# LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

# LONG-TERM INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS

# 2016-2026

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## **State of Arkansas**

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Except for ranking tables, the projections contained in this publication are summary level. To find a more detailed industry or occupation, go to the Labor Market Information Library at [**http://www.discover.arkansas.gov**](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov/)

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**EXPLANATION OF INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS DATA**

**LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS**

**2016-2026**

| **NAICS**  **Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Industry code according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Title and Coding Structure | Industry title according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Title and Coding Structure | An estimate of the number of jobs in an industry in 2016 | The projected number of jobs expected to be in an industry in 2026 | Total number of jobs an industry is expected to gain or lose over the 2016 to 2026 period | Percent change in the number of jobs in an industry over the 2016 to 2026 period |

**EXPLANATION OF OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS DATA**

**LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS**

**2016-2026**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Openings - Exits** | **Annual Openings- Transfers** | **Annual Openings- Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| The occupational code based on the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Coding and Title Structure | The occupational title based on the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Coding and Title Structure | An estimate of the number of jobs in an occupation in 2016 | The projected number of jobs expected to be in an occupation in 2026 | Total number of jobs an occupation is expected to gain or lose over the 2016 to 2026 period | Percent change in the number of jobs in an occupation over the 2016 to 2026 period | Average number  of annual job openings expected to be created during the projection period due to those leaving the workforce for four months or more | Average number  of annual job openings expected to be created during the projection period due to those transferring to an occupation in a different SOC Major Group | Average number  of annual job openings expected to be created during the projection period due to the gain or decline in an occupation | Average number of annual job  openings expected to be created  during the projection period due to employment growth and separations |

**Definition of Important Terms**

**Base Employment –** The average number of jobs in a particular industry or occupation during the benchmark year or quarter.

**Current Employment Statistics (CES) –** A monthly survey of business establishments that provides estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data by industry for the nation as a whole, all states, and most major metropolitan areas.

**Employment –** The number of jobs in a business or firm at any given time.

**Establishment –** The physical location of a certain economic activity; for example, a factory, mine, store, or office. Generally, a single establishment produces a single good or provides a single service.

**Fastest Growing –** Refers to percent growth. The higher the percent growth, the faster an industry or occupation is growing.

**Industry –** A group of establishments that produce similar products or provide similar services.

**Metropolitan Statistical Area –** A county or group of contiguous counties that contains an urban center of at least 50,000 residents and has a high degree of economic and social ties.

**Net Change –** The difference between projected employment and base employment.

**North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) –** A system used in assigning industry-designated code numbers to employers and/or establishments based on the nature of their activities, services rendered, or products delivered. It was established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget and is used by all agencies for data compilation.

**Occupation –** A set of activities that employees are paid to perform. Employees who perform the same tasks are in the same occupation, whether or not they are in the same industry.

**Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) –** A federal/state cooperative program that produces employment and wage estimates for over 700 occupations. These are estimates of the number of people employed in certain occupations and estimates of the wages paid to them. They are also used to gather occupational staffing patterns by industry that are used to project employment needs by occupation.

**Percent (%) Change –** The rate at which an industry or occupation is expected to grow or decline.

**Projected Employment –** The average number of jobs expected to be in an industry or occupation in the future.

**Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) –** A federal/state cooperative program that produces employment and wage data for workers covered by state unemployment insurance laws and federal workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees Program. Data is arranged by the type of industry according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

**Sector –** A level of industry classification under supersector according to the NAICS structure.

**Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) –** A coding system used by all federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data.

**Subsector –** A level of industry classification under sector according to the NAICS structure.

**Supersector –** The top level of industry classification according to the NAICS structure.

**Workforce Development Area –** A group of contiguous counties where employment, training, and educational services are provided and established through the Workforce Development Act to provide services for eligible youth, adults, and dislocated workers.

**Methodology**

The following is a brief overview of the method used to produce long-term employment projections for the local workforce development areas.

### Data Development

Data development is accomplished by using three sources:

*The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage reports*. This source provides all of the covered employment for Arkansas. A firm or business is considered “covered” if it meets the guidelines established under the Unemployment Insurance Law.

*The Current Employment Statistics (CES) Survey*. This source provides employment information for non-covered establishments, which are railroads, the Federal Work Study Program, churches, religious-based schools, elected officials, commissioned insurance agents, as well as other establishments not reporting to the *Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)* program.

*Agriculture employment*. This is obtained from the Census of Agriculture. The Census of Agriculture is taken every five years in years ending in two and seven. Information from the QCEW report is used to make estimates for years following the Census year until the next Census. Other information from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is used to supplement agriculture employment.

*Other Non-Covered Employment.* Data on other Agriculture employment, specifically NAICS 113, 114, and 115 as well as Private Households, are supplemented using data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

**Industry Projections**

The industry projections in this publication were produced using *Projections Suite System* software, authorized by the U.S. Department of Labor and developed by the Utah Department of Workforce Services. The software has several components. The system forecasts employment using several models. The analyst chooses an appropriate forecast for each industry. All areas are done at the same time. In addition, business news related to closures, layoffs, openings, and expansions is used in the forecasting process and adjustments are made when necessary.

**Occupational Projections**

Occupational projections are produced by merging industries and occupations together into an industry-occupational matrix. This matrix is a table showing the occupational pattern of each industry (i.e., the ratios of employment by occupation in a specific industry). The statewide matrix is based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey and uses a Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code for each occupation.

The occupational employment projections contained in this publication were created using *Projections Suite System* software, authorized by the U.S. Department of Labor and developed by the Utah Department of Workforce Services. The software applies occupational change factors to the projected patterns to form a projected matrix. In addition, using national self-employment and unpaid family worker staffing patterns, the system generates base and projected employment for self-employed and unpaid family workers.

**Data Limitations**

The projections contained in this publication are estimates based on historical data. It is important not to take these projections as the actual employment numbers that will occur in 2026. While every attempt is made to utilize current and near future events, such as business closings, corporate layoffs, openings, and expansions, it is not possible to know everything that is occurring. Events that take place after the projection period or announcements concerning closings, layoffs, openings, and expansions known after projections were completed are not reflected in the forecasts. In addition, legislative policy could cause employment to change. Events such as these may cause the actual employment numbers to vary significantly from these projections.

It is important to consider both net growth and percent growth when looking at projections. Industries or occupations with small employment will generally have higher growth rates than those with larger employment, but these industries may only add a few employees over the projection period. For occupational projections, it is important to look at both replacement and growth annual openings. Even if an occupation is in decline, it still may have openings to replace workers who leave the profession for various reasons.

**Total Employment Projections by Workforce Development Area**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Workforce Development Area** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| Northwest Arkansas WDA | 306,128 | 348,474 | 42,346 | 13.83% | 15,298 | 20,087 | 4,235 | 39,620 |
| North Central Arkansas WDA | 84,258 | 95,550 | 11,292 | 13.40% | 4,364 | 5,220 | 1,129 | 10,713 |
| Northeast Arkansas WDA | 114,303 | 126,624 | 12,321 | 10.78% | 5,695 | 7,410 | 1,232 | 14,337 |
| Western Arkansas WDA | 120,159 | 130,729 | 10,570 | 8.80% | 6,039 | 7,798 | 1,057 | 14,894 |
| West Central Arkansas WDA | 125,472 | 139,897 | 14,425 | 11.50% | 6,515 | 8,234 | 1,442 | 16,191 |
| Central Arkansas WDA | 176,787 | 196,674 | 19,887 | 11.25% | 9,004 | 11,650 | 1,989 | 22,643 |
| City of Little Rock WDA | 194,407 | 210,245 | 15,838 | 8.15% | 8,860 | 11,859 | 1,584 | 22,303 |
| Eastern Arkansas WDA | 42,783 | 45,358 | 2,575 | 6.02% | 2,227 | 2,720 | 258 | 5,205 |
| Southwest Arkansas WDA | 91,962 | 98,185 | 6,223 | 6.77% | 4,494 | 5,812 | 622 | 10,928 |
| Southeast Arkansas WDA | 82,424 | 85,932 | 3,508 | 4.26% | 3,959 | 5,090 | 351 | 9,400 |

The Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) is projected to be the top and fastest growing WDA in the state during the 2016-2026 projection period, with an anticipated growth of 42,346 new jobs, a gain of 13.83 percent. All 10 WDA regions are projected to experience growth, but are split when compared with the state growth rate, with five growing faster than the state and five growing slower than the state. In terms of job openings, the Northwest Arkansas WDA is projected to have 39,620 job openings available annually, with 15,298 of these due to employees leaving the workforce, 20,087 due to changing jobs, and 4,235 due to growth and expansion.

**Local Workforce Development Areas**



**SW**

**LR**

**E**

**WC**

**W**

**C**

**SE**

**NE**

**NC**

**NW**

**Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy, and Washington Counties

**North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White, and Woodruff Counties

**Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, and Randolph Counties

**Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, and Sebastian Counties

**West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Clark, Conway, Garland, Hot Spring, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Pope, and Yell Counties

**Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, Pulaski outside the city limits of Little Rock, and Saline Counties

**City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area**

Inside the city limits of Little Rock

**Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Phillips, and St. Francis Counties

**Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Calhoun, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Sevier, and Union Counties

**Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, and Lincoln Counties

# Northwest Arkansas

 The Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) 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 (MSA) is located within the Area.

**Northwest Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): 19.08%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 13.83%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 3.0%**

Among the 10 Local Workforce Development Areas, Northwest Arkansas has the largest employment base in the state. This region is projected to gain 42,346 jobs, an increase of 13.83 percent, from 2016 to 2026. The Area is growing faster than the state’s 10.42 percent growth. Goods-Producing industries are projected to gain 3,497 net jobs, while Services-Providing industries are predicted to add 35,428 jobs over the 2016-2026 projection period. An estimated 33,666 Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers are expected to be based in Northwest Arkansas by 2026, a gain of 3,421. The population grew 19.08 percent from 2006 to 2016 bringing the total population to 640,652. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 3.0 percent.

**Education and Health Services** is expected to be the top growing supersector with 10,063 jobs anticipated to be added. **Professional and Business Services**is predicted to be the fastest growing among the supersectors, increasing employment by 18.75 percent. *Management of Companies and Enterprises* leads the Northwest Arkansas WDA in growth with 5,701 new jobs. *Chemical Manufacturing* is projected to be the fastest growing industry, with a gain of 64.98 percent. All 10 in the Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries list are slated to grow by more than 25 percent. On the negative side of the economy, *Telecommunications* is forecast to be the top and fastest declining industry, losing 163 jobs, or 23.09 percent of its workforce. The **Information** supersectoris the only supersector expected to experience a decline, with a net loss of 60 jobs between 2016 and 2026.

Northwest Arkansas is projected to have 39,620 annual job openings over the 2016-2026 projection period. Of these, 15,298 would be due to employees leaving the workforce, 20,087 for those changing jobs, and 4,235 for growth and expansion. The **Sales and Related Occupations** major group is predicted to add the most jobs, with a net gain of 4,766, while **Healthcare Support Occupations** is estimated to be the fastest growing major group with a 29.39 percent growth. *Retail Salespersons* is predicted to be the top growing occupation, with a gain of 1,784 jobs. *Chemists* could be the fastest growing industry, increasing employment by as much a 50 percent. On the negative side, *Team Assemblers* is slated to lose 206 jobs between 2016 and 2026, while *Parking Enforcement* Workers could lose a third of its workforce during the projection period.

**Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **306,128** | **348,474** | **42,346** | **13.83%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***30,245*** | ***33,666*** | ***3,421*** | ***11.31%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 29,256 | 32,727 | 3,471 | 11.86% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 989 | 939 | -50 | -5.06% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 48,525 | 52,022 | 3,497 | 7.21% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **3,274** | **3,805** | **531** | **16.22%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 3,142 | 3,700 | 558 | 17.76% |
| 210000 | Mining | 132 | 105 | -27 | -20.45% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **10,910** | **12,465** | **1,555** | **14.25%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **34,341** | **35,752** | **1,411** | **4.11%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***21,540*** | ***22,995*** | ***1,455*** | ***6.75%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***12,801*** | ***12,757*** | ***-44*** | ***-0.34%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 227,358 | 262,786 | 35,428 | 15.58% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **60,164** | **69,301** | **9,137** | **15.19%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 9,794 | 11,061 | 1,267 | 12.94% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 31,982 | 37,379 | 5,397 | 16.88% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 17,269 | 19,695 | 2,426 | 14.05% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 1,119 | 1,166 | 47 | 4.20% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **2,535** | **2,475** | **-60** | **-2.37%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **9,393** | **10,558** | **1,165** | **12.40%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 6,674 | 7,321 | 647 | 9.69% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 2,719 | 3,237 | 518 | 19.05% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **47,650** | **56,582** | **8,932** | **18.75%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 12,133 | 14,035 | 1,902 | 15.68% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 24,199 | 29,900 | 5,701 | 23.56% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 11,318 | 12,647 | 1,329 | 11.74% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **56,856** | **66,919** | **10,063** | **17.70%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 24,995 | 27,703 | 2,708 | 10.83% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 31,861 | 39,216 | 7,355 | 23.08% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **29,174** | **33,121** | **3,947** | **13.53%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 3,042 | 3,371 | 329 | 10.82% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 26,132 | 29,750 | 3,618 | 13.85% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **9,631** | **10,496** | **865** | **8.98%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **11,955** | **13,334** | **1,379** | **11.53%** |

**Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 24,199 | 29,900 | **5,701** | 23.56% |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 22,875 | 26,331 | **3,456** | 15.11% |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 10,903 | 14,023 | **3,120** | 28.62% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 8,677 | 11,487 | **2,810** | 32.38% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 24,995 | 27,703 | **2,708** | 10.83% |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 5,356 | 7,376 | **2,020** | 37.71% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 7,541 | 9,560 | **2,019** | 26.77% |
| 541000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 12,133 | 14,035 | **1,902** | 15.68% |
| 484000 | Truck Transportation | 12,334 | 14,030 | **1,696** | 13.75% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 10,749 | 11,873 | **1,124** | 10.46% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 325000 | Chemical Manufacturing | 317 | 523 | 206 | **64.98%** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 422 | 662 | 240 | **56.87%** |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 5,356 | 7,376 | 2,020 | **37.71%** |
| 111000 | Crop Production | 864 | 1,180 | 316 | **36.57%** |
| 562000 | Waste Management and Remediation Service | 569 | 774 | 205 | **36.03%** |
| 485000 | Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation | 454 | 607 | 153 | **33.70%** |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 8,677 | 11,487 | 2,810 | **32.38%** |
| 312000 | Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing | 273 | 359 | 86 | **31.50%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 10,903 | 14,023 | 3,120 | **28.62%** |
| 488000 | Support Activities for Transportation | 1,116 | 1,418 | 302 | **27.06%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 706 | 543 | **-163** | -23.09% |
| 331000 | Primary Metal Manufacturing | 985 | 832 | **-153** | -15.53% |
| 333000 | Machinery Manufacturing | 1,382 | 1,276 | **-106** | -7.67% |
| 334000 | Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing | 598 | 496 | **-102** | -17.06% |
| 814000 | Private Households | 423 | 335 | **-88** | -20.80% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 706 | 543 | -163 | **-23.09%** |
| 212000 | Mining (except Oil and Gas) | 110 | 85 | -25 | **-22.73%** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 423 | 335 | -88 | **-20.80%** |
| 113000 | Forestry and Logging | 58 | 47 | -11 | **-18.97%** |
| 334000 | Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing | 598 | 496 | -102 | **-17.06%** |

**Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **306,128** | **348,474** | **42,346** | **13.83%** | **15,298** | **20,087** | **4,235** | **39,620** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 31,751 | 36,051 | 4,300 | 13.54% | 1,303 | 1,249 | 430 | 2,982 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 17,463 | 21,335 | 3,872 | 22.17% | 607 | 1,185 | 387 | 2,179 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 8,544 | 10,301 | 1,757 | 20.56% | 157 | 449 | 176 | 782 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 2,458 | 2,804 | 346 | 14.08% | 66 | 121 | 35 | 222 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 1,362 | 1,634 | 272 | 19.97% | 43 | 97 | 27 | 167 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 4,213 | 4,947 | 734 | 17.42% | 197 | 296 | 73 | 566 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 1,560 | 1,910 | 350 | 22.44% | 43 | 65 | 35 | 143 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 17,073 | 19,241 | 2,168 | 12.70% | 734 | 738 | 217 | 1,689 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 3,424 | 3,784 | 360 | 10.51% | 144 | 201 | 36 | 381 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 14,492 | 17,243 | 2,751 | 18.98% | 422 | 421 | 275 | 1,118 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 6,444 | 8,338 | 1,894 | 29.39% | 420 | 403 | 189 | 1,012 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 4,139 | 4,593 | 454 | 10.97% | 177 | 212 | 45 | 434 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 24,571 | 28,347 | 3,776 | 15.37% | 1,965 | 2,470 | 378 | 4,813 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 9,424 | 10,731 | 1,307 | 13.87% | 606 | 641 | 131 | 1,378 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 9,416 | 11,691 | 2,275 | 24.16% | 809 | 710 | 228 | 1,747 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 32,061 | 36,827 | 4,766 | 14.87% | 2,087 | 2,604 | 477 | 5,168 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 39,701 | 42,925 | 3,224 | 8.12% | 2,104 | 2,479 | 322 | 4,905 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 3,008 | 3,248 | 240 | 7.98% | 116 | 342 | 24 | 482 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 10,917 | 12,441 | 1,524 | 13.96% | 409 | 772 | 152 | 1,333 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 10,468 | 11,914 | 1,446 | 13.81% | 388 | 665 | 145 | 1,198 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 26,821 | 28,038 | 1,217 | 4.54% | 1,173 | 1,997 | 122 | 3,292 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 26,818 | 30,131 | 3,313 | 12.35% | 1,327 | 1,970 | 331 | 3,628 |

**Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Numeric Change**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 9,638 | 11,422 | **1,784** | 18.51% | 667 | 836 | 178 | 1,681 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 12,164 | 13,832 | **1,668** | 13.71% | 551 | 816 | 167 | 1,534 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,860 | 8,458 | **1,598** | 23.29% | 678 | 709 | 160 | 1,547 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,909 | 4,222 | **1,313** | 45.14% | 285 | 214 | 131 | 630 |
| 11-1021 | General and Operations Managers | 5,202 | 6,101 | **899** | 17.28% | 117 | 337 | 90 | 544 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 3,988 | 4,770 | **782** | 19.61% | 239 | 312 | 78 | 629 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 2,849 | 3,625 | **776** | 27.24% | 197 | 164 | 78 | 439 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 13,288 | 14,059 | **771** | 5.80% | 799 | 203 | 77 | 1,079 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 4,223 | 4,936 | **713** | 16.88% | 131 | 100 | 71 | 302 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 6,923 | 7,594 | **671** | 9.69% | 682 | 665 | 67 | 1,414 |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 19-2031 | Chemists | 30 | 45 | 15 | **50.00%** | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 1,057 | 1,552 | 495 | **46.83%** | 79 | 66 | 50 | 195 |
| 15-2031 | Operations Research Analysts | 46 | 67 | 21 | **45.65%** | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,909 | 4,222 | 1,313 | **45.14%** | 285 | 214 | 131 | 630 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 371 | 530 | 159 | **42.86%** | 9 | 13 | 16 | 38 |
| 15-1132 | Software Developers, Applications | 1,273 | 1,809 | 536 | **42.11%** | 21 | 76 | 54 | 151 |
| 15-1122 | Information Security Analysts | 281 | 397 | 116 | **41.28%** | 6 | 16 | 12 | 34 |
| 29-1071 | Physician Assistants | 158 | 218 | 60 | **37.97%** | 3 | 7 | 6 | 16 |
| 31-9011 | Massage Therapists | 203 | 278 | 75 | **36.95%** | 16 | 9 | 8 | 33 |
| 21-1014 | Mental Health Counselors | 66 | 90 | 24 | **36.36%** | 3 | 5 | 2 | 10 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 13,288 | 14,059 | 771 | 5.80% | **799** | 203 | 77 | 1,079 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 6,923 | 7,594 | 671 | 9.69% | **682** | 665 | 67 | 1,414 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,860 | 8,458 | 1,598 | 23.29% | **678** | 709 | 160 | 1,547 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 9,638 | 11,422 | 1,784 | 18.51% | **667** | 836 | 178 | 1,681 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 12,164 | 13,832 | 1,668 | 13.71% | **551** | 816 | 167 | 1,534 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 6,190 | 6,520 | 330 | 5.33% | **373** | 363 | 33 | 769 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 4,481 | 5,021 | 540 | 12.05% | **352** | 539 | 54 | 945 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 4,146 | 4,789 | 643 | 15.51% | **291** | 281 | 64 | 636 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,909 | 4,222 | 1,313 | 45.14% | **285** | 214 | 131 | 630 |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 4,844 | 4,926 | 82 | 1.69% | **263** | 256 | 8 | 527 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 9,638 | 11,422 | 1,784 | 18.51% | | 667 | **836** | 178 | 1,681 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 12,164 | 13,832 | 1,668 | 13.71% | | 551 | **816** | 167 | 1,534 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,860 | 8,458 | 1,598 | 23.29% | | 678 | **709** | 160 | 1,547 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 6,923 | 7,594 | 671 | 9.69% | | 682 | **665** | 67 | 1,414 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 4,481 | 5,021 | 540 | 12.05% | | 352 | **539** | 54 | 945 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 4,750 | 5,286 | 536 | 11.28% | | 249 | **429** | 54 | 732 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 6,190 | 6,520 | 330 | 5.33% | | 373 | **363** | 33 | 769 |
| 11-1021 | General and Operations Managers | 5,202 | 6,101 | 899 | 17.28% | | 117 | **337** | 90 | 544 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 3,988 | 4,770 | 782 | 19.61% | | 239 | **312** | 78 | 629 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 4,146 | 4,789 | 643 | 15.51% | | 291 | **281** | 64 | 636 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Total Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 9,638 | 11,422 | 1,784 | 18.51% | 667 | 836 | 178 | **1,681** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,860 | 8,458 | 1,598 | 23.29% | 678 | 709 | 160 | **1,547** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 12,164 | 13,832 | 1,668 | 13.71% | 551 | 816 | 167 | **1,534** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 6,923 | 7,594 | 671 | 9.69% | 682 | 665 | 67 | **1,414** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 13,288 | 14,059 | 771 | 5.80% | 799 | 203 | 77 | **1,079** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 4,481 | 5,021 | 540 | 12.05% | 352 | 539 | 54 | **945** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 6,190 | 6,520 | 330 | 5.33% | 373 | 363 | 33 | **769** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 4,750 | 5,286 | 536 | 11.28% | 249 | 429 | 54 | **732** |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 4,146 | 4,789 | 643 | 15.51% | 291 | 281 | 64 | **636** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,909 | 4,222 | 1,313 | 45.14% | 285 | 214 | 131 | **630** |

**Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 2,663 | 2,457 | **-206** | -7.74% | 109 | 185 | -21 | 273 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 1,065 | 981 | **-84** | -7.89% | 55 | 54 | -8 | 101 |
| 43-3071 | Tellers | 1,194 | 1,117 | **-77** | -6.45% | 59 | 74 | -8 | 125 |
| 51-2022 | Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers | 412 | 338 | **-74** | -17.96% | 19 | 24 | -7 | 36 |
| 51-4072 | Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic | 594 | 531 | **-63** | -10.61% | 21 | 43 | -6 | 58 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 33-3041 | Parking Enforcement Workers | 18 | 12 | -6 | **-33.33%** | 1 | 0 | -1 | 0 |
| 43-9022 | Word Processors and Typists | 50 | 36 | -14 | **-28.00%** | 3 | 2 | -1 | 4 |
| 51-2022 | Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers | 412 | 338 | -74 | **-17.96%** | 19 | 24 | -7 | 36 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 221 | 185 | -36 | **-16.29%** | 10 | 13 | -4 | 19 |
| 51-4191 | Heat Treating Equipment Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic | 53 | 45 | -8 | **-15.09%** | 2 | 3 | -1 | 4 |

**North Central Arkansas**

 The North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) 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.

**North Central Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): 2.27%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 13.40%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 5.4%**

The North Central Arkansas WDA is projected to add 11,292 new jobs during the 2016-2026 projection period, or increase employment by 13.40 percent, faster than the state’s 10.42 percent change. Goods-Producing industries are expected to add 1,615 new jobs, while the Services-Providing industries could add 8,309. The Area is also expected to gain 1,368 Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers. Between 2006 and 2016, there was a 2.27 percent rise in population, bringing its total to 237,437 residents. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 5.4%.

**Education and Health Services** is projected to be the top growing supersector in North Central Arkansas, with a growth of 3,327 jobs. **Professional and Business Services** is forecast to be the fastest growing supersector, with a growth of 24.52 percent. *Food Services and Drinking Places* is estimated to be the top growing industry, adding 1,380 new jobs, while *Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers* could double between 2016 and 2026, becoming the fastest growing industry. The **Information**supersector is anticipated to be the only downside in North Central Arkansas during the 10-year projection period, losing 27 jobs, or 5.40 percent of its workforce. In terms of industry sectors, *Food and Beverage Stores* could lose 76 jobs between 2016 and 2026, while *Telecommunications* could be the fastest declining industry, losing 22.98 percent of its workforce.

North Central Arkansas is expected to have 10,713 total job openings annually between 2016 and 2026. Of these, 4,364 would be for employees leaving the workforce, while 5,220 would be for those changing jobs. Growth and expansion would account for an additional 1,129 jobs. The **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** major group is predicted to have the highest numeric change, with 1,503 new jobs. **Personal Care and Service Occupations** is forecast to be the fastest growing major group, increasing by 26.50 percent. Leading this Area in percent growth is *Personal Care Aides*,with a 45.81 percent rise in jobs. *Farmers, Ranchers* *and Other Agricultural Managers* is estimated to add 836 new jobs to the workforce, making it the top growing occupation in the Area. The occupation is also anticipating the most annual openings, with 799 between 2016 and 2026. On the negative side of the economy, *Tellers* is projected to see a loss of 29 jobs, making it the top declining occupation, while *Computer Operators* is expected to decline by 24 percent, the fastest in the Area.

**North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **84,258** | **95,550** | **11,292** | **13.40%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***12,469*** | ***13,837*** | ***1,368*** | ***10.97%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 12,088 | 13,480 | 1,392 | 11.52% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 381 | 357 | -24 | -6.30% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 13,345 | 14,960 | 1,615 | 12.10% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **2,894** | **3,403** | **509** | **17.59%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 2,285 | 2,814 | 529 | 23.15% |
| 210000 | Mining | 609 | 589 | -20 | -3.28% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **2,368** | **2,722** | **354** | **14.95%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **8,083** | **8,835** | **752** | **9.30%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***3,583*** | ***3,852*** | ***269*** | ***7.51%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***4,500*** | ***4,983*** | ***483*** | ***10.73%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 58,444 | 66,753 | 8,309 | 14.22% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **15,695** | **17,387** | **1,692** | **10.78%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 1,646 | 1,924 | 278 | 16.89% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 9,621 | 10,620 | 999 | 10.38% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 3,759 | 4,146 | 387 | 10.30% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 669 | 697 | 28 | 4.19% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **500** | **473** | **-27** | **-5.40%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **2,593** | **2,726** | **133** | **5.13%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 2,010 | 2,120 | 110 | 5.47% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 583 | 606 | 23 | 3.95% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **3,573** | **4,449** | **876** | **24.52%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 1,131 | 1,308 | 177 | 15.65% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 303 | 431 | 128 | 42.24% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 2,139 | 2,710 | 571 | 26.69% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **21,265** | **24,592** | **3,327** | **15.65%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 8,341 | 9,104 | 763 | 9.15% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 12,924 | 15,488 | 2,564 | 19.84% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **6,549** | **8,003** | **1,454** | **22.20%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 508 | 557 | 49 | 9.65% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 6,041 | 7,446 | 1,405 | 23.26% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **2,669** | **2,757** | **88** | **3.30%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **5,600** | **6,366** | **766** | **13.68%** |

**North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 5,522 | 6,902 | **1,380** | 24.99% |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 3,868 | 4,974 | **1,106** | 28.59% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,452 | 3,276 | **824** | 33.61% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 8,341 | 9,104 | **763** | 9.15% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 2,976 | 3,572 | **596** | 20.03% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 2,015 | 2,562 | **547** | 27.15% |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 3,150 | 3,695 | **545** | 17.30% |
| 999200 | State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 1,836 | 2,349 | **513** | 27.94% |
| 336000 | Transportation Equipment Manufacturing | 1,058 | 1,445 | **387** | 36.58% |
| 999300 | Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 3,120 | 3,419 | **299** | 9.58% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 425000 | Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers | 134 | 268 | 134 | **100.00%** |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 154 | 223 | 69 | **44.81%** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 303 | 431 | 128 | **42.24%** |
| 336000 | Transportation Equipment Manufacturing | 1,058 | 1,445 | 387 | **36.58%** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 324 | 437 | 113 | **34.88%** |
| 488000 | Support Activities for Transportation | 432 | 578 | 146 | **33.80%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,452 | 3,276 | 824 | **33.61%** |
| 485000 | Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation | 160 | 213 | 53 | **33.13%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 3,868 | 4,974 | 1,106 | **28.59%** |
| 999200 | State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 1,836 | 2,349 | 513 | **27.94%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 445000 | Food and Beverage Stores | 1,280 | 1,204 | **-76** | -5.94% |
| 491100 | Postal Service | 403 | 359 | **-44** | -10.92% |
| 331000 | Primary Metal Manufacturing | 626 | 583 | **-43** | -6.87% |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 161 | 124 | **-37** | -22.98% |
| 212000 | Mining (except Oil and Gas) | 218 | 186 | **-32** | -14.68% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 161 | 124 | -37 | **-22.98%** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 116 | 93 | -23 | **-19.83%** |
| 443000 | Electronics and Appliance Stores | 187 | 159 | -28 | **-14.97%** |
| 212000 | Mining (except Oil and Gas) | 218 | 186 | -32 | **-14.68%** |
| 442000 | Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores | 151 | 132 | -19 | **-12.58%** |

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **84,258** | **95,550** | **11,292** | **13.40%** | **4,364** | **5,220** | **1,129** | **10,713** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 12,848 | 14,193 | 1,345 | 10.47% | 667 | 338 | 134 | 1,139 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 1,532 | 1,787 | 255 | 16.64% | 49 | 95 | 26 | 170 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 340 | 394 | 54 | 15.88% | 6 | 18 | 5 | 29 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 441 | 470 | 29 | 6.58% | 10 | 21 | 3 | 34 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 297 | 344 | 47 | 15.82% | 8 | 20 | 5 | 33 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 1,433 | 1,693 | 260 | 18.14% | 65 | 101 | 26 | 192 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 295 | 350 | 55 | 18.64% | 8 | 11 | 6 | 25 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 5,545 | 6,198 | 653 | 11.78% | 233 | 237 | 65 | 535 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 597 | 665 | 68 | 11.39% | 27 | 36 | 7 | 70 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 5,754 | 6,745 | 991 | 17.22% | 166 | 173 | 99 | 438 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 2,715 | 3,353 | 638 | 23.50% | 179 | 161 | 64 | 404 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 1,341 | 1,542 | 201 | 14.99% | 52 | 64 | 20 | 136 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 6,889 | 8,392 | 1,503 | 21.82% | 555 | 705 | 150 | 1,410 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 2,449 | 2,801 | 352 | 14.37% | 160 | 168 | 35 | 363 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 2,581 | 3,265 | 684 | 26.50% | 220 | 196 | 68 | 484 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 7,133 | 8,043 | 910 | 12.76% | 467 | 590 | 91 | 1,148 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 10,327 | 10,895 | 568 | 5.50% | 547 | 618 | 57 | 1,222 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 1,483 | 1,741 | 258 | 17.40% | 59 | 181 | 26 | 266 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 3,071 | 3,541 | 470 | 15.30% | 118 | 220 | 47 | 385 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 3,105 | 3,404 | 299 | 9.63% | 112 | 191 | 30 | 333 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 7,348 | 8,202 | 854 | 11.62% | 317 | 580 | 85 | 982 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 6,734 | 7,532 | 798 | 11.85% | 337 | 495 | 80 | 912 |

**North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 9,337 | 10,173 | **836** | 8.95% | 570 | 145 | 84 | 799 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,797 | 2,333 | **536** | 29.83% | 183 | 191 | 54 | 428 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 954 | 1,391 | **437** | 45.81% | 94 | 70 | 44 | 208 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 2,332 | 2,733 | **401** | 17.20% | 160 | 201 | 40 | 401 |
| 51-9198 | Helpers--Production Workers | 773 | 1,069 | **296** | 38.29% | 49 | 88 | 30 | 167 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,651 | 1,929 | **278** | 16.84% | 109 | 90 | 28 | 227 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,251 | 1,503 | **252** | 20.14% | 102 | 156 | 25 | 283 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 1,465 | 1,710 | **245** | 16.72% | 46 | 34 | 24 | 104 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 2,240 | 2,425 | **185** | 8.26% | 99 | 146 | 18 | 263 |
| 35-2014 | Cooks, Restaurant | 675 | 858 | **183** | 27.11% | 45 | 61 | 18 | 124 |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth** **(Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 954 | 1,391 | 437 | **45.81%** | 94 | 70 | 44 | 208 |
| 41-4011 | Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products | 73 | 105 | 32 | **43.84%** | 3 | 6 | 3 | 12 |
| 19-1032 | Foresters | 25 | 35 | 10 | **40.00%** | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 51-9198 | Helpers--Production Workers | 773 | 1,069 | 296 | **38.29%** | 49 | 88 | 30 | 167 |
| 13-1161 | Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists | 45 | 62 | 17 | **37.78%** | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 109 | 149 | 40 | **36.70%** | 2 | 4 | 4 | 10 |
| 43-4061 | Eligibility Interviewers, Government Programs | 75 | 102 | 27 | **36.00%** | 4 | 4 | 3 | 11 |
| 21-1011 | Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors | 52 | 70 | 18 | **34.62%** | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| 53-3041 | Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs | 236 | 317 | 81 | **34.32%** | 16 | 11 | 8 | 35 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 76 | 102 | 26 | **34.21%** | 4 | 6 | 3 | 13 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 9,337 | 10,173 | 836 | 8.95% | **570** | 145 | 84 | 799 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 1,925 | 2,007 | 82 | 4.26% | **185** | 180 | 8 | 373 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,797 | 2,333 | 536 | 29.83% | **183** | 191 | 54 | 428 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 2,332 | 2,733 | 401 | 17.20% | **160** | 201 | 40 | 401 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 1,843 | 1,924 | 81 | 4.40% | **110** | 108 | 8 | 226 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,651 | 1,929 | 278 | 16.84% | **109** | 90 | 28 | 227 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,251 | 1,503 | 252 | 20.14% | **102** | 156 | 25 | 283 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 2,240 | 2,425 | 185 | 8.26% | **99** | 146 | 18 | 263 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 954 | 1,391 | 437 | 45.81% | **94** | 70 | 44 | 208 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,059 | 1,221 | 162 | 15.30% | **74** | 72 | 16 | 162 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 2,332 | 2,733 | 401 | 17.20% | 160 | **201** | 40 | 401 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,797 | 2,333 | 536 | 29.83% | 183 | **191** | 54 | 428 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 1,925 | 2,007 | 82 | 4.26% | 185 | **180** | 8 | 373 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,251 | 1,503 | 252 | 20.14% | 102 | **156** | 25 | 283 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 2,240 | 2,425 | 185 | 8.26% | 99 | **146** | 18 | 263 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 9,337 | 10,173 | 836 | 8.95% | 570 | **145** | 84 | 799 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 1,843 | 1,924 | 81 | 4.40% | 110 | **108** | 8 | 226 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 1,183 | 1,327 | 144 | 12.17% | 62 | **107** | 14 | 183 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,651 | 1,929 | 278 | 16.84% | 109 | **90** | 28 | 227 |
| 51-9198 | Helpers--Production Workers | 773 | 1,069 | 296 | 38.29% | 49 | **88** | 30 | 167 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Total Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 9,337 | 10,173 | 836 | 8.95% | 570 | 145 | 84 | **799** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,797 | 2,333 | 536 | 29.83% | 183 | 191 | 54 | **428** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 2,332 | 2,733 | 401 | 17.20% | 160 | 201 | 40 | **401** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 1,925 | 2,007 | 82 | 4.26% | 185 | 180 | 8 | **373** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,251 | 1,503 | 252 | 20.14% | 102 | 156 | 25 | **283** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 2,240 | 2,425 | 185 | 8.26% | 99 | 146 | 18 | **263** |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,651 | 1,929 | 278 | 16.84% | 109 | 90 | 28 | **227** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 1,843 | 1,924 | 81 | 4.40% | 110 | 108 | 8 | **226** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 954 | 1,391 | 437 | 45.81% | 94 | 70 | 44 | **208** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 1,183 | 1,327 | 144 | 12.17% | 62 | 107 | 14 | **183** |

**Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-3071 | Tellers | 602 | 573 | **-29** | -4.82% | 30 | 38 | -3 | 65 |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 1,390 | 1,364 | **-26** | -1.87% | 74 | 72 | -3 | 143 |
| 43-5052 | Postal Service Mail Carriers | 226 | 203 | **-23** | -10.18% | 8 | 6 | -2 | 12 |
| 43-5051 | Postal Service Clerks | 137 | 123 | **-14** | -10.22% | 7 | 4 | -1 | 10 |
| 43-2011 | Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service | 49 | 41 | **-8** | -16.33% | 3 | 3 | -1 | 5 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-9011 | Computer Operators | 25 | 19 | -6 | **-24.00%** | 1 | 1 | -1 | 1 |
| 11-9131 | Postmasters and Mail Superintendents | 27 | 22 | -5 | **-18.52%** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 51-4071 | Foundry Mold and Coremakers | 27 | 22 | -5 | **-18.52%** | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| 43-2011 | Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service | 49 | 41 | -8 | **-16.33%** | 3 | 3 | -1 | 5 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 24 | 21 | -3 | **-12.50%** | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |

**Northeast Arkansas**

**Northeast Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): 4.82%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 10.78%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 4.3%**

 The Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of seven counties: Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, and Randolph, with the state of Missouri bordering the area to the north and Tennessee to the east. The Jonesboro Metropolitan Statistical Area is located in this Area.

Northeast Arkansas WDA is expected to add 12,321 jobs during the projection period. At 10.78 percent, the Area is anticipated to grow faster than the state growth rate during the 2016 to 2026 projection period. Goods-Producing industries are predicted to have a gain of 2,420 jobs, while Services-Providing industries could add 8,883. Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers is anticipating a net gain of 1,018 jobs. The population has increased 4.82 percent from 2006 to 2016, bringing the total population to 266,394. The not-seasonally- adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 4.3 percent.

**Education and Health Services** is expected to be the top growing supersector, with 3,837 new jobs to be added during the projection period, a 14.08 percent rise in jobs. All five industries in **Education and Health Services** are included in the Top 10 Growing Industries list, with *Ambulatory Health Care Services* leading the Area with an expected gain of 1,446 jobs. **Professional and Business Services**is slated to be the fastest growing supersector at a 25.68 percent growth. *Management of Companies and Enterprises* is expected to be the fastest growing industry with a 37.87 percent growth. On the negative side of the labor market, *Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry* is anticipated to be the top declining industry losing 283 jobs, while *Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing* could lose 40 percent of its workforce.

