

2024

ARKANSAS

LABOR

MARKET

REPORT

DECEMBER



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Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

DECEMBER

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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 2023 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.



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December Spotlight

Business Employment Dynamics (BED)

Business Employment Dynamics, also known as BED, tracks employment gains and losses at individual business locations. BED statistics are calculated from quarterly reports provided by employers to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program. Like QCEW data, BED statistics are produced and published on a quarterly basis. At this time, BED data is only available at the national and statewide levels.

Gross Job Gains and Losses by Quarter (Private Sector)

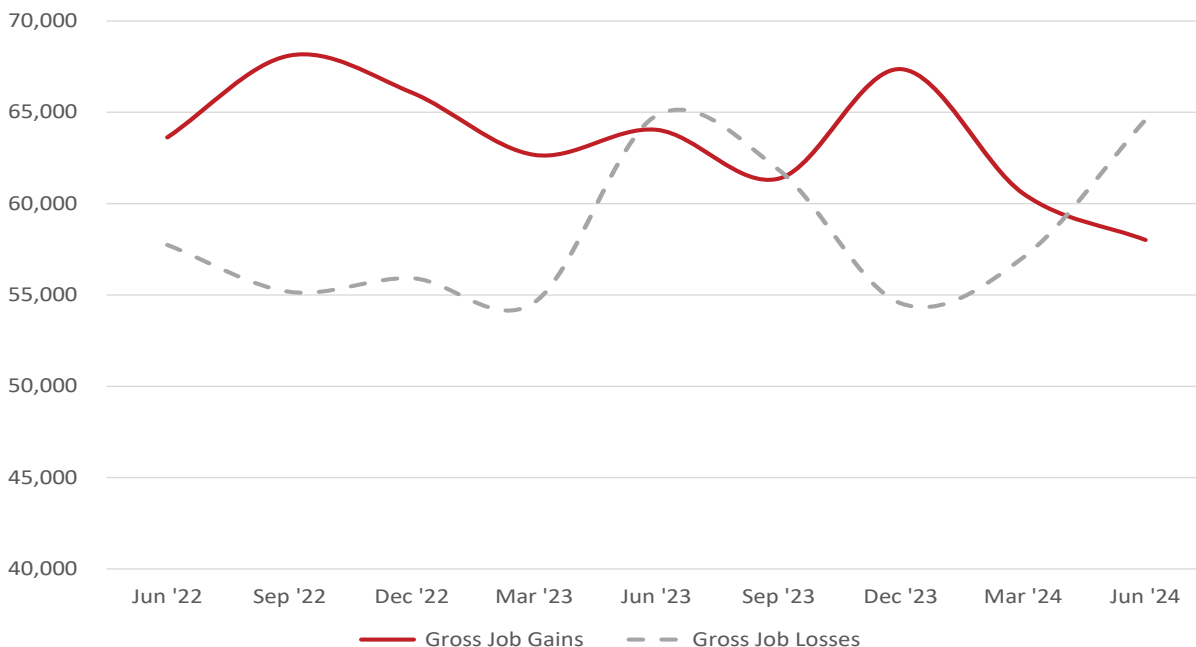
State of Arkansas
(Seasonally Adjusted)

Quarter Ending					
Category	Jun 23	Sep 23	Dec 23	Mar 24	Jun 24*
Employment Levels					
Gross job gains.....	64,041	61,366	67,364	60,550	58,006
Gross job losses....	64,817	61,852	54,535	57,049	64,586
Net Change.....	-776	-486	12,829	3,501	-6,580

*Most recent BED data available is for 2nd Quarter 2024

The information produced from BED statistics includes gross job gains and losses at establishments with changes in employment. These employment changes occur when establishments open/expand or close/contract. Gross job gains are a combination of jobs created from both openings of new businesses and expansions at existing businesses. Gross job losses are a combination of jobs lost from both existing businesses that close and those that reduce their number of employees. The net change is the difference between gross job gains and gross job losses.

Arkansas' Gross Job Gains vs. Gross Job Losses (Private Sector/Seasonally Adjusted)
2nd Quarter 2022 - 2nd Quarter 2024



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State of Arkansas

Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Workforce Policy and Innovation, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.3% in November to 3.4% in December. At 4.1%, the United States' jobless rate declined one-tenth of a percentage point in December.

Arkansas' civilian labor force rose by 2,544 in December, with 1,487 additional employed and 1,057 more unemployed Arkansans actively looking for work. This movement was enough to push up the unemployment rate to 3.4%. Both the civilian labor force and employment continue to be at record highs.

Compared to December 2023, there are 34,626 more employed in the State. The unemployment rate is down three-tenths of a percentage point, while labor force participation is up seven-tenths of a percentage point over-the-year.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,416,352	1,413,808	1,384,754	Civilian Labor Force	1,408,277	1,407,200
Employment	1,368,644	1,367,157	1,334,018	Employment	1,360,820	1,322,388
Unemployment	47,708	46,651	50,736	Unemployment	47,457	47,151
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.3%	3.7%	Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.4%
LF Participation Rate	58.2%	58.2%	57.5%	LF Participation Rate	57.9%	56.9%

Labor Force Participation Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

December 2021 - December 2024



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State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1386.7	1385.6	1363.5	1.1	23.2
Goods Producing	236.0	236.2	231.7	-0.2	4.3
Mining, Logging, & Construction	71.8	72.2	71.1	-0.4	0.7
Mining & Logging	5.3	5.3	5.2	0.0	0.1
Construction	66.5	66.9	65.9	-0.4	0.6
Specialty Trade Contractors	42.8	42.7	41.8	0.1	1.0
Manufacturing	164.2	164.0	160.6	0.2	3.6
Durable Goods	78.6	78.6	77.2	0.0	1.4
Nondurable Goods	85.6	85.4	83.4	0.2	2.2
Service Providing	1150.7	1149.4	1131.8	1.3	18.9
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	273.9	271.1	273.2	2.8	0.7
Wholesale Trade	52.4	51.8	52.3	0.6	0.1
Retail Trade	147.2	146.5	147.2	0.7	0.0
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	74.3	72.8	73.7	1.5	0.6
Information	12.5	12.3	12.8	0.2	-0.3
Financial Activities	71.6	71.4	71.3	0.2	0.3
Finance & Insurance	56.3	56.1	55.9	0.2	0.4
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	15.3	15.3	15.4	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	161.0	159.7	156.2	1.3	4.8
Professional, Scientific & Technical	50.1	49.8	50.6	0.3	-0.5
Management of Companies	38.5	37.8	37.7	0.7	0.8
Administrative & Support Services	72.4	72.1	67.9	0.3	4.5
Private Education & Health Services	223.5	224.5	212.5	-1.0	11.0
Private Educational Services	19.5	20.3	19.4	-0.8	0.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	204.0	204.2	193.1	-0.2	10.9
Ambulatory Health Care	71.9	72.2	67.1	-0.3	4.8
Social Assistance	42.2	42.7	39.1	-0.5	3.1
Leisure & Hospitality	124.6	126.3	122.4	-1.7	2.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	13.1	13.1	12.4	0.0	0.7
Accommodation & Food Services	111.5	113.2	110.0	-1.7	1.5
Accommodation Services	11.0	11.2	10.9	-0.2	0.1
Food Services	100.5	102.0	99.1	-1.5	1.4
Other Services	66.6	66.4	67.9	0.2	-1.3
Government	217.0	217.7	215.5	-0.7	1.5
Federal Government	22.0	21.8	22.0	0.2	0.0
State Government	77.6	78.1	77.6	-0.5	0.0
State Gov, Educational Services	31.6	32.1	31.5	-0.5	0.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.0	46.0	46.1	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	117.4	117.8	115.9	-0.4	1.5
Local Gov, Educational Services	72.5	72.6	71.4	-0.1	1.1
Local Gov, Excluding Education	44.9	45.2	44.5	-0.3	0.4

