FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 16, 2021

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Labor Market Report
June 2021

IMPORTANT NOTE: This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for June 2021. Data collected for this report references the week including June 12th. Additional resources for affected workers and employers may be found at the Kansas Department of Labor’s website: www.dol.ks.gov and www.GetKansasBenefits.gov.

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 3.7 percent in June. This was an increase from 3.5 percent in May and a decrease from 7.0 percent in June 2020.

“The labor force grew in June as the number of Kansans seeking employment increased,” said Secretary Amber Shultz. “This resulted in a slight increase in the unemployment rate to 3.7 percent.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 8,100 from May. Private sector jobs, a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 100 from the previous month, while government increased by 8,000.

“Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 8,100 in June, with the majority of these gains in state and local government. The pandemic disrupted typical seasonal hiring patterns for public schools, which contributed to this large over-the-month change,” said Labor Economist Emilie Doerksen. “Even with these job gains, government job estimates remain 1.8 percent lower than pre-pandemic estimates for February 2020.”

Since June 2020, Kansas seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs have increased by 51,400. This change is due to an increase of 40,100 private sector jobs and 11,300 government jobs.

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs estimates for May upward by 200 jobs, from 1,370,000 to 1,370,200. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were also revised upward by 300 jobs, from 1,122,400 to 1,122,700.
Complete Kansas labor market information for June is available here.

The July 2021 Labor Report will be released on Friday, August 20.


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 Bureau of Labor Statistics, which means that the same methodology is used for all states (https://www.bls.gov/lau/lauunthd.htm). Data for the number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance benefits is based on administrative data from claimants filing unemployment insurance claims with the Kansas Department of Labor. 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, Emilie Doerksen are available online, courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.

Since March 15, KDOL has paid out over 4.7 million weekly claims totaling over $3.1 billion between regular unemployment and the federal pandemic programs. For more information, or to apply for unemployment benefits, go to www.GetKansasBenefits.gov.

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