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County Employment and Wages in Kansas – Second Quarter 2017

Employment rose in 2 of the 4 largest counties in Kansas from June 2016 to June 2017, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported today. (Large counties are defined as those with employment of 75,000 or more as measured by 2016 annual average employment.) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Stanley W. Suchman noted that employment increased 1.0 percent in Johnson County and 0.7 percent in Wyandotte County. (See [table 1.](#))

Nationwide, employment advanced 1.7 percent during the 12-month period as 318 of the 346 largest U.S. counties registered increases. Midland, Texas, had the largest percentage increase, up 7.3 percent over the year. Lucas, Ohio, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in employment with a loss of 1.9 percent.

Among the four largest counties in Kansas, employment was highest in Johnson (342,000) and lowest in Wyandotte (91,000) in June 2017. Together, the four largest Kansas counties accounted for 56.4 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 346 largest counties made up 72.7 percent of total U.S. employment.

Average weekly wages increased in each of the four large counties in Kansas from the second quarter of 2016 to the second quarter of 2017. Wyandotte County had over-the-year wage growth of 5.9 percent and Shawnee County had growth of 4.9 percent, both exceeding the 3.2-percent increase for the nation. Johnson (\$1,031) had the highest average weekly wage among Kansas's large counties and was above the national average of \$1,020. (See [table 1.](#))

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 101 counties in Kansas with employment levels below 75,000. Of these small counties, Coffey (\$1,009) had the highest wage level, but did not exceed the national average. (See [table 2.](#))

Large county wage changes

Wyandotte County's 5.9-percent annual wage gain was the largest among the state's large counties and placed 18th in the national ranking. (See [table 1.](#)) Shawnee County's 4.9-percent gain ranked 45th. Johnson County (1.2 percent, 291st) and Sedgwick County (0.4 percent, 315th) placed in the bottom quartile of the national ranking in wage growth.

Among the 346 largest U.S. counties, 325 had over-the-year increases in average weekly wages in the second quarter of 2017. New Hanover, N.C., had the largest percentage increase in average weekly wages with a gain of 11.9 percent. Nationally, 19 large counties experienced over-the-year decreases in average weekly wages. McLean, Ill., had the largest percentage decrease in average weekly wages with a loss of 20.4 percent.

Large county average weekly wages

Johnson County's average weekly wage of \$1,031 ranked 87th among the 346 largest U.S. counties in the second quarter of 2017. Wyandotte recorded an average weekly wage of \$987 and placed 128th. Sedgwick County (\$860, 249th) and Shawnee County (\$842, 271st) had average weekly wages that placed them in the bottom third of the ranking.

Nationally, weekly wages were higher than the U.S. average of \$1,020 in 97 of the 346 largest counties. Santa Clara, Calif., held the top position with an average weekly wage of \$2,392. San Mateo, Calif., was second at \$2,093, followed by San Francisco, Calif. (\$1,941) and New York, N.Y. (\$1,907). Among the 249 large counties with an average weekly wage below the U.S. average in the second quarter of 2017, Cameron, Texas (\$615) reported the lowest wage.

Average weekly wages in Kansas's smaller counties

Of the 101 counties in Kansas with employment below 75,000, Coffey County reported the highest weekly wage with an average of \$1,009, below the national average of \$1,020. Washington County reported the lowest weekly wage in the state with an average of \$490 in the second quarter of 2017. (See [table 2](#).)

When all 105 counties in Kansas were considered, all but 1 had wages below the national average. Fifteen reported average weekly wages under \$600, 28 reported wages from \$600 to \$649, 24 had wages from \$650 to \$699, 28 had wages from \$700 to \$749, and 10 had wages \$750 or higher. (See [chart 1](#).)

Additional statistics and other information

Quarterly data for states have been included in this release in [table 3](#). For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note or visit the QCEW Web site at www.bls.gov/cew/.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2016 edition of this publication contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2017 version of the national news release. Tables and additional content from *Employment and Wages Annual Averages 2016* are now available online at www.bls.gov/cew/publications/employment-and-wages-annual-averages/2016/home.htm. The 2017 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2018.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1 (800) 877-8339.

The County Employment and Wages release for third quarter 2017 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The 9.7 million employer reports cover 142.7 million full- and part-time workers. The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average

of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/cew/; however, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's Web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS Web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS Web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Table 1. Covered employment and wages in the United States and the 4 largest counties in Kansas, second quarter 2017

Area	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	June 2017 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2016-17 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, second quarter 2016-17 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	145,186.4	1.7	--	\$1,020	--	3.2	--
Kansas	1,377.8	-0.1	--	849	40	2.4	39
Johnson, Kan.	342.0	1.0	235	1,031	87	1.2	291
Sedgwick, Kan.....	247.2	-0.5	334	860	249	0.4	315
Shawnee, Kan.	96.5	-1.2	343	842	271	4.9	45
Wyandotte, Kan.....	91.0	0.7	264	987	128	5.9	18

