

Arkansas

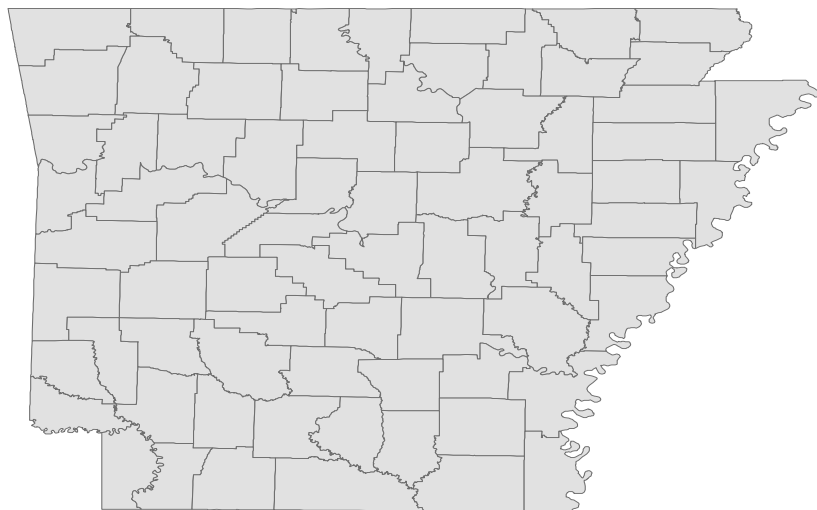
Labor Market Report

February 2016



www.discover.arkansas.gov

Table of Contents



Monthly Spotlight.....	2
Arkansas Labor Force Summary.....	3
Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs.....	4
Arkansas Production Workers.....	6
Metropolitan Statistical Areas.....	7
Micropolitan Statistical Areas/Cities.....	14
County Labor Force Statistics.....	15
Local Workforce Development Areas.....	18

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 2015 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.

February Spotlight

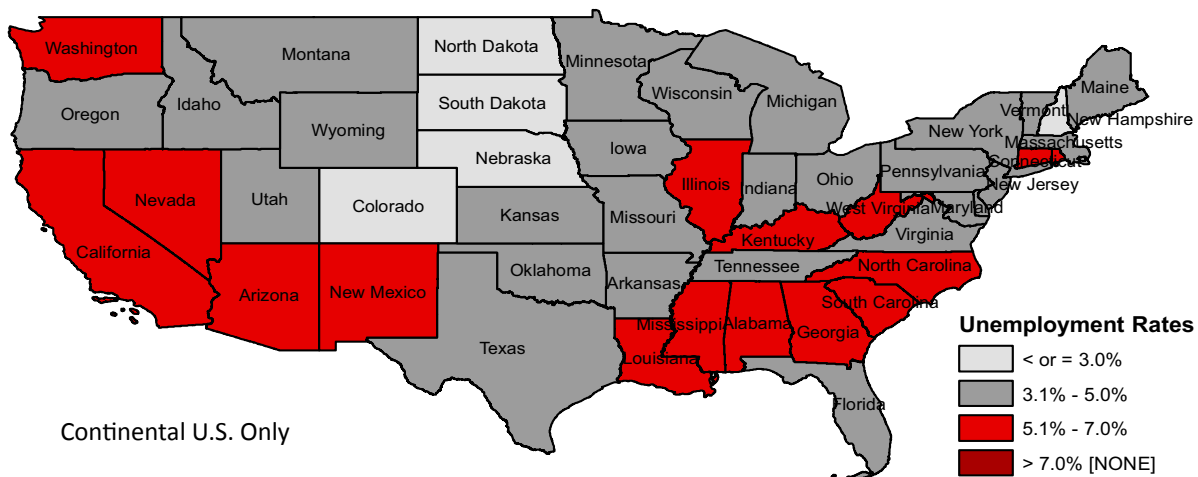
A Comparative Look at Unemployment Rates

Due to differing economies and labor force conditions in various parts of the country, unemployment rates vary greatly from state to state. In February 2016, state jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.7 percent in New Hampshire and South Dakota to a high of 6.6 percent in Alaska. The unemployment rate in Arkansas in February declined to 4.2 percent, a ranking of 15 out of 51 states. By looking at the map below, it becomes apparent that trends exist among states that are located within the same region. While there are some exceptions, western states tend to have higher jobless rates than states located in the midwest. Similarly, states located in the northeast generally experience lower unemployment rates than states located in the southeast. These regional trends occur because states often experience economic similarities based on shared industries, work forces, and climates.

Unemployment Rates, Ranked by State (Seasonally Adjusted)
February 2016

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	2.7	15	Oklahoma	4.2	34	Rhode Island	5.4
1	South Dakota	2.7	19	New Jersey	4.3	36	Arizona	5.5
3	North Dakota	2.9	20	Texas	4.4	36	California	5.5
4	Colorado	3.0	21	Massachusetts	4.5	36	Connecticut	5.5
4	Nebraska	3.0	22	Delaware	4.6	36	North Carolina	5.5
6	Hawaii	3.1	22	Pennsylvania	4.6	36	South Carolina	5.5
7	Utah	3.4	22	Wisconsin	4.6	41	Kentucky	5.8
7	Vermont	3.4	25	Indiana	4.7	41	Washington	5.8
9	Maine	3.6	25	Maryland	4.7	43	Louisiana	5.9
10	Iowa	3.7	27	Michigan	4.8	43	Nevada	5.9
10	Minnesota	3.7	27	New York	4.8	45	Alabama	6.2
12	Idaho	3.9	27	Oregon	4.8	46	Illinois	6.4
13	Kansas	4.0	30	Florida	4.9	46	New Mexico	6.4
14	Virginia	4.1	30	Ohio	4.9	48	District of Columbia	6.5
15	Arkansas	4.2	30	Tennessee	4.9	48	Mississippi	6.5
15	Missouri	4.2	33	Wyoming	5.0	48	West Virginia	6.5
15	Montana	4.2	34	Georgia	5.4	51	Alaska	6.6

U.S. Unemployment Rate = 4.9 Percent



State of Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary

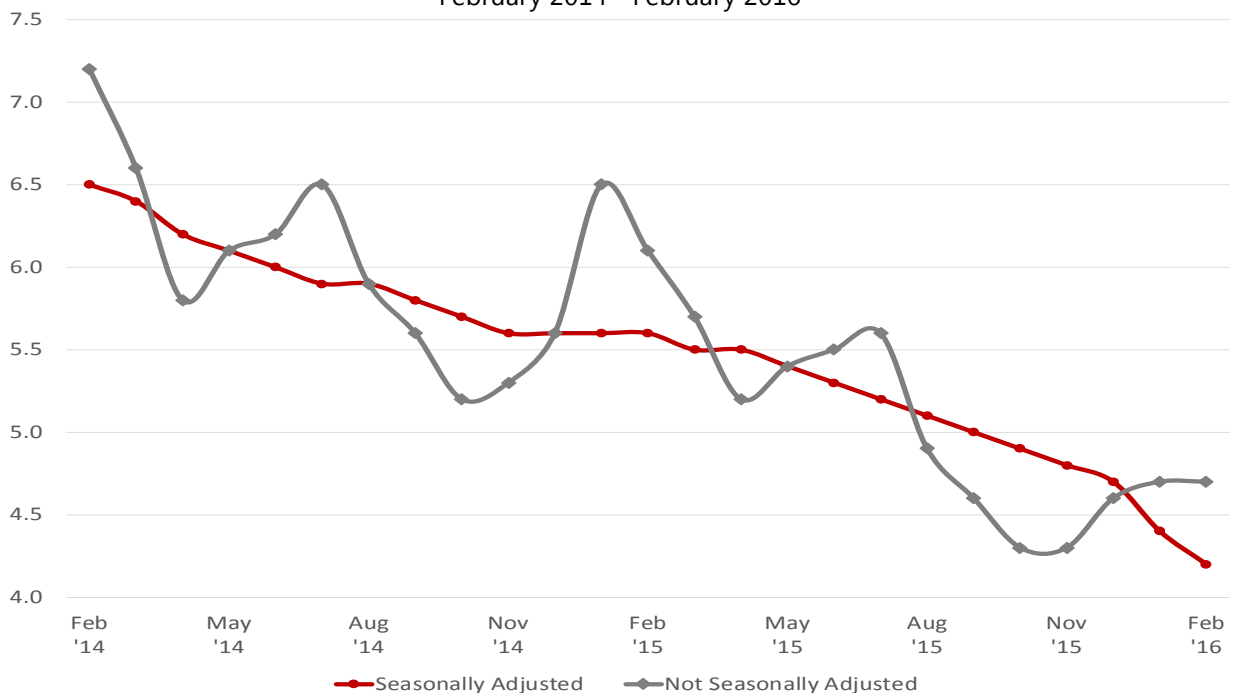
Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined two-tenths of a percentage point, from 4.4 percent in January to 4.2 percent in February. Arkansas' civilian labor force gained 8,360, a result of 10,702 more employed and 2,342 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate remained stable at 4.9 percent in February.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate has been in a steady decline, down one and four-tenths of a percentage point over the year. The state is now seven-tenths of a percentage point lower than the national rate."

