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Amber Shultz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Labor Market Report
September 2021**

IMPORTANT NOTE: *This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for September 2021. Data collected for this report references the week including September 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 3.9 percent in September. This was an increase from 3.8 percent in August and a decrease from 6.1 percent in September 2020.

“The September unemployment rate rose slightly to 3.9 percent,” said Secretary Amber Shultz. “However Kansas employers continued adding jobs in September. The strongest growth this month was seen in trade, transportation and utilities which has already surpassed pre-pandemic employment levels in the state.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 1,900 from August. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 1,100 from the previous month, while government increased by 800.

“September estimates indicate that total nonfarm jobs have increased for the fourth consecutive month in Kansas,” said Labor Economist Emilie Doerksen. “Employers have added 16,800 jobs over the past four months, led by growth in trade, transportation and utilities as well as continued recovery in government, manufacturing, and leisure and hospitality jobs.”

Since September 2020, Kansas [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) have increased by 32,200. This change is due to an increase of 28,000 private sector jobs and 4,200 government jobs.

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BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs estimates for August upward by 4,000 jobs, from 1,381,100 to 1,385,100. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were also revised upward by 700 jobs, from 1,132,700 to 1,133,400.

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

The October 2021 Labor Report will be released on Friday, November 19.

Technical Notes: <https://klic.dol.ks.gov/gsipub/index.asp?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 Bureau of Labor Statistics, 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 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 5.0 million weekly claims totaling over \$3.3 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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