

EDUCATION LEVELS OF THE
CETA-ELIGIBLE POPULATION OF
KANSAS AND THE UNITED STATES, 1978-1982

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ABSTRACT

This monograph investigates the education levels of the CETA-eligible populations of Kansas and the United States for the years 1978-1982. The study proposes to answer the following questions:

- What were the education levels (measured by years of schooling) of the CETA-eligible populations of Kansas and the United States?
- How did the Kansas and United States CETA-eligible populations compare in respect to education levels?
- How did the CETA-eligible population compare with the general population in Kansas and the United States?
- What trends occurred during the period under study in respect to the above questions?
- How did the incidence of CETA-eligibility compare in population groups of differing education levels?

The analysis of the Current Population Survey data used in this study suggests eight conclusions:

- The CETA-eligible population of Kansas had a higher average level of education than the CETA-eligible population of the United States.
- The CETA-eligible populations of both Kansas and the United States had a lower average education level than the total population aged 14 years and over.
- The difference in the average education level of the CETA-eligible population and the total population was smaller and varied more from year to year in Kansas than in the country as a whole.

- The difference in the average education level of the CETA-eligible population and the total population in Kansas was greater among males than among females in 1978 and 1979, but disappeared by 1981; the situation in the United States was essentially similar.
- The gap in the average education level of the CETA-eligible population and the total population was much lower in 1982 in both Kansas and the United States than in any previous year in the period.
- More educated persons were much less likely to become CETA-eligible in both Kansas and the United States, but the regular increase of lower CETA-eligibility with successive rises in the education level, characteristic of the United States throughout the period, was not mirrored exactly in Kansas.
- The differences in incidence of CETA-eligibility at different education levels were greater in the nation than in Kansas. The incidence of CETA-eligibility at most education levels in Kansas was below the incidence in the corresponding group in the United States, but in some years certain education levels (especially higher ones) had a higher incidence than the corresponding group in the United States (this was particularly marked in 1982).

In turn, these findings give rise to two job-training policy considerations and to two questions concerning specific characteristics of the state's CETA-eligible population.

- Job-training programs in Kansas need to be adjusted to the higher average education level of the Kansas CETA-eligible population (as compared to the average education level of the national CETA-eligible population).
- The considerable variations from year to year of CETA-eligibility at different education levels in Kansas need to be taken into account in developing job training programs.
- Does the higher-than-national rate of incidence of CETA-eligibility at certain education levels in Kansas (particularly in 1982) indicate especially severe unemployment in Kansas in these groups?
- Does the heavy incidence of CETA-eligibility among more educated persons (especially males) in 1982 imply that their education qualifications are not appropriate to current labor market trends?

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I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF MONOGRAPH

Purpose

To further the goals and purposes of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) in Kansas, Monograph #5 in this series presented estimates of the numbers of persons in selected demographic and targeted groups in Kansas and the United States who were eligible for participation in CETA programs in the period 1978-1982. Monograph #6 analyzed some demographic characteristics of the CETA-eligible population and made comparisons between the Kansas and the United States CETA-eligible population in these respects.

The present monograph examines the education levels of the CETA-eligible population and the trends in their education levels during this period as a further aid to the design and administration of CETA programs appropriate to the needs of the disadvantaged groups.

In addition, the analysis of the CETA-eligible population throws further light on the problem of disadvantaged workers in Kansas. The problems of such "target groups" were one of the seven issues related to the Kansas labor market identified in the first monograph in this series¹. Monograph #4 analyzed information on the economically disadvantaged in Kansas and the Wichita Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area available from the national Survey of Income and Education (1975-76). Although the information about the CETA-eligible population is drawn from a different data base (the Current Population Survey), it serves to bring our knowledge of the disadvantaged groups more up-to-date.

¹A list of previous monographs in this series is given on page 32.

Scope of Analysis

For the years 1978-1982, the present analysis addresses the following questions:

- What were the education levels (measured by years of schooling) of the CETA-eligible populations of Kansas and the United States?
- How did the Kansas and United States CETA-eligible populations compare in respect to education levels?
- How did the CETA-eligible population compare with the general population in Kansas and the United States?
- What trends occurred during the period under study in respect to the above questions?
- How did the incidence of CETA-eligibility compare in population groups of differing education levels?

In relation to each of these questions, differences between males and females are explored.

The Current Population Survey

The estimates of the CETA-eligible population are drawn from the national Current Population Survey (CPS) which has been conducted by the Bureau of the Census for over 35 years. The Survey interviews about 68,000 households monthly, scientifically selected on the basis of area of residence to represent the nation as a whole, individual states, and other specified areas. Each household is interviewed once a month for four consecutive months one year and again for the corresponding time period one year later.

As the source of the official statistics of employment and unemployment, the Survey focuses on these issues, but a very important secondary purpose is to collect information on the demographic status of the population, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and family structure. From time to

time, additional questions are included on subjects such as health, income, and previous work experience.

The statistics resulting from the CPS serve to update similar information collected once every ten years for the national Census. They are used by government policy-makers, legislators, and administrators as indicators of the nation's economic and social situation and for planning and evaluating many government programs. Data are available for the United States and for each state separately.

Definitions of CETA-Eligibility and Other Terms

Persons may be eligible for CETA programs under various titles in the legislation. Table 1 shows the various categories of eligibility.

Table 2 gives the definitions of various terms used in defining these categories.

The term "poverty level" used in Table 2 in defining the "economically disadvantaged" group in the population is established by the Census each year as a certain level of family income considered to cover basic needs. Families with incomes below this level are said to be living in "poverty." The "poverty threshold income" is calculated by first establishing the cost of the minimum diet considered essential for health. From extensive family budget studies conducted over the years, the proportion of income spent on food by families with low incomes is known. The poverty threshold income is calculated by multiplying the cost of the minimum diet by the reciprocal of this proportion.