The Northeast Arkansas WDA is expected to have 14,337 annual job openings during the projection period. Of these, 5,695 would be from employees leaving the workforce, while 7,410 would be from employees changing jobs. Another 1,232 would be from growth and expansion. **Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group, adding 1,345 new jobs. *Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food* is projected to be the top growing occupation, with a gain of 514 new jobs. *Nurse Practitioners* is predicted to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing employment by 38.62 percent. In all, five occupations in **Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations** are included in the Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations list. **Healthcare Support Occupations** is slated to be the fastest growing major group, with a 20.21 percent increase. On the negative side of the economy, *Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive* is projected to be the top declining occupation, losing 60 jobs, while *Respiratory Therapy Technicians* could decline the fastest at a 55.81 percent rate.

**Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **114,303** | **126,624** | **12,321** | **10.78%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***10,993*** | ***12,011*** | ***1,018*** | ***9.26%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 10,569 | 11,613 | 1,044 | 9.88% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 424 | 398 | -26 | -6.13% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 26,812 | 29,232 | 2,420 | 9.03% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **3,660** | **3,815** | **155** | **4.23%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 3,558 | 3,700 | 142 | 3.99% |
| 210000 | Mining | 102 | 115 | 13 | 12.75% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **3,794** | **4,340** | **546** | **14.39%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **19,358** | **21,077** | **1,719** | **8.88%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***6,728*** | ***7,412*** | ***684*** | ***10.17%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***12,630*** | ***13,665*** | ***1,035*** | ***8.19%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 76,498 | 85,381 | 8,883 | 11.61% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **19,682** | **21,518** | **1,836** | **9.33%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 3,386 | 3,527 | 141 | 4.16% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 12,777 | 14,030 | 1,253 | 9.81% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 3,072 | 3,509 | 437 | 14.23% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 447 | 452 | 5 | 1.12% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **724** | **680** | **-44** | **-6.08%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **3,328** | **3,516** | **188** | **5.65%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 2,290 | 2,383 | 93 | 4.06% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 1,038 | 1,133 | 95 | 9.15% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **7,099** | **8,922** | **1,823** | **25.68%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 1,620 | 1,873 | 253 | 15.62% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 610 | 841 | 231 | 37.87% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 4,869 | 6,208 | 1,339 | 27.50% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **27,261** | **31,098** | **3,837** | **14.08%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 10,527 | 11,502 | 975 | 9.26% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 16,734 | 19,596 | 2,862 | 17.10% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **9,203** | **10,026** | **823** | **8.94%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 511 | 557 | 46 | 9.00% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 8,692 | 9,469 | 777 | 8.94% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **2,707** | **2,682** | **-25** | **-0.92%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **6,494** | **6,939** | **445** | **6.85%** |

**Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 5,058 | 6,504 | **1,446** | 28.59% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 4,610 | 5,926 | **1,316** | 28.55% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 10,527 | 11,502 | **975** | 9.26% |
| 331000 | Primary Metal Manufacturing | 2,983 | 3,855 | **872** | 29.23% |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 8,077 | 8,824 | **747** | 9.25% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 3,836 | 4,455 | **619** | 16.14% |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 2,437 | 2,943 | **506** | 20.76% |
| 622000 | Hospitals | 4,981 | 5,449 | **468** | 9.40% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 4,258 | 4,700 | **442** | 10.38% |
| 999300 | Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 4,084 | 4,468 | **384** | 9.40% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 610 | 841 | 231 | **37.87%** |
| 112000 | Animal Production | 664 | 864 | 200 | **30.12%** |
| 325000 | Chemical Manufacturing | 994 | 1,289 | 295 | **29.68%** |
| 331000 | Primary Metal Manufacturing | 2,983 | 3,855 | 872 | **29.23%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 5,058 | 6,504 | 1,446 | **28.59%** |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 4,610 | 5,926 | 1,316 | **28.55%** |
| 488000 | Support Activities for Transportation | 691 | 868 | 177 | **25.62%** |
| 493000 | Warehousing and Storage | 453 | 568 | 115 | **25.39%** |
| 236000 | Construction of Buildings | 806 | 990 | 184 | **22.83%** |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 401 | 485 | 84 | **20.95%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 1,161 | 878 | **-283** | -24.38% |
| 491100 | Postal Service | 463 | 404 | **-59** | -12.74% |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 251 | 193 | **-58** | -23.11% |
| 335000 | Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing | 681 | 633 | **-48** | -7.05% |
| 424000 | Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods | 1,425 | 1,378 | **-47** | -3.30% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 312000 | Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing | 25 | 15 | -10 | **-40.00%** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 1,161 | 878 | -283 | **-24.38%** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 120 | 91 | -29 | **-24.17%** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 251 | 193 | -58 | **-23.11%** |
| 454000 | Nonstore Retailers | 158 | 135 | -23 | **-14.56%** |

**Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **114,303** | **126,624** | **12,321** | **10.78%** | **5,695** | **7,410** | **1,232** | **14,337** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 11,183 | 12,175 | 992 | 8.87% | 506 | 369 | 99 | 974 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 2,508 | 2,820 | 312 | 12.44% | 80 | 154 | 31 | 265 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 787 | 902 | 115 | 14.61% | 15 | 40 | 12 | 67 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 955 | 1,127 | 172 | 18.01% | 26 | 48 | 17 | 91 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 323 | 346 | 23 | 7.12% | 9 | 21 | 2 | 32 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 1,856 | 2,081 | 225 | 12.12% | 80 | 128 | 22 | 230 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 303 | 356 | 53 | 17.49% | 8 | 13 | 5 | 26 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 7,221 | 7,912 | 691 | 9.57% | 310 | 313 | 69 | 692 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 771 | 832 | 61 | 7.91% | 32 | 46 | 6 | 84 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 7,409 | 8,754 | 1,345 | 18.15% | 218 | 218 | 134 | 570 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 3,301 | 3,968 | 667 | 20.21% | 209 | 198 | 67 | 474 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 1,716 | 1,919 | 203 | 11.83% | 75 | 90 | 20 | 185 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 9,401 | 10,334 | 933 | 9.92% | 727 | 923 | 93 | 1,743 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 4,010 | 4,790 | 780 | 19.45% | 267 | 280 | 78 | 625 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 3,555 | 4,132 | 577 | 16.23% | 288 | 250 | 58 | 596 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 11,129 | 12,172 | 1,043 | 9.37% | 695 | 898 | 104 | 1,697 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 13,643 | 14,488 | 845 | 6.19% | 724 | 837 | 84 | 1,645 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 2,133 | 2,265 | 132 | 6.19% | 80 | 246 | 13 | 339 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 4,205 | 4,784 | 579 | 13.77% | 159 | 298 | 58 | 515 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 5,064 | 5,729 | 665 | 13.13% | 186 | 317 | 66 | 569 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 14,293 | 15,250 | 957 | 6.70% | 568 | 1,079 | 96 | 1,743 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 8,537 | 9,488 | 951 | 11.14% | 434 | 644 | 95 | 1,173 |

**Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,091 | 3,605 | **514** | 16.63% | 296 | 310 | 51 | 657 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,574 | 2,023 | **449** | 28.53% | 144 | 108 | 45 | 297 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,898 | 2,339 | **441** | 23.23% | 138 | 133 | 44 | 315 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,346 | 3,739 | **393** | 11.75% | 224 | 281 | 39 | 544 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 2,036 | 2,409 | **373** | 18.32% | 64 | 48 | 37 | 149 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,034 | 2,383 | **349** | 17.16% | 109 | 189 | 35 | 333 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,924 | 2,254 | **330** | 17.15% | 127 | 106 | 33 | 266 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 6,165 | 6,484 | **319** | 5.17% | 370 | 94 | 32 | 496 |
| 29-2061 | Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses | 1,306 | 1,523 | **217** | 16.62% | 50 | 49 | 22 | 121 |
| 11-1021 | General and Operations Managers | 1,613 | 1,827 | **214** | 13.27% | 36 | 103 | 21 | 160 |

# Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 189 | 262 | 73 | **38.62%** | 4 | 6 | 7 | 17 |
| 31-2011 | Occupational Therapy Assistants | 32 | 44 | 12 | **37.50%** | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| 29-1122 | Occupational Therapists | 80 | 108 | 28 | **35.00%** | 2 | 3 | 3 | 8 |
| 29-1123 | Physical Therapists | 178 | 238 | 60 | **33.71%** | 4 | 4 | 6 | 14 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 224 | 298 | 74 | **33.04%** | 12 | 16 | 7 | 35 |
| 31-2021 | Physical Therapist Assistants | 142 | 188 | 46 | **32.39%** | 7 | 12 | 5 | 24 |
| 29-1127 | Speech-Language Pathologists | 227 | 298 | 71 | **31.28%** | 5 | 8 | 7 | 20 |
| 13-1161 | Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists | 135 | 176 | 41 | **30.37%** | 4 | 11 | 4 | 19 |
| 15-1132 | Software Developers, Applications | 53 | 69 | 16 | **30.19%** | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| 29-1126 | Respiratory Therapists | 50 | 65 | 15 | **30.00%** | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |

# Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 6,165 | 6,484 | 319 | 5.17% | **370** | 94 | 32 | 496 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,091 | 3,605 | 514 | 16.63% | **296** | 310 | 51 | 657 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,709 | 2,822 | 113 | 4.17% | **260** | 253 | 11 | 524 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,346 | 3,739 | 393 | 11.75% | **224** | 281 | 39 | 544 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,891 | 2,006 | 115 | 6.08% | **144** | 221 | 12 | 377 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,574 | 2,023 | 449 | 28.53% | **144** | 108 | 45 | 297 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,389 | 2,520 | 131 | 5.48% | **144** | 140 | 13 | 297 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,898 | 2,339 | 441 | 23.23% | **138** | 133 | 44 | 315 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 3,127 | 3,082 | -45 | -1.44% | **133** | 225 | -4 | 354 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,924 | 2,254 | 330 | 17.15% | **127** | 106 | 33 | 266 |

# Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,091 | 3,605 | 514 | 16.63% | 296 | **310** | 51 | 657 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,346 | 3,739 | 393 | 11.75% | 224 | **281** | 39 | 544 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,709 | 2,822 | 113 | 4.17% | 260 | **253** | 11 | 524 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 3,127 | 3,082 | -45 | -1.44% | 133 | **225** | -4 | 354 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,891 | 2,006 | 115 | 6.08% | 144 | **221** | 12 | 377 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,034 | 2,383 | 349 | 17.16% | 109 | **189** | 35 | 333 |
| 45-2092 | Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse | 1,230 | 1,280 | 50 | 4.07% | 46 | **143** | 5 | 194 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,389 | 2,520 | 131 | 5.48% | 144 | **140** | 13 | 297 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,898 | 2,339 | 441 | 23.23% | 138 | **133** | 44 | 315 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 1,719 | 1,834 | 115 | 6.69% | 75 | **112** | 12 | 199 |

# Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,091 | 3,605 | 514 | 16.63% | 296 | 310 | 51 | **657** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,346 | 3,739 | 393 | 11.75% | 224 | 281 | 39 | **544** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,709 | 2,822 | 113 | 4.17% | 260 | 253 | 11 | **524** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 6,165 | 6,484 | 319 | 5.17% | 370 | 94 | 32 | **496** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,891 | 2,006 | 115 | 6.08% | 144 | 221 | 12 | **377** |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 3,127 | 3,082 | -45 | -1.44% | 133 | 225 | -4 | **354** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,034 | 2,383 | 349 | 17.16% | 109 | 189 | 35 | **333** |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,898 | 2,339 | 441 | 23.23% | 138 | 133 | 44 | **315** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,574 | 2,023 | 449 | 28.53% | 144 | 108 | 45 | **297** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,389 | 2,520 | 131 | 5.48% | 144 | 140 | 13 | **297** |

# 

# Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 1,495 | 1,435 | **-60** | -4.01% | 79 | 77 | -6 | 150 |
| 29-2054 | Respiratory Therapy Technicians | 86 | 38 | **-48** | -55.81% | 2 | 2 | -5 | 0 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 3,127 | 3,082 | **-45** | -1.44% | 133 | 225 | -4 | 354 |
| 43-5052 | Postal Service Mail Carriers | 292 | 256 | **-36** | -12.33% | 11 | 8 | -4 | 15 |
| 35-2011 | Cooks, Fast Food | 571 | 536 | **-35** | -6.13% | 32 | 44 | -4 | 72 |

# Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 29-2054 | Respiratory Therapy Technicians | 86 | 38 | -48 | **-55.81%** | 2 | 2 | -5 | 0 |
| 43-9011 | Computer Operators | 25 | 20 | -5 | **-20.00%** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 11-9131 | Postmasters and Mail Superintendents | 26 | 21 | -5 | **-19.23%** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 49-2022 | Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers | 174 | 147 | -27 | **-15.52%** | 5 | 11 | -3 | 13 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 88 | 75 | -13 | **-14.77%** | 4 | 5 | -1 | 8 |

# Western Arkansas

**Western Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): 2.69%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 8.80%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 3.9%**

 The Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) 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 WDA.

The Western Arkansas WDA is expected to experience a net growth of employment with 10,570 jobs forecast to be added during the projection period. Goods-Producing industries are projected to have a net gain of 523 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are estimated to add 9,139. The Area is predicted to gain 908 jobs for Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers. The population grew 2.69 percent from 2006 to 2016 for a total population of 259,928. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 3.9 percent.

The **Education and Health Services** supersector is expected to be the top and fastest growing supersector, with a gain of 4,016 jobs, a 17.15 percent increase. Driving this growth is *Ambulatory Health Care Services* with an increase of 1,503 new jobs. *Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions* could more than triple in size between 2016 and 2026, making it the fastest growing industry in the Western Arkansas WDA. On the negative side of the labor market, *Machinery Manufacturing* is forecast to lose 247 jobs, a 19.37 percent drop, making it the top declining industry. *Private Households,* however, could decline the fastest at a rate of 28.83 percent. **Information** is slated to be the top and fastest declining industry supersector, declining by 45 jobs, or 3.95 percent.

The Western Arkansas WDA is projected to see an 8.80 percent growth of its workforce between 2016 and 2026, which is slower than the state growth rate. Around 14,894 annual job openings are expected to be available during the projection period, with 6,039 created from employees leaving the workforce, 7,798 from those changing jobs, and 1,057 from growth and expansion. **Transportation and Material Moving Occupations** is projected to be the top growing major group, with a gain of 1,247 jobs. Driving this growth is Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers, with an increase of 653 jobs. **Healthcare Support Occupations** is slated to be the fastest growing major group, increasing employment by 25.36 percent from 2016 to 2026. *Personal Care Aides* is predicted to be the fastest growing occupation in the Area, increasing by 46.33 percent. On the negative side of the job market, *Team Assemblers* is forecasted to lose 259 jobs, becoming the top declining occupation in Western Arkansas, while *Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers* could see a 23.20 percent reduction in jobs, becoming the fastest declining occupation.

**Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **120,159** | **130,729** | **10,570** | **8.80%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***11,488*** | ***12,396*** | ***908*** | ***7.90%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 11,072 | 12,008 | 936 | 8.45% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 416 | 388 | -28 | -6.73% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 27,083 | 27,606 | 523 | 1.93% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **2,291** | **2,353** | **62** | **2.71%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 1,475 | 1,544 | 69 | 4.68% |
| 210000 | Mining | 816 | 809 | -7 | -0.86% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **3,906** | **4,310** | **404** | **10.34%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **20,886** | **20,943** | **57** | **0.27%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***11,801*** | ***12,385*** | ***584*** | ***4.95%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***9,085*** | ***8,558*** | ***-527*** | ***-5.80%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 81,588 | 90,727 | 9,139 | 11.20% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **22,828** | **25,014** | **2,186** | **9.58%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 3,560 | 3,683 | 123 | 3.46% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 12,614 | 13,875 | 1,261 | 10.00% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 6,001 | 6,835 | 834 | 13.90% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 653 | 621 | -32 | -4.90% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **1,138** | **1,093** | **-45** | **-3.95%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **3,541** | **3,707** | **166** | **4.69%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 2,421 | 2,493 | 72 | 2.97% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 1,120 | 1,214 | 94 | 8.39% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **10,816** | **12,004** | **1,188** | **10.98%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 1,998 | 2,310 | 312 | 15.62% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 2,430 | 3,022 | 592 | 24.36% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 6,388 | 6,672 | 284 | 4.45% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **23,422** | **27,438** | **4,016** | **17.15%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 8,155 | 8,914 | 759 | 9.31% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 15,267 | 18,524 | 3,257 | 21.33% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **9,215** | **10,308** | **1,093** | **11.86%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 495 | 572 | 77 | 15.56% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 8,720 | 9,736 | 1,016 | 11.65% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **4,286** | **4,243** | **-43** | **-1.00%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **6,342** | **6,920** | **578** | **9.11%** |

**Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 5,258 | 6,761 | **1,503** | 28.59% |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 8,029 | 9,011 | **982** | 12.23% |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 3,421 | 4,263 | **842** | 24.61% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,310 | 3,077 | **767** | 33.20% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 8,155 | 8,914 | **759** | 9.31% |
| 484000 | Truck Transportation | 4,188 | 4,908 | **720** | 17.19% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 4,069 | 4,703 | **634** | 15.58% |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 2,430 | 3,022 | **592** | 24.36% |
| 311000 | Food Manufacturing | 9,008 | 9,471 | **463** | 5.14% |
| 999200 | State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 1,772 | 2,110 | **338** | 19.07% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 712000 | Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions | 21 | 79 | 58 | **276.19%** |
| 326000 | Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing | 303 | 495 | 192 | **63.37%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,310 | 3,077 | 767 | **33.20%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 5,258 | 6,761 | 1,503 | **28.59%** |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 3,421 | 4,263 | 842 | **24.61%** |
| 111000 | Crop Production | 554 | 690 | 136 | **24.55%** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 2,430 | 3,022 | 592 | **24.36%** |
| 485000 | Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation | 52 | 64 | 12 | **23.08%** |
| 442000 | Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores | 233 | 283 | 50 | **21.46%** |
| 453000 | Miscellaneous Store Retailers | 572 | 691 | 119 | **20.80%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 333000 | Machinery Manufacturing | 1,275 | 1,028 | **-247** | -19.37% |
| 337000 | Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing | 894 | 717 | **-177** | -19.80% |
| 335000 | Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing | 2,431 | 2,266 | **-165** | -6.79% |
| 812000 | Personal and Laundry Services | 587 | 487 | **-100** | -17.04% |
| 327000 | Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing | 511 | 450 | **-61** | -11.94% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 163 | 116 | -47 | **-28.83%** |
| 113000 | Forestry and Logging | 99 | 72 | -27 | **-27.27%** |
| 315000 | Apparel Manufacturing | 90 | 68 | -22 | **-24.44%** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 250 | 192 | -58 | **-23.20%** |
| 339000 | Miscellaneous Manufacturing | 186 | 148 | -38 | **-20.43%** |

**Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **120,159** | **130,729** | **10,570** | **8.80%** | **6,039** | **7,798** | **1,057** | **14,894** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 10,910 | 11,650 | 740 | 6.78% | 491 | 354 | 74 | 919 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 3,049 | 3,483 | 434 | 14.23% | 96 | 189 | 43 | 328 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 1,169 | 1,299 | 130 | 11.12% | 22 | 59 | 13 | 94 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 872 | 959 | 87 | 9.98% | 23 | 44 | 9 | 76 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 460 | 499 | 39 | 8.48% | 14 | 31 | 4 | 49 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 2,064 | 2,357 | 293 | 14.20% | 95 | 142 | 29 | 266 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 504 | 574 | 70 | 13.89% | 13 | 18 | 7 | 38 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 5,401 | 6,021 | 620 | 11.48% | 232 | 232 | 62 | 526 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 895 | 970 | 75 | 8.38% | 39 | 48 | 8 | 95 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 6,618 | 7,703 | 1,085 | 16.39% | 199 | 187 | 108 | 494 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 3,309 | 4,148 | 839 | 25.36% | 217 | 199 | 84 | 500 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 1,603 | 1,745 | 142 | 8.86% | 65 | 81 | 14 | 160 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 9,528 | 10,721 | 1,193 | 12.52% | 755 | 942 | 119 | 1,816 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 3,134 | 3,448 | 314 | 10.02% | 202 | 208 | 31 | 441 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 3,356 | 4,135 | 779 | 23.21% | 288 | 246 | 78 | 612 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 11,347 | 12,222 | 875 | 7.71% | 734 | 929 | 88 | 1,751 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 16,415 | 16,914 | 499 | 3.04% | 853 | 990 | 50 | 1,893 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 1,568 | 1,588 | 20 | 1.28% | 59 | 166 | 2 | 227 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 4,854 | 5,350 | 496 | 10.22% | 179 | 340 | 50 | 569 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 5,040 | 5,412 | 372 | 7.38% | 183 | 305 | 37 | 525 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 15,991 | 16,212 | 221 | 1.38% | 696 | 1,205 | 22 | 1,923 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 12,072 | 13,319 | 1,247 | 10.33% | 583 | 883 | 125 | 1,591 |

