

# News Release



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## Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains Stable at 5.7 Percent

### Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released today by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.7 percent between April and May. Arkansas' civilian labor force added 1,500, a result of 900 more employed and 600 additional unemployed Arkansans. At 5.5 percent, the United States' jobless rate increase one-tenth of a percentage point in May.

ADWS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Employment and unemployment both increased slightly in May, but the gains were not enough to change the unemployment rate. This month's employment increase marks the eighteenth consecutive month of growth."

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY  
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	May 2015	April 2015	May 2014	Change From April 2015	Change From May 2014
Civilian Labor Force	1,336,500	1,335,000	1,293,400	1,500	43,100
Employment	1,259,700	1,258,800	1,213,600	900	46,100
Unemployment	76,800	76,200	79,800	600	-3,000
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.7	6.2	0.0	-0.5
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.4	6.3	0.1	-0.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Notes: Unemployment rates were computed from unrounded data.

Data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas and minorities and youth will be available online July 1, 2015.

### Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment gained 3,000 in May to total 1,218,300. Six major industry sectors added jobs, while three sectors declined. **Leisure and hospitality** posted the largest increase (+1,400). Most of the gains occurred in arts, entertainment, and recreation (+1,000), a typical seasonal expansion. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 1,000. Seasonal hiring in retail trade (+1,100) accounted for a majority of the increase. Employment in **government** declined 1,100. State government (-1,700) losses were related to the start of summer break at state colleges and universities, while local government (+900) added temporary summer employment.

[www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov)

Compared to May 2014, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 21,500. Seven major industry sectors posted growth, with four sectors adding 2,300 or more jobs, each. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** rose 6,100. Most of the expansion occurred in food services (+5,300). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** gained 5,400 jobs. Additions were posted across all sub-sectors. Jobs in **educational and health services** increased 3,700. All growth was reported in health care and social assistance (+3,800). **Construction** rose 2,300, mostly in specialty trade contractors (+2,200).

**ARKANSAS NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS**  
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2012	May 2015	April 2015	May 2014	Change From April 2015	Change From May 2014
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1,218,300	1,215,300	1,196,800	3,000	21,500
Goods Producing	211,600	210,800	208,900	800	2,700
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-400</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>48,400</b>	<b>47,700</b>	<b>46,100</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>2,300</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	31,100	31,600	28,900	-500	2,200
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>154,700</b>	<b>154,600</b>	<b>153,900</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>800</b>
Durable Goods	76,900	77,000	76,300	-100	600
Nondurable Goods	77,800	77,600	77,600	200	200
Service Providing	1,006,700	1,004,500	987,900	2,200	18,800
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>249,100</b>	<b>248,100</b>	<b>243,700</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>5,400</b>
Wholesale Trade	48,800	48,700	46,800	100	2,000
Retail Trade	137,500	136,400	135,500	1,100	2,000
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	62,800	63,000	61,400	-200	1,400
<b>Information</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>50,500</b>	<b>50,700</b>	<b>49,800</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>700</b>
Finance & Insurance	37,600	37,900	36,800	-300	800
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12,900	12,800	13,000	100	-100
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>138,600</b>	<b>138,000</b>	<b>135,600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>3,000</b>
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	39,800	40,200	40,400	-400	-600
Management of Companies	33,600	33,400	32,100	200	1,500
Administrative & Support Services	65,200	64,400	63,100	800	2,100
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>176,700</b>	<b>176,700</b>	<b>173,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,700</b>
Educational Services	14,300	14,600	14,400	-300	-100
Health Care & Social Assistance	162,400	162,100	158,600	300	3,800
Ambulatory Health Care	50,300	50,000	49,200	300	1,100
Social Assistance	38,900	38,800	37,200	100	1,700
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>116,800</b>	<b>115,400</b>	<b>110,700</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>6,100</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	12,500	11,500	11,700	1,000	800
Accommodation & Food Services	104,300	103,900	99,000	400	5,300
Accommodation Services	11,200	10,800	11,200	400	0
Food Services	93,100	93,100	87,800	0	5,300
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>44,300</b>	<b>43,900</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>217,000</b>	<b>218,100</b>	<b>217,400</b>	<b>-1,100</b>	<b>-400</b>
Federal Government	20,100	20,400	20,100	-300	0
State Government	78,700	80,400	78,200	-1,700	500
Local Government	118,200	117,300	119,100	900	-900

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers.

Notes: Estimates are based on the first quarter 2014 benchmark.

Current month's data are preliminary; previous month's data are revised.