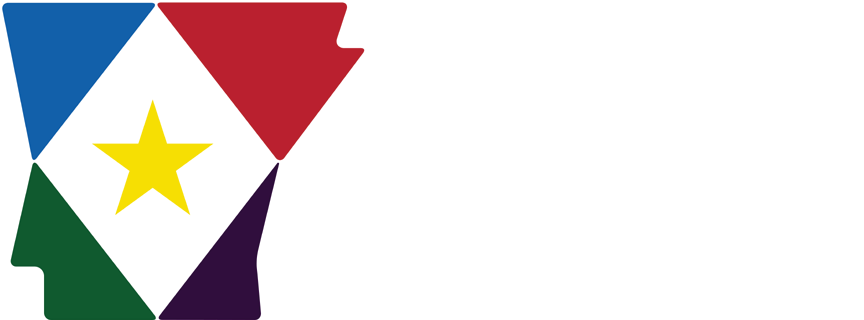
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**December**

**A**

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**market**

**Report**

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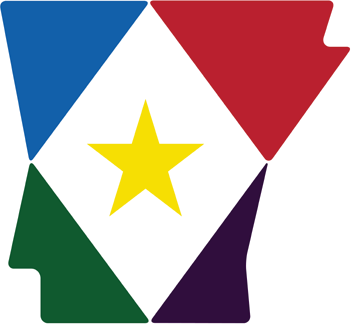
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The *Arkansas Labor Market* is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Depart- ment of Labor, Bu- reau of Labor Statis- tics (BLS). The current month’s estimates are preliminary, while pre- vious month’s data is subject to revision.

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 2022 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.

**December**

[www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov/)

**December**

**December Spotlight**

# Coming in 2024

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| January | 03/11/2024 | 03/13/2024 |
| February | 03/22/2024 | 04/03/2024 |
| March | 04/19/2024 | 05/01/2024 |
| April | 05/17/2024 | 05/29/2024 |
| May | 06/25/2024 | 07/03/2024 |
| June | 07/19/2024 | 07/30/2024 |
| July | 08/16/2024 | 08/28/2024 |
| August | 09/20/2024 | 10/02/2024 |
| September | 10/22/2024 | 10/30/2024 |
| October | 11/19/2024 | 11/27/2024 |
| November | 12/20/2024 | 01/03/2025 |
| December | 01/28/2025 | 02/05/2025 |

**Upcoming Spotlight Topics** Business Employment Dynamics Labor Underutilization Rates

**Reference Month**

**2024 Publication Schedule**

**State Press Release**

**MSA’s & Counties\***

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

A Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates Wages by County

**State of Arkansas**

# Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, an- nounced Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.3% in November to 3.4% in December. The United States’ jobless rate remained stable at 3.7%.

Arkansas’ civilian labor force declined by 1,147 in December. The number of employed in the State de- creased by 3,638, while 2,491 more unemployed Arkansans began actively looking for work. Arkansas’ labor force participation rate dipped to 57.6% in December.

Compared to December 2022, there are 18,263 more employed and 446 additional unemployed Arkan- sans. The unemployment rate is the same as last December, while the labor force participation rate is up two-tenths of a percentage point.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Employment 1,343,944 1,347,582 1,325,681 Employment 1,325,615 1,337,677 1,322,854

Unemployment 47,798 45,307 47,352 Unemployment 46,735 42,531 39,515

Unemployment Rate 3.4% 3.3% 3.4% Unemployment Rate 3.4% 3.1% 2.9%

LF Participation Rate 57.6% 57.7% 57.4% LF Participation Rate 56.8% 57.2% 57.0%

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** |  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** |
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,391,742 | 1,392,889 | 1,373,033 | Civilian Labor Force | 1,372,350 | 1,380,208 | 1,362,369 |

1,380,000

#### Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

December: 2003 - 2023

**December**

1,330,000

1,280,000

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1,230,000

1,180,000

1,130,000

2003 2005 2007 2009 2011 2013 2015 2017 2019 2021 2023

**December**

**State of Arkansas**

# Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

**Not Seasonally Adjusted**

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(NAICS)** | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| Total Nonfarm | 1369.0 | 1365.6 | 1354.5 | 3.4 | 14.5 |
| Goods Producing | 234.3 | 231.2 | 228.0 | 3.1 | 6.3 |
| Mining, Logging, & Construction | 71.7 | 70.9 | 64.2 | 0.8 | 7.5 |
| **Mining & Logging** | **5.0** | **4.9** | **5.1** | **0.1** | **-0.1** |
| **Construction** | **66.7** | **66.0** | **59.1** | **0.7** | **7.6** |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 41.6 | 41.2 | 36.5 | 0.4 | 5.1 |
| **Manufacturing** | **162.6** | **160.3** | **163.8** | **2.3** | **-1.2** |
| Durable Goods | 78.6 | 76.5 | 79.7 | 2.1 | -1.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 84.0 | 83.8 | 84.1 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| Service Providing | 1134.7 | 1134.4 | 1126.5 | 0.3 | 8.2 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** | **274.0** | **272.3** | **280.1** | **1.7** | **-6.1** |
| Wholesale Trade | 53.1 | 53.3 | 53.0 | -0.2 | 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 144.0 | 142.8 | 146.9 | 1.2 | -2.9 |
| Transport, Warehousing & Utilities | 76.9 | 76.2 | 80.2 | 0.7 | -3.3 |
| **Information** | **11.5** | **11.5** | **12.8** | **0.0** | **-1.3** |
| **Financial Activities** | **71.9** | **71.0** | **71.2** | **0.9** | **0.7** |
| Finance & Insurance | 57.2 | 56.3 | 56.4 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 14.7 | 14.7 | 14.8 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| **Professional & Business Services** | **150.3** | **151.5** | **150.8** | **-1.2** | **-0.5** |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical | 51.1 | 49.9 | 48.2 | 1.2 | 2.9 |
| Management of Companies | 41.0 | 40.9 | 39.0 | 0.1 | 2.0 |
| Administrative & Support Services | 58.2 | 60.7 | 63.6 | -2.5 | -5.4 |
| **Private Education & Health Services** | **212.2** | **210.4** | **203.0** | **1.8** | **9.2** |
| **Private** Educational Services | 19.6 | 19.5 | 19.2 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 192.6 | 190.9 | 183.8 | 1.7 | 8.8 |
| Ambulatory Health Care | 68.5 | 67.7 | 63.7 | 0.8 | 4.8 |
| Social Assistance | 39.9 | 39.7 | 37.7 | 0.2 | 2.2 |
| **Leisure & Hospitality** | **126.0** | **129.7** | **122.5** | **-3.7** | **3.5** |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 12.9 | 13.3 | 12.4 | -0.4 | 0.5 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 113.1 | 116.4 | 110.1 | -3.3 | 3.0 |
| Accommodation Services | 11.3 | 11.7 | 11.0 | -0.4 | 0.3 |
| Food Services | 101.8 | 104.7 | 99.1 | -2.9 | 2.7 |
| **Other Services** | **74.7** | **73.9** | **73.5** | **0.8** | **1.2** |
| **Government** | **214.1** | **214.1** | **212.6** | **0.0** | **1.5** |
| Federal Government | 22.0 | 21.6 | 20.9 | 0.4 | 1.1 |
| State Government | 77.5 | 77.9 | 77.6 | -0.4 | -0.1 |
| State Gov, Educational Services | 31.4 | 31.8 | 31.4 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| State Gov, Excluding Education | 46.1 | 46.1 | 46.2 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Local Government | 114.6 | 114.6 | 114.1 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Local Gov, Educational Services | 71.0 | 70.8 | 70.8 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Local Gov, Excluding Education | 43.6 | 43.8 | 43.3 | -0.2 | 0.3 |

