

2021

March

**ARKANSAS
LABOR MARKET
REPORT**



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

www.discover.arkansas.gov

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Technical Notes

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

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

Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). All estimates are based on a first quarter 2020 benchmark.

Explanation of Terms and Concepts

Monthly Business

Survey of Employers

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

5,000 Arkansas business establishments are surveyed.

Metropolitan

Statistical Areas

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

Current Population

Survey (CPS)

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

Civilian Labor Force

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

Employment

An estimate of the number of persons who worked any time

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

Unemployment

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

Unemployment

Rate

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

Seasonal

Adjustment

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



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services



March Spotlight

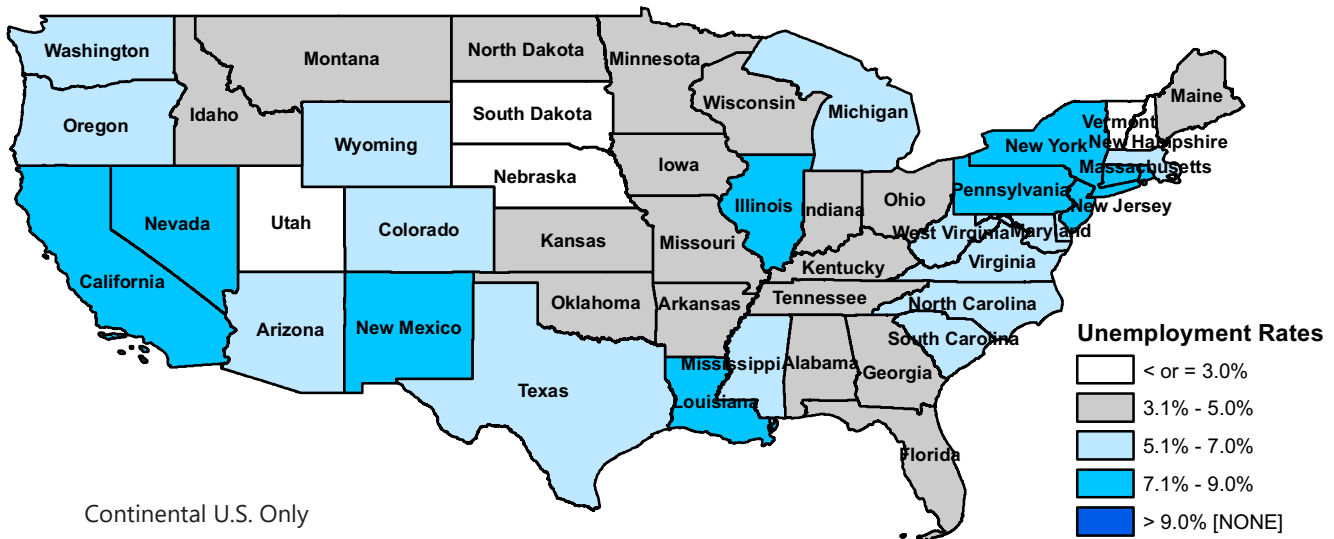
Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

Between February and March, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates declined in 20 states and the District of Columbia. Jobless rates were unchanged in 30 states. In March, unemployment rates ranged from a low of 2.9 percent in Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, and Vermont to a high of 9.0 percent in Hawaii. Arkansas ranked 16th, with a jobless rate of 4.4 percent. Thirty states, including Arkansas, posted jobless rates below the national rate of 6.0 percent.

Compared to March 2020, unemployment rates are higher in 40 states and the District of Columbia. Rates in 10 states had little or no change. Eight states posted jobless rate increases of more than 3.0 percent, with Hawaii increasing 6.9 percentage points compared to last March. The United States' unemployment rate is up 1.6 percent, while Arkansas' rate is up five-tenths of a percentage point over-the-year.

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Nebraska	2.9	18	Georgia	4.5	35	Delaware	6.5
1	South Dakota	2.9	19	Florida	4.7	36	Alaska	6.6
1	Utah	2.9	19	Ohio	4.7	37	Arizona	6.7
1	Vermont	2.9	21	Maine	4.8	38	Massachusetts	6.8
5	New Hampshire	3.0	22	Kentucky	5.0	39	Texas	6.9
6	Idaho	3.2	22	Tennessee	5.0	40	Illinois	7.1
7	Iowa	3.7	24	Michigan	5.1	40	Rhode Island	7.1
7	Kansas	3.7	24	South Carolina	5.1	42	Louisiana	7.3
9	Alabama	3.8	24	Virginia	5.1	42	Pennsylvania	7.3
9	Montana	3.8	27	North Carolina	5.2	44	New Jersey	7.7
9	Wisconsin	3.8	28	Wyoming	5.3	45	District of Columbia	7.8
12	Indiana	3.9	29	Washington	5.4	46	Nevada	8.1
13	Minnesota	4.2	30	West Virginia	5.9	47	California	8.3
13	Missouri	4.2	31	Oregon	6.0	47	Connecticut	8.3
13	Oklahoma	4.2	32	Maryland	6.2	47	New Mexico	8.3
16	Arkansas	4.4	33	Mississippi	6.3	50	New York	8.5
16	North Dakota	4.4	34	Colorado	6.4	51	Hawaii	9.0

U.S. Unemployment Rate = 6.0 Percent



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 declined one-tenth of a percentage point, from 4.5 percent in February to 4.4 percent in March. Arkansas' civilian labor force decreased 3,789, a result of 2,382 fewer employed and 1,407 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate declined two-tenths of a percentage point, from 6.2 percent in February to 6.0 percent in March.

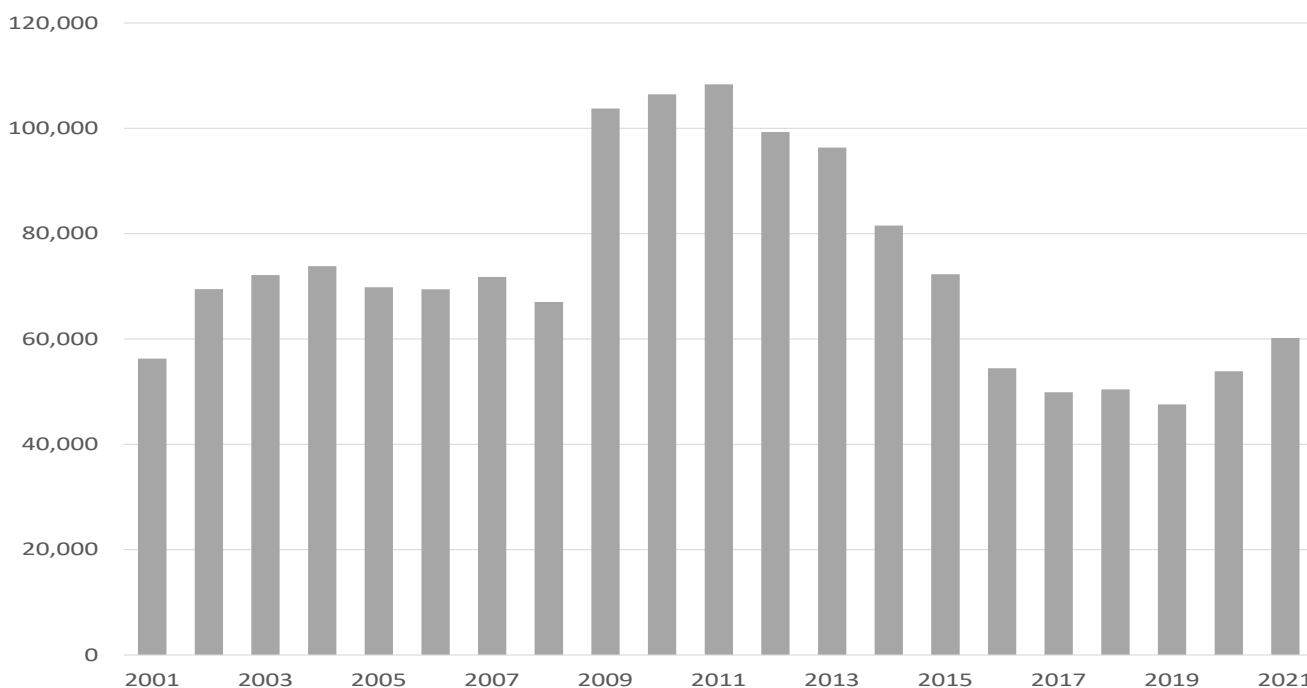
BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate continues to decline, down to 4.4 percent in March. Unemployment is now half a percentage point higher than in March 2020, when Arkansas' pre-pandemic unemployment rate was at 3.9 percent."

