**2021**

February

ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET

REPORT

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## Table of Contents Technical Notes

Monthly Spotlight. 2

Arkansas Labor Force Summary. 3

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs. 4

Arkansas Production Workers. 6

[Metropolitan Statistical Areas. 7](#_TOC_250002)

Micropolitan Statistical Areas/Cities. 14

[County Labor Force Statistics. 15](#_TOC_250001)

[Local Workforce Development Areas. 18](#_TOC_250000)

Arkansas Division of

Workforce Services



The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Depart- ment of Labor, Bu- reau of Labor Statis- tics (BLS). The current month’s estimates are preliminary, while pre- vious 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 col- lected for production workers in manufactur- ing industries.

Industries are classi- fied according to the North American In- dustry Classification System (NAICS). All estimates are based on a first quarter 2020 benchmark.

#### Explanation of Terms and Concepts

**Monthly Business Survey of Employers**

A monthly sample sur- vey designed to pro- vide industry infor- mation on nonfarm payroll jobs. Data are compiled each month from mail surveys and telephone interviews conducted by the Bu- reau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with Department of Work- force Services. The data are based on establish- ment records and in- clude all workers, full- or part-time, who re- ceived pay during the payroll period which includes the 12th of the month. Approximately

5,000 Arkansas busi- ness establishments are surveyed.

#### Metropolitan Statistical Areas

A term applied by the

U.S. Office of Manage- ment 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 sur- vey of the population 16 years of age and over, designed to pro- vide data on the labor force, the employed and the unemployed. The survey is conduct- ed each month by the Bureau of the Census for BLS. The informa- tion is collected by trained interviewers from a sample of about 60,000 households. The data collected are based on the activity reported for the cal- endar 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 em- ployed and unem- ployed 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 work- ers 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 seek- ing work during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month.

#### Unemployment Rate

The number of unem- ployed 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, ma- jor holidays, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/clos- ing of schools.

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**Februar y Spotlight**

# Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

In addition to the unemployment rate, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) also calculates five additional es- timates based on various definitions of ‘unemployment’. These are known as Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization and are referred to as U1-U6, with U-3 as the official unemployment rate. These measures are calculated using data from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Approximately 1,000 Arkansas households are in the survey each month.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level and are produced quarterly. Estimates are calculated using a four quar- ter moving average. The most recent data available

**Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization**

State of Arkansas

2nd Quarter 2020 - 1st Quarter 2021 (Average)

 **U-1 U-2 U-3 U-4 U-5 U-6**

2.1% 4.5% 6.5% 6.8% 7.4% 10.5%

is for 1st Quarter 2021.

The following definitions are used to calculate each measure of Labor Underutilization:

* 1. **Measure:** Persons unemployed for 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force.
	2. **Measure:** Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force. **U-3 Measure:** Total number of unemployed persons, as a percent of the civilian labor force (this is the definition used for the official unemployment rate).
	3. **Measure:** Total number of unemployed and discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers.
	4. **Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, and all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.
	5. **Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, marginally attached workers, and those em- ployed part-time for economic reasons (not by choice), as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.

#### Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

State of Arkansas

Three-Quarter Comparison (Quarter Ending)

12.0

10.0

8.0

6.0

4.0

2.0

0.0

U-1 U-2 U-3 U-4 U-5 U-6

3rd Q 2020 4th Q 2020 (2020 Annual Average) 1st Q 2021

**2**

**State of Arkansas**

# Civilian Labor Force Summary

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, show Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 4.6 percent in January to 4.5 percent in Febru- ary. Arkansas’ civilian labor force declined 12,775, a result of 10,820 fewer employed and 1,955 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States’ jobless rate also decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, down to 6.2 percent in February.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, “The unemployment rate in Arkansas decreased one-tenth of a percentage point in February, due to a decline in the size of the civilian labor force. While still up compared to February 2020, Arkansas’ jobless rate is one and seven-tenths of a percentage

point lower than the national rate.”

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Employment 1,301,585 1,312,405 1,319,917 Employment 1,280,321 1,280,577 1,316,079

Unemployment 61,569 63,524 52,027 Unemployment 71,863 68,919 55,507

Unemployment Rate 4.5 4.6 3.8 Unemployment Rate 5.3 5.1 4.0

U.S. Unemployment 6.2 6.3 3.5 U.S. Unemployment 6.6 6.8 3.8

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,363,154 | 1,375,929 | 1,371,944 Civilian Labor Force | 1,352,184 | 1,349,496 | 1,371,586 |

