.29%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	868	896	28	3.23%
814000	Private Households	685	705	20	2.92%
491100	Postal Service	341	350	9	2.64%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,868	2,927	59	2.06%

Top 5 Declining Industries (Ranked by Numeric Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	3,749	3,487	-262	-6.99%
624000	Social Assistance	2,247	2,015	-232	-10.32%
111000	Crop Production	1,357	1,134	-223	-16.43%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	2,381	2,175	-206	-8.65%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	1,469	1,310	-159	-10.82%

Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries (Ranked by Percent Change)

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	39	21	-18	-46.15%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	52	30	-22	-42.31%
524100	Insurance Carriers	24	15	-9	-37.50%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	57	42	-15	-26.32%
111000	Crop Production	1,357	1,134	-223	-16.43%

Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

2025-2027 Occupational Projections by Major Group

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	73,973	72,016	-1,957	-2.65%	3,586	4,338	-978	6,946
11-0000	Management Occupations	7,512	7,186	-326	-4.34%	316	312	-163	465
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	2,546	2,487	-59	-2.32%	78	116	-30	164
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	542	534	-8	-1.48%	12	18	-4	26
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	607	600	-7	-1.15%	14	24	-4	34
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	670	643	-27	-4.03%	12	44	-14	42
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	1,659	1,652	-7	-0.42%	68	78	-4	142
23-0000	Legal Occupations	170	168	-2	-1.18%	4	6	-1	9
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	4,710	4,599	-111	-2.36%	193	196	-56	333
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	407	390	-17	-4.18%	16	22	-8	30
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	3,871	3,916	45	1.16%	116	106	22	244
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	3,291	3,240	-51	-1.55%	236	222	-26	432
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	1,936	1,943	7	0.36%	75	112	4	191
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	4,579	4,312	-267	-5.83%	365	452	-134	683
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	2,233	2,217	-16	-0.72%	145	155	-8	292
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	1,173	1,136	-37	-3.15%	80	110	-18	172
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	5,402	5,212	-190	-3.52%	341	386	-95	632
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	8,180	7,998	-182	-2.22%	420	463	-91	792
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	2,319	2,130	-189	-8.15%	148	172	-94	226
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	2,475	2,463	-12	-0.48%	76	118	-6	188
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	3,846	3,793	-53	-1.38%	146	185	-26	305
51-0000	Production Occupations	9,304	9,043	-261	-2.81%	394	600	-130	864
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	6,541	6,354	-187	-2.86%	333	442	-94	681

Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area

Occupational Rankings

Top 10 Growing Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	122	134	12	9.84%	3	2	6	11
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	314	326	12	3.82%	8	14	6	28
33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	307	317	10	3.26%	8	15	5	28
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	219	226	7	3.20%	8	8	4	20
43-4031	Court, Municipal, and License Clerks	230	237	7	3.04%	11	12	4	27
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	112	118	6	5.36%	4	6	3	13
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	230	236	6	2.61%	8	10	3	21
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	465	471	6	1.29%	28	32	3	63
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	641	647	6	0.94%	26	24	3	53
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	657	663	6	0.91%	51	42	3	96

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Employment of 25)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	122	134	12	9.84%	3	2	6	11
51-9083	Ophthalmic Laboratory Technicians	28	30	2	7.14%	2	2	1	5
33-2022	Forest Fire Inspectors and Prevention Specialists	29	31	2	6.90%	1	2	1	4
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	112	118	6	5.36%	4	6	3	13
29-2053	Psychiatric Technicians	38	40	2	5.26%	2	2	1	5
43-5011	Cargo and Freight Agents	106	111	5	4.72%	3	6	2	11
29-1292	Dental Hygienists	95	99	4	4.21%	4	2	2	8
29-1123	Physical Therapists	75	78	3	4.00%	2	1	2	5
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	51	53	2	3.92%	2	4	1	7
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	314	326	12	3.82%	8	14	6	28

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Exits

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	2,862	2,659	-203	-7.09%	196	92	-102	186
41-2011	Cashiers	1,782	1,692	-90	-5.05%	170	162	-45	287
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,677	1,570	-107	-6.38%	167	198	-54	311
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,532	1,470	-62	-4.05%	128	92	-31	189
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,812	1,769	-43	-2.37%	105	106	-22	189
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,344	1,348	4	0.30%	90	120	2	212
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,218	1,218	0	0.00%	80	88	0	168
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,222	1,186	-36	-2.95%	80	91	-18	153
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	938	923	-15	-1.60%	66	65	-8	123
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,331	1,257	-74	-5.56%	57	73	-37	93

Top 10 Occupations by Annual Transfers

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,677	1,570	-107	-6.38%	167	198	-54	311
41-2011	Cashiers	1,782	1,692	-90	-5.05%	170	162	-45	287
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,344	1,348	4	0.30%	90	120	2	212
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,812	1,769	-43	-2.37%	105	106	-22	189
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,532	1,470	-62	-4.05%	128	92	-31	189
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	2,862	2,659	-203	-7.09%	196	92	-102	186
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,222	1,186	-36	-2.95%	80	91	-18	153
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,218	1,218	0	0.00%	80	88	0	168
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,057	1,032	-25	-2.37%	52	80	-12	120
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,454	1,418	-36	-2.48%	33	78	-18	93

Top 10 Occupations by Total Annual Openings

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,677	1,570	-107	-6.38%	167	198	-54	311
41-2011	Cashiers	1,782	1,692	-90	-5.05%	170	162	-45	287
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,344	1,348	4	0.30%	90	120	2	212
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,532	1,470	-62	-4.05%	128	92	-31	189
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,812	1,769	-43	-2.37%	105	106	-22	189
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	2,862	2,659	-203	-7.09%	196	92	-102	186
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,218	1,218	0	0.00%	80	88	0	168
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,222	1,186	-36	-2.95%	80	91	-18	153
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	938	923	-15	-1.60%	66	65	-8	123
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,057	1,032	-25	-2.37%	52	80	-12	120

Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Numeric Change)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	2,862	2,659	-203	-7.09%	196	92	-102	186
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,677	1,570	-107	-6.38%	167	198	-54	311
41-2011	Cashiers	1,782	1,692	-90	-5.05%	170	162	-45	287
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,331	1,257	-74	-5.56%	57	73	-37	93
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,532	1,470	-62	-4.05%	128	92	-31	189

Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Change) (Minimum Decline of 5)

SOC Code	SOC Title	2025 Estimated Employment	2027 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Annual Change	Total Annual Openings
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	61	53	-8	-13.11%	3	4	-4	3
27-1024	Graphic Designers	42	37	-5	-11.90%	1	2	-2	1
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	207	185	-22	-10.63%	13	16	-11	18
43-3071	Tellers	332	298	-34	-10.24%	16	18	-17	17
11-9031	Education and Childcare Administrators, Preschool and Daycare	49	44	-5	-10.20%	1	2	-2	1

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.