II. EDUCATION LEVELS

The CETA-Eligible Population of Kansas

Table 3 shows the distribution by years of schooling of the CETA-eligible populations of Kansas and the United States, together with the median years of

CETA Eligibility

Title	Criteria
IIB, VII	The individual is:
Economically disadvantaged	and CETA-unemployed, or CETA-underemployed, or in school
IID	The individual is:
Economically disadvantaged and unemployed 15 or more weeks	or In a family receiving public assistance
YETP	The individual is between 16 and 21 years of age (inclusive) and:
CETA-unemployed, or CETA-underemployed, or in high school or lower grade	and Economically disadvantaged
YCCIP	The individual is:
Between 16 and 19 years of age (inclusive)	and CETA-unemployed
SYEP	The individual is:
Between 14 and 21 (inclusive)	and Economically disadvantaged
VI	The individual is:
Unemployed 10 or more weeks	and In a family that received public assistance
Any listed	The individual is eligible for CETA title IIB, VII, IID, YETP, YCCIP, SYEP, or VI
Any youth	The individual is eligible for Title YETP, YCCIP, or SYEP
Other listed	The individual is eligible for Title IIB, VII, IID or VI

Data-Element Definitions

Element	Definition
Civilian Population	Total interviewed non-Armed Forces, non-institutional population.
CETA-Family Income	Total family income less Supplemental Security Income, public assistance, welfare, veteran's payments, unemployment and worker's compensation.
Economically Disadvantaged	The individual received public assistance, welfare, or had a family income less than the family poverty level.
Education	Years of school completed.
CETA-Unemployed	The individual is looking for work or is part-time for economic reasons and working 10 or fewer hours per week, or is greater than 18 years old and in a family receiving public assistance.
CETA-Underemployed	The individual is part-time for economic reasons, or the individual is full-time and has a wage below the poverty level and is not CETA-unemployed.
CETA-in-school	The individual is not CETA-Unemployed, CETA-Underemployed, and the individual's major activity is in school.
CETA-Employed	The individual is either working or with a job but not at work and is not CETA-Unemployed, CETA-Underemployed or CETA-in-school.
Part-Time for Economic Reasons	The economic reasons include: slack, work, material shortages, repairs to plant or equipment, start or termination of job during the week, and inability to find full-time work. p 55, 57
Family Received Public Assistance	The family received SSI, welfare or other public assistance.
Hispanic	Mexican-American, Chicano, Mexican, Mexicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish.
SSI	Supplemental security income is made up of payments from federal, state and local welfare agencies to low income persons who are age 65 or older, blind, disabled.
Public Assistance	Public assistance and welfare payments include aid to families with dependent children and general assistance.

Table 3

Education Levels of CETA-Eligible Population, 1978-1982Males and Females

(Numbers in Thousands)

Years of Schooling	<u>KANSAS</u>									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	52.3	29	41.6	27	36.0	28	47.4	27	32.2	16
9 - 11	53.2	30	36.5	24	38.9	31	53.4	30	42.4	21
12	41.4	23	48.2	32	26.9	21	55.6	31	96.7	47
13 - 15	21.4	12	16.0	11	18.4	15	14.1	8	19.6	10
16 and over	9.5	6	9.0	6	6.4	5	6.2	4	13.3	6
TOTAL	177.9	100	151.3	100	126.7	100	176.7	100	204.1	100
Median*	10.12		10.86		10.16		10.35		11.59	

Years of Schooling	<u>UNITED STATES</u>									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	6595.6	34	6317.0	32	6234.5	32	6489.7	30	6458.4	29
9 - 11	6228.8	32	6155.3	31	6175.7	32	6657.4	31	6848.7	31
12	4544.7	23	4673.9	24	4645.3	24	5550.1	26	6275.0	28
13 - 15	1605.2	8	1702.5	9	1658.6	9	1883.1	9	1931.1	8
16 and over	662.5	3	721.6	4	648.0	3	772.6	4	817.9	4
TOTAL	19636.8	100	19570.3	100	19362.2	100	21352.9	100	22330.9	100
Median*	9.60		9.74		9.72		9.93		10.11	

* The median is a statistical measure of the central tendency of a distribution. It is calculated as the value which divides a distribution of a variable in a given population so that half the population lies above it and half below it. For example, in 1978 in Kansas half the CETA-eligible population had over 10.07 years of schooling and half had less.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey.

schooling for these populations. Graph 1 depicts the medians of the CETA-eligible populations and the total populations aged 14 years and over in Kansas and the United States.

From Table 3 it can be seen that from 1978 through 1981 between 51% and 59% of the Kansas CETA-eligible population had less than 12 years of schooling. In 1982, the number of persons with 12 years of schooling rose sharply (by 73.9%), and this group comprised 47%. The numbers with 13-15 years of schooling and 16 or more years of schooling also increased markedly (by 39% and 115% respectively), but as a percentage of the total these groups were not as high as in preceding years (except for 1981).

The median years of schooling of the Kansas CETA-eligible population rose between 1978 and 1979 (from 10.12 to 10.86), dropped back to the 1978 level in 1980, and then rose again, being well above the 1979 level in 1982.

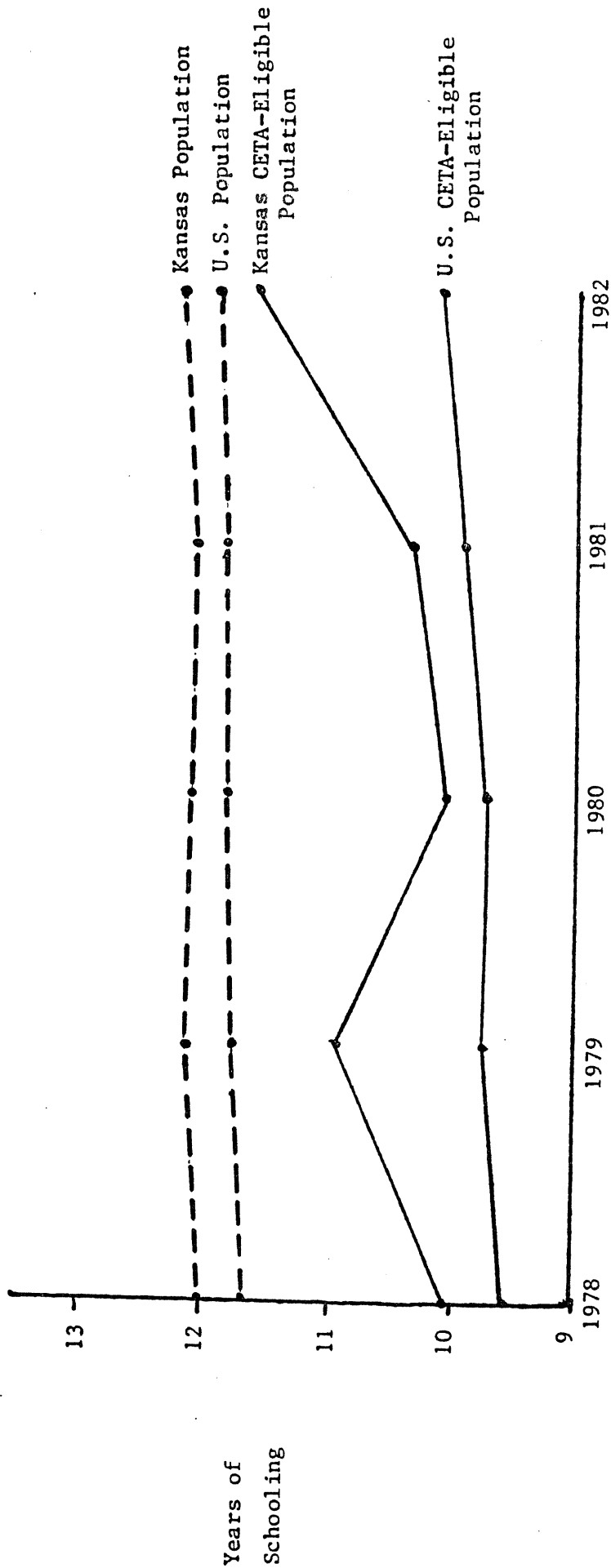
Tables 4 and 5 give the distribution by years of schooling of the male and female CETA-eligible populations of Kansas and the United States, and the median years of schooling for these groups. Graphs 2 and 3 depict the medians of these CETA-eligible male and female populations and of the total male and female populations aged 14 years and over.