1,340,000

#### Number of Employed (Seasonally Adjusted)

February 2018 - February 2021

1,320,000

1,300,000

1,280,000

1,260,000

1,240,000

1,220,000

1,200,000

1,180,000

Feb '18 Aug '18 Feb '19 Aug '19 Feb '20 Aug '20 Feb '21

**State of Arkansas**

# Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

**Not Seasonally Adjusted**

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(NAICS)** | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| Total Nonfarm | 1246.1 | 1245.6 | 1287.6 | 0.5 | -41.5 |
| Goods Producing | 214.3 | 216.3 | 218.4 | -2.0 | -4.1 |
| Mining, Logging, & Construction | 57.6 | 59.0 | 57.3 | -1.4 | 0.3 |
| **Mining & Logging** | **5.2** | **5.2** | **5.5** | **0.0** | **-0.3** |
| **Construction** | **52.4** | **53.8** | **51.8** | **-1.4** | **0.6** |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 33.2 | 34.1 | 33.0 | -0.9 | 0.2 |
| **Manufacturing** | **156.7** | **157.3** | **161.1** | **-0.6** | **-4.4** |
| Durable Goods | 76.0 | 76.3 | 76.3 | -0.3 | -0.3 |
| Nondurable Goods | 80.7 | 81.0 | 84.8 | -0.3 | -4.1 |
| Service Providing | 1031.8 | 1029.3 | 1069.2 | 2.5 | -37.4 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **248.9** | **250.0** | **249.1** | **-1.1** | **-0.2** |
| Wholesale Trade | 46.2 | 46.6 | 47.2 | -0.4 | -1.0 |
| Retail Trade | 137.5 | 138.2 | 135.0 | -0.7 | 2.5 |
| Transport, Warehousing & Utilities | 65.2 | 65.2 | 66.9 | 0.0 | -1.7 |
| **Information** | **11.4** | **11.6** | **12.6** | **-0.2** | **-1.2** |
| **Financial Activities** | **63.1** | **63.9** | **64.1** | **-0.8** | **-1.0** |
| Finance & Insurance | 50.1 | 50.7 | 50.3 | -0.6 | -0.2 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 13.0 | 13.2 | 13.8 | -0.2 | -0.8 |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **142.4** | **140.4** | **145.4** | **2.0** | **-3.0** |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical | 44.2 | 43.2 | 44.3 | 1.0 | -0.1 |
| Management of Companies | 33.4 | 33.7 | 34.1 | -0.3 | -0.7 |
| Administrative & Support Services | 64.8 | 63.5 | 67.0 | 1.3 | -2.2 |
| **Educational & Health Services** | **188.4** | **187.5** | **196.0** | **0.9** | **-7.6** |
| Educational Services | 16.2 | 15.8 | 16.8 | 0.4 | -0.6 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 172.2 | 171.7 | 179.2 | 0.5 | -7.0 |
| Ambulatory Health Care | 60.3 | 59.2 | 60.4 | 1.1 | -0.1 |
| Social Assistance | 35.6 | 35.8 | 40.3 | -0.2 | -4.7 |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **104.4** | **105.7** | **119.8** | **-1.3** | **-15.4** |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 10.5 | 10.0 | 11.8 | 0.5 | -1.3 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 93.9 | 95.7 | 108.0 | -1.8 | -14.1 |
| Accommodation Services | 8.9 | 8.6 | 11.5 | 0.3 | -2.6 |
| Food Services | 85.0 | 87.1 | 96.5 | -2.1 | -11.5 |
| **Other Services** | **65.6** | **64.7** | **66.1** | **0.9** | **-0.5** |
| **Government** | **207.6** | **205.5** | **216.1** | **2.1** | **-8.5** |
| Federal Government | 20.2 | 20.3 | 20.5 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| State Government | 77.7 | 75.6 | 79.8 | 2.1 | -2.1 |
| State Gov, Educational Services | 31.1 | 29.0 | 31.9 | 2.1 | -0.8 |
| State Gov, Excluding Education | 46.6 | 46.6 | 47.9 | 0.0 | -1.3 |
| Local Government | 109.7 | 109.6 | 115.8 | 0.1 | -6.1 |
| Local Gov, Educational Services | 67.5 | 67.4 | 71.4 | 0.1 | -3.9 |
| Local Gov, Excluding Education | 42.2 | 42.2 | 44.4 | 0.0 | -2.2 |

**State of Arkansas**

# Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

**Januar y 2021 - Februar y 2021**

Arkansas’ nonfarm payroll jobs rose 500 in February to total 1,246,100. Four major industry sectors added jobs, more than offsetting declines in six sectors. Jobs in **government** increased 2,100. Gains in state government, educational services (+2,100) were largely related to the return of public college and university staff after winter break. **Professional and business services** added 2,000 jobs. Hiring was reported in administrative-support services (+1,300) and professional-scientific-technical services (+1,000), the latter of which includes activities such as accounting and tax preparation services. Smaller gains were posted in **educational and health services** (+900) and **other services** (+900). Employment in **construction** declined 1,400, mostly due to winter weather events in February. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** decreased 1,300, all in food services (-2,100).

**Februar y 2020 - Februar y 2021**

Compared to February 2020, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are down 41,500. Declines occurred in ten major industry sectors. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** fell 15,400. Most of the contraction was in food services (-11,500). Jobs in **government** decreased 8,500, with local government posting the largest decline (-6,100). **Educational and health services** lost 7,600 jobs. Most of the loss occurred in health care and social assistance (-7,000). Jobs in **manufacturing** are down 4,400, largely in nondu- rable goods manufacturing (-4,100). Notable declines were also posted in **professional and business services** (-3,000), **information** (-1,200) and **financial activities** (-1,000). Jobs in **construction** rose 600, related to large-scale projects across the State.

#### Over-the-Month Job Change by Industry Sector (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

January 2021 vs February 2021

Government

Professional & Business

Other Services

Educational & Health

Mining & Logging

Information

Manufacturing

Financial Activities

Trade-Transport-Utilities

Leisure & Hospitality

Construction

-2,000 -1,500 -1,000 -500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 2,500

**State of Arkansas**

# Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

**Manufacturing**

**Feb 21**

Average Weekly Hours 37.5

Average Hourly Earnings 19.48

Average Weekly Earnings 730.50

**Jan 21**

39.2

19.57

767.14

**Feb 20**

40.6

18.57

753.94

**Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing**

Durable Goods Manufacturing

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

**Feb 21**

Average Weekly Hours 37.3

Average Hourly Earnings 21.21

Average Weekly Earnings 791.13

**Jan 21**

38.6

21.29

821.79

**Feb 20**

41.1

20.34

835.97

**Feb 21**

Average Weekly Hours 37.6

Average Hourly Earnings 17.88

Average Weekly Earnings 672.29

**Jan 21**

39.7

18.02

715.39

**Feb 20**

40.1

16.97

680.50

#### Average Weekly Hours Worked - Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods (Production Workers)

February 2018 - February 2021

48.0

46.0

44.0

42.0

40.0

38.0

36.0

34.0

32.0

Feb '18 Aug '18 Feb '19 Aug '19 Feb '20 Aug '20 Feb '21 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 Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 351,939 | 352,286 | 359,884 | -347 | -7,945 |
| **Employment** | 332,775 | 333,580 | 346,504 | -805 | -13,729 |
| **Unemployment** | 19,164 | 18,706 | 13,380 | 458 | 5,784 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 5.4 | 5.3 | 3.7 | 0.1 | 1.7 |

