KANSAS CITY FED SURVEY SHOWS LITTLE CHANGE IN LMI CONDITIONS

Indicators of economic and financial conditions in the Tenth Federal Reserve District’s low- to moderate-income (LMI) community were little changed in the third quarter, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City’s quarterly LMI survey. The survey indicated the LMI community continued to experience stress in the latest quarter, but the majority of respondents reported conditions to be about the same as in the second quarter.

The quarterly survey measures the economic conditions of LMI populations and the organizations that serve them in the Kansas City Fed’s seven-state District. Results from the survey are used to construct five indicators of economic conditions in LMI communities and two indicators of the conditions of LMI-focused organizations. LMI populations are those with incomes of less than 80 percent of an area’s median income.

One bright spot in this quarter’s survey was a positive outlook in the LMI labor market’s prospects for the fourth quarter. Meanwhile, the survey indicated the demand experienced by service providers continued to increase, reflecting a community that is still struggling to break out of its economic doldrums. Service providers also reported continued funding struggles, with many reporting a decline in resources available from the public sector.

As the regional headquarters of the nation’s central bank, the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and its branches in Denver, Oklahoma City and Omaha serve the seven states of the Tenth Federal Reserve District: Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming, northern New Mexico and western Missouri.

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