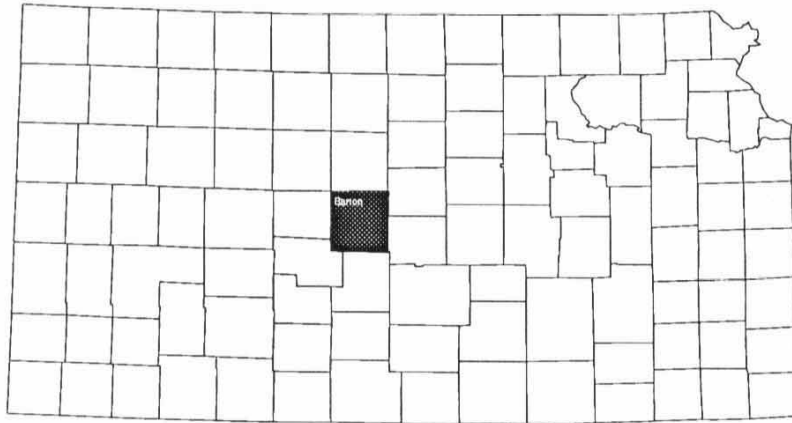

**INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY
AND BUSINESS RESEARCH
TECHNICAL REPORT SERIES**

STRATEGIC PLANNING DATA ANALYSIS

Barton County



Kansas Center for Community Economic Development
Charles E. Krider, Co-Director

Institute for Public Policy and Business Research
Anthony L. Redwood, Executive Director
The University of Kansas

September 1992

Report No. 14

STRATEGIC PLANNING DATA ANALYSIS

Barton County

Contributing Authors

Dan Roehler	Program Coordinator Community Strategic Planning
Henry Schwaller, IV	Research Associate
James Hamilton	Research Assistant
Michael Keough	Research Assistant
Doug LaTessa	Research Assistant
Charles Stevens	Research Assistant

Kansas Center for Community Economic Development
Charles E. Krider, Co-Director

The Institute for Public Policy and Business Research
Anthony L. Redwood, Executive Director
The University of Kansas

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FOREWORD

The following report has been prepared to assist the people of Barton County in developing a community-based strategic plan. The purpose of this report is to provide data and analysis which will lead to a better understanding of local and broad scale issues which impact upon the local economy. This should help in identifying key issues which should be addressed in plans of action. Results of the report were first presented in summary form at a public meeting held in Great Bend in June of this year. Census and other data which has become available since that time have been added to this data, presented in detail in the following chapters.

The Kansas Center for Community Economic Development (KCCED) is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. KCCED is a joint university center between the Institute for Public Policy and Business Research at the University of Kansas and the Kansas Center for Rural Initiatives at Kansas State University. The statements, findings, and conclusions of this report are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Government, the State of Kansas, the University of Kansas, nor any other individual or organization.

It is hoped that Strategic Planning Data Analysis: Barton County will serve as a useful source of information. Further reproduction of the data presented in this report is permissible on condition that the source is cited. For those wishing to conduct a more in-depth analysis of their county, additional information may be obtained by contacting the sources cited in this report. KCCED, through the Institute for Public Policy and Business Research at the University of Kansas and the Kansas Center for Rural Initiatives at Kansas State University, has access to additional data and can provide technical assistance, data analysis, and survey support.

Special thanks are extended to the staff at the Kansas Center for Community Economic Development and the Institute for Public Policy and Business Research (IPPBR) who helped make this report possible. Mary Brohammer, Linda Bennett and Shakura Jackson provided valuable assistance with word processing and graphics. Guidance for the report was provided by Dr. Charles Krider, Co-Director, KCCED/KU.

Dan Roehler
Coordinator, Community Strategic Planning
Kansas Center for Community Economic Development
University of Kansas

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Executive Summary

This report, commissioned for the Barton County strategic planning project, surveys some of the more significant demographic and economic trends in Barton County, Kansas, over the period from 1980 to the present time. Through contrast and comparison with nearby counties, relative strengths and weaknesses have been assessed.

Barton is a county of about 29,000 people, situated in central Kansas. Its population is a mixture of small urban and rural. The county is connected with four major highways and is located near Interstate 70. The county's economy includes a relatively sizable oil mining industry and an agricultural sector that is comparatively small for the region and for non-metropolitan areas. During the 1980s, Barton County experienced many of the same declines in population and economic base that occurred throughout Kansas' non-metropolitan counties. However, there are several indications that the severe adjustments of the early to mid-1980s have slowed, suggesting renewed stability in the Barton County economy.

The People

The county's population level declined during the past decade after consistent growth in every previous decade of this century. Net rates of out-migration in the 1980s were higher than those of neighboring counties and Kansas as a whole. Population growth is expected to resume during the present decade. The people of Barton County are slightly older than the Kansas and U.S. averages. There is a smaller proportion of college graduates among the over-25 adult population than in the state at large or in neighboring counties, but there is a higher percentage of residents with some college education. Although per capita incomes are higher in Barton County than in many neighboring and non-metropolitan areas, rates of income growth have not been particularly strong.

The Economy

Barton County's economy is diverse. The county has particularly well-developed services, wholesale and retail sectors and a well established manufacturing sector which developed in association with the oil extraction industry. Since 1980, however, the services and government sectors were the only sectors which have shown significant growth. During the 1980s, a total of 1,680 jobs were lost in several sectors of the economy, with the mining sector alone losing over 1,000 jobs. Throughout the early 1980s, unemployment in Barton County was considerably higher than average, leading to a 24 percent decline in the size of labor force between 1982 and 1988. Since 1988, the size of the Barton County workforce has stabilized at around 14,500.

The retail base in Barton County eroded in real terms to less than half the sales levels in 1990 that had been realized in 1980. The number of firms in Barton County decreased by five percent over the decade, although there was growth in the number of establishments in the service, transportation and agricultural service sectors. Among the positive aspects of the county's economic environment include relatively low property tax mill levies (despite a shrinking tax assessment base) and strong community financial resources. Significantly, between 1986 and 1989, levels of employment stabilized at 18,000 jobs.

Community Resources

Data on public school expenditures and enrollments indicate some strength in educational resources in Barton County. High school dropouts rates are low. Barton County enjoys average access to public library books. Health care resources have been an area of particular strength, with above average access to hospital beds and stability in the number of persons per physician. The number of beds in licensed adult care homes increased slightly in Barton County, although the number per person 65 or over decreased slightly, mirroring the state average. Housing is readily available, and costs are low. Many of the housing vacancies are long-term in nature.

Challenges and Opportunities

As Barton County residents prepare a strategic plan for the future of their communities, many challenges and opportunities present themselves. The global economic environment has become more challenging, with an increased emphasis on technology and training to keep the labor force flexible and competitive. The smaller, slightly older and somewhat less educated labor force in Barton County will need to adapt and expand in order to meet the future requirements of present and prospective employers. A major challenge for Barton County will be in determining how best to enrich its job market, by transforming some of its current jobs into higher-skilled, higher-paying jobs for the future. Tying into state and federal technology programs or the Great Bend office of MAMTC could present one such set of opportunities.

In overall terms, per capita incomes in Barton County have been high, though this income is not evenly distributed, as can be seen by the high incidence of food stamp recipients. In order to ensure that all Barton County residents have access to improved opportunities, this income distribution issue may need to be addressed. As the population continues to age, Barton County could build upon its relative strengths in medical and adult care facilities and establish a unique regional position in these areas by maintaining and improving these areas of comparative advantage. These areas could become principal sources of job creation in the future, as the community adjusts to the changing needs of its population and the population of its Trade Area.

Amidst these and other challenges and opportunities facing their communities, Barton County citizens must maintain a broad-based commitment to working in partnership with one another to plan the future of the county. This commitment, when combined with an ambitious and shared vision for the future, will be the necessary ingredient to turn dreams into reality.

Introduction

The use of data in strategic planning is important for two reasons. First, data assists a community in "taking stock" and understanding its current situation across several different areas of economic and demographic performance. Data provides insight into the internal and external trends which affect the community, facilitating comparisons of local performance with that of other areas, such as the state or nation. Second, using data in preparing a community strategic plan can ensure the long-run success of the planning effort and its eventual outcomes by:

- *Testing Assumptions*--data can confirm or disprove popular impressions and preconceived ideas that a community might have about its current situation.
- *Building Consensus*--data can foster a common understanding regarding trends and concerns affecting the community, and can move the community toward solving common goals.
- *Establishing the Direction the Process Should Take*--data can serve as a compass in the strategic planning process and can help in determining the next step; for example, a community may decide to delay developing particular strategies until it has a better understanding of the reasons behind trends in the data.
- *Identifying Key Issues*--data analysis can be a very powerful tool for the community in identifying its relative strengths and weaknesses, leading to the development of key issues to be addressed through the strategic action plan.

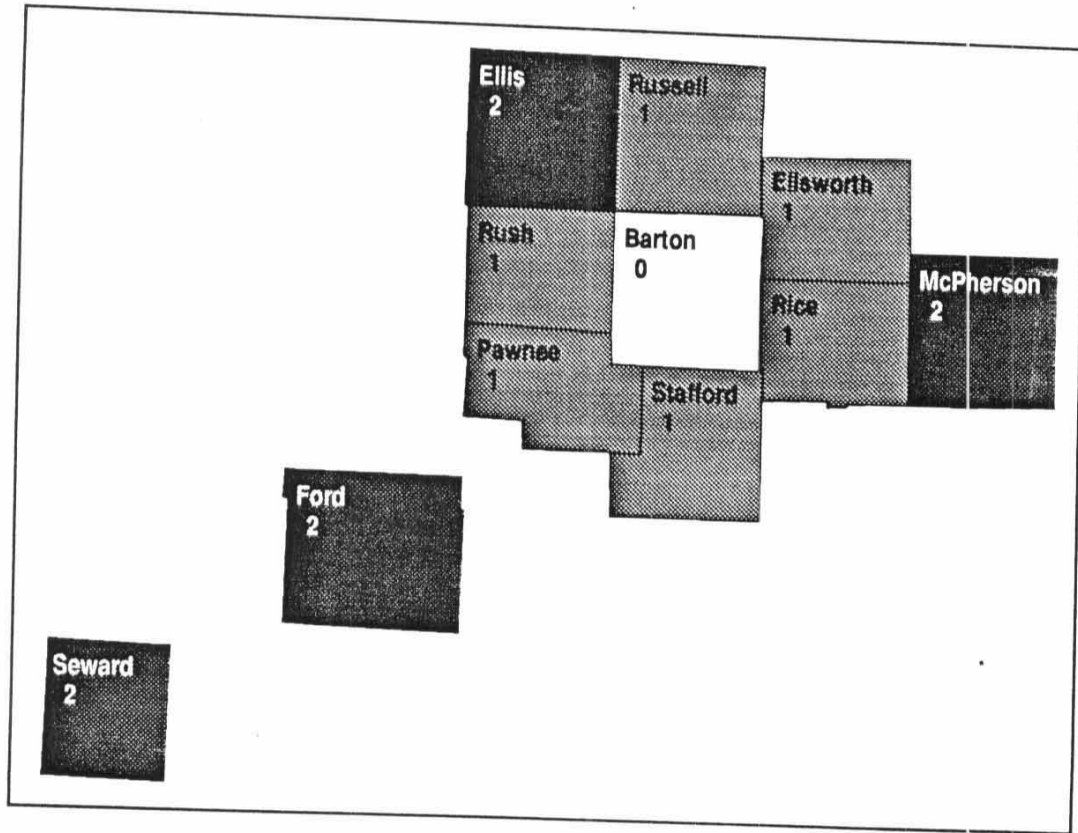
Data alone does not lead to a well-founded understanding of the community. Data must be analyzed and interpreted, taking into account the intuition of those within the community about what the overall trends really mean. In other words, data serves as the foundation for an analysis which concludes: 1) what is happening in the community, relative to other regions over time, and 2) what potential impacts or consequences are suggested from the data. From this point, the community can then begin to address possible strategies and solutions.

In the following sections, data is first presented and analyzed in overview fashion for regional and national trends. It is then reviewed at a more local scale in chapters which closely parallel the seven foundations of public policy programs for economic development in Kansas. (The Seven Foundations are: Human Capital, Infrastructure Capital, Business Environment, Financial Capital, Innovation and Technology Capital, Commitment and Capacity Capital, and Quality of Life.) Organizing the data along these themes has been done to help task force participants link issues and strategies to state and federal strategies, and to help the local community in taking advantage of existing programs wherever possible.

Throughout the report, local-level materials will be presented relating Barton County's economic performance through the past decade with the State of Kansas and the counties neighboring Barton County. To facilitate comparisons, two groups of counties have been designated for comparison with Barton County. The "Trade Area" counties are those smaller counties neighboring Barton County which tend to buy goods and services from Barton as well as serve as a source of workers for Barton businesses. Included in this group are: Russell, Ellsworth, Rice, Stafford, Pawnee and Rush Counties. The group designated as "Comparative" counties are counties of similar size or economic structure, namely: McPherson, Ellis, Ford and Seward. Aggregate totals for each group of comparison counties as well as non-metro values for the state are included wherever this data is available. (Non-metro values include the 96 Kansas counties outside Census-defined Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas of Kansas City, Wichita, Topeka and Lawrence.)

The counties for which data is examined in this report are shown in Map 0.1.

Map 0.1
Barton County Trade Area and Comparative Counties



Legend: 1 = Trade Area Counties; 2 = Comparative Counties
Source: Institute for Public Policy and Business Research.

Section I: Global, Regional & National Trends

While development occurs at the local level, it is becoming increasingly subject to global forces. In the short run, global scale trends may appear too distant; however these trends can have profound impacts upon a community. For example, the worldwide shift from goods-producing economies toward more service-based economies, especially apparent during the early 1980s, created enormous adjustments in local labor forces. Similarly, technological change and the growth in foreign trade have created threats to some communities' well-being, while these have presented others with opportunities for expansion. Worldwide change, while presenting a new set of constraints about what can be done at the local level, has also generated opportunities. In an increasingly competitive global economy, successful communities are positioning themselves to build upon their internal strengths and are anticipating opportunities by preparing in advance rather than reacting in the face of change.

The range of global, national and regional factors which can affect the international competitiveness of a community is very broad. In the following section, some of these are isolated to provide a more complete context for the local level data which is presented in subsequent sections of this report:

- *Population growth rates* and demographic change, evidenced in the *age of the population* and the distribution of *urban and rural population* demonstrate Kansas' recent and expected growth relative to the nation, with implications for the labor force;
- *Educational attainment levels* is an indicator of how well prepared the Kansas workforce is, while the *age structure of the workforce* foreshadows changes in the stability, flexibility and future training needs of the labor force;
- *Employment projections by industry and occupation* indicates where job growth is expected to occur, while changes in the *average weekly earnings by industry* illustrate the industries which have been growing in productivity nationwide over the decade;
- *Job creation, by firm size* shows which types of firms have contributed most to job growth; *Employment and per capita income contrasts between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas* further explain the changing fabric of the Kansas economy;
- The changing *levels of exports, imports and foreign investment* show how interdependent the U.S. and worldwide economies have become; and,
- The levels of *state and local taxes per capita* indicate the relative tax burden in Kansas, with implications for the level of competitiveness of Kansas firms and the overall standard of living for Kansas residents.

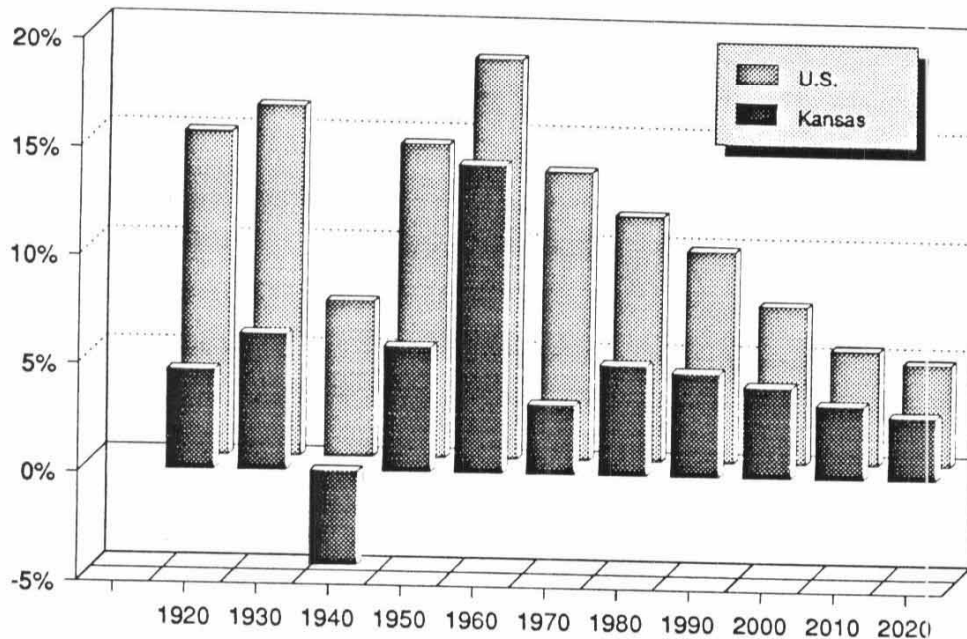
GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL TRENDS: KEY FINDINGS

- Since 1970, Kansas has grown at about one-half the national growth rate. Only moderate growth is projected for Kansas in the future.
- Since the turn of the century, rural population in Kansas has increased in only two of the nine decades.
- Although the median age of the population in Kansas equals the national average, Kansas has relatively more young (0-14) and more old (65+) residents than the nation as a whole.
- Educational attainment levels in Kansas are high in comparison with neighboring states.
- Employment projections call for the greatest growth in the occupations requiring high levels of education or highly specific skills (technicians, professions) with the top three health-related occupations combining for nearly 11 percent of all job creation to 2005.
- Ninety-one percent of all job creation in Kansas since 1980 has occurred in the metropolitan areas.
- Industries showing the greatest increases in average weekly wages since 1983 have been: Services; Mining; Finance, Insurance and Real Estate; and Wholesale Trade.
- Per capita incomes in Kansas are higher than those of most neighboring states; however, Kansas has lost ground in relative terms since the early 1980s.
- Firms with more than 50 employees (4.2% of Kansas firms) generated nearly 60 percent of net new jobs in Kansas from 1980 to 1989.
- During the 1980s, Kansas enjoyed particularly strong output performance from the Transportation and Public Utilities industry, while Finance, insurance and real estate sectors despite strong growth, did not match national output shares.
- By the year 2020, the services industry is expected to account for nearly 27 percent of Kansas jobs, followed by the Government sector with 16.7 percent. Manufacturing is expected to continue to decline in relative importance.
- Since 1961, exports as a share of US GDP have tripled, while imports have more than doubled, each accounting for more than 11 percent of GDP.
- Levels of state and local taxation per capita in Kansas are 10 percent lower than national averages, with high rates of local taxation (ranked 19th in the nation) and low rates of state taxation (ranked 33rd.)

GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL TRENDS: DATA ANALYSIS

Figure 1.1

Ten-Year Population Growth Rates Kansas and U.S., 1920-2020



Source: KCCED calculations on data from Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930*, Vol. 1; *Census of Population, 1960*, Number of Inhabitants, Final Report; *1980 Census of Population*, Vol. 1, Chapter A, Part 18; *1990 Decennial Census*, mimeographed sheet.

- Population growth rates in Kansas have consistently lagged those of the U.S. for every decade since the 1920s. Over the last 80 years, population in Kansas has grown at about one-third the U.S. rate; since 1970, population growth has been about one-half the U.S. rate.
- In 1920, Kansas represented a 1.67 percent share of the nation's population; in 1990, Kansas accounted for 1 percent of U.S. population.
- Only moderate population growth is projected for Kansas in the future. Over the next thirty years, Kansas is projected to grow at only two-thirds the growth rate for the U.S. as a whole.

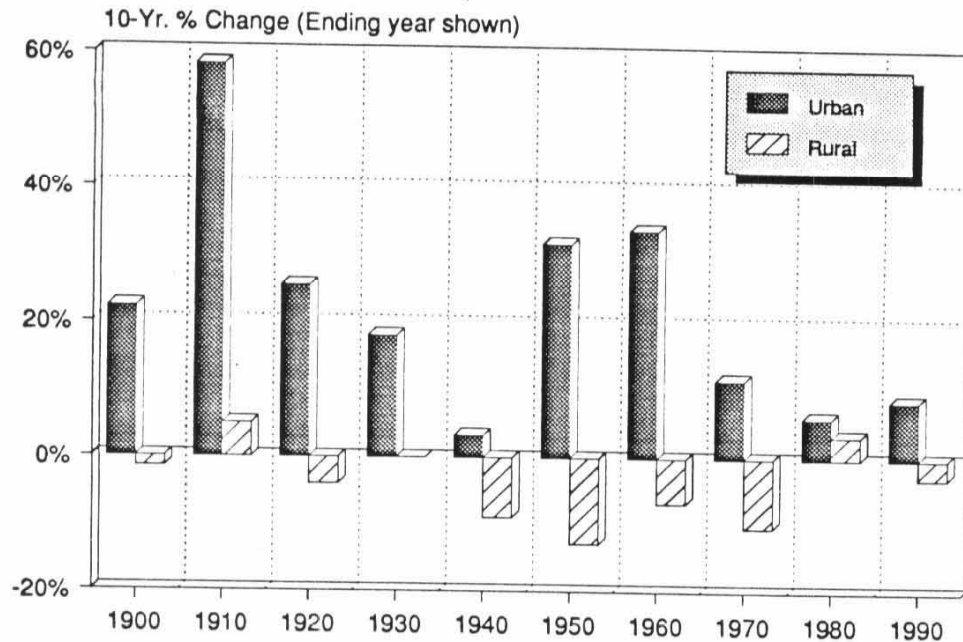
Table 1.1
10-Year Population Growth Rates
Kansas and U.S., 1920-2020

Decade Ending Growth Rates (%)	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Kansas	4.6%	6.3%	-4.3%	5.8%	14.3%	3.2%	5.1%	4.8%	4.2%	3.4%	2.9%
U.S.	14.9	16.1	7.2	14.5	18.5	13.4	11.4	9.8	7.3	5.3	4.7
Kansas % Share of U.S. Population	1.67	1.53	1.36	1.26	1.21	1.10	1.04	1.00	.97	.95	.94

Source: KCCED calculations on data from Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930*, Vol. 1; *Census of Population, 1960*, Number of Inhabitants, Final Report; *1980 Census of Population*, Vol. 1, Chapter A, Part 18; *1990 Decennial Census*, mimeographed sheet; Upmeier, Helga and Anthony Redwood, *Kansas Population Projections 1985-2020*, Institute for Public Policy and Business Research Report #158, January 1989.

Figure 1.2

Urban and Rural Population in Kansas Decade Ending Rates of Change, 1900-1990



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1960 Census of Population*, PC(1)-18A; *1980 Census of Population*, PC80-1-A-18; *Current Population Reports*, Series P-26, No. 86-WNC-SC; No. 88-WNC-SC.

- Population growth in Kansas has been dominated by urban places. Since the turn of the century, rural population has increased in only two of the nine decades, during the 1930s and the 1980s.
- In recent decades, the urban to rural shift in population has become less pronounced. To some extent, this is due to the new roles for non-metropolitan counties as labor sources for urbanized counties. However, not all rural counties are able to assume this new role. Across the Midwestern states during the period 1982 to 1986, non-metropolitan counties which were adjacent to urban centers grew annually by 0.9 percent, while counties which were not adjacent to urbanized counties declined in population by 0.3 percent per year¹.

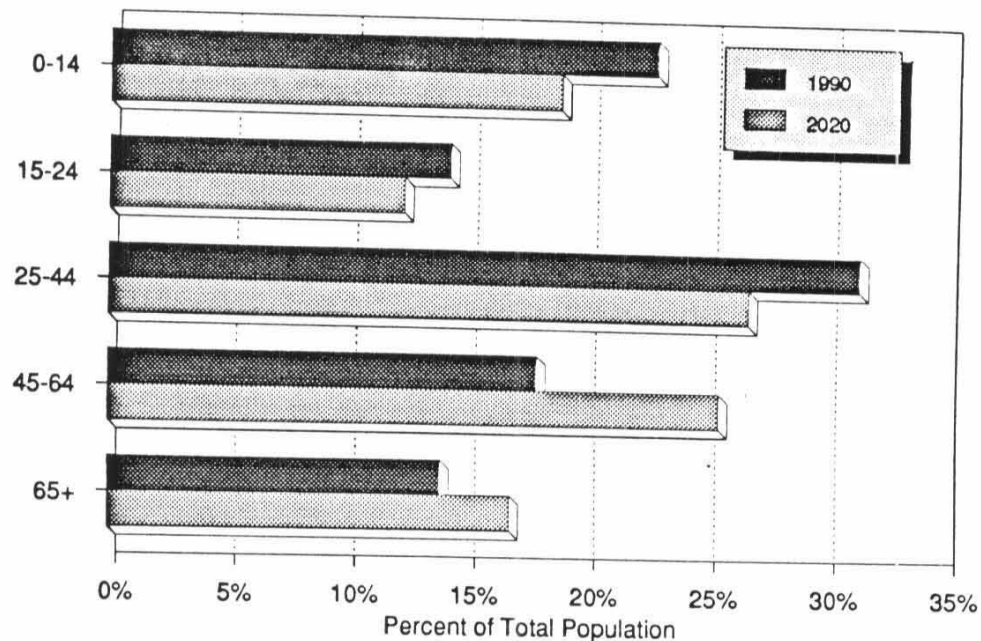
¹ National Governors' Association, *Economic Realities in Rural America: Recent Trends, Future Prospects*, (Washington: National Governors' Association, 1988.)

Table 1.2
 Urban and Rural Population in Kansas
 Decade Ending Rates of Change, 1900-1990

	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>	<u>1920</u>	<u>1930</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>
Urban	22.3%	58.3%	25.5%	18.1%	3.3%	31.7%	33.7%	11.7%	6.1%	8.7%
Rural	-1.5	5.0	-4.0	0.0	-9.0	-12.9	-6.8	-10.4	3.4	-2.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1960 Census of Population*, PC(1)-18A; *1980 Census of Population*, PC80-1-A-18; *Current Population Reports*, Series P-26, No. 86-WNC-SC; No. 88-WNC-SC; 1990 Census of Population, CPH-L-79, *Population and Housing Units by Urban and Rural for Kansas*.

Figure 1.3
 Kansas Population by Age Group
 1990 Actual, 2020 Projections



Source: Upmeier, Helga, and Anthony Redwood, *Kansas Population Projections 1985-2020*, Institute for Public Policy and Business Research Report #158, January 1989; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports: Population Estimates and Projections*, Series p-25 No. 952, 1984; 1990 data from U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary Tape File 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

- The median age of the Kansas population is the same as the U.S. median age, 32.9 years. However, Kansas has a greater share of population than the U.S. in the newborn to 24 year old cohorts and in the 65 and over age groups. This concentration of population at the extremes means that Kansas has a smaller share of its population in prime working years, and has a higher proportion of its population in age groups generally considered as 'dependent' upon other age groups for support.
- By the year 2020, the differences in age structure between Kansas and the U.S. are expected to narrow, with the Kansas median age becoming slightly younger than the U.S. figure. The population of both Kansas and the U.S. will become more evenly distributed across age groups, with relatively less emphasis on the Age 5 to 44 age groups than is presently the case due to the aging of 'baby boomers' and their children.

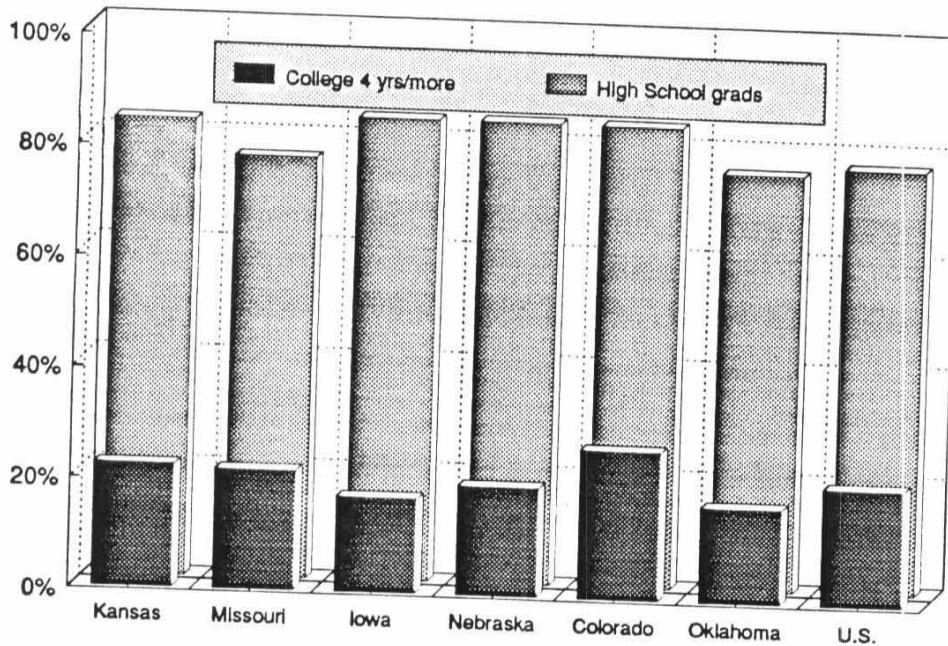
Table 1.3
Age of the Population
Kansas and U.S., 1990 and 2020

Age Group	Percentage of Actual or Projected Population			
	Kansas 1990	Kansas 2020	U.S. 1990	U.S. 2020
0-5	7.6%	6.1%	7.4%	6.1%
5-14	15.2	12.7	14.2	12.4
15-24	14.2	12.3	14.8	12.2
25-34	16.7	13.5	17.4	13.4
35-44	14.6	13.2	15.1	12.5
45-54	9.5	11.5	10.1	12.1
55-64	8.4	14.0	8.5	13.6
65-74	7.5	10.1	7.3	10.0
75+	6.4	6.7	5.3	7.3
Median Age-yrs.	32.9	38.9	32.9	39.3

Source: Upmeier, Helga, and Anthony Redwood, *Kansas Population Projections 1985-2020*, Institute for Public Policy and Business Research Report #158, January 1989; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports: Population Estimates and Projections*, Series p-25 No. 952, 1984; 1990 data from U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary Tape File 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

Figure 1.4

Levels of Education, Persons Over 25 Kansas, Neighboring States and U.S., 1989



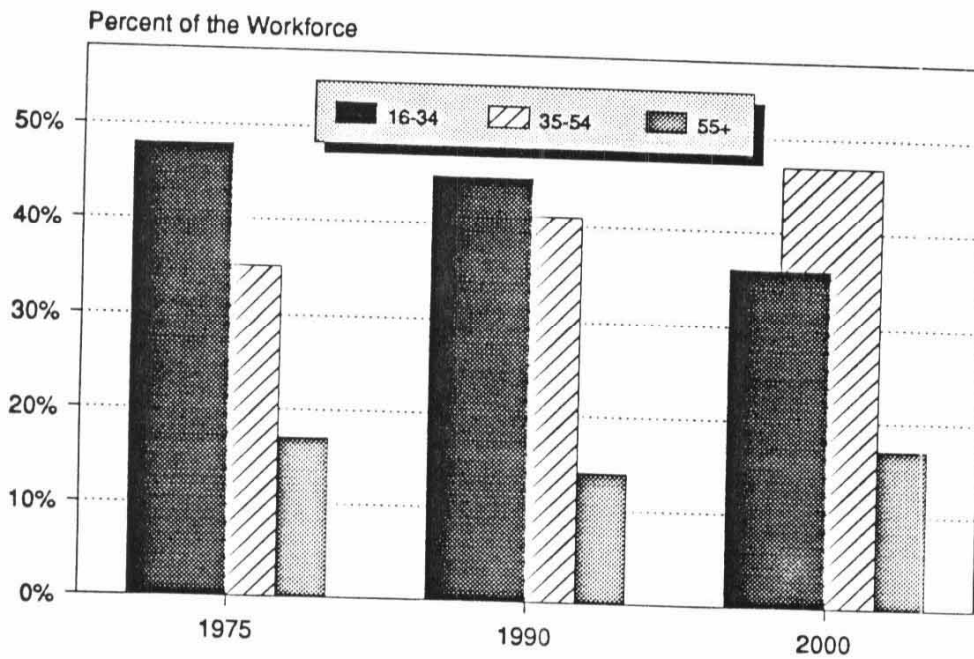
- The Kansas workforce is well educated relative to the national average, with 22.3 percent of adults age 25 or older having 4 or more years' college education. Of the neighboring states only Colorado has higher rates of educational attainment.
- While Iowa and Nebraska have slightly higher rates of high school completion, fewer of their high school graduates complete 4 years of college than do so in Kansas.

Table 1.4
Levels of Educational Attainment, Persons 25 or Older
Kansas, Neighboring States and U.S., 1989

	Percentage of Adults Age 25 or Older	
	Completed High School	4 or More Years College
Kansas	82.2%	22.3%
Missouri	75.9	21.6
Iowa	83.4	17.1
Nebraska	83.4	19.7
Colorado	83.3	27.0
Oklahoma	75.4	17.1
UNITED STATES	76.9	21.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Educational Attainment in the U.S.*, March 1988 and 1989, Table A, Table 13.

Figure 1.5
Age Structure of the Workforce
 U.S., 1975, 1990 and 2000



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor, *Monthly Labor Review*, November 1991, pg. 36.

- The proportion of the U.S. workforce age 35-54, 35 percent of all workers in 1975, is expected to rise to 47 percent by the year 2005. This older, more experienced and more stable portion of the workforce will also be less flexible, less adaptable to change and less likely to relocate in response to career opportunities than those age 16 through 34.
- The youngest portion of the labor force, those age 16 to 34, will decline from 48 percent in 1975 to 36 percent of all workers in 2005. This reduced supply of new entrants to the workforce will mean there will be greater pressures on retraining older workers as new technologies are introduced.

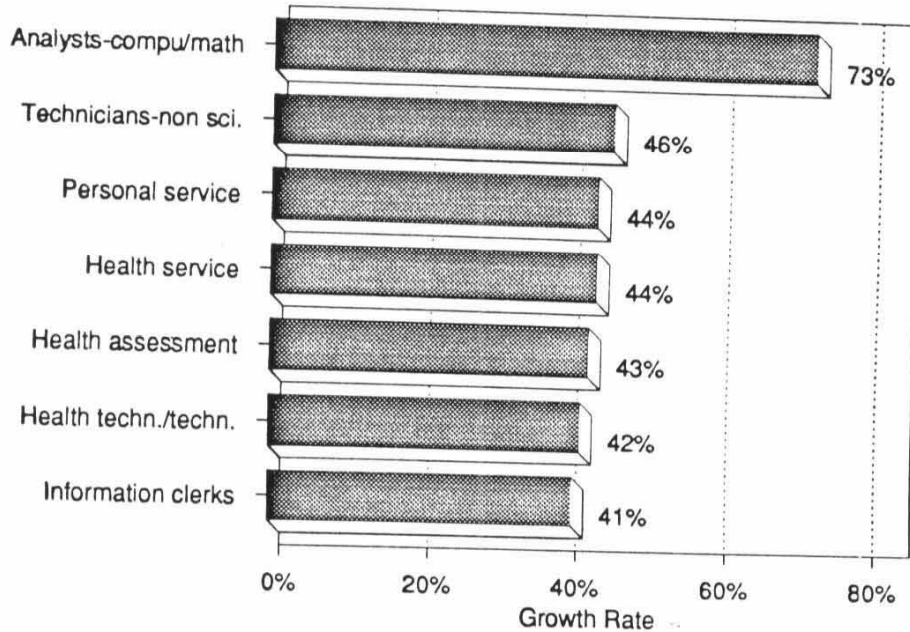
Table 1.5
 Age Structure of the Workforce, 1975, 1990 & 2005

Percentage Distribution	1975	1990	2005
Age 16-34	48%	45%	36%
Age 35-54	35	41	47
Age 55+	17	14	17

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor, *Monthly Labor Review*, November 1991, pg. 36.