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 348.5 | 347.9 | 366.0 | 0.6 | -17.5 |
| **Goods Producing** 36.3 | 36.7 | 38.3 | -0.4 | -2.0 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 17.4** | **17.7** | **17.7** | **-0.3** | **-0.3** |
| **Manufacturing 18.9** | **19.0** | **20.6** | **-0.1** | **-1.7** |
| **Service Providing** 312.2 | 311.2 | 327.7 | 1.0 | -15.5 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 68.6** | **68.6** | **69.5** | **0.0** | **-0.9** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 15.3 | 15.2 | 15.8 | 0.1 | -0.5 |
| **Retail Trade** 37.3 | 37.4 | 37.3 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 16.0 | 16.0 | 16.4 | 0.0 | -0.4 |
| **Information 5.1** | **5.1** | **5.7** | **0.0** | **-0.6** |
| **Financial Activities 22.5** | **22.6** | **22.3** | **-0.1** | **0.2** |
| **Professional & Business Services 44.5** | **44.5** | **46.3** | **0.0** | **-1.8** |
| **Educational & Health Services 58.5** | **57.4** | **59.3** | **1.1** | **-0.8** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 27.7** | **28.5** | **34.3** | **-0.8** | **-6.6** |
| **Other Services 17.7** | **17.6** | **18.2** | **0.1** | **-0.5** |
| **Government 67.6** | **66.9** | **72.1** | **0.7** | **-4.5** |
| **Federal Government** 9.7 | 9.6 | 9.8 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| **State Government** 34.3 | 33.8 | 36.2 | 0.5 | -1.9 |
| **Local Government** 23.6 | 23.5 | 26.1 | 0.1 | -2.5 |

#### Number of Employed

February: 2011 - 2021

350,000

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February 2019 - February 2021

380,000

345,000 370,000

340,000

360,000

335,000

350,000

330,000

340,000

325,000

330,000

320,000

320,000

315,000

310,000

310,000

305,000

'11

'12

'13

'14

'15

'16

'17

'18

'19

'20

'21

300,000

Feb '19

Aug '19

Feb '20

Aug '20

Feb '21

**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)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 288,686 | 286,327 | 287,952 | 2,359 | 734 |
| **Employment** | 277,679 | 275,873 | 279,990 | 1,806 | -2,311 |
| **Unemployment** | 11,007 | 10,454 | 7,962 | 553 | 3,045 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.8 | 3.7 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 1.0 |

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 267.3 | 264.1 | 271.3 | 3.2 | -4.0 |
| **Goods Producing** 44.4 | 44.5 | 43.8 | -0.1 | 0.6 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 13.2** | **13.2** | **12.5** | **0.0** | **0.7** |
| **Manufacturing 31.2** | **31.3** | **31.3** | **-0.1** | **-0.1** |
| **Service Providing** 222.9 | 219.6 | 227.5 | 3.3 | -4.6 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 58.0** | **57.8** | **56.6** | **0.2** | **1.4** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 12.1 | 12.1 | 12.4 | 0.0 | -0.3 |
| **Retail Trade** 27.5 | 27.3 | 25.6 | 0.2 | 1.9 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 18.4 | 18.4 | 18.6 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| **Information 1.9** | **1.9** | **2.2** | **0.0** | **-0.3** |
| **Financial Activities 8.6** | **8.5** | **8.6** | **0.1** | **0.0** |
| **Professional & Business Services 50.3** | **50.8** | **52.2** | **-0.5** | **-1.9** |
| **Educational & Health Services 30.6** | **29.9** | **31.1** | **0.7** | **-0.5** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 24.7** | **23.9** | **27.2** | **0.8** | **-2.5** |
| **Other Services 9.6** | **9.6** | **9.9** | **0.0** | **-0.3** |
| **Government 39.2** | **37.2** | **39.7** | **2.0** | **-0.5** |
| **Federal Government** 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **State Government** 16.8 | 14.9 | 17.2 | 1.9 | -0.4 |
| **Local Government** 19.6 | 19.5 | 19.7 | 0.1 | -0.1 |

#### Jobs in Service Providing Sectors

February 2018 - February 2021

235,000

230,000

225,000

220,000

215,000

210,000

205,000

200,000

195,000

190,000

Feb '18 Aug '18 Feb '19 Aug '19 Feb '20 Aug '20 Feb '21

**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)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 119,140 | 118,886 | 118,333 | 254 | 807 |
| **Employment** | 112,564 | 112,895 | 113,652 | -331 | -1,088 |
| **Unemployment** | 6,576 | 5,991 | 4,681 | 585 | 1,895 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 5.5 | 5.0 | 4.0 | 0.5 | 1.5 |

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 109.1 | 109.1 | 112.0 | 0.0 | -2.9 |
| **Goods Producing** 22.1 | 22.2 | 22.4 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 5.4** | **5.4** | **5.1** | **0.0** | **0.3** |
| **Manufacturing 16.7** | **16.8** | **17.3** | **-0.1** | **-0.6** |
| **Service Providing** 87.0 | 86.9 | 89.6 | 0.1 | -2.6 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 23.5** | **23.5** | **23.0** | **0.0** | **0.5** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| **Retail Trade** 12.2 | 12.2 | 12.3 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 6.8 | 6.8 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| **Information 1.0** | **1.1** | **1.1** | **-0.1** | **-0.1** |
| **Financial Activities 3.7** | **3.7** | **3.8** | **0.0** | **-0.1** |
| **Professional & Business Services 11.5** | **11.5** | **12.0** | **0.0** | **-0.5** |
| **Educational & Health Services 16.7** | **16.8** | **17.3** | **-0.1** | **-0.6** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 8.0** | **8.2** | **9.1** | **-0.2** | **-1.1** |
| **Other Services 4.5** | **4.5** | **4.5** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Government 18.1** | **17.6** | **18.8** | **0.5** | **-0.7** |
| **Federal Government** 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **State Government** 2.7 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 0.4 | -0.3 |
| **Local Government** 14.1 | 14.0 | 14.5 | 0.1 | -0.4 |

#### Employment

February 2019 - February 2021

118,000

#### Jobs in Leisure and Hospitality

February: 2011 - 2021

10,000

116,000

114,000

9,000

112,000

8,000

110,000

108,000

7,000

106,000

104,000

6,000

102,000

100,000

Feb '19

Aug '19

Feb '20

Aug '20

Feb '21

5,000

'11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 41,424 | 41,242 | 41,513 | 182 | -89 |
| **Employment** | 38,616 | 38,549 | 39,792 | 67 | -1,176 |
| **Unemployment** | 2,808 | 2,693 | 1,721 | 115 | 1,087 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 6.8 | 6.5 | 4.1 | 0.3 | 2.7 |

