

Fact Sheet

January 23, 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Barbara Hersh

785-296-0901

Barbara.Hersh@dol.ks.gov

Labor Market Report Highlights December 2014

Learn about the difference between seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted numbers [here](#).

Labor Force and Unemployment

- The December 2014 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent, unchanged from an adjusted November unemployment rate and down from 4.9 percent in December 2013.
- The December 2014 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Kansas was 4 percent, up from 3.9 percent in November, and down from 4.6 percent one year ago.
- There were 18,577 initial claims for unemployment benefits in December 2014, up from 12,003 in November and down from 19,749 last year. There were 97,398 continued claims in December, up from 68,018 the previous month and down from 124,370 in December 2013. These numbers include all available programs.
- Over the month, the number of people employed increased by 4,519 individuals to a total of 1,436,564 Kansans employed. A total of 31,329 people have gained employment since December 2013, an increase of 2.2 percent.
- The number of unemployed has decreased by 10,134 persons since last year, a 14 percent decline.

Jobs Data

Seasonally Adjusted

- The state added 12,800 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs over the year, a 1.1 percent gain. Kansas also gained 12,800 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs since December 2013, a 0.9 percent increase.
- Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs increased by 2,300 since last month, a 0.2 percent growth. Since November, the state gained 1,700 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs, a 0.1 percent increase.

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Kansas gained 12,700 private sector jobs since December 2013, a 1.1 percent increase. The state gained 12,600 nonfarm jobs over the year, a 0.9 percent increase.
- Private sector jobs decreased by 2,200 since November, a 0.2 percent decline. Over the month, Kansas declined by 4,800 nonfarm jobs, a 0.3 percent decrease.

Industry Breakdown

- Seven of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the year job gains. These gains were greatest in:
 - Education and health services increased by 4,500 jobs, a 2.4 percent gain. Growth was primarily in health care and social assistance.
 - Professional and business services gained 4,300 jobs, a 2.6 percent increase, with gains mostly in administrative and support, waste management, and remediation services.
 - Other services added 2,800 jobs, a 5.3 percent gain.
- Four of the 11 major industries reported statewide over the year job losses. These were greatest in:
 - Manufacturing declined by 2,500 jobs, or 1.5 percent. All of the loss was in durable goods manufacturing.
 - Trade, transportation and utilities decreased by 2,000 jobs, or 0.7 percent, with losses in wholesale and retail trade.
 - Financial activities declined by 1,200 jobs, or 1.6 percent. The losses were in finance and insurance.
- Four of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the month job gains. The largest gains were greatest in:
 - Trade, transportation and utilities increased by 2,300 jobs, or 0.9 percent. The gains were in wholesale and retail trade.
 - Education and health services added 400 jobs, a 0.2 percent increase. The gains were in health care and social assistance.
 - Information gained 200 jobs, a 0.7 percent increase.
- Seven of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported a loss over the month. The losses were greatest in:
 - Government declined by 2,600 jobs, or 1 percent, with losses at the state and local levels.
 - Construction decreased by 2,100 jobs, or 3.5 percent, with losses throughout the sector.
 - Leisure and hospitality declined by 1,400 jobs, or 1.2 percent, with losses throughout the sector.

Private Sector Earnings

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Private sector average weekly earnings increased by \$17.64, or 2.3 percent, since last year, to a total of \$772.80.
- Manufacturing increased the most in earnings since last year. Average weekly earnings in manufacturing increased by \$84.30, or 8.7 percent, since December 2013, to a total of \$1,055.81.
- Construction also had notable increases. Average weekly earnings increased by \$51.32, or 5.7 percent, since last year. They increased by \$36.54, or 4 percent, over the month. The average weekly earnings in construction were \$953.34 in December.

The January 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, March 6.

Follow the Kansas Department of Labor:

