

FINANCIAL STATUS OF OLDER ADULTS

Wichita MSA

The 2010 U.S. Census identified 75,025 individuals age 65 and older residing in the four county Wichita MSA. This represents 12.5 percent of the total population in the area. Break outs by county are provided in the chart below. (Projections for 2030 assume a 7.7 percent growth rate, based on past work done by Wichita State University. Official projects for 2030 have not yet been released.)

Population 65 and Older: 2010 and 2030

	Butler	Harvey	Sedgwick	Sumner	MSA Total
2010	8,327	5,943	56,969	3,786	75,025
2030	8,974	6,404	61,396	4,080	80,854

Poverty: Approximately 8.0 percent of the older adults in the MSA have incomes below the poverty line. This equaled over 6,000 individuals in 2010. Many of the individuals need and benefit from various home and community based programs and services. While it is important to maintain and strengthen programs for older adults who are poor, it is equally important to recognize that other older adults contribute significantly to the area economy.

Social Security: In 2010, the average Social Security benefit was \$14,052 per year. This brought over \$1.05 billion into the MSA.

Other Retirement Income: Income from pensions, disability, annuities, insurance, and IRA or KEOGH plans averaged \$17,054 per year per retiree. This brought over \$1.2 billion into the MSA in 2010.

Discretionary Spending: National studies find that approximately 19 percent of an older adult's income goes for "discretionary" items (including alcohol, apparel, contributions, education, entertainment, personal care, reading, tobacco, and other miscellaneous items). At almost \$6,000 per older person, this discretionary spending fuels the MSA economy by over \$443 million per year.

Property Taxes: The average property tax payment by older adult homeowners is approximately \$1,020. Based on the number of older adult homeowners in the area, this contributes \$37.7 million to the area economy.

Employment: Approximately 14.4 percent of older adults are employed (over 10,800 in the MSA in 2010).

Voting Behavior: Approximately 82 percent of older adults in the MSA are registered voters and turnout at the polls is typically high (over 68 percent). Thus over 41,800 older adults vote in major elections.

HOUSING AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF OLDER ADULTS

Wichita MSA

The 2010 U.S. Census identified 75,025 individuals age 65 and older residing in the four county Wichita MSA. This represents 12.5 percent of the total population in the area. Break outs by county are provided in the chart below. (Projections for 2030 assume a 7.7 percent growth rate, based on past work done by Wichita State University. Official projects for 2030 have not yet been released.)

Population 65 and Older: 2010 and 2030

	Butler	Harvey	Sedgwick	Sumner	MSA Total
2010	8,327	5,943	56,969	3,786	75,025
2030	8,974	6,404	61,396	4,080	80,854

Home Ownership: Approximately 80 percent of all older adults are home owners, with 65 percent having paid off their mortgages. In 2010, home ownership in the MSA would involve over 60,020 older adults.

Home Ownership Challenges: Approximately 32 percent of older adults live in homes build before 1949. This increases the potential for facing additional maintenance costs due to the age of the housing.

Aging in Place: National studies find that 89 percent of older adults would like to stay in their own home and never move. In the MSA, this would equal over 66,770 individuals in 2010. Even if living in one's home is not possible, a majority (73 percent) indicate they would like to continuing living in the same community.

Living Arrangements: It is estimated that 29.7 percent of older adults living alone. This would equal over 22,280 people in the MSA in 2010. There is a significant gender differential, with 38.7 percent of women age 65 and older living along, compared to 16.6 percent of men. There is also an age differential, with 35 percent age 75 and older living alone.

Grandparenting: About 4.1 percent of Kansas children living in households where a grandparent is the primary caregiver. This is below the national figure of 6.3 percent. In the MSA, slightly over 4,300 grandparents are primary caregivers for their children in 2010. These grandparents are typically married and working, but are more likely to have incomes below the poverty line (17 percent).

HEALTH STATUS AND SERVICE USAGE BY OLDER ADULTS

Wichita MSA

The 2010 U.S. Census identified 75,025 individuals age 65 and older residing in the four county Wichita MSA. This represents 12.5 percent of the total population in the area. Break outs by county are provided in the chart below. (Projections for 2030 assume a 7.7 percent growth rate, based on past work done by Wichita State University. Official projects for 2030 have not yet been released.)

Population 65 and Older: 2010 and 2030

	Butler	Harvey	Sedgwick	Sumner	MSA Total
2010	8,327	5,943	56,969	3,786	75,025
2030	8,974	6,404	61,396	4,080	80,854

Physical Disability: Approximately 30 percent of older Kansans have some type of physical disability. In 2010, this would equal over 22,500 individuals in the four county MSA.

Cognitive Disability: Approximately 10 percent of older Kansans have some type of cognitive disability. In 2010, this would equal over 7,500 individuals in the four county MSA.

Institutional Residence: There are almost 4,000 nursing home and assisted living beds in the MSA. Occupancy tends to be high, at approximately 90 percent. Thus at any point in time, about 3,600 individuals in the MSA living in care facilities. In 2010, this equaled approximately 4.8 percent of the total older adult population.

Support Services: Over 1,100 individuals in the four county MSA receive help through the Medicaid home and community based services waiver for frail elderly. Over 1,750 receive home delivered meals, and over 1,500 participate in congregate nutrition sites.

Volunteerism: A core of area older adults provides significant help to their communities through volunteerism. In fact, Kansas ranks 3rd in the nation in older adult volunteerism, with 38.4 percent being active. In 2010, this involved over 28,800 older individuals. National sources find that the average older volunteer donates 134 annual hours to religious organizations and 167 annual hours to a wide array of other community groups (education, social services, hospitals, and others).