



## Demographic Profile of Wichita Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries Q4 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 12,760 unemployed people in the Wichita metropolitan area in the fourth quarter of 2015, approximately 64 percent of whom collected unemployment insurance benefits.<sup>1</sup> In the fourth quarter of 2015 there were approximately 8,215 people, age 16 and over, who collected unemployment insurance benefits. That is an increase of approximately 33 percent from the third 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 31.5 percent of the labor force, age 25 to 64, have no more education than a high school diploma. Of those receiving unemployment benefits, 62.1 percent have no more education than a high school diploma.

<b>Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries</b>						
<b>25-64 years old</b>						
	Q3 2015		Q4 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	554	10.6%	1,112	15.9%	558	100.7%
GED or high school	2,459	46.8%	3,239	46.2%	780	31.7%
Some college	1,532	29.2%	1,811	25.8%	279	18.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	642	12.2%	640	9.1%	(2)	-0.3%
Not Reported	64	1.2%	207	3.0%	143	223.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,251</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7,009</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,758</b>	<b>33.5%</b>

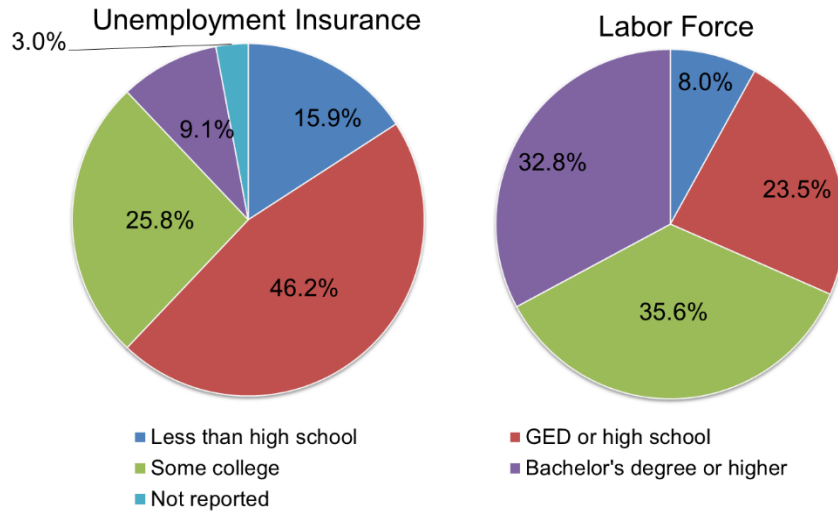
Source: Kansas Department of Labor

Between the third and fourth quarters of 2015, the number of unemployment beneficiaries in Wichita at all levels of educational attainment below a bachelor's degree increased. The largest level increase was in those beneficiaries with a GED or high school diploma. The largest percent increase was in those beneficiaries with less than a high school education.

<sup>1</sup> 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\*



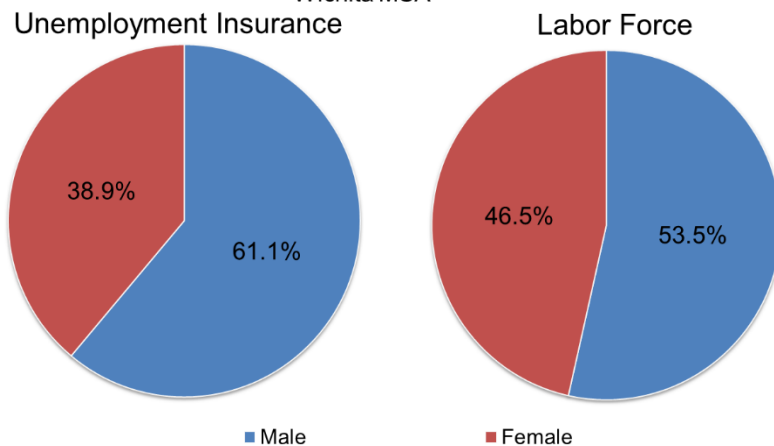
Source: Kansas Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau, \*Persons 25-64 years old

## Gender

In the fourth quarter, a person in the Wichita area receiving unemployment insurance benefits is 2.2 times more likely to be male as female. This is up from 1.6 times more likely to be a male than a female in the third quarter of 2015. This shift can be attributed to seasonal adjustments in education and construction employment.

## Gender

Wichita MSA\*



Source: Kansas Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau, \*Persons 16 years and over

<b>Wichita MSA Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries by Gender and Education 16 Years and over</b>						
<b>Female</b>	Q3 2015		Q4 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	264	4.3%	326	4.0%	62	23.5%
GED or high school	1,012	16.4%	1,079	13.1%	67	6.6%
Some college	788	12.8%	797	9.7%	9	1.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	321	5.2%	304	3.7%	(17)	-5.3%
Not Reported	15	0.2%	54	0.7%	39	260.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>38.9%</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>31.2%</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>6.7%</b>
<b>Male</b>	Q3 2015		Q4 2015		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than high school	414	6.7%	954	11.6%	540	130.4%
GED or high school	1,936	31.4%	2,819	34.3%	883	45.6%
Some college	982	15.9%	1,308	15.9%	326	33.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	366	5.9%	377	4.6%	11	3.0%
Not Reported	66	1.1%	197	2.4%	131	198.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,764</b>	<b>61.1%</b>	<b>5,655</b>	<b>68.8%</b>	<b>1,891</b>	<b>50.2%</b>

Source: Kansas Department of Labor

## Age

The age distribution of people receiving unemployment benefits remained approximately the same between the third and fourth quarters of 2015. There are marginally more people 45 and over receiving unemployment benefits, 41.4 percent, up from 39.4 percent in the third quarter. Since first quarter 2015, there has been a general increase in older unemployment insurance beneficiaries.

