



4 Arkansas Counties

Contents

Report Parameters	1
Economy Overview	2
Unemployment by Demographics	4
Historic & Projected Trends	8
Population Characteristics	12
Inbound and Outbound Migration	14
Industry Characteristics	16
Business Characteristics	21
Workforce Characteristics	23
Educational Pipeline	29
In-Demand Skills	30

Report Parameters

4 Counties

5037	Cross County, AR	5095	Monroe County, AR
5077	Lee County, AR	5123	St. Francis County, AR

Class of Worker

QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

The information in this report pertains to the chosen geographical areas.

Economy Overview

52,763

Population (2024)

Population **decreased by 4,159** over the last 5 years and is projected to **decrease by 2,414** over the next 5 years.

18,399

Total Regional Employment

Jobs **decreased by 1,691** over the last 5 years and are projected to **decrease by 330** over the next 5 years.

\$51.7K

Avg. Earnings Per Job (2024)

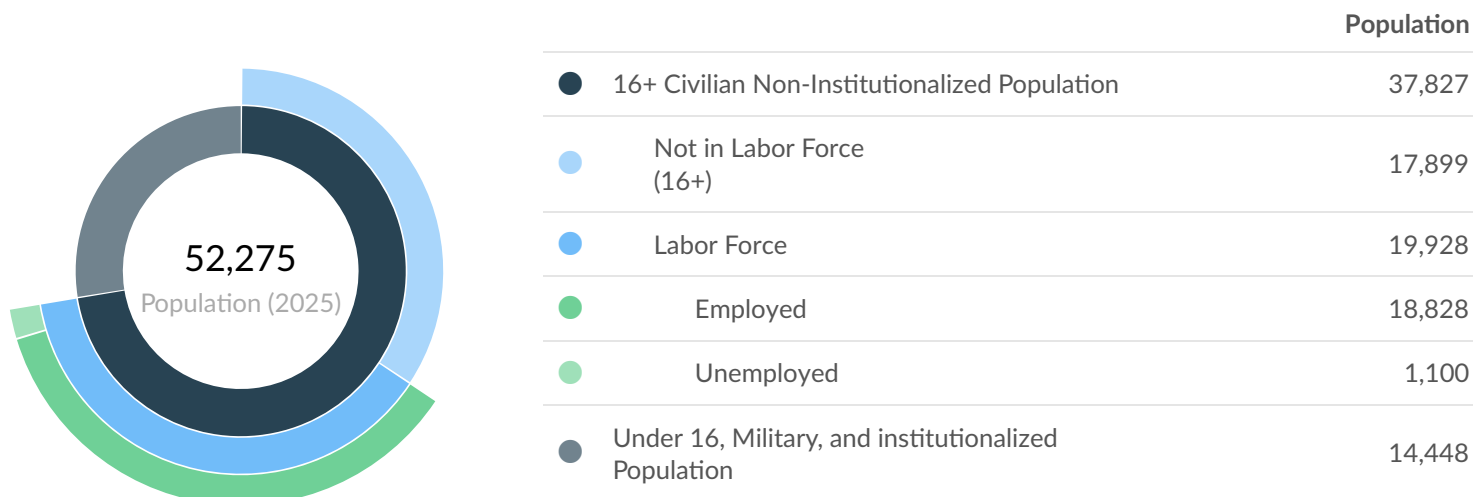
Regional average earnings per job are **\$33.3K below** the national average earnings of \$85.0K per job.

Takeaways

- As of 2024 the region's population **declined by 7.3%** since 2019, falling by 4,159. Population is expected to **decrease by 4.6%** between 2024 and 2029, losing 2,414.
- From 2019 to 2024, jobs **declined by 8.4%** in 4 Arkansas Counties from 20,090 to **18,399**. This change **fell short of the national growth rate of 3.9% by 12.3%**. As the number of jobs declined, the **labor force participation rate decreased from 51.2% to 49.9% between 2019 and 2024**.
- Concerning educational attainment, **9.3% of the selected regions' residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (12.1% below the national average), and **7.0% hold an Associate's Degree** (1.9% below the national average).
- The top three industries in 2024 are Crop Production, Education and Hospitals (Local Government), and Restaurants and Other Eating Places.

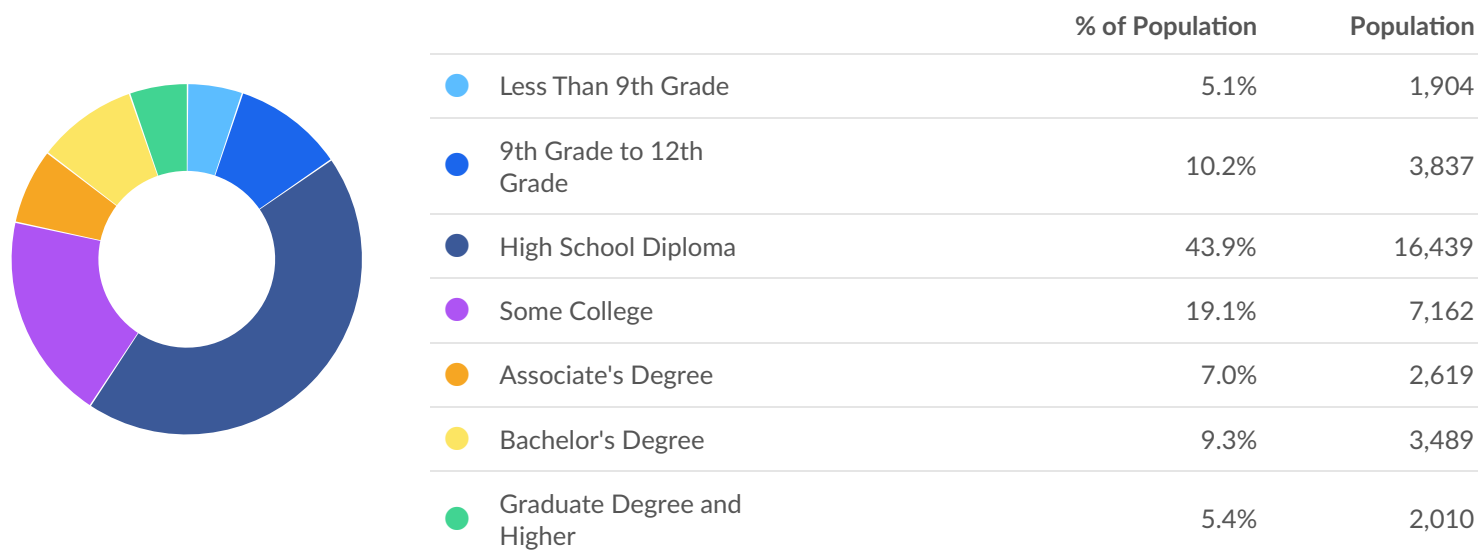
	Population (2025)	Labor Force (Feb 2025)	Jobs (2024)	Cost of Living	GRP	Imports	Exports
Region	52,275	19,928	18,399	89.8	\$1.89B	\$3.79B	\$3.66B
State	3,107,011	1,416,575	1,465,252	90.5	\$176.73B	\$195.77B	\$211.45B

Feb 2025 Labor Force Breakdown



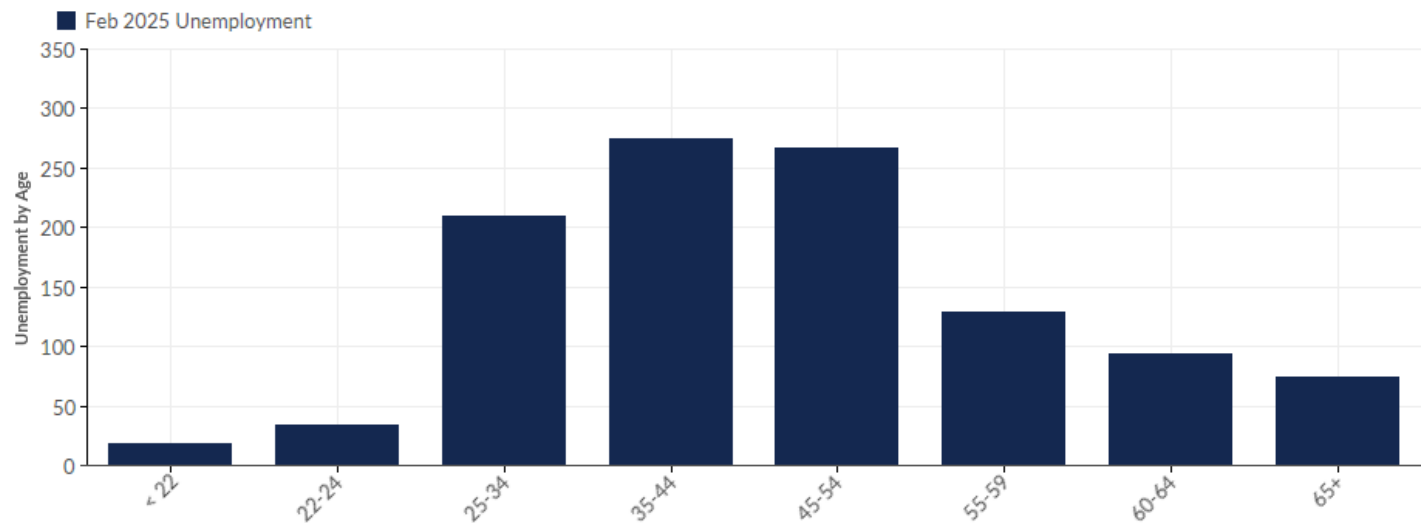
Educational Attainment

Concerning educational attainment, **9.3% of the selected regions' residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (12.1% below the national average), and **7.0% hold an Associate's Degree** (1.9% below the national average).