**December**

**State of Arkansas**

# Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

#### Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector

November 2023 - December 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Manufacturing

Private Ed & Health Trade-Transport-Utilities

2,300

1,800

1,700

Financial Activities

Other Services Construction Mining & Logging Government Information

900

800

700

100

0

0

Professional & Business

-3,700

-1,200

Leisure & Hospitality

-4,000 -3,000 -2,000 -1,000

0

1,000 2,000 3,000

#### Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector

December 2022 - December 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Private Ed & Health

Construction Leisure & Hospitality

9,200

7,600

3,500

Government

Other Services Financial Activities

1,500

1,200

700

Mining & Logging

Professional & Business

Manufacturing

-100

-500

-1,200

Information

Trade-Transport-Utilities

-6,100

-1,300

-7,500 -5,000 -2,500

0

2,500 5,000 7,500 10,000

**State of Arkansas**

# Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

### Manufacturing

**Dec 23**

Average Weekly Hours 38.9

Average Hourly Earnings $21.47

Average Weekly Earnings $835.18

**Nov 23**

39.0

$21.29

$830.31

**Dec 22**

39.9

$20.37

$812.76

**Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing**

Durable Goods Manufacturing

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

**Dec 23**

Average Weekly Hours

Average Hourly Earnings $23.47

Average Weekly Earnings $1,018.60

43.4

**Nov 23 Dec 22**

43.0 42.3

$23.19 $22.68

$997.17 $959.36

**Dec 23**

Average Weekly Hours 34.7

Average Hourly Earnings $19.16

Average Weekly Earnings $664.85

**Nov 23**

35.3

$19.18

$677.05

**Dec 22**

37.7

$18.05

$680.49

$26.00

#### Average Hourly Earnings - Durable vs Nondurable Goods

December 2020 - December 2023

$24.00

**December**

$22.00

$20.00

$18.00

$16.00

$14.00

$12.00

$10.00

Dec '20 Jun '21 Dec '21 Jun '22 Dec '22 Jun '23 Dec '23

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)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 362,716 | 362,725 | 359,096 | -9 | 3,620 |
| **Employment** | 351,081 | 352,008 | 349,357 | -927 | 1,724 |
| **Unemployment** | 11,635 | 10,717 | 9,739 | 918 | 1,896 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.2% | 3.0% | 2.7% | 0.2% | 0.5% |

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

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 389.1 | 388.3 | 382.9 | 0.8 | 6.2 |
| **Goods Producing** 41.2 | 40.9 | 39.1 | 0.3 | 2.1 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 21.2** | **21.1** | **19.2** | **0.1** | **2.0** |
| **Manufacturing 20.0** | **19.8** | **19.9** | **0.2** | **0.1** |
| **Service Providing** 347.9 | 347.4 | 343.8 | 0.5 | 4.1 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 79.0** | **77.8** | **80.1** | **1.2** | **-1.1** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 18.3 | 18.3 | 18.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| **Retail Trade** 38.5 | 37.7 | 39.6 | 0.8 | -1.1 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 22.2 | 21.8 | 22.5 | 0.4 | -0.3 |
| **Information 5.5** | **5.5** | **5.7** | **0.0** | **-0.2** |
| **Financial Activities 24.9** | **24.7** | **24.9** | **0.2** | **0.0** |
| **Professional & Business Services 47.1** | **47.3** | **47.8** | **-0.2** | **-0.7** |
| **Private Education & Health Services 67.1** | **66.7** | **63.0** | **0.4** | **4.1** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 34.3** | **35.5** | **33.5** | **-1.2** | **0.8** |
| **Other Services 19.9** | **19.7** | **19.2** | **0.2** | **0.7** |
| **Government 70.1** | **70.2** | **69.6** | **-0.1** | **0.5** |
| **Federal Government** 10.5 | 10.4 | 10.0 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| **State Government** 34.3 | 34.4 | 34.0 | -0.1 | 0.3 |
| **Local Government** 25.3 | 25.4 | 25.6 | -0.1 | -0.3 |

7.0%

#### Unemployment Rates

December: 2013 - 2023

68,000

#### Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

January 2021 - December 2023

6.0%

66,000

5.0%

64,000

4.0%

62,000

60,000

3.0%

58,000

2.0%

56,000

1.0%

**December**

0.0%

'13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23

54,000

J F M A M J J A S O N D  2021  2022  2023

**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)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 313,628 | 316,595 | 306,071 | -2,967 | 7,557 |
| **Employment** | 306,019 | 309,417 | 299,881 | -3,398 | 6,138 |
| **Unemployment** | 7,609 | 7,178 | 6,190 | 431 | 1,419 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 2.4% | 2.3% | 2.0% | 0.1% | 0.4% |

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

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 313.3 | 315.1 | 303.0 | -1.8 | 10.3 |
| **Goods Producing** 49.6 | 48.9 | 47.2 | 0.7 | 2.4 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 17.3** | **17.0** | **15.3** | **0.3** | **2.0** |
| **Manufacturing 32.3** | **31.9** | **31.9** | **0.4** | **0.4** |
| **Service Providing** 263.7 | 266.2 | 255.8 | -2.5 | 7.9 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 64.8** | **64.5** | **65.1** | **0.3** | **-0.3** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 14.2 | 14.3 | 14.1 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| **Retail Trade** 29.4 | 29.3 | 29.4 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 21.2 | 20.9 | 21.6 | 0.3 | -0.4 |
| **Information 2.3** | **2.3** | **2.4** | **0.0** | **-0.1** |
| **Financial Activities 10.3** | **10.3** | **10.3** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Professional & Business Services 60.6** | **61.5** | **57.2** | **-0.9** | **3.4** |
| **Private Education & Health Services 35.9** | **35.6** | **33.9** | **0.3** | **2.0** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 29.3** | **31.2** | **29.0** | **-1.9** | **0.3** |
| **Other Services 16.4** | **16.2** | **15.7** | **0.2** | **0.7** |
| **Government 44.1** | **44.6** | **42.2** | **-0.5** | **1.9** |
| **Federal Government** 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| **State Government** 20.3 | 20.9 | 18.9 | -0.6 | 1.4 |
| **Local Government** 20.6 | 20.5 | 20.3 | 0.1 | 0.3 |

