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Louisiana shows strong employment gains in October

BATON ROUGE, LA – Data released today by the Louisiana Workforce Commission shows that 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 total 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 total private sector employment increased by 4,300 jobs. This shows over-the-year employment gains in 41 of the last 43 months.

State and MSA Not Seasonally Adjusted Total Nonfarm Employment					
Area	October 2024	September 2024	October 2023	Over-the-Month Change	Over-the-Year Change
Louisiana	1,978,000	1,954,000	1,967,400	24,000	10,600
Alexandria MSA	62,100	61,700	61,700	400	400
Baton Rouge MSA	423,700	418,400	423,200	5,300	500
Hammond MSA	50,100	49,800	50,000	300	100
Houma MSA	87,100	85,800	86,100	1,300	1,000
Lafayette MSA	206,500	204,100	205,600	2,400	900
Lake Charles MSA	97,400	96,500	96,400	900	1,000
Monroe MSA	77,000	76,300	78,200	700	-1,200
New Orleans MSA	570,000	561,100	565,500	8,900	4,500
Shreveport MSA	177,700	176,300	177,500	1,400	200

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 not seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals has increased by 13,185.

Not seasonally adjusted October 2024 unemployment rates for Louisiana and its nine MSAs are as follows:

State and MSA Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate					
Area	October 2024	September 2024	October 2023	Over-the-Month Change	Over-the-Year Change
Louisiana	4.5	4.3	3.9	0.2	0.6
Alexandria MSA	4.4	4.2	3.8	0.2	0.6
Baton Rouge MSA	4.0	3.8	3.4	0.2	0.6
Hammond MSA	5.2	5.0	4.3	0.2	0.9
Houma MSA	4.2	4.0	3.5	0.2	0.7
Lafayette MSA	4.4	4.2	3.7	0.2	0.7
Lake Charles MSA	4.3	4.0	3.6	0.3	0.7
Monroe MSA	4.9	4.5	4.0	0.4	0.9
New Orleans MSA	4.6	4.4	4.0	0.2	0.6
Shreveport MSA	4.7	4.4	4.1	0.3	0.6

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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.