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(4) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Kansas, second quarter 2017

Area	Employment June 2017	Average Weekly Wage(1)
United States(2)	145,186,369	\$1,020
Kansas	1,377,791	849
Allen	5,452	651
Anderson	2,047	661
Atchison.....	5,646	709
Barber.....	1,754	629
Barton	12,524	693
Bourbon	6,411	627
Brown	5,230	720
Butler	18,760	702
Chase	941	641
Chautauqua.....	783	559
Cherokee	5,772	731
Cheyenne	961	592
Clark	743	736
Clay	3,013	600
Cloud	3,196	547
Coffey	3,740	1,009
Comanche	680	498
Cowley.....	14,138	710
Crawford.....	17,272	649
Decatur	982	534
Dickinson.....	6,391	625
Doniphan	2,237	647
Douglas	48,640	733
Edwards	964	695
Elk	628	502
Ellis	15,232	712
Ellsworth	2,279	642
Finney.....	19,029	749
Ford	17,725	734
Franklin.....	9,499	722
Geary.....	13,129	730
Gove	1,238	621
Graham	846	692
Grant	3,096	837
Gray.....	3,386	700
Greeley.....	689	631
Greenwood	1,679	613
Hamilton	1,406	661
Harper	2,160	640
Harvey	13,732	708
Haskell.....	1,958	738
Hodgeman.....	582	620
Jackson	4,244	637
Jefferson.....	3,621	688
Jewell	778	559
Johnson.....	342,035	1,031
Kearny	1,419	696
Kingman	2,430	622
Kiowa.....	1,139	625
Labette	9,045	679
Lane	646	743
Leavenworth.....	21,358	844
Lincoln	966	621
Linn.....	2,237	899
Logan	1,376	602

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Kansas, second quarter 2017 - Continued

Area	Employment June 2017	Average Weekly Wage(1)
Lyon.....	15,166	648
Mcperson.....	14,673	803
Marion	3,958	702
Marshall.....	4,517	636
Meade	2,164	692
Miami	8,563	708
Mitchell	3,137	692
Montgomery	14,454	648
Morris	1,499	547
Morton	840	692
Nemaha.....	5,314	674
Neosho	6,206	651
Ness	1,114	707
Norton.....	2,468	667
Osage.....	2,978	527
Osborne.....	1,512	554
Ottawa	1,320	559
Pawnee	2,953	673
Phillips	2,540	665
Pottawatomie.....	9,614	755
Pratt.....	4,525	736
Rawlins.....	935	653
Reno.....	27,116	705
Republic	1,996	552
Rice	4,084	672
Riley	29,863	743
Rooks	1,771	609
Rush	1,046	647
Russell.....	2,648	651
Saline	29,912	715
Scott	2,381	674
Sedgwick	247,196	860
Seward	10,951	718
Shawnee	96,478	842
Sheridan	950	709
Sherman.....	2,469	639
Smith	1,303	563
Stafford	1,276	602
Stanton	852	714
Stevens	1,844	706
Sumner.....	7,216	696
Thomas	3,997	676
Trego	1,323	640
Wabaunsee	1,329	618
Wallace.....	569	608
Washington.....	2,096	490
Wichita.....	784	709
Wilson.....	3,713	671
Woodson	731	542
Wyandotte	90,999	987

Footnotes

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

NOTE: Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. Data are preliminary.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, second quarter 2017

