



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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Center for Economic Development  
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## Demographic Profile of Wichita Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries Q4 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 was an average of 15,961 unemployed people in the Wichita metropolitan area in the fourth quarter of 2013, approximately 66 percent of whom collected unemployment insurance benefits.<sup>1</sup> In the fourth quarter of 2013 there were approximately 10,578 people, age 16 and over, who collected unemployment insurance benefits. That is an increase of approximately 8.3 percent from the third quarter.

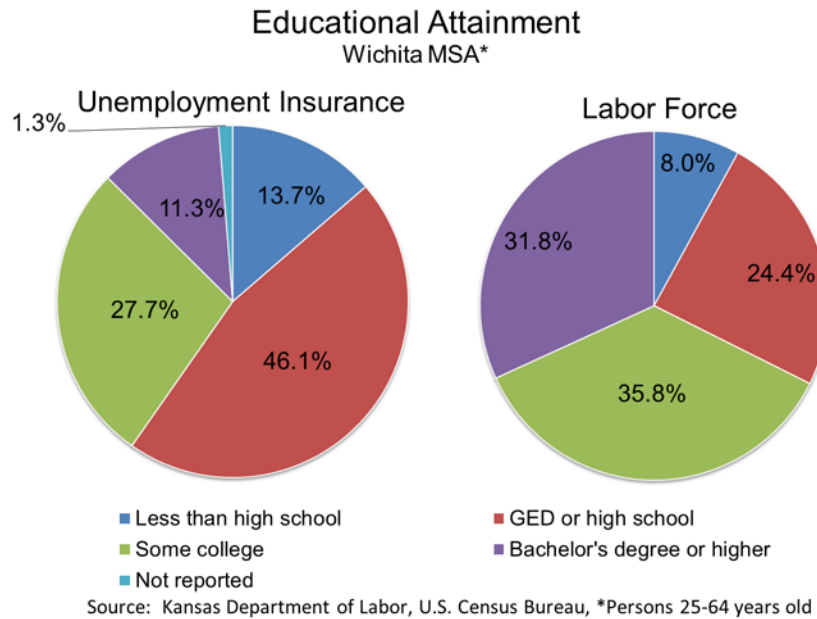
Educational attainment is a leading indicator of unemployment. The higher the level of education, the less likely a person will be unemployed. In the Wichita area 32.4 percent of the labor force, age 25 to 64, have no more education than a high school diploma. Of those receiving unemployment benefits, 59.8 percent have no more education than a high school diploma.

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries						
25-64 years old						
	Q3 2013		Q4 2013		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	863	10.3%	1,275	13.7%	412	47.7%
GED or high school	3,844	45.7%	4,291	46.1%	447	11.6%
Some college	2,375	28.3%	2,579	27.7%	204	8.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,208	14.4%	1,053	11.3%	(155)	-12.8%
Not Reported	115	1.4%	120	1.3%	5	4.3%
Total	8,405	100.0%	9,318	100.0%	913	10.9%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Between the third and fourth quarters of 2013, the only educational attainment category to see a decrease in the number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries was the category with a bachelor's degree or higher. This more than reverses the increase of approximately 118 recipients with a bachelor's degree or higher between the second and third quarters of 2013. That increase may have been attributable to layoffs at Spirit Aerosystems.

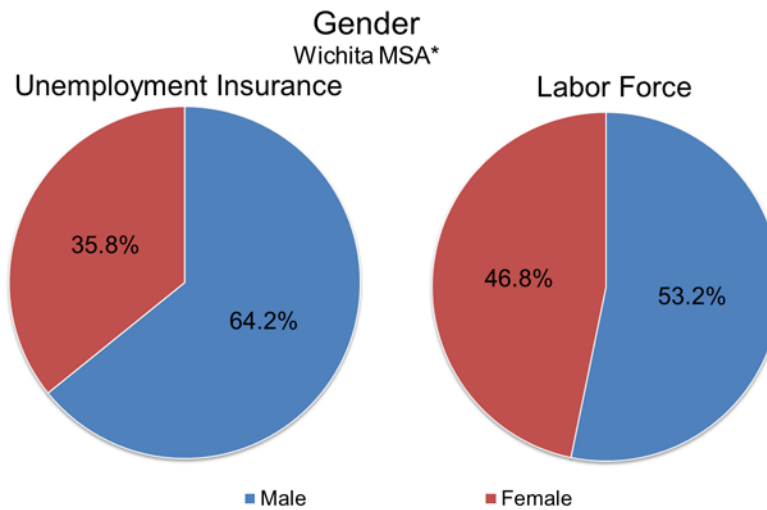
<sup>1</sup> The Kansas Department of Labor provided detailed unemployment beneficiary demographic data for fourth quarter 2013 at the county level, which was aggregated to the Wichita MSA.



