



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

NEWS RELEASE

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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains Stable at 2.6% in July

Little Rock, Ark., August 18, 2023- Today the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 2.6% in July. The United States' jobless rate declined one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.6% in June to 3.5% in July.

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

- In July, Arkansas' civilian labor force rose by 3,243, while the number of employed in the State increased to 1,351,403. Both remain at record high levels. Unemployment declined a slight 309, as the labor force participation rate increased to 57.7%.
- Compared to July 2022, there are 26,170 more employed and 9,993 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The State's unemployment rate is down seven-tenths of a percentage point while the labor force participation rate is up one-tenth of a percentage point over the year.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

- In July, nonfarm payroll jobs are down 11,400. Declines were mostly related to summer break at educational facilities. Jobs in Government are down 10,800, mostly in local government-educational services (-9,600). Employment in Private Education and Health Services decreased by 800. Jobs in all other major industry sectors remained fairly stable over the month.
- Compared to July 2022, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 37,000. The greatest annual growth occurred in Leisure and Hospitality (+11,500), Private Education and Health Services (+11,000), Construction (+6,300), and Trade-Transportation-Utilities (+3,900).

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force (Seasonally Adjusted)

	July 2023	June 2023	July 2022	Change from June 2023	Change from July 2022
Civilian Labor Force	1,386,974	1,383,731	1,370,797	3,243	16,177
Employment	1,351,403	1,347,851	1,325,233	3,552	26,170
Unemployment	35,571	35,880	45,564	-309	-9,993
Unemployment Rate	2.6%	2.6%	3.3%	0.0%	-0.7%
Labor Force Participation Rate	57.7%	57.6%	57.6%	0.1%	0.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey. More information about the data is available at <https://www.bls.gov/cps/definitions.htm>

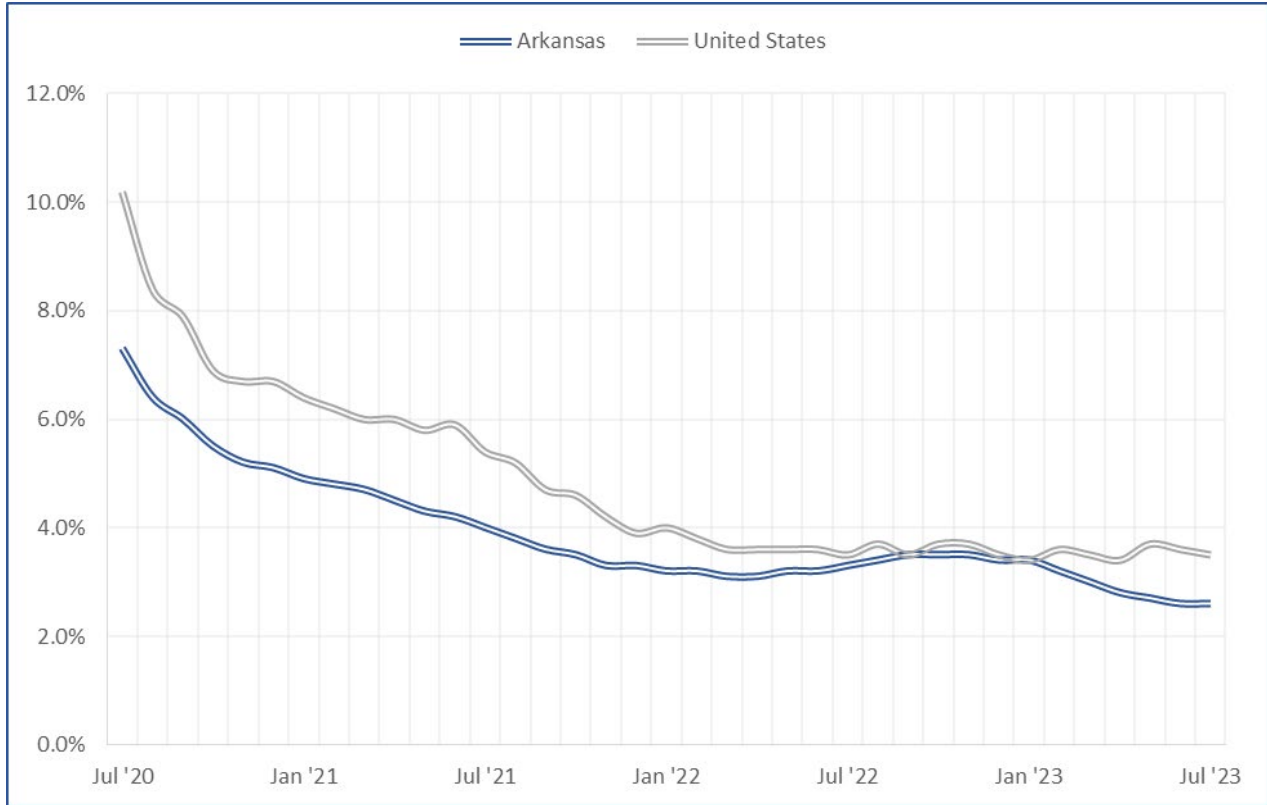
Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted, In Thousands)

