

# 2006 Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report



State and Workforce Investment Areas

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## Executive Summary

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The 2009 Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report is produced by the Labor Market Information and Analysis Section Occupational/Career Information unit to provide relevant information about the economy and workforce in Arkansas and the 10 Workforce Investment Areas. The primary focus of this report includes the years 2004 to 2008, with some information covering shorter periods due to accessibility of data. Projection information for industry and occupational trends covers the years 2008 to 2010.

Arkansas's population growth has remained consistent, adding over 100,000 new residents to the state over the five-year period, ranking the state 32nd in the United States for total population in 2008. In Arkansas's 10 Workforce Investment Areas, Northwest Arkansas experienced the largest population growth, while the Eastern, Southeast, and Southwest WIAs continued to see decreasing populations.

The state's labor force and employment continued to show increased numbers through 2008, but the unemployment rate increased across the state and in all 10 WIAs through the first half of 2009, reaching 7.2 percent statewide in June 2009. Northwest Arkansas WIA's unemployment rate continues to remain below state levels through June 2009 at 6.3 percent, while the Southeast Arkansas WIA reached an unemployment rate of 10.1 during the same time period.

Employment in Arkansas is projected to increase by 1.5 percent between 2008 and 2010. Of the 21,004 new jobs to be added during the projection period, 25,101 are estimated to occur in Services-Providing industries, while Goods-Producing industries are predicted to lose 4,778 jobs. Arkansas is projected to add 681 self-employed and unpaid family workers to the workforce.

Short-term industry growth is primarily in the Services-Providing group. In the Goods-Producing group, the top fastest growing industries are directly related to the production of alternative energy sources, namely biofuels and wind turbine parts for wind energy. However, manufacturing industries, overall, are projected to continue to lose jobs.

Most of the state's top growing occupations require only some form of on-the-job training, resulting in rapid opportunities for individuals to contribute to economic growth, but nursing jobs could see strong growth in the coming years. Jobs related to oil and natural gas will likely dominate the top fastest growing occupations, but military contracts could stabilize the apparel industry. Production related occupations lead the fastest declining occupations.

Arkansas's per capita personal income has increased over the five-year period, however, the state's income remains at approximately 78 percent of the United States per capita income. During the first quarter of 2008, the cost of living in Arkansas's urban areas remained below the national average for all urban areas in the index.

More than 500,000 Arkansas workers earn between \$10 and \$20 dollars an hour, with the mean wage for all employer sizes being \$33,826 a year. Of the six states surrounding Arkansas, only Mississippi has a lower overall average hourly wage for all occupations. Texas has the highest overall average hourly wage that is 16 percent higher than the overall average hourly 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 and Analysis 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).

## State of Arkansas Profile

Arkansas's population grew to 2,855,390, or by 4.2 percent, from 2004 to 2008, while the labor force grew by 75,900 workers to 1,370,200 during that same time period. Employment in Arkansas increased by 6.5 percent over the five-year period to 1,300,500 workers, with the annual unemployment rate dropping five-tenths of a percentage point to 5.1 in 2008.

Comprised of 75 counties, the state of Arkansas has 10 Local Workforce Investment Areas and six Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Higher education opportunities in Arkansas are abundant. From two-year community and technical colleges to four-year universities, residents can choose between state, public, private, or religious-based institutions. These higher education institutions provide students the opportunity to earn many different degrees or certificates. The state also has a number of smaller institutions that focus on specific types of careers.

### Industry

*Elementary and Secondary Schools* is projected to lead the state's industries in net growth with 2,170 new jobs anticipated. Jobs in state and local government remain strong with a projected growth of over 3,200 between the two industries. The current economy will likely allow *Limited Service Eating Places* to outpace *Full Service Restaurants* in employment growth. About 1,555 new jobs are anticipated in fast food restaurants and other *Limited Service Eating Places*. Arkansas is becoming a hub for call center work as 1,239 new jobs are forecast for *Business Support Services* during the projection period.

Arkansas could be on the front lines in the push for alternative

energy. *Engine, Turbine, and Power Transmission Equipment Manufacturing* is estimated to be the fastest growing industry with a 144.89 percent growth caused primarily from the manufacturing of wind turbines, blades, and other components that make up a windmill. The creation of biofuels is at the heart of the 32.23 percent projected growth in *Basic Chemical Manufacturing*. While the Fayetteville Shale is still active, it has been scaled back in recent years due to economic and environmental concerns, but *Oil and Gas Extraction* and *Support Activities for Mining* still make the list of top 10 industries with projected growths of 21.8 and 17.74 percent, respectively.

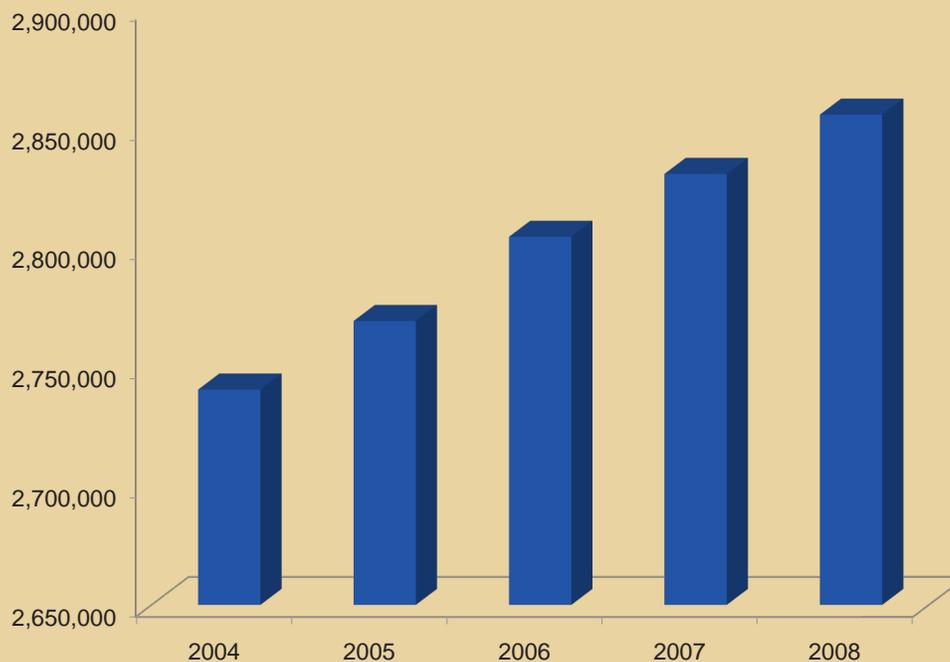
Manufacturing jobs overall continue to slide with eight of the top 10 declining industries in this supersector. *Animal Slaughtering and Processing* will likely lead the decline with 2,723 job losses, while *Electrical Equipment Manufacturing* is estimated to lose 1,159 jobs. With many distribution centers being closed or scaled back due to the economy, it is projected that *Warehousing and Storage* could see a loss of 925 jobs.

Nine of the fastest declining industries are in Manufacturing with *Seafood Product Manufacturing* at the top with a loss of 55.43 percent. Of those, eight are durable goods manufacturing jobs with *Lime and Gypsum Product Manufacturing* leading with an expected loss of 36.07 percent. Each of the top 10 fastest declining industries are estimated to lose more than 23 percent of its respective workforce.

### Occupations

*Registered Nurses* is forecast to be the top growing occupation in the state with 1,031 new jobs. *Customer Service Representatives*

### Population 2004-2008



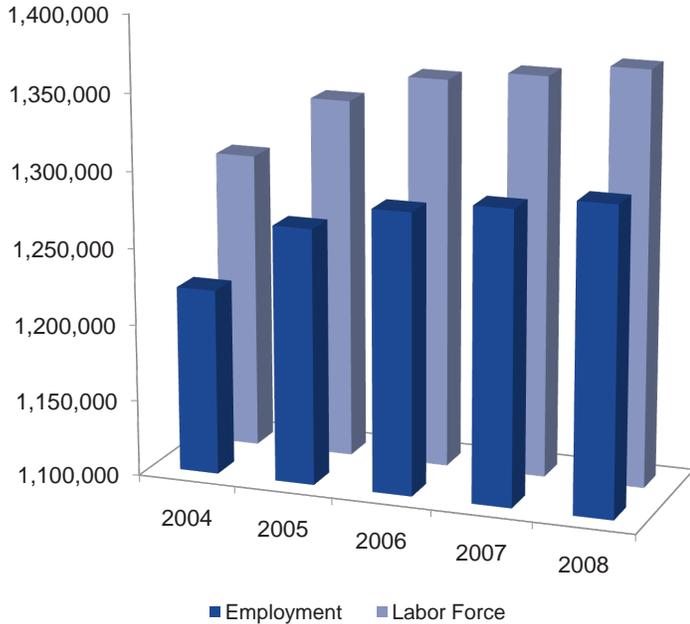
State of Arkansas Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
2,740,191	2,768,918	2,804,199	2,830,557	2,855,390	4.2%

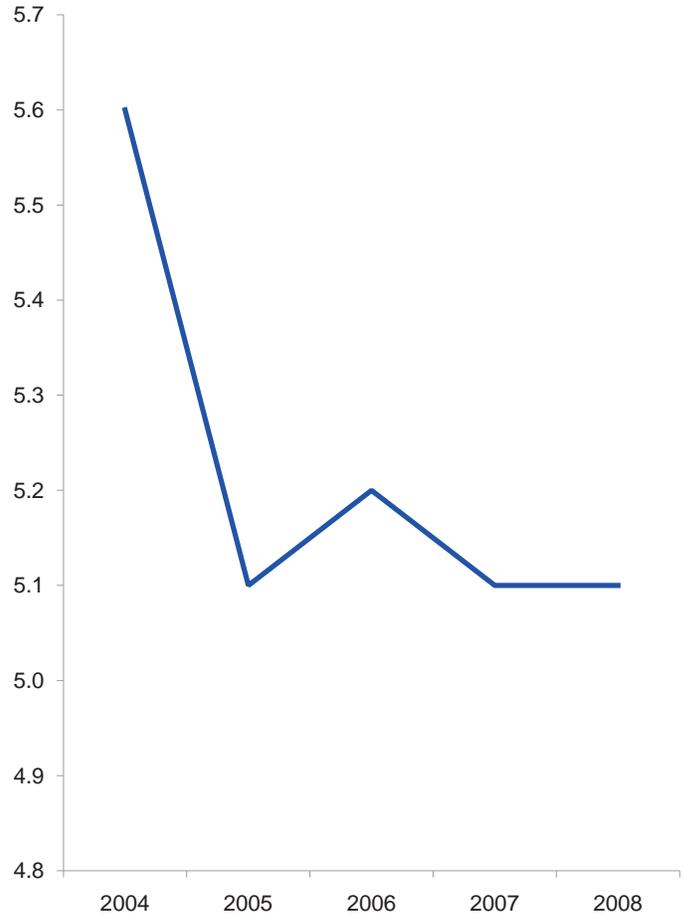
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# State of Arkansas Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### State of Arkansas Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	1,294,300	1,335,600	1,354,200	1,361,200	1,370,200
Employment	1,221,600	1,267,700	1,284,200	1,292,000	1,300,500
Unemployment	72,700	67,900	70,000	69,200	69,700
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### State of Arkansas 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	6.4
2009	February	6.4
2009	March	6.5
2009	April	6.5
2009	May	7.0
2009	June	7.2

\*Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

is second with a projected growth of 974 jobs, leading a list of six occupations related to food service, sales, or office support. *Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer* remains a strong growth occupation with an estimated 823 new jobs projected.

Jobs related to oil and natural gas dominate the top 10 fastest growing occupations list. Jobs in the Fayetteville Shale Zone remain strong with *Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining* leading a list of five occupations in oil and natural gas with an anticipated increase of 18.80 percent. However, military apparel contracts have pushed *Shoe Machine Operators and Tenders* and *Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers* to the top of the fastest growing occupations list with growths of 27.09 and 21.56 percent, respectively.

Manufacturing and transportation jobs remain hardest hit by the economic slowdown with nine of the top 10 declining occupations involved in production or transport of materials. *Team Assemblers* lead the state in projected decline with 873 jobs estimated to be cut over the 2008-2010 projection period. *Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers* is second with an anticipated loss of 758 jobs.

Nine of the top 10 fastest declining occupations are in production. *Electromechanical Equipment Assemblers* is estimated to be the fastest declining occupation with a loss of 23.74 percent due to major losses in *Electrical Equipment Manufacturing*. The only non-manufacturing or non-production job in the top 10 fastest declining list is *Materials Engineers* with a loss of 11.4 percent of its workforce.

## State of Arkansas Cost of Living

ACCRA Cost Of Living Index 2009 Q1 Index	100%	12.49%	29.18%	9.98%	11.10%	4.06%	33.19%
Urban Area	Composite Index	Grocery Items	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health Care	Misc. Goods And Services
Conway	87.6	96.9	76.5	95.3	91.7	93.2	89.4
Fayetteville	89.3	94.2	74.8	87.0	96.7	90.6	98.2
Fort Smith	83.7	87.3	68.9	91.7	84.3	95.7	91.4
Hot Springs	91.4	93.9	81.2	96.2	91.0	84.5	98.9
Jonesboro	85.5	93.4	73.1	90.3	87.6	87.1	91.0
Little Rock-North Little Rock	94.0	93.6	83.6	110.4	98.9	96.5	96.4

Source: The Council for Community and Economic Research

ACCRA Cost Of Living Index 2009Q1-2008Q1	100%	12.49%	29.18%	9.98%	11.10%	4.06%	33.19%
Urban Area	Composite Index	Grocery Items	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health Care	Misc. Goods And Services
Conway	90.2	97.6	79.7	95.6	96.3	92.1	92.9
Fayetteville	90.3	94.6	79.0	92.2	98.1	92.5	95.2
Fort Smith	86.6	89.5	70.7	96.5	87.6	92.7	95.4
Hot Springs	91.6	94.7	83.3	97.5	92.0	86.1	96.5
Jonesboro	86.9	92.3	76.7	91.6	91.1	86.2	91.1
Little Rock-North Little Rock	93.8	96.8	80.9	108.1	98.3	96.4	97.8

Source: The Council for Community and Economic Research

**ABOUT THE INDEX:** C2ER produces the ACCRA 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 ACCRA 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.

Based on the ACCRA composite cost of living index in Fort Smith, Arkansas goods and services would be 86.6 percent of the national average of all participating places, both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan, while in Little Rock, Arkansas the same goods and services would be 93.8 percent. Given a standard set of goods and services cost nationally of \$1000.00 these goods and services would cost \$866.00 in Fort Smith and \$938.00 in Little Rock, respectively during the time period 2009Q1 – 2008Q1.

Using this information makes it possible to determine what salary would be required to move from Fort Smith to Little Rock and maintain the same standard of living. Based upon a yearly

salary of \$75,000 in Fort Smith a salary of \$81,400 would be required in Little Rock (or slightly above an 8.5 percent raise).

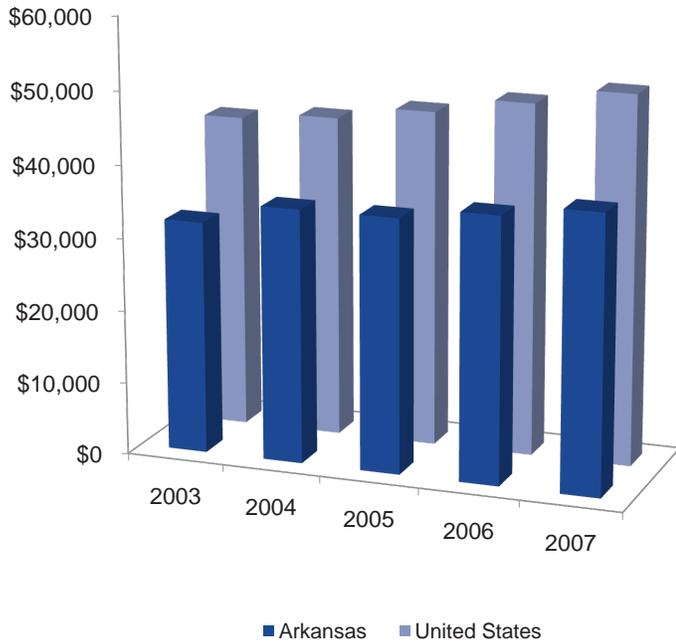
**2009Q1**  
The Index does not measure inflation (price change over time). For inflation data, contact the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).

During the time period of 2009Q1 – 2008Q1 the composite index for Fort Smith, Arkansas was 86.6. During the time period 2009Q1 the composite index changed to 83.7. Since the average for all participating places equals 100 during each rating period it may be interpreted that during the 2009Q1 rating period the cost of living index was lower in Fort Smith, Arkansas relative to the national average for all participating places than it was during the 2009Q1 – 2008Q1 rating period. The same conclusion is reasonable for the sub-category of Health Care. During the 2009Q1 period the Health Care category changed from 95.7 to 92.7. During the same period Grocery Items increased from 87.3 to 89.5, Housing changed from 68.9 to 70.7, Utilities rose from 91.7 to 96.5, Transportation went from 84.3 to 87.6 and Miscellaneous Goods and Services was higher at 95.4 up from 91.4.

Again using this information makes it possible to determine what salary would be required to move from Fort Smith to Little Rock and maintain the same standard of living. Based upon a yearly salary of \$75,000 in Fort Smith a salary of \$84,176 would be required in Little Rock (or slightly above a 12 percent raise).

# State of Arkansas Income

## Median Household Income 2003-2007

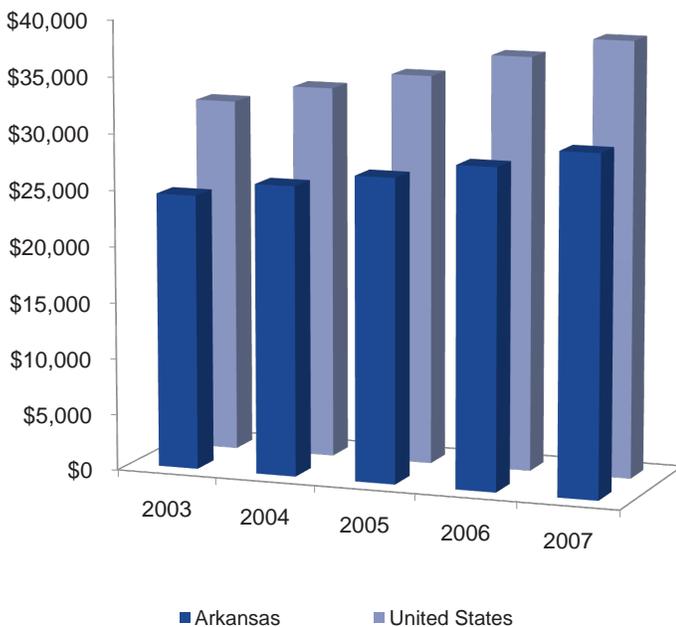


Arkansas/United States Median Household Income 2003-2007

Year	Income	
	Arkansas	United States
2003	\$32,002	\$43,318
2004	\$34,984	\$44,334
2005	\$35,041	\$46,242
2006	\$36,627	\$48,451
2007	\$38,239	\$50,740

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Per Capita Personal Income 2003-2007



Arkansas/United States Per Capita Personal Income 2003-2007

Year	Income	
	Arkansas	United States
2003	\$24,459	\$31,530
2004	\$25,801	\$33,157
2005	\$27,035	\$34,690
2006	\$28,473	\$36,794
2007	\$30,177	\$38,615

Source: United States Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

# State of Arkansas Employment Status and Quarterly Workforce Indicators

## State of Arkansas Employment Status by Sex and Race 2008

Sex and Race	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (%)	Percent Distribution		
					Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment
<b>Both Sexes</b>							
Total, Including Hispanic	1,370,259	1,300,542	69,717	5.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	1,135,861	1,088,723	47,138	4.1	82.9	83.7	67.6
Black	177,490	158,315	19,175	10.8	13.0	12.2	27.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	9,252	8,707	545	5.9	0.7	0.7	0.8
Asian	10,671	10,281	390	3.7	0.8	0.8	0.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	692	599	93	13.4	0.1	0.0	0.1
Remaining Races	20,075	18,747	1,328	6.6	1.5	1.4	1.9
Two or More Races	16,217	15,170	1,047	6.5	1.2	1.2	1.5
Total: Minority Group*	234,397	211,819	22,578	9.6	17.1	16.3	32.4
Hispanic, All Races	40,002	37,504	2,498	6.2	2.9	2.9	3.6
<b>Female</b>							
Total, Including Hispanic	640,423	606,053	34,370	5.4	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent of Total	46.7	46.6	49.3				
White	520,565	497,887	22,678	4.4	81.3	82.2	66.0
Black	96,171	86,098	10,073	10.5	15.0	14.2	29.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	4,318	4,014	304	7.0	0.7	0.7	0.9
Asian	5,247	5,100	147	2.8	0.8	0.8	0.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	290	259	31	10.7	0.0	0.0	0.1
Remaining Races	6,373	5,782	591	9.3	1.0	1.0	1.7
Two or more Races	7,459	6,912	547	7.3	1.2	1.1	1.6
Total: Minority Group*	119,858	108,165	11,693	9.8	18.7	17.8	34.0
Hispanic, All Races	13,924	12,751	1,173	8.4	2.2	2.1	3.4

\* 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, June 2009.

## State of Arkansas Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	61,209	57,295	56,208	54,679	58,177
New Hires	236,617	241,677	236,436	230,369	220,034
Separations	262,494	284,355	274,118	262,994	262,125
Turnover	10.00%	11.00%	10.50%	10.20%	10.40%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate = (1/2) \* (full-quarter accessions + full-quarter separations) / employment stable jobs

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics

As of 8/5/2009

# State of Arkansas High Growth Industries

High Growth Industries  
State of Arkansas Top 10 Industries by Growth in Employment  
2007Q3, 2008Q3  
Age=14-99  
(Private Firms Only)

Rank	Industry Group: NAICS 3-digit	Growth in Employment (%)
1	211 Oil and Gas Extraction	57.18
2	213 Support Activities for Mining	26.72
3	443 Electronics and Appliance Stores	26.38
4	712 Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions	17.81
5	711 Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	13.16
6	115 Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	7.98
7	481 Air Transportation	7.80
8	446 Health and Personal Care Stores	7.57
9	425 Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	7.08
10	237 Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	6.88

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
As of 8/4/2009

High Growth Industries  
State of Arkansas Top 10 Industries by Growth in Employment  
2007Q3, 2008Q3  
Age=45-54  
(Private Firms Only)

Rank	Industry Group: NAICS 3-Digit	Growth in Employment (%)
1	211 Oil and Gas Extraction	39.14
2	213 Support Activities for Mining	21.33
3	443 Electronics and Appliance Stores	20.59
4	115 Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	12.08
5	525 Funds, Trusts, and Other Financial Vehicles	10.65
6	212 Mining (except Oil and Gas)	9.69
7	492 Couriers and Messengers	9.12
8	324 Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	8.84
9	425 Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	8.50
10	518 Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services	8.12

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
As of 8/4/2009

## State of Arkansas High Growth Industries

High Growth Industries  
 State of Arkansas Top 10 Industries by Growth in Employment  
 2007Q3, 2008Q3  
 Age=55-64  
 (Private Firms Only)

Rank	Industry Group: NAICS 3-Digit	Growth in Employment (%)
1	213 Support Activities for Mining	35.43
2	211 Oil and Gas Extraction	33.93
3	443 Electronics and Appliance Stores	19.83
4	237 Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	12.57
5	492 Couriers and Messengers	12.24
6	425 Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	10.94
7	486 Pipeline Transportation	10.76
8	112 Animal Production	9.89
9	518 Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services	9.71
10	624 Social Assistance	9.41

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
 As of 8/4/2009

High Growth Industries  
 State of Arkansas Top 10 Industries by Growth in Employment  
 2007Q3, 2008Q3  
 Age=65-99  
 (Private Firms Only)

Rank	Industry Group: NAICS 3-digit	Growth in Employment (%)
1	446 Health and Personal Care Stores	16.56
2	523 Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	15.49
3	325 Chemical Manufacturing	13.95
4	711 Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	13.78
5	237 Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	13.17
6	335 Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	12.94
7	561 Administrative and Support Services	11.23
8	624 Social Assistance	11.13
9	332 Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	10.69
10	322 Paper Manufacturing	10.45

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
 As of 8/4/2009

# State of Arkansas Wages

## State of Arkansas Employment and Wages for Select Green Occupations

Occupation	Employment	Mean Hourly Wage
Electricians	4,750	\$19.58
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	3,320	\$17.39
Civil Engineers	1,620	\$33.16
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	1,540	\$11.15
Construction Managers	1,350	\$35.11
Electrical Engineers	770	\$37.03
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	600	\$44.58
Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	540	\$10.94
Insulation Workers, Floor, Ceiling, and Wall	400	\$12.51
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	270	\$24.29

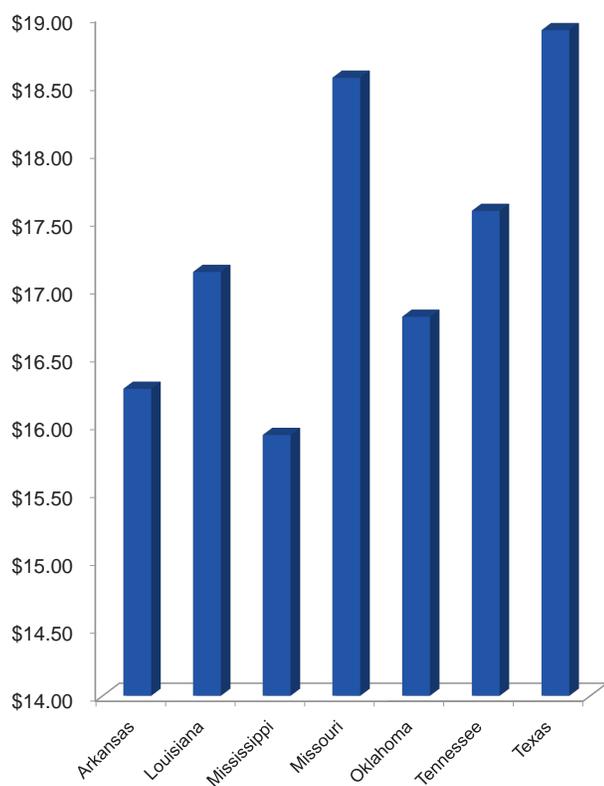
Source: Arkansas Department Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

## Average Wages of States Surrounding Arkansas

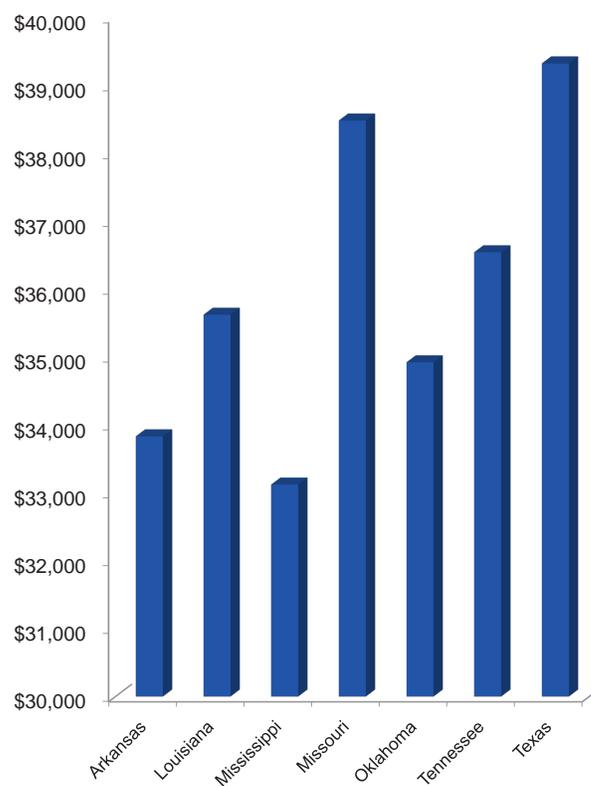
State	Mean Hourly Wage	Mean Annual Wage
Arkansas	\$16.26	\$33,830
Louisiana	\$17.12	\$35,620
Mississippi	\$15.92	\$33,120
Missouri	\$18.55	\$38,480
Oklahoma	\$16.79	\$34,920
Tennessee	\$17.57	\$36,540
Texas	\$18.90	\$39,320

