

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET



AND ECONOMIC REPORT

STATE AND LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

A proud partner of the
americanjobcenter
network





2024 Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor
State of Arkansas

Charisse Childers, Ph.D., Director
Division of Workforce Services

Prepared By:
Division of Workforce Services
Labor Market Information
P.O. Box 2981
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
Telephone: (501) 682-3118
www.discover.arkansas.gov

“Equal Opportunity Employer/Program”

“Auxiliary aids and services are
available upon request to
individuals with disabilities”

Voice: 1-800-285-1121

TDD: 1-800-285-1131

Released: October 2024

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	3	Top 10 Fastest Decline	18
Executive Summary	4	Occupations	19
State of Arkansas	5	Top 5 Major Occupational Groups	19
Population 2019-2023	5	Top 10 Growth	19
Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment 2019-2023	6	Top 10 Fastest Growth	20
2024 Monthly Unemployment Rates	6	Top 10 Decline	20
Median Household Income 2019-2023	8	Top 10 Fastest Decline	20
Per Capita Personal Income 2019-2023	8	Covered Employment and Earnings	21
Employment Status by Race 2023	9		
Education	10	Similar tables and graphs can be found under each	
State of Arkansas In Demand Occupations	11	Local Workforce Development Area	
Wages of the 10 Largest Occupations	12		
Occupations Paying the Most	13	Central Arkansas LWDA	22
Wage Estimates by Employer Size	14	City of Little Rock LWDA	32
Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate	14	Eastern Arkansas LWDA	42
Average Wages of States Surrounding Arkansas	15	North Central Arkansas LWDA	52
Employment and Wages for Select STEM Occupations	16	Northeast Arkansas LWDA	62
Industry	17	Northwest Arkansas LWDA	72
Top 5 Industry Supersectors	17	Southeast Arkansas LWDA	82
Top 10 Growth	17	Southwest Arkansas LWDA	92
Top 10 Fastest Growth	18	West Central Arkansas LWDA	102
Top 10 Decline	18	Western Arkansas LWDA	112



Executive Summary

The 2024 Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report is produced by the Occupational/Career Information unit of the Labor Market Information section to provide relevant information about the economy and workforce in Arkansas and the 10 Workforce Development Areas. The primary focus of this report includes the years 2019 to 2023, with some information covering shorter periods due to accessibility of data. Projection information for industry and occupational trends covers the years 2023 to 2025.

Arkansas grew in population in 2023 by 22,095 from 2022, and added a total of 49,928 new residents from 2019 to 2023. Of Arkansas's 10 Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs), Northwest Arkansas saw the largest increase in population, adding 14,833 in 2023. The Eastern, Southeast, and Southwest Arkansas LWDAs saw decreasing populations in 2023.

Between 2022 and 2023 the state's labor force increased by 18,117, and employment increased by 16,990. Labor force and employment varied across the LWDAs. The state's unemployment rate ended at 3.3 percent in 2023, a decrease of 0.2% since 2019. The unemployment remained relatively steady in 2024, ending the month of July at 3.3 percent. The unemployment rate fluctuated across all LWDAs in 2024 and through July 2024.

Short-term employment projections for 2023 to 2025 showed an increase in the Arkansas job market with a gain of 30,168 jobs, equivalent to a 2.05 percent growth in employment. Goods-Producing industries are estimated to see a net gain of 1,111 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are forecast to increase employment by 27,441. Arkansas' self-employed ranks are estimated to experience a net gain of 1,616, an increase of 1.50 percent.

Jobs requiring a bachelor's degree are estimated to add more jobs than any other education level with 9,769 jobs between 2023 and 2025. Occupations requiring a high school diploma or equivalent are expected to grow by 8,924.

Arkansas' per capita personal income increased over the

2109-2023 period to \$54,347; however, the state's per capita personal income in 2023 remained below the United States' per capita personal income of \$68,531.

More than a million Arkansas workers earned at least \$12 or more an hour in 2022, with the mean annual wage for all employer sizes estimated at \$51,250. Of the six states surrounding Arkansas, only Mississippi had a lower overall average hourly and average annual wage for all occupations. Of the surrounding states, Texas had the highest average annual wage.

COVID-19

Some of the data in this economic report reflects the impact of COVID-19 while other data sets may not yet reflect the impact. This is especially true when comparing any data from 2019 with data from 2023. It is unknown what the full impact of COVID-19 will be on the data.

Sources used for this report include the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Employment Assistance Division, Labor Market Information Section, United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the Local Employment Dynamics Program (a partnership between the State of Arkansas and the United States Census Bureau), and the Population Reference Bureau. This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

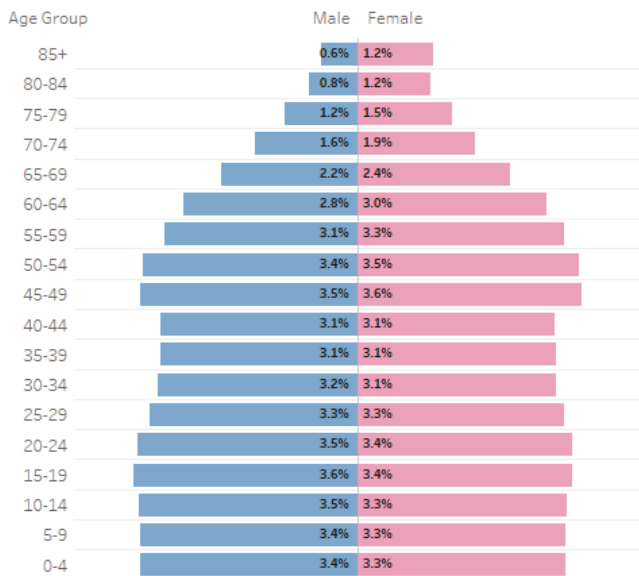
State of Arkansas



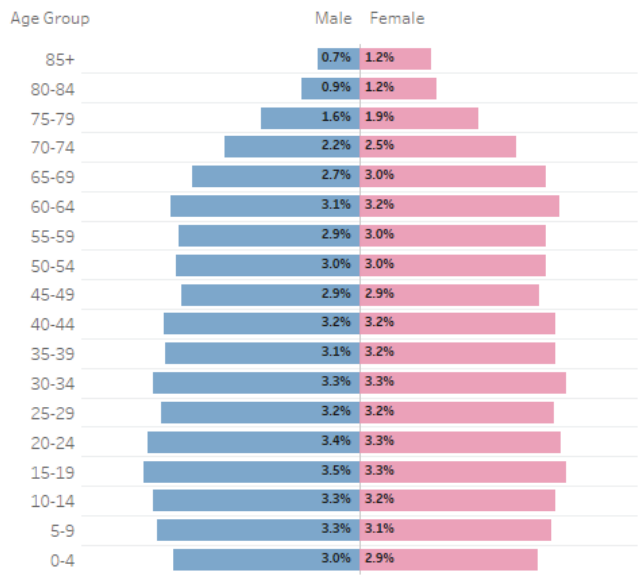
The state of Arkansas’ population grew to 3,067,732 in 2023, increasing 22,095 from 2022 to 2023 and increasing 49,928 from 2019 to 2023. The state of Arkansas consists of 10 Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs), six Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), and 75 counties. Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas border the state.

Population Pyramids for Arkansas

2010 Pop: 2,921,964



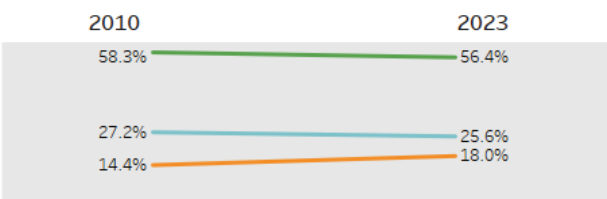
2023 Pop: 3,067,732



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	421,548	551,294
Adults 20-64	1,704,800	1,730,421
Under 20	795,616	786,017
Total	2,921,964	3,067,732

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics:2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

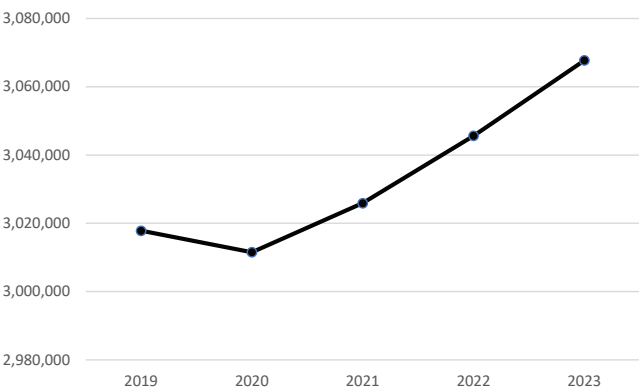
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

United States Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
328,239,523	331,449,281	331,893,745	333,287,557	334,914,895

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Arkansas Population Progression



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Figures in the population pyramid graphics may differ from the 2018-2022 population statistics due to the timeline of data release schedules.

Arkansas



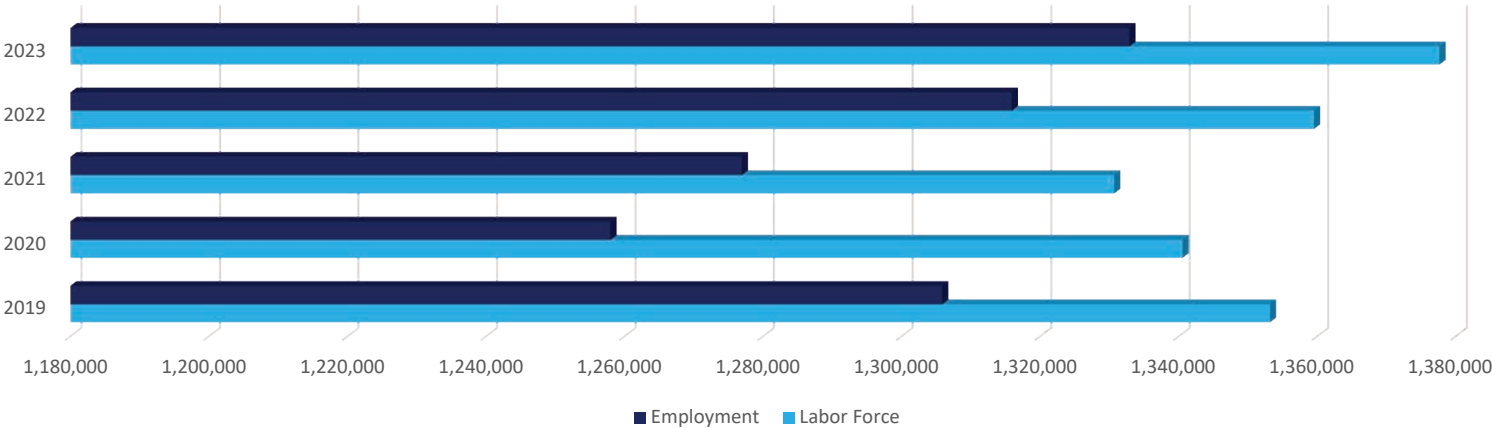
Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

The labor force increased by 18,117 between 2022 and 2023, and employment increased by 16,990 over the same period. Unemployment increased by 1,127 from 2022 to 2023, but has seen a decrease of 2,536 since 2019. The state’s unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percent from 2022 to 2023. Over the 2019-2023 period, the unemployment rate declined 0.2 percentage points to 3.3 percent for 2023. The state’s unemployment rate was 3.3 percent in July 2024.

Arkansas 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	1,353,175	1,340,557	1,330,676	1,359,540	1,377,657
Employment	1,305,858	1,257,949	1,276,933	1,315,886	1,332,876
Unemployment	47,317	82,608	53,743	43,654	44,781
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	6.2%	4.0%	3.2%	3.3%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics



State of Arkansas and National Monthly Unemployment Rate*

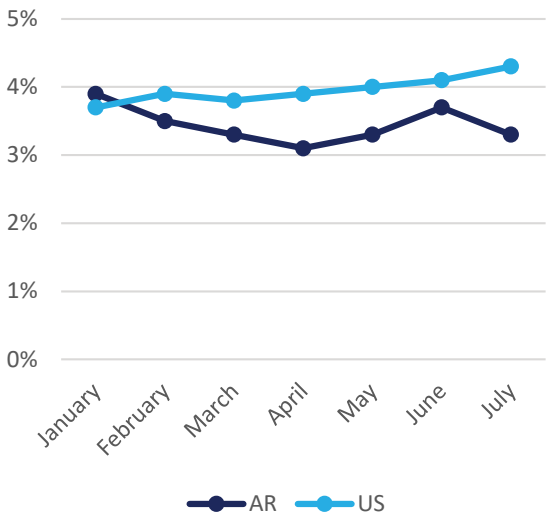
Year	Month	AR Unemployment Rate	U.S. Unemployment Rate
2024	January	3.9%	3.7%
2024	February	3.5%	3.9%
2024	March	3.3%	3.8%
2024	April	3.1%	3.9%
2024	May	3.3%	4.0%
2024	June	3.7%	4.1%
2024	July	3.3%**	4.3%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024

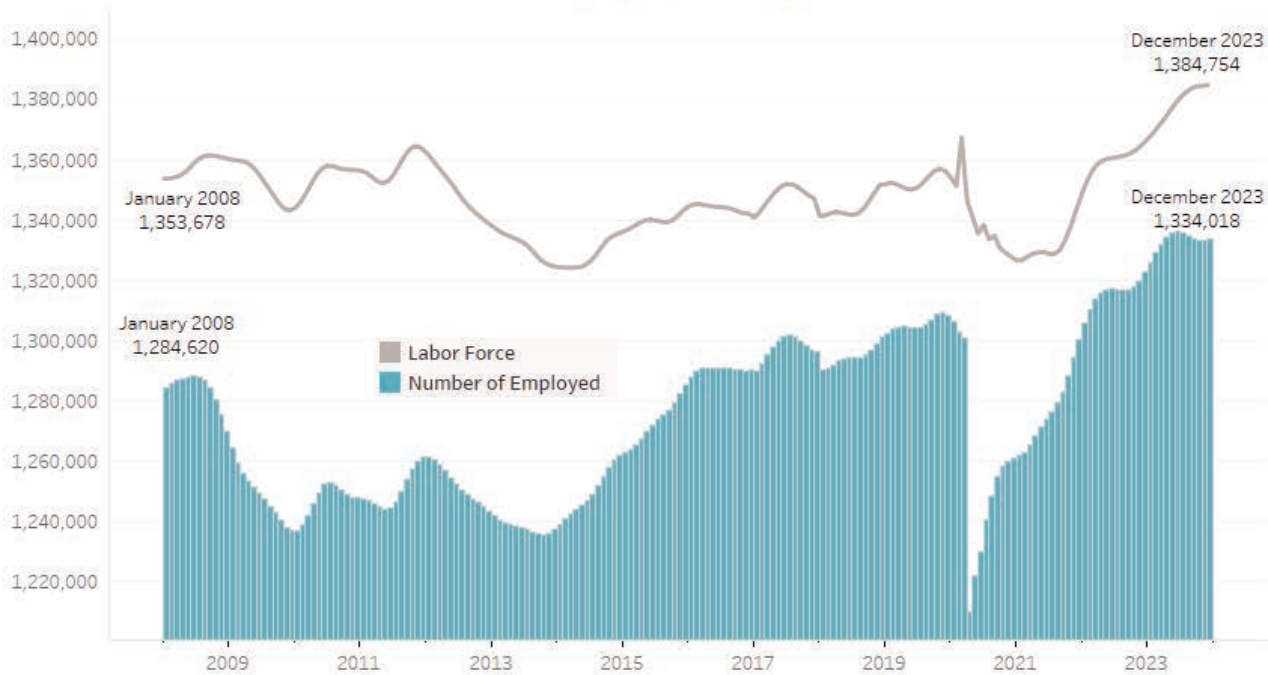


Arkansas

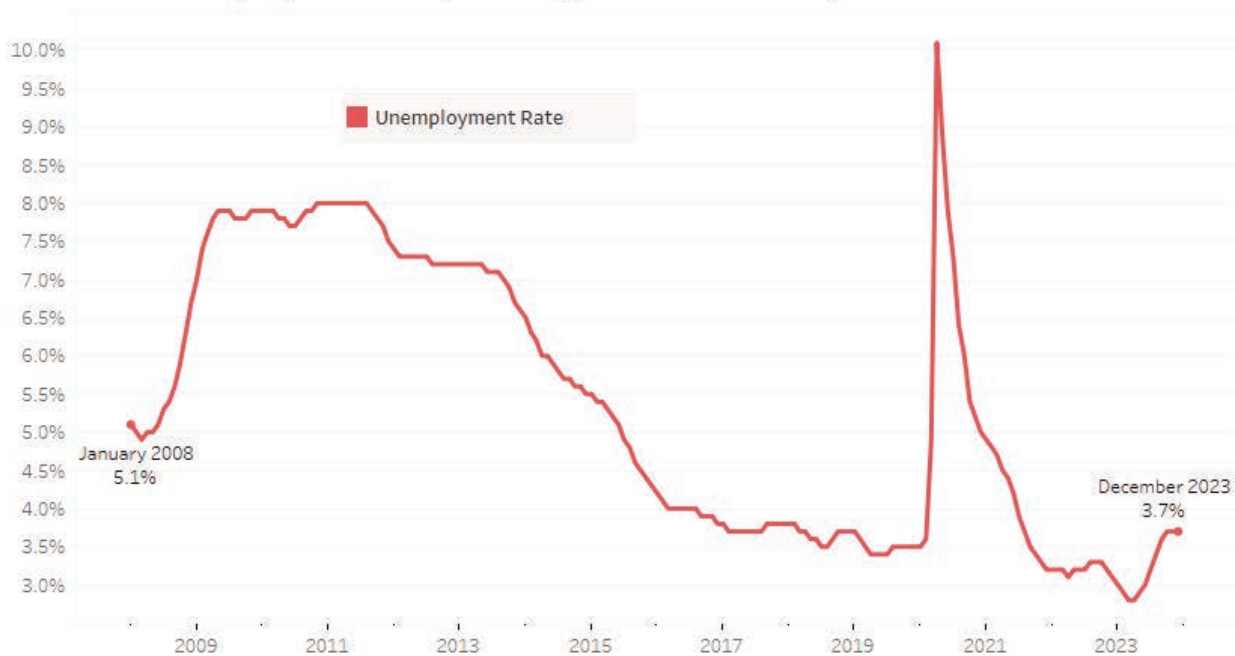
Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment



Arkansas Labor Force and Number of Employed, January 2008 - December 2023



Arkansas Unemployment Rate, January, 2008 - December, 2023



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using Seasonally Adjusted Employment and Unemployment Statistics from Discover Arkansas website, <https://www.discover.arkansas.gov/Data-Search-Tool/LAUS>

Arkansas



Median Household/Per Capita Personal Income

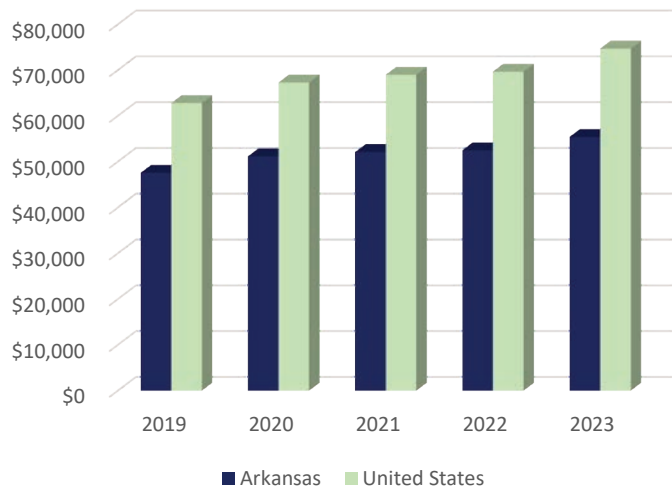
Arkansas’ median household income was \$55,432 in 2023 which increased by \$2,904 from 2022 to 2023 but is below the national median household income of \$74,755 for 2023. Arkansas’ per capita personal income in 2023 was \$54,347, an increase of \$2,560 from 2022. Over the 2019-2023 period, the per capita personal income increased by \$9,765. The state’s per capita personal income is below the United States per capita personal income of \$68,531.

Arkansas/United States Median Household Income 2019-2023

Year	Arkansas	United States
2019	\$47,597	\$62,843
2020	\$51,183	\$67,340
2021	\$52,123	\$69,021
2022	\$52,528	\$69,717
2023	\$55,432	\$74,755

Source: United States Census Bureau

Median Household Income

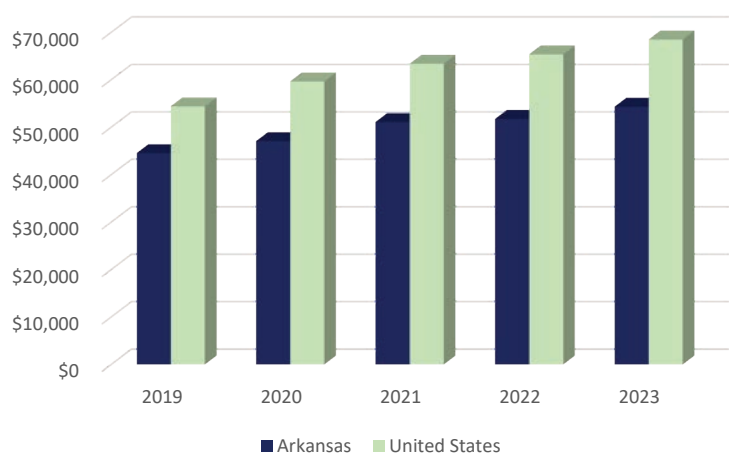


Arkansas/United States Per Capita Personal Income 2019-2023

Year	Arkansas	United States
2019	\$44,582	\$54,474
2020	\$47,109	\$59,729
2021	\$51,148	\$63,444
2022	\$51,787	\$65,423
2023	\$54,347	\$68,531

Source: United States Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Per Capita Personal Income



Arkansas

Employment



In 2023, whites made up 73.7 percent of the labor force while the total of all minority groups made up 26.3 percent of the labor force. The unemployment rate for all races, including Hispanics, was 3.3 percent. The unemployment rate for all minority groups combined was 4.8 percent. Hispanics of all races made up 8.3 percent of the labor force, with an unemployment rate of 2.8 percent.

Employment Status by Race State of Arkansas 2023

					Percent Distribution		
Race (both sexes, age 16+)	Labor Force	Emp.	Unemp.	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Emp.	Unemp.
Total, Including Hispanic	1,377,657	1,332,876	44,781	3.3	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	1,015,032	987,564	27,468	2.7	73.7	74.1	61.3
Black	195,730	183,918	11,812	6.0	14.2	13.8	26.4
American Indian/ Alaska Native	7,719	7,490	229	3.0	0.6	0.6	0.5
Asian	26,321	25,843	478	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	4,576	4,348	228	5.0	0.3	0.3	0.5
Remaining Races	44,127	42,649	1,478	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3
Two or More Races	84,153	81,063	3,090	3.7	6.1	6.1	6.9
Total: Minority Group*	362,626	345,311	17,315	4.8	26.3	25.9	38.7
Hispanic, All Races	114,552	111,305	3,247	2.8	8.3	8.4	7.3

*Sum of Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, Remaining Races, and Two or More Races.

Note: Sum of individual items may not equal because of rounding. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, the U.S. Department of Labor-Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the U.S. Census Bureau-American Community Survey (2018-2022 5-year estimates)



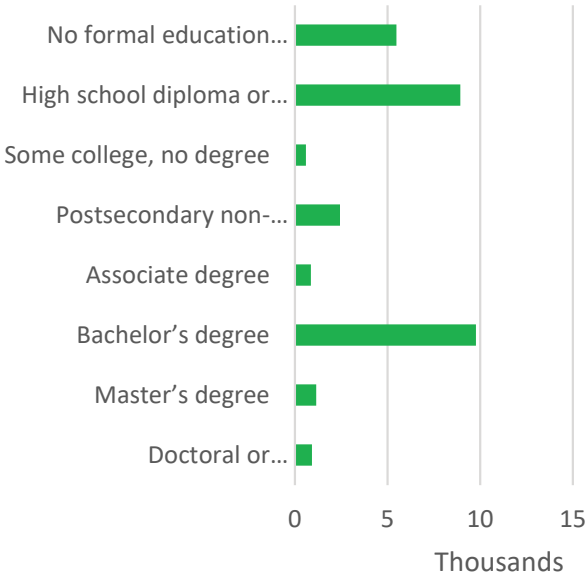
All eight education categories are projected to see positive net growth between 2023 and 2025. Occupations requiring no formal education are projected to gain 5,489 jobs during the projection period. Jobs requiring a high school diploma or equivalent are expected to gain 8,924 jobs during the projection period and had the highest educational attainment in 2022 at 34.1 percent. Occupations requiring a bachelor’s degree are expected to grow by 9,769 jobs and 15.6 percent of the population 25 years and over had a bachelor’s degree in 2022. Growth in occupations requiring a master’s degree or doctoral or professional degree is expected to be 1,151 and 928 jobs respectively. Educational attainment of the state’s population aged 25 years and over shows that 88.2 percent have earned at least a high school diploma or equivalent, down 0.5 percent from 2021.

Net Change by Education Title
2023-2025

Education Title	Net Change
Doctoral or professional degree	928
Master’s degree	1,151
Bachelor’s degree	9,769
Associate degree	877
Postsecondary non-degree award	2,433
Some college, no degree	597
High school diploma or equivalent	8,924
No formal education credential	5,489

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Education Title Change 2023-2025



Educational Attainment in Arkansas 2022

	Arkansas	Total Estimate
Population 25 years and over	2,031,847	(%)
Less than 9th grade	90,293	4.4%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	149,362	7.4%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	693,875	34.1%
Some college, no degree	436,824	21.5%
Associate degree	159,514	7.9%
Bachelor’s degree	317,437	15.6%
Graduate or professional degree	184,542	9.1%

Source: 2022 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Arkansas

In-Demand Occupations



High Skill

SOC Title	Total Annual Openings	May 2023 Mean Wage
General and Operations Managers	3,286	\$87,790
Registered Nurses	1,984	\$72,900
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,013	\$54,120
Clergy	1,003	\$49,890
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	925	\$57,420
Accountants and Auditors	775	\$70,290
Medical and Health Services Managers	743	\$97,250
Management Analysts	695	\$77,180
Financial Managers	655	\$119,530
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	626	\$71,970
Human Resources Specialists	542	\$62,540
Software Developers	541	\$88,130
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	483	\$56,000
Project Management Specialists	430	\$84,160
Buyers and Purchasing Agents	423	\$84,760

Moderate Skill

SOC Title	Total Annual Openings	May 2023 Mean Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,655	\$51,530
Nursing Assistants	2,813	\$32,050
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	1,470	\$43,170
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	1,454	\$33,150
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,017	\$49,360
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	696	\$45,010
Medical Assistants	657	\$35,560
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	623	\$35,880
Dental Assistants	455	\$40,440
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	411	\$32,950
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	409	\$49,340
Computer User Support Specialists	388	\$52,740
Physical Therapist Assistants	271	\$62,620
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	245	N/A
Firefighters	192	\$42,150

Basic Skill

SOC Title	Total Annual Openings	May 2023 Mean Wage
Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,408	\$26,850
Cashiers	6,404	\$27,060
Retail Salespersons	4,768	\$33,190
Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	4,656	\$59,700
Stockers and Order Fillers	4,563	\$33,890
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	3,797	\$28,050
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,780	\$34,980
Office Clerks, General	3,648	\$38,030
Waiters and Waitresses	3,407	\$29,060
Customer Service Representatives	3,069	\$37,980
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	2,883	\$29,870
Cooks, Restaurant	2,456	\$30,000
Receptionists and Information Clerks	1,956	\$32,570
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,921	\$34,560
Childcare Workers	1,766	\$27,940

Source: Division of Workforce Services

"High Skill" occupations include occupations requiring at least a bachelor's degree. This also includes occupations requiring a master's degree or a doctoral or professional degree.

"Moderate Skill" occupations include occupations requiring an associate degree, postsecondary non-degree award or some college with no degree.

"Basic Skill" occupations include occupations requiring either a high school diploma or equivalent or no formal education.

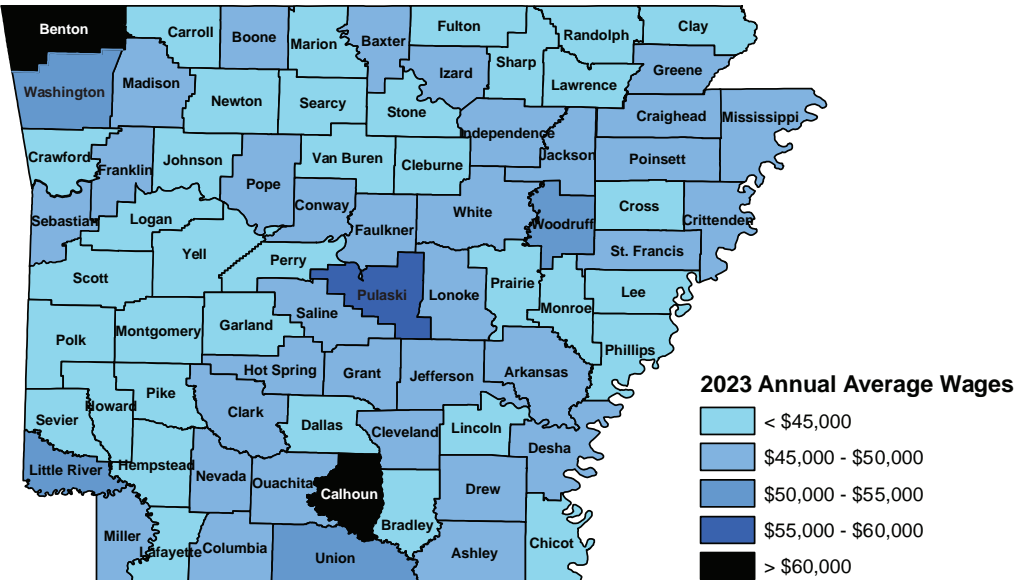
Arkansas

Wages



Fast Food and Counter Workers was estimated to have the most employees across the state with 39,360 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$26,846. **General and Operations Managers** was the second largest occupation with 34,660 employed, earning an average wage of \$87,788, which gave the occupation the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations.

Orthopedic Surgeons, Except Pediatric topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$346,677. **Dermatologists**, with an average annual salary of \$318,562, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.



**Source: Occupational Employment Statistics*

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$27,901 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$41,662, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$62,923 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 1,271,320 estimated employees with hourly wage data, 85,364 made less than \$12 an hour while 345,916 made more than \$27 an hour. Employees making between \$17 and \$21.99 totaled 270,373.

State of Arkansas Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Fast Food and Counter Workers	39,360	\$26,846	\$23,845	\$28,346
General and Operations Managers	34,660	\$87,788	\$36,036	\$113,664
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	34,460	\$51,527	\$32,954	\$60,814
Cashiers	32,090	\$27,063	\$23,948	\$28,621
Retail Salespersons	30,530	\$33,190	\$25,205	\$37,182
Registered Nurses	29,690	\$72,897	\$52,403	\$83,144
Stockers and Order Fillers	27,890	\$33,886	\$28,227	\$36,716
Office Clerks, General	26,820	\$38,031	\$26,990	\$43,552
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	25,590	\$34,978	\$28,063	\$38,435
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	24,530	\$84,824	\$43,505	\$105,483

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Arkansas

Wages



State of Arkansas Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Orthopedic Surgeons, Except Pediatric	\$346,677
Dermatologists	\$318,562
Ophthalmologists, Except Pediatric	\$296,403
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$273,414
Physicians, Pathologists	\$258,392
Radiologists	\$230,713
Physicians, All Other	\$221,686
Psychiatrists	\$211,527
Dentists, All Other Specialists	\$199,537
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$175,824
General Internal Medicine Physicians	\$175,810
Dentists, General	\$168,765
Chief Executives	\$167,490
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$159,760
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	\$155,561
Medical Dosimetrists	\$151,065
Optometrists	\$146,361
Public Relations Managers	\$143,109
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$139,311
Pediatricians, General	\$138,605
Natural Sciences Managers	\$135,532
Physicists	\$133,314
Sales Managers	\$133,280
Purchasing Managers	\$131,036
Marketing Managers	\$129,343

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Arkansas

Wages



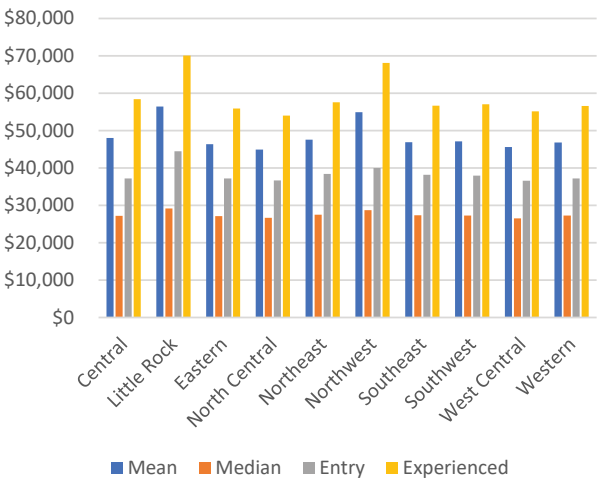
State of Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

State of Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

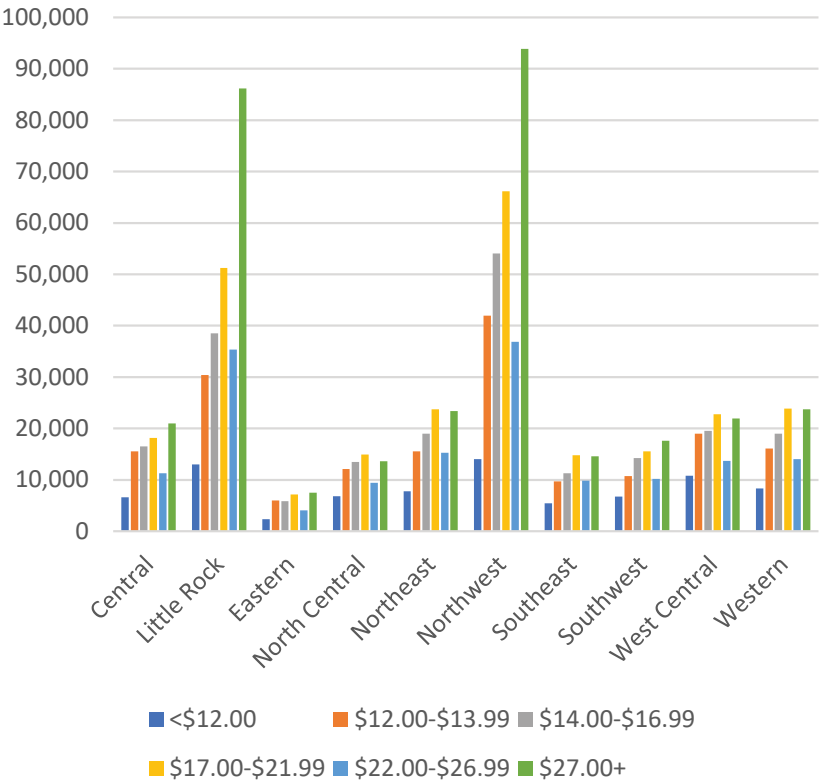
Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$51,250	\$27,901	\$39,061	\$62,923
0-49 Employees	\$47,728	\$26,984	\$36,961	\$58,101
50-99 Employees	\$49,905	\$28,988	\$39,478	\$60,363
100-249 Employees	\$47,006	\$27,104	\$37,573	\$56,957
250-499 Employees	\$51,240	\$30,129	\$41,662	\$61,796
500+ Employees	\$61,512	\$33,358	\$49,386	\$75,589

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

WDA Wages for Employers of All Sizes



State of Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



State of Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	1,271,320
<\$12.00	85,364
\$12.00-\$13.99	182,489
\$14.00-\$16.99	221,167
\$17.00-\$21.99	270,373
\$22.00-\$26.99	166,011
\$27.00+	345,916

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Arkansas

Wages

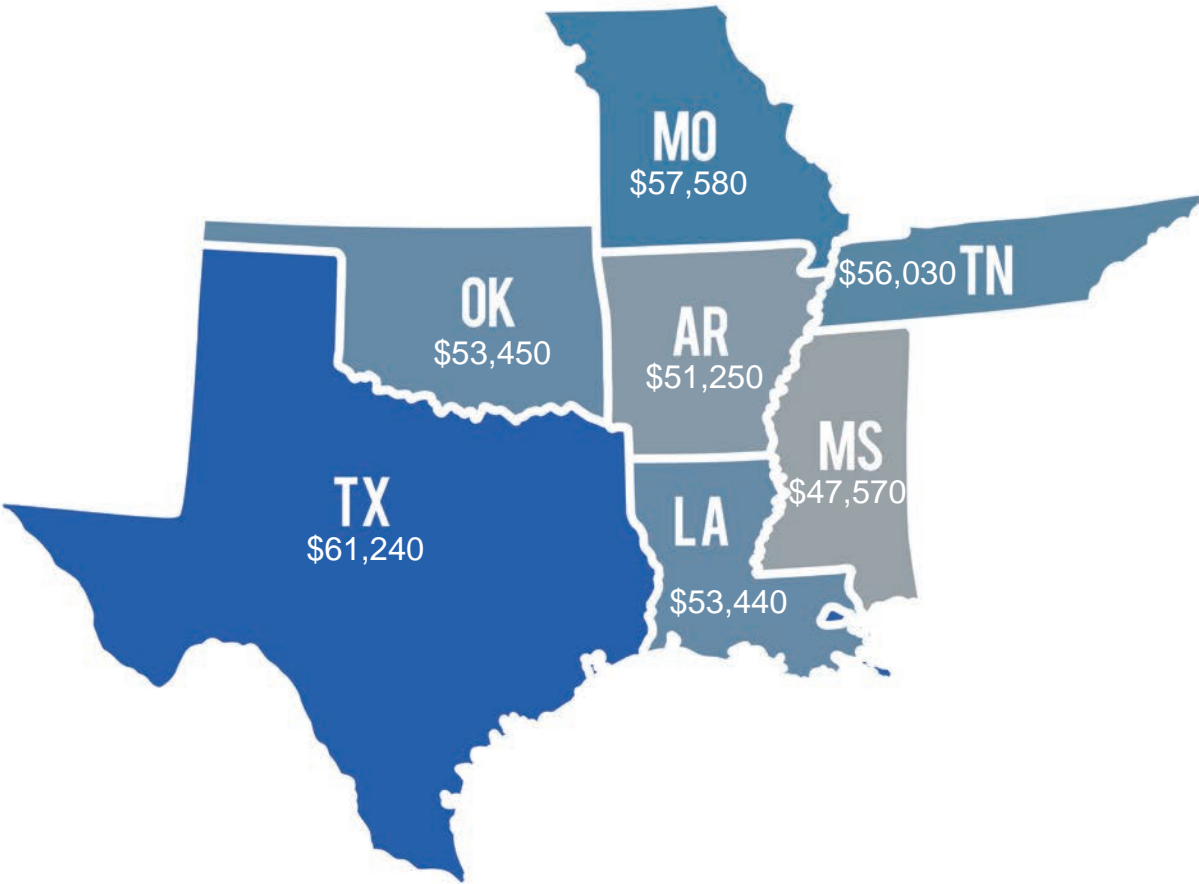


Average Wages of States Surrounding Arkansas

State	Mean Hourly Wage	Mean Annual Wage
Arkansas	\$24.64	\$51,250
Louisiana	\$25.69	\$53,440
Mississippi	\$22.87	\$47,570
Missouri	\$27.68	\$57,580
Oklahoma	\$25.70	\$53,450
Tennessee	\$26.94	\$56,030
Texas	\$29.44	\$61,240

