



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Decreases to 8.0 Percent in June

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 declined one and six-tenths of a percentage point, from 9.6 percent in May to 8.0 percent in June. May's unemployment rate was revised up from 9.5 percent to 9.6 percent. Arkansas' civilian labor force decreased 33,219 in June, a result of 9,297 fewer employed and 23,922 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate decreased over two full percentage points, going from 13.3 percent in May to 11.1 percent in June.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Despite moving into Phase 2 of reopening in June, there was a notable increase in the number of survey respondents in Arkansas reporting that they were not employed or had dropped out of the labor force. This was due in part to changes in seasonal summer hiring trends and recent temporary layoffs/closures. These reported losses more than offset the hiring that occurred in June."

Details of the BLS methodology and the impact of COVID-19 on the May and June estimation process can be found [here](#).

Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose 18,500 in June to total 1,210,900. Six major industry sectors posted gains, while employment in four sectors declined. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** increased 9,900. Hiring occurred across all subsectors. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 7,600 jobs, mostly in retail trade (+6,800). Employment in **other services** rose 2,300. This sector includes businesses such as hair and nail salons, day spas, and membership organizations. **Professional and business services** increased 2,100. Gains were posted in all three subsectors. Jobs in **government** decreased 3,100. Most of the contractions were in state government, educational services (-3,300). **Educational and health services** declined 1,400. Small losses occurred in health care and social assistance (-800) and in educational services (-600).

Compared to June 2019, nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas are down 61,500. Losses were reported in nine major industry sectors, while two sectors added jobs. Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** declined 19,100. Most of the reduction was in accommodation and food services (-18,900). Jobs in **manufacturing** decreased 18,300, largely due to durable goods manufacturing (-13,700). Employment in **educational and health services** is down 9,900. All losses were posted in health care and social assistance (-10,400). **Government** jobs declined 8,200, with contractions in both local (-4,700) and state (-3,700) government. Smaller losses were reported in **other services** (-3,000), **professional and business services** (-2,200), **financial activities** (-2,100), **information** (-1,300), and **mining and logging** (-900). Employment in **trade, transportation, and utilities** rose 2,800 over-the-year. Gains in transportation-warehousing-utilities (+2,000) and wholesale trade (+1,000) more than offset minor declines in retail trade (-200).

ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	June 2020	May 2020	June 2019	Chg From May 2020	Chg From June 2019
Civilian Labor Force	1,312,290	1,345,509	1,360,371	-33,219	-48,081
Employment	1,206,952	1,216,249	1,312,004	-9,297	-105,052
Unemployment	105,338	129,260	48,367	-23,922	56,971
Unemployment Rate	8.0	9.6	3.6	-1.6	4.4
U.S. Unemployment Rate	11.1	13.3	3.7	-2.2	7.4

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

ARKANSAS NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS, Not Seasonally Adjusted (In Thousands)

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2017	June 2020	May 2020	June 2019	Chg From May 2020	Chg From June 2019
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1210.9	1192.4	1272.4	18.5	-61.5
Goods Producing	203.3	201.9	221.8	1.4	-18.5
Mining, Logging, & Construction	58.9	58.3	59.1	0.6	-0.2
Mining & Logging	5.1	5.1	6.0	0.0	-0.9
Construction	53.8	53.2	53.1	0.6	0.7
Specialty Trade Contractors	33.9	33.4	33.6	0.5	0.3
Manufacturing	144.4	143.6	162.7	0.8	-18.3
Durable Goods	64.4	63.3	78.1	1.1	-13.7
Nondurable Goods	80.0	80.3	84.6	-0.3	-4.6
Service Providing	1007.6	990.5	1050.6	17.1	-43.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	254.2	246.6	251.4	7.6	2.8
Wholesale Trade	48.8	48.2	47.8	0.6	1.0
Retail Trade	135.8	129.0	136.0	6.8	-0.2
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	69.6	69.4	67.6	0.2	2.0
Information	10.2	10.3	11.5	-0.1	-1.3
Financial Activities	60.9	61.1	63.0	-0.2	-2.1
Finance & Insurance	47.7	48.0	48.9	-0.3	-1.2
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	13.2	13.1	14.1	0.1	-0.9
Professional & Business Services	141.5	139.4	143.7	2.1	-2.2
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	43.8	43.5	44.4	0.3	-0.6
Management of Companies	35.6	35.1	33.6	0.5	2.0
Administrative & Support Services	62.1	60.8	65.7	1.3	-3.6
Educational & Health Services	180.2	181.6	190.1	-1.4	-9.9
Educational Services	13.5	14.1	13.0	-0.6	0.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	166.7	167.5	177.1	-0.8	-10.4
Ambulatory Health Care	56.9	57.4	59.3	-0.5	-2.4
Social Assistance	35.3	35.7	39.3	-0.4	-4.0
Leisure & Hospitality	103.3	93.4	122.4	9.9	-19.1
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	13.4	11.2	13.6	2.2	-0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	89.9	82.2	108.8	7.7	-18.9
Accommodation Services	7.9	7.6	12.1	0.3	-4.2
Food Services	82.0	74.6	96.7	7.4	-14.7
Other Services	57.1	54.8	60.1	2.3	-3.0
Government	200.2	203.3	208.4	-3.1	-8.2
Federal Government	20.5	20.7	20.3	-0.2	0.2
State Government	70.9	74.3	74.6	-3.4	-3.7
State Government, Educational Services	23.3	26.6	26.7	-3.3	-3.4
State Government, Excluding Education	47.6	47.7	47.9	-0.1	-0.3
Local Government	108.8	108.3	113.5	0.5	-4.7
Local Government, Education Services	66.7	66.6	67.4	0.1	-0.7
Local Government, Excluding Education	42.1	41.7	46.1	0.4	-4.0

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1st Quarter 2019 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's 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.



U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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.