



Physician Occupation Employment
Wichita, Kansas, Metropolitan Area
September 2014

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The employment of physicians in the Wichita metropolitan area has varied significantly across the occupations for which data is available.¹ Although these occupations account for a very small fraction of the local labor force, they provide valuable services to the community.

To understand how employment in these important occupations has changed over time, employment, location quotient, and average annual wages have been analyzed. For comparison, data is also provided for metropolitan areas in Kansas, the Midwest region, and a group of four metropolitan areas that most closely resemble Wichita in population, demographics and industrial mix. These are Akron, Ohio; Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Mich.; Greenville-Mauldin-Easley, S. C.; and Lancaster, Penn.

A location quotient is the ratio between the level of employment in a regional economy and the level in the national economy. It is calculated to determine whether the regional economy has a greater share of an occupation than expected. Values less than one indicate an occupation may not be meeting the local demand for the services of that occupation. Values greater than one indicate an occupation provides enough goods and services to meet local demand and excess production is consumed outside the region. Values greater than 1.20 indicate an industry of specialization in the region.

In the Wichita metropolitan area, the concentration of physicians is below the national average in all of the specialties for which data is available. The concentration of physicians in the area has generally decreased over the past five years, except family and general practitioners, who, as a group, have increased slightly in concentration. There is an above average concentration of physician assistants in Wichita, and this occupation has increased in concentration over the past five years.

Wichita, KS

	Employment		L.Q.		Average Annual Wages		
	2013	% Chg. 2008-2013	2013	% Chg. 2008-2013	2013	% of National	% Chg. 2008-2013
Family and General Practitioners	230	▲ 15.0%	0.89	▲ 0.05	\$220,140	119.7%	▲ 4.5%
General Internists	30	▼ -62.5%	0.30	▼ -0.46	**	**	**
Physicians and Surgeons, all other specialties	590	▲ 5.4%	0.90	▼ -0.05	\$116,210	62.1%	▼ -15.8%
Physician Assistants	270	▲ 35.0%	1.43	▲ 0.19	\$81,910	86.8%	▼ -3.8%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

¹The data used in this analysis is from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES). The OES survey covers all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers in nonfarm industries. The survey does not cover the self-employed, nor owners and partners in unincorporated firms. The self-employed can account for a significant number of the workers employed in professional occupations. Despite their exclusion, the OES still provides the most timely and accurate count of workers in these occupations.

Family and General Practitioners

Family and general practitioners are physicians who diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases and injuries that commonly occur in the general population. General practitioners may refer patients to specialists, when needed, for further diagnosis or treatment.²

Nationally, the number of family and general practitioners grew by 15.7 percent between 2008 and 2013 and is projected to grow at a rate of 18.0 percent between 2012 and 2022.³ However, there is a wide variety of growth rates across the metropolitan areas examined.

There is a below average concentration of family and general practice doctors in Wichita, the only metro area in Kansas with a shortage. There are above average concentrations in the metropolitan areas in the region, with the highest concentration in St. Louis. The low concentration of general practice physicians in Wichita is similar to the peer communities. Both Akron and Grand Rapids have concentrations below the national average. Greenville has grown the number of family and general practitioners by 178.6 percent over the past five years, bringing the number of physicians in this area above the national average.

