2014 Kansas Economic Outlook Conference

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Summary

- There are regional structural labor market issues that need to be addressed for long term growth
- Labor market is determined and resourceful, and will continue to reengage over the next year
- Consumers will continue to bargain shop, while maintaining a balanced budget
- Businesses will invest strategically, carefully matching the fledgling increased demand
- Business are focused on "tomorrow" instead of the "past" or the "potential"
- Moderate growth will not occur because of slowing agriculture, machinery equipment, food production, and a weak aerospace market
- Employment is expected to increase by 1.4% (19,141) in 2014. This remains subpar from potential growth.

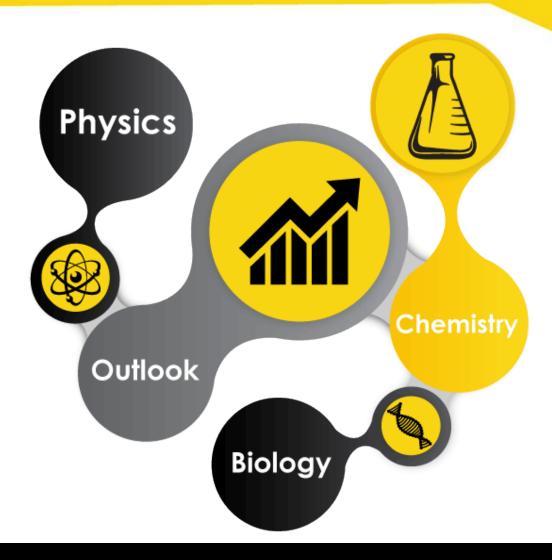






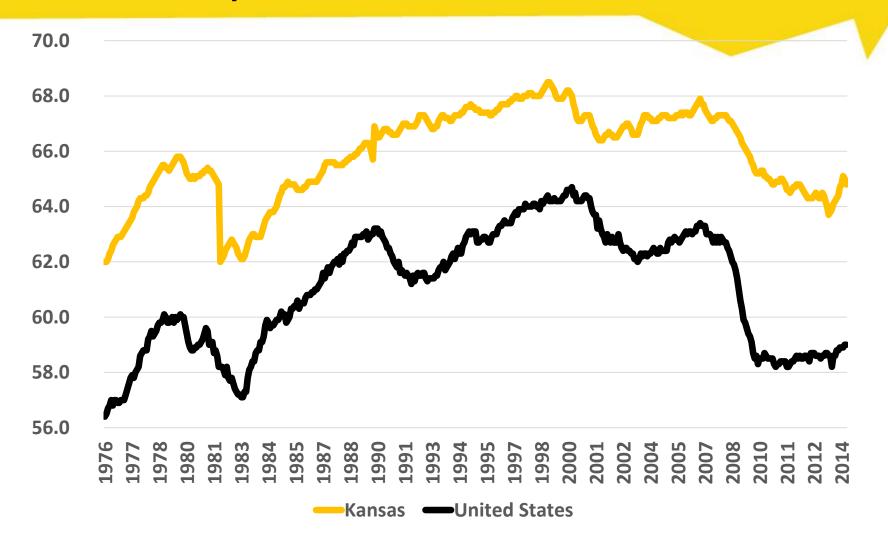


Overview





EMP-Population Ratio



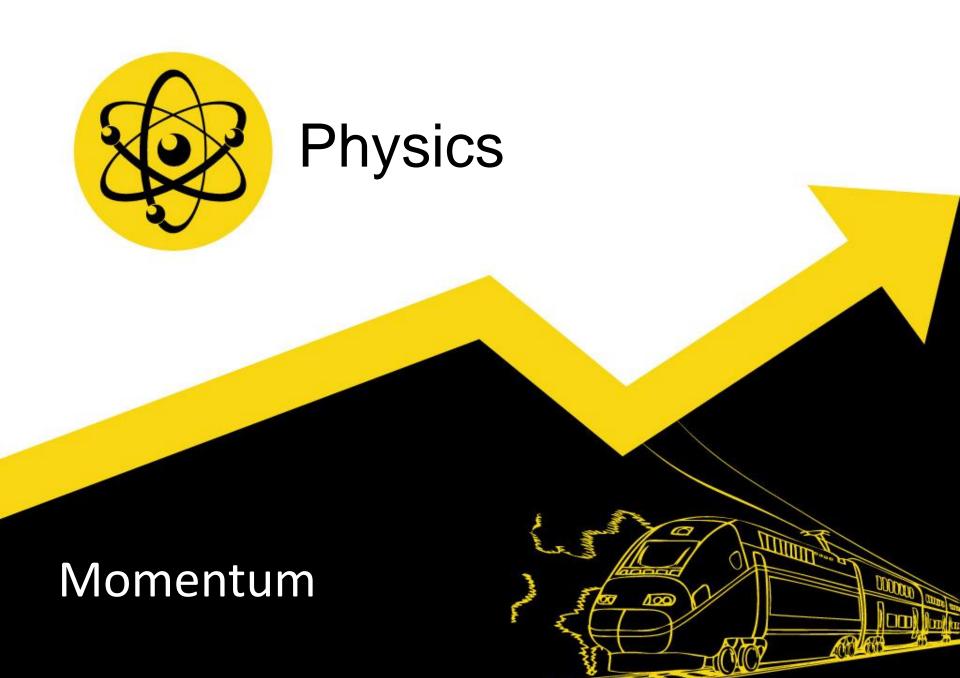


Other national data

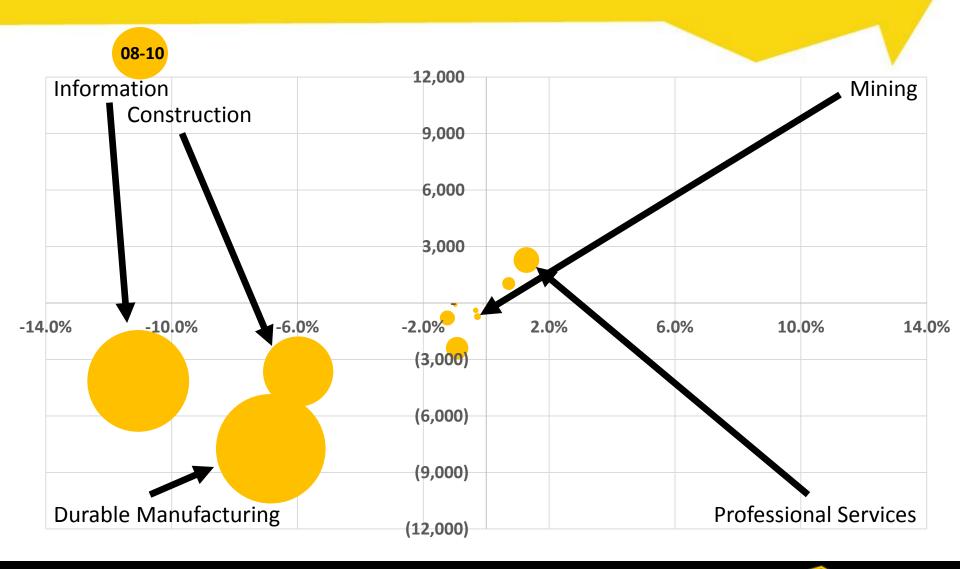
•US employment market continues to expand (~200,000+ jobs per month).

- US inflation was 1.8% in Q2 of 2014, which slowed slightly due to energy.
- •US real GDP was 4.6% in Q2 of 2014, which was an acceleration from the surprising drop in Q1.



