KANSAS INCOME GAPS: DIFFERENCES ACROSS GEOGRAPHIES, AGE GROUPS, EDUCATION LEVELS, AND ETHNICITIES

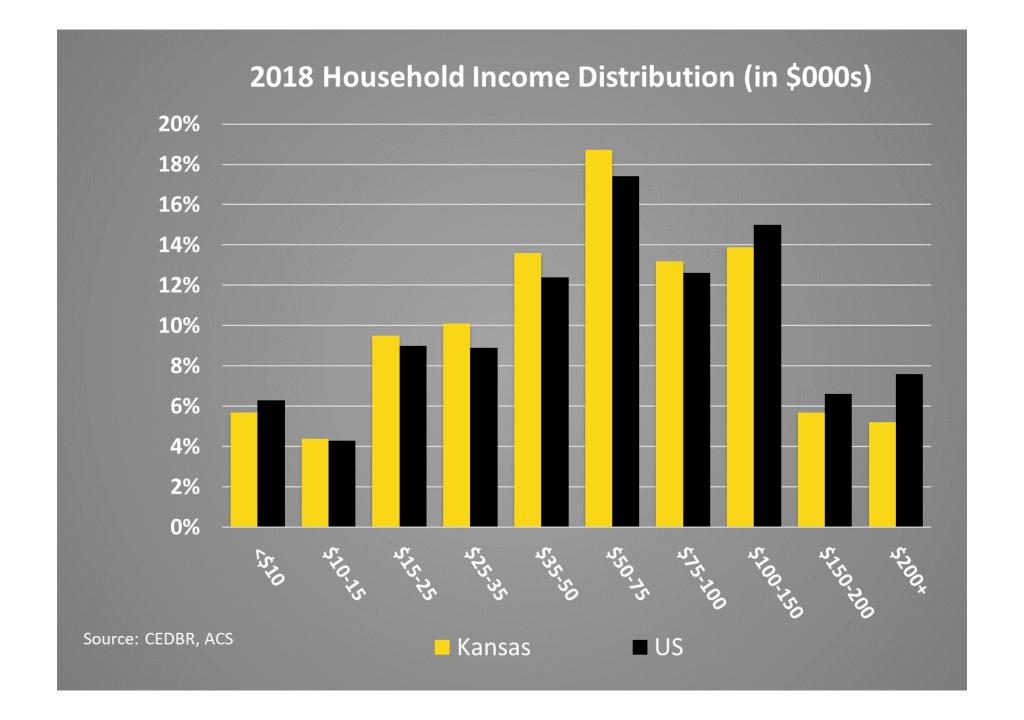
MIKE BUSCH CEDBR INDUSTRY RESEARCH EXCHANGE APRIL 8TH, 2020

INCOME IN KANSAS AND THE US

 How does Kansans' income compare to the US average?

 How does income vary among groups within Kansas?

2018 Mean Household Income		
United States	\$87,864	
Kansas	\$78,972	
Source: Census - ACS		



KANSAS INCOME DISTRIBUTION

- Kansas has a narrower distribution of income than the US
 - Fewer extremely high or extremely low income households
- Median Kansas household income was 6 percent lower than US
 - Mean was 10.2 percent lower
- Poverty rate for US was 13.1 percent, for Kansas only 12.0 percent
- Why was Kansas' median household income lower?

