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Economic Trends: Leavenworth County

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Foreword

The Kansas Center for Community Economic Development (KCCED) is a joint center of the Institute for Public Policy and Business Research at the University of Kansas and the Kansas Center for Rural Initiatives at Kansas State University. Its purpose is to enhance economic development efforts by bringing university expertise to rural Kansas.

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Economic Trends: Leavenworth County

Introduction

The use of data in economic development is important because it assists a community in “taking stock” and understanding its current situation across several different areas of economic and demographic performance. However, data alone do 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 serve 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 can be inferred from the data.

This report looks at variables categorized under the following areas:

- population
- employment
- earnings and income
- retail trade
- agriculture
- education

Throughout the report, Leavenworth County’s performance is compared with the performance of the State of Kansas and with Surrounding Counties¹. It is by no means a comprehensive analysis of economic trends facing Leavenworth County but rather an overview of some key economic and demographic variables.

¹ “Surrounding Counties” are Atchison, Jefferson, Douglas, Johnson, and Wyandotte Counties.

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. Communities with growing populations are generally regarded as being 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. Generally, areas of population growth are also areas of economic growth, whereas areas of population loss suffered previous economic decline and restructuring.

Population characteristics are regarded as indicators of a region's economic conditions and economic potential. The level of Leavenworth County's population relative to the state's population reflects 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.

Population: Key Findings

- During the 1980s, Leavenworth County's population grew 17.4 percent, which was more than three times as fast as the growth rate of Kansas and twice the rate of the U.S. During 1990-1997, the county's population grew 9 percent compared with 4.7 percent of Kansas and 7.6 percent for the U.S. (Table 1).
- In the 1990s, the county's annual growth rates were greater than the state's rates in 1991, 1993, 1995 and 1996. During 1991, the county's rate of growth was four times greater than the State's rate (Table 1).
- During the 1970s, Leavenworth County's population growth rate was less than Kansas' and the U.S'. In the 1980s, the county's population growth rate was three times the State's and

about twice the U.S.' During 1990-1997, Leavenworth County's rate was again twice the Kansas rate (Table 2 and Figure 1).

- Since 1980, Johnson County had the highest growth rate for the neighboring metropolitan counties in Kansas with a 31.4 percent increase from 1980 to 1990 and a 17.6 percent increase from 1990 to 1997. These rates were higher than Leavenworth County's rates during the both periods (Table 2 and Figure 1a).
- In the decades ending 1970 and 1990, Leavenworth County's net migration was positive while the state's net migration was negative. During the period 1990-1997, Leavenworth County's net migration was over 7 times the state's net migration (Table 3).
- Leavenworth County maintained its rank as seventh most populated county in Kansas in 1940 and in 1990. Leavenworth County is projected to become sixth most populated state in 2020 (Table 4).
- Leavenworth County was the fourth fastest growing county in Kansas from 1980 to 1990 behind Finney, Johnson, and Douglas counties (Map 1). During 1990-1997, it was tenth in population growth in Kansas (Map 1a). The 10.5 percent net migration from 1980 to 1990 for Leavenworth County was the fourth highest for Kansas. Johnson County had the highest net migration at 20.3 percent followed by Finney County at 15 percent and Douglas at 11.9 percent (Map 2).

Table 1
Population Totals, Growth Rates, Rank & Share
Leavenworth County and Kansas

Year	Leavenworth		Kansas		Leavenworth County Rank in State	Share (%)
	Population Total	Growth Rate	Population Total	Growth Rate		
1890	38,485		1,428,108		4	2.7
1900	40,940	6.4 %	1,470,495	3.0 %	5	2.8
1910	41,207	0.7	1,690,949	15.0	6	2.4
1920	38,402	-6.8	1,769,257	4.6	8	2.2
1930	42,673	11.1	1,880,999	6.3	7	2.3
1940	41,112	-3.7	1,801,028	-4.3	7	2.3
1950	42,361	3.0	1,905,299	5.8	7	2.2
1960	48,524	14.5	2,178,611	14.3	7	2.2
1970	53,340	9.9	2,249,071	3.2	8	2.4
1980	54,809	2.8	2,364,236	5.1	8	2.3
1990	64,371	17.4	2,477,588	4.8	7	2.6
1991*	66,261	2.9	2,492,577	0.6	6	2.7
1992*	66,678	0.6	2,515,760	0.9	7	2.7
1993*	67,571	1.3	2,534,668	0.8	6	2.7
1994*	68,470	1.3	2,553,889	0.8	6	2.7
1995*	69,176	1.0	2,569,619	0.6	6	2.7
1996*	69,883	1.0	2,579,149	0.4	6	2.7
1997*	70,176	0.4	2,594,840	0.6	6	2.7
2000**	73,616	4.9	2,562,890	-1.2	n/a	2.9
2005**	77,244	4.9	2,604,664	1.6	n/a	3.0
2010**	79,944	3.5	2,645,887	1.6	n/a	3.0
2015**	82,933	3.7	2,688,165	1.6	n/a	3.1
2020**	85,121	2.6	2,723,689	1.3	n/a	3.1

* Estimates ** Projections

Source: 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 Decennial Census," mimeographed sheet; Flerchinger, Teresa D., "Kansas Population Projections 1990-2030," Kansas Division of the Budget, September 1992; Population Estimates, and Population Distribution Branches, U.S. Bureau of the Census. Calculations: IPPBR.

