

# Arkansas Labor Market

## June 2015

### Employment Headlines

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Declines to 5.7 Percent

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Decrease 3,100 in June

### Employment Quick Facts

#### Unemployment Rates

*Seasonally Adjusted*

	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
AR Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.8	6.1
US Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.5	6.1

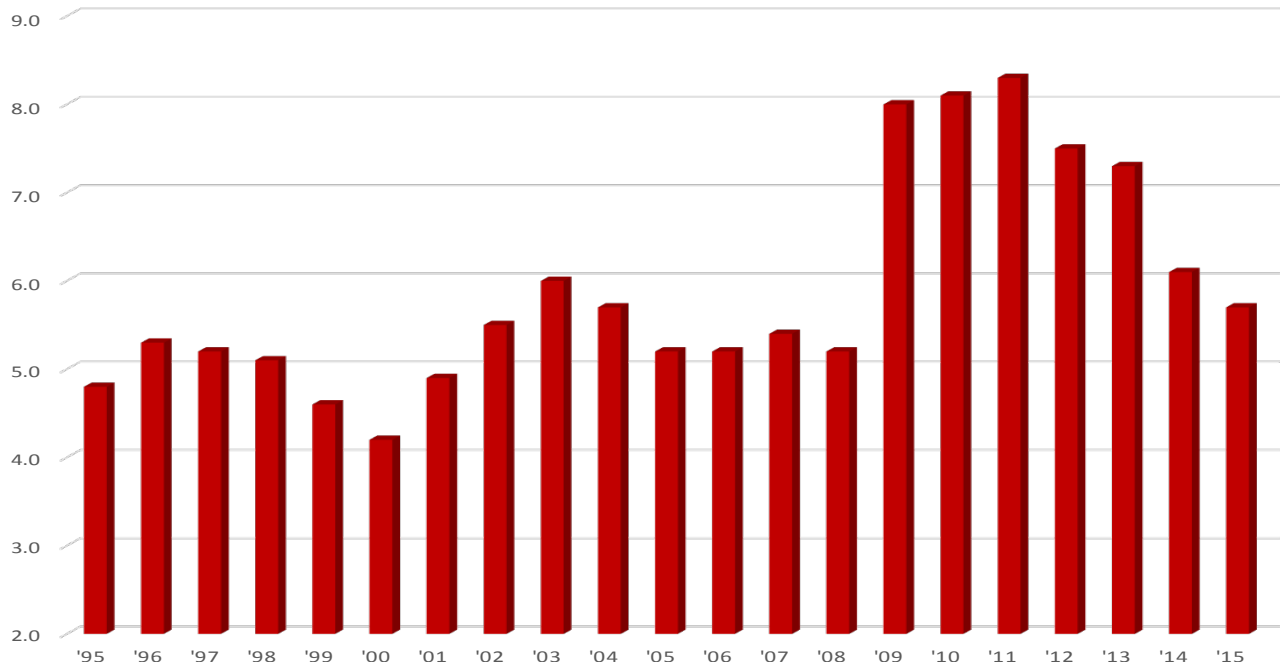
#### Nonfarm Payroll Summary

*State of Arkansas*

	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Total Nonfarm	1,214,900	1,218,000	1,191,500
Goods Producing	213,800	211,200	209,700
Service Providing	1,001,100	1,006,800	981,800

#### Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

State of Arkansas  
June: 1995 - 2015



# Nonfarm Payroll Employment

## State of Arkansas

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

#### May 2015 - June 2015

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas declined 3,100 in June to total 1,214,900. Three major industry sectors posted job losses, more than offsetting gains in six sectors. Employment in **government** dropped 5,700. All declines were in state (-4,200) and local (-1,600) government, due to summer break at public educational facilities. **Educational and health services** lost 1,400 jobs. Seasonal decreases in educational services (-2,000) were partially offset by minor growth in health care and social assistance (+600). Employment in **construction** rose 2,200. Most of the additions were in specialty trade contractors.