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>		<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,359,901	1,363,690	1,372,102	Civilian Labor Force	1,358,770	1,353,169	1,367,760
Employment	1,299,702	1,302,084	1,318,251	Employment	1,294,031	1,281,132	1,310,660
Unemployment	60,199	61,606	53,851	Unemployment	64,739	72,037	57,100
Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.5	3.9	Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.3	4.2
U.S. Unemployment	6.0	6.2	4.4	U.S. Unemployment	6.2	6.6	4.5

Number of Unemployed (Seasonally Adjusted)

March: 2001 - 2021



**State of Arkansas
Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1258.7	1249.3	1287.9	9.4	-29.2
Goods Producing	219.9	218.4	218.3	1.5	1.6
Mining, Logging, & Construction	58.6	57.9	58.3	0.7	0.3
Mining & Logging	5.3	5.2	5.6	0.1	-0.3
Construction	53.3	52.7	52.7	0.6	0.6
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.7	33.1	33.4	0.6	0.3
Manufacturing	161.3	160.5	160.0	0.8	1.3
Durable Goods	79.9	78.3	75.7	1.6	4.2
Nondurable Goods	81.4	82.2	84.3	-0.8	-2.9
Service Providing	1038.8	1030.9	1069.6	7.9	-30.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	248.4	248.6	249.5	-0.2	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	46.3	46.3	47.4	0.0	-1.1
Retail Trade	137.1	137.1	135.3	0.0	1.8
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	65.0	65.2	66.8	-0.2	-1.8
Information	11.3	11.5	12.6	-0.2	-1.3
Financial Activities	64.3	63.5	63.9	0.8	0.4
Finance & Insurance	50.9	50.4	50.3	0.5	0.6
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.4	13.1	13.6	0.3	-0.2
Professional & Business Services	144.2	143.2	145.9	1.0	-1.7
Professional, Scientific & Technical	43.5	43.9	43.9	-0.4	-0.4
Management of Companies	33.9	33.4	34.3	0.5	-0.4
Administrative & Support Services	66.8	65.9	67.7	0.9	-0.9
Educational & Health Services	189.2	187.2	195.3	2.0	-6.1
Educational Services	17.0	16.5	17.0	0.5	0.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	172.2	170.7	178.3	1.5	-6.1
Ambulatory Health Care	59.1	58.7	59.8	0.4	-0.7
Social Assistance	36.2	35.7	40.0	0.5	-3.8
Leisure & Hospitality	107.4	104.2	119.4	3.2	-12.0
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	11.0	10.4	11.9	0.6	-0.9
Accommodation & Food Services	96.4	93.8	107.5	2.6	-11.1
Accommodation Services	9.0	8.8	11.6	0.2	-2.6
Food Services	87.4	85.0	95.9	2.4	-8.5
Other Services	65.9	65.1	65.9	0.8	0.0
Government	208.1	207.6	217.1	0.5	-9.0
Federal Government	20.2	20.2	20.7	0.0	-0.5
State Government	78.1	77.7	80.2	0.4	-2.1
State Gov, Educational Services	31.5	31.1	32.2	0.4	-0.7
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.6	46.6	48.0	0.0	-1.4
Local Government	109.8	109.7	116.2	0.1	-6.4
Local Gov, Educational Services	67.4	67.5	71.5	-0.1	-4.1
Local Gov, Excluding Education	42.4	42.2	44.7	0.2	-2.3

**State of Arkansas
Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary**

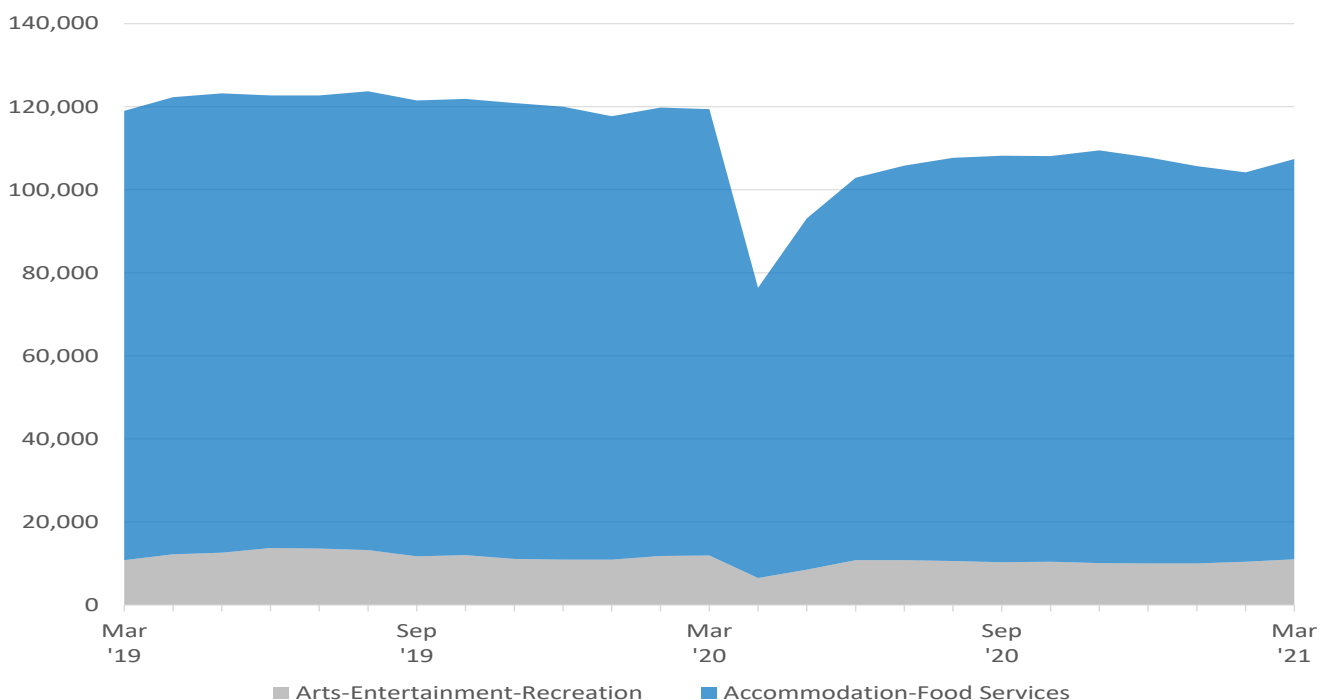
February 2021 - March 2021

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 9,400 in March to total 1,258,700. Nine major industry sectors posted job gains. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** rose 3,200. Most of the hiring occurred in food services (+2,400). **Educational and health services** added 2,000 jobs, largely in health care and social assistance (+1,500). Jobs in **professional and business services** increased 1,000. Gains were posted in administrative and support services (+900) and management of companies (+500). Other notable expansions occurred in **manufacturing** (+800), **financial activities** (+800), and **other services** (+800).