Table 2
Population Growth Rates
Leavenworth County, Surrounding Counties, Kansas, and United States
1970-1997

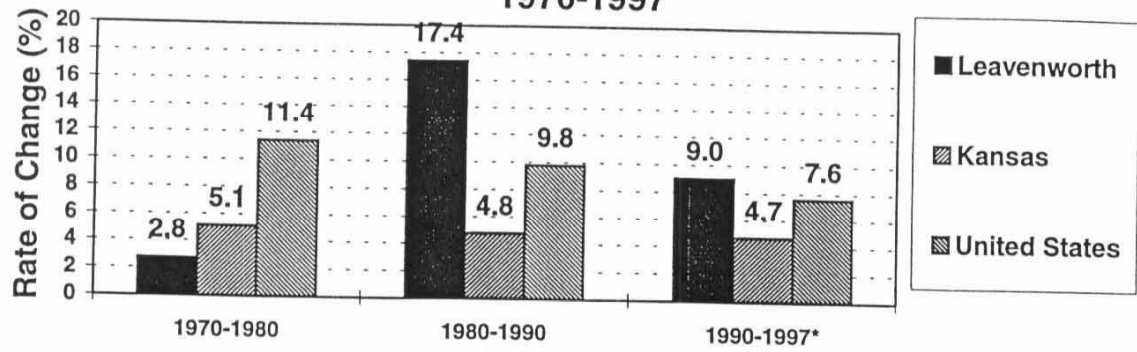
<u>Year</u>	<u>1970-1980</u>	<u>1980-1990</u>	<u>1990-1997*</u>
Leavenworth	2.8	17.4	9.0
Atchison	-4.0	-8.0	-3.6
Jefferson	27.3	4.6	12.7
Douglas	16.8	20.9	11.4
Johnson	22.8	31.4	17.6
Wyandotte	-7.8	-6.0	-5.8
Kansas	5.1	4.8	4.7
United States	11.4	9.8	7.6

* 1997 Population estimate

Note: 1990-97 is a seven-year period compared to ten years for the previous periods.

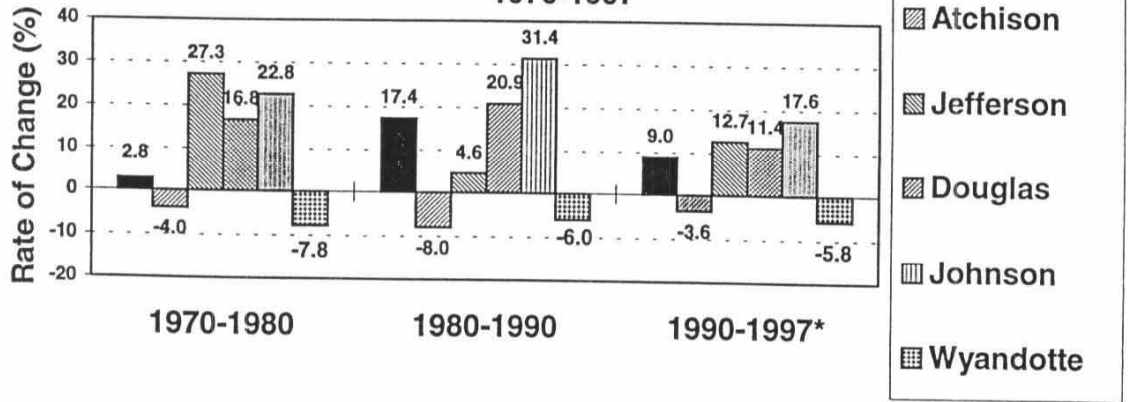
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, "1980 Census of Population; 1990 Census of Population." 1990-1997 estimates: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Figure 1
Rates of Population Change
Leavenworth County, Kansas, and U.S.
1970-1997



* 1990-1997 is a seven-year period compared with other ten-year periods

Figure 1a
**Rates of Population Change
 Leavenworth and Surrounding Counties
 1970-1997**



* 1990-1997 is a seven-year period compared with other ten-year periods

Table 3
Net Migration
Leavenworth County and Kansas
1970-1997

<u>Leavenworth County</u>							
<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Population Change</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Births - Deaths</u>	<u>Net *** Migration</u>	<u>% Net Migration</u>
1970*	53,340	4,816	8315	4588	3727	1,089	0.6
1980*	54,809	1,469	7572	4315	3257	-1,788	-3.4
1990*	64,371	9,562	8132	4329	3803	5,759	10.5
1997**	70,176	5,805	6310	3519	2791	3,014	4.7
<u>Kansas</u>							
<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Population Change</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Births - Deaths</u>	<u>Net *** Migration</u>	<u>% Net Migration</u>
1970*	2,249,071	70,460	409189	219067	190122	-119,662	-5.5
1980*	2,364,236	115,165	355861	218713	137148	-21,983	-1.0
1990*	2,477,588	113,352	397215	220466	176749	-63,397	-2.7
1997**	2,594,840	117,252	271732	168210	103522	13,730	0.6

* Decade ending
** Population estimate
*** Net migration = Population change - (births-deaths)

Source: Population Totals: U.S. Bureau of the Census, "Census of Population, 1970: Number of Inhabitants; 1980 Census of Population," Vol.1, Chapter A, Part 18; "1990 Decennial Census," mimeographed sheet; Population Estimates U.S. Bureau of the Census. Calculations: IPPBR.

Table 4
Population of Top Ranking Kansas Counties
(Thousands)

Rk	1940	Pop.	Rk	1990	Pop.	Rk	2020*	Pop.
1	Wyandotte	145	1	Sedgwick	404	1	Johnson	624
2	Sedgwick	143	2	Johnson	355	2	Sedgwick	478
3	Shawnee	91	3	Wyandotte	162	3	Shawnee	171
4	Reno	52	4	Shawnee	161	4	Wyandotte	158
5	Montgomery	49	5	Douglas	82	5	Douglas	103
6	Crawford	45	6	Riley	67	6	Leavenworth	85
7	Leavenworth	41	7	Leavenworth	64	7	Finney	80
8	Cowley	38	8	Reno	62	8	Riley	77
9	Johnson	33	9	Butler	51	9	Butler	64
10	Butler	32	10	Saline	49	10	Reno	54
11	Labette	30	11	Montgomery	39	11	Saline	44
12	Cherokee	30	12	Cowley	37	12	Ford	41
13	Saline	30	13	Crawford	36	13	Gearly	38
14	Lyon	26	14	Lyon	35	14	Cowley	38
15	Sumner	26	15	Finney	33	15	Lyon	37
16	Douglas	25	16	Harvey	31	16	Crawford	34
17	Barton	25	17	Gearly	30	17	Montgomery	32
18	McPherson	24	18	Barton	29	18	Harvey	32
19	Dickinson	23	19	Ford	27	19	Miami	30
20	Atchison	22	20	McPherson	27	20	Sumner	29

* Population Projection

Source: University of Kansas, Institute for Public Policy and Business Research, "Kansas Statistical Abstract," 1992-1993, "Population of Kansas Counties, 1890-1980; U.S. Bureau of the Census, "1990 Decennial Census." Floerchinger, Teresa D., "Kansas Population Projections, 1990-2030," Kansas Division of the Budget, September, 1992. Calculations: IPPBR.