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Average Annual Wages for Surrounding States



Arkansas

Wages

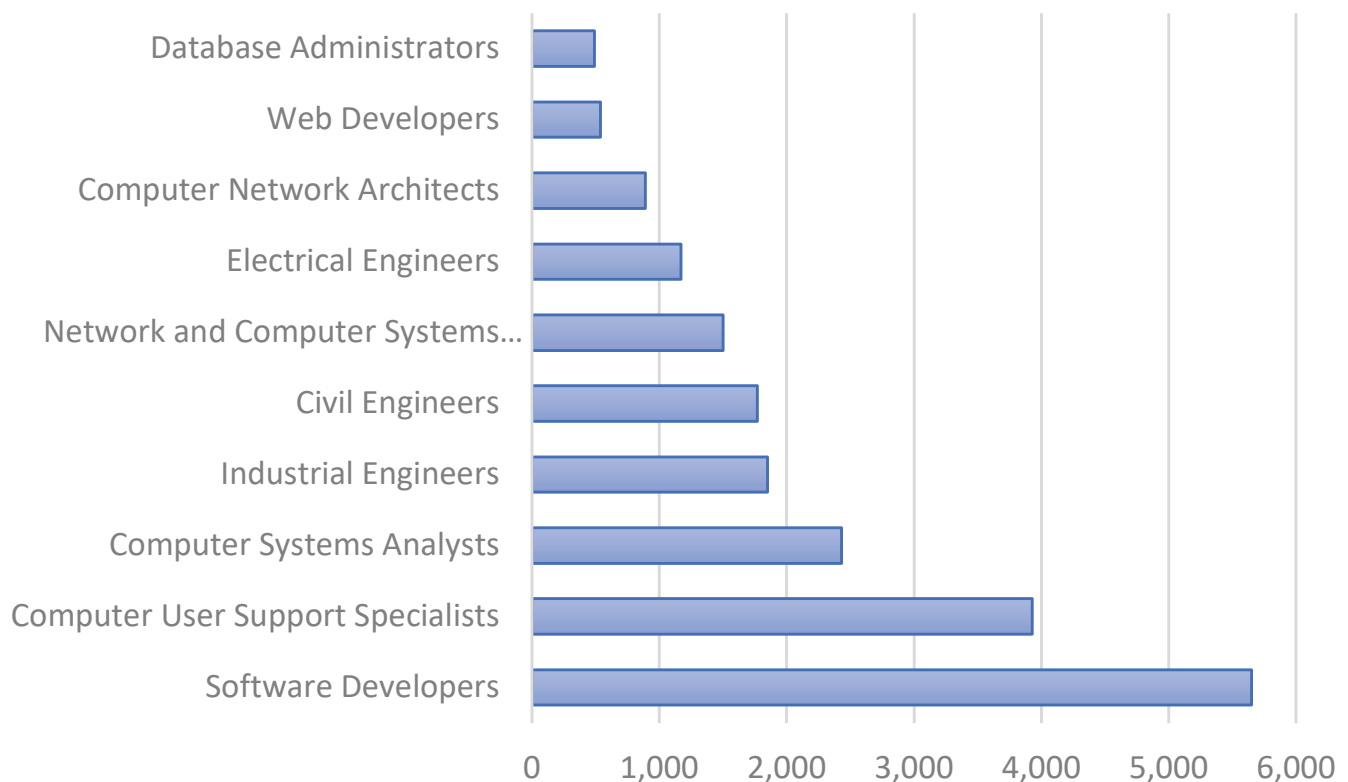


State of Arkansas Employment and Wages for Select STEM Occupations

Occupation	Employment	Mean Hourly Wage
Software Developers	5,650	\$42.37
Computer User Support Specialists	3,930	\$25.36
Computer Systems Analysts	2,430	\$40.54
Industrial Engineers	1,850	\$45.28
Civil Engineers	1,770	\$41.27
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	1,500	\$37.47
Electrical Engineers	1,170	\$39.35
Computer Network Architects	890	\$54.27
Web Developers	540	\$23.43
Database Administrators	490	\$43.83

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

STEM Employment in Arkansas



Arkansas

Industry



Restaurants and Other Eating Places is projected to be the top growing industry in Arkansas, gaining 3,701 new jobs between 2023 and 2025, increasing its overall workforce in the state to 96,930. **Fabric Mills** could see a 73.43 percent rise in jobs, becoming the fastest growing industry in the state. **Animal Slaughtering and Processing** is estimated to see a difficult outlook between 2023 and 2025, losing an estimated 1,079 jobs, or 3.24 percent of the workforce, decreasing employment to 32,177. **Apparel Knitting Mills** is slated to be the fastest declining industry, cutting its workforce by 59.55 percent to a level of 197. **Trade, Transportation, and Utilities** is forecast to be the top growing supersector, anticipated to add 7,186 new jobs during the projection period, an increase of 2.71 percent.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	317,020	328,808	11,788	3.72%
102400	Professional and Business Services	156,174	162,596	6,422	4.11%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	123,136	128,858	5,722	4.65%
101200	Construction	59,936	62,152	2,216	3.70%
102800	Government	93,565	94,990	1,425	1.52%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722500	Restaurants and Other Eating Places	93,229	96,930	3,701	3.97%
624100	Individual and Family Services	23,338	25,312	1,974	8.46%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	37,497	39,411	1,914	5.10%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	77,994	79,689	1,695	2.17%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	40,757	41,747	990	2.43%
622100	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	54,563	55,526	963	1.76%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	20,411	21,313	902	4.42%
621300	Offices of Other Health Practitioners	11,748	12,635	887	7.55%
623100	Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facilities)	18,028	18,909	881	4.89%
524100	Insurance Carriers	22,110	22,973	863	3.90%

Arkansas

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
313200	Fabric Mills	143	248	105	73.43%
221300	Water, Sewage and Other Systems	1,003	1,191	188	18.74%
611400	Business Schools and Computer and Management Training	220	256	36	16.36%
712000	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions	832	951	119	14.30%
541700	Scientific Research and Development Services	1,047	1,194	147	14.04%
561100	Office Administrative Services	5,518	6,288	770	13.95%
237200	Land Subdivision	79	89	10	12.66%
713900	Other Amusement and Recreation Industries	7,232	8,058	826	11.42%
459200	Book Retailers and News Dealers	408	451	43	10.54%
562200	Waste Treatment and Disposal	1,370	1,511	141	10.29%

Top 10 Decline

311600	Animal Slaughtering and Processing	33,256	32,177	-1,079	-3.24%
484000	Truck Transportation	33,438	32,488	-950	-2.84%
814000	Private Households	7,005	6,074	-931	-13.29%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	13,879	12,969	-910	-6.56%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	12,693	12,043	-650	-5.12%
449100	Furniture and Home Furnishings Retailers	3,257	2,852	-405	-12.43%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	3,327	2,963	-364	-10.94%
315100	Apparel Knitting Mills	487	197	-290	-59.55%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	3,723	3,461	-262	-7.04%
813100	Religious Organizations	31,092	30,881	-211	-0.68%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

315100	Apparel Knitting Mills	487	197	-290	-59.55%
483000	Water Transportation	27	21	-6	-22.22%
492200	Local Messengers and Local Delivery	831	717	-114	-13.72%
814000	Private Households	7,005	6,074	-931	-13.29%
316200	Footwear Manufacturing	573	497	-76	-13.26%
449100	Furniture and Home Furnishings Retailers	3,257	2,852	-405	-12.43%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	3,327	2,963	-364	-10.94%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	1,463	1,305	-158	-10.80%
339900	Other Miscellaneous Manufacturing	1,716	1,585	-131	-7.63%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	3,723	3,461	-262	-7.04%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Arkansas

Occupations



Fast Food and Counter Workers is predicted to be the top growing occupation in the state, adding 1,443 new jobs between 2023 and 2025, bringing its employment to a level of 38,767. **Nurse Practitioners** could see a 10.77 percent rise during the projection period, becoming the fastest growing occupation, raising employment levels to 3,384. **Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers** is estimated to be the top declining occupation, losing 280 jobs statewide. **Cooks, Private Household** is slated to be the fastest declining occupation, driving down the employment 6.54 percent to 100. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group, adding 4,382 new jobs, increasing from 109,337 in 2023 to 113,719 in 2025.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	109,337	113,719	4,382	4.01%	9,736	11,502	2,191	23,429
11-0000	Management Occupations	149,645	153,383	3,738	2.50%	6,054	6,551	1,869	14,474
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	95,807	99,166	3,359	3.51%	3,134	2,418	1,680	7,232
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	54,530	57,307	2,777	5.09%	3,724	4,256	1,388	9,368
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	84,586	87,242	2,656	3.14%	3,652	3,526	1,328	8,506

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	37,324	38,767	1,443	3.87%	4,202	4,484	722	9,408
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	20,701	22,027	1,326	6.41%	1,709	1,425	663	3,797
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	34,544	35,600	1,056	3.06%	874	1,884	528	3,286
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	12,638	13,618	980	7.75%	896	1,070	490	2,456
29-1141	Registered Nurses	29,290	30,065	775	2.65%	986	610	388	1,984
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	17,094	17,783	689	4.03%	1,104	1,365	344	2,813
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	6,813	7,322	509	7.47%	197	292	254	743
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	11,278	11,753	475	4.21%	580	1,103	238	1,921
15-1252	Software Developers	5,543	6,014	471	8.50%	99	206	236	541
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	18,916	19,358	442	2.34%	1,332	1,330	221	2,883

Arkansas

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	3,055	3,384	329	10.77%	71	72	164	307
15-2031	Operations Research Analysts	246	271	25	10.16%	8	8	12	28
39-9031	Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	1,285	1,412	127	9.88%	82	166	64	312
17-2011	Aerospace Engineers	113	124	11	9.73%	2	4	6	12
31-2011	Occupational Therapy Assistants	527	577	50	9.49%	28	48	25	101
25-4012	Curators	95	104	9	9.47%	6	6	4	16
39-7010	Tour and Travel Guides	336	367	31	9.23%	32	42	16	90
39-3091	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	1,651	1,799	148	8.96%	193	288	74	555
51-9194	Etchers and Engravers	170	185	15	8.82%	18	10	8	36
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	1,466	1,592	126	8.59%	74	134	63	271

Top 10 Decline

53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	36,692	36,412	-280	-0.76%	1,654	2,141	-140	3,655
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	7,676	7,451	-225	-2.93%	374	516	-112	778
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	10,503	10,288	-215	-2.05%	333	664	-108	889
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	12,069	11,902	-167	-1.38%	892	804	-84	1,612
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	5,817	5,656	-161	-2.77%	386	508	-80	814
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Inventory Clerks	6,938	6,817	-121	-1.74%	284	410	-60	634
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	12,350	12,242	-108	-0.87%	716	647	-54	1,309
43-3071	Tellers	4,350	4,256	-94	-2.16%	194	244	-47	391
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	5,682	5,594	-88	-1.55%	320	510	-44	786
51-3023	Slaughterers and Meat Packers	2,205	2,122	-83	-3.76%	107	148	-42	213

Top 10 Fastest Decline

35-2013	Cooks, Private Household	107	100	-7	-6.54%	7	8	-4	11
51-9081	Dental Laboratory Technicians	802	754	-48	-5.99%	36	54	-24	66
51-5111	Prepress Technicians and Workers	128	121	-7	-5.47%	8	8	-4	12
41-3011	Advertising Sales Agents	1,002	949	-53	-5.29%	34	68	-26	76
47-2041	Carpet Installers	152	144	-8	-5.26%	4	6	-4	6
51-2021	Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	559	530	-29	-5.19%	27	30	-14	43
27-3023	News Analysts, Reporters, and Journalists	341	324	-17	-4.99%	14	22	-8	28
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	1,364	1,296	-68	-4.99%	55	72	-34	93
51-6021	Pressers, Textile, Garment, and Related Materials	107	102	-5	-4.67%	8	6	-2	12
27-3041	Editors	448	430	-18	-4.02%	20	24	-9	35

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

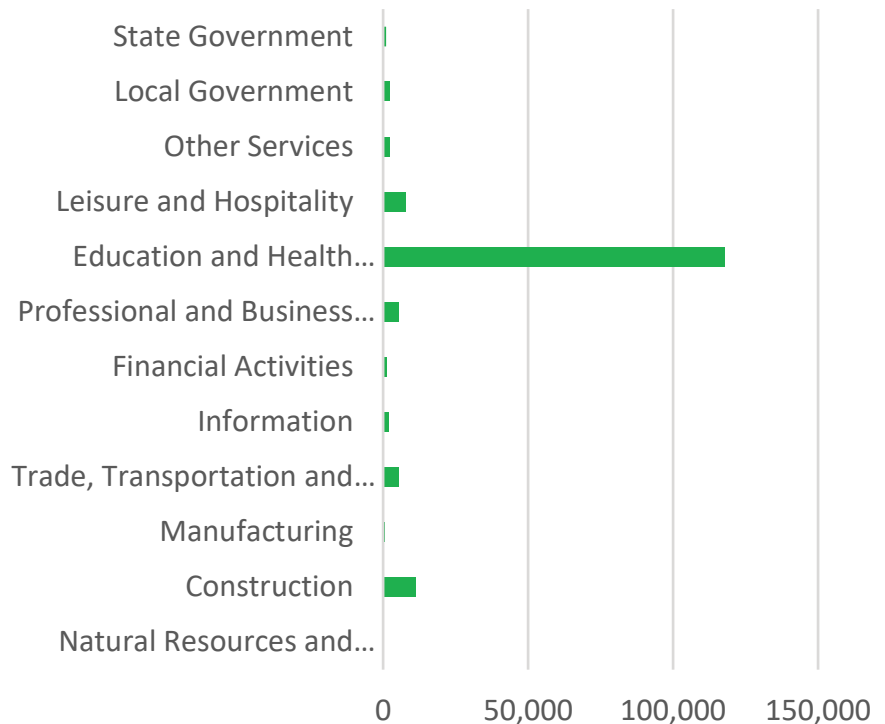
Arkansas



Covered Employment and Earnings

According to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Report, Arkansas' covered employment increased by 2.3 percent from 2022 to 2023. This translates to 28,544 jobs gained. Of all the major North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) industry supersector groups, all gained jobs during the reference period. **Education and Health Services** gained the most at 117,793 jobs and had the fastest growth, increasing 63.5 percent.

Overall, average weekly earnings in 2023 for the state was \$1,062. The average weekly earnings range from a low of \$434 in **Leisure and Hospitality** to a high of \$1,504 in **Professional and Business Services**.



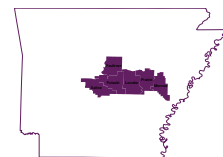
NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	1,228,570	1,257,114	28,544	2.3%	\$1,062
Natural Resources and Mining	15,461	15,680	219	1.4%	\$1,070
Construction	58,115	69,131	11,016	19.0%	\$1,168
Manufacturing	162,430	162,834	404	0.2%	\$1,128
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	264,644	269,812	5,168	2.0%	\$1,018
Information	12,724	14,397	1,673	13.1%	\$1,437
Financial Activities	54,970	55,895	925	1.7%	\$1,393
Professional and Business Services	153,973	159,231	5,258	3.4%	\$1,504
Education and Health Services	185,577	303,370	117,793	63.5%	\$1,033
Leisure and Hospitality	122,871	130,640	7,769	6.3%	\$434
Other Services	26,028	28,164	2,136	8.2%	\$874
Local Government	107,621	109,740	2,119	2.0%	\$884
State Government	64,156	65,064	908	1.4%	\$1,128

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Note: Items do not necessarily add to total because of rounding. Because of industry code changes between years, substantial employment and wage shifts among industries are anticipated.

Central Arkansas

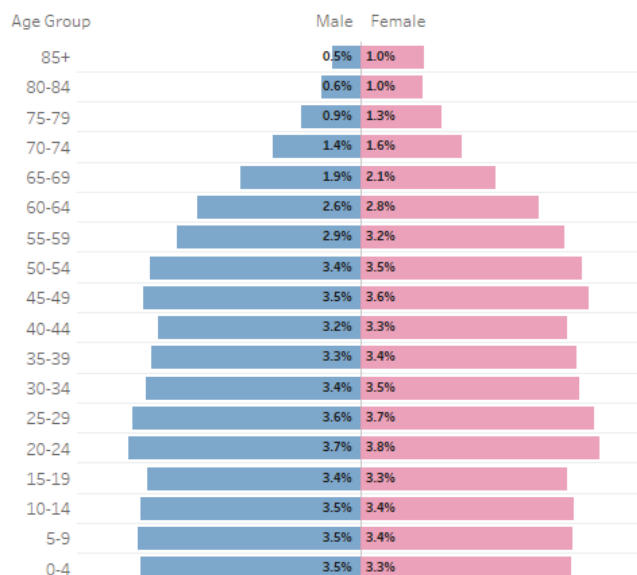
Local Workforce Development Area



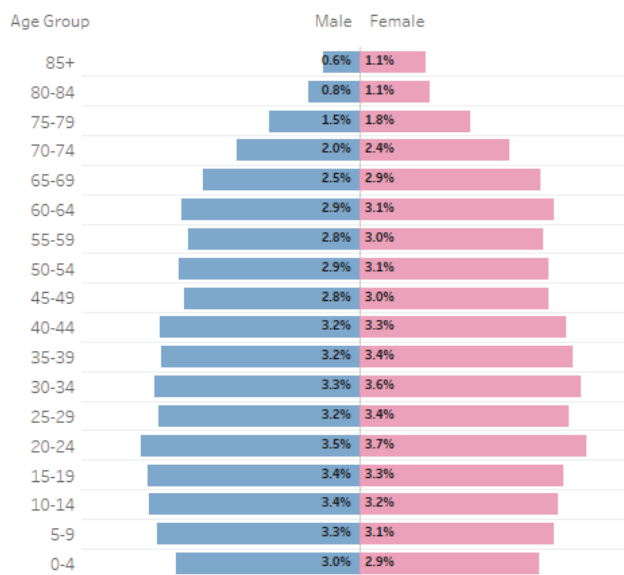
The Central Arkansas LWDA includes a large portion of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area and six counties: Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, Saline, and Pulaski County, excluding Little Rock.

Population Pyramids for Central Arkansas

2010 Pop: **496,851**



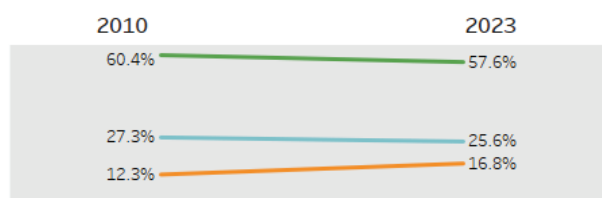
2023 Pop: **546,183**



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	61,133	91,488
Adults 20-64	300,241	314,791
Under 20	135,477	139,904
Total	496,851	546,183

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics:2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Central Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

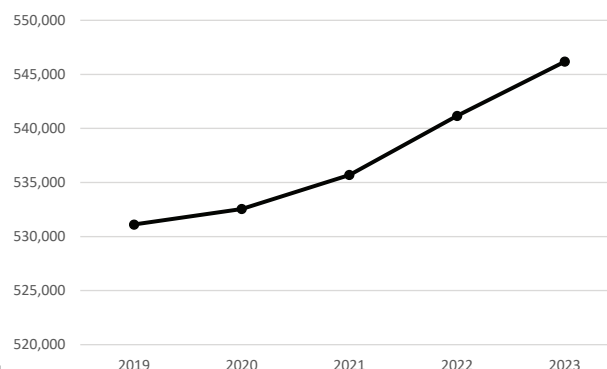
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
531,115	532,544	535,702	541,161	546,184

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

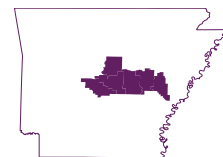
Central Arkansas Population Progression



Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment



The LWDA saw an increase in the labor force of 4,590 to 260,264 from 2022 to 2023, and the labor force increased by 5,514 over the 2019 to 2023 period. Employment increased by 4,820 between 2022 and 2023, and increased by 5,991 over the five-year period. The LWDA has seen an fluctuation in unemployment over the same time periods. From 2022 to 2023, unemployment decreased by 230, and from 2019 to 2023, unemployment decreased by 477. The LWDA's unemployment rate dropped by 0.3 percent over the five-year period. In 2024, the unemployment rate fluctuated, settling at 3.5 percent in July 2024.

Central Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	254,750	251,378	247,793	255,674	260,264
Employment	246,611	236,151	238,287	247,782	252,602
Unemployment	8,139	15,227	9,506	7,892	7,662
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	6.1%	3.8%	3.1%	2.9%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Central Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Central Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	3.5%	3.9%
2024	February	3.2%	3.5%
2024	March	3.0%	3.3%
2024	April	2.8%	3.1%
2024	May	3.0%	3.3%
2024	June	3.3%	3.7%
2024	July	3.5%†	3.3%**

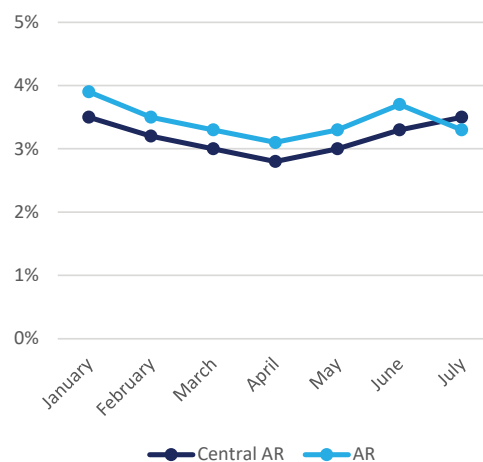
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

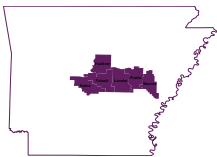
Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

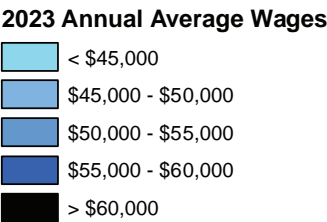
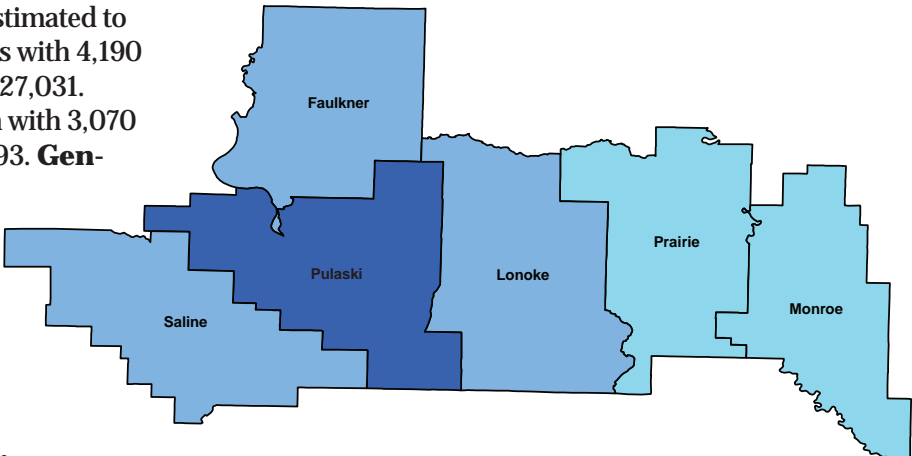
Wages



Fast Food and Counter Workers was estimated to have the most employees in Central Arkansas with 4,190 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$27,031. **Cashiers** was the second largest occupation with 3,070 employed, earning an average wage of \$27,193. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 2,720, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$82,507 annually.

Family Medicine Physicians topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$315,287. **Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates**, with an average annual salary of \$170,594, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$27,189 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$39,000, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$58,414 for employers in all size categories.



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey*

Of the 89,180 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 6,624 made less than \$12 an hour while 20,970 made more than \$27 an hour. Employees making between \$17 and \$21.99 totaled 18,174. *Note: Wage data for Central Arkansas LWDA does not include Pulaski County.*

Central Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

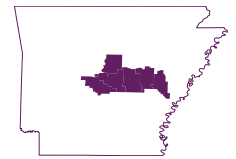
Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Fast Food and Counter Workers	4,190	\$27,031	\$24,130	\$28,482
Cashiers	3,070	\$27,193	\$24,232	\$28,673
Retail Salespersons	2,930	\$33,494	\$25,494	\$37,494
General and Operations Managers	2,720	\$82,507	\$37,121	\$105,200
Stockers and Order Fillers	2,210	\$32,391	\$28,038	\$34,568
Office Clerks, General	2,000	\$38,176	\$27,344	\$43,592
Customer Service Representatives	1,730	\$37,150	\$28,763	\$41,343
Waiters and Waitresses	1,720	\$29,879	\$23,911	\$32,863
Nursing Assistants	1,690	\$32,580	\$28,874	\$34,433
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,570	\$27,801	\$25,391	\$29,007

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Central Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

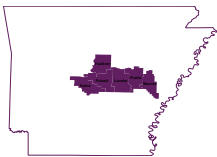
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family Medicine Physicians	\$315,287
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$170,594
Psychiatrists	\$157,023
Dentists, General	\$155,662
Chief Executives	\$146,818
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$146,368
Optometrists	\$143,831
Clinical and Counseling Psychologists	\$131,227
Pharmacists	\$129,454
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	\$124,998
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$116,751
Industrial Production Managers	\$114,592
Veterinarians	\$114,170
Nurse Practitioners	\$113,527
Computer Network Architects	\$113,457
Sales Managers	\$113,291
Financial Managers	\$106,676
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$106,527
Purchasing Managers	\$103,112
Software Developers	\$101,850
Database Administrators	\$101,837
Sociology Teachers, Postsecondary	\$101,780
Power Distributors and Dispatchers	\$97,376
Human Resources Managers	\$96,526
Electrical Engineers	\$96,132

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages

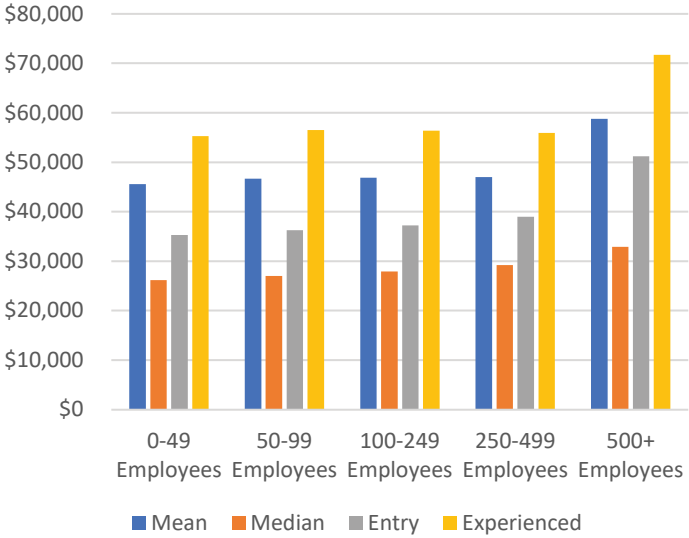


Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

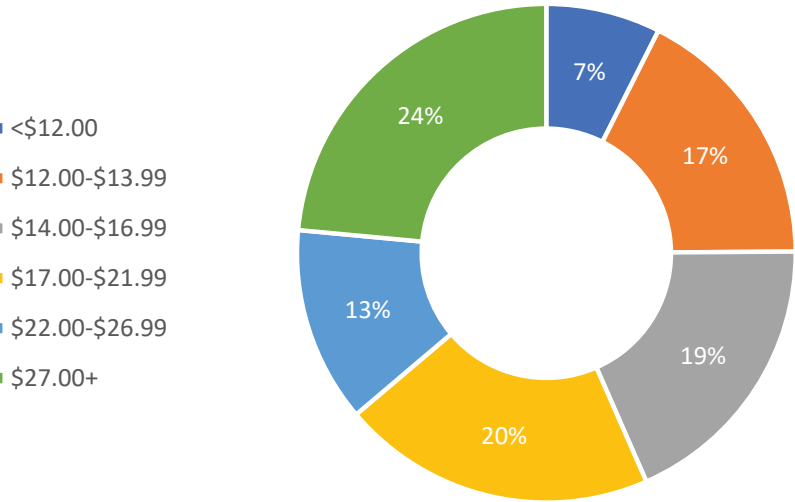
Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$48,005	\$27,189	\$37,184	\$58,414
0-49 Employees	\$45,567	\$26,146	\$35,285	\$55,278
50-99 Employees	\$46,678	\$27,000	\$36,255	\$56,517
100-249 Employees	\$46,885	\$27,907	\$37,208	\$56,374
250-499 Employees	\$46,992	\$29,181	\$39,000	\$55,898
500+ Employees	\$58,754	\$32,868	\$51,209	\$71,696

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

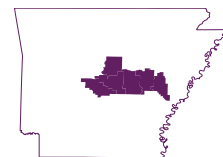
Total	89,180
<\$12.00	6,624
\$12.00-\$13.99	15,576
\$14.00-\$16.99	16,528
\$17.00-\$21.99	18,174
\$22.00-\$26.99	11,308
\$27.00+	20,970

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Food Services and Drinking Places is slated to add 763 new jobs between 2023 and 2025, becoming the top growing industry in Central Arkansas, moving employment to 18,056. Grantmaking and Giving Services is projected to raise employment levels by 49.79 percent, becoming the fastest growing industry, moving employment to 358. On the negative side of the job market, Insurance Carriers is predicted to cut 385 jobs, while Private Households could see a 41.48 percent reduction, becoming the fastest declining industry. The **Education and Health Services** supersector leads the area, with 1,299 new jobs, moving employment to 40,536.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	39,237	40,536	1,299	3.31%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	19,791	20,902	1,111	5.61%
102400	Professional and Business Services	15,316	16,099	783	5.11%
101200	Construction	11,526	11,992	466	4.04%
102800	Government	14,321	14,457	136	0.95%

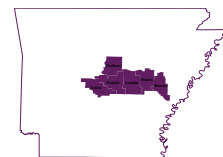
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	17,293	18,056	763	4.41%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	8,568	9,026	458	5.35%
624000	Social Assistance	5,580	6,005	425	7.62%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	9,814	10,236	422	4.30%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	5,479	5,872	393	7.17%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	7,793	8,153	360	4.62%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	2,835	3,190	355	12.52%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	7,932	8,258	326	4.11%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,067	1,347	280	26.24%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	2,963	3,214	251	8.47%

Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	239	358	119	49.79%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,067	1,347	280	26.24%
611500	Technical and Trade Schools	366	448	82	22.40%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	825	999	174	21.09%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	2,835	3,190	355	12.52%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	431	477	46	10.67%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	2,963	3,214	251	8.47%
512000	Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	133	144	11	8.27%
624000	Social Assistance	5,580	6,005	425	7.62%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	5,479	5,872	393	7.17%

Top 10 Decline

524100	Insurance Carriers	1,447	1,062	-385	-26.61%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	1,053	756	-297	-28.21%
814000	Private Households	581	340	-241	-41.48%
622200	Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	1,785	1,554	-231	-12.94%
311000	Food Manufacturing	897	704	-193	-21.52%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	1,048	897	-151	-14.41%
999200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,138	3,020	-118	-3.76%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	898	800	-98	-10.91%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	6,507	6,413	-94	-1.44%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,044	952	-92	-8.81%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

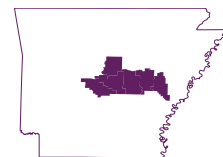
814000	Private Households	581	340	-241	-41.48%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	1,053	756	-297	-28.21%
524100	Insurance Carriers	1,447	1,062	-385	-26.61%
311000	Food Manufacturing	897	704	-193	-21.52%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	305	253	-52	-17.05%
517000	Telecommunications	372	310	-62	-16.67%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	252	211	-41	-16.27%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	1,048	897	-151	-14.41%
622200	Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	1,785	1,554	-231	-12.94%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	898	800	-98	-10.91%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Fast Food and Counter Workers is estimated to be the top growing occupation, adding 281 jobs between 2023 and 2025. Fundraisers is anticipated to be the fastest growing occupation, raising employment levels 39.51 percent to 113. Light Truck Drivers could be the top declining occupation during the 2023-2025 projection period, with a loss of 117 jobs, an 8.66 percent drop. However, Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks is slated to lose 18.65 percent of its workforce during the same period, becoming the fastest declining occupation. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is projected to gain 772 jobs from first quarter 2023 and first quarter 2025, becoming the top growing major group.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	17,921	18,693	772	4.31%	1,608	1,895	386	3,889
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	10,553	10,974	421	3.99%	454	444	210	1,108
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	9,822	10,187	365	3.72%	340	515	182	1,037
11-0000	Management Occupations	16,113	16,468	355	2.20%	580	736	178	1,494
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	11,584	11,809	225	1.94%	380	297	112	789

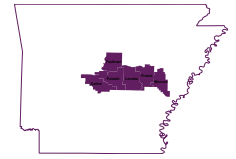
Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	6,217	6,498	281	4.52%	702	750	140	1,592
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	2,085	2,260	175	8.39%	148	177	88	413
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,425	2,597	172	7.09%	201	168	86	455
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	4,447	4,594	147	3.31%	112	243	74	429
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	4,892	5,026	134	2.74%	308	486	67	861
47-2111	Electricians	1,730	1,825	95	5.49%	59	96	48	203
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	2,045	2,135	90	4.40%	105	200	45	350
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	2,556	2,641	85	3.33%	224	314	42	580
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,636	1,713	77	4.71%	56	55	38	149
47-2061	Construction Laborers	2,092	2,167	75	3.59%	74	108	38	220

Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
13-1131	Fundraisers	81	113	32	39.51%	3	4	16	23
39-3091	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	292	354	62	21.23%	36	54	31	121
25-1194	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Postsecondary	275	327	52	18.91%	14	10	26	50
39-9031	Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	244	287	43	17.62%	16	32	22	70
39-1014	First-line Supervisors of Entertainment And Recreation Workers, Except Gambling Services	61	69	8	13.11%	2	4	4	10
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	266	298	32	12.03%	6	6	16	28
19-2031	Chemists	37	41	4	10.81%	0	2	2	4
15-1212	Information Security Analysts	55	60	5	9.09%	2	2	2	6
27-2022	Coaches and Scouts	499	544	45	9.02%	28	36	22	86
19-2021	Atmospheric and Space Scientists	34	37	3	8.82%	0	2	2	4

Top 10 Decline

53-3033	Light Truck Drivers	1,351	1,234	-117	-8.66%	58	76	-58	76
43-9041	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	547	445	-102	-18.65%	26	26	-51	1
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,184	1,094	-90	-7.60%	85	76	-45	116
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,730	2,680	-50	-1.83%	151	212	-25	338
39-9011	Childcare Workers	1,580	1,548	-32	-2.03%	113	146	-16	243
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	864	833	-31	-3.59%	32	35	-16	51
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	238	215	-23	-9.66%	8	14	-12	10
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Inventory Clerks	927	907	-20	-2.16%	38	54	-10	82
41-2011	Cashiers	5,223	5,205	-18	-0.34%	502	506	-9	999
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,642	1,628	-14	-0.85%	95	86	-7	174

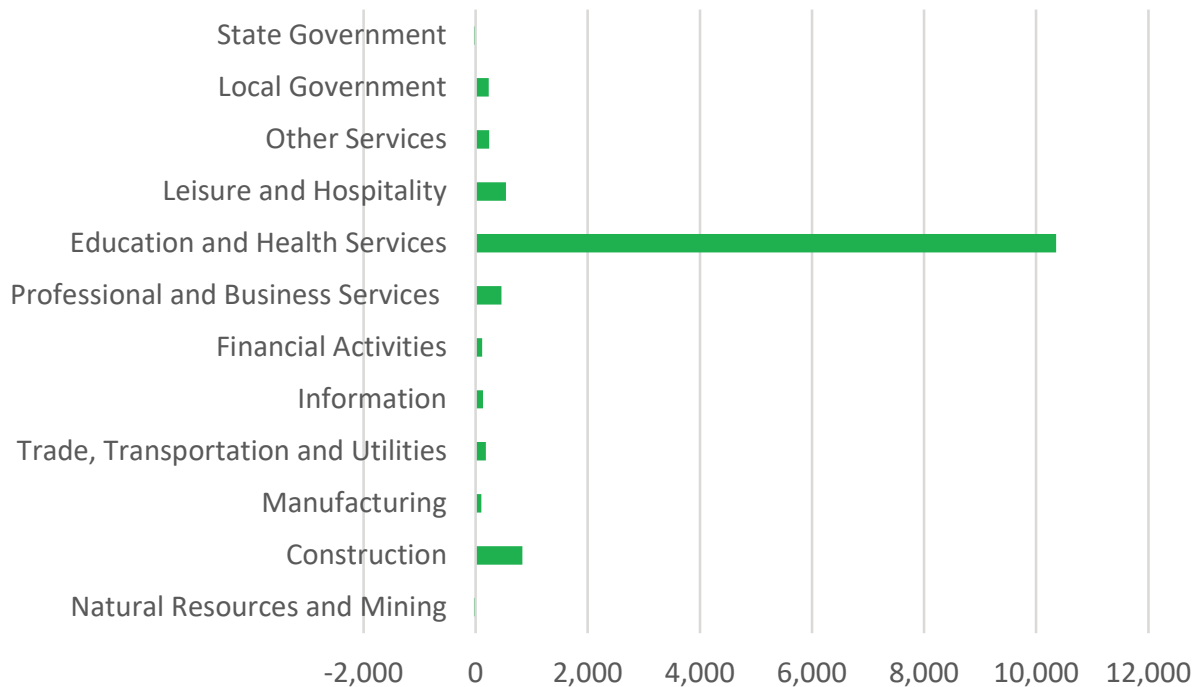
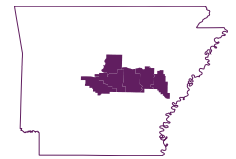
Top 10 Fastest Decline

43-9041	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	547	445	-102	-18.65%	26	26	-51	1
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	238	215	-23	-9.66%	8	14	-12	10
53-3033	Light Truck Drivers	1,351	1,234	-117	-8.66%	58	76	-58	76
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,184	1,094	-90	-7.60%	85	76	-45	116
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	191	181	-10	-5.24%	11	16	-5	22
51-2028	Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	280	267	-13	-4.64%	14	16	-6	24
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	264	253	-11	-4.17%	10	14	-6	18
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	154	148	-6	-3.90%	8	10	-3	15
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	864	833	-31	-3.59%	32	35	-16	51
11-3071	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	138	134	-4	-2.90%	4	7	-2	9

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

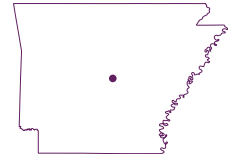


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2022 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	86,775	99,928	13,153	15.2	\$884
Natural Resources and Mining	1,035	1,004	-31	-0.2%	\$1,025
Construction	6,593	7,430	837	12.7%	\$1,081
Manufacturing	6,285	6,391	106	1.7%	\$1,126
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	18,289	18,472	183	1.0%	\$794
Information	1,840	1,973	133	7.2%	\$1,809
Financial Activities	3,373	3,493	120	3.6%	\$1,163
Professional and Business Services	6,662	7,126	464	7.0%	\$1,047
Education and Health Services	15,307	25,661	10,354	67.6%	\$917
Leisure and Hospitality	11,813	12,352	539	4.6%	\$395
Other Services	2,145	2,386	241	11.2%	\$762
Local Government	9,490	9,724	234	2.5%	\$828
State Government	3,943	3,916	-27	-0.7%	\$931

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
Note: Central Arkansas LWDA does not include Pulaski County for this data set.

