

**CHAPTER TWO**  
**Existing Conditions and Demographics**  
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CHAPTER TWO– EXISTING CONDITIONS AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Introduction

The City of Ottawa is 30 minutes southwest of the Kansas City Metropolitan Area. It is served by three major highways—Interstate 35, U.S. 59 Highway and Kansas 68 Highway, which provide convenient commuter access to and from other parts of the region. In fact, these highways have been instrumental in the growth of the City in the last 40 years. The City is also served by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Line, which provides service connections for various industrial sites within the City. The city’s municipal airport is four miles south of the city.

Beyond the City’s current corporate limits is the designated Ottawa Future Planning Area (**Ref. Map Gallery, Map 1: Current City Limits and Planning Area**). A key strategy and recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan is for the City to accommodate and promote sustainable growth in the designated areas of its urban fringe planning area.

Graphic 2.1: Regional Location Map

*THIS CHAPTER ON EXISTING CONDITIONS SUMMARIZES THE CITY’S LAND USE AND GROWTH PATTERNS, DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS. THE EVALUATION OF RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL LAND USES, EXISTING PUBLIC SERVICES, AND PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES PAINTS A PICTURE AS TO WHAT AREAS ARE READILY DEVELOPABLE, WHERE AREAS SHOULD BE EVALUATED FOR REDEVELOPMENT, AND WHAT DEVELOPMENT METHODS OR*



The Marais des Cygnes River flows through the middle of the City and it has a substantial floodplain east and west of City limits. Within the City, levees prevent overflow of water. Of the City’s 4,574 acres, 337 acres (7.4%) are still in floodplain. Within the 9,598 acres of the planning area 1,309 acres (13.6%) are in the 100-year floodplain.

Land Use and Development Patterns

**Existing Land Use Patterns**

Ottawa's land use distribution shows several key features:

- Single-family residential is the dominant land use in the City.
- Retail and Office Commercial is primarily concentrated along the three major highways that crisscross or border the City. Most retail uses are of a neighborhood scale serving the needs of the City residents and highway travelers.
- Institutional and Park uses are relatively evenly distributed in the City, a majority of which are served by major arterial and collector streets.
- Industrial land activities are generally located adjacent or near to the highways and the railroad, with limited buffering from low-density residential uses.

**Growth and Development Patterns**

In the last decade, the City of Ottawa has not only grown in population, it has also added to its housing stock, businesses, employment opportunities, standard of living, and boundaries. Over the past decade, the city has grown to the north and south of its limits. It has attracted an increasing share of residential and non-residential construction, housing values have increased by over 38%, and the assessed valuation of the city has more than doubled.

All indicators discussed in the following sections of this chapter, therefore, point to a very healthy growth pattern in the City. The southwest part of the city is developing, primarily as residential areas, whereas the northern part is attracting non-residential along with residential.

Ottawa University, NCCC and USD 290 and private schools provide stable anchors for the City's population and business climate. The City's proactive planning ensures stability in the community. In spite of the extensive floodplain, the city's levees protect the city from major flood damage. The walking, biking and equestrian trails connect the community and add to the quality of life of Ottawa residents.

**Demographics****Population**

The US Census Bureau's 2000 census brief stated that the Nation's 1990 to 2000 population increase of 32.7 million was the largest in American history. The previous record increase was 28.0 million people between 1950 and 1960, a gain fueled primarily by the post-World War II baby boom (1946 to 1964). Total decennial population growth declined steadily in the three decades following the 1950s peak before rising again in the 1990s. Population growth varied significantly by region in the 1990s, with higher rates in the West (19.7%) and the South (17.3%) and much lower rates in the Midwest (7.9 %) and the Northeast (5.5%). Meanwhile, despite overall population growth in each of the past five decades, the Midwest's share of total U.S. population fell from 29% to 23%.

The National League of Cities published a Research Brief on American Cities that concludes the following for small cities across the nation.

- ***Small Cities (population less than 50,000) grew considerably faster (18.5%) than large and medium-sized cities throughout the 1990s.***
- ***Regional disparities in growth patterns are evident for small cities, with small cities in the West and Midwest growing at a fast rate and considerably faster than their regions as a whole.***
- ***Small cities in metropolitan areas are growing at faster rates than small cities outside of metropolitan areas.***
- ***The City of Ottawa, KS was identified in the report as one of the “Strong-Growth -10 to 20 % growth” Cities.***

National League of Cities “Research Brief on American Cities,” Issue 2003-3, June 2003

The 2000 census shows that the suburbs of America’s 100 largest metro areas grew more than twice as fast as their central cities during the 1990s. The dominant U.S. population trend continues to be a decentralization of economic and residential life—not a return to core cities. Suburban areas are capturing the lion’s share of the nation’s new employment and population growth.

While the cities of the Midwest netted a collective population increase of only 186,000 people over the decade (with nearly half showing declines), their suburbs gained 2.9 million new residents. Amid national differences in patterns of growth and decline, all types of households—in all parts of the country—are choosing suburbs over cities. Suburbs attracted even childless and single-person households faster than cities did. Many immigrants are now bypassing cities altogether in favor of suburbia. Racial and ethnic minorities currently make up more than a quarter of suburban populations, up from 19 percent in 1990.

As people go, so do retail-commercial jobs. Suburbs are no longer just bedroom communities for workers commuting to traditional downtowns. Rather, many are now strong employment centers serving a variety of economic functions for their regions. In the 100 largest metro areas,

only 22% of all people work within three miles of the city center.

In the 1990s, Midwest small city population grew at 34%, significantly outpacing the region’s 8% increase as a whole. The City of Ottawa added about 1,100 people in the last three decades, growing from a city of 10,919 people in 1970 to 12,050 people in 2003. For comparison, census decennial data shows Ottawa’s population of 11,921 in 2000 was an increase of 1,293 people (12.2%) from the 1990 Census (**Ref. Table 2.1, Fig. 2.1**). In comparison, Franklin County grew by 12.7%, an increase of 2,790 people, and the State of Kansas grew by 8.5%. The Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) registered a population increase of 12.2% (184,024 people), over 4% higher than the average growth in the Midwest (Source: US Census).

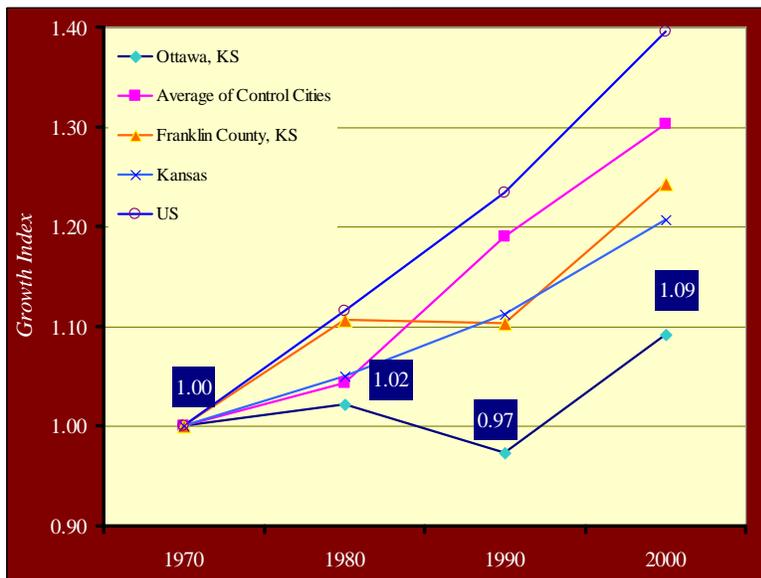
A comparison with a control group of five similarly sized and similarly situated cities in the region show varying trends. The five Kansas control cities chosen are El Dorado; Lawrence; Leavenworth; McPherson and, Winfield. In the last decade, the City of Lawrence grew by 22%, while McPherson grew by 11%. Other cities in the control set, with the exception of Leavenworth, saw modest increases in population. The City of Gardner, which is one ring closer to the metro area than Ottawa, grew from 3,200 people in 1990 to about 9,400 people in 2000—a 194% increase.

Table 2.1: Population Growth (1970-2000)

	1970	1980	1990	2000	% Change 70-80	% Change 80-90	% Change 90-00
Ottawa, KS	10,919	11,157	10,628	11,921	2.2%	-4.7%	12.2%
El Dorado, KS	12,543	11,797	11,629	12,057	-5.9%	-1.4%	3.7%
Lawrence, KS	45,863	53,371	65,704	80,098	16.4%	23.1%	21.9%
Leavenworth, KS	36,796	33,740	38,528	35,420	-8.3%	14.2%	-8.1%
McPherson, KS	10,740	12,027	12,422	13,770	12.0%	3.3%	10.9%
Winfield, KS	11,954	12,067	11,987	12,206	0.9%	-0.7%	1.8%
Franklin County, KS	19,936	22,062	21,994	24,784	10.7%	-0.3%	12.7%
Kansas	2,226,719	2,338,880	2,477,574	2,688,418	5.0%	5.9%	8.5%
US	201,606,786	224,810,186	248,709,166	281,421,906	11.5%	10.6%	13.2%

Source: US Census Bureau, BWR

Figure 2.1: Population Growth (1970-2000)



Racial and Ethnic Characteristics

The racial composition of Ottawa has changed between 1980 and 2000, to include a higher percentage of minorities. In 1980, 95% of the population in Ottawa was white. In 2000 that percentage was 92.7%. At the same time there was an increase in the City’s minority population, mostly of Hispanic ethnicity<sup>1</sup> (Ref. Table 2.3, Figure 2.2). The other control cities have larger minority population ratios, while the County has a smaller minority population.

<sup>1</sup> Census 2000 collected data on Hispanic ethnicity differently from the earlier censuses. Therefore, the data cannot be directly compared across censuses. For more details on data collection refer to the 2000 census release on collection of racial information at [www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-1.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-1.pdf).

Table 2.2: Racial and Ethnic Characteristics in Ottawa, KS (1980-2000)

	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black or African- American</b>	<b>Other Population</b>	<b>Hispanic Origin</b>
1980	11,157	10,599	304	254	288
1990	10,628	10,014	230	384	358
2000	11,921	11,059	275	587	496
absolute change 80-90	-529	-585	-74	130	70
absolute change 90-00	1,293	1,045	45	203	138
% change 80-90	-4.74%	-5.52%	-24.34%	51.18%	24.31%
% change 90-00	12.17%	10.44%	19.57%	52.86%	38.55%

Source: US Census Bureau, BWR

Table 2.3 Racial Characteristics Comparisons (1980-2000)

		<b>White</b>	<b>Black or African- American</b>	<b>Other Population</b>	<b>Hispanic Origin</b>
<b>1980</b>	Ottawa, KS	95.00%	2.70%	2.30%	2.60%
	Average of Control Cities	88.41%	6.73%	4.86%	2.68%
	Franklin County, KS	97.00%	1.50%	1.50%	1.60%
	Kansas	91.70%	5.40%	2.90%	1.70%
	US	83.10%	11.70%	5.20%	6.50%
<b>1990</b>	Ottawa, KS	94.40%	2.10%	3.50%	3.30%
	Average of Control Cities	87.28%	7.06%	5.66%	3.11%
	Franklin County, KS	96.40%	1.20%	2.40%	2.00%
	Kansas	90.20%	5.70%	4.10%	3.60%
	US	80.30%	12.00%	7.70%	8.80%
<b>2000</b>	Ottawa, KS	92.77%	2.31%	4.92%	4.16%
	Average of Control Cities	84.36%	6.91%	8.74%	3.94%
	Franklin County, KS	95.05%	1.21%	3.75%	2.62%
	Kansas	86.07%	5.74%	8.19%	7.00%
	US	75.14%	12.32%	12.54%	12.56%

Source: US Census, BWR

*Though America's suburbs have always had considerable diversity behind their white middle-class image, they are being radically transformed by population trends of the last three decades. Analysis of data from all 330 metro areas in the continental U.S. shows that while the total suburban population had been only 18% minority in 1990, that figure had risen to 25% in 2000. The total suburban white population scarcely changed in the decade (up 5%), while the number of black suburbanites grew rapidly (up 38%) and the number of Hispanics and Asians in suburbs exploded (up 72% and 84%, respectively).*

*This trend is happening across the country, but it is most consequential in the largest metro areas whose cities are surrounded by well-developed suburban rings. In the largest 102 metro regions (those with more than 500,000 population, which were studied in a report recently issued by the Brookings Institution), the minority percentage of the suburban population grew from 19% in 1990 to 27% in 2000. These suburbs are now 12% Hispanic, 9% black, and 5% Asian.*

*In the smaller metro areas (less than 500,000 population), minorities are generally not as well represented in suburbia - though the trend is in the same direction, still only 16% of the suburban population in these areas is minority. Whites continue to be the most suburban of major racial and ethnic groups; nationally nearly 71% of whites now live in suburbs.*

*But minorities are starting to catch up: More than half of Asians (58%) lived in suburbs in 2000, up from 53% in 1990, and nearly half of Hispanics (49%, up from 46%). Lagging behind are African Americans (39%), though their current situation also represents a marked increase from 1990 (34%).*

*- "The New Ethnic Enclaves in America's Suburbs," Lewis Mumford Center for Comparative Urban and Regional Research, June 9, 2001.*

**Figure 2.2 Trends in Minority Population (1990-2000)**

Source: BWR, US Census Bureau

**Median Age**

Changes in the median age are important indicators of a shift in the composition of the City. They are a quick way of establishing target age groups for which to plan. The median age in Ottawa has traditionally been less than the County, State and National average. The median age in Ottawa is 34 and the City has a much younger population to plan for. This is also an important indicator of the good quality of the schools and family life in Ottawa. Like the rest of the United States, Ottawa's median age is increasing, however, not at the same rate.

