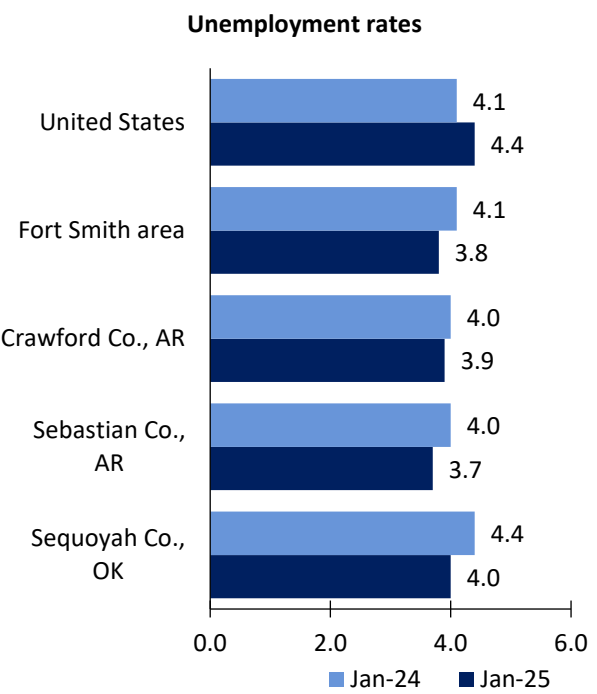


Fort Smith Area Economic Summary

Updated March 21, 2025

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include **unemployment, employment, wages, prices, spending, and benefits**. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see <https://www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm>.

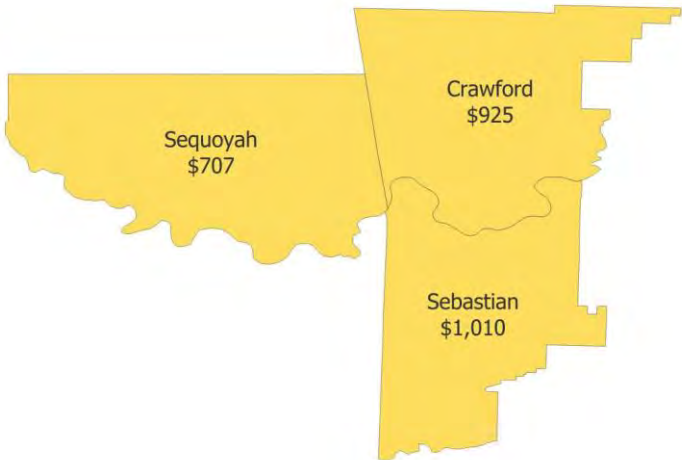
Unemployment rates for the nation and selected areas



Source: U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

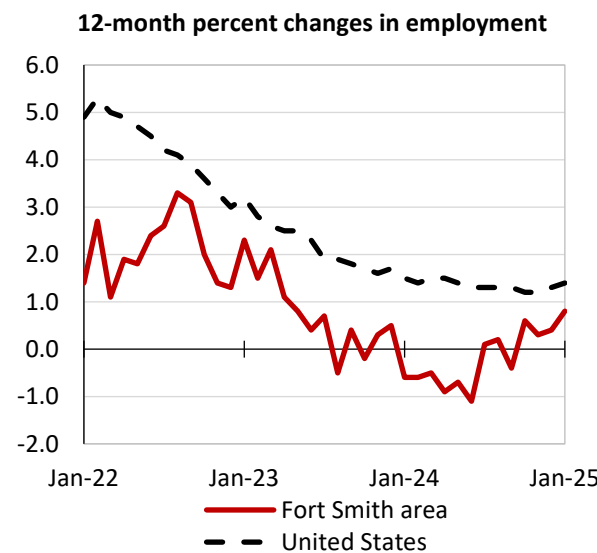
Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Fort Smith area, third quarter 2024
(U.S. = \$1,394; Area = \$964)



Source: U.S. BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector, over-the-year changes



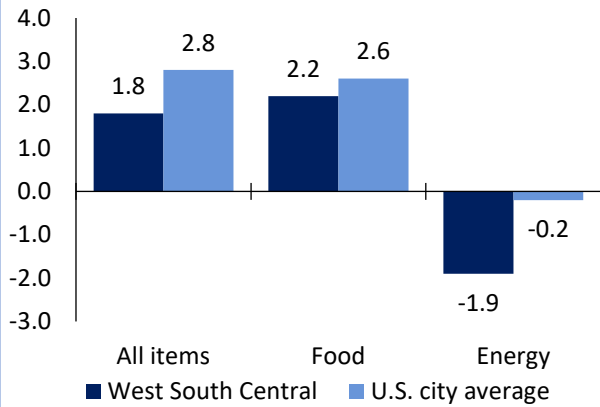
Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

