

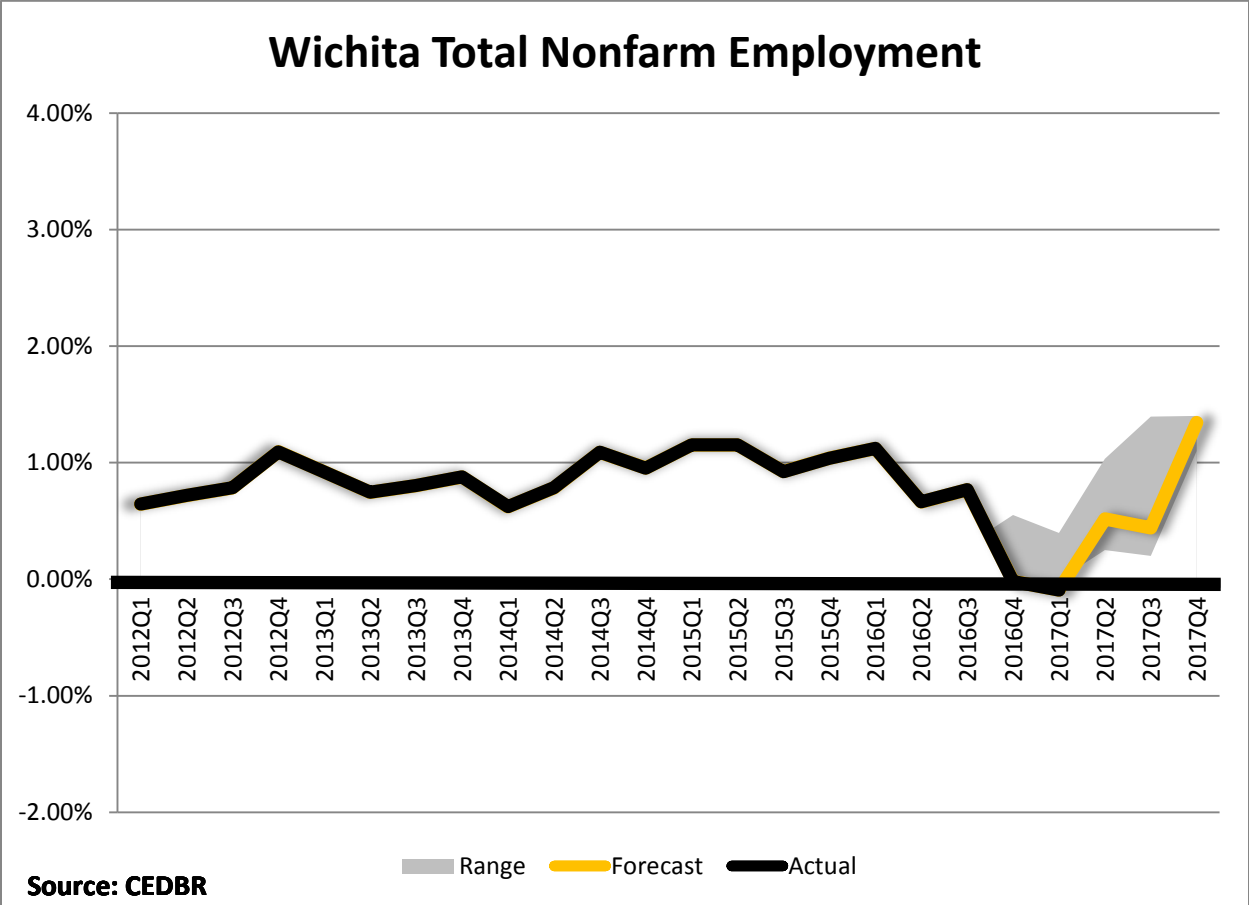
2017 Wichita Employment Forecast

May 2017

In the past twelve months, employment in the Wichita metropolitan area has grown by 0.1 percent. In 2017, Wichita total nonfarm employment is forecast to increase by 1,640 jobs, which implies an anticipated growth rate of 0.6 percent. This is expected to be slightly lower than Wichita's average employment growth rate over the past five years, which has been 0.8 percent.

- The production sectors are expected remain relatively flat in 2017. The manufacturing sector is projected to contract by slightly over 100 jobs, while the natural resources and construction sector is forecasted to add approximately 100 jobs.
- The trade, transportation and utilities sector is forecasted to contract by 1.2 percent, largely due to declines in retail trade employment. Wholesale trade and transportation employment are projected to remain relatively flat.
- The service sectors are forecasted to be the fastest growing portion of the Wichita area economy, with 1.7 percent growth. Health care services, leisure and hospitality services, and professional and business services are all projected to have employment growth of greater than 2 percent, adding the vast majority of the new service sector jobs in Wichita.
- Government employment is expected to decline slightly in 2017, losing less than 100 jobs. Federal and state government employment is forecasted to decline slightly while local government employment grows.

Wichita MSA Employment by Industry Summary*					
	2015 (a)	2016 (e)	2017 (f)	2016-2017 Level Change	2016-2017 Percent Change
Total Nonfarm	295,483	297,351	298,991	1,640	0.6%
Production Sectors	68,419	68,189	68,164	-24	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	52,528	52,309	51,667	-642	-1.2%
Service Sectors	134,081	136,267	138,637	2,370	1.7%
Government	40,454	40,587	40,524	-63	-0.2%
*Annual values are derived from average quarterly observations and projections.					
(a) actual (e) estimated (f) forecasted					
Source: Wichita State University - CEDBR					



Nationally, real GDP growth slowed to 0.7 percent in the first quarter of 2017 after growing 2.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2016. Private investment and net exports were the primary drivers of this growth. National employment increased by 1.6 percent nationally in the past twelve months, while Kansas employment increased by 0.2 percent.

The Center for Economic Development and Business Research can provide detailed industry, wage, retail, and other customized forecasts upon request. Contact Jeremy Hill at 316-213-3673 for costs and availability.