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Labor Market Report
July 2023

IMPORTANT NOTE: This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for July 2023, which are produced using data from two monthly surveys. Data for nonfarm job estimates is collected through a survey of employers while the main input for labor force estimates is a survey of households. Data collected for this report references the week including July 12.

TOPEKA, Kan. – Preliminary estimates reported by the Labor Market Information Services (LMIS) division of the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show a seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 2.7% in July. This is a decrease from 2.8% in June and unchanged from 2.7% in July 2022.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates for Kansas indicate total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 2,000 from June. Total nonfarm includes private sector and government employers. Private sector jobs increased by 1,500 over the month, while government increased by 500.

“Average nominal hourly earnings in the private sector increased 3.2% over the year in July, faster than the rate of inflation in the Midwest,” said labor economist, Nathan Kessler. “The result was a small over the year increase in real hourly earnings as the Kansas labor market remains strong and inflation continues to moderate.”

Since July 2022 Kansas’ seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs have increased by 23,100. This change is due to an increase of 18,700 private sector jobs and an increase of 4,400 government jobs.

Complete Kansas labor market information for July is available here.

The August 2023 Labor Report will be released Friday, September 15.
Technical Notes

- Current Employment Statistics (CES) program: https://www.bls.gov/sae/overview.htm
- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program: https://www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm

The Kansas unemployment rate is based on data collected through the Current Population Survey (CPS) and estimates produced by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. The LAUS data is produced in cooperation with the BLS, which means that the same methodology is used for all states (https://www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm). Data for the number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance benefits is based on administrative data from claimants filing unemployment insurance claims with KDOL. These two measures offer distinct but related measures of trends in joblessness.

Audio clip of the Labor Market Report quote by labor economist, Nathan Kessler, are available online, courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.

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