

Arkansas

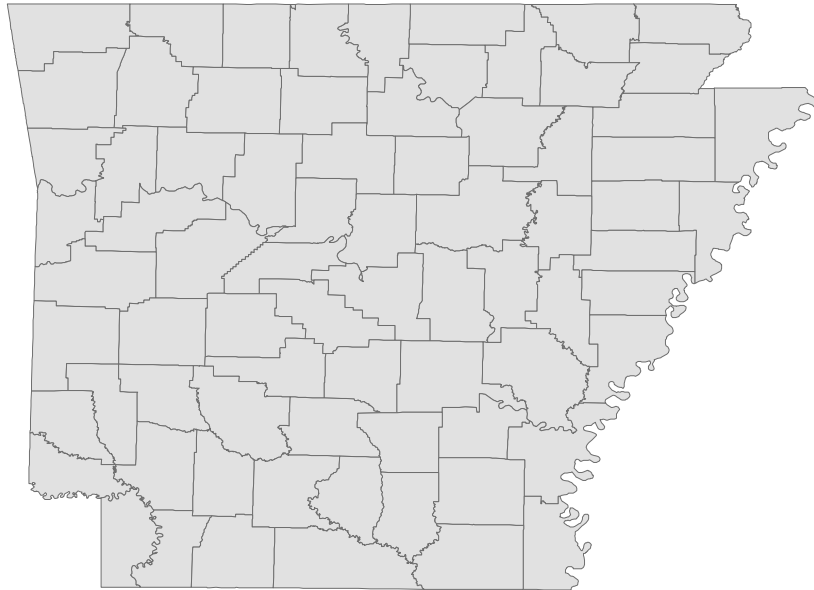
Labor Market Report



20
18

October

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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 month's data is 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 2017 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.

October Spotlight

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

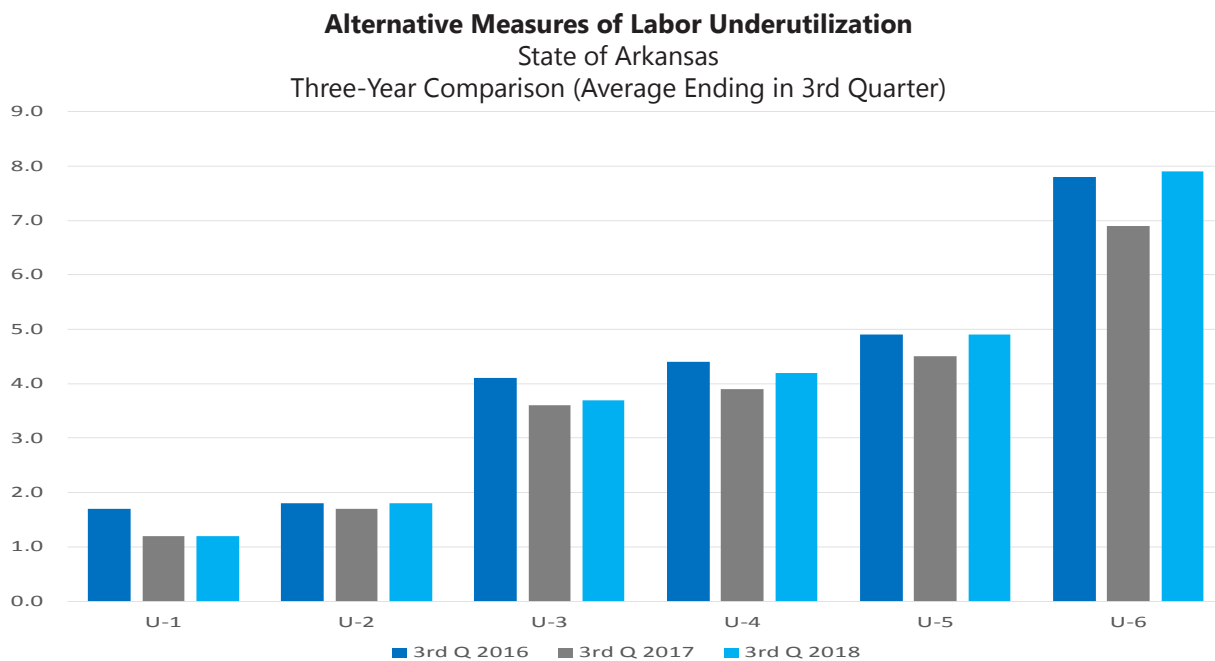
In addition to the unemployment rate, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) also calculates five additional estimates based on various definitions of 'unemployment'. These are known as Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization and are referred to as U1-U6, with U-3 as the official unemployment rate. These measures are calculated using data from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Approximately 800 Arkansas households are in the survey each month.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization					
State of Arkansas					
4th Q 2017 - 3rd Q 2018 (Average)					
U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
1.2%	1.8%	3.7%	4.2%	4.9%	7.9%

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level and are produced quarterly. Estimates are calculated using a four quarter moving average. The most recent data available is an average of 4th Quarter 2017 - 3rd Quarter 2018.

The following definitions are used to calculate each measure of Labor Underutilization:

- U-1 Measure:** Persons unemployed for 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force.
- U-2 Measure:** Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force.
- U-3 Measure:** Total number of unemployed persons, as a percent of the civilian labor force (this is the definition used for the official unemployment rate).
- U-4 Measure:** Total number of unemployed and discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers.
- U-5 Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, and all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.
- U-6 Measure:** Total number of unemployed, discouraged workers, marginally attached workers, and those employed part-time for economic reasons (not by choice), as a percent of the civilian labor force plus marginally attached workers.



State of Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary

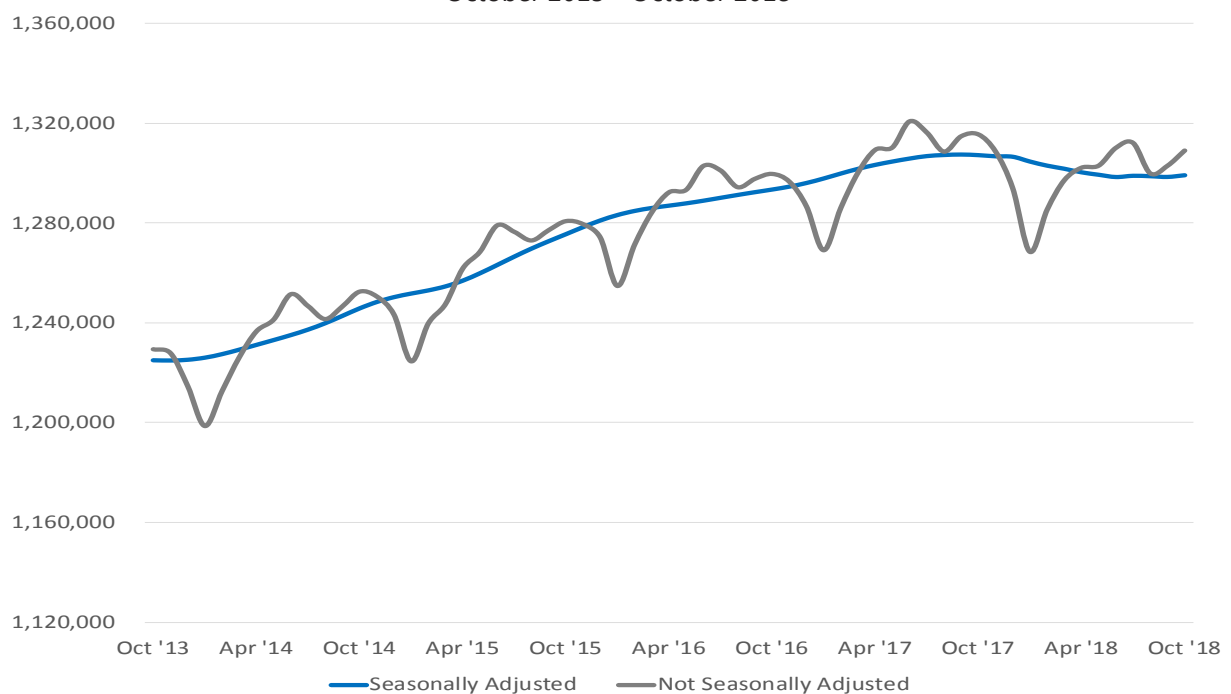
Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 3.5 percent between September and October. Arkansas' civilian labor force increased 881, a result of 670 more employed and 211 additional unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate was unchanged at 3.7 percent in October.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "After dropping for three month's in a row, Arkansas' unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.5 percent in October. The stable jobless rate reflects the trend seen at the national level."

