

FEBRUARY

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Arkansas Division of  
Workforce Services

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Arkansas Division of  
**Workforce Services**



## 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 2022 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 Areas**

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 1,000 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

# 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 1,000 Arkansas households are in the survey each month.

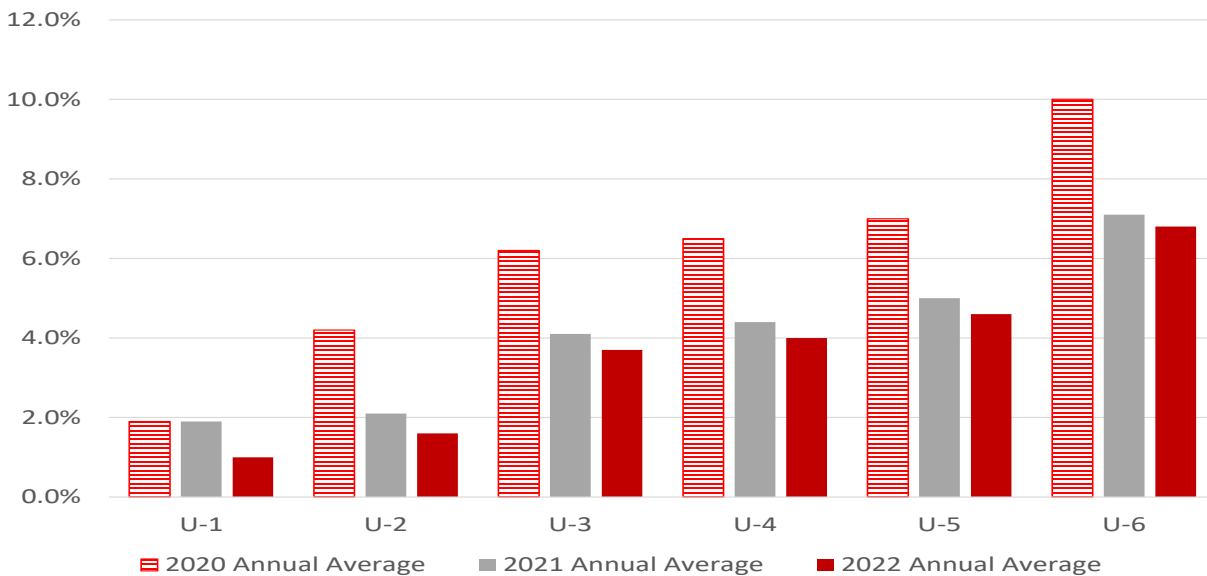
Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization are available at the statewide level and are produced quarterly. Estimates are calculated using a four quarter moving average. The most recent data available is for the Annual Average of 2022.

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

<b>Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization</b>					
State of Arkansas					
2022 Annual Average					
U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
1.0%	1.6%	3.7%	4.0%	4.6%	6.8%

- 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.

**Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization**  
State of Arkansas  
Three-Year Comparison (Annual Average)





## State of Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined two-tenths of a percentage point, from 3.4% in January to 3.2% in February. Rising to 3.6% in February, the United States' jobless rate increased two-tenths of a percentage point over the month.

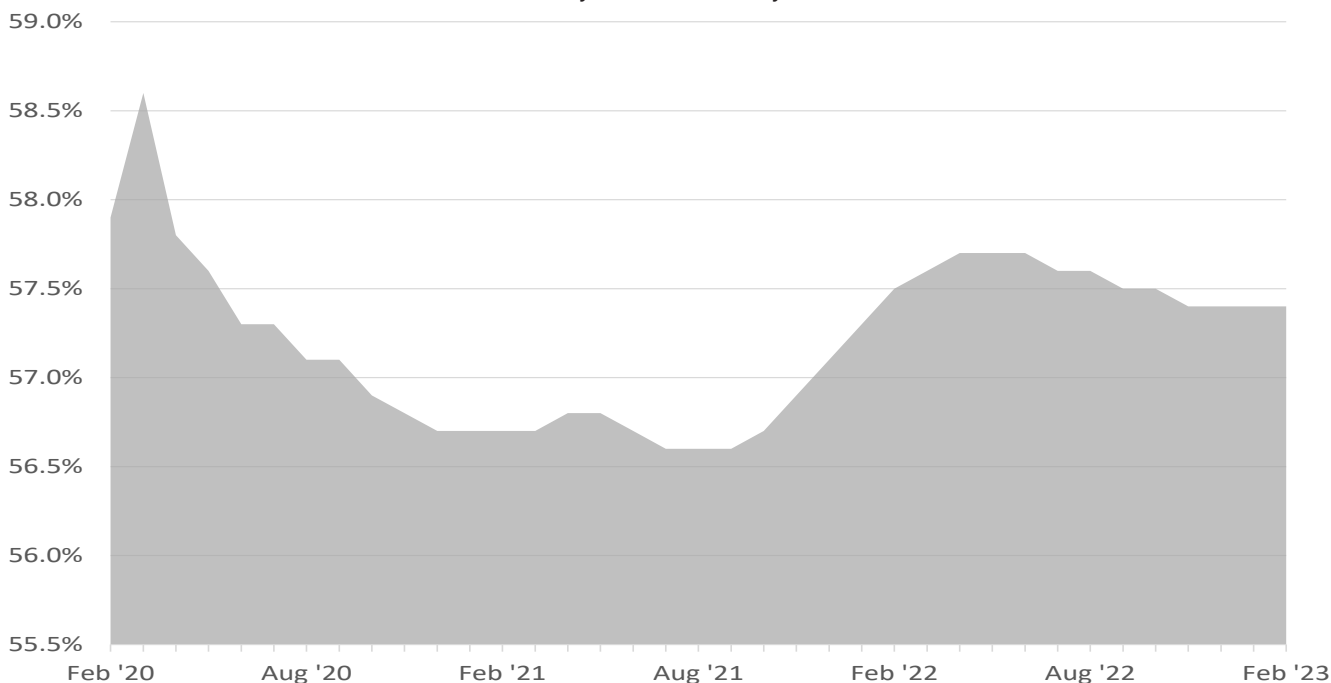
In February, Arkansas' civilian labor force rose by 87. There were 3,051 more employed compared to January and 2,964 fewer unemployed, bringing down the unemployment rate to 3.2%. The labor force participation rate remained stable at 57.4% between January and February.

Compared to February 2022, there are 9,172 additional employed Arkansans. The unemployment rate is unchanged over the year, with a slight 274 more unemployed in the State. Arkansas' labor force participation rate is down one-tenth of a percentage point, from 57.5% in February 2022.

### Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	
Civilian Labor Force	1,373,610	1,373,523	1,364,164	Civilian Labor Force	1,369,508	1,353,849	1,363,781
Employment	1,329,970	1,326,919	1,320,798	Employment	1,329,940	1,304,745	1,312,164
Unemployment	43,640	46,604	43,366	Unemployment	39,568	49,104	51,617
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	3.4%	3.2%	Unemployment Rate	2.9%	3.6%	3.8%
LF Participation Rate	57.4%	57.4%	57.5%	LF Participation Rate	57.2%	56.6%	57.5%

**Labor Force Participation Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)**  
 February 2020 - February 2023



## State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

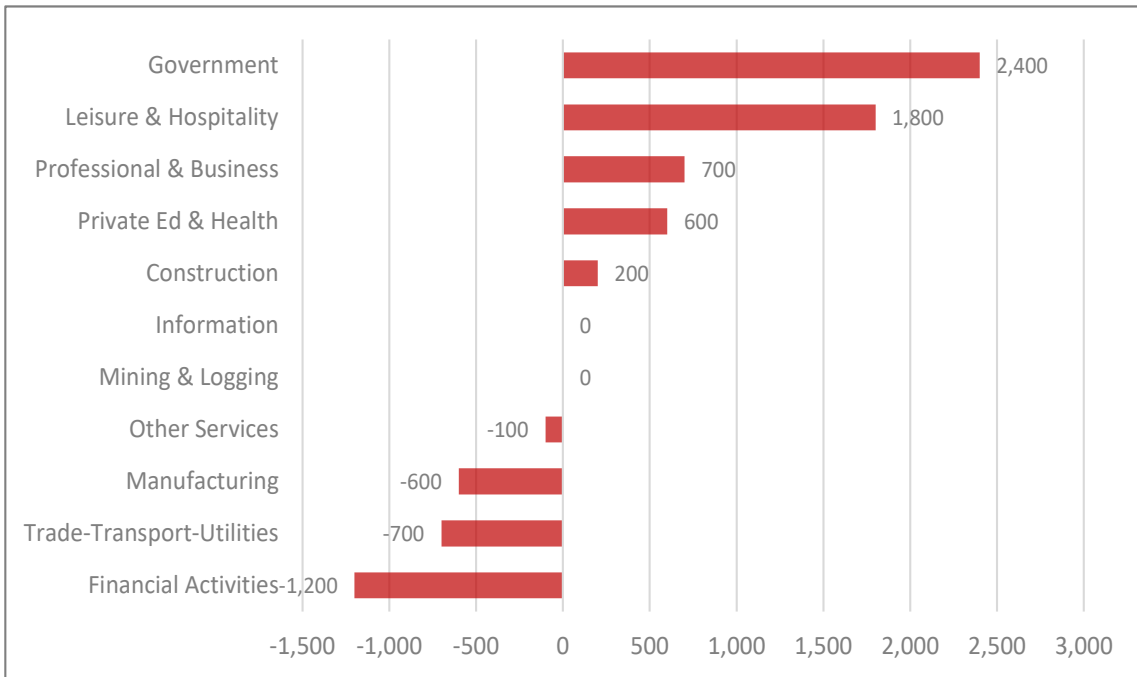
(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 22</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	1347.9	1344.8	1318.4	3.1	29.5
Goods Producing	227.6	228.0	221.2	-0.4	6.4
Mining, Logging, & Construction	63.5	63.3	60.4	0.2	3.1
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>58.6</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	35.8	36.0	34.9	-0.2	0.9
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>164.1</b>	<b>164.7</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Durable Goods	79.9	80.7	77.5	-0.8	2.4
Nondurable Goods	84.2	84.0	83.3	0.2	0.9
Service Providing	1120.3	1116.8	1097.2	3.5	23.1
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>274.2</b>	<b>274.9</b>	<b>267.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>7.2</b>
Wholesale Trade	54.3	54.1	49.8	0.2	4.5
Retail Trade	142.3	142.3	143.2	0.0	-0.9
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	77.6	78.5	74.0	-0.9	3.6
<b>Information</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
Finance & Insurance	54.8	55.7	55.5	-0.9	-0.7
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	14.1	14.4	14.3	-0.3	-0.2
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>151.2</b>	<b>150.5</b>	<b>150.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Professional, Scientific & Technical	48.9	48.0	47.4	0.9	1.5
Management of Companies	40.2	40.3	36.4	-0.1	3.8
Administrative & Support Services	62.1	62.2	67.0	-0.1	-4.9
<b>Private Education &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>203.4</b>	<b>202.8</b>	<b>196.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>
Private Educational Services	19.3	18.4	17.8	0.9	1.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	184.1	184.4	178.9	-0.3	5.2
Ambulatory Health Care	63.3	63.7	61.9	-0.4	1.4
Social Assistance	38.2	38.3	36.6	-0.1	1.6
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>122.1</b>	<b>120.3</b>	<b>116.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	12.3	12.0	11.3	0.3	1.0
Accommodation & Food Services	109.8	108.3	105.6	1.5	4.2
Accommodation Services	11.0	10.8	10.3	0.2	0.7
Food Services	98.8	97.5	95.3	1.3	3.5
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>76.2</b>	<b>76.3</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>211.6</b>	<b>209.2</b>	<b>209.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Federal Government	20.8	20.6	20.5	0.2	0.3
State Government	77.9	75.7	77.8	2.2	0.1
State Gov, Educational Services	31.7	29.5	31.4	2.2	0.3
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.2	46.2	46.4	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	112.9	112.9	111.6	0.0	1.3
Local Gov, Educational Services	70.1	70.1	69.6	0.0	0.5
Local Gov, Excluding Education	42.8	42.8	42.0	0.0	0.8

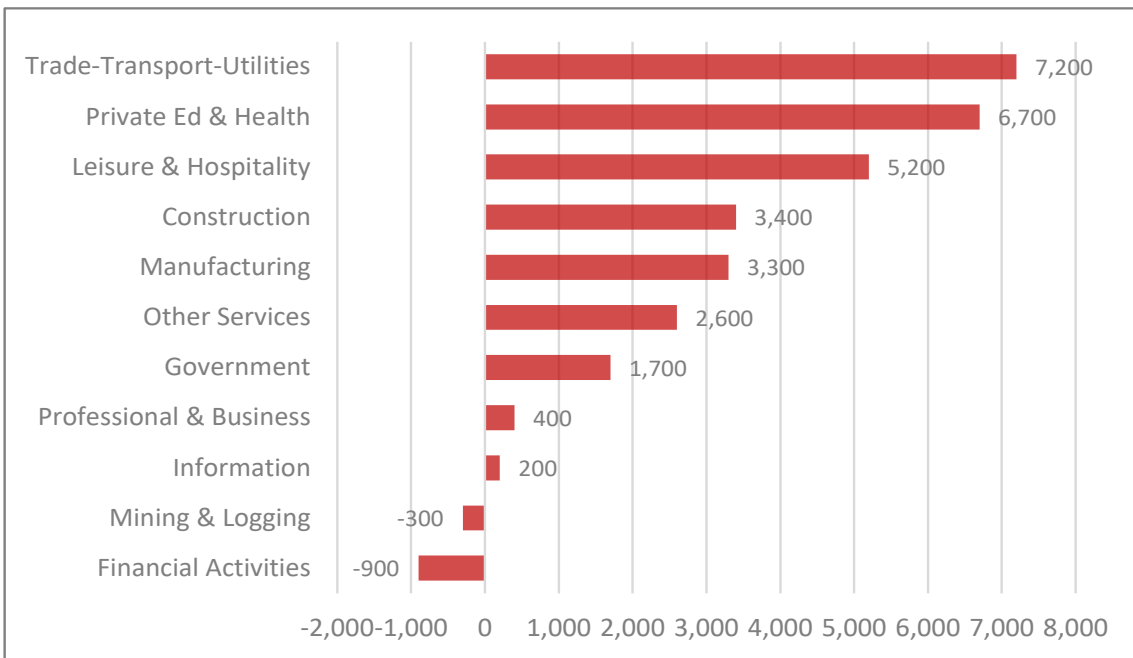


## State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

**Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector**  
 January 2023 - February 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



**Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector**  
 February 2022 - February 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



## State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings

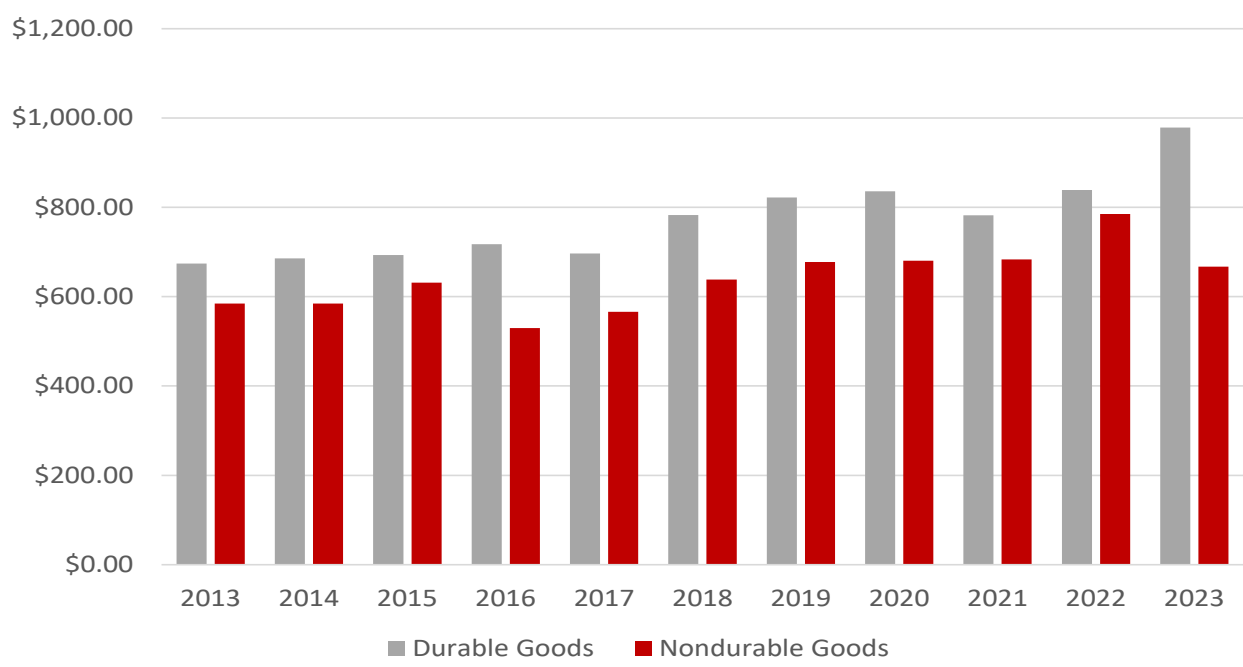
### Manufacturing

	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	37.8	37.9	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings	\$21.53	\$20.99	\$20.13
Average Weekly Earnings	\$813.83	\$795.52	\$811.24

### Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>		<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>
Average Weekly Hours	40.9	41.3	39.2	Average Weekly Hours	35.1	34.9	41.2
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.93	\$23.67	\$21.39	Average Hourly Earnings	\$19.01	\$18.10	\$19.05
Average Weekly Earnings	\$978.74	\$977.57	\$838.49	Average Weekly Earnings	\$667.25	\$631.69	\$784.86

**Average Weekly Earnings - Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods**  
 February: 2013 - 2023



## 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)

	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	358,951	355,226	359,151	3,725	-200
Employment	349,179	343,300	345,936	5,879	3,243
Unemployment	9,772	11,926	13,215	-2,154	-3,443
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	3.4%	3.7%	-0.7%	-1.0%

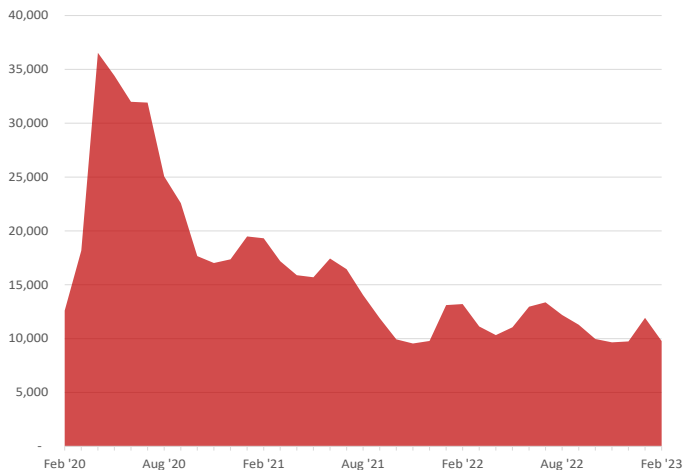
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Total Nonfarm	379.6	376.9	372.6	2.7	7.0
Goods Producing	39.0	39.0	38.0	0.0	1.0
Mining, Logging & Construction	19.1	19.0	18.4	0.1	0.7
Manufacturing	19.9	20.0	19.6	-0.1	0.3
Service Providing	340.6	337.9	334.6	2.7	6.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	78.3	78.4	77.5	-0.1	0.8
Wholesale Trade	18.4	18.4	16.6	0.0	1.8
Retail Trade	38.3	38.2	38.4	0.1	-0.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	21.6	21.8	22.5	-0.2	-0.9
Information	5.8	5.8	5.6	0.0	0.2
Financial Activities	24.2	24.5	24.5	-0.3	-0.3
Professional & Business Services	47.8	47.2	47.1	0.6	0.7
Private Education & Health Services	63.0	62.2	60.2	0.8	2.8
Leisure & Hospitality	33.1	32.0	32.0	1.1	1.1
Other Services	19.1	19.1	18.4	0.0	0.7
Government	69.3	68.7	69.3	0.6	0.0
Federal Government	9.9	9.8	9.9	0.1	0.0
State Government	34.1	33.6	34.5	0.5	-0.4
Local Government	25.3	25.3	24.9	0.0	0.4

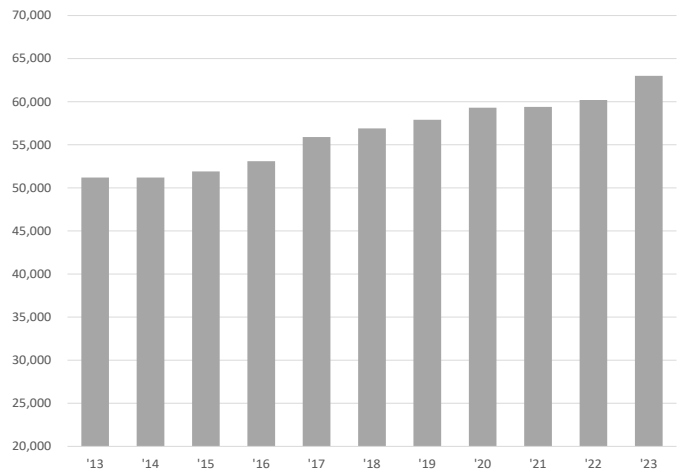
### Unemployment

February 2020 - February 2023



### Jobs in Private Education and Health Services

February: 2013 - 2023





## 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)

	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	310,478	305,801	301,269	4,677	9,209
Employment	304,079	297,909	293,188	6,170	10,891
Unemployment	6,399	7,892	8,081	-1,493	-1,682
Unemployment Rate	2.1%	2.6%	2.7%	-0.5%	-0.6%