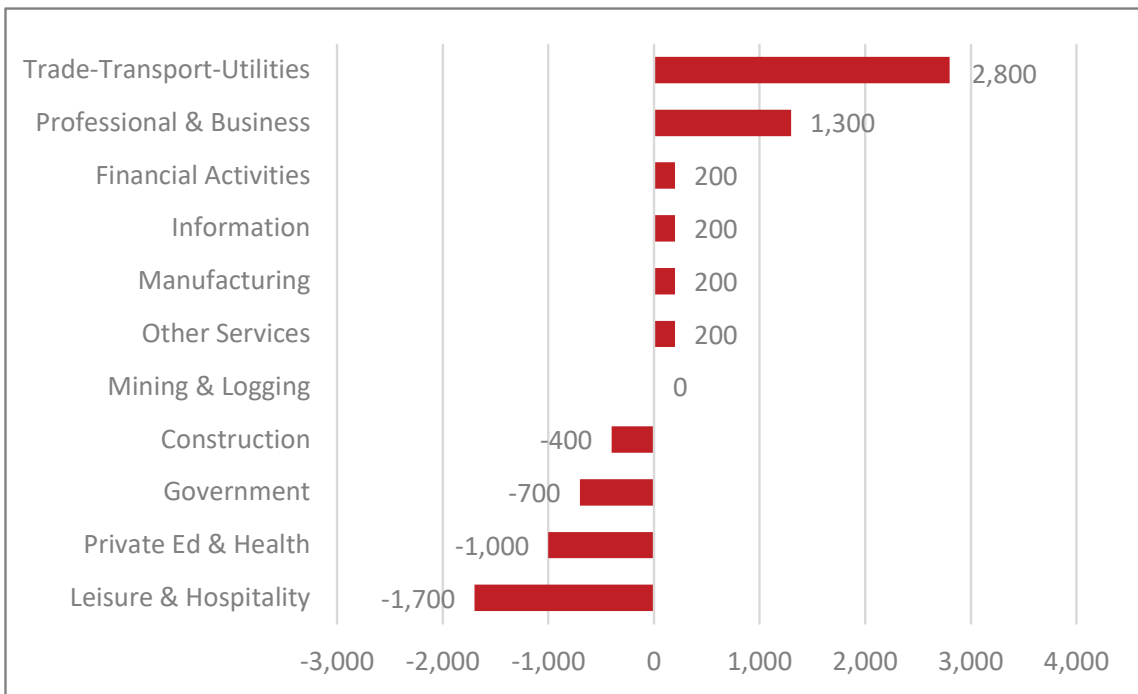
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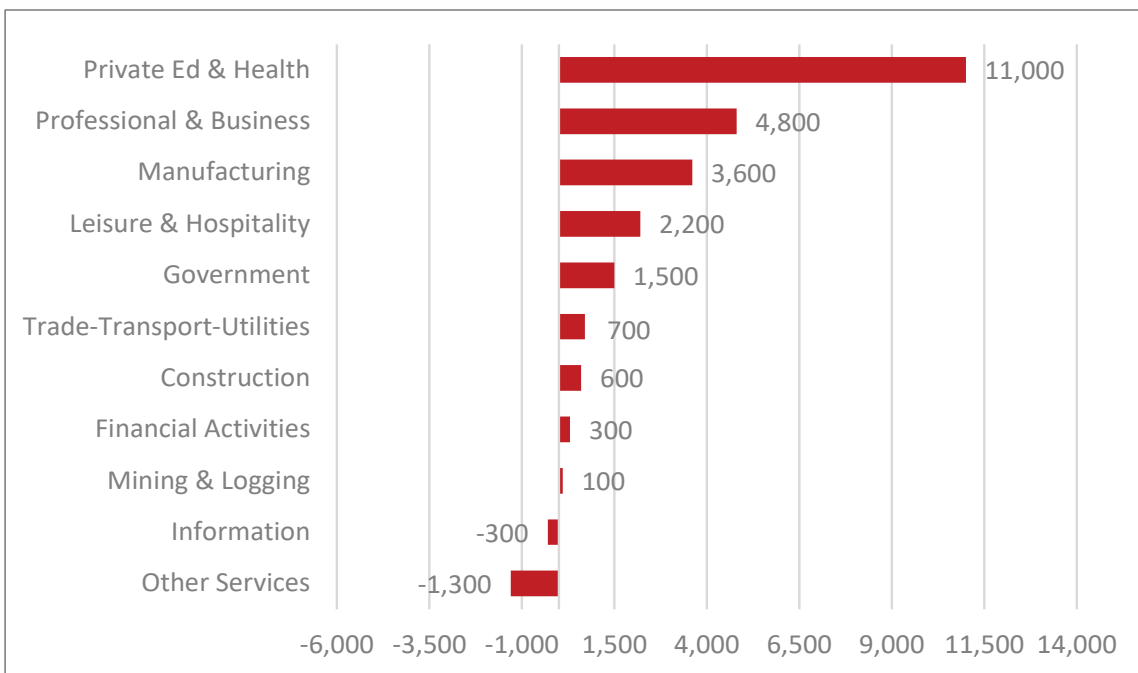
State of Arkansas

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
November 2024 - December 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
December 2023 - December 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

