

Census shows more people in urban areas, more diversity

By Carl Manning
Associated Press Writer
TOPEKA — If it seems like shopping centers are replacing pasture land, it may be a reflection of the state's population becoming more urban in what long has been considered a rural breadbasket state.

Census figures released Tuesday show 57 of the state's 105 counties lost population over the past decade, primarily in rural Kansas. A dozen rural coun-

ties, mainly in western Kansas, lost 10 percent or more of their residents.

Since 1990, Kansas' population increased 8.5 percent to 2,688,418 on April 1, 2000.

The figures showed the number of Kansas Hispanics of all races rose from 93,670 to 188,252 — a 100 percent jump. In 1990, Hispanics made up 3.6 percent of the state's population; now it's 7 percent.

Nationally, the Hispanic population

jumped by 58 percent over the last decade. "Hispanic" is considered an ethnicity, not a race; people of Hispanic ethnicity can be of any race.

"I think it's a surprise for all of us. We knew it was increasing, but not by that amount," said Thelma Helyar, editor of the Kansas Statistical Abstract.

Even with the jump, there are many, including state Rep. Carlos Mayans, R-Wichita, who believe the Hispanic population was undercounted.

Not surprisingly, population shifted from the open ranges and wheat fields of western Kansas to the eastern side of the state with its larger towns and industries.

"Metro areas as a whole are growing. It's where most of the economic activity is located," said Norman Clifford, interim director for the Center of Economic and Business Analysis at the University of Kansas. "People are going where there are opportunities."

Sedgwick County, including the state's largest city of Wichita, continued to lead counties in population with 452,869, an increase of 12.2 percent over the past decade.

Next in size is Johnson County, near the Kansas City metropolitan area, with 451,086, an increase of 27.1 percent — the highest percentage growth over the decade.

But there were losses. In terms of population, Riley County had the biggest drop, with 4,296 people leaving in the past decade, a 6.4 percent decrease. Part of that loss was attributed to downsizing at nearby Fort Riley.

In terms of percentage, the top three losing counties were Graham with a 16.9 percent drop to 2,946 people; Comanche, a 15 percent drop to 1,967; and Ness, a 14.4 percent drop to 3,454.

Exceptions to declining populations in western Kansas are areas around Dodge City, Garden City and Liberal. In those areas, population increased, largely because of Hispanic workers at the packing plants.

Finney County, which includes Garden City, had 40,523 people of which 43.3 percent were Hispanic. The county had a 22.5 percent increase — the second highest in the state.

Seward County, which includes Liberal, had 22,510 people of which 42.1

percent were Hispanic. Overall, the county had a 20.1 percent increase.

Ford County, with Dodge City, had 32,458 people of which 37.7 percent were Hispanic. It overall population jumped 18.2 percent.

Another growth spurt was shown among Kansas Asians, whose numbers grew by 47 percent. Asians and Pacific Islanders accounted for 31,750 of the state's population in 1990.

In 2000, the census said, 46,806 Kansans were Asians — representing 1.7 percent of the population. Another 1,313 listed themselves as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

The figures showed 24,936 American Indians in the state, 0.9 percent of the population. A decade ago, the number was 21,965, or 0.8 of the 1990 population.

People could identify themselves as a member of any of 63 racial categories in the 2000 headcount, up from five in 1990. In Kansas, 56,496 residents took advantage of the option to

Figures show declining areas

By The Associated Press
FASTEST DECLINING COUNTIES IN KANSAS

| COUNTY | 1990 | 2000 | CHNG | PCT |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Graham | 3,543 | 2,946 | (597) | (16.9) |
| Comanche | 2,313 | 1,967 | (346) | (15.0) |
| Ness | 4,033 | 3,454 | (579) | (14.4) |
| Decatur | 4,021 | 3,472 | (549) | (13.7) |
| Greeley | 1,774 | 1,534 | (240) | (13.5) |
| Rawlins | 3,404 | 2,966 | (438) | (12.9) |
| Jewell | 4,251 | 3,791 | (460) | (10.8) |
| Stafford | 5,365 | 4,789 | (576) | (10.7) |
| Smith | 5,078 | 4,536 | (542) | (10.7) |
| Kiowa | 3,660 | 3,278 | (382) | (10.4) |

Source: AP computer analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data.

identify themselves as belonging to more than one race.

Whites still were the majority of Kansans: 2,313,944, or 86 percent. The number represents a 3.6 percent increase.

