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N E W S R E L E A S E

Unemployment rates decline in all metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs)

BATON ROUGE – Louisiana’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November dropped to 4.2 percent. Compared to the same time last year, Louisiana’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is 1.2 percent lower. April 2008 was the last time the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was lower than this.

Not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased by 4,900 jobs to 1,997,200 for November. From the same time last year, 14,800 jobs were added.

Not seasonally adjusted private-sector employment increased to 1,671,400 from October 2017’s figure of 1,668,200. From November 2016, 19,200 private-sector jobs have been added. Monthly data that is not seasonally adjusted does not minimize the changes in any time series which result from normal annual occurrences such as Christmas, summer vacations and weather patterns.

The not seasonally adjusted civilian labor force increased by 10,405 to 2,109,462. This figure represents the number of people who are employed, in addition to those looking for work. July 2017 was the last time the not-seasonally adjusted civilian labor force was higher.

“We’ve observed measurable improvement in the state’s employment outlook over the year, including declines in the unemployment rates across all metro areas compared to 2016,” said Ava Dejoie, Executive Director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission. “These figures reflect the persistence of Louisiana’s job seekers in pursuing gainful employment, and we hope to further restore confidence in our labor force in the coming year.”

The number of not-seasonally adjusted employed individuals increased by 10,989 to 2,020,389 from October 2017. This is the highest not-seasonally adjusted employment has been in 24 months.

Unemployment rates declined in all LA metro areas over-the-year for the third consecutive month. Not-seasonally adjusted November unemployment rates for the nine metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) are as follows:

- Alexandria: 4.6 percent, unchanged October, but down from 5.7 percent in November 2016.
- Baton Rouge: 3.7 percent, unchanged from October, but down from 4.7 percent in November 2016.
- Hammond: 4.6 percent, up from 4.5 percent in October and down from 5.9 percent in November 2016.
- Houma: 4.4 percent, unchanged from October and down from 6.1 percent in November 2016.
- Lafayette: 4.5 percent, down from 4.6 percent in October and down from 6.3 percent in November 2016.
- Lake Charles: 3.4 percent, up from 3.3 percent in October and down from 4.2 percent in November 2016.

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- Monroe: 4.3 percent, down from 4.4 percent in October and down from 5.6 percent in November 2016.
- New Orleans: 4.0 percent, down from 4.1 percent in October and down from 4.9 percent in November 2016.
- Shreveport: 4.6 percent, down from 4.7 percent in October and down from 5.9 percent in November 2016.

To view all available employment data, visit Louisiana's employment homepage at www.laworks.net and select Labor Market Information from the top-right menu.

•To view the rest of the monthly data please reference Workforce At A Glance <http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/LMI>

•To access historical and other LMI data please reference LOIS (Louisiana Occupational Information System) <https://www.louisianaworks.net/hire/altentry.asp?action=lmiguest>

About the Louisiana Workforce Commission

The Louisiana Workforce Commission is an agency of state government that administers programs designed to enhance workforce growth and provide family-sustaining jobs for Louisiana residents. The commission monitors employment, administers unemployment compensation and tax funds, provides training resources for employers and employees and oversees worker compensation benefits. The agency also gathers and supplies information on the labor market and occupational sectors in Louisiana.

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Louisiana Civilian Labor Force Not Seasonally Adjusted