Source: Arkansas Department Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

## Mean Hourly Wages, Surrounding States



## Mean Annual Wages, Surrounding States



# State of Arkansas Wages

## State of Arkansas Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	36,730	\$37,900	\$25,270	\$44,210
Retail Salespersons	36,520	\$21,750	\$14,870	\$25,190
Cashiers	31,380	\$16,870	\$14,670	\$17,970
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	27,770	\$21,870	\$16,360	\$24,630
Registered Nurses	23,000	\$55,280	\$39,440	\$63,200
Office Clerks, General	20,640	\$21,690	\$15,830	\$24,610
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	19,600	\$15,420	\$14,690	\$15,790
Waiters and Waitresses	18,550	\$17,060	\$14,740	\$18,230
Team Assemblers	17,960	\$24,760	\$17,920	\$28,180
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	17,470	\$28,720	\$20,090	\$33,040

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

## State of Arkansas Occupations Paying the Most

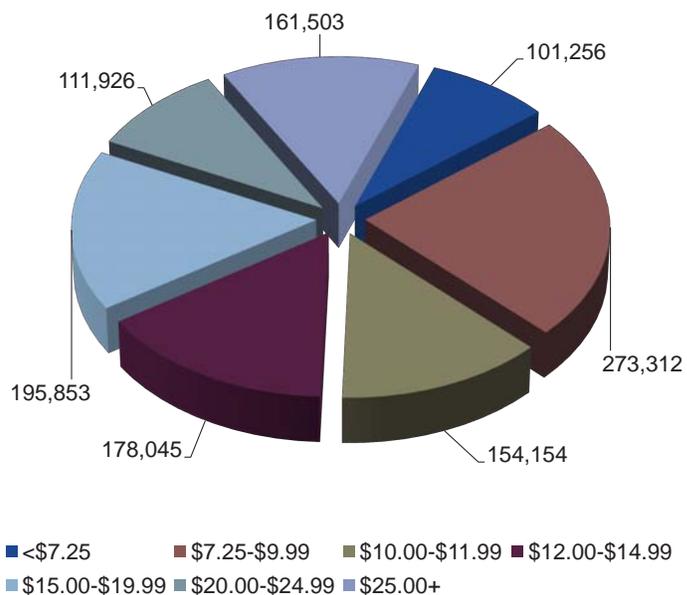
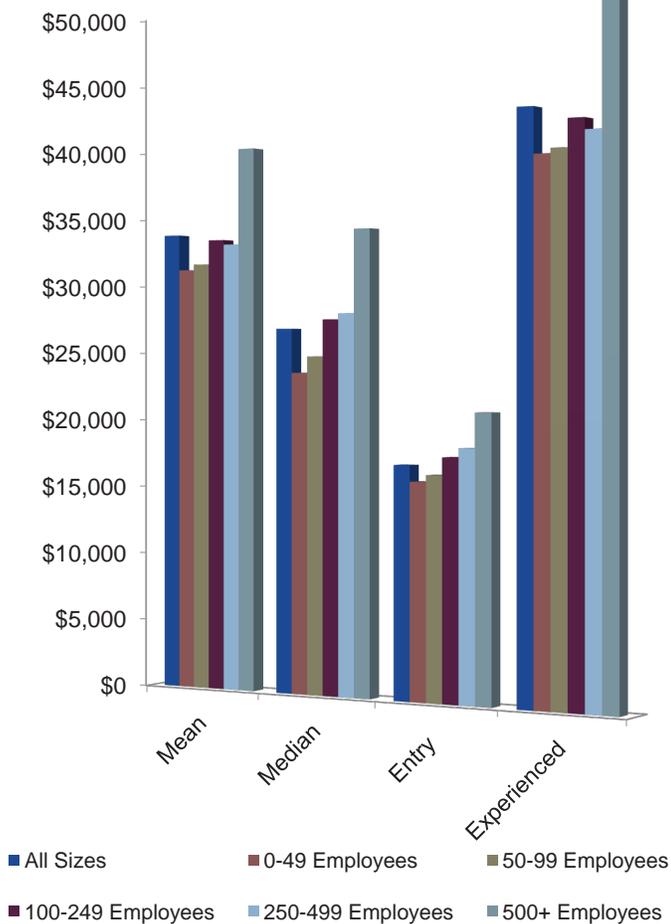
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$217,410
Anesthesiologists	\$205,950
Petroleum Engineers	\$203,390
Internists, General	\$201,270
Family and General Practitioners	\$188,880
Podiatrists	\$171,820
Dentists, General	\$166,500
Pediatricians, General	\$152,600
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons	\$152,260
Psychiatrists	\$141,170
Chief Executives	\$127,510
Optometrists	\$102,910
Mining and Geological Engineers, Including Mining Safety Engineers	\$101,200
Sales Managers	\$100,870
Marketing Managers	\$98,670
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	\$96,310
Pharmacists	\$96,120
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$95,880
Lawyers	\$95,300
Computer Hardware Engineers	\$94,360
Natural Sciences Managers	\$94,000
Engineering Managers	\$93,410
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	\$92,720
Chiropractors	\$91,930
General and Operations Managers	\$90,220

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# State of Arkansas Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size

## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



State of Arkansas Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$33,826	\$31,211	\$31,622	\$33,409	\$33,070	\$40,132
Median	\$26,785	\$23,549	\$24,751	\$27,457	\$27,886	\$34,013
Entry	\$16,957	\$15,780	\$16,278	\$17,573	\$18,234	\$20,800
Experienced	\$42,261	\$38,927	\$39,295	\$41,327	\$40,488	\$49,798

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

State of Arkansas Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
1,176,049	101,256	273,312	154,154	178,045	195,853	111,926	161,503

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# State of Arkansas Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
611100	Elementary and Secondary Schools	84,429	86,599	2,170	2.57%
929200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	35,653	37,460	1,807	5.07%
722200	Limited-Service Eating Places	39,840	41,395	1,555	3.90%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	37,281	38,710	1,429	3.83%
622100	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	52,125	53,477	1,352	2.59%
561400	Business Support Services	6,739	7,978	1,239	18.39%
722100	Full-Service Restaurants	34,321	35,380	1,059	3.09%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	25,420	26,402	982	3.86%
541600	Management, Scientific, and Technical Consulting Services	4,330	5,301	971	22.42%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	9,866	10,813	947	9.60%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
333600	Engine, Turbine, and Power Transmission Equipment Manufacturing	450	1,102	652	144.89%
325100	Basic Chemical Manufacturing	2,017	2,667	650	32.23%
532400	Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing	984	1,244	260	26.42%
316200	Footwear Manufacturing	1,656	2,074	418	25.24%
311900	Other Food Manufacturing	1,679	2,080	401	23.88%
541600	Management, Scientific, and Technical Consulting Services	4,330	5,301	971	22.42%
211000	Oil and Gas Extraction	1,101	1,341	240	21.80%
336400	Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	4,139	4,923	784	18.94%
561400	Business Support Services	6,739	7,978	1,239	18.39%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	3,934	4,632	698	17.74%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
311600	Animal Slaughtering and Processing	33,463	30,740	-2,723	-8.14%
335300	Electrical Equipment Manufacturing	4,759	3,600	-1,159	-24.35%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	9,385	8,460	-925	-9.86%
333900	Other General Purpose Machinery Manufacturing	2,926	2,214	-712	-24.33%
333400	Ventilation, Heating, Air-Conditioning, and Commercial Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturing	4,570	4,024	-546	-11.95%
447000	Gasoline Stations	11,975	11,498	-477	-3.98%
331300	Alumina and Aluminum Production	2,042	1,569	-473	-23.16%
321900	Other Wood Product Manufacturing	3,895	3,426	-469	-12.04%
331200	Steel Product Manufacturing from Purchased Steel	2,343	1,889	-454	-19.38%
326100	Plastics Product Manufacturing	7,276	6,840	-436	-5.99%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
311700	Seafood Product Preparation and Packaging	175	78	-97	-55.43%
485500	Charter Bus Industry	63	38	-25	-39.68%
327400	Lime and Gypsum Product Manufacturing	402	257	-145	-36.07%
332400	Boiler, Tank, and Shipping Container Manufacturing	715	488	-227	-31.75%
334500	Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical, and Control Instruments Manufacturing	845	588	-257	-30.41%
337200	Office Furniture (including Fixtures) Manufacturing	1,621	1,207	-414	-25.54%
335300	Electrical Equipment Manufacturing	4,759	3,600	-1,159	-24.35%
333900	Other General Purpose Machinery Manufacturing	2,926	2,214	-712	-24.33%
332600	Spring and Wire Product Manufacturing	574	435	-139	-24.22%
334300	Audio and Video Equipment Manufacturing	914	696	-218	-23.85%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# State of Arkansas Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth	Replacement	Total
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
29-1111	Registered Nurses	23,756	24,787	1,031	4.34%	516	319	835
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	14,518	15,492	974	6.71%	487	402	889
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	19,122	20,006	884	4.62%	442	319	761
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	39,623	40,446	823	2.08%	412	641	1,053
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	17,800	18,495	695	3.90%	348	130	478
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	37,179	37,826	647	1.74%	324	1,274	1,598
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	18,226	18,835	609	3.34%	305	1,080	1,385
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	21,713	22,205	492	2.27%	246	400	646
39-9011	Child Care Workers	12,356	12,826	470	3.80%	235	381	616
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	13,076	13,531	455	3.48%	228	272	500
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
51-6042	Shoe Machine Operators and Tenders	347	441	94	27.09%	47	3	50
51-6041	Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers	450	547	97	21.56%	49	10	59
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	569	676	107	18.80%	54	4	58
53-7073	Wellhead Pumpers	192	227	35	18.23%	18	9	27
47-5011	Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	760	895	135	17.76%	68	6	74
47-5012	Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	1,037	1,221	184	17.74%	92	7	99
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	204	240	36	17.65%	18	6	24
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	261	300	39	14.94%	20	5	25
49-2091	Avionics Technicians	358	408	50	13.97%	25	3	28
23-2091	Court Reporters	60	68	8	13.33%	4	1	5
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-2092	Team Assemblers	18,195	17,322	-873	-4.80%	0	359	359
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	11,191	10,433	-758	-6.77%	0	352	352
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	13,157	12,658	-499	-3.79%	0	342	342
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	26,776	26,304	-472	-1.76%	0	919	919
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	15,641	15,300	-341	-2.18%	0	447	447
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	3,225	2,887	-338	-10.48%	0	75	75
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	7,671	7,358	-313	-4.08%	0	185	185
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	6,730	6,431	-299	-4.44%	0	72	72
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	3,641	3,366	-275	-7.55%	0	65	65
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	6,250	6,004	-246	-3.94%	0	79	79
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-2023	Electromechanical Equipment Assemblers	139	106	-33	-23.74%	0	2	2
51-2021	Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	568	449	-119	-20.95%	0	9	9
51-9051	Furnace, Kiln, Oven, Drier, and Kettle Operators and Tenders	1,194	1,010	-184	-15.41%	0	31	31
51-2022	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	1,021	891	-130	-12.73%	0	15	15
51-9131	Photographic Process Workers	129	114	-15	-11.63%	0	5	5
17-2131	Materials Engineers	114	101	-13	-11.40%	0	3	3
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	3,225	2,887	-338	-10.48%	0	75	75
51-7021	Furniture Finishers	259	233	-26	-10.04%	0	5	5
51-4035	Milling and Planing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	334	301	-33	-9.88%	0	3	3
51-4012	Numerical Tool and Process Control Programmers	101	92	-9	-8.91%	0	1	1

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## Central Arkansas WIA Profile

The Central Arkansas Workforce Investment Area has seen a population increase of 31,834, or 7.2 percent, to 476,653 residents from 2004 to 2008. Over the same time period, the labor force increased by 7.8 percent to a total of 238,950 workers, while employment jumped by 17,750 workers, or 8.4 percent. The 2008 annual unemployment rate for the Area, which includes the major cities of Jacksonville, North Little Rock, and Conway, was 4.3 percent. For the five-year period from 2004 to 2008, the annual unemployment rate dropped five-tenths of a percentage point.

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

Three four-year colleges and universities are located in Conway: the University of Central Arkansas; Hendrix College; and Central Baptist College. There are satellite campuses of other colleges and universities located in the Area, including the University of Arkansas at Little Rock-Benton and the Pulaski Technical College-Saline County Career Center in Bauxite. Two two-year colleges, Shorter College and Pulaski Technical College, are located in North Little Rock.

### Industry

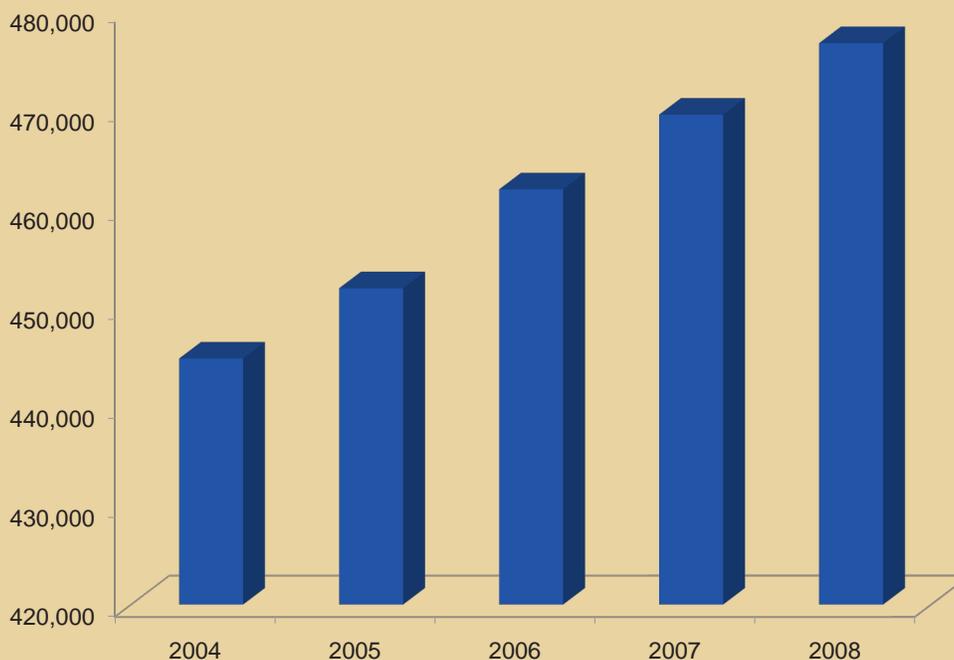
The Central Arkansas WIA is estimated to add 3,544 jobs, an increase of 2.12 percent between 2008 and 2010. *Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services* is projected to be the top

growing industry with an increase of 694 jobs. The top 10 growing industries are forecast to increase employment by at least 186 jobs each. *Food Manufacturing* is estimated to be the fastest growing industry with an increase of 29.68 percent, while *Machinery Manufacturing* is second with an anticipated gain of 19.4 percent. *Publishing Industries* and *Warehousing and Storage* are projected to be the top two industries in both net and percent decline, losing a combined 631 jobs, or more than 31 percent of each industry's respective workforce.

### Occupations

*Retail Salespersons* is projected to lead the Area in net growth with 166 new jobs, while *Customer Service Representatives* is one employee behind, anticipating 165. *Food Batchmakers*, estimated to increase its employment by one-third, is forecast to be the fastest growing occupation and leads a list of six occupations involved in production that are included on the top 10 fastest growing list. *Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers* is predicted to see the highest net growth among occupations included in the top 10 fastest growing occupations list, with 41 new jobs. *Packers and Packagers, Hand* is forecast to lose 147 jobs, or 12.26 percent of its workforce, making it the top declining occupation in net growth. *Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers* is projected to lose 59.38 percent of its workforce, while *Sewing Machine Operators* is anticipated to lose almost a third. Five occupations included on the top 10 fastest declining list could lose more than 12 percent of their respective workforce in the Area.

### Population 2004-2008



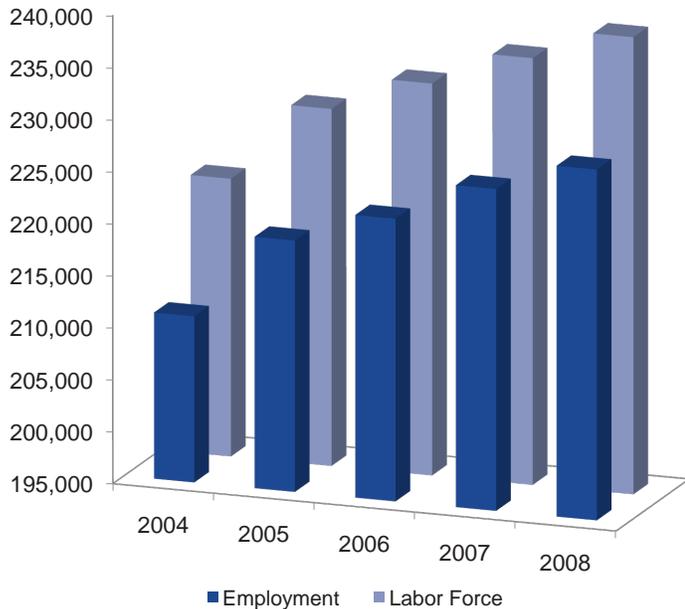
Central Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
444,819	451,915	461,894	469,435	476,653	7.2%

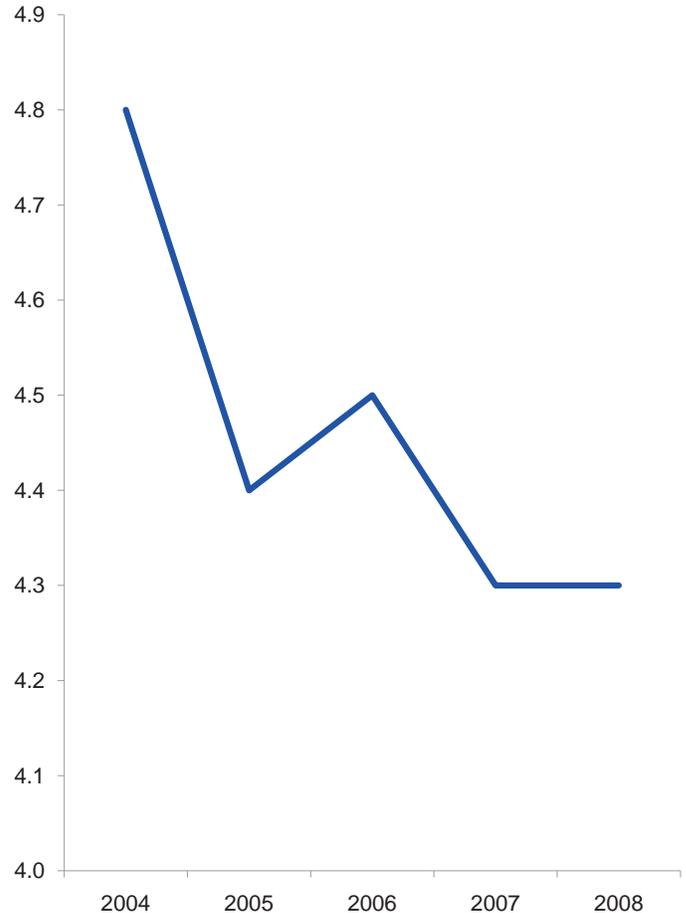
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# Central Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### Central Arkansas WIA Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	221,700	229,325	232,675	236,025	238,950
Employment	210,975	219,175	222,175	225,950	228,725
Unemployment	10,725	10,150	10,500	10,075	10,225
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.3

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Central Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	5.9
2009	February	5.8
2009	March	5.5
2009	April	5.3
2009	May	5.8
2009	June	6.5

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Central Arkansas does not include City of Little Rock WIA

### Central Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	9,005	8,627	8,842	9,254	8,754
New Hires	36,437	36,345	38,002	38,429	34,254
Separations	39,845	42,231	42,547	42,662	40,315
Turnover	11.30%	11.90%	11.80%	11.70%	11.30%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate =  $(1/2) * (\text{full-quarter accessions} + \text{full-quarter separations}) / \text{employment stable jobs}$

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics

As of 8/5/2009

# Central Arkansas WIA Wages

## Central Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Retail Salespersons	2,470	\$21,736	\$15,544	\$24,833
Cashiers	2,190	\$17,092	\$14,799	\$18,239
Waiters and Waitresses	2,160	\$16,389	\$14,617	\$17,275
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,970	\$14,984	\$14,543	\$15,204
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,960	\$20,374	\$18,085	\$21,519
Cooks, Fast Food	1,480	\$15,254	\$14,637	\$15,563
Office Clerks, General	1,390	\$20,722	\$15,430	\$23,368
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,330	\$21,591	\$15,751	\$24,511
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,280	\$43,387	\$34,032	\$48,065
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,200	\$19,589	\$15,291	\$21,739

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

## Central Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

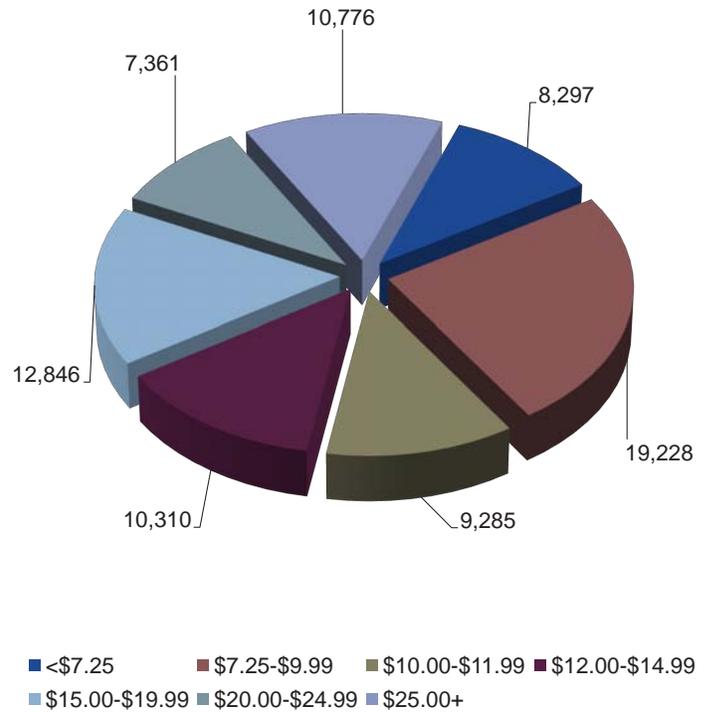
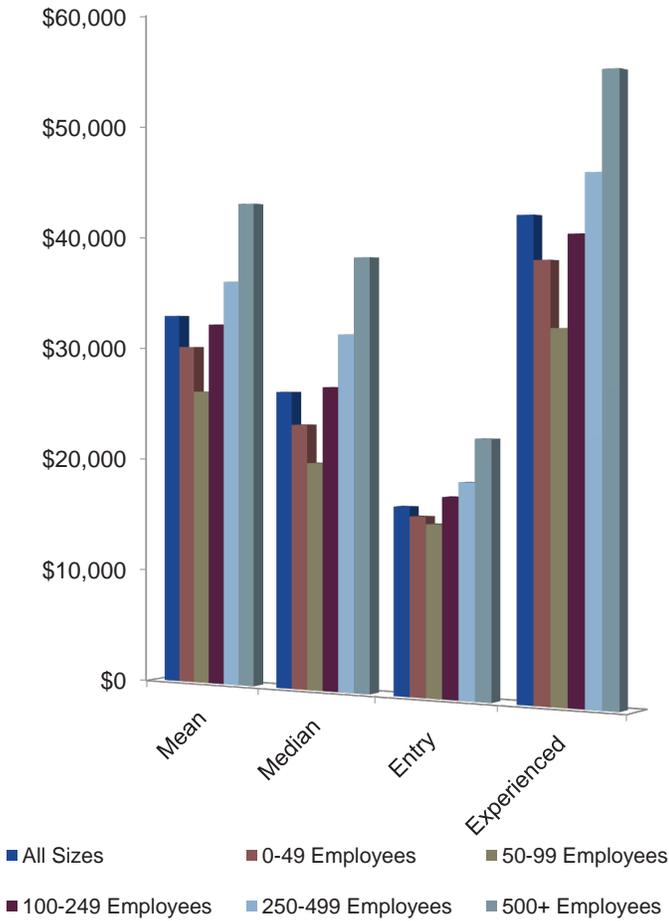
Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Dentists, General	\$201,539
Family and General Practitioners	\$181,143
Chief Executives	\$111,839
Engineering Managers	\$97,528
Sales Managers	\$94,016
Lawyers	\$92,562
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$90,455
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$90,049
General and Operations Managers	\$86,389
Marketing Managers	\$85,378
Pharmacists	\$84,471
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	\$81,844
Management Analysts	\$81,123
Civil Engineers	\$76,886
Farm and Home Management Advisors	\$75,570
Industrial Production Managers	\$74,755
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$71,937
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	\$71,077
Public Relations Specialists	\$70,714
Occupational Therapists	\$70,253
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$68,243
Mechanical Engineers	\$67,817
Registered Nurses	\$66,645
Physical Therapists	\$66,160
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$66,118

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Central Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size

## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Central Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size						
Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$32,911	\$30,103	\$26,091	\$32,111	\$35,909	\$42,824
Median	\$26,123	\$23,250	\$19,904	\$26,578	\$31,183	\$37,882
Entry	\$16,336	\$15,538	\$14,911	\$17,281	\$18,570	\$22,303
Experienced	\$41,199	\$37,385	\$31,680	\$39,525	\$44,579	\$53,085

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

Central Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate							
Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
78,103	8,297	19,228	9,285	10,310	12,846	7,361	10,776

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Central Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	7,501	8,195	694	9.25%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	12,799	13,261	462	3.61%
611000	Educational Services	12,187	12,592	405	3.32%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4,632	4,891	259	5.59%
624000	Social Assistance	4,767	4,998	231	4.85%
311000	Food Manufacturing	748	970	222	29.68%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	6,136	6,352	216	3.52%
622000	Hospitals	3,900	4,110	210	5.38%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	4,933	5,122	189	3.83%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	959	1,145	186	19.40%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
311000	Food Manufacturing	748	970	222	29.68%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	959	1,145	186	19.40%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	864	998	134	15.51%
112000	Animal Production	213	245	32	15.02%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	620	683	63	10.16%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	924	1,013	89	9.63%
115000	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	168	184	16	9.52%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	7,501	8,195	694	9.25%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	154	165	11	7.14%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	174	186	12	6.90%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
493000	Warehousing and Storage	1,605	1,105	-500	-31.15%
511000	Publishing Industries	333	202	-131	-39.34%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,703	1,611	-92	-5.40%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	743	654	-89	-11.98%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,806	1,734	-72	-3.99%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	4,152	4,106	-46	-1.11%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	1,360	1,316	-44	-3.24%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	855	811	-44	-5.15%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	1,684	1,640	-44	-2.61%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	470	432	-38	-8.09%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
511000	Publishing Industries	333	202	-131	-39.34%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	1,605	1,105	-500	-31.15%
486000	Pipeline Transportation	88	77	-11	-12.50%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	743	654	-89	-11.98%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	151	133	-18	-11.92%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	470	432	-38	-8.09%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	186	171	-15	-8.06%
814000	Private Households	76	70	-6	-7.89%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,703	1,611	-92	-5.40%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	855	811	-44	-5.15%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# Central Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth	Replacement Total	
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	6,041	6,207	166	2.75%	83	207	290
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,789	2,954	165	5.92%	83	77	160
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,099	3,254	155	5.00%	78	52	130
29-1111	Registered Nurses	2,211	2,347	136	6.15%	68	30	98
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	2,595	2,718	123	4.74%	62	19	81
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	3,222	3,327	105	3.26%	53	191	244
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	1,331	1,416	85	6.39%	43	22	65
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	2,198	2,273	75	3.41%	38	31	69
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	2,858	2,929	71	2.48%	36	57	93
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	4,241	4,312	71	1.67%	36	69	105
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
51-3092	Food Batchmakers	42	56	14	33.33%	7	1	8
51-4194	Tool Grinders, Filers, and Sharpeners	30	35	5	16.67%	3	1	4
51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	48	53	5	10.42%	3	1	4
19-4091	Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	59	65	6	10.17%	3	3	6
51-3011	Bakers	132	145	13	9.85%	7	3	10
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	469	510	41	8.74%	21	9	30
29-1051	Pharmacists	492	530	38	7.72%	19	9	28
11-9011	Farm, Ranch, and Other Agricultural Managers	131	141	10	7.63%	5	1	6
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	80	86	6	7.50%	3	1	4
33-3021	Detectives and Criminal Investigators	123	131	8	6.50%	4	3	7
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	1,199	1,052	-147	-12.26%	0	13	13
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	2,548	2,463	-85	-3.34%	0	73	73
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	202	135	-67	-33.17%	0	2	2
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,289	3,225	-64	-1.95%	0	113	113
51-6041	Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers	96	39	-57	-59.38%	0	2	2
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	202	175	-27	-13.37%	0	4	4
41-9041	Telemarketers	392	374	-18	-4.59%	0	16	16
43-4151	Order Clerks	273	255	-18	-6.59%	0	6	6
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	678	662	-16	-2.36%	0	17	17
53-3033	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	989	974	-15	-1.52%	0	16	16
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-6041	Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers	96	39	-57	-59.38%	0	2	2
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	202	135	-67	-33.17%	0	2	2
27-1011	Art Directors	47	39	-8	-17.02%	0	1	1
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	202	175	-27	-13.37%	0	4	4
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	1,199	1,052	-147	-12.26%	0	13	13
51-9041	Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	132	122	-10	-7.58%	0	3	3
51-9191	Cementing and Gluing Machine Operators and Tenders	87	81	-6	-6.90%	0	3	3
43-4151	Order Clerks	273	255	-18	-6.59%	0	6	6
43-4071	File Clerks	184	173	-11	-5.98%	0	6	6
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	218	205	-13	-5.96%	0	5	5

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## City of Little Rock WIA Profile

The City of Little Rock Workforce Investment Area's population saw the state's smallest population increase during the period from 2004 to 2008, with only 4,483 new residents, or 2.4 percent. However, surrounded by smaller suburbs and a short commute time, the labor force grew by 3,700 workers to 98,625, or 3.9 percent, while employment figures went up 4,250 workers, or by 4.7 percent. The WIA's annual unemployment rate for 2008 was 4.6 percent, seeing a drop of seven-tenths of a percentage point over the five-year period.