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>		<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>
Civilian Labor Force	1,346,556	1,345,675	1,357,679	Civilian Labor Force	1,353,649	1,347,699	1,359,086
Employment	1,299,115	1,298,445	1,307,175	Employment	1,309,014	1,302,901	1,315,489
Unemployment	47,441	47,230	50,504	Unemployment	44,635	44,798	43,597
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.5	3.7	Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.3	3.2
U.S. Unemployment	3.7	3.7	4.1	U.S. Unemployment	3.5	3.6	3.9

Number of Employed (Seasonally Adjusted vs. Not Seasonally Adjusted)
October 2013 - October 2018



State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1263.3	1259.7	1254.1	3.6	9.2
Goods Producing	219.1	219.8	216.1	-0.7	3.0
Mining, Logging, and Construction	59.2	59.4	58.4	-0.2	0.8
Mining & Logging	5.5	5.5	5.8	0.0	-0.3
Construction	53.7	53.9	52.6	-0.2	1.1
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.5	33.4	32.0	0.1	1.5
Manufacturing	159.9	160.4	157.7	-0.5	2.2
Durable Goods	75.5	75.7	74.7	-0.2	0.8
Nondurable Goods	84.4	84.7	83.0	-0.3	1.4
Service Providing	1044.2	1039.9	1038.0	4.3	6.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	251.8	250.9	251.9	0.9	-0.1
Wholesale Trade	47.4	47.0	47.0	0.4	0.4
Retail Trade	140.0	139.5	141.0	0.5	-1.0
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	64.4	64.4	63.9	0.0	0.5
Information	12.0	12.0	13.0	0.0	-1.0
Financial Activities	54.4	54.3	53.0	0.1	1.4
Finance & Insurance	40.5	40.5	39.5	0.0	1.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.9	13.8	13.5	0.1	0.4
Professional & Business Services	153.2	152.4	147.7	0.8	5.5
Professional, Scientific & Technical	43.7	43.0	42.8	0.7	0.9
Management of Companies	35.9	35.5	35.0	0.4	0.9
Administrative & Support Services	73.6	73.9	69.9	-0.3	3.7
Educational & Health Services	192.2	190.7	189.0	1.5	3.2
Educational Services	16.8	16.3	15.5	0.5	1.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	175.4	174.4	173.5	1.0	1.9
Ambulatory Health Care	57.9	57.5	57.7	0.4	0.2
Social Assistance	39.7	39.1	39.7	0.6	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	117.5	117.9	119.1	-0.4	-1.6
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10.3	11.0	10.7	-0.7	-0.4
Accommodation & Food Services	107.2	106.9	108.4	0.3	-1.2
Accommodation Services	11.0	11.2	11.4	-0.2	-0.4
Food Services	96.2	95.7	97.0	0.5	-0.8
Other Services	47.8	48.2	49.0	-0.4	-1.2
Government	215.3	213.5	215.3	1.8	0.0
Federal Government	19.7	19.8	20.0	-0.1	-0.3
State Government	80.3	79.1	79.9	1.2	0.4
Local Government	115.3	114.6	115.4	0.7	-0.1

State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

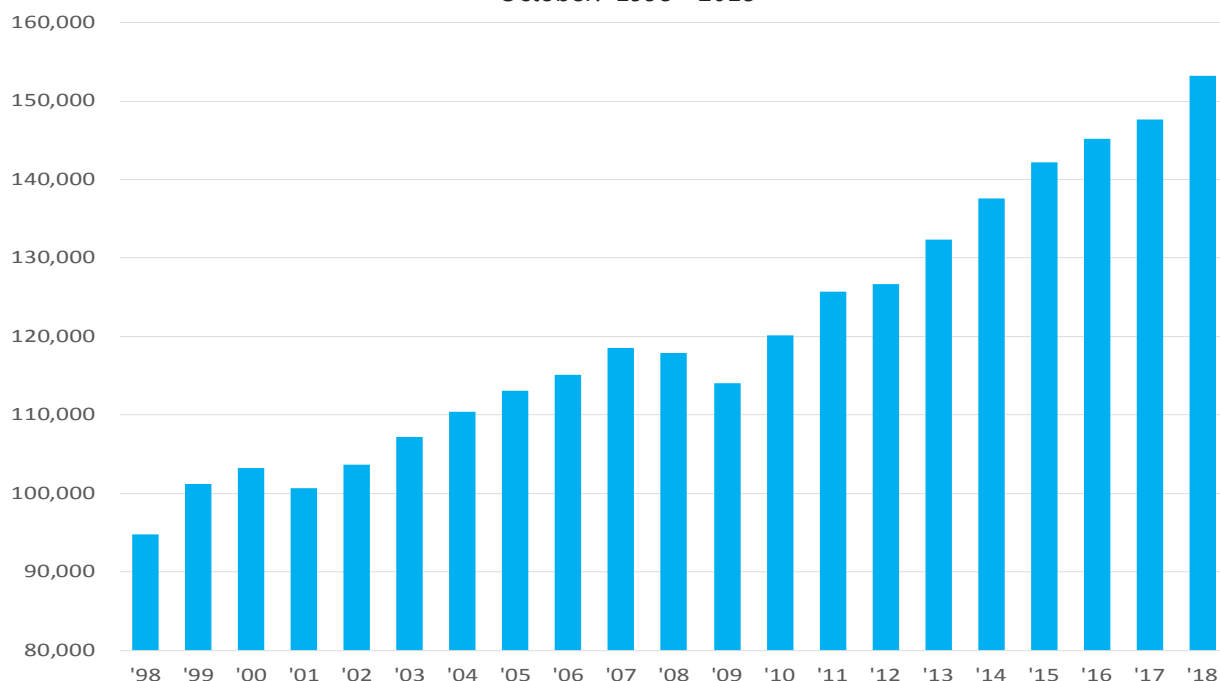
September 2018 - October 2018

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose 3,600 in October to total 1,263,300. Five major industry sectors added jobs, more than offsetting small declines in four sectors. Two sectors were unchanged over the month. Employment in **government** increased 1,800. Gains in both state (+1,200) and local (+700) government were related in large part to continued hiring at public schools and universities. **Educational and health services** added 1,500 jobs. Most of the expansions were seen in health care and social assistance (+1,000).

