



Kansas Economic Update

October 21, 2016

Summary

Nonfarm payroll employment in Kansas declined by 600 jobs, and the unemployment rate rose to 4.4 percent in September according to data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

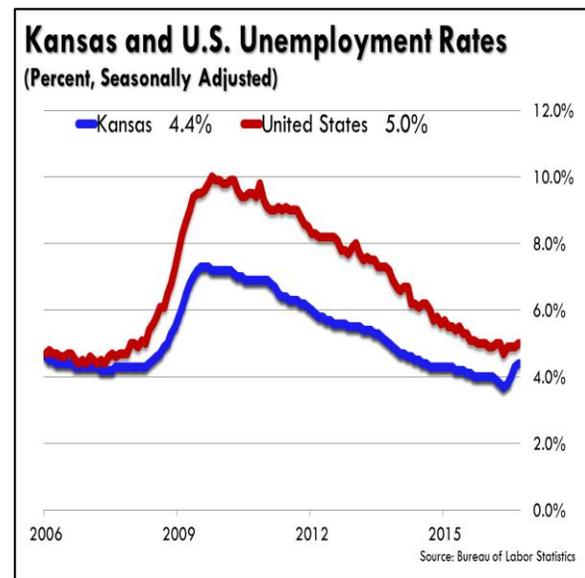
Kansas Unemployment Rate

During September, the unemployment rate in Kansas increased by 0.1 percentage point to 4.4 percent. The number of people counted as unemployed rose by 1,541 in September to 65,098, while the labor force fell by 1,763 to 1,483,195. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 19 posted lower unemployment rates for the month than Kansas. A year earlier, the unemployment rate in Kansas stood at 4.0 percent.

The 10-year peak for the unemployment rate in Kansas was 7.3 percent in September 2009. This also represents the series high for the unemployment rate in Kansas. The 10-year

low for the unemployment rate in Kansas was 3.7 percent in May 2016. The series low for the unemployment rate in Kansas occurred in August 1978 when the unemployment rate was 2.9 percent. BLS began publishing the state unemployment rate series in 1976.

The national unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 5.0 percent in September. September's unemployment rate was 0.1 percentage point lower than a year earlier. The 10-year high for the national unemployment rate was 10.0 percent in October 2009. The 10-year low was 4.4 percent in May 2007.



Kansas Payroll Employment

Kansas nonfarm payrolls declined by 600 jobs, or 0.04 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during September. In the prior month, nonfarm payrolls increased by 900. Over the past 12 months, nonfarm payrolls in Kansas declined by 5,900, or 0.42 percent. Kansas nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 6 of the past 12 months.

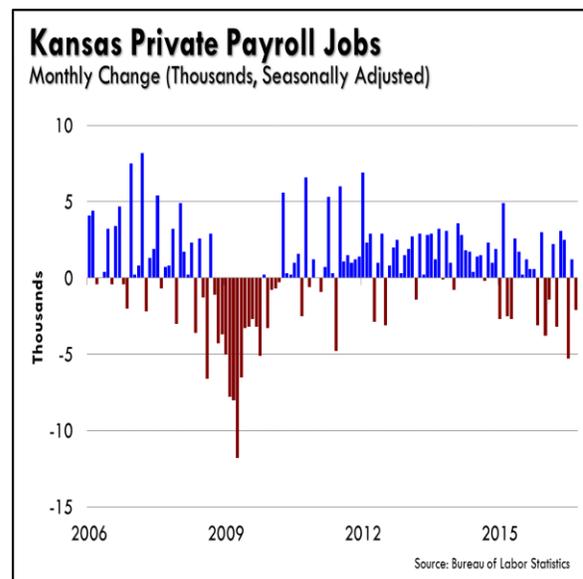
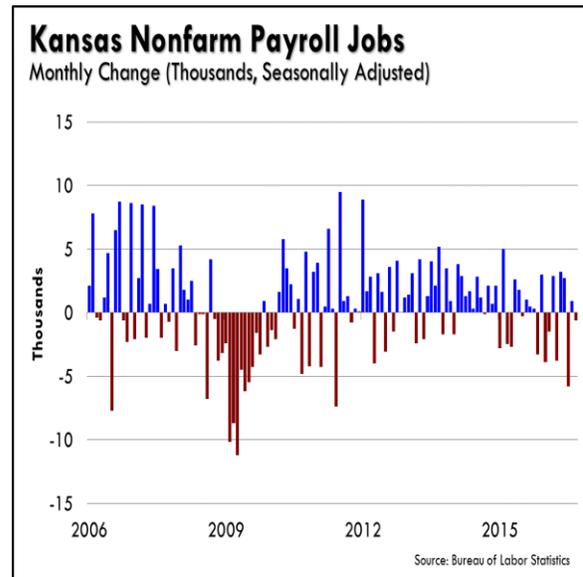
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 156,000 jobs in September, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending September 2016, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,447,000 jobs, or 1.72 percent. Kansas ranks 46th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During September, Kansas private-sector payrolls declined by 2,100, or 0.18 percent. Private-sector payrolls increased by 1,200 jobs in the prior month. Over the past 12 months, private-sector payrolls in Kansas declined by 6,300, or 0.55 percent. Kansas private-sector payroll employment has increased in 6 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 167,000 jobs in September, or 0.14 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,302,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.91 percent. Kansas ranks 46th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