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 38.1 | 37.9 | 39.6 | 0.2 | -1.5 |
| 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| 33.6 | 33.4 | 34.9 | 0.2 | -1.3 |
| 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 0.1 | -0.4 |

45,000

40,000

#### Composition of the Civilian Labor Force

February: 2011 - 2021

Civilian Labor Force = Employment + Unemployment

35,000

30,000

25,000

20,000

15,000

10,000

5,000

0

2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

Unemployment Employment

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 65,699 | 65,557 | 66,619 | 142 | -920 |
| **Employment** | 62,742 | 62,735 | 64,429 | 7 | -1,687 |
| **Unemployment** | 2,957 | 2,822 | 2,190 | 135 | 767 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 4.5 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 0.2 | 1.2 |

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

**Feb 21**

58.6

10.3

48.3

8.2

**Jan 21**

58.3

10.2

48.1

8.2

**Feb 20**

60.6

10.2

50.4

9.0

**OTM**

0.3

0.1

0.2

0.0

**OTY**

-2.0

0.1

-2.1

-0.8

64,000

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February 2018 - February 2021

62,000

60,000

58,000

56,000

54,000

52,000

50,000

Feb '18 Aug '18 Feb '19 Aug '19 Feb '20 Aug '20 Feb '21

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Pine Bluff MSA

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

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 34,589 | 34,577 | 34,512 | 12 | 77 |
| **Employment** | 32,001 | 32,078 | 32,450 | -77 | -449 |
| **Unemployment** | 2,588 | 2,499 | 2,062 | 89 | 526 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 7.5 | 7.2 | 6.0 | 0.3 | 1.5 |

**Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 31.6 | 31.5 | 32.2 | 0.1 | -0.6 |
| 5.6 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| 26.0 | 25.9 | 26.4 | 0.1 | -0.4 |
| 9.0 | 8.7 | 9.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |

45,000

#### Number of Employed

February: 2001 - 2021

40,000

35,000

30,000

25,000

20,000

15,000

10,000

5,000

0

'01 '03 '05 '07 '09 '11 '13 '15 '17 '19 '21

**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.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 639,972 | 642,572 | 640,978 | -2,600 | -1,006 |
| **Employment** | 599,450 | 597,746 | 612,714 | 1,704 | -13,264 |
| **Unemployment** | 40,522 | 44,826 | 28,264 | -4,304 | 12,258 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 6.3 | 7.0 | 4.4 | -0.7 | 1.9 |

### Texarkana MSA

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Feb 21** | **Jan 21** | **Feb 20** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 63,787 | 63,560 | 64,656 | 227 | -869 |
| **Employment** | 59,340 | 59,366 | 61,811 | -26 | -2,471 |
| **Unemployment** | 4,447 | 4,194 | 2,845 | 253 | 1,602 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 7.0 | 6.6 | 4.4 | 0.4 | 2.6 |

90,000

#### Memphis MSA - Unemployment

February 2019 - February 2021

9.0

#### Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates

February: 2011 - 2021

80,000 8.0

70,000

7.0

60,000

6.0

50,000

5.0

40,000

4.0

30,000

3.0

20,000

2.0

10,000

1.0

-

Feb '19

Aug '19

Feb '20

Aug '20

Feb '21

0.0

'11

'12

'13

'14

'15

'16

'17

'18

'19

'20

'21

**Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

**Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates**

**Micro Area**

**CLF**

**February 2021**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**January 2021**

**CLF**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

**February 2020**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Arkadelphia Micro | 9,320 | 8,827 | 493 | 5.3 | 9,212 | 8,730 | 482 | 5.2 | 9,527 | 9,148 | 379 | 4.0 |
| Batesville Micro | 16,661 | 15,794 | 867 | 5.2 | 16,613 | 15,789 | 824 | 5.0 | 16,872 | 16,123 | 749 | 4.4 |
| Blytheville Micro | 16,808 | 15,371 | 1,437 | 8.5 | 16,796 | 15,441 | 1,355 | 8.1 | 17,637 | 16,579 | 1,058 | 6.0 |
| Camden Micro | 12,207 | 11,604 | 603 | 4.9 | 12,195 | 11,620 | 575 | 4.7 | 12,377 | 11,689 | 688 | 5.6 |
| El Dorado Micro | 15,386 | 14,233 | 1,153 | 7.5 | 15,392 | 14,282 | 1,110 | 7.2 | 15,729 | 14,753 | 976 | 6.2 |
| Forrest City Micro | 7,913 | 7,274 | 639 | 8.1 | 7,904 | 7,314 | 590 | 7.5 | 8,186 | 7,727 | 459 | 5.6 |
| Harrison Micro | 18,964 | 18,146 | 818 | 4.3 | 18,834 | 18,091 | 743 | 3.9 | 19,446 | 18,710 | 736 | 3.8 |
| Helena-West Helena Micro | 6,451 | 5,848 | 603 | 9.3 | 6,439 | 5,877 | 562 | 8.7 | 6,429 | 5,963 | 466 | 7.2 |
| Hope Micro | 12,898 | 12,313 | 585 | 4.5 | 12,906 | 12,356 | 550 | 4.3 | 13,350 | 12,755 | 595 | 4.5 |
| Magnolia Micro | 9,075 | 8,452 | 623 | 6.9 | 9,112 | 8,455 | 657 | 7.2 | 9,200 | 8,760 | 440 | 4.8 |
| Malvern Micro | 14,166 | 13,466 | 700 | 4.9 | 14,146 | 13,468 | 678 | 4.8 | 14,277 | 13,729 | 548 | 3.8 |
| Mountain Home Micro | 16,496 | 15,652 | 844 | 5.1 | 16,427 | 15,632 | 795 | 4.8 | 16,551 | 15,826 | 725 | 4.4 |
| Paragould Micro | 19,188 | 18,225 | 963 | 5.0 | 19,119 | 18,237 | 882 | 4.6 | 19,960 | 19,106 | 854 | 4.3 |
| Russellville Micro | 35,557 | 33,726 | 1,831 | 5.1 | 35,346 | 33,557 | 1,789 | 5.1 | 36,671 | 35,000 | 1,671 | 4.6 |
| Searcy Micro | 33,927 | 32,077 | 1,850 | 5.5 | 33,889 | 32,082 | 1,807 | 5.3 | 34,435 | 32,592 | 1,843 | 5.4 |

