

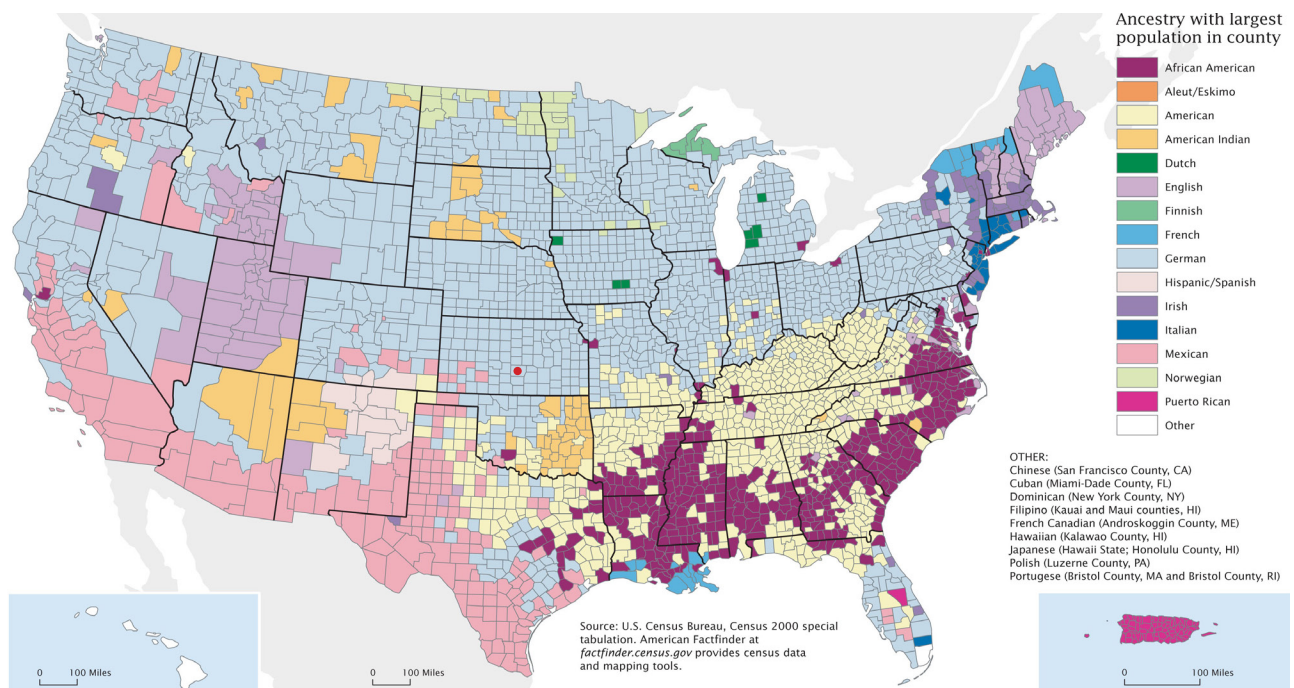
1.3 Framework: Demographics

Vision: Hutchinson is a self-sustaining and moderately growing city that is home to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

This section provides general characteristics about the Hutchinson population, including population data, population trends and household income trends. It also makes projections about future population growth.

Background

Most of the counties in western Kansas are agricultural and rural in nature and have experienced slower growth rates and declining populations over the last several decades. Growth rates in Hutchinson have been similar to those of Reno County, where population growth has slowed. The City has maintained a steady population over the past 35 years. However, recent mid-census estimates by the Census Bureau indicate that the City's population may be declining. The 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) places Hutchinson's population 1.21 percent, or 511 persons, below the 2010 census figures.

