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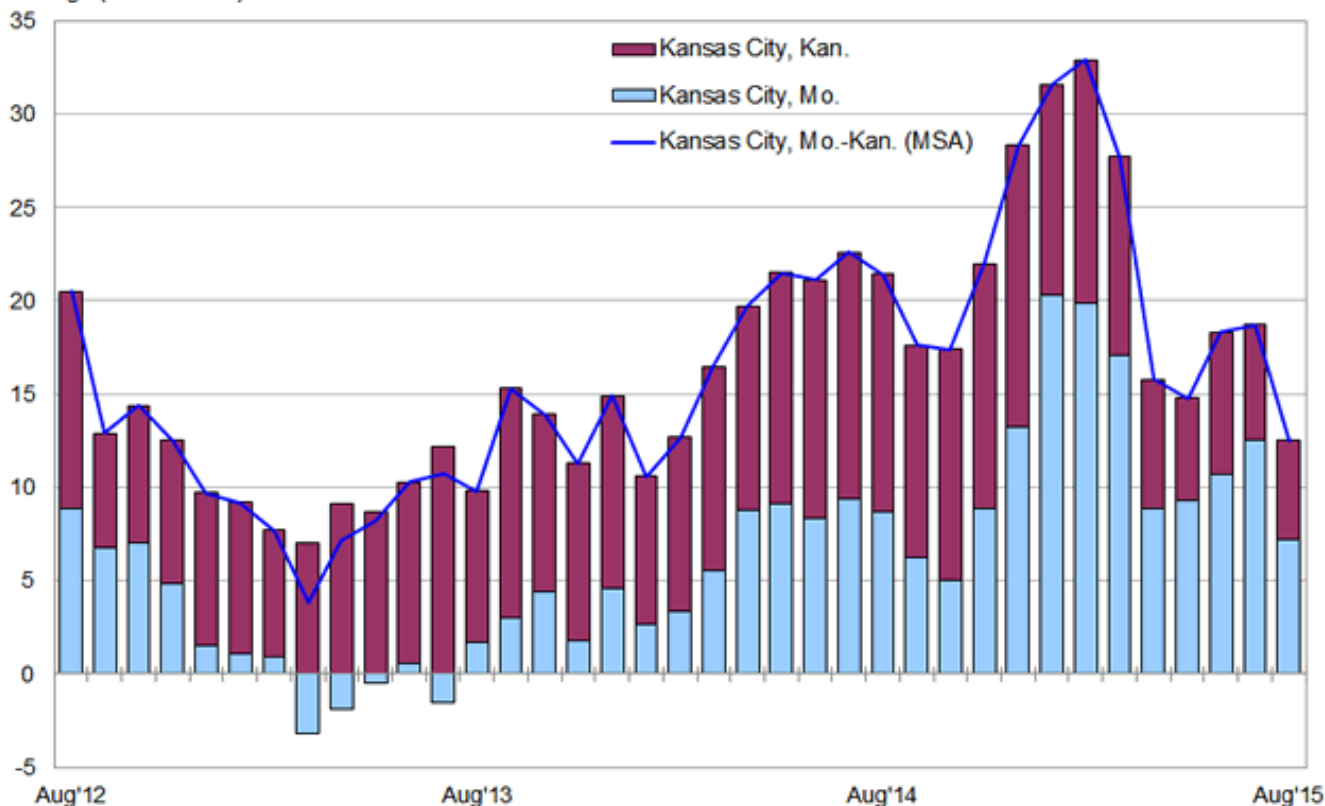
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Kansas City Area Employment – August 2015

Total nonfarm employment for the Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) stood at 1,033,700 in August 2015, up 12,500 or 1.2 percent from August 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. During the same period, nonfarm employment nationwide rose 2.1 percent. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that over-the-year net job growth in the Kansas City metropolitan area has exceeded 10,000 each month since September 2013. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#); the [Technical Note](#) at the end of this release contains metropolitan area definitions. Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, analysis is based on over-the-year comparisons.)

Chart 1. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year net change in the Kansas City metropolitan area and its components, August 2012–August 2015

Net change (in thousands)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Kansas City metropolitan area is comprised of two separately identifiable employment centers—the Missouri portion and the Kansas portion of the MSA. The Missouri portion, which had 55 percent of the area’s workforce, added 7,200 jobs (1.3 percent) from August 2014 to August 2015. The Kansas portion, with 45 percent of the area’s workforce, gained 5,300 jobs (1.2 percent) over the year.

Two industry supersectors in the Kansas City metropolitan area added more than 3,000 jobs from August 2014 to August 2015. Education and health services experienced the largest increase in employment, up 3,900 over the year. Employment growth in this supersector occurred in both portions of the MSA, as the Kansas portion added 2,200 jobs and the Missouri portion gained 1,700 jobs. Locally, the 2.8 percent rate of job growth in the education and health services supersector matched the national rate. The financial activities supersector added 3,700 jobs over the year. Employment growth in financial activities was similar in both portions of the MSA, as the Missouri portion gained 1,900 jobs and the Kansas portion added 1,800 jobs. Locally, financial activities registered a 5.0-percent gain in employment, far outpacing the national rate of 2.1 percent.

Employment in the mining, logging, and construction supersector rose by 2,700 over the year. The expansion in this supersector’s employment occurred on both sides of the MSA with the Missouri portion of the metropolitan area gaining 1,700 jobs and the Kansas portion adding 1,000 jobs.

