

# ***Connected Freight KC Plan 2050***

## ***A Plan in Action***

May 28, 2025 | Plan Overview



**MARC**  
MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL

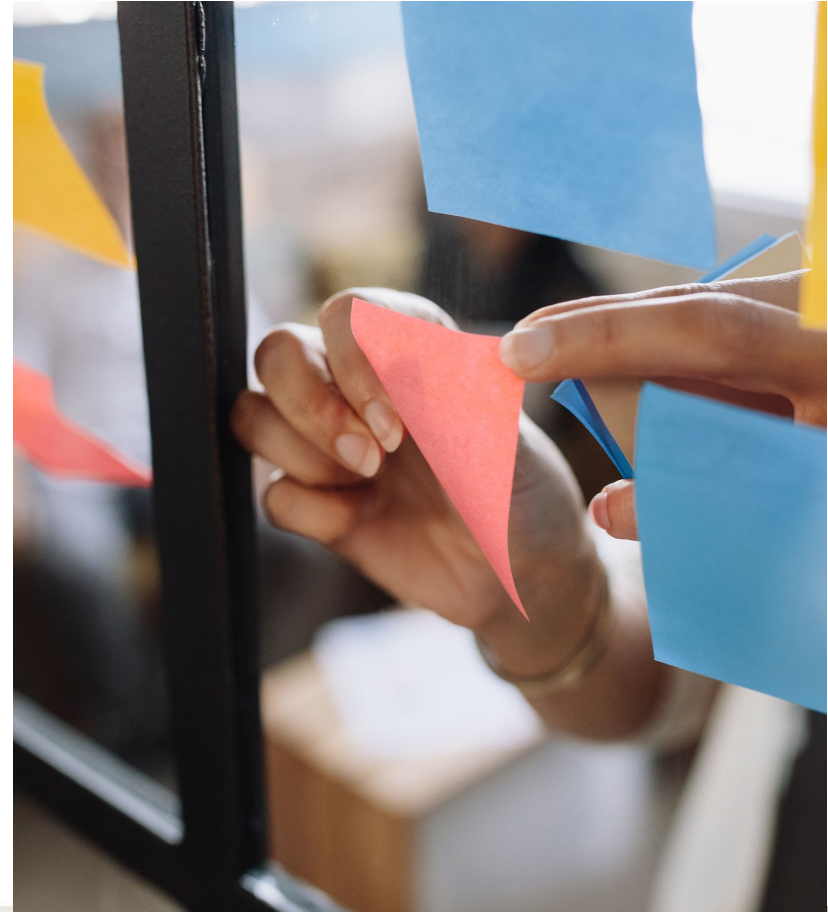
LAWRENCE - DOUGLAS COUNTY  
**MPO**  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Pioneer Trails  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING  
COMMISSION



# Connected Freight KC 2050 – A Plan in Action

- The final plan will:
  - **Define** roles and responsibilities for planning agencies in regional, state, and national freight planning
  - **Integrate** proactive freight planning into the regional transportation planning process
  - **Support** regional, state, and federal freight goals and objectives



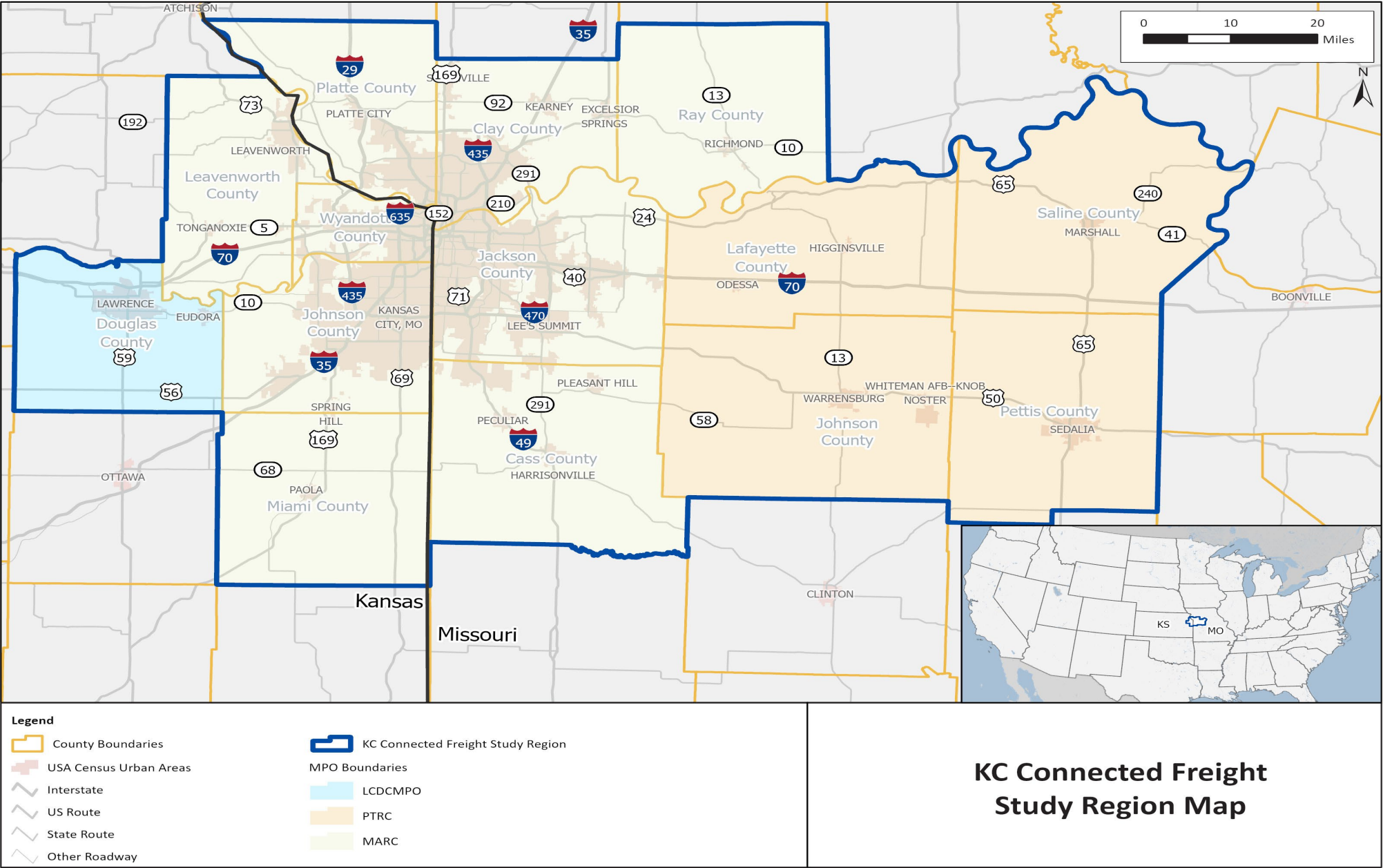




# Project Content



# Study Region





# Plan Goals



**Transportation Options and Economic Vitality**



**Safety, Security and Resiliency**



**Maintenance and Service**



**Mobility and Reliability**



**Environment and Energy Conservation**



**Innovation**





# Planning Tasks



## ***The Situation Today***

Regional Freight Picture

Infrastructure Assessment

Farm to Market

First/Last Mile



## ***Proactive Planning***

Economic Impact

Land-Use

Complete Streets

Scenario Planning



## ***Future Trends***

System Resilience

Industry Impacts

Tariff Impacts

Technology Trends

Truck Parking





# Outreach and Engagement



# Stakeholder Engagement

MARC Goods  
Movements and Total  
Transportation Policy  
Committees

Smartport KC

PortKC

Pioneer Trails Regional  
Planning Area, e.g.  
trucking and economic  
development

Kansas City Industrial  
Council

Lawrence-Douglas  
County Food Policy  
Council

Kansas City  
International Airport

Canadian-Pacific  
Kansas City Southern  
Railroad

MARC Sustainable  
Places Policy  
Committee

Owner-Operated  
Independent Drivers  
Association

Economic  
development groups,  
e.g. EDCKC, HEDC,  
and Sedalia-Pettis  
County

Lawrence Douglas  
County business and  
industry  
representatives





# Scenarios Workshops

Held in KC Metro Area, Sedalia, and Lawrence



Understand the effectiveness of tools in distinct freight situations

**Baseline**

**Wild Wild West**

**Shifting  
Patterns**

**Show Me**





# Scenarios to Explore with the Toolbox

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**Baseline:** Represents the standard for comparison with other scenarios.

