



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

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2014 Wichita Employment Forecast

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Nationally, real GDP growth was 3.6 percent in the third quarter of 2013, the strongest since the first quarter of 2012. Key contributors to this were strong growth in domestic investment and continued growth in personal consumption expenditures, both of which are expected to continue in 2014. Decreasing government purchases was the only component of GDP to significantly decline in 2013, and this may continue in 2014. Employment increased by 1.4 percent nationally in the first eleven months of 2013. Employment is estimated to have grown 1.1 percent in Kansas and 0.5 percent in the Wichita metropolitan area in 2013.

Wichita Employment Forecast

In 2014, Wichita total nonfarm employment is expected to increase by 2,683 jobs. The employment growth rate is anticipated to be 0.9 percent, which is almost double the growth rate in 2013.

Wichita MSA Employment by Industry Summary*					
	2012 (a)	2013 (e)	2014 (f)	2013-2014 Level Change	2013-2014 Percent Change
Total Nonfarm	285,589	287,106	289,789	2,683	0.9%
Production Sectors	67,355	67,057	67,340	283	0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	49,747	49,791	49,983	192	0.4%
Service Sectors	127,864	130,252	132,636	2,384	1.8%
Government	40,623	40,006	39,830	-176	-0.4%
*Annual values are derived from average quarterly observations and projections. (a) actual (e) estimated (f) forecasted					

- The production sectors are expected to grow more slowly than the rest of the Wichita economy in 2014. In the production sectors, durable goods are projected to add the most jobs with 166 new jobs added, for 0.4 percent growth. Nondurable goods employment is expected to add only 18 jobs, and the construction sector is expected to add 98 jobs.
- The trade, transportation and utilities sector is expected to add 192 jobs, and the transportation and utilities subsector is projected to add 147 of those jobs, growing at 1.6 percent. The wholesale trade subsector is anticipated to have the lowest growth of any non-governmental sector, shrinking 0.1 percent. Retail trade growth is projected to lag the rest of the economy with only 0.2 percent growth as well.
- The service sectors are expected to have the strongest growth in 2014, led by the professional and business services subsector, which is expected to add 869 jobs and grow at 2.8 percent. Information, hospitality, education and health services are anticipated to grow between 1.5 and 1.9 percent. Financial services and other services is expected to lag behind with 1.0 and 0.2 percent growth, respectively.
- Government is once again forecasted to be the slowest growing sector, with a decline of 0.4 percent. This is an improvement over 2013's decline of 1.5 percent, but is still anticipated to lead to a reduction of 176 jobs. The job losses are expected to be concentrated in the state and federal government sectors, while the local government sector is expected to see small growth.