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Amber Shultz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 21, 2022

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**Labor Market Report  
December 2021**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for December 2021. Data collected for this report references the week including December 12<sup>th</sup>. Additional resources for affected workers and employers may be found at the Kansas Department of Labor’s website: [www.dol.ks.gov](http://www.dol.ks.gov) and [www.GetKansasBenefits.gov](http://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 3.3% in December. This was a decrease from 3.6% in November and a decrease from 4.7% in December 2020.

“Kansas ended the year with sustained progress towards economic recovery in the state,” said Secretary Amber Shultz. “Estimates indicate that employers continued to add jobs in December and the unemployment rate declined to 3.3%.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 800 from November. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 2,000 from the previous month, while government decreased by 1,200.

“Kansas nonfarm jobs increased for the seventh consecutive month as gains in the private sector offset a decline in government jobs in December,” said Labor Economist Emilie Doerksen. “Although the rate of growth has slowed, December estimates indicate continued expansion for trade, transportation, and utilities as well as continued recovery in manufacturing.”

Since December 2020, Kansas [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) have increased by 38,600. This change is due to an increase of 36,500 private sector jobs and 2,100 government jobs.

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs estimates for November upward by 1,000 jobs, from 1,391,500 to 1,392,500. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were also revised upward by 1,500 jobs, from 1,142,300 to 1,143,800.

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

The January 2022 Labor Report will be released on Friday, March 11.

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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 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, 2020 KDOL has paid out over 5.2 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](http://www.GetKansasBenefits.gov).

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