



Demographic Profile of Wichita Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries Q3 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 15,452 unemployed people in the Wichita metropolitan area in the third quarter of 2015, approximately 40 percent of whom collected unemployment insurance benefits.¹ In the third quarter of 2015 there were approximately 6,164 people, age 16 and over, who collected unemployment insurance benefits. That is a decrease of approximately 40 percent from the second 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, 57.4 percent have no more education than a high school diploma.

Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries						
25-64 years old						
	Q2 2015		Q3 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	783	10.8%	554	10.6%	(229)	-29.2%
GED or high school	3,067	42.2%	2,459	46.8%	(608)	-19.8%
Some college	2,194	30.2%	1,532	29.2%	(662)	-30.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,020	14.0%	642	12.2%	(378)	-37.1%
Not Reported	212	2.9%	64	1.2%	(148)	-69.8%
Total	7,276	100.0%	5,251	100.0%	(2,025)	-27.8%

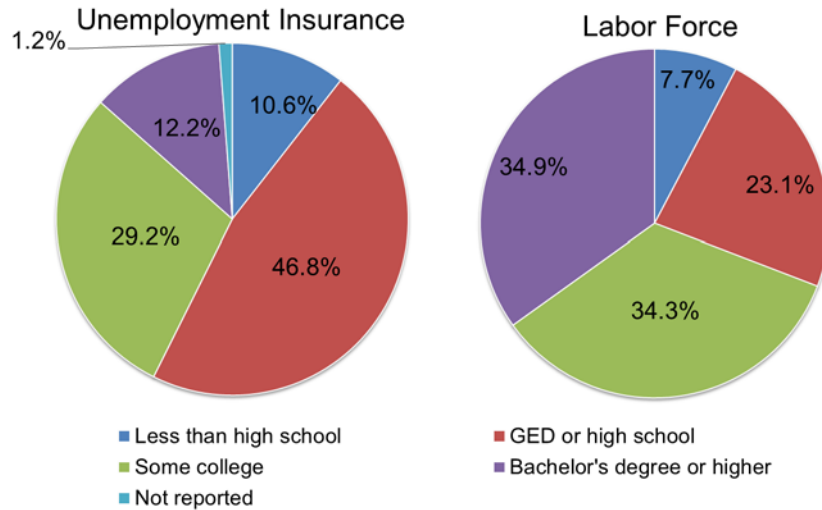
Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Between the second and third quarters of 2015, the number of unemployment beneficiaries in Wichita at all levels of educational attainment decreased. The largest level decrease was in those beneficiaries with a high school diploma and some college. The largest percent decrease was in those beneficiaries with a bachelor's degree or higher.

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

Educational Attainment

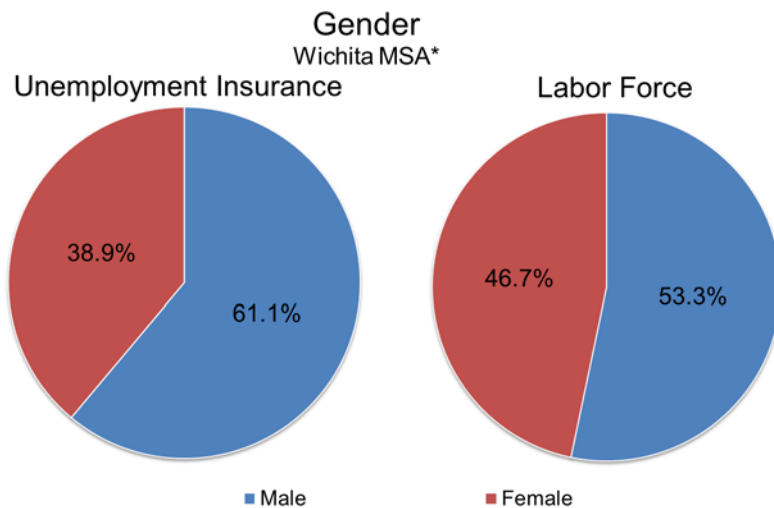
Wichita MSA*



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

Gender

In the third quarter, a person in the Wichita area receiving unemployment insurance benefits is 1.6 times more likely to be male as female. This is up from 1.4 times more likely to be a male than a female in the second 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	Q2 2015		Q3 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	379	4.4%	264	4.3%	(115)	-30.3%
GED or high school	1,441	16.7%	1,012	16.4%	(429)	-29.8%
Some college	1,237	14.3%	788	12.8%	(449)	-36.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	516	6.0%	321	5.2%	(195)	-37.8%
Not Reported	79	0.9%	15	0.2%	(64)	-81.0%
Total	3,652	42.3%	2,400	38.9%	(1,252)	-34.3%
Male	Q2 2015		Q3 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	570	6.6%	414	6.7%	(156)	-27.4%
GED or high school	2,354	27.3%	1,936	31.4%	(418)	-17.8%
Some college	1,307	15.1%	982	15.9%	(325)	-24.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	588	6.8%	366	5.9%	(222)	-37.8%
Not Reported	166	1.9%	66	1.1%	(100)	-60.2%
Total	4,985	57.7%	3,764	61.1%	(1,221)	-24.5%

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Age

The age distribution of people receiving unemployment benefits remained approximately the same between the second and third quarters of 2015. There are marginally more people 45 and over receiving unemployment benefits, 39.4 percent, up from 38.9 percent in the second quarter.