**Western Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 4,371 | 5,024 | **653** | 14.94% | 199 | 295 | 65 | 559 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,004 | 3,593 | **589** | 19.61% | 292 | 306 | 59 | 657 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,213 | 1,775 | **562** | 46.33% | 119 | 90 | 56 | 265 |
| 51-9198 | Helpers--Production Workers | 2,542 | 2,934 | **392** | 15.42% | 147 | 261 | 39 | 447 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,434 | 3,814 | **380** | 11.07% | 229 | 288 | 38 | 555 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,745 | 2,107 | **362** | 20.74% | 117 | 97 | 36 | 250 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 718 | 1,022 | **304** | 42.34% | 53 | 44 | 30 | 127 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 2,213 | 2,500 | **287** | 12.97% | 68 | 51 | 29 | 148 |
| 29-2061 | Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses | 1,183 | 1,415 | **232** | 19.61% | 46 | 45 | 23 | 114 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 6,082 | 6,258 | **176** | 2.89% | 361 | 92 | 18 | 471 |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,213 | 1,775 | 562 | **46.33%** | 119 | 90 | 56 | 265 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 718 | 1,022 | 304 | **42.34%** | 53 | 44 | 30 | 127 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 65 | 92 | 27 | **41.54%** | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| 51-9041 | Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders | 125 | 176 | 51 | **40.80%** | 6 | 12 | 5 | 23 |
| 29-1123 | Physical Therapists | 172 | 230 | 58 | **33.72%** | 4 | 4 | 6 | 14 |
| 29-1122 | Occupational Therapists | 120 | 160 | 40 | **33.33%** | 3 | 4 | 4 | 11 |
| 13-1161 | Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists | 182 | 241 | 59 | **32.42%** | 6 | 14 | 6 | 26 |
| 25-2051 | Special Education Teachers, Preschool | 34 | 45 | 11 | **32.35%** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 153 | 200 | 47 | **30.72%** | 8 | 11 | 5 | 24 |
| 13-1141 | Compensation, Benefits, and Job Analysis Specialists | 96 | 124 | 28 | **29.17%** | 3 | 6 | 3 | 12 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 6,082 | 6,258 | 176 | 2.89% | **361** | 92 | 18 | 471 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,426 | 3,570 | 144 | 4.20% | **328** | 320 | 14 | 662 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,004 | 3,593 | 589 | 19.61% | **292** | 306 | 59 | 657 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,434 | 3,814 | 380 | 11.07% | **229** | 288 | 38 | 555 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 4,371 | 5,024 | 653 | 14.94% | **199** | 295 | 65 | 559 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,682 | 2,677 | -5 | -0.19% | **157** | 153 | 0 | 310 |
| 51-9198 | Helpers--Production Workers | 2,542 | 2,934 | 392 | 15.42% | **147** | 261 | 39 | 447 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,842 | 2,990 | 148 | 5.21% | **144** | 249 | 15 | 408 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,600 | 1,751 | 151 | 9.44% | **124** | 190 | 15 | 329 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,213 | 1,775 | 562 | 46.33% | **119** | 90 | 56 | 265 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,426 | 3,570 | 144 | 4.20% | 328 | **320** | 14 | 662 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,004 | 3,593 | 589 | 19.61% | 292 | **306** | 59 | 657 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 4,371 | 5,024 | 653 | 14.94% | 199 | **295** | 65 | 559 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,434 | 3,814 | 380 | 11.07% | 229 | **288** | 38 | 555 |
| 51-9198 | Helpers--Production Workers | 2,542 | 2,934 | 392 | 15.42% | 147 | **261** | 39 | 447 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,842 | 2,990 | 148 | 5.21% | 144 | **249** | 15 | 408 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,600 | 1,751 | 151 | 9.44% | 124 | **190** | 15 | 329 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,682 | 2,677 | -5 | -0.19% | 157 | **153** | 0 | 310 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 1,655 | 1,816 | 161 | 9.73% | 95 | **124** | 16 | 235 |
| 41-1011 | First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers | 1,445 | 1,620 | 175 | 12.11% | 57 | **103** | 18 | 178 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,426 | 3,570 | 144 | 4.20% | 328 | 320 | 14 | **662** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 3,004 | 3,593 | 589 | 19.61% | 292 | 306 | 59 | **657** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 4,371 | 5,024 | 653 | 14.94% | 199 | 295 | 65 | **559** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,434 | 3,814 | 380 | 11.07% | 229 | 288 | 38 | **555** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 6,082 | 6,258 | 176 | 2.89% | 361 | 92 | 18 | **471** |
| 51-9198 | Helpers--Production Workers | 2,542 | 2,934 | 392 | 15.42% | 147 | 261 | 39 | **447** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,842 | 2,990 | 148 | 5.21% | 144 | 249 | 15 | **408** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,600 | 1,751 | 151 | 9.44% | 124 | 190 | 15 | **329** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,682 | 2,677 | -5 | -0.19% | 157 | 153 | 0 | **310** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,213 | 1,775 | 562 | 46.33% | 119 | 90 | 56 | **265** |

**Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 1,429 | 1,170 | **-259** | -18.12% | 56 | 94 | -26 | 124 |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 1,565 | 1,496 | **-69** | -4.41% | 82 | 80 | -7 | 155 |
| 51-2022 | Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers | 328 | 270 | **-58** | -17.68% | 15 | 20 | -6 | 29 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 235 | 189 | **-46** | -19.57% | 11 | 14 | -5 | 20 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 249 | 210 | **-39** | -15.66% | 12 | 12 | -4 | 20 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 49-2022 | | Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers | 125 | 96 | -29 | **-23.20%** | 4 | 8 | -3 | 9 |
| 51-2041 | | Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters | 159 | 124 | -35 | **-22.01%** | 5 | 10 | -4 | 11 |
| 39-4021 | | Funeral Attendants | 58 | 46 | -12 | **-20.69%** | 5 | 3 | -1 | 7 |
| 43-9021 | | Data Entry Keyers | 235 | 189 | -46 | **-19.57%** | 11 | 14 | -5 | 20 |
| 51-4032 | | Drilling and Boring Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic | 27 | 22 | -5 | **-18.52%** | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |

# West Central Arkansas

The West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) 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 WDA.

**West Central Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): 3.20%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 11.50%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 4.5%**



West Central Arkansas is expected to see an employment increase of 14,425 during the 2016-2026 projection period. Goods-Producing industries are projected to gain 1,098 new jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to gain 12,017. Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers is estimated to increase 1,310 jobs by 2026. The population grew 3.20 percent from 2006 and 2016, bringing the Area’s total population to 315,795 residents. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for annual 2016 was 4.5 percent.

**Education and Health Services** is estimated to add 4,414 jobs, making it the top supersector in West Central Arkansas for numeric change. At 24.66 percent growth, **Leisure and Hospitality** is projected to be the fastest growing supersector. Driving this growth is *Food Services and Drinking Places*, whichis predicted to lead all industries in net growth, adding 1,812 to the local workforce. *Ambulatory Health Care Services* is slated to be the fastest growing industry, increasing employment by 29.58 percent between 2016 and 2026. On the negative side, the **Other Services (Except Government**) supersector is estimated to lose 183 jobs during the projection period. *Construction of Buildings* is estimated to be the top declining industry, losing 177 jobs, , a 31.55 percent decline, while *Support Activities for Transportation* is slated to lose 32.01 percent of its workforce, making it the fastest declining industry.

West Central Arkansas’ occupational employment is expected to increase 11.50 percent during the projection period, growing faster than the state as a whole. About 16,191 annual job openings are anticipated in the Area. Of these, 6,515 are estimated to come from employees leaving the workforce, while 8,234 from employees changing jobs. Growth and expansion is estimated to account for 1,442 of those jobs. The **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** major group is projected to be the top and fastest growing major group with 3,173 new jobs, a 28.52 percent gain. *Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food* is predicted to be the top growing occupation and is estimated to have the most annual job openings, with a gain of 1,033 new jobs between 2016 and 2026, and 686 annual job openings. *Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders* is set to be the fastest growing occupation, with a 65.79 percent gain. *Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive* could lose 97 jobs between 2016 and 2026, making it the top declining occupation in West Central Arkansas, while *Word Processors and Typists*could lose 37.5 percent of its workforce.

**West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **125,472** | **139,897** | **14,425** | **11.50%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***13,154*** | ***14,464*** | ***1,310*** | ***9.96%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 12,648 | 13,991 | 1,343 | 10.62% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 506 | 473 | -33 | -6.52% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 24,227 | 25,325 | 1,098 | 4.53% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **3,680** | **3,758** | **78** | **2.12%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 3,144 | 3,245 | 101 | 3.21% |
| 210000 | Mining | 536 | 513 | -23 | -4.29% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **4,563** | **5,115** | **552** | **12.10%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **15,984** | **16,452** | **468** | **2.93%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***8,877*** | ***9,543*** | ***666*** | ***7.50%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***7,107*** | ***6,909*** | ***-198*** | ***-2.79%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 88,091 | 100,108 | 12,017 | 13.64% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **21,816** | **24,115** | **2,299** | **10.54%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 1,942 | 1,963 | 21 | 1.08% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 14,240 | 15,907 | 1,667 | 11.71% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 4,289 | 4,844 | 555 | 12.94% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 1,345 | 1,401 | 56 | 4.16% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **847** | **867** | **20** | **2.36%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **4,101** | **4,931** | **830** | **20.24%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 3,027 | 3,707 | 680 | 22.46% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 1,074 | 1,224 | 150 | 13.97% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **7,625** | **8,339** | **714** | **9.36%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 1,962 | 2,269 | 307 | 15.65% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 411 | 384 | -27 | -6.57% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 5,252 | 5,686 | 434 | 8.26% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **27,503** | **31,917** | **4,414** | **16.05%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 11,167 | 12,170 | 1,003 | 8.98% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 16,336 | 19,747 | 3,411 | 20.88% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **13,388** | **16,690** | **3,302** | **24.66%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 2,139 | 2,300 | 161 | 7.53% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 11,249 | 14,390 | 3,141 | 27.92% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **4,796** | **4,613** | **-183** | **-3.82%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **8,015** | **8,636** | **621** | **7.75%** |

**West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026  Projected  Employment** | **Net Growth** | **Percent Growth** |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 8,938 | 10,750 | **1,812** | 20.27% |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 4,990 | 6,466 | **1,476** | 29.58% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 11,439 | 12,460 | **1,021** | 8.93% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 4,071 | 4,663 | **592** | 14.54% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 3,771 | 4,320 | **549** | 14.56% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 4,945 | 5,466 | **521** | 10.54% |
| 999300 | Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 3,932 | 4,308 | **376** | 9.56% |
| 541000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 2,747 | 3,118 | **371** | 13.51% |
| 238000 | Specialty Trade Contractors | 2,974 | 3,322 | **348** | 11.70% |
| 999200 | State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 3,112 | 3,438 | **326** | 10.48% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026  Projected  Employment** | **Net Growth** | **Percent Growth** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 4,990 | 6,466 | 1,476 | **29.58%** |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 401 | 504 | 103 | **25.69%** |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 8,938 | 10,750 | 1,812 | **20.27%** |
| 485000 | Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation | 96 | 115 | 19 | **19.79%** |
| 811000 | Repair and Maintenance | 845 | 979 | 134 | **15.86%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 3,771 | 4,320 | 549 | **14.56%** |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 4,071 | 4,663 | 592 | **14.54%** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 421 | 481 | 60 | **14.25%** |
| 523000 | Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Developments and Related Activities | 176 | 201 | 25 | **14.20%** |
| 512000 | Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries | 87 | 99 | 12 | **13.79%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026  Projected  Employment** | **Net Growth** | **Percent Growth** |
| 236000 | Construction of Buildings | 561 | 384 | **-177** | -31.55% |
| 491100 | Postal Service | 506 | 377 | **-129** | -25.49% |
| 488000 | Support Activities for Transportation | 353 | 240 | **-113** | -32.01% |
| 524000 | Insurance Carriers and Related Activities | 1,397 | 1,289 | **-108** | -7.73% |
| 999100 | Federal Government, Excluding Post Office | 779 | 697 | **-82** | -10.53% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026  Projected  Employment** | **Net Growth** | **Percent Growth** |
| 488000 | Support Activities for Transportation | 353 | 240 | -113 | **-32.01%** |
| 236000 | Construction of Buildings | 561 | 384 | -177 | **-31.55%** |
| 491100 | Postal Service | 506 | 377 | -129 | **-25.49%** |
| 212000 | Mining (except Oil and Gas) | 301 | 235 | -66 | **-21.93%** |
| 335000 | Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing | 384 | 313 | -71 | **-18.49%** |

## **West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area** 2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **125,472** | **139,897** | **14,425** | **11.50%** | **6,515** | **8,234** | **1,442** | **16,191** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 13,018 | 14,160 | 1,142 | 8.77% | 605 | 415 | 114 | 1,134 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 2,739 | 3,070 | 331 | 12.08% | 87 | 166 | 33 | 286 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 852 | 956 | 104 | 12.21% | 17 | 43 | 10 | 70 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 769 | 847 | 78 | 10.14% | 21 | 37 | 8 | 66 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 603 | 603 | 0 | 0.00% | 17 | 40 | 0 | 57 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 2,744 | 3,095 | 351 | 12.79% | 123 | 188 | 35 | 346 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 362 | 416 | 54 | 14.92% | 11 | 15 | 5 | 31 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 6,817 | 7,626 | 809 | 11.87% | 284 | 292 | 81 | 657 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 951 | 1,008 | 57 | 5.99% | 42 | 54 | 6 | 102 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 6,696 | 7,683 | 987 | 14.74% | 194 | 195 | 99 | 488 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 3,698 | 4,558 | 860 | 23.26% | 241 | 223 | 86 | 550 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 3,048 | 3,280 | 232 | 7.61% | 132 | 163 | 23 | 318 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 11,127 | 14,300 | 3,173 | 28.52% | 931 | 1,181 | 317 | 2,429 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 4,428 | 4,852 | 424 | 9.58% | 285 | 293 | 42 | 620 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 4,234 | 5,117 | 883 | 20.85% | 356 | 331 | 88 | 775 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 12,709 | 14,150 | 1,441 | 11.34% | 830 | 1,058 | 144 | 2,032 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 16,297 | 17,267 | 970 | 5.95% | 864 | 1,010 | 97 | 1,971 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 2,067 | 2,138 | 71 | 3.43% | 78 | 228 | 7 | 313 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 4,784 | 5,408 | 624 | 13.04% | 180 | 340 | 62 | 582 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 5,733 | 6,238 | 505 | 8.81% | 206 | 350 | 50 | 606 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 11,868 | 12,182 | 314 | 2.65% | 503 | 873 | 31 | 1,407 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 9,928 | 10,943 | 1,015 | 10.22% | 509 | 738 | 102 | 1,349 |

## 

## **West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area** 2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

## **Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,707 | 3,740 | **1,033** | 38.16% | 285 | 298 | 103 | 686 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,041 | 2,581 | **540** | 26.46% | 171 | 262 | 54 | 487 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,102 | 1,630 | **528** | 47.91% | 109 | 82 | 53 | 244 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,748 | 4,262 | **514** | 13.71% | 254 | 318 | 51 | 623 |
| 35-2014 | Cooks, Restaurant | 1,356 | 1,820 | **464** | 34.22% | 93 | 127 | 46 | 266 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 7,669 | 8,106 | **437** | 5.70% | 461 | 117 | 44 | 622 |
| 43-4051 | Customer Service Representatives | 1,756 | 2,166 | **410** | 23.35% | 100 | 147 | 41 | 288 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 952 | 1,355 | **403** | 42.33% | 70 | 58 | 40 | 168 |
| 35-2021 | Food Preparation Workers | 1,214 | 1,535 | **321** | 26.44% | 110 | 119 | 32 | 261 |
| 35-1012 | First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers | 997 | 1,276 | **279** | 27.98% | 51 | 108 | 28 | 187 |

## 

## **Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 51-9196 | Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders | 114 | 189 | 75 | **65.79%** | 6 | 10 | 8 | 24 |
| 43-9041 | Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks | 56 | 84 | 28 | **50.00%** | 3 | 4 | 3 | 10 |
| 51-8021 | Stationary Engineers and Boiler Operators | 26 | 39 | 13 | **50.00%** | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 33-2022 | Forest Fire Inspectors and Prevention Specialists | 27 | 40 | 13 | **48.15%** | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,102 | 1,630 | 528 | **47.91%** | 109 | 82 | 53 | 244 |
| 41-3021 | Insurance Sales Agents | 352 | 517 | 165 | **46.88%** | 18 | 23 | 16 | 57 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 143 | 205 | 62 | **43.36%** | 3 | 5 | 6 | 14 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 952 | 1,355 | 403 | **42.33%** | 70 | 58 | 40 | 168 |
| 29-1071 | Physician Assistants | 54 | 75 | 21 | **38.89%** | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,707 | 3,740 | 1,033 | **38.16%** | 285 | 298 | 103 | 686 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 7,669 | 8,106 | 437 | 5.70% | **461** | 117 | 44 | 622 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,432 | 3,679 | 247 | 7.20% | **334** | 326 | 25 | 685 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,707 | 3,740 | 1,033 | 38.16% | **285** | 298 | 103 | 686 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,748 | 4,262 | 514 | 13.71% | **254** | 318 | 51 | 623 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,041 | 2,581 | 540 | 26.46% | **171** | 262 | 54 | 487 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,493 | 2,523 | 30 | 1.20% | **147** | 143 | 3 | 293 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,046 | 2,258 | 212 | 10.36% | **140** | 135 | 21 | 296 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 2,645 | 2,919 | 274 | 10.36% | **118** | 175 | 27 | 320 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,278 | 2,490 | 212 | 9.31% | **118** | 204 | 21 | 343 |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 2,121 | 2,024 | -97 | -4.57% | **112** | 109 | -10 | 211 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,432 | 3,679 | 247 | 7.20% | 334 | **326** | 25 | 685 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,748 | 4,262 | 514 | 13.71% | 254 | **318** | 51 | 623 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,707 | 3,740 | 1,033 | 38.16% | 285 | **298** | 103 | 686 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,041 | 2,581 | 540 | 26.46% | 171 | **262** | 54 | 487 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,278 | 2,490 | 212 | 9.31% | 118 | **204** | 21 | 343 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 2,645 | 2,919 | 274 | 10.36% | 118 | **175** | 27 | 320 |
| 43-4051 | Customer Service Representatives | 1,756 | 2,166 | 410 | 23.35% | 100 | **147** | 41 | 288 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,493 | 2,523 | 30 | 1.20% | 147 | **143** | 3 | 293 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,046 | 2,258 | 212 | 10.36% | 140 | **135** | 21 | 296 |
| 41-1011 | First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers | 1,780 | 2,014 | 234 | 13.15% | 70 | **128** | 23 | 221 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,707 | 3,740 | 1,033 | 38.16% | 285 | 298 | 103 | **686** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,432 | 3,679 | 247 | 7.20% | 334 | 326 | 25 | **685** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 3,748 | 4,262 | 514 | 13.71% | 254 | 318 | 51 | **623** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 7,669 | 8,106 | 437 | 5.70% | 461 | 117 | 44 | **622** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,041 | 2,581 | 540 | 26.46% | 171 | 262 | 54 | **487** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,278 | 2,490 | 212 | 9.31% | 118 | 204 | 21 | **343** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 2,645 | 2,919 | 274 | 10.36% | 118 | 175 | 27 | **320** |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,046 | 2,258 | 212 | 10.36% | 140 | 135 | 21 | **296** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,493 | 2,523 | 30 | 1.20% | 147 | 143 | 3 | **293** |
| 43-4051 | Customer Service Representatives | 1,756 | 2,166 | 410 | 23.35% | 100 | 147 | 41 | **288** |

**Top 5 Declining Occupations (Ranked by Net Growth) (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 2,121 | 2,024 | **-97** | -4.57% | 112 | 109 | -10 | 211 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 405 | 360 | **-45** | -11.11% | 16 | 28 | -4 | 40 |
| 43-5052 | Postal Service Mail Carriers | 327 | 294 | **-33** | -10.09% | 12 | 9 | -3 | 18 |
| 21-2011 | Clergy | 1,072 | 1,040 | **-32** | -2.99% | 48 | 65 | -3 | 110 |
| 43-3071 | Tellers | 587 | 560 | **-27** | -4.60% | 29 | 37 | -3 | 63 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations (Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-9022 | Word Processors and Typists | 32 | 20 | -12 | **-37.50%** | 2 | 1 | -1 | 2 |
| 49-9091 | Coin, Vending, and Amusement Machine Servicers and Repairers | 52 | 38 | -14 | **-26.92%** | 2 | 3 | -1 | 4 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 117 | 92 | -25 | **-21.37%** | 5 | 7 | -2 | 10 |
| 51-6031 | Sewing Machine Operators | 81 | 69 | -12 | **-14.81%** | 4 | 4 | -1 | 7 |
| 51-9022 | Grinding and Polishing Workers, Hand | 81 | 70 | -11 | **-13.58%** | 3 | 6 | -1 | 8 |

**Central Arkansas**

Ark The Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of six counties: Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, Saline, and the portion of Pulaski County outside of Little Rock. The majority of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area is located in this WDA.

