

Economic Outlook for Kansas and Missouri

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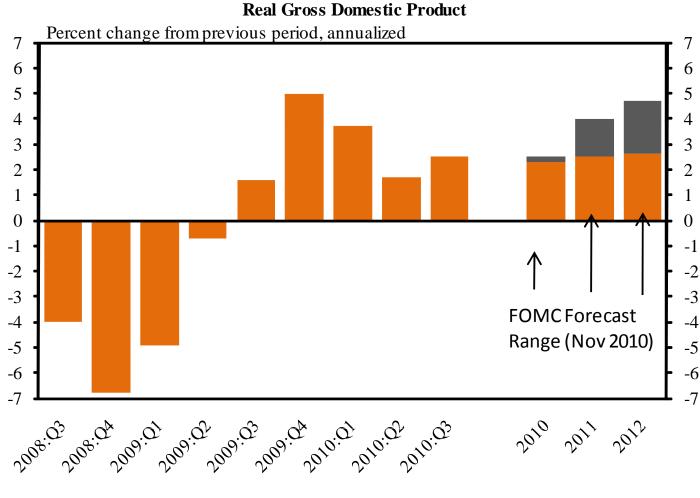
The views expressed are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the positions of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City or the Federal Reserve System.

U.S. Economic Overview

- Incoming data suggest that the U.S. economy continues to recover at a modest pace.
 - Manufacturing activity is expanding.
 - Consumer spending remains above year-ago levels.
 - The energy and agriculture sectors are booming.
- However, the U.S. economy faces many challenges over the next few years.
 - Unemployment rates are likely to remain stubbornly high.
 - Commercial and residential construction activity remains weak.
 - Eventually fiscal and monetary stimulus must be removed.



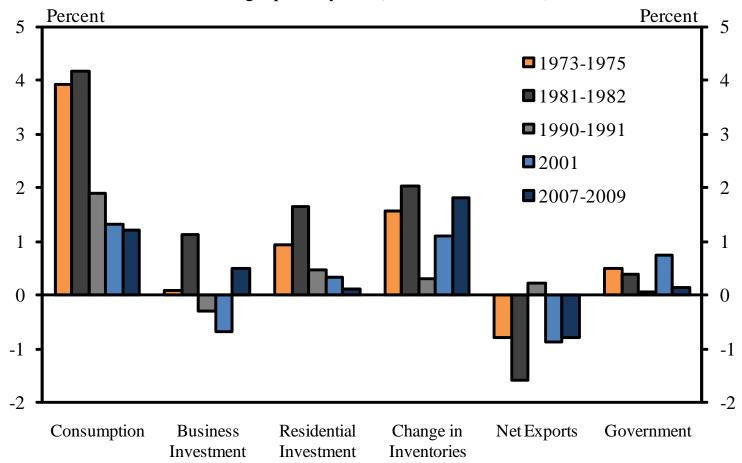
A modest recovery is expected to continue over the next few years.



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; FOMC

Consumption and residential investment are contributing less to growth than after previous sharp downturns.

Contributions to Real GDP by Component in the Year Following a Recession

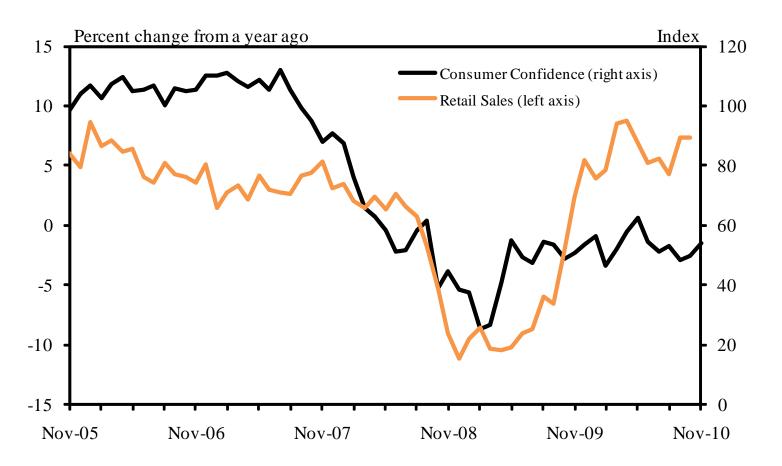


Average quarterly rate (at an annualized rate)