**Table 2.4: Median Age (1970-2000)**

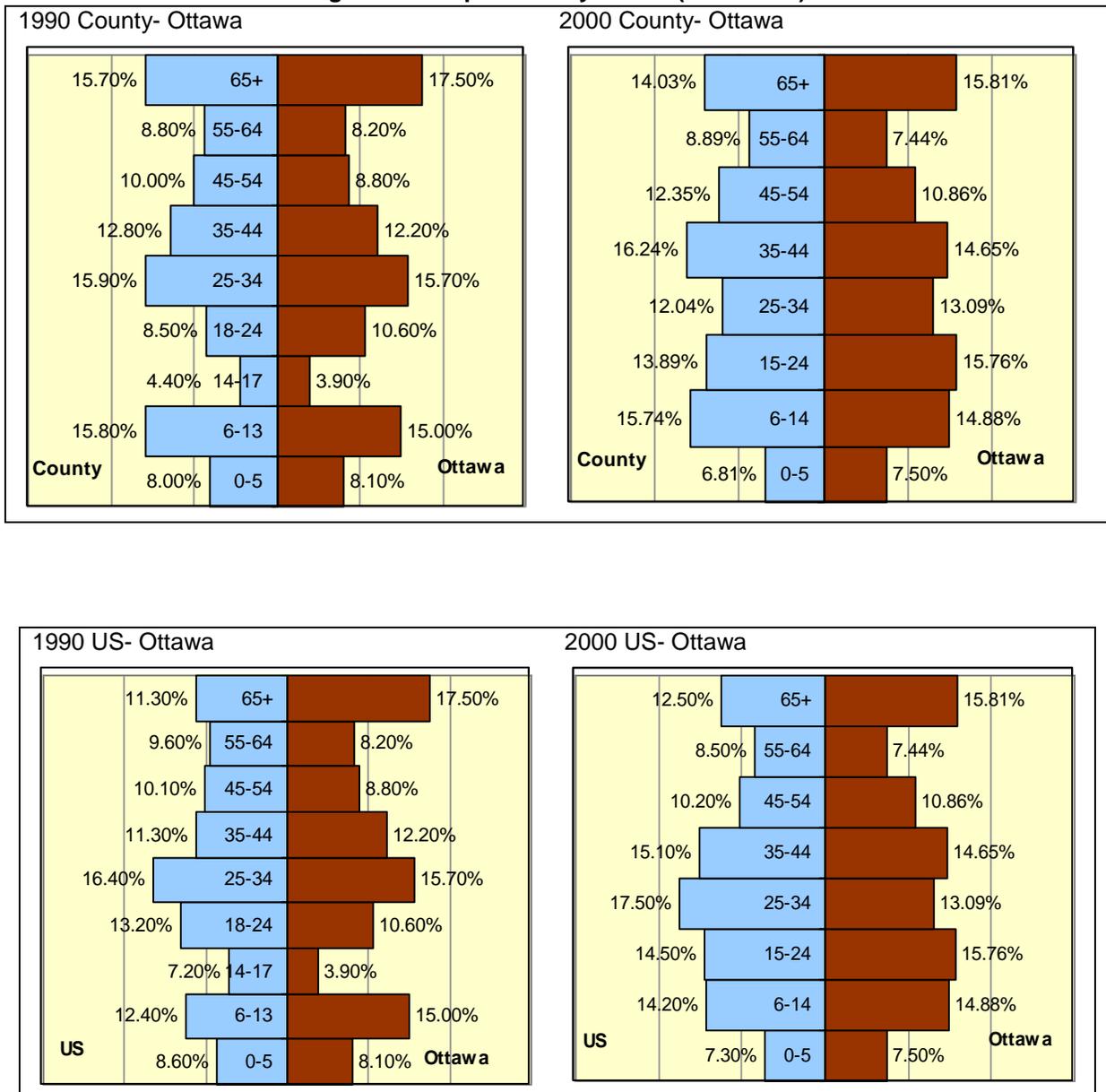
	1970	1980	1990	2000
<b>Ottawa, KS</b>	29	29	32.6	34
<b>Franklin County, KS</b>	33.00	30	33.4	36
<b>Kansas</b>	33.00	30	32.9	36.1
<b>US</b>	31.60	29.2	33.4	35.3

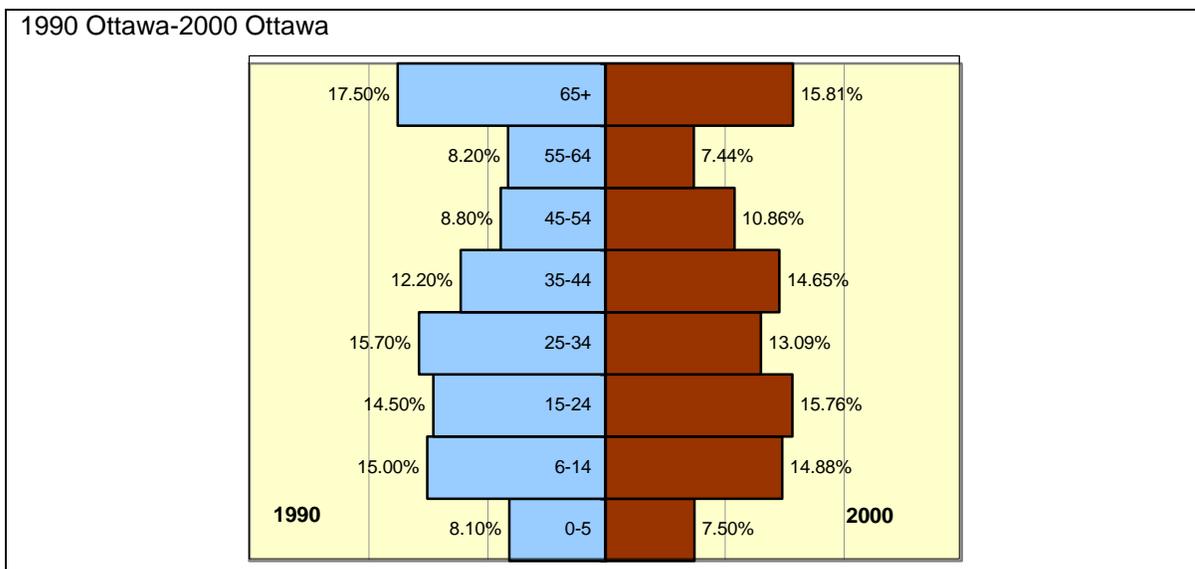
Source: US Census, BWR

Age Characteristics

The age distribution of a population is an important feature while analyzing a City's demographic situation. Figure 2.3 uses population pyramids to show the age distribution differences between the City and the County, and City and the National distribution. Population pyramids also show the change in age distribution from 1990 to 2000 (Ref. Figure 2.3).

Figure 2.3: Population Pyramids (1990-2000)





Source: US Census, BWR.

Along with the significant increase in population there has also been a change in the age composition of the population. The City has traditionally had a large young-adult population. A comparison between 1990 and 2000 age groups indicates an increase in the young-adult (15-24) population in the 1990s. Simultaneously there is also a decrease in the young working population (25-35).

Ottawa has traditionally had a significant elderly population. In 1990, over 17% of the population in Ottawa was over 65. That percentage dropped to 15.8 in 2000; however, it is still higher than the national average. In the 1990s, the percentage of 35-44 and 45-54 year-olds increased by a total of 4.5% in Ottawa. This age group has the highest disposable income and there might be more opportunities for move-up housing or upscale housing to accommodate them. As this group ages and composes the elderly population they may then have different demands in terms of facilities and housing.

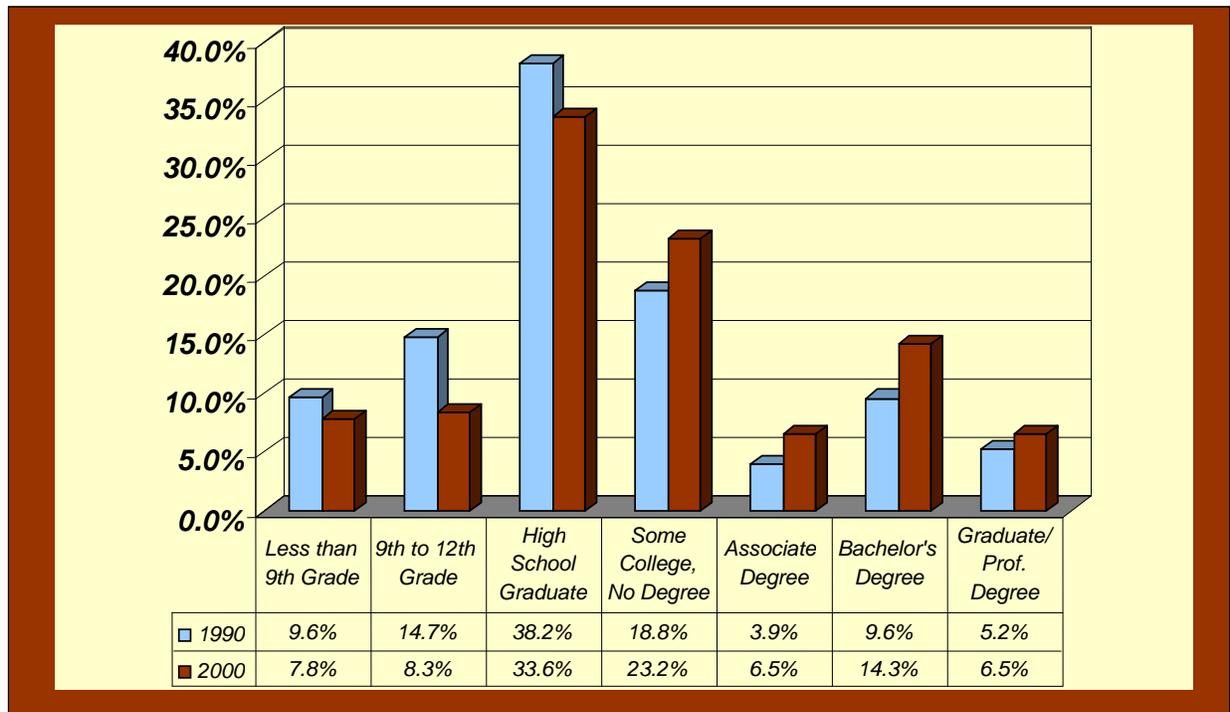
**Education**

According to the 2000 Census, education data for people over the age of 25 shows that the education levels significantly improved during the 1990s. Specifically, in 1990, 18.7% of the adult population (25 and over) had an associate degree or a higher level of education compared to 2000, when 27.3% had some degree (Ref. Figure 2.4). In 1990, about 16.8% of the adult population in Franklin County and 26.5% in Kansas had an associate degree or a higher level of education. In 2000 those percentages increased to 22% in Franklin County and 31.6% in Kansas.

