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Sam Brownback, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 19, 2015

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Jobs Report May 2015

TOPEKA, Kan. – The state’s May seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.4 percent, up from 4.3 percent in April and down from 4.5 percent in May 2014.

Seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 8,300 private sector jobs since last year, or 0.7 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 6,500 jobs, a 0.5 percent increase since May 2014. Since last month, Kansas declined by 1,500 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs, or 0.1 percent. The state lost 3,800 seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs, a 0.3 percent decrease since April.

“Preliminary estimates show Kansas lost 3,800 jobs from April to May. Changing seasonal factors led to a decline in student workers at the state universities,” said Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist. “Also, construction activity slowed in May, likely due to above average rainfall during the month. Administrative and support services as well as food services also contributed to the decline over the month.”

Not seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 6,000 private sector jobs since last year, or 0.5 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 4,400 jobs, a 0.3 percent increase since May 2014. Since April, private sector jobs increased by 5,000, or 0.4 percent. The state gained 3,400 total nonfarm jobs over the month, a 0.2 percent increase.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May was 4.5 percent, up from 4.3 percent in April and unchanged from one year ago.

There were 14,120 initial claims for unemployment benefits in May 2015, up from 12,780 in April and up from 12,518 in May 2014. There were 70,450 continued claims in May, down from 74,735 the previous month and down from 76,255 in May 2014.

Kansas labor market information for May 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](#). Procedures for producing Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates are available on the BLS website [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE: The June 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, July 17.

Audio clips of the Labor Market Report quote by Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist is available online courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.

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