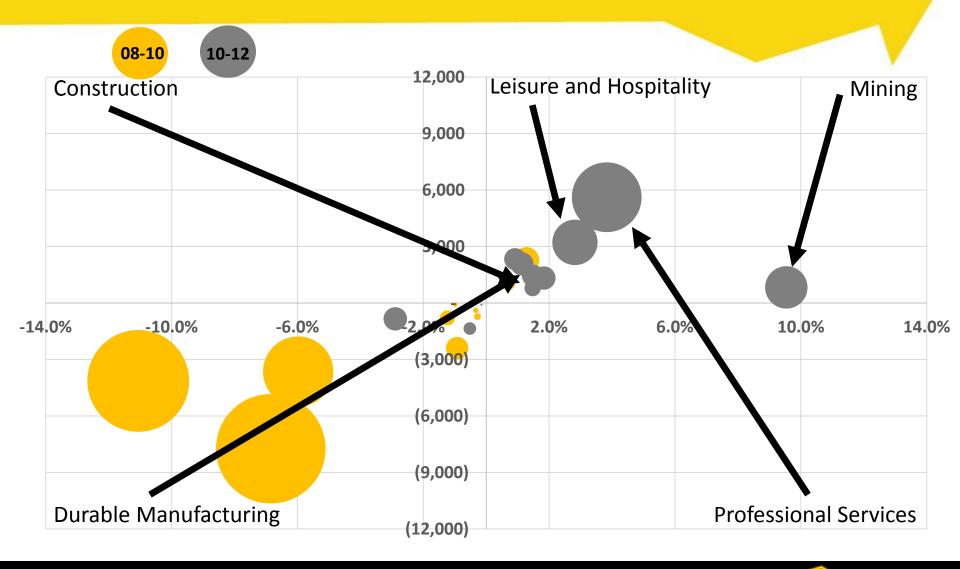


2008-2010 - Annualized



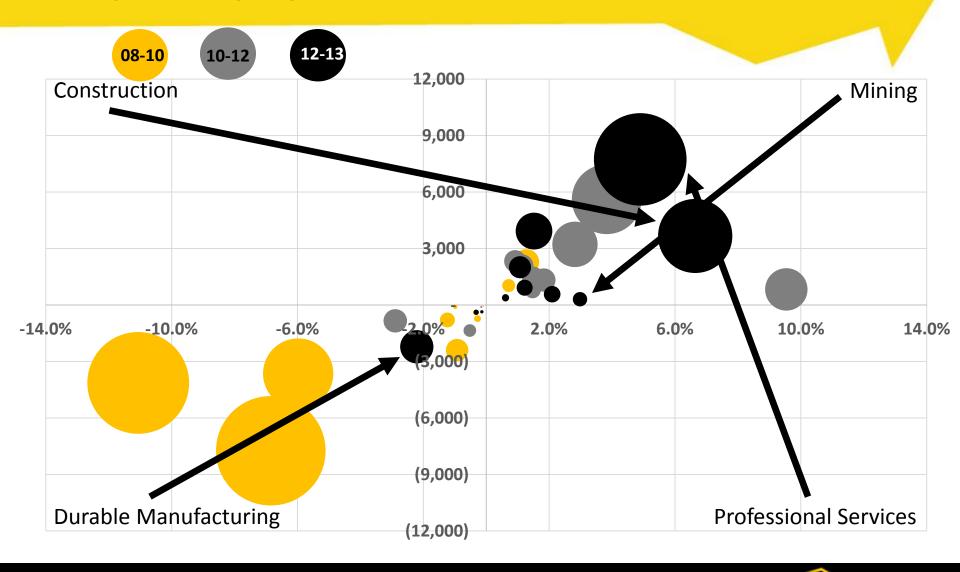


2010-2012 - Annualized





2012-2013 - Annualized





Summary

- The Kansas labor market (emp-pop ratio) has improved in 2014, the first time in five years.
- The loss in Durable Manufacturing employment (velocity and mass) has had a significant impact on the state economy and support related sectors.
- Management of companies, employment agencies, and oil income have been the primary economic drivers.