## Gender

In the fourth quarter, a person in the Wichita area receiving unemployment insurance benefits is 1.8 times more likely to be a male than a female, up from 1.5 times more likely in the third quarter. This is a disproportionately high level of unemployment in males relative to the labor force. Males account for 53.2 percent of the labor force. However, 64.2 percent of the people receiving unemployment benefits in the Wichita area were male.

Of the males receiving unemployment insurance benefits in the fourth quarter, 10.6 percent were separated from the construction machinery manufacturing industry, the most of any single industry. The next four industries with a high level of male unemployment insurance beneficiaries were temporary help services at 6.3 percent, highway, street and bridge construction at 6.2 percent, landscaping services at 4.7 percent, and air-conditioning and warm air heating equipment and commercial and industrial refrigeration equipment manufacturing at 3.8 percent.



Source: Kansas Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau, \*Persons 16 years and over

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Gender and Education 16 Years and over						
Female	Q3 2013		Q4 2013		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	374	4.0%	454	4.2%	80	21.4%
GED or high school	1,551	16.5%	1,650	15.2%	99	6.4%
Some college	1,211	12.9%	1,221	11.3%	10	0.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	635	6.8%	492	4.5%	(143)	-22.5%
Not Reported	40	0.4%	55	0.5%	15	37.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,811</b>	<b>40.7%</b>	<b>3,872</b>	<b>35.8%</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Male	Q3 2013		Q4 2013		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	617	6.6%	1,038	9.6%	421	68.2%
GED or high school	2,795	29.8%	3,419	31.6%	624	22.3%
Some college	1,464	15.6%	1,763	16.3%	299	20.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	602	6.4%	627	5.8%	25	4.2%
Not Reported	84	0.9%	101	0.9%	17	20.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,562</b>	<b>59.3%</b>	<b>6,948</b>	<b>64.2%</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>24.9%</b>

## Age

The age distribution of people receiving unemployment benefits has not significantly changed from the third quarter to the fourth quarter of 2013. There are marginally fewer people 45 and over receiving unemployment benefits, 40.7 percent, down from 42.8 percent in the third quarter.

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 more likely to be receiving unemployment benefits than older working adults, between 45 and 64 years old.<sup>2</sup>

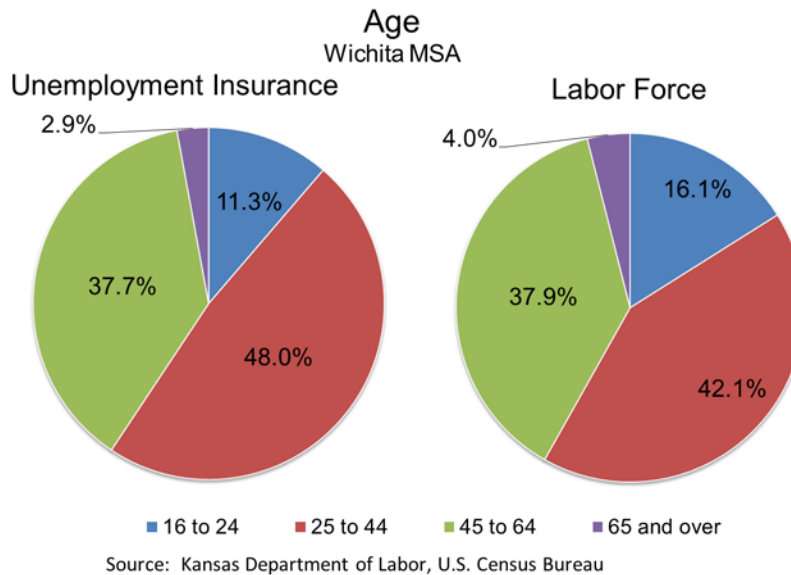
<b>Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Age and Education</b>					
<b>16 years and over</b>					
	16 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Total
Less than high school	1.7%	6.7%	5.0%	0.4%	13.7%
GED or high school	6.1%	21.6%	17.9%	1.2%	46.9%
Some college	3.0%	14.3%	9.6%	0.8%	27.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.2%	4.8%	4.8%	0.4%	10.3%
Not Reported	0.3%	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	1.4%
Total	11.3%	48.0%	37.7%	2.9%	100.0%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor Totals may not sum due to rounding.