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15		Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15
Civilian Labor Force	1,351,766	1,343,406	1,322,981	Civilian Labor Force	1,354,104	1,330,719	1,315,170
Employment	1,294,595	1,283,893	1,249,403	Employment	1,290,530	1,268,269	1,235,168
Unemployment	57,171	59,513	73,578	Unemployment	63,574	62,450	80,002
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.4	5.6	Unemployment Rate	4.7	4.7	6.1
U.S. Unemployment	4.9	4.9	5.5	U.S. Unemployment	5.2	5.3	5.8

Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted vs. Not Seasonally Adjusted)
February 2014 - February 2016



State of Arkansas

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Feb 16</u>	<u>Jan 16</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1220.5	1209.2	1193.3	11.3	27.2
Goods Producing	208.9	208.2	210.5	0.7	-1.6
Mining, Logging, and Construction	54.8	54.0	54.9	0.8	-0.1
Mining & Logging	7.1	7.1	8.7	0.0	-1.6
Construction	47.7	46.9	46.2	0.8	1.5
Specialty Trade Contractors	31.0	30.2	29.3	0.8	1.7
Manufacturing	154.1	154.2	155.6	-0.1	-1.5
Durable Goods	74.9	74.9	77.1	0.0	-2.2
Nondurable Goods	79.2	79.3	78.5	-0.1	0.7
Service Providing	1011.6	1001.0	982.8	10.6	28.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	255.1	254.5	245.5	0.6	9.6
Wholesale Trade	47.7	47.3	46.6	0.4	1.1
Retail Trade	141.9	142.5	136.3	-0.6	5.6
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	65.5	64.7	62.6	0.8	2.9
Information	13.7	13.7	13.2	0.0	0.5
Financial Activities	49.5	49.7	48.7	-0.2	0.8
Finance & Insurance	36.4	36.6	35.9	-0.2	0.5
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.1	13.1	12.8	0.0	0.3
Professional & Business Services	139.4	138.3	137.2	1.1	2.2
Professional, Scientific & Technical	44.2	43.7	42.2	0.5	2.0
Management of Companies	34.1	34.1	32.4	0.0	1.7
Administrative & Support Services	61.1	60.5	62.6	0.6	-1.5
Educational & Health Services	179.4	178.3	173.3	1.1	6.1
Educational Services	15.4	14.6	14.6	0.8	0.8
Health Care & Social Assistance	164.0	163.7	158.7	0.3	5.3
Ambulatory Health Care	52.1	52.3	50.1	-0.2	2.0
Social Assistance	41.0	40.0	38.0	1.0	3.0
Leisure & Hospitality	114.1	111.4	106.1	2.7	8.0
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9.6	9.5	9.2	0.1	0.4
Accommodation & Food Services	104.5	101.9	96.9	2.6	7.6
Accommodation Services	10.8	10.5	10.4	0.3	0.4
Food Services	93.7	91.4	86.5	2.3	7.2
Other Services	44.1	43.8	43.0	0.3	1.1
Government	216.3	211.3	215.8	5.0	0.5
Federal Government	20.2	20.2	20.1	0.0	0.1
State Government	80.1	75.5	79.5	4.6	0.6
Local Government	116.0	115.6	116.2	0.4	-0.2

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

January 2016 - February 2016

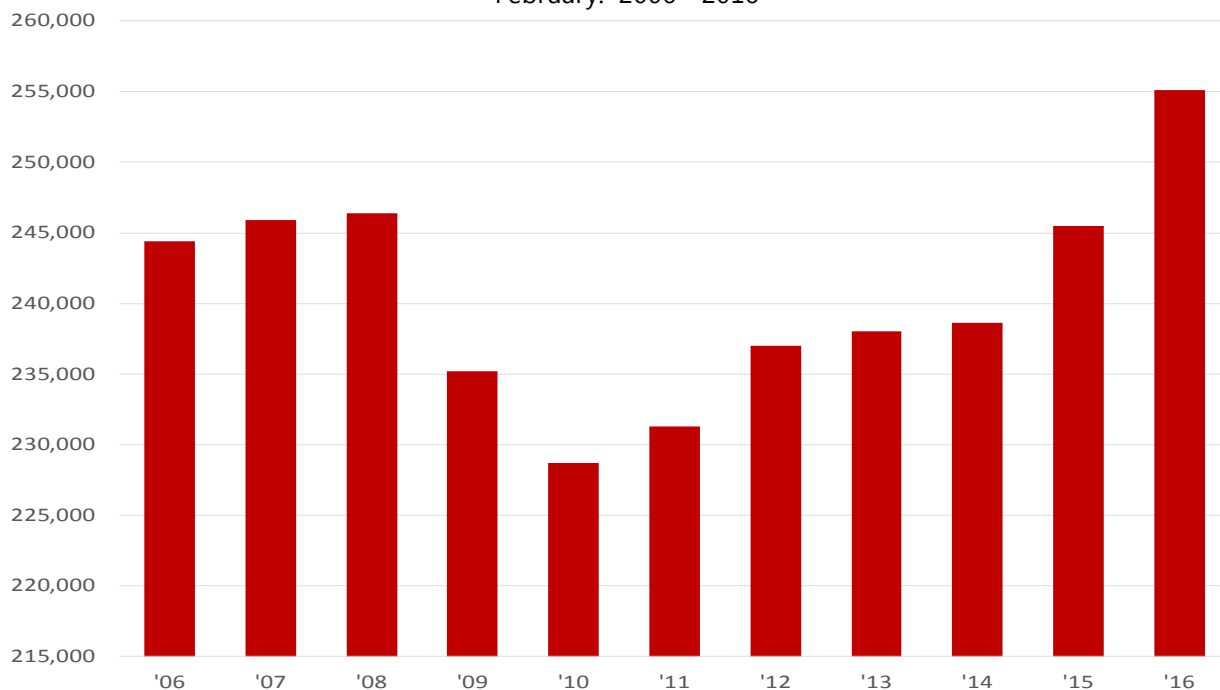
Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment rose 11,300 in February to total 1,220,500. Seven major industry sectors posted gains, while two sectors declined and two were unchanged. **Government** posted the greatest increase (+5,000). Additions in state (+4,600) and local (+400) government were attributed to the return of public school employees from winter break. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** rose 2,700, a typical seasonal expansion. **Educational and health services** added 1,100 jobs. Most of the gains occurred in educational services (+800). Employment in **professional and business services** increased 1,100. Hiring was reported in administrative-support services (+600) and professional-scientific-technical services (+500).