#### June 2014 - June 2015

Compared to June 2014, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment has increased 23,400. Growth occurred in eight major industry sectors, while three posted minor declines. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 5,900. A majority of the expansion was in health care and social assistance (+5,200). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** gained 4,700. All three subsectors added jobs. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** increased 4,400, mostly in food services (+4,200). **Construction** rose 3,900. A majority of the growth occurred in specialty trade contractors (+2,800). **Professional and business services** gained 3,400 jobs. The largest addition was in administrative and support services (+1,900), which includes employment agencies. Jobs in **financial activities** increased 1,300. Most of the growth was in finance and insurance (+1,200), with reported hiring in both insurance carriers and credit intermediation.

(NAICS)	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	1,214,900	1,218,000	1,191,500
<b>Goods Producing</b>	213,800	211,200	209,700
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	8,500	8,500	8,800
<b>Construction</b>	50,400	48,200	46,500
Specialty Trade Contractors	32,100	30,900	29,300
<b>Manufacturing</b>	154,900	154,500	154,400
Durable Goods	76,200	76,700	76,600
Nondurable Goods	78,700	77,800	77,800
<b>Service Providing</b>	1,001,100	1,006,800	981,800
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	249,400	248,700	244,700
Wholesale Trade	49,000	48,700	47,000
Retail Trade	137,300	137,200	136,100
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	63,100	62,800	61,600
<b>Information</b>	13,900	13,800	13,700
<b>Financial Activities</b>	51,300	50,700	50,000
Finance & Insurance	38,100	37,800	36,900
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,200	12,900	13,100
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	138,800	138,800	135,400
Professional, Scientific & Technical	40,400	40,000	40,200
Management of Companies	33,900	33,600	32,600
Administrative & Support Services	64,500	65,200	62,600
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	175,500	176,900	169,600
Educational Services	12,300	14,300	11,600
Health Care & Social Assistance	163,200	162,600	158,000
Ambulatory Health Care	50,900	50,300	49,300
Social Assistance	38,300	39,000	36,400
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	116,500	116,700	112,100
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	13,200	12,500	12,500
Accommodation & Food Services	103,300	104,200	99,600
Accommodation Services	11,800	11,200	12,300
Food Services	91,500	93,000	87,300
<b>Other Services</b>	44,400	44,200	44,600
<b>Government</b>	211,300	217,000	211,700
Federal Government	20,200	20,100	20,200
State Government	74,500	78,700	73,900
Local Government	116,600	118,200	117,600

## Hours and Earnings of Arkansas Production Workers (Manufacturing Industries)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
<b>Manufacturing</b>	\$651.65	\$653.27	\$661.18	40.4	40.5	41.9	\$16.13	\$16.13	\$15.78
Durable Goods	697.53	694.81	709.67	39.7	39.5	42.7	17.57	17.59	16.62
Nondurable Goods	608.69	613.37	614.86	41.1	41.5	41.1	14.81	14.78	14.96

# Spotlight

## Local Employment Dynamics

### LED Terms and Definitions

**Total Employment-** Total number of workers who were employed by the same employer in both the current and previous quarter.

**Net Job Flows-** Difference between current and previous quarter employment at each business.

**Job Creation-** The number of new jobs created, either by new area businesses or by the expansion of existing businesses.

**New Hires-** Total number of accessions\* that were also not employed by the particular business during the previous four quarters.

**Separations-** Total number of workers employed by a particular business during the current quarter, but not during the subsequent quarter.

**Turnover Rate-** Turnover rate =  $(1/2) \times (\text{accessions}^* + \text{separations})$ , divided by total employment for all full quarter measures.

**Average Monthly Earnings-** Total quarterly earnings of all full-quarter employees, divided by the number of full-quarter employees, divided by three.

**Average New Hire Earnings-** Total quarterly earnings of all full-quarter new hires, divided by the number of full-quarter new hires, divided by three.

\*Accessions are the total number of workers who were employed by a business during the current quarter, but not the previous quarter.

Local Employment Dynamics (LED) is a cooperative program between state labor market information agencies and the United States Census Bureau. The program combines statistical information from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program with existing census data to produce quarterly information on employment trends. The program's most popular output, the Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI), provides information on employment activities such as hiring, job creation, job separation and turnover.