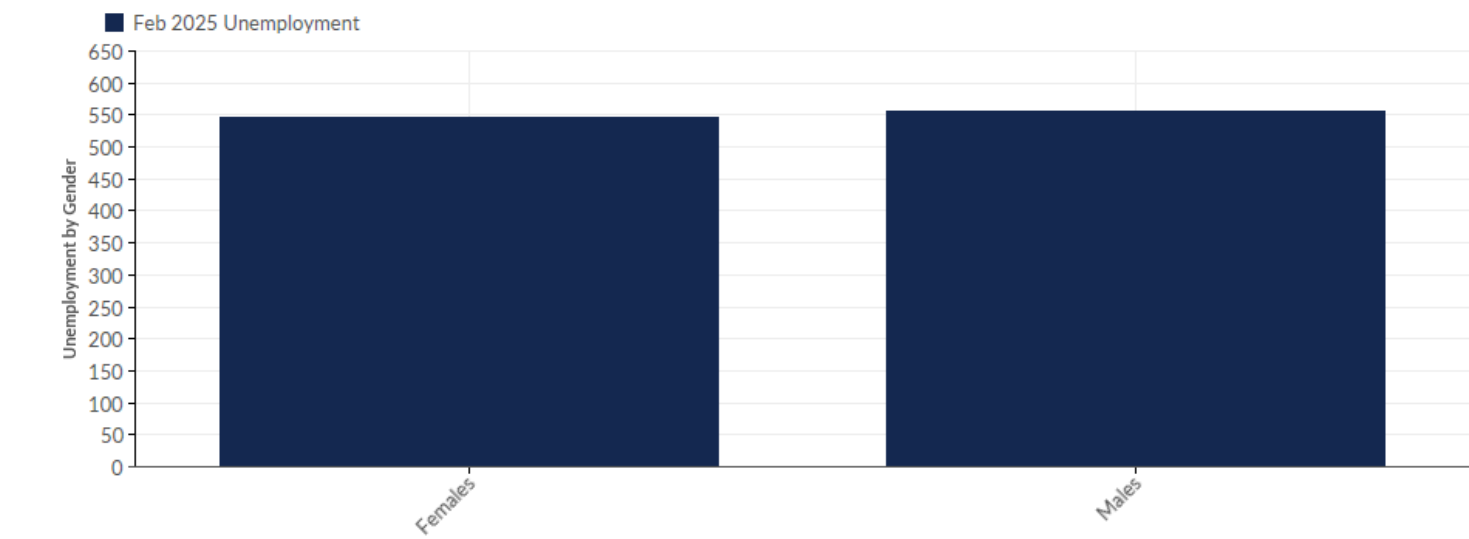
Unemployment by Demographics

Unemployment by Age



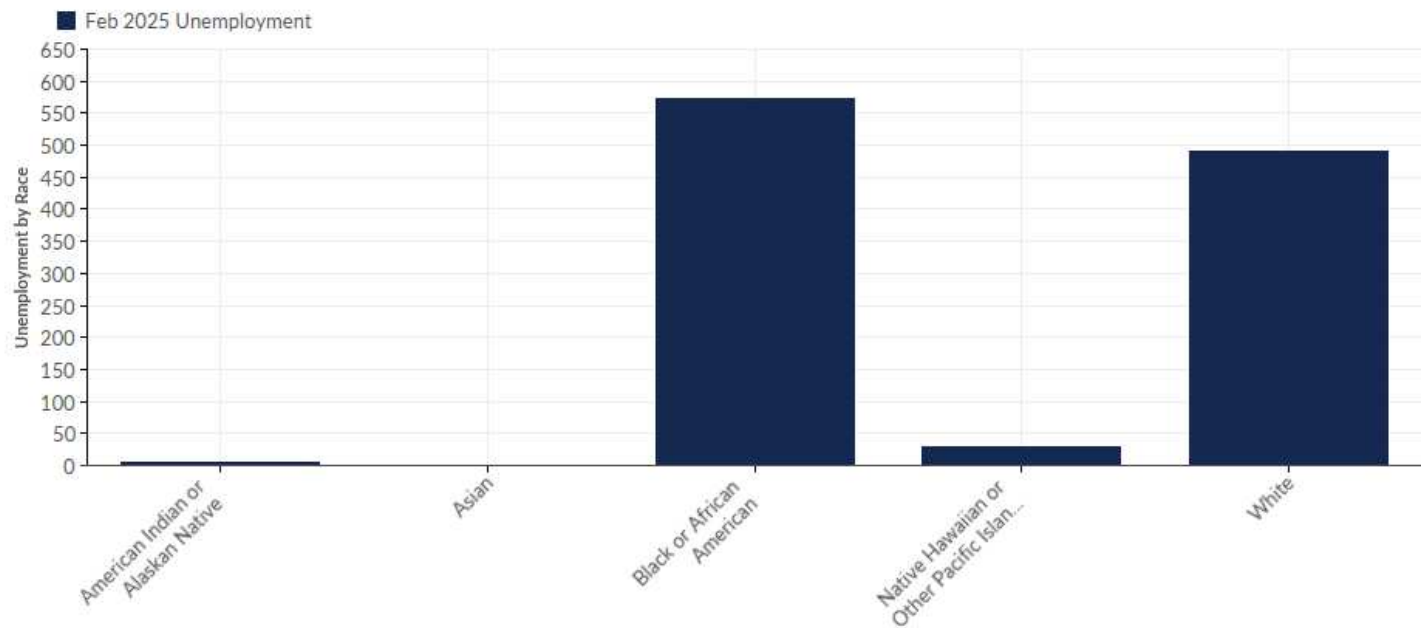
Age	Unemployment (Feb 2025)	% of Unemployed
< 22	19	1.73%
22-24	34	3.09%
25-34	210	19.09%
35-44	274	24.91%
45-54	266	24.18%
55-59	129	11.73%
60-64	94	8.55%
65+	74	6.73%
Total	1,100	100.00%

Unemployment by Gender



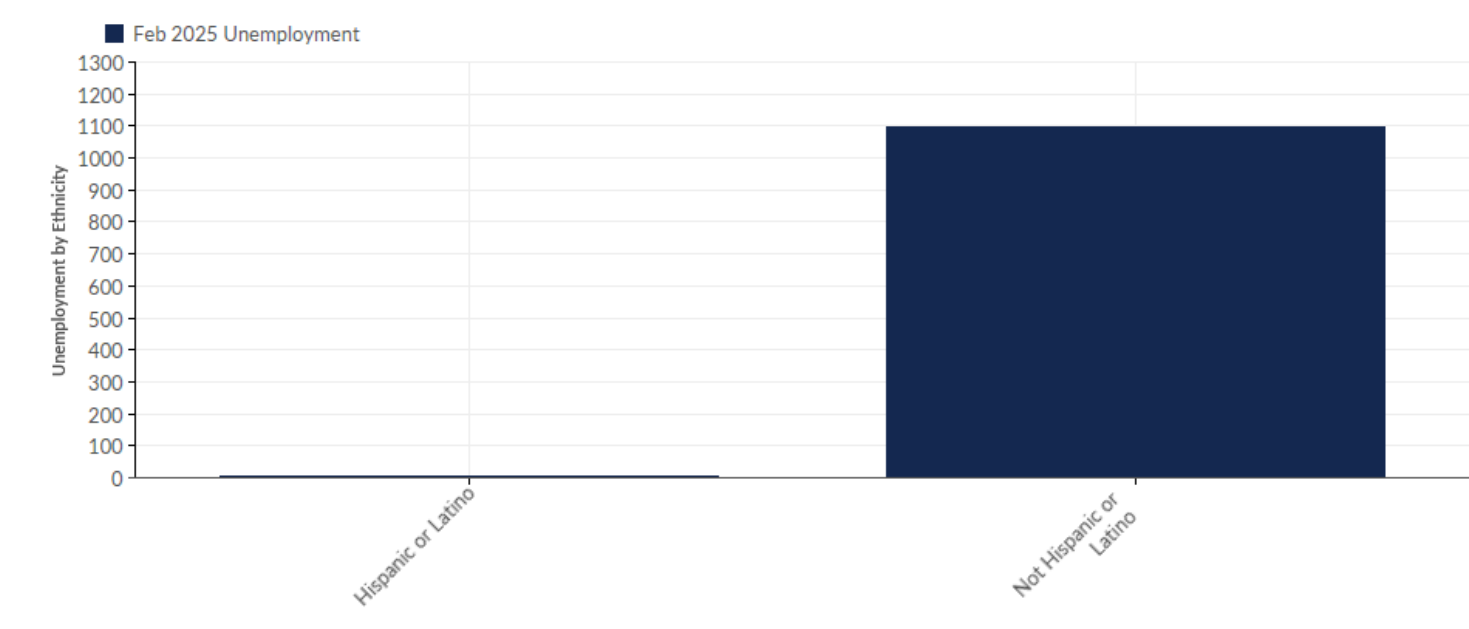
Gender	Unemployment (Feb 2025)	% of Unemployed
Females	545	49.55%
Males	555	50.45%
Total	1,100	100.00%

Unemployment by Race



Race	Unemployment (Feb 2025)	% of Unemployed
American Indian or Alaskan Native	5	0.45%
Asian	1	0.09%
Black or African American	574	52.18%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	30	2.73%
White	491	44.64%
Total	1,100	100.00%

Unemployment by Ethnicity

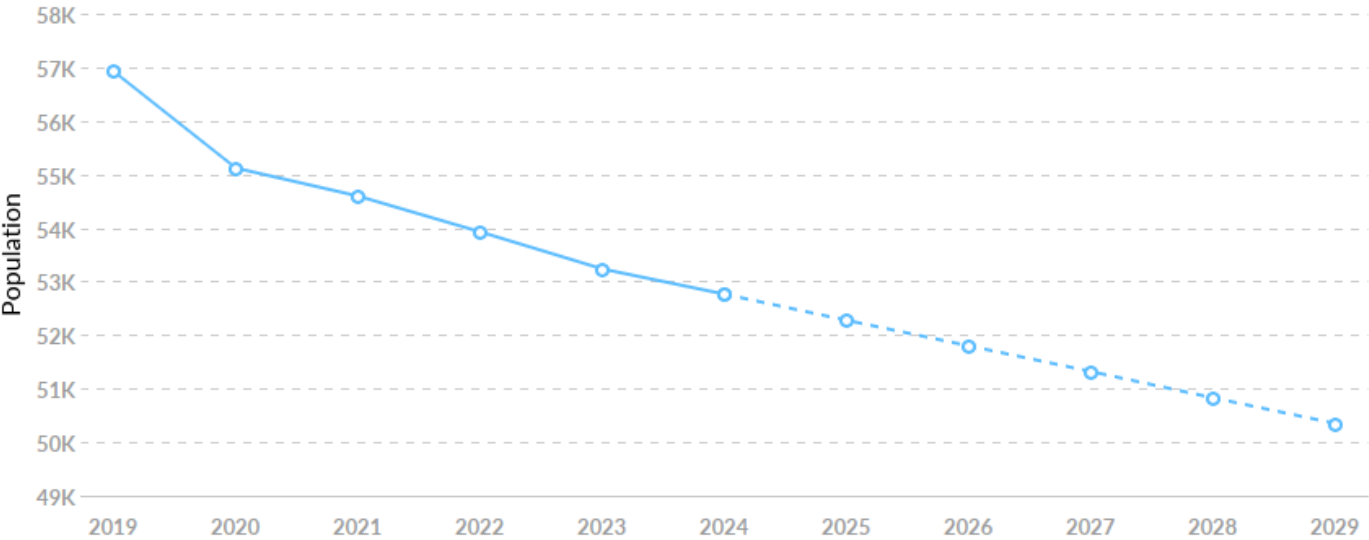


Ethnicity	Unemployment (Feb 2025)	% of Unemployed
Hispanic or Latino	3	0.27%
Not Hispanic or Latino	1,097	99.73%
Total	1,100	100.00%

