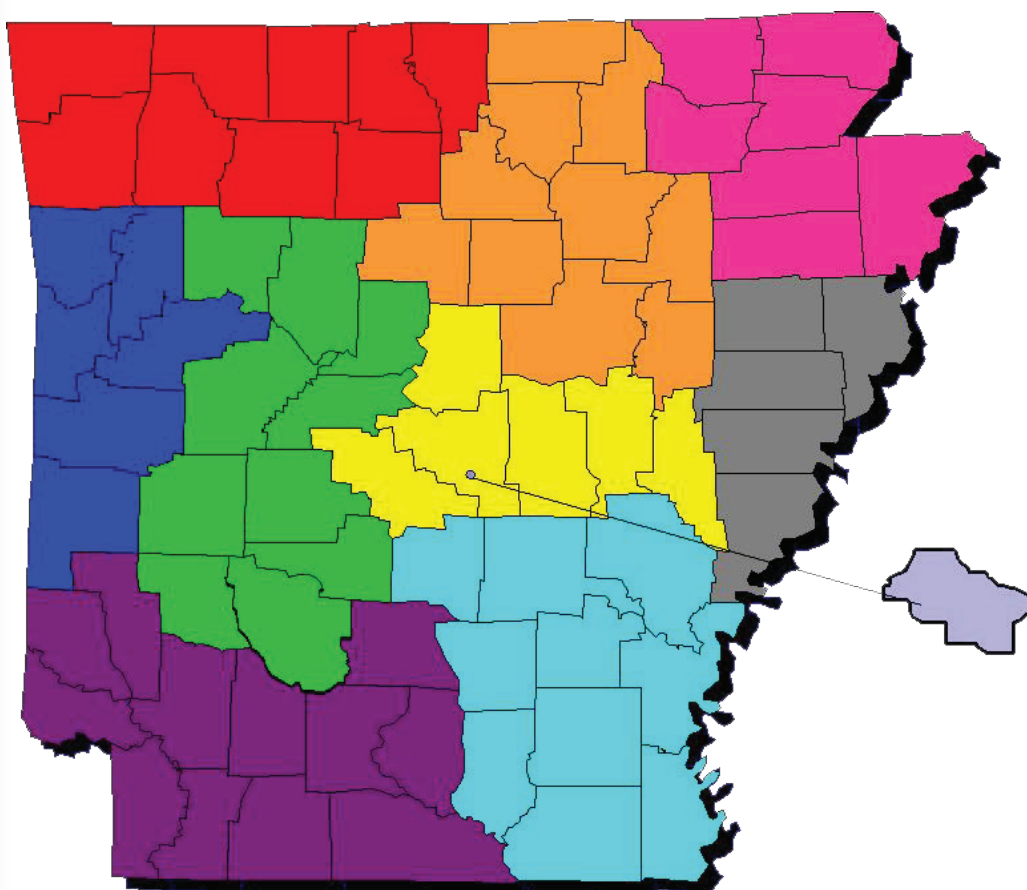


Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report

State and Local Workforce Development Areas



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2018 Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report

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Released: October 2018

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Executive Summary



The 2018 Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report is produced by the Occupational/Career Information unit of the Labor Market Information Section to provide relevant information about the economy and workforce in Arkansas and the 10 Workforce Development Areas. The primary focus of this report includes the years 2013 to 2017, with some information covering shorter periods due to accessibility of data. Projection information for industry and occupational trends covers the years 2017 to 2019.

Arkansas increased in population to over 3 million residents in 2017, increasing by 16,048 from 2016; and adding a total of 47,499 new residents from 2013 to 2017. Of Arkansas's 10 Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs), Northwest Arkansas continues to see the largest increase in population, adding 12,883 in 2017. The Eastern, Southeast, and Southwest Arkansas LWDAs continued to see decreasing populations in 2017.

Between 2016 and 2017 the state's labor force increased by 11,704 and employment increased by 14,885. Labor force and employment were mixed across the LWDAs. The State's unemployment rate dropped significantly to 3.7 percent in 2017 or by three and five-tenths percentage points since 2012. The unemployment rate stayed relatively steady in 2018, ending the month of July at 3.7 percent. The unemployment rate decreased across all LWDAs in 2017 and through July 2018. The Central, City of Little Rock, and Northwest Arkansas LWDAs unemployment rates all fell at or below state levels through July 2018.

Short-term employment projections for 2017 to 2019 continue to see an increase in the Arkansas job market with 32,764 jobs, equivalent to a 2.37 percent rise in employment. Goods-Producing Industries are estimated to see a net gain of 4,114 jobs, while the Services-Providing Industries are forecast to increase employment by 26,246. Arkansas's self-employed ranks are estimated to experience a net gain of 2,404, an increase of 1.84 percent.

Jobs requiring a high school diploma or equivalent are estimated to add more jobs than any other education

level with 11,335 jobs between 2017 and 2019. Occupations requiring a Bachelor's degree are expected to grow by 7,543.

Arkansas' per capita personal income increased over the 2012-2016 period to \$39,722; however, the state's per capita personal income in 2016 remained below the United States' per capita personal income of \$49,246. During the first quarter of 2018, the cost of living composite index in Arkansas' urban areas was below the national average for all urban areas in the index.

More than 923,000 Arkansas workers earned at least \$10 or more an hour in 2017, with the mean annual wage for all employer sizes estimated at \$40,530 in 2017. Of the six states surrounding Arkansas, only Mississippi had a lower overall average hourly and average annual wage for all occupations. Of the surrounding states, Texas had the highest average annual wage that was almost 17 percent higher than the average annual wage for Arkansas.

Sources used for this report include the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Employment Assistance Division, Labor Market Information Section, United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the Local Employment Dynamics Program (a partnership between the State of Arkansas and the United States Census Bureau), Population Reference Bureau and The Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER).

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

State of Arkansas



Population

The state of Arkansas' population grew to 3,004,279 in 2017, adding 16,048 from 2016 to 2017 and 47,499 from 2013 to 2017. The State of Arkansas consists of 10 Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs), six Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), and 75 counties. Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas border the state.

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

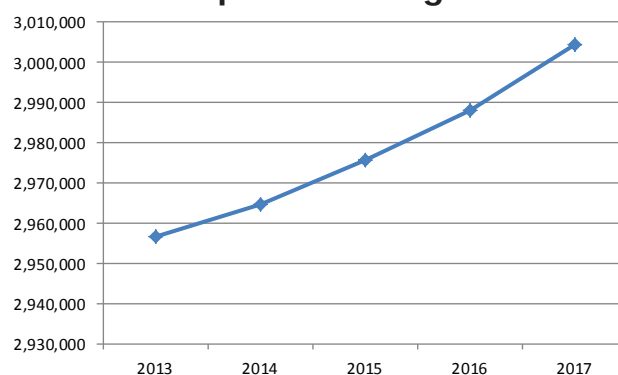
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

United States Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
316,234,505	318,622,525	321,039,839	323,405,935	325,719,178

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation decreased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 57,679, a decrease of 1,170 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 2,832 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires decreased in the second quarter of 2017 by 885 compared to the second quarter of 2016, but increased by 17,781 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations increased over the six-year period by 22,766 to 229,581 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate increased slightly between 2015 and 2016 to 9 percent.

State of Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	60,511	58,059	58,678	63,370	58,849	57,679
New Hires	218,926	212,621	221,906	234,099	237,592	236,707
Separations	206,815	205,155	208,086	215,957	225,127	229,581
Turnover	8.5%	8.5%	8.6%	8.8%	9.0%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

State Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

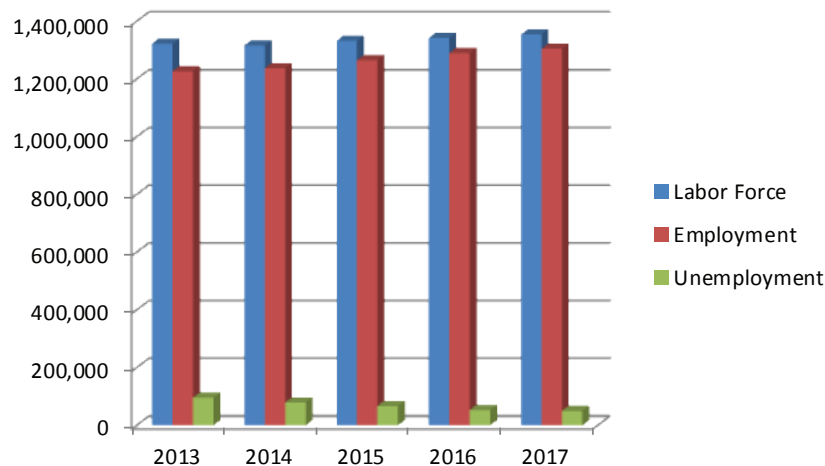


The labor force increased by 11,704 between 2016 and 2017 and employment increased by 14,885 over the same period. Unemployment decreased by 3,181 from 2016 to 2017, and has seen a decrease of 45,886 since 2013. The state's unemployment rate dropped by two-tenths of a percentage point from 2016 to 2017. Over the 2013–2017 period, the unemployment rate dropped three and a half percentage points to 3.7 percent for 2017. The state's unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in July 2018.

Arkansas 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	1,322,576	1,316,595	1,332,255	1,342,561	1,354,265
Employment	1,226,859	1,237,316	1,265,166	1,289,549	1,304,434
Unemployment	95,717	79,279	67,089	53,012	49,831
Unemployment Rate	7.2%	6.0%	5.0%	3.9%	3.7%

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics



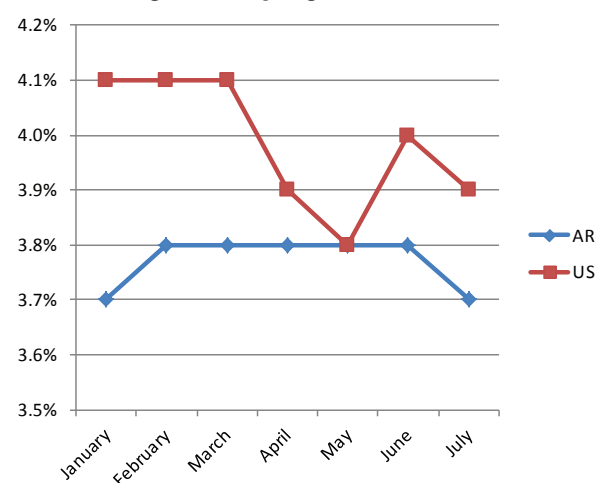
State of Arkansas and National Monthly Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	AR Unemployment Rate	U.S. Unemployment Rate
2018	January	3.7%	4.1%
2018	February	3.8%	4.1%
2018	March	3.8%	4.1%
2018	April	3.8%	3.9%
2018	May	3.8%	3.8%
2018	June	3.8%	4.0%
2018	July	3.7%	3.9%

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



State Cost of Living Index



2018 Q1 Index

Urban Area and State	100% Com- posite Index	13.47% Grocery Items	28.15% Housing	9.90% Utilities	8.99% Trans- portation	4.57% Health Care	34.92% Misc. Goods and Services
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Fayetteville, AR	87.4	94.5	72.1	90.9	89.2	89.3	95.3
Hot Springs, AR	93.7	91.6	83.0	93.7	84.2	89.7	106.0
Jonesboro, AR	83.6	89.6	72.0	88.1	87.9	81.4	88.5
Conway, AR	81.5	88.2	65.0	84.4	94.7	87.6	87.3
Little Rock-North Little Rock, AR	97.7	95.1	87.5	93.8	100.4	92.1	108.0

2017 Q1 Index

Urban Area and State	100% Com- posite Index	13.47% Grocery Items	28.15% Housing	9.90% Utilities	8.99% Trans- portation	4.57% Health Care	34.92% Misc. Goods and Services
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Fayetteville, AR	88.5	93.5	75.1	92.3	86.2	88.7	97.0
Hot Springs, AR	90.5	92.5	82.1	97.1	84.7	90.1	96.2
Jonesboro, AR	84.2	90.3	73.9	87.3	86.9	81.6	88.8
Conway, AR	79.1	86.5	65.0	83.2	90.7	86.1	82.5
Little Rock-North Little Rock, AR	95.9	94.2	89.0	100.6	93.8	93.1	101.8

ABOUT THE INDEX: C2ER produces the Cost of Living Index to provide a useful and reasonably accurate measure of living cost differences among urban areas. Items on which the Index is based have been carefully chosen to reflect the different categories of consumer expenditures. Weights assigned to relative costs are based on government survey data on expenditure patterns for professional and executive households. All items are priced in each place at a specified time and according to standardized specifications.

INTERPRETING THE INDEX: The Cost of Living Index measures relative price levels for consumer goods and services in participating areas. The average for all participating places, both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan, equals 100, and each participant's index is read as a percentage of the average for all places.

The Index does not measure inflation (price change over time). Because each quarterly report is a separate comparison of prices at a single point in time, and because both the number and the mix of participants changes from one quarter to the next, **Index data from different quarters cannot be compared.** For inflation data, contact the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at www.bls.gov.

State Median Household/ Per Capita Personal Income

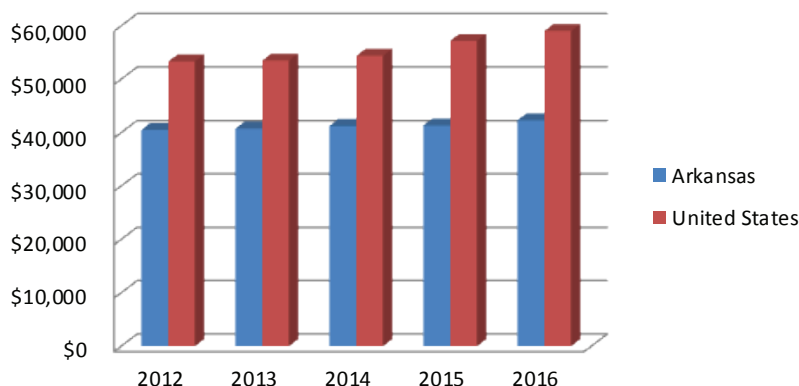


Arkansas' median household income was \$42,336 in 2016 which increased by \$965 from 2015 to 2016 but is below the national median household income of \$59,039 for 2016. Arkansas' per capita personal income in 2016 was \$39,722, an increase of \$691 from 2015. Over the 2012 -2016 period, the per capita personal income increased by \$3,573. The state's per capita personal income is below the United States per capita personal income of \$49,246.

Arkansas/United States Median Household Income 2012-2016

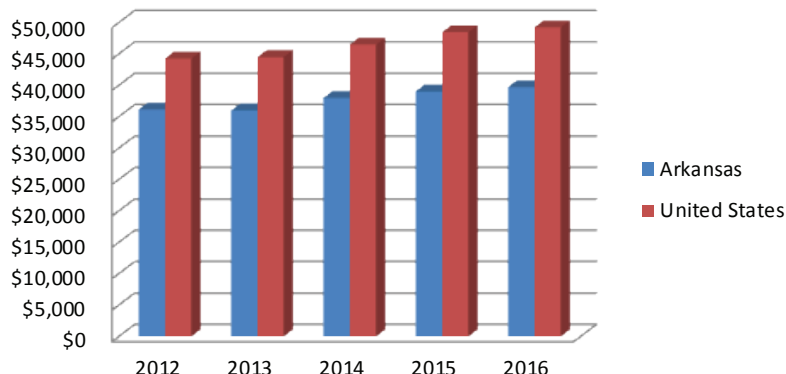
Year	Arkansas	United States
2012	\$40,531	\$53,331
2013	\$40,768	\$53,518
2014	\$41,264	\$54,398
2015	\$41,371	\$57,230
2016	\$42,336	\$59,039

Median Household Income



Source: United States Census Bureau

Per Capita Personal Income



Arkansas/United States Per Capita Personal Income 2012-2016

Year	Arkansas	United States
2012	\$36,149	\$44,282
2013	\$35,985	\$44,493
2014	\$37,980	\$46,494
2015	\$39,031	\$48,451
2016	\$39,722	\$49,246

Source: United States Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

State Employment



In 2017, whites made up 79.5 percent of the labor force while the total of all minority groups made up 20.5 percent of the labor force. The unemployment rate for all races, including Hispanics, was 3.5 percent. The unemployment rate for all minority groups combined was 5.8 percent. Hispanics of all races made up 6.7 percent of the labor force, with an unemployment rate of 2.8 percent.

Employment Status by Race State of Arkansas 2017

					Percent Distribution		
Race (both sexes, age 16+)	Labor Force	Emp.	Unemp.	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Emp.	Unemp.
Total, Including Hispanic	1,404,096	1,354,265	49,831	3.5	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	1,116,696	1,083,528	33,168	3.0	79.5	80.0	66.6
Black	199,278	185,611	13,667	6.9	14.2	13.7	27.4
American Indian/ Alaska Native	8,053	7,658	395	4.9	0.6	0.6	0.8
Asian	22,442	21,940	502	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	2,869	2,744	125	4.4	0.2	0.2	0.3
Remaining Races	32,338	31,513	825	2.6	2.3	2.3	1.7
Two or More Races	22,421	21,272	1,149	5.1	1.6	1.6	2.3
Total: Minority Group*	287,401	270,738	16,663	5.8	20.5	20.0	33.4
Hispanic, All Races	93,916	91,324	2,592	2.8	6.7	6.7	5.2

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

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

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, the U.S. Department of Labor-Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the U.S. Census Bureau-American Community Survey (2012-2016 5-year estimates)

State Education

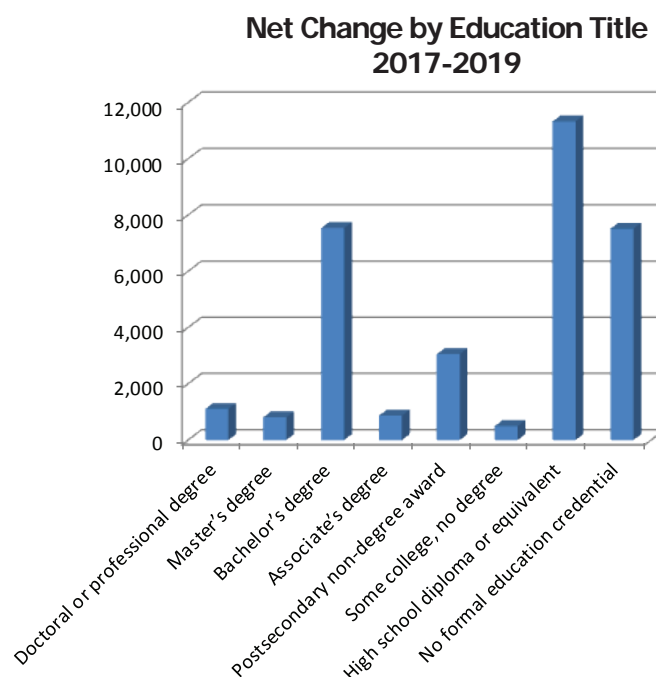


Every education category is projected to see positive net growth between 2017 and 2019. Occupations requiring no formal education are projected to add 7,521 jobs during the projection period. Jobs requiring a high school diploma or equivalent are expected to add 11,335 jobs during the projection period and had the highest educational attainment between 2012 and 2016 at 34.7 percent. Occupations requiring a bachelor's degree are expected to grow by 7,543 jobs and 13.9 percent of the population 25 years and over had a bachelor's degree in 2016. Growth in occupations requiring a master's degree or doctoral or professional degree is expected to be 813 and 1,113 jobs respectively. Educational attainment of the state's population aged 25 years and over shows that 85.2 percent have earned at least a high school diploma or equivalent, up 0.5 percent from 2015.

Net Change by Education Title 2017-2019

Education Title	Net Change
Doctoral or professional degree	1,113
Master's degree	813
Bachelor's degree	7,543
Associate degree	876
Postsecondary non-degree award	3,062
Some college, no degree	501
High school diploma or equivalent	11,335
No formal education credential	7,521

Source: United States Census Bureau



Educational Attainment in Arkansas 2016

	Arkansas	Total Estimate
Population 25 years and over	1,973,591	(%)
Less than 9th grade	106,297	5.4%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	185,931	9.4%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	683,886	34.7%
Some college, no degree	446,027	22.6%
Associate degree	127,004	6.4%
Bachelor's degree	273,557	13.9%
Graduate or professional degree	150,889	7.6%

Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

State In-Demand Occupations



High Skill

SOC Code	SOC Title	Total Annual Openings	May 2017 Mean Wage
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,018	\$85,390
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,794	\$58,810
21-2011	Clergy	1,262	\$45,330
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,034	\$48,110
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	829	\$66,260
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Career/Technical Education	817	\$50,990
25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Except Special & Career/Technical Education	495	\$49,130
13-1111	Management Analysts	474	\$60,930
13-1161	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	441	\$69,640
11-9111	Medical & Health Services Managers	402	\$82,930
41-4011	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Technical & Scientific Products	350	\$66,590
11-3031	Financial Managers	325	\$100,370
13-1071	Human Resources Specialists	314	\$56,420
13-1151	Training and Development Specialists	300	\$54,790
11-2022	Sales Managers	296	\$112,380

Basic Skill

SOC Code	SOC Title	Total Annual Openings	May 2017 Mean Wage
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	6,430	\$19,620
41-2011	Cashiers	6,315	\$20,170
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,539	\$24,990
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	4,888	\$82,810
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	3,903	\$20,270
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	3,636	\$25,960
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	3,474	\$28,100
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	2,947	\$22,670
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	2,834	\$20,800
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,364	\$36,460
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	2,345	\$25,140
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	2,239	\$30,020
39-9011	Childcare Workers	2,066	\$20,630
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	1,796	\$37,790
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products	1,672	\$59,850

Moderate Skill

SOC Code	SOC Title	Total Annual Openings	May 2017 Mean Wage
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	4,182	\$40,620
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	2,414	\$23,970
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	1,584	\$35,850
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	1,213	\$20,790
29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,072	\$38,180
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	668	\$36,600
31-9092	Medical Assistants	443	\$30,010
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	414	\$38,720
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	389	\$32,290
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists	377	\$26,340
15-1151	Computer User Support Specialists	353	\$40,630
31-9091	Dental Assistants	339	\$33,860
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers & Repairers, Except Line Installers	287	\$48,430
33-2011	Firefighters	198	\$37,010
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	190	\$41,270

Source: Department of Workforce Services

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

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

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

State Wages



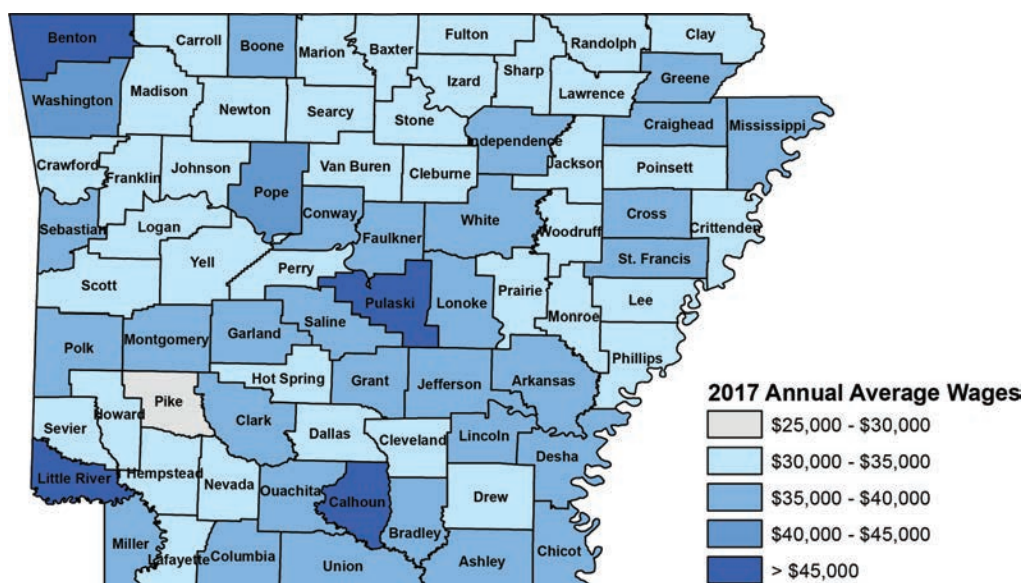
Retail Salespersons was estimated to have the most employees across the state with 37,050 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$24,990. **Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food** was the second largest occupation with 35,520 employed, earning an average wage of \$19,620. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 20,630, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$85,390 annually.

Internists, General topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$247,280.

Obstetricians and Gynecologists, with an average annual salary of \$235,130, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$20,160 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$32,317, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$50,710 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 1,200,125 estimated employees, 277,014 made less than \$10 an hour while 252,299 made more than \$25 an hour. Employees making between \$15 and \$19.99 totaled 207,706.



*Source: Occupational Employment Statistics

State of Arkansas Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Retail Salespersons	37,050	\$24,990	\$18,610	\$28,180
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	35,520	\$19,620	\$18,720	\$20,070
Cashiers	33,750	\$20,170	\$18,600	\$20,960
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	32,640	\$40,620	\$28,290	\$46,790
Office Clerks, General	27,260	\$28,100	\$19,860	\$32,220
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	24,580	\$25,960	\$20,530	\$28,670
Registered Nurses	24,380	\$58,810	\$43,370	\$66,530
General and Operations Managers	20,630	\$85,390	\$31,900	\$112,130
Nursing Assistants	18,040	\$23,970	\$20,620	\$25,650
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	17,920	\$25,140	\$19,210	\$28,100

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

State Wages



State of Arkansas Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Internists, General	\$247,280
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$235,130
Family and General Practitioners	\$222,460
Dentists, All Other Specialists	\$212,970
Pediatricians, General	\$183,080
Podiatrists	\$182,120
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$180,350
Anesthesiologists	\$178,850
Dentists, General	\$170,440
Nurse Anesthetists	\$161,690
Psychiatrists	\$161,620
Marketing Managers	\$147,370
Advertising and Promotions Managers	\$145,680
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$142,340
Chief Executives	\$130,630
Pharmacists	\$117,670
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$116,720
Law Teachers, Postsecondary	\$114,820
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$113,580
Actuaries	\$112,920
Sales Managers	\$112,380
Purchasing Managers	\$111,450
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$111,410
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$111,000
Compensation and Benefits Managers	\$110,000

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

State Wages

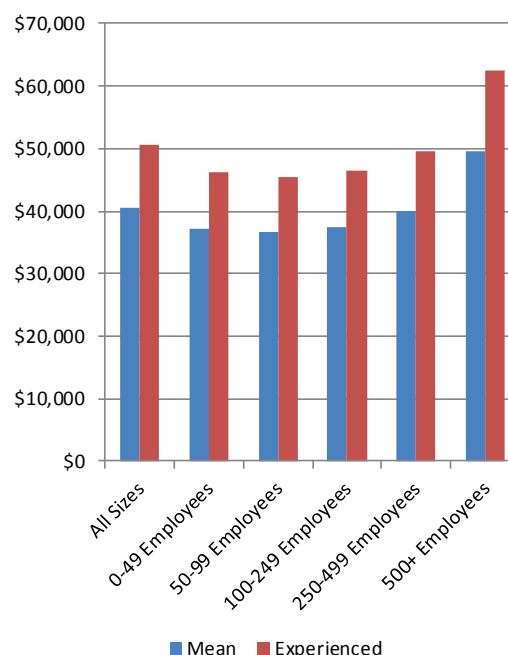


State of Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

State of Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$40,530	\$30,810	\$20,160	\$50,710
0-49 Employees	\$37,178	\$27,299	\$19,324	\$46,105
50-99 Employees	\$36,758	\$27,708	\$19,577	\$45,349
100-249 Employees	\$37,510	\$28,918	\$19,743	\$46,394
250-499 Employees	\$39,935	\$32,317	\$20,698	\$49,553
500+ Employees	\$49,443	\$40,033	\$23,249	\$62,541

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

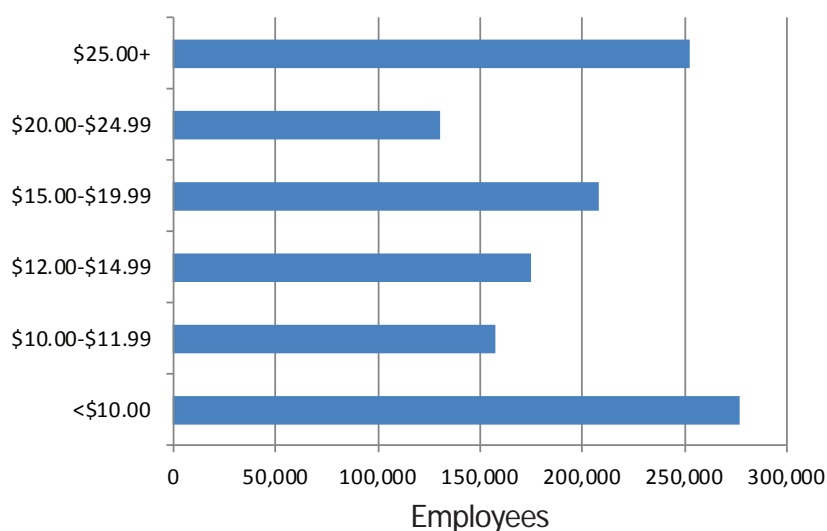


State of Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

State of Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	1,200,125
<\$10.00	277,014
\$10.00-\$11.99	157,458
\$12.00-\$14.99	174,950
\$15.00-\$19.99	207,706
\$20.00-\$24.99	130,698
\$25.00+	252,299

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



State Wages

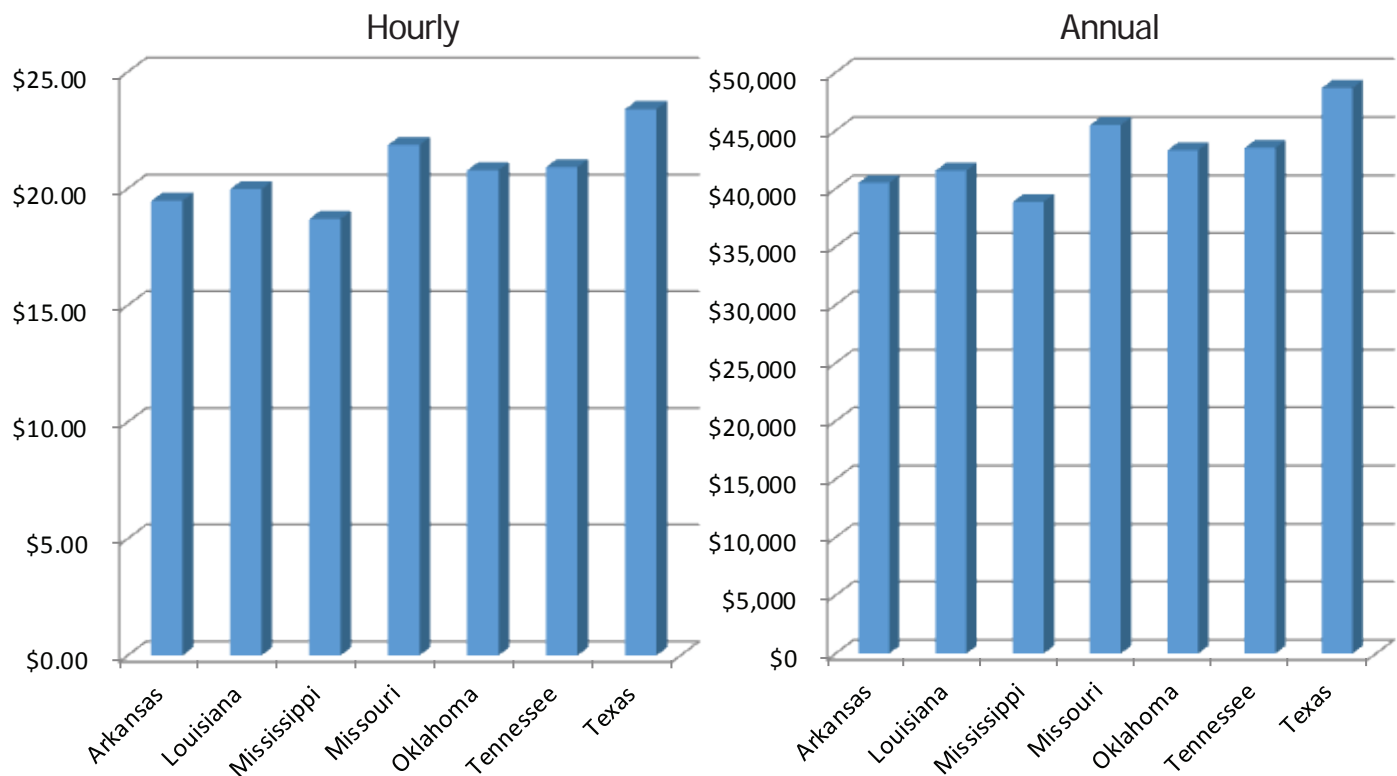


Average Wages of States Surrounding Arkansas

State	Mean Hourly Wage	Mean Annual Wage
Arkansas	\$19.49	\$40,530
Louisiana	\$19.99	\$41,590
Mississippi	\$18.71	\$38,910
Missouri	\$21.89	\$45,520
Oklahoma	\$20.80	\$43,340
Tennessee	\$20.94	\$43,550
Texas	\$23.42	\$48,700

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Average Wages for Surrounding States