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

Four four-year colleges are located in the City of Little Rock: the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Arkansas Baptist College, Philander Smith College, and Remington College. It is also home to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and the UALR William H. Bowen School of Law.

### Industry

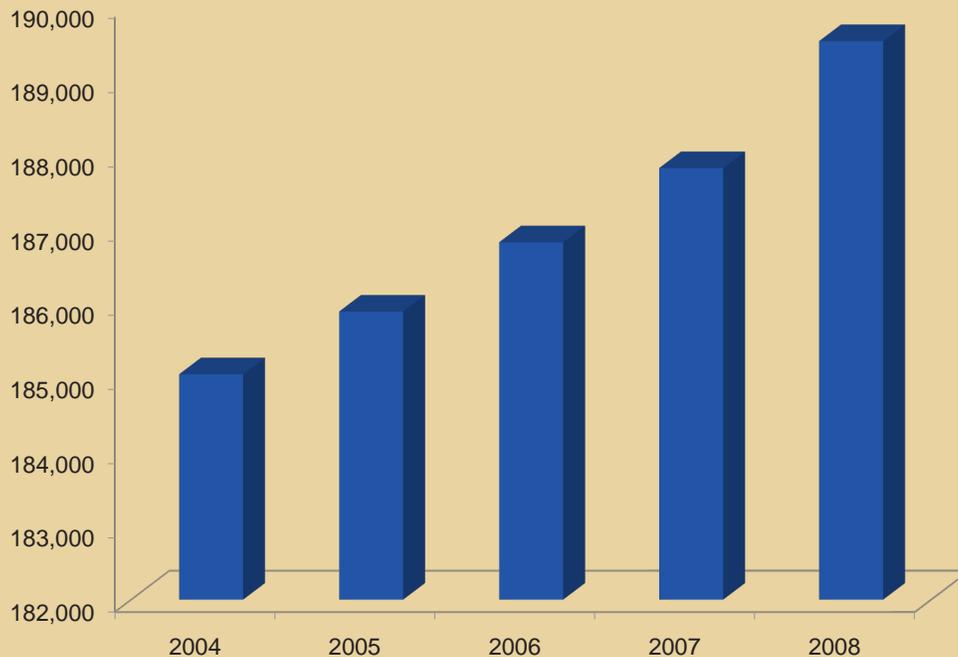
The City of Little Rock WIA is estimated to add 4,445 jobs to the local economy, an increase of 2.29 percent. State government jobs are anticipated to lead the Area in net growth with 932 new jobs, but many of those jobs may be temporary and associated with the federal stimulus package. *Machinery Manufacturing*, however, is likely to be the industry to watch with 433 new jobs, or a 67.03 percent growth. Production of windmill blades, turbines, and other related products is a likely

cause for this growth and is anticipated to give the Area a key role in the push for alternative energy sources, especially wind. *Credit Intermediation and Related Activities* is expected to lose 375 jobs between 2008 and 2010, or 12 percent of its workforce. *Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing* is projected to lose an additional 145 jobs, and is forecast to be the fastest declining industry with a 28.43 percent decline in employment.

### Occupations

*Customer Service Representatives* is projected to add the most jobs during the projection period with 245 new jobs anticipated, while *Registered Nurses* is not far behind with an expected growth of 225. In all, four occupations are forecast to gain more than 100 jobs. *Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic* employment is anticipated to more than double between 2008 and 2010, making it the fastest growing occupation in the Area. All 10 of the fastest growing occupations are anticipating gains of more than 21 percent, seven of which are involved in production, specifically, the Metal Workers and Plastic Workers occupational family. While the Area is seeing gains in Manufacturing, the Transportation and Material Moving Occupations major group is seeing the reverse. *Packers and Packagers, Hand* is forecast to lose 135 jobs, or 17.93 percent of its workforce. *Machine Feeders and Offbearers* is estimated to cut 37.1 percent of its employment, while *Conveyer Operators and Tenders* is projected to lose 35.53 percent. All 10 of the fastest declining occupations are forecast to lose at least 10 percent.

### Population 2004-2008



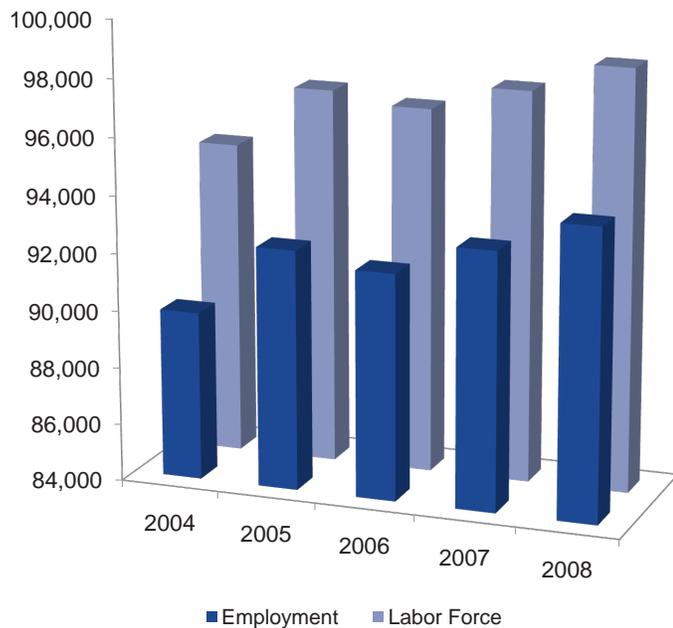
City of Little Rock WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
185,032	185,876	186,808	187,806	189,515	2.4%

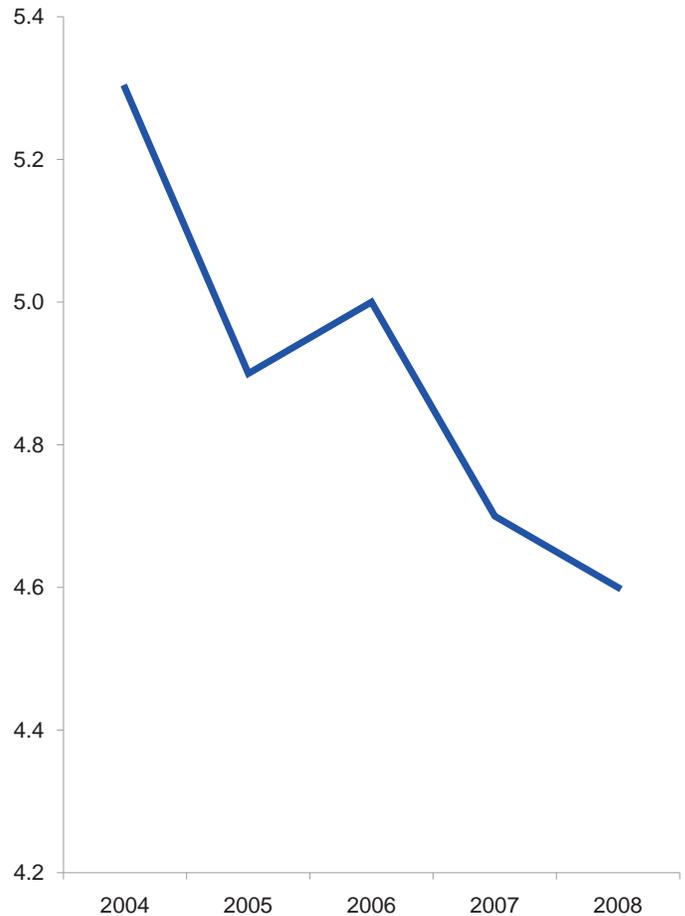
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# City of Little Rock WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### City of Little Rock WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	94,925	97,100	96,725	97,600	98,625
Employment	89,875	92,375	91,900	93,000	94,125
Unemployment	5,050	4,725	4,825	4,600	4,500
Unemployment Rate	5.3	4.9	5.0	4.7	4.6

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### City of Little Rock WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	6,586	6,555	6,404	6,500	7,259
New Hires	31,820	32,561	31,114	30,592	29,570
Separations	36,542	37,890	37,409	34,994	35,297
Turnover	8.90%	9.50%	9.50%	8.80%	8.70%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate =  $(1/2) * (\text{full-quarter accessions} + \text{full-quarter separations}) / \text{employment stable jobs}$

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
As of 8/5/2009

### City of Little Rock WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	6.0
2009	February	6.0
2009	March	5.6
2009	April	5.4
2009	May	6.0
2009	June	6.8

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

# City of Little Rock WIA Wages

## City of Little Rock WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Retail Salespersons	8,910	\$22,063	\$14,599	\$25,796
Registered Nurses	8,140	\$61,443	\$43,457	\$70,436
Customer Service Representatives	6,600	\$28,969	\$20,424	\$33,241
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	6,130	\$34,866	\$24,842	\$39,878
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	5,740	\$21,533	\$16,176	\$24,211
Cashiers	5,000	\$17,572	\$14,724	\$18,996
Office Clerks, General	4,940	\$22,896	\$16,452	\$26,118
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	4,360	\$31,753	\$22,478	\$36,391
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	4,100	\$19,280	\$14,766	\$21,537
Waiters and Waitresses	3,880	\$16,978	\$14,702	\$18,116

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

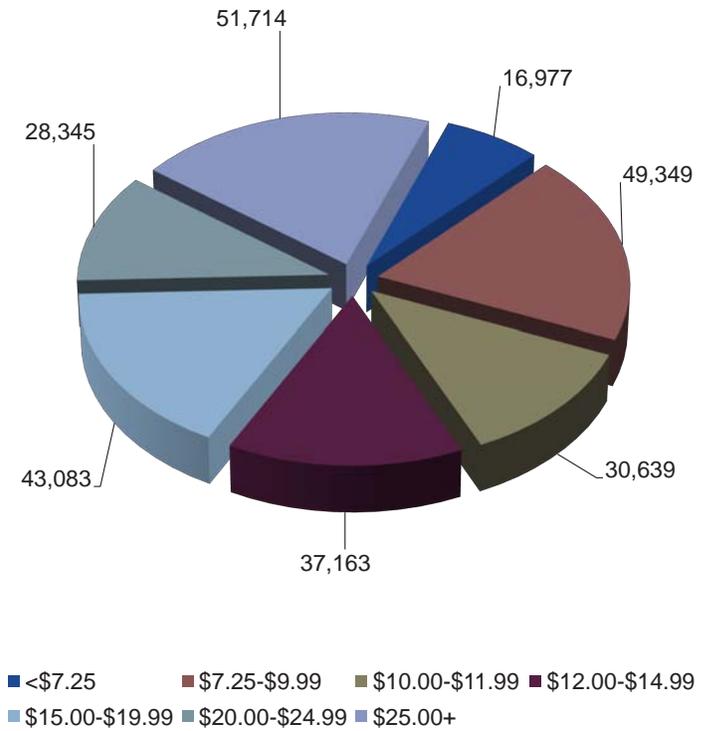
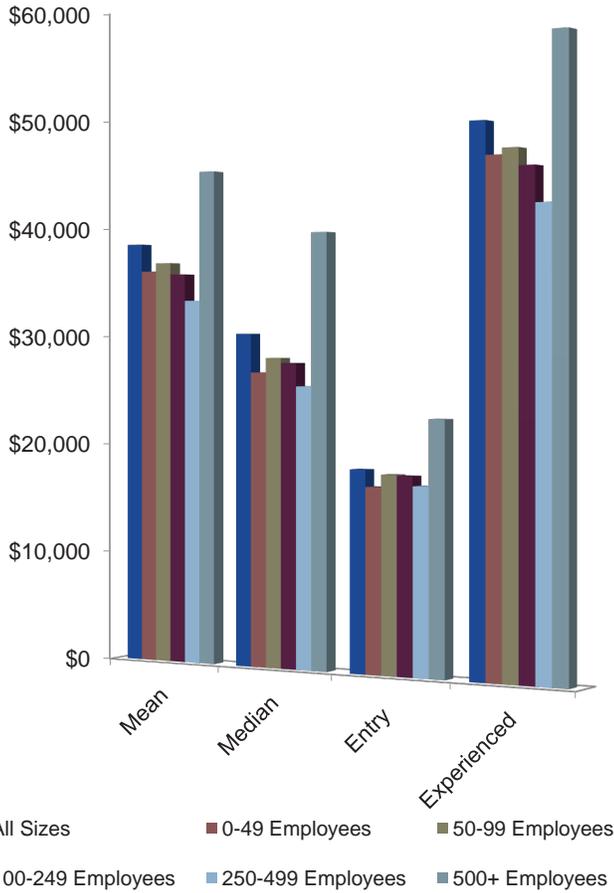
## City of Little Rock WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Surgeons	\$225,988
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$220,499
Dentists, General	\$195,836
Podiatrists	\$192,447
Psychiatrists	\$164,222
Chief Executives	\$162,151
Family and General Practitioners	\$161,020
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$118,630
Chiropractors	\$110,412
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	\$105,201
Sales Managers	\$104,044
Engineering Managers	\$104,017
Lawyers	\$102,730
General and Operations Managers	\$101,615
Marketing Managers	\$99,387
Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	\$98,143
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$98,003
Pharmacists	\$93,459
Mechanical Engineers	\$92,540
Natural Sciences Managers	\$90,735
Financial Managers	\$89,524
Interpreters and Translators	\$87,281
Actuaries	\$87,265
Advertising and Promotions Managers	\$84,609
Real Estate Brokers	\$83,831

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size

## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



City of Little Rock WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$38,532	\$36,010	\$36,767	\$35,708	\$33,271	\$45,099
Median	\$30,225	\$26,716	\$28,034	\$27,591	\$25,499	\$39,341
Entry	\$18,167	\$16,645	\$17,771	\$17,697	\$16,836	\$22,753
Experienced	\$48,715	\$45,692	\$46,265	\$44,714	\$41,489	\$56,272

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

City of Little Rock WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
257,270	16,977	49,349	30,639	37,163	43,083	28,345	51,714

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# City of Little Rock WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
929200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	12,626	13,558	932	7.38%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	646	1,079	433	67.03%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	10,035	10,401	366	3.65%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	4,085	4,393	308	7.54%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	5,824	6,106	282	4.84%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	11,918	12,189	271	2.27%
622000	Hospitals	17,025	17,296	271	1.59%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	7,889	8,158	269	3.41%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	9,615	9,879	264	2.75%
624000	Social Assistance	4,019	4,213	194	4.83%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	646	1,079	433	67.03%
512000	Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	326	429	103	31.60%
311000	Food Manufacturing	871	969	98	11.25%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	900	986	86	9.56%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,171	2,342	171	7.88%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	4,085	4,393	308	7.54%
929200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	12,626	13,558	932	7.38%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	831	883	52	6.26%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	634	667	33	5.21%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	5,824	6,106	282	4.84%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	3,124	2,749	-375	-12.00%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	510	365	-145	-28.43%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	636	540	-96	-15.09%
511000	Publishing Industries	1,796	1,730	-66	-3.67%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	727	669	-58	-7.98%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	900	846	-54	-6.00%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	2,725	2,681	-44	-1.61%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	275	238	-37	-13.45%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	4,904	4,875	-29	-0.59%
814000	Private Households	264	235	-29	-10.98%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	510	365	-145	-28.43%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	109	90	-19	-17.43%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	636	540	-96	-15.09%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	275	238	-37	-13.45%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	3,124	2,749	-375	-12.00%
814000	Private Households	264	235	-29	-10.98%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	727	669	-58	-7.98%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	900	846	-54	-6.00%
481000	Air Transportation	492	472	-20	-4.07%
447000	Gasoline Stations	548	526	-22	-4.01%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# City of Little Rock WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth	Replacement Total	
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	4,930	5,175	245	4.97%	123	137	260
29-1111	Registered Nurses	6,179	6,404	225	3.64%	113	83	196
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	2,528	2,636	108	4.27%	54	19	73
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	309	411	102	33.01%	51	6	57
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,226	2,325	99	4.45%	50	37	87
43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	2,320	2,417	97	4.18%	49	32	81
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	2,720	2,809	89	3.27%	45	161	206
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	3,422	3,509	87	2.54%	44	48	92
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	1,806	1,889	83	4.60%	42	30	72
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	3,607	3,684	77	2.13%	39	67	106
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	58	120	62	106.90%	31	1	32
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	73	115	42	57.53%	21	1	22
51-4011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	24	33	9	37.50%	5	0	5
51-4122	Welding, Soldering, and Brazing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	26	35	9	34.62%	5	1	6
27-4031	Camera Operators, Television, Video, and Motion Picture	15	20	5	33.33%	3	1	4
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	309	411	102	33.01%	51	6	57
51-4012	Numerical Tool and Process Control Programmers	17	22	5	29.41%	3	0	3
17-3013	Mechanical Drafters	43	55	12	27.91%	6	1	7
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	164	199	35	21.34%	18	4	22
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	146	177	31	21.23%	16	4	20
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	753	618	-135	-17.93%	0	8	8
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,892	1,794	-98	-5.18%	0	54	54
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,686	3,596	-90	-2.44%	0	127	127
43-3071	Tellers	794	709	-85	-10.71%	0	42	42
13-2072	Loan Officers	443	396	-47	-10.61%	0	4	4
43-4131	Loan Interviewers and Clerks	292	258	-34	-11.64%	0	5	5
41-9091	Door-To-Door Sales Workers, News and Street Vendors, and Related Workers	662	632	-30	-4.53%	0	9	9
43-4071	File Clerks	360	333	-27	-7.50%	0	11	11
53-7011	Conveyor Operators and Tenders	76	49	-27	-35.53%	0	1	1
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	62	39	-23	-37.10%	0	1	1
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	62	39	-23	-37.10%	0	1	1
53-7011	Conveyor Operators and Tenders	76	49	-27	-35.53%	0	1	1
51-9051	Furnace, Kiln, Oven, Drier, and Kettle Operators and Tenders	23	18	-5	-21.74%	0	1	1
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	753	618	-135	-17.93%	0	8	8
43-4141	New Accounts Clerks	57	49	-8	-14.04%	0	2	2
43-4131	Loan Interviewers and Clerks	292	258	-34	-11.64%	0	5	5
51-9196	Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	100	89	-11	-11.00%	0	3	3
43-3071	Tellers	794	709	-85	-10.71%	0	42	42
13-2072	Loan Officers	443	396	-47	-10.61%	0	4	4
49-9012	Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	50	45	-5	-10.00%	0	1	1

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## Eastern Arkansas WIA Profile

The Eastern Arkansas Workforce Investment Area has seen a drop in population of 2.4 percent to 130,083 residents from 2004 to 2008. Conversely, the labor force and employment have seen an increase of 1.1 percent and 1.7 percent, respectively. The annual unemployment rate for the Area for 2008 was 7.5 percent, a decrease of six-tenths of a percentage point since 2004.

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

Although there are no four-year colleges in the Area, there are several two-year institutions. Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute and East Arkansas Community College are in Forrest City, Phillips County Community College of the University of Arkansas System is in Helena, and Mid-South Community College is in West Memphis.

### Industry

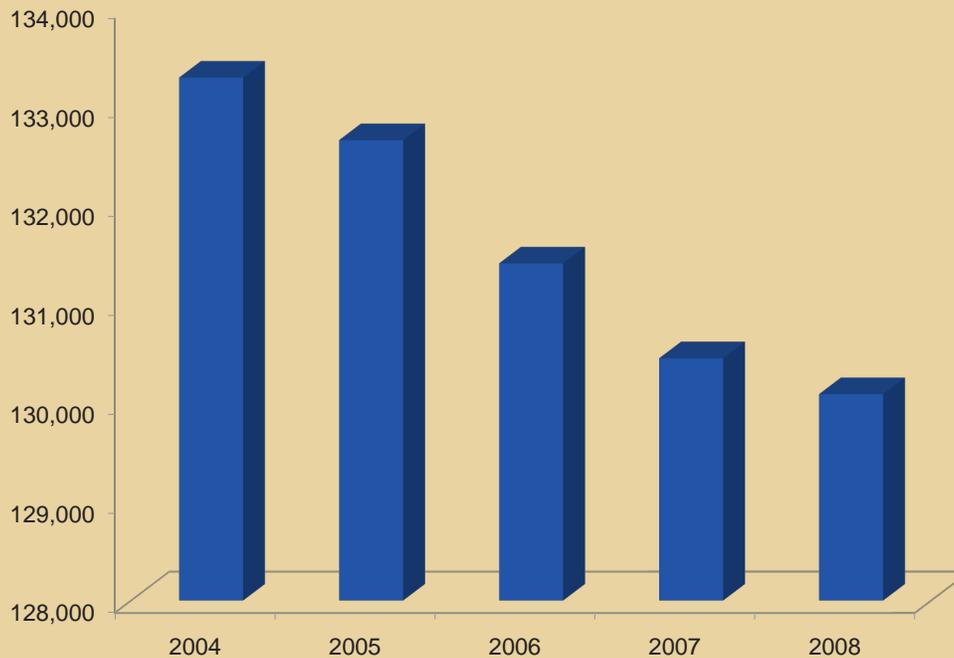
The Area is forecast to gain 1,055 jobs, or increase employment by 2.39 percent. *Ambulatory Health Care Services* is projected to gain the most new jobs with 122 expected. All four industries in

the Health Care and Social Assistance sector are included in the top 10 Growing Industries list. *Chemical Manufacturing*, at 15.48 percent, is estimated to be the fastest growing industry. *Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers* and *Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction* are forecast to grow by more than 9 percent each. *Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing* is estimated to lead the Area in both net and percent decline with a 21 percent loss of employment, or 46 jobs, while *Gasoline Stations* are projected to lose 43 jobs.

### Occupations

*Personal and Home Care Aides* is projected to add the most jobs in Eastern Arkansas with 53 new jobs, while *Correctional Officers and Jailers* is forecast to have the second highest net growth with 40 new jobs. *Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders* is predicted to increase employment by 17.07 percent, while *Industrial Machinery Mechanics* is estimated to add 16.67 percent to its workforce. *Team Assemblers* is projected to lead the Area in net decline with 34 jobs, or 8.67 percent are expected to be cut during the 2008-2010 projection period. *Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer* and *Packers and Packers, Hand* are each forecast to lose 11 jobs.

### Population 2004-2008



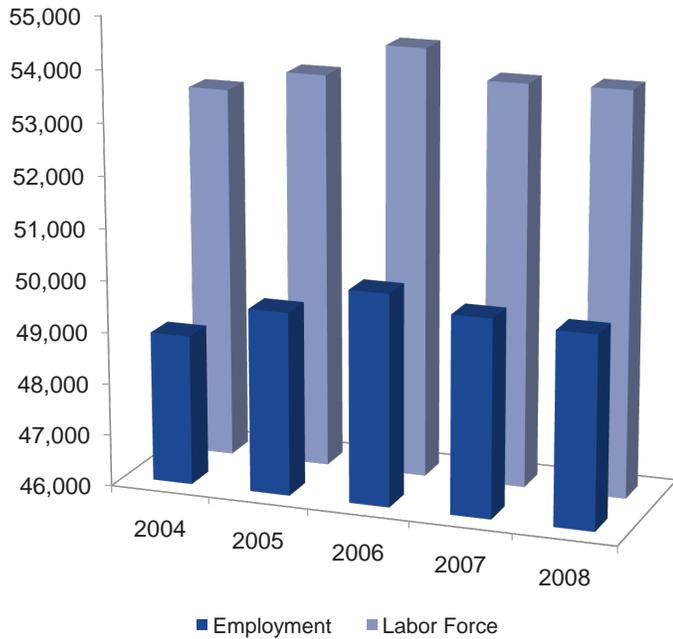
Eastern Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
133,277	132,646	131,402	130,444	130,083	-2.4%

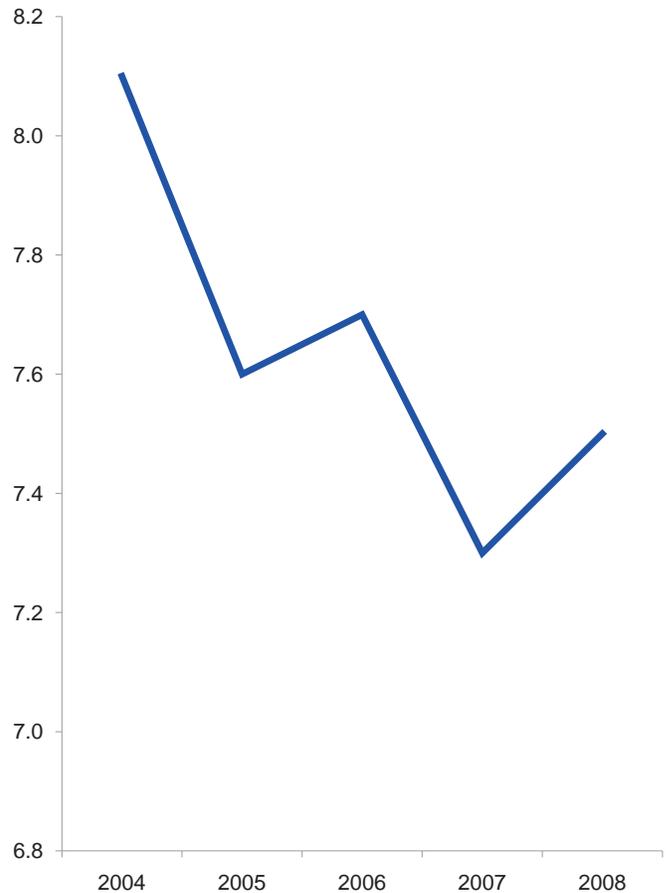
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# Eastern Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### Eastern Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	53,200	53,625	54,275	53,750	53,775
Employment	48,900	49,550	50,100	49,825	49,725
Unemployment	4,300	4,075	4,175	3,925	4,050
Unemployment Rate	8.1	7.6	7.7	7.3	7.5

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Eastern Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators

(All Ownerships)	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
QWI Quickfacts					
Job Creation	2,568	2,552	2,350	2,096	1,976
New Hires	8,255	7,886	8,006	7,962	7,148
Separations	9,123	9,841	8,965	9,112	9,227
Turnover	10.30%	11.10%	10.60%	10.90%	11.20%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate =  $(1/2) * (\text{full-quarter accessions} + \text{full-quarter separations}) / \text{employment stable jobs}$ .