March 2020 - March 2021

Compared to March 2020, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll job totals are down 29,200. Declines were reported in seven major industry sectors, while three sectors added jobs. **Leisure and hospitality** posted the largest loss (-12,000). Most of the decreases occurred in food services (-8,500) and accommodation services (-2,600). Employment in **government** is down 9,000. Local government (-6,400) and state government (-2,100) posted much of the loss. Jobs in **educational and health services** declined 6,100, all in health care and social assistance (-6,100). Smaller decreases were reported in **professional and business services** (-1,700), **information** (-1,300), and **trade-transportation-utilities** (-1,100). Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 1,300. Expansions in durable goods (+4,200) more than offset losses in nondurable goods (-2,900). **Construction** (+600) and **financial activities** (+400) posted minor gains.

Jobs in the Leisure and Hospitality Subsectors (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
March 2019 - March 2021



**State of Arkansas
Production Workers- Hours and Earnings**

Manufacturing

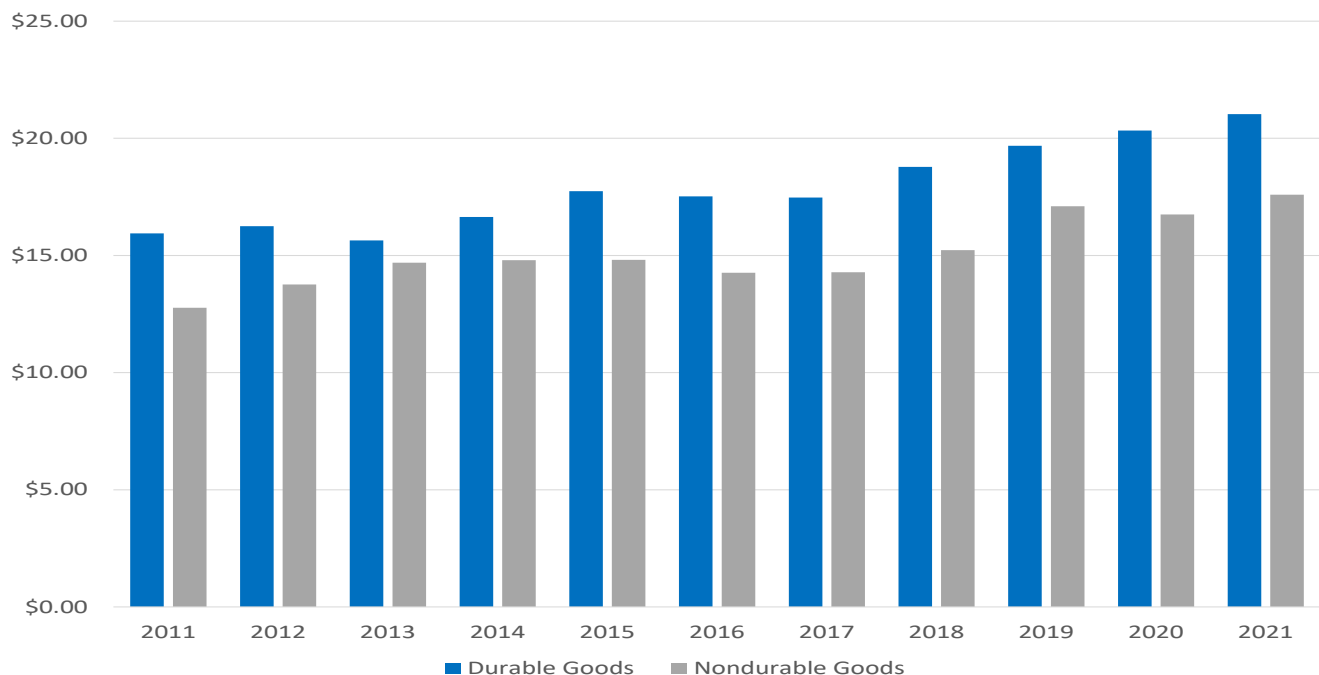
	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20
Average Weekly Hours	40.4	37.8	39.7
Average Hourly Earnings	19.29	19.33	18.43
Average Weekly Earnings	779.32	730.67	731.67

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20		Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20
Average Weekly Hours	40.2	36.7	39.8	Average Weekly Hours	40.6	38.9	39.6
Average Hourly Earnings	21.03	21.31	20.33	Average Hourly Earnings	17.59	17.56	16.75
Average Weekly Earnings	845.41	782.08	809.13	Average Weekly Earnings	714.15	683.08	663.30

Average Hourly Earnings - Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods (Production Workers)

March: 2011 - 2021



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)

	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	353,202	352,498	358,344	704	-5,142
Employment	335,805	333,288	344,136	2,517	-8,331
Unemployment	17,397	19,210	14,208	-1,813	3,189
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.4	4.0	-0.5	0.9

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

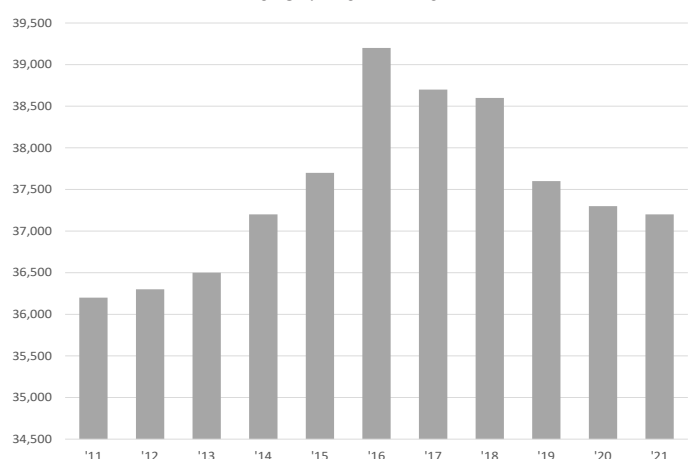
(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	351.0	348.8	365.0	2.2	-14.0
Goods Producing	37.4	36.8	38.1	0.6	-0.7
Mining, Logging & Construction	18.0	17.4	17.9	0.6	0.1
Manufacturing	19.4	19.4	20.2	0.0	-0.8
Service Providing	313.6	312.0	326.9	1.6	-13.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	68.3	68.5	69.4	-0.2	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	15.1	15.1	15.7	0.0	-0.6
Retail Trade	37.2	37.5	37.3	-0.3	-0.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.0	15.9	16.4	0.1	-0.4
Information	5.0	5.1	5.7	-0.1	-0.7
Financial Activities	22.8	22.5	22.3	0.3	0.5
Professional & Business Services	45.2	44.8	46.4	0.4	-1.2
Educational & Health Services	58.1	58.4	59.1	-0.3	-1.0
Leisure & Hospitality	28.3	27.3	33.6	1.0	-5.3
Other Services	18.0	17.8	18.1	0.2	-0.1
Government	67.9	67.6	72.3	0.3	-4.4
Federal Government	9.7	9.7	9.8	0.0	-0.1
State Government	34.4	34.3	36.3	0.1	-1.9
Local Government	23.8	23.6	26.2	0.2	-2.4

