

Arkansas Labor Market

September 2013

Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains Stable at 7.4 Percent
 Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Increase 15,000 in September*

Employment Quick Facts

Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted

	<u>Sep 13*</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 12</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	7.4	7.4	7.3
US Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.3	7.8

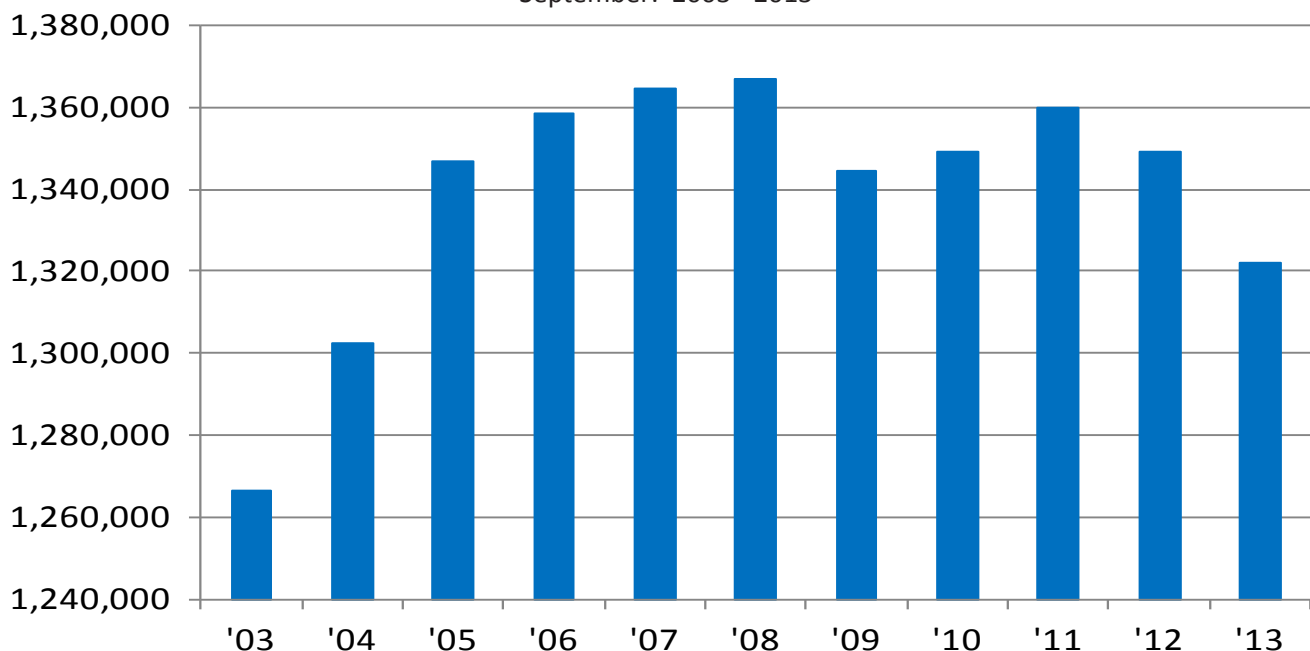
Nonfarm Payroll Summary

State of Arkansas

	<u>Sep 13*</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 12</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,193,100	1,178,100	1,182,200
Goods Producing	213,700	213,600	214,600
Service Providing	979,400	964,500	967,600

Civilian Labor Force (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas
 September: 2003 - 2013



Nonfarm Payroll Employment

State of Arkansas

*September Estimates Delayed

Due to the federal government shutdown, which ended on October 16, 2013, the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Department of Workforce Services had to adjust the following release dates: August final, September preliminary/final, and October preliminary.

Arkansas' statewide Nonfarm Payroll Employment and Civilian Labor Force (CLF) estimates for September 2013 (and revised August 2013) were originally set to be released on October 22, 2013. Due to the adjustment, there was a simultaneous release of August final, September final, and October preliminary data on November 22, 2013.

Please note that September preliminary estimates will not be published. All September 2013 estimates are revised.