February 2015 - February 2016

Since February 2015, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 27,200. Nine major industry sectors posted job growth, while employment in two sectors declined. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 9,600 jobs. Gains were reported across all subsectors, with retail trade up 5,600. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** increased 8,000. A majority of the expansion occurred in food services (+7,200). Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 6,100, mostly in health care and social assistance (+5,300). **Professional and business services** added 2,200 jobs. Professional-scientific-technical services (+2,000) and management of companies (+1,700) reported gains. Employment in **mining and logging** (-1,600) and **manufacturing** (-1,500) both declined over the year.

Jobs in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

February: 2006 - 2016



State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

Manufacturing

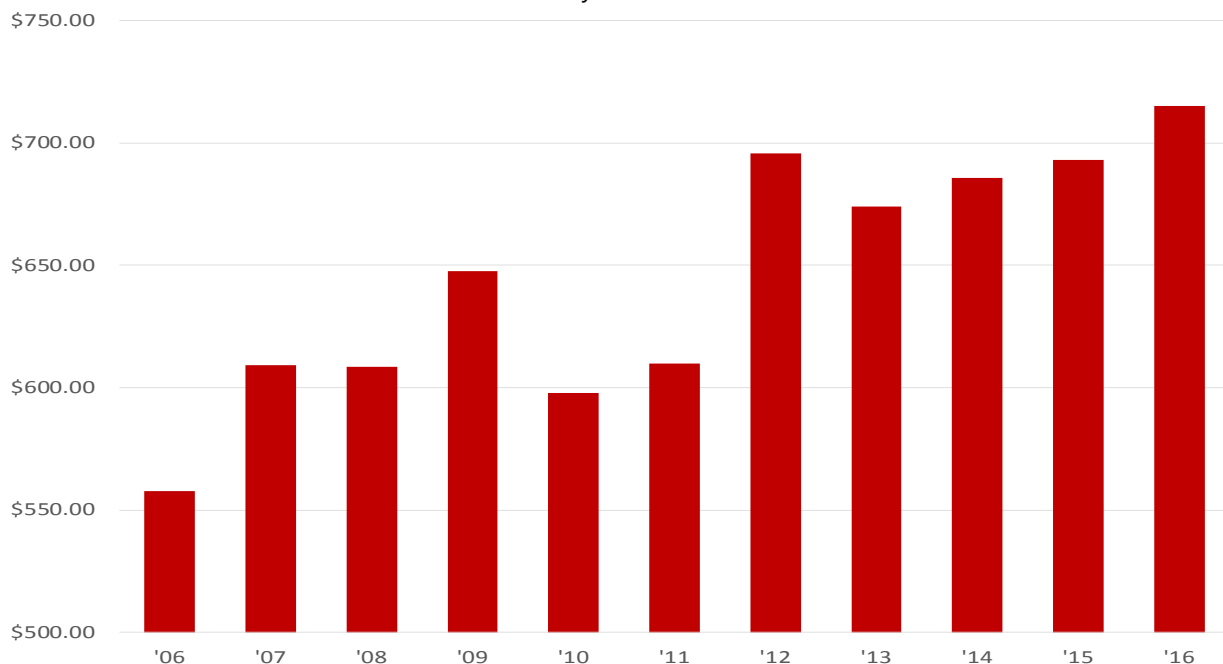
	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15
Average Weekly Hours	39.1	39.7	41.4
Average Hourly Earnings	16.05	16.08	16.00
Average Weekly Earnings	627.56	638.38	662.40

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15		Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15
Average Weekly Hours	40.5	40.0	40.2	Average Weekly Hours	37.7	39.5	42.5
Average Hourly Earnings	17.66	17.68	17.24	Average Hourly Earnings	14.40	14.55	14.86
Average Weekly Earnings	715.23	707.20	693.05	Average Weekly Earnings	542.88	574.73	631.55

Average Weekly Earnings in Durable Goods Manufacturing

February: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

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)

	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	352,843	346,621	341,951	6,222	10,892
Employment	338,163	332,636	323,471	5,527	14,692
Unemployment	14,680	13,985	18,480	695	-3,800
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.0	5.4	0.2	-1.2

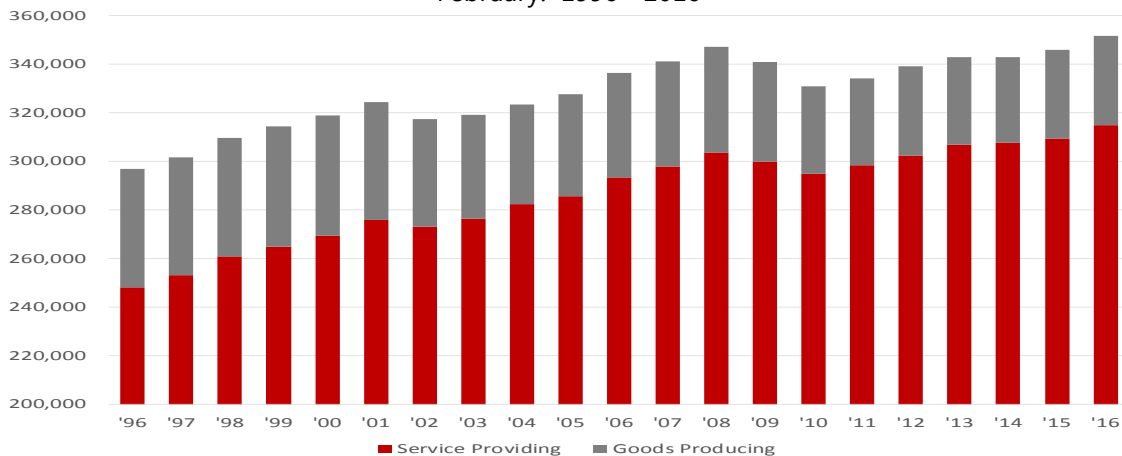
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	351.7	349.2	345.9	2.5	5.8
Goods Producing	36.9	36.8	36.6	0.1	0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	16.6	16.4	16.4	0.2	0.2
Manufacturing	20.3	20.4	20.2	-0.1	0.1
Service Providing	314.8	312.4	309.3	2.4	5.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	69.1	69.4	66.9	-0.3	2.2
Wholesale Trade	15.2	15.0	15.2	0.2	0.0
Retail Trade	39.2	39.7	37.5	-0.5	1.7
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	14.7	14.7	14.2	0.0	0.5
Information	6.3	6.3	6.2	0.0	0.1
Financial Activities	20.5	20.6	20.3	-0.1	0.2
Professional & Business Services	45.9	45.6	46.3	0.3	-0.4
Educational & Health Services	52.4	51.9	52.3	0.5	0.1
Leisure & Hospitality	34.3	33.0	31.5	1.3	2.8
Other Services	15.0	14.9	14.7	0.1	0.3
Government	71.3	70.7	71.1	0.6	0.2
Federal Government	9.6	9.6	9.6	0.0	0.0
State Government	35.0	34.5	34.7	0.5	0.3
Local Government	26.7	26.6	26.8	0.1	-0.1