Because of the connection to QCEW statistics, data produced by the LED program is particularly detailed but is only available on a quarterly basis. QWI are not only produced at the statewide level, but are also available for each county, Metropolitan Statistical Area, Workforce Investment Area, and many cities (based on population). Additionally, these employment indicators are produced and published by gender, age range, race/ethnicity, education level, and industry sector. All LED program information and statistics are available at [www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov).

### Local Employment Dynamics

State of Arkansas

2nd Quarter 2013 - 2nd Quarter 2014

Indicator	2nd Qtr 13	3rd Qtr 13	4th Qtr 13	1st Qtr 14	2nd Qtr 14
Total Employment	990,235	962,800	1,011,762	995,030	994,291
Net Job Flows	7,696	-1,074	1,260	9,175	11,977
Job Creation	57,840	45,533	46,513	45,565	57,996
New Hires	186,204	184,845	159,423	151,987	194,596
Separations	206,446	203,726	185,043	162,550	210,061
Turnover Rate	8.5%	8.7%	8.9%	8.9%	N/A
Avg Monthly Earnings	\$3,314.00	\$3,201.00	\$3,454.00	\$3,477.00	\$3,380.00
Avg New Hire Earnings	\$2,161.00	\$1,991.00	\$2,072.00	\$1,892.00	\$2,154.00

# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

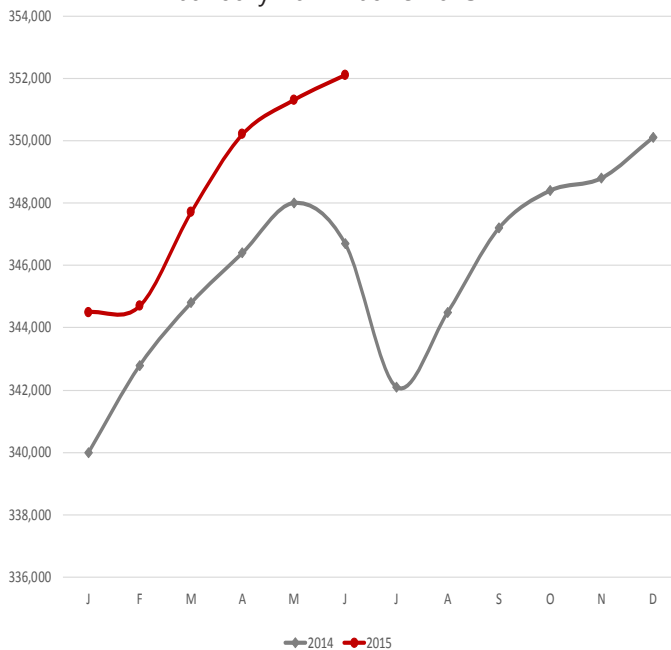
NAICS	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Total Nonfarm	352,100	351,300	346,700
Goods Producing	39,000	37,800	36,100
Mining, Logging & Construction	18,600	17,500	16,100
Manufacturing	20,400	20,300	20,000
Service Providing	313,100	313,500	310,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	66,700	67,100	67,000
Wholesale Trade	15,000	15,000	15,100
Retail Trade	37,800	38,100	37,800
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	13,900	14,000	14,100
Information	6,700	6,600	6,600
Financial Activities	20,800	20,700	20,600
Professional & Business Services	45,600	45,200	45,700
Educational & Health Services	51,700	51,600	50,600
Leisure & Hospitality	34,300	34,300	33,300
Other Services	16,600	16,300	16,500
Government	70,700	71,700	70,300
Federal Government	9,800	9,800	9,500
State Government	33,400	34,300	33,100
Local Government	27,500	27,600	27,700

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Civilian Labor Force	352,350	347,150	343,025
Employment	334,950	329,475	323,875
Unemployment	17,400	17,675	19,150
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.1	5.6