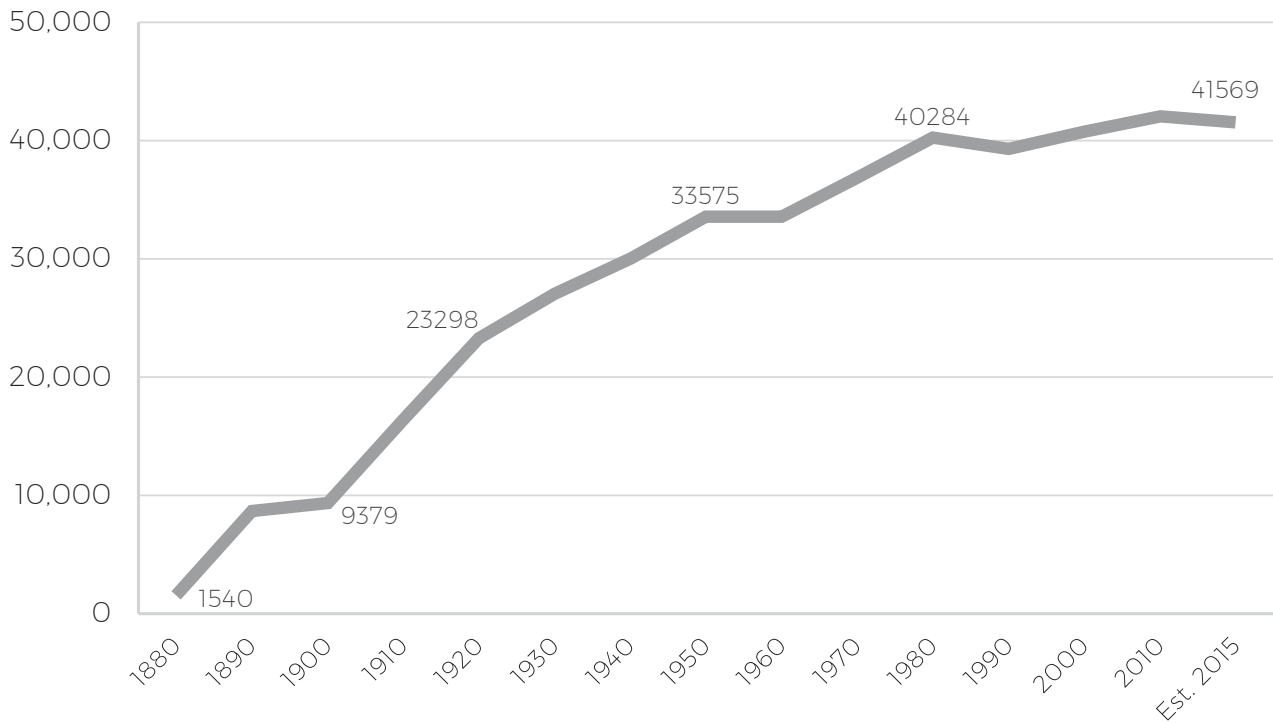


Face of the City (Population Trends)

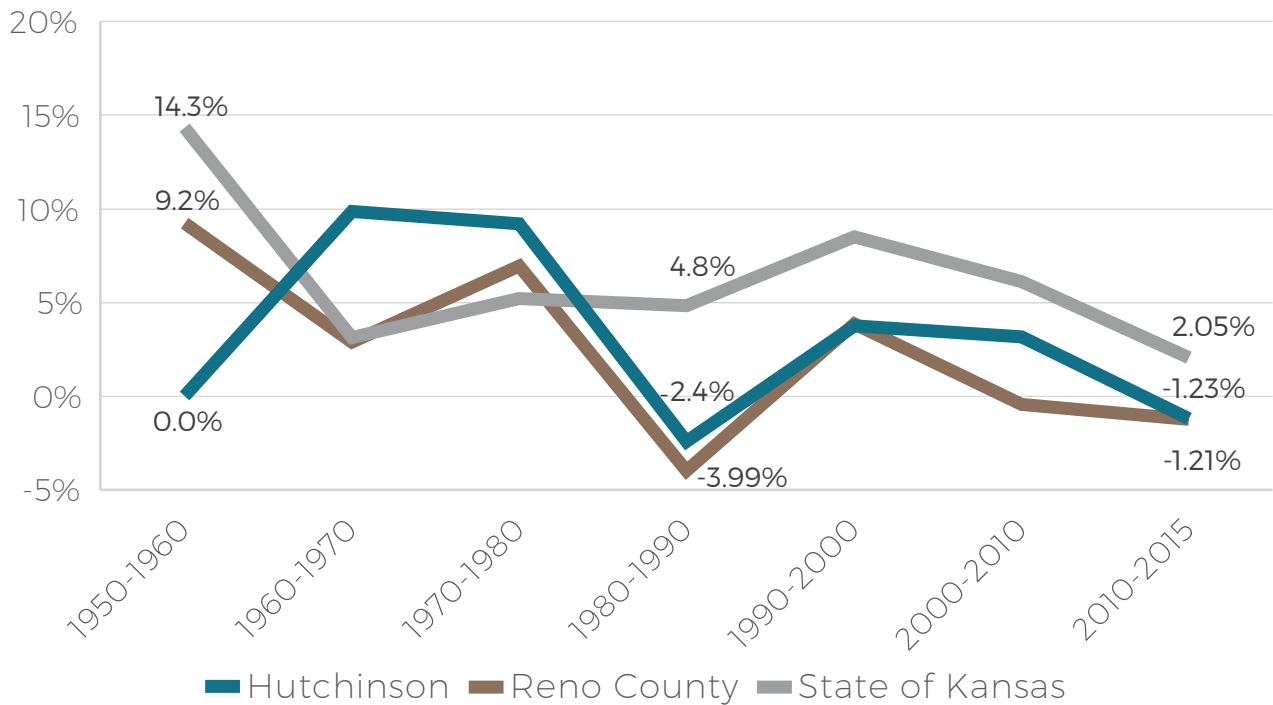
Hutchinson had an estimated population of 41,569 people in 2015, which is less than the 2010 census figure of 42,080 people. Hutchinson comprises about 65 percent of the population of Reno County.

