

Arkansas Labor Market

October 2013

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Increases to 7.5 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Rise 6,100 in October

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.4	7.2
US Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.2	7.9

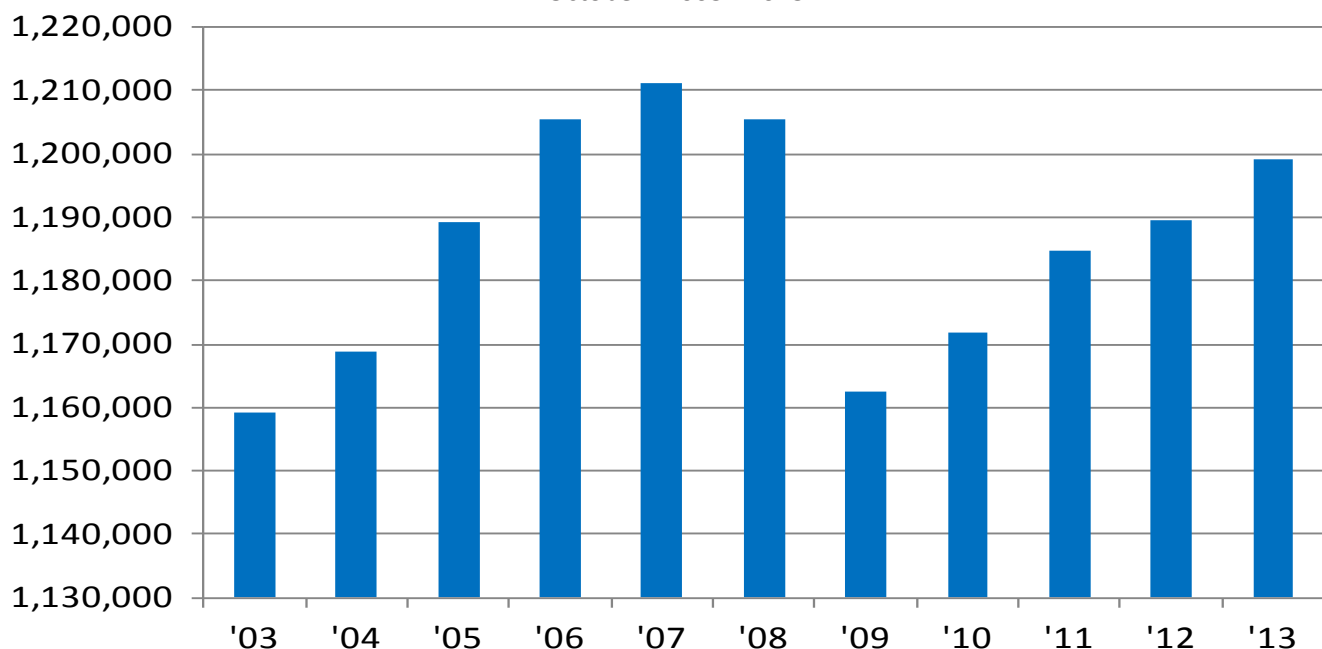
Nonfarm Payroll Summary

State of Arkansas

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,199,200	1,193,100	1,189,400
Goods Producing	212,600	213,700	212,400
Service Providing	986,600	979,400	977,000

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

State of Arkansas
October: 2003 - 2013



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

September 2013 - October 2013

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose 6,100 in October to total 1,199,200. Five major industry sectors added jobs, more than offsetting minor declines in six sectors. Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** increased 3,300. Retail trade posted a majority of the gain (+2,700), related in part to reported seasonal hiring. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 1,700. Most of the gains occurred in health care and social assistance (+1,300). **Government** added 2,900 jobs. A majority of the increase was seen in local government (+2,200), a typical seasonal expansion that reflects public school employment. **Professional and business services** posted the largest decline, down 700.