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
As of 8/5/2009

### Eastern Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	10.2
2009	February	9.8
2009	March	9.1
2009	April	8.3
2009	May	8.4
2009	June	9.3

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

## Eastern Arkansas WIA Wages

### Eastern Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	1,330	\$35,152	\$23,383	\$41,036
Cashiers	1,190	\$16,323	\$14,571	\$17,198
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,150	\$19,290	\$15,299	\$21,285
Retail Salespersons	930	\$21,836	\$15,665	\$24,922
Office Clerks, General	740	\$20,615	\$15,618	\$23,114
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	700	\$22,365	\$16,657	\$25,219
Correctional Officers and Jailers	680	\$36,439	\$26,158	\$41,580
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	670	\$42,242	\$34,571	\$46,077
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	670	\$17,529	\$15,157	\$18,715
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	590	\$28,652	\$20,451	\$32,753

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

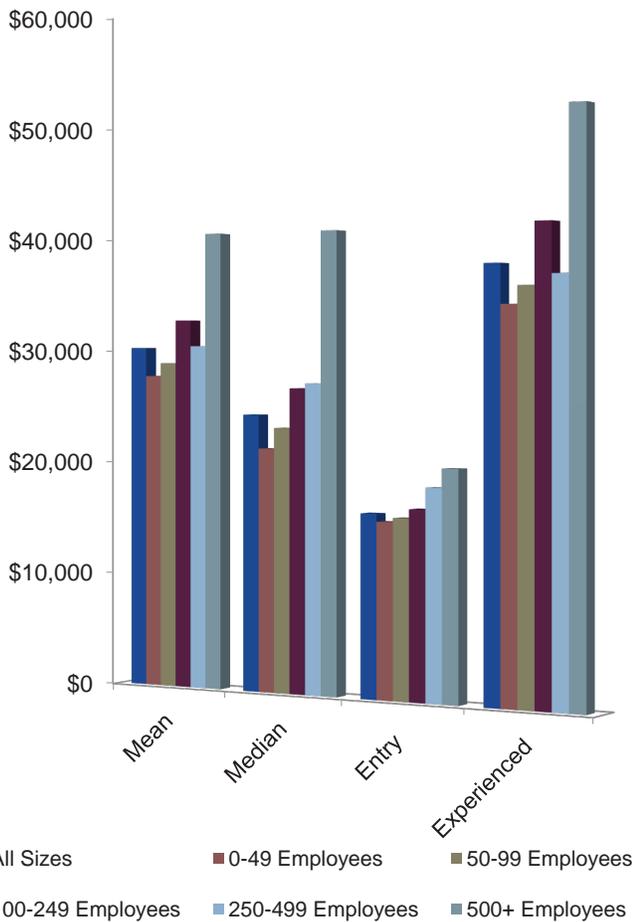
### Eastern Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Internists, General	\$200,080
Psychiatrists	\$149,241
Family and General Practitioners	\$123,013
Pharmacists	\$110,137
Construction Managers	\$99,818
Chief Executives	\$95,695
Engineering Managers	\$87,136
Physical Therapists	\$85,541
General and Operations Managers	\$84,282
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$77,941
Industrial Engineers	\$75,086
Industrial Production Managers	\$75,041
Mechanical Engineers	\$74,255
Occupational Therapists	\$73,346
Dental Hygienists	\$72,882
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$69,265
Civil Engineers	\$68,201
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	\$66,668
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$65,137
Loan Officers	\$63,578
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$63,418
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$60,718
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	\$60,388
Sales Managers	\$58,725
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	\$58,538

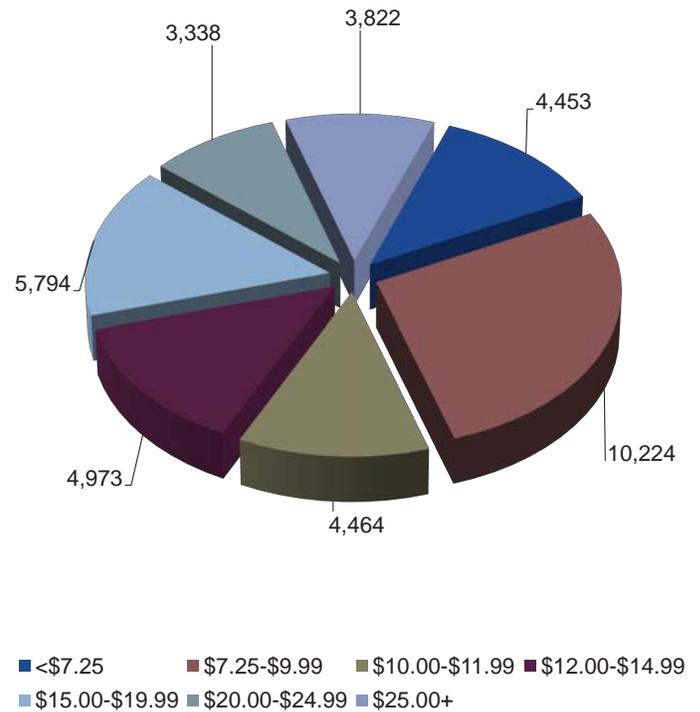
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Eastern Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Eastern Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$30,281	\$27,752	\$28,913	\$32,741	\$30,445	\$40,420
Median	\$24,386	\$21,422	\$23,246	\$26,741	\$27,177	\$40,481
Entry	\$16,007	\$15,328	\$15,683	\$16,491	\$18,370	\$20,031
Experienced	\$37,417	\$33,964	\$35,528	\$40,866	\$36,482	\$50,615

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

Eastern Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
37,068	4,453	10,224	4,464	4,973	5,794	3,338	3,822

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Eastern Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,800	1,922	122	6.78%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	2,412	2,505	93	3.86%
624000	Social Assistance	1,728	1,803	75	4.34%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	1,901	1,974	73	3.84%
929200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	1,568	1,630	62	3.95%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	696	756	60	8.62%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	336	388	52	15.48%
622000	Hospitals	876	920	44	5.02%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	1,079	1,123	44	4.08%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	811	840	29	3.58%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	336	388	52	15.48%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	73	80	7	9.59%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	287	313	26	9.06%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	696	756	60	8.62%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,800	1,922	122	6.78%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	318	338	20	6.29%
622000	Hospitals	876	920	44	5.02%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	106	111	5	4.72%
624000	Social Assistance	1,728	1,803	75	4.34%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	433	451	18	4.16%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	219	173	-46	-21.00%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,041	998	-43	-4.13%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	887	865	-22	-2.48%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	873	855	-18	-2.06%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	228	211	-17	-7.46%
812000	Personal and Laundry Services	218	206	-12	-5.50%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	217	207	-10	-4.61%
311000	Food Manufacturing	569	560	-9	-1.58%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	355	346	-9	-2.54%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	219	210	-9	-4.11%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	219	173	-46	-21.00%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	59	53	-6	-10.17%
814000	Private Households	87	79	-8	-9.20%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	72	66	-6	-8.33%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	228	211	-17	-7.46%
812000	Personal and Laundry Services	218	206	-12	-5.50%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	217	207	-10	-4.61%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,041	998	-43	-4.13%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	219	210	-9	-4.11%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	355	346	-9	-2.54%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# Eastern Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent Growth	Replacement	Total	
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	736	789	53	7.20%	27	12	39
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	742	782	40	5.39%	20	16	36
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	638	671	33	5.17%	17	11	28
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,046	1,076	30	2.87%	15	36	51
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	969	996	27	2.79%	14	33	47
29-1111	Registered Nurses	427	451	24	5.62%	12	6	18
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	780	802	22	2.82%	11	15	26
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	659	678	19	2.88%	10	9	19
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	405	421	16	3.95%	8	11	19
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	773	789	16	2.07%	8	16	24
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	41	48	7	17.07%	4	1	5
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	84	98	14	16.67%	7	1	8
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	117	129	12	10.26%	6	3	9
31-9091	Dental Assistants	114	124	10	8.77%	5	2	7
53-7011	Conveyor Operators and Tenders	146	158	12	8.22%	6	3	9
29-1051	Pharmacists	74	80	6	8.11%	3	2	5
29-2041	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	179	193	14	7.82%	7	2	9
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	156	168	12	7.69%	6	3	9
29-2021	Dental Hygienists	69	74	5	7.25%	3	1	4
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	736	789	53	7.20%	27	12	39
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-2092	Team Assemblers	392	358	-34	-8.67%	0	8	8
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	1,574	1,563	-11	-0.70%	0	26	26
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	135	124	-11	-8.15%	0	2	2
41-2011	Cashiers	1,536	1,527	-9	-0.59%	0	97	97
43-4071	File Clerks	89	82	-7	-7.87%	0	3	3
41-2022	Parts Salespersons	194	189	-5	-2.58%	0	3	3
53-1031	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Transportation and Material-Moving Machine and Vehicle Operators	147	143	-4	-2.72%	0	3	3
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	144	141	-3	-2.08%	0	4	4
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics	141	138	-3	-2.13%	0	3	3
45-4022	Logging Equipment Operators	13	11	-2	-15.38%	0	0	0
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
45-4022	Logging Equipment Operators	13	11	-2	-15.38%	0	0	0
51-2092	Team Assemblers	392	358	-34	-8.67%	0	8	8
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	135	124	-11	-8.15%	0	2	2
43-4071	File Clerks	89	82	-7	-7.87%	0	3	3
47-2051	Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	19	18	-1	-5.26%	0	1	1
51-9121	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	48	46	-2	-4.17%	0	1	1
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	26	25	-1	-3.85%	0	1	1
41-2022	Parts Salespersons	194	189	-5	-2.58%	0	3	3
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	1,574	1,563	-11	-0.70%	0	26	26
41-2011	Cashiers	1,536	1,527	-9	-0.59%	0	97	97

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## North Central Arkansas WIA Profile

The North Central Arkansas Workforce Investment Area had the smallest percent growth in population with a 2.2 percent increase, or 5,023 new residents moving to the area from 2004 to 2008. The labor force increased 3.4 percent to 102,550 workers over the five-year period while employment increased by 4.2 percent, or 3,850 workers. Annual unemployment rates fell seven-tenths of a percentage point over the five-year period, with the annual unemployment rate for 2008 being 6.0 percent.

The North Central Arkansas WIA 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.

The Area is home to three public two-year colleges that are part of the Arkansas State University system with campuses located in Beebe, Newport, and Searcy. The Area is also home to two private four-year institutions, Lyon College in Batesville and Harding University in Searcy. Several community, technical and trade schools are located in the Area, including the UA Community College in Batesville and Ozarka College in Melbourne.

### Industry

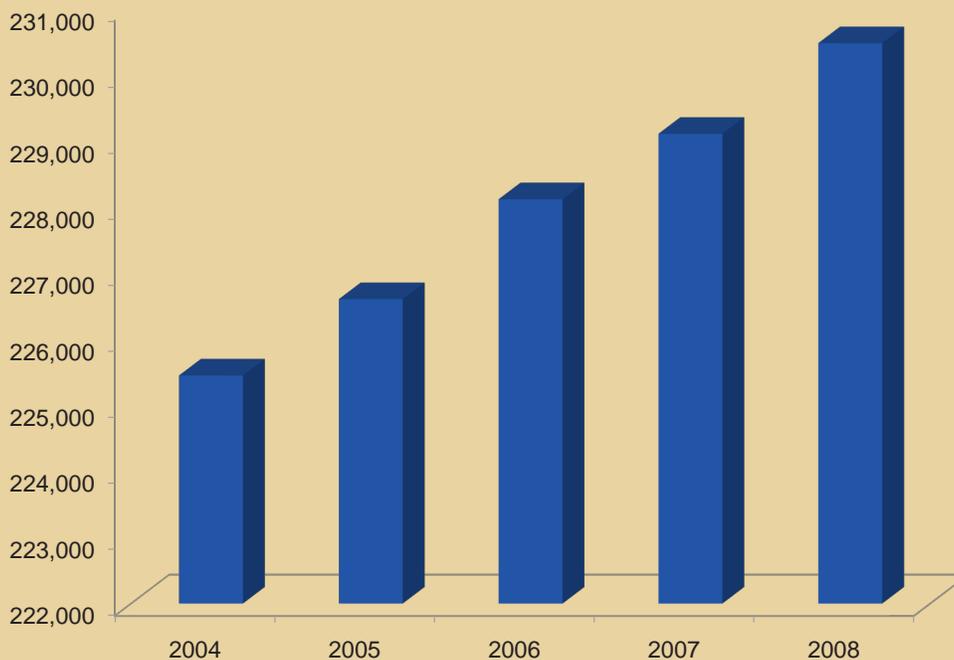
The North Central Arkansas WIA is estimated to gain 2,045 jobs, an increase of 2.33 percent between 2008 and 2010. The Area has a key role in the Fayetteville Shale activity. During the 2008 to 2010 projection period, *Support Activities for Mining* is forecast to lead the region in both net and percent growth

with a gain of 267 jobs, an increase of 69.17 percent. *Apparel Manufacturing* employment is anticipated to increase by more than 60 percent. *Educational Services* is projected to gain 257 jobs during the projection period. *Wood Product Manufacturing* is estimated to lose the most jobs with 319 expected to be cut. *Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing* is also forecast to lose a significant number of jobs with 162 anticipated, or a decline of 61.13 percent, which would make it the top declining industry in the Area.

### Occupations

*Farmers and Ranchers* is estimated to be the top growing occupation with 278 new jobs between 2008 and 2010. *Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks* is forecast to add 105 jobs to the North Central Arkansas economy. *Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas* is projected to be the fastest growing occupation with 70 percent growth. In all, six of the top 10 fastest growing occupations are related to oil and natural gas and every occupation on this list is anticipating at least a 29.22 percent growth. *Team Assemblers* leads the Area in net decline with a projected loss of 116 jobs. Eight of the top 10 declining and all 10 of the fastest declining occupations are involved in either production or distribution of materials. *Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Wood* is forecast to decline the fastest with a drop of 32.29 percent. Half of the top 10 fastest declining occupations are predicted to lose more than 10 percent of their respective workforce.

### Population 2004-2008



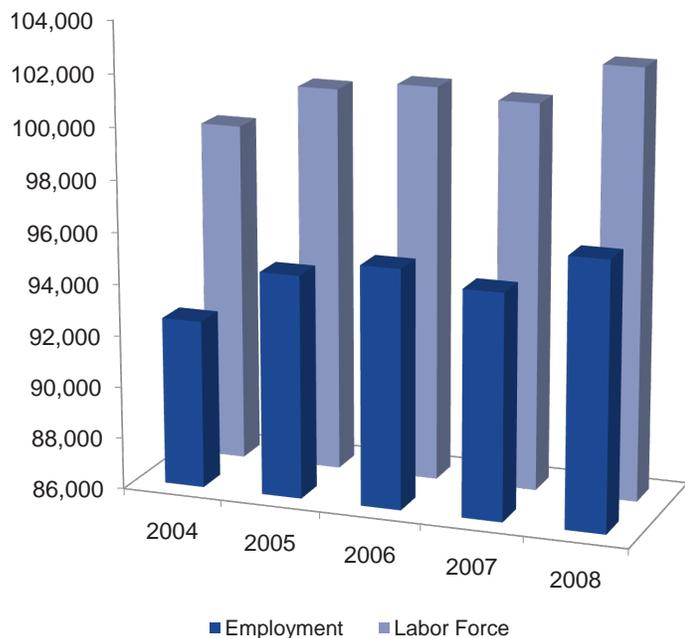
North Central Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
225,446	226,600	228,110	229,099	230,469	2.2%

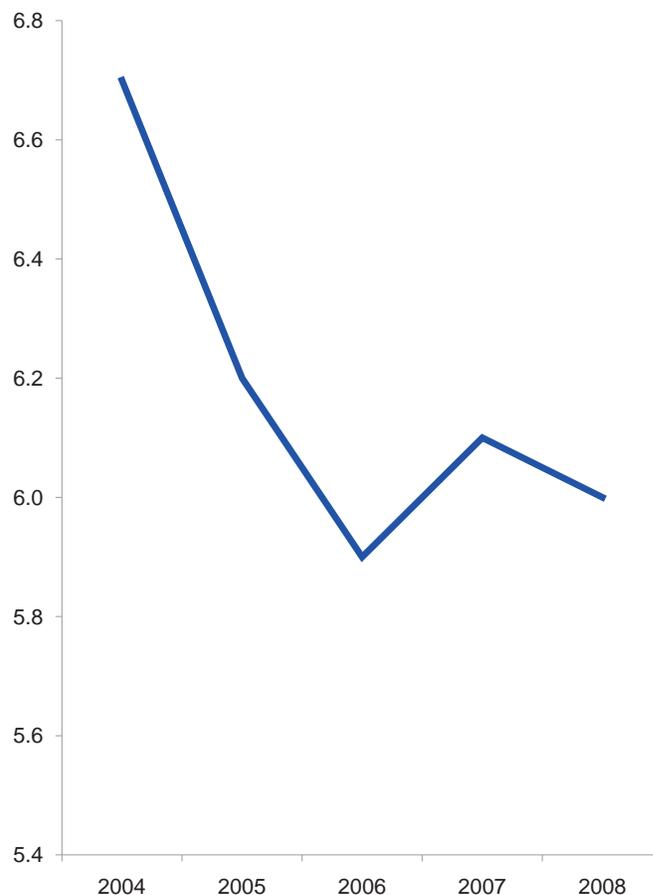
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# North Central Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### North Central Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	99,150	100,875	101,250	100,925	102,550
Employment	92,500	94,650	95,275	94,750	96,350
Unemployment	6,650	6,225	5,975	6,175	6,200
Unemployment Rate	6.7	6.2	5.9	6.1	6.0

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### North Central Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	4,015	3,423	3,625	3,644	4,573
New Hires	14,523	14,132	13,777	14,541	15,966
Separations	16,548	16,536	16,191	16,405	17,597
Turnover	10.40%	10.60%	10.40%	10.70%	10.90%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate = (1/2) \* (full-quarter accessions + full-quarter separations) / employment stable jobs

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics

As of 8/5/2009

### North Central Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	8.7
2009	February	8.4
2009	March	7.8
2009	April	7.4
2009	May	7.7
2009	June	8.3

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

## North Central Arkansas WIA Wages

### North Central Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	2,730	\$16,425	\$14,672	\$17,302
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	2,140	\$34,893	\$24,199	\$40,240
Retail Salespersons	1,820	\$22,561	\$15,170	\$26,257
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,690	\$21,024	\$15,663	\$23,704
Registered Nurses	1,460	\$50,467	\$37,263	\$57,070
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,410	\$18,792	\$16,709	\$19,834
Waiters and Waitresses	1,350	\$15,983	\$14,775	\$16,587
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,330	\$15,453	\$14,832	\$15,763
Office Clerks, General	1,320	\$20,566	\$15,025	\$23,336
Cooks, Fast Food	1,160	\$15,317	\$14,771	\$15,590

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

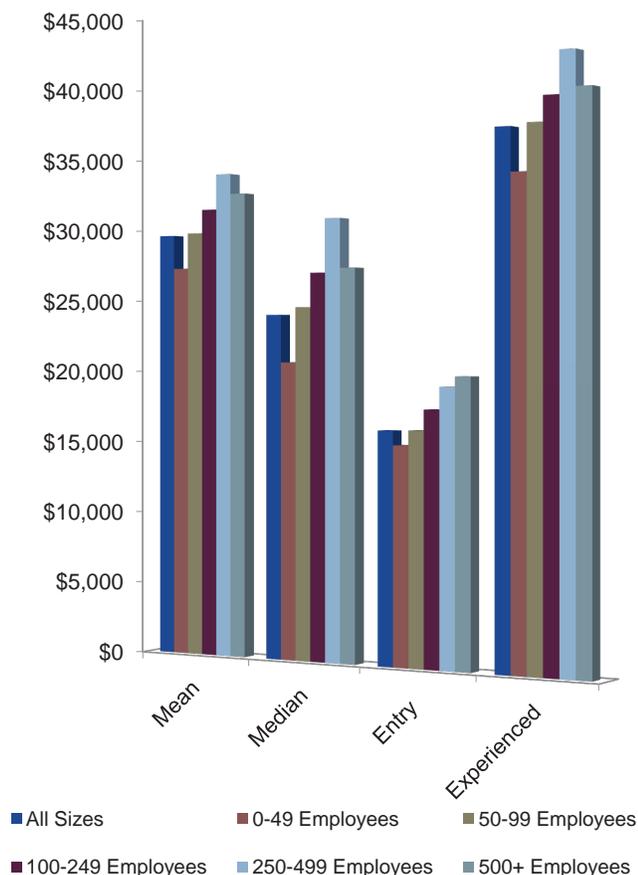
### North Central Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Surgeons	\$221,492
Dentists, General	\$201,849
Family and General Practitioners	\$169,105
Chief Executives	\$110,837
Pharmacists	\$99,197
Public Relations Managers	\$87,811
Management Analysts	\$87,361
Occupational Therapists	\$84,702
Engineering Managers	\$81,386
General and Operations Managers	\$81,251
Veterinarians	\$76,189
Sales Managers	\$74,563
Marketing Managers	\$72,928
Health and Safety Engineers, Except Mining Safety Engineers and Inspectors	\$72,365
Financial Managers	\$72,248
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$71,960
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$71,267
Civil Engineers	\$70,882
Industrial Production Managers	\$69,700
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	\$68,242
Mechanical Engineers	\$67,602
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$66,609
Purchasing Managers	\$66,377
Physical Therapists	\$66,056
Industrial Engineers	\$65,434

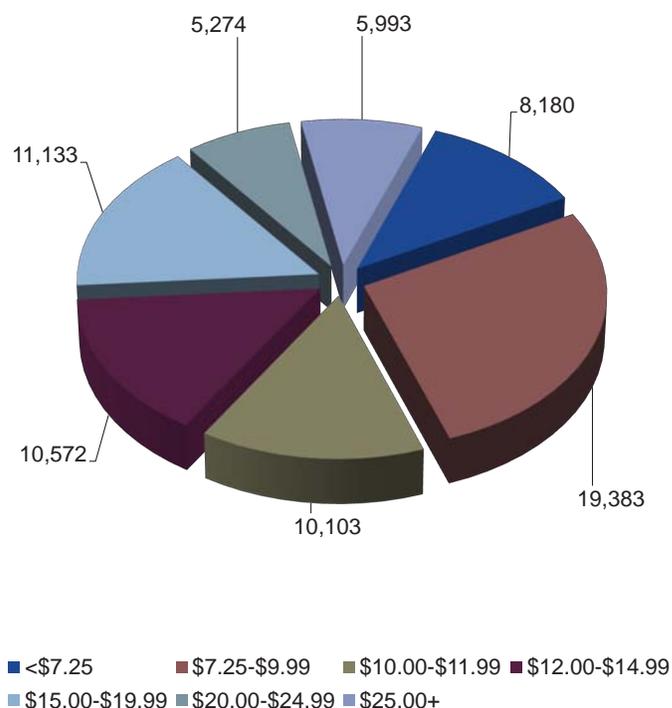
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# North Central Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



North Central Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$29,630	\$27,281	\$29,776	\$31,423	\$33,887	\$32,492
Median	\$23,980	\$20,669	\$24,494	\$26,874	\$30,610	\$27,188
Entry	\$16,063	\$15,075	\$16,105	\$17,541	\$19,079	\$19,793
Experienced	\$36,413	\$33,384	\$36,611	\$38,364	\$41,292	\$38,842

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

North Central Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
70,638	8,180	19,383	10,103	10,572	11,133	5,274	5,993

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# North Central Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
213000	Support Activities for Mining	386	653	267	69.17%
611000	Educational Services	9,036	9,293	257	2.84%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	4,928	5,119	191	3.88%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	2,677	2,835	158	5.90%
211000	Oil and Gas Extraction	422	573	151	35.78%
622000	Hospitals	2,826	2,974	148	5.24%
532000	Rental and Leasing Services	321	465	144	44.86%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	824	942	118	14.32%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,815	2,923	108	3.84%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	580	677	97	16.72%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
213000	Support Activities for Mining	386	653	267	69.17%
315000	Apparel Manufacturing	109	175	66	60.55%
532000	Rental and Leasing Services	321	465	144	44.86%
211000	Oil and Gas Extraction	422	573	151	35.78%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	142	182	40	28.17%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	580	677	97	16.72%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	824	942	118	14.32%
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	119	135	16	13.45%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	193	212	19	9.84%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	947	1,022	75	7.92%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	916	597	-319	-34.83%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	265	103	-162	-61.13%
311000	Food Manufacturing	3,583	3,430	-153	-4.27%
448000	Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	258	164	-94	-36.43%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,054	1,016	-38	-3.61%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	275	242	-33	-12.00%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	706	674	-32	-4.53%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	489	457	-32	-6.54%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	684	653	-31	-4.53%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	153	128	-25	-16.34%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	265	103	-162	-61.13%
448000	Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	258	164	-94	-36.43%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	916	597	-319	-34.83%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	153	128	-25	-16.34%
488000	Support Activities for Transportation	275	242	-33	-12.00%
486000	Pipeline Transportation	71	64	-7	-9.86%
112000	Animal Production	238	221	-17	-7.14%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	489	457	-32	-6.54%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	191	180	-11	-5.76%
517000	Telecommunications	193	183	-10	-5.18%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# North Central Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth	Replacement	Total
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
11-9012	Farmers and Ranchers	12,439	12,717	278	2.23%	139	98	237
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	1,353	1,458	105	7.76%	53	19	72
29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,371	1,452	81	5.91%	41	19	60
41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	243	314	71	29.22%	36	11	47
51-5023	Printing Machine Operators	132	198	66	50.00%	33	3	36
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	123	187	64	52.03%	32	1	33
11-1011	Chief Executives	178	235	57	32.02%	29	5	34
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	922	979	57	6.18%	29	15	44
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,123	1,175	52	4.63%	26	19	45
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	179	229	50	27.93%	25	2	27
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
47-5012	Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	40	68	28	70.00%	14	1	15
19-4041	Geological and Petroleum Technicians	11	18	7	63.64%	4	1	5
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	58	94	36	62.07%	18	2	20
51-9031	Cutters and Trimmers, Hand	12	19	7	58.33%	4	0	4
47-5011	Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	30	46	16	53.33%	8	0	8
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	123	187	64	52.03%	32	1	33
51-5023	Printing Machine Operators	132	198	66	50.00%	33	3	36
53-7073	Wellhead Pumpers	53	74	21	39.62%	11	3	14
11-1011	Chief Executives	178	235	57	32.02%	29	5	34
41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	243	314	71	29.22%	36	11	47
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,112	996	-116	-10.43%	0	22	22
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	267	205	-62	-23.22%	0	6	6
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	227	173	-54	-23.79%	0	5	5
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	441	401	-40	-9.07%	0	11	11
51-7041	Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Wood	96	65	-31	-32.29%	0	2	2
51-7042	Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	98	70	-28	-28.57%	0	3	3
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	377	353	-24	-6.37%	0	5	5
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,402	1,385	-17	-1.21%	0	48	48
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,901	1,885	-16	-0.84%	0	65	65
41-2011	Cashiers	2,442	2,427	-15	-0.61%	0	155	155
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-7041	Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Wood	96	65	-31	-32.29%	0	2	2
51-7042	Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	98	70	-28	-28.57%	0	3	3
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	227	173	-54	-23.79%	0	5	5
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	267	205	-62	-23.22%	0	6	6
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,112	996	-116	-10.43%	0	22	22
51-9023	Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	107	97	-10	-9.35%	0	2	2
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	441	401	-40	-9.07%	0	11	11
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	139	128	-11	-7.91%	0	3	3
51-9041	Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	68	63	-5	-7.35%	0	1	1
51-9193	Cooling and Freezing Equipment Operators and Tenders	93	87	-6	-6.45%	0	2	2

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## Northeast Arkansas WIA Profile

The population in the Northeast Arkansas Workforce Investment Area increased by 6,038, or 2.4 percent, from 2004 to 2008, while the labor force saw an increase of 4.0 percent, to 119,550 workers, over the same five-year period. Employment saw an increase of 5.0 percent, or 5,375 workers. The annual unemployment rate in 2008 was 5.9 percent, a drop of one percent since 2004.