Number of Unemployed
March 2019 - March 2021



Jobs in Retail Trade
March: 2011 - 2021



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)

	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	290,382	288,734	287,777	1,648	2,605
Employment	280,271	277,681	279,302	2,590	969
Unemployment	10,111	11,053	8,475	-942	1,636
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.8	2.9	-0.3	0.6

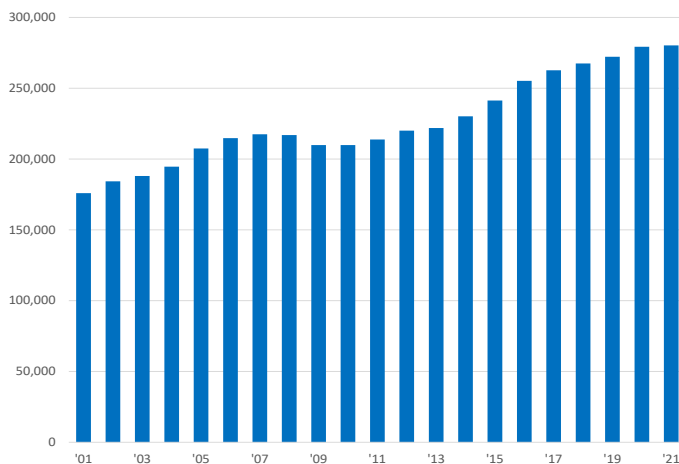
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	268.6	267.3	271.7	1.3	-3.1
Goods Producing	44.6	44.7	44.0	-0.1	0.6
Mining, Logging & Construction	13.2	13.2	12.7	0.0	0.5
Manufacturing	31.4	31.5	31.3	-0.1	0.1
Service Providing	224.0	222.6	227.7	1.4	-3.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	57.8	57.9	57.1	-0.1	0.7
Wholesale Trade	12.3	12.2	12.5	0.1	-0.2
Retail Trade	27.2	27.3	25.9	-0.1	1.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	18.3	18.4	18.7	-0.1	-0.4
Information	2.0	1.9	2.2	0.1	-0.2
Financial Activities	8.6	8.6	8.6	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	51.4	50.5	52.3	0.9	-0.9
Educational & Health Services	30.4	30.1	30.8	0.3	-0.4
Leisure & Hospitality	24.7	24.7	27.1	0.0	-2.4
Other Services	9.8	9.7	9.8	0.1	0.0
Government	39.3	39.2	39.8	0.1	-0.5
Federal Government	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0
State Government	16.9	16.8	17.3	0.1	-0.4
Local Government	19.6	19.6	19.7	0.0	-0.1

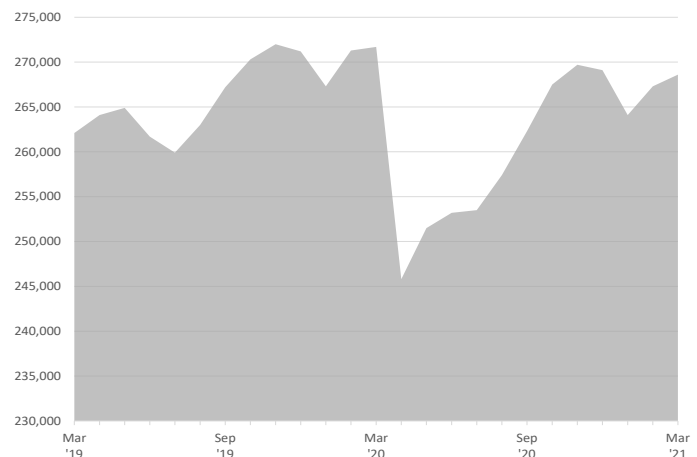
Employment

March: 2001 - 2021



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

March 2019 - March 2021



Metropolitan Statistical Areas Fort Smith MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	119,157	119,566	117,737	-409	1,420
Employment	113,387	112,829	112,997	558	390
Unemployment	5,770	6,737	4,740	-967	1,030
Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.6	4.0	-0.8	0.8

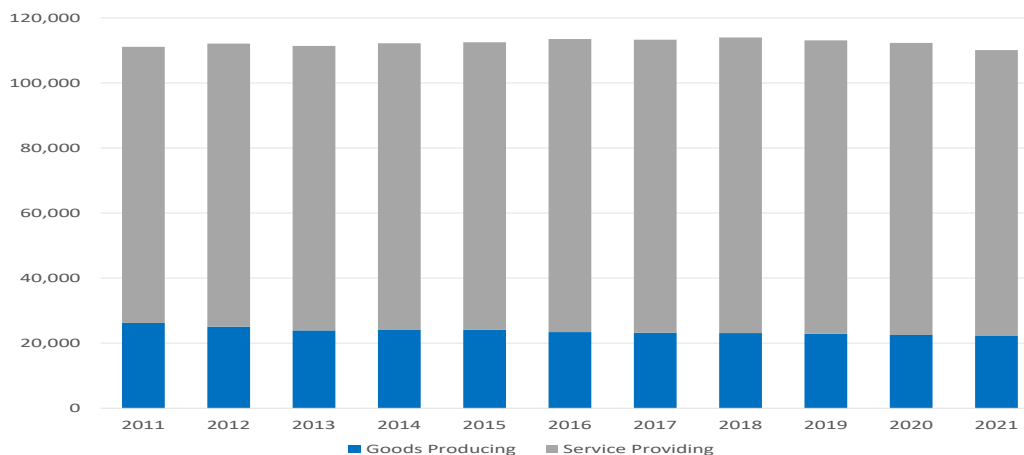
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	110.1	109.4	112.3	0.7	-2.2
Goods Producing	22.2	22.1	22.5	0.1	-0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.5	5.4	5.2	0.1	0.3
Manufacturing	16.7	16.7	17.3	0.0	-0.6
Service Providing	87.9	87.3	89.8	0.6	-1.9
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23.4	23.3	23.0	0.1	0.4
Wholesale Trade	4.5	4.5	4.2	0.0	0.3
Retail Trade	12.0	12.0	12.3	0.0	-0.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.9	6.8	6.5	0.1	0.4
Information	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	3.7	3.7	3.8	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	12.0	11.9	12.2	0.1	-0.2
Educational & Health Services	16.8	16.7	17.3	0.1	-0.5
Leisure & Hospitality	8.3	8.1	9.1	0.2	-0.8
Other Services	4.7	4.5	4.5	0.2	0.2
Government	18.0	18.1	18.8	-0.1	-0.8
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.0	-0.1
State Government	2.7	2.7	3.1	0.0	-0.4
Local Government	14.0	14.1	14.3	-0.1	-0.3