These data therefore show that Ottawa has a higher percentage of graduates than the County average. However, in spite of an increase in education levels in Ottawa in the 1990s, it is still lower than the State averages. The State’s average for Bachelor’s Degree is 17% and

Graduate/Professional Degree is 8.7%. The high education levels of the available labor pool in the City are discussed later in the chapter (Ref. Table 2.4).

Figure 2.4 Educational Attainment of People aged 25 or more (2000)



Source: US Census, BWR

### Income Characteristics

*Median household income* is the dollar amount that divides the income distribution into two equal groups—half with income above the median and half with income below the median. It provides one measure of the ability of Ottawa households to meet the costs of food, clothing, housing, health care, transportation, childcare, and higher education. Retail businesses, shopping centers, builders and developers consider the median household income as a guide to investment into a community.

*Per Capita Income* is computed by dividing the sum of all personal income for the city by the total population in the city. Personal income is the sum of individual income received from employment, self-employment, investments, and transfer payments for all households for a given area. Per capita income, therefore, is an indication of the quality of labor force available and, wages and salaries disbursed. These are important indicators for industries and businesses locating to a community.

A comparison to the 1990 income growth rates indicate that the median and per capita incomes in the City and the County have grown at a faster rate than the control cities and the State (Ref. Table 2.5, Fig. 2.5.) These indicate a significant change in the work force composition of the residents to include people with higher paying jobs. Increases in labor force participation may also have contributed to the higher median household incomes in Ottawa. However, according to the 2000

Census, the median household income in Ottawa is \$35,602, lower than that of the County's \$40,807 and the States average of \$42,449. The per capita income in Ottawa is about \$500 lower than the County's and about \$2,500 less than the average of the control cities.

**Table 2.5: Income Summary (1980-2000)-in 2002 dollars**

		1980	1990	2000	% Change 80-90	% Change 90-00
Median Household Income	Ottawa, KS	\$30,509	\$31,362	\$35,602	2.80%	13.52%
	El Dorado, KS	\$35,563	\$36,842	\$34,585	3.59%	-6.13%
	Lawrence, KS	\$34,891	\$37,094	\$36,227	6.31%	-2.34%
	Leavenworth, KS	\$40,598	\$40,535	\$42,509	-0.16%	4.87%
	Mc. Pherson, KS	\$25,140	\$41,059	\$42,287	63.32%	2.99%
	Winfield, KS	\$30,334	\$34,546	\$35,991	13.89%	4.18%
	Franklin County, KS	\$31,321	\$35,022	\$40,807	11.82%	16.52%
	Kansas	\$36,061	\$40,276	\$42,449	11.69%	5.39%
Per Capita Income	Ottawa, KS	\$13,963	\$14,878	\$17,597	6.55%	18.28%
	Average of Control Cities	\$14,937	\$15,321	\$20,044	2.56%	30.83%
	Franklin County, KS	\$14,531	\$15,384	\$18,089	5.87%	17.58%
	Kansas	\$16,066	\$17,959	\$21,427	11.78%	19.31%

Source: US Census, BWR

**Employment, Unemployment and Retail Trade**

The Wal-Mart Distribution Center, with over 1100 jobs, is the major employer in the area. Other major employers are the Wal-Mart store, the Ransom Memorial Hospital and USD 290 (Ref. Table 2.6). Recent surveys by city staff revealed that approximately 35% of those persons employed by these larger organizations and industrial firms reside outside of Franklin County. Consideration should be given to gathering more information from those employees about factors contributing to their residency choice and whether there are barriers to their living in Ottawa or Franklin County that should be overcome.

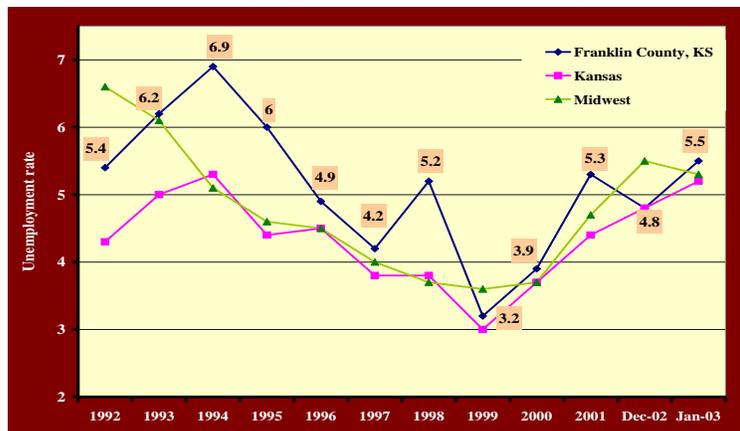
**Table 2.6: Major Employers in Ottawa**

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Nature of Business</b>	<b>Number of Employees</b>
Wal-Mart Distribution	Distribution	800
American Eagle Outfitter	Distribution	700
USD 290	Education	360
Ransom Hospital	Medical/Surgical	320
Wal-Mart Store	Retail	280
Ottawa Truck	Semi-tractors	275
Franklin County	Government	215
City Of Ottawa	Local Government/Utility	160
Ottawa University	Education	145
Havens Steel	Structural	125
Midwest Cabinets	Cabinets	104
COF Training Services	Assembly	84
Neosho Community College	Education	60
Fashion Inc Mfg,	Canopies	50

Source: Ottawa Chamber of Commerce

Unemployment rate is calculated on a county-wide basis. As of December 2003, Franklin County was 4.4%, Kansas was 4.5% and nationally unemployment was 5.7%.

Figure 2.5: Unemployment Characteristics (1992-2002)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BWR.

The Trade Pull Factor (TPF) measures a community’s balance of retail trade as reflected by per capita sales tax collections. Pull factors indicate how well a community is attracting and holding onto retail business. A pull factor above 1.00 indicates the community is attracting more business than it is losing. The City of Ottawa has a TPF of 1.27—the strongest among the control cities—indicating that it is attracting and holding retail dollars from out of town people (Ref. Table 2.7, 2.8). The County, on the other hand, has a TPF of 0.74 and that is probably a result of being so close to Johnson County.

The trade area capture (TAC) numbers measure the customer base being served by each business community. The TAC is calculated by multiplying the Pull Factor by the adjusted city population. The City of Ottawa serves 14,719 people (2,800 people more than the city’s Census 2000 population) and captures 80.3% of the County’s trade (About 48% of the County’s residents live in Ottawa.)

Table 2.7: Franklin County Retail Trade Pull Factors, Trade Area Capture and Market Share (1992-2002)

Year	Adjusted Population	Trade Pull Factors	Trade Area Capture	% Market Share
1992	22,158	0.75	16,619	0.66%
1993	22,655	0.73	16,538	0.65%
1994	22,907	0.74	16,951	0.66%
1995	23,154	0.76	17,597	0.68%
1996	23,981	0.84	20,144	0.78%
1997	23,790	0.83	19,794	0.76%
1998	24,768	0.78	19,332	0.74%
1999	24,768	0.78	19,222	0.73%
2000	24,469	0.77	18,859	0.71%
2001	24,628	0.74	18,231	0.69%
2002	24,628	0.74	18,320	0.69%

Source: K-State Research and Extension, Department of Agricultural Economics

Table 2.8: Retail Trade Indicators of Ottawa and the Control Cities (2002)

City	Trade Pull Factors	Trade Area Capture	% of County Trade
Ottawa	1.27	14,719	80.31%
El Dorado	1.14	13,479	35.14%
Lawrence	1.1	87,101	93.17%
Leavenworth	0.8	25,673	71.84%
McPherson	1.03	13,967	55.77%
Winfield	0.92	10,568	44.25%

Source: K-State Research and Extension, Department of Agricultural Economics (2003 data not available)

A labor study prepared by the Docking Institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University was released on April 2002, by the Kansas Department of Human Resources. "The Kansas Labor Force Survey: The Available Labor Pool and Underemployment<sup>2</sup>" was prepared from a research study of 2,723 adults living in Kansas between June 25, 2001, to Sept. 14, 2001, for the Labor Market Information Services of the Kansas Department of Human Resources (KDHR). The report updates the study released in January 1996 by the Institute for Public Policy and Business Research at the University of Kansas.

The goals of this survey were to assess the characteristics of the labor force in Kansas, gauge the extent of underemployment and assess worker availability for new job opportunities in Kansas and in KDHR's five local areas as defined by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). The City of Ottawa lies in Area II of the state's five areas. A few relevant extracts are below.

Figure 2.6: Workforce Investment Act Local Areas

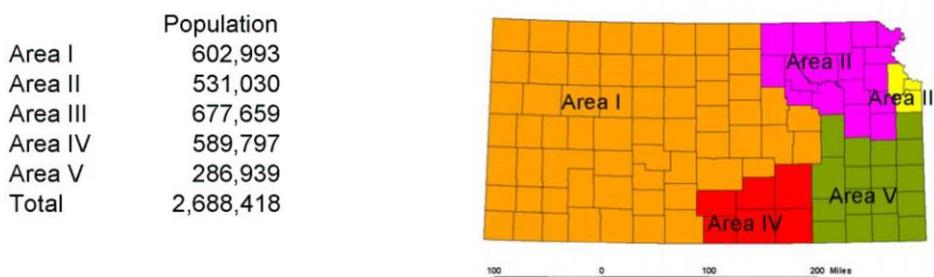


Figure 2.7 Shows the civilian labor force (CLF) occupational employment categories that have been collapsed into eight categories. About one fourth of respondents are classified as production (farmers, construction, manufacturing, etc.) and transportation workers. Almost 23% of respondents are in food, administrative support, and personal services. Business professionals and social and community services (teachers, social worker, arts, etc.) comprise another 15% and 13% of the respondents, respectively.

<sup>2</sup> The entire study is available online at <http://laborstats.hr.state.ks.us> in PDF format, or by contacting the Labor Market Information Division at (785) 296-5058 or 401 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66603.

Figure 2.7: Occupation Classifications of Respondents

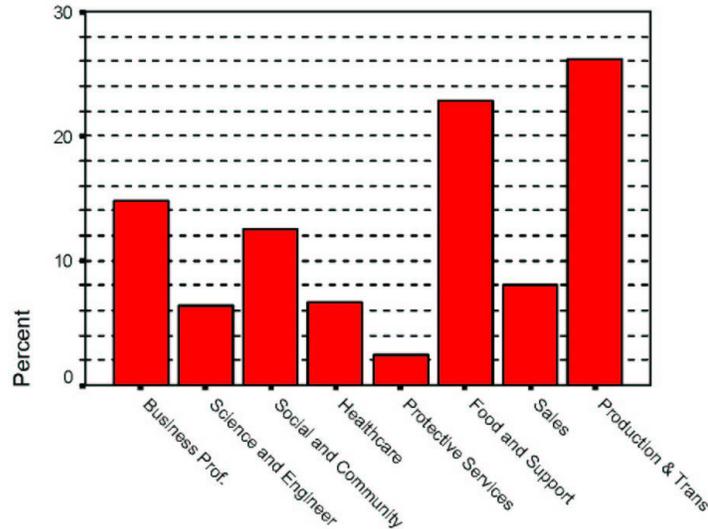
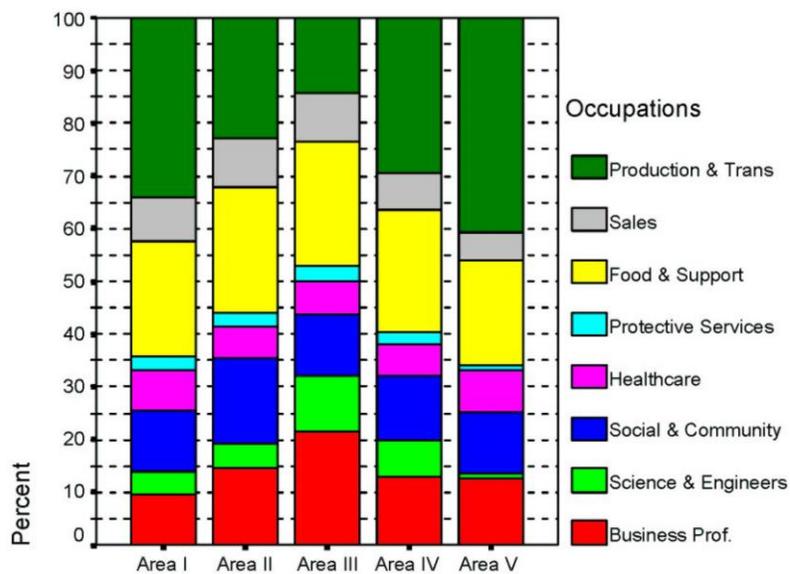


Figure 2.8 Shows the regional differences in the occupations of the respondents. As one might expect, Area II, which contains the Kansas City metro area, has a larger percentage of business professionals and science and engineers when compared to other WIA areas. Likewise, Area I and Area V, which are the most rural areas of the state, have a larger percentage of production and transportation workers when compared to the other regions. Interestingly, there are not large differences across WIA areas for the other broad categories of occupations.

