

2024

ARKANSAS

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Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Table of Contents

Monthly Spotlight.....2

Arkansas Labor Force Summary.....3

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs.....4

Arkansas Production Workers.....6

Metropolitan Statistical Areas.....7

Micropolitan Statistical Areas/Cities.....14

County Labor Force Statistics.....15

Local Workforce Development Areas.....18

Technical Notes

The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The current month's estimates are preliminary, while previous month's data is subject to revision.

Estimates of nonfarm payroll jobs show the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Hours and earnings estimates are based on payroll and worker-hour data collected for production workers in manufacturing industries.

Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). All estimates are based on a first quarter 2023 benchmark.

Explanation of Terms and Concepts

Monthly Business

Survey of Employers

A monthly sample survey designed to provide industry information on nonfarm payroll jobs. Data are compiled each month from mail surveys and telephone interviews conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with Department of Workforce Services. The data are based on establishment records and include all workers, full- or part-time, who received pay during the payroll period which includes the 12th of the month. Approximately

5,000 Arkansas business establishments are surveyed.

Metropolitan

Statistical Areas

A term applied by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to counties that have one or more central cities and that meet specified criteria of population density, commuting patterns and social and economic integration.

Current Population

Survey (CPS)

A monthly sample survey of the population 16 years of age and over, designed to provide data on the labor force, the employed and the unemployed. The survey is conducted each month by the Bureau of the Census for BLS. The information is collected by trained interviewers from a sample of about 60,000 households. The data collected are based on the activity reported for the calendar week including the 12th of the month. Approximately 1,000 Arkansas households are represented in the sample survey.

Civilian Labor Force

The sum of all employed and unemployed persons 16 years of age or older. Members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

Employment

An estimate of the number of persons who worked any time

for pay or profit or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month. Also included are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, and persons involved in labor management disputes.

Unemployment

An estimate of the number of persons who did not have a job, but were available for work and actively seeking work during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month.

Unemployment

Rate

The number of unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labor force. Unemployment rates are calculated from unrounded data.

Seasonal

Adjustment

A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to seasonal events such as weather, major holidays, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/closing of schools.



Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



April Spotlight

Business Employment Dynamics (BED)

Business Employment Dynamics, also known as BED, tracks employment gains and losses at individual business locations. BED statistics are calculated from quarterly reports provided by employers to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program. Like QCEW data, BED statistics are produced and published on a quarterly basis. At this time, BED data is only available at the national and statewide levels.

The information produced from BED statistics includes gross job gains and losses at establishments with changes in employment. These employment changes occur when establishments open/expand or close/contract. Gross job gains are a combination of jobs created from both openings of new businesses and expansions at existing businesses. Gross job losses are a combination of jobs lost from both existing businesses that close and those that reduce their number of employees. The net change is the difference between gross job gains and gross job losses.

Gross Job Gains and Losses by Quarter (Private Sector)					
State of Arkansas					
(Seasonally Adjusted)					

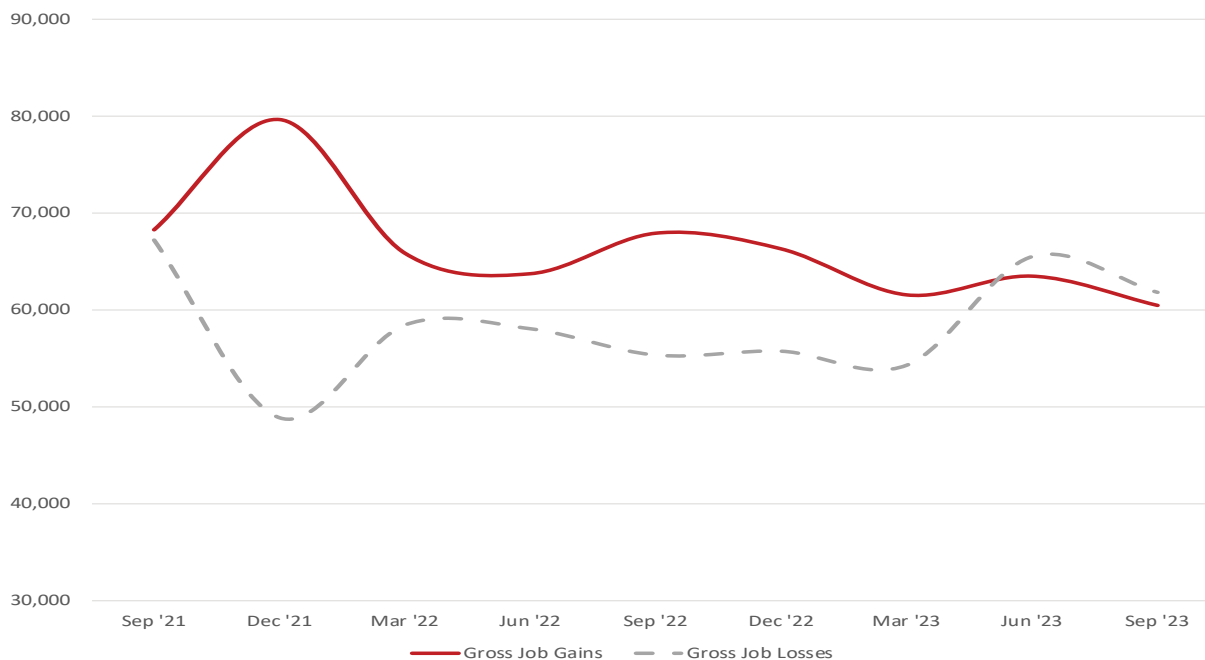
Quarter Ending					

Category	Sep 22	Dec 22	Mar 23	Jun 23	Sep 23*

Employment Levels					
Gross job gains.....	67,914	66,289	61,533	63,471	60,444
Gross job losses....	55,294	55,695	54,248	65,458	61,771
Net Change.....	12,620	10,594	7,285	-1,987	-1,327

*Most recent BED data available is for 3rd Quarter 2023

Arkansas' Gross Job Gains vs. Gross Job Losses (Private Sector/Seasonally Adjusted)
3rd Quarter 2021 - 3rd Quarter 2023



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

State of Arkansas

Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.5% in March to 3.4% in April. At 3.9%, the United States' jobless rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point between March and April.

Arkansas' civilian labor force increased by 2,731 in April, as 3,557 more Arkansans are employed since March. The civilian labor force and the number of employed are both at record high levels. The unemployment rate declined to 3.4%, while the States' labor force participation rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point.