City of Little Rock

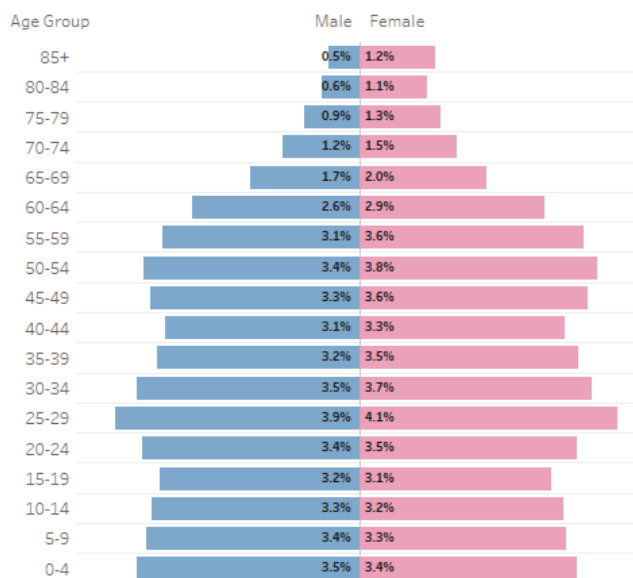
Local Workforce Development Area



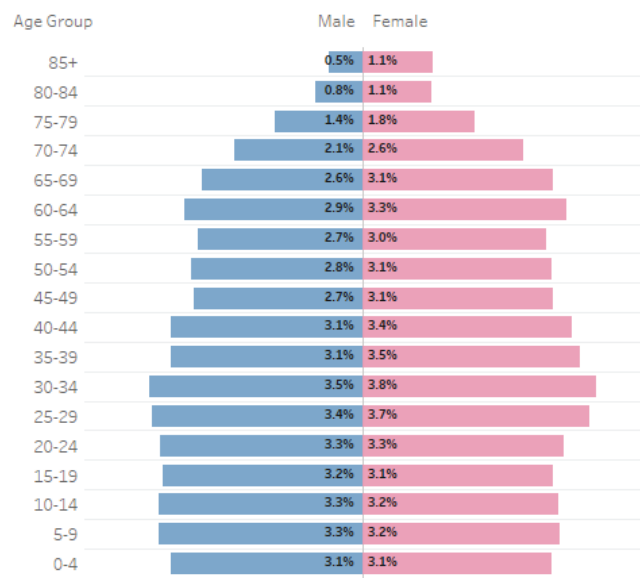
The City of Little Rock Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population increased by 978 between 2022 and 2023, bringing the population to 203,42. The City of Little Rock's population grew by 6,530 between 2019 and 2023. The area is the county seat of Pulaski County and includes part of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Population Pyramids for City of Little Rock

2010 Pop: **193,973**



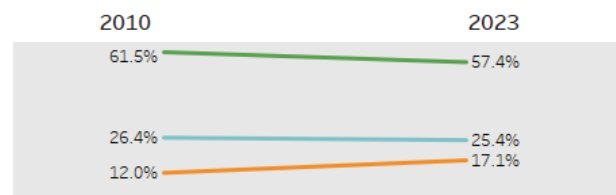
2023 Pop: **203,843**



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	23,306	34,944
Adults 20-64	119,387	117,062
Under 20	51,280	51,837
Total	193,973	203,843

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics:2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Little Rock LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
197,312	202,591	201,998	202,864	203,842

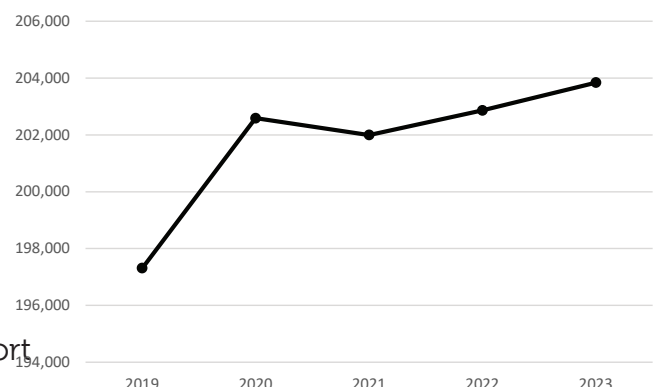
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

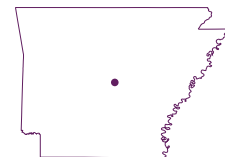
Little Rock Population Progression



City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

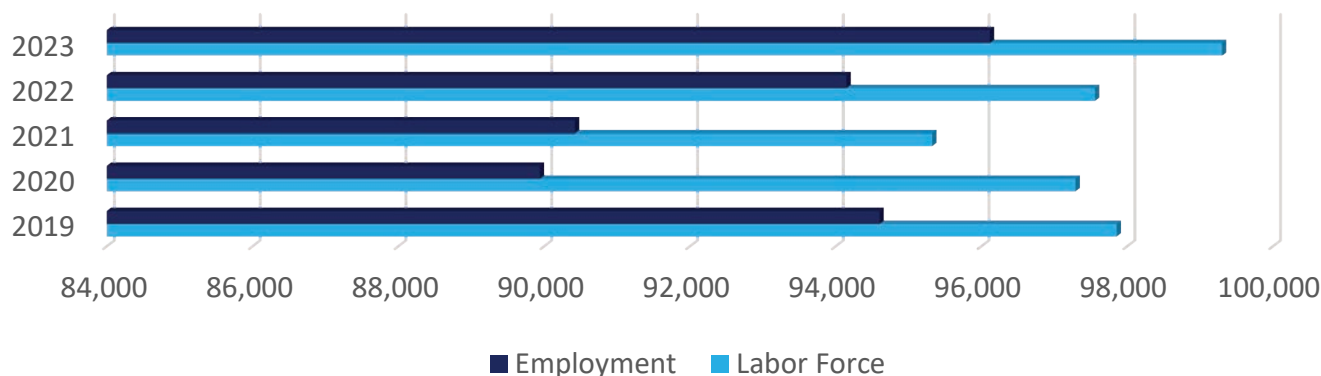


The labor force increased in the LWDA by 1,742 from 2022 to 2023, and saw an increase of 1,445 between 2019 and 2023. Employment increased by 1,967 from 2022 to 2023, and increased by 1,514 from 2019 to 2023. Unemployment and the unemployment rate decreased between 2022 to 2023, with unemployment decreasing by 222 and the unemployment rate decreasing by 0.3 percent to 3.2 percent in 2023. The unemployment rate fluctuated from 2019 to 2023, but ultimately settled at 3.2 percent in 2023, 0.1 percent lower than 2019. The area unemployment rate fluctuated from January 2024 through July 2024, settling to 3.9 percent in July 2024.

Little Rock Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	97,857	97,292	95,325	97,560	99,302
Employment	94,602	89,942	90,424	94,149	96,116
Unemployment	3,255	7,350	4,901	3,411	3,189
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	7.6%	5.1%	3.5%	3.2%

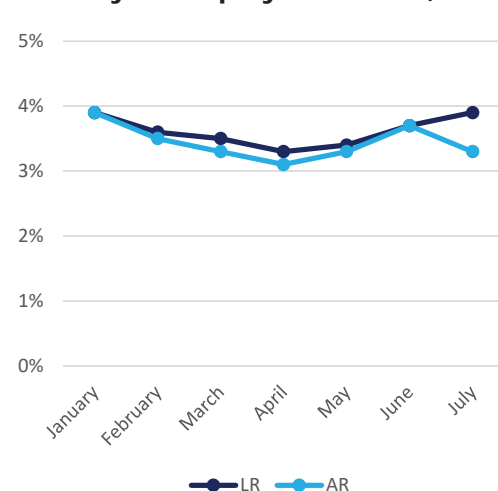
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Little Rock Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Little Rock Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	3.9%	3.9%
2024	February	3.6%	3.5%
2024	March	3.5%	3.3%
2024	April	3.3%	3.1%
2024	May	3.4%	3.3%
2024	June	3.7%	3.7%
2024	July	3.9%†	3.3%**

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

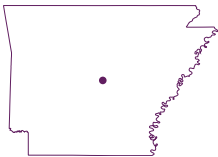
**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

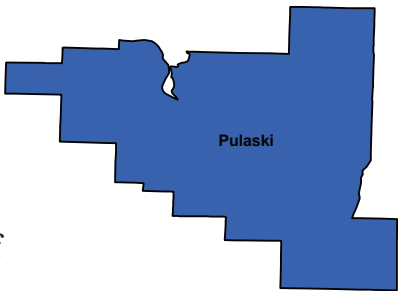
City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

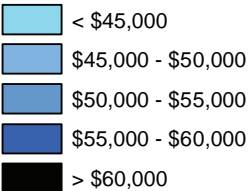
Wages



Registered Nurses was estimated to have the most employees in Little Rock with 9,420 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$78,782. **General and Operations Managers** is the second largest occupation with 6,550 employed, earning an average wage of \$97,233, giving it the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations.



2023 Annual Average Wages



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey*

Physicians, Pathologists topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$318,821. **Psychiatrists**, with an average annual salary of \$248,595, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$29,214 for 2024. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$44,471, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$70,038 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 254,640 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 86,163 made more than \$27 an hour while 12,985 made less than \$12 an hour. Employees making between \$17 and \$21.99 totaled 51,248. *Note: Wage data for the City of Little Rock LWDA includes all of Pulaski County.*

City of Little Rock LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

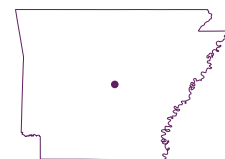
Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Registered Nurses	9,420	\$78,782	\$59,259	\$88,544
General and Operations Managers	6,550	\$97,233	\$39,950	\$125,875
Fast Food and Counter Workers	6,290	\$27,074	\$24,137	\$28,542
Retail Salespersons	6,180	\$33,500	\$25,267	\$37,617
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,820	\$58,927	\$41,680	\$67,551
Stockers and Order Fillers	5,480	\$34,951	\$28,540	\$38,156
Office Clerks, General	5,170	\$39,426	\$28,359	\$44,960
Cashiers	5,090	\$27,635	\$24,388	\$29,259
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,940	\$35,492	\$28,399	\$39,038
Customer Service Representatives	4,840	\$38,149	\$28,567	\$42,941

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



City of Little Rock LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

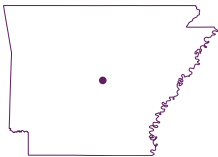
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Physicians, Pathologists	\$318,821
Psychiatrists	\$248,595
Radiologists	\$227,457
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$192,843
Chief Executives	\$189,450
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$176,886
Nurse Anesthetists	\$167,220
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$151,574
Optometrists	\$144,528
Dentists, General	\$142,321
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$138,376
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	\$130,624
Sales Managers	\$129,004
Commercial Pilots	\$126,783
Sales Engineers	\$126,024
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$123,991
Financial Managers	\$122,796
Pharmacists	\$122,266
Personal Financial Advisors	\$120,315
Veterinarians	\$119,490
Industrial Production Managers	\$118,737
Power Distributors and Dispatchers	\$114,870
Nurse Practitioners	\$111,826
Clinical and Counseling Psychologists	\$111,101
Administrative Services Managers	\$109,332

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages

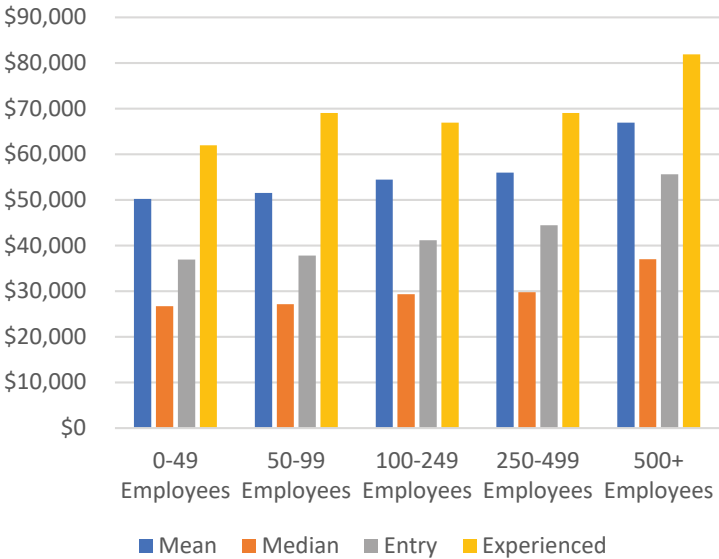


Little Rock Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

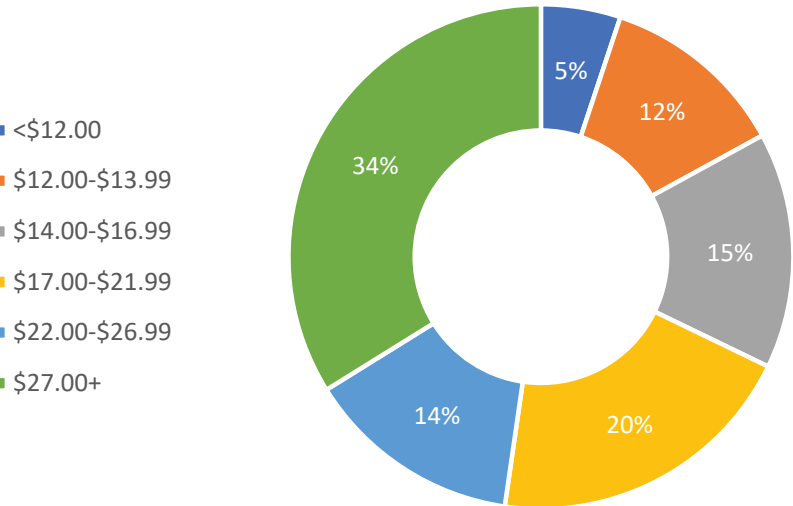
Little Rock Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$56,430	\$29,214	\$44,453	\$70,038
0-49 Employees	\$50,194	\$26,689	\$36,908	\$61,947
50-99 Employees	\$51,518	\$27,119	\$37,766	\$69,039
100-249 Employees	\$54,415	\$29,332	\$41,179	\$66,956
250-499 Employees	\$55,954	\$29,785	\$44,471	\$69,039
500+ Employees	\$66,925	\$37,021	\$55,617	\$81,877

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



Little Rock Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Little Rock Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

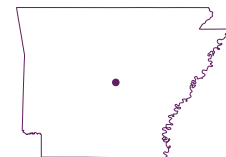
Total	254,640
<\$12.00	12,985
\$12.00-\$13.99	30,375
\$14.00-\$16.99	38,549
\$17.00-\$21.99	51,248
\$22.00-\$26.99	35,320
\$27.00+	86,163

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Insurance Carriers is predicted to be the top growing industry, increasing employment by 1,132 jobs, to a total employment of 16,877. Wood Product Manufacturing is slated to be the fastest growing industry, expected to more than triple in size between 2023 and 2025. Truck Transportation is projected to be the top declining industry, losing 243 jobs during the projection period, while Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry could experience an 18.52 percent reduction of its already small workforce. **Education and Health Services** is forecast to be the top growing supersector, increasing its workforce by 2,084 jobs.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	57,210	59,294	2,084	3.64%
102300	Financial Activities	25,225	26,219	994	3.94%
102400	Professional and Business Services	25,277	25,974	697	2.76%
102800	Government	21,269	21,838	569	2.68%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	13,992	14,559	567	4.05%

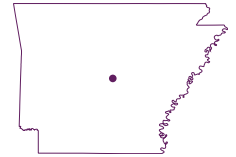
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
524100	Insurance Carriers	15,745	16,877	1,132	7.19%
999200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	11,877	12,279	402	3.38%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	10,618	10,950	332	3.13%
622200	Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	3,394	3,726	332	9.78%
624000	Social Assistance	5,812	6,112	300	5.16%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	10,319	10,591	272	2.64%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	4,750	5,011	261	5.49%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,192	1,402	210	17.62%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	10,969	11,166	197	1.80%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,701	2,845	144	5.33%

City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	33	114	81	245.45%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	341	406	65	19.06%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,192	1,402	210	17.62%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	40	45	5	12.50%
622200	Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	3,394	3,726	332	9.78%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	655	716	61	9.31%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	589	641	52	8.83%
524100	Insurance Carriers	15,745	16,877	1,132	7.19%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	763	812	49	6.42%
481000	Air Transportation	188	200	12	6.38%

Top 10 Decline

484000	Truck Transportation	1,906	1,663	-243	-12.75%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	2,988	2,838	-150	-5.02%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	972	832	-140	-14.40%
813900	Business, Professional, Labor, Political, and Similar Organizations	1,069	933	-136	-12.72%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	1,590	1,515	-75	-4.72%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	3,304	3,256	-48	-1.45%
445000	Food and Beverage Retailers	1,878	1,837	-41	-2.18%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	539	499	-40	-7.42%
814000	Private Households	2,026	1,992	-34	-1.68%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	202	174	-28	-13.86%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

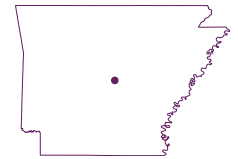
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	27	22	-5	-18.52%
611500	Technical and Trade Schools	135	114	-21	-15.56%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	972	832	-140	-14.40%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	202	174	-28	-13.86%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,906	1,663	-243	-12.75%
813900	Business, Professional, Labor, Political, and Similar Organizations	1,069	933	-136	-12.72%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	539	499	-40	-7.42%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	283	266	-17	-6.01%
516000	Broadcasting and Content Providers	455	432	-23	-5.05%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	2,988	2,838	-150	-5.02%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks leads the City of Little Rock WDA in numeric growth, adding 351 jobs, a 5.43 percent gain, between 2023 and 2025, moving employment to 6,810. Tour and Travel Guides could increase by 72.73 percent to a level of 57. On the negative side of the local economy, Stockers and Order Fillers is slated to be the top declining occupation in the area, losing 125 jobs, or 3.52 percent of its workforce, while Career/Technical Education Teachers, Postsecondary is slated to cut 12.24 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation in the City of Little Rock WDA. **Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations** is anticipated to be the top growing major group, raising employment by 672 new jobs between 2023 and 2025 to a level of 22,282.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	21,610	22,282	672	3.11%	690	516	336	1,542
11-0000	Management Occupations	18,679	19,265	586	3.14%	536	871	293	1,700
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	17,806	18,364	558	3.13%	563	826	279	1,668
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	10,813	11,342	529	4.89%	720	840	264	1,824
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	10,562	11,042	480	4.54%	464	432	240	1,136

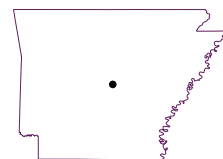
Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
43-9041	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	6,459	6,810	351	5.43%	267	330	176	773
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	3,832	4,106	274	7.15%	148	165	137	450
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	3,774	4,019	245	6.49%	312	260	122	694
29-1141	Registered Nurses	7,635	7,805	170	2.23%	256	159	85	500
13-2053	Insurance Underwriters	2,461	2,617	156	6.34%	76	98	78	252
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	1,885	2,020	135	7.16%	54	81	68	203
13-1111	Management Analysts	2,289	2,407	118	5.16%	81	108	59	248
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	1,567	1,659	92	5.87%	110	132	46	288
15-1252	Software Developers	1,122	1,210	88	7.84%	20	42	44	106
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	2,354	2,421	67	2.85%	151	187	34	372

City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
39-7010	Tour and Travel Guides	33	57	24	72.73%	4	6	12	22
25-1042	Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	26	30	4	15.38%	1	1	2	4
39-9031	Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	301	346	45	14.95%	20	40	22	82
25-1021	Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	49	56	7	14.29%	2	2	4	8
25-1123	English Language and Literature Teachers, Postsecondary	43	49	6	13.95%	2	2	3	7
25-1022	Mathematical Science Teachers, Postsecondary	36	41	5	13.89%	2	2	2	6
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	36	41	5	13.89%	2	2	2	6
51-9124	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	124	141	17	13.71%	4	8	8	20
25-1011	Business Teachers, Postsecondary	66	75	9	13.64%	3	2	4	9
39-3091	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	278	315	37	13.31%	33	50	18	101

Top 10 Decline

53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	3,554	3,429	-125	-3.52%	217	342	-62	497
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,941	2,828	-113	-3.84%	130	169	-56	243
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,337	1,229	-108	-8.08%	41	82	-54	69
43-3071	Tellers	465	427	-38	-8.17%	20	26	-19	27
13-2072	Loan Officers	592	569	-23	-3.89%	16	24	-12	28
41-3011	Advertising Sales Agents	254	234	-20	-7.87%	8	17	-10	15
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,568	1,549	-19	-1.21%	90	82	-10	162
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,152	4,135	-17	-0.41%	272	328	-8	592
43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	598	581	-17	-2.84%	26	33	-8	51
27-3041	Editors	157	143	-14	-8.92%	7	8	-7	8

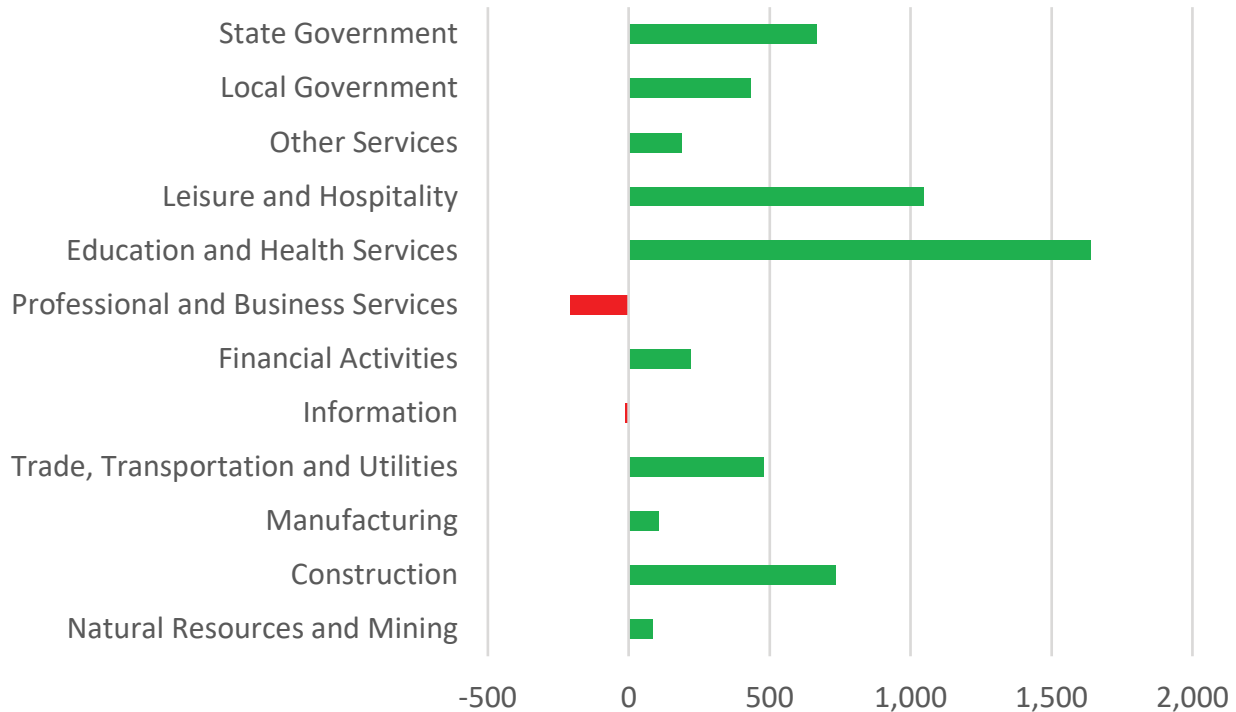
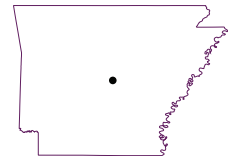
Top 10 Fastest Decline

25-1194	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Postsecondary	98	86	-12	-12.24%	4	3	-6	1
51-5113	Print Binding and Finishing Workers	73	66	-7	-9.59%	3	4	-4	3
27-3041	Editors	157	143	-14	-8.92%	7	8	-7	8
27-3023	News Analysts, Reporters, and Journalists	110	101	-9	-8.18%	4	7	-4	7
43-3071	Tellers	465	427	-38	-8.17%	20	26	-19	27
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,337	1,229	-108	-8.08%	41	82	-54	69
41-3011	Advertising Sales Agents	254	234	-20	-7.87%	8	17	-10	15
13-1075	Labor Relations Specialists	64	59	-5	-7.81%	2	3	-2	3
43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	79	73	-6	-7.59%	4	5	-3	6
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	174	164	-10	-5.75%	8	10	-5	13

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

City of Little Rock

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

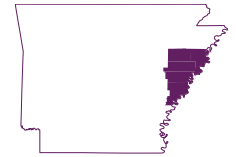


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	242,100	247,475	5,375	2.2%	\$1,158
Natural Resources and Mining	649	733	84	12.9%	\$1,511
Construction	9,897	10,630	733	7.4%	\$1,309
Manufacturing	12,246	12,354	108	0.9%	\$1,246
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	54,717	55,194	477	0.9%	\$1,056
Information	2,661	2,647	-14	-0.5%	\$1,351
Financial Activities	17,395	17,614	219	1.3%	\$1,677
Professional and Business Services	34,240	34,032	-208	-0.6%	\$1,295
Education and Health Services	41,863	43,503	1,640	3.9%	\$1,193
Leisure and Hospitality	21,578	22,624	1,046	4.8%	\$462
Other Services	6,662	6,852	190	2.9%	\$972
Local Government	13,882	14,315	433	3.1%	\$1,062
State Government	26,310	26,977	667	2.5%	\$1,353

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
Note: City of Little Rock LWDA includes all of Pulaski County for this data set.

Eastern Arkansas

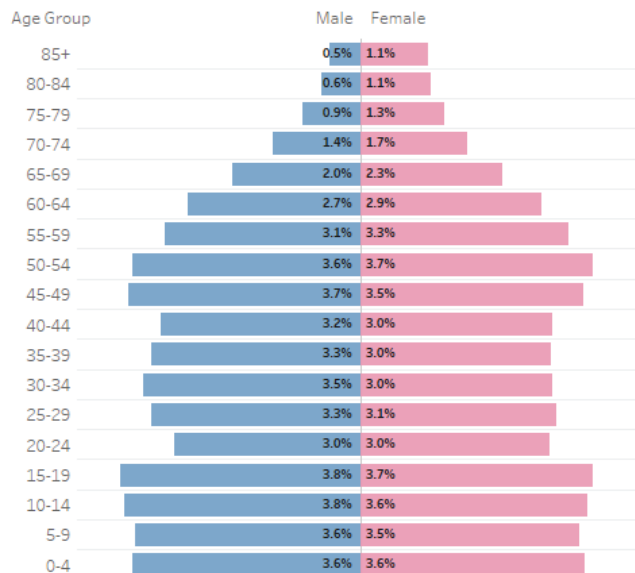
Local Workforce Development Area



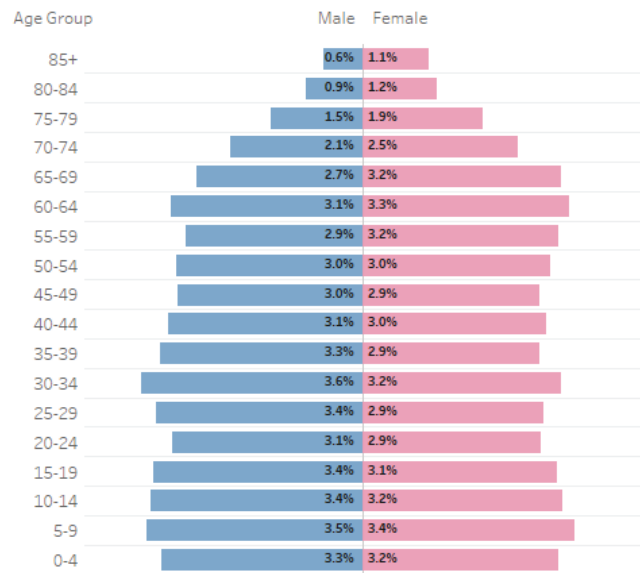
The Eastern Arkansas LWDA includes five counties: Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Phillips, and Saint Francis. With Tennessee bordering to the east, Crittenden County is part of the Memphis Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Population Pyramids for Eastern Arkansas

2010 Pop: **129,085**



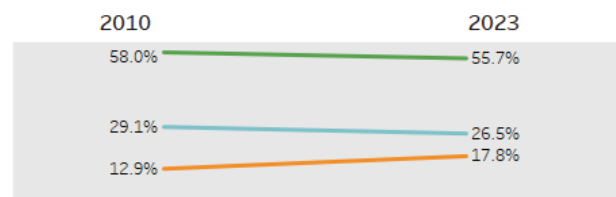
2023 Pop: **108,822**



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	16,671	19,372
Adults 20-64	74,839	60,560
Under 20	37,575	28,890
Total	129,085	108,822

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



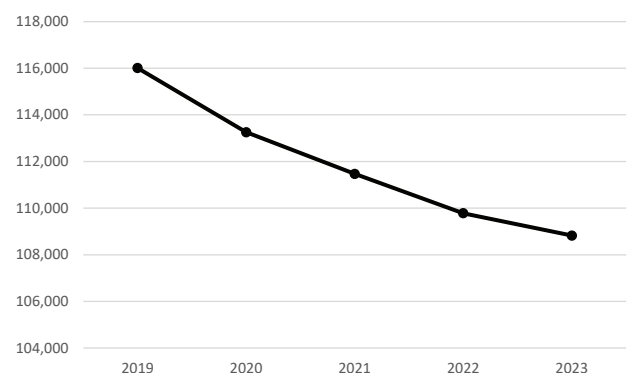
Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics:2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Eastern Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
116,007	113,254	111,470	109,781	108,822

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Eastern Arkansas Population Progression



State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

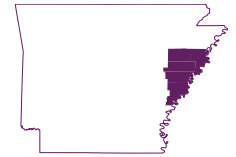
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

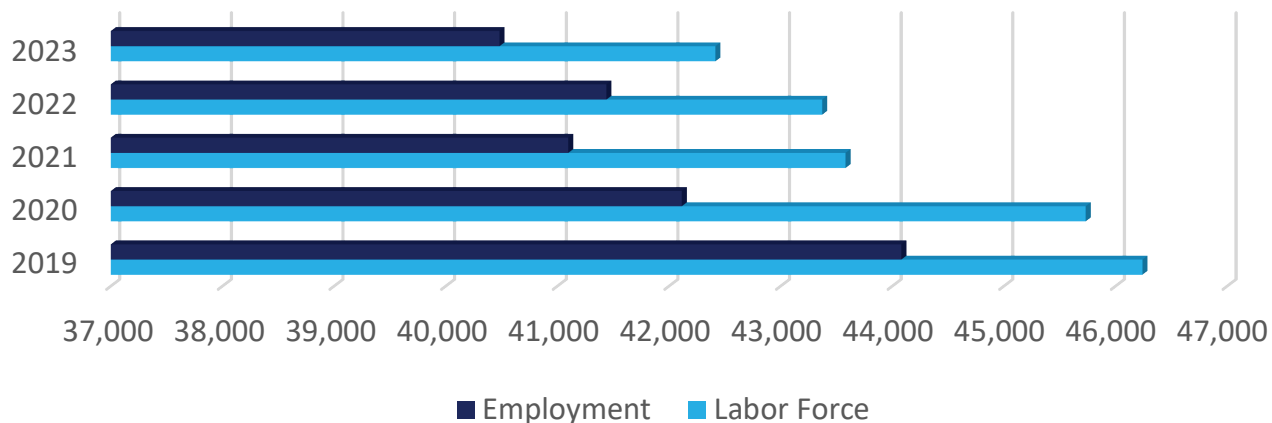


The labor force in the Eastern Arkansas LWDA decreased by 957 to 42,417 in 2023 from 2022, and has decreased by 3,826 from 2019 to 2023. Employment decreased from 2022 to 2023, losing 958 workers to 40,483. Unemployment saw a slight increase from 2022 to 2023, having one more unemployed, bringing the unemployment rate from 4.5 percent to 4.6 percent. Since the beginning of 2024, the unemployment rate fluctuated from 5.3 percent in January, ending July 2024 at 5.7 percent.

Eastern Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	46,243	45,734	43,583	43,374	42,417
Employment	44,083	42,116	41,099	41,441	40,483
Unemployment	2,160	3,618	2,484	1,933	1,934
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	7.9%	5.7%	4.5%	4.6%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Eastern Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Eastern Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	5.3%	3.9%
2024	February	4.8%	3.5%
2024	March	4.4%	3.3%
2024	April	4.1%	3.1%
2024	May	4.5%	3.3%
2024	June	5.1%	3.7%
2024	July	5.7%†	3.3%**

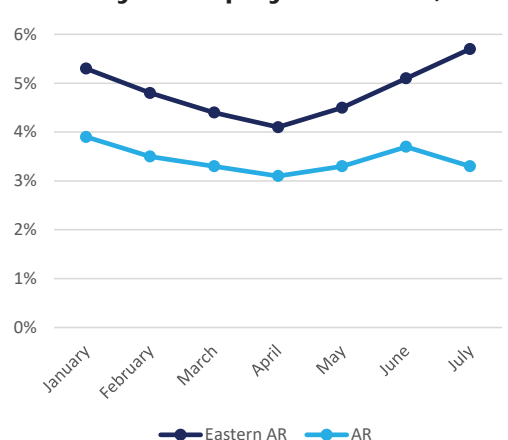
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



Eastern Arkansas

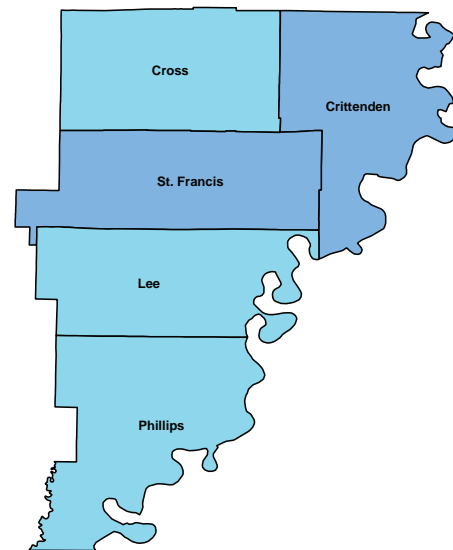
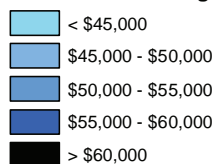
Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Cashiers was estimated to have the most employees in Eastern Arkansas with 1,280 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$27,083. **Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers** was the second largest occupation with 1,150 employed, earning an average wage of \$62,896. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 840, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$79,138 annually.

2023 Annual Average Wages



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey*

Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$175,736. **Pharmacists**, with an average annual salary of \$128,149, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$27,169 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$44,678, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$55,931 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 32,910 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 2,340 made less than \$12 an hour while 7,161 made \$17 to \$21.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$27 an hour totaled 7,519.