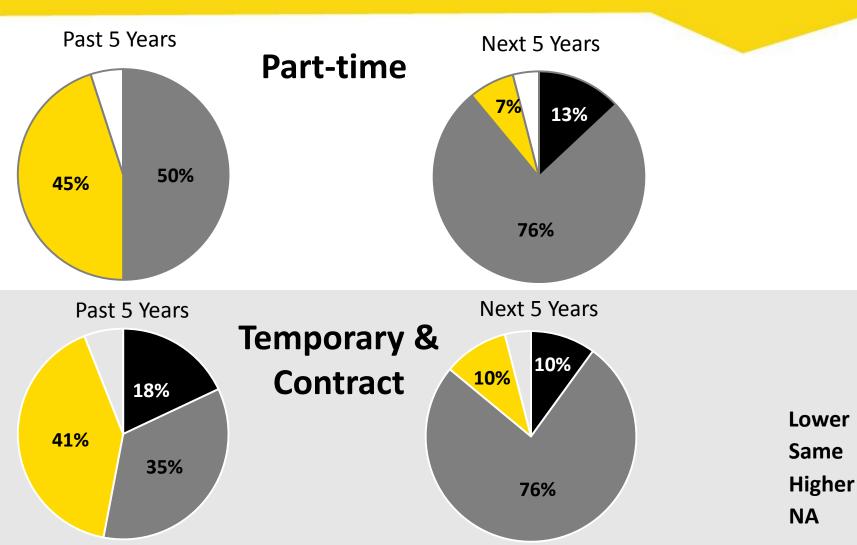




Sea-monkeys



Contingent workforce





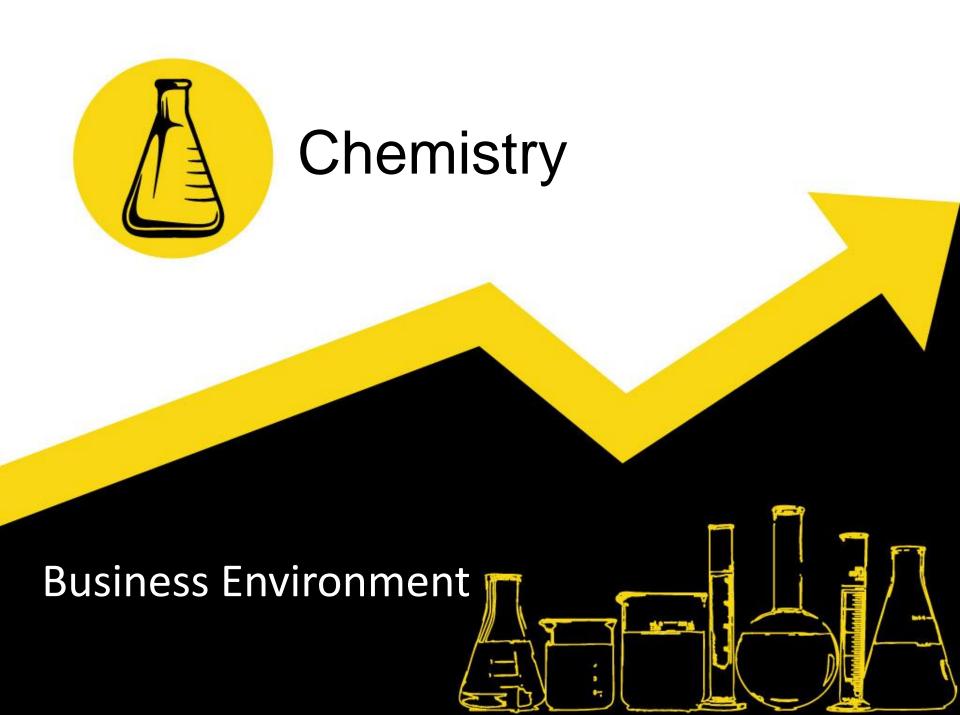
Summary

 Production workers remain underutilized in the state, which is an asset and a concern.

 A contingent workforce is now a more prominent part of the labor market.

 Evaluating permanent hires, cost management, and value added are all key strategies of local employers.





Global

U.S. competitive position Global demand for goods and services Middle Eastern instability **Eastern European instability**

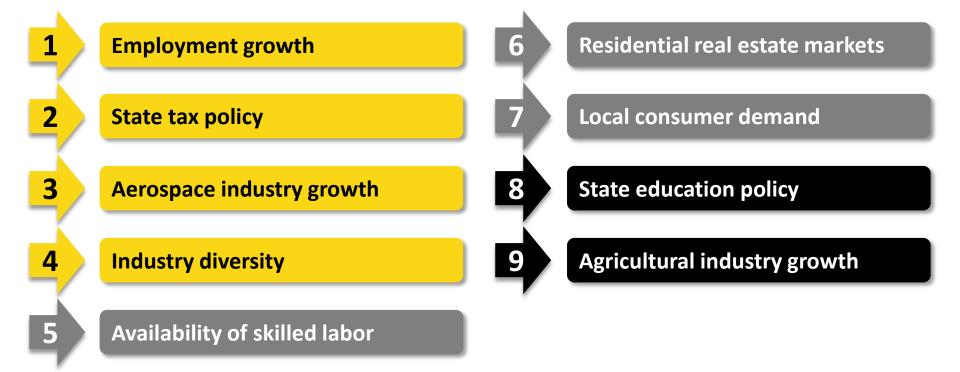


National Concerns

Long term unemployment
Federal debt
GDP growth
Changes to environmental policy
Federal Reserve monetary policy
Changes to the health care system
Tax structure

