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## UPDATED

### **Employers Continue to Add Jobs As Unemployment Falls to Lowest Number Since June 2009**

BATON ROUGE – Louisiana added 3,400 nonfarm jobs from October to November and 46,700 over the year, according to seasonally adjusted data announced today by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

The number of unemployed in Louisiana dropped to 140,690 in November, the lowest level since June 2009. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 6.9 percent, which was tied with Maryland for both the 15th lowest in the country and third lowest in the South. Louisiana and Texas are the only two states in the southern region that have surpassed their pre-recession nonfarm employment levels.

“All indicators are moving in the right direction, as more people are working and fewer are unemployed. Louisiana has been adding jobs for well over a year, spurred by growth in private sector employment,” LWC Executive Director Curt Eysink said. “Clearly, employers have recognized that Louisiana is a great place to do business.”

The state added 47,300 private sector jobs over the year and 2,900 over the month. The seasonally adjusted total number of jobs reached 1,936,800 in November. Nonfarm data is estimated from a survey of employers conducted by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. The survey shows 14 consecutive months of over-the-year gains in private sector jobs.

The year-over-year growth in nonfarm jobs was spread broadly across industry sectors: education and health services, 292,200, up 18,600 jobs; manufacturing, 144,700, up 6,900; leisure and hospitality, 201,400, up 5,100; financial activities, 97,700, up 4,900; trade, transportation, and utilities, 371,200, up 4,700; mining and logging, 55,300, up 3,200; professional and business services, 195,900, up 2,800; construction, 123,900, up 2,400 jobs; and information, 28,600, up 600 since November 2010. Industry sectors with annual job declines were: other services, 64,800, down 1,900; and government, 361,100, down 600.

A separate BLS survey of households is used to estimate Louisiana’s civilian labor force and unemployment rate. It shows Louisiana’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November 2011 was 6.9 percent, down from the October 2011 revised rate of 7.0 percent and below the year-ago figure of 7.7 percent. The unemployment rate for the United States was 8.6 percent. Seasonally adjusted data are used to compare states and to compare states to the nation.

The state’s civilian labor force – the number of people working or looking for work – for November was 2,047,971, up from the October revised figure of 2,042,928. The number of employed in November was 1,907,281, up 6,668 from 1,900,613 in October.

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### **Not Seasonally Adjusted Data – Local Area Data**

Not seasonally adjusted data are used to compare areas within the state to each other and to the state as a whole. The not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment in Louisiana grew by 6,300 from October to November and by 46,700 over the year. Retail trade added the most jobs over the month as businesses prepared for the holiday season with an increase of 5,100 workers. Health care and social assistance added 17,200 jobs over the year.

Seven of the eight metropolitan statistical areas showed nonfarm job gains over the month with the Shreveport MSA adding 2,200 jobs followed by Baton Rouge with an increase of 1,500, and New Orleans, with a gain of 1,400 workers. Every metro area added nonfarm jobs over the year with the New Orleans MSA up 9,000 jobs; Lafayette, increased 4,800; Houma, up 3,100; Lake Charles, up 3,000; Shreveport, up 2,000; Alexandria added 700 workers; Baton Rouge gained 500; and the Monroe MSA increased 400 jobs.

“Each month gives us more reason to be happy about the direction our state is heading,” Eysink said.

Louisiana’s unadjusted unemployment rate was its lowest since November 2009, dropping to 6.5 percent in November. The revised October rate was 7.1 percent and the November year-ago rate was 7.3 percent. Every MSA’s unemployment rate improved over the month:

- Alexandria, 6.2 percent, down from 6.8 percent
- Baton Rouge, 6.6 percent, down from 7.1 percent
- Houma, 4.5 percent, down from 4.9 percent
- Lafayette, 4.9 percent, down from 5.3 percent
- Lake Charles, 5.9 percent, down from 6.4 percent
- Monroe, 6.9 percent, down from 7.5 percent
- New Orleans, 6.5 percent, down from 7.1 percent
- Shreveport, 6.0 percent, down from 6.6 percent

For more detailed information on November 2011 employment data for Louisiana, visit our website at [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net) and select Labor Market Information from the top right-hand menu. Then select Monthly Employment Bulletin – Workforce At A Glance or Monthly Employment Statistics Press Release for the latest monthly nonfarm and labor force data.

