

# Arkansas

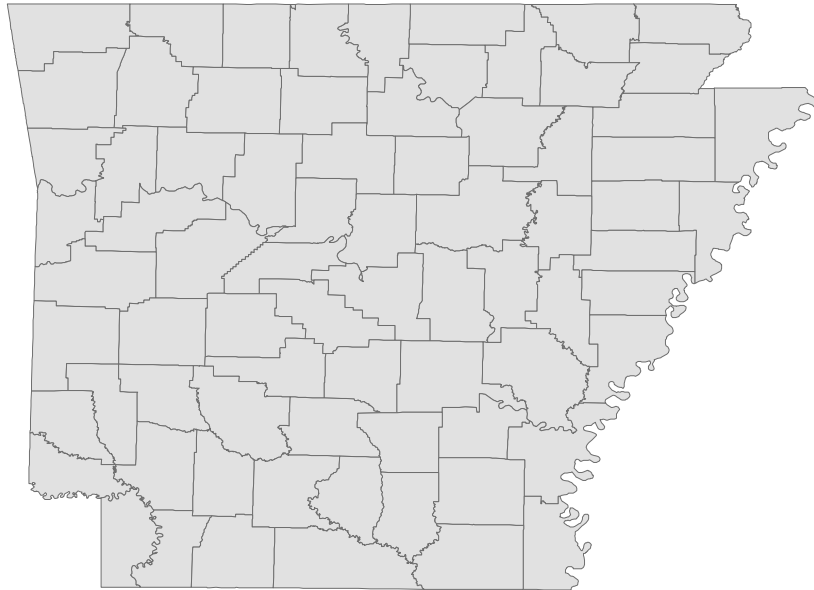
## Labor Market Report



20  
18

September

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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**

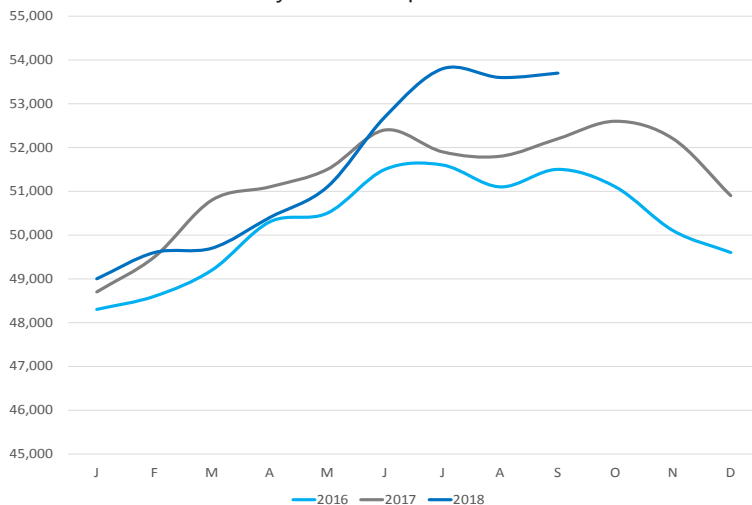
A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to seasonal events such as weather, major holidays, schedule shifts, harvest times, and the opening/closing of schools.

### September 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 are highlighted, along with some of the industries that are *indirectly* affected by seasonal movements.

**Chart 4. Jobs in Construction**  
January 2016 - September 2018



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 in March, often peaking in September or October. Employment then tends to decline after October (see Chart 4). These weather patterns are a generalization, as non-typical weather events will also influence jobs in **construction**. On the other hand, large scale projects can cause employment spikes that are unrelated to the weather.

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. While this seasonal trend is significant, employment in accounting and tax preparation is not large enough to affect the trend of the **professional and business services** sector as a whole.

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

There are also other seasonal businesses, many of which may not be visible when tracking the movement of a major industry sector. For example, landscaping services is influenced by weather and the seasons. Employment in landscaping services increases during the spring and summer months, but 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.

### State of Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary

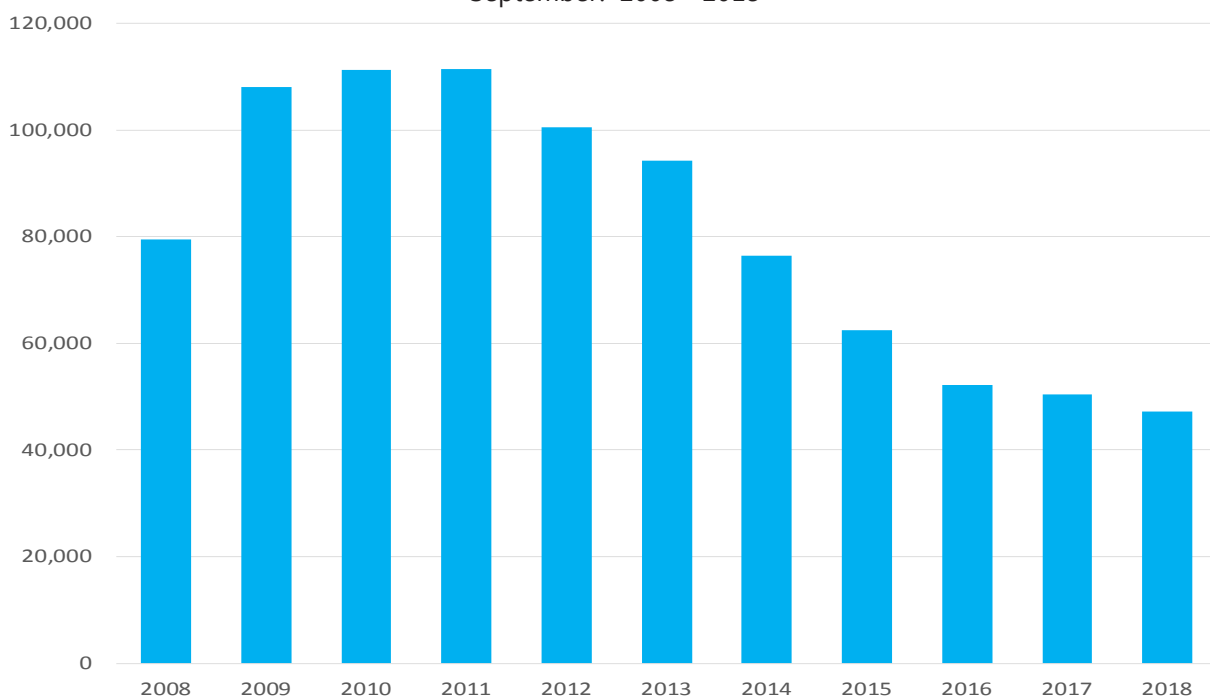
Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released today by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.6 percent in August to 3.5 percent in September. Arkansas' civilian labor force declined 1,220, a result of 891 fewer unemployed and 329 less employed Arkansans. At 3.7 percent, the United States' jobless rate dropped two-tenths of a percentage point in September, down from 3.9 percent in August.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate declined for the third consecutive month. September's rate of 3.5 percent is the lowest in Arkansas' recorded history, breaking last year's record low of 3.6 percent."

#### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Sep 18	Aug 18	Sep 17		Sep 18	Aug 18	Sep 17
Civilian Labor Force	1,345,646	1,346,866	1,357,918	Civilian Labor Force	1,347,541	1,345,054	1,363,077
Employment	1,298,402	1,298,731	1,307,414	Employment	1,302,671	1,299,862	1,314,732
Unemployment	47,244	48,135	50,504	Unemployment	44,870	45,192	48,345
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.6	3.7	Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.4	3.5
U.S. Unemployment	3.7	3.9	4.2	U.S. Unemployment	3.6	3.9	4.1

**Number of Unemployed (Seasonally Adjusted)**  
September: 2008 - 2018



### State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

#### Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1259.0	1240.0	1248.3	19.0	10.7
Goods Producing	219.3	218.7	216.0	0.6	3.3
Mining, Logging, and Construction	59.1	59.2	58.1	-0.1	1.0
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	32.9	33.2	32.2	-0.3	0.7
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>160.2</b>	<b>159.5</b>	<b>157.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Durable Goods	75.7	75.3	74.9	0.4	0.8
Nondurable Goods	84.5	84.2	83.0	0.3	1.5
Service Providing	1039.7	1021.3	1032.3	18.4	7.4
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>252.0</b>	<b>251.6</b>	<b>250.7</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Wholesale Trade	47.2	46.4	47.0	0.8	0.2
Retail Trade	139.7	141.3	139.8	-1.6	-0.1
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	65.1	63.9	63.9	1.2	1.2
<b>Information</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Finance & Insurance	40.1	40.3	39.6	-0.2	0.5
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.8	14.0	13.3	-0.2	0.5
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>151.9</b>	<b>148.3</b>	<b>145.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>
Professional, Scientific & Technical	42.8	42.2	42.0	0.6	0.8
Management of Companies	35.2	34.9	34.5	0.3	0.7
Administrative & Support Services	73.9	71.2	68.7	2.7	5.2
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>190.4</b>	<b>186.5</b>	<b>189.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Educational Services	16.0	13.7	15.2	2.3	0.8
Health Care & Social Assistance	174.4	172.8	174.3	1.6	0.1
Ambulatory Health Care	57.6	56.8	57.3	0.8	0.3
Social Assistance	38.8	38.2	39.6	0.6	-0.8
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>117.7</b>	<b>119.0</b>	<b>118.5</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	11.0	12.1	11.3	-1.1	-0.3
Accommodation & Food Services	106.7	106.9	107.2	-0.2	-0.5
Accommodation Services	11.3	11.4	11.5	-0.1	-0.2
Food Services	95.4	95.5	95.7	-0.1	-0.3
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>213.6</b>	<b>200.7</b>	<b>213.8</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Federal Government	19.9	19.8	20.0	0.1	-0.1
State Government	79.1	74.3	79.1	4.8	0.0
Local Government	114.6	106.6	114.7	8.0	-0.1

### State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary

#### August 2018 - September 2018

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 19,000 in September to total 1,259,000. Six major industry sectors posted gains, while jobs in four sectors declined. **Government** added 12,900 jobs. Expansions were in local (+8,000) and state (+4,800) government, related to seasonal hiring at public schools and universities. Jobs in **educational and health services** increased 3,900, attributed in large part to hiring in educational services (+2,300). Employment in **professional and business services** rose 3,600. Gains occurred in all subsectors, with the largest posted in administrative and support services (+2,700). **Leisure and hospitality** declined 1,300. Most of the contraction was in arts, entertainment, and recreation (-1,100), an expected seasonal loss.

#### September 2017 - September 2018

Compared to September 2017, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs increased 10,700. Growth occurred in six major industry sectors, while five sectors posted declines. Jobs in **professional and business services** rose 6,700. A majority of the hiring was posted in administrative and support services (+5,200), a sub-sector which includes employment agencies. **Manufacturing** added 2,300 jobs. Expansions occurred in both nondurable (+1,500) and durable (+800) goods manufacturing. Employment in **construction** increased 1,500, related to ongoing projects throughout the state. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 1,300. Most of the gains were in transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+1,200). **Financial activities** added 1,000 jobs. The sector includes businesses such as real estate, insurance, and banking. Employment in **information** is down 1,000.

#### Jobs in Manufacturing (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

September 2014 - September 2018



### State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

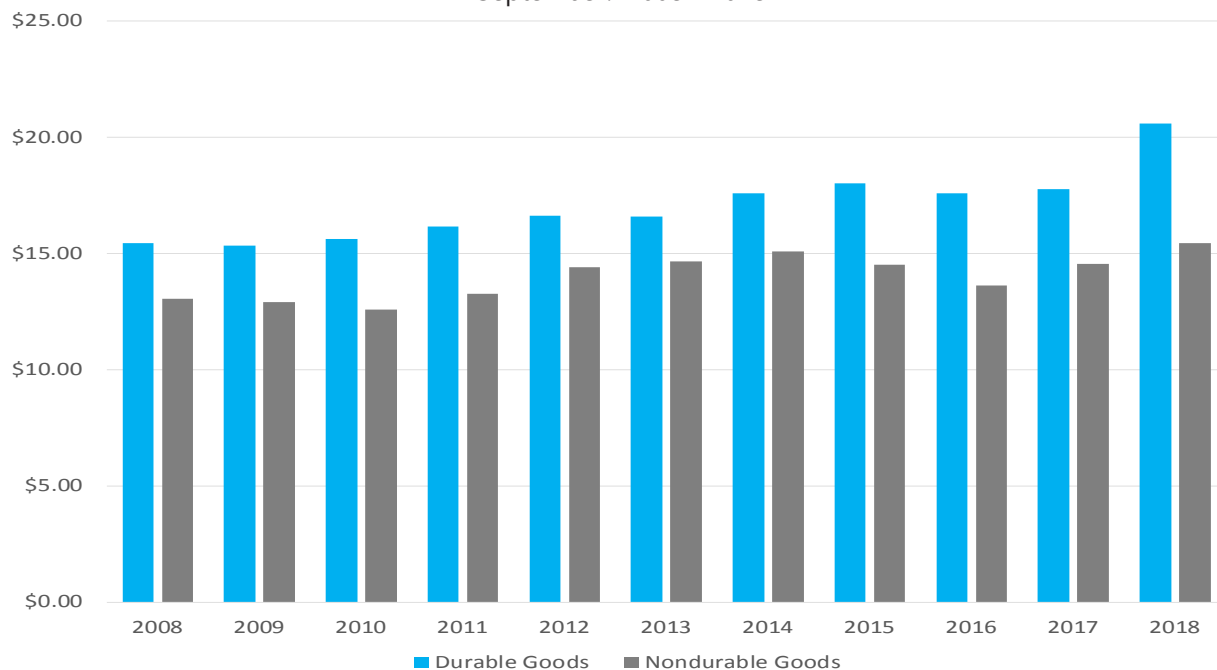
#### Manufacturing

	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>
Average Weekly Hours	42.8	42.7	41.0
Average Hourly Earnings	17.85	17.57	16.03
Average Weekly Earnings	763.98	750.24	657.23

#### Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

	Durable Goods Manufacturing			Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	
Average Weekly Hours	43.7	43.6	41.0	Average Weekly Hours	42.0	42.0	41.0
Average Hourly Earnings	20.60	19.85	17.78	Average Hourly Earnings	15.45	15.60	14.55
Average Weekly Earnings	900.22	865.46	728.98	Average Weekly Earnings	648.90	655.20	596.55

