**Arkansas**

L a b o r M a r k e t Re p o r t

20

18

**September**

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The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Depart- ment 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 classifi according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). All estimates are based on a first quarter 2017 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 Work- force Services. The data are based on es- tablishment 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 Man- agement and Budget to counties that have one or more central cities and that meet specifi criteria of population density, com- muting patterns and social and economic integration.

**Current Population Survey (CPS)**

A monthly sample survey of the popula- tion 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 work- ing, 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 oc- cur during the year due to seasonal events such as weather, major holidays, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/clos- ing of schools.

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## September Spotlight

**Seasonal Employment Trends (Part 2 of 2)**

As discussed in the August Labor Market Report, employment in some major industry sectors is directly influ- enced by seasonal trends. When employment from multiple years is compared, these patterns become apparent. Seasonal trends are related to set schedules of operation, holidays, and weather patterns. Last month’s Spotlight discussed the seasonal trends seen in state and local government, educational services, and **leisure and hospital- ity**. In this issue, the seasonality of **construction** and professional-scientific-technical services are highlighted, along with some of the industries that are *indirectly* affected by seasonal movements.

**Chart 4. Jobs in Construction**

January 2016 - September 2018

55,000

54,000

53,000

52,000

51,000

50,000

49,000

48,000

47,000

46,000

45,000

Employment in the **construction** sector is sig- nificantly affected by weather patterns. While construction operations run year round, more projects are commissioned during the spring and summer than in the winter. In general, em- ployment in **construction** begins to increase in March, often peaking in September or October. Employment then tends to decline after October (see Chart 4). These weather patterns are a gen- eralization, as non-typical weather events will also influence jobs in **construction**. On the other hand, large scale projects can cause employment spikes that are unrelated to the weather.

Found under the **professional and business ser- vices** sector, the professional-scientific-technical

J F M A M J J A S O N D

 2016 2017 2018

services subsector includes a particular type of business that is highly seasonal-- accounting and tax preparation services. Seasonal hiring related

to tax preparation typically begins in November or December, with employment in the subsector peaking from

February to April. Employment tends to remain fairly constant throughout the summer and fall months. While this seasonal trend is significant, employment in accounting and tax preparation is not large enough to affect the trend of the **professional and business services** sector as a whole.

There are also other seasonal businesses, many of which may not be visible when tracking the movement of a major industry sector. For example, landscaping services is influenced by weather and the seasons. Employ- ment in landscaping services increases during the spring and summer months, but the number of workers is not large enough to impact the movement of the administrative and support services subsector as a whole. Similar- ly, employment in other services to buildings and dwellings (also under the administrative and support services subsector) tends to increase in the spring and summer. This includes activities such as cleaning swimming pools, driveways, and gutters and power-washing building exteriors.

It is important to keep in mind that some other industries are *indirectly* affected by these seasonal employment fluctuations. The timber industry, for example, relies heavily on the **construction** sector and may experience declines and increases in employment related to construction patterns. Similarly, movement within the retail trade sector will affect both wholesale trade and the transportation of goods. Some industries are indirectly affected by school closures in the summer. Employment in day care services (found under the social assistance subsector) increases in the summer when schools are closed, as does employment at businesses such as day camps and summer sports programs. There are also many non-profit organizations (under **Other Services**) with activities designed for children during the summer months.

## State of Arkansas

**Civilian Labor Force Summary**

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released today by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unem- ployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.6 percent in August to 3.5 percent in September. Arkansas’ civilian labor force declined 1,220, a result of 891 fewer unemployed and 329 less employed Arkansans. At 3.7 percent, the United States’ jobless rate dropped two-tenths of a percentage point in September, down from 3.9 percent in August.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, “Arkansas’ unemployment rate declined for the third consecutive month. September’s rate of 3.5 percent is the lowest in Arkansas’ recorded history, breaking last year’s record low of 3.6 percent.”

Seasonally Adjusted

Not Seasonally Adjusted

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Civilian Labor Force | **Sep 18**1,345,646 | **Aug 18**1,346,866 | **Sep 17**1,357,918 | Civilian Labor Force | **Sep 18**1,347,541 | **Aug 18**1,345,054 | **Sep 17**1,363,077 |
| Employment | 1,298,402 | 1,298,731 | 1,307,414 | Employment | 1,302,671 | 1,299,862 | 1,314,732 |
| Unemployment | 47,244 | 48,135 | 50,504 | Unemployment | 44,870 | 45,192 | 48,345 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.7 | Unemployment Rate | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.5 |
| U.S. Unemployment | 3.7 | 3.9 | 4.2 | U.S. Unemployment | 3.6 | 3.9 | 4.1 |