2018 Median Household Income

United States \$61,937

Kansas \$58,218

Source: Census - ACS

KANSAS INDIVIDUAL EARNINGS

 At the individual level, median earnings are only 4.2 percent lower

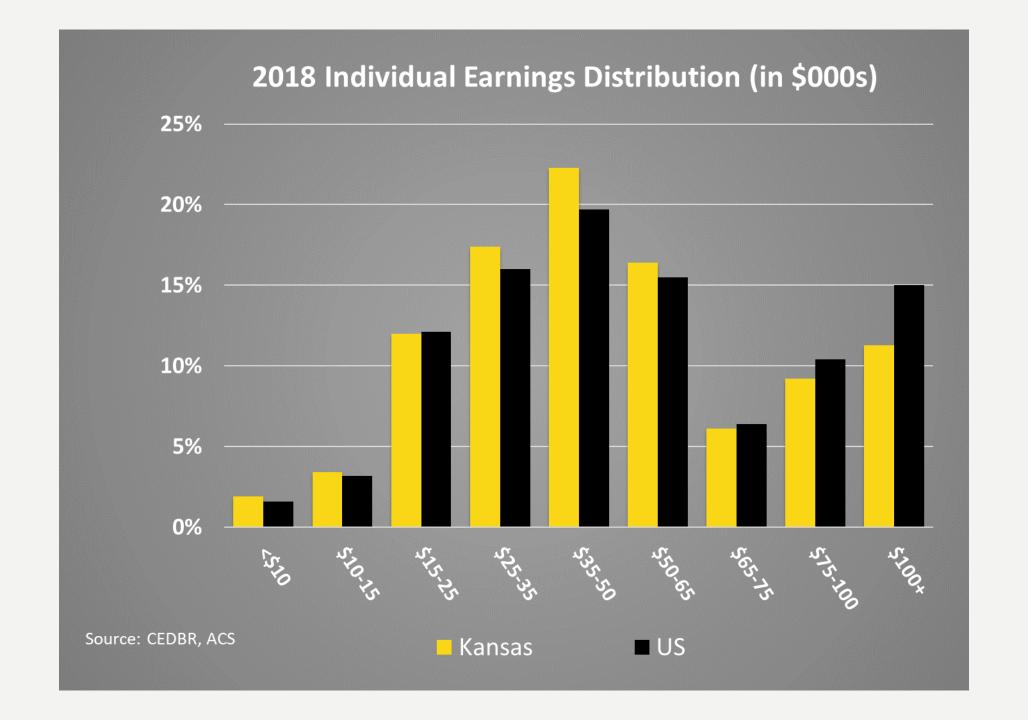
 Almost a third of the difference in median household income can be explained by fewer members of households working in Kansas