October 2017 - October 2018

Compared to October 2017, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 9,200. Growth was posted in five major industry sectors, all adding 1,100 or more jobs, each. Employment in **professional and business services** rose 5,500. A majority of the gains were reported in administrative and support services (+3,700). Jobs in **educational and health services** increased 3,200, with growth in both subsectors. **Manufacturing** added 2,200 jobs. Most of the expansion occurred in nondurable goods manufacturing (+1,400), largely related to reported hiring in food manufacturing. Employment in **financial activities** rose 1,400, mostly in finance and insurance (+1,000). Construction jobs are up 1,100, due to ongoing projects across the state. **Leisure and hospitality** posted the largest decline (-1,600), with all subsectors reporting losses. Employment in **other services** decreased 1,200. The subsector includes activities such as repair-maintenance and membership organizations.

Jobs in Professional and Business Services (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
October: 1998 - 2018



State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

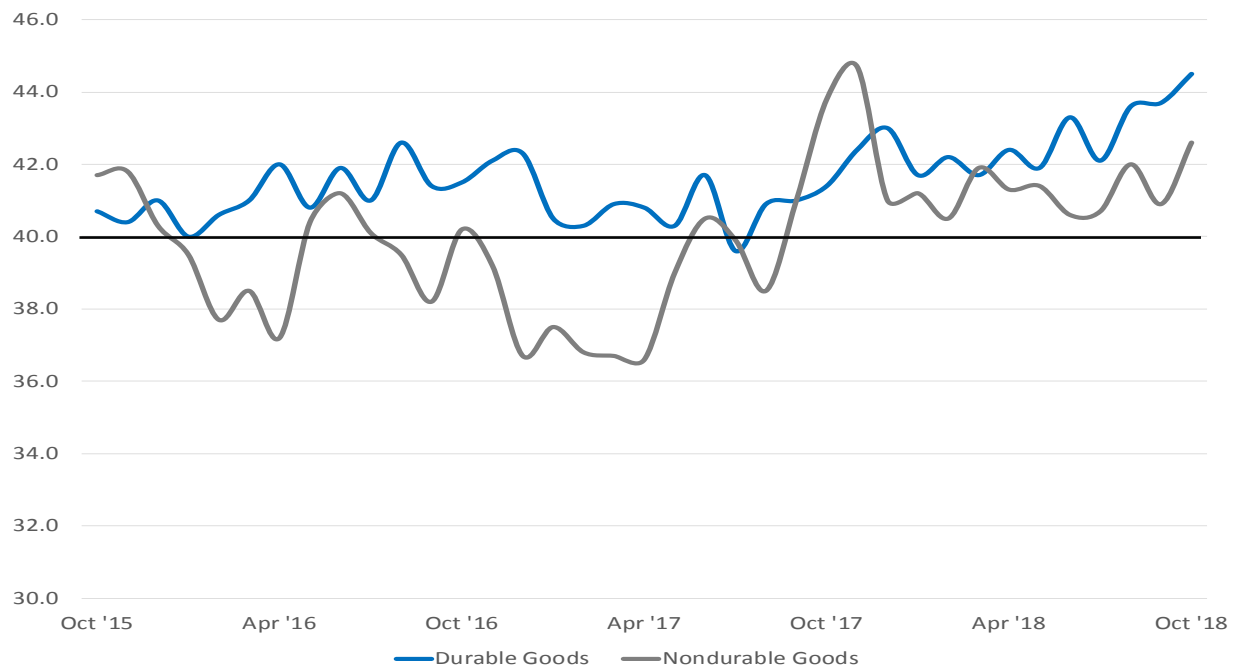
Manufacturing

	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>
Average Weekly Hours	43.5	42.2	42.7
Average Hourly Earnings	18.19	18.06	16.36
Average Weekly Earnings	791.27	762.13	698.57

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>		<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>
Average Weekly Hours	44.5	43.7	41.4	Average Weekly Hours	42.6	40.9	43.8
Average Hourly Earnings	20.67	20.60	17.84	Average Hourly Earnings	16.03	15.80	15.19
Average Weekly Earnings	919.82	900.22	738.58	Average Weekly Earnings	682.88	646.22	665.32

Average Weekly Hours (Durable Goods vs. Nondurable Goods)
October 2015 - October 2018



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)

	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	357,312	355,783	356,163	1,529	1,149
Employment	346,511	344,961	345,793	1,550	718
Unemployment	10,801	10,822	10,370	-21	431
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0.0	0.1

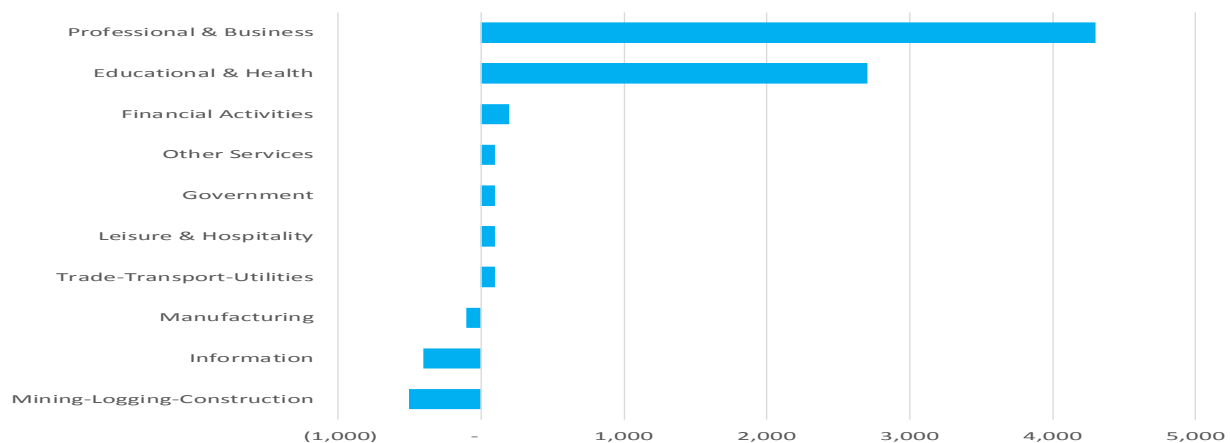
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	368.0	367.4	361.4	0.6	6.6
Goods Producing	37.5	37.6	38.1	-0.1	-0.6
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.4	17.4	17.9	0.0	-0.5
Manufacturing	20.1	20.2	20.2	-0.1	-0.1
Service Providing	330.5	329.8	323.3	0.7	7.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	70.5	70.5	70.4	0.0	0.1
Wholesale Trade	15.1	15.1	15.2	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	39.0	39.0	39.2	0.0	-0.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.4	16.4	16.0	0.0	0.4
Information	5.5	5.5	5.9	0.0	-0.4
Financial Activities	21.2	21.1	21.0	0.1	0.2
Professional & Business Services	52.1	52.0	47.8	0.1	4.3
Educational & Health Services	59.7	59.7	57.0	0.0	2.7
Leisure & Hospitality	34.8	34.4	34.7	0.4	0.1
Other Services	15.5	15.6	15.4	-0.1	0.1
Government	71.2	71.0	71.1	0.2	0.1
Federal Government	9.4	9.4	9.5	0.0	-0.1
State Government	35.7	35.6	35.4	0.1	0.3
Local Government	26.1	26.0	26.2	0.1	-0.1

