

Arkansas Labor Market

January 2015

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Decreases to 5.6 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Decline 18,000 in January

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.7	6.6
US Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.6	6.6

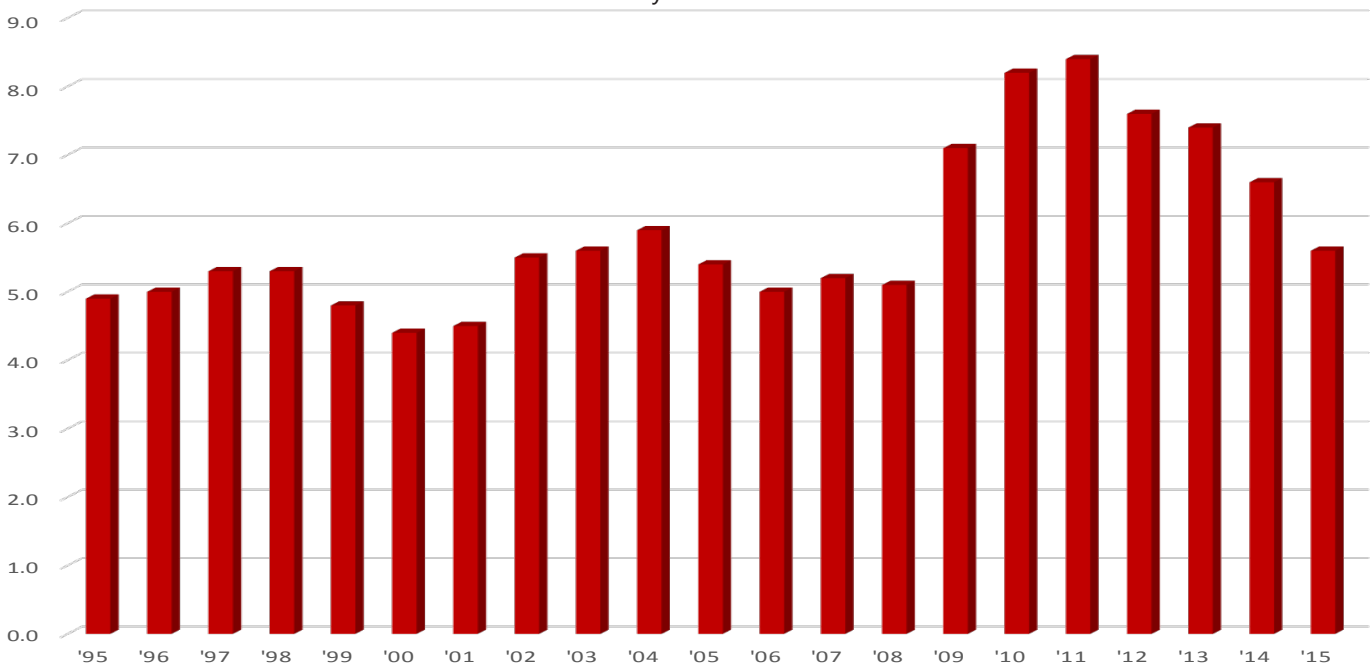
Nonfarm Payroll Summary

State of Arkansas

	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,190,400	1,208,400	1,160,900
Goods Producing	210,800	213,800	205,000
Service Providing	979,600	994,600	955,900

Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas
January: 1995 - 2015



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

December 2014 - January 2015

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment declined 18,000 in January to total 1,190,400. Nine major industry sectors posted losses, while one sector increased and one remained stable. Jobs in **government** fell 6,100. Declines in state (-4,300) and local (-1,500) government were attributed to the closure of public schools and universities for winter break. Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** dropped 6,000. Losses were mostly seasonal, related to the end of temporary holiday hiring. **Manufacturing** decreased 2,400, affecting both nondurable (-1,400) and durable (-1,000) goods manufacturing. Jobs in **educational and health services** are down 1,100, spurred by seasonal losses. **Leisure and hospitality** declined 1,100, mostly in food services (-1,000).