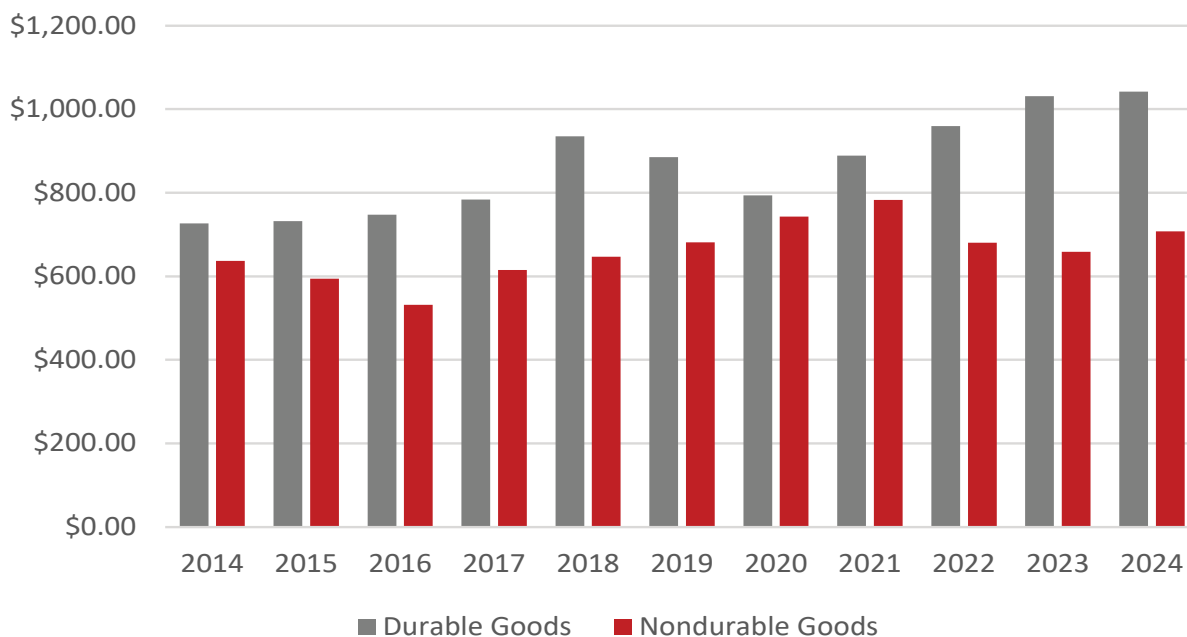
Manufacturing

	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>
Average Weekly Hours	36.8	37.2	38.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.54	\$23.16	\$21.98
Average Weekly Earnings	\$866.27	\$861.55	\$855.02

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>		<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>
Average Weekly Hours	41.3	40.0	42.7	Average Weekly Hours	32.7	34.6	35.3
Average Hourly Earnings	\$25.22	\$25.59	\$24.15	Average Hourly Earnings	\$21.63	\$20.62	\$18.66
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,041.59	\$1,023.60	\$1,031.21	Average Weekly Earnings	\$707.30	\$713.45	\$658.70

Average Weekly Earnings - Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods
December: 2014 - 2024



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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 24	Nov 24	Dec 23	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	378,811	377,853	367,594	958	11,217
Employment	366,959	366,833	355,847	126	11,112
Unemployment	11,852	11,020	11,747	832	105
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	2.9%	3.2%	0.2%	-0.1%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Dec 24	Nov 24	Dec 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	401.6	401.6	395.5	0.0	6.1
Goods Producing	43.4	43.5	41.9	-0.1	1.5
Mining, Logging & Construction	22.5	22.6	21.6	-0.1	0.9
Manufacturing	20.9	20.9	20.3	0.0	0.6
Service Providing	358.2	358.1	353.6	0.1	4.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	79.6	78.7	80.0	0.9	-0.4
Wholesale Trade	17.8	17.7	17.7	0.1	0.1
Retail Trade	39.1	38.7	39.9	0.4	-0.8
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	22.7	22.3	22.4	0.4	0.3
Information	5.3	5.3	5.4	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	28.0	27.9	28.2	0.1	-0.2
Professional & Business Services	50.5	50.6	49.1	-0.1	1.4
Private Education & Health Services	69.2	69.2	66.1	0.0	3.1
Leisure & Hospitality	33.0	33.9	33.2	-0.9	-0.2
Other Services	19.8	19.7	19.7	0.1	0.1
Government	72.8	72.8	71.9	0.0	0.9
Federal Government	10.8	10.7	10.8	0.1	0.0
State Government	34.3	34.4	34.1	-0.1	0.2
Local Government	27.7	27.7	27.0	0.0	0.7

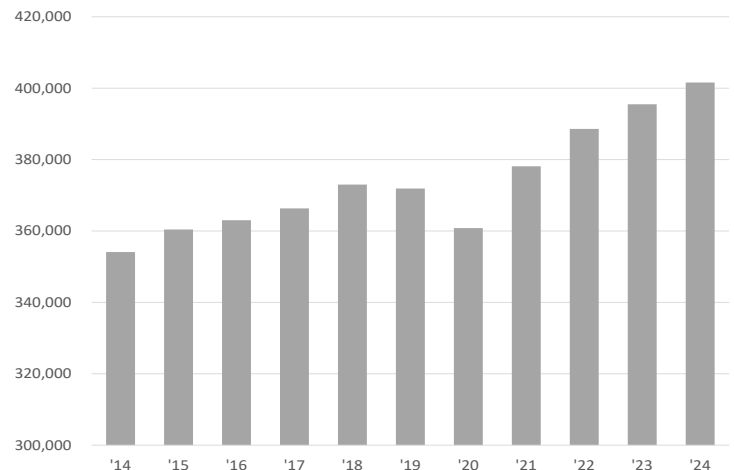
Civilian Labor Force

December 2021 - December 2024



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

December: 2014 - 2024



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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 24	Nov 24	Dec 23	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	321,274	321,233	310,887	41	10,387
Employment	313,171	313,737	303,205	-566	9,966
Unemployment	8,103	7,496	7,682	607	421
Unemployment Rate	2.5%	2.3%	2.5%	0.2%	0.0%

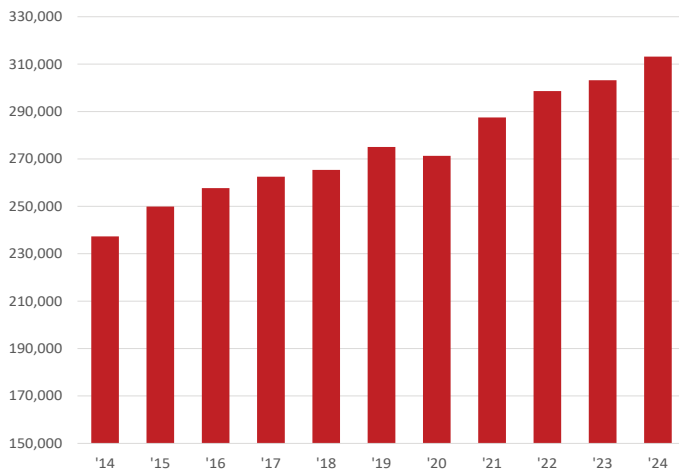
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Dec 24	Nov 24	Dec 23	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	316.3	316.7	311.0	-0.4	5.3
Goods Producing	49.5	49.4	47.9	0.1	1.6
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.8	17.8	17.2	0.0	0.6
Manufacturing	31.7	31.6	30.7	0.1	1.0
Service Providing	266.8	267.3	263.1	-0.5	3.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	63.3	62.8	64.8	0.5	-1.5
Wholesale Trade	14.0	13.9	14.2	0.1	-0.2
Retail Trade	30.1	29.8	30.8	0.3	-0.7
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	19.2	19.1	19.8	0.1	-0.6
Information	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	12.5	12.5	12.6	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	59.8	59.4	58.6	0.4	1.2
Private Education & Health Services	38.6	38.6	36.6	0.0	2.0
Leisure & Hospitality	30.7	31.3	30.3	-0.6	0.4
Other Services	13.6	13.6	13.8	0.0	-0.2
Government	46.0	46.8	44.1	-0.8	1.9
Federal Government	3.2	3.2	3.3	0.0	-0.1
State Government	21.8	22.7	20.3	-0.9	1.5
Local Government	21.0	20.9	20.5	0.1	0.5

