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N E W S R E L E A S E

**Not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate down full percentage point;
unemployment in all metro areas down**

BATON ROUGE – Louisiana’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October dropped to 4.3 percent. This figure is a full percentage point lower from September’s rate of 5.3 percent. Compared to the same time last year, Louisiana’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is 1.6 percent lower. May 2008 was the last time the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was this low.

Not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased to 1,992,000 for October. Not seasonally adjusted private-sector employment increased to 1,667,900 for October. 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 to 2,009,107. This figure represents the number of people who are employed, in addition to those looking for work.

“Non-seasonally adjusted data shows that Louisiana gained more than 11,000 jobs,” said Ava Dejoie, Executive Director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

Unemployment rates declined in all LA metro areas for the 2nd straight month. Not-seasonally adjusted October unemployment rates for the nine metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) are as follows:

- Alexandria: 4.6 percent, down from 5.8 percent in September and down from 6.1 percent in October 2016.
- Baton Rouge: 3.7 percent, down from 4.5 percent in September and down from 5.1 percent in October 2016.
- Hammond: 4.5 percent, down from 5.8 percent in September and down from 6.3 percent in October 2016.
- Houma: 4.5 percent, down from 5.5 percent in September and down from 6.6 percent in October 2016.
- Lafayette: 4.6 percent, down from 5.6 percent in September and down from 6.9 percent in October 2016.
- Lake Charles: 3.3 percent, down from 4.2 percent in September and down from 4.5 percent in October 2016.
- Monroe: 4.4 percent, down from 5.4 percent in September and down from 5.9 percent in October 2016.
- New Orleans: 4.1 percent, down from 5.0 percent in September and down from 5.4 percent in October 2016.
- Shreveport: 4.7 percent, down from 5.6 percent in September and down from 6.4 percent in October 2016.

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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	October 2017			September 2017			October 2016		
	Employed	Unemp	Rate	Employed	Unemp	Rate	Employed	Unemp	Rate
Louisiana	2,009,107	89,835	4.3	1,980,007	110,115	5.3	1,993,994	124,482	5.9
Alexandria, LA MSA	61,295	2,983	4.6	60,447	3,704	5.8	61,510	3,997	6.1
Grant Parish, LA	7,723	385	4.7	7,607	499	6.2	7,741	534	6.5
Rapides Parish, LA	53,572	2,598	4.6	52,840	3,205	5.7	53,769	3,463	6.1
Baton Rouge, LA MSA	406,443	15,558	3.7	400,817	19,067	4.5	400,648	21,533	5.1
Ascension Parish, LA	59,825	2,204	3.6	58,999	2,714	4.4	58,987	2,916	4.7
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA	227,333	8,487	3.6	224,160	10,406	4.4	224,159	11,808	5.0
East Feliciana Parish, LA	7,870	325	4.0	7,755	406	5.0	7,750	439	5.4
Iberville Parish, LA	13,566	762	5.3	13,412	879	6.2	13,365	898	6.3
Livingston Parish, LA	66,114	2,322	3.4	65,174	2,905	4.3	65,142	3,580	5.2
Pointe Coupee Parish, LA	9,540	478	4.8	9,423	571	5.7	9,373	629	6.3
St. Helena Parish, LA	4,189	251	5.7	4,133	296	6.7	4,124	340	7.6
West Baton Rouge Parish, LA	12,807	537	4.0	12,630	650	4.9	12,632	675	5.1
West Feliciana Parish, LA	5,199	192	3.6	5,131	240	4.5	5,116	248	4.6
Hammond, LA MSA	51,830	2,458	4.5	50,944	3,151	5.8	50,919	3,424	6.3
Tangipahoa Parish, LA	51,830	2,458	4.5	50,944	3,151	5.8	50,919	3,424	6.3
Houma-Thibodaux, LA MSA	83,642	3,898	4.5	82,597	4,814	5.5	84,524	6,000	6.6
Lafourche Parish, LA	39,339	1,739	4.2	38,811	2,155	5.3	39,755	2,656	6.3
Terrebonne Parish, LA	44,303	2,159	4.6	43,786	2,659	5.7	44,769	3,344	7.0
Lafayette, LA MSA	199,242	9,633	4.6	196,426	11,642	5.6	198,301	14,615	6.9
Acadia Parish, LA	22,329	1,184	5.0	22,082	1,447	6.1	22,197	1,739	7.3
Iberia Parish, LA	27,274	1,658	5.7	26,892	1,973	6.8	27,098	2,688	9.0
Lafayette Parish, LA	106,255	4,510	4.1	104,652	5,499	5.0	105,842	6,732	6.0
St. Martin Parish, LA	20,898	1,122	5.1	20,667	1,357	6.2	20,827	1,689	7.5
Vermilion Parish, LA	22,486	1,159	4.9	22,133	1,366	5.8	22,337	1,767	7.3
Lake Charles, LA MSA	109,362	3,787	3.3	107,002	4,717	4.2	104,717	4,926	4.5
Calcasieu Parish, LA	105,445	3,661	3.4	103,165	4,559	4.2	100,969	4,764	4.5
Cameron Parish, LA	3,917	126	3.1	3,837	158	4.0	3,748	162	4.1
Monroe, LA MSA	77,453	3,546	4.4	75,819	4,297	5.4	76,530	4,807	5.9
Ouachita Parish, LA	68,725	3,118	4.3	67,247	3,783	5.3	67,929	4,235	5.9
Union Parish, LA	8,728	428	4.7	8,572	514	5.7	8,601	572	6.2
New Orleans-Metairie, LA MSA	571,148	24,240	4.1	562,233	29,735	5.0	567,701	32,129	5.4
Jefferson Parish, LA	207,963	8,383	3.9	204,783	10,258	4.8	206,782	11,184	5.1
Orleans Parish, LA	171,120	7,936	4.4	168,382	9,676	5.4	170,083	10,362	5.7
Plaquemines Parish, LA	9,677	401	4.0	9,564	479	4.8	9,594	549	5.4
St. Bernard Parish, LA	18,455	875	4.5	18,158	1,078	5.6	18,316	1,172	6.0
St. Charles Parish, LA	24,272	934	3.7	23,908	1,177	4.7	24,135	1,293	5.1
St. James Parish, LA	8,991	522	5.5	8,877	638	6.7	8,942	656	6.8
St. John the Baptist Parish, LA	18,963	1,021	5.1	18,691	1,243	6.2	18,868	1,273	6.3
St. Tammany Parish, LA	111,707	4,168	3.6	109,870	5,186	4.5	110,981	5,640	4.8
Shreveport-Bossier City, LA MSA	176,388	8,750	4.7	174,747	10,457	5.6	177,702	12,092	6.4
Bossier Parish, LA	53,268	2,147	3.9	52,783	2,586	4.7	53,664	3,049	5.4
Caddo Parish, LA	99,478	5,203	5.0	98,522	6,209	5.9	100,225	7,043	6.6
De Soto Parish, LA	9,861	553	5.3	9,783	657	6.3	9,929	762	7.1
Webster Parish, LA	13,781	847	5.8	13,659	1,005	6.9	13,884	1,238	8.2