**Central Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): 12.91%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 11.25%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 3.5%**

The Central Arkansas WDA is expected to add 19,887 new jobs between 2016 and 2026. The Area’s 11.25 percent growth is faster than the state as a whole. Goods-Producing industries are projected to gain 1,508 new jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to add 16,791 jobs. In addition, 1,588 more Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers are expected to be based in this area. The population for the Area grew 12.91 percent from 2006 to 2016 to 523,676 total residents. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 3.5 percent.

**Education and Health Services** is estimated to be the top growing supersector in Central Arkansas, with a growth of 6,545, an increase of 19.14 percent. **Information** is predicted to be the fastest growing supersector with a 19.51 percent gain. Driving this growth is *Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services,* which is estimated to more than double in size between 2016 and 2026. *Food Services and Drinking Places* is projected to be the top growing industry, gaining 2,735 new jobs during the projection period. On the negative side of the local labor market, *Food Manufacturing* is forecasted to be the top declining industry, with a loss of 148 jobs. *Textile Product Mills* and *Private Households* are tied as the fastest declining industries, each with a 31.25 percent loss of their respective workforce.

Central Arkansas is expected to have 22,643 annual job openings during the projection period, with 9,004 created from employees leaving the workforce, 11,650 from changing jobs, and 1,989 from growth and expansion. The **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** major group is projected to add the most jobs, with 2,850 new jobs anticipated, while **Personal Care and Service Occupations** is estimated to be the fastest growing major group, with an increase of 24.76 percent. *Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food* is estimated to be the top growing occupation with a gain of 1,592 jobs. At 41.27 percent, *Personal Care Aides* is forecast to be the fastest growing occupation. The **Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations** and **Healthcare Support Occupations** major groups each have three occupations on the Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations list. For declining occupations, *Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive* is anticipated to lose 110 jobs between 2016 and 2026, becoming the top declining occupation in the Area. *Logging Equipment Operators* is predicted to lose19.23 percent of its workforce, making it the fastest declining occupation.

**Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **176,787** | **196,674** | **19,887** | **11.25%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***14,736*** | ***16,324*** | ***1,588*** | ***10.78%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 13,904 | 15,532 | 1,628 | 11.71% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 832 | 792 | -40 | -4.81% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 23,902 | 25,410 | 1,508 | 6.31% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **2,336** | **2,622** | **286** | **12.24%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 1,786 | 2,065 | 279 | 15.62% |
| 210000 | Mining | 550 | 557 | 7 | 1.27% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **9,956** | **11,243** | **1,287** | **12.93%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **11,610** | **11,545** | **-65** | **-0.56%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***3,836*** | ***3,575*** | ***-261*** | ***-6.80%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***7,774*** | ***7,970*** | ***196*** | ***2.52%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 138,149 | 154,940 | 16,791 | 12.15% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **37,725** | **40,968** | **3,243** | **8.60%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 6,599 | 6,877 | 278 | 4.21% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 23,462 | 25,845 | 2,383 | 10.16% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 7,149 | 7,650 | 501 | 7.01% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 515 | 596 | 81 | 15.73% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **1,143** | **1,366** | **223** | **19.51%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **6,082** | **6,397** | **315** | **5.18%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 4,229 | 4,417 | 188 | 4.45% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 1,853 | 1,980 | 127 | 6.85% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **16,825** | **19,150** | **2,325** | **13.82%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 7,045 | 8,148 | 1,103 | 15.66% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 1,303 | 1,700 | 397 | 30.47% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 8,477 | 9,302 | 825 | 9.73% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **34,201** | **40,746** | **6,545** | **19.14%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 12,881 | 14,108 | 1,227 | 9.53% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 21,320 | 26,638 | 5,318 | 24.94% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **18,469** | **21,384** | **2,915** | **15.78%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 1,470 | 1,589 | 119 | 8.10% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 16,999 | 19,795 | 2,796 | 16.45% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **8,580** | **9,196** | **616** | **7.18%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **15,124** | **15,733** | **609** | **4.03%** |

**Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 15,756 | 18,491 | **2,735** | 17.36% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 5,542 | 7,381 | **1,839** | 33.18% |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 6,195 | 7,967 | **1,772** | 28.60% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 12,881 | 14,108 | **1,227** | 9.53% |
| 541000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 7,045 | 8,148 | **1,103** | 15.66% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 6,557 | 7,554 | **997** | 15.21% |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 4,567 | 5,491 | **924** | 20.23% |
| 238000 | Specialty Trade Contractors | 6,930 | 7,839 | **909** | 13.12% |
| 622000 | Hospitals | 5,016 | 5,799 | **783** | 15.61% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 7,918 | 8,651 | **733** | 9.26% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 518000 | Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services | 197 | 398 | 201 | **102.03%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 5,542 | 7,381 | 1,839 | **33.18%** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 1,303 | 1,700 | 397 | **30.47%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 6,195 | 7,967 | 1,772 | **28.60%** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 418 | 518 | 100 | **23.92%** |
| 493000 | Warehousing and Storage | 1,400 | 1,686 | 286 | **20.43%** |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 4,567 | 5,491 | 924 | **20.23%** |
| 425000 | Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers | 726 | 866 | 140 | **19.28%** |
| 111000 | Crop Production | 789 | 940 | 151 | **19.14%** |
| 236000 | Construction of Buildings | 1,702 | 2,014 | 312 | **18.33%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 311000 | Food Manufacturing | 616 | 468 | **-148** | -24.03% |
| 322000 | Paper Manufacturing | 1,366 | 1,263 | **-103** | -7.54% |
| 448000 | Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores | 1,263 | 1,167 | **-96** | -7.60% |
| 337000 | Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing | 966 | 904 | **-62** | -6.42% |
| 814000 | Private Households | 192 | 132 | **-60** | -31.25% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Net Percent (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 314000 | Textile Product Mills | 32 | 22 | -10 | **-31.25%** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 192 | 132 | -60 | **-31.25%** |
| 311000 | Food Manufacturing | 616 | 468 | -148 | **-24.03%** |
| 454000 | Nonstore Retailers | 182 | 158 | -24 | **-13.19%** |
| 323000 | Printing and Related Support Activities | 391 | 359 | -32 | **-8.18%** |

**Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **176,787** | **196,674** | **19,887** | **11.25%** | **9,004** | **11,650** | **1,989** | **22,643** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 13,575 | 14,850 | 1,275 | 9.39% | 522 | 554 | 128 | 1,204 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 5,362 | 5,928 | 566 | 10.56% | 170 | 330 | 57 | 557 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 1,560 | 1,703 | 143 | 9.17% | 43 | 75 | 14 | 132 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 612 | 662 | 50 | 8.17% | 18 | 39 | 5 | 62 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 4,005 | 4,574 | 569 | 14.21% | 186 | 277 | 57 | 520 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 426 | 454 | 28 | 6.57% | 10 | 13 | 3 | 26 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 9,146 | 10,301 | 1,155 | 12.63% | 391 | 395 | 116 | 902 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 1,633 | 1,822 | 189 | 11.57% | 79 | 99 | 19 | 197 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 9,446 | 11,123 | 1,677 | 17.75% | 278 | 274 | 168 | 720 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 3,958 | 4,600 | 642 | 16.22% | 242 | 241 | 64 | 547 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 4,028 | 4,375 | 347 | 8.61% | 182 | 218 | 35 | 435 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 16,915 | 19,765 | 2,850 | 16.85% | 1,351 | 1,702 | 285 | 3,338 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 5,391 | 5,990 | 599 | 11.11% | 339 | 363 | 60 | 762 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 9,320 | 11,628 | 2,308 | 24.76% | 808 | 706 | 231 | 1,745 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 19,243 | 20,780 | 1,537 | 7.99% | 1,241 | 1,563 | 154 | 2,958 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 24,146 | 25,323 | 1,177 | 4.87% | 1,270 | 1,487 | 118 | 2,875 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 8,987 | 10,088 | 1,101 | 12.25% | 332 | 630 | 110 | 1,072 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 8,638 | 9,611 | 973 | 11.26% | 306 | 547 | 97 | 950 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 9,836 | 9,893 | 57 | 0.58% | 399 | 704 | 6 | 1,109 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 13,442 | 14,724 | 1,282 | 9.54% | 672 | 968 | 128 | 1,768 |
|  | Other | 7,118 | 8,480 | 1,362 | 19.13% | 164 | 465 | 137 | 766 |

**Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,637 | 8,229 | **1,592** | 23.99% | 658 | 688 | 159 | 1,505 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,990 | 4,224 | **1,234** | 41.27% | 288 | 217 | 123 | 628 |
| 39-9011 | Childcare Workers | 3,467 | 4,108 | **641** | 18.49% | 309 | 235 | 64 | 608 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 6,090 | 6,678 | **588** | 9.66% | 404 | 507 | 59 | 970 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 2,412 | 2,818 | **406** | 16.83% | 75 | 57 | 41 | 173 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 3,433 | 3,834 | **401** | 11.68% | 198 | 259 | 40 | 497 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,550 | 2,892 | **342** | 13.41% | 201 | 309 | 34 | 544 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 3,166 | 3,496 | **330** | 10.42% | 165 | 285 | 33 | 483 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,671 | 2,979 | **308** | 11.53% | 184 | 178 | 31 | 393 |
| 11-1021 | General and Operations Managers | 2,637 | 2,939 | **302** | 11.45% | 58 | 166 | 30 | 254 |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,990 | 4,224 | 1,234 | **41.27%** | 288 | 217 | 123 | 628 |
| 31-2021 | Physical Therapist Assistants | 162 | 227 | 65 | **40.12%** | 8 | 14 | 6 | 28 |
| 29-1123 | Physical Therapists | 308 | 420 | 112 | **36.36%** | 7 | 8 | 11 | 26 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 155 | 210 | 55 | **35.48%** | 4 | 5 | 6 | 15 |
| 29-1122 | Occupational Therapists | 194 | 257 | 63 | **32.47%** | 5 | 6 | 6 | 17 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 471 | 620 | 149 | **31.63%** | 24 | 34 | 15 | 73 |
| 15-1132 | Software Developers, Applications | 200 | 262 | 62 | **31.00%** | 3 | 11 | 6 | 20 |
| 53-3041 | Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs | 529 | 687 | 158 | **29.87%** | 36 | 25 | 16 | 77 |
| 31-2022 | Physical Therapist Aides | 122 | 158 | 36 | **29.51%** | 6 | 10 | 4 | 20 |
| 15-1151 | Computer User Support Specialists | 590 | 759 | 169 | **28.64%** | 14 | 35 | 17 | 66 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,637 | 8,229 | 1,592 | 23.99% | **658** | 688 | 159 | 1,505 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 5,586 | 5,845 | 259 | 4.64% | **537** | 524 | 26 | 1,087 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 6,090 | 6,678 | 588 | 9.66% | **404** | 507 | 59 | 970 |
| 39-9011 | Childcare Workers | 3,467 | 4,108 | 641 | 18.49% | **309** | 235 | 64 | 608 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,990 | 4,224 | 1,234 | 41.27% | **288** | 217 | 123 | 628 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 4,771 | 4,969 | 198 | 4.15% | **285** | 72 | 20 | 377 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,550 | 2,892 | 342 | 13.41% | **201** | 309 | 34 | 544 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 3,354 | 3,417 | 63 | 1.88% | **199** | 194 | 6 | 399 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 3,433 | 3,834 | 401 | 11.68% | **198** | 259 | 40 | 497 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,671 | 2,979 | 308 | 11.53% | **184** | 178 | 31 | 393 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,637 | 8,229 | 1,592 | 23.99% | 658 | **688** | 159 | 1,505 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 5,586 | 5,845 | 259 | 4.64% | 537 | **524** | 26 | 1,087 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 6,090 | 6,678 | 588 | 9.66% | 404 | **507** | 59 | 970 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,550 | 2,892 | 342 | 13.41% | 201 | **309** | 34 | 544 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 3,166 | 3,496 | 330 | 10.42% | 165 | **285** | 33 | 483 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 3,433 | 3,834 | 401 | 11.68% | 198 | **259** | 40 | 497 |
| 39-9011 | Childcare Workers | 3,467 | 4,108 | 641 | 18.49% | 309 | **235** | 64 | 608 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 3,554 | 3,760 | 206 | 5.80% | 155 | **230** | 21 | 406 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,990 | 4,224 | 1,234 | 41.27% | 288 | **217** | 123 | 628 |
| 35-1012 | First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers | 1,915 | 2,216 | 301 | 15.72% | 92 | **197** | 30 | 319 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 6,637 | 8,229 | 1,592 | 23.99% | 658 | 688 | 159 | **1,505** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 5,586 | 5,845 | 259 | 4.64% | 537 | 524 | 26 | **1,087** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 6,090 | 6,678 | 588 | 9.66% | 404 | 507 | 59 | **970** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,990 | 4,224 | 1,234 | 41.27% | 288 | 217 | 123 | **628** |
| 39-9011 | Childcare Workers | 3,467 | 4,108 | 641 | 18.49% | 309 | 235 | 64 | **608** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 2,550 | 2,892 | 342 | 13.41% | 201 | 309 | 34 | **544** |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 3,433 | 3,834 | 401 | 11.68% | 198 | 259 | 40 | **497** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 3,166 | 3,496 | 330 | 10.42% | 165 | 285 | 33 | **483** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 3,554 | 3,760 | 206 | 5.80% | 155 | 230 | 21 | **406** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 3,354 | 3,417 | 63 | 1.88% | 199 | 194 | 6 | **399** |

**Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 2,620 | 2,510 | **-110** | -4.20% | 138 | 134 | -11 | 261 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 1,003 | 910 | **-93** | -9.27% | 41 | 69 | -9 | 101 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 518 | 444 | **-74** | -14.29% | 26 | 25 | -7 | 44 |
| 51-9061 | Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers | 485 | 451 | **-34** | -7.01% | 20 | 36 | -3 | 53 |
| 15-1131 | Computer Programmers | 522 | 495 | **-27** | -5.17% | 9 | 23 | -3 | 29 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 45-4022 | Logging Equipment Operators | 26 | 21 | -5 | **-19.23%** | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 121 | 98 | -23 | **-19.01%** | 6 | 7 | -2 | 11 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 518 | 444 | -74 | **-14.29%** | 26 | 25 | -7 | 44 |
| 51-2041 | Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters | 161 | 138 | -23 | **-14.29%** | 5 | 11 | -2 | 14 |
| 41-3041 | Travel Agents | 45 | 39 | -6 | **-13.33%** | 2 | 2 | -1 | 3 |

**City of Little Rock**

 The City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area (WDA) is a center for government operations, serving as the county seat of Pulaski County as well as the state’s capital. The Area is recognized as part of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area.

**City of Little Rock Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): 5.36%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 14.94%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 3.5%**

The City of Little Rock WDA is expected to grow by 15,838 jobs during the 2016-2026 projections period, or an increase of 8.15 percent, slower than the state as a whole. Goods-Producing industries are projected to experience a net growth of 843 jobs, while Services-Providing industries are predicted to add 14,035. Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers is predicted to experience a gain of 960. Population in the Area has grown 5.36 percent from 2006 to 2016 bringing the Area to 198,307 residents. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 3.5 percent.

**Education and Health Services** is estimated to be the top and fastest growing supersector in the City of Little Rock WDA, adding an anticipated 7,406 new jobs, an increase of 14.94 percent. Driving this growth is *Ambulatory Health Care Services*, which is projected to be the top growing industry increasing employment by 2,442 jobs. Three of the four subsectors in **Healthcare and Social Assistance** are the top three industries in the Area. *Waste Management and Remediation Service*is slated to be the fastest growing industry, increasing employment by 41.28 percent. The **Information** supersector is forecast to lose 252 jobs, or 4.88 percent of its workforce. Driving this decline is *Telecommunications*, with a decline of 206 jobs. *Private Households* could be the fastest declining industry, losing 32.60 percent of its workforce.

City of Little Rock WDA employers are expected to have 22,303 annual openings during the projection period. Of these, 8,860 could come from employees leaving the workforce, while 11,859 would be from employees changing jobs. Growth and expansion would account for an additional 1,584 jobs. **Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group with 2,685 new jobs. Driving this growth is *Registered Nurses*, which is anticipated to gain 1,113 jobs during the 2016-2026 projection period. **Personal Care and Service Occupations** is expected to be the fastest growing major group, with an increase of 21.98 percent. *Personal Care Aides* is second in both numeric and percent change, with an anticipated growth of 1,061 jobs, a gain of 42.85 percent. *Home Health Aides* could grow slightly faster with a projected rate of 44.69 percent. On the downside of the economy, *Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive* are forecast to lose 160 jobs, while *Office Machine Operators, Except Computer* could lose a third of its workforce between 2016 and 2026.

**City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **Total All Industries** | **194,407** | **210,245** | **15,838** | **8.15%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***11,469*** | ***12,429*** | ***960*** | ***8.37%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 11,152 | 12,131 | 979 | 8.78% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 317 | 298 | -19 | -5.99% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 12,684 | 13,527 | 843 | 6.65% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **444** | **442** | **-2** | **-0.45%** |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **4,775** | **5,378** | **603** | **12.63%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **7,465** | **7,707** | **242** | **3.24%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***2,607*** | ***2,471*** | ***-136*** | ***-5.22%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***4,858*** | ***5,236*** | ***378*** | ***7.78%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 170,254 | 184,289 | 14,035 | 8.24% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **29,422** | **30,090** | **668** | **2.27%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 6,928 | 7,232 | 304 | 4.39% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 15,705 | 15,880 | 175 | 1.11% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 5,251 | 5,375 | 124 | 2.36% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 1,538 | 1,603 | 65 | 4.23% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **5,166** | **4,914** | **-252** | **-4.88%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **14,641** | **15,625** | **984** | **6.72%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 11,943 | 12,701 | 758 | 6.35% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 2,698 | 2,924 | 226 | 8.38% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **24,626** | **26,949** | **2,323** | **9.43%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 10,022 | 11,239 | 1,217 | 12.14% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 3,955 | 4,403 | 448 | 11.33% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 10,649 | 11,307 | 658 | 6.18% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **49,567** | **56,973** | **7,406** | **14.94%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 11,074 | 11,713 | 639 | 5.77% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 38,493 | 45,260 | 6,767 | 17.58% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **15,114** | **16,335** | **1,221** | **8.08%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 1,526 | 1,616 | 90 | 5.90% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 13,588 | 14,719 | 1,131 | 8.32% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **8,960** | **9,211** | **251** | **2.80%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **22,758** | **24,192** | **1,434** | **6.30%** |

**City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 9,560 | 12,002 | **2,442** | 25.54% |
| 622000 | Hospitals | 21,353 | 23,661 | **2,308** | 10.81% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 4,971 | 6,611 | **1,640** | 32.99% |
| 541000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 10,022 | 11,239 | **1,217** | 12.14% |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 11,781 | 12,813 | **1,032** | 8.76% |
| 999200 | State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 13,015 | 14,007 | **992** | 7.62% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 11,074 | 11,713 | **639** | 5.77% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 10,368 | 10,910 | **542** | 5.23% |
| 999300 | Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 5,342 | 5,830 | **488** | 9.14% |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 3,955 | 4,403 | **448** | 11.33% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 562000 | Waste Management and Remediation Service | | 281 | 397 | 116 | **41.28%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | | 4,971 | 6,611 | 1,640 | **32.99%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | | 9,560 | 12,002 | 2,442 | **25.54%** |
| 493000 | Warehousing and Storage | | 147 | 183 | 36 | **24.49%** |
| 485000 | Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation | | 525 | 652 | 127 | **24.19%** |
| 237000 | Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction | | 835 | 1,032 | 197 | **23.59%** |
| 425000 | Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers | | 883 | 1,054 | 171 | **19.37%** |
| 327000 | Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing | | 164 | 191 | 27 | **16.46%** |
| 454000 | Nonstore Retailers | | 138 | 160 | 22 | **15.94%** |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | | 2,609 | 2,986 | 377 | **14.45%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 2,769 | 2,563 | **-206** | -7.44% |
| 814000 | Private Households | 543 | 366 | **-177** | -32.60% |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 775 | 643 | **-132** | -17.03% |
| 446000 | Health and Personal Care Stores | 1,275 | 1,170 | **-105** | -8.24% |
| 443000 | Electronics and Appliance Stores | 436 | 369 | **-67** | -15.37% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 543 | 366 | -177 | **-32.60%** |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 775 | 643 | -132 | **-17.03%** |
| 443000 | Electronics and Appliance Stores | 436 | 369 | -67 | **-15.37%** |
| 311000 | Food Manufacturing | 603 | 540 | -63 | **-10.45%** |
| 446000 | Health and Personal Care Stores | 1,275 | 1,170 | -105 | **-8.24%** |

**City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **194,407** | **210,245** | **15,838** | **8.15%** | **8,860** | **11,859** | **1,584** | **22,303** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 14,197 | 15,657 | 1,460 | 10.28% | 382 | 756 | 146 | 1,284 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 13,141 | 14,451 | 1,310 | 9.97% | 402 | 787 | 131 | 1,320 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 6,104 | 6,737 | 633 | 10.37% | 113 | 306 | 63 | 482 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 2,540 | 2,853 | 313 | 12.32% | 68 | 124 | 31 | 223 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 4,912 | 5,575 | 663 | 13.50% | 224 | 337 | 66 | 627 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 2,659 | 2,913 | 254 | 9.55% | 69 | 94 | 25 | 188 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 8,649 | 9,597 | 948 | 10.96% | 368 | 367 | 95 | 830 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 2,973 | 3,151 | 178 | 5.99% | 126 | 167 | 18 | 311 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 19,410 | 22,095 | 2,685 | 13.83% | 553 | 525 | 268 | 1,346 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 5,840 | 6,990 | 1,150 | 19.69% | 357 | 361 | 115 | 833 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 4,612 | 4,905 | 293 | 6.35% | 220 | 259 | 29 | 508 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 13,131 | 14,300 | 1,169 | 8.90% | 988 | 1,290 | 117 | 2,395 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 6,639 | 7,129 | 490 | 7.38% | 418 | 432 | 49 | 899 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 6,320 | 7,709 | 1,389 | 21.98% | 536 | 481 | 139 | 1,156 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 18,826 | 19,432 | 606 | 3.22% | 1,063 | 1,415 | 61 | 2,539 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 31,631 | 32,102 | 471 | 1.49% | 1,615 | 1,907 | 47 | 3,569 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 5,569 | 6,146 | 577 | 10.36% | 206 | 386 | 58 | 650 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 7,113 | 7,530 | 417 | 5.86% | 252 | 439 | 42 | 733 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 6,975 | 7,037 | 62 | 0.89% | 287 | 492 | 6 | 785 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 11,105 | 11,655 | 550 | 4.95% | 550 | 777 | 55 | 1,382 |
|  | Other | 2,061 | 2,281 | 220 | 10.67% | 64 | 156 | 22 | 242 |

**City of Little Rock Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 6,997 | 8,110 | **1,113** | 15.91% | 216 | 164 | 111 | 491 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,476 | 3,537 | **1,061** | 42.85% | 240 | 181 | 106 | 527 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,521 | 2,928 | **407** | 16.14% | 241 | 252 | 41 | 534 |
| 11-1021 | General and Operations Managers | 3,337 | 3,695 | **358** | 10.73% | 73 | 210 | 36 | 319 |
| 25-1071 | Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary | 1,064 | 1,365 | **301** | 28.29% | 44 | 46 | 30 | 120 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 669 | 968 | **299** | 44.69% | 50 | 41 | 30 | 121 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 2,414 | 2,696 | **282** | 11.68% | 155 | 129 | 28 | 312 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 926 | 1,177 | **251** | 27.11% | 46 | 65 | 25 | 136 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,780 | 3,018 | **238** | 8.56% | 189 | 182 | 24 | 395 |
| 43-4051 | Customer Service Representatives | 4,712 | 4,942 | **230** | 4.88% | 247 | 362 | 23 | 632 |

**Top 10 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 669 | 968 | 299 | **44.69%** | 50 | 41 | 30 | 121 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,476 | 3,537 | 1,061 | **42.85%** | 240 | 181 | 106 | 527 |
| 29-1071 | Physician Assistants | 140 | 196 | 56 | **40.00%** | 3 | 6 | 6 | 15 |
| 47-4041 | Hazardous Materials Removal Workers | 50 | 70 | 20 | **40.00%** | 2 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| 31-2011 | Occupational Therapy Assistants | 104 | 143 | 39 | **37.50%** | 6 | 9 | 4 | 19 |
| 15-2031 | Operations Research Analysts | 164 | 220 | 56 | **34.15%** | 4 | 7 | 6 | 17 |
| 15-2041 | Statisticians | 103 | 138 | 35 | **33.98%** | 2 | 6 | 4 | 12 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 419 | 557 | 138 | **32.94%** | 10 | 14 | 14 | 38 |
| 51-4012 | Computer Numerically Controlled Machine Tool Programmers, Metal and Plastic | 33 | 43 | 10 | **30.30%** | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 25-1071 | Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary | 1,064 | 1,365 | 301 | **28.29%** | 44 | 46 | 30 | 120 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 5,325 | 5,444 | 119 | 2.23% | **341** | 427 | 12 | 780 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,485 | 3,411 | -74 | -2.12% | **324** | 316 | -7 | 633 |
| 43-4051 | Customer Service Representatives | 4,712 | 4,942 | 230 | 4.88% | **247** | 362 | 23 | 632 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 3,176 | 3,404 | 228 | 7.18% | **244** | 373 | 23 | 640 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,521 | 2,928 | 407 | 16.14% | **241** | 252 | 41 | 534 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,476 | 3,537 | 1,061 | 42.85% | **240** | 181 | 106 | 527 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 4,040 | 4,033 | -7 | -0.17% | **237** | 231 | -1 | 467 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 6,997 | 8,110 | 1,113 | 15.91% | **216** | 164 | 111 | 491 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,780 | 3,018 | 238 | 8.56% | **189** | 182 | 24 | 395 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 2,414 | 2,696 | 282 | 11.68% | **155** | 129 | 28 | 312 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 5,325 | 5,444 | 119 | 2.23% | 341 | **427** | 12 | 780 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 3,176 | 3,404 | 228 | 7.18% | 244 | **373** | 23 | 640 |
| 43-4051 | Customer Service Representatives | 4,712 | 4,942 | 230 | 4.88% | 247 | **362** | 23 | 632 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,485 | 3,411 | -74 | -2.12% | 324 | **316** | -7 | 633 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,521 | 2,928 | 407 | 16.14% | 241 | **252** | 41 | 534 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 4,040 | 4,033 | -7 | -0.17% | 237 | **231** | -1 | 467 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,650 | 2,736 | 86 | 3.25% | 133 | **230** | 9 | 372 |
| 11-1021 | General and Operations Managers | 3,337 | 3,695 | 358 | 10.73% | 73 | **210** | 36 | 319 |
| 43-1011 | First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers | 3,292 | 3,380 | 88 | 2.67% | 129 | **193** | 9 | 331 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,780 | 3,018 | 238 | 8.56% | 189 | **182** | 24 | 395 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 5,325 | 5,444 | 119 | 2.23% | 341 | 427 | 12 | **780** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 3,176 | 3,404 | 228 | 7.18% | 244 | 373 | 23 | **640** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,485 | 3,411 | -74 | -2.12% | 324 | 316 | -7 | **633** |
| 43-4051 | Customer Service Representatives | 4,712 | 4,942 | 230 | 4.88% | 247 | 362 | 23 | **632** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,521 | 2,928 | 407 | 16.14% | 241 | 252 | 41 | **534** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 2,476 | 3,537 | 1,061 | 42.85% | 240 | 181 | 106 | **527** |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 6,997 | 8,110 | 1,113 | 15.91% | 216 | 164 | 111 | **491** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 4,040 | 4,033 | -7 | -0.17% | 237 | 231 | -1 | **467** |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2,780 | 3,018 | 238 | 8.56% | 189 | 182 | 24 | **395** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,650 | 2,736 | 86 | 3.25% | 133 | 230 | 9 | **372** |

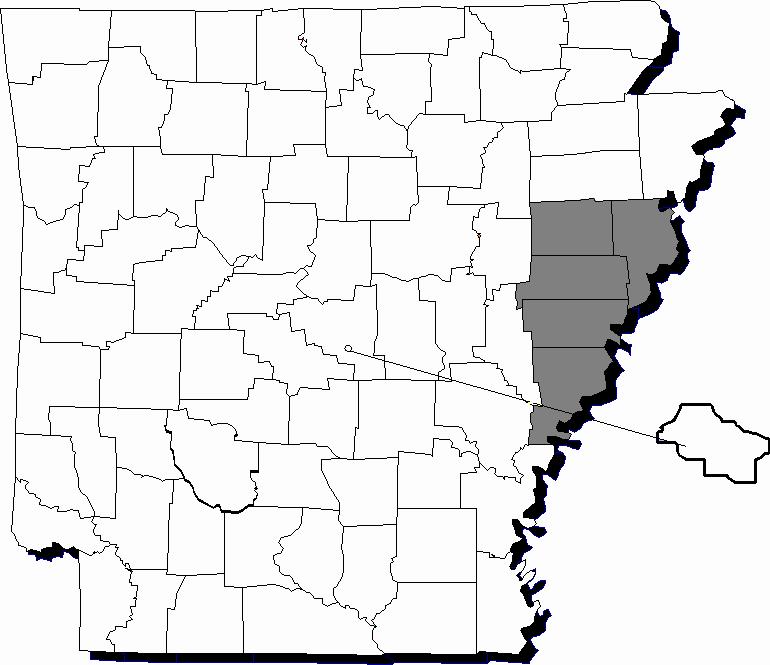
**Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 2,926 | 2,766 | **-160** | -5.47% | 153 | 149 | -16 | 286 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 935 | 783 | **-152** | -16.26% | 46 | 45 | -15 | 76 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 3,485 | 3,411 | **-74** | -2.12% | 324 | 316 | -7 | 633 |
| 49-2022 | Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers | 1,049 | 983 | **-66** | -6.29% | 34 | 72 | -7 | 99 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 311 | 247 | **-64** | -20.58% | 14 | 18 | -6 | 26 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-9071 | Office Machine Operators, Except Computer | 51 | 34 | -17 | **-33.33%** | 2 | 3 | -2 | 3 |
| 53-4031 | Railroad Conductors and Yardmasters | 38 | 27 | -11 | **-28.95%** | 1 | 2 | -1 | 2 |
| 53-4011 | Locomotive Engineers | 48 | 35 | -13 | **-27.08%** | 1 | 2 | -1 | 2 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 311 | 247 | -64 | **-20.58%** | 14 | 18 | -6 | 26 |
| 43-2011 | Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service | 195 | 155 | -40 | **-20.51%** | 11 | 12 | -4 | 19 |

**Eastern Arkansas**

**** The Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of five counties: Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Phillips, and St. Francis. With Tennessee bordering this Area to the east, Crittenden County makes up a portion of the Memphis Metropolitan Statistical Area, the fifty-fifth largest in the United States.

**Eastern Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): -8.31%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 6.02%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 4.8%**

The Eastern Arkansas WDA is expected to gain 2,575 new jobs during the 2016-2026 projection period, a 6.02 percent increase in employment and slower than the state’s 10.42 percent growth. Goods-Producing industries are projected to experience a net loss of 182 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to gain 2,594. Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers are predicted to experience a net gain of 163 jobs during the projection period. Population in the Area declined 8.31 percent from 2006 to 2016, a loss of 10,939 residents from Eastern Arkansas counties, bringing the total population to 120,753. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 4.8 percent.

**Education and Health Services** is expected to be the top and fastest growing supersector, with a gain of 1,262, an increase of 12.37 percent. Driving this growth is *Social Assistance*, which is projected to be the top growing industry in Eastern Arkansas, with a gain of 747 jobs. *Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores* is slated to be the fastest growing industry, growing 45.10 percent between 2016 and 2026. On the negative side of the economy, *Food and Beverage Stores* could lose the most jobs, losing 81 during the projection period, while *Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores* is anticipated to drop 35.16 percent of its respective workforce.

The Area is expected to have 5,205 annual openings during the projection period, with 2,227 being from employees leaving the workforce and 2,720 from employees changing jobs. Growth and expansion could account for 258 net annual openings. **Personal Care and Service Occupations** is projected to be the top and fastest growing major group, with an anticipated gain of 602 jobs, a 24 percent increase. Driving this growth is *Personal Care Aides* with a gain of 527, or an increase of 44.17 percent, making it the top and fastest growing occupation in Eastern Arkansas. **Production Occupations** is predicted to experience a net loss of 107 jobs, or 3.92 percent of its workforce. *Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive* is predicted to be the top declining occupation in the Area, losing68 jobs, while *Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers* is forecast to be the fastest declining occupation, with a decline of 22.58 percent of its workforce.

**Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **42,783** | **45,358** | **2,575** | **6.02%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***4,151*** | ***4,314*** | ***163*** | ***3.93%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 3,953 | 4,131 | 178 | 4.50% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 198 | 183 | -15 | -7.58% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 6,153 | 5,971 | -182 | -2.96% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **1,839** | **1,780** | **-59** | **-3.21%** |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **921** | **960** | **39** | **4.23%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **3,393** | **3,231** | **-162** | **-4.77%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***1,972*** | ***1,928*** | ***-44*** | ***-2.23%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***1,421*** | ***1,303*** | ***-118*** | ***-8.30%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 32,479 | 35,073 | 2,594 | 7.99% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **9,452** | **9,966** | **514** | **5.44%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 2,117 | 2,187 | 70 | 3.31% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 4,904 | 5,196 | 292 | 5.95% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 2,223 | 2,375 | 152 | 6.84% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 208 | 208 | 0 | 0.00% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **197** | **186** | **-11** | **-5.58%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **1,293** | **1,335** | **42** | **3.25%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 737 | 757 | 20 | 2.71% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 556 | 578 | 22 | 3.96% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **2,225** | **2,491** | **266** | **11.96%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 500 | 559 | 59 | 11.80% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 173 | 223 | 50 | 28.90% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 1,552 | 1,709 | 157 | 10.12% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **10,199** | **11,461** | **1,262** | **12.37%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 4,203 | 4,135 | -68 | -1.62% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 5,996 | 7,326 | 1,330 | 22.18% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **3,697** | **3,897** | **200** | **5.41%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 674 | 708 | 34 | 5.04% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 3,023 | 3,189 | 166 | 5.49% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **1,297** | **1,289** | **-8** | **-0.62%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **4,119** | **4,448** | **329** | **7.99%** |

**Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,250 | 2,997 | **747** | 33.20% |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 1,931 | 2,483 | **552** | 28.59% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 1,528 | 1,797 | **269** | 17.60% |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 2,598 | 2,771 | **173** | 6.66% |
| 999300 | Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 1,888 | 2,057 | **169** | 8.95% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 1,496 | 1,652 | **156** | 10.43% |
| 493000 | Warehousing and Storage | 719 | 846 | **127** | 17.66% |
| 999100 | Federal Government, Excluding Post Office | 708 | 833 | **125** | 17.66% |
| 238000 | Specialty Trade Contractors | 561 | 635 | **74** | 13.19% |
| 424000 | Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods | 1,176 | 1,242 | **66** | 5.61% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 51 | 74 | 23 | **45.10%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,250 | 2,997 | 747 | **33.20%** |
| 485000 | Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation | 135 | 179 | 44 | **32.59%** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 173 | 223 | 50 | **28.90%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 1,931 | 2,483 | 552 | **28.59%** |
| 493000 | Warehousing and Storage | 719 | 846 | 127 | **17.66%** |
| 999100 | Federal Government, Excluding Post Office | 708 | 833 | 125 | **17.66%** |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 1,528 | 1,797 | 269 | **17.60%** |
| 524000 | Insurance Carriers and Related Activities | 147 | 171 | 24 | **16.33%** |
| 446000 | Health and Personal Care Stores | 263 | 304 | 41 | **15.59%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 445000 | Food and Beverage Stores | 892 | 811 | **-81** | -9.08% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 4,203 | 4,135 | **-68** | -1.62% |
| 448000 | Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores | 128 | 83 | **-45** | -35.16% |
| 311000 | Food Manufacturing | 675 | 633 | **-42** | -6.22% |
| 236000 | Construction of Buildings | 204 | 170 | **-34** | -16.67% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 448000 | Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores | 128 | 83 | -45 | **-35.16%** |
| 425000 | Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers | 49 | 34 | -15 | **-30.61%** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 60 | 46 | -14 | **-23.33%** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 78 | 63 | -15 | **-19.23%** |
| 236000 | Construction of Buildings | 204 | 170 | -34 | **-16.67%** |

**Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **42,783** | **45,358** | **2,575** | **6.02%** | **2,227** | **2,720** | **258** | **5,205** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 4,348 | 4,496 | 148 | 3.40% | 201 | 130 | 15 | 346 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 724 | 776 | 52 | 7.18% | 22 | 43 | 5 | 70 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 97 | 100 | 3 | 3.09% | 2 | 5 | 0 | 7 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 166 | 178 | 12 | 7.23% | 4 | 8 | 1 | 13 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 279 | 306 | 27 | 9.68% | 7 | 18 | 3 | 28 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 1,007 | 1,162 | 155 | 15.39% | 44 | 71 | 16 | 131 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 180 | 203 | 23 | 12.78% | 5 | 6 | 2 | 13 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 2,894 | 2,945 | 51 | 1.76% | 115 | 117 | 5 | 237 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 204 | 213 | 9 | 4.41% | 9 | 12 | 1 | 22 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 1,567 | 1,805 | 238 | 15.19% | 45 | 46 | 24 | 115 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 1,465 | 1,751 | 286 | 19.52% | 93 | 87 | 29 | 209 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 1,512 | 1,644 | 132 | 8.73% | 66 | 78 | 13 | 157 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 3,315 | 3,514 | 199 | 6.00% | 251 | 312 | 20 | 583 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 1,453 | 1,559 | 106 | 7.30% | 96 | 93 | 11 | 200 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 2,508 | 3,110 | 602 | 24.00% | 214 | 184 | 60 | 458 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 4,285 | 4,461 | 176 | 4.11% | 297 | 355 | 18 | 670 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 6,094 | 6,199 | 105 | 1.72% | 313 | 367 | 10 | 690 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 1,106 | 1,102 | -4 | -0.36% | 40 | 124 | 0 | 164 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 1,250 | 1,332 | 82 | 6.56% | 47 | 87 | 8 | 142 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 1,687 | 1,775 | 88 | 5.22% | 60 | 101 | 9 | 170 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 2,730 | 2,623 | -107 | -3.92% | 104 | 191 | -11 | 284 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 3,912 | 4,104 | 192 | 4.91% | 193 | 284 | 19 | 496 |

### Eastern Arkansas Workforce Development Area 2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,193 | 1,720 | **527** | 44.17% | 116 | 88 | 53 | 257 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,436 | 1,593 | **157** | 10.93% | 134 | 140 | 16 | 290 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 383 | 517 | **134** | 34.99% | 27 | 23 | 13 | 63 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 937 | 1,019 | **82** | 8.75% | 48 | 84 | 8 | 140 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 896 | 976 | **80** | 8.93% | 59 | 74 | 8 | 141 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 628 | 693 | **65** | 10.35% | 43 | 42 | 6 | 91 |
| 41-1011 | First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers | 586 | 647 | **61** | 10.41% | 23 | 42 | 6 | 71 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 732 | 789 | **57** | 7.79% | 42 | 54 | 6 | 102 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 699 | 755 | **56** | 8.01% | 44 | 37 | 6 | 87 |
| 39-9011 | Childcare Workers | 633 | 689 | **56** | 8.85% | 54 | 41 | 6 | 101 |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,193 | 1,720 | 527 | **44.17%** | 116 | 88 | 53 | 257 |
| 29-1123 | Physical Therapists | 44 | 60 | 16 | **36.36%** | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 383 | 517 | 134 | **34.99%** | 27 | 23 | 13 | 63 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 38 | 51 | 13 | **34.21%** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 31-2021 | Physical Therapist Assistants | 38 | 51 | 13 | **34.21%** | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 129 | 173 | 44 | **34.11%** | 7 | 9 | 4 | 20 |
| 21-1014 | Mental Health Counselors | 51 | 65 | 14 | **27.45%** | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| 21-1094 | Community Health Workers | 42 | 53 | 11 | **26.19%** | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| 29-1127 | Speech-Language Pathologists | 44 | 55 | 11 | **25.00%** | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 29-2052 | Pharmacy Technicians | 110 | 137 | 27 | **24.55%** | 4 | 6 | 3 | 13 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 1,890 | 1,884 | -6 | -0.32% | **177** | 173 | -1 | 349 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 2,652 | 2,659 | 7 | 0.26% | **155** | 39 | 1 | 195 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,436 | 1,593 | 157 | 10.93% | **134** | 140 | 16 | 290 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,193 | 1,720 | 527 | 44.17% | **116** | 88 | 53 | 257 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 896 | 976 | 80 | 8.93% | **59** | 74 | 8 | 141 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 973 | 967 | -6 | -0.62% | **57** | 56 | -1 | 112 |
| 39-9011 | Childcare Workers | 633 | 689 | 56 | 8.85% | **54** | 41 | 6 | 101 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 1,187 | 1,209 | 22 | 1.85% | **51** | 75 | 2 | 128 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 937 | 1,019 | 82 | 8.75% | **48** | 84 | 8 | 140 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 699 | 755 | 56 | 8.01% | **44** | 37 | 6 | 87 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 1,890 | 1,884 | -6 | -0.32% | 177 | **173** | -1 | 349 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,436 | 1,593 | 157 | 10.93% | 134 | **140** | 16 | 290 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,193 | 1,720 | 527 | 44.17% | 116 | **88** | 53 | 257 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 937 | 1,019 | 82 | 8.75% | 48 | **84** | 8 | 140 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 1,187 | 1,209 | 22 | 1.85% | 51 | **75** | 2 | 128 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 896 | 976 | 80 | 8.93% | 59 | **74** | 8 | 141 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 973 | 967 | -6 | -0.62% | 57 | **56** | -1 | 112 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 732 | 789 | 57 | 7.79% | 42 | **54** | 6 | 102 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 628 | 693 | 65 | 10.35% | 43 | **42** | 6 | 91 |
| 41-1011 | First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers | 586 | 647 | 61 | 10.41% | 23 | **42** | 6 | 71 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 1,890 | 1,884 | -6 | -0.32% | 177 | 173 | -1 | **349** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,436 | 1,593 | 157 | 10.93% | 134 | 140 | 16 | **290** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,193 | 1,720 | 527 | 44.17% | 116 | 88 | 53 | **257** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 2,652 | 2,659 | 7 | 0.26% | 155 | 39 | 1 | **195** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 896 | 976 | 80 | 8.93% | 59 | 74 | 8 | **141** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 937 | 1,019 | 82 | 8.75% | 48 | 84 | 8 | **140** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 1,187 | 1,209 | 22 | 1.85% | 51 | 75 | 2 | **128** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 973 | 967 | -6 | -0.62% | 57 | 56 | -1 | **112** |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 732 | 789 | 57 | 7.79% | 42 | 54 | 6 | **102** |
| 39-9011 | Childcare Workers | 633 | 689 | 56 | 8.85% | 54 | 41 | 6 | **101** |

**Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 654 | 586 | **-68** | -10.40% | 33 | 32 | -7 | 58 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 363 | 316 | **-47** | -12.95% | 14 | 25 | -5 | 34 |
| 35-2011 | Cooks, Fast Food | 234 | 213 | **-21** | -8.97% | 13 | 18 | -2 | 29 |
| 43-3071 | Tellers | 249 | 230 | **-19** | -7.63% | 12 | 15 | -2 | 25 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 83 | 68 | **-15** | -18.07% | 4 | 4 | -2 | 6 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 49-2022 | Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers | 31 | 24 | -7 | **-22.58%** | 1 | 2 | -1 | 2 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 83 | 68 | -15 | **-18.07%** | 4 | 4 | -2 | 6 |
| 43-6012 | Legal Secretaries | 61 | 52 | -9 | **-14.75%** | 3 | 3 | -1 | 5 |
| 51-9196 | Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders | 23 | 20 | -3 | **-13.04%** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 363 | 316 | -47 | **-12.95%** | 14 | 25 | -5 | 34 |

# Southwest Arkansas

**Southwest Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): -4.59%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 6.77%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 4.7%**

 The Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) is the largest Workforce Area in the state in terms of the number of counties represented. Twelve counties are located within this region: Calhoun, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Sevier, and Union. Three states border the Area: Oklahoma to the west, Texas to the southwest, and Louisiana to the south. Miller County is part of the Texarkana AR/TX Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Employment in the Southwest Arkansas WDA is forecast to increase by 6,223, or a 6.77 percent growth during the 2016-2026 projection period, which is slower than the state’s growth rate. Goods-Producing industries are projected to gain 543 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to increase by 5,019 jobs. The Area is expected to gain 661 Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers. Population decreased 4.59 percent from 2006 and 2016, bringing its total down to 224,243 residents. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 4.7 percent.

**Education and Health Services** is estimated to be the top growing supersector, with a gain of 2,156 jobs, a growth of 11.87 percent. *Ambulatory Health Care Services* is projected to be the top growing industry, adding 824 new jobs between 2016 and 2026. **Professional and Business Services** is predicted to be the fastest growing supersector, increasing employment by 20.63 percent, while *Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry* is slated to be the fastest growing industry, with a gain of 38.66 percent. On the negative side of the economy, the Other Services (Except Government) supersector could see its workforce drop by 5.31 percent, or 187 jobs. *Transportation Equipment Manufacturing* is forecast to be the top and fastest declining industry, with a loss of 207, a 51.49 percent drop in employment.

Between 2016 and 2026, Southwest Arkansas employers are estimated to have 10,928 job openings annually. The Area is forecasted to have 4,494 annual openings due to employees leaving the workforce, while 5,812 are due to employees changing jobs. Growth and expansion could account for 622 annual job openings. **Personal Care and Service Occupations** is estimated to be the top and fastest growing major group, increasing employment by an anticipated 663 jobs, or 24.24 percent gain. Driving this growth is expected to be among *Personal Care Aides*, which is slated to add 509 jobs to its workforce. *Information Security Analysts* is forecast to raise its workforce by 52.17 percent, making it the fastest growing occupation in the Area. The **Production Occupations** major groupis slated to experience a net loss of 105 jobs between 2016 and 2026, a cut of less than one percent of its workforce. Leading this decline is *Team Assemblers,* which is predicted to be the top declining occupation, with a loss of 132 jobs. *Computer Operators,* is projected to decline by 28.57 percent, making it the fastest declining occupation in Southwest Arkansas.

**Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **91,962** | **98,185** | **6,223** | **6.77%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***9,851*** | ***10,512*** | ***661*** | ***6.71%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 9,486 | 10,177 | 691 | 7.28% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 365 | 335 | -30 | -8.22% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 25,926 | 26,469 | 543 | 2.09% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **3,263** | **3,442** | **179** | **5.49%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 2,524 | 2,742 | 218 | 8.64% |
| 210000 | Mining | 739 | 700 | -39 | -5.28% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **3,599** | **3,939** | **340** | **9.45%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **19,064** | **19,088** | **24** | **0.13%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***10,678*** | ***10,926*** | ***248*** | ***2.32%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***8,386*** | ***8,162*** | ***-224*** | ***-2.67%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 56,185 | 61,204 | 5,019 | 8.93% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **15,242** | **16,504** | **1,262** | **8.28%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 1,914 | 1,922 | 8 | 0.42% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 8,861 | 9,800 | 939 | 10.60% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 3,928 | 4,220 | 292 | 7.43% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 539 | 562 | 23 | 4.27% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **455** | **409** | **-46** | **-10.11%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **2,610** | **2,658** | **48** | **1.84%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 1,867 | 1,858 | -9 | -0.48% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 743 | 800 | 57 | 7.67% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **4,383** | **5,287** | **904** | **20.63%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 1,041 | 1,109 | 68 | 6.53% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 1,069 | 1,462 | 393 | 36.76% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 2,273 | 2,716 | 443 | 19.49% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **18,165** | **20,321** | **2,156** | **11.87%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 7,996 | 7,995 | -1 | -0.01% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 10,169 | 12,326 | 2,157 | 21.21% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **5,714** | **6,254** | **540** | **9.45%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 386 | 385 | -1 | -0.26% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 5,328 | 5,869 | 541 | 10.15% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **3,524** | **3,337** | **-187** | **-5.31%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **6,092** | **6,434** | **342** | **5.61%** |

**Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)

**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 2,883 | 3,707 | **824** | 28.58% |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,282 | 3,040 | **758** | 33.22% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 2,801 | 3,440 | **639** | 22.81% |
| 623000 | Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 3,230 | 3,799 | **569** | 17.62% |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 4,713 | 5,234 | **521** | 11.05% |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 1,069 | 1,462 | **393** | 36.76% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 1,739 | 2,086 | **347** | 19.95% |
| 999300 | Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 3,518 | 3,849 | **331** | 9.41% |
| 484000 | Truck Transportation | 3,002 | 3,306 | **304** | 10.13% |
| 326000 | Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing | 2,773 | 3,000 | **227** | 8.19% |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 551 | 764 | 213 | **38.66%** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 1,069 | 1,462 | 393 | **36.76%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 2,282 | 3,040 | 758 | **33.22%** |
| 111000 | Crop Production | 456 | 596 | 140 | **30.70%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 2,883 | 3,707 | 824 | **28.58%** |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 138 | 177 | 39 | **28.26%** |
| 237000 | Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction | 414 | 512 | 98 | **23.67%** |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 2,801 | 3,440 | 639 | **22.81%** |
| 488000 | Support Activities for Transportation | 236 | 284 | 48 | **20.34%** |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 1,739 | 2,086 | 347 | **19.95%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 336000 | Transportation Equipment Manufacturing | 402 | 195 | **-207** | -51.49% |
| 322000 | Paper Manufacturing | 1,305 | 1,106 | **-199** | -15.25% |
| 113000 | Forestry and Logging | 733 | 554 | **-179** | -24.42% |
| 813000 | Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations | 2,171 | 2,036 | **-135** | -6.22% |
| 327000 | Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing | 394 | 309 | **-85** | -21.57% |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 336000 | Transportation Equipment Manufacturing | 402 | 195 | -207 | **-51.49%** |
| 113000 | Forestry and Logging | 733 | 554 | -179 | **-24.42%** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 155 | 119 | -36 | **-23.23%** |
| 327000 | Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing | 394 | 309 | -85 | **-21.57%** |
| 442000 | Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores | 150 | 120 | -30 | **-20.00%** |

**Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **91,962** | **98,185** | **6,223** | **6.77%** | **4,494** | **5,812** | **622** | **10,928** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 9,617 | 10,172 | 555 | 5.77% | 444 | 294 | 56 | 794 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 1,943 | 2,125 | 182 | 9.37% | 62 | 117 | 18 | 197 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 413 | 459 | 46 | 11.14% | 8 | 21 | 5 | 34 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 1,149 | 1,204 | 55 | 4.79% | 30 | 54 | 6 | 90 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 492 | 521 | 29 | 5.89% | 14 | 33 | 3 | 50 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 1,672 | 1,781 | 109 | 6.52% | 74 | 111 | 11 | 196 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 308 | 331 | 23 | 7.47% | 8 | 11 | 2 | 21 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 5,392 | 5,548 | 156 | 2.89% | 216 | 220 | 16 | 452 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 609 | 622 | 13 | 2.13% | 27 | 32 | 1 | 60 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 4,010 | 4,654 | 644 | 16.06% | 125 | 121 | 64 | 310 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 2,339 | 2,816 | 477 | 20.39% | 152 | 136 | 48 | 336 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 1,362 | 1,463 | 101 | 7.42% | 57 | 66 | 10 | 133 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 5,822 | 6,451 | 629 | 10.80% | 454 | 572 | 63 | 1,089 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 2,615 | 2,900 | 285 | 10.90% | 170 | 175 | 28 | 373 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 2,735 | 3,398 | 663 | 24.24% | 234 | 201 | 66 | 501 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 7,632 | 8,289 | 657 | 8.61% | 509 | 627 | 66 | 1,202 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 11,795 | 12,065 | 270 | 2.29% | 605 | 702 | 27 | 1,334 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 1,783 | 1,845 | 62 | 3.48% | 67 | 194 | 6 | 267 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 5,103 | 5,520 | 417 | 8.17% | 184 | 356 | 42 | 582 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 4,465 | 4,699 | 234 | 5.24% | 160 | 263 | 23 | 446 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 11,541 | 11,436 | -105 | -0.91% | 439 | 839 | -10 | 1,268 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 9,165 | 9,886 | 721 | 7.87% | 456 | 668 | 72 | 1,196 |

**Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,206 | 1,715 | **509** | 42.21% | 117 | 88 | 51 | 256 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,255 | 2,621 | **366** | 16.23% | 216 | 226 | 37 | 479 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 3,374 | 3,682 | **308** | 9.13% | 150 | 222 | 31 | 403 |
| 29-2061 | Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses | 1,215 | 1,441 | **226** | 18.60% | 47 | 46 | 23 | 116 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,390 | 1,610 | **220** | 15.83% | 91 | 76 | 22 | 189 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,887 | 2,094 | **207** | 10.97% | 126 | 158 | 21 | 305 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,035 | 2,238 | **203** | 9.98% | 106 | 183 | 20 | 309 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,704 | 2,904 | **200** | 7.40% | 263 | 257 | 20 | 540 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 5,735 | 5,911 | **176** | 3.07% | 340 | 86 | 18 | 444 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 1,047 | 1,193 | **146** | 13.94% | 32 | 24 | 15 | 71 |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 15-1122 | Information Security Analysts | 23 | 35 | 12 | **52.17%** | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 29-1071 | Physician Assistants | 16 | 24 | 8 | **50.00%** | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,206 | 1,715 | 509 | **42.21%** | 117 | 88 | 51 | 256 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 74 | 103 | 29 | **39.19%** | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| 37-3012 | Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation | 13 | 18 | 5 | **38.46%** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 53 | 72 | 19 | **35.85%** | 3 | 4 | 2 | 9 |
| 29-1123 | Physical Therapists | 89 | 119 | 30 | **33.71%** | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| 29-1066 | Psychiatrists | 15 | 20 | 5 | **33.33%** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 49-3011 | Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians | 19 | 25 | 6 | **31.58%** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 53-3041 | Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs | 161 | 210 | 49 | **30.43%** | 11 | 8 | 5 | 24 |

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 5,735 | 5,911 | 176 | 3.07% | **340** | 86 | 18 | 444 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,704 | 2,904 | 200 | 7.40% | **263** | 257 | 20 | 540 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,255 | 2,621 | 366 | 16.23% | **216** | 226 | 37 | 479 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 3,374 | 3,682 | 308 | 9.13% | **150** | 222 | 31 | 403 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,198 | 2,233 | 35 | 1.59% | **130** | 127 | 4 | 261 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,887 | 2,094 | 207 | 10.97% | **126** | 158 | 21 | 305 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,206 | 1,715 | 509 | 42.21% | **117** | 88 | 51 | 256 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,035 | 2,238 | 203 | 9.98% | **106** | 183 | 20 | 309 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,390 | 1,610 | 220 | 15.83% | **91** | 76 | 22 | 189 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,193 | 1,324 | 131 | 10.98% | **82** | 79 | 13 | 174 |

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,704 | 2,904 | 200 | 7.40% | 263 | **257** | 20 | 540 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,255 | 2,621 | 366 | 16.23% | 216 | **226** | 37 | 479 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 3,374 | 3,682 | 308 | 9.13% | 150 | **222** | 31 | 403 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,035 | 2,238 | 203 | 9.98% | 106 | **183** | 20 | 309 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,887 | 2,094 | 207 | 10.97% | 126 | **158** | 21 | 305 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,198 | 2,233 | 35 | 1.59% | 130 | **127** | 4 | 261 |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,049 | 1,117 | 68 | 6.48% | 80 | **123** | 7 | 210 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,206 | 1,715 | 509 | 42.21% | 117 | **88** | 51 | 256 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 5,735 | 5,911 | 176 | 3.07% | 340 | **86** | 18 | 444 |
| 43-5081 | Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 1,073 | 1,215 | 142 | 13.23% | 62 | **82** | 14 | 158 |

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,704 | 2,904 | 200 | 7.40% | 263 | 257 | 20 | **540** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 2,255 | 2,621 | 366 | 16.23% | 216 | 226 | 37 | **479** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 5,735 | 5,911 | 176 | 3.07% | 340 | 86 | 18 | **444** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 3,374 | 3,682 | 308 | 9.13% | 150 | 222 | 31 | **403** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 2,035 | 2,238 | 203 | 9.98% | 106 | 183 | 20 | **309** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,887 | 2,094 | 207 | 10.97% | 126 | 158 | 21 | **305** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 2,198 | 2,233 | 35 | 1.59% | 130 | 127 | 4 | **261** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,206 | 1,715 | 509 | 42.21% | 117 | 88 | 51 | **256** |
| 35-3031 | Waiters and Waitresses | 1,049 | 1,117 | 68 | 6.48% | 80 | 123 | 7 | **210** |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,390 | 1,610 | 220 | 15.83% | 91 | 76 | 22 | **189** |

**Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 1,136 | 1,004 | **-132** | -11.62% | 46 | 78 | -13 | 111 |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 1,452 | 1,327 | **-125** | -8.61% | 75 | 73 | -12 | 136 |
| 51-9061 | Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers | 574 | 513 | **-61** | -10.63% | 23 | 42 | -6 | 59 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 240 | 195 | **-45** | -18.75% | 12 | 11 | -4 | 19 |
| 43-3071 | Tellers | 435 | 396 | **-39** | -8.97% | 21 | 27 | -4 | 44 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five) (Minimum Decline of 5)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-9011 | Computer Operators | 14 | 10 | -4 | **-28.57%** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 49-2022 | Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers | 61 | 44 | -17 | **-27.87%** | 2 | 4 | -2 | 4 |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 42 | 33 | -9 | **-21.43%** | 2 | 2 | -1 | 3 |
| 11-9131 | Postmasters and Mail Superintendents | 19 | 15 | -4 | **-21.05%** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 240 | 195 | -45 | **18.75%** | 12 | 11 | -4 | 19 |

**Southeast Arkansas**

**Southeast Arkansas Profile**

**Population Growth (2006-2016): -8.42%**

**Projected Employment Growth (2016-2026): 4.26%  
Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) (2016): 5.2%**

 The Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of 10 counties: Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, and Lincoln. Two states border the Southeast Arkansas WDA, Louisiana to the south and Mississippi to the east. The Pine Bluff Metropolitan Statistical Area is located in the Area.

The Southeast Arkansas WDA is expected to increase employment by 3,508 between 2016 and 2026. Goods-Producing industries are projected to experience a net loss of 241 jobs, while the Services-Providing industries are predicted to gain 3,435 jobs. The Area is estimated to gain 314 Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers. Population in the Area declined 8.42 percent from 2006 to 2016, with a loss of 18,500 residents bringing its residency to 201,218. The not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for 2016 was 5.2 percent.

The **Education and Health Services** supersector is predicted to lead the Area in net growth with 2,075 new jobs anticipated, while **Professional and Business Services** is estimated to be the fastest growing supersector during the projection period with a 12.49 percent increase in jobs. *Social Assistance* is projected to be the top growing industry, adding 1,131 jobs between 2016 and 2026, a 33.19 percent gain, and the second fastest in Southeast Arkansas. The fastest growing industry is expected to be *Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores*, growing at 44.79 percent. On the negative side of the labor market, five supersectors are slated to experience a net loss of jobs. The **Natural Resources and Mining** supersector is projected to have the worst outlook, with a loss of 204 jobs, or 5.62 percent of its workforce. Driving this decline is *Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry*, which is predicted to lose 333 jobs between 2016 and 2026, a 38.23 percent decline. *Private Households* is forecast to cut 40.15 percent of its workforce, becoming the fastest declining industry in the WDA.

Southeast Arkansas WDA employment is expected to increase by 4.26 percent between 2016 and 2026, the slowest growing WDA. Of the 9,400 job openings projected to be available annually, 3,959 would be from employees leaving the workforce, while 5,090 would come from employees changing jobs. Growth and expansion could account for 351 annual job openings. **Personal Care and Service Occupations** is predicted to be the top and fastest growing major group, with a gain of 599 new jobs, a 21.39 percent increase. *Personal Care Aides* could be the driver of this growth, raising employment by 43.91 percent, or 519 new jobs. *Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive* is predicted to be the top declining occupation, with a loss of 221, while *Data Entry Keyers* could lose 31.03 percent of its workforce, making it the fastest declining occupation. Overall, in the Southeast Arkansas WDA, four major groups are anticipated to see net job losses, with **Production Occupations** losing the most at 240, or 2.32 percent of its workforce.

**Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**

2016-2026 Industry Projections by Major Division

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **000000** | **TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES** | **82,424** | **85,932** | **3,508** | **4.26%** |
| ***000671*** | ***Total Self Employed and Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs*** | ***8,012*** | ***8,326*** | ***314*** | ***3.92%*** |
| 006010 | Self Employed Workers, All Jobs | 7,682 | 8,026 | 344 | 4.48% |
| 007010 | Unpaid Family Workers, All Jobs | 330 | 300 | -30 | -9.09% |
| 101000 | Goods Producing | 19,979 | 19,738 | -241 | -1.21% |
| **101100** | **NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING** | **3,628** | **3,424** | **-204** | **-5.62%** |
| 110000 | Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 3,573 | 3,374 | -199 | -5.57% |
| 210000 | Mining | 55 | 50 | -5 | -9.09% |
| **101200** | **CONSTRUCTION** | **2,076** | **2,233** | **157** | **7.56%** |
| **101300** | **MANUFACTURING** | **14,275** | **14,081** | **-194** | **-1.36%** |
|  | ***Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***8,482*** | ***8,383*** | ***-99*** | ***-1.17%*** |
|  | ***Durable Goods Manufacturing*** | ***5,793*** | ***5,698*** | ***-95*** | ***-1.64%*** |
| 102000 | Services Providing | 54,433 | 57,868 | 3,435 | 6.31% |
| **102100** | **TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES** | **13,040** | **13,321** | **281** | **2.15%** |
| 420000 | Wholesale Trade | 2,072 | 2,062 | -10 | -0.48% |
| 440000 | Retail Trade | 7,724 | 8,202 | 478 | 6.19% |
| 480000 | Transportation and Warehousing | 2,664 | 2,474 | -190 | -7.13% |
| 220000 | Utilities | 580 | 583 | 3 | 0.52% |
| **102200** | **INFORMATION** | **315** | **286** | **-29** | **-9.21%** |
| **102300** | **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** | **2,455** | **2,407** | **-48** | **-1.96%** |
| 520000 | Finance and Insurance | 1,880 | 1,795 | -85 | -4.52% |
| 530000 | Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 575 | 612 | 37 | 6.43% |
| **102400** | **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES** | **3,387** | **3,810** | **423** | **12.49%** |
| 540000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 856 | 1,003 | 147 | 17.17% |
| 550000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 356 | 413 | 57 | 16.01% |
| 560000 | Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services | 2,175 | 2,394 | 219 | 10.07% |
| **102500** | **EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES** | **19,261** | **21,336** | **2,075** | **10.77%** |
| 610000 | Educational Services | 7,809 | 7,726 | -83 | -1.06% |
| 620000 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 11,452 | 13,610 | 2,158 | 18.84% |
| **102600** | **LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY** | **4,656** | **5,030** | **374** | **8.03%** |
| 710000 | Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | 236 | 262 | 26 | 11.02% |
| 720000 | Accommodation and Food Services | 4,420 | 4,768 | 348 | 7.87% |
| **102700** | **OTHER SERVICES (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT)** | **2,420** | **2,325** | **-95** | **-3.93%** |
| **102800** | **GOVERNMENT** | **8,899** | **9,353** | **454** | **5.10%** |

**Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**2016-2026 Industry Projections Rankings (by NAICS Subsector)   
  
**Top 10 Growing Industries Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 3,408 | 4,539 | **1,131** | 33.19% |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 2,753 | 3,540 | **787** | 28.59% |
| 722000 | Food Services and Drinking Places | 3,989 | 4,333 | **344** | 8.62% |
| 999200 | State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 4,001 | 4,281 | **280** | 7.00% |
| 999300 | Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 2,914 | 3,187 | **273** | 9.37% |
| 311000 | Food Manufacturing | 3,399 | 3,670 | **271** | 7.97% |
| 452000 | General Merchandise Stores | 2,300 | 2,553 | **253** | 11.00% |
| 561000 | Administrative and Support Services | 2,067 | 2,283 | **216** | 10.45% |
| 111000 | Crop Production | 1,223 | 1,407 | **184** | 15.04% |
| 541000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 856 | 1,003 | **147** | 17.17% |

## **Top 10 Fastest Growing Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 50)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 451000 | Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores | 192 | 278 | 86 | **44.79%** |
| 624000 | Social Assistance | 3,408 | 4,539 | 1,131 | **33.19%** |
| 621000 | Ambulatory Health Care Services | 2,753 | 3,540 | 787 | **28.59%** |
| 541000 | Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 856 | 1,003 | 147 | **17.17%** |
| 551000 | Management of Companies and Enterprises | 356 | 413 | 57 | **16.01%** |
| 111000 | Crop Production | 1,223 | 1,407 | 184 | **15.04%** |
| 326000 | Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing | 452 | 519 | 67 | **14.82%** |
| 238000 | Specialty Trade Contractors | 1,115 | 1,261 | 146 | **13.09%** |
| 446000 | Health and Personal Care Stores | 551 | 620 | 69 | **12.52%** |
| 713000 | Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries | 218 | 244 | 26 | **11.93%** |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 871 | 538 | **-333** | -38.23% |
| 322000 | Paper Manufacturing | 3,284 | 3,001 | **-283** | -8.62% |
| 611000 | Educational Services | 7,809 | 7,726 | **-83** | -1.06% |
| 524000 | Insurance Carriers and Related Activities | 376 | 302 | **-74** | -19.68% |
| 999100 | Federal Government, Excluding Post Office | 1,634 | 1,575 | **-59** | -3.61% |

**Top 5 Declining Industries Ranked by Percent Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAICS Code** | **NAICS Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 814000 | Private Households | 132 | 79 | -53 | **-40.15%** |
| 115000 | Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry | 871 | 538 | -333 | **-38.23%** |
| 517000 | Telecommunications | 140 | 108 | -32 | **-22.86%** |
| 524000 | Insurance Carriers and Related Activities | 376 | 302 | -74 | **-19.68%** |
| 425000 | Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers | 141 | 115 | -26 | **-18.44%** |

**Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area**  
2016-2026 Occupational Projections by Major Group

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| **00-0000** | **Total, All Occupations** | **82,424** | **85,932** | **3,508** | **4.26%** | **3,959** | **5,090** | **351** | **9,400** |
| 11-0000 | Management Occupations | 8,531 | 8,770 | 239 | 2.80% | 387 | 259 | 24 | 670 |
| 13-0000 | Business and Financial Operations Occupations | 2,153 | 2,308 | 155 | 7.20% | 68 | 128 | 16 | 212 |
| 15-0000 | Computer and Mathematical Occupations | 470 | 484 | 14 | 2.98% | 9 | 23 | 1 | 33 |
| 17-0000 | Architecture and Engineering Occupations | 591 | 628 | 37 | 6.26% | 15 | 27 | 4 | 46 |
| 19-0000 | Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations | 854 | 852 | -2 | -0.23% | 22 | 56 | 0 | 78 |
| 21-0000 | Community and Social Service Occupations | 1,781 | 2,042 | 261 | 14.65% | 80 | 125 | 26 | 231 |
| 23-0000 | Legal Occupations | 323 | 366 | 43 | 13.31% | 8 | 11 | 4 | 23 |
| 25-0000 | Education, Training, and Library Occupations | 4,893 | 4,982 | 89 | 1.82% | 202 | 202 | 9 | 413 |
| 27-0000 | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations | 438 | 451 | 13 | 2.97% | 20 | 26 | 1 | 47 |
| 29-0000 | Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations | 4,308 | 4,895 | 587 | 13.63% | 128 | 128 | 59 | 315 |
| 31-0000 | Healthcare Support Occupations | 2,826 | 3,373 | 547 | 19.36% | 184 | 162 | 55 | 401 |
| 33-0000 | Protective Service Occupations | 2,768 | 2,875 | 107 | 3.87% | 102 | 129 | 11 | 242 |
| 35-0000 | Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations | 4,998 | 5,426 | 428 | 8.56% | 386 | 470 | 43 | 899 |
| 37-0000 | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations | 2,334 | 2,478 | 144 | 6.17% | 148 | 154 | 14 | 316 |
| 39-0000 | Personal Care and Service Occupations | 2,801 | 3,400 | 599 | 21.39% | 234 | 204 | 60 | 498 |
| 41-0000 | Sales and Related Occupations | 6,527 | 6,832 | 305 | 4.67% | 428 | 530 | 30 | 988 |
| 43-0000 | Office and Administrative Support Occupations | 9,556 | 9,467 | -89 | -0.93% | 486 | 556 | -9 | 1,033 |
| 45-0000 | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations | 2,562 | 2,482 | -80 | -3.12% | 93 | 271 | -8 | 356 |
| 47-0000 | Construction and Extraction Occupations | 2,663 | 2,797 | 134 | 5.03% | 97 | 183 | 13 | 293 |
| 49-0000 | Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations | 3,964 | 4,068 | 104 | 2.62% | 141 | 231 | 10 | 382 |
| 51-0000 | Production Occupations | 10,349 | 10,109 | -240 | -2.32% | 401 | 744 | -24 | 1,121 |
| 53-0000 | Transportation and Material Moving Occupations | 6,734 | 6,847 | 113 | 1.68% | 323 | 472 | 11 | 806 |

## **Southeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area** 2016-2026 Occupational Projections Rankings

**Top 10 Growing Occupations Ranked by Net Growth**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,182 | 1,701 | **519** | 43.91% | 115 | 87 | 52 | 254 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,811 | 2,077 | **266** | 14.69% | 172 | 180 | 27 | 379 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 821 | 1,068 | **247** | 30.09% | 57 | 48 | 25 | 130 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,562 | 1,774 | **212** | 13.57% | 101 | 84 | 21 | 206 |
| 29-1141 | Registered Nurses | 1,108 | 1,271 | **163** | 14.71% | 34 | 26 | 16 | 76 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,623 | 1,779 | **156** | 9.61% | 108 | 135 | 16 | 259 |
| 21-1093 | Social and Human Service Assistants | 448 | 556 | **108** | 24.11% | 22 | 36 | 11 | 69 |
| 41-1011 | First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers | 1,003 | 1,096 | **93** | 9.27% | 39 | 71 | 9 | 119 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,114 | 1,192 | **78** | 7.00% | 75 | 72 | 8 | 155 |
| 29-2061 | Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses | 1,036 | 1,112 | **76** | 7.34% | 38 | 37 | 8 | 83 |

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Employment of 25)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,182 | 1,701 | 519 | **43.91%** | 115 | 87 | 52 | 254 |
| 29-1171 | Nurse Practitioners | 104 | 148 | 44 | **42.31%** | 2 | 4 | 4 | 10 |
| 29-1123 | Physical Therapists | 49 | 64 | 15 | **30.61%** | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 31-9092 | Medical Assistants | 92 | 120 | 28 | **30.43%** | 5 | 6 | 3 | 14 |
| 31-1011 | Home Health Aides | 821 | 1,068 | 247 | **30.09%** | 57 | 48 | 25 | 130 |
| 21-1022 | Healthcare Social Workers | 58 | 75 | 17 | **29.31%** | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| 21-1023 | Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers | 65 | 82 | 17 | **26.15%** | 3 | 5 | 2 | 10 |
| 11-9151 | Social and Community Service Managers | 119 | 149 | 30 | **25.21%** | 4 | 7 | 3 | 14 |
| 21-1093 | Social and Human Service Assistants | 448 | 556 | 108 | **24.11%** | 22 | 36 | 11 | 69 |
| 29-2032 | Diagnostic Medical Sonographers | 48 | 59 | 11 | **22.92%** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Exits**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 5,076 | 5,079 | 3 | 0.06% | **297** | 75 | 0 | 372 |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,303 | 2,338 | 35 | 1.52% | **218** | 213 | 4 | 435 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,811 | 2,077 | 266 | 14.69% | **172** | 180 | 27 | 379 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,182 | 1,701 | 519 | 43.91% | **115** | 87 | 52 | 254 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,623 | 1,779 | 156 | 9.61% | **108** | 135 | 16 | 259 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,562 | 1,774 | 212 | 13.57% | **101** | 84 | 21 | 206 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 1,659 | 1,633 | -26 | -1.57% | **97** | 94 | -3 | 188 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 1,636 | 1,696 | 60 | 3.67% | **82** | 142 | 6 | 230 |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,114 | 1,192 | 78 | 7.00% | **75** | 72 | 8 | 155 |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 1,370 | 1,227 | -143 | -10.44% | **70** | 68 | -14 | 124 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Transfers**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,303 | 2,338 | 35 | 1.52% | 218 | **213** | 4 | 435 |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,811 | 2,077 | 266 | 14.69% | 172 | **180** | 27 | 379 |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 1,636 | 1,696 | 60 | 3.67% | 82 | **142** | 6 | 230 |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,623 | 1,779 | 156 | 9.61% | 108 | **135** | 16 | 259 |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 1,519 | 1,557 | 38 | 2.50% | 65 | **97** | 4 | 166 |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 1,659 | 1,633 | -26 | -1.57% | 97 | **94** | -3 | 188 |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,182 | 1,701 | 519 | 43.91% | 115 | **87** | 52 | 254 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 1,216 | 1,128 | -88 | -7.24% | 50 | **85** | -9 | 126 |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,562 | 1,774 | 212 | 13.57% | 101 | **84** | 21 | 206 |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 5,076 | 5,079 | 3 | 0.06% | 297 | **75** | 0 | 372 |

**Top 10 Occupations Ranked by Annual Openings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 41-2011 | Cashiers | 2,303 | 2,338 | 35 | 1.52% | 218 | 213 | 4 | **435** |
| 35-3021 | Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food | 1,811 | 2,077 | 266 | 14.69% | 172 | 180 | 27 | **379** |
| 11-9013 | Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers | 5,076 | 5,079 | 3 | 0.06% | 297 | 75 | 0 | **372** |
| 41-2031 | Retail Salespersons | 1,623 | 1,779 | 156 | 9.61% | 108 | 135 | 16 | **259** |
| 39-9021 | Personal Care Aides | 1,182 | 1,701 | 519 | 43.91% | 115 | 87 | 52 | **254** |
| 53-7062 | Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | 1,636 | 1,696 | 60 | 3.67% | 82 | 142 | 6 | **230** |
| 31-1014 | Nursing Assistants | 1,562 | 1,774 | 212 | 13.57% | 101 | 84 | 21 | **206** |
| 43-9061 | Office Clerks, General | 1,659 | 1,633 | -26 | -1.57% | 97 | 94 | -3 | **188** |
| 53-3032 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 1,519 | 1,557 | 38 | 2.50% | 65 | 97 | 4 | **166** |
| 37-2011 | Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1,114 | 1,192 | 78 | 7.00% | 75 | 72 | 8 | **155** |

## **Top 5 Declining Occupations Ranked by Net Growth (Bottom Five)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-6014 | Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive | 1,370 | 1,227 | **-143** | -10.44% | 70 | 68 | -14 | 124 |
| 51-2092 | Team Assemblers | 1,216 | 1,128 | **-88** | -7.24% | 50 | 85 | -9 | 126 |
| 51-4031 | Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic | 512 | 459 | **-53** | -10.35% | 18 | 37 | -5 | 50 |
| 51-9061 | Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers | 582 | 539 | **-43** | -7.39% | 23 | 43 | -4 | 62 |
| 43-3071 | Tellers | 374 | 338 | **-36** | -9.63% | 18 | 23 | -4 | 37 |

**Top 5 Fastest Declining Occupations Ranked by Percent Growth (Minimum Decline of 4)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SOC Code** | **SOC Title** | **2016 Estimated Employment** | **2026 Projected Employment** | **Numeric Change** | **Percent Change** | **Annual Exits** | **Annual Transfers** | **Annual Change** | **Total Annual Openings** |
| 43-9021 | Data Entry Keyers | 29 | 20 | -9 | **-31.03%** | 1 | 2 | -1 | 2 |
| 43-9011 | Computer Operators | 14 | 10 | -4 | **-28.57%** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 49-2022 | Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers | 45 | 35 | -10 | **-22.22%** | 1 | 3 | -1 | 3 |
| 11-9131 | Postmasters and Mail Superintendents | 19 | 15 | -4 | **-21.05%** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 43-6011 | Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants | 167 | 133 | -34 | **-20.36%** | 8 | 8 | -3 | 13 |

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