October 2012 - October 2013

Since October 2012, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas have increased 9,800. Six major industry sectors enjoyed growth, while five sectors declined. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** gained 7,600 jobs. Additions in retail trade (+5,500) and transportation-warehousing-utilities (+5,000) more than offset the losses in wholesale trade (-2,900). Employment in **educational and health services** rose 3,300. **Professional and business services** added 1,500 jobs. Most of the gains occurred in professional-scientific-technical services (+1,500). **Other services** reported the largest decline (-1,800). This sector includes activities such as repair and maintenance and membership associations.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12
Total Nonfarm	1,199,200	1,193,100	1,189,400
Goods Producing	212,600	213,700	212,400
Mining & Logging	10,400	10,500	10,200
Construction	47,100	47,700	46,900
Specialty Trade Contractors	31,500	30,900	29,600
Manufacturing	155,100	155,500	155,300
Durable Goods	78,800	79,000	77,000
Nondurable Goods	76,300	76,500	78,300
Service Providing	986,600	979,400	977,000
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	253,900	250,600	246,300
Wholesale Trade	45,300	45,300	48,200
Retail Trade	141,400	138,700	135,900
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	67,200	66,600	62,200
Information	14,200	14,300	14,400
Financial Activities	50,300	50,000	49,300
Finance & Insurance	37,100	36,700	35,900
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,200	13,300	13,400
Professional & Business Services	125,500	126,200	124,000
Professional, Scientific & Technical	39,900	40,000	38,900
Management of Companies	32,100	32,100	31,400
Administrative & Support Services	53,500	54,100	53,700
Educational & Health Services	178,600	176,900	175,300
Educational Services	16,900	16,500	16,000
Health Care & Social Assistance	161,700	160,400	159,300
Ambulatory Health Care	50,100	49,500	48,300
Social Assistance	38,500	37,600	36,300
Leisure & Hospitality	103,200	103,700	104,000
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,900	9,600	9,500
Accommodation & Food Services	94,300	94,100	94,500
Accommodation Services	10,800	11,100	11,100
Food Services	83,500	83,000	83,400
Other Services	41,800	41,500	43,600
Government	219,100	216,200	220,100
Federal Government	19,700	19,800	20,700
State Government	79,100	78,300	78,500
Local Government	120,300	118,100	120,900

Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12
Manufacturing	\$658.19	\$643.54	\$647.08	41.5	41.2	42.1	\$15.86	\$15.62	\$15.37
Durable Goods	690.81	695.54	673.99	42.2	41.9	41.4	16.37	16.60	16.28
Nondurable Goods	627.10	593.73	621.71	40.8	40.5	42.7	15.37	14.66	14.56

Spotlight

Business Employment Dynamics (BED)

Business Employment Dynamics, also known as BED statistics, are a relatively new employment statistic. BED is primarily concerned with tracking employment changes at the establishment level, meaning each individual business location.

BED statistics are linked closely to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program and are calculated from quarterly reports provided by individual employers. Like QCEW data, BED statistics are produced on a quarterly basis, with longitudinal data dating back to 1992. At this time, BED data are only published at the national and state level. No statistics currently exist to provide data at the county or city levels in Arkansas.

Gross Job Gains and Losses by Quarter (Private Sector)

State of Arkansas
(Seasonally Adjusted)

3 months ended

Category	Mar 12	Jun 12	Sep 12	Dec 12	Mar 13*
Employment Levels					
Gross job gains.....	54,609	52,314	51,668	56,703	54,198
Gross job losses....	53,188	53,856	57,464	50,392	52,714
Net Change.....	1,421	-1,542	-5,796	6,311	1,484