Jobs in Goods Producing and Service Providing Industries

March: 2011 - 2021



**Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Hot Springs MSA**

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	41,373	41,514	41,923	-141	-550
Employment	38,854	38,694	40,163	160	-1,309
Unemployment	2,519	2,820	1,760	-301	759
Unemployment Rate	6.1	6.8	4.2	-0.7	1.9

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	38.1	38.2	39.9	-0.1	-1.8
Goods Producing	4.5	4.5	4.7	0.0	-0.2
Service Providing	33.6	33.7	35.2	-0.1	-1.6
Government	4.1	4.1	4.5	0.0	-0.4

Number of Employed
March 2018 - March 2021



**Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Jonesboro MSA**

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	66,055	65,548	66,660	507	-605
Employment	63,383	62,582	64,360	801	-977
Unemployment	2,672	2,966	2,300	-294	372
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.5	3.5	-0.5	0.5

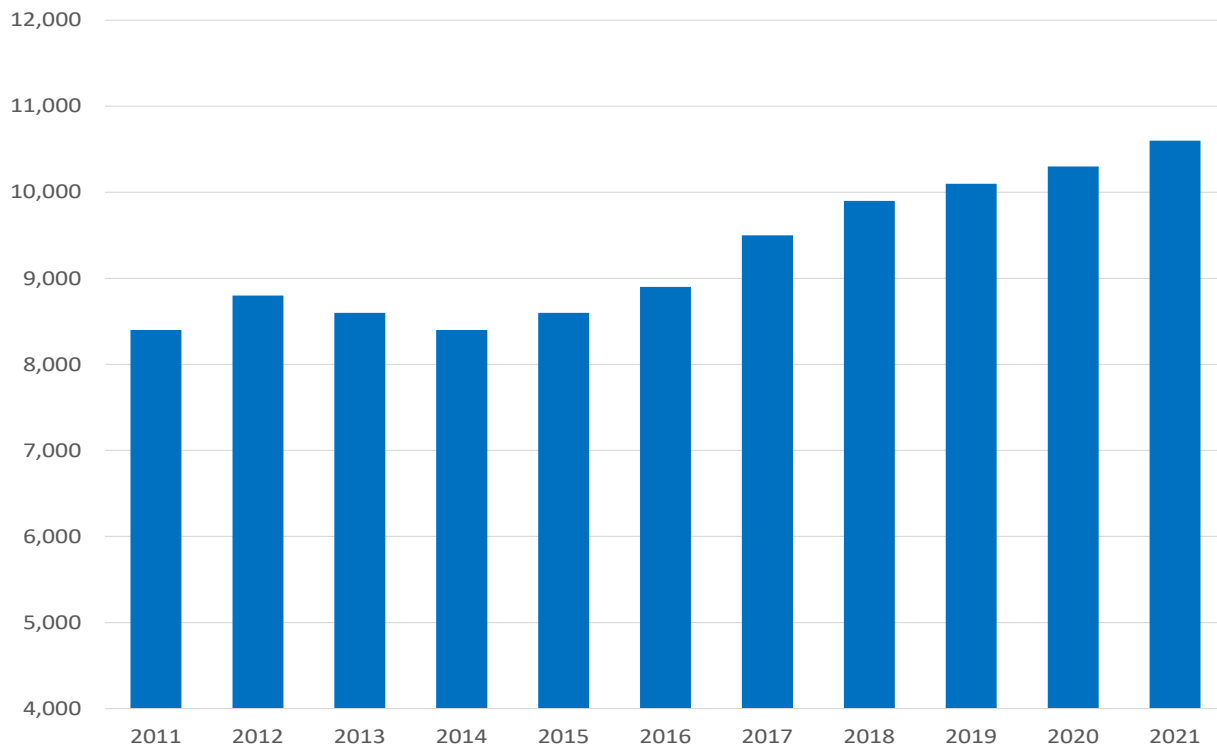
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	59.0	58.4	60.8	0.6	-1.8
Goods Producing	10.6	10.3	10.3	0.3	0.3
Service Providing	48.4	48.1	50.5	0.3	-2.1
Government	8.2	8.2	9.0	0.0	-0.8

Jobs in Goods Producing Industries

March: 2011 - 2021



**Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Pine Bluff MSA**

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	35,025	34,630	34,458	395	567
Employment	32,646	32,025	32,348	621	298
Unemployment	2,379	2,605	2,110	-226	269
Unemployment Rate	6.8	7.5	6.1	-0.7	0.7

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	32.0	31.6	32.2	0.4	-0.2
Goods Producing	5.6	5.6	5.8	0.0	-0.2
Service Providing	26.4	26.0	26.4	0.4	0.0
Government	9.0	9.0	9.0	0.0	0.0

Unemployment

March 2019 - March 2021



Metropolitan Statistical Areas Out-of-State MSA

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA

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

	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	641,448	640,612	636,440	836	5,008
Employment	600,742	600,106	604,469	636	-3,727
Unemployment	40,706	40,506	31,971	200	8,735
Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.3	5.0	0.0	1.3

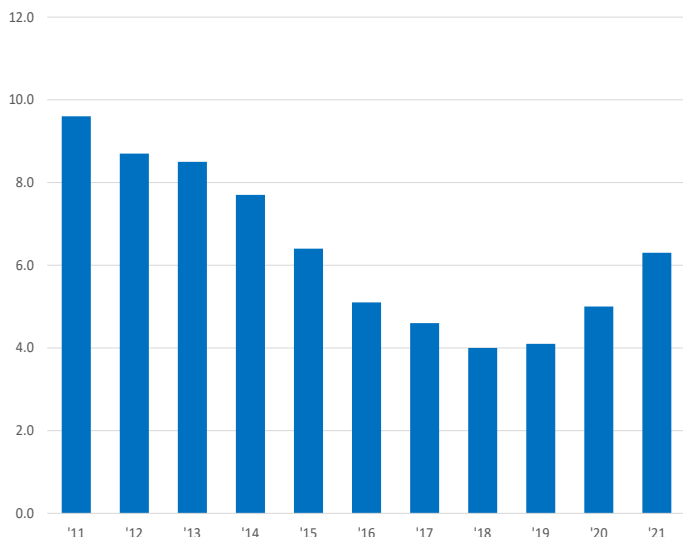
Texarkana MSA

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

	<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>	<u>Mar 20</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,564	63,709	63,986	-145	-422
Employment	59,357	59,241	60,551	116	-1,194
Unemployment	4,207	4,468	3,435	-261	772
Unemployment Rate	6.6	7.0	5.4	-0.4	1.2