The education levels of the Kansas male and female CETA-eligible populations were broadly similar to those of the total CETA-eligible population. They too experienced a sharp rise in the numbers and percentages of persons with 12 years of schooling between 1981 and 1982. The rise was more marked among the females (102%) than among the males (38%).

The median years of schooling of the males rose throughout the period, being 18.5% higher in 1982 than in 1978. The female median also rose, and in 1982 it was 12% above the 1978 level, but only a little above the 1979 level.

Graph 1

Median Years of Schooling of CETA-Eligible Population and Total Population,
1978-1982 - Males and Females, Kansas and United States



-- = Total Population

— = CETA-Eligible Population

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Education Levels of CETA-Eligible Population, 1978-1982

Males, Kansas and United States

Years of Schooling	KANSAS									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	24.0	33	22.1	34	16.7	32	19.9	26	14.7	17
9 - 11	20.8	29	16.4	25	12.6	24	24.4	32	19.3	22
12	10.3	14	14.8	23	14.0	27	24.6	32	34.0	39
13 - 15	8.3	12	4.8	8	8.0	15	5.9	7	10.1	11
16 and over	8.7	12	6.2	10	1.0	2	2.5	3	9.3	11
TOTAL	72.1	100	64.4	100	52.2	100	77.2	100	87.3	100
Median*	9.78		9.90		10.30		10.35		11.59	

Years of Schooling	UNITED STATES									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	2828.7	35	2742.9	34	2688.9	34	2828.5	32	2742.3	29
9 - 11	2605.3	32	2435.8	31	2548.7	32	2796.0	31	2960.9	31
12	1642.2	20	1714.9	21	1697.6	21	2117.5	24	2510.9	26
13 - 15	688.7	8	720.4	9	736.7	9	832.7	9	837.8	9
16 and over	398.9	5	399.7	5	354.9	4	396.3	4	441.5	5
TOTAL	8143.8	100	8013.7	100	8026.8	100	8971.1	100	9493.4	100
Median*	9.48		9.61		9.61		9.83		10.80	

* The median is a statistical measure of the central tendency of a distribution. It is calculated as the value which divides a distribution of a variable in a given population so that half the population lies above it and half below it. For example, in 1978 in Kansas half the male CETA-eligible population had over 9.74 years of schooling and half had less.

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Education Levels of CETA-Eligible Population, 1978-1982

Females, Kansas and United States

Years of Schooling	KANSAS									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	28.3	27	19.5	23	19.3	26	27.5	28	17.5	15
9 - 11	32.4	31	20.1	23	26.3	35	29.0	29	23.1	20
12	31.1	29	33.4	38	13.0	18	31.0	31	62.8	54
13 - 15	13.1	12	11.1	13	10.4	14	8.2	8	9.5	8
16 and over	.8	1	2.8	3	5.4	7	3.8	4	3.9	3
TOTAL	105.8	100	86.9	100	74.5	100	99.4	100	116.8	100
Median*	10.33		11.26		10.09		10.35		11.58	

Years of Schooling	UNITED STATES									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	3766.9	33	3574.1	31	3545.6	31	3661.2	30	3716.1	29
9 - 11	3623.5	32	3719.6	32	3627.0	32	3861.4	31	3887.8	30
12	2902.5	25	2958.9	26	2947.7	26	3432.5	28	3764.1	29
13 - 15	936.5	8	982.0	8	922.0	8	1050.4	8	1093.3	9
16 and over	236.6	2	321.9	3	293.1	3	376.3	3	376.4	3
TOTAL	11493.0	100	11556.5	100	11335.4	100	12381.7	100	12837.6	100
Median*	9.69		9.82		9.80		10.01		10.13	

* The median is a statistical measure of the central tendency of a distribution. It is calculated as the value which divides a distribution of a variable in a given population so that half the population lies above it and half below it. For example, in 1978 in Kansas half the female CETA-eligible population had over 10.28 years of schooling and half had less.

Note: Numbers are in thousands

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

In 1978 and 1979, the females were more educated than the males, but from 1980 on the sexes had essentially similar education levels.

Comparison of Kansas and United States CETA-Eligible Populations

Throughout the period, the education level of the total CETA-eligible population of the United States was lower than that of the Kansas CETA-eligible group. The percentage of the United States CETA-eligible population with less than 12 years of schooling was consistently above the Kansas percentage, sometimes substantially. (In 1982, for example, this group constituted only 37% of the Kansas CETA-eligible population, whereas at the national level it was 60%.)

The percentage of the United States CETA-eligible population with over 12 years of schooling was lower than the Kansas percentage in every year except 1981, when the two percentages were equal. (Except, in 1981, the difference was substantial, the Kansas percentage being one-third or more higher.)

Table 6 gives a quantitative comparison of the median years of schooling of the two CETA-eligible populations, and a graphical comparison is given in Graph 1. The Kansas median was above the United States median throughout the period, the greatest difference being in 1982 (15%). The difference widened sharply between 1981 and 1982, exceeding the previous peak (1979).

Comparison of CETA-Eligible Group With Total Population: Kansas

The CETA-eligible group in Kansas is less educated than the total population aged 14 years and over, whose education levels are given in Tables 7, 8, and 9. Tables 10 and 11 and Graphs 1, 2, and 3 compare the CETA-eligible group with the total population. The proportion of the CETA-eligible group with less than 12 years of schooling was always substantially above the proportion of the total population with less than 12 years, and the proportion of the CETA-eligible group with more than 12 years schooling was always considerably below the proportion of the total population with more than 12 years. The

Table 6

Percentage Ratios* of Median Years of Schooling of
CETA-Eligible Populations of Kansas and United States, 1978-1982

	<u>Males, Females and Total</u>				
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Males	103	103	107	105	115
Females	107	115	103	103	114
Total	105	111	104	104	115

* Median years of schooling of CETA-eligible population of Kansas as a percentage of median years of schooling of CETA-eligible population of United States.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey.