Hutchinson grew in population each decade from 1880 until 1980. After 1980, growth began to slow. Total growth from 1980 through 2015 was much slower than in earlier years. Since 1980, the population of the State of Kansas has grown by 23 percent, or by almost 548,000 people. Hutchinson has not shared in that population growth (American Community Survey). See F.1.3.a. and F.1.3.b.

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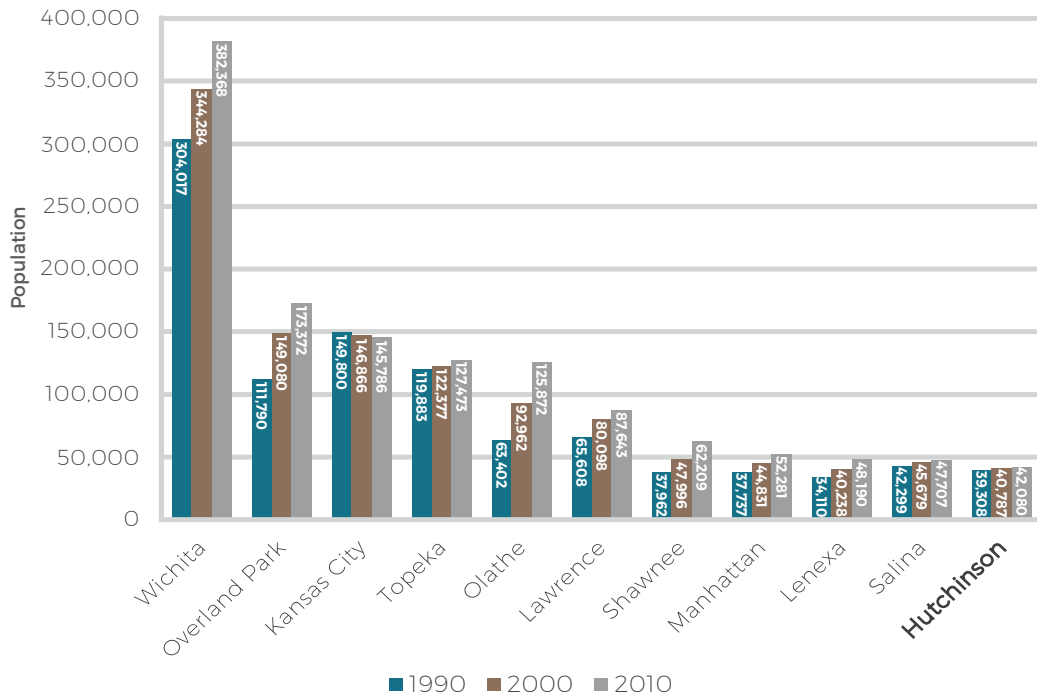


F.1.3.a. Hutchinson Population 1880-2015 (US Census Bureau)



F.1.3.b. Population Growth Rates for Hutchinson, Reno County and the State of Kansas Since 1950 (US Census Bureau)

From 1990 to 2010, Hutchinson dropped from the seventh largest city in Kansas to the eleventh largest city in Kansas, surpassed by Salina, Shawnee, Manhattan and Lenexa, all of which had higher growth rates. See F.3.1.c. Hutchinson is still the largest city west of Wichita to the Colorado border but may have lost some of its prominence in the state due to slow growth.