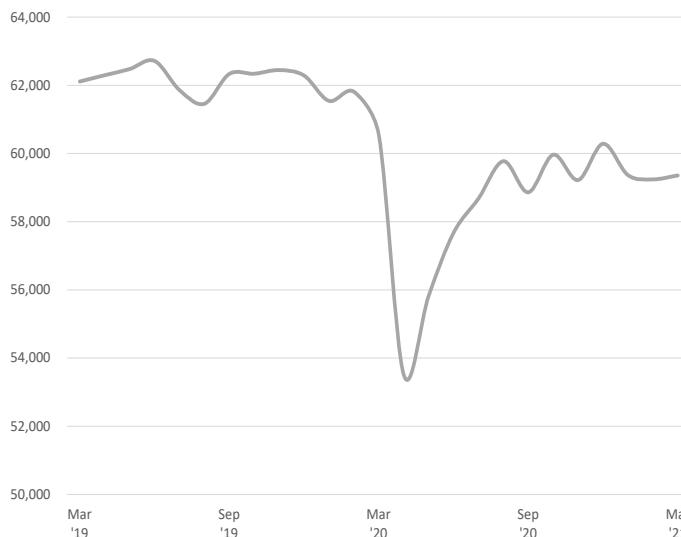
Memphis MSA - Unemployment Rates

March: 2011 - 2021



Texarkana MSA - Employment

March 2019 - March 2021



Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	March 2021				February 2021				March 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,377	8,905	472	5.0	9,321	8,828	493	5.3	9,520	9,128	392	4.1
Batesville Micro	16,716	15,970	746	4.5	16,665	15,797	868	5.2	16,737	15,994	743	4.4
Blytheville Micro	16,892	15,584	1,308	7.7	16,821	15,374	1,447	8.6	17,438	16,350	1,088	6.2
Camden Micro	12,217	11,675	542	4.4	12,210	11,607	603	4.9	12,324	11,642	682	5.5
El Dorado Micro	15,371	14,318	1,053	6.9	15,393	14,235	1,158	7.5	15,714	14,680	1,034	6.6
Forrest City Micro	7,912	7,333	579	7.3	7,915	7,277	638	8.1	8,074	7,605	469	5.8
Harrison Micro	19,019	18,306	713	3.7	18,968	18,149	819	4.3	19,386	18,635	751	3.9
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,504	5,955	549	8.4	6,453	5,849	604	9.4	6,384	5,932	452	7.1
Hope Micro	12,970	12,437	533	4.1	12,908	12,315	593	4.6	13,371	12,758	613	4.6
Magnolia Micro	9,026	8,466	560	6.2	9,078	8,454	624	6.9	9,078	8,612	466	5.1
Malvern Micro	14,203	13,555	648	4.6	14,181	13,478	703	5.0	14,216	13,647	569	4.0
Mountain Home Micro	16,554	15,818	736	4.4	16,499	15,654	845	5.1	16,589	15,854	735	4.4
Paragould Micro	19,216	18,400	816	4.2	19,183	18,219	964	5.0	19,774	18,933	841	4.3
Russellville Micro	35,672	34,053	1,619	4.5	35,562	33,732	1,830	5.1	36,450	34,871	1,579	4.3
Searcy Micro	34,021	32,367	1,654	4.9	33,948	32,091	1,857	5.5	34,424	32,534	1,890	5.5

Arkadelphia Micro = Clark County

Batesville Micro = Independence County

Blytheville Micro = Mississippi County

Camden Micro = Calhoun & Ouachita counties

El Dorado Micro = Union County

Forrest City Micro = St. Francis County

Harrison Micro = Boone & Newton counties

Helena-West Helena Micro = Phillips County

Hope Micro = Hempstead & Nevada counties

Magnolia Micro = Columbia County

Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County

Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County

Paragould Micro = Greene County

Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties

Searcy Micro = White County

City Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

City	March 2021				February 2021				March 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,632	12,021	611	4.8	12,563	11,914	649	5.2	12,483	11,986	497	4.0
Benton	17,311	16,668	643	3.7	17,220	16,552	668	3.9	17,702	17,093	609	3.4
Bentonville	29,445	28,589	856	2.9	29,264	28,334	930	3.2	29,258	28,507	751	2.6
Blytheville	5,707	5,234	473	8.3	5,677	5,164	513	9.0	5,916	5,491	425	7.2
Cabot	11,899	11,384	515	4.3	11,820	11,268	552	4.7	12,050	11,632	418	3.5
Conway	33,935	32,510	1,425	4.2	33,755	32,251	1,504	4.5	34,532	33,312	1,220	3.5
El Dorado	6,651	6,176	475	7.1	6,703	6,140	563	8.4	6,847	6,332	515	7.5
Fayetteville	49,707	47,770	1,937	3.9	49,384	47,331	2,053	4.2	49,006	47,646	1,360	2.8
Fort Smith	39,003	37,218	1,785	4.6	38,914	36,923	1,991	5.1	38,939	37,463	1,476	3.8
Hot Springs	15,572	14,384	1,188	7.6	15,560	14,325	1,235	7.9	15,550	14,868	682	4.4
Jacksonville	11,656	10,820	836	7.2	11,694	10,746	948	8.1	11,769	11,095	674	5.7
Jonesboro	39,542	37,934	1,608	4.1	39,228	37,489	1,739	4.4	39,911	38,556	1,355	3.4
Little Rock	96,663	90,952	5,711	5.9	96,487	90,332	6,155	6.4	97,298	93,265	4,033	4.1
North Little Rock	29,689	27,888	1,801	6.1	29,763	27,698	2,065	6.9	30,049	28,598	1,451	4.8
Paragould	12,235	11,656	579	4.7	12,211	11,541	670	5.5	12,553	11,993	560	4.5
Pine Bluff	16,682	15,261	1,421	8.5	16,575	14,996	1,579	9.5	16,291	15,135	1,156	7.1
Rogers	37,029	35,787	1,242	3.4	36,729	35,467	1,262	3.4	36,741	35,683	1,058	2.9
Russellville	12,723	12,173	550	4.3	12,638	12,079	559	4.4	13,073	12,489	584	4.5
Searcy	10,251	9,820	431	4.2	10,166	9,736	430	4.2	10,346	9,870	476	4.6
Sherwood	15,995	15,202	793	5.0	15,955	15,099	856	5.4	16,206	15,589	617	3.8
Springdale	40,413	39,022	1,391	3.4	40,145	38,665	1,480	3.7	40,058	38,920	1,138	2.8
Texarkana, AR	13,358	12,483	875	6.6	13,386	12,418	968	7.2	13,512	12,820	692	5.1
Van Buren	10,323	9,904	419	4.1	10,244	9,813	431	4.2	10,345	9,954	391	3.8
West Memphis	10,450	9,737	713	6.8	10,460	9,602	858	8.2	10,371	9,818	553	5.3