Over-the-Year Job Changes by Industry (Ranked)

October 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

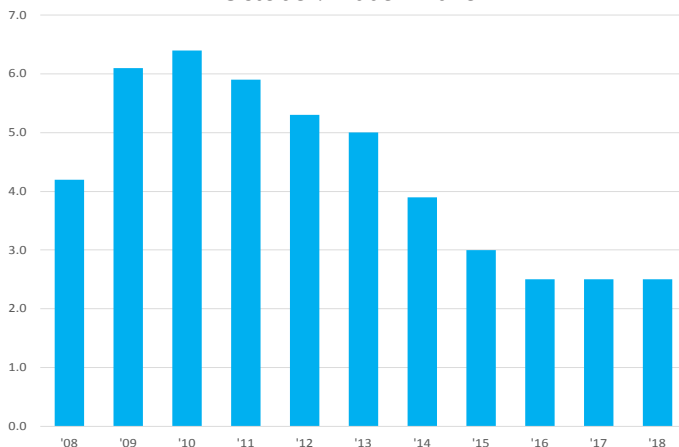
	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	276,768	275,097	276,726	1,671	42
Employment	269,882	268,231	269,930	1,651	-48
Unemployment	6,886	6,866	6,796	20	90
Unemployment Rate	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

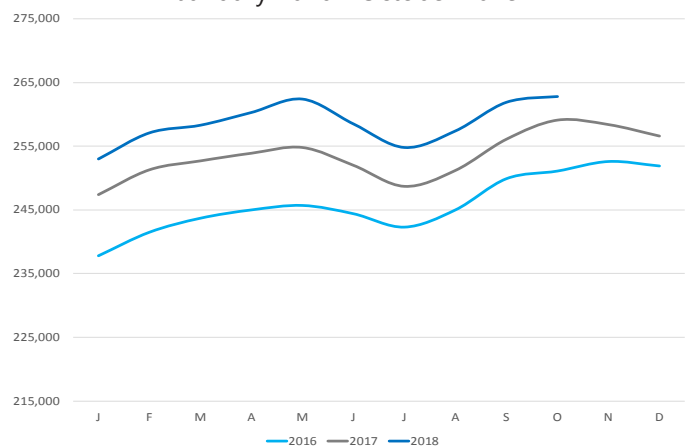
(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	262.8	261.9	259.1	0.9	3.7
Goods Producing	42.1	42.2	40.4	-0.1	1.7
Mining, Logging & Construction	12.3	12.4	11.4	-0.1	0.9
Manufacturing	29.8	29.8	29.0	0.0	0.8
Service Providing	220.7	219.7	218.7	1.0	2.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	56.9	56.3	56.9	0.6	0.0
Wholesale Trade	13.6	13.5	13.2	0.1	0.4
Retail Trade	26.4	25.9	27.0	0.5	-0.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.9	16.9	16.7	0.0	0.2
Information	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	7.9	7.9	7.8	0.0	0.1
Professional & Business Services	50.4	49.8	50.4	0.6	0.0
Educational & Health Services	29.9	29.7	28.9	0.2	1.0
Leisure & Hospitality	26.7	28.0	26.9	-1.3	-0.2
Other Services	9.1	9.1	9.0	0.0	0.1
Government	38.0	37.1	36.9	0.9	1.1
Federal Government	2.5	2.6	2.6	-0.1	-0.1
State Government	16.2	15.8	15.3	0.4	0.9
Local Government	19.3	18.7	19.0	0.6	0.3

Unemployment Rates
October: 2008 - 2018



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
January 2016 - October 2018



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)

	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	117,318	117,357	119,311	-39	-1,993
Employment	113,215	113,224	114,629	-9	-1,414
Unemployment	4,103	4,133	4,682	-30	-579
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.5	3.9	0.0	-0.4

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

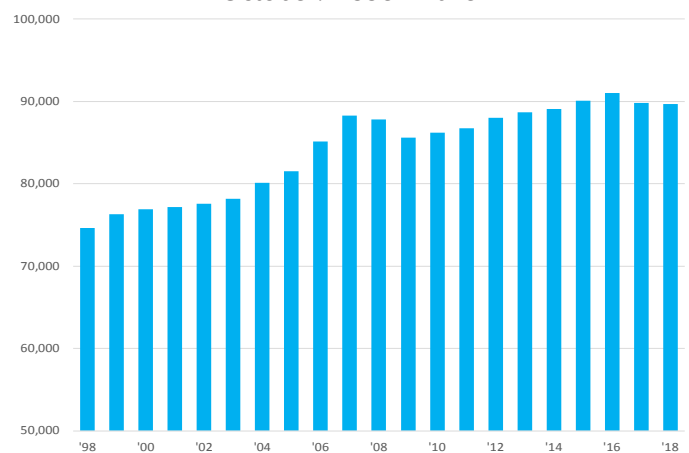
(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	112.4	112.5	112.4	-0.1	0.0
Goods Producing	22.7	22.8	22.6	-0.1	0.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.4	5.4	5.3	0.0	0.1
Manufacturing	17.3	17.4	17.3	-0.1	0.0
Service Providing	89.7	89.7	89.8	0.0	-0.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	22.3	22.3	22.7	0.0	-0.4
Wholesale Trade	3.8	3.8	3.9	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	12.2	12.2	12.4	0.0	-0.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.3	6.3	6.4	0.0	-0.1
Information	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	3.9	3.8	3.8	0.1	0.1
Professional & Business Services	12.8	13.0	12.7	-0.2	0.1
Educational & Health Services	16.7	16.7	16.8	0.0	-0.1
Leisure & Hospitality	9.5	9.5	9.4	0.0	0.1
Other Services	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Government	18.9	18.8	18.8	0.1	0.1
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	3.2	3.1	3.2	0.1	0.0
Local Government	14.4	14.4	14.3	0.0	0.1

Number of Unemployed
October 2015 - October 2018



Jobs in Service Providing Industries
October: 1998 - 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

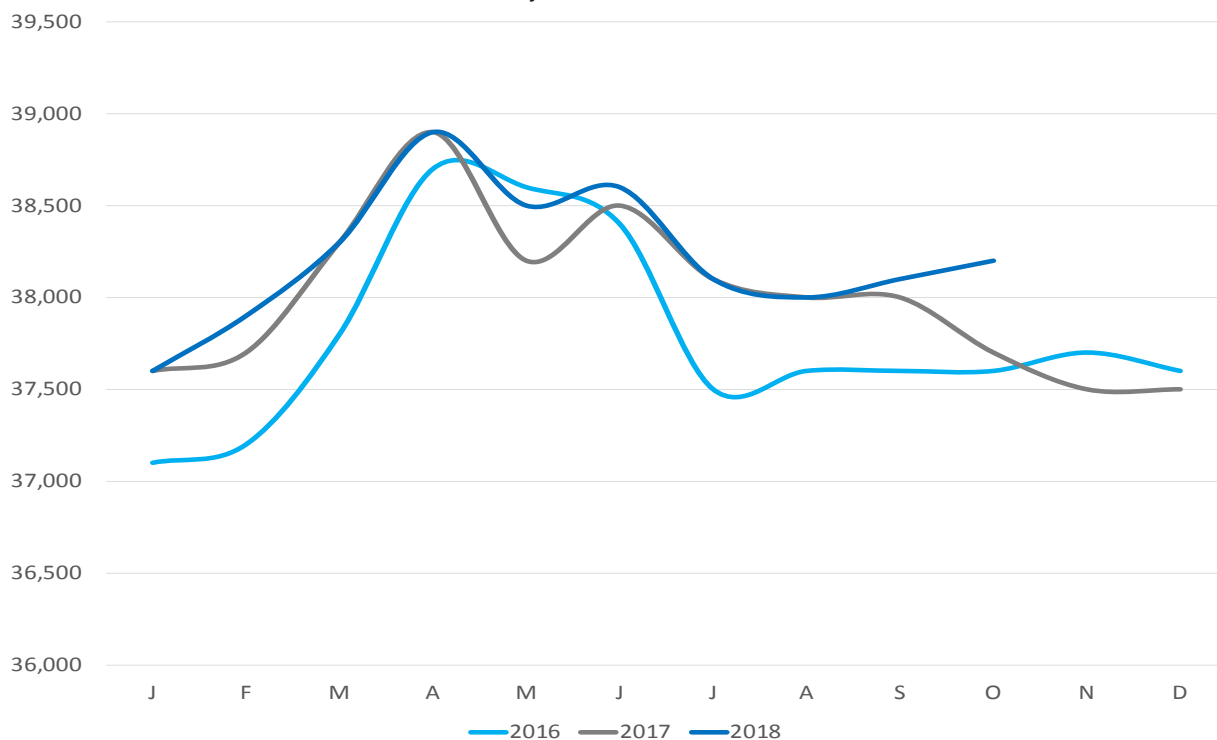
	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	39,712	39,478	39,659	234	53
Employment	38,188	37,987	38,229	201	-41
Unemployment	1,524	1,491	1,430	33	94
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.8	3.6	0.0	0.2

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	38.2	38.1	37.7	0.1	0.5
Goods Producing	4.7	4.8	4.5	-0.1	0.2
Service Providing	33.5	33.3	33.2	0.2	0.3
Government	4.5	4.6	4.6	-0.1	-0.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
January 2016 - October 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	64,925	64,621	64,419	304	506
Employment	63,113	62,813	62,650	300	463
Unemployment	1,812	1,808	1,769	4	43
Unemployment Rate	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	0.1

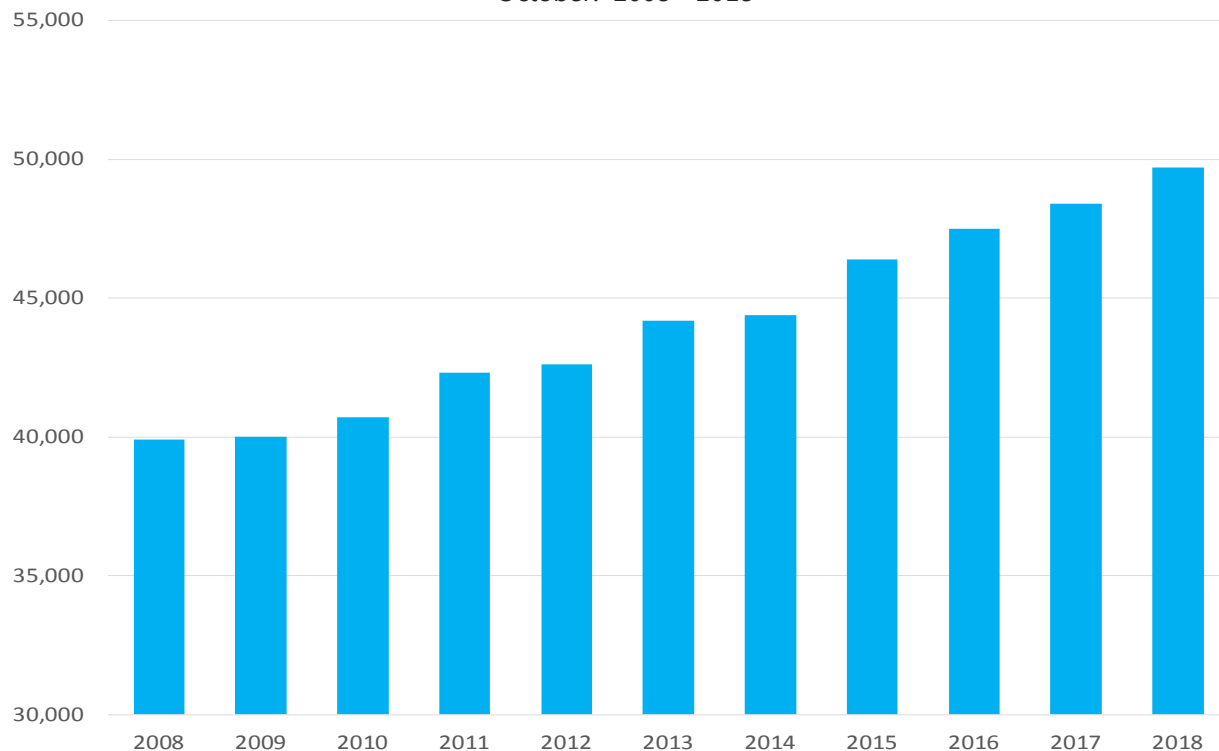
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	59.6	59.6	58.2	0.0	1.4
Goods Producing	9.9	10.1	9.8	-0.2	0.1
Service Providing	49.7	49.5	48.4	0.2	1.3
Government	9.4	9.4	9.3	0.0	0.1

Jobs in Service Providing Sectors

October: 2008 - 2018



Metropolitan Statistical Areas Pine Bluff MSA

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

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	34,799	34,527	35,481	272	-682
Employment	33,168	32,910	33,946	258	-778
Unemployment	1,631	1,617	1,535	14	96
Unemployment Rate	4.7	4.7	4.3	0.0	0.4

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Oct 18</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	32.9	32.8	33.2	0.1	-0.3
Goods Producing	6.1	6.1	6.1	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	26.8	26.7	27.1	0.1	-0.3
Government	9.5	9.4	9.6	0.1	-0.1

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
October 2015 - October 2018



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.

