

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Barbara Hersh

785-296-0901

Barbara.Hersh@dol.ks.gov

Jobs Report March 2015

TOPEKA, Kan. – The state’s March seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent, unchanged from February and down from 4.6 percent in March 2014.

“March was the 12th consecutive month of unemployment rates at or below 4.5 percent, showing a steady economy with high labor force participation from Kansans,” said Lana Gordon, Secretary of Labor.

Seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 16,100 private sector jobs since last year, or 1.4 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 15,400 jobs, a 1.1 percent increase since March 2014. Since last month, Kansas declined by 1,400 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs, or 0.1 percent. The state lost 2,400 seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs, a 0.2 percent decrease since last month.

“Looking at the March preliminary estimates, demand for labor in the state is mixed, employers did report gains over the year in jobs and wages, however those gains are below the estimates reported last month,” said Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist. “The number of average weekly hours worked has been steady over the last 12 months.”

Not seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 13,500 private sector jobs since last year, or 1.2 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 13,900 jobs, a 1 percent increase since March 2014. Since February, private sector jobs increased by 4,500, or 0.4 percent. The state gained 5,700 total nonfarm jobs over the month, a 0.4 percent increase.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in March was 4.4 percent, unchanged from February and down from 5 percent one year ago.

There were 11,170 initial claims for unemployment benefits in March 2015, down from 13,070 in February and up from 9,669 in March 2014. There were 103,382 continued claims in March, up from 97,413 the previous month and down from 108,777 in March 2014. These numbers include all available programs.

Kansas labor market information for March 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 April 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, May 22.

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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