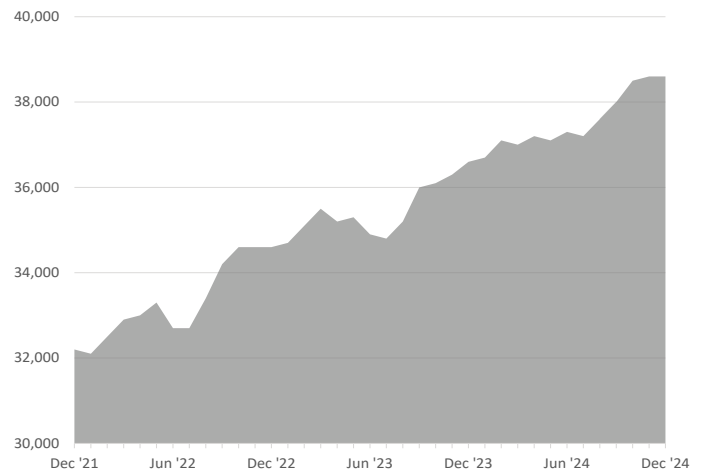
Employment

December: 2014 - 2024



Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

December 2021 - December 2024



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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>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	121,736	121,590	120,625	146	1,111
Employment	117,640	117,694	116,079	-54	1,561
Unemployment	4,096	3,896	4,546	200	-450
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.2%	3.8%	0.2%	-0.4%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	118.6	118.6	118.2	0.0	0.4
Goods Producing	25.8	25.8	25.2	0.0	0.6
Mining, Logging & Construction	6.3	6.2	6.0	0.1	0.3
Manufacturing	19.5	19.6	19.2	-0.1	0.3
Service Providing	92.8	92.8	93.0	0.0	-0.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24.3	24.2	24.8	0.1	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	4.5	4.5	4.6	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	13.1	13.0	13.5	0.1	-0.4
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.7	6.7	6.7	0.0	0.0
Information	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	4.8	4.8	4.9	0.0	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	12.0	12.0	12.1	0.0	-0.1
Private Education & Health Services	19.6	19.6	19.0	0.0	0.6
Leisure & Hospitality	10.0	10.1	9.8	-0.1	0.2
Other Services	3.9	3.9	4.0	0.0	-0.1
Government	16.8	16.8	17.0	0.0	-0.2
Federal Government	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
State Government	2.2	2.2	2.3	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	13.2	13.2	13.3	0.0	-0.1

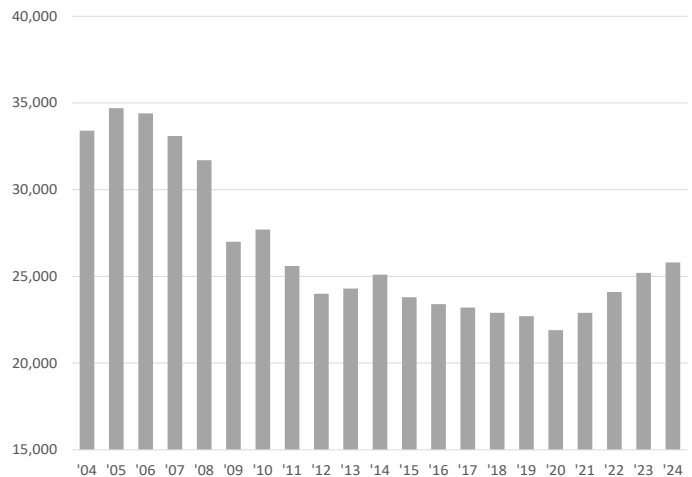
Employment

December 2021 - December 2024



Jobs in Goods Producing Industries

December: 2004 - 2024



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,847	41,509	41,192	338	655
Employment	40,297	40,095	39,637	202	660
Unemployment	1,550	1,414	1,555	136	-5
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.4%	3.8%	0.3%	-0.1%

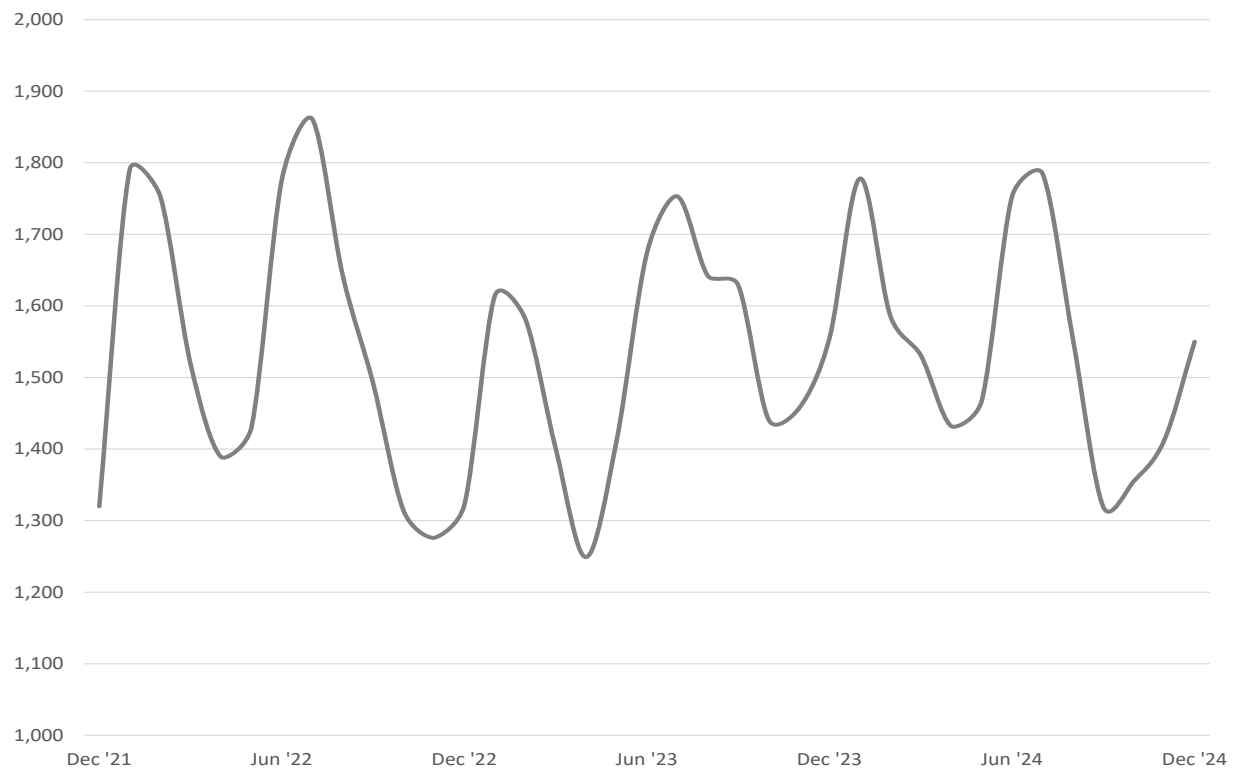
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	41.5	41.4	41.4	0.1	0.1
Goods Producing	4.5	4.5	4.3	0.0	0.2
Service Providing	37.0	36.9	37.1	0.1	-0.1
Government	4.6	4.7	4.6	-0.1	0.0

