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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Labor Market Report September 2018

TOPEKA, Kan. – Preliminary estimates reported by the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show a [seasonally adjusted unemployment rate](#) of 3.3 percent in September. This was unchanged from August and down from 3.6 percent in September 2017.

“For the fifth consecutive month, the number of unemployed Kansans remains below 50,000,” said Secretary Lana Gordon. “This is the smallest number of unemployed workers in the state since January 2000.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs decreased by 6,900 from August. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, decreased by 3,800 from the previous month.

“Employers reported fewer jobs in September compared to August. The losses were spread across government and private businesses,” said Senior Labor Economist, Tyler Tenbrink. “However, employers did increase the number of weekly hours for existing employees. Hourly earnings for workers went up as well. This resulted in robust growth in weekly earnings, 6.3 percent over the last 12 months.”

Since September 2017, Kansas gained 19,600 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) and 14,600 private sector jobs.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

	September	August	September	Over the Month Change		Over the Year Change	
	2018	2018	2017	Actual	Percentage	Actual	Percentage
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted							
Total Nonfarm	1,423.9	1,430.8	1,404.3	-6.9	-0.5%	19.6	1.4%
Total Private	1,163.5	1,167.3	1,148.9	-3.8	-0.3%	14.6	1.3%
Goods-Producing	233.7	235.0	228.5	-1.3	-0.6%	5.2	2.3%
Mining and Logging	7.1	7.1	6.7	0.0	0.0%	0.4	6.0%
Construction	60.2	61.6	59.5	-1.4	-2.3%	0.7	1.2%
Manufacturing	166.4	166.3	162.3	0.1	0.1%	4.1	2.5%
Service-Providing	1,190.2	1,195.8	1,175.8	-5.6	-0.5%	14.4	1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	271.3	272.4	269.6	-1.1	-0.4%	1.7	0.6%
Information	17.3	17.9	19.0	-0.6	-3.4%	-1.7	-8.9%
Financial Activities	79.6	79.8	78.0	-0.2	-0.3%	1.6	2.1%
Professional & Business Services	182.9	181.8	177.3	1.1	0.6%	5.6	3.2%
Education & Health Services	197.9	197.7	197.0	0.2	0.1%	0.9	0.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	130.2	131.9	128.9	-1.7	-1.3%	1.3	1.0%
Other Services	50.6	50.8	50.6	-0.2	-0.4%	0.0	0.0%
Government	260.4	263.5	255.4	-3.1	-1.2%	5.0	2.0%
*Data in thousands.							

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs estimates for August upward by 500 jobs, from 1,430,300 to 1,430,800. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised downward by 700 jobs, from 1,168,000 to 1,167,300.

HOUSEHOLD AND UNEMPLOYMENT

	Current Level	Over the Month	Over the Year
		Change	Change
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	0.0	-0.3
Employed Individuals	1,433,145	2,818	6,358
Unemployed Individuals	48,462	-653	-4,152
Labor Force	1,481,607	2,165	2,206
Kansas - Not Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	-0.6	-0.4
Employed Individuals	1,439,740	13,936	11,708
Unemployed Individuals	43,628	-7,602	-5,020
Labor Force	1,483,368	6,334	6,688
Labor Force Participation Rate (Seasonally Adj.)	66.5%	0.1	-0.1
Initial Claims	5,712	-516	-3,660
Continued Claims	31,478	-3,340	-9,899

HELPFUL LINKS

For more information and to leave feedback on other data product requests please email us at KDOL.laborstats@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 September is available [here](#).

The October 2018 Labor Report will be released on Friday, November 16.

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

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