Figure 1.6

Fastest Growing Occupational Sub-Groups U.S., 1990-2005, Job Creation 400,000+



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Monthly Labor Review*, Vol. 114, No. 1 (November 1991), pp.68-80.

- Employment projections to the year 2005 call for the greatest growth areas in occupations requiring high levels of education or highly specific skills. The two fastest growing occupational groups are technicians (37%) and professional specialties (32%)
- The high-growth occupations are dominated by sub-groups focusing upon personal and medical and information services. Health service, assessment and treating, and health technicians and technologists occupations combined account for nearly 11 percent of all job creation to the year 2005.

Table 1.6
Fastest Growing Occupational Subgroups, 1990-2005
Ranked by Net Job Creation

<u>Group</u>	<u>New Jobs (000s)</u>	<u>Growth Rate</u>
Managers & administrators	2,336	26%
Food preparation & service	2,325	30
Teachers, librarians, & counselors	1,593	28
Miscellaneous clerical & administrative support	1,349	19
Miscellaneous sales & related	1,222	23
Management support	1,079	30
Transportation/material moving machine/vehicle operators	1,013	21
Health assessment & treating	999	43
Personal service	972	44
Retail salespersons	887	24
Total, all groups	24,618	20

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Monthly Labor Review*, Vol. 114, No. 1 (November 1991), pp.58-80.

Table 1.7
Fastest Growing Major Occupational Groups, 1990-2005
Ranked by Growth Rate

<u>Group</u>	<u>New Jobs (000s)</u>	<u>Growth Rate</u>
Technicians & Related Support	1,550	37%
Professional Specialties	5,107	32
Service	5,602	29
Executive, Administrative & Managerial	3,414	27
Marketing & Sales	3,401	24
Total, all groups	24,618	20

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Monthly Labor Review*, Vol. 114, No. 1 (November 1991), pp.58-80.

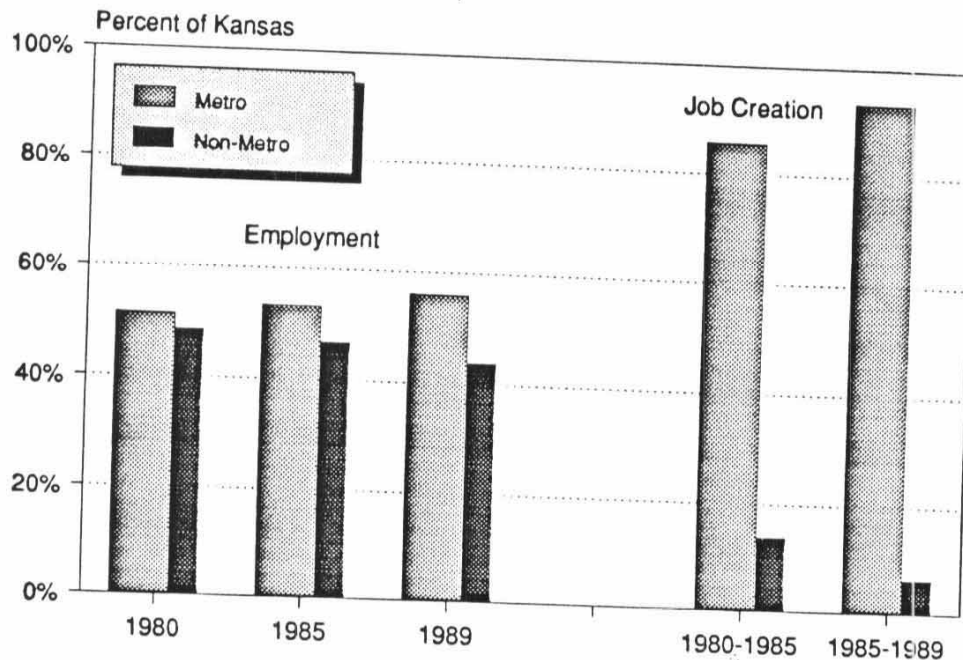
Table 1.8
Fastest Growing Occupational Subgroups, 1990-2005
Ranked by Growth Rate

<u>Group</u>	<u>New Jobs (000s)</u>	<u>Growth Rate</u>
Computer, mathematical, & operations research analysts	416	73 %
Travel agents	82	62
Technicians (except health, engineering & science)	475	46
Personal service	972	44
Health service	860	44
Health assessment & treating	999	43
Social scientists	96	43
Health technicians & technologists	763	42
Information clerks	584	41
Gardeners & groundskeepers (non-farm)	348	40
Securities & financial services sales	76	40
Total, all groups	24,618	20 %

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Monthly Labor Review*, Vol. 114, No. 1 (November 1991), pp.68-80.

Figure 1.7

Employment and Job Creation Shares - Kansas Metro and Non-Metro Areas, 1980-89



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System*, Table CA25. Metropolitan Statistical Areas include: Kansas City, Kansas MSA (Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami and Wyandotte Counties); Lawrence MSA (Douglas County); Topeka MSA (Shawnee County); and, Wichita MSA (Butler, Harvey and Sedgwick Counties).

- Employment in Kansas has become increasingly concentrated in urban areas. In 1980, metropolitan areas accounted for 51 percent of all employment; by 1989, this figure was 56 percent. Over the period 1980 to 1989, nearly 91 percent of all net new jobs were located in the metropolitan areas: 153,400 jobs were added in the nine metropolitan counties, while the remaining 96 counties shared only 15,800 net new jobs.
- The 1980-1989 job creation rate was 23.2 percent in metropolitan counties and only 2.5 percent in non-metropolitan counties.

Table 1.9
 Employment in Kansas
 Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Areas, 1980, 1985, 1989

	Number Employed			Net Job Creation	
	1980	1985	1989 (in thousands)	1980-85	1985-89
Metropolitan Areas	662.5	720.8	815.9	58.3	95.1
Non-Metropolitan Areas	624.3	633.7	640.1	9.4	6.4
State Totals	1,286.7	1,354.5	1,456.0	67.8	101.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System*, Table CA25. Metropolitan Statistical Areas include: Kansas City, Kansas MSA (Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami and Wyandotte Counties); Lawrence MSA (Douglas County); Topeka MSA (Shawnee County); and, Wichita MSA (Butler, Harvey and Sedgwick Counties).

- The highest paying industries in the U.S. in 1991 were Mining, with average weekly wages of \$631, Construction (\$534) and Transportation and Public Utilities (\$512).
- The greatest rates of increases in wages over the period 1987-1991 occurred in the Services industry (+20.6%), followed by Mining (+18.7%), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (+17.9%) and Wholesale Trade (+17.9%).
- The Retail and Construction industries lost ground relative to other industry groups with respect to wage increases throughout the decade. Services and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate performed better than the all-industry average in both the early and late parts of the decade.

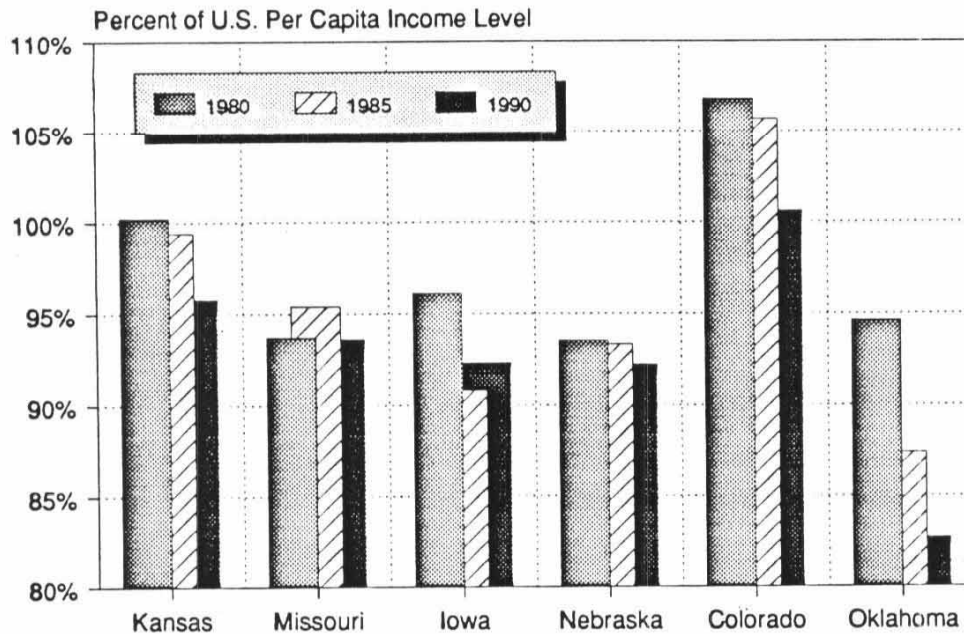
Table 1.10
Average Weekly Earnings by Industry
U.S., 1983, 1987 and 1991

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Percentage Change	
	1983	1987	1991	1983-87	1987-91
Mining	\$479.40	\$531.70	\$630.92	10.9%	18.7%
Construction	442.97	480.44	533.78	8.5	11.1
Manufacturing	354.08	406.31	455.03	14.8	12.0
Transportation/Utilities	420.81	471.58	512.00	12.0	8.6
Wholesale	328.25	365.30	425.20	11.3	16.4
Retail	171.13	178.80	200.20	4.5	12.0
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	263.68	316.37	373.04	20.0	17.9
Services	239.04	276.03	332.80	15.5	20.6
Total Private Sector	280.70	312.50	354.66	11.1	13.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor, *Monthly Labor Review*, February 1992 pg. 81.

Figure 1.8

Per Capita Personal Income Levels Kansas & Neighboring States, 1980/85/90



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System*, Table SA2.

- Kansas per capita incomes, at \$17,896 in 1990, were higher than those of all of the surrounding states except Colorado. However, Kansas per capita incomes in 1990 were 4 percent lower than the U.S. average of \$18,685.
- Kansas lost ground relative to the state and most of the surrounding states with respect to per capita personal incomes from 1980 to 1990. Only Oklahoma and Colorado declined more than Kansas did during the decade in relation to the state percent of U.S. per capita incomes.

Table 1.11
Per Capita Personal Income Levels
Kansas, Neighboring States, and U.S., 1980, 1985 and 1990

	Per Capita Income Levels			Percent of U.S. Level		
	1980	1985	1990	1980	1985	1990
Kansas	\$9,941	\$13,812	\$17,896	100.2%	99.4%	95.8%
Missouri	9,298	13,250	17,497	93.7	95.4	93.6
Iowa	9,537	12,619	17,249	96.1	90.8	92.3
Nebraska	9,274	12,967	17,221	93.5	93.3	92.2
Colorado	10,598	14,699	18,794	106.8	105.7	100.6
Oklahoma	9,393	12,139	15,444	94.6	87.4	82.7
Plains Region*	9,534	13,273	17,663	96.1	95.5	94.5
U.S.	9,919	13,896	18,685			

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System, Table SA2*.

*Note: Plains Region includes the states of: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

- Per capita incomes in Kansas non-metropolitan areas (\$14,862) were 18 percent lower than those of metropolitan areas (\$17,937) in 1990. This represented only a marginal improvement for non-metropolitan areas since 1980.

Table 1.12
Per Capita Personal Income Levels
Kansas Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, 1980-1989

	1980	1985	1989
Metropolitan	\$11,011	\$14,952	\$17,937
Non-Metropolitan	8,867	12,591	14,862
State of Kansas	9,941	13,804	16,526

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5*.

- The composition of income varies considerably between non-metropolitan counties and the state as a whole. Only 47 percent of personal income in non-metropolitan counties is attributable to employment, compared with a state-wide share of 59 percent.
- Property income, in the form of dividends, interest and rent is more important in non-metropolitan areas (21.0 vs. 18.2% in Kansas), as is Transfer payments (16.7% vs. 13.9%).

Table 1.13
Percentage of Personal Income, by Source, 1985-1989 Average
Non-metropolitan Counties and Kansas Totals

	Wages & Labor	Proprietorships		Property	Transfers
		Farm	Non-Farm		
Non-metropolitan	47.3%	7.1%	9.1%	21.0%	16.7%
Kansas Totals	58.6	3.3	8.0	18.2	13.9

Source: Calculations by KU-IPPBR on data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5*. Shares do not total 100% since adjustments for residence and social security premium payments are not included.

- Kansas is a small business state. Of businesses with employees (i.e., excluding self-employed proprietors), over 88 percent of Kansas firms have 19 or fewer employees; fully 96 percent of Kansas firms employ fewer than 49 people.
- Net job creation in Kansas however, has been dominated by larger firms. Firms employing 50 or more (4.2% of Kansas firms) have accounted for nearly 60 percent of net new wage-earning jobs since 1980. This is a greater concentration of job creation than the U.S. average; these size firms accounted for 5 percent of U.S. firms and 54 percent of net new jobs in the U.S. over the same period.

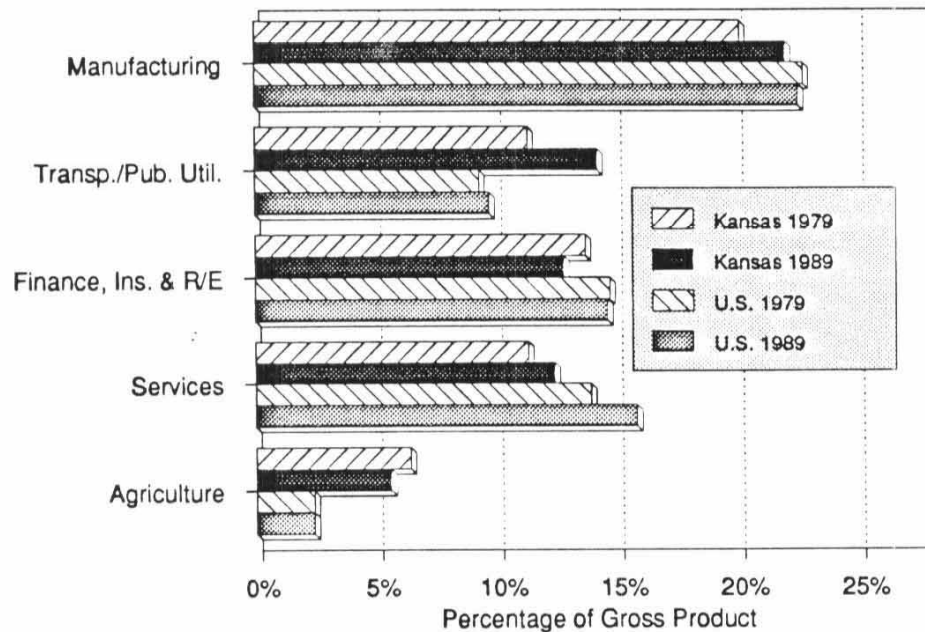
Table 1.14
Net Job Creation by Size of Firm
Firms with Employees, Kansas and U.S. 1980-1989

Firm Size (# of Employees)	Percent of Firms, 1989		Percent of Net Job Creation 1980-89	
	Kansas	U.S.	Kansas	U.S.
1-9	76.1%	74.5%	12.7%	14.3%
10-19	12.2	12.4	12.6	12.4
20-49	7.7	8.1	14.8	18.4
50-99	2.5	2.8	19.2	15.3
100-249	1.3	1.6	24.7	20.3
250+	0.4	0.6	15.9	18.8

Source: Calculations by KU-IPPBR using data from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Business Patterns*

Figure 1.9

Gross Product Shares, Selected Industries Kansas and U.S., 1979 and 1989



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, *Economic Review*, Second Quarter, 1992.

- Kansas' industrial performance relative to the U.S. during the 1980s has been mixed. Transportation and Public Utilities, a Kansas strength, grew rapidly during the 1980s, accounting for 14.2 percent of Kansas output in 1989, compared with the U.S. average of only 9.7 percent. Manufacturing, not one of Kansas' strong suits in 1979, grew to 22 percent of output by 1989, nearly equalling the U.S. average share (22.5%).
- Finance, insurance and real estate, relatively underdeveloped in Kansas in 1979 at 13.7 percent of output, declined further to 12.8 percent during the 1980s, while the industry maintained its share of output nationwide.
- Services grew in importance in Kansas to 12.4 percent of output, but continued to lag the U.S. average of 15.8 percent of output from this industry.
- Agriculture in Kansas accounted for 5.6 percent of output, more than double the nationwide share of output from this industry; agricultural output in 1989 in Kansas was down from 6.4 percent in 1979.

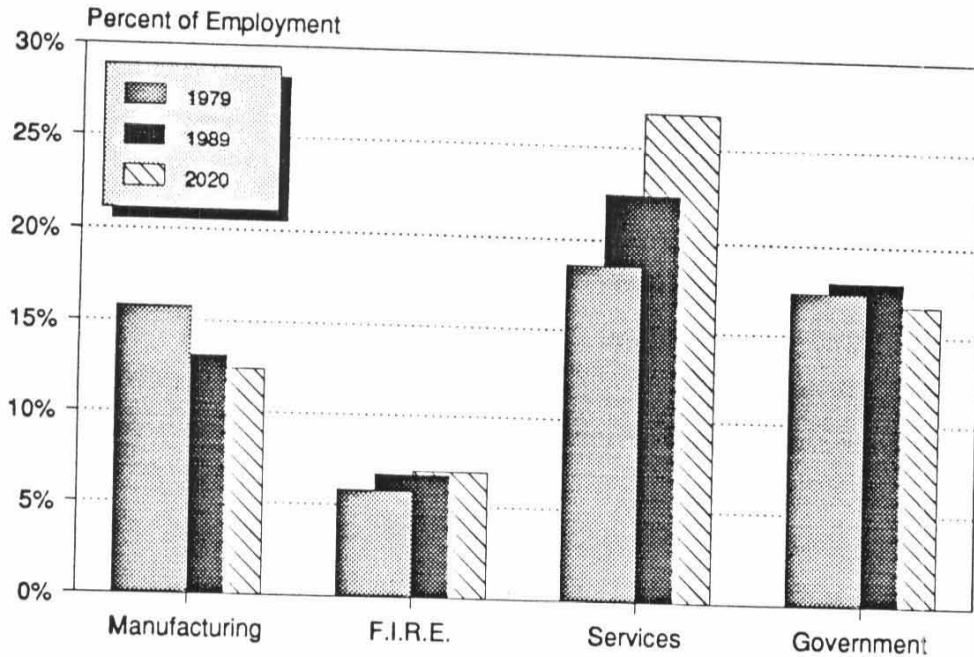
Table 1.15
Output Shares by Major Industry Category
Kansas, and U.S., 1979 and 1989

<u>Industry Category</u>	<u>Percentage Share of Total Gross Product</u>			
	<u>Kansas</u>		<u>U.S.</u>	
	<u>1979</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1989</u>
Agriculture	6.4%	5.6%	2.4%	2.4%
Mining	6.0	2.8	4.5	3.1
Construction	5.2	3.2	5.3	4.3
Manufacturing	20.1	22.0	22.7	22.5
Transportation	11.3	14.2	9.3	9.7
Wholesale Trade	6.3	6.9	6.3	7.4
Retail Trade	8.9	9.6	9.3	10.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	13.7	12.8	14.7	14.6
Services	11.3	12.4	13.9	15.8
Government	10.8	10.5	11.7	10.1

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, *Economic Review*, Second Quarter, 1992.

Figure 1.10

Employment Shares, Selected Industries Kansas, 1979, 1989 and 2020



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA25, *Full and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry and BEA Regional Projections*, June 1990.

- The services industry is expected to continue to grow in importance in Kansas. By the year 2020, Services will account for nearly 27 percent of all jobs, compared with 22 percent in 1989 and 18.6 percent in 1979.
- Government employment, which increased in importance during the 1980s to 18 percent of Kansas employment, is expected to occupy a 16.7 percent share of all jobs in the year 2020.
- Manufacturing is projected to continue to decline in relative importance, from 1989's 13.1 percent share of employment to 12.4 percent in 2020.

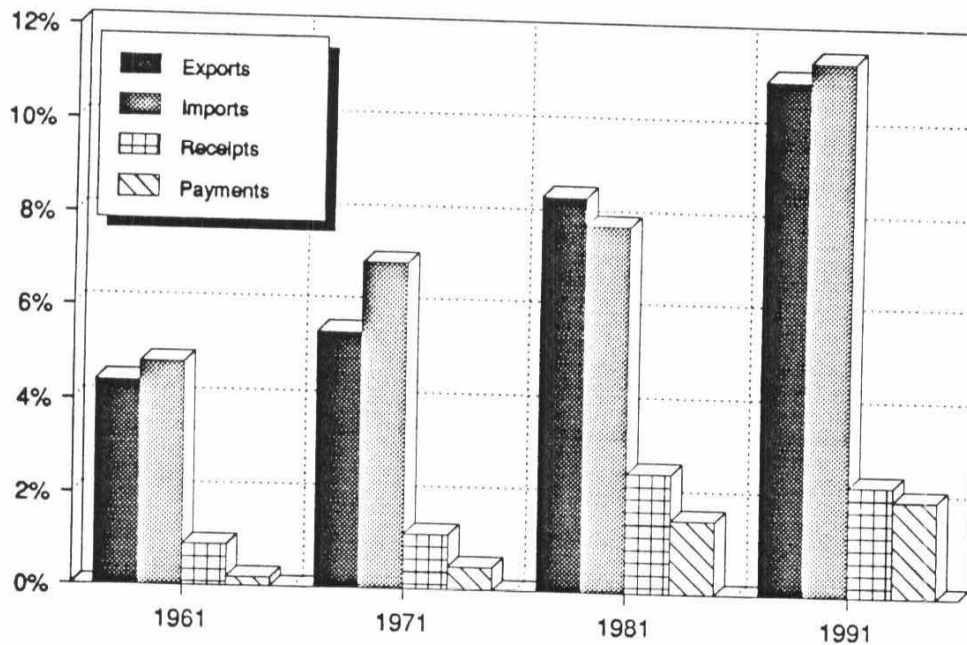
Table 1.16
 Employment Shares by Major Industry Category
 State of Kansas, 1979, 1989 and 2020

	Percentage Share of Total Employment		
	1979	1989	2020
<u>Farm</u>	7.9%	5.9%	4.6%
<u>Non-Farm Private Sector</u>	74.7	76.1	78.7
Construction	1.8	2.0	1.7
Manufacturing	15.8	13.1	12.4
Transportation/Public Utilities	5.7	5.2	4.9
Wholesale	5.3	5.0	4.9
Retail	15.7	15.8	15.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	5.8	6.7	6.9
Services	18.6	22.4	26.9
<u>Government</u>	17.4	18.0	16.7

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA25, *Full and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry* and *BEA Regional Projections*, June 1990.

Figure 1.11

Exports, Imports and Foreign Investment Percentage Share of GDP, 1961-1991



Source: *Economic Report of the President*, February 1992, Tables B-1, B-2, B-100.

* Foreign investment data (only) shown as 1991 is 1990 data.

- The U.S. economy has become much more interdependent with the economies of other nations over the past thirty years. Since 1961, exports have increased from slightly over 4 percent of Gross Domestic Product to over 11 percent in 1991. Meanwhile, imports have increased from 4.8 percent to 11.5 percent of GDP.
- Direct investment abroad and domestic investment by foreign firms have also increased dramatically, further tying the U.S. economy with international economies. In 1990, payments on foreign investments in the U.S. accounted for ten times the share of GDP that they did in 1961, while receipts on U.S. assets invested abroad nearly tripled from 1961 levels.

Table 1.17
U.S. Exports and Imports and Foreign Investment Income
Percentage Share of U.S. Gross Domestic Product, 1961-1991

	1961	1971	1981	1991*
Exports of Goods & Services	4.4%	5.5%	8.5%	11.1%
(Imports) of Goods & Services	(4.8)	(7.0)	(7.9)	(11.5)
Receipts on U.S. Assets Abroad	.9	1.2	2.6	2.4
(Payments) on Foreign Assets in U.S.	(.2)	(0.5)	(1.6)	(2.1)

Source: *Economic Report of the President*, February 1992, Tables B-1, B-2, B-100.

* Foreign investment data (only) shown in 1991 column is 1990 data.

- Levels of taxation in Kansas are generally consistent with those of the neighboring states. At \$2,461, state and local taxes per capita are about 8 percent lower than the national average.
- Kansas relies more heavily upon local taxation than most of the neighboring states. At \$1,468, local taxes per capita are more than twice the national average, ranking Kansas 19th in the nation.
- Levels of state taxes in Kansas are 14 percent lower than the national average, ranking Kansas 33rd in terms of per capita state level taxes. When taxation levels from state and local levels of governments are combined, Kansas ranked 29th in the nation.

Table 1.18
State and Local Taxes Per Capita
Kansas, Neighboring States and U.S., 1988-1989

	Level of Taxation and Nationwide Rank					
	State	Rank	Local	Rank	Total	Rank
Kansas	\$993	33	\$1,468	19	\$2,461	29
Missouri	908	38	1,096	42	2,004	45
Iowa	1,112	22	1,431	27	2,543	25
Nebraska	900	42	1,647	10	2,547	24
Colorado	875	45	1,781	5	2,656	19
Oklahoma	1,027	29	1,149	40	2,176	40
U.S.	1,147		648		2,659	

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *State Government Finances in 1989*; *Governmental Finances in 1988-89*; Calculations by the Institute for Public Policy and Business Research.

Section II: Population

Population size and economic activity are closely related. Changes in population size are directly linked to employment opportunities, wage differentials between regions, and a community's overall economic conditions and quality of life. Generally, areas of population growth are also areas of economic growth, whereas areas of population loss suffered previous economic decline and restructuring.

Communities with growing populations are generally regarded to be more able to adapt to a changing economic environment due to the opportunities presented by new residents as additional consumers, taxpayers and suppliers of labor. Without population growth, communities face problems of a tightening labor market, lack of new customers for businesses, a shrinking tax base, and an overall decline in economic activity.

The following section examines population levels, population change, migration, age composition and other population characteristics for Barton County, the State of Kansas, and selected neighboring counties as comparatives. Population characteristics are regarded as indicators of a region's economic conditions and economic potential for the following reasons:

- *The level of Barton County's population* relative to the state population reflect the county's overall level of competitiveness with respect to other regions within the state. A minimum population is necessary to sustain a basic level of public and private services and facilities.
- *Past and projected population change* is indicative of community economic trends and can be compared to other counties and the statewide and national averages.
- *Migration* is linked to job opportunities and demand as well as wage differentials between regions. Counties with low rates of job creation and low wages will face higher worker mobility due to a "push" factor (lack of opportunity) or a "pull" phenomenon by urban areas with higher wages, better job opportunities, and a perceived better quality of life. Other determinants of regional migration are age and education. Generally, there is a life cycle pattern to migration with the population aged 18 to 45 being the most mobile age group. The effect of education on migration is reflected by the movement of well-educated workers toward better job matches for themselves and their spouses and their attempts to raise their income levels by migrating to areas with employment opportunities.

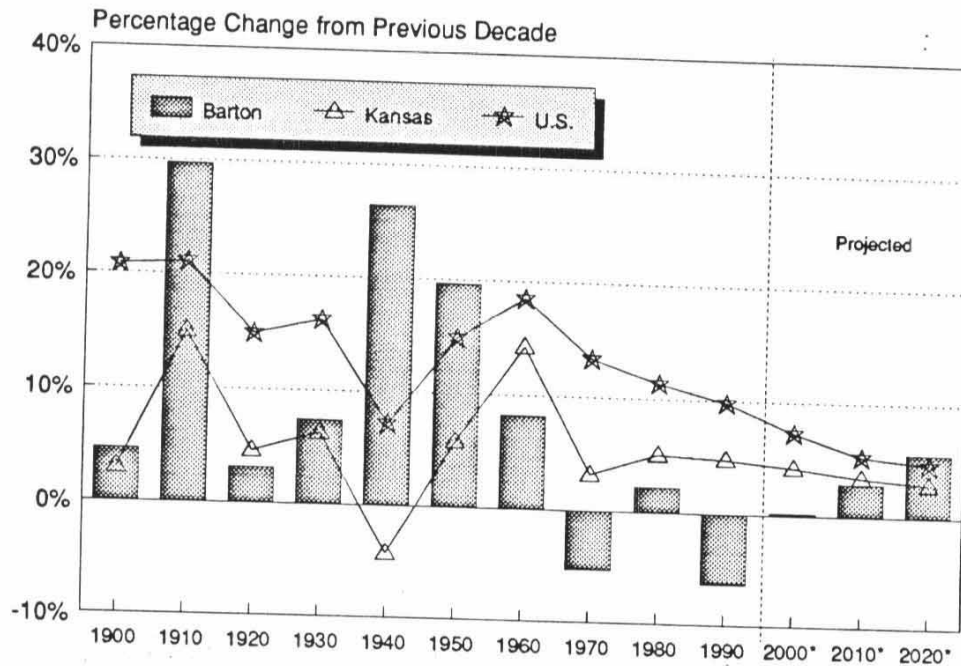
- *The age composition of the population* is relevant with respect to the labor supply. A youthful population supplies the labor market with new workers whereas an older population will eventually create constraints on labor markets and increasing demands for social security, health care programs, and public services and assistance. The aging of the population is a statewide and national phenomenon due to better health care and a decline in birth rates. However, aging of the population is more severe in rural America due to out-migration of the younger generation.
- *The distribution of urban and rural population* is studied to understand how concentrated or dispersed the population is. A more concentrated population tends to have a higher demand for all categories of services, which affects the sectoral pattern of economic development.
- *The ethnic composition of the population* shows the diversity of backgrounds of the population and the need to consider a wide range of viewpoints in developing appropriate plans for the community;

POPULATION: KEY FINDINGS

- Barton County's population grew rapidly in the first half of this century and peaked in 1960 at 32,663. Since 1960, population has decreased nearly 10% to 29,382 in 1990.
- Population is not expected to return to 1960 peak levels within the next thirty years. Between 1990 and 2000, population is forecast to increase only marginally.
- The proportion of the rural population in both Kansas and Barton County decreased significantly between 1930 and 1990. In 1930, 57 percent of the population in Barton County lived in rural areas. By 1990, that figure had declined to 37 percent.
- Barton's Trade Area counties have experienced severe declines in their respective population levels since 1950.
- Great Bend has lost 7.5 percent of its population since 1960, while Hoisington has lost over 20 percent of its population since 1960.
- Like many of its Trade Area counties, Barton County has experienced high levels of out-migration since 1960. Barton County's rate of net migration between 1980 and 1990 was -14 percent, for a net loss of 4,365 people.
- The median age of the population in Barton is 34.8 years, 6 percent higher than the median age of Kansas and the U.S., 32.9 years.
- Barton County's proportion of working age population (Age 18-65 years) is slightly under-represented relative to the state average. In 1990, 56 percent of the population was in the prime working age groups compared to 60 percent for the state of Kansas.
- Barton County has a relatively small proportion of racial and ethnic minorities compared to the state and the U.S. The racial mix of the population remained almost unchanged between 1980 and 1990.

POPULATION: DATA ANALYSIS

Figure 2.1

Population Change, 1900-2020
Barton County, Kansas & U.S.

Source: Population Totals: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*, Vol. 1; *Census of Population, 1960: Number of Inhabitants*; *1980 Census of Population*, PC80-1-A-18; *1990 Census of Population*, STF1-A. Population Projections adjusted for this graph from: Upmeier, *Kansas Population Projections 1985-2020*, University of Kansas, Institute for Public Policy and Business Research Report No. 158, January 1989.

- Barton County's population grew rapidly in the first half of this century and peaked in 1960 at 32,663. Since 1960, population has decreased nearly 10% to 29,382 in 1990.
- The 1980s was one of only two decades over the past 100 years during which Barton County has lost population. However, since 1950, the ten-year rates of population change have averaged a 0.4 percent decline.
- Population is not expected to return to 1960 peak levels within the next thirty years. Between 1990 and 2000, population is forecast to increase only marginally.
- Kansas' population has grown slowly but steadily since 1890. However, Kansas' rates of population growth have usually been only half of the U.S. average.

Table 2.1
Population Totals, Ten-Year Growth Rates and Ranking
Barton County, Kansas and U.S.
Actual 1890-1990, Projection to 2020

Year	Population Totals			Ten-Year Growth Rates			
	Barton County	Kansas	U.S. (millions)	Barton County	Kansas	U.S.	County Rank
1890	13,172	1,428,108	62.9				
1900	13,784	1,470,495	76.0				75
1910	17,876	1,690,949	92.0	4.6%	3.0%	20.8%	82
1920	18,422	1,769,257	105.7	29.7	15.0	21.1	86
1930	19,776	1,880,999	122.8	3.1	4.6	14.9	83
1940	25,010	1,801,028	131.7	7.4	6.3	16.2	78
1950	29,909	1,905,299	151.3	26.5	-4.3	7.2	79
1960	32,368	2,178,611	179.3	19.6	5.8	14.9	70
1970	30,663	2,249,071	203.3	8.2	14.3	18.5	70
1980	31,343	2,364,236	226.5	-5.3	3.2	13.4	57
1990	29,382	2,477,574	248.7	2.2	5.1	11.4	58
2000*	29,422	2,600,636	268.0	-6.3	4.8	9.8	59
2010*	30,273	2,669,408	281.0	0.2	4.2	7.3	NA
2020*	31,954	2,746,820	294.2	2.9	3.4	5.3	NA
				5.6	2.9	4.7	NA

*Projection.

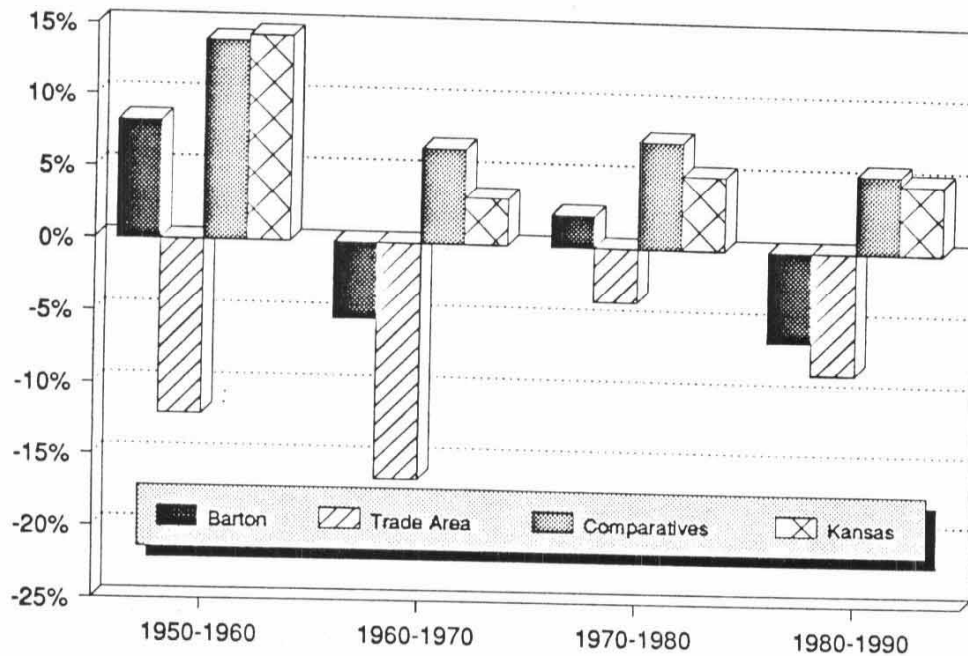
Source: Population Totals: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*, Vol. 1; *Census of Population, 1960: Number of Inhabitants*; *1980 Census of Population*, PC80-1-A-18; *1990 Census of Population*, STF1-A. Population Projections: Upmeier, *Kansas Population Projections 1985-2020*, University of Kansas, Institute for Public Policy and Business Research Report No. 158, January 1989.

