

WORKFORCE & TRAINING REPORT

AMONG TOP 10 STATES WITH HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT

#1 LOWEST COST OF DOING BUSINESS - CNBC

FIVE FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES

LEADING NATIONAL COMPUTER CODING INITIATIVE



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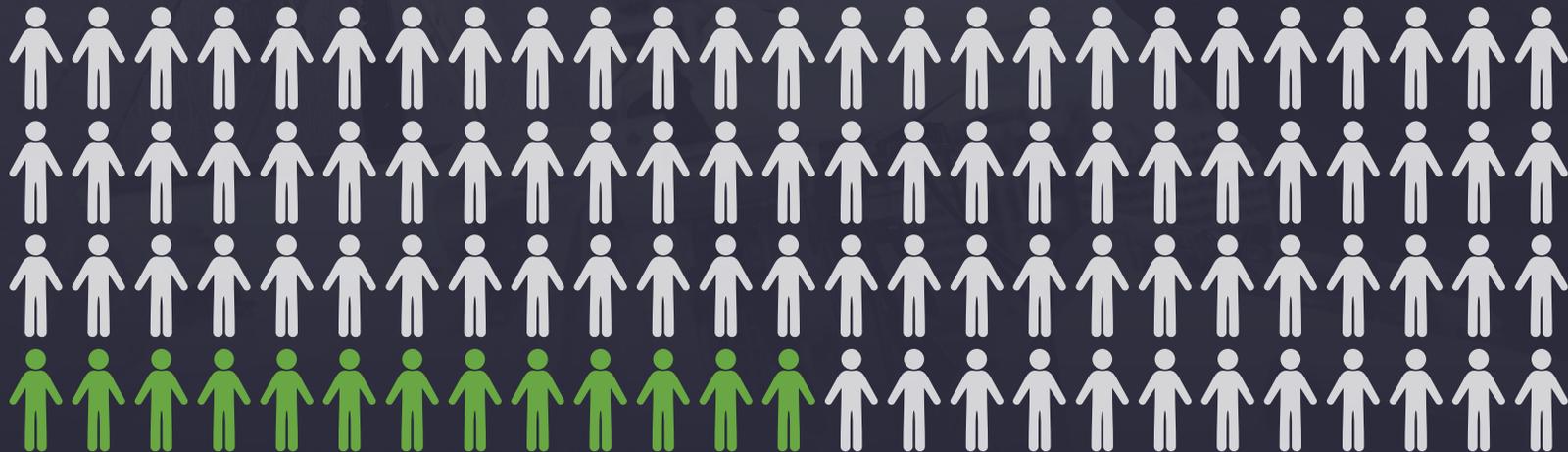
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Employment and Training

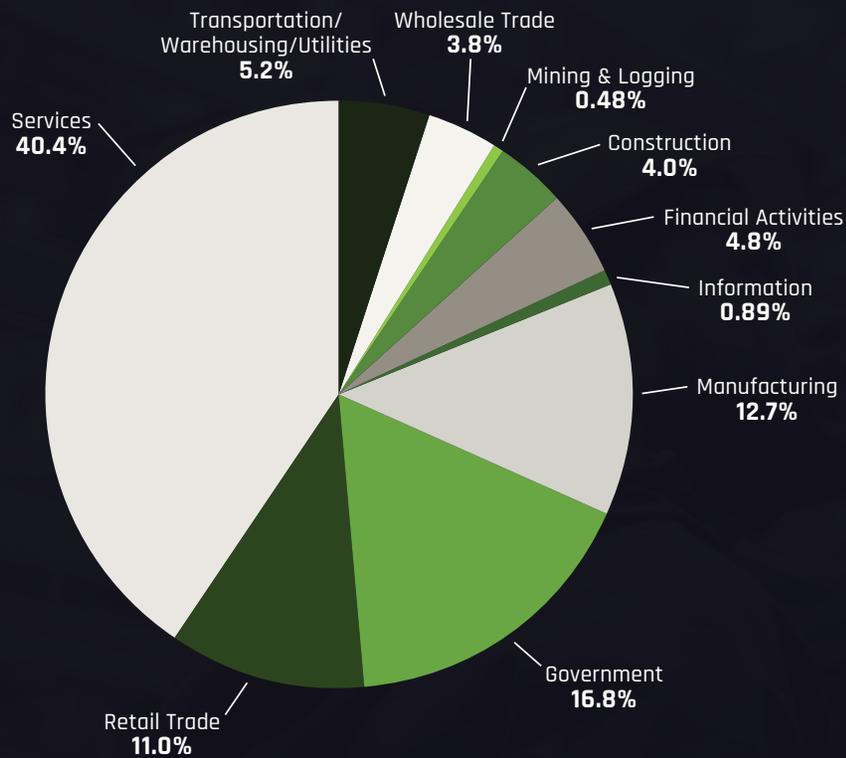
Arkansas's diverse industrial base provides an ample supply of experienced manufacturing workers. The manufacturing sector accounts for **12.7%** of the state's jobs. Throughout the years, the sector has shifted from agriculture-based to light manufacturing to more sophisticated processes and products such as advanced food packaging, transportation equipment, and primary and fabricated metals.

