

<http://www.KSCBNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=15537>

Officials See Good Trends in Kansas Economy

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - Kansas officials say they're seeing positive economic trends even though the state's jobless rate moved higher last month.

In a report Friday, the Kansas labor department says the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 6.3 percent in July from 6.1 percent in June. Unemployment in July of last year was 6.7 percent.

The agency also says Kansas had about 22,000 more private-sector jobs in July than it did a year earlier, an increase of about 2 percent. The state had about 1.1 million private-sector jobs last month.

Employment by business and professional services companies had the biggest year-to-year increase at roughly 8 percent. Manufacturing employment also grew, while the number of government jobs declined.

Associated Press