January 2014 - January 2015

Since January 2014, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas rose 29,500. Nine major industry sectors posted growth, with six adding 2,600 or more jobs, each. Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** increased 7,700. Expansions occurred in all three subsectors. **Leisure and hospitality** added 6,700 jobs, largely in food services (+5,600). **Professional and business services** rose 5,400. Most of the gains were in administrative and support services (+3,900), which includes employment agencies. Jobs in **construction** increased 3,300, with specialty trade contractors reporting a majority of the growth (+2,200). **Educational and health services** added 2,600 jobs, mostly in health care and social assistance (+2,400). Employment in **manufacturing** rose 2,600. Durable goods manufacturing reported an increase of 1,700 jobs.

(NAICS)	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Total Nonfarm	1,190,400	1,208,400	1,160,900
Goods Producing	210,800	213,800	205,000
Mining & Logging	8,600	8,900	8,700
Construction	47,200	47,500	43,900
Specialty Trade Contractors	29,100	29,800	27,100
Manufacturing	155,000	157,400	152,400
Durable Goods	77,100	78,100	75,400
Nondurable Goods	77,900	79,300	77,000
Service Providing	979,600	994,600	955,900
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	246,900	252,900	239,200
Wholesale Trade	47,100	47,200	45,600
Retail Trade	135,600	140,000	133,100
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	64,200	65,700	60,500
Information	13,500	13,500	13,800
Financial Activities	49,400	49,800	49,100
Finance & Insurance	37,100	37,000	36,400
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12,300	12,800	12,700
Professional & Business Services	133,400	133,800	128,000
Professional, Scientific & Technical	40,900	40,300	41,000
Management of Companies	33,500	33,300	31,900
Administrative & Support Services	59,000	60,200	55,100
Educational & Health Services	173,300	174,400	170,700
Educational Services	14,200	14,600	14,000
Health Care & Social Assistance	159,100	159,800	156,700
Ambulatory Health Care	50,100	50,200	48,300
Social Assistance	36,800	37,500	36,500
Leisure & Hospitality	107,800	108,900	101,100
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9,800	9,500	8,800
Accommodation & Food Services	98,000	99,400	92,300
Accommodation Services	10,100	10,500	10,000
Food Services	87,900	88,900	82,300
Other Services	44,000	43,900	42,800
Government	211,300	217,400	211,200
Federal Government	20,200	20,500	20,100
State Government	74,900	79,200	74,300
Local Government	116,200	117,700	116,800

Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers (Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Manufacturing	\$669.47	\$678.94	\$632.95	41.3	41.5	40.6	\$16.21	\$16.36	\$15.59
Durable Goods	716.04	726.38	685.57	40.8	40.9	41.2	17.55	17.76	16.64
Nondurable Goods	623.00	633.61	586.26	41.7	42.1	40.1	14.94	15.05	14.62

Spotlight

Changes Affecting Data

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force:

In accordance with the U.S. Department of Labor guidelines, Arkansas' Civilian Labor Force (CLF) estimates have undergone an annual processing. The purpose of annual processing is to incorporate more complete and accurate information into the estimation process. This year however, more extensive changes were made. CLF calculations have now incorporated the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau population changes and updates to employment commuting patterns. Because these changes will date back to 2010, the Bureau of Labor Statistics took this opportunity to make methodological changes as well.

All levels of data—State, counties, Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and cities- have been revised. United States and state level data have been re-estimated back to 1976. Small area estimates have been re-estimated back to 1990. New statewide CLF estimates have already been published, while all sub-state CLF estimates are set to be released on April 21, 2015, at www.bls.gov. New estimates should be available on the Discover Arkansas website by early May.