120,000

**Number of Unemployed (Seasonally Adjusted)**

September: 2008 - 2018

100,000

80,000

60,000

40,000

20,000

0

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

## State of Arkansas

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**

### Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

**(NAICS)**

**Sep 18**

**Aug 18**

**Sep 17**

**OTM**

**OT Y**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total Nonfarm** | 1259.0 | 1240.0 | 1248.3 | 19.0 | 10.7 |
| **Goods Producing** | 219.3 | 218.7 | 216.0 | 0.6 | 3.3 |
| **Mining, Logging, and Construction** | 59.1 | 59.2 | 58.1 | -0.1 | 1.0 |
| **Mining & Logging** | **5.4** | **5.6** | **5.9** | **-0.2** | **-0.5** |
| **Construction** | **53.7** | **53.6** | **52.2** | **0.1** | **1.5** |
| **Specialty Trade Contractors** | 32.9 | 33.2 | 32.2 | -0.3 | 0.7 |
| **Manufacturing** | **160.2** | **159.5** | **157.9** | **0.7** | **2.3** |
| **Durable Goods** | 75.7 | 75.3 | 74.9 | 0.4 | 0.8 |
| **Nondurable Goods** | 84.5 | 84.2 | 83.0 | 0.3 | 1.5 |
| **Service Providing** | 1039.7 | 1021.3 | 1032.3 | 18.4 | 7.4 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **252.0** | **251.6** | **250.7** | **0.4** | **1.3** |
| **Wholesale Trade** | 47.2 | 46.4 | 47.0 | 0.8 | 0.2 |
| **Retail Trade** | 139.7 | 141.3 | 139.8 | -1.6 | -0.1 |
| **Transport, Warehousing & Utilities** | 65.1 | 63.9 | 63.9 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| **Information** | **12.0** | **12.0** | **13.0** | **0.0** | **-1.0** |
| **Financial Activities** | **53.9** | **54.3** | **52.9** | **-0.4** | **1.0** |
| **Finance & Insurance** | 40.1 | 40.3 | 39.6 | -0.2 | 0.5 |
| **Real Estate & Rental & Leasing** | 13.8 | 14.0 | 13.3 | -0.2 | 0.5 |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **151.9** | **148.3** | **145.2** | **3.6** | **6.7** |
| **Professional, Scientific & Technical** | 42.8 | 42.2 | 42.0 | 0.6 | 0.8 |
| **Management of Companies** | 35.2 | 34.9 | 34.5 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| **Administrative & Support Services** | 73.9 | 71.2 | 68.7 | 2.7 | 5.2 |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **190.4** | **186.5** | **189.5** | **3.9** | **0.9** |
| **Educational Services** | 16.0 | 13.7 | 15.2 | 2.3 | 0.8 |
| **Health Care & Social Assistance** | 174.4 | 172.8 | 174.3 | 1.6 | 0.1 |
| **Ambulatory Health Care** | 57.6 | 56.8 | 57.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| **Social Assistance** | 38.8 | 38.2 | 39.6 | 0.6 | -0.8 |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **117.7** | **119.0** | **118.5** | **-1.3** | **-0.8** |
| **Arts, Entertainment & Recreation** | 11.0 | 12.1 | 11.3 | -1.1 | -0.3 |
| **Accommodation & Food Services** | 106.7 | 106.9 | 107.2 | -0.2 | -0.5 |
| **Accommodation Services** | 11.3 | 11.4 | 11.5 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| **Food Services** | 95.4 | 95.5 | 95.7 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| **Other Services** | **48.2** | **48.9** | **48.7** | **-0.7** | **-0.5** |
| **Government** | **213.6** | **200.7** | **213.8** | **12.9** | **-0.2** |
| **Federal Government** | 19.9 | 19.8 | 20.0 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| **State Government** | 79.1 | 74.3 | 79.1 | 4.8 | 0.0 |
| **Local Government** | 114.6 | 106.6 | 114.7 | 8.0 | -0.1 |

## State of Arkansas

**Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary**

### August 2018 -

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 19,000 in September to total 1,259,000. Six major industry sectors posted gains, while jobs in four sectors declined. **Government** added 12,900 jobs. Expansions were in local (+8,000) and state (+4,800) government, related to seasonal hiring at public schools and universities. Jobs in **educational and health services** increased 3,900, attributed in large part to hiring in educational services (+2,300). Employment in **professional and business services** rose 3,600. Gains occurred in all subsectors, with the largest posted in administrative and support services (+2,700). **Lei- sure and hospitality** declined 1,300. Most of the contraction was in arts, entertainment, and recreation (-1,100), an expected seasonal loss.

### September 2017 -

Compared to September 2017, Arkansas’ nonfarm payroll jobs increased 10,700. Growth occurred in six major industry sectors, while five sectors posted declines. Jobs in **professional and business services** rose 6,700. A majority of the hiring was posted in administrative and support services (+5,200), a sub- sector which includes employment agencies. **Manufacturing** added 2,300 jobs. Expansions occurred in both nondurable (+1,500) and durable (+800) goods manufacturing. Employment in **construction** increased 1,500, related to ongoing projects throughout the state. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 1,300. Most of the gains were in transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+1,200). **Fi- nancial activities** added 1,000 jobs. The sector includes businesses such as real estate, insurance, and banking. Employment in **information** is down 1,000.

162,000

**Jobs in Manufacturing (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

September 2014 - September 2018

160,000

158,000

156,000

154,000

152,000

150,000

Sep '14 Mar '15 Sep '15 Mar '16 Sep '16 Mar '17 Sep '17 Mar '18 Sep '18

## State of Arkansas

**Production Workers- Hours and Earnings**

**Manufacturing**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** |
| Average Weekly Hours | 42.8 | 42.7 | 41.0 |
| Average Hourly Earnings | 17.85 | 17.57 | 16.03 |
| Average Weekly Earnings | 763.98 | 750.24 | 657.23 |

###

Durable Goods Manufacturing

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** |
| Average Weekly Hours | 43.7 | 43.6 | 41.0 |
| Average Hourly Earnings | 20.60 | 19.85 | 17.78 |
| Average Weekly Earnings | 900.22 | 865.46 | 728.98 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** |
| Average Weekly Hours | 42.0 | 42.0 | 41.0 |
| Average Hourly Earnings | 15.45 | 15.60 | 14.55 |
| Average Weekly Earnings | 648.90 | 655.20 | 596.55 |

$25.00

**Average Hourly Earnings: Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods**

September: 2008 - 2018

$20.00

$15.00

$10.00

$5.00

$0.00

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

Durable Goods Nondurable Goods

## 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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 355,914 | 356,915 | 358,361 | -1,001 | -2,447 |
| **Employment** | 345,075 | 346,064 | 346,824 | -989 | -1,749 |
| **Unemployment** | 10,839 | 10,851 | 11,537 | -12 | -698 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | -0.2 |

(In Thousands)

326.1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS****Total Nonfarm** | **Sep 18**367.7 | **Aug 18**363.6 | **Sep 17**360.7 | **OTM**4.1 | **OT Y**7.0 |
| **Goods Producing** | 37.4 | 37.5 | 37.7 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction** | **17.2** | **17.3** | **17.5** | **-0.1** | **-0.3** |
| **Manufacturing****Service Providing** | **20.2**330.3 | **20.2** | **20.2** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **70.6** | **70.7** | **70.1** | 4.2**-0.1** | 7.3**0.5** |
| **Wholesale Trade** | 15.1 | 15.1 | 15.2 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| **Retail Trade** | 39.1 | 39.4 | 38.9 | -0.3 | 0.2 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** | 16.4 | 16.2 | 16.0 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| **Information** | **5.5** | **5.6** | **5.9** | **-0.1** | **-0.4** |
| **Financial Activities** | **21.1** | **21.2** | **20.9** | **-0.1** | **0.2** |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **51.9** | **49.8** | **48.1** | **2.1** | **3.8** |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **60.3** | **59.3** | **57.0** | **1.0** | **3.3** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **34.3** | **34.7** | **34.4** | **-0.4** | **-0.1** |
| **Other Services** | **15.6** | **15.8** | **15.6** | **-0.2** | **0.0** |
| **Government** | **71.0** | **69.0** | **71.0** | **2.0** | **0.0** |
| **Federal Government** | 9.4 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| **State Government** | 35.6 | 34.6 | 35.3 | 1.0 | 0.3 |
| **Local Government** | 26.0 | 25.0 | 26.2 | 1.0 | -0.2 |