F.1.3.c. Population of 11 Largest Cities in Kansas (US Census Bureau)

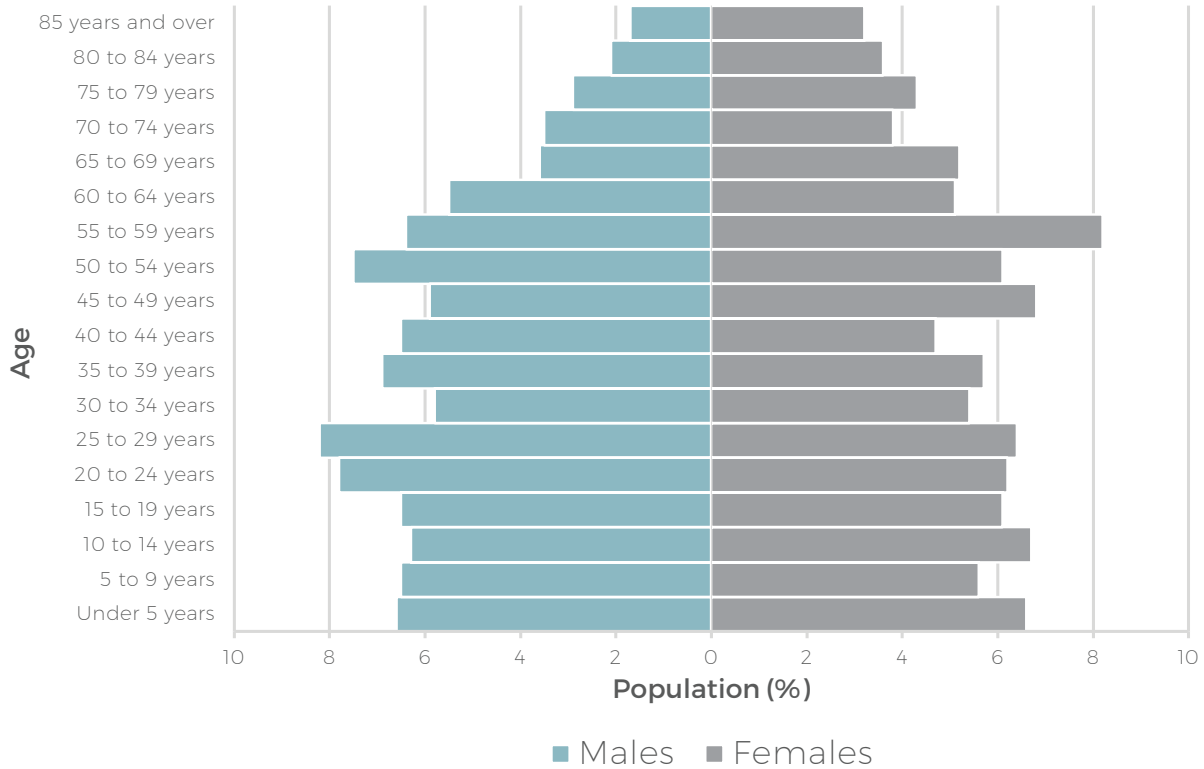
Hutchinson has a relatively normal age distribution for a modern society. While it is frequently said that Hutchinson is a retirement community, the population profile does not bear that out. The percentage of population over age 65 has remained the same since 2000 (16.9%). The old age dependency ratio (ratio of persons over age 65 to persons between ages 18 and 65) also remained about the same from 2000 to 2014 (28.1%). See F.1.3.d., Age Statistics and F.1.3.e., Population Pyramid.

	2000	2010	2014
Population under age 18	23.3%	23.1%	22.8%
Population aged 18-64	60.0%	60.3%	60.3%
Population aged 65 and over	16.9%	16.6%	16.9%
Population aged 80 and over	5.3%	5.8%	5.3%
Total age dependency ratio	66.78	65.87	66.10
Old age dependency ratio	28.12	27.58	29.10
Child dependency ratio	38.66	38.28	38.00
Median age	37.1	37.8	38.4

F.1.3.d. Hutchinson Age Statistics (US Census Bureau)

That said, Hutchinson’s population is slightly older than the State average. In 2010, the median age in Hutchinson was 37.8 compared to 36.0 for the state, and the population aged 65 and older was 16.6% compared to 13.2% for the state. Even though Hutchinson is older than the state average, 2010 census estimates indicate that McPherson (38.5) has an even higher median age than Hutchinson.