Due to the implementation of the 2010 Census data, there have also been changes to the composition of the Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Franklin County no longer meets the criteria required to be included in the Fort Smith MSA. The MSA is now comprised of Crawford County and Sebastian County in Arkansas and LeFlore County and Sequoyah County in Oklahoma. Franklin County has been removed from the estimates back to January 1990.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs:

In accordance with the U.S. Department of Labor guidelines, nonfarm payroll job estimation has also undergone an annual processing. State and MSA estimates for 2013 and 2014 were recently revised and are currently available on the Discover Arkansas website. Franklin County has also been removed from the nonfarm payroll job total for the Fort Smith MSA, with the changes going back to 1990.

2015 Arkansas Publication Schedule

<u>Reference Month</u>	<u>State Press Release</u>	<u>MSA's and Counties*</u>
January	03/17/15	03/20/15
February	03/27/15	04/08/15
March	04/21/15	04/29/15
April	05/27/15	06/03/15
May	06/19/15	07/01/15
June	07/21/15	07/29/15
July	08/21/15	09/01/15
August	09/18/15	09/30/15
September	10/20/15	10/28/15
October	11/20/15	12/07/15
November	12/18/15	12/30/15
December	01/26/16	02/03/16

*Date when Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and county labor force statistics will be available on the Discover Arkansas website.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Total Nonfarm	344,900	350,100	340,000
Goods Producing	36,900	37,500	35,000
Mining, Logging & Construction	16,700	17,100	15,400
Manufacturing	20,200	20,400	19,600
Service Providing	308,000	312,600	305,000
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	66,900	68,700	65,900
Wholesale Trade	14,800	15,000	14,800
Retail Trade	38,000	39,200	37,200
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,100	14,500	13,900
Information	6,600	6,700	6,800
Financial Activities	20,400	20,700	20,300
Professional & Business Services	43,000	44,600	44,400
Educational & Health Services	52,000	51,700	50,900
Leisure & Hospitality	32,000	32,300	30,400
Other Services	16,000	16,100	15,600
Government	71,100	71,800	70,700
Federal Government	9,700	9,700	9,500
State Government	34,200	34,600	33,900
Local Government	27,200	27,500	27,300

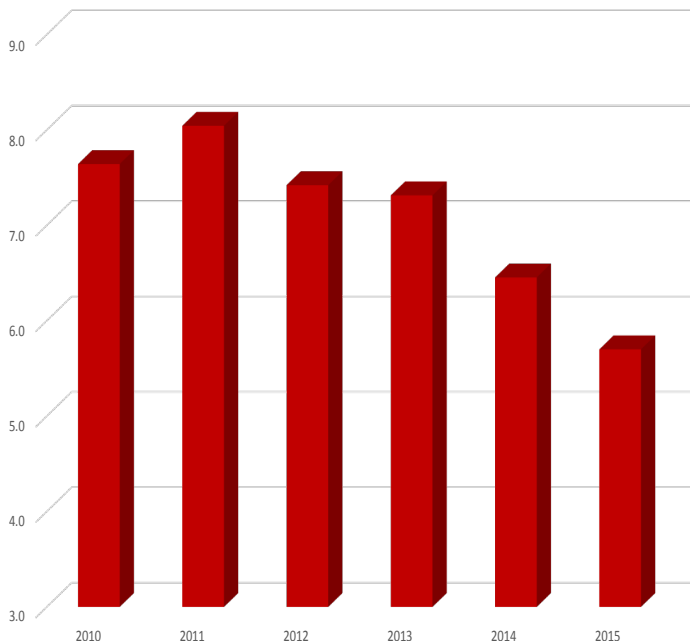
The LR-NLR-Conway MSA consists of the following counties:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Civilian Labor Force	340,750	338,375	330,825
Employment	321,300	321,775	309,475
Unemployment	19,450	16,600	21,350
Unemployment Rate	5.7	4.9	6.5