**Average Hourly Earnings: Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods**  
September: 2008 - 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)

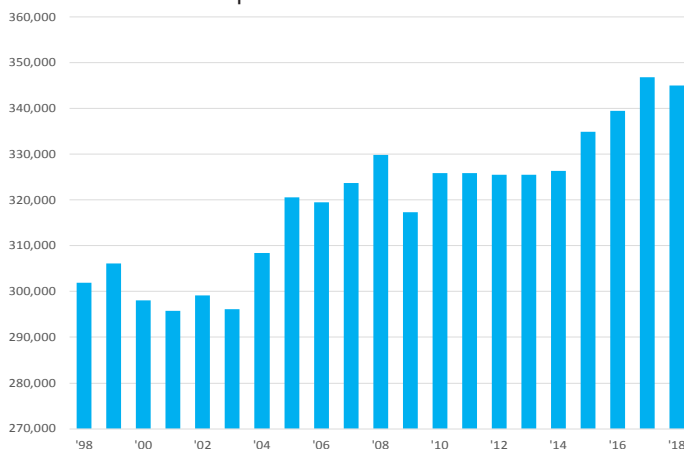
	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	355,914	356,915	358,361	-1,001	-2,447
Employment	345,075	346,064	346,824	-989	-1,749
Unemployment	10,839	10,851	11,537	-12	-698
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.0	3.2	0.0	-0.2

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

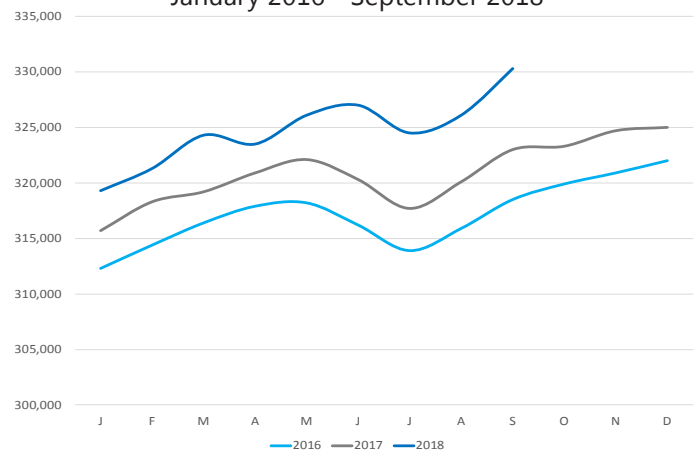
(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	367.7	363.6	360.7	4.1	7.0
Goods Producing	37.4	37.5	37.7	-0.1	-0.3
Mining, Logging & Construction	17.2	17.3	17.5	-0.1	-0.3
Manufacturing	20.2	20.2	20.2	0.0	0.0
Service Providing	330.3	326.1	323.0	4.2	7.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	70.6	70.7	70.1	-0.1	0.5
Wholesale Trade	15.1	15.1	15.2	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	39.1	39.4	38.9	-0.3	0.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	16.4	16.2	16.0	0.2	0.4
Information	5.5	5.6	5.9	-0.1	-0.4
Financial Activities	21.1	21.2	20.9	-0.1	0.2
Professional & Business Services	51.9	49.8	48.1	2.1	3.8
Educational & Health Services	60.3	59.3	57.0	1.0	3.3
Leisure & Hospitality	34.3	34.7	34.4	-0.4	-0.1
Other Services	15.6	15.8	15.6	-0.2	0.0
Government	71.0	69.0	71.0	2.0	0.0
Federal Government	9.4	9.4	9.5	0.0	-0.1
State Government	35.6	34.6	35.3	1.0	0.3
Local Government	26.0	25.0	26.2	1.0	-0.2

**Number of Employed**  
September: 1998 - 2018



**Jobs in Service Providing Industries**  
January 2016 - September 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>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	274,888	274,153	275,700	735	-812
Employment	268,011	267,165	268,143	846	-132
Unemployment	6,877	6,988	7,557	-111	-680
Unemployment Rate	2.5	2.5	2.7	0.0	-0.2

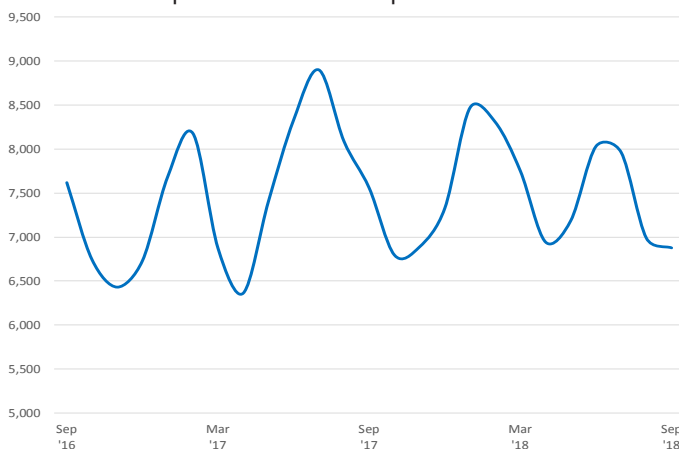
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	262.0	257.4	256.1	4.6	5.9
Goods Producing	42.1	42.2	40.3	-0.1	1.8
Mining, Logging & Construction	12.4	12.5	11.4	-0.1	1.0
Manufacturing	29.7	29.7	28.9	0.0	0.8
Service Providing	219.9	215.2	215.8	4.7	4.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	56.5	56.5	56.7	0.0	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	13.5	13.5	13.2	0.0	0.3
Retail Trade	26.0	26.3	26.8	-0.3	-0.8
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	17.0	16.7	16.7	0.3	0.3
Information	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	7.9	8.0	7.8	-0.1	0.1
Professional & Business Services	50.2	49.5	49.6	0.7	0.6
Educational & Health Services	30.2	28.9	28.7	1.3	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	27.1	27.8	26.1	-0.7	1.0
Other Services	9.1	9.1	9.0	0.0	0.1
Government	37.1	33.6	36.0	3.5	1.1
Federal Government	2.6	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.0
State Government	15.8	13.4	15.0	2.4	0.8
Local Government	18.7	17.6	18.4	1.1	0.3

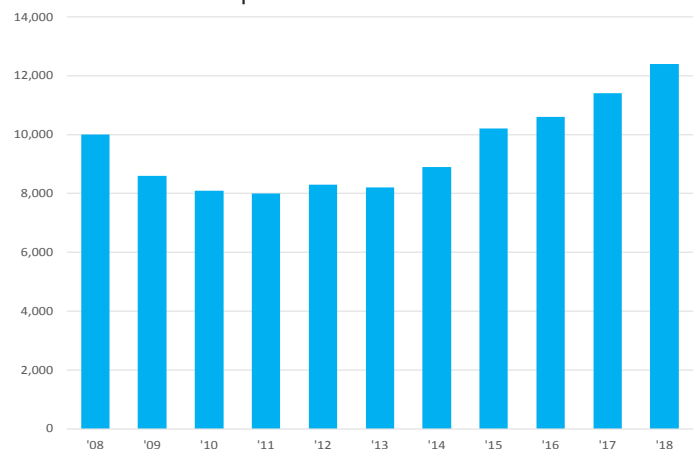
### Unemployment

September 2016 - September 2018



### Jobs in Mining-Logging-Construction

September: 2008 - 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>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	117,798	118,078	120,369	-280	-2,571
Employment	113,663	113,792	115,433	-129	-1,770
Unemployment	4,135	4,286	4,936	-151	-801
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.6	4.1	-0.1	-0.6