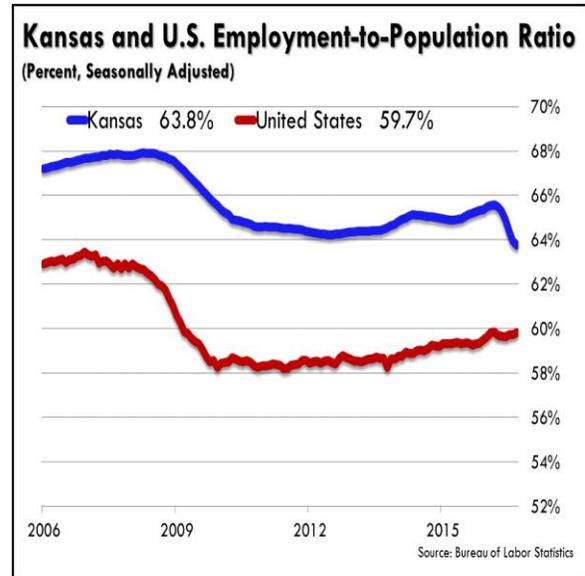
During September, total government payroll employment in Kansas increased by 1,500, or 0.59 percent. Federal government payroll employment was unchanged. State government payroll employment declined by 100, or 0.19 percent, while local government payroll employment increased by 5,400, or 3.22 percent.

Over the past year, total government payroll employment increased by 400, or 0.16 percent. State government payroll employment was unchanged. Local government payroll employment was unchanged.



The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during September were Total Government (+1,500) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+1,400). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Professional & Business Services (-1,800) and Educational & Health Services (-1,100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Financial Activities (+1,000) and Leisure & Hospitality (+900). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Construction (-4,700) and Information (-1,100).



Other Kansas Labor Force Statistics

The labor force participation rate in Kansas declined to 66.7 percent in September from 66.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 10 have a higher labor force participation rate than Kansas. The labor force participation rate in Kansas is 1.3 percentage point lower than a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.



The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Kansas was 71.8 percent in June 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Kansas occurred in December 1998 when the labor force participation rate hit 72.2 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 66.7 percent in September 2016. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in February 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 64.6 percent.

The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 62.9 percent in September, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Kansas civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, declined to 63.8 percent in September from 63.9 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the

District of Columbia, 12 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Kansas. The employment-to-population ratio in Kansas is 1.4 percentage points lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Kansas was 67.9 percent in July 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Kansas occurred in February 1999 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 69.7 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.8 percent in September 2016. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 61.8 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 59.8 percent in September. That rate was 0.5 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

State employment and unemployment data for October is scheduled for release on November 18, 2016. The national employment situation report for October will be released on Friday, November 4, 2016.