NEWS RELEASE
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BLS

Kansas City Area Employment – November 2018

Total nonfarm employment for the Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) stood at 1,115,800 in November 2018, up 16,600, or 1.5 percent, from November 2017, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. During the same period, nonfarm employment nationwide rose 1.6 percent. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Stanley W. Suchman noted that the Kansas City area's November increase was its 99th consecutive over-the-year employment gain. (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.)

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 side, which had 56 percent of the area's workforce, added 8,200 jobs (+1.3 percent) from November 2017 to November 2018, and the Kansas side added 8,400 jobs (+1.7 percent).

Government had the largest employment increase, adding 4,200 jobs since November 2017. The Missouri portion of the metropolitan area added 3,000 jobs while the Kansas portion gained 1,200. The 2.7-percent local rate of job growth exceeded the national increase of 0.3 percent over the year. Mining, logging, and construction, one of the smallest supersectors in the local area, had the next largest employment increase, adding 3,900 jobs (+7.7 percent) from November 2017 to November 2018. The growth was attributable to a gain of 3,800 jobs in the Missouri portion of the area.

Three additional local supersectors added more than 2,000 jobs since November 2017. Leisure and hospitality added 3,100 local jobs led by the addition of 2,300 jobs on the Missouri side of the area. The 3.0-percent rate of local job growth for this supersector outpaced the national rate of 1.8 percent. Trade, transportation, and utilities, the metropolitan area's largest supersector, added 3,000 jobs over the year, with all of the gain in the Kansas portion of the area. This supersector's 1.4-percent rate of local job growth compared to a national gain of 1.1 percent. Professional and business services employment rose by 2,400 from November 2017 to November 2018, with the Missouri and Kansas portions each adding 1,200 jobs. The 1.2-percent rate of local job growth in professional and business services was less than half the national rate of 2.7 percent.

The information supersector lost 1,000 jobs in the Kansas City area over the year, with losses in both the Missouri and Kansas portions. The local job loss rate of 5.7 percent was more than seven times the 0.8-percent rate of loss for the nation.

Metropolitan area employment data for December 2018 are scheduled to be released on Friday, January 18, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

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 2017 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. CES State and Area employment data are produced using several estimation procedures. Where possible these data are produced using a "weighted link relative" estimation technique in which a ratio of current-month weighted employment to that of the previous-month weighted employment is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are then obtained by multiplying these ratios by the previous month's employment estimates. The weighted link relative technique is utilized for data series where the sample size meets certain statistical criteria.

For some employment series, the sample of establishments is very small or highly variable. In these cases, a model-based approach is used in estimation. These models use the direct sample estimates (described above), combined with forecasts of historical (benchmarked) data to decrease volatility in estimation. Two different models (Fay-Herriot Model and Small Domain Model) are used depending on the industry level being estimated. For more detailed information about each model, refer to the BLS Handbook of Methods.

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 the total private employment series are available for metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. Measures of sampling error for more detailed series at the area and division level are available upon request. Measures of sampling error

for states down to the supersector level are available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. Measures of nonsampling error are not available for the areas contained in this release. Information on recent benchmark revisions is available online at www.bls.gov/web/laus/benchmark.pdf.

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 July 15, 2015. 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 BLS website 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	Nov 2017	Sep 2018	Oct 2018	Nov 2018(p)	Nov 2017 to Nov 2018(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm	148,783	149,741	150,757	151,232	2,449	1.6
Mining and logging	703	759	764	755	52	7.4
Construction	7,117	7,476	7,500	7,394	277	3.9
Manufacturing	12,522	12,792	12,792	12,803	281	2.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	28,171	27,720	27,894	28,485	314	1.1
Information	2,799	2,752	2,773	2,778	-21	-0.8
Financial activities	8,499	8,607	8,626	8,615	116	1.4
Professional and business services	20,864	21,184	21,385	21,422	558	2.7
Education and health services	23,609	23,683	23,996	24,077	468	2.0
Leisure and hospitality	15,877	16,531	16,384	16,157	280	1.8
Other services	5,809	5,865	5,886	5,874	65	1.1
Government	22,813	22,372	22,757	22,872	59	0.3
Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., MSA						
Total nonfarm	1,099.2	1,111.9	1,116.7	1,115.8	16.6	1.5
Mining, logging, and construction	50.9	55.9	55.4	54.8	3.9	7.7
Manufacturing	76.6	75.8	76.2	76.9	0.3	0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	220.3	218.1	219.6	223.3	3.0	1.4
Information	17.5	16.6	16.5	16.5	-1.0	-5.7
Financial activities	80.6	81.5	81.2	81.2	0.6	0.7
Professional and business services	198.3	198.7	201.0	200.7	2.4	1.2
Education and health services	152.9	150.0	153.5	152.9	0.0	0.0
Leisure and hospitality	105.0	113.4	111.7	108.1	3.1	3.0
Other services	43.5	43.7	43.8	43.6	0.1	0.2
Government	153.6	158.2	157.8	157.8	4.2	2.7
Kansas City, Mo., portion						
Total nonfarm	615.5	625.7	626.0	623.7	8.2	1.3
Mining, logging, and construction	29.5	33.9	34.1	33.3	3.8	12.9
Manufacturing	45.6	44.6	44.9	45.1	-0.5	-1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	112.9	110.6	110.9	112.3	-0.6	-0.5
Information	10.4	10.2	10.0	10.0	-0.4	-3.8
Financial activities	44.2	44.6	43.9	44.0	-0.2	-0.5
Professional and business services	100.9	101.5	102.1	102.1	1.2	1.2
Education and health services	84.8	83.0	85.0	84.4	-0.4	-0.5
Leisure and hospitality	65.6	71.8	70.2	67.9	2.3	3.5
Other services	26.4	26.5	26.5	26.4	0.0	0.0
Government	95.2	99.0	98.4	98.2	3.0	3.2
Kansas City, Kan., portion						
Total nonfarm	483.7	486.2	490.7	492.1	8.4	1.7
Mining, logging, and construction	21.4	22.0	21.3	21.5	0.1	0.5
Manufacturing	31.0	31.2	31.3	31.8	0.8	2.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	107.4	107.5	108.7	111.0	3.6	3.4
Information	7.1	6.4	6.5	6.5	-0.6	-8.5
Financial activities	36.4	36.9	37.3	37.2	0.8	2.2
Professional and business services	97.4	97.2	98.9	98.6	1.2	1.2
Education and health services	68.1	67.0	68.5	68.5	0.4	0.6
Leisure and hospitality	39.4	41.6	41.5	40.2	0.8	2.0
Other services	17.1	17.2	17.3	17.2	0.1	0.6
Government	58.4	59.2	59.4	59.6	1.2	2.1

Footnotes
(p) Preliminary