323.0

**Number of Employed**

September: 1998 - 2018

360,000

**Jobs in Service Providing Industries**

January 2016 - September 2018

335,000

350,000

330,000

340,000

325,000

330,000

320,000

320,000

310,000

315,000

300,000

310,000

290,000

305,000

280,000

270,000

'98 '00 '02 '04 '06 '08 '10 '12 '14 '16 '18

300,000 J F M A M J J A S O N D

 2016 2017 2018

## 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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 274,888 | 274,153 | 275,700 | 735 | -812 |
| **Employment** | 268,011 | 267,165 | 268,143 | 846 | -132 |
| **Unemployment** | 6,877 | 6,988 | 7,557 | -111 | -680 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 0.0 | -0.2 |

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing**

**Mining, Logging & Construction Manufacturing**

**Service Providing**

**Trade, Transportation & Utilities**

**Wholesale Trade Retail Trade**

**Trans., Warehousing & Utilities**

**Information Financial Activities**

**Professional & Business Services Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality**

**Other Services Government**

**Federal Government State Government Local Government**

**Sep 18**

262.0

42.1

**12.4**

**29.7**

219.9

**56.5**

13.5

26.0

17.0

**1.8**

**7.9**

**50.2**

**30.2**

**27.1**

**9.1**

**37.1**

2.6

15.8

18.7

**Aug 18**

257.4

42.2

**12.5**

**29.7**

215.2

**56.5**

13.5

26.3

16.7

**1.8**

**8.0**

**49.5**

**28.9**

**27.8**

**9.1**

**33.6**

2.6

13.4

17.6

**Sep 17**

256.1

40.3

**11.4**

**28.9**

215.8

**56.7**

13.2

26.8

16.7

**1.9**

**7.8**

**49.6**

**28.7**

**26.1**

**9.0**

**36.0**

2.6

15.0

18.4

**OTM**

4.6

-0.1

**-0.1**

**0.0**

4.7

**0.0**

0.0

-0.3

0.3

**0.0**

**-0.1**

**0.7**

**1.3**

**-0.7**

**0.0**

**3.5**

0.0

2.4

1.1

**OT Y**

5.9

1.8

**1.0**

**0.8**

4.1

**-0.2**

0.3

-0.8

0.3

**-0.1**

**0.1**

**0.6**

**1.5**

**1.0**

**0.1**

**1.1**

0.0

0.8

0.3

**Unemployment**

September 2016 - September 2018

9,500

**Jobs in Mining-Logging-Construction**

September: 2008 - 2018

14,000

9,000

12,000

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |
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8,500

8,000

10,000

7,500

8,000

7,000

6,000

6,500

6,000

4,000

5,500

2,000

5,000

Sep '16

Mar '17

Sep '17

Mar '18

Sep '18

0

'08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18

## Metropolitan Statistical Areas

**Fort Smith MSA**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 117,798 | 118,078 | 120,369 | -280 | -2,571 |
| **Employment** | 113,663 | 113,792 | 115,433 | -129 | -1,770 |
| **Unemployment** | 4,135 | 4,286 | 4,936 | -151 | -801 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.5 | 3.6 | 4.1 | -0.1 | -0.6 |

(In Thousands)

88.9

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS****Total Nonfarm** | **Sep 18**113.0 | **Aug 18**111.9 | **Sep 17**113.1 | **OTM**1.1 | **OT Y**-0.1 |
| **Goods Producing** | 22.9 | 23.0 | 23.3 | -0.1 | -0.4 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction** | **5.4** | **5.5** | **5.4** | **-0.1** | **0.0** |
| **Manufacturing****Service Providing** | **17.5**90.1 | **17.5** | **17.9** | **0.0** | **-0.4** |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **22.4** | **22.6** | **22.7** | 1.2**-0.2** | 0.3**-0.3** |
| **Wholesale Trade** | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| **Retail Trade** | 12.2 | 12.5 | 12.4 | -0.3 | -0.2 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** | 6.4 | 6.3 | 6.4 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| **Information** | **1.2** | **1.2** | **1.2** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Financial Activities** | **3.8** | **3.9** | **3.8** | **-0.1** | **0.0** |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **13.1** | **12.8** | **12.6** | **0.3** | **0.5** |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **16.9** | **16.7** | **16.9** | **0.2** | **0.0** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **9.5** | **9.8** | **9.5** | **-0.3** | **0.0** |
| **Other Services** | **4.4** | **4.4** | **4.4** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Government** | **18.8** | **17.5** | **18.7** | **1.3** | **0.1** |
| **Federal Government** | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **State Government** | 3.1 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| **Local Government** | 14.4 | 13.3 | 14.3 | 1.1 | 0.1 |

89.8

**Unemployment Rates**

September: 1998 - 2018

9.0

8.0

7.0

6.0

5.0

4.0

3.0

2.0

1.0

0.0

'98 '00 '02 '04 '06 '08 '10 '12 '14 '16 '18

## Metropolitan Statistical Areas

**Hot Springs MSA**

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 39,509 | 40,057 | 40,391 | -548 | -882 |
| **Employment** | 38,015 | 38,578 | 38,788 | -563 | -773 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,494 | 1,479 | 1,603 | 15 | -109 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.8 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 0.1 | -0.2 |

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| 38.1 | 38.0 | 38.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.5 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| 33.3 | 33.3 | 33.5 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| 4.6 | 4.3 | 4.6 | 0.3 | 0.0 |

50,000

45,000

**Employment and Unemployment**

September: 2008 - 2018

Employment + Unemployment = Civilian Labor Force

40,000

35,000

30,000

25,000

20,000

15,000

10,000

5,000

0

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

Employment Unemployment

## Metropolitan Statistical Areas

**Jonesboro MSA**

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 64,502 | 64,659 | 64,763 | -157 | -261 |
| **Employment** | 62,688 | 62,806 | 62,797 | -118 | -109 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,814 | 1,853 | 1,966 | -39 | -152 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 2.8 | 2.9 | 3.0 | -0.1 | -0.2 |