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs January 2014 - June 2015



## Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

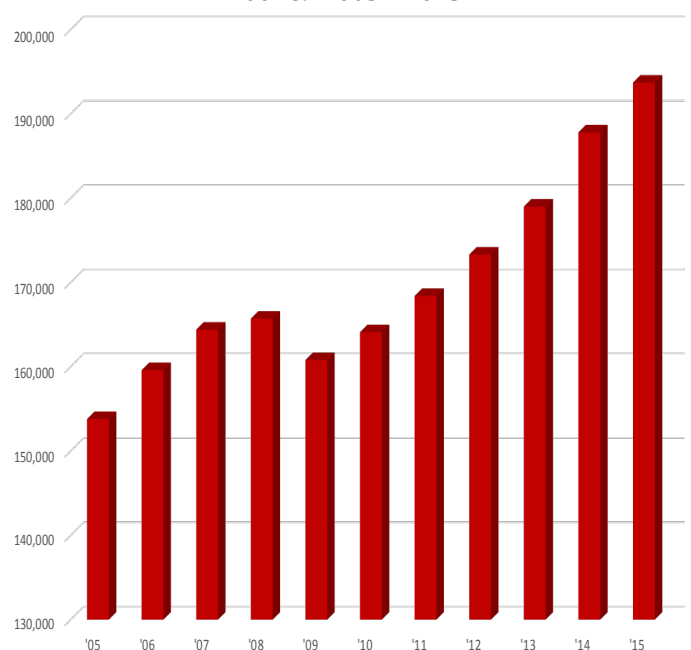
NAICS	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Total Nonfarm	230,100	231,200	224,000
Goods Producing	36,400	35,800	36,200
Mining, Logging & Construction	8,800	8,700	8,800
Manufacturing	27,600	27,100	27,400
Service Providing	193,700	195,400	187,800
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	51,900	51,600	49,800
Wholesale Trade	11,200	11,100	10,600
Retail Trade	24,900	24,700	23,900
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	15,800	15,800	15,300
Information	1,900	1,900	1,900
Financial Activities	7,000	6,900	6,800
Professional & Business Services	46,800	46,400	45,200
Educational & Health Services	24,900	25,100	23,900
Leisure & Hospitality	23,100	23,300	22,700
Other Services	6,700	6,700	6,700
Government	31,400	33,500	30,800
Federal Government	2,500	2,600	2,500
State Government	10,800	12,800	10,200
Local Government	18,100	18,100	18,100

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Civilian Labor Force	251,125	248,950	241,025
Employment	240,500	238,175	229,675
Unemployment	10,625	10,775	11,350
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.3	4.7

### Jobs in Service Providing Industries June: 2005 - 2015



# Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Fort Smith MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

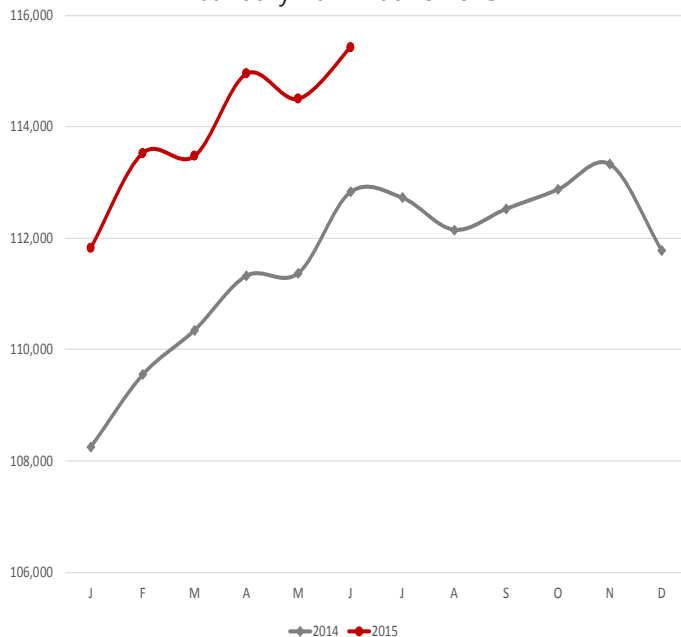
NAICS	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Total Nonfarm	113,000	113,500	113,300
Goods Producing	24,000	24,000	24,700
<b>Mining, Logging &amp; Construction</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,600</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>17,900</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>18,100</b>
Service Providing	89,000	89,500	88,600
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>23,300</b>	<b>23,200</b>	<b>23,400</b>
Wholesale Trade	4,300	4,300	4,300
Retail Trade	12,200	12,100	12,400
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6,800	6,800	6,700
<b>Information</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,300</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>3,900</b>
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>12,900</b>	<b>12,200</b>
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>16,500</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>16,500</b>
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>9,100</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>9,300</b>
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>4,400</b>	<b>4,300</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>17,600</b>	<b>18,400</b>	<b>17,700</b>
Federal Government	1,300	1,300	1,300
State Government	2,900	3,200	2,900
Local Government	13,400	13,900	13,500

