

Arkansas Labor Market

December 2013

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Declines to 7.4 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Decrease 4,200 in December

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	7.4	7.5	7.1
US Unemployment Rate	6.7	7.0	7.9

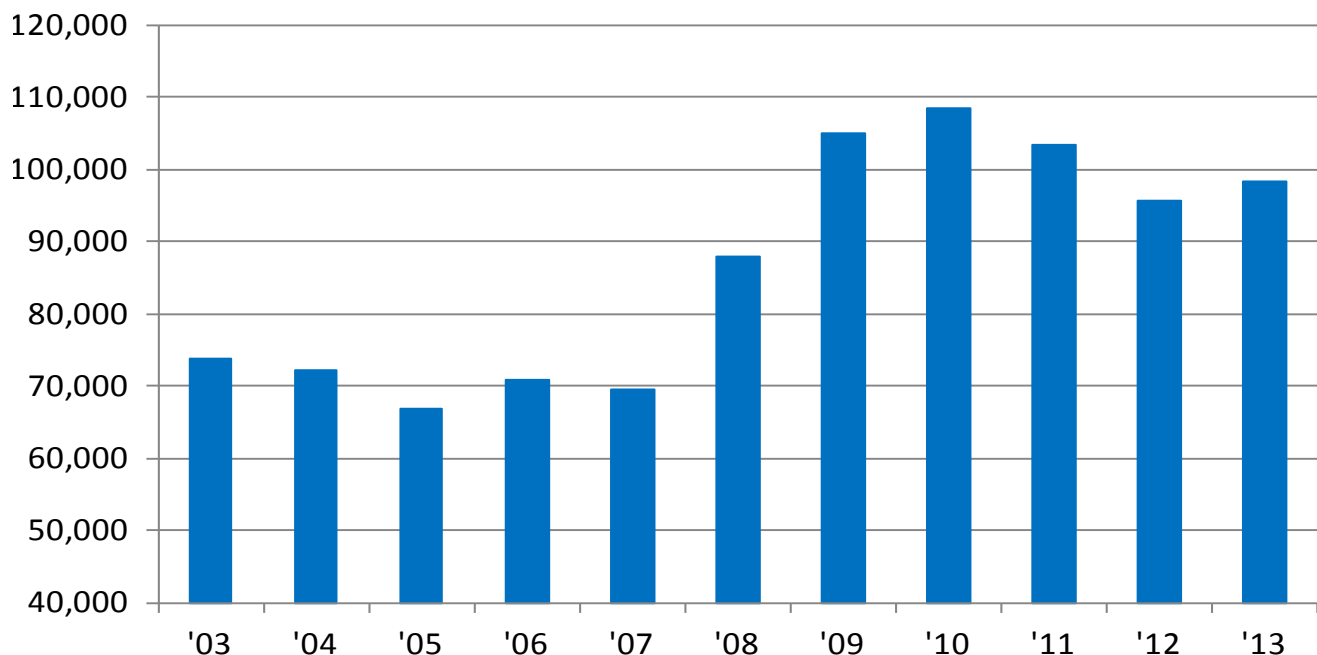
Nonfarm Payroll Summary

State of Arkansas

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,197,400	1,201,600	1,184,500
Goods Producing	212,400	213,200	211,100
Service Providing	985,000	988,400	973,400

Number of Unemployed (seasonally adjusted)

State of Arkansas
December: 2003 - 2013



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

November 2013 - December 2013

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs declined 4,200 in December to total 1,197,400. Five sectors reported job losses, while three sectors posted gains. **Leisure and hospitality** posted the largest decrease (-2,600). A majority of the loss occurred in food services (-2,000), a typical seasonal trend. **Government** employment dropped 1,300. Declines were posted in both state (-900) and local (-500) government due to the holiday break at public schools. Employment in **professional and business services** declined 1,300. Most of the loss was reported in administrative and support services (-1,000). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 1,600 jobs, mostly due to holiday hiring in retail trade (+1,300).