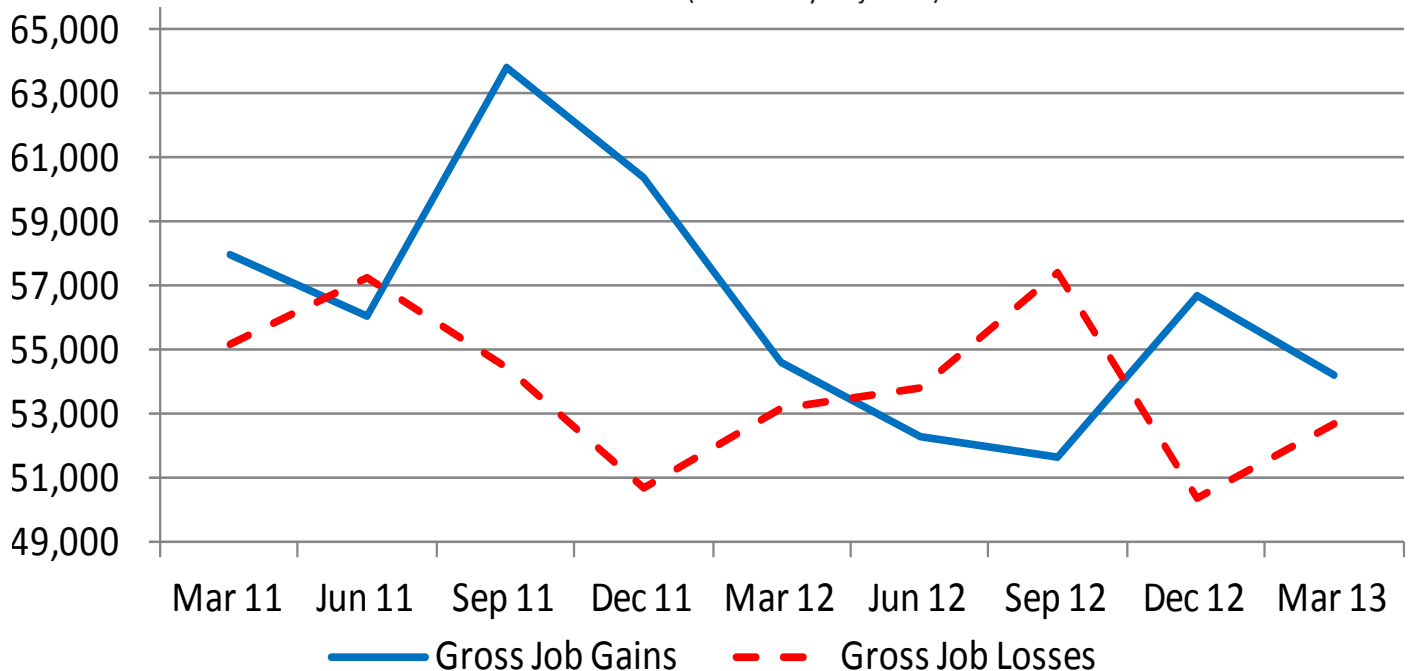
*Most recent BED data available is for 1st Quarter 2013

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.

The chart below shows gross job gains versus gross job losses for a nine quarter period (1st Q 2011- 1st Q 2013).

Gross Job Gains vs. Gross Job Losses (Private Sector)

State of Arkansas (Seasonally Adjusted)



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

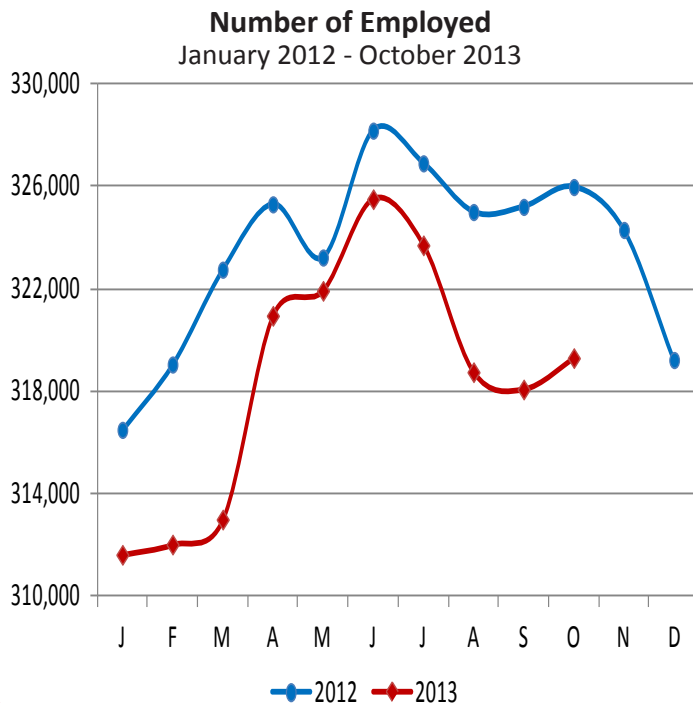
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12
Total Nonfarm	350,400	348,000	346,500
Goods Producing	36,900	36,800	36,800
Mining, Logging & Construction	17,000	16,900	16,800
Manufacturing	19,900	19,900	20,000
Service Providing	313,500	311,200	309,700
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	70,800	70,400	68,400
Wholesale Trade	15,600	15,600	15,900
Retail Trade	40,600	40,200	38,600
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,600	14,600	13,900
Information	7,000	7,100	7,300
Financial Activities	19,900	19,800	19,800
Professional & Business Services	46,100	45,300	43,900
Educational & Health Services	53,400	53,600	53,300
Leisure & Hospitality	30,400	29,800	30,900
Other Services	15,500	15,600	15,400
Government	70,400	69,600	70,700
Federal Government	9,200	9,200	9,500
State Government	33,100	33,000	33,300
Local Government	28,100	27,400	27,900