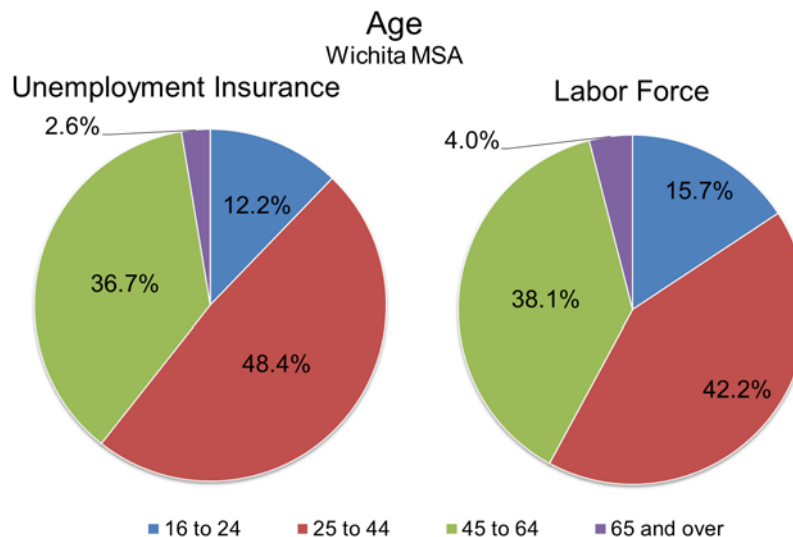
As would be expected, the majority of people receiving unemployment benefits are in the working age population between 25 and 64 years old. Younger working adults, between 25 and 44 years old, are more likely to be receiving unemployment benefits than older working adults, between 45 and 64 years old, at 60.6 percent and 39.4 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	1.8%	5.3%	3.7%	0.2%	11.0%
GED or high school	6.7%	21.9%	18.0%	1.2%	47.8%
Some college	3.1%	15.7%	9.1%	0.7%	28.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.4%	5.0%	5.4%	0.4%	11.1%
Not Reported	0.2%	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	1.3%
Total	12.2%	48.4%	36.7%	2.6%	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

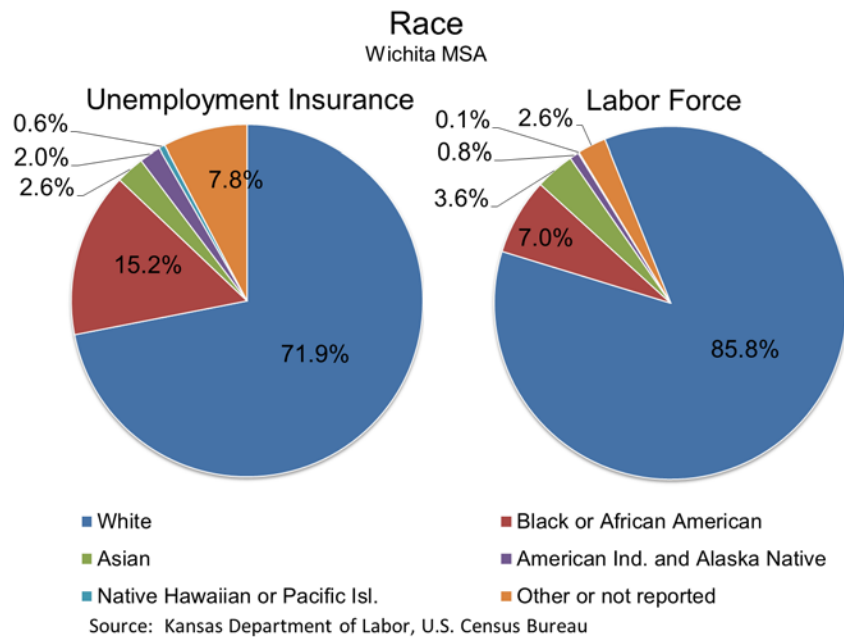
Race

A person receiving unemployment benefits in the Wichita area is 2.6 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 28.1 percent of unemployment insurance beneficiaries. For all races, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits decreased with higher levels of

educational attainment. Between the second and third 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	6.3%	1.8%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	2.1%	11.0%
GED or high school	34.8%	7.2%	1.2%	1.0%	0.3%	3.3%	47.8%
Some college	21.3%	4.7%	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%	1.7%	28.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher	8.8%	1.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.5%	11.1%
Not Reported	0.8%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	1.3%
Total	71.9%	15.2%	2.6%	2.0%	0.6%	7.8%	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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