December 2012 - December 2013

Compared to December 2012, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas have increased 12,900. Seven major industry sectors posted growth, as four sectors reported losses. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** enjoyed the largest increase (+4,900). Employment gains were attributed to reported growth in retail trade (+3,700) and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+2,400). **Professional and business services** added 4,200 jobs. Administrative and support services captured a majority of the growth (+2,900). **Educational and health services** increased 3,500. Most of the gains occurred in health care and social assistance (+2,700). Jobs in **other services** declined 2,400.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

(NAICS)	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12
Total Nonfarm	1,197,400	1,201,600	1,184,500
Goods Producing	212,400	213,200	211,100
Mining & Logging	10,300	10,300	10,100
Construction	47,000	48,000	45,600
Specialty Trade Contractors	31,000	30,700	30,100
Manufacturing	155,100	154,900	155,400
Durable Goods	79,200	78,500	77,300
Nondurable Goods	75,900	76,400	78,100
Service Providing	985,000	988,400	973,400
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	257,200	255,600	252,300
Wholesale Trade	46,100	45,500	47,300
Retail Trade	144,300	143,000	140,600
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	66,800	67,100	64,400
Information	14,300	14,300	14,500
Financial Activities	51,500	50,500	49,400
Finance & Insurance	37,900	37,100	36,000
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,600	13,400	13,400
Professional & Business Services	124,800	126,100	120,600
Professional, Scientific & Technical	40,100	40,500	39,500
Management of Companies	32,500	32,400	31,800
Administrative & Support Services	52,200	53,200	49,300
Educational & Health Services	177,600	178,400	174,100
Educational Services	16,300	16,900	15,500
Health Care & Social Assistance	161,300	161,500	158,600
Ambulatory Health Care	49,200	49,500	47,900
Social Assistance	39,100	39,300	35,500
Leisure & Hospitality	99,700	102,300	99,100
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,100	8,200	8,400
Accommodation & Food Services	91,600	94,100	90,700
Accommodation Services	10,200	10,700	10,300
Food Services	81,400	83,400	80,400
Other Services	41,200	41,200	43,600
Government	218,700	220,000	219,800
Federal Government	19,700	19,600	20,800
State Government	78,400	79,300	77,800
Local Government	120,600	121,100	121,200

Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

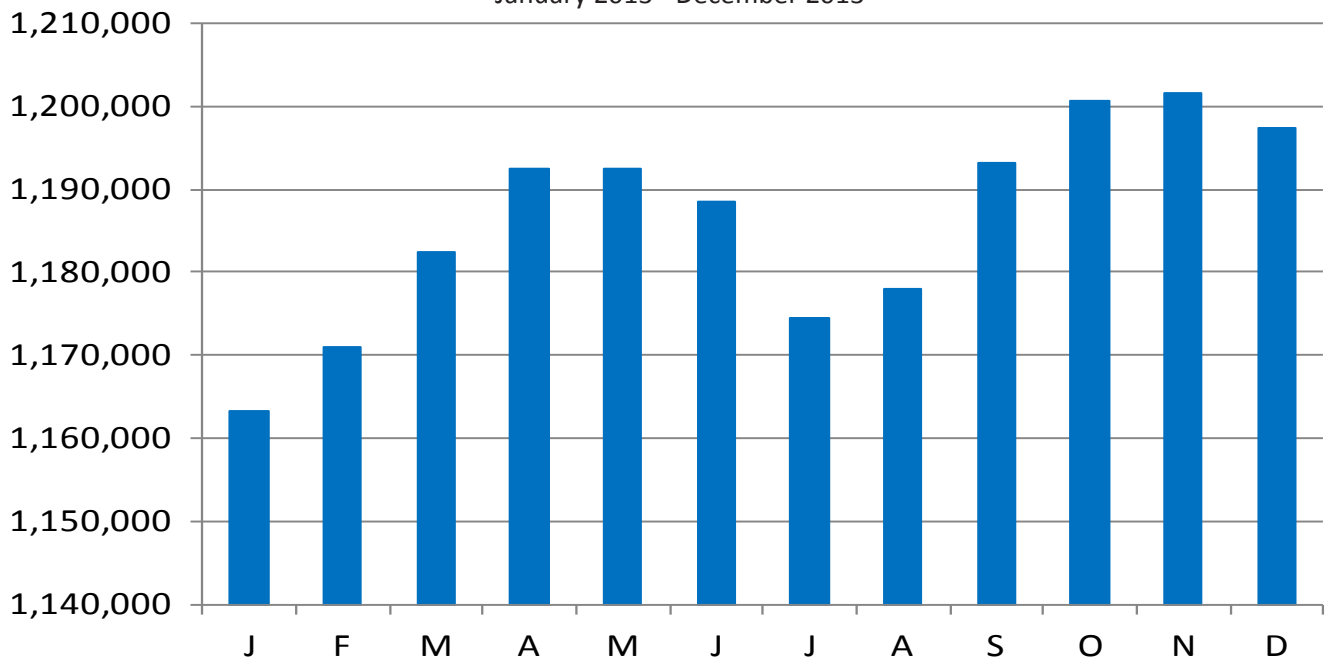
	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12
Manufacturing	\$625.46	\$631.71	\$640.34	40.8	41.1	42.1	\$15.33	\$15.37	\$15.21
Durable Goods	687.86	693.00	682.18	42.2	42.0	41.8	16.30	16.50	16.32
Nondurable Goods	565.39	575.08	599.81	39.4	40.3	42.3	14.35	14.27	14.18

Spotlight

The Year in Review

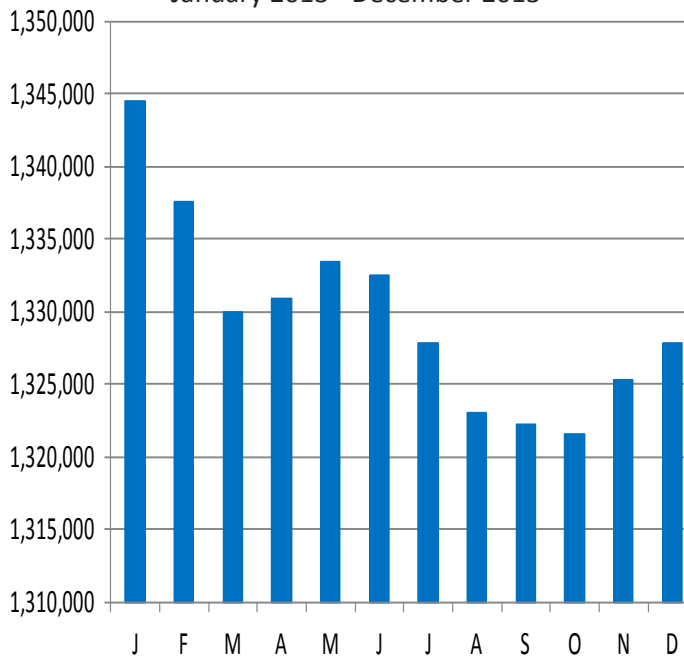
In 2013, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas ranged from a high of 1,201,600 in November to a low of 1,163,200 in January. Arkansas' preliminary annual average nonfarm employment for 2013 is 1,186,300, slightly higher than the 2012 average of 1,177,400.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (not seasonally adjusted)
January 2013 - December 2013

