



1001 North 23rd Street
Post Office Box 94094
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9094

(O) 225-342-3035
(F) 225-342-3743
www.laworks.net

Jeff Landry, Governor
Susana Schowen, Secretary

Office of Public Affairs

November 19, 2024
For Immediate Release

Media Contact:
Regine Williams
Public Information Director
(225) 472-5722

Louisiana's job market shows continued growth with 7,700 jobs added in October

BATON ROUGE, LA – Data released today by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that Louisiana's seasonally adjusted employment figures continue to increase over the year.

The state's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment for October 2024 is 1,965,500 jobs, an increase of 7,700 jobs from the September 2024 figure of 1,957,800. The series has seen over-the-month employment gains in 16 of the last 24 months. Compared to October 2023, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment increased by 9,500 jobs. This shows 43 consecutive months with an over-the-year gain in nonfarm employment.

Louisiana's seasonally adjusted total private sector employment for October 2024 is 1,643,100 jobs, an increase of 7,100 jobs from the September 2024 figure of 1,636,000 jobs. The series has seen over-the-month employment gains in 21 of the last 31 months. Compared to October 2023, seasonally adjusted private sector employment increased by 3,900 jobs. The series has seen over-the-year employment gains in 41 of the last 43 months.

"Our state's sustained job growth underscores the positive momentum we're building across Louisiana," said Susana Schowen, Secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission. "By supporting job seekers and partnering with employers in need of skilled talent, we're not only boosting employment but also driving economic development that benefits communities throughout Louisiana."

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October 2024 is 4.1 percent, the fourth-lowest rate in series history for the month of October. The rate increased by 0.2 percentage points from the revised September 2024 rate of 3.9 percent, and increased by 0.1 percentage points from the October 2023 rate of 4.0 percent.

The number of seasonally adjusted employed individuals for October 2024 is 1,987,834. The number of seasonally adjusted employed decreased by 5,813 individuals from the revised September 2024 figure of 1,993,647. Compared to October 2023, the number of seasonally adjusted employed individuals decreased by 6,413.

The number of seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals for October 2024 is 85,172. The number of seasonally adjusted unemployed increased by 3,684 individuals from the revised September 2024 figure of 81,488. Compared to October 2023, the number of seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals increased by 2,438.

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

- Construction gained 3,400 jobs from September 2024.
- Private Education and Health Services gained 2,000 jobs from September 2024.
- Manufacturing gained 800 jobs from September 2024.

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

- Private Education and Health Services gained 10,300 jobs from October 2023.
- Construction gained 8,800 jobs from October 2023.

- Government gained 5,600 jobs from October 2023.

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

- Alexandria (62,000 jobs) showed no change from September 2024, but gained 400 jobs from October 2023.
- Baton Rouge (420,200 jobs) added 1,200 jobs from September 2024 and gained 1,100 jobs from October 2023.
- Hammond (49,700 jobs) showed no change from September 2024, but gained 100 jobs from October 2023.
- Houma (86,600) added 500 jobs from September 2024 and gained 900 jobs from October 2023.
- Lafayette (205,600 jobs) added 300 jobs from September 2024 and gained 800 jobs from October 2023.
- Lake Charles (96,800 jobs) lost 100 jobs from September 2024, but gained 1,100 jobs from October 2023.
- Monroe (76,600 jobs) lost 200 jobs from September 2024 and lost 1,200 jobs from October 2023.
- New Orleans (567,000 jobs) added 2,900 jobs from September 2024 and gained 3,600 jobs from October 2023.
- Shreveport (177,400 jobs) added 300 jobs from September 2024 and gained 100 jobs from October 2023.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and parish unemployment rates for the month of October will be released on November 27, 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 October 2024 is 1,978,000, an increase of 24,000 jobs from the revised September 2024 estimate of 1,954,000 jobs. Compared to October 2023, not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased by 10,600 jobs. This shows over-the-year employment gains in 42 of the last 43 months.

Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted total private employment for October 2024 is 1,650,500, an increase of 19,800 jobs from the revised September 2024 estimate of 1,630,700 jobs. Compared to October 2023, not seasonally adjusted private sector employment increased by 4,300 jobs. This shows over-the-year employment gains in 41 of the last 43 months.

Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October 2024 is 4.5 percent. This shows an increase of 0.2 percentage points from the revised September 2024 rate of 4.3 percent, and an increase of 0.6 percentage points from the October 2023 figure of 3.9 percent.

Since September 2024, the number of not seasonally adjusted employed individuals has decreased by 12,734 to 1,968,255 in October 2024. Compared to October 2023, the number of not seasonally adjusted employed individuals decreased by 33,766.

Since September 2024, the number of not seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals has increased by 4,454 to 93,723 in October 2024. Compared to October 2023, the number of unemployed individuals has increased by 13,185.

###

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) is dedicated to empowering Louisiana's workforce by connecting job seekers with employers and providing valuable resources to support career development and economic growth across the state. Through our network of American Job Centers, job fairs, training programs, apprenticeship opportunities, and other specialized services, LWC is committed to building a skilled workforce ready to meet industry needs. For more information, visit www.laworks.net.