



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Arkansas’ unemployment rate remains at 3.3% in October

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (Nov. 19, 2024)** Today, the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services, Workforce Policy and Innovation, in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, announced Arkansas’ seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.3% between September and October. At 4.1%, the United States’ jobless rate also remained stable over the month.

Arkansas Civilian Labor Force Summary:

- Arkansas’ civilian labor force rose by 3,215 in October, as 3,092 additional Arkansans were employed. Both the civilian labor force and employment remain at record high levels. These modest gains were not enough to impact the unemployment rate or the labor force participation rate, which both held steady between September and October.
- Compared to October 2023, there are 32,806 additional employed residents in Arkansas. The increase in employment and the size of the civilian labor force pushed up the labor force participation rate by five-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

- In October, Arkansas’ nonfarm payroll jobs increased 9,600. The largest gains were in Private Education and Health Services (+2,700), with most of the hiring in Health Care and Social Assistance (+2,300). Expansions were also reported in Professional and Business Services (+2,200), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (+1,900), and Government (+1,900).
- Compared to October 2023, nonfarm payroll jobs are up 21,400. Nine major industry sectors reported job growth. The largest gains were in Private Education and Health Services (+12,300), Professional and Business Services (+2,800), Construction (+1,900), Government (+1,600) Manufacturing (+1,300), and Trade-Transportation-Utilities (+1,300).

### Arkansas Civilian Labor Force (Seasonally Adjusted)

	October 2024	September 2024	October 2023	Change from September 2024	Change from October 2023
Civilian Labor Force	1,412,007	1,408,792	1,384,386	3,215	27,621
Employment	1,366,073	1,362,981	1,333,267	3,092	32,806
Unemployment	45,934	45,811	51,119	123	-5,185
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.3%	3.7%	0.0%	-0.4%
Labor Force Participation Rate	58.1%	58.1%	57.6%	0.0%	0.5%

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>

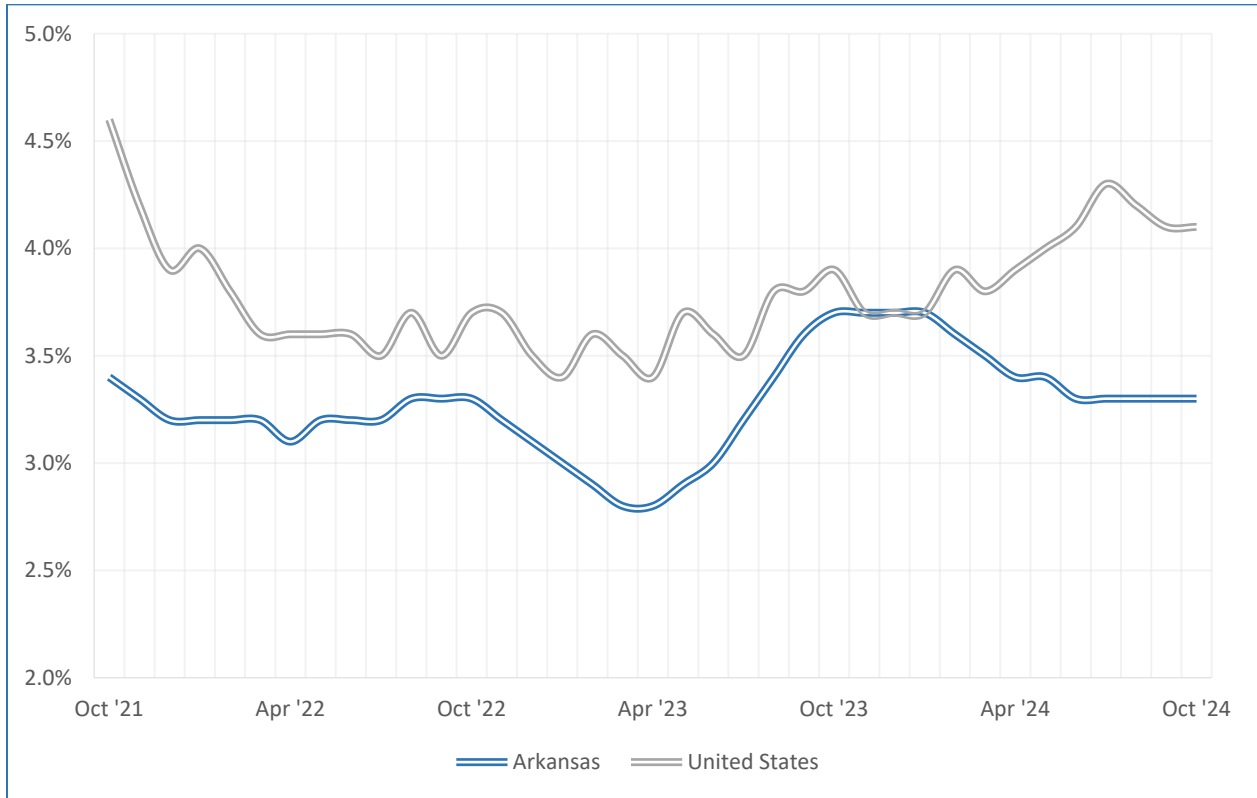
### Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted, In Thousands)

Industry Sector based on 2022 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)	October 2024	September 2024	October 2023	Change from September 2024	Change from October 2023
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1385.2	1375.6	1363.8	9.6	21.4
Goods Producing	236.5	235.8	233.1	0.7	3.4
Mining, Logging, & Construction	73.2	72.7	71.1	0.5	2.1
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	43.7	43.0	41.8	0.7	1.9
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>163.3</b>	<b>163.1</b>	<b>162.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Durable Goods	78.2	77.5	77.8	0.7	0.4
Nondurable Goods	85.1	85.6	84.2	-0.5	0.9
Service Providing	1148.7	1139.8	1130.7	8.9	18.0
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>270.0</b>	<b>268.1</b>	<b>268.7</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Wholesale Trade	51.6	50.3	52.8	1.3	-1.2
Retail Trade	146.0	145.9	144.5	0.1	1.5
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	72.4	71.9	71.4	0.5	1.0
<b>Information</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Finance & Insurance	55.8	55.0	54.8	0.8	1.0
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	15.2	15.1	15.3	0.1	-0.1
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>160.7</b>	<b>158.5</b>	<b>157.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	49.6	48.9	49.5	0.7	0.1
Management of Companies	38.2	37.8	38.1	0.4	0.1
Administrative & Support Services	72.9	71.8	70.3	1.1	2.6
<b>Private Education &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>222.8</b>	<b>220.1</b>	<b>210.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>12.3</b>
Educational Services	20.0	19.6	19.6	0.4	0.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	202.8	200.5	190.9	2.3	11.9
Ambulatory Health Care	71.7	71.1	66.2	0.6	5.5
Social Assistance	42.0	41.1	38.6	0.9	3.4
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>128.2</b>	<b>129.2</b>	<b>127.3</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	13.4	14.1	13.2	-0.7	0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	114.8	115.1	114.1	-0.3	0.7
Accommodation Services	11.4	11.7	11.5	-0.3	-0.1
Food Services	103.4	103.4	102.6	0.0	0.8
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>217.3</b>	<b>215.4</b>	<b>215.7</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Federal Government	21.8	21.8	21.7	0.0	0.1
State Government	78.0	77.8	78.0	0.2	0.0
State Government, Educational Services	32.0	31.7	31.9	0.3	0.1
State Government, Excluding Education	46.0	46.1	46.1	-0.1	-0.1
Local Government	117.5	115.8	116.0	1.7	1.5
Local Government, Educational Services	72.5	70.6	71.4	1.9	1.1
Local Government, Excluding Education	45.0	45.2	44.6	-0.2	0.4

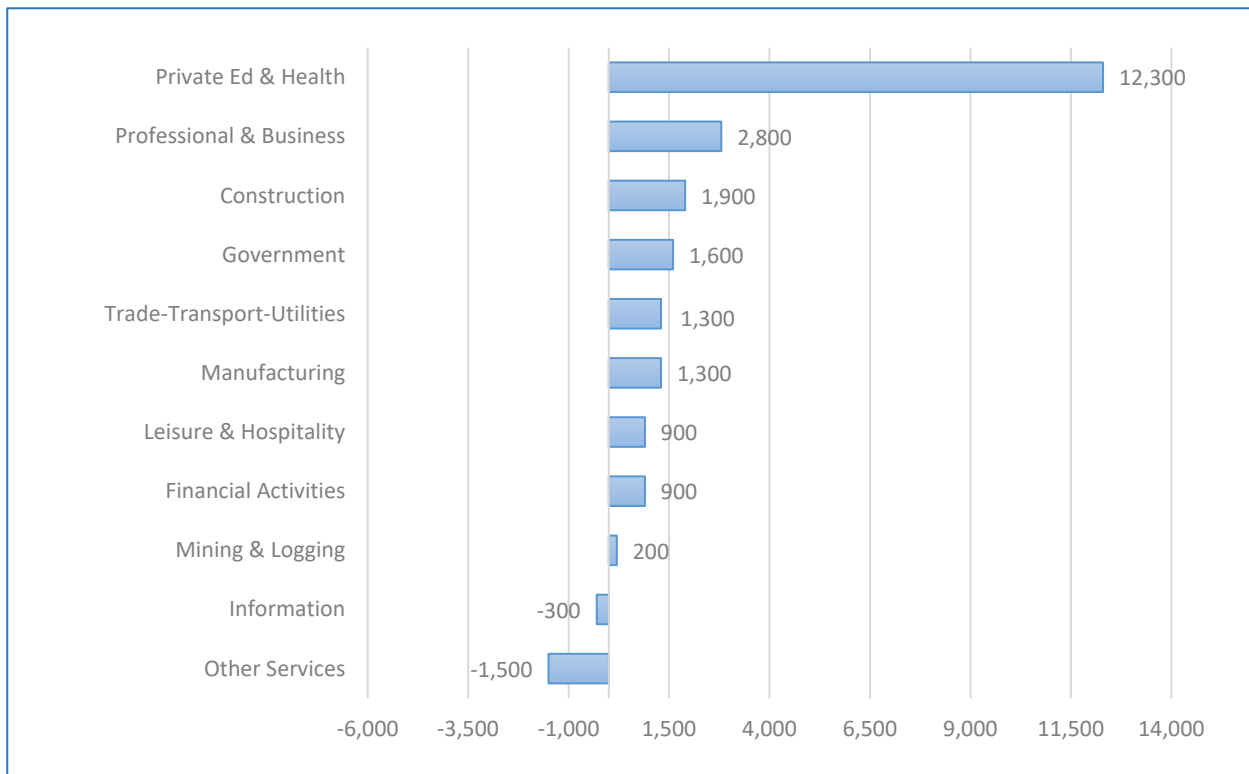
Source: Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023 benchmark.

Notes: Current month's data are preliminary; previous month's data are revised.

### Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates Arkansas vs. United States (3-Year Comparison)



### Job Gains/Losses by Major Industry Sectors October 2023 to October 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



For more Labor Market Data, visit our website at [www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov)



### **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 the Division of Aeronautics, Waterways Commission, Wine Producers Council, Workforce Services, State Bank Department, Insurance Department, Securities Department, Economic Development Commission, and Development Finance Authority.



### **About the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services**

The Division of Workforce Services has been reorganized into three new divisions within the Department of Commerce: Reemployment, Workforce Policy and Innovation, and Arkansas Workforce Connections. Reemployment administers the unemployment compensation program. Workforce Policy and Innovation administers the Arkansas Workforce Development Board, the Labor Market Information and Bureau of Labor Statistics programs. Arkansas Workforce Connections houses the Office of Skills Development, Employment and Training, Adult Education, Rehabilitation Services, and Services for the Blind.

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### **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.