Source: BEA

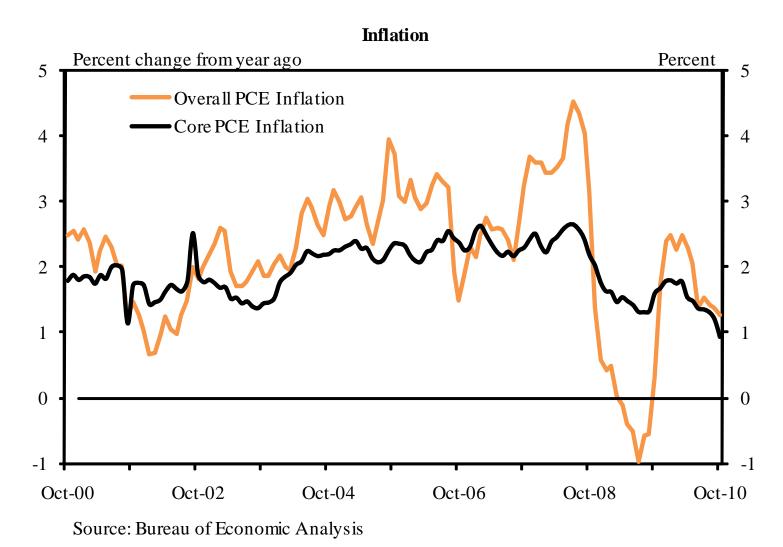
With confidence levels above last year's low, consumers are spending more.

Retail Sales and Consumer Confidence

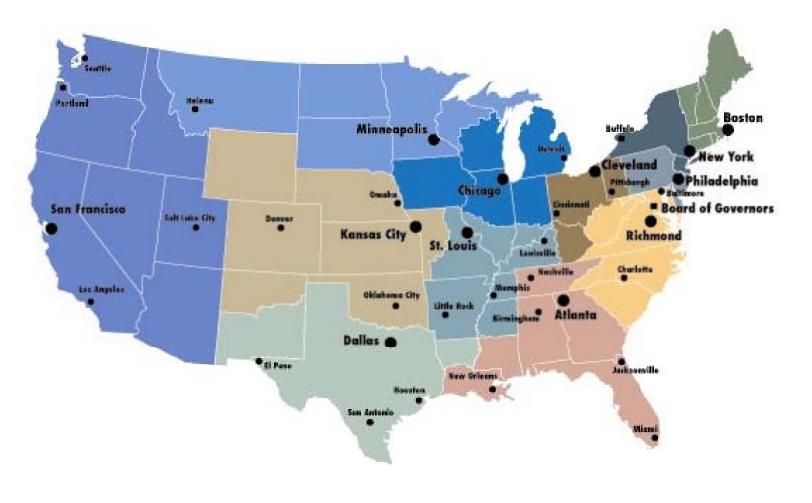


Source: Census Bureau and Consumer Confidence Board

Inflation pressures remain subdued.