Figure 2.8: Occupational Categories by WIA Areas

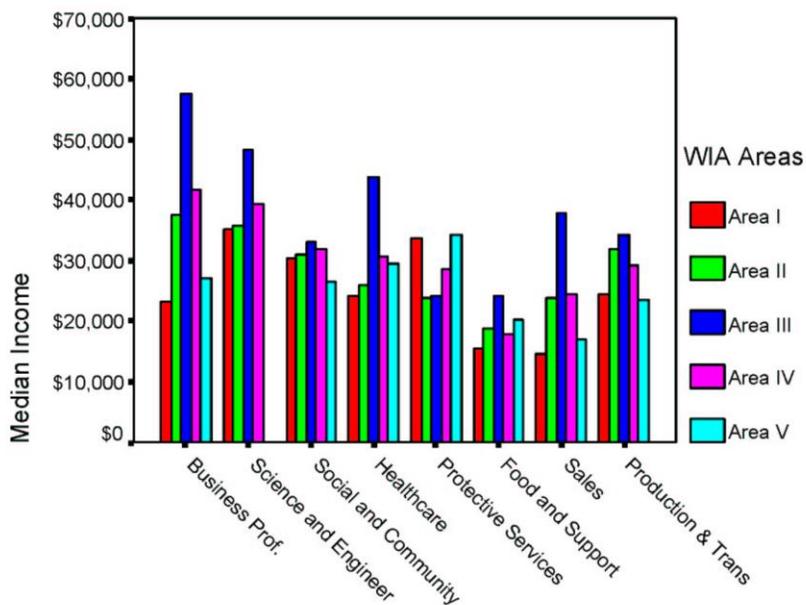


Less than 6% of the CLF in Kansas lacks a high school diploma, and more than 70% has at least two years of college education. Kansas has one of the highest levels of educational attainment compared to other states. In 1998, Kansas ranked eighth nationally in the percent of population (25

or older) with at least a four-year college degree. In addition, over half of the respondents to the survey report receiving some professional training and/or specialized on-the-job training. This suggests that the CLF in Kansas is willing and able to be trained to meet the job expectations of employers.

As expected, the yearly wages vary by occupational categories. Respondents who are business professionals, scientists and engineers have the highest median income (over \$40,000 annually), while respondents who are in food services and administrative support areas have the lowest median income (about \$20,000 annually). The median income for all respondents is \$27,040. There is some variation in annual income by WIA area. **Figure 2.9** illustrates that respondents in Area II tend to earn more annually than respondents in any other areas of the state.

**Figure 2.9: Median Annual Income by Occupational Categories by WIA Area**



The Effective Labor Force includes the CLF, the underemployed (frustrated and mismatched workers), and opportunity laborers who are outside the official definition of the CLF, who would consider new employment opportunities (full-time students, retirees, homemakers, and military). Whereas the CLF numbered 1,961 cases, the Effective Labor Force represents 2,047 cases. **Table 2.9** highlights that the main differences between the Civilian Labor Force and the Effective Labor Force are homemakers, retirees, and students who are not in the Civilian Labor Force, but indicate that they would consider an employment opportunity.

**Table 2.9** also shows the relationship between the Available Labor Pool, unemployment, and underemployment. Of those respondents who are mismatched, 39% are actively seeking new employment and 52% would change jobs for the right opportunity. Of those who are underemployed because they are frustrated, most are either part-time or full-time temporary workers, looking for new employment, or unemployed.

**Table 2.9: The Effective Labor Force**

	Total Effective Labor Force		Not Employed Looking	
	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent
Total	2,047	100.0%	157	100.0%
Employed	739	36.1%		
Not Employed Looking	157	7.7%		
Unemployed			73	46.5%
Homemaker			25	15.9%
Retirees			26	16.6%
Students			25	15.9%
Others			8	5.1%
Employed Looking	219	10.7%		
Employed Opportunity	894	43.7%		
Part-time Looking	38	1.9%		

	Underemployed			
	Frustrated		Mismatched	
	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent
Total	77	100.0%	100	100.0%
Employed	6	7.8%	8	8.0%
Not Employed Looking				
Unemployed	17	22.1%		
Homemaker				
Retirees				
Students				
Others	1	1.3%		
Employed Looking	7	9.1%	39	39.0%
Employed Opportunity	18	23.4%	52	52.0%
Part-time Looking	28	36.4%	1	1.0%

**Table 2.10** reviews the extrapolated education levels, gender, and average age level for 302,318 people who are actively seeking employment (employed looking, not employed looking, and part-time looking), and the 650,802 who would consider a new position for the right opportunity. The educational levels of the Available Labor Pool are very high. Over 31% of those who are looking (94,021 people) and about 35% of those who would consider changing jobs for right opportunity (225,828 people) have four-year college degrees or higher. Significantly, less than 10% of both types of available labor lack high school diplomas. Men are more likely to be in the Available Labor Pool than women. About 51% of those looking and 58% of those who would consider changing jobs

for the right opportunity are men. The average age of both groups in the Available Labor Pool is about 37 years old.

**Table 2.10: Demographic Characteristics of the Available Labor Pool in Kansas**

	<b>Looking</b>		<b>Consider if</b>	
	<b>Labor</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Labor</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Total</b>	302,318	100.0%	650,802	100.0%
<b>Education</b>				
< High School	24,488	8.1%	26,032	4.0%
High School	79,207	26.2%	147,732	22.7%
Some college	75,579	25.0%	180,923	27.8%
AA/Tech	29,023	9.6%	70,287	10.8%
BA and Graduate	94,021	31.1%	225,828	34.7%
<b>Gender</b>				
Women	147,229	48.7%	272,686	41.9%
Men	155,089	51.3%	378,116	58.1%
<b>Age</b>				
Average Age	37 years		37.5 years	

**Housing**

The housing market in Ottawa has changed in the last decade to include a higher number of rental units. The total housing units increased by 575 units, a 12.8% increase as shown by census data. The control cities added to their stock by about 19% while the County added to its stock by about 15%. Housing stock in Kansas increased by about 8.5%. Since 2000 city records indicate 293 additional units have been issued building permits.

**Table 2.11: Housing Unit Characteristics (1990-2000)**

		<b>Total Housing</b>	<b>Occupied</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Renter</b>	
		<b>Units</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Occupied</b>	<b>Occupied</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
<b>Ottawa, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	4,505	4,175	60.49%	32.19%	7.33%
	<b>2000</b>	5,080	4,697	57.80%	34.67%	7.54%
	<b>% Change</b>	12.76%	12.50%	-2.69%	2.48%	0.21%
<b>Average of Control Cities</b>	<b>1990</b>	10,409	9,719	49.71%	43.66%	6.63%
	<b>2000</b>	12,373	11,699	48.96%	45.60%	5.44%
	<b>% Change</b>	18.86%	20.37%	-0.75%	1.94%	-1.19%
<b>Franklin County, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	8,926	8,308	67.63%	25.44%	6.92%
	<b>2000</b>	10,229	9,452	67.88%	24.53%	7.60%
	<b>% Change</b>	14.60%	13.77%	0.24%	-0.91%	0.67%
<b>Kansas</b>	<b>1990</b>	1,042,307	943,065	61.47%	29.01%	9.52%
	<b>2000</b>	1,131,200	1,037,891	63.53%	28.22%	8.25%
	<b>% Change</b>	8.53%	10.06%	2.06%	-0.79%	-1.27%

Source: US Census Bureau, BWR

All housing statistics in Ottawa indicate a strong housing market. Occupancy rates increased across the board with Ottawa's rates going up by about 12.5% and that of the County's by 14%. Owner occupancy in Ottawa decreased by 2.7% and that in the County remained almost the same as before. Renter occupancy increased in Ottawa (by about 2.5%.) Renter occupancy rates also increased in the control cities, though at a smaller rate. Vacancy rates in Ottawa increased slightly to 7.5%, where as the control cities average decreased. (Ref. Table 2.8).

The average household size in Ottawa has declined from 2.5 in 1990 to 2.43 in 2000. This has been a nationwide trend and is expected to continue in the future. Housing values have increased substantially in the City and in the County. The median housing value in Ottawa increased from \$51,380 in 1990 to \$70,900, a 38% increase (Ref. Table 2.12) The County experienced a 43.4% increase in housing values. Among the control cities, home values in Lawrence increased 92.4%. Rental rates in Ottawa also increased by about 48%, but were comparable to the control cities and the County averages.

**Table 2.12: Housing Values (1990-2000)**

		<b>Average Household Size</b>	<b>Median Housing Value</b>	<b>Median Monthly Mortgage</b>	<b>Median Monthly Rent</b>
<b>Ottawa, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	2.50	51,380	564	323
	<b>2000</b>	2.43	70,900	814	478
	<b>% change</b>		38.0%	44.3%	48.0%
<b>El Dorado, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	2.40	53,024	580	322
	<b>2000</b>	2.33	62,400	801	439
	<b>% change</b>		17.7%	38.1%	36.3%
<b>Lawrence, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	2.70	61,541	674	416
	<b>2000</b>	2.30	118,400	975	555
	<b>% change</b>		92.4%	44.7%	33.4%
<b>Leavenworth, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	3.30	56,033	671	428
	<b>2000</b>	2.60	75,200	827	540
	<b>% change</b>		34.2%	23.2%	26.2%
<b>Mc. Pherson, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	2.50	55,583	614	306
	<b>2000</b>	2.43	85,200	834	440
	<b>% change</b>		53.3%	35.8%	43.8%
<b>Winfield, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	2.70	52,193	591	307
	<b>2000</b>	2.36	60,700	704	413
	<b>% change</b>		16.3%	19.1%	34.5%
<b>Franklin County, KS</b>	<b>1990</b>	2.60	51,450	562	317
	<b>2000</b>	2.56	73,800	799	465
	<b>% change</b>		43.4%	42.2%	46.7%
<b>Kansas</b>	<b>1990</b>	2.60	57,073	647	379
	<b>2000</b>	2.51	83,500	888	498
	<b>% change</b>		46.3%	37.2%	31.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, BWR

Ottawa Housing Study

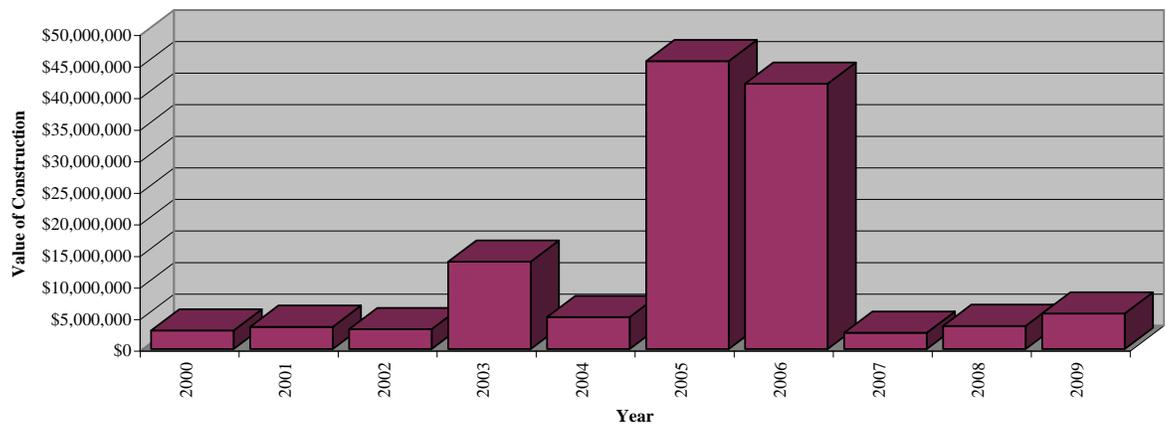
In April 2000 the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce published a *Final Report and Recommendations* of the Chamber’s Housing Task Force. The task force spent two years reviewing trends, visiting neighboring cities, and discussing the issue of housing in Ottawa and the region. The study concluded that housing supply had dwindled in the past decade, both owner-occupied and renter-occupied. The recommendations indicated that the City of Ottawa should

- Initiate a strategic plan to build a minimum of 70 new living units per year for the foreseeable future;
- Insure that the city staff is supportive of development;
- Actively recruit developers; and,
- Enhance the image of the community both internally and externally.

