

WSU Wichita Metropolitan Area Indices

October 2016



WSU Indices of Economic Activity

The Center for Economic Development and Business Research has compiled the current and leading indices to provide insights into the present and future state of the Wichita economy. The WSU Current Conditions Index is designed to give an indication of the present conditions of the Wichita metropolitan area economy. The WSU Leading Economic Indicators Index is designed to give an indication of where the Wichita economy is headed over the next six months.

WSU Current Index of Economic Activity

The current index improved somewhat between July and August, after decreasing in early summer. The current level of economic activity, in Wichita, remains only slightly above 2015 level. All four of the index components improved between July and August. Only the hours of production employees is below the 2015 level.

			Monthly	Annual
	Aug-16	Jul-16	% Change	% Change
Current Conditions Index	95.8	95.5	0.3%	0.2%
Index Components - Wichita MSA				
Total Non-farm Employment	298,300	298,100	0 .1%	0.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	4.8%	0 .1%	0.3%
Hours of Production Employees*	43	42.1	2 .1%	-4.0%
Earnings of Production Employees*	\$804.58	\$762.55	5 .5%	1.2%

WSU Wichita Current Conditions Index

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data compiled by CEDBR and seasonally adjusted *Manufacturing Weekly Average

WSU Leading Index of Economic Activity

The leading index continues to indicate a decrease in economic activity, from current levels, through the beginning of the New Year. This would bring the level of economic activity below the 2015 levels. This can mostly be attributed to a significant decrease in the Kansas Leading Index.

WSU Wichita Leading Conditions Index

			Monthly	Annual
	Aug-16	Jul-16	% Change	% Change
Leading Conditions Index	94.8	94.9	-0.1%	-0.5%
Predicted change*	-0.99	-0.60	-	-
Index Components				
Aircraft Production Index	107.3	108.2	-0.8%	-1.7%
Kansas Leading Index	-2.5	-1.3	-1.2%	-3.4%
National Industrial Production Index	104.4	104.9	-0.5%	-1.1%
International Leading Index	99.7	99.7	0.0%	-0.4%

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), data compiled by CEDBR *Predicted change in the level of economic activity over the next six months from the current level of economic activity

Data can be accessed directly at index.cedbr.org