Education Levels of Total* Population, 1978-82Males and Females

Years of Schooling	KANSAS									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	236.1	13	240.9	13	259.7	14	245.0	13	211.7	11
9 - 11	327.8	19	271.3	15	265.3	15	283.4	16	251.6	14
12	658.2	37	694.2	39	719.1	39	727.5	40	758.5	42
13 - 15	303.9	17	342.3	19	334.6	18	314.1	17	323.2	18
16 and over	252.6	14	247.7	14	253.9	14	258.8	14	270.5	15
Total	1778.7	100	1796.4	100	1832.6	100	1828.8	100	1815.4	100
Median	12.02		12.14		12.11		12.07		12.20	

United States

Years of Schooling	United States									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	31,426.7	19	30,234.9	18	29,805.9	17	29,538.3	17	28,469.9	16
9 - 11	33,073.0	20	32,400.2	19	32,364.1	19	32,747.0	18	32,177.4	18
12	56,909.9	34	58,555.3	35	59,851.8	35	63,256.3	36	64,797.6	36
13 - 15	24,081.0	14	25,249.1	15	25,709.2	15	26,995.0	15	27,591.6	15
16 and over	20,897.6	13	22,322.7	13	23,360.5	14	24,374.2	14	25,835.2	15
Total	166,388.2	100	168,762.2	100	171,091.6	100	176,910.9	100	178,871.8	100
Median	11.69		11.78		11.81		11.85		11.92	

* Total population 14 years and over.

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Education Levels of Total* Population, 1978-1982

Males

Kansas

Years of Schooling	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	113.0	14	124.6	15	141.2	16	126.2	15	113.3	13
9 - 11	155.6	19	131.8	15	116.1	13	124.8	14	116.6	14
12	288.8	35	291.5	34	322.3	36	325.0	38	316.9	37
13 - 15	115.9	14	167.5	20	173.9	20	149.8	17	149.8	17
16 and over	146.1	18	138.5	16	137.2	15	140.2	16	160.9	19
Total	819.3	100	853.9	100	890.6	100	865.9	100	857.4	100
Median	12.00		12.20		12.19		12.15		12.28	

United States

Years of Schooling	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	15,414.1	19	14,887.8	19	14,653.1	18	14,380.7	17	13,838.5	16
9 - 11	15,426.2	20	15,066.3	19	15,313.0	19	15,506.6	18	15,126.1	18
12	24,174.4	31	24,979.7	31	25,484.3	31	27,204.6	32	27,933.0	33
13 - 15	11,930.0	15	12,443.8	15	12,639.1	16	13,029.2	16	13,279.2	16
16 and over	12,044.4	15	12,767.5	16	13,179.6	16	13,867.2	17	14,721.8	17
Total	78,989.0	100	80,145.0	100	81,269.1	100	83,988.4	100	84,898.6	100
Median	11.75		11.84		11.87		11.92		12.00	

* Total population 14 years and over.

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Table 9

Education Levels of Total* Population, 1978-1982FemalesKansas

Years of Schooling	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	123.2	13	116.3	12	118.5	13	118.8	12	98.4	10
9 - 11	172.2	18	139.5	15	149.2	16	158.7	17	134.9	14
12	369.4	38	402.8	43	396.9	42	402.5	42	441.7	46
13 - 15	188.0	20	174.7	18	160.7	17	164.3	17	173.4	18
16 and over	106.5	11	109.2	12	116.7	12	118.6	12	109.6	12
Total	959.4	100	942.5	100	942.0	100	962.9	100	958.0	100
Median	12.02		12.09		12.05		12.04		12.13	

United States

Years of Schooling	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 9	16,012.6	18	15,347.1	17	15,152.8	17	15,157.6	16	14,631.4	16
9 - 11	17,646.8	20	17,333.9	20	17,051.1	19	17,240.4	19	17,051.3	18
12	32,735.5	38	33,575.6	38	34,367.5	38	36,051.7	39	36,864.6	39
13 - 15	12,151.0	14	12,805.3	14	13,070.1	15	13,965.8	15	14,312.4	15
16 and over	8,853.2	10	9,555.2	11	10,180.9	11	10,507.0	11	11,113.4	12
Total	87,399.1	100	88,617.1	100	89,822.5	100	92,922.4	100	93,973.10	100
Median	11.64		11.72		11.77		11.81		11.86	

* Total Population 14 years and over.

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Table 10

Percentage Ratios* of Median Years of Schooling
of CETA-Eligible Population and Total Population, 1978-1982

Males, Females and Total
Kansas and United States

	<u>Males</u>				
	1978 %	1979 %	1980 %	1981 %	1982 %
Kansas	81.50	81.15	84.50	85.19	94.38
United States	80.68	81.17	80.96	82.47	84.00
	<u>Females</u>				
Kansas	85.94	93.13	83.73	85.96	95.47
United States	83.25	83.79	83.26	84.76	85.41
	<u>Total</u>				
Kansas	84.19	89.46	83.90	85.61	95.00
United States	82.12	82.68	82.30	83.80	84.82

* Median years of schooling of CETA-eligible population as a percentate of median years of schooling of total population 14 years and over.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Table 11

Comparison of Education Levels* of CETA-Eligible Population
and Total Population**, Kansas and United States, 1978-1982

Years of Schooling	Males									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	K	U	K	U	K	U	K	U	K	U
Less than 12	189	171	199	173	194	177	198	177	130	176
Over 12	74	43	48	44	49	43	33	43	61	41

	Females									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	K	U	K	U	K	U	K	U	K	U
Less than 12	186	167	168	171	215	176	197	174	143	176
Over 12	43	44	43	45	71	41	41	44	39	42

	Total									
	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982	
	K	U	K	U	K	U	K	U	K	U
Less than 12	187	163	171	172	206	176	197	175	143	176
Over 12	56	43	44	44	61	42	37	43	49	41

* Proportion of CETA-eligible population with a certain number of years' schooling as a percentage of the proportion of the total population with that number of years' schooling.

