



Demographic Profile of Wichita Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries Q2 2015

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 15,269 unemployed people in the Wichita metropolitan area in the second quarter of 2015, approximately 57 percent of whom collected unemployment insurance benefits.¹ In the second quarter of 2015 there were approximately 8,637 people, age 16 and over, who collected unemployment insurance benefits. That is an increase of approximately 13 percent from the first quarter of 2015.

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 30.8 percent of the labor force, age 25 to 64, have no more education than a high school diploma. Of those receiving unemployment benefits, 53 percent have no more education than a high school diploma.

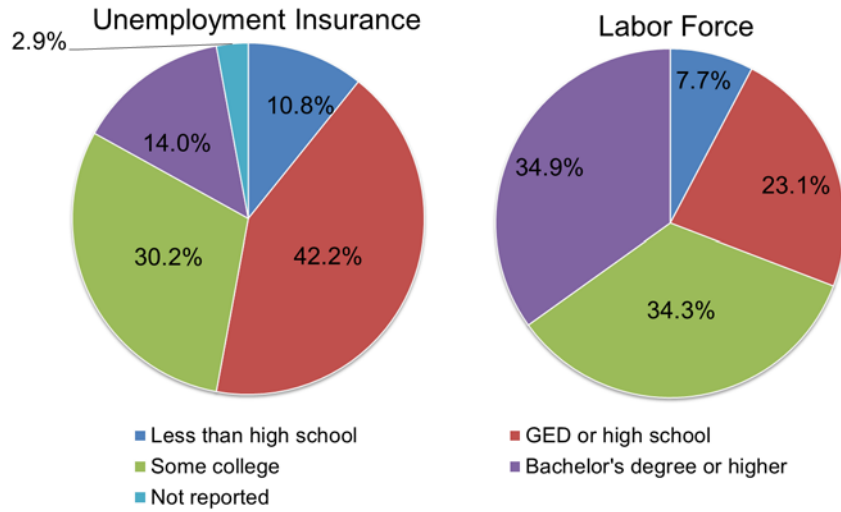
Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries						
25-64 years old						
	Q1 2015		Q2 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	1,092	14.7%	783	10.8%	(309)	-28.3%
GED or high school	3,266	44.0%	3,067	42.2%	(199)	-6.1%
Some college	2,051	27.7%	2,194	30.2%	143	7.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	843	11.4%	1,020	14.0%	177	21.0%
Not Reported	164	2.2%	212	2.9%	48	29.3%
Total	7,416	100.0%	7,276	100.0%	(140)	-1.9%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Between the first and second quarters of 2015, the number of unemployment beneficiaries in Wichita with lower levels of educational attainment decreased. There were increases in unemployment insurance beneficiaries with higher levels of educational attainment.

¹ The Kansas Department of Labor provided detailed unemployment beneficiary demographic data for first quarter 2015 at the county level, which was aggregated to the Wichita MSA.

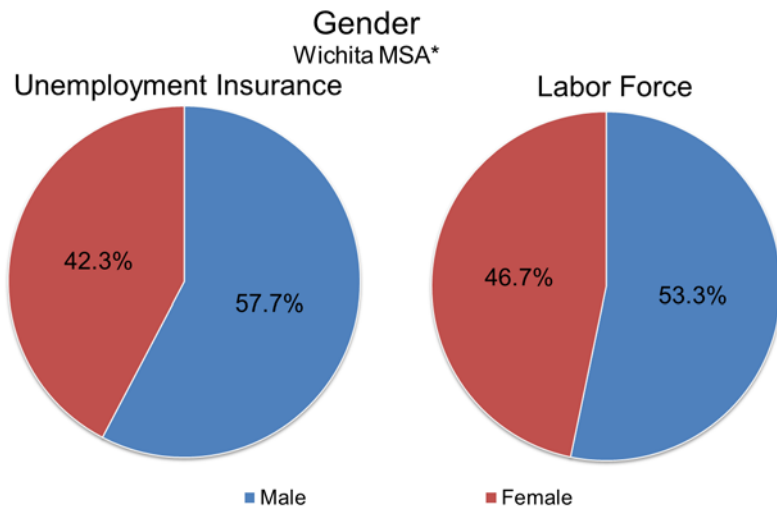
Educational Attainment Wichita MSA*



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 1.4 times more likely to be male as female. This is down from 1.9 times more likely to be a male than a female in the first quarter of 2015. This shift can be attributed to seasonal adjustments in education and construction employment.



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 2015		Q2 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	294	3.8%	379	4.4%	85	28.9%
GED or high school	1,066	13.6%	1,441	16.7%	375	35.2%
Some college	913	11.7%	1,237	14.3%	324	35.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	372	4.8%	516	6.0%	144	38.7%
Not Reported	52	0.7%	79	0.9%	27	51.9%
Total	2,697	34.5%	3,652	42.3%	955	35.4%
Male	Q1 2015		Q2 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	1,041	13.3%	570	6.6%	(471)	-45.2%
GED or high school	2,279	29.1%	2,354	27.3%	75	3.3%
Some college	1,182	15.1%	1,307	15.1%	125	10.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	508	6.5%	588	6.8%	80	15.7%
Not Reported	121	1.5%	166	1.9%	45	37.2%
Total	5,131	65.5%	4,985	57.7%	(146)	-2.8%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Age

The age distribution of people receiving unemployment benefits remained approximately the same between the first and second quarters of 2015. There are marginally fewer people 45 and over receiving unemployment benefits, 38.9 percent, down from 39.6 percent in the first quarter.