A workforce that works wonders. As a right-to-work state, Arkansas boasts proud people who step up to any job. We see ourselves not just as a strong workforce but united; dedicated to elevating our communities.

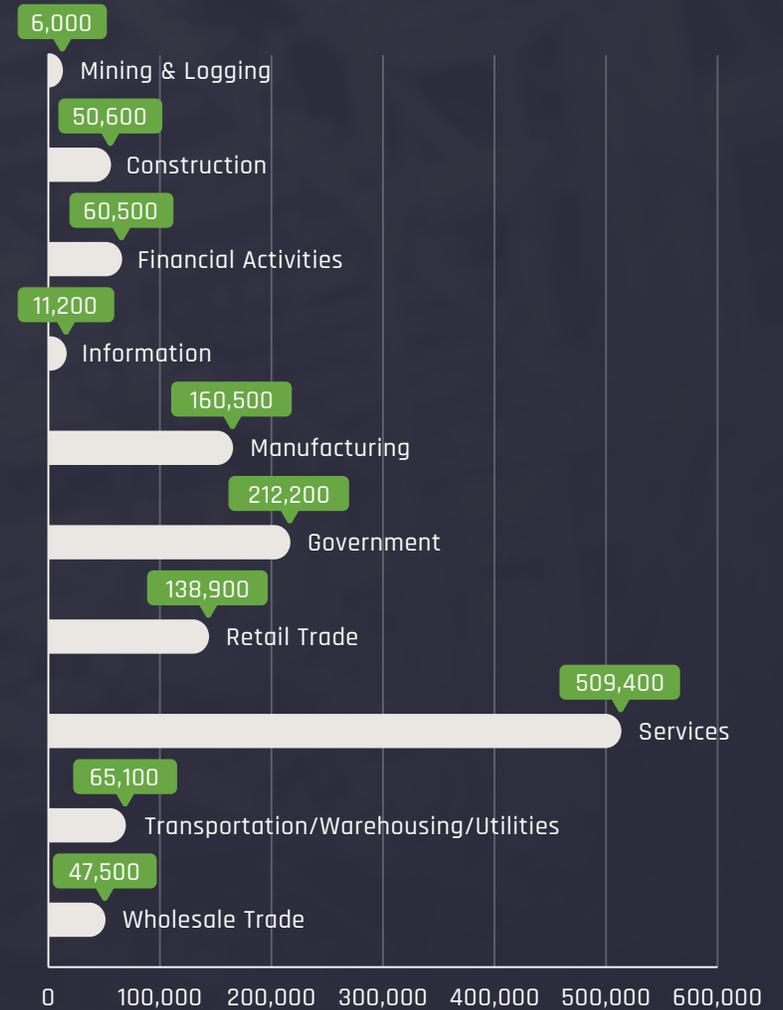
Manufacturing sector accounts for **12.7%** of the state's jobs.