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 Labor Force Statistics**

**City**

**CLF**

**February 2021**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**January 2021**

**CLF**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

**February 2020**

**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 | 12,578 | 11,913 | 665 | 5.3 | 12,441 | 11,834 | 607 | 4.9 | 12,497 | 12,013 | 484 | 3.9 |
| Benton | 17,198 | 16,526 | 672 | 3.9 | 17,178 | 16,562 | 616 | 3.6 | 17,746 | 17,202 | 544 | 3.1 |
| Bentonville | 29,269 | 28,334 | 935 | 3.2 | 29,072 | 28,144 | 928 | 3.2 | 29,306 | 28,570 | 736 | 2.5 |
| Blytheville | 5,651 | 5,163 | 488 | 8.6 | 5,690 | 5,186 | 504 | 8.9 | 5,990 | 5,568 | 422 | 7.0 |
| Cabot | 11,805 | 11,251 | 554 | 4.7 | 11,811 | 11,294 | 517 | 4.4 | 12,148 | 11,736 | 412 | 3.4 |
| Conway | 33,702 | 32,201 | 1,501 | 4.5 | 33,778 | 32,284 | 1,494 | 4.4 | 34,680 | 33,533 | 1,147 | 3.3 |
| El Dorado | 6,696 | 6,139 | 557 | 8.3 | 6,725 | 6,160 | 565 | 8.4 | 6,835 | 6,363 | 472 | 6.9 |
| Fayetteville | 49,374 | 47,331 | 2,043 | 4.1 | 48,975 | 47,016 | 1,959 | 4.0 | 48,979 | 47,727 | 1,252 | 2.6 |
| Fort Smith | 38,822 | 36,806 | 2,016 | 5.2 | 38,846 | 36,949 | 1,897 | 4.9 | 39,074 | 37,597 | 1,477 | 3.8 |
| Hot Springs | 15,508 | 14,296 | 1,212 | 7.8 | 15,473 | 14,271 | 1,202 | 7.8 | 15,390 | 14,731 | 659 | 4.3 |
| Jacksonville | 11,691 | 10,729 | 962 | 8.2 | 11,681 | 10,752 | 929 | 8.0 | 11,792 | 11,168 | 624 | 5.3 |
| Jonesboro | 39,295 | 37,586 | 1,709 | 4.3 | 39,209 | 37,563 | 1,646 | 4.2 | 39,812 | 38,568 | 1,244 | 3.1 |
| Little Rock | 96,258 | 90,192 | 6,066 | 6.3 | 96,353 | 90,384 | 5,969 | 6.2 | 97,576 | 93,879 | 3,697 | 3.8 |
| North Little Rock | 29,735 | 27,655 | 2,080 | 7.0 | 29,798 | 27,714 | 2,084 | 7.0 | 30,171 | 28,786 | 1,385 | 4.6 |
| Paragould | 12,210 | 11,545 | 665 | 5.4 | 12,156 | 11,552 | 604 | 5.0 | 12,658 | 12,103 | 555 | 4.4 |
| Pine Bluff | 16,554 | 14,985 | 1,569 | 9.5 | 16,519 | 15,008 | 1,511 | 9.1 | 16,250 | 15,172 | 1,078 | 6.6 |
| Rogers | 36,713 | 35,467 | 1,246 | 3.4 | 36,472 | 35,230 | 1,242 | 3.4 | 36,734 | 35,763 | 971 | 2.6 |
| Russellville | 12,633 | 12,077 | 556 | 4.4 | 12,576 | 12,005 | 571 | 4.5 | 13,044 | 12,519 | 525 | 4.0 |
| Searcy | 10,152 | 9,732 | 420 | 4.1 | 10,172 | 9,733 | 439 | 4.3 | 10,323 | 9,888 | 435 | 4.2 |
| Sherwood | 15,952 | 15,075 | 877 | 5.5 | 15,949 | 15,107 | 842 | 5.3 | 16,268 | 15,692 | 576 | 3.5 |
| Springdale | 40,144 | 38,665 | 1,479 | 3.7 | 39,833 | 38,407 | 1,426 | 3.6 | 40,037 | 38,988 | 1,049 | 2.6 |
| Texarkana, AR | 13,390 | 12,433 | 957 | 7.1 | 13,333 | 12,440 | 893 | 6.7 | 13,471 | 12,824 | 647 | 4.8 |
| Van Buren | 10,209 | 9,782 | 427 | 4.2 | 10,251 | 9,827 | 424 | 4.1 | 10,398 | 10,004 | 394 | 3.8 |
| West Memphis | 10,446 | 9,586 | 860 | 8.2 | 10,401 | 9,591 | 810 | 7.8 | 10,442 | 9,892 | 550 | 5.3 |

