**Construction and Extraction Occupations** is projected to add 1,431 new jobs to the state economy an increase of 2.72 percent. Of the 6,131 annual job openings, 1,882 are for those created from employees leaving the workforce, while 3,533 are from people changing jobs. Growth and expansion accounts for 716 annual openings

**Construction and Extraction Occupations (47-0000)**

**2-Year Projected (2018-2020) Growth Rate: 2.72%  
Biggest Gain: Carpenters (47-2031) – 255 jobs  
Fastest Gain: Hazardous Materials Removal Workers (47-4041) – 9.12%  
  
Biggest and Fastest Loser: Rail-Track Laying and Maintenance Equipment Operators (47-4061) – 3 jobs (5.08%)**

**Short-Term Outlook 2018-2020**

The ***Supervisors of Construction and Extraction Workers*** occupational family is anticipating 130 new jobs, an increase of 2.36 percent. The occupational family is anticipating 595 annual openings.

The ***Construction Trades Workers*** occupational familyis predicted to add the most jobs during the projection period, with 1,093 new jobs, more than 76 percent of the major group’s overall growth. Carpenters is slated to have 255 new jobs making it the top growing occupation in the major group, while Construction Laborers is estimated to add 238. The occupational family as a whole is slated to have 4,497 annual job openings, more than 73 percent of the total annual openings for the **Construction and Extraction Occupations** major group.

The ***Helpers, Construction Trades*** occupational family is estimated to increase employment by 52 jobs, or a gain of 2.76 percent. Helpers--Carpenters is predicted to be the top and fastest growing occupation in the occupational family with a gain of 13 jobs, or 4.78 percent. The occupational family is projected to have 291 annual job openings during the projection period.

The ***Other Construction and Related Workers*** occupational family is expected to add 129 jobs to its workforce. Leading this occupational family is predicted to be Highway Maintenance Workers with a gain of 60 jobs. However, Rail-Track Laying and Maintenance Equipment Operators, could lose 5.08 percent of its workforce, or three positions over the two year projection period. Hazardous Materials Removal Workers could add 9.12 percent to its own workforce, making the Top 10 of the Top 20 Fastest Growing Occupations list. As a whole, the occupational family is anticipated to experience 567 annual job openings.

The ***Extraction Workers*** occupational family is predicted to experience a net gain of 27 jobs, a 1.94 percent increase. Continuous Mining Machine Operators is slated to be the top and fastest growing occupation in the occupational family increasing by 13 jobs, or 6.57 percent. The occupational family is forecast to experience 180 annual job opportunities.

**Workforce Development Area Outlook  
Construction and Extraction Occupations**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Workforce Development Area** | **2018 Estimated Employment** | **2020 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Openings-Exits** | **Annual Openings- Transfers** | **Annual Openings- Change** | **Annual Openings- Total** |
| Northwest Arkansas | 10,803 | 11,212 | 409 | 3.79% | 387 | 729 | 204 | 1,320 |
| North Central Arkansas | 2,672 | 2,740 | 68 | 2.54% | 96 | 183 | 34 | 313 |
| Northeast Arkansas | 3,838 | 4,000 | 162 | 4.22% | 140 | 262 | 81 | 483 |
| Western Arkansas | 4,573 | 4,632 | 59 | 1.29% | 160 | 310 | 30 | 500 |
| West Central Arkansas | 4,252 | 4,432 | 180 | 4.23% | 152 | 290 | 90 | 532 |
| Central Arkansas | 9,166 | 9,426 | 260 | 2.84% | 320 | 612 | 130 | 1,062 |
| City of Little Rock | 6,283 | 6,525 | 242 | 3.85% | 233 | 408 | 121 | 762 |
| Eastern Arkansas | 1,041 | 1,035 | -6 | -0.58% | 37 | 70 | -3 | 104 |
| Southwest Arkansas | 4,344 | 4,398 | 54 | 1.24% | 151 | 296 | 27 | 474 |
| Southeast Arkansas | 2,478 | 2,471 | -7 | -0.28% | 87 | 168 | -4 | 251 |