

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

September



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2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

September

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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 2024 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 1,200 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.

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September Spotlight

Impact of the Federal Shutdown

Publication of September data was delayed by more than 6 weeks because of the lapse in federal appropriations. Collection of September data for the household survey (used to calculate civilian labor force estimates) had been completed in accordance with our normal schedule prior to the federal government shutdown. September estimates from the establishment survey (used to calculate nonfarm payroll jobs) include data collected on our normal schedule prior to the shutdown and also data that businesses self-reported electronically during the shutdown. As a result, the establishment survey collection rate (80.2 percent nationally) for this initial release of September 2025 data is higher than usual.

BLS will not publish an October 2025 Employment Situation news release for the US, States, or substate areas.

Establishment survey data for October 2025 (used to calculate nonfarm payroll jobs) will be published with the November 2025 data. Household survey data (used to calculate the civilian labor force estimates) were not collected for the October 2025 reference period, due to the lapse in appropriations and will not be collected retroactively. For the surveys, the collection period for November 2025 data will be extended and extra processing time will be needed. The US Employment Situation news release for November 2025 was rescheduled and published on Tuesday, December 16th.

The release date for the November 2025 Press Release for Arkansas has been rescheduled for Wednesday, January 7th. Substate Civilian Labor Force estimates will be available on Friday, January 16th.

December publication dates remain as originally scheduled.

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State of Arkansas

Civilian Labor Force Summary

The Arkansas Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.8% in August to 3.9% in September. At 4.4%, the United States’ jobless rate also increased one-tenth of a percentage point between August and September.

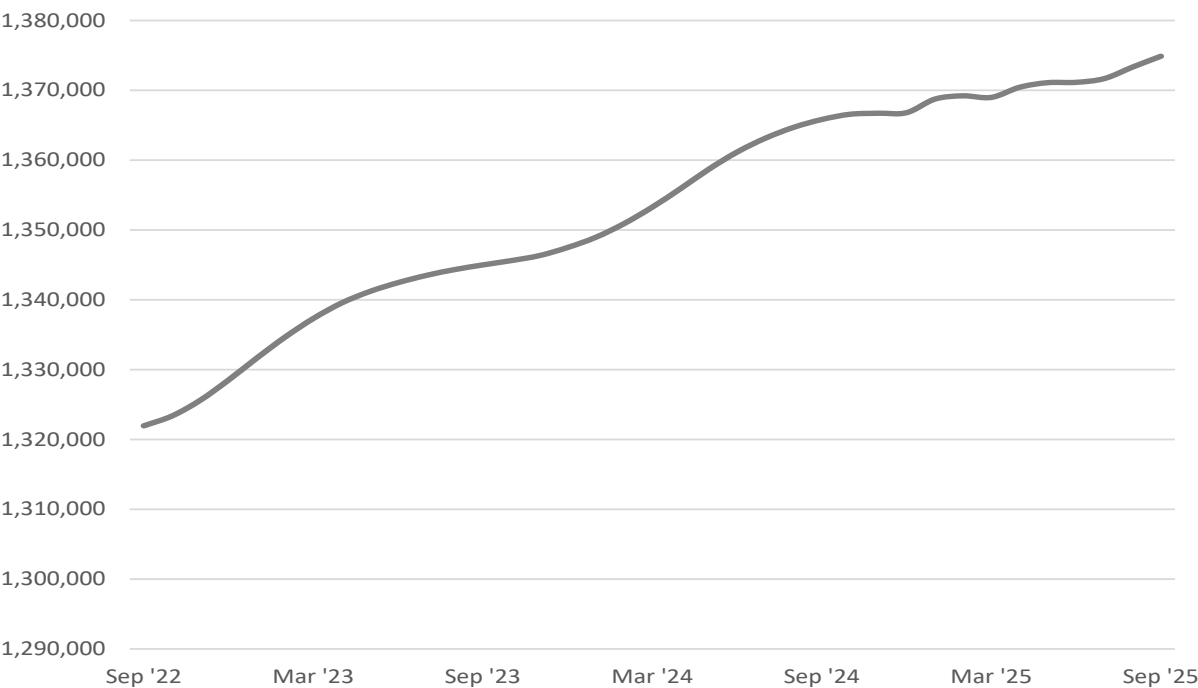
The civilian labor force in Arkansas increased by 3,437 in September, with 1,891 more unemployed Arkansans actively seeking work and 1,546 additional employed. The increase in the number of unemployed pushed the unemployment rate up to 3.9%, while growth in the size of the civilian labor force increased labor force participation up to 58.5% in September. Both the civilian labor force and employment remain at record high levels.

Compared to September 2024, there are 9,049 more employed residents in the State. With 6,047 additional unemployed Arkansans seeking work, the unemployment rate is up four-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

	Seasonally Adjusted				Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24		Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24
Civilian Labor Force	1,430,617	1,427,180	1,415,521	Civilian Labor Force	1,442,437	1,437,119	1,416,213
Employment	1,374,867	1,373,321	1,365,818	Employment	1,381,925	1,377,678	1,370,824
Unemployment	55,750	53,859	49,703	Unemployment	60,512	59,441	45,389
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	3.8%	3.5%	Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.1%	3.2%
LF Participation Rate	58.5%	58.4%	58.4%	LF Participation Rate	59.0%	58.8%	58.4%

Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)
September 2022 - September 2025



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State of Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

(NAICS)	Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	1393.3	1377.3	1370.6	16.0	22.7
Goods Producing	235.9	235.9	235.7	0.0	0.2
Mining, Logging, & Construction	70.9	70.9	72.9	0.0	-2.0
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	65.7	65.7	67.7	0.0	-2.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	41.2	40.9	42.3	0.3	-1.1
Manufacturing	165.0	165.0	162.8	0.0	2.2
Durable Goods	79.0	78.6	77.0	0.4	2.0
Nondurable Goods	86.0	86.4	85.8	-0.4	0.2
Service Providing	1157.4	1141.4	1134.9	16.0	22.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	274.0	273.4	269.1	0.6	4.9
Wholesale Trade	53.2	53.5	53.2	-0.3	0.0
Retail Trade	146.6	146.4	143.7	0.2	2.9
Transport, Warehousing & Utilities	74.2	73.5	72.2	0.7	2.0
Information	11.6	11.9	12.1	-0.3	-0.5
Financial Activities	70.0	69.9	69.4	0.1	0.6
Finance & Insurance	55.1	54.9	54.1	0.2	1.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	14.9	15.0	15.3	-0.1	-0.4
Professional & Business Services	163.1	161.1	159.6	2.0	3.5
Professional, Scientific & Technical	51.8	53.1	50.6	-1.3	1.2
Management of Companies	42.0	41.9	39.8	0.1	2.2
Administrative & Support Services	69.3	66.1	69.2	3.2	0.1
Private Education & Health Services	223.7	221.3	214.9	2.4	8.8
Private Educational Services	19.4	17.7	19.7	1.7	-0.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	204.3	203.6	195.2	0.7	9.1
Ambulatory Health Care	71.9	72.0	67.8	-0.1	4.1
Social Assistance	44.0	43.9	40.2	0.1	3.8
Leisure & Hospitality	134.5	136.3	129.8	-1.8	4.7
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	14.4	15.2	14.3	-0.8	0.1
Accommodation & Food Services	120.1	121.1	115.5	-1.0	4.6
Accommodation Services	11.5	11.8	11.2	-0.3	0.3
Food Services	108.6	109.3	104.3	-0.7	4.3
Other Services	65.4	65.5	65.6	-0.1	-0.2
Government	215.1	202.0	214.4	13.1	0.7
Federal Government	21.2	21.2	21.9	0.0	-0.7
State Government	77.8	73.2	77.8	4.6	0.0
State Gov, Educational Services	31.8	27.2	31.7	4.6	0.1
State Gov, Excluding Education	46.0	46.0	46.1	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	116.1	107.6	114.7	8.5	1.4
Local Gov, Educational Services	70.2	61.0	69.7	9.2	0.5
Local Gov, Excluding Education	45.9	46.6	45.0	-0.7	0.9