State Wages

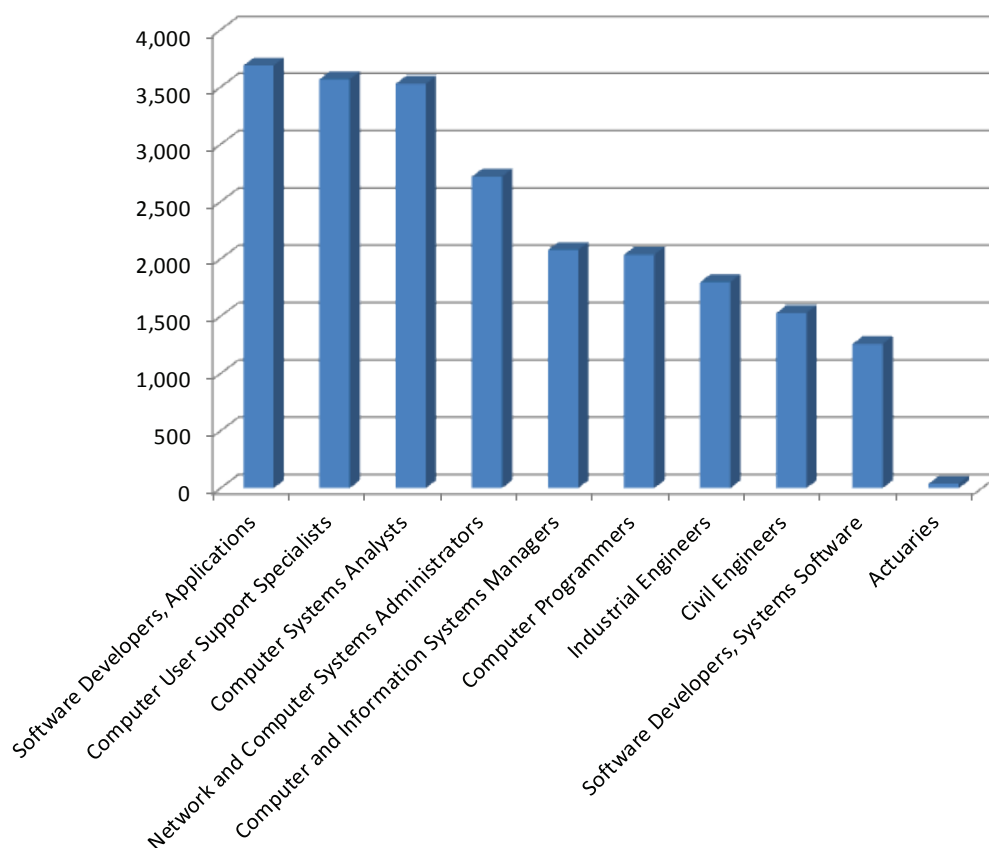


State of Arkansas Employment and Wages for Select STEM Occupations

Occupation	Employment	Mean Hourly Wage
Software Developers, Applications	3,690	\$42.07
Computer User Support Specialists	3,570	\$19.53
Computer Systems Analysts	3,530	\$33.64
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	2,720	\$32.22
Computer and Information Systems Managers	2,080	\$53.56
Computer Programmers	2,040	\$33.43
Industrial Engineers	1,800	\$35.42
Civil Engineers	1,530	\$39.32
Software Developers, Systems Software	1,260	\$39.70
Actuaries	40	\$54.29

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

STEM Employment in Arkansas



State Industry



Between the first quarter of 2016 and the first quarter of 2017, the Arkansas economy saw an increase of just 9,624 jobs, which translates to a 0.81 percent increase. The job market is expected to continue this growth with an increase of 32,764 jobs, equivalent to a 2.37 percent rise in employment by 2019. **Restaurants and Other Eating Places** is predicted to be the top growing industry adding 3,004 new jobs, going from 86,725 jobs in 2017 to 89,729 in 2019. **Support Activities for Rail Transportation** is projected to raise employment levels by 42.35 percent, becoming the fastest growing industry in the state by bringing employment to 874 due to an increase in rail car repair activities. **Department Stores** is estimated to be the top declining industry with a loss of 430 jobs bringing its employment from 7,805 in 2017 down to 7,375 in 2019. This is due to several retailers closing stores over the last year. **Household Appliance Manufacturing** is predicted to be the fastest declining industry with a loss of 48.84 percent of its workforce. **Education and Health Services** is expected to be the top growing supersector in Arkansas adding 9,083 jobs bringing employment levels to 309,138 by March 2019.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	300,055	309,138	9,083	3.03%
102400	Professional and Business Services	142,809	147,827	5,018	3.51%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	112,886	116,914	4,028	3.57%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	248,588	252,093	3,505	1.41%
101200	Construction	49,678	52,005	2,327	4.68%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722500	Restaurants and Other Eating Places	86,725	89,729	3,004	3.46%
622100	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	51,927	53,630	1,703	3.28%
238200	Building Equipment Contractors	16,998	18,294	1,296	7.62%
524100	Insurance Carriers	9,505	10,795	1,290	13.57%
813100	Religious Organizations	19,533	20,820	1,287	6.59%
311600	Animal Slaughtering and Processing	31,341	32,602	1,261	4.02%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	35,989	37,128	1,139	3.16%
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	77,617	78,689	1,072	1.38%
621100	Offices of Physicians	24,430	25,451	1,021	4.18%
624100	Individual and Family Services	24,382	25,297	915	3.75%

State Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
488200	Support Activities for Rail Transportation	614	874	260	42.35%
325400	Pharmaceutical and Medicine Manufacturing	433	511	78	18.01%
237900	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	668	786	118	17.66%
485900	Other Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	780	907	127	16.28%
311100	Animal Food Manufacturing	1,766	2,039	273	15.46%
532100	Automotive Equipment Rental and Leasing	996	1,135	139	13.96%
237300	Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction	3,055	3,470	415	13.58%
524100	Insurance Carriers	9,505	10,795	1,290	13.57%
561200	Facilities Support Services	1,075	1,217	142	13.21%
711400	Agents and Managers for Artists, Athletes, Entertainers, and Other Public Figures	52	58	6	11.54%

Top 10 Decline

452100	Department Stores	7,805	7,375	-430	-5.51%
333400	Ventilation, Heating, Air-Conditioning, and Commercial Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturing	2,956	2,609	-347	-11.74%
335300	Electrical Equipment Manufacturing	3,128	2,857	-271	-8.66%
316200	Footwear Manufacturing	819	567	-252	-30.77%
814000	Private Households	3,608	3,383	-225	-6.24%
423800	Machinery, Equipment, & Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	6,497	6,292	-205	-3.16%
336400	Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	3,126	2,925	-201	-6.43%
453200	Office Supplies, Stationery, and Gift Stores	1,656	1,455	-201	-12.14%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	1,304	1,106	-198	-15.18%
311400	Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty Food Manufacturing	4,214	4,022	-192	-4.56%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

335200	Household Appliance Manufacturing	43	22	-21	-48.84%
533000	Lessors of Nonfinancial Intangible Assets (except Copyrighted Works)	46	29	-17	-36.96%
332200	Cutlery and Handtool Manufacturing	571	386	-185	-32.40%
316200	Footwear Manufacturing	819	567	-252	-30.77%
512200	Sound Recording Industries	23	16	-7	-30.43%
337200	Office Furniture (including Fixtures) Manufacturing	570	403	-167	-29.30%
337900	Other Furniture Related Product Manufacturing	93	72	-21	-22.58%
331400	Nonferrous Metal (except Aluminum) Production & Processing	376	298	-78	-20.74%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	1,304	1,106	-198	-15.18%
481200	Nonscheduled Air Transportation	70	60	-10	-14.29%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

State Occupations



The Arkansas labor market is expected to see a growth of 32,764 jobs over the 2017-2019 projection period, an increase of 2.37 percent, with many job opportunities for recent graduates and other job seekers. There is expected to be 166,898 total annual job openings during that period with 65,630 openings available due to employees exiting the workforce. Another 84,886 are estimated to be available due to employees changing jobs, while 16,382 would be due to the growth and decline of an occupation. All major occupational groups are estimated to see net gains in employment except one, **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations**. The **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** major group is estimated to lead the state in net growth adding 3,568 new jobs to its workforce, increasing employment to 108,662 by 2019.

The **Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food** occupation is forecast to lead the state in net change with 1,460 new jobs, raising employment to 32,197. **Rail Car Repairers** is forecast to increase employment by 25.49 percent, becoming the fastest growing occupation in the state. **Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers** is predicted to lead the state in the number of annual job exits with 3,642, while **Cashiers** is slated to see the most job transfers with 3,104. Overall, **Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food** is projected to experience the most annual job openings with 6,430 each year between 2017 and 2019. **Team Assemblers** is projected to be the top declining occupation losing 137 jobs, bringing employment from 12,596 in 2017 to 12,459 in 2019. **Helpers—Extraction Workers** is expected to be the fastest declining occupation with a loss of 13.73 percent of its workforce bringing employment below 50 statewide.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	105,094	108,662	3,568	3.40%	7,841	9,938	1,784	19,563
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	83,406	86,585	3,179	3.81%	2,298	2,256	1,590	6,144
11-0000	Management Occupations	132,671	135,384	2,713	2.04%	5,446	4,632	1,356	11,434
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support Occupations	185,930	188,584	2,654	1.43%	9,569	11,131	1,327	22,027
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	109,275	111,883	2,608	2.39%	5,254	7,720	1,304	14,278

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	30,737	32,197	1,460	4.75%	2,786	2,914	730	6,430
29-1141	Registered Nurses	25,182	26,183	1,001	3.98%	736	558	500	1,794
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	35,258	36,112	854	2.42%	1,513	2,242	427	4,182
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	19,690	20,448	758	3.85%	1,306	1,262	379	2,947
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	17,248	17,986	738	4.28%	1,406	1,059	369	2,834
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	24,214	24,858	644	2.66%	1,216	2,098	322	3,636
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	61,973	62,615	642	1.04%	3,642	925	321	4,888
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	18,593	19,212	619	3.33%	1,148	956	310	2,414
21-2011	Clergy	8,582	9,197	615	7.17%	408	546	308	1,262
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	21,142	21,733	591	2.80%	444	1,278	296	2,018

State Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
49-3043	Rail Car Repairers	357	448	91	25.49%	12	26	46	84
15-2011	Actuaries	57	66	9	15.79%	1	3	4	8
43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	2,688	2,976	288	10.71%	121	159	144	424
19-3022	Survey Researchers	58	64	6	10.34%	2	4	3	9
43-4181	Reservation & Transportation Ticket Agents & Travel Clerks	389	426	37	9.51%	18	24	18	60
51-6063	Textile Knitting & Weaving Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	170	186	16	9.41%	10	12	8	30
51-2091	Fiberglass Laminators & Fabricators	409	447	38	9.29%	18	31	19	68
13-2053	Insurance Underwriters	589	643	54	9.17%	16	33	27	76
47-2132	Insulation Workers, Mechanical	171	185	14	8.19%	5	14	7	26
29-1071	Physician Assistants	617	666	49	7.94%	11	22	24	57

Top 10 Decline

51-2092	Team Assemblers	12,596	12,459	-137	-1.09%	535	908	-68	1,375
45-2092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	6,870	6,738	-132	-1.92%	249	776	-66	959
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	1,097	1,006	-91	-8.30%	54	68	-46	76
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	1,640	1,577	-63	-3.84%	60	112	-32	140
51-7011	Cabinetmakers & Bench Carpenters	1,573	1,515	-58	-3.69%	72	86	-29	129
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	4,176	4,121	-55	-1.32%	224	218	-28	414
51-2021	Coil Winders, Tapers, & Finishers	500	446	-54	-10.80%	24	31	-27	28
33-3012	Correctional Officers & Jailers	5,344	5,291	-53	-0.99%	188	239	-26	401
43-3071	Tellers	6,137	6,089	-48	-0.78%	313	393	-24	682
25-1194	Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary	1,187	1,145	-42	-3.54%	42	44	-21	65

Top 10 Fastest Decline

47-5081	Helpers--Extraction Workers	51	44	-7	-13.73%	2	4	-4	2
47-5011	Derrick Operators, Oil & Gas	82	71	-11	-13.41%	2	7	-6	3
53-7073	Wellhead Pumpers	124	109	-15	-12.10%	4	10	-8	6
51-2021	Coil Winders, Tapers, & Finishers	500	446	-54	-10.80%	24	31	-27	28
51-2011	Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, & Systems Assemblers	400	362	-38	-9.50%	16	24	-19	21
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	318	288	-30	-9.43%	10	26	-15	21
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining	382	346	-36	-9.42%	9	34	-18	25
29-2054	Respiratory Therapy Technicians	375	341	-34	-9.07%	12	16	-17	11
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	1,097	1,006	-91	-8.30%	54	68	-46	76
51-6021	Pressers, Textile, Garment, & Related Materials	364	342	-22	-6.04%	21	23	-11	33

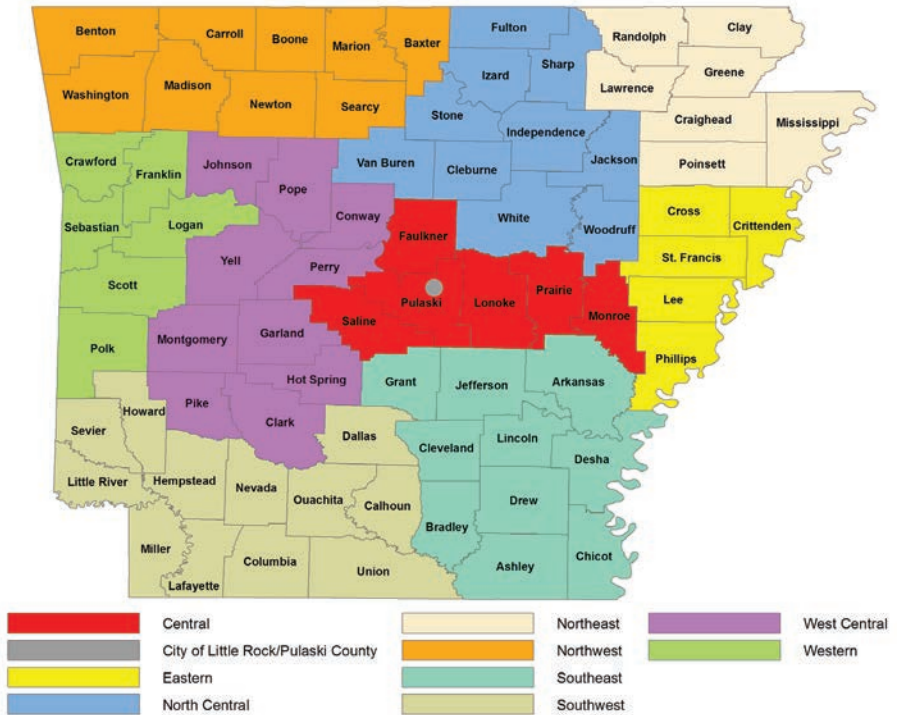
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

State Covered Employment and Earnings



According to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Report, Arkansas' covered employment grew 0.75 percent from 2016 to 2017. This translates to 8,794 jobs added to the workforce. Of all the major North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) industry supersector groups, five lost jobs during the reference period. **Trade, Transportation, and Utilities** lost the most at 1,298 jobs, while **Information** had the fastest decline, losing 3.51 percent of its workforce. Of the seven growing industry groups, **Education and Health Services** grew the most and the fastest, adding 5,443 jobs, or 3.06 percent.

Overall, average weekly earnings in 2017 for the state was \$818. The average weekly earnings range from a low of \$311 in **Leisure and Hospitality** to a high of \$1,140 in **Professional and Business Services**.



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	1,171,545	1,180,339	8,794	0.75%	\$818
Natural Resources and Mining	16,919	16,475	-444	-2.62%	\$888
Construction	50,302	51,109	807	1.60%	\$909
Manufacturing	154,791	157,323	2,532	1.64%	\$900
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	249,050	247,752	-1,298	-0.52%	\$775
Information	13,235	12,770	-465	-3.51%	\$1,090
Financial Activities	49,414	49,604	190	0.38%	\$1,075
Professional and Business Services	142,367	144,038	1,671	1.17%	\$1,140
Education and Health Services	177,885	183,328	5,443	3.06%	\$799
Leisure and Hospitality	115,343	116,709	1,366	1.18%	\$311
Other Services	24,694	24,795	101	0.41%	\$638
Local Government	108,154	108,082	-72	-0.07%	\$735
State Government	69,391	68,354	-1,037	-1.49%	\$900

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

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population was 526,558 in 2017, an increase of 3,271 since 2016, and the area saw a growth in population of 12,049 from 2013 to 2017. Central Arkansas LWDA includes a large portion of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area and six counties: Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, Saline, and Pulaski County, excluding Little Rock.

Note: Data for Central Arkansas does not include City of Little Rock LWDA.

Central Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
514,509	518,887	520,830	523,287	526,558

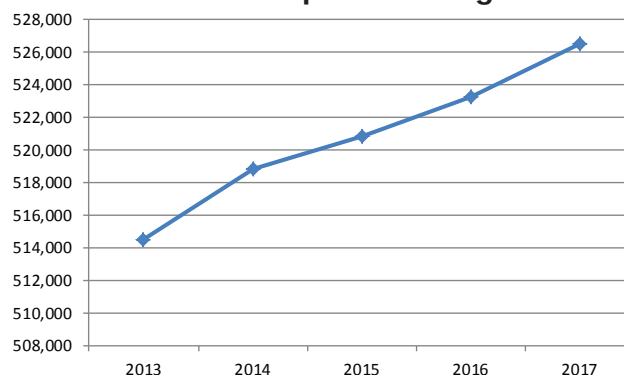
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Central Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation decreased slightly between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 9,575, a decrease of 204 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 308 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires decreased in the second quarter of 2017 by 474 compared to the second quarter of 2016, but increased by 5,274 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations increased over the six-year period by 1,270 to 35,918 in the second quarter of 2016. The turnover rate increased slightly between 2015 and 2016 to 9.8 percent.

Central Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	9,883	9,275	9,708	10,254	9,779	9,575
New Hires	32,399	36,053	35,915	38,007	38,147	37,673
Separations	34,648	36,381	33,241	34,638	35,378	35,918
Turnover	9.1%	9.4%	9.3%	9.5%	9.8%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

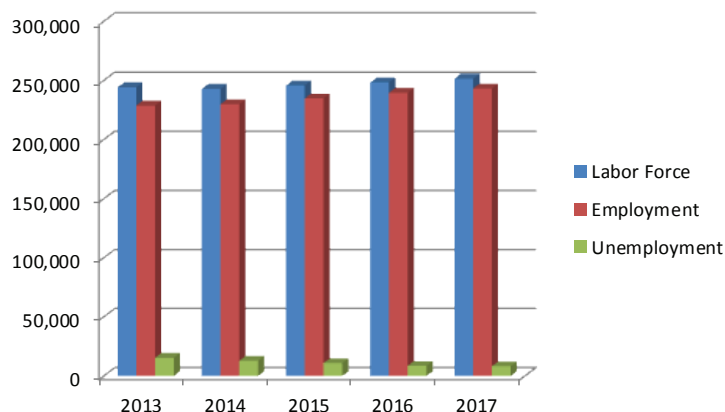


The LWDA saw an increase in the labor force of 3,174 to 251,645 from 2016 to 2017 and the labor force increased by 7,296 over the 2013 to 2017 period. Employment increased by 3,541 between 2016 and 2017 and increased by 14,439 over the five-year period. The LWDA has seen a decrease in unemployment over the same time periods. From 2016 to 2017, there was a decrease of 367 in unemployment and from 2013 to 2017, unemployment decreased by 7,143. The LWDA's unemployment rate decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point from 2016 to 3.3 percent for 2017, and the unemployment rate decreased by three percentage points over the five-year period. In 2018, the unemployment rate decreased by six-tenths of a percentage point from January to 3.3 percent in July 2018.

Central Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	244,349	243,010	245,892	248,471	251,645
Employment	228,880	230,005	234,909	239,778	243,319
Unemployment	15,469	13,005	10,983	8,693	8,326
Unemployment Rate	6.3%	5.4%	4.5%	3.5%	3.3%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Central Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

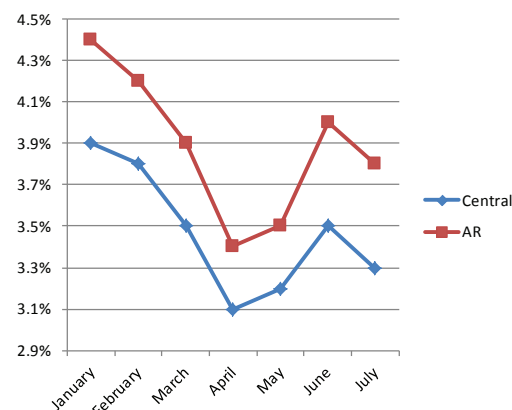
Year	Month	Central Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	3.9%	4.4%
2018	February	3.8%	4.2%
2018	March	3.5%	3.9%
2018	April	3.1%	3.4%
2018	May	3.2%	3.5%
2018	June	3.5%	4.0%
2018	July	3.3%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



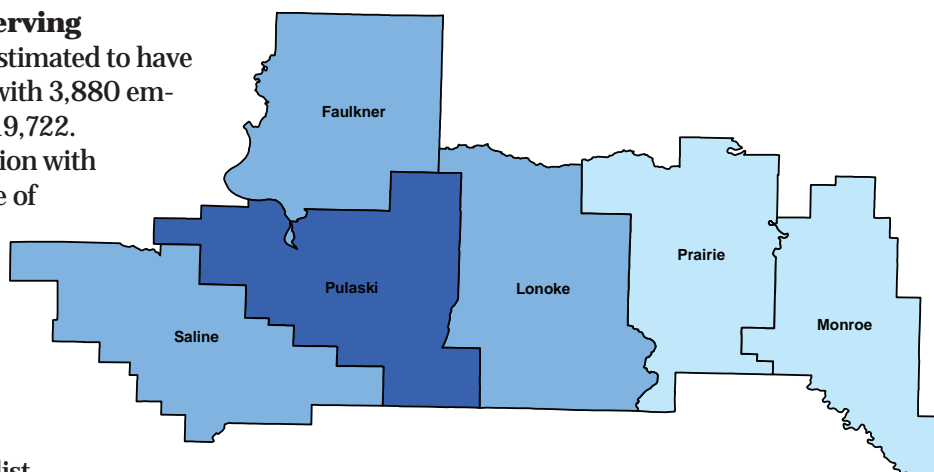
Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



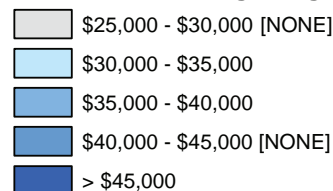
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food was estimated to have the most employees in Central Arkansas with 3,880 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$19,722. **Cashiers** was the second largest occupation with 2,880 employed, earning an average wage of \$19,973. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 1,200, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$81,167 annually.

Family and General Practitioners topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$251,171. **Dentists, General**, with an average annual salary of \$203,432, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$19,833 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$32,188, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$47,435 for employers in all size categories.



2017 Annual Average Wages



**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey*

Of the 80,753 estimated employees in the area, 20,769 made less than \$10 an hour while 15,634 made more than \$25 an hour. Employees making between \$15 and \$19.99 totaled 14,276. *Note: Wage data for Central Arkansas LWDA does not include Pulaski County.*

Central Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,880	\$19,722	\$18,759	\$20,204
Cashiers	2,880	\$19,973	\$18,618	\$20,650
Retail Salespersons	2,790	\$25,326	\$19,391	\$28,294
Office Clerks, General	1,850	\$28,511	\$20,037	\$32,748
Waiters and Waitresses	1,380	\$20,502	\$18,865	\$21,320
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical,	1,280	\$29,044	\$20,456	\$33,339
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,230	\$25,897	\$19,094	\$29,299
General and Operations Managers	1,200	\$81,167	\$37,912	\$102,794
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,170	\$28,802	\$20,337	\$33,034
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,120	\$50,085	\$41,320	\$54,467

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Central Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family and General Practitioners	\$251,171
Dentists, General	\$203,432
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$167,245
Chief Executives	\$124,613
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$112,694
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$112,054
Electrical Engineers	\$108,284
Pharmacists	\$104,594
Nurse Practitioners	\$99,467
Optometrists	\$98,238
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$97,540
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	\$95,892
Loan Officers	\$95,846
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$91,881
Veterinarians	\$89,556
Database Administrators	\$88,380
Industrial Production Managers	\$86,454
Information Security Analysts	\$85,593
Physical Therapists	\$84,923
Chemical Engineers	\$83,394
General and Operations Managers	\$81,167
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$79,927
Administrative Services Managers	\$79,669
Construction Managers	\$79,228
Financial Managers	\$79,162

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

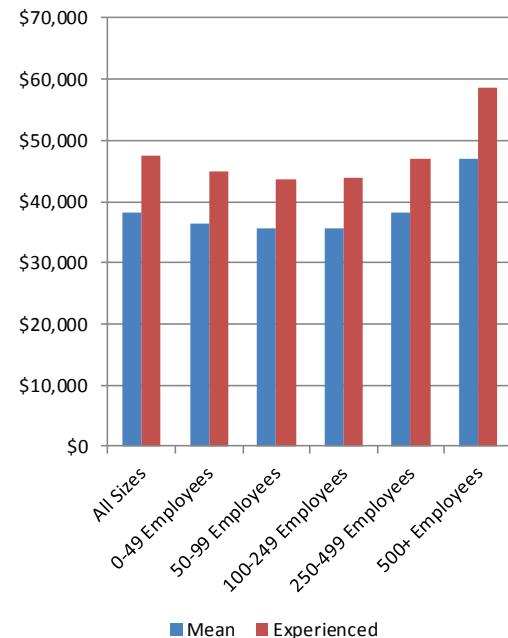


Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

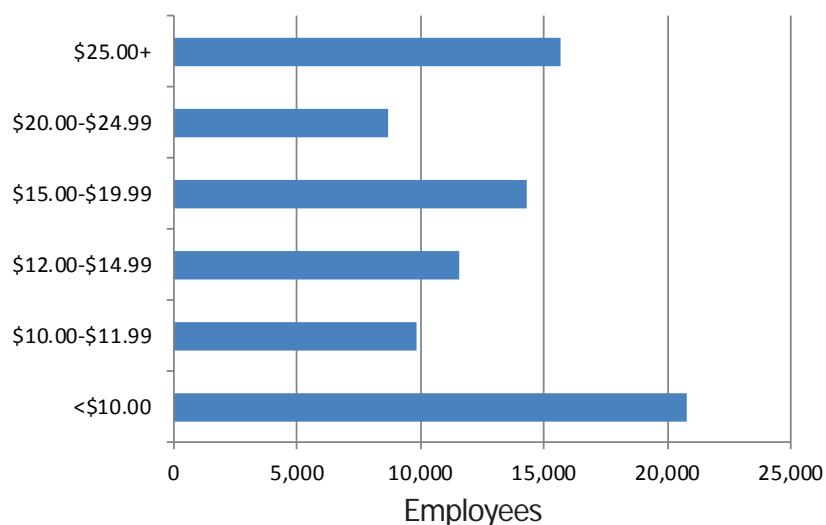
Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$38,234	\$30,177	\$19,833	\$47,435
0-49 Employees	\$36,358	\$27,702	\$19,234	\$44,920
50-99 Employees	\$35,611	\$25,895	\$19,567	\$43,633
100-249 Employees	\$35,702	\$28,132	\$19,261	\$43,923
250-499 Employees	\$38,128	\$32,188	\$20,509	\$46,938
500+ Employees	\$47,019	\$43,327	\$23,849	\$58,604

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	80,753
<\$10.00	20,769
\$10.00-\$11.99	9,814
\$12.00-\$14.99	11,568
\$15.00-\$19.99	14,276
\$20.00-\$24.99	8,692
\$25.00+	15,634

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The area is expected to add 4,841 new jobs, an increase of 2.74 percent. Over the 2017-2019 projection period, **Food Services and Drinking Places** is estimated to be the top growing industry with an increase of 580 new jobs bringing employment to 16,314. **Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services** is expected to experience significant growth becoming the fastest growing industry with a gain of 87.61 percent, or 191 new jobs. This industry has grown 53.52 percent since first quarter 2015. On the negative side of the labor market, **Administrative and Support Services** is forecast to be the top declining industry, losing 123 jobs between 2017 and 2019 moving employment down to 7,359. **Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation** is slated to be the fastest declining industry with a 12.12 percent drop in employment moving employment from 198 in 2017 to 174 in 2019. **Education and Health Services** is expected to be the top growing supersector adding 1,389 jobs during the projection period increasing employment to 36,817.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	35,428	36,817	1,389	3.92%
102700	Other Services (except Government)	9,228	10,040	812	8.80%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	18,075	18,741	666	3.68%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	36,858	37,336	478	1.30%
101200	Construction	9,902	10,368	466	4.71%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	15,734	16,314	580	3.69%
611000	Educational Services	14,034	14,503	469	3.34%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	5,576	6,013	437	7.84%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	6,216	6,602	386	6.21%
622000	Hospitals	5,384	5,713	329	6.11%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	6,813	7,136	323	4.74%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	7,208	7,530	322	4.47%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	6,515	6,751	236	3.62%
814000	Private Households	393	628	235	59.80%
624000	Social Assistance	5,511	5,745	234	4.25%

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
518000	Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services	218	409	191	87.61%
814000	Private Households	393	628	235	59.80%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	222	250	28	12.61%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	420	459	39	9.29%
451000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores	750	815	65	8.67%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	955	1,031	76	7.96%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	606	654	48	7.92%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	5,576	6,013	437	7.84%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	1,377	1,482	105	7.63%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	1,902	2,035	133	6.99%

Top 10 Decline

561000	Administrative and Support Services	7,482	7,359	-123	-1.64%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1,164	1,057	-107	-9.19%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	882	808	-74	-8.39%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	659	599	-60	-9.10%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,375	1,319	-56	-4.07%
112000	Animal Production	546	507	-39	-7.14%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4,283	4,254	-29	-0.68%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	198	174	-24	-12.12%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	357	336	-21	-5.88%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	1,966	1,949	-17	-0.86%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	198	174	-24	-12.12%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1,164	1,057	-107	-9.19%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	659	599	-60	-9.10%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	882	808	-74	-8.39%
112000	Animal Production	546	507	-39	-7.14%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	177	166	-11	-6.21%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	357	336	-21	-5.88%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,375	1,319	-56	-4.07%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	390	375	-15	-3.85%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	7,482	7,359	-123	-1.64%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



The Central Arkansas LWDA is expected to have 22,204 annual job openings during the 2017-2019 projection period with 8,604 being created due to employees exiting the workforce, 11,180 created due to employees changing jobs, and 2,420 due to growth and expansion. **Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food** is projected to be the top growing occupation in the area as well as have the most annual openings with a gain of 319 jobs and 1,364 annual job openings. **Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners** is predicted to be the fastest growing occupation adding 10.79 percent to its workforce bringing its employment to 1,242. **Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters** is estimated to lose 12 jobs during the projection period making it the top declining occupation in the Area moving employment to 212 in 2019. **Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic** is slated to be the fastest declining occupation losing 6.25 percent of its workforce bringing employment down to 120. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is projected to be the top growing major group with an increase of 606 jobs bringing total employment to 17,148.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	16,542	17,148	606	3.66%	1,236	1,562	303	3,101
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support Occupations	24,345	24,801	456	1.87%	1,263	1,478	228	2,969
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	9,022	9,473	451	5.00%	252	250	226	728
39-0000	Personal Care & Service Occupations	9,242	9,651	409	4.43%	730	632	204	1,566
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library Occupations	9,671	10,029	358	3.70%	392	398	179	969

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	6,484	6,803	319	4.92%	588	616	160	1,364
39-9011	Childcare Workers	3,646	3,827	181	4.96%	305	232	90	627
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	2,937	3,109	172	5.86%	242	182	86	510
21-2011	Clergy	1,912	2,073	161	8.42%	92	122	80	294
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,249	2,371	122	5.42%	66	50	61	177
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,121	1,242	121	10.79%	88	66	60	214
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,321	2,438	117	5.04%	122	178	58	358
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	6,000	6,112	112	1.87%	384	480	56	920
43-5081	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	3,153	3,229	76	2.41%	174	228	38	440
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	2,478	2,552	74	2.99%	186	285	37	508

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,121	1,242	121	10.79%	88	66	60	214
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	164	178	14	8.54%	8	12	7	27
21-2011	Clergy	1,912	2,073	161	8.42%	92	122	80	294
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	158	171	13	8.23%	3	4	6	13
21-2021	Directors, Religious Activities & Education	123	133	10	8.13%	6	10	5	21
29-1123	Physical Therapists	291	314	23	7.90%	6	6	12	24
27-2041	Music Directors & Composers	120	129	9	7.50%	7	4	4	15
29-1122	Occupational Therapists	180	193	13	7.22%	4	5	6	15
31-9092	Medical Assistants	474	508	34	7.17%	22	30	17	69
29-2034	Radiologic Technologists	227	241	14	6.17%	6	6	7	19

Top 10 Decline

51-7011	Cabinetmakers & Bench Carpenters	224	212	-12	-5.36%	10	12	-6	16
51-2092	Team Assemblers	957	947	-10	-1.04%	40	69	-5	104
51-4021	Extruding & Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	128	120	-8	-6.25%	3	10	-4	9
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	340	334	-6	-1.76%	12	22	-3	31
43-3071	Tellers	1,201	1,196	-5	-0.42%	62	77	-2	137
51-6011	Laundry and Dry-Cleaning Workers	234	229	-5	-2.14%	16	16	-2	30
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	511	507	-4	-0.78%	21	39	-2	58
27-1023	Floral Designers	58	55	-3	-5.17%	2	3	-2	3
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	91	88	-3	-3.30%	5	4	-2	7
11-3121	Human Resources Managers	98	95	-3	-3.06%	2	5	-2	5

Top 10 Fastest Decline

51-4021	Extruding & Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	128	120	-8	-6.25%	3	10	-4	9
51-7011	Cabinetmakers & Bench Carpenters	224	212	-12	-5.36%	10	12	-6	16
27-1023	Floral Designers	58	55	-3	-5.17%	2	3	-2	3
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	91	88	-3	-3.30%	5	4	-2	7
11-3121	Human Resources Managers	98	95	-3	-3.06%	2	5	-2	5
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	126	123	-3	-2.38%	3	5	-2	6
51-6011	Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Workers	234	229	-5	-2.14%	16	16	-2	30
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	340	334	-6	-1.76%	12	22	-3	31
51-2092	Team Assemblers	957	947	-10	-1.04%	40	69	-5	104
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	511	507	-4	-0.78%	21	39	-2	58

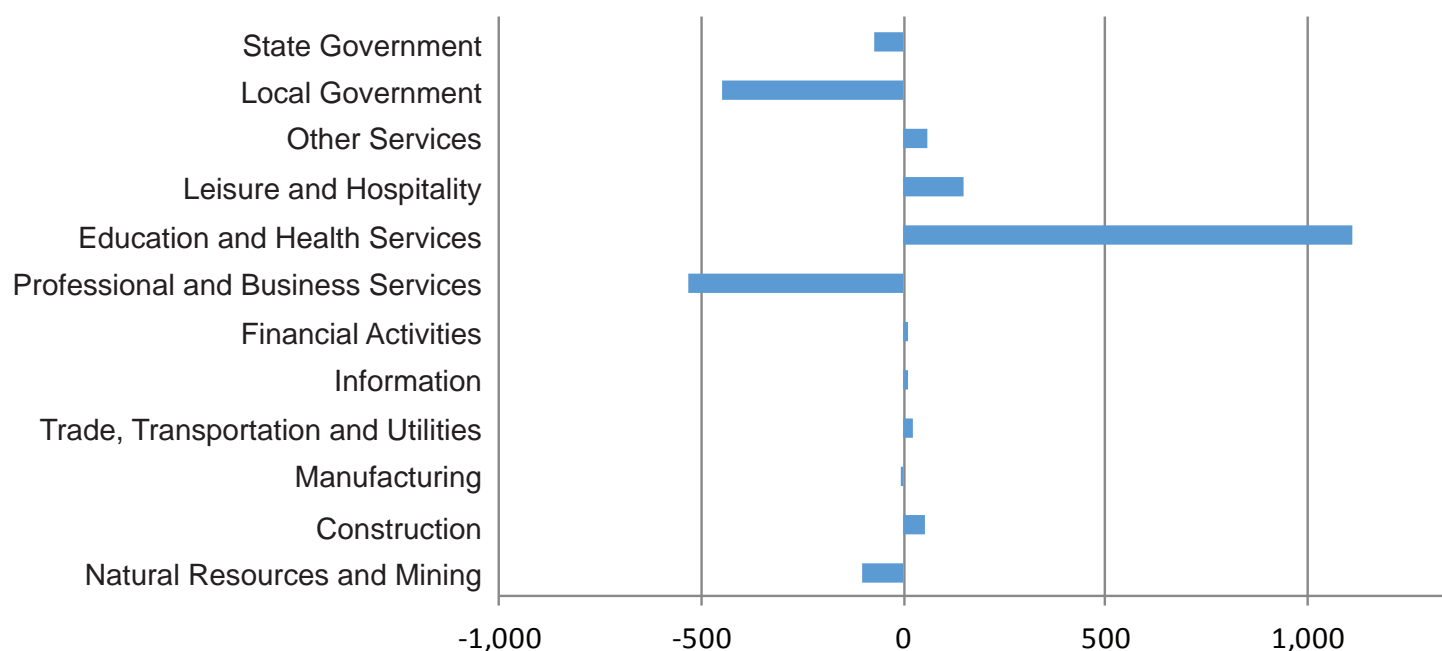
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	80,960	81,215	255	0.31%	\$709
Natural Resources and Mining	1,271	1,168	-103	-8.10%	\$974
Construction	5,741	5,793	52	0.91%	\$864
Manufacturing	6,474	6,467	-7	-0.11%	\$948
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	16,607	16,629	22	0.13%	\$609
Information	564	572	8	1.42%	\$920
Financial Activities	2,997	3,010	13	0.43%	\$907
Professional and Business Services	8,172	7,640	-532	-6.51%	\$1,032
Education and Health Services	12,691	13,802	1,111	8.75%	\$692
Leisure and Hospitality	10,450	10,599	149	1.43%	\$289
Other Services	1,874	1,934	60	3.20%	\$564
Local Government	9,651	9,203	-448	-4.64%	\$763
State Government	4,468	4,398	-70	-1.57%	\$759

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Note: Central Arkansas LWDA does not include Pulaski County for this data set.