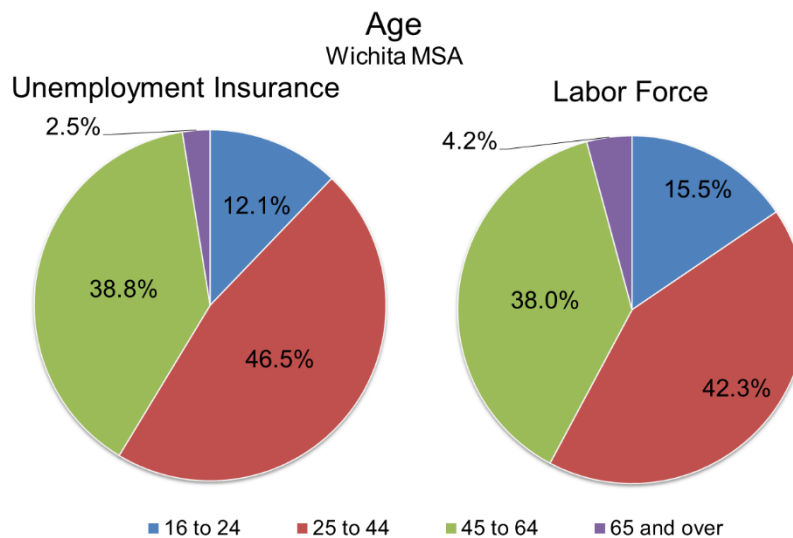
As would be expected, the majority of people receiving unemployment benefits are in the working age population between 25 and 64 years old. Younger working adults, between 25 and 44 years old, are more likely to be receiving unemployment benefits than older working adults, between 45 and 64 years old, at 46.5 percent and 38.8 percent, respectively.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> 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 22.0 percent, and 11.8 percent for 20 to 24 year olds. American Community Survey 2010-2014 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	1.7%	7.3%	6.2%	0.3%	15.6%
GED or high school	6.8%	20.8%	18.6%	1.2%	47.4%
Some college	3.0%	13.3%	8.8%	0.6%	25.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.2%	4.1%	3.7%	0.3%	8.3%
Not Reported	0.4%	1.0%	1.5%	0.2%	3.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>46.5%</b>	<b>38.8%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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

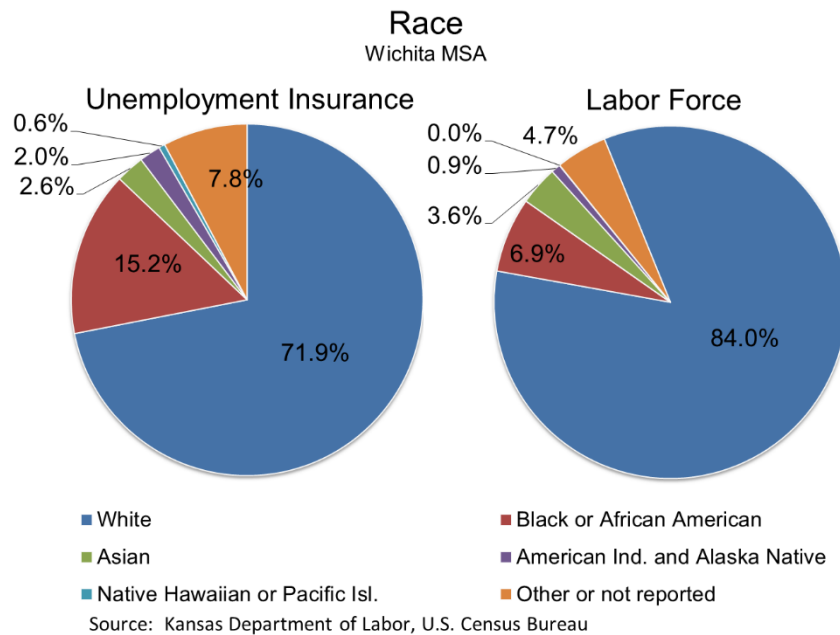
## Race

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 16.0 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 third and fourth 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	8.8%	1.7%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	3.9%	15.6%
GED or high school	34.5%	6.6%	1.1%	0.7%	0.3%	4.2%	47.4%
Some college	19.2%	3.9%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	1.7%	25.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	6.6%	0.8%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	8.3%
Not Reported	2.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	3.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>71.4%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Kansas Department of Labor



CEDBR has this unemployment insurance data available for all Kansas counties and zip codes.

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