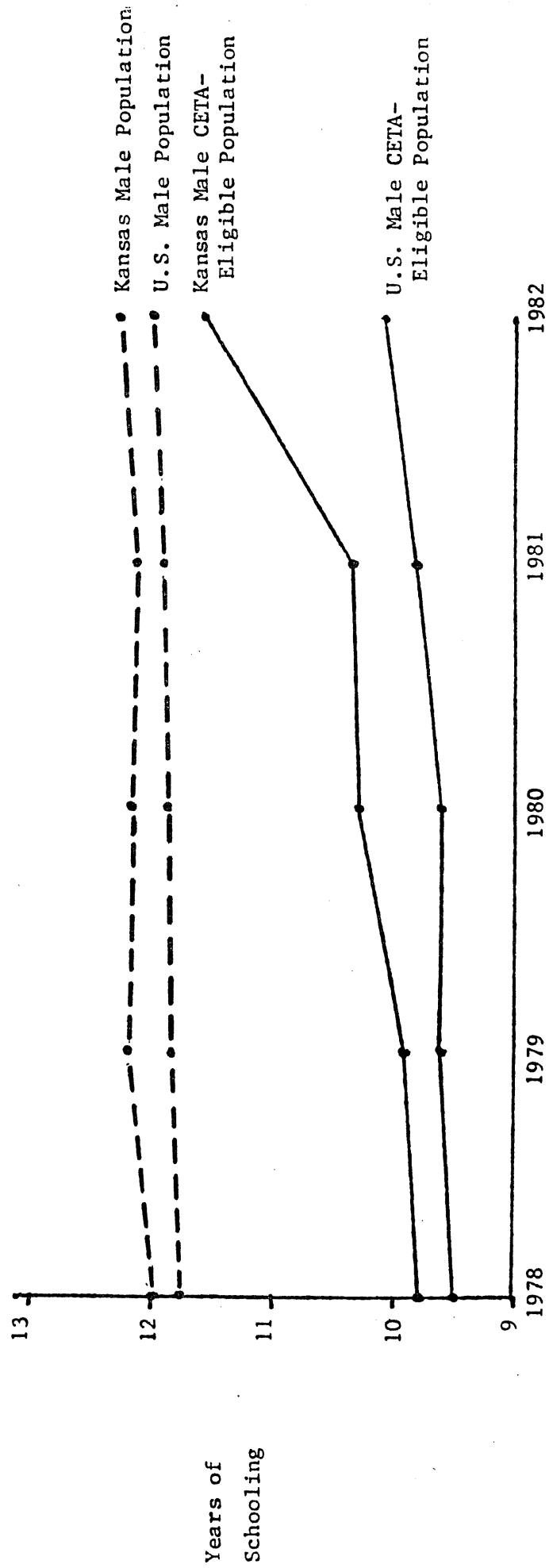
** Total population aged 14 years and over.

NOTE: K = Kansas; U = United States

SOURCE: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Graph 2

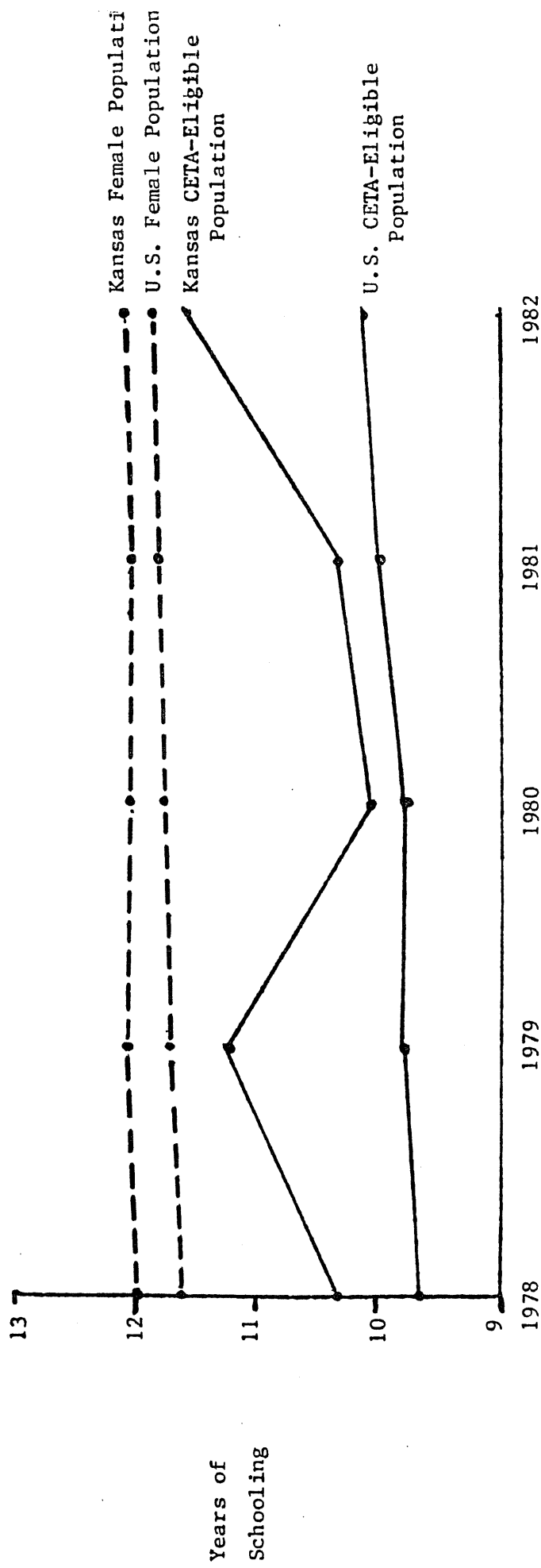
Median Years of Schooling of CETA-Eligible Population and Total Population,
1978-1982 - Males, Kansas and United States



-- = Total Population
— = CETA-Eligible Population
Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Graph 3

Median Years of Schooling of CETA-Eligible Population and Total Population,
1978-1982 - Females, Kansas and United States



-- = Total Population

— = CETA-Eligible Population

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

median years of schooling of the CETA-eligible population was below that of the total population throughout the period, among both males and females.

The gap between the median years of schooling of the CETA-eligible group and that of the total population was a little greater among males than among females in 1978 and 1979, but became smaller than the gap among females in 1980. In 1981 and 1982, the gap among males was equal to the gap among females.

The gap between the median years of schooling of the CETA-eligible group and the total population steadily diminished among males during the period, falling from 18.50% to 5.62%. Among females, the gap shrank from 14.06% to 6.87% between 1978 and 1979, then widened to 16.27% in 1980. It then shrank to 14.04% in 1981 and had almost disappeared in 1982, when it was only 4.53%.

Comparisons of CETA-Eligible Group With Total Population: United States

As in Kansas, the CETA-eligible group in the nation as a whole is less educated than the total population aged 14 years and over. Tables 7, 8, and 9 give the education levels of the total population. Tables 10 and 11 and Graphs 1, 2, and 3 compare these with the education levels of the CETA-eligible population.

The proportion of the CETA-eligible group with less than 12 years of schooling was consistently above this proportion in the total population, and the proportion of the CETA-eligible group with more than 12 years schooling was always below this proportion in the total population. The median years of schooling of the CETA-eligible group was always below the median of the total population.

The gap between the medians of the CETA-eligible group and the total population was slightly smaller among females than among males throughout the period. In this respect, the situation in the United States as a whole did not differ markedly from that in Kansas.

It will be seen from Graph 3 and Table 10 that the relationship between the medians of the CETA-eligible group and the total population was more variable in Kansas than in the nation as a whole over the period. Also, the gap between the medians was consistently smaller in Kansas than in the United States. The education level of the CETA-eligible group is closer to that of the total population in Kansas than it is in the United States.