Eastern Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	1,280	\$27,083	\$23,971	\$28,640
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,150	\$62,896	\$38,454	\$75,117
Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,140	\$26,918	\$24,360	\$28,196
General and Operations Managers	840	\$79,138	\$34,913	\$101,251
Stockers and Order Fillers	830	\$33,663	\$28,323	\$36,333
Office Clerks, General	650	\$37,565	\$26,932	\$42,882
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	570	\$35,335	\$28,167	\$38,918
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	560	\$53,709	\$43,178	\$58,974
Retail Salespersons	530	\$34,488	\$25,595	\$38,934
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	490	\$51,301	\$43,478	\$55,212

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Eastern Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$175,736
Pharmacists	\$128,149
Sales Managers	\$125,122
Marketing Managers	\$117,240
Lawyers	\$117,083
Nurse Practitioners	\$115,932
Database Administrators	\$106,849
Industrial Production Managers	\$106,649
Chief Executives	\$105,680
Financial Managers	\$97,472
Facilities Managers	\$97,246
Physical Therapists	\$95,179
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$94,280
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$94,181
Administrative Services Managers	\$92,418
Chemists	\$91,637
Postmasters and Mail Superintendents	\$89,833
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$89,472
Civil Engineers	\$89,454
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	\$87,898
Construction Managers	\$87,476
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$85,442
Industrial Engineers	\$84,245
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$83,817
Occupational Therapists	\$83,017

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages

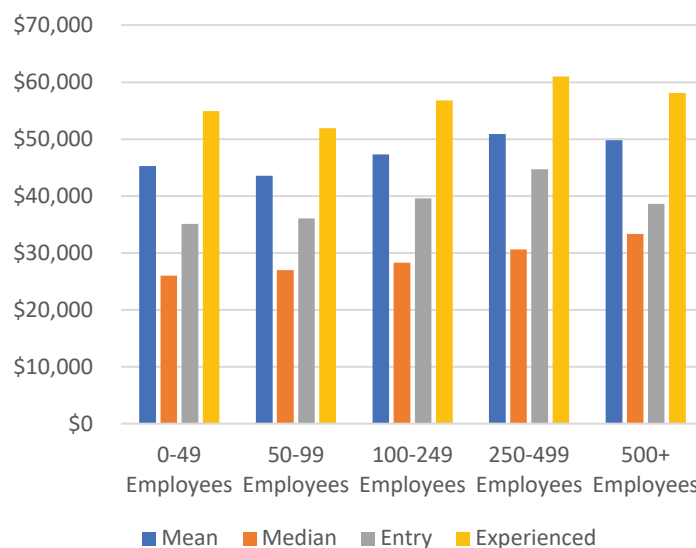


Eastern Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Eastern Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

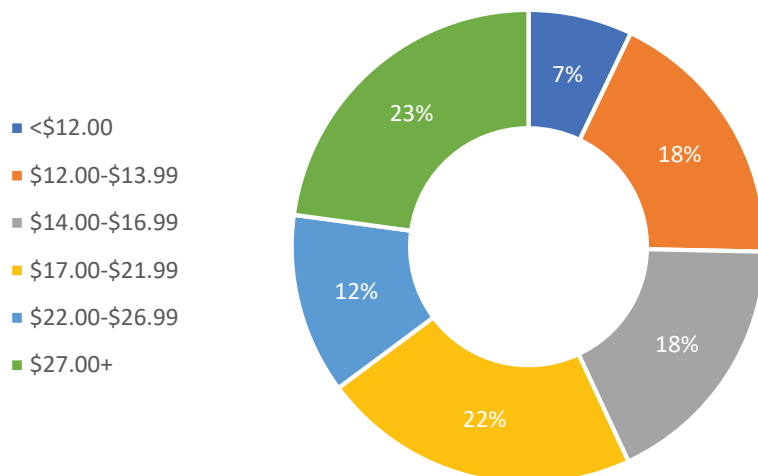
Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$46,343	\$27,169	\$37,204	\$55,931
0-49 Employees	\$45,282	\$26,021	\$35,105	\$54,913
50-99 Employees	\$43,592	\$26,968	\$36,077	\$51,904
100-249 Employees	\$47,293	\$28,315	\$39,574	\$56,782
250-499 Employees	\$50,879	\$30,646	\$44,678	\$60,996
500+ Employees	\$49,831	\$33,316	\$38,614	\$58,089

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



Eastern Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Eastern Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	32,910
<\$12.00	2,340
\$12.00-\$13.99	5,998
\$14.00-\$16.99	5,836
\$17.00-\$21.99	7,161
\$22.00-\$26.99	4,056
\$27.00+	7,519

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Warehousing and Storage is projected to be the top and fastest growing industry, increasing employment by 191 jobs to an employment level of 495, a 62.83 percent increase. On the negative side of the job market, Elementary and Secondary Schools is predicted to lose 138 jobs, while Private Households is projected to lose two-thirds of its workforce between 2023 and 2025. **Leisure and Hospitality** is estimated to be one of only three growing supersectors in the Eastern Arkansas WDA, gaining the most at 106 new jobs between first quarter 2023 and first quarter 2025.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	4,275	4,381	106	2.48%
101300	Manufacturing	3,572	3,647	75	2.10%
102500	Education and Health Services	8,651	8,710	59	0.68%

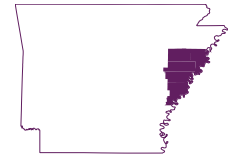
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
493000	Warehousing and Storage	304	495	191	62.83%
624000	Social Assistance	1,661	1,787	126	7.59%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	695	739	44	6.33%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,861	1,904	43	2.31%
611200	Junior Colleges	621	651	30	4.83%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	85	103	18	21.18%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	208	225	17	8.17%
458000	Clothing, Clothing Accessories, Shoe, and Jewelry Retailers	107	112	5	4.67%
459000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, Book, and Miscellaneous Retailers	196	200	4	2.04%
813400	Civic and Social Organizations	52	55	3	5.77%

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
493000	Warehousing and Storage	304	495	191	62.83%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	85	103	18	21.18%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	208	225	17	8.17%
624000	Social Assistance	1,661	1,787	126	7.59%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	695	739	44	6.33%
813400	Civic and Social Organizations	52	55	3	5.77%
611200	Junior Colleges	621	651	30	4.83%
458000	Clothing, Clothing Accessories, Shoe, and Jewelry Retailers	107	112	5	4.67%
236000	Construction of Buildings	103	106	3	2.91%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	69	71	2	2.90%

Top 10 Decline

611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	2,845	2,707	-138	-4.85%
111000	Crop Production	1,365	1,264	-101	-7.40%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	1,813	1,745	-68	-3.75%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	567	503	-64	-11.29%
814000	Private Households	90	30	-60	-66.67%
444000	Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	137	80	-57	-41.61%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	625	582	-43	-6.88%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	117	83	-34	-29.06%
999200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	1,156	1,126	-30	-2.60%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,387	1,360	-27	-1.95%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

814000	Private Households	90	30	-60	-66.67%
444000	Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	137	80	-57	-41.61%
524100	Insurance Carriers	37	24	-13	-35.14%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	77	52	-25	-32.47%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	117	83	-34	-29.06%
513000	Publishing Industries	30	23	-7	-23.33%
711000	Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	22	17	-5	-22.73%
532000	Rental and Leasing Services	82	65	-17	-20.73%
517000	Telecommunications	31	25	-6	-19.35%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	173	151	-22	-12.72%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Home Health and Personal Care Aides is predicted to be the top growing occupation in the Eastern Arkansas WDA between 2023 and 2025, adding 69 jobs, increasing its workforce to 975 jobs. Coaches and Scouts is estimated to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing employment by 8.70 percent, to a level of 50. On the negative side of the labor market, Cashiers could see a drop of 48 jobs, or 3.80 percent of its workforce, while Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders is expected to lose 13.11 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation. **Healthcare Support Occupations** is forecast to be the top growing major group for the 2023-2025 projection period, with 76 new jobs, moving employment to 1,635.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

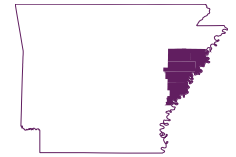
SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	1,559	1,635	76	4.87%	114	116	38	268
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	4,586	4,616	30	0.65%	237	334	15	586
51-0000	Production Occupations	2,859	2,888	29	1.01%	120	180	14	314
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	3,270	3,298	28	0.86%	284	340	14	638
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	1,011	1,019	8	0.79%	66	104	4	174

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	906	975	69	7.62%	75	62	34	171
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	929	990	61	6.57%	60	94	30	184
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	430	457	27	6.28%	19	28	14	61
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	308	323	15	4.87%	22	26	8	56
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	178	192	14	7.87%	6	12	7	25
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	649	660	11	1.69%	32	53	6	91
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	155	163	8	5.16%	6	8	4	18
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,197	1,205	8	0.67%	132	142	4	278
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	156	164	8	5.13%	6	6	4	16
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	170	177	7	4.12%	11	16	4	31

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area



Occupations

Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
27-2022	Coaches and Scouts	46	50	4	8.70%	2	4	2	8
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	62	67	5	8.06%	2	4	2	8
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	178	192	14	7.87%	6	12	7	25
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	78	84	6	7.69%	2	2	3	7
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	906	975	69	7.62%	75	62	34	171
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	929	990	61	6.57%	60	94	30	184
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	430	457	27	6.28%	19	28	14	61
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	155	163	8	5.16%	6	8	4	18
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	156	164	8	5.13%	6	6	4	16
31-9092	Medical Assistants	100	105	5	5.00%	5	8	2	15

Top 10 Decline

41-2011	Cashiers	1,264	1,216	-48	-3.80%	120	120	-24	216
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	1,651	1,621	-30	-1.82%	114	54	-15	153
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	506	480	-26	-5.14%	17	26	-13	30
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,392	1,367	-25	-1.80%	62	81	-12	131
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	537	514	-23	-4.28%	15	17	-12	20
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	483	461	-22	-4.55%	16	16	-11	21
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	656	635	-21	-3.20%	39	38	-10	67
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	583	563	-20	-3.43%	38	46	-10	74
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	302	283	-19	-6.29%	16	23	-10	29
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	399	381	-18	-4.51%	22	20	-9	33

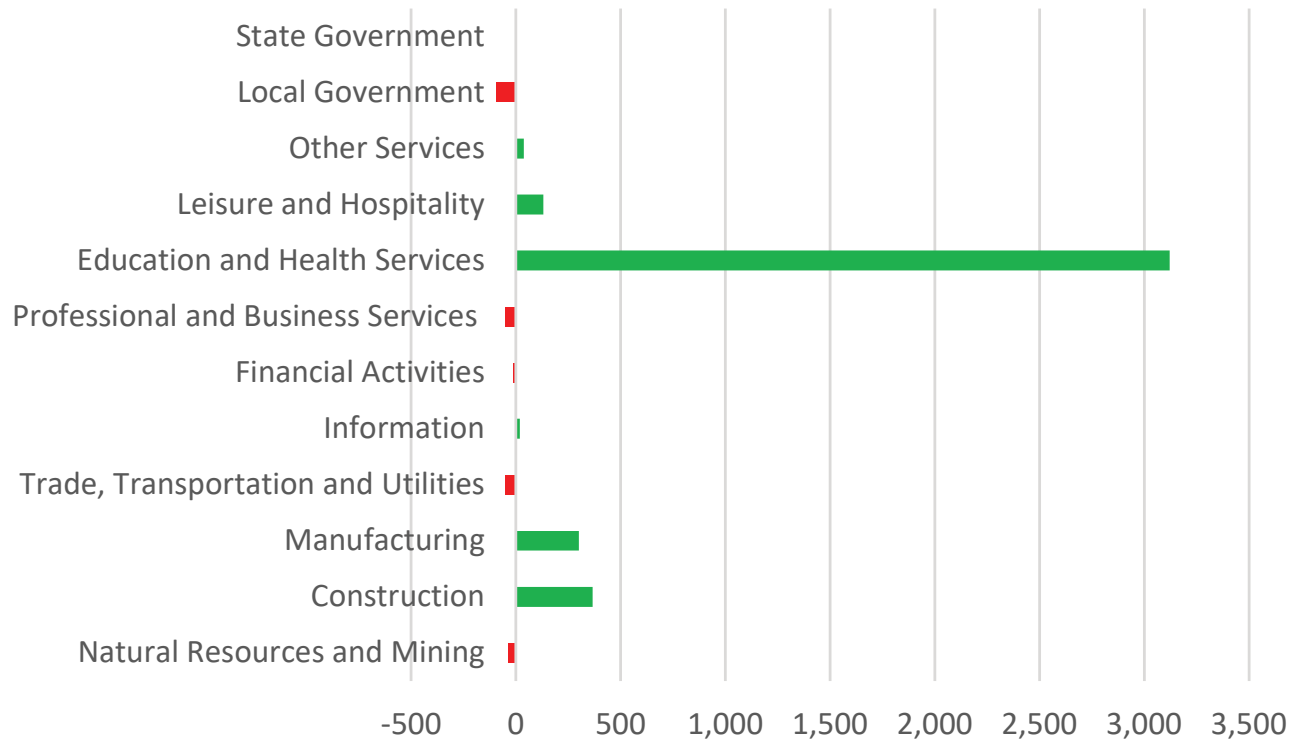
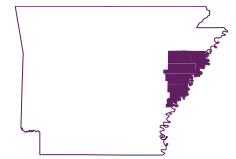
Top 10 Fastest Decline

51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	61	53	-8	-13.11%	2	4	-4	2
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	91	82	-9	-9.89%	3	4	-4	3
53-3051	Bus Drivers, School	143	130	-13	-9.09%	14	6	-6	14
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	171	157	-14	-8.19%	10	14	-7	17
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	302	283	-19	-6.29%	16	23	-10	29
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	101	95	-6	-5.94%	6	9	-3	12
41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	119	112	-7	-5.88%	6	7	-4	9
29-1051	Pharmacists	89	84	-5	-5.62%	2	1	-2	1
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	144	136	-8	-5.56%	6	7	-4	9
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	506	480	-26	-5.14%	17	26	-13	30

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Eastern Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

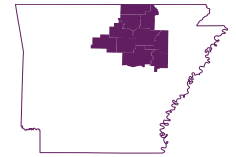


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	32,817	36,553	3,736	11.4%	\$838
Natural Resources and Mining	1,127	1,091	-36	-3.2%	\$836
Construction	734	1,101	367	50%	\$961
Manufacturing	3,273	3,573	300	9.2%	\$1,049
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	8,680	8,631	-49	-0.6%	\$903
Information	107	126	19	17.8%	\$759
Financial Activities	1,122	1,109	-13	-1.2%	\$1,002
Professional and Business Services	1,399	1,349	-50	-3.6%	\$922
Education and Health Services	5,515	8,637	3,122	56.7%	\$866
Leisure and Hospitality	4,299	4,430	131	3.0%	\$466
Other Services	677	715	38	5.6%	\$726
Local Government	4,203	4,109	-94	-2.2%	\$822
State Government	1,681	1,682	1	0.0%	\$830

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

North Central Arkansas

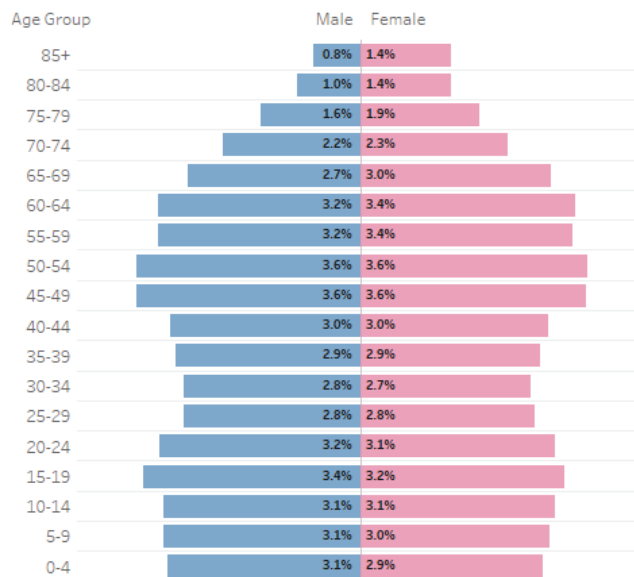
Local Workforce Development Area



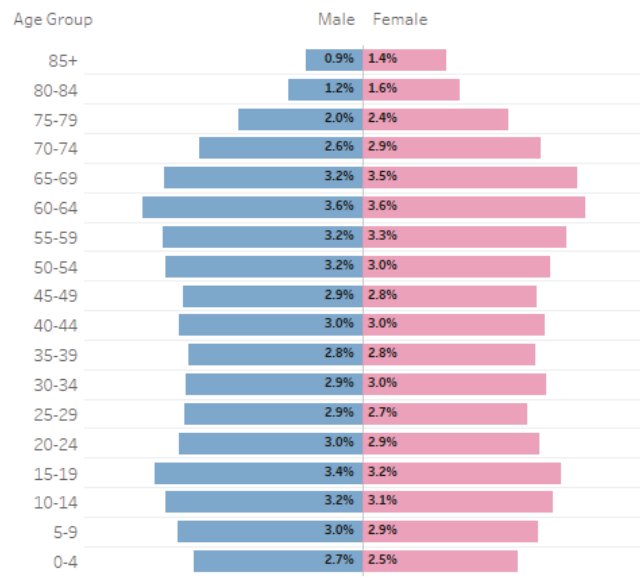
The North Central Arkansas LWDA consists of 10 counties: Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White, and Woodruff, with the state of Missouri bordering the area to the north.

Population Pyramids for North Central Arkansas

2010 Pop: 238,334



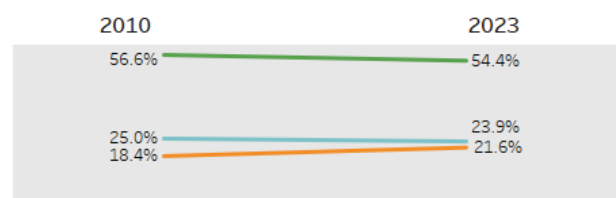
2023 Pop: 238,336



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	43,835	51,532
Adults 20-64	134,913	129,728
Under 20	59,586	57,076
Total	238,334	238,336

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



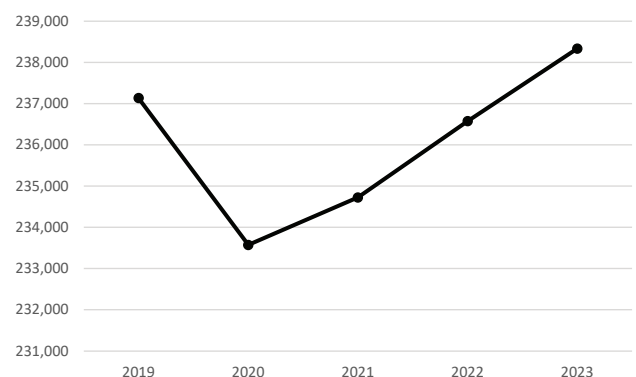
Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics: 2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

North Central Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
237,135	233,573	234,725	236,574	238,336

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

North Central Arkansas Population Progression



State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

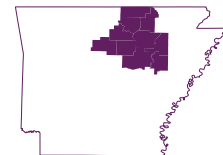
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

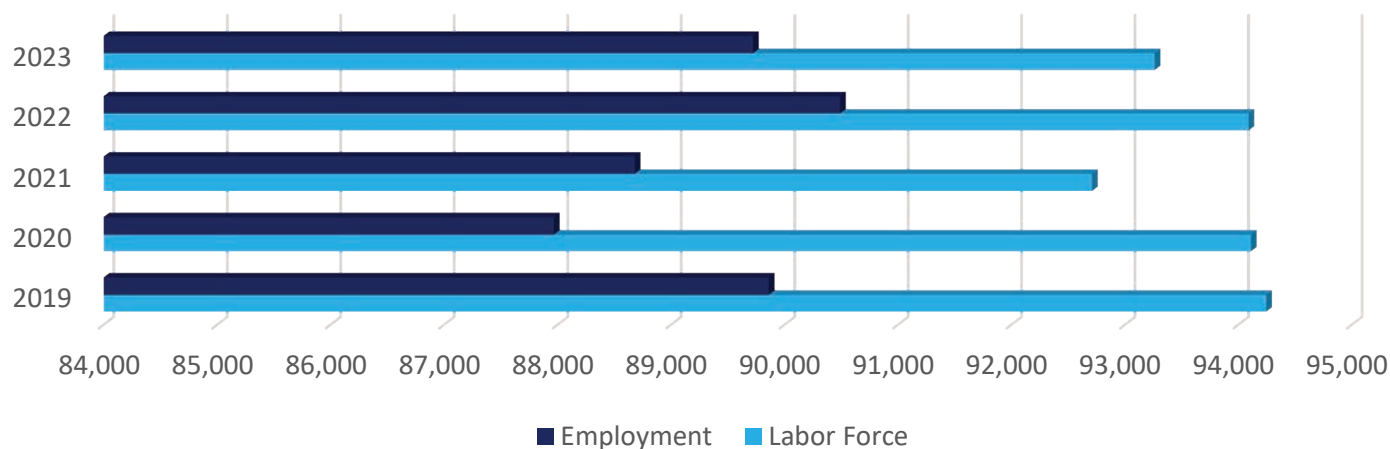


The North Central Arkansas LWDA labor force decreased by 828 from 2022 to 2023 and decreased by 983 between 2019 and 2023. Employment declined by 767 while unemployment decreased by 61 from 2022 to 2023. The unemployment rate stayed at 3.8 percent from 2022 to 2023. The unemployment rate fluctuated in 2024, but ended at 4.4 percent in July.

North Central Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	94,246	94,112	92,711	94,091	93,263
Employment	89,862	87,968	88,682	90,491	89,724
Unemployment	4,384	6,144	4,029	3,600	3,539
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	6.5%	4.3%	3.8%	3.8%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



North Central Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	North Central Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	4.5%	3.9%
2024	February	4.0%	3.5%
2024	March	3.8%	3.3%
2024	April	3.4%	3.1%
2024	May	3.6%	3.3%
2024	June	4.1%	3.7%
2024	July	4.4%†	3.3%**

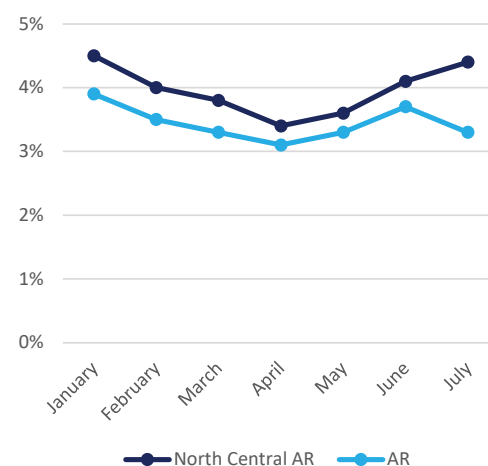
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

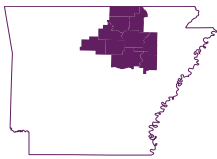
†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024

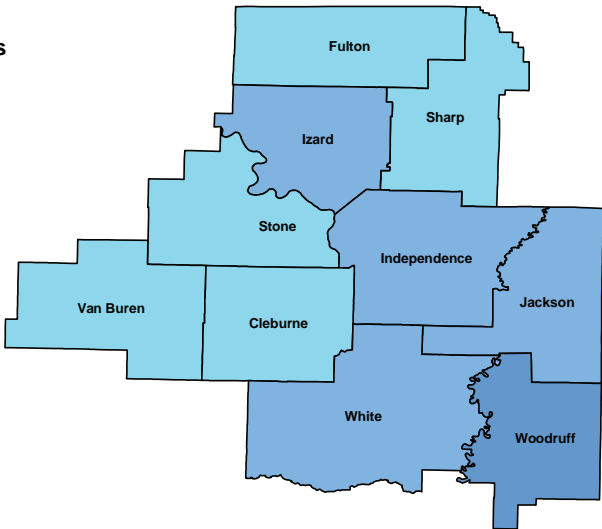
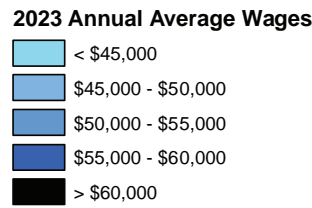


North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Fast Food and Counter Workers was estimated to have the most employees in North Central Arkansas with 2,620 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$25,879. **Cashiers** was the second largest occupation with 2,400 employed, earning an average wage of \$26,223. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 1,900, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$68,675 annually.



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey*

Family Medicine Physicians topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$270,459. **Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates**, with an average annual salary of \$178,272, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$26,697 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$42,494, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$54,013 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 70,270 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 6,785 made less than \$12 an hour while 14,892 made \$17 to \$21.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$27 an hour totaled 13,627.

North Central Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

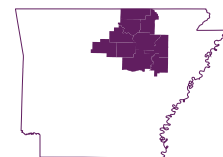
Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,620	\$25,879	\$23,509	\$27,064
Cashiers	2,400	\$26,223	\$23,692	\$27,488
General and Operations Managers	1,900	\$68,675	\$29,553	\$88,235
Stockers and Order Fillers	1,900	\$34,103	\$27,897	\$37,206
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,770	\$49,164	\$33,651	\$56,921
Retail Salespersons	1,760	\$32,701	\$24,776	\$36,664
Registered Nurses	1,540	\$68,849	\$53,716	\$76,415
Office Clerks, General	1,450	\$36,281	\$26,116	\$41,363
Nursing Assistants	1,330	\$31,160	\$27,779	\$32,850
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,070	\$29,208	\$24,700	\$31,462

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



North Central Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

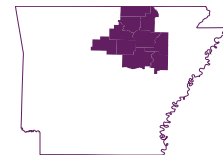
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family Medicine Physicians	\$270,459
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$178,272
Dentists, General	\$161,499
Optometrists	\$136,045
Chief Executives	\$125,375
Pharmacists	\$123,154
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$119,608
Nurse Practitioners	\$108,131
Sales Managers	\$107,485
Human Resources Managers	\$105,231
Industrial Production Managers	\$103,350
Physician Assistants	\$102,096
Financial Managers	\$99,274
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$98,107
Purchasing Managers	\$97,514
Lawyers	\$96,562
Chiropractors	\$95,608
Veterinarians	\$95,386
Physical Therapists	\$93,059
Occupational Therapists	\$91,948
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$91,929
Postmasters and Mail Superintendents	\$91,569
Electrical Engineers	\$89,755
Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay	\$89,093
Facilities Managers	\$88,763

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

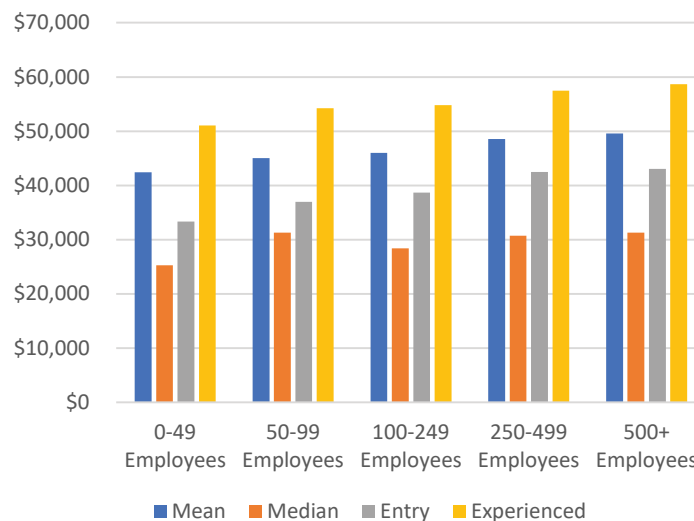
Wages



North Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

North Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

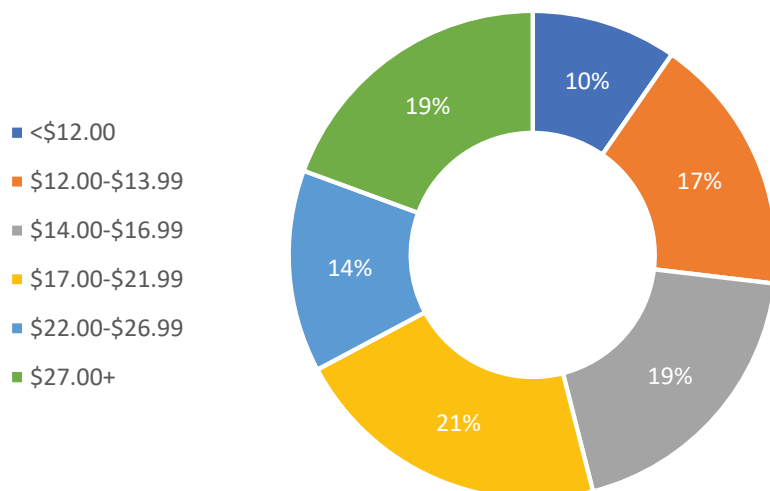
Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$44,908	\$26,697	\$36,660	\$54,013
0-49 Employees	\$42,452	\$25,289	\$33,364	\$51,034
50-99 Employees	\$45,057	\$31,284	\$36,953	\$54,234
100-249 Employees	\$45,997	\$28,381	\$38,686	\$54,805
250-499 Employees	\$48,550	\$30,733	\$42,494	\$57,458
500+ Employees	\$49,559	\$31,284	\$43,026	\$58,696



Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

North Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



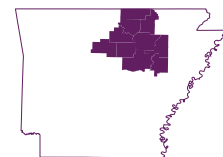
Total	70,270
<\$12.00	6,785
\$12.00-\$13.99	12,104
\$14.00-\$16.99	13,451
\$17.00-\$21.99	14,892
\$22.00-\$26.99	9,411
\$27.00+	13,627

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry is predicted to be the top and fastest growing industry in North Central Arkansas, gaining 289 jobs, a 56.34 percent rise in employment. On the negative side of the labor market, Truck Transportation is expected to experience a loss of 128 jobs, moving employment from 1,566 in 2023 to 1,438 in 2025. Social Advocacy Organizations could see a 32.35 percent reduction in jobs between 2023 and 2025. **Education and Health Services** is estimated to be the top growing supersector, adding 616 jobs to the labor force, moving employment to 22,611.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	21,995	22,611	616	2.80%
101300	Manufacturing	9,849	10,251	402	4.08%
102400	Professional and Business Services	4,249	4,530	281	6.61%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	6,472	6,707	235	3.63%
101100	Natural Resources and Mining	2,697	2,898	201	7.45%

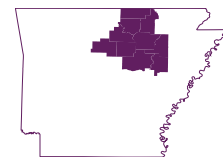
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	513	802	289	56.34%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	5,522	5,755	233	4.22%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	2,541	2,770	229	9.01%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,821	2,035	214	11.75%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	4,629	4,824	195	4.21%
624000	Social Assistance	2,168	2,333	165	7.61%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,505	2,662	157	6.27%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	722	820	98	13.57%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,305	1,398	93	7.13%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	694	784	90	12.97%

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	513	802	289	56.34%
524100	Insurance Carriers	178	212	34	19.10%
113000	Forestry and Logging	41	47	6	14.63%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	722	820	98	13.57%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	694	784	90	12.97%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,821	2,035	214	11.75%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	371	412	41	11.05%
611600	Other Schools and Instruction	64	70	6	9.38%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	2,541	2,770	229	9.01%
517000	Telecommunications	182	196	14	7.69%

Top 10 Decline

484000	Truck Transportation	1,566	1,438	-128	-8.17%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	787	705	-82	-10.42%
814000	Private Households	261	187	-74	-28.35%
221000	Utilities	595	536	-59	-9.92%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	2,970	2,927	-43	-1.45%
311000	Food Manufacturing	2,595	2,556	-39	-1.50%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	271	232	-39	-14.39%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	265	235	-30	-11.32%
111000	Crop Production	847	830	-17	-2.01%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	346	329	-17	-4.91%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

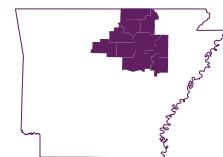
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	34	23	-11	-32.35%
814000	Private Households	261	187	-74	-28.35%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	271	232	-39	-14.39%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	85	75	-10	-11.76%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	265	235	-30	-11.32%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	787	705	-82	-10.42%
221000	Utilities	595	536	-59	-9.92%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	66	60	-6	-9.09%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	80	73	-7	-8.75%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,566	1,438	-128	-8.17%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Fast Food and Counter Workers is projected to be the top growing occupation in North Central Arkansas, adding 103 new jobs, increasing employment to 2,725. Industrial Engineers is slated to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing by 18.84 percent, for a total employment of 82. Heavy and Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers is predicted to lose 87 jobs, or 4.36 percent of its workforce to become the top declining occupation. Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping could see a 12.66 percent reduction in employment by March 2025. **Production Occupations** is forecast to be the top growing major group for the 2023-2025 projection period, with 318 new jobs, moving employment to 7,847.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
51-0000	Production Occupations	7,529	7,847	318	4.22%	322	488	159	969
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	6,268	6,517	249	3.97%	569	667	124	1,360
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	3,885	4,104	219	5.64%	259	310	110	679
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	5,964	6,180	216	3.62%	194	154	108	456
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,852	11,969	117	0.99%	622	464	58	1,144

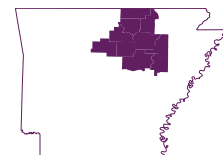
Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,622	2,725	103	3.93%	295	315	52	662
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,669	1,761	92	5.51%	108	134	46	288
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	1,094	1,178	84	7.68%	48	72	42	162
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,027	1,103	76	7.40%	85	71	38	194
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	630	686	56	8.89%	20	44	28	92
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,558	1,608	50	3.21%	52	32	25	109
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	590	635	45	7.63%	42	50	22	114
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,186	1,230	44	3.71%	84	84	22	190
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,684	1,726	42	2.49%	42	92	21	155
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	998	1,040	42	4.21%	42	36	21	99

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	69	82	13	18.84%	2	2	6	10
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	30	35	5	16.67%	0	1	2	3
17-3026	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians	26	30	4	15.38%	1	2	2	5
11-3071	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	41	46	5	12.20%	1	2	2	5
51-9021	Crushing, Grinding, and Polishing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	25	28	3	12.00%	1	2	2	5
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	247	275	28	11.34%	6	6	14	26
15-1252	Software Developers	45	50	5	11.11%	1	2	2	5
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	193	214	21	10.88%	8	12	10	30
51-4022	Forging Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	76	83	7	9.21%	3	5	4	12
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	630	686	56	8.89%	20	44	28	92

Top 10 Decline

53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,994	1,907	-87	-4.36%	88	114	-44	158
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	702	632	-70	-9.97%	22	42	-35	29
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	6,975	6,931	-44	-0.63%	486	232	-22	696
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,846	1,813	-33	-1.79%	114	179	-16	277
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	137	121	-16	-11.68%	4	6	-8	2
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	767	756	-11	-1.43%	56	51	-6	101
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	814	803	-11	-1.35%	47	42	-6	83
43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	79	69	-10	-12.66%	4	5	-5	4
39-9011	Childcare Workers	504	495	-9	-1.79%	36	46	-4	78
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	224	216	-8	-3.57%	9	8	-4	13

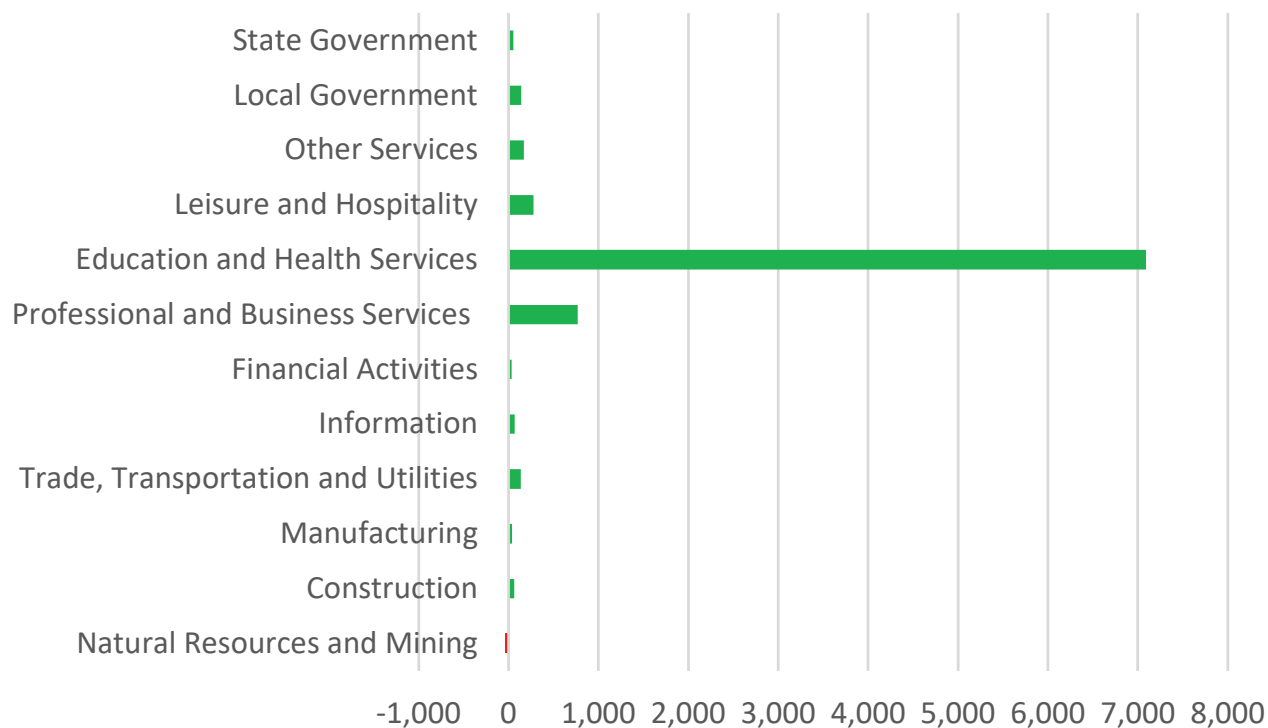
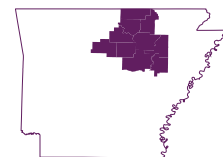
Top 10 Fastest Decline

43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	79	69	-10	-12.66%	4	5	-5	4
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	137	121	-16	-11.68%	4	6	-8	2
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	702	632	-70	-9.97%	22	42	-35	29
25-1121	Art, Drama, and Music Teachers, Postsecondary	66	61	-5	-7.58%	3	2	-2	3
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,994	1,907	-87	-4.36%	88	114	-44	158
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	224	216	-8	-3.57%	9	8	-4	13
51-8031	Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant and System Operators	228	220	-8	-3.51%	10	12	-4	18
51-3023	Slaughterers and Meat Packers	279	272	-7	-2.51%	14	19	-4	29
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,846	1,813	-33	-1.79%	114	179	-16	277
39-9011	Childcare Workers	504	495	-9	-1.79%	36	46	-4	78

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

North Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	69,630	78,442	8,812	12.7%	\$854
Natural Resources and Mining	1,606	1,573	-33	-2.1%	\$1,094
Construction	3,132	3,194	62	2.0%	\$945
Manufacturing	9,746	9,784	38	0.4%	\$1,055
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	15,525	15,661	136	0.9%	\$830
Information	394	461	67	17.0%	\$834
Financial Activities	2,791	2,825	34	1.2%	\$1,058
Professional and Business Services	3,741	4,512	771	20.6%	\$813
Education and Health Services	13,669	20,762	7,093	51.9%	\$924
Leisure and Hospitality	6,746	7,022	276	4.1%	\$359
Other Services	1,418	1,591	173	12.2%	\$741
Local Government	8,332	8,474	142	1.7%	\$755
State Government	2,530	2,583	53	2.1%	\$818

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Northeast Arkansas

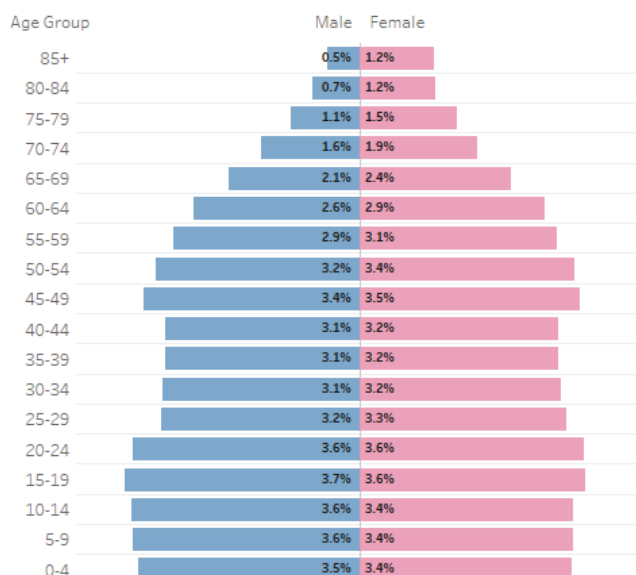
Local Workforce Development Area



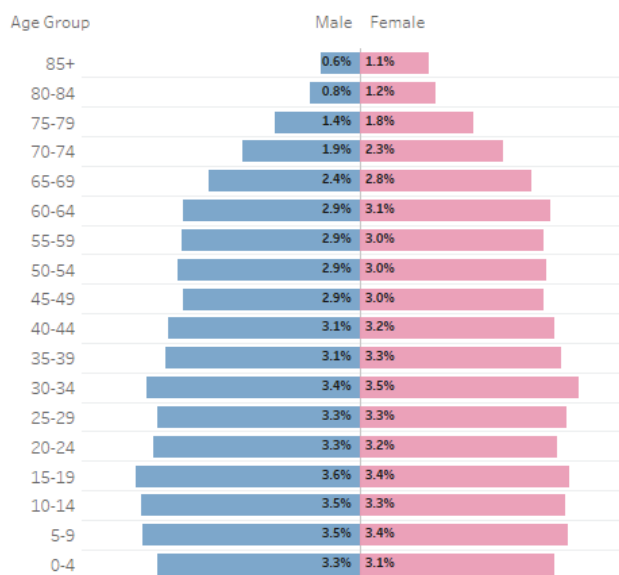
The Northeast Arkansas LWDA consists of the Jonesboro Metropolitan Statistical Area and seven counties: Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, and Randolph. Both Missouri and Tennessee border the area.