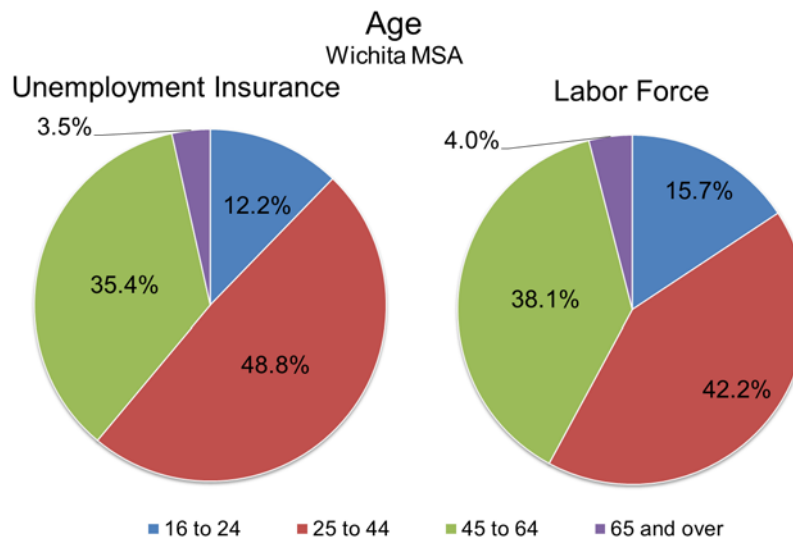
As would be expected, the majority of people receiving unemployment benefits are in the working age population between 25 and 64 years old. Younger working adults, between 25 and 44 years old, are more likely to be receiving unemployment benefits than older working adults, between 45 and 64 years old, at 61.1 percent and 38.9 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 29.0 percent, and 13.7 percent for 20 to 24 year olds. American Community Survey 2009-2013 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	1.6%	5.4%	3.7%	0.4%	11.0%
GED or high school	6.9%	20.3%	15.2%	1.6%	43.9%
Some college	3.2%	16.0%	9.4%	0.9%	29.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.4%	6.2%	5.6%	0.6%	12.8%
Not Reported	0.2%	1.0%	1.5%	0.2%	2.8%
Total	12.2%	48.8%	35.4%	3.5%	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

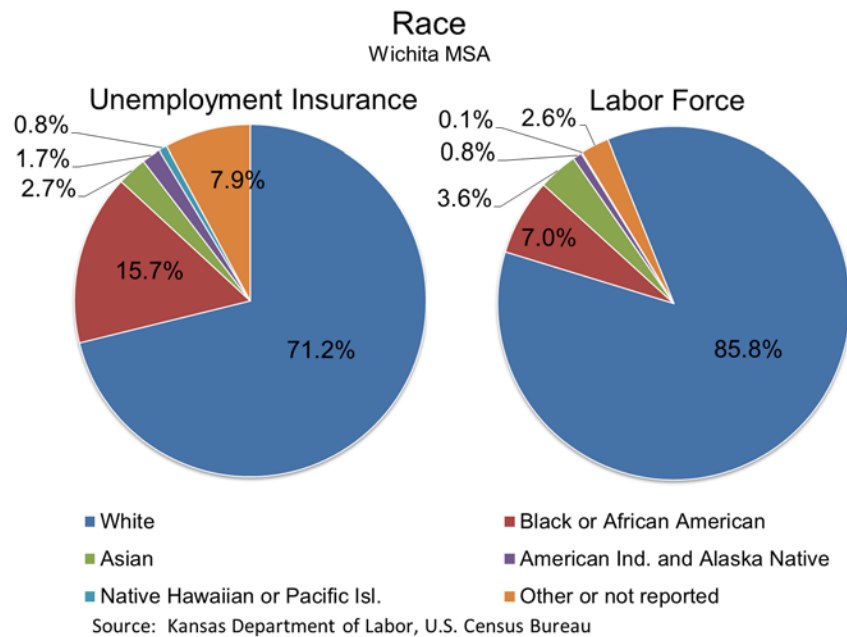
Race

A person receiving unemployment benefits in the Wichita area is 2.5 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 14.2 percent of the labor force and 28.8 percent of unemployment insurance beneficiaries. For all races, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits decreased 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 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	6.1%	1.9%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	2.2%	11.0%
GED or high school	31.2%	7.4%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	3.4%	43.9%
Some college	21.6%	4.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.2%	1.8%	29.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	10.2%	1.3%	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%	12.8%
Not Reported	2.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	2.8%
Total	71.2%	15.7%	2.7%	1.7%	0.8%	7.9%	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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