

# News Release



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## Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Falls to 5.8 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 Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point, from 6.1 percent in October (revised up from 6.0 percent) to 5.8 percent in November. Arkansas' civilian labor force gained 8,100, a result of 10,300 more employed and 2,200 fewer unemployed Arkansans. At 5.8 percent, the United States' jobless rate remained stable between October and November.

DWS Communications Director Becky Heflin said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point in November, due in large part to the increase in employment. This month's addition of 10,300 employed is the largest employment gain of 2014."

#### ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (Seasonally Adjusted)

	November 2014	October 2014	November 2013	Change From October 2014	Change From November 2013
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	<b>1,315,600</b>	<b>1,307,500</b>	<b>1,326,300</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>-10,700</b>
<b>Employment</b>	<b>1,238,700</b>	<b>1,228,400</b>	<b>1,226,800</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>11,900</b>
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>76,900</b>	<b>79,100</b>	<b>99,500</b>	<b>-2,200</b>	<b>-22,600</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-1.7</b>
<b>U.S. Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.2</b>

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 January 5, 2015.

### Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs increased 5,400 in November to total 1,210,100. Seven major industry sectors posted gains, while two sectors declined and two remained stable. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 5,400 jobs. A majority of the increase occurred in retail trade (+3,700), representing the start of holiday hiring. Jobs in **government** rose 1,300. Most of the additions were in local government (+1,100), due in part to hiring for the 2014 elections. Employment in **professional and business services** dropped 2,400. All losses were in administrative and support services (-2,500), which includes activities such as landscape services and travel agencies. **Leisure and hospitality** decreased 1,200. Most of the declines occurred in arts-entertainment-recreation (-1,100), a typical seasonal loss.

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Since November 2013, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 18,400. Eight major industry sectors posted growth, while three sectors experienced minor decreases. Employment in **manufacturing** increased 5,400, mostly in durable goods manufacturing (+4,600). **Construction** added 4,000 jobs. A majority of the gains were in specialty trade contractors (+2,800). Jobs in **educational and health services** rose 3,600. Growth was posted in all subsectors, with health care and social assistance adding 3,100 jobs. **Leisure and hospitality** gained 3,500 jobs. Increases in food services (+3,900) more than offset minor losses in other subsectors. Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 1,700.

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

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2012	November 2014	October 2014	November 2013	Change From October 2014	Change From November 2013
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1,210,100	1,204,700	1,191,700	5,400	18,400
Goods Producing	217,400	216,300	207,600	1,100	9,800
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>50,100</b>	<b>49,500</b>	<b>46,100</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>4,000</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	31,500	30,700	28,700	800	2,800
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>157,300</b>	<b>156,800</b>	<b>151,900</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>5,400</b>
Durable Goods	79,800	79,300	75,200	500	4,600
Nondurable Goods	77,500	77,500	76,700	0	800
Service Providing	992,700	988,400	984,100	4,300	8,600
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>247,600</b>	<b>242,200</b>	<b>245,900</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>1,700</b>
Wholesale Trade	47,300	47,100	47,000	200	300
Retail Trade	136,700	133,000	137,000	3,700	-300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	63,600	62,100	61,900	1,500	1,700
<b>Information</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>14,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-600</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>50,100</b>	<b>49,600</b>	<b>49,700</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>400</b>
Finance & Insurance	36,900	36,500	36,500	400	400
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,200	13,100	13,200	100	0
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>132,400</b>	<b>130,100</b>	<b>-2,400</b>	<b>-100</b>
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	38,400	38,400	39,900	0	-1,500
Management of Companies	32,200	32,100	31,500	100	700
Administrative & Support Services	59,400	61,900	58,700	-2,500	700
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>178,600</b>	<b>178,200</b>	<b>175,000</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>3,600</b>
Educational Services	15,800	15,700	15,300	100	500
Health Care & Social Assistance	162,800	162,500	159,700	300	3,100
Ambulatory Health Care	49,800	49,800	48,700	0	1,100
Social Assistance	39,900	39,400	38,300	500	1,600
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>109,100</b>	<b>110,300</b>	<b>105,600</b>	<b>-1,200</b>	<b>3,500</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8,700	9,800	8,800	-1,100	-100
Accommodation & Food Services	100,400	100,500	96,800	-100	3,600
Accommodation Services	10,600	11,200	10,900	-600	-300
Food Services	89,800	89,300	85,900	500	3,900
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>43,300</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>220,500</b>	<b>219,200</b>	<b>220,800</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>-300</b>
Federal Government	20,000	20,000	20,200	0	-200
State Government	80,000	79,800	79,500	200	500
Local Government	120,500	119,400	121,100	1,100	-600

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers.

Notes: Estimates are based on the first quarter 2013 benchmark.

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