The LR-NLR-Conway MSA consists of the following counties:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12
Civilian Labor Force	341,325	339,975	346,425
Employment	319,300	318,075	325,975
Unemployment	22,025	21,900	20,450
Unemployment Rate	6.5	6.4	5.9



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

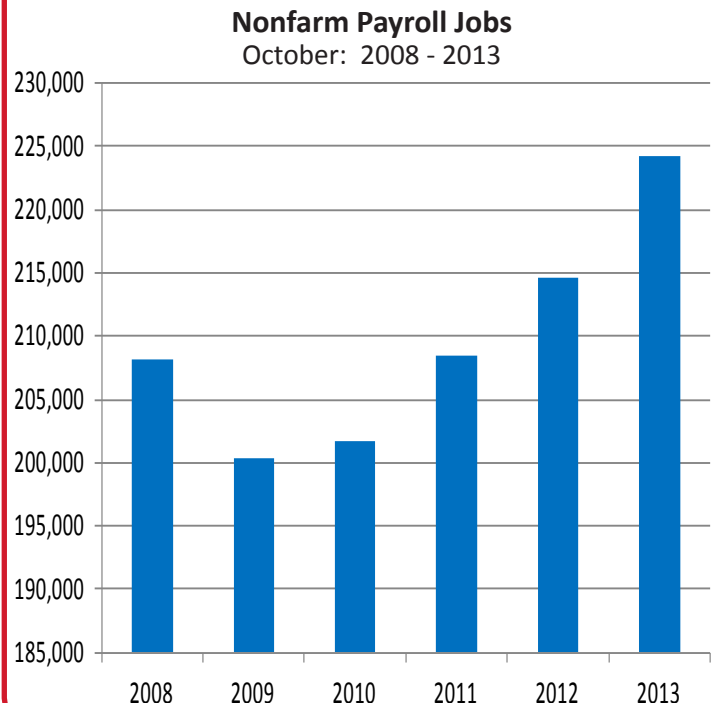
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12
Total Nonfarm	224,200	222,900	214,600
Goods Producing	35,600	35,600	34,900
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,800	8,800	8,200
Manufacturing	26,800	26,800	26,700
Service Providing	188,600	187,300	179,700
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	51,300	50,900	48,600
Wholesale Trade	11,100	11,100	10,500
Retail Trade	24,100	23,800	22,900
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16,100	16,000	15,200
Information	1,900	2,000	1,900
Financial Activities	6,700	6,700	6,500
Professional & Business Services	42,300	42,000	39,300
Educational & Health Services	26,000	25,800	24,700
Leisure & Hospitality	22,000	22,300	20,900
Other Services	7,100	7,100	6,800
Government	31,300	30,500	31,000
Federal Government	2,400	2,300	2,400
State Government	11,100	11,000	10,900
Local Government	17,800	17,200	17,700

The FSR MSA consists of the following counties:
Benton, Madison, Washington, and McDonald (in Missouri)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12
Civilian Labor Force	240,125	240,850	236,900
Employment	227,775	228,375	225,100
Unemployment	12,350	12,475	11,800
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.2	5.0



