



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Increases to 3.6 Percent in October

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released today by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.5 percent in September to 3.6 percent in October. Arkansas' civilian labor force declined by 489, a result of 1,589 fewer employed and 1,100 more unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate increased two-tenths of a percentage point between September and October, rising from 3.5 percent to 3.7 percent.

BLS Programs Manager Susan Price said, "The number of employed Arkansans declined for the third month in a row, as the unemployment rate grew to 3.6 percent in October. While employment has decreased since July, there are still 17,802 more employed Arkansans compared to October 2021."

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas rose 7,800 in October to total 1,334,700. Six major industry sectors posted gains. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 3,900 jobs. Hiring occurred in all subsectors, with jobs in transportation-warehousing-utilities up 1,800. Jobs in **government** increased by 1,600. Most of the gains were in local government-educational services (+1,600), as public schools across the State continue to hire. Jobs in **other services** rose by 1,200. This industry sector includes activities such as automotive repair, drycleaning services, and civic and social organizations.

Compared to October 2021, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs are up 29,500. Nine major industry sectors reported growth, with five sectors adding 4,000 or more jobs each. The largest gain was in **manufacturing**, up 6,300 jobs. Most of the hiring was in nondurable goods manufacturing (+4,000). Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose by 6,000. Expansions in wholesale trade (+4,300) and transportation-warehousing-utilities (+2,400) more than offset losses in retail trade (-700). **Educational and health services** added 4,500 jobs. Most of the gains were in health care and social assistance (+3,200). Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** increased by 4,000, with most of the hiring in food services (+3,000). There were also notable expansions in **professional and business services** (+3,400), **information** (+1,200), and **government** (+1,100). Jobs in **construction** are down by 1,200 over the year.

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	Oct 2022	Sep 2022	Oct 2021	Chg From Sep 2022	Chg From Oct 2021
Civilian Labor Force	1,353,179	1,353,668	1,331,746	-489	21,433
Employment	1,304,653	1,306,242	1,286,851	-1,589	17,802
Unemployment	48,526	47,426	44,895	1,100	3,631
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.5%	3.4%	0.1%	0.2%
Labor Participation Rate	56.7%	56.8%	56.3%	-0.1%	0.4%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.5%	4.6%	0.2%	-0.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey. More information about the data is available at <https://www.bls.gov/cps/definitions.htm>

ARKANSAS NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS, Not Seasonally Adjusted (In Thousands)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2017	October 2022	September 2022	October 2021	Chg From Sep 2022	Chg From Oct 2021
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1334.7	1326.9	1305.2	7.8	29.5
Goods Producing	226.1	226.7	221.3	-0.6	4.8
Mining, Logging, & Construction	60.8	61.4	62.3	-0.6	-1.5
Mining & Logging	5.0	5.0	5.3	0.0	-0.3
Construction	55.8	56.4	57.0	-0.6	-1.2
Specialty Trade Contractors	35.6	35.9	35.3	-0.3	0.3
Manufacturing	165.3	165.3	159.0	0.0	6.3
Durable Goods	78.4	78.3	76.1	0.1	2.3
Nondurable Goods	86.9	87.0	82.9	-0.1	4.0
Service Providing	1108.6	1100.2	1083.9	8.4	24.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	267.7	263.8	261.7	3.9	6.0
Wholesale Trade	52.9	51.9	48.6	1.0	4.3
Retail Trade	139.0	137.9	139.7	1.1	-0.7
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	75.8	74.0	73.4	1.8	2.4
Information	13.2	13.2	12.0	0.0	1.2
Financial Activities	69.8	69.2	65.6	0.6	4.2
Finance & Insurance	54.3	54.0	51.5	0.3	2.8
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	15.5	15.2	14.1	0.3	1.4
Professional & Business Services	151.8	150.9	148.4	0.9	3.4
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	45.8	44.5	45.3	1.3	0.5
Management of Companies	40.6	40.2	34.7	0.4	5.9
Administrative & Support Services	65.4	66.2	68.4	-0.8	-3.0
Educational & Health Services	200.6	200.2	196.1	0.4	4.5
Educational Services	18.9	18.4	17.6	0.5	1.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	181.7	181.8	178.5	-0.1	3.2
Ambulatory Health Care	63.5	63.0	60.6	0.5	2.9
Social Assistance	35.9	35.9	36.1	0.0	-0.2
Leisure & Hospitality	124.7	124.9	120.7	-0.2	4.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	11.6	12.0	11.6	-0.4	0.0
Accommodation & Food Services	113.1	112.9	109.1	0.2	4.0
Accommodation Services	12.0	12.1	11.0	-0.1	1.0
Food Services	101.1	100.8	98.1	0.3	3.0
Other Services	67.7	66.5	67.4	1.2	0.3
Government	213.1	211.5	212.0	1.6	1.1
Federal Government	20.8	20.7	20.6	0.1	0.2
State Government	78.0	77.7	77.9	0.3	0.1
State Government, Educational Services	31.7	31.4	31.5	0.3	0.2
State Government, Excluding Education	46.3	46.3	46.4	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	114.3	113.1	113.5	1.2	0.8
Local Government, Educational Services	71.5	69.9	70.9	1.6	0.6
Local Government, Excluding Education	42.8	43.2	42.6	-0.4	0.2

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1st Quarter 2021 benchmark. Notes: Current month's data are preliminary; previous month's data are revised.



About the Arkansas Department of Commerce:

The Arkansas Department of Commerce is the umbrella department for workforce and economic development drivers. Its divisions and regulatory boards include Division of Aeronautics, Waterways Commission, Wine Producers Council, Division of Workforce Services, Office of Skills Development, State Bank Department, Insurance Department, Securities Department, Economic Development Commission and Development Finance Authority. It was established July 2019 as part of Governor Asa Hutchinson's wide-sweeping efficiency and transformation efforts to reduce 42 cabinet agencies to 15 while maintaining services for all Arkansans.



About the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

The mission of the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services is to support and secure Arkansas' economic vitality through a highly skilled workforce by administering programs and providing services that empower employers and jobseekers. ADWS is a division of the Arkansas Department of Commerce.



About Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

The Bureau of Labor Statistics measures labor market activity, working conditions, price changes, and productivity in the U.S. economy to support public and private decision making.

About Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

The LAUS program produces monthly and annual employment, unemployment, and labor force data for Census regions and divisions, States, counties, metropolitan areas, and many cities, by place of residence.

About Current Employment Statistics (CES)

The CES program produces detailed industry estimates of employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls. CES State and Metro Area produces data for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.