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Amber Shultz, Acting Secretary

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Labor Market Report
January 2021**

IMPORTANT NOTE: This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for January 2021. Data collected for this report references the week including January 12th. Additional resources for affected workers and employers may be found at the Kansas Department of Labor's website: www.dol.ks.gov and 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 3.5 percent in January. This was a decrease from 4.7 percent in December and an increase from 3.1 percent in January 2020.

“Kansas employers showed continued economic recovery in January, with 10,000 nonfarm jobs added over-the-month,” said Acting Secretary Amber Shultz. “While there has been significant improvement since April, current job estimates remain 4.6 percent lower than January 2020.”

Seasonally adjusted job estimates indicate total Kansas nonfarm jobs increased by 10,000 from December. [Private sector jobs](#), a subset of total nonfarm jobs, increased by 8,300 from the previous month, while government increased by 1,700.

“The Kansas unemployment rate fell to 3.5 percent in January while the U.S. rate fell to 6.3 percent,” said Labor Economist Emilie Doerksen. “The Current Population Survey, which determines the national rate and is the primary input for state estimates, indicates improving labor market conditions through January.”

Since January 2020, Kansas [seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs](#) have declined by 66,400. This change is due to a decrease of 51,700 private sector jobs and 14,700 government jobs.

BLS revised seasonally adjusted preliminary total nonfarm jobs estimates for December downward by 13,100 jobs, from 1,367,800 to 1,354,700. Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs were revised downward by 13,400 jobs, from 1,122,700 to 1,109,300.

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ANNUAL REVISED DATA

LMIS, in conjunction with BLS, produces monthly job and labor force estimates using a variety of surveys conducted by BLS and the Census Bureau. Each March, the previous year's estimates are benchmarked and revised against actual counts from employers' tax reports and other data.

The benchmarked data is now available.

- Revised job numbers: <https://klic.dol.ks.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=421>
- Revised labor force numbers: <https://klic.dol.ks.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=418>

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

The February 2021 Labor Report will be released on Friday, March 26.

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 Acting Secretary of Labor, Amber Shultz and Labor Economist, Emilie Doerksen are available online, courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.

Since March 15, KDOL has paid out over 4.1 million weekly claims totaling over \$2.7 billion between regular unemployment and the federal pandemic programs. For more information, or to apply for unemployment benefits, go to www.GetKansasBenefits.gov.

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