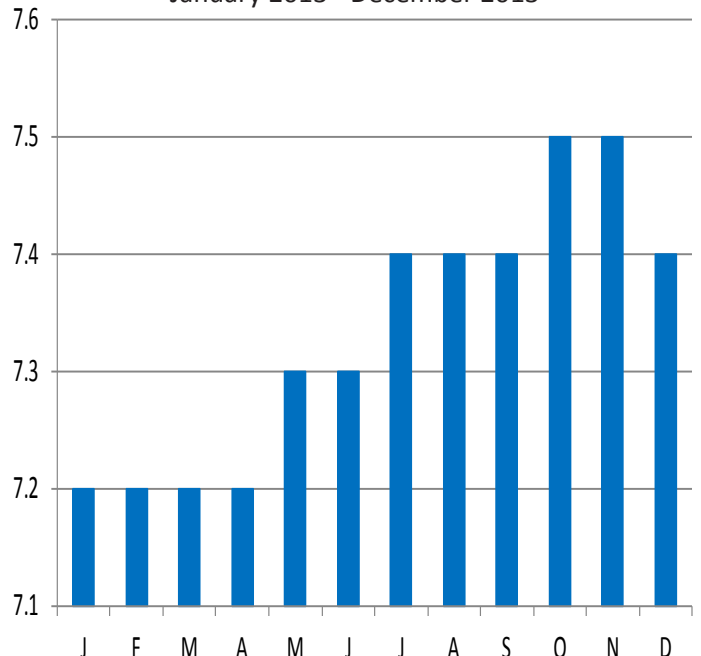


In 2013, Arkansas' civilian labor force ranged from a high of 1,344,500 in January to a low of 1,321,600 in October. The unemployment rates in Arkansas ranged from a high of 7.5 percent in October and November to a low of 7.2 percent in January through April.

Civilian Labor Force (seasonally adjusted)
January 2013 - December 2013



Unemployment Rates (seasonally adjusted)
January 2013 - December 2013



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12
Total Nonfarm	349,000	351,100	345,500
Goods Producing	36,200	36,200	36,200
Mining, Logging & Construction	16,300	16,300	16,300
Manufacturing	19,900	19,900	19,900
Service Providing	312,800	314,900	309,300
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	72,000	71,900	71,700
Wholesale Trade	15,600	15,600	15,800
Retail Trade	41,700	41,700	41,600
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,700	14,600	14,300
Information	7,000	7,100	7,300
Financial Activities	20,100	19,900	19,900
Professional & Business Services	45,500	46,100	42,100
Educational & Health Services	53,000	53,500	52,200
Leisure & Hospitality	29,300	30,300	29,700
Other Services	15,500	15,500	15,400
Government	70,400	70,600	71,000
Federal Government	9,300	9,200	9,600
State Government	33,000	33,200	33,200
Local Government	28,100	28,200	28,200

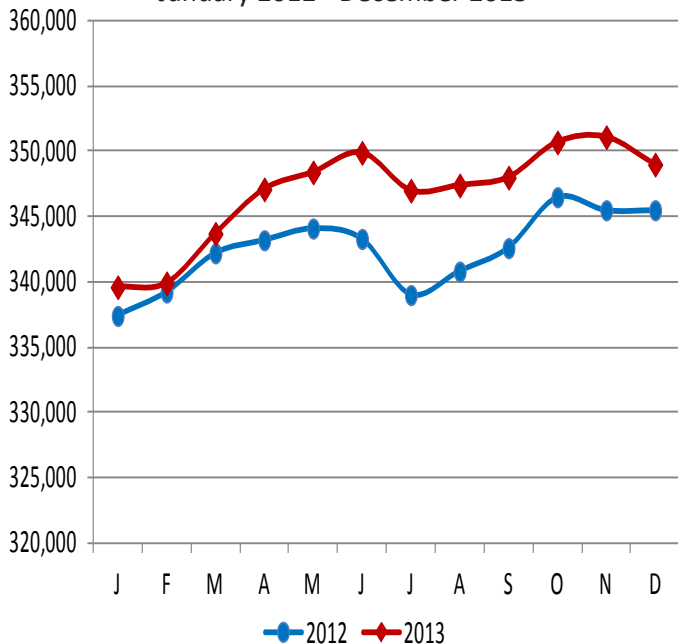
The LR-NLR-Conway MSA consists of the following counties:
Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12
Civilian Labor Force	338,050	341,800	340,325
Employment	316,950	320,775	319,225
Unemployment	21,100	21,025	21,100
Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.2	6.2