## County Labor Force Statistics

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County** | **CLF** | **February 2021****Emp Unemp** | **Rate** | **CLF** | **January 2021****Emp Unemp** | **Rate** | **CLF** | **February 2020****Emp Unemp** | **Rate** |
| Arkansas | 9,383 | 8,973 | 410 | 4.4 | 9,377 | 9,013 | 364 | 3.9 | 9,536 | 9,214 | 322 | 3.4 |
| Ashley | 7,102 | 6,433 | 669 | 9.4 | 7,120 | 6,463 | 657 | 9.2 | 7,264 | 6,702 | 562 | 7.7 |
| Baxter | 16,496 | 15,652 | 844 | 5.1 | 16,427 | 15,632 | 795 | 4.8 | 16,551 | 15,826 | 725 | 4.4 |
| Benton | 142,240 | 136,921 | 5,319 | 3.7 | 141,059 | 136,006 | 5,053 | 3.6 | 142,134 | 138,064 | 4,070 | 2.9 |
| Boone | 15,714 | 15,046 | 668 | 4.3 | 15,604 | 14,992 | 612 | 3.9 | 16,092 | 15,503 | 589 | 3.7 |
| Bradley | 4,347 | 4,102 | 245 | 5.6 | 4,376 | 4,136 | 240 | 5.5 | 4,492 | 4,292 | 200 | 4.5 |
| Calhoun | 2,430 | 2,313 | 117 | 4.8 | 2,436 | 2,323 | 113 | 4.6 | 2,472 | 2,343 | 129 | 5.2 |
| Carroll | 12,293 | 11,602 | 691 | 5.6 | 12,265 | 11,607 | 658 | 5.4 | 12,663 | 12,145 | 518 | 4.1 |
| Chicot | 3,207 | 2,848 | 359 | 11.2 | 3,239 | 2,879 | 360 | 11.1 | 3,250 | 2,958 | 292 | 9.0 |
| Clark | 9,320 | 8,827 | 493 | 5.3 | 9,212 | 8,730 | 482 | 5.2 | 9,527 | 9,148 | 379 | 4.0 |
| Clay | 5,456 | 5,124 | 332 | 6.1 | 5,461 | 5,172 | 289 | 5.3 | 5,632 | 5,292 | 340 | 6.0 |
| Cleburne | 9,023 | 8,415 | 608 | 6.7 | 8,966 | 8,395 | 571 | 6.4 | 9,194 | 8,668 | 526 | 5.7 |
| Cleveland | 3,192 | 3,021 | 171 | 5.4 | 3,207 | 3,037 | 170 | 5.3 | 3,242 | 3,080 | 162 | 5.0 |
| Columbia | 9,075 | 8,452 | 623 | 6.9 | 9,112 | 8,455 | 657 | 7.2 | 9,200 | 8,760 | 440 | 4.8 |
| Conway | 8,432 | 7,973 | 459 | 5.4 | 8,424 | 7,994 | 430 | 5.1 | 8,426 | 8,021 | 405 | 4.8 |
| Craighead | 55,722 | 53,292 | 2,430 | 4.4 | 55,588 | 53,260 | 2,328 | 4.2 | 56,439 | 54,685 | 1,754 | 3.1 |
| Crawford | 26,376 | 25,109 | 1,267 | 4.8 | 26,403 | 25,224 | 1,179 | 4.5 | 26,695 | 25,680 | 1,015 | 3.8 |
| Crittenden | 20,995 | 19,586 | 1,409 | 6.7 | 20,977 | 19,597 | 1,380 | 6.6 | 21,184 | 20,212 | 972 | 4.6 |
| Cross | 7,193 | 6,764 | 429 | 6.0 | 7,187 | 6,788 | 399 | 5.6 | 7,488 | 7,143 | 345 | 4.6 |
| Dallas | 2,866 | 2,732 | 134 | 4.7 | 2,873 | 2,748 | 125 | 4.4 | 2,806 | 2,662 | 144 | 5.1 |
| Desha | 5,197 | 4,829 | 368 | 7.1 | 5,222 | 4,876 | 346 | 6.6 | 5,464 | 5,179 | 285 | 5.2 |
| Drew | 7,665 | 7,173 | 492 | 6.4 | 7,739 | 7,240 | 499 | 6.4 | 7,923 | 7,433 | 490 | 6.2 |
| Faulkner | 61,274 | 58,466 | 2,808 | 4.6 | 61,370 | 58,615 | 2,755 | 4.5 | 63,040 | 60,884 | 2,156 | 3.4 |
| Franklin | 7,424 | 7,065 | 359 | 4.8 | 7,442 | 7,106 | 336 | 4.5 | 7,495 | 7,199 | 296 | 3.9 |
| Fulton | 4,870 | 4,601 | 269 | 5.5 | 4,871 | 4,623 | 248 | 5.1 | 5,036 | 4,814 | 222 | 4.4 |
| Garland | 41,424 | 38,616 | 2,808 | 6.8 | 41,242 | 38,549 | 2,693 | 6.5 | 41,513 | 39,792 | 1,721 | 4.1 |
| Grant | 8,157 | 7,820 | 337 | 4.1 | 8,186 | 7,847 | 339 | 4.1 | 8,497 | 8,157 | 340 | 4.0 |
| Greene | 19,188 | 18,225 | 963 | 5.0 | 19,119 | 18,237 | 882 | 4.6 | 19,960 | 19,106 | 854 | 4.3 |
| Hempstead | 9,425 | 9,005 | 420 | 4.5 | 9,432 | 9,041 | 391 | 4.1 | 9,773 | 9,334 | 439 | 4.5 |
| Hot Spring | 14,166 | 13,466 | 700 | 4.9 | 14,146 | 13,468 | 678 | 4.8 | 14,277 | 13,729 | 548 | 3.8 |
| Howard | 5,525 | 5,295 | 230 | 4.2 | 5,536 | 5,311 | 225 | 4.1 | 5,640 | 5,413 | 227 | 4.0 |
| Independence | 16,661 | 15,794 | 867 | 5.2 | 16,613 | 15,789 | 824 | 5.0 | 16,872 | 16,123 | 749 | 4.4 |
| Izard | 4,399 | 4,085 | 314 | 7.1 | 4,433 | 4,112 | 321 | 7.2 | 4,720 | 4,383 | 337 | 7.1 |
| Jackson | 5,891 | 5,475 | 416 | 7.1 | 5,890 | 5,495 | 395 | 6.7 | 5,926 | 5,491 | 435 | 7.3 |
| Jefferson | 27,553 | 25,361 | 2,192 | 8.0 | 27,526 | 25,400 | 2,126 | 7.7 | 27,363 | 25,677 | 1,686 | 6.2 |
| Johnson | 10,214 | 9,627 | 587 | 5.7 | 10,206 | 9,642 | 564 | 5.5 | 10,416 | 9,940 | 476 | 4.6 |
| Lafayette | 2,420 | 2,227 | 193 | 8.0 | 2,431 | 2,243 | 188 | 7.7 | 2,429 | 2,299 | 130 | 5.4 |
| Lawrence | 6,809 | 6,427 | 382 | 5.6 | 6,820 | 6,467 | 353 | 5.2 | 6,972 | 6,642 | 330 | 4.7 |
| Lee | 2,760 | 2,567 | 193 | 7.0 | 2,792 | 2,599 | 193 | 6.9 | 2,836 | 2,652 | 184 | 6.5 |
| Lincoln | 3,844 | 3,619 | 225 | 5.9 | 3,844 | 3,641 | 203 | 5.3 | 3,907 | 3,693 | 214 | 5.5 |
| Little River | 5,400 | 5,070 | 330 | 6.1 | 5,386 | 5,071 | 315 | 5.8 | 5,523 | 5,230 | 293 | 5.3 |
| Logan | 8,672 | 8,185 | 487 | 5.6 | 8,669 | 8,228 | 441 | 5.1 | 8,710 | 8,291 | 419 | 4.8 |
| Lonoke | 33,275 | 31,767 | 1,508 | 4.5 | 33,339 | 31,887 | 1,452 | 4.4 | 34,438 | 33,136 | 1,302 | 3.8 |
| Madison | 7,588 | 7,266 | 322 | 4.2 | 7,537 | 7,258 | 279 | 3.7 | 7,606 | 7,393 | 213 | 2.8 |
| Marion | 6,032 | 5,651 | 381 | 6.3 | 6,024 | 5,665 | 359 | 6.0 | 6,446 | 6,126 | 320 | 5.0 |
| Miller | 19,351 | 18,145 | 1,206 | 6.2 | 19,297 | 18,155 | 1,142 | 5.9 | 19,603 | 18,715 | 888 | 4.5 |