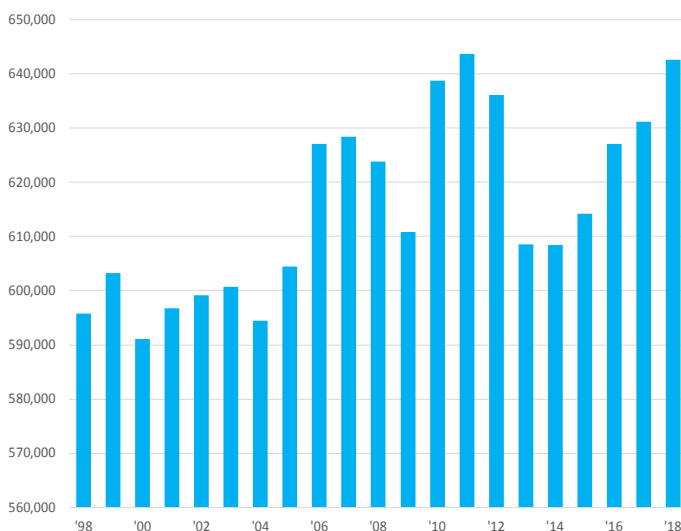
	Oct 18	Sep 18	Oct 17	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	642,577	637,304	631,213	5,273	11,364
Employment	615,293	609,900	607,267	5,393	8,026
Unemployment	27,284	27,404	23,946	-120	3,338
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.3	3.8	-0.1	0.4

Texarkana MSA

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

	Oct 18	Sep 18	Oct 17	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	65,402	64,936	64,417	466	985
Employment	62,262	61,576	61,874	686	388
Unemployment	3,140	3,360	2,543	-220	597
Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.2	3.9	-0.4	0.9

Memphis MSA - Civilian Labor Force
October: 1998 - 2018



Texarkana MSA - Number of Employed
January 2016 - October 2018



Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	October 2018				September 2018				October 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,730	9,403	327	3.4	9,738	9,382	356	3.7	9,722	9,377	345	3.5
Batesville Micro	16,159	15,559	600	3.7	16,160	15,561	599	3.7	16,295	15,706	589	3.6
Blytheville Micro	17,658	16,881	777	4.4	17,551	16,746	805	4.6	18,017	17,221	796	4.4
Camden Micro	12,218	11,716	502	4.1	12,168	11,675	493	4.1	12,186	11,699	487	4.0
El Dorado Micro	15,994	15,250	744	4.7	15,995	15,243	752	4.7	16,141	15,418	723	4.5
Forrest City Micro	8,311	7,931	380	4.6	8,283	7,897	386	4.7	8,378	8,002	376	4.5
Harrison Micro	19,196	18,593	603	3.1	19,135	18,556	579	3.0	19,180	18,592	588	3.1
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,541	6,205	336	5.1	6,487	6,124	363	5.6	6,567	6,222	345	5.3
Hope Micro	13,610	13,147	463	3.4	13,619	13,162	457	3.4	13,596	13,187	409	3.0
Magnolia Micro	8,928	8,564	364	4.1	8,894	8,520	374	4.2	9,139	8,762	377	4.1
Malvern Micro	13,876	13,406	470	3.4	13,791	13,317	474	3.4	14,217	13,747	470	3.3
Mountain Home Micro	16,331	15,729	602	3.7	16,399	15,800	599	3.7	16,302	15,684	618	3.8
Paragould Micro	19,645	19,051	594	3.0	19,596	19,001	595	3.0	19,756	19,131	625	3.2
Russellville Micro	37,514	36,147	1,367	3.6	37,196	35,757	1,439	3.9	38,642	37,247	1,395	3.6
Searcy Micro	33,665	32,394	1,271	3.8	33,498	32,251	1,247	3.7	33,845	32,586	1,259	3.7

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

Hope Micro = Hempstead & Nevada counties

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	October 2018				September 2018				October 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,533	12,102	431	3.4	12,460	12,032	428	3.4	12,546	12,114	432	3.4
Benton	17,388	16,887	501	2.9	17,320	16,822	498	2.9	17,282	16,851	431	2.5
Bentonville	25,682	25,091	591	2.3	25,521	24,945	576	2.3	25,805	25,116	689	2.7
Blytheville	6,037	5,748	289	4.8	5,989	5,702	287	4.8	6,165	5,864	301	4.9
Cabot	11,958	11,625	333	2.8	11,889	11,539	350	2.9	11,946	11,602	344	2.9
Conway	33,675	32,711	964	2.9	33,566	32,569	997	3.0	33,612	32,643	969	2.9
El Dorado	7,008	6,627	381	5.4	7,023	6,624	399	5.7	7,052	6,700	352	5.0
Fayetteville	47,933	46,749	1,184	2.5	47,672	46,498	1,174	2.5	47,862	46,794	1,068	2.2
Fort Smith	38,952	37,654	1,298	3.3	38,956	37,662	1,294	3.3	39,567	38,273	1,294	3.3
Hot Springs	14,349	13,697	652	4.5	14,241	13,625	616	4.3	14,275	13,711	564	4.0
Jacksonville	11,855	11,399	456	3.8	11,826	11,353	473	4.0	11,830	11,375	455	3.8
Jonesboro	38,308	37,248	1,060	2.8	38,156	37,109	1,047	2.7	37,967	36,970	997	2.6
Little Rock	98,547	95,465	3,082	3.1	98,218	95,085	3,133	3.2	98,157	95,264	2,893	2.9
North Little Rock	30,250	29,257	993	3.3	30,112	29,141	971	3.2	30,180	29,195	985	3.3
Paragould	12,345	11,946	399	3.2	12,312	11,915	397	3.2	12,417	11,996	421	3.4
Pine Bluff	16,578	15,642	936	5.6	16,473	15,538	935	5.7	16,858	16,015	843	5.0
Rogers	35,560	34,675	885	2.5	35,334	34,473	861	2.4	35,605	34,708	897	2.5
Russellville	13,575	13,125	450	3.3	13,484	13,004	480	3.6	14,000	13,530	470	3.4
Searcy	10,431	10,036	395	3.8	10,389	9,992	397	3.8	10,441	10,096	345	3.3
Sherwood	15,882	15,464	418	2.6	15,822	15,402	420	2.7	15,839	15,431	408	2.6
Springdale	39,566	38,638	928	2.3	39,358	38,429	929	2.4	39,568	38,676	892	2.3
Texarkana, AR	13,725	13,057	668	4.9	13,646	12,923	723	5.3	13,661	13,102	559	4.1
Van Buren	10,204	9,867	337	3.3	10,188	9,852	336	3.3	10,349	10,029	320	3.1
West Memphis	10,851	10,427	424	3.9	10,736	10,306	430	4.0	10,791	10,376	415	3.8

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	October 2018				September 2018				October 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,161	8,894	267	2.9	9,056	8,783	273	3.0	9,092	8,832	260	2.9
Ashley	7,662	7,302	360	4.7	7,654	7,300	354	4.6	7,742	7,378	364	4.7
Baxter	16,331	15,729	602	3.7	16,399	15,800	599	3.7	16,302	15,684	618	3.8
Benton	134,320	130,818	3,502	2.6	133,534	130,054	3,480	2.6	134,525	130,944	3,581	2.7
Boone	15,832	15,333	499	3.2	15,787	15,311	476	3.0	15,816	15,331	485	3.1
Bradley	4,514	4,340	174	3.9	4,484	4,318	166	3.7	4,537	4,369	168	3.7
Calhoun	2,363	2,286	77	3.3	2,338	2,264	74	3.2	2,369	2,285	84	3.5
Carroll	12,795	12,450	345	2.7	12,773	12,432	341	2.7	13,328	12,988	340	2.6
Chicot	3,408	3,220	188	5.5	3,381	3,193	188	5.6	3,513	3,308	205	5.8
Clark	9,730	9,403	327	3.4	9,738	9,382	356	3.7	9,722	9,377	345	3.5
Clay	5,791	5,565	226	3.9	5,752	5,536	216	3.8	5,832	5,621	211	3.6
Cleburne	9,140	8,777	363	4.0	9,226	8,853	373	4.0	9,308	8,909	399	4.3
Cleveland	3,238	3,122	116	3.6	3,199	3,086	113	3.5	3,319	3,191	128	3.9
Columbia	8,928	8,564	364	4.1	8,894	8,520	374	4.2	9,139	8,762	377	4.1
Conway	8,120	7,814	306	3.8	8,093	7,785	308	3.8	8,261	7,940	321	3.9
Craighead	54,513	53,031	1,482	2.7	54,302	52,833	1,469	2.7	54,026	52,636	1,390	2.6
Crawford	26,143	25,270	873	3.3	26,116	25,231	885	3.4	26,533	25,683	850	3.2
Crittenden	21,909	21,108	801	3.7	21,698	20,864	834	3.8	21,789	21,006	783	3.6
Cross	7,473	7,201	272	3.6	7,449	7,179	270	3.6	7,710	7,450	260	3.4
Dallas	2,867	2,755	112	3.9	2,862	2,753	109	3.8	2,957	2,841	116	3.9
Desha	5,580	5,373	207	3.7	5,459	5,244	215	3.9	5,507	5,298	209	3.8
Drew	7,958	7,622	336	4.2	7,859	7,526	333	4.2	8,012	7,680	332	4.1
Faulkner	61,489	59,672	1,817	3.0	61,207	59,413	1,794	2.9	61,320	59,549	1,771	2.9
Franklin	7,368	7,130	238	3.2	7,335	7,096	239	3.3	7,513	7,292	221	2.9
Fulton	4,708	4,542	166	3.5	4,751	4,591	160	3.4	4,648	4,487	161	3.5
Garland	39,712	38,188	1,524	3.8	39,478	37,987	1,491	3.8	39,659	38,229	1,430	3.6
Grant	8,412	8,180	232	2.8	8,344	8,110	234	2.8	8,394	8,164	230	2.7
Greene	19,645	19,051	594	3.0	19,596	19,001	595	3.0	19,756	19,131	625	3.2
Hempstead	9,980	9,632	348	3.5	9,972	9,633	339	3.4	9,959	9,662	297	3.0
Hot Spring	13,876	13,406	470	3.4	13,791	13,317	474	3.4	14,217	13,747	470	3.3
Howard	5,879	5,680	199	3.4	5,847	5,646	201	3.4	5,926	5,773	153	2.6
Independence	16,159	15,559	600	3.7	16,160	15,561	599	3.7	16,295	15,706	589	3.6
Izard	4,772	4,569	203	4.3	4,840	4,607	233	4.8	4,898	4,687	211	4.3
Jackson	5,823	5,501	322	5.5	5,741	5,412	329	5.7	5,870	5,586	284	4.8
Jefferson	27,600	26,239	1,361	4.9	27,414	26,065	1,349	4.9	28,131	26,866	1,265	4.5
Johnson	10,428	10,039	389	3.7	10,363	9,984	379	3.7	10,723	10,317	406	3.8
Lafayette	2,508	2,397	111	4.4	2,489	2,374	115	4.6	2,509	2,397	112	4.5
Lawrence	6,959	6,718	241	3.5	6,885	6,650	235	3.4	7,041	6,814	227	3.2
Lee	2,925	2,800	125	4.3	2,884	2,753	131	4.5	2,918	2,795	123	4.2
Lincoln	3,961	3,807	154	3.9	3,914	3,759	155	4.0	4,031	3,889	142	3.5
Little River	5,594	5,306	288	5.1	5,540	5,242	298	5.4	5,573	5,325	248	4.5
Logan	8,744	8,425	319	3.6	8,701	8,376	325	3.7	8,894	8,599	295	3.3
Lonoke	34,033	33,033	1,000	2.9	33,771	32,791	980	2.9	33,933	32,970	963	2.8
Madison	7,544	7,346	198	2.6	7,442	7,244	198	2.7	7,543	7,354	189	2.5
Marion	6,513	6,260	253	3.9	6,575	6,321	254	3.9	6,404	6,186	218	3.4
Miller	19,772	18,891	881	4.5	19,630	18,697	933	4.8	19,725	18,955	770	3.9

(continued on Page 16)

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted												
County	October 2018				September 2018				October 2018			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,658	16,881	777	4.4	17,551	16,746	805	4.6	18,017	17,221	796	4.4
Monroe	2,738	2,629	109	4.0	2,699	2,598	101	3.7	2,808	2,704	104	3.7
Montgomery	3,058	2,925	133	4.3	3,055	2,926	129	4.2	2,992	2,859	133	4.4
Nevada	3,630	3,515	115	3.2	3,647	3,529	118	3.2	3,637	3,525	112	3.1
Newton	3,364	3,260	104	3.1	3,348	3,245	103	3.1	3,364	3,261	103	3.1
Ouachita	9,855	9,430	425	4.3	9,830	9,411	419	4.3	9,817	9,414	403	4.1
Perry	4,195	4,045	150	3.6	4,171	4,020	151	3.6	4,190	4,039	151	3.6
Phillips	6,541	6,205	336	5.1	6,487	6,124	363	5.6	6,567	6,222	345	5.3
Pike	4,277	4,118	159	3.7	4,260	4,107	153	3.6	4,295	4,136	159	3.7
Poinsett	10,412	10,082	330	3.2	10,319	9,980	339	3.3	10,393	10,014	379	3.6
Polk	7,983	7,692	291	3.6	7,933	7,637	296	3.7	7,905	7,602	303	3.8
Pope	28,941	27,886	1,055	3.6	28,755	27,630	1,125	3.9	29,850	28,748	1,102	3.7
Prairie	3,609	3,478	131	3.6	3,576	3,451	125	3.5	3,748	3,619	129	3.4
Pulaski	191,052	185,103	5,949	3.1	190,376	184,366	6,010	3.2	190,428	184,713	5,715	3.0
Randolph	7,195	6,954	241	3.3	7,151	6,910	241	3.4	6,945	6,692	253	3.6
St. Francis	8,311	7,931	380	4.6	8,283	7,897	386	4.7	8,378	8,002	376	4.5
Saline	58,131	56,478	1,653	2.8	57,914	56,261	1,653	2.9	57,898	56,358	1,540	2.7
Scott	4,419	4,279	140	3.2	4,373	4,232	141	3.2	4,485	4,332	153	3.4
Searcy	2,852	2,740	112	3.9	2,943	2,827	116	3.9	2,869	2,747	122	4.3
Sebastian	55,938	54,102	1,836	3.3	55,962	54,113	1,849	3.3	56,864	54,991	1,873	3.3
Sevier	5,576	5,325	251	4.5	5,539	5,291	248	4.5	5,724	5,499	225	3.9
Sharp	5,823	5,564	259	4.4	5,857	5,609	248	4.2	6,031	5,775	256	4.2
Stone	4,801	4,611	190	4.0	4,805	4,610	195	4.1	4,805	4,613	192	4.0
Union	15,994	15,250	744	4.7	15,995	15,243	752	4.7	16,141	15,418	723	4.5
Van Buren	5,871	5,602	269	4.6	5,927	5,653	274	4.6	6,063	5,783	280	4.6
Washington	124,123	121,166	2,957	2.4	123,442	120,515	2,927	2.4	124,049	121,283	2,766	2.2
White	33,665	32,394	1,271	3.8	33,498	32,251	1,247	3.7	33,845	32,586	1,259	3.7
Woodruff	2,884	2,762	122	4.2	2,838	2,714	124	4.4	2,968	2,843	125	4.2
Yell	8,573	8,261	312	3.6	8,441	8,127	314	3.7	8,792	8,499	293	3.3

