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Amber Shultz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 15, 2022

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**Labor Market Report
March 2022**

IMPORTANT NOTE: *This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for March 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 March 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 March. This was unchanged from 2.5% in February and a decrease from 3.5% in March 2021.

“The Kansas unemployment rate held steady at 2.5% in March,” said Secretary Amber Shultz. “Despite a slowdown in job growth this month, Kansas employers continue to show gains compared to last year.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates for Kansas indicate total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 2,300 from February. Total nonfarm includes private sector and government employers. [Private sector jobs](#) decreased by 1,800 over the month, while government decreased by 500.

“Kansas hourly wages trended higher in March, rising 6.6% over the year,” said Labor Economist Nathan Kessler. “However, due to continued inflationary pressure, Kansas real hourly earnings declined by 1.8% compared to March 2021.”

Since March 2021 Kansas’ [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) have increased by 19,900. This change is due to an increase of 20,500 private sector jobs and a decrease of 600 government jobs.

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

The April 2022 Labor Report will be released on Friday, May 20.

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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 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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