Other findings and conclusions are listed in the report, which should be referenced for more details.

Figure 2.10

NEW NON-RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION  
2000 -- 2009  
Includes Commercial and Industrial

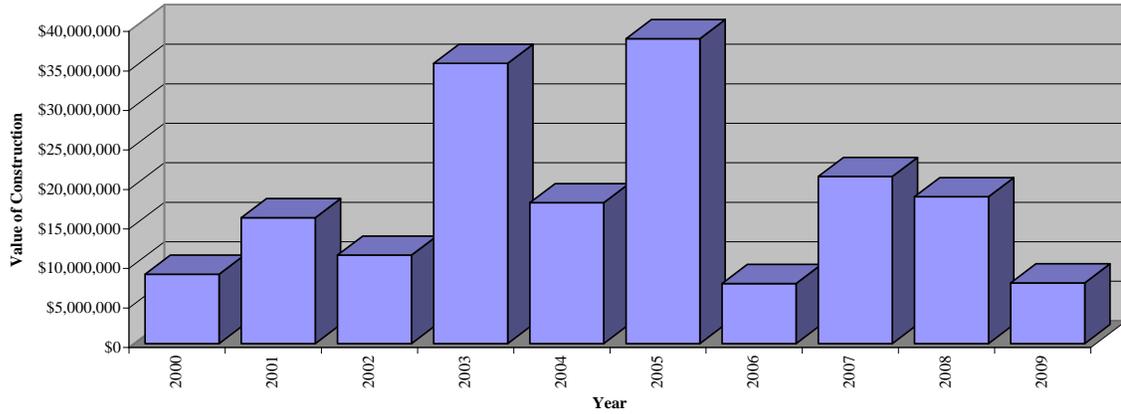


The spikes in 2005 included new Lincoln School and Walgreens and 2006 included American Eagle and Vintage Park.

Source: City of Ottawa Planning & Codes Administration

Figure 2.11

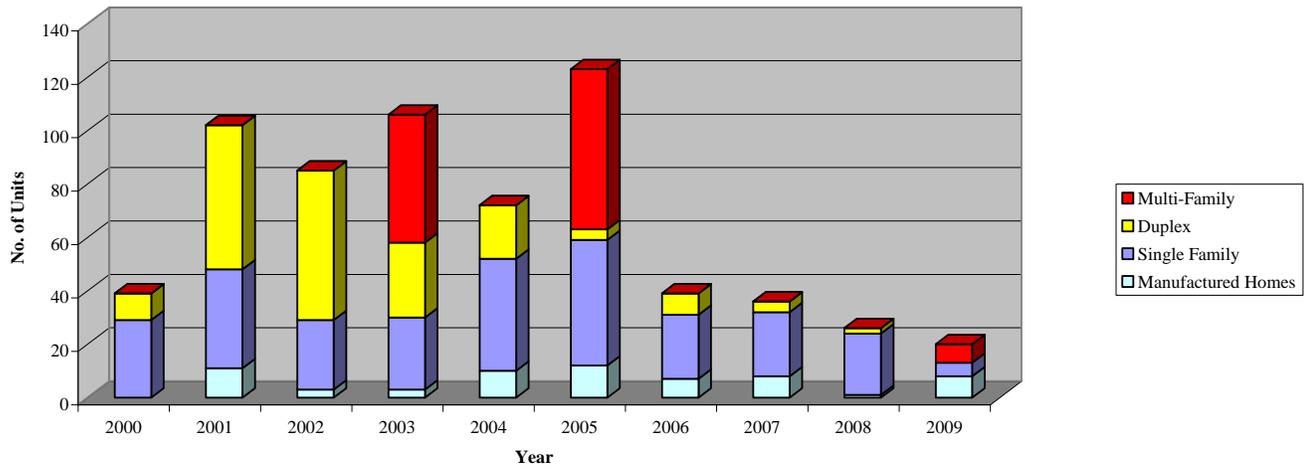
VALUE OF BUILDING PERMITS -- 2000 To 2009  
Includes New Residential and Commercial  
(alterations and additions to residential and commercial)



Source: City of Ottawa Planning & Codes Administration

Figure 2.12

NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION  
2000 -- 2009



2001-2002: Fairway Vista (Duplexes)  
2003: Sienna South Apartments  
2005: Ottawa Family & 3 4-plex units  
2006: Washburn Towers

Source: City of Ottawa Planning & Codes Administration

**Table 2.13: Multifamily Housing in Ottawa**

Complex Name	No. of Units	Target Population	Rent based on Income	Years in Operation
Canterbury Court	72	All	Market rent with some voucher use	33 years
Cedar Square Senior Housing	49	Very low income, Seniors 62+, Some disabilities	Yes	17 years
Courthouse Square Apartments	26	Seniors & handicap	Yes	11 years
Hidden Meadow Apartments	92	All	72 out of 92 units are income based	9 years
Mission Woods	36	Low Income	Yes	22 years
Ottawa Family Housing	48	All	Yes	0 years
Ottawa Retirement Village				
Village Apartments	24	55+	No	18 years
Village Manor (Nursing Home)	105 beds	Anyone	Yes	20 years
Village Plaza (Assisted Living)	40 rooms	Seniors	Yes	12 years
Village West (Assisted Living)	40	18+ (handicap, disabled)	No	7 years
Park Place I Apartments	24	Seniors, handicap, disabled	40%	20 years
Park Place II Apartments	24	Seniors	40%	17 years
Pine Manor	30	Low Income	Yes	23 years
Sienna South	48	All	No	1 year
Sunflower Plaza Tower	60	Seniors 62+	Yes	25 years

Source: City of Ottawa, Planning and Codes Administration

**Summary -- Demographics**

Key demographic indicators for the City of Ottawa are as follows:

- The 1990s saw strong growth in Ottawa. The population increased by 1,254 people (11.8%) from the 1990 Census. In comparison, Franklin County grew by 12.7%, and the State of Kansas grew by 8.5%.
- The racial composition of Ottawa has changed slightly between 1980 and 2000, to include a higher percentage of minorities. However, 93% of the population in Ottawa is caucasian.
- The median age in Ottawa is 34—lower than the County and state averages.
- There has been an increase in the young-adult (15-24) population in the 1990s. Simultaneously there is also a decrease in the young working population (25-35).
- Ottawa has traditionally had a significant elderly population. In 1990, over 17% of the population in Ottawa was over 65. That percentage dropped to 15.8 in 2000; however, it is still higher than the state (13%) and national average (12%).
- In the 1990s, the percentage of 35-44 and 45-54 year-olds increased by a total of 4.5%. This age group has the highest disposable income and there might be more opportunities for move-up housing or upscale housing to accommodate them.
- Over 27% of the population in Ottawa has an associate degree or more and this is an increase in education levels in Ottawa since the 1990s.
- Median and Per Capita income in Ottawa indicates a significant change in the work force composition of the residents.

- The housing market in Ottawa has changed in the last decade to include a higher number of rental units. The total housing units increased by 12.8% as shown by census. An additional 293 building permits have been issued.
- The average household size in Ottawa has declined from 2.5 in 1990 to 2.43 in 2000. This has been a nationwide trend and is expected to continue in the future.
- Housing values have increased substantially in the City and in the County. The median housing value in Ottawa increased 38% from \$51,380 in 1990 to \$70,900 in 2000.

**Education**

**Ottawa School District**

The availability of quality education is always considered a significant advantage for a community. Easy access to quality education enhances the quality of life and stimulates the growth of the local economy. The quality of education provided within a community is a major factor which influences families and businesses in their decisions to relocate.

Unified School District No. 290 (USD 290) serves the City of Ottawa and a small portion of rural areas surrounding the city. The total number of students in September 2010 was 2,570. The school district has four (4) elementary schools with enrollment of 1,237 students. There is one middle school with enrollment of 540, and one high school with enrollment of 757. Enrollment since 2000 has been quite stable, increasing by 6.3% in 2002-03 and 3.5% in 2007-08. Although some years show decline, overall the districts' enrollment increased 3.9% across the decade.

Table 2.14: State of Kansas and USD 290 enrollment (2000-2009)

USD 290		Kansas		
School Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
2000-01	2,474		468,334	
2001-02	2,431	-1.7%	468,173	0.0%
2002-03	2,503	3.0%	467,326	-0.2%
2003-04	2,472	-1.2%	467,387	0.0%
2004-05	2,445	-1.1%	466,037	-0.3%
2005-06	2,459	0.6%	465,374	-0.1%
2006-07	2,452	-0.3%	465,105	-0.1%
2007-08	2,539	3.5%	471,263	1.3%
2008-09	2,541	0.1%	472,866	0.3%

Source: USD 290

### Elementary Schools (enrollment)

Garfield Elementary- 374

Lincoln Elementary-514

Eisenhower Elementary -137

Eugene Field Elementary -248

### Middle Schools (enrollment)

Ottawa Middle School-540

### High Schools (enrollment)

Ottawa High School -756



Ottawa Middle School, built in 1998 and Ottawa High School, built in 1965

### Ottawa University

Ottawa University is a comprehensive, not-for-profit liberal arts and professional studies educational institution affiliated with the American Baptist Churches, USA. It was founded in 1865 after receiving a 20,000 acre land grant from the Ottawa Indians in recognition of the service provided by early Baptist missionaries. The campus in Ottawa, Kansas, is designed primarily for traditional 18-to-25-year-old students, although it attracts and serves nontraditional students as well. Students come from small towns and big cities throughout Kansas, the United States and the world.

It has an enrollment for approximately 500 students who live on campus and the faculty to student ratio is 1:16. In recognition of the growing demand for programs suited to the needs and learning styles of adults, Ottawa University opened its first adult campus in Kansas City in 1974. Additional campuses were opened in Arizona in 1977, Wisconsin in 1992, and Indiana in 2002. International programs in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia were added in 1986. Ottawa University began its first graduate program in 1987 with the addition of the Master of Arts in Human Resources, offered at the Kansas City campus. It is now also offered at the Arizona campuses along with business administration, counseling and education. The online Master of Business Administration program was initiated in 2001. Campuses in Arizona, Kansas City and Wisconsin also have Teacher Professional Education Programs, providing courses for certified teachers.

Ottawa University, Ottawa campus, has several stronger programs as far as enrollment: Business Administration, Social Service, Biology, and Education. The University completed a major fundraising campaign that resulted in a new residence hall, renovation of a residence hall, construction of a new building next to the gymnasium housing a fitness center and locker rooms, as well as other program benefits to the Ottawa campus in the mid 2000's.

Ottawa University  
Fall Enrollment Count\*\*

00-01	468
01-02	587
02-03	495
03-04	528
04-05	438
05-06	432
06-07	380
07-08	487
08-09	550
09-10	532

*Aerial photo of Ottawa University, Fall 2003*



The list is the 10-year fall enrollment data for the College through the last academic year. A few years show significant jumps that can be attributed to factors such as high school partnerships, large influx of student-athletes, summer school increases. The college has begun efforts to achieve a higher student enrollment, with a goal of 1,500 students by 2020.

**Neosho County Community College—Ottawa Facility**

NCCC reported their most significant item is enrollment growth and growth issues. The following table is a breakdown of enrollment for the Ottawa campus per semester for the decade. Enrollment growth this past year is up 547 students, the highest increase in any single year.

