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Amber Shultz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2023

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### Labor Market Report April 2023

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for April 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 April 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 2.9% in April. This is unchanged from 2.9% in March and an increase from 2.4% in April 2022.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates for Kansas indicate total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 200 from March. Total nonfarm includes private sector and government employers. [Private sector jobs](#) decreased by 500 over the month, while government increased by 300.

“April 2023 estimates indicate average nominal hourly earnings for the private sector increased 3.8% over the year,” said Labor Economist Nathan Kessler. “Although inflation continues to grow faster than hourly earnings in the private sector, several industries have experienced growth in real wages, most notably manufacturing and leisure and hospitality.”

Since April 2022 Kansas’ [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) have increased by 32,100. This change is due to an increase of 27,800 private sector jobs and an increase of 4,300 government jobs.

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

The May 2023 Labor Report will be released on Friday, June 16.

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### 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, is available online, courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.*

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