

Lana Gordon, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Labor Market Report
March 2017**

TOPEKA, Kan. – Preliminary estimates reported today by the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the March [seasonally adjusted unemployment rate](#) was 3.8 percent. This was down from 4.0 percent in February and down from 4.1 percent in March 2016.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 1,400 from February. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 500 from the previous month.

Over the year, Kansas gained 3,600 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#). Kansas gained 4,600 private sector jobs since March 2016.

“This month's labor report shows good news for Kansas with improvement in many key indicators, including a drop in the unemployment rate to under 4 percent” said Kansas Secretary of Labor, Lana Gordon.

“In March the unemployment rate dropped significantly to 3.8 percent with continued decreases in the number of unemployed. Employment estimates also improved over the month, with the household survey indicating more Kansans working and the survey of employers showing more jobs on their payrolls,” said Emilie Doerksen, Labor Economist, Kansas Department of Labor. “March estimates do not show significant changes in employment or unemployment compared to last year.”

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

	March 2017	February 2017	March 2016	Over the Month Change		Over the Year Change	
				Actual	Percentage	Actual	Percentage
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted							
Total Nonfarm	1,414.0	1,412.6	1,410.4	1.4	0.1%	3.6	0.3%
Total Private	1,159.0	1,158.5	1,154.4	0.5	0.0%	4.6	0.4%
Goods-Producing	229.0	228.9	229.8	0.1	0.0%	-0.8	-0.3%
Mining and Logging	6.8	6.8	7.1	0.0	0.0%	-0.3	-4.2%
Construction	62.7	62.0	62.0	0.7	1.1%	0.7	1.1%
Manufacturing	159.5	160.1	160.7	-0.6	-0.4%	-1.2	-0.7%
Service-Providing	1,185.0	1,183.7	1,180.6	1.3	0.1%	4.4	0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	268.6	267.1	267.1	1.5	0.6%	1.5	0.6%
Information	20.1	20.0	20.8	0.1	0.5%	-0.7	-3.4%
Financial Activities	85.7	86.1	85.3	-0.4	-0.5%	0.4	0.5%
Professional & Business Services	178.5	179.0	177.5	-0.5	-0.3%	1.0	0.6%
Education & Health Services	198.2	198.8	196.1	-0.6	-0.3%	2.1	1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	129.1	128.6	127.4	0.5	0.4%	1.7	1.3%
Other Services	49.8	50.0	50.4	-0.2	-0.4%	-0.6	-1.2%
Government	255.0	254.1	256.0	0.9	0.4%	-1.0	-0.4%

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm job estimates for February upward by 1,400 jobs, from 1,411,200 to 1,412,600. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised upward by 1,100 jobs, from 1,157,400 to 1,158,500.

HOUSEHOLD AND UNEMPLOYMENT

	Current Level	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	-0.2	-0.3
Employed Individuals	1,428,732	5,828	3,598
Unemployed Individuals	55,956	-2,989	-4,657
Labor Force	1,484,688	2,839	-1,059
Kansas - Not Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	-0.4	-0.5
Employed Individuals	1,425,325	6,977	2,552
Unemployed Individuals	54,810	-5,757	-7,390
Labor Force	1,480,135	1,220	-4,838
Labor Force Participation Rate (Seasonally Adj.)	67.0%	0.1	-0.3
Initial Claims	11,892	3,668	2,057
Continued Claims	56,116	-3,481	-12,338

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 March is available [here](#).

The April 2017 Labor Report will be released on Friday, May 19.

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

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