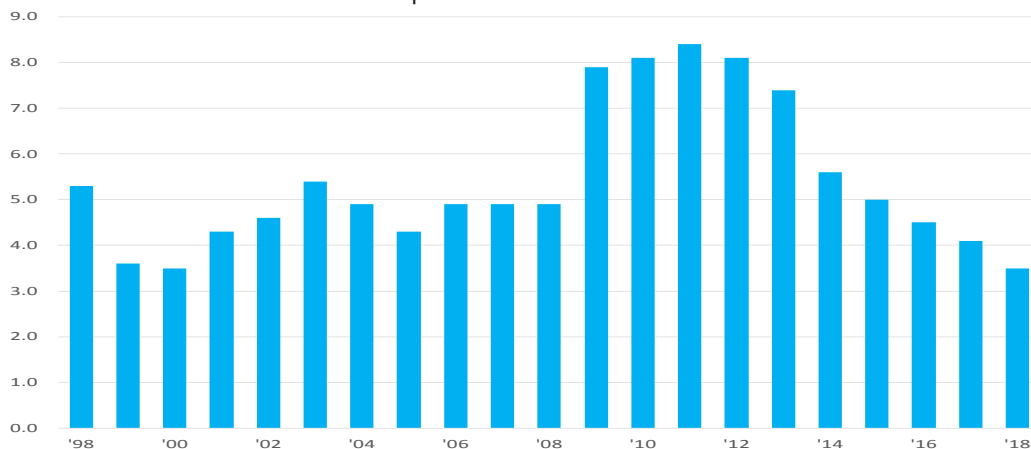
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	113.0	111.9	113.1	1.1	-0.1
Goods Producing	22.9	23.0	23.3	-0.1	-0.4
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.4	5.5	5.4	-0.1	0.0
Manufacturing	17.5	17.5	17.9	0.0	-0.4
Service Providing	90.1	88.9	89.8	1.2	0.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	22.4	22.6	22.7	-0.2	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.8	3.8	3.9	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	12.2	12.5	12.4	-0.3	-0.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.4	6.3	6.4	0.1	0.0
Information	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	3.8	3.9	3.8	-0.1	0.0
Professional & Business Services	13.1	12.8	12.6	0.3	0.5
Educational & Health Services	16.9	16.7	16.9	0.2	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	9.5	9.8	9.5	-0.3	0.0
Other Services	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Government	18.8	17.5	18.7	1.3	0.1
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	3.1	2.9	3.1	0.2	0.0
Local Government	14.4	13.3	14.3	1.1	0.1

### Unemployment Rates

September: 1998 - 2018



### Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	39,509	40,057	40,391	-548	-882
Employment	38,015	38,578	38,788	-563	-773
Unemployment	1,494	1,479	1,603	15	-109
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.7	4.0	0.1	-0.2

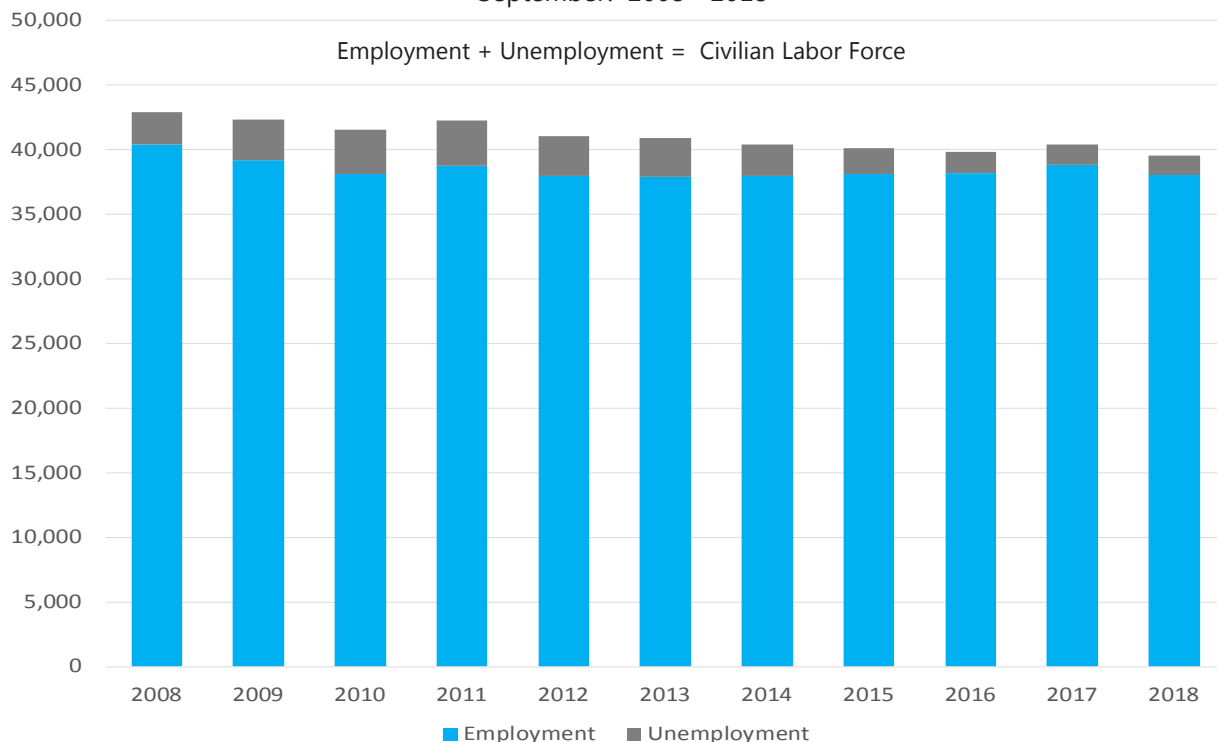
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	38.1	38.0	38.0	0.1	0.1
Goods Producing	4.8	4.7	4.5	0.1	0.3
Service Providing	33.3	33.3	33.5	0.0	-0.2
Government	4.6	4.3	4.6	0.3	0.0

### Employment and Unemployment

September: 2008 - 2018



### Metropolitan Statistical Areas

## Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	64,502	64,659	64,763	-157	-261
Employment	62,688	62,806	62,797	-118	-109
Unemployment	1,814	1,853	1,966	-39	-152
Unemployment Rate	2.8	2.9	3.0	-0.1	-0.2