Unemployment

December 2021 - December 2024



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	69,517	69,204	66,809	313	2,708
Employment	67,403	67,242	64,828	161	2,575
Unemployment	2,114	1,962	1,981	152	133
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	2.8%	3.0%	0.2%	0.0%

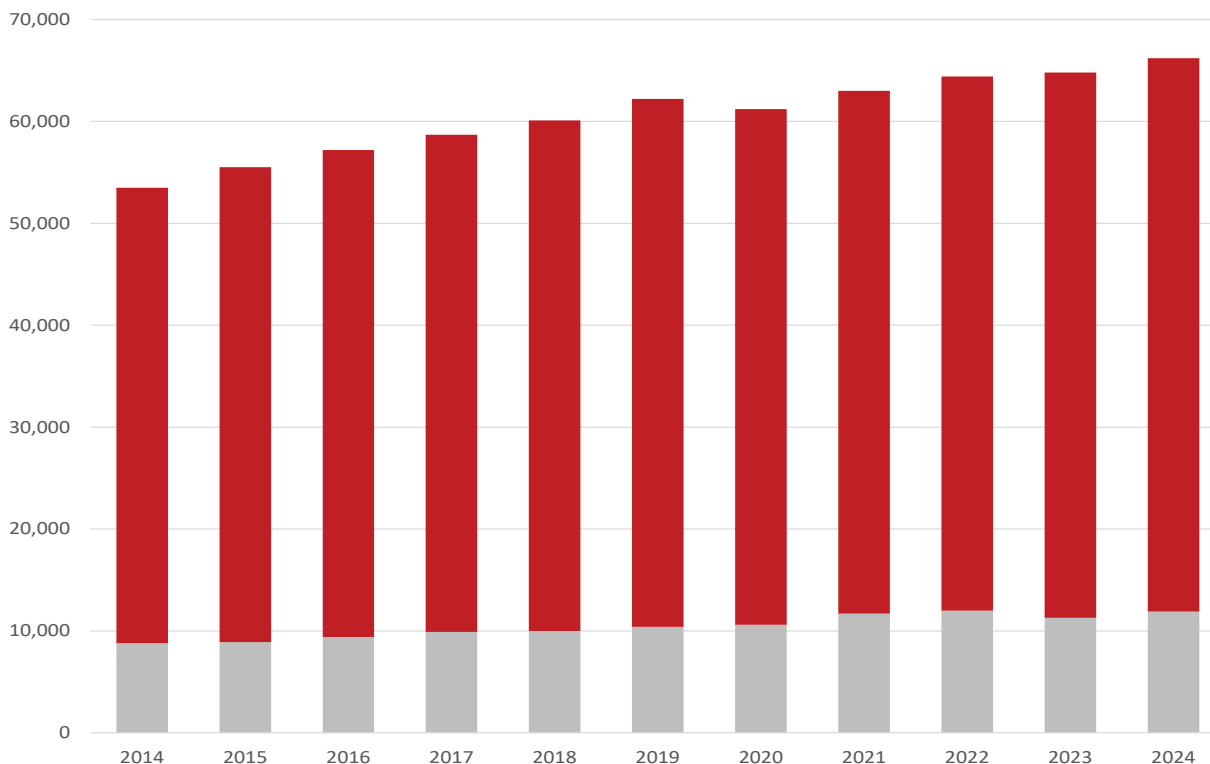
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	66.2	65.8	64.8	0.4	1.4
Goods Producing	11.9	11.7	11.3	0.2	0.6
Service Providing	54.3	54.1	53.5	0.2	0.8
Government	9.3	9.3	9.2	0.0	0.1

Jobs in Goods Producing + Service Providing Industries

December: 2014 - 2024



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	31,930	31,934	31,529	-4	401
Employment	30,446	30,506	30,073	-60	373
Unemployment	1,484	1,428	1,456	56	28
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	4.5%	4.6%	0.1%	0.0%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	31.4	31.3	31.6	0.1	-0.2
Goods Producing	5.3	5.3	5.3	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	26.1	26.0	26.3	0.1	-0.2
Government	8.5	8.5	8.6	0.0	-0.1

Employment

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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.

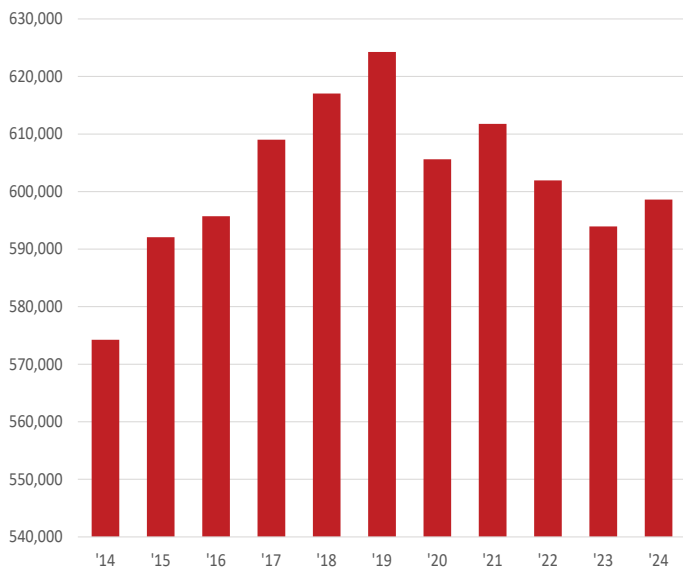
	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	625,699	624,031	616,903	1,668	8,796
Employment	598,612	597,226	593,938	1,386	4,674
Unemployment	27,087	26,805	22,965	282	4,122
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.3%	3.7%	0.0%	0.6%