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Civilian Labor Force	122,675	121,675	120,350
Employment	115,425	114,500	112,825
Unemployment	7,250	7,175	7,525
Unemployment Rate	5.9	5.9	6.3

**Number of Employed**  
January 2014 - June 2015



## Hot Springs MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Total Nonfarm	39,600	38,900	38,500
Goods Producing	4,400	4,300	4,300
Service Providing	35,200	34,600	34,200
Government	4,500	4,700	4,500

The HS MSA consists of the following county: Garland

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Civilian Labor Force	42,325	41,300	40,800
Employment	39,900	38,850	38,200
Unemployment	2,425	2,450	2,600
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.9	6.4

## Jonesboro MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Total Nonfarm	55,200	55,200	52,700
Goods Producing	9,000	8,800	8,700
Service Providing	46,200	46,400	44,000
Government	8,800	9,000	8,600

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Civilian Labor Force	62,800	61,900	59,375
Employment	59,575	58,800	55,875
Unemployment	3,225	3,100	3,500
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.0	5.9

## Pine Bluff MSA

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

NAICS	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Total Nonfarm	31,400	32,600	34,000
Goods Producing	5,400	5,700	6,500
Service Providing	26,000	26,900	27,500
Government	9,400	9,600	9,600

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

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Jun 15	May 15	Jun 14
Civilian Labor Force	35,200	35,800	37,350
Employment	32,375	33,025	34,050
Unemployment	2,825	2,775	3,300
Unemployment Rate	8.0	7.8	8.8

# Civilian Labor Force Statistics

## State of Arkansas

(Seasonally Adjusted)

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,336,800	1,336,600	1,294,500	200	42,300	1,352,400	1,339,100	1,315,700	13,300	36,700
Employment	1,261,100	1,259,700	1,215,800	1,400	45,300	1,276,800	1,263,500	1,233,800	13,300	43,000
Unemployment	75,700	76,900	78,700	-1,200	-3,000	75,600	75,600	81,900	0	-6,300
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.8	6.1	-0.1	-0.4	5.6	5.6	6.2	0.0	-0.6
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.5	6.1	-0.2	-0.8	5.5	5.3	6.3	0.2	-0.8

## Out-of-State MSAs

### Memphis, Tennessee-Mississippi-Arkansas MSA

	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Civilian Labor Force	628,700	619,550	616,500
Employment	584,775	578,875	566,700
Unemployment	43,925	40,675	49,800
Unemployment Rate	7.0	6.6	8.1

### Texarkana, Texas-Arkansas MSA

	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
Civilian Labor Force	64,450	63,825	65,300
Employment	61,175	60,600	61,100
Unemployment	3,275	3,225	4,200
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.0	6.4

Between May and June, unemployment rates declined in 43 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates increased in 20 counties, while twelve counties remained stable.

In June, thirty-seven counties posted jobless rates at or below six percent. One county had a rate above ten percent, while no counties reported rates above ten percent last month.

Compared to June 2014, unemployment rates are down in 71 counties. Rates in two counties increased over-the-year, while two others were the same.