Historic & Projected Trends

Population Trends

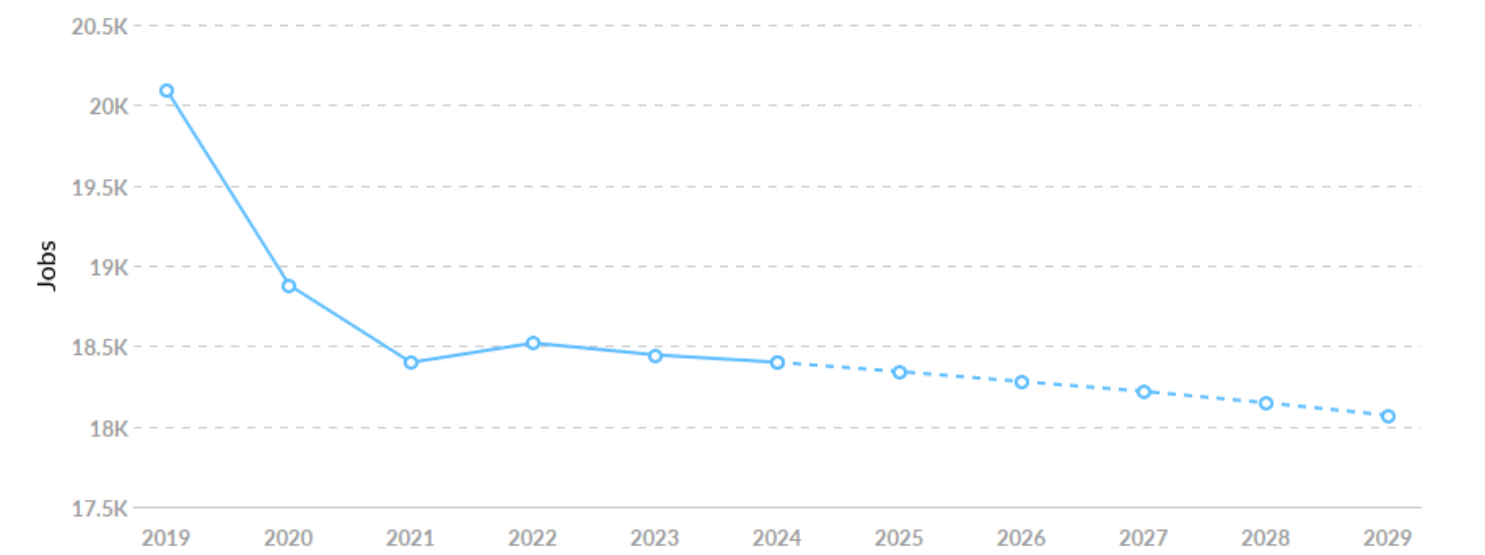
As of 2024 the region's population **declined by 7.3%** since 2019, falling by 4,159. Population is expected to **decrease by 4.6%** between 2024 and 2029, losing 2,414.



Timeframe	Population
2019	56,922
2020	55,118
2021	54,595
2022	53,927
2023	53,234
2024	52,763
2025	52,275
2026	51,798
2027	51,319
2028	50,827
2029	50,349

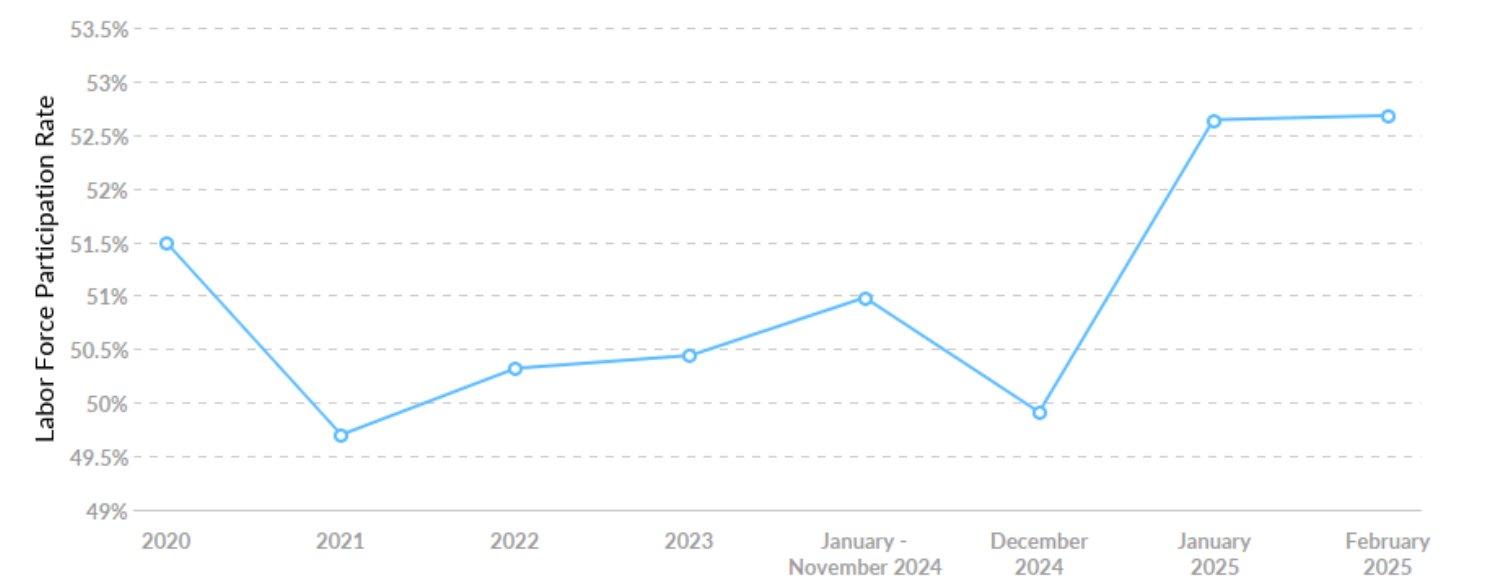
Job Trends

From 2019 to 2024, jobs **declined by 8.4%** in 4 Arkansas Counties from 20,090 to **18,399**. This change **fell short of the national growth rate of 3.9%** by **12.3%**.



Timeframe	Jobs
2019	20,090
2020	18,881
2021	18,398
2022	18,519
2023	18,445
2024	18,399
2025	18,341
2026	18,279
2027	18,218
2028	18,147
2029	18,069

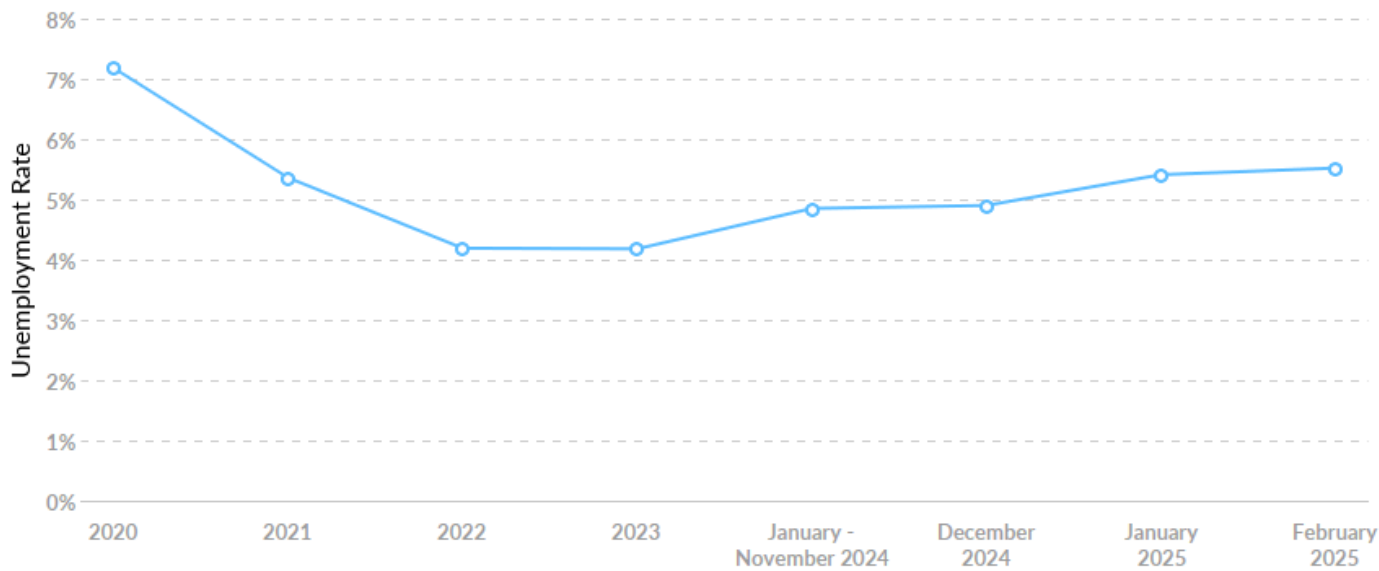
Labor Force Participation Rate Trends



Timeframe	Labor Force Participation Rate
2020	51.49%
2021	49.70%
2022	50.32%
2023	50.44%
January - November 2024	50.98%
December 2024	49.91%
January 2025	52.64%
February 2025	52.68%

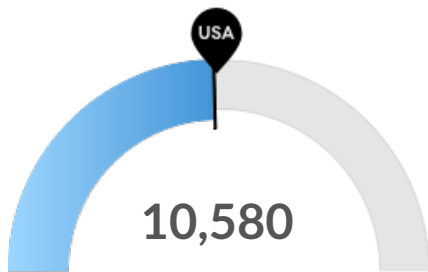
Unemployment Rate Trends

Your areas had a February 2025 unemployment rate of 5.52%, **decreasing from 7.18%** 5 years before.