City of Little Rock Arkansas

Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The City of Little Rock Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population increased by 65 between 2016 and 2017, bringing the population to 198,606. The City of Little Rock's population grew by 1,376 between 2013 and 2017. The area is the county seat of Pulaski County and includes part of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Little Rock LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
197,230	197,698	198,195	198,541	198,606

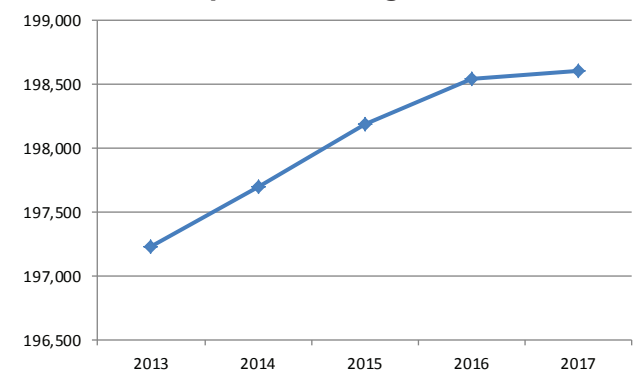
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Little Rock Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation increased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 7,004, an increase of 281 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 18 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires increased in the second quarter of 2017 by 1,610 compared to the second quarter of 2016 and increased by 6,956 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations increased over the six-year period by 4,549 to 28,934 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate increased slightly between 2015 and 2016 to 8.1 percent.

Little Rock Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	7,022	6,757	6,442	7,250	6,723	7,004
New Hires	23,470	25,861	26,599	28,125	28,816	30,426
Separations	24,385	24,092	25,423	25,908	26,689	28,934
Turnover	7.7%	7.8%	8.0%	8.0%	8.1%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

City of Little Rock Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

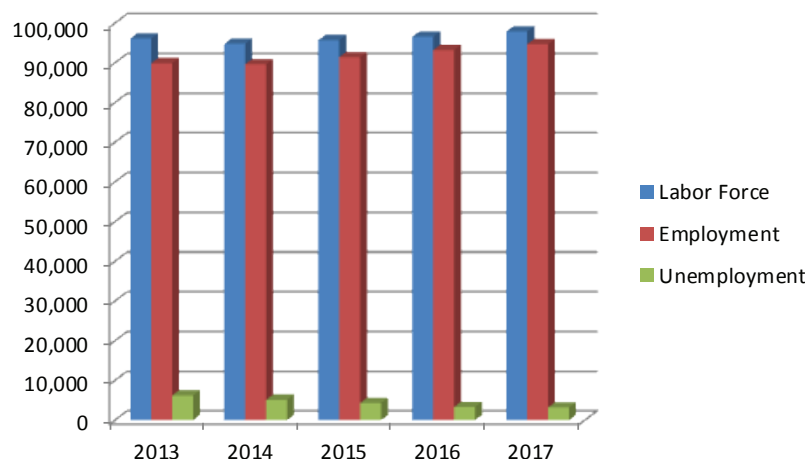


The labor force increased in the LWDA by 1,320 from 2016 to 2017, and saw an increase of 1,775 between 2013 and 2017. Employment increased by 1,448 from 2016 to 2017 and by 4,786 from 2013 to 2017. Unemployment and the unemployment rate decreased between 2016 to 2017, with unemployment decreasing by 128 and the unemployment rate decreasing by two-tenths of a percentage point to 3.3 percent in 2017. The unemployment rate decreased by three and two-tenths percentage points from 2013 to 2017. The area unemployment rate continued to drop through July 2018, decreasing by four-tenths of a percentage point from January 2018 to 3.4 percent in July 2018.

Little Rock Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	96,180	94,848	95,777	96,635	97,955
Employment	89,939	89,692	91,460	93,277	94,725
Unemployment	6,241	5,156	4,317	3,358	3,230
Unemployment Rate	6.5%	5.4%	4.5%	3.5%	3.3%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Little Rock Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

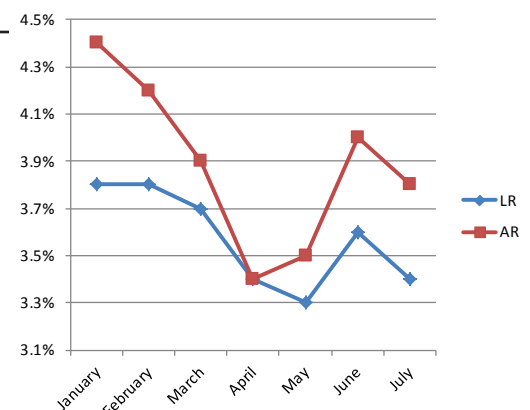
Year	Month	Little Rock Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	3.8%	4.4%
2018	February	3.8%	4.2%
2018	March	3.7%	3.9%
2018	April	3.4%	3.4%
2018	May	3.3%	3.5%
2018	June	3.6%	4.0%
2018	July	3.4%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

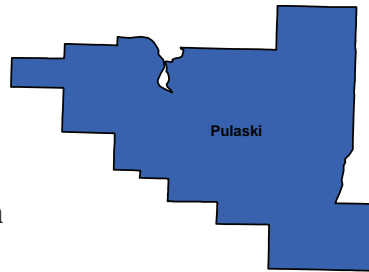
Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



City of Little Rock Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Registered Nurses was estimated to have the most employees in Little Rock with 8,890 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$63,580. **Retail Salespersons** is the second largest occupation with 7,740 employed, earning an average wage of \$24,194. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 5,050, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$97,665 annually.



2017 Annual Average Wages

> \$45,000

**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

Surgeons topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of 286,436. **Obstetricians and Gynecologists**, with an average annual salary of \$264,133, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$21,353 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$33,793, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$57,656 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 263,630 estimated employees in the area, 73,924 made more than \$25 an hour while 47,386 made less than \$10 an hour. Employees making between \$15 and \$19.99 totaled 46,933. *Note: Wage data for the City of Little Rock LWDA includes all of Pulaski County.*

City of Little Rock LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Registered Nurses	8,890	\$63,580	\$48,149	\$71,295
Retail Salespersons	7,740	\$24,194	\$18,658	\$26,962
Cashiers	6,130	\$21,104	\$18,622	\$22,345
Office Clerks, General	5,370	\$30,063	\$20,173	\$35,008
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,350	\$43,782	\$29,241	\$51,052
Customer Service Representatives	5,350	\$33,911	\$24,083	\$38,825
General and Operations Managers	5,050	\$97,665	\$41,066	\$125,965
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,930	\$26,978	\$20,496	\$30,219
Waiters and Waitresses	4,500	\$22,212	\$18,687	\$23,974
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	4,280	\$19,822	\$18,698	\$20,384

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

City of Little Rock Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



City of Little Rock LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Surgeons	\$286,436
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$264,133
Family and General Practitioners	\$251,069
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$173,214
Nurse Anesthetists	\$156,494
Advertising and Promotions Managers	\$155,682
Psychiatrists	\$152,596
Chief Executives	\$146,183
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$143,389
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$138,692
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	\$134,016
Dentists, General	\$125,401
Aerospace Engineers	\$117,950
Marketing Managers	\$117,861
Personal Financial Advisors	\$115,901
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$114,094
Actuaries	\$113,625
Biochemists and Biophysicists	\$112,956
Pharmacists	\$110,492
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$107,332
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$106,291
Commercial Pilots	\$105,962
Sales Managers	\$105,730
Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners, All Other	\$104,135
Podiatrists	\$98,198

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

City of Little Rock Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

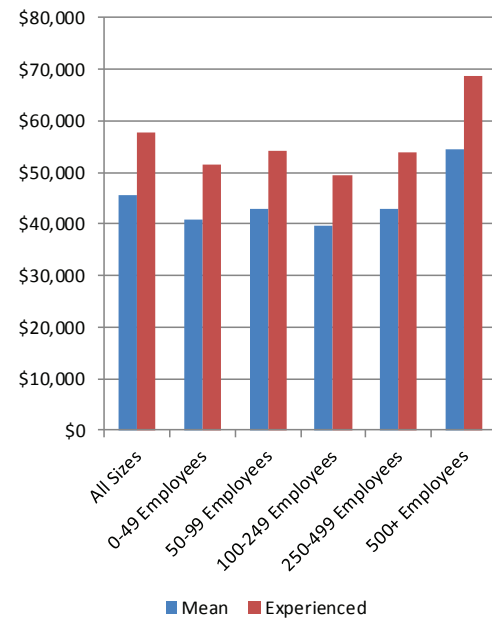


Little Rock Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

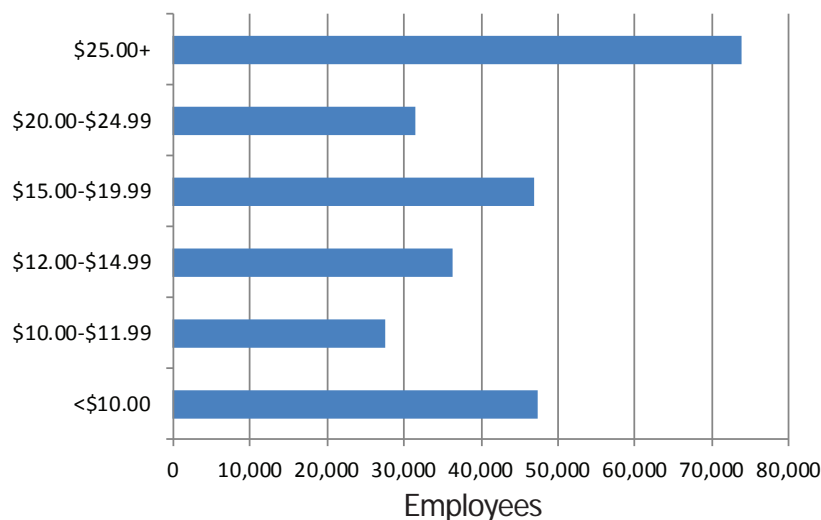
Little Rock Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$45,555	\$35,439	\$21,353	\$57,656
0-49 Employees	\$40,994	\$30,435	\$20,028	\$51,477
50-99 Employees	\$42,908	\$31,157	\$20,093	\$54,315
100-249 Employees	\$39,669	\$30,078	\$20,053	\$49,478
250-499 Employees	\$43,056	\$33,793	\$21,473	\$53,848
500+ Employees	\$54,486	\$46,360	\$26,042	\$68,708

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Little Rock Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Little Rock Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	263,630
<\$10.00	47,386
\$10.00-\$11.99	27,620
\$12.00-\$14.99	36,402
\$15.00-\$19.99	46,933
\$20.00-\$24.99	31,365
\$25.00+	73,924

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

City of Little Rock Arkansas

Local Workforce Development

Area Industry



The City of Little Rock LWDA is expected to grow by 4,039 jobs between 2017 and 2019, or an increase of 2.04 percent. **Insurance Carriers and Related Activities** is predicted to be the top growing industry adding 1,078 new jobs to its workforce bringing employment to 9,983. **Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction** is predicted to be the fastest growing industry with a 15.28 percent gain, moving employment above the 1,000 mark. **Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services** is slated to lose more than 57.30 percent of its workforce due in part to business relocations, making it the fastest declining industry in the area moving employment below 100. **Private Households** is forecast to be the top declining industry losing 189 jobs, or 21.80 percent of its workforce moving employment from 867 in 2017 to 678 in 2019. **Financial Activities** is estimated to be the top growing supersector in the City of Little Rock LWDA adding an anticipated 1,253 new jobs, an increase of 7.79 percent bringing its employment to 17,330.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102300	Financial Activities	16,077	17,330	1,253	7.79%
102500	Education and Health Services	51,528	52,673	1,145	2.22%
102400	Professional and Business Services	24,790	25,287	497	2.00%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	15,079	15,510	431	2.86%
101200	Construction	4,687	5,092	405	8.64%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	8,905	9,983	1,078	12.11%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	9,846	10,387	541	5.49%
622000	Hospitals	22,420	22,862	442	1.97%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	11,745	12,105	360	3.07%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	10,254	10,541	287	2.80%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,354	2,511	157	6.67%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	4,137	4,278	141	3.41%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	890	1,026	136	15.28%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,914	3,045	131	4.50%
624000	Social Assistance	4,740	4,864	124	2.62%

City of Little Rock Arkansas

Local Workforce Development

Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	890	1,026	136	15.28%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	8,905	9,983	1,078	12.11%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	536	582	46	8.58%
236000	Construction of Buildings	1,443	1,555	112	7.76%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,354	2,511	157	6.67%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	928	988	60	6.47%
481000	Air Transportation	260	276	16	6.15%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	477	506	29	6.08%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	1,280	1,355	75	5.86%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	9,846	10,387	541	5.49%

Top 10 Decline

814000	Private Households	867	678	-189	-21.80%
517000	Telecommunications	2,663	2,512	-151	-5.67%
518000	Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services	185	79	-106	-57.30%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1,097	1,000	-97	-8.84%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	1,994	1,898	-96	-4.81%
611000	Educational Services	11,608	11,515	-93	-0.80%
451000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores	725	661	-64	-8.83%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	3,362	3,314	-48	-1.43%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	742	711	-31	-4.18%
221000	Utilities	1,522	1,492	-30	-1.97%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

518000	Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services	185	79	-106	-57.30%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	27	18	-9	-33.33%
814000	Private Households	867	678	-189	-21.80%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1,097	1,000	-97	-8.84%
451000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores	725	661	-64	-8.83%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	182	167	-15	-8.24%
517000	Telecommunications	2,663	2,512	-151	-5.67%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	225	214	-11	-4.89%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	1,994	1,898	-96	-4.81%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	742	711	-31	-4.18%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

City of Little Rock Arkansas

Local Workforce Development

Area Occupations



Area employers are expected to have 22,562 annual openings during the 2017-2019 projection period. Of these, 8,810 would be created due to employees leaving the workforce, while 11,732 would be created due to employees changing jobs. Another 2,020 would be related to growth and expansion. **Insurance Sales Agents** is slated to be the top growing occupation with an anticipated gain of 307 new jobs bringing its employment to 3,132. **Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders** could be the fastest growing occupation raising employment by 13.73 percent going from 51 jobs in 2017 to 58 jobs in 2019. **Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners** is expected to fall in employment dropping by 43 jobs, making it the top declining industry and moving employment down to 1,914. **Office Machine Operators, Except Computer** could see a 22.45 percent reduction in its workforce to a level of 38, making it the fastest declining occupation. **Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations** is predicted to be the top growing major group adding 584 new jobs to its workforce bringing its employment level to 20,614.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	20,030	20,614	584	2.92%	544	514	292	1,350
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support Occupations	32,716	33,269	553	1.69%	1,672	1,974	276	3,922
41-0000	Sales & Related Occupations	20,542	20,932	390	1.90%	1,125	1,494	195	2,814
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	13,177	13,521	344	2.61%	960	1,256	172	2,388
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	11,049	11,352	303	2.74%	540	766	152	1,458

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	2,825	3,132	307	10.87%	121	160	154	435
29-1141	Registered Nurses	7,224	7,445	221	3.06%	210	160	110	480
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	4,977	5,173	196	3.94%	260	380	98	738
43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	1,246	1,402	156	12.52%	56	74	78	208
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,703	2,817	114	4.22%	117	174	57	348
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,527	2,625	98	3.88%	228	238	49	515
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	2,435	2,525	90	3.70%	198	149	45	392
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	3,341	3,430	89	2.66%	70	202	44	316
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	3,173	3,255	82	2.58%	238	364	41	643
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	2,587	2,662	75	2.90%	160	132	38	330

City of Little Rock Arkansas

Local Workforce Development

Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators & Tenders	51	58	7	13.73%	2	4	4	10
43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	1,246	1,402	156	12.52%	56	74	78	208
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	2,825	3,132	307	10.87%	121	160	154	435
47-2051	Cement Masons & Concrete Finishers	92	102	10	10.87%	4	6	5	15
13-2053	Insurance Underwriters	297	325	28	9.43%	8	16	14	38
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	281	305	24	8.54%	11	20	12	43
31-2011	Occupational Therapy Assistants	107	116	9	8.41%	6	8	4	18
29-1071	Physician Assistants	144	156	12	8.33%	2	6	6	14
27-3042	Technical Writers	76	82	6	7.89%	2	4	3	9
47-2071	Paving, Surfacing, & Tamping Equipment Operators	145	156	11	7.59%	5	10	6	21

Top 10 Decline

37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,957	1,914	-43	-2.20%	144	108	-22	230
39-9011	Childcare Workers	1,623	1,583	-40	-2.46%	131	100	-20	211
41-2011	Cashiers	3,435	3,396	-39	-1.14%	320	313	-20	613
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers & Repairers, Except Line Installers	1,002	964	-38	-3.79%	32	70	-19	83
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	922	895	-27	-2.93%	49	48	-14	83
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,266	5,250	-16	-0.30%	333	418	-8	743
11-1011	Chief Executives	1,262	1,248	-14	-1.11%	36	52	-7	81
15-1131	Computer Programmers	767	754	-13	-1.69%	14	34	-6	42
43-6012	Legal Secretaries	309	296	-13	-4.21%	16	16	-6	26
43-9071	Office Machine Operators, Except Computer	49	38	-11	-22.45%	2	3	-6	0

Top 10 Fastest Decline

43-9071	Office Machine Operators, Except Computer	49	38	-11	-22.45%	2	3	-6	0
43-2011	Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service	199	190	-9	-4.52%	12	13	-4	21
43-6012	Legal Secretaries	309	296	-13	-4.21%	16	16	-6	26
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers & Repairers, Except Line Installers	1,002	964	-38	-3.79%	32	70	-19	83
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	309	298	-11	-3.56%	16	20	-6	30
13-1022	Wholesale & Retail Buyers, Except Farm Products	146	141	-5	-3.42%	6	10	-2	14
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	922	895	-27	-2.93%	49	48	-14	83
39-9011	Childcare Workers	1,623	1,583	-40	-2.46%	131	100	-20	211
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	252	246	-6	-2.38%	10	16	-3	23
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,957	1,914	-43	-2.20%	144	108	-22	230

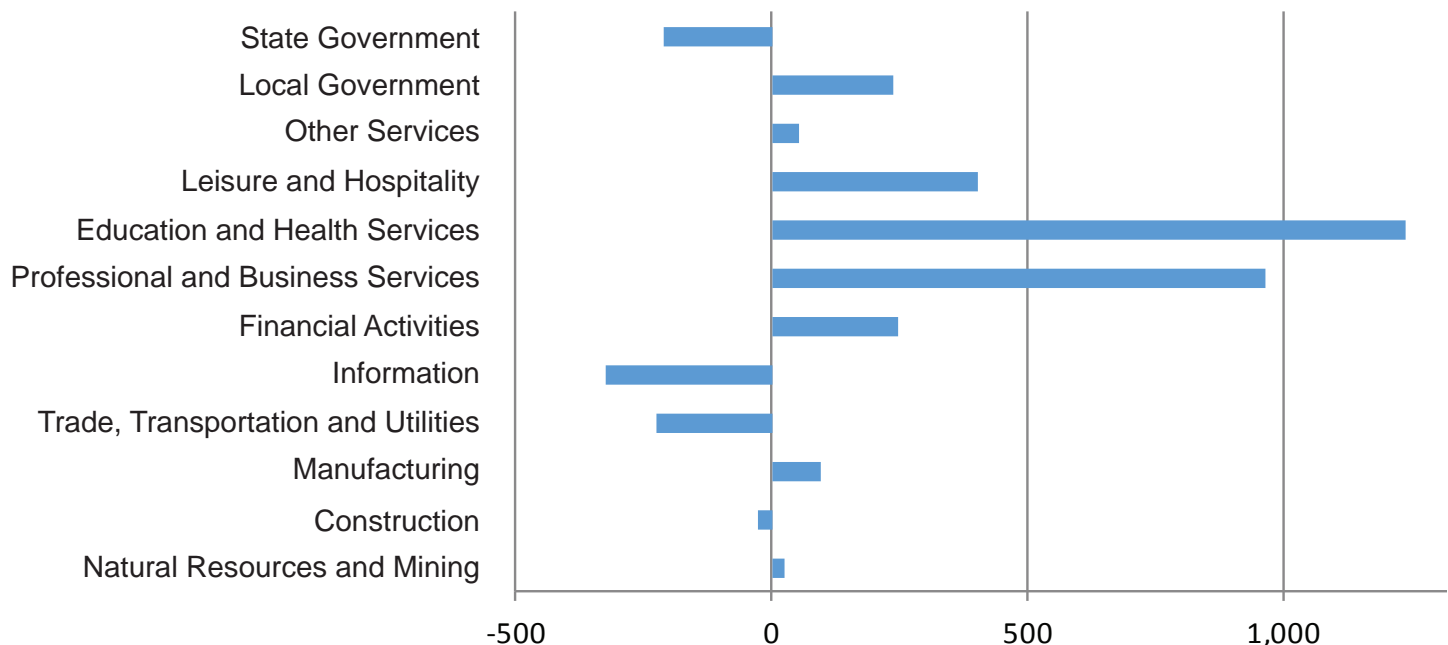
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

City of Little Rock Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	238,363	240,839	2,476	1.04%	\$914
Natural Resources and Mining	607	630	23	3.79%	\$1,226
Construction	8,988	8,960	-28	-0.31%	\$983
Manufacturing	12,625	12,720	95	0.75%	\$1,073
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	48,839	48,616	-223	-0.46%	\$836
Information	5,606	5,281	-325	-5.80%	\$1,254
Financial Activities	16,471	16,717	246	1.49%	\$1,375
Professional and Business Services	33,289	34,254	965	2.90%	\$944
Education and Health Services	39,829	41,069	1,240	3.11%	\$952
Leisure and Hospitality	23,154	23,556	402	1.74%	\$342
Other Services	6,561	6,616	55	0.84%	\$744
Local Government	14,417	14,653	236	1.64%	\$879
State Government	27,977	27,767	-210	-0.75%	\$1,060

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population declined by 1,780 residents between 2016 and 2017 to 119,291 residents. The area has seen a decline in population of 5,897 since 2013. The Eastern Arkansas LWDA includes five counties: Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Phillips, and Saint Francis. With Tennessee bordering to the east, Crittenden County is part of the Memphis Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Eastern Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
125,188	123,605	122,157	121,071	119,291

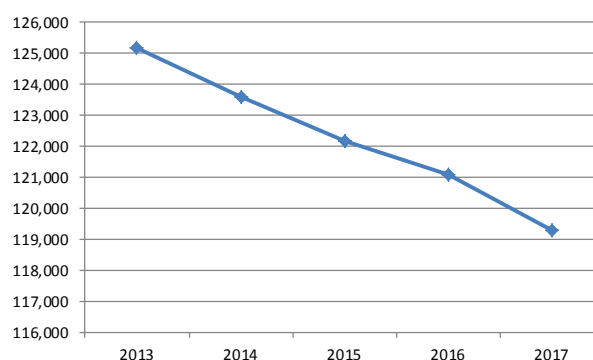
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Eastern Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation decreased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 1,851, a decrease of 121 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 134 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires decreased in the second quarter of 2017 by 601 compared to the second quarter of 2016, but increased by 1,929 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations increased over the six-year period by 1,240 to 7,812 for the second quarter of 2017 compared to the second quarter of 2012. The turnover rate increased between 2015 and 2016 to 10.7 percent.

Eastern Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	1,985	1,870	2,010	2,430	1,972	1,851
New Hires	5,839	6,814	7,517	8,345	8,369	7,768
Separations	6,572	6,558	7,240	7,818	8,198	7,812
Turnover	8.8%	9.2%	10.2%	9.8%	10.7%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

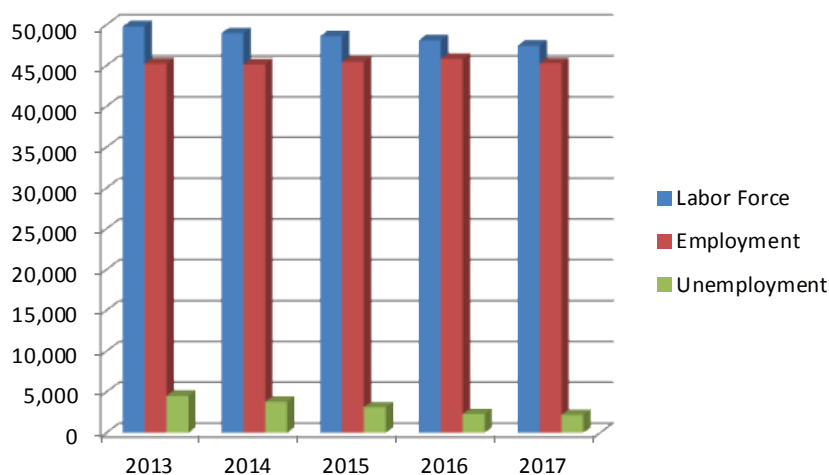


The labor force in the Eastern Arkansas LWDA decreased by 665 to 47,490 in 2017 from 2016, and has decreased by 2,340 from 2013 to 2017. Employment decreased from 2016 to 2017, losing 549 workers to 45,294. Unemployment and the unemployment rate saw a slight decrease from 2016 to 2017, having 116 fewer unemployed and the unemployment rate dropping by two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.6 percent. Since the beginning of 2018, the unemployment rate fluctuated from 5.7 percent in January to 4.4 percent in April, ending July 2018 at 5.0 percent.

Eastern Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	49,830	48,988	48,647	48,155	47,490
Employment	45,280	45,176	45,500	45,843	45,294
Unemployment	4,550	3,812	3,147	2,312	2,196
Unemployment Rate	9.1%	7.8%	6.5%	4.8%	4.6%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Eastern Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

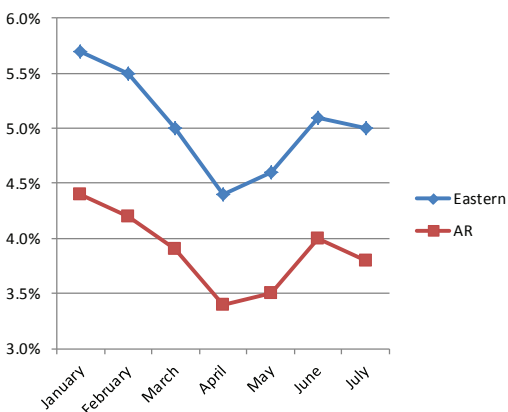
Year	Month	Eastern Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	5.7%	4.4%
2018	February	5.5%	4.2%
2018	March	5.0%	3.9%
2018	April	4.4%	3.4%
2018	May	4.6%	3.5%
2018	June	5.1%	4.0%
2018	July	5.0%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

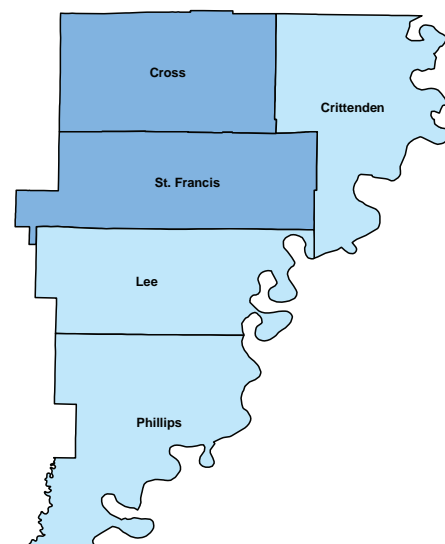
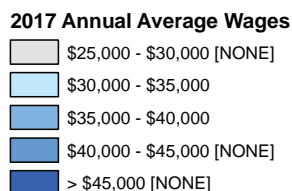
Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Cashiers was estimated to have the most employees in Eastern Arkansas with 1,660 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$19,639. **Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food** was the second largest occupation with 1,440 employed, earning an average wage of \$19,121. **Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Ed**, with an estimated employment of 590, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$49,019 annually.



**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

Family and General Practitioners topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$229,979. **Physicians and Surgeons, All Other**, with an average annual salary of \$202,961, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$19,205 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$29,757, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$42,649 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 34,347 estimated employees in the area, 10,917 made less than \$10 an hour while 5,785 made \$15 to \$19.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$25 an hour totaled 5,248.

