



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Center for Economic Development
and Business Research

Demographic Profile of Wichita Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries Q2 2014

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 16,690 unemployed people in the Wichita metropolitan area in the second quarter of 2014, approximately 46 percent of whom collected unemployment insurance benefits.¹ In the second quarter of 2014 there were approximately 7,705 people, age 16 and over, who collected unemployment insurance benefits. That is a decrease of approximately 14 percent from the first 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, 53.1 percent have no more education than a high school diploma.

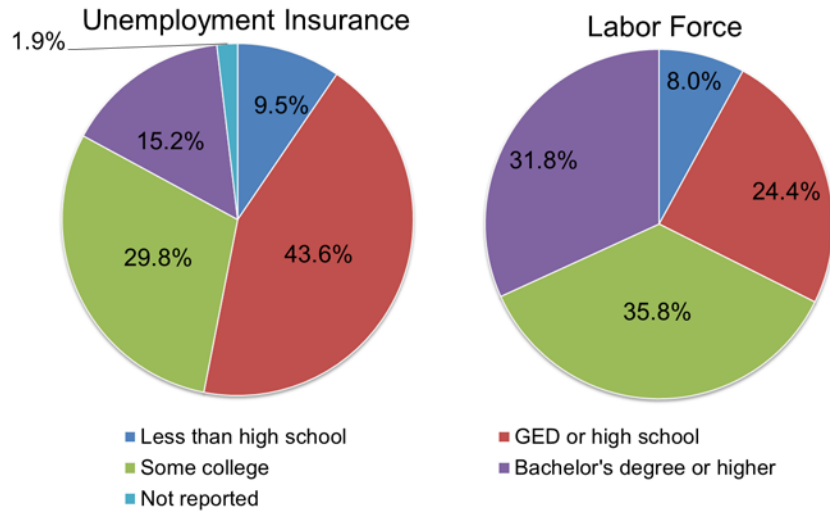
Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries						
25-64 years old						
	Q1 2014		Q2 2014		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	1,071	14.1%	626	9.5%	(445)	-41.5%
GED or high school	3,223	42.5%	2,858	43.6%	(365)	-11.3%
Some college	2,007	26.5%	1,955	29.8%	(52)	-2.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	887	11.7%	998	15.2%	111	12.5%
Not Reported	398	5.2%	125	1.9%	(273)	-68.6%
Total	7,586	100.0%	6,562	100.0%	(1,024)	-13.5%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Between the first and second quarters of 2014, the number of unemployment beneficiaries in all educational attainment categories decreased, with the exception of those with a bachelor's degree or higher. This may be attributed to spring college graduates increasing the competition for jobs requiring this level of education.

¹ The Kansas Department of Labor provided detailed unemployment beneficiary demographic data for first quarter 2014 at the county level, which was aggregated to the Wichita MSA.

Educational Attainment Wichita MSA*

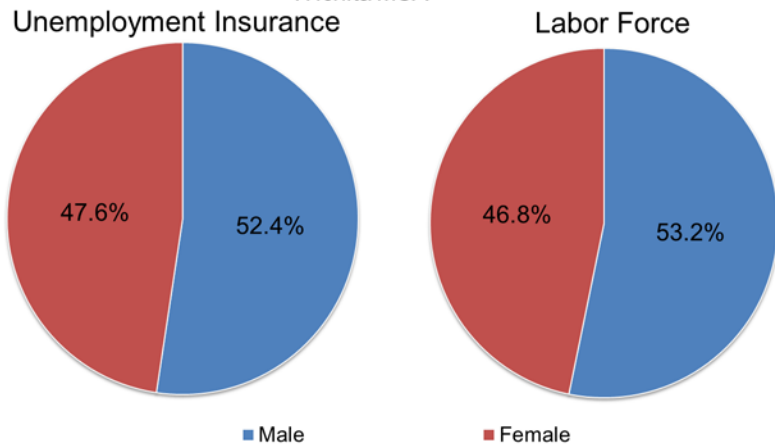


Source: Kansas Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau, *Persons 25-64 years old

Gender

In the second quarter, a person in the Wichita area receiving unemployment insurance benefits is almost as likely to be male as female, at 1.1 times as likely. This is down from 1.9 times more likely to be a male than a female in the first quarter. This is due to seasonal fluctuations in four industries. There has been a seasonal increase in the number of females receiving benefits as the result of the end of the school year. This shows in healthcare and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, and educational services. There also has been a seasonal decrease in construction employment, a primarily male industry.

Gender Wichita MSA*



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	Q1 2014		Q2 2014		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	307	3.4%	347	4.5%	40	13.0%
GED or high school	1,218	13.6%	1,530	19.9%	312	25.6%
Some college	994	11.1%	1,164	15.1%	170	17.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	413	4.6%	571	7.4%	158	38.3%
Not Reported	124	1.4%	54	0.7%	(70)	-56.5%
Total	3,056	34.2%	3,666	47.6%	610	20.0%
Male	Q1 2014		Q2 2014		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	951	10.6%	404	5.2%	(547)	-57.5%
GED or high school	2,681	30.0%	1,916	24.9%	(765)	-28.5%
Some college	1,402	15.7%	1,115	14.5%	(287)	-20.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	551	6.2%	517	6.7%	(34)	-6.2%
Not Reported	307	3.4%	87	1.1%	(220)	-71.7%
Total	5,892	65.8%	4,039	52.4%	(1,853)	-31.4%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Age

The age distribution of people receiving unemployment benefits has not significantly changed from the first to the second quarter of 2014. There are marginally more people 45 and over receiving unemployment benefits, 45.0 percent, up from 41.8 percent in the first quarter.

