

Lana Gordon, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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Jobs Report April 2015

TOPEKA, Kan. – The state’s April seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.3 percent, up from 4.2 percent in March and down from 4.5 percent in April 2014.

Seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 11,300 private sector jobs since last year, or 1 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 11,700 jobs, a 0.8 percent increase since April 2014. Since last month, Kansas declined by 2,900 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs, or 0.3 percent. The state lost 2,300 seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs, a 0.2 percent decrease since March.

“The number of jobs in manufacturing has fallen by 3,100 from the same month last year. This decline is partly due to temporary layoffs that took place during the survey reference week,” said Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist. “Also, lower gas prices have led to weakness in the oil and gas drilling industry. These factors combined have resulted in slower overall job growth in Kansas over the year.”

Not seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 9,400 private sector jobs since last year, or 0.8 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 9,300 jobs, a 0.7 percent increase since April 2014. Since March, private sector jobs increased by 9,900, or 0.9 percent. The state gained 9,600 total nonfarm jobs over the month, a 0.7 percent increase.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in April was 4.3 percent, unchanged from March and up from 4.2 percent one year ago.

“The number of individuals claiming unemployment benefits decreased by almost 3,000 over the month,” said Lana Gordon, Secretary of Labor. “This shows that people are able to find work and employers are retaining their workforce.”

There were 12,780 initial claims for unemployment benefits in April 2015, up from 11,170 in March and up from 10,186 in April 2014. There were 74,735 continued claims in April, down from 103,382 the previous month and down from 77,722 in April 2014.

Kansas labor market information for April is available [here](#).

Data provided is preliminary and subject to monthly revisions and annual benchmarks by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information on procedures for producing Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#) and procedures for producing Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE: The May 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, June 19.

Audio clips of the Labor Market Report quotes by Lana Gordon, Secretary of Labor and Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist are available online courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.

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