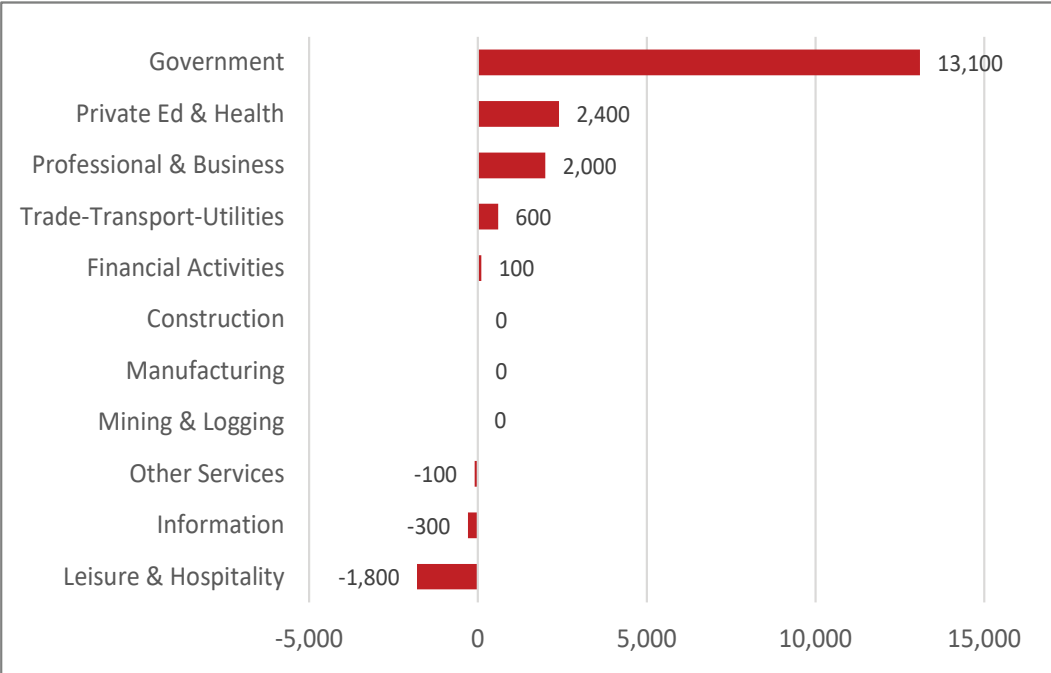
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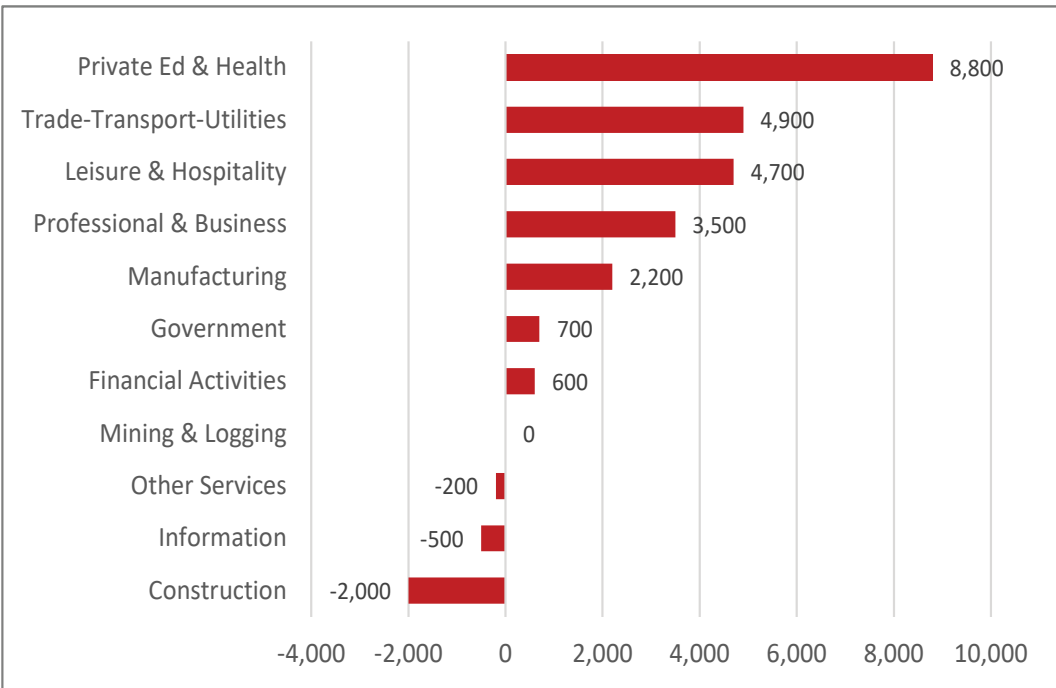
State of Arkansas