**ARKANSAS 2018 COVERED
EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS**



2018 Employed Population



Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Civilian Labor Force (annual 2018)	1,351,496
Non-Farm Payroll Jobs (annual 2018)	1,261,900
Unemployment Rate (annual 2018)	3.7%
Average Hourly Earnings / Production Workers in AR (annual 2018)	\$17.44
Average Hourly Earnings / Non-Manufacturing Workers (annual 2018)	\$21.00
Number of Two-Year Degrees Awarded in Academic Year 2017-2018	16,010
Number of Four-Year Degrees Awarded in Academic Year 2017-2018	26,681
Number of Technical Degrees Awarded in Academic Year 2017-2018	5,183
Number of Certificate of Proficiency Degrees Awarded in Academic Year 2017-2018	6,176

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM

The Business and Industry Training Program (BITP) is a flexible program designed for new and expanding businesses and industries. BITP has three emphases: recruiting workers, pre-employment training and on-the-job training.

Eligible Businesses

- Biotechnology Companies
- Distribution Centers
- Intermodal Facilities
- Knowledge-based Companies
- Manufacturing Operations
- National & Regional Corporate Headquarters
- Office Sector Businesses
- Scientific & Technical Services

Recruiting Workers

The BITP provides financial assistance to recruit the workforce required for new and expanding businesses and industries in Arkansas.

Pre-employment Training

The Office of Skills Development (OSD), under the direction of the Arkansas Department of Career Education, offers a pre-employment training program for new and expanding companies, customizing the number of hours and content of the training to fit the specific needs of each company.

On-the-Job Training

Following pre-employment training, if the trainee is hired by the company, OSD helps pay the instructional costs to train the new employee. Hours of instruction and the number of instructors depend on the types of jobs that require on-the-job training. Financial assistance is not allowed for salary of trainees or new hires.

EXISTING WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM

The Existing Workforce Training Program (EWTP) provides financial assistance to Arkansas's eligible businesses for upgrading the skills of the existing workforce to adapt to new or altered technologies and/or acquire new skills needed to remain competitive and economically viable. Training is for full-time, permanent employees or those enrolled at an Arkansas institution. Reimbursements are calculated according to a set of scoring criteria.

AEDC SECTOR MANAGERS

- **STEVE SPARKS**
Director of Existing Business
Resource Division
- ssparks@arkansasedc.com

Regional Managers

- Randy Brinkley
- LaJuana Delph
- Rory Gulick
- Eddie Majeste
- Zane Chenault

Training

- Shirley Vanderslice
Administrative Assistant
- Justin Majors
Senior Business Manager

Military Affairs

- Robert "Gator" Ator

Manufacturing Solutions

- Dan Curtis
Senior Manager
- Candy Burris
- Keith Gammill
- Julianne Gonzalez
- Bill Kraus
- Bob Kucheravy
- Dan Mickelson
- Rudy Ortiz
- Phil Plyler

Arkansas Career Readiness

Six sister agencies, brought together by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, provide the Arkansas Career Readiness Certificate (CRC), a portable credential based upon the WorkKeys® assessments that demonstrates to employers that an individual possesses the basic workplace skills required for 21st century jobs. Find out more about the CRC at: www.dws.arkansas.gov and www.workreadycommunities.org/AR.



Source: www.workreadycommunities.org/AR 01-01-2006 thru 03-31-2019

Training Offered	Number of state colleges offering certification
Aerospace Engineering Technician	1
Aircraft Powerplant Technology	4
Airframe Mechanics and Aircraft Maint.	4
Autobody and Collision Repair Tech	8
Automobile Mechanics Technology	17
Avionics Maintenance Technology	1
Computer Installation/Repair Technology	8
Computer System Networking & Telecom	7
Computer Technology	8
Construction/Heavy Equipment	7
Diesel Mechanics Technology	8
Drafting and Design Technology	8
Electrical, Electronics & Communications	10
Electrician	2

Training Offered	Number of state colleges offering certification
Heavy/Industrial Equipment Maint. Tech	5
HVAC	13
Industrial Electronics Technology	9
Industrial Mechanics and Maintenance	10
Industrial Technology	7
Logistics, Materials and Supply Chain	7
Machine Shop Technology	2
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	7
Manufacturing Engineering Technology	8
Medium/Heavy Vehicle Truck Tech	2
Metallurgical Technology	1
Petroleum Technology	1
Welding Technology	23

Numbers Based on Degrees Awarded Academic Year 2018 by CIP AR Department of Higher Education



Arkansas Economic Development Commission

900 W. Capitol Ave., Suite 400, Little Rock, AR 72201

1-800-ARKANSAS

info@arkansasedc.com

ArkansasEDC.com