Timeframe	Unemployment Rate
2020	7.18%
2021	5.36%
2022	4.19%
2023	4.18%
January - November 2024	4.85%
December 2024	4.90%
January 2025	5.41%
February 2025	5.52%

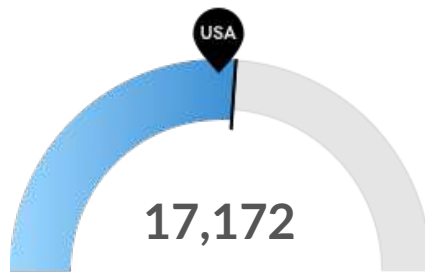
Population Characteristics



10,580

Millennials

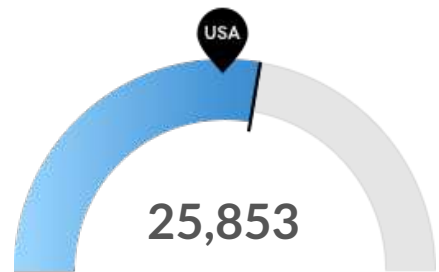
Your area has 10,580 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 10,816.



17,172

Retiring Soon

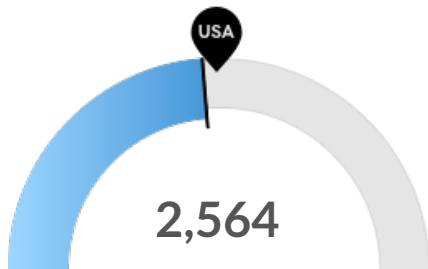
Retirement risk is about average in your area. The national average for an area this size is 16,070 people 55 or older, while there are 17,172 here.



25,853

Racial Diversity

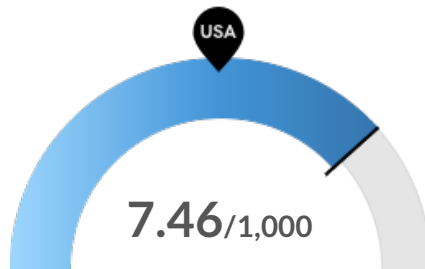
Racial diversity is high in your area. The national average for an area this size is 22,170 racially diverse people, while there are 25,853 here.



2,564

Veterans

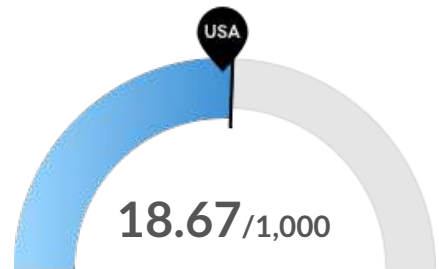
Your area has 2,564 veterans. The national average for an area this size is 2,757.



7.46/1,000

Violent Crime

Your area has 7.46 violent crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 3.54 per 1,000 people.



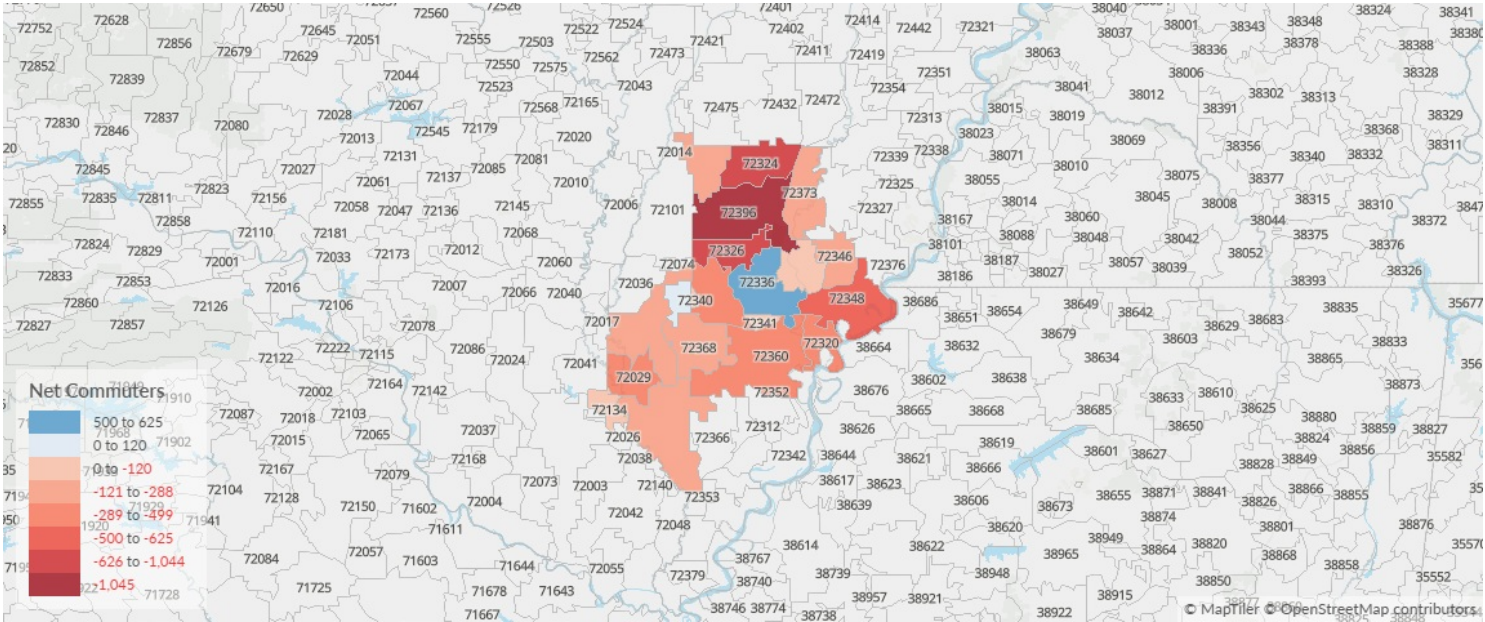
18.67/1,000

Property Crime

Your area has 18.67 property crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 18.02 per 1,000 people.

Place of Work vs Place of Residence

Understanding where talent in the region currently works compared to where talent lives can help you optimize site decisions. For example, the #1 ranked ZIP for employment ranks #2 for resident workers. The top ZIP for resident workers is 72396.



Where Talent Works

ZIP	Name	2024 Employment
72335	Forrest City, AR (in St. F...	6,322
72396	Wynne, AR (in Cross co...	5,042
72360	Marianna, AR (in Lee co...	1,932
72021	Brinkley, AR (in Monroe...	1,444
72029	Clarendon, AR (in Monr...	512

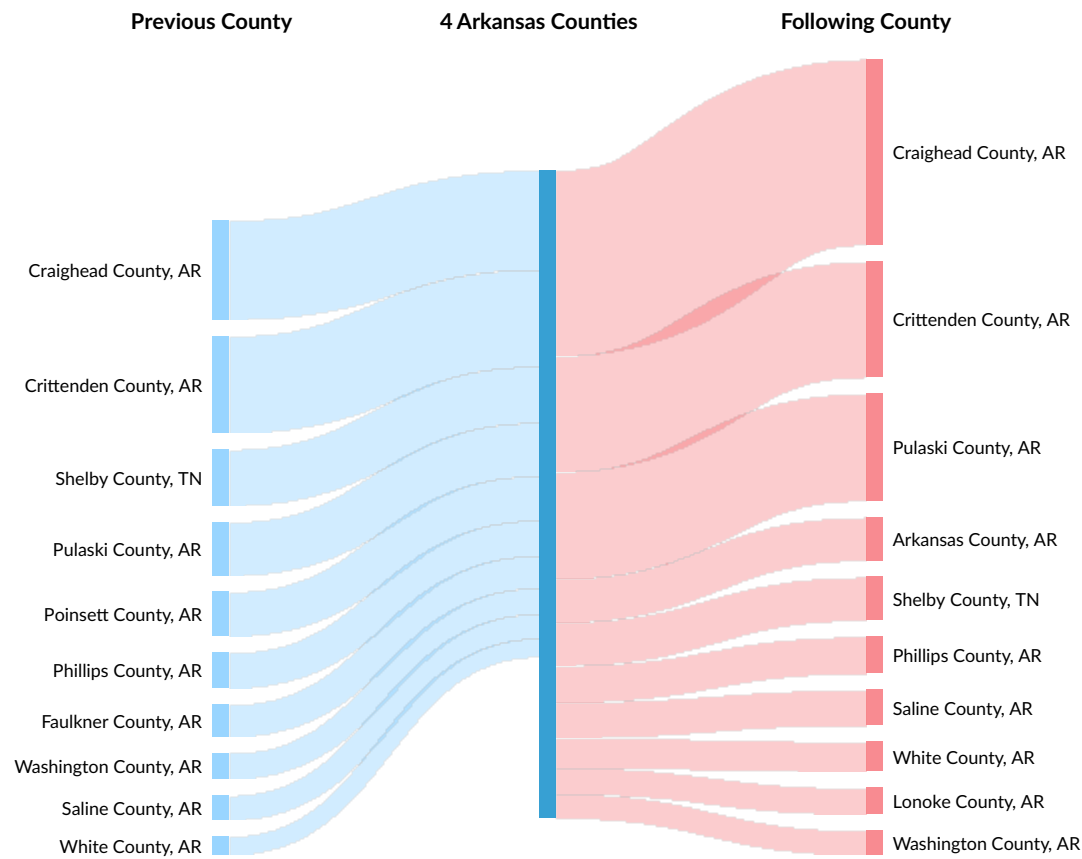
Where Talent Lives

ZIP	Name	2024 Workers
72396	Wynne, AR (in Cross co...	6,087
72335	Forrest City, AR (in St. F...	5,809
72360	Marianna, AR (in Lee co...	2,296
72021	Brinkley, AR (in Monroe...	1,632
72326	Colt, AR (in St. Francis c...	1,058

Inbound and Outbound Migration

The table below analyzes past and current residents of 4 Arkansas Counties. The left column shows residents of other counties migrating to 4 Arkansas Counties. The right column shows residents migrating from 4 Arkansas Counties to other counties.

As of 2022, 131 people have migrated from Craighead County, AR to 4 Arkansas Counties. In the same year, 245 people left 4 Arkansas Counties migrating to Craighead County, AR. The total Net Migration for 4 Arkansas Counties in 2022 was -226.