Industry Sector based on 2022 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)	July 2023	June 2023	July 2022	Change from June 2023	Change from July 2022
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1354.9	1366.3	1317.9	-11.4	37.0
Goods Producing	235.3	235.4	227.2	-0.1	8.1
Mining, Logging, & Construction	69.7	69.6	63.7	0.1	6.0
Mining & Logging	4.9	4.9	5.2	0.0	-0.3
Construction	64.8	64.7	58.5	0.1	6.3
Specialty Trade Contractors	40.0	39.6	36.6	0.4	3.4
Manufacturing	165.6	165.8	163.5	-0.2	2.1
Durable Goods	81.1	81.1	79.4	0.0	1.7
Nondurable Goods	84.5	84.7	84.1	-0.2	0.4
Service Providing	1119.6	1130.9	1090.7	-11.3	28.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	273.0	273.5	269.1	-0.5	3.9
Wholesale Trade	55.2	54.8	51.4	0.4	3.8
Retail Trade	142.9	143.2	142.6	-0.3	0.3
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	74.9	75.5	75.1	-0.6	-0.2
Information	12.2	12.1	12.8	0.1	-0.6
Financial Activities	71.7	71.5	71.3	0.2	0.4
Finance & Insurance	56.8	56.7	56.4	0.1	0.4
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	14.9	14.8	14.9	0.1	0.0
Professional & Business Services	150.8	150.2	151.9	0.6	-1.1
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	50.6	48.7	48.1	1.9	2.5
Management of Companies	39.6	39.0	37.8	0.6	1.8
Administrative & Support Services	60.6	62.5	66.0	-1.9	-5.4
Private Education & Health Services	206.2	207.0	195.2	-0.8	11.0
Educational Services	16.0	16.8	13.2	-0.8	2.8
Health Care & Social Assistance	190.2	190.2	182.0	0.0	8.2
Ambulatory Health Care	66.8	66.9	63.1	-0.1	3.7
Social Assistance	39.5	39.6	36.4	-0.1	3.1
Leisure & Hospitality	136.4	136.2	124.9	0.2	11.5
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	17.6	17.5	14.6	0.1	3.0
Accommodation & Food Services	118.8	118.7	110.3	0.1	8.5
Accommodation Services	12.7	12.5	12.0	0.2	0.7
Food Services	106.1	106.2	98.3	-0.1	7.8
Other Services	74.1	74.4	71.7	-0.3	2.4
Government	195.2	206.0	193.8	-10.8	1.4
Federal Government	21.3	21.1	20.6	0.2	0.7
State Government	71.2	72.7	71.3	-1.5	-0.1
State Government, Educational Services	25.0	26.6	24.9	-1.6	0.1
State Government, Excluding Education	46.2	46.1	46.4	0.1	-0.2
Local Government	102.7	112.2	101.9	-9.5	0.8
Local Government, Educational Services	57.2	66.8	56.8	-9.6	0.4
Local Government, Excluding Education	45.5	45.4	45.1	0.1	0.4

