



WICHITA STATE  
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# 2015 Wichita Employment Forecast

October 2015

Nationally, real GDP grew at a robust rate of 4.6 percent in the second quarter of 2014, following a contraction of 2.1 percent in the first quarter. Strong growth in personal consumption expenditures and private investment were the key contributors to this growth. Net exports shrunk in the second quarter, while government consumption increased slightly. Employment increased by 1.9 percent nationally in the last twelve months, while Kansas employment increased by 1 percent and employment in the Wichita metropolitan area grew by 0.6 percent.

## Wichita Employment Forecast

In 2015, Wichita total nonfarm employment is expected to increase by 4,472 jobs, which implies the employment growth rate is anticipated to be 1.5 percent.

<b>Wichita MSA Employment by Industry Summary*</b>					
	2013 (a)	2014 (e)	2015 (f)	2014-2015 Level Change	2014-2015 Percent Change
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>288,813</b>	<b>289,775</b>	<b>294,247</b>	<b>4,472</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
<b>Production Sectors</b>	<b>67,558</b>	<b>66,274</b>	<b>67,215</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>50,618</b>	<b>51,137</b>	<b>51,610</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
<b>Service Sectors</b>	<b>130,071</b>	<b>132,485</b>	<b>135,198</b>	<b>2,714</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>40,567</b>	<b>39,880</b>	<b>40,224</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
*Annual values are derived from average quarterly observations and projections. (a) actual (e) estimated (f) forecasted					

- The production sectors are forecast to add almost 1,000 jobs in 2015 in Wichita, growing 1.4 percent. The natural resources and construction sector is forecast to lead this growth with 564 new jobs, while durable goods are expected to add 387 jobs.
- The trade, transportation and utilities sector is expected to add 473 jobs. Most of these jobs are anticipated to be in the retail trade sector, which is expected to add 303 jobs, for a growth rate of 0.9 percent. The transportation and utilities sector is projected to grow by 1.4 percent, adding 129 jobs, while wholesale trade is anticipated to add 42 jobs.

- The service sectors are expected to be the fastest growing portion of the Wichita economy, adding 2,714 jobs, for a growth rate of 2 percent. The largest growth sectors are anticipated to be the professional and business services sector and education and health services sector, which are both projected to add approximately 1,000 jobs. The information sector is projected to grow at 2.9 percent, adding 126 jobs, and the leisure and hospitality sector and other services sector are forecast to grow at 1.4 and 1.7 percent, respectively. The financial activities sector is expected to be the slowest growing service sector, growing only 0.1 percent.
- The government sector is projected to grow 0.9 percent, adding 344 jobs. The vast majority of this growth is expected to come from local government, while federal government employment is expected to decline slightly, and state government employment is projected to grow slowly.