Note: These projections are based upon those published in 1989 prior to the 1990 Census and should be interpreted with extreme care since they reflect assumptions made regarding migration trends during the early to mid-1980s. Projections have been adjusted for this table by applying projected 10-year growth rates to the actual population in 1990.

Figure 2.2

Rate of Population Change, 1950-1990

Barton, Comparative Counties & Kansas



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 1960: Number of Inhabitants*, Final Report; *1980 Census of Population*, PC80-1-A-18; *1990 Census of Population*, STF1-A.

- The population trends observed for Barton County are similar to its Trade Area counties. Barton County's population decline has been less pronounced during the past three decades than that of its Trade Area counties, however.
- For the period between 1980 and 1990, Barton County's rate of population decline has accelerated (-6.3%), but compared favorably to its Trade Area counties (-11.6%).

Table 2.2
Population Totals
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, Kansas and U.S., 1950-1990

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>
Barton	29,909	32,368	30,663	31,343	29,382
Rush	7,231	6,160	5,117	4,516	3,842
Pawnee	11,041	10,254	8,484	8,065	7,555
Stafford	8,816	7,451	5,943	5,694	5,365
Rice	15,635	13,909	12,320	11,900	10,610
Ellsworth	8,465	7,677	6,146	6,640	6,586
Russell	13,406	11,348	9,428	8,868	7,835
Trade Area	64,594	56,799	47,438	45,683	41,793
McPherson	23,670	24,285	24,778	26,855	27,268
Ellis	19,043	21,270	24,730	26,098	26,004
Ford	19,670	20,938	22,587	24,315	27,463
Seward	9,972	15,930	15,744	17,071	18,743
Comparatives	72,355	82,423	87,839	94,339	99,478
	(Population in Millions)				
Kansas Non-Metro	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1
Kansas	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5
U.S.	151.3	179.3	203.3	226.5	248.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 1960: Number of Inhabitants*, Final Report; 1980 *Census of Population*, PC80-1-A-18; 1990 *Census of Population*, STF1-A.

Table 2.3
Population Ten-Year Growth Rates
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, Kansas and U.S., 1950-1990

	<u>Area Population Change, 1950-1990</u>			
	<u>1950-1960</u>	<u>1960-1970</u>	<u>1970-1980</u>	<u>1980-1990</u>
Barton	8.2%	-5.3%	2.2%	-6.3%
Rush	-14.8	-16.9	-11.7	-14.9
Pawnee	-7.1	-17.3	-4.9	-6.3
Stafford	-15.5	-20.2	-4.2	-5.8
Rice	-11.0	-11.4	-3.4	-10.8
Ellsworth	-9.3	-19.9	8.0	-0.8
Russell	-15.4	-16.9	-5.9	-11.6
Trade Area	-12.1	-16.5	-3.7	-8.5
McPherson	2.6	2.0	8.4	1.5
Ellis	11.7	16.3	5.5	-0.4
Ford	6.4	7.9	7.7	12.9
Seward	59.7	-1.2	8.4	9.8
Comparatives	13.9	6.6	7.4	5.4
Kansas Non-Metro	-1.0	-4.1	3.6	-3.0
Kansas	14.3	3.2	5.1	4.8
U.S.	18.5	13.4	11.4	9.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 1960: Number of Inhabitants*, Final Report; *1980 Census of Population*, PC80-1-A-18; *1990 Census of Population*, STF1-A.

- While population increased over 17 percent between 1940 and 1990, Barton County's population rank within the state decreased slightly, from 17th to 18th.

Table 2.4
County Population Ranking in the State
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, 1940 and 1990

<u>1940</u>			<u>1990</u>		
<u>Rank</u>		<u>Population</u>	<u>Rank</u>		<u>Population</u>
17	Barton	25,010	18	Barton	29,382
18	McPherson	24,152	19	Ford	27,463
31	Ellis	17,508	20	McPherson	27,268
33	Ford	17,254	21	Ellis	26,004
35	Rice	17,213	28	Seward	18,743
42	Russell	13,464	41	Rice	10,610
57	Stafford	10,487	52	Russell	7,835
60	Pawnee	10,300	54	Pawnee	7,555
62	Ellsworth	9,855	62	Ellsworth	6,586
71	Rush	8,285	70	Stafford	5,365
77	Seward	6,540	83	Rush	3,842

Source: University of Kansas, IPPBR, *Kansas Statistical Abstract, 1989-90*, "Population of Kansas Counties, 1890-1980; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*, Vol. 1; *Census of Population, 1960: Number of Inhabitants*; *1980 Census of Population*, Vol. 1, Chapter A, Part 18; *1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Population and Characteristics: Kansas*, CPH-1-18; Helga Upmeier and Anthony Redwood, "Kansas Population Trends and Projections," *Kansas Business Review*, Summer 1989.

- Great Bend's population has decreased 7.5 percent since 1960, while Hoisington has experienced a population decrease every decade since 1960.
- Galatia, Claflin and Susank have lost higher proportions of population than most of the cities in Barton County over the last 40 years, while Albert and Olmitz have maintained stable population levels.

Table 2.5
Population Levels, Selected Cities
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, 1950-1990

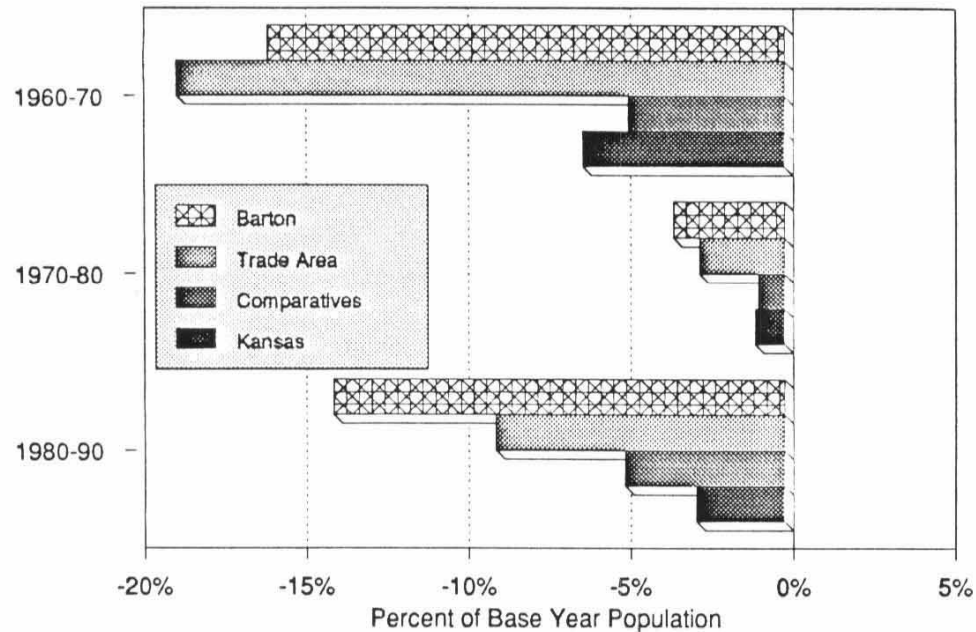
City	County	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	Change 1950-1990
Great Bend	Barton	12,665	16,670	16,133	16,608	15,427	21.8%
Hoisington	Barton	4,012	4,248	3,710	3,678	3,182	-20.7
Ellinwood	Barton	2,569	2,729	2,416	2,508	2,329	-9.3
Galatia	Barton	89	73	78	69	47	-47.2
Claflin	Barton	921	891	887	764	678	-26.4
Pawnee Rock	Barton	359	380	442	409	367	2.2
Susank	Barton	100	87	59	52	61	-39.0
Albert	Barton	218	221	235	236	229	5.0
Olmitz	Barton	125	141	160	140	130	4.0
Lyons	Rice	4,545	4,592	4,355	4,152	3,688	-18.9
Stafford	Stafford	2,005	1,862	1,414	1,425	1,344	-33.0
Larned	Pawnee	4,447	5,001	4,567	4,811	4,490	0.9
LaCrosse	Rush	1,769	1,767	1,583	1,618	1,427	-19.3
Russell	Russell	6,483	6,113	5,371	5,427	4,781	-26.3
Ellsworth	Ellsworth	2,193	2,361	2,080	2,465	2,294	4.6
McPherson	McPherson	8,689	9,996	10,851	11,753	12,422	43.0
Dodge City	Ford	11,262	13,520	14,127	18,001	21,129	87.6
Hays	Ellis	8,625	11,947	15,396	16,301	17,767	106.0
Liberal	Seward	7,134	13,813	13,862	14,911	16,573	132.3

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census of Population, *Number of Inhabitants*, 1960-PC(1)18A (Kansas); PC (80)-1-A18 (Kansas); *1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Population and Housing Characteristics, Kansas* (CPH-1-18).

Figure 2.3

Net Migration, 1960-1990

Barton, Comparatives & Kansas



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Kansas Division of the Budget, mimeographed sheet, 1991.

- Out-migration from Barton County reached 13.9 percent, for a loss of 4,369 people between 1980 and 1990.
- Those counties classified as Trade Area Counties lost 4,088 people, or nearly 9 percent of their 1980 population during the same period of time.
- Of the Trade Area and Comparative Counties, only Ellsworth and McPherson have experienced in-migration of population during any of the last three decades.

Table 2.6
 Net Migration, 1960-1990
 Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Net Migration			Percent of Base Year Population		
	1960-1970	1970-1980	1980-1990	1960-1970	1970-1980	1980-1990
Barton	-5,148	-1,031	-4,369	-15.9%	-3.4%	-13.9%
Rush	-1,170	-429	-539	-19.0	-8.4	-11.9
Pawnee	-2,126	-473	-681	-20.7	-5.6	-8.4
Stafford	-1,400	-41	-327	-18.8	-0.7	-5.7
Rice	-1,994	-416	-1,497	-14.3	-3.4	-12.6
Ellsworth	-1,488	588	30	-19.4	9.6	0.5
Russell	-2,435	-460	-1,074	-21.5	-4.9	-12.1
Trade Area	-10,613	-1,231	-4,088	-18.7	-2.6	-8.9
McPherson	-573	1,270	-975	-2.4	5.1	-3.6
Ellis	73	-1,106	-2,618	0.3	-4.5	-10.0
Ford	-722	-114	0	-3.4	-0.5	0.0
Seward	-2,727	-759	-1,065	-17.1	-4.8	-6.2
Comparatives	-3,949	-709	-4,658	-4.8	-0.8	-4.9
Kansas	-132,966	-20,334	-62,854	-6.1	-0.9	-2.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Kansas Division of the Budget, mimeographed sheet, 1991.

- The proportion of the rural population in both Kansas and Barton County decreased significantly between 1930 and 1990. In 1930, 57 percent of the population in Barton County lived in rural areas. By 1990, that figure had declined to 37 percent.

Table 2.7
Urban and Rural Population Distribution
Barton County and Kansas, 1930-1990

Year	Barton		Kansas	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
1930	8,549	11,227	729,834	1,151,165
1940	12,763	12,247	753,941	1,047,087
1950	19,246	10,663	993,220	912,079
1960	23,647	8,721	1,328,741	849,870
1970	19,843	10,820	1,484,870	761,708
1980	22,794	8,549	75,899	787,780
1990	18,609	10,773	1,712,564	765,010

NOTE: 1930-1940 figures are based on the old urban definition while 1950-1990 are based on the current urban definition which now includes unincorporated urban areas.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1960 Census of Population* (PC(1)-18A); *1970 Census of the Population, General Population Characteristics* (PC(1)-B18); *1980 Census of Population* (PC80-1-B18); *1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Population and Housing Characteristics: Kansas* (CPH-1-18).

Table 2.8
Urban & Rural Population Distribution and Growth Rates
Barton County and Kansas, 1930-1990

Year	Urban-Rural Population Distribution				Urban & Rural Growth			
	Barton		Kansas		Barton		Kansas	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
1930	43.2%	56.8%	38.8%	61.2%				
1940	51.0	49.0	41.9	58.1	49.3%	9.1%	3.3%	-9.0%
1950	64.3	35.7	52.1	47.9	50.8	-12.9	31.7	-12.9
1960	73.1	26.9	61.0	39.0	22.9	-18.2	33.8	-6.8
1970	64.7	35.3	66.0	34.0	-16.1	24.1	11.8	-10.4
1980	72.7	27.3	66.7	33.3	14.9	-21.0	6.1	3.4
1990	63.3	36.7	69.1	30.9	-18.4	26.0	8.6	-2.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1960 Census of Population* (PC(1)-18A); *1970 Census of the Population, General Population Characteristics* (PC(1)-B18); *1980 Census of Population* (PC80-1-B18); *1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Population and Housing Characteristics: Kansas*, CPH-1-18.

- Barton County's proportion of working age population (Age 18-65 years) is slightly under-represented relative to the state average. In 1990, 56 percent of the population was in the prime working age groups compared to 60 percent for the state of Kansas.
- Population age 65 and over in 1990 comprised 16.7 percent of the population in Barton County versus 13.8 percent in Kansas. By the year 2020, this proportion is expected to be 19.6 percent in Barton and 16.8 percent in Kansas.

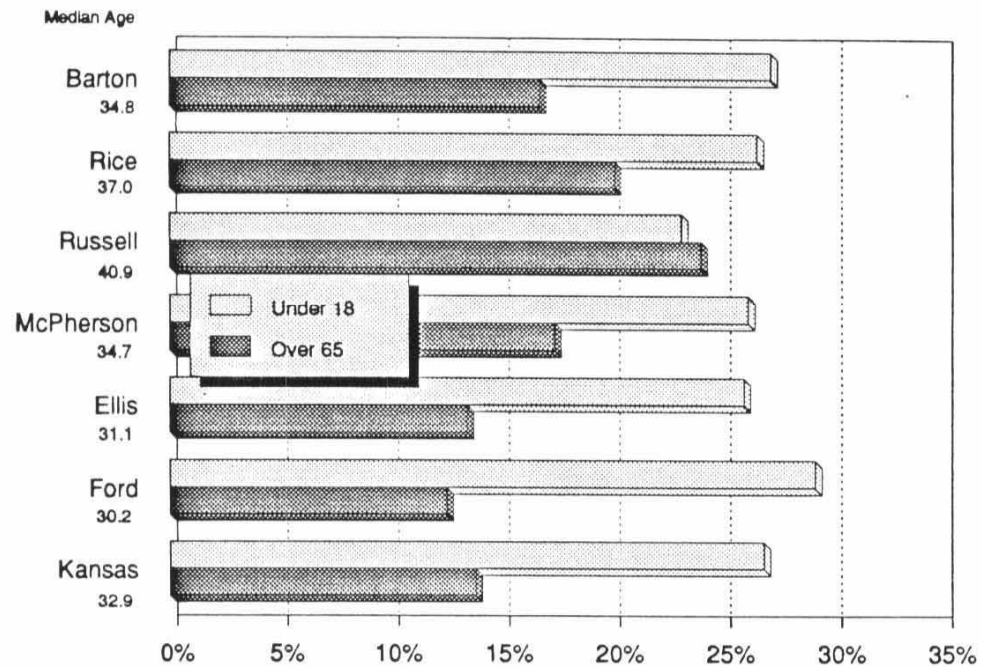
Table 2.9
Population Shares by Age Group
Barton County and Kansas, 1990-2020

Age Group	Barton County				
	Actual Population		Projected Shares of Population		
	1990	Share	2000	2010	2020
0-4	2,231	7.6%	7.2%	8.0%	7.7%
5-14	4,625	15.7	16.1	14.0	15.3
15-24	3,422	11.6	14.9	14.7	13.1
25-34	4,534	15.4	10.5	13.4	13.5
35-44	3,941	13.4	14.5	9.8	12.5
45-54	2,790	9.5	13.2	13.8	9.9
55-64	2,926	10.0	8.8	12.0	12.2
65+	<u>4,913</u>	16.7	14.7	14.3	16.6
Total	29,382				
Age Group	State of Kansas				
	Actual Population		Projected Shares of Population		
	1990	Share	2000	2010	2020
0-4	188,390	7.6%	6.6%	6.6%	6.6%
5-14	375,454	15.2	14.6	12.8	12.7
15-24	352,263	14.2	14.5	14.0	12.3
25-34	413,173	16.7	12.8	13.8	13.4
35-44	361,326	14.6	16.5	12.1	13.2
45-54	235,388	9.5	13.7	15.5	11.5
55-64	209,009	8.4	8.5	1.3	16.8
65+	<u>342,571</u>	13.8	12.7	13.0	16.8
Total	2,477,574				

Source: Actual Population: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Population and Housing Characteristics: Kansas, CPH-1-18*; Projected population shares from University of Kansas, Institute for Public Policy and Business Research, *Kansas Population Projections*, 1988.

Figure 2.4

Population Under 18 and Over 65 in 1990 Barton, Comparative Counties & Kansas



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary Tape File 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

- Barton County has a greater share of Under-18 population (27 percent) than any of the Trade Area counties. This proportion is similar to those of the Comparative counties.
- Of the total Barton County population, 16.7 percent are over 65, well under the proportions found in the Trade Area counties, but higher than the proportions of the Comparative Counties, the state and the nation as a whole.
- The median age of the population in Barton is 34.8 years, 6 percent higher than the median age of Kansas and the U.S., 32.9 years.

Table 2.10
Age Composition of the Population
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, Kansas and U.S., 1990

	Percent of Population		
	Under 18	18-65	Over 65
Barton	27.1%	56.3%	16.7%
Rush	22.7	52.0	25.3
Pawnee	25.9	54.9	19.3
Stafford	25.6	51.0	23.4
Rice	26.5	53.4	20.1
Ellsworth	23.6	54.1	22.3
Russell	23.1	53.0	24.0
McPherson	26.1	56.5	17.4
Ellis	25.9	60.7	13.4
Ford	29.1	58.4	12.5
Seward	31.5	59.2	9.3
Kansas	26.8	59.4	13.8
U.S.	25.6	61.8	12.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary Tape File 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

Table 2.11
Median Age of the Population, 1980 and 1990
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, Kansas and U.S.

	Median Age	
	1980	1990
Barton	30.9	34.8
Rush	41.7	43.1
Pawnee	35.7	37.4
Stafford	41.5	39.0
Rice	35.5	37.0
Ellsworth	39.1	38.0
Russell	37.9	40.9
McPherson	31.8	34.7
Ellis	25.7	31.1
Ford	28.8	30.2
Seward	27.0	29.0
Kansas	30.1	32.9
U.S.	30.0	32.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary Tape File 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

- The non-white share of Barton County's population increased from 3.7 percent in 1980 to 4.8 percent in 1990. In Kansas in 1990, nearly 10 percent of the population was non-white.
- In the last decade, the number of Hispanics and the number of residents declaring themselves to be of Indian descent nearly doubled.

Table 2.12
Ethnic Composition of the Population, 1980 and 1990
Barton County and Kansas

	<u>Population by Race</u>				<u>Percent of Total Population</u>			
	<u>Barton County</u>		<u>Kansas</u>		<u>Barton County</u>		<u>Kansas</u>	
White	30,598	27,973	2,168,221	2,231,986	96.3%	95.2%	91.8%	90.1%
African-American	322	341	126,127	143,076	1.0	1.2	5.3	5.9
American Indian	73	132	15,373	21,965	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.9
Asian/Pacific Islander	145	101	15,078	31,750	0.5	0.3	0.6	1.3
Other Race	205	19	38,880	48,797	0.6	0.1	2.0	2.0
Hispanic (any race)	439	816	63,339	93,670	1.4	2.8	2.7	3.8
Total Population	31,782	29,382	2,363,679	2,477,574				

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1980 and 1990 Census of the Population, Summary Tape File 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

Section III: Education

As present and future jobs begin to require higher skilled employees, the education of the local workforce becomes a high priority. The ideal local labor market, in terms of being attractive and conducive to business growth, has an ample supply of workers who have basic skills, advanced skills, and a strong work ethic. A higher concentration of lower skilled workers means that the community must rely on low skilled jobs with low wages in industries which are either mature or declining. This, in turn, means that unemployment may be a continual or cyclical problem as these firms go out of business due to competition or obsolescence.

Education refers not only to K-12 instruction, but higher education at universities and community colleges as well. Equally valuable are workers possessing a strong, adaptable technical education from an area vocational technical school (AVTS), community college or other technical institution. This section presents the following measures of education for Barton County, comparative counties, and the state of Kansas:

- *The highest level of completed education, ages 25 and over* demonstrates the average length of education for county residents. Lower levels may be indicative of lower skilled, less adaptable workers, while higher levels may mean a better opportunity to create, attract, and retain high growth, highly productive businesses.
- *The full time enrollment figures* provide an indication of the number of students in grades K-12. These are the people currently in the educational system that will be the workers of tomorrow.
- *The expenditure per pupil* reflects the financial expenditure being used to finance one year's education to a student in the public education system. Traditionally, higher expenditures per pupil have reflected the district's willingness to invest in the education of their children. However, lower expenditures per pupil may indicate an efficient school system that can deliver quality education at lower costs. High expenditures per pupil may be indicative of districts with low enrollments and fixed overhead costs.
- *The high school dropout rate* indicates the relative completion rate of high school students. High dropout rates may be the result of difficult economic or social situations. The result of high dropout rates is a workforce which is not properly prepared to participate in today's workplace without additional education.
- *The pupil-teacher ratios* compare the number of pupils and instructors in grades K-12. Low ratios suggest there may be opportunities for individual problem-solving and learning; increases in this ratio may indicate growing budgetary pressures on school districts.

EDUCATION: KEY FINDINGS

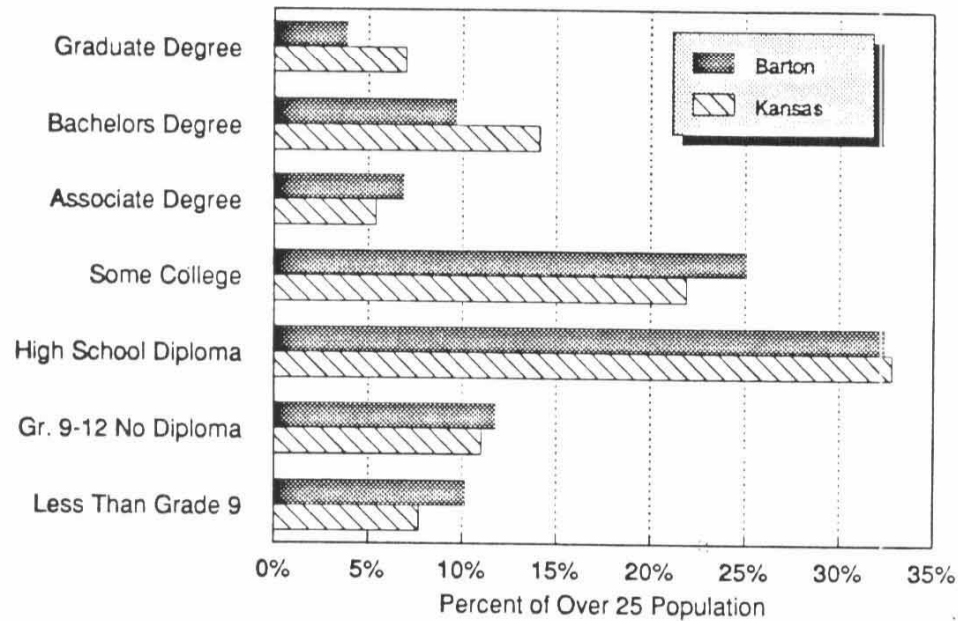
- Barton County had a smaller percentage of residents, ages 25 and over, who have completed college (20.5%) in 1990 than did half the trade area counties and three of the four comparative counties. The Kansas percentage of Over-25 population completing either two- or four-year college programs was 26.5 percent, much higher than the Barton rate.
- Barton County had a smaller percentage of residents, ages 25 and over, with less than an eighth grade education than any of the comparative counties or half the trade area counties. However, the 10.2 percent of Barton's Over-25 population with elementary educations or less did not compare favorably with the state figure of 7.7 percent in 1990.
- Since 1980, educational attainment levels of the Over-25 population have risen dramatically. In 1990, 31.3 percent of the Barton County population over the age of 25 had some college education; by 1990, this figure was 45.6 percent. Over the same period, the Kansas rates increased from 34.6 percent to 48.4 percent.
- Over the past seven school years, high school dropout rates in Barton County have averaged 3.6 percent of headcount, less than the Kansas rate of 4.2 percent.
- Enrollments in Barton County have increased slightly (4.5 percent) for the period from 1986-87 to 1991-92.
- Weighted expenditures per pupil have increased by 14.6 percent from 1986 to 1992 in Barton County. This increase is substantially smaller than the average increases for Kansas trade area counties (23.2 percent), and for the comparative counties (23.6 percent).
- Over the past seven school years, high school dropout rates in Barton County have averaged 3.6 percent of headcount, less than the Kansas rate of 4.2 percent.
- Barton County's pupil-teacher ratio was slightly lower than the state pupil-teacher ratio in both 1989-90 and 1990-91.

EDUCATION: DATA ANALYSIS

Figure 3.1

Highest Level of Educational Attainment

Population Age 25+, Barton & Kansas
1990



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1980 Census of Population*, Vol. 1, Characteristics of the Population.

- Barton County had a smaller percentage of residents, ages 25 and over, who have completed college (20.5%) in 1990 than did three of the six trade area counties and three of the four comparative counties. The Kansas percentage of Over-25 population completing either two- or four-year college programs was 26.5 percent, much higher than the Barton rate.
- Barton County had the highest proportion of Over-25 population with incomplete college educations of any Trade Area or comparative county, at 25.1 percent in 1990.
- Barton County had a smaller percentage of residents, ages 25 and over, with less than an eighth grade education than any of the comparative counties or half the trade area counties. However, the 10.2 percent of Barton's Over-25 population with elementary educations or less did not compare favorably with the state figure of 7.7 percent in 1990.

Table 3.1
 Highest Level of Completed Education
 Population 25 Years and Older
 Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1990

	Graduate Degree	College		Some College	High School		Elementary Less Than 9 Years
		Bachelors Degree	Associate Degree		Diploma	No Diploma	
Barton	3.9%	9.7%	6.9%	25.1%	32.4%	11.8%	10.2%
Trade Area:							
Rush	3.9	7.6	5.0	20.6	35.5	9.0	18.4
Pawnee	5.2	11.5	6.3	25.5	33.5	9.8	8.2
Stafford	4.7	11.8	6.2	22.2	33.8	13.4	7.9
Rice	5.9	12.8	5.7	20.4	36.3	10.4	8.4
Ellsworth	4.0	8.8	3.9	24.6	35.3	9.7	13.7
Russell	5.2	8.9	2.9	19.5	38.1	12.9	12.6
Comparatives:							
McPherson	4.6	12.8	5.5	21.9	33.4	10.9	10.9
Ellis	6.6	16.8	4.5	21.9	30.8	7.6	11.8
Ford	5.9	12.2	7.6	22.7	28.2	12.1	11.3
Seward	3.8	7.8	6.8	22.2	31.6	14.6	13.2
Kansas	7.0	14.1	5.4	21.9	32.8	11.0	7.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary Tape File 3A.

- Since 1980, educational attainment levels of the Over-25 population have risen dramatically. In 1990, 31.3 percent of the Barton County population over the age of 25 had some college education; by 1990, this figure was 45.6 percent. Over the same period, the Kansas rates increased from 34.6 percent to 48.4 percent.
- Persons with a Grade 8 education or less in Barton County represented 17.4 percent of the Over-25 population in 1980 and 10.2 percent in 1990. This figure remained much higher than the Kansas rate, which fell from 7.7 percent in 1980 to 4.3 percent in 1990.

Table 3.2
Highest Level of Completed Education
Population 25 Years and Older
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties, and Kansas, 1980

	College		High School		Elementary	
	4+	1-3	4	1-3	8	<8
Barton	12.4%	17.9%	40.5%	11.8%	12.7%	4.7%
Russell	10.5	17.5	39.4	10.3	17.7	4.6
Ellsworth	11.6	15.3	41.7	9.3	16.2	5.9
Rice	14.0	16.0	41.7	13.3	10.4	4.6
Stafford	14.1	18.0	40.3	12.2	11.4	4.0
Pawnee	16.0	23.2	35.8	10.4	9.9	4.7
Rush	12.8	15.4	34.9	8.5	22.0	6.4
Trade Area*	13.1	17.6	39.2	10.9	13.9	5.3
McPherson	15.6	17.3	38.5	11.3	13.4	3.9
Ellis	20.9	18.4	34.0	7.2	13.6	5.7
Ford	16.9	19.7	37.2	11.8	9.2	5.3
Seward	13.3	17.8	39.8	14.3	8.1	6.7
Comparatives*	16.9	18.3	37.3	10.9	11.4	5.2
Kansas	17.4	17.2	39.6	11.5	10.0	4.3

* Weighted averages for the comparative county groups computed by IPPBR.

Note: The data is from 1980; therefore many individuals in the count are now of retirement age and beyond.

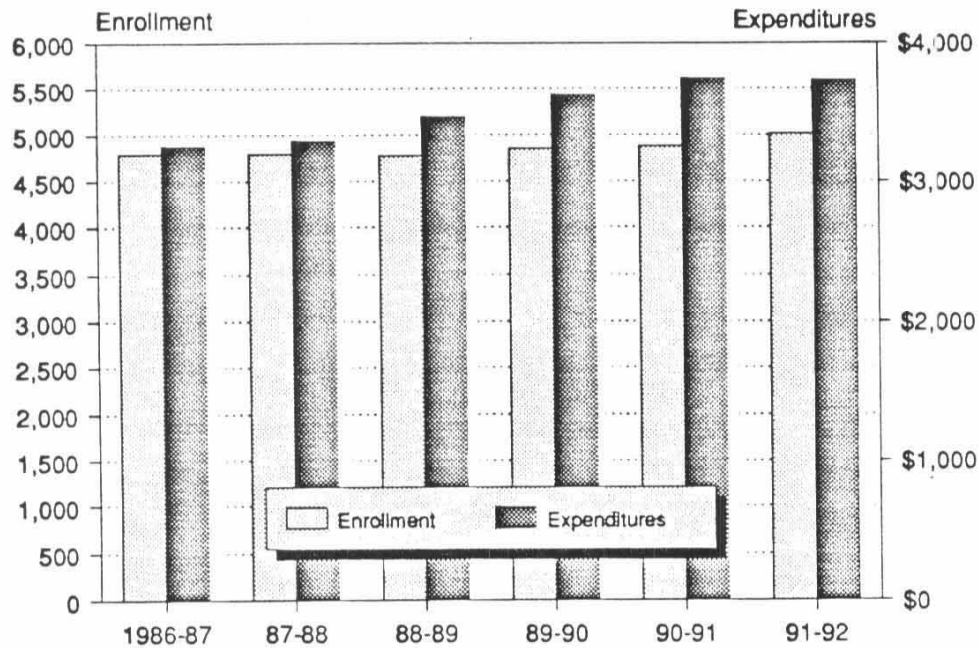
Additionally, people who are currently under the age of 37 would not be included in these figures.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1980 Census, Vol. 1, Characteristics of the Population*.

Figure 3.2

Enrollment and Expenditure Per Pupil

Barton County, 1986-87 to 1991-92



Source: League of Kansas Municipalities, *Kansas Government Journal*, January, 1987-1992.

- Enrollments in Barton County increased slightly (4.5 percent) for the period 1986-87 to 1991-92. The state as a whole showed an increase of 7.2 percent in enrollments during the same period.
- Weighted expenditures per pupil have increased by 14.6 percent from 1986 to 1992 in Barton County. This increase is substantially smaller than the average increases for Trade area counties (23.2 percent), and for the comparative counties (23.6 percent).

Table 3.3
Full-Time Enrollment, Public Schools
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties, and Kansas, 1986-1992

	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-1990	1990-1991	1991-1992
Barton	4,792	4,795	4,773	4,850	4,875	5,009
Russell	1,472	1,403	1,419	1,384	1,355	1,308
Ellsworth	1,233	1,186	1,218	1,239	1,258	1,305
Rice	1,863	1,850	1,834	1,881	1,940	1,943
Stafford	998	995	1,019	993	1,014	1,020
Pawnee	1,231	1,245	1,287	1,264	1,254	1,310
Rush	725	716	701	687	695	716
Trade Area*	1,357	1,333	1,346	1,345	1,359	1,382
McPherson	4,235	4,280	4,335	4,458	4,567	4,724
Ellis	4,009	4,022	4,060	4,138	4,177	4,192
Ford	4,706	4,656	4,748	4,714	4,742	4,865
Seward	3,879	3,953	4,030	3,977	4,086	4,140
Comparatives*	4,231	4,248	4,314	4,342	4,412	4,501
Kansas	395,180	399,982	403,871	408,394	414,847	423,517

* Weighted averages for the comparative county groups computed by IPPBR.

Source: League of Kansas Municipalities, *Kansas Government Journal*, January 1987-1992.

