



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Remains Stable at 3.1 Percent in March

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 unchanged at 3.1 percent between February and March. Arkansas' civilian labor force rose 4,508, a result of 5,255 more employed and 747 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate declined two-tenths of a percentage point, from 3.8 percent in February to 3.6 percent in March.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "The number of employed Arkansans increased 5,255 between February and March, marking the third consecutive month of employment gains. Currently, there are 31,600 more employed Arkansans compared to March 2021."

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 5,300 in March to total 1,305,500. Seven major industry sectors added jobs. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** rose 3,100. Most of the hiring occurred in food services (+2,100). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** increased 1,600. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities posted most of the growth, up 1,100. **Construction** added 1,200 jobs, related in part to large scale projects throughout the State. Jobs in **educational and health services** declined 1,400. All losses were in health care and social assistance (-1,600).

Compared to March 2021, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs are up 33,300. Over-the-year growth was posted in seven major industry sectors, with four sectors adding 4,500 or more jobs each. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** increased 14,200. Hiring occurred across all subsectors, with transportation-warehousing-utilities reporting the largest gains (+8,100). Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** rose 9,100, with expansions across all subsectors. **Professional and business services** added 6,000 jobs. Growth was reported in management of companies (+4,700) and professional-scientific-technical services (+2,400). Jobs in **manufacturing** increased 4,500, with gains in both durable (+2,600) and nondurable (+1,900) goods manufacturing. Employment in **government** rose 2,400, mostly in local government-educational services (+2,200). **Educational and health services** declined 2,700. Expansions in educational services (+900) were more than offset by losses in health care and social assistance (-3,600). Jobs in **other services** decreased 1,400. The sector includes activities such as automotive repair, dry-cleaning services, and social organizations.

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	March 2022	February 2022	March 2021	Chg From Feb 2022	Chg From Mar 2021
Civilian Labor Force	1,343,907	1,339,399	1,332,788	4,508	11,119
Employment	1,302,465	1,297,210	1,270,865	5,255	31,600
Unemployment	41,442	42,189	61,923	-747	-20,481
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.1%	4.6%	0.0%	-1.5
Labor Participation Rate	56.6%	56.5%	56.7%	0.1%	-0.1%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.8%	6.0%	-0.2%	-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	March 2022	February 2022	March 2021	Chg From Feb 2022	Chg From Mar 2021
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1305.5	1300.2	1272.2	5.3	33.3
Goods Producing	220.6	219.2	216.6	1.4	4.0
Mining, Logging, & Construction	59.2	58.1	59.7	1.1	-0.5
Mining & Logging	5.0	5.1	5.2	-0.1	-0.2
Construction	54.2	53.0	54.5	1.2	-0.3
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.9	33.7	34.8	0.2	-0.9
Manufacturing	161.4	161.1	156.9	0.3	4.5
Durable Goods	77.0	76.8	74.4	0.2	2.6
Nondurable Goods	84.4	84.3	82.5	0.1	1.9
Service Providing	1084.9	1081.0	1055.6	3.9	29.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	265.9	264.3	251.7	1.6	14.2
Wholesale Trade	51.1	50.7	47.1	0.4	4.0
Retail Trade	139.9	139.8	137.8	0.1	2.1
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	74.9	73.8	66.8	1.1	8.1
Information	12.3	12.0	11.3	0.3	1.0
Financial Activities	66.1	66.1	65.4	0.0	0.7
Finance & Insurance	51.9	51.7	51.6	0.2	0.3
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	14.2	14.4	13.8	-0.2	0.4
Professional & Business Services	149.1	148.9	143.1	0.2	6.0
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	46.5	46.1	44.1	0.4	2.4
Management of Companies	37.6	37.0	32.9	0.6	4.7
Administrative & Support Services	65.0	65.8	66.1	-0.8	-1.1
Educational & Health Services	194.6	196.0	197.3	-1.4	-2.7
Educational Services	17.8	17.6	16.9	0.2	0.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	176.8	178.4	180.4	-1.6	-3.6
Ambulatory Health Care	61.0	61.6	60.6	-0.6	0.4
Social Assistance	35.4	35.7	37.7	-0.3	-2.3
Leisure & Hospitality	119.5	116.4	110.4	3.1	9.1
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	11.9	11.2	10.3	0.7	1.6
Accommodation & Food Services	107.6	105.2	100.1	2.4	7.5
Accommodation Services	10.8	10.5	9.1	0.3	1.7
Food Services	96.8	94.7	91.0	2.1	5.8
Other Services	65.6	65.9	67.0	-0.3	-1.4
Government	211.8	211.4	209.4	0.4	2.4
Federal Government	20.5	20.5	20.3	0.0	0.2
State Government	78.1	77.8	78.1	0.3	0.0
State Government, Educational Services	31.7	31.4	31.5	0.3	0.2
State Government, Excluding Education	46.4	46.4	46.6	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	113.2	113.1	111.0	0.1	2.2
Local Government, Education Services	71.0	71.1	68.8	-0.1	2.2
Local Government, Excluding Education	42.2	42.0	42.2	0.2	0.0

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



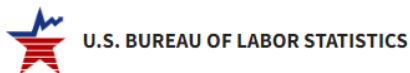
About the Arkansas Department of Commerce:

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.