(continued on Page 16)

**County Labor Force Statistics**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County** | **CLF** | **February 2021****Emp Unemp** | **Rate** | **CLF** | **January 2021****Emp Unemp** | **Rate** | **CLF** | **February 2020****Emp Unemp** | **Rate** |
| Mississippi | 16,808 | 15,371 | 1,437 | 8.5 | 16,796 | 15,441 | 1,355 | 8.1 | 17,637 | 16,579 | 1,058 | 6.0 |
| Monroe | 2,714 | 2,537 | 177 | 6.5 | 2,737 | 2,557 | 180 | 6.6 | 2,760 | 2,621 | 139 | 5.0 |
| Montgomery | 2,942 | 2,766 | 176 | 6.0 | 2,966 | 2,789 | 177 | 6.0 | 2,967 | 2,793 | 174 | 5.9 |
| Nevada | 3,473 | 3,308 | 165 | 4.8 | 3,474 | 3,315 | 159 | 4.6 | 3,577 | 3,421 | 156 | 4.4 |
| Newton | 3,250 | 3,100 | 150 | 4.6 | 3,230 | 3,099 | 131 | 4.1 | 3,354 | 3,207 | 147 | 4.4 |
| Ouachita | 9,777 | 9,291 | 486 | 5.0 | 9,759 | 9,297 | 462 | 4.7 | 9,905 | 9,346 | 559 | 5.6 |
| Perry | 4,177 | 3,961 | 216 | 5.2 | 4,183 | 3,977 | 206 | 4.9 | 4,325 | 4,133 | 192 | 4.4 |
| Phillips | 6,451 | 5,848 | 603 | 9.3 | 6,439 | 5,877 | 562 | 8.7 | 6,429 | 5,963 | 466 | 7.2 |
| Pike | 4,295 | 4,041 | 254 | 5.9 | 4,293 | 4,072 | 221 | 5.1 | 4,251 | 4,051 | 200 | 4.7 |
| Poinsett | 9,977 | 9,450 | 527 | 5.3 | 9,969 | 9,475 | 494 | 5.0 | 10,180 | 9,744 | 436 | 4.3 |
| Polk | 7,959 | 7,479 | 480 | 6.0 | 7,962 | 7,510 | 452 | 5.7 | 8,154 | 7,674 | 480 | 5.9 |
| Pope | 27,557 | 26,139 | 1,418 | 5.1 | 27,376 | 25,982 | 1,394 | 5.1 | 28,406 | 27,095 | 1,311 | 4.6 |
| Prairie | 3,617 | 3,425 | 192 | 5.3 | 3,629 | 3,454 | 175 | 4.8 | 3,679 | 3,515 | 164 | 4.5 |
| Pulaski | 187,237 | 175,371 | 11,866 | 6.3 | 187,374 | 175,744 | 11,630 | 6.2 | 190,047 | 182,540 | 7,507 | 4.0 |
| Randolph | 7,567 | 7,153 | 414 | 5.5 | 7,538 | 7,145 | 393 | 5.2 | 7,446 | 7,097 | 349 | 4.7 |
| St. Francis | 7,913 | 7,274 | 639 | 8.1 | 7,904 | 7,314 | 590 | 7.5 | 8,186 | 7,727 | 459 | 5.6 |
| Saline | 57,819 | 55,390 | 2,429 | 4.2 | 57,834 | 55,510 | 2,324 | 4.0 | 59,537 | 57,654 | 1,883 | 3.2 |
| Scott | 4,358 | 4,169 | 189 | 4.3 | 4,393 | 4,206 | 187 | 4.3 | 4,423 | 4,254 | 169 | 3.8 |
| Searcy | 2,781 | 2,616 | 165 | 5.9 | 2,762 | 2,608 | 154 | 5.6 | 2,849 | 2,673 | 176 | 6.2 |
| Sebastian | 55,865 | 53,042 | 2,823 | 5.1 | 55,955 | 53,249 | 2,706 | 4.8 | 56,317 | 54,183 | 2,134 | 3.8 |
| Sevier | 5,480 | 5,145 | 335 | 6.1 | 5,469 | 5,158 | 311 | 5.7 | 5,598 | 5,289 | 309 | 5.5 |
| Sharp | 5,670 | 5,276 | 394 | 6.9 | 5,664 | 5,294 | 370 | 6.5 | 5,760 | 5,413 | 347 | 6.0 |
| Stone | 4,521 | 4,183 | 338 | 7.5 | 4,539 | 4,216 | 323 | 7.1 | 4,620 | 4,350 | 270 | 5.8 |
| Union | 15,386 | 14,233 | 1,153 | 7.5 | 15,392 | 14,282 | 1,110 | 7.2 | 15,729 | 14,753 | 976 | 6.2 |
| Van Buren | 5,722 | 5,313 | 409 | 7.1 | 5,746 | 5,356 | 390 | 6.8 | 5,750 | 5,407 | 343 | 6.0 |
| Washington | 128,073 | 123,135 | 4,938 | 3.9 | 126,992 | 122,317 | 4,675 | 3.7 | 127,477 | 124,167 | 3,310 | 2.6 |
| White | 33,927 | 32,077 | 1,850 | 5.5 | 33,889 | 32,082 | 1,807 | 5.3 | 34,435 | 32,592 | 1,843 | 5.4 |
| Woodruff | 2,823 | 2,629 | 194 | 6.9 | 2,839 | 2,662 | 177 | 6.2 | 2,848 | 2,702 | 146 | 5.1 |
| Yell | 8,000 | 7,587 | 413 | 5.2 | 7,970 | 7,575 | 395 | 5.0 | 8,265 | 7,905 | 360 | 4.4 |

# County Labor Force Summary

Between January and February, unemployment rates increased in 67 of Arkansas’ 75 counties. Rates remained stable in five counties, while three counties declined. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 3.7 percent in Benton County to a high of 11.2 percent in Chicot County.

