



For Release: Wednesday, September 29, 2021

21-1678-KAN

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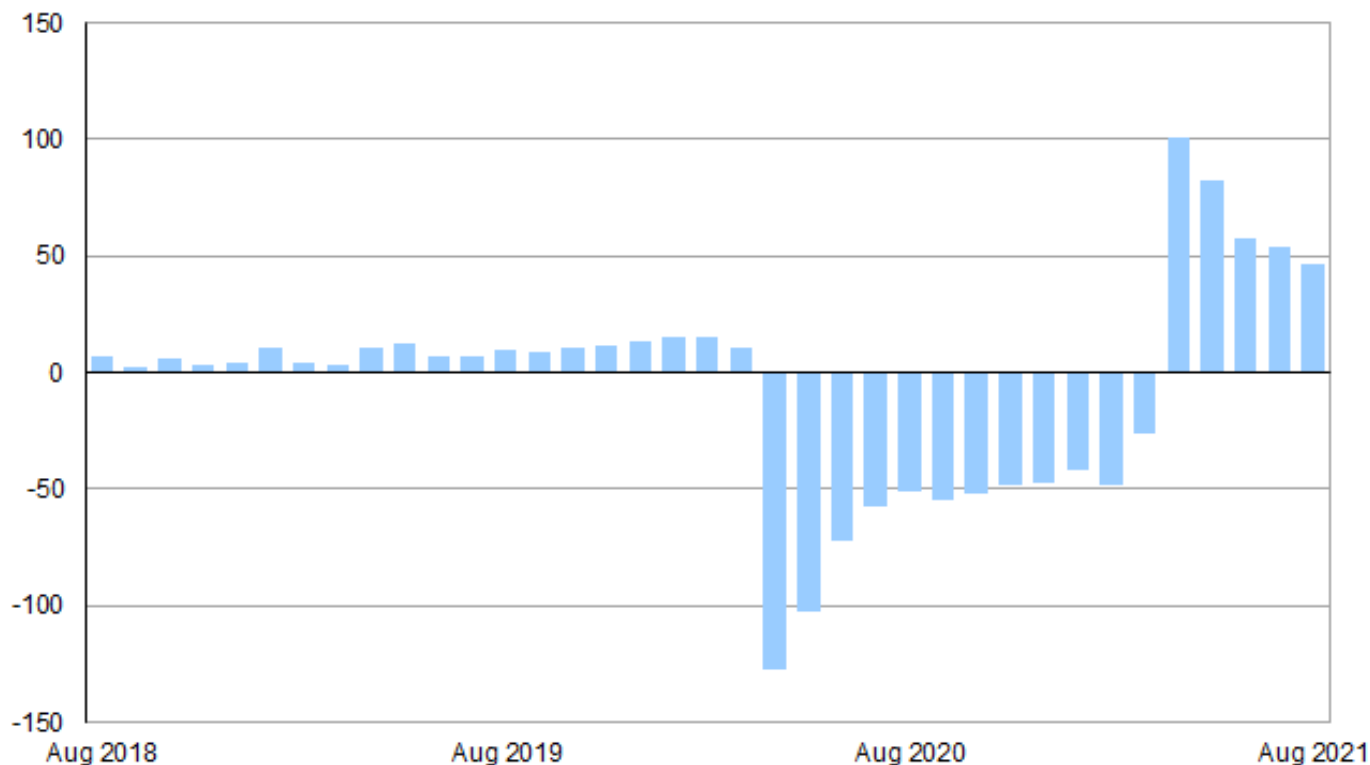
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Kansas City Area Employment – August 2021

Total nonfarm employment for the Kansas City, MO-KS, metropolitan area increased by 46,700 over the year in August, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).) Regional Commissioner Michael Hirniak noted that the local rate of job gain, 4.5 percent, compared to the 4.4-percent national increase. (All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year net change for total nonfarm employment in the Kansas City metropolitan area, August 2018–August 2021

Thousands



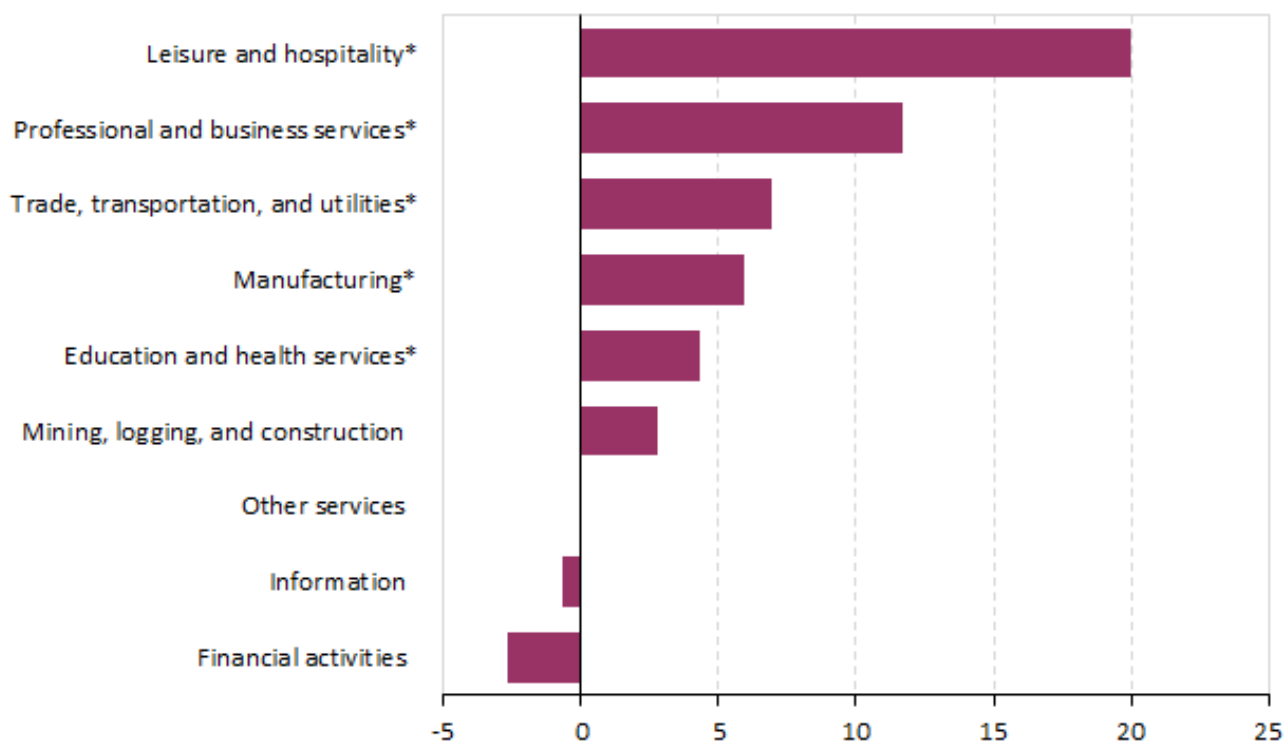
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Kansas City, MO-KS, is made up of two separately identifiable employment centers within the larger metropolitan area—the Missouri portion and the Kansas portion. Employment increased over the year in both portions of the metropolitan area. Kansas City, MO, which accounted for 56 percent of the area’s total nonfarm employment, gained 35,500 jobs over the year. Kansas City, KS, with 44 percent of area’s employment, gained 11,200 jobs.

Industry employment

In Kansas City, MO-KS, leisure and hospitality had the largest gain (+20,000) among local private-industry supersectors, with both portions of the metropolitan area recording increases. (See [chart 2.](#)) Within the supersector, the accommodation and food services sector added 13,800 jobs. Gains in this sector numbered 9,700 in the Missouri portion and 4,100 in the Kansas portion. The 21.8-percent increase in the metropolitan area’s leisure and hospitality supersector compared to a 17.5-percent gain on the national level.

Chart 2. Over-the-year net change for private-industry supersector employment in the Kansas City metropolitan area, August 2021 (in thousands)



Note: An asterisk indicates statistical significance at the 90-percent confidence level.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Professional and business services employment increased by 11,700 over the year in the metropolitan area, with the Missouri portion adding 9,900 jobs. The metropolitan area had a 6.4-percent rate increase, which compared to a national rate of 5.6 percent for this supersector.

The trade, transportation, and utilities supersector gained 6,900 jobs over the year in the metropolitan area, with the Kansas portion adding 3,900 jobs. The 3.3-percent rate of job gain in the metropolitan area compared to a similar 3.3-percent increase for the nation.

Employment in the manufacturing supersector increased by 5,900 over the year in the metropolitan area, with the Missouri portion gaining 4,600 jobs. This sector’s 7.4-percent rate of job gain in the metropolitan area compared to a national rate of 3.0 percent.

Education and health services gained 4,300 jobs over the year in the local area. The Missouri portion of the metropolitan area was responsible for all of the jobs gained in this industry (+4,400). The metropolitan area had a 2.8-percent increase compared to a 2.5-percent increase for the nation.

The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release for September 2021 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on August 2021 Establishment Survey Data

BLS has continued to review all estimation and methodological procedures for the establishment survey, which included the review of data, estimation processes, the application of the birth-death model, and seasonal adjustment. Business births and deaths cannot be adequately captured by the establishment survey as they occur. Therefore, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program uses a model to account for the relatively stable net employment change generated by business births and deaths. Due to the impact of COVID-19, the relationship between business births and deaths is no longer stable. Typically, reports with zero employment are not included in estimation. For the July final and August preliminary estimates, CES included a portion of these reports in the estimates and made modifications to the birth-death model. In addition for both months, the establishment survey included a portion of the reports that returned to reporting positive employment from reporting zero employment. For more information, see www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbd.htm.

In the establishment survey, workers who are paid by their employer for all or any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month are counted as employed, even if they were not actually at their jobs. Workers who are temporarily or permanently absent from their jobs and are not being paid are not counted as employed, even if they are continuing to receive benefits. The length of the reference period does vary across the respondents in the establishment survey; one-third of businesses have a weekly pay period, slightly over 40 percent a bi-weekly, about 20 percent semi-monthly, and a small amount monthly.

Technical Note

Special technical note: This technical note describes the procedures regularly used on a monthly basis to develop estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some of the procedures described in this technical note have been modified. The modifications are briefly described in the box note of this news release. More information on the changes to the CES business birth-death model is available at www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbd.htm.

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the CES program. The CES survey is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor between State employment security agencies and the U.S. 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 at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/ces-20110307.pdf.

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 surveys, 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 also are 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 specific estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Changes in metropolitan area nonfarm payroll employment are cited in the analysis of this release only if they have been determined to be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level. Measures of sampling error for the total nonfarm employment series are available for metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions at www.bls.gov/web/laus/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 at the supersector level and for the private service-providing, goods-producing, total private and total nonfarm levels are available on the BLS website at <https://www.bls.gov/web/laus/790stderr.htm>. Information on recent benchmark revisions is available online at www.bls.gov/web/laus/bmrk_article.htm.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this news release reflect the delineations issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on April 10, 2018.

The **Kansas City, MO-KS Metropolitan Statistical Area** 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.
- **The Kansas City, KS, portion** includes Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties.

Additional information

Employment data from the CES program are available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Information in this release will be made available to individuals with sensory impairments 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	Aug 2020	Jun 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2021(p)	Aug 2020 to Aug 2021(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm.....	140,728	146,578	146,544	146,856	6,128	4.4
Mining and logging	595	634	643	647	52	8.7
Construction	7,460	7,598	7,641	7,643	183	2.5
Manufacturing.....	12,133	12,397	12,458	12,492	359	3.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26,452	27,318	27,339	27,314	862	3.3
Information	2,622	2,730	2,763	2,771	149	5.7
Financial activities	8,730	8,842	8,890	8,899	169	1.9
Professional and business services	20,060	20,918	21,062	21,175	1,115	5.6
Education and health services	22,782	23,347	23,313	23,341	559	2.5
Leisure and hospitality.....	13,445	15,397	15,872	15,798	2,353	17.5
Other services	5,425	5,729	5,788	5,791	366	6.7
Government.....	21,024	21,668	20,775	20,985	-39	-0.2
Kansas City, MO-KS, MSA						
Total nonfarm.....	1,047.5	1,091.1	1,089.4	1,094.2	46.7	4.5
Mining, logging, and construction.....	53.8	55.8	56.7	56.6	2.8	5.2
Manufacturing.....	79.7	80.8	81.1	85.6	5.9	7.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	210.5	216.7	217.3	217.4	6.9	3.3
Information	14.6	14.0	14.0	13.9	-0.7	-4.8
Financial activities	79.5	77.6	76.9	76.8	-2.7	-3.4
Professional and business services	181.9	194.5	196.8	193.6	11.7	6.4
Education and health services	152.2	157.3	158.3	156.5	4.3	2.8
Leisure and hospitality.....	91.9	107.0	108.0	111.9	20.0	21.8
Other services	41.2	41.5	41.4	41.2	0.0	0.0
Government.....	142.2	145.9	138.9	140.7	-1.5	-1.1
Kansas City, MO, portion						
Total nonfarm.....	579.7	610.2	611.9	615.2	35.5	6.1
Mining, logging, and construction.....	31.3	32.0	32.7	32.4	1.1	3.5
Manufacturing.....	45.7	47.1	47.3	50.3	4.6	10.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	106.9	109.3	110.3	109.9	3.0	2.8
Information	8.4	7.9	7.9	7.8	-0.6	-7.1
Financial activities	41.0	40.3	40.4	40.3	-0.7	-1.7
Professional and business services	94.6	107.6	108.8	104.5	9.9	10.5
Education and health services	83.4	87.1	88.0	87.8	4.4	5.3
Leisure and hospitality.....	55.5	66.6	66.4	70.9	15.4	27.7
Other services	24.8	24.9	24.7	24.5	-0.3	-1.2
Government.....	88.1	87.4	85.4	86.8	-1.3	-1.5
Kansas City, KS, portion						
Total nonfarm.....	467.8	480.9	477.5	479.0	11.2	2.4
Mining, logging, and construction.....	22.5	23.8	24.0	24.2	1.7	7.6
Manufacturing.....	34.0	33.7	33.8	35.3	1.3	3.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	103.6	107.4	107.0	107.5	3.9	3.8
Information	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	-0.1	-1.6
Financial activities	38.5	37.3	36.5	36.5	-2.0	-5.2
Professional and business services	87.3	86.9	88.0	89.1	1.8	2.1
Education and health services	68.8	70.2	70.3	68.7	-0.1	-0.1
Leisure and hospitality.....	36.4	40.4	41.6	41.0	4.6	12.6
Other services	16.4	16.6	16.7	16.7	0.3	1.8
Government.....	54.1	58.5	53.5	53.9	-0.2	-0.4

(p) Preliminary