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| 59.5 | 58.6 | 58.2 | 0.9 | 1.3 |
| 10.1 | 10.0 | 9.8 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| 49.4 | 48.6 | 48.4 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| 9.4 | 8.9 | 9.3 | 0.5 | 0.1 |

62,000

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**

January 2016 - September 2018

60,000

58,000

56,000

54,000

52,000

50,000

J F M A M J J A S O N D

2016 2017 2018

## Metropolitan Statistical Areas

**Pine Bluff MSA**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 34,489 | 34,522 | 35,572 | -33 | -1,083 |
| **Employment** | 32,874 | 32,895 | 33,892 | -21 | -1,018 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,615 | 1,627 | 1,680 | -12 | -65 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| 32.8 | 32.3 | 33.1 | 0.5 | -0.3 |
| 6.1 | 6.0 | 6.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| 26.7 | 26.3 | 27.0 | 0.4 | -0.3 |
| 9.4 | 9.1 | 9.5 | 0.3 | -0.1 |

5,000

**Number of Unemployed**

September: 1998 - 2018

4,500

4,000

3,500

3,000

2,500

2,000

1,500

1,000

500

0

'98 '00 '02 '04 '06 '08 '10 '12 '14 '16 '18

## Metropolitan Statistical Areas

**Out-of-State MSA**

**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.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 638,742 | 641,128 | 630,288 | -2,386 | 8,454 |
| **Employment** | 611,295 | 613,004 | 606,020 | -1,709 | 5,275 |
| **Unemployment** | 27,447 | 28,124 | 24,268 | -677 | 3,179 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 4.3 | 4.4 | 3.9 | -0.1 | 0.4 |

### Texarkana MSA

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Sep 18** | **Aug 18** | **Sep 17** | **OTM** | **OT Y** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 64,814 | 64,383 | 64,821 | 431 | -7 |
| **Employment** | 61,456 | 61,178 | 62,063 | 278 | -607 |
| **Unemployment** | 3,358 | 3,205 | 2,758 | 153 | 600 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 5.2 | 5.0 | 4.3 | 0.2 | 0.9 |

630,000

**Memphis MSA - Employment**

September 2016 - September 2018

**Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates**

September: 1998 - 2018

9.0

620,000

8.0

7.0

610,000

6.0

600,000

5.0

4.0

590,000

3.0

580,000

2.0

1.0

570,000

Sep '16

Mar '17

Sep '17

Mar '18

Sep '18

0.0

'98 '00 '02 '04 '06 '08 '10 '12 '14 '16 '18

## Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**Micro Area**

**September 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**August 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**September 2017**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Arkadelphia Micro | 9,733 | 9,376 | 357 | 3.7 | 9,492 | 9,157 | 335 | 3.5 | 9,541 | 9,191 | 350 | 3.7 |
| Batesville Micro | 16,152 | 15,551 | 601 | 3.7 | 15,631 | 15,029 | 602 | 3.9 | 16,320 | 15,686 | 634 | 3.9 |
| Blytheville Micro | 17,541 | 16,735 | 806 | 4.6 | 17,396 | 16,519 | 877 | 5.0 | 18,169 | 17,291 | 878 | 4.8 |
| Camden Micro | 12,161 | 11,668 | 493 | 4.1 | 12,027 | 11,534 | 493 | 4.1 | 12,326 | 11,795 | 531 | 4.3 |
| El Dorado Micro | 15,986 | 15,234 | 752 | 4.7 | 15,974 | 15,189 | 785 | 4.9 | 16,186 | 15,383 | 803 | 5.0 |
| Forrest City Micro | 8,283 | 7,895 | 388 | 4.7 | 8,372 | 7,997 | 375 | 4.5 | 8,392 | 7,986 | 406 | 4.8 |
| Harrison Micro | 19,125 | 18,544 | 581 | 3.0 | 18,772 | 18,182 | 590 | 3.1 | 19,305 | 18,644 | 661 | 3.4 |
| Helena-West Helena Micro | 6,484 | 6,120 | 364 | 5.6 | 6,469 | 6,132 | 337 | 5.2 | 6,521 | 6,142 | 379 | 5.8 |
| Hope Micro | 13,612 | 13,154 | 458 | 3.4 | 13,210 | 12,743 | 467 | 3.5 | 13,626 | 13,170 | 456 | 3.3 |
| Magnolia Micro | 8,890 | 8,515 | 375 | 4.2 | 8,628 | 8,236 | 392 | 4.5 | 9,266 | 8,827 | 439 | 4.7 |
| Malvern Micro | 13,792 | 13,315 | 477 | 3.5 | 13,757 | 13,285 | 472 | 3.4 | 14,175 | 13,640 | 535 | 3.8 |
| Mountain Home Micro | 16,391 | 15,790 | 601 | 3.7 | 16,214 | 15,613 | 601 | 3.7 | 16,774 | 16,066 | 708 | 4.2 |
| Paragould Micro | 19,581 | 18,984 | 597 | 3.0 | 19,543 | 18,956 | 587 | 3.0 | 19,763 | 19,087 | 676 | 3.4 |
| Russellville Micro | 37,175 | 35,734 | 1,441 | 3.9 | 36,467 | 34,902 | 1,565 | 4.3 | 37,848 | 36,215 | 1,633 | 4.3 |
| Searcy Micro | 33,486 | 32,237 | 1,249 | 3.7 | 33,297 | 32,041 | 1,256 | 3.8 | 34,177 | 32,793 | 1,384 | 4.0 |

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

**City**

**CLF**

**September 2018**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**August 2018**

**CLF**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

**September 2017**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County

Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County Paragould Micro = Greene County Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties Searcy Micro = White County

