



## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Falls to 3.4 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 fell three-tenths of a percentage point, from 3.7 percent in October to 3.4 percent in November. Arkansas' civilian labor force rose 583, a result of 4,764 more employed and 4,181 fewer unemployed Arkansans. The United States' jobless rate dropped four-tenths of a percentage point, from 4.6 percent in October to 4.2 percent in November.

BLS Program Operations Manager Susan Price said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate continues to decline, down to 3.4 percent in November. While there have been fluctuations in employment over the past year, there are now 49,366 more employed Arkansans compared to November 2020."

#### **Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Job Summary:**

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas rose 5,200 in November to total 1,291,800. Gains were posted in eight major industry sectors. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** added 3,700 jobs. Hiring occurred in all three subsectors, as businesses prepare for the holiday shopping season. Jobs in **professional and business services** increased 2,000. Most of the expansions were in administrative and support services (+1,500). **Educational and health services** added 1,500 jobs, all in health care and social assistance (+1,500). Jobs in **government** rose 1,200. The largest gains were in local government (+600). Employment in **leisure and hospitality** contracted 2,000. Most of the losses occurred in food services, down 1,000. Jobs in **construction** decreased 1,900, an expected seasonal decline.

Compared to November 2020, Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs are up 30,200. Nine major industry sectors posted growth, with five sectors adding 3,600 or more jobs each. **Professional and business services** increased 11,100, mostly in administrative and support services (+8,400). The subsector includes employment agencies, office administrative services, and business support services. Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 5,800. Expansions in durable goods (+7,800) were offset by declines in nondurable goods (-2,000). **Financial activities** added 4,700 jobs, mostly in finance and insurance (+4,000). Jobs in **leisure and hospitality** rose 3,900, with gains across all subsectors. **Trade, transportation, and utilities** increased 3,600. Most of the growth occurred in transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+3,800). Notable expansions were also posted in **educational and health services** (+2,800) and in **other services** (+2,300). Jobs in **construction** (-3,600) and **government** (-1,600) are down over-the-year.

## ARKANSAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY, Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2020	Chg From Oct 2021	Chg From Nov 2020
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	1,354,102	1,353,519	1,328,600	583	25,502
<b>Employment</b>	1,307,751	1,302,987	1,258,385	4,764	49,366
<b>Unemployment</b>	46,351	50,532	70,215	-4,181	-23,864
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.4	3.7	5.3	-0.3	-1.9
<b>U.S. Unemployment Rate</b>	4.2	4.6	6.7	-0.4	-2.5

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	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	Chg From Oct 2021	Chg From Nov 2020
<b>Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs</b>	<b>1291.8</b>	<b>1286.6</b>	<b>1261.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>30.2</b>
<b>Goods Producing</b>	<b>219.0</b>	<b>220.5</b>	<b>216.5</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Mining, Logging, & Construction	56.8	58.6	60.1	-1.8	-3.3
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>-3.6</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	32.0	33.9	35.1	-1.9	-3.1
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>162.2</b>	<b>161.9</b>	<b>156.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Durable Goods	83.2	83.5	75.4	-0.3	7.8
Nondurable Goods	79.0	78.4	81.0	0.6	-2.0
<b>Service Providing</b>	<b>1072.8</b>	<b>1066.1</b>	<b>1045.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>27.7</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>260.8</b>	<b>257.1</b>	<b>257.2</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Wholesale Trade	47.6	47.2	46.6	0.4	1.0
Retail Trade	142.2	140.5	143.4	1.7	-1.2
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	71.0	69.4	67.2	1.6	3.8
<b>Information</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Finance & Insurance	54.1	53.4	50.1	0.7	4.0
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	14.1	13.9	13.4	0.2	0.7
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>151.5</b>	<b>149.5</b>	<b>140.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>11.1</b>
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	43.5	43.7	42.9	-0.2	0.6
Management of Companies	35.8	35.1	33.7	0.7	2.1
Administrative & Support Services	72.2	70.7	63.8	1.5	8.4
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>191.4</b>	<b>189.9</b>	<b>188.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Educational Services	17.4	17.4	16.1	0.0	1.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	174.0	172.5	172.5	1.5	1.5
Ambulatory Health Care	60.6	60.1	59.7	0.5	0.9
Social Assistance	36.6	36.3	36.5	0.3	0.1
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>113.4</b>	<b>115.4</b>	<b>109.5</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	11.6	12.2	10.1	-0.6	1.5
Accommodation & Food Services	101.8	103.2	99.4	-1.4	2.4
Accommodation Services	9.9	10.3	8.8	-0.4	1.1
Food Services	91.9	92.9	90.6	-1.0	1.3
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>67.4</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>207.5</b>	<b>206.3</b>	<b>209.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>-1.6</b>
Federal Government	21.0	20.6	20.6	0.4	0.4
State Government	78.4	78.2	77.8	0.2	0.6
State Government, Educational Services	32.0	31.8	31.1	0.2	0.9
State Government, Excluding Education	46.4	46.4	46.7	0.0	-0.3
Local Government	108.1	107.5	110.7	0.6	-2.6
Local Government, Education Services	65.0	64.5	67.8	0.5	-2.8
Local Government, Excluding Education	43.1	43.0	42.9	0.1	0.2

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers, based on 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2020 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.



**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.