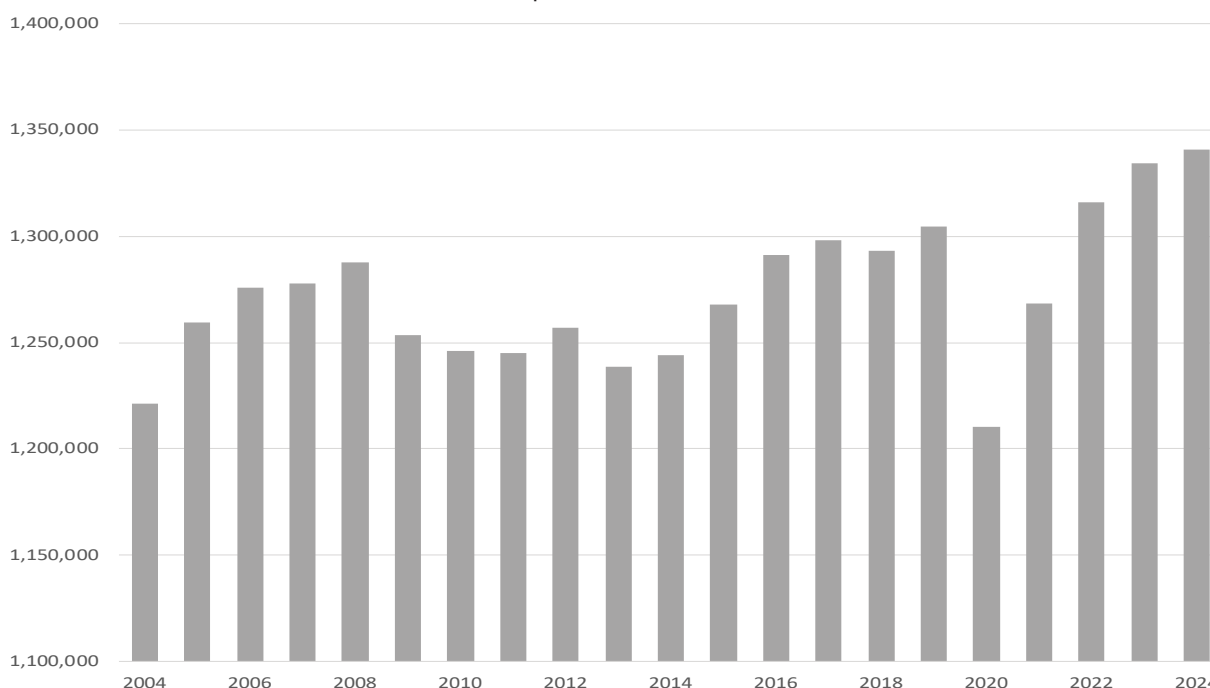
Compared to April 2023, employment is up by 6,594. There are now 8,424 more unemployed Arkansans actively looking for work, pushing the unemployment rate up six-tenths of a percentage point. The labor force participation rate remained stable over the year.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23
Civilian Labor Force	1,388,357	1,385,626	1,373,339	Civilian Labor Force	1,402,502	1,391,307
Employment	1,340,867	1,337,310	1,334,273	Employment	1,359,476	1,345,373
Unemployment	47,490	48,316	39,066	Unemployment	43,026	45,934
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.5%	2.8%	Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.3%
LF Participation Rate	57.5%	57.4%	57.5%	LF Participation Rate	58.1%	57.7%

Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

April: 2004 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

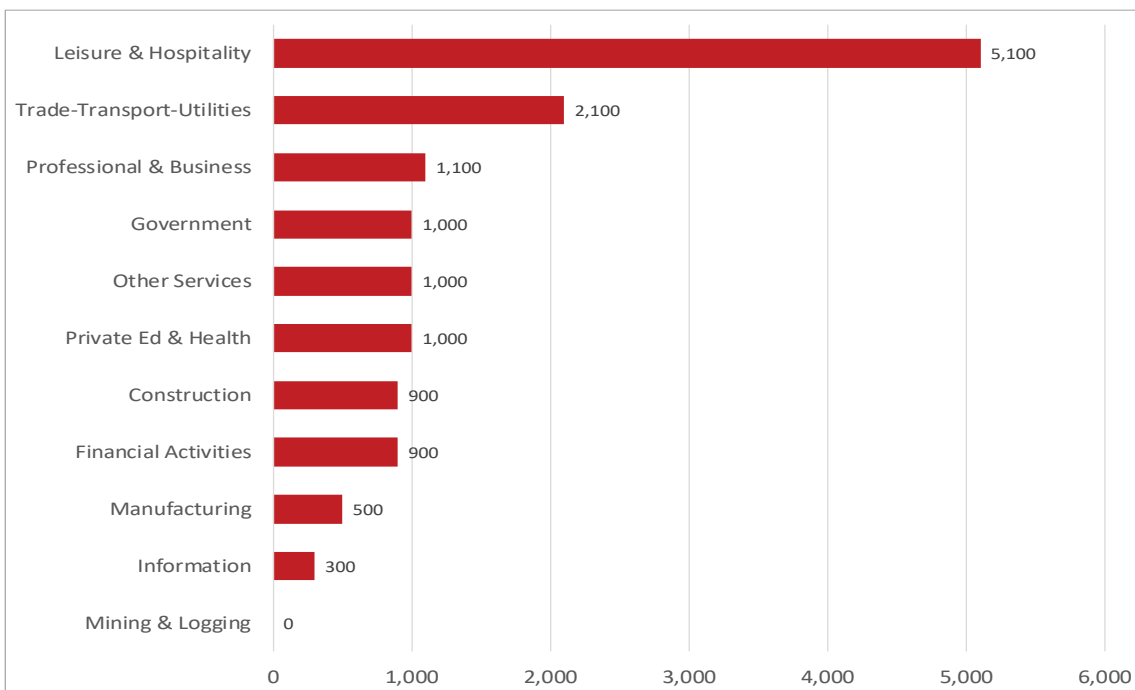
(NAICS)	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1377.0	1363.1	1352.9	13.9	24.1
Goods Producing	233.6	232.2	230.0	1.4	3.6
Mining, Logging, & Construction	72.8	71.9	67.8	0.9	5.0
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	67.6	66.7	62.6	0.9	5.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	42.8	42.1	39.2	0.7	3.6
Manufacturing	160.8	160.3	162.2	0.5	-1.4
Durable Goods	77.2	77.2	78.7	0.0	-1.5
Nondurable Goods	83.6	83.1	83.5	0.5	0.1
Service Providing	1143.4	1130.9	1122.9	12.5	20.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	269.9	267.8	265.5	2.1	4.4
Wholesale Trade	51.7	51.5	52.1	0.2	-0.4
Retail Trade	146.0	145.0	142.0	1.0	4.0
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	72.2	71.3	71.4	0.9	0.8
Information	12.7	12.4	12.9	0.3	-0.2
Financial Activities	70.9	70.0	70.0	0.9	0.9
Finance & Insurance	55.9	55.1	54.9	0.8	1.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	15.0	14.9	15.1	0.1	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	159.0	157.9	158.7	1.1	0.3
Professional, Scientific & Technical	50.4	50.6	50.6	-0.2	-0.2
Management of Companies	38.0	37.8	37.6	0.2	0.4
Administrative & Support Services	70.6	69.5	70.5	1.1	0.1
Private Education & Health Services	213.9	212.9	206.7	1.0	7.2
Private Educational Services	19.4	19.5	19.2	-0.1	0.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	194.5	193.4	187.5	1.1	7.0
Ambulatory Health Care	68.6	67.7	64.9	0.9	3.7
Social Assistance	39.6	40.3	39.0	-0.7	0.6
Leisure & Hospitality	132.4	127.3	128.0	5.1	4.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	14.4	13.4	13.4	1.0	1.0
Accommodation & Food Services	118.0	113.9	114.6	4.1	3.4
Accommodation Services	11.8	11.4	11.8	0.4	0.0
Food Services	106.2	102.5	102.8	3.7	3.4
Other Services	67.9	66.9	67.1	1.0	0.8
Government	216.7	215.7	214.0	1.0	2.7
Federal Government	21.8	21.9	21.0	-0.1	0.8
State Government	78.6	78.2	78.6	0.4	0.0
State Gov, Educational Services	32.5	32.1	32.4	0.4	0.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.1	46.1	46.2	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	116.3	115.6	114.4	0.7	1.9
Local Gov, Educational Services	71.6	71.4	70.6	0.2	1.0
Local Gov, Excluding Education	44.7	44.2	43.8	0.5	0.9