Eastern Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	1,660	\$19,639	\$18,528	\$20,194
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,440	\$19,121	\$18,841	\$19,262
Personal Care Aides	1,160	\$19,718	\$18,811	\$20,171
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,020	\$34,299	\$25,961	\$38,467
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	910	\$24,996	\$19,942	\$27,522
Retail Salespersons	890	\$26,016	\$18,664	\$29,691
Office Clerks, General	820	\$27,662	\$19,652	\$31,667
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	780	\$24,155	\$18,710	\$26,878
Correctional Officers and Jailers	620	\$40,938	\$28,007	\$47,404
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Ed	590	\$49,019	\$39,231	\$53,914

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Eastern Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family and General Practitioners	\$229,979
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$202,961
Dentists, General	\$171,490
Nurse Practitioners	\$149,874
Pharmacists	\$123,934
Chief Executives	\$109,100
Optometrists	\$100,131
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$95,363
Lawyers	\$93,619
Civil Engineers	\$91,715
Occupational Therapists	\$91,032
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$90,088
Human Resources Managers	\$89,942
Physical Therapists	\$88,850
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$86,686
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$85,948
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	\$84,600
Electrical Engineers	\$82,001
Financial Managers	\$81,700
Sales Managers	\$80,907
Industrial Production Managers	\$80,850
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$80,805
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$74,791
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$74,730
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$72,611

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

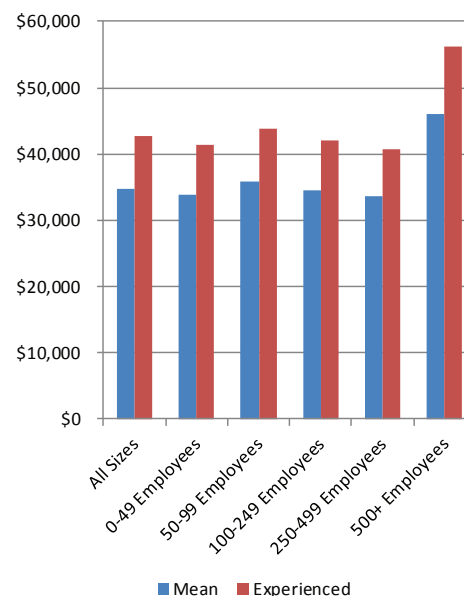


Eastern Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Eastern Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

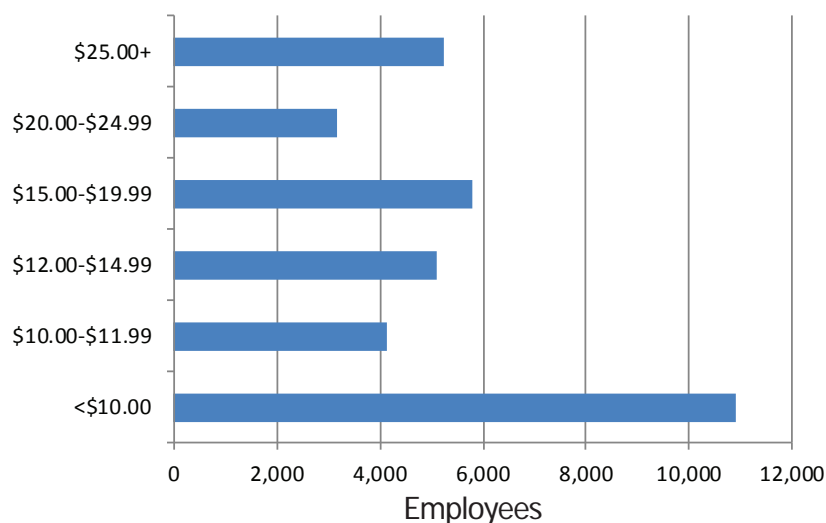
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$34,834	\$27,437	\$19,205	\$42,649
0-49 Employees	\$33,794	\$24,508	\$18,807	\$41,288
50-99 Employees	\$35,780	\$28,493	\$19,519	\$43,911
100-249 Employees	\$34,479	\$27,557	\$19,168	\$42,135
250-499 Employees	\$33,684	\$29,757	\$19,778	\$40,637
500+ Employees	\$45,965	\$45,417	\$25,565	\$56,165

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Eastern Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Eastern Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	34,347
<\$10.00	10,917
\$10.00-\$11.99	4,139
\$12.00-\$14.99	5,111
\$15.00-\$19.99	5,785
\$20.00-\$24.99	3,147
\$25.00+	5,248

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The Eastern Arkansas LWDA is expected to experience a net decline of 124 jobs between 2017 and 2019. **Food Services and Drinking Places** is projected to be the top growing industry increasing employment by 113 jobs bringing its employment level to 2,598. **Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing** is estimated to grow by 10.68 percent making it the fastest growing industry moving employment from 206 in 2017 to 228 in 2019. As population declines, so does school enrollment, which could be a contributing factor in **Educational Services** being the top declining industry. The industry is projected to lose 114 jobs during the projection period driving employment down to 4,232. **Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores** is slated to cut more than a quarter of its workforce from 2017 and 2019. **Leisure and Hospitality** is anticipated to be the top growing supersector with a gain of 145 jobs to an employment level of 3,732.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	3,587	3,732	145	4.04%
102700	Other Services (except Government)	1,384	1,448	64	4.62%
101200	Construction	812	873	61	7.51%
102800	Government	4,060	4,092	32	0.79%
101300	Manufacturing	3,559	3,579	20	0.56%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	2,485	2,598	113	4.55%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,948	2,037	89	4.57%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	508	549	41	8.07%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	479	519	40	8.35%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	620	660	40	6.45%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	1,887	1,926	39	2.07%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	1,318	1,353	35	2.66%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	892	922	30	3.36%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	206	228	22	10.68%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	741	762	21	2.83%

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	206	228	22	10.68%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	168	183	15	8.93%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	479	519	40	8.35%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	508	549	41	8.07%
312000	Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	153	163	10	6.54%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	620	660	40	6.45%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	268	284	16	5.97%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,948	2,037	89	4.57%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	2,485	2,598	113	4.55%
236000	Construction of Buildings	136	141	5	3.68%

Top 10 Decline

611000	Educational Services	4,346	4,232	-114	-2.62%
484000	Truck Transportation	792	706	-86	-10.86%
311000	Food Manufacturing	639	570	-69	-10.80%
622000	Hospitals	542	481	-61	-11.25%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	311	277	-34	-10.93%
447000	Gasoline Stations	854	827	-27	-3.16%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	555	531	-24	-4.32%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	304	281	-23	-7.57%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	892	880	-12	-1.35%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	51	39	-12	-23.53%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	36	26	-10	-27.78%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	51	39	-12	-23.53%
622000	Hospitals	542	481	-61	-11.25%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	311	277	-34	-10.93%
484000	Truck Transportation	792	706	-86	-10.86%
311000	Food Manufacturing	639	570	-69	-10.80%
814000	Private Households	122	111	-11	-9.02%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	304	281	-23	-7.57%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	167	156	-11	-6.59%
448000	Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	125	117	-8	-6.40%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



The Eastern Arkansas LWDA is expected to have 4,579 annual job openings during the projection period with 2,090 being created due to employees leaving the workforce, and 2,551 are due to those changing jobs. Job opportunities could be reduced due to the loss of jobs estimated at 62 per year. **Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food** is predicted to be the top growing occupation with 59 new jobs bringing the employment level to 1,440. At 8.60 percent, **Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment** is set to be the fastest growing occupation in the area driving employment above 100. On the flip side of the economy, **Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers** is projected to be the top declining occupation with a loss of 116 bringing job levels down to 2,480. **Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals** is projected to be the fastest declining occupation, losing 39.60 percent of its workforce, or down to a level below 100. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is projected to be the top growing major group with a net gain of 101 jobs between 2017 and 2019 bringing its employment level up to 3,312.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	3,211	3,312	101	3.15%	240	296	50	586
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	1,479	1,520	41	2.77%	87	82	20	189
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	1,673	1,712	39	2.33%	58	100	20	178
47-0000	Construction & Extraction Occupations	1,129	1,165	36	3.19%	42	76	18	136
21-0000	Community & Social Service Occupations	1,013	1,041	28	2.76%	42	66	14	122

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,381	1,440	59	4.27%	125	130	30	285
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,143	1,175	32	2.80%	92	70	16	178
51-2092	Team Assemblers	463	494	31	6.70%	20	34	16	70
21-2011	Clergy	245	264	19	7.76%	12	16	10	38
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production & Operating Workers	373	389	16	4.29%	12	24	8	44
31-1011	Home Health Aides	370	385	15	4.05%	23	19	8	50
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	721	736	15	2.08%	44	37	8	89
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	200	214	14	7.00%	7	10	7	24
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products	306	318	12	3.92%	10	21	6	37
51-4041	Machinists	169	180	11	6.51%	6	12	6	24

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles & Equipment	93	101	8	8.60%	5	8	4	17
21-2011	Clergy	245	264	19	7.76%	12	16	10	38
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	200	214	14	7.00%	7	10	7	24
51-2092	Team Assemblers	463	494	31	6.70%	20	34	16	70
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, & Casting Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	106	113	7	6.60%	4	8	4	16
51-4041	Machinists	169	180	11	6.51%	6	12	6	24
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	109	116	7	6.42%	4	5	4	13
31-9092	Medical Assistants	131	138	7	5.34%	6	8	4	18
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	117	123	6	5.13%	4	8	3	15
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	102	107	5	4.90%	4	6	2	12

Top 10 Decline

11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	2,596	2,480	-116	-4.47%	148	38	-58	128
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals	149	90	-59	-39.60%	14	15	-30	0
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,120	1,071	-49	-4.38%	46	69	-24	91
41-2011	Cashiers	1,800	1,765	-35	-1.94%	168	164	-18	314
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	652	629	-23	-3.53%	34	34	-12	56
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	749	731	-18	-2.40%	24	28	-9	43
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	863	846	-17	-1.97%	50	49	-8	91
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Career/Technical Education	529	517	-12	-2.27%	16	20	-6	30
43-3071	Tellers	241	229	-12	-4.98%	12	15	-6	21
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	470	459	-11	-2.34%	26	21	-6	41

Top 10 Fastest Decline

45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals	149	90	-59	-39.60%	14	15	-30	0
43-5032	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, & Ambulance	58	53	-5	-8.62%	2	3	-2	3
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, & Traffic Clerks	122	115	-7	-5.74%	4	7	-4	7
53-7081	Refuse & Recyclable Material Collectors	99	94	-5	-5.05%	4	7	-2	9
43-3071	Tellers	241	229	-12	-4.98%	12	15	-6	21
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	2,596	2,480	-116	-4.47%	148	38	-58	128
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,120	1,071	-49	-4.38%	46	69	-24	91
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	652	629	-23	-3.53%	34	34	-12	56
53-7064	Packers & Packagers, Hand	212	205	-7	-3.30%	14	17	-4	27
53-3022	Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	279	270	-9	-3.23%	22	11	-4	29

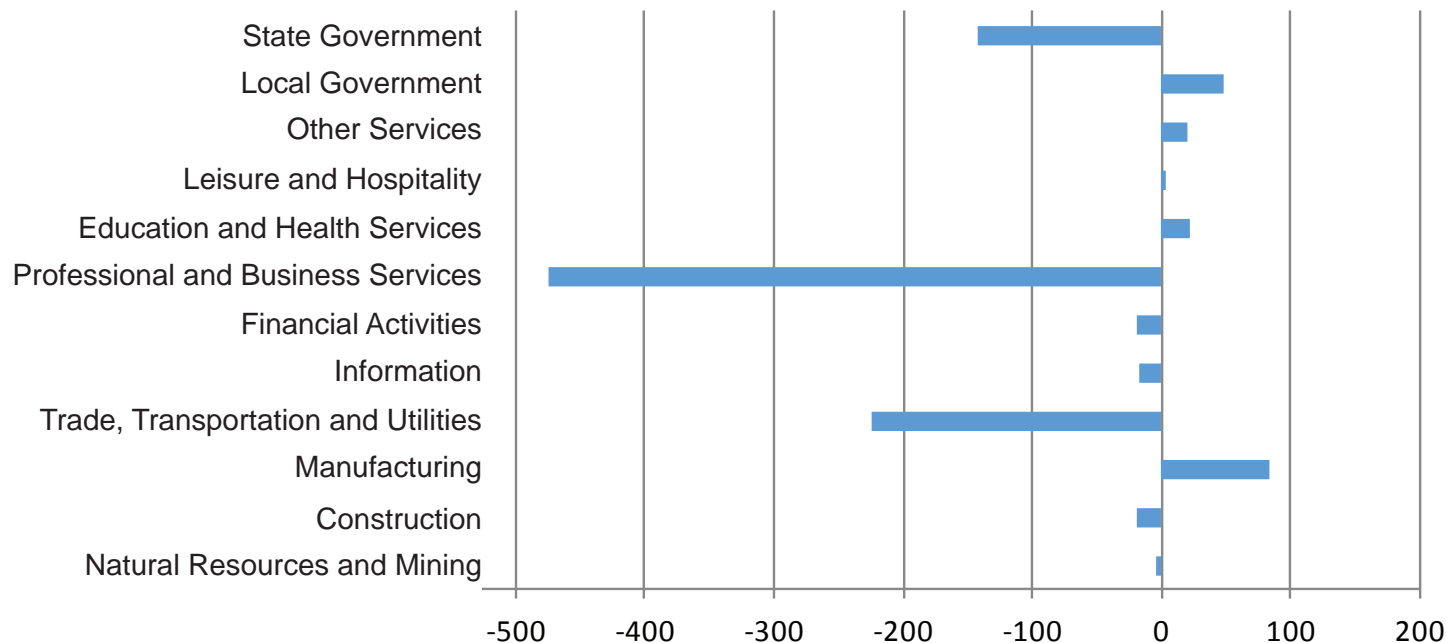
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Eastern Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	35,952	35,233	-719	-2.00%	\$651
Natural Resources and Mining	1,181	1,177	-4	-0.34%	\$667
Construction	922	904	-18	-1.95%	\$842
Manufacturing	3,396	3,480	84	2.47%	\$876
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	9,328	9,104	-224	-2.40%	\$678
Information	191	174	-17	-8.90%	\$727
Financial Activities	1,273	1,254	-19	-1.49%	\$726
Professional and Business Services	2,246	1,772	-474	-21.10%	\$661
Education and Health Services	6,358	6,381	23	0.36%	\$604
Leisure and Hospitality	3,702	3,706	4	0.11%	\$320
Other Services	718	738	20	2.79%	\$601
Local Government	4,500	4,548	48	1.07%	\$687
State Government	2,137	1,995	-142	-6.64%	\$673

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA) saw an increase in population in 2017, adding 639 to bring the population to 237,451, the highest it has been since 2012. The population has seen a decline in population every year since 2013 with the exception of this year. The North Central Arkansas LWDA consists of 10 counties: Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White, and Woodruff, with the state of Missouri bordering the area to the north.

North Central Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
237,448	237,183	236,864	236,812	237,451

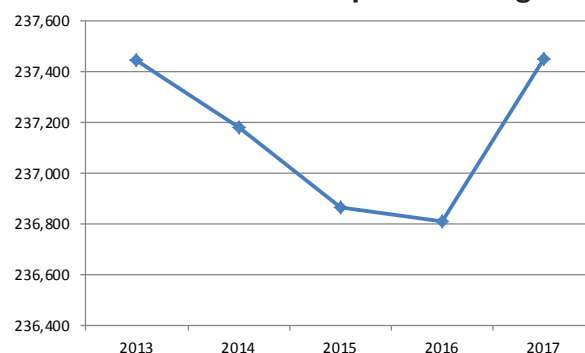
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

North Central Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation increased slightly between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 3,597, an increase of 50 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 1,060 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires increased in the second quarter of 2017 by 390 compared to the second quarter of 2016 and increased by 1,846 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations decreased over the six-year period by 714 to 13,555 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate decreased between 2015 and 2016 to 8.7 percent.

North Central Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	4,657	3,859	3,593	4,040	3,547	3,597
New Hires	12,069	13,605	13,223	14,114	13,525	13,915
Separations	14,269	12,838	12,491	12,795	12,773	13,555
Turnover	9.0%	8.6%	8.8%	9.2%	8.7%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

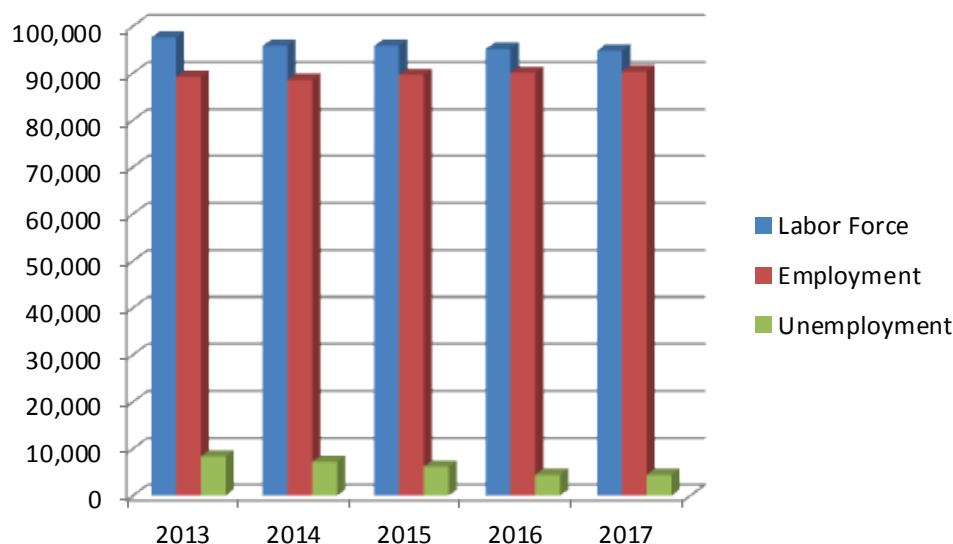


The North Central Arkansas LWDA labor force decreased by 357 from 2016 to 2017 and decreased by 2,806 between 2013 and 2017. Employment grew by 272 while unemployment decreased by 629 from 2016 to 2017. The unemployment rate dropped to 4.7 percent or seven-tenths of a percentage point from 2016 to 2017. The unemployment rate fluctuated in 2018, but ended at 4.6 percent in July.

North Central Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	97,674	95,900	95,905	95,225	94,868
Employment	89,282	88,631	89,711	90,110	90,382
Unemployment	8,392	7,269	6,194	5,115	4,486
Unemployment Rate	8.6%	7.6%	6.5%	5.4%	4.7%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



North Central Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

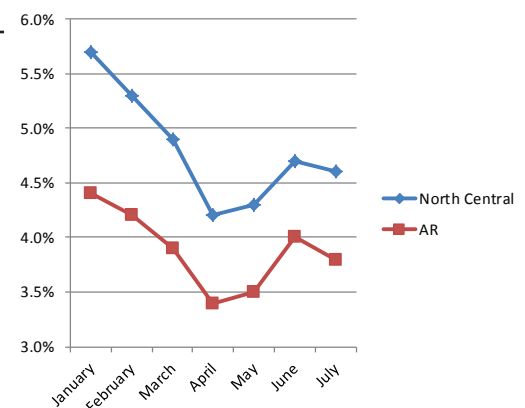
Year	Month	North Central Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	5.7%	4.4%
2018	February	5.3%	4.2%
2018	March	4.9%	3.9%
2018	April	4.2%	3.4%
2018	May	4.3%	3.5%
2018	June	4.7%	4.0%
2018	July	4.6†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



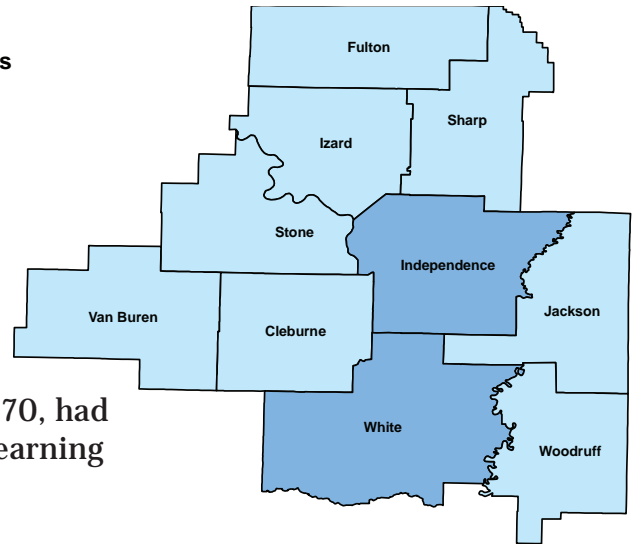
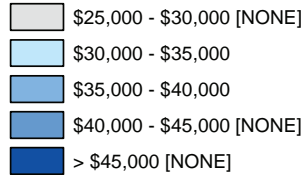
North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food

was estimated to have the most employees in North Central Arkansas with 2,300 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$19,135. **Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers** was the second largest occupation with 2,190 employed, earning an average wage of \$35,960. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 1,170, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$81,089 annually.

2017 Annual Average Wages



Family and General Practitioners topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$247,233. **Psychiatrists**, with an average annual salary of \$144,136, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$19,738 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$31,326, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$44,111 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 69,607 estimated employees in the area, 18,891 made less than \$10 an hour while 12,200 made \$15 to \$19.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$25 an hour totaled 10,184.

North Central Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,300	\$19,135	\$18,612	\$19,396
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,190	\$35,960	\$24,632	\$41,625
Retail Salespersons	2,090	\$26,651	\$19,003	\$30,475
Cashiers	1,880	\$19,818	\$18,548	\$20,453
Office Clerks, General	1,730	\$25,154	\$18,906	\$28,278
Registered Nurses	1,690	\$54,853	\$38,480	\$63,040
Nursing Assistants	1,480	\$23,672	\$21,443	\$24,787
Waiters and Waitresses	1,440	\$19,574	\$18,725	\$19,999
Personal Care Aides	1,230	\$20,130	\$18,775	\$20,808
General and Operations Managers	1,170	\$61,988	\$23,787	\$81,089

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



North Central Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family and General Practitioners	\$247,233
Psychiatrists	\$144,136
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$113,846
Pharmacists	\$112,162
Nurse Practitioners	\$97,117
Civil Engineers	\$89,385
Physical Therapists	\$86,372
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$86,245
Sales Managers	\$85,918
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$84,730
Chief Executives	\$84,605
Construction Managers	\$84,372
Industrial Production Managers	\$81,999
Human Resources Managers	\$78,583
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	\$78,414
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$77,431
Postmasters and Mail Superintendents	\$76,863
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$75,699
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	\$75,633
Administrative Services Managers	\$74,079
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$73,605
Electrical Engineers	\$72,786
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$72,643
Personal Financial Advisors	\$72,356
Occupational Therapists	\$71,929

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

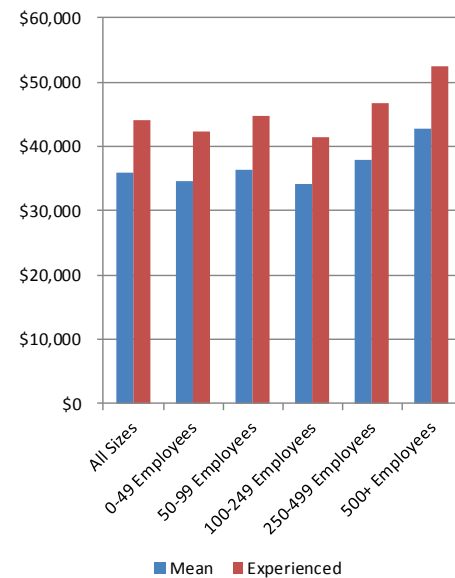


North Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

North Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

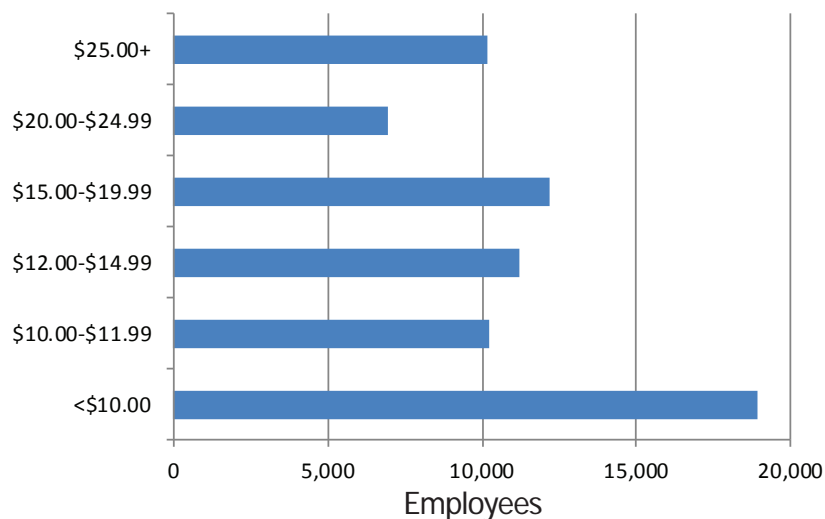
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$35,986	\$28,081	\$19,738	\$44,111
0-49 Employees	\$34,572	\$25,061	\$18,988	\$42,364
50-99 Employees	\$36,352	\$28,754	\$19,529	\$44,763
100-249 Employees	\$34,239	\$28,552	\$19,703	\$41,507
250-499 Employees	\$37,990	\$31,326	\$20,551	\$46,709
500+ Employees	\$42,701	\$35,299	\$23,346	\$52,379

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



North Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

North Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	69,607
<\$10.00	18,891
\$10.00-\$11.99	10,221
\$12.00-\$14.99	11,186
\$15.00-\$19.99	12,200
\$20.00-\$24.99	6,925
\$25.00+	10,184

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The North Central Arkansas LWDA is projected to add 1,990 jobs from first quarter 2017 through first quarter 2019, or increase employment by 2.37 percent, which matches the state growth rate. **Hospitals** is forecast to be the top growing industry with a gain of 209 new jobs bringing its total workforce to 3,704. **Private Households** is expected to be the fastest growing industry increasing employment by 26.94 percent going from 219 jobs in 2017 to 278 in 2019. **Truck Transportation** is predicted to be the top declining industry with a loss of 180 jobs, dropping employment to 1,554. **Pipeline Transportation** is predicted to lose 18.81 percent of its workforce making it the fastest declining industry dropping employment below 100 in the area. **Education and Health Services** is projected to be the top growing supersector with 676 new jobs increasing employment to 22,538.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	21,862	22,538	676	3.09%
101300	Manufacturing	8,138	8,512	374	4.60%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	6,374	6,580	206	3.23%
102700	Other Services (except Government)	2,762	2,911	149	5.39%
101200	Construction	2,176	2,288	112	5.15%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
622000	Hospitals	3,495	3,704	209	5.98%
311000	Food Manufacturing	2,384	2,591	207	8.68%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,052	1,230	178	16.92%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	5,360	5,532	172	3.21%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	3,910	4,081	171	4.37%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	1,773	1,916	143	8.07%
611000	Educational Services	8,841	8,963	122	1.38%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	1,188	1,299	111	9.34%
624000	Social Assistance	2,543	2,645	102	4.01%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	759	840	81	10.67%

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
814000	Private Households	219	278	59	26.94%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	137	161	24	17.52%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,052	1,230	178	16.92%
512000	Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	48	56	8	16.67%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	220	248	28	12.73%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	81	91	10	12.35%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	759	840	81	10.67%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	1,188	1,299	111	9.34%
517000	Telecommunications	145	158	13	8.97%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	480	523	43	8.96%

Top 10 Decline

484000	Truck Transportation	1,734	1,554	-180	-10.38%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,024	931	-93	-9.08%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	718	653	-65	-9.05%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	705	644	-61	-8.65%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	369	311	-58	-15.72%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	217	183	-34	-15.67%
211000	Oil and Gas Extraction	246	222	-24	-9.76%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	156	132	-24	-15.38%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	1,272	1,249	-23	-1.81%
486000	Pipeline Transportation	101	82	-19	-18.81%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

486000	Pipeline Transportation	101	82	-19	-18.81%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	114	96	-18	-15.79%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	369	311	-58	-15.72%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	217	183	-34	-15.67%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	156	132	-24	-15.38%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	65	56	-9	-13.85%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	117	101	-16	-13.68%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,734	1,554	-180	-10.38%
211000	Oil and Gas Extraction	246	222	-24	-9.76%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,024	931	-93	-9.08%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



The North Central Arkansas LWDA is expected to have 9,991 total job openings annually between 2017 and 2019. Of these, 4,120 would be from those exiting the workforce, while 4,876 would be from those changing jobs. Another 995 would be related to growth and expansion. **Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers** is anticipated to gain 317 jobs between 2017 and 2019 making it the top growing occupation in the area bringing employment to 9,897. The occupation is also projected to have the most job openings with 872 annually. **Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders** is estimated to be the fastest growing occupation raising employment by 10.71 percent moving employment from 84 in 2017 to 93 in 2019. **Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers** could lose 118 jobs, or 5.32 percent of its workforce, making it the top declining occupation bringing employment down to 2,099. **Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining** is expected to lose 11.76 percent of its workforce, making it the fastest declining occupation. **Management Occupations** is forecast to be the top growing occupational group adding 415 new jobs bringing its employment level to 13,505.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
11-0000	Management Occupations	13,090	13,505	415	3.17%	660	326	208	1,194
51-0000	Production Occupations	7,297	7,620	323	4.43%	305	553	162	1,020
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	5,786	6,034	248	4.29%	156	164	124	444
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	6,757	6,956	199	2.95%	497	632	100	1,229
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	2,670	2,815	145	5.43%	208	184	72	464

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	9,580	9,897	317	3.31%	570	144	158	872
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,479	1,562	83	5.61%	44	33	42	119
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,758	1,830	72	4.10%	159	166	36	361
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	999	1,070	71	7.11%	82	62	36	180
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	708	776	68	9.60%	40	70	34	144
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	592	650	58	9.80%	16	48	29	93
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,292	2,349	57	2.49%	147	184	28	359
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	1,625	1,675	50	3.08%	100	84	25	209
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	696	741	45	6.47%	53	40	22	115
51-3023	Slaughterers & Meat Packers	515	558	43	8.35%	24	41	22	87

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
51-9121	Coating, Painting, & Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	84	93	9	10.71%	2	6	4	12
51-4011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal & Plastic	88	97	9	10.23%	2	6	4	12
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	592	650	58	9.80%	16	48	29	93
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	708	776	68	9.60%	40	70	34	144
29-1126	Respiratory Therapists	86	94	8	9.30%	2	2	4	8
29-1071	Physician Assistants	80	87	7	8.75%	2	3	4	9
51-3023	Slaughterers & Meat Packers	515	558	43	8.35%	24	41	22	87
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	109	118	9	8.26%	2	3	4	9
51-9111	Packaging & Filling Machine Operators & Tenders	231	250	19	8.23%	12	16	10	38
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	125	135	10	8.00%	4	8	5	17

Top 10 Decline

53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,217	2,099	-118	-5.32%	92	136	-59	169
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	1,381	1,356	-25	-1.81%	74	72	-12	134
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	223	204	-19	-8.52%	4	9	-10	3
49-3031	Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists	199	190	-9	-4.52%	6	11	-4	13
41-2011	Cashiers	1,893	1,886	-7	-0.37%	178	173	-4	347
43-5032	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, & Ambulance	95	89	-6	-6.32%	3	5	-3	5
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining	51	45	-6	-11.76%	1	4	-3	2
53-1031	First-Line Supervisors of Transportation & Material-Moving Machine & Vehicle Operators	114	108	-6	-5.26%	4	8	-3	9
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	75	70	-5	-6.67%	3	4	-2	5
23-1011	Lawyers	130	125	-5	-3.85%	2	3	-2	3

Top 10 Fastest Decline

47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining	51	45	-6	-11.76%	1	4	-3	2
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	223	204	-19	-8.52%	4	9	-10	3
11-3071	Transportation, Storage, & Distribution Managers	56	52	-4	-7.14%	1	3	-2	2
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics & Service Technicians	58	54	-4	-6.90%	2	4	-2	4
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	75	70	-5	-6.67%	3	4	-2	5
43-5032	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, & Ambulance	95	89	-6	-6.32%	3	5	-3	5
13-1031	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, & Investigators	52	49	-3	-5.77%	2	3	-2	3
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,217	2,099	-118	-5.32%	92	136	-59	169
53-1031	First-Line Supervisors of Transportation & Material-Moving Machine & Vehicle Operators	114	108	-6	-5.26%	4	8	-3	9
23-2011	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	61	58	-3	-4.92%	2	4	-2	4

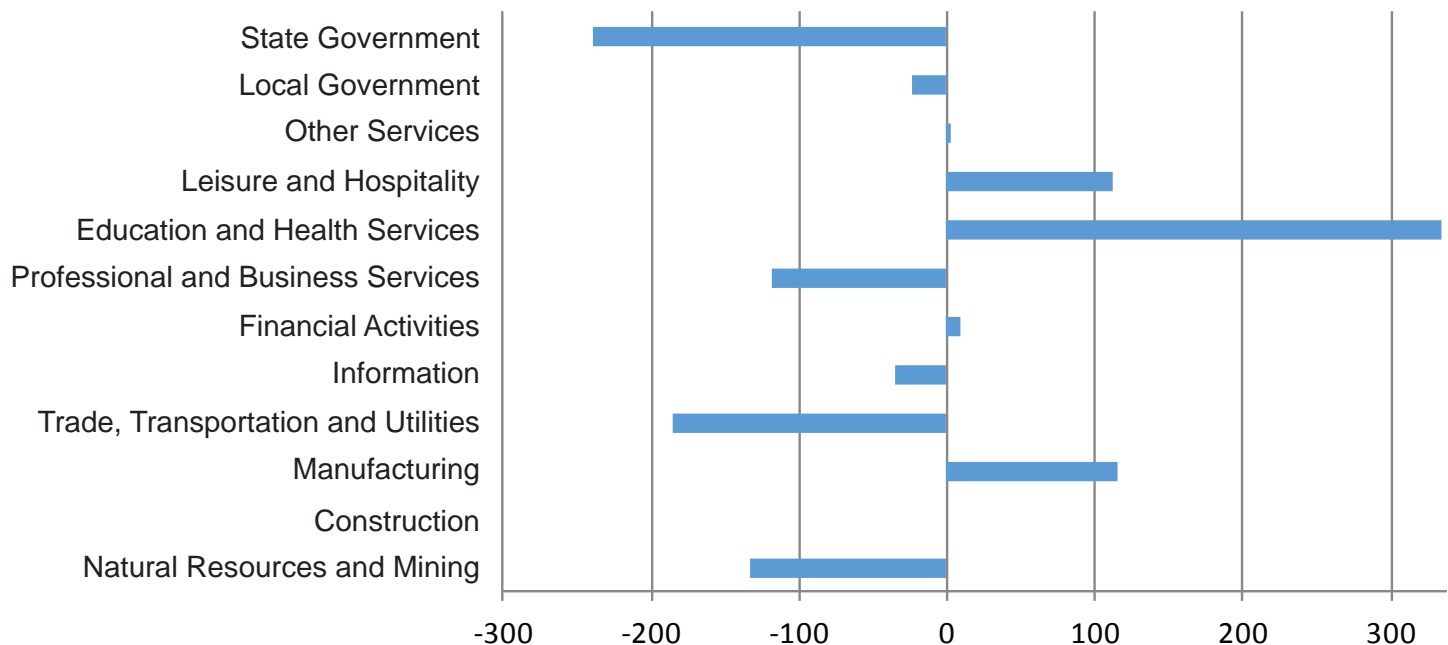
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

North Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	67,319	67,156	-163	-0.24%	\$669
Natural Resources and Mining	1,638	1,505	-133	-8.12%	\$946
Construction	2,366	2,366	0	0.00%	\$788
Manufacturing	8,092	8,207	115	1.42%	\$817
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	15,455	15,269	-186	-1.20%	\$665
Information	483	448	-35	-7.25%	\$611
Financial Activities	2,532	2,541	9	0.36%	\$853
Professional and Business Services	3,438	3,320	-118	-3.43%	\$632
Education and Health Services	14,076	14,410	334	2.37%	\$736
Leisure and Hospitality	6,551	6,663	112	1.71%	\$272
Other Services	1,291	1,293	2	0.15%	\$531
Local Government	8,507	8,484	-23	-0.27%	\$627
State Government	2,890	2,650	-240	-8.30%	\$691

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population was 267,483 in 2017, an increase of 990 since 2016, and it saw an increase of 3,821 from 2013 to 2017. The Northeast Arkansas LWDA consists of the Jonesboro Metropolitan Statistical Area and seven counties: Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, and Randolph. Both Missouri and Tennessee border the area.