Population Pyramids for Northeast Arkansas

2010 Pop: **261,386**



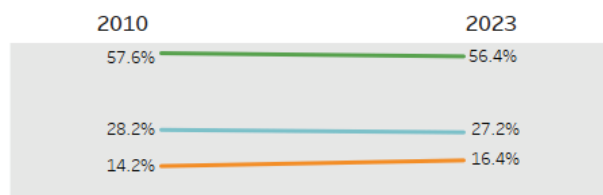
2023 Pop: **271,222**



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	37,173	44,556
Adults 20-64	150,615	152,934
Under 20	73,598	73,732
Total	261,386	271,222

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



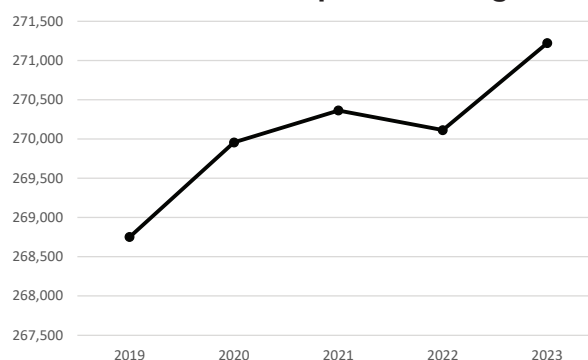
Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics: 2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Northeast Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
268,751	269,956	270,363	270,113	271,222

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Northeast Arkansas Population Progression



State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

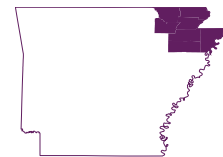
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

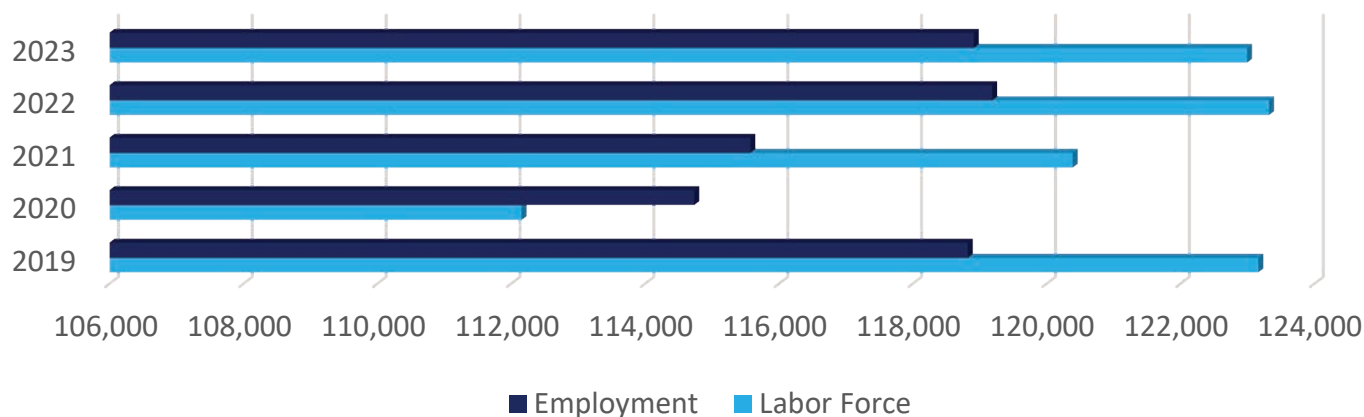


The Northeast Arkansas LWDA labor force decreased to 123,323 in 2023, or by 327 since 2022, and decreased over the 2019-2023 period by 167. Employment decreased by 274 while unemployment decreased by 53 from 2022 to 2023. The unemployment rate dropped to 3.3 percent, a decrease of 0.1 percent from 2022 to 2023. The area's unemployment rate ended at 4.1% by July 2024.

Northeast Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	123,163	112,157	120,390	123,323	122,996
Employment	118,822	114,735	115,574	119,186	118,912
Unemployment	4,341	7,422	4,816	4,137	4,084
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	6.1%	4.0%	3.4%	3.3%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Northeast Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Northeast Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	4.1%	3.9%
2024	February	3.7%	3.5%
2024	March	3.4%	3.3%
2024	April	3.2%	3.1%
2024	May	3.4%	3.3%
2024	June	3.9%	3.7%
2024	July	4.1%†	3.3%**

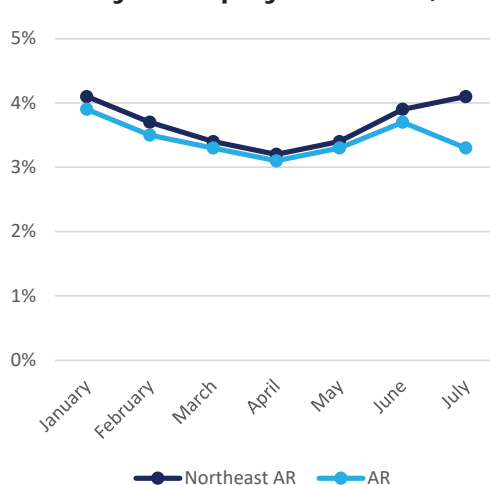
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

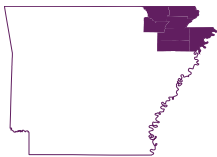
†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



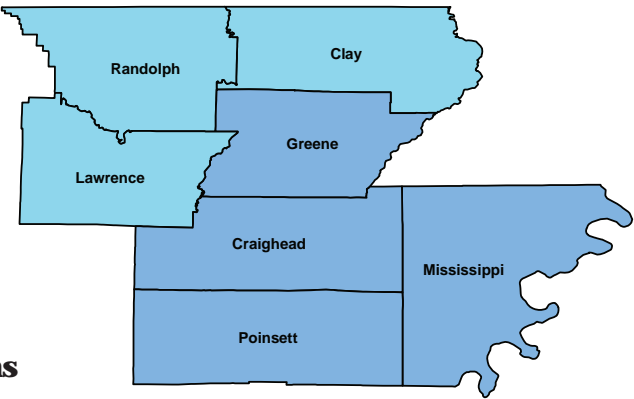
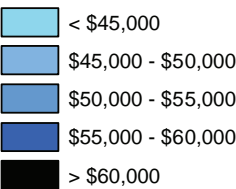
Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Fast Food and Counter Workers was estimated to have the most employees in Northeast Arkansas with 3,350 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$26,503. **Cashiers** was the second largest occupation with 2,880 employed, earning an average wage of \$26,707. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 2,460, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$82,656 annually.

2023 Annual Average Wages



*Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey

Obstetricians and Gynecologists topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$260,354. **Family Medicine Physicians**, with an average annual salary of \$225,149, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$27,543 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$40,961, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$57,558 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 104,640 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 7,789 made less than \$12 an hour while 23,715 made \$17 to \$21.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$27 an hour totaled 23,379.

Northeast Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,350	\$26,503	\$23,630	\$27,939
Cashiers	2,880	\$26,707	\$23,844	\$28,138
Registered Nurses	2,540	\$73,678	\$57,042	\$81,997
General and Operations Managers	2,460	\$82,656	\$35,408	\$106,280
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,450	\$37,203	\$28,848	\$41,381
Retail Salespersons	2,390	\$32,811	\$25,159	\$36,637
Stockers and Order Fillers	2,160	\$32,471	\$27,565	\$34,924
Office Clerks, General	2,060	\$37,875	\$26,854	\$43,386
Nursing Assistants	1,790	\$31,851	\$27,455	\$34,049
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,730	\$47,218	\$33,484	\$54,084

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Northeast Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$260,354
Family Medicine Physicians	\$225,149
Radiologists	\$207,347
Dentists, General	\$182,426
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$172,948
Optometrists	\$154,972
Chief Executives	\$142,775
Pediatricians, General	\$131,971
Pharmacists	\$128,143
Sales Managers	\$123,400
Personal Financial Advisors	\$122,953
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$119,106
Veterinarians	\$116,402
Nurse Practitioners	\$116,027
Financial Managers	\$112,547
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$111,636
Industrial Production Managers	\$110,295
Physician Assistants	\$109,593
Computer Network Architects	\$108,867
Administrative Services Managers	\$108,047
Lawyers	\$106,205
Human Resources Managers	\$103,176
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$103,002
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$102,451
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$101,515

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

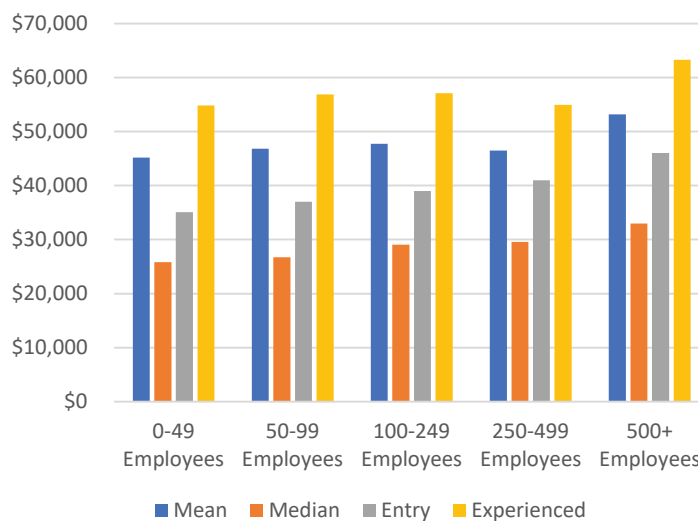
Wages



Northeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Northeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

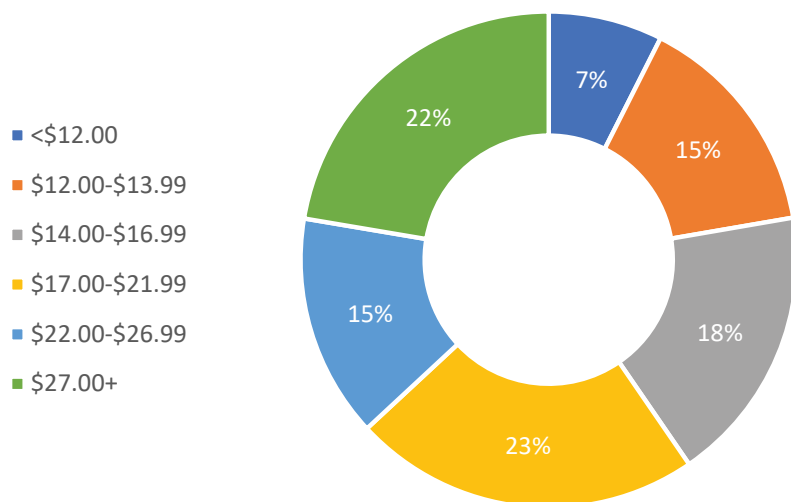
Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$47,553	\$27,543	\$38,449	\$57,558
0-49 Employees	\$45,182	\$25,832	\$35,075	\$54,857
50-99 Employees	\$46,835	\$26,730	\$37,007	\$56,887
100-249 Employees	\$47,753	\$29,067	\$38,980	\$57,096
250-499 Employees	\$46,493	\$29,581	\$40,961	\$54,949
500+ Employees	\$53,183	\$32,973	\$46,041	\$63,288



Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Northeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



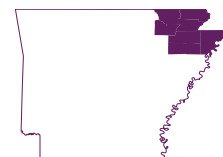
Total	104,640
<\$12.00	7,789
\$12.00-\$13.99	15,532
\$14.00-\$16.99	18,980
\$17.00-\$21.99	23,715
\$22.00-\$26.99	15,245
\$27.00+	23,379

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Food Services and Drinking Places is predicted to be the top growing industry, adding 367 jobs between 2023 and 2025, moving employment to 8,881. Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals is set to increase its workforce by 21.24 percent, becoming the fastest growing industry in Northeast Arkansas, moving employment above 1,000. On the negative side of the labor market, Machinery Manufacturing is projected to lose the most jobs, cutting 214 jobs from its workforce, dropping its employment levels to 3,190. Private Households could see a drop of 53.56 percent, dropping its employment levels to 163. **Education and Health Services** is slated to rise by 955 employees, to become the top growing supersector, moving its employment levels to 30,727.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	29,772	30,727	955	3.21%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	9,774	10,230	456	4.67%
102400	Professional and Business Services	6,820	7,059	239	3.50%
101200	Construction	4,360	4,597	237	5.44%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	20,026	20,156	130	0.65%

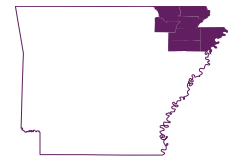
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	8,514	8,881	367	4.31%
624000	Social Assistance	3,803	4,092	289	7.60%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	4,417	4,682	265	6.00%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,871	6,106	235	4.00%
622100	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	5,938	6,132	194	3.27%
622300	Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals	904	1,096	192	21.24%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,980	3,171	191	6.41%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	3,883	4,022	139	3.58%
311000	Food Manufacturing	4,004	4,125	121	3.02%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	7,278	7,399	121	1.66%

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
622300	Specialty (except Psychiatric & Substance Abuse) Hospitals	904	1,096	192	21.24%
611600	Other Schools and Instruction	130	143	13	10.00%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	556	610	54	9.71%
518000	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	25	27	2	8.00%
624000	Social Assistance	3,803	4,092	289	7.60%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	1,048	1,125	77	7.35%
524100	Insurance Carriers	433	462	29	6.70%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,980	3,171	191	6.41%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	4,417	4,682	265	6.00%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	789	834	45	5.70%

Top 10 Decline

333000	Machinery Manufacturing	3,404	3,190	-214	-6.29%
111000	Crop Production	1,990	1,782	-208	-10.45%
814000	Private Households	351	163	-188	-53.56%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	472	335	-137	-29.03%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	523	447	-76	-14.53%
611300	Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools	2,877	2,808	-69	-2.40%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	909	847	-62	-6.82%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	589	532	-57	-9.68%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	2,159	2,109	-50	-2.32%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	348	302	-46	-13.22%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

814000	Private Households	351	163	-188	-53.56%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	59	38	-21	-35.59%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	52	35	-17	-32.69%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	472	335	-137	-29.03%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	523	447	-76	-14.53%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	348	302	-46	-13.22%
622200	Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	358	318	-40	-11.17%
111000	Crop Production	1,990	1,782	-208	-10.45%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	131	118	-13	-9.92%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	589	532	-57	-9.68%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Fast Food and Counter Workers is projected to be the top growing occupation in Northeast Arkansas between 2023 and 2025, adding 141 jobs, increasing its workforce to 3,490 jobs. Cargo and Freight Agents is expected to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing the workforce by 12.12 percent. On the reverse side of the economy, Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse could see a reduction of 121 jobs, or 9.63 percent of its workforce, becoming the top and fastest declining occupation in the area.

Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations is projected to add 363 new jobs between 2023 and 2025, becoming the top growing major group, and increasing its workforce to 9,389, a 4.02 percent increase.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	9,026	9,389	363	4.02%	810	956	182	1,948
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	8,580	8,912	332	3.87%	280	218	166	664
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	5,006	5,251	245	4.89%	336	393	122	851
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	11,532	11,707	175	1.52%	588	852	88	1,528
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	5,843	6,011	168	2.88%	223	282	84	589

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,349	3,490	141	4.21%	378	403	70	851
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,692	1,814	122	7.21%	140	117	61	318
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,614	2,699	85	3.25%	88	54	42	184
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	978	1,056	78	7.98%	70	83	39	192
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,411	2,460	49	2.03%	60	131	24	215
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	976	1,024	48	4.92%	36	42	24	102
47-2111	Electricians	807	852	45	5.58%	28	44	22	94
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	574	618	44	7.67%	16	24	22	62
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	947	988	41	4.33%	48	92	20	160
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,233	1,272	39	3.16%	108	152	20	280

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
43-5011	Cargo and Freight Agents	33	37	4	12.12%	2	2	2	6
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	122	136	14	11.48%	4	4	7	15
31-2011	Occupational Therapy Assistants	74	82	8	10.81%	4	7	4	15
39-3091	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	122	135	13	10.66%	14	22	6	42
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	320	353	33	10.31%	8	8	16	32
39-9031	Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	101	110	9	8.91%	6	13	4	23
29-1127	Speech-Language Pathologists	189	205	16	8.47%	6	5	8	19
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	978	1,056	78	7.98%	70	83	39	192
49-9011	Mechanical Door Repairers	52	56	4	7.69%	2	2	2	6
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	574	618	44	7.67%	16	24	22	62

Top 10 Decline

45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	1,256	1,135	-121	-9.63%	68	108	-60	116
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	785	715	-70	-8.92%	56	50	-35	71
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	4,044	3,983	-61	-1.51%	280	134	-30	384
39-9011	Childcare Workers	925	890	-35	-3.78%	66	84	-18	132
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	3,080	3,050	-30	-0.97%	130	194	-15	309
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	515	488	-27	-5.24%	18	31	-14	35
51-2028	Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	268	245	-23	-8.58%	12	14	-12	14
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,025	1,008	-17	-1.66%	59	54	-8	105
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	195	182	-13	-6.67%	6	11	-6	11
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	136	125	-11	-8.09%	6	7	-6	7

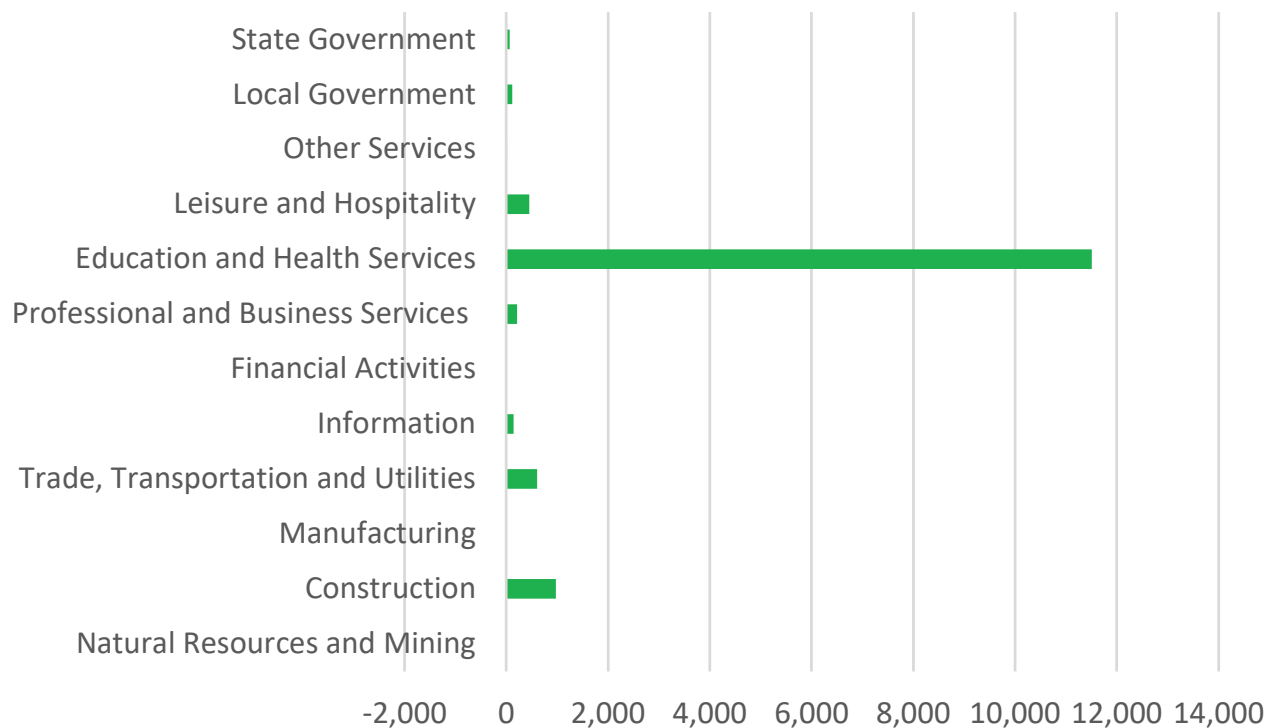
Top 10 Fastest Decline

45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	1,256	1,135	-121	-9.63%	68	108	-60	116
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	785	715	-70	-8.92%	56	50	-35	71
51-2028	Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	268	245	-23	-8.58%	12	14	-12	14
45-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	109	100	-9	-8.26%	6	8	-4	10
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	136	125	-11	-8.09%	6	7	-6	7
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	195	182	-13	-6.67%	6	11	-6	11
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	171	161	-10	-5.85%	10	15	-5	20
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	515	488	-27	-5.24%	18	31	-14	35
51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	175	166	-9	-5.14%	6	11	-4	13
39-9011	Childcare Workers	925	890	-35	-3.78%	66	84	-18	132

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Northeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

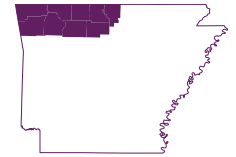


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	103,632	117,686	14,054	13.6%	\$993
Natural Resources and Mining	1,991	1,976	-15	-0.8%	\$991
Construction	4,261	5,234	973	22.8%	\$1,245
Manufacturing	22,208	22,184	-24	-0.1%	\$1,328
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	19,934	20,537	603	3.0%	\$884
Information	666	806	140	21.0%	\$1,076
Financial Activities	3,346	3,352	6	0.2%	\$1,156
Professional and Business Services	7,019	7,230	211	3.0%	\$982
Education and Health Services	17,529	29,038	11,509	65.7%	\$995
Leisure and Hospitality	9,720	10,169	449	4.6%	\$398
Other Services	1,799	1,816	17	0.9%	\$819
Local Government	11,268	11,383	115	1.0%	\$834
State Government	3,893	3,961	68	1.7%	\$963

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Northwest Arkansas

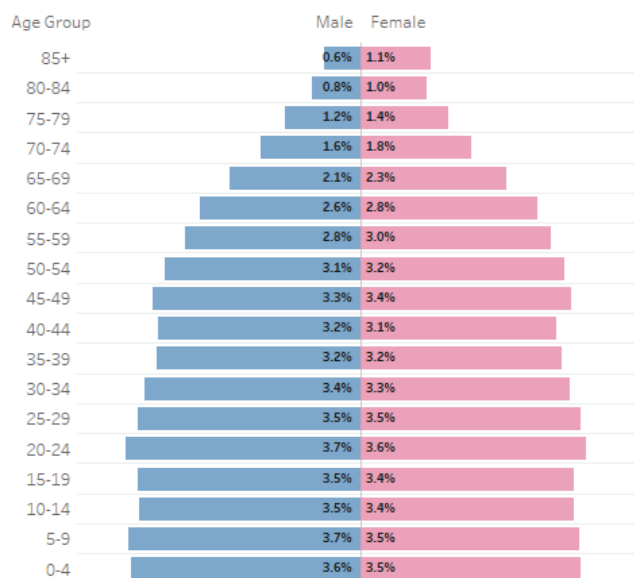
Local Workforce Development Area



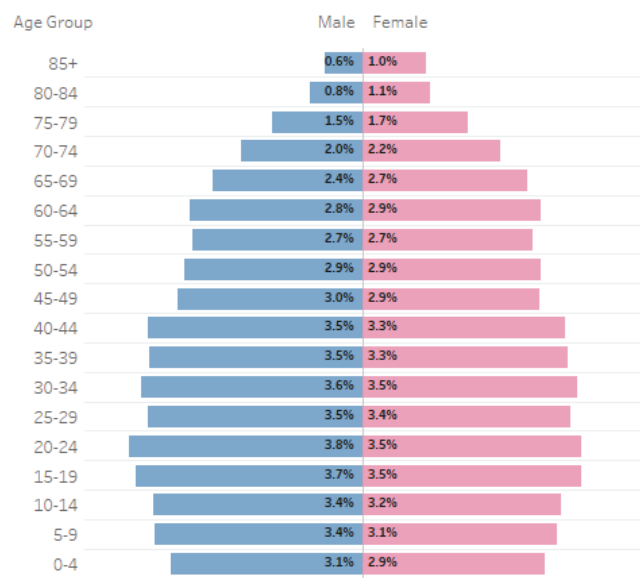
The Northwest Arkansas LWDA consists of nine counties: Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy, and Washington. The area borders two states, Missouri to the north and Oklahoma to the west. The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes McDonald County in Missouri, is located within this LWDA.

Population Pyramids for Northwest Arkansas

2010 Pop: **581,408**



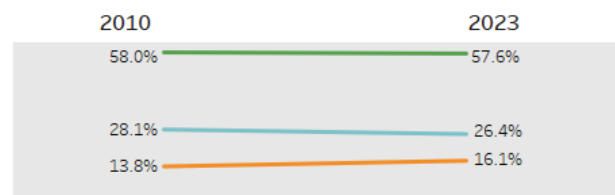
2023 Pop: **732,947**



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	80,436	117,659
Adults 20-64	337,380	421,930
Under 20	163,592	193,358
Total	581,408	732,947

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics: 2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Northwest Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
664,976	685,864	701,180	718,114	732,947

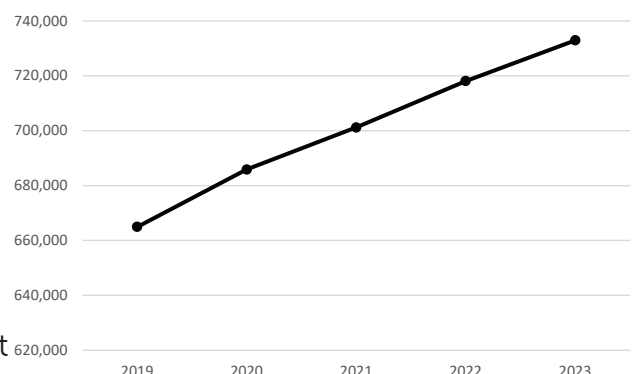
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

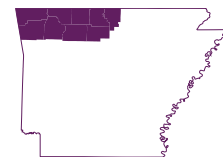
Northwest Arkansas Population Progression



Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

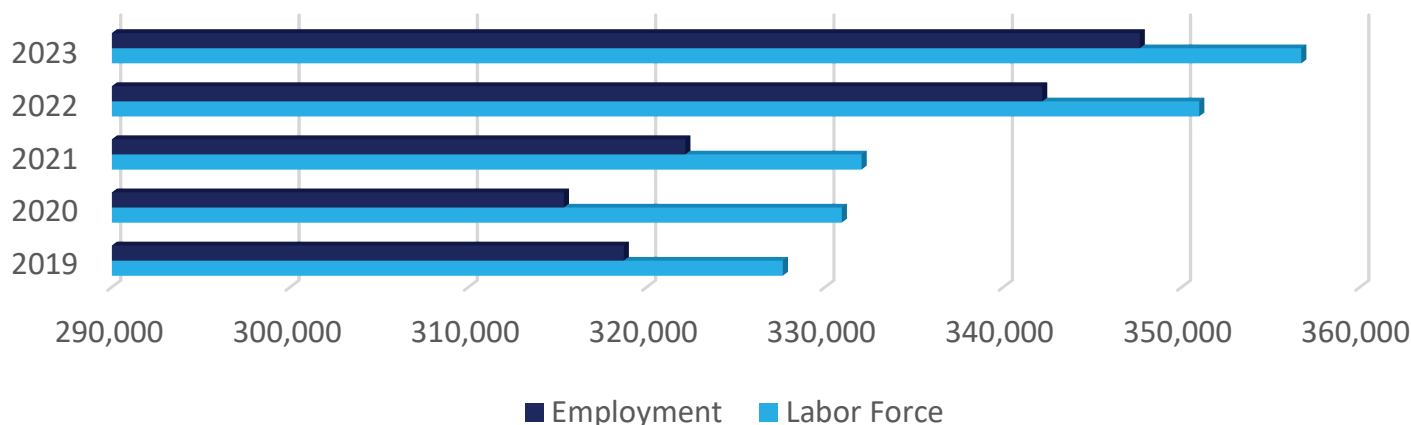


The Northwest Arkansas LWDA labor force and employment increased from 2022 to 2023, with the labor force gaining 5,723 to 356,720 and employment increasing by 5,469 to 347,659. Unemployment increased by 254 to 9,061 in 2022, and has seen an increase of 140 since 2019. The unemployment rate stayed the same from 2022 to 2023 at 2.5 percent. The area's unemployment rate fluctuated from 2019, but ultimately settled at 2.5 in 2023. The unemployment rate ended July 2024 at 3.1 percent.

Northwest Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	327,641	330,952	332,059	350,997	356,720
Employment	318,720	315,358	322,170	342,190	347,659
Unemployment	8,921	15,594	9,889	8,807	9,061
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	4.7%	3.0%	2.5%	2.5%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Northwest Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Northwest Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	3.1%	3.9%
2024	February	2.8%	3.5%
2024	March	2.6%	3.3%
2024	April	2.4%	3.1%
2024	May	2.6%	3.3%
2024	June	3.0%	3.7%
2024	July	3.1%†	3.3%**

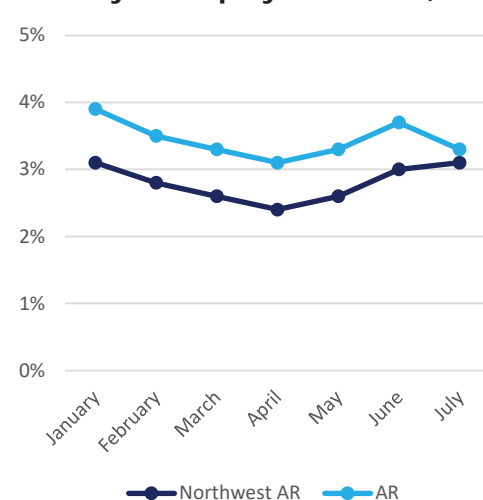
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

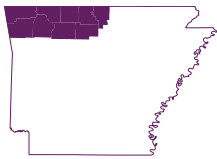
Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



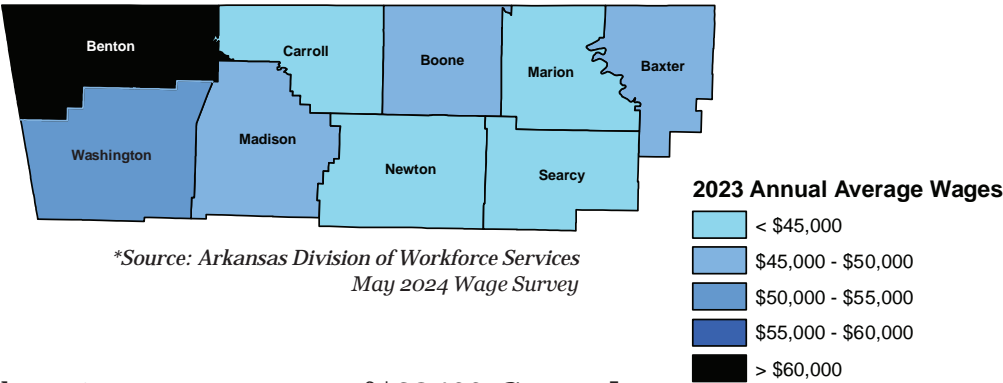
Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers was estimated to have the most employees in Northwest Arkansas with 12,430 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$50,370. **Fast Food and Counter Workers** was the second largest occupation with 10,330 employed, earning an average wage of \$28,166. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 8,130, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$97,904 annually.



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey*

Dermatologists topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$439,481. **Radiologists**, with an average annual salary of \$323,850, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$28,696 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$43,326, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$68,077 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 306,900 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 93,849 made more than \$27 an hour while 14,026 made less than \$12 an hour. Employees making between \$17 and \$21.99 totaled 66,175.