Family and General Practitioners

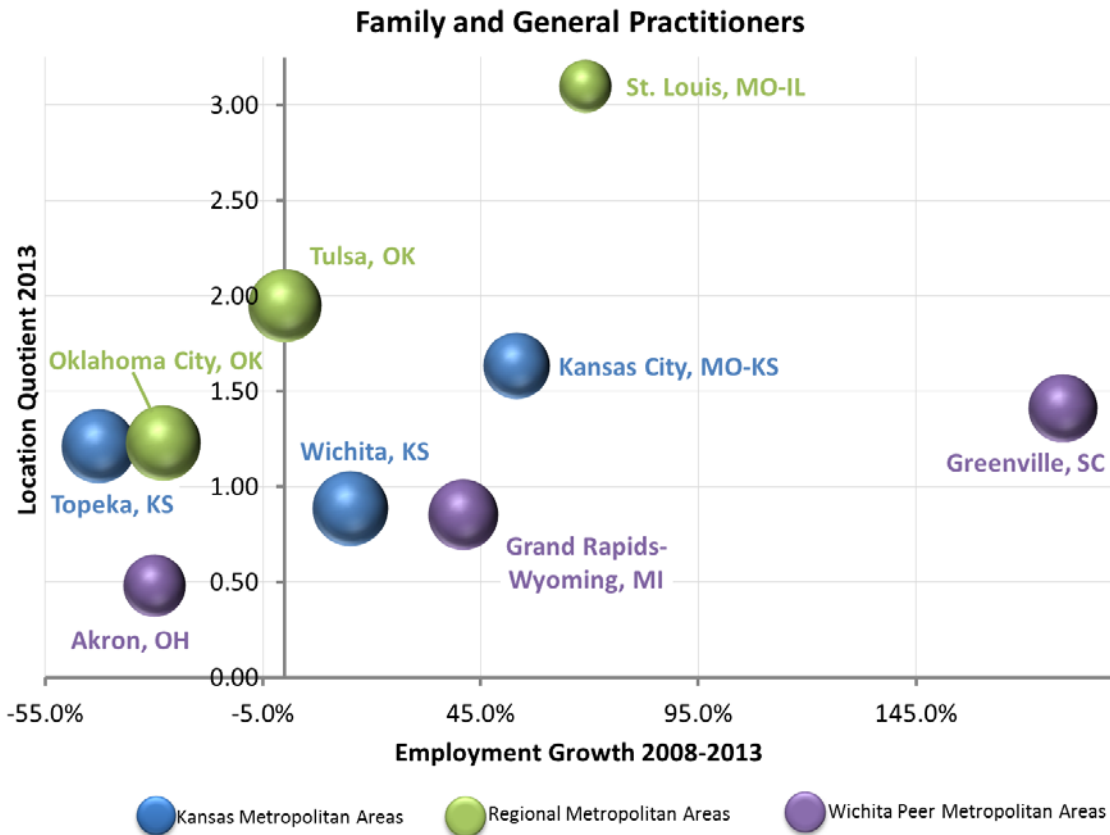
		Employment		L.Q.		Average Annual Wages			
		2013	% Chg. 2008-2013	2013	% Chg. 2008-2013	2013	% of National	% Chg. 2008-2013	
Kansas	Wichita, KS	230	▲ 15.0%	0.89	▲ 0.05	\$220,140	119.7%	▲	4.5%
	Lawrence, KS	80	**	1.94	**	\$216,390	117.6%		**
	Kansas City, MO-KS	1,470	▲ 53.1%	1.63	▲ 0.43	\$172,430	93.7%	▼	-24.1%
	Topeka, KS	120	▼ -42.9%	1.21	▼ -1.23	\$216,330	117.6%	▼	-6.6%
Region	Oklahoma City, OK	670	▼ -28.0%	1.23	▼ -0.83	\$222,260	120.8%	▲	18.5%
	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	560	**	1.34	**	\$214,010	116.3%	▲	19.1%
	St. Louis, MO-IL	3,650	▲ 69.0%	3.10	▲ 1.06	\$108,770	59.1%	▼	-22.9%
	Tulsa, OK	750	▬ 0.0%	1.95	▼ -0.25	\$211,160	114.8%	▬	0.0%
Peer	Akron, OH	140	▼ -30.0%	0.48	▼ -0.28	\$151,190	82.2%	▼	-27.6%
	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	310	▲ 40.9%	0.86	▲ 0.13	\$193,680	105.3%	▲	14.3%
	Greenville, SC	390	▲ 178.6%	1.41	▲ 0.84	\$185,060	100.6%	▼	-2.7%
	Lancaster, PA	310	**	1.53	**	\$157,810	85.8%	▲	16.6%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a family or general practice physician was \$183,940, up 13.9 percent from 2008. The average wage of a family doctor in Wichita was above the national average in 2013 and increased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013. In five out of 11 metropolitan areas analyzed, family doctors experienced an increase in wages relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.

²Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

³Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook



General Internists

General internists are physicians who diagnose and provide non-surgical treatment of diseases and injuries of internal organ systems. Doctors in this occupation provide care mainly for adults who have a wide range of problems associated with the internal organs. Subspecialists, such as cardiologists and gastroenterologists, are not included in this category.⁴ Due to the limited number of physicians practicing in this field, there is limited data available.

Nationally, the number of general internists has increased by only 0.7 percent between 2008 and 2013.⁵ Over the past five years, the number of internists in the Wichita area declined by 62.5 percent. This decline in the number of internists was representative of the changes in this occupation across the state, and region, over the past five years. However, there have been significant increases in two of the peer communities, Greenville and Grand Rapids.