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bella Vista | 12,449 | 12,022 | 427 | 3.4 | 12,398 | 11,986 | 412 | 3.3 | 12,502 | 12,037 | 465 | 3.7 |
| Benton | 17,328 | 16,828 | 500 | 2.9 | 17,355 | 16,873 | 482 | 2.8 | 17,389 | 16,914 | 475 | 2.7 |
| Bentonville | 25,502 | 24,924 | 578 | 2.3 | 25,444 | 24,850 | 594 | 2.3 | 25,711 | 24,956 | 755 | 2.9 |
| Blytheville | 5,986 | 5,698 | 288 | 4.8 | 5,975 | 5,625 | 350 | 5.9 | 6,218 | 5,888 | 330 | 5.3 |
| Cabot | 11,894 | 11,543 | 351 | 3.0 | 11,938 | 11,587 | 351 | 2.9 | 11,974 | 11,595 | 379 | 3.2 |
| Conway | 33,576 | 32,579 | 997 | 3.0 | 33,675 | 32,680 | 995 | 3.0 | 33,801 | 32,738 | 1,063 | 3.1 |
| El Dorado | 7,021 | 6,620 | 401 | 5.7 | 7,032 | 6,601 | 431 | 6.1 | 7,088 | 6,685 | 403 | 5.7 |
| Fayetteville | 47,635 | 46,458 | 1,177 | 2.5 | 47,521 | 46,330 | 1,191 | 2.5 | 47,716 | 46,512 | 1,204 | 2.5 |
| Fort Smith | 39,092 | 37,798 | 1,294 | 3.3 | 39,179 | 37,922 | 1,257 | 3.2 | 40,048 | 38,628 | 1,420 | 3.5 |
| Hot Springs | 14,252 | 13,635 | 617 | 4.3 | 14,445 | 13,837 | 608 | 4.2 | 14,543 | 13,912 | 631 | 4.3 |
| Jacksonville | 11,832 | 11,357 | 475 | 4.0 | 11,844 | 11,387 | 457 | 3.9 | 11,909 | 11,417 | 492 | 4.1 |
| Jonesboro | 38,084 | 37,034 | 1,050 | 2.8 | 38,157 | 37,090 | 1,067 | 2.8 | 38,231 | 37,105 | 1,126 | 2.9 |
| Little Rock | 98,255 | 95,117 | 3,138 | 3.2 | 98,513 | 95,363 | 3,150 | 3.2 | 98,832 | 95,614 | 3,218 | 3.3 |
| North Little Rock | 30,120 | 29,150 | 970 | 3.2 | 30,214 | 29,226 | 988 | 3.3 | 30,421 | 29,303 | 1,118 | 3.7 |
| Paragould | 12,302 | 11,904 | 398 | 3.2 | 12,268 | 11,886 | 382 | 3.1 | 12,425 | 11,969 | 456 | 3.7 |
| Pine Bluff | 16,456 | 15,521 | 935 | 5.7 | 16,467 | 15,517 | 950 | 5.8 | 16,946 | 16,018 | 928 | 5.5 |
| Rogers | 35,307 | 34,443 | 864 | 2.4 | 35,208 | 34,342 | 866 | 2.5 | 35,477 | 34,488 | 989 | 2.8 |
| Russellville | 13,477 | 12,996 | 481 | 3.6 | 13,208 | 12,679 | 529 | 4.0 | 13,718 | 13,177 | 541 | 3.9 |
| Searcy | 10,387 | 9,988 | 399 | 3.8 | 10,313 | 9,927 | 386 | 3.7 | 10,537 | 10,160 | 377 | 3.6 |
| Sherwood | 15,830 | 15,408 | 422 | 2.7 | 15,872 | 15,448 | 424 | 2.7 | 15,958 | 15,488 | 470 | 2.9 |
| Springdale | 39,325 | 38,396 | 929 | 2.4 | 39,230 | 38,291 | 939 | 2.4 | 39,424 | 38,442 | 982 | 2.5 |
| Texarkana, AR | 13,612 | 12,889 | 723 | 5.3 | 13,643 | 12,967 | 676 | 5.0 | 13,727 | 13,106 | 621 | 4.5 |
| Van Buren | 10,224 | 9,887 | 337 | 3.3 | 10,257 | 9,924 | 333 | 3.2 | 10,446 | 10,100 | 346 | 3.3 |
| West Memphis | 10,758 | 10,326 | 432 | 4.0 | 10,880 | 10,440 | 440 | 4.0 | 10,782 | 10,330 | 452 | 4.2 |