Civilian Labor Force Data for the Metropolitan Statistical Areas and Arkansas' counties were also delayed. September 2013 sub-state data was originally set to be released on October 30, 2013. Due to the adjustment, September final and October preliminary sub-state CLF data were simultaneously released on December 4, 2013.

November and December CLF and nonfarm payroll estimates will be released to the public as scheduled.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

(NAICS)	Nonfarm Payroll Jobs		
	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Total Nonfarm	1,193,100	1,178,100	1,182,200
Goods Producing	213,700	213,600	214,600
Mining & Logging	10,500	10,500	10,300
Construction	47,700	48,200	48,800
Specialty Trade Contractors	30,900	30,700	30,000
Manufacturing	155,500	154,900	155,500
Durable Goods	79,000	78,400	77,200
Nondurable Goods	76,500	76,500	78,300
Service Providing	979,400	964,500	967,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	250,600	250,300	242,100
Wholesale Trade	45,300	46,100	47,200
Retail Trade	138,700	139,000	132,600
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	66,600	65,200	62,300
Information	14,300	14,500	14,400
Financial Activities	50,000	49,700	49,000
Finance & Insurance	36,700	36,400	35,600
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,300	13,300	13,400
Professional & Business Services	126,200	125,700	123,700
Professional, Scientific & Technical	40,000	39,500	37,800
Management of Companies	32,100	32,000	31,200
Administrative & Support Services	54,100	54,200	54,700
Educational & Health Services	176,900	174,800	173,800
Educational Services	16,500	14,100	15,500
Health Care & Social Assistance	160,400	160,700	158,300
Ambulatory Health Care	49,500	49,200	48,000
Social Assistance	37,600	37,300	36,100
Leisure & Hospitality	103,700	104,400	104,200
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9,600	10,600	9,700
Accommodation & Food Services	94,100	93,800	94,500
Accommodation Services	11,100	11,500	11,200
Food Services	83,000	82,300	83,300
Other Services	41,500	42,100	43,400
Government	216,200	203,000	217,000
Federal Government	19,800	19,800	20,500
State Government	78,300	73,000	77,700
Local Government	118,100	110,200	118,800

Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers

(Manufacturing Industries)

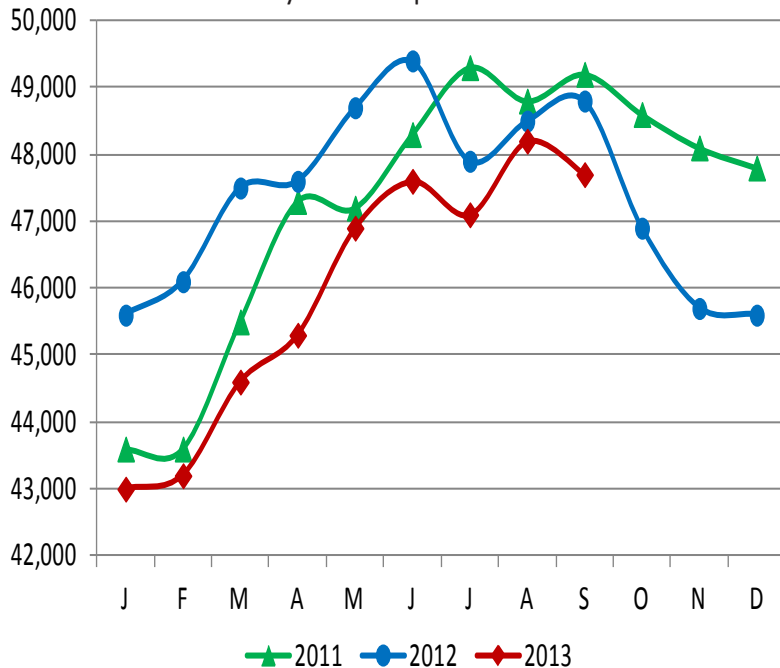
	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Manufacturing	\$643.54	\$652.88	\$647.06	41.2	41.4	41.8	\$15.62	\$15.77	\$15.48
Durable Goods	695.54	703.91	709.67	41.9	41.8	42.7	16.60	16.84	16.62
Nondurable Goods	593.73	604.75	591.43	40.5	41.0	41.1	14.66	14.75	14.39

Spotlight

Seasonal Employment Trends (Part 2 of 2)

As discussed in the August Labor Market Report, employment in some major industry sectors is directly influenced by seasonal trends. When employment from multiple years is compared, these patterns become apparent. Seasonal trends are related to set schedules of operation, holidays, and weather patterns. Last month's Spotlight discussed the seasonal trends seen in state and local government, educational services, and **leisure and hospitality**. In this issue, the seasonality of **construction** and professional-scientific-technical services is highlighted, along with some of the industries that are *indirectly* affected by seasonal movements.