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	March 2021				February 2021				March 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,484	9,104	380	4.0	9,388	8,975	413	4.4	9,490	9,168	322	3.4
Ashley	7,091	6,494	597	8.4	7,106	6,434	672	9.5	7,192	6,609	583	8.1
Baxter	16,554	15,818	736	4.4	16,499	15,654	845	5.1	16,589	15,854	735	4.4
Benton	143,034	138,157	4,877	3.4	142,248	136,923	5,325	3.7	141,979	137,758	4,221	3.0
Boone	15,752	15,161	591	3.8	15,715	15,048	667	4.2	16,053	15,445	608	3.8
Bradley	4,358	4,141	217	5.0	4,350	4,103	247	5.7	4,393	4,186	207	4.7
Calhoun	2,439	2,341	98	4.0	2,432	2,314	118	4.9	2,455	2,323	132	5.4
Carroll	12,510	11,938	572	4.6	12,293	11,604	689	5.6	12,767	12,291	476	3.7
Chicot	3,214	2,890	324	10.1	3,209	2,849	360	11.2	3,185	2,903	282	8.9
Clark	9,377	8,905	472	5.0	9,321	8,828	493	5.3	9,520	9,128	392	4.1
Clay	5,522	5,234	288	5.2	5,456	5,125	331	6.1	5,603	5,251	352	6.3
Cleburne	9,052	8,531	521	5.8	9,024	8,418	606	6.7	9,208	8,672	536	5.8
Cleveland	3,248	3,100	148	4.6	3,194	3,024	170	5.3	3,231	3,062	169	5.2
Columbia	9,026	8,466	560	6.2	9,078	8,454	624	6.9	9,078	8,612	466	5.1
Conway	8,460	8,045	415	4.9	8,439	7,979	460	5.5	8,384	7,978	406	4.8
Craighead	55,986	53,786	2,200	3.9	55,597	53,155	2,442	4.4	56,538	54,667	1,871	3.3
Crawford	26,573	25,422	1,151	4.3	26,451	25,188	1,263	4.8	26,561	25,552	1,009	3.8
Crittenden	21,115	19,894	1,221	5.8	21,038	19,618	1,420	6.7	21,048	20,060	988	4.7
Cross	7,261	6,869	392	5.4	7,198	6,766	432	6.0	7,409	7,077	332	4.5
Dallas	2,881	2,758	123	4.3	2,867	2,732	135	4.7	2,773	2,639	134	4.8
Desha	5,247	4,912	335	6.4	5,200	4,830	370	7.1	5,419	5,127	292	5.4
Drew	7,669	7,226	443	5.8	7,667	7,174	493	6.4	7,783	7,311	472	6.1
Faulkner	61,594	59,027	2,567	4.2	61,365	58,556	2,809	4.6	62,722	60,482	2,240	3.6
Franklin	7,474	7,151	323	4.3	7,423	7,072	351	4.7	7,453	7,146	307	4.1
Fulton	4,929	4,704	225	4.6	4,873	4,601	272	5.6	5,139	4,922	217	4.2
Garland	41,373	38,854	2,519	6.1	41,514	38,694	2,820	6.8	41,923	40,163	1,760	4.2
Grant	8,206	7,904	302	3.7	8,168	7,831	337	4.1	8,415	8,073	342	4.1
Greene	19,216	18,400	816	4.2	19,183	18,219	964	5.0	19,774	18,933	841	4.3
Hempstead	9,488	9,104	384	4.0	9,431	9,006	425	4.5	9,777	9,328	449	4.6
Hot Spring	14,203	13,555	648	4.6	14,181	13,478	703	5.0	14,216	13,647	569	4.0
Howard	5,561	5,354	207	3.7	5,527	5,296	231	4.2	5,561	5,327	234	4.2
Independence	16,716	15,970	746	4.5	16,665	15,797	868	5.2	16,737	15,994	743	4.4
Izard	4,461	4,193	268	6.0	4,400	4,086	314	7.1	4,782	4,432	350	7.3
Jackson	5,921	5,570	351	5.9	5,895	5,476	419	7.1	5,834	5,422	412	7.1
Jefferson	27,847	25,827	2,020	7.3	27,587	25,379	2,208	8.0	27,349	25,615	1,734	6.3
Johnson	10,235	9,700	535	5.2	10,216	9,629	587	5.7	10,340	9,864	476	4.6
Lafayette	2,434	2,257	177	7.3	2,420	2,228	192	7.9	2,409	2,275	134	5.6
Lawrence	6,916	6,570	346	5.0	6,803	6,423	380	5.6	6,965	6,648	317	4.6
Lee	2,780	2,612	168	6.0	2,761	2,567	194	7.0	2,768	2,584	184	6.6
Lincoln	3,930	3,719	211	5.4	3,849	3,622	227	5.9	3,878	3,671	207	5.3
Little River	5,367	5,082	285	5.3	5,392	5,064	328	6.1	5,501	5,217	284	5.2
Logan	8,711	8,285	426	4.9	8,677	8,192	485	5.6	8,647	8,242	405	4.7
Lonoke	33,490	32,143	1,347	4.0	33,320	31,815	1,505	4.5	34,306	32,841	1,465	4.3
Madison	7,701	7,406	295	3.8	7,586	7,266	320	4.2	7,561	7,334	227	3.0
Marion	6,067	5,737	330	5.4	6,032	5,652	380	6.3	6,449	6,135	314	4.9
Miller	19,344	18,217	1,127	5.8	19,348	18,123	1,225	6.3	19,659	18,710	949	4.8

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	March 2021				February 2021				March 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	16,892	15,584	1,308	7.7	16,821	15,374	1,447	8.6	17,438	16,350	1,088	6.2
Monroe	2,744	2,577	167	6.1	2,715	2,538	177	6.5	2,728	2,588	140	5.1
Montgomery	3,035	2,876	159	5.2	2,945	2,766	179	6.1	2,972	2,792	180	6.1
Nevada	3,482	3,333	149	4.3	3,477	3,309	168	4.8	3,594	3,430	164	4.6
Newton	3,267	3,145	122	3.7	3,253	3,101	152	4.7	3,333	3,190	143	4.3
Ouachita	9,778	9,334	444	4.5	9,778	9,293	485	5.0	9,869	9,319	550	5.6
Perry	4,220	4,016	204	4.8	4,183	3,967	216	5.2	4,294	4,105	189	4.4
Phillips	6,504	5,955	549	8.4	6,453	5,849	604	9.4	6,384	5,932	452	7.1
Pike	4,343	4,126	217	5.0	4,295	4,042	253	5.9	4,220	4,023	197	4.7
Poinsett	10,069	9,597	472	4.7	9,951	9,427	524	5.3	10,122	9,693	429	4.2
Polk	8,049	7,614	435	5.4	7,962	7,480	482	6.1	8,100	7,615	485	6.0
Pope	27,593	26,347	1,246	4.5	27,559	26,143	1,416	5.1	28,264	27,030	1,234	4.4
Prairie	3,670	3,498	172	4.7	3,618	3,426	192	5.3	3,674	3,485	189	5.1
Pulaski	187,619	176,849	10,770	5.7	187,552	175,643	11,909	6.3	189,348	181,346	8,002	4.2
Randolph	7,598	7,240	358	4.7	7,569	7,155	414	5.5	7,434	7,084	350	4.7
St. Francis	7,912	7,333	579	7.3	7,915	7,277	638	8.1	8,074	7,605	469	5.8
Saline	58,073	55,866	2,207	3.8	57,910	55,476	2,434	4.2	59,259	57,289	1,970	3.3
Scott	4,428	4,239	189	4.3	4,362	4,172	190	4.4	4,383	4,221	162	3.7
Searcy	2,831	2,689	142	5.0	2,781	2,617	164	5.9	2,899	2,730	169	5.8
Sebastian	56,138	53,637	2,501	4.5	56,029	53,211	2,818	5.0	56,180	53,989	2,191	3.9
Sevier	5,520	5,209	311	5.6	5,480	5,146	334	6.1	5,573	5,257	316	5.7
Sharp	5,699	5,365	334	5.9	5,675	5,277	398	7.0	5,806	5,466	340	5.9
Stone	4,595	4,308	287	6.2	4,523	4,184	339	7.5	4,568	4,315	253	5.5
Union	15,371	14,318	1,053	6.9	15,393	14,235	1,158	7.5	15,714	14,680	1,034	6.6
Van Buren	5,758	5,406	352	6.1	5,718	5,315	403	7.0	5,764	5,431	333	5.8
Washington	128,800	124,277	4,523	3.5	128,092	123,137	4,955	3.9	127,490	123,954	3,536	2.8
White	34,021	32,367	1,654	4.9	33,948	32,091	1,857	5.5	34,424	32,534	1,890	5.5
Woodruff	2,869	2,689	180	6.3	2,824	2,630	194	6.9	2,842	2,685	157	5.5
Yell	8,079	7,706	373	4.6	8,003	7,589	414	5.2	8,186	7,841	345	4.2

