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Amber Shultz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Labor Market Report
August 2022**

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for August 2022, 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 August 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 2.5% in August. This was an increase from 2.4% in July and a decrease from 3.2% in August 2021.

“The Kansas unemployment rate in August was 2.5%,” said Secretary Amber Shultz. “Estimates for the unemployment rate remain below pre-pandemic levels and near historic lows.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates for Kansas indicate total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 3,400 from July. Total nonfarm includes private sector and government employers. [Private sector jobs](#) decreased by 2,100 over the month, while government decreased by 1,300.

“August estimates indicate that average nominal weekly earnings for the private sector in Kansas increased by 3.5% over the year even as the average number of hours worked showed a small decrease to 34.5,” said Labor Economist Nathan Kessler. “While real wages do remain under pressure, over the year comparisons for inflation indicate some improvement from recent highs.”

Since August 2021 Kansas’ [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) have increased by 15,100. This change is due to an increase of 18,200 private sector jobs and a decrease of 3,100 government jobs.

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

The September 2022 Labor Report will be released on Friday, October 21.

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Technical Notes: <https://klic.dol.ks.gov/vosnet/gsipub/documentView.aspx?docid=760>

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 the KDOL. These two measures offer distinct but related measures of trends in joblessness.

Audio clips of the Labor Market Report quotes by Secretary of Labor, Amber Shultz, and Labor Economist, Nathan Kessler, are available online, courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.

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