2018 Median Individual Earnings

United States \$33,439

Kansas \$32,032

Source: Census - ACS

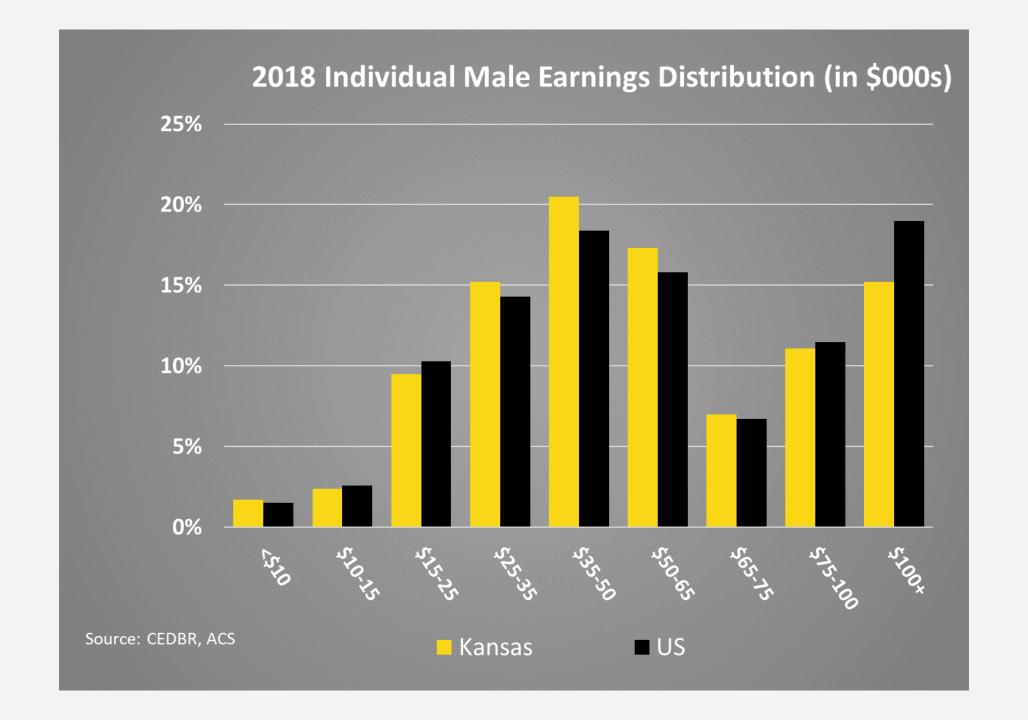


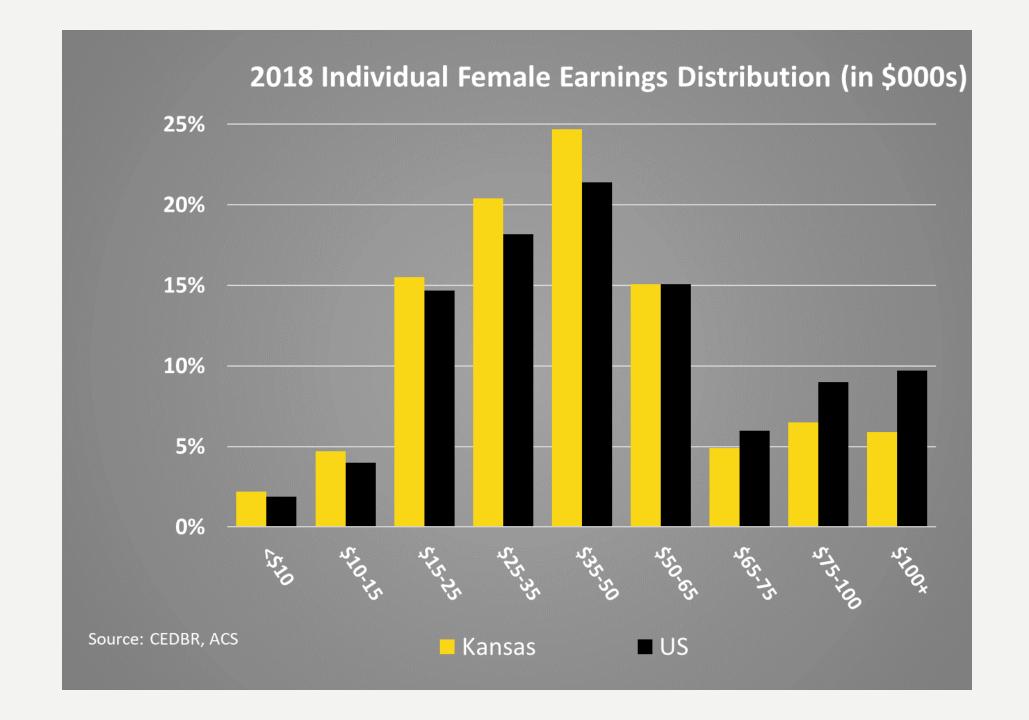
EARNING BY GENDER

- Kansas has a larger gender gap in pay in than the national average
 - Nationally, women's earnings are 70.3% of men's
 - In Kansas, women's earnings are 67% of men's

2018 Median Earnings, by Gender		
	Men	Women
United States	\$40,168	\$28,269
Kansas	\$39,217	\$26,279
Source: Census - ACS		

Men's earnings in Kansas only 2.3 percent lower than national average





HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY ETHNICITY

- Household income is lower across every ethnicity in Kansas
- Gaps are larger for every ethnic group than the overall gap of 6 percent
 - Due to Kansas having higher share of high earning groups

2018 Median Household Income			
	United States	Kansas	Ratio
Total	\$61,937	\$58,218	94.0%
White	\$67,937	\$61,447	90.4%
Black	\$41,511	\$35,412	85.3%
Hispanic	\$51,404	\$45,938	89.4%
Asian	\$87,243	\$70,834	81.2%
Source: Census - ACS			

EARNINGS BY EDUCATION

- Income gap grows with education
 - Peaks at 15.4 percent with graduate degrees

2018 Median Earnings by Education			
	United States	Kansas	Ratio
Total (25 and Over)	\$40,867	\$39,658	97.0%
Less than high school			
graduate	\$24,530	\$26,462	107.9%
High school graduate			
(includes equivalency)	\$31,269	\$30,792	98.5%
Some college or associate's			
degree	\$36,854	\$35,549	96.5%
Bachelor's degree	\$54,628	\$49,852	91.3%
Graduate or professional			
degree	\$72,492	\$61,361	84.6%
Source: Census - ACS			

WITHIN KANSAS EARNINGS GAPS

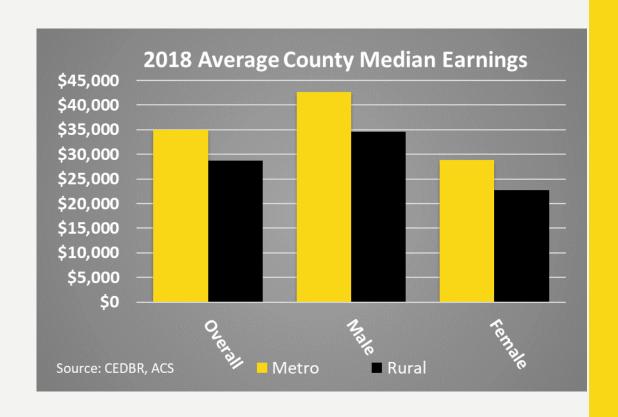
- Within Kansas, the income gap by education ranged from 38.6 to 32.4 percent for women
- Women have higher education than men, on average
 - 35% vs 32.6% bachelors or higher
 - 32.6% vs 31% with associates degree or some college

2018 Kansas Median Earnings by Education			
	Male	Female	Ratio
Total (25 and Over)	\$46,726	\$31,925	68.3%
Less than high school			
graduate	\$30,896	\$18,975	61.4%
High school graduate			
(includes equivalency)	\$36,356	\$22,553	62.0%
Some college or associate's			
degree	\$44,121	\$28,635	64.9%
Bachelor's degree	\$61,752	\$41,299	66.9%
Graduate or professional			
degree	\$77,273	\$52,291	67.7%
Source: Census - ACS			

