



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Increases to 3.2 Percent in April

### 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 increased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.1 percent in March to 3.2 percent in April. Arkansas' civilian labor force added 5,655, a result of 4,522 more employed and 1,133 more unemployed Arkansans. At 3.6 percent, the United States' jobless rate remained unchanged from March to April.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Employment in Arkansas increased for the fourth month in a row while nonfarm payroll jobs rose to 1,315,500, setting a record high number of jobs in the State. More Arkansans continue to join the labor force, resulting in an increase in the unemployment rate."

### Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose by 9,900 in April, hitting a new record high of 1,315,500. Eight major industry sectors posted gains. The **leisure and hospitality** sector increased by 4,500, mostly in accommodation and food services (+3,600). **Educational and health services** added 2,000 jobs. Most of the growth occurred in health care and social assistance (+1,900), due in large part to hiring in ambulatory health care (+1,400). Employment in **financial activities** rose by 1,200, mostly in finance and insurance (+1,000). **Manufacturing** added 1,100 jobs. Most of the gains were in durable goods manufacturing (+800). **Government** added 1,100 jobs, with increases in both state (+500) and local (+500) government.

Compared to April 2021, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs are up 35,500. Growth occurred in eight major industry sectors, with five sectors adding 2,300 or more jobs each. Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose by 15,200. Hiring was reported across all subsectors, with jobs in transportation-warehousing-utilities up 8,200. Employment in **leisure and hospitality** increased by 8,300. Most of the gains were in accommodation and food services (+6,900). **Manufacturing** added 7,100 jobs, with growth reported in both nondurable goods (+3,800) and durable goods (+3,300). Jobs in **professional and business services** rose by 2,400. Expansions in management of companies (+4,500) and professional-scientific-technical services (+1,100) more than offset declines in administrative and support services (-3,200). **Government** employment increased by 2,300, mainly due to gains in local government-educational services (+2,200). Jobs in **construction** decreased by 1,900, with fewer jobs reported in the specialty trade contractors subsector (-1,600).

## ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	April 2022	March 2022	April 2021	Chg From Mar 2022	Chg From Apr 2021
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	1,349,561	1,343,906	1,333,117	5,655	16,444
<b>Employment</b>	1,306,972	1,302,450	1,272,833	4,522	34,139
<b>Unemployment</b>	42,589	41,456	60,284	1,133	-17,695
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.2%	3.1%	4.5%	0.1%	-1.3%
<b>Labor Participation Rate</b>	56.8%	56.6%	56.7%	0.2%	0.1%
<b>U.S. Unemployment Rate</b>	3.6%	3.6%	6.0%	0.0%	-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	April 2022	March 2022	April 2021	Chg From Mar 2022	Chg From Apr 2021
<b>Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs</b>	<b>1315.5</b>	<b>1305.6</b>	<b>1280.0</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>35.5</b>
<b>Goods Producing</b>	<b>221.4</b>	<b>220.9</b>	<b>216.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Mining, Logging, & Construction	58.5	59.1	60.7	-0.6	-2.2
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-1.9</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.8	33.9	35.4	-0.1	-1.6
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>162.9</b>	<b>161.8</b>	<b>155.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Durable Goods	77.8	77.0	74.5	0.8	3.3
Nondurable Goods	85.1	84.8	81.3	0.3	3.8
<b>Service Providing</b>	<b>1094.1</b>	<b>1084.7</b>	<b>1063.5</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>30.6</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>266.4</b>	<b>266.0</b>	<b>251.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>15.2</b>
Wholesale Trade	51.8	51.1	47.1	0.7	4.7
Retail Trade	139.8	140.2	137.5	-0.4	2.3
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	74.8	74.7	66.6	0.1	8.2
<b>Information</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>66.8</b>	<b>65.6</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Finance & Insurance	52.5	51.5	51.8	1.0	0.7
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	14.3	14.1	14.1	0.2	0.2
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>148.5</b>	<b>149.2</b>	<b>146.1</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	45.9	46.6	44.8	-0.7	1.1
Management of Companies	38.1	37.6	33.6	0.5	4.5
Administrative & Support Services	64.5	65.0	67.7	-0.5	-3.2
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>197.4</b>	<b>195.4</b>	<b>196.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Educational Services	17.9	17.8	16.8	0.1	1.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	179.5	177.6	179.4	1.9	0.1
Ambulatory Health Care	62.5	61.1	61.0	1.4	1.5
Social Assistance	35.6	35.3	36.8	0.3	-1.2
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>123.3</b>	<b>118.8</b>	<b>115.0</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>8.3</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	12.4	11.5	11.0	0.9	1.4
Accommodation & Food Services	110.9	107.3	104.0	3.6	6.9
Accommodation Services	11.4	10.8	9.8	0.6	1.6
Food Services	99.5	96.5	94.2	3.0	5.3
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>65.6</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>212.9</b>	<b>211.8</b>	<b>210.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Federal Government	20.6	20.5	20.5	0.1	0.1
State Government	78.6	78.1	78.5	0.5	0.1
State Government, Educational Services	32.2	31.7	32.0	0.5	0.2
State Government, Excluding Education	46.4	46.4	46.5	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	113.7	113.2	111.6	0.5	2.1
Local Government, Education Services	71.1	71.0	68.9	0.1	2.2
Local Government, Excluding Education	42.6	42.2	42.7	0.4	-0.1

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



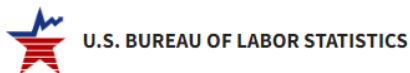
### **About the Arkansas Department of Commerce:**

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.