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
August 2025 - September 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Annual Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sector
September 2024 - September 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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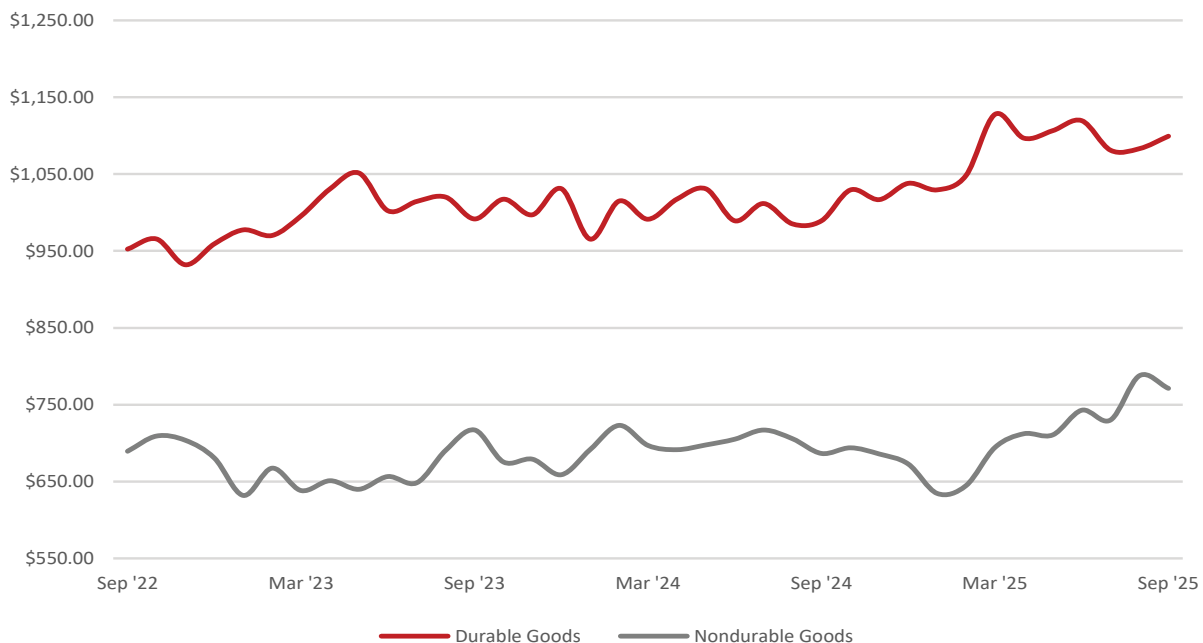
State of Arkansas Production Workers- Hours and Earnings Not Seasonally Adjusted Manufacturing

	Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24
Average Weekly Hours	38.5	38.9	37.0
Average Hourly Earnings	\$24.06	\$23.79	\$22.35
Average Weekly Earnings	\$926.31	\$925.43	\$826.95

Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing

Durable Goods Manufacturing				Nondurable Goods Manufacturing			
	Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24		Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24
Average Weekly Hours	42.5	42.7	40.4	Average Weekly Hours	34.9	35.6	34.1
Average Hourly Earnings	\$25.87	\$25.37	\$24.49	Average Hourly Earnings	\$22.10	\$22.13	\$20.13
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,099.48	\$1,083.30	\$989.40	Average Weekly Earnings	\$771.29	\$787.83	\$686.43

Average Weekly Earnings - Durable Goods vs Nondurable Goods
September 2022 - September 2025



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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 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	389,537	390,439	381,645	-902	7,892
Employment	373,925	375,045	370,162	-1,120	3,763
Unemployment	15,612	15,394	11,483	218	4,129
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	3.9%	3.0%	0.1%	1.0%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	403.1	400.5	397.8	2.6	5.3
Goods Producing	43.1	43.1	43.0	0.0	0.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	21.4	21.4	21.8	0.0	-0.4
Manufacturing	21.7	21.7	21.2	0.0	0.5
Service Providing	360.0	357.4	354.8	2.6	5.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	80.7	80.5	79.8	0.2	0.9
Wholesale Trade	17.6	17.8	17.8	-0.2	-0.2
Retail Trade	39.8	39.6	39.6	0.2	0.2
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	23.3	23.1	22.4	0.2	0.9
Information	4.9	5.0	5.1	-0.1	-0.2
Financial Activities	28.4	28.3	28.1	0.1	0.3
Professional & Business Services	48.2	47.9	49.8	0.3	-1.6
Private Education & Health Services	70.8	70.1	66.4	0.7	4.4
Leisure & Hospitality	36.8	37.5	35.6	-0.7	1.2
Other Services	18.9	18.9	18.9	0.0	0.0
Government	71.3	69.2	71.1	2.1	0.2
Federal Government	10.5	10.6	10.8	-0.1	-0.3
State Government	34.3	33.4	34.2	0.9	0.1
Local Government	26.5	25.2	26.1	1.3	0.4

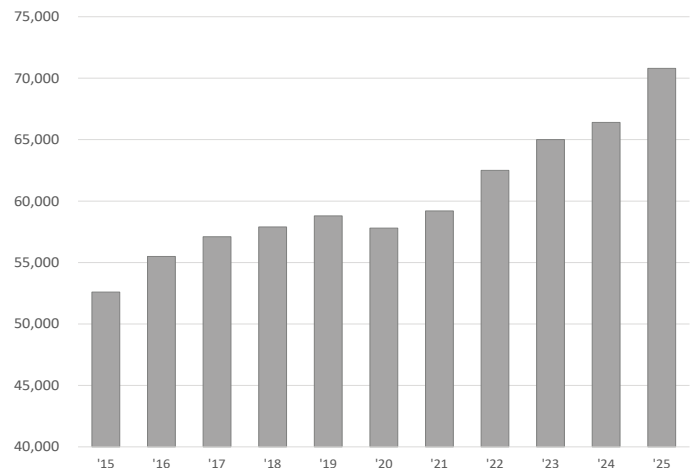
Unemployment

September 2022 - September 2025



Jobs in Private Education & Health Services

September: 2015 - 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA

The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA = Benton, Madison, & Washington counties

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24	OTM	QTY
Civilian Labor Force	321,118	317,900	309,946	3,218	11,172
Employment	310,427	307,657	302,184	2,770	8,243
Unemployment	10,691	10,243	7,762	448	2,929
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.2%	2.5%	0.1%	0.8%

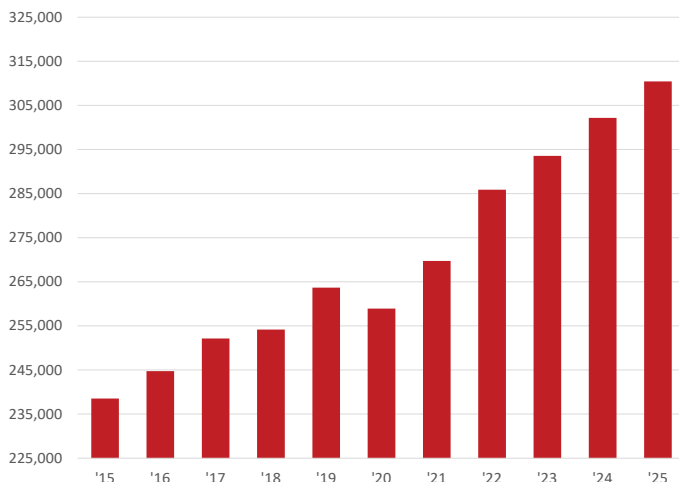
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

NAICS	Sep 25	Aug 25	Sep 24	OTM	QTY
Total Nonfarm	321.1	314.9	310.8	6.2	10.3
Goods Producing	47.5	47.4	46.4	0.1	1.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	18.9	18.8	18.3	0.1	0.6
Manufacturing	28.6	28.6	28.1	0.0	0.5
Service Providing	273.6	267.5	264.4	6.1	9.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	63.2	63.0	61.9	0.2	1.3
Wholesale Trade	14.2	14.3	14.1	-0.1	0.1
Retail Trade	29.8	29.7	29.1	0.1	0.7
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	19.2	19.0	18.7	0.2	0.5
Information	2.2	2.3	2.3	-0.1	-0.1
Financial Activities	12.2	12.2	12.2	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	63.6	63.0	60.4	0.6	3.2
Private Education & Health Services	39.1	38.5	37.4	0.6	1.7
Leisure & Hospitality	33.1	32.8	31.8	0.3	1.3
Other Services	13.7	13.7	13.6	0.0	0.1
Government	46.5	42.0	44.8	4.5	1.7
Federal Government	3.0	3.0	3.1	0.0	-0.1
State Government	23.6	20.2	22.0	3.4	1.6
Local Government	19.9	18.8	19.7	1.1	0.2

Employment

September: 2015 - 2025



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

September 2022 - September 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Fort Smith MSA

The Fort Smith MSA = Crawford & Sebastian counties in Arkansas and Sequoyah County in Oklahoma

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	103,628	103,308	102,020	320	1,608
Employment	99,276	99,088	98,726	188	550
Unemployment	4,352	4,220	3,294	132	1,058
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.1%	3.2%	0.1%	1.0%

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

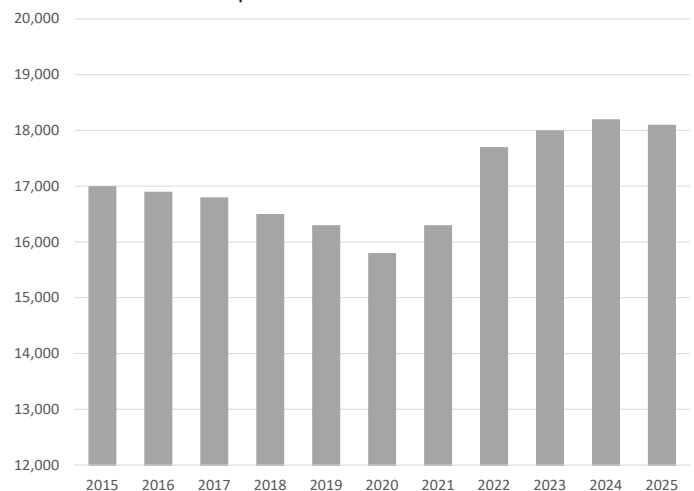
(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	104.6	103.4	103.8	1.2	0.8
Goods Producing	23.2	23.2	23.3	0.0	-0.1
Mining, Logging & Construction	5.1	5.1	5.1	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	18.1	18.1	18.2	0.0	-0.1
Service Providing	81.4	80.2	80.5	1.2	0.9
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	22.1	22.1	21.8	0.0	0.3
Wholesale Trade	4.4	4.4	4.5	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	11.7	11.7	11.4	0.0	0.3
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	6.0	6.0	5.9	0.0	0.1
Information	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	11.2	10.9	11.0	0.3	0.2
Private Education & Health Services	17.8	17.7	17.4	0.1	0.4
Leisure & Hospitality	9.4	9.6	9.2	-0.2	0.2
Other Services	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
Government	12.4	11.4	12.6	1.0	-0.2
Federal Government	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-0.1
State Government	1.6	1.5	1.7	0.1	-0.1
Local Government	9.7	8.8	9.7	0.9	0.0

Civilian Labor Force
September 2022 - September 2025



Jobs in Manufacturing
September: 2015 - 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Hot Springs MSA

The Hot Springs MSA = Garland County.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	43,646	44,121	43,107	-475	539
Employment	41,701	42,255	41,640	-554	61
Unemployment	1,945	1,866	1,467	79	478
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	4.2%	3.4%	0.3%	1.1%

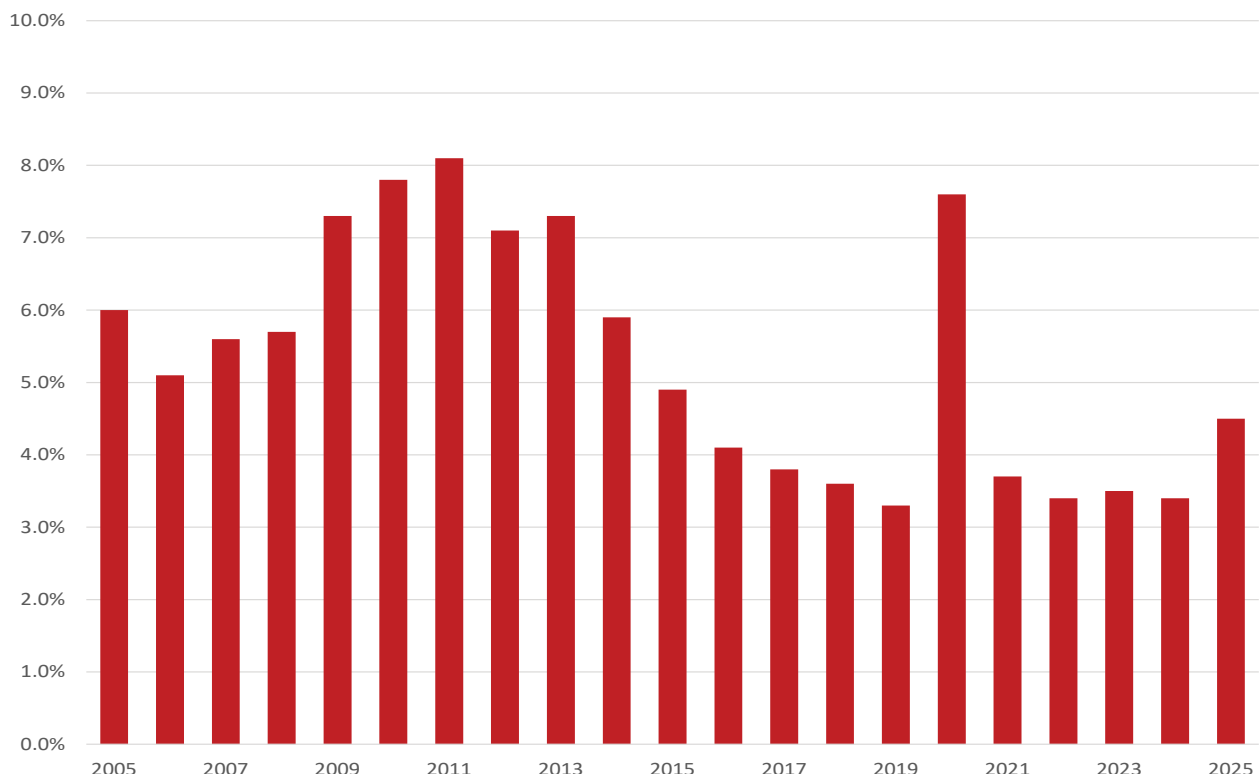
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	40.4	40.8	40.3	-0.4	0.1
Goods Producing	4.5	4.7	4.5	-0.2	0.0
Service Providing	35.9	36.1	35.8	-0.2	0.1
Government	4.2	4.1	4.3	0.1	-0.1

