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Louisiana's seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment continues to grow with 42 consecutive over-the-year gains

BATON ROUGE, LA – Data released today by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that Louisiana's seasonally adjusted employment figures again increased compared to last year.

The state's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment for September 2024 is 1,958,700 jobs, an increase of 2,000 jobs from the September 2023 figure of 1,956,700. This shows 42 consecutive months with an over-the-year gain in nonfarm employment. Compared to August 2024, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment decreased by 2,300 jobs. The series has seen over-the-month employment gains in 15 of the last 23 months.

Louisiana's seasonally adjusted private sector employment for September 2024 is 1,638,600 jobs, an increase of 100 jobs from the September 2023 figure of 1,638,500 jobs. The series has seen over-the-year employment gains in 41 of the last 42 months. Compared to August 2024, seasonally adjusted private sector employment decreased by 2,000 jobs. The series has seen over-the-month employment gains in 20 of the last 30 months.

"The recent trend of significant over-the-year job gains shows steady progress towards a stronger economy," said Louisiana Workforce Commission Secretary Susana Schowen. "The Louisiana Workforce Commission remains committed to connecting job seekers with quality employment opportunities and supporting businesses in finding the skilled workers they need to thrive."

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September 2024 is 3.9 percent, tied for the third-lowest rate in series history for the month of September. The rate showed no change from the revised August 2024 rate but increased by 0.1 percentage points from the September 2023 rate of 3.8 percent.

The number of seasonally adjusted employed individuals for September 2024 is 1,993,681. The number of seasonally adjusted employed decreased by 2,040 individuals from the revised August 2024 figure of 1,995,721. Compared to September 2023, the number of seasonally adjusted employed individuals decreased by 1,501.

The number of seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals for September 2024 is 81,491. The number of seasonally adjusted unemployed increased by 989 individuals from the revised August 2024 figure of 80,502. Compared to September 2023, the number of seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals increased by 2,251.

Major industries that showed the largest gains for seasonally adjusted jobs over the month:

- Private Education and Health Services gained 4,800 jobs from August 2024.
- Mining and Logging gained 300 jobs from August 2024.

Major industries that showed the largest gains for seasonally adjusted jobs over the year:

- Private Education and Health Services gained 10,500 jobs from September 2023.
- Construction gained 4,600 jobs from September 2023.

Among Louisiana's MSAs in September 2024, seasonally adjusted data shows:

- Alexandria (62,100 jobs) added 200 jobs from August 2024 and gained 500 jobs from September 2023.
- Baton Rouge (418,300 jobs) lost 2,900 jobs from August 2024 and lost 1,000 jobs from September 2023.
- Hammond (49,600 jobs) lost 100 jobs from August 2024, but gained 200 jobs from September 2023.
- Houma (85,800 jobs) lost 200 jobs from August 2024, but gained 1,000 jobs from September 2023.
- Lafayette (205,000 jobs) lost 600 jobs from August 2024, but gained 400 jobs from September 2023.
- Lake Charles (97,000 jobs) showed no change from August 2024, but gained 2,400 jobs from September 2023.
- Monroe (76,800 jobs) lost 100 jobs from August 2024 and lost 1,400 jobs from September 2023.
- New Orleans (564,800 jobs) lost 400 jobs from August 2024, but showed no change from September 2023.
- Shreveport (176,900 jobs) lost 200 jobs from August 2024 and lost 600 jobs from September 2023.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and parish unemployment rates for the month of September will be released on October 29, 2024. For additional state and MSA data release dates, please click [here](#).

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment for September 2024 is 1,954,700, a decrease of 1,200 jobs from the revised August 2024 estimate of 1,955,900 jobs. Compared to September 2023, not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment decreased by 1,000 jobs. This shows over-the-year employment gains in 41 of the last 42 months.

Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted total private employment for September 2024 is 1,634,000, a decrease of 8,800 jobs from the revised August 2024 estimate of 1,642,800 jobs. Compared to September 2023, not seasonally adjusted private sector employment decreased by 2,600 jobs. This shows over-the-year employment gains in 40 of the last 42 months.

Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September 2024 is 4.3 percent. The rate is unchanged from the revised August 2024 rate of 4.3 percent, but shows an increase of 0.4 percentage points from the September 2023 figure of 3.9 percent.

Since August 2024, the number of not seasonally adjusted employed individuals has decreased by 8,640 to 1,981,171 in September 2024. Compared to September 2023, the number of not seasonally adjusted employed individuals decreased by 20,284.

Since August 2024, the number of not seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals has increased by 776 to 89,288 in September 2024. Compared to September 2023, the number of unemployed individuals has increased by 8,569.

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Seasonally Adjusted vs. Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

Jobs and employment trends data are often difficult to understand because there are two different ways to look at the data: seasonally or non-seasonally adjusted data.

Seasonal adjustment measures and removes the influences of predictable seasonal patterns to reveal how employment and unemployment figures change from month to month. Not seasonally adjusted refers to data that have not been adjusted to remove the effects of recurring seasonal influences from economic series such as harvests, major holidays and school schedules.

Seasonally adjusted data is best utilized when comparing several months of employment and job data and for comparisons among states and the nation. The Louisiana Workforce Commission primarily uses seasonally adjusted data to provide a more stable picture of Louisiana's employment situation. Not seasonally adjusted data is best used to compare over-the-year trends.

To view all available employment data, visit [Louisiana's Occupational Information System \(LOIS\)](#). Under "Data and Statistics", select "Labor Force Data" for employed and unemployed. Select "Sectoral Employment" for Current Employment Statistics (CES) program data.

Data Considerations

All data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics is preliminary and is subject to revision on a monthly, quarterly, and annual basis. Revised numbers for previous months are available from the BLS databases on bls.gov. The revised numbers are available upon the release of new data.

About the Louisiana Workforce Commission

The Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) connects workers with employers to build a prosperous Louisiana. Our resources include those at the agency's American Job Centers, job fairs, training programs, apprenticeship opportunities, and numerous other LWC services. For more information, visit <https://www.laworks.net>.