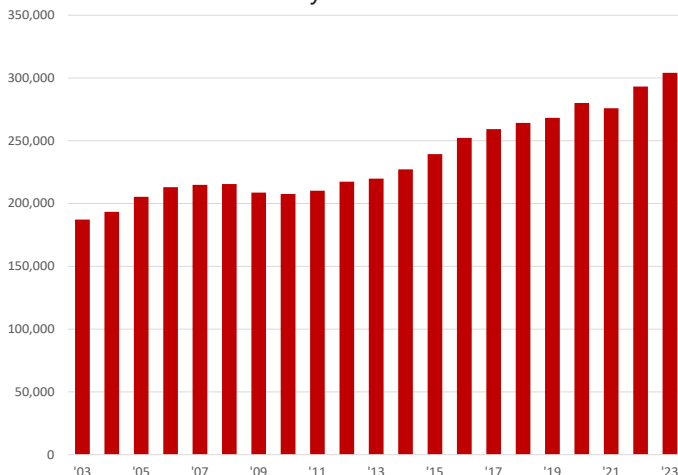
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>QTY</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>304.2</b>	<b>301.6</b>	<b>290.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>14.0</b>
Goods Producing	47.1	47.1	45.7	0.0	1.4
Mining, Logging & Construction	15.1	15.2	14.1	-0.1	1.0
Manufacturing	32.0	31.9	31.6	0.1	0.4
Service Providing	257.1	254.5	244.5	2.6	12.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	64.0	64.5	60.6	-0.5	3.4
Wholesale Trade	14.4	14.4	13.4	0.0	1.0
Retail Trade	28.6	28.8	28.8	-0.2	-0.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	21.0	21.3	18.4	-0.3	2.6
Information	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0	0.1
Financial Activities	10.0	10.2	9.9	-0.2	0.1
Professional & Business Services	58.8	58.2	57.1	0.6	1.7
Private Education & Health Services	34.4	34.0	32.5	0.4	1.9
Leisure & Hospitality	29.3	29.4	27.2	-0.1	2.1
Other Services	15.7	15.6	14.9	0.1	0.8
Government	42.5	40.2	40.0	2.3	2.5
Federal Government	3.0	3.0	2.9	0.0	0.1
State Government	19.5	17.2	18.0	2.3	1.5
Local Government	20.0	20.0	19.1	0.0	0.9

#### Employment

February: 2003 - 2023



#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February 2020 - February 2023



## 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)

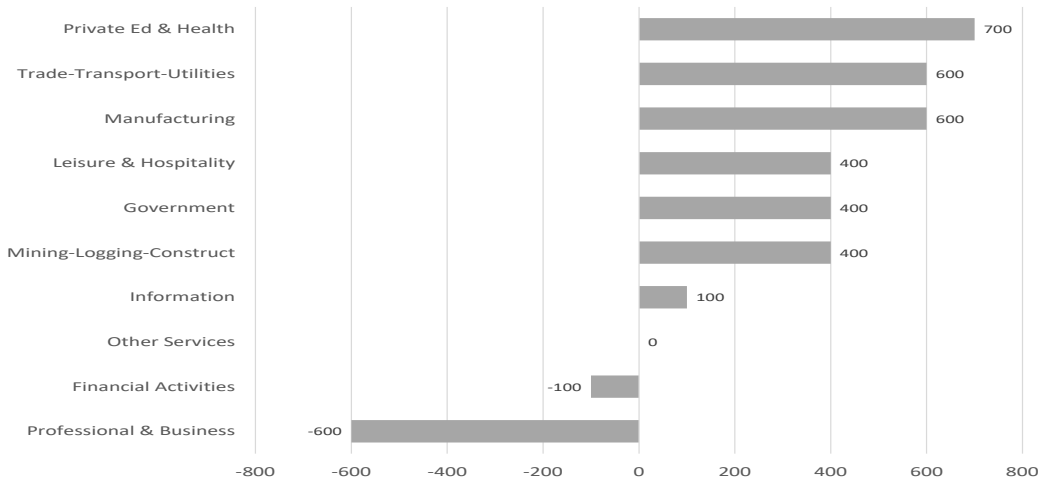
	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>OTY</b>
Civilian Labor Force	118,323	117,479	117,814	844	509
Employment	114,828	113,377	113,433	1,451	1,395
Unemployment	3,495	4,102	4,381	-607	-886
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	3.5%	3.7%	-0.5%	-0.7%

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

(In Thousands)

<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>OTM</b>	<b>OTY</b>
Total Nonfarm	115.0	114.3	112.5	0.7	2.5
Goods Producing	24.0	23.9	23.0	0.1	1.0
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.3	5.3	4.9	0.0	0.4
Manufacturing	18.7	18.6	18.1	0.1	0.6
Service Providing	91.0	90.4	89.5	0.6	1.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24.7	24.8	24.1	-0.1	0.6
Wholesale Trade	5.0	5.0	4.7	0.0	0.3
Retail Trade	13.0	13.0	13.1	0.0	-0.1
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.7	6.8	6.3	-0.1	0.4
Information	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.1
Financial Activities	4.1	4.2	4.2	-0.1	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	11.4	11.4	12.0	0.0	-0.6
Private Education & Health Services	18.0	17.9	17.3	0.1	0.7
Leisure & Hospitality	9.7	9.5	9.3	0.2	0.4
Other Services	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0
Government	18.2	17.7	17.8	0.5	0.4
Federal Government	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
State Government	2.4	2.0	2.5	0.4	-0.1
Local Government	14.5	14.4	14.0	0.1	0.5

#### Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector February 2022 vs February 2023





## Metropolitan Statistical Areas

# Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

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

	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	41,901	41,711	42,111	190	-210
Employment	40,497	39,987	40,285	510	212
Unemployment	1,404	1,724	1,826	-320	-422
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	4.1%	4.3%	-0.7%	-0.9%

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	41.3	41.3	41.0	0.0	0.3
Goods Producing	4.7	4.8	4.6	-0.1	0.1
Service Providing	36.6	36.5	36.4	0.1	0.2
Government	4.2	4.1	4.4	0.1	-0.2

### Unemployment

February 2020 - February 2023





## Metropolitan Statistical Areas

### Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

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

	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	67,959	67,279	66,769	680	1,190
Employment	66,323	65,162	64,636	1,161	1,687
Unemployment	1,636	2,117	2,133	-481	-497
Unemployment Rate	2.4%	3.1%	3.2%	-0.7%	-0.8%