Three other supersectors registered employment gains of more than 1,000 jobs since August 2014. Professional and business services added 1,600 jobs, with nearly all of the growth on the Missouri side of the MSA (1,500). The 0.9-percent rate of local job growth was slower than the national rate of 3.4 percent. Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities increased by 1,400. The Missouri portion of the metropolitan area also led the job growth in this supersector with a gain of 1,600 jobs. The 0.7-percent rate of local job growth compared to a national rate of 2.1 percent for this supersector. Government employment was also up by 1,400 over the year with both portions of the MSA contributing to the expansion. Locally, government employment increased at a 1.0-percent pace, compared to the national rate of 0.6 percent.

One supersector in the Kansas City metropolitan area experienced employment losses of more than 1,000 jobs over the year. Manufacturing shed 2,400 jobs, with job losses concentrated in the Kansas portion of the MSA (-2,100). Locally, manufacturing employment declined 3.3 percent while nationally it was up 0.9 percent.

Metropolitan area employment data for September 2015 are scheduled to be released on Tuesday, October 20, 2015.

Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The CES survey is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor between State employment security agencies and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2012 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for approximately 39 percent of CES published series which have insufficient sample for direct sample-based estimates.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports which are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

Reliability of the estimates. The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey, administrative data, and modeling and, thus, are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the supersector level are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on February 28, 2013. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Bates, Caldwell, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri; Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas.

The Kansas City, Mo., portion includes Bates, Caldwell, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri.

The Kansas City, Kan., portion includes Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available online at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm. Industry employment data for states and metropolitan areas from the Current Employment Statistics program are also available in the above mentioned news releases and from the Internet at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 800-877-8339.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, the United States and the Kansas City metropolitan area and its components, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	August 2014	June 2015	July 2015	August 2015 (p)	Aug. 2014 to Aug. 2015	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm.....	139,232	142,836	141,868	142,126	2,894	2.1
Mining and logging	921	843	844	830	-91	-9.9
Construction	6,460	6,573	6,653	6,681	221	3.4
Manufacturing.....	12,300	12,415	12,415	12,416	116	0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26,413	26,956	26,966	26,974	561	2.1
Information	2,774	2,796	2,807	2,802	28	1.0
Financial activities	8,057	8,178	8,217	8,224	167	2.1
Professional and business services	19,315	19,885	19,917	19,967	652	3.4
Education and health services	21,216	21,839	21,752	21,812	596	2.8
Leisure and hospitality.....	15,383	15,780	15,876	15,848	465	3.0
Other services	5,625	5,706	5,723	5,687	62	1.1
Government.....	20,768	21,865	20,698	20,885	117	0.6
Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., MSA						
Total nonfarm.....	1,021.2	1,048.3	1,034.4	1,033.7	12.5	1.2
Mining, logging, and construction.....	45.2	47.4	48.0	47.9	2.7	6.0
Manufacturing.....	72.9	73.1	69.5	70.5	-2.4	-3.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	206.4	208.5	208.4	207.8	1.4	0.7
Information	29.7	29.7	29.7	29.7	0.0	0.0
Financial activities	74.1	77.0	78.0	77.8	3.7	5.0
Professional and business services	170.0	173.1	172.9	171.6	1.6	0.9
Education and health services	140.1	141.6	143.5	144.0	3.9	2.8
Leisure and hospitality.....	106.2	108.5	107.5	106.8	0.6	0.6
Other services	42.4	42.2	42.1	42.0	-0.4	-0.9
Government.....	134.2	147.2	134.8	135.6	1.4	1.0
Kansas City, Mo., portion						
Total nonfarm.....	564.7	580.1	572.2	571.9	7.2	1.3
Mining, logging, and construction.....	25.6	27.3	27.2	27.3	1.7	6.6
Manufacturing.....	41.5	42.7	40.2	41.2	-0.3	-0.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	108.6	110.5	110.9	110.2	1.6	1.5
Information	14.5	14.4	14.4	14.4	-0.1	-0.7
Financial activities	39.8	41.1	41.8	41.7	1.9	4.8
Professional and business services	82.7	84.9	85.8	84.2	1.5	1.8
Education and health services	78.3	78.1	79.6	80.0	1.7	2.2
Leisure and hospitality.....	64.8	64.6	63.5	63.8	-1.0	-1.5
Other services	26.5	26.4	26.3	26.2	-0.3	-1.1
Government.....	82.4	90.1	82.5	82.9	0.5	0.6
Kansas City, Kan., portion						
Total nonfarm.....	456.5	468.2	462.2	461.8	5.3	1.2
Mining, logging, and construction.....	19.6	20.1	20.8	20.6	1.0	5.1
Manufacturing.....	31.4	30.4	29.3	29.3	-2.1	-6.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	97.8	98.0	97.5	97.6	-0.2	-0.2
Information	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.3	0.1	0.7
Financial activities	34.3	35.9	36.2	36.1	1.8	5.2
Professional and business services	87.3	88.2	87.1	87.4	0.1	0.1
Education and health services	61.8	63.5	63.9	64.0	2.2	3.6
Leisure and hospitality.....	41.4	43.9	44.0	43.0	1.6	3.9
Other services	15.9	15.8	15.8	15.8	-0.1	-0.6
Government.....	51.8	57.1	52.3	52.7	0.9	1.7

Footnotes

(p) Preliminary.