Area	November 2017			October 2017			November 2016		
	Employed	Unemp	Rate	Employed	Unemp	Rate	Employed	Unemp	Rate
Louisiana	2,020,389	89,073	4.2	2,009,400	89,657	4.3	1,990,041	114,387	5.4
Alexandria, LA MSA	61,699	2,972	4.6	61,408	2,978	4.6	61,471	3,734	5.7
Grant Parish, LA	7,775	416	5.1	7,737	385	4.7	7,742	508	6.2
Rapides Parish, LA	53,924	2,556	4.5	53,671	2,593	4.6	53,729	3,226	5.7
Baton Rouge, LA MSA	410,003	15,541	3.7	406,982	15,532	3.7	397,805	19,751	4.7
Ascension Parish, LA	60,351	2,210	3.5	59,905	2,199	3.5	58,545	2,729	4.5
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA	229,338	8,485	3.6	227,634	8,472	3.6	222,445	10,852	4.7
East Feliciana Parish, LA	7,939	342	4.1	7,881	324	3.9	7,705	402	5.0
Iberville Parish, LA	13,679	733	5.1	13,584	761	5.3	13,300	830	5.9
Livingston Parish, LA	66,693	2,359	3.4	66,201	2,320	3.4	64,716	3,221	4.7
Pointe Coupee Parish, LA	9,617	460	4.6	9,553	477	4.8	9,365	583	5.9
St. Helena Parish, LA	4,225	247	5.5	4,195	251	5.6	4,104	296	6.7
West Baton Rouge Parish, LA	12,920	516	3.8	12,824	536	4.0	12,530	612	4.7
West Feliciana Parish, LA	5,241	189	3.5	5,205	192	3.6	5,095	226	4.2
Hammond, LA MSA	52,010	2,489	4.6	51,715	2,452	4.5	50,986	3,176	5.9
Tangipahoa Parish, LA	52,010	2,489	4.6	51,715	2,452	4.5	50,986	3,176	5.9
Houma-Thibodaux, LA MSA	84,120	3,868	4.4	83,729	3,890	4.4	84,236	5,461	6.1
Lafourche Parish, LA	39,571	1,754	4.2	39,380	1,736	4.2	39,594	2,427	5.8
Terrebonne Parish, LA	44,549	2,114	4.5	44,349	2,154	4.6	44,642	3,034	6.4
Lafayette, LA MSA	200,828	9,436	4.5	199,510	9,614	4.6	197,778	13,310	6.3
Acadia Parish, LA	22,491	1,167	4.9	22,359	1,182	5.0	22,215	1,575	6.6
Iberia Parish, LA	27,485	1,599	5.5	27,310	1,654	5.7	27,093	2,450	8.3
Lafayette Parish, LA	107,127	4,468	4.0	106,398	4,501	4.1	105,380	6,136	5.5
St. Martin Parish, LA	21,059	1,080	4.9	20,927	1,120	5.1	20,773	1,525	6.8
Vermilion Parish, LA	22,666	1,122	4.7	22,516	1,157	4.9	22,317	1,624	6.8
Lake Charles, LA MSA	110,218	3,829	3.4	109,511	3,778	3.3	104,566	4,576	4.2
Calcasieu Parish, LA	106,271	3,703	3.4	105,589	3,652	3.3	100,818	4,432	4.2
Cameron Parish, LA	3,947	126	3.1	3,922	126	3.1	3,748	144	3.7
Monroe, LA MSA	78,028	3,527	4.3	77,608	3,541	4.4	76,423	4,502	5.6
Ouachita Parish, LA	69,242	3,110	4.3	68,863	3,114	4.3	67,784	3,958	5.5
Union Parish, LA	8,786	417	4.5	8,745	427	4.7	8,639	544	5.9
New Orleans-Metairie, LA MSA	572,550	23,754	4.0	569,834	24,192	4.1	567,321	29,289	4.9
Jefferson Parish, LA	208,467	8,148	3.8	207,480	8,368	3.9	206,580	10,172	4.7
Orleans Parish, LA	171,553	7,704	4.3	170,727	7,915	4.4	169,933	9,381	5.2
Plaquemines Parish, LA	9,692	403	4.0	9,656	400	4.0	9,644	506	5.0
St. Bernard Parish, LA	18,500	852	4.4	18,414	872	4.5	18,338	1,057	5.4
St. Charles Parish, LA	24,328	947	3.7	24,215	933	3.7	24,115	1,175	4.6
St. James Parish, LA	9,008	516	5.4	8,970	521	5.5	8,945	600	6.3
St. John the Baptist Parish, LA	19,007	990	5.0	18,919	1,020	5.1	18,844	1,182	5.9
St. Tammany Parish, LA	111,995	4,194	3.6	111,453	4,163	3.6	110,922	5,216	4.5
Shreveport-Bossier City, LA MSA	177,420	8,584	4.6	176,573	8,739	4.7	177,494	11,080	5.9
Bossier Parish, LA	53,578	2,154	3.9	53,324	2,143	3.9	53,608	2,781	4.9
Caddo Parish, LA	100,067	5,087	4.8	99,583	5,198	5.0	100,081	6,456	6.1
De Soto Parish, LA	9,915	528	5.1	9,871	554	5.3	9,934	714	6.7
Webster Parish, LA	13,860	815	5.6	13,795	844	5.8	13,871	1,129	7.5