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

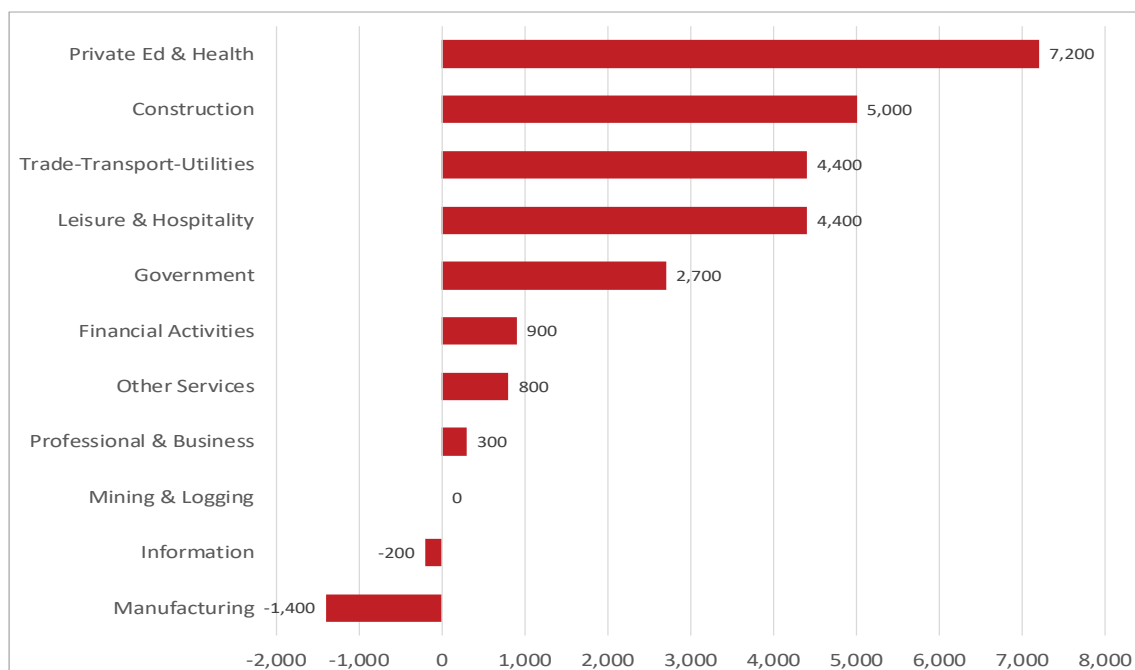
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State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
March 2024 - April 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
April 2023 - April 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

Manufacturing

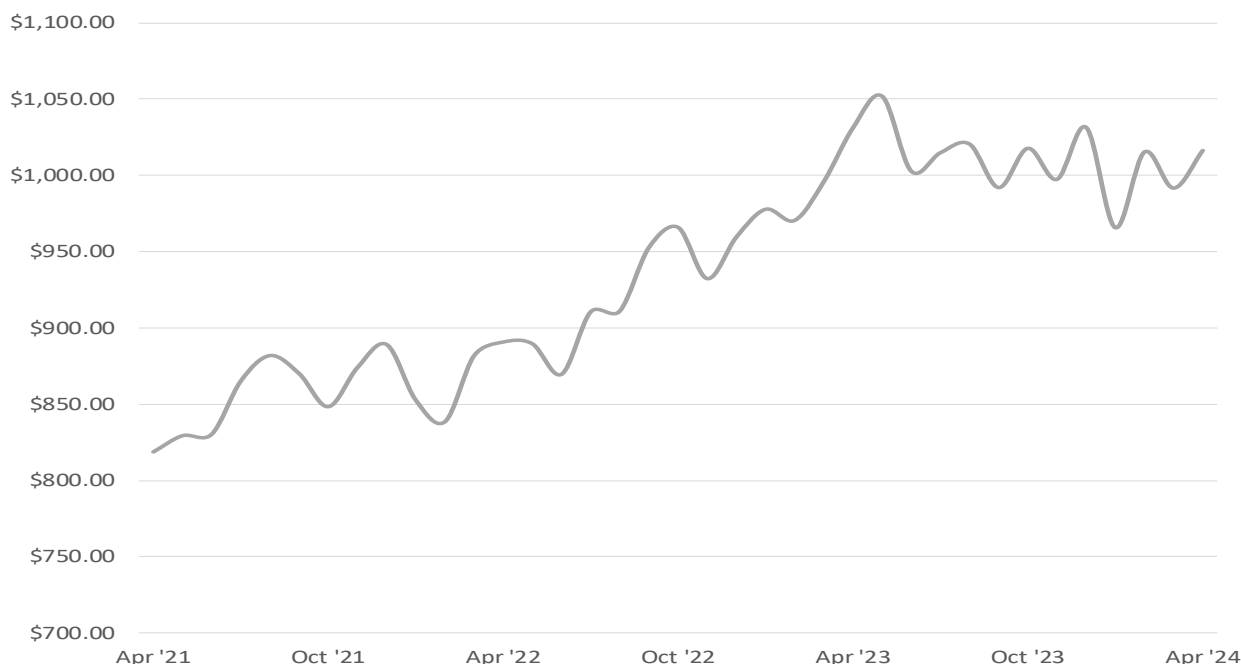
	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23
Average Weekly Hours	38.7	37.8	38.0
Average Hourly Earnings	\$21.49	\$22.89	\$21.97
Average Weekly Earnings	\$831.66	\$865.24	\$834.86

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23		Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23
Average Weekly Hours	42.6	40.4	42.3	Average Weekly Hours	35.2	35.5	33.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.85	\$24.54	\$24.37	Average Hourly Earnings	\$18.91	\$19.63	\$19.20
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,016.01	\$991.42	\$1,030.85	Average Weekly Earnings	\$665.63	\$696.87	\$650.88

Average Weekly Earnings - Durable Goods (Production Workers)

April 2021 - April 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

The Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA = Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, & Saline counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	375,116	372,017	364,498	3,099	10,618
Employment	364,102	360,324	355,730	3,778	8,372
Unemployment	11,014	11,693	8,768	-679	2,246
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	3.1%	2.4%	-0.2%	0.5%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	397.0	394.5	388.3	2.5	8.7
Goods Producing	42.6	42.1	40.4	0.5	2.2
Mining, Logging & Construction	22.3	21.9	20.7	0.4	1.6
Manufacturing	20.3	20.2	19.7	0.1	0.6
Service Providing	354.4	352.4	347.9	2.0	6.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	78.2	78.1	77.0	0.1	1.2
Wholesale Trade	17.7	17.8	17.5	-0.1	0.2
Retail Trade	39.1	38.9	38.4	0.2	0.7
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	21.4	21.4	21.1	0.0	0.3
Information	5.4	5.3	5.7	0.1	-0.3
Financial Activities	27.7	27.7	27.8	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	50.4	50.3	49.4	0.1	1.0
Private Education & Health Services	66.0	65.4	63.7	0.6	2.3
Leisure & Hospitality	35.1	34.3	34.9	0.8	0.2
Other Services	19.7	19.5	19.4	0.2	0.3
Government	71.9	71.8	70.0	0.1	1.9
Federal Government	10.7	10.7	10.2	0.0	0.5
State Government	34.2	34.3	34.1	-0.1	0.1
Local Government	27.0	26.8	25.7	0.2	1.3

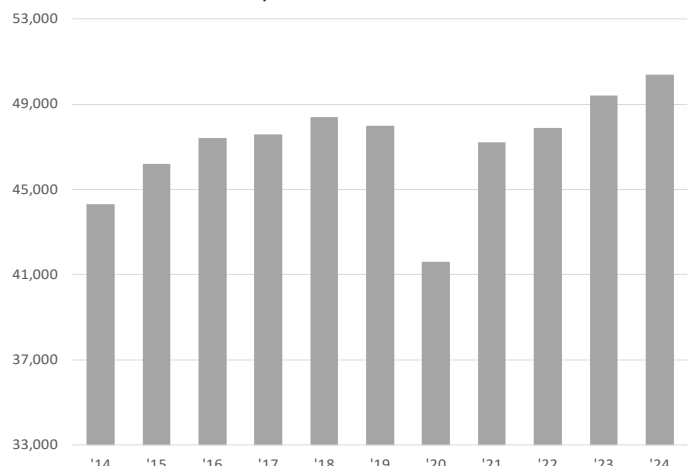
Employment

April 2021 - April 2024



Jobs in Professional and Business Services

April: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA = Benton, Madison, & Washington counties in Arkansas and McDonald county in Missouri.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	320,289	316,901	310,277	3,388	10,012
Employment	312,996	309,031	304,314	3,965	8,682
Unemployment	7,293	7,870	5,963	-577	1,330
Unemployment Rate	2.3%	2.5%	1.9%	-0.2%	0.4%

