

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Labor Market Report
October 2019**

TOPEKA, Kan. – Preliminary estimates reported by the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show a [seasonally adjusted unemployment rate](#) of 3.1 percent in October. This was down from 3.2 percent in September and down from 3.3 percent in October 2018.

“Kansans can recognize two important milestones this month. The unemployment rate fell to 3.1 percent in October, the lowest rate in 40 years. April 1979 was the last month the unemployment rate was 3.1 percent,” said Secretary Delfía García. “Additionally, October established a record high level in the number of Kansans working.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs decreased by 500 from September. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, decreased by 700 from the previous month.

“Total nonfarm jobs in Kansas have increased by 1.3 percent compared to last October. The state is continuing to show growth over the year, despite job declines over the month,” said Labor Economist, Emilie Doerksen. “The largest losses were concentrated in the manufacturing industry which was impacted by national strike activity.”

Since October 2018, Kansas gained 18,100 [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) and 13,600 private sector jobs.

OVERVIEW

		Current Level	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change
Jobs*	Total Nonfarm	1,437,800	-500	18,100
	Total Private Sector	1,175,200	-700	13,600
	Total Government	262,600	200	4,500
Labor Force*	Labor Force	1,488,607	4,720	2,554
	<i>Participation Rate</i>	66.8%	0.2	0.0
	Employed Individuals	1,441,892	4,876	5,204
	Unemployed Individuals	46,715	-156	-2,650
	<i>Unemployment Rate</i>	3.1%	-0.1	-0.2
Unemployment Insurance	Initial Claims	5,876	-1,007	-1,094
	Continued Claims	30,715	-5,467	-6,172

* Estimates are seasonally adjusted

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs estimates for September upward by 200 jobs, from 1,438,100 to 1,438,300. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised upward by 800 jobs, from 1,175,100 to 1,175,900.

Complete Kansas labor market information for October is available [here](#).

HELPFUL LINKS are located [here](#)

The November 2019 Labor Report will be released on Friday, December 20.

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

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