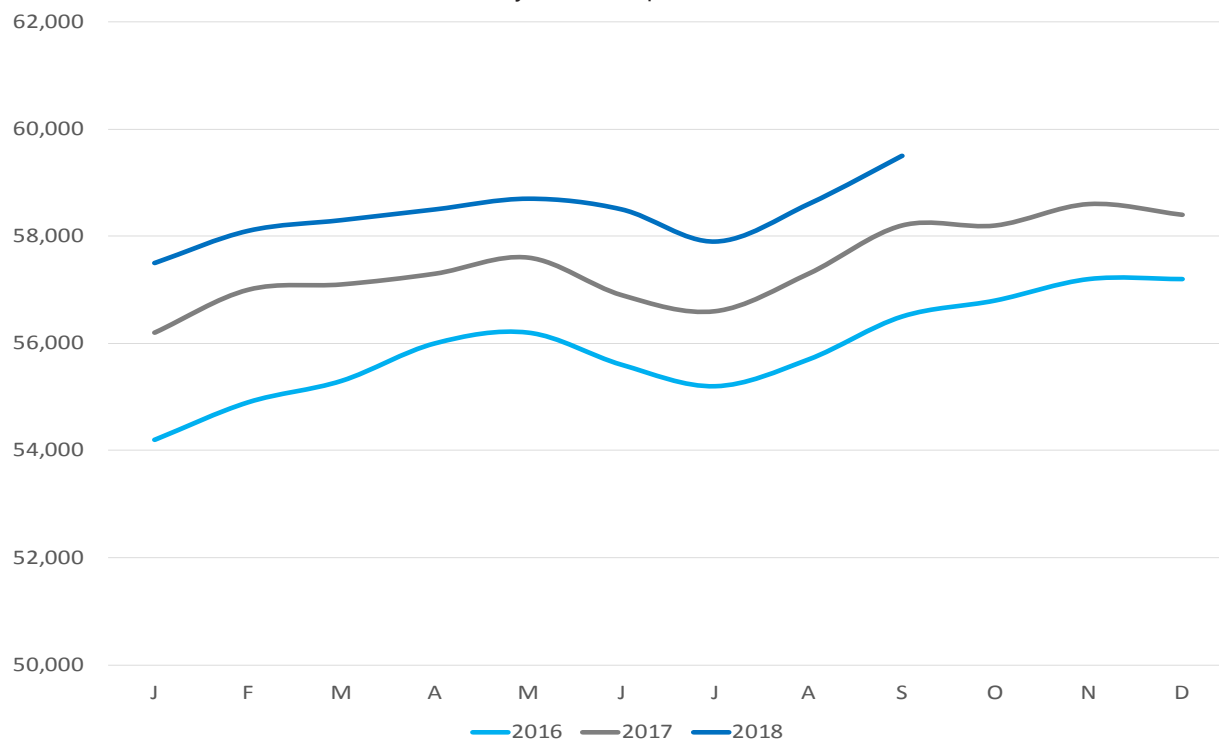
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	59.5	58.6	58.2	0.9	1.3
Goods Producing	10.1	10.0	9.8	0.1	0.3
Service Providing	49.4	48.6	48.4	0.8	1.0
Government	9.4	8.9	9.3	0.5	0.1

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

January 2016 - September 2018



### Metropolitan Statistical Areas Pine Bluff MSA

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

#### Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	34,489	34,522	35,572	-33	-1,083
Employment	32,874	32,895	33,892	-21	-1,018
Unemployment	1,615	1,627	1,680	-12	-65
Unemployment Rate	4.7	4.7	4.7	0.0	0.0

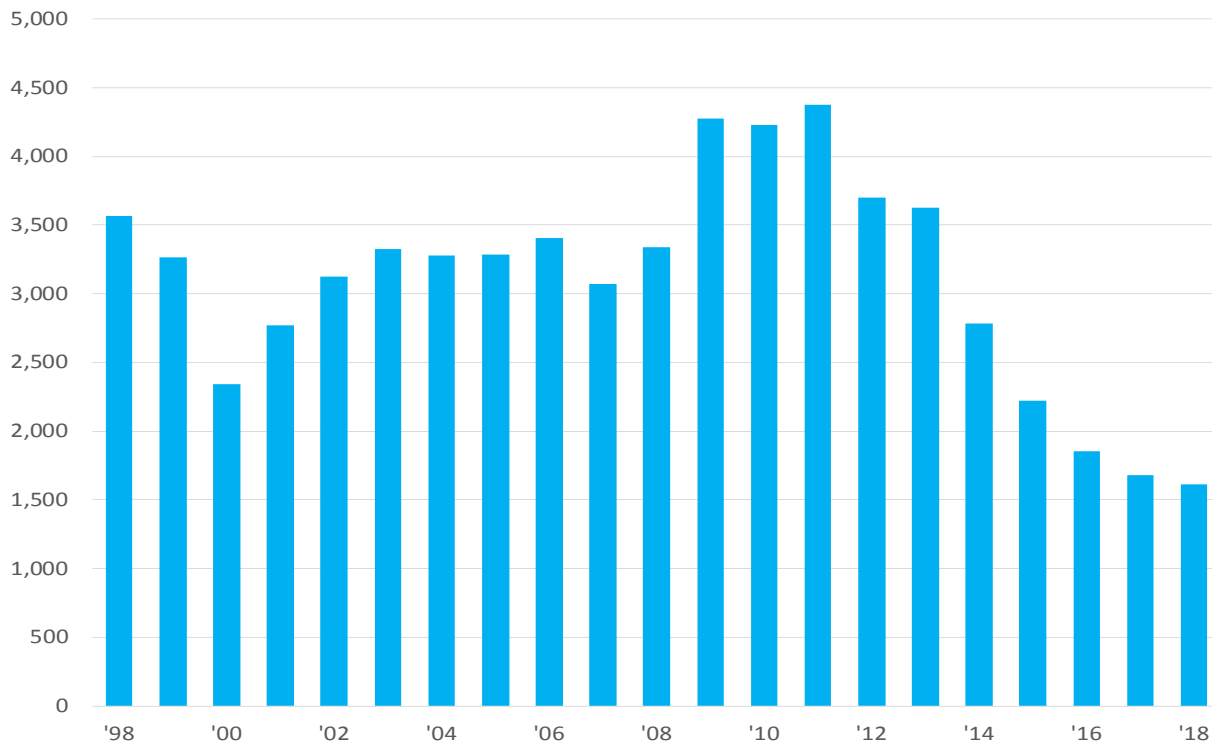
#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	32.8	32.3	33.1	0.5	-0.3
Goods Producing	6.1	6.0	6.1	0.1	0.0
Service Providing	26.7	26.3	27.0	0.4	-0.3
Government	9.4	9.1	9.5	0.3	-0.1

#### Number of Unemployed

September: 1998 - 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.

	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	638,742	641,128	630,288	-2,386	8,454
Employment	611,295	613,004	606,020	-1,709	5,275
Unemployment	27,447	28,124	24,268	-677	3,179
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.4	3.9	-0.1	0.4

##### Texarkana MSA

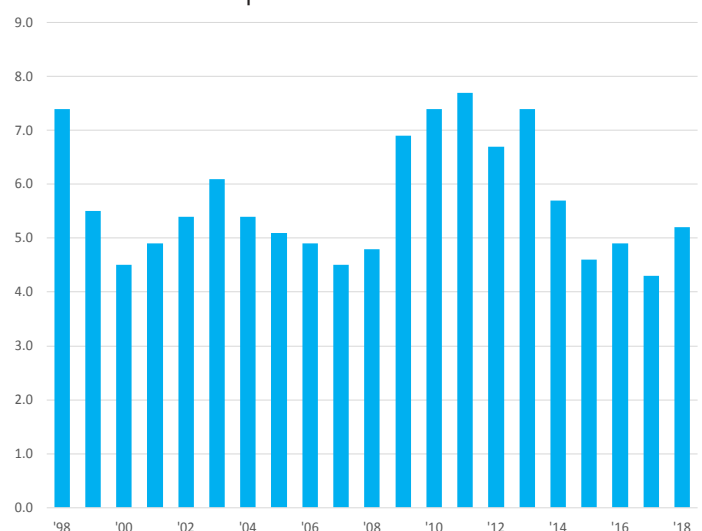
The Texarkana MSA= Bowie County in Texas & Little River & Miller counties in Arkansas.