Chart 4. Employment in Construction
January 2011 - September 2013



Employment in the **construction** sector is significantly affected by weather patterns. While construction operations run year round, more projects are commissioned during the spring and summer than in the winter. In general, employment in **construction** begins to increase around February and March, peaks in June, and then tends to decline after September (see Chart 4). Non-typical weather patterns also influence jobs in construction. Notice that employment in 2012 follows a somewhat different trend than in previous years. This was caused by higher than usual summer temperatures, which affected some construction projects.

Found under the **professional and business services** sector, the professional-scientific-technical services subsector includes a particular type of business that is extremely seasonal-- accounting and tax preparation services. Seasonal hiring

related to tax preparation typically begins in November or December, with employment in the subsector peaking from February to April. Employment tends to remain fairly constant throughout the summer and fall months.

There are also other seasonal businesses, many of which may not be visible when tracking the movement of the major industry sectors as a whole. For example, landscaping services is influenced by weather and the seasons. While employment in landscaping services increases during the spring and summer months, the number of workers is not large enough to impact the movement of the administrative and support services subsector as a whole. Similarly, employment in other services to buildings and dwellings (also under the administrative and support services subsector) tends to increase in the spring and summer. This includes activities such as cleaning swimming pools, driveways, and gutters and power-washing building exteriors.

It is important to keep in mind that some other industries are *indirectly* affected by these seasonal employment fluctuations. The timber industry, for example, relies heavily on the **construction** sector and may experience declines and increases in employment related to construction patterns. Similarly, movement within the retail trade sector will affect both wholesale trade and the transportation of goods. Some industries are indirectly affected by school closures in the summer. Employment in day care services (found under the social assistance subsector) increases in the summer when schools are closed, as does employment at businesses such as day camps and summer sports programs. There are also many non-profit organizations (under **Other Services**) with activities designed for children during the summer months.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

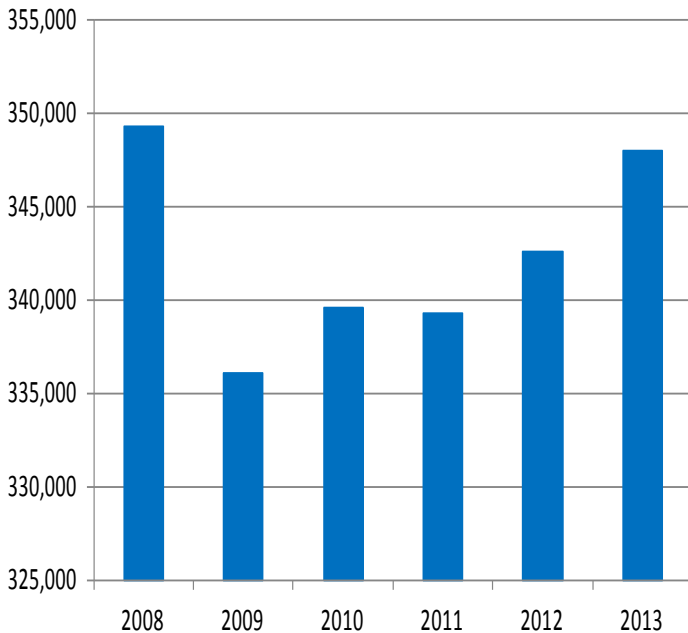
NAICS	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Total Nonfarm	348,000	347,400	342,600
Goods Producing	36,800	37,000	37,100
Mining, Logging & Construction	16,900	17,100	17,100
Manufacturing	19,900	19,900	20,000
Service Providing	311,200	310,400	305,500
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	70,400	70,400	66,700
Wholesale Trade	15,600	15,700	15,700
Retail Trade	40,200	40,300	37,100
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14,600	14,400	13,900
Information	7,100	7,100	7,300
Financial Activities	19,800	19,900	19,800
Professional & Business Services	45,300	45,500	43,400
Educational & Health Services	53,600	53,600	52,700
Leisure & Hospitality	29,800	30,600	30,100
Other Services	15,600	15,700	15,500
Government	69,600	67,600	70,000
Federal Government	9,200	9,200	9,400
State Government	33,000	32,000	33,200
Local Government	27,400	26,400	27,400