12,000

#### Unemployment

December 2020 - December 2023

65,000

#### Jobs in Professional & Business Services

December: 2013 - 2023

10,000

60,000

55,000

8,000 50,000

6,000

45,000

40,000

4,000 35,000

2,000

30,000

25,000

0

**December**

Dec '20 Jun '21 Dec '21 Jun '22 Dec '22 Jun '23 Dec '23

20,000

'13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23

**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)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 120,218 | 120,228 | 117,984 | -10 | 2,234 |
| **Employment** | 115,696 | 115,880 | 114,755 | -184 | 941 |
| **Unemployment** | 4,522 | 4,348 | 3,229 | 174 | 1,293 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.8% | 3.6% | 2.7% | 0.2% | 1.1% |

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

(In Thousands)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Total Nonfarm** 117.0 | 116.9 | 116.0 | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| **Goods Producing** 24.3 | 24.3 | 23.9 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| **Mining, Logging & Construction 5.8** | **5.8** | **5.3** | **0.0** | **0.5** |
| **Manufacturing 18.5** | **18.5** | **18.6** | **0.0** | **-0.1** |
| **Service Providing** 92.7 | 92.6 | 92.1 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| **Trade, Transportation & Utilities 25.2** | **24.8** | **25.2** | **0.4** | **0.0** |
| **Wholesale Trade** 4.9 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Retail Trade** 13.5 | 13.2 | 13.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| **Trans., Warehousing & Utilities** 6.8 | 6.7 | 7.1 | 0.1 | -0.3 |
| **Information 1.4** | **1.4** | **1.4** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Financial Activities 4.2** | **4.2** | **4.2** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| **Professional & Business Services 11.1** | **11.3** | **12.0** | **-0.2** | **-0.9** |
| **Private Education & Health Services 18.7** | **18.4** | **17.8** | **0.3** | **0.9** |
| **Leisure & Hospitality 9.9** | **10.2** | **9.7** | **-0.3** | **0.2** |
| **Other Services 3.7** | **3.7** | **3.6** | **0.0** | **0.1** |
| **Government 18.5** | **18.6** | **18.2** | **-0.1** | **0.3** |
| **Federal Government** 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| **State Government** 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.4 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| **Local Government** 14.8 | 14.8 | 14.5 | 0.0 | 0.3 |

122,000

#### Civilian Labor Force

December 2020 - December 2023

26,000

#### Jobs in Goods Producing Industries

December: 2013 - 2013

121,000

120,000

24,000

119,000

118,000

117,000

22,000

116,000

115,000

20,000

114,000

113,000

Civilian Labor Force = Employment + Unemployment

18,000

112,000

**December**

111,000

Dec '20 Jun '21 Dec '21 Jun '22 Dec '22 Jun '23 Dec '23

16,000

'13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 41,316 | 41,510 | 41,932 | -194 | -616 |
| **Employment** | 39,778 | 40,094 | 40,507 | -316 | -729 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,538 | 1,416 | 1,425 | 122 | 113 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.7% | 3.4% | 3.4% | 0.3% | 0.3% |

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

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 41.5 | 41.5 | 41.9 | 0.0 | -0.4 |
| 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| 36.9 | 36.9 | 37.1 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 |

43,000

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

January 2021 - December 2023

42,000

41,000

40,000

39,000

38,000

37,000

36,000

**December**

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

2021 2022 2023

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 66,875 | 67,754 | 67,780 | -879 | -905 |
| **Employment** | 64,926 | 65,944 | 66,139 | -1,018 | -1,213 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,949 | 1,810 | 1,641 | 139 | 308 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 2.9% | 2.7% | 2.4% | 0.2% | 0.5% |

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

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 64.7 | 65.1 | 65.1 | -0.4 | -0.4 |
| 11.6 | 11.6 | 12.4 | 0.0 | -0.8 |
| 53.1 | 53.5 | 52.7 | -0.4 | 0.4 |
| 9.1 | 9.3 | 9.1 | -0.2 | 0.0 |

8.0%

#### Unemployment Rates

December: 2003 - 2023

**December**

7.0%

6.0%

5.0%

4.0%

3.0%

2.0%

1.0%

0.0%

'03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Pine Bluff MSA

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

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 31,571 | 31,867 | 32,086 | -296 | -515 |
| **Employment** | 30,137 | 30,546 | 30,680 | -409 | -543 |
| **Unemployment** | 1,434 | 1,321 | 1,406 | 113 | 28 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 4.5% | 4.1% | 4.4% | 0.4% | 0.1% |

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

(In Thousands)

**NAICS**

**Total Nonfarm Goods Producing Service Providing Government**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| 31.5 | 31.7 | 31.6 | -0.2 | -0.1 |
| 5.3 | 5.4 | 5.6 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| 26.2 | 26.3 | 26.0 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| 8.5 | 8.6 | 8.6 | -0.1 | -0.1 |

30,000

#### Jobs in Service Providing Industries

December 2020 - December 2023

**December**

29,000

28,000

27,000

26,000

25,000

24,000

23,000

22,000

21,000

20,000

Dec '20 Jun '21 Dec '21 Jun '22 Dec '22 Jun '23 Dec '23

**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.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 624,962 | 622,950 | 620,278 | 2,012 | 4,684 |
| **Employment** | 601,890 | 598,380 | 598,488 | 3,510 | 3,402 |
| **Unemployment** | 23,072 | 24,570 | 21,790 | -1,498 | 1,282 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.7% | 3.9% | 3.5% | -0.2% | 0.2% |

**Texarkana MSA**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dec 23** | **Nov 23** | **Dec 22** | **OTM** | **OTY** |
| **Civilian Labor Force** | 62,974 | 63,448 | 62,275 | -474 | 699 |
| **Employment** | 60,744 | 61,263 | 59,986 | -519 | 758 |
| **Unemployment** | 2,230 | 2,185 | 2,289 | 45 | -59 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 3.5% | 3.4% | 3.7% | 0.1% | -0.2% |