The Federal Reserve's Tenth District



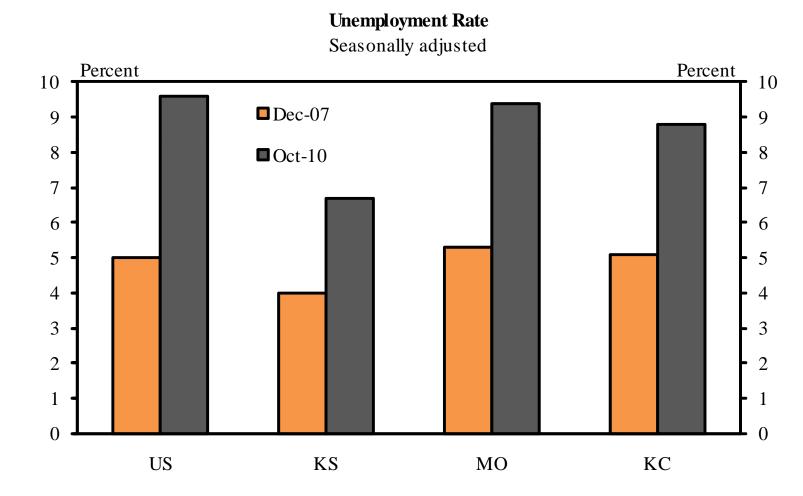


Employment fell sharply during the recession but has increased in 2010.

Nonfarm Employment (Excluding Federal Government) Seasonally adjusted Index Index US KS MO KC Oct-05 Oct-06 Oct-07 Oct-08 Oct-09 Oct-10

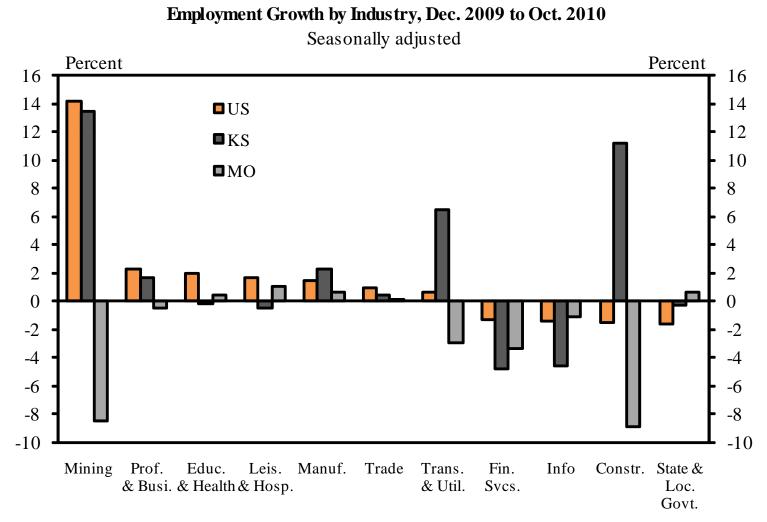
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment rates remain elevated.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment conditions have varied by industry.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

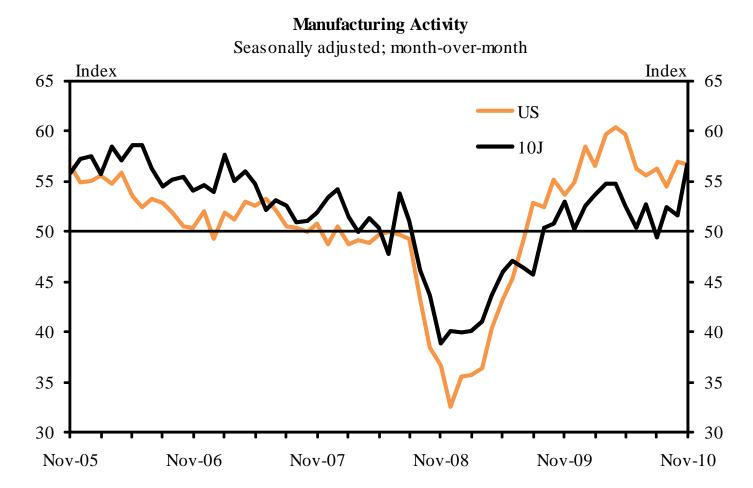
Hiring expectations remain sluggish.