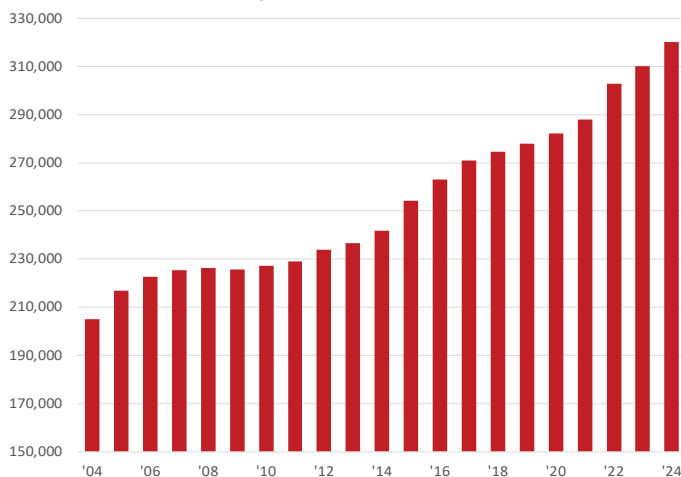
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Apr 24	Mar 24	Apr 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	314.3	311.8	305.0	2.5	9.3
Goods Producing	48.3	47.9	46.4	0.4	1.9
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.6	17.4	16.3	0.2	1.3
Manufacturing	30.7	30.5	30.1	0.2	0.6
Service Providing	266.0	263.9	258.6	2.1	7.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	63.5	63.0	62.1	0.5	1.4
Wholesale Trade	14.1	14.1	13.9	0.0	0.2
Retail Trade	30.1	29.7	28.8	0.4	1.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	19.3	19.2	19.4	0.1	-0.1
Information	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	12.4	12.4	12.4	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	59.4	59.1	59.4	0.3	0.0
Private Education & Health Services	37.2	37.0	35.2	0.2	2.0
Leisure & Hospitality	32.6	31.4	31.0	1.2	1.6
Other Services	13.8	13.7	13.4	0.1	0.4
Government	44.8	45.0	42.7	-0.2	2.1
Federal Government	3.3	3.3	3.1	0.0	0.2
State Government	20.9	21.1	19.5	-0.2	1.4
Local Government	20.6	20.6	20.1	0.0	0.5

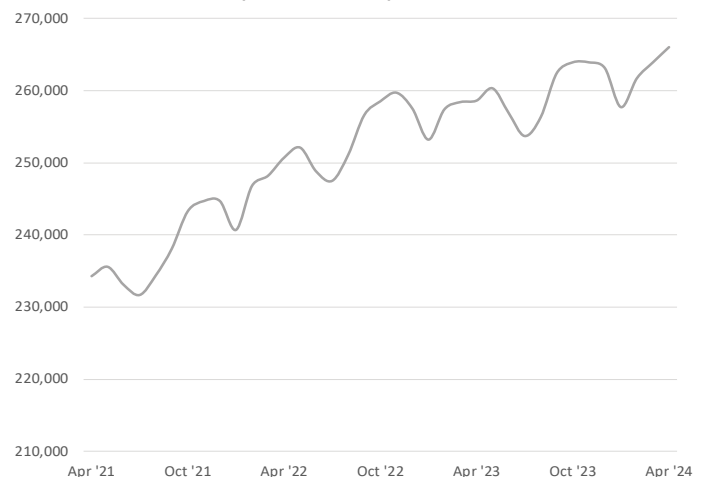
Civilian Labor Force

April: 2004 - 2024



Jobs in Service Providing Industries

April 2021 - April 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

The Fort Smith MSA = Crawford & Sebastian counties in Arkansas & LeFlore & Sequoyah counties in Oklahoma.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	121,540	120,807	118,952	733	2,588
Employment	117,545	116,543	115,884	1,002	1,661
Unemployment	3,995	4,264	3,068	-269	927
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.5%	2.6%	-0.2%	0.7%

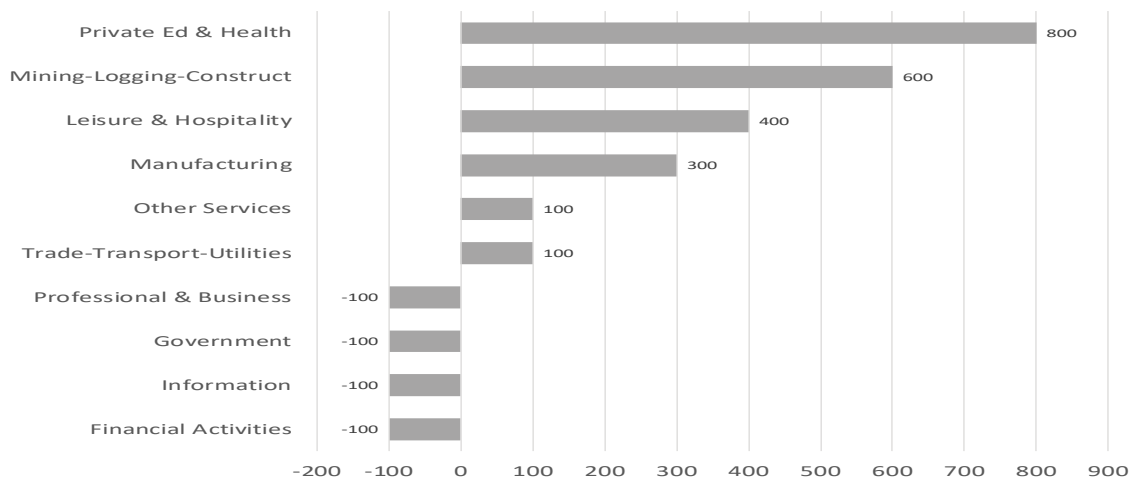
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	118.0	117.2	116.1	0.8	1.9
Goods Producing	25.4	25.1	24.5	0.3	0.9
Mining, Logging & Construction	6.3	6.1	5.7	0.2	0.6
Manufacturing	19.1	19.0	18.8	0.1	0.3
Service Providing	92.6	92.1	91.6	0.5	1.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24.1	24.1	24.0	0.0	0.1
Wholesale Trade	4.6	4.6	4.6	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	13.1	13.0	12.9	0.1	0.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.4	6.5	6.5	-0.1	-0.1
Information	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	4.8	4.8	4.9	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	11.9	11.8	12.0	0.1	-0.1
Private Education & Health Services	19.1	19.0	18.3	0.1	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	10.5	10.1	10.1	0.4	0.4
Other Services	4.0	3.9	3.9	0.1	0.1
Government	16.8	17.0	16.9	-0.2	-0.1
Federal Government	1.3	1.4	1.3	-0.1	0.0
State Government	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	13.2	13.3	13.2	-0.1	0.0

Over-the-Year Job Change by Industry Sector

April 2023 vs April 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,782	41,398	41,955	384	-173
Employment	40,350	39,867	40,706	483	-356
Unemployment	1,432	1,531	1,249	-99	183
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.7%	3.0%	-0.3%	0.4%