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**Wild Wild West:** Refers to unchecked economic development, technology, and logistics, where anything is possible due to minimal regulations and decarbonization policies.

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**Shifting Patterns:** Consumer demands rise, decarbonization policies evolve, and logistics change, impacting collaborations and partnerships. The relevance of "just in time" delivery is questioned, influenced by the "Amazon Effect."

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**Show Me:** Emphasizes regional freight growth through initiatives that leverage the Kansas City area's unique geographic and socioeconomic factors amidst challenges like pandemics, labor shortages, cost increases, and supply chain issues.





# CONNECTED FREIGHT KC 2050

## A Plan in Action

### Proactive Planning Toolkit

The initial draft of the toolkit currently consists of the tools listed below. What's missing?

- **Legislative** advocacy
- Planning Sustainable Places (PSP) Freight Destination **Layer Tool** with mapping, project selection criteria, and performance metrics
- Methodology for and **mapping of future port locations**, intermodal and transload facilities, warehousing and distribution centers, farm-to-market routes, at-grade rail crossing and future spur locations, and anticipated freight areas
- **Resource guide for expected freight operations** tied to artificial intelligence, connected and autonomous vehicles, electrification, crash hot spots, freight bottlenecks, etc.
- **Checklist for context sensitive freight development, infill, and street design** that addresses first and last mile considerations, truck parking, activity centers, land use, and mobility
- **Harvest season** traffic counts
- **Public relations tools**, e.g. freight resource guide with data sets, range of employment possibilities, etc., that express freight's meaning to the region and what impacts it
- **Goods Movement Committee (GMC) partnership**, consisting of KC Metro, Lawrence-Douglas County, and Pioneer Trails Regional Planning Commission regions, that pursues funding opportunities, builds connections with businesses, and helps expand the workforce
- Regional freight **symposium** (annual) for brokers, drivers, logistics, warehousing, distribution, agriculture, and government representatives
- **Freight-focused duties** at each metropolitan planning organization/regional planning commission
- **Livability checklist** for freight in terms of workforce and housing diversification, accessibility, services, amenities, and buffers
- **Enforcement for and education** on weigh stations, permitting, truck parking, lane use, etc.
- **Traffic Incident Management** resources and communication via Kansas City Scout, 511, telephone, etc.
- **Other** (TBD)