Table 3.4
Weighted Expenditure Per Pupil (Full-time equivalent)
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, 1986-1992

	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-1990	1990-1991	1991-1992	% Change 1986-1992
Barton	\$ 3,251	\$ 3,288	\$ 3,462	\$ 3,619	\$ 3,740	\$ 3,725	14.6%
Russell	4,099	4,458	4,593	4,938	5,148	5,405	31.9
Ellsworth	4,334	4,699	4,842	5,063	5,223	5,266	21.5
Rice	4,176	4,427	4,702	4,912	4,988	5,136	23.0
Stafford	4,464	4,647	4,876	5,495	5,543	5,709	27.9
Pawnee	4,086	4,132	4,201	4,505	4,670	4,570	11.8
Rush	4,640	4,834	5,101	5,511	5,593	5,601	20.7
Trade Area	4,255	4,499	4,685	5,012	5,139	5,241	23.2
McPherson	3,389	3,510	3,651	3,909	3,996	4,092	20.7
Ellis	2,891	3,017	3,203	3,456	3,743	3,947	36.5
Ford	2,771	2,907	3,041	3,260	3,350	3,343	20.6
Seward	2,926	2,995	3,123	3,407	3,428	3,427	17.1
Comparatives	2,990	3,101	3,251	3,503	3,624	3,695	23.6

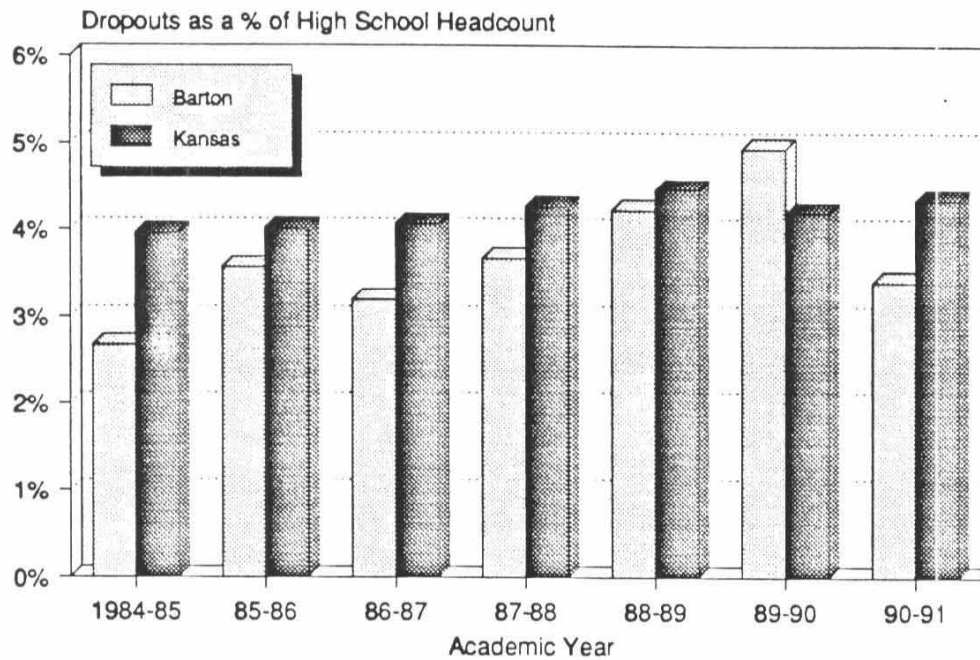
Note: Data shown are weighted averages for all school districts in the county, calculated by IPPBR.

Source: League of Kansas Municipalities, *Kansas Government Journal*, January 1987-1992.

Figure 3.3

High School Dropout Rates

Barton Co. and Kansas, 1984-1991



Source: Kansas State Board of Education, *Kansas USD's High School Dropouts 1984-85 Through 1988-89 and 1986-87 Through 1990-91*, January 1990, February 1992.

- Over the past seven school years, high school dropout rates in Barton County have averaged 3.6 percent of headcount, less than the Kansas rate of 4.2 percent.
- Barton County's high school dropout rate was lower than the state average in every year from 1984-85 to 1990-91 with the exception of 1989-90.

Table 3.5
High School Dropout Rates
Barton County and Kansas, 1984-85 to 1990-91

<u>Academic Year</u>	<u>Headcount Grades 9-12</u>	<u>High School Dropouts</u>	<u>Drop Out Rate</u>	<u>Kansas Average Dropout Rate</u>
1984-85	1,609	43	2.67%	3.96%
1985-86	1,570	56	3.57	4.01
1986-87	1,438	46	3.20	4.06
1987-88	1,390	51	3.67	4.26
1988-89	1,350	57	4.22	4.46
1989-90	1,295	64	4.94	4.19
1990-91	1,291	44	3.41	4.34
Seven-year weighted average			3.63%	4.18%

Note: Barton County data shown are weighted average for USD 354 Claflin, USD 355 Ellinwood, USD 428 Great Bend, and USD 431 Hoisington. The Kansas definition of a dropout is a pupil "who leaves a school for any reason, except death, before graduation or completion of a program of studies and without transferring to another school."

Source: Kansas State Board of Education, *Kansas USD's High School Dropouts 1984-85 Through 1988-89 and 1986-87 Through 1990-91*, January 1990, February 1992.

- Barton County's pupil-teacher ratio was slightly lower than the state pupil-teacher ratio in both 1989-90 and 1990-91.
- Barton County's pupil-teacher ratio was higher than the weighted average for Trade Area counties and lower than the weighted average for Comparative counties in both 1989-90 and 1990-91.

Table 3.6
Pupil-Teacher Ratio, Public Schools
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties, and Kansas, 1989-90 and 1990-91

	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
Barton	15.8	15.9
Russell	11.9	11.7
Ellsworth	12.4	12.7
Rice	11.8	12.2
Stafford	12.5	12.5
Pawnee	14.0	13.7
Rush	10.6	11.0
Trade Area	12.3	12.4
McPherson	15.8	16.0
Ellis	16.0	15.6
Ford	17.1	17.1
Seward	16.4	17.0
Comparatives	16.3	16.4
Kansas	15.9	16.1

Source: Kansas State Board of Education, *Pupil-Teacher Ratios of Unified School Districts, 1989-1990*, April 1990; *1990-1991*, March 1991. Weighted averages computed by University of Kansas, IPPBR-KCCED.

Section IV: Employment, Earnings & Income

Employment levels are an important measure of a community's economic vitality. Unemployed laborers mean that the community's resources are not being fully utilized and that the locally generated flow of goods and services is less than it could be. It also represents a drain on tax revenues and a higher demand for social services.

Income and earnings are the sources of revenue for the community residents. There are five principal sources of income, including: (1) *wages and salaries*; (2) *farm property*; (3) *non-farm property*; (4) earnings from *dividends, interest, and rental income*; and (5) *transfer payments*, including social security payments and unemployment insurance. These sources of income describe the economic base of the community. Higher average wages and salaries may indicate a greater number of jobs in high growth, high performance businesses. Low wage growth may indicate a higher concentration of stable, declining industries. Sources of earnings may demonstrate the ability of the community to generate its own income and may give some indication of the population's age (i.e., older people tend to depend more on investment and entitlement income). Declining or stable earnings over time may indicate a decrease in the standard of living for the community.

In the following section, employment and unemployment levels are examined for Barton County, its trade area and comparative counties, and the State of Kansas as a determinant of the level of economic activity. In order to have a better understanding of the employment picture, three key employment measures are compared simultaneously:

- the *size of the labor force* shows the number of people who are either working or willing to work. The size of the labor force is influenced not only by population but also by the perceptions of individuals that suitable job opportunities exist. Diverse, healthy economies tend to offer the widest variety of job opportunities and therefore attract a large number of job-seekers, which increases the size of the labor force;
- the level of *unemployment* reflects the amount of economic activity within an area and how well the local market is able to match the supply and demand for labor;
- *job creation rates (net change in average annual employment)* reflect the growth in employment levels and the range of employment opportunities. As some jobs are lost in a community due to changing economic circumstances, they may be replaced by new jobs. Net job creation reflects the net gain or loss in jobs over a given period of time;

Income and earnings are also examined for Barton County, the trade area and comparative counties, and Kansas using the following measures:

- *average earnings per job* is normally determined by the productivity of local labor and the performance of local businesses. Over time, wages will increase in real terms only if labor is considered to be productive and if businesses are performing well relative to their competitors.
- *per capita personal income* indicates the relative wealth of the area compared to the state. As the productivity of business and industry increase, personal per capita income also rises. Decreasing or stable rates may be the result of mature or declining industry;
- *sources of personal income* show what the population relies on for support. High proportions of wage and salary income indicate a productive local economy; reliance on outside sources of income, such as transfer payments, suggest a less productive local economy, but indicate stability in future streams of income. High ratios of proprietorship income illustrate a strong community entrepreneurial climate;

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS & INCOME: KEY FINDINGS

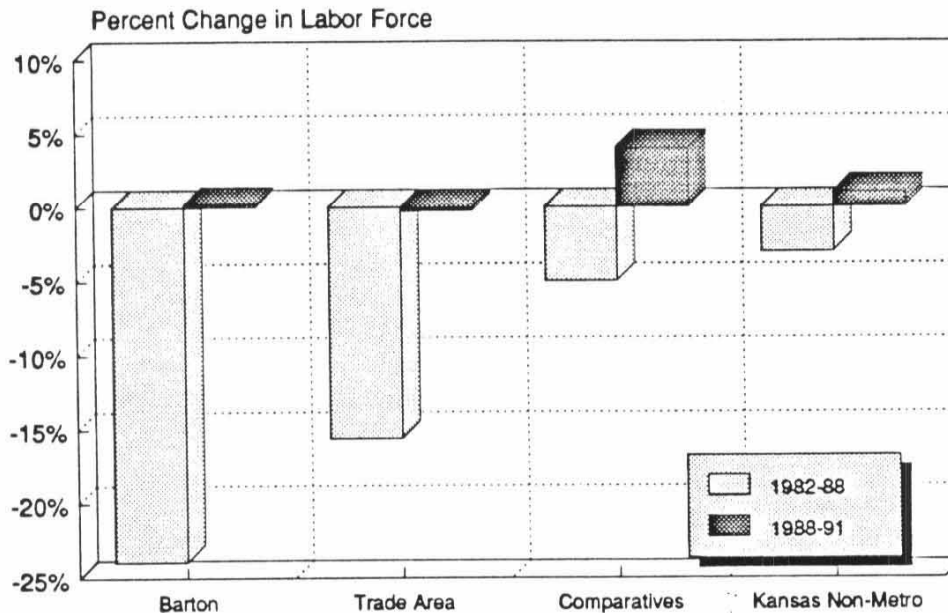
- The civilian labor force in Barton County declined from 19,134 in 1982 to 14,579 in 1991, a net loss of 24 percent of the workforce. Between 1986 and 1987, nearly 1,500 workers withdrew from the labor force.
- Unemployment rates in Barton County have ranged from a low of 4.0 percent in 1990 to a high of 9.9 percent in 1986. The ten-year average unemployment rate was 5.5, compared with 4.6 percent for Kansas non-metropolitan counties as a whole.
- From 1980 to 1985, total employment in Barton County remained more or less stable at around 20,000 jobs. A total of 1,958 jobs were lost in 1986 which had not been replaced by 1989.
- Employment levels in Barton County peaked in 1984 at 20,941 jobs. Since 1986, employment has remained stable at around 18,000 jobs.
- Between 1986 and 1989, Barton did not match the modest job creation rates of the Trade Area Counties (0.4 %), or the Comparatives (4.8%).
- Average earnings in Barton County were greater than the Kansas non-metropolitan average throughout the 1980s. In 1989, the average earnings per job were \$16,400 in Barton and \$15,600 in Kansas Non-metropolitan counties.
- Average real income fell 14 percent in Barton County from 1980 to 1989. This trend was similar to that of the Trade Area counties, but was a more severe decline than was experienced in the Comparative counties or in the state as a whole.
- In terms of growth rates in real income per job from 1985 to 1989, Barton County ranked 99th in the state. Only Russell and Seward showed slower growth rates.
- Wages, salaries and other labor income increased 12.4 percent from 1980-1989 in Barton County, which represented one of the smallest increases in the Trade Area. This growth rate was half that of the Trade Area counties and one-quarter that of the Comparative Counties.
- Barton County's per capita income levels have compared well to both its Trade Area Counties and its Comparative counties throughout most of the 1980's.
- Employment income, which accounted for 65 percent of Barton's personal income in the early part of the decade, averaged 55 percent of income in the latter half.
- Income from farm proprietorships accounted for 4.1 percent of Barton's personal income and 7.1 percent of the typical Kansas non-metropolitan county's personal income during the late half of the 1980s.

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND INCOME: DATA ANALYSIS

Figure 4.1

Net Change in Civilian Labor Force

Barton, Trade Area, Comparatives
& Kansas Non-Metro, 1982-88, 1988-91



Source: Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

- The civilian labor force in Barton County declined from 19,134 in 1982 to 14,579 in 1991, a net loss of 24 percent of the workforce.
- Virtually all of the contraction of the labor force had occurred by 1988. Since 1988, the size of the labor force has stabilized in Barton County.
- Only Russell County suffered a greater percentage loss of its labor force during the 1980s.

Table 4.1
Civilian Labor Force, 1982-1991
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
Barton	19,134	18,918	18,819	17,176	16,472	15,084	14,548	14,356	14,605	14,579
Rush	2,194	2,179	2,085	2,050	1,932	1,836	1,786	1,812	1,878	1,880
Pawnee	3,943	3,849	3,732	3,698	3,659	3,729	3,641	3,691	3,703	3,626
Stafford	2,844	2,892	3,154	2,661	2,546	2,413	2,274	2,269	2,289	2,276
Rice	5,715	5,612	5,539	5,329	5,124	4,933	4,908	4,822	4,821	4,768
Ellsworth	2,788	2,772	2,680	2,847	2,813	2,714	2,734	2,850	3,023	2,995
Russell	5,208	5,074	5,199	4,482	4,258	4,007	3,807	3,601	3,591	3,546
Trade Area	22,692	22,378	22,389	21,067	20,332	19,632	19,150	19,045	19,305	19,091
McPherson	15,362	15,977	15,782	14,846	14,623	14,822	14,428	14,711	14,802	14,671
Ellis	16,267	16,877	16,976	15,681	15,319	14,237	14,124	14,105	14,453	14,829
Ford	13,955	14,396	15,175	14,608	14,436	14,640	14,878	14,683	15,693	15,758
Seward	10,325	10,081	10,064	10,209	10,067	9,980	9,700	9,382	9,718	9,998
Comparatives	55,909	57,331	57,997	55,344	54,445	53,679	53,130	52,881	54,666	55,256
Kansas										
Non-Metro	580,045	579,256	578,410	580,305	568,577	569,307	562,771	563,635	569,912	568,155
Kansas (in thousands)	1,186	1,186	1,197	1,235	1,224	1,267	1,277	1,285	1,300	1,295

Source: Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Services.

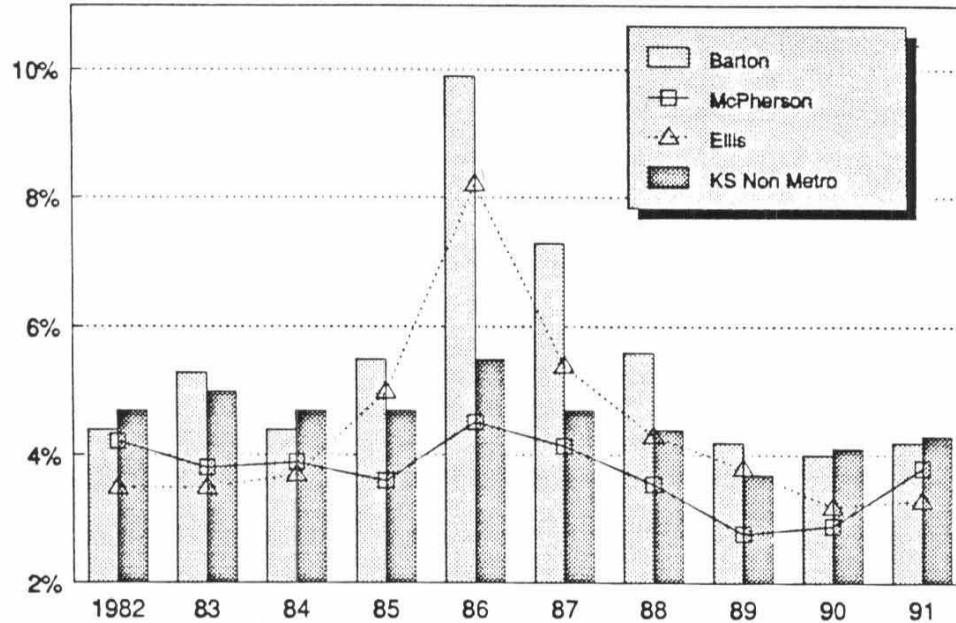
Table 4.2
 Net Change in Civilian Labor Force
 Barton, Trade Area, Comparatives and Kansas, 1982-1991

	<u>Net Change in Labor Force</u>		<u>Percent Change in Labor Force</u>	
	<u>1982-1988</u>	<u>1988-1991</u>	<u>1982-1988</u>	<u>1988-1991</u>
Barton	-4,586	31	-23.9%	0.2%
Rush	-408	94	-18.6	5.3
Pawnee	-302	-15	-7.7	-0.4
Stafford	-570	2	-20.0	0.0
Rice	-807	-140	-14.1	-2.9
Ellsworth	-54	261	-1.9	9.5
Russell	-1,401	-261	-26.9	-6.9
Trade Area	-3,542	-59	-15.6	-0.3
McPherson	-934	243	-6.1	1.7
Ellis	-2,143	705	-13.2	5.0
Ford	923	880	6.6	5.9
Seward	-625	298	-6.1	3.1
Comparatives	-2,779	2,126	-5.0	4.0
Kansas Non-Metro	-17,274	5,384	-3.0	1.0
Kansas	91,000	18,000	7.7	1.4

Source: Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Services.

Figure 4.2

Unemployment Rates, 1982-1991 Barton and Comparison Counties



Source: Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Services.

- Unemployment rates in Barton County have ranged from a low of 4.0 percent in 1990 to a high of 9.9 percent in 1986. The ten-year average unemployment rate was 5.5, compared with 4.6 percent for Kansas non-metropolitan counties as a whole.
- Unemployment rates increased in Barton County from 1982-1986, but have been decreasing since then to 4.2% in 1991.
- Sharp declines in the size of the labor force have contributed to lower unemployment rates, as some residents stopped looking for work or retired.
- Barton County's unemployment rate was consistently higher than its peer counties for the period 1982-1991.

Table 4.3
Unemployment Rate, 1982-1991 (Place of Residence)
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
Barton	4.4	5.3	4.4	5.5	9.9	7.3	5.6	4.2	4.0	4.2
Rush	3.6	4.0	4.5	4.8	6.6	4.3	4.8	2.9	3.2	3.3
Pawnee	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.9	3.3	2.9	2.5	3.1	2.5
Stafford	3.4	3.6	2.8	3.5	5.4	3.8	4.2	2.8	3.1	3.5
Rice	2.5	4.7	4.7	4.8	7.1	5.4	4.6	4.1	3.8	4.1
Ellsworth	5.1	4.9	4.1	4.1	4.8	4.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	2.8
Russell	2.8	3.3	3.3	4.0	6.0	4.1	3.9	3.3	3.1	3.6
McPherson	4.2	3.8	3.9	3.6	4.5	4.1	3.6	2.8	2.9	3.8
Ellis	3.5	3.5	3.7	5.0	8.2	5.4	4.3	3.8	3.2	3.3
Ford	4.1	3.8	3.3	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.0	2.9	3.0
Seward	3.5	3.9	3.0	3.8	5.0	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.4	4.0
Kansas Non-Metro	4.7	5.0	4.7	4.7	5.5	4.7	4.4	3.7	4.1	4.3
Kansas	6.2	6.1	5.3	5.0	5.5	4.9	4.8	4.0	4.4	4.4

Source: Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Services.

Table 4.4
Average Annual Employment (Place of Work)
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties, and Kansas, 1980-1989

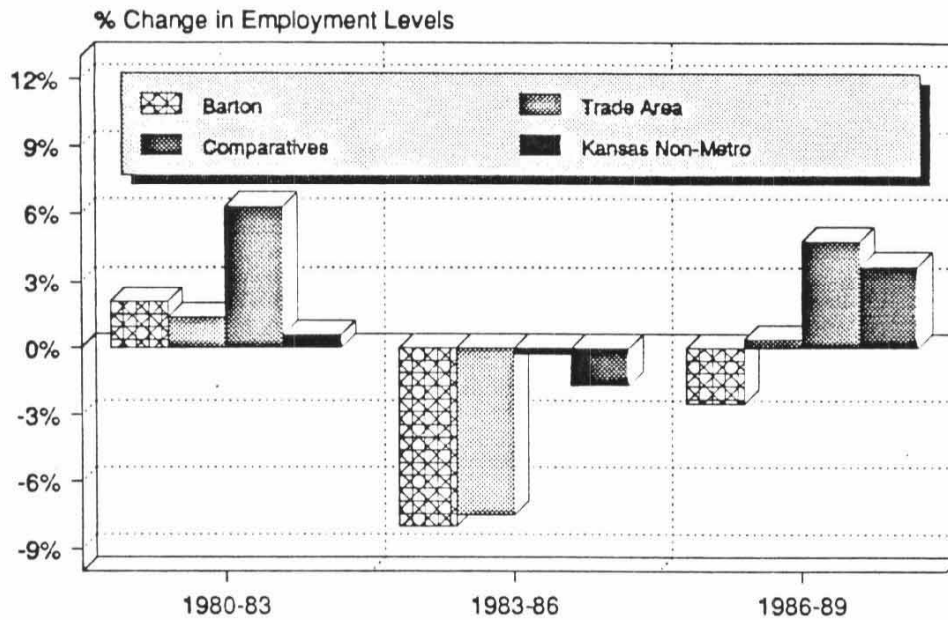
	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Barton	19,796	20,797	20,683	20,204	20,941	20,541	18,583	18,030	17,965	18,116
Rush	2,467	2,443	2,446	2,465	2,460	2,383	2,225	2,185	2,184	2,228
Pawnee	4,624	4,590	4,588	4,525	4,436	4,328	4,216	4,422	4,517	4,543
Stafford	2,920	2,869	2,934	3,025	2,987	2,916	2,749	2,748	2,668	2,741
Rice	6,126	5,994	5,995	5,992	6,074	5,927	5,580	5,455	5,507	5,388
Ellsworth	3,619	3,487	3,418	3,447	3,409	3,423	3,343	3,351	3,440	3,599
Russell	5,965	6,162	6,573	6,630	6,745	6,502	6,004	6,028	5,793	5,711
Trade Area	25,721	25,545	25,954	26,084	26,111	25,479	24,117	24,189	24,109	24,210
McPherson	16,260	16,269	16,198	17,249	16,981	16,823	16,564	17,051	17,185	17,482
Ellis	15,204	15,795	16,164	16,909	17,127	16,923	15,905	15,783	16,225	16,381
Ford	14,491	14,895	14,600	15,055	15,992	15,973	15,889	16,135	16,731	17,231
Seward	10,993	11,385	11,520	11,329	11,913	12,219	12,007	11,753	11,837	12,167
Comparatives	56,948	58,344	58,482	60,542	62,013	61,938	60,365	60,722	61,978	63,261
Kansas										
Non-Metro	624,269	626,198	622,383	627,842	638,940	633,684	617,443	622,122	633,576	640,084
Kansas (in thousands)	1,286.7	1,293.1	1,282.3	1,294.4	1,341.2	1,354.4	1,361.5	1,390.0	1,426.6	1,456.0

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA25, Peer county calculations by University of Kansas, IPPBR-KCCED.

Figure 4.3

Job Creation Rates, 1980-1989

Barton, Trade Area, Comparatives
and Kansas Non-Metro



Source: Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System*, Table CA25.

- From 1980 to 1985, total employment in Barton County remained more or less stable at around 20,000 jobs. A total of 1,958 jobs were lost in 1986 which had not been replaced by 1989.
- Employment levels in Barton County peaked in 1984 at 20,941 jobs. In 1989, a total of 18,116 were employed in the county.
- Since 1986, employment has remained stable at around 18,000 jobs.
- From 1986 to 1989, Barton did not match the modest job creation rates of the Trade Area Counties (0.4 %), or the Comparatives (4.8%).

Table 4.5
Net Change and Percentage Change in Employment
Barton County, Trade Area, Comparatives and Kansas, 1980-1989

	Net Job Creation			Percent Change		
	1980-83	1983-86	1986-89	1980-83	1983-86	1986-89
Barton	408	-1,621	-467	2.1%	-8.0%	-2.5%
Rush	-2	-240	3	-0.1	-9.7	0.1
Pawnee	-99	-309	327	-2.1	-6.8	7.8
Stafford	105	-276	-8	3.6	-9.1	-0.3
Rice	-134	-412	-192	-2.2	-6.9	-3.4
Ellsworth	-172	-104	256	-4.8	-3.0	7.7
Russell	665	-626	-293	11.1	-9.4	-4.9
Trade Area	363	-1,967	93	1.4	-7.5	0.4
McPherson	989	-685	918	6.1	-4.0	5.5
Ellis	1,705	-1,004	476	11.2	-5.9	3.0
Ford	564	834	1,342	3.9	5.5	8.4
Seward	336	678	160	3.1	6.0	1.3
Comparatives	3,594	-177	2,896	6.3	-0.3	4.8
Kansas Non-Metro	3,573	-10,399	22,641	0.6	-1.7	3.7
Kansas	7,700	67,100	94,500	0.6	5.2	6.9

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA25. Peer county calculations by University of Kansas, IPPBR-KCCED.

Table 4.6
Nine-Year Change and Percentage Change in Employment
Barton County, Trade Area, Comparatives and Kansas, 1980-1989

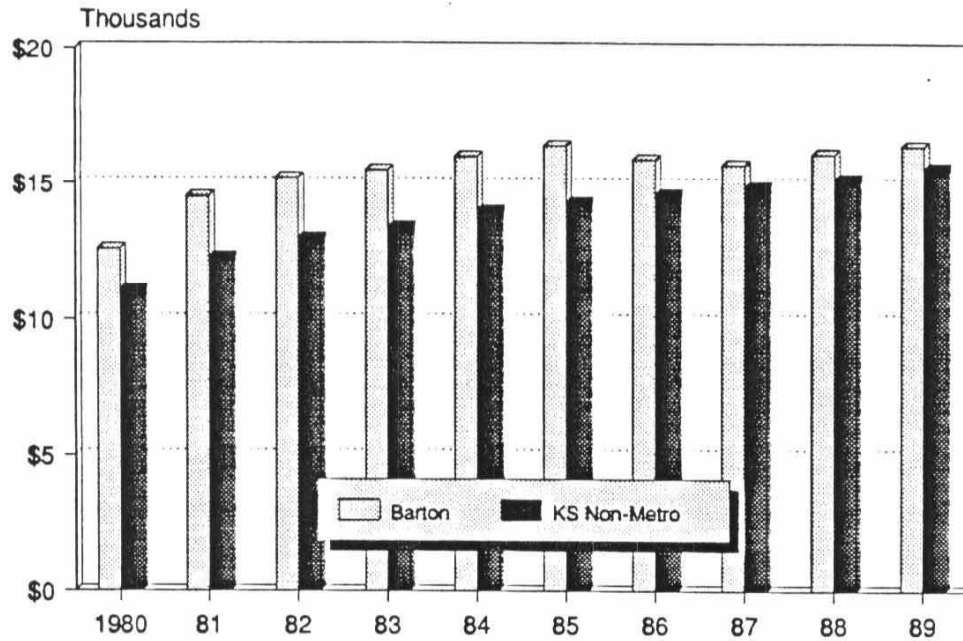
	Change in Employment Levels	Percent Change
	1980-1989	1980-1989
Barton	-1,680	-8.5%
Rush	-239	-9.7
Pawnee	-81	-1.8
Stafford	-179	-6.2
Rice	-738	-12.0
Ellsworth	-20	-0.6
Russell	-254	-4.3
Trade Area	-1,511	-5.9
McPherson	1,222	7.5
Ellis	1,177	7.7
Ford	2,740	18.9
Seward	1,174	10.7
Comparatives	6,313	11.1
Kansas Non-Metro	15,815	2.5
Kansas	169,300	13.2

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA25, Peer county calculations by University of Kansas, IPPBR-KCCED.

Figure 4.4

Average Earnings, 1980-1989

Barton and Comparatives



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Information System, December 1990, Table CA35.

- Average earnings in Barton County were greater than the Kansas non-metropolitan average throughout the 1980s. In 1989, the average earnings per job were \$16,400 in Barton and \$15,600 in Kansas Non-metropolitan counties.
- During the decade, Barton lost ground relative to nearly every comparative with respect to average earnings. In the ten-year period, Barton's average earnings per job showed virtually the smallest increase (30%) of any of the comparative counties.

Table 4.7
Average Earnings Per Job by Place of Work (in \$ Thousands)
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980-1989

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Barton	\$12.6	\$14.5	\$15.2	\$15.5	\$16.0	\$16.4	\$15.9	\$15.7	\$16.1	\$16.4
Rush	10.0	10.9	11.3	11.4	12.0	12.4	12.7	12.7	12.9	14.5
Pawnee	9.8	10.7	11.4	12.2	13.3	14.3	15.0	14.0	14.6	15.1
Stafford	9.8	10.3	11.0	11.3	12.0	12.4	12.7	12.9	13.4	13.4
Rice	11.4	12.8	13.1	13.4	14.0	14.7	14.9	15.0	15.2	15.7
Ellsworth	9.3	10.2	10.7	11.2	11.7	12.2	12.3	12.6	12.9	14.1
Russell	11.2	12.8	13.7	13.9	14.3	14.6	13.8	13.9	14.0	14.2
McPherson	11.2	12.5	13.3	14.0	14.2	15.0	15.4	15.9	16.1	16.8
Ellis	10.5	11.9	12.7	13.1	13.7	14.0	13.8	13.9	14.1	14.6
Ford	11.6	12.7	13.2	13.8	14.3	14.9	15.5	15.9	16.1	16.2
Seward	14.0	15.7	16.3	16.6	16.8	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2
Kansas Non-Metro	11.1	12.3	13.0	13.4	14.0	14.3	14.6	14.9	15.2	15.6
Kansas	12.7	14.0	14.8	15.5	16.2	16.8	17.5	17.9	18.5	19.0

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, December 1990, Table CA35.

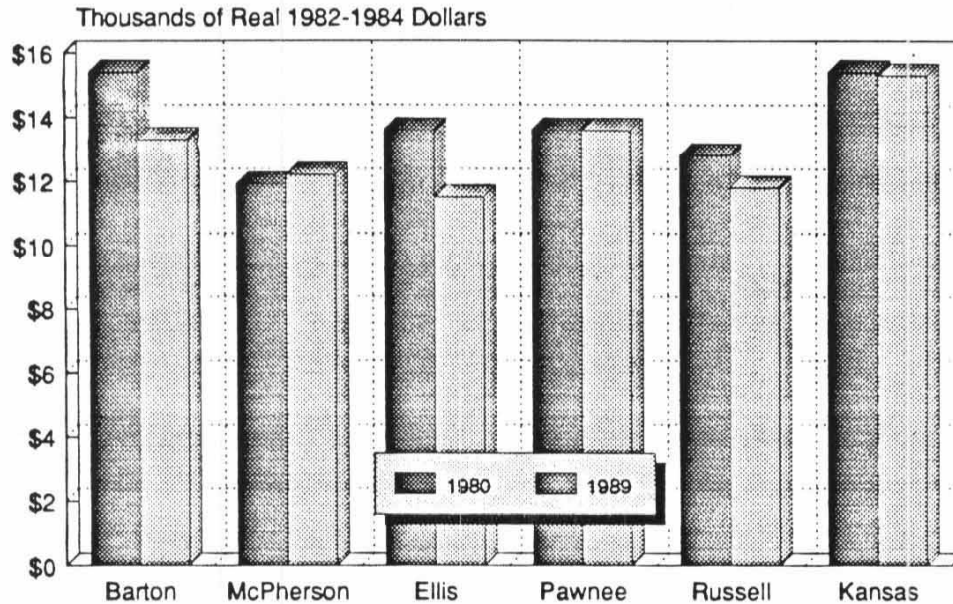
Table 4.8
Average Earnings Per Job by Place of Work, Percent Change
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties, Kansas and U.S., 1980-1989

	<u>Net Change (\$000)</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Barton	\$3.8	30.2%
Rush	4.5	45.0
Pawnee	5.3	54.1
Stafford	3.6	36.7
Rice	4.3	37.7
Ellsworth	4.8	51.6
Russell	3.0	26.8
McPherson	5.6	50.0
Ellis	4.1	39.0
Ford	4.6	39.7
Seward	3.2	22.9
Kansas Non-Metro	4.5	40.5
Kansas	6.3	49.6
U.S.	8.1	57.9

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, December 1990, Table CA35.

Figure 4.5

Average Real Income Per Job Barton and Selected Comparatives 1980-1989



Source: Wichita State University, Center for Economic Development and Business Research, *Business and Economic Report*, June 1991.

- Barton County ranked 20th in the state in terms of real 1989 average income per job. Among the comparatives, this was surpassed only by McPherson and Seward.
- Average real income fell 14 percent in Barton County from 1980 to 1989. This trend was similar to that of the Trade Area counties, but was a more severe decline than was experienced in the Comparative counties or in the state as a whole.
- Average real income per job in Barton County in 1989 was \$2,000 less than the state average of \$15,300.

Table 4.9
 Average Income Per Job* for Wage & Salary Workers
 (in Thousands of 1982-1984 Dollars)
 Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980-1989

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Rank**
Barton	\$15.4	\$16.0	\$15.7	\$15.5	\$15.4	\$15.3	\$14.5	\$13.8	\$13.6	\$13.3	20
Rush	12.1	12.0	11.7	11.4	11.5	11.5	11.6	11.2	10.9	11.7	48
Pawnee	11.9	11.8	11.8	12.3	12.8	13.3	13.7	12.3	12.3	12.2	40
Stafford	11.9	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.6	11.5	11.6	11.3	11.3	10.8	72
Rice	13.9	14.0	13.6	13.5	13.5	13.6	13.6	13.2	12.9	12.7	32
Ellsworth	11.3	11.2	11.1	11.2	11.3	11.3	11.2	11.1	10.9	11.8	60
Russell	13.6	14.1	14.2	14.0	13.8	13.5	12.7	12.3	11.9	11.5	54
McPherson	13.6	13.7	13.8	14.0	13.8	13.9	14.1	14.0	13.6	13.6	17
Ellis	12.8	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.0	12.6	12.3	11.9	11.8	45
Ford	14.0	13.9	13.7	13.9	13.8	13.9	14.2	14.0	13.6	13.0	27
Seward	17.0	17.2	16.9	16.6	16.1	16.0	15.7	15.2	14.5	13.9	14
Kansas	15.4	15.3	15.3	15.5	15.6	15.7	15.9	15.8	15.6	15.3	NA

*Average Income Per Job = Wage & Salary Income/Wage & Salary Employment.

**Rank based on Real Average Income Per Job in 1989.

Source: Wichita State University, Center for Economic Development and Business Research, Business and Economic Report, June 1991.

- In terms of growth rates in real income per job from 1985 to 1989, Barton County ranked 99th in the state. Only Russell and Seward showed slower growth rates.

Table 4.10
Real Average Income Per Job for Wage & Salary Workers,
Percent Annual Growth Rate
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980-1989

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Avg*	Rank**
Barton	0.3	4.1	-1.6	-1.1	-0.7	-1.0	-5.0	-4.7	-1.2	-2.8	-3.0	99
Rush	-1.0	-1.3	-2.0	-2.3	0.8	-0.1	0.5	-3.7	-2.1	6.8	0.3	6
Pawnee	-4.8	-1.2	0.0	4.2	4.4	3.8	2.9	-9.9	-0.2	-1.0	-0.9	53
Stafford	-5.7	-4.4	1.0	-1.1	2.6	-1.0	1.1	-2.5	0.2	-4.4	-1.3	73
Rice	-1.7	1.2	-3.1	-0.8	0.2	0.9	-0.4	-2.9	-2.5	-1.7	-1.3	72
Ellsworth	-5.1	-1.2	-1.0	1.0	1.4	0.0	-0.6	-1.3	-1.6	4.3	0.1	9
Russell	0.6	3.6	0.4	-1.3	-1.3	-1.7	-6.5	-3.2	-3.2	-3.3	-3.6	104
McPherson	-4.6	0.6	0.6	1.5	-1.6	0.9	1.2	-0.7	-2.5	-0.3		
Ellis	-2.3	2.1	1.0	-0.1	0.2	-1.6	-2.9	-2.7	-2.7	-1.4	-2.3	94
Ford	-4.6	-0.9	-1.6	1.4	-0.8	0.6	2.2	-1.5	-2.3	-4.4	-1.1	65
Seward	-0.5	1.2	-1.6	-1.7	-3.0	-1.0	-1.6	-3.7	-4.1	-4.6	-3.0	100
Kansas	-3.3	-0.3	0.0	1.3	0.6	0.2	1.7	-1.2	-0.9	-2.1	-0.5	NA

*Average Annual growth rate 1985-89.