EMPLOYMENT

Employment levels are an important measure of a community's economic vitality. 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 thereby 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 net loss in jobs over a given period of time.

Employment: Key Findings

- The average annual employment (by place of work) for Leavenworth County has shown good growth in the last 10 years with a 13.2 percent increase from 1986 to 1991 and 9.8 percent increase from 1991 to 1996 (Table 5). During 1986-1991, the average annual employment growth for Leavenworth County was 44 percent higher than both the state and national growth rates. Employment growth has tapered a little during 1991-1996 but still slightly above Kansas and U.S. growth rates (Table 5 and Figure 2).
- During 1986-1991 and 1991-1996, Leavenworth County's employment growth rate was lower than that for Johnson and Douglas counties but higher than for Atchison and Wyandotte counties. Leavenworth County's employment growth rate was higher than for Jefferson County during 1986-1991 but lower than for Jefferson County in 1991-1996 (Table 5 and Figure 2a).
- The number of firms located in Leavenworth County has increased 23.7 percent from 1986 to 1996, compared to an 10.8 percent increase for Kansas (Table 6).
- For Leavenworth County, the number of firms employing 20 to 99 workers grew at a faster rate than those with less than 19 workers and those with 100 to 499 workers (Table 6). For Leavenworth County, around 88.3 percent of the firms employ fewer than 19 workers in 1996 compared with 87 percent for the State (Table 7). The importance of small firms to the economy indicates a need for strategies that nurture new business development and assist existing small businesses.
- Total employment for Leavenworth County grew from 29,222 in 1991 to 32,098 in 1996, for a growth rate of 9.8 percent, compared with 9.1 percent for Kansas during the same period (Table 8). Farm employment for the same time period declined by 5.4 percent in both Leavenworth County and the State. Leavenworth County's decline in Mining (negative 24.8 percent) is much worse than the 18.6 percent decrease in Mining jobs in Kansas.

- Traditionally, Leavenworth County's economy has been dependent upon government employment due to the presence of Fort Leavenworth. Although Government and Government Services grew just 1.2 percent during 1991-1996, the sector remains the top employer (12,233) in 1996. The Services sector follows as next top employer in Leavenworth with 7,596 employed (Table 8).
- The largest nominal increase in employment from 1991 to 1996 for Leavenworth County occurred in the Services sector with an increase of 1,179 persons employed. The next two largest nominal employment gainers were Retail Trade and Construction, with increases of 508 and 439 jobs, respectively. (Table 8).
- The Agricultural Services sector and the Manufacturing sector in Leavenworth County offered the largest percent growth in jobs in Leavenworth County from 1991 to 1996 (Table 8 and Figure 3).
- In 1996, Leavenworth County's Government and Government Services sector had the largest share (38.1 percent) of total employment, while Services and Retail Trade were 23.7 and 13.4 percent of total employment, respectively (Table 8a).
- The labor force participation rate is the percentage of population 16 years old and over that is in the labor force. The labor force participation rate in 1990 for Leavenworth County was 60.5 percent (Map 3). This participation rate was less than Kansas' rate of 65.4 percent and the U.S. rate of 64.4 percent (1990 U.S. Census). Leavenworth County had the lowest participation rate of its surrounding counties.
- The 1997 unemployment rate for Leavenworth County was 4.4 percent, which, although among the lower rates in the region, was higher than Kansas average unemployment rate of 3.8 percent (Map 4).
- Change in employment (place of residence) from 1990 to 1997 for Leavenworth County was 11.7 percent. This employment data is based on an individual's place of residence, unlike other data which have been based on place of work. Leavenworth County's employment data indicate that job opportunities have increased for residents of Leavenworth County both in and out of the county (Map 5).

Employment Growth Rates
Leavenworth County, Surrounding Counties, Kansas, and U.S.
1986-1996

	<u>Average Annual Employment</u>			<u>% Employment Growth</u>	
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1986-1991</u>	<u>1991-1996</u>
Leavenworth	25,814	29,222	32,098	13.2 %	9.8 %
Atchison	7,863	8,716	9,054	10.8	3.9
Jefferson	5,186	5,701	6,436	9.9	12.9
Douglas	37,320	46,827	53,708	25.5	14.7
Johnson	199,248	249,348	298,151	25.1	19.6
Wyandotte	94,858	91,200	92,537	-3.9	1.5
Kansas	1,377,296	1,502,336	1,638,597	9.1	9.1
United States	126,941,200	138,785,800	152,393,900	9.3	9.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (1969-1996), Table CA25, May 1998.

Figure 2
Employment Growth Rates
Leavenworth County, Kansas, and U.S.
1986-1996

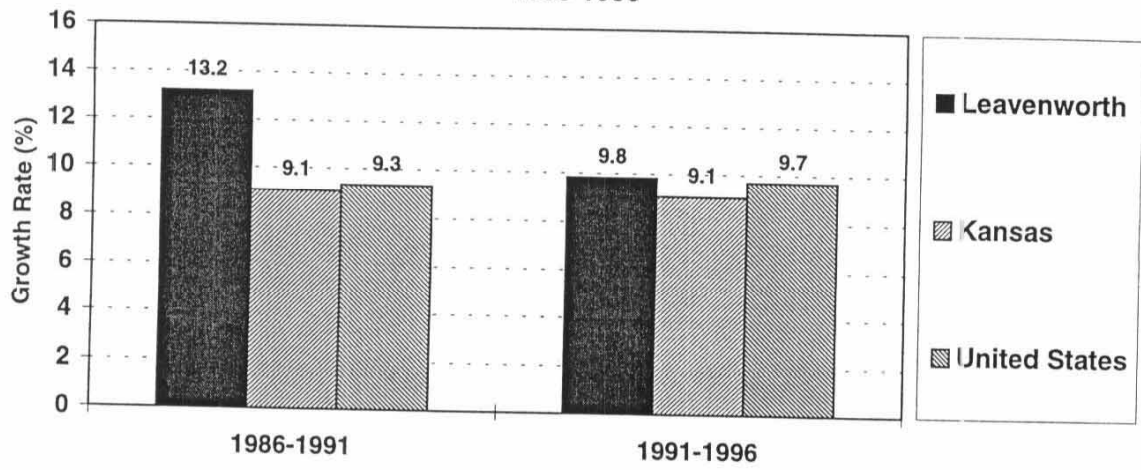


Figure 2a
Employment Growth Rates
Leavenworth County and Surrounding Counties
1986-1996

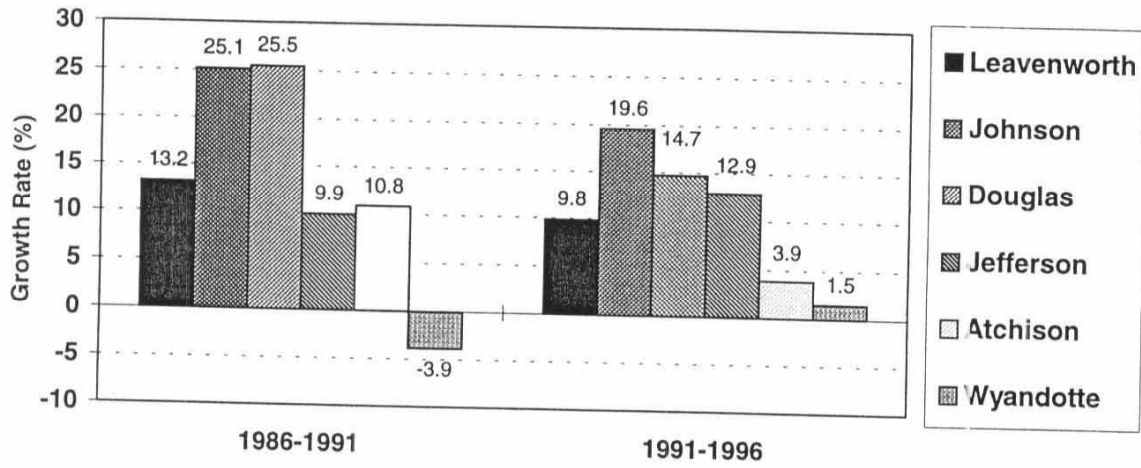


Table 6
Number of Firms, by Number of Employees
Leavenworth County and Kansas
1986-1996

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Leavenworth</u>			<u>Kansas</u>		
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>% Change</u>
1 -- 19	771	930	20.6 %	57,634	62,619	8.6 %
20 -- 99	64	104	62.5	6,321	7,907	25.1
100 -- 499	14	17	21.4	922	1,352	46.6
500+	2	2	0.0	97	139	43.3
Total	851	1,053	23.7	64,974	72,017	10.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, "County Business Patterns," 1986 and 1996; Institute for Public Policy and Business Research.

Table 7
Percentage Distribution of Firms, by Number of Employees
Leavenworth County and Kansas
1986-1996

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Leavenworth</u>		<u>Kansas</u>	
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1996</u>
0 - 19	90.6 %	88.3 %	88.7 %	87.0 %
20 - 99	7.5	9.9	9.7	11.0
100 - 499	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.9
500+	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, "County Business Patterns," 1986 and 1996; Institute for Public Policy and Business Research. Due to numbers being rounded up, percentages may not equal 100%.

Table 8

Employment Levels by Industry Leavenworth County and Kansas 1991-1996

Industry	Leavenworth			Kansas		
	1991	1996	Change % Change	1991	1996	Change % Change
Ag. Services	239	338	99 41.4 %	15,909	19,003	3,094 19.4 %
Mining	101	76	-25 -24.8	28,460	23,155	-5,305 -18.6
Construction	1,601	2,040	439 27.4	63,153	84,694	21,541 34.1
Manufacturing	1,312	1,687	375 28.6	189,744	202,636	12,892 6.8
Transportation	505	527	22 4.4	75,351	79,535	4,184 5.6
Wholesale Trade	371	369	-2 -0.5	75,333	80,504	5,171 6.9
Retail Trade	3,794	4,302	508 13.4	242,682	280,810	38,128 15.7
Finance, Insur., Real Est.	1,496	1,711	215 14.4	95,323	91,612	-3,711 -3.9
Services	6,417	7,596	1,179 18.4	373,053	425,536	52,483 14.1
Gov't. and Gov't. Services	12,091	12,233	142 1.2	259,140	271,432	12,292 4.7
Subtotal -- Non-Farm	28,020	30,879	2,859 10.2	1,418,148	1,558,917	140,769 9.9
Farm Employment	1,289	1,219	-70 -5.4	84,188	79,680	-4,508 -5.4
Total Employment	29,222	32,098	2,876 9.8	1,502,336	1,638,597	136,261 9.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (1969-1996), Table CA25, May 1998.