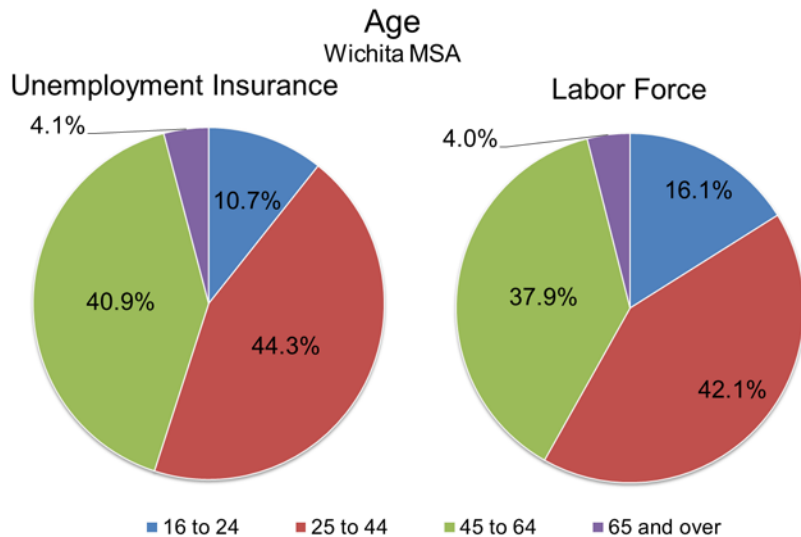
As would be expected, the majority of people receiving unemployment benefits are in the working age population between 25 and 64 years old. Younger working adults, between 25 and 44 years old, are more likely to be receiving unemployment benefits than older working adults, between 45 and 64 years old, at 55 percent and 45 percent, respectively.²

² 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

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	1.4%	4.6%	3.5%	0.2%	9.7%
GED or high school	5.9%	18.0%	19.1%	1.7%	44.7%
Some college	2.9%	14.9%	10.5%	1.3%	29.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.4%	6.3%	6.7%	0.8%	14.1%
Not Reported	0.1%	0.4%	1.2%	0.1%	1.8%
Total	10.7%	44.3%	40.9%	4.1%	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.



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

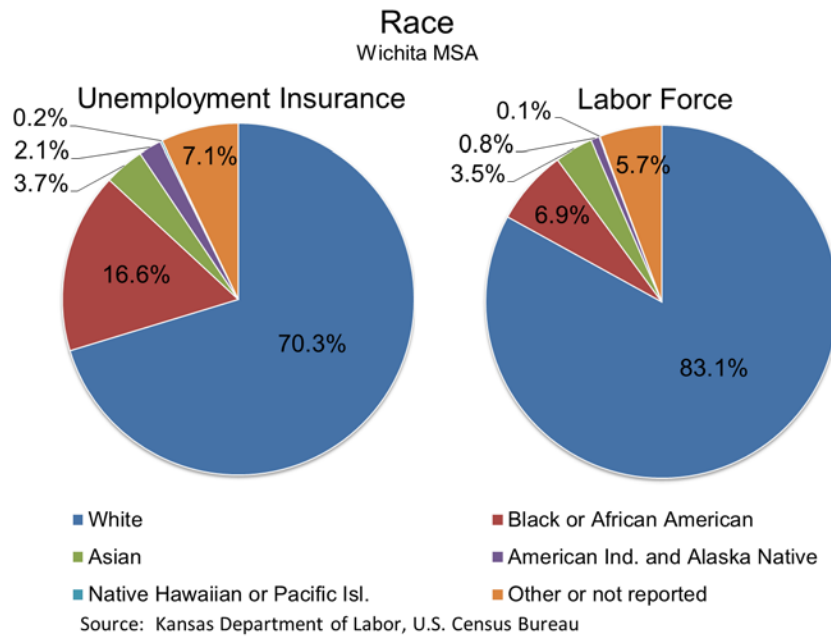
Race

A person receiving unemployment benefits in the Wichita area is 2.4 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 29.7 percent of unemployment insurance beneficiaries. For all races, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits decreases with higher levels of

educational attainment. Between the first and second quarters there was little change in the racial mix of persons receiving unemployment insurance.

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Race and Education							
	White	Black or African American	Asian	American Ind. and Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Isl.	Not Reported	Total
Less than high school	5.1%	1.9%	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%	2.0%	9.7%
GED or high school	31.0%	8.3%	1.5%	1.2%	0.1%	2.7%	44.7%
Some college	21.7%	4.8%	0.7%	0.5%	0.1%	1.8%	29.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	11.0%	1.5%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.7%	14.1%
Not Reported	1.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	1.8%
Total	70.3%	16.6%	3.7%	2.1%	0.2%	7.1%	100.0%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor



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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