

# News Release

**For Immediate Release:** November 23, 2010

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## Arkansas' Unemployment Rate Increases to 7.8 Percent

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark.** – Labor force data, produced by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and released today by the Department of Workforce Services, shows Arkansas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point from 7.7 percent in September to 7.8 percent in October. The United States' jobless rate remained unchanged at 9.6 percent.

Arkansas' civilian labor force increased 4,500 in October, a result of 2,500 more employed and 2,000 more unemployed Arkansans.

DWS Communications Director Kimberly Friedman said, "Arkansas' unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point this month, as more Arkansans entered or re-entered the workforce. This is the first time that Arkansas' civilian labor force has grown since February 2010."

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

	October 2010	September 2010	October 2009	Net Change From September 2010	Net Change From October 2009
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	<b>1,344,600</b>	<b>1,340,100</b>	<b>1,372,200</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>-27,600</b>
<b>Employment</b>	<b>1,239,800</b>	<b>1,237,300</b>	<b>1,268,900</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>-29,100</b>
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>104,800</b>	<b>102,800</b>	<b>103,300</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>U.S. Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.5</b>

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

Note: Unemployment rates were computed from unrounded data.

# Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

## Monthly Employment Activities September 2010 – October 2010

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll jobs rose 16,200 in October to total 1,182,700. Eight major industry sectors posted gains, with four sectors adding 2,100 or more jobs, each. Two sectors decreased, while one remained the same.

**Professional and business services** experienced the largest increase (+5,600). Half of the expansion occurred in administrative and support services, related in large part to reported gains at employment agencies and in services to buildings.

Jobs in **government** rose 4,100. Most of the addition occurred in local government, due to public school hiring.

**Leisure and hospitality** added 2,800 jobs, a result of growth in food services that was mainly attributed to employment increases at fast food restaurants.

**Educational and health services** advanced 2,100. Educational services posted most of the expansion, as private schools increased hiring.

## Yearly Employment Activities October 2009 – October 2010

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Nonfarm payroll jobs in Arkansas increased 15,400 since October 2009. Six major industry sectors reported gains, more than offsetting declines in five sectors.

**Educational and health services** added 7,000 jobs. A large majority of the growth occurred in health care and social assistance, attributed to employment expansions in general medical hospitals, nursing care facilities, and services for the elderly.

Jobs in **manufacturing** rose 6,200. Durable goods captured the largest increase (+5,500), related to reported hiring at multiple transportation equipment manufacturing facilities.

**Others services** posted an additional 3,000 jobs. Included in this industry sector are personal and laundry services and membership associations.

Jobs in **construction** increased 2,600, as the sector shows signs of rebounding from recent economic conditions that significantly impacted employment.

**Government** employment declined 2,600. State government employment decreased, partly caused by the end of temporary jobs related to stimulus funding.

**NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS  
STATE OF ARKANSAS  
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry Group 2007	October 2010	September 2010	October 2009	Net Change From September 2010	Net Change From October 2009
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1,182,700	1,166,500	1,167,300	16,200	15,400
Goods Producing	230,300	231,000	221,800	-700	8,500
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>9,700</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-300</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>54,200</b>	<b>55,000</b>	<b>51,600</b>	<b>-800</b>	<b>2,600</b>
Specialty Trade Contractors	31,200	31,100	30,400	100	800
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>166,400</b>	<b>166,200</b>	<b>160,200</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>6,200</b>
Durable Goods	82,100	82,100	76,600	0	5,500
Nondurable Goods	84,300	84,100	83,600	200	700
Service Providing	952,400	935,500	945,500	16,900	6,900
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>230,700</b>	<b>230,500</b>	<b>232,200</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>-1,500</b>
Wholesale Trade	49,200	49,200	46,600	0	2,600
Retail Trade	127,300	125,900	129,000	1,400	-1,700
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	54,200	55,400	56,600	-1,200	-2,400
<b>Information</b>	<b>15,100</b>	<b>15,100</b>	<b>15,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-500</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>51,100</b>	<b>50,500</b>	<b>50,200</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>900</b>
Finance & Insurance	37,200	36,500	36,500	700	700
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	13,900	14,000	13,700	-100	200
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>115,600</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>114,700</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>900</b>
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	37,200	35,600	37,000	1,600	200
Management of Companies	27,400	26,200	26,200	1,200	1,200
Administrative & Support Services	51,000	48,200	51,500	2,800	-500
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>172,500</b>	<b>170,400</b>	<b>165,500</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>7,000</b>
Health Care & Social Assistance	157,100	156,700	150,900	400	6,200
Ambulatory Health Care	46,600	46,400	45,700	200	900
Social Assistance	34,900	34,500	32,700	400	2,200
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>100,800</b>	<b>98,000</b>	<b>101,100</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>-300</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	9,400	9,800	9,500	-400	-100
Accommodation & Food Services	91,400	88,200	91,600	3,200	-200
Accommodation Services	10,800	10,900	11,600	-100	-800
Food Services	80,600	77,300	80,000	3,300	600
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>47,900</b>	<b>46,400</b>	<b>44,900</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>3,000</b>
Repair and Maintenance	8,400	8,500	8,800	-100	-400
<b>Government</b>	<b>218,700</b>	<b>214,600</b>	<b>221,300</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>-2,600</b>
Federal Government	21,500	21,500	21,600	0	-100
State Government	74,500	73,600	78,100	900	-3,600
Local Government	122,700	119,500	121,600	3,200	1,100

Source: Monthly Survey of Employers.

Estimates are based on the first quarter 2009 benchmark.

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

Data for the Metropolitan Statistical Areas and minorities and youth will be available December 7, 2010, on the Discover Arkansas website: [www.discover.arkansas.gov](http://www.discover.arkansas.gov).