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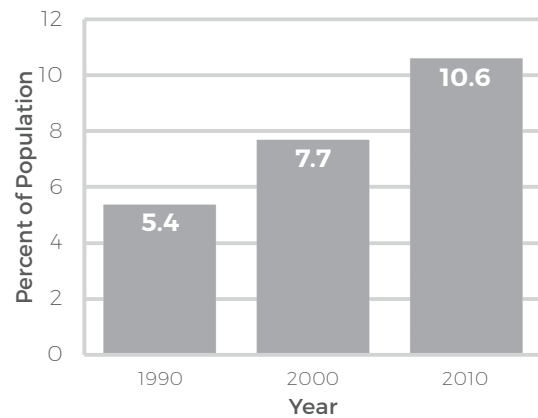
F.1.3.e. Hutchinson Population Pyramid, 2014 Estimates (US Census Bureau)

Population gender ratio

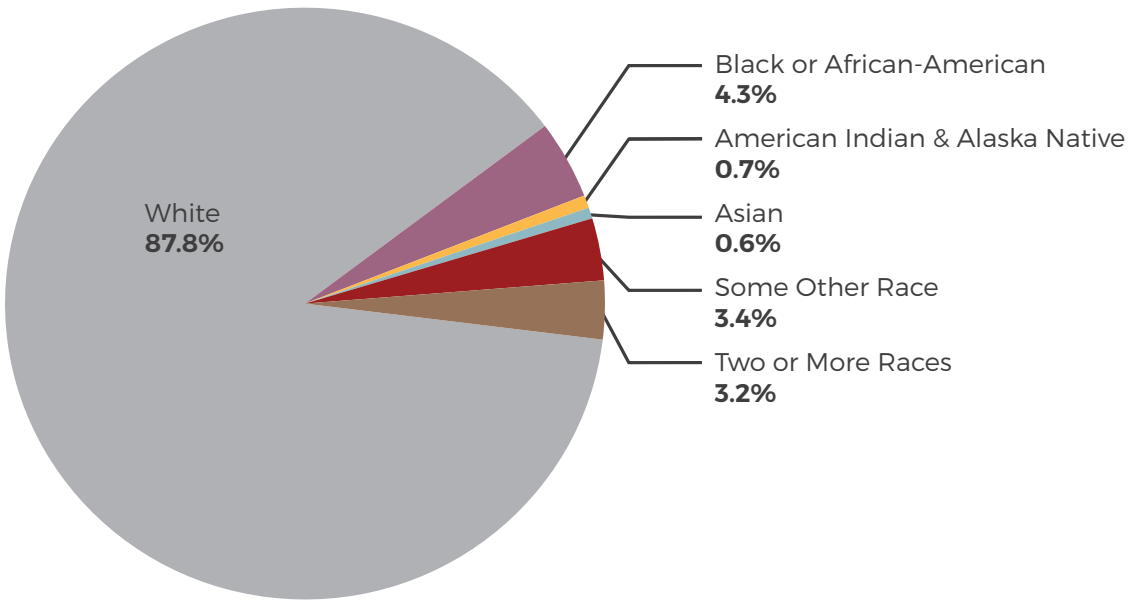
Hutchinson has a higher percentage of males than females, although these numbers are fairly close. According to 2014 estimates, 50.2% of the population were male and 49.8% were female. Most cities have a higher female population than male population. Hutchinson’s prison population may be an explanation for the closeness of this statistic. While the median age for both groups has increased since 1990, women are older than men (40.5 versus 35.3 median age).

Race and ethnicity

Hutchinson continues to be a relatively homogeneous community with few minorities. Persons who are White alone comprised approximately 87.9% of the total population in 2010. See F.1.3.f. African Americans comprised 4.3% of the population. Persons having two or more races comprised 3.2% of the population. One area of note is the increase in the Hispanic and Latino population, which almost doubled in the past 20 years, from 5.4% in 1990 to 10.6% in 2010. This demographic has become Hutchinson’s largest minority ethnic group. See F.1.3.g.