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

The Area is home to three four-year colleges, two private and one public: Crowley's Ridge College in Paragould, Williams Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, and Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. The area is also home to two two-year colleges: Arkansas Northeastern College in Blytheville; and Black River Technical College in Pochahontas.

### Industry

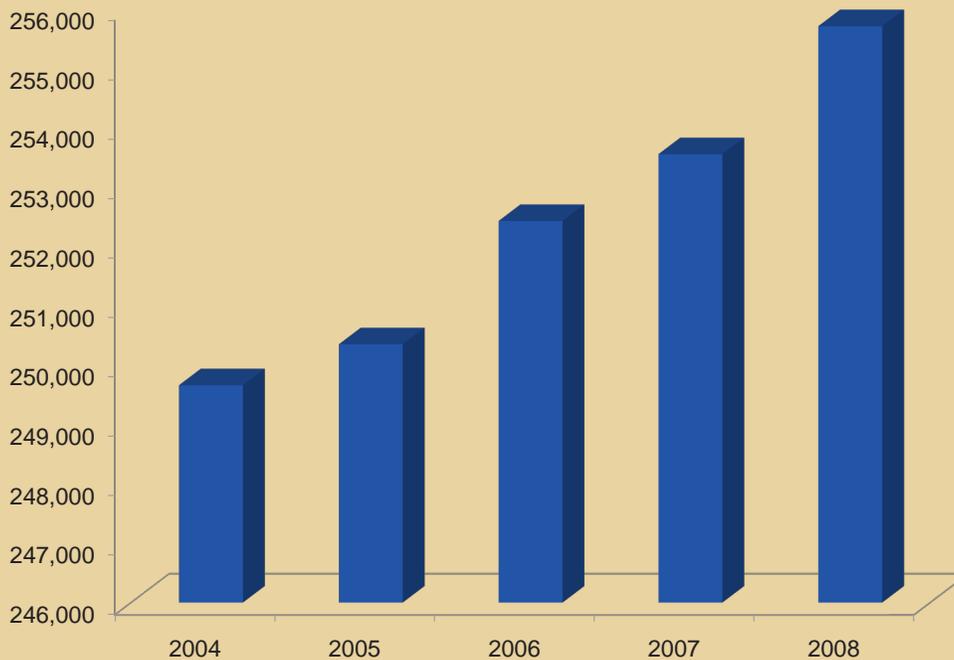
The Northeast Arkansas WIA is forecast to be the fastest growing region in Arkansas with a 3.03 percent growth, or a gain of 3,301 jobs. *Administrative and Support Services* is estimated to be the top growing industry with 551 new jobs due to increased call center work. However, Manufacturing industries are projected to be the top two fastest growing in the Area. *Chemical Manufacturing* is forecast to increase employment by 670.77 percent, or 436 new jobs, while *Paper Manufacturing* is

estimated to increase by 177.51 percent. The top five declining industries are in Manufacturing as well. *Primary Metal Manufacturing* is projected to lead with 399 job losses, while *Machinery Manufacturing* is predicted to lose 365. Federal government jobs are anticipated to be lost at a faster rate than any other industry in Northeast Arkansas at a rate of 22.48 percent.

### Occupations

*Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand* is projected to be the top growing occupation in the Area with an increase of 154 jobs. The region is the only one where *Team Assemblers* makes the top 10 growing occupations list with a growth of 104 jobs during the projection period. *Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders* is estimated to increase employment by 55.13 percent, while *Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders* is anticipated to add 46.94 percent to its workforce. In all, each of the top 10 fastest growing occupations is forecast to grow by more than 13.76 percent. Fifty jobs are projected to be cut from *Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic*, making it the top declining occupation in the Area. Nine of the top 10 declining and eight of the top 10 fastest declining occupations are involved in production or material moving. *Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters* is forecast to be the fastest declining occupation with a 12.66 percent drop in employment. *Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators* is less than two-tenths of a percent behind them with a 12.5 percent loss of jobs.

### Population 2004-2008



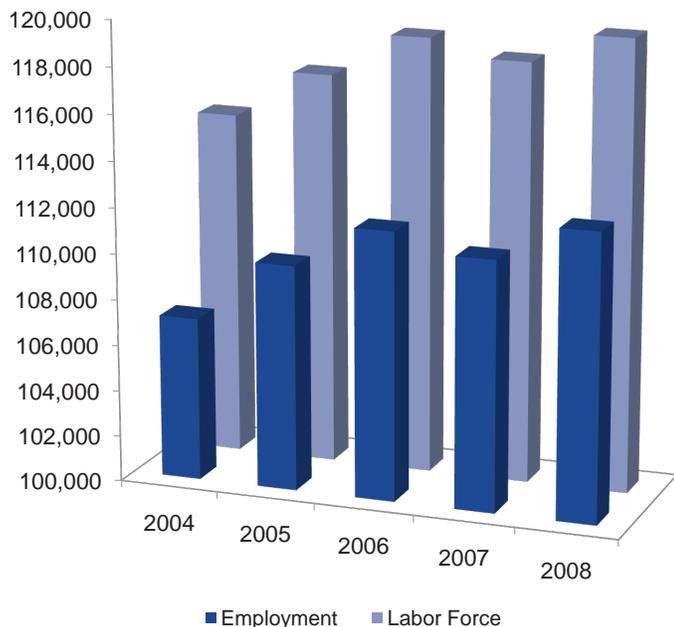
Northeast Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
249,655	250,343	252,418	253,541	255,693	2.4%

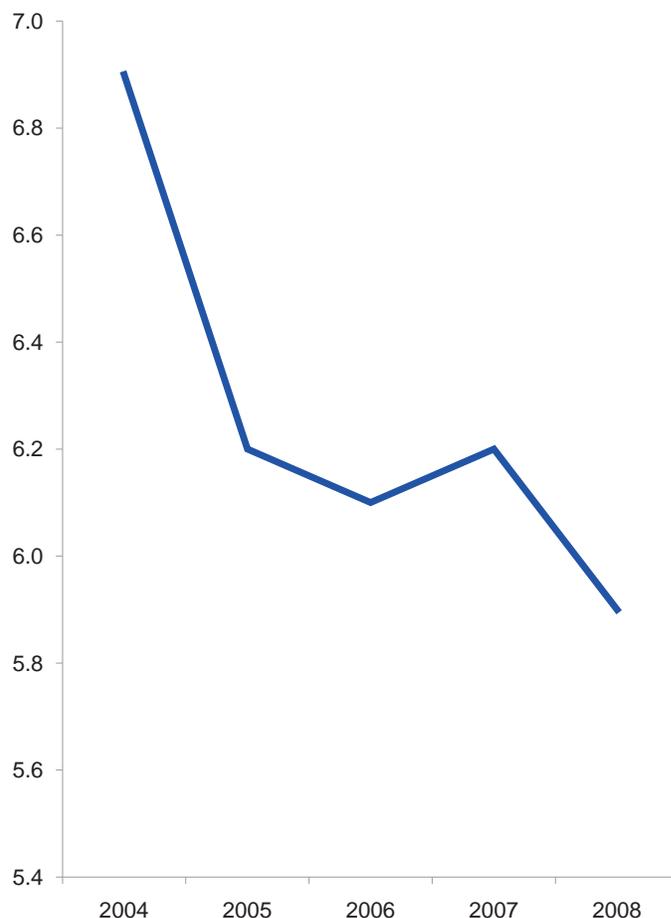
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# Northeast Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### Northeast Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	115,000	117,075	118,975	118,250	119,550
Employment	107,100	109,825	111,700	110,900	112,475
Unemployment	7,900	7,250	7,275	7,350	7,075
Unemployment Rate	6.9	6.2	6.1	6.2	5.9

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Northeast Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	9.2
2009	February	8.9
2009	March	8.5
2009	April	7.8
2009	May	8.4
2009	June	9.1

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Northeast Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	6,166	5,668	5,318	5,637	6,037
New Hires	20,513	20,549	20,589	19,491	19,498
Separations	22,186	23,665	23,897	21,327	21,144
Turnover	10.10%	11.90%	11.50%	10.20%	10.10%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate =  $(1/2) * (\text{full-quarter accessions} + \text{full-quarter separations}) / \text{employment stable jobs}$

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics

As of 8/5/2009

# Northeast Arkansas WIA Wages

## Northeast Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Retail Salespersons	2,990	\$20,858	\$14,637	\$23,968
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,930	\$22,988	\$15,794	\$26,584
Cashiers	2,870	\$16,111	\$14,630	\$16,851
Team Assemblers	2,580	\$22,404	\$17,744	\$24,734
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,740	\$15,186	\$14,747	\$15,406
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,730	\$18,820	\$14,663	\$20,898
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	1,680	\$29,514	\$22,045	\$33,249
Office Clerks, General	1,660	\$20,497	\$15,133	\$23,179
Helpers--Production Workers	1,630	\$24,507	\$18,247	\$27,637
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	1,580	\$29,772	\$20,572	\$34,373

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

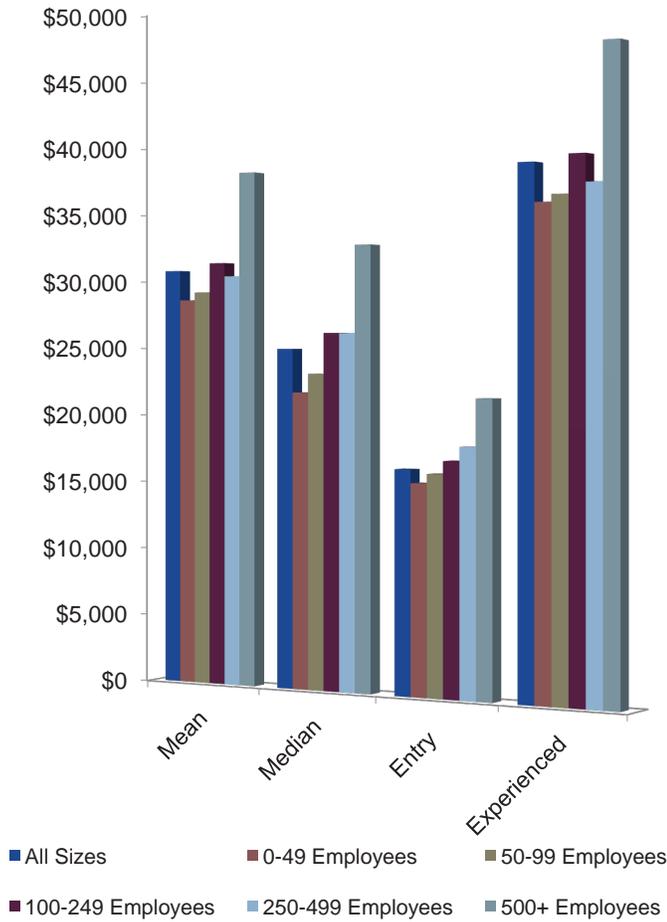
## Northeast Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Internists, General	\$211,238
Family and General Practitioners	\$200,785
Surgeons	\$185,588
Construction Managers	\$125,301
Chief Executives	\$116,493
Optometrists	\$108,068
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$106,123
Pharmacists	\$102,301
Compensation and Benefits Managers	\$85,805
Engineering Managers	\$83,394
General and Operations Managers	\$80,302
Marketing Managers	\$79,068
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	\$76,039
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$75,969
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	\$75,347
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$75,339
Public Relations Managers	\$73,369
Purchasing Managers	\$73,343
Electrical Engineers	\$73,210
Veterinarians	\$73,181
Financial Managers	\$72,425
Lawyers	\$71,359
Occupational Therapists	\$71,286
Mechanical Engineers	\$70,840
Sales Managers	\$70,289

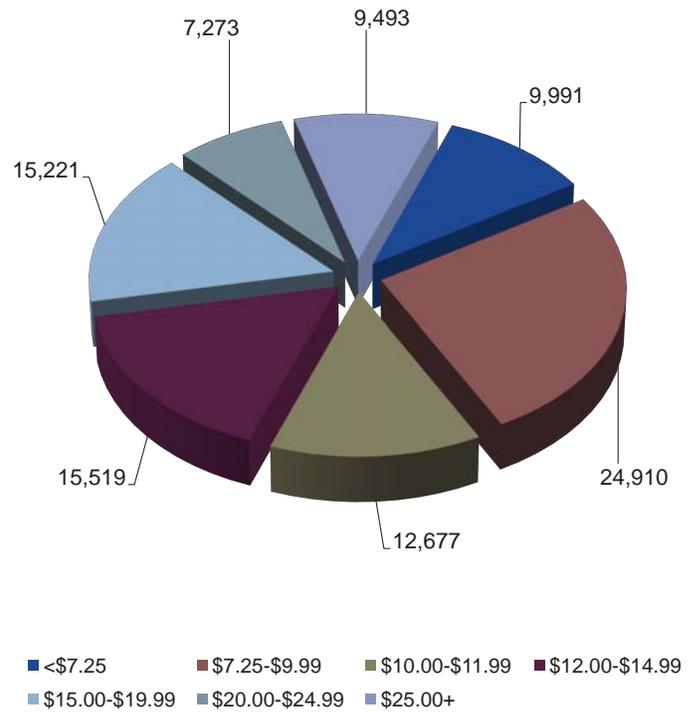
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Northeast Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Northeast Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$30,794	\$28,581	\$29,160	\$31,332	\$30,342	\$37,993
Median	\$24,948	\$21,744	\$23,126	\$26,111	\$26,091	\$32,485
Entry	\$16,304	\$15,322	\$16,013	\$16,961	\$17,992	\$21,443
Experienced	\$38,039	\$35,211	\$35,733	\$38,517	\$36,517	\$46,269

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

Northeast Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
95,084	9,991	24,910	12,677	15,519	15,221	7,273	9,493

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Northeast Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
561000	Administrative and Support Services	4,192	4,743	551	13.14%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	65	501	436	670.77%
311000	Food Manufacturing	2,128	2,475	347	16.31%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	1,620	1,938	318	19.63%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	169	469	300	177.51%
611000	Educational Services	11,424	11,712	288	2.52%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	6,587	6,832	245	3.72%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	3,286	3,504	218	6.63%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	3,962	4,152	190	4.80%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	3,524	3,701	177	5.02%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	65	501	436	670.77%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	169	469	300	177.51%
221000	Utilities	363	470	107	29.48%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	1,620	1,938	318	19.63%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	473	561	88	18.60%
311000	Food Manufacturing	2,128	2,475	347	16.31%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	4,192	4,743	551	13.14%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	423	472	49	11.58%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	243	266	23	9.47%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	576	624	48	8.33%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	3,532	3,133	-399	-11.30%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	2,386	2,021	-365	-15.30%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	791	673	-118	-14.92%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	541	447	-94	-17.38%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	1,857	1,787	-70	-3.77%
919999	Federal, Excluding Post Office	258	200	-58	-22.48%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,783	1,735	-48	-2.69%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,038	996	-42	-4.05%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	538	499	-39	-7.25%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	486	455	-31	-6.38%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
919999	Federal, Excluding Post Office	258	200	-58	-22.48%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	541	447	-94	-17.38%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	2,386	2,021	-365	-15.30%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	791	673	-118	-14.92%
486000	Pipeline Transportation	66	58	-8	-12.12%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	3,532	3,133	-399	-11.30%
814000	Private Households	106	95	-11	-10.38%
443000	Electronics and Appliance Stores	342	314	-28	-8.19%
811000	Repair and Maintenance	538	499	-39	-7.25%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	486	455	-31	-6.38%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# Northeast Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent Growth	Replacement	Total	
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,730	2,884	154	5.64%	77	94	171
51-2092	Team Assemblers	2,440	2,544	104	4.26%	52	48	100
29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,330	1,420	90	6.77%	45	18	63
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,689	1,772	83	4.91%	42	31	73
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	948	1,031	83	8.76%	42	26	68
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,323	1,403	80	6.05%	40	10	50
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,759	1,835	76	4.32%	38	30	68
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	1,630	1,696	66	4.05%	33	27	60
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,673	1,737	64	3.83%	32	31	63
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	3,040	3,103	63	2.07%	32	104	136
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
51-9032	Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	78	121	43	55.13%	22	1	23
51-9023	Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	98	144	46	46.94%	23	2	25
51-6041	Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers	174	216	42	24.14%	21	4	25
51-3092	Food Batchmakers	62	74	12	19.35%	6	2	8
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	208	247	39	18.75%	20	2	22
29-9011	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	27	32	5	18.52%	3	1	4
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	201	230	29	14.43%	15	6	21
51-9041	Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	146	167	21	14.38%	11	3	14
43-3021	Billing and Posting Clerks and Machine Operators	304	347	43	14.14%	22	4	26
11-3051	Industrial Production Managers	189	215	26	13.76%	13	7	20
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	565	515	-50	-8.85%	0	13	13
51-4023	Rolling Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	265	238	-27	-10.19%	0	5	5
53-7021	Crane and Tower Operators	153	138	-15	-9.80%	0	3	3
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	123	109	-14	-11.38%	0	1	1
13-1031	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	88	77	-11	-12.50%	0	2	2
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	79	69	-10	-12.66%	0	3	3
51-4034	Lathe and Turning Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	104	95	-9	-8.65%	0	2	2
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	182	173	-9	-4.95%	0	4	4
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	122	113	-9	-7.38%	0	2	2
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	1,673	1,664	-9	-0.54%	0	33	33
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	79	69	-10	-12.66%	0	3	3
13-1031	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	88	77	-11	-12.50%	0	2	2
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	123	109	-14	-11.38%	0	1	1
51-4023	Rolling Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	265	238	-27	-10.19%	0	5	5
51-7042	Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	71	64	-7	-9.86%	0	2	2
53-7021	Crane and Tower Operators	153	138	-15	-9.80%	0	3	3
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	565	515	-50	-8.85%	0	13	13
51-4034	Lathe and Turning Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	104	95	-9	-8.65%	0	2	2
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers	122	113	-9	-7.38%	0	2	2
27-1023	Floral Designers	98	91	-7	-7.14%	0	3	3

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## Northwest Arkansas WIA Profile

The Northwest Arkansas Workforce Investment Area has seen Arkansas's largest increase in population at 11.5 percent over the past five years, jumping from 503,135 to 560,918 residents from 2004 to 2008. In turn, the labor force increased 11.0 percent, or by 27,825 workers to 280,850 since 2004, while employment increased 11 percent, or by 26,725 workers. The Area has the lowest unemployment rate in the state. The annual average unemployment rate for 2008 was 4.1 percent, dropping one-tenth of a percentage point over the past five years.

The Area consists of nine counties: Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy, and Washington. The Area is bordered by two states, Missouri to the north and Oklahoma to the west. The Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers Metropolitan Statistical Area is located within this Area.

The University of Arkansas, the state's largest public university, is located in the city of Fayetteville. John Brown University, a private four-year university, is located in Siloam Springs. Arkansas State University-Mountain Home, North Arkansas College, and Northwest Arkansas Community College are two-year colleges located in this Area.

### Industry

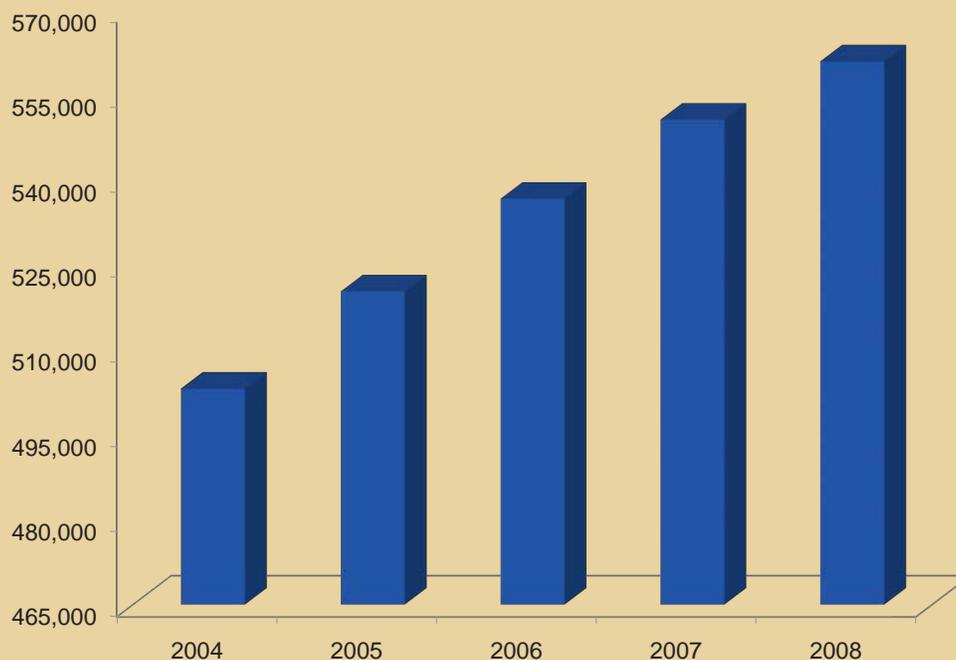
Northwest Arkansas is projected to add 5,865 jobs to the labor market during the 2008-2010 projection period, accounting for a 2.03 percent increase. *Educational Services* is projected to add the most jobs with 923 new jobs. Construction of hotels is anticipated to lead to a 27 percent rise in *Accommodation* employment, placing it second in net growth and third in percent

growth. *Textile Mills* is forecast to be the fastest growing industry with a new firm expected in the Area in 2010. *Transportation Equipment Manufacturing* is projected to lose the most jobs with 369 jobs estimated to be cut. Eight of the top 10 declining industries are in Manufacturing, seven of which are durable goods manufacturing industries. *Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing* is estimated to lose almost a third of its workforce, or 210 jobs during the projection period.

### Occupations

*Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor Trailer* is projected to add the most new jobs with 267 new jobs between 2008 and 2010, while *Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners* is following close behind with 265 new jobs. Jobs in restaurants, hotels, and retail sales establishments are all found within the top 10 growing occupations. *Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks* is projected to add an additional 27.7 percent to its workforce making it the fastest growing occupation, while *Lodging Managers* is projected to increase employment by 25.48 percent. *Team Assemblers* is forecast to be the top declining occupation with a loss of 124 jobs. Seven of the top 10 declining occupations are involved in production and manufacturing. *Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic* is projected to be the fastest declining occupation with a loss of 19.08 percent. Nine of the top 10 fastest declining occupations, including the top four, are in production. Six of those are in the Metal Workers and Plastic Workers occupational family.

### Population 2004-2008



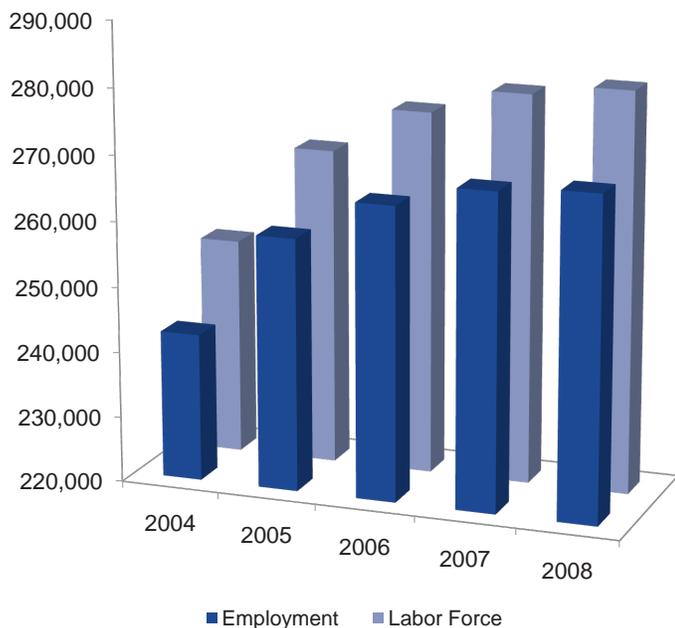
Northwest Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
503,135	520,295	536,664	550,625	560,918	11.5%

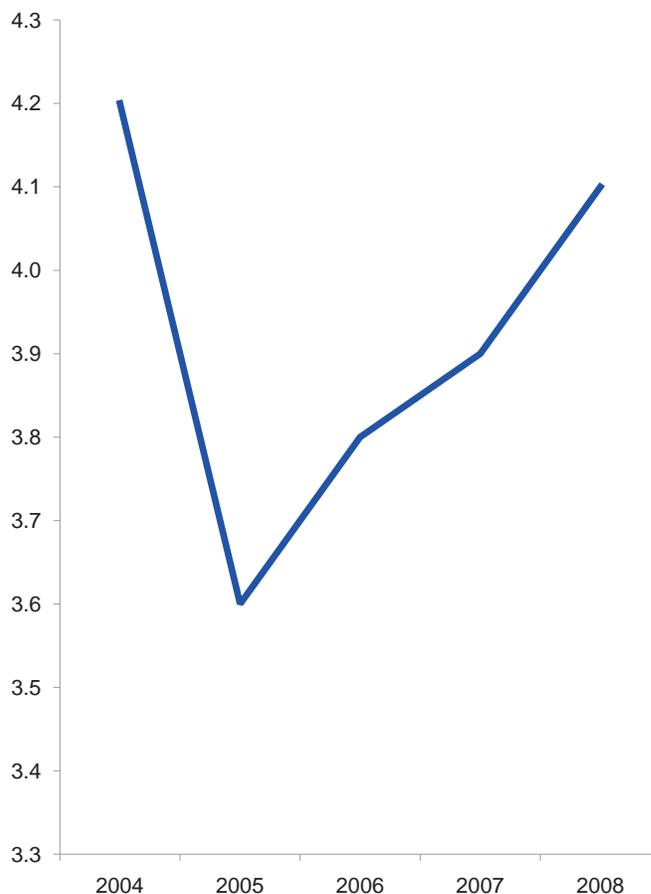
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# Northwest Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### Northwest Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	253,025	268,300	275,325	279,200	280,850
Employment	242,500	258,575	264,850	268,250	269,225
Unemployment	10,525	9,725	10,475	10,950	11,625
Unemployment Rate	4.2	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.1

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Northwest Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	11,037	11,491	11,684	10,065	11,673
New Hires	46,752	50,485	49,804	45,199	43,347
Separations	51,672	56,481	57,200	52,367	50,775
Turnover	10.70%	11.20%	11.30%	10.60%	10.60%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate =  $(1/2) * (\text{full-quarter accessions} + \text{full-quarter separations}) / \text{employment stable jobs}$

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics

As of 8/5/2009

### Northwest Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	6.3
2009	February	6.3
2009	March	5.7
2009	April	5.3
2009	May	5.7
2009	June	6.3

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

# Northwest Arkansas WIA Wages

## Northwest Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	13,130	\$41,876	\$27,880	\$48,874
Retail Salespersons	8,010	\$21,088	\$15,184	\$24,040
Cashiers	5,880	\$17,564	\$14,723	\$18,984
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	5,290	\$22,309	\$17,146	\$24,891
Waiters and Waitresses	4,910	\$18,042	\$14,800	\$19,663
Office Clerks, General	3,840	\$22,806	\$16,528	\$25,946
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	3,790	\$21,065	\$17,782	\$22,706
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	3,690	\$26,559	\$20,023	\$29,827
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,580	\$15,872	\$14,637	\$16,489
Registered Nurses	3,530	\$50,761	\$38,608	\$56,837