In February, fourteen counties posted unemployment rates at or above seven percent. That is up from eleven counties above seven percent last month. Two counties reported jobless rates at or below four percent, down from six counties at or below four percent in January.

Compared to February 2020, unemployment rates are up in 68 Arkansas counties. Rates declined in five counties, while two counties were unchanged. Jobless rate changes ranged from a de- crease of six-tenths of a percentage point in Ouachita County to a gain of two and seven-tenths of a percentage point in Garland County.

**County Unemployment Rates**

**Benton**

**Carroll**

**Boone Marion**

**Baxter**

**Fulton**

**Randolph**

**Clay**

**Sharp**

**Washington**

**Madison**

**Izard**

**Newton**

**Lawrence**

**Searcy**

**Stone**

**Independence**

**Crawford Franklin Johnson**

**Van Buren**

**Cleburne**

**Jackson**

**Greene**

**Craighead Mississippi Poinsett**

**Pope**

**Conway**

**Sebastian**

**Logan**

**White**

**Cross**

**Woodruff**

**Crittenden**

**Yell**

**Faulkner**

**Perry**

**St. Francis**

**Scott**

**Pulaski**

**Lonoke**

**Prairie**

**Lee**

**Saline**

**Monroe**

**Polk**

**Montgomery**

**Garland**

**Phillips**

**Hot Spring Grant**

**Jefferson**

**Arkansas**

**Sevier**

**Howard Pike**

**Clark**

**Dallas**

**Cleveland Lincoln**

**Little River**

**Hempstead**

**Nevada Ouachita**

**Desha**

**Calhoun**

**Bradley**

**Drew**

**Miller**

**Lafayette**

**Columbia**

**Union**

**Ashley**

**Chicot**

**Unemployment Rates**

< or = 3.0% [NONE] 3.1% - 5.0%

5.1% - 7.0%

7.1% - 9.0%

> 9.0%

# Ranked by Unemployment Rates

February 2021 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

**Rank County**

1. Benton
2. Washington
3. Grant
4. Howard

4 Madison

4 Saline

7 Boone

7 Scott

9 Arkansas

9 Craighead

11 Hempstead

11 Lonoke

13 Faulkner

13 Newton

1. Dallas
2. Calhoun

16 Crawford

16 Franklin

16 Nevada

1. Hot Spring
2. Greene

21 Ouachita

23 Baxter

23 Pope

23 Sebastian

**Rate**

3.7

3.9

4.1

4.2

4.2

4.2

4.3

4.3

4.4

4.4

4.5

4.5

4.6

4.6

4.7

4.8

4.8

4.8

4.8

4.9

5.0

5.0

5.1

5.1

5.1

**Rank County Rate**

26 Independence 5.2

26 Perry 5.2

26 Yell 5.2

29 Clark 5.3

29 Poinsett 5.3

29 Prairie 5.3

32 Cleveland 5.4

32 Conway 5.4

34 Fulton 5.5

34 Randolph 5.5

34 White 5.5

37 Bradley 5.6

37 Carroll 5.6

37 Lawrence 5.6

37 Logan 5.6

1. Johnson 5.7
2. Lincoln 5.9

42 Pike 5.9

42 Searcy 5.9

45 Cross 6.0

45 Montgomery 6.0

45 Polk 6.0

48 Clay 6.1

48 Little River 6.1

48 Sevier 6.1

**Rank County**

1. Miller
2. Marion

52 Pulaski

1. Drew
2. Monroe
3. Cleburne

56 Crittenden

1. Garland
2. Columbia

59 Sharp

59 Woodruff

1. Lee
2. Desha

63 Izard

63 Jackson

63 Van Buren

67 Stone

67 Union

69 Jefferson

69 Lafayette

1. St. Francis
2. Mississippi
3. Phillips
4. Ashley
5. Chicot

**Rate**

6.2

6.3

6.3

6.4

6.5

6.7

6.7

6.8

6.9

6.9

6.9

7.0

7.1

7.1

7.1

7.1

7.5

7.5

8.0

8.0

8.1

8.5

9.3

9.4

11.2

## Local Workforce Development Areas

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**



**LWDA**

**CLF**

**February 2021**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**January 2021**

**CLF**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

**February 2020**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

Central (minus LR) 249,678 236,764

City of Little Rock 96,258 90,192

Eastern 45,312 42,039

North Central 93,507 87,848

Northeast 121,527 115,042

Northwest 334,467 320,989

Southeast 79,647 74,179

Southwest 90,608 85,216

West Central 130,527 123,003

Western 110,654 105,049

12,914 5.2

6,066 6.3

3,273 7.2

5,659 6.1

6,485 5.3

13,478 4.0

5,468 6.9

5,392 6.0

7,524 5.8

5,605 5.1

249,930 237,383 12,547 5.0

96,353 90,384 5,969 6.2

45,299 42,175 3,124 6.9

93,450 88,024 5,426 5.8

121,291 115,197 6,094 5.0

331,900 319,184 12,716 3.8

79,836 74,532 5,304 6.6

90,597 85,399 5,198 5.7

130,018 122,778 7,240 5.6

110,824 105,523 5,301 4.8

255,925 246,471 9,454 3.7

97,576 93,879 3,697 3.8

46,123 43,697 2,426 5.3

95,161 89,943 5,218 5.5

124,266 119,145 5,121 4.1

335,172 325,104 10,068 3.0

80,938 76,385 4,553 5.6

92,255 87,565 4,690 5.1

132,373 126,607 5,766 4.4

111,794 107,281 4,513 4.0