Figure 3
**Percent Change in Employment by Industry
 1991-1996**

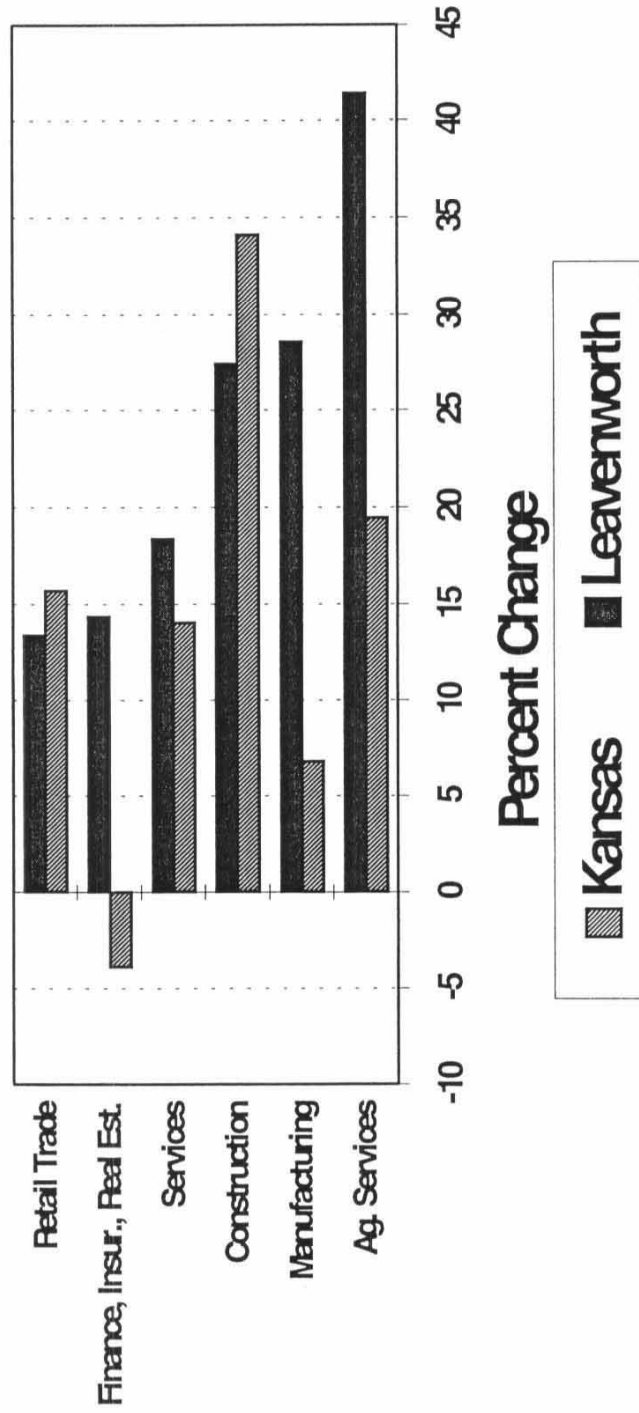


Table 8a

Employment Percent Share by Industry Leavenworth County and Kansas 1991-1996

Industry	Leavenworth			Kansas		
	1991	1996	Change	1991	1996	Change
Ag. Services	0.8	1.1	0.2 %	1.1	1.2	0.1 %
Mining	0.3	0.2	-0.1	1.9	1.4	-0.5
Construction	5.5	6.4	0.9	4.2	5.2	1.0
Manufacturing	4.5	5.3	0.8	12.6	12.4	-0.3
Transportation	1.7	1.6	-0.1	5.0	4.9	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	1.3	1.1	-0.1	5.0	4.9	-0.1
Retail Trade	13.0	13.4	0.4	16.2	17.1	1.0
Finance, Insur., Real Est.	5.1	5.3	0.2	6.3	5.6	-0.8
Services	22.0	23.7	1.7	24.8	26.0	1.1
Gov't. and Gov't. Services	41.4	38.1	-3.3	17.2	16.6	-0.7
Subtotal -- Non-Farm	95.9	96.2	0.3	94.4	95.1	0.7
Farm Employment	4.4	3.8	-0.6	5.6	4.9	-0.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (1969-1996), Table C-A25, May 1996.

Earnings and Income

Earnings and income are the sources of revenue for the community residents. Higher average wages 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. Per capita personal income indicates the relative wealth of the area compared to the state. As the productivity of business and industry increases, personal per capita income also rises. Decreasing or stable rates may be the result of mature or declining industry. The following section contains data on the average wage per job and per capita personal income.

Earnings and Income: Key Findings

- The average wage per job for Leavenworth County (\$27,872 in 1996) was \$3,779 higher than the state average and \$611 lower than the national average (Table 9, Figure 4).
- In 1986, 1991, and 1996, Leavenworth County's average wage was consistently lower than for Johnson and Wyandotte counties but higher than for Atchison, Jefferson, and Douglas counties (Table 9, Figure 4a).
- Per capita personal income for Leavenworth County lags behind the state's figures. Leavenworth County's per capita personal income in 1996 was \$18,377, while Kansas' per capita personal income was \$23,133 (Table 10 and Figure 4b).
- Per capita personal income for Leavenworth County is higher than for Wyandotte County but lower than for Atchison, Jefferson, Douglas, and Johnson counties (Map 6).

Table 9
Average Wage Per Job
Leavenworth, Surrounding Counties, Kansas and U.S.
1986-1996

	Average Wage per Job (Dollars)			% Growth	
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>86-91</u>	<u>91-96</u>
Leavenworth	19,461	23,395	27,872	20.2	19.1
Atchison	15,236	17,060	20,122	12.0	17.9
Jefferson	13,404	14,143	16,329	5.5	15.5
Douglas	15,325	16,939	19,564	10.5	15.5
Johnson	19,576	23,910	28,578	22.1	19.5
Wyandotte	20,941	24,660	30,051	17.8	21.9
Kansas	17,568	20,500	24,093	16.7	17.5
United States	19,635	24,216	28,483	23.3	17.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (1969-1996), County Summary, Table CA34. May 1998.

Figure 4
Average Wage per Job
Leavenworth County, Kansas, and United States
1986-1996

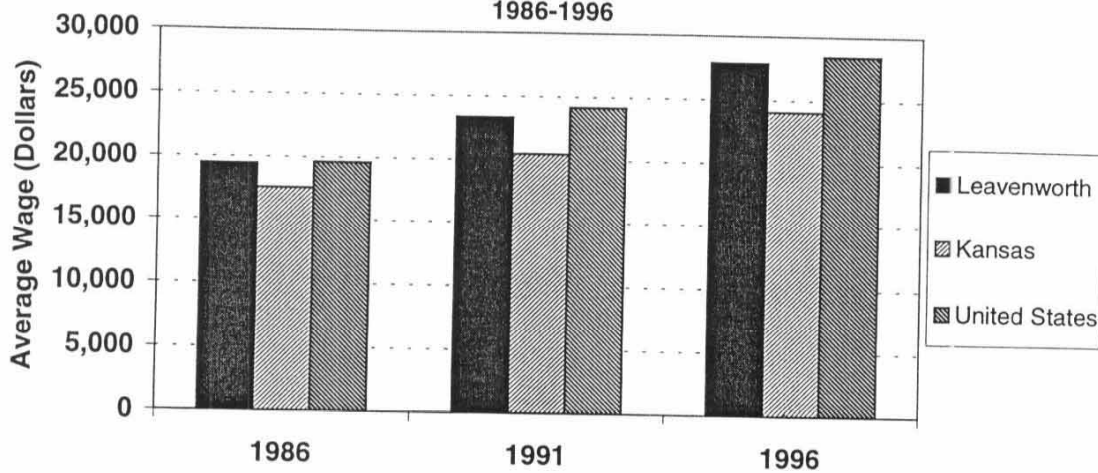


Figure 4a
Average Wage per Job
Leavenworth County and Surrounding Counties
1986-1996