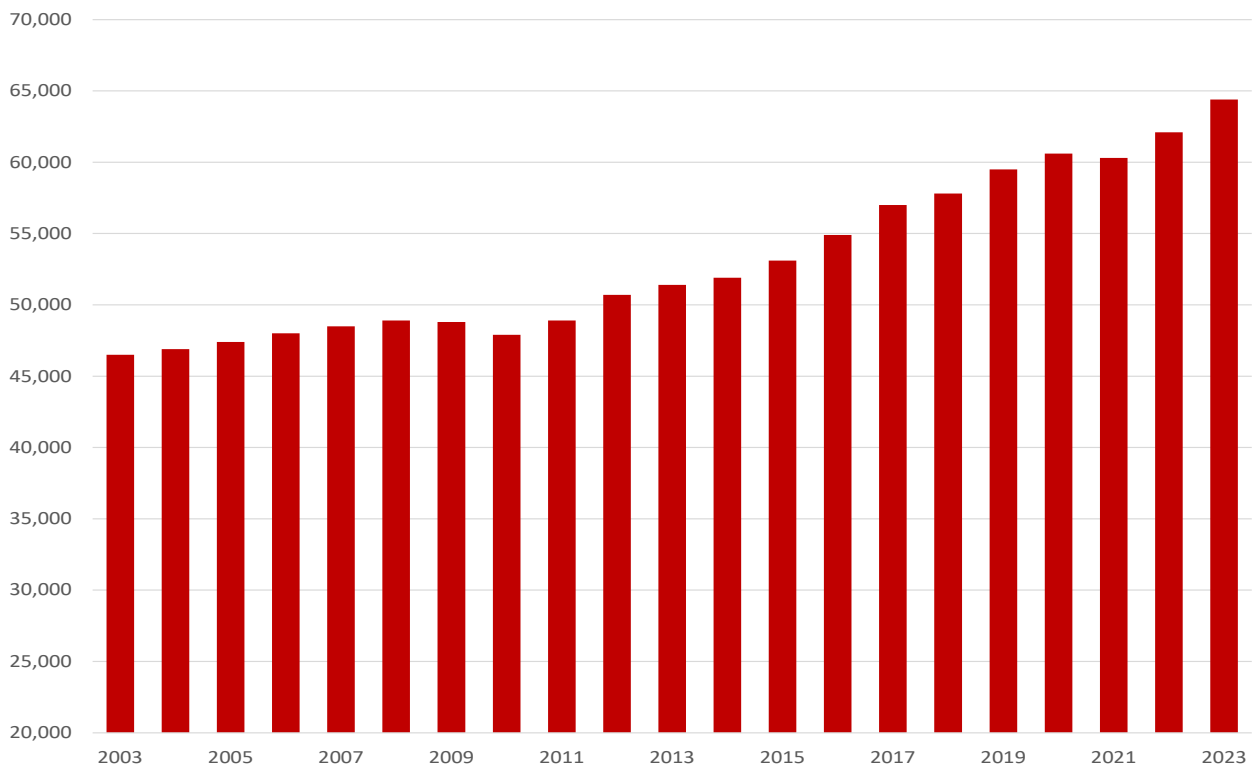
#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	64.4	64.1	62.1	0.3	2.3
Goods Producing	12.4	12.2	11.7	0.2	0.7
Service Providing	52.0	51.9	50.4	0.1	1.6
Government	9.2	9.2	8.7	0.0	0.5

#### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

February: 2003 - 2023



## Metropolitan Statistical Areas Pine Bluff MSA

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

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

	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	32,246	31,873	32,681	373	-435
Employment	30,948	30,254	30,832	694	116
Unemployment	1,298	1,619	1,849	-321	-551
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	5.1%	5.7%	-1.1%	-1.7%

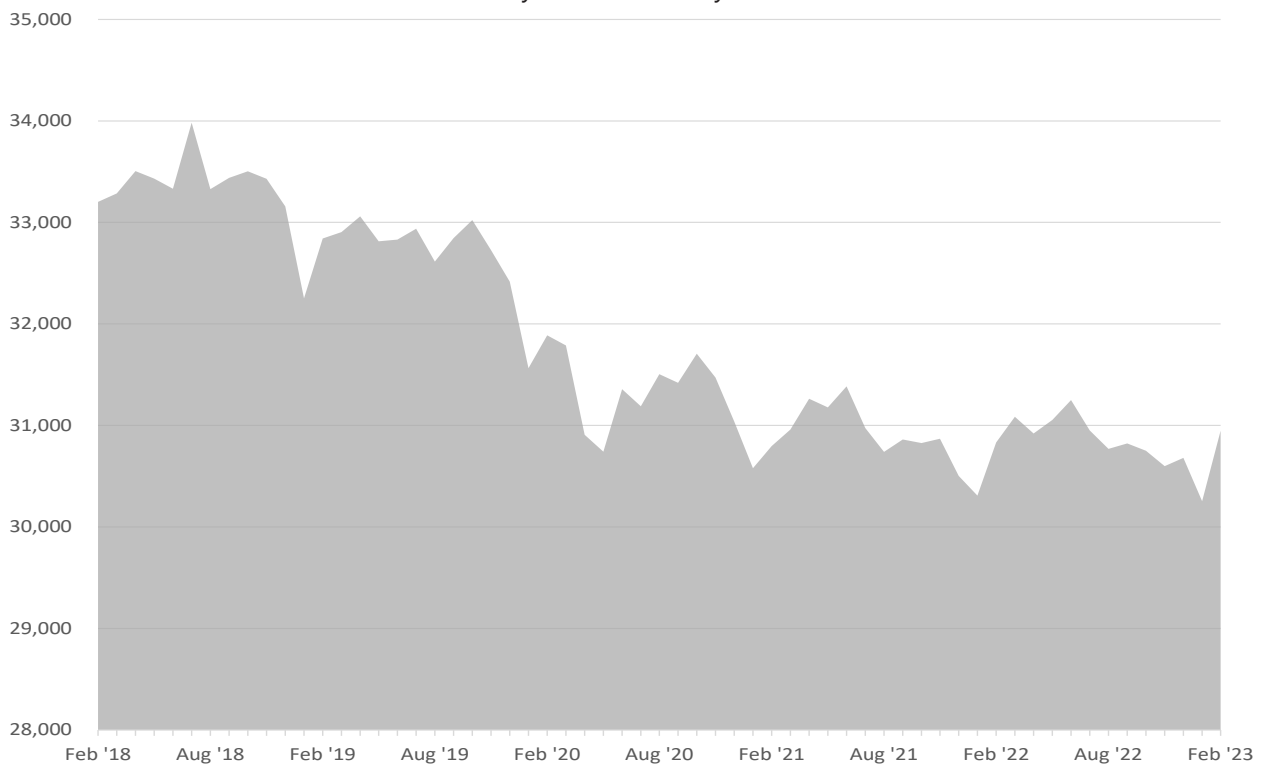
### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	31.6	31.3	31.2	0.3	0.4
Goods Producing	5.6	5.6	5.3	0.0	0.3
Service Providing	26.0	25.7	25.9	0.3	0.1
Government	8.6	8.5	8.6	0.1	0.0

### Employment

February 2018 - February 2023



## 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>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	630,961	623,679	639,679	7,282	-8,718
Employment	604,682	597,668	611,208	7,014	-6,526
Unemployment	26,279	26,011	28,471	268	-2,192
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.2%	4.5%	0.0%	-0.3%

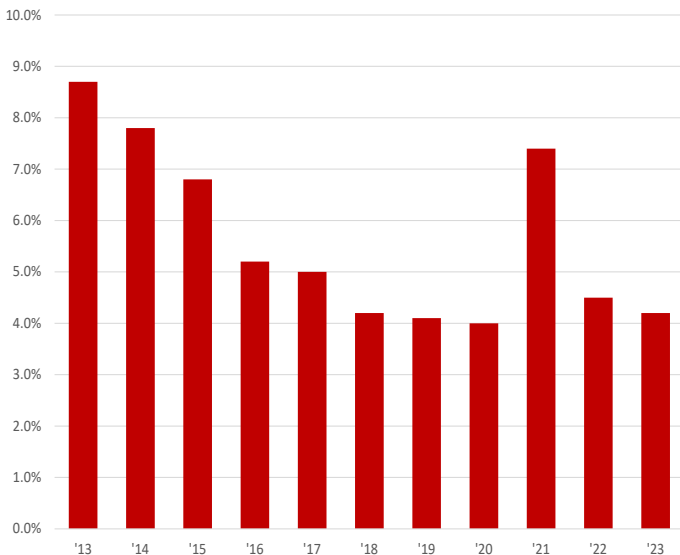
#### Texarkana MSA

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

	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	62,801	62,403	62,648	398	153
Employment	60,055	59,617	59,548	438	507
Unemployment	2,746	2,786	3,100	-40	-354
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.9%	-0.1%	-0.5%

#### Memphis MSA - Unemployment Rates

February: 2013 - 2023



#### Texarkana MSA - Employment

February 2020 - February 2023



## Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	February 2023				January 2023				February 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	8,300	7,964	336	4.0	8,163	7,712	451	5.5	8,657	8,267	390	4.5
Batesville Micro	16,649	16,169	480	2.9	16,506	15,911	595	3.6	16,457	15,822	635	3.9
Blytheville Micro	16,130	15,466	664	4.1	16,015	15,159	856	5.3	16,242	15,277	965	5.9
Camden Micro	11,952	11,535	417	3.5	11,842	11,345	497	4.2	12,129	11,629	500	4.1
El Dorado Micro	14,642	14,044	598	4.1	14,594	13,836	758	5.2	14,966	14,158	808	5.4
Forrest City Micro	7,413	7,076	337	4.5	7,350	6,943	407	5.5	7,691	7,268	423	5.5
Harrison Micro	19,143	18,584	559	2.9	18,888	18,218	670	3.5	19,126	18,500	626	3.3
Helena-West Helena Micro	5,516	5,163	353	6.4	5,478	5,039	439	8.0	5,747	5,358	389	6.8
Hope Micro	12,780	12,414	366	2.9	12,660	12,209	451	3.6	12,673	12,175	498	3.9
Magnolia Micro	8,822	8,488	334	3.8	8,780	8,336	444	5.1	8,813	8,402	411	4.7
Malvern Micro	13,838	13,426	412	3.0	13,731	13,198	533	3.9	13,804	13,263	541	3.9
Mountain Home Micro	16,355	15,818	537	3.3	16,230	15,568	662	4.1	16,508	15,841	667	4.0
Paragould Micro	19,832	19,260	572	2.9	19,554	18,801	753	3.9	19,734	19,033	701	3.6
Russellville Micro	35,388	34,197	1,191	3.4	34,905	33,371	1,534	4.4	35,650	34,137	1,513	4.2
Searcy Micro	34,229	33,152	1,077	3.1	33,884	32,559	1,325	3.9	34,423	33,032	1,391	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	February 2023				January 2023				February 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	13,370	12,975	395	3.0	13,151	12,712	439	3.3	13,031	12,513	518	4.0
Benton	17,831	17,435	396	2.2	17,661	17,152	509	2.9	17,856	17,268	588	3.3
Bentonville	32,379	31,731	648	2.0	31,839	31,087	752	2.4	31,328	30,601	727	2.3
Blytheville	5,414	5,177	237	4.4	5,389	5,074	315	5.8	5,378	5,114	264	4.9
Cabot	12,047	11,764	283	2.3	11,868	11,529	339	2.9	12,056	11,668	388	3.2
Conway	34,765	33,831	934	2.7	34,365	33,253	1,112	3.2	34,574	33,505	1,069	3.1
El Dorado	6,321	6,044	277	4.4	6,287	5,954	333	5.3	6,465	6,093	372	5.8
Fayetteville	52,858	51,748	1,110	2.1	52,076	50,699	1,377	2.6	51,304	49,883	1,421	2.8
Fort Smith	38,491	37,442	1,049	2.7	38,137	36,848	1,289	3.4	38,300	36,906	1,394	3.6
Hot Springs	15,543	14,986	557	3.6	15,455	14,797	658	4.3	15,667	14,908	759	4.8
Jacksonville	11,636	11,248	388	3.3	11,576	11,066	510	4.4	11,727	11,143	584	5.0
Jonesboro	40,968	39,975	993	2.4	40,553	39,316	1,237	3.1	40,180	38,939	1,241	3.1
Little Rock	97,159	94,404	2,755	2.8	96,352	92,879	3,473	3.6	97,362	93,519	3,843	3.9
North Little Rock	30,002	29,030	972	3.2	29,664	28,561	1,103	3.7	30,164	28,758	1,406	4.7
Paragould	12,620	12,240	380	3.0	12,442	11,949	493	4.0	12,566	12,096	470	3.7
Pine Bluff	15,090	14,383	707	4.7	14,986	14,087	899	6.0	15,370	14,330	1,040	6.8
Rogers	39,713	38,928	785	2.0	39,103	38,138	965	2.5	38,445	37,542	903	2.3
Russellville	12,720	12,317	403	3.2	12,575	12,043	532	4.2	12,769	12,290	479	3.8
Searcy	10,286	10,011	275	2.7	10,184	9,832	352	3.5	10,356	9,975	381	3.7
Sherwood	16,291	15,843	448	2.7	16,102	15,587	515	3.2	16,294	15,694	600	3.7
Springdale	42,123	41,325	798	1.9	41,530	40,489	1,041	2.5	40,928	39,838	1,090	2.7
Texarkana, AR	12,791	12,353	438	3.4	12,708	12,187	521	4.1	12,803	12,176	627	4.9
Van Buren	10,264	10,008	256	2.5	10,158	9,832	326	3.2	10,250	9,875	375	3.7
West Memphis	10,157	9,702	455	4.5	10,024	9,486	538	5.4	10,005	9,576	429	4.3

## County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	February 2023				January 2023				February 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	9,201	8,972	229	2.5	9,052	8,761	291	3.2	9,253	8,872	381	4.1
Ashley	6,655	6,307	348	5.2	6,595	6,167	428	6.5	6,870	6,451	419	6.1
Baxter	16,355	15,818	537	3.3	16,230	15,568	662	4.1	16,508	15,841	667	4.0
Benton	154,670	151,387	3,283	2.1	152,330	148,314	4,016	2.6	150,038	145,997	4,041	2.7
Boone	15,938	15,475	463	2.9	15,738	15,184	554	3.5	15,915	15,409	506	3.2
Bradley	4,012	3,818	194	4.8	3,952	3,706	246	6.2	4,172	3,973	199	4.8
Calhoun	2,351	2,284	67	2.8	2,313	2,231	82	3.5	2,383	2,305	78	3.3
Carroll	12,067	11,705	362	3.0	11,888	11,428	460	3.9	12,211	11,720	491	4.0
Chicot	2,881	2,739	142	4.9	2,852	2,663	189	6.6	3,029	2,805	224	7.4
Clark	8,300	7,964	336	4.0	8,163	7,712	451	5.5	8,657	8,267	390	4.5
Clay	5,302	5,085	217	4.1	5,231	4,950	281	5.4	5,389	5,133	256	4.8
Cleburne	8,811	8,466	345	3.9	8,704	8,286	418	4.8	8,909	8,455	454	5.1
Cleveland	3,072	2,976	96	3.1	3,013	2,892	121	4.0	3,095	2,966	129	4.2
Columbia	8,822	8,488	334	3.8	8,780	8,336	444	5.1	8,813	8,402	411	4.7
Conway	8,300	8,013	287	3.5	8,283	7,928	355	4.3	8,405	8,028	377	4.5
Craighead	57,958	56,605	1,353	2.3	57,401	55,672	1,729	3.0	56,884	55,139	1,745	3.1
Crawford	26,333	25,614	719	2.7	26,054	25,164	890	3.4	26,267	25,272	995	3.8
Crittenden	20,656	19,882	774	3.7	20,362	19,438	924	4.5	20,471	19,623	848	4.1
Cross	6,768	6,549	219	3.2	6,690	6,414	276	4.1	6,990	6,685	305	4.4
Dallas	2,692	2,588	104	3.9	2,683	2,557	126	4.7	2,795	2,671	124	4.4
Desha	4,848	4,641	207	4.3	4,784	4,517	267	5.6	4,929	4,623	306	6.2
Drew	7,442	7,155	287	3.9	7,373	7,006	367	5.0	7,585	7,210	375	4.9
Faulkner	63,153	61,450	1,703	2.7	62,455	60,400	2,055	3.3	62,893	60,858	2,035	3.2
Franklin	7,460	7,242	218	2.9	7,342	7,085	257	3.5	7,448	7,162	286	3.8
Fulton	4,954	4,803	151	3.0	4,929	4,732	197	4.0	5,020	4,840	180	3.6
Garland	41,901	40,497	1,404	3.4	41,711	39,987	1,724	4.1	42,111	40,285	1,826	4.3
Grant	8,433	8,215	218	2.6	8,314	8,051	263	3.2	8,449	8,160	289	3.4
Greene	19,832	19,260	572	2.9	19,554	18,801	753	3.9	19,734	19,033	701	3.6
Hempstead	9,353	9,086	267	2.9	9,249	8,927	322	3.5	9,266	8,916	350	3.8
Hot Spring	13,838	13,426	412	3.0	13,731	13,198	533	3.9	13,804	13,263	541	3.9
Howard	5,284	5,126	158	3.0	5,173	4,982	191	3.7	5,453	5,265	188	3.4
Independence	16,649	16,169	480	2.9	16,506	15,911	595	3.6	16,457	15,822	635	3.9
Izard	4,450	4,262	188	4.2	4,428	4,166	262	5.9	4,407	4,151	256	5.8
Jackson	5,413	5,163	250	4.6	5,361	5,018	343	6.4	5,557	5,245	312	5.6
Jefferson	25,489	24,426	1,063	4.2	25,258	23,923	1,335	5.3	25,862	24,336	1,526	5.9
Johnson	10,057	9,692	365	3.6	9,952	9,504	448	4.5	10,180	9,722	458	4.5
Lafayette	2,299	2,195	104	4.5	2,259	2,139	120	5.3	2,341	2,219	122	5.2
Lawrence	6,871	6,676	195	2.8	6,763	6,517	246	3.6	6,850	6,571	279	4.1
Lee	2,544	2,421	123	4.8	2,497	2,342	155	6.2	2,600	2,456	144	5.5
Lincoln	3,685	3,546	139	3.8	3,602	3,439	163	4.5	3,724	3,530	194	5.2
Little River	5,185	5,011	174	3.4	5,156	4,944	212	4.1	5,187	4,951	236	4.5
Logan	8,174	7,885	289	3.5	8,069	7,715	354	4.4	8,370	8,015	355	4.2
Lonoke	34,180	33,348	832	2.4	33,706	32,682	1,024	3.0	34,203	33,077	1,126	3.3
Madison	7,912	7,732	180	2.3	7,709	7,497	212	2.8	7,717	7,490	227	2.9
Marion	6,229	5,999	230	3.7	6,205	5,909	296	4.8	6,145	5,865	280	4.6
Miller	18,681	18,058	623	3.3	18,563	17,815	748	4.0	18,653	17,798	855	4.6

(continued on Page 16)



## County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	February 2023				January 2023				February 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	16,130	15,466	664	4.1	16,015	15,159	856	5.3	16,242	15,277	965	5.9
Monroe	2,526	2,424	102	4.0	2,484	2,355	129	5.2	2,572	2,437	135	5.2
Montgomery	2,763	2,636	127	4.6	2,682	2,514	168	6.3	2,833	2,675	158	5.6
Nevada	3,427	3,328	99	2.9	3,411	3,282	129	3.8	3,407	3,259	148	4.3
Newton	3,205	3,109	96	3.0	3,150	3,034	116	3.7	3,211	3,091	120	3.7
Ouachita	9,601	9,251	350	3.6	9,529	9,114	415	4.4	9,746	9,324	422	4.3
Perry	4,211	4,079	132	3.1	4,168	3,995	173	4.2	4,230	4,036	194	4.6
Phillips	5,516	5,163	353	6.4	5,478	5,039	439	8.0	5,747	5,358	389	6.8
Pike	3,928	3,810	118	3.0	3,869	3,716	153	4.0	4,111	3,919	192	4.7
Poinsett	10,001	9,718	283	2.8	9,878	9,490	388	3.9	9,885	9,497	388	3.9
Polk	7,833	7,578	255	3.3	7,717	7,410	307	4.0	7,851	7,507	344	4.4
Pope	27,517	26,595	922	3.4	27,207	26,003	1,204	4.4	27,699	26,535	1,164	4.2
Prairie	3,510	3,415	95	2.7	3,455	3,332	123	3.6	3,497	3,369	128	3.7
Pulaski	188,948	183,544	5,404	2.9	187,218	180,579	6,639	3.5	189,538	181,824	7,714	4.1
Randolph	7,210	6,955	255	3.5	7,073	6,803	270	3.8	7,375	7,092	283	3.8
St. Francis	7,413	7,076	337	4.5	7,350	6,943	407	5.5	7,691	7,268	423	5.5
Saline	60,026	58,543	1,483	2.5	59,365	57,593	1,772	3.0	59,838	57,981	1,857	3.1
Scott	4,272	4,170	102	2.4	4,200	4,074	126	3.0	4,154	4,014	140	3.4
Searcy	2,790	2,658	132	4.7	2,772	2,610	162	5.8	2,813	2,659	154	5.5
Sebastian	55,433	53,938	1,495	2.7	54,913	53,082	1,831	3.3	55,121	53,165	1,956	3.5
Sevier	5,438	5,259	179	3.3	5,342	5,129	213	4.0	5,402	5,161	241	4.5
Sharp	5,843	5,638	205	3.5	5,845	5,561	284	4.9	5,736	5,453	283	4.9
Stone	4,480	4,297	183	4.1	4,413	4,187	226	5.1	4,511	4,292	219	4.9
Union	14,642	14,044	598	4.1	14,594	13,836	758	5.2	14,966	14,158	808	5.4
Van Buren	5,920	5,691	229	3.9	5,880	5,599	281	4.8	5,887	5,593	294	5.0
Washington	136,544	133,861	2,683	2.0	134,522	131,149	3,373	2.5	132,558	129,038	3,520	2.7
White	34,229	33,152	1,077	3.1	33,884	32,559	1,325	3.9	34,423	33,032	1,391	4.0
Woodruff	2,822	2,722	100	3.5	2,774	2,651	123	4.4	2,790	2,670	120	4.3
Yell	7,871	7,602	269	3.4	7,698	7,368	330	4.3	7,951	7,602	349	4.4

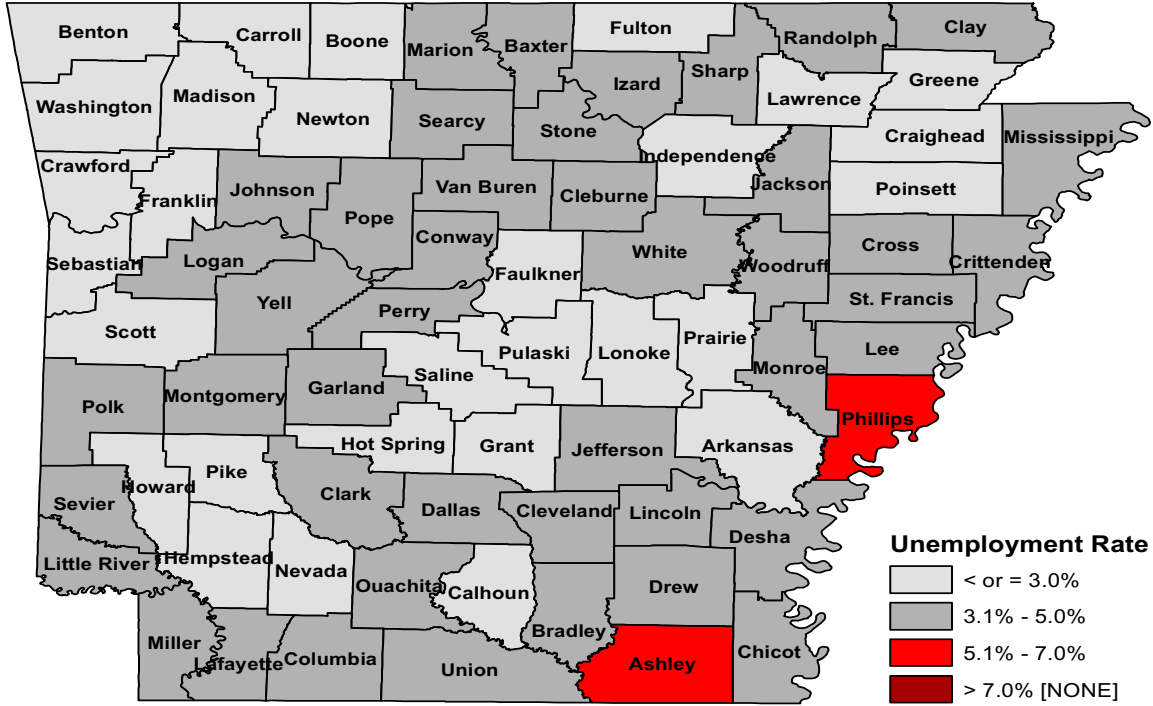
## County Labor Force Summary

Between January and February, unemployment rates declined in all 75 Arkansas counties. Rates ranged from a low of 2.0% in Washington County to a high of 6.4% in Phillips County.

In February, twenty-nine counties posted unemployment rates at or below three percent. That is up sharply from seven counties at or below three percent in January. No county reported a jobless rate above seven percent, down from one county above seven percent last month.

Compared to February 2022, jobless rates are down in 74 of Arkansas' 75 counties. The rate in one county-- Bradley County-- was unchanged over the year. Thirty-five counties posted an annual rate decline of more than one full percentage point. Chicot County had the largest unemployment decline, down two and five-tenths of a percentage point compared to February 2022.

## County Unemployment Rates



## Ranked by Unemployment Rates

February 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Washington	2.0	24	Hot Spring	3.0	51	Columbia	3.8
2	Benton	2.1	24	Howard	3.0	51	Lincoln	3.8
3	Craighead	2.3	24	Newton	3.0	53	Cleburne	3.9
3	Madison	2.3	24	Pike	3.0	53	Dallas	3.9
5	Lonoke	2.4	30	Cleveland	3.1	53	Drew	3.9
5	Scott	2.4	30	Perry	3.1	53	Van Buren	3.9
7	Arkansas	2.5	30	White	3.1	57	Clark	4.0
7	Saline	2.5	33	Cross	3.2	57	Monroe	4.0
9	Grant	2.6	34	Baxter	3.3	59	Clay	4.1
10	Crawford	2.7	34	Miller	3.3	59	Mississippi	4.1
10	Faulkner	2.7	34	Polk	3.3	59	Stone	4.1
10	Prairie	2.7	34	Sevier	3.3	59	Union	4.1
10	Sebastian	2.7	38	Garland	3.4	63	Izard	4.2
14	Calhoun	2.8	38	Little River	3.4	63	Jefferson	4.2
14	Lawrence	2.8	38	Pope	3.4	65	Desha	4.3
14	Poinsett	2.8	38	Yell	3.4	66	Lafayette	4.5
17	Boone	2.9	42	Conway	3.5	66	St. Francis	4.5
17	Franklin	2.9	42	Logan	3.5	68	Jackson	4.6
17	Greene	2.9	42	Randolph	3.5	68	Montgomery	4.6
17	Hempstead	2.9	42	Sharp	3.5	70	Searcy	4.7
17	Independence	2.9	42	Woodruff	3.5	71	Bradley	4.8
17	Nevada	2.9	47	Johnson	3.6	71	Lee	4.8
17	Pulaski	2.9	47	Ouachita	3.6	73	Chicot	4.9
24	Carroll	3.0	49	Crittenden	3.7	74	Ashley	5.2
24	Fulton	3.0	49	Marion	3.7	75	Phillips	6.4

## Local Workforce Development Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LWDA	February 2023				January 2023				February 2022			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Central (minus LR)	255,184	248,320	6,864	2.7	252,331	244,062	8,269	3.3	255,179	246,027	9,152	3.6
City of Little Rock	97,159	94,404	2,755	2.8	96,352	92,879	3,473	3.6	97,362	93,519	3,843	3.9
Eastern	42,897	41,091	1,806	4.2	42,377	40,176	2,201	5.2	43,499	41,390	2,109	4.8
North Central	93,571	90,363	3,208	3.4	92,724	88,670	4,054	4.4	93,697	89,553	4,144	4.4
Northeast	123,304	119,765	3,539	2.9	121,915	117,392	4,523	3.7	122,359	117,742	4,617	3.8
Northwest	355,710	347,744	7,966	2.2	350,544	340,693	9,851	2.8	347,116	337,110	10,006	2.9
Southeast	75,718	72,795	2,923	3.9	74,795	71,125	3,670	4.9	76,968	72,926	4,042	5.3
Southwest	87,775	84,718	3,057	3.5	87,052	83,292	3,760	4.3	88,412	84,429	3,983	4.5
West Central	128,686	124,314	4,372	3.4	127,464	121,925	5,539	4.3	129,981	124,332	5,649	4.3
Western	109,505	106,427	3,078	2.8	108,295	104,530	3,765	3.5	109,211	105,135	4,076	3.7