Jobs in Service Providing Industries vs. Goods Producing Industries

February: 1996 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA= Benton, Madison, & Washington counties in Arkansas & McDonald county in Missouri.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	262,828	255,142	247,269	7,686	15,559
Employment	254,061	246,838	236,305	7,223	17,756
Unemployment	8,767	8,304	10,964	463	-2,197
Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.3	4.4	0.0	-1.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	241.7	236.7	230.4	5.0	11.3
Goods Producing	35.8	35.8	36.3	0.0	-0.5
Mining, Logging & Construction	9.7	9.6	9.0	0.1	0.7
Manufacturing	26.1	26.2	27.3	-0.1	-1.2
Service Providing	205.9	200.9	194.1	5.0	11.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	55.2	54.7	52.0	0.5	3.2
Wholesale Trade	12.0	12.0	11.4	0.0	0.6
Retail Trade	26.8	26.4	25.0	0.4	1.8
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.4	16.3	15.6	0.1	0.8
Information	2.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	0.1
Financial Activities	6.8	6.8	6.6	0.0	0.2
Professional & Business Services	48.5	47.4	45.6	1.1	2.9
Educational & Health Services	26.5	26.2	25.1	0.3	1.4
Leisure & Hospitality	25.0	23.8	22.1	1.2	2.9
Other Services	7.2	7.1	7.1	0.1	0.1
Government	34.6	32.8	33.6	1.8	1.0
Federal Government	2.6	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.0
State Government	13.4	11.8	12.7	1.6	0.7
Local Government	18.6	18.4	18.3	0.2	0.3

Number of Employed
February 2014 - February 2016



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
February: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

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)

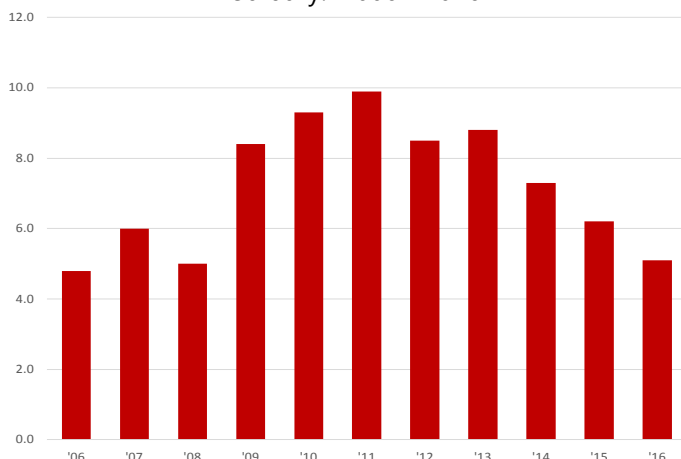
	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	122,540	120,783	120,181	1,757	2,359
Employment	116,267	114,611	112,764	1,656	3,503
Unemployment	6,273	6,172	7,417	101	-1,144
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.1	6.2	0.0	-1.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

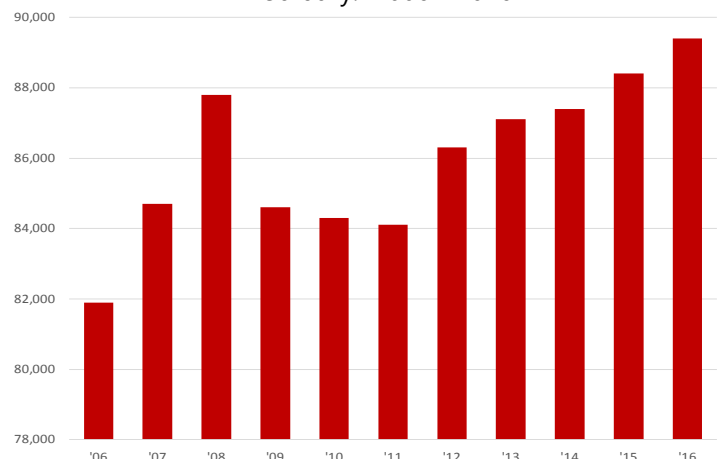
(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	113.0	112.5	112.5	0.5	0.5
Goods Producing	23.6	23.5	24.1	0.1	-0.5
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.7	5.8	6.3	-0.1	-0.6
Manufacturing	17.9	17.7	17.8	0.2	0.1
Service Providing	89.4	89.0	88.4	0.4	1.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23.9	23.9	23.4	0.0	0.5
Wholesale Trade	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	13.0	12.9	12.5	0.1	0.5
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.7	6.8	6.8	-0.1	-0.1
Information	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	3.7	3.8	3.8	-0.1	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	11.6	11.6	12.3	0.0	-0.7
Educational & Health Services	16.8	16.7	16.2	0.1	0.6
Leisure & Hospitality	9.2	9.1	8.9	0.1	0.3
Other Services	4.2	4.3	4.3	-0.1	-0.1
Government	18.8	18.4	18.3	0.4	0.5
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	3.1	2.8	3.1	0.3	0.0
Local Government	14.4	14.3	13.9	0.1	0.5

Unemployment Rates
February: 2006 - 2016



Jobs in Service Providing Industries
February: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA= Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	40,735	40,169	39,381	566	1,354
Employment	38,728	38,163	36,835	565	1,893
Unemployment	2,007	2,006	2,546	1	-539
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.0	6.5	-0.1	-1.6

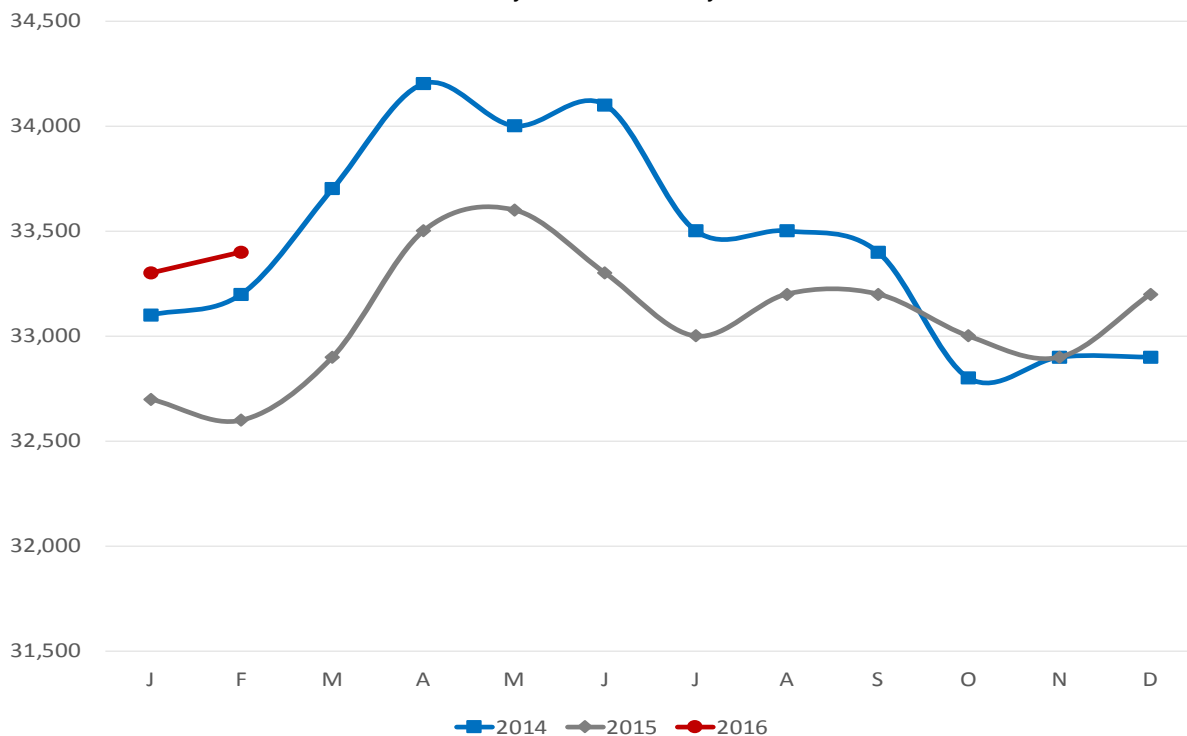
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	37.8	37.7	37.0	0.1	0.8
Goods Producing	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	33.4	33.3	32.6	0.1	0.8
Government	4.7	4.7	4.6	0.0	0.1