#### Memphis MSA - Employment

December 2020 - December 2023

8.0%

#### Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates

December: 2013 - 2023

620,000

7.0%

610,000

6.0%

5.0%

600,000

4.0%

590,000

3.0%

2.0%

580,000

1.0%

570,000

**December**

Dec '20 Jun '21 Dec '21 Jun '22 Dec '22 Jun '23 Dec '23

0.0%

'13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23

**Micropolitan Statistical Areas**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not Seasonally Adjusted  **December 2023 November 2023 December 2022 Micro Area CLF Emp Unemp Rate CLF Emp Unemp Rate CLF Emp Unemp Rate** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arkadelphia Micro | 8,571 | 8,187 | 384 | 4.5 | 8,672 | 8,303 | 369 | 4.3 | 8,421 | 8,071 | 350 | 4.2 |
| Batesville Micro | 16,896 | 16,391 | 505 | 3.0 | 16,974 | 16,483 | 491 | 2.9 | 16,657 | 16,172 | 485 | 2.9 |
| Blytheville Micro | 16,755 | 15,932 | 823 | 4.9 | 16,783 | 16,085 | 698 | 4.2 | 16,208 | 15,481 | 727 | 4.5 |
| Camden Micro | 11,899 | 11,419 | 480 | 4.0 | 11,929 | 11,497 | 432 | 3.6 | 11,916 | 11,500 | 416 | 3.5 |
| El Dorado Micro | 14,690 | 13,955 | 735 | 5.0 | 14,716 | 14,038 | 678 | 4.6 | 14,698 | 14,058 | 640 | 4.4 |
| Forrest City Micro | 7,294 | 6,901 | 393 | 5.4 | 7,326 | 6,982 | 344 | 4.7 | 7,330 | 7,000 | 330 | 4.5 |
| Harrison Micro | 18,972 | 18,304 | 668 | 3.5 | 19,049 | 18,474 | 575 | 3.0 | 18,978 | 18,459 | 519 | 2.7 |
| Helena-West Helena Micro | 5,018 | 4,687 | 331 | 6.6 | 5,070 | 4,783 | 287 | 5.7 | 5,437 | 5,076 | 361 | 6.6 |
| Hope Micro | 12,465 | 12,025 | 440 | 3.5 | 12,634 | 12,227 | 407 | 3.2 | 12,694 | 12,300 | 394 | 3.1 |
| Magnolia Micro | 8,825 | 8,479 | 346 | 3.9 | 8,918 | 8,583 | 335 | 3.8 | 8,904 | 8,538 | 366 | 4.1 |
| Malvern Micro | 13,705 | 13,174 | 531 | 3.9 | 13,709 | 13,238 | 471 | 3.4 | 13,698 | 13,294 | 404 | 2.9 |
| Mountain Home Micro | 17,032 | 16,333 | 699 | 4.1 | 17,021 | 16,424 | 597 | 3.5 | 16,386 | 15,839 | 547 | 3.3 |
| Paragould Micro | 19,638 | 18,877 | 761 | 3.9 | 19,793 | 19,153 | 640 | 3.2 | 19,536 | 18,978 | 558 | 2.9 |
| Russellville Micro | 36,897 | 35,440 | 1,457 | 3.9 | 37,114 | 35,823 | 1,291 | 3.5 | 35,496 | 34,218 | 1,278 | 3.6 |
| Searcy Micro | 33,940 | 32,733 | 1,207 | 3.6 | 33,994 | 32,923 | 1,071 | 3.2 | 34,096 | 33,086 | 1,010 | 3.0 |

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 Labor Force Statistics

**City**

**CLF**

**December 2023**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

**November 2023**

**CLF**

**Emp Unemp Rate**

**December 2022**

**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

**December**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bella Vista | 13,513 | 13,072 | 441 | 3.3 | 13,604 | 13,217 | 387 | 2.8 | 13,154 | 12,803 | 351 | 2.7 |
| Benton | 18,040 | 17,555 | 485 | 2.7 | 18,050 | 17,589 | 461 | 2.6 | 17,886 | 17,458 | 428 | 2.4 |
| Bentonville | 32,689 | 31,966 | 723 | 2.2 | 33,020 | 32,322 | 698 | 2.1 | 31,918 | 31,309 | 609 | 1.9 |
| Blytheville | 5,616 | 5,333 | 283 | 5.0 | 5,643 | 5,384 | 259 | 4.6 | 5,463 | 5,182 | 281 | 5.1 |
| Cabot | 12,067 | 11,740 | 327 | 2.7 | 12,114 | 11,815 | 299 | 2.5 | 11,994 | 11,721 | 273 | 2.3 |
| Conway | 35,004 | 33,983 | 1,021 | 2.9 | 35,038 | 34,088 | 950 | 2.7 | 34,744 | 33,827 | 917 | 2.6 |
| El Dorado | 6,377 | 6,005 | 372 | 5.8 | 6,413 | 6,041 | 372 | 5.8 | 6,372 | 6,050 | 322 | 5.1 |
| Fayetteville | 53,330 | 52,115 | 1,215 | 2.3 | 53,892 | 52,699 | 1,193 | 2.2 | 52,153 | 51,047 | 1,106 | 2.1 |
| Fort Smith | 38,731 | 37,300 | 1,431 | 3.7 | 38,717 | 37,391 | 1,326 | 3.4 | 38,401 | 37,398 | 1,003 | 2.6 |
| Hot Springs | 15,357 | 14,720 | 637 | 4.1 | 15,399 | 14,837 | 562 | 3.6 | 15,570 | 14,990 | 580 | 3.7 |
| Jacksonville | 11,803 | 11,329 | 474 | 4.0 | 11,782 | 11,349 | 433 | 3.7 | 11,686 | 11,265 | 421 | 3.6 |
| Jonesboro | 40,426 | 39,223 | 1,203 | 3.0 | 40,917 | 39,792 | 1,125 | 2.7 | 40,905 | 39,918 | 987 | 2.4 |
| Little Rock | 98,512 | 95,082 | 3,430 | 3.5 | 98,331 | 95,253 | 3,078 | 3.1 | 97,351 | 94,547 | 2,804 | 2.9 |
| North Little Rock | 30,411 | 29,238 | 1,173 | 3.9 | 30,362 | 29,291 | 1,071 | 3.5 | 30,023 | 29,074 | 949 | 3.2 |
| Paragould | 12,492 | 11,997 | 495 | 4.0 | 12,589 | 12,172 | 417 | 3.3 | 12,433 | 12,061 | 372 | 3.0 |
| Pine Bluff | 14,872 | 14,071 | 801 | 5.4 | 14,967 | 14,228 | 739 | 4.9 | 15,112 | 14,299 | 813 | 5.4 |
| Rogers | 40,096 | 39,217 | 879 | 2.2 | 40,494 | 39,654 | 840 | 2.1 | 39,199 | 38,411 | 788 | 2.0 |
| Russellville | 13,310 | 12,830 | 480 | 3.6 | 13,368 | 12,941 | 427 | 3.2 | 12,802 | 12,358 | 444 | 3.5 |
| Searcy | 10,228 | 9,885 | 343 | 3.4 | 10,251 | 9,942 | 309 | 3.0 | 10,266 | 9,991 | 275 | 2.7 |
| Sherwood | 16,461 | 15,957 | 504 | 3.1 | 16,451 | 15,985 | 466 | 2.8 | 16,271 | 15,867 | 404 | 2.5 |
| Springdale | 42,560 | 41,620 | 940 | 2.2 | 42,984 | 42,087 | 897 | 2.1 | 41,560 | 40,766 | 794 | 1.9 |
| Texarkana, AR | 12,850 | 12,395 | 455 | 3.5 | 12,923 | 12,486 | 437 | 3.4 | 12,798 | 12,347 | 451 | 3.5 |
| Van Buren | 10,262 | 9,933 | 329 | 3.2 | 10,291 | 9,977 | 314 | 3.1 | 10,256 | 9,976 | 280 | 2.7 |
| West Memphis | 9,972 | 9,527 | 445 | 4.5 | 9,970 | 9,564 | 406 | 4.1 | 10,062 | 9,647 | 415 | 4.1 |