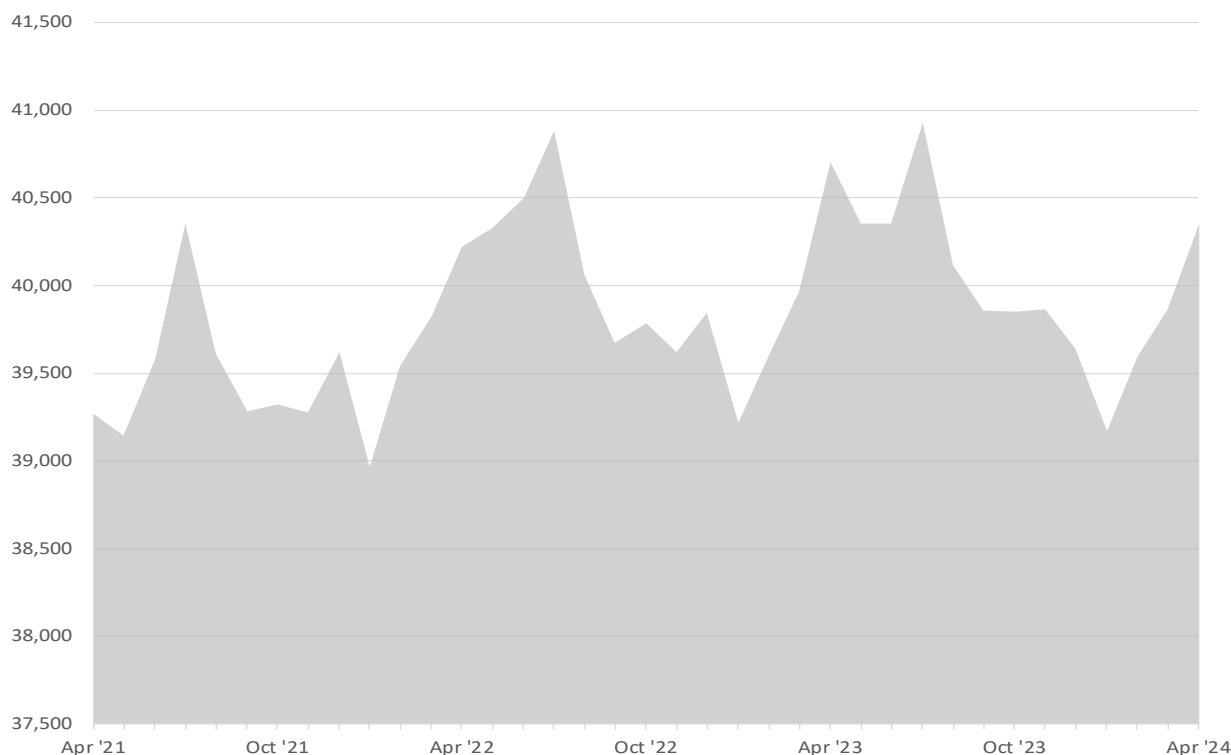
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	41.3	41.1	41.7	0.2	-0.4
Goods Producing	4.3	4.3	4.4	0.0	-0.1
Service Providing	37.0	36.8	37.3	0.2	-0.3
Government	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	0.1

Employment

April 2021 - April 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	68,187	67,517	67,292	670	895
Employment	66,354	65,547	65,827	807	527
Unemployment	1,833	1,970	1,465	-137	368
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	2.9%	2.2%	-0.2%	0.5%

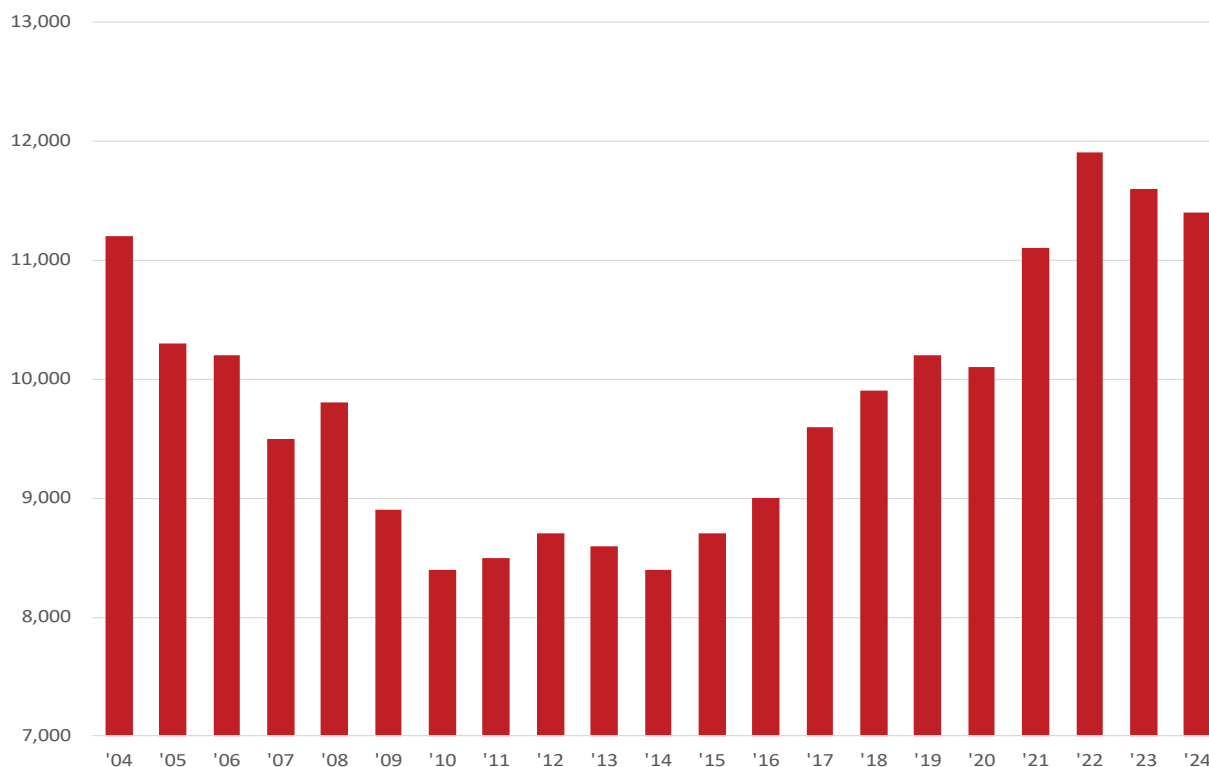
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	64.5	64.0	63.9	0.5	0.6
Goods Producing	11.4	11.2	11.6	0.2	-0.2
Service Providing	53.1	52.8	52.3	0.3	0.8
Government	9.2	9.1	9.1	0.1	0.1

Jobs in Goods Producing Industries

April: 2004 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	32,082	31,875	32,328	207	-246
Employment	30,755	30,478	31,197	277	-442
Unemployment	1,327	1,397	1,131	-70	196
Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.4%	3.5%	-0.3%	0.6%

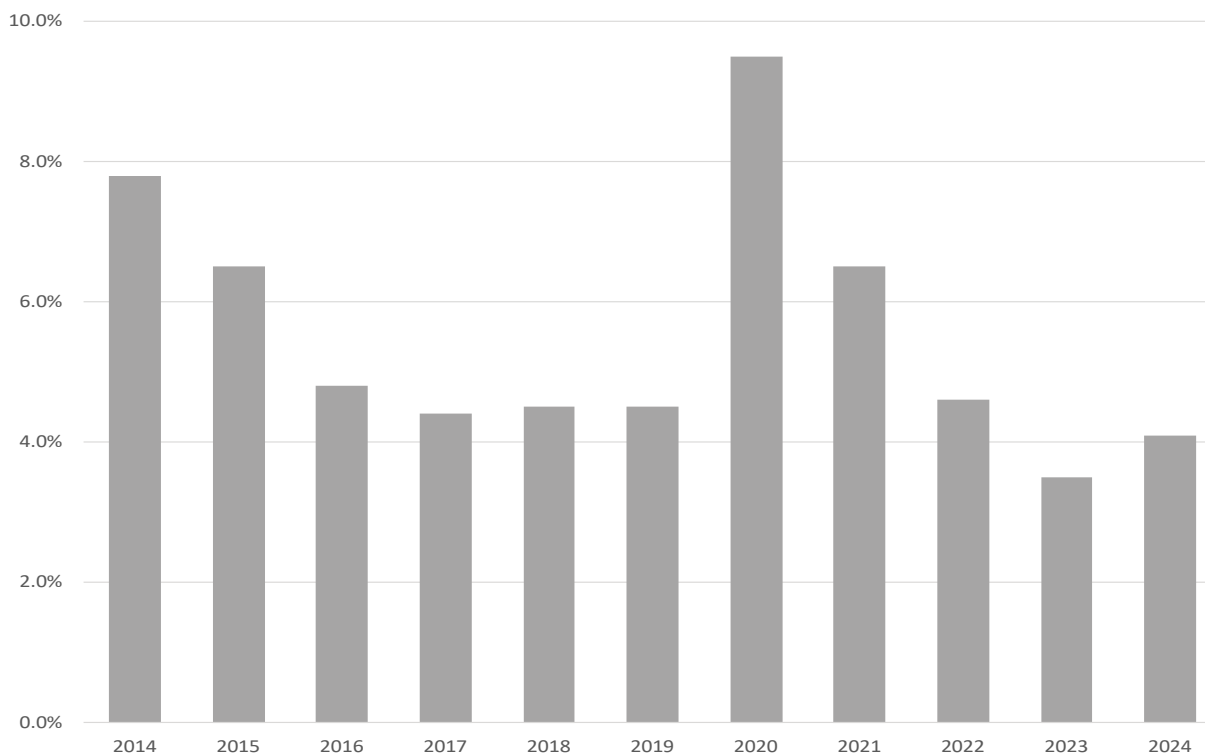
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	31.4	31.2	31.9	0.2	-0.5
Goods Producing	5.3	5.3	5.5	0.0	-0.2
Service Providing	26.1	25.9	26.4	0.2	-0.3
Government	8.5	8.5	8.8	0.0	-0.3