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Civilian Labor Force	340,000	340,875	346,225
Employment	318,075	318,750	325,225
Unemployment	21,925	22,125	21,000
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.5	6.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs September: 2008 - 2013



Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

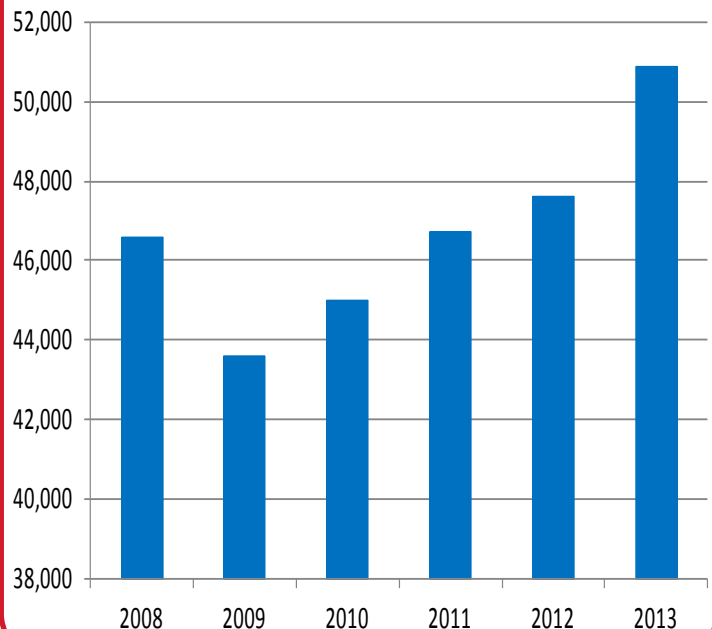
NAICS	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Total Nonfarm	222,900	219,600	211,700
Goods Producing	35,600	35,900	35,100
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,800	8,900	8,300
Manufacturing	26,800	27,000	26,800
Service Providing	187,300	183,700	176,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	50,900	50,600	47,600
Wholesale Trade	11,100	11,100	10,300
Retail Trade	23,800	23,700	22,300
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16,000	15,800	15,000
Information	2,000	2,000	1,900
Financial Activities	6,700	6,700	6,400
Professional & Business Services	42,000	42,000	38,700
Educational & Health Services	25,800	25,100	24,200
Leisure & Hospitality	22,300	22,200	20,900
Other Services	7,100	7,100	6,700
Government	30,500	28,000	30,200
Federal Government	2,300	2,400	2,400
State Government	11,000	9,300	10,700
Local Government	17,200	16,300	17,100

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Civilian Labor Force	240,850	238,925	235,700
Employment	228,375	226,000	223,750
Unemployment	12,475	12,925	11,950
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.4	5.1

Jobs in Trade-Transportation-Utilities September: 2008 - 2013



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Total Nonfarm	120,200	118,700	117,800
Goods Producing	25,700	25,600	26,000
Mining, Logging & Construction	7,200	7,100	6,800
Manufacturing	18,500	18,500	19,200
Service Providing	94,500	93,100	91,800
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	25,600	25,700	24,700
Wholesale Trade	4,200	4,300	4,100
Retail Trade	13,500	13,500	13,000
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	7,900	7,900	7,600
Information	1,400	1,400	1,400
Financial Activities	4,400	4,400	4,300
Professional & Business Services	11,800	11,800	11,400
Educational & Health Services	18,000	17,900	17,300
Leisure & Hospitality	9,400	9,500	9,100
Other Services	4,600	4,600	4,500
Government	19,300	17,800	19,100
Federal Government	1,500	1,500	1,500
State Government	3,100	2,900	3,100
Local Government	14,700	13,400	14,500