III. RELATION BETWEEN EDUCATION LEVEL AND CETA-ELIGIBILITY

Charts A, B, and C give the percentages of persons with varying numbers of years of schooling who were eligible for CETA in each year of the period, both in Kansas and the United States; thus, they show the incidence of CETA-eligibility among groups with different levels of education.

These charts show, broadly speaking, that more educated persons were less likely to become eligible for CETA than those less educated. Throughout the period, in both Kansas and the United States, persons with less than 12 years of schooling had a higher incidence of CETA-eligibility than persons with 12 or more years. This pattern applied to males as well as to females.

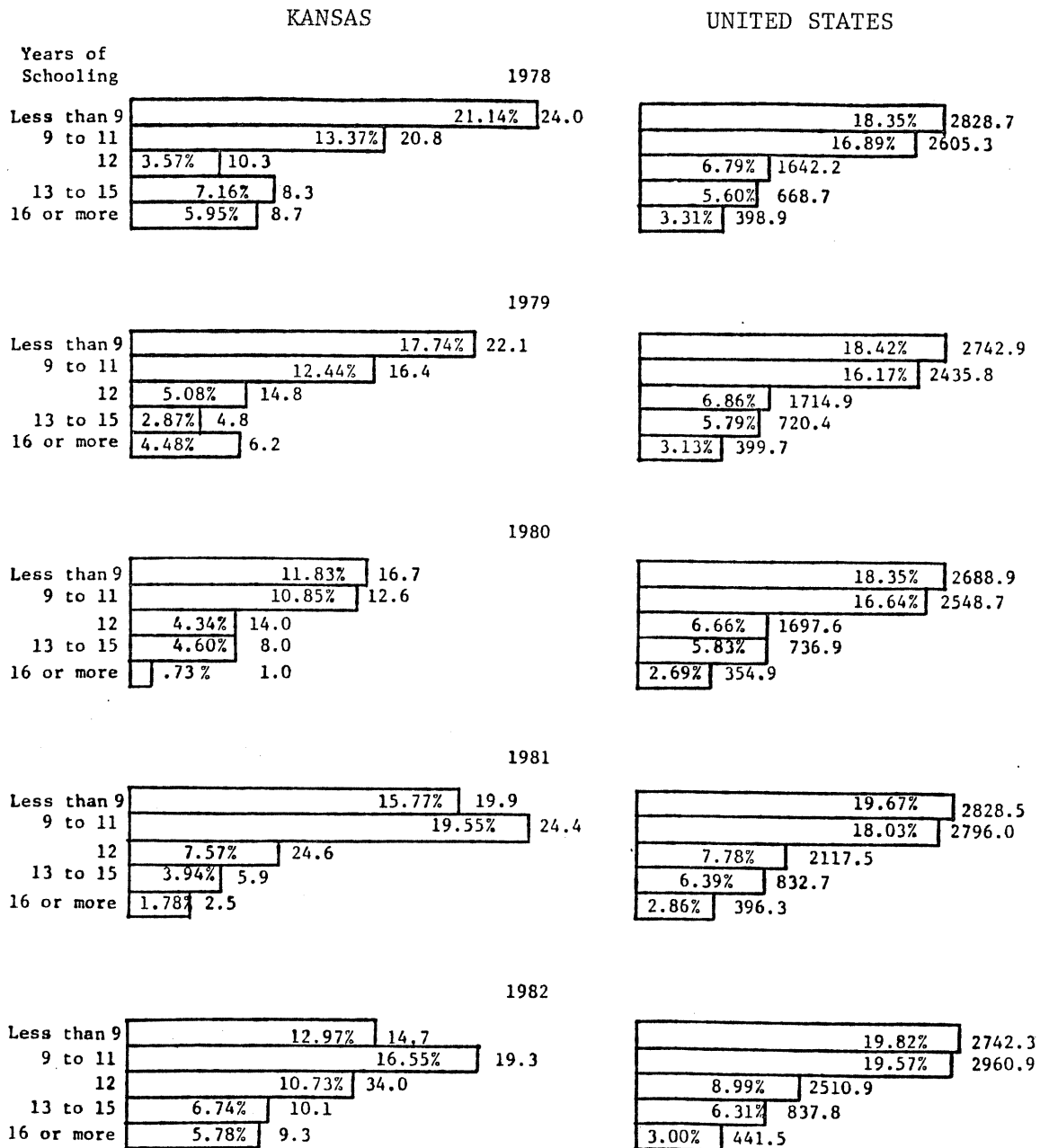
In the United States, there was a steady increase in CETA-eligibility from the least to the most educated group, with each succeeding group with more years of schooling being less prone to CETA-eligibility than the group immediately below it in years of schooling. In Kansas, however, the increase was not always consistent. In some years, particularly among males, a group with more education had a higher incidence of CETA-eligibility than a group with less years of schooling.

The relationship between the incidence of CETA-eligibility and years of schooling is numerically shown in Tables 12-14. It is seen that in the total CETA-eligible population (males and females together) the differences in

Chart A

Number¹ and Percentage² of CETA-Eligible Persons in Education Groups

Males and Females, Kansas and United States, 1978-82



1 - Numbers shown are in thousands.