Texarkana MSA

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

	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,521	63,627	61,858	-106	1,663
Employment	61,083	61,039	59,630	44	1,453
Unemployment	2,438	2,588	2,228	-150	210
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	4.1%	3.6%	-0.3%	0.2%

Memphis MSA - Employment
December: 2014 - 2024



Texarkana MSA - Civilian Labor Force
December 2021 - December 2024



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Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	December 2024				November 2024				December 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	8,970	8,589	381	4.2	8,999	8,632	367	4.1	8,433	8,053	380	4.5
Batesville Micro	17,262	16,733	529	3.1	17,198	16,713	485	2.8	16,603	16,098	505	3.0
Blytheville Micro	18,966	18,204	762	4.0	18,953	18,216	737	3.9	16,775	15,935	840	5.0
Camden Micro	12,144	11,684	460	3.8	12,140	11,710	430	3.5	11,945	11,458	487	4.1
El Dorado Micro	14,767	13,973	794	5.4	14,730	13,956	774	5.3	14,642	13,895	747	5.1
Forrest City Micro	7,433	7,021	412	5.5	7,434	7,048	386	5.2	7,310	6,915	395	5.4
Harrison Micro	18,840	18,199	641	3.4	18,856	18,263	593	3.1	18,967	18,289	678	3.6
Helena-West Helena Micro	5,004	4,699	305	6.1	5,030	4,744	286	5.7	5,009	4,675	334	6.7
Hope Micro	11,910	11,467	443	3.7	11,977	11,563	414	3.5	12,104	11,659	445	3.7
Magnolia Micro	9,015	8,672	343	3.8	9,050	8,718	332	3.7	8,815	8,460	355	4.0
Malvern Micro	13,766	13,255	511	3.7	13,703	13,232	471	3.4	13,592	13,061	531	3.9
Mountain Home Micro	17,093	16,431	662	3.9	17,005	16,417	588	3.5	16,607	15,898	709	4.3
Paragould Micro	19,712	18,988	724	3.7	19,756	19,076	680	3.4	19,363	18,589	774	4.0
Russellville Micro	37,310	35,853	1,457	3.9	37,300	36,002	1,298	3.5	36,230	34,763	1,467	4.0
Searcy Micro	35,366	34,141	1,225	3.5	35,276	34,100	1,176	3.3	33,685	32,467	1,218	3.6

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	December 2024				November 2024				December 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	13,860	13,380	480	3.5	13,810	13,406	404	2.9	13,392	12,950	442	3.3
Benton	18,858	18,339	519	2.8	18,802	18,323	479	2.5	18,290	17,794	496	2.7
Bentonville	33,539	32,721	818	2.4	33,523	32,784	739	2.2	32,418	31,670	748	2.3
Blytheville	6,364	6,094	270	4.2	6,346	6,098	248	3.9	5,625	5,334	291	5.2
Cabot	12,686	12,304	382	3.0	12,691	12,332	359	2.8	12,223	11,896	327	2.7
Conway	36,534	35,521	1,013	2.8	36,493	35,515	978	2.7	35,477	34,441	1,036	2.9
El Dorado	6,365	6,013	352	5.5	6,342	6,006	336	5.3	6,358	5,979	379	6.0
Fayetteville	54,738	53,337	1,401	2.6	54,747	53,435	1,312	2.4	52,872	51,633	1,239	2.3
Fort Smith	39,603	38,314	1,289	3.3	39,546	38,305	1,241	3.1	39,016	37,570	1,446	3.7
Hot Springs	15,541	14,912	629	4.0	15,425	14,837	588	3.8	15,322	14,668	654	4.3
Jacksonville	12,333	11,835	498	4.0	12,263	11,825	438	3.6	11,964	11,484	480	4.0
Jonesboro	41,956	40,682	1,274	3.0	41,762	40,549	1,213	2.9	40,376	39,165	1,211	3.0
Little Rock	102,785	99,331	3,454	3.4	102,606	99,243	3,363	3.3	99,863	96,382	3,481	3.5
North Little Rock	31,690	30,545	1,145	3.6	31,616	30,518	1,098	3.5	30,810	29,638	1,172	3.8
Paragould	12,561	12,068	493	3.9	12,578	12,124	454	3.6	12,319	11,814	505	4.1
Pine Bluff	14,949	14,187	762	5.1	14,970	14,193	777	5.2	14,854	14,041	813	5.5
Rogers	41,124	40,143	981	2.4	41,143	40,220	923	2.2	39,739	38,853	886	2.2
Russellville	13,459	12,953	506	3.8	13,437	12,987	450	3.3	13,071	12,583	488	3.7
Searcy	10,672	10,310	362	3.4	10,631	10,298	333	3.1	10,154	9,804	350	3.4
Sherwood	17,170	16,670	500	2.9	17,151	16,655	496	2.9	16,702	16,175	527	3.2
Springdale	43,671	42,597	1,074	2.5	43,645	42,675	970	2.2	42,180	41,235	945	2.2
Texarkana, AR	12,958	12,484	474	3.7	12,953	12,490	463	3.6	12,642	12,185	457	3.6
Van Buren	10,554	10,220	334	3.2	10,543	10,233	310	2.9	10,334	10,004	330	3.2
West Memphis	10,011	9,503	508	5.1	10,039	9,525	514	5.1	9,797	9,358	439	4.5