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	121,300	120,200	117,600
Goods Producing	25,600	25,700	25,600
Mining, Logging & Construction	7,100	7,200	6,700
Manufacturing	18,500	18,500	18,900
Service Providing	95,700	94,500	92,000
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	26,100	25,600	24,800
Wholesale Trade	4,300	4,200	4,200
Retail Trade	13,800	13,500	13,100
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	8,000	7,900	7,500
Information	1,400	1,400	1,400
Financial Activities	4,500	4,400	4,300
Professional & Business Services	11,800	11,800	11,200
Educational & Health Services	18,200	18,000	17,200
Leisure & Hospitality	9,400	9,400	9,000
Other Services	4,600	4,600	4,500
Government	19,700	19,300	19,600
Federal Government	1,500	1,500	1,600
State Government	3,200	3,100	3,200
Local Government	15,000	14,700	14,800

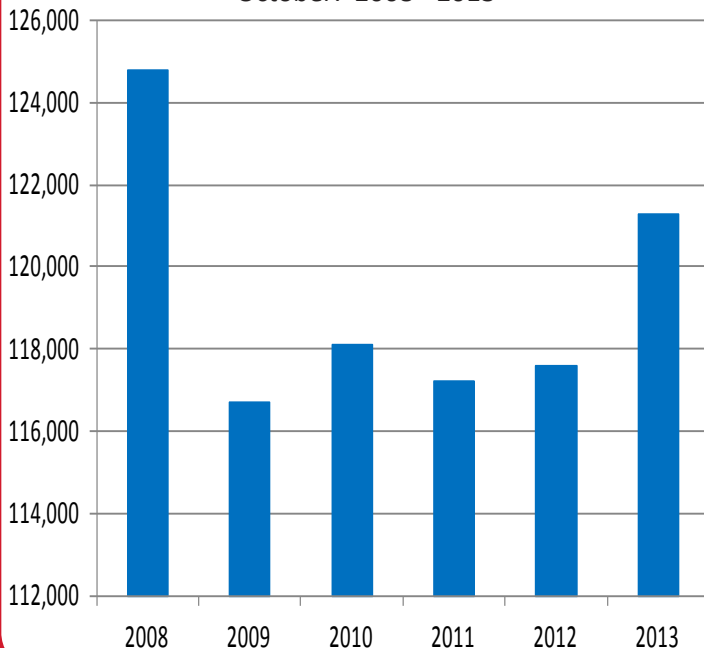
The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	133,425	133,425	133,275
Employment	123,725	123,850	123,225
Unemployment	9,700	9,575	10,050
Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.2	7.5

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

October: 2008 - 2013



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	37,200	37,300	37,700
Goods Producing	4,200	4,200	4,200
Service Providing	33,000	33,100	33,500
Government	5,200	5,100	5,200

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	40,300	40,625	41,875
Employment	37,175	37,525	39,000
Unemployment	3,125	3,100	2,875
Unemployment Rate	7.8	7.6	6.9

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	54,100	53,600	51,700
Goods Producing	9,600	9,500	9,000
Service Providing	44,500	44,100	42,700
Government	9,100	8,900	8,900

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties:

Craighead and Poinsett

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	60,275	60,375	59,850
Employment	56,400	56,500	56,025
Unemployment	3,875	3,875	3,825
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.4	6.4

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	36,000	35,600	36,300
Goods Producing	7,100	7,100	7,100
Service Providing	28,900	28,500	29,200
Government	10,600	10,300	10,600

The PB MSA consists of the following counties: Cleveland, Jefferson, and Lincoln

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,125	41,100	42,400
Employment	37,150	37,225	38,800
Unemployment	3,975	3,875	3,600
Unemployment Rate	9.6	9.4	8.5

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,321,500	1,322,200	1,348,700	-700	-27,200	1,322,800	1,328,700	1,351,100	-5,900	-28,300
Employment	1,221,700	1,223,800	1,251,300	-2,100	-29,600	1,229,900	1,235,700	1,261,900	-5,800	-32,000
Unemployment	99,800	98,400	97,400	1,400	2,400	92,900	93,000	89,200	-100	3,700
Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.4	7.2	0.1	0.3	7.0	7.0	6.6	0.0	0.4
U.S. Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.2	7.9	0.1	-0.6	7.0	7.0	7.5	0.0	-0.5

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	597,825	604,975	618,650
Employment	541,175	548,125	565,250
Unemployment	56,650	56,850	53,400
Unemployment Rate	9.5	9.4	8.6

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,375	63,250	65,025
Employment	58,925	58,600	61,000
Unemployment	4,450	4,650	4,025
Unemployment Rate	7.0	7.3	6.2

Between September and October, unemployment rates increased in 46 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Seventeen counties posted rate declines, while twelve counties remained stable.