Northwest Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

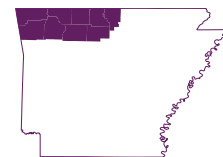
Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	12,430	\$50,370	\$30,354	\$60,378
Fast Food and Counter Workers	10,330	\$28,166	\$24,953	\$29,772
General and Operations Managers	8,130	\$97,904	\$36,709	\$128,501
Retail Salespersons	8,050	\$33,809	\$26,059	\$37,683
Stockers and Order Fillers	6,780	\$34,219	\$28,846	\$36,906
Cashiers	6,530	\$28,144	\$25,158	\$29,637
Office Clerks, General	6,170	\$39,318	\$27,904	\$45,025
Registered Nurses	6,110	\$71,767	\$48,527	\$83,387
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	5,800	\$35,280	\$29,171	\$38,334
Waiters and Waitresses	5,090	\$29,974	\$24,546	\$32,688

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Northwest Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

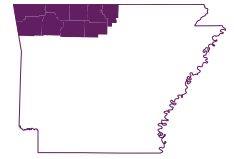
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Dermatologists	\$439,481
Radiologists	\$323,850
Ophthalmologists, Except Pediatric	\$267,388
Chief Executives	\$235,142
Family Medicine Physicians	\$203,100
Natural Sciences Managers	\$190,727
Dentists, General	\$187,463
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	\$182,704
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$181,053
Public Relations Managers	\$177,104
Marketing Managers	\$160,644
Compensation and Benefits Managers	\$157,662
Anesthesiologists	\$157,135
Medical Dosimetrists	\$150,674
Sales Managers	\$150,071
Human Resources Managers	\$149,569
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$149,440
Optometrists	\$149,428
Lawyers	\$147,802
Personal Financial Advisors	\$145,566
Financial Managers	\$145,050
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$143,012
Pediatricians, General	\$140,027
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$138,475
Environmental Engineers	\$137,827

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

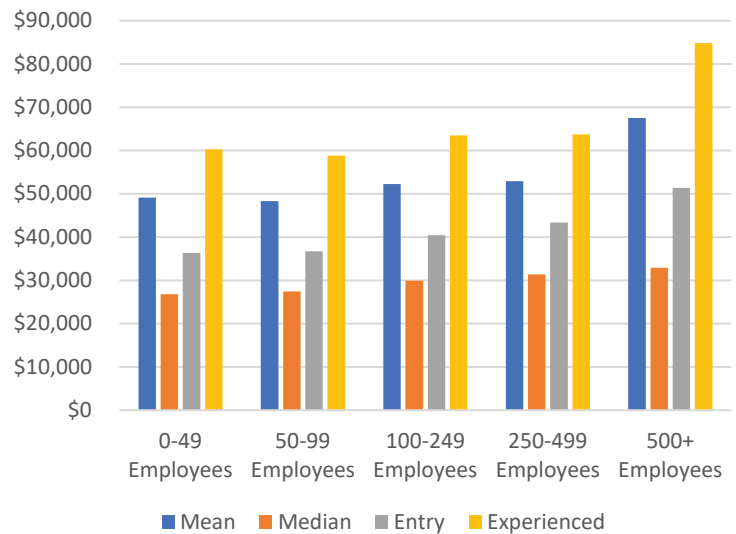
Wages



Northwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Northwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

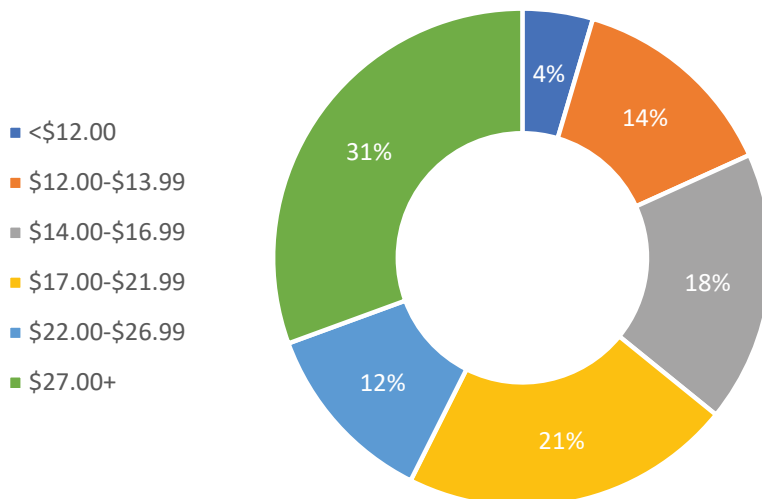
Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$54,950	\$28,696	\$40,038	\$68,077
0-49 Employees	\$49,117	\$26,778	\$36,313	\$60,286
50-99 Employees	\$48,331	\$27,398	\$36,697	\$58,797
100-249 Employees	\$52,273	\$29,888	\$40,416	\$63,466
250-499 Employees	\$52,932	\$31,371	\$43,326	\$63,713
500+ Employees	\$67,518	\$32,921	\$51,371	\$84,816



Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Northwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



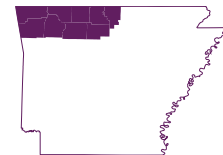
Total	306,900
<\$12.00	14,026
\$12.00-\$13.99	41,929
\$14.00-\$16.99	54,043
\$17.00-\$21.99	66,175
\$22.00-\$26.99	36,878
\$27.00+	93,849

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Food Services and Drinking Places is slated to add 1,657 jobs between 2023 and 2025, becoming the top growing industry in the Northwest Arkansas WDA, moving employment to 28,863. Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals is predicted to be the fastest growing industry, increasing by 63.83 percent. On the negative side of the economy, Warehousing and Storage is forecast to cut 498 jobs during the 2023-2025 projection period, an 18.26 percent reduction. Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry could see a loss of 22.26 percent becoming the fastest declining occupation in the area. **Education and Health Services** leads all supersectors in Northwest Arkansas in numeric change, with 4,335 new jobs, a 6.42 percent gain, moving employment from 67,575 in 2023 to 71,910 in 2025.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	67,575	71,910	4,335	6.42%
102400	Professional and Business Services	54,414	56,865	2,451	4.50%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	33,843	35,919	2,076	6.13%
101200	Construction	15,764	16,389	625	3.96%
102800	Government	13,546	14,154	608	4.49%

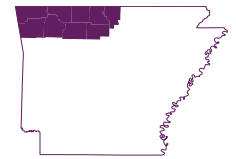
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	27,206	28,863	1,657	6.09%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	25,118	25,928	810	3.22%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	17,503	18,273	770	4.40%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	15,040	15,794	754	5.01%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	13,350	14,104	754	5.65%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	13,709	14,461	752	5.49%
624000	Social Assistance	7,809	8,403	594	7.61%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	5,079	5,574	495	9.75%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	11,016	11,510	494	4.48%
622300	Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals	694	1,137	443	63.83%

Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
622300	Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals	694	1,137	443	63.83%
622200	Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	1,542	1,977	435	28.21%
518000	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	458	559	101	22.05%
814000	Private Households	1,824	2,143	319	17.49%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	906	1,039	133	14.68%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	587	673	86	14.65%
314000	Textile Product Mills	526	602	76	14.45%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	223	254	31	13.90%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	2,839	3,151	312	10.99%
512000	Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	346	384	38	10.98%

Top 10 Decline

493000	Warehousing and Storage	2,727	2,229	-498	-18.26%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	2,583	2,399	-184	-7.12%
311000	Food Manufacturing	17,004	16,845	-159	-0.94%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	1,667	1,558	-109	-6.54%
484000	Truck Transportation	13,177	13,076	-101	-0.77%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	1,590	1,490	-100	-6.29%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,435	1,350	-85	-5.92%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	837	769	-68	-8.12%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	301	234	-67	-22.26%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	1,737	1,680	-57	-3.28%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

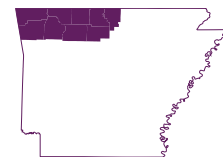
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	301	234	-67	-22.26%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	2,727	2,229	-498	-18.26%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	235	209	-26	-11.06%
813900	Business, Professional, Labor, Political, and Similar Organizations	281	255	-26	-9.25%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	837	769	-68	-8.12%
212000	Mining (except Oil and Gas)	82	76	-6	-7.32%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	2,583	2,399	-184	-7.12%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	1,667	1,558	-109	-6.54%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	1,590	1,490	-100	-6.29%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,435	1,350	-85	-5.92%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Fast Food and Counter Workers is slated to be the top growing occupation in Northwest Arkansas between 2023 and 2025, increasing its workforce by 540 jobs to 10,312. Occupational Therapy Assistants is projected to be the fastest growing occupation, driving up employment 13.19 percent to 103 jobs. On the negative side of the local economy, Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators is expected to lose 145 jobs, or 5.70 percent of its workforce between 2023 and 2025. Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic could lose 17.16 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation in the area, dropping employment to 111. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group, adding 1,675 new jobs during the projection period to a total employment of 30,588.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

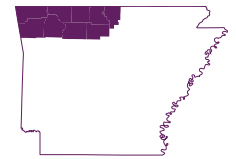
SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	28,913	30,588	1,675	5.79%	2,586	3,075	838	6,499
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	18,886	20,154	1,268	6.71%	625	472	634	1,731
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	11,615	12,818	1,203	10.36%	800	944	602	2,346
11-0000	Management Occupations	35,884	37,019	1,135	3.16%	1,437	1,594	568	3,599
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	20,810	21,884	1,074	5.16%	924	894	537	2,355

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,772	10,312	540	5.53%	1,109	1,184	270	2,563
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	4,011	4,455	444	11.07%	338	282	222	842
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	3,704	4,066	362	9.77%	265	316	181	762
29-1141	Registered Nurses	6,371	6,689	318	4.99%	217	134	159	510
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	7,938	8,218	280	3.53%	201	434	140	775
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	2,850	3,094	244	8.56%	222	200	122	544
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,532	8,767	235	2.75%	568	685	118	1,371
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	3,196	3,430	234	7.32%	210	260	117	587
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	4,293	4,489	196	4.57%	378	530	98	1,006
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	2,830	3,005	175	6.18%	147	280	88	515

Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area



Occupations

Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
31-2011	Occupational Therapy Assistants	91	103	12	13.19%	5	8	6	19
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	572	647	75	13.11%	14	14	38	66
21-1094	Community Health Workers	33	37	4	12.12%	2	2	2	6
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	539	599	60	11.13%	16	20	30	66
23-1023	Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	54	60	6	11.11%	2	1	3	6
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	4,011	4,455	444	11.07%	338	282	222	842
27-4032	Film and Video Editors	56	62	6	10.71%	2	4	3	9
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	1,103	1,219	116	10.52%	32	48	58	138
47-4041	Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	49	54	5	10.20%	2	3	2	7
25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	59	65	6	10.17%	2	2	3	7

Top 10 Decline

53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	2,544	2,399	-145	-5.70%	79	158	-72	165
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	1,606	1,498	-108	-6.72%	88	140	-54	174
51-9198	Helpers—Production Workers	1,370	1,325	-45	-3.28%	90	119	-22	187
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	3,170	3,131	-39	-1.23%	156	215	-20	351
51-9081	Dental Laboratory Technicians	552	517	-35	-6.34%	24	38	-18	44
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Inventory Clerks	1,710	1,686	-24	-1.40%	70	101	-12	159
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	134	111	-23	-17.16%	5	8	-12	1
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	590	568	-22	-3.73%	18	33	-11	40
45-2041	Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	419	405	-14	-3.34%	22	37	-7	52
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	441	427	-14	-3.17%	18	24	-7	35

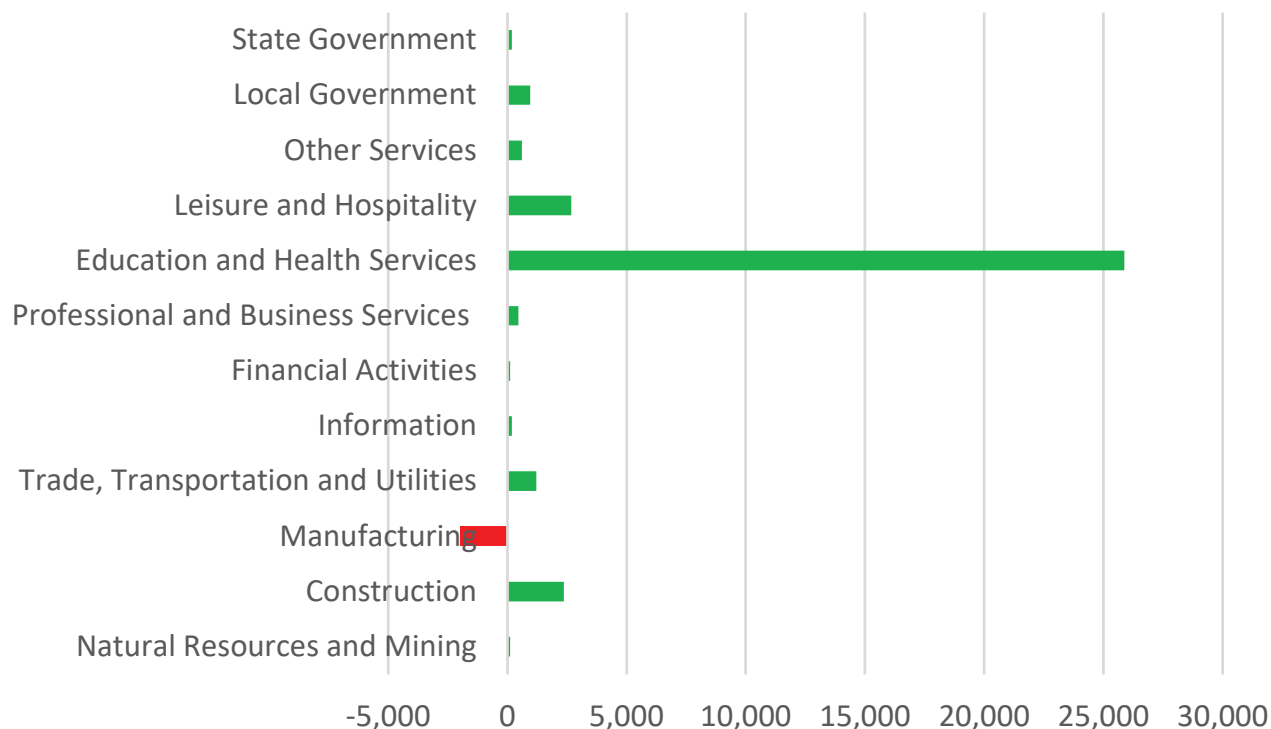
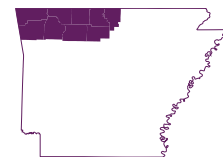
Top 10 Fastest Decline

51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	134	111	-23	-17.16%	5	8	-12	1
51-9193	Cooling and Freezing Equipment Operators and Tenders	171	159	-12	-7.02%	7	11	-6	12
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	103	96	-7	-6.80%	5	5	-4	6
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	1,606	1,498	-108	-6.72%	88	140	-54	174
43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	94	88	-6	-6.38%	5	6	-3	8
51-9081	Dental Laboratory Technicians	552	517	-35	-6.34%	24	38	-18	44
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	2,544	2,399	-145	-5.70%	79	158	-72	165
51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	269	258	-11	-4.09%	10	17	-6	21
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	590	568	-22	-3.73%	18	33	-11	40
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	324	312	-12	-3.70%	10	19	-6	23

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Northwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

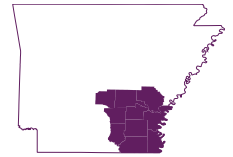


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	298,461	331,254	32,793	11.0%	\$1,196
Natural Resources and Mining	1,531	1,643	112	7.3%	\$1,151
Construction	15,143	17,515	2,372	15.7%	\$1,187
Manufacturing	38,473	36,500	-1,973	-5.1%	\$1,005
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	66,551	67,758	1,207	1.8%	\$1,095
Information	2,424	2,608	184	7.6%	\$1,296
Financial Activities	10,413	10,525	112	1.1%	\$1,371
Professional and Business Services	54,387	54,860	473	0.9%	\$2,134
Education and Health Services	37,538	63,414	25,876	68.9%	\$1,058
Leisure and Hospitality	33,649	36,323	2,674	7.9%	\$448
Other Services	5,834	6,450	616	10.6%	\$884
Local Government	23,118	24,069	951	4.1%	\$953
State Government	9,401	9,589	188	2.0%	\$1,214

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Southeast Arkansas

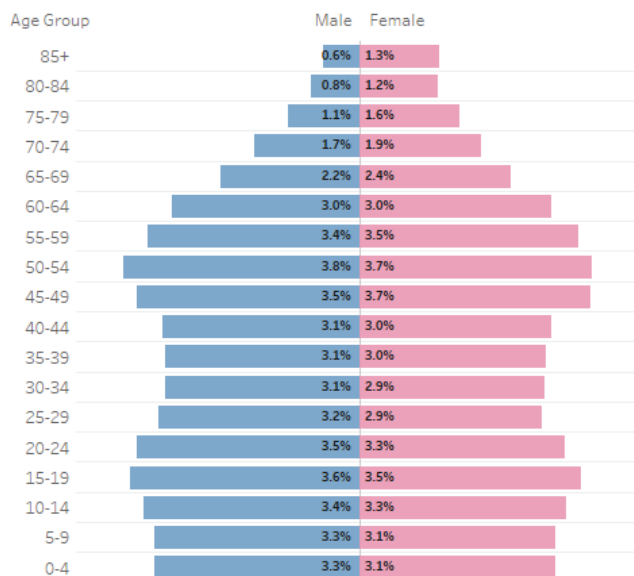
Local Workforce Development Area



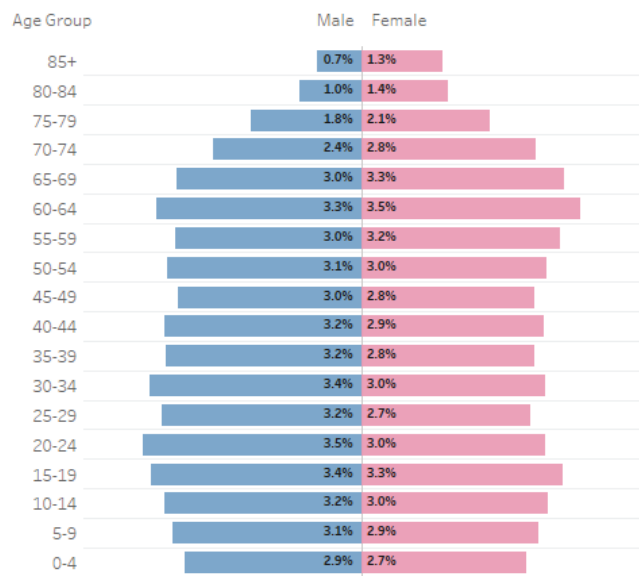
The Southeast Arkansas LWDA includes the Pine Bluff Metropolitan Statistical Area and 10 counties: Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, and Lincoln. Louisiana and Mississippi border the area.

Population Pyramids for Southeast Arkansas

2010 Pop: **213,720**



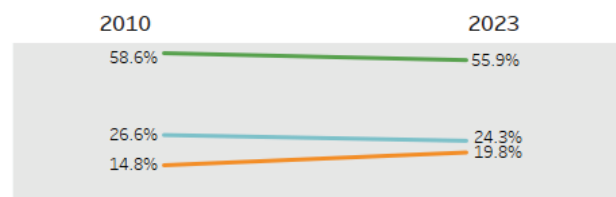
2023 Pop: **183,955**



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	31,610	36,383
Adults 20-64	125,231	102,780
Under 20	56,879	44,792
Total	213,720	183,955

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics: 2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Southeast LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
193,673	191,418	188,525	185,345	183,955

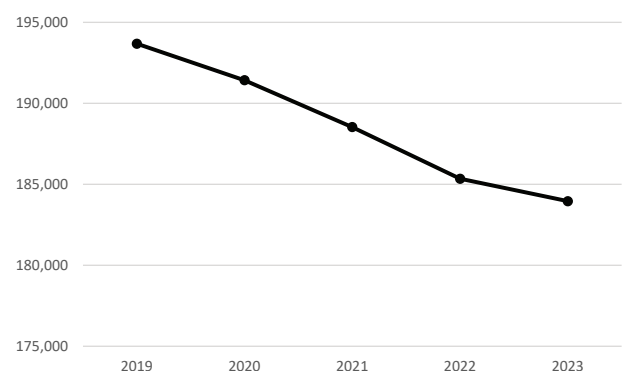
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

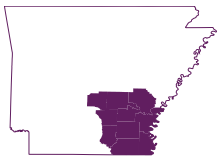
Southeast Arkansas Population Progression



Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

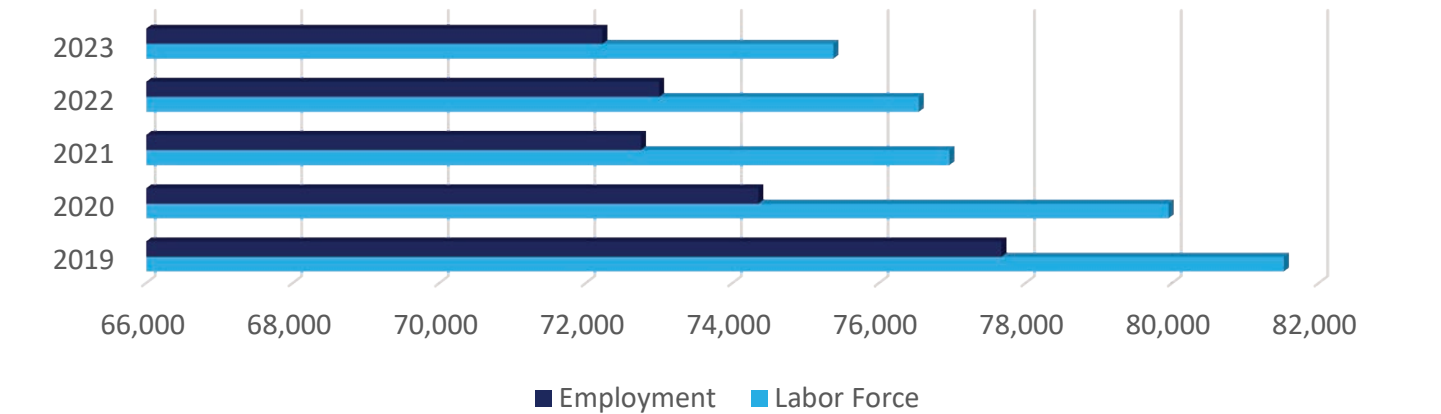


Southeast Arkansas saw a decrease in the labor force of 1,165 to 75,377 from 2022 to 2023, and employment decreased by 775 to 72,224 for the same time period. Both the labor force and employment have decreased since 2019 by 6,147 and 5,447 respectively. Unemployment decreased by 390 to 3,153 from 2022 to 2023 and the unemployment rate decreased to 4.2 percent in 2023. After starting at 5.0 percent in January 2024, the unemployment rate fluctuated, ultimately settling to 5.2 percent in July 2024.

Southeast Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	81,524	79,951	76,960	76,542	75,377
Employment	77,671	74,352	72,750	72,999	72,224
Unemployment	3,853	5,599	4,210	3,543	3,153
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	7.0%	5.5%	4.6%	4.2%

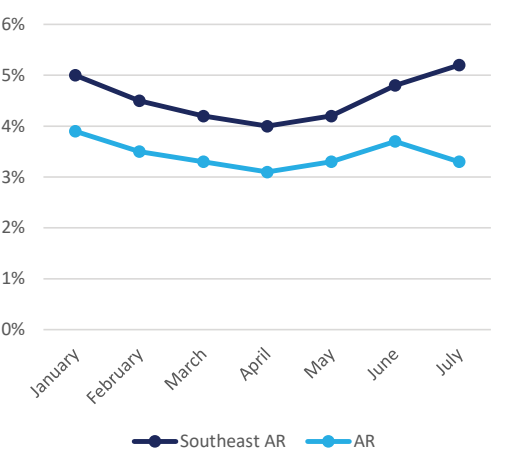
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Southeast Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Southeast Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	5.0%	3.9%
2024	February	4.5%	3.5%
2024	March	4.2%	3.3%
2024	April	4.0%	3.1%
2024	May	4.2%	3.3%
2024	June	4.8%	3.7%
2024	July	5.2%†	3.3%**

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

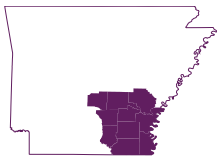
**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

Southeast Arkansas

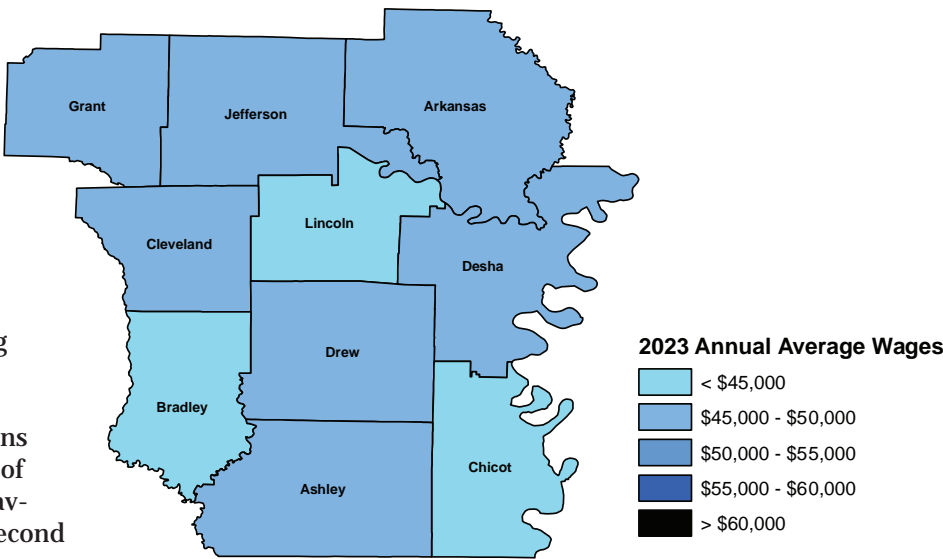
Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Cashiers was estimated to have the most employees in Southeast Arkansas with 1,920 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$26,331. **Fast Food and Counter Workers** was the second largest occupation with 1,900 employed, earning an average wage of \$25,597. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 1,490, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$80,045 annually.

Dentists, General topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$198,961. **Nurse Anesthetists**, with an average annual salary of \$184,002, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey*

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$27,352 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$39,438, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$56,670 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 65,620 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 5,451 made less than \$12 an hour while 14,810 made \$17 to \$21.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$27 an hour totaled 14,563.

Southeast Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

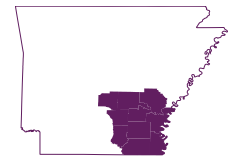
Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	1,920	\$26,331	\$23,478	\$27,757
Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,900	\$25,597	\$23,485	\$26,652
General and Operations Managers	1,490	\$80,045	\$35,021	\$102,558
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,490	\$35,747	\$27,900	\$39,671
Office Clerks, General	1,380	\$36,662	\$26,711	\$41,638
Stockers and Order Fillers	1,340	\$32,148	\$27,121	\$34,662
Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,320	\$43,153	\$36,857	\$46,301
Registered Nurses	1,250	\$74,641	\$57,270	\$83,327
Retail Salespersons	1,210	\$31,557	\$24,591	\$35,040
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,170	\$44,799	\$30,256	\$52,070

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Southeast Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

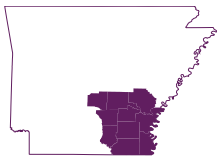
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Dentists, General	\$198,961
Nurse Anesthetists	\$184,002
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$176,959
Pharmacists	\$133,864
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$131,686
Natural Sciences Managers	\$130,879
Radiologists	\$126,985
Chief Executives	\$126,865
Microbiologists	\$123,738
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	\$121,681
Chemists	\$118,319
Sales Managers	\$116,156
Nurse Practitioners	\$115,216
Industrial Production Managers	\$113,809
Engineers, All Other	\$102,612
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$102,558
Financial Managers	\$100,979
Lawyers	\$100,351
Biological Scientists, All Other	\$99,585
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$97,591
Veterinarians	\$96,002
Human Resources Managers	\$95,929
Occupational Therapists	\$94,756
Purchasing Managers	\$94,319
Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	\$93,955

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages

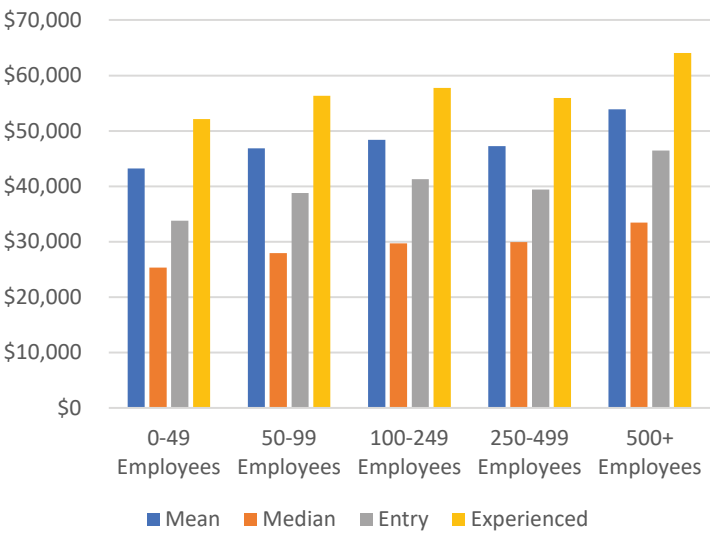


Southeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

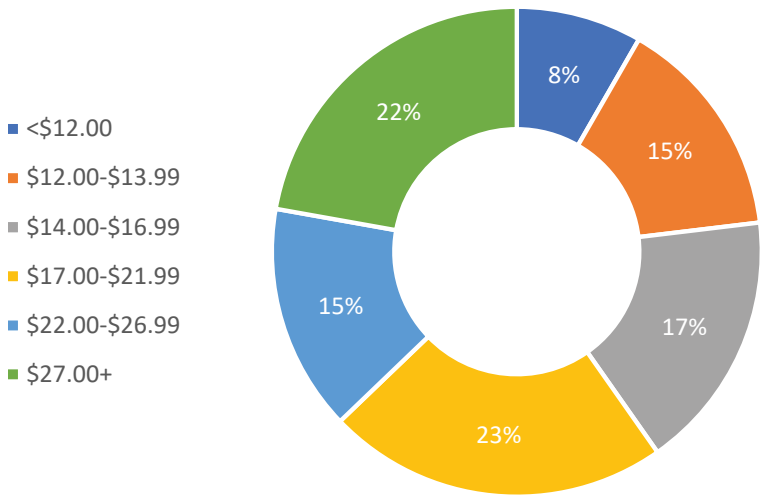
Southeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$46,897	\$27,352	\$38,189	\$56,670
0-49 Employees	\$43,221	\$25,354	\$33,774	\$52,154
50-99 Employees	\$46,871	\$27,972	\$38,795	\$56,320
100-249 Employees	\$48,402	\$29,703	\$41,273	\$57,752
250-499 Employees	\$47,265	\$29,943	\$39,438	\$55,926
500+ Employees	\$53,875	\$33,453	\$46,438	\$64,086

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



Southeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Southeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

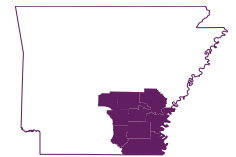
Total	65,620
<\$12.00	5,451
\$12.00-\$13.99	9,703
\$14.00-\$16.99	11,265
\$17.00-\$21.99	14,810
\$22.00-\$26.99	9,828
\$27.00+	14,563

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Social Assistance is projected to be the top growing industry in Southeast Arkansas, increasing its workforce by 187 new jobs, a 7.58 percent gain. Social Advocacy Organizations is predicted to more than double in employment, becoming the fastest growing industry, moving from 51 jobs in 2023 to 103 in 2025. On the negative side of the local economy, Paper Manufacturing could lose 194 employees, dropping 8.02 percent of its workforce. Grantmaking and Giving Services is slated to be the fastest declining industry, cutting its workforce by 72.22 percent. **Leisure and Hospitality** is anticipated to be the top growing supersector, adding 257 jobs between 2023 and 2025, a 4.83 percent rise in employment.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	5,323	5,580	257	4.83%
102500	Education and Health Services	17,393	17,564	171	0.98%
101200	Construction	2,031	2,037	6	0.30%
102200	Information	253	254	1	0.40%

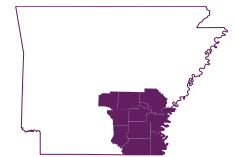
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
624000	Social Assistance	2,467	2,654	187	7.58%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,010	1,137	127	12.57%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	3,827	3,924	97	2.53%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	2,138	2,231	93	4.35%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,731	2,800	69	2.53%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	51	103	52	101.96%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	1,589	1,640	51	3.21%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,716	2,760	44	1.62%
622100	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	2,911	2,943	32	1.10%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	946	976	30	3.17%

Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	51	103	52	101.96%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	90	116	26	28.89%
113132	Forestry	39	44	5	12.82%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,010	1,137	127	12.57%
212000	Mining (except Oil and Gas)	58	63	5	8.62%
517000	Telecommunications	141	152	11	7.80%
624000	Social Assistance	2,467	2,654	187	7.58%
611200	Junior Colleges	334	359	25	7.49%
813400	Civic and Social Organizations	34	36	2	5.88%
721000	Accommodation, including Hotels and Motels	456	479	23	5.04%

Top 10 Decline

322000	Paper Manufacturing	2,419	2,225	-194	-8.02%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	765	625	-140	-18.30%
814000	Private Households	291	157	-134	-46.05%
111000	Crop Production	1,704	1,586	-118	-6.92%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,288	1,184	-104	-8.07%
999200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,795	3,717	-78	-2.06%
611000	Educational Services	7,350	7,275	-75	-1.02%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	1,722	1,653	-69	-4.01%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	5,203	5,135	-68	-1.31%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	1,371	1,305	-66	-4.81%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

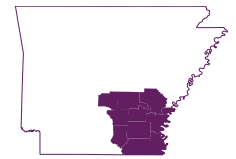
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	18	5	-13	-72.22%
814000	Private Households	291	157	-134	-46.05%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	765	625	-140	-18.30%
812000	Personal and Laundry Services	306	261	-45	-14.71%
622300	Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals	133	115	-18	-13.53%
813900	Business, Professional, Labor, Political, and Similar Organizations	157	136	-21	-13.38%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	615	550	-65	-10.57%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,288	1,184	-104	-8.07%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	2,419	2,225	-194	-8.02%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	63	58	-5	-7.94%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Home Health and Personal Care Aides is projected to lead Southeast Arkansas in numeric change, growing by 99 jobs, reaching an employment level of 1,494. Bartenders could see a 17.00 percent increase in staffing, moving from 100 jobs in 2023 to 117 in 2025. On the reverse side of the labor market, Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse is anticipated to be the top declining occupation, losing 99 jobs, or 9.16 percent of its workforce. Sewing Machine operators is estimated to cut 12.82 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is estimated to be the top growing major group during the 2023-2025 projection period, with 129 new jobs, moving employment 2.73 percent to 4,849.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	4,720	4,849	129	2.73%	412	491	64	967
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	3,076	3,174	98	3.19%	216	232	49	497
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	4,146	4,191	45	1.09%	138	106	22	266
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	1,975	2,000	25	1.27%	80	91	12	183
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	2,468	2,485	17	0.69%	86	124	8	218

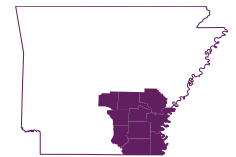
Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,395	1,494	99	7.10%	116	96	50	262
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,787	1,832	45	2.52%	200	214	22	436
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	394	426	32	8.12%	28	34	16	78
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,211	1,233	22	1.82%	76	120	11	207
21-1093	Social and Human Service Assistants	212	229	17	8.02%	10	12	8	30
35-3011	Bartenders	100	117	17	17.00%	6	12	8	26
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	341	357	16	4.69%	10	14	8	32
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	571	587	16	2.80%	29	56	8	93
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,372	1,386	14	1.02%	46	28	7	81
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	79	92	13	16.46%	2	3	6	11

Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3011	Bartenders	100	117	17	17.00%	6	12	8	26
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	79	92	13	16.46%	2	3	6	11
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	53	60	7	13.21%	2	4	4	10
53-7081	Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	84	94	10	11.90%	4	7	5	16
11-9151	Social and Community Service Managers	93	101	8	8.60%	3	4	4	11
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	394	426	32	8.12%	28	34	16	78
21-1093	Social and Human Service Assistants	212	229	17	8.02%	10	12	8	30
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	91	98	7	7.69%	2	2	4	8
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	28	30	2	7.14%	1	2	1	4
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,395	1,494	99	7.10%	116	96	50	262

Top 10 Decline

45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	1,081	982	-99	-9.16%	58	94	-50	102
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	537	482	-55	-10.24%	38	34	-28	44
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,596	1,555	-41	-2.57%	95	92	-20	167
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	495	454	-41	-8.28%	20	34	-20	34
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	3,620	3,583	-37	-1.02%	252	120	-18	354
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,408	1,371	-37	-2.63%	48	72	-18	102
41-2011	Cashiers	1,930	1,898	-32	-1.66%	184	186	-16	354
39-9011	Childcare Workers	484	453	-31	-6.40%	34	44	-16	62
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,235	1,205	-30	-2.43%	55	72	-15	112
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	816	791	-25	-3.06%	47	42	-12	77

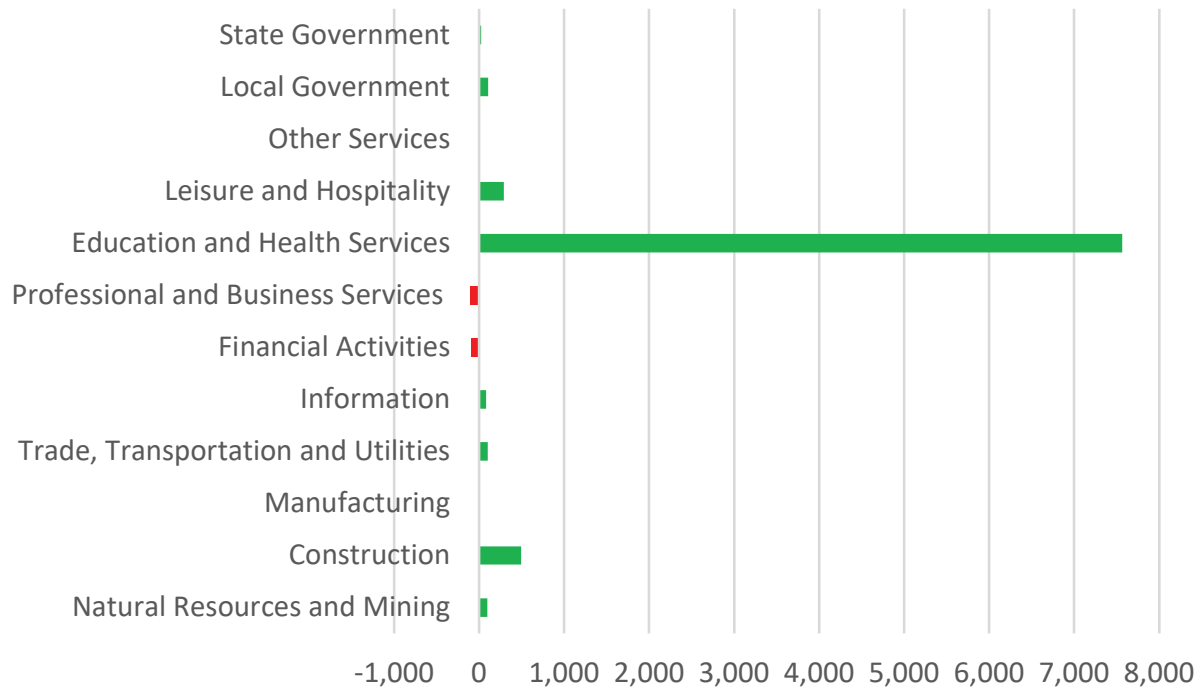
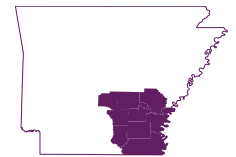
Top 10 Fastest Decline

51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	39	34	-5	-12.82%	2	2	-2	2
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	537	482	-55	-10.24%	38	34	-28	44
53-7011	Conveyor Operators and Tenders	53	48	-5	-9.43%	2	3	-2	3
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	1,081	982	-99	-9.16%	58	94	-50	102
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	81	74	-7	-8.64%	4	5	-4	5
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	495	454	-41	-8.28%	20	34	-20	34
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	130	120	-10	-7.69%	7	12	-5	14
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	68	63	-5	-7.35%	4	4	-2	6
45-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	151	140	-11	-7.28%	8	12	-6	14
49-9043	Maintenance Workers, Machinery	118	110	-8	-6.78%	6	5	-4	7

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Southeast Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

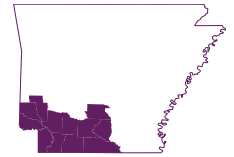


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	65,176	73,764	8,588	13.2%	\$913
Natural Resources and Mining	2,126	2,224	98	4.6%	\$937
Construction	2,111	2,606	495	23.4%	\$1,096
Manufacturing	13,899	13,900	1	0.0%	\$1,165
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	11,778	11,882	104	0.9%	\$843
Information	258	342	84	32.6%	\$748
Financial Activities	2,491	2,405	-86	-3.5%	\$1,108
Professional and Business Services	3,483	3,378	-105	-3.0%	\$932
Education and Health Services	9,444	17,009	7,565	80.1%	\$894
Leisure and Hospitality	5,329	5,620	291	5.5%	\$476
Other Services	1,025	1,035	10	1.0%	\$766
Local Government	7,816	7,924	108	1.4%	\$798
State Government	5,417	5,439	22	0.4%	\$889

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Southwest Arkansas

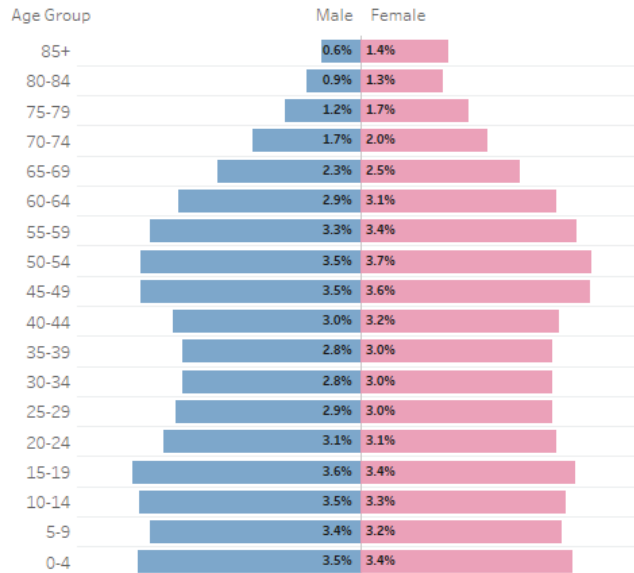
Local Workforce Development Area



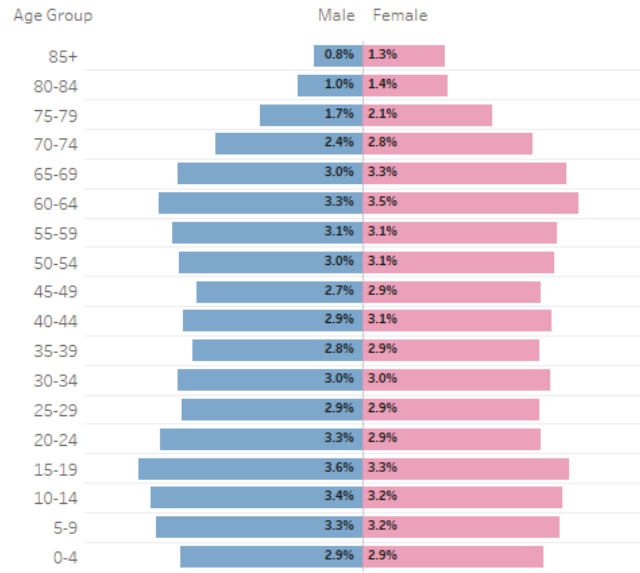
Twelve counties are located within the Southwest Arkansas LWDA region: Calhoun, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Sevier, and Union. Oklahoma is to the west, Texas is to the southwest, and Louisiana is to the south. Miller County is part of the Texarkana AR/TX Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Population Pyramids for Southwest Arkansas

2010 Pop: 232,651



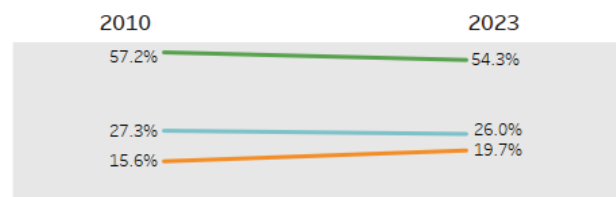
2023 Pop: 208,109



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	36,265	41,032
Adults 20-64	132,976	112,918
Under 20	63,410	54,159
Total	232,651	208,109

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics: 2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Southwest Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
219,852	213,659	211,485	209,254	208,109

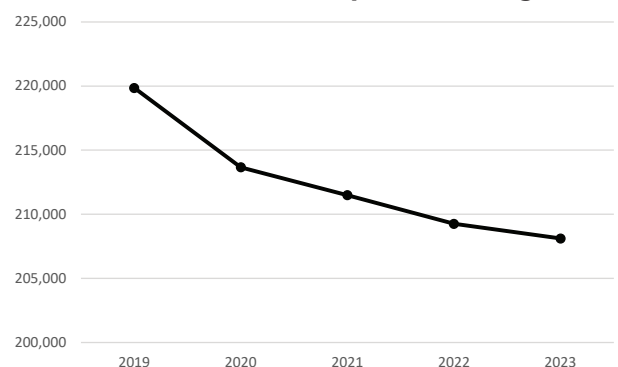
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

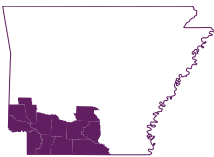
Southwest Arkansas Population Progression



Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

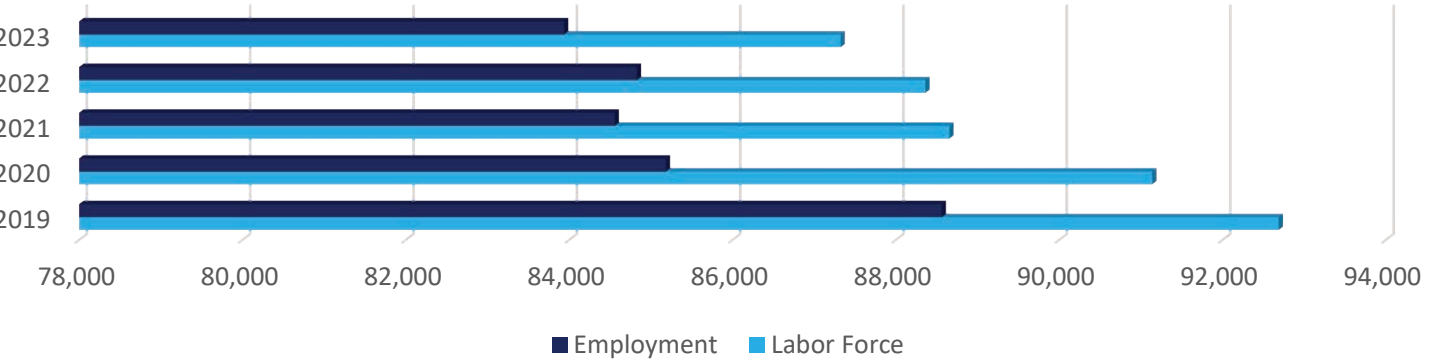


The Southwest Arkansas LWDA labor force decreased from 2022 to 2023 by 1,036 to 87,325, while employment decreased by 891 to 83,937. Over the five-year period from 2019 to 2023, the area has seen a decrease of 5,362 in the labor force and decrease of 4,625 in employment. Unemployment decreased by 145 from 2022 to 2023, and decreased by 737 over the five-year period. The unemployment rate dropped by 0.1 percent from 2022 to 2023 to 3.9 percent. After various fluctuations in the unemployment rate during 2024, the rate settled at 4.8 percent in July 2024.