All areas examined, with the exception of Grand Rapids, have concentrations of general internists well below the national average.

⁴Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

⁵Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

General Internists

		Employment		L.Q.		Average Annual Wages		
		2013	% Chg. 2008-2013	2013	% Chg. 2008-2013	2013	% of National	% Chg. 2008-2013
Kansas	Wichita, KS	30	▼ -62.5%	0.30	▼ -0.46	**	**	**
	Lawrence, KS	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
	Kansas City, MO-KS	100	▼ -65.5%	0.29	▼ -0.53	\$207,200	110.0% ▲	0.8%
	Topeka, KS	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Region	Oklahoma City, OK	140	**	0.67	**	\$160,580	85.2%	**
	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	70	▬ 0.0%	0.44	▬ 0.00	\$205,300	108.9% ▲	7.8%
	St. Louis, MO-IL	260	▼ -35.0%	0.58	▼ -0.28	\$249,110	132.2% ▲	34.1%
	Tulsa, OK	60	▼ -62.5%	0.41	▼ -0.66	\$175,950	93.4% ▼	-11.7%
Peer	Akron, OH	50	▼ -70.6%	0.45	▼ -1.02	**	**	**
	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	430	▲ 290.9%	3.09	▲ 2.27	\$91,380	48.5% ▼	-31.3%
	Greenville, SC	90	▲ 28.6%	0.85	▲ 0.20	\$205,740	109.2% ▬	0.0%
	Lancaster, PA	**	**	**	**	**	**	**

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

Physicians and Surgeons, all other specialties

The occupation of physician and surgeon includes a wide variety of specialties and subspecialties, such as cardiologists and gastroenterologists. Any geographic area may have only a few physicians working in any given specialty or sub specialty. For that reason, the available data is aggregated into one category to avoid disclosing specific information on any one practitioner.

Nationally, the number of physicians working in this category increased by 18.8 percent between 2008 and 2013 and is projected to grow at a rate of 18.0 percent between 2012 and 2022.⁶ Across, the region, including Kansas, growth in this occupation has been enough to slightly improve the concentration of physicians and surgeons in the area. There are two exceptions. The number of physicians and surgeons in Wichita has grown, although at a rate lower than the national average, thereby decreasing the concentration. Lawrence has declined in both number and concentration of physicians in this category.

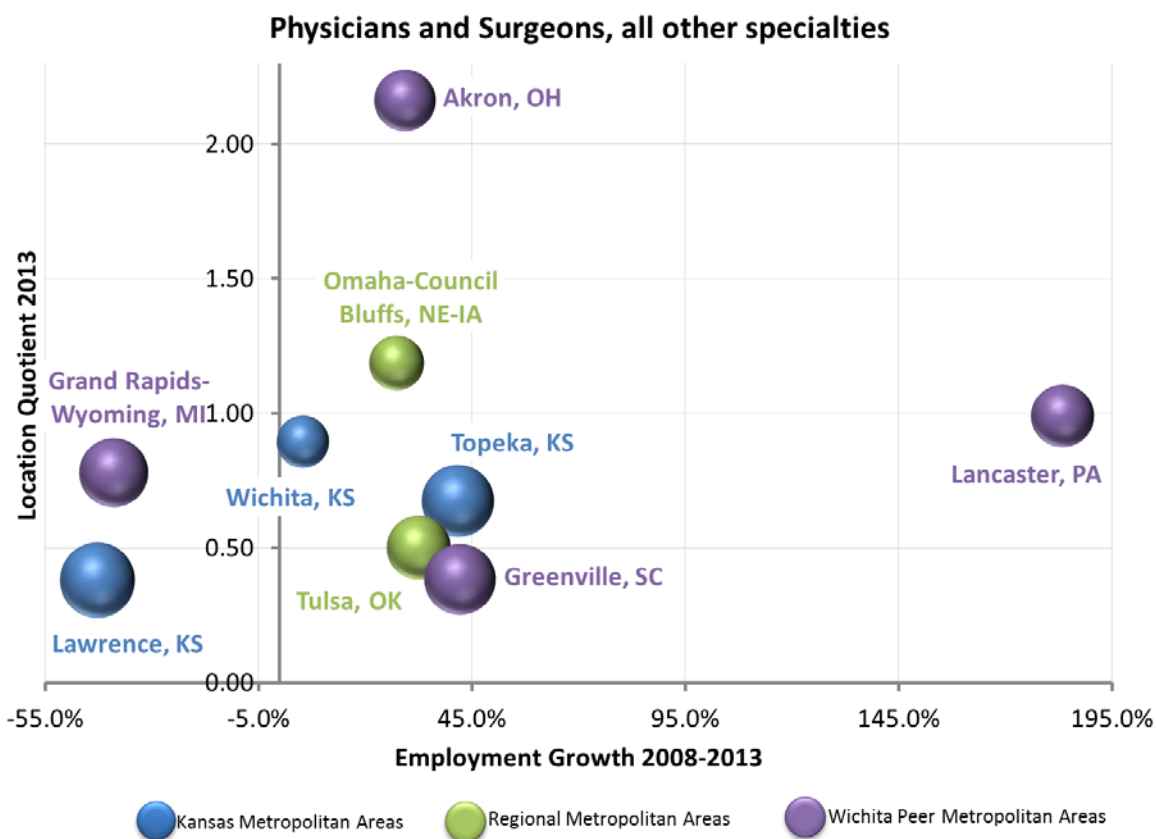
⁶Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook

Physicians and Surgeons, all other specialties

		Employment		L.Q.		Average Annual Wages		
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Kansas	Wichita, KS	590	▲ 5.4%	0.90	▼ -0.05	\$116,210	62.1%	▼ -15.8%
	Lawrence, KS	40	▼ -42.9%	0.38	▼ -0.39	\$242,760	129.7%	▲ 17.4%
	Kansas City, MO-KS	**	**	**	**	\$233,050	124.5%	▲ 10.6%
	Topeka, KS	170	▲ 41.7%	0.68	▲ 0.11	\$222,300	118.8%	▲ 3.1%
Region	Oklahoma City, OK	**	**	**	**	\$120,390	64.3%	▼ -17.0%
	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	1,260	▲ 27.3%	1.19	▲ 0.08	\$129,670	69.3%	▲ 2.5%
	St. Louis, MO-IL	**	**	**	**	\$185,680	99.2%	▲ 7.9%
	Tulsa, OK	490	▲ 32.4%	0.50	▲ 0.06	\$174,640	93.3%	▲ 6.5%
Peer	Akron, OH	1,590	▲ 29.3%	2.16	▲ 0.27	\$162,420	86.8%	▼ -28.8%
	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	720	▼ -39.0%	0.78	▼ -0.79	\$204,180	109.1%	▲ 3.4%
	Greenville, SC	270	▲ 42.1%	0.38	▲ 0.07	\$214,230	114.4%	▲ 0.3%
	Lancaster, PA	510	▲ 183.3%	0.99	▲ 0.59	\$168,310	89.9%	▼ -37.5%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a physician or surgeon in this category was \$187,200, up 13.4 percent from 2008. The average wage of physicians in this category in Wichita remained below the national average and decreased relative to the national average, between 2008 and 2013. In four out of the 12 metropolitan areas analyzed, wages in the category decreased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.



Physician Assistants

Physician assistants provide healthcare services typically performed by a physician, under the supervision of a physician. They conduct complete physicals, provide treatment, and counsel patients. In some cases, a physician assistant may prescribe medication.⁷

Nationally, the number of physician assistants increased by 24.4 percent between 2008 and 2013 and is projected to grow at a rate of 38.0 percent between 2012 and 2022.⁸ Over the past five years, growth in this occupation has varied across the region. Growth in Wichita, Kansas City and Oklahoma City has been enough to increase concentration, although the concentration of physician assistants in Kansas City is still below the national average. Topeka and Omaha have decreased in numbers and concentration. This occupation has grown in Tulsa, but at a rate less than the national average. Among the peer communities, there has generally been mild growth in this occupation, with small improvements in concentration.