Percent Percent 30 30 25 25 **U**S 20 20 KC 15 15 10 10 5 5 0 0 -5 -5 -10 -10 2006:Q1 2007:Q1 2008:Q1 2010:Q1 2009:Q1 2011:Q1

Net Percentage of Firms Expecting to Increase Employment

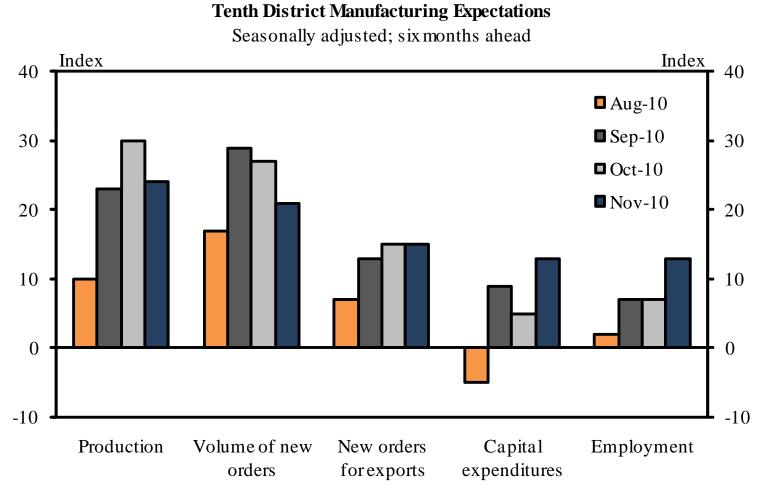
Source: Manpower Inc.

Manufacturing activity has been expanding for more than a year.



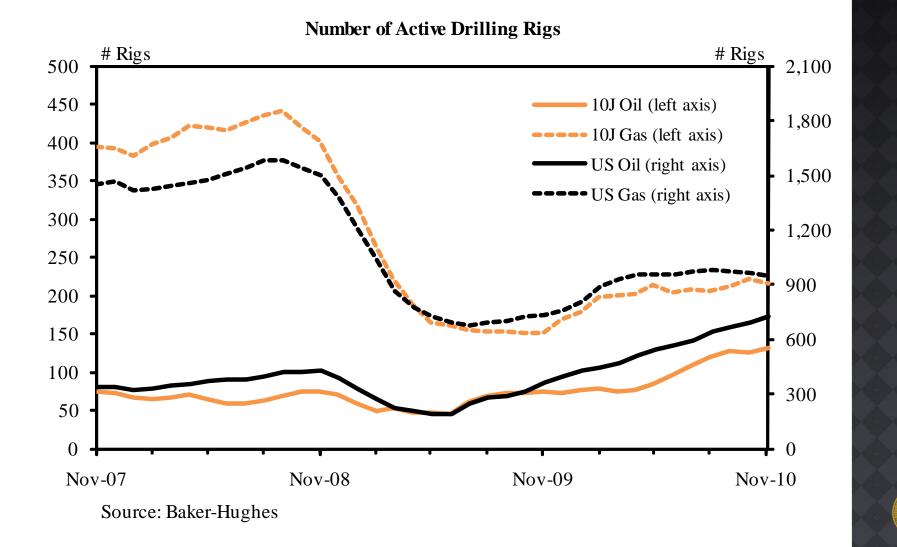
Sources: ISM, FRBKC Manufacturing Survey Note: 10J index is computed on ISM basis (50 = zero change)

Manufacturers expect further expansion over the next six months.