Unemployment Rates

January: 2010 - 2015



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Total Nonfarm	225,300	229,300	215,300
Goods Producing	35,600	36,100	35,000
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,200	8,500	8,000
Manufacturing	27,400	27,600	27,000
Service Providing	189,700	193,200	180,300
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	50,800	52,400	48,200
Wholesale Trade	10,900	10,900	10,300
Retail Trade	24,100	25,600	23,200
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	15,800	15,900	14,700
Information	1,900	1,900	1,800
Financial Activities	6,800	6,900	6,500
Professional & Business Services	46,400	45,300	42,300
Educational & Health Services	24,700	25,000	24,000
Leisure & Hospitality	21,200	22,100	20,500
Other Services	6,500	6,600	6,400
Government	31,400	33,000	30,600
Federal Government	2,500	2,600	2,500
State Government	11,100	12,300	10,500
Local Government	17,800	18,100	17,600

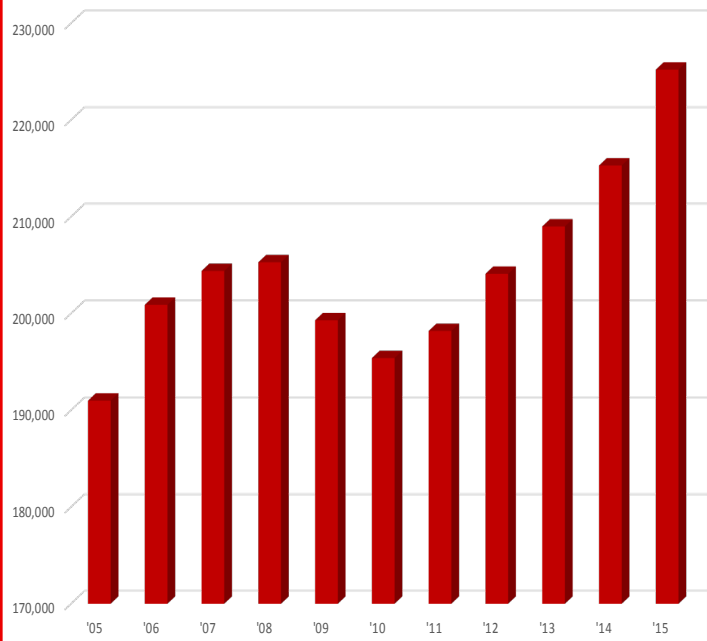
The FSR MSA consists of the following counties:
Benton, Madison, Washington, and McDonald (in Missouri)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Civilian Labor Force	242,225	241,450	228,975
Employment	230,750	231,800	216,500
Unemployment	11,475	9,650	12,475
Unemployment Rate	4.7	4.0	5.4

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

January: 2005 - 2015



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Total Nonfarm	111,800	113,800	110,500
Goods Producing	24,800	25,300	24,000
Mining, Logging & Construction	6,700	7,000	6,200
Manufacturing	18,100	18,300	17,800
Service Providing	87,000	88,500	86,500
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23,100	23,700	22,900
Wholesale Trade	4,300	4,300	4,100
Retail Trade	11,900	12,300	12,200
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6,900	7,100	6,600
Information	1,200	1,200	1,300
Financial Activities	3,900	3,900	3,900
Professional & Business Services	12,300	12,200	11,300
Educational & Health Services	16,000	16,200	16,300
Leisure & Hospitality	8,600	8,800	8,800
Other Services	4,200	4,200	4,200
Government	17,700	18,300	17,800
Federal Government	1,300	1,300	1,400
State Government	2,800	3,200	2,800
Local Government	13,600	13,800	13,600