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

January 2014 - February 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA= Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	62,461	61,824	59,683	637	2,778
Employment	59,882	59,252	56,330	630	3,552
Unemployment	2,579	2,572	3,353	7	-774
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.2	5.6	-0.1	-1.5

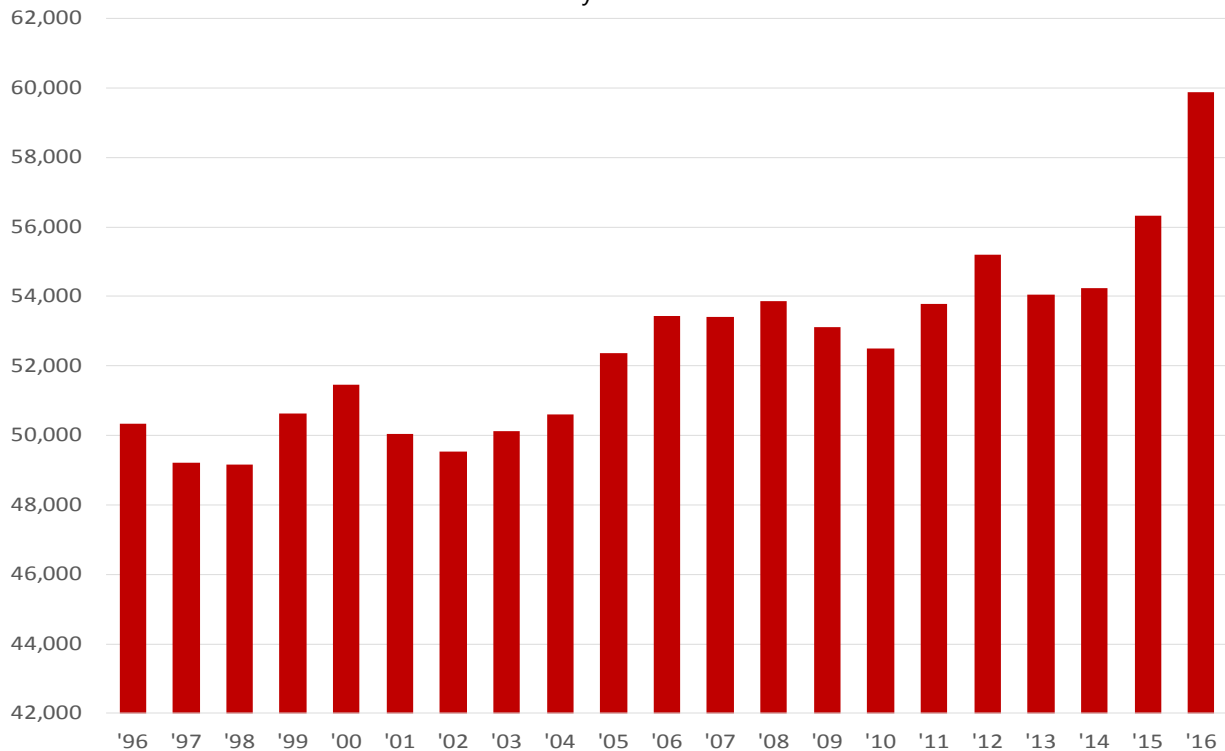
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	55.1	55.0	53.1	0.1	2.0
Goods Producing	8.8	8.8	8.6	0.0	0.2
Service Providing	46.3	46.2	44.5	0.1	1.8
Government	9.0	8.9	8.8	0.1	0.2

Number of Employed

February: 1996 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	36,946	36,054	36,852	892	94
Employment	34,628	33,748	33,941	880	687
Unemployment	2,318	2,306	2,911	12	-593
Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.4	7.9	-0.1	-1.6

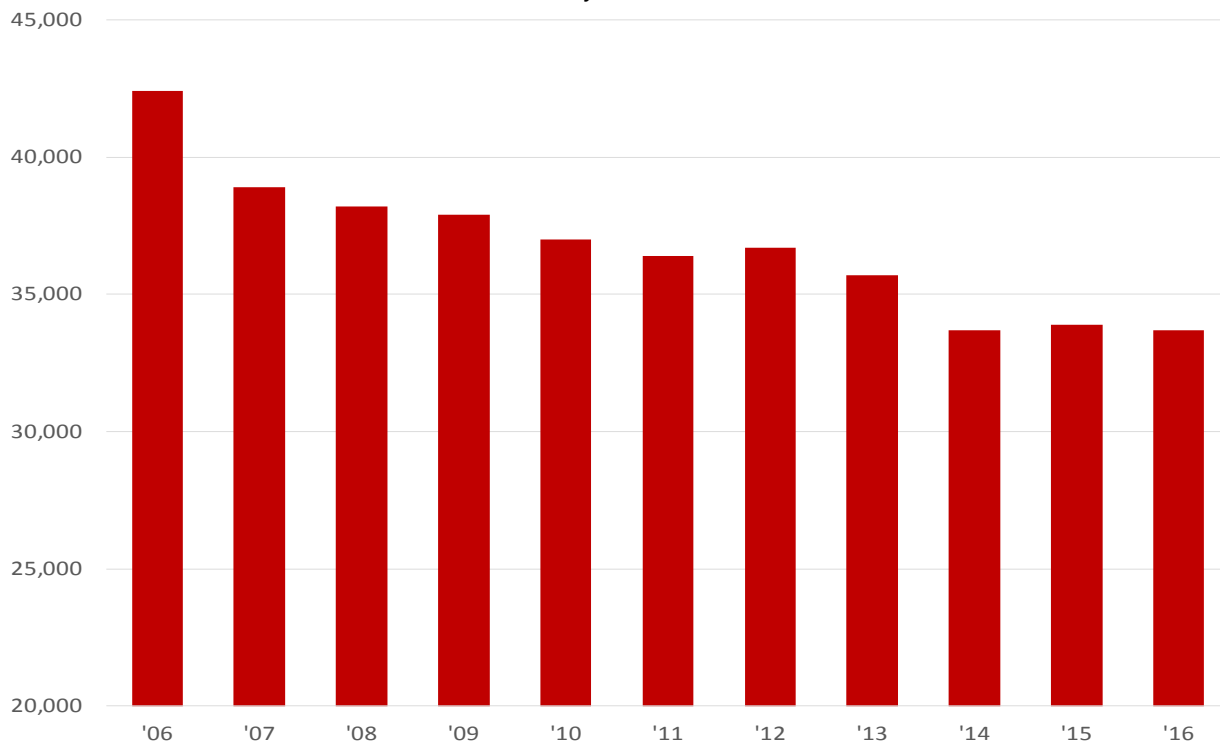
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	33.7	33.1	33.9	0.6	-0.2
Goods Producing	6.1	6.0	6.3	0.1	-0.2
Service Providing	27.6	27.1	27.6	0.5	0.0
Government	9.6	9.3	9.6	0.3	0.0

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

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.