F.1.3.g. Hutchinson Hispanics and Latinos of Any Race as a Percent of total Population, 1990-2010 (US Census Bureau)



F.1.3.f. Hutchinson Racial Composition, 2010 (US Census Bureau)

Projected Population

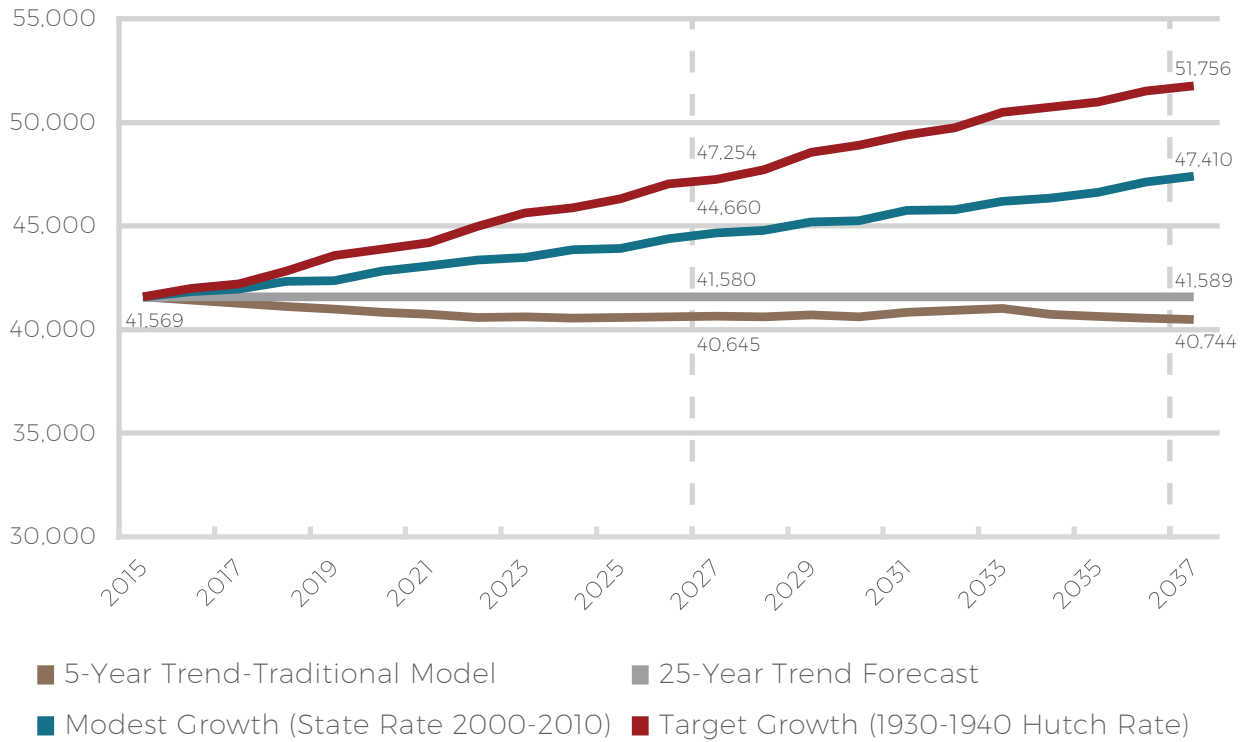
During the 20-year period from 1990 to 2010, Hutchinson’s population grew by an average of 138 persons per year. During the 5-year period from 2010 to 2015, estimates indicate that the population declined by 102 persons per year. While data for the City alone is not available, throughout Reno County the number of deaths has exceeded the number of live births every year since 2012. For the state as a whole, there have been more births than deaths over the same time period. See F.1.3.h.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Live Births	759	742	743	737	683
Deaths	731	763	772	762	743
Natural Increase	28	-21	-29	-25	-140

F.1.3.h. Live Births and Deaths in Reno County (Kansas Department of Health and Environment)

F.1.3.i. makes population projections for the year 2037, based upon various assumptions. The first projection uses the 5-year trend from 2010 to 2015, factors in expected births and deaths, and calculates a continued loss of population over the next two decades, with a 2037 projected population of 40,744. The second forecast assumes the 25-year trend, which has resulted in modest gains, and assumes the 2037 population will be roughly 80 persons more than the current population, or 41,589. The third projection matches the state’s growth rate from 2000-2010, which was 6% for the entire decade. If the City grew at a comparable rate during the Plan horizon, the 2037 population would be 47,410. Finally, the highest projection assumes an average one percent growth rate per year (or 10% per decade) over the course of the Plan. This matches the City’s historic growth rate during the decade from 1930 to 1940, a time when other locations faced population declines due to the Great Depression. If the City were to grow at this target rate, the 2037 population would be 51,756.