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	December 2024				November 2024				December 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	8,569	8,274	295	3.4	8,577	8,309	268	3.1	8,939	8,687	252	2.8
Ashley	6,577	6,180	397	6.0	6,602	6,243	359	5.4	6,255	5,886	369	5.9
Baxter	17,093	16,431	662	3.9	17,005	16,417	588	3.5	16,607	15,898	709	4.3
Benton	160,209	156,109	4,100	2.6	160,199	156,410	3,789	2.4	155,008	151,095	3,913	2.5
Boone	15,707	15,176	531	3.4	15,713	15,217	496	3.2	15,822	15,268	554	3.5
Bradley	4,079	3,872	207	5.1	4,100	3,902	198	4.8	3,953	3,769	184	4.7
Calhoun	2,370	2,292	78	3.3	2,380	2,310	70	2.9	2,314	2,232	82	3.5
Carroll	12,005	11,572	433	3.6	12,170	11,787	383	3.1	11,883	11,477	406	3.4
Chicot	2,733	2,546	187	6.8	2,757	2,580	177	6.4	2,710	2,543	167	6.2
Clark	8,970	8,589	381	4.2	8,999	8,632	367	4.1	8,433	8,053	380	4.5
Clay	5,348	5,130	218	4.1	5,399	5,213	186	3.4	5,187	4,909	278	5.4
Cleburne	9,125	8,735	390	4.3	9,125	8,777	348	3.8	8,861	8,467	394	4.4
Cleveland	3,031	2,904	127	4.2	3,037	2,924	113	3.7	2,960	2,849	111	3.8
Columbia	9,015	8,672	343	3.8	9,050	8,718	332	3.7	8,815	8,460	355	4.0
Conway	8,162	7,835	327	4.0	8,118	7,823	295	3.6	8,242	7,913	329	4.0
Craighead	59,350	57,607	1,743	2.9	59,044	57,418	1,626	2.8	57,076	55,459	1,617	2.8
Crawford	27,072	26,156	916	3.4	27,030	26,189	841	3.1	26,534	25,603	931	3.5
Crittenden	20,387	19,473	914	4.5	20,401	19,519	882	4.3	20,041	19,176	865	4.3
Cross	6,851	6,572	279	4.1	6,912	6,645	267	3.9	6,591	6,347	244	3.7
Dallas	2,630	2,526	104	4.0	2,641	2,545	96	3.6	2,603	2,489	114	4.4
Desha	4,632	4,379	253	5.5	4,665	4,412	253	5.4	4,813	4,563	250	5.2
Drew	7,573	7,244	329	4.3	7,668	7,359	309	4.0	7,107	6,792	315	4.4
Faulkner	66,438	64,520	1,918	2.9	66,248	64,509	1,739	2.6	64,439	62,558	1,881	2.9
Franklin	7,531	7,276	255	3.4	7,558	7,317	241	3.2	7,336	7,086	250	3.4
Fulton	4,390	4,225	165	3.8	4,380	4,230	150	3.4	4,456	4,272	184	4.1
Garland	41,847	40,297	1,550	3.7	41,509	40,095	1,414	3.4	41,192	39,637	1,555	3.8
Grant	8,861	8,608	253	2.9	8,844	8,626	218	2.5	8,568	8,319	249	2.9
Greene	19,712	18,988	724	3.7	19,756	19,076	680	3.4	19,363	18,589	774	4.0
Hempstead	8,711	8,386	325	3.7	8,767	8,465	302	3.4	8,830	8,515	315	3.6
Hot Spring	13,766	13,255	511	3.7	13,703	13,232	471	3.4	13,592	13,061	531	3.9
Howard	5,036	4,864	172	3.4	5,051	4,901	150	3.0	5,084	4,903	181	3.6
Independence	17,262	16,733	529	3.1	17,198	16,713	485	2.8	16,603	16,098	505	3.0
Izard	4,924	4,656	268	5.4	4,875	4,642	233	4.8	4,413	4,169	244	5.5
Jackson	5,341	5,101	240	4.5	5,407	5,195	212	3.9	5,199	4,907	292	5.6
Jefferson	25,276	24,093	1,183	4.7	25,252	24,103	1,149	4.6	25,037	23,846	1,191	4.8
Johnson	9,529	9,064	465	4.9	9,586	9,151	435	4.5	9,689	9,164	525	5.4
Lafayette	2,217	2,103	114	5.1	2,236	2,127	109	4.9	2,111	2,000	111	5.3
Lawrence	6,757	6,519	238	3.5	6,803	6,585	218	3.2	6,621	6,372	249	3.8
Lee	2,412	2,290	122	5.1	2,461	2,342	119	4.8	2,413	2,282	131	5.4
Lincoln	3,623	3,449	174	4.8	3,645	3,479	166	4.6	3,532	3,378	154	4.4
Little River	5,280	5,077	203	3.8	5,258	5,080	178	3.4	5,159	4,954	205	4.0
Logan	8,195	7,836	359	4.4	8,190	7,872	318	3.9	8,120	7,768	352	4.3
Lonoke	35,904	34,880	1,024	2.9	35,884	34,959	925	2.6	34,717	33,724	993	2.9
Madison	8,073	7,842	231	2.9	8,135	7,922	213	2.6	7,731	7,518	213	2.8
Marion	5,867	5,619	248	4.2	5,837	5,624	213	3.6	5,854	5,571	283	4.8
Miller	18,955	18,249	706	3.7	18,912	18,258	654	3.5	18,484	17,812	672	3.6

(continued on Page 16)

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	December 2024				November 2024				December 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	18,966	18,204	762	4.0	18,953	18,216	737	3.9	16,775	15,935	840	5.0
Monroe	2,356	2,237	119	5.1	2,378	2,261	117	4.9	2,340	2,249	91	3.9
Montgomery	2,724	2,581	143	5.2	2,786	2,663	123	4.4	2,682	2,517	165	6.2
Nevada	3,199	3,081	118	3.7	3,210	3,098	112	3.5	3,274	3,144	130	4.0
Newton	3,133	3,023	110	3.5	3,143	3,046	97	3.1	3,145	3,021	124	3.9
Ouachita	9,774	9,392	382	3.9	9,760	9,400	360	3.7	9,631	9,226	405	4.2
Perry	4,412	4,250	162	3.7	4,407	4,261	146	3.3	4,290	4,108	182	4.2
Phillips	5,004	4,699	305	6.1	5,030	4,744	286	5.7	5,009	4,675	334	6.7
Pike	3,901	3,749	152	3.9	3,934	3,796	138	3.5	3,865	3,723	142	3.7
Poinsett	10,167	9,796	371	3.6	10,160	9,824	336	3.3	9,733	9,369	364	3.7
Polk	7,558	7,263	295	3.9	7,600	7,334	266	3.5	7,481	7,163	318	4.3
Pope	29,104	27,968	1,136	3.9	29,056	28,041	1,015	3.5	28,314	27,168	1,146	4.0
Prairie	3,577	3,454	123	3.4	3,618	3,503	115	3.2	3,433	3,309	124	3.6
Pulaski	199,829	193,124	6,705	3.4	199,337	192,953	6,384	3.2	194,122	187,390	6,732	3.5
Randolph	7,483	7,223	260	3.5	7,505	7,270	235	3.1	6,948	6,668	280	4.0
St. Francis	7,433	7,021	412	5.5	7,434	7,048	386	5.2	7,310	6,915	395	5.4
Saline	63,367	61,577	1,790	2.8	63,133	61,525	1,608	2.5	61,458	59,748	1,710	2.8
Scott	4,244	4,117	127	3.0	4,259	4,143	116	2.7	4,278	4,133	145	3.4
Searcy	2,679	2,561	118	4.4	2,705	2,601	104	3.8	2,779	2,651	128	4.6
Sebastian	57,077	55,194	1,883	3.3	56,923	55,181	1,742	3.1	56,227	54,122	2,105	3.7
Sevier	5,526	5,312	214	3.9	5,503	5,308	195	3.5	5,369	5,154	215	4.0
Sharp	6,179	5,938	241	3.9	6,160	5,946	214	3.5	5,868	5,632	236	4.0
Stone	4,532	4,335	197	4.3	4,575	4,402	173	3.8	4,392	4,179	213	4.8
Union	14,767	13,973	794	5.4	14,730	13,956	774	5.3	14,642	13,895	747	5.1
Van Buren	6,010	5,747	263	4.4	6,016	5,775	241	4.0	5,852	5,571	281	4.8
Washington	141,402	137,972	3,430	2.4	141,358	138,225	3,133	2.2	136,651	133,564	3,087	2.3
White	35,366	34,141	1,225	3.5	35,276	34,100	1,176	3.3	33,685	32,467	1,218	3.6
Woodruff	2,913	2,802	111	3.8	2,922	2,818	104	3.6	2,776	2,662	114	4.1
Yell	8,206	7,885	321	3.9	8,244	7,961	283	3.4	7,916	7,595	321	4.1

County Labor Force Summary

Between November and December, unemployment rates are up in all 75 Arkansas counties. Rates ranged from a low of 2.4% in Washington County to a high of 6.8% in Chicot County.