**December**

## **County Labor Force Statistics**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **December 2023** | |  |  | **November 2023** | |  |  | **December 2022** | |  |
| **County** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** |
| Arkansas | 8,969 | 8,717 | 252 | 2.8 | 9,041 | 8,808 | 233 | 2.6 | 9,281 | 9,038 | 243 | 2.6 |
| Ashley | 6,271 | 5,904 | 367 | 5.9 | 6,351 | 6,019 | 332 | 5.2 | 6,574 | 6,215 | 359 | 5.5 |
| Baxter | 17,032 | 16,333 | 699 | 4.1 | 17,021 | 16,424 | 597 | 3.5 | 16,386 | 15,839 | 547 | 3.3 |
| Benton | 156,382 | 152,509 | 3,873 | 2.5 | 157,817 | 154,207 | 3,610 | 2.3 | 152,558 | 149,374 | 3,184 | 2.1 |
| Boone | 15,825 | 15,280 | 545 | 3.4 | 15,868 | 15,402 | 466 | 2.9 | 15,828 | 15,394 | 434 | 2.7 |
| Bradley | 3,913 | 3,733 | 180 | 4.6 | 3,958 | 3,796 | 162 | 4.1 | 3,966 | 3,755 | 211 | 5.3 |
| Calhoun | 2,307 | 2,226 | 81 | 3.5 | 2,323 | 2,258 | 65 | 2.8 | 2,326 | 2,256 | 70 | 3.0 |
| Carroll | 12,025 | 11,621 | 404 | 3.4 | 12,252 | 11,926 | 326 | 2.7 | 12,155 | 11,820 | 335 | 2.8 |
| Chicot | 2,708 | 2,540 | 168 | 6.2 | 2,761 | 2,614 | 147 | 5.3 | 2,807 | 2,666 | 141 | 5.0 |
| Clark | 8,571 | 8,187 | 384 | 4.5 | 8,672 | 8,303 | 369 | 4.3 | 8,421 | 8,071 | 350 | 4.2 |
| Clay | 5,212 | 4,932 | 280 | 5.4 | 5,275 | 5,067 | 208 | 3.9 | 5,235 | 5,021 | 214 | 4.1 |
| Cleburne | 8,849 | 8,465 | 384 | 4.3 | 8,892 | 8,577 | 315 | 3.5 | 8,780 | 8,447 | 333 | 3.8 |
| Cleveland | 2,964 | 2,855 | 109 | 3.7 | 3,021 | 2,916 | 105 | 3.5 | 3,022 | 2,924 | 98 | 3.2 |
| Columbia | 8,825 | 8,479 | 346 | 3.9 | 8,918 | 8,583 | 335 | 3.8 | 8,904 | 8,538 | 366 | 4.1 |
| Conway | 8,379 | 8,053 | 326 | 3.9 | 8,364 | 8,074 | 290 | 3.5 | 8,325 | 8,051 | 274 | 3.3 |
| Craighead | 57,133 | 55,541 | 1,592 | 2.8 | 57,838 | 56,346 | 1,492 | 2.6 | 57,876 | 56,525 | 1,351 | 2.3 |
| Crawford | 26,348 | 25,422 | 926 | 3.5 | 26,423 | 25,534 | 889 | 3.4 | 26,233 | 25,531 | 702 | 2.7 |
| Crittenden | 20,385 | 19,523 | 862 | 4.2 | 20,389 | 19,598 | 791 | 3.9 | 20,510 | 19,768 | 742 | 3.6 |
| Cross | 6,592 | 6,348 | 244 | 3.7 | 6,700 | 6,480 | 220 | 3.3 | 6,693 | 6,475 | 218 | 3.3 |
| Dallas | 2,636 | 2,521 | 115 | 4.4 | 2,659 | 2,560 | 99 | 3.7 | 2,674 | 2,573 | 101 | 3.8 |
| Desha | 4,803 | 4,553 | 250 | 5.2 | 4,829 | 4,630 | 199 | 4.1 | 4,870 | 4,636 | 234 | 4.8 |
| Drew | 7,528 | 7,216 | 312 | 4.1 | 7,615 | 7,337 | 278 | 3.7 | 7,377 | 7,078 | 299 | 4.1 |
| Faulkner | 63,590 | 61,726 | 1,864 | 2.9 | 63,644 | 61,917 | 1,727 | 2.7 | 63,108 | 61,442 | 1,666 | 2.6 |
| Franklin | 7,341 | 7,094 | 247 | 3.4 | 7,421 | 7,187 | 234 | 3.2 | 7,311 | 7,116 | 195 | 2.7 |
| Fulton | 4,480 | 4,297 | 183 | 4.1 | 4,519 | 4,351 | 168 | 3.7 | 4,900 | 4,753 | 147 | 3.0 |
| Garland | 41,316 | 39,778 | 1,538 | 3.7 | 41,510 | 40,094 | 1,416 | 3.4 | 41,932 | 40,507 | 1,425 | 3.4 |
| Grant | 8,456 | 8,209 | 247 | 2.9 | 8,496 | 8,256 | 240 | 2.8 | 8,409 | 8,194 | 215 | 2.6 |
| Greene | 19,638 | 18,877 | 761 | 3.9 | 19,793 | 19,153 | 640 | 3.2 | 19,536 | 18,978 | 558 | 2.9 |
| Hempstead | 9,092 | 8,781 | 311 | 3.4 | 9,232 | 8,939 | 293 | 3.2 | 9,270 | 8,991 | 279 | 3.0 |
| Hot Spring | 13,705 | 13,174 | 531 | 3.9 | 13,709 | 13,238 | 471 | 3.4 | 13,698 | 13,294 | 404 | 2.9 |
| Howard | 5,068 | 4,886 | 182 | 3.6 | 5,119 | 4,957 | 162 | 3.2 | 5,193 | 5,032 | 161 | 3.1 |
| Independence | 16,896 | 16,391 | 505 | 3.0 | 16,974 | 16,483 | 491 | 2.9 | 16,657 | 16,172 | 485 | 2.9 |
| Izard | 4,585 | 4,340 | 245 | 5.3 | 4,611 | 4,395 | 216 | 4.7 | 4,539 | 4,288 | 251 | 5.5 |
| Jackson | 5,145 | 4,856 | 289 | 5.6 | 5,234 | 4,992 | 242 | 4.6 | 5,338 | 5,059 | 279 | 5.2 |
| Jefferson | 25,068 | 23,897 | 1,171 | 4.7 | 25,241 | 24,163 | 1,078 | 4.3 | 25,453 | 24,283 | 1,170 | 4.6 |
| Johnson | 10,058 | 9,536 | 522 | 5.2 | 10,157 | 9,678 | 479 | 4.7 | 10,004 | 9,638 | 366 | 3.7 |
| Lafayette | 2,171 | 2,059 | 112 | 5.2 | 2,205 | 2,108 | 97 | 4.4 | 2,266 | 2,153 | 113 | 5.0 |
| Lawrence | 6,759 | 6,515 | 244 | 3.6 | 6,893 | 6,673 | 220 | 3.2 | 6,777 | 6,569 | 208 | 3.1 |
| Lee | 2,419 | 2,287 | 132 | 5.5 | 2,482 | 2,361 | 121 | 4.9 | 2,444 | 2,331 | 113 | 4.6 |
| Lincoln | 3,539 | 3,385 | 154 | 4.4 | 3,605 | 3,467 | 138 | 3.8 | 3,611 | 3,473 | 138 | 3.8 |
| Little River | 5,244 | 5,040 | 204 | 3.9 | 5,239 | 5,072 | 167 | 3.2 | 5,179 | 5,018 | 161 | 3.1 |
| Logan | 8,189 | 7,836 | 353 | 4.3 | 8,241 | 7,928 | 313 | 3.8 | 8,112 | 7,828 | 284 | 3.5 |
| Lonoke | 34,272 | 33,281 | 991 | 2.9 | 34,422 | 33,492 | 930 | 2.7 | 34,042 | 33,227 | 815 | 2.4 |
| Madison | 7,801 | 7,585 | 216 | 2.8 | 7,962 | 7,766 | 196 | 2.5 | 7,687 | 7,523 | 164 | 2.1 |
| Marion | 6,007 | 5,727 | 280 | 4.7 | 6,025 | 5,784 | 241 | 4.0 | 6,218 | 5,990 | 228 | 3.7 |
| Miller | 18,789 | 18,118 | 671 | 3.6 | 18,870 | 18,252 | 618 | 3.3 | 18,651 | 18,048 | 603 | 3.2 |

