



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Declines to 3.2 Percent in January

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 declined one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.3 percent in December 2021 to 3.2 percent in January 2022. The December 2021 rate was revised up from 3.1 percent to 3.3 percent (see "Changes Affecting Data" on page 3). Arkansas' civilian labor force increased 4,142, a result of 5,126 more employed and 984 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.9 percent in December 2021 to 4.0 percent in January 2022.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "The annual revision of Arkansas' civilian labor force data shows that seasonally adjusted employment was over-estimated throughout 2021, while unemployment was slightly over-estimated from May to November 2021. Based on the updated estimates, Arkansas' unemployment rate began January 2021 at 4.9 percent and slowly decreased throughout the year to reach a low of 3.3 percent in December, slightly higher than originally estimated. All updated statewide data are available [here](#)."

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Nonfarm payroll jobs declined 17,200 in January to total 1,293,800. Ten major industry sectors posted losses, mostly related to seasonal factors. The largest drop was in **trade, transportation, and utilities** (-4,600). Most of the loss was in retail trade (-2,900), marking the end of temporary hiring for the holidays. **Leisure and hospitality** decreased 3,900. Food services reported most of the declines (-3,100), as most food service contractors in schools and universities close for winter break. **Government** lost 3,500 jobs. The largest contractions were in state government-educational services (-1,900) and local government-educational services (-700), related to winter break at schools. Notable decreases were also posted in **professional and business services** (-2,700), **construction** (-2,300), and **educational and health services** (-1,300). Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 2,000.

Compared to January 2021, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs are up 37,700. Eight major industry sectors reported gains. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 13,300. Hiring occurred in all subsectors. **Leisure and hospitality** added 9,000 jobs, mostly in food services (+6,100). Jobs in **professional and business services** increased 6,600, with expansions in all subsectors. **Manufacturing** added 5,300 jobs, both in durable goods (+3,200) and nondurable goods (+2,100) manufacturing. Gains were also posted in **government** (+2,400), **financial activities** (+1,100), and **information** (+1,000).

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	January 2022	December 2021	January 2021	Chg From Dec 2021	Chg From Jan 2021
Civilian Labor Force	1,334,885	1,330,743	1,333,060	4,142	1,825
Employment	1,292,292	1,287,166	1,268,247	5,126	24,045
Unemployment	42,593	43,577	64,813	-984	-22,220
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	3.3%	4.9%	-0.1%	-1.7%
Labor Participation Rate	56.3%	56.2%	56.7%	0.1%	-0.4%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.0%	3.9%	6.4%	0.1%	-2.4%

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	January 2022	December 2021	January 2021	Chg From Dec 2021	Chg From Jan 2021
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1293.8	1311.0	1256.1	-17.2	37.7
Goods Producing	219.2	219.7	213.8	-0.5	5.4
Mining, Logging, & Construction	58.4	60.9	58.3	-2.5	0.1
Mining & Logging	5.2	5.4	5.2	-0.2	0.0
Construction	53.2	55.5	53.1	-2.3	0.1
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.9	34.9	33.9	-1.0	0.0
Manufacturing	160.8	158.8	155.5	2.0	5.3
Durable Goods	76.8	75.7	73.6	1.1	3.2
Nondurable Goods	84.0	83.1	81.9	0.9	2.1
Service Providing	1074.6	1091.3	1042.3	-16.7	32.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	263.6	268.2	250.3	-4.6	13.3
Wholesale Trade	50.4	49.9	46.5	0.5	3.9
Retail Trade	140.5	143.4	136.8	-2.9	3.7
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	72.7	74.9	67.0	-2.2	5.7
Information	12.3	12.4	11.3	-0.1	1.0
Financial Activities	66.2	66.3	65.1	-0.1	1.1
Finance & Insurance	51.8	52.1	51.4	-0.3	0.4
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	14.4	14.2	13.7	0.2	0.7
Professional & Business Services	148.9	151.6	142.3	-2.7	6.6
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	45.6	45.5	43.4	0.1	2.2
Management of Companies	36.2	35.5	32.8	0.7	3.4
Administrative & Support Services	67.1	70.6	66.1	-3.5	1.0
Educational & Health Services	194.2	195.5	195.0	-1.3	-0.8
Educational Services	17.1	17.8	16.3	-0.7	0.8
Health Care & Social Assistance	177.1	177.7	178.7	-0.6	-1.6
Ambulatory Health Care	60.9	61.2	60.2	-0.3	0.7
Social Assistance	35.4	35.5	37.3	-0.1	-1.9
Leisure & Hospitality	114.2	118.1	105.2	-3.9	9.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	10.5	11.1	9.5	-0.6	1.0
Accommodation & Food Services	103.7	107.0	95.7	-3.3	8.0
Accommodation Services	10.3	10.5	8.4	-0.2	1.9
Food Services	93.4	96.5	87.3	-3.1	6.1
Other Services	65.8	66.3	66.1	-0.5	-0.3
Government	209.4	212.9	207.0	-3.5	2.4
Federal Government	20.6	21.0	20.4	-0.4	0.2
State Government	75.6	77.5	75.6	-1.9	0.0
State Government, Educational Services	29.2	31.1	29.0	-1.9	0.2
State Government, Excluding Education	46.4	46.4	46.6	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	113.2	114.4	111.0	-1.2	2.2
Local Government, Education Services	71.2	71.9	68.8	-0.7	2.4
Local Government, Excluding Education	42.0	42.5	42.2	-0.5	-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.

Changes Affecting Data

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force:

In accordance with guidelines from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Arkansas' Civilian Labor Force (CLF) estimates are undergoing annual processing. The purpose of annual processing is to incorporate more complete and accurate information into the estimation process.

All levels of data—State, counties, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), Micropolitan Statistical Areas, Local Workforce Development Areas, and cities—are being revised. Statewide CLF data was revised back to January 2017. The new data are available at <https://www.discover.arkansas.gov/Data-Search-Tool/LAUS>. Updated sub-state CLF estimates are still being produced and are scheduled for publication on April 15, 2022 on the Discover Arkansas website or at www.bls.gov. All sub-state CLF data will be revised back to January 2010, due to the incorporation of updated Census Bureau population data. More information concerning annual processing is available [here](#).

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs:

In accordance with the same guidelines, the Current Employment Statistics program also re-estimated the Nonfarm Payroll Job series to include more comprehensive and precise information into the calculations. Statewide and MSA estimates were revised back to January 2015. All revised Nonfarm Payroll Jobs data have been updated on the Discover Arkansas website.



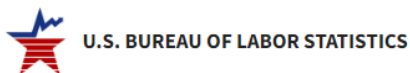
About the Arkansas Department of Commerce:

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.