Church plans coffee crusade

Grace Fellowship Church at 104 E. Highway 24 in Goodland will hold a coffee crusade from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday to raise money for Mission Aviation Fellowship.

The aviation fellowship, supported by Guava Java Gourmet Coffee of Tampa, Fla., and Chicago Coffee Roastery, Inc. of Huntley, Ill., has recruited volunteers to hold a coffee get-together and serve up coffee for a nominal donation.

Proceeds will go toward the fellowship's global ministry fund and be used to fly missionaries into remote villages around the world to provide medical assistance, crisis relief and community development.

The fellowship hopes to raise \$217,000 from this first coffee crusade to aid its cause.

"Everyone is invited to stop by for a cup or two...or three or four," said Bob Snyder, pastor of the Goodland church. "You get some great coffee and help extremely needy families in the process. It's a terrific way to impact our world!"

Snyder said all the money raised will go to the aviation fellowship.

county census comparisons

| COUNTY | 1990 | 2000 | CHNG | PCT |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Allen | 14,638 | 14,385 | (253) | (1.7) |
| Anderson | 7,803 | 8,110 | 307 | 3.9 |
| Atchison | 16,932 | 16,774 | (158) | (0.9) |
| Barber | 5,874 | 5,307 | (567) | (9.7) |
| Barton | 29,382 | 28,205 | (1,177) | (4.0) |
| Bourbon | 14,966 | 15,379 | 413 | 2.8 |
| Brown | 11,128 | 10,724 | (404) | (3.6) |
| Butler | 50,580 | 59,482 | 8,902 | 17.6 |
| Chase | 3,021 | 3,030 | 9 | 0.3 |
| Chautauqua | 4,407 | 4,359 | (48) | (1.1) |
| Cherokee | 21,374 | 22,605 | 1,231 | 5.8 |
| Cheyenne | 3,243 | 3,165 | (78) | (2.4) |
| Clark | 2,418 | 2,390 | (28) | (1.2) |
| Clay | 9,158 | 8,822 | (336) | (3.7) |
| Cloud | 11,023 | 10,268 | (755) | (6.8) |
| Coffey | 8,404 | 8,865 | 461 | 5.5 |
| Comanche | 2,313 | 1,967 | (346) | (15.0) |
| Cowley | 36,915 | 36,291 | (624) | (1.7) |
| Crawford | 35,568 | 38,242 | 2,674 | 7.5 |
| Decatur | 4,021 | 3,472 | (549) | (13.7) |
| Dickinson | 18,958 | 19,344 | 386 | 2.0 |
| Doniphan | 8,134 | 8,249 | 115 | 1.4 |
| Douglas | 81,798 | 99,962 | 18,164 | 22.2 |
| Edwards | 3,787 | 3,449 | (338) | (8.9) |
| Elk | 3,327 | 3,261 | (66) | (2.0) |
| Ellis | 26,004 | 27,507 | 1,503 | 5.8 |
| Ellisworth | 6,586 | 6,525 | (61) | (0.9) |
| Finney | 33,070 | 40,523 | 7,453 | 22.5 |
| Ford | 27,463 | 32,458 | 4,995 | 18.2 |
| Franklin | 21,994 | 24,784 | 2,790 | 12.7 |
| Geary | 30,453 | 27,947 | (2,506) | (8.2) |
| Gove | 3,231 | 3,068 | (163) | (5.0) |
| Graham | 3,543 | 2,946 | (597) | (16.9) |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Grant | 7,159 | 7,909 | 750 | 10.5 |
| Gray | 5,396 | 5,904 | 508 | 9.4 |
| Greeley | 1,774 | 1,534 | (240) | (13.5) |
| Greenwood | 7,847 | 7,673 | (174) | (2.2) |
| Hamilton | 2,388 | 2,670 | 282 | 11.8 |
| Harper | 7,124 | 6,536 | (588) | (8.3) |
| Harvey | 31,028 | 32,869 | 1,841 | 5.9 |
| Haskell | 3,886 | 4,307 | 421 | 10.8 |