# Planning Tools



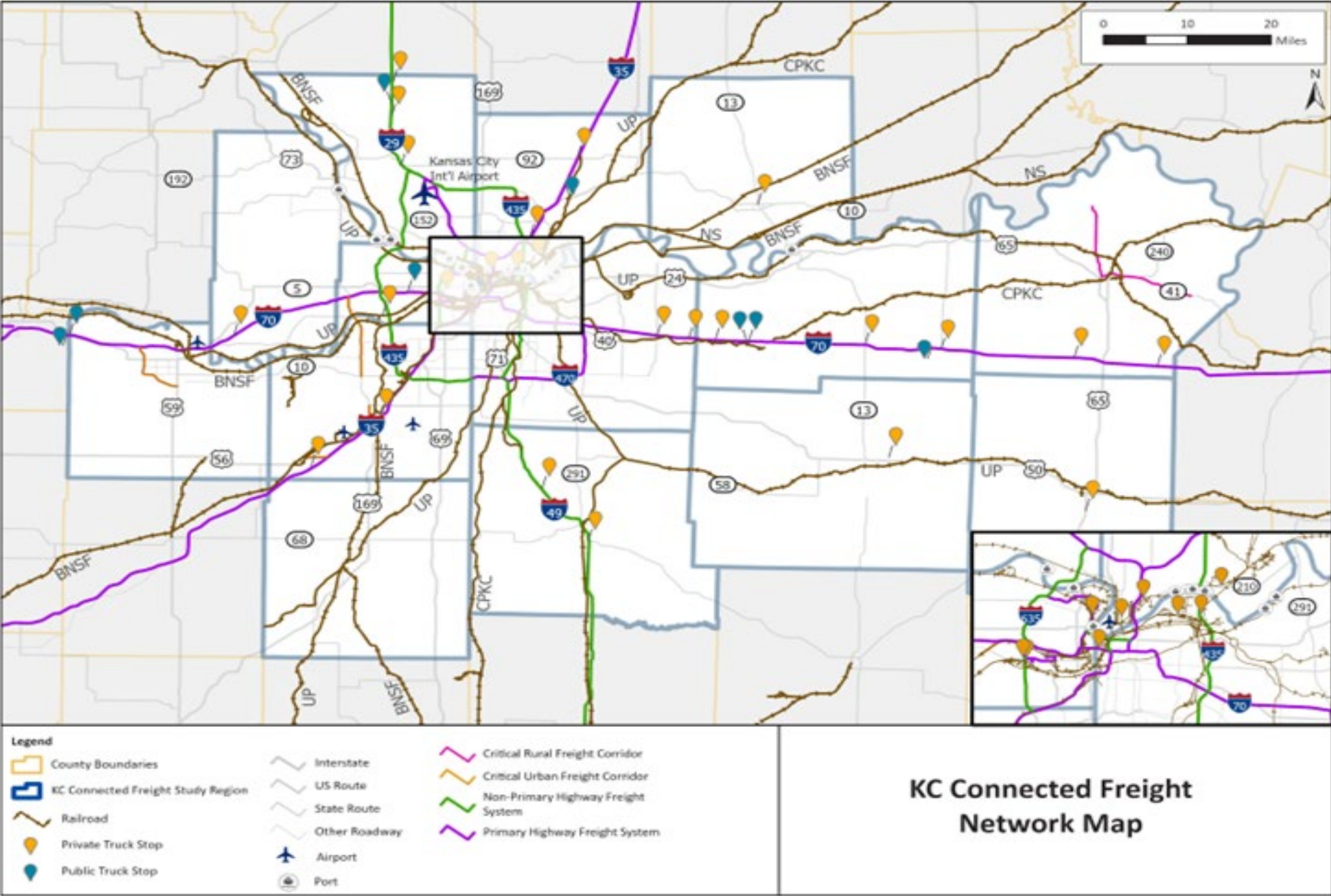




# Key Findings

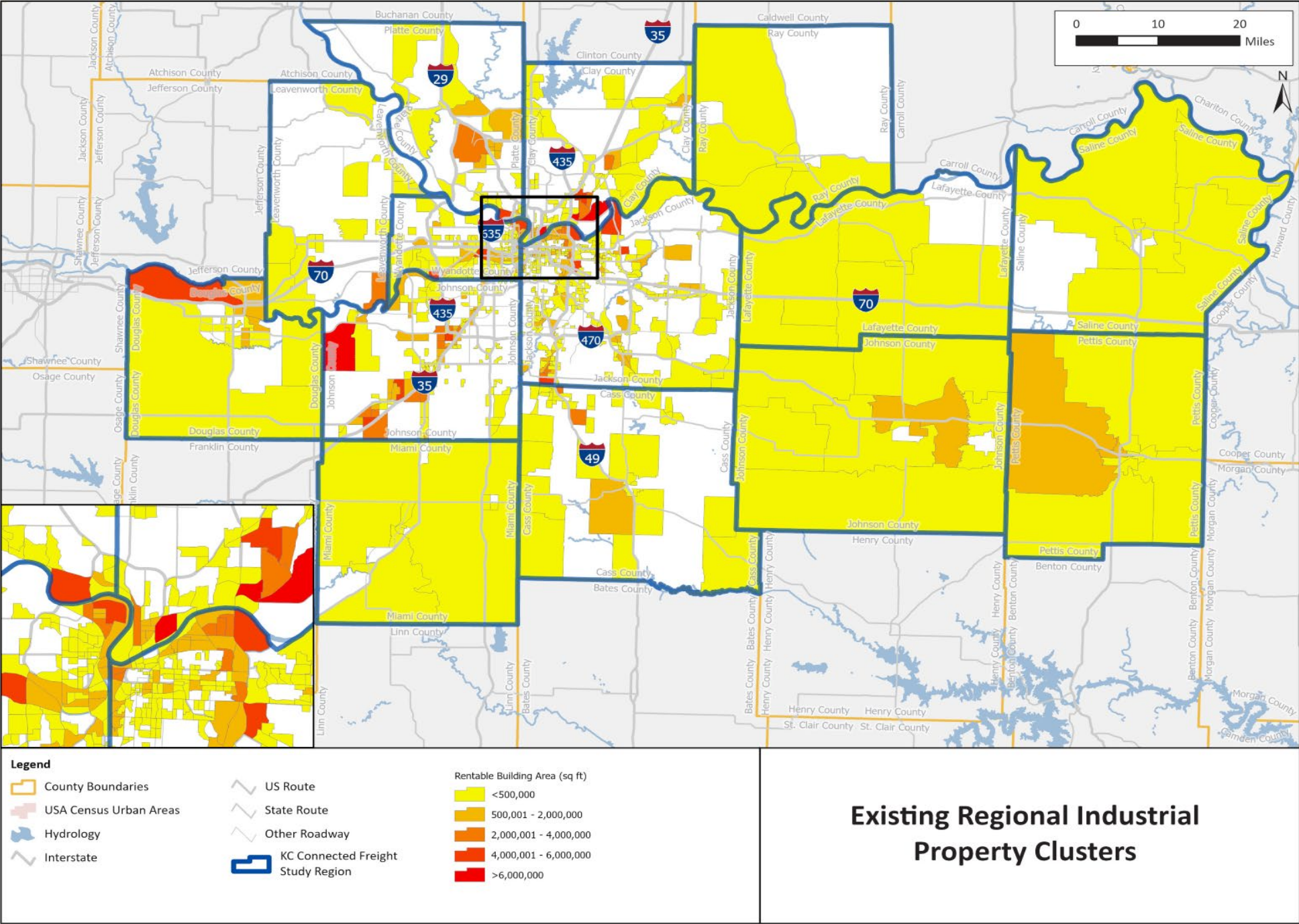


# Network Map



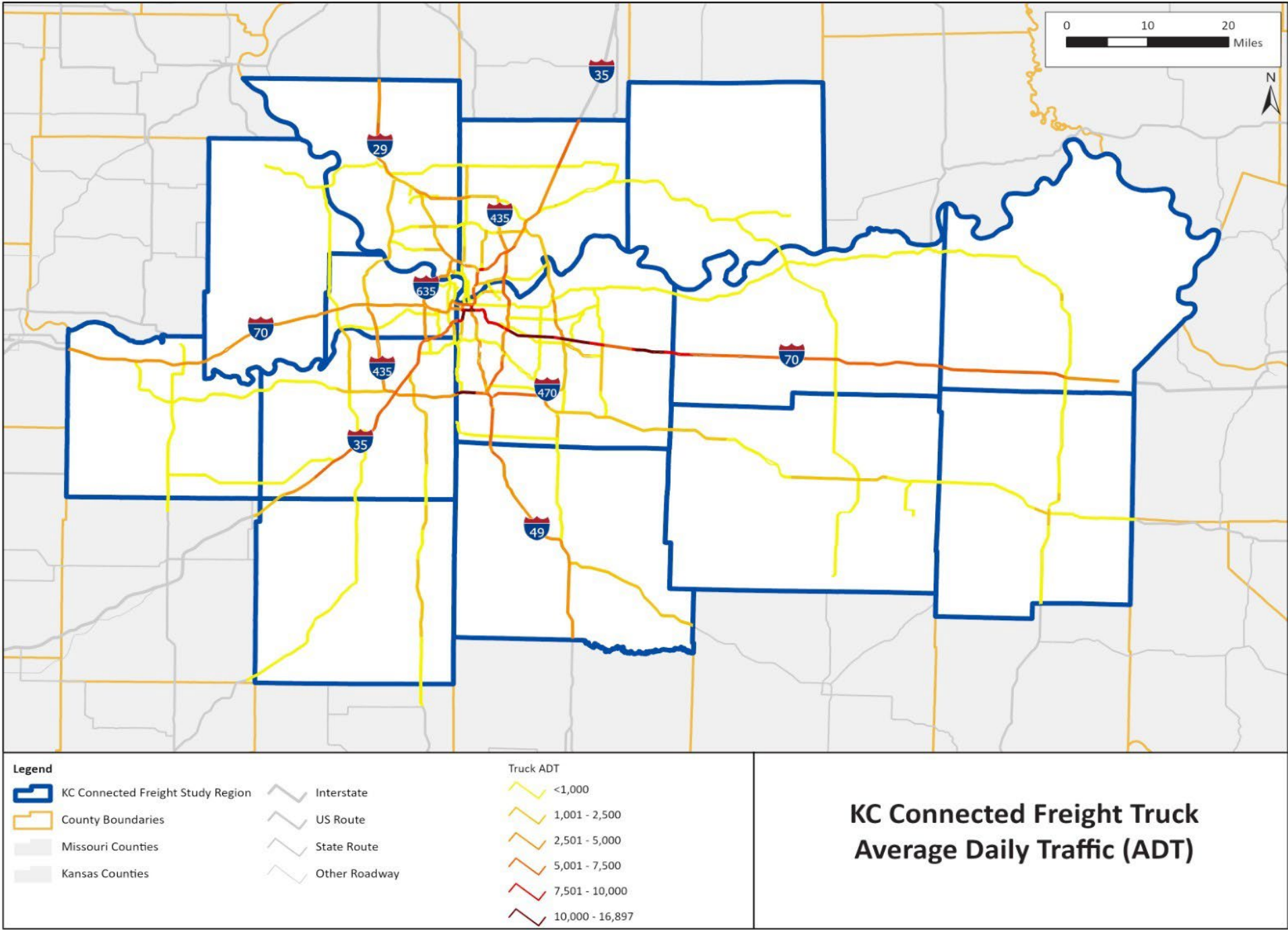


# Industry Clusters



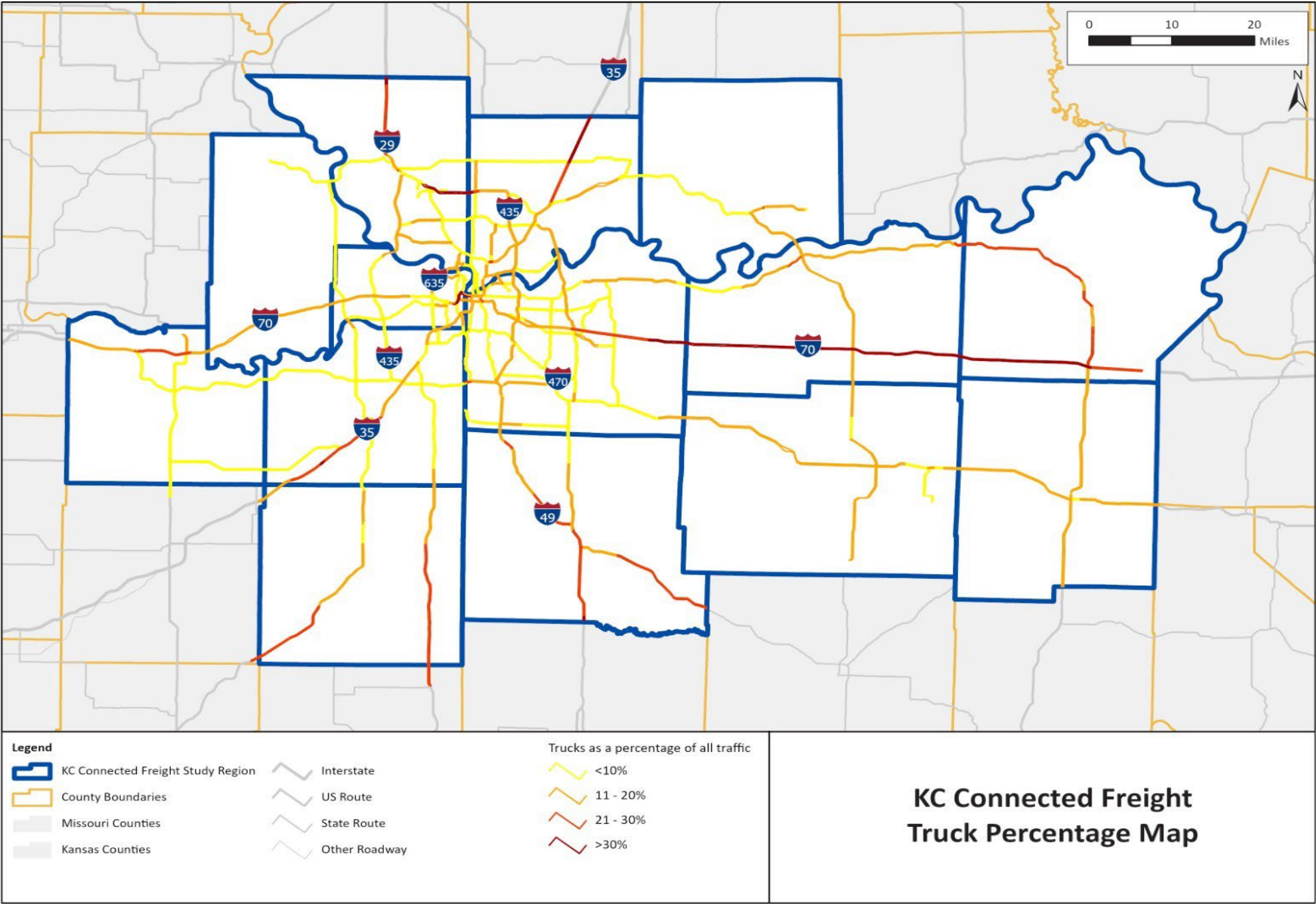


# Freight Truck ADT



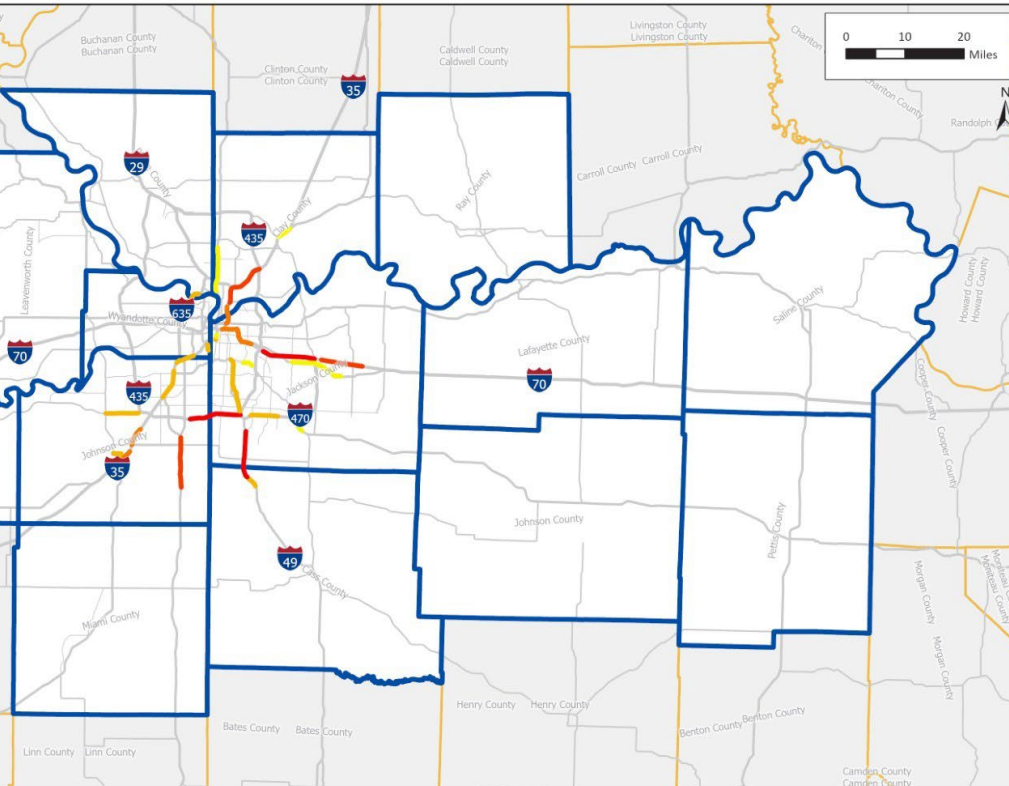