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

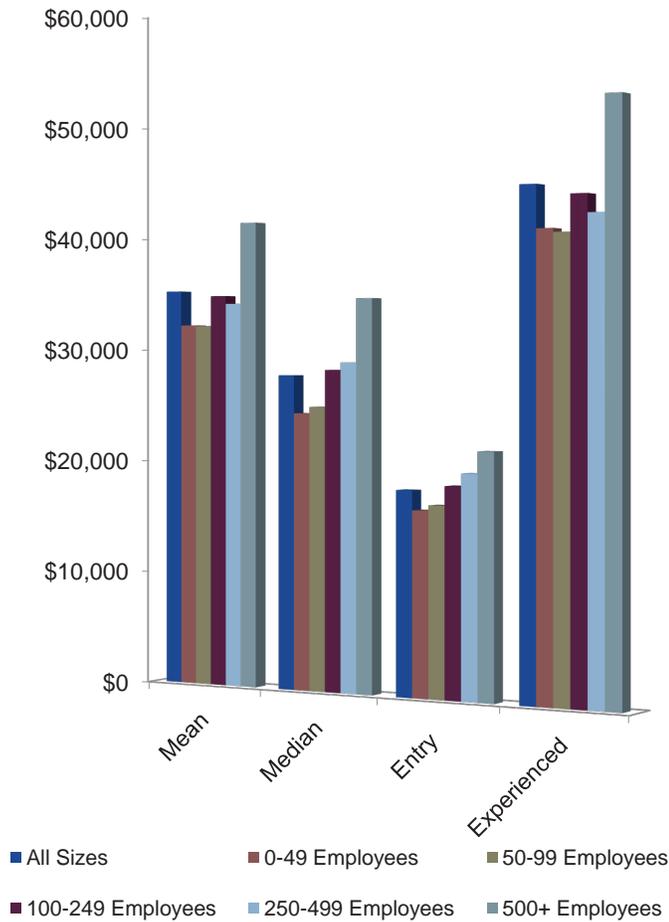
## Northwest Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Surgeons	\$217,176
Family and General Practitioners	\$188,020
Internists, General	\$181,874
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons	\$159,185
Dentists, General	\$148,148
Chief Executives	\$140,810
Marketing Managers	\$118,473
Sales Managers	\$115,957
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$107,066
Purchasing Managers	\$102,628
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$101,029
Optometrists	\$99,139
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	\$98,722
Pharmacists	\$96,960
Lawyers	\$96,798
Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	\$96,546
Psychiatrists	\$94,978
Natural Sciences Managers	\$94,932
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$93,769
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	\$90,373
General and Operations Managers	\$89,426
Engineering Managers	\$89,405
Chemistry Teachers, Postsecondary	\$88,317
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$87,157
Training and Development Managers	\$85,944

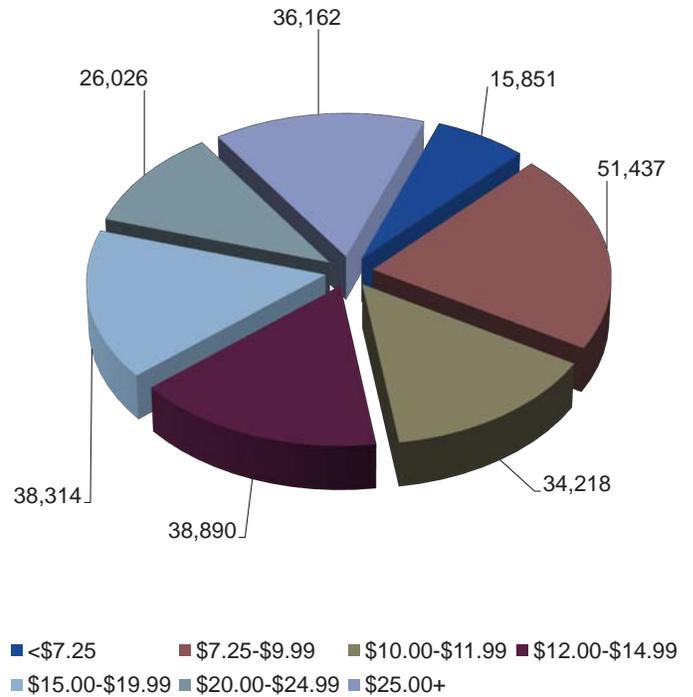
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Northwest Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



### Northwest Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$35,250	\$32,184	\$32,116	\$34,798	\$34,096	\$41,291
Median	\$27,735	\$24,390	\$24,968	\$28,225	\$28,879	\$34,479
Entry	\$17,881	\$16,167	\$16,638	\$18,332	\$19,434	\$21,353
Experienced	\$43,935	\$40,192	\$39,856	\$43,031	\$41,427	\$51,260

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

### Northwest Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
240,898	15,851	51,437	34,218	38,890	38,314	26,026	36,162

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Northwest Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
611000	Educational Services	25,904	26,827	923	3.56%
721000	Accommodation	2,881	3,659	778	27.00%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	9,465	10,065	600	6.34%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	16,851	17,426	575	3.41%
311000	Food Manufacturing	15,643	16,123	480	3.07%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	16,237	16,592	355	2.19%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	7,517	7,870	353	4.70%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	8,402	8,732	330	3.93%
484000	Truck Transportation	12,783	13,069	286	2.24%
622000	Hospitals	16,335	16,618	283	1.73%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
313000	Textile Mills	9	87	78	866.67%
492000	Couriers and Messengers	538	687	149	27.70%
721000	Accommodation	2,881	3,659	778	27.00%
712000	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institution	58	64	6	10.34%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	2,230	2,444	214	9.60%
312000	Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	99	108	9	9.09%
532000	Rental and Leasing Services	946	1,012	66	6.98%
481000	Air Transportation	441	471	30	6.80%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4,290	4,568	278	6.48%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	9,465	10,065	600	6.34%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	3,461	3,092	-369	-10.66%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	633	423	-210	-33.18%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	1,358	1,188	-170	-12.52%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,856	1,726	-130	-7.00%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	3,460	3,342	-118	-3.41%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	1,101	991	-110	-9.99%
511000	Publishing Industries	1,151	1,052	-99	-8.60%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	528	449	-79	-14.96%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	3,484	3,406	-78	-2.24%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,493	1,433	-60	-4.02%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	633	423	-210	-33.18%
315000	Apparel Manufacturing	113	94	-19	-16.81%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	528	449	-79	-14.96%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	388	335	-53	-13.66%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	1,358	1,188	-170	-12.52%
814000	Private Households	184	164	-20	-10.87%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	3,461	3,092	-369	-10.66%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	1,101	991	-110	-9.99%
511000	Publishing Industries	1,151	1,052	-99	-8.60%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,856	1,726	-130	-7.00%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# Northwest Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth Replacement	Total	
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	13,915	14,182	267	1.92%	134	225	359
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	2,182	2,447	265	12.14%	133	39	172
29-1111	Registered Nurses	6,234	6,473	239	3.83%	120	84	204
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	3,809	4,010	201	5.28%	101	120	221
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,183	8,381	198	2.42%	99	281	380
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	4,709	4,905	196	4.16%	98	279	377
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,481	3,642	161	4.63%	81	58	139
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	538	687	149	27.70%	75	27	102
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	3,220	3,356	136	4.22%	68	24	92
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,479	2,602	123	4.96%	62	69	131
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	538	687	149	27.70%	75	27	102
11-9081	Lodging Managers	208	261	53	25.48%	27	5	32
31-9011	Massage Therapists	192	223	31	16.15%	16	2	18
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	61	69	8	13.11%	4	1	5
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	2,182	2,447	265	12.14%	133	39	172
21-1011	Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	68	74	6	8.82%	3	1	4
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	761	824	63	8.28%	32	21	53
29-1131	Veterinarians	108	116	8	7.41%	4	2	6
19-3021	Market Research Analysts	232	249	17	7.33%	9	2	11
33-3021	Detectives and Criminal Investigators	83	89	6	7.23%	3	2	5
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-2092	Team Assemblers	3,320	3,196	-124	-3.73%	0	66	66
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	2,891	2,819	-72	-2.49%	0	75	75
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	793	723	-70	-8.83%	0	17	17
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	1,315	1,266	-49	-3.73%	0	17	17
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	2,986	2,942	-44	-1.47%	0	86	86
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	1,348	1,304	-44	-3.26%	0	15	15
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	402	360	-42	-10.45%	0	10	10
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,409	1,367	-42	-2.98%	0	34	34
51-2022	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	240	201	-39	-16.25%	0	4	4
51-9041	Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	840	802	-38	-4.52%	0	15	15
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-4033	Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	131	106	-25	-19.08%	0	1	1
51-2022	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	240	201	-39	-16.25%	0	4	4
51-4032	Drilling and Boring Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	185	157	-28	-15.14%	0	4	4
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	214	186	-28	-13.08%	0	4	4
49-9091	Coin, Vending, and Amusement Machine Servicers and Repairers	69	60	-9	-13.04%	0	2	2
51-9131	Photographic Process Workers	40	35	-5	-12.50%	0	2	2
51-4034	Lathe and Turning Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	218	192	-26	-11.93%	0	4	4
51-4191	Heat Treating Equipment Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	112	100	-12	-10.71%	0	2	2
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	402	360	-42	-10.45%	0	10	10
51-9121	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	300	270	-30	-10.00%	0	6	6

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## Southeast Arkansas WIA Profile

The Southeast Arkansas Workforce Investment Area had the largest decrease in population for the state from 2004 to 2008, losing 6,893 residents. The labor force increased by just 0.2 percent, or by 225 workers, while employment increased by 0.7 percent or 600 workers. The annual unemployment rate for 2008 was 7.3 percent, dropping four-tenths of a percentage point from 7.7 percent in 2004.

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

Two campuses of the University of Arkansas system are in the Area; one in Pine Bluff, and the other in Monticello. Southeast Arkansas College, a two-year institution, is also located in Pine Bluff. Two campuses of Phillips County Community College, affiliated with the University of Arkansas System, are located in the Arkansas County cities of De Witt and Stuttgart.

### Industry

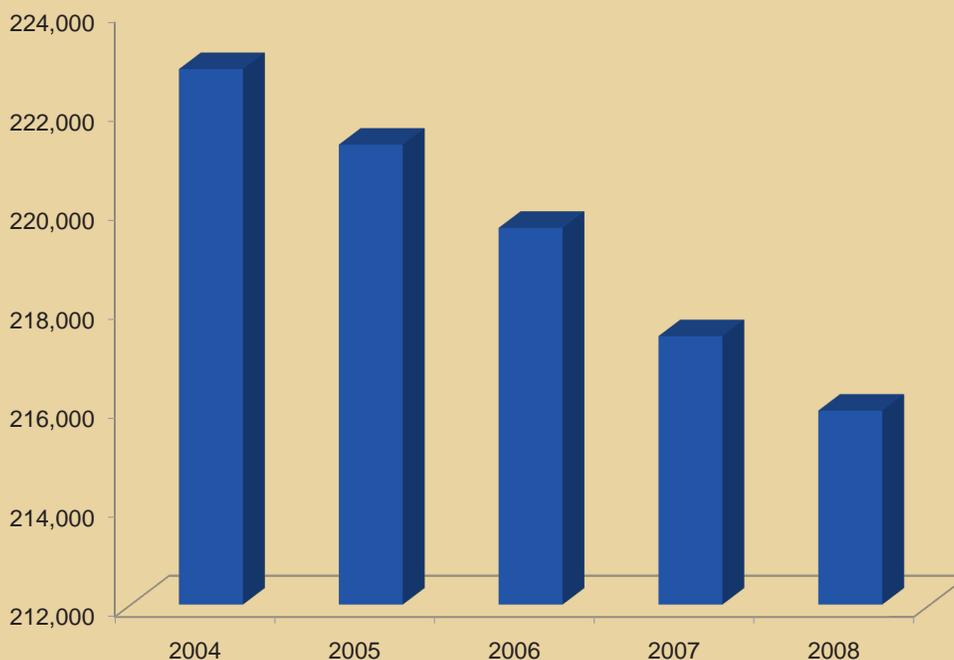
The Southeast Arkansas WIA is projected to have minimal overall growth between 2008 and 2010 with 114 new jobs, or an increase of just 0.13 percent. Nine of the top 10 growing industries are projected to add over 100 jobs and three of them are estimated to increase by more than 13 percent during the projection period. *Chemical Manufacturing* is projected to be the highlight of the region with 371 new jobs, or an increase of

131.56 percent, making it the top industry in both net and percent growth. *Machinery Manufacturing* is forecast to be the top industry in both net and percent decline with a loss of 430 jobs, or a drop of 24.08 percent. *Paper Manufacturing* is predicted to be second in net decline with a loss of 167 jobs. In all, four industries could lose over 100 jobs by March 2010. *Apparel Manufacturing* is anticipated to lose 14.69 percent over the projection period.

### Occupations

*Correctional Officers and Jailers* is forecast to add the most jobs in the Area with 118 jobs to be added over the 2008 to 2010 projection period, while *Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food* is projected to be second with 61 new jobs. *Chemical Technicians* is estimated to be the fastest growing occupation with a 37.37 percent gain, while *Mechanical Engineers* is second, forecast to increase by 20.63 percent. In all, nine of the top 10 fastest growing occupations are predicted to grow faster than 10 percent. *Team Assemblers* is projected to be the top declining occupation with a loss of 161 jobs between 2008 and 2010. In all, six of the top 10 declining occupations are involved in production. *Drilling and Boring Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic* is projected to be the fastest declining occupation in Southeast Arkansas with a loss of 26.32 percent. Employment in *Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders* is estimated to be cut by 16.36 percent. In all, seven of the top 10 fastest declining occupations are involved in production.

### Population 2004-2008



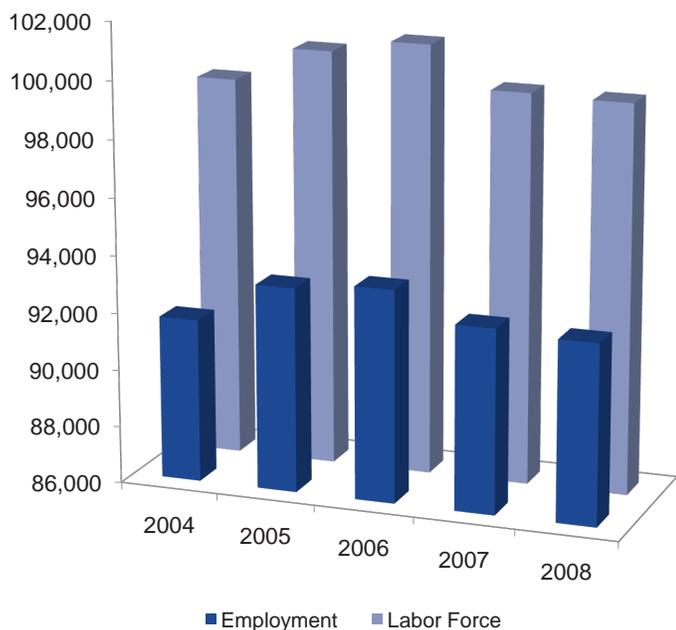
Southeast Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
222,806	221,281	219,601	217,416	215,913	-3.1%

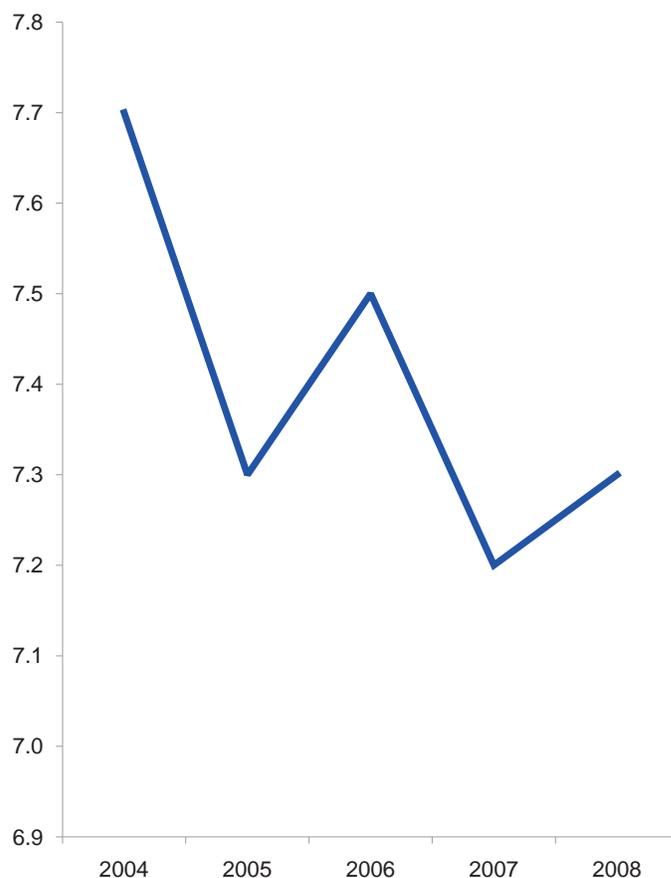
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# Southeast Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### Southeast Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	99,300	100,525	101,000	99,600	99,525
Employment	91,700	93,150	93,425	92,450	92,300
Unemployment	7,600	7,375	7,575	7,150	7,225
Unemployment Rate	7.7	7.3	7.5	7.2	7.3

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Southeast Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	10.4
2009	February	9.8
2009	March	9.3
2009	April	9.0
2009	May	9.5
2009	June	10.1

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Southeast Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	4,913	4,255	4,167	3,819	3,784
New Hires	14,996	14,685	13,328	13,367	11,853
Separations	16,319	19,426	15,399	15,468	14,438
Turnover	8.70%	11.70%	9.00%	9.10%	8.80%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate = (1/2) \* (full-quarter accessions + full-quarter separations) / employment stable jobs

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics

As of 8/5/2009

# Southeast Arkansas WIA Wages

## Southeast Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Cashiers	2,130	\$16,257	\$14,653	\$17,059
Retail Salespersons	1,870	\$20,840	\$14,734	\$23,894
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,740	\$15,187	\$14,612	\$15,474
Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,690	\$30,546	\$24,703	\$33,468
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,650	\$21,902	\$16,832	\$24,436
Helpers--Production Workers	1,370	\$25,197	\$18,405	\$28,594
Registered Nurses	1,360	\$44,610	\$35,873	\$48,979
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,350	\$22,059	\$17,624	\$24,276
Team Assemblers	1,330	\$22,776	\$17,340	\$25,493
Office Clerks, General	1,320	\$20,303	\$15,245	\$22,833

*Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey*

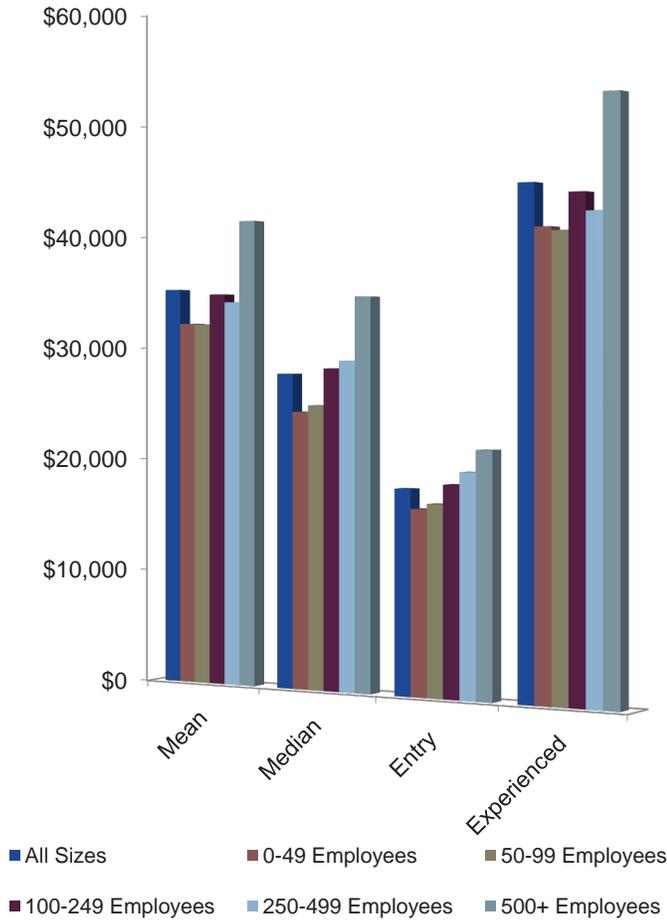
## Southeast Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Family and General Practitioners	\$220,857
Dentists, General	\$199,285
Anesthesiologists	\$156,059
Chief Executives	\$111,413
Sales Managers	\$100,692
Natural Sciences Managers	\$100,605
Occupational Therapists	\$95,693
Veterinarians	\$92,288
Industrial Production Managers	\$87,506
Engineering Managers	\$87,285
Environmental Engineers	\$85,678
Pharmacists	\$83,498
Electrical Engineers	\$83,026
Purchasing Managers	\$81,581
Operations Research Analysts	\$81,083
Chiropractors	\$80,621
Chemists	\$79,181
Financial Managers	\$77,292
Commercial Pilots	\$76,140
General and Operations Managers	\$75,714
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$73,237
Construction Managers	\$71,605
Mechanical Engineers	\$71,183
Compensation and Benefits Managers	\$69,913
Optometrists	\$69,191

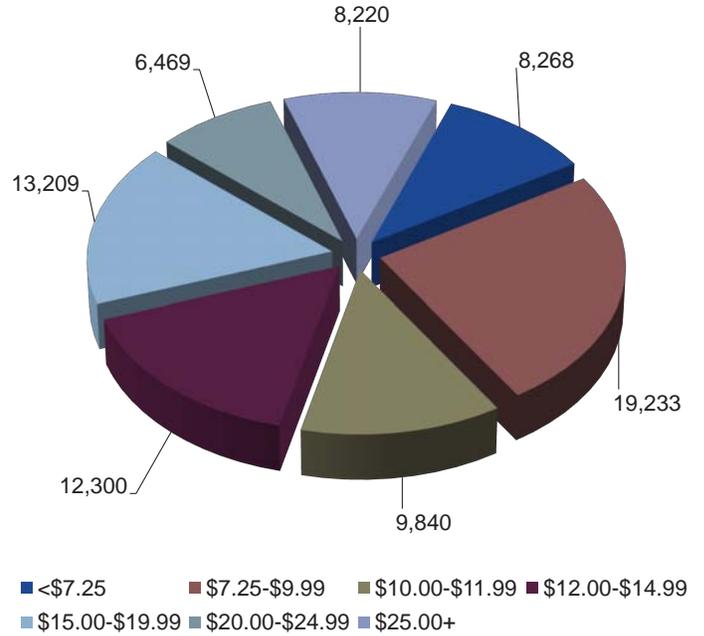
*Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey*

# Southeast Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Southeast Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$31,072	\$28,432	\$29,661	\$31,632	\$33,064	\$34,532
Median	\$25,580	\$21,448	\$24,203	\$26,333	\$29,056	\$30,191
Entry	\$16,303	\$15,252	\$16,233	\$16,997	\$18,456	\$19,049
Experienced	\$38,457	\$35,022	\$36,375	\$38,950	\$40,369	\$42,273

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

Southeast Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
77,539	8,268	19,233	9,840	12,300	13,209	6,469	8,220

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Southeast Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	282	653	371	131.56%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	1,358	1,540	182	13.40%
929200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	4,420	4,587	167	3.78%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	3,973	4,126	153	3.85%
622000	Hospitals	2,621	2,753	132	5.04%
624000	Social Assistance	2,845	2,967	122	4.29%
611000	Educational Services	10,226	10,334	108	1.06%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	795	900	105	13.21%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,745	2,850	105	3.83%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	2,374	2,457	83	3.50%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	282	653	371	131.56%
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	1,358	1,540	182	13.40%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	795	900	105	13.21%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	142	156	14	9.86%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	93	101	8	8.60%
493000	Warehousing and Storage	333	359	26	7.81%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	635	675	40	6.30%
622000	Hospitals	2,621	2,753	132	5.04%
624000	Social Assistance	2,845	2,967	122	4.29%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	267	278	11	4.12%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,786	1,356	-430	-24.08%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	3,765	3,598	-167	-4.44%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,440	1,336	-104	-7.22%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	2,274	2,171	-103	-4.53%
315000	Apparel Manufacturing	565	482	-83	-14.69%
113000	Forestry and Logging	848	789	-59	-6.96%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,028	986	-42	-4.09%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	1,414	1,376	-38	-2.69%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,141	1,105	-36	-3.16%
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	1,366	1,330	-36	-2.64%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,786	1,356	-430	-24.08%
315000	Apparel Manufacturing	565	482	-83	-14.69%
486000	Pipeline Transportation	74	66	-8	-10.81%
814000	Private Households	96	86	-10	-10.42%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	149	137	-12	-8.05%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,440	1,336	-104	-7.22%
113000	Forestry and Logging	848	789	-59	-6.96%
448000	Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	395	368	-27	-6.84%
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	326	306	-20	-6.13%
442000	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	183	173	-10	-5.46%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# Southeast Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth	Replacement	Total
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,947	2,065	118	6.06%	59	40	99
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,470	1,531	61	4.15%	31	25	56
29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,235	1,293	58	4.70%	29	17	46
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	766	824	58	7.57%	29	13	42
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	1,406	1,454	48	3.41%	24	23	47
19-4031	Chemical Technicians	99	136	37	37.37%	19	4	23
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	713	750	37	5.19%	19	10	29
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	259	286	27	10.42%	14	7	21
31-1011	Home Health Aides	394	418	24	6.09%	12	3	15
51-9023	Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	142	166	24	16.90%	12	2	14
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
19-4031	Chemical Technicians	99	136	37	37.37%	19	4	23
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	63	76	13	20.63%	7	2	9
51-9023	Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	142	166	24	16.90%	12	2	14
13-1081	Logisticians	47	54	7	14.89%	4	1	5
51-9122	Painters, Transportation Equipment	54	61	7	12.96%	4	1	5
17-2071	Electrical Engineers	44	49	5	11.36%	3	1	4
11-3071	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	53	59	6	11.32%	3	2	5
29-9011	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	47	52	5	10.64%	3	1	4
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	259	286	27	10.42%	14	7	21
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	141	155	14	9.93%	7	4	11
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,386	1,225	-161	-11.62%	0	28	28
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	1,408	1,314	-94	-6.68%	0	37	37
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	686	625	-61	-8.89%	0	17	17
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	623	564	-59	-9.47%	0	8	8
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	597	556	-41	-6.87%	0	12	12
11-9012	Farmers and Ranchers	5,466	5,426	-40	-0.73%	0	43	43
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,410	1,377	-33	-2.34%	0	49	49
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	402	375	-27	-6.72%	0	4	4
51-9121	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	165	138	-27	-16.36%	0	3	3
43-6014	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,487	1,465	-22	-1.48%	0	21	21
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-4032	Drilling and Boring Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	19	14	-5	-26.32%	0	1	1
51-9121	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	165	138	-27	-16.36%	0	3	3
51-6051	Sewers, Hand	84	71	-13	-15.48%	0	2	2
11-9041	Engineering Managers	35	30	-5	-14.29%	0	1	1
51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	81	71	-10	-12.35%	0	2	2
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,386	1,225	-161	-11.62%	0	28	28
51-2021	Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	167	148	-19	-11.38%	0	3	3
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	623	564	-59	-9.47%	0	8	8
43-5061	Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	213	193	-20	-9.39%	0	6	6
43-6012	Legal Secretaries	118	107	-11	-9.32%	0	2	2

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## Southwest Arkansas WIA Profile

The Southwest Arkansas Workforce Investment Area decreased in population by 2,559, or lost 1.1 percent of its residents from 2004 to 2008. But the labor force still increased by 0.9 percent to 107,275 workers, while employment increased by 1.7 percent or by 1,725 workers over the five-year period. The annual unemployment rate for the Area in 2008 was 5.3 percent, decreasing eight-tenths of a percentage point over the five-year period.

Southwest Arkansas is the largest WIA 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.

Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia is the only four-year college in the Area, while Cossatot Community College, University of Arkansas Community College at Hope, South Arkansas Community College, and Southern Arkansas University-Tech are all two-year colleges.

### Industry

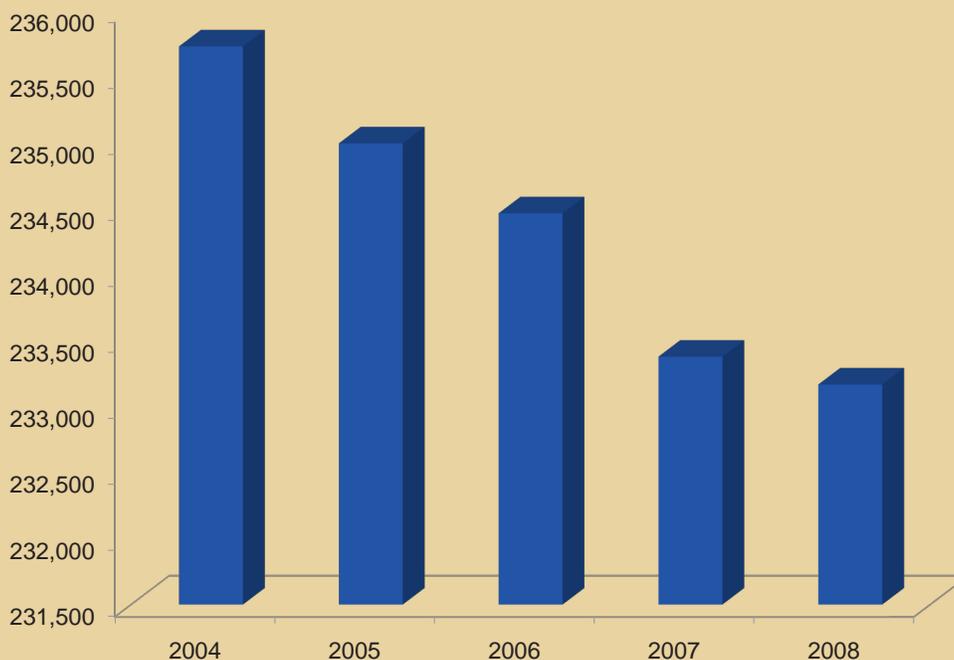
The Southwest Arkansas WIA could lose 1,454 jobs, or experience a 1.45 percent decline in employment during the 2008-2010 projection period. *Educational Services* is estimated to be the top growing industry with 241 jobs, while *Food Services and Drinking Places* is anticipating an additional 172.

*Transportation Equipment Manufacturing* is forecast to lead the Area in percent growth with a gain of 11.48 percent. *Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing* is second with an anticipated gain of 9.86 percent. *Food Manufacturing* is likely to lead the Area in both net and percent decline with a loss of 1,524 jobs, or a drop of nearly a quarter of its workforce. *Wood Product Manufacturing* and *Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing* are estimated to lose 308 and 271 jobs, respectively. Seven of the top 10 fastest declining industries are forecast to lose more than 10 percent of their respective workforce.

### Occupations

*Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food* is forecast to gain the most jobs in the Area with 65 new jobs. *Retail Salespersons* is second with an anticipated growth of 46 new jobs. All three nursing occupations are included in the top 10 growing occupations list with a combined 88 new jobs. *Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas* and *Roustabouts, Oil and Gas* are forecast to be the top two fastest growing occupations with gains of 9.88 and 8.62 percent, respectively. *Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand* is projected to lose the most jobs with 217 estimated to be cut from its workforce, while *Helpers--Production Workers* is second with an anticipated loss of 204 jobs. *Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers* is estimated to be the fastest declining occupation with a loss of 22.88 percent, while *Packers and Packagers, Hand* is anticipated to lose an additional 19.82 percent. All 10 of the fastest declining occupations are forecast to lose more than 12.5 percent.

### Population 2004-2008



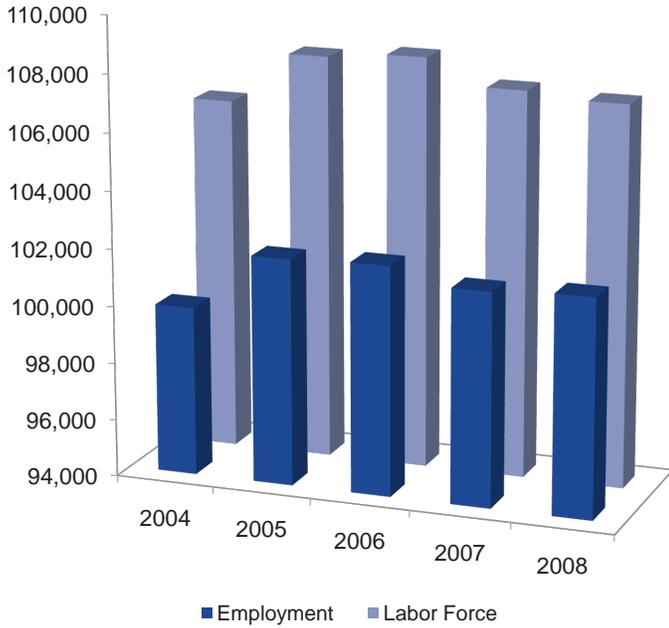
Southwest Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
235,724	234,990	234,461	233,376	233,165	-1.1%

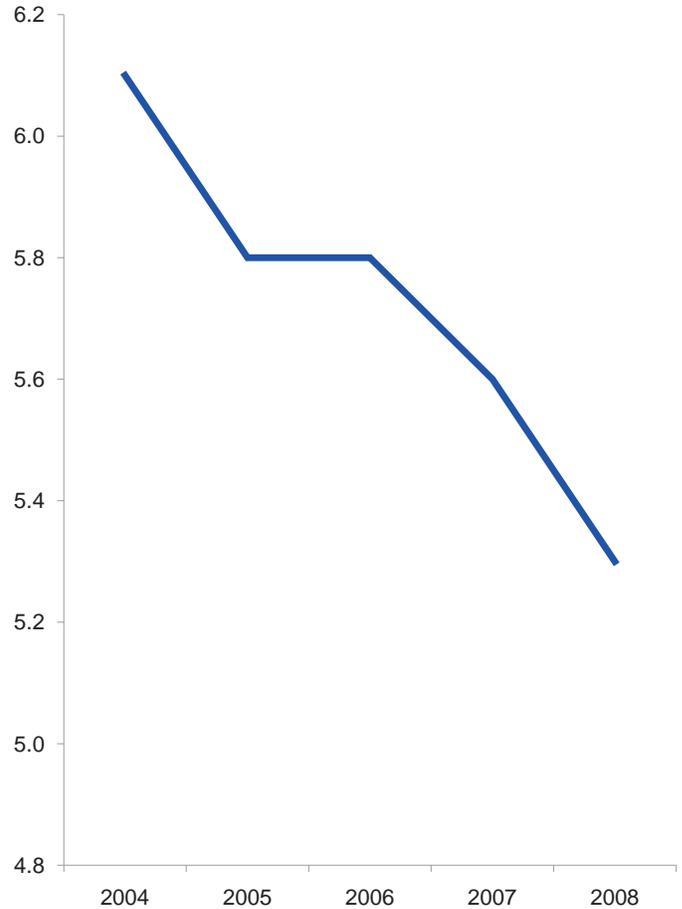
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# Southwest Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### Southwest Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	106,325	108,125	108,350	107,475	107,275
Employment	99,900	101,925	102,025	101,475	101,625
Unemployment	6,425	6,200	6,325	6,000	5,650
Unemployment Rate	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.3

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Southwest Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	4,761	4,704	3,797	3,275	3,726
New Hires	16,581	16,710	15,036	14,902	14,896
Separations	18,767	19,446	18,112	17,883	20,289
Turnover	8.80%	9.80%	9.40%	9.40%	11.30%

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

Turnover Rate = (1/2) \* (full-quarter accessions + full-quarter separations) / employment stable jobs

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
As of 8/5/2009

### Southwest Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	7.2
2009	February	7.3
2009	March	6.8
2009	April	6.4
2009	May	7.2
2009	June	7.8

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

## Southwest Arkansas WIA Wages

### Southwest Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	3,110	\$38,705	\$28,133	\$43,991
Team Assemblers	2,890	\$22,336	\$17,542	\$24,733
Cashiers	2,760	\$16,413	\$14,706	\$17,266
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,460	\$23,570	\$16,547	\$27,082
Retail Salespersons	1,880	\$21,846	\$14,796	\$25,371
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,530	\$17,770	\$15,184	\$19,063
Helpers--Production Workers	1,490	\$25,091	\$17,028	\$29,123
Office Clerks, General	1,460	\$21,357	\$15,934	\$24,069
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,370	\$15,130	\$14,771	\$15,310
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,340	\$18,763	\$14,820	\$20,734

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

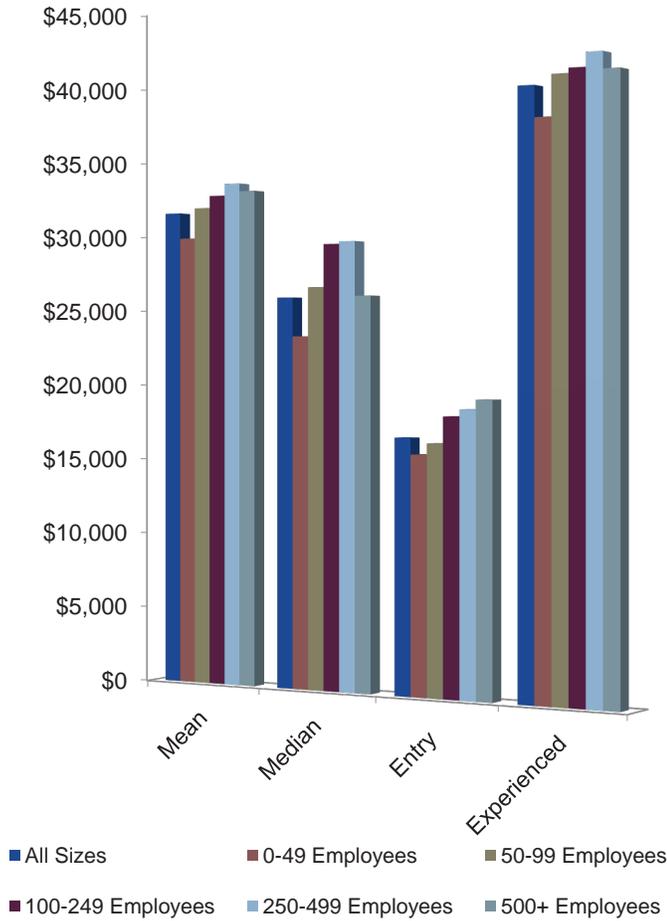
### Southwest Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Petroleum Engineers	\$198,092
Family and General Practitioners	\$188,973
Internists, General	\$178,815
Dentists, General	\$159,315
Pharmacists	\$117,068
Chief Executives	\$108,366
Physical Therapists	\$94,241
Engineering Managers	\$92,703
General and Operations Managers	\$89,202
Sales Managers	\$89,145
Lawyers	\$84,800
Physician Assistants	\$83,645
Purchasing Managers	\$83,255
Industrial Production Managers	\$80,847
Compensation and Benefits Managers	\$77,585
Civil Engineers	\$76,171
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$75,965
Marketing Managers	\$75,924
Veterinarians	\$74,527
Financial Managers	\$74,451
Chemical Engineers	\$73,720
Mechanical Engineers	\$69,478
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$67,665
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$67,389
Environmental Engineers	\$66,683

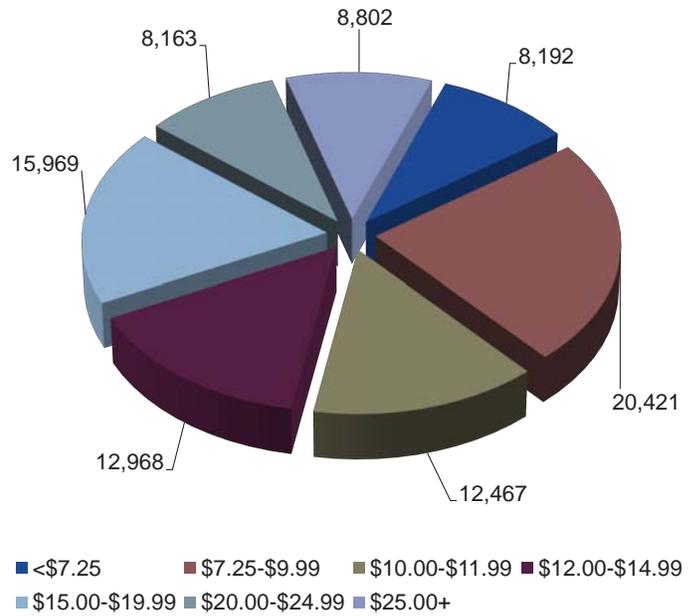
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Southwest Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



Southwest Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$31,608	\$29,892	\$31,910	\$32,717	\$33,492	\$32,974
Median	\$25,847	\$23,280	\$26,510	\$29,325	\$29,482	\$25,915
Entry	\$16,708	\$15,635	\$16,363	\$18,120	\$18,590	\$19,222
Experienced	\$39,058	\$37,021	\$39,684	\$40,016	\$40,943	\$39,850

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

Southwest Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
86,982	8,192	20,421	12,467	12,968	15,969	8,163	8,802

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Southwest Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
611000	Educational Services	10,158	10,399	241	2.37%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	4,304	4,476	172	4.00%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,446	2,587	141	5.76%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,216	3,339	123	3.82%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	1,996	2,104	108	5.41%
484000	Truck Transportation	3,110	3,209	99	3.18%
929200	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,051	2,128	77	3.75%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	811	887	76	9.37%
322000	Paper Manufacturing	1,883	1,958	75	3.98%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,176	3,251	75	2.36%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	540	602	62	11.48%
324000	Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	497	546	49	9.86%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	255	279	24	9.41%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	811	887	76	9.37%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	423	453	30	7.09%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	147	157	10	6.80%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	478	510	32	6.69%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,446	2,587	141	5.76%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	1,996	2,104	108	5.41%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	4,304	4,476	172	4.00%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
311000	Food Manufacturing	6,125	4,601	-1,524	-24.88%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	3,244	2,936	-308	-9.49%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	2,595	2,324	-271	-10.44%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	526	446	-80	-15.21%
113000	Forestry and Logging	973	910	-63	-6.47%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	1,140	1,077	-63	-5.53%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	654	592	-62	-9.48%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,451	1,393	-58	-4.00%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,526	1,476	-50	-3.28%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	1,739	1,695	-44	-2.53%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
311000	Food Manufacturing	6,125	4,601	-1,524	-24.88%
212000	Mining (except Oil and Gas)	99	80	-19	-19.19%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	120	101	-19	-15.83%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	526	446	-80	-15.21%
323000	Printing and Related Support Activities	67	57	-10	-14.93%
814000	Private Households	154	137	-17	-11.04%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	2,595	2,324	-271	-10.44%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	3,244	2,936	-308	-9.49%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	654	592	-62	-9.48%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	292	268	-24	-8.22%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# Southwest Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth	Replacement	Total
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,583	1,648	65	4.11%	33	27	60
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,910	1,956	46	2.41%	23	66	89
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,360	1,404	44	3.24%	22	27	49
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	3,033	3,075	42	1.38%	21	49	70
29-1111	Registered Nurses	926	958	32	3.46%	16	13	29
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,017	1,045	28	2.75%	14	26	40
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,425	1,453	28	1.96%	14	11	25
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	854	879	25	2.93%	13	28	41
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	1,144	1,163	19	1.66%	10	17	27
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	599	618	19	3.17%	10	36	46
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
47-5011	Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	162	178	16	9.88%	8	1	9
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	116	126	10	8.62%	5	4	9
51-2022	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	73	79	6	8.22%	3	1	4
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	124	134	10	8.06%	5	4	9
29-1051	Pharmacists	195	208	13	6.67%	7	4	11
29-1123	Physical Therapists	80	85	5	6.25%	3	1	4
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	245	260	15	6.12%	8	5	13
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	121	128	7	5.79%	4	1	5
25-1194	Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary	116	122	6	5.17%	3	2	5
43-3011	Bill and Account Collectors	314	329	15	4.78%	8	5	13
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,503	2,286	-217	-8.67%	0	86	86
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	1,478	1,274	-204	-13.80%	0	39	39
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	796	656	-140	-17.59%	0	14	14
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	899	816	-83	-9.23%	0	22	22
11-9012	Farmers and Ranchers	7,531	7,465	-66	-0.88%	0	60	60
49-9042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	1,196	1,131	-65	-5.43%	0	3	3
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	328	263	-65	-19.82%	0	4	4
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	382	319	-63	-16.49%	0	17	17
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	673	613	-60	-8.92%	0	9	9
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	459	401	-58	-12.64%	0	8	8
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	153	118	-35	-22.88%	0	4	4
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	328	263	-65	-19.82%	0	4	4
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	162	130	-32	-19.75%	0	4	4
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	61	49	-12	-19.67%	0	1	1
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	796	656	-140	-17.59%	0	14	14
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	382	319	-63	-16.49%	0	17	17
51-3093	Food Cooking Machine Operators and Tenders	33	28	-5	-15.15%	0	2	2
51-3092	Food Batchmakers	62	53	-9	-14.52%	0	2	2
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	1,478	1,274	-204	-13.80%	0	39	39
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	459	401	-58	-12.64%	0	8	8

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## West Central Arkansas WIA Profile

The West Central Arkansas Workforce Investment Area has seen a population increase of 4.4 percent, or 13,208 residents, from 2004 to 2008. During the same time period, the labor force saw an increase of 8,125 workers to 145,675, or 5.9 percent, while employment saw an increase of 8,600 workers, or 6.6 percent. The average unemployment rate for 2008 was 5.1 percent, with the rate dropping six-tenths of a percentage point over the five-year period.

The Area 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 WIA.

The Area has several four-year colleges: Arkansas Tech University in Russellville; Henderson State University and Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia; and the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville. There are also a number of two-year community and technical colleges in the Area: National Park Community College in Hot Springs; a campus of the University of Arkansas Community College System in Morrilton; and Ouachita Technical College in Malvern.

### Industry

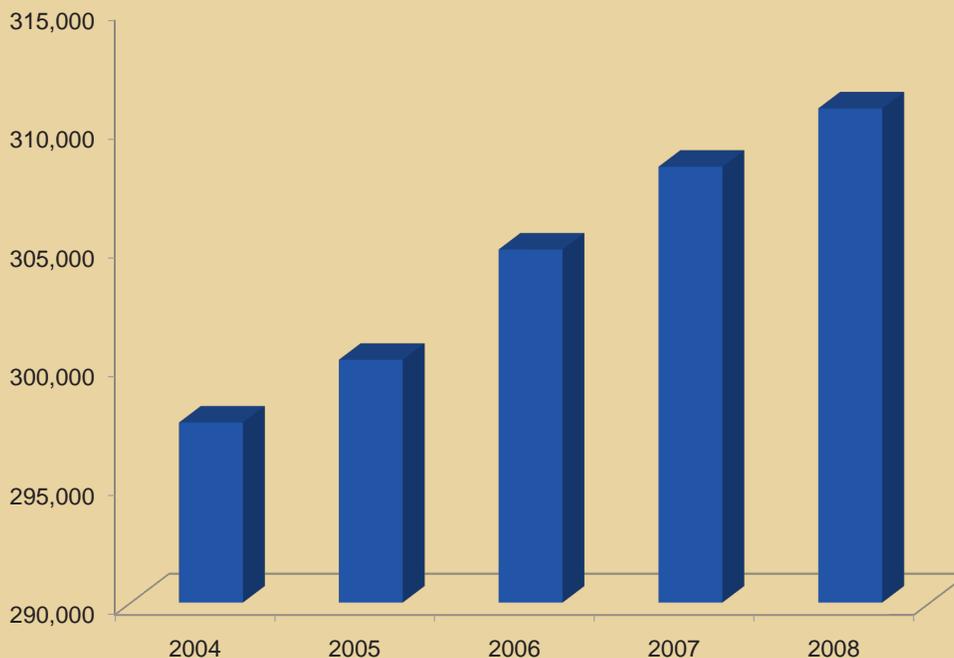
West Central Arkansas is estimated to add 2,226 jobs to the Area's economy during the 2008-2010 projection period. *Administrative and Support Services* is projected to add 381 jobs, or increase by 9.89 percent, placing it first in net growth and second in percent growth. *Support Activities for Mining* is forecast to be the fastest growing industry with an anticipated gain of 87.93 percent due to Fayetteville Shale natural gas

activity. Every industry in the Area's top 10 growing industries list is projected to add at least 140 new jobs. *Food Manufacturing* leads the top 10 declining industries list with a loss of 478 jobs expected. *Primary Metal Manufacturing* is forecast to be second in net decline with a loss of 267 jobs, or a drop of 25.45 percent, making it the fastest declining industry in West Central Arkansas. *Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing* is anticipated to lose an additional 21.33 percent of its workforce.

### Occupations

*Registered Nurses* is estimated to lead West Central Arkansas in net growth with an anticipated gain of 120 jobs during the 2008-2010 time period. *Retail Salespersons* is one employee behind them with a projected gain of 119. Three of the top four fastest growing occupations are in Apparel Manufacturing with *Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers* leading with 21.17 percent. *Textile Cutting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders* is expected to grow by 15.15 percent, but that is only five new jobs and four annual openings during the projection period. *Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers* is projected to lose the most jobs in the Area with 142 jobs estimated to be cut, while *Team Assemblers* is forecast to lose 79. Two occupations in the Metal Workers and Plastic Workers occupational family are the top two fastest declining occupations. *Rolling Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic* is predicted to decrease employment by 23.91 percent making it the fastest declining occupation in the region. *Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic* is forecast to lose an additional 15.6 percent from its workforce.

### Population 2004-2008



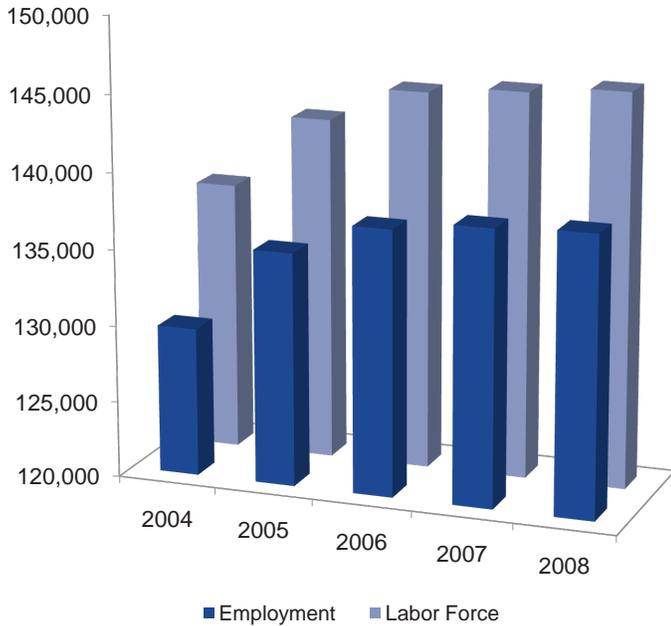
West Central Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
297,568	300,205	304,844	308,322	310,776	4.4%

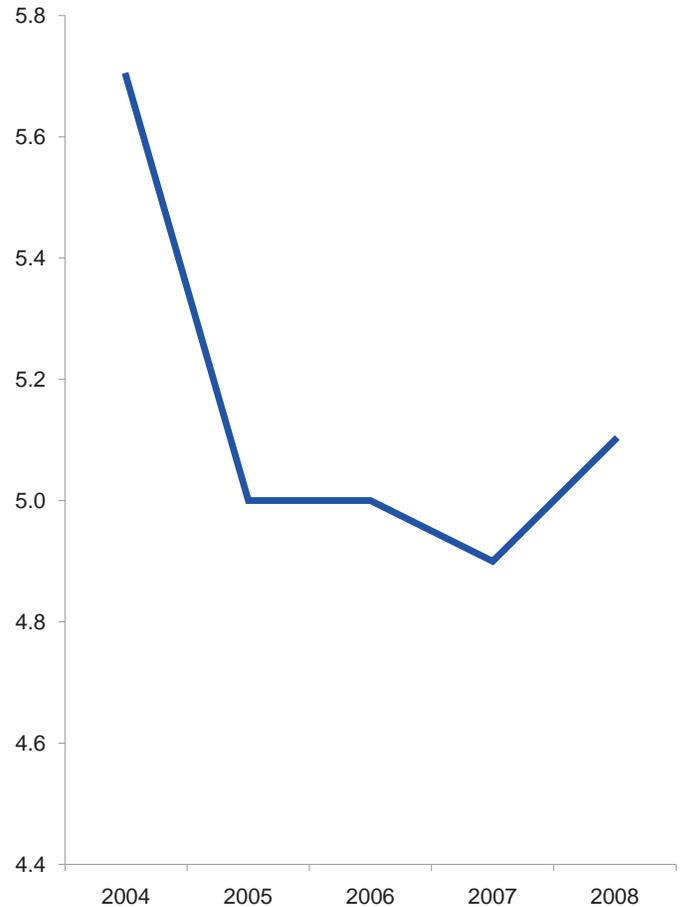
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# West Central Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### West Central Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	137,550	142,400	144,675	145,175	145,675
Employment	129,700	135,275	137,400	138,050	138,300
Unemployment	7,850	7,125	7,275	7,125	7,375
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### West Central Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	6,173	4,940	5,440	4,990	5,248
New Hires	22,892	22,450	22,384	21,277	19,850
Separations	24,668	26,076	25,919	24,935	25,125
Turnover	10.00%	10.90%	10.30%	10.60%	11.10%

### West Central Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	7.2
2009	February	7.2
2009	March	6.7
2009	April	6.3
2009	May	6.9
2009	June	7.5

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Job Creation: The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.  
 New Hires: Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.  
 Separations: Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.  
 Turnover Rate =  $(1/2) * (\text{full-quarter accessions} + \text{full-quarter separations}) / \text{employment stable jobs}$   
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics  
 As of 8/5/2009

# West Central Arkansas WIA Wages

## West Central Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Retail Salespersons	4,010	\$22,651	\$15,129	\$26,412
Cashiers	3,710	\$16,625	\$14,587	\$17,644
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,640	\$20,955	\$16,335	\$23,266
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,520	\$19,749	\$17,092	\$21,078
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,390	\$15,159	\$14,662	\$15,408
Office Clerks, General	2,240	\$20,368	\$15,038	\$23,033
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	2,190	\$34,854	\$24,254	\$40,154
Registered Nurses	2,100	\$53,110	\$36,773	\$61,278
Waiters and Waitresses	2,020	\$15,761	\$14,824	\$16,230
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,850	\$20,198	\$17,243	\$21,675

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

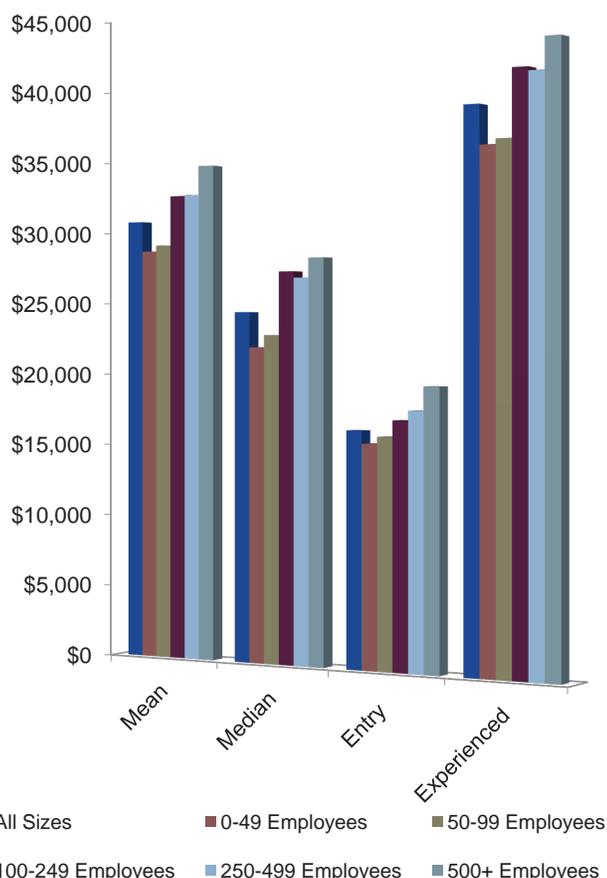
## West Central Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	\$215,855
Family and General Practitioners	\$211,295
Dentists, General	\$187,908
Chief Executives	\$107,803
Chemical Engineers	\$100,099
Engineering Managers	\$97,940
Sales Managers	\$94,866
Pharmacists	\$93,517
Optometrists	\$86,654
Industrial Production Managers	\$85,502
Purchasing Managers	\$85,244
Electrical Engineers	\$83,150
Marketing Managers	\$82,423
General and Operations Managers	\$79,735
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$75,695
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$74,735
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	\$74,243
Computer Systems Analysts	\$73,293
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$73,028
Veterinarians	\$71,929
Engineering Teachers, Postsecondary	\$70,438
Chiropractors	\$68,936
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$68,196
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$67,950
Mechanical Engineers	\$64,988