Unemployment Rates

April: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Out-of-State MSA

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA

The Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA = Fayette, Shelby, & Tipton counties in Tennessee; Benton, Desoto, Marshall, Tate, & Tunica counties in Mississippi; & Crittenden County in Arkansas.

	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	622,534	623,679	624,453	-1,145	-1,919
Employment	602,142	600,855	603,656	1,287	-1,514
Unemployment	20,392	22,824	20,797	-2,432	-405
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.7%	3.3%	-0.4%	0.0%

Texarkana MSA

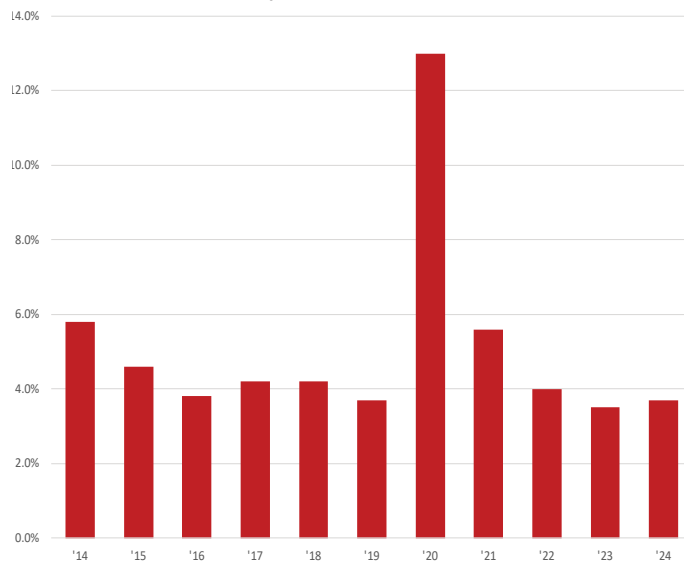
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Apr 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	62,700	62,539	62,378	161	322
Employment	60,370	59,951	60,186	419	184
Unemployment	2,330	2,588	2,192	-258	138
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	4.1%	3.5%	-0.4%	0.2%

Memphis MSA - Employment
April 2021 - April 2024



Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates
April: 2014 - 2024



2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	April 2024				March 2024				April 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	8,715	8,398	317	3.6	8,704	8,355	349	4.0	8,463	8,177	286	3.4
Batesville Micro	17,076	16,607	469	2.7	16,903	16,409	494	2.9	17,067	16,635	432	2.5
Blytheville Micro	17,199	16,428	771	4.5	17,127	16,368	759	4.4	16,634	16,009	625	3.8
Camden Micro	11,995	11,553	442	3.7	11,983	11,518	465	3.9	11,990	11,626	364	3.0
El Dorado Micro	14,620	13,940	680	4.7	14,609	13,889	720	4.9	14,738	14,214	524	3.6
Forrest City Micro	7,477	7,108	369	4.9	7,428	7,047	381	5.1	7,472	7,187	285	3.8
Harrison Micro	19,263	18,643	620	3.2	19,038	18,381	657	3.5	19,204	18,727	477	2.5
Helena-West Helena Micro	5,183	4,914	269	5.2	5,183	4,891	292	5.6	5,374	5,093	281	5.2
Hope Micro	12,168	11,769	399	3.3	12,085	11,670	415	3.4	12,652	12,334	318	2.5
Magnolia Micro	8,876	8,554	322	3.6	8,868	8,520	348	3.9	8,720	8,426	294	3.4
Malvern Micro	13,746	13,292	454	3.3	13,653	13,160	493	3.6	13,783	13,408	375	2.7
Mountain Home Micro	17,074	16,468	606	3.5	16,976	16,307	669	3.9	16,938	16,475	463	2.7
Paragould Micro	20,067	19,410	657	3.3	20,014	19,298	716	3.6	19,868	19,368	500	2.5
Russellville Micro	37,060	35,852	1,208	3.3	36,853	35,569	1,284	3.5	36,889	35,857	1,032	2.8
Searcy Micro	34,511	33,373	1,138	3.3	34,366	33,121	1,245	3.6	33,902	32,973	929	2.7

Arkadelphia Micro = Clark County

Batesville Micro = Independence County

Blytheville Micro = Mississippi County

Camden Micro = Calhoun & Ouachita counties

El Dorado Micro = Union County

Forrest City Micro = St. Francis County

Harrison Micro = Boone & Newton counties

Helena-West Helena Micro = Phillips County

Hope Micro = Hempstead & Nevada counties

Magnolia Micro = Columbia County

Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County

Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County

Paragould Micro = Greene County

Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties

Searcy Micro = White County

City Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

City	April 2024				March 2024				April 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	13,779	13,363	416	3.0	13,613	13,194	419	3.1	13,327	12,985	342	2.6
Benton	18,686	18,179	507	2.7	18,510	17,986	524	2.8	18,150	17,753	397	2.2
Bentonville	33,414	32,680	734	2.2	33,027	32,266	761	2.3	32,341	31,755	586	1.8
Blytheville	5,773	5,499	274	4.7	5,745	5,479	266	4.6	5,596	5,359	237	4.2
Cabot	12,593	12,268	325	2.6	12,514	12,153	361	2.9	12,288	12,018	270	2.2
Conway	36,258	35,268	990	2.7	35,969	34,896	1,073	3.0	35,305	34,475	830	2.4
El Dorado	6,341	5,999	342	5.4	6,319	5,977	342	5.4	6,338	6,117	221	3.5
Fayetteville	54,434	53,281	1,153	2.1	53,866	52,589	1,277	2.4	52,811	51,788	1,023	1.9
Fort Smith	39,486	38,260	1,226	3.1	39,102	37,787	1,315	3.4	38,559	37,617	942	2.4
Hot Springs	15,517	14,932	585	3.8	15,379	14,753	626	4.1	15,546	15,063	483	3.1
Jacksonville	12,159	11,730	429	3.5	12,051	11,606	445	3.7	11,778	11,452	326	2.8
Jonesboro	41,071	39,979	1,092	2.7	40,637	39,479	1,158	2.8	40,519	39,629	890	2.2
Little Rock	101,822	98,445	3,377	3.3	100,949	97,411	3,538	3.5	98,606	96,115	2,491	2.5
North Little Rock	31,371	30,272	1,099	3.5	31,113	29,954	1,159	3.7	30,418	29,556	862	2.8
Paragould	12,771	12,336	435	3.4	12,748	12,265	483	3.8	12,631	12,309	322	2.5
Pine Bluff	15,032	14,284	748	5.0	14,904	14,151	753	5.1	15,081	14,469	612	4.1
Rogers	41,001	40,093	908	2.2	40,550	39,584	966	2.4	39,666	38,957	709	1.8
Russellville	13,305	12,914	391	2.9	13,185	12,805	380	2.9	13,254	12,898	356	2.7
Searcy	10,406	10,078	328	3.2	10,347	10,002	345	3.3	10,234	9,957	277	2.7
Sherwood	16,990	16,521	469	2.8	16,836	16,347	489	2.9	16,510	16,130	380	2.3
Springdale	43,472	42,551	921	2.1	42,985	42,000	985	2.3	42,123	41,358	765	1.8
Texarkana, AR	12,879	12,379	500	3.9	12,766	12,253	513	4.0	12,757	12,359	398	3.1
Van Buren	10,557	10,232	325	3.1	10,454	10,113	341	3.3	10,305	10,072	233	2.3
West Memphis	9,936	9,534	402	4.0	9,873	9,440	433	4.4	10,009	9,636	373	3.7