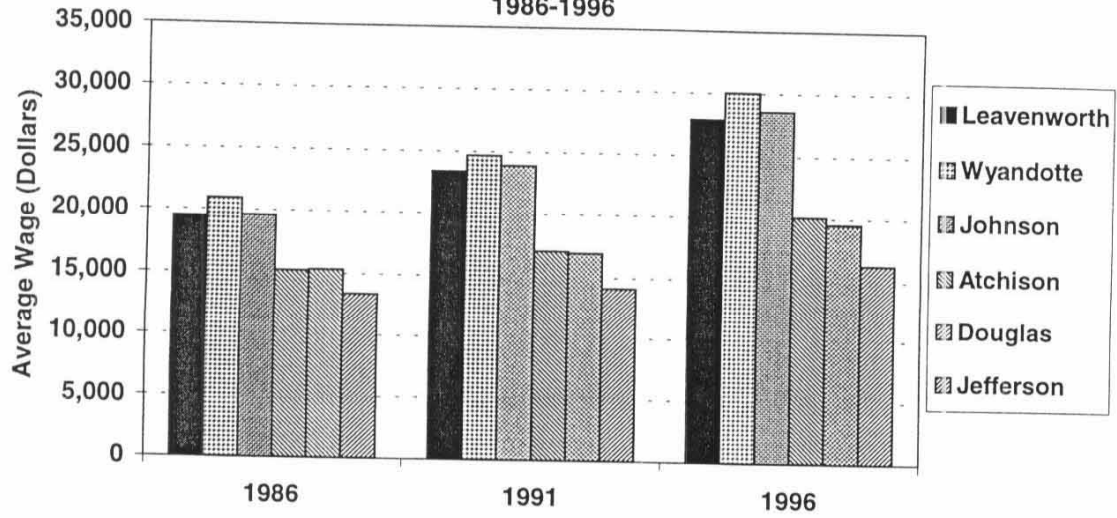


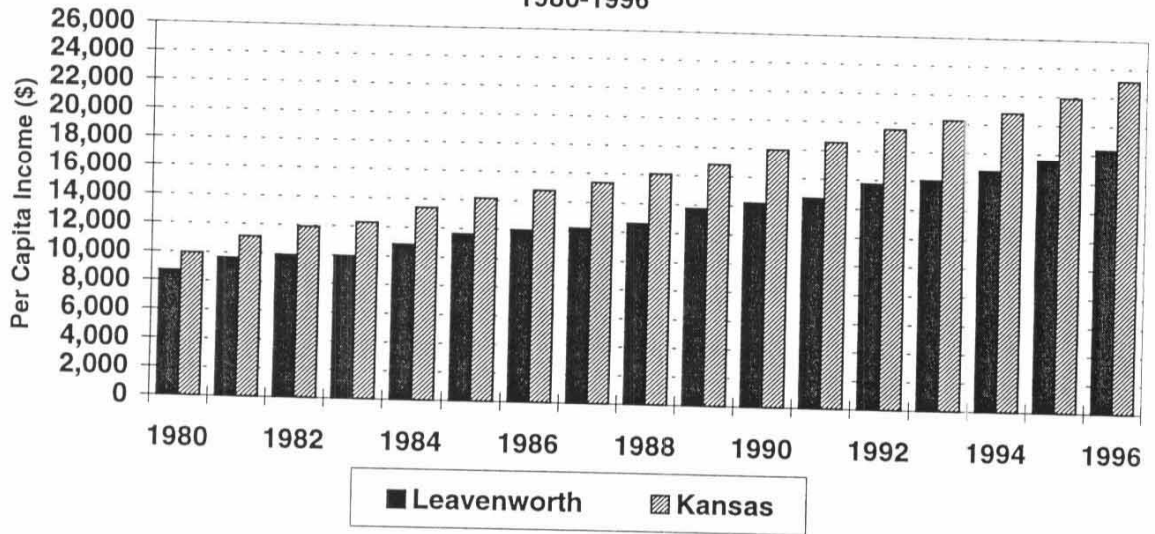
Table 10

**Per Capita Personal Income
Leavenworth County and Kansas
1980-1996**

	<u>Income (\$)</u>		<u>Growth Rates</u>	
	<u>Leavenworth</u>	<u>Kansas</u>	<u>Leavenworth</u>	<u>Kansas</u>
1980	8,683	9,950		
1981	9,688	11,176	11.6 %	12.3 %
1982	9,937	11,915	2.6	6.6
1983	9,990	12,296	0.5	3.2
1984	10,861	13,434	8.7	9.3
1985	11,653	14,151	7.3	5.3
1986	12,007	14,767	3.0	4.4
1987	12,211	15,366	1.7	4.1
1988	12,635	16,062	3.5	4.5
1989	13,750	16,818	8.8	4.7
1990	14,236	17,968	3.5	6.8
1991	14,676	18,559	3.1	3.3
1992	15,768	19,541	7.4	5.3
1993	16,076	20,213	2.0	3.4
1994	16,772	20,784	4.3	2.8
1995	17,571	21,886	4.8	5.3
1996	18,377	23,133	4.6	5.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (1969-1996), County Summary, Table CA1-3, May 1998.

Figure 4b
 Per Capita Personal Income
 Leavenworth County and Kansas
 1980-1996



RETAIL

Retail trade is part of a community's business environment, which is affected by several things. Past decisions by investors, business managers, taxpayers, and policy makers each contribute to share a climate which either promotes or inhibits the productivity of local businesses and therefore affects decisions about growth and expansion. Other contribution 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 in which other firms cannot operate profitably.

The level of taxable retail sales is an indicator of retail sector performance and the overall strength of the local consumer market. The County Trade Pull Factor (CTPF) accounts for the relative retail trade performance of each county in terms of the average retail trade activities of Kansas.² CTPF is calculated by dividing the county's per capita sales tax collections by Kansas' per capita sales tax collections. A CTPF value of less than 1.00 indicates that the county is losing customers due to "out-shopping" by residents. A CTPF of more than 1.00 would indicate that the county is attracting retail customers.

Retail: Key Findings

- Taxable Retail sales in Leavenworth County have grown at a rate faster than the state's rate in 1991, 1993, and 1997 (Table 11 and Figure 5).
- The trade pull factor for Leavenworth County for 1997 was 0.47, which indicates that it lost retail trade to surrounding counties. Douglas and Johnson Counties with CTPFs of 1.01 and 1.48, respectively, out-performed Leavenworth County and most surrounding counties in attracting customers (Map 7).

² Chatura Ariyaratne and David Darling, "County Retail Trade Activity and Changes from 1990 through 1994," *Kansas Business Review*, Vol. 18, No. 3, Spring 1995.

Table 11

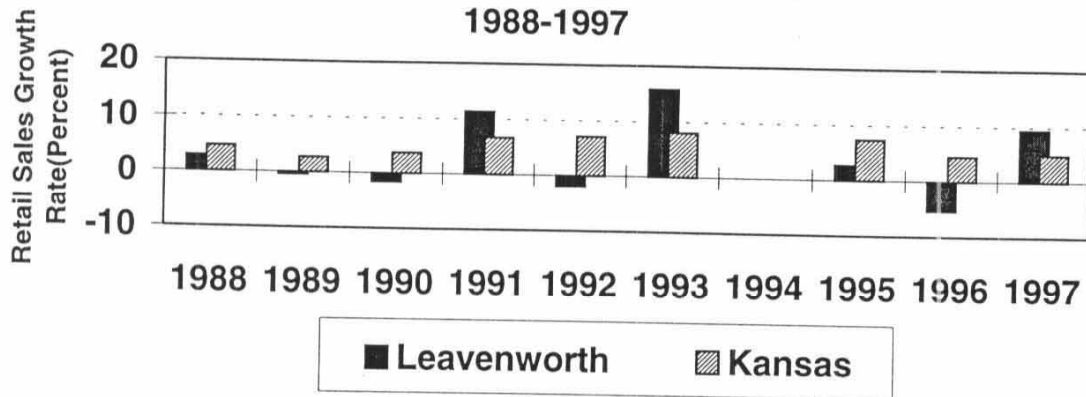
**Taxable Retail Sales and Growth Rates
Leavenworth County and Kansas
1987-1997**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Leavenworth</u>		<u>Kansas</u>	
	<u>Nominal Sales (\$Millions)</u>	<u>Growth Rate (%)</u>	<u>Nominal Sales (\$Millions)</u>	<u>Growth Rate (%)</u>
1987	199.2		16,746.0	
1988	204.9	2.9 %	17,548.0	4.8 %
1989	204.1	-0.4	18,034.4	2.8
1990	201.1	-1.5	18,723.3	3.8
1991	224.0	11.4	19,988.0	6.8
1992	219.7	-1.9	21,421.3	7.2
1993	254.5	15.8	23,154.4	8.1
1994	260.3	n/a	22,603.5	n/a
1995	267.7	2.8	24,289.1	7.5
1996	253.1	-5.5	25,393.9	4.5
1997	277.0	9.4	26,643.1	4.9

Note: Data from 1994 to 1997 are not comparable to 1987-1993 data.

Source: Kansas Department of Revenue, State Sales Tax Collections by County Classification. Calculations, 1987-1993, CEDBR, W. Frank Barton School of Business, Wichita State University; 1994-1997, IPPBR, University of Kansas.

Figure 5
Taxable Retail Sales Growth Rates
Leavenworth County and Kansas
1988-1997



AGRICULTURE

The data on agriculture will help determine whether or not the overall importance of this sector in the county has been increasing or decreasing and how this compares with other counties and the state as a whole. The economic well being of Leavenworth County in the past was not dependent on the strength of this industry sector, but it is interesting to look at the level of activity in agriculture and how the character of this industry is changing in the county. The agriculture section contains tables and figures on the total value of field crops and the total value of livestock and poultry.