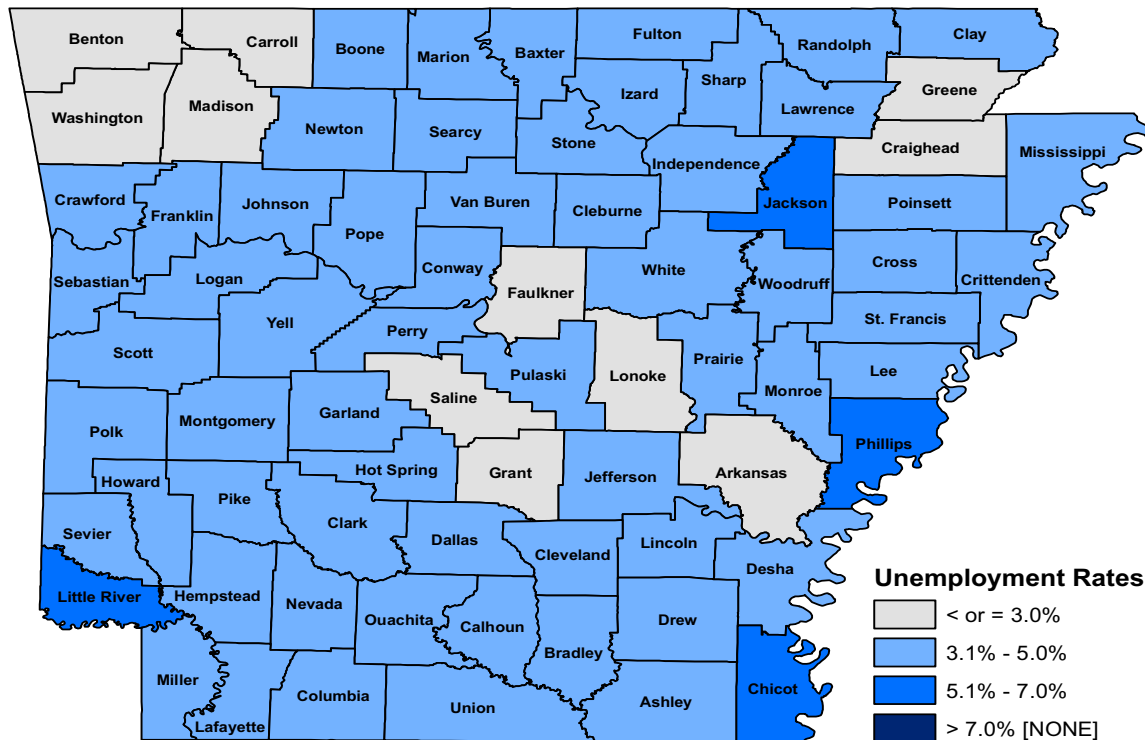
County Labor Force Summary

Between September and October, unemployment rates declined in 29 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Another twenty-nine counties were unchanged, while 17 counties posted rate increases over-the-month. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.4 percent in Washington County to a high of 5.5 percent in Jackson County.

In October, fifty-four counties reported unemployment rates at or below four percent. That is one more county above four percent than in September. For the fifth month in a row, no county posted a jobless rate above eight percent.

Compared to October 2017, unemployment rates are up in 41 Arkansas counties. Rates in twenty counties are down and 14 are the same over-the-year.

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

October 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.4	26	Fulton	3.5	46	Searcy	3.9
2	Benton	2.6	26	Hempstead	3.5	52	Cleburne	4.0
2	Madison	2.6	26	Lawrence	3.5	52	Monroe	4.0
4	Carroll	2.7	29	Cleveland	3.6	52	Stone	4.0
4	Craighead	2.7	29	Cross	3.6	55	Columbia	4.1
6	Grant	2.8	29	Logan	3.6	56	Drew	4.2
6	Saline	2.8	29	Perry	3.6	56	Woodruff	4.2
8	Arkansas	2.9	29	Polk	3.6	58	Izard	4.3
8	Lonoke	2.9	29	Pope	3.6	58	Lee	4.3
10	Faulkner	3.0	29	Prairie	3.6	58	Montgomery	4.3
10	Greene	3.0	29	Yell	3.6	58	Ouachita	4.3
12	Newton	3.1	37	Baxter	3.7	62	Lafayette	4.4
12	Pulaski	3.1	37	Crittenden	3.7	62	Mississippi	4.4
14	Boone	3.2	37	Desha	3.7	62	Sharp	4.4
14	Franklin	3.2	37	Independence	3.7	65	Miller	4.5
14	Nevada	3.2	37	Johnson	3.7	65	Sevier	4.5
14	Poinsett	3.2	37	Pike	3.7	67	St. Francis	4.6
14	Scott	3.2	43	Conway	3.8	67	Van Buren	4.6
19	Calhoun	3.3	43	Garland	3.8	69	Ashley	4.7
19	Crawford	3.3	43	White	3.8	69	Union	4.7
19	Randolph	3.3	46	Bradley	3.9	71	Jefferson	4.9
19	Sebastian	3.3	46	Clay	3.9	72	Little River	5.1
23	Clark	3.4	46	Dallas	3.9	72	Phillips	5.1
23	Hot Spring	3.4	46	Lincoln	3.9	74	Chicot	5.5
23	Howard	3.4	46	Marion	3.9	74	Jackson	5.5

Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	October 2018				September 2018				October 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	252,505	244,928	7,577	3.0	251,325	243,795	7,530	3.0	251,978	244,649	7,329	2.9
City of Little Rock	98,547	95,465	3,082	3.1	98,218	95,085	3,133	3.2	98,157	95,264	2,893	2.9
Eastern	47,159	45,245	1,914	4.1	46,801	44,817	1,984	4.2	47,362	45,475	1,887	4.0
North Central	93,646	89,881	3,765	4.0	93,643	89,861	3,782	4.0	94,731	90,975	3,756	4.0
Northeast	122,173	118,282	3,891	3.2	121,556	117,656	3,900	3.2	122,010	118,129	3,881	3.2
Northwest	323,674	315,102	8,572	2.6	322,243	313,749	8,494	2.6	324,200	315,778	8,422	2.6
Southeast	81,494	78,099	3,395	4.2	80,764	77,384	3,380	4.2	82,278	78,975	3,303	4.0
Southwest	92,946	89,031	3,915	4.2	92,583	88,603	3,980	4.3	93,476	89,856	3,620	3.9
West Central	130,910	126,085	4,825	3.7	130,145	125,265	4,880	3.7	132,701	127,891	4,810	3.6
Western	110,595	106,898	3,697	3.3	110,420	106,685	3,735	3.4	112,194	108,499	3,695	3.3