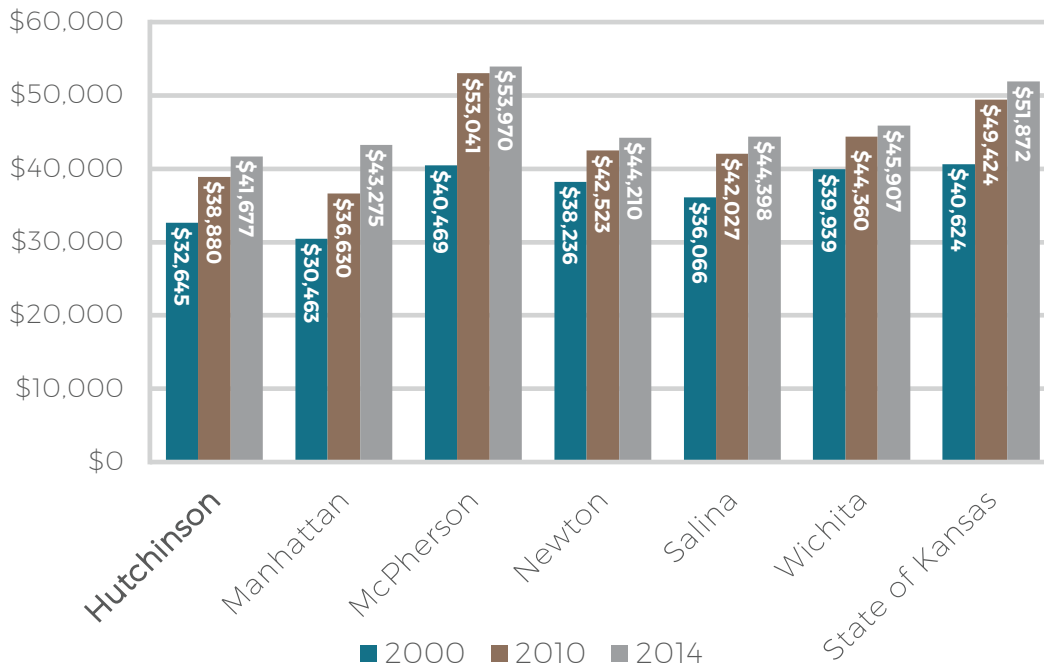
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F.1.3.i. Hutchinson Population Projections, 2015-2037