Unemployment Rates

September: 2005 - 2025



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Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Jonesboro MSA

The Jonesboro MSA = Craighead & Poinsett counties.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	67,984	68,030	66,571	-46	1,413
Employment	65,304	65,383	64,615	-79	689
Unemployment	2,680	2,647	1,956	33	724
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	3.9%	2.9%	0.0%	1.0%

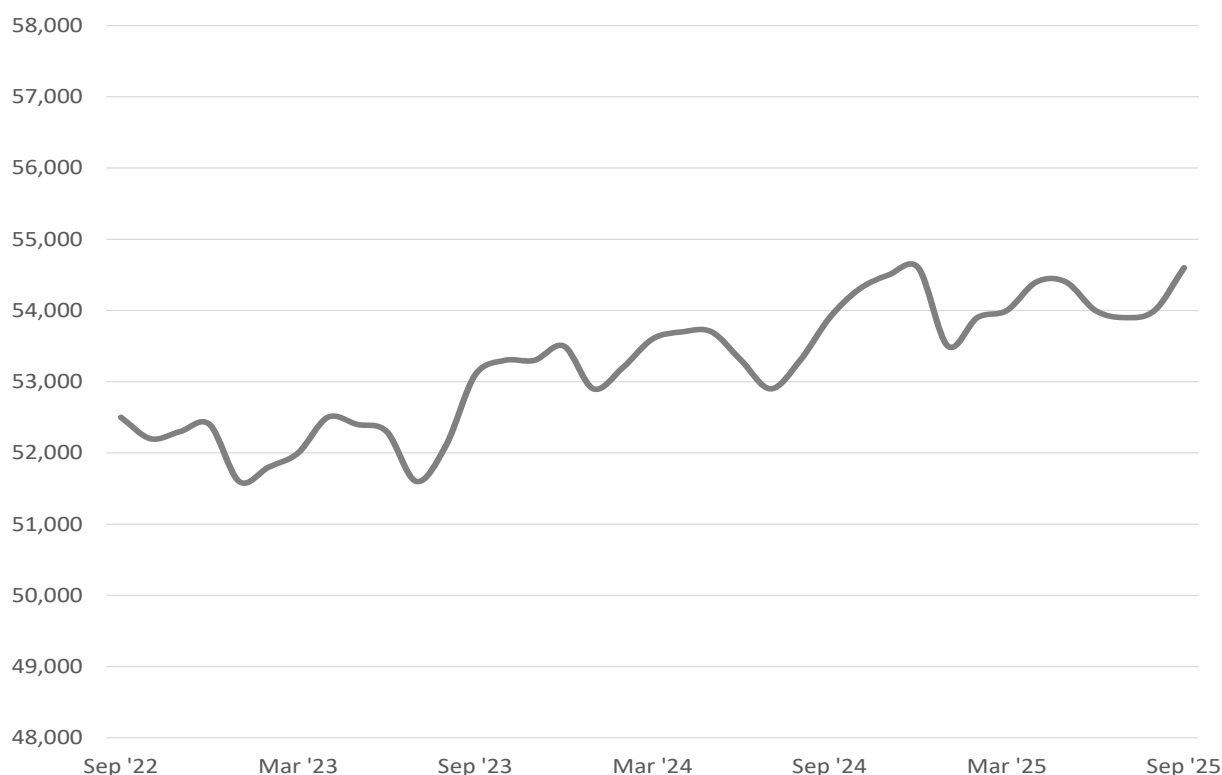
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(In Thousands)

<u>NAICS</u>	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>OTY</u>
Total Nonfarm	66.1	65.5	65.1	0.6	1.0
Goods Producing	11.5	11.5	11.2	0.0	0.3
Service Providing	54.6	54.0	53.9	0.6	0.7
Government	9.1	8.6	9.1	0.5	0.0

Jobs in Service Providing Industries

September 2022 - September 2025



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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 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	637,494	634,764	624,512	2,730	12,982
Employment	609,717	605,877	597,929	3,840	11,788
Unemployment	27,777	28,887	26,583	-1,110	1,194
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.6%	4.3%	-0.2%	0.1%

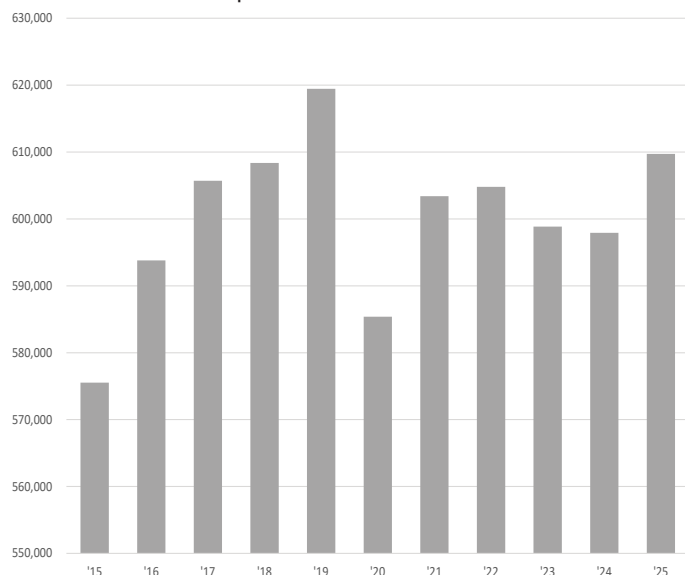
Texarkana MSA

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

	<u>Sep 25</u>	<u>Aug 25</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>OTM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Civilian Labor Force	63,603	63,491	62,116	112	1,487
Employment	60,714	60,509	59,602	205	1,112
Unemployment	2,889	2,982	2,514	-93	375
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	4.7%	4.0%	-0.2%	0.5%