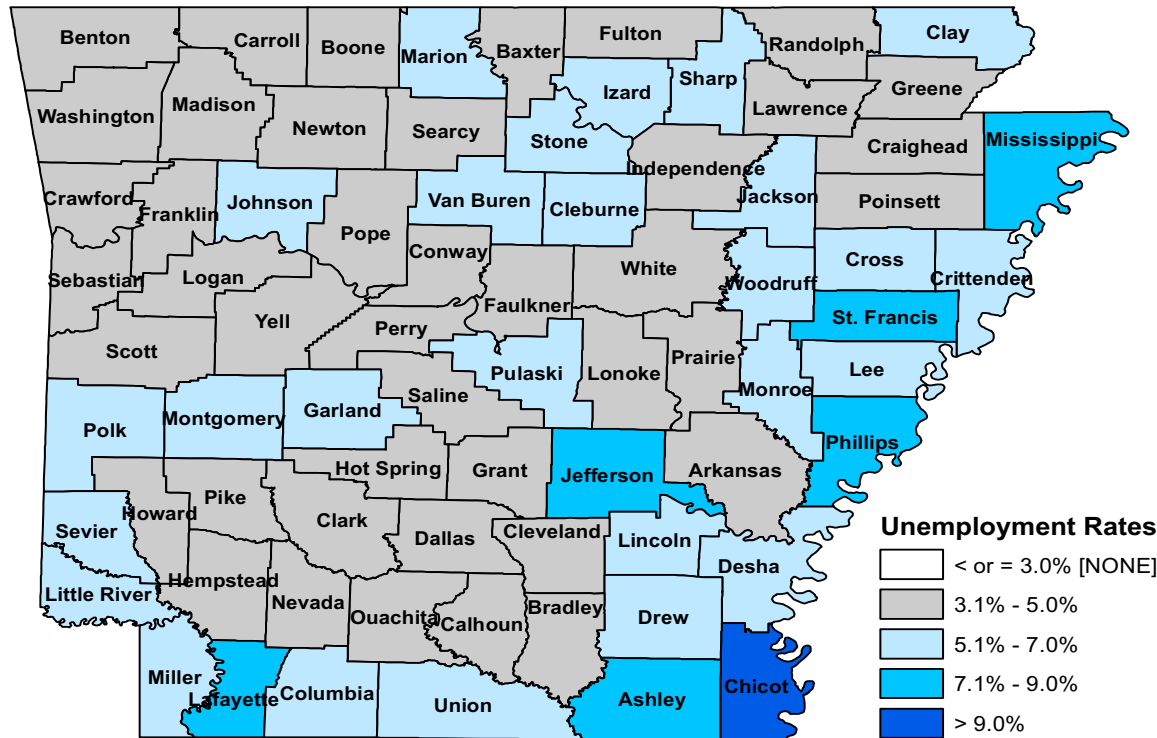
County Labor Force Summary

Between February and March, unemployment rates declined in all 75 Arkansas counties. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 3.4 percent in Benton County to a high of 10.1 percent in Chicot County. The largest rate decline occurred in Stone County, dropping one and three-tenths of a percentage point over-the-month.

In March, seven counties posted jobless rates at or above seven percent. That is down from 15 counties at or above seven percent last month. Thirteen counties had rates at or below four percent, up sharply from two counties below four percent in February.

Compared to March 2020, unemployment rates are up in 48 Arkansas counties. Twenty-two counties posted jobless rate declines, while 5 counties remained stable. Rate changes ranged from a decrease of one and four-tenths of a percentage point in Calhoun County to an increase of one and nine-tenths of a percentage point in Garland County.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

March 2021 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Benton	3.4	26	Carroll	4.6	51	Sevier	5.6
2	Washington	3.5	26	Cleveland	4.6	52	Pulaski	5.7
3	Grant	3.7	26	Fulton	4.6	53	Cleburne	5.8
3	Howard	3.7	26	Hot Spring	4.6	53	Crittenden	5.8
3	Newton	3.7	26	Yell	4.6	53	Drew	5.8
6	Boone	3.8	31	Poinsett	4.7	53	Miller	5.8
6	Madison	3.8	31	Prairie	4.7	57	Jackson	5.9
6	Saline	3.8	31	Randolph	4.7	57	Sharp	5.9
9	Craighead	3.9	34	Perry	4.8	59	Izard	6.0
10	Arkansas	4.0	35	Conway	4.9	59	Lee	6.0
10	Calhoun	4.0	35	Logan	4.9	61	Garland	6.1
10	Hempstead	4.0	35	White	4.9	61	Monroe	6.1
10	Lonoke	4.0	38	Bradley	5.0	61	Van Buren	6.1
14	Faulkner	4.2	38	Clark	5.0	64	Columbia	6.2
14	Greene	4.2	38	Lawrence	5.0	64	Stone	6.2
16	Crawford	4.3	38	Pike	5.0	66	Woodruff	6.3
16	Dallas	4.3	38	Searcy	5.0	67	Desha	6.4
16	Franklin	4.3	43	Clay	5.2	68	Union	6.9
16	Nevada	4.3	43	Johnson	5.2	69	Jefferson	7.3
16	Scott	4.3	43	Montgomery	5.2	69	Lafayette	7.3
21	Baxter	4.4	46	Little River	5.3	69	St. Francis	7.3
22	Independence	4.5	47	Cross	5.4	72	Mississippi	7.7
22	Ouachita	4.5	47	Lincoln	5.4	73	Ashley	8.4
22	Pope	4.5	47	Marion	5.4	73	Phillips	8.4
22	Sebastian	4.5	47	Polk	5.4	75	Chicot	10.1

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	March 2021				February 2021				March 2020			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	250,527	239,008	11,519	4.6	249,993	237,122	12,871	5.1	254,739	244,766	9,973	3.9
City of Little Rock	96,663	90,952	5,711	5.9	96,487	90,332	6,155	6.4	97,298	93,265	4,033	4.1
Eastern	45,572	42,663	2,909	6.4	45,365	42,077	3,288	7.2	45,683	43,258	2,425	5.3
North Central	94,021	89,103	4,918	5.2	93,545	87,875	5,670	6.1	95,104	89,873	5,231	5.5
Northeast	122,199	116,411	5,788	4.7	121,380	114,878	6,502	5.4	123,874	118,626	5,248	4.2
Northwest	336,516	324,328	12,188	3.6	334,499	321,002	13,497	4.0	335,120	324,691	10,429	3.1
Southeast	80,294	75,317	4,977	6.2	79,718	74,221	5,497	6.9	80,335	75,725	4,610	5.7
Southwest	90,691	85,773	4,918	5.4	90,623	85,200	5,423	6.0	91,963	87,117	4,846	5.3
West Central	130,918	124,130	6,788	5.2	130,656	123,115	7,541	5.8	132,319	126,571	5,748	4.3
Western	111,373	106,348	5,025	4.5	110,904	105,315	5,589	5.0	111,324	106,765	4,559	4.1