**Rank based on average annual growth rate for Kansas counties 1985-89.

Source: Wichita State University, Center for Economic Development and Business Research, Business and Economic Report, June 1991.

- Wages, salaries and other labor income increased 12.4 percent from 1980-1989 in Barton County, which represented one of the smallest increases in the Trade Area. This growth rate was half that of the Trade Area counties and one-quarter that of the Comparative Counties.

Table 4.11
Wages, Salaries and Other Labor Income (in \$ Millions)
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980-1989

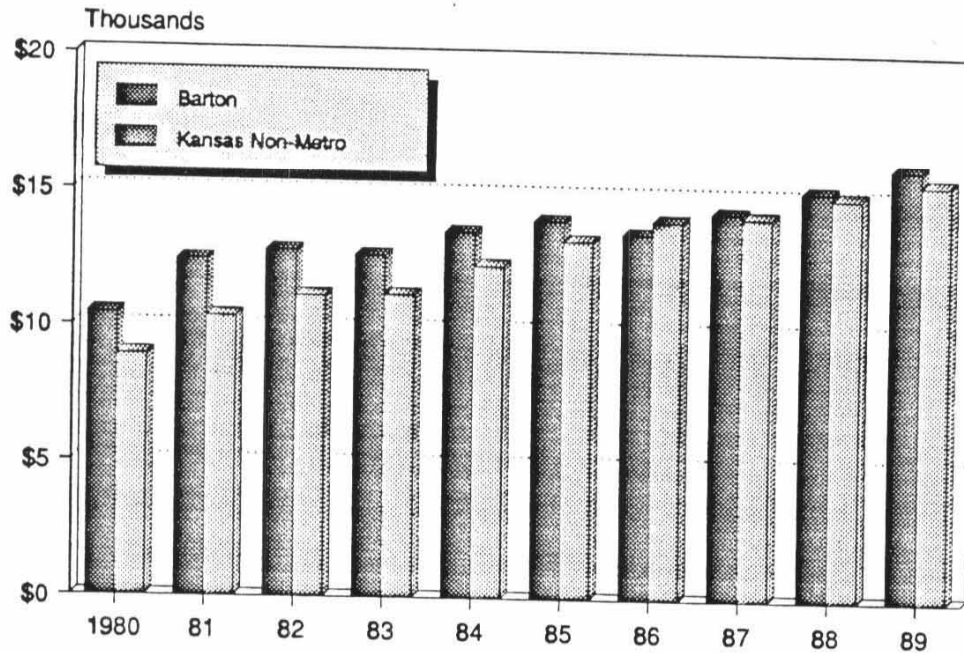
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Percent Change 1980-89
Barton	\$220.8	\$266.4	\$275.4	\$268.0	\$286.2	\$283.5	\$248.8	\$236.7	\$241.6	\$248.1	12.4%
Rush	16.0	17.1	17.7	17.3	18.1	17.9	16.9	16.6	16.9	19.6	22.5
Pawnee	36.2	39.1	41.4	43.1	45.3	46.9	47.6	48.1	51.2	53.3	47.2
Stafford	19.6	19.6	21.9	22.5	24.1	24.0	22.9	23.0	22.7	23.8	21.4
Rice	56.3	60.7	62.1	61.7	64.7	64.5	62.6	62.4	64.2	63.9	13.5
Ellsworth	26.3	27.3	27.3	28.1	29.0	30.5	30.5	31.5	33.4	38.8	47.5
Russell	48.9	57.0	64.2	62.7	62.6	62.8	54.8	56.2	53.5	53.0	8.4
Trade Area	203.3	220.8	234.6	235.4	243.8	246.6	235.5	237.8	241.9	252.4	24.2
McPherson	151.3	168.7	177.3	198.2	197.1	203.3	205.3	213.3	218.4	233.4	54.3
Ellis	138.7	159.2	173.6	182.8	193.4	190.1	177.1	174.2	183.1	191.3	37.9
Ford	147.1	166.7	170.3	182.5	200.9	207.4	216.7	224.7	238.0	246.6	67.6
Seward	145.1	167.3	177.0	173.0	185.2	194.3	191.1	185.2	185.5	191.2	31.8
Comparatives	582.2	661.9	698.2	736.5	776.6	795.1	790.2	797.4	825.0	862.5	48.1
	(in \$ billions)										
KS Non-Metro	5.7	6.3	6.6	6.8	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.8	8.1	42.1
Kansas	14.7	16.1	16.8	17.5	19.0	19.8	20.8	21.8	23.1	24.2	64.6

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5.

Figure 4.6

Per Capita Personal Income Levels

Barton and Kansas Non-Metro



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5.

- Barton County's per capita income levels have compared well to both its Trade Area Counties and its Comparative counties throughout most of the 1980's.
- The per capita income level in Barton County was higher than the level for Kansas Non-Metropolitan counties throughout the decade of the 1980's. In 1989, Barton's per capita income of \$16,038 was 4 percent higher than the Kansas Non-metro figure.

Table 4.12
Per Capita Personal Income Levels
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties, Kansas and the U.S., 1980-1989

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Barton	\$10,466	\$12,500	\$12,,874	\$12,704	\$13,568	\$14,001	\$13,568	\$14,356	\$15,164	\$16,038
Rush	10,344	11,330	12,826	12,145	13,428	13,672	14,539	14,814	14,712	16,135
Pawnee	8,450	10,840	12,035	11,408	13,159	13,877	15,704	16,043	16,581	17,007
Stafford	9,755	11,897	13,674	14,925	14,967	16,240	18,185	18,399	18,956	17,724
Rice	9,744	10,694	11,936	11,930	12,474	13,500	13,882	13,540	14,074	14,363
Ellsworth	9,188	9,956	11,362	11,734	12,248	12,570	13,399	13,144	13,606	14,764
McPherson	9,831	10,869	11,752	12,308	12,752	13,677	14,539	14,910	15,520	16,469
Ellis	9,058	10,207	10,760	11,321	12,045	12,453	12,469	12,955	13,699	14,863
Ford	10,332	11,489	11,879	12,093	13,897	14,339	15,227	15,180	16,499	16,989
Seward	10,064	12,408	12,628	12,243	13,910	14,738	14,653	14,661	15,200	15,752
Kansas Non-Metro	8,933	10,363	11,171	11,232	12,378	13,306	14,052	14,219	14,938	15,479
Kansas	9,941	11,188	11,809	12,133	13,017	13,804	14,470	14,966	15,699	16,526
U.S.	9,919	10,949	11,482	12,100	13,116	13,899	14,597	15,425	16,510	17,592

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5.

Table 4.13
Ten-Year Percent Change in Per Capita Income
Barton County, Trade Area, Comparatives, Kansas and U.S., 1980-1989

	<u>Percent Change</u> <u>1980-1989</u>
Barton	53.2%
Rush	57.5
Pawnee	101.3
Stafford	81.7
Rice	47.4
Ellsworth	60.7
McPherson	67.5
Ellis	64.1
Ford	64.4
Seward	56.5
Kansas Non-Metro	77.4
Kansas	66.2
U.S.	77.3

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5.

- Nominal personal income in Barton County increased 43% between 1980 and 1989, but lagged behind the growth rates of comparative and the Kansas Non-Metropolitan counties.

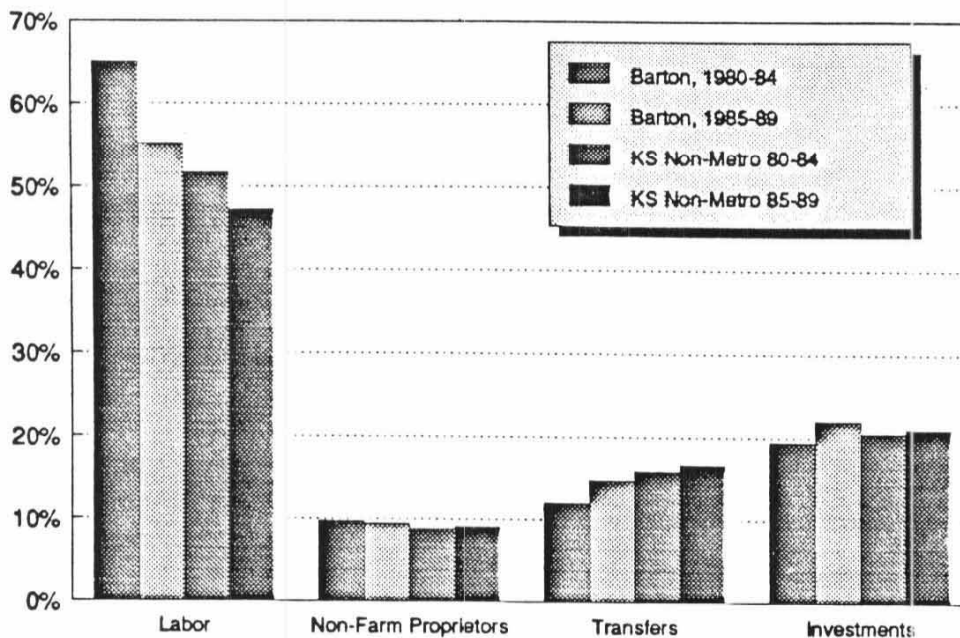
Table 4.14
Total Personal Income (Place of Residence)
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980-1989

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
	(in Millions of Current Dollars)									
Barton	\$329.8	\$401.4	\$423.7	\$420.5	\$449.6	\$462.5	\$439.1	\$446.4	\$460.1	\$472.9
Rush	46.2	50.9	57.2	54.1	59.3	58.9	60.5	58.8	55.8	58.7
Pawnee	68.4	88.7	99.0	94.3	107.1	110.2	121.4	121.6	124.6	125.4
Stafford	55.7	68.5	79.4	85.8	86.8	93.2	101.8	98.5	99.7	90.5
Rice	115.8	125.9	139.8	139.2	145.1	153.2	155.2	150.2	153.5	154.5
Ellsworth	61.0	66.1	74.9	76.1	79.0	79.5	84.0	82.0	83.7	90.0
Russell	92.6	110.7	129.5	129.9	132.0	134.6	131.6	129.1	128.2	130.6
McPherson	264.9	296.2	320.4	342.6	354.2	378.6	399.1	406.4	420.0	442.1
Ellis	237.7	273.1	295.9	313.4	335.9	347.7	343.6	346.8	362.6	386.3
Ford	252.4	285.6	298.3	310.6	361.9	374.8	397.9	398.5	427.7	439.0
Seward	172.9	218.3	230.6	223.3	251.8	275.6	276.0	273.6	280.9	289.9
	(in Billions of Current Dollars)									
Kansas Non-Metro	10.5	12.1	13.0	13.3	14.3	15.0	15.5	15.7	16.4	17.1
Kansas	23.6	26.7	28.5	29.5	31.8	33.8	35.6	37.0	39.2	41.5

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5.

Figure 4.7

Share of Personal Income, By Source Barton & KS Non-Metro, 1980-84, 1985-89



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System*, Table CA5.

- Employment income, which accounted for 65 percent of Barton’s personal income in the early part of the decade, averaged 55 percent of income in the latter half. Increased reliance on investment income, in the form of Dividends, Interest and Rent, covered some of this decrease, while Transfer Payments and Farm proprietorships also contributed greater shares toward income than they had in the early half of the 1980s.
- Income from farm proprietorships accounted for 4.1 percent of Barton’s personal income and 7.1 percent of the typical Kansas non-metropolitan county’s personal income during the late half of the 1980s.

Table 4.15
 Components of Personal Income as a Percentage of Total Personal Income
 Barton and Selected Trade Area and Comparative Counties, 1980-1984 and 1985-1989

	Wages, Salaries and Other Labor Income	Proprietorship		Dividends, Interest, & Rent	Transfer Payments	Total Other Adjustments
		Farm	Non-Farm			
<u>Barton County</u>						
1980-1984 Average	65.0%	1.2%	9.7%	19.4%	11.9%	-6.2%
1985-1989 Average	55.2	4.1	9.4	22.0	14.8	-5.5
<u>McPherson County</u>						
1980-1984 Average	56.5	3.4	9.9	18.5	12.8	-0.8
1985-1989 Average	52.5	6.1	12.6	18.3	13.6	-1.1
<u>Ellis County</u>						
1980-1984 Average	58.2	2.3	10.4	18.9	11.4	-1.2
1985-1989 Average	51.2	3.3	11.1	21.0	14.9	-1.5
<u>Pawnee County</u>						
1980-1984 Average	44.8	10.6	8.8	24.5	15.9	-4.6
1985-1989 Average	41.0	17.7	8.9	21.5	16.0	-5.1
<u>Russell County</u>						
1980-1984 Average	50.1	5.6	10.0	27.9	13.7	-7.3
1985-1989 Average	42.9	5.5	10.7	28.7	16.9	-4.7
<u>Kansas Non-Metro</u>						
1980-1984 Average	51.7	4.1	8.8	20.6	15.9	-1.1
1985-1989 Average	47.3	7.1	9.1	21.0	16.7	-1.2
<u>Kansas</u>						
1980-1984 Average	60.0	2.0	7.6	18.1	13.7	-1.4
1985-1989 Average	58.6	3.3	8.0	18.2	13.9	-2.0

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA5.

Section V: Geographic Location and Infrastructure

Some of a community's most important assets are specific to its location. Location-specific assets such as resource availability, climate and capital investment in infrastructure and public facilities, are immobile factors which contribute to a community's natural advantages or disadvantages. Significant changes in these factors tend to take place only over the long term; it is therefore essential that the community make the best use of its locational assets in the short and medium term.

In the following section, each of the following indicators are examined:

- *land area and population density* show how extensive the public infrastructure needs of the community are. Densely populated communities can usually deliver public services such as water and sewer systems more cost effectively;
- *natural resources and percent of land in farms* indicate the natural assets and the economic opportunities provided by the land;
- *average annual precipitation* indicates how favorable the land in the area is for agriculture and indicates how much demand can be placed upon local water supplies through settlement or manufacturing and processing;
- *highway and rail transportation networks* show how well connected the community is with external sources of supplies and customers for local firms;
- *traffic counts* help estimate the demands being made upon the existing infrastructure, and provides an indication of changing patterns in economic activity, as communities become more interdependent; and
- *the accessibility of water and sewer systems* indicate the levels of service available within a community.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: KEY FINDINGS

- Barton County is located in the central part of the state, traversed by US 56, 156 and 281 and Kansas 4 and 96. This location is accessible to key major markets as it is about 115 miles from Wichita, roughly 250 miles from Kansas City and Oklahoma City and less than 500 miles from Denver.
- Barton County is relatively densely populated, at 32.8 persons per square mile. None of the Trade Area or Comparative Counties have a higher population density. The Kansas average density is 30.2 persons per square mile.
- Oil, gas, and timber, sand, gravel and clay are the principal natural resources found in Barton. Many of these are also available in the Trade Area and Comparative counties.
- The county has 1,896 miles of public highways, of which 123 miles are in state highways. Its public highway network is somewhat less extensive than those found in McPherson and Ford Counties but is greater than those found in all of the Trade Area counties except Ellsworth.
- Between 1980 and 1990, average daily traffic volumes on the major highways entering Barton County increased modestly. The most heavily travelled highways are Highway 56 entering Pawnee County (3,590 vehicles per day) and US 56 entering Rice County (2,640 vehicles per day.) These two checkpoints account for half of all traffic entering and leaving Barton County.
- The percentage of permanent residences in Barton connected to public or private water and sewer systems is generally better than those of the Trade Area Counties but slightly less than those of most Comparative Counties.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: DATA ANALYSIS

- Barton County is relatively densely populated, at 32.8 persons per square mile. None of the Trade Area or Comparative Counties have a higher population density. The Kansas average density is 30.2 persons per square mile.

Table 5.1
Land Area and Population Density, 1990
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas

	Land Area (Square Miles)	Population Per Square Mile
Barton	895	32.8
Rush	718	5.3
Pawnee	755	10.0
Stafford	788	6.5
Rice	728	14.6
Ellsworth	717	10.9
Russell	869	7.6
McPherson	900	30.3
Ellis	900	28.9
Ford	1,099	25.0
Seward	640	28.9
Kansas	81,778	30.2

Source: John Clements, *Kansas Facts*, (Dallas: Clements Research II, Inc., 1990).

- The county experiences wide variations in temperature and precipitation. Temperatures in January range from an average low of 18 degrees to an average high of 41 degrees. July average low and high temperatures are, respectively, 69 and 94 degrees.
- Average annual precipitation in the county is 25.4 inches. This is less than that experienced by most eastern counties, more than that received by the state's far western counties but comparable to the statewide average, 26.6 inches.

Table 5.2
Thirty-Year Average Annual Precipitation
Barton County, State Climatic Regions and Kansas, 1951-1980

	(in inches)
Barton	25.4
North West	19.9
West Central	19.6
South West	18.6
North Central	26.3
Central	27.7
South Central	26.3
North East	34.3
East Central	35.4
South East	36.5
Statewide	27.0

Source: Kansas Agricultural Statistics, *Kansas Farm Facts*, 1990.

- Barton County has a very high percentage of its land in farms (99%) relative to the Trade Area and Comparative Counties.
- Oil, gas, and timber, sand, gravel and clay are the principal natural resources found in Stafford. Many of these are also available in the Trade Area and Comparative counties.

Table 5.3
Natural Resources and Percent of Land in Farms

	Percent of <u>Land in Farms</u>	<u>Natural Resources</u>
Barton	99	SAN, GRA, CLA, OIL, GAS, TIM
Trade Area		
Russell	87	SAN, GRA, OIL, GAS, TIM
Ellsworth	94	SAL, CLA, SAN, GRA, OIL, GAS, TIM
Rice	97	SAL, CRU, SAN, GRA, OIL, GAS
Stafford	92	OIL, GAS, TIM
Pawnee	99	OIL, GAS, TIM
Rush	96	OIL, GAS, TIM
Comparatives		
McPherson	97	CLA, OIL, GAS, TIM
Ellis	99	SAN, GRA, OIL, TIM
Ford	98	SAN, GRA, OIL, GAS, TIM
Seward	84	SAN, GRA, OIL, GAS, TIM

Key: TIM - Timber, SAL - Salt, SAN - Sand, GRA - Gravel, CLA - Clay, VOL - Volcanic Ash, CRU - Crushed Rock.

Source: John Clements, *Kansas Facts*, (Dallas: Clements Research II, Inc., 1990).

- The county has 1,896 miles of public highways, of which 123 miles are in state highways. Its public highway network is somewhat less extensive than those found in McPherson and Ford Counties but is greater than those found in all of the Trade Area counties except Ellsworth and is more extensive than those of Ellis and Seward Counties.
- The county has rail access to markets; it is served by two carriers, Atchison-Topeka & Santa Fe and Missouri Pacific.

Table 5.4
Highway and Rail Freight Transportation

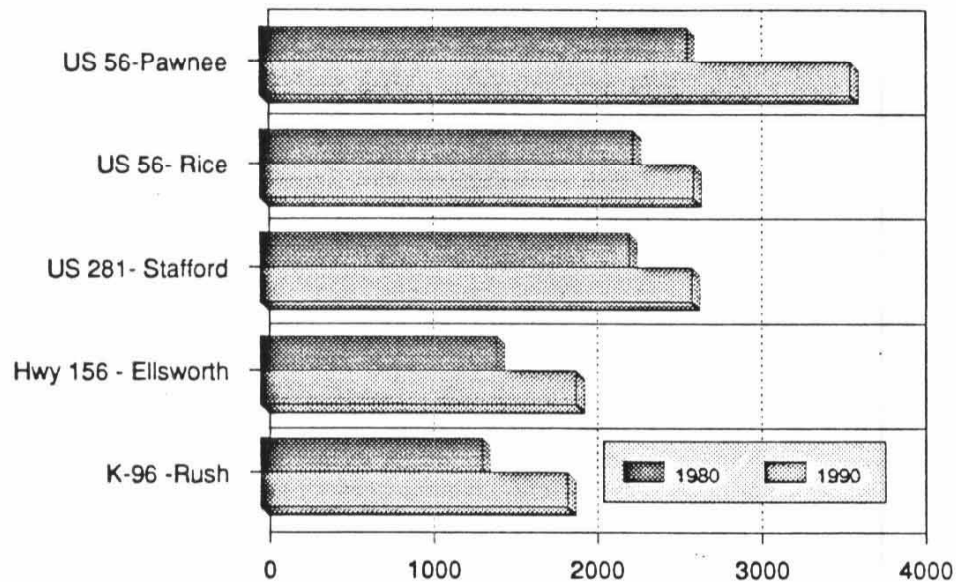
	Total Public Highway Miles	Interstate & State Miles	Rail Freight Carriers
Barton	1,896	123	AT, MP
Trade Area			
Russell	1,437	103	MP
Ellsworth	1,177	148	AT, MP, UP
Rice	1,414	83	AT, BN, MP
Stafford	1,445	70	AT, MP
Pawnee	1,421	99	AT
Rush	1,342	91	AT, MP
Comparatives			
McPherson	1,839	148	AT
Ellis	1,506	68	MP
Ford	1,787	154	AT, SP
Seward	902	85	SP

Key: AT - Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe; BN - Burlington Northern; MP - Missouri Pacific; OK - Oklahoma Texas & Kansas; SP - Southern Pacific; and UP - Union Pacific.

Source: Kansas Facts.

Figure 5.1

Average Daily Traffic Volume Barton Co. Points of Entry/Exit 1980-1990



Source: Kansas Department of Transportation, *Traffic Flow Maps*, 1980-1990.

- Between 1980 and 1990, average daily traffic volumes on the major highways entering Barton County increased modestly. Heavy commercial traffic increased by 23 percent over this period, with passenger vehicle traffic rising by 26 percent.
- The most heavily travelled highways are Highway 56 entering Pawnee County (3,590 vehicles per day) and US 56 entering Rice County (2,640 vehicles per day.) These two checkpoints account for half of all traffic entering and leaving Barton County.
- Over the decade, the traffic orientation has grown most toward the northeast and the southwest. This may be a reflection of increased pass-through traffic between places such as Dodge City and Interstate 70.

Table 5.5
Average Daily Traffic Volumes at Points of Entry/Exit
Barton County, 1980-1990

<u>Location/Traffic Type</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>% Change 1980-90</u>
K 4 - Rush	725	635	-12.4%
K 96 - Rush	1,350	1,870	38.5
US 56 - Pawnee	2,600	3,590	38.1
US 281 - Stafford	2,250	2,630	16.9
US 56 - Rice	2,275	2,640	16.0
US 281 - Rice	610	1,050	72.1
Hwy 156 - Ellsworth	1,440	1,925	33.6
US 281 - Russell	1,045	1,085	3.8
Total Heavy Commercial	2,245	2,756	22.8
Total Lt. Commercial/Passenger	10,050	12,669	26.1
Total - All Types	12,295	15,425	6.1

Source: Kansas Department of Transportation, *Traffic Flow Maps*, 1980-1990.

- The percentage of permanent residences in Barton connected to a public or private water system is generally better than those of the Trade Area Counties but slightly less than those of most Comparative Counties. There has been no significant change in the proportion of housing units connected to a public water system over the decade.
- The same pattern for public water systems can be seen for public sewer systems.

Table 5.6
Access to Water and Sewer Systems
Barton, Trade Area and Comparative Counties, 1980 and 1990

	Percent of Permanent Residences <u>Connected to Water</u>		Percent of Permanent Residences <u>Connected to Sewer</u>	
	1980	1990	1980	1990
Barton	81	81	80	79
Trade Area				
Russell	86	93	79	81
Ellsworth	76	71	72	76
Rice	77	77	72	77
Stafford	61	59	64	65
Pawnee	72	76	73	77
Rush	73	76	67	69
Comparatives				
McPherson	79	82	75	78
Ellis	86	87	86	87
Ford	82	84	82	83
Seward	93	91	92	91

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 1980 and 1990 Censuses of Population, Summary Tape File 3A.

Section VI: Business Environment

A community's business environment is affected by several things. Past decisions by investors, business managers, taxpayers and policy makers each contribute to shape a climate which is either promotes or inhibits the productivity of local businesses and therefore affects decisions about growth and expansion. Other contributing factors include the level of competition, the availability of suppliers and supporting industries, the cost of labor, and taxation and regulation within the community. Some types of establishments will thrive in an environment which other firms cannot operate in profitably. Among other things, studying the business environment can lead to a better understanding about which types of businesses are doing well and how business conditions and the performance of particular industries is changing over time.

This section reviews the following indicators:

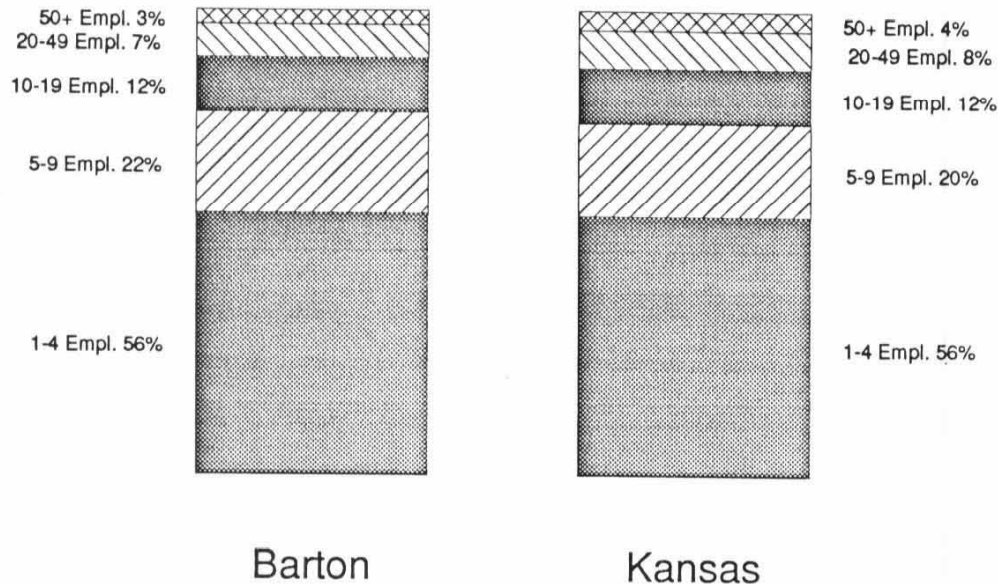
- *distribution of firms, by number of employees and sector* to determine what changes are taking place at the firm level in the local economy;
- *average annual pay per employee by sector* as an indicator of changing patterns in business productivity, reflected by increases or decreases in relative wages;
- *distribution of employment by sector* to assess how local sectoral performance compares with larger scale trends, and *net job creation by industry*, to determine which industries are growing most quickly at the local level;
- *levels of taxable retail sales and annual growth rates of retail sales* as indicators of retail sector performance and trends and the overall strength of the local consumer market;
- *the number of farms, acres harvested, average farm size and the value of field crops and livestock and poultry* to reflect the levels of farm activity and the changing character of farming; and,
- *levels of assessment, bonded indebtedness and tax levies* which reveal the capacity of the public sector to take on new public investments.

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT: KEY FINDINGS

- The size of Barton firms mirrors statewide trends. Small firms dominate, with 78 percent employing less than 10 staff. The number of firms in Barton County declined 5 percent over the 1980s, mostly due to fewer firms employing 50 or more.
- Barton firms in the manufacturing, wholesale and finance, insurance & real estate sectors typically employ 30 to 35 percent fewer employees than the Kansas average.
- Average annual pay per employee in Barton, at \$15,700 is 18 percent less than the statewide value, a greater wage gap than existed at the start of the decade (5%). For the mining and manufacturing sectors, the pay difference is more pronounced, ranging from 25% to 30% less than the state average.
- Overall, 1,680 jobs were lost in Barton County from 1980 to 1989. Over 1,000 of these were from the mining sector, 465 were from wholesale, with losses also occurring in retail (364 jobs), farming (313) and manufacturing (270). Sectors gaining employment included Government (540 jobs), Services (406) and Finance, insurance and real estate (83 jobs.)
- On average, each Trade Area county lost 250 jobs over this period, while each Comparative County gained 1,500 jobs.
- Barton County has larger than average shares of employment in wholesaling (6%) retailing (16.7%) and services (21.0%) than is typical for Non-Metropolitan Kansas. Although Barton's government sector grew rapidly (+28%) during the 1980s, its share of employment (14%) is smaller than the non-metropolitan average of 21 percent.
- Real levels of taxable retail sales in Barton County fell from in excess of \$400 million at the beginning of the decade to less than \$190 million at its end. Most of this decline came during the 1980-1986 period.
- Farm output in Barton County increased by 8 percent during the 1980s, while declining 12 percent in the Trade Area and increasing 12 percent in the Comparative Counties. Agricultural production showed a more pronounced shift toward livestock and poultry from field crops than in the Trade Area counties or in the state as a whole.
- Levels of assessment declined moderately in most Barton County jurisdictions between 1990 and 1992. Levels of bonded indebtedness were generally low in Barton County except for the larger cities which have incurred debt levels comparable to those of nearby cities of similar size.
- Mill levies in Barton County were generally low in 1992 relative to those in Comparative counties, their cities and school districts.

Figure 6.1

Size of Firms, by Number of Employees Barton County and Kansas, 1989



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Business Patterns*, 1980 and 1989.

- The size of Barton County firms are generally similar to those of the state as a whole. Four of every 5 firms had less than 10 employees while 1 firm in every 10 had at least 20 staff in 1989.
- The number of firms in Barton fell 5 percent between 1980 and 1989, from 1,079 to 1,032. In contrast, the number of firms statewide increased by 19 percent.
- In every sector except agricultural services, Barton has at least one firm with 50 or more employees.
- The average number of employees per firm in Barton fell from 10.6 in 1980 to 9.7 in 1989. In Kansas, the statewide average fell from 13.9 to 13.2 over this period.
- Barton County Manufacturing, Wholesale and Finance, insurance and real estate firms in Barton were substantially smaller than their statewide counterparts in 1989.

Table 6.1
 Number of Private Non-Farm Firms by Sector and Number of Employees
 Barton County, 1980 and 1989

<u>Sector / Industry</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>1-4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-19</u>	<u>20-49</u>	<u>50+</u>
All Private Sectors	1989	1,032	580	227	124	73	28
	1980	1,079	568	248	142	78	43
Agricultural Services	1989	17	13	3	1	0	0
	1980	6	5	1	0	0	0
Mining	1989	76	40	18	12	5	1
	1980	98	38	19	23	13	5
Construction	1989	77	47	16	7	6	1
	1980	118	69	26	14	7	2
Manufacturing	1989	44	12	15	7	3	7
	1980	49	10	9	10	9	11
Transp. & Pub. Utilities	1989	59	28	14	6	10	1
	1980	34	14	4	6	8	2
Wholesale Trade	1989	103	50	28	17	6	2
	1980	104	41	29	22	9	3
Retail	1989	235	113	60	32	22	8
	1980	293	148	81	31	23	10
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	1989	69	47	8	6	7	1
	1980	78	51	13	10	3	1
Services	1989	303	183	63	36	14	7
	1980	248	146	62	25	6	9

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Business Patterns*, 1980 and 1989.

Table 6.2
Number of Private, Non-Farm Firms by Sector and Number of Employees
Kansas, 1980 and 1989

Sector / Industry		Total	1-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50+
All Private Sectors	1989	65,692	36,471	13,327	8,047	5,082	2,765
	1980	55,021	30,569	11,129	6,696	4,376	2,251
Agricultural Services	1989	889	620	181	66	16	6
	1980	547	413	98	26	9	1
Mining	1989	1,087	624	212	127	88	36
	1980	1,137	567	195	156	152	67
Construction	1989	5,446	3,344	1,099	594	286	123
	1980	5,149	3,271	934	494	308	142
Manufacturing	1989	3,186	945	570	510	530	631
	1980	2,919	747	497	498	523	624
Transp. & Pub. Utilities	1989	3,221	1,786	507	465	284	179
	1980	2,881	1,359	712	349	292	169
Wholesale Trade	1989	5,575	2,448	1,419	1,034	507	167
	1980	5,267	2,172	1,405	990	546	154
Retail	1989	16,602	7,619	4,116	2,536	1,715	615
	1980	15,204	7,538	3,556	2,291	1,397	422
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	1989	5,515	3,512	884	555	364	200
	1980	4,893	3,082	842	494	320	155
Services	1989	20,231	12,094	4,045	2,055	1,230	807
	1980	14,270	8,930	2,679	1,331	813	517

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Business Patterns*, 1980 and 1989.

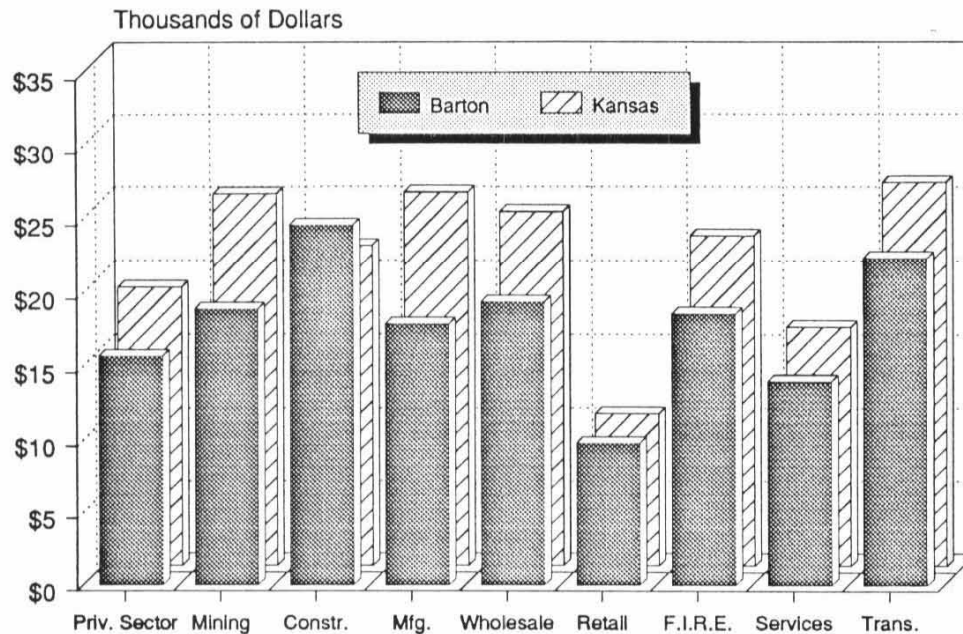
Table 6.3
Average Size of Private, Non-Farm Firms
Barton County and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

<u>Sector / Industry</u>	<u>Average Number of Employees Per Firm</u>			
	<u>Barton</u>		<u>Kansas</u>	
	<u>1980</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1989</u>
Private Sector	10.6	9.7	13.9	13.2
Agricultural Services	4.3	3.4	4.0	5.4
Mining	12.6	8.1	15.3	10.0
Construction	7.2	6.3	8.0	7.0
Manufacturing	43.3	42.7	71.0	60.4
Transportation & Public Utilities	16.9	9.2	17.9	17.7
Wholesale Trade	10.3	7.8	11.4	11.3
Retail	9.0	10.2	10.8	11.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	6.8	6.9	10.1	10.5
Services	9.5	8.9	10.9	11.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Business Patterns*, 1980 and 1989.