## County Labor Force Statistics

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**County**

**September 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**August 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**September 2017**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Arkansas | 9,050 | 8,777 | 273 | 3.0 | 9,113 | 8,843 | 270 | 3.0 | 9,075 | 8,793 | 282 | 3.1 |
| Ashley | 7,650 | 7,296 | 354 | 4.6 | 7,553 | 7,189 | 364 | 4.8 | 7,694 | 7,285 | 409 | 5.3 |
| Baxter | 16,391 | 15,790 | 601 | 3.7 | 16,214 | 15,613 | 601 | 3.7 | 16,774 | 16,066 | 708 | 4.2 |
| Benton | 133,429 | 129,944 | 3,485 | 2.6 | 133,050 | 129,561 | 3,489 | 2.6 | 134,052 | 130,111 | 3,941 | 2.9 |
| Boone | 15,779 | 15,301 | 478 | 3.0 | 15,481 | 14,990 | 491 | 3.2 | 15,928 | 15,388 | 540 | 3.4 |
| Bradley | 4,482 | 4,316 | 166 | 3.7 | 4,340 | 4,171 | 169 | 3.9 | 4,368 | 4,174 | 194 | 4.4 |
| Calhoun | 2,337 | 2,263 | 74 | 3.2 | 2,321 | 2,244 | 77 | 3.3 | 2,375 | 2,284 | 91 | 3.8 |
| Carroll | 12,765 | 12,424 | 341 | 2.7 | 12,935 | 12,589 | 346 | 2.7 | 13,317 | 12,937 | 380 | 2.9 |
| Chicot | 3,378 | 3,190 | 188 | 5.6 | 3,418 | 3,232 | 186 | 5.4 | 3,466 | 3,266 | 200 | 5.8 |
| Clark | 9,733 | 9,376 | 357 | 3.7 | 9,492 | 9,157 | 335 | 3.5 | 9,541 | 9,191 | 350 | 3.7 |
| Clay | 5,749 | 5,532 | 217 | 3.8 | 5,815 | 5,593 | 222 | 3.8 | 5,885 | 5,638 | 247 | 4.2 |
| Cleburne | 9,223 | 8,849 | 374 | 4.1 | 9,164 | 8,786 | 378 | 4.1 | 9,424 | 8,994 | 430 | 4.6 |
| Cleveland | 3,195 | 3,082 | 113 | 3.5 | 3,208 | 3,093 | 115 | 3.6 | 3,311 | 3,168 | 143 | 4.3 |
| Columbia | 8,890 | 8,515 | 375 | 4.2 | 8,628 | 8,236 | 392 | 4.5 | 9,266 | 8,827 | 439 | 4.7 |
| Conway | 8,092 | 7,783 | 309 | 3.8 | 8,088 | 7,780 | 308 | 3.8 | 8,287 | 7,925 | 362 | 4.4 |
| Craighead | 54,201 | 52,727 | 1,474 | 2.7 | 54,298 | 52,806 | 1,492 | 2.7 | 54,393 | 52,828 | 1,565 | 2.9 |
| Crawford | 26,208 | 25,321 | 887 | 3.4 | 26,281 | 25,415 | 866 | 3.3 | 26,799 | 25,865 | 934 | 3.5 |
| Crittenden | 21,741 | 20,904 | 837 | 3.8 | 21,985 | 21,135 | 850 | 3.9 | 21,781 | 20,913 | 868 | 4.0 |
| Cross | 7,445 | 7,174 | 271 | 3.6 | 7,515 | 7,243 | 272 | 3.6 | 7,632 | 7,348 | 284 | 3.7 |
| Dallas | 2,861 | 2,752 | 109 | 3.8 | 2,879 | 2,766 | 113 | 3.9 | 2,815 | 2,685 | 130 | 4.6 |
| Desha | 5,457 | 5,241 | 216 | 4.0 | 5,469 | 5,253 | 216 | 3.9 | 5,519 | 5,284 | 235 | 4.3 |
| Drew | 7,855 | 7,521 | 334 | 4.3 | 7,551 | 7,216 | 335 | 4.4 | 7,842 | 7,476 | 366 | 4.7 |
| Faulkner | 61,229 | 59,432 | 1,797 | 2.9 | 61,418 | 59,617 | 1,801 | 2.9 | 61,686 | 59,723 | 1,963 | 3.2 |
| Franklin | 7,339 | 7,099 | 240 | 3.3 | 7,374 | 7,124 | 250 | 3.4 | 7,429 | 7,185 | 244 | 3.3 |
| Fulton | 4,749 | 4,588 | 161 | 3.4 | 4,622 | 4,449 | 173 | 3.7 | 4,808 | 4,627 | 181 | 3.8 |
| Garland | 39,509 | 38,015 | 1,494 | 3.8 | 40,057 | 38,578 | 1,479 | 3.7 | 40,391 | 38,788 | 1,603 | 4.0 |
| Grant | 8,348 | 8,113 | 235 | 2.8 | 8,384 | 8,141 | 243 | 2.9 | 8,408 | 8,153 | 255 | 3.0 |
| Greene | 19,581 | 18,984 | 597 | 3.0 | 19,543 | 18,956 | 587 | 3.0 | 19,763 | 19,087 | 676 | 3.4 |
| Hempstead | 9,967 | 9,627 | 340 | 3.4 | 9,676 | 9,333 | 343 | 3.5 | 9,974 | 9,638 | 336 | 3.4 |
| Hot Spring | 13,792 | 13,315 | 477 | 3.5 | 13,757 | 13,285 | 472 | 3.4 | 14,175 | 13,640 | 535 | 3.8 |
| Howard | 5,844 | 5,642 | 202 | 3.5 | 5,812 | 5,618 | 194 | 3.3 | 5,977 | 5,801 | 176 | 2.9 |
| Independence | 16,152 | 15,551 | 601 | 3.7 | 15,631 | 15,029 | 602 | 3.9 | 16,320 | 15,686 | 634 | 3.9 |
| Izard | 4,837 | 4,605 | 232 | 4.8 | 4,777 | 4,524 | 253 | 5.3 | 4,925 | 4,668 | 257 | 5.2 |
| Jackson | 5,739 | 5,409 | 330 | 5.8 | 5,779 | 5,444 | 335 | 5.8 | 5,847 | 5,541 | 306 | 5.2 |
| Jefferson | 27,385 | 26,037 | 1,348 | 4.9 | 27,379 | 26,029 | 1,350 | 4.9 | 28,252 | 26,870 | 1,382 | 4.9 |
| Johnson | 10,358 | 9,978 | 380 | 3.7 | 10,122 | 9,592 | 530 | 5.2 | 10,631 | 10,178 | 453 | 4.3 |
| Lafayette | 2,487 | 2,372 | 115 | 4.6 | 2,443 | 2,333 | 110 | 4.5 | 2,515 | 2,387 | 128 | 5.1 |
| Lawrence | 6,879 | 6,643 | 236 | 3.4 | 6,625 | 6,388 | 237 | 3.6 | 7,004 | 6,764 | 240 | 3.4 |
| Lee | 2,884 | 2,752 | 132 | 4.6 | 2,913 | 2,785 | 128 | 4.4 | 2,974 | 2,833 | 141 | 4.7 |
| Lincoln | 3,909 | 3,755 | 154 | 3.9 | 3,935 | 3,773 | 162 | 4.1 | 4,009 | 3,854 | 155 | 3.9 |
| Little River | 5,524 | 5,228 | 296 | 5.4 | 5,523 | 5,254 | 269 | 4.9 | 5,596 | 5,319 | 277 | 4.9 |
| Logan | 8,705 | 8,379 | 326 | 3.7 | 8,729 | 8,408 | 321 | 3.7 | 8,939 | 8,603 | 336 | 3.8 |
| Lonoke | 33,781 | 32,800 | 981 | 2.9 | 33,902 | 32,927 | 975 | 2.9 | 34,021 | 32,949 | 1,072 | 3.2 |
| Madison | 7,435 | 7,237 | 198 | 2.7 | 7,441 | 7,250 | 191 | 2.6 | 7,442 | 7,232 | 210 | 2.8 |
| Marion | 6,571 | 6,316 | 255 | 3.9 | 6,509 | 6,274 | 235 | 3.6 | 6,576 | 6,317 | 259 | 3.9 |
| Miller | 19,581 | 18,648 | 933 | 4.8 | 19,631 | 18,760 | 871 | 4.4 | 19,810 | 18,962 | 848 | 4.3 |

(continued on Page 16)