(continued on Page 16)

**December**

**County Labor Force Statistics**

# Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **December 2023** | |  |  | **November 2023** | |  |  | **December 2022** | |  |
| **County** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** | **CLF** | **Emp Unemp** | | **Rate** |
| Mississippi | 16,755 | 15,932 | 823 | 4.9 | 16,783 | 16,085 | 698 | 4.2 | 16,208 | 15,481 | 727 | 4.5 |
| Monroe | 2,379 | 2,287 | 92 | 3.9 | 2,406 | 2,325 | 81 | 3.4 | 2,491 | 2,389 | 102 | 4.1 |
| Montgomery | 2,650 | 2,485 | 165 | 6.2 | 2,767 | 2,635 | 132 | 4.8 | 2,608 | 2,476 | 132 | 5.1 |
| Nevada | 3,373 | 3,244 | 129 | 3.8 | 3,402 | 3,288 | 114 | 3.4 | 3,424 | 3,309 | 115 | 3.4 |
| Newton | 3,147 | 3,024 | 123 | 3.9 | 3,181 | 3,072 | 109 | 3.4 | 3,150 | 3,065 | 85 | 2.7 |
| Ouachita | 9,592 | 9,193 | 399 | 4.2 | 9,606 | 9,239 | 367 | 3.8 | 9,590 | 9,244 | 346 | 3.6 |
| Perry | 4,238 | 4,056 | 182 | 4.3 | 4,248 | 4,089 | 159 | 3.7 | 4,176 | 4,054 | 122 | 2.9 |
| Phillips | 5,018 | 4,687 | 331 | 6.6 | 5,070 | 4,783 | 287 | 5.7 | 5,437 | 5,076 | 361 | 6.6 |
| Pike | 3,897 | 3,756 | 141 | 3.6 | 3,968 | 3,840 | 128 | 3.2 | 3,862 | 3,744 | 118 | 3.1 |
| Poinsett | 9,742 | 9,385 | 357 | 3.7 | 9,916 | 9,598 | 318 | 3.2 | 9,904 | 9,614 | 290 | 2.9 |
| Polk | 7,745 | 7,428 | 317 | 4.1 | 7,850 | 7,577 | 273 | 3.5 | 7,715 | 7,458 | 257 | 3.3 |
| Pope | 28,842 | 27,702 | 1,140 | 4.0 | 28,959 | 27,941 | 1,018 | 3.5 | 27,681 | 26,682 | 999 | 3.6 |
| Prairie | 3,432 | 3,311 | 121 | 3.5 | 3,503 | 3,393 | 110 | 3.1 | 3,482 | 3,398 | 84 | 2.4 |
| Pulaski | 191,517 | 184,864 | 6,653 | 3.5 | 191,235 | 185,195 | 6,040 | 3.2 | 189,308 | 183,822 | 5,486 | 2.9 |
| Randolph | 7,018 | 6,740 | 278 | 4.0 | 7,073 | 6,839 | 234 | 3.3 | 7,051 | 6,833 | 218 | 3.1 |
| St. Francis | 7,294 | 6,901 | 393 | 5.4 | 7,326 | 6,982 | 344 | 4.7 | 7,330 | 7,000 | 330 | 4.5 |
| Saline | 60,643 | 58,945 | 1,698 | 2.8 | 60,680 | 59,059 | 1,621 | 2.7 | 60,053 | 58,618 | 1,435 | 2.4 |
| Scott | 4,307 | 4,161 | 146 | 3.4 | 4,358 | 4,223 | 135 | 3.1 | 4,179 | 4,089 | 90 | 2.2 |
| Searcy | 2,803 | 2,677 | 126 | 4.5 | 2,859 | 2,745 | 114 | 4.0 | 2,731 | 2,609 | 122 | 4.5 |
| Sebastian | 55,818 | 53,733 | 2,085 | 3.7 | 55,815 | 53,864 | 1,951 | 3.5 | 55,309 | 53,874 | 1,435 | 2.6 |
| Sevier | 5,402 | 5,186 | 216 | 4.0 | 5,422 | 5,221 | 201 | 3.7 | 5,398 | 5,218 | 180 | 3.3 |
| Sharp | 5,908 | 5,669 | 239 | 4.0 | 5,946 | 5,731 | 215 | 3.6 | 5,820 | 5,611 | 209 | 3.6 |
| Stone | 4,245 | 4,035 | 210 | 4.9 | 4,342 | 4,165 | 177 | 4.1 | 4,419 | 4,244 | 175 | 4.0 |
| Union | 14,690 | 13,955 | 735 | 5.0 | 14,716 | 14,038 | 678 | 4.6 | 14,698 | 14,058 | 640 | 4.4 |
| Van Buren | 5,962 | 5,679 | 283 | 4.7 | 5,990 | 5,757 | 233 | 3.9 | 5,868 | 5,632 | 236 | 4.0 |
| Washington | 137,873 | 134,811 | 3,062 | 2.2 | 139,258 | 136,323 | 2,935 | 2.1 | 134,660 | 132,048 | 2,612 | 1.9 |
| White | 33,940 | 32,733 | 1,207 | 3.6 | 33,994 | 32,923 | 1,071 | 3.2 | 34,096 | 33,086 | 1,010 | 3.0 |
| Woodruff | 2,778 | 2,665 | 113 | 4.1 | 2,795 | 2,705 | 90 | 3.2 | 2,778 | 2,690 | 88 | 3.2 |
| Yell | 8,055 | 7,738 | 317 | 3.9 | 8,155 | 7,882 | 273 | 3.3 | 7,815 | 7,536 | 279 | 3.6 |