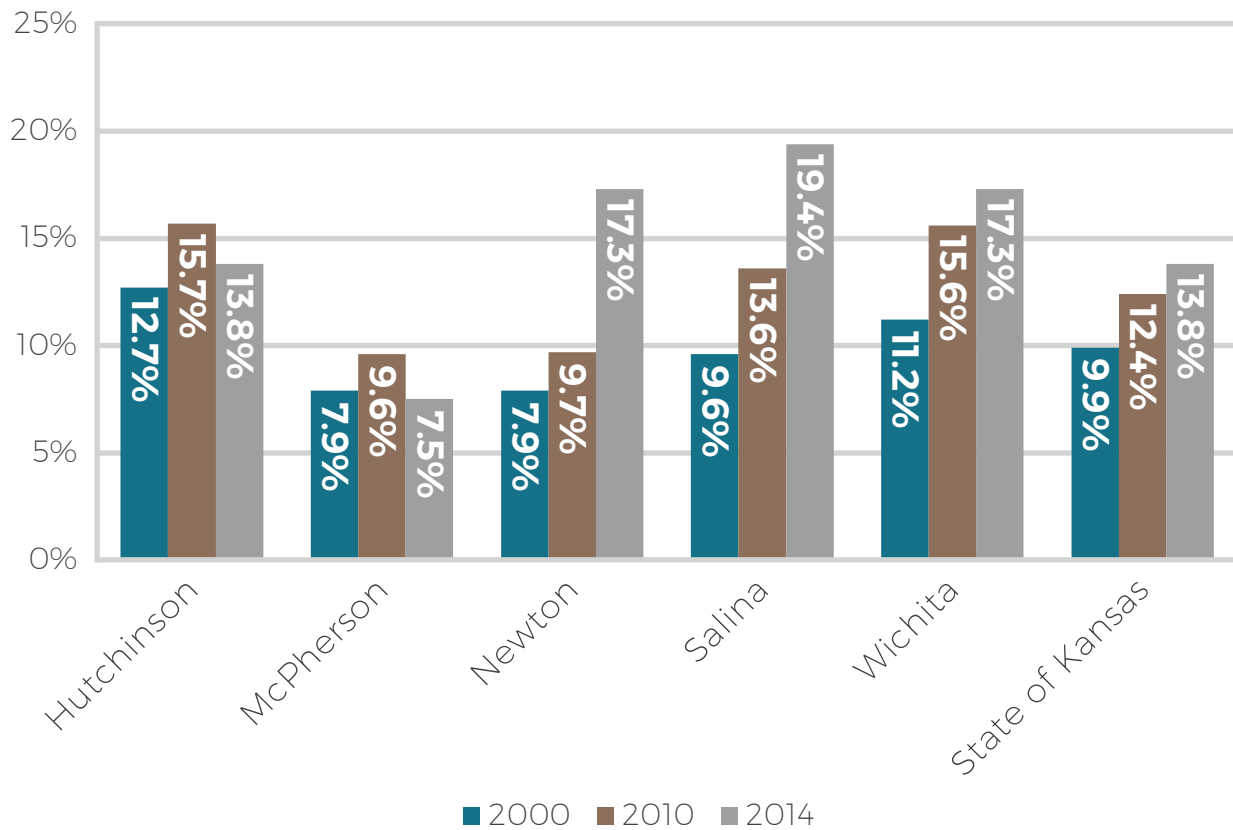
Income Trends

Census estimates from 2000 through 2014 show that household incomes in Hutchinson have been and continue to be lower than comparison cities in the state. Hutchinson’s median household income in 2014 was \$41,677 compared to \$51,872 for the state. See F.1.3.j.



F.1.3.j. Median Household Income Comparison (US Census Bureau)

Lower household incomes can be associated with higher poverty rates, but this does not appear to be the case for Hutchinson. In 2014, Hutchinson and the State of Kansas had the same estimated poverty rate, 13.8%. This could be a reflection of the generally lower cost of living in Hutchinson, when compared with other portions of the State, particularly the Kansas City metro area. Hutchinson’s poverty rate decreased from 15.7% to 13.8% from 2010 to 2014. Our comparison cities, Newton, Salina, and Wichita, have higher poverty rates than Hutchinson, while McPherson is lower. See F.1.3.k.



F.1.3.k. Percent of Population Living Below the Poverty Line (US Census Bureau)

Goals, Performance Measures, Issues and Strategies

Issues

Population Growth

Hutchinson’s population trends are reflective of a city that is poised at a crossroads. One path will lead the City into economic growth along with population growth. The other path leads to decline. The population of a community is intrinsically linked to its economy. Hutchinson will not have population growth unless positive changes happen in the economy. Cities do not simply exist; they must have an economic base to support them. One issue that the City can address with respect to the economy is facilitating economic development through development requirements. The City’s economic position is discussed in detail in the economy section of this Plan (see Section 1.5).

Demographics

Goal	Performance Measures
G.1.3.a. Hutchinson has a moderate but steady population growth rate.	- Increase in population

Strategies

S.1.3.a.1. Reduce barriers to economic development, including building and fire code barriers.

Ethnic Diversity

Because of its history, Hutchinson has not been home to a wide range of ethnic groups. People of diverse backgrounds move to a community for the same reasons that others do: 1) economic opportunity; 2) affordable, safe housing; 3) educational opportunities; and 4) a sense of belonging and connectedness. Implementation of this Plan should lead to greater ethnic diversity.

Demographics

Goal	Performance Measures
G.1.3.b. Hutchinson is a diverse community that represents people of various backgrounds and is welcoming to all cultural groups.	- Increase in ethnic diversity

Strategies

S.1.3.b.1. Provide Spanish language brochures and/or website information for the City’s major programs.

S.1.3.b.2. Offer incentive pay for City employees qualified to serve as interpreters and translators.