In October, eight counties enjoyed jobless rates at or below six percent. Ten counties posted rates at or above ten percent, the same number of counties as in September.

Compared to October 2012, unemployment rates are up in 67 counties. Six counties declined, while two remained the same.

Unemployment Rates by County

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Sep 13</u>	<u>Oct 12</u>
7	Arkansas	6.0	5.9	6.9	75	Lee	11.1	11.0	10.4
68	Ashley	10.4	10.4	10.8	58	Lincoln	9.3	8.5	8.1
29	Baxter	7.5	7.5	6.9	37	Little River	7.8	7.8	6.2
3	Benton	5.2	5.2	5.1	29	Logan	7.5	7.2	7.1
15	Boone	6.7	6.5	6.2	5	Lonoke	5.8	5.9	5.5
53	Bradley	8.6	8.2	8.5	3	Madison	5.2	5.0	4.6
56	Calhoun	9.0	8.8	7.0	33	Marion	7.7	7.8	7.3
1	Carroll	5.0	5.0	4.5	10	Miller	6.5	6.9	6.2
74	Chicot	10.8	10.0	9.2	68	Mississippi	10.4	10.5	8.9
44	Clark	8.1	8.0	8.0	46	Monroe	8.2	7.6	7.7
71	Clay	10.6	10.4	10.9	27	Montgomery	7.4	7.2	7.0
20	Cleburne	7.0	7.2	6.7	29	Nevada	7.5	7.1	6.9
33	Cleveland	7.7	7.5	6.3	27	Newton	7.4	7.0	7.6
46	Columbia	8.2	8.3	7.6	55	Ouachita	8.7	8.9	8.6
37	Conway	7.8	7.8	7.0	44	Perry	8.1	8.0	7.2
9	Craighead	6.2	6.2	6.2	73	Phillips	10.7	10.9	9.7
20	Crawford	7.0	7.2	7.0	56	Pike	9.0	8.1	7.7
60	Crittenden	9.5	10.1	9.1	33	Poinsett	7.7	7.6	7.0
42	Cross	8.0	7.5	7.7	37	Polk	7.8	7.3	7.0
63	Dallas	9.8	9.4	8.9	29	Pope	7.5	7.4	6.1
60	Desha	9.5	9.3	9.2	24	Prairie	7.2	6.6	6.8
60	Drew	9.5	9.6	9.1	10	Pulaski	6.5	6.6	6.0
18	Faulkner	6.8	6.7	6.1	51	Randolph	8.5	8.5	8.6
20	Franklin	7.0	6.1	6.3	71	St. Francis	10.6	10.5	10.1
14	Fulton	6.6	6.7	6.3	7	Saline	6.0	5.9	5.3
37	Garland	7.8	7.6	6.9	10	Scott	6.5	6.3	5.8
10	Grant	6.5	6.5	5.8	33	Searcy	7.7	7.0	7.0
49	Greene	8.4	8.4	8.1	15	Sebastian	6.7	6.8	7.2
25	Hempstead	7.3	7.0	6.5	25	Sevier	7.3	7.0	7.2
15	Hot Spring	6.7	6.8	6.0	59	Sharp	9.4	9.3	9.2
23	Howard	7.1	7.0	6.8	68	Stone	10.4	9.7	8.8
53	Independence	8.6	8.6	8.2	46	Union	8.2	8.0	7.8
42	Izard	8.0	8.2	7.1	51	Van Buren	8.5	8.4	8.1
63	Jackson	9.8	9.7	8.8	2	Washington	5.1	5.0	4.8
65	Jefferson	9.9	9.8	8.8	41	White	7.9	7.9	7.2
18	Johnson	6.8	6.9	5.9	67	Woodruff	10.3	9.6	9.6
66	Lafayette	10.1	10.0	9.3	5	Yell	5.8	5.6	5.1
49	Lawrence	8.4	8.3	7.8					