Physician Assistants

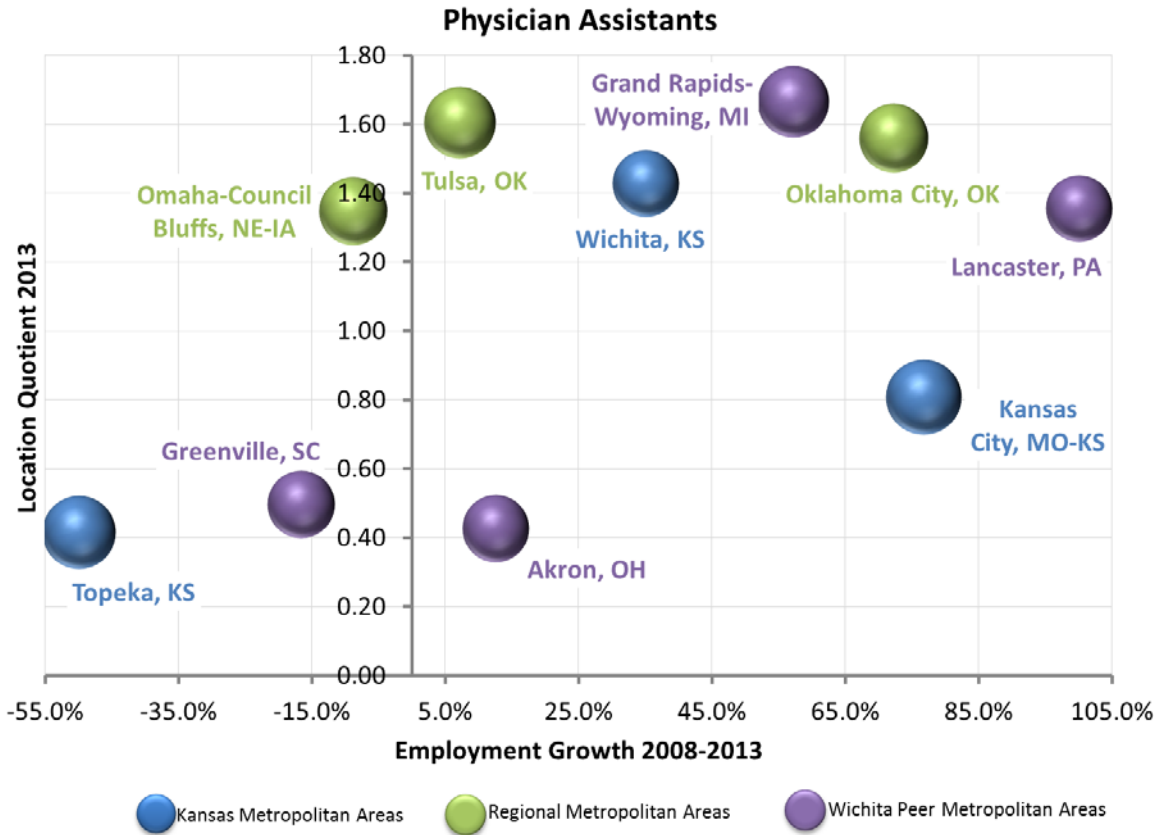
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Kansas	Wichita, KS	270	▲ 35.0%	1.43	▲ 0.19	\$81,910	86.8%	▼ -3.8%
	Lawrence, KS	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
	Kansas City, MO-KS	530	▲ 76.7%	0.81	▲ 0.25	\$105,910	112.3%	▲ 18.4%
	Topeka, KS	30	▼ -50.0%	0.42	▼ -0.62	\$98,790	104.7%	▬ 0.0%
Region	Oklahoma City, OK	620	▲ 72.2%	1.56	▲ 0.38	\$88,750	94.1%	▼ -1.3%
	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	410	▼ -8.9%	1.35	▼ -0.49	\$86,670	91.9%	▼ -4.0%
	St. Louis, MO-IL	**	**	**	**	\$77,870	82.5%	▼ -0.9%
	Tulsa, OK	450	▲ 7.1%	1.61	▼ -0.22	\$96,940	102.7%	▲ 21.5%
Peer	Akron, OH	90	▲ 12.5%	0.43	▼ -0.02	\$83,410	88.4%	▼ -4.0%
	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	440	▲ 57.1%	1.67	▲ 0.30	\$93,500	99.1%	▲ 1.4%
	Greenville, SC	100	▼ -16.7%	0.50	▼ -0.23	\$84,530	89.6%	▲ 27.4%
	Lancaster, PA	200	▲ 100.0%	1.36	▲ 0.55	\$82,150	87.1%	▼ -2.2%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a physician assistant was \$94,350, up 15.6 percent from 2008. The average wage of physician assistants in Wichita remained below the national average and decreased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013. In only three out of the 11 metropolitan areas analyzed, physician assistants experienced an increase in wages relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.

⁷Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

⁸Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook



CEDBR has this occupation data available for many occupations and areas.

For additional information you may contact us at:

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