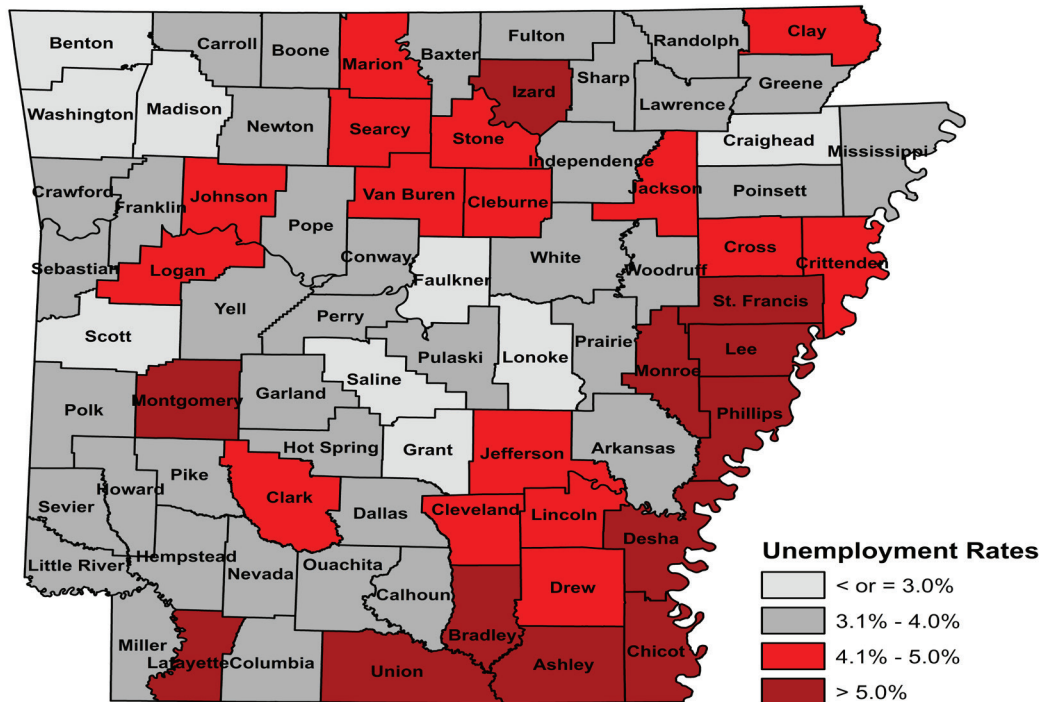
In December, nine counties posted jobless rates at or below three percent. That is down from 12 counties at or below 3% last month. For the 5th consecutive month, no county in Arkansas had an unemployment rate above seven percent.

Compared to December 2023, unemployment rates are down in 47 counties. Twenty-two counties posted rate increases over-the-year, while six counties remained the same. Four counties- Clay, Jackson, Mississippi, and Montgomery- had jobless rate declines of 1% or greater. The largest annual increase was in Monroe County, up one and two-tenths of a percentage point.

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

December 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.4	26	Garland	3.7	50	Cleveland	4.2
2	Benton	2.6	26	Greene	3.7	50	Marion	4.2
3	Saline	2.8	26	Hempstead	3.7	53	Cleburne	4.3
4	Craighead	2.9	26	Hot Spring	3.7	53	Drew	4.3
4	Faulkner	2.9	26	Miller	3.7	53	Stone	4.3
4	Grant	2.9	26	Nevada	3.7	56	Logan	4.4
4	Lonoke	2.9	26	Perry	3.7	56	Searcy	4.4
4	Madison	2.9	33	Columbia	3.8	56	Van Buren	4.4
9	Scott	3.0	33	Fulton	3.8	59	Crittenden	4.5
10	Independence	3.1	33	Little River	3.8	59	Jackson	4.5
11	Calhoun	3.3	33	Woodruff	3.8	61	Jefferson	4.7
11	Sebastian	3.3	37	Baxter	3.9	62	Lincoln	4.8
13	Arkansas	3.4	37	Ouachita	3.9	63	Johnson	4.9
13	Boone	3.4	37	Pike	3.9	64	Bradley	5.1
13	Crawford	3.4	37	Polk	3.9	64	Lafayette	5.1
13	Franklin	3.4	37	Pope	3.9	64	Lee	5.1
13	Howard	3.4	37	Sevier	3.9	64	Monroe	5.1
13	Prairie	3.4	37	Sharp	3.9	68	Montgomery	5.2
13	Pulaski	3.4	37	Yell	3.9	69	Izard	5.4
20	Lawrence	3.5	45	Conway	4.0	69	Union	5.4
20	Newton	3.5	45	Dallas	4.0	71	Desha	5.5
20	Randolph	3.5	45	Mississippi	4.0	71	St. Francis	5.5
20	White	3.5	48	Clay	4.1	73	Ashley	6.0
24	Carroll	3.6	48	Cross	4.1	74	Phillips	6.1
24	Poinsett	3.6	50	Clark	4.2	75	Chicot	6.8

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	December 2024				November 2024				December 2023			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	268,686	260,461	8,225	3.1	267,992	260,467	7,525	2.8	260,646	252,596	8,050	3.1
City of Little Rock	102,785	99,331	3,454	3.4	102,606	99,243	3,363	3.3	99,863	96,382	3,481	3.5
Eastern	42,087	40,055	2,032	4.8	42,238	40,298	1,940	4.6	41,364	39,395	1,969	4.8
North Central	96,042	92,413	3,629	3.8	95,934	92,598	3,336	3.5	92,105	88,424	3,681	4.0
Northeast	127,783	123,467	4,316	3.4	127,620	123,602	4,018	3.1	121,703	117,301	4,402	3.6
Northwest	366,168	356,305	9,863	2.7	366,265	357,249	9,016	2.5	355,480	346,063	9,417	2.6
Southeast	74,954	71,549	3,405	4.5	75,147	71,937	3,210	4.3	73,874	70,632	3,242	4.4
Southwest	87,480	83,927	3,553	4.1	87,498	84,166	3,332	3.8	86,316	82,784	3,532	4.1
West Central	130,621	125,473	5,148	3.9	130,342	125,655	4,687	3.6	128,215	122,939	5,276	4.1
Western	111,677	107,842	3,835	3.4	111,560	108,036	3,524	3.2	109,976	105,875	4,101	3.7

