

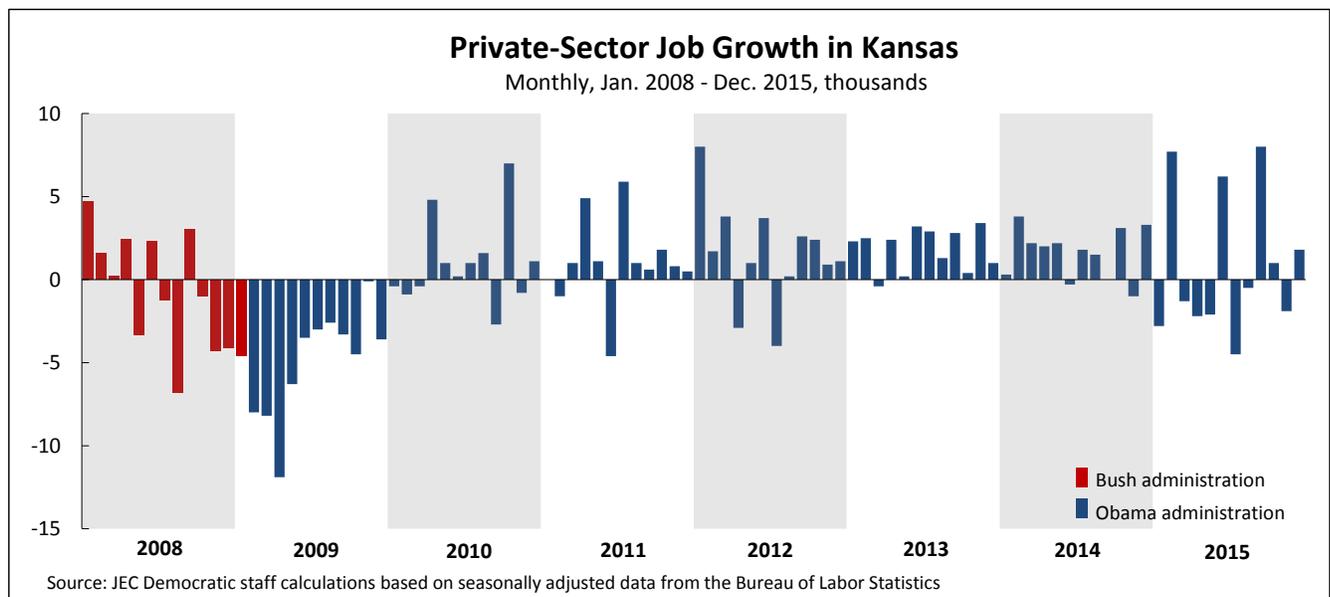


## 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW: KANSAS

*\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through December 2015\*\*  
\*\*Last updated on January 26th; January 2016 data will be released on March 14th\*\**

### JOBS

- In 2015, private-sector employment in Kansas grew by 9,400 jobs, an average of 780 jobs per month. This represents a slowdown in job growth from the 1,580 jobs per month added in 2014. In December, Kansas businesses added 1,800 jobs.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms in 2015 were: construction at 7.4 percent (4,500 jobs), financial activities at 1.9 percent (1,500 jobs) and education and health services at 1.7 percent (3,300 jobs).
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Kansas businesses have added 93,600 jobs (an increase of 8.8 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 13.1 percent over this time.



### UNEMPLOYMENT

- The Kansas unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point in 2015 and was 3.9 percent in December. The rate is 3.4 percentage points below its recent peak of 7.3 percent in September 2009.
- Unemployment in Kansas was 1.1 percentage points below the national rate of 5.0 percent in December. The rate held constant from November.
- There were 59,100 state residents unemployed in December, down 4,000 from one year prior.

### EARNINGS

- Adjusting for inflation, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Kansas rose by 1.6 percent in 2015. Nationally, these earnings increased by 1.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).
- In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers were \$22.98. The average workweek was 33.8 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$776.72.

## STATE QUICK FACTS

		<b>Kansas</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>Private-Sector Jobs Added</b> .....	In 2015	9,400	2.6 million
	Since Feb. 2010	93,600	14.1 million
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> .....	December 2015	3.9%	5.0%
	December 2014	4.2%	5.6%
	Recession-Era Peak	7.3%	10.0%
<b>Median Household Income (2014 \$)</b> .....	2014	\$53,400	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$55,400	\$57,400
<b>Poverty Rate</b> .....	2014	12.1%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	11.7%	12.5%
<b>All Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	6.8%	5.3%
<b>Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	12.2%	7.2%
<b>Percentage Without Health Insurance</b> .....	2014	10.2%	11.7%
	2013	12.3%	14.5%

*Note: full 2015 data are not yet available for many indicators on this page; they will be included in future reports*

### STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Kansas grew by 1.4 percent in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.\*
- Since 2009, annual Kansas GDP growth has averaged 1.4 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.8 percent.

### HOUSING

- Home prices in Kansas increased by 4.4 percent from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015. They are up 15.0 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011.
- In November 2015, builders in Kansas broke ground on 7,040 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 6,994 units. That marks a decrease of 9.6 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

### EXPORTS

- In Kansas, goods exports totaled \$769 million in November and \$10.4 billion over the past year, down 6.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 13.8 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

\* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

\*\* A list of sources used to compile the Kansas economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

\*\*\* For additional Kansas-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Kansas office: <http://www.dol.ks.gov/lmis/Default.aspx>