RURAL/URBAN EARNINGS GAP

 Rural counties' median earnings were on average 18 percent lower than metro counties'

Women's median rural earnings were
 21 percent lower than women's
 median metro earnings



COMBINING THE GAPS

- All these income gaps intersect in counties across Kansas
 - Education gaps, rural/urban gaps, gender gaps

- How do we look at all these differences together rather than one at a time?
- Data used: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for every Kansas county, from 2010 to 2018

REVISITING THE GENDER GAP

- How much of the gender gap can be explained using other factors?
- Estimated the following equation twice, using female and male data:

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log(Earnings_{it})
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$$= \alpha_t + \beta_1 A g e_{it} + \beta_2 Colleg e_{it} + \beta_3 Goods_Emp_{it} + \beta_4 Service_Emp_{it}$$

$$+\beta_5 Hispanic_{it} + \beta_6 Black_{it} + \beta_7 Other_{it} + \beta_8 Metro_{it} + \varepsilon_{it}$$

Weighted by county population

VARIABLE DEFINITIONS

- Earnings_{it}: Median earnings for county
- Age_{it}: Median Age for county
- College_{it}: Share with Bachelor's Degree or higher
- $Goods_Emp_{it}$: Share of workers employed in goods-producing industries
- Service_Emp_{it}: Share of workers employed in private service industries
- Hispanic_{it}: Share of population that identified as Hispanic
- $Black_{it}$: Share of population that identified as Black or African-American
- $Other_{it}$: Share of population that identified as a race other than white, Hispanic, or African-American
- $Metro_{it}$: I if a metro county, 0 if a rural county

RESULTS

- Men tended to earn more in counties with high private goods and service sector employment
- Women tended to earn more in counties with high levels of education and more diverse counties
- After controlling for other factors, the rural-metro gap was similar for women and men

Gender Median Earnings Regression Results		
	Men	Women
Age	0.024327	0.037832
College	0.880657	1.247418
$Goods_Emp$	1.386884	0.802304
Service_Emp	1.248663	0.575386
Hispanic	-0.014557	0.774962
Black	-0.246131	0.117296
Other	-1.023754	0.266000
Metro	0.111766	0.119017

GENDER DIFFERENCES EXPLAINED

• Blinder-Oaxaca Decomposition:

$$\overline{\log(Women's Earnings_{it})} - \overline{\log(Men's Earnings_{it})} \\
= \widehat{\beta_{women}}(\overline{X_{women}} - \overline{X_{men}}) - \overline{X_{men}}(\widehat{\beta_{women}} - \overline{\widehat{\beta_{men}}})$$

- In effect, how much of the difference in men's and women's earnings can we explain using these variables?
- How much of the difference is due to different responses to these variables?

GENDER DIFFERENCES EXPLAINED

- Using these county-level variables, we can explain 22.1 percent of the variation in gender median earnings
- 77.9 percent is unexplained
- Key explanatory variables are differences in earnings response to goods-producing employment, service employment, and education

Gender Differences in Kansas County Earnings		
Total Difference	28.4%	
Explained	6.3%	
Unexplained	22.2%	

REVISITING THE RURAL-METRO GAP

- The metro area earnings premium was similar across both men's and women's earnings
- How much of the rural-metro gap can be explained by other economic factors?
- Estimated the following equation twice, using rural and metro data: $log(Earnings_{it})$
 - $= \alpha_t + \beta_1 A g e_{it} + \beta_2 Colleg e_{it} + \beta_3 Goods_Emp_{it} + \beta_4 Service_Emp_{it} + \beta_5 Hispanic_{it} + \beta_6 Black_{it} + \beta_7 Other_{it} + \varepsilon_{it}$
- Weighted by county population

RURAL-METRO RESULTS

 Metro areas tended to have higher earnings when college education levels and private sector employment share were high

Rural-Metro Median Earnings Regression Results		
	Rural	Metro
Age	-0.001525	0.025892
College	0.311302	0.642595
$Goods_Emp$	0.402372	0.847599
Service_Emp	-0.109024	1.235209
Hispanic	0.098486	-0.622770
Black	0.502840	0.424031
Other	-1.091108	-0.734749

RURAL-METRO DIFFERENCES EXPLAINED

- Using these county-level variables, we can explain 79.5 percent of the variation in rural-metro median earnings
- 20.5 percent is unexplained
- Key explanatory variables are differences in earnings response to service employment and education

Rural-Metro Differences in Kansas County Earnings		
Total Difference	21.1%	
Explained	16.8%	
Unexplained	4.3%	

QUESTIONSP

THANK YOU!