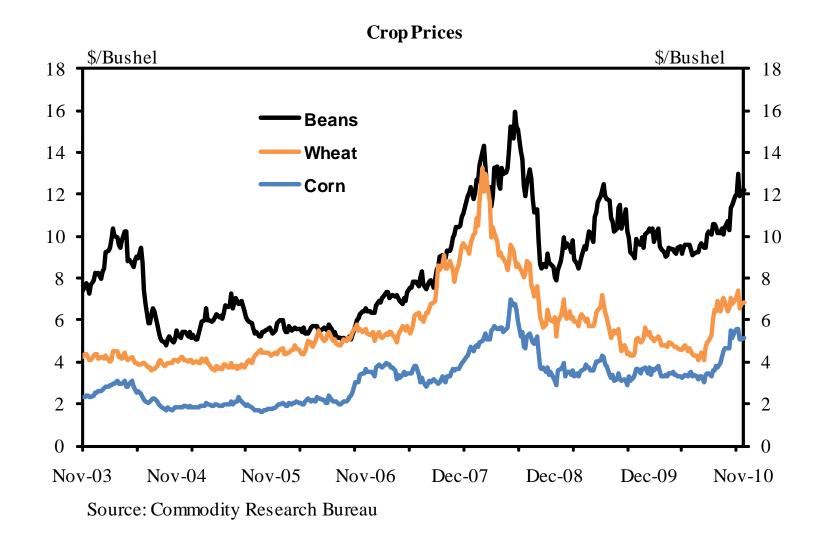


Source: FRBKC Manufacturing Survey

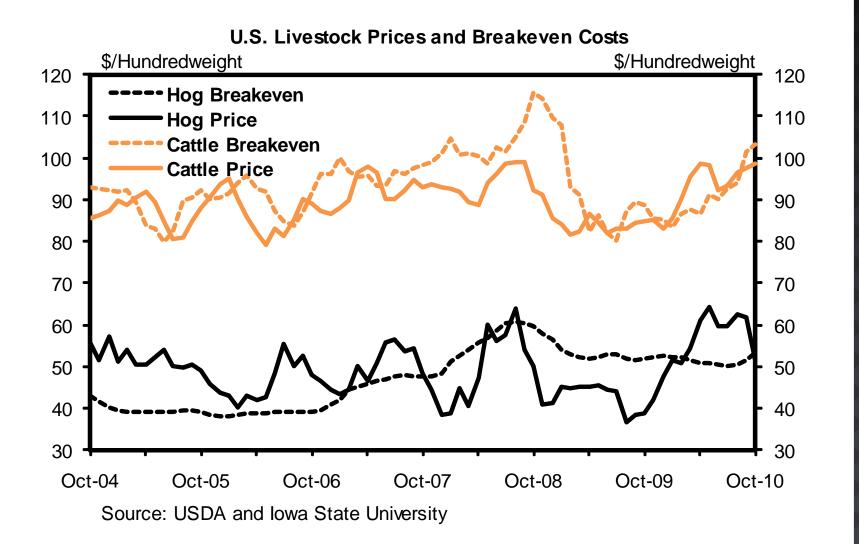
The energy sector is expanding, especially for oil producers.



Lower supplies have led to higher crop prices.

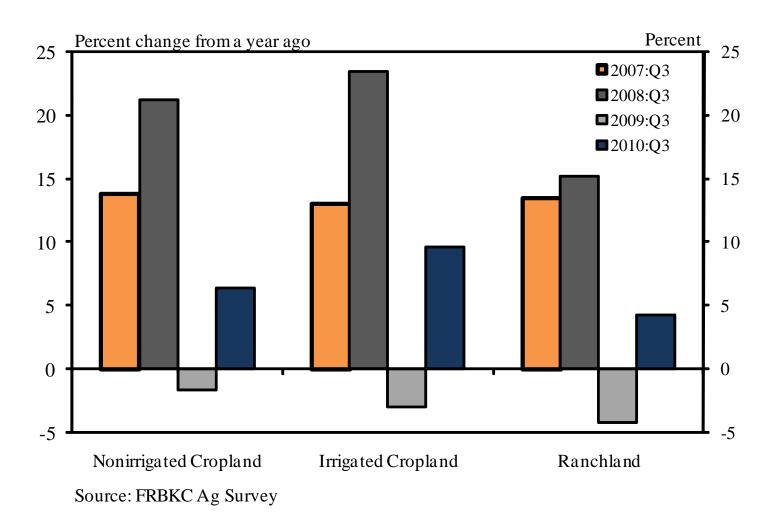


Incomes have increased for livestock producers this year.

