

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Jobs Report October 2015**

**TOPEKA, Kan.** – The state’s October seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent, down from 4.4 percent in September and decreased from 4.2 percent in October 2014.

Seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 13,500 private sector jobs since last year, or 1.2 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 10,900, or 0.8 percent, since October 2014. Since last month, Kansas gained 2,700 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs, or 0.2 percent. The state gained 2,500 seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs since September 2015, or 0.2 percent.

“The state’s unemployment rate continues to improve, falling to 4.1 percent in October,” said Kansas Secretary of Labor, Lana Gordon. “This is the lowest rate Kansas has recorded in more than 14 years.”

Not seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 13,400 private sector jobs since last year, or 1.2 percent. Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 10,900, a 0.8 percent increase since October 2014. Since September, private sector jobs increased by 8,100, or 0.7 percent. The state gained 13,600 total nonfarm jobs over the month, or 1.0 percent.

“Last month’s preliminary estimate of 4,200 jobs added has been revised upward to reflect a gain of 8,000 private sector jobs in September. Preliminary estimates for October show an additional increase of 2,700 jobs, for a two-month gain of more than 10,000 jobs,” said Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist, Kansas Department of Labor. “This growth is partly due to continued growth in construction jobs and retail trade. October marks the beginning of the retail hiring season as employers gear up for the holidays.”

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in October was 3.7 percent, down from 3.8 percent in September and down from 3.9 percent one year ago.

There were 8,652 initial claims for unemployment benefits in October 2015, down from 10,993 in September and down from 11,175 in October 2014. There were 49,616 continued claims in October, down from 57,687 the previous month and down from 66,959 in October 2014.

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

Data provided is preliminary and subject to monthly revisions and annual benchmarks by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information on procedures for producing Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#). Procedures for producing Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates are available on the BLS website [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE: The November 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, December 18.

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*Audio clips of the Labor Market Report quotes by Secretary of Labor, Lana Gordon and Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist are available online, courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.*

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*The Kansas Department of Labor assists in the prevention of economic insecurity through unemployment insurance and workers compensation, by providing a fair and efficient venue to exercise employer and employee rights, and by helping employers promote a safe work environment for their employees. This facilitates compliance with labor laws while enabling advancement of the economic well-being of the citizens of Kansas.*

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