



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Rises to 3.5 Percent in September

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 3.4 percent in August to 3.5 percent in September. Arkansas' civilian labor force decreased 653, a result of 2,445 fewer employed and 1,792 more unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate declined to 3.5 percent in September, down from 3.7 percent in August.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "The unemployment rate in Arkansas rose to 3.5 percent in September, as the overall size of the civilian labor force declined. Labor force participation remained stable between August and September and is still half a percentage point higher than in September 2021."

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs increased 9,400 in September to total 1,326,000. Gains were posted in five major industry sectors, while employment declined in four sectors. Jobs in **government** rose by 13,100. Expansions in local government-educational services (+9,100) and state government-educational services (+4,600) were attributed to continued hiring at public schools and universities. **Construction** added 1,600 jobs, mostly in specialty trade contractors (+900). Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** fell by 3,100, with declines reported across all subsectors. Losses in arts, entertainment, and recreation (-1,300) were related in large part to the end of temporary seasonal jobs. Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** decreased 2,000. All subsectors reported contractions, with transportation-warehousing-utilities down 900 jobs.

Compared to September 2021, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 34,400. Growth was reported in nine major industry sectors. **Manufacturing** added 7,000 jobs, mostly in nondurable goods manufacturing (+4,600). Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** increased by 6,000. Hiring was reported across all subsectors, with jobs in food services up 4,200. Employment in **professional and business services** rose 5,000. Most of the gains were in management of companies (+5,500). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 4,800 jobs, largely in wholesale trade (+4,500). Employment in **educational and health services** increased 4,800, with hiring across all subsectors. Notable gains were also reported in **financial activities** (+3,000), **government** (+2,500), and **information** (+1,400).

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

| | Sep 2022 | Aug 2022 | Sep 2021 | Chg From Aug 2022 | Chg From Sep 2021 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,353,637 | 1,354,290 | 1,330,685 | -653 | 22,952 |
| Employment | 1,306,209 | 1,308,654 | 1,283,697 | -2,445 | 22,512 |
| Unemployment | 47,428 | 45,636 | 46,988 | 1,792 | 440 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.5% | 3.4% | 3.5% | 0.1% | 0.0% |
| Labor Participation Rate | 56.8% | 56.8% | 56.3% | 0.0% | 0.5% |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate | 3.5% | 3.7% | 4.7% | -0.2% | -1.2% |

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 | September 2022 | August 2022 | September 2021 | Chg From Aug 2022 | Chg From Sep 2021 |
|---|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs | 1326.0 | 1316.6 | 1291.6 | 9.4 | 34.4 |
| Goods Producing | 226.9 | 225.1 | 219.3 | 1.8 | 7.6 |
| Mining, Logging, & Construction | 62.0 | 60.4 | 61.4 | 1.6 | 0.6 |
| Mining & Logging | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.3 | 0.0 | -0.3 |
| Construction | 57.0 | 55.4 | 56.1 | 1.6 | 0.9 |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 36.1 | 35.2 | 35.5 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| Manufacturing | 164.9 | 164.7 | 157.9 | 0.2 | 7.0 |
| Durable Goods | 78.0 | 77.8 | 75.6 | 0.2 | 2.4 |
| Nondurable Goods | 86.9 | 86.9 | 82.3 | 0.0 | 4.6 |
| Service Providing | 1099.1 | 1091.5 | 1072.3 | 7.6 | 26.8 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities | 263.7 | 265.7 | 258.9 | -2.0 | 4.8 |
| Wholesale Trade | 51.9 | 52.4 | 47.4 | -0.5 | 4.5 |
| Retail Trade | 138.0 | 138.6 | 140.0 | -0.6 | -2.0 |
| Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities | 73.8 | 74.7 | 71.5 | -0.9 | 2.3 |
| Information | 13.2 | 13.1 | 11.8 | 0.1 | 1.4 |
| Financial Activities | 68.7 | 69.0 | 65.7 | -0.3 | 3.0 |
| Finance & Insurance | 53.6 | 53.8 | 51.7 | -0.2 | 1.9 |
| Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing | 15.1 | 15.2 | 14.0 | -0.1 | 1.1 |
| Professional & Business Services | 150.1 | 150.1 | 145.1 | 0.0 | 5.0 |
| Professional, Scientific, & Technical | 44.5 | 45.7 | 44.2 | -1.2 | 0.3 |
| Management of Companies | 40.1 | 40.8 | 34.6 | -0.7 | 5.5 |
| Administrative & Support Services | 65.5 | 63.6 | 66.3 | 1.9 | -0.8 |
| Educational & Health Services | 199.9 | 199.4 | 195.1 | 0.5 | 4.8 |
| Educational Services | 17.9 | 16.6 | 17.3 | 1.3 | 0.6 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 182.0 | 182.8 | 177.8 | -0.8 | 4.2 |
| Ambulatory Health Care | 62.6 | 63.2 | 61.2 | -0.6 | 1.4 |
| Social Assistance | 35.4 | 35.8 | 35.1 | -0.4 | 0.3 |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 125.6 | 128.7 | 119.6 | -3.1 | 6.0 |
| Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation | 12.4 | 13.7 | 12.0 | -1.3 | 0.4 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 113.2 | 115.0 | 107.6 | -1.8 | 5.6 |
| Accommodation Services | 12.2 | 12.6 | 10.8 | -0.4 | 1.4 |
| Food Services | 101.0 | 102.4 | 96.8 | -1.4 | 4.2 |
| Other Services | 66.4 | 67.1 | 67.1 | -0.7 | -0.7 |
| Government | 211.5 | 198.4 | 209.0 | 13.1 | 2.5 |
| Federal Government | 20.7 | 20.6 | 20.6 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| State Government | 77.7 | 73.2 | 77.7 | 4.5 | 0.0 |
| State Government, Educational Services | 31.4 | 26.8 | 31.3 | 4.6 | 0.1 |
| State Government, Excluding Education | 46.3 | 46.4 | 46.4 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Local Government | 113.1 | 104.6 | 110.7 | 8.5 | 2.4 |
| Local Government, Educational Services | 69.9 | 60.8 | 67.8 | 9.1 | 2.1 |
| Local Government, Excluding Education | 43.2 | 43.8 | 42.9 | -0.6 | 0.3 |

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



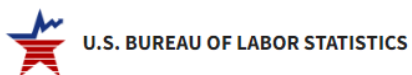
About the Arkansas Department of Commerce:

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.