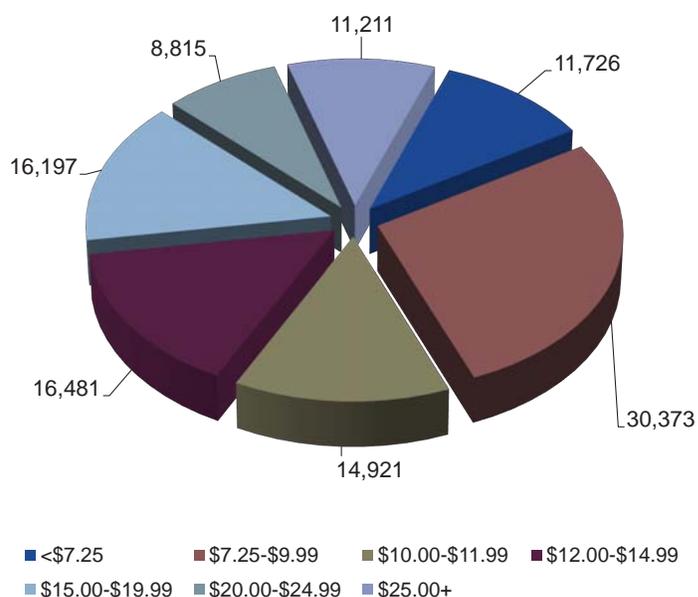
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# West Central Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



West Central Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$30,784	\$28,682	\$29,089	\$32,557	\$32,607	\$34,614
Median	\$24,348	\$21,903	\$22,760	\$27,138	\$26,702	\$28,066
Entry	\$16,262	\$15,374	\$15,862	\$16,994	\$17,668	\$19,306
Experienced	\$38,045	\$35,336	\$35,703	\$40,338	\$40,077	\$42,268

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

West Central Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
109,724	11,726	30,373	14,921	16,481	16,197	8,815	11,211

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# West Central Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
561000	Administrative and Support Services	3,851	4,232	381	9.89%
611000	Educational Services	13,511	13,871	360	2.66%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	8,570	8,905	335	3.91%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,739	2,971	232	8.47%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	4,113	4,320	207	5.03%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	4,587	4,778	191	4.16%
622000	Hospitals	3,839	4,001	162	4.22%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	174	327	153	87.93%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,945	2,089	144	7.40%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	3,650	3,790	140	3.84%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
213000	Support Activities for Mining	174	327	153	87.93%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	3,851	4,232	381	9.89%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	415	456	41	9.88%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	359	394	35	9.75%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	1,222	1,339	117	9.57%
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,739	2,971	232	8.47%
324000	Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	93	100	7	7.53%
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,945	2,089	144	7.40%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	854	907	53	6.21%
444000	Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	1,200	1,269	69	5.75%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
311000	Food Manufacturing	6,909	6,431	-478	-6.92%
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	1,049	782	-267	-25.45%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	497	391	-106	-21.33%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,111	1,037	-74	-6.66%
919999	Federal, Excluding Post Office	843	781	-62	-7.35%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,469	1,412	-57	-3.88%
332000	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,110	1,058	-52	-4.68%
721000	Accommodation	1,617	1,574	-43	-2.66%
113000	Forestry and Logging	539	500	-39	-7.24%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	477	446	-31	-6.50%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
331000	Primary Metal Manufacturing	1,049	782	-267	-25.45%
334000	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	497	391	-106	-21.33%
486000	Pipeline Transportation	79	70	-9	-11.39%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	155	143	-12	-7.74%
919999	Federal, Excluding Post Office	843	781	-62	-7.35%
113000	Forestry and Logging	539	500	-39	-7.24%
311000	Food Manufacturing	6,909	6,431	-478	-6.92%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	224	209	-15	-6.70%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	1,111	1,037	-74	-6.66%
327000	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	477	446	-31	-6.50%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# West Central Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net Growth	Percent Growth	Growth	Replacement	Total
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,925	2,045	120	6.23%	60	26	86
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,168	4,287	119	2.86%	60	143	203
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,332	2,443	111	4.76%	56	39	95
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,319	2,413	94	4.05%	47	43	90
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	2,019	2,100	81	4.01%	41	15	56
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	1,997	2,074	77	3.86%	39	33	72
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,923	1,999	76	3.95%	38	35	73
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	939	1,010	71	7.56%	36	15	51
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,959	2,023	64	3.27%	32	116	148
43-3071	Tellers	739	796	57	7.71%	29	39	68
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
51-6041	Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers	137	166	29	21.17%	15	3	18
51-6062	Textile Cutting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	33	38	5	15.15%	3	1	4
15-1031	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	56	64	8	14.29%	4	1	5
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	293	331	38	12.97%	19	3	22
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	456	500	44	9.65%	22	13	35
37-2021	Pest Control Workers	77	84	7	9.09%	4	2	6
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	599	653	54	9.02%	27	7	34
43-3071	Tellers	739	796	57	7.71%	29	39	68
13-2072	Loan Officers	223	240	17	7.62%	9	2	11
27-1024	Graphic Designers	66	71	5	7.58%	3	2	5
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,579	2,437	-142	-5.51%	0	81	81
51-2092	Team Assemblers	1,423	1,344	-79	-5.55%	0	28	28
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	1,260	1,219	-41	-3.25%	0	33	33
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	942	907	-35	-3.72%	0	10	10
51-4021	Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	218	184	-34	-15.60%	0	6	6
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	868	834	-34	-3.92%	0	21	21
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	675	643	-32	-4.74%	0	9	9
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	800	771	-29	-3.63%	0	12	12
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,719	1,697	-22	-1.28%	0	49	49
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	555	534	-21	-3.78%	0	8	8
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-4023	Rolling Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	46	35	-11	-23.91%	0	1	1
51-4021	Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	218	184	-34	-15.60%	0	6	6
51-9121	Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	96	86	-10	-10.42%	0	2	2
51-4011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	104	95	-9	-8.65%	0	1	1
11-3051	Industrial Production Managers	147	135	-12	-8.16%	0	5	5
19-4093	Forest and Conservation Technicians	87	80	-7	-8.05%	0	4	4
51-9192	Cleaning, Washing, and Metal Pickling Equipment Operators and Tenders	77	71	-6	-7.79%	0	3	3
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	161	150	-11	-6.83%	0	3	3
43-5111	Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	136	127	-9	-6.62%	0	4	4
43-4071	File Clerks	234	219	-15	-6.41%	0	8	8

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

## Western Arkansas WIA Profile

The Western Arkansas Workforce Investment Area had a population increase of 3.9 percent, or 9,480 residents, from 2004 to 2008. Over the same five-year period, the labor force increased by 8.3 percent to 123,550 workers, while employment increased by 8.6 percent, or by 9,300 workers. The annual unemployment rate for 2008 was 4.7 percent with annual averages fluctuating over the five-year period with a rate of 5.0 percent in 2004 to 4.3 percent in 2005.

The Western Arkansas WIA consists of six counties: Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, and Sebastian; and is bordered to the west by Oklahoma. The Arkansas portion of the Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area is located in the Western Arkansas WIA.

The Area is home to the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, located in Sebastian County. Rich Mountain Community College in Mena and Arkansas Tech-Ozark are two-year colleges also located in this Area.

### Industry

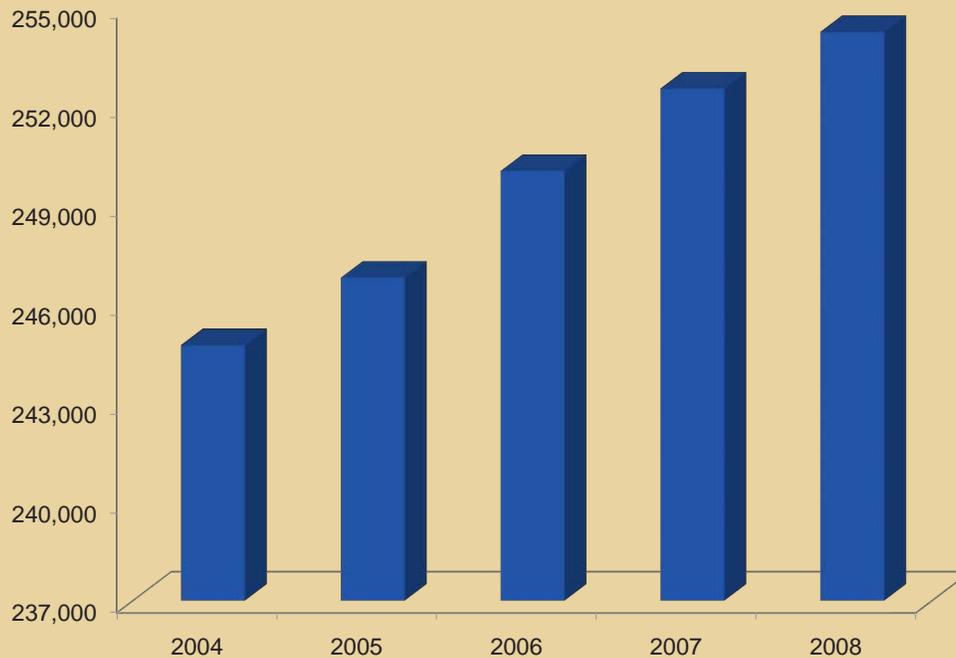
Western Arkansas is forecast to lose 1,575 jobs during the 2008-2010 projection period. *Educational Services* and *Ambulatory Health Care Services* are the top two industries in projected net growth with anticipated gains of 286 and 269 jobs, respectively. All three Mining industry subsectors are included in the top 10 fastest growing industries list. *Oil and Gas Extraction* is estimated to increase employment by 21.65 percent making it the fastest growing industry in Western Arkansas, while *Mining (Except Oil and Gas)* is second with a 17.2 percent growth. Seven manufacturing industries, including the top five, are among

the top 10 declining industries in the region with *Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing* leading with 1,990 jobs projected to be cut. That is equivalent to a 37.9 percent decline in its workforce and places it second in percent decline. A distant second in net decline is *Food Manufacturing* with an anticipated loss of 918 jobs. *Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing* is projected to lead the region in percent decline with a 44.56 percent decline in employment. In all, three industries are anticipated to lose over a third of their respective workforce.

### Occupations

*Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor Trailer* is projected to increase employment by 180, making it the top growing occupation in Western Arkansas, while *Retail Salespersons* is anticipated to add an additional 108. *Wellhead Pumpers* is forecast to be the fastest growing occupation with a 17.54 percent rise in employment, while *Paving, Surfacing, and Tamping Equipment Operators* is expected to increase by just over 10 percent. *Team Assemblers* is projected to lose 354 jobs making it the top declining occupation. Every occupation in the top 10 declining occupations list is anticipating losing at least 97 employees. *Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers* is forecast to lose 37.1 percent of its workforce making it the fastest declining occupation in the region. *Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic* is estimated to experience a 32.71 percent drop in employment. Each occupation among the top 10 fastest is predicted to lose more than 20 percent of its respective workforce.

### Population 2004-2008



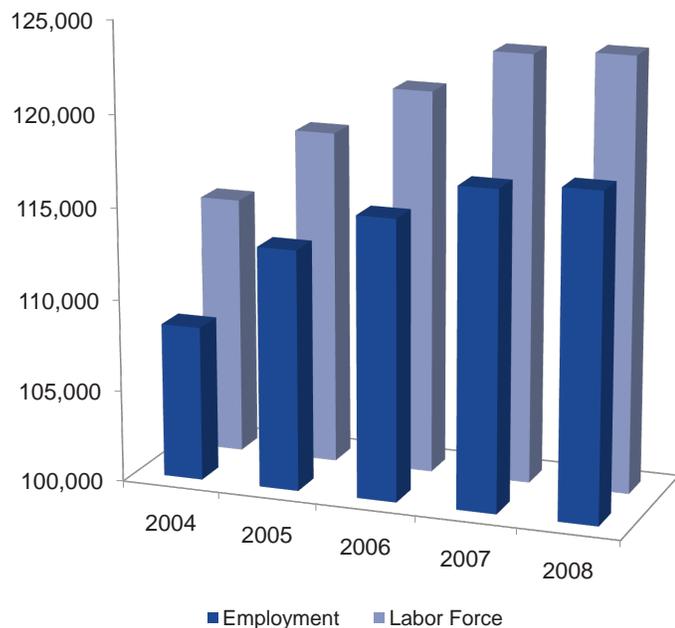
Western Arkansas WIA Population 2004 - 2008

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change
244,733	246,772	250,003	252,500	254,213	3.9%

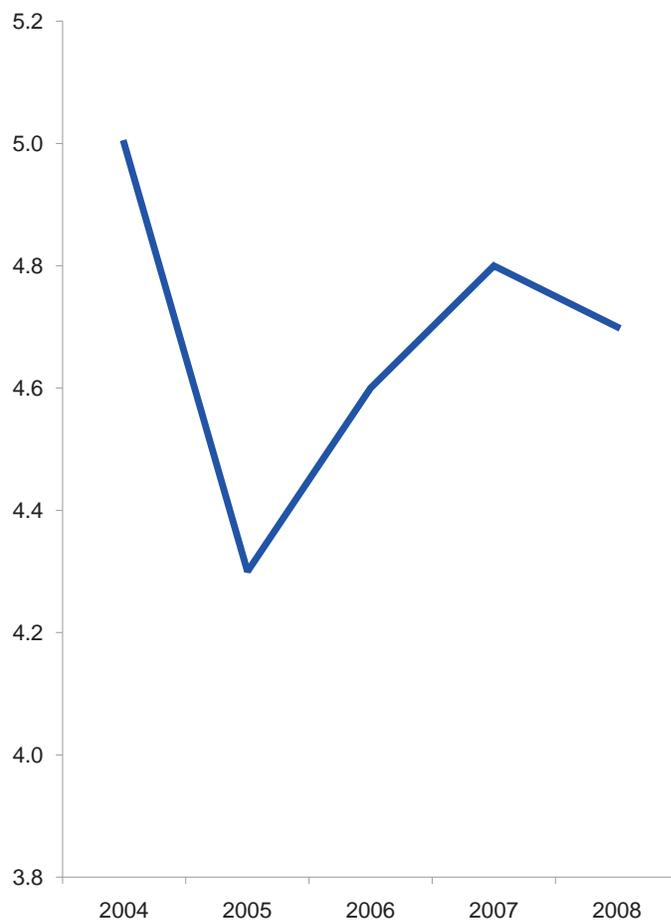
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

# Western Arkansas WIA Profile

## Labor Force/Employment 2004-2008



## Unemployment Rate 2004-2008



### Western Arkansas WIA 2004-2008 Labor Force/Employment

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Labor Force	114,075	118,200	120,875	123,250	123,550
Employment	108,425	113,150	115,325	117,350	117,725
Unemployment	5,650	5,050	5,550	5,900	5,825
Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.7

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Western Arkansas WIA Quarterly Workforce Indicators (All Ownerships)

QWI Quickfacts	2004_3	2005_3	2006_3	2007_3	2008_3
Job Creation	5,932	5,051	4,556	5,364	5,112
New Hires	23,822	25,844	24,358	24,565	23,637
Separations	26,802	32,727	28,285	27,572	27,686
Turnover	10.30%	12.30%	10.50%	10.50%	10.80%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics

**Job Creation:** The number of new jobs that are created by either new area businesses or the expansion of employment by existing firms.

**New Hires:** Total number of accessions that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters.

**Separations:** Total number of workers who were employed by a business in the current quarter, but not in the subsequent quarter.

**Turnover Rate** =  $(1/2) * (\text{full-quarter accessions} + \text{full-quarter separations}) / \text{employment stable jobs}$

As of 8/5/2009

### Western Arkansas WIA 2009 Monthly Unemployment Rate\*

Year	Period	Unemployment Rate
2009	January	6.9
2009	February	6.8
2009	March	6.7
2009	April	6.6
2009	May	6.7
2009	June	7.3

\*Not Seasonally Adjusted, Not Preliminary

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

## Western Arkansas WIA Wages

### Western Arkansas WIA Wages of 10 Largest Occupations

Occupation	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	5,100	\$39,499	\$27,608	\$45,444
Retail Salespersons	3,630	\$22,153	\$15,005	\$25,727
Cashiers	2,900	\$16,688	\$14,622	\$17,721
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,600	\$21,901	\$16,562	\$24,570
Team Assemblers	2,310	\$25,192	\$17,728	\$28,925
Registered Nurses	2,160	\$54,431	\$39,138	\$62,078
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,020	\$19,033	\$17,096	\$20,002
Helpers--Production Workers	1,920	\$22,167	\$17,362	\$24,569
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,820	\$15,090	\$14,640	\$15,315
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,700	\$19,456	\$17,591	\$20,389

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

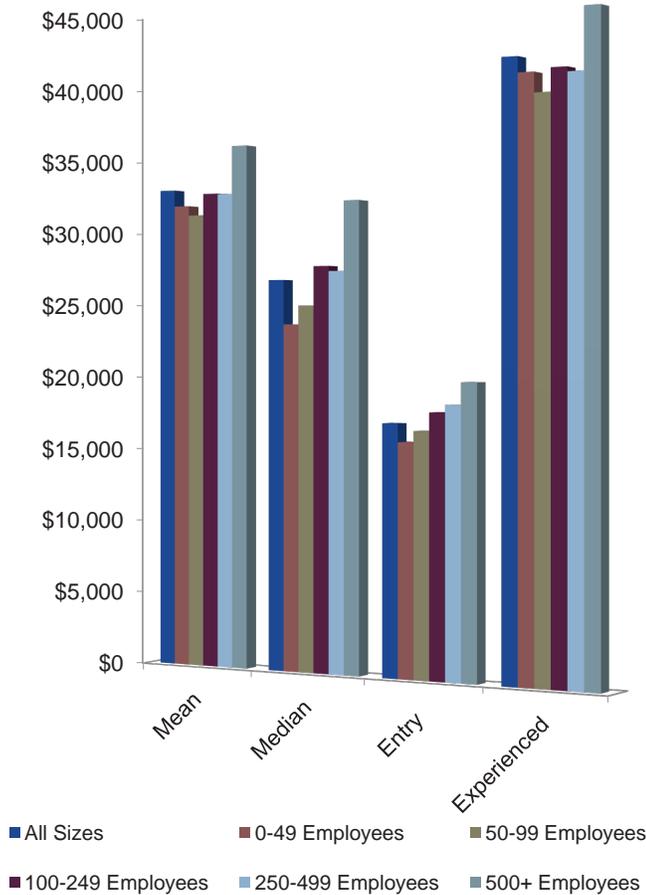
### Western Arkansas WIA Occupations Paying the Most

Occupation	Average Annual Salary
Surgeons	\$225,216
Family and General Practitioners	\$197,827
Pediatricians, General	\$165,238
Geoscientists, Except Hydrologists and Geographers	\$122,104
Lawyers	\$121,836
Chief Executives	\$116,469
Purchasing Managers	\$113,524
Mining and Geological Engineers, Including Mining Safety Engineers	\$111,370
Dentists, General	\$109,925
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$106,564
Pharmacists	\$102,232
General and Operations Managers	\$92,629
Financial Managers	\$91,711
Sales Managers	\$90,899
Engineering Managers	\$87,460
Marketing Managers	\$87,342
Physical Therapists	\$80,963
Advertising and Promotions Managers	\$79,675
Occupational Therapists	\$77,200
Industrial Production Managers	\$75,925
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$72,908
Industrial Engineers	\$72,703
Personal Financial Advisors	\$72,316
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$72,258
Construction Managers	\$70,450

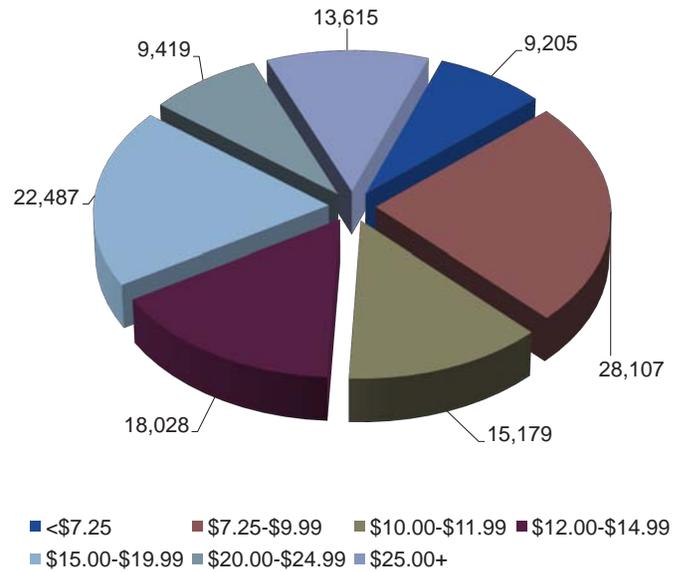
Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Western Arkansas WIA Wages

## Wage Estimates by Employer Size



## Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate



### Western Arkansas WIA Wage Estimates by Employer Size

Type of Wage	All Sizes	0-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250-499 Employees	500+ Employees
Mean	\$33,020	\$31,896	\$31,245	\$32,715	\$32,670	\$35,954
Median	\$26,680	\$23,653	\$24,921	\$27,590	\$27,244	\$31,978
Entry	\$17,019	\$15,777	\$16,532	\$17,789	\$18,295	\$19,802
Experienced	\$41,021	\$39,955	\$38,602	\$40,177	\$39,857	\$44,030

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

### Western Arkansas WIA Number of Employees by Hourly Wage Rate

Total	<\$7.25	\$7.25-\$9.99	\$10.00-\$11.99	\$12.00-\$14.99	\$15.00-\$19.99	\$20.00-\$24.99	\$25.00+
116,040	9,205	28,107	15,179	18,028	22,487	9,419	13,615

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, May 2008 Wage Survey

# Western Arkansas WIA Industry

NAICS Code	NAICS Title	Employment		Net Growth	Percent Growth
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected		
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>					
611000	Educational Services	8,783	9,069	286	3.26%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	4,533	4,802	269	5.93%
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	7,197	7,464	267	3.71%
484000	Truck Transportation	5,199	5,419	220	4.23%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,812	2,981	169	6.01%
561000	Administrative and Support Services	6,849	7,011	162	2.37%
452000	General Merchandise Stores	3,952	4,097	145	3.67%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	1,040	1,179	139	13.37%
423000	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	2,231	2,337	106	4.75%
939300	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	2,733	2,838	105	3.84%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>					
211000	Oil and Gas Extraction	231	281	50	21.65%
212000	Mining (except Oil and Gas)	250	293	43	17.20%
237000	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	1,040	1,179	139	13.37%
425000	Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers	323	354	31	9.60%
213000	Support Activities for Mining	1,595	1,699	104	6.52%
446000	Health and Personal Care Stores	603	641	38	6.30%
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	2,812	2,981	169	6.01%
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	4,533	4,802	269	5.93%
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,145	1,208	63	5.50%
523000	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	208	219	11	5.29%
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>					
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	5,251	3,261	-1,990	-37.90%
311000	Food Manufacturing	8,855	7,937	-918	-10.37%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	1,528	1,014	-514	-33.64%
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	689	382	-307	-44.56%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	2,362	2,192	-170	-7.20%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	655	544	-111	-16.95%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	392	348	-44	-11.22%
447000	Gasoline Stations	1,040	997	-43	-4.13%
321000	Wood Product Manufacturing	799	765	-34	-4.26%
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	443	414	-29	-6.55%
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>					
326000	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	689	382	-307	-44.56%
335000	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	5,251	3,261	-1,990	-37.90%
337000	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	1,528	1,014	-514	-33.64%
524000	Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	655	544	-111	-16.95%
339000	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	392	348	-44	-11.22%
814000	Private Households	74	66	-8	-10.81%
311000	Food Manufacturing	8,855	7,937	-918	-10.37%
325000	Chemical Manufacturing	74	67	-7	-9.46%
454000	Nonstore Retailers	211	193	-18	-8.53%
333000	Machinery Manufacturing	2,362	2,192	-170	-7.20%

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

# Western Arkansas WIA Occupations

SOC Code	SOC Title	Employment		Growth		Annual Openings		
		2008 Estimated	2010 Projected	Net	Percent	Growth	Replacement	Total
<b>Top 10 Growth</b>								
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	5,312	5,492	180	3.39%	90	86	176
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	3,649	3,757	108	2.96%	54	125	179
29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,923	2,018	95	4.94%	48	26	74
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	1,606	1,692	86	5.35%	43	12	55
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,818	1,902	84	4.62%	42	31	73
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,257	1,308	51	4.06%	26	25	51
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,583	1,634	51	3.22%	26	94	120
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	640	686	46	7.19%	23	11	34
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,140	1,183	43	3.77%	22	29	51
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	852	893	41	4.81%	21	10	31
<b>Top 10 Fastest Growth</b>								
53-7073	Wellhead Pumpers	57	67	10	17.54%	5	3	8
47-2071	Paving, Surfacing, and Tamping Equipment Operators	129	142	13	10.08%	7	2	9
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	220	241	21	9.55%	11	6	17
11-9021	Construction Managers	257	280	23	8.95%	12	4	16
29-1123	Physical Therapists	90	98	8	8.89%	4	1	5
31-9092	Medical Assistants	97	105	8	8.25%	4	1	5
29-1051	Pharmacists	187	202	15	8.02%	8	3	11
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	88	95	7	7.95%	4	3	7
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	79	85	6	7.59%	3	1	4
47-5012	Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	425	456	31	7.29%	16	3	19
<b>Top 10 Decline</b>								
51-2092	Team Assemblers	2,413	2,059	-354	-14.67%	0	48	48
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	1,943	1,716	-227	-11.68%	0	51	51
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	584	393	-191	-32.71%	0	14	14
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	2,048	1,873	-175	-8.54%	0	65	65
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	855	697	-158	-18.48%	0	11	11
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,554	2,404	-150	-5.87%	0	88	88
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	422	309	-113	-26.78%	0	9	9
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,080	973	-107	-9.91%	0	26	26
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	950	848	-102	-10.74%	0	14	14
51-4011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	484	387	-97	-20.04%	0	5	5
<b>Top 10 Fastest Decline</b>								
51-2022	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	248	156	-92	-37.10%	0	4	4
51-4031	Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	584	393	-191	-32.71%	0	14	14
17-3012	Electrical and Electronics Drafters	40	29	-11	-27.50%	0	1	1
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	165	120	-45	-27.27%	0	5	5
51-4072	Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	422	309	-113	-26.78%	0	9	9
51-4021	Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	133	100	-33	-24.81%	0	4	4
51-6093	Upholsterers	72	56	-16	-22.22%	0	1	1
17-3023	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technicians	77	60	-17	-22.08%	0	2	2
17-3013	Mechanical Drafters	73	57	-16	-21.92%	0	2	2
53-7063	Machine Feeders and Offbearers	321	254	-67	-20.87%	0	6	6

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Short-term Industry and Occupational Projections Program

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# DWS

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WORKFORCE**Services**

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