# County Labor Force Summary

Not Seasonally Adjusted

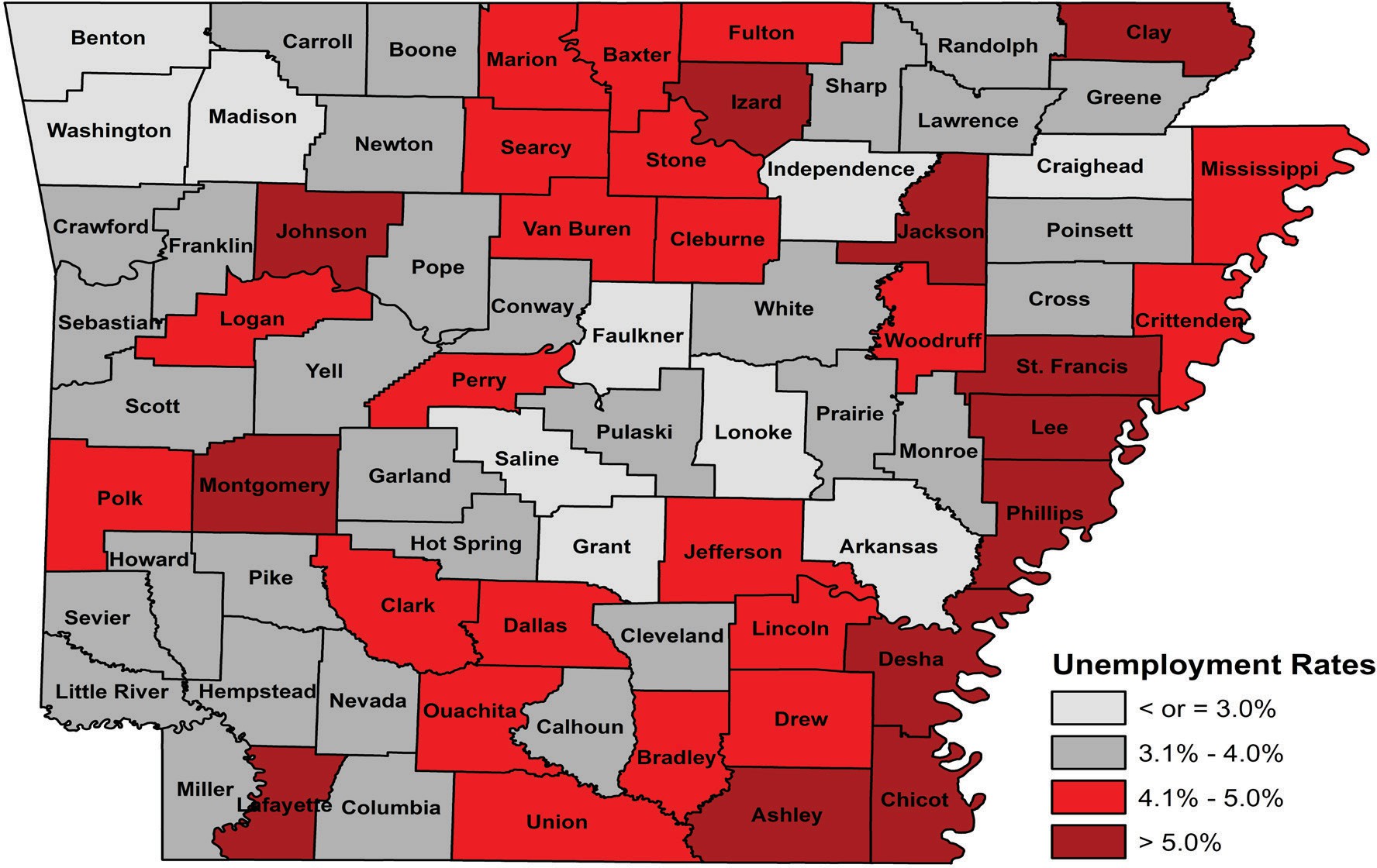
Between November and December, unemployment rates increased in all 75 Arkansas counties. Four counties--Jackson, Desha, Montgomery, and Clay-- rose by one full percentage point or more over the month. The average rate increase was five-tenths of a percentage point. Jobless rates in December ranged from a low of 2.2% in Washington County to a high of 6.6% in Phillips County.

In December, ten counties posted an unemployment rate at or below 3%. That is down slightly from 13 counties at or below three percent in November. For the 11th consecutive month, no county in Arkansas reported a jobless rate above 7%.

Compared to December 2022, unemployment rates are up in 68 Arkansas counties. Rates de- creased in four counties and remained stable in three counties.