**Table 2.15: NCCC enrollment (2000-2009)**

Year	Ottawa Campus	Chanute Campus	Student Total
2000	851	1,038	<b>1,889</b>
2001	901	1,123	<b>2,024</b>
2002	1,159	1,025	<b>2,184</b>
2003	1,203	1,053	<b>2,256</b>
2004	1,422	1,150	<b>2,572</b>
2005	1,510	1,354	<b>2,864</b>
2006	1,403	1,000	<b>2,403</b>
2007	1,322	969	<b>2,291</b>
2008	1,172	912	<b>2,084</b>
2009	1,342	1,034	<b>2,376</b>

Reasons for this growth include: increasing concurrent enrollment in 6 area high schools, targeting new businesses and area agencies to offer needed coursework and certification programs (Early Childhood Development, Leadership Franklin County, Addictions Certification), soliciting more KU and other area university students for attendance in desired classes, and establishing greater visibility and involvement within the community to increase NCCC as an institution of choice for education and training.

The College offers several educational and training programs where a person may earn an associates degree or certification in areas such as business and technology, education, law

enforcement, nursing, medical technician, and various studies within the liberal arts which transfer to senior institutions. In addition, workforce development and training programs can be custom-designed for individual businesses and organizations within the communities being served in a 5-county area. Lastly, concurrent enrollment provided for 5 area USD's, or 6 high schools, where NCCC is offering college classes to high school students for college credit.

NCCC administrators continue to emphasize stronger partnerships with the area high school administrators and more teachers being trained for college instruction. There is a significant amount of educational and training opportunities in the Ottawa area and NCCC will need to be ready to serve the people in these areas of opportunity in the years ahead. The college has recently commenced construction of a new branch campus in Ottawa, consisting of a 55,000 square foot building.

### **Community Facilities**

“Community Facilities” is used in this plan to refer to those physical developments owned and operated by either public or private entities for use by the public or for providing service to the public. It has a broader sense than “public facilities.” Community facilities are an essential part of a community and will continue to be a crucial element in its future social and economic prosperity. It has become a common practice in this country to determine the level of a community's quality of life by evaluating the level of community facility and service provision.

Community facilities include such municipal facilities as buildings, land, equipment, and whole systems of activities that are financially supported by the public for municipal government administrative functions as well as other types of services for the benefit of the public. The city hall, the public works building and maintenance shop, the police building and policing equipment, fire protection system, emergency facility and ambulance service, parks, the civic center, water storage and distribution system, waste water treatment system, public transportation system, stormwater drainage system, and various other types of facilities are some of the most common examples of municipal facilities and frequently referred to as "public facilities," denoting that these facilities are owned by the public and operated for the public.

Other types of community facilities include publicly or privately owned buildings, land, equipment, and whole systems of activities for the benefit of the community. Some common examples are public libraries, health services, schools, solid waste collection, and waste disposal facilities.

It is important to point out that community facilities are directly related to land use and the needs and financial responsibilities of the community they serve. As the community grows, so does the need for expanded community facilities. As community facilities expand, more land and public expenditures are frequently required for such expansions. As a result, the development or expansion of community facilities requires an extensive analysis of needs and careful planning in terms of land use, location, timing, and the amount of public investment.

The following is a list of community facilities in and serving the City of Ottawa.

**USD 290**

Administrative Offices	Located at 416 S. Main
Eisenhower Elem.	Located at 1404 S. Ash
Eugene Field Elem.	Located at 720 Tremont
Garfield Elem.	Located at 12th & College
Lincoln Elem.	Located at 1104 N. Milner
OMS	Located at 1230 S. Ash
OHS	Located at 1120 S. Ash
Alternative School	Located at 411 S. Hickory
Preschool for Special Svs	Located 113 W. 4th
Adult Education	GED service, located at 420 S. Main

**Other Schools**

Sacred Heart	Private school at 5th & Cedar
Ottawa Christian Academy	Private school outside city limits on Montana Road
Future Visions	Diploma achievement, located at 206 S. Main

**Ottawa University**

Located at 1001 S. Cedar, See also section on Ottawa University

**Franklin County**

Annex	1418 & 1428 S. Main, County, Physician and other offices
Courthouse	Historic building located in heart of downtown in the 300 block of South Main.
Corrections/Jail	Adjacent to courthouse
District Court	Adjacent to courthouse
Maintenance Buildings	1900 Block of South Elm
Recycle Center	Part of complex in 1900 Block of South Elm
Records Center	Located at 1124 W. 7th Street Terrace
Transfer Station	Located at 3323 Osborne Terrace

**Visitors Bureau**

Located at 1900 E. Logan Street

**Carnegie Cultural Center**

Historic building at 515 S. Main

**Old Museum Depot**

Historic building at 135 W. Tecumseh

**Don Woodward Center**

Houses Ottawa Recreation Commission with gym and other youth activities at 517 E. 3rd St.

**Ransom Memorial Hospital**

Located at 1301 S. Main

**Elizabeth Layton Center for Hope and Guidance**

Located at Eisenhower Road and Old US 50

<b>Gollier Rehabilitation Center</b>	Located at 901 S. Main
<b>Neosho Co. Com. College</b>	Branch located at 226 S. Beech (moving to 900 E. Logan)
<b>Animal Shelter</b>	Located east of Ottawa on K-68 Highway
<b>Ottawa Public Library</b>	Located at 105 S. Hickory
<b>City of Ottawa Facilities</b>	
City Hall	Located at 101 S. Hickory has administrative offices and commission chambers.
Auditorium	Located at 3rd & S. Hickory
Law Enforcement	Located at 715 W. Second, See reference in law enforcement section.
Fire Department	Located 720 W. Second, See reference in fire protection section
Public Works	Located 230 and 232 Beech Street including Maintenance Shop and Storage Bays for Large Equipment/Vehicles
Utility Warehouse	Located at 234 Beech indoor and outdoor storage of materials, equipment and vehicles
Power Plant	Located at 1000 W. 2nd
Water Treatment	Located at 301 S. Beech
Cemeteries	Hope Cemetery is on W. 2nd and is the older of the two cemeteries and does not have lots remaining for sale. Highland Cemetery is located at 1050 E. 15th and is an original 40-acre site, with a possible expansion to the south on another 40 acre parcel the city owns
Parks	See better description of each park in Parks/Recreation section
Airport	Located 4 miles South of I-35 & Hwy 59 Interchange

A few of these facilities warrant a narrative due to their impact on the community, historic significance or they may be new additions as community facilities.

**Ransom Memorial Hospital** is a county-owned, not for profit, acute care facility located in the heart of Ottawa. In operation since 1931, Ransom Memorial is a 55-bed hospital accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. RMH combines a broad range of professional specialties with a hospital staff of over 200 people to form a comprehensive health care facility. Ransom Memorial prides itself on bringing the latest in technology and specialty care to the area while maintaining its small town touch. The latest addition to the RMH system is the purchase and remodel of a former grocery store building at 901 S. Main. The facility, **Gollier Rehabilitation Center**, provides an attractive and brightly decorated location for physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy, as well as some administrative offices.

The **Ottawa Municipal Auditorium** heralds itself as a landmark of culture and entertainment for the Ottawa/Franklin County area. While there were several precursors, this current building was begun as a dedication to those who died in World War I. The building was designed by noted local architect, George P. Washburn, and had a large stage and fly gallery, over 1400 seats, and a spacious meeting hall downstairs. The building was dedicated in 1921 and was used for nearly every type of cultural and community event. However, after the flood of 1951, decay, lack of use and lack of maintenance resulted in its closing in 1974. However, in 1978 it was reopened after an extensive \$680,000 renovation. The seating was reduced to a more comfortable 840, the orchestra pit enlarged, acoustics enhanced, and other necessary improvements were made. Today's OMA is a reflection of the times. Programming has expanded for greater community outreach. Local talent and children's events receive more exposure. The facility remains a vital part of the community's activities, always striving to provide opportunities to enrich, to educate, and to entertain.

The **Carnegie Cultural Center** at 515 S. Main opened in 1903 as the Carnegie Free Library. The city provided the site and set aside 10% of the building cost for a maintenance fund and Andrew Carnegie donated \$15,000 for the building. The yellow brick neo-classical style building was also designed by Washburn. In the mid 1990's the library left for a larger facility in the new city hall and in 1999 the building was renovated for use as a cultural center. The Ottawa Suzuki Strings and Ottawa Community Arts Council now call it home. The building is again bursting with life and learning. People from all over and of all ages come to the Carnegie Cultural Center to enjoy the changing art exhibits, concerts, recitals, Coffee Houses, plays by A.C.T. Ottawa!, the Crackerjack Children's Theatre groups, and to take various Art and Music classes.

The **Ottawa Public Library** provides informational and recreational reading, listening and viewing opportunities to improve the local quality of life. The Library shares a building with city hall, after moving from an original Carnegie Free Library in 1996. The Library holdings include approximately 50,000 books, 2,000 videos/DVDs, 1,000 audio materials, 800 items in microfilm, 140 periodical subscriptions, 100-art print and originals, and 14 computers. In 2001 the library went online with SIRSI, an automated circulation system for checking materials in and out. The library regularly provides a number of programs for users such as: story and activity time with children, adult programs on special topics, video oral history collection, and some limited computer training. The Friends of the Library enable friend and fund raising activities to support the library including selling used books from the library and community at the bookstore at 209 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> and delivery of library materials for those unable to come to the library. The Library board and staff are reviewing growth projections, demands for services and programs, facility usage, etc. A space utilization study may be developed to help guide the Library in planning for its future needs while assuring the best practical use of the existing facility. Decisions about the expansion or relocation of the library will involve historic trend data, community growth (actual and estimated), funding identification and availability, site location, opportunities for consolidation, alternatives such as a branch library, other existing library resources in and around the community, etc.

The Franklin County Historical Society, FCHS, operates the **Old Depot Museum** just west of Main Street on Tecumseh. The two-story passenger depot was originally constructed in 1888 by the Santa Fe Railroad and is a designated historic structure by the State of Kansas. It was donated to the Historical Society in 1962 by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad and the next year it was opened as a museum. In 1998 the Historical Society began a substantial renovation using ISTEAF funds along with local contributions to install lighting, windows, update heating/cooling systems to adequately conserve the historical documents or items. Exhibits in the museum include a model railroad layout; displays tracing the life of famed abolitionist John Brown; Silkville, the utopian community created to raise silkworms; a Victorian parlor, general store, military room and more. The Depot Museum also features various traveling exhibits.

The Franklin County Commissioners determined the best use of a former county nursing home building would be to create the **Records and Research Center**, which houses archives suitable for historical research as well as simply document storage space for the County. The Photo Archives include over 10,000 photographs – daguerreotypes, tin types, panoramas, portraits, snapshots, and slides. Over 8,000 of these photos are catalogued by name so that it can easily be determined if a photo is available. Photographic copies are also available, but take much longer. The paper archives are a major source of information for researchers, genealogists and students. The FCHS archives contain a wealth of biographical files, subject files, and ephemera including open house programs, greeting cards, diplomas, stock certificates, business records, etc.

### **Ottawa Municipal Airport**

The Ottawa Municipal Airport is located approximately four miles south of I-35 and Hwy 59 Interchange and one mile east of Hwy. 59. The tract is within the city limits as an island annexation. It is a public-use facility, owned and operated by the City of Ottawa. It is designated according to the current National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) 1998-2002, as a general aviation facility. It currently experiences approximately 3,000 aircraft operations per year (takeoffs and/or landings), with a total of 23 based aircraft; including 20 fixed-wing single-engine and 3 multi-engine aircraft. The City is charged with the responsibility of maintaining and operating the airport according to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant assurance agreements.

**Water and Wastewater Facilities**

The City of Ottawa completed a *Water and Wastewater Study* in 1993 and an update evaluating certain lift stations in 2002. These studies provide the information for the Governing Body and city staff to anticipate the needs for these services into the future. Of particular concern were growth issues:

- Infrastructure improvements needed to serve the current growth; and
- future improvements to serve anticipated growth on the perimeter of the community.

The base year for the study was 1990 with a population of 11,000, design year of 2010 with a population of 15,000, and ultimate development with a population of 18,000. At the time of the first study, population growth was very small, but since that time population growth has been on the rise, with a decennial census population in 2000 of 12,000 people.

**Wastewater Facilities**

The City of Ottawa completed a *Wastewater Study* in 2007. There are two key growth areas planned for future service:

- in the northeast, including the 68 Highway corridor; and
- in the southwest where recent annexations and platted subdivisions have spurred extension of utilities.

Based on earlier studies, the City has installed two major lift stations that will provide sanitary sewer service to large areas.