Southwest Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	92,687	91,140	88,656	88,361	87,325
Employment	88,562	85,184	84,557	84,828	83,937
Unemployment	4,125	5,956	4,099	3,533	3,388
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	6.5%	4.6%	4.0%	3.9%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Southwest Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Southwest Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	4.5%	3.9%
2024	February	4.2%	3.5%
2024	March	3.9%	3.3%
2024	April	3.8%	3.1%
2024	May	4.0%	3.3%
2024	June	4.5%	3.7%
2024	July	4.8%†	3.3%**

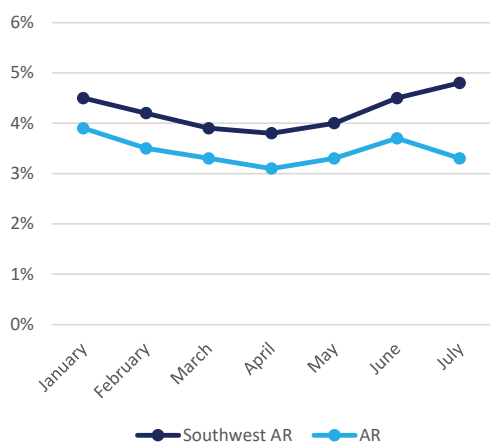
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

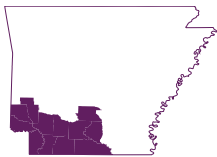
Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



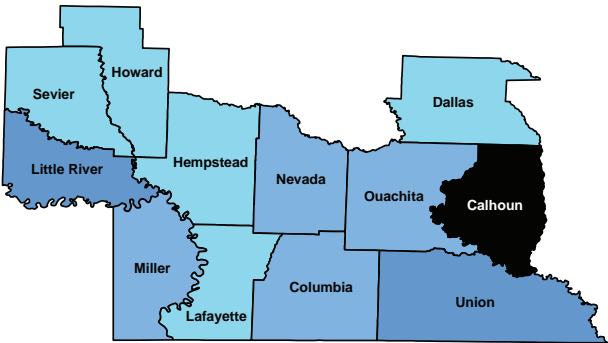
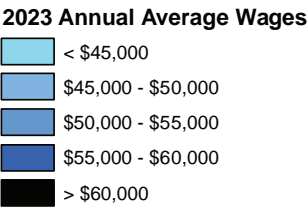
Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Cashiers was estimated to have the most employees in Southwest Arkansas with 2,370 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$26,064. **Fast Food and Counter Workers** was the second largest occupation with 2,370 employed, earning an average wage of \$25,504. **General and Operations Managers** had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations at \$79,021 annually.



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey*

Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$181,328. **Family Medicine Physicians**, with an average annual salary of \$166,303, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$27,281 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$40,260, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$57,017 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 75,070 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 6,739 made less than \$12 an hour while 17,581 made more than \$27 an hour. Employees making between \$17 and \$21.99 totaled 15,578.

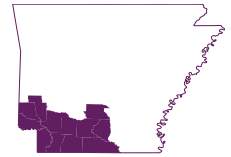
Southwest Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	2,370	\$26,064	\$23,447	\$27,372
Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,270	\$25,504	\$23,413	\$26,550
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,240	\$47,511	\$32,314	\$55,109
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,220	\$34,189	\$28,828	\$36,870
General and Operations Managers	1,760	\$79,021	\$34,848	\$101,108
Office Clerks, General	1,570	\$36,374	\$25,746	\$41,688
Stockers and Order Fillers	1,480	\$32,491	\$27,505	\$34,984
Retail Salespersons	1,260	\$32,826	\$24,750	\$36,864
Nursing Assistants	1,140	\$30,291	\$25,599	\$32,637
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	1,040	\$66,952	\$46,224	\$77,316

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Southwest Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

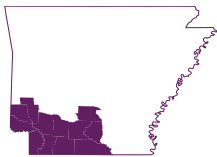
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$181,328
Family Medicine Physicians	\$166,303
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$145,763
Optometrists	\$136,172
Dentists, General	\$132,825
Pharmacists	\$130,649
Chief Executives	\$127,604
Petroleum Engineers	\$125,601
Industrial Production Managers	\$123,223
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$121,890
Sales Managers	\$119,338
Purchasing Managers	\$118,516
Environmental Engineers	\$115,358
Nurse Practitioners	\$111,126
Power Distributors and Dispatchers	\$108,572
Facilities Managers	\$107,829
Veterinarians	\$106,596
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$105,445
Lawyers	\$104,791
Financial Managers	\$102,999
Human Resources Managers	\$102,838
Marketing Managers	\$102,441
Chemical Engineers	\$100,204
Computer Programmers	\$99,575
Computer Systems Analysts	\$99,490

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages

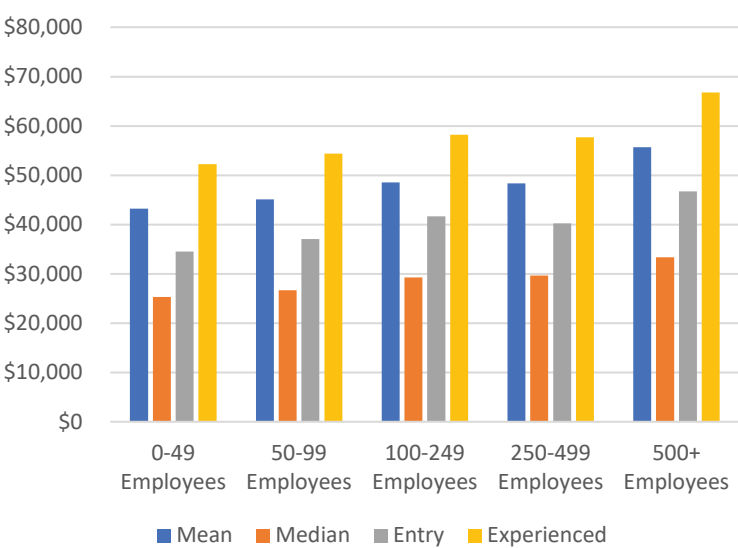


Southwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

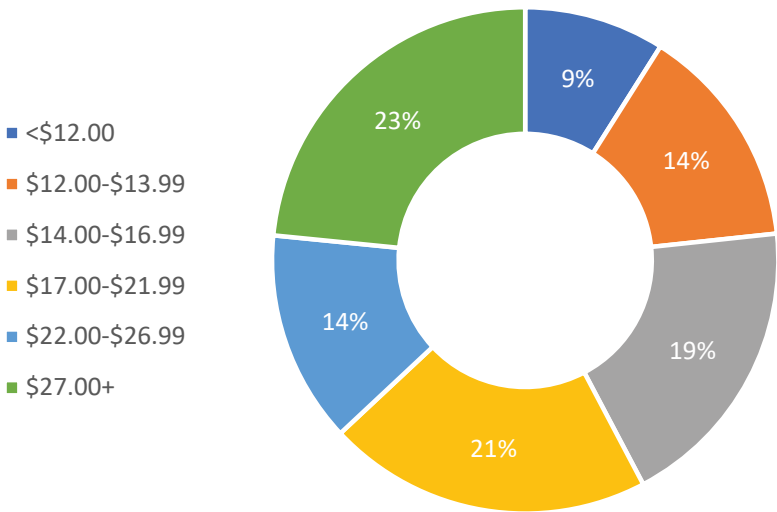
Southwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$47,105	\$27,281	\$37,949	\$57,017
0-49 Employees	\$43,251	\$25,300	\$34,565	\$52,227
50-99 Employees	\$45,142	\$26,675	\$37,067	\$54,375
100-249 Employees	\$48,560	\$29,273	\$41,662	\$58,204
250-499 Employees	\$48,352	\$29,661	\$40,260	\$57,698
500+ Employees	\$55,671	\$33,403	\$46,752	\$66,805

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



Southwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



- <\$12.00
- \$12.00-\$13.99
- \$14.00-\$16.99
- \$17.00-\$21.99
- \$22.00-\$26.99
- \$27.00+

Southwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

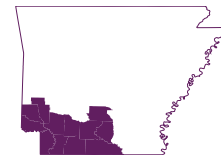
Total	75,070
<\$12.00	6,739
\$12.00-\$13.99	10,757
\$14.00-\$16.99	14,242
\$17.00-\$21.99	15,578
\$22.00-\$26.99	10,173
\$27.00+	17,581

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Food Manufacturing is estimated to be the top growing industry in Southwest Arkansas, adding 166 jobs, for an employment level of 4,791. Air Transportation could raise employment levels by 16.13 percent, moving from 62 jobs in 2023 to 72 jobs in 2025. On the negative side of the labor market, Machinery Manufacturing is expected to lose most of its workforce in the area, losing 724 jobs, becoming the top and fastest declining industry. **Education and Health Services** is estimated to be the top growing supersector, with a projected gain of 446 new jobs between 2023 and 2025, a 2.49 percent rise in employment to a level of 18,338.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	17,892	18,338	446	2.49%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	5,815	5,969	154	2.65%
102400	Professional and Business Services	4,621	4,717	96	2.08%
102800	Government	5,717	5,743	26	0.45%
101100	Natural Resources and Mining	2,737	2,756	19	0.69%

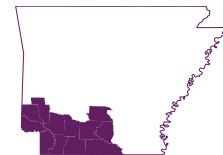
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
311000	Food Manufacturing	4,625	4,791	166	3.59%
624000	Social Assistance	2,130	2,292	162	7.61%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	896	1,014	118	13.17%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,684	2,799	115	4.28%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,625	1,722	97	5.97%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	4,771	4,861	90	1.89%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,328	3,410	82	2.46%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	5,998	6,076	78	1.30%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	2,689	2,763	74	2.75%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	749	814	65	8.68%

Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
481000	Air Transportation	62	72	10	16.13%
112000	Animal Production and Aquaculture	896	1,014	118	13.17%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	749	814	65	8.68%
624000	Social Assistance	2,130	2,292	162	7.61%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	380	405	25	6.58%
813400	Civic and Social Organizations	66	70	4	6.06%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,625	1,722	97	5.97%
812000	Personal and Laundry Services	323	342	19	5.88%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	493	520	27	5.48%
721000	Accommodation, including Hotels and Motels	591	621	30	5.08%

Top 10 Decline

333000	Machinery Manufacturing	739	15	-724	-97.97%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,898	1,714	-184	-9.69%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,122	943	-179	-15.95%
814000	Private Households	301	157	-144	-47.84%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	896	798	-98	-10.94%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	2,834	2,747	-87	-3.07%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	425	356	-69	-16.24%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	258	191	-67	-25.97%
445000	Food and Beverage Retailers	1,179	1,128	-51	-4.33%
999200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	1,762	1,723	-39	-2.21%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

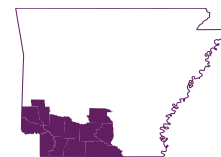
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	739	15	-724	-97.97%
814000	Private Households	301	157	-144	-47.84%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	27	17	-10	-37.04%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	66	43	-23	-34.85%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	49	34	-15	-30.61%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	258	191	-67	-25.97%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	48	36	-12	-25.00%
524100	Insurance Carriers	115	88	-27	-23.48%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	188	156	-32	-17.02%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	425	356	-69	-16.24%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Home Health and Personal Care Aides is projected to be the top growing occupation in Southwest Arkansas between 2023 and 2025, adding 74 jobs, increasing its workforce to 1,222 jobs. Morticians, Undertakers, and Funeral Arrangers could be the fastest growing occupation, gaining 10.81 percent, moving from 37 jobs in 2023 to 41 jobs in 2025. Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators could see a decline in employment during the projection period, with 137 being cut, an amount equivalent to 12.01 percent of its workforce. Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators is predicted to lose 29.69 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining occupation in the area. **Educational Instruction and Library Occupations** is forecast to be the top growing major group for the 2023-2025 projection period, with 142 new jobs, a 2.49 percent gain, moving employment to 5,845.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	5,703	5,845	142	2.49%	236	232	71	539
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	2,927	3,049	122	4.17%	202	225	61	488
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	5,483	5,586	103	1.88%	478	566	52	1,096
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	4,366	4,420	54	1.24%	154	229	27	410
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	4,057	4,105	48	1.18%	136	110	24	270

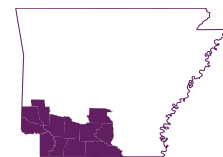
Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,148	1,222	74	6.45%	95	79	37	211
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	578	616	38	6.57%	34	54	19	107
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,080	1,117	37	3.43%	70	86	18	174
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,019	2,053	34	1.68%	225	240	17	482
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	500	529	29	5.80%	35	42	14	91
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,840	2,867	27	0.95%	136	232	14	382
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	690	713	23	3.33%	34	48	12	94
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	979	998	19	1.94%	28	32	10	70
25-9045	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	870	888	18	2.07%	50	52	9	111
35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	655	673	18	2.75%	46	54	9	109

Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
39-4031	Morticians, Undertakers, and Funeral Arrangers	37	41	4	10.81%	2	2	2	6
25-1072	Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary	64	69	5	7.81%	3	2	2	7
11-9081	Lodging Managers	26	28	2	7.69%	1	2	1	4
25-1042	Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	27	29	2	7.41%	1	1	1	3
39-3091	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	70	75	5	7.14%	8	12	2	22
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	149	159	10	6.71%	4	4	5	13
25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	45	48	3	6.67%	2	2	2	6
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	578	616	38	6.57%	34	54	19	107
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,148	1,222	74	6.45%	95	79	37	211
11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	94	100	6	6.38%	2	4	3	9

Top 10 Decline

51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	1,141	1,004	-137	-12.01%	46	68	-68	46
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,405	2,302	-103	-4.28%	106	138	-52	192
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	618	542	-76	-12.30%	18	38	-38	18
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	695	642	-53	-7.63%	50	45	-26	69
43-3071	Tellers	298	245	-53	-17.79%	12	16	-26	2
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,848	1,807	-41	-2.22%	110	108	-20	198
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	182	143	-39	-21.43%	10	10	-20	0
51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	128	90	-38	-29.69%	10	10	-19	1
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	1,109	1,074	-35	-3.16%	40	62	-18	84
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	621	588	-33	-5.31%	34	48	-16	66

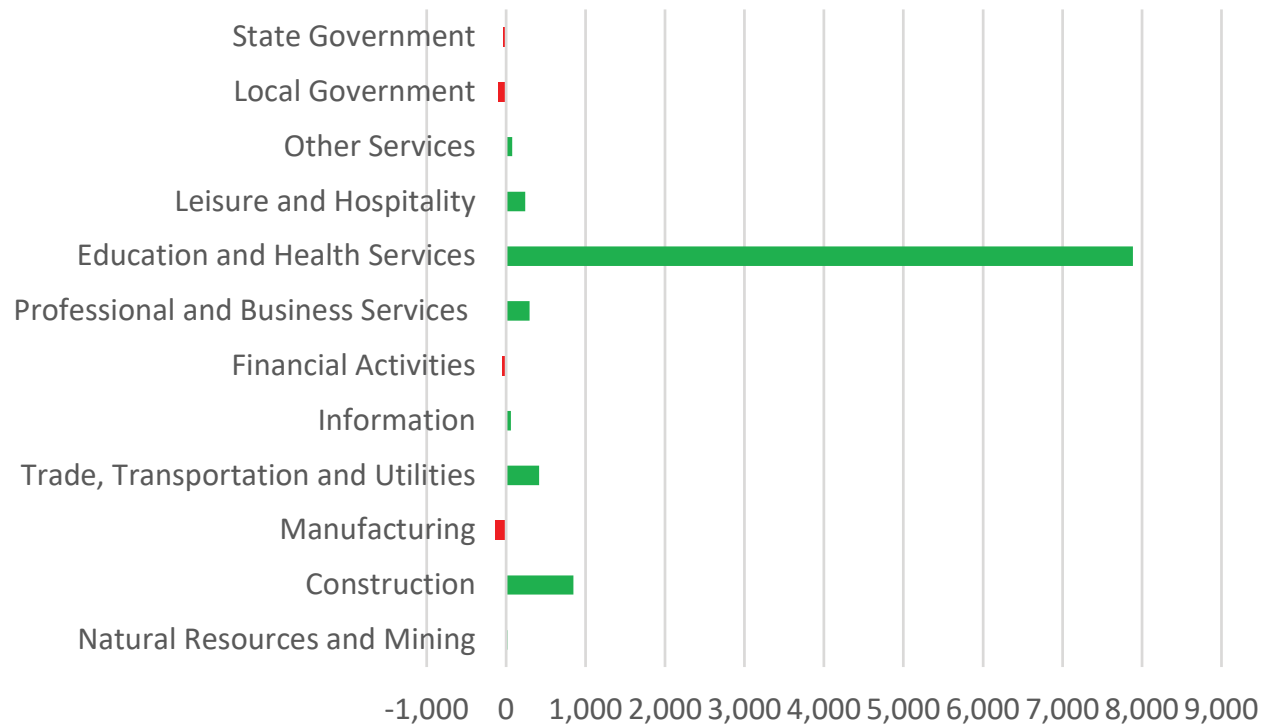
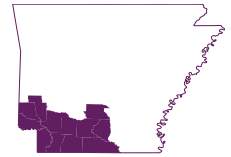
Top 10 Fastest Decline

51-9161	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	128	90	-38	-29.69%	10	10	-19	1
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	49	35	-14	-28.57%	4	4	-7	1
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	182	143	-39	-21.43%	10	10	-20	0
43-3071	Tellers	298	245	-53	-17.79%	12	16	-26	2
43-4131	Loan Interviewers and Clerks	130	112	-18	-13.85%	4	6	-9	1
53-7073	Wellhead Pumpers	66	57	-9	-13.64%	2	4	-4	2
43-9041	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	60	52	-8	-13.33%	2	3	-4	1
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	618	542	-76	-12.30%	18	38	-38	18
13-2072	Loan Officers	147	129	-18	-12.24%	4	6	-9	1
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	174	153	-21	-12.07%	6	7	-10	3

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Southwest Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

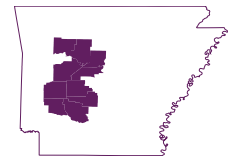


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	74,302	83,822	9,520	12.8%	\$1,445
Natural Resources and Mining	2,019	2,036	17	0.8%	\$1,143
Construction	3,142	3,987	845	26.9%	\$1,054
Manufacturing	19,384	19,252	-132	-0.7%	\$1,272
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	13,840	14,258	418	3.0%	\$828
Information	375	438	63	16.8%	\$1,084
Financial Activities	2,402	2,352	-50	-2.1%	\$1,052
Professional and Business Services	4,519	4,815	296	6.6%	\$1,290
Education and Health Services	9,174	17,060	7,886	86.0%	\$836
Leisure and Hospitality	5,923	6,161	238	4.0%	\$361
Other Services	1,326	1,404	78	5.9%	\$712
Local Government	8,862	8,761	-101	-1.1%	\$787
State Government	3,338	3,298	-40	-1.2%	\$857

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

West Central Arkansas

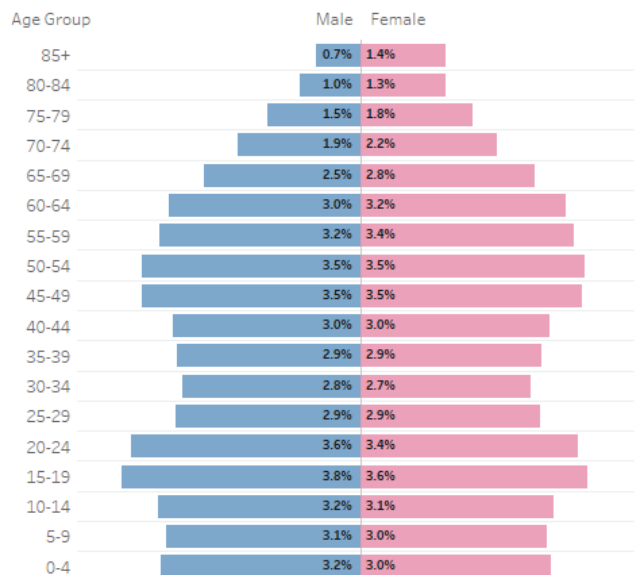
Local Workforce Development Area



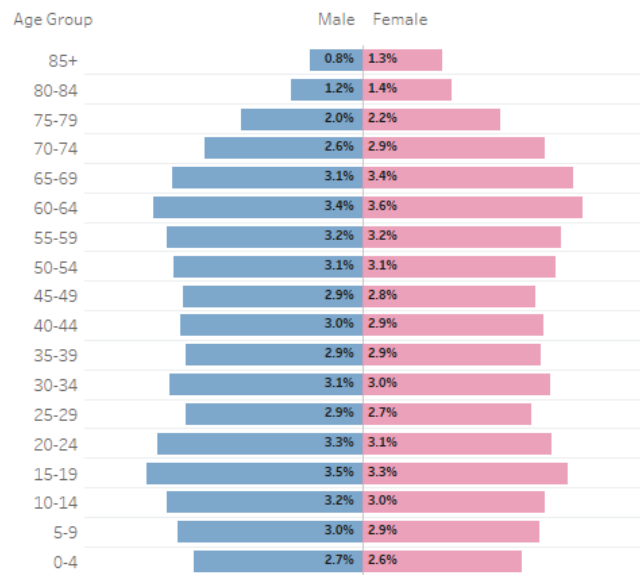
The West Central Arkansas LWDA consists of 10 counties: Clark, Conway, Garland, Hot Spring, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Pope, and Yell; with the Hot Springs Metropolitan Statistical Area located within the LWDA.

Population Pyramids for West Central Arkansas

2010 Pop: **314,471**



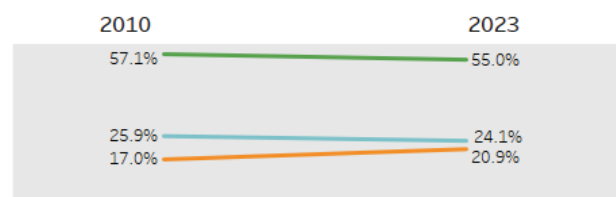
2023 Pop: **315,171**



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	53,479	65,944
Adults 20-64	179,545	173,276
Under 20	81,447	75,951
Total	314,471	315,171

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics:2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

West Central Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
318,473	313,448	314,102	314,581	315,171

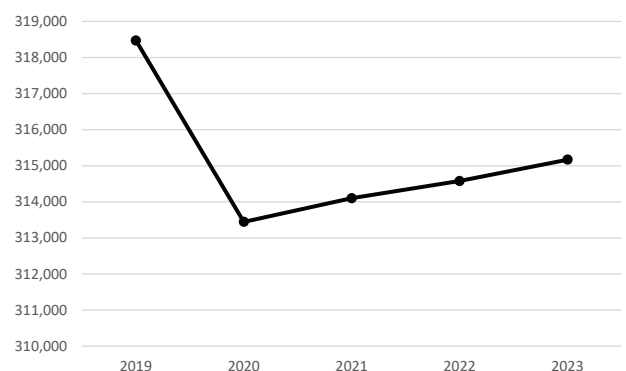
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

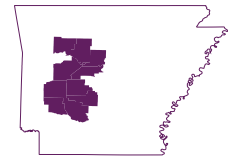
West Central Arkansas Population Progression



West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

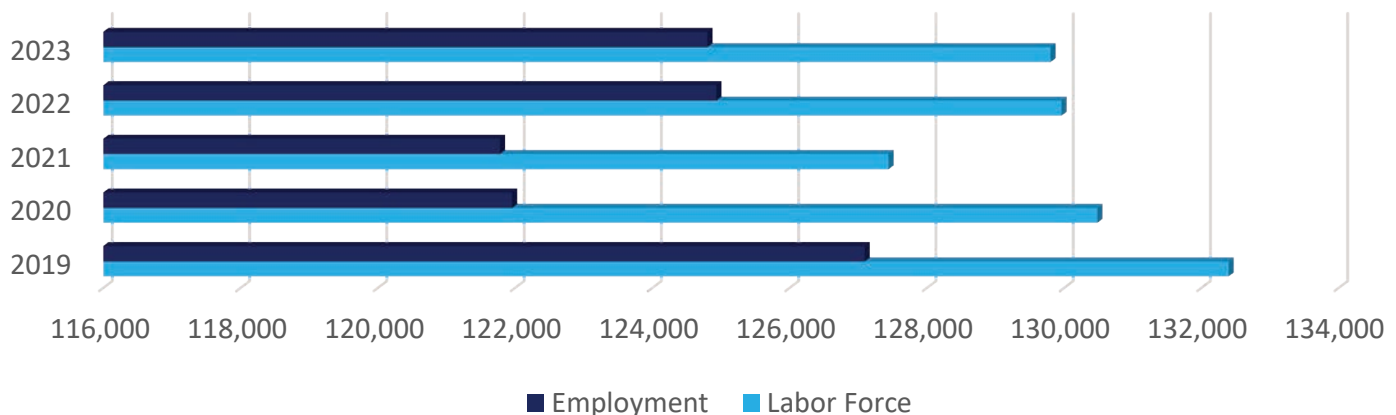


In 2023, the labor force and employment increased in the West Central Arkansas LWDA. The labor force decreased by 160 to a total of 129,803, while employment decreased 130 to a total of 124,803. The labor force decreased by 2,596 from 2019 to 2023 and employment decreased by 2,291. Unemployment decreased from 2022 to 2023 by 30 to 5,000. The unemployment rate stayed at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate fluctuated through 2024, but ended at 4.7 percent in July.

West Central Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	132,399	130,485	127,442	129,963	129,803
Employment	127,094	121,956	121,780	124,933	124,803
Unemployment	5,305	8,529	5,662	5,030	5,000
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	6.5%	4.4%	3.9%	3.9%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



West Central Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	West Central Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	4.7%	3.9%
2024	February	4.1%	3.5%
2024	March	3.8%	3.3%
2024	April	3.5%	3.1%
2024	May	3.8%	3.3%
2024	June	4.4%	3.7%
2024	July	4.7%†	3.3%**

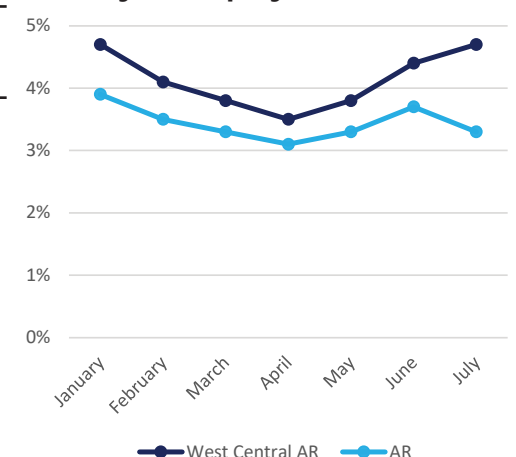
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

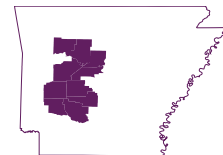
Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Fast Food and Counter Workers was estimated to have the most employees in West Central Arkansas with 3,910 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$25,750. **Cashiers** was the second largest occupation with 3,530 employed, earning an average wage of \$26,538. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 2,850, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$76,344 annually.

Family Medicine Physicians topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$211,967. **Dentists, General**, with an average annual salary of \$173,527, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

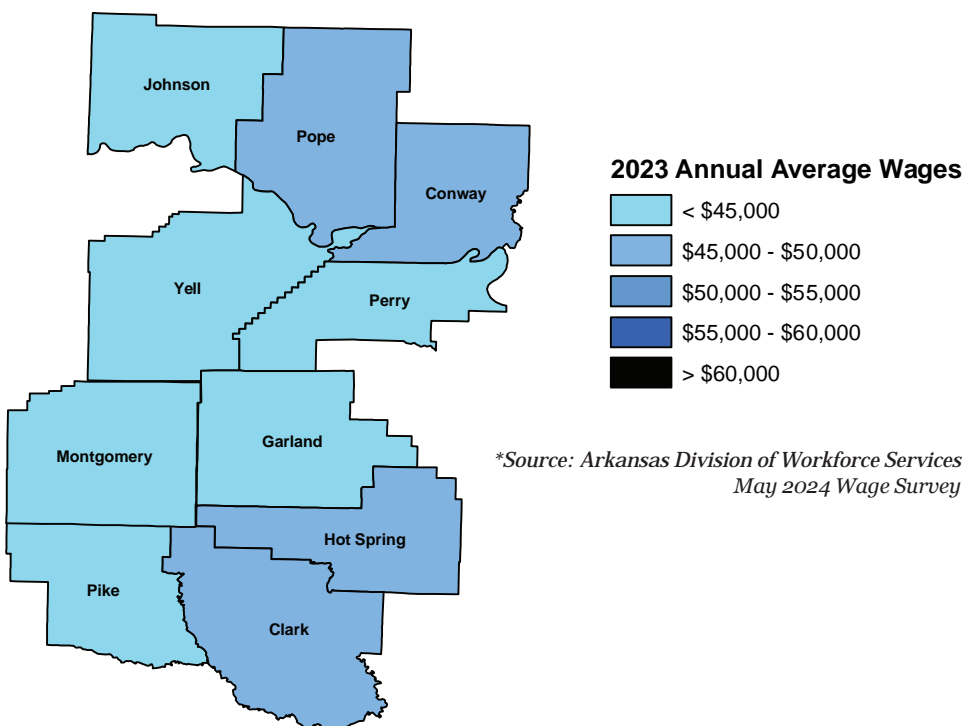
The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$26,570 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$41,267, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$55,171 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 107,700 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 10,807 made less than \$12 an hour while 21,957 made more than \$27 an hour. Employees making between \$17 and \$21.99 totaled 22,786.