## County Labor Force Statistics

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**County**

**September 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**August 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**September 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mississippi | 17,541 | 16,735 | 806 | 4.6 | 17,396 | 16,519 | 877 | 5.0 | 18,169 | 17,291 | 878 | 4.8 |
| Monroe | 2,699 | 2,597 | 102 | 3.8 | 2,741 | 2,636 | 105 | 3.8 | 2,786 | 2,670 | 116 | 4.2 |
| Montgomery | 3,053 | 2,924 | 129 | 4.2 | 3,084 | 2,958 | 126 | 4.1 | 3,068 | 2,928 | 140 | 4.6 |
| Nevada | 3,645 | 3,527 | 118 | 3.2 | 3,534 | 3,410 | 124 | 3.5 | 3,652 | 3,532 | 120 | 3.3 |
| Newton | 3,346 | 3,243 | 103 | 3.1 | 3,291 | 3,192 | 99 | 3.0 | 3,377 | 3,256 | 121 | 3.6 |
| Ouachita | 9,824 | 9,405 | 419 | 4.3 | 9,706 | 9,290 | 416 | 4.3 | 9,951 | 9,511 | 440 | 4.4 |
| Perry | 4,174 | 4,022 | 152 | 3.6 | 4,196 | 4,043 | 153 | 3.6 | 4,195 | 4,036 | 159 | 3.8 |
| Phillips | 6,484 | 6,120 | 364 | 5.6 | 6,469 | 6,132 | 337 | 5.2 | 6,521 | 6,142 | 379 | 5.8 |
| Pike | 4,256 | 4,104 | 152 | 3.6 | 4,329 | 4,168 | 161 | 3.7 | 4,272 | 4,108 | 164 | 3.8 |
| Poinsett | 10,301 | 9,961 | 340 | 3.3 | 10,361 | 10,000 | 361 | 3.5 | 10,370 | 9,969 | 401 | 3.9 |
| Polk | 7,928 | 7,632 | 296 | 3.7 | 8,008 | 7,698 | 310 | 3.9 | 8,064 | 7,726 | 338 | 4.2 |
| Pope | 28,738 | 27,612 | 1,126 | 3.9 | 28,180 | 26,939 | 1,241 | 4.4 | 29,291 | 27,998 | 1,293 | 4.4 |
| Prairie | 3,575 | 3,450 | 125 | 3.5 | 3,555 | 3,437 | 118 | 3.3 | 3,665 | 3,519 | 146 | 4.0 |
| Pulaski | 190,447 | 184,428 | 6,019 | 3.2 | 190,939 | 184,906 | 6,033 | 3.2 | 191,758 | 185,393 | 6,365 | 3.3 |
| Randolph | 7,146 | 6,905 | 241 | 3.4 | 7,055 | 6,805 | 250 | 3.5 | 7,014 | 6,745 | 269 | 3.8 |
| St. Francis | 8,283 | 7,895 | 388 | 4.7 | 8,372 | 7,997 | 375 | 4.5 | 8,392 | 7,986 | 406 | 4.8 |
| Saline | 57,935 | 56,280 | 1,655 | 2.9 | 58,076 | 56,430 | 1,646 | 2.8 | 58,293 | 56,570 | 1,723 | 3.0 |
| Scott | 4,374 | 4,232 | 142 | 3.2 | 4,374 | 4,224 | 150 | 3.4 | 4,385 | 4,216 | 169 | 3.9 |
| Searcy | 2,942 | 2,825 | 117 | 4.0 | 2,987 | 2,879 | 108 | 3.6 | 3,064 | 2,926 | 138 | 4.5 |
| Sebastian | 56,159 | 54,309 | 1,850 | 3.3 | 56,283 | 54,487 | 1,796 | 3.2 | 57,563 | 55,501 | 2,062 | 3.6 |
| Sevier | 5,534 | 5,288 | 246 | 4.4 | 5,515 | 5,270 | 245 | 4.4 | 5,646 | 5,394 | 252 | 4.5 |
| Sharp | 5,853 | 5,605 | 248 | 4.2 | 5,680 | 5,426 | 254 | 4.5 | 6,141 | 5,877 | 264 | 4.3 |
| Stone | 4,804 | 4,607 | 197 | 4.1 | 4,852 | 4,664 | 188 | 3.9 | 4,813 | 4,607 | 206 | 4.3 |
| Union | 15,986 | 15,234 | 752 | 4.7 | 15,974 | 15,189 | 785 | 4.9 | 16,186 | 15,383 | 803 | 5.0 |
| Van Buren | 5,925 | 5,650 | 275 | 4.6 | 5,836 | 5,558 | 278 | 4.8 | 6,139 | 5,837 | 302 | 4.9 |
| Washington | 123,345 | 120,412 | 2,933 | 2.4 | 123,042 | 120,081 | 2,961 | 2.4 | 123,622 | 120,552 | 3,070 | 2.5 |
| White | 33,486 | 32,237 | 1,249 | 3.7 | 33,297 | 32,041 | 1,256 | 3.8 | 34,177 | 32,793 | 1,384 | 4.0 |
| Woodruff | 2,836 | 2,712 | 124 | 4.4 | 2,854 | 2,736 | 118 | 4.1 | 2,932 | 2,800 | 132 | 4.5 |
| Yell | 8,437 | 8,122 | 315 | 3.7 | 8,287 | 7,963 | 324 | 3.9 | 8,557 | 8,217 | 340 | 4.0 |

# County Labor Force Summary

Between August and September, unemployment rates decreased in 31 of Arkansas’ 75 counties. Rates in twenty-three counties increased, while 21 counties were unchanged over the month. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.4 percent in Washington County to a high of 5.8 percent in Jackson County.

In September, fifty-two counties posted unemployment rates at or below four percent. That is up slightly from 50 counties above four percent in August. For the fourth consecutive month, no county reported a jobless rate above eight percent.

Compared to September 2017, unemployment rates are down in 64 Arkansas counties. Seven

counties were the same, while four posted rate increases over the year.