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

January 2012 - December 2013



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12
Total Nonfarm	224,400	225,900	215,500
Goods Producing	35,900	36,100	35,000
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,900	9,000	8,200
Manufacturing	27,000	27,100	26,800
Service Providing	188,500	189,800	180,500
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	52,200	52,100	49,700
Wholesale Trade	11,200	11,200	10,600
Retail Trade	24,900	24,700	23,800
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16,100	16,200	15,300
Information	1,900	2,000	1,900
Financial Activities	6,700	6,700	6,500
Professional & Business Services	42,300	42,300	40,200
Educational & Health Services	26,000	26,200	24,600
Leisure & Hospitality	21,400	21,900	20,400
Other Services	7,100	7,100	6,800
Government	30,900	31,500	30,400
Federal Government	2,300	2,300	2,400
State Government	10,700	11,200	10,300
Local Government	17,900	18,000	17,700

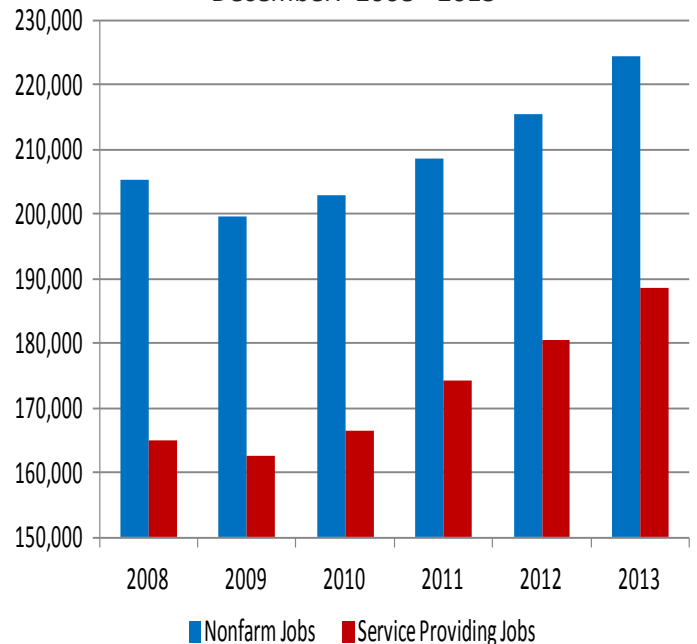
The FSR MSA consists of the following counties:
Benton, Madison, Washington, and McDonald (in Missouri)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Dec 13	Nov 13	Dec 12
Civilian Labor Force	238,900	241,400	234,675
Employment	227,125	229,675	222,725
Unemployment	11,775	11,725	11,950
Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.9	5.1

Nonfarm Jobs vs. Service Providing Jobs

December: 2008 - 2013



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	120,300	119,800	116,900
Goods Producing	25,300	25,300	25,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	6,900	7,000	6,500
Manufacturing	18,400	18,300	18,900
Service Providing	95,000	94,500	91,500
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	26,300	25,900	25,100
Wholesale Trade	4,300	4,200	4,100
Retail Trade	14,000	13,800	13,500
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	8,000	7,900	7,500
Information	1,400	1,400	1,400
Financial Activities	4,400	4,400	4,300
Professional & Business Services	11,600	11,500	10,700
Educational & Health Services	18,100	18,000	17,300
Leisure & Hospitality	9,000	9,100	8,700
Other Services	4,500	4,400	4,400
Government	19,700	19,800	19,600
Federal Government	1,500	1,500	1,600
State Government	3,200	3,200	3,200
Local Government	15,000	15,100	14,800

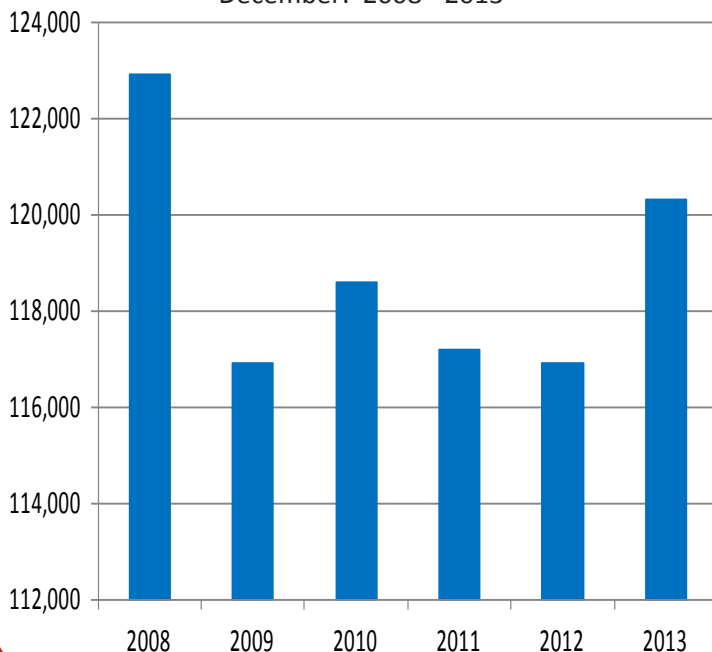
The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	132,575	132,175	131,325
Employment	122,475	123,000	121,200
Unemployment	10,100	9,175	10,125
Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.0	7.7

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

December: 2008 - 2013



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	37,400	37,200	37,600
Goods Producing	4,200	4,200	4,200
Service Providing	33,200	33,000	33,400
Government	5,300	5,200	5,200

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	40,175	40,500	41,275
Employment	37,175	37,475	38,250
Unemployment	3,000	3,025	3,025
Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.5	7.4

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	54,400	54,500	52,400
Goods Producing	9,600	9,700	9,300
Service Providing	44,800	44,800	43,100
Government	9,100	9,100	9,000

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties:

Craighead and Poinsett

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	60,450	60,725	59,925
Employment	56,475	56,925	55,925
Unemployment	3,975	3,800	4,000
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.3	6.7

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	36,200	36,000	36,400
Goods Producing	7,000	7,000	7,000
Service Providing	29,200	29,000	29,400
Government	10,700	10,600	10,800

The PB MSA consists of the following counties: Cleveland, Jefferson, and Lincoln

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,150	41,425	42,075
Employment	37,125	37,500	38,250
Unemployment	4,025	3,925	3,825
Unemployment Rate	9.8	9.5	9.0

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,327,900	1,325,300	1,347,800	2,600	-19,900	1,316,000	1,326,500	1,333,500	-10,500	-17,500
Employment	1,229,400	1,226,200	1,252,100	3,200	-22,700	1,221,300	1,235,500	1,239,100	-14,200	-17,800
Unemployment	98,500	99,100	95,700	-600	2,800	94,700	91,000	94,400	3,700	300
Unemployment Rate	7.4	7.5	7.1	-0.1	0.3	7.2	6.9	7.1	0.3	0.1
U.S. Unemployment Rate	6.7	7.0	7.9	-0.3	-1.2	6.5	6.6	7.6	-0.1	-1.1

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	593,850	602,325	619,975
Employment	543,025	549,700	566,075
Unemployment	50,825	52,625	53,900
Unemployment Rate	8.6	8.7	8.7

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,650	63,775	64,350
Employment	59,300	59,450	60,375
Unemployment	4,350	4,325	3,975
Unemployment Rate	6.8	6.8	6.2

Between November and December, unemployment rates increased in 61 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Five counties posted rate declines, while nine remained stable.

In December, eight counties enjoyed jobless rates at or below six percent. Seventeen counties posted rates at or above ten percent, up from twelve counties in November.

Compared to December 2012, unemployment rates are up in 46 counties. Rates have declined in 21 counties, while eight remained the same.

Unemployment Rates by County

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
12	Arkansas	6.3	6.0	7.6	72	Lee	11.8	11.1	11.2
73	Ashley	11.9	11.1	11.7	57	Lincoln	9.5	9.6	8.0
29	Baxter	7.7	7.4	7.4	31	Little River	7.8	7.7	6.9
2	Benton	5.1	5.0	5.3	20	Logan	7.1	7.1	7.1
20	Boone	7.1	6.6	6.6	5	Lonoke	5.7	5.7	5.8
52	Bradley	9.1	9.0	8.8	3	Madison	5.2	5.1	4.5
44	Calhoun	8.3	8.7	8.3	36	Marion	8.0	7.6	7.6
9	Carroll	6.1	5.3	5.7	31	Miller	7.8	6.9	7.1
75	Chicot	12.4	11.3	10.6	66	Mississippi	11.0	10.3	9.6
29	Clark	7.7	7.4	8.4	48	Monroe	8.6	8.8	8.7
74	Clay	12.2	11.2	11.8	50	Montgomery	9.0	8.7	8.0
24	Cleburne	7.4	6.9	7.2	17	Nevada	7.0	6.8	6.5
39	Cleveland	8.1	8.0	6.8	36	Newton	8.0	7.6	8.0
39	Columbia	8.1	7.8	7.9	52	Ouachita	9.1	8.7	9.3
34	Conway	7.9	7.6	7.6	36	Perry	8.0	8.2	8.6
12	Craighead	6.3	6.0	6.3	71	Phillips	11.6	10.7	11.1
42	Crawford	8.2	7.0	7.7	45	Pike	8.4	8.4	8.2
64	Crittenden	10.8	9.7	11.0	31	Poinsett	7.8	7.5	8.2
45	Cross	8.4	8.0	8.5	24	Polk	7.4	7.2	7.4
62	Dallas	10.4	10.2	9.7	26	Pope	7.5	7.3	6.9
69	Desha	11.4	10.2	11.3	20	Prairie	7.1	7.1	7.2
61	Drew	10.3	9.5	10.3	11	Pulaski	6.2	6.1	6.3
17	Faulkner	7.0	6.8	6.5	55	Randolph	9.3	8.4	9.8
7	Franklin	6.0	5.9	6.9	64	St. Francis	10.8	10.3	10.6
17	Fulton	7.0	6.7	6.6	4	Saline	5.6	5.7	5.7
26	Garland	7.5	7.5	7.4	6	Scott	5.9	5.9	5.8
9	Grant	6.1	6.1	6.2	34	Searcy	7.9	7.4	7.7
48	Greene	8.6	8.3	8.6	39	Sebastian	8.1	6.5	7.6
28	Hempstead	7.6	7.2	7.1	20	Sevier	7.1	6.8	7.5
14	Hot Spring	6.6	6.5	6.4	62	Sharp	10.4	9.9	9.9
15	Howard	6.7	6.6	6.9	68	Stone	11.2	10.4	10.1
57	Independence	9.5	9.4	8.8	45	Union	8.4	8.4	8.2
56	Izard	9.4	8.3	8.0	52	Van Buren	9.1	8.6	9.4
70	Jackson	11.5	10.3	10.0	1	Washington	4.8	4.7	5.0
59	Jefferson	10.0	9.6	9.5	42	White	8.2	7.9	7.9
16	Johnson	6.8	6.8	6.3	67	Woodruff	11.1	10.3	11.1
59	Lafayette	10.0	9.8	10.2	7	Yell	6.0	5.6	5.5
50	Lawrence	9.0	8.2	8.7					

Lowest Rates

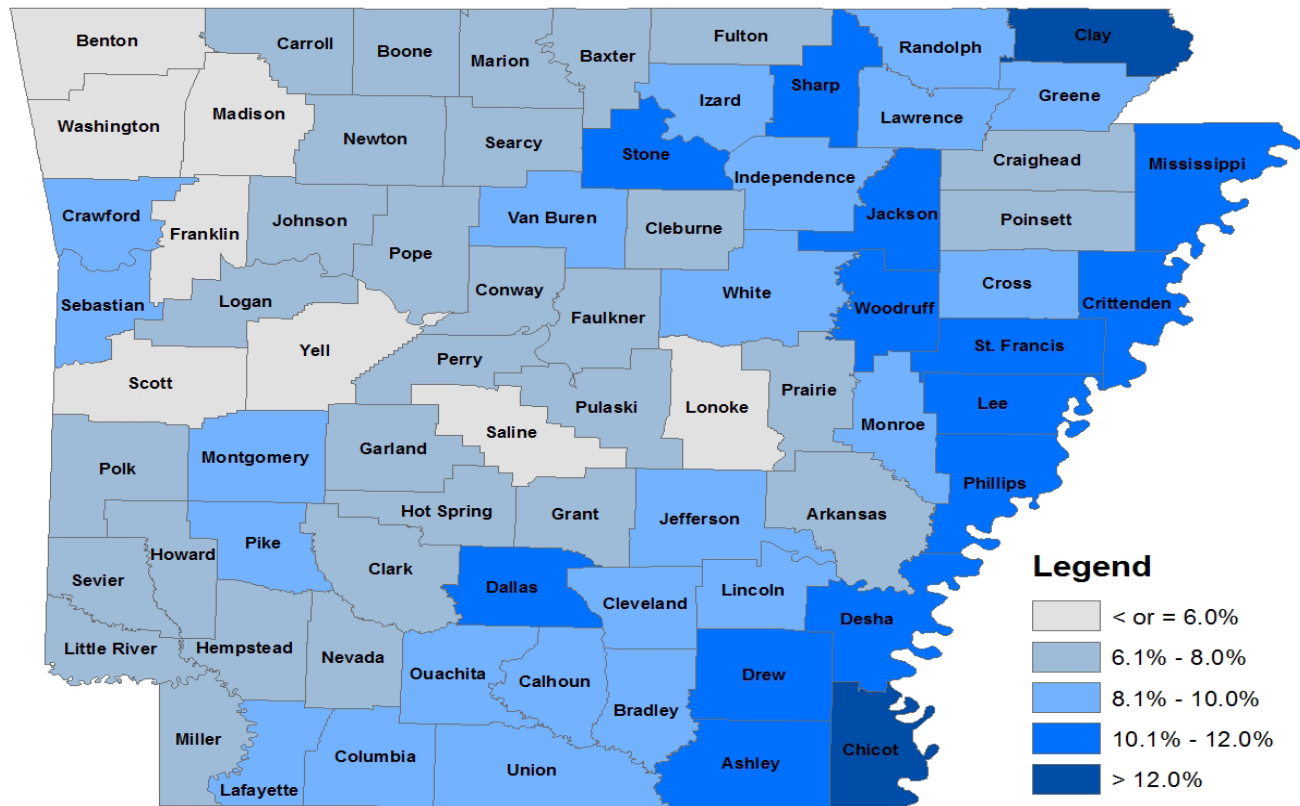
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Washington	4.8
2	Benton	5.1
3	Madison	5.2
4	Saline	5.6
5	Lonoke	5.7

Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
72	Lee	11.8
73	Ashley	11.9
74	Clay	12.2
75	Chicot	12.4

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

For complete County Labor Force Statistics, please visit our website at www.discover.arkansas.gov



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 data are 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 2012 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 5,500 Arkansas business establishments are surveyed.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

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 800 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 Labor Market

December 2013

The *Arkansas Labor Market* is produced by the Department of Workforce Services, Bureau of Labor Statistics. All Statistics are published in cooperation with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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