Lowest Rates

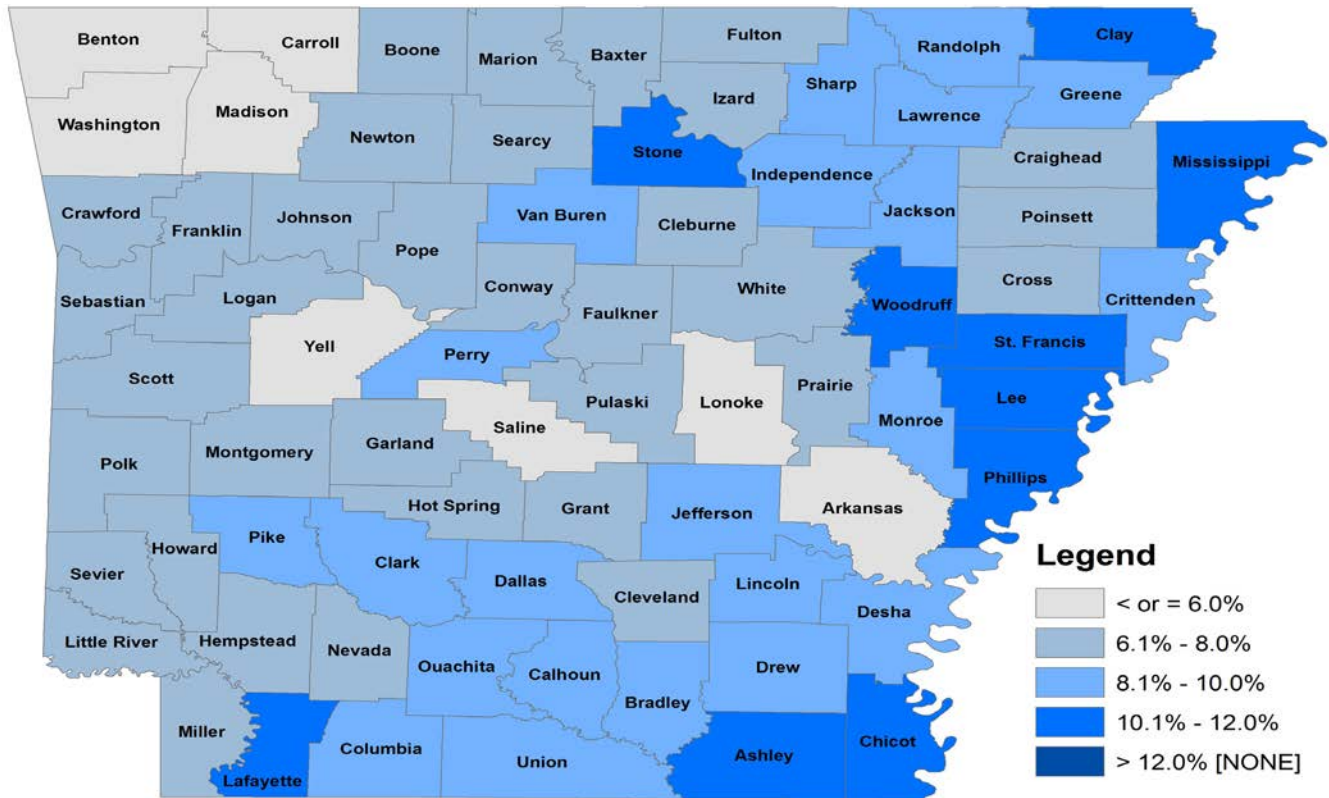
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Carroll	5.0
2	Washington	5.1
3	Benton	5.2
3	Madison	5.2

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
71	Clay	10.6
71	St. Francis	10.6
73	Phillips	10.7
74	Chicot	10.8
75	Lee	11.1

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

For complete County Labor Force Statistics, please visit our website at www.discover.arkansas.gov



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 data are 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 2012 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 5,500 Arkansas business establishments are surveyed.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

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 800 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 Labor Market

October 2013

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