

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 18, 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Jan Lunsford  
[Jan.Lunsford@ks.gov](mailto:Jan.Lunsford@ks.gov)

**Labor Market Report  
December 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 December. This was up from 3.2 percent in November and down from 3.5 percent in December 2017.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 1,100 from November. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 900 from the previous month.

“Kansas posted significant job growth over the last 12 months with 17,200 additional private sector jobs,” said Labor Economist, Emilie Doerksen. “Employers in the state have demonstrated a growing demand for labor as evidenced by upward trends in average weekly hours worked and real hourly earnings in the last 12 months.”

Since December 2017, Kansas gained 20,100 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) and 17,200 private sector jobs.

December 2018 estimates are not impacted by the partial federal government shutdown. The reference period for nonfarm job estimates is the pay period that includes the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month and the reference period for the unemployment rate is the calendar week containing the 12<sup>th</sup> (December 9-15, 2018). Both occurred prior to the partial shutdown which began on December 22, 2018. More information is available on the BLS website [here](#).

**INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT**

	December	November	December	Over the Month Change		Over the Year Change	
	2018	2018	2017	Actual	Percentage	Actual	Percentage
<b>Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted</b>							
Total Nonfarm	1,431.4	1,430.3	1,411.3	1.1	0.1%	20.1	1.4%
Total Private	1,171.7	1,170.8	1,154.5	0.9	0.1%	17.2	1.5%
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	235.0	234.1	229.3	0.9	0.4%	5.7	2.5%
Mining and Logging	7.1	7.1	6.7	0.0	0.0%	0.4	6.0%
Construction	60.9	60.7	60.1	0.2	0.3%	0.8	1.3%
Manufacturing	167.0	166.3	162.5	0.7	0.4%	4.5	2.8%
<b>Service-Providing</b>	1,196.4	1,196.2	1,182.0	0.2	0.0%	14.4	1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	273.2	274.4	268.9	-1.2	-0.4%	4.3	1.6%
Information	17.2	17.4	19.4	-0.2	-1.1%	-2.2	-11.3%
Financial Activities	80.3	80.6	77.8	-0.3	-0.4%	2.5	3.2%
Professional & Business Services	186.5	184.6	179.5	1.9	1.0%	7.0	3.9%
Education & Health Services	198.6	198.5	198.5	0.1	0.1%	0.1	0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	131.3	131.5	131.2	-0.2	-0.2%	0.1	0.1%
Other Services	49.6	49.7	49.9	-0.1	-0.2%	-0.3	-0.6%
Government	259.7	259.5	256.8	0.2	0.1%	2.9	1.1%
*Data in thousands.							

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs estimates for November upward by 1,700 jobs, from 1,428,600 to 1,430,300. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised upward by 1,600 jobs, from 1,169,200 to 1,170,800.

## HOUSEHOLD AND UNEMPLOYMENT

		Over the Month	Over the Year
	Current Level	Change	Change
<b>Kansas - Seasonally Adjusted</b>			
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	0.1	-0.2
Employed Individuals	1,440,934	2,134	14,707
Unemployed Individuals	48,972	686	-3,277
Labor Force	1,489,906	2,820	11,430
<b>Kansas - Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>			
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	0.2	0.1
Employed Individuals	1,445,819	-3,580	18,609
Unemployed Individuals	45,768	2,290	1,030
Labor Force	1,491,587	-1,290	19,639
<b>Labor Force Participation Rate</b>	(Seasonally Adj.) 66.8%	0.1	0.3
<b>Initial Claims</b>	10,235	1,628	-4,580
<b>Continued Claims</b>	47,468	15,560	-16,137

## HELPFUL LINKS

For more information and to leave feedback on other data product requests please email us at [KDOL.laborstats@ks.gov](mailto:KDOL.laborstats@ks.gov).

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 December is available [here](#).

The January 2019 Labor Report will be released on Monday, March 11.

---

*Audio clip of the Labor Market Report quote by Labor Economist, Emilie Doerksen is available online, courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.*

###