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	Employed	Unemp	Rate	Employed	Unemp	Rate	Employed	Unemp	Rate
Allen Parish, LA	8,639	408	4.5	8,486	489	5.4	8,425	555	6.2
Assumption Parish, LA	8,350	546	6.1	8,247	674	7.6	8,253	747	8.3
Avoyelles Parish, LA	14,990	753	4.8	14,797	951	6.0	14,508	1,021	6.6
Beauregard (DeRidder, MC)	14,122	624	4.2	13,767	816	5.6	14,251	834	5.5
Bienville Parish, LA	5,306	284	5.1	5,268	350	6.2	5,146	413	7.4
Caldwell Parish, LA	3,681	180	4.7	3,647	204	5.3	3,672	282	7.1
Catahoula Parish, LA	3,186	197	5.8	3,163	241	7.1	3,001	277	8.5
Claiborne Parish, LA	5,398	260	4.6	5,369	311	5.5	5,518	390	6.6
Concordia Parish (Natchez MS-LA, MC)	6,569	467	6.6	6,535	558	7.9	6,548	558	7.9
East Carroll Parish, LA	1,814	188	9.4	1,797	209	10.4	1,867	227	10.8
Evangeline Parish, LA	11,855	624	5.0	11,737	760	6.1	11,606	891	7.1
Franklin Parish, LA	6,660	426	6.0	6,584	536	7.5	6,486	578	8.2
Jackson Parish, LA	6,524	262	3.9	6,505	327	4.8	6,554	385	5.5
Jefferson Davis Parish, LA	12,974	557	4.1	12,737	679	5.1	12,814	788	5.8
La Salle Parish, LA	5,912	234	3.8	5,806	287	4.7	5,817	349	5.7
Lincoln Parish (Ruston, MC)	19,484	900	4.4	18,946	1,118	5.6	19,465	1,214	5.9
Madison Parish, LA	3,423	264	7.2	3,425	297	8.0	3,372	316	8.6
Morehouse (Bastrop, MC)	9,686	663	6.4	9,584	808	7.8	9,551	934	8.9
Natchitoches (Natchitoches, MC)	14,968	809	5.1	14,850	1,022	6.4	14,727	1,059	6.7
Red River Parish, LA	3,591	183	4.8	3,565	223	5.9	3,486	243	6.5
Richland Parish, LA	7,865	391	4.7	7,763	468	5.7	7,721	529	6.4
Sabine Parish, LA	8,133	408	4.8	8,070	495	5.8	8,383	587	6.5
St. Landry (Opelousas, MC)	29,642	1,733	5.5	29,407	2,135	6.8	29,646	2,530	7.9
St. Mary (Morgan City, MC)	18,559	1,335	6.7	18,437	1,576	7.9	19,773	2,019	9.3
Tensas Parish, LA	1,415	95	6.3	1,421	127	8.2	1,428	149	9.4
Vernon (Fort Polk South, MC)	15,227	824	5.1	15,072	1,194	7.3	15,477	1,128	6.8
Washington (Bogalusa, MC)	16,182	817	4.8	15,874	1,016	6.0	15,669	1,121	6.7
West Carroll Parish, LA	3,552	284	7.4	3,559	341	8.7	3,600	448	11.1
Winn Parish, LA	4,601	264	5.4	4,554	320	6.6	4,678	387	7.6
Louisiana, Seasonally Adjusted	1,986,690	100,275	4.8	1,977,592	105,736	5.1	1,977,692	127,783	6.1