# Truck Percentage

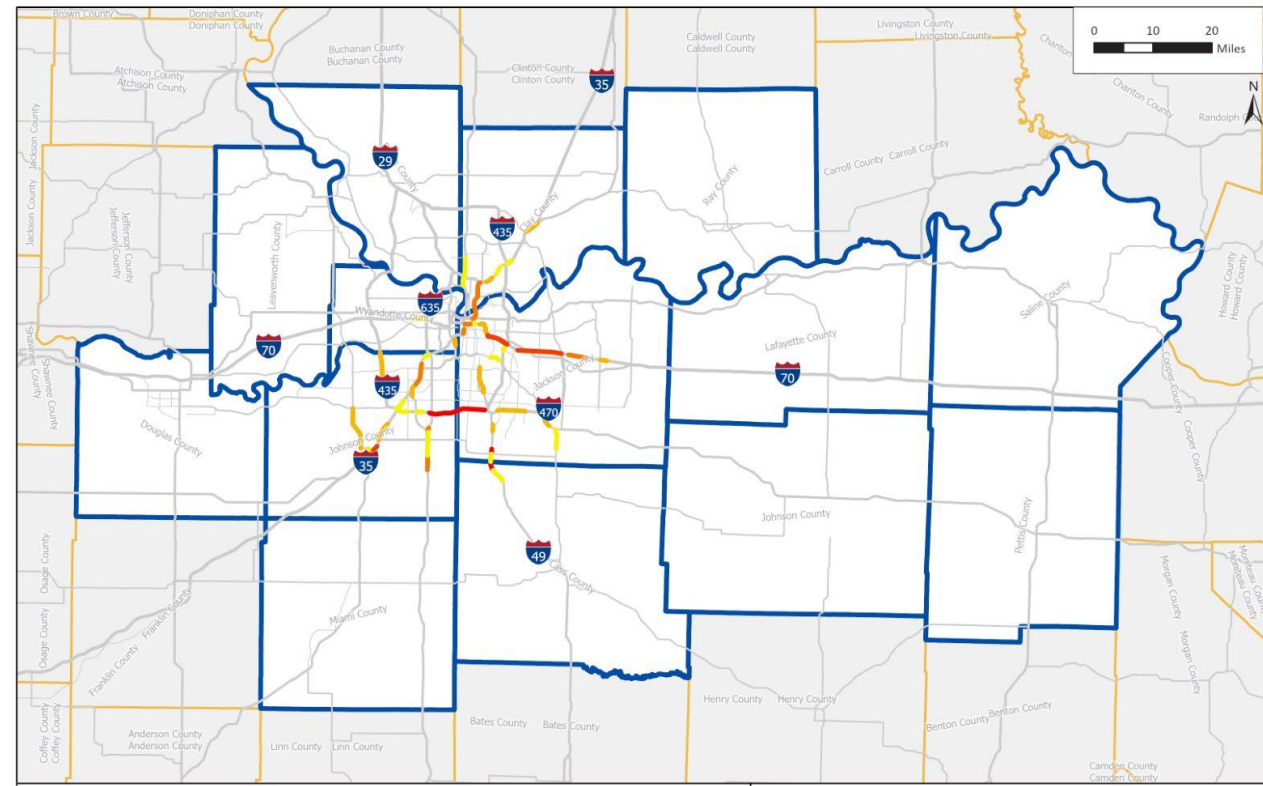




# 2050 Bottleneck Analysis



**2050 Top Weekday AM  
Peak Hour (7-8 am) Bottlenecks  
by Total Truck Delay**

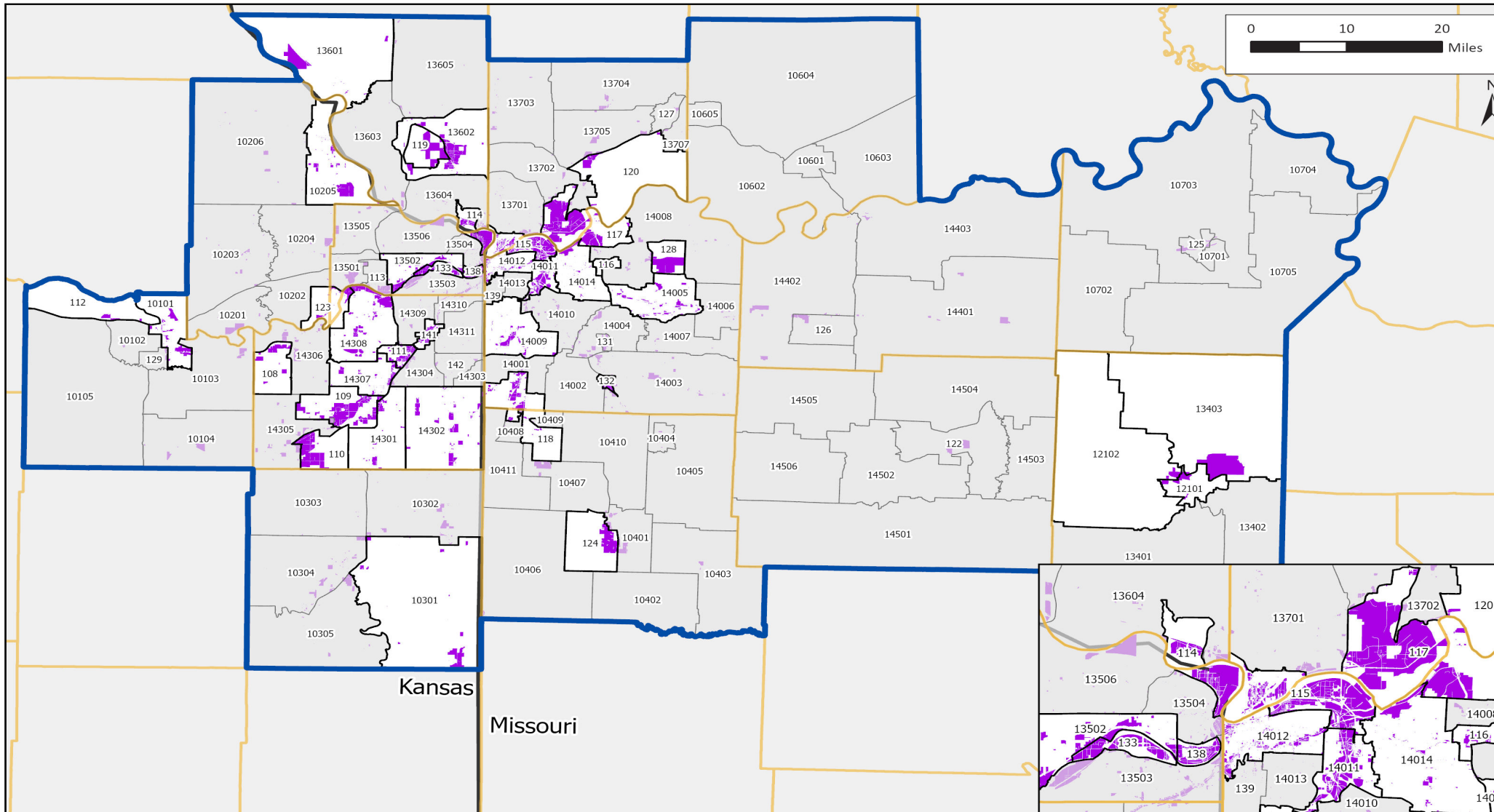
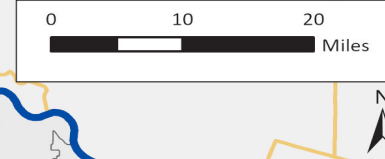