| Hodgeman | 2,177 | 2,085 | (92) | (4.2) |
| Jackson | 11,525 | 12,657 | 1,132 | 9.8 |
| Jefferson | 15,905 | 18,426 | 2,521 | 15.9 |
| Jewell | 4,251 | 3,791 | (460) | (10.8) |
| Johnson | 355,021 | 451,086 | 96,065 | 27.1 |
| Kearny | 4,027 | 4,531 | 504 | 12.5 |
| Kingman | 8,292 | 8,673 | 381 | 4.6 |
| Kiowa | 3,660 | 3,278 | (382) | (10.4) |
| Labette | 23,693 | 22,835 | (858) | (3.6) |
| Lane | 2,375 | 2,155 | (220) | (9.3) |
| Leavenworth | 64,371 | 68,691 | 4,320 | 6.7 |
| Lincoln | 3,653 | 3,578 | (75) | (2.1) |
| Linn | 8,254 | 9,570 | 1,316 | 15.9 |
| Logan | 3,081 | 3,046 | (35) | (1.1) |
| Lyon | 34,732 | 35,935 | 1,203 | 3.5 |
| Marion | 12,888 | 13,361 | 473 | 3.7 |
| Marshall | 11,705 | 10,965 | (740) | (6.3) |
| McPherson | 27,268 | 29,212 | 1,944 | 7.1 |
| Meade | 4,247 | 4,631 | 384 | 9.0 |
| Miami | 23,466 | 28,351 | 4,885 | 20.8 |
| Mitchell | 7,203 | 6,932 | (271) | (3.8) |
| Montgomery | 38,816 | 36,252 | (2,564) | (6.6) |
| Morris | 6,198 | 6,104 | (94) | (1.5) |
| Morton | 3,480 | 3,496 | 16 | 0.5 |
| Nemaha | 10,446 | 10,717 | 271 | 2.6 |
| Neosho | 17,035 | 16,997 | (38) | (0.2) |
| Ness | 4,033 | 3,454 | (579) | (14.4) |
| Norton | 5,947 | 5,953 | 6 | 0.1 |
| Osage | 15,248 | 16,712 | 1,464 | 9.6 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Osborne | 4,867 | 4,452 | (415) | (8.5) |
| Ottawa | 5,634 | 6,163 | 529 | 9.4 |
| Pawnee | 7,555 | 7,233 | (322) | (4.3) |
| Phillips | 6,590 | 6,001 | (589) | (8.9) |
| Pottawatomie | 16,128 | 18,209 | 2,081 | 12.9 |
| Pratt | 9,702 | 9,647 | (55) | (0.6) |
| Rawlins | 3,404 | 2,966 | (438) | (12.9) |
| Reno | 62,389 | 64,790 | 2,401 | 3.8 |
| Republic | 6,482 | 5,835 | (647) | (10.0) |
| Rice | 10,610 | 10,761 | 151 | 1.4 |
| Riley | 67,139 | 62,843 | (4,296) | (6.4) |
| Rooks | 6,039 | 5,685 | (354) | (5.9) |
| Rush | 3,842 | 3,551 | (291) | (7.6) |
| Russell | 7,835 | 7,370 | (465) | (5.9) |
| Saline | 49,301 | 53,597 | 4,296 | 8.7 |
| Scott | 5,289 | 5,120 | (169) | (3.2) |
| Sedgwick | 403,662 | 452,869 | 49,207 | 12.2 |
| Seward | 18,743 | 22,510 | 3,767 | 20.1 |
| Shawnee | 160,976 | 169,871 | 8,895 | 5.5 |
| Sheridan | 3,043 | 2,813 | (230) | (7.6) |
| Sherman | 6,926 | 6,760 | (166) | (2.4) |
| Smith | 5,078 | 4,536 | (542) | (10.7) |
| Stafford | 5,365 | 4,789 | (576) | (10.7) |
| Stanton | 2,333 | 2,406 | 73 | 3.1 |
| Stevens | 5,048 | 5,463 | 415 | 8.2 |
| Sumner | 25,841 | 25,946 | 105 | 0.4 |
| Thomas | 8,258 | 8,180 | (78) | (0.9) |
| Trego | 3,694 | 3,319 | (375) | (10.2) |
| Wabaunsee | 6,603 | 6,885 | 282 | 4.3 |
| Wallace | 1,821 | 1,749 | (72) | (4.0) |
| Washington | 7,073 | 6,483 | (590) | (8.3) |
| Wichita | 2,758 | 2,531 | (227) | (8.2) |
| Wilson | 10,289 | 10,332 | 43 | 0.4 |
| Woodson | 4,116 | 3,788 | (328) | (8.0) |
| Wyandotte | 162,026 | 157,882 | (4,144) | (2.6) |
| STATE | 2,477,574 | 2,688,418 | 210,844 | 8.5 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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