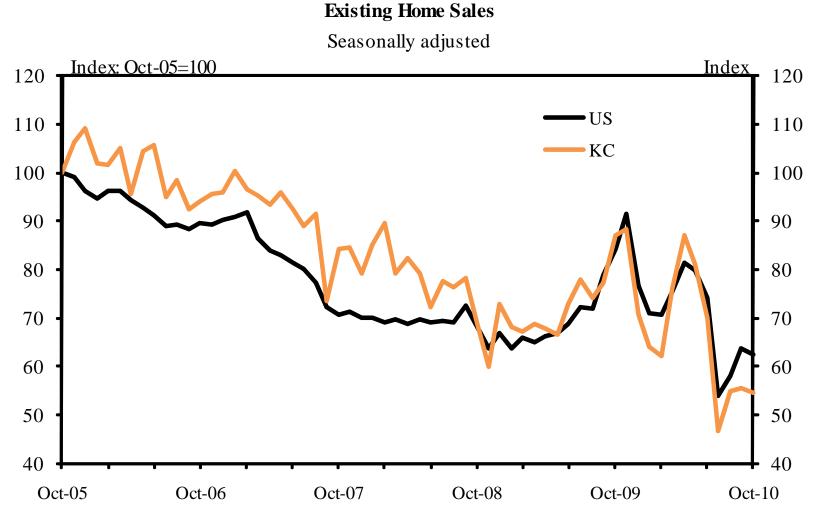


Farmland values have increased in 2010.

Tenth District Farmland Values

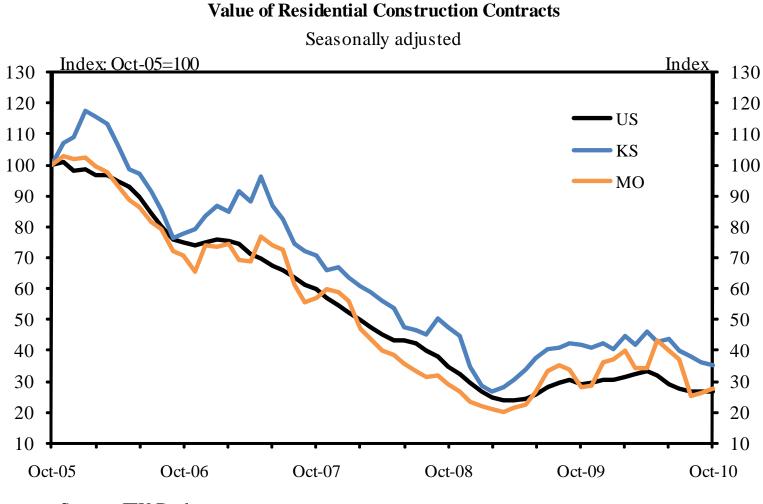


As expected, home sales plummeted after the expiration of the tax credit.



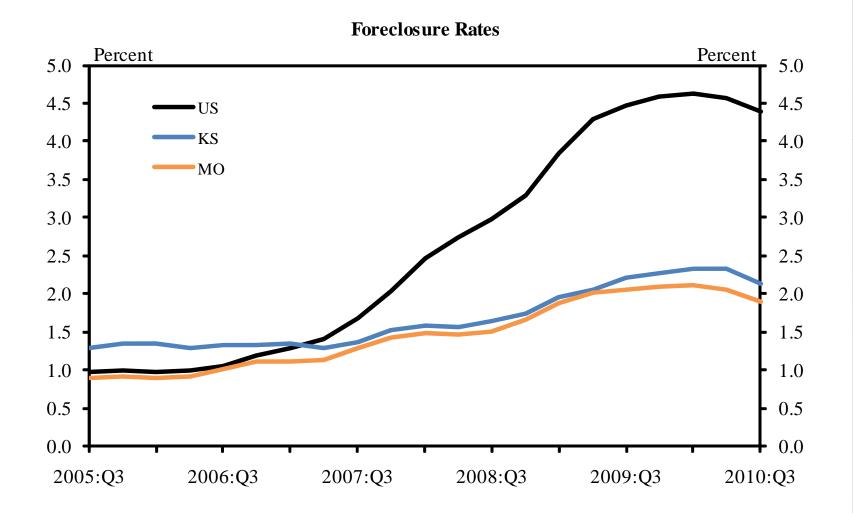
Source: NAR and Local Realtor Reports

Residential construction activity remains slow.