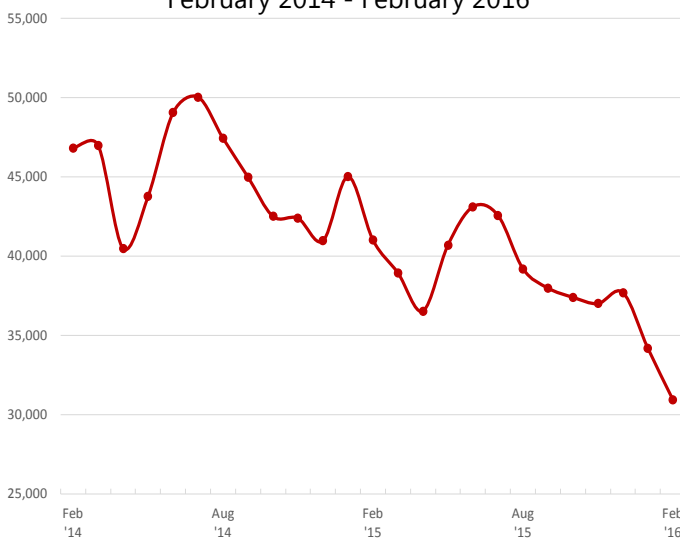
	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	619,725	616,029	610,892	3,696	8,833
Employment	588,782	581,845	569,886	6,937	18,896
Unemployment	30,943	34,184	41,006	-3,241	-10,063
Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.5	6.7	-0.5	-1.7

Texarkana MSA

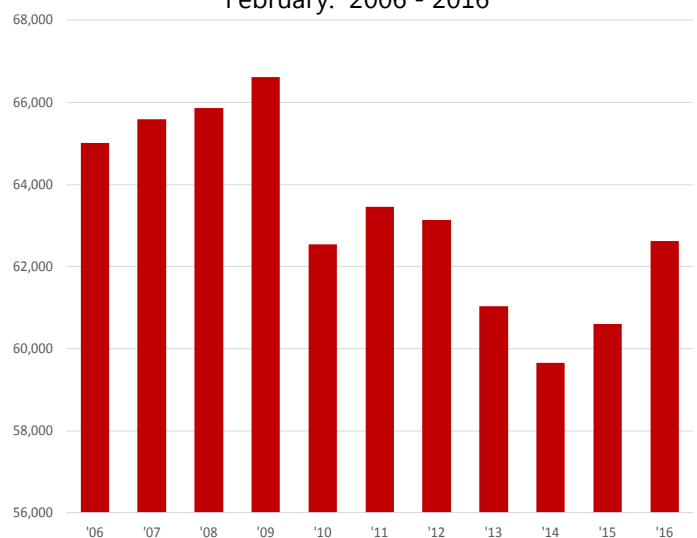
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	Feb 16	Jan 16	Feb 15	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	65,579	65,219	64,153	360	1,426
Employment	62,619	62,136	60,604	483	2,015
Unemployment	2,960	3,083	3,549	-123	-589
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.7	5.5	-0.2	-1.0

Unemployment- Memphis MSA
February 2014 - February 2016



Number of Employed- Texarkana MSA
February: 2006 - 2016



Labor Market Report

Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Micro Area	February 2016				January 2016				February 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,683	9,227	456	4.7	9,480	9,010	470	5.0	9,430	8,843	587	6.2
Batesville Micro	15,775	14,819	956	6.1	15,602	14,598	1,004	6.4	15,574	14,369	1,205	7.7
Blytheville Micro	17,946	16,568	1,378	7.7	17,846	16,495	1,351	7.6	18,618	16,719	1,899	10.2
Camden Micro	12,311	11,605	706	5.7	12,188	11,472	716	5.9	12,225	11,305	920	7.5
El Dorado Micro	17,049	16,036	1,013	5.9	16,803	15,837	966	5.7	16,583	15,377	1,206	7.3
Forrest City Micro	8,971	8,356	615	6.9	8,886	8,265	621	7.0	8,929	8,143	786	8.8
Harrison Micro	19,271	18,370	901	4.7	19,003	18,126	877	4.6	19,067	17,891	1,176	6.2
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,897	6,387	510	7.4	6,893	6,361	532	7.7	7,072	6,411	661	9.3
Magnolia Micro	9,660	9,049	611	6.3	9,432	8,866	566	6.0	9,601	8,924	677	7.1
Malvern Micro	14,624	13,945	679	4.6	14,411	13,752	659	4.6	13,978	13,162	816	5.8
Mountain Home Micro	16,508	15,675	833	5.0	16,345	15,495	850	5.2	16,173	15,102	1,071	6.6
Paragould Micro	20,523	19,521	1,002	4.9	20,219	19,215	1,004	5.0	19,881	18,615	1,266	6.4
Russellville Micro	39,082	37,119	1,963	5.0	38,520	36,515	2,005	5.2	38,755	36,491	2,264	5.8
Searcy Micro	35,018	32,815	2,203	6.3	34,520	32,291	2,229	6.5	34,523	31,958	2,565	7.4

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

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	February 2016				January 2016				February 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,115	11,607	508	4.2	11,764	11,268	496	4.2	11,373	10,786	587	5.2
Benton	16,214	15,604	610	3.8	15,923	15,346	577	3.6	15,720	14,920	800	5.1
Bentonville	22,595	21,815	780	3.5	21,922	21,179	743	3.4	21,095	20,272	823	3.9
Blytheville	6,161	5,657	504	8.2	6,115	5,632	483	7.9	6,520	5,708	812	12.5
Cabot	11,818	11,378	440	3.7	11,606	11,203	403	3.5	11,423	10,906	517	4.5
Conway	33,180	31,793	1,387	4.2	32,574	31,275	1,299	4.0	32,053	30,413	1,640	5.1
El Dorado	7,392	6,915	477	6.5	7,303	6,830	473	6.5	7,177	6,631	546	7.6
Fayetteville	45,665	44,268	1,397	3.1	44,311	42,978	1,333	3.0	42,985	41,135	1,850	4.3
Fort Smith	40,411	38,609	1,802	4.5	39,713	37,929	1,784	4.5	39,609	37,300	2,309	5.8
Hot Springs	14,196	13,462	734	5.2	14,019	13,266	753	5.4	13,808	12,804	1,004	7.3
Jacksonville	11,916	11,315	601	5.0	11,721	11,128	593	5.1	11,565	10,820	745	6.4
Jonesboro	36,334	34,913	1,421	3.9	35,940	34,536	1,404	3.9	34,692	32,809	1,883	5.4
Little Rock	97,332	93,421	3,911	4.0	95,720	91,874	3,846	4.0	94,393	89,327	5,066	5.4
North Little Rock	30,346	28,982	1,364	4.5	29,818	28,502	1,316	4.4	29,554	27,712	1,842	6.2
Paragould	12,796	12,154	642	5.0	12,606	11,964	642	5.1	12,356	11,590	766	6.2
Pine Bluff	17,586	16,363	1,223	7.0	17,162	15,935	1,227	7.1	17,602	16,032	1,570	8.9
Rogers	33,351	32,250	1,101	3.3	32,342	31,310	1,032	3.2	31,548	29,970	1,578	5.0
Russellville	13,913	13,238	675	4.9	13,678	13,015	663	4.8	13,786	13,006	780	5.7
Searcy	10,663	10,113	550	5.2	10,468	9,951	517	4.9	10,494	9,849	645	6.1
Sherwood	15,643	15,073	570	3.6	15,332	14,824	508	3.3	15,108	14,413	695	4.6
Springdale	38,277	37,078	1,199	3.1	37,132	35,998	1,134	3.1	35,975	34,454	1,521	4.2
Texarkana, AR	13,927	13,258	669	4.8	13,782	13,114	668	4.8	13,421	12,609	812	6.1
Van Buren	10,564	10,079	485	4.6	10,395	9,907	488	4.7	10,428	9,746	682	6.5
West Memphis	10,810	10,189	621	5.7	10,636	10,064	572	5.4	10,654	9,751	903	8.5