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## CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Area	Preliminary November 2011			Revised October 2011			Revised November 2010		
	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>141,070,000</b>	<b>12,613,000</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>140,987,000</b>	<b>13,102,000</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>139,415,000</b>	<b>14,282,000</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>LOUISIANA</b>	<b>1,922,460</b>	<b>133,068</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>1,912,548</b>	<b>145,359</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>1,937,401</b>	<b>153,117</b>	<b>7.3</b>
<b>ALEXANDRIA MSA</b>	<b>64,906</b>	<b>4,319</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>63,977</b>	<b>4,692</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>65,322</b>	<b>4,877</b>	<b>6.9</b>
Grant	8,123	590	6.8	8,007	565	6.6	8,175	673	7.6
Rapides	56,783	3,729	6.2	55,970	4,127	6.9	57,147	4,204	6.9
<b>BATON ROUGE MSA</b>	<b>345,351</b>	<b>24,265</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>345,124</b>	<b>26,388</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>352,684</b>	<b>28,175</b>	<b>7.4</b>
Ascension	47,276	2,883	5.7	47,245	3,135	6.2	48,280	3,415	6.6
East Baton Rouge	199,469	13,620	6.4	199,338	15,069	7.0	203,704	15,850	7.2
East Feliciana	7,336	647	8.1	7,332	668	8.4	7,492	745	9.0
Iberville	10,975	1,225	10.0	10,968	1,247	10.2	11,208	1,321	10.5
Livingston	54,000	3,492	6.1	53,965	3,727	6.5	55,147	4,150	7.0
Pointe Coupee	8,639	746	7.9	8,634	792	8.4	8,823	860	8.9
St. Helena	3,681	510	12.2	3,679	531	12.6	3,759	557	12.9
West Baton Rouge	9,694	791	7.5	9,688	814	7.8	9,900	905	8.4
West Feliciana	4,280	352	7.6	4,277	404	8.6	4,371	371	7.8
<b>HOUMA-BAYOU CANE- THIBODAUX MSA</b>	<b>100,286</b>	<b>4,690</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>99,347</b>	<b>5,133</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>99,227</b>	<b>5,512</b>	<b>5.3</b>
Lafourche	47,354	2,207	4.5	46,911	2,380	4.8	46,854	2,511	5.1
Terrebonne	52,932	2,483	4.5	52,436	2,753	5.0	52,373	3,001	5.4
<b>LAFAYETTE MSA</b>	<b>131,076</b>	<b>6,724</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>130,933</b>	<b>7,375</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>129,078</b>	<b>8,062</b>	<b>5.9</b>
Lafayette	108,386	5,352	4.7	108,268	5,864	5.1	106,734	6,410	5.7
St. Martin	22,690	1,372	5.7	22,665	1,511	6.3	22,344	1,652	6.9
<b>LAKE CHARLES MSA</b>	<b>88,789</b>	<b>5,610</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>88,101</b>	<b>6,056</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>87,850</b>	<b>6,516</b>	<b>6.9</b>
Calcasieu	85,871	5,444	6.0	85,205	5,898	6.5	84,963	6,331	6.9
Cameron	2,918	166	5.4	2,896	158	5.2	2,887	185	6.0
<b>MONROE MSA</b>	<b>74,258</b>	<b>5,508</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>73,507</b>	<b>5,971</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>75,059</b>	<b>6,249</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Ouachita	65,187	4,810	6.9	64,528	5,249	7.5	65,890	5,384	7.6
Union	9,071	698	7.1	8,979	722	7.4	9,169	865	8.6
<b>NEW ORLEANS-METAIRIE- KENNER MSA</b>	<b>506,017</b>	<b>35,215</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>505,134</b>	<b>38,778</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>507,660</b>	<b>40,028</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Jefferson	200,481	12,965	6.1	200,131	14,204	6.6	201,132	14,700	6.8
New Orleans City/Orleans	136,077	11,618	7.9	135,839	12,999	8.7	136,519	13,342	8.9
Plaquemines	7,556	534	6.6	7,543	538	6.7	7,581	579	7.1
St. Bernard	17,177	1,165	6.4	17,147	1,302	7.1	17,233	1,354	7.3
St. Charles	22,490	1,479	6.2	22,451	1,640	6.8	22,563	1,586	6.6
St. John Baptist	18,942	1,656	8.0	18,909	1,795	8.7	19,003	2,060	9.8
St. Tammany	103,294	5,797	5.3	103,114	6,301	5.8	103,630	6,408	5.8
<b>SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER CITY MSA</b>	<b>173,962</b>	<b>11,163</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>171,505</b>	<b>12,188</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>172,902</b>	<b>12,692</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Bossier	51,597	2,843	5.2	50,868	3,121	5.8	51,283	3,214	5.9
Caddo	111,698	7,608	6.4	110,120	8,275	7.0	111,017	8,593	7.2
De Soto	10,667	712	6.3	10,516	793	7.0	10,602	885	7.7

## CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Area	Preliminary November 2011			Revised October 2011			Revised November 2010		
	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
<b>NON-MSA PARISHES</b>									
Acadia (Crowley) <sup>1</sup>	23,989	1,411	5.6	23,781	1,550	6.1	24,459	1,691	6.5
Allen	7,994	772	8.8	7,985	821	9.3	7,999	857	9.7
Assumption (Pierre Part) <sup>1</sup>	9,237	920	9.1	9,197	1,021	10.0	9,371	1,061	10.2
Avoyelles	14,991	1,193	7.4	14,849	1,264	7.8	15,505	1,342	8.0
Beauregard (DeRidder) <sup>1</sup>	13,265	975	6.8	13,134	1,164	8.1	13,642	1,061	7.2
Bienville	5,872	520	8.1	5,800	537	8.5	6,052	558	8.4
Caldwell	4,083	342	7.7	4,097	367	8.2	4,172	409	8.9
Catahoula	3,843	356	8.5	3,781	376	9.0	3,910	440	10.1
Claiborne	6,028	505	7.7	6,051	559	8.5	6,169	574	8.5
Concordia (Natchez, MS-LA) <sup>1</sup>	6,293	653	9.4	6,236	755	10.8	6,647	711	9.7
East Carroll	2,300	367	13.8	2,316	389	14.4	2,547	461	15.3
Evangeline	11,695	938	7.4	11,660	1,004	7.9	11,674	1,089	8.5
Franklin	6,601	740	10.1	6,483	776	10.7	7,010	853	10.8
Iberia (New Iberia) <sup>1</sup>	30,753	2,080	6.3	30,763	2,273	6.9	31,105	2,461	7.3
Jackson (Ruston) <sup>1</sup>	5,887	481	7.6	5,863	533	8.3	6,152	431	6.5
Jefferson Davis (Jennings) <sup>1</sup>	13,404	767	5.4	13,235	835	5.9	13,772	910	6.2
La Salle	6,660	343	4.9	6,573	375	5.4	6,502	402	5.8
Lincoln (Ruston) <sup>1</sup>	17,485	1,445	7.6	17,413	1,584	8.3	18,271	1,662	8.3
Madison (Tallulah) <sup>1</sup>	3,851	416	9.7	3,864	438	10.2	4,150	474	10.3
Morehouse (Bastrop) <sup>1</sup>	9,642	1,417	12.8	9,543	1,344	12.3	9,818	1,562	13.7
Natchitoches (Natchitoches) <sup>1</sup>	15,736	1,319	7.7	15,555	1,351	8.0	16,167	1,410	8.0
Red River	3,484	274	7.3	3,459	284	7.6	3,420	332	8.8
Richland	8,062	785	8.9	8,088	818	9.2	8,455	940	10.0
Sabine	8,932	567	6.0	8,833	625	6.6	9,032	654	6.8
St. James	8,111	947	10.5	8,192	1,021	11.1	8,500	1,066	11.1
St. Landry (Opelousas, Eunice) <sup>1</sup>	34,882	2,694	7.2	34,522	2,929	7.8	35,534	3,124	8.1
St. Mary (Morgan City) <sup>1</sup>	20,578	1,742	7.8	20,713	1,882	8.3	21,085	2,065	8.9
Tangipahoa (Hammond) <sup>1</sup>	48,627	4,024	7.6	47,965	4,403	8.4	49,533	4,736	8.7
Tensas	1,607	226	12.3	1,607	240	13.0	1,716	297	14.8
Vermilion (Abbeville) <sup>1</sup>	22,338	1,380	5.8	22,227	1,454	6.1	22,597	1,650	6.8
Vernon (Fort Polk South) <sup>1</sup>	20,131	1,293	6.0	20,067	1,813	8.3	19,717	1,427	6.7
Washington (Bogalusa) <sup>1</sup>	13,726	1,324	8.8	13,519	1,449	9.7	14,178	1,507	9.6
Webster (Minden) <sup>1</sup>	18,141	1,329	6.8	17,969	1,484	7.6	18,667	1,609	7.9
West Carroll	3,519	544	13.4	3,551	559	13.6	3,730	631	14.5
Winn	6,069	483	7.4	6,027	501	7.7	6,359	546	7.9

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the eight (8) Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in Louisiana, there are seventeen (17) Micropolitan Statistical Areas (MCs): Jackson and Lincoln Parishes combine to constitute the Ruston MC area. Civilian Labor Force can be derived by adding employed and unemployed. For related information or data, please visit:

[www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm).