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Kansas Jobless Rate Unchanged

A new report says the Kansas unemployment rate held steady at 5.4 percent in December while the state recorded modest job growth over the previous year.

The report from the Kansas Labor Department also says last month's jobless figure was down one full point from the 6.4 percent rate of December 2011.

The number of Kansans holding non-farm jobs in December approached 1.4 million, up 1 percent from a year earlier. Professional and business services showed the biggest gain, with employment in that sector up 6.3 percent from December 2011.

Labor Department senior economist Tyler Tenbrink says Thursday's report showed Kansas ending the year on a strong economic note

Associated Press