## County Unemployment Rates

**Benton**

**Carroll**

**Fulton**

**Clay**

**Boone**

**Randolph**

**Marion**

**Baxter**

**Sharp**

**Izard**

**Greene**

**Madison**

**Washington**

**Lawrence**

**Newton**

**Searcy**

**Stone**

**Craighead**

**Mississippi**

**Independence**

**Crawford**

**Johnson**

**Van Buren**

**Jackson**

**Poinsett**

**Franklin**

**Cleburne**

**Pope**

**Conway**

**Cross**

**Sebastian**

**Logan**

**White**

**Crittenden**

**Faulkner**

**Woodruff**

**Yell**

**St. Francis**

**Perry**

**Scott**

**Prairie**

**Pulaski Lonoke**

**Lee**

**Saline**

**Monroe**

**Montgomery**

**Garland**

**Polk**

**Phillips**

**Hot Spring**

**Grant**

**Jefferson**

**Arkansas**

**Pike**

**Howard**

**Clark**

**Sevier**

**Dallas**

**Lincoln**

**Cleveland**

**Desha**

**Little River**

**Hempstead**

**Nevada**

**Ouachita**

**Calhoun**

**Drew**

**Bradley**

**Miller**

**Columbia**

**Chicot**

**Union**

**Ashley**

**Lafayette**

**Unemployment Rates**

< or = 3.0% 3.1% - 5.0%

5.1% - 7.0%

> 7.0% [NONE]

**Ranked by Unemployment Rates**

September 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank**1 | **County**Washington | **Rate**2.4 | **Rank**26 | **County**Cleveland | **Rate**3.5 | **Rank**51 | **County**Desha | **Rate**4.0 |
| 2 | Benton | 2.6 | 26 | Hot Spring | 3.5 | 51 | Searcy | 4.0 |
| 3 | Carroll | 2.7 | 26 | Howard | 3.5 | 53 | Cleburne | 4.1 |
| 3 | Craighead | 2.7 | 26 | Prairie | 3.5 | 53 | Stone | 4.1 |
| 3 | Madison | 2.7 | 30 | Cross | 3.6 | 55 | Columbia | 4.2 |
| 6 | Grant | 2.8 | 30 | Perry | 3.6 | 55 | Montgomery | 4.2 |
| 7 | Faulkner | 2.9 | 30 | Pike | 3.6 | 55 | Sharp | 4.2 |
| 7 | Lonoke | 2.9 | 33 | Baxter | 3.7 | 58 | Drew | 4.3 |
| 7 | Saline | 2.9 | 33 | Bradley | 3.7 | 58 | Ouachita | 4.3 |
| 10 | Arkansas | 3.0 | 33 | Clark | 3.7 | 60 | Sevier | 4.4 |
| 10 | Boone | 3.0 | 33 | Independence | 3.7 | 60 | Woodruff | 4.4 |
| 10 | Greene | 3.0 | 33 | Johnson | 3.7 | 62 | Ashley | 4.6 |
| 13 | Newton | 3.1 | 33 | Logan | 3.7 | 62 | Lafayette | 4.6 |
| 14 | Calhoun | 3.2 | 33 | Polk | 3.7 | 62 | Lee | 4.6 |
| 14 | Nevada | 3.2 | 33 | White | 3.7 | 62 | Mississippi | 4.6 |
| 14 | Pulaski | 3.2 | 33 | Yell | 3.7 | 62 | Van Buren | 4.6 |
| 14 | Scott | 3.2 | 42 | Clay | 3.8 | 67 | St. Francis | 4.7 |
| 18 | Franklin | 3.3 | 42 | Conway | 3.8 | 67 | Union | 4.7 |
| 18 | Poinsett | 3.3 | 42 | Crittenden | 3.8 | 69 | Izard | 4.8 |
| 18 | Sebastian | 3.3 | 42 | Dallas | 3.8 | 69 | Miller | 4.8 |
| 21 | Crawford | 3.4 | 42 | Garland | 3.8 | 71 | Jefferson | 4.9 |
| 21 | Fulton | 3.4 | 42 | Monroe | 3.8 | 72 | Little River | 5.4 |
| 21 | Hempstead | 3.4 | 48 | Lincoln | 3.9 | 73 | Chicot | 5.6 |
| 21 | Lawrence | 3.4 | 48 | Marion | 3.9 | 73 | Phillips | 5.6 |
| 21 | Randolph | 3.4 | 48 | Pope | 3.9 | 75 | Jackson | 5.8 |

## Local Workforce Development Areas

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**LWDA**

**September 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**August 2018**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**September 2017**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Central (minus LR) | 251,411 | 243,870 | 7,541 | 3.0 | 252,118 | 244,590 | 7,528 | 3.0 | 253,377 | 245,210 | 8,167 | 3.2 |
| City of Little Rock | 98,255 | 95,117 | 3,138 | 3.2 | 98,513 | 95,363 | 3,150 | 3.2 | 98,832 | 95,614 | 3,218 | 3.3 |
| Eastern | 46,837 | 44,845 | 1,992 | 4.3 | 47,254 | 45,292 | 1,962 | 4.2 | 47,300 | 45,222 | 2,078 | 4.4 |
| North Central | 93,604 | 89,813 | 3,791 | 4.1 | 92,492 | 88,657 | 3,835 | 4.1 | 95,526 | 91,430 | 4,096 | 4.3 |
| Northeast | 121,398 | 117,487 | 3,911 | 3.2 | 121,093 | 117,067 | 4,026 | 3.3 | 122,598 | 118,322 | 4,276 | 3.5 |
| Northwest | 322,003 | 313,492 | 8,511 | 2.6 | 320,950 | 312,429 | 8,521 | 2.7 | 324,152 | 314,785 | 9,367 | 2.9 |
| Southeast | 80,709 | 77,328 | 3,381 | 4.2 | 80,350 | 76,940 | 3,410 | 4.2 | 81,944 | 78,323 | 3,621 | 4.4 |
| Southwest | 92,480 | 88,501 | 3,979 | 4.3 | 91,642 | 87,703 | 3,939 | 4.3 | 93,763 | 89,723 | 4,040 | 4.3 |
| West Central | 130,142 | 125,251 | 4,891 | 3.8 | 129,592 | 124,463 | 5,129 | 4.0 | 132,408 | 127,009 | 5,399 | 4.1 |
| Western | 110,713 | 106,972 | 3,741 | 3.4 | 111,049 | 107,356 | 3,693 | 3.3 | 113,179 | 109,096 | 4,083 | 3.6 |

**Benton**

**Carroll**

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**Clay**

**Boone**

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**Marion**

**Baxter**

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**Garland**

**Polk**

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**Cleveland**

**Desha**

**Little River Hempstead**

**Nevada**

**Ouachita**

**Calhoun**

**Drew**

**Bradley**

**Miller**

**Columbia**

**Chicot**

**Union**

**Ashley**

**Lafayette**

Central (minus LR) Eastern

North Central

Northeast Northwest Southeast

Southwest West Central Western