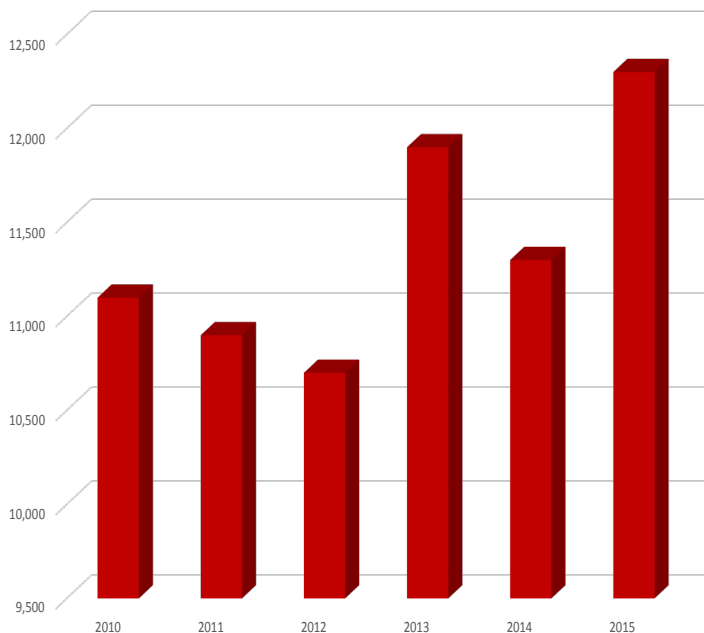
The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, and Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Civilian Labor Force	118,925	118,275	117,175
Employment	111,525	111,775	108,250
Unemployment	7,400	6,500	8,925
Unemployment Rate	6.2	5.5	7.6

Jobs in Professional and Business Services

January: 2010 - 2015



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Total Nonfarm	38,000	38,000	37,300
Goods Producing	4,200	4,300	4,200
Service Providing	33,800	33,700	33,100
Government	4,600	4,800	4,600

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Civilian Labor Force	40,375	39,625	39,150
Employment	37,625	37,250	36,150
Unemployment	2,750	2,375	3,000
Unemployment Rate	6.8	6.0	7.7

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Total Nonfarm	54,100	54,800	51,400
Goods Producing	8,800	9,000	8,300
Service Providing	45,300	45,800	43,100
Government	8,900	9,000	8,700

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties:

Craighead and Poinsett

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Civilian Labor Force	60,925	60,425	57,600
Employment	57,225	57,375	53,400
Unemployment	3,700	3,050	4,200
Unemployment Rate	6.1	5.1	7.3

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Total Nonfarm	33,100	34,300	33,300
Goods Producing	6,300	6,600	6,500
Service Providing	26,800	27,700	26,800
Government	9,300	9,700	9,400

The PB MSA consists of the following counties:

Cleveland, Jefferson, and Lincoln

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14
Civilian Labor Force	36,750	36,575	36,400
Employment	33,575	33,875	32,550
Unemployment	3,175	2,700	3,850
Unemployment Rate	8.6	7.4	10.6

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,321,600	1,312,400	1,294,800	9,200	26,800	1,309,900	1,304,100	1,273,100	5,800	36,800
Employment	1,247,200	1,238,100	1,209,200	9,100	38,000	1,224,900	1,231,900	1,178,500	-7,000	46,400
Unemployment	74,400	74,300	85,600	100	-11,200	85,000	72,200	94,600	12,800	-9,600
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.7	6.6	-0.1	-1.0	6.5	5.5	7.4	1.0	-0.9
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.6	6.6	0.1	-0.9	6.1	5.4	7.0	0.7	-0.9

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee-Mississippi-Arkansas MSA

	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>
Civilian Labor Force	607,150	602,175	607,825
Employment	559,100	559,875	560,000
Unemployment	48,050	42,300	47,825
Unemployment Rate	7.9	7.0	7.9

Texarkana, Texas-Arkansas MSA

	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>
Civilian Labor Force	64,200	64,375	64,250
Employment	60,400	60,925	59,525
Unemployment	3,800	3,450	4,725
Unemployment Rate	5.9	5.3	7.4

Unemployment Rates by County

Between December 2014 and January 2015, unemployment rates increased in 72 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Jobless rates declined in three counties.

In January, sixteen counties enjoyed unemployment rates at or below six percent. Seven counties posted rates at or above ten percent, up from one county in December.