Figure 6.2

Average Annual Pay Per Employee Barton County and Kansas, 1989



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Business Patterns*, 1980 and 1989.

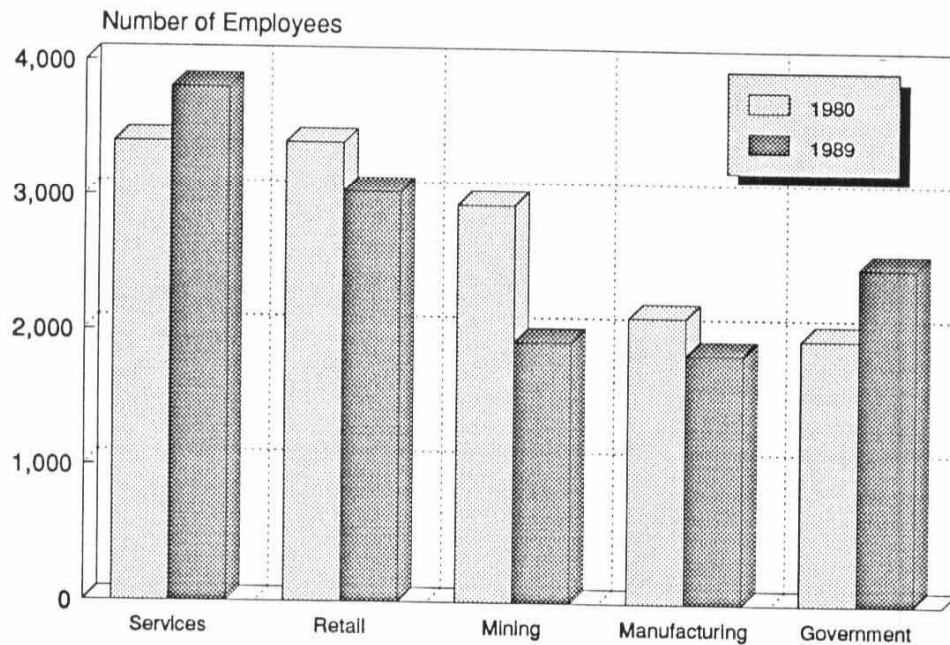
- In 1989, average annual pay per employee in Barton was \$15,700, 18 percent lower than the statewide average.
- The gap between Barton County and the state, in terms of average annual pay per employee, widened during the 1980s. In 1980, Barton's average pay was within 5 percent of the state average; by 1989, Barton's average pay was 18 percent less.
- Average annual pay per employee in Barton lags the statewide value in every sector except agricultural services and construction. While employment was limited in these sectors, annual average pay exceeded state values by 22 and 12 percent, respectively. The retail sector was the next closest to the state average earnings (7% less than the state average.)
- Average annual earnings in manufacturing were particularly low relative to the state in 1989, at a level 30 percent less than the state average.

Table 6.4
 Average Annual Pay Per Employee by Sector
 Private, Non-Farm Firms (in \$Thousands)
 Barton County and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

<u>Sector / Industry</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Barton</u>	<u>Kansas</u>
Private Sector	1989	\$15.7	\$19.1
	1980	12.1	12.6
Agricultural Services	1989	14.8	12.1
	1980	8.2	9.7
Mining	1989	18.9	25.4
	1980	18.9	21.4
Construction	1989	24.6	21.9
	1980	15.0	14.2
Manufacturing	1989	17.9	25.5
	1980	12.7	15.4
Transportation & Public Utilities	1989	22.4	26.2
	1980	17.6	16.1
Wholesale Trade	1989	19.4	24.2
	1980	15.6	15.7
Retail	1989	9.8	10.5
	1980	7.2	7.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1989	18.6	22.6
	1980	13.2	13.3
Services	1989	14.0	16.4
	1980	9.3	9.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Business Patterns*, 1980 and 1989.

Figure 6.3
 Number of Jobs, Selected Sectors
 Barton County, 1980 and 1989



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

- Overall, 1,680 jobs were lost in Barton County from 1980 to 1989. Over 1,000 of these were from the mining sector and 465 were from wholesale, with losses also occurring in retail (364 jobs), farming (313) and manufacturing (270).
- Sectors gaining employment included Government (540 jobs), Services (406) and Finance, insurance and real estate (83 jobs.)
- On average, each Trade Area county lost 250 jobs over this period, while each Comparative County gained 1,500 jobs.

Table 6.5
Distribution of Jobs by Sector,
Percent Change, Barton County, 1980-1989

Industry	1980	1989	Net Change	Percent Change
Total	19,796	18,116	-1,680	-8.5%
Non-Farm	18,312	16,945	-1,367	-7.5
Farm	1,484	1,171	-313	-21.1
Services	3,401	3,807	406	11.9
Retail	3,397	3,033	-364	-10.7
Mining	2,940	1,926	-1,014	-34.9
Manufacturing	2,111	1,841	-270	-12.8
Government	1,954	2,497	543	27.8
Wholesale	1,543	1,078	-465	-30.1
Construction	1,008	748	-260	-25.8
Transp. & Pub. Utilities	993	910	-83	-8.4
Finance, Ins. & R. Estate	878	961	83	9.5
Agricultural Services	87	144	57	65.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

Table 6.6
Net Change in Employment and Share of Net Change by Industry
Barton County, Kansas Non-Metro and Kansas, 1980-1989

	Net Change in Number of Jobs					
	Barton		Non-Metro Kansas		Kansas Total	
	Net Change	Industry Share	Net Change (thousands)	Industry Share	Net Change (thousands)	Industry Share
Farm	-313	(18.6)%	-14.6	(92.4)	-16.2	(9.4)%
Non-Farm	-1,367	(81.3)	30.5	192.3	185.4	109.5
Services	406	24.2*	24.5	154.9	95.2	56.3
Retail	-364	(21.7)	3.3	20.9	33.8	20.0
Mining	-1,014	(60.4)	-2.3	(14.7)	-1.0	(4.9)
Manufacturing	-270	(16.1)	-1.1	(6.9)	-8.1	(4.2)
Government	543	32.3*	14.9	94.2	34.0	20.1
Wholesale	-465	(27.7)	-3.0	(19.2)	3.7	2.2
Construction	-260	(15.5)	-6.1	(38.3)	0.2	0.1
Transp. & Public Utilities	-83	(4.9)	-4.2	(26.6)	2.1	1.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	83	4.9*	3.1	19.5	21.9	12.9
Agricultural Services	57	3.4*	1.5	9.5	4.0	2.4
Total	-1,680	(100.0)	15.8	100.0	169.2	100.0

Note: Brackets indicate a net decrease in number of jobs; * indicates a percentage net increase calculated as a percentage of the absolute value of the total net decrease in jobs.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

- Barton County lost a greater share of its employment base during the 1980s (18.5 %) than did any of the Trade Area counties and Comparative Counties. Collectively, the Trade area counties lost 5.9 percent of 1980 employment, while the Comparative Counties experienced 11.1 percent job creation rates over the decade.
- Ford County gained the most new jobs over the period 1980-1989 (2,740 jobs), with Rice County losing 738 jobs, second to Barton in the job loss category.

Table 6.7
Total Employment, Net Change and Percent Change,
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

County	<u>1980</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Barton	19,796	18,116	-1,680	-18.5%
Trade Area	25,721	24,210	-1,511	-5.9
Russell	5,965	5,711	-254	-4.3
Ellsworth	3,619	3,599	-20	-0.6
Rice	6,126	5,388	-738	-12.1
Stafford	2,920	2,741	-179	-6.2
Pawnee	4,624	4,543	-81	-1.8
Rush	2,467	2,228	-239	-9.7
Comparatives	56,948	63,261	6,313	11.1
McPherson	16,260	17,482	1,222	7.5
Ellis	15,204	16,381	1,177	7.7
Ford	14,491	17,231	2,740	18.9
Seward	10,993	12,167	1,174	10.7
Non-Metro	624,269	640,084	15,815	2.5
Kansas	1,286,742	1,455,976	169,234	13.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

- During the decade, farm employment fell in Barton County by 313 jobs. The rate of job loss (-21%) was slightly higher than the Trade Area and Comparative Counties (both at -15%) and the Kansas Non-Metro figure (-16%).
- The farm sector remained a relatively small proportion of the Barton economy, accounting for 6.5 percent of employment in 1989. This share was similar to that of the Comparative Counties and the State as a whole, but about half the proportion of total employment typically found in Non-Metropolitan counties.

Table 6.8
Farm Employment, Net Change and Percent Change
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

County	1980	Percent of 1980 Total	1989	Percent of 1989 Total	Net Change	Percent Change
Barton	1,484	7.5	1,171	6.5	-313	-21.1%
Trade Area	4,993	19.4	4,235	17.5	-758	-15.2
Russell	842	14.1	741	13.0	-101	-12.0
Ellsworth	702	19.4	604	16.8	-98	-14.0
Rice	953	15.6	782	14.5	-171	-17.9
Stafford	803	27.5	673	24.6	-130	-16.2
Pawnee	930	20.1	787	17.3	-143	-15.4
Rush	763	30.9	648	29.1	-115	-15.0
Comparatives	4,854	8.5	4,134	6.5	-720	-14.8
McPherson	1,782	11.0	1,620	9.3	-162	-9.1
Ellis	1,151	7.6	999	6.1	-152	-13.2
Ford	1,348	9.3	1,057	6.1	-291	-21.6
Seward	573	5.2	458	3.8	-115	-20.0
Non-Metro	90,441	14.5	75,768	11.8	-14,673	-16.2
Kansas	102,162	7.9	85,974	5.9	-16,188	-15.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

- Mining employment (which includes oil extraction) in Barton fell precipitously during the decade from 2,940 in 1980 to 1,926 in 1989, a decline of 35 percent.
- Despite mining employment job losses, this sector remains a major component of the Barton economy. Mining accounts for more than one in every ten Barton jobs, while the Non-metro average is one Mining job in every 35 jobs. Mining is also a key component of the Russell, Rice, Stafford, McPherson, Ellis and Seward economies.

Table 6.9
Mining Employment, Net Change and Percent Change
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

<u>County</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Percent of 1980 Total</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>Percent of 1989 Total</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Barton	2,940	14.9%	1,926	10.6%	-1,014	-34.5%
Trade Area	2,449	9.5	2,241	9.3	-208	-8.5
Russell	1,276	21.4	1,344	23.5	68	5.3
Ellsworth	146	4.0	101	2.8	-45	-30.8
Rice	730	11.9	545	10.1	-185	-25.3
Stafford	192	6.6	197	7.2	7	3.6
Pawnee	45	1.0	23	0.5	-22	-48.9
Rush	60	2.4	31	1.4	-29	-48.3
Comparatives	3,154	5.5	3,603	5.7	449	14.2
McPherson	1,008	6.2	1,350	7.7	342	33.9
Ellis	1,043	6.9	1,412	8.6	369	35.3
Ford	75	0.5	71	0.4	-4	-5.3
Seward	1,028	9.4	770	6.3	-258	-25.1
Non-Metro	20,101	3.2	17,778	2.8	-2,323	-11.6
Kansas	28,009	2.2	26,644	1.8	-1,365	-4.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

- Manufacturing employment in Barton declined by 13 percent during the decade, less than the decline in the Trade Area (-19%), but greater than the Non-Metro rate of decline (-2%).
- Comparative counties, excluding Ford, typically experienced modest declines in Manufacturing employment. Ellis County lost the greatest share of Manufacturing employment (1,057 jobs, -71%).
- Manufacturing jobs account for 10 percent of the Barton economy, similar to Non-Metro Kansas totals (11%) and nearly about twice the share of employment found in Trade Area counties.

Table 6.10
Manufacturing Employment,
Share of Total Employment, Net Change and Percent Change
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

County	1980	Percent of 1980 Total	1989	Percent of 1989 Total	Net Change	Percent Change
Barton	2,111	10.7	1,841	10.2	-270	-12.8%
Trade Area	1,741	6.8	1,412	5.8	-329	-18.9
Russell	336	5.6	304	5.3	-32	-9.5
Ellsworth	418	11.6	282	7.8	-136	-32.5
Rice	534	8.7	385	7.1	-149	-27.9
Stafford	80	2.7	110	4.0	30	37.5
Pawnee	166	3.6	105	2.3	-61	-36.7
Rush	207	8.4	226	10.1	19	9.2
Comparatives	7,829	13.7	8,788	13.9	959	12.2
McPherson	2,827	17.4	3,164	18.1	337	11.9
Ellis	1,482	9.7	425	2.6	-1,057	-71.3
Ford	1,819	12.6	3,012	17.5	1,193	65.6
Seward	1,701	15.5	2,187	18.0	486	28.6
Non-Metro	71,290	11.4	70,192	11.0	-1,098	-1.5
Kansas	195,121	15.2	186,928	12.8	-8,193	-4.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

- Wholesale employment in Barton declined by roughly one-third during the decade, as wholesaling in Kansas became more concentrated within metropolitan areas of the state. Every Non-Metropolitan Comparative and Trade Area county lost wholesale employment while the state as a whole enjoyed increases.
- Wholesaling accounts for 6 percent of jobs in Barton County, a 50 percent greater share than usual for a Non-Metropolitan County.

Table 6.11
Wholesale Employment,
Share of Total Employment, Net Change and Percent Change
Barton, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

<u>County</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Percent of 1980 Total</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>Percent of 1989 Total</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Barton	1,543	7.8%	1,078	6.0%	-465	-30.1%
Trade Area	1,169	4.5	829	3.4	-340	-29.0
Russell	278	4.7	166	2.9	-112	-40.3
Ellsworth	156	4.3	144	4.0	-12	-7.6
Rice	203	3.3	143	2.7	-60	-29.6
Stafford	164	5.6	122	4.5	-42	-25.6
Pawnee	165	3.6	151	3.3	-14	-8.5
Rush	203	8.2	103	4.6	-100	-49.2
Comparatives	2,821	5.0	2,524	4.0	-297	-10.5
McPherson	618	3.8	521	3.0	-97	-15.7
Ellis	601	4.0	523	3.2	-78	-13.0
Ford	909	6.3	880	5.1	-29	-3.2
Seward	693	6.3	600	4.9	-93	-13.4
Non-Metro	28,954	4.6	25,911	4.0	-3,043	-10.5
Kansas	68,485	5.3	72,223	5.0	3,738	5.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Major Industry*.

- By 1989 Barton County, like its Trade Area, had lost one of every ten retail jobs it started the decade with. Retailing became more centered around some of the Comparative Counties, such as McPherson (+13%), Ellis (+16%) and Seward (+19%). Overall, Non-Metropolitan Counties enjoyed only modest increases in retail employment (+4%). Due to exceptional gains in the Metropolitan Counties (+30,500 jobs, +29%), retail employment in the state as a whole increased by 17 percent.
- Despite the decline in retail employment, this sector accounts for 17 percent of employment in Barton, roughly equivalent to the share in Comparative counties and slightly higher than the proportions in Non-Metropolitan Counties and the state as a whole.
- With 3,033 jobs in 1989, retailing accounted for the second highest number of jobs in Barton County, after Services.

Table 6.12
Retail Employment,
Share of Total Employment, Net Change and Percent Change
Barton, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

County	1980	Percent of 1980 Total	1989	Percent of 1989 Total	Net Change	Percent Change
Barton	3,397	17.2%	3,033	16.7%	-364	-10.7%
Trade Area	3,179	12.4	2,869	11.9	-310	-9.8
Russell	759	12.7	768	13.4	9	1.2
Ellsworth	495	13.7	467	13.0	-28	-5.7
Rice	806	13.2	703	13.0	-103	-12.8
Stafford	269	9.2	227	8.3	-42	-15.6
Pawnee	608	13.1	520	11.4	-88	-14.4
Rush	242	9.8	184	8.3	-58	-24.0
Comparatives	9,566	16.8	10,868	17.2	1,302	13.6
McPherson	1,984	12.2	2,236	12.8	252	12.7
Ellis	2,840	18.7	3,279	20.0	439	15.5
Ford	2,834	19.6	3,083	17.9	249	8.8
Seward	1,908	17.4	2,270	18.7	362	19.0
Non-Metro	92,492	14.8	95,801	15.0	3,309	3.6
Kansas	198,491	15.4	232,284	16.0	33,793	17.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Industry*.

- The Service sector grew by 400 jobs in Barton during the 1980s. Although the growth rate of this sector (+12%) was half that of Non-Metropolitan counties in Kansas, this sector remained well-developed, accounting for 21 percent of employment, compared with a typical Non-Metropolitan share of 20 percent of employment.
- Service sector firms employed 3,807 in Barton County in 1989, the most of any sector.

Table 6.13
Service Employment,
Share of Total Employment, Net Change and Percent Change
Barton, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

County	1980	Percent of 1980 Total	1989	Percent of 1989 Total	Net Change	Percent Change
Barton	3,401	17.2%	3,807	21.0%	406	11.9%
Trade Area	3,980	15.5	4,210	17.4	230	5.8
Russell	836	14.0	909	15.9	73	8.7
Ellsworth	711	19.6	723	20.1	12	1.7
Rice	1,006	16.4	1,056	20.4	50	5.0
Stafford	443	15.2	401	14.6	-42	-9.5
Pawnee	758	16.4	838	18.8	50	6.6
Rush	226	9.2	283	12.7	57	25.2
Comparatives	11,143	19.6	14,315	22.6	3,172	28.5
McPherson	3,504	21.5	4,052	23.2	548	15.6
Ellis	3,359	22.1	4,410	26.9	1,051	31.2
Ford	2,684	18.5	3,742	21.7	1,058	39.4
Seward	1,596	14.5	2,111	17.4	515	32.3
Non-Metro	103,538	16.6	127,991	20.0	24,453	23.6
Kansas	243,640	18.9	338,864	23.3	95,224	39.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Industry*.

- Government sector employment in Barton grew at a robust rate during the decade (+543 jobs), increasing by 28 percent. The rate of increase in Government employment was similar in Comparative Counties (+26%), while the rate of change in Trade Area Counties (+17%) and Non-Metro Counties (+13%) was considerably lower.
- The government sector was the third largest employment sector in Barton in 1989, accounting for 2,497 jobs. This represented 14 percent of employment, which was still a relatively small share of total employment, reflecting Barton's diverse economy. Government jobs accounted for 22 percent of Trade Area jobs and 21 percent of jobs in Kansas Non-Metropolitan Counties as a whole.

Table 6.14
Government Employment,
Share of Total Employment, Net Change and Percent Change
Barton, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980 and 1989

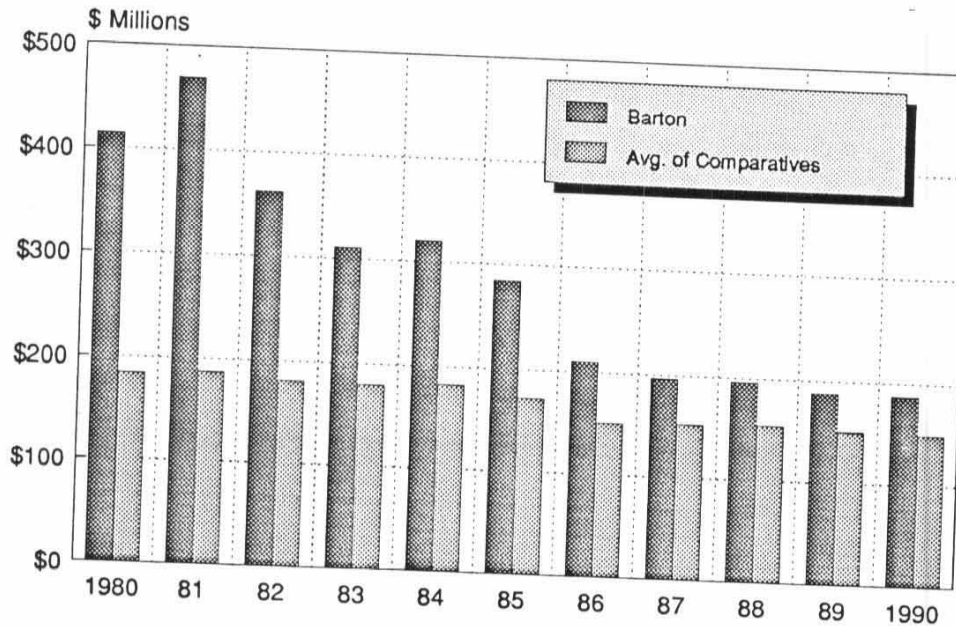
County	1980	Percent of 1980 Total	1989	Percent of 1989 Total	Net Change	Percent Change
Barton	1,954	9.9%	2,497	13.8%	543	27.8%
Trade Area	4,774	18.6	5,283	21.8	809	16.9
Russell	851	14.3	813	14.2	-38	-4.5
Ellsworth	509	14.1	736	20.5	227	44.6
Rice	895	14.6	982	18.2	87	9.7
Stafford	613	21.0	646	23.6	33	5.4
Pawnee	1,485	32.1	1,684	37.1	199	13.4
Rush	421	17.1	422	18.9	1	0.2
Comparatives	7,385	13.0	9,285	14.7	1,900	25.7
McPherson	1,543	9.5	1,814	10.4	271	17.6
Ellis	2,433	16.0	3,029	18.5	596	24.5
Ford	2,029	14.0	2,631	15.3	602	29.7
Seward	1,380	12.6	1,811	14.9	431	31.2
Non-Metro	117,343	18.8	132,248	20.7	14,950	12.7
Kansas	227,929	17.7	261,909	18.0	33,980	14.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, *Full- and Part-Time Employees by Industry*.

Figure 6.4

Taxable Retail Sales Levels, 1980-1990

Barton County, Avg. of Comparative Cos.
In Real \$1982-1984



Source: Wichita State University, Center for Economic Development and Business Research.

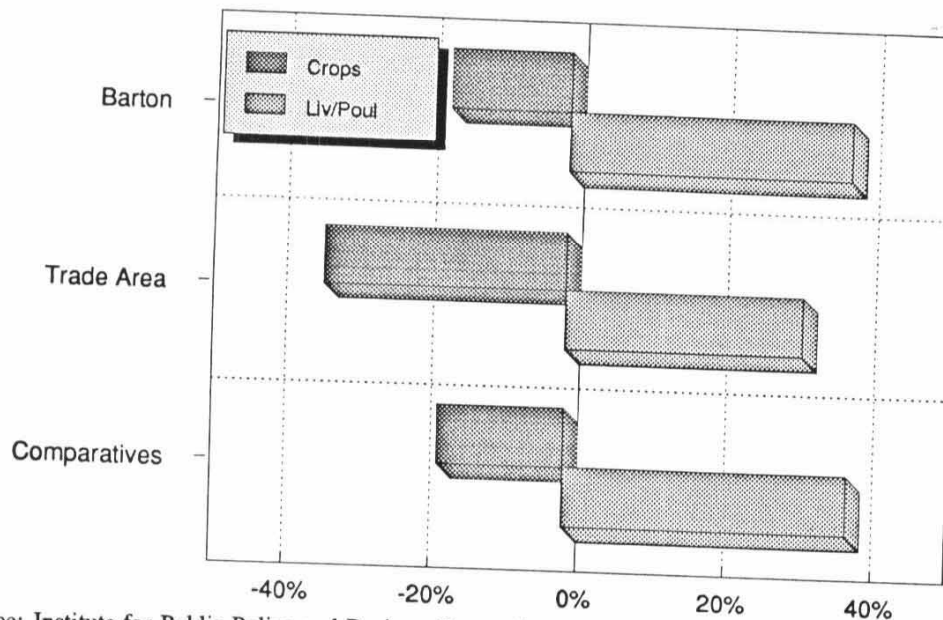
- Barton's taxable retail sales (in real \$1982-1984 dollars, to adjust for inflation) fell from in excess of \$400 million at the beginning of the decade to less than \$190 million at its end. Most of this decline came during the 1980-1986 period. Since 1987, real taxable retail sales declined moderately.
- During the decade, taxable retail sales (in real dollars) decreased 54.6 percent, similar to the declines in the Trade Area (-56%). This was a much sharper decrease than in the Comparatives (-19%), Non-Metro Kansas (-12%) and the state as a whole (-5%).

Table 6.15
Real Taxable Retail Sales Levels
Barton and Kansas, 1980-1990

(Millions of Real 1982-84 dollars)						
	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Barton	\$ 414.2	\$ 469.9	\$ 362.9	\$ 310.9	\$ 320.0	\$ 285.0
Trade Area	226.6	233.9	208.9	189.1	175.1	156.0
Russell	87.6	97.0	83.3	71.5	65.0	59.2
Rice	49.2	49.4	47.3	44.7	42.1	38.6
Stafford	24.8	25.5	23.9	18.9	18.1	14.2
Pawnee	44.6	43.8	39.0	38.2	36.0	31.8
Rush	20.4	18.2	15.6	15.8	13.9	12.2
Comparatives	740.4	752.4	726.7	722.7	733.7	691.9
McPherson	143.4	142.4	130.6	131.8	131.9	126.6
Ellis	202.6	213.6	222.5	231.5	229.3	210.8
Ford	211.1	203.3	195.3	198.2	197.7	189.2
Seward	183.3	193.1	178.3	161.2	174.8	165.3
Non-Metro	7,523	7,498	7,231	7,524	7,520	7,332
Kansas	15,064	14,822	14,396	15,019	15,216	15,150
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>Net Chg.</u>
Barton	\$ 209.8	\$ 197.3	\$ 196.6	\$ 188.8	\$ 188.2	\$- 226.0
Trade Area	122.6	115.7	110.6	101.3	99.1	-127.5
Russell	41.6	39.0	37.1	34.0	33.3	-54.3
Rice	33.6	32.0	30.0	28.6	28.1	-21.1
Stafford	11.0	10.0	9.7	8.3	8.1	-16.7
Pawnee	27.1	26.1	26.1	23.3	22.5	-22.1
Rush	9.3	8.6	7.7	7.1	7.1	-13.3
Comparatives	607.9	614.5	621.5	606.2	599.1	-141.3
McPherson	114.8	120.0	119.4	115.8	117.0	-26.4
Ellis	170.8	174.7	178.1	175.2	171.8	-30.8
Ford	175.3	174.7	177.6	170.0	170.9	-40.2
Seward	147.0	145.1	145.9	145.2	139.4	-43.9
Non-Metro	6,927	6,837	6,838	6,581	6,623	-900
Kansas	14,745	14,733	14,837	14,545	14,332	-732

Source: Wichita State University, Center for Economic Development and Business Research.

Figure 6.5
Value of Agricultural Products
 Percent Change in Output, 1980-1990
 Barton, Trade Area and Comparatives



Source: Institute for Public Policy and Business Research, *Kansas Statistical Abstract*, various issues.

- The value of Barton's farm output at the end of the decade (\$80 million), was about 8 percent greater than it was at the decade's beginning (\$74 million). Over the same period, agricultural output declined 12 percent in the Trade Area and increased by 12 percent in the Comparative Counties.
- During the decade, the number of farms in Barton decreased 10.7 percent. This decline was comparable to those experienced by most Trade Area and Comparative counties.
- During the decade, the number of acres harvested in Barton declined substantially. In Barton and most comparison counties, the decline in acreage was greater than the decline in the number of farms; thus Barton county's farms have become both fewer and smaller.
- Agricultural production showed a more pronounced shift in Barton County toward livestock and poultry from field crops than in the Trade Area counties or the state as a whole. While the value of field crops declined by 16 percent in Barton over this period, livestock and poultry receipts increased by 38 percent. This pattern was consistent with trends in the Comparative Counties.

Table 6.16
Number of Farms and Acres Harvested
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980-81 and 1989-90

	Number of Farms			Acres Harvested (000s)		
	1980- 1981	1989- 1990	Percent Change	1980- 1981	1989- 1990	Percent Change
Barton	1,053	940	-10.7%	330	267	-19.1%
Trade Area	3,724	3,280	-11.9	1,395	1,060	-24.0
Russell	650	540	-16.9	182	129	-29.1
Ellsworth	573	510	-11.0	168	124	-26.2
Rice	708	610	-13.8	290	231	-20.3
Stafford	590	540	-8.5	282	221	-21.6
Pawnee	580	530	-8.6	280	208	-25.7
Rush	623	550	-11.7	193	147	-23.8
Comparatives	3,428	3,270	-6.1	1,056	933	-11.6
McPherson	1,560	1,370	-12.2	362	361	-0.3
Ellis	800	800	0.0	173	123	-28.9
Ford	820	810	-1.2	329	280	-14.9
Seward	303	290	-4.2	192	169	-12.0
Kansas	75,500	69,000	-8.0	21,931	19,823	-9.7

Note: Values shown as two year averages due to substantial inter-year variability in farm production (i.e., acres harvested). Number of farms varies much less from year to year but, to be consistent, is presented in the same format as acres harvested.

Source: Institute for Public Policy and Business Research, *Kansas Statistical Abstract*, various issues.

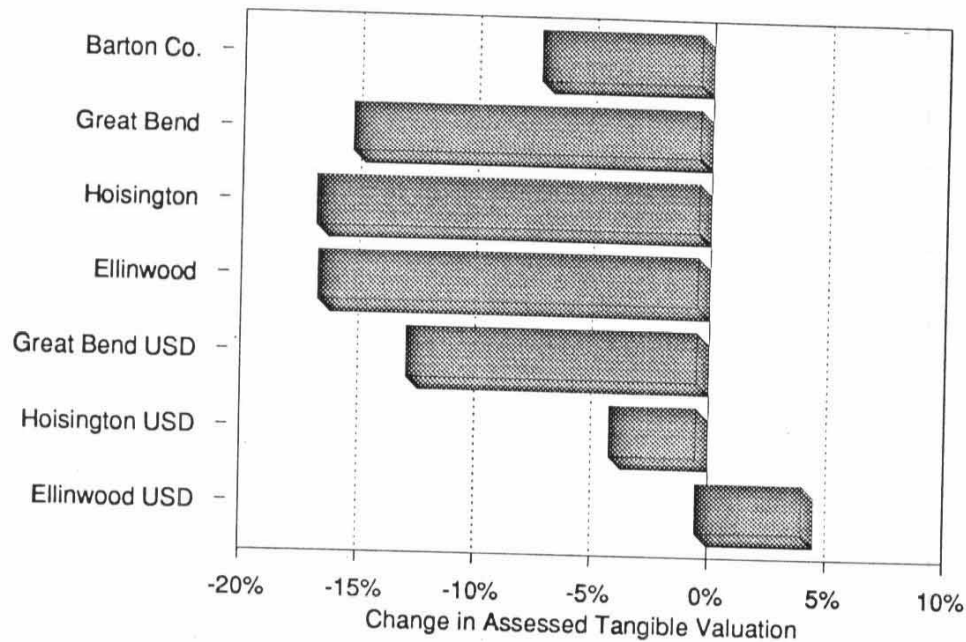
Table 6.17
Value of Field Crops, Livestock and Poultry
Barton, Trade Area, Comparative Counties and Kansas, 1980-1981 and 1989-1990

	Field Crops			Livestock & Poultry		
	1980- 1981	1989- 1990	Percent Change	1980- 1981	1989- 1990	Percent Change
Barton	\$ 41.1	\$ 34.4	-16.3%	\$ 32.9	45 .5	38.3%
Trade Area.	182.5	122.4	-32.9	86.6	114.5	32.2
Russell	21.0	12.0	-42.9	9.4	1081	7.4
Ellsworth	17.7	10.4	-41.2	9.8	9.8	0.0
Rice	40.9	26.5	-35.2	23.7	26.8	13.1
Stafford	40.1	33.5	-16.5	18.0	25.2	40.0
Pawnee	40.9	26.4	-35.5	16.3	35.8	120.0
Rush	21.9	13.6	-37.9	9.4	6.8	-27.7
Comparatives	146.2	121.1	-17.2	159.1	220.2	38.4
McPherson	47.3	40.4	-14.6	26.3	35.3	34.2
Ellis	18.8	12.1	-35.6	19.3	24.1	24.9
Ford	48.6	41.0	-15.6	76.5	93.8	22.6
Seward	31.5	27.6	-12.4	37.0	67.0	81.1
Kansas	2,996.0	2,519.0	-15.9	2,229.9	2,790.2	25.1

Note: Values presented as two year averages due to high degree of variability in year-to-year production.

Source: Institute for Public Policy and Business Research, *Kansas Statistical Abstract*, various issues.

Figure 6.6
 Change in Assessment Base
 Barton Co. & Components, 1990-92



Source: League of Kansas Municipalities, *Kansas Government Journal*, January issues, 1988-1992.

- Assessed tangible valuation in Barton decreased from \$162 million in 1990 to \$151 million in 1992. Total assessment levels were very similar in McPherson, Ellis and Ford Counties, which experienced moderate growth in their assessment bases over this period.
- Each of the cities for which assessment levels were examined lost assessment over the period 1990 to 1992. Barton County cities lost between 14 percent and 17 percent of total assessment, greater losses than the comparison cities, whose decreases typically were under 10 percent.
- School districts showed great variability in the rate of change in assessment base. The Great Bend School District lost 12 percent of assessment over the period 1990-1992.

Table 6.18
 Assessed Tangible Valuation Levels, 1990-1992
 Barton County and Selected Comparative Counties, Cities and School Districts
 (millions of nominal dollars)

<u>Counties:</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Barton	\$161.9	\$150.9	-6.8%
Russell	60.8	65.5	7.7
Ellsworth	43.0	41.2	-4.2
McPherson	151.7	156.1	2.9
Ellis	141.0	149.6	6.1
Ford	150.7	152.2	1.0
<u>Cities:</u>			
Great Bend	63.5	54.1	-14.8
Hoisington	6.2	5.2	-16.3
Ellinwood	5.5	4.6	-16.2
Clafin	1.8	1.5	-16.7
Albert	0.5	0.5	--
Russell	15.1	13.0	-13.9
Ellsworth	7.0	6.5	-7.1
McPherson	44.3	43.4	-2.0
Hays	75.7	73.7	-2.6
Dodge City	85.4	84.4	-1.2
<u>School Districts:</u>			
Great Bend	98.1	85.9	-12.4
Hoisington	24.6	23.7	-3.7
Ellinwood	20.2	21.1	4.5
Clafin	14.5	15.0	3.9
Hays	104.5	105.3	0.8
Ellsworth	19.5	18.3	-6.2
Lorraine	34.2	36.2	5.8
Spearville-Windthorst	8.5	8.5	--

Source: League of Kansas Municipalities, *Kansas Government Journal*, January issues, 1990, 1992. Data shown are for upcoming year, reported in January. School district data are for 1989-90 and 1991-92. Statewide reappraisal and reclassification completed by 1989.

- Much variability in the level of bonded indebtedness is evident in Barton County. The County had no bonded indebtedness at the start of the 1992 fiscal year, as was the case for most of the Comparative counties.
- The larger cities in Barton County were committed for debt levels equal to between 18 percent of assessment and 29 percent of assessment, slightly less heavily committed than either Ellsworth or McPherson. Of the school districts, only Hoisington School District has a high debt load relative to its assessment base.

