

# News Release

THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of KANSAS CITY

925 Grand Boulevard • Kansas City, MO 64198 • Phone: 816.881.2683

[www.KansasCityFed.org](http://www.KansasCityFed.org)

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**CONTACT: Tim Todd**  
**816/881-2308**  
[timothy.todd@kc.frb.org](mailto:timothy.todd@kc.frb.org)

## **THE TENTH DISTRICT'S DEFINING INDUSTRIES: HOW ARE THEY CHANGING?**

The Tenth Federal Reserve District's economy remains more distinct than other parts of the country because of its “defining industries” - those that are more concentrated in the District than in other areas. Understanding how these industries are changing can help policymakers improve prospects for growth and identify possible future economic shocks.

Chad Wilkerson, assistant vice president and branch executive at the Oklahoma City Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, and Megan Williams, associate economist also at the Branch, explore this issue in “The Tenth District's Defining Industries: How Are They Changing?” The article is featured in the third quarter edition of the Bank's *Economic Review*.

The authors establish criteria for determining a defining industry then review the industries that define the District and its individual states (Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado and Wyoming). They explore how the growth rates of these industries affect regional and state growth, based on data from 1990 to 2005.

Of the District's 15 defining industries, oil and gas extraction, farm proprietors, and animal slaughtering and processing top the list. Industries such as business support services and data processing and related services are key additions to the list and have been strong providers of jobs since 1990.

The article is available on the Bank's Web site at [www.KansasCityFed.org](http://www.KansasCityFed.org).

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