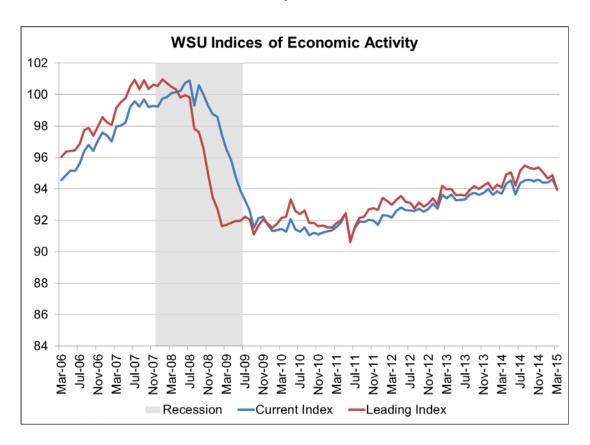


# **WSU Wichita Metropolitan Area Indices**

## May 2015



The Center for Economic Development and Business Research has compiled the current and leading indices to provide insights into the present and future state of the Wichita economy. The WSU Current Conditions Index is designed to give an indication of the present conditions of the Wichita metropolitan area economy. The WSU Leading Economic Indicators Index is designed to give an indication of where the Wichita economy is headed over the next six months.

#### **WSU Current Index of Economic Activity**

The current index deteriorated slightly between February and March, reversing improvements from earlier in the year. However, the currently level of economic activity is slightly above the March 2014 level. The decline can be attributed to decreases in employment and the earnings of production workers.

### **WSU Wichita Current Conditions Index**

			Monthly	Annual
	Mar-15	Feb-15	% Change	% Change
Current Conditions Index	94.0	94.6	<b>▽</b> -0.6%	<b>a</b> 0.3%
Index Components - Wichita MSA				
Total Non-farm Employment	291,700	293,700	<b>▽</b> -0.7%	<b>0.1%</b>
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	5.0%	<b>▽</b> -0.1%	<b>▽</b> -0.7%
Hours of Production Employees*	45.2	44.9	<b>a</b> 0.7%	<b>4.9%</b>
Earnings of Production Employees*	\$765.30	\$787.09	<b>▽</b> -2.8%	<b>▽</b> -5.9%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data compiled by CEDBR and seasonally adjusted

#### **WSU Leading Index of Economic Activity**

The leading index declined a full percentage point between February and March. This indicates there will be a decrease in economic activity in late summer. This will potentially bring economic activity below the 2014 level. This can be attributed to small decreases in all of the index components.

**WSU Wichita Leading Conditions Index** 

			Monthly	<b>Annual</b>	
	Mar-15	Feb-15	% Change	% Change	
Leading Conditions Index	93.9	94.9	<b>▽</b> -1.0%	▼ -0.2%	
Predicted change*	-0.07	<b>a</b> 0.29	-	-	
Index Components					
Aircraft Production Index	105.3	105.8	<b>▽</b> -0.5%	<b>3.0%</b>	
Kansas Leading Index	0.6	0.7	<b>▽</b> -14.3%	<b>▽</b> -40.0%	
National Industrial Production Index	105.2	105.9	<b>▽</b> -0.7%	<b>2.0%</b>	
International Leading Index	100.1	100.3	<b>▽</b> -0.2%	<b>▽</b> -0.3%	

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), data compiled by CEDBR \*Predicted change in the level of economic activity over the next six months from the current level of economic activity

Data can be accessed directly at index.cedbr.org

<sup>\*</sup>Manufacturing Weekly Average