Table 6.19
Bonded Indebtedness as a Percentage of Assessed Tangible Valuation
Barton County and Selected Comparative Counties, Cities and School Districts, 1992

	Total Bonded Indebtedness	Percentage of Assessed Tangible Valuation
<u>Counties:</u>		
Barton	\$0	0.0%
Russell	0	0.0
Ellsworth	0	0.0
McPherson	5,945,000	3.8
Ellis	0	0.0
Ford	0	0.0
<u>Cities:</u>		
Great Bend	9,980,217	18.4
Hoisington	1,525,744	29.4
Ellinwood	255,000	5.5
Clafin	15,000	1.0
Albert	20,000	4.3
Russell	2,260,000	17.4
Ellsworth	2,077,000	32.0
McPherson	21,029,660	48.5
Hays	4,940,511	6.7
Dodge City	3,998,422	4.7
<u>School Districts:</u>		
Great Bend	900,000	1.0
Hoisington	2,675,000	11.3
Ellinwood	0	0.0
Clafin	0	0.0
Hays	2,565,000	2.4
Ellsworth	1,210,000	6.6
Lorraine	0	0.0
Spearville-Windthorst	0	0.0

Source: League of Kansas Municipalities, *Kansas Government Journal*, January 1992. Data are for upcoming year, reported in January. School district data are for 1991-92. Statewide reclassification and reappraisal completed by 1989.

- Mill levies in Barton County are generally low relative to those in Comparative counties, their cities and school districts. Barton's 1992 County levy, at 19.7 mills, was the lowest of any county examined.
- Of the cities, only Great Bend has a mill rate (49.2 mills) which is noticeably higher than most similar size cities (ranging from 33 to 47 mills). Mill levies in all of the Barton school districts compared favorably with the rates of other nearby school districts.

Table 6.20
City, County and School District Tax Levies in Mills, 1990 and 1992
Barton County and Selected Comparative Counties, Cities and School Districts

	1990 <u>Levy</u>	1992 <u>Levy</u>	Percentage Change <u>1990-1992</u>
<u>Counties:</u>			
Barton	15.685	19.727	25.8 %
Russell	30.948	29.061	-6.1
Ellsworth	29.489	37.022	25.5
McPherson	27.603	32.049	16.1
Ellis	24.182	25.917	7.2
Ford	24.323	24.915	2.4
<u>Cities:</u>			
Great Bend	40.071	49.205	22.8
Hoisington	38.494	40.864	6.2
Ellinwood	21.546	22.813	5.9
Claffin	33.795	40.876	21.0
Albert	33.355	32.309	-3.1
Russell	39.558	41.613	5.2
Ellsworth	38.501	43.743	13.6
McPherson	44.817	46.844	4.5
Hays	27.176	32.864	20.9
Dodge City	31.670	35.454	11.9
<u>School Districts:</u>			
Great Bend	51.98	71.86	38.2
Hoisington	53.21	64.88	21.9
Ellinwood	47.22	51.67	9.4
Claffin	49.36	61.87	25.3
Hays	65.87	90.02	36.7
Ellsworth	75.63	82.66	9.3
Lorraine	66.38	73.40	10.6
Spearville-Windthorst	50.10	60.61	21.0

Source: League of Kansas Municipalities, *Kansas Government Journal*, January issues, 1990, 1992. Data shown are for upcoming year, reported in January. School district data are for 1989-90 and 1991-92. Statewide reclassification and reappraisal completed by 1989.

Section VII: Financial Capital

Businesses must have adequate access to capital in order to take advantage of special opportunities, such as developing new products, purchasing/refurbishing equipment, or undergoing expansion. Local financial institutions play a vital role in assisting business start-ups, expanding existing businesses, retaining businesses, or working with relocated firms.

It is critical for a community to have a sound financial base for business development. In particular, the profitability of local banks is especially important because they make the vast majority of business loans.

Because new and/or small businesses may have limited sources of funds, due to their riskier nature, the development of other sources of investment capital has been encouraged by the State of Kansas through tax credits and other assistance. As a result, Venture Capital Pools, Seed Capital Pools, and Certified Development Companies have been created statewide to serve the needs of these businesses.

The types of data presented in this section includes:

- the *total number of banks* and *total assets* of those banks, which show the level of banking resources in the community;
- The *average return on assets* is a measure of bank profitability, demonstrating the relative success of bank management in making profitable investments;
- the location of *venture capital pools*, *seed capital pools*, and *certified development companies* represent opportunities for local business to tap into alternative sources of financing;
- The location of *venture/seed capital investments* shows where pools have committed their funds, indicating how much of this type of activity has occurred in Barton County.

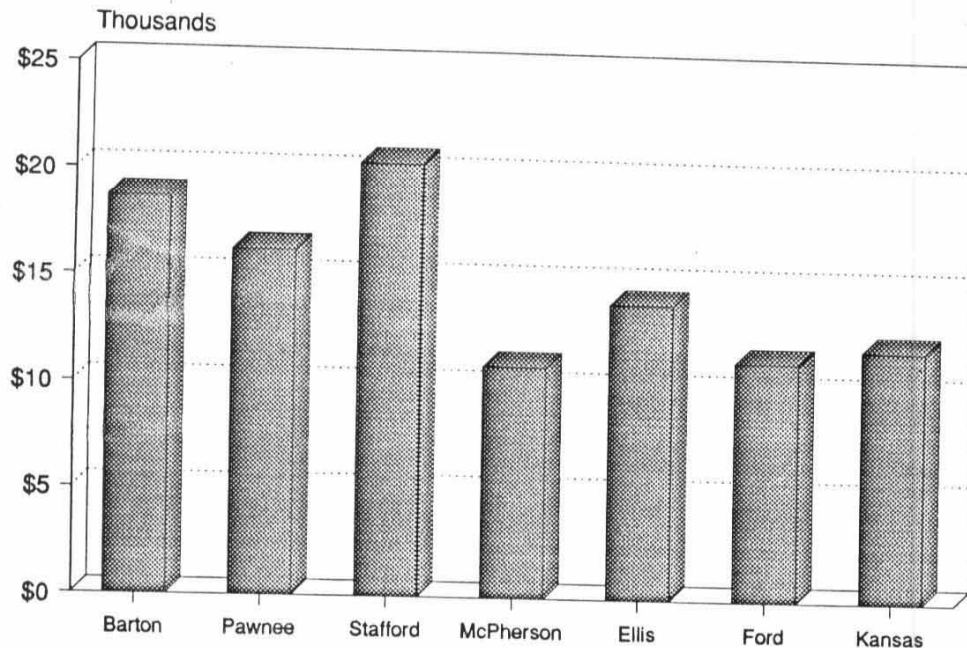
FINANCIAL CAPITAL: KEY FINDINGS

- Barton County has more banks than any of the Trade Area or Comparative Counties.
- Barton County banks, considered in terms of total assets, are larger than the state average and larger than any of the Trade Area or Comparative Counties except for Ellis County.
- Over the period 1986-1990, the average Return on Assets (ROA) of Barton County banks was similar to the state average, and exceeded the levels of banks in the majority of the comparative counties.
- There are no venture capital companies, seed capital pools or Certified Development Companies with main offices in Barton County. However, Barton County has received venture capital investments in recent years.

FINANCIAL CAPITAL: DATA ANALYSIS

Figure 7.1

Bank Assets Per Capita, 1990 Barton, Selected Comparatives and Kansas



- Barton County had 7 banks in 1991, more than any of the Trade Area and Comparative counties. Total bank assets, at \$ 548.7 million, dwarfed those of any of Comparative counties, with Ellis County banks holding the next greatest amount of assets, at \$363 million.
- Barton County banks are larger than most, averaging \$78 million in assets. Kansas banks averaged \$53 million in assets in 1991.
- The average return on assets of Barton county banks fluctuated over the 1986-1990 period, peaking in 1988 and showing reduced profitability during 1989 and 1990. For the five-year period as a whole, Barton County banks have performed at around the state average, and have exceeded the return on assets of all of comparative counties except Ford County.

Table 7.1
 Total Number of Banks, Total Assets, and Average Return on Assets
 Barton, Trade Area and Comparison Counties, and Kansas Totals, 1986-1990

	Total Number of Banks	Bank Assets		Average R.O.A.				
		Total (\$ Millions)	Per Capita	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
Barton	7	548.7	18,673	.52	-.13	.97	.89	.81
Rush	3	30.0	7,817	-.04	-.01	.37	1.01	.85
Pawnee	3	122.6	16,227	-.62	.55	.63	.41	.36
Stafford	5	109.5	20,406	-.69	1.02	.38	1.14	1.04
Rice	9	129.5	12,208	.03	.0	-.17	-.25	.75
McPherson	9	298.0	10,929	-.23	.04	.63	.38	.79
Ellis	5	363.2	13,967	-.99	-.72	.28	.70	.70
Ford	7	311.0	11,324	.71	.70	.76	1.10	1.08
Seward	3	286.0	15,259	.65	.62	.80	.51	-.03
Kansas	555	29,600	11,947	.57	.60	.82	.95	.80

Source: IPPBR calculations based on data from Sheshunoff & Company, *Banks of Kansas, 1990* (Austin, Texas, 1991).

- Certified Kansas Venture/Seed Capital Companies are located in four Kansas counties: Douglas, Johnson, Sedgwick, and Shawnee. However, their investments -- through calendar year 1990 -- were located in fifteen of the state's 105 counties. Barton County is one of those counties.
- There are presently fifteen Certified Development Companies in Kansas which serve fourteen regions. Barton County is served by Great Plains Development Corporation, which has an office in Great Bend and is headquartered in Ford County.

Table 7.2
Location of Venture Capital, Seed Capital, Certified Companies,
and Venture/Seed Capital Investments

	Location of:			
	Venture Capital Co. ¹	Seed Capital Pools ²	CDCs ³	Venture/Seed Cap. Investments ⁴
Barton				•
Cherokee				•
Crawford				•
Dickinson			•	•
Douglas	•			
Ford			•	•
Graham			•	
Jefferson				•
Johnson	•			
Leavenworth			•	•
Lyon			•	
McPherson			•	•
Mitchell			•	•
Neosho				•
Reno				•
Rice				•
Riley			•	
Sedgwick	•	•	•	•
Shawnee	•		•	•
Wyandotte			•	•

¹Certified Kansas Venture Capital Companies.

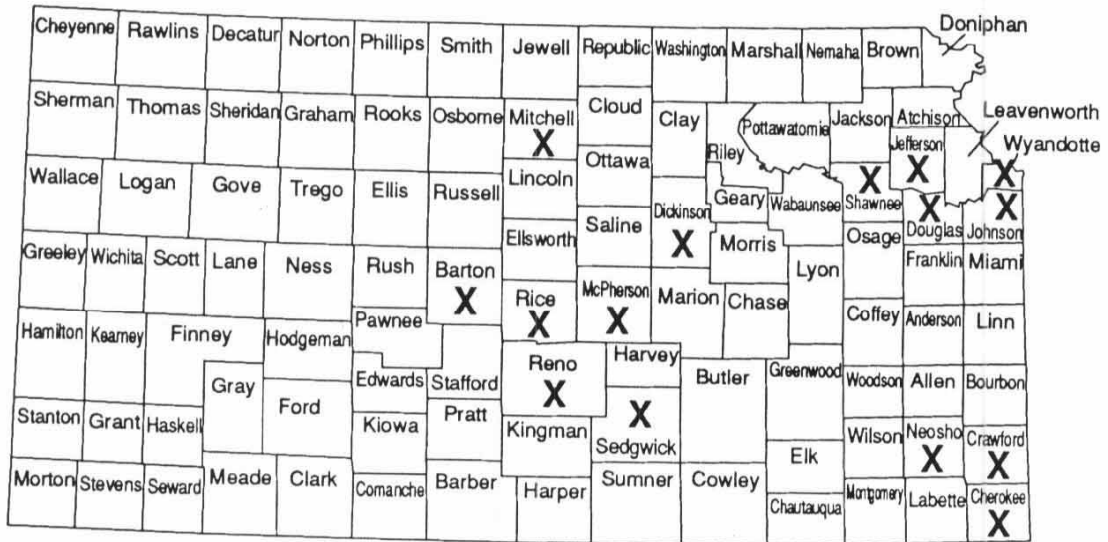
²Certified Kansas Local Seed Capital Pools.

³Kansas Certified Development Companies.

⁴Includes those venture capital investments made through calendar year 1990.

Source: Steve Kelly, Division of Existing Industry Development, Kansas Department of Commerce, 1992.

Map 7.1
Location of Venture/Seed Capital Investments



Section VIII: Innovation & Technology

To compete in today's rapidly changing global economy, firms must keep pace with innovations in technology. Not keeping pace with the current technology can cause a once thriving firm to become inefficient and slow to respond to customer needs. The ability to keep current with changes in technology, and further, to be innovative and cause changes in technology, will enable firms to become more efficient, cut costs, and gain competitive advantages. Not only will firms that are innovative in the technology arena gain the advantages listed above, technological innovation will also lead to the improvement of current products, the creation of new products, and hence, the spawning of new industries.

Obviously, small and medium-sized firms often do not have the resources necessary to pursue such a path of technological innovation. Because of this, government entities, public/private cooperatives and educational institutions are offering their assistance to help these firms gain the competitive edge that comes through technological innovation.

The following section outlines the current status of technology and innovation in the state of Kansas. Measures are given that show the current state of the technological environment in Kansas and how it compares to the same environments in surrounding states. This is followed by a description of efforts that are being undertaken in Kansas to improve the state's technological resources.

The following measures are used to evaluate the technological resources of Kansas and surrounding states:

- *The number of Ph.D. scientists and engineers in the workforce* indicates the potential pool of innovators in the state. The larger this number the greater the opportunities for innovation. Even though not all scientists and engineers are innovators and vice-versa, the greater the technical capacity of the labor force, the greater the opportunities for innovative advances in technology.
- *The number of science and engineering graduate students* in a state gives an indication as to the level of science training in the state. Although this measure does not 'capture' how many of these students remain in the state after graduation, "the history of industrial innovation indicates that new businesses are spawned, more often than not, in the same place entrepreneurs received their degrees." (Corporation for Enterprise Development)

- *The number of patents issued* is an indication of the level of innovation in a state. However, caution should be used with this number because patents are often issued at the site of an organization's headquarters, not necessarily at the location where the innovation was developed.
- *University research and development* provides a measure of the research and development spending at universities in a state (excluding private universities). Such research has often led to associated business development.
- There is also a correlation between *federal research and development* and private business development. However, in states where much of the federal research is classified, there is less likelihood of transfer to the private sector.

INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY: KEY FINDINGS

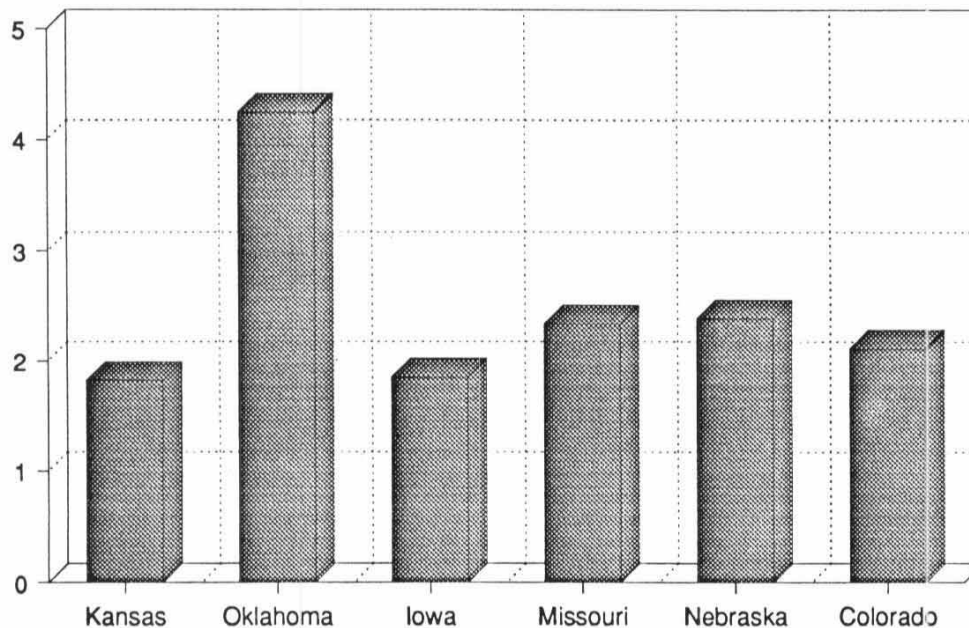
- Kansas ranks last in the comparison group of surrounding states and 44th in the nation in terms of the number of Ph.D. scientists and engineers per 1,000 workers.
- Kansas ranks second in the group of surrounding states and tenth in the nation in the number of science and engineering graduate students per 1 million population.
- Kansas ranks fifth in the group of six comparison states and 31st in the nation in the number of patents issued per 1 million population.
- Kansas ranks fifth in the group of six comparison states and 35th in the nation in university research and development at \$46.28 per capita.
- Among the six comparison states, Kansas ranks 4th in federal research and development at \$51.99 per capita, while it ranks 42nd in the nation.
- When the five measures listed above are combined into an index of technology resources, Kansas ranks last in the group of six comparison states and 41th in the nation.
- In an effort to develop its technology resources, Kansas has been a leader in state policy designed to develop technology and innovation.

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY: DATA ANALYSIS

Figure 8.1

Scientists and Engineers

Per 1,000 Workers, 1990

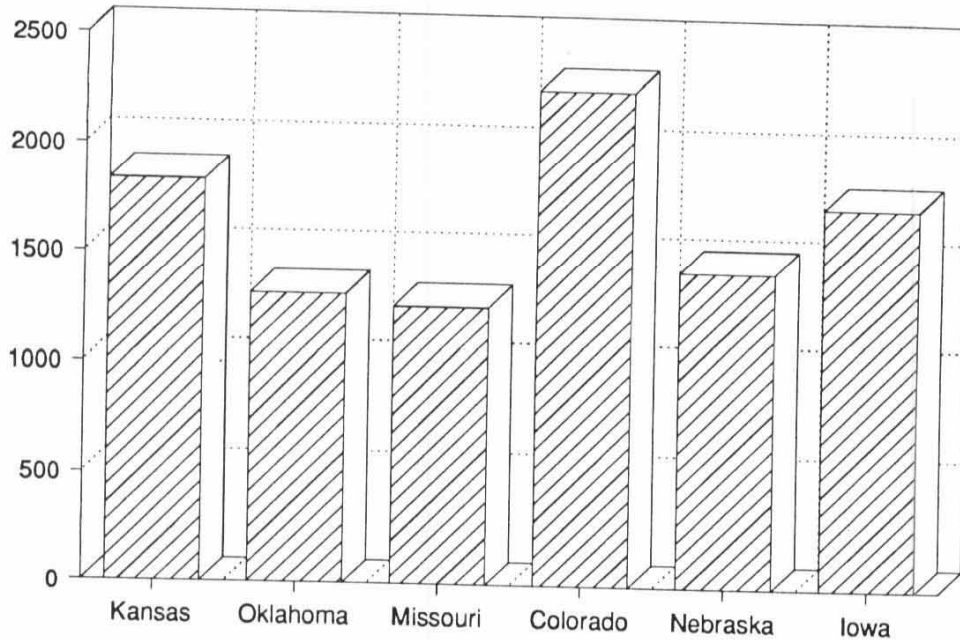


Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

- While Kansas ranks last in the comparison group of surrounding states and 44th in the nation in the number of Ph.D. scientists and engineers per 1,000 workers, it ranks second in the group of surrounding states and tenth in the nation in the number of science and engineering graduate students per 1 million population.
- Conversely, Missouri ranks third in the comparison group of six states and 31st in the nation in the number of Ph.D. scientists and engineers per 1,000 workers. However, Missouri ranks last among the comparison group and 34th in the U.S. in the number of science and engineering graduate students per 1 million population. This could possibly be partially the result of Kansas graduates working in Missouri after graduation.

Figure 8.2

Science and Engineering Students Per 1 Million Population, 1990



Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1991 Development Report Card for the States*.

Table 8.1
Science and Engineering Professionals and Students
Kansas and Surrounding States, 1989/1990

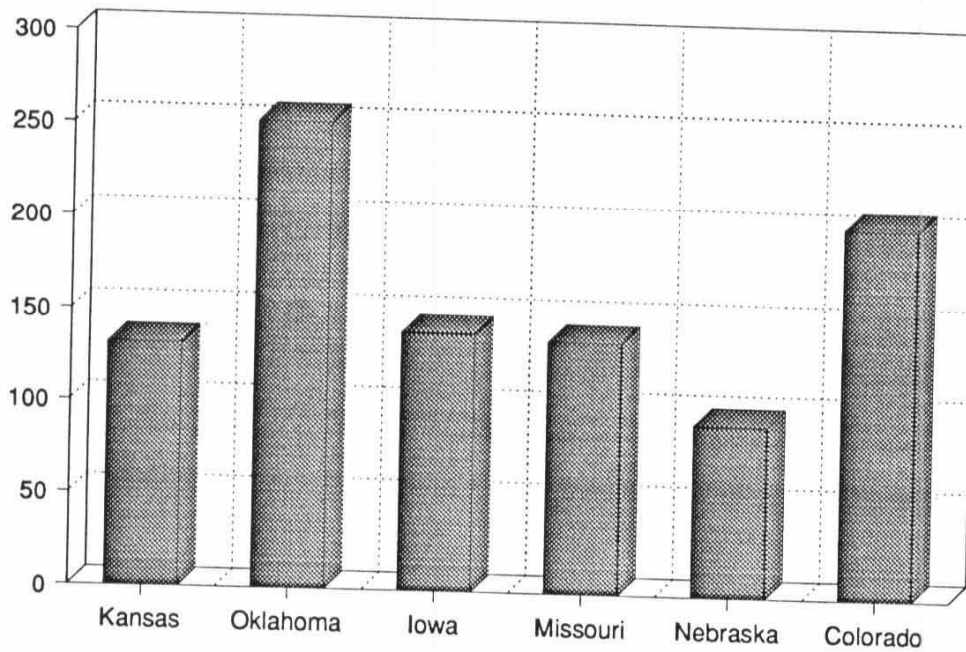
	Ph.D. Scientists & Engineers		Science & Engineering Students	
	Per 1,000 Workers ¹	Rank	Per 1 Million Population ²	Rank
Kansas	1.82*	44	1,808*	10
Oklahoma	4.24*	6	2,300*	2
Iowa	1.85*	43	1,709*	14
Missouri	2.33*	31	1,233*	34
Nebraska	2.38*	29	1,399*	26
Colorado	2.11*	38	1,281*	30

¹1989 data; ²1990 data. *Numbers are rounded.

Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

Figure 8.3

Patents Issued Per 1 Million Population Kansas and Surrounding States, 1990



Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

- Kansas ranks fifth in the group of comparison states and 31st in the nation in the number of patents issued per 1 million population.

Table 8.2
Patents Issued Per 1 Million Population¹
Kansas and Surrounding States, 1990

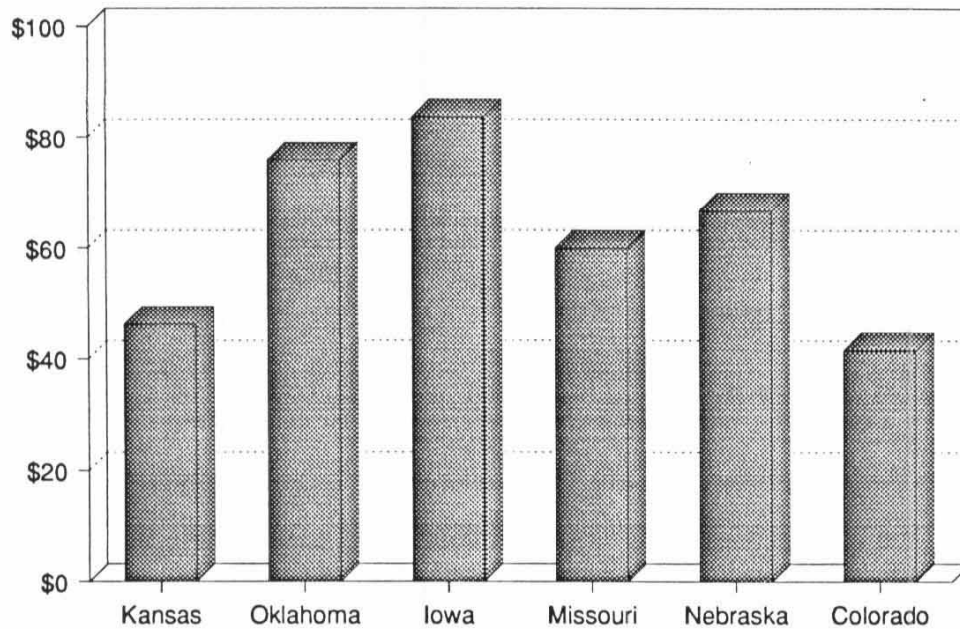
	<u>Number*</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Kansas	132	31
Oklahoma	252	11
Iowa	140	27
Missouri	137	28
Nebraska	93	38
Colorado	201	19

¹1990 data; *Numbers are rounded.

Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

Figure 8.4

University Research and Development Per Capita, 1990



Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

- Kansas ranks fifth in the group of six comparison states and 35th in the nation in university research and development at \$46.28 per capita.

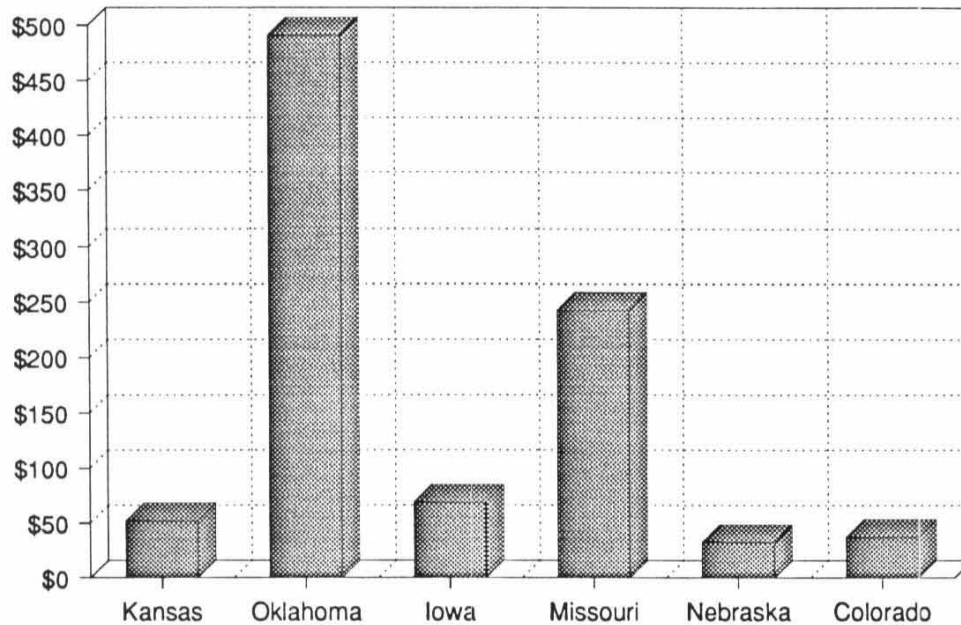
Table 8.3
University Research and Development Per Capita¹
Kansas and Surrounding States, 1990

	\$	Rank
Kansas	46.28	35
Oklahoma	75.87	11
Iowa	83.60	7
Missouri	54.94	29
Nebraska	66.76	18
Colorado	41.53	39

¹1990 data.

Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

Figure 8.5
Federal Research & Development
 Spending Per Capita, 1990



Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

- Among the six comparison states, Kansas ranks 4th last in federal research and development at \$51.99 per capita, while it ranks 42nd in the nation.

Table 8.4
 Federal Research & Development Spending Per Capita¹
 Kansas and Surrounding States, 1990

	\$	Rank
Kansas	51.99	42
Oklahoma	491.18	4
Iowa	68.76	34
Missouri	242.70	12
Nebraska	32.45	47
Colorado	37.37	46

¹1990 data.

Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card for the States*.

- When the five measures are combined into an index of technology resources, Kansas ranks last in the group of six comparison states and 41st in the nation with a grade of "C".

Table 8.5
Technology Resources Subindex of
Development Capacity Report Card

	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Kansas	41	C
Colorado	2	A
Iowa	28	C
Missouri	30	C
Nebraska	34	C
Oklahoma	38	D

Notes: Rank ranges from 1 to 50 (for the number of states), with 1 being the best and 50 the worst. The rank and grade are based on the data from the five categories in the previous tables.

Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1992 Development Report Card For The States.*"

- In an effort to develop its technology resources, Kansas has been a leader in state policy designed to develop technology and innovation. Kansas tied for second (with Missouri and Oklahoma) among the six comparison group states in state policy for technology and innovation.

Table 8.6
State Policy Report Card, 1991
Technology & Innovation Subindex

	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Kansas	7	A
Colorado	18	B
Iowa	1	A
Missouri	7	A
Nebraska	37	D
Oklahoma	7	A

Notes: Rank ranges from 1 to 50 (for the number of states), with 1 being the best and 50 the worst. The rank and grade are based on the data from the five categories in the previous table.

Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, *The 1991 Development Report Card For The States.*"

DESCRIPTION OF TECHNOLOGY POLICY EFFORTS

As mentioned above, Kansas has implemented policy aimed at developing the state's technology resources. The following is a description of efforts to increase the state's levels of technology and innovation.

Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC):

KTEC is a non-profit corporation that was created by the state of Kansas in 1987. KTEC's mission is "to create and maintain employment by fostering innovation, stimulating the commercialization of new technologies and promoting the creation, growth and expansion of Kansas enterprises."¹

KTEC is involved in several programs that help develop the state's technology and innovation. They include:

1) Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center (MAMTC)

In March 1991, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) awarded KTEC a \$12.9 million grant (over six years) to help establish MAMTC. MAMTC's purpose is to help small manufacturers become more competitive and productive. A goal of MAMTC is to bring advanced manufacturing technology to Kansas firms. MAMTC provides assistance in four main ways:

- i) Direct consultation-engineers visit companies, identify and resolve problems.
- ii) Training-customized and general seminars and workshops.
- iii) Networks-discuss problems, develop new relationships, tell MAMTC what is needed.
- iv) Demonstrations-give companies a chance to see equipment without having to purchase it.

MAMTC accomplishes its goals through its head office in Overland Park, and regional offices in Manhattan, Wichita, Pittsburg, Lenexa, and Great Bend.

2) Centers of Excellence

The Centers of Excellence are research centers, based at universities throughout Kansas, that are designed to cater to the technical needs of Kansas businesses. There are five Centers of Excellence, each with its own technology focus:

- a) **Advanced Manufacturing Institute (AMI).** Located at Kansas State University, this Center works with Kansas companies to "enhance their manufacturing technology, develop new products, and increase productivity."

¹This and all subsequent quotes in this section taken from: Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation. (1991). *1001 Annual Report*. Topeka.

- b) Center for Excellence in Computer Aided Systems Engineering (CECASE). Located at the University of Kansas, this Center conducts research into "methodologies for computer aided analysis and design of advanced engineering systems, and the development of (sic) prototype software products."
- c) Center for Technology Transfer (CTT). Located at Pittsburg State University, this Center's technical expertise and research programs help companies design, test, and develop prototypes, products and processing methods.
In addition, CTT works with the Institute for Economic Development at Pittsburg State University in order to provide clients with expertise in management methods, capital creation, and technology transfer.
- d) Higuchi Biosciences Center (HBC). This center, located at the University of Kansas, includes the Center for Biomedical Research, the Center for Bioanalytical Research, the Center for Drug Delivery Research, and the Center for Molecular Engineering and Immunology.
The research foci of these Centers include the "three activities that are essential to the preclinical phase of drug therapy development-analysis, delivery, and formulation."
- e) National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR). This Center at Wichita State University. caters to the research and technology needs of the aviation industry.

3) Applied Research Matching Fund

KTEC awards funds to private businesses and Kansas educational institutions for projects that "apply current scientific and technological knowledge and lead to new developments that can have a positive impact on the Kansas economy." Each application for funds is carefully screened by KTEC and a network of technical experts. If the application is accepted, KTEC will fund up to 40 percent of the project's costs.

4) Small Business Innovation Research Grants

Under this program, KTEC will provide matching funds up to a maximum of \$5,000 per proposal to small Kansas businesses to be used for preparation of proposals to federal agencies under the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. Proposals that meet the federal requirements are eligible for up to \$500,000 in federal grants. Eligible firms may receive up to three grants from KTEC annually.

In addition, KTEC also offers a "support network for SBIR concept evaluation, identification of appropriate SBIR solicitation topics, federal agency contact, and technical assistance." The cost of using the network qualifies for SBIR matching funds.

5) Training Equipment Grants

In FY 1989 and 1991, KTEC matched funds with seven Kansas area vocational technical schools and community colleges in order to finance training equipment necessary to train Kansas workers at current levels of technology.

6) Kansas Agriculture Value-Added Processing Center (KVAC)

Associated with Kansas State University, the KVAC makes efforts to "enhance agricultural, economic and rural revitalization by promoting the growth of value-added processing facilities in Kansas."

7) Ad Astra Fund

In a limited partnership with a venture capital management firm, the state of Kansas and private industry combine funds to invest in "quality, high return investments in companies whose technology has a broad market appeal and a management team which is highly motivated, capable and dedicated to the creation of a successful business."

OTHER PROGRAMS

Kansas Industrial Training (KIT) and Kansas Industrial Retraining (KIR)

The Kansas Industrial Training program is offered through the Kansas Department of Commerce and is available to companies wanting to locate a new facility in Kansas or for existing companies wanting to expand their current Kansas workforce. The Kansas Industrial Retraining program is designed to assist restructuring Kansas companies whose employees may lose their jobs because of obsolete job skills and knowledge. Both programs are available to manufacturing, distribution, and regional or national service-related operations training 10 or more employees. Each company receiving KIT/KIR funds designs its own particular training program using its own supervisory staff, a vocational-technical school, a community college, consultants, or a mix of these to meet the company's specific training needs.

Therefore, if a firm desires to pursue new and advanced technologies, but does not have a local workforce capable of working with this technology, the KIT/KIR programs may be able to help.

Section IX: Quality of Life

Quality of Life represents those community characteristics which make it a pleasant and enjoyable place to live. Healthy, stable communities have a climate which encourages young people to stay in their community and one which attracts new residents.

Individual viewpoints on Quality of Life are based upon personal values and may differ from person to person. In general, a good Quality of Life is based on strengths many areas, including low crime and poverty, a wide range of recreational activities, access to health and child care, and affordable housing.

In this section, the following measures are examined:

- *overall indices* take into account the number of volumes in public libraries (per capita), sites on the National Register of Historic Places, museums, local events, and state/federal recreation areas;
- *crime index offenses* indicate social stability and level of public safety;
- *hospital beds and physicians* determine access to doctors and public medical infrastructure; *infant deaths* may pinpoint pockets of poverty or barriers to adequate health care; *adult care homes' licensed beds* demonstrate the local capacity to care for the elderly;
- *day care and preschool facilities* represent child care options for working families;
- *persons receiving food stamps* indicates the distribution of income within a community;
- *number of housing units* and *vacancy rates* demonstrate the capacity of existing housing to accommodate population growth; *vacancy tenure* may indicate housing which could deteriorate or need substantial improvements over time; *median housing costs* represent value and affordability; and
- *contaminated water sites, underground storage tanks, and above-ground spills* highlight community environmental needs.