Agriculture: Key Findings

- The total value of field crops for Leavenworth County increased an average of 33.3 percent between 1993 and 1996. The state totals, on the other hand, have increased an average of 16.9 percent during the same period (Table 12).
- The value of livestock and poultry is on a general downward trend, declining an average of 11.8 percent from 18.3 million in 1993 to 15.9 million in 1996 (Table 13).

Table 12
Total Value of Field Crops*
Leavenworth County, Surrounding Counties, and Kansas
1993-1996

	Total Value of Crops (\$Millions)				Annual Average		
	1993	1994	1995	1996	93 - '94	95 - '96	% Change
Leavenworth	12.8	16.3	17.4	21.4	14.6	19.4	33.3 %
Atchison	17.8	26.8	25.9	37.0	22.3	31.5	41.0
Jefferson	18.3	24.6	23.9	36.7	21.5	30.3	41.3
Douglas	15.0	19.9	20.1	25.9	17.5	23.0	31.8
Johnson	9.4	11.7	11.2	19.9	10.6	15.6	47.4
Wyandotte	1.3	1.4	1.8	2.2	1.4	2.0	48.1
Kansas	3,014.1	3,555.0	3,525.9	4,154.6	3,284.5	3,840.3	16.9
Crop Price Index⁺	104	113	130	160			

* Does not include any government program payments.

+ Since 1975, index numbers are on 1990-92 base = 100

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding

Source: Kansas Agricultural Statistics, Kansas Farm Facts; Calculations: KCCED.

Table 13
Total Value of Livestock and Poultry
Leavenworth County, Surrounding Counties, and Kansas
1993-1996

	<u>Total Value of Livestock and Poultry (\$ Millions)</u>				<u>Annual Average</u>		
	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>93 - '94</u>	<u>95 - '96</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Leavenworth	18.3	17.4	15.6	15.9	17.9	15.8	-11.8 %
Atchison	15.8	15.2	13.9	12.6	15.5	13.3	-14.5
Jefferson	14.7	15.0	14.1	13.7	14.9	13.9	-6.4
Douglas	13.5	12.3	11.3	11.1	12.9	11.2	-13.2
Johnson	11.4	9.7	10.3	9.3	10.6	9.8	-7.1
Wyandotte	1.6	2.1	1.3	1.2	1.9	1.3	-32.4
Kansas	2,873.6	2,966.2	2,678.0	2,629.0	2,919.9	2,653.5	-9.1
Livestock Price Index ⁺	101	91	86	85			

+ Since 1975, index numbers are on 1990-92 base = 100
Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding

Source: Kansas Agricultural Statistics, Kansas Farm Facts; Calculations: KCCED.

EDUCATION

Education is another key to a strong community. Residents who have a strong educational background will be more employable and able to command higher salaries. Employers will benefit as well because they will most likely experience lower turnover and training costs. Individuals with lower education levels have a harder time finding jobs that can supply a living wage and may be more likely to use social services, such as food stamps.

Education: Key Findings

- In general, the education level of the county's population was slightly better than the State's in 1990 (Table 14).
- Leavenworth County has a higher percentage of its over-25 population with a graduate degree than the state, with 11 percent for Leavenworth and 7 percent for Kansas (Table 14).
- In Leavenworth, the percentage of persons over 25 with a bachelor's degree (13 percent in 1990) is slightly less than the State's 14.2 percent (Table 14).

Table 14
**Educational Attainment of Persons over 25
 As a Percentage of the Population of Persons over 25
 Leavenworth County and Kansas
 1990**

	<u>Completed Less Than 9th Grade</u>	<u>9-12th Grade No Diploma</u>	<u>High School Diploma</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>Associate Degree</u>	<u>Bachelor's Degree</u>	<u>Graduate Degree</u>	<u>Pop. Over 25</u>
Leavenworth	2,304	4,207	14,002	9,200	2,241	5,448	4,603	41,906
Kansas	120,951	172,321	514,177	342,964	85,146	221,016	109,361	1,561,417

As a Percent of Population of Persons over 25:

Leavenworth	5.5%	10.0%	33.4%	22.0%	5.3%	13.0%	11.0%
Kansas	7.7%	11.0%	32.9%	22.0%	5.5%	14.2%	7.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990. Percent calculations by KCCED/IPPBR.

CONCLUSION

The data reviewed indicated several positive trends. Leavenworth County's population has been increasing since the 1940s. Recent population estimates indicate that the county's population is growing at a faster rate than Kansas'. Net Migration during the 1980s and 1990s are both positive. Average annual employment growth in Leavenworth County is higher than Kansas' during the last decade. Total employment grew a healthy 9.8 percent during 1991-1996 compared with 9.1 percent for the Kansas. Agricultural services, manufacturing, construction, and services sectors experienced strong job growth during that period. Government and governmental services, services, and retail trade sectors remain the top employers in the county. These three sectors accounted for 76.4 percent of total employment in 1986, which decreased slightly to 75.2 percent in 1996. Leavenworth County's average wage is much greater than the state average and is slightly less than U.S. average wage in 1996. Leavenworth County's over 25 population, in general, has a better level of education than the State, according to 1990 census data.

Other data reviewed show some trends that may be of concern to the county. The unemployment rate of 4.4 percent is higher than the state's 3.8 percent unemployment rate in 1997. The labor force participation and unemployment rates for Leavenworth County suggest that the county may have difficulty with supplying workers when additional jobs are created. Leavenworth County's per capita personal income lag behind the State's figures. The county trade pull factor indicates that the county loses business to its neighbors. The value of field crops in Leavenworth decreased an average of 33.3 percent from 1993 to 1996; similarly, the value of livestock and poultry declined an average of 11.8 percent during that same period.

As stated in the introduction, data alone do not lead to a well-founded understanding of the community. The intuition of those within the community as to what the trends really mean must also be considered. The actions taken now to address these challenges will influence the type of community Leavenworth County will be in the future.