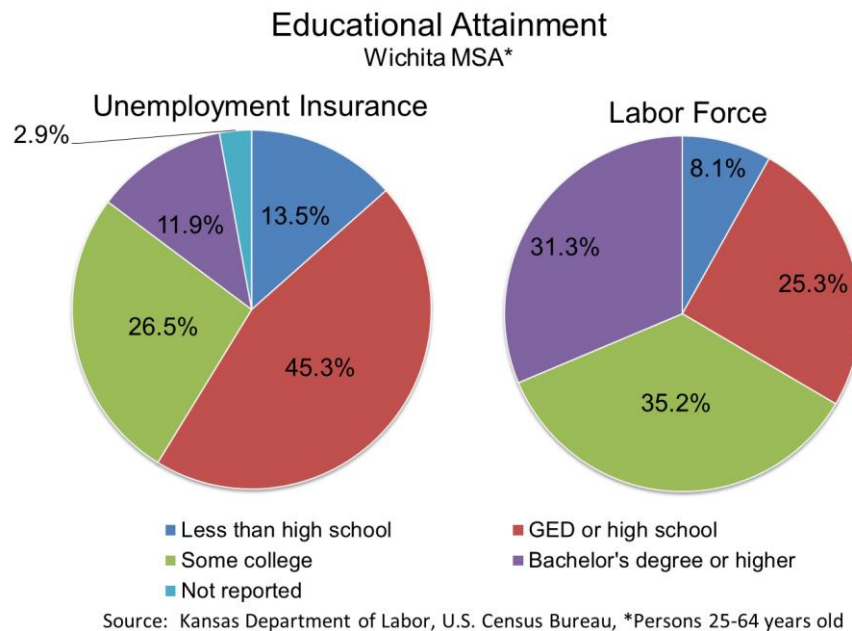




Demographic Profile of Wichita Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries Q1 2013

The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines an unemployed person as one 16 years and older having no employment and having made specific efforts to find employment in the past four weeks. By this definition, there were an average of 20,374 unemployed people in the Wichita metropolitan area in the first quarter of 2013, approximately 52 percent of which collected unemployment insurance benefits.¹ Examining the demographic profile of this subset of the unemployed, and comparing it to the labor force, provides insights into the overall unemployment situation in the Wichita area.

Educational attainment is a leading indicator of unemployment. The higher the level of education the less likely a person will be unemployed. This is true across all demographic characteristics. In the Wichita area 33.4 percent of the labor force, age 25 to 64, have no more education than a high school diploma. Of those receiving unemployment benefits, 58.8 percent have no more education than a high school diploma.



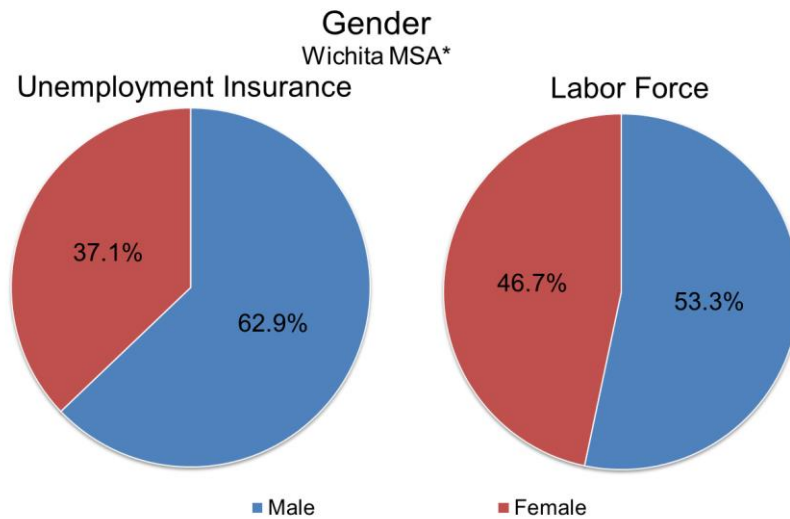
¹ The Kansas Department of Labor provided detailed unemployment beneficiary demographic data for first quarter 2013 at the county level, which was aggregated to the Wichita MSA.

Gender

In the Wichita area a person receiving unemployment insurance benefits is 1.7 times more likely to be a male than a female. This is a disproportionately high level of unemployment in males relative to the labor force. Males account for 53.3 percent of the labor force. However, 62.9 percent of the people receiving unemployment benefits in the Wichita area were male. This can be attributed to the high levels of unemployment in manufacturing and construction, two male dominated industries. For both males and females, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits decreases with higher levels of educational attainment.

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Gender and Education 20-64 years old						
	Female		Male		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	377	3.7%	1,014	9.9%	1,391	13.6%
GED or high school	1,540	15.0%	3,175	30.9%	4,715	46.0%
Some college	1,245	12.1%	1,516	14.8%	2,761	26.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	548	5.3%	563	5.5%	1,111	10.8%
Not Reported	99	1.0%	183	1.8%	282	2.7%
Total	3,809	37.1%	6,451	62.9%	10,260	100.0%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor



Source: Kansas Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau, *Persons 20-64 years old

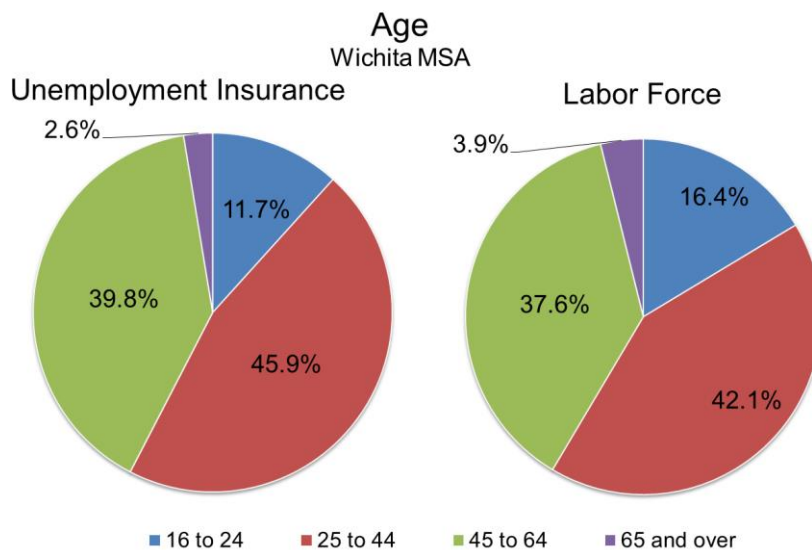
Age

As would be expected, the majority of people receiving unemployment benefits are in the working age population between 25 and 64 years old. Younger working adults, between 25 and 44 years old, are marginally more likely to be receiving unemployment benefits than older working adults, between 45 and 64 years old. However, age is not a strong indicator of who is likely to be a beneficiary of unemployment insurance in the Wichita labor force. The age distribution of people receiving unemployment insurance closely resembles the age distribution in the labor force. For all age groups, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits decreases with higher levels of educational attainment.

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Age and Education					
16 years and over					
	16 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Total
Less than high school	1.8%	6.2%	5.3%	0.3%	13.6%
GED or high school	6.2%	20.3%	18.5%	1.2%	46.2%
Some college	3.3%	13.6%	9.0%	0.5%	26.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.2%	4.8%	5.3%	0.6%	10.9%
Not Reported	0.2%	0.9%	1.6%	0.1%	2.8%
Total	11.7%	45.8%	39.8%	2.6%	100.0%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

However, it should be noted that it is possible a significant portion of the unemployed not receiving benefits would be younger adults. Graduating students transitioning into the labor force are not entitled to unemployment insurance benefits. The Census Bureau estimates the unemployment rate for 16 to 19 year olds in the Wichita area to be 22.2 percent, and 12.6 percent for 20 to 24 year olds.²



Source: Kansas Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau

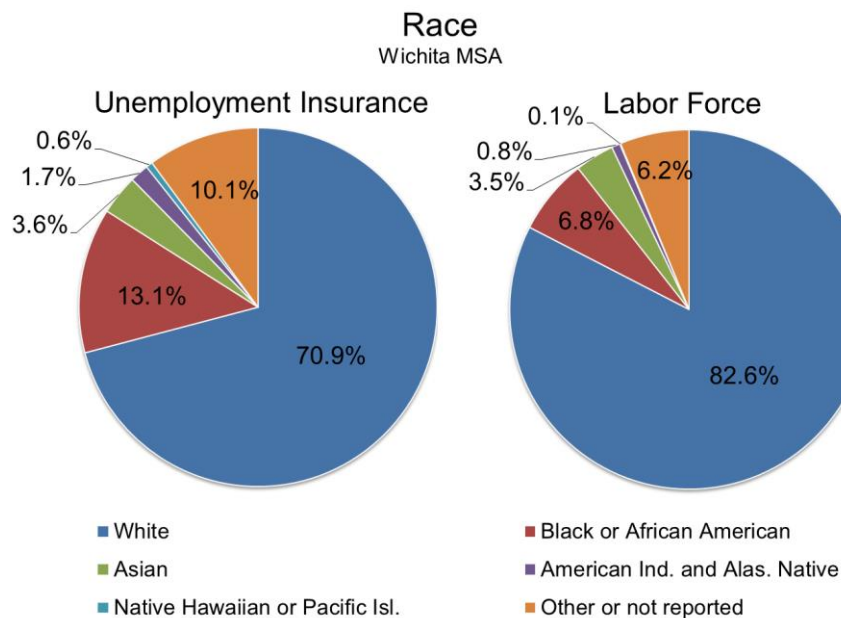
² American Community Survey 2007-2011 5-year estimates

Race

A person receiving unemployment benefits in the Wichita area is 3.7 times more likely to be white than of a minority race. However, there is a disproportionately higher level of minority workers receiving unemployment benefits when compared to the labor force in the Wichita area. Minority workers account for 11.2 percent of the labor force and 19.0 percent of unemployment insurance beneficiaries. For all races, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits decreases with higher levels of educational attainment.

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Race and Education 16 years and over							
	White	Black or African American	Asian	American Ind. and Alas. Native	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Isl.	Not Reported	Total
Less than high school	7.0%	1.4%	0.7%	0.3%	0.2%	4.1%	13.6%
GED or high school	33.4%	6.6%	1.5%	0.8%	0.3%	3.8%	46.2%
Some college	19.9%	3.9%	0.6%	0.5%	0.1%	1.4%	26.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	8.9%	1.0%	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	10.9%
Not Reported	1.8%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	2.8%
Total	70.9%	13.1%	3.6%	1.7%	0.6%	10.1%	100.0%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor



Source: Kansas Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau

CEDBR has this unemployment insurance data available for all Kansas counties and zip codes.

For additional information you may contact us at:

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