NASWA
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

ARKANSAS

2019 State of the Workforce Report

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

(2018, Non-seasonally-adjusted)

Website: *discover.arkansas.gov*

LABOR FORCE DATA

	Arkansas	National
Year-over Annual Job Growth	1.1%	1.7%
Annual Average Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.9%
Annual Average Labor Force	1,351,496	
Annual Labor Force Participation Rate	57.8%	62.9%
Year-over Average Wage Growth	2.3%	3.3%

EDUCATION LEVELS*

(Age 25 and older)

Less than high school: **13.3% Arkansas** | **12.0% National**

High school: **34.0% Arkansas** | **27.1% National**

Some college/Associate degree:
29.2% Arkansas | **28.9% National**

Bachelor's degree +: **23.4% Arkansas** | **32.0% National**

**American Community Survey (ACS) educational attainment data*

KEY INDUSTRIES

(Top 3 industries for average annual job growth at the super sector level)

- **5.7%** Other Services
- **2.0%** Manufacturing
- **1.7%** Financial Activities

STATE PROFILE

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES

Programs within Agency

- Discretionary Grants
  - Reemployment Systems Integration
  - Arkansas Apprenticeship Pathway Initiative (AAPI)
  - ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grant State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant (SAE)
- Labor Market Information
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Trade Adjustment Assistance
- Unemployment Insurance (UI)
- Veterans Employment and Training Services
- Wagner-Peyser (WP)
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
  - Adult (A)
  - Dislocated Worker (DW)
  - Youth (Y)

WIOA Core Programs: Administering Agencies

- **Arkansas Division of Workforce Services –** Administers WIOA (A, DW, Y), Adult Education (AE) and Family Literacy, WP and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) programs

Approval of Apprenticeships

- Federal

Local Regions Governance

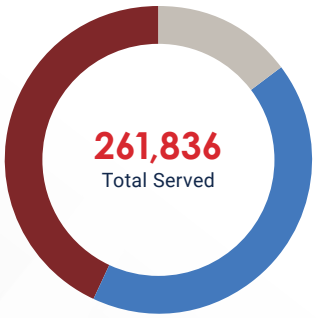
- Local entity oversees workforce personnel and training

NUMBER OF AMERICAN JOB CENTERS

(One-stop centers)

10 Comprehensive Centers | **27** Affiliate Centers

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY ARKANSAS' WORKFORCE SERVICES*



38,984 WIOA *(A, DW, Y, VR, AE)*

110,266 WP

112,586 WP-Self Served *(Individuals using online services)*

**See participant definitions under "Programs within Agency"*

UNEMPLOYMENT DATA*

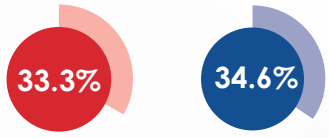
Duration Rate

The average number of weeks people receive unemployment insurance.

11.2 weeks Arkansas | **15.0 weeks** National

Exhaustion Rate

The percentage of individuals receiving unemployment benefits who use all the eligible weeks without finding new employment.



Arkansas | National

**U.S. Department of Labor unemployment insurance national data*

STATE WORKFORCE INNOVATION: OUR HOUSE WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

The state approved a work experience program that funds a partnership effort between the Our House homeless shelter and the Little Rock Workforce Development Board. Thirty homeless or near-homeless clients obtain work experience at one of Our House's two "resale stores."

To learn more, visit *ourhouseshelter.org/category/news*.

STATE WORKFORCE INNOVATION: BUSINESS ACTIVITY BY AREA

Arkansas' business activity tool uses Tableau to show the impact from expansions, business openings, layoffs and closures. A user can identify areas of the state affected by openings and expansions versus closures and layoffs.

To learn more, visit *discover.arkansas.gov/employment/business-activity-by-area*.

Contact Information: Zoe Calkins, zoe.calkins@arkansas.gov **Online Resources:** dws.arkansas.gov