Labor Market Report

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	February 2016				January 2016				February 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,432	9,041	391	4.1	9,376	8,976	400	4.3	9,348	8,861	487	5.2
Ashley	8,323	7,754	569	6.8	8,273	7,691	582	7.0	8,185	7,401	784	9.6
Baxter	16,508	15,675	833	5.0	16,345	15,495	850	5.2	16,173	15,102	1,071	6.6
Benton	125,042	120,753	4,289	3.4	121,314	117,231	4,083	3.4	117,616	112,215	5,401	4.6
Boone	15,866	15,133	733	4.6	15,643	14,928	715	4.6	15,697	14,734	963	6.1
Bradley	4,661	4,431	230	4.9	4,637	4,402	235	5.1	4,386	4,066	320	7.3
Calhoun	2,376	2,244	132	5.6	2,360	2,223	137	5.8	2,340	2,194	146	6.2
Carroll	12,408	11,766	642	5.2	12,261	11,552	709	5.8	12,308	11,482	826	6.7
Chicot	3,660	3,366	294	8.0	3,654	3,345	309	8.5	3,741	3,297	444	11.9
Clark	9,683	9,227	456	4.7	9,480	9,010	470	5.0	9,430	8,843	587	6.2
Clay	6,311	5,862	449	7.1	6,321	5,830	491	7.8	6,358	5,808	550	8.7
Cleburne	9,661	8,922	739	7.6	9,493	8,786	707	7.4	9,538	8,745	793	8.3
Cleveland	3,438	3,258	180	5.2	3,361	3,184	177	5.3	3,437	3,199	238	6.9
Columbia	9,660	9,049	611	6.3	9,432	8,866	566	6.0	9,601	8,924	677	7.1
Conway	8,803	8,226	577	6.6	8,617	8,116	501	5.8	8,573	7,993	580	6.8
Craighead	51,981	49,936	2,045	3.9	51,421	49,396	2,025	3.9	49,587	46,927	2,660	5.4
Crawford	27,193	25,905	1,288	4.7	26,740	25,462	1,278	4.8	26,736	25,050	1,686	6.3
Crittenden	21,802	20,646	1,156	5.3	21,523	20,393	1,130	5.3	21,400	19,759	1,641	7.7
Cross	8,107	7,656	451	5.6	8,033	7,564	469	5.8	8,043	7,491	552	6.9
Dallas	2,947	2,772	175	5.9	2,908	2,734	174	6.0	2,869	2,610	259	9.0
Desha	5,528	5,133	395	7.1	5,499	5,101	398	7.2	5,510	4,983	527	9.6
Drew	8,149	7,621	528	6.5	8,033	7,515	518	6.4	8,009	7,310	699	8.7
Faulkner	60,863	58,024	2,839	4.7	59,652	57,079	2,573	4.3	58,750	55,506	3,244	5.5
Franklin	7,581	7,201	380	5.0	7,475	7,121	354	4.7	7,390	6,953	437	5.9
Fulton	4,840	4,592	248	5.1	4,794	4,552	242	5.0	4,723	4,429	294	6.2
Garland	40,735	38,728	2,007	4.9	40,169	38,163	2,006	5.0	39,381	36,835	2,546	6.5
Grant	8,445	8,068	377	4.5	8,304	7,946	358	4.3	8,182	7,737	445	5.4
Greene	20,523	19,521	1,002	4.9	20,219	19,215	1,004	5.0	19,881	18,615	1,266	6.4
Hempstead	9,940	9,478	462	4.6	9,806	9,367	439	4.5	9,814	9,212	602	6.1
Hot Spring	14,624	13,945	679	4.6	14,411	13,752	659	4.6	13,978	13,162	816	5.8
Howard	6,104	5,864	240	3.9	6,009	5,788	221	3.7	6,224	5,919	305	4.9
Independence	15,775	14,819	956	6.1	15,602	14,598	1,004	6.4	15,574	14,369	1,205	7.7
Izard	5,092	4,742	350	6.9	4,968	4,630	338	6.8	4,935	4,551	384	7.8
Jackson	6,235	5,766	469	7.5	6,187	5,720	467	7.5	6,183	5,556	627	10.1
Jefferson	29,293	27,412	1,881	6.4	28,572	26,695	1,877	6.6	29,212	26,857	2,355	8.1
Johnson	10,610	10,018	592	5.6	10,529	9,921	608	5.8	10,288	9,594	694	6.7
Lafayette	2,659	2,475	184	6.9	2,623	2,447	176	6.7	2,668	2,434	234	8.8
Lawrence	7,096	6,718	378	5.3	7,017	6,635	382	5.4	7,094	6,556	538	7.6
Lee	3,235	3,042	193	6.0	3,210	3,001	209	6.5	3,269	2,984	285	8.7
Lincoln	4,215	3,958	257	6.1	4,121	3,869	252	6.1	4,203	3,885	318	7.6
Little River	5,741	5,455	286	5.0	5,704	5,398	306	5.4	5,560	5,191	369	6.6
Logan	9,314	8,829	485	5.2	9,184	8,714	470	5.1	9,021	8,469	552	6.1
Lonoke	33,571	32,246	1,325	3.9	33,004	31,750	1,254	3.8	32,578	30,908	1,670	5.1
Madison	7,422	7,144	278	3.7	7,240	6,970	270	3.7	7,028	6,706	322	4.6
Marion	6,531	6,199	332	5.1	6,467	6,133	334	5.2	6,440	6,025	415	6.4
Miller	20,105	19,195	910	4.5	19,934	18,987	947	4.8	19,407	18,256	1,151	5.9

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(continued from Page 15)

County	February 2016				January 2016				February 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,946	16,568	1,378	7.7	17,846	16,495	1,351	7.6	18,618	16,719	1,899	10.2
Monroe	2,980	2,810	170	5.7	2,969	2,787	182	6.1	3,020	2,791	229	7.6
Montgomery	3,205	3,003	202	6.3	3,172	2,961	211	6.7	3,153	2,886	267	8.5
Nevada	3,685	3,525	160	4.3	3,637	3,480	157	4.3	3,631	3,418	213	5.9
Newton	3,405	3,237	168	4.9	3,360	3,198	162	4.8	3,370	3,157	213	6.3
Ouachita	9,935	9,361	574	5.8	9,828	9,249	579	5.9	9,885	9,111	774	7.8
Perry	4,307	4,045	262	6.1	4,233	3,984	249	5.9	4,197	3,876	321	7.6
Phillips	6,897	6,387	510	7.4	6,893	6,361	532	7.7	7,072	6,411	661	9.3
Pike	4,186	3,965	221	5.3	4,163	3,941	222	5.3	4,138	3,841	297	7.2
Poinsett	10,480	9,946	534	5.1	10,403	9,856	547	5.3	10,096	9,403	693	6.9
Polk	8,415	7,943	472	5.6	8,315	7,861	454	5.5	8,296	7,744	552	6.7
Pope	29,961	28,441	1,520	5.1	29,531	27,961	1,570	5.3	29,674	27,941	1,733	5.8
Prairie	3,798	3,620	178	4.7	3,760	3,585	175	4.7	3,784	3,581	203	5.4
Pulaski	189,483	181,653	7,830	4.1	186,231	178,645	7,586	4.1	183,832	173,691	10,141	5.5
Randolph	6,036	5,657	379	6.3	5,967	5,566	401	6.7	6,238	5,639	599	9.6
St. Francis	8,971	8,356	615	6.9	8,886	8,265	621	7.0	8,929	8,143	786	8.8
Saline	56,174	54,127	2,047	3.6	55,197	53,232	1,965	3.6	54,412	51,753	2,659	4.9
Scott	4,593	4,400	193	4.2	4,557	4,365	192	4.2	4,486	4,241	245	5.5
Searcy	3,096	2,937	159	5.1	3,074	2,909	165	5.4	2,928	2,691	237	8.1
Sebastian	58,115	55,526	2,589	4.5	57,115	54,548	2,567	4.5	56,922	53,643	3,279	5.8
Sevier	5,684	5,351	333	5.9	5,604	5,285	319	5.7	5,557	5,180	377	6.8
Sharp	6,022	5,606	416	6.9	5,972	5,555	417	7.0	5,961	5,433	528	8.9
Stone	4,550	4,258	292	6.4	4,552	4,239	313	6.9	4,610	4,234	376	8.2
Union	17,049	16,036	1,013	5.9	16,803	15,837	966	5.7	16,583	15,377	1,206	7.3
Van Buren	6,645	6,146	499	7.5	6,532	6,066	466	7.1	6,414	5,887	527	8.2
Washington	119,231	115,503	3,728	3.1	115,664	112,136	3,528	3.1	112,002	107,327	4,675	4.2
White	35,018	32,815	2,203	6.3	34,520	32,291	2,229	6.5	34,523	31,958	2,565	7.4
Woodruff	3,032	2,815	217	7.2	3,023	2,808	215	7.1	3,087	2,840	247	8.0
Yell	9,121	8,678	443	4.9	8,989	8,554	435	4.8	9,081	8,550	531	5.8