West Central Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,910	\$25,750	\$23,296	\$26,976
Cashiers	3,530	\$26,538	\$23,514	\$28,050
General and Operations Managers	2,850	\$76,344	\$33,895	\$97,568
Stockers and Order Fillers	2,850	\$35,201	\$28,308	\$38,647
Retail Salespersons	2,720	\$32,551	\$24,619	\$36,517
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,500	\$34,440	\$28,220	\$37,550
Office Clerks, General	2,380	\$35,733	\$25,593	\$40,803
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,350	\$48,043	\$33,341	\$55,393
Registered Nurses	1,900	\$70,741	\$54,327	\$78,949
Waiters and Waitresses	1,870	\$27,797	\$23,196	\$30,098

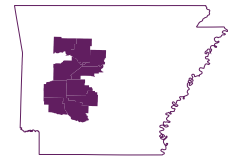
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



West Central Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

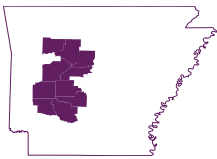
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family Medicine Physicians	\$211,967
Dentists, General	\$173,527
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$164,185
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$148,371
Pediatricians, General	\$137,729
Pharmacists	\$125,068
Chief Executives	\$124,070
Computer Network Architects	\$123,561
Optometrists	\$120,977
Training and Development Managers	\$117,125
Physician Assistants	\$112,749
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$112,261
Personal Financial Advisors	\$111,130
Sales Managers	\$110,525
Nurse Practitioners	\$108,110
Power Distributors and Dispatchers	\$108,096
Software Developers	\$107,419
Civil Engineers	\$104,357
Environmental Engineers	\$104,264
Industrial Production Managers	\$102,932
Facilities Managers	\$101,875
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$100,896
Financial Managers	\$100,782
Veterinarians	\$99,607
Lawyers	\$96,992

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages

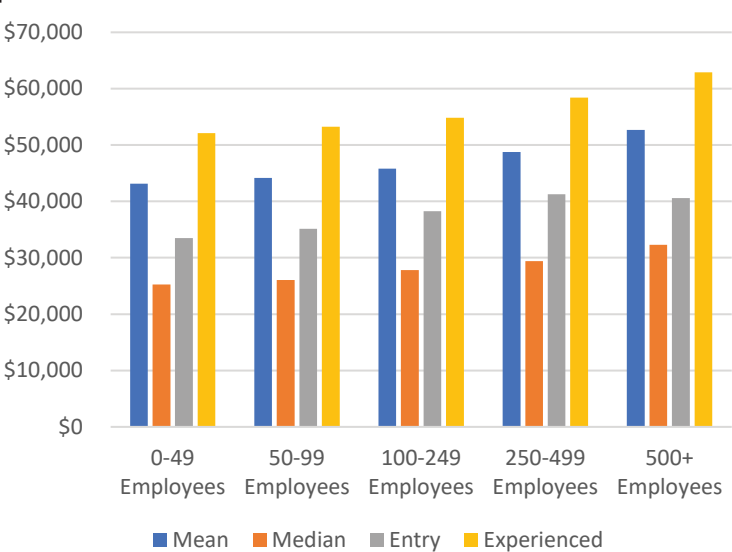


West Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

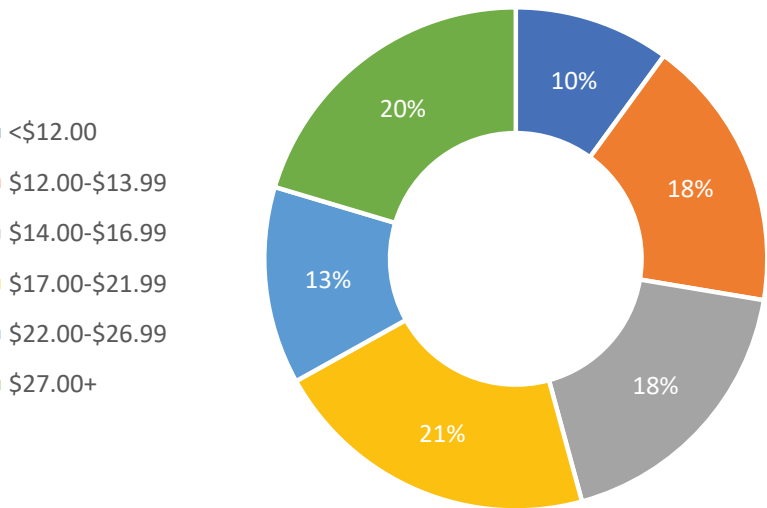
West Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$45,637	\$26,570	\$36,575	\$55,171
0-49 Employees	\$43,146	\$25,241	\$33,481	\$52,098
50-99 Employees	\$44,172	\$26,075	\$35,159	\$53,220
100-249 Employees	\$45,820	\$27,816	\$38,235	\$54,823
250-499 Employees	\$48,738	\$29,413	\$41,267	\$58,401
500+ Employees	\$52,702	\$32,279	\$40,562	\$62,913

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



West Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



West Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

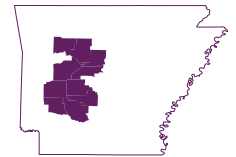
Total	107,700
<\$12.00	10,807
\$12.00-\$13.99	18,951
\$14.00-\$16.99	19,525
\$17.00-\$21.99	22,786
\$22.00-\$26.99	13,674
\$27.00+	21,957

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Food Services and Drinking Places is predicted to be the top growing industry, adding 435 new jobs, increasing employment levels to 10,823. Support Activities for Transportation is slated to be the fastest growing industry in West Central Arkansas, raising employment by 14.52 percent. Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools is predicted to be the top declining industry, cutting 283 jobs from the workforce, while Private households is forecast to lose 48.82 percent from its workforce. **Education and Health Services** is projected to be the top growing supersector, experiencing a net gain of 595 jobs between 2023 and 2025, a 2.10 percent rise in employment.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	28,354	28,949	595	2.10%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	14,082	14,623	541	3.84%
101300	Manufacturing	16,583	16,871	288	1.74%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	22,177	22,392	215	0.97%
101200	Construction	4,558	4,742	184	4.04%

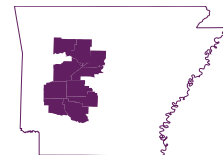
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	10,388	10,823	435	4.19%
624000	Social Assistance	4,090	4,401	311	7.60%
311000	Food Manufacturing	6,160	6,414	254	4.12%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,858	6,073	215	3.67%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	8,055	8,224	169	2.10%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	3,311	3,475	164	4.95%
459000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, Book, and Miscellaneous Retailers	1,266	1,407	141	11.14%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,840	3,971	131	3.41%
221000	Utilities	1,361	1,486	125	9.18%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	1,007	1,106	99	9.83%

West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	558	639	81	14.52%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	561	624	63	11.23%
459000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, Book, and Miscellaneous Retailers	1,266	1,407	141	11.14%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	1,007	1,106	99	9.83%
221000	Utilities	1,361	1,486	125	9.18%
624000	Social Assistance	4,090	4,401	311	7.60%
312000	Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	228	245	17	7.46%
611200	Junior Colleges	855	913	58	6.78%
611500	Technical and Trade Schools	80	85	5	6.25%
611600	Other Schools and Instruction	138	146	8	5.80%

Top 10 Decline

611300	Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools	2,577	2,294	-283	-10.98%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	4,105	3,847	-258	-6.29%
814000	Private Households	381	195	-186	-48.82%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	1,393	1,208	-185	-13.28%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	701	516	-185	-26.39%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	948	821	-127	-13.40%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	518	442	-76	-14.67%
524200	Agencies, Brokerages, and Other Insurance Related Activities	699	629	-70	-10.01%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	186	118	-68	-36.56%
524100	Insurance Carriers	249	192	-57	-22.89%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

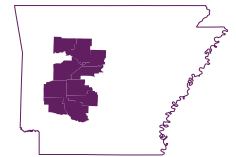
814000	Private Households	381	195	-186	-48.82%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	45	27	-18	-40.00%
813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	186	118	-68	-36.56%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	701	516	-185	-26.39%
524100	Insurance Carriers	249	192	-57	-22.89%
512000	Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	72	58	-14	-19.44%
712000	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions	52	42	-10	-19.23%
449000	Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, and Appliance Retailers	518	442	-76	-14.67%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	948	821	-127	-13.40%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	1,393	1,208	-185	-13.28%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Fast Food and Counter Workers is estimated to be the top growing occupation, with a gain of 144 jobs, moving employment to 3,788. Nurse Practitioners is predicted to be the fastest growing occupation in the West Central Arkansas WDA, with a 10.58 percent increase. On the reverse side of the labor market, Insurance Sales Agents is slated to be the top declining occupation, losing 57 jobs, dropping employment to 403. Sewing Machine Operators is anticipated to be the fastest declining occupation, losing an estimated 34.04 percent of its workforce. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is projected to be the top growing major group for the 2023-2025 projection period, with 426 new jobs, moving employment to 11,359.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	10,933	11,359	426	3.90%	969	1,152	213	2,334
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	4,991	5,227	236	4.73%	343	390	118	851
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	6,748	6,932	184	2.73%	221	173	92	486
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	5,646	5,811	165	2.92%	221	272	82	575
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	4,858	5,019	161	3.31%	169	251	80	500

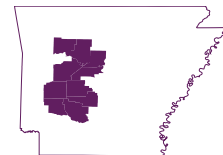
Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,644	3,788	144	3.95%	410	438	72	920
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,913	2,043	130	6.80%	158	132	65	355
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	1,317	1,421	104	7.90%	94	112	52	258
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,110	3,196	86	2.77%	150	256	43	449
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,904	2,975	71	2.44%	193	232	36	461
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	1,760	1,820	60	3.41%	114	140	30	284
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,759	2,815	56	2.03%	70	150	28	248
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,086	1,135	49	4.51%	56	106	24	186
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,667	1,714	47	2.82%	146	204	24	374
41-2011	Cashiers	3,432	3,477	45	1.31%	332	335	22	689

West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	359	397	38	10.58%	8	8	19	35
43-5011	Cargo and Freight Agents	90	99	9	10.00%	4	6	4	14
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	110	121	11	10.00%	3	6	6	15
49-9012	Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	72	78	6	8.33%	2	3	3	8
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	1,317	1,421	104	7.90%	94	112	52	258
51-9124	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	173	186	13	7.51%	6	10	6	22
29-1071	Physician Assistants	55	59	4	7.27%	2	2	2	6
19-5011	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	70	75	5	7.14%	2	6	2	10
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	58	62	4	6.90%	2	2	2	6
29-9091	Athletic Trainers	29	31	2	6.90%	1	1	1	3

Top 10 Decline

41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	460	403	-57	-12.39%	16	18	-28	6
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,326	1,270	-56	-4.22%	96	87	-28	155
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,088	1,052	-36	-3.31%	62	56	-18	100
39-9011	Childcare Workers	952	920	-32	-3.36%	68	88	-16	140
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	94	62	-32	-34.04%	8	8	-16	0
53-3053	Shuttle Drivers and Chauffeurs	333	303	-30	-9.01%	27	16	-15	28
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,002	972	-30	-2.99%	32	63	-15	80
13-1131	Fundraisers	90	61	-29	-32.22%	7	8	-14	1
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,502	2,482	-20	-0.80%	150	146	-10	286
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	2,831	2,813	-18	-0.64%	176	276	-9	443

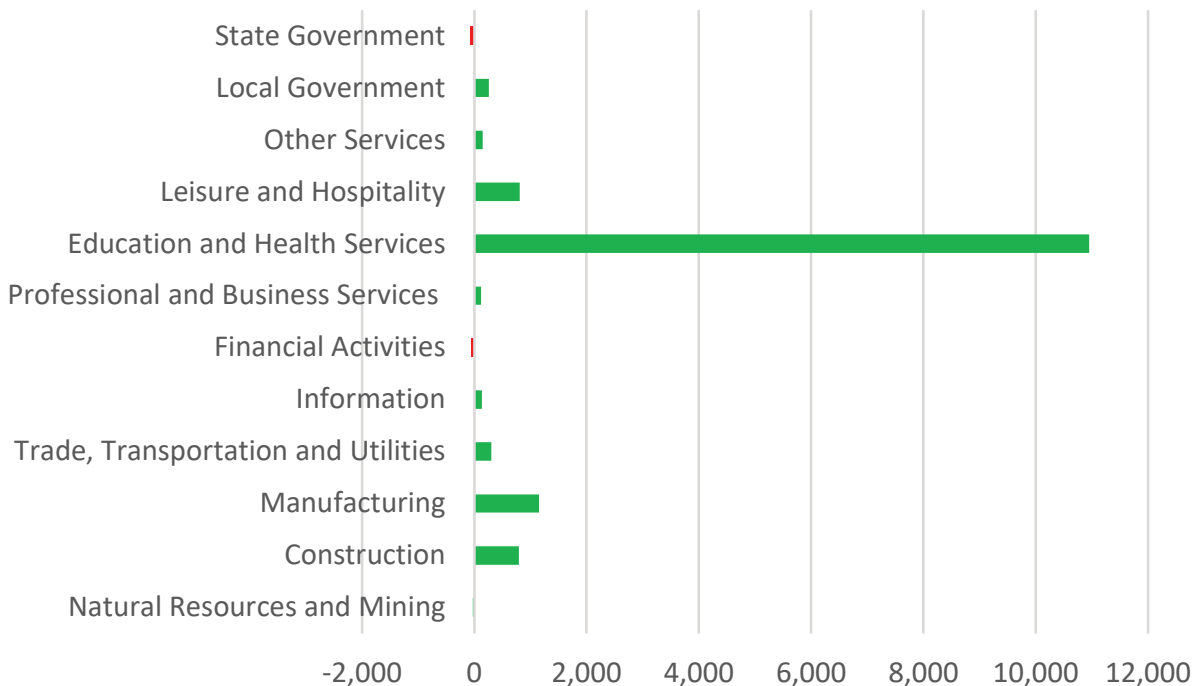
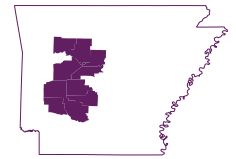
Top 10 Fastest Decline

51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	94	62	-32	-34.04%	8	8	-16	0
13-1131	Fundraisers	90	61	-29	-32.22%	7	8	-14	1
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	460	403	-57	-12.39%	16	18	-28	6
25-1121	Art, Drama, and Music Teachers, Postsecondary	70	63	-7	-10.00%	3	2	-4	1
43-9041	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	121	109	-12	-9.92%	4	6	-6	4
53-3053	Shuttle Drivers and Chauffeurs	333	303	-30	-9.01%	27	16	-15	28
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	124	117	-7	-5.65%	6	8	-4	10
11-9151	Social and Community Service Managers	198	188	-10	-5.05%	6	8	-5	9
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	99	94	-5	-5.05%	5	6	-2	9
11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	147	140	-7	-4.76%	4	6	-4	6

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

West Central Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings

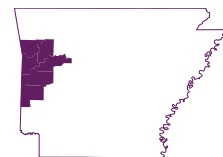


NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	104,642	119,160	14,518	13.9%	\$856
Natural Resources and Mining	2,191	2,164	-27	-1.2%	\$971
Construction	4,542	5,337	795	17.5%	\$998
Manufacturing	15,117	16,274	1,157	7.7%	\$989
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	22,126	22,426	300	1.4%	\$881
Information	741	873	132	17.8%	\$821
Financial Activities	3,574	3,508	-66	-1.8%	\$1,080
Professional and Business Services	7,710	7,832	122	1.6%	\$906
Education and Health Services	16,833	27,787	10,954	65.1%	\$922
Leisure and Hospitality	14,104	14,913	809	5.7%	\$430
Other Services	2,161	2,311	150	6.9%	\$718
Local Government	11,166	11,426	260	2.3%	\$859
State Government	4,376	4,309	-67	-1.5%	\$848

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Western Arkansas

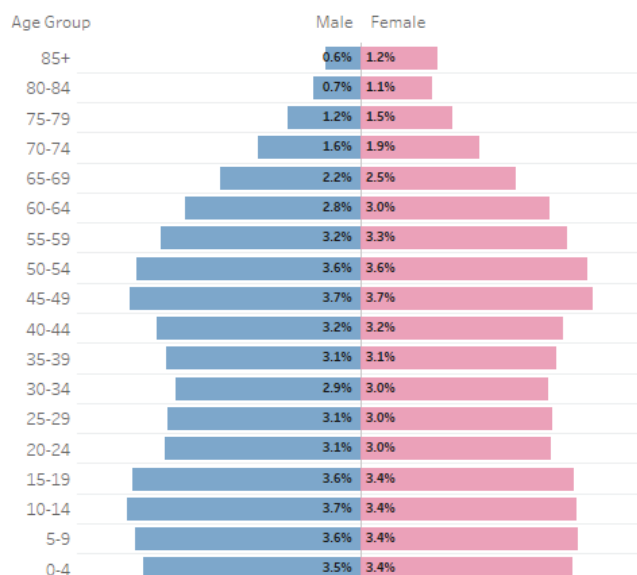
Local Workforce Development Area



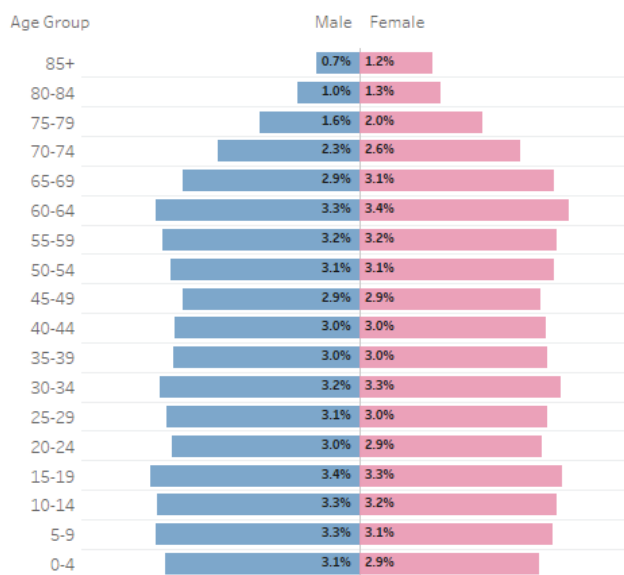
The Western Arkansas LWDA consists of six counties: Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, and Sebastian; and is bordered to the west by the state of Oklahoma. The Arkansas portion of the Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area is located in the Western Arkansas LWDA.

Population Pyramids for Western Arkansas

2010 Pop: 260,085



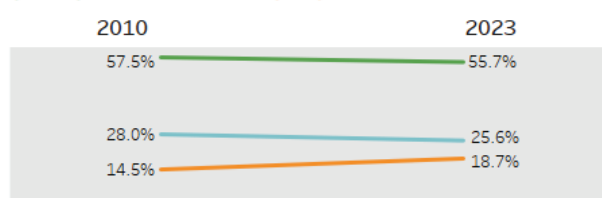
2023 Pop: 259,144



Age Group Population Distribution

	2010	2023
Adults 65+	37,640	48,384
Adults 20-64	149,673	144,442
Under 20	72,772	66,318
Total	260,085	259,144

Percentage of Population for Children (Under 20), Adults (24-64), and Older Adults (65+)



Prepared by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information using data from U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics:2010-2019 and 2020-2023. Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Vintage 2023. Release date, June 2024.

Western Arkansas LWDA Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
260,510	255,217	256,341	257,800	259,144

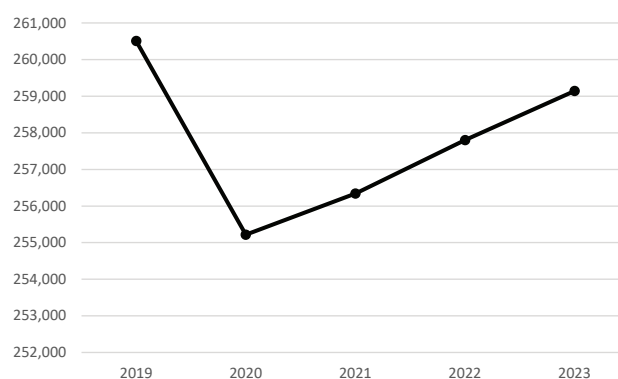
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2019-2023

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,017,804	3,011,542	3,025,891	3,045,637	3,067,732

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Western Arkansas Population Progression



Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

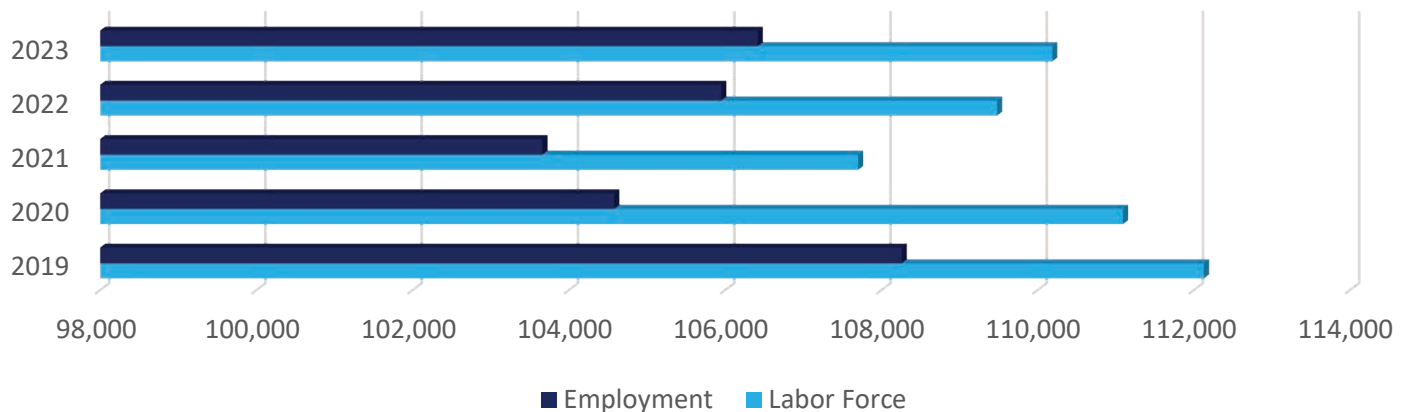


The Western Arkansas LWDA labor force increased 706 to 110,190 and employment increased by 467 to 106,418 from 2022 to 2023. Over the 2019-2023 period, the labor force decreased by 1,941 while employment decreased by 97. Unemployment and the unemployment rate both fluctuated from 2019 to 2023. Unemployment ultimately decreased by 239 to 3,772 unemployed, while the unemployment rate dropped by 0.2 percent to 3.4 percent. The area's unemployment rate fluctuated through 2024, ending at 3.9 percent in July.

Western Arkansas LWDA 2019-2023 Labor Force/Employment

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Labor Force	112,131	111,094	107,703	109,484	110,190
Employment	108,262	104,581	103,662	105,951	106,418
Unemployment	3,869	6,513	4,041	3,533	3,772
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	5.9%	3.8%	3.2%	3.4%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Western Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Western Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2024	January	4.1%	3.9%
2024	February	3.7%	3.5%
2024	March	3.5%	3.3%
2024	April	3.2%	3.1%
2024	May	3.4%	3.3%
2024	June	3.8%	3.7%
2024	July	3.9%†	3.3%**

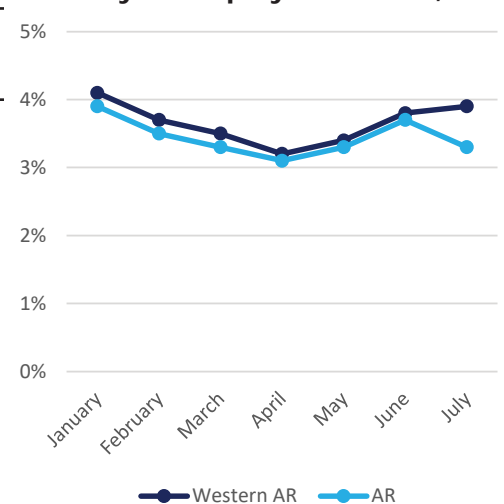
Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

**Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

†Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2024



Western Arkansas

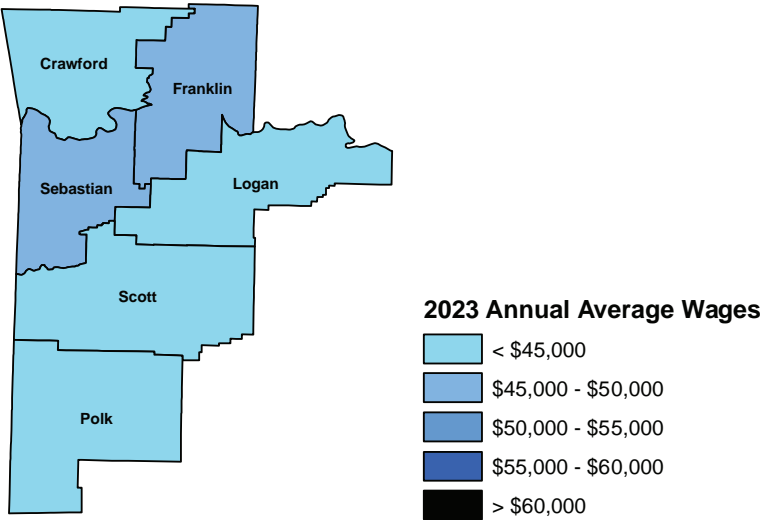
Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers was estimated to have the most employees in Western Arkansas with 3,380 employed in 2023 with an average wage of \$51,881. **Fast Food and Counter Workers** was the second largest occupation with 3,190 employed, earning an average wage of \$26,045. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 2,700, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$84,320 annually.

Family Medicine Physicians topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$275,672. **Optometrists**, with an average annual salary of \$188,361, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.



**Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
May 2024 Wage Survey*

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$27,320 for 2023. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$39,061, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$56,602 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 105,000 estimated employees in the area with hourly wage data, 8,358 made less than \$12 an hour while 23,727 made more than \$27 an hour. Employees making between \$17 and \$21.99 an hour totaled 23,845.

Western Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,380	\$51,881	\$33,158	\$61,243
Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,190	\$26,045	\$23,246	\$27,444
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,790	\$34,499	\$28,196	\$37,650
Retail Salespersons	2,760	\$32,140	\$24,309	\$36,055
Cashiers	2,760	\$26,506	\$23,657	\$27,931
General and Operations Managers	2,700	\$84,320	\$35,572	\$108,694
Stockers and Order Fillers	2,500	\$33,511	\$28,275	\$36,128
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,390	\$33,906	\$28,796	\$36,461
Registered Nurses	2,380	\$69,032	\$49,573	\$78,761
Office Clerks, General	1,990	\$37,188	\$26,615	\$42,474

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages



Western Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family Medicine Physicians	\$275,672
Optometrists	\$188,361
Dentists, General	\$181,231
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$179,260
Pediatricians, General	\$160,295
Chief Executives	\$150,745
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$138,470
Clinical and Counseling Psychologists	\$134,791
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$129,673
Pharmacists	\$128,975
Sales Managers	\$120,615
Veterinarians	\$116,394
Physician Assistants	\$113,833
Financial Managers	\$113,677
Nurse Practitioners	\$111,729
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$110,923
Purchasing Managers	\$109,099
Human Resources Managers	\$108,942
Personal Financial Advisors	\$108,518
Facilities Managers	\$104,967
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$103,587
Industrial Production Managers	\$102,098
Lawyers	\$101,982
Administrative Services Managers	\$99,747
Civil Engineers	\$97,658

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Wages

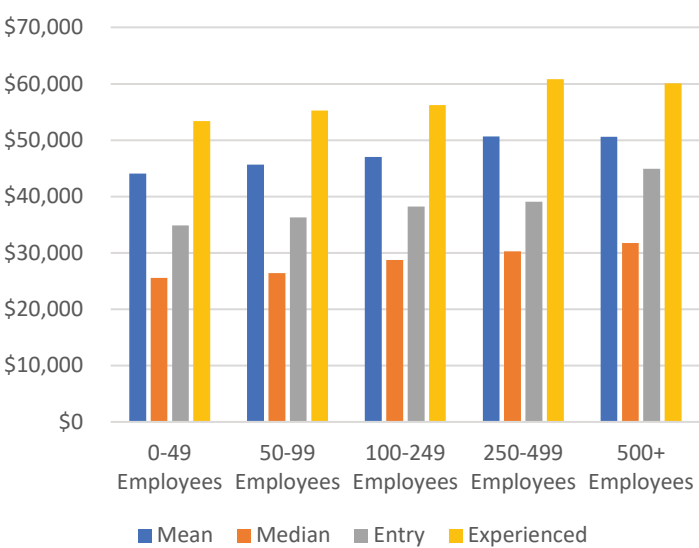


Western Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

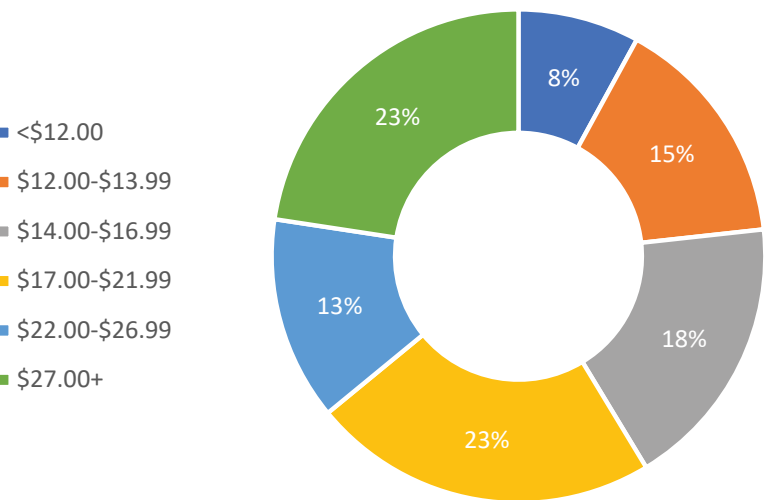
Western Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Entry	Median	Exper.
All Sizes	\$46,841	\$27,320	\$37,227	\$56,602
0-49 Employees	\$44,097	\$25,551	\$34,851	\$53,370
50-99 Employees	\$45,658	\$26,395	\$36,324	\$55,289
100-249 Employees	\$47,056	\$28,752	\$38,215	\$56,208
250-499 Employees	\$50,635	\$30,281	\$39,061	\$60,812
500+ Employees	\$50,599	\$31,754	\$44,935	\$60,061

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey



Western Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



- <\$12.00
- \$12.00-\$13.99
- \$14.00-\$16.99
- \$17.00-\$21.99
- \$22.00-\$26.99
- \$27.00+

Western Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	105,000
<\$12.00	8,358
\$12.00-\$13.99	16,067
\$14.00-\$16.99	18,983
\$17.00-\$21.99	23,845
\$22.00-\$26.99	14,020
\$27.00+	23,727

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, May 2024 Wage Survey

Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Elementary and Secondary Schools leads the Western Arkansas WDA region in numeric growth, adding an anticipated 1,134 new jobs, and moving employment levels to 8,130. Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions is slated to be the fastest growing industry, increasing its workforce by 76.92 percent. On the negative side of the labor market, Food Manufacturing could see a reduction of 961 jobs, 10.28 percent of its workforce, between first quarter 2023 and first quarter 2025. Grantmaking and Giving Services is predicted to be the fastest declining industry, declining by more than a third of its workforce. **Education and Health Services** is slated to be the top growing supersector, adding 1,927 jobs between 2023 and 2025, a 7.78 percent rise in employment.

Top Growing Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	24,775	26,702	1,927	7.78%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	9,264	9,526	262	2.83%
101200	Construction	4,414	4,597	183	4.15%
102300	Financial Activities	3,733	3,913	180	4.82%
102800	Government	6,176	6,354	178	2.88%

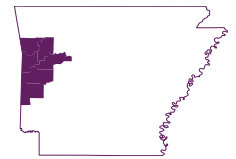
Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	6,996	8,130	1,134	16.21%
221000	Utilities	898	1,148	250	27.84%
611300	Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools	1,421	1,626	205	14.43%
624000	Social Assistance	2,642	2,843	201	7.61%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	8,146	8,344	198	2.43%
524100	Insurance Carriers	344	510	166	48.26%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,443	5,596	153	2.81%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,180	1,323	143	12.12%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,847	2,975	128	4.50%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,679	2,805	126	4.70%

Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
712000	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions	26	46	20	76.92%
524100	Insurance Carriers	344	510	166	48.26%
221000	Utilities	898	1,148	250	27.84%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Services	237	282	45	18.99%
611600	Other Schools and Instruction	101	119	18	17.82%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	6,996	8,130	1,134	16.21%
611300	Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools	1,421	1,626	205	14.43%
622200	Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	759	856	97	12.78%
813900	Business, Professional, Labor, Political, and Similar Organizations	247	277	30	12.15%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,180	1,323	143	12.12%

Top 10 Decline

311000	Food Manufacturing	9,350	8,389	-961	-10.28%
484000	Truck Transportation	3,834	3,621	-213	-5.56%
814000	Private Households	421	283	-138	-32.78%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	5,170	5,035	-135	-2.61%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	789	674	-115	-14.58%
111000	Crop Production	271	217	-54	-19.93%
622300	Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals	696	646	-50	-7.18%
455000	General Merchandise Retailers	3,886	3,840	-46	-1.18%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,571	1,526	-45	-2.86%
456000	Health and Personal Care Retailers	755	720	-35	-4.64%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

813200	Grantmaking and Giving Services	97	64	-33	-34.02%
814000	Private Households	421	283	-138	-32.78%
513000	Publishing Industries	52	39	-13	-25.00%
513100	Newspaper, Periodical, Book, and Directory Publishers	52	39	-13	-25.00%
111000	Crop Production	271	217	-54	-19.93%
813300	Social Advocacy Organizations	98	81	-17	-17.35%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	789	674	-115	-14.58%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	112	96	-16	-14.29%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	158	138	-20	-12.66%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	127	113	-14	-11.02%

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education is projected to be the top growing occupation in Western Arkansas between 2023 and 2025, adding 189 jobs, increasing its workforce to 1,349 jobs. Insurance Sales Agents is predicted to be the fastest growing occupation, gaining 25.67 percent, moving from 483 jobs in 2023 to 607 jobs in 2025. On the negative side of the labor market, Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers is predicted to lose 258 jobs, becoming the top declining occupation, while Fundraisers is forecast to cut 16.67 percent of its workforce. **Educational Instruction and Library Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group, increasing its workforce by 14.66 percent or 886 new jobs between 2023 and 2025.

Top Growing Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	6,045	6,931	886	14.66%	265	261	443	969
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	9,109	9,413	304	3.34%	800	960	152	1,912
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	5,066	5,304	238	4.70%	342	394	119	855
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	5,552	5,725	173	3.12%	214	266	86	566
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,882	12,051	169	1.42%	518	508	84	1,110

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,160	1,349	189	16.29%	36	40	94	170
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,045	1,214	169	16.17%	38	37	84	159
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,784	1,924	140	7.85%	148	124	70	342
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	483	607	124	25.67%	20	22	62	104
25-9045	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	853	973	120	14.07%	52	54	60	166
35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	749	828	79	10.55%	54	64	40	158
25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	443	514	71	16.03%	16	16	36	68
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	1,072	1,138	66	6.16%	76	90	33	199
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,005	3,070	65	2.16%	336	358	32	726
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,608	2,667	59	2.26%	66	142	30	238

Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area

Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2023 Est.	2025 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	483	607	124	25.67%	20	22	62	104
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	145	181	36	24.83%	4	8	18	30
43-9041	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	162	197	35	21.60%	7	9	18	34
49-9012	Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	139	168	29	20.86%	5	6	14	25
37-3013	Tree Trimmers and Pruners	32	38	6	18.75%	2	3	3	8
11-9032	Education Administrators, Kindergarten through Secondary	204	238	34	16.67%	6	8	17	31
25-2032	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Secondary School	126	147	21	16.67%	4	4	10	18
25-2052	Special Education Teachers, Kindergarten and Elementary School	144	168	24	16.67%	5	5	12	22
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,160	1,349	189	16.29%	36	40	94	170
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,045	1,214	169	16.17%	38	37	84	159

Top 10 Decline

51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,424	2,166	-258	-10.64%	114	156	-129	141
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,603	3,470	-133	-3.69%	160	207	-66	301
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	2,727	2,608	-119	-4.36%	128	217	-60	285
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	4,466	4,395	-71	-1.59%	310	148	-36	422
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	688	636	-52	-7.56%	44	58	-26	76
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,038	994	-44	-4.24%	32	65	-22	75
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	810	767	-43	-5.31%	58	53	-22	89
45-2092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	237	198	-39	-16.46%	12	20	-20	12
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	1,345	1,306	-39	-2.90%	56	84	-20	120
51-9111	Packaging & Filling Machine Operators & Tenders	632	596	-36	-5.70%	30	36	-18	48

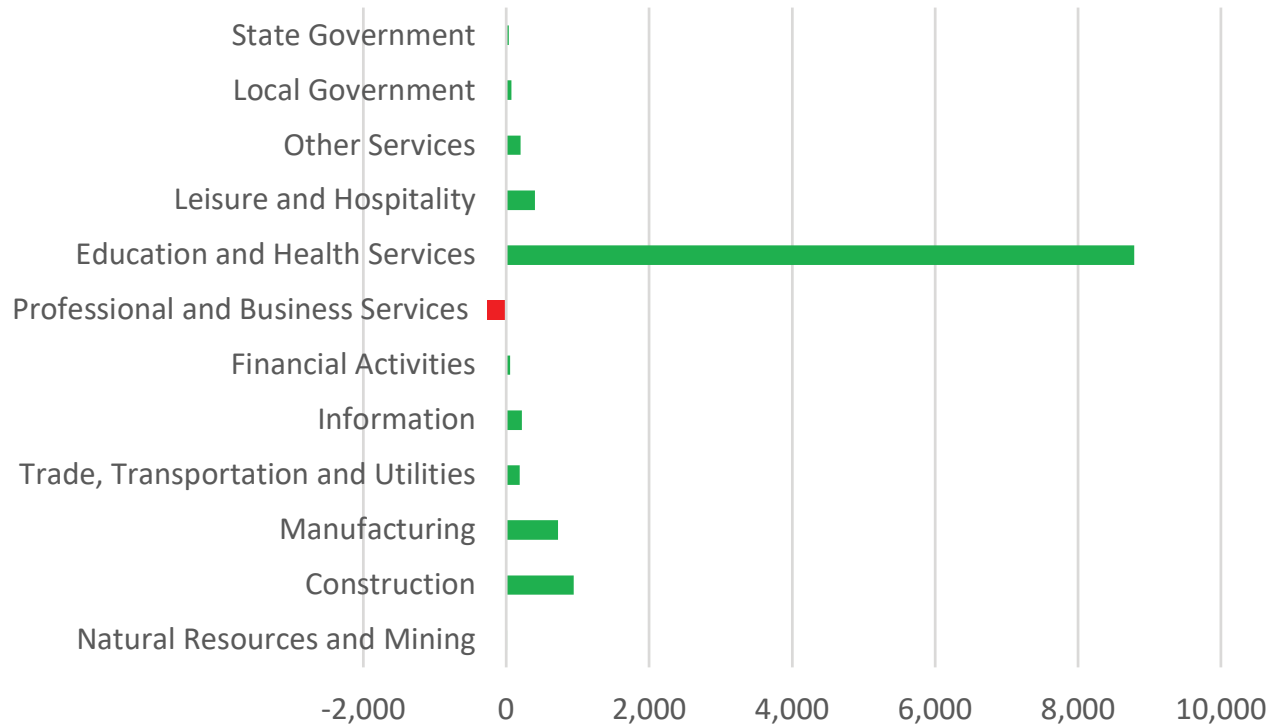
Top 10 Fastest Decline

13-1131	Fundraisers	30	25	-5	-16.67%	1	2	-2	1
45-2092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	237	198	-39	-16.46%	12	20	-20	12
51-5113	Print Binding and Finishing Workers	64	56	-8	-12.50%	2	3	-4	1
45-2041	Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	245	216	-29	-11.84%	12	20	-14	18
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	192	171	-21	-10.94%	8	10	-10	8
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,424	2,166	-258	-10.64%	114	156	-129	141
51-9193	Cooling & Freezing Equipment Operators & Tenders	51	46	-5	-9.80%	2	3	-2	3
51-3092	Food Batchmakers	369	337	-32	-8.67%	22	30	-16	36
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	688	636	-52	-7.56%	44	58	-26	76
51-9111	Packaging & Filling Machine Operators & Tenders	632	596	-36	-5.70%	30	36	-18	48

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Western Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2022 Annual Average Covered Employment	2023 Annual Average Covered Employment	2022-2023 Numeric Change	2022-2023 Percent Change	2023 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	101,839	113,218	11,379	11.2%	\$947
Natural Resources and Mining	948	962	14	1.5%	\$1,231
Construction	4,199	5,143	944	22.5%	\$995
Manufacturing	21,467	22,190	723	3.4%	\$1,042
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	22,751	22,942	191	0.8%	\$904
Information	973	1,190	217	22.3%	\$1,589
Financial Activities	3,443	3,497	54	1.6%	\$1,155
Professional and Business Services	9,660	9,399	-261	-2.7%	\$1,062
Education and Health Services	15,112	23,897	8,785	58.1%	\$1,021
Leisure and Hospitality	9,214	9,618	404	4.4%	\$401
Other Services	1,982	2,181	199	10.0%	\$784
Local Government	9,483	9,554	71	0.7%	\$828
State Government	2,608	2,645	37	1.4%	\$851

Source: Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

2024 ARKANSAS LABOR MARKET

AND ECONOMIC REPORT

STATE AND LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor
State of Arkansas

Charisse Childers, Ph.D., Director
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

Prepared By:
Division of Workforce Services
Labor Market Information
P.O. Box 2981
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
Telephone: (501) 682-3118
www.discover.arkansas.gov

“Equal Opportunity Employer/Program”

“Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities”

Voice: 1-800-285-1121

TDD: 1-800-285-1131

Released: October 2024



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

A proud partner of the
americanjobcenter
network

