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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Labor Market Report
February 2017**

TOPEKA, Kan. – Preliminary estimates reported today by the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the February [seasonally adjusted unemployment rate](#) was 4.0 percent. This was down from 4.1 percent in January and down from 4.1 percent in February 2016.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 4,200 from January. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 5,500 from the previous month.

Over the year, Kansas lost 400 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#). Kansas gained 1,300 private sector jobs since February 2016.

“Preliminary estimates for February show a notable increase in private sector jobs compared to last month. The health care and construction industries each added more jobs than expected. However, when compared to this time last year, total nonfarm employment changed little,” said Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist, Kansas Department of Labor. “Other indicators of the labor market such as the unemployment rate, labor force, and average weekly hours worked also show little change from one year ago.”

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

	February	January	February	Over the Month Change		Over the Year Change	
	2017	2017	2016	Actual	Percentage	Actual	Percentage
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted							
Total Nonfarm	1,411.2	1,407.0	1,411.6	4.2	0.3%	-0.4	0.0%
Total Private	1,157.4	1,151.9	1,156.1	5.5	0.5%	1.3	0.1%
Goods-Producing	227.8	226.1	230.7	1.7	0.8%	-2.9	-1.3%
Mining and Logging	6.8	6.8	7.2	0.0	0.0%	-0.4	-5.6%
Construction	62.0	60.7	61.8	1.3	2.1%	0.2	0.3%
Manufacturing	159.0	158.6	161.7	0.4	0.3%	-2.7	-1.7%
Service-Providing	1,183.4	1,180.9	1,180.9	2.5	0.2%	2.5	0.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	266.8	267.1	267.6	-0.3	-0.1%	-0.8	-0.3%
Information	20.0	20.0	21.0	0.0	0.0%	-1.0	-4.8%
Financial Activities	86.1	85.7	85.2	0.4	0.5%	0.9	1.1%
Professional & Business Services	179.2	178.9	178.0	0.3	0.2%	1.2	0.7%
Education & Health Services	198.9	196.8	195.8	2.1	1.1%	3.1	1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	128.6	126.9	127.7	1.7	1.3%	0.9	0.7%
Other Services	50.0	50.4	50.1	-0.4	-0.8%	-0.1	-0.2%
Government	253.8	255.1	255.5	-1.3	-0.5%	-1.7	-0.7%
*Data in thousands.							

BLS revisions of seasonally adjusted preliminary January estimates resulted in no change to the total nonfarm estimate of 1,407,000. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised upward by 100 jobs, from 1,151,800 to 1,151,900.

HOUSEHOLD AND UNEMPLOYMENT

		Over the Month	Over the Year
	<u>Current Level</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Change</u>
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	-0.1	-0.1
Employed Individuals	1,422,834	4,649	-4,284
Unemployed Individuals	59,030	-2,197	-1,702
Labor Force	1,481,864	2,452	-5,986
Kansas - Not Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	4.1%	-0.2	-0.1
Employed Individuals	1,418,178	10,642	-5,772
Unemployed Individuals	60,785	-2,091	-1,460
Labor Force	1,478,963	8,551	-7,232
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.9%	0.1	-0.5
Initial Claims	8,224	-6,916	-1,129
Continued Claims	59,597	-23,748	-35,567

HELPFUL LINKS

For more information and to leave feedback on other data product requests please email us at laborstats@dol.ks.gov.

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

Procedures for producing Industrial Employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, e.g., nonfarm jobs, are available on the BLS website [here](#).

Information on procedures for producing Household estimates from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program, e.g., labor force, is available on the BLS website [here](#).

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

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

The March 2017 Labor Report will be released on Friday, Apr. 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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