Memphis MSA - Employment

September: 2015 - 2025



Texarkana MSA - Employment

September 2022 - September 2025



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Micropolitan Statistical Areas Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Micro Area	September 2025				August 2025				September 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkadelphia Micro	10,035	9,550	485	4.8	9,887	9,369	518	5.2	9,622	9,243	379	3.9
Batesville Micro	18,437	17,729	708	3.8	18,232	17,547	685	3.8	17,933	17,414	519	2.9
Blytheville Micro	21,278	20,285	993	4.7	21,139	20,080	1,059	5.0	20,949	20,203	746	3.6
Camden Micro	11,249	10,684	565	5.0	11,071	10,506	565	5.1	11,308	10,871	437	3.9
El Dorado Micro	15,417	14,593	824	5.3	15,412	14,543	869	5.6	15,839	15,035	804	5.1
Forrest City Micro	7,779	7,320	459	5.9	7,824	7,359	465	5.9	7,737	7,338	399	5.2
Harrison Micro	19,202	18,379	823	4.3	18,828	18,023	805	4.3	19,244	18,646	598	3.1
Magnolia Micro	8,929	8,458	471	5.3	8,836	8,371	465	5.3	8,896	8,551	345	3.9
Malvern Micro	13,260	12,639	621	4.7	13,239	12,627	612	4.6	13,339	12,848	491	3.7
Mountain Home Micro	16,919	16,134	785	4.6	16,844	16,086	758	4.5	16,694	16,108	586	3.5
Paragould Micro	20,521	19,618	903	4.4	20,394	19,495	899	4.4	20,366	19,682	684	3.4
Pine Bluff Micro	27,725	26,008	1,717	6.2	27,594	25,894	1,700	6.2	27,747	26,482	1,265	4.6
Russellville Micro	37,697	35,973	1,724	4.6	37,014	35,233	1,781	4.8	37,591	36,248	1,343	3.6
Searcy Micro	35,533	34,045	1,488	4.2	35,400	33,968	1,432	4.0	34,785	33,628	1,157	3.3

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
Magnolia Micro = Columbia County
Malvern Micro = Hot Spring County
Mountain Home Micro = Baxter County

Paragould Micro = Greene County
Pine Bluff Micro = Cleveland & Jefferson counties
Russellville Micro = Pope & Yell counties
Searcy Micro = White County

City Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

City	September 2025				August 2025				September 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Bella Vista	15,265	14,657	608	4.0	15,106	14,525	581	3.8	14,707	14,264	443	3.0
Benton	20,570	19,892	678	3.3	20,654	19,950	704	3.4	20,181	19,692	489	2.4
Bentonville	35,204	34,166	1,038	2.9	34,875	33,858	1,017	2.9	34,006	33,250	756	2.2
Blytheville	7,183	6,834	349	4.9	7,196	6,764	432	6.0	7,073	6,806	267	3.8
Cabot	13,796	13,318	478	3.5	13,823	13,354	469	3.4	13,523	13,187	336	2.5
Conway	37,742	36,304	1,438	3.8	37,786	36,414	1,372	3.6	36,945	35,936	1,009	2.7
El Dorado	6,860	6,423	437	6.4	6,863	6,401	462	6.7	7,011	6,617	394	5.6
Fayetteville	58,483	56,446	2,037	3.5	57,990	55,943	2,047	3.5	56,446	54,948	1,498	2.7
Fort Smith	42,316	40,587	1,729	4.1	42,223	40,513	1,710	4.0	41,727	40,396	1,331	3.2
Hot Springs	17,082	16,276	806	4.7	17,280	16,492	788	4.6	16,854	16,252	602	3.6
Jacksonville	13,094	12,419	675	5.2	13,140	12,458	682	5.2	12,776	12,293	483	3.8
Jonesboro	40,319	38,669	1,650	4.1	40,358	38,718	1,640	4.1	39,465	38,257	1,208	3.1
Little Rock	106,713	102,212	4,501	4.2	107,054	102,527	4,527	4.2	104,635	101,174	3,461	3.3
North Little Rock	33,993	32,472	1,521	4.5	34,076	32,572	1,504	4.4	33,350	32,142	1,208	3.6
Paragould	13,365	12,769	596	4.5	13,281	12,689	592	4.5	13,266	12,810	456	3.4
Pine Bluff	15,130	14,107	1,023	6.8	15,103	14,039	1,064	7.0	15,186	14,387	799	5.3
Rogers	41,946	40,663	1,283	3.1	41,551	40,297	1,254	3.0	40,492	39,572	920	2.3
Russellville	13,605	12,993	612	4.5	13,361	12,723	638	4.8	13,533	13,075	458	3.4
Searcy	10,304	9,846	458	4.4	10,282	9,824	458	4.5	10,082	9,725	357	3.5
Sherwood	17,264	16,589	675	3.9	17,306	16,641	665	3.8	16,894	16,421	473	2.8
Springdale	46,141	44,500	1,641	3.6	45,557	44,103	1,454	3.2	44,411	43,317	1,094	2.5
Texarkana, AR	12,534	11,888	646	5.2	12,595	11,957	638	5.1	12,223	11,723	500	4.1
Van Buren	10,686	10,246	440	4.1	10,668	10,227	441	4.1	10,544	10,197	347	3.3
West Memphis	9,647	8,976	671	7.0	9,678	9,017	661	6.8	9,426	8,938	488	5.2

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

September

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	September 2025				August 2025				September 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Arkansas	7,489	7,151	338	4.5	7,552	7,215	337	4.5	7,508	7,271	237	3.2
Ashley	6,711	6,299	412	6.1	6,746	6,339	407	6.0	6,536	6,167	369	5.6
Baxter	16,919	16,134	785	4.6	16,844	16,086	758	4.5	16,694	16,108	586	3.5
Benton	170,490	164,992	5,498	3.2	168,773	163,507	5,266	3.1	164,608	160,567	4,041	2.5
Boone	16,546	15,852	694	4.2	16,196	15,515	681	4.2	16,609	16,102	507	3.1
Bradley	3,782	3,559	223	5.9	3,717	3,495	222	6.0	3,851	3,680	171	4.4
Calhoun	2,112	2,017	95	4.5	2,104	2,005	99	4.7	2,067	2,001	66	3.2
Carroll	12,048	11,546	502	4.2	12,133	11,655	478	3.9	12,188	11,801	387	3.2
Chicot	3,219	3,006	213	6.6	3,242	3,030	212	6.5	3,171	2,990	181	5.7
Clark	10,035	9,550	485	4.8	9,887	9,369	518	5.2	9,622	9,243	379	3.9
Clay	6,108	5,841	267	4.4	6,142	5,890	252	4.1	6,113	5,920	193	3.2
Cleburne	10,302	9,796	506	4.9	10,159	9,665	494	4.9	10,070	9,722	348	3.5
Cleveland	3,048	2,906	142	4.7	3,046	2,904	142	4.7	3,028	2,921	107	3.5
Columbia	8,929	8,458	471	5.3	8,836	8,371	465	5.3	8,896	8,551	345	3.9
Conway	9,244	8,841	403	4.4	9,250	8,847	403	4.4	9,177	8,891	286	3.1
Craighead	57,718	55,472	2,246	3.9	57,773	55,543	2,230	3.9	56,512	54,881	1,631	2.9
Crawford	26,368	25,203	1,165	4.4	26,278	25,157	1,121	4.3	25,958	25,083	875	3.4
Crittenden	21,044	19,858	1,186	5.6	21,135	19,948	1,187	5.6	20,656	19,773	883	4.3
Cross	7,433	7,111	322	4.3	7,501	7,186	315	4.2	7,428	7,177	251	3.4
Dallas	2,737	2,620	117	4.3	2,744	2,625	119	4.3	2,684	2,588	96	3.6
Desha	3,983	3,712	271	6.8	3,986	3,700	286	7.2	4,122	3,858	264	6.4
Drew	7,909	7,519	390	4.9	7,967	7,579	388	4.9	7,932	7,630	302	3.8
Faulkner	67,416	64,833	2,583	3.8	67,531	65,030	2,501	3.7	66,002	64,176	1,826	2.8
Franklin	7,534	7,214	320	4.2	7,520	7,201	319	4.2	7,367	7,144	223	3.0
Fulton	4,081	3,861	220	5.4	3,931	3,719	212	5.4	4,011	3,864	147	3.7
Garland	43,646	41,701	1,945	4.5	44,121	42,255	1,866	4.2	43,107	41,640	1,467	3.4
Grant	8,944	8,627	317	3.5	8,966	8,649	317	3.5	8,774	8,549	225	2.6
Greene	20,521	19,618	903	4.4	20,394	19,495	899	4.4	20,366	19,682	684	3.4
Hempstead	8,831	8,428	403	4.6	8,568	8,174	394	4.6	8,404	8,115	289	3.4
Hot Spring	13,260	12,639	621	4.7	13,239	12,627	612	4.6	13,339	12,848	491	3.7
Howard	4,899	4,635	264	5.4	4,847	4,597	250	5.2	5,037	4,895	142	2.8
Independence	18,437	17,729	708	3.8	18,232	17,547	685	3.8	17,933	17,414	519	2.9
Izard	4,068	3,790	278	6.8	4,029	3,750	279	6.9	4,116	3,897	219	5.3
Jackson	5,749	5,482	267	4.6	5,769	5,509	260	4.5	5,682	5,461	221	3.9
Jefferson	24,677	23,102	1,575	6.4	24,548	22,990	1,558	6.3	24,719	23,561	1,158	4.7
Johnson	9,954	9,413	541	5.4	9,606	9,071	535	5.6	10,100	9,626	474	4.7
Lafayette	2,291	2,164	127	5.5	2,278	2,147	131	5.8	2,306	2,196	110	4.8
Lawrence	6,872	6,567	305	4.4	6,756	6,462	294	4.4	6,695	6,478	217	3.2
Lee	2,343	2,202	141	6.0	2,357	2,210	147	6.2	2,398	2,275	123	5.1
Lincoln	3,314	3,131	183	5.5	3,331	3,151	180	5.4	3,392	3,225	167	4.9
Little River	5,264	5,037	227	4.3	5,282	5,065	217	4.1	5,142	4,967	175	3.4
Logan	8,885	8,490	395	4.4	8,914	8,524	390	4.4	8,916	8,604	312	3.5
Lonoke	37,530	36,151	1,379	3.7	37,588	36,248	1,340	3.6	36,753	35,795	958	2.6
Madison	8,603	8,306	297	3.5	8,523	8,242	281	3.3	8,362	8,127	235	2.8
Marion	5,347	5,013	334	6.2	5,269	4,945	324	6.1	5,347	5,116	231	4.3
Miller	17,476	16,589	887	5.1	17,561	16,685	876	5.0	17,053	16,359	694	4.1

(continued on Page 16)

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

September

County Labor Force Statistics Civilian Labor Force Estimates

(continued from Page 15)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

County	September 2025				August 2025				September 2024			
	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate	CLF	Emp	Unemp	Rate
Mississippi	21,278	20,285	993	4.7	21,139	20,080	1,059	5.0	20,949	20,203	746	3.6
Monroe	2,651	2,497	154	5.8	2,680	2,529	151	5.6	2,658	2,532	126	4.7
Montgomery	3,102	2,940	162	5.2	3,108	2,953	155	5.0	3,059	2,933	126	4.1
Nevada	2,610	2,452	158	6.1	2,580	2,433	147	5.7	2,516	2,397	119	4.7
Newton	2,656	2,527	129	4.9	2,632	2,508	124	4.7	2,635	2,544	91	3.5
Ouachita	9,137	8,667	470	5.1	8,967	8,501	466	5.2	9,241	8,870	371	4.0
Perry	4,389	4,182	207	4.7	4,397	4,194	203	4.6	4,293	4,146	147	3.4
Phillips	4,752	4,421	331	7.0	4,740	4,403	337	7.1	4,912	4,650	262	5.3
Pike	4,340	4,156	184	4.2	4,338	4,164	174	4.0	4,313	4,171	142	3.3
Poinsett	10,266	9,832	434	4.2	10,257	9,840	417	4.1	10,059	9,734	325	3.2
Polk	7,382	7,047	335	4.5	7,395	7,073	322	4.4	7,456	7,170	286	3.8
Pope	28,259	26,921	1,338	4.7	27,741	26,361	1,380	5.0	28,152	27,091	1,061	3.8
Prairie	3,627	3,484	143	3.9	3,608	3,466	142	3.9	3,708	3,608	100	2.7
Pulaski	203,854	195,079	8,775	4.3	204,428	195,680	8,748	4.3	199,704	193,097	6,607	3.3
Randolph	8,039	7,704	335	4.2	7,998	7,676	322	4.0	7,826	7,561	265	3.4
St. Francis	7,779	7,320	459	5.9	7,824	7,359	465	5.9	7,737	7,338	399	5.2
Saline	67,404	65,053	2,351	3.5	67,529	65,244	2,285	3.4	66,119	64,399	1,720	2.6
Scott	4,090	3,920	170	4.2	4,087	3,923	164	4.0	4,153	4,038	115	2.8
Searcy	3,149	3,007	142	4.5	3,179	3,044	135	4.2	3,115	3,011	104	3.3
Sebastian	60,050	57,599	2,451	4.1	59,887	57,494	2,393	4.0	59,155	57,328	1,827	3.1
Sevier	7,193	6,936	257	3.6	7,152	6,912	240	3.4	7,138	6,955	183	2.6
Sharp	6,745	6,429	316	4.7	6,540	6,229	311	4.8	6,562	6,328	234	3.6
Stone	4,157	3,917	240	5.8	4,177	3,931	246	5.9	4,105	3,932	173	4.2
Union	15,417	14,593	824	5.3	15,412	14,543	869	5.6	15,839	15,035	804	5.1
Van Buren	6,024	5,716	308	5.1	5,920	5,622	298	5.0	5,921	5,698	223	3.8
Washington	142,025	137,129	4,896	3.4	140,604	135,908	4,696	3.3	136,976	133,490	3,486	2.5
White	35,533	34,045	1,488	4.2	35,400	33,968	1,432	4.0	34,785	33,628	1,157	3.3
Woodruff	2,965	2,845	120	4.0	2,954	2,842	112	3.8	2,932	2,837	95	3.2
Yell	9,438	9,052	386	4.1	9,273	8,872	401	4.3	9,439	9,157	282	3.0

County Labor Force Summary

Between August and September, unemployment rates increased in 38 of Arkansas' 75 counties. Rates were stable in 21 counties, while 16 counties posted monthly rate declines. Jobless rates ranged from a low of 3.2% in Benton County to a high of 7.0% in Phillips County.

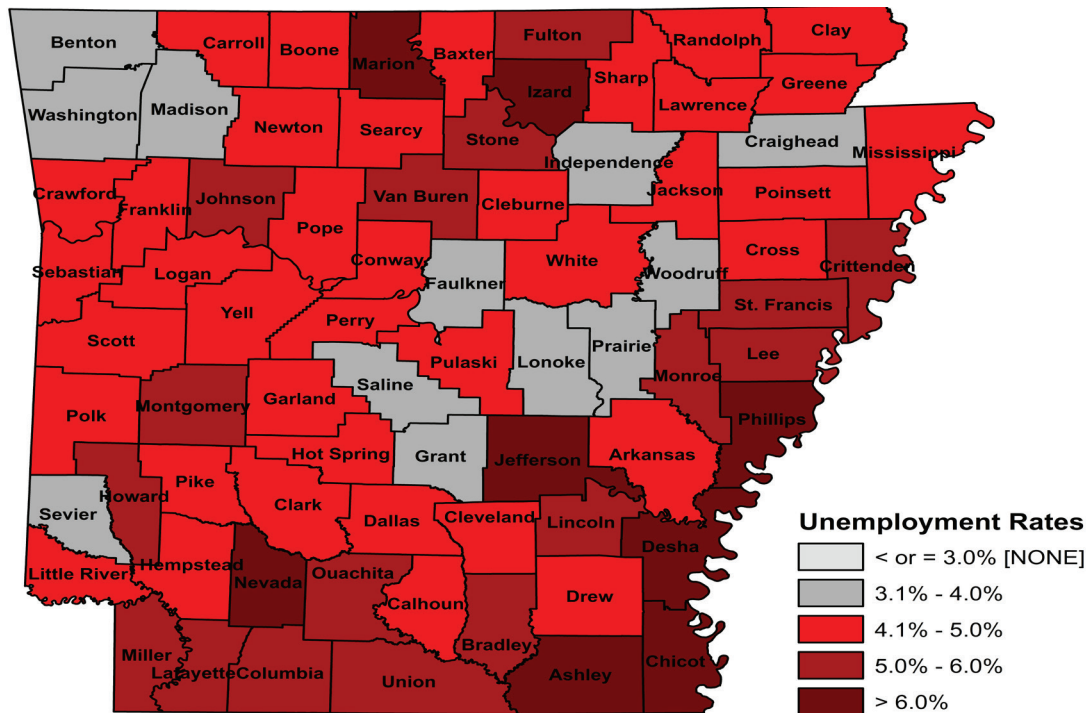
In September, no county had an unemployment rate at or below three percent. Only Phillips County posted a rate at or above 7%, down from two states above 7% last month.

Compared to September 2024, jobless rates are up in all 75 Arkansas counties. Annual rate increases ranged from as little as a two-tenths of a percentage point gain in Union County to as much as a two and six-tenths of a percentage point jump in Howard County. Forty-eight counties posted annual rate increases of over one full percentage point, with an average increase of one and one-tenth of a percentage point.

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

September

County Unemployment Rates



Ranked by Unemployment Rates

September 2025 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Benton	3.2	23	Pulaski	4.3	51	Miller	5.1
2	Washington	3.4	27	Clay	4.4	51	Ouachita	5.1
3	Grant	3.5	27	Conway	4.4	51	Van Buren	5.1
3	Madison	3.5	27	Crawford	4.4	54	Montgomery	5.2
3	Saline	3.5	27	Greene	4.4	55	Columbia	5.3
6	Sevier	3.6	27	Lawrence	4.4	55	Union	5.3
7	Lonoke	3.7	27	Logan	4.4	57	Fulton	5.4
8	Faulkner	3.8	33	Arkansas	4.5	57	Howard	5.4
8	Independence	3.8	33	Calhoun	4.5	57	Johnson	5.4
10	Craighead	3.9	33	Garland	4.5	60	Lafayette	5.5
10	Prairie	3.9	33	Polk	4.5	60	Lincoln	5.5
12	Woodruff	4.0	33	Searcy	4.5	62	Crittenden	5.6
13	Sebastian	4.1	38	Baxter	4.6	63	Monroe	5.8
13	Yell	4.1	38	Hempstead	4.6	63	Stone	5.8
15	Boone	4.2	38	Jackson	4.6	65	Bradley	5.9
15	Carroll	4.2	41	Cleveland	4.7	65	St. Francis	5.9
15	Franklin	4.2	41	Hot Spring	4.7	67	Lee	6.0
15	Pike	4.2	41	Mississippi	4.7	68	Ashley	6.1
15	Poinsett	4.2	41	Perry	4.7	68	Nevada	6.1
15	Randolph	4.2	41	Pope	4.7	70	Marion	6.2
15	Scott	4.2	41	Sharp	4.7	71	Jefferson	6.4
15	White	4.2	47	Clark	4.8	72	Chicot	6.6
23	Cross	4.3	48	Cleburne	4.9	73	Desha	6.8
23	Dallas	4.3	48	Drew	4.9	73	Izard	6.8
23	Little River	4.3	48	Newton	4.9	75	Phillips	7.0

2025 Arkansas Labor Market Report

September

Local Workforce Development Areas

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	September 2025				August 2025				September 2024			
<u>LWDA</u>	<u>CLF</u>	<u>Emp</u>	<u>Unemp</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>CLF</u>	<u>Emp</u>	<u>Unemp</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>CLF</u>	<u>Emp</u>	<u>Unemp</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Central (minus LR)	275,769	264,885	10,884	3.9	276,310	265,670	10,640	3.9	270,309	262,433	7,876	2.9
City of Little Rock	106,713	102,212	4,501	4.2	107,054	102,527	4,527	4.2	104,635	101,174	3,461	3.3
Eastern	43,351	40,912	2,439	5.6	43,557	41,106	2,451	5.6	43,131	41,213	1,918	4.4
North Central	98,061	93,610	4,451	4.5	97,111	92,782	4,329	4.5	96,117	92,781	3,336	3.5
Northeast	130,802	125,319	5,483	4.2	130,459	124,986	5,473	4.2	128,520	124,459	4,061	3.2
Northwest	377,783	364,506	13,277	3.5	374,153	361,410	12,743	3.4	366,534	356,866	9,668	2.6
Southeast	73,076	69,012	4,064	5.6	73,101	69,052	4,049	5.5	73,033	69,852	3,181	4.4
Southwest	86,896	82,596	4,300	4.9	86,331	82,058	4,273	4.9	86,323	82,929	3,394	3.9
West Central	135,667	129,395	6,272	4.6	134,960	128,713	6,247	4.6	134,601	129,746	4,855	3.6
Western	114,309	109,473	4,836	4.2	114,081	109,372	4,709	4.1	113,005	109,367	3,638	3.2