State	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	June 2017 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2016-17	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level	Percent change, second quarter 2016-17	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	145,186.4	1.7	\$1,020	--	3.2	--
Alabama	1,946.4	1.2	858	38	2.8	31
Alaska	338.4	-0.7	1,005	16	-0.5	51
Arizona	2,699.6	2.9	943	23	2.5	35
Arkansas	1,206.0	0.7	810	47	3.2	22
California	17,150.9	2.2	1,210	5	4.7	3
Colorado	2,638.8	2.5	1,042	11	4.2	5
Connecticut	1,701.2	0.6	1,216	4	0.4	50
Delaware	446.6	0.6	1,012	15	2.2	43
District of Columbia	766.5	1.0	1,675	1	3.3	19
Florida	8,390.6	2.8	905	27	2.5	35
Georgia.....	4,357.8	2.1	956	21	2.9	27
Hawaii.....	653.0	1.0	935	24	3.5	13
Idaho	723.5	3.4	765	50	3.4	16
Illinois	6,006.6	0.9	1,062	9	2.4	39
Indiana.....	3,041.0	1.5	859	37	3.7	9
Iowa.....	1,571.4	0.4	853	39	3.3	19
Kansas	1,377.8	-0.1	849	40	2.4	39
Kentucky.....	1,889.4	0.8	862	35	2.9	27
Louisiana	1,907.7	0.0	869	34	2.0	46
Maine.....	629.1	0.9	814	46	2.5	35
Maryland.....	2,694.8	1.4	1,103	8	3.1	23
Massachusetts	3,604.5	1.6	1,278	2	3.6	11
Michigan	4,365.3	1.6	969	19	2.9	27
Minnesota.....	2,902.1	2.0	1,037	12	3.9	6
Mississippi	1,128.9	0.7	732	51	0.8	49
Missouri	2,818.7	1.2	889	30	3.0	25
Montana	473.6	1.3	797	48	3.9	6
Nebraska	984.0	0.4	833	43	3.5	13
Nevada	1,333.5	3.4	900	29	2.9	27
New Hampshire.....	665.4	1.6	1,015	14	1.2	48
New Jersey.....	4,123.5	1.8	1,173	6	2.3	41
New Mexico	815.4	0.7	823	45	1.5	47
New York	9,417.4	1.6	1,237	3	2.2	43
North Carolina	4,361.4	1.8	902	28	4.3	4
North Dakota	422.7	-0.2	953	22	5.0	2
Ohio.....	5,422.8	1.2	912	25	3.3	19
Oklahoma	1,583.8	0.8	845	41	2.5	35
Oregon	1,912.6	2.2	967	20	3.8	8
Pennsylvania	5,859.4	1.3	1,000	17	3.0	25
Rhode Island	487.3	1.0	980	18	2.6	33
South Carolina.....	2,053.9	2.0	834	42	3.6	11
South Dakota.....	435.5	0.6	785	49	3.4	16
Tennessee	2,948.1	1.8	906	26	3.5	13
Texas	12,059.6	2.1	1,027	13	2.7	32
Utah.....	1,440.3	3.4	862	35	2.6	33
Vermont.....	314.2	1.0	870	33	2.1	45
Virginia.....	3,886.6	1.5	1,047	10	3.7	9
Washington.....	3,352.5	2.2	1,141	7	5.6	1
West Virginia	690.9	-0.3	828	44	3.4	16
Wisconsin	2,905.3	1.1	876	31	2.3	41
Wyoming	280.2	-0.7	875	32	3.1	23
Puerto Rico.....	873.6	-1.0	515	(3)	1.2	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, second quarter 2017 - Continued

State	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	June 2017 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2016-17	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level	Percent change, second quarter 2016-17	National ranking by percent change
Virgin Islands	38.6	0.4	762	(3)	2.6	(3)

Footnotes:

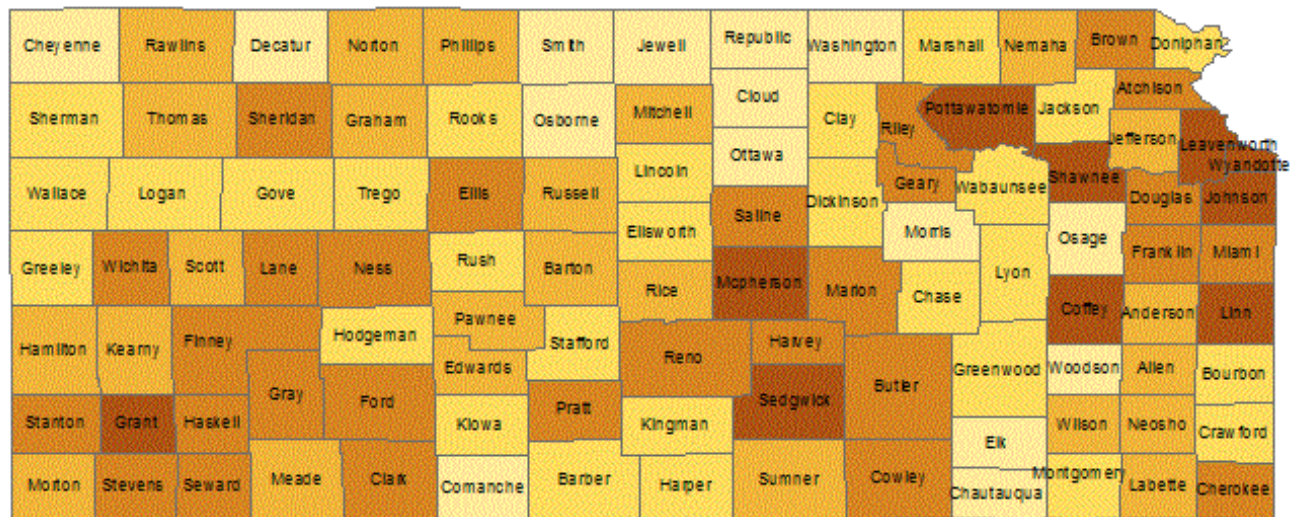
(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

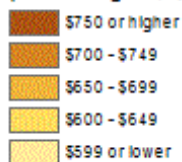
Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Chart 1. Average weekly wages by county in Kansas, second quarter 2017



Average weekly wages

(U.S. average = \$1,020)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics