

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Labor Market Report August 2016

TOPEKA, Kan. –The state’s August seasonally adjusted [unemployment rate](#) was 4.3 percent. This was up from 4.0 percent in July and up from 4.1 percent in August 2015.

The preliminary seasonally adjusted job estimates from the Kansas Department of Labor and Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate Kansas nonfarm jobs decreased by 2,600 from July. Since last month, Kansas [private sector jobs](#) increased by 600. The largest private sector over the month job decrease was in Accommodation and Food Services.

“The private sector gained 600 jobs over the month, but those gains were offset by declines in government jobs on the state and local levels,” said Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist, Kansas Department of Labor. “Overall the state posted an over the month loss in total nonfarm jobs.”

Over the year, Kansas lost 8,300 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#). Kansas lost 4,200 private sector jobs since August 2015.

Kansas [not seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs](#) decreased by 7,700, a 0.6 percent decrease since August 2015. Kansas lost 3,400 private sector jobs since last year, or 0.3 percent. The state lost 2,800 total not seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs over the month. Since July, private sector jobs decreased by 2,300, or 0.2 percent.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm job estimates for July down by 200 jobs, from 1,395,700 to 1,395,500. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised down by 700 jobs, from 1,140,600 to 1,139,900.

Seasonally adjusted estimates for August show that the state’s labor force declined by 5,300 to 1,484,753. Of those in the labor force, 1,421,035 Kansans were employed and 63,718 were unemployed. This month’s net change in the labor force was attributable to 8,802 fewer Kansans counted as employed and 3,502 more unemployed.

Over the year, the labor force decreased by 14,865 persons, with a decrease of 17,606 in employment and an increase of 2,741 in unemployment.

The [labor force participation rate](#) was 66.8 percent, down from 67.1 percent in July and down from 67.9 percent last August.

Information on procedures for producing Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), e.g., labor force, estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#). Procedures for producing Current Employment Statistics (CES), e.g., nonfarm jobs, estimates are available on the BLS website [here](#).

For more information on the unemployment insurance program including tax and claims data please refer to the [KDOL Unemployment Insurance Weekly Review](#).

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

The September 2016 Labor Report will be released on Friday, October 21.

Audio clip 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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