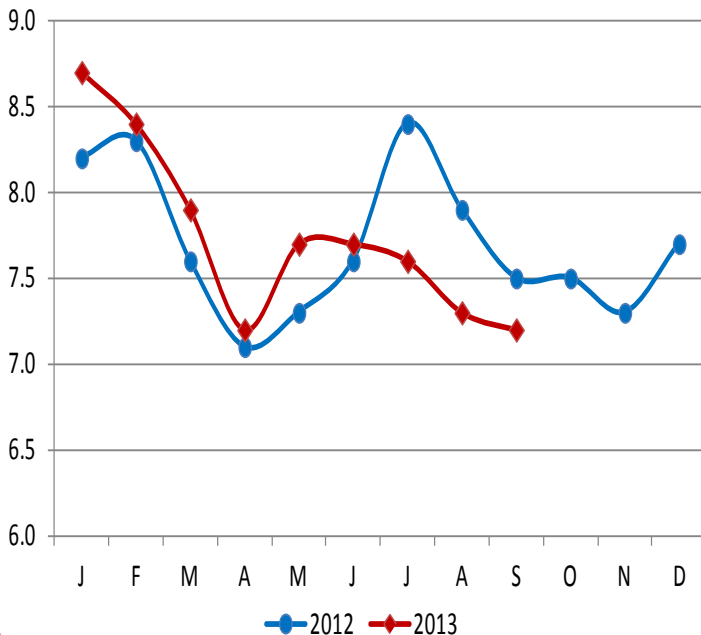
The FS MSA consists of the following counties: Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian, and LeFlore and Sequoyah (in Oklahoma)

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Civilian Labor Force	133,425	132,900	134,200
Employment	123,850	123,250	124,200
Unemployment	9,575	9,650	10,000
Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.3	7.5

Unemployment Rates

January 2012 - September 2013*



Hot Springs MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Total Nonfarm	37,300	37,400	37,700
Goods Producing	4,200	4,200	4,200
Service Providing	33,100	33,200	33,500
Government	5,100	4,900	5,100

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Civilian Labor Force	40,625	40,925	42,350
Employment	37,525	37,875	39,425
Unemployment	3,100	3,050	2,925
Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.5	6.9

Jonesboro MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Total Nonfarm	53,600	53,000	51,300
Goods Producing	9,500	9,500	8,900
Service Providing	44,100	43,500	42,400
Government	8,900	8,500	8,800

The Jonesboro MSA consists of the following counties: Craighead and Poinsett

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Civilian Labor Force	60,375	60,225	59,825
Employment	56,500	56,200	55,950
Unemployment	3,875	4,025	3,875
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.7	6.5

Pine Bluff MSA

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Total Nonfarm	35,600	35,300	35,800
Goods Producing	7,100	7,100	7,200
Service Providing	28,500	28,200	28,600
Government	10,300	10,000	10,200

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
Civilian Labor Force	41,100	41,150	42,225
Employment	37,225	37,125	38,600
Unemployment	3,875	4,025	3,625
Unemployment Rate	9.4	9.8	8.6

Civilian Labor Force Statistics

State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 13*</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Sep 13*</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 12</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,322,200	1,323,100	1,349,400	-900	-27,200	1,328,700	1,324,900	1,354,700	3,800	-26,000
Employment	1,223,800	1,224,600	1,251,000	-800	-27,200	1,235,700	1,229,200	1,263,600	6,500	-27,900
Unemployment	98,400	98,500	98,400	-100	0	93,000	95,700	91,100	-2,700	1,900
Unemployment Rate	7.4	7.4	7.3	0.0	0.1	7.0	7.2	6.7	-0.2	0.3
U.S. Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.3	7.8	-0.1	-0.6	7.0	7.3	7.6	-0.3	-0.6

Out-of-State MSAs

Memphis, Tennessee

	<u>Sep 13*</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	604,975	609,275	613,525
Employment	548,125	552,050	561,575
Unemployment	56,850	57,225	51,950
Unemployment Rate	9.4	9.4	8.5

Texarkana, Texas

	<u>Sep 13*</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>Sep 12</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,250	63,325	65,025
Employment	58,600	58,700	60,900
Unemployment	4,650	4,625	4,125
Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.3	6.3

Between August and September*, unemployment rates declined in 60 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Nine counties posted rate increases, while six remained stable.

In September, eight counties enjoyed jobless rates below six percent. Nine counties posted rates at or above ten percent, down from twelve counties in August.

Compared to September 2012, unemployment rates are up in 52 counties. Fourteen counties reported rate declines, while nine counties remained the same.

Unemployment Rates by County

Rank	County	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12	Rank	County	Sep 13*	Aug 13	Sep 12
6	Arkansas	5.9	6.0	6.9	75	Lee	11.0	11.0	10.6
70	Ashley	10.4	10.8	11.1	52	Lincoln	8.4	8.1	8.9
34	Baxter	7.5	7.6	7.0	40	Little River	7.8	8.4	6.5
4	Benton	5.3	5.4	5.2	28	Logan	7.2	7.7	7.2
12	Boone	6.5	6.8	6.2	6	Lonoke	5.9	6.0	5.7
49	Bradley	8.3	8.8	8.8	1	Madison	5.0	5.3	4.9
57	Calhoun	8.9	8.5	8.1	40	Marion	7.8	8.0	7.2
1	Carroll	5.0	4.8	4.4	20	Miller	6.9	7.4	6.5
67	Chicot	10.0	10.3	9.6	72	Mississippi	10.5	11.2	9.4
45	Clark	8.0	8.8	8.1	36	Monroe	7.6	7.9	7.6
70	Clay	10.4	10.7	11.1	28	Montgomery	7.2	6.8	6.9
28	Cleburne	7.2	7.2	6.8	27	Nevada	7.1	7.5	5.8
36	Cleveland	7.6	7.7	6.3	22	Newton	7.0	7.1	6.8
49	Columbia	8.3	9.2	7.8	57	Ouachita	8.9	9.2	8.6
40	Conway	7.8	8.0	7.2	43	Perry	7.9	8.0	7.2
10	Craighead	6.2	6.4	6.3	74	Phillips	10.9	11.1	10.1
28	Crawford	7.2	7.2	6.8	47	Pike	8.1	8.2	7.9
69	Crittenden	10.1	11.5	10.2	36	Poinsett	7.6	7.7	7.0
34	Cross	7.5	7.7	7.6	28	Polk	7.2	7.3	7.2
61	Dallas	9.4	9.3	9.3	33	Pope	7.4	7.9	6.3
59	Desha	9.3	9.7	9.3	14	Prairie	6.6	6.4	7.0
62	Drew	9.6	10.4	9.6	14	Pulaski	6.6	6.6	6.2
16	Faulkner	6.7	6.8	6.3	55	Randolph	8.5	9.2	8.8
9	Franklin	6.1	6.4	6.1	72	St. Francis	10.5	10.8	10.2
16	Fulton	6.7	7.0	6.3	6	Saline	5.9	5.9	5.5
36	Garland	7.6	7.5	6.9	11	Scott	6.3	6.1	6.1
12	Grant	6.5	6.6	5.8	22	Searcy	7.0	7.1	7.0
52	Greene	8.4	8.6	8.1	18	Sebastian	6.8	7.0	7.0
22	Hempstead	7.0	7.4	6.7	22	Sevier	7.0	7.3	7.4
18	Hot Spring	6.8	6.8	6.1	59	Sharp	9.3	10.0	9.3
22	Howard	7.0	7.4	6.7	63	Stone	9.7	9.8	8.7
56	Independence	8.6	9.0	8.5	45	Union	8.0	8.3	7.9
48	Izard	8.2	8.4	7.6	52	Van Buren	8.4	8.9	8.4
63	Jackson	9.7	9.4	9.0	1	Washington	5.0	5.3	4.9
66	Jefferson	9.8	10.3	8.8	43	White	7.9	8.1	7.3
20	Johnson	6.9	8.2	6.1	63	Woodruff	9.7	9.8	9.9
67	Lafayette	10.0	10.5	9.8	5	Yell	5.6	6.1	5.3
49	Lawrence	8.3	8.9	8.0					