Fort Smith area employment (number in thousands)	Jan. 2025	Change from Jan. 2024 to Jan. 2025	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	102.7	0.8	0.8
Mining, logging, and construction	4.9	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	17.9	0.1	0.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	22.0	0.0	0.0
Information	1.2	-0.1	-7.7
Financial activities	4.4	0.0	0.0
Professional and business services	10.9	0.6	5.8
Education and health services	17.5	0.5	2.9
Leisure and hospitality	8.7	-0.1	-1.1
Other services	2.9	-0.1	-3.3
Government	12.3	-0.1	-0.8



Prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories, over-the-year change

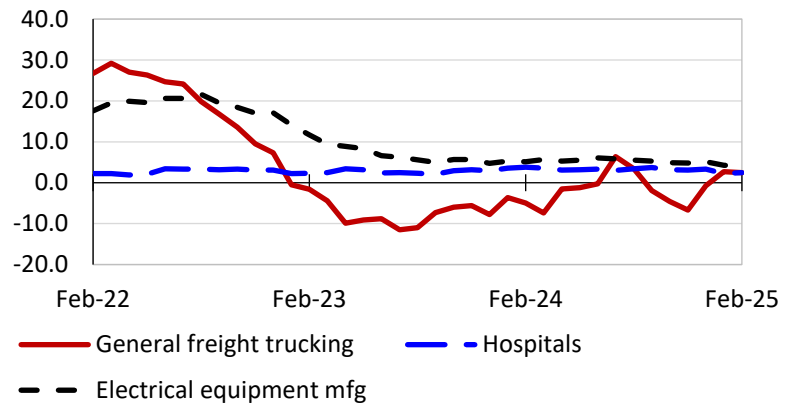
12-month percent change in CPI-U, February 2025



Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

Selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide, over-the-year change

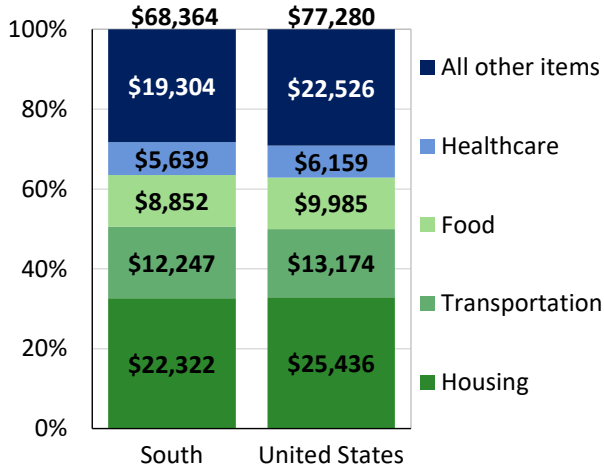
12-month percent changes in PPI



Source: U.S. BLS, Producer Price Index.

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

Average annual expenditures, 2023



Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Average hourly wages for selected occupations, May 2023

Occupation	Fort Smith area	United States
All occupations	\$22.30	\$31.48
Human resources managers	52.09	74.39
Registered nurses	33.17	45.42
Accountants and auditors	31.88	43.65
Construction laborers	17.25	23.69
Retail salespersons	15.60	17.64
Cooks, fast food	12.36	14.31

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

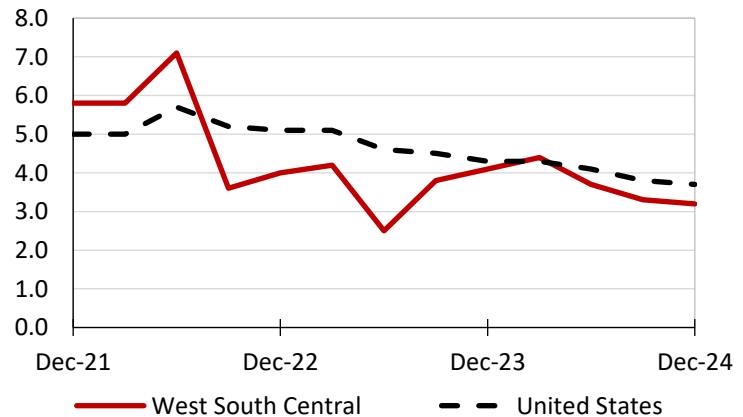
Private industry, December 2024	West South Central	United States
Total compensation	\$38.98	\$44.67
Wages and salaries	27.98	31.47
Total benefits	11.00	13.20
Paid leave	2.77	3.38
Vacation	1.40	1.71
Supplemental pay	1.63	1.84
Insurance	2.68	3.22
Retirement and savings	1.18	1.52
Legally required benefits	2.74	3.24

Map of Census Regions and Divisions

Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

Changes in wages and salaries over-the-year

12-month percent changes in ECI



Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.