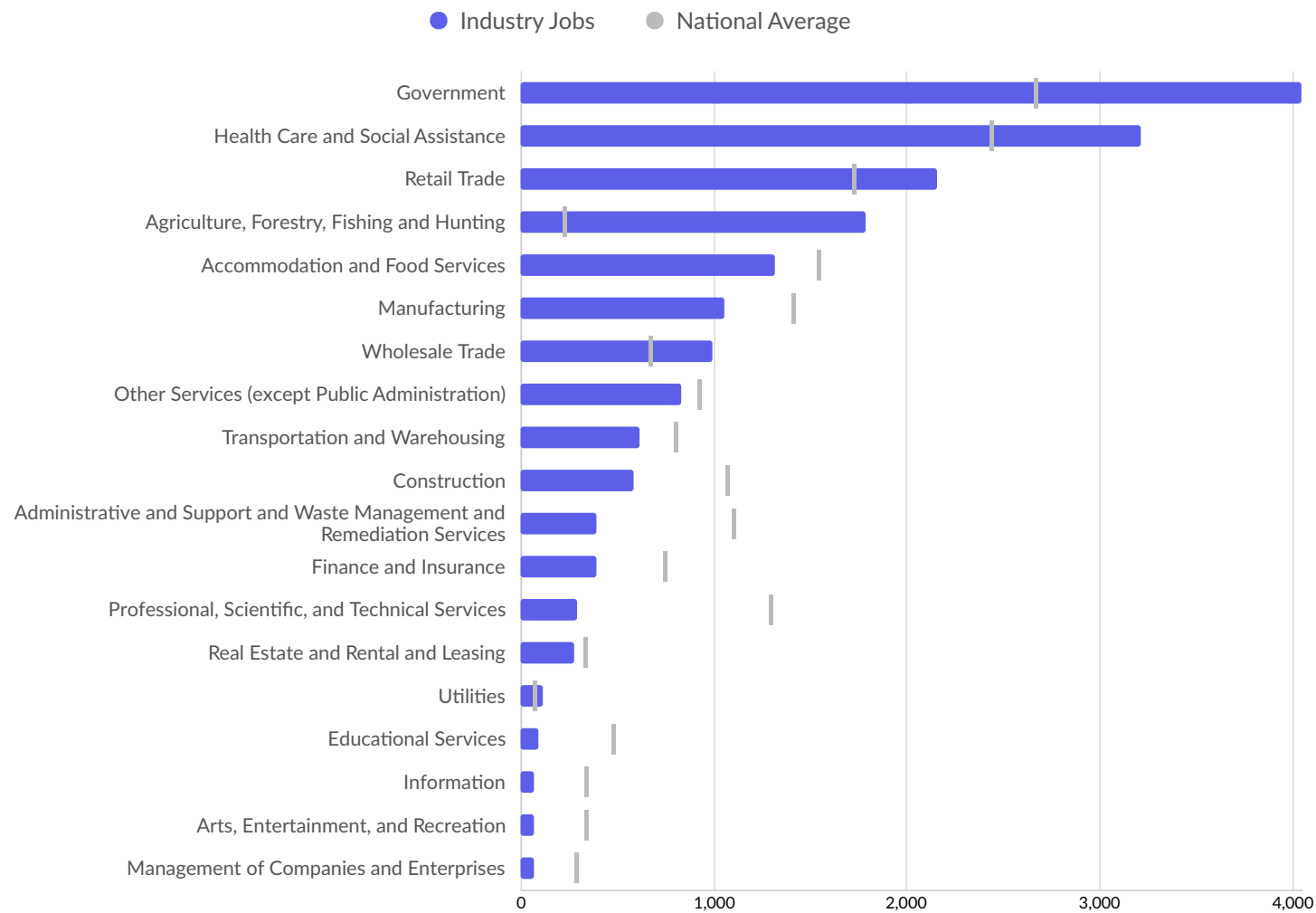


Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Craighead County, AR	131
Crittenden County, AR	128
Shelby County, TN	74
Pulaski County, AR	71
Poinsett County, AR	58
Phillips County, AR	47

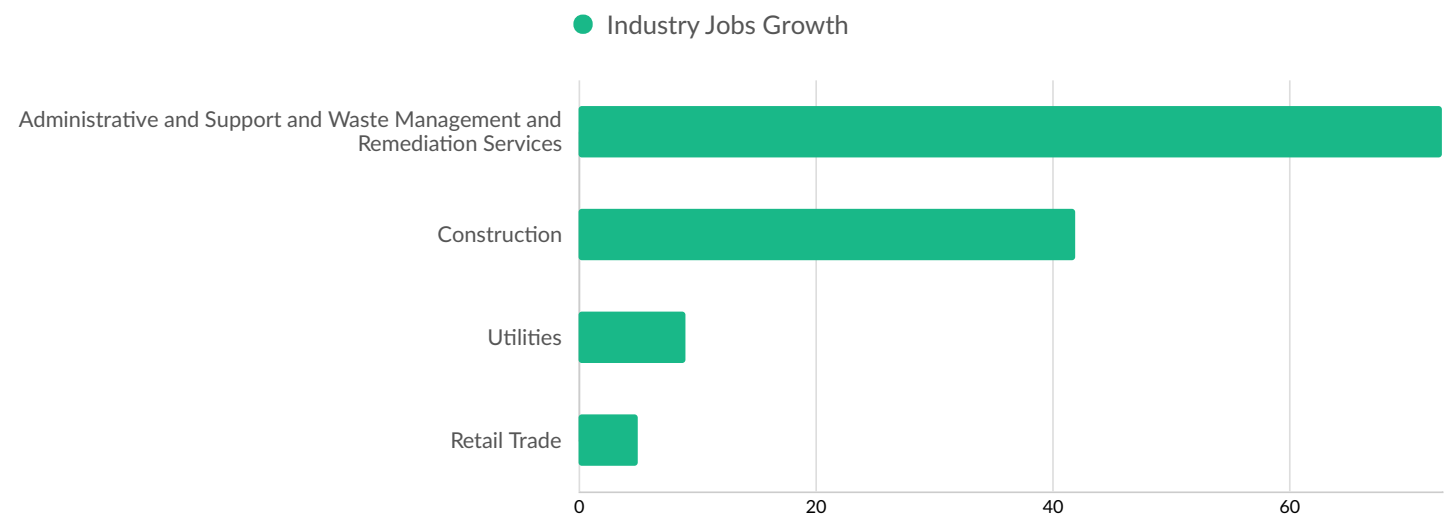
Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Faulkner County, AR	42
Washington County, AR	34
Saline County, AR	32
White County, AR	24
Garland County, AR	23
Benton County, AR	20
Union County, AR	18
St. Louis County, MO	17
Jefferson County, AR	16
Top Following Counties	Migrations
Craighead County, AR	245
Crittenden County, AR	153
Pulaski County, AR	142
Arkansas County, AR	57
Shelby County, TN	57
Phillips County, AR	49
Saline County, AR	47
White County, AR	40
Lonoke County, AR	35
Washington County, AR	32
Pope County, AR	27
Jefferson County, AR	27
DeSoto County, MS	24
Conway County, AR	23
Hot Spring County, AR	22

