

**Embargoed until:  
12:01 a.m., June 17, 2011**

## May 2011 Labor Report

### Highlights

- According to May 2011 estimates, Kansas gained 8,000 nonfarm jobs over the month, a 0.6 percent increase. Private sector jobs increased by 6,400 over the month.
- Over the year, Kansas has lost 7,200 nonfarm jobs, a 0.5 percent decrease. Private sector jobs were down by 400 over the year.
- The May 2011 unemployment rate in Kansas was 6.3 percent, unchanged from April 2011 and down from 6.8 percent in May 2010.
- The May 2011 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.6 percent, down from 6.7 percent in April 2011 and down from 7.1 percent in May 2010.

*Learn about the difference between seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted numbers [here](#).*

- Seven of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over-the-year job gains. These gains were primarily in the following areas:
  - Education and health services gained 2,500 jobs, a 1.4 percent increase. Most of these gains were in health care and social assistance.
  - Manufacturing gained 1,700 jobs, a 1.1 percent increase. These gains were primarily in non-durable goods manufacturing.
  - Construction gained 1,200 jobs, a 2.2 percent increase. These gains were in heavy and civil engineering construction.
- Four of the 11 major industries reported statewide over-the-year job losses. These losses were greatest in the following areas:
  - Government lost 6,800 jobs, a 2.5 percent decrease, due to losses at the federal and state levels.
  - Financial activities lost 3,100 jobs, a 4.4 percent decrease. In this industry, job losses were greatest in insurance carriers and related activities.
  - Information lost 2,600 jobs, an 8.3 percent decrease. These losses were mostly in telecommunications.
- Seven of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over-the-month job gains. These gains were the greatest in the following areas:
  - Construction gained 2,700 jobs, a 5.1 percent increase. These gains were greatest in specialty trade contractors.
  - Trade, transportation and utilities gained 1,900 jobs, a 0.8 percent increase. The gains were greatest in retail trade.
  - Leisure and hospitality gained 1,700 jobs, a 1.5 percent increase, primarily in accommodation and food services.

- Three of the 11 major industries reported statewide over-the-month job losses. These were in:
  - Education and health services lost 600 jobs, a 0.3 percent decline, primarily because of the seasonal decline at private educational institutions.
  - Financial activities lost 300 jobs, a 0.4 percent decrease. The losses were in finance and insurance.
  - Information lost 100 jobs, a 0.3 percent decrease. These losses were in telecommunications.
- There were 18,708 initial claims for unemployment benefits in May 2011, up from 17,296 initial claims in April 2011 and down from 20,200 in May 2010. There were 235,488 continued claims in May 2011, up from 199,138 in April 2011 and down from 264,799 in May 2010. These numbers include Regular, Extended Benefit (EB) and Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) claims. EB and EUC benefits are federally funded through 2011.

The June 2011 Labor Report will be released July 22, 2011.