



2017 Kansas Employment Forecast

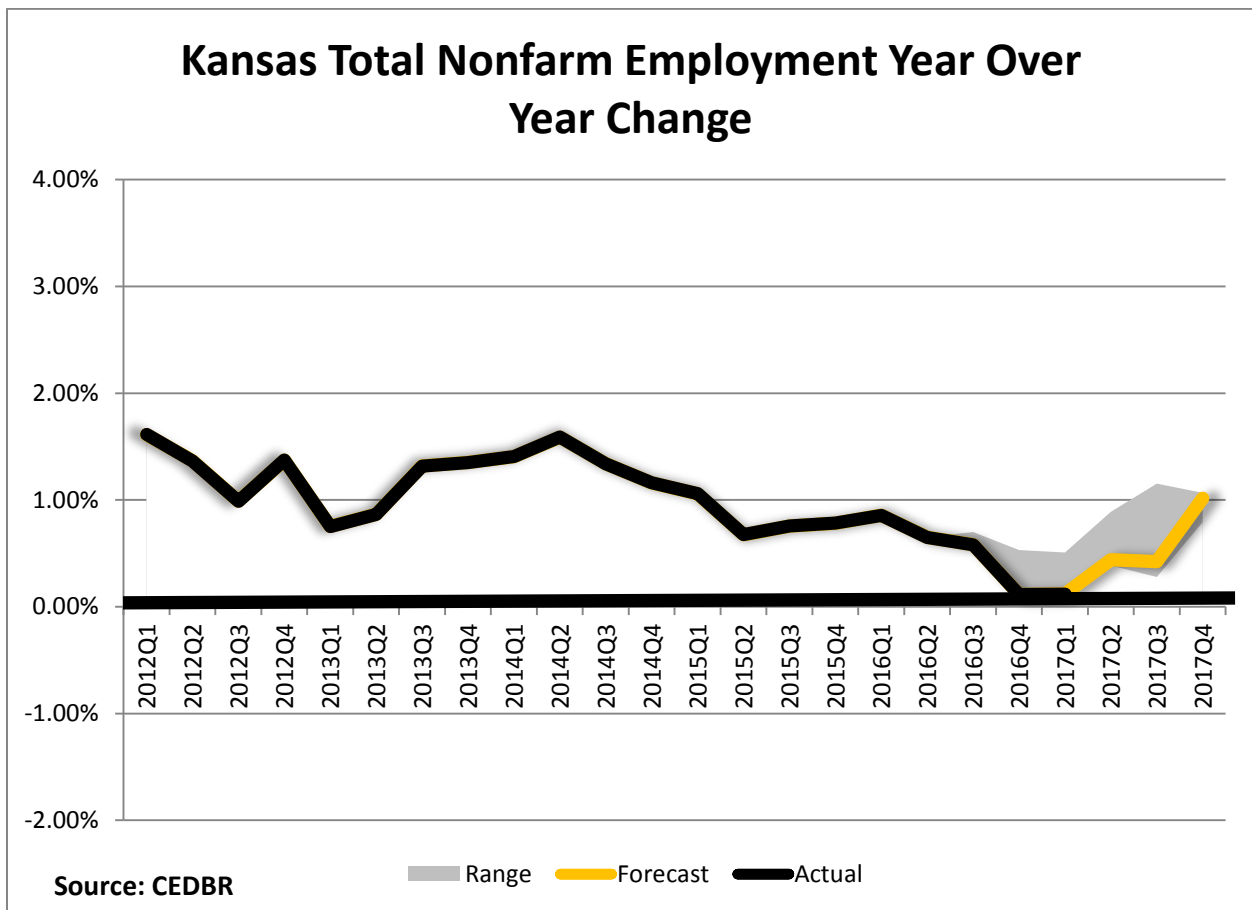
May 2017

From March 2016 to March 2017, Kansas employment has increased by 0.2 percent, an increase of approximately 2,200 jobs. In 2017, Kansas total nonfarm employment is forecast to increase by 7,049 jobs, with an anticipated growth rate of 0.5 percent. This is expected to be slightly lower than Kansas' average employment growth rate over the past five years, which has been 1 percent.

- The production sectors are projected to expand 0.3 percent in Kansas, adding 600 jobs in 2017. Job creation is projected to be concentrated in the construction sector, while natural resources and manufacturing employment remain relatively flat.
- Trade, transportation and utilities sector employment is expected to grow 0.3 percent, adding approximately 900 new jobs. This growth is primarily forecast to be in the transportation and utilities sector and the wholesale trade sector, each of which are expected to grow over 1 percent, while retail trade sector employment is projected to decline in 2017.
- The service sectors are anticipated to be the fastest growing segment of the Kansas economy in 2017, adding over 5,000 jobs for 0.8 percent employment growth. The professional and business services sector and the health care sector are projected to comprise the bulk of overall service sector growth, collectively adding over 4,000 jobs.
- The government sector is expected to remain approximately constant in 2017, growing by 0.1 percent. The federal and state government sectors are forecast to decline slightly in employment, while the local government sector is anticipated to experience a small amount of growth statewide.
- The Topeka, Kansas City, and Wichita metropolitan areas are all expected to grow at rates faster than the state average in 2017, with a combined average growth rate of 1.4 percent. Excluding these three MSAs, the remainder of the state is forecast to experience an employment decline of approximately 1 percent.

Kansas Employment by Industry Summary*					
	2015 (a)	2016 (a)	2017 (f)	2016-2017 Level Change	2016-2017 Percent Change
Total Nonfarm	1,402,230	1,409,944	1,416,992	7,049	0.5%
Production Sectors	230,868	228,447	229,047	600	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	265,256	266,930	267,793	863	0.3%
Service Sectors	649,575	658,638	664,033	5,396	0.8%
Government	256,531	255,929	256,119	190	0.1%

*Annual values are derived from average quarterly observations and projections.
(a) actual (f) forecasted
Source: Wichita State University - CEDBR



Nationally, real GDP growth slowed to 0.7 percent in the first quarter of 2017 after growing 2.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2016. Private investment and net exports were the primary drivers of this growth. National employment increased by 1.6 percent nationally in the past twelve months.

The Center for Economic Development and Business Research can provide detailed industry, wage, retail, and other customized forecasts upon request. Contact Jeremy Hill at 316-213-3673 for costs and availability.