**2050 Top Weekday PM  
Peak Hour (5-6 pm) Bottlenecks  
by Total Truck Delay**





# Freight Activity Centers (FAC)

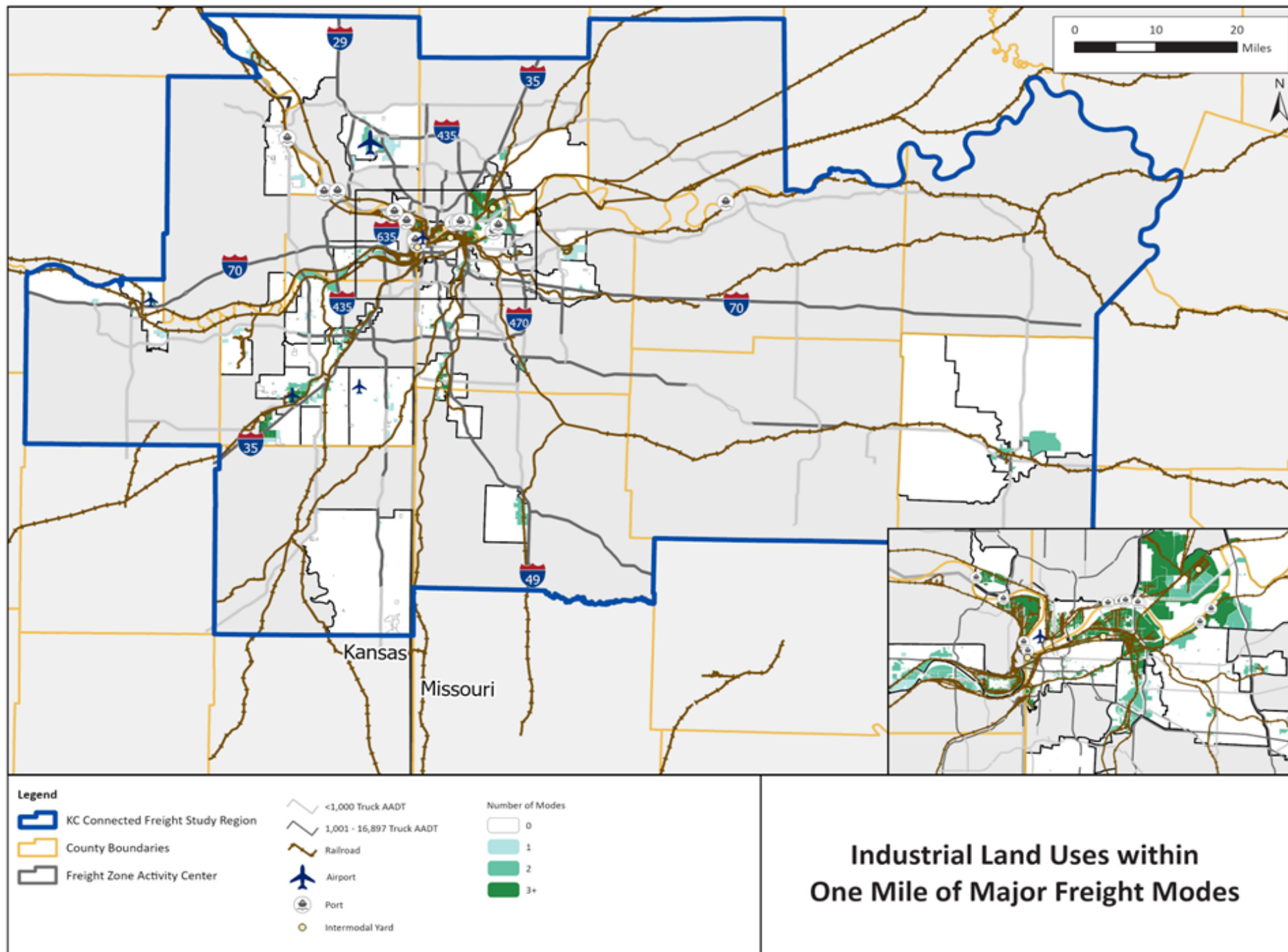


- Legend**
- KC Connected Freight Study Region
  - County Boundaries
  - Freight Zone Activity Center
  - Industrial Land Uses