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	April 2024				March 2024				April 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,013	8,761	252	2.8	9,007	8,743	264	2.9	9,070	8,867	203	2.2
Ashley	6,601	6,253	348	5.3	6,533	6,181	352	5.4	6,482	6,189	293	4.5
Baxter	17,074	16,468	606	3.5	16,976	16,307	669	3.9	16,938	16,475	463	2.7
Benton	159,611	155,914	3,697	2.3	157,879	153,938	3,941	2.5	154,523	151,500	3,023	2.0
Boone	16,028	15,522	506	3.2	15,838	15,303	535	3.4	15,974	15,579	395	2.5
Bradley	4,110	3,950	160	3.9	4,122	3,949	173	4.2	4,072	3,915	157	3.9
Calhoun	2,368	2,293	75	3.2	2,367	2,289	78	3.3	2,372	2,318	54	2.3
Carroll	12,096	11,737	359	3.0	11,957	11,569	388	3.2	12,237	11,949	288	2.4
Chicot	2,861	2,702	159	5.6	2,866	2,697	169	5.9	2,879	2,746	133	4.6
Clark	8,715	8,398	317	3.6	8,704	8,355	349	4.0	8,463	8,177	286	3.4
Clay	5,393	5,169	224	4.2	5,345	5,104	241	4.5	5,440	5,273	167	3.1
Cleburne	9,133	8,778	355	3.9	9,025	8,649	376	4.2	8,977	8,693	284	3.2
Cleveland	3,064	2,965	99	3.2	3,050	2,940	110	3.6	3,101	3,020	81	2.6
Columbia	8,876	8,554	322	3.6	8,868	8,520	348	3.9	8,720	8,426	294	3.4
Conway	8,374	8,093	281	3.4	8,285	7,974	311	3.8	8,392	8,140	252	3.0
Craighead	58,108	56,611	1,497	2.6	57,506	55,903	1,603	2.8	57,334	56,116	1,218	2.1
Crawford	27,038	26,186	852	3.2	26,796	25,881	915	3.4	26,427	25,778	649	2.5
Crittenden	20,279	19,536	743	3.7	20,149	19,345	804	4.0	20,405	19,746	659	3.2
Cross	7,014	6,782	232	3.3	6,974	6,722	252	3.6	6,879	6,685	194	2.8
Dallas	2,638	2,534	104	3.9	2,644	2,538	106	4.0	2,674	2,583	91	3.4
Desha	4,891	4,637	254	5.2	4,863	4,599	264	5.4	4,901	4,715	186	3.8
Drew	7,663	7,364	299	3.9	7,744	7,436	308	4.0	7,500	7,243	257	3.4
Faulkner	65,797	64,060	1,737	2.6	65,275	63,384	1,891	2.9	64,128	62,619	1,509	2.4
Franklin	7,545	7,328	217	2.9	7,497	7,253	244	3.3	7,448	7,261	187	2.5
Fulton	4,582	4,424	158	3.4	4,508	4,335	173	3.8	4,594	4,455	139	3.0
Garland	41,782	40,350	1,432	3.4	41,398	39,867	1,531	3.7	41,955	40,706	1,249	3.0
Grant	8,795	8,574	221	2.5	8,745	8,501	244	2.8	8,588	8,391	197	2.3
Greene	20,067	19,410	657	3.3	20,014	19,298	716	3.6	19,868	19,368	500	2.5
Hempstead	8,907	8,622	285	3.2	8,848	8,552	296	3.3	9,267	9,039	228	2.5
Hot Spring	13,746	13,292	454	3.3	13,653	13,160	493	3.6	13,783	13,408	375	2.7
Howard	5,219	5,060	159	3.0	5,209	5,046	163	3.1	5,264	5,118	146	2.8
Independence	17,076	16,607	469	2.7	16,903	16,409	494	2.9	17,067	16,635	432	2.5
Izard	4,673	4,467	206	4.4	4,621	4,399	222	4.8	4,517	4,349	168	3.7
Jackson	5,384	5,165	219	4.1	5,385	5,151	234	4.3	5,424	5,207	217	4.0
Jefferson	25,321	24,258	1,063	4.2	25,149	24,033	1,116	4.4	25,502	24,573	929	3.6
Johnson	9,828	9,359	469	4.8	9,821	9,322	499	5.1	10,054	9,745	309	3.1
Lafayette	2,185	2,086	99	4.5	2,165	2,063	102	4.7	2,268	2,184	84	3.7
Lawrence	6,931	6,718	213	3.1	6,932	6,686	246	3.5	6,903	6,732	171	2.5
Lee	2,514	2,396	118	4.7	2,508	2,390	118	4.7	2,612	2,497	115	4.4
Lincoln	3,697	3,532	165	4.5	3,676	3,505	171	4.7	3,725	3,604	121	3.2
Little River	5,227	5,025	202	3.9	5,181	4,982	199	3.8	5,145	5,010	135	2.6
Logan	8,311	8,005	306	3.7	8,312	7,963	349	4.2	8,289	8,040	249	3.0
Lonoke	35,717	34,778	939	2.6	35,456	34,452	1,004	2.8	34,832	34,070	762	2.2
Madison	8,171	7,967	204	2.5	8,108	7,886	222	2.7	7,990	7,826	164	2.1
Marion	5,993	5,761	232	3.9	5,910	5,649	261	4.4	6,162	5,987	175	2.8
Miller	18,790	18,096	694	3.7	18,623	17,911	712	3.8	18,624	18,066	558	3.0

(continued on Page 16)

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	April 2024				March 2024				April 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,199	16,428	771	4.5	17,127	16,368	759	4.4	16,634	16,009	625	3.8
Monroe	2,467	2,374	93	3.8	2,466	2,372	94	3.8	2,509	2,433	76	3.0
Montgomery	3,051	2,917	134	4.4	2,994	2,855	139	4.6	3,001	2,890	111	3.7
Nevada	3,261	3,147	114	3.5	3,237	3,118	119	3.7	3,385	3,295	90	2.7
Newton	3,235	3,121	114	3.5	3,200	3,078	122	3.8	3,230	3,148	82	2.5
Ouachita	9,627	9,260	367	3.8	9,616	9,229	387	4.0	9,618	9,308	310	3.2
Perry	4,395	4,248	147	3.3	4,357	4,203	154	3.5	4,284	4,170	114	2.7
Phillips	5,183	4,914	269	5.2	5,183	4,891	292	5.6	5,374	5,093	281	5.2
Pike	4,082	3,959	123	3.0	4,040	3,903	137	3.4	4,109	3,995	114	2.8
Poinsett	10,079	9,743	336	3.3	10,011	9,644	367	3.7	9,958	9,711	247	2.5
Polk	7,780	7,470	310	4.0	7,767	7,432	335	4.3	7,880	7,663	217	2.8
Pope	28,825	27,884	941	3.3	28,638	27,648	990	3.5	28,647	27,849	798	2.8
Prairie	3,613	3,512	101	2.8	3,595	3,479	116	3.2	3,546	3,463	83	2.3
Pulaski	197,772	191,401	6,371	3.2	196,069	189,391	6,678	3.4	191,708	186,872	4,836	2.5
Randolph	7,130	6,872	258	3.6	7,137	6,872	265	3.7	7,093	6,901	192	2.7
St. Francis	7,477	7,108	369	4.9	7,428	7,047	381	5.1	7,472	7,187	285	3.8
Saline	62,640	61,041	1,599	2.6	62,115	60,393	1,722	2.8	60,958	59,608	1,350	2.2
Scott	4,444	4,310	134	3.0	4,428	4,287	141	3.2	4,420	4,322	98	2.2
Searcy	2,879	2,771	108	3.8	2,778	2,662	116	4.2	2,902	2,804	98	3.4
Sebastian	56,885	55,115	1,770	3.1	56,349	54,434	1,915	3.4	55,551	54,190	1,361	2.5
Sevier	5,548	5,360	188	3.4	5,554	5,351	203	3.7	5,476	5,315	161	2.9
Sharp	6,123	5,898	225	3.7	6,020	5,774	246	4.1	6,036	5,854	182	3.0
Stone	4,687	4,517	170	3.6	4,618	4,429	189	4.1	4,551	4,402	149	3.3
Union	14,620	13,940	680	4.7	14,609	13,889	720	4.9	14,738	14,214	524	3.6
Van Buren	5,948	5,722	226	3.8	5,908	5,663	245	4.1	5,906	5,715	191	3.2
Washington	140,775	137,828	2,947	2.1	139,235	136,038	3,197	2.3	136,471	133,965	2,506	1.8
White	34,511	33,373	1,138	3.3	34,366	33,121	1,245	3.6	33,902	32,973	929	2.7
Woodruff	2,828	2,731	97	3.4	2,855	2,745	110	3.9	2,866	2,784	82	2.9
Yell	8,235	7,968	267	3.2	8,215	7,921	294	3.6	8,242	8,008	234	2.8