Northeast Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
263,662	264,500	265,639	266,493	267,483

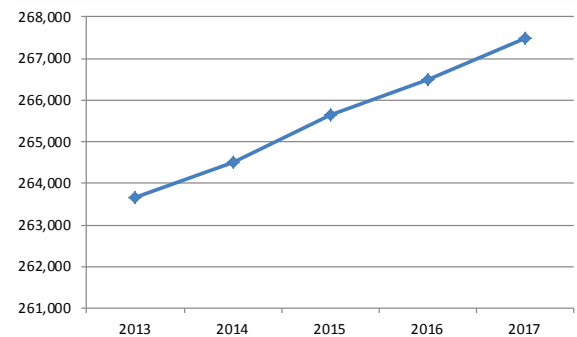
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Northeast Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation decreased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 4,987, a decrease of 720 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 522 higher for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires increased in the second quarter of 2017 by 330 compared to the second quarter of 2016 and increased by 5,847 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations increased over the six-year period by 4,005 to 22,786 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate increased between 2015 and 2016 to 9.5 percent.

Northeast Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	4,465	4,842	4,942	5,134	5,707	4,987
New Hires	16,529	18,737	20,384	20,147	22,046	22,376
Separations	18,781	18,954	20,203	20,176	21,347	22,786
Turnover	9.0%	8.5%	8.8%	9.0%	9.5%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

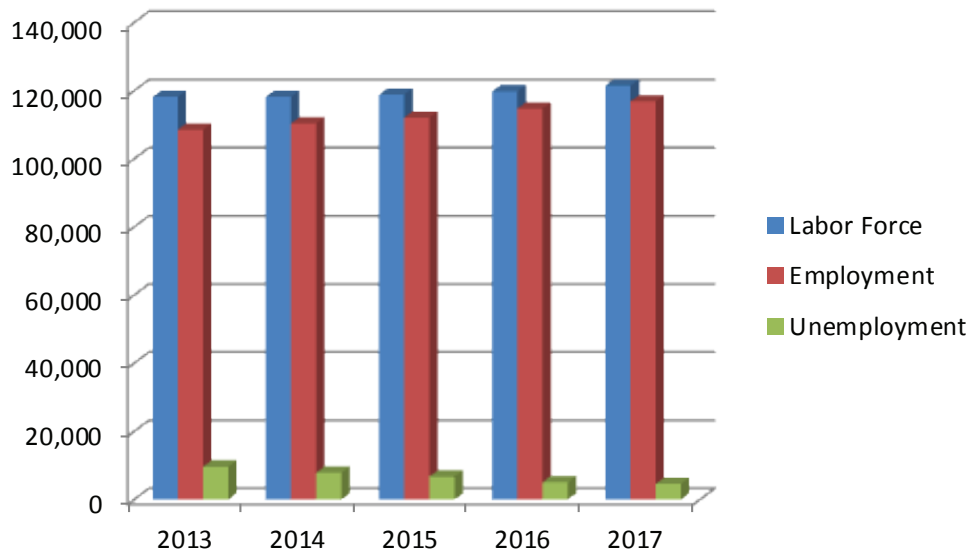


The Northeast Arkansas LWDA labor force increased to 121,555 in 2017, or by 1,667 since 2016, and increased over the 2013-2017 period by 3,285. Employment increased by 2,153 while unemployment decreased by 486 from 2016 to 2017. The unemployment rate dropped to 3.8 percent, a decrease of half of a percentage point from 2016 to 2017. The area's unemployment rate settled to 4.0% by July 2018.

Northeast Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	118,270	118,331	118,911	119,888	121,555
Employment	108,598	110,420	112,133	114,772	116,925
Unemployment	9,672	7,911	6,778	5,116	4,630
Unemployment Rate	8.2%	6.7%	5.7%	4.3%	3.8%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Northeast Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

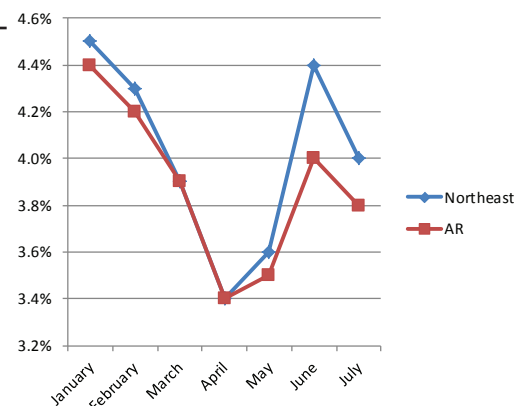
Year	Month	Northeast Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	4.5%	4.4%
2018	February	4.3%	4.2%
2018	March	3.9%	3.9%
2018	April	3.4%	3.4%
2018	May	3.6%	3.5%
2018	June	4.4%	4.0%
2018	July	4.0%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



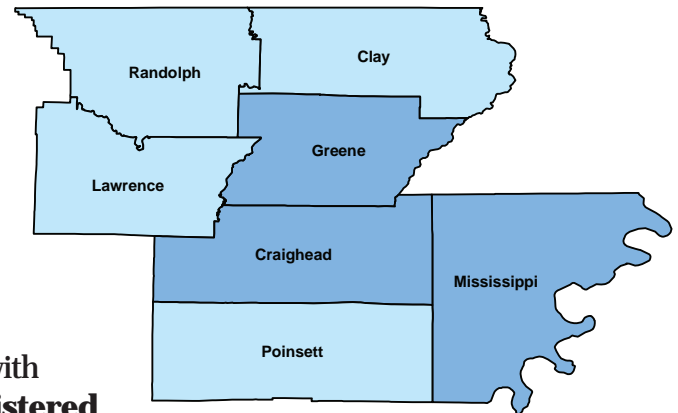
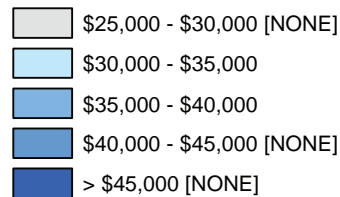
Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food was estimated to have the most employees in Northeast Arkansas with 3,680 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$19,895.

Retail Salespersons was the second largest occupation with 3,250 employed, earning an average wage of \$23,834. **Registered Nurses**, with an estimated employment of 1,990, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$55,384 annually.

2017 Annual Average Wages



**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

Internists, General topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$287,106. **Psychiatrists**, with an average annual salary of \$241,219, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$19,970 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$27,090, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$45,508 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 99,467 estimated employees in the area, 24,788 made less than \$10 an hour while 18,662 made \$15 to \$19.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$25 an hour totaled 15,336.

Northeast Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,680	\$19,895	\$18,672	\$20,507
Retail Salespersons	3,250	\$23,834	\$18,617	\$26,442
Assemblers and fabricators, all other, including team assemblers	3,200	\$29,542	\$21,333	\$33,647
Cashiers	2,770	\$20,236	\$18,609	\$21,050
Office Clerks, General	2,130	\$27,159	\$20,586	\$30,446
Registered Nurses	1,990	\$55,384	\$42,932	\$61,610
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,890	\$27,936	\$20,825	\$31,491
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,860	\$21,907	\$18,896	\$23,412
Nursing Assistants	1,820	\$23,434	\$19,731	\$25,285
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,680	\$32,209	\$21,591	\$37,518

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Northeast Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Internists, General	\$287,106
Psychiatrists	\$241,219
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$226,931
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$223,466
Dentists, General	\$219,619
Family and General Practitioners	\$199,316
Nurse Anesthetists	\$159,386
Chief Executives	\$145,781
Pharmacists	\$124,579
Optometrists	\$111,839
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$106,803
Nurse Practitioners	\$103,778
Marketing Managers	\$100,764
Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	\$99,443
Sales Managers	\$93,143
Purchasing Managers	\$91,477
Industrial Production Managers	\$91,324
Lawyers	\$90,643
Personal Financial Advisors	\$90,450
Occupational Therapists	\$90,376
Administrative Services Managers	\$88,159
Financial Managers	\$87,406
Civil Engineers	\$86,069
Massage Therapists	\$84,202
Chemists	\$84,164

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

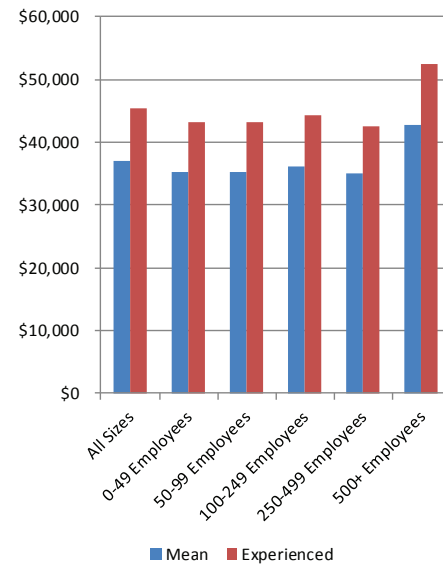


Northeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Northeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

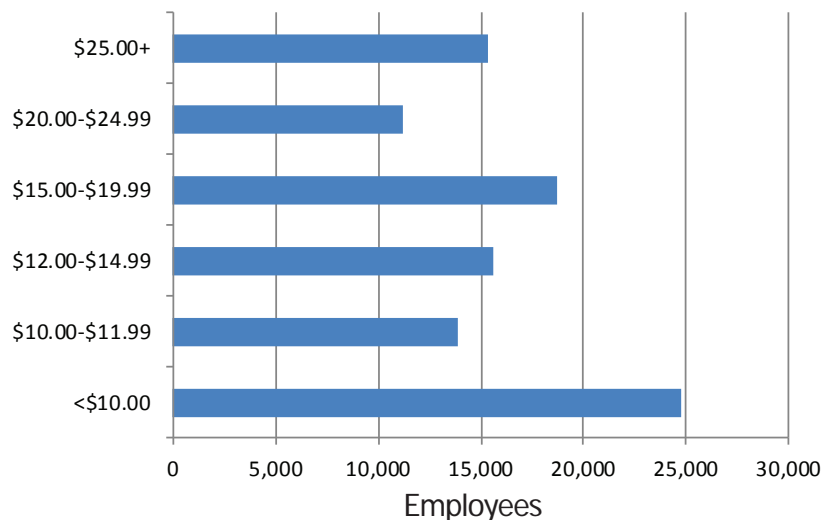
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$36,995	\$29,339	\$19,970	\$45,508
0-49 Employees	\$35,268	\$26,447	\$19,254	\$43,275
50-99 Employees	\$35,256	\$27,320	\$19,333	\$43,218
100-249 Employees	\$36,179	\$28,626	\$19,776	\$44,380
250-499 Employees	\$34,997	\$27,090	\$20,042	\$42,475
500+ Employees	\$42,795	\$37,139	\$23,352	\$52,516

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Northeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Northeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	99,467
<\$10.00	24,788
\$10.00-\$11.99	13,841
\$12.00-\$14.99	15,628
\$15.00-\$19.99	18,662
\$20.00-\$24.99	11,212
\$25.00+	15,336

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The Northeast Arkansas LWDA is expected to add 4,587 jobs during the projection period, a 3.98 percent rise in employment. Driving growth in the area is **Food Manufacturing**, which is estimated to gain 697 jobs raising employment to 4,005. **Animal Production** may also ramp up employment in the area with an anticipated increase of 51.41 percent, moving employment above the 1,000 mark, making it the fastest growing industry. **General Merchandise Stores** is forecast to lose 94 jobs as several stores in the area are slated or have closed, making it the top declining industry, and bringing employment down to 3,620. **Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers** could be the fastest declining industry with a 13.75 percent decline, moving employment down to 138. **Manufacturing** is expected to be the top growing supersector with an increase of 1,225, or a 6.07 percent increase in employment to a level of 21,399.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
101300	Manufacturing	20,174	21,399	1,225	6.07%
102500	Education and Health Services	28,253	29,385	1,132	4.01%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	19,425	19,770	345	1.78%
102400	Professional and Business Services	7,178	7,522	344	4.79%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	9,080	9,358	278	3.06%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
311000	Food Manufacturing	3,308	4,005	697	21.07%
112000	Animal Production	710	1,075	365	51.41%
622000	Hospitals	5,160	5,458	298	5.78%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,145	5,428	283	5.50%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	8,043	8,284	241	3.00%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	3,822	4,059	237	6.20%
624000	Social Assistance	4,253	4,473	220	5.17%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	2,380	2,589	209	8.78%
611000	Educational Services	11,330	11,514	184	1.62%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,625	2,797	172	6.55%

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
112000	Animal Production	710	1,075	365	51.41%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	269	348	79	29.37%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	684	855	171	25.00%
311000	Food Manufacturing	3,308	4,005	697	21.07%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	1,399	1,528	129	9.22%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	2,380	2,589	209	8.78%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	96	104	8	8.33%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,696	1,830	134	7.90%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	299	321	22	7.36%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,313	1,400	87	6.63%

Top 10 Decline

452000	General Merchandise Stores	3,714	3,620	-94	-2.53%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	930	863	-67	-7.20%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	669	606	-63	-9.42%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	1,390	1,344	-46	-3.31%
111000	Crop Production	1,546	1,509	-37	-2.39%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	288	256	-32	-11.11%
236000	Construction of Buildings	729	700	-29	-3.98%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	315	288	-27	-8.57%
814000	Private Households	204	178	-26	-12.75%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	160	138	-22	-13.75%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	160	138	-22	-13.75%
814000	Private Households	204	178	-26	-12.75%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	106	94	-12	-11.32%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	288	256	-32	-11.11%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	669	606	-63	-9.42%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	315	288	-27	-8.57%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	930	863	-67	-7.20%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	159	151	-8	-5.03%
236000	Construction of Buildings	729	700	-29	-3.98%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	3,714	3,584	-130	-3.50%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



The Northeast Arkansas LWDA is expected to have 15,060 annual openings during the projection period with 5,550 created due to employees leaving the workforce, 7,216 from those changing jobs, and 2,294 due to growth and expansion. **Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers** is anticipated to be the top growing occupation with a gain of 334 jobs raising its employment to 6,447. **Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals** is estimated to be the fastest growing occupation raising employment by 43.37 percent to a level of 595. **Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse** is projected to be the top declining occupation losing 24 jobs bringing employment down to 1,082. **Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators, and Gaugers** is projected to be the fastest declining occupation losing 22.73 percent of its workforce. **Production Occupations** is anticipated to add the most new jobs among the major occupational groups in Northeast Arkansas adding 746 increasing employment to 15,514.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
51-0000	Production Occupations	14,768	15,514	746	5.05%	585	1,109	373	2,067
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,195	11,758	563	5.03%	498	360	282	1,140
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	8,638	9,103	465	5.38%	428	631	232	1,291
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	7,570	7,979	409	5.40%	211	208	204	623
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	9,412	9,713	301	3.20%	702	894	150	1,746

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	6,113	6,447	334	5.46%	367	94	167	628
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals	415	595	180	43.37%	18	58	90	166
51-2092	Team Assemblers	3,245	3,386	141	4.35%	142	240	70	452
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,093	3,233	140	4.53%	280	293	70	643
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,100	2,234	134	6.38%	62	47	67	176
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,592	1,717	125	7.85%	132	100	62	294
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	1,899	2,006	107	5.63%	118	98	54	270
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,708	1,800	92	5.39%	74	110	46	230
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,038	2,124	86	4.22%	103	178	43	324
51-9023	Mixing & Blending Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	592	677	85	14.36%	23	48	42	113

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals	415	595	180	43.37%	18	58	90	166
51-3092	Food Batchmakers	205	244	39	19.02%	12	19	20	51
15-1132	Software Developers, Applications	54	63	9	16.67%	1	3	4	8
51-9021	Crushing, Grinding, & Polishing Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	42	49	7	16.67%	2	4	4	10
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles & Equipment	359	413	54	15.04%	20	34	27	81
51-9023	Mixing & Blending Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	592	677	85	14.36%	23	48	42	113
53-7081	Refuse & Recyclable Material Collectors	200	228	28	14.00%	10	16	14	40
17-3023	Electrical & Electronics Engineering Technicians	65	73	8	12.31%	2	4	4	10
43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, & Samplers, Recordkeeping	49	55	6	12.24%	2	3	3	8
11-9041	Architectural & Engineering Managers	58	65	7	12.07%	1	3	4	8

Top 10 Decline

45-2092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	1,106	1,082	-24	-2.17%	40	124	-12	152
43-3071	Tellers	595	580	-15	-2.52%	30	38	-8	60
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	102	94	-8	-7.84%	5	6	-4	7
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, & Press Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	522	515	-7	-1.34%	19	39	-4	54
29-2054	Respiratory Therapy Technicians	89	83	-6	-6.74%	3	4	-3	4
51-8093	Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators, & Gaugers	22	17	-5	-22.73%	1	2	-2	1
51-7042	Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Except Sawing	32	28	-4	-12.50%	1	2	-2	1
41-3031	Securities, Commodities, & Financial Services Sales Agents	39	36	-3	-7.69%	1	2	-2	1
47-2031	Carpenters	470	467	-3	-0.64%	16	26	-2	40
43-4151	Order Clerks	49	47	-2	-4.08%	2	3	-1	4

Top 10 Fastest Decline

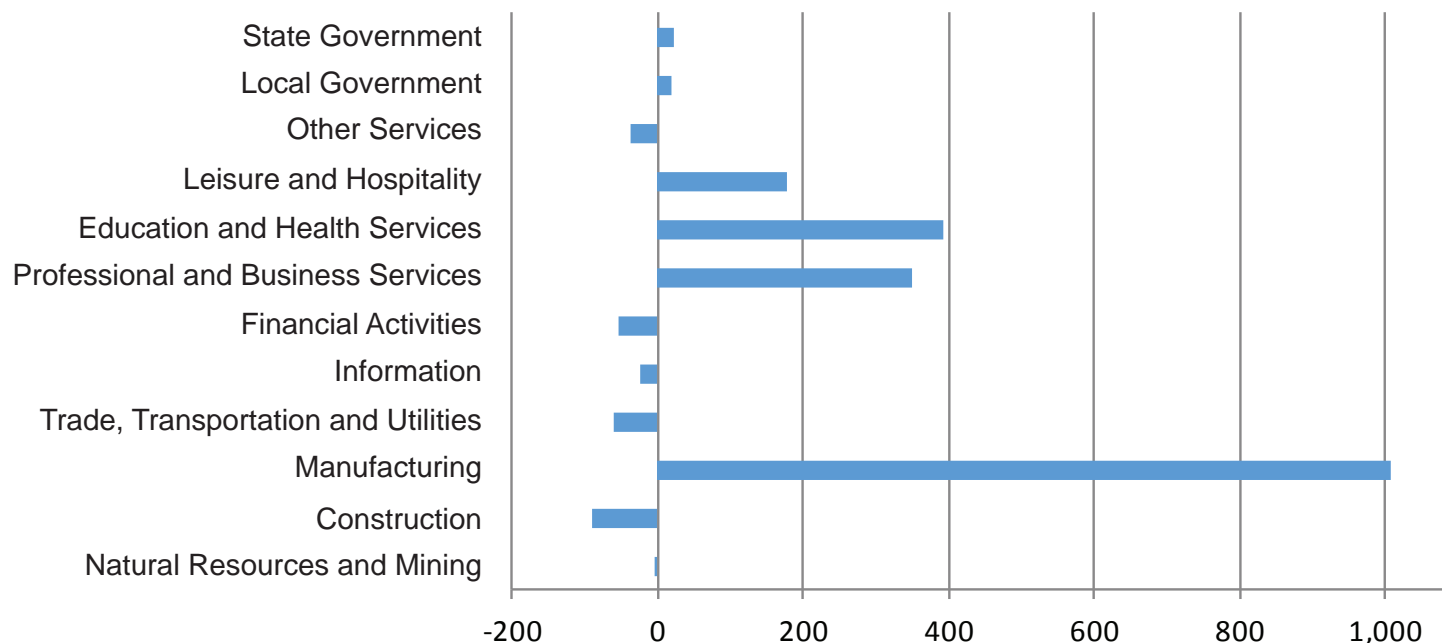
51-8093	Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators, & Gaugers	22	17	-5	-22.73%	1	2	-2	1
51-7042	Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Except Sawing	32	28	-4	-12.50%	1	2	-2	1
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	102	94	-8	-7.84%	5	6	-4	7
41-3031	Securities, Commodities, & Financial Services Sales Agents	39	36	-3	-7.69%	1	2	-2	1
29-2054	Respiratory Therapy Technicians	89	83	-6	-6.74%	3	4	-3	4
43-4151	Order Clerks	49	47	-2	-4.08%	2	3	-1	4
43-4071	File Clerks	69	67	-2	-2.90%	4	4	-1	7
43-3071	Tellers	595	580	-15	-2.52%	30	38	-8	60
43-2011	Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service	92	90	-2	-2.17%	6	6	-1	11
45-2092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	1,106	1,082	-24	-2.17%	40	124	-12	152

Northeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	98,755	100,455	1,700	1.72%	\$738
Natural Resources and Mining	2,191	2,190	-1	-0.05%	\$739
Construction	3,807	3,718	-89	-2.34%	\$874
Manufacturing	19,398	20,407	1,009	5.20%	\$999
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	19,493	19,432	-61	-0.31%	\$643
Information	704	679	-25	-3.55%	\$777
Financial Activities	3,236	3,181	-55	-1.70%	\$875
Professional and Business Services	7,101	7,452	351	4.94%	\$627
Education and Health Services	16,676	17,068	392	2.35%	\$814
Leisure and Hospitality	9,213	9,389	176	1.91%	\$280
Other Services	1,510	1,473	-37	-2.45%	\$604
Local Government	10,996	11,015	19	0.17%	\$678
State Government	4,430	4,451	21	0.47%	\$793

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population increased to 653,559 or by 12,883 in 2017. The area has seen an increase in population of 44,929 from 2013 to 2017. The Northwest Arkansas LWDA consists of nine counties: Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy, and Washington. The area borders two states, Missouri to the north and Oklahoma to the west. The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes McDonald County in Missouri, is located within this LWDA.

Northwest Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017 Northwest Arkansas Population Progression

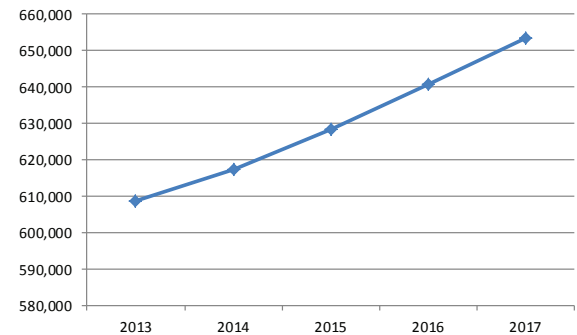
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
608,630	617,246	628,420	640,676	653,559

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation decreased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 14,080, a decrease of 405 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 384 higher for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires decreased in the second quarter of 2017 by 2,099 compared to the second quarter of 2016, but increased by 15,767 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations increased over the six-year period by 10,629 to 51,431 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate increased slightly between 2015 and 2016 to 9.2 percent.

Northwest Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	13,696	13,064	13,758	15,772	14,485	14,080
New Hires	39,486	45,820	50,229	56,198	57,352	55,253
Separations	40,802	41,787	44,846	49,052	51,650	51,431
Turnover	8.2%	8.4%	8.5%	8.8%	9.2%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

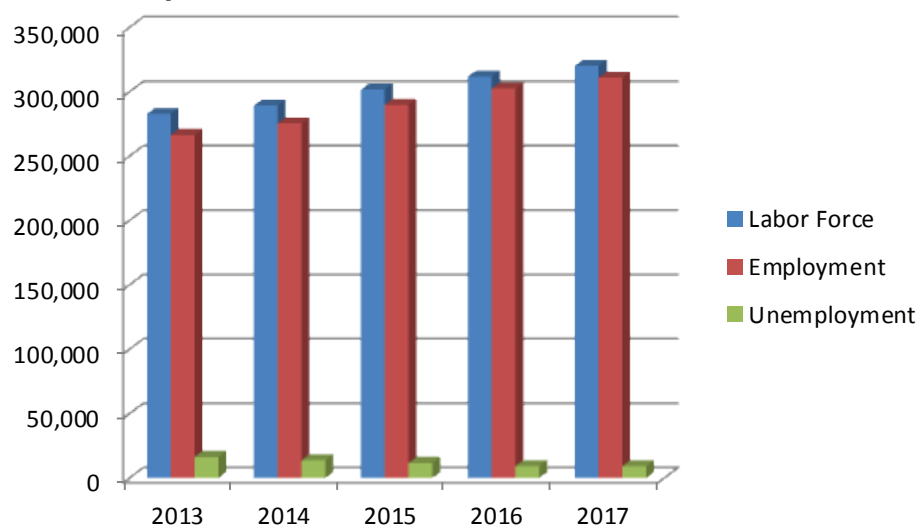


The Northwest Arkansas LWDA labor force and employment both increased from 2016 to 2017, with the labor force gaining 8,399 to 320,423 and employment increasing by 8,504 to 311,089. Unemployment decreased by 105 to 9,334 in 2017, and has seen a decline of 7,211 since 2013. The unemployment rate dropped from 2016 to 2017 by one-tenth of a percentage point to 2.9 percent. The area's unemployment rate decreased by a total of two and nine-tenths percentage points from 2013. The unemployment rate ended July 2018 at 2.9 percent.

Northwest Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	283,094	289,629	301,809	312,024	320,423
Employment	266,549	275,738	289,986	302,585	311,089
Unemployment	16,545	13,891	11,823	9,439	9,334
Unemployment Rate	5.8%	4.8%	3.9%	3.0%	2.9%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Northwest Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

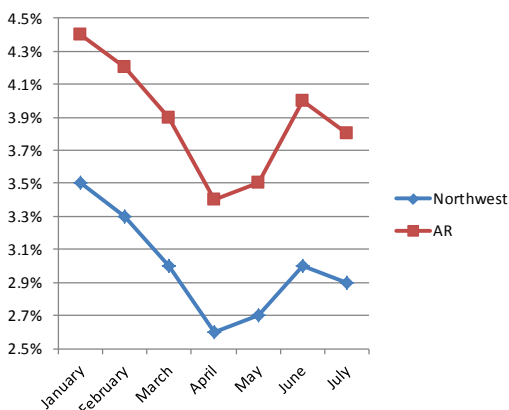
Year	Month	Northwest Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	3.5%	4.4%
2018	February	3.3%	4.2%
2018	March	3.0%	3.9%
2018	April	2.6%	3.4%
2018	May	2.7%	3.5%
2018	June	3.0%	4.0%
2018	July	2.9%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



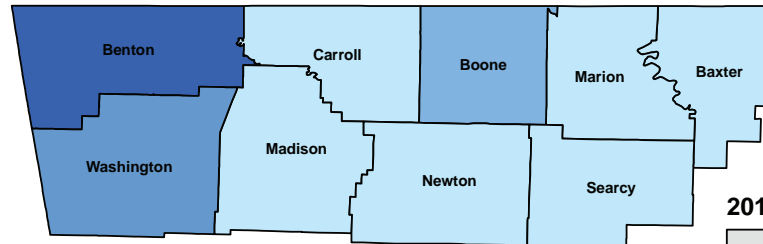
Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers

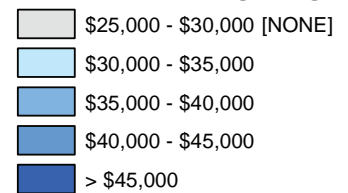
was estimated to have the most employees in Northwest Arkansas with 11,150 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$43,462.

Retail Salespersons was the second largest occupation with 10,050 employed, earning an average wage of \$25,535. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 5,280, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$93,283 annually.



**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

2017 Annual Average Wages



Surgeons topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$304,346. **Obstetricians and Gynecologists**, with an average annual salary of \$294,178, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$20,498 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$36,095, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$55,902 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 279,788 estimated employees in the area, 67,840 made more than \$25 an hour while 56,636 made less than \$10 an hour. Employees making between \$15 and \$19.99 totaled 48,812.

Northwest Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	11,150	\$43,462	\$33,550	\$48,418
Retail Salespersons	10,050	\$25,535	\$18,597	\$29,004
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	7,890	\$20,139	\$18,764	\$20,827
Cashiers	6,440	\$20,190	\$18,632	\$20,970
Office Clerks, General	6,150	\$29,031	\$20,171	\$33,461
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	5,730	\$25,612	\$20,892	\$27,972
General and Operations Managers	5,280	\$93,283	\$29,789	\$125,031
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	4,390	\$74,766	\$33,763	\$95,267
Registered Nurses	4,390	\$56,695	\$42,984	\$63,551
Waiters and Waitresses	4,270	\$19,605	\$18,726	\$20,045

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Northwest Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Surgeons	\$304,346
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$294,178
Internists, General	\$281,294
Psychiatrists	\$218,570
Nurse Anesthetists	\$213,110
Family and General Practitioners	\$205,053
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$196,347
Dentists, General	\$189,743
Compensation and Benefits Managers	\$167,166
Purchasing Managers	\$166,443
Training and Development Managers	\$164,220
Marketing Managers	\$160,549
Chief Executives	\$159,650
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$154,072
Natural Sciences Managers	\$153,807
History Teachers, Postsecondary	\$149,466
Public Relations and Fundraising Managers	\$148,885
Pediatricians, General	\$148,626
Human Resources Managers	\$146,062
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	\$144,093
Advertising and Promotions Managers	\$140,435
Sales Managers	\$140,183
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$138,951
Lawyers	\$138,579
Financial Managers	\$138,418

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

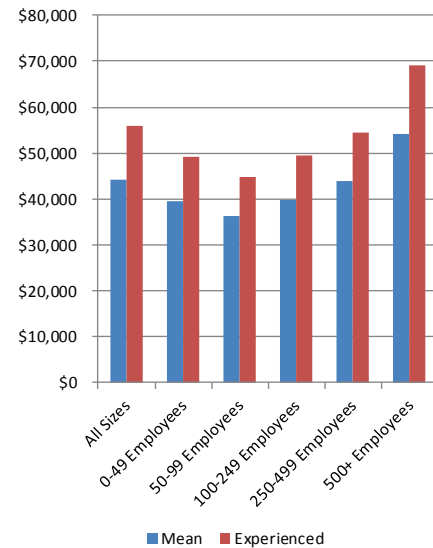


Northwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Northwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

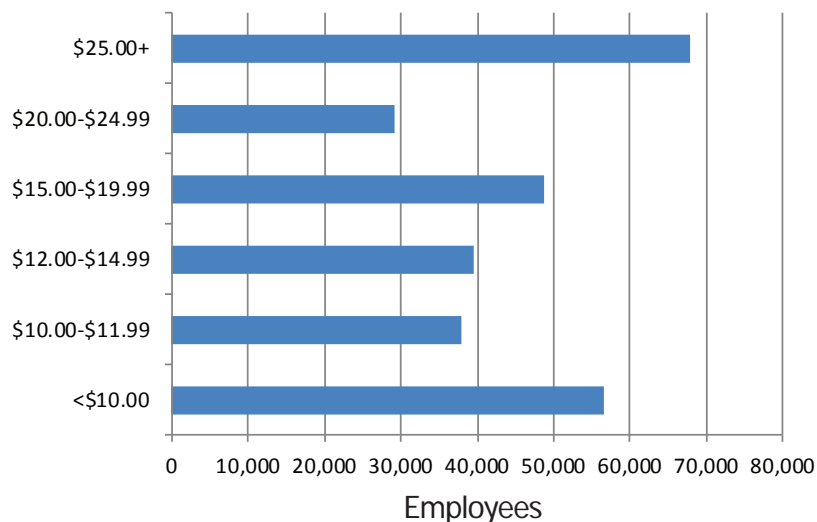
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$44,100	\$32,248	\$20,498	\$55,902
0-49 Employees	\$39,401	\$28,066	\$19,537	\$49,333
50-99 Employees	\$36,422	\$26,194	\$19,397	\$44,935
100-249 Employees	\$39,746	\$29,073	\$19,974	\$49,633
250-499 Employees	\$43,787	\$36,095	\$22,488	\$54,437
500+ Employees	\$54,168	\$40,035	\$24,024	\$69,240

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Northwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Northwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	279,788
<\$10.00	56,636
\$10.00-\$11.99	37,843
\$12.00-\$14.99	39,585
\$15.00-\$19.99	48,812
\$20.00-\$24.99	29,072
\$25.00+	67,840

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The Northwest Arkansas LWDA has the largest employment base in the state and is predicted to be the top growing area in the state, which provides job seekers with a variety of career choices among the many industries and occupations. This area is projected to gain 10,364 jobs, an increase of 3.35 percent between 2017 and 2019. Two industries are leading the state in numeric change. **Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services** and **Food Services and Drinking Places** are each predicted to be the top growing industry in the area with 875 new jobs anticipated for both industries. **Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry** is predicted to increase by 31.21 percent, making it the fastest growing industry in the area moving employment to 618. **Crop Production** is predicted to be the top declining industry with a loss of 120 jobs, bringing employment down to 790. **Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing** is projected to be the fastest declining industry with a loss of 18.49 percent of its workforce moving employment from 568 in 2017 to 463 in 2019. **Education and Health Services** is predicted to be the top growing supersector adding 2,360 new jobs increasing its workforce to 62,392.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	60,032	62,392	2,360	3.93%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	59,913	61,957	2,044	3.41%
102400	Professional and Business Services	47,899	49,855	1,956	4.08%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	28,272	29,416	1,144	4.05%
101300	Manufacturing	34,732	35,499	767	2.21%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	12,318	13,193	875	7.10%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	22,470	23,345	875	3.89%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	24,426	25,182	756	3.10%
611000	Educational Services	27,422	28,177	755	2.75%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	11,220	11,904	684	6.10%
311000	Food Manufacturing	15,843	16,385	542	3.42%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	7,935	8,451	516	6.50%
484000	Truck Transportation	11,732	12,193	461	3.93%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	5,553	5,972	419	7.55%
624000	Social Assistance	7,623	8,041	418	5.48%

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	471	618	147	31.21%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	360	443	83	23.06%
312000	Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	276	322	46	16.67%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	1,903	2,130	227	11.93%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	498	549	51	10.24%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	935	1,028	93	9.95%
481000	Air Transportation	306	334	28	9.15%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	461	501	40	8.68%
712000	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions	455	494	39	8.57%
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	1,855	2,001	146	7.87%

Top 10 Decline

111000	Crop Production	910	790	-120	-13.19%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	568	463	-105	-18.49%
814000	Private Households	647	566	-81	-12.52%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	921	854	-67	-7.27%
112000	Animal Production	1,836	1,770	-66	-3.59%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,379	1,319	-60	-4.35%
448000	Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	2,015	1,969	-46	-2.28%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	706	672	-34	-4.82%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1,618	1,587	-31	-1.92%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	1,909	1,882	-27	-1.41%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	568	463	-105	-18.49%
111000	Crop Production	910	790	-120	-13.19%
814000	Private Households	647	566	-81	-12.52%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	921	854	-67	-7.27%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	706	672	-34	-4.82%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,379	1,319	-60	-4.35%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	609	586	-23	-3.78%
112000	Animal Production	1,836	1,770	-66	-3.59%
517000	Telecommunications	699	679	-20	-2.86%
448000	Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	2,015	1,969	-46	-2.28%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



The Northwest Arkansas LWDA is projected to have 39,116 annual job openings of which 14,686 would be created from employees leaving the workforce, 19,248 from those changing jobs, and 5,182 from growth and expansion. **Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers** is estimated to drive growth adding 458 new jobs, making it the top growing occupation in Northwest Arkansas increasing employment to 12,182. **Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks** is predicted to be the fastest growing occupation raising employment 12.33 percent to a level of 328. **Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers** is forecast to be the top and fastest declining occupation losing 11.33 percent of its workforce, or 46 jobs, dropping to an employment of 360. **Office and Administrative Support Occupations** is expected to be the top growing major group with an increase of 1,055 new jobs moving employment from 40,213 in 2017 to 41,268 in 2019.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support Occupations	40,213	41,268	1,055	2.62%	2,074	2,438	528	5,040
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	26,686	27,692	1,006	3.77%	1,274	1,883	503	3,660
41-0000	Sales & Related Occupations	31,343	32,290	947	3.02%	1,934	2,418	474	4,826
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	24,220	25,156	936	3.86%	1,824	2,304	468	4,596
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations Occupations	17,770	18,533	763	4.29%	568	1,108	382	2,058

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	11,724	12,182	458	3.91%	507	751	229	1,487
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	6,770	7,131	361	5.33%	616	644	180	1,440
29-1141	Registered Nurses	4,361	4,595	234	5.37%	128	98	117	343
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	5,204	5,423	219	4.21%	110	317	110	537
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	2,985	3,197	212	7.10%	246	186	106	538
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	9,433	9,632	199	2.11%	604	756	100	1,460
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products	3,657	3,848	191	5.22%	124	252	96	472
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	4,788	4,959	171	3.57%	242	416	86	744
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	4,235	4,393	158	3.73%	281	272	79	632
21-2011	Clergy	1,932	2,088	156	8.07%	92	124	78	294

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	292	328	36	12.33%	13	18	18	49
39-7011	Tour Guides & Escorts	53	59	6	11.32%	5	4	3	12
15-2031	Operations Research Analysts	46	51	5	10.87%	1	2	2	5
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	604	669	65	10.76%	26	34	32	92
43-4181	Reservation & Transportation Ticket Agents & Travel Clerks	207	228	21	10.14%	10	13	10	33
53-3021	Bus Drivers, Transit & Intercity	79	87	8	10.13%	6	4	4	14
39-2011	Animal Trainers	150	165	15	10.00%	8	10	8	26
51-9023	Mixing & Blending Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	173	189	16	9.25%	6	14	8	28
15-1132	Software Developers, Applications	1,285	1,403	118	9.18%	18	66	59	143
17-3031	Surveying & Mapping Technicians	58	63	5	8.62%	2	4	2	8

Top 10 Decline

51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	406	360	-46	-11.33%	20	25	-23	22
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	13,592	13,557	-35	-0.26%	794	202	-18	978
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals	1,051	1,022	-29	-2.76%	38	118	-14	142
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, & Casting Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	569	547	-22	-3.87%	20	42	-11	51
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	301	289	-12	-3.99%	12	19	-6	25
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, & Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	120	111	-9	-7.50%	4	8	-4	8
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	455	446	-9	-1.98%	16	31	-4	43
51-2092	Team Assemblers	2,640	2,635	-5	-0.19%	112	191	-2	301
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	224	221	-3	-1.34%	12	14	-2	24
25-3011	Adult Basic & Secondary Education & Literacy Teachers & Instructors	48	46	-2	-4.17%	3	2	-1	4

Top 10 Fastest Decline

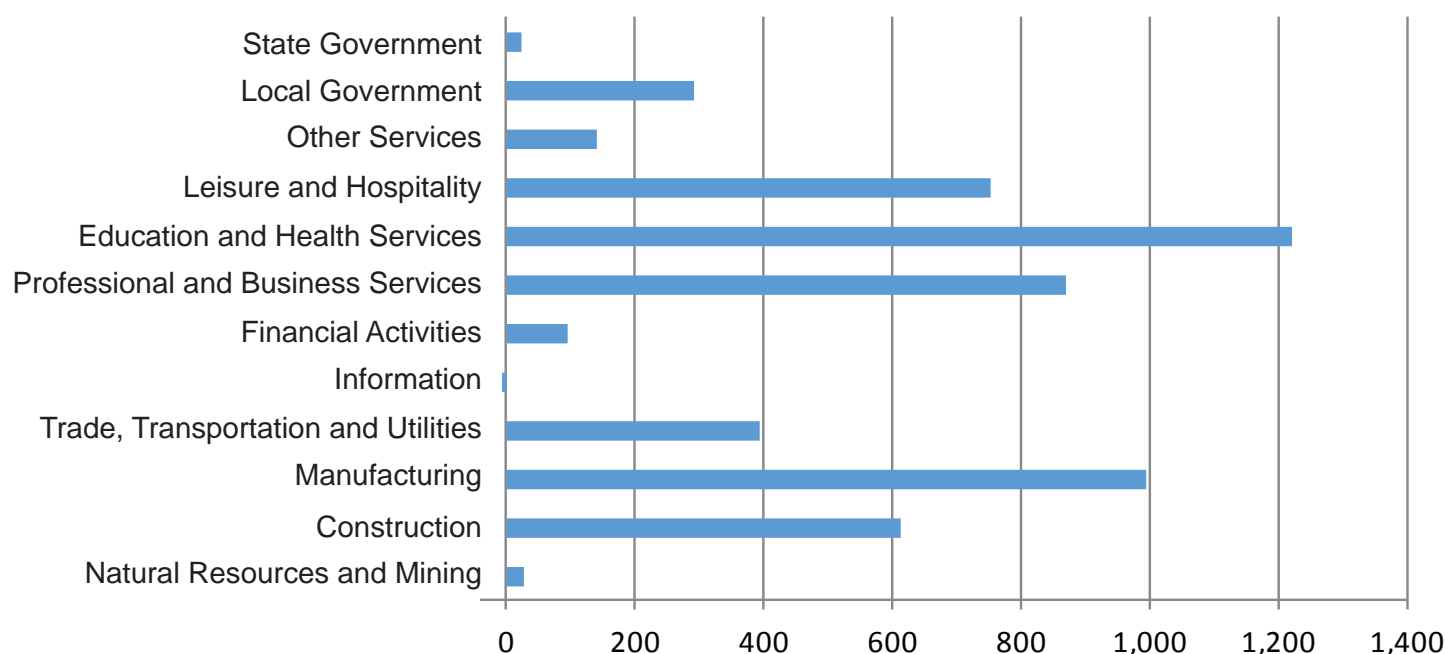
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	406	360	-46	-11.33%	20	25	-23	22
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, & Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	120	111	-9	-7.50%	4	8	-4	8
25-3011	Adult Basic & Secondary Education & Literacy Teachers & Instructors	48	46	-2	-4.17%	3	2	-1	4
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	301	289	-12	-3.99%	12	19	-6	25
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, & Casting Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	569	547	-22	-3.87%	20	42	-11	51
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals	1,051	1,022	-29	-2.76%	38	118	-14	142
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	455	446	-9	-1.98%	16	31	-4	43
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	224	221	-3	-1.34%	12	14	-2	24
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	13,592	13,557	-35	-0.26%	794	202	-18	978
51-2092	Team Assemblers	2,640	2,635	-5	-0.19%	112	191	-2	301

Northwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	263,761	269,179	5,418	2.05%	\$936
Natural Resources and Mining	1,422	1,451	29	2.04%	\$1,106
Construction	10,895	11,510	615	5.64%	\$912
Manufacturing	34,414	35,408	994	2.89%	\$780
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	60,008	60,401	393	0.65%	\$836
Information	2,451	2,445	-6	-0.24%	\$995
Financial Activities	9,125	9,219	94	1.03%	\$1,003
Professional and Business Services	47,666	48,536	870	1.83%	\$1,720
Education and Health Services	33,122	34,343	1,221	3.69%	\$809
Leisure and Hospitality	29,187	29,940	753	2.58%	\$324
Other Services	4,848	4,988	140	2.89%	\$621
Local Government	21,849	22,142	293	1.34%	\$787
State Government	8,774	8,796	22	0.25%	\$980

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

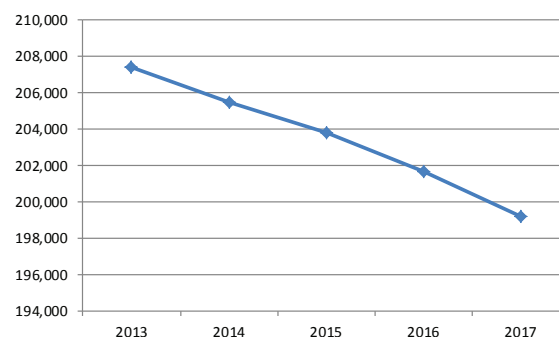
The Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population decreased by 2,469 from 2016 to 199,189 in 2017. The area has seen a decline in population of 8,238 from 2013 to 2017. The Southeast Arkansas LWDA includes the Pine Bluff Metropolitan Statistical Area and 10 counties: Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, and Lincoln. Louisiana and Mississippi border the area.

Southeast LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
207,427	205,458	203,787	201,658	199,189

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Southeast Arkansas Population Progression



State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation decreased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 3,115, a decrease of 266 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 91 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires increased in the second quarter of 2017 by 334 compared to the second quarter of 2016 and increased by 2,683 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations decreased over the six-year period by 74 to 12,613 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate decreased slightly between 2015 and 2016 to 8.2 percent.

Southeast Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	3,206	3,397	3,702	3,864	3,381	3,115
New Hires	9,974	12,025	12,128	12,802	12,323	12,657
Separations	12,687	12,369	11,448	11,896	12,015	12,613
Turnover	7.9%	8.0%	7.9%	8.3%	8.2%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

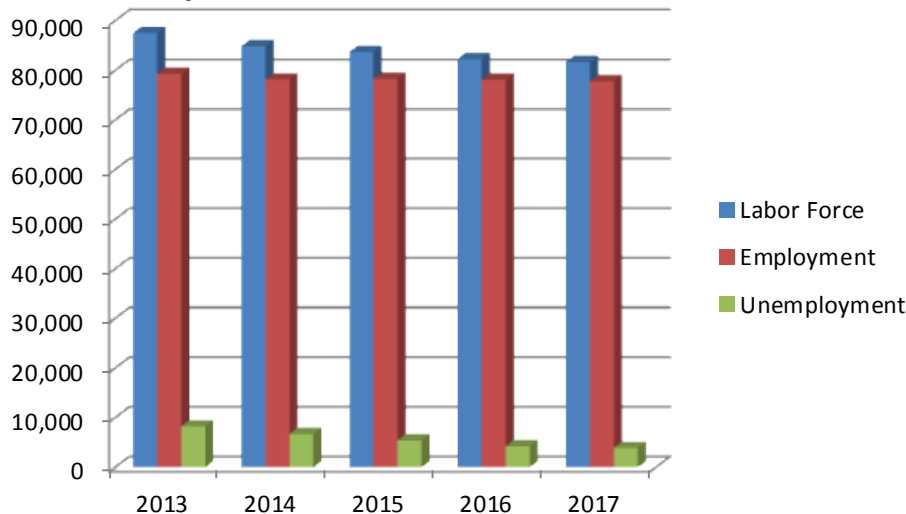


Southeast Arkansas saw a decrease in the labor force of 637 to 81,673 from 2016 to 2017, and employment decreased by 283 to 77,801 for the same time period. Both the labor force and employment have decreased since 2013 by 5,872 and 1,506 respectively. Unemployment decreased by 354 to 3,872 from 2016 to 2017 and the unemployment rate dropped to 4.7 percent in 2017. After climbing to 5.6 percent in January 2018, the unemployment rate fell eight-tenths of a percentage point to settle at 4.8 percent in July 2018.

Southeast Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	87,545	84,875	83,726	82,310	81,673
Employment	79,307	78,159	78,297	78,084	77,801
Unemployment	8,238	6,716	5,429	4,226	3,872
Unemployment Rate	9.4%	7.9%	6.5%	5.1%	4.7%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Southeast Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

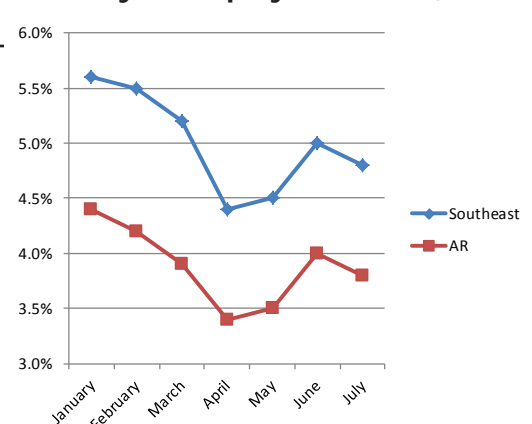
Year	Month	Southeast Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	5.6%	4.4%
2018	February	5.5%	4.2%
2018	March	5.2%	3.9%
2018	April	4.4%	3.4%
2018	May	4.5%	3.5%
2018	June	5.0%	4.0%
2018	July	4.8%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018

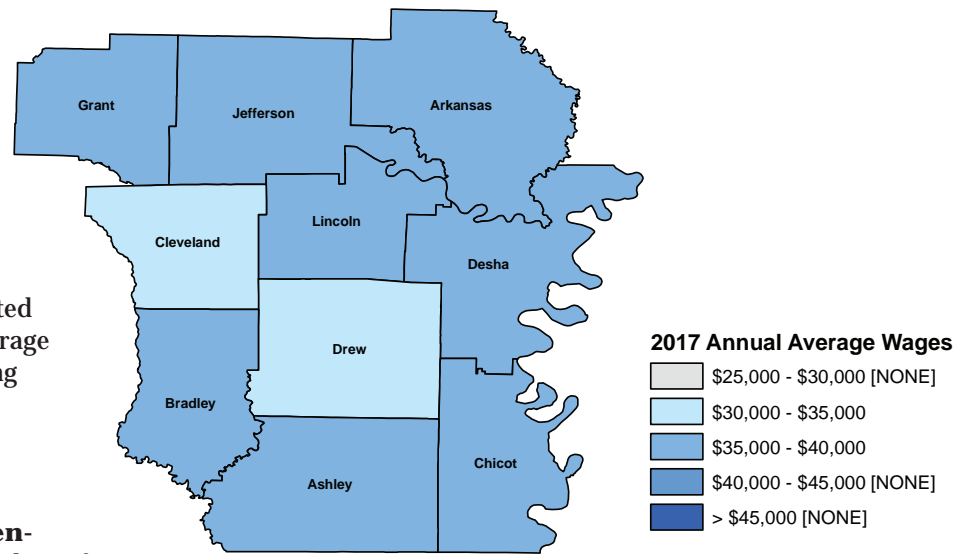


Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food was estimated to have the most employees in Southeast Arkansas with 2,310 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$19,240. **Cashiers** was the second largest occupation with 1,970 employed, earning an average wage of \$19,418. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 1,140, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$73,284 annually.

Physicians and Surgeons, All Other topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$250,361. **Dentists, General**, with an average annual salary of \$184,883, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.



**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$19,910 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$33,102, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$45,359 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 69,267 estimated employees in the area, 17,615 made less than \$10 an hour while 13,138 made \$15 to \$19.99 an hour. Employees making more than \$25 an hour totaled 11,543.

Southeast Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,310	\$19,240	\$18,740	\$19,490
Cashiers	1,970	\$19,418	\$18,634	\$19,810
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,810	\$25,110	\$20,396	\$27,468
Office Clerks, General	1,710	\$27,149	\$19,662	\$30,893
Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,640	\$35,055	\$29,203	\$37,981
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,570	\$40,242	\$29,242	\$45,742
Retail Salespersons	1,560	\$24,886	\$18,599	\$28,029
Assemblers and fabricators, all other, including team assemblers	1,520	\$27,026	\$20,534	\$30,273
Personal Care Aides	1,190	\$19,844	\$18,720	\$20,406
General and Operations Managers	1,140	\$73,284	\$34,946	\$92,453

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Southeast Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$250,361
Dentists, General	\$184,883
Family and General Practitioners	\$180,155
Marketing Managers	\$128,270
Pharmacists	\$125,220
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	\$123,738
Sales Managers	\$115,928
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$112,981
Nurse Practitioners	\$105,639
Chief Executives	\$103,444
Chemists	\$102,918
Microbiologists	\$99,778
Physical Therapists	\$97,824
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$95,801
Industrial Production Managers	\$95,311
Chemical Engineers	\$93,922
Financial Analysts	\$91,089
Civil Engineers	\$91,037
Electrical Engineers	\$88,079
Purchasing Managers	\$87,060
Administrative Services Managers	\$85,922
Mechanical Engineers	\$85,231
Education Administrators, All Other	\$85,203
Biological Scientists, All Other	\$85,147
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$83,083

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

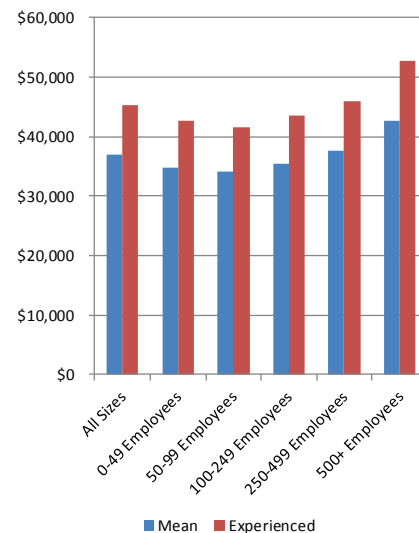


Southeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Southeast Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

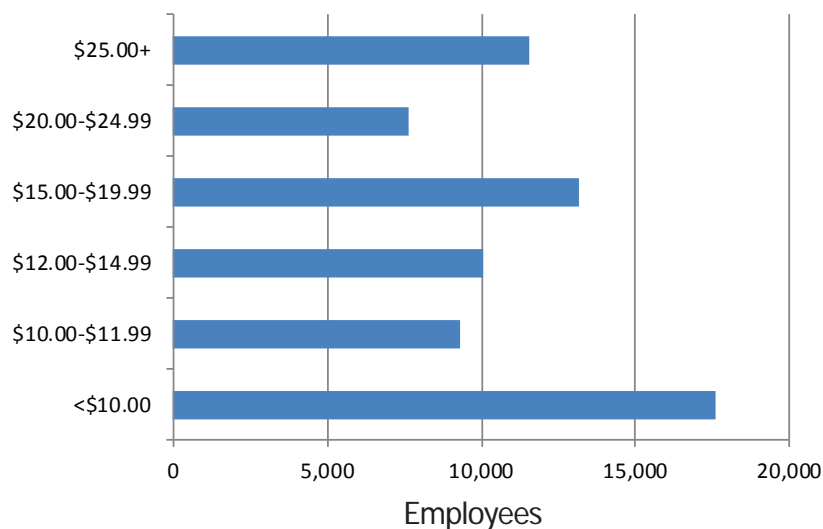
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$36,876	\$29,723	\$19,910	\$45,359
0-49 Employees	\$34,794	\$25,687	\$18,955	\$42,714
50-99 Employees	\$34,164	\$27,030	\$19,507	\$41,493
100-249 Employees	\$35,459	\$28,483	\$19,484	\$43,466
250-499 Employees	\$37,578	\$33,102	\$20,667	\$46,033
500+ Employees	\$42,745	\$35,734	\$22,799	\$52,718

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Southeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Southeast Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	69,267
<\$10.00	17,615
\$10.00-\$11.99	9,300
\$12.00-\$14.99	10,045
\$15.00-\$19.99	13,138
\$20.00-\$24.99	7,626
\$25.00+	11,543

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The Southeast Arkansas LWDA is expected to gain only 225 new jobs between 2017 and 2019. **Food Manufacturing** is predicted to be the top growing industry, adding 211 new jobs to its workforce, bringing its employment to 3,826. **Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries** could raise employment by 15.96 percent to an employment level of 218. On the negative side of the local labor market, **Paper Manufacturing** is anticipated to lose 216 jobs becoming the top declining industry, moving employment from 3,173 in 2017 to 2,957 in 2019. **Private Households** is estimated to be the fastest declining industry with a loss of 32.12 percent of its workforce driving employment down to 131. **Education and Health Services** is projected to be the top growing supersector with a gain of 211 new jobs between 2017 and 2019 bringing its job level up to 19,615.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	19,404	19,615	211	1.09%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	4,511	4,716	205	4.54%
102400	Professional and Business Services	3,354	3,530	176	5.25%
102800	Government	8,649	8,691	42	0.49%
101200	Construction	2,055	2,080	25	1.22%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
311000	Food Manufacturing	3,615	3,826	211	5.84%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	3,915	4,080	165	4.21%
622000	Hospitals	3,089	3,238	149	4.82%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	2,050	2,166	116	5.66%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	715	797	82	11.47%
624000	Social Assistance	3,201	3,266	65	2.03%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	2,205	2,263	58	2.63%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	409	464	55	13.45%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,769	2,822	53	1.91%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,396	1,446	50	3.58%

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	188	218	30	15.96%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	409	464	55	13.45%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	715	797	82	11.47%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	101	110	9	8.91%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	128	136	8	6.25%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	556	589	33	5.94%
311000	Food Manufacturing	3,615	3,826	211	5.84%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	2,050	2,166	116	5.66%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	520	547	27	5.19%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	357	375	18	5.04%

Top 10 Decline

322000	Paper Manufacturing	3,173	2,957	-216	-6.81%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	794	703	-91	-11.46%
814000	Private Households	193	131	-62	-32.12%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	1,237	1,176	-61	-4.93%
236000	Construction of Buildings	421	371	-50	-11.88%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,410	1,363	-47	-3.33%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	1,590	1,556	-34	-2.14%
111000	Crop Production	1,153	1,120	-33	-2.86%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	1,602	1,570	-32	-2.00%
447000	Gasoline Stations	783	756	-27	-3.45%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

814000	Private Households	193	131	-62	-32.12%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	141	118	-23	-16.31%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	74	62	-12	-16.22%
236000	Construction of Buildings	421	371	-50	-11.88%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	794	703	-91	-11.46%
451000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores	173	157	-16	-9.25%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	3,173	2,957	-216	-6.81%
812000	Personal and Laundry Services	370	347	-23	-6.22%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	129	121	-8	-6.20%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	243	228	-15	-6.17%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Southeast Arkansas LWDA employment is expected to increase by just 0.28 percent between 2017 and 2019, the slowest in the state among growing LWDA's. There are 8,853 job openings projected to be available annually during the projection period. Of these, 3,818 would be from employees leaving the workforce, while 4,923 could be created from those changing jobs. Another 112 jobs would be connected to growth and expansion.

Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food, is estimated to be the top growing occupation adding 89 new jobs to an employment level of 1,871. At 12.50 percent, **Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists** is anticipated to be the fastest growing occupation in the Area. On the negative side of the local economy, **Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers** is projected to be the top declining occupation with a loss of 75 jobs, moving employment down to 5,087. **Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians** is expected to lose 10.74 percent of its workforce during the projection period moving employment from 121 in 2017 to 108 in 2019. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is projected to be the top and fastest growing major group gaining 164 jobs during the projection period, a 3.34 percent rise in employment, bringing its employment to 5,079.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	4,915	5,079	164	3.34%	368	450	82	900
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	4,323	4,457	134	3.10%	120	122	67	309
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	6,591	6,664	73	1.11%	316	462	36	814
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	2,746	2,790	44	1.60%	164	144	22	330
37-0000	Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations	2,339	2,363	24	1.03%	144	151	12	307

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,782	1,871	89	4.99%	162	169	44	375
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,134	1,185	51	4.50%	33	25	26	84
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,131	1,169	38	3.36%	92	69	19	180
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	1,611	1,643	32	1.99%	80	139	16	235
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	818	843	25	3.06%	22	65	12	99
31-1011	Home Health Aides	795	819	24	3.02%	49	41	12	102
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,238	1,260	22	1.78%	54	90	11	155
53-7051	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	604	626	22	3.64%	22	46	11	79
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	457	478	21	4.60%	34	53	10	97
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	368	388	20	5.43%	22	30	10	62

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
13-1161	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	40	45	5	12.50%	1	3	2	6
29-1126	Respiratory Therapists	70	76	6	8.57%	2	2	3	7
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	102	108	6	5.88%	2	3	3	8
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	215	227	12	5.58%	7	10	6	23
43-5061	Production, Planning, & Expediting Clerks	145	153	8	5.52%	5	10	4	19
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	368	388	20	5.43%	22	30	10	62
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	153	161	8	5.23%	4	10	4	18
51-9021	Crushing, Grinding, & Polishing Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	98	103	5	5.10%	4	8	2	14
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,782	1,871	89	4.99%	162	169	44	375
29-1051	Pharmacists	174	182	8	4.60%	4	4	4	12

Top 10 Decline

11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	5,162	5,087	-75	-1.45%	300	76	-38	338
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	1,361	1,322	-39	-2.87%	72	70	-20	122
41-2011	Cashiers	2,230	2,193	-37	-1.66%	208	202	-18	392
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	601	567	-34	-5.66%	21	38	-17	42
39-9011	Childcare Workers	723	702	-21	-2.90%	58	44	-10	92
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	482	463	-19	-3.94%	35	26	-10	51
33-3012	Correctional Officers & Jailers	1,550	1,532	-18	-1.16%	54	70	-9	115
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,614	1,597	-17	-1.05%	94	92	-8	178
43-3071	Tellers	360	344	-16	-4.44%	18	22	-8	32
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	569	553	-16	-2.81%	24	43	-8	59

Top 10 Fastest Decline

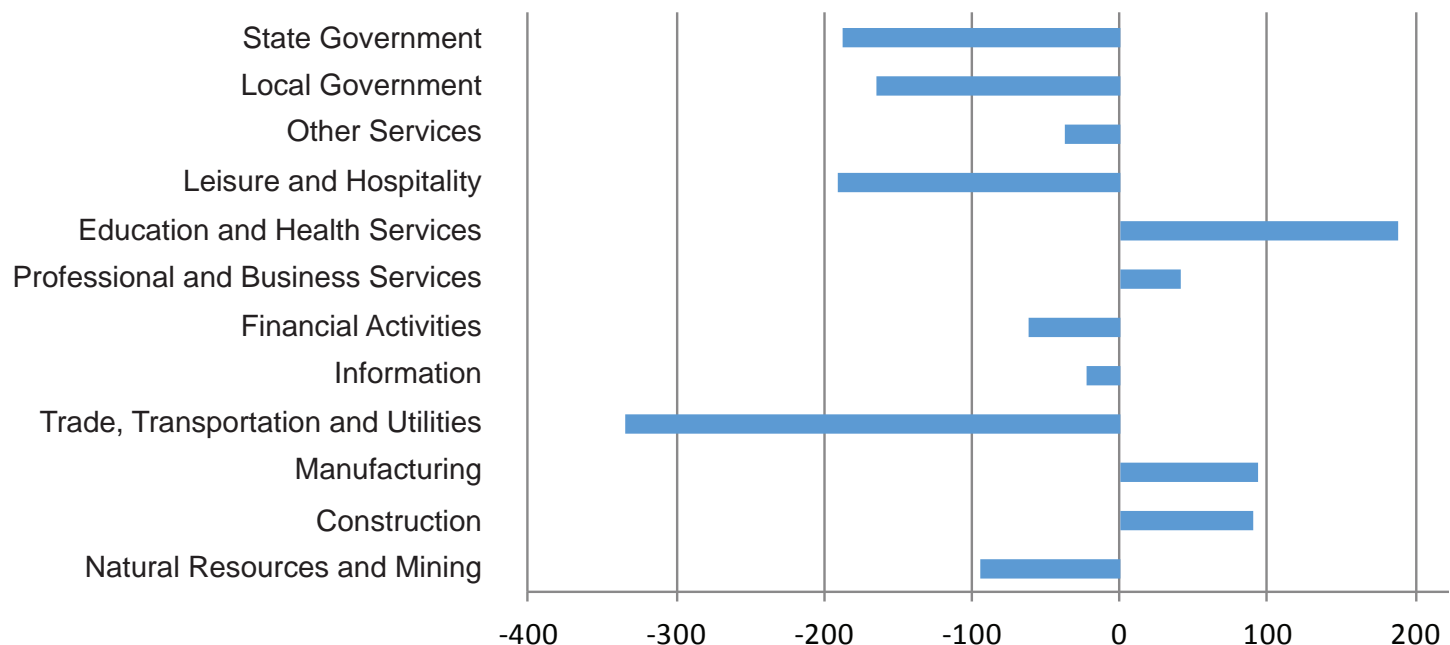
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics & Service Technicians	121	108	-13	-10.74%	4	7	-6	5
51-8021	Stationary Engineers & Boiler Operators	130	121	-9	-6.92%	4	9	-4	9
51-9023	Mixing & Blending Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	162	151	-11	-6.79%	6	12	-6	12
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators & Tenders	192	179	-13	-6.77%	5	14	-6	13
51-6011	Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Workers	92	86	-6	-6.52%	6	6	-3	9
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	601	567	-34	-5.66%	21	38	-17	42
51-9041	Extruding, Forming, Pressing, & Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	147	139	-8	-5.44%	6	12	-4	14
45-4022	Logging Equipment Operators	103	98	-5	-4.85%	4	9	-2	11
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	176	168	-8	-4.55%	10	9	-4	15
43-3071	Tellers	360	344	-16	-4.44%	18	22	-8	32

Southeast Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	68,486	67,807	-679	-0.99%	\$722
Natural Resources and Mining	2,385	2,291	-94	-3.94%	\$772
Construction	2,075	2,166	91	4.39%	\$836
Manufacturing	14,292	14,385	93	0.65%	\$963
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	12,331	11,996	-335	-2.72%	\$643
Information	302	279	-23	-7.62%	\$774
Financial Activities	2,406	2,344	-62	-2.58%	\$844
Professional and Business Services	3,374	3,415	41	1.22%	\$736
Education and Health Services	10,791	10,980	189	1.75%	\$665
Leisure and Hospitality	4,656	4,466	-190	-4.08%	\$264
Other Services	1,184	1,147	-37	-3.13%	\$589
Local Government	8,662	8,498	-164	-1.89%	\$662
State Government	6,028	5,840	-188	-3.12%	\$744

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area's (LWDA) population decreased by 898 from 2016 to 223,570 in 2017. The area has seen a decline in population over the 2013-2017 period, losing 4,853 residents since 2013. Southwest Arkansas is the largest LWDA 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.

Southwest Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
228,423	226,905	225,802	224,468	223,570

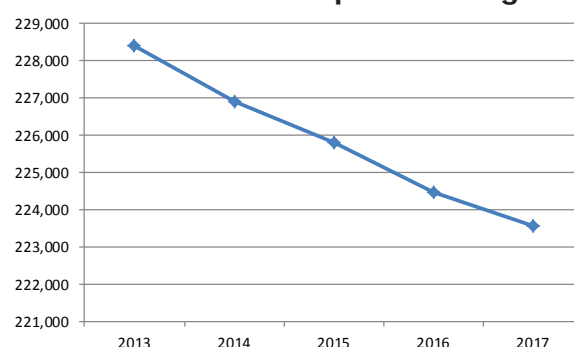
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Southwest Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation decreased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 3,248, a decrease of 236 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 1,256 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires decreased in the second quarter of 2017 by 109 compared to the second quarter of 2016, but increased by 819 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations decreased over the six-year period by 633 to 13,813 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate increased slightly between 2015 and 2016 to 8.1 percent.

Southwest Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	4,504	3,239	3,296	3,780	3,484	3,248
New Hires	12,563	12,418	13,651	13,890	13,491	13,382
Separations	14,446	12,717	13,538	13,310	13,179	13,813
Turnover	8.5%	7.6%	7.9%	7.8%	8.1%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

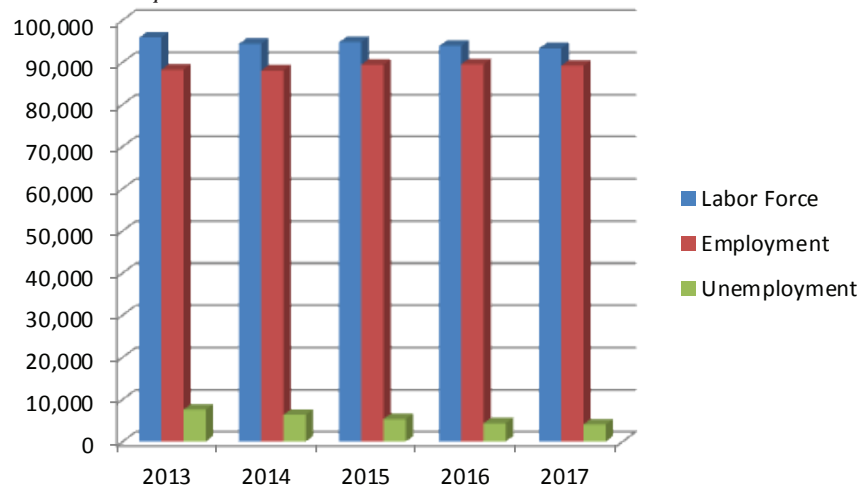


The Southwest Arkansas LWDA labor force decreased from 2016 to 2017 by 582 to 93,377, while employment decreased by 344 to 89,236. Over the five-year period from 2013 to 2017, the area has seen a decrease of 2,555 in the labor force and an increase of 952 in employment. Unemployment decreased by 238 from 2016 to 2017 and by 3,507 over the five-year period. In turn, the unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point from 2016 to 2017 to 4.4 percent. After various fluctuations in the unemployment rate during 2018, the rate settled back to 5.0 percent in July 2018.

Southwest Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	95,932	94,494	94,839	93,959	93,377
Employment	88,284	88,098	89,456	89,580	89,236
Unemployment	7,648	6,396	5,383	4,379	4,141
Unemployment Rate	8.0%	6.8%	5.7%	4.7%	4.4%

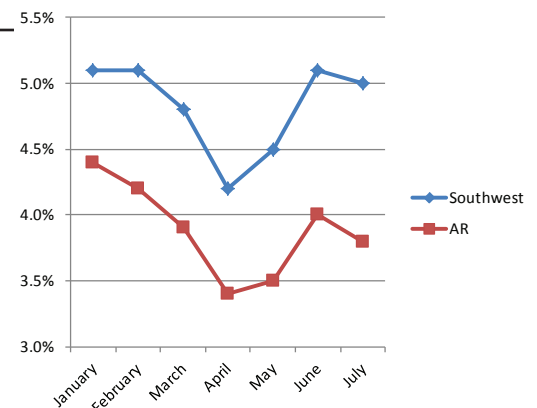
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Southwest Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

Year	Month	Southwest Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	5.1%	4.4%
2018	February	5.1%	4.2%
2018	March	4.8%	3.9%
2018	April	4.2%	3.4%
2018	May	4.5%	3.5%
2018	June	5.1%	4.0%
2018	July	5.0%†	3.8%†

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

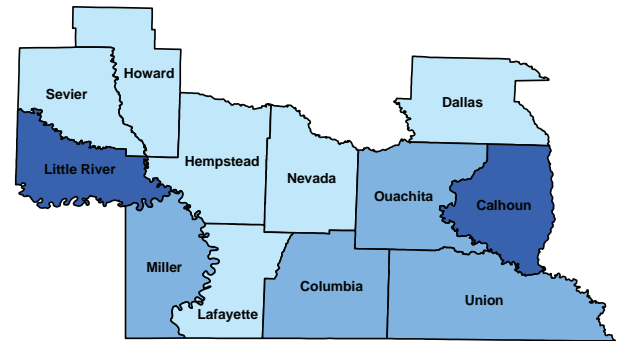
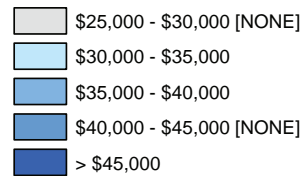
†Preliminary

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Cashiers was estimated to have the most employees in Southwest Arkansas with 2,850 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$19,184. **Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers** was the second largest occupation with 2,620 employed, earning an average wage of \$38,655. **Registered Nurses**, with an estimated employment of 1,160, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$55,611 annually.

2017 Annual Average Wages



*Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey

Physicians and Surgeons, All Other topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$228,738. **Dentists, General**, with an average annual salary of \$201,275, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$19,893 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$34,049, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$46,062 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 77,828 estimated employees in the area, 19,891 made less than \$10 an hour while 14,157 made more than \$25 an hour. Employees making between \$15 and \$19.99 totaled 12,718.

Southwest Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	2,850	\$19,184	\$18,594	\$19,479
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,620	\$38,655	\$23,032	\$46,467
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,450	\$19,259	\$18,742	\$19,518
Office Clerks, General	2,210	\$26,754	\$19,221	\$30,521
Retail Salespersons	1,910	\$24,258	\$18,588	\$27,093
Assemblers and fabricators, all other, including team assemblers	1,890	\$31,629	\$21,690	\$36,598
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,840	\$27,350	\$20,423	\$30,814
Nursing Assistants	1,710	\$22,759	\$19,381	\$24,449
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,350	\$36,202	\$29,347	\$39,629
Registered Nurses	1,160	\$55,611	\$41,271	\$62,780

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Southwest Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$228,738
Dentists, General	\$201,275
Family and General Practitioners	\$191,515
Pharmacists	\$131,985
Marketing Managers	\$129,251
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$123,736
Petroleum Engineers	\$114,180
Sales Managers	\$109,451
Industrial Production Managers	\$100,352
Nurse Practitioners	\$99,623
Optometrists	\$99,598
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$96,451
Environmental Engineers	\$95,371
Veterinarians	\$94,699
Occupational Therapists	\$93,975
Computer Programmers	\$92,739
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$91,415
Engineers, All Other	\$91,161
Chemical Engineers	\$88,107
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$86,349
Purchasing Managers	\$86,121
Human Resources Managers	\$86,050
Computer Systems Analysts	\$84,469
Software Developers, Applications	\$84,242
Health and Safety Engineers, Except Mining Safety Engineers and Inspectors	\$84,072

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

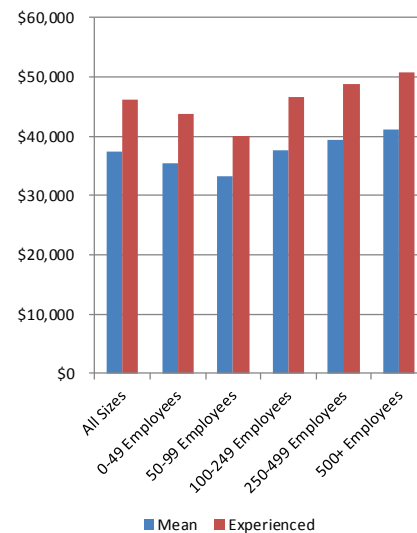


Southwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Southwest Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

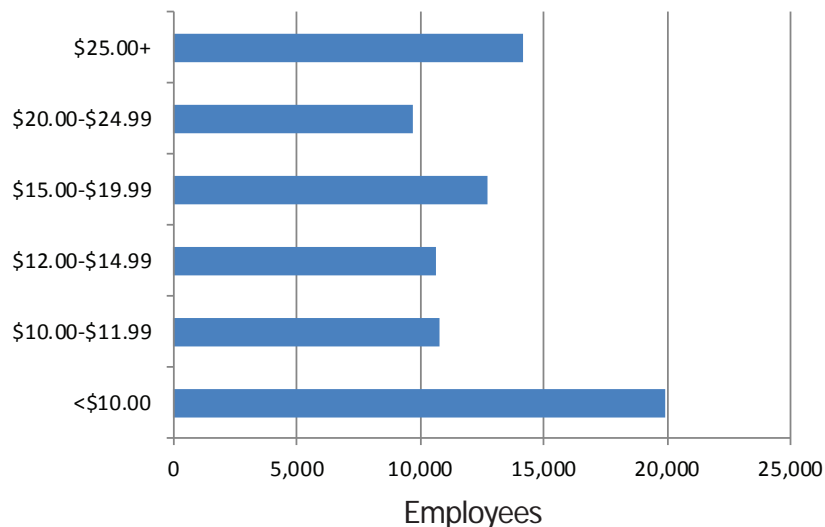
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$37,339	\$29,703	\$19,893	\$46,062
0-49 Employees	\$35,493	\$26,031	\$18,872	\$43,803
50-99 Employees	\$33,309	\$27,069	\$19,620	\$40,153
100-249 Employees	\$37,642	\$30,590	\$19,914	\$46,506
250-499 Employees	\$39,374	\$34,049	\$20,330	\$48,896
500+ Employees	\$41,109	\$35,238	\$21,728	\$50,800

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Southwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Southwest Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	77,828
<\$10.00	19,891
\$10.00-\$11.99	10,752
\$12.00-\$14.99	10,639
\$15.00-\$19.99	12,718
\$20.00-\$24.99	9,671
\$25.00+	14,157

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Food Services and Drinking Places is estimated to be the top growing industry in Southwest Arkansas adding 191 jobs during the projection period bringing employment to 4,813. **Support Activities for Transportation** is slated to be the fastest growing industry with an anticipated increase of 37.71 percent moving employment from 236 in 2017 to 325 in 2019. **Transportation Equipment Manufacturing** is projected to lose almost 75 percent of its workforce, or 256 jobs, making it the top and fastest declining industry dropping its employment below 100. **Education and Health Services** is estimated to be the top growing supersector with 306 new jobs moving its employment to 18,754.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	18,448	18,754	306	1.66%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	5,552	5,737	185	3.33%
102400	Professional and Business Services	4,350	4,508	158	3.63%
102800	Government	5,938	6,032	94	1.58%
102200	Information	505	519	14	2.77%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	4,622	4,813	191	4.13%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,895	3,014	119	4.11%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,216	3,307	91	2.83%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	236	325	89	37.71%
311000	Food Manufacturing	4,493	4,578	85	1.89%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	2,481	2,562	81	3.26%
611000	Educational Services	8,340	8,421	81	0.97%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	3,096	3,168	72	2.33%
999300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,419	3,489	70	2.05%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	567	633	66	11.64%

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	236	325	89	37.71%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	567	633	66	11.64%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	422	463	41	9.72%
511000	Publishing Industries (except Internet)	230	252	22	9.57%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	280	299	19	6.79%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	1,102	1,158	56	5.08%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	4,622	4,813	191	4.13%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,895	3,014	119	4.11%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	2,481	2,562	81	3.26%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,216	3,307	91	2.83%

Top 10 Decline

336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	343	87	-256	-74.64%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,246	1,160	-86	-6.90%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	2,157	2,075	-82	-3.80%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	433	369	-64	-14.78%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,199	2,135	-64	-2.91%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	227	167	-60	-26.43%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	2,747	2,691	-56	-2.04%
111000	Crop Production	468	416	-52	-11.11%
814000	Private Households	353	302	-51	-14.45%
622000	Hospitals	1,768	1,725	-43	-2.43%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	343	87	-256	-74.64%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	227	167	-60	-26.43%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	433	369	-64	-14.78%
814000	Private Households	353	302	-51	-14.45%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	95	82	-13	-13.68%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	103	89	-14	-13.59%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	169	149	-20	-11.83%
111000	Crop Production	468	416	-52	-11.11%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	108	96	-12	-11.11%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	140	125	-15	-10.71%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Between 2017 and 2019, Southwest Arkansas LWDA employers are estimated to have 9,756 job openings annually. The area is forecast to have 4,314 annual openings due to employees leaving the workforce and 5,559 due to those changing jobs. Job openings could be reduced by the loss of 117 annually. **Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food** is predicted to add 96 to the labor market between 2017 and 2019 bringing its employment to 2,321. **Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance** is predicted to be the fastest growing occupation, increasing employment by 7.35 percent to a job level of 73. **Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers** is slated to be the top declining occupation with a loss of 119 jobs, dropping employment to 5,732, but **Roustabouts, Oil and Gas** is expected to be the fastest declining occupation with a 15.84 percent drop in its workforce moving its employment level below 100. **Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations** is projected to be the top and fastest growing major group adding 192 new jobs, an increase of 3.35 percent moving its employment to 5,921.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	5,729	5,921	192	3.35%	430	542	96	1,068
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	8,923	9,064	141	1.58%	430	632	70	1,132
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	2,326	2,390	64	2.75%	139	125	32	296
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library Occupations	5,597	5,656	59	1.05%	221	226	30	477
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	4,012	4,066	54	1.35%	116	110	27	253

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,225	2,321	96	4.31%	202	210	48	460
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	2,013	2,069	56	2.78%	101	174	28	303
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,209	1,256	47	3.89%	98	74	24	196
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,265	3,301	36	1.10%	139	206	18	363
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	1,024	1,057	33	3.22%	77	118	16	211
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	1,384	1,414	30	2.17%	85	70	15	170
29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,223	1,248	25	2.04%	44	43	12	99
31-1011	Home Health Aides	444	463	19	4.28%	28	23	10	61
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	475	494	19	4.00%	28	39	10	77
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, & Fish Cutters & Trimmers	729	744	15	2.06%	33	56	8	97

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
43-5032	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, & Ambulance	68	73	5	7.35%	2	4	2	8
53-1021	First-Line Supervisors of Helpers, Laborers, & Material Movers, Hand	89	95	6	6.74%	3	6	3	12
53-1031	First-Line Supervisors of Transportation & Material-Moving Machine and Vehicle Operators	210	222	12	5.71%	7	15	6	28
29-1123	Physical Therapists	88	93	5	5.68%	2	2	2	6
53-7081	Refuse & Recyclable Material Collectors	142	149	7	4.93%	6	10	4	20
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,225	2,321	96	4.31%	202	210	48	460
31-1011	Home Health Aides	444	463	19	4.28%	28	23	10	61
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	475	494	19	4.00%	28	39	10	77
11-9051	Food Service Managers	126	131	5	3.97%	4	10	2	16
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,209	1,256	47	3.89%	98	74	24	196

Top 10 Decline

11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	5,851	5,732	-119	-2.03%	338	86	-60	364
41-2011	Cashiers	2,635	2,582	-53	-2.01%	245	239	-26	458
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,105	1,056	-49	-4.43%	46	78	-24	100
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,854	1,806	-48	-2.59%	116	145	-24	237
45-2092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	433	393	-40	-9.24%	15	47	-20	42
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	1,420	1,381	-39	-2.75%	76	74	-20	130
21-2011	Clergy	753	729	-24	-3.19%	34	46	-12	68
39-9011	Childcare Workers	761	740	-21	-2.76%	62	46	-10	98
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, & Casting Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	202	181	-21	-10.40%	7	14	-10	11
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	566	546	-20	-3.53%	23	42	-10	55

Top 10 Fastest Decline

47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	101	85	-16	-15.84	3	8	-8	3
53-7073	Wellhead Pumpers	41	36	-5	-12.2	2	3	-2	3
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, & Casting Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	202	181	-21	-10.4	7	14	-10	11
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining	161	145	-16	-9.94	4	14	-8	10
45-2092	Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	433	393	-40	-9.24	15	47	-20	42
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	212	196	-16	-7.55	8	14	-8	14
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	125	116	-9	-7.2	5	6	-4	7
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	244	227	-17	-6.97	12	12	-8	16
51-5112	Printing Press Operators	98	93	-5	-5.1	4	6	-2	8
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,105	1,056	-49	-4.43	46	78	-24	100

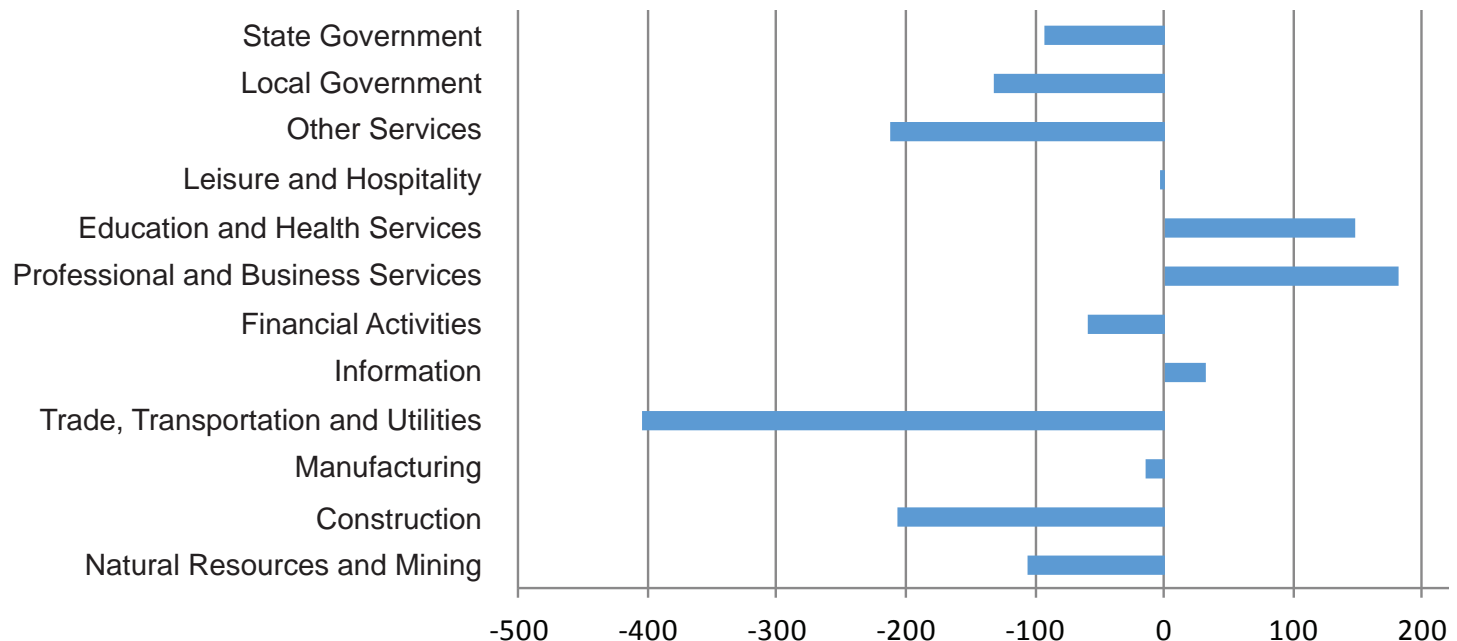
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Southwest Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	77,635	76,767	-868	-1.12%	\$759
Natural Resources and Mining	2,290	2,185	-105	-4.59%	\$848
Construction	3,584	3,378	-206	-5.75%	\$899
Manufacturing	19,063	19,048	-15	-0.08%	\$1,008
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	15,049	14,644	-405	-2.69%	\$662
Information	438	470	32	7.31%	\$909
Financial Activities	2,549	2,490	-59	-2.31%	\$826
Professional and Business Services	4,390	4,572	182	4.15%	\$1,046
Education and Health Services	9,722	9,870	148	1.52%	\$610
Leisure and Hospitality	5,715	5,712	-3	-0.05%	\$284
Other Services	1,698	1,485	-213	-12.54%	\$526
Local Government	9,494	9,363	-131	-1.38%	\$656
State Government	3,643	3,550	-93	-2.55%	\$748

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA) saw a slight increase in population between 2016 and 2017 of 620 to a total of 317,344. The area has seen an increase in population from 2013 to 2017, gaining 1,656. The West Central Arkansas LWDA consists of 10 counties: Clark, Conway, Garland, Hot Spring, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Pope, and Yell; with the Hot Springs Metropolitan Statistical Area located within the LWDA.

West Central Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
315,688	314,915	315,948	316,724	317,344

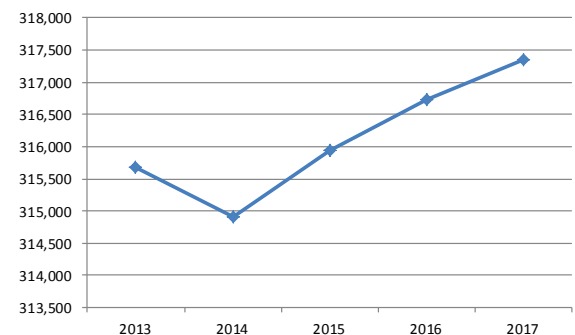
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

West Central Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation increased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 5,382, an increase of 152 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 771 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires decreased in the second quarter of 2017 by 779 compared to the second quarter of 2016, but increased by 2,821 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations decreased over the six-year period by 9,125 to 21,199 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate was maintained between 2015 and 2016 at 9.0 percent.

West Central Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	6,153	7,089	6,261	6,114	5,230	5,382
New Hires	18,081	21,234	21,320	21,296	21,681	20,902
Separations	30,324	20,092	19,984	20,064	22,176	21,199
Turnover	8.7%	9.2%	8.9%	9.0%	9.0%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

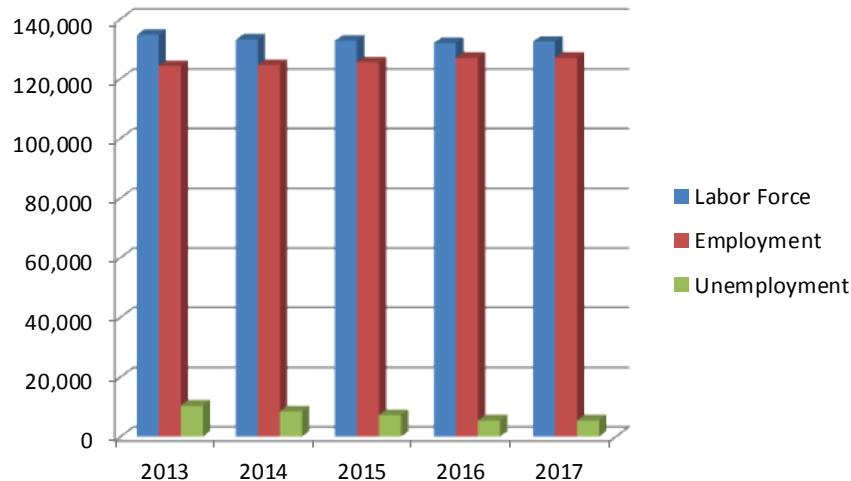


In 2017, the labor force and employment increased in the West Central Arkansas LWDA. The labor force increased by 467 to a total of 132,542, while employment increased 892 to a total of 127,046. Despite the recent increase, the labor force decreased by 2,236 from 2013 to 2017 while employment increased by 2,714. The unemployment and the unemployment rate both decreased from 2016 to 2017. Unemployment decreased to 5,496 and the unemployment rate dropped by four-tenths of a percentage point to 4.1 percent. The unemployment rate fluctuated through 2018, but settled to 4.6 percent by July 2018.

West Central Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	134,778	133,168	132,811	132,075	132,542
Employment	124,332	124,601	125,526	126,154	127,046
Unemployment	10,446	8,567	7,285	5,921	5,496
Unemployment Rate	7.8%	6.4%	5.5%	4.5%	4.1%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



West Central Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

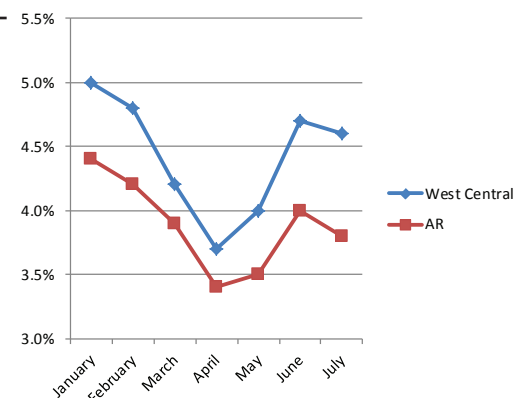
Year	Month	West Central Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	5.0%	4.4%
2018	February	4.8%	4.2%
2018	March	4.2%	3.9%
2018	April	3.7%	3.4%
2018	May	4.0%	3.5%
2018	June	4.7%	4.0%
2018	July	4.6%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



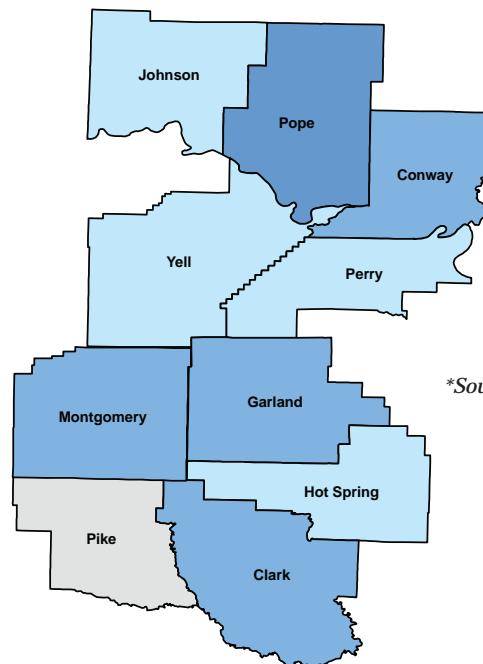
West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



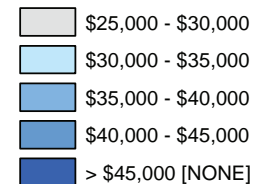
Cashiers was estimated to have the most employees in West Central Arkansas with 4,020 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$20,006.

Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food was the second largest occupation with 3,850 employed, earning an average wage of \$19,290. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 1,770, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$66,064 annually.

Internists, General topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$249,551. **Physicians and Surgeons, All Other**, with an average annual salary of \$235,577, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.



2017 Annual Average Wages



**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$19,694 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$31,408, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$44,648 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 106,432 estimated employees in the area, 29,622 made less than \$10 an hour while 18,058 made more than \$25 an hour. Employees making between \$15 and \$19.99 totaled 16,864.

West Central Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	4,020	\$20,006	\$18,588	\$20,716
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,850	\$19,290	\$18,766	\$19,552
Retail Salespersons	3,300	\$25,849	\$18,609	\$29,470
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,570	\$41,786	\$25,258	\$50,050
Office Clerks, General	2,440	\$26,827	\$19,572	\$30,454
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,340	\$24,483	\$20,463	\$26,493
Registered Nurses	2,040	\$55,321	\$42,135	\$61,913
Nursing Assistants	1,830	\$22,011	\$18,752	\$23,641
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,780	\$22,585	\$18,861	\$24,447
General and Operations Managers	1,770	\$66,064	\$22,822	\$87,685

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



West Central Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Internists, General	\$249,551
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	\$235,577
Family and General Practitioners	\$227,442
Dentists, General	\$171,305
Information Security Analysts	\$151,637
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$129,500
Software Developers, Applications	\$126,197
Pharmacists	\$119,853
Personal Financial Advisors	\$117,912
Marketing Managers	\$113,097
Sales Managers	\$110,027
Chief Executives	\$109,737
Mechanical Engineers	\$107,067
Health and Safety Engineers, Except Mining Safety Engineers and Inspectors	\$106,922
Electrical Engineers	\$102,670
Lawyers	\$101,677
Optometrists	\$97,337
Industrial Production Managers	\$96,486
Engineering Teachers, Postsecondary	\$95,860
Nurse Practitioners	\$94,889
Civil Engineers	\$94,340
Physician Assistants	\$94,073
Financial Managers	\$89,873
Purchasing Managers	\$88,924
Human Resources Managers	\$88,754

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

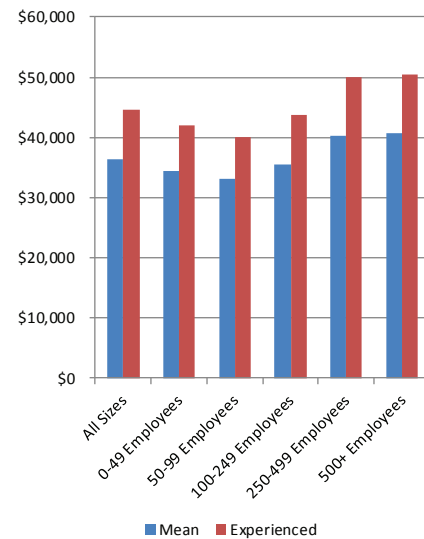


West Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

West Central Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

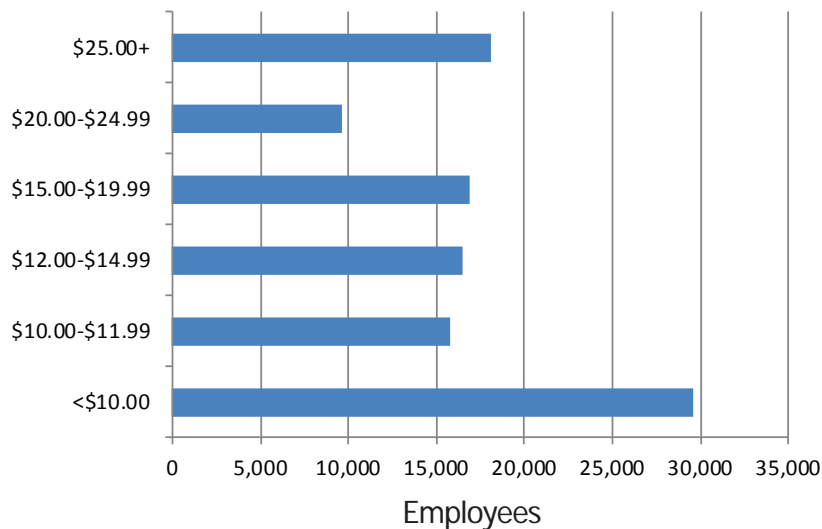
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$36,330	\$27,817	\$19,694	\$44,648
0-49 Employees	\$34,314	\$25,277	\$18,924	\$42,008
50-99 Employees	\$33,057	\$25,773	\$19,127	\$40,023
100-249 Employees	\$35,524	\$27,153	\$19,132	\$43,720
250-499 Employees	\$40,202	\$31,408	\$20,653	\$49,976
500+ Employees	\$40,675	\$31,780	\$21,252	\$50,387

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



West Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

West Central Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	106,432
<\$10.00	29,622
\$10.00-\$11.99	15,821
\$12.00-\$14.99	16,445
\$15.00-\$19.99	16,864
\$20.00-\$24.99	9,622
\$25.00+	18,058

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The West Central Arkansas LWDA is expected to see a growth of 2,569 jobs by the first quarter of 2019. **Administrative and Support Services** is predicted to be the top growing industry with an increase of 547 jobs between 2017 and 2019 bringing employment to 5,542. **Chemical Manufacturing** is slated to gain 29.27 percent, making it the fastest growing industry in the area moving employment above 50 employees. On the negative side of the local economy, **Insurance Carriers and Related Activities**, is estimated to lose 17.26 percent, or 185 jobs dropping employment to 887. **Pipeline Transportation** is projected to lose a quarter of its workforce, making it the fastest declining industry. **Education and Health Services** is predicted to be the top growing supersector adding 758 new jobs increasing employment to 29,293.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	28,535	29,293	758	2.66%
102400	Professional and Business Services	7,839	8,464	625	7.97%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	13,364	13,784	420	3.14%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	21,273	21,413	140	0.66%
101200	Construction	4,452	4,560	108	2.43%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
561000	Administrative and Support Services	4,995	5,542	547	10.95%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,679	3,999	320	8.70%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	9,796	10,109	313	3.20%
624000	Social Assistance	3,864	4,034	170	4.40%
622000	Hospitals	3,672	3,838	166	4.52%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,949	3,070	121	4.10%
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	3,080	3,199	119	3.86%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	2,080	2,187	107	5.14%
111000	Crop Production	595	700	105	17.65%
484000	Truck Transportation	1,966	2,047	81	4.12%

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	41	53	12	29.27%
111000	Crop Production	595	700	105	17.65%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	4,995	5,542	547	10.95%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,679	3,999	320	8.70%
712000	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institution	72	78	6	8.33%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	467	504	37	7.92%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	218	232	14	6.42%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	1,113	1,178	65	5.84%
512000	Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	93	98	5	5.38%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	949	999	50	5.27%

Top 10 Decline

524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	1,072	887	-185	-17.26%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	696	622	-74	-10.63%
814000	Private Households	331	264	-67	-20.24%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	1,465	1,405	-60	-4.10%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,302	1,257	-45	-3.46%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	786	744	-42	-5.34%
236000	Construction of Buildings	542	501	-41	-7.56%
999100	Federal Government, Excluding Post Office	731	690	-41	-5.61%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	304	264	-40	-13.16%
448000	Clothing and Clothing Accessory Stores	542	525	-17	-3.14%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

486000	Pipeline Transportation	28	21	-7	-25.00%
814000	Private Households	331	264	-67	-20.24%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	1,072	887	-185	-17.26%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	304	264	-40	-13.16%
515000	Broadcasting (except Internet)	53	47	-6	-11.32%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	696	622	-74	-10.63%
485000	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	92	83	-9	-9.78%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	140	128	-12	-8.57%
236000	Construction of Buildings	542	501	-41	-7.56%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	139	130	-9	-6.47%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