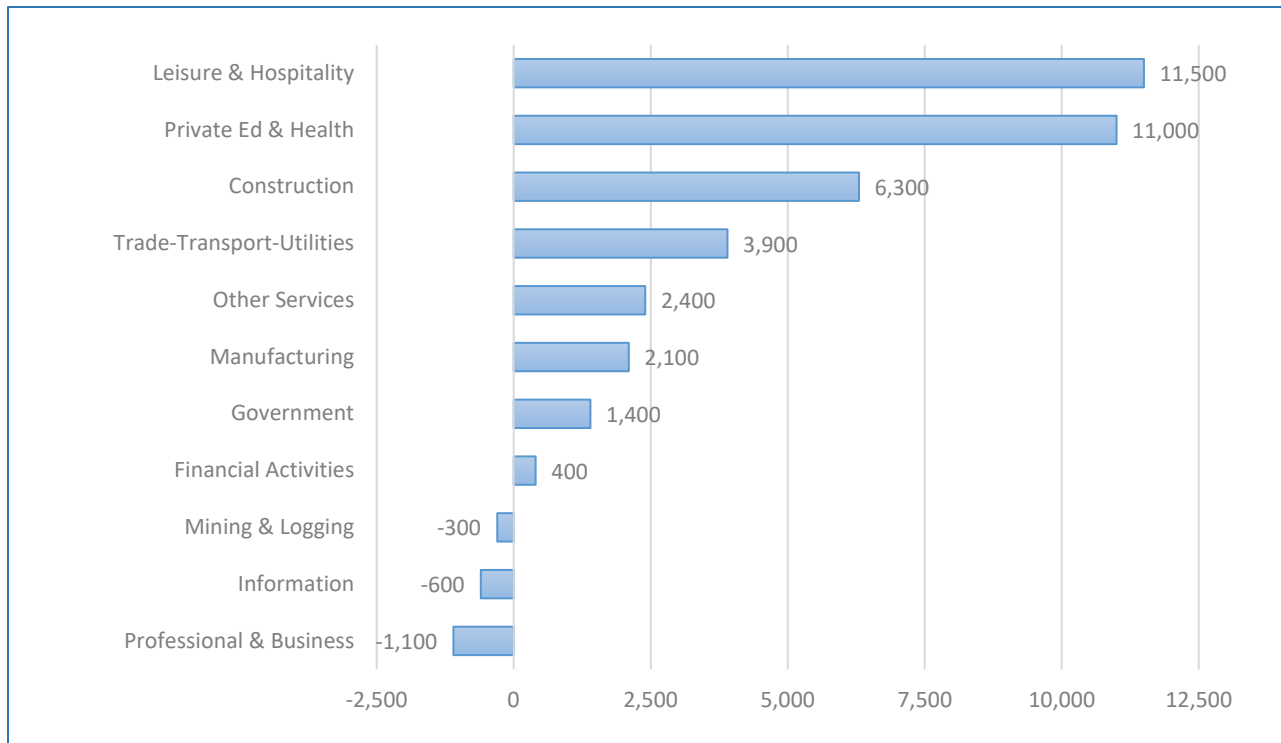
Source: Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1st Quarter 2022 benchmark.

Notes: Current month's data are preliminary; previous month's data are revised.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates Arkansas vs. United States (3-Year Comparison)



Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sectors July 2022 to July 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



For more Labor Market Data, visit our website at www.discover.arkansas.gov



About the Arkansas Department of Commerce:

The Arkansas Department of Commerce is the umbrella department for workforce and economic development drivers. Its divisions and regulatory boards include Division of Aeronautics, Waterways Commission, Wine Producers Council, Division of Workforce Services, Office of Skills Development, State Bank Department, Insurance Department, Securities Department, Economic Development Commission and Development Finance Authority.



About the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

The mission of the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services is to support and secure Arkansas' economic vitality through a highly skilled workforce by administering programs and providing services that empower employers and jobseekers. ADWS is a division of the Arkansas Department of Commerce.

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About Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

The Bureau of Labor Statistics measures labor market activity, working conditions, price changes, and productivity in the U.S. economy to support public and private decision making.

About Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

The LAUS program produces monthly and annual employment, unemployment, and labor force data for Census regions and divisions, States, counties, metropolitan areas, and many cities, by place of residence.

About Current Employment Statistics (CES)

The CES program produces detailed industry estimates of employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls. CES State and Metro Area produces data for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.