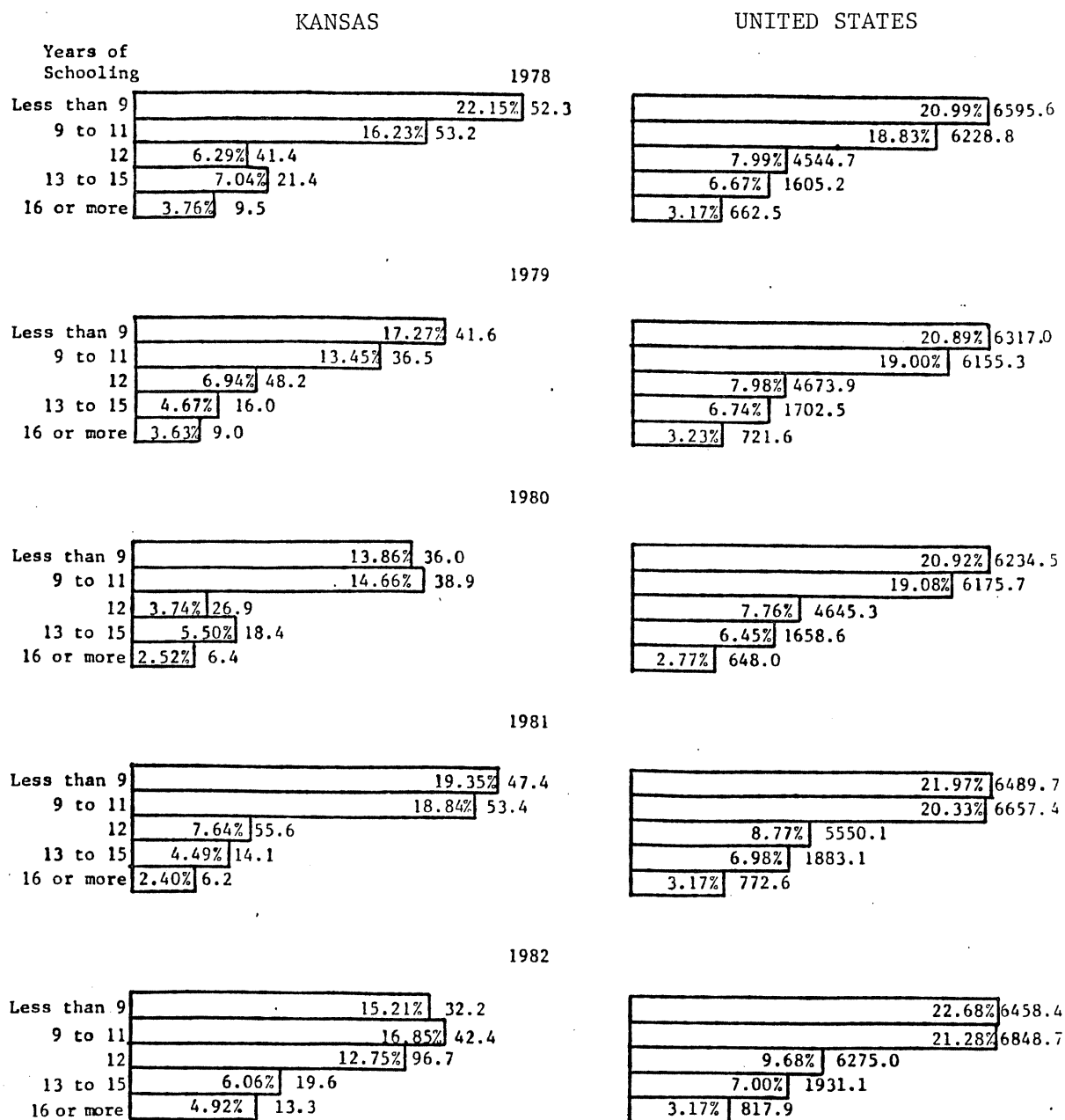
2 - The percentage of the population, both male and female, with a given number of years of schooling who were eligible for CETA. For example, in Kansas in 1978, of the total population with less than 9 years of schooling, 21.14% were eligible for CETA.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey.

Chart B

Number¹ and Percentage² of CETA-Eligible Persons in Education Groups

Males, Kansas and United States, 1978-82



1 - Numbers shown are in thousands.

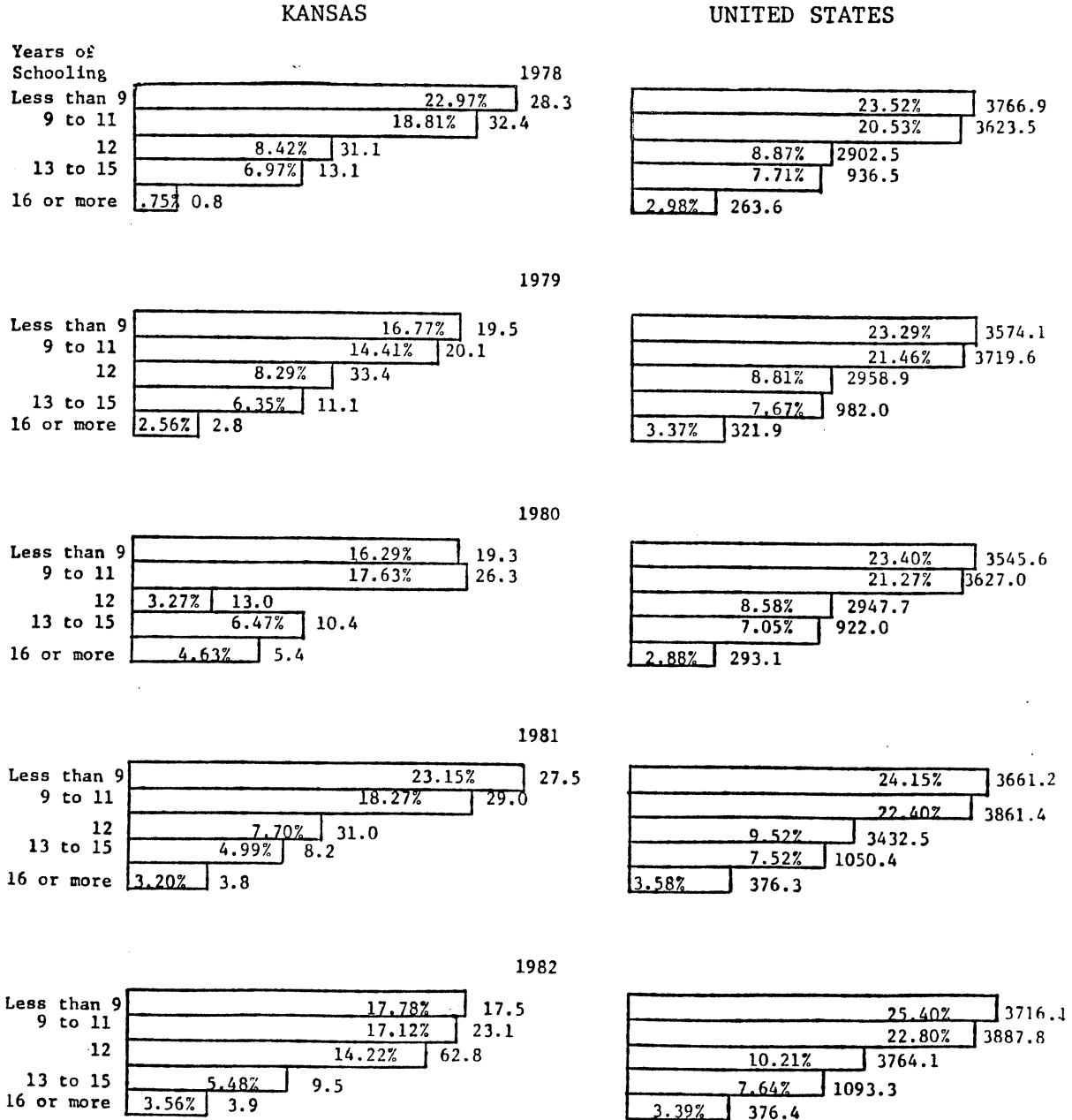
2 - The percentage of the male population with a given number of years of schooling who were eligible for CETA. For example, in Kansas in 1978, of the male population with less than 9 years of schooling, 22.15% were eligible for CETA.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey.

