

# News Release



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## Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Increases to 4.0 Percent

### 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 Department of Workforce Services, show Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point, from 3.9 percent in August to 4.0 percent in September. Arkansas' civilian labor force increased 972, a result of 1,513 more unemployed and 541 fewer employed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point in September, reaching 5.0 percent.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point in September, caused by an increase of 1,513 unemployed. While unemployment is up slightly over the month, there are still 11,385 fewer unemployed Arkansans than in September 2015."

#### ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (Seasonally Adjusted)

	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015	Change From August 2016	Change From September 2015
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	<b>1,357,063</b>	<b>1,356,091</b>	<b>1,333,300</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>23,763</b>
<b>Employment</b>	<b>1,302,246</b>	<b>1,302,787</b>	<b>1,267,098</b>	<b>-541</b>	<b>35,148</b>
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>54,817</b>	<b>53,304</b>	<b>66,202</b>	<b>1,513</b>	<b>-11,385</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
<b>U.S. Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Notes: Unemployment rates were computed from unrounded data.

Data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas and minorities and youth will be available online November 2, 2016.

### Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 15,500 in September to total 1,235,600. Four major industry sectors added jobs, more than offsetting small declines in six sectors. Jobs in **government** rose 13,000. Gains in both local (+7,900) and state (+5,200) government were related to seasonal hiring at public schools and universities. **Educational and health services** added 4,600 jobs. A majority of the additions were in educational services (+3,000), attributed to hiring at private schools. Employment in **manufacturing** is up 1,000. All expansions were in nondurable goods manufacturing, related in part to reported hiring in food manufacturing. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** decreased 1,600. Losses occurred in wholesale (-1,100) and retail (-500) trade, both typical seasonal declines.

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Compared to September 2015, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment has increased 14,200. Eight major industry sectors posted growth, while three sectors declined. **Educational and health services** added 7,700 jobs, mostly in health care and social assistance (+7,100). Jobs in **professional and business services** rose 3,900. Professional, scientific, and technical services posted a majority of the gain (+2,500). Employment in **leisure and hospitality** increased 2,400, mostly in food services (+1,700). **Trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 1,900, as retail (+2,000) and wholesale trade (+500) offset losses in transportation-warehousing-utilities (-600). **Other services** added 1,000 jobs. The sector includes activities such as automotive repair, dry cleaning services, and social advocacy organizations. Declines were posted in **construction** (-1,300), **mining and logging** (-1,200), and **manufacturing** (-700).

### ARKANSAS NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2012	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015	Change From August 2016	Change From September 2015
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1235.6	1220.1	1221.4	15.5	14.2
Goods Producing	211.6	211.0	214.8	0.6	-3.2
Mining, Logging, & Construction	57.5	57.9	60.0	-0.4	-2.5
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.9	34.4	32.2	-0.5	1.7
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>154.1</b>	<b>153.1</b>	<b>154.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Durable Goods	73.7	73.7	75.7	0.0	-2.0
Nondurable Goods	80.4	79.4	79.1	1.0	1.3
Service Providing	1024.0	1009.1	1006.6	14.9	17.4
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>254.6</b>	<b>256.2</b>	<b>252.7</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Wholesale Trade	47.8	48.9	47.3	-1.1	0.5
Retail Trade	142.8	143.3	140.8	-0.5	2.0
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	64.0	64.0	64.6	0.0	-0.6
<b>Information</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Finance & Insurance	36.3	36.6	36.2	-0.3	0.1
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13.2	13.2	13.1	0.0	0.1
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>144.5</b>	<b>145.1</b>	<b>140.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	42.9	43.0	40.4	-0.1	2.5
Management of Companies	35.0	35.3	33.8	-0.3	1.2
Administrative & Support Services	66.6	66.8	66.4	-0.2	0.2
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>185.0</b>	<b>180.4</b>	<b>177.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Educational Services	15.6	12.6	15.0	3.0	0.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	169.4	167.8	162.3	1.6	7.1
Ambulatory Health Care	53.8	52.9	51.3	0.9	2.5
Social Assistance	40.3	39.6	39.2	0.7	1.1
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>116.9</b>	<b>117.3</b>	<b>114.5</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	11.3	12.2	11.0	-0.9	0.3
Accommodation & Food Services	105.6	105.1	103.5	0.5	2.1
Accommodation Services	11.8	12.0	11.4	-0.2	0.4
Food Services	93.8	93.1	92.1	0.7	1.7
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>215.2</b>	<b>202.2</b>	<b>215.1</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Federal Government	20.5	20.6	20.2	-0.1	0.3
State Government	80.2	75.0	79.6	5.2	0.6
Local Government	114.5	106.6	115.3	7.9	-0.8

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers.

Notes: Estimates are based on the first quarter 2015 benchmark.

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

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