

Lana Gordon, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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Unemployed Kansans per Job Vacancy Decreased Over Past Year

TOPEKA, KAN. - There were approximately 37,981 job vacancies in Kansas during the second quarter of 2013. This is a 5.5 percent increase over the 36,000 job vacancies recorded in 2012. The statewide job vacancy rate in the second quarter of 2013 was 2.8 percent, meaning for every 100 positions, 2.8 are vacant while 97.2 are filled. This is a small increase from last year when the job vacancy rate was 2.7 percent.

“The increase in job vacancies over the year is a positive sign as the Kansas economy steadily improves and employers are confident enough to add employees,” said Lana Gordon, Secretary of Labor.

The purpose of the annual Kansas Job Vacancy Survey is to identify the number and types of jobs available in specific industries and regions of the state. The survey results provide a unique snapshot of labor demand. The results of the survey assist educational institutions, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs.

When looking at the results by Industry Group, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities had the largest number of job vacancies with 11,351 which is 29.9 percent of the total vacancies. The Educational and Health Services and Leisure and Hospitality industries recorded the second and third highest number of vacancies, with 7,614 and 4,501 respectively.

Customer Service Representatives and Retail Salespersons were the two most vacant positions in Kansas. There were 3,666 vacancies for Customer Service Representatives and 3,656 vacancies for Retail Salespersons. These two occupations account for 19.3 percent of job vacancies in the state.

“Thanks to the cooperation of Kansas employers, this year’s Job Vacancy Survey was a success,” said Mason Jackson, KDOL Research Analyst. “The survey revealed that the number of unemployed persons per vacancy decreased over the year from 2.5 in 2012 to 2.2 this year, indicating that the labor market is improving.”

View the full Kansas Job Vacancy Survey results at <https://klic.dol.ks.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=462>

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