	<u>Sep 18</u>	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	64,814	64,383	64,821	431	-7
Employment	61,456	61,178	62,063	278	-607
Unemployment	3,358	3,205	2,758	153	600
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.0	4.3	0.2	0.9

**Memphis MSA - Employment**  
September 2016 - September 2018



**Texarkana MSA - Unemployment Rates**  
September: 1998 - 2018



### Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Cities Civilian Labor Force Estimates

#### Micropolitan Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	September 2018				August 2018				September 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	9,733	9,376	357	3.7	9,492	9,157	335	3.5	9,541	9,191	350	3.7
Batesville Micro	16,152	15,551	601	3.7	15,631	15,029	602	3.9	16,320	15,686	634	3.9
Blytheville Micro	17,541	16,735	806	4.6	17,396	16,519	877	5.0	18,169	17,291	878	4.8
Camden Micro	12,161	11,668	493	4.1	12,027	11,534	493	4.1	12,326	11,795	531	4.3
El Dorado Micro	15,986	15,234	752	4.7	15,974	15,189	785	4.9	16,186	15,383	803	5.0
Forrest City Micro	8,283	7,895	388	4.7	8,372	7,997	375	4.5	8,392	7,986	406	4.8
Harrison Micro	19,125	18,544	581	3.0	18,772	18,182	590	3.1	19,305	18,644	661	3.4
Helena-West Helena Micro	6,484	6,120	364	5.6	6,469	6,132	337	5.2	6,521	6,142	379	5.8
Hope Micro	13,612	13,154	458	3.4	13,210	12,743	467	3.5	13,626	13,170	456	3.3
Magnolia Micro	8,890	8,515	375	4.2	8,628	8,236	392	4.5	9,266	8,827	439	4.7
Malvern Micro	13,792	13,315	477	3.5	13,757	13,285	472	3.4	14,175	13,640	535	3.8
Mountain Home Micro	16,391	15,790	601	3.7	16,214	15,613	601	3.7	16,774	16,066	708	4.2
Paragould Micro	19,581	18,984	597	3.0	19,543	18,956	587	3.0	19,763	19,087	676	3.4
Russellville Micro	37,175	35,734	1,441	3.9	36,467	34,902	1,565	4.3	37,848	36,215	1,633	4.3
Searcy Micro	33,486	32,237	1,249	3.7	33,297	32,041	1,256	3.8	34,177	32,793	1,384	4.0

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	September 2018				August 2018				September 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	12,449	12,022	427	3.4	12,398	11,986	412	3.3	12,502	12,037	465	3.7
Benton	17,328	16,828	500	2.9	17,355	16,873	482	2.8	17,389	16,914	475	2.7
Bentonville	25,502	24,924	578	2.3	25,444	24,850	594	2.3	25,711	24,956	755	2.9
Blytheville	5,986	5,698	288	4.8	5,975	5,625	350	5.9	6,218	5,888	330	5.3
Cabot	11,894	11,543	351	3.0	11,938	11,587	351	2.9	11,974	11,595	379	3.2
Conway	33,576	32,579	997	3.0	33,675	32,680	995	3.0	33,801	32,738	1,063	3.1
El Dorado	7,021	6,620	401	5.7	7,032	6,601	431	6.1	7,088	6,685	403	5.7
Fayetteville	47,635	46,458	1,177	2.5	47,521	46,330	1,191	2.5	47,716	46,512	1,204	2.5
Fort Smith	39,092	37,798	1,294	3.3	39,179	37,922	1,257	3.2	40,048	38,628	1,420	3.5
Hot Springs	14,252	13,635	617	4.3	14,445	13,837	608	4.2	14,543	13,912	631	4.3
Jacksonville	11,832	11,357	475	4.0	11,844	11,387	457	3.9	11,909	11,417	492	4.1
Jonesboro	38,084	37,034	1,050	2.8	38,157	37,090	1,067	2.8	38,231	37,105	1,126	2.9
Little Rock	98,255	95,117	3,138	3.2	98,513	95,363	3,150	3.2	98,832	95,614	3,218	3.3
North Little Rock	30,120	29,150	970	3.2	30,214	29,226	988	3.3	30,421	29,303	1,118	3.7
Paragould	12,302	11,904	398	3.2	12,268	11,886	382	3.1	12,425	11,969	456	3.7
Pine Bluff	16,456	15,521	935	5.7	16,467	15,517	950	5.8	16,946	16,018	928	5.5
Rogers	35,307	34,443	864	2.4	35,208	34,342	866	2.5	35,477	34,488	989	2.8
Russellville	13,477	12,996	481	3.6	13,208	12,679	529	4.0	13,718	13,177	541	3.9
Searcy	10,387	9,988	399	3.8	10,313	9,927	386	3.7	10,537	10,160	377	3.6
Sherwood	15,830	15,408	422	2.7	15,872	15,448	424	2.7	15,958	15,488	470	2.9
Springdale	39,325	38,396	929	2.4	39,230	38,291	939	2.4	39,424	38,442	982	2.5
Texarkana, AR	13,612	12,889	723	5.3	13,643	12,967	676	5.0	13,727	13,106	621	4.5
Van Buren	10,224	9,887	337	3.3	10,257	9,924	333	3.2	10,446	10,100	346	3.3
West Memphis	10,758	10,326	432	4.0	10,880	10,440	440	4.0	10,782	10,330	452	4.2

### County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	September 2018				August 2018				September 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,050	8,777	273	3.0	9,113	8,843	270	3.0	9,075	8,793	282	3.1
Ashley	7,650	7,296	354	4.6	7,553	7,189	364	4.8	7,694	7,285	409	5.3
Baxter	16,391	15,790	601	3.7	16,214	15,613	601	3.7	16,774	16,066	708	4.2
Benton	133,429	129,944	3,485	2.6	133,050	129,561	3,489	2.6	134,052	130,111	3,941	2.9
Boone	15,779	15,301	478	3.0	15,481	14,990	491	3.2	15,928	15,388	540	3.4
Bradley	4,482	4,316	166	3.7	4,340	4,171	169	3.9	4,368	4,174	194	4.4
Calhoun	2,337	2,263	74	3.2	2,321	2,244	77	3.3	2,375	2,284	91	3.8
Carroll	12,765	12,424	341	2.7	12,935	12,589	346	2.7	13,317	12,937	380	2.9
Chicot	3,378	3,190	188	5.6	3,418	3,232	186	5.4	3,466	3,266	200	5.8
Clark	9,733	9,376	357	3.7	9,492	9,157	335	3.5	9,541	9,191	350	3.7
Clay	5,749	5,532	217	3.8	5,815	5,593	222	3.8	5,885	5,638	247	4.2
Cleburne	9,223	8,849	374	4.1	9,164	8,786	378	4.1	9,424	8,994	430	4.6
Cleveland	3,195	3,082	113	3.5	3,208	3,093	115	3.6	3,311	3,168	143	4.3
Columbia	8,890	8,515	375	4.2	8,628	8,236	392	4.5	9,266	8,827	439	4.7
Conway	8,092	7,783	309	3.8	8,088	7,780	308	3.8	8,287	7,925	362	4.4
Craighead	54,201	52,727	1,474	2.7	54,298	52,806	1,492	2.7	54,393	52,828	1,565	2.9
Crawford	26,208	25,321	887	3.4	26,281	25,415	866	3.3	26,799	25,865	934	3.5
Crittenden	21,741	20,904	837	3.8	21,985	21,135	850	3.9	21,781	20,913	868	4.0
Cross	7,445	7,174	271	3.6	7,515	7,243	272	3.6	7,632	7,348	284	3.7
Dallas	2,861	2,752	109	3.8	2,879	2,766	113	3.9	2,815	2,685	130	4.6
Desha	5,457	5,241	216	4.0	5,469	5,253	216	3.9	5,519	5,284	235	4.3
Drew	7,855	7,521	334	4.3	7,551	7,216	335	4.4	7,842	7,476	366	4.7
Faulkner	61,229	59,432	1,797	2.9	61,418	59,617	1,801	2.9	61,686	59,723	1,963	3.2
Franklin	7,339	7,099	240	3.3	7,374	7,124	250	3.4	7,429	7,185	244	3.3
Fulton	4,749	4,588	161	3.4	4,622	4,449	173	3.7	4,808	4,627	181	3.8
Garland	39,509	38,015	1,494	3.8	40,057	38,578	1,479	3.7	40,391	38,788	1,603	4.0
Grant	8,348	8,113	235	2.8	8,384	8,141	243	2.9	8,408	8,153	255	3.0
Greene	19,581	18,984	597	3.0	19,543	18,956	587	3.0	19,763	19,087	676	3.4
Hempstead	9,967	9,627	340	3.4	9,676	9,333	343	3.5	9,974	9,638	336	3.4
Hot Spring	13,792	13,315	477	3.5	13,757	13,285	472	3.4	14,175	13,640	535	3.8
Howard	5,844	5,642	202	3.5	5,812	5,618	194	3.3	5,977	5,801	176	2.9
Independence	16,152	15,551	601	3.7	15,631	15,029	602	3.9	16,320	15,686	634	3.9
Izard	4,837	4,605	232	4.8	4,777	4,524	253	5.3	4,925	4,668	257	5.2
Jackson	5,739	5,409	330	5.8	5,779	5,444	335	5.8	5,847	5,541	306	5.2
Jefferson	27,385	26,037	1,348	4.9	27,379	26,029	1,350	4.9	28,252	26,870	1,382	4.9
Johnson	10,358	9,978	380	3.7	10,122	9,592	530	5.2	10,631	10,178	453	4.3
Lafayette	2,487	2,372	115	4.6	2,443	2,333	110	4.5	2,515	2,387	128	5.1
Lawrence	6,879	6,643	236	3.4	6,625	6,388	237	3.6	7,004	6,764	240	3.4
Lee	2,884	2,752	132	4.6	2,913	2,785	128	4.4	2,974	2,833	141	4.7
Lincoln	3,909	3,755	154	3.9	3,935	3,773	162	4.1	4,009	3,854	155	3.9
Little River	5,524	5,228	296	5.4	5,523	5,254	269	4.9	5,596	5,319	277	4.9
Logan	8,705	8,379	326	3.7	8,729	8,408	321	3.7	8,939	8,603	336	3.8
Lonoke	33,781	32,800	981	2.9	33,902	32,927	975	2.9	34,021	32,949	1,072	3.2
Madison	7,435	7,237	198	2.7	7,441	7,250	191	2.6	7,442	7,232	210	2.8
Marion	6,571	6,316	255	3.9	6,509	6,274	235	3.6	6,576	6,317	259	3.9
Miller	19,581	18,648	933	4.8	19,631	18,760	871	4.4	19,810	18,962	848	4.3

(continued on Page 16)



### County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted												
County	September 2018				August 2018				September 2018			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	17,541	16,735	806	4.6	17,396	16,519	877	5.0	18,169	17,291	878	4.8
Monroe	2,699	2,597	102	3.8	2,741	2,636	105	3.8	2,786	2,670	116	4.2
Montgomery	3,053	2,924	129	4.2	3,084	2,958	126	4.1	3,068	2,928	140	4.6
Nevada	3,645	3,527	118	3.2	3,534	3,410	124	3.5	3,652	3,532	120	3.3
Newton	3,346	3,243	103	3.1	3,291	3,192	99	3.0	3,377	3,256	121	3.6
Ouachita	9,824	9,405	419	4.3	9,706	9,290	416	4.3	9,951	9,511	440	4.4
Perry	4,174	4,022	152	3.6	4,196	4,043	153	3.6	4,195	4,036	159	3.8
Phillips	6,484	6,120	364	5.6	6,469	6,132	337	5.2	6,521	6,142	379	5.8
Pike	4,256	4,104	152	3.6	4,329	4,168	161	3.7	4,272	4,108	164	3.8
Poinsett	10,301	9,961	340	3.3	10,361	10,000	361	3.5	10,370	9,969	401	3.9
Polk	7,928	7,632	296	3.7	8,008	7,698	310	3.9	8,064	7,726	338	4.2
Pope	28,738	27,612	1,126	3.9	28,180	26,939	1,241	4.4	29,291	27,998	1,293	4.4
Prairie	3,575	3,450	125	3.5	3,555	3,437	118	3.3	3,665	3,519	146	4.0
Pulaski	190,447	184,428	6,019	3.2	190,939	184,906	6,033	3.2	191,758	185,393	6,365	3.3
Randolph	7,146	6,905	241	3.4	7,055	6,805	250	3.5	7,014	6,745	269	3.8
St. Francis	8,283	7,895	388	4.7	8,372	7,997	375	4.5	8,392	7,986	406	4.8
Saline	57,935	56,280	1,655	2.9	58,076	56,430	1,646	2.8	58,293	56,570	1,723	3.0
Scott	4,374	4,232	142	3.2	4,374	4,224	150	3.4	4,385	4,216	169	3.9
Searcy	2,942	2,825	117	4.0	2,987	2,879	108	3.6	3,064	2,926	138	4.5
Sebastian	56,159	54,309	1,850	3.3	56,283	54,487	1,796	3.2	57,563	55,501	2,062	3.6
Sevier	5,534	5,288	246	4.4	5,515	5,270	245	4.4	5,646	5,394	252	4.5
Sharp	5,853	5,605	248	4.2	5,680	5,426	254	4.5	6,141	5,877	264	4.3
Stone	4,804	4,607	197	4.1	4,852	4,664	188	3.9	4,813	4,607	206	4.3
Union	15,986	15,234	752	4.7	15,974	15,189	785	4.9	16,186	15,383	803	5.0
Van Buren	5,925	5,650	275	4.6	5,836	5,558	278	4.8	6,139	5,837	302	4.9
Washington	123,345	120,412	2,933	2.4	123,042	120,081	2,961	2.4	123,622	120,552	3,070	2.5
White	33,486	32,237	1,249	3.7	33,297	32,041	1,256	3.8	34,177	32,793	1,384	4.0
Woodruff	2,836	2,712	124	4.4	2,854	2,736	118	4.1	2,932	2,800	132	4.5
Yell	8,437	8,122	315	3.7	8,287	7,963	324	3.9	8,557	8,217	340	4.0