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Allen Parish, LA	8,656	425	4.7	8,646	407	4.5	8,410	508	5.7
Assumption Parish, LA	8,387	544	6.1	8,358	545	6.1	8,258	677	7.6
Avoyelles Parish, LA	15,018	772	4.9	15,005	752	4.8	14,511	953	6.2
Beauregard (DeRidder, MC)	14,166	643	4.3	14,134	622	4.2	14,240	821	5.5
Bienville Parish, LA	5,340	291	5.2	5,311	284	5.1	5,173	374	6.7
Caldwell Parish, LA	3,698	183	4.7	3,685	181	4.7	3,678	257	6.5
Catahoula Parish, LA	3,182	189	5.6	3,188	197	5.8	3,018	253	7.7
Claiborne Parish, LA	5,413	260	4.6	5,403	260	4.6	5,513	351	6.0
Concordia Parish (Natchez MS-LA, MC)	6,596	450	6.4	6,574	467	6.6	6,582	533	7.5
East Carroll Parish, LA	1,804	182	9.2	1,816	188	9.4	1,870	215	10.3
Evangeline Parish, LA	11,883	622	5.0	11,866	622	5.0	11,594	809	6.5
Franklin Parish, LA	6,682	451	6.3	6,665	424	6.0	6,505	553	7.8
Jackson Parish, LA	6,588	262	3.8	6,530	263	3.9	6,601	341	4.9
Jefferson Davis Parish, LA	12,983	573	4.2	12,986	555	4.1	12,812	714	5.3
La Salle Parish, LA	5,959	245	3.9	5,916	234	3.8	5,820	323	5.3
Lincoln Parish (Ruston, MC)	19,620	959	4.7	19,499	899	4.4	19,511	1,180	5.7
Madison Parish, LA	3,426	256	7.0	3,426	264	7.2	3,396	285	7.7
Morehouse (Bastrop, MC)	9,709	655	6.3	9,697	662	6.4	9,537	907	8.7
Natchitoches (Natchitoches, MC)	15,039	817	5.2	14,980	807	5.1	14,769	1,007	6.4
Red River Parish, LA	3,588	176	4.7	3,593	182	4.8	3,494	220	5.9
Richland Parish, LA	7,894	419	5.0	7,874	390	4.7	7,740	512	6.2
Sabine Parish, LA	8,132	421	4.9	8,139	406	4.8	8,402	542	6.1
St. Landry (Opelousas, MC)	29,829	1,724	5.5	29,669	1,728	5.5	29,631	2,255	7.1
St. Mary (Morgan City, MC)	18,592	1,245	6.3	18,573	1,331	6.7	19,742	1,815	8.4
Tensas Parish, LA	1,382	97	6.6	1,416	93	6.2	1,440	128	8.2
Vernon (Fort Polk South, MC)	15,409	849	5.2	15,238	824	5.1	15,656	1,161	6.9
Washington (Bogalusa, MC)	16,357	803	4.7	16,183	811	4.8	15,723	1,021	6.1
West Carroll Parish, LA	3,573	295	7.6	3,555	277	7.2	3,635	422	10.4
Winn Parish, LA	4,605	266	5.5	4,605	264	5.4	4,703	364	7.2
Louisiana, Seasonally Adjusted	2,000,413	98,184	4.7	1,986,809	100,204	4.8	1,975,801	126,841	6.0