



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

NEWS RELEASE

December 16, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Susan Price, Arkansas BLS Programs Manager

Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

Susan.Price@arkansas.gov

www.discover.arkansas.gov

Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Rises to 3.7 Percent in November

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 3.6 percent in October to 3.7 percent in November. Arkansas' civilian labor force declined by 1,417, a result of 2,292 fewer employed and 875 additional unemployed Arkansans. At 3.7 percent, the United States' jobless rate remained stable between October and November.

BLS Programs Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate increased to 3.7 percent in November, as employment and labor force participation rates continued to decline. Compared to November 2021, there are still 14,947 more employed in the State."

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs decreased by 5,400 in November to total 1,329,200. Declines were posted in eight major industry sectors. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** dropped 2,500. Losses were reported across all subsectors, with jobs in food services down 1,600. **Manufacturing** decreased by 2,100 jobs. Most of the contraction was in durable goods manufacturing (-1,400). Jobs in **professional and business services** declined 1,500. All losses were in administrative and support services (-2,200), a subsector which includes employment agencies. **Construction** is down by 1,000 jobs, an expected seasonal decrease. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** posted the largest monthly gain, up 1,300. Hiring occurred in both transportation-warehousing-utilities (+1,300) and retail trade (+700), as retailers prepare for the holiday shopping season. Jobs in **educational and health services** rose by 1,000, with increases in both health care and social assistance (+600) and educational services (+400).

Compared to November 2021, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are up 18,000. Eight major industry sectors reported growth. Jobs in **manufacturing** rose by 4,600, mostly in nondurable goods manufacturing (+3,100). **Educational and health services** added 4,300 jobs. Hiring occurred in both health care and social assistance (+2,800) and in educational services (+1,500). Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** increased by 3,900, mostly in accommodation and food services (+3,700). Jobs in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 3,000. Gains in wholesale trade (+3,100) and transportation-warehousing-utilities (+2,300) were offset by losses in retail trade (-2,400). Notable growth was also posted in **financial activities** (+2,300) and **government** (+1,200). **Construction** (-1,400) and **professional and business services** (-1,000) both posted job declines over the year.

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2021	Chg From Oct 2022	Chg From Nov 2021
Civilian Labor Force	1,351,744	1,353,161	1,331,333	-1,417	20,411
Employment	1,302,339	1,304,631	1,287,392	-2,292	14,947
Unemployment	49,405	48,530	43,941	875	5,464
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.6%	3.3%	0.1%	0.4%
Labor Participation Rate	56.6%	56.7%	56.3%	-0.1%	0.3%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.7%	4.2%	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)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2017	November 2022	October 2022	November 2021	Chg From Oct 2022	Chg From Nov 2021
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1329.2	1334.6	1311.2	-5.4	18.0
Goods Producing	223.1	226.3	220.4	-3.2	2.7
Mining, Logging, & Construction	59.7	60.8	61.6	-1.1	-1.9
Mining & Logging	4.9	5.0	5.4	-0.1	-0.5
Construction	54.8	55.8	56.2	-1.0	-1.4
Specialty Trade Contractors	34.9	35.5	34.8	-0.6	0.1
Manufacturing	163.4	165.5	158.8	-2.1	4.6
Durable Goods	77.1	78.5	75.6	-1.4	1.5
Nondurable Goods	86.3	87.0	83.2	-0.7	3.1
Service Providing	1106.1	1108.3	1090.8	-2.2	15.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	269.1	267.8	266.1	1.3	3.0
Wholesale Trade	52.1	52.8	49.0	-0.7	3.1
Retail Trade	139.8	139.1	142.2	0.7	-2.4
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	77.2	75.9	74.9	1.3	2.3
Information	13.0	13.3	12.2	-0.3	0.8
Financial Activities	69.0	69.7	66.7	-0.7	2.3
Finance & Insurance	53.7	54.3	52.4	-0.6	1.3
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	15.3	15.4	14.3	-0.1	1.0
Professional & Business Services	149.7	151.2	150.7	-1.5	-1.0
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	45.6	45.0	45.4	0.6	0.2
Management of Companies	40.7	40.6	35.5	0.1	5.2
Administrative & Support Services	63.4	65.6	69.8	-2.2	-6.4
Educational & Health Services	201.9	200.9	197.6	1.0	4.3
Educational Services	19.3	18.9	17.8	0.4	1.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	182.6	182.0	179.8	0.6	2.8
Ambulatory Health Care	63.3	63.5	61.1	-0.2	2.2
Social Assistance	36.3	36.1	36.4	0.2	-0.1
Leisure & Hospitality	122.2	124.7	118.3	-2.5	3.9
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	11.2	11.7	11.0	-0.5	0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	111.0	113.0	107.3	-2.0	3.7
Accommodation Services	11.6	12.0	10.7	-0.4	0.9
Food Services	99.4	101.0	96.6	-1.6	2.8
Other Services	67.2	67.6	66.4	-0.4	0.8
Government	214.0	213.1	212.8	0.9	1.2
Federal Government	20.8	20.8	20.8	0.0	0.0
State Government	78.2	78.0	77.9	0.2	0.3
State Government, Educational Services	31.9	31.7	31.5	0.2	0.4
State Government, Excluding Education	46.3	46.3	46.4	0.0	-0.1
Local Government	115.0	114.3	114.1	0.7	0.9
Local Government, Educational Services	72.0	71.5	71.4	0.5	0.6
Local Government, Excluding Education	43.0	42.8	42.7	0.2	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.



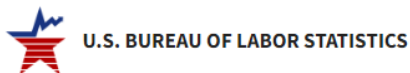
About the Arkansas Department of Commerce:

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.