The area's employment is expected to increase by 2.04 percent during the projection period. An estimated 15,355 annual job openings are anticipated in this area. Of these, 6,229 openings could be due to those exiting the workforce, while 7,842 could come from those changing jobs. Growth and expansion is estimated to account for 1,284 of those jobs. **Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers** is estimated to be the top growing occupation with a gain of 267 moving employment to 8,259. **Nursing Assistants** could be the fastest growing occupation raising employment by 7.63 percent moving its ranks to 1,862 in the area. On the flip side of the job market, **Insurance Sales Agents** is forecast to be the top declining occupation losing 40 jobs during the projection period dropping employment to 300, while **Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators** could lose 15.38 percent of its workforce dropping its employment to 77. **Management Occupations** is projected to be the top growing major group adding 389 new jobs between 2017 and 2019 bringing employment up to 13,733.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
11-0000	Management Occupations	13,344	13,733	389	2.92%	610	403	194	1,207
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	11,233	11,612	379	3.37%	834	1,060	190	2,084
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	6,726	6,973	247	3.67%	185	185	124	494
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	3,737	3,960	223	5.97%	225	208	112	545
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations	4,480	4,675	195	4.35%	283	288	98	669

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	7,992	8,259	267	3.34%	475	120	134	729
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	1,730	1,862	132	7.63%	109	91	66	266
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,733	2,862	129	4.72%	248	259	64	571
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	2,109	2,212	103	4.88%	140	136	52	328
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,928	2,026	98	5.08%	56	43	49	148
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,520	2,607	87	3.45%	108	161	44	313
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,127	1,196	69	6.12%	92	70	34	196
31-1011	Home Health Aides	941	1,002	61	6.48%	59	49	30	138
33-9032	Security Guards	934	994	60	6.42%	57	68	30	155
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	2,042	2,095	53	2.60%	153	234	26	413

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	1,730	1,862	132	7.63%	109	91	66	266
29-1126	Respiratory Therapists	73	78	5	6.85%	2	2	2	6
31-1011	Home Health Aides	941	1,002	61	6.48%	59	49	30	138
33-9032	Security Guards	934	994	60	6.42%	57	68	30	155
13-2021	Appraisers & Assessors of Real Estate	144	153	9	6.25%	5	4	4	13
51-9022	Grinding & Polishing Workers, Hand	80	85	5	6.25%	3	6	2	11
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,127	1,196	69	6.12%	92	70	34	196
39-9041	Residential Advisors	99	105	6	6.06%	7	10	3	20
37-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Housekeeping & Janitorial Workers	268	284	16	5.97%	14	16	8	38
43-5041	Meter Readers, Utilities	87	92	5	5.75%	3	4	2	9

Top 10 Decline

41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	340	300	-40	-11.76%	13	17	-20	10
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	2,149	2,123	-26	-1.21%	115	112	-13	214
43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	149	128	-21	-14.09%	6	8	-10	4
13-1031	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, & Investigators	91	77	-14	-15.38%	4	4	-7	1
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, & Press Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	147	138	-9	-6.12%	5	11	-4	12
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	732	724	-8	-1.09%	30	56	-4	82
43-3071	Tellers	582	575	-7	-1.20%	30	37	-4	63
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	247	241	-6	-2.43%	13	13	-3	23
51-4021	Extruding & Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	82	76	-6	-7.32%	2	6	-3	5
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	72	67	-5	-6.94%	4	4	-2	6

Top 10 Fastest Decline

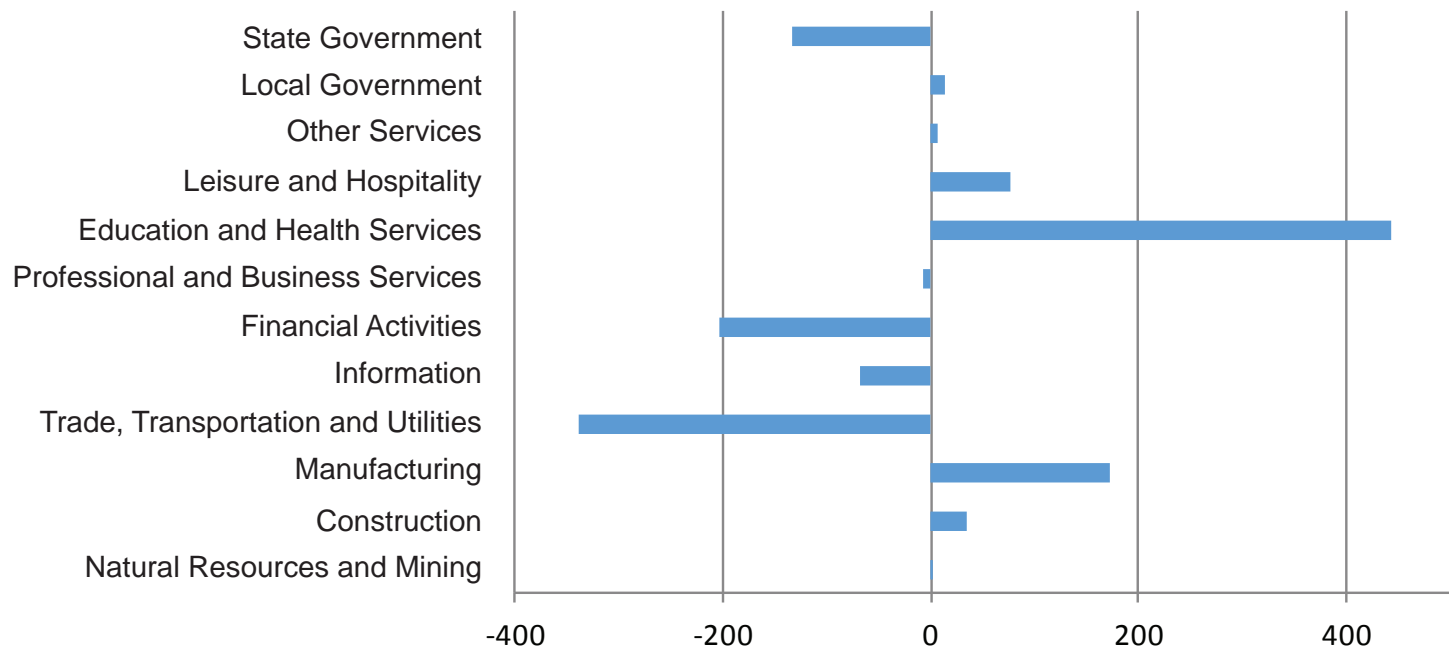
13-1031	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, & Investigators	91	77	-14	-15.38%	4	4	-7	1
43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	149	128	-21	-14.09%	6	8	-10	4
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	340	300	-40	-11.76%	13	17	-20	10
51-4021	Extruding & Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	82	76	-6	-7.32%	2	6	-3	5
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	72	67	-5	-6.94%	4	4	-2	6
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, & Press Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	147	138	-9	-6.12%	5	11	-4	12
51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators & Fitters	128	123	-5	-3.91%	4	9	-2	11
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	247	241	-6	-2.43%	13	13	-3	23
53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	252	247	-5	-1.98%	10	16	-2	24
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	2,149	2,123	-26	-1.21%	115	112	-13	214

West Central Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	105,560	105,555	-5	0.00%	\$688
Natural Resources and Mining	2,193	2,195	2	0.09%	\$810
Construction	4,566	4,600	34	0.74%	\$855
Manufacturing	16,016	16,188	172	1.07%	\$805
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	21,554	21,215	-339	-1.57%	\$690
Information	827	760	-67	-8.10%	\$766
Financial Activities	3,927	3,724	-203	-5.17%	\$878
Professional and Business Services	7,622	7,615	-7	-0.09%	\$758
Education and Health Services	16,799	17,241	442	2.63%	\$734
Leisure and Hospitality	13,373	13,449	76	0.57%	\$317
Other Services	2,275	2,281	6	0.26%	\$531
Local Government	10,972	10,985	13	0.12%	\$718
State Government	5,436	5,302	-134	-2.47%	\$691

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area



Population

The Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA) saw an increase in population between 2016 and 2017, increasing by 1,567 to 261,278. The Western Arkansas LWDA consists of six counties: Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, and Sebastian; and is bordered to the west by the state of Oklahoma. The Arkansas portion of the Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area is located in the Western Arkansas LWDA.

Western Arkansas LWDA Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
259,893	259,062	259,463	259,711	261,278

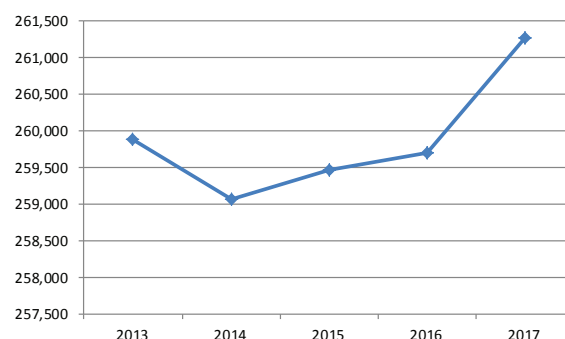
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Arkansas Population 2013-2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2,956,780	2,964,800	2,975,626	2,988,231	3,004,279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Western Arkansas Population Progression



Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Job creation increased between the second quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017 to 4,809, an increase of 294 compared to the second quarter of 2016. Job creation has fluctuated over the six-year period but was 63 lower for the second quarter of 2017, compared to the second quarter of 2012. New hires increased in the second quarter of 2017 by 498 compared to the second quarter of 2016 and increased by 4,005 compared to the second quarter of 2012. Separations increased over the six-year period by 1,619 to 21,519 in the second quarter of 2017. The turnover rate increased between 2015 and 2016 to 9.2 percent.

Western Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Explorer	2012 Q2	2013 Q2	2014 Q2	2015 Q2	2016 Q2	2017 Q2
Job creation	4,872	4,630	4,874	4,718	4,515	4,809
New Hires	18,350	20,041	20,935	21,177	21,857	22,355
Separations	19,900	19,323	19,674	20,299	21,725	21,519
Turnover	8.8%	8.3%	8.6%	8.6%	9.2%	NA

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD

Job Creation: Estimated number of jobs gained at firms throughout the quarter.

New Hires: Estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.

Separations: Estimated number of workers who started a new job.

Turnover: The rate at which stable jobs begin and end.

NA - Not Available

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area

Employment/Labor Force/Unemployment

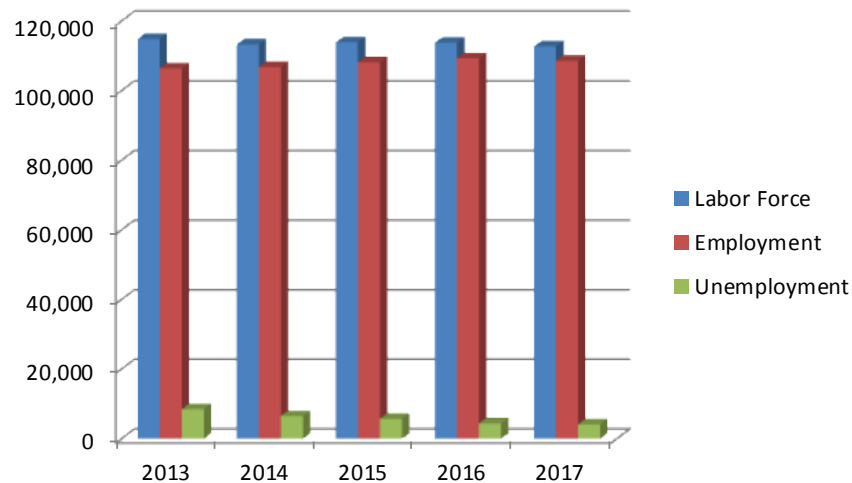


The Western Arkansas LWDA labor force decreased by 1,079 to 112,740 and employment decreased by 748 to 108,618 from 2016 to 2017. Over the 2013-2017 period, the labor force decreased by 2,185 while employment increased by 2,210. Unemployment and the unemployment rate both decreased significantly from 2013 to 2017. Unemployment decreased by 4,395 to 4,122 unemployed, while the unemployment rate dropped by three and seven-tenths percentage points to 3.7 percent. The area's unemployment rate fluctuated through 2018, ending at 3.8 percent in July.

Western Arkansas LWDA 2013-2017 Labor Force/Employment

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Labor Force	114,925	113,351	113,939	113,819	112,740
Employment	106,408	106,795	108,189	109,366	108,618
Unemployment	8,517	6,556	5,750	4,453	4,122
Unemployment Rate	7.4%	5.8%	5.0%	3.9%	3.7%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



Western Arkansas and State Unemployment Rate*

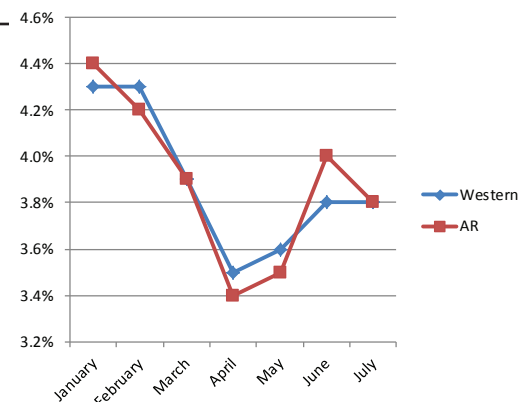
Year	Month	Western Arkansas Unemployment Rate	AR Unemployment Rate
2018	January	4.3%	4.4%
2018	February	4.3%	4.2%
2018	March	3.9%	3.9%
2018	April	3.5%	3.4%
2018	May	3.6%	3.5%
2018	June	3.8%	4.0%
2018	July	3.8%†	3.8%†

Source: AR Dept. of Workforce Services Local Area Unemployment Statistics

*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

†Preliminary

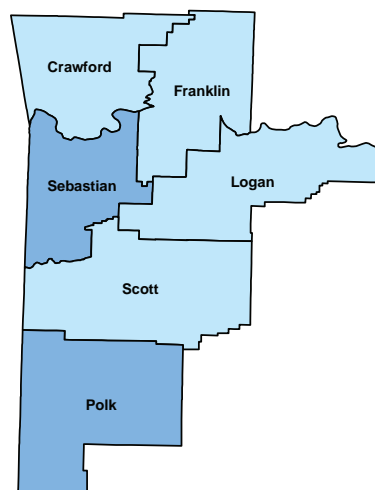
Monthly Unemployment Rate, 2018



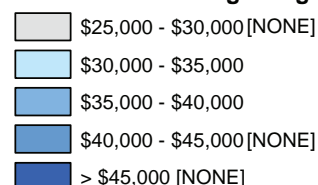
Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers was estimated to have the most employees in Western Arkansas with 3,700 employed in 2017 with an average wage of \$36,993. **Retail Salespersons** was the second largest occupation with 3,460 employed, earning an average wage of \$24,384. **General and Operations Managers**, with an estimated employment of 1,670, had the highest average wage of the 10 largest occupations, earning \$84,570 annually.



2017 Annual Average Wages



Family and General Practitioners topped the Occupations Paying the Most list with an annual salary of \$266,961. **Dentists General**, with an average annual salary of \$211,924, ranked second on the Occupations Paying the Most list.

**Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
May 2017 Wage Survey*

The entry wage estimate for employers of all sizes was \$20,089 for 2017. The median wage estimate for employers with 250-499 employees was \$29,715, while wages for experienced workers averaged \$45,996 for employers in all size categories.

Of the 106,258 estimated employees in the area, 25,771 made less than \$10 an hour while 17,466 made more than \$25 an hour. Employees making between \$15 and \$19.99 an hour totaled 17,460.

Western Arkansas LWDA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,700	\$36,993	\$28,632	\$41,174
Retail Salespersons	3,460	\$24,384	\$18,579	\$27,286
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,430	\$19,153	\$18,636	\$19,411
Cashiers	3,140	\$20,536	\$18,617	\$21,496
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,910	\$25,528	\$21,239	\$27,673
Office Clerks, General	2,630	\$27,459	\$19,692	\$31,343
Helpers--Production Workers	2,370	\$22,931	\$18,881	\$24,956
Registered Nurses	2,070	\$56,094	\$43,912	\$62,185
Nursing Assistants	2,060	\$23,654	\$21,260	\$24,851
General and Operations Managers	1,670	\$84,570	\$32,483	\$110,614

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages



Western Arkansas LWDA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family and General Practitioners	\$266,961
Dentists, General	\$211,924
Marketing Managers	\$159,666
Chief Executives	\$137,256
Pharmacists	\$127,531
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	\$118,901
Nurse Practitioners	\$114,865
Architectural and Engineering Managers	\$111,887
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$106,712
Training and Development Managers	\$101,125
Personal Financial Advisors	\$99,987
Sales Managers	\$99,414
Financial Managers	\$98,229
Physical Therapists	\$91,498
Computer Network Architects	\$90,745
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	\$90,337
Industrial Production Managers	\$89,883
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$85,520
General and Operations Managers	\$84,570
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$84,476
Software Developers, Systems Software	\$84,465
Veterinarians	\$84,368
Human Resources Managers	\$83,810
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$81,881
Civil Engineers	\$81,525

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Wages

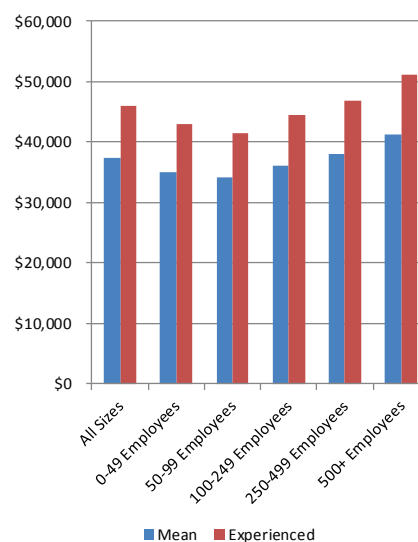


Western Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Western Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

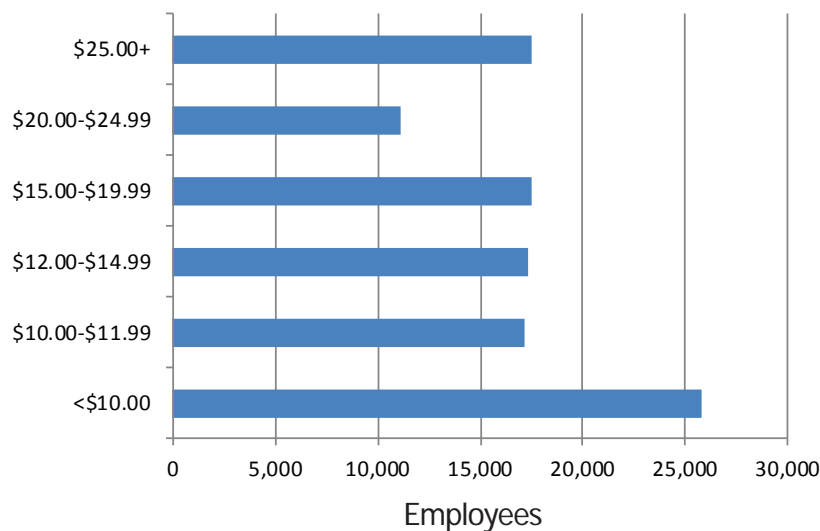
Employer size	Mean	Median	Entry	Exper.
All Sizes	\$37,360	\$28,526	\$20,089	\$45,996
0-49 Employees	\$34,953	\$26,028	\$19,007	\$42,926
50-99 Employees	\$34,172	\$26,369	\$19,438	\$41,539
100-249 Employees	\$36,174	\$28,052	\$19,657	\$44,433
250-499 Employees	\$38,095	\$29,715	\$20,640	\$46,822
500+ Employees	\$41,220	\$32,259	\$21,575	\$51,043

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey



Western Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Western Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Total	106,258
<\$10.00	25,771
\$10.00-\$11.99	17,124
\$12.00-\$14.99	17,295
\$15.00-\$19.99	17,460
\$20.00-\$24.99	11,142
\$25.00+	17,466

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2017 Wage Survey

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



The Western Arkansas LWDA is expected to experience a net gain of 2,249 jobs during the projection period. **Administrative and Support Services** is predicted to be the top growing industry gaining 321 jobs between 2017 and 2019 moving from 6,111 employees in 2017 to 6,432 in 2019. **Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry** could see a 34.20 percent rise in employment making it the fastest growing industry, moving employment to 310. **Machinery Manufacturing** is predicted to lose 22.84 percent of its workforce, or 296 jobs, making it the top and fastest declining industry in the area, moving employment down to 1,000. **Education and Health Services** is predicted to be the top growing supersector increasing employment by 874 jobs to an employment of 24,710.

Top 5 Industry Supersectors

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
102500	Education and Health Services	23,836	24,710	874	3.67%
102600	Leisure and Hospitality	8,811	9,152	341	3.87%
102400	Professional and Business Services	10,529	10,856	327	3.11%
102100	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	22,069	22,217	148	0.67%
102700	Other Services (except Government)	4,288	4,412	124	2.89%

Top Industries - Top 10 Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
561000	Administrative and Support Services	6,111	6,432	321	5.25%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	7,727	8,042	315	4.08%
611000	Educational Services	8,480	8,773	293	3.46%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,224	5,448	224	4.29%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,409	3,617	208	6.10%
311000	Food Manufacturing	9,125	9,313	188	2.06%
484000	Truck Transportation	3,788	3,969	181	4.78%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	668	795	127	19.01%
238000	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,518	2,644	126	5.00%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,206	1,327	121	10.03%

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Industry



Top 10 Fastest Growth

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	2017 Estimated Employment	2019 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	231	310	79	34.20%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	668	795	127	19.01%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	317	356	39	12.30%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,206	1,327	121	10.03%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	80	88	8	10.00%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	154	167	13	8.44%
517000	Telecommunications	245	264	19	7.76%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	976	1,046	70	7.17%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	264	281	17	6.44%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,409	3,617	208	6.10%

Top 10 Decline

333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,296	1,000	-296	-22.84%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	2,428	2,233	-195	-8.03%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	653	540	-113	-17.30%
236000	Construction of Buildings	676	606	-70	-10.36%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	885	824	-61	-6.89%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	343	291	-52	-15.16%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	1,271	1,231	-40	-3.15%
814000	Private Households	264	224	-40	-15.15%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	918	890	-28	-3.05%
451000	Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores	431	404	-27	-6.26%

Top 10 Fastest Decline

333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,296	1,000	-296	-22.84%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	653	540	-113	-17.30%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	343	291	-52	-15.16%
814000	Private Households	264	224	-40	-15.15%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	197	171	-26	-13.20%
236000	Construction of Buildings	676	606	-70	-10.36%
211000	Oil and Gas Extraction	163	147	-16	-9.82%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	2,428	2,233	-195	-8.03%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	332	307	-25	-7.53%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	885	824	-61	-6.89%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Projections Suite Software

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Western Arkansas LWDA is projected to have a net job gain of 1.89 percent between 2017 and 2019. Around 14,350 annual job openings are expected to be available during the projection period with 5,782 from occupational exits, 7,444 from occupational transfers, and 1,124 from growth and expansion. **Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers** is projected to add 172 new jobs and be the top growing occupation in the area, bringing employment to 4,176. **Textile Knitting and Weaving Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders** could be the fastest growing occupation raising employment by 17.19 percent to a level of 75. On the negative side of the economy, **Team Assemblers** could lose 143 jobs between 2017 and 2019, making it the top declining occupation, moving employment down to 1,274. **Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining** is projected to be the fastest declining occupation losing 14.29 percent of its workforce moving from 63 employees in 2017 to 54 in 2019. **Transportation and Material Moving Occupations** leads the area as the top growing occupational major group with an estimated 356 new jobs, increasing employment to 12,059.

Top 5 Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	11,703	12,059	356	3.04%	546	830	178	1,554
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	9,240	9,591	351	3.80%	701	876	176	1,753
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	6,697	6,937	240	3.58%	189	176	120	485
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,041	11,259	218	1.97%	495	340	109	944
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library Occupations	5,600	5,799	199	3.55%	231	230	100	561

Top Occupations - Top 10 Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	4,004	4,176	172	4.30%	174	257	86	517
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,911	3,058	147	5.05%	264	276	74	614
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	2,523	2,665	142	5.63%	139	247	71	457
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Managers	6,301	6,426	125	1.98%	372	94	62	528
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	1,751	1,844	93	5.31%	109	91	46	246
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,266	2,344	78	3.44%	66	50	39	155
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	2,806	2,868	62	2.21%	140	242	31	413
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,220	1,278	58	4.75%	100	75	29	204
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	1,539	1,592	53	3.44%	116	178	26	320
29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,185	1,233	48	4.05%	42	42	24	108

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Occupations



Top 10 Fastest Growth

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Change		Annual Openings			
		2017 Est.	2019 Proj.	Numeric	Percent	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total
51-6063	Textile Knitting & Weaving Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	64	75	11	17.19%	4	5	6	15
49-9052	Telecommunications Line Installers & Repairers	51	56	5	9.80%	2	4	2	8
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers & Repairers, Except Line Installers	122	133	11	9.02%	4	9	6	19
51-9032	Cutting & Slicing Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	280	305	25	8.93%	10	22	12	44
51-9041	Extruding, Forming, Pressing, & Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	129	139	10	7.75%	5	11	5	21
49-2094	Electrical & Electronics Repairers, Commercial & Industrial Equipment	161	172	11	6.83%	4	10	6	20
31-1011	Home Health Aides	707	754	47	6.65%	44	37	24	105
27-2022	Coaches & Scouts	91	97	6	6.59%	5	7	3	15
49-3021	Automotive Body & Related Repairers	139	148	9	6.47%	5	8	4	17
51-7042	Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders, Except Sawing	147	156	9	6.12%	6	10	4	20

Top 10 Decline

51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,417	1,274	-143	-10.09%	58	98	-72	84
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	330	296	-34	-10.30%	16	20	-17	19
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	443	418	-25	-5.64%	12	34	-12	34
51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators & Fitters	158	138	-20	-12.66%	5	11	-10	6
47-2031	Carpenters	564	546	-18	-3.19%	19	31	-9	41
51-4011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal & Plastic	340	323	-17	-5.00%	9	23	-8	24
43-3071	Tellers	637	621	-16	-2.51%	32	40	-8	64
43-5061	Production, Planning, & Expediting Clerks	488	472	-16	-3.28%	16	31	-8	39
41-2011	Cashiers	3,362	3,347	-15	-0.45%	315	308	-8	615
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	104	90	-14	-13.46%	4	8	-7	5

Top 10 Fastest Decline

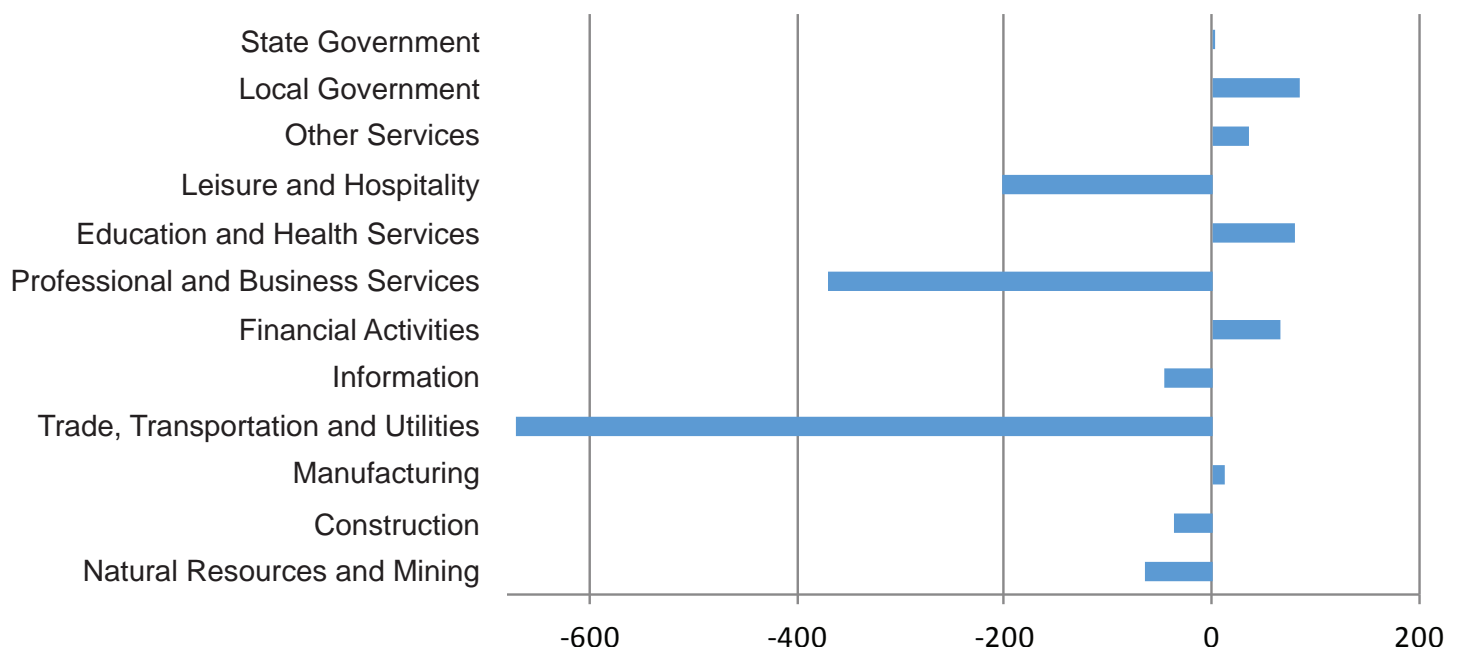
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining	63	54	-9	-14.29%	2	6	-4	4
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	104	90	-14	-13.46%	4	8	-7	5
51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators & Fitters	158	138	-20	-12.66%	5	11	-10	6
43-3061	Procurement Clerks	102	90	-12	-11.76%	4	6	-6	4
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	330	296	-34	-10.30%	16	20	-17	19
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,417	1,274	-143	-10.09%	58	98	-72	84
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	97	88	-9	-9.28%	2	4	-4	2
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	145	136	-9	-6.21%	3	6	-4	5
51-9121	Coating, Painting, & Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, & Tenders	101	95	-6	-5.94%	3	8	-3	8
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	443	418	-25	-5.64%	12	34	-12	34

Western Arkansas Local Workforce Development Area Covered Employment and Earnings



NAICS Industry	2016 Annual Average Covered Employment	2017 Annual Average Covered Employment	2016-2017 Numeric Change	2016-2017 Percent Change	2017 Average Weekly Earnings
Total	103,315	102,205	-1,110	-1.07%	\$740
Natural Resources and Mining	1,454	1,390	-64	-4.40%	\$1,101
Construction	3,921	3,884	-37	-0.94%	\$806
Manufacturing	20,880	20,892	12	0.06%	\$846
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	22,765	22,094	-671	-2.95%	\$692
Information	1,145	1,099	-46	-4.02%	\$1,143
Financial Activities	3,456	3,523	67	1.94%	\$863
Professional and Business Services	10,807	10,437	-370	-3.42%	\$723
Education and Health Services	15,597	15,678	81	0.52%	\$859
Leisure and Hospitality	9,239	9,037	-202	-2.19%	\$299
Other Services	2,082	2,117	35	1.68%	\$592
Local Government	9,108	9,192	84	0.92%	\$719
State Government	2,861	2,862	1	0.03%	\$734

2016-2017 Numeric Change in Average Covered Employment



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

Asa Hutchinson, Governor
State of Arkansas

"Equal Opportunity Employer/Program"

Daryl Bassett, Director
Department of Workforce Services

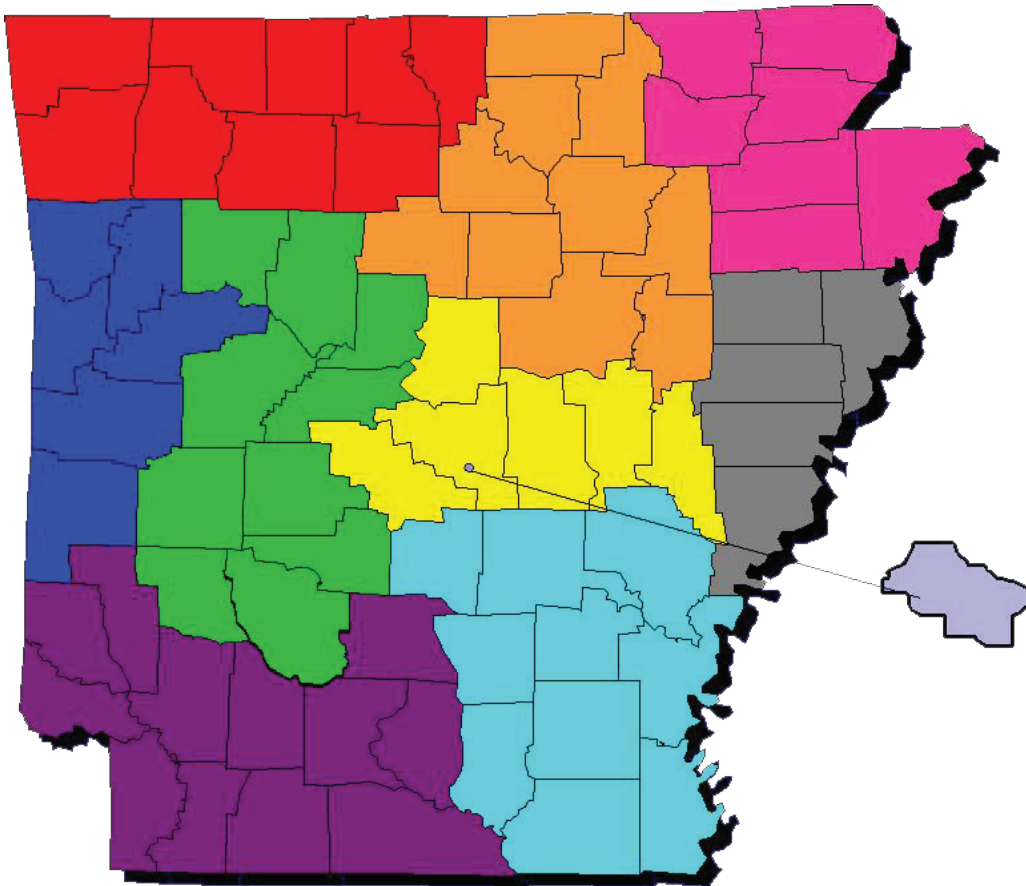
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Released: October 2018



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