“Rural Kansas: Rising Tide, Treading Water, or Flowing Downhill”
Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development

www.huckboydinstiute.org
Board Members with Governor

Private Sector Leadership
8, 5, 4, 9, 1, 7, 6, 10, 3, 2, 0
Economic Base
Percent employed in ag

Percent employed in agriculture, 2007-2011
Percent employed in manufacturing
Percent employed in services
Percent employed in government
Population
Population Size
Population Density

Population density, 2010
Population Shifts
What is the pattern of population change?
MacArthur Foundation funded a study by Carr and Kefalas on rural population
“Hollowing Out the Middle”
Population Change Rate

Population change rate, 2000-2010
Net Migration Rate

Net migration rate, 2000-2009

Percent
-40.6% - -10%
-9.9% - 0%
0.1% - 10%
10.1% - 25%
25.1% - 35.7%
No Data
Natural population change rate
Immigration Rate
Hispanic Population Size
Population Change Rate, Hispanic

[Map showing population change rate for Hispanics across the United States, with states color-coded by percentage change from 2000 to 2010.]
Percent persons born in Mexico

Percent of persons born in Mexico, 2007-2011
Population Change Rate, non-Hispanic white
Percent non-English speaking households

Percent of non-English speaking households of total households, 2007-2011
Other factors
Percent persons with no high school

Percent of persons with no high school, adults 25 and over, 2007-2011
Percent of persons with a college degree, adults 25 and over, 2007-2011
Percent population under 18
Percent population 65 and older
Poverty Rate
Unemployment Rate

Unemployment rate, 2011

Percent
- 0% - 6.1%
- 6.2% - 8.7%
- 8.8% - 11.2%
- 11.3% - 14.6%
- 14.7% - 30%
- No Data
Nonmetro Net Migration Rates Compared to Education

1988-1989

[Bar chart showing net migration rates for education levels: Less than High School, High School, Some College, College+]
Nonmetro net migration by education completed 1988-1994

Slightly more college educated have moved into nonmetro areas
Of the 627 cities in Kansas:

5 (.7%) are >100,000 population
56 (8.9%) are > 5,000
571 (91%) are <5,000
429 (68%) are <1,000
Types of KS Counties

Figure 1.1: Classification of Counties

Per Capita Income estimated in 2006.
Population Change is measured between 1971 and 2007.

- Metropolitan
  - Metro KS Counties (5)
    - Population Change: 48.7%
    - Per Capita Income: $40,240
    - Adjacent rural counties (13)
      - Population Change: 25.4%
      - Per Capita Income: $30,011

- Micropolitan
  - Micropolitan KS Counties (Saline & Riley)
    - Population Change: 19.2%
    - Per Capita Income: $31,465
    - Adjacent Rural counties (3)
      - Population Change: -1.4%
      - Per Capita Income: $31,509

- Trade Center
  - Trade Center Counties in KS (10)
    - Population Change: -4.2%
    - Per Capita Income: $28,100

- Value-Added Ag
  - Value-Added KS Counties (Ford, Finney, & Seward)
    - Population Change: 64.9%
    - Per Capita Income: $25,605
    - Adjacent Value-Added Rural counties (8)
      - Population Change: 11.1%
      - Per Capita Income: $28,960

- Rural
  - Rural Counties in KS (55)
    - Population Change: -19.4%
    - Per Capita Income: $27,912
Population Density – persons per square mile

For example:

Wyandotte County  1,042.9
Riley County      103.1
Wallace County    1.9
Most rural, low density counties in Kansas are experiencing long-term population loss and brain drain, while value-added ag counties, suburban and metropolitan areas grow.
Kansas Counties with Consecutive Years of Population Decline
From 1950 Census forward
Kansas Counties Projected to have Population Decline 1990-2030
Twelve Kansas Counties peaked in population in 1890 Census
Population of (typical) County

![Bar chart showing population trends from 1890 to 1990 for Mitchell County.](chart.png)
Percentage Change in Population 1980-2005

Map data from www.census.gov
From 2000 to 2010 in Kansas –

• 9 metropolitan counties added population in an amount equivalent to another Overland Park

• 96 non-metro counties lost the equivalent of another Salina.
Societal Factors

Average life expectancy is up to 74.4 years
The number of marriages and divorces is down slightly
Sedgwick County: 3,904 marriages
Wallace County: seven
Teen pregnancy and abortion rates continue to fall
There were 12,345 out-of-wedlock births, a new record high – representing 31.4 percent of all Kansas resident births
Urban-Rural Population of Kansas, 1900

The 9 Metropolitan Counties as of 2000

- Non-Metro (96 counties)
- Metro (9 counties)
Urban-Rural Population of Kansas, 2000

The 9 Metropolitan Counties as of 2000

Non-Metro (96 counties) Metro (9 counties)
2010 Census

Kansas Counties
population change by percentage

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>5-15%</td>
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2010 CENSUS RESULTS

Kansas

STATE POPULATION: 2,853,118

POPULATION CHANGE BY COUNTY: 2000-2010

LOSS  0-5%  5-15%  15-25%  25% +
How should we respond?
Build On Our Assets
Ruralpreneurs
Energy/agriculture
Regional strengths
Collaboration
Quality of life
Spectrum of Inter-Governmental Structure
“The C-Words”

Co-existence/Competition: Independent, Autonomous units

Collaboration/Coordination/Cooperation: Independent units in cooperative networks

Consolidation: Merger of political units
“Rural Kansas: Rising Tide, Treading Water, or Flowing Downhill”