

Lana Gordon, Interim Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 17, 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Cassie Sparks: 785-296-5000 ext. 2539

Cassie.Sparks@dol.ks.gov

State Adds 2,400 Private Sector Jobs in December

TOPEKA, Kan. –Kansas gained 13,800 nonfarm jobs and 13,200 private sector jobs since December 2011, totaling 1 percent and 1.2 percent respectively.

Since one month ago, the state added 2,400 private sector jobs and lost 700 nonfarm jobs. However, when accounting for seasonal factors, these monthly job numbers amount to significant gains.

“December marks the strongest month of job growth since January and ends 2012 on a strong note,” Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist, said. “This increase made up for the losses in the prior three months, putting the state back on the longer term trend of positive but slow job growth.”

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in December was 5.4 percent, unchanged from last month and down from 6.4 percent in December 2011. The non-adjusted rate in December was 5.3 percent, up from 5.2 percent in November and down from 6 percent one year ago.

Both the civilian labor force and employment increased in December, keeping the seasonally adjusted rate constant. December marks the third consecutive month that the labor force has increased after several months of decreases.

“There are many positive signs in this labor report including the continued increase in employment and the private sector job gains. We hope that the pace of this economic growth accelerates in the new year,” Lana Gordon, Interim Secretary of Labor, said.

Six of the 11 major industries showed job gains since November. Trade, transportation and utilities increased by 3,100 jobs, a 1.2 percent increase. Professional and business services added 2,300 jobs, or 1.4 percent. Financial activities gained 600 jobs, a 0.8 percent increase.

Six of the major industries also reported job gains since one year ago. Professional and business services added 9,700 jobs, an increase of 6.3 percent. Manufacturing gained 3,900 jobs, a 2.4 percent growth, and education and health services added 3,000 jobs or 1.6 percent.

Both initial and continued unemployment insurance claims decreased from one year ago, but increased from November 2012.

The January 2013 Labor Report will be released on March 15. For more information, visit www.dol.ks.gov.

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