## Unemployment Rates by County

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Jun 14</u>
4	Arkansas	4.3	4.3	5.6	50	Lee	6.7	6.8	7.2
71	Ashley	8.1	8.1	9.3	51	Lincoln	6.8	7.0	7.5
28	Baxter	5.8	6.2	6.8	30	Little River	5.9	5.9	6.6
2	Benton	4.2	4.3	4.6	46	Logan	6.6	6.9	6.2
17	Boone	5.3	5.7	6.0	6	Lonoke	4.6	4.7	5.4
34	Bradley	6.0	6.4	8.9	2	Madison	4.2	4.4	4.9
34	Calhoun	6.0	6.3	7.0	20	Marion	5.5	5.7	6.5
4	Carroll	4.3	4.6	4.6	20	Miller	5.5	5.7	6.0
74	Chicot	9.4	9.7	10.4	75	Mississippi	11.5	9.7	11.7
56	Clark	7.0	6.8	7.9	34	Monroe	6.0	5.9	6.2
46	Clay	6.6	6.6	7.6	38	Montgomery	6.2	6.9	7.3
61	Cleburne	7.2	7.5	8.0	18	Nevada	5.4	5.5	6.3
41	Cleveland	6.3	6.4	7.0	8	Newton	4.8	5.4	5.8
64	Columbia	7.4	7.4	7.8	59	Ouachita	7.1	7.1	8.2
44	Conway	6.5	6.7	7.1	30	Perry	5.9	6.4	7.5
10	Craighead	5.0	4.9	5.6	68	Phillips	7.8	8.0	9.4
23	Crawford	5.7	5.9	6.1	46	Pike	6.6	6.5	7.3
51	Crittenden	6.8	6.6	7.4	34	Poinsett	6.0	5.7	7.1
22	Cross	5.6	5.8	6.4	41	Polk	6.3	6.5	6.5
65	Dallas	7.6	7.9	9.6	38	Pope	6.2	5.9	6.7
69	Desha	7.9	7.8	7.9	10	Prairie	5.0	4.9	5.9
66	Drew	7.7	7.4	9.1	10	Pulaski	5.0	5.1	5.7
13	Faulkner	5.2	5.3	5.8	63	Randolph	7.3	7.3	8.1
30	Franklin	5.9	5.6	6.1	66	St. Francis	7.7	7.5	8.8
18	Fulton	5.4	5.9	6.0	6	Saline	4.6	4.8	5.0
23	Garland	5.7	5.9	6.4	23	Scott	5.7	5.8	5.3
9	Grant	4.9	5.0	5.7	30	Searcy	5.9	6.5	6.2
28	Greene	5.8	5.5	6.6	13	Sebastian	5.2	5.4	5.8
13	Hempstead	5.2	5.4	6.0	38	Sevier	6.2	6.2	7.2
23	Hot Spring	5.7	5.6	6.1	61	Sharp	7.2	7.4	8.4
13	Howard	5.2	5.5	5.3	44	Stone	6.5	6.8	7.9
59	Independence	7.1	6.9	8.2	56	Union	7.0	6.9	7.7
53	Izard	6.9	7.3	8.0	56	Van Buren	7.0	7.3	8.1
69	Jackson	7.9	8.0	9.0	1	Washington	4.1	4.2	4.6
73	Jefferson	8.4	8.0	9.2	53	White	6.9	6.9	7.3
53	Johnson	6.9	6.6	6.9	43	Woodruff	6.4	6.4	7.2
72	Lafayette	8.3	8.3	8.4	23	Yell	5.7	5.6	5.9
46	Lawrence	6.6	6.6	7.3					

### Lowest Rates

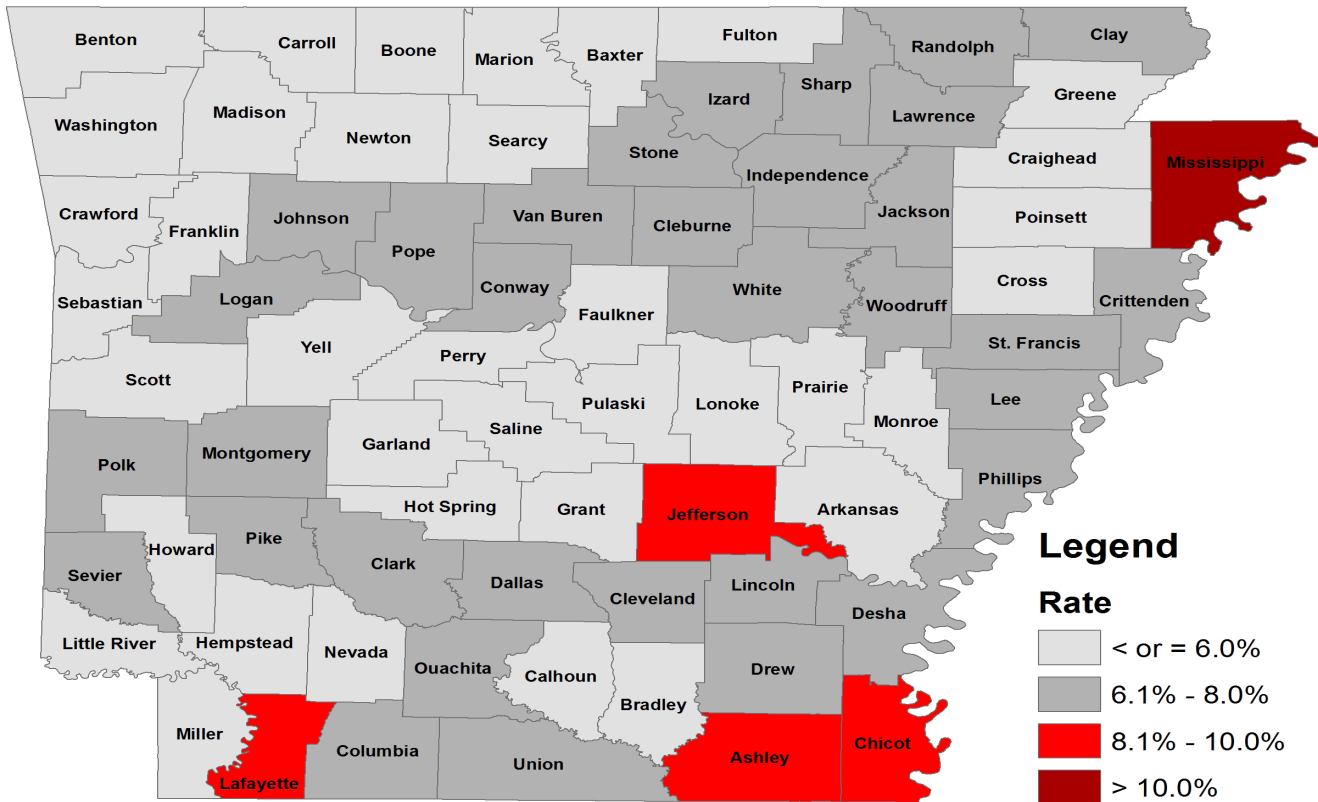
<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1	Washington	4.1
2	Benton	4.2
2	Madison	4.2
4	Arkansas	4.3
4	Carroll	4.3

### Highest Rates

<u>Rank</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Rate</u>
71	Ashley	8.1
72	Lafayette	8.3
73	Jefferson	8.4
74	Chicot	9.4
75	Mississippi	11.5

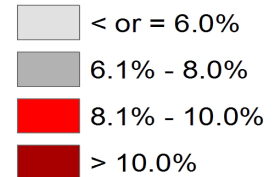
# Civilian Labor Force Statistics

For complete County Labor Force Statistics, please visit our website at [www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov)



## Legend

### Rate



## 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 2014 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 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

## June 2015

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.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Voice: 1-800-285-1121

TDD: 1-800-285-1131

Asa Hutchinson- Governor

Daryl Bassett- DWS Director



Department of Workforce Services  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
P.O. Box 2981  
Little Rock, AR 72203-2981