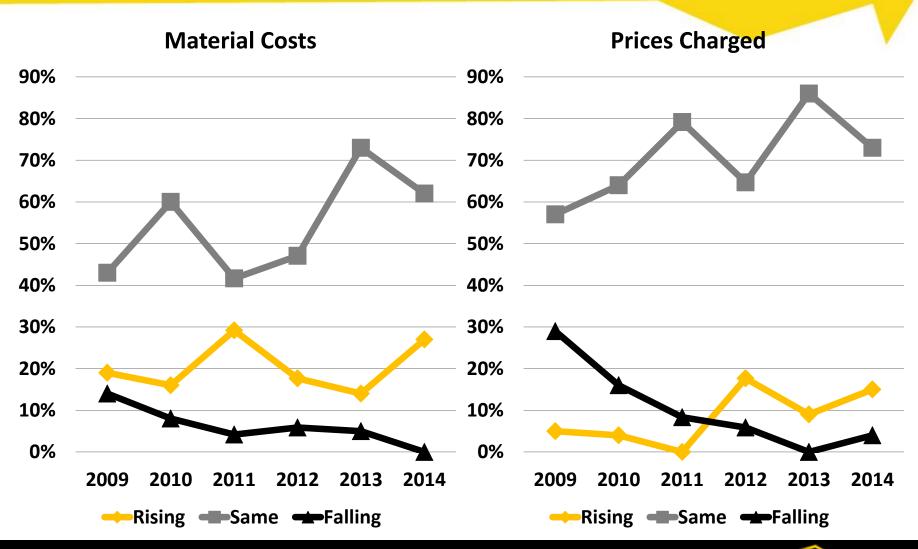


State and Local



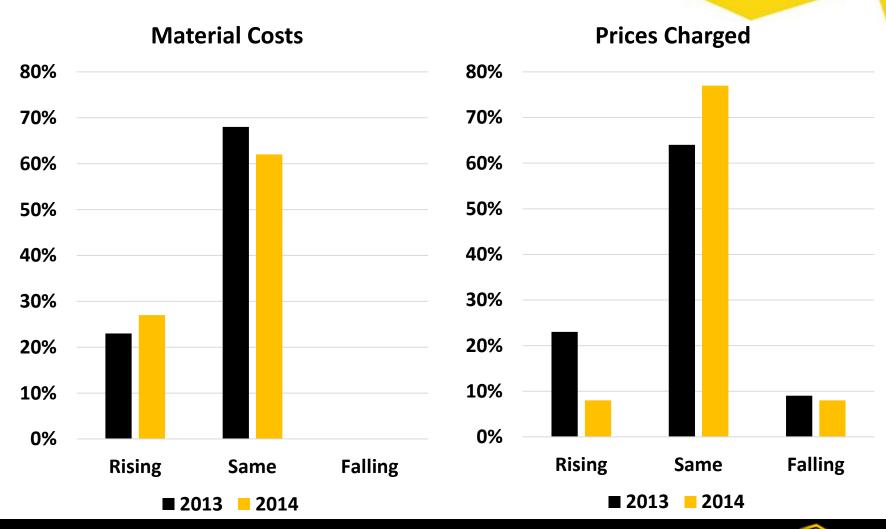


Existing Conditions



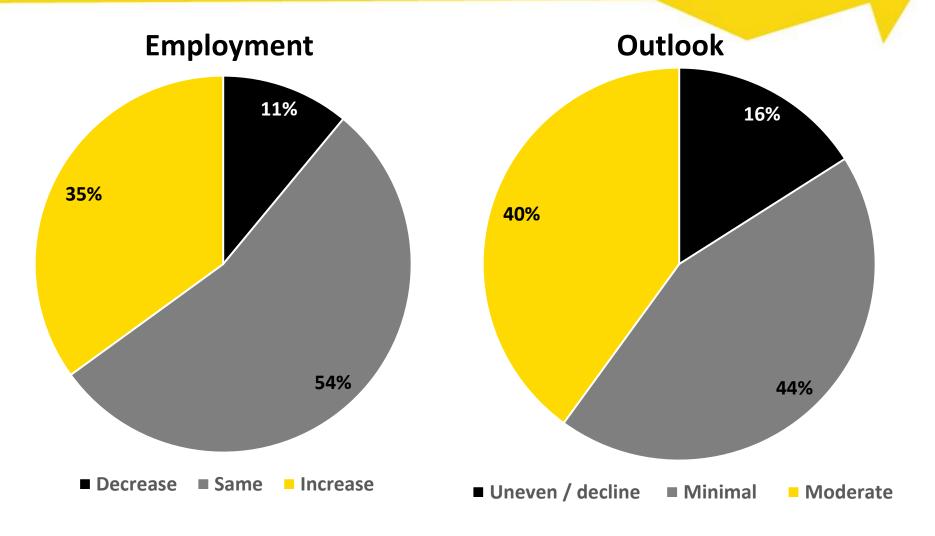


Future Expectations





Future Conditions





Summary

- Businesses continue to focus less on policy and more on factors of demand.
- Top concerns are targeted on economic growth.
- The majority of businesses will see increasing costs, yet customers remain price sensitive.
- Although more companies are moderately optimistic, some segments may experience more losses in 2015.

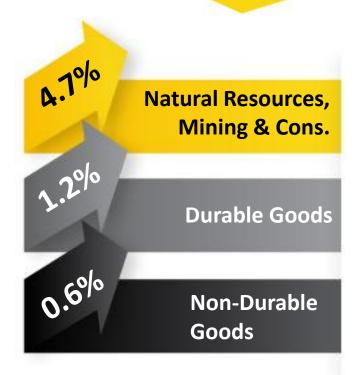




Employment, Wages, and Retail Sales

Goods Producing

- Kansas oil production has had moderate growth in 2014.
- Construction labor market has improved, but will remain below previous peak.
- Machinery peaked in Dec 2012 and has since flattened.
- Animal Slaughtering and Processing continues to improve, but remains about 1,000 jobs below the previous peak.





Retail Sales and Wages

 Retail sales will be stronger due to growth in wages.

 Tightening labor slack and competition nationally are driving wages up in 2015.





Trade, Transportation and Utilities



 Retail employment growth will soften in 2015 to adjust for the higher than expected growth in 2014 and due to online shopping.

 Transportation & Utilities will mirror the national trend and general growth within the region.