County Labor Force Summary

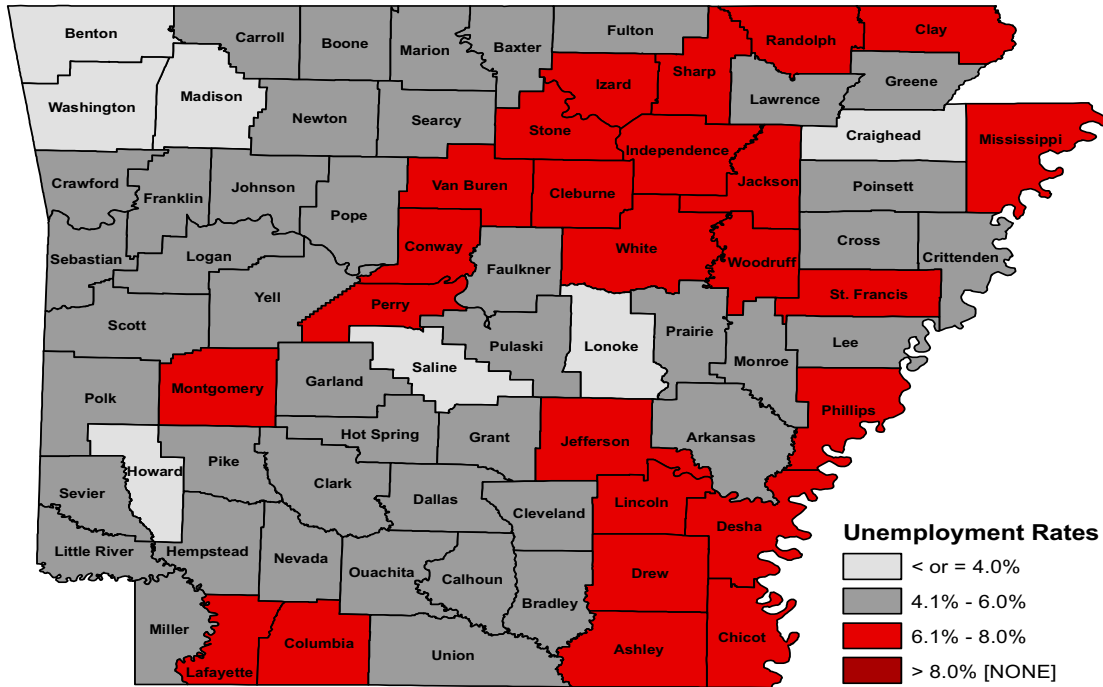
Between January and February, unemployment rates declined in 36 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Twenty-three counties posted rate increases, while unemployment rates remained stable in sixteen counties. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 3.1 percent in Washington County to a high of 8.0 percent in Chicot County.

In February, seven counties posted unemployment rates below four percent. No county reported a jobless rate above eight percent.

Compared to February 2015, unemployment rates are down in all 75 Arkansas counties.

Labor Market Report

County Labor Force Statistics



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

February 2016- Not Seasonally Adjusted

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	3.1	22	Yell	4.9	51	Independence	6.1
2	Benton	3.4	27	Baxter	5.0	51	Lincoln	6.1
3	Saline	3.6	27	Franklin	5.0	51	Perry	6.1
4	Madison	3.7	27	Little River	5.0	54	Columbia	6.3
5	Craighead	3.9	30	Fulton	5.1	54	Montgomery	6.3
5	Howard	3.9	30	Marion	5.1	54	Randolph	6.3
5	Lonoke	3.9	30	Poinsett	5.1	54	White	6.3
8	Arkansas	4.1	30	Pope	5.1	58	Jefferson	6.4
8	Pulaski	4.1	30	Searcy	5.1	58	Stone	6.4
10	Scott	4.2	35	Carroll	5.2	60	Drew	6.5
11	Nevada	4.3	35	Cleveland	5.2	61	Conway	6.6
12	Grant	4.5	35	Logan	5.2	62	Ashley	6.8
12	Miller	4.5	38	Crittenden	5.3	63	Izard	6.9
12	Sebastian	4.5	38	Lawrence	5.3	63	Lafayette	6.9
15	Boone	4.6	38	Pike	5.3	63	St. Francis	6.9
15	Hempstead	4.6	41	Calhoun	5.6	63	Sharp	6.9
15	Hot Spring	4.6	41	Cross	5.6	67	Clay	7.1
18	Clark	4.7	41	Johnson	5.6	67	Desha	7.1
18	Crawford	4.7	41	Polk	5.6	69	Woodruff	7.2
18	Faulkner	4.7	45	Monroe	5.7	70	Phillips	7.4
18	Prairie	4.7	46	Ouachita	5.8	71	Jackson	7.5
22	Bradley	4.9	47	Dallas	5.9	71	Van Buren	7.5
22	Garland	4.9	47	Sevier	5.9	73	Cleburne	7.6
22	Greene	4.9	47	Union	5.9	74	Mississippi	7.7
22	Newton	4.9	50	Lee	6.0	75	Chicot	8.0

Labor Market Report

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

LWDA Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

LWDA	February 2016				January 2016				February 2015			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	249,537	239,059	10,478	4.2	245,093	235,204	9,889	4.0	241,983	228,903	13,080	5.4
City of Little Rock	97,332	93,421	3,911	4.0	95,720	91,874	3,846	4.0	94,393	89,327	5,066	5.4
Eastern	49,012	46,087	2,925	6.0	48,545	45,584	2,961	6.1	48,713	44,788	3,925	8.1
North Central	96,870	90,481	6,389	6.6	95,643	89,245	6,398	6.7	95,548	88,002	7,546	7.9
Northeast	120,373	114,208	6,165	5.1	119,194	112,993	6,201	5.2	117,872	109,667	8,205	7.0
Northwest	309,509	298,347	11,162	3.6	301,368	290,552	10,816	3.6	293,562	279,439	14,123	4.8
Southeast	85,144	80,042	5,102	6.0	83,830	78,724	5,106	6.1	84,213	77,596	6,617	7.9
Southwest	95,885	90,805	5,080	5.3	94,648	89,661	4,987	5.3	94,139	87,826	6,313	6.7
West Central	135,235	128,276	6,959	5.1	133,294	126,363	6,931	5.2	131,893	123,521	8,372	6.3
Western	115,211	109,804	5,407	4.7	113,386	108,071	5,315	4.7	112,851	106,100	6,751	6.0