**December**

**County Unemployment Rates**



# Ranked by Unemployment Rates

December 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

**Rank County Rate**

1 Washington 2.2

2 Benton 2.5

3 Arkansas 2.8

3 Craighead 2.8

3 Madison 2.8

3 Saline 2.8

7 Faulkner 2.9

7 Grant 2.9

7 Lonoke 2.9

10 Independence 3.0

11 Boone 3.4

11 Carroll 3.4

11 Franklin 3.4

11 Hempstead 3.4

11 Scott 3.4

16 Calhoun 3.5

16 Crawford 3.5

16 Prairie 3.5

16 Pulaski 3.5

20 Howard 3.6

20 Lawrence 3.6

20 Miller 3.6

20 Pike 3.6

20 White 3.6

25 Cleveland 3.7

**Rank County**

25 Cross

25 Garland

25 Poinsett

25 Sebastian

30 Nevada

31 Columbia

31 Conway

31 Greene

31 Hot Spring

31 Little River

31 Monroe

31 Newton

31 Yell

39 Pope

39 Randolph

39 Sevier

39 Sharp

43 Baxter

43 Drew

43 Fulton

43 Polk

43 Woodruff

48 Crittenden

48 Ouachita

50 Cleburne

**Rate**

3.7

3.7

3.7

3.7

3.8

3.9

3.9

3.9

3.9

3.9

3.9

3.9

3.9

4.0

4.0

4.0

4.0

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.1

4.2

4.2

4.3

**Rank County**

50 Logan

50 Perry

53 Dallas

53 Lincoln

55 Clark

55 Searcy

57 Bradley

58 Jefferson

58 Marion

58 Van Buren

61 Mississippi

61 Stone

63 Union

64 Desha

64 Johnson

64 Lafayette

67 Izard

68 Clay

68 St. Francis

70 Lee

71 Jackson

72 Ashley

73 Chicot

73 Montgomery

75 Phillips

**Rate**

4.3

4.3

4.4

4.4

4.5

4.5

4.6

4.7

4.7

4.7

4.9

4.9

5.0

5.2

5.2

5.2

5.3

5.4

5.4

5.5

5.6

5.9

6.2

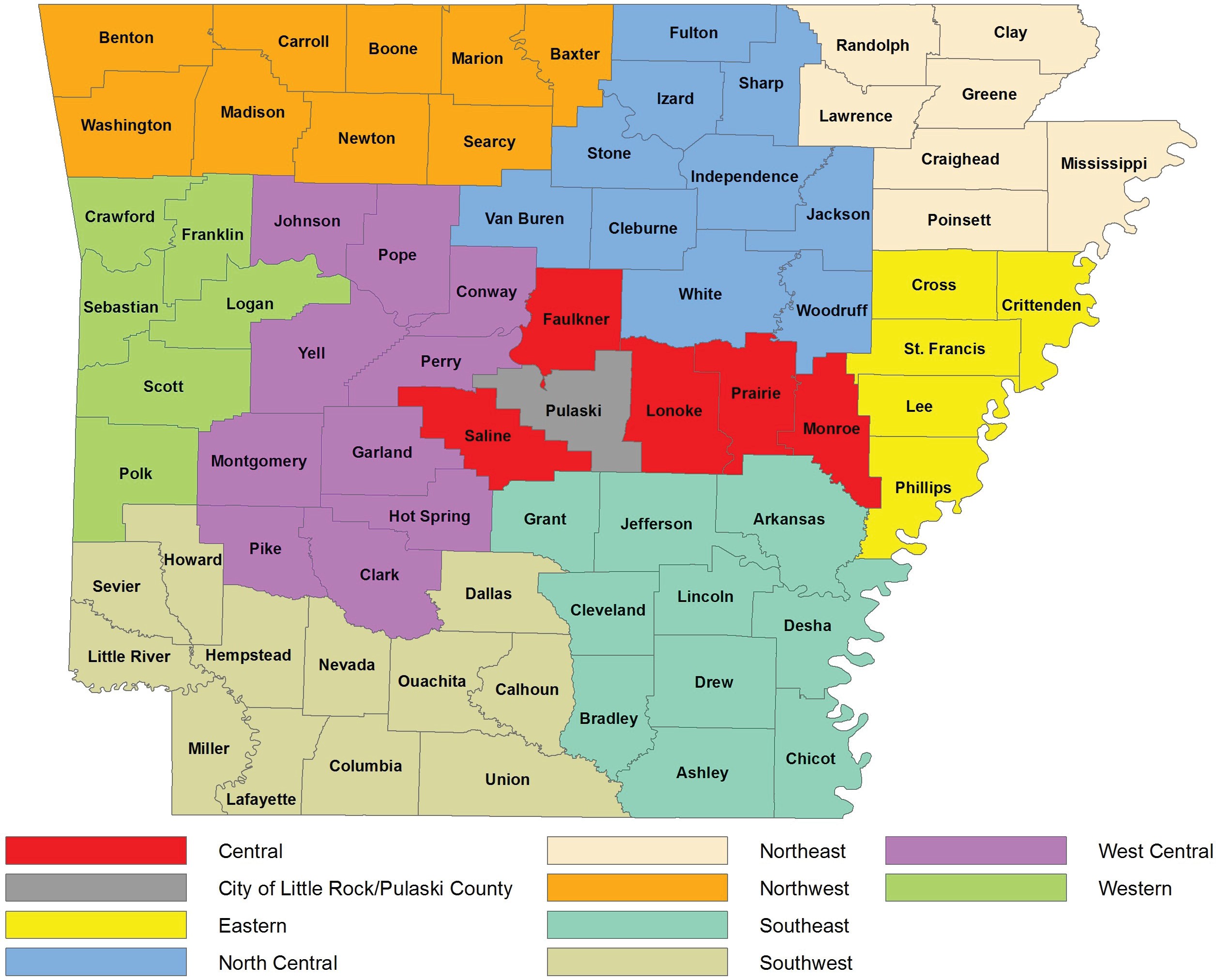
6.2

6.6

**December**

## **Local Workforce Development Areas**

**Civilian Labor Force Estimates**



Not Seasonally Adjusted

**LWDA**

**December 2023**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**November 2023**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

**December 2022**

**CLF Emp Unemp Rate**

Central (minus LR) 257,321 249,332

City of Little Rock 98,512 95,082

Eastern 41,708 39,746

North Central 92,788 89,130

Northeast 122,257 117,922

Northwest 358,895 349,567

Southeast 74,219 71,009

Southwest 87,189 83,688

West Central 129,711 124,465

Western 109,748 105,674

7,989

3,430

1,962

3,658

4,335

9,328

3,210

3,501

5,246

4,074

3.1

3.5

4.7

3.9

3.5

2.6

4.3

4.0

4.0

3.7

257,559 250,128

98,331 95,253

41,967

40,204

93,297 90,079

123,571 119,761

362,243 353,649

74,918 72,006

87,711 84,515

130,509 125,774

110,108 106,313

7,431 2.9

3,078 3.1

1,763 4.2

3,218 3.4

3,810 3.1

8,594 2.4

2,912 3.9

3,196 3.6

4,735 3.6

3,795 3.4

255,133 248,349 6,784 2.7

97,351 94,547 2,804 2.9

42,414 40,650 1,764 4.2

93,195 89,982 3,213 3.4

122,587 119,021 3,566 2.9

351,373 343,662 7,711 2.2

75,370 72,262 3,108 4.1

87,573 84,438 3,135 3.6

128,522 124,053 4,469 3.5

108,859 105,896 2,963 2.7