Chart C

Number¹ and Percentage² of CETA-Eligible Persons in Education Groups

Females, Kansas and United States, 1978-82



1 - Numbers shown are in thousands.

2 - The percentage of the female population with a given number of years of schooling who were eligible for CETA. For example, in Kansas in 1978, of the female population with less than 9 years of schooling, 22.9% were eligible for CETA.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey.

Table 12

Relative Incidence of CETA-Eligibility
by Education Level*, 1978-1982

Males and Females

KANSAS

Years of Schooling	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Less than 9	5.89	4.75	5.50	8.06	3.09
9 - 11	4.32	3.71	5.82	7.85	3.42
12	1.67	1.91	1.48	3.18	2.59
13 - 15	1.87	1.29	2.18	1.87	1.23
16 and over	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

UNITED STATES

Years of Schooling	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Less than 9	6.62	6.47	7.55	6.93	7.15
9 - 11	5.94	5.88	6.89	6.41	6.71
12	2.52	2.47	2.80	2.77	3.05
13 - 15	2.10	2.09	2.33	2.20	2.21
16 and over	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

* Incidence in each education level group divided by incidence in the group with 16 and over years of schooling.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Table 13

Relative Incidence of CETA-Eligibility
by Education Level*, 1978-1982

Males

KANSAS

Years of Schooling	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Less than 9	3.57	3.96	16.21	8.86	2.24
9 - 11	2.25	2.78	14.86	10.98	2.86
12	.60	1.13	5.95	4.25	1.86
13 - 15	1.20	.64	6.30	2.21	1.17
16 and over	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

UNITED STATES

Years of Schooling	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Less than 9	5.54	5.88	6.82	6.88	6.61
9 - 11	5.10	5.17	6.19	6.30	6.52
12	2.05	2.19	2.48	2.72	3.00
13 - 15	1.69	1.85	2.17	2.23	2.10
16 and over	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

* Incidence in each education level group divided by incidence in the group with 16 and over years of schooling.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

Table 14

Relative Incidence of CETA-Eligibility
by Education Level*, 1978-1982

Females

KANSAS

Years of Schooling	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Less than 9	30.63	6.55	3.52	7.23	4.99
9 - 11	25.09	5.63	3.81	5.71	4.81
12	11.23	3.24	.71	2.41	3.99
13 - 15	9.29	2.48	1.40	1.56	1.54
16 and over	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

UNITED STATES

Years of Schooling	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Less than 9	7.89	6.91	8.13	6.78	7.49
9 - 11	6.89	6.37	7.39	6.29	6.73
12	2.98	2.61	2.98	2.67	3.01
13 - 15	2.59	2.28	2.45	2.11	2.25
16 and over	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

* Incidence in each education level group divided by incidence in the group with 16 and over years of schooling.

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

CETA-eligibility between groups with various years of schooling were greater in the United States than in Kansas, except in 1981 when the reverse was true. Among males, the difference in the United States exceeded those in Kansas, except in 1980 and 1981. Among females, the differences at the national level exceeded those in Kansas, except in 1979 and 1981.

In some years, the male differences in Kansas were greater than the female, but in other years the female differences were greater than the male. In the United States, however, the female differences were greater, except in 1981.

The magnitude of the differences fluctuated from year to year in Kansas, as was also true of the United States. No clear trend over time was apparent.

Table 15 compares the incidence of CETA-eligibility at each education level in Kansas with the incidence at the same education level in the country as a whole and shows that the Kansas incidence was below the United States incidence at most education levels in most years (especially at the lower levels). The Kansas incidence was, however, above the United States incidence at some education levels in some years. These higher rates of incidence were mostly at the higher education levels, occurring more often among males than among females. In 1982, the phenomenon was particularly pronounced--all three male Kansas groups with 12 or more years of schooling had a higher incidence of CETA-eligibility than the corresponding United States groups, and two of the female groups with 12 years or more of schooling had a higher incidence than the corresponding United States groups.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The data analyzed above indicate that:

- a) The CETA-eligible population of Kansas had a higher average level of education than the CETA-eligible population of the United States.

Table 15

Percentage Ratio of Incidence of CETA-Eligibility
in Kansas and United States*, 1978-1982

Years of Schooling	<u>Males and Females</u>				
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Less than 9	106	82	66	88	67
9 - 11	86	71	77	93	79
12	79	87	48	87	132
13 - 15	106	69	85	64	87
16 and over	119	112	91	76	155
		<u>Males</u>			
Less than 9	116	96	64	80	65
9 - 11	79	77	65	108	85
12	53	74	65	97	119
13 - 15	128	50	79	62	107
16 and over	180	143	27	62	193
		<u>Females</u>			
Less than 9	98	72	70	96	70
9 - 11	92	67	83	82	75
12	95	94	38	81	139
13 - 15	90	83	92	66	72
16 and over	25	76	161	90	105

*Incidence in Kansas as a percentage of incidence in the United States

Source: Calculated from Current Population Survey

- b) The CETA-eligible populations of both Kansas and the United States had a lower average education level than the total population aged 14 years and over.
- c) The difference in the average education level of the CETA-eligible population and the total population was smaller and varied more from year to year in Kansas than in the country as a whole.
- d) The difference in the average education level of the CETA-eligible population and the total population in Kansas was greater among males than among females in 1978 and 1979, but disappeared by 1981; the situation in the United States was essentially similar.
- e) The gap in the average education level of the CETA-eligible population and the total population was much lower in 1982 in both Kansas and the United States than in any previous year in the period.
- f) More educated persons were much less likely to become CETA-eligible in both Kansas and the United States, but the regular increase of lower CETA-eligibility with successive rises in the education level, characteristic of the United States throughout the period, was not mirrored exactly in Kansas.
- g) The differences in incidence of CETA-eligibility at different education levels were greater in the nation than in Kansas.
- h) The incidence of CETA-eligibility at most education levels in Kansas was below the incidence in the corresponding group in the United States, but in some years certain education levels (especially higher ones) had a higher incidence than the corresponding group in the United States (this was particularly marked in 1982).

These conclusions raise the following policy considerations and questions:

- 1) Job-training programs in Kansas need to be adjusted to the higher average education level of the Kansas CETA-eligible population (as compared to the average education level of the national CETA-eligible population).
- 2) The considerable variations from year to year of CETA-eligibility at different education levels in Kansas need to be taken into account in developing job-training programs.
- 3) Does the higher-than-national rate of incidence of CETA-eligibility at certain education levels in Kansas (particularly in 1982) indicate especially severe unemployment in Kansas in these groups?
- 4) Does the heavy incidence of CETA-eligibility among more educated persons (especially males) in 1982 imply that their educational qualifications are not appropriate to current labor market trends?

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