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.

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<sup>2</sup> It should be noted that it is possible a significant portion of the unemployed not receiving benefits would be younger adults. The Census Bureau estimates the unemployment rate for 16 to 19 year olds in the Wichita area to be 22.9 percent, and 12.4 percent for 20 to 24 year olds. American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-year estimates



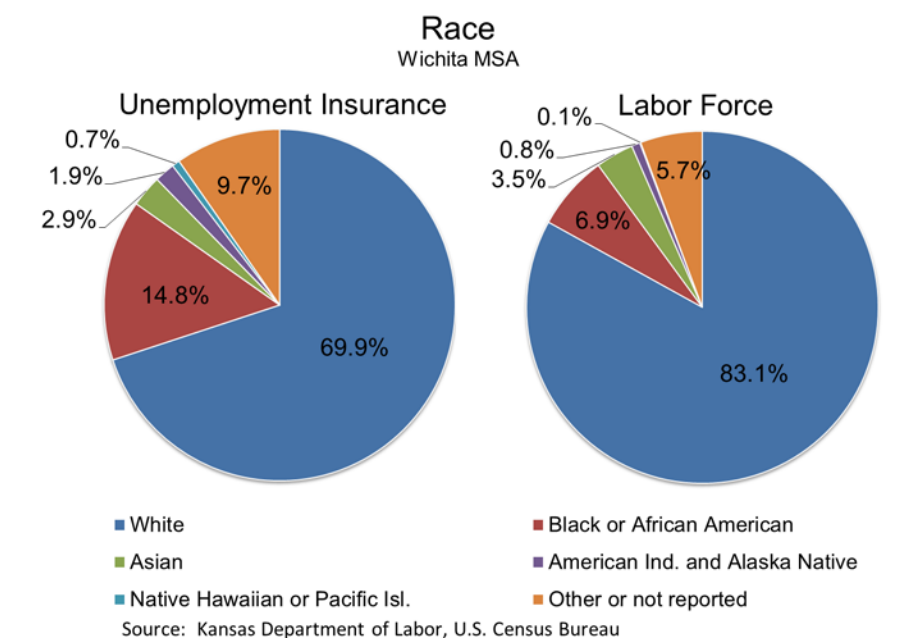
## Race

A person receiving unemployment benefits in the Wichita area is 2.3 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 17.0 percent of the labor force and 30.1 percent of unemployment insurance beneficiaries. For all races, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits decreases with higher levels of educational attainment.

Between the third and fourth quarters there was little change in the racial mix of persons receiving unemployment insurance. White, Black or African American, and Asian beneficiaries decreased by 1.0 percent, 0.6 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively. American Indian and Alaska native and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islanders increased by 0.1 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively, as a portion of unemployment insurance beneficiaries.

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Race and Education 16 years and over							
	White	Black or African American	Asian	American Ind. and Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Isl.	Not Reported	Total
Less than high school	6.8%	1.9%	0.7%	0.4%	0.2%	3.8%	13.8%
GED or high school	33.9%	7.2%	1.2%	0.7%	0.3%	3.5%	46.8%
Some college	20.2%	4.4%	0.5%	0.6%	0.1%	1.7%	27.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	8.1%	1.1%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.5%	10.3%
Not Reported	0.8%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	1.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>69.9%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Kansas Department of Labor



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

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