Industry Characteristics

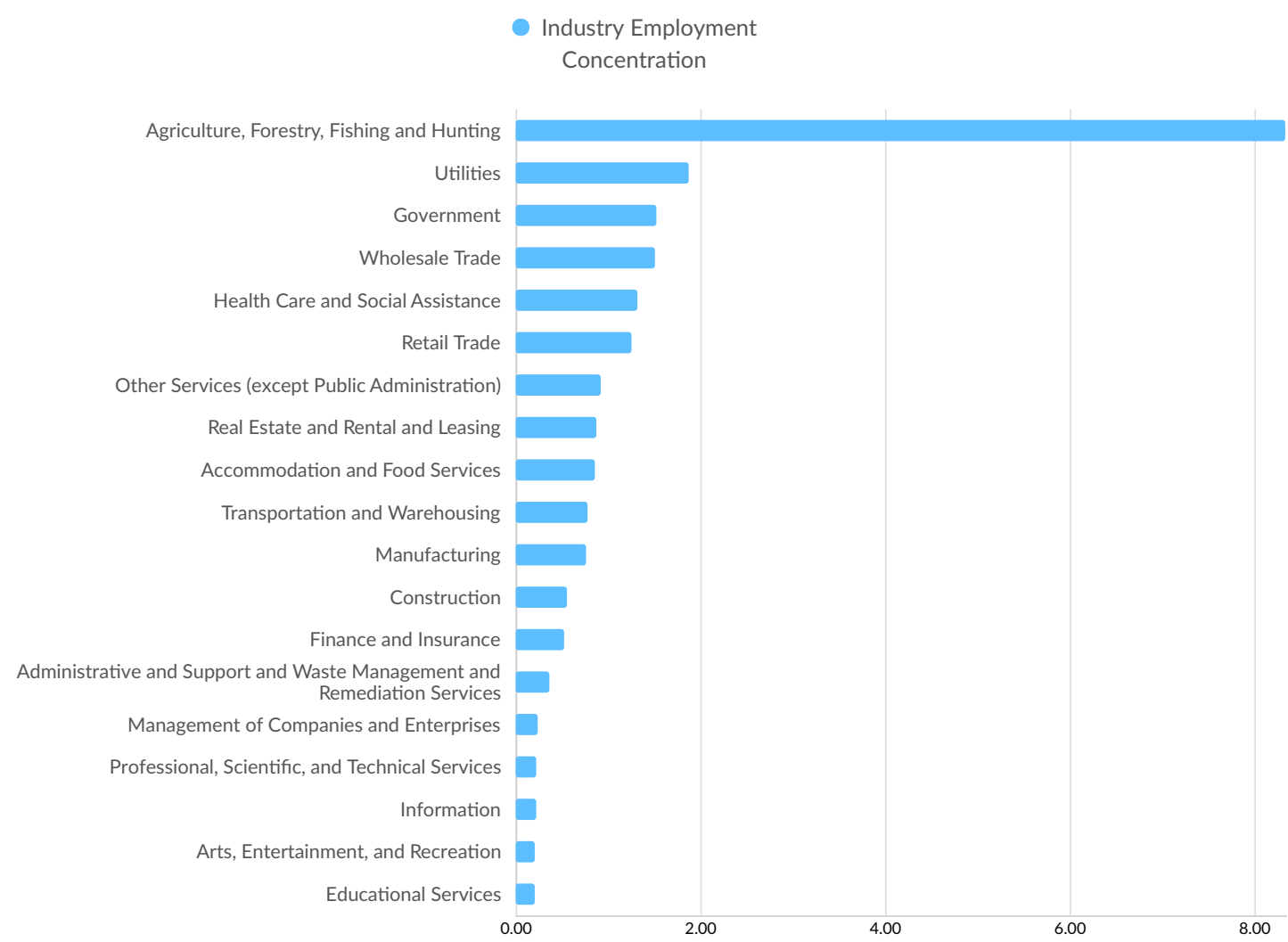
Largest Industries



Top Growing Industries

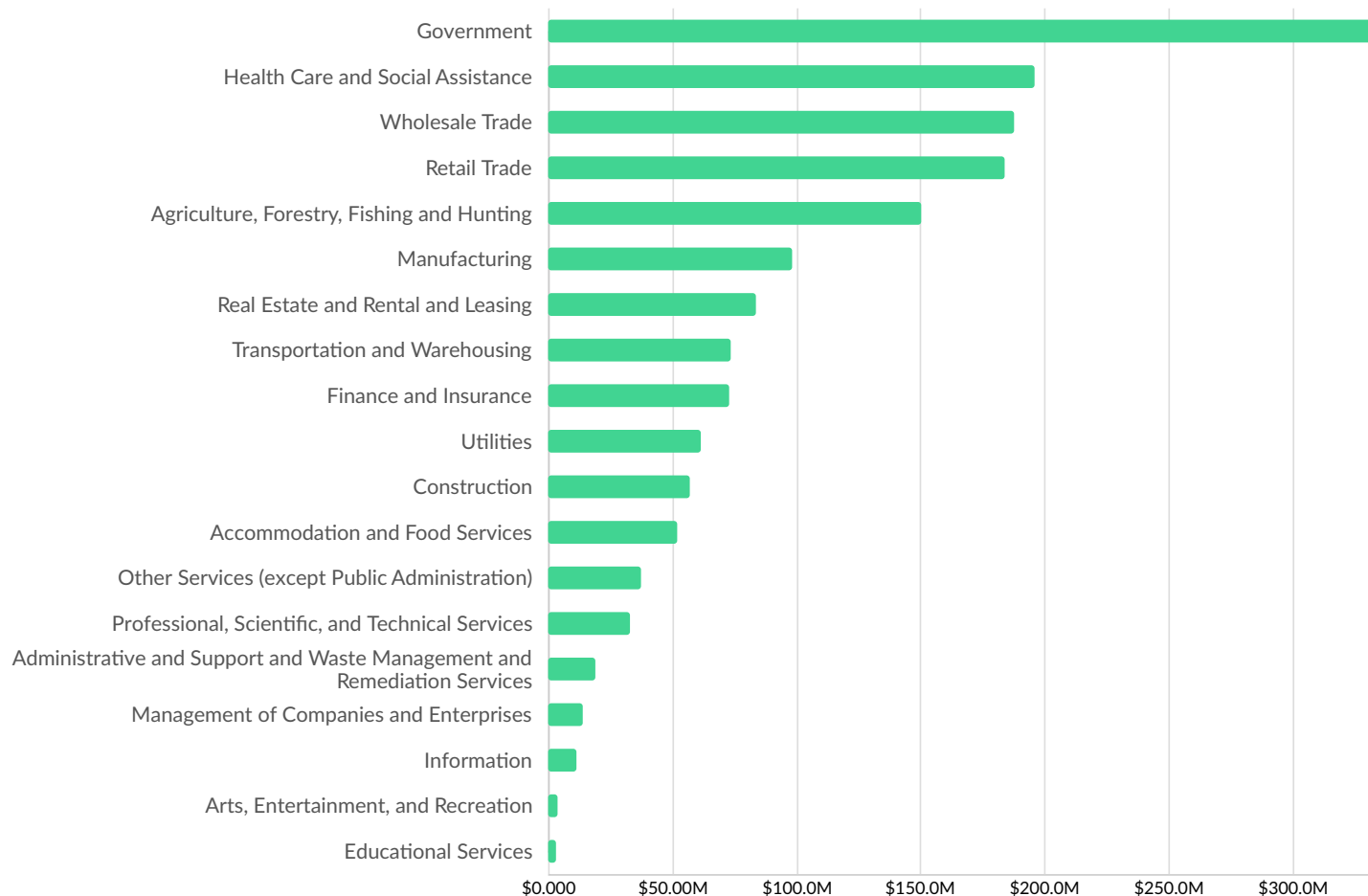


Top Industry Employment Concentration

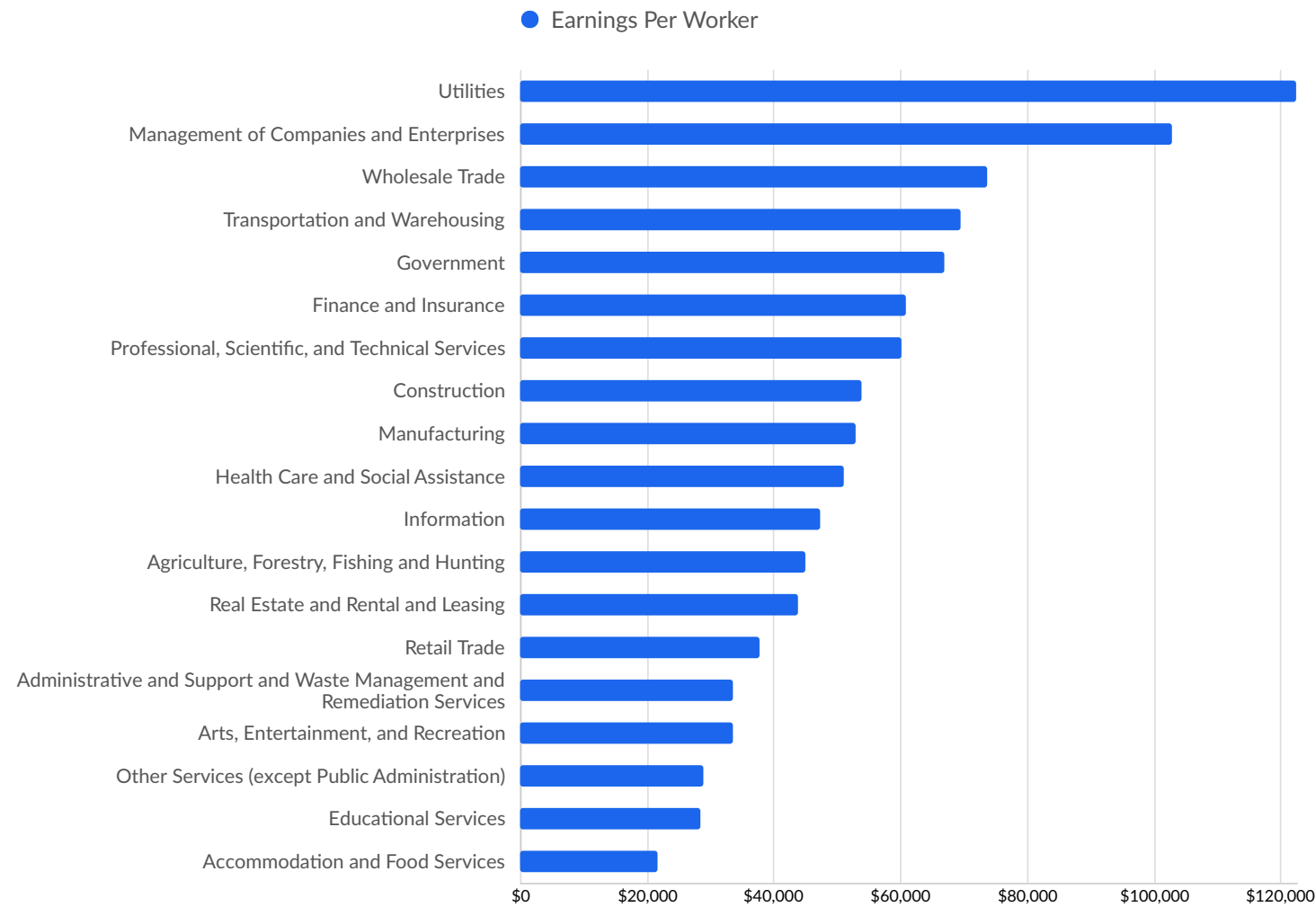


Top Industry GRP

● Gross Regional Product



Top Industry Earnings



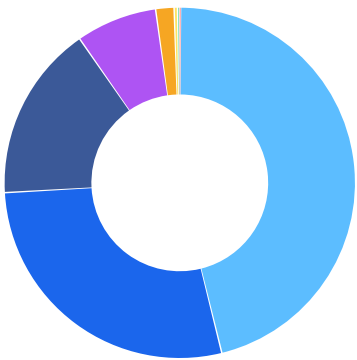
Business Characteristics

3,190 Companies Employ Your Workers

Online profiles for your workers mention 3,190 companies as employers, with the top 10 appearing below. In the last 12 months, 503 companies in your area posted job postings, with the top 10 appearing below.

