



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Susan Price, Arkansas BLS Programs Manager
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
Susan.Price@arkansas.gov
www.discover.arkansas.gov

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains Stable at 6.2 Percent in November

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 remained stable at 6.2 percent between October and November. Arkansas' civilian labor force declined 2,925, a result of 2,746 fewer employed and 179 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate decreased to 6.7 percent in November, down from 6.9 percent in October.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate remained unchanged at 6.2 percent between October and November. While there were minor fluctuations in employment and unemployment, the changes were not significant enough to impact the rate."

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas rose 6,700 in November to total 1,249,800. Four major industry sectors posted gains. The largest increase occurred in **trade, transportation, and utilities** (+5,800). All subsectors reported hiring, related in large part to holiday shopping. Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 1,400. Gains in durable goods (+1,900) more than offset losses in nondurable goods manufacturing (-500). Smaller increases occurred in **educational and health services** (+800) and in **leisure and hospitality** (+800).

Compared to November 2019, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs are down 36,600. Employment in eight major industry sectors declined. Jobs in **manufacturing** fell 14,700. Contractions occurred in both durable goods (-8,200) and nondurable goods (-6,500) manufacturing. Industries with the largest reported declines include the manufacturing of transportation equipment, food, and fabricated metal products. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** decreased 12,200. While all subsectors reported losses, the largest was in food services (-9,200). Jobs in **government** are down 10,100. Most of the contraction was in local government-educational services (-6,600). **Educational and health services** declined 7,800, largely in health care and social assistance (-7,400). Employment in **other services** decreased 4,100. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** are up 11,900. While all subsectors posted growth, the greatest gains were in retail trade (+6,100) and transportation-warehousing-utilities (+4,600). **Construction** added 2,200 jobs, related in part to multiple large-scale projects across the State.

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Chg From Oct 2020	Chg From Nov 2019
Civilian Labor Force	1,327,737	1,330,662	1,364,331	-2,925	-36,594
Employment	1,244,877	1,247,623	1,316,141	-2,746	-71,264
Unemployment	82,860	83,039	48,190	-179	34,670
Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.2	3.5	0.0	2.7
U.S. Unemployment Rate	6.7	6.9	3.5	-0.2	3.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

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

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2017	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Chg From Oct 2020	Chg From Nov 2019
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1249.8	1243.1	1286.4	6.7	-36.6
Goods Producing	208.0	207.0	221.3	1.0	-13.3
Mining, Logging, & Construction	60.3	60.7	58.9	-0.4	1.4
Mining & Logging	5.1	5.1	5.9	0.0	-0.8
Construction	55.2	55.6	53.0	-0.4	2.2
Specialty Trade Contractors	35.1	35.0	34.1	0.1	1.0
Manufacturing	147.7	146.3	162.4	1.4	-14.7
Durable Goods	68.3	66.4	76.5	1.9	-8.2
Nondurable Goods	79.4	79.9	85.9	-0.5	-6.5
Service Providing	1041.8	1036.1	1065.1	5.7	-23.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	268.6	262.8	256.7	5.8	11.9
Wholesale Trade	50.0	48.8	48.8	1.2	1.2
Retail Trade	144.6	142.2	138.5	2.4	6.1
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	74.0	71.8	69.4	2.2	4.6
Information	10.7	10.7	11.3	0.0	-0.6
Financial Activities	60.8	61.0	62.1	-0.2	-1.3
Finance & Insurance	47.9	47.9	48.4	0.0	-0.5
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	12.9	13.1	13.7	-0.2	-0.8
Professional & Business Services	147.9	148.8	147.0	-0.9	0.9
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	45.0	44.8	45.1	0.2	-0.1
Management of Companies	36.4	36.3	34.6	0.1	1.8
Administrative & Support Services	66.5	67.7	67.3	-1.2	-0.8
Educational & Health Services	188.1	187.3	195.9	0.8	-7.8
Educational Services	16.3	16.3	16.7	0.0	-0.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	171.8	171.0	179.2	0.8	-7.4
Ambulatory Health Care	60.4	59.9	61.4	0.5	-1.0
Social Assistance	36.8	36.5	39.4	0.3	-2.6
Leisure & Hospitality	105.1	104.3	117.3	0.8	-12.2
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	9.7	10.5	10.1	-0.8	-0.4
Accommodation & Food Services	95.4	93.8	107.2	1.6	-11.8
Accommodation Services	8.4	8.5	11.0	-0.1	-2.6
Food Services	87.0	85.3	96.2	1.7	-9.2
Other Services	55.9	56.1	60.0	-0.2	-4.1
Government	204.7	205.1	214.8	-0.4	-10.1
Federal Government	20.7	21.7	20.5	-1.0	0.2
State Government	78.1	78.0	80.1	0.1	-2.0
State Government, Educational Services	31.4	31.3	32.1	0.1	-0.7
State Government, Excluding Education	46.7	46.7	48.0	0.0	-1.3
Local Government	105.9	105.4	114.2	0.5	-8.3
Local Government, Education Services	63.3	62.9	69.9	0.4	-6.6
Local Government, Excluding Education	42.6	42.5	44.3	0.1	-1.7

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1st Quarter 2019 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’s 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.