

Lana Gordon, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Labor Market Report
May 2017**

TOPEKA, Kan. – Preliminary estimates reported today by the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the May [seasonally adjusted unemployment rate](#) was 3.7 percent. This was unchanged from April and down from 4.1 percent in May 2016.

“Unemployment remains low in Kansas with the rate staying at 3.7 percent for another month,” said Kansas Secretary of Labor, Lana Gordon.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs decreased by 5,000 from April. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, decreased by 5,300 from the previous month.

Over the year, Kansas lost 3,700 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#). Kansas lost 4,000 private sector jobs since May 2016.

“The number of unemployed individuals continued to decrease in May, an indication of a tightening labor market,” said Labor Economist, Emilie Doerksen. “The establishment survey however has not shown signs of increased demand for labor, with relatively small changes in average weekly hours worked and nominal hourly earnings compared to May 2016.”

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

	May 2017	April 2017	May 2016	Over the Month Change		Over the Year Change	
				Actual	Percentage	Actual	Percentage
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted							
Total Nonfarm	1,404.6	1,409.6	1,408.3	-5.0	-0.4%	-3.7	-0.3%
Total Private	1,148.9	1,154.2	1,152.9	-5.3	-0.5%	-4.0	-0.3%
Goods-Producing	225.1	227.0	227.5	-1.9	-0.8%	-2.4	-1.1%
Mining and Logging	6.8	6.7	7.0	0.1	1.5%	-0.2	-2.9%
Construction	60.5	61.2	60.6	-0.7	-1.1%	-0.1	-0.2%
Manufacturing	157.8	159.1	159.9	-1.3	-0.8%	-2.1	-1.3%
Service-Providing	1,179.5	1,182.6	1,180.8	-3.1	-0.3%	-1.3	-0.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	266.3	268.1	267.3	-1.8	-0.7%	-1.0	-0.4%
Information	19.8	19.7	20.8	0.1	0.5%	-1.0	-4.8%
Financial Activities	85.6	85.8	85.8	-0.2	-0.2%	-0.2	-0.2%
Professional & Business Services	177.7	177.8	177.7	-0.1	-0.1%	0.0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	197.6	198.2	195.8	-0.6	-0.3%	1.8	0.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	127.2	127.8	127.3	-0.6	-0.5%	-0.1	-0.1%
Other Services	49.6	49.8	50.7	-0.2	-0.4%	-1.1	-2.2%
Government	255.7	255.4	255.4	0.3	0.1%	0.3	0.1%
*Data in thousands.							

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm job estimates for April upward by 800 jobs, from 1,408,800 to 1,409,600. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised upward by 600 jobs, from 1,153,600 to 1,154,200.

HOUSEHOLD AND UNEMPLOYMENT

		Over the Month	Over the Year
	Current Level	Change	Change
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	0.0	-0.4
Employed Individuals	1,430,726	-1,868	10,048
Unemployed Individuals	54,537	-187	-6,780
Labor Force	1,485,263	-2,055	3,268
Kansas - Not Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	0.2	-0.2
Employed Individuals	1,413,873	-12,722	-4,317
Unemployed Individuals	54,682	3,083	-2,364
Labor Force	1,468,555	-9,639	-6,681
Labor Force Participation Rate	(Seasonally Adj.) 67.0%	-0.1	-0.1
Initial Claims	11,722	4,588	748
Continued Claims	51,976	1,577	-19,668

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 May is available [here](#).

The June 2017 Labor Report will be released on Friday, July 21.

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

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