QUALITY OF LIFE: KEY FINDINGS

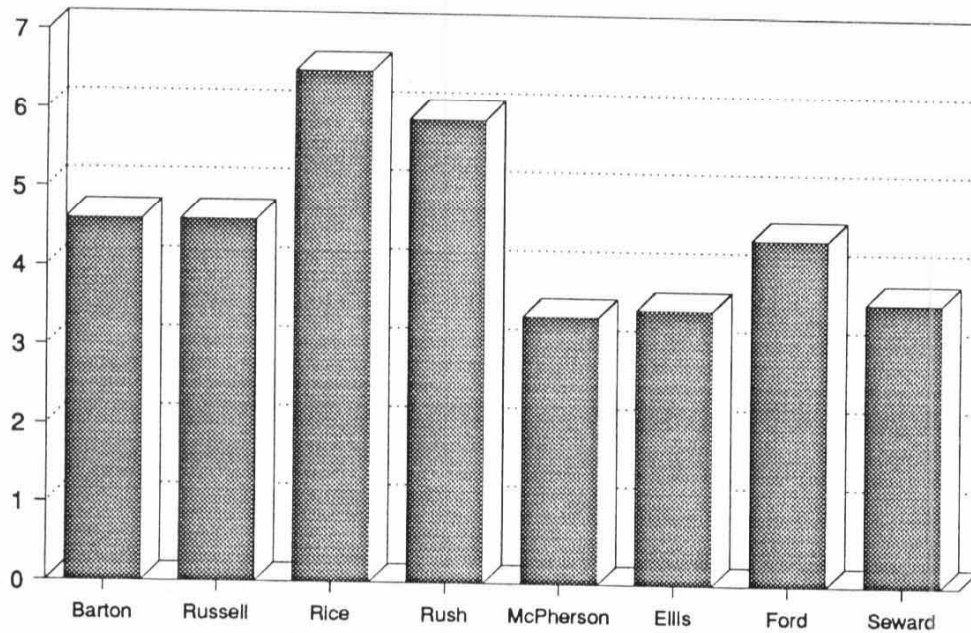
- Barton County has generally good access to cultural, historical and recreational resources relative to its comparative counties, when measured by public library volumes per capita, historic places, museums, events and State/Federal recreational areas.
- The incidence of crime in Barton County rose slightly over the 1980-1990 period. Barton County's 1990 crime index of 43 crimes per 1000 people is lower than the state figure and is higher than Ellis and McPherson County rates, but lower than Ford and Seward rates.
- Relative to the rest of the state, Barton county enjoys good access to health care. Access to health care improved dramatically Barton County over the period 1980 to 1989. Hospital beds per 1,000 people rose from 7.8 per thousand to 12.6 per thousand, twice the state rate; Admissions per hospital bed were 11.1, half the state rate.
- The number of persons receiving food stamps in Barton County increased to a rate of 72 per 1,000 people in 1988, 40% higher than the state average.
- Overall, there is a growing supply of housing units in Barton County. While the total number of housing units in Barton County increased by 3.8 percent, the total number of households decreased by 3.5 percent. Both rental and owner vacancy rates in Barton County were higher than the state vacancy rates. The majority of housing vacancies in Barton County are long term (vacant six months or more). Housing units which are for sale have been affected most.
- Rental costs in Barton County increased by 35.3 percent over the 1980-1990 period. This increase was less than the increase in any comparison county.
- The number of contaminated water sites in Barton County (8) was higher than the number of such sites in seven out of ten of the comparison counties. In addition, there were more above ground spills in Barton County in 1989 than in six out of ten of the comparison counties.

QUALITY OF LIFE: DATA ANALYSIS

Figure 9.1

Public Library Volumes Per Capita

Barton and Comparative Counties



- On overall indices, Barton County meets the average of ten comparison counties (4.7) for library volumes per capita. Barton has slightly fewer than the average number of sites on the National Register of Historical Places. When compared to the peer group of counties, Barton County also has fewer than the average number of museums and events. However, only one comparison county (McPherson), has more State/Federal recreational areas than does Barton County.

Table 9.1
Quality of Life: Overall Indices
Barton and Comparative Counties

	<u>Library Volumes Per Capita</u>	<u>Number of Sites on National Register of Historical Places</u>	<u>Number of Museums</u>	<u>Number of Events¹</u>	<u>Number of State/Federal Recreational Areas</u>
Barton	4.6	3	2	4	2
Russell	4.6	9	2	10	1
Ellsworth	4.8	14	5	10	2
Rice	6.5	8	2	1	2 ²
Stafford	10.1	1	2	2	1 ²
Pawnee	4.8 ³	3	2	7	2
Rush	5.9	3	2	1	--
McPherson	3.4	9	5	14	4
Ellis	3.5	6	4	15	--
Ford	4.4	6	3	31	2
Seward	3.6	--	3	7	--

¹Includes festivals, antiques/flea markets, product expositions, holiday/religious events, arts and crafts shows, athletic events, etc.

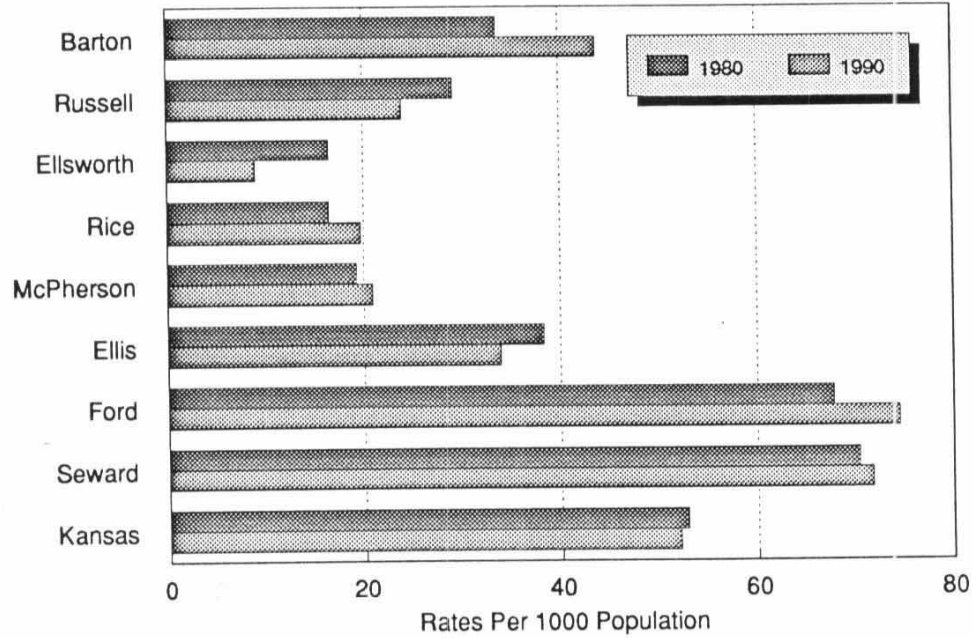
²Includes wildlife refuges.

³Does not include all libraries in county.

Source: John Clements, *Flying the Colors: Kansas Facts*, Dallas, Texas: Central Research II, Inc., 1990.

Figure 9.2

Crime Indexes Comparison Counties & Kansas, 1980-1990



- Crime in Barton County rose over the 1980-1990 period. While Barton County's 1990 crime index of 43.8 crimes per 1,000 people is slightly lower than the state figure, it is higher than the crime index in eight out of ten of the comparison counties.
- Crime rates tend to vary with city size. Barton County's rates fall between those of McPherson and Ellis (which are lower) and Ford and Seward (which are higher).

Table 9.2
 Crime Indexes: Rate per 1,000 Population
 Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	<u>Crime Index Offenses</u>		<u>Violent Crime</u>		<u>Property Crime</u>	
	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>
Barton	33.7	43.8	2.1	3.3	31.5	40.5
Russell	29.2	24.0	1.8	1.7	27.4	22.3
Ellsworth	16.5	9.0	2.3	0.5	14.2	8.5
Rice	16.5	19.7	0.2	0.6	16.3	19.1
Stafford	22.7	15.1	0.5	1.7	22.2	13.4
Pawnee	24.0	21.8	2.1	1.3	21.9	20.5
Rush	4.9	5.5	0.2	0.8	4.7	4.7
McPherson	19.3	20.9	1.2	0.8	18.1	20.1
Ellis	38.3	33.9	3.6	0.9	34.7	33.0
Ford	67.8	74.5	4.1	4.2	63.7	70.3
Seward	70.4	71.8	3.1	3.8	67.3	68.0
Kansas	52.9	52.1	3.8	4.5	49.0	47.6

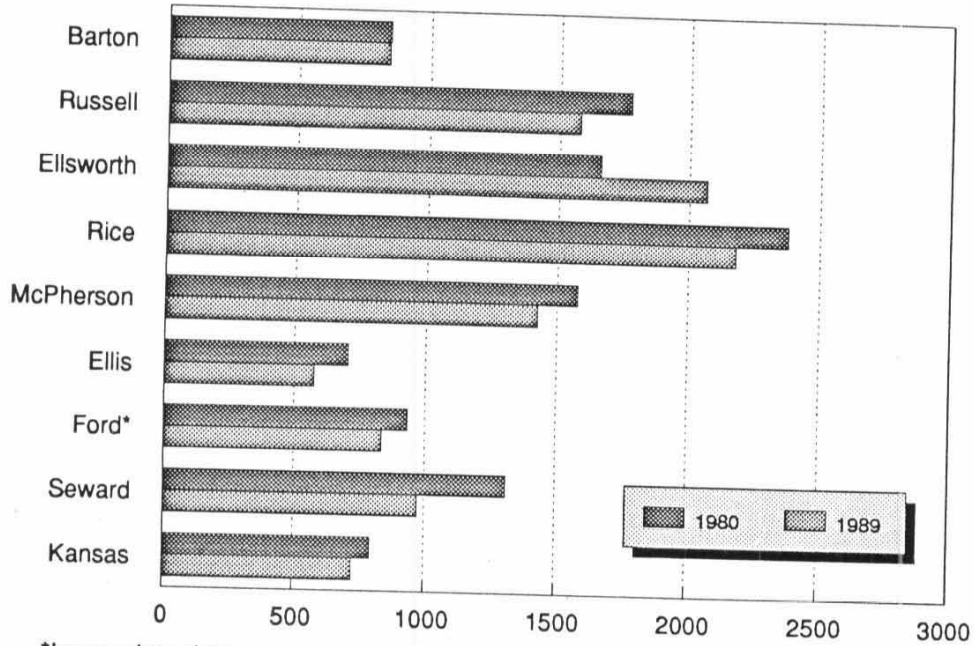
Note: Crime Index Offenses are murder, non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft.

Source: Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Statistical Analysis Center, *Crime in Kansas 1990*; State of Kansas, *Uniform Crime Report, Crime in Kansas, 1980*.

Figure 9.3

Persons Per Physician, 1980 and 1989

Barton, Comparative Counties and Kansas



*Incomplete data.

- Access to health care improved dramatically in Barton County over the period 1980 to 1989. Hospital beds per 1,000 people rose from 7.8 per thousand to 12.6 per thousand, twice the state rate; Admissions per hospital bed were 11.1, half the state rate.
- The number of persons in Barton County per physician remained stable in Barton County. In 1989, there were 842 persons per physician in Barton County, compared with 725 per physician in the state.

Table 9.3
Health Care Access: Hospital Beds and Physicians, 1980 and 1989
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Number of Hospital Beds		Admissions Per Bed		Persons Per Physician	
	Per 1,000 Population		1980	1989	1980	1989
	1980	1989 ¹				
Barton	7.8	12.6	36.9	11.1	847	842
Russell	6.1	4.7	38.9	23.8	1,774	1,580
Ellsworth	9.5	7.3	15.1	32.1	1,660	2,067
Rice	3.7	4.1	30.0	14.0	2,380	2,180
Stafford	12.0	8.2	29.4	15.0	692	1,060
Pawnee ²	63.7	62.9	3.5	2.9	672	326
Rush ³	11.1	13.0	--	--	4,516	1,900
McPherson	7.0	3.8	21.2	27.3	1,580	1,426
Ellis	9.2	9.1	17.7	24.6	705	576
Ford ³	6.0	4.6	38.6	36.0	935	835
Seward	5.4	4.1	39.3	37.2	1,313	974
Kansas	7.5	6.0	23.1	24.3	794	725

¹Calculations based on 1990 population figures.

²Includes state hospital.

³Incomplete data.

Source: American Hospital Association, *American Hospital Association Guide to the Health Care Field, 1981 Edition; 1990 Edition*; Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Information Systems and Computing.

Table 9.4
 Number of Deaths, Infants Less Than 1 Year of Age, 1981-85 and 1986-90
 Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Total Number of Deaths		Percent of Births	
	1981-85	1986-90	1981-85	1986-90
Barton	31	20	1.0	0.8
Russell	7	2	1.0	0.4
Ellsworth	4	2	0.9	0.5
Rice	9	5	1.0	0.7
Stafford	5	5	1.1	1.4
Pawnee	9	3	1.5	0.7
Rush	3	0	1.1	--
McPherson	7	10	0.3	0.6
Ellis	24	12	1.0	0.7
Ford	35	26	1.3	1.0
Seward	11	13	0.5	0.7
Kansas	2,025	1,690	1.0	0.9

Source: KCCED County Database, from Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Registration and Health Statistics, *Annual Summary of Vital Statistics*. IPPBR percentage calculations based on data from Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Information Systems and Computing.

- The infant mortality rate in Barton County is relatively high in comparison with the Trade Area and Comparative Counties, at 0.8% of live births for the period 1986-1990.
- In 1980, this percent was lower than the state figure and those of 7 of the 10 comparison counties. In 1987, Barton county's percent was higher than the state figure and those of seven of the ten comparison counties.

Table 9.5
 Adult Care Homes: Licensed Beds, 1983 and 1989
 Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Number of Licensed Beds		Number of Beds Per Population 65 and Older	
	1983	1989	1983 ¹	1989 ²
Barton	374	384	0.09	0.08
Russell	176	156	0.10	0.08
Ellsworth	167	166	0.11	0.11
Rice	198	200	0.09	0.09
Stafford	178	128	0.13	0.10
Pawnee	100	100	0.07	0.07
Rush	60	60	0.06	0.06
McPherson	606	262	0.14	0.06
Ellis	263	297	0.10	0.09
Ford	188	218	0.06	0.06
Seward	100	142	0.07	0.08
Kansas	25,584	28,161	0.08	0.08

¹Calculations based on 1980 population totals.

²Calculations based on 1990 population totals.

Source: KCCED County Database, from Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Information Systems and Computing.

- The number of licensed beds in Barton County adult care homes exceeded the number of similar beds in each of the comparison counties in 1989.
- The number of Barton County licensed beds per number of people age 65 and over was slightly higher than the state figure in 1983 and the same as the state figure in 1989.
- The number of Barton County licensed beds per number of people age 65 and over met or exceeded that of five comparison counties in 1983, and six in 1989.

Table 9.6
Access to Day Care and Preschool, 1989
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Number of Licensed Day Care Centers		Number of Preschools	
	Total	Children Per Center ¹	Total	Children Per School ²
Barton	26	105.5	7	134.9
Russell	8	67.0	3	61.3
Ellsworth	25	18.0	2	77.5
Rice	12	76.7	4	82.5
Stafford	7	66.0	4	38.0
Pawnee	26	20.7	2	97.5
Rush	3	91.3	0	--
McPherson	35	67.6	8	96.9
Ellis	26	83.3	4	200.5
Ford	73	40.0	7	139.9
Seward	15	139.9	3	247.7
Kansas	3,177	71.7	404	191.0

¹Calculations based upon number of persons aged 0-5 according to 1990 population totals.

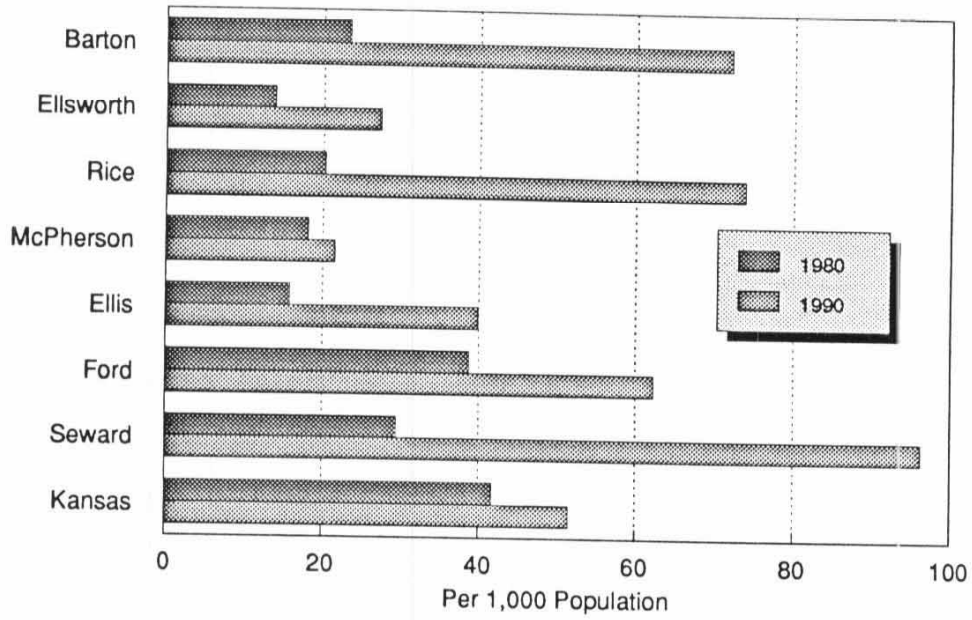
²Calculations based upon number of persons aged 3-4 according to 1990 population totals.

Source: Robert H. Poresky, Department of Human Development and Family Studies (Kansas State University), Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Adult and Child Care Facilities. Data collected by KCCED/IPBPR, KCRI/KSU.

- The number of licensed day care centers, when expressed in terms of the number of children per center ranked next to the last of the eleven comparison counties. Barton's rate of 105.5 children per center was higher than the state number (71.7) and those of all comparison counties with the exception of Seward (139.9).
- The number of preschools in Barton County (seven), was greater than or equal to the number of preschools in all but one of the comparison counties.
- Barton County's 1989 rate of 134.9 children per preschool was lower than the state figure of 191 children per center.

Figure 9.4

Persons Receiving Food Stamps
 Barton, Comparative Counties and Kansas
 1980 and 1990



- The number of persons receiving food stamps in Barton County increased by 207.5 percent over the 1980-1990 period. This was far greater than the state increase of 23.5 percent and was greater than the increase in seven out of ten comparison counties.

Table 9.7
 Number of Persons Receiving Food Stamps, 1980 and 1990
 Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

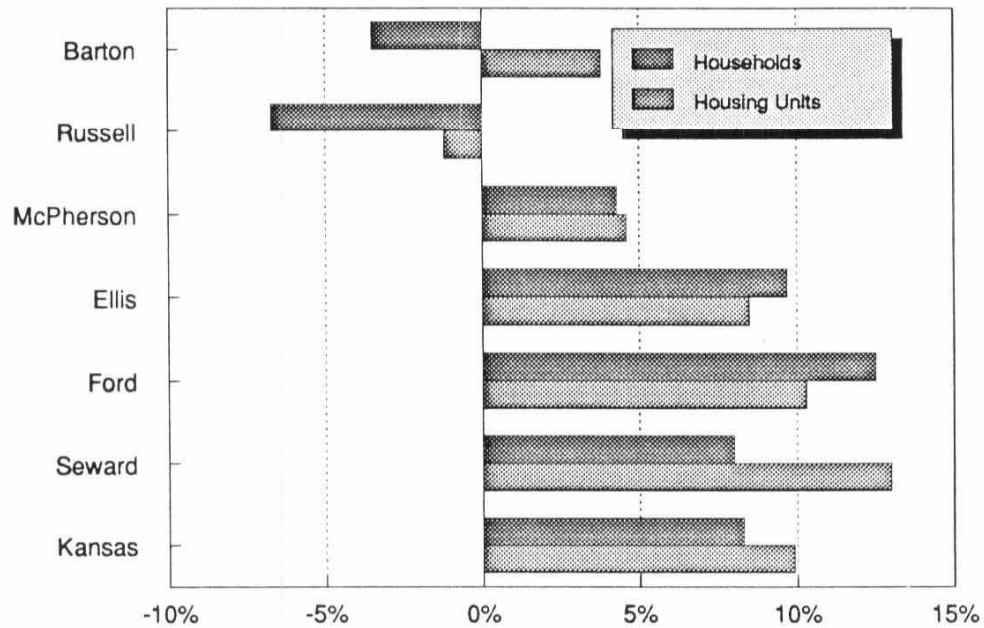
	Persons Receiving		Per 1,000 Population		Percent Change (per 1,000)
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980-1990
Barton	735	2,117	23.4	72.1	207.5%
Russell	228	334	25.7	42.6	65.8
Ellsworth	92	180	13.9	27.3	97.3
Rice	242	784	20.3	73.9	263.4
Stafford	73	273	12.8	50.9	296.9
Pawnee	151	330	18.7	43.7	133.3
Rush	102	153	22.6	39.8	76.3
McPherson	489	589	18.2	21.6	18.5
Ellis	414	1,039	15.9	39.9	151.8
Ford	945	1,711	38.8	62.3	60.3
Seward	504	1,805	29.5	96.3	226.2
Kansas	98,410	127,734	41.7	51.5	23.5

Source: KCCED County Database, from USDA *Food Statistical Summary*, U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County City Databook*, 1988. Data are averages of monthly data for January and July of the years reported, except 1980 Kansas total which is for July only.

Figure 9.5

Number of Households/Housing Units

Percent Change, 1980-1990



- While the total number of housing units in Barton County increased by 3.8 percent, the total number of households decreased by 3.5 percent.
- In the comparison group of ten counties, six experienced a decrease in number of households while four experienced an increase. Five of the comparison counties experienced a decrease in housing units while five experienced an increase.
- Ellsworth County was the only comparison county that, like Barton County, experienced an increase in housing units with a decrease in households.

Table 9.8
 Number of Housing Units, 1980 and 1990
 Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	<u>Total Households</u>		<u>Number of Housing Units</u>		<u>Housing Units per Household</u>		<u>Percent Change</u>	
	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>House-holds</u>	<u>Housing Units</u>
Barton	11,797	11,561	12,871	13,144	1.09	1.17	-3.5	3.8
Russell	3,612	3,371	4,129	4,079	1.14	1.21	-6.7	-1.2
Ellsworth	2,622	2,522	3,270	3,317	1.25	1.32	-3.8	1.4
Rice	4,525	4,165	4,974	4,868	1.10	1.17	-8.0	-2.1
Stafford	2,307	2,203	2,709	2,666	1.17	1.21	-4.5	-1.6
Pawnee	3,066	2,923	3,442	3,412	1.12	1.17	-4.7	-0.9
Rush	1,827	1,642	2,100	1,999	1.15	1.22	-10.1	-4.8
McPherson	9,807	10,230	10,464	10,941	1.07	1.17	4.3	4.6
Ellis	9,200	10,096	10,248	11,115	1.11	1.10	9.7	8.5
Ford	8,776	9,872	9,832	10,842	1.12	1.10	12.5	10.3
Seward	6,125	6,614	6,707	7,572	1.10	1.14	8.0	13.0
Kansas	872,239	944,726	950,151	1,044,112	1.09	1.11	8.3	9.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary File Tape 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

Table 9.9
Housing Occupancy and Tenure, 1990
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Total Housing Units	Owner Occupied	Renter Occupied	Vacant Total	Vacant Seasonal	Vacancy Rates	
						Owened	Rental
Barton	13,144	8,357	3,204	1,583	37	3.0	16.8
Russell	4,079	2,556	815	708	53	4.7	17.1
Ellsworth	3,317	1,952	570	795	366	3.5	13.5
Rice	4,868	3,130	1,035	703	13	4.0	16.5
Stafford	2,666	1,667	536	463	60	3.6	17.0
Pawnee	3,412	2,085	838	489	10	3.4	16.3
Rush	1,999	1,330	312	357	17	5.3	14.4
McPherson	10,941	7,483	2,747	711	38	1.6	8.4
Ellis	11,115	6,501	3,595	1,019	43	2.3	12.2
Ford	10,842	6,407	3,465	970	30	2.6	9.5
Seward	7,572	4,271	2,343	958	28	3.5	19.1
Kansas	1,044,112	641,762	302,964	99,386	7,336	2.3	11.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary File Tape 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

- While both rental and owner vacancies in Barton County were higher than the state vacancy rates, the owned vacancy rate was lower in Barton County than in seven out of ten comparison counties. Barton's rental vacancy rate was lower than the rates found in three out of ten comparison counties.
- In terms of size, Barton County has more housing units than any comparison county. Barton leads in the number of owner occupied housing units and ranks third in the number of renter occupied housing units.

Table 9.10
Housing Units Vacant 6 or More Months, 1990
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	<u>Total Vacancies</u>		<u>Rentals Vacant</u>		<u>Units for Sale</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Vacant</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Vacant</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Vacant</u>
Barton	1,047	66.1	256	47.7	175	68.9
Russell	548	77.4	101	72.7	105	86.8
Ellsworth	658	82.8	33	42.9	48	69.6
Rice	502	71.4	78	45.6	90	72.0
Stafford	344	74.3	50	54.9	47	78.3
Pawnee	315	64.4	62	45.3	44	62.9
Rush	293	82.1	31	68.9	61	85.9
McPherson	332	46.7	63	27.3	63	52.1
Ellis	569	55.8	150	34.1	94	63.1
Ford	506	52.2	80	24.4	95	57.2
Seward	455	47.5	150	33.5	81	53.6
Kansas	49,844	50.2	11,220	29.8	8,256	54.1

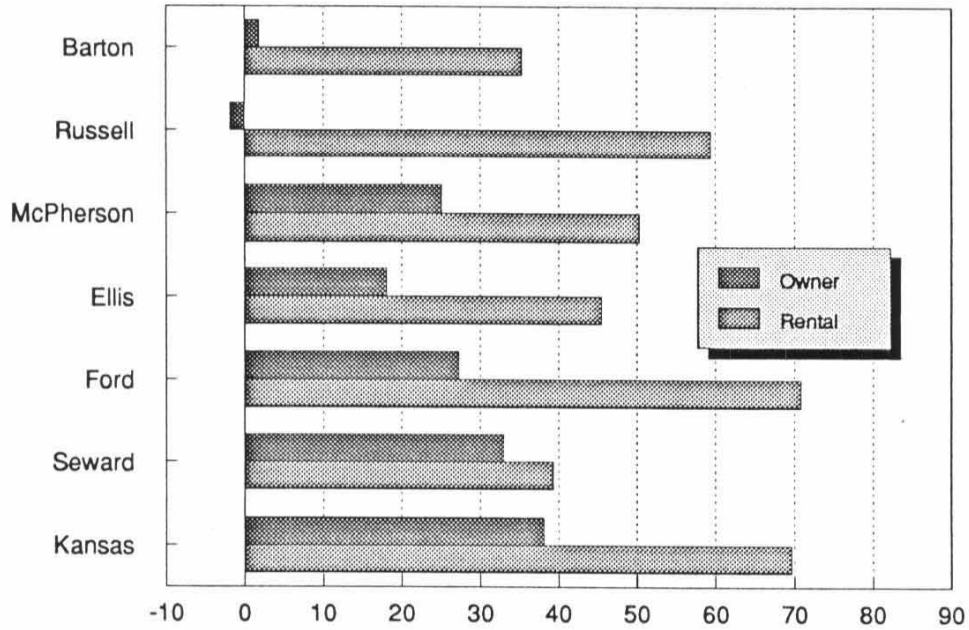
Note: Percentages are equivalent to the percentage of units vacant 6 or more months within each classification (i.e. Total, Rentals, Units for Sale).

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary File Tape 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

- Data on the number of housing units which have been vacant 6 months or more indicates that the majority of vacancies in Barton County are long term. However, five comparison counties have a greater percentage of such vacancies.
- Housing units which are for sale have been hit the hardest. Nearly 69 percent of for sale units in Barton County have been vacancy six months or more. In contrast, 47.7 percent of rentals have been empty for the same period.

Figure 9.6

Median Housing Costs Percent Change, 1980-1990



- While the 1990 median housing costs for owner occupied units in Barton County (\$37,700) was lower than the state average, it was higher than the costs in six out of ten of the comparison counties.
- Rental costs in Barton County increased by 35.3 percent over the 1980-1990 period. This increase was less than the increase in any comparison county.

Table 9.11
 Median Housing Costs, 1980 and 1990
 Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Owner-Occupied Median Value		Renter-Occupied Median Rent		Percent Change	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	Owner Units	Rental Units
Barton	37,000	37,700	156	211	1.9	35.3
Russell	28,500	28,000	106	169	-1.8	59.4
Ellsworth	22,200	28,300	102	166	27.5	62.7
Rice	25,200	27,200	104	165	7.9	58.7
Stafford	23,300	24,000	100	160	3.0	60.0
Pawnee	30,800	35,300	123	197	14.6	60.2
Rush	21,300	19,200	104	143	-9.9	37.5
McPherson	38,300	47,900	149	224	25.1	50.3
Ellis	42,000	49,600	156	227	18.1	45.5
Ford	38,400	48,900	154	263	27.3	70.8
Seward	36,700	48,800	183	255	33.0	39.3
Kansas	37,800	52,200	168	285	38.1	69.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population, Summary File Tape 1A, *Characteristics of the Population*.

- The number of contaminated water sites in Barton County (8) was higher than the number of such sites in seven out of ten of the comparison counties.
- There were more above ground spills in Barton County in 1989 than in six out of ten of the comparison counties.

Table 9.12
Contaminated Water Sites, 1989
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	<u>Number of Sites¹</u>	<u>Most Common Contaminants</u>	<u>Most Common Source</u>	<u>Number of Resolved Sites²</u>
Barton	8	Inorganic	Brine	1
Russell	13	Inorganic	Brine	--
Ellsworth	2	Volatile Organic & Inorganic	Landfill & Underground Storage	--
Rice	3	Inorganic	Dumping/Brine	2
Stafford	2	Inorganic	Brine/Lagoon	--
Pawnee	3	Inorganic	Brine	--
Rush	2	Inorganic	Brine	2
McPherson	9	Inorganic	Other	--
Ellis	20	Inorganic	Brine	3
Ford	2	Acid & Inorganic	Pipeline & Lagoon	2
Seward	2	Inorganic & Volatile Organic	Lagoon & Septic	--
Kansas	386	Volatile Organic	Brine	47

¹Sites being investigated, cleaned up, or monitored during year.

²Sites which have been: a) cleaned up and inspected; b) monitored for post-clean up; or c) no remedial action necessary.

³Sole material and/or combined with other materials.

⁴Sole source and/or combined with other sources.

Source: *1989 Summary of Bureau of Environmental Remediation Sites in Kansas*, Topeka, Kansas: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, February 1990.

Table 9.13
Underground Storage Tanks and Above Ground Spill Sites, 1989
Barton, Comparative Counties, and Kansas

	Underground Tanks		Spills	
	<u>Number Registered</u>	<u>Number Removed</u>	<u>Per County</u>	<u>KCC Reported¹</u>
Barton	331	23	28	8
Russell	118	11	27	11
Ellsworth	109	20	12	1
Rice	112	7	53	14
Stafford	79	2	42	12
Pawnee	83	19	10	1
Rush	46	4	10	0
McPherson	204	14	34	12
Ellis	224	25	37	16
Ford	255	25	4	0
Seward	226	30	4	1
Kansas	19,000 ²	936	1,236	597

¹Includes spills which occur on active oil leases.

²Approximate.

Source: 1989 Summary of Bureau of Environmental Remediation Sites in Kansas, Topeka, Kansas: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, February 1990.

Section X: Summary of Strengths, Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats

Understanding the economic, social and demographic trends which have been occurring and are likely to occur is an important first step in developing a strategic plan for the future. Throughout this report, Barton County's performance has been related to that of similar areas in order to provide a context for evaluating whether Barton's performance has been relatively good or relatively poor. This section provides a brief summary of these comparisons, organized into strengths and weaknesses. This will help identify where action can or should be taken to either address a problem or to build upon an area of strength within the community. If present trends continue, changes in the world around Barton County will present conditions which will either be favorable (opportunities) or unfavorable (threats) for Barton County's well-being. It is from this context that priorities can be determined, and specific action proposals can be developed.

The following list of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats is not intended to be exhaustive. It is intended merely as a beginning point, drawing upon some of the conclusions of this report, and should be supplemented with the conclusions of other reports, discussions, public meetings, surveys, and importantly, local common knowledge about community conditions.

STRENGTHS

- High percentage of persons with associate degrees or some college education
- High school dropout rates generally lower than the state average
- Higher average earnings per job than neighboring and comparative areas
- Per capita income higher than average for non-metropolitan Kansas
- Relatively extensive highway and road network
- Nearby access to interstate highway system
- Economy is diversified
- Increasing stability of income sources - investment income and transfer payments
- Larger number of banks with higher levels of assets than most similar counties
- High rates of return on assets at county banks
- Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center regional office located in Great Bend
- Crime rates lower than state average
- Relatively good access to health care resources
- Growing supply of housing units and relatively low increase in housing costs
- Relatively dense population distribution for infrastructure efficiencies
- Local governments and school districts have low levels of debt commitments
- Mill levies generally low relative to similar counties, cities and school districts

WEAKNESSES

- Percentage of persons with college degrees lower than that of state and nearby areas
- High rates of over-25 population with elementary education or less
- Relatively low shares of the population of prime working age
- Higher unemployment rates than average
- Significant contraction in the labor force due to reduced work opportunities during the mid-1980s
- Job creation rates since 1986 have been modest
- Wage and salary income decreasing in real terms
- Earned income portion of total income shrinking
- Average pay per employee lags state in most industrial sectors
- Limited access to venture and seed capital investments
- Serious decline in retail sector
- Growth rate in service sector half that of Comparative and Non-metropolitan counties
- Number of persons receiving food stamps is 40% higher than state average and is increasing

OPPORTUNITIES

- Reversal of decline in population expected
- Relatively large proportions of under-18 population as a future source of labor
- Small but growing numbers of ethnic minorities bringing cultural diversity
- Significant potential to expand the size of the workforce through the return of previous participants
- Increasing importance of non-employment sources of income may bring economic stability
- Increased traffic flows through Barton County link the rapidly growing southwest part of the state with the well-developed northeast
- High proportions of small business providing opportunities for expansion
- Relative strengths in wholesale, retail and service sectors
- Growing importance of farm proprietorships as a source of income
- More pronounced shift toward higher-return livestock and the relatively strong performance of the farm sector in Barton indicates potential for an increased share of the local economy from agriculture related activities
- Housing supply is available and is growing, improving Barton's ability to accommodate short term and immediate employment growth
- Kansas has developed numerous state technology and small business programs

THREATS

- Continued rates of population out-migration from Barton
- Continued population loss in Trade Area could weaken retail sector and limit available labor force for Barton County businesses
- Shrinking proportion of the population of working age
- Shrinking labor force
- Increased demand for public services from growing senior and young populations
- Nominal personal income level lagging behind state average
- Net loss of jobs from Barton County
- Job losses in most industrial sectors
- Decrease in taxable retail sales
- Decrease in property tax base since 1990
- Kansas has not performed well with respect to innovation and technology
- Long term housing vacancies could lead to deterioration of housing stock quality
- Environmental quality at risk due to relatively high percentage of contaminated water sites and high rate of above-ground spills