

STATE OF KANSAS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Labor Market Report May 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 3.4 percent in May. This was unchanged from April and down from 3.6 percent in May 2017.

“The number of unemployed Kansans looking for work dropped below 50,000 for the first time since May of 2000,” said Secretary Lana Gordon.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 1,900 from April. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 1,800 from the previous month.

“Preliminary estimates for May are encouraging. Job growth over the year matched the U.S. growth rate at 1.6 percent,” said Senior Labor Economist, Tyler Tenbrink. “The state added 7,100 jobs over the last 12 months in the professional and business services industry, an industry with an average wage of over \$27 per hour.”

Since May 2017, Kansas gained 22,700 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) and 20,700 private sector jobs.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

	May	April	May	Over the Month Change		Over the Year Change	
	2018	2018	2017	Actual	Percentage	Actual	Percentage
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted							
Total Nonfarm	1,419.7	1,417.8	1,397.0	1.9	0.1%	22.7	1.6%
Total Private	1,162.0	1,160.2	1,141.3	1.8	0.2%	20.7	1.8%
Goods-Producing	232.7	230.8	226.9	1.9	0.8%	5.8	2.6%
Mining and Logging	7.2	7.1	6.8	0.1	1.4%	0.4	5.9%
Construction	60.1	59.6	59.6	0.5	0.8%	0.5	0.8%
Manufacturing	165.4	164.1	160.5	1.3	0.8%	4.9	3.1%
Service-Providing	1,187.0	1,187.0	1,170.1	0.0	0.0%	16.9	1.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	271.7	270.9	266.4	0.8	0.3%	5.3	2.0%
Information	18.9	19.1	19.4	-0.2	-1.0%	-0.5	-2.6%
Financial Activities	78.7	78.5	77.9	0.2	0.3%	0.8	1.0%
Professional & Business Services	182.8	182.7	176.7	0.1	0.1%	6.1	3.5%
Education & Health Services	197.7	198.2	195.9	-0.5	-0.3%	1.8	0.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	129.7	130.2	127.7	-0.5	-0.4%	2.0	1.6%
Other Services	49.8	49.8	50.4	0.0	0.0%	-0.6	-1.2%
Government	257.7	257.6	255.7	0.1	0.0%	2.0	0.8%
*Data in thousands.							

The BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs and seasonally adjusted preliminary private sector jobs for April remained unchanged at 1,417,800 and 1,160,200, respectively.

HOUSEHOLD AND UNEMPLOYMENT

		Over the Month	Over the Year
	Current Level	Change	Change
Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	0.0	-0.2
Employed Individuals	1,425,436	875	532
Unemployed Individuals	49,990	-23	-3,529
Labor Force	1,475,426	852	-2,997
Kansas - Not Seasonally Adjusted			
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	0.1	-0.2
Employed Individuals	1,423,016	3,185	5,394
Unemployed Individuals	47,831	778	-4,196
Labor Force	1,470,847	3,963	1,198
Labor Force Participation Rate	(Seasonally Adj.) 66.3%	0.0	-0.4
Initial Claims	7,543	954	-4,179
Continued Claims	35,383	-10,277	-16,593

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 May is available [here](#).

The June 2018 Labor Report will be released on Friday, July 20.

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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