

# Population

Kansas increased in population from 2,764,075 residents in 2006 to 2,775,997 residents in 2007, a 0.4 percent increase. Riley, Douglas, and Johnson counties had the largest increases in population from 2003 to 2007 with percent changes of 10.9, 10.2, and 8.2 respectively. Decatur, Lane, Clark and Wallace counties had the largest decreases in population with changes of 10.3, 10.3, 10.2 and 10.2 percent. ([Table 3](#))

Frontier and rural counties continue to lose population (7.0 and 3.8 percent respectively) while semi-urban and urban counties gain in population (2.4 and 4.6 percent). ([Table 3](#))

The rate of natural increase (difference between birth rate and death rate) has remained fairly constant over the past twenty years. In 2007, the rate of natural increase was 6.3, a 6.8 percent increase from 5.9 in 2006. ([Figure 6](#))

The median age of Kansans in 2007 was 36.2 years, an 11.7 percent increase from the median age of 32.4 in 1988. The median age for Kansas males and females in 2007 was 34.7 and 37.5 respectively. ([Figure 7](#), [Table 5](#))

The percent increase in the Kansas total population from 1988-2007 was 11.3 percent, including a 12.4 percent increase for Kansas males and a 10.1 percent increase for Kansas females. Shifts in the Kansas population distribution by age from 1988 to 2007 included decreases in the 25-34 and 65-74 age-groups of 19.1 and 5.4 percent respectively. An increase of 74.2 percent in residents 45-54 years of age and 34.5 percent in residents 55-64 years of age reflected the aging of the baby boomers. Furthermore, there were 2.6, 5.3, 12.9 and 20.8 percent increases in the 0-4, 5-14, 15-24, and 75 and over age-groups respectively. ([Figure 8](#), [Table 5](#))

According to 2007 population estimates, 80.7 percent of Kansans were White non-Hispanic and 5.8 percent were Black non-Hispanic. Hispanics made up 8.8 percent of Kansas' population. ([Tables 6](#) and [7](#))

The population density of Kansas was 33.9 persons per square mile in 2007, an 11.1 percent increase from 30.5 persons per square mile in 1988. For comparison, the population density of the U.S. has increased from 68.7 to 85.3 persons per square mile from 1988 to 2007, a 24.2 percent increase. ([Figure 9](#))

In 2007, 35 of Kansas' 105 counties had population densities of less than 6.0 persons per square mile. The most sparsely populated county was Wallace with a density of 1.6 persons per square mile. The most densely populated county was Johnson, with 1,103.4 persons per square mile. ([Figure 10](#))