**Industrial Land Uses and  
Freight Zone Activity Centers**



# FAC & Major Freight Access

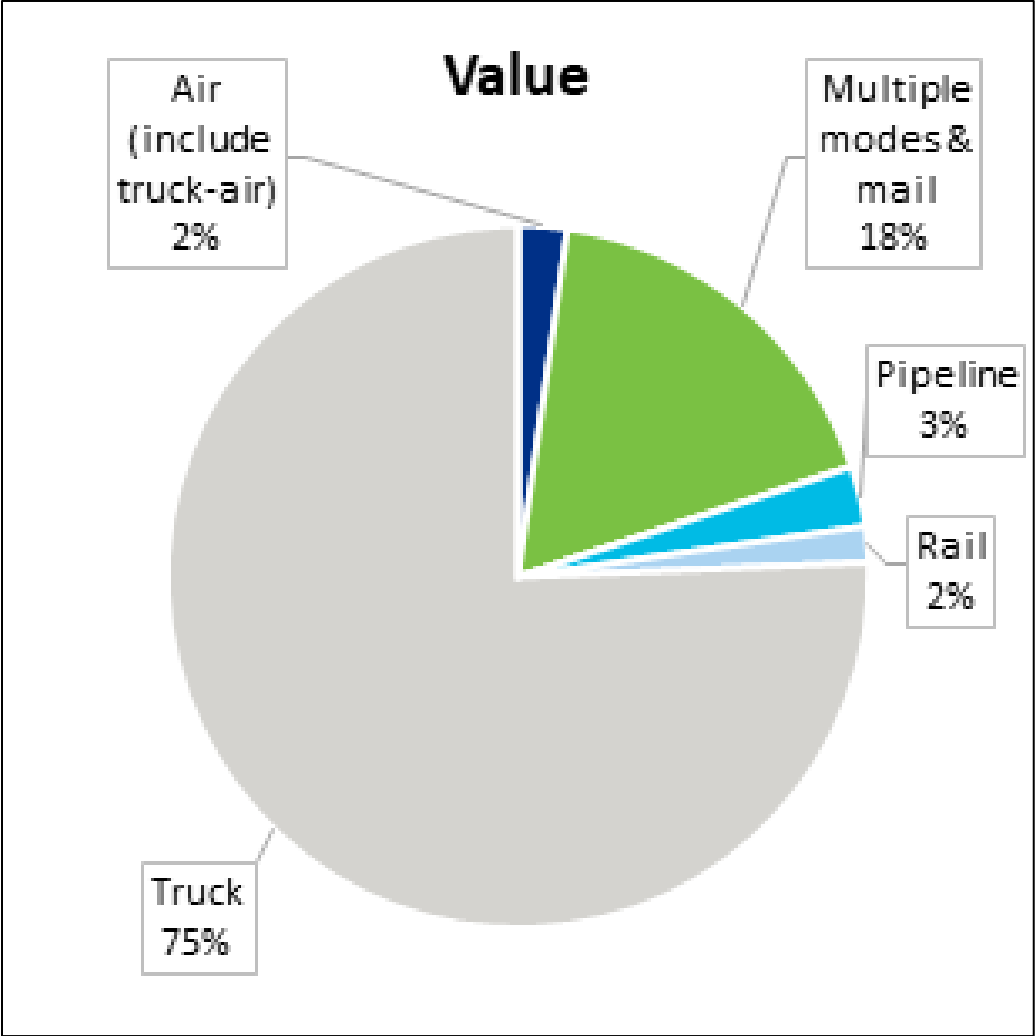
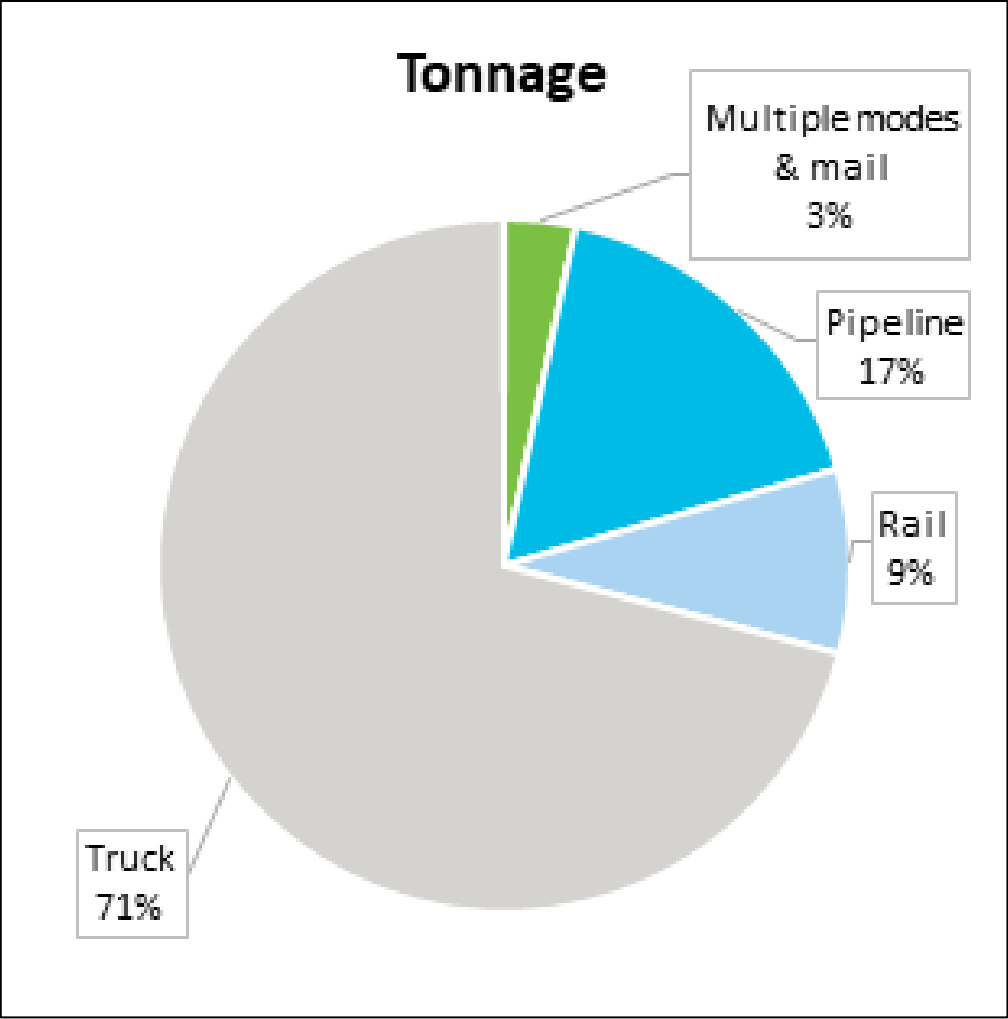




# Economic Overview



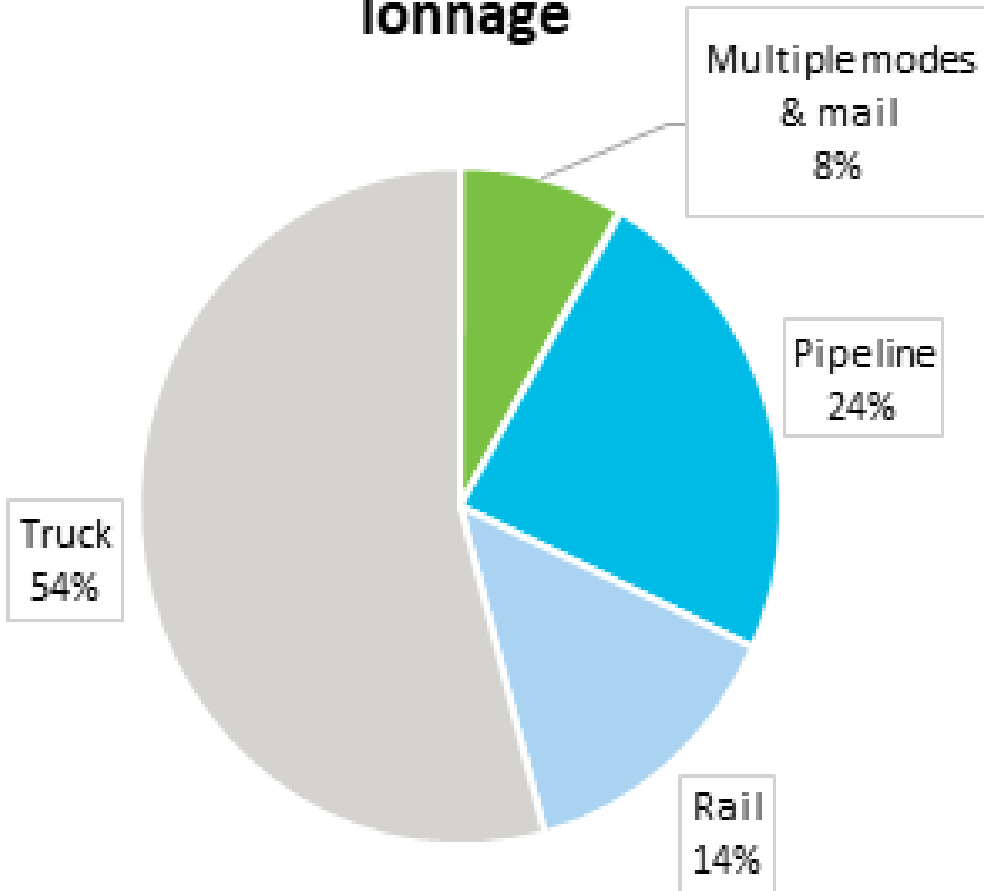
# KS Tonnage and Value by Mode



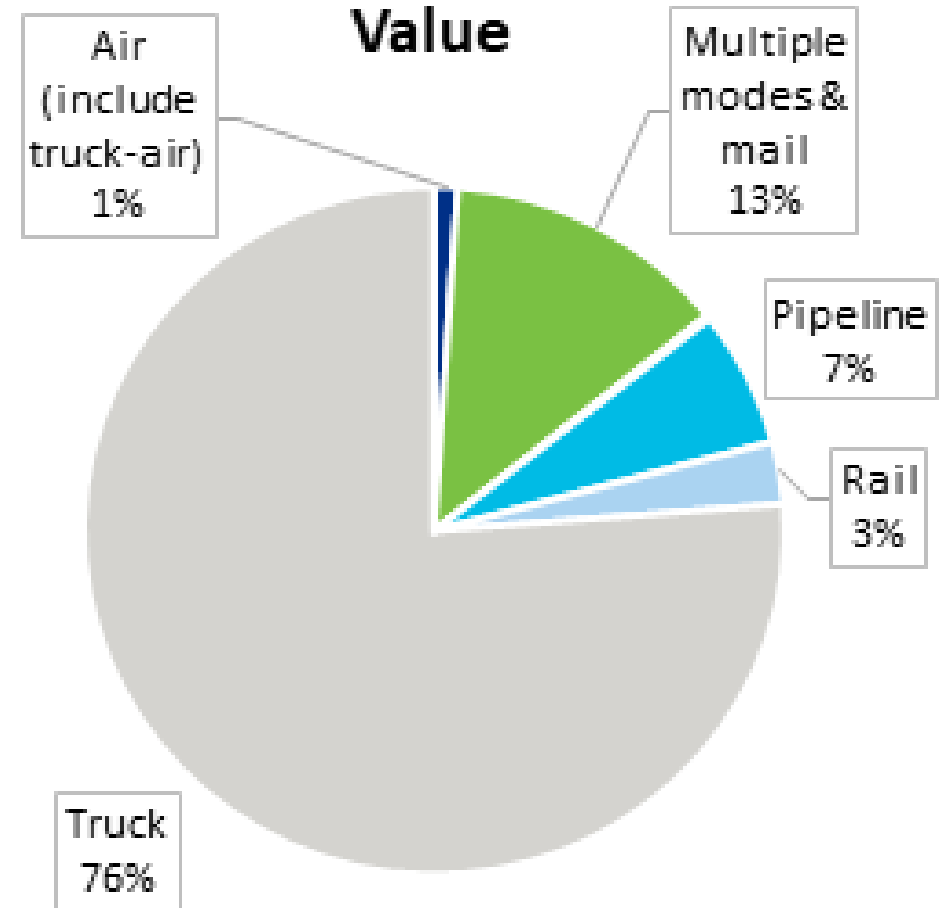


# MO Tonnage and Value by Mode

**Tonnage**

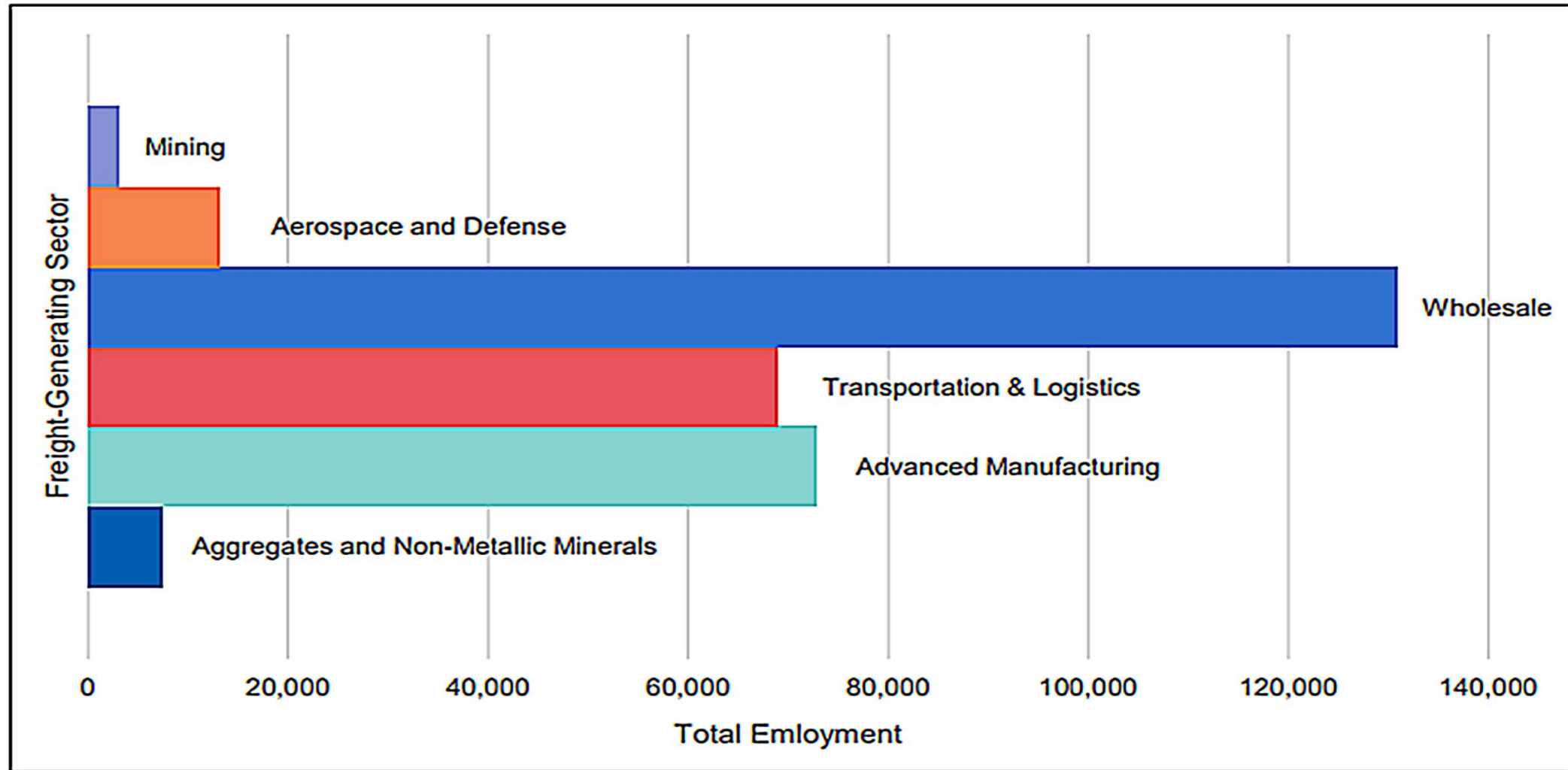


**Value**



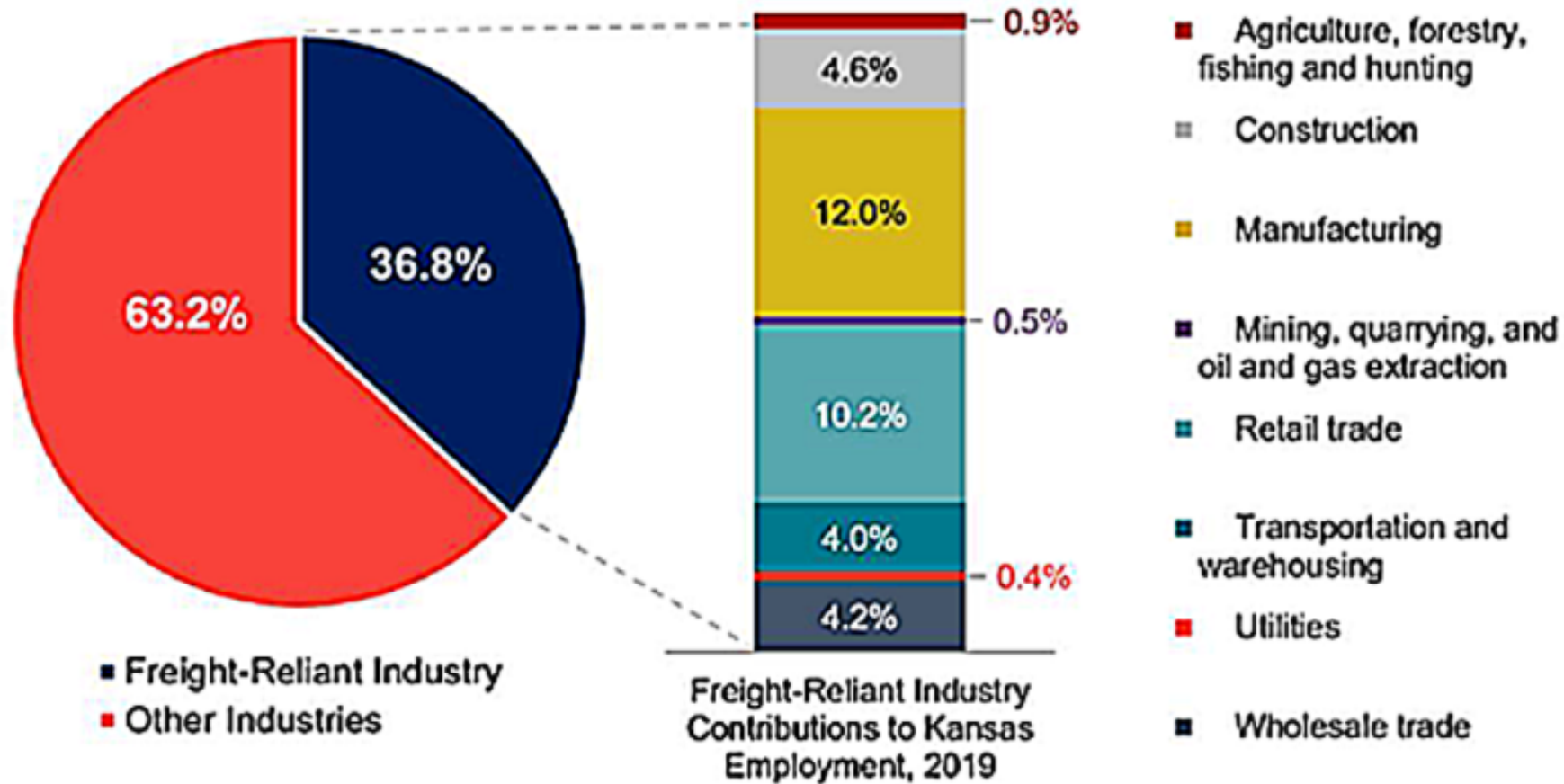


# MO Freight-Generating Industries





# KS Freight-Reliant Industry Jobs



Source: BLS, QCEW (Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages), By Area, Annual Averages for 2019.





# Economic Impact- KC Region



Kansas City is the second busiest and largest rail hub in the nation in terms of tonnage, following Chicago.



Kansas City is the second largest freight hub in Missouri. In terms of footprint, wholesale is the leading industry, followed by advanced manufacturing, transportation and logistics.



The Kansas City District has roughly 23.5%, or 86,840, of the statewide freight Industry jobs





# Workforce Future Growth

Year	Total Population Growth (%)	Total Employment Growth (%)	Total Population	Total Jobs	Supply Chain Jobs Expected
2022–2050	0.82	1.07	2,921,279	1,385,057	43,138





# Proactive Planning Framework



# Critical Factors of the Plan:

**Balance** the representation of freight needs, policies, and project priorities.

**Harmonize** regional freight policies to elevate freight within the project selection process

**Provide** resources to educate local governments on the expected impacts of freight

**Develop** public policies that are planning reflective of the KC region's geographic advantages





# Key Themes

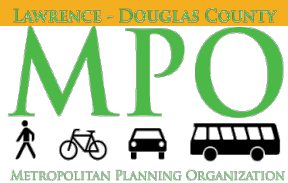
- On-going and iterative
- Freight planning and public policy
- Economic impacts
- Agricultural and rural needs
- Leveraging resources
- Infrastructure considerations
- Environment
- Industry impacts





# Proactive Planning Objectives

Leverage MARC-  
LDCMPO- PTRPC  
Partnership



Establish a  
Proactive Freight  
Planning Process



Preservation and  
improvement of  
the MMFN

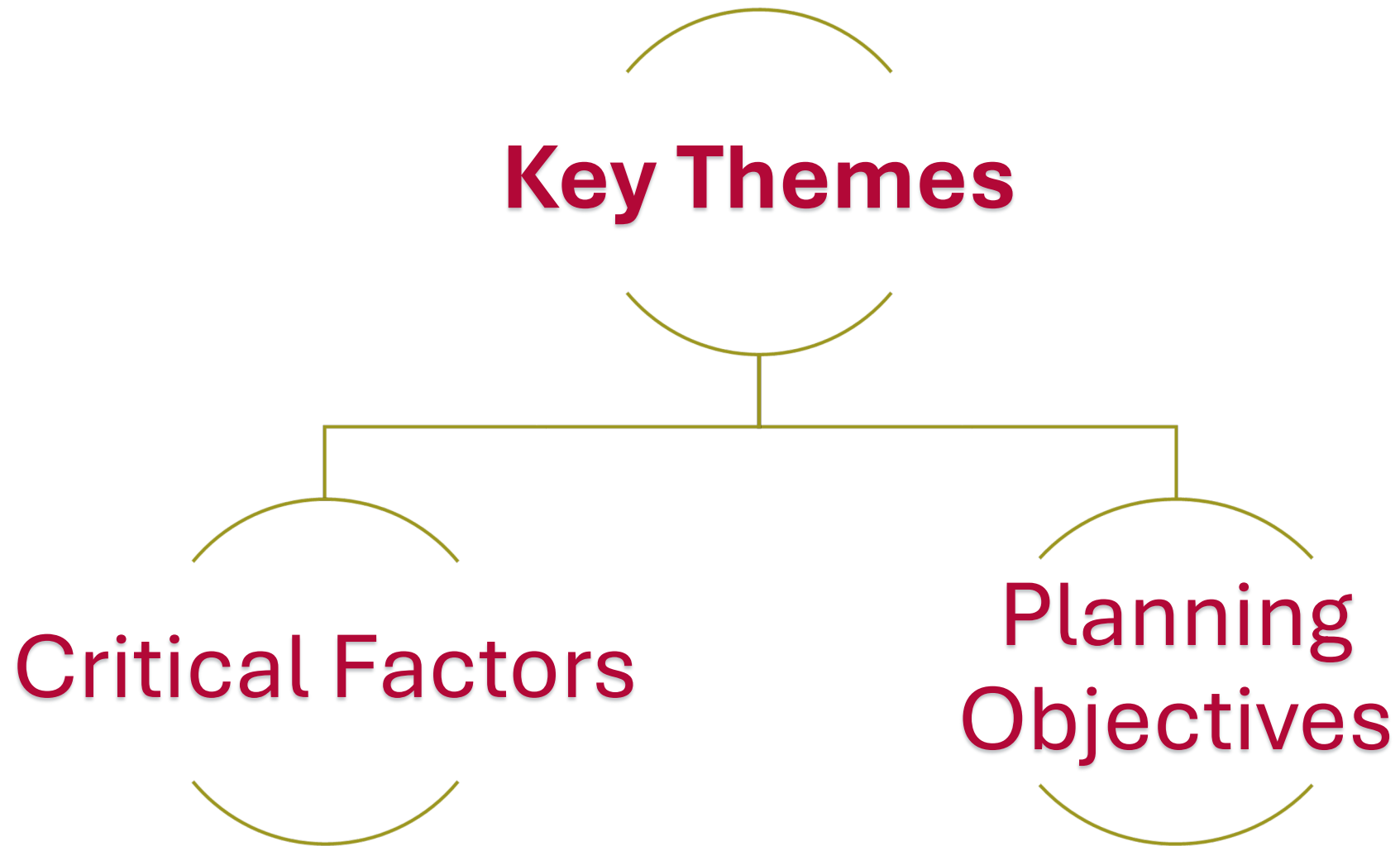


Convey economic  
resilience to freight  
industry success





# Planning Recommendations





# ***Q&A***

## ***A Plan in Action***



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Thank you!  
[bit.ly/ConnectedFreight-2050](https://bit.ly/ConnectedFreight-2050)

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