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ECONOMIC CONDITION INDICATORS FOR LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME COMMUNITY SHOW SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT

Indicators of economic and financial conditions in the Tenth Federal Reserve District's low- to moderate-income (LMI) community showed significant improvement during the first quarter, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's <u>quarterly LMI Survey</u>. The survey's broadest measure of economic conditions maintained a reading below neutral, but rose to the highest level in the survey's history. Results from the survey's other indexes and comments from survey participants also indicate a largely positive outlook.

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.

The survey's jobs index saw a substantial boost in the first quarter, rising above neutral for the first time in the survey's three-year history. Meanwhile, the survey found a continued rising demand for the services provided by LMI-focused organizations, and despite funding constraints, the organizations reported a neutral assessment of their capacity to provide services.

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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