Top Companies	Profiles	Top Companies Posting	Unique Postings
Forrest City School District	115 <div></div>	Entergy	185 <div></div>
State of Arkansas	115 <div></div>	Walmart	139 <div></div>
East Arkansas Community Colle...	99 <div></div>	State of Arkansas	137 <div></div>
Walmart	90 <div></div>	Graphic Packaging International	76 <div></div>
Boar's Head Brand	81 <div></div>	LHC Group	65 <div></div>
Core-Mark International	54 <div></div>	Bureau of Prisons	60 <div></div>
Wynne Public Schools	49 <div></div>	Norman Regional Hospital	60 <div></div>
School District Of Lee County	43 <div></div>	Methodist Le Bonheur Healthca...	59 <div></div>
Forrest City Medical Center	38 <div></div>	Forrest City Hospital Corporation	56 <div></div>
Arkansas State University	34 <div></div>	GPM Investments	41 <div></div>

Business Size

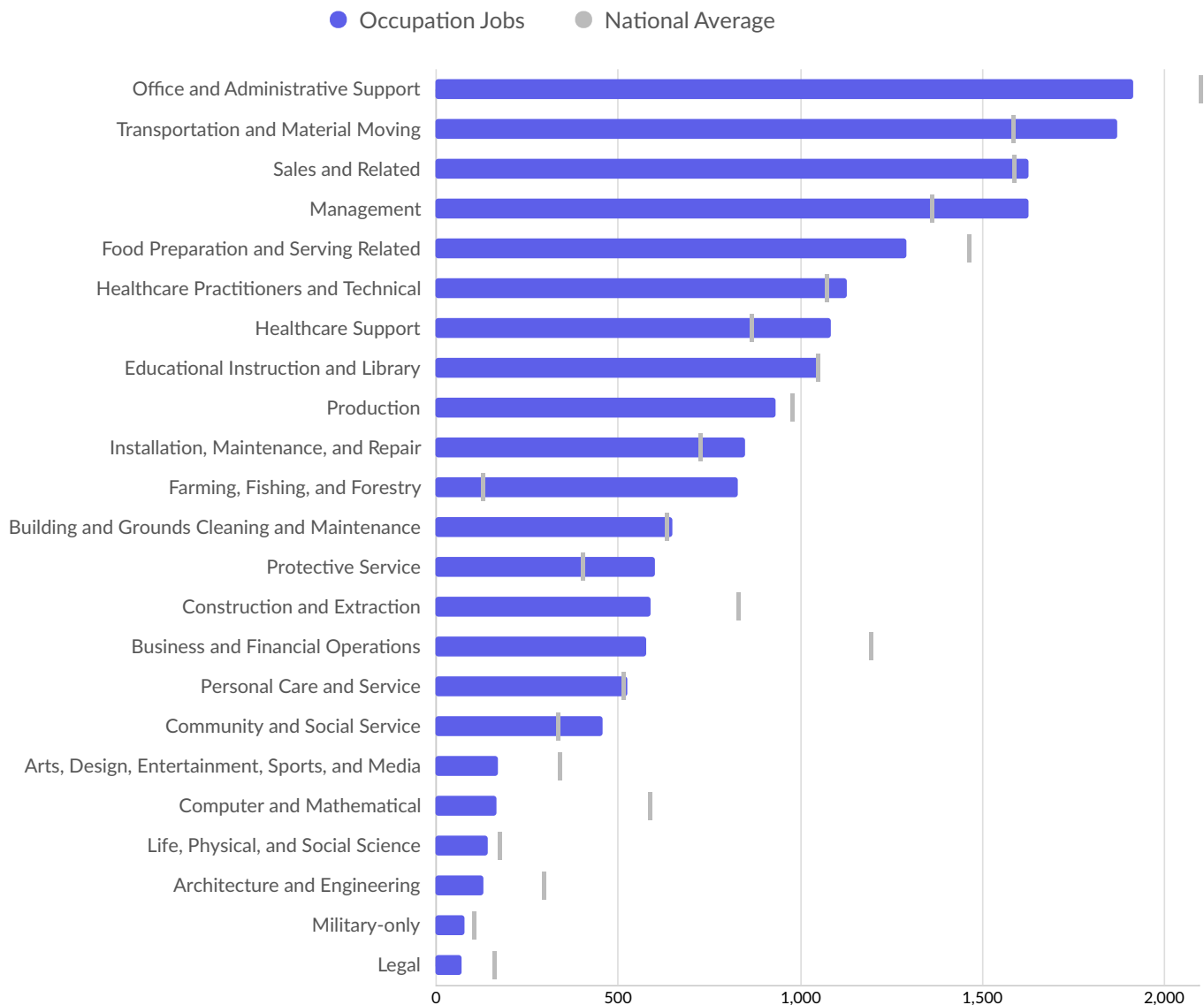


	Percentage	Business Count
1 to 4 employees	46.1%	1,173
5 to 9 employees	28.0%	712
10 to 19 employees	16.2%	413
20 to 49 employees	7.5%	190
50 to 99 employees	1.7%	43
100 to 249 employees	0.3%	8
250 to 499 employees	0.2%	5
500+ employees	0.1%	2

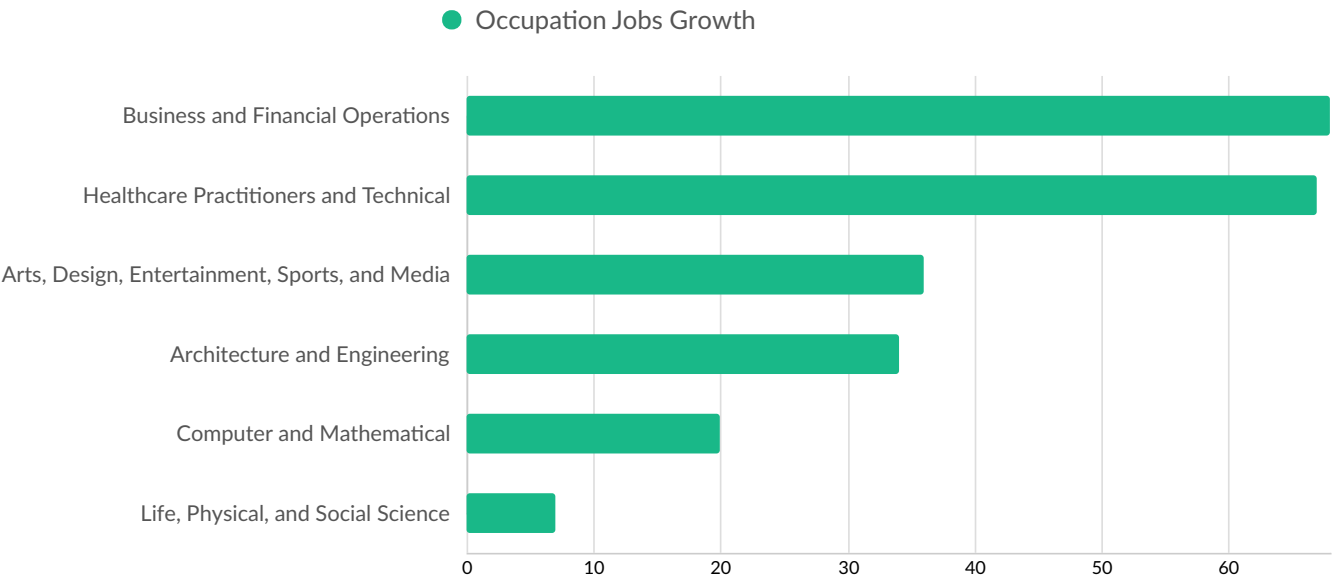
**Business Data by DatabaseUSA.com is third-party data provided by Lightcast to its customers as a convenience, and Lightcast does not endorse or warrant its accuracy or consistency with other published Lightcast data. In most cases, the Business Count will not match total companies with profiles on the summary tab.*

Workforce Characteristics

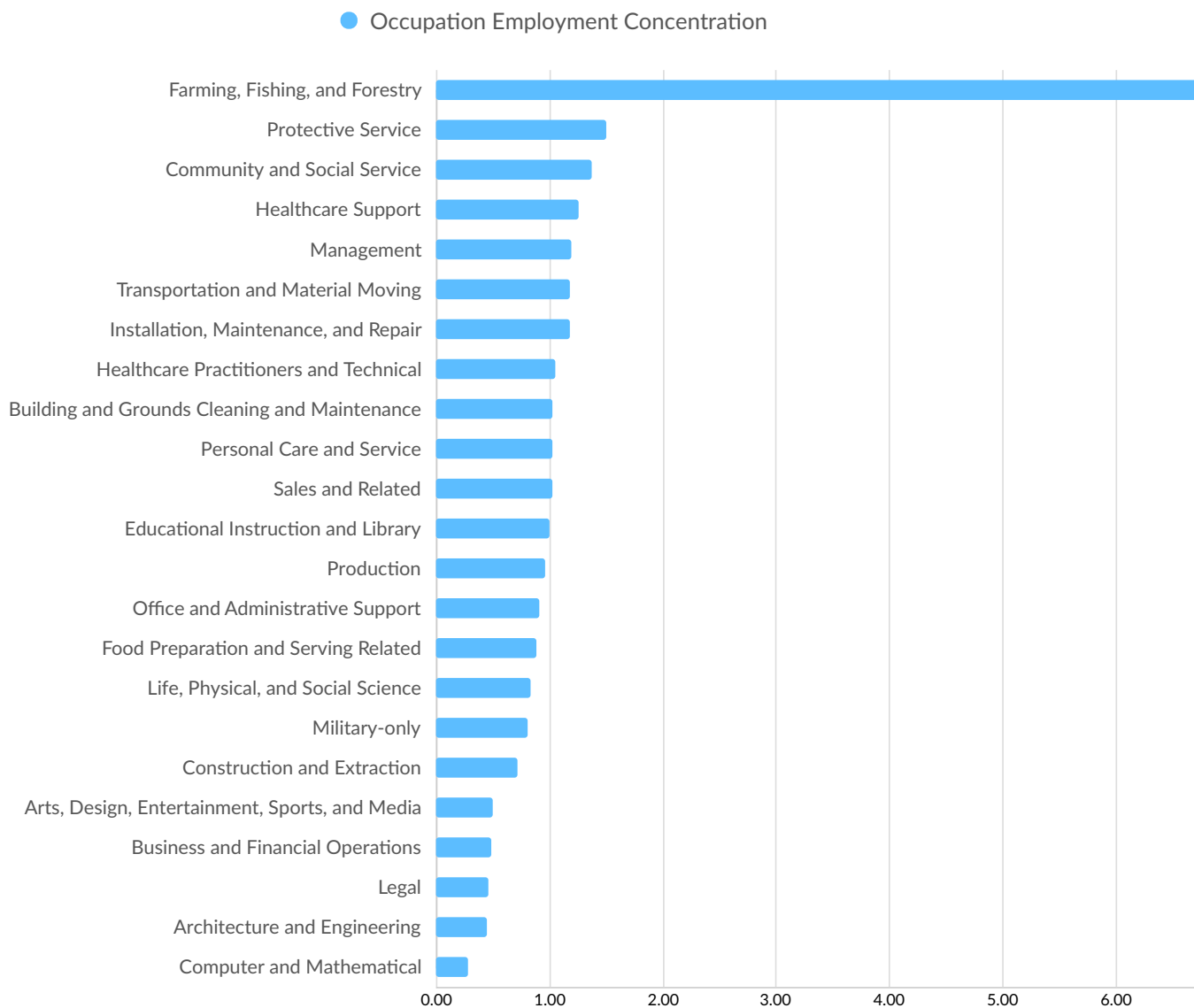
Largest Occupations



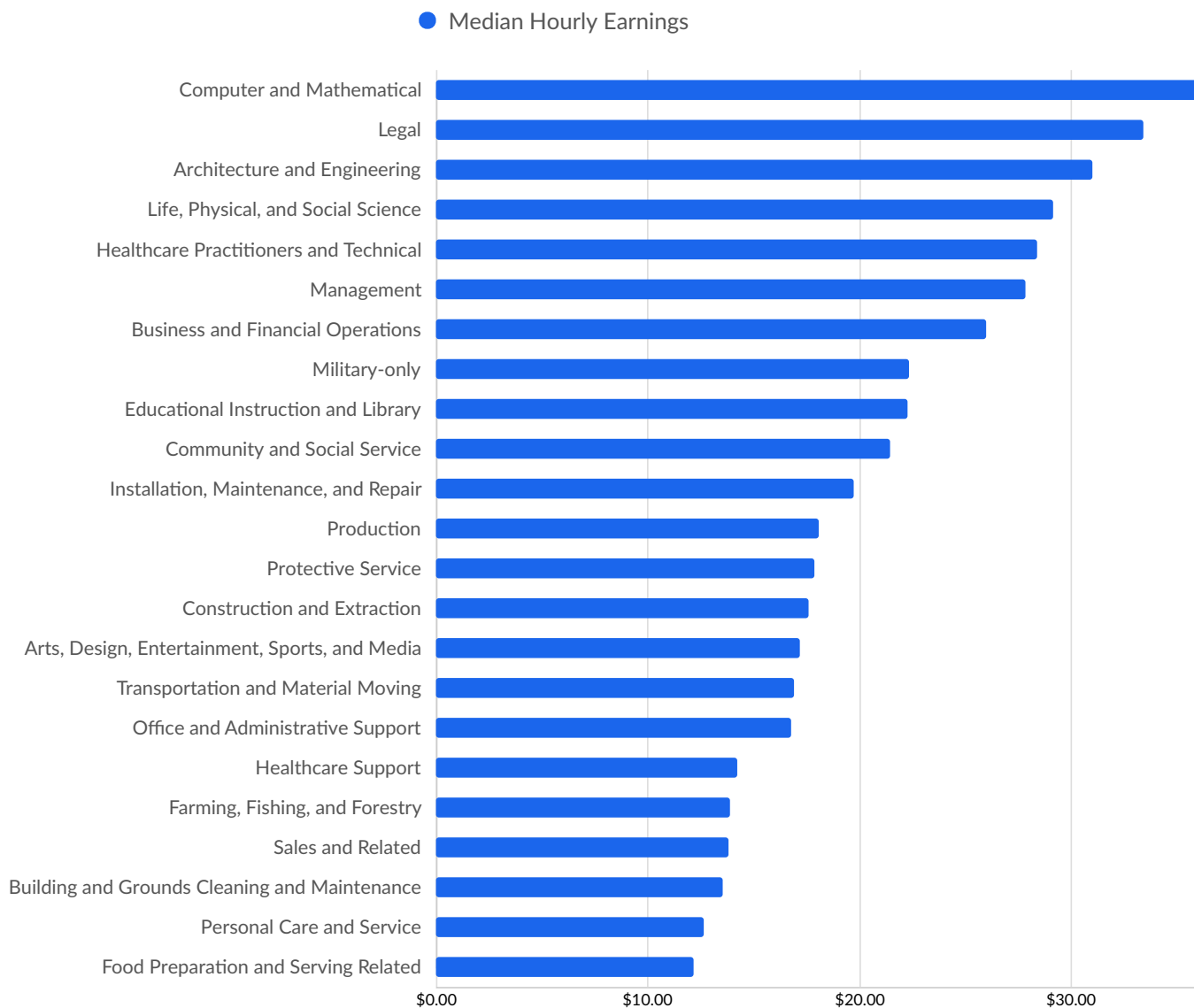
Top Growing Occupations



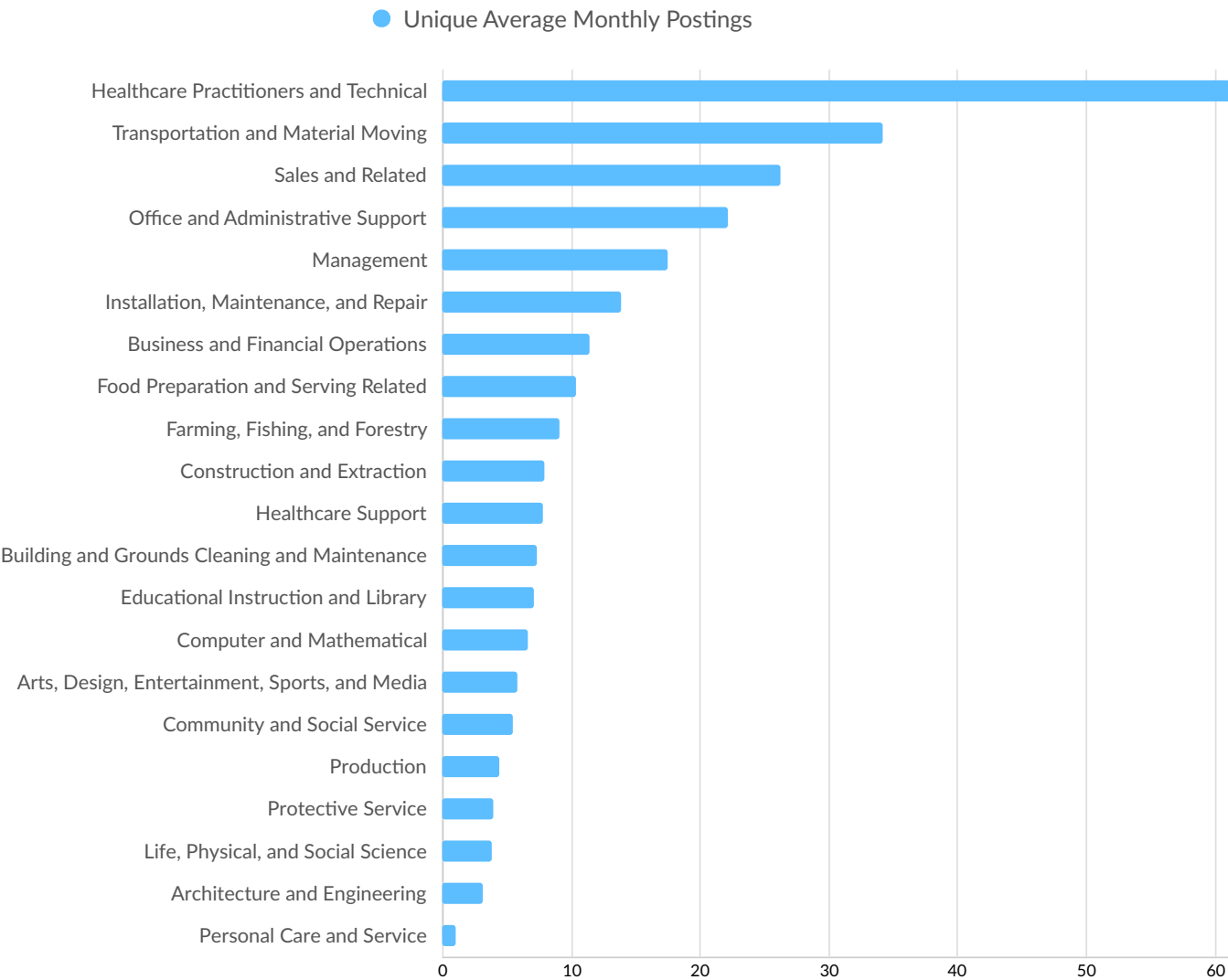
Top Occupation Employment Concentration



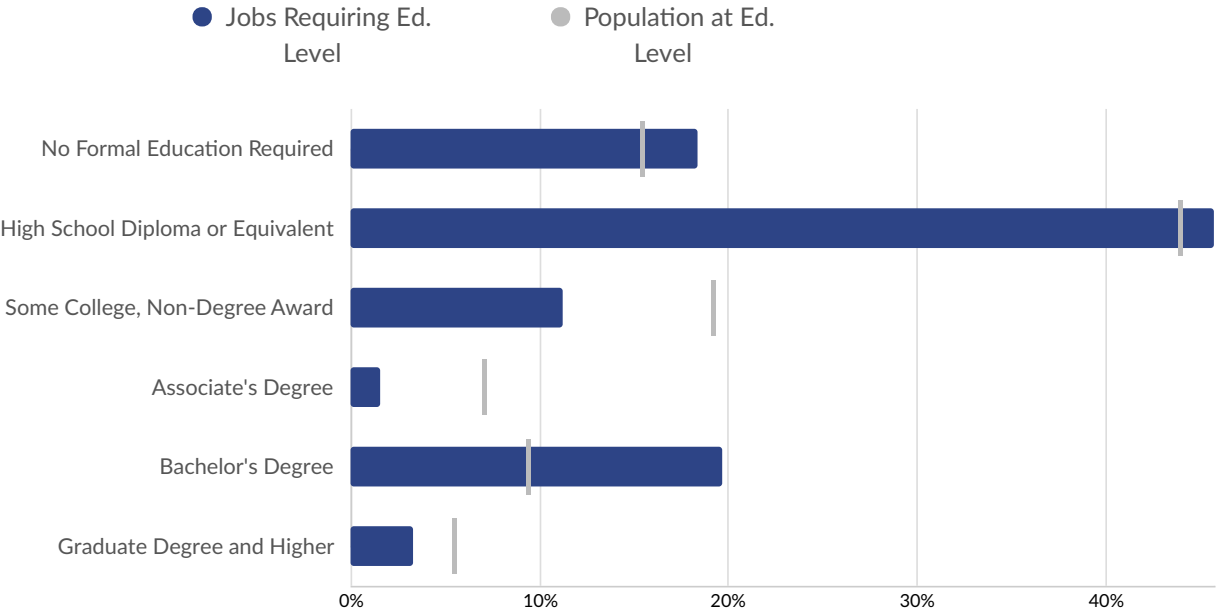
Top Occupation Earnings



Top Posted Occupations





Underemployment



Educational Pipeline

In 2023, there were 625 graduates in 4 Arkansas Counties. This pipeline has grown by 25% over the last 5 years. The highest share of these graduates come from "Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies" (Certificate), "General Studies" (Associate's), and "Truck and Bus Driver/Commercial Vehicle Operator and Instructor" (Certificate).

School	Total Graduates (2023)	Graduate Trend (2019 - 2023)
East Arkansas Community College	625	
Delta Designs Cosmetology School (not current)	0	

- Certificate

Associate's

Bachelor's

Master's or Higher

In-Demand Skills