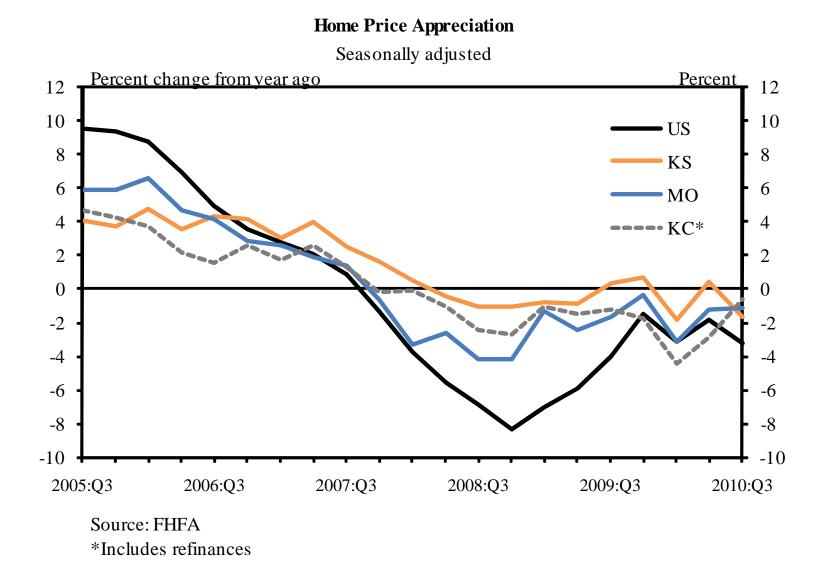
Source: FW Dodge

Foreclosure rates are much lower in Kansas and Missouri than in the nation.

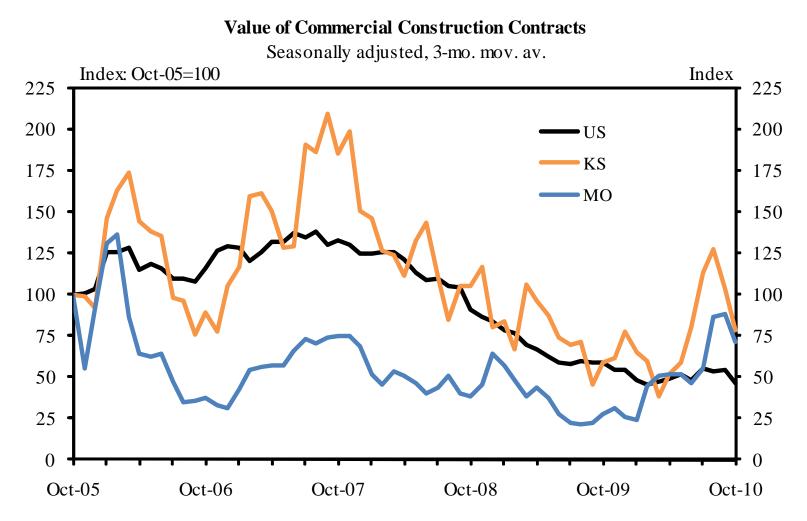


Source: Mortgage Bankers Association

Home prices have held up relatively well in Kansas and Missouri.



Commercial construction activity increased earlier this year in Kansas and Missouri.



Source: F.W. Dodge Inc.

Conclusions

- Most economists expect the U.S., Kansas, and Missouri economies to recover gradually over the next couple of years.
- There are several factors that will likely prevent a more robust recovery.
 - Real estate activity may be sluggish in the near term.
 - Consumer confidence remains below pre-recession levels which may translate into less spending.
 - Unemployment is likely to remain high for some time.