County Labor Force Summary

Between March and April, unemployment rates declined in 71 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Two counties posted rate increases over the month, while two counties remained stable. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.1% in Washington County to a high of 5.6% in Chicot County.

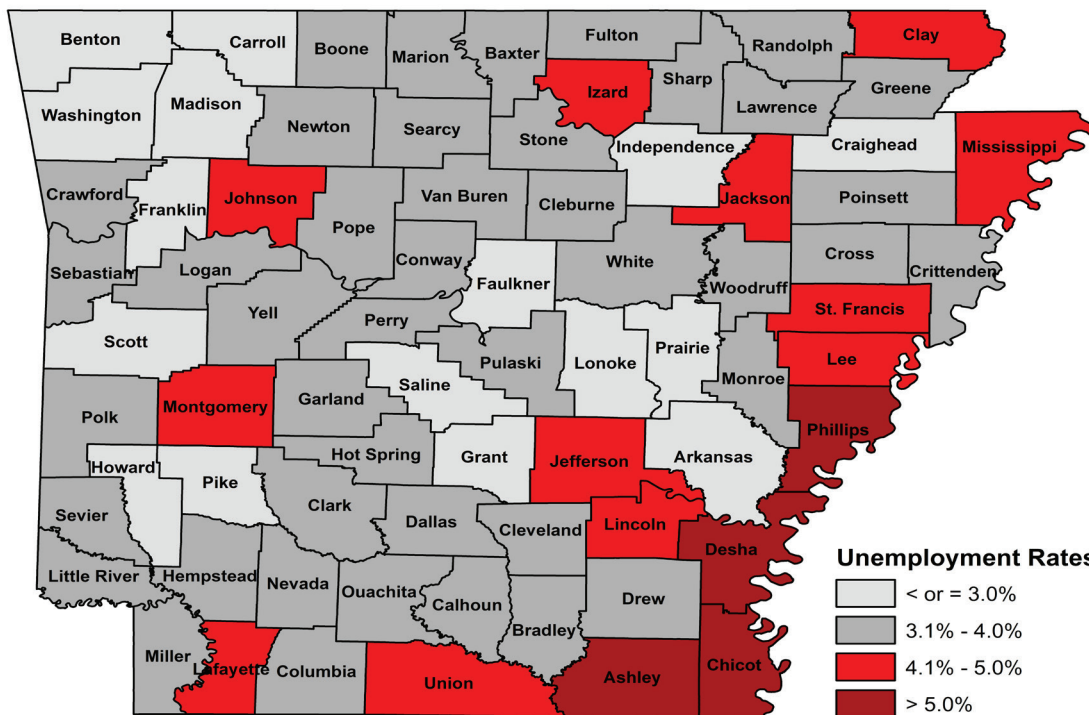
In April, sixteen counties reported jobless rates at or below 3%. That is up from ten counties at or below three percent last month. For the third consecutive month, no county had an unemployment rate above seven percent.

Compared to April 2023, unemployment rates are up in 73 Arkansas counties. Two counties-Bradley and Phillips- were stable over the year. Jobless rate increases ranged from as little as one-tenth of a percentage point in Jackson County to as much as a one and seven-tenths of a percentage point gain in Johnson County. The average annual unemployment rate increase for counties was six-tenths of a percentage point.

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

April 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.1	26	Cross	3.3	49	Searcy	3.8
2	Benton	2.3	26	Greene	3.3	49	Van Buren	3.8
3	Grant	2.5	26	Hot Spring	3.3	53	Bradley	3.9
3	Madison	2.5	26	Perry	3.3	53	Cleburne	3.9
5	Craighead	2.6	26	Poinsett	3.3	53	Dallas	3.9
5	Faulkner	2.6	26	Pope	3.3	53	Drew	3.9
5	Lonoke	2.6	26	White	3.3	53	Little River	3.9
5	Saline	2.6	33	Conway	3.4	53	Marion	3.9
9	Independence	2.7	33	Fulton	3.4	59	Polk	4.0
10	Arkansas	2.8	33	Garland	3.4	60	Jackson	4.1
10	Prairie	2.8	33	Sevier	3.4	61	Clay	4.2
12	Franklin	2.9	33	Woodruff	3.4	61	Jefferson	4.2
13	Carroll	3.0	38	Baxter	3.5	63	Izard	4.4
13	Howard	3.0	38	Nevada	3.5	63	Montgomery	4.4
13	Pike	3.0	38	Newton	3.5	65	Lafayette	4.5
13	Scott	3.0	41	Clark	3.6	65	Lincoln	4.5
17	Lawrence	3.1	41	Columbia	3.6	65	Mississippi	4.5
17	Sebastian	3.1	41	Randolph	3.6	68	Lee	4.7
19	Boone	3.2	41	Stone	3.6	68	Union	4.7
19	Calhoun	3.2	45	Crittenden	3.7	70	Johnson	4.8
19	Cleveland	3.2	45	Logan	3.7	71	St. Francis	4.9
19	Crawford	3.2	45	Miller	3.7	72	Desha	5.2
19	Hempstead	3.2	45	Sharp	3.7	72	Phillips	5.2
19	Pulaski	3.2	49	Monroe	3.8	74	Ashley	5.3
19	Yell	3.2	49	Ouachita	3.8	75	Chicot	5.6

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

APRIL

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	April 2024				March 2024				April 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	266,184	258,721	7,463	2.8	264,027	256,060	7,967	3.0	259,075	252,950	6,125	2.4
City of Little Rock	101,822	98,445	3,377	3.3	100,949	97,411	3,538	3.5	98,606	96,115	2,491	2.5
Eastern	42,467	40,736	1,731	4.1	42,242	40,395	1,847	4.4	42,742	41,208	1,534	3.6
North Central	94,945	91,682	3,263	3.4	94,209	90,675	3,534	3.8	93,840	91,067	2,773	3.0
Northeast	124,907	120,951	3,956	3.2	124,072	119,875	4,197	3.4	123,230	120,110	3,120	2.5
Northwest	365,862	357,089	8,773	2.4	361,881	352,430	9,451	2.6	356,427	349,233	7,194	2.0
Southeast	76,016	72,996	3,020	4.0	75,755	72,584	3,171	4.2	75,820	73,263	2,557	3.4
Southwest	87,266	83,977	3,289	3.8	86,921	83,488	3,433	3.9	87,551	84,876	2,675	3.1
West Central	131,033	126,468	4,565	3.5	130,105	125,208	4,897	3.8	130,930	127,088	3,842	2.9
Western	112,003	108,414	3,589	3.2	111,149	107,250	3,899	3.5	110,015	107,254	2,761	2.5