Compared to January 2014, jobless rates are down in seventy Arkansas counties. Rates increased in four counties, while one remained the same.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Jan 15</u>	<u>Dec 14</u>	<u>Jan 14</u>
8	Arkansas	5.8	4.7	6.9	63	Lee	9.2	7.4	10.6
69	Ashley	10.0	8.4	11.7	51	Lincoln	8.4	6.5	8.8
32	Baxter	7.0	6.3	8.4	36	Little River	7.4	6.9	7.7
3	Benton	4.9	4.1	5.5	20	Logan	6.4	5.4	7.4
24	Boone	6.6	5.5	7.6	7	Lonoke	5.5	4.7	6.0
46	Bradley	8.0	6.9	10.1	2	Madison	4.8	4.2	5.8
29	Calhoun	6.9	5.6	8.2	29	Marion	6.9	5.9	7.9
42	Carroll	7.8	5.7	7.7	19	Miller	6.3	5.5	7.1
75	Chicot	12.5	10.3	12.6	68	Mississippi	9.9	8.0	11.0
29	Clark	6.9	5.6	8.4	39	Monroe	7.7	7.0	8.4
59	Clay	8.9	7.8	10.4	60	Montgomery	9.0	7.7	10.3
62	Cleburne	9.1	7.4	11.0	17	Nevada	6.1	5.4	7.4
36	Cleveland	7.4	6.3	8.3	26	Newton	6.8	5.7	7.6
39	Columbia	7.7	6.3	8.9	46	Ouachita	8.0	6.9	9.9
35	Conway	7.2	6.2	9.2	51	Perry	8.4	7.2	9.8
8	Craighead	5.8	4.8	7.0	71	Phillips	10.3	8.4	12.2
20	Crawford	6.4	5.5	7.5	42	Pike	7.8	8.0	8.6
46	Crittenden	8.0	6.8	8.5	36	Poinsett	7.4	6.1	8.9
39	Cross	7.7	6.3	8.0	32	Polk	7.0	6.1	7.0
69	Dallas	10.0	8.5	11.2	20	Pope	6.4	5.6	7.7
73	Desha	10.5	8.7	10.4	17	Prairie	6.1	5.7	7.1
65	Drew	9.5	7.9	10.6	8	Pulaski	5.8	5.0	6.5
12	Faulkner	5.9	5.0	6.9	72	Randolph	10.4	8.4	10.1
13	Franklin	6.0	5.0	6.5	64	St. Francis	9.4	7.9	11.4
26	Fulton	6.8	5.6	7.4	4	Saline	5.1	4.4	5.7
26	Garland	6.8	6.0	7.7	6	Scott	5.3	4.4	6.3
8	Grant	5.8	4.8	6.7	42	Searcy	7.8	6.4	8.4
25	Greene	6.7	5.7	8.3	13	Sebastian	6.0	5.1	7.0
20	Hempstead	6.4	6.7	7.3	67	Sevier	9.6	7.1	7.9
13	Hot Spring	6.0	5.2	7.0	65	Sharp	9.5	8.0	11.2
4	Howard	5.1	8.4	6.2	60	Stone	9.0	7.4	10.0
50	Independence	8.3	7.0	9.9	42	Union	7.8	6.9	8.4
53	Izard	8.5	7.5	9.2	55	Van Buren	8.7	7.5	10.5
74	Jackson	11.3	9.6	12.2	1	Washington	4.5	3.8	5.3
58	Jefferson	8.8	7.7	11.1	46	White	8.0	6.6	8.8
32	Johnson	7.0	5.9	7.8	55	Woodruff	8.7	7.1	10.2
55	Lafayette	8.7	7.1	9.3	13	Yell	6.0	5.1	6.7
53	Lawrence	8.5	6.7	9.4					

