

2023 Kansas Employment Forecast May Update

The latest data from the Center for Economic Development and Business Research (CEDBR) shows that Kansas' employment is expected to add 8,819 jobs, a growth rate of 0.6%, while in 2024, the state is projected to add 11,464 jobs, a growth rate of 0.8%. These positive projections are welcome news for Kansas, which has been recovering from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Based on our projections for the next few years, we are seeing steady growth across most industries in Kansas. The durable goods sector is expected to continue its strong performance, while the services sector also shows promising gains. While some industries may experience slight declines, overall, we expect to see a positive trend in employment across the state," said Jeremy Hill, Director of CEDBR.

The report also shows that the Production industry is projected to see a steady increase in employment, with a growth rate of 1.3% and 1.1% in 2023 and 2024, respectively. The Natural Resources, Mining & Construction industry is projected to grow by 1.2% in 2023 and 1.0% in 2024. The Trade industry is expected to experience a slight increase of 0.2% and 0.3% in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

The Services industry is projected to see positive growth in 2023 and 2024, with a growth rate of 0.6% and 1.0%, respectively. The Professional & Business Services industry is projected to experience a growth rate of 1.5% in 2023 and 1.6% in 2024, while the Leisure & Hospitality industry is expected to grow at a rate of 0.6% and 1.2% in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

The government sector is also expected to see positive growth, with a growth rate of 0.5% in 2023 and 2024.

Kansas Employment by Industry*							
	2021 (a)	2022 (e)	2023 (f)	2024 (f)	2022	2023	2024
Production	230,342	240,902	244,122	246,694	4.6%	1.3%	1.1%
Nat. Resources, Mining & Cons.	69,900	73,324	74,192	74,955	4.9%	1.2%	1.0%
Durables	91,600	97,345	99,486	100,882	6.3%	2.2%	1.4%
Non-Durables	68,842	70,233	70,445	70,856	2.0%	0.3%	0.6%
Trade	265,158	270,387	270,932	271,843	2.0%	0.2%	0.3%
Services	627,683	635,895	639,626	646,331	1.3%	0.6%	1.0%
Information	16,858	17,847	17,806	17,874	5.9%	-0.2%	0.4%
Financial Activities	75,850	73,523	73,268	73,641	-3.1%	-0.3%	0.5%
Professional & Business Service	169,800	171,537	174,129	176,856	1.0%	1.5%	1.6%
Education & Health Services	197,758	198,955	199,593	201,051	0.6%	0.3%	0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	120,108	124,900	125,614	127,157	4.0%	0.6%	1.2%
Other	47,308	49,135	49,216	49,752	3.9%	0.2%	1.1%
Government	250,875	250,999	252,323	253,599	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%
Total	1,374,058	1,398,184	1,407,003	1,418,467	1.8%	0.6%	0.8%

*Annual values are derived from average quarterly observations and projections.

(a) actual (e) estimated (f) forecasted

Source: CEDBR, BLS - CES

Looking at the Kansas GDP by industry data, the forecasted estimates for 2023 and 2024 show positive growth overall. All industries' total GDP is expected to increase by 2.4% in 2023 and 2.1% in 2024, while private sectors are predicted to see a slightly higher growth rate of 2.7% in both 2023 and 2024. The mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction industry is projected to experience significant growth, with an expected increase of 6.2% in 2023 and 16.3% in 2024. Other sectors, such as manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, and professional, scientific, and technical services, are also expected to grow steadily. However, some industries, such as accommodation and food services and other services (except government and government enterprises), are predicted to experience a decline in growth in both 2023 and 2024.

Kansas GDP by Industry*					
	2020 (a)	2021 (a)	2022 (f)	2023 (f)	2024 (f)
All industry total	-0.9%	2.9%	2.3%	2.4%	2.1%
Private industries	-0.6%	3.2%	2.7%	2.7%	2.4%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	6.7%	-8.8%	2.2%	0.8%	1.4%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	22.8%	-15.5%	0.0%	6.2%	16.3%
Utilities	2.2%	-7.0%	-3.7%	-1.6%	1.1%
Construction	-1.9%	0.6%	-12.9%	3.2%	-0.3%
Manufacturing	-4.5%	4.9%	4.1%	5.4%	5.2%
Durable goods manufacturing	-8.6%	8.1%	5.7%	8.7%	8.2%
Nondurable goods manufacturing	-0.2%	1.8%	2.5%	1.8%	1.9%
Wholesale trade	-2.0%	2.3%	-0.2%	1.3%	0.9%
Retail trade	-2.8%	0.6%	-0.2%	2.8%	0.8%
Transportation and warehousing	-2.5%	1.9%	-1.9%	7.4%	2.4%
Information	52.5%	7.3%	11.2%	1.7%	1.2%
Finance and insurance	10.1%	6.2%	-7.6%	-0.1%	-0.7%
Real estate and rental and leasing	-5.9%	0.0%	-0.7%	0.3%	2.7%
Professional, scientific, and technical services	0.3%	5.8%	7.5%	5.3%	2.7%
Management of companies and enterprises	-2.6%	-7.8%	36.0%	4.2%	4.0%
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	-4.0%	13.1%	11.2%	1.5%	1.6%
Educational services	-14.7%	5.1%	-5.7%	1.8%	-0.1%
Health care and social assistance	2.8%	1.8%	3.5%	2.7%	1.6%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-38.7%	28.1%	8.0%	5.3%	1.6%
Accommodation and food services	-14.7%	21.2%	3.9%	0.3%	1.4%
Other services (except government and government enterprises)	-7.3%	3.9%	3.1%	-0.4%	-0.7%
Government and government enterprises	-2.8%	0.2%	-0.8%	0.2%	-0.3%
Federal civilian	2.4%	-5.8%	-4.0%	0.4%	0.0%
Military	2.2%	4.0%	-3.7%	0.8%	0.6%
State and local	-4.7%	0.7%	0.3%	0.1%	-0.6%

*Annual values are derived from average quarterly observations and projections.

(a) actual (e) estimated (f) forecasted

Source: CEDBR, BEA

Looking at the Kansas Labor Market, there has been a significant decrease in unemployment rates from 6.2% in 2020 to 2.9% in 2022 and a projected further drop to 2.6% in 2023. This is expected to result in a decrease in the number of unemployed individuals from 87,557 in 2020 to 38,117 in 2023 and 31,547 in 2024.

Moreover, employment figures have been on the rise since 2020, with a notable increase in 2021 and 2022. It is estimated that by 2023, there will be 1,473,952 employed individuals in Kansas, and this number is expected to rise to 1,482,821 in 2024.

Overall, the labor force in Kansas has remained relatively stable, with a slight increase from 1,503,002 in 2020 to 1,514,369 in 2024.

Kansas Labor Market					
	2020 (a)	2021 (a)	2022 (e)	2023 (f)	2024 (f)
Rate	6.2%	3.4%	2.9%	2.6%	2.1%
Unemployment	87,557	49,473	42,026	38,117	31,547
Employment	1,415,445	1,451,204	1,466,414	1,473,952	1,482,821
Labor Force	1,503,002	1,500,677	1,508,440	1,512,070	1,514,369

(a) actual (e) estimated (f) forecasted

Source: CEDBR, BLS - LAUS