Services



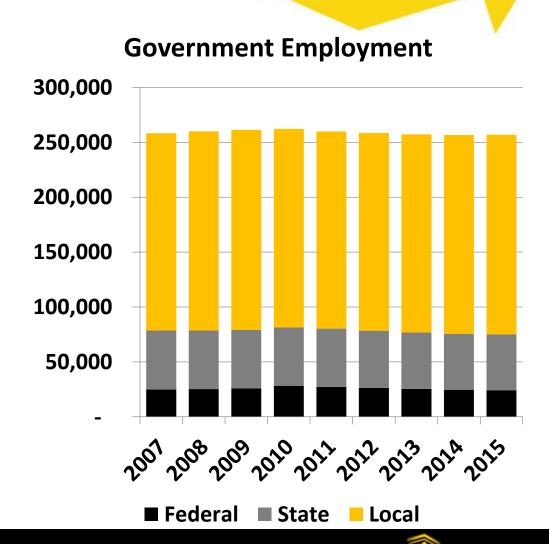
- Professional Services have increasingly become a larger component of the economy.
- Health Services will see continued growth in therapists, outpatient care, diagnostic labs, and residential care facilities.
- Financial Activities growth reflects recent consolidations and efficiencies gained.



Source: CEDBR

Government Employment

- Changing political priorities at any level of government could impact the employment outlook.
- The decreased 2015 state budget will likely impact state employment.
- Overall, government employment is expected to increase more slowly than the general growth of the economy.





Summary



- Although businesses have already shifted to more contingent labor, the workforce mindset will still need to adjust to this new reality.
- Increased costs nationally and the slow state economy may impact some companies in the coming year.
- Consumers are regaining their strength (employment and wages); however, they remain slightly over leveraged and have little cushion for another downturn.
- Provided consistent positive news, manufacturing should see some employment growth within the next two years.
- Employment is expected to increase by 1.7% (23,239), which would be an improvement over 2014; however, it is still below potential.