Lowest Rates

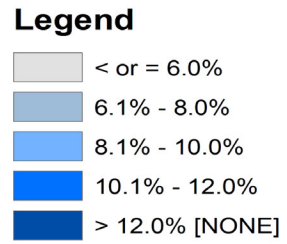
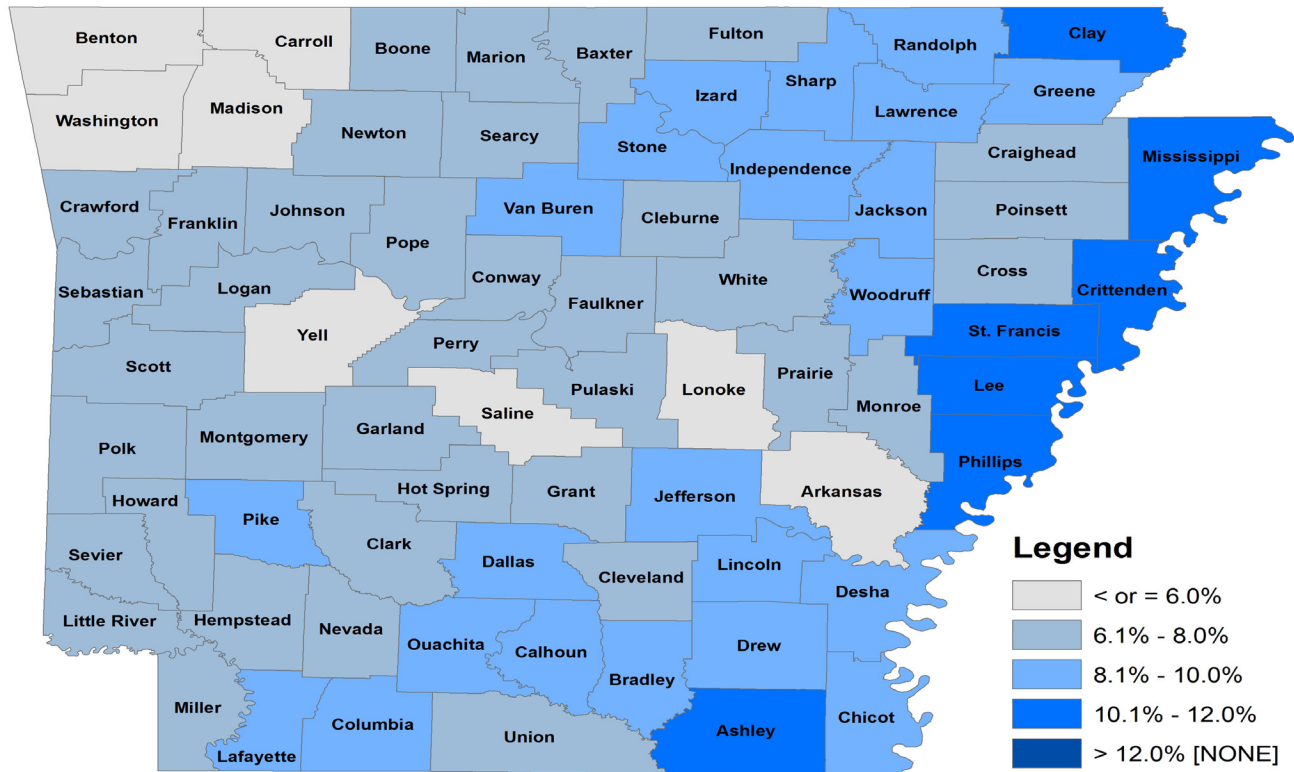
Rank	County	Rate
1	Carroll	5.0
1	Madison	5.0
1	Washington	5.0
4	Benton	5.3
5	Yell	5.6

Highest Rates

Rank	County	Rate
72	Mississippi	10.5
72	St. Francis	10.5
74	Phillips	10.9
75	Lee	11.0

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

September 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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