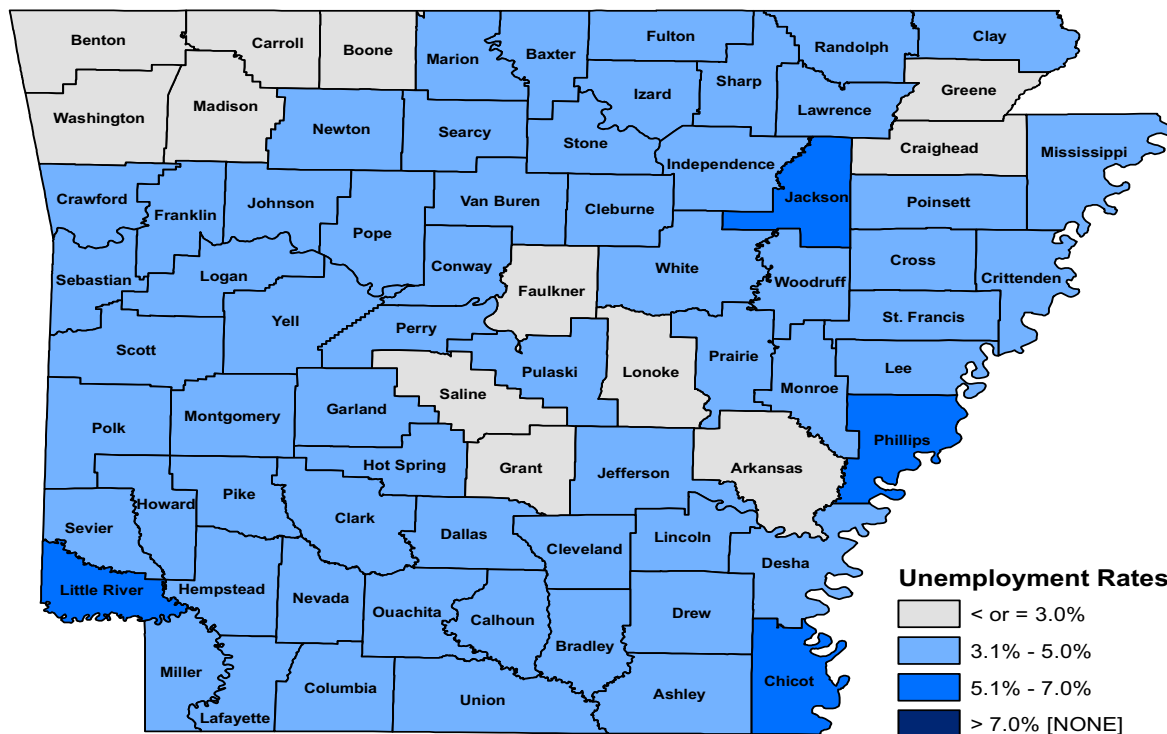
### County Labor Force Summary

Between August and September, unemployment rates decreased in 31 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates in twenty-three counties increased, while 21 counties were unchanged over the month. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 2.4 percent in Washington County to a high of 5.8 percent in Jackson County.

In September, fifty-two counties posted unemployment rates at or below four percent. That is up slightly from 50 counties above four percent in August. For the fourth consecutive month, no county reported a jobless rate above eight percent.

Compared to September 2017, unemployment rates are down in 64 Arkansas counties. Seven counties were the same, while four posted rate increases over the year.

### County Unemployment Rates



### Ranked by Unemployment Rates

September 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.4	26	Cleveland	3.5	51	Desha	4.0
2	Benton	2.6	26	Hot Spring	3.5	51	Searcy	4.0
3	Carroll	2.7	26	Howard	3.5	53	Cleburne	4.1
3	Craighead	2.7	26	Prairie	3.5	53	Stone	4.1
3	Madison	2.7	30	Cross	3.6	55	Columbia	4.2
6	Grant	2.8	30	Perry	3.6	55	Montgomery	4.2
7	Faulkner	2.9	30	Pike	3.6	55	Sharp	4.2
7	Lonoke	2.9	33	Baxter	3.7	58	Drew	4.3
7	Saline	2.9	33	Bradley	3.7	58	Ouachita	4.3
10	Arkansas	3.0	33	Clark	3.7	60	Sevier	4.4
10	Boone	3.0	33	Independence	3.7	60	Woodruff	4.4
10	Greene	3.0	33	Johnson	3.7	62	Ashley	4.6
13	Newton	3.1	33	Logan	3.7	62	Lafayette	4.6
14	Calhoun	3.2	33	Polk	3.7	62	Lee	4.6
14	Nevada	3.2	33	White	3.7	62	Mississippi	4.6
14	Pulaski	3.2	33	Yell	3.7	62	Van Buren	4.6
14	Scott	3.2	42	Clay	3.8	62	St. Francis	4.7
18	Franklin	3.3	42	Conway	3.8	67	Union	4.7
18	Poinsett	3.3	42	Crittenden	3.8	69	Izard	4.8
18	Sebastian	3.3	42	Dallas	3.8	69	Miller	4.8
21	Crawford	3.4	42	Garland	3.8	71	Jefferson	4.9
21	Hempstead	3.4	42	Monroe	3.8	72	Little River	5.4
21	Lawrence	3.4	48	Lincoln	3.9	73	Chicot	5.6
21	Randolph	3.4	48	Marion	3.9	73	Phillips	5.6
			48	Pope	3.9	75	Jackson	5.8

### Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	September 2018				August 2018				September 2017			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	251,411	243,870	7,541	3.0	252,118	244,590	7,528	3.0	253,377	245,210	8,167	3.2
City of Little Rock	98,255	95,117	3,138	3.2	98,513	95,363	3,150	3.2	98,832	95,614	3,218	3.3
Eastern	46,837	44,845	1,992	4.3	47,254	45,292	1,962	4.2	47,300	45,222	2,078	4.4
North Central	93,604	89,813	3,791	4.1	92,492	88,657	3,835	4.1	95,526	91,430	4,096	4.3
Northeast	121,398	117,487	3,911	3.2	121,093	117,067	4,026	3.3	122,598	118,322	4,276	3.5
Northwest	322,003	313,492	8,511	2.6	320,950	312,429	8,521	2.7	324,152	314,785	9,367	2.9
Southeast	80,709	77,328	3,381	4.2	80,350	76,940	3,410	4.2	81,944	78,323	3,621	4.4
Southwest	92,480	88,501	3,979	4.3	91,642	87,703	3,939	4.3	93,763	89,723	4,040	4.3
West Central	130,142	125,251	4,891	3.8	129,592	124,463	5,129	4.0	132,408	127,009	5,399	4.1
Western	110,713	106,972	3,741	3.4	111,049	107,356	3,693	3.3	113,179	109,096	4,083	3.6