Lowest Rates

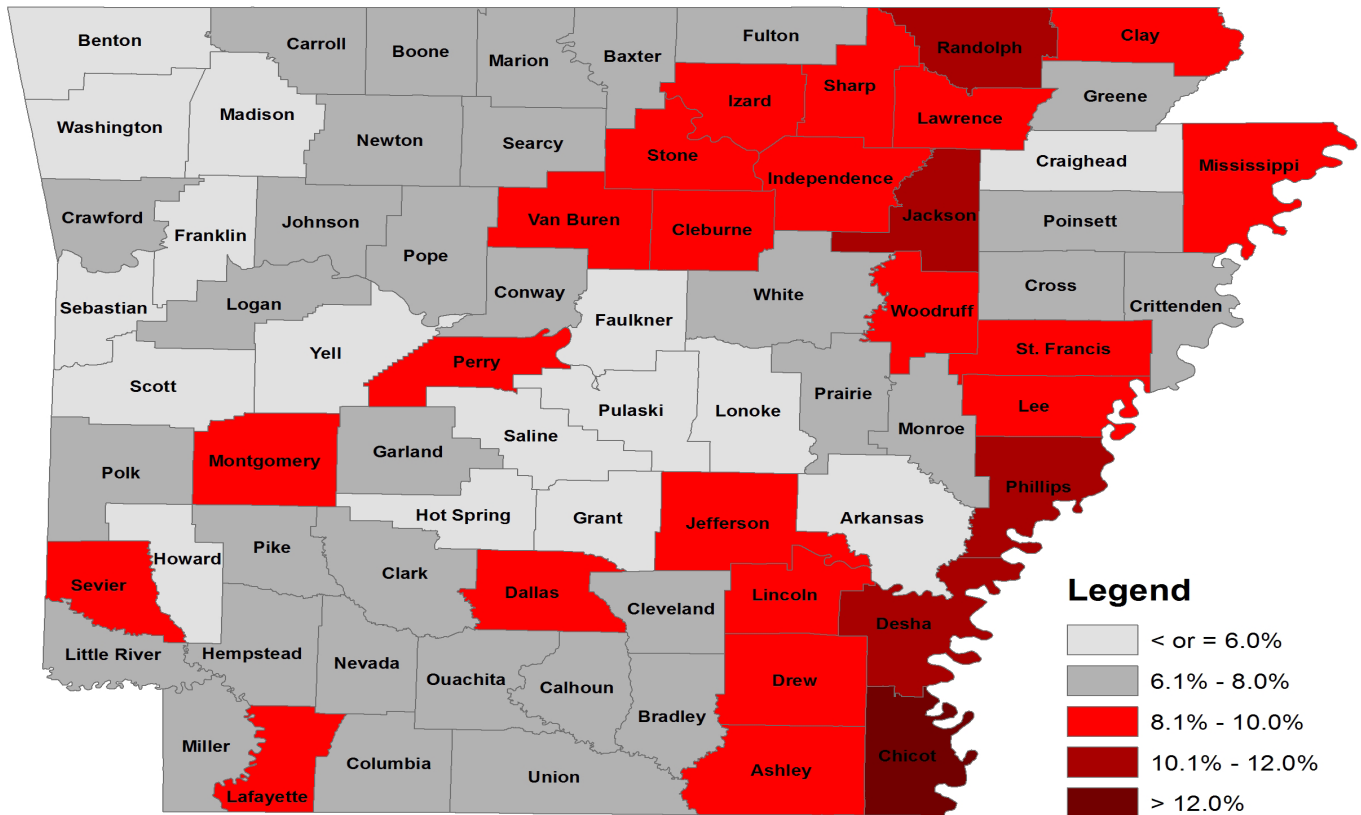
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Washington	4.5
2	Madison	4.8
3	Benton	4.9
4	Howard	5.1
4	Saline	5.1

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
71	Phillips	10.3
72	Randolph	10.4
73	Desha	10.5
74	Jackson	11.3
75	Chicot	12.5

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 2014 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 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

January 2015

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Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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