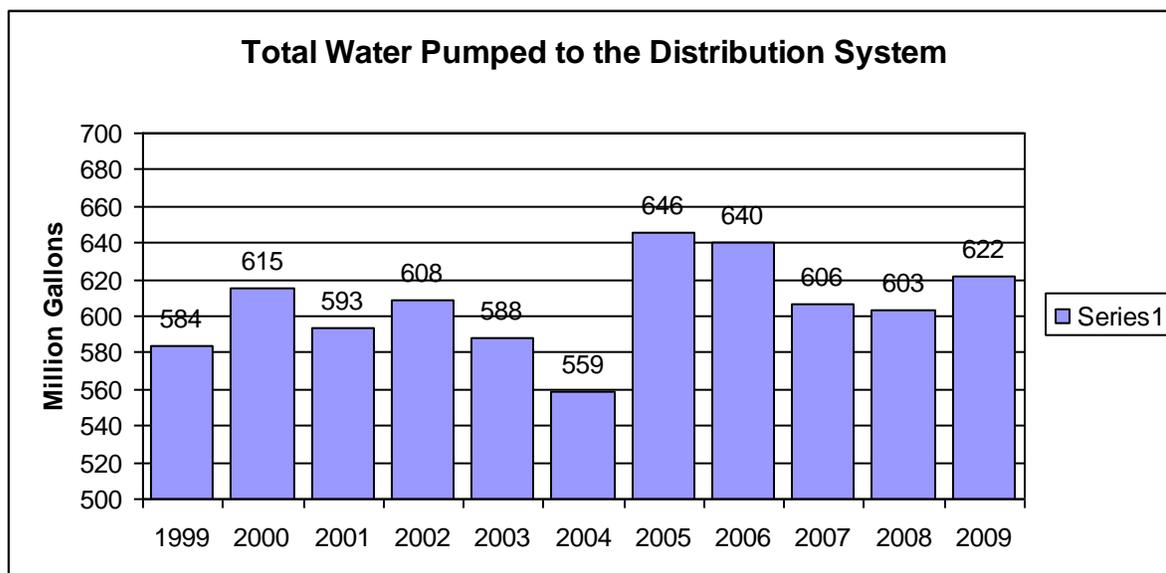
The City completed construction of a new sanitary sewer treatment plant in 2004. The plant is an oxidation ditch plant rated at 2.6 million gallon of treatment capacity per day. The plant has been designed to be easily doubled in size and includes plans for treatment of phosphorous if regulations require in the future. The plant features an odor control system and a belt filter press system. The plant was constructed of coated concrete, block and split block construction.



**Water Facilities**

Historical water production and metered water sales data were analyzed in the study. Metered water use analysis revealed that 60% of the use is for residential, with the balance to industrial, commercial and institutional use. Rural Water District use was reviewed separately and this review indicated increases in the late eighties-early nineties, from ten percent of total sales to eighteen percent in 1992. In the design year, 2010, it was anticipated that 1.97 million gallons per day (mgd) would be necessary on an average, with 1.43 the average in 1990. The maximum would be 2.89 in 1990 and 3.95 as the design year.

**Figure 2.13: Trends in Water Usage (1988-2002)**



Source: City of Ottawa

**Existing Water Supply System**

The water for the City Of Ottawa is obtained from the Marais Des Cygnes River. Four low lift station pumps convey raw water to the City’s water treatment plant, located at 3rd & Beech Street. This plant, constructed in 1980, provides for softening, disinfection, and filtration with a capacity of about 5.5 mgd. Water is stored in a one million gallon reservoir. A high service pumping station, containing four pumps, takes water from the reservoir and discharge to the distribution system. The total installed pumping capacity is 6.7 mgd and the firm capacity is 5.0 mgd with one pump out of service. The distribution system is composed of a single service level. Two 400,000 gallon elevated storage tanks provide equalizing and emergency storage. The north tank is located on North Hickory near Grant Street. The south tank is located on 15th Street near South Main. The distribution system mains range from sixteen inches to two inches in diameter. Ground elevations within the city limits vary between about 900 feet near the river to points of 950 in the south and 940 in the north. The highest ground in the study areas is about 1050 feet in the southwest and 965 feet in the northeast.

As a part of the study, the distribution system was evaluated by a software hydraulic analysis system. The computer model was calibrated and adjusted to simulate actual system performance

based on operational records and run for the base year, design year, and ultimate development under maximum day and maximum hour water demand conditions. Fire flow analyses were performed at key fire hydrants to determine fire flow capability when superimposed on the various design years.

**Rural Water Districts**

The City of Ottawa's water treatment plant also provides service to Rural Water Districts #1, #2, #4, #7 and the City of Princeton.

**Electrical Utility**

The City of Ottawa completed an Electrical System Master Plan in 2002 with the document created by Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC). Along with city staff, PEC developed a forecast of both peak demand and annual energy requirements for twenty years. Utilizing historical data collected during the years 1978 – 2001, along with staff input, the forecasts were developed. It was apparent that Ottawa has had a continuation of moderate load growth. The average annual growth rate for the past 10 years has been 3.43% for peak demand and 3.23% for energy. Studies of the electrical systems in the City's north and south areas were adopted in 2006 and 2007, respectively.

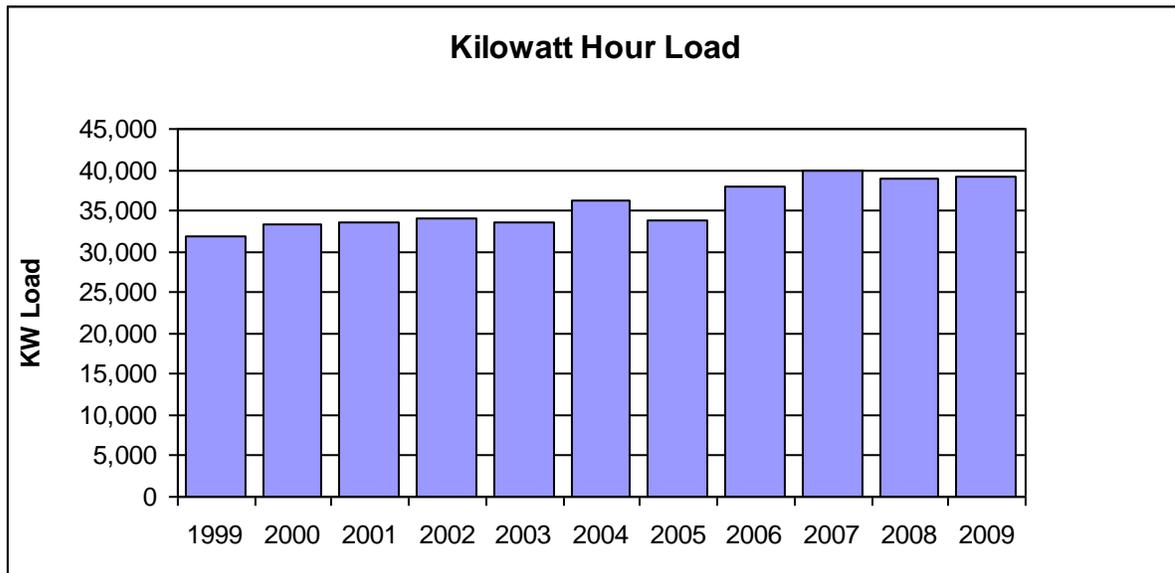
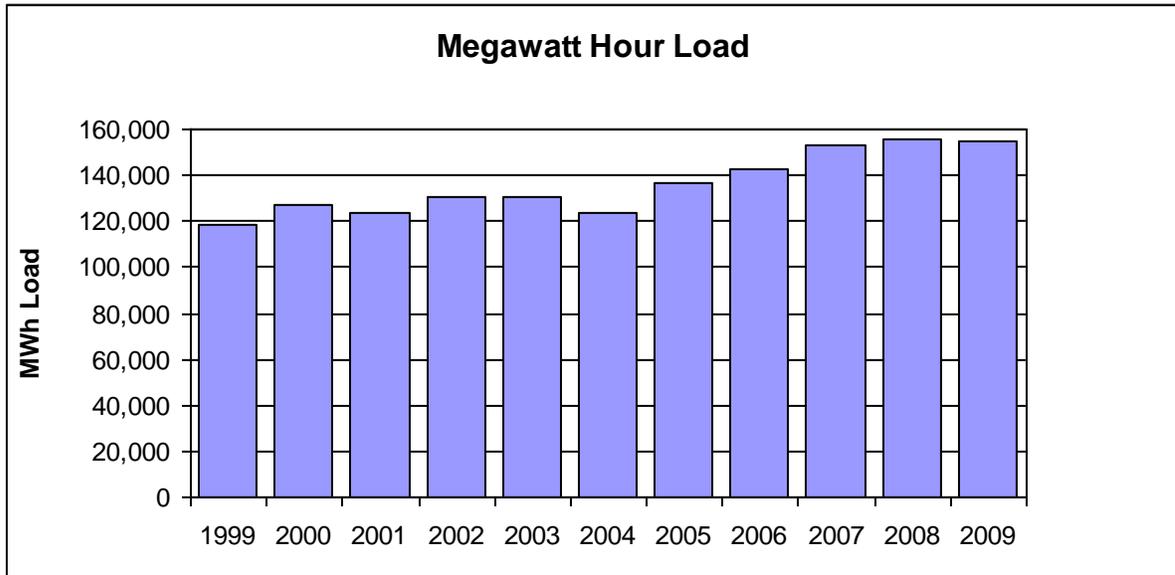
**Electrical Distribution System**

The study also concluded that improvements were needed to the distribution system. Improvements include splitting circuits, for both reliability and safety of personnel working on the system and to provide for growth. In order to address future load growth and redundancy, it was recommended that a substation be installed in the southeast portion of the city, which is currently in the development stages. Another substation was also recommended for the northeast part of Ottawa.

**Power Plant and Substation**

The City of Ottawa operates the power plant as a peaking plant for summer loads for about four to five months each year. Evaluation of the existing generators, total operating hours, and maintenance concluded that more maintenance funds and personnel would be necessary to continue life expectancies and prevent peak season overtime problems. The need for substations was revealed to be a significant issue for this area. As a result, two substations have been constructed; in the southeast area of the City and in the industrial park. Another need to be considered in the future is adding power generation capabilities to the existing plant.

Figure 2.14: Trends in Electricity Usage (1999-2009)



**Public Safety**

**Police Department**

The City of Ottawa Police Department is headquartered on West 2nd Street in a new 28,000 square foot state of the art Law Enforcement Center completed in May of 2003. The department is administered in four divisions:

- Emergency Services and Administration. Administration furnishes records management and property control services. The Sheriff's Office currently provides dispatching services for the entire County, which includes 911 answering for all agencies.
- Patrol Division. The Patrol Division provides service on a 24-hour basis. The Crime Prevention Unit will be available to present crime prevention programs such as residential and business security service.
- Investigation Division. The Investigations Division is responsible for the investigation of property crimes, crimes against persons, offenses related to juveniles, and drug-related activity.
- Animal Control Division. The City employs a full-time Animal Control Officer to pick up strays, dispose of carcasses, trap wild animals, enforce violations of animal licensing laws and educate the public about animal control efforts. The City will provide these services immediately upon annexation, as they are not available in the county.

The City of Ottawa Police Department cooperates with the Franklin County Sheriffs Office to staff the Drug Enforcement Unit. Other examples of public safety service cooperation between the city and the larger region include a shared 911 dispatch center, a joint tactical team, made up of city and county officers, for emergency response (such as rescue and armed response) and cooperation on the sheriff HAZMAT Service. Further the department operates the "McGruff Club" and McGruff/DARE camp a three day/two night camp for area youth. The department also supports safety and health fair days for local employers. The department administers a police reserve program utilizing 10 to 12 officers. These officers are provided on going training by the department and in return donate many hours back to the community. The reserve officers provide back up for the full time officers and support for special events.

The City of Ottawa Police Department currently provides first response to calls in the proposed growth area under a mutual aid agreement with the Franklin County Sheriffs Department. All commissioned officers of the city are provided a county commission for mutual aid with the sheriffs department and provide support to the sheriffs office upon request. As a result, the city and county cooperate for mutual aid across jurisdictional boundaries.

The animal control service is supported by animal tag registration through other city personnel. The officer responds to complaints concerning leash law violations, animal altercations with citizens and assistance in the enforcement of city pet ordinances. The response for the department for non-emergency calls is 7.13 minutes, and the emergency response is 3.69 minutes.

The Law Enforcement Center (LEC) houses the police department, municipal court, an office for the resident agent of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) and the joint city county drug enforcement unit (DEU). Room for expansion was also created for up to twenty years. There are six interview rooms with state of the art technology for audio/visual recording. One room is a "soft" interview room or can be used for families involved in traumatic experiences. The facility contains the courtroom, holding cells for prisoners, three bays for transferring prisoners safely and for fleet maintenance. The LEC also provides on site storage for all records, as well as providing adequate

areas for training of department personnel and the tactical response team. The Ottawa Police Department provides training in CPR and first aid. Several officers are crossed trained as EMTs.



*The Law Enforcement Center (LEC) that houses the police department, municipal court, an office for the resident agent of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) and the joint city county drug enforcement unit (DEU).*

### Fire Protection

The Ottawa Fire Department operates out of two stations, with the main station located at 720 W. 2nd St, and a second station at 219 E. 14th St. The department currently has 20 full-time employees along with seven volunteers. Of these 20 employees seventeen are certified Emergency Medical Technicians. The department operates in cooperation with the Franklin County Ambulance Service to provide emergency medical care for the City of Ottawa. The department is not planning on adding any additional personnel over the next several years with the exception of possibly a secretary/receptionist.

The city has adopted a vehicle replacement schedule that helps ensure the department maintains a fleet of modern firefighting vehicles and associated loose equipment as outlined by current National Fire Protection standards.

The average response time for the department is less than 4 minutes. If additional staff or other resources should be needed by the department they have mutual aid agreements with thirteen other recognized fire departments. The department is confident about providing prompt service to isolated areas; however, grass fires potentially pose more of a challenge to the department due to the fact that most equipment is designed for structural firefighting.

Every community that has a recognized fire department is periodically evaluated by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to determine a community's public protection classification. The goal of rating communities is to provide better insurance rate equity in recognizing public fire suppression abilities. The grade is presented in a class 1 to 10 format with 1 being the best and class 9 being the worst. The Ottawa Fire Department was last surveyed in January 2010 and currently enjoys a class 3 ISO rating. Currently, there were 1195 classified departments in the State of Kansas, with only seven (7) having a lower classification than Ottawa. On a national average a class 1 community pays the lowest insurance rates and scores 90% or better on meeting the national standards in

communications, fire department and water supply. A class 5 pays medium rates and meets 50-60% of the national standards. A class 9 is the worst grade given for any form of recognized fire protection and only scores 10-20 %.

As the city grows and development occurs in outlying areas additional water lines would be laid and additional fire hydrants installed. Fire hydrant requirements and placement within the city are outlined by adopted codes of the city. Currently the only area outside of the city that has adequate water lines and hydrants is the area east of Ottawa along K-68 highway.

### **Ambulance Service**

The Franklin County Ambulance station is located at 14th & Cedar, on the grounds of Ransom Memorial Hospital. It is licensed by the State of Kansas as a Type I service, which means Franklin County EMS provides Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) to the residents of Franklin County. All ambulance units are equipped with advanced life support equipment required by the State of Kansas

Franklin County EMS has 18 full-time employees and six part-time, predominantly with the majority at a paramedic level. The Ottawa Fire Department also provides support with the fourth ambulance unit and their staff. Each of four ambulance units is capable of carrying three stretcher patients each. Two ambulance units are equipped with rescue equipment, ex. Jaws of Life, powered cutting tools, air bags for lifting, etc. In addition, Franklin County EMS has a close working relationship with the area air ambulance services. GPS units and radio contact allow the aircraft to locate us in the outlying areas. Franklin County EMS also has mutual aid agreements with neighboring counties.

### **Emergency Disaster Planning**

Franklin County has a Disaster Plan and has the responsibility of providing the citizens with required services, including the development of a County Emergency Operations Plan to save lives and protect property in the event of a disaster. Along with the plan, the county has an Emergency Planning Director on staff. The planning undertaken by the department includes: Mitigation to reduce the probability of occurrence and to minimize the effects of unavoidable incidents; Preparation to respond to a disaster situation; Response actions during a disaster; and Recover operations that will insure the orderly return to normal following a disaster. The plan establishes the policies, guidelines, and procedures that will provide the elected and appointed officials, administrative personnel, various governmental departments, and volunteer agencies with the information required to function, as a team, to insure a timely and organized response to situations arising from disasters.

In addition, the Director holds mock disaster training between many agencies involved regularly. The agencies included are: city officials, county officials, law enforcement personnel, emergency medical personnel, hospital personnel, education providers, Red Cross. The plan also provides a hazards analysis, understanding of the "incident command system" and needs for federal programs. Since the ice storm in 2002, city staff has become more familiar with emergency planning needs, software to enable better tracking and response, federal reimbursement programs, and incident

command structures. All city departments included in the disaster plan are responsible for developing and maintaining up to date, standard operating procedures for implementing and assigning duties as needed for response.

**Parks and Recreation**

The City has an extensive Parks and Trails system. The community has the majority of its recreation needs addressed by the Ottawa Recreation Commission. The community offers youth and adult sports, including baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, and other programs. The community also has other private recreation program providers through traveling teams, private fitness centers, a private indoor swimming pool, and other programs. The Parks Division is responsible for maintenance of highly visible, well-used grounds and facilities that are a major contributor to the quality of life in Ottawa. In addition to the parks, personnel assigned to this division operate and maintain Hope Cemetery and Highland Cemetery.

***Forest Park***

Located in the northwest corner of the City, it is notable for its mature oak and walnut trees and its array of recreational facilities. Included are a 475,000 gallon full size municipal swimming pool, 5 new lit tennis courts, 18 individual horseshoe courts, 1 basketball court, a lit baseball diamond and a lit softball diamond, and four playgrounds including a “tots lot”. In addition there are three restroom facilities in the park. Forest Park hosts a number of community events each year, including the Ole Marais River Run (a custom car show), the Power of the Past Antique Tractor and Engine Show, and Chautauqua Days (a July 4th celebration). There are eight shelters all with electricity and many with small grills.





**Cox Field**

It is a recreational complex which is home to the baseball programs sponsored by the Ottawa Recreation Commission. There are a total of 9 fields; 3 full size fields, 2 softball fields, 2 coach pitch fields, and 2 tee ball fields. The park includes a concession stand, parking, and two restroom facilities.

**Haley Park**

It is at the intersection of 2nd and Main Streets, is home to a gazebo-like shelter, a fountain and the Mayor’s Christmas Tree, and serves as a focal point for downtown events.

**Freedom Park**

It is a small neighborhood park on Poplar Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets. Nearby are the Don Woodward Community Center and a Skateboard Park which was constructed on a pair of under-used tennis courts.

**Heritage Park**

Located on the northeast side of town, is among the City's most recent additions. It lies along Powhattan Street near Birch Street on land acquired by the City during the late 1990s, and developed as a neighborhood park. This park boasts a walking track approximately 3/4-mile in length and a playground structure suitable for toddler to ten-year old children.

**Kanza Park**

It serves as a stormwater detention pond on the upper end of the Skunk Run drainage basin, but Kanza Park has been enhanced by the addition of a hard-surfaced walking track almost a mile long, and lit with salvaged Victorian fixtures from early 20th Century Main Street (downtown). The trail around the park has been incorporated into community events and celebrations, including running/walking events and a luminary display during the Christmas season. The park is adjacent to the Prairie Spirit Trail.



**City Park**

It is home to the Carnegie Cultural Center and boasts of a gazebo/bandstand used for summer evening concerts, weddings, and other similar events. Skunk Run Days, an annual community festival and a local fundraiser, occurs in City Park the first full weekend in June. City Park includes playground equipment, a pre World War II naval artillery, and the 1859 Dietrich pioneer cabin. Also located in this park is the Carnegie Cultural Center, home to the Ottawa Community Arts and Suzuki Strings.



**The Prairie Spirit Rail Trail**

It is a rail-banked right-of-way that has been improved by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks between Ottawa and Garnett. PSRT enhancements in Ottawa include a paved walking/riding surface ten feet wide between 5th and 23rd Streets, a bridge over the Marais des Cygnes River, and a Trailhead facility immediately south of 17th Street. A grant application has been approved to improve the PSRT north of the bridge and create a new trailhead in 2004 at the north end of the trail adjacent to the Old Museum Depot.



**Local Taxes**

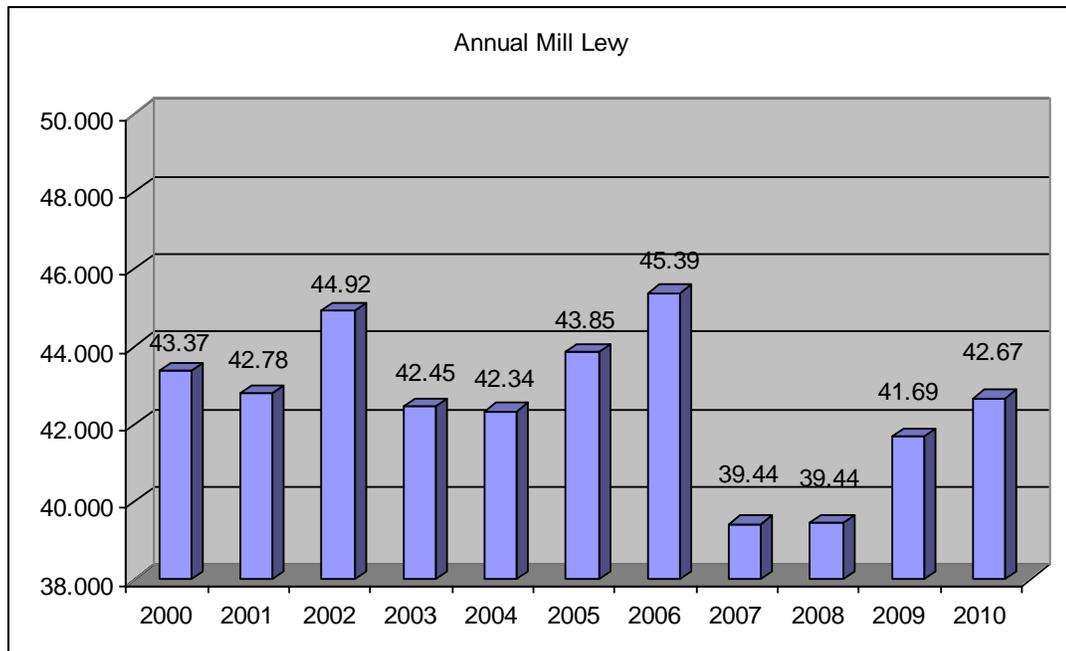
Annual Mill levy in the City of Ottawa has reduced significantly and consistently since 1995 (Ref. **Figure 2.16**). In fact, annual mill levy for the State, County and the School District have increased slightly over the years, while that of the City has decreased (Ref. **Figure 2.19**). Assessed valuation and taxation on the other hand, have steadily increased, and more than doubled since 1994 (Ref. **Table 2.15, Figure 2.18**).

Table 2.16: City Mill Levy by Fund (1994-2004)

FUND	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
General	10.521	23.994	22.858	23.871	25.210	25.146	26.782	21.054	23.179	23.719	26.215
Streets - General	13.047	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.495	
Safety Equipment	1.578	1.459	1.518	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Bond & Interest	7.264	6.323	8.369	6.909	6.856	8.72	8.584	8.005	7.053	7.020	7.007
Library	8.742	8.627	9.741	9.386	8.108	7.847	7.741	8.653	8.081	8.386	8.384
Auditorium	2.221	2.377	2.437	2.280	2.164	2.141	2.281	1.723	1.131	1.066	1.064
<b>TOTAL LEVY</b>	<b>43.373</b>	<b>42.780</b>	<b>44.923</b>	<b>42.446</b>	<b>42.338</b>	<b>43.854</b>	<b>45.388</b>	<b>39.435</b>	<b>39.444</b>	<b>41.686</b>	<b>42.670</b>
ASSESSED VAL. X1000	47,522	51,399	54,691	57,896	60,389	64,420	68,852	73,798	83,659	81,625	80,947
TOTAL TAXES	2,061,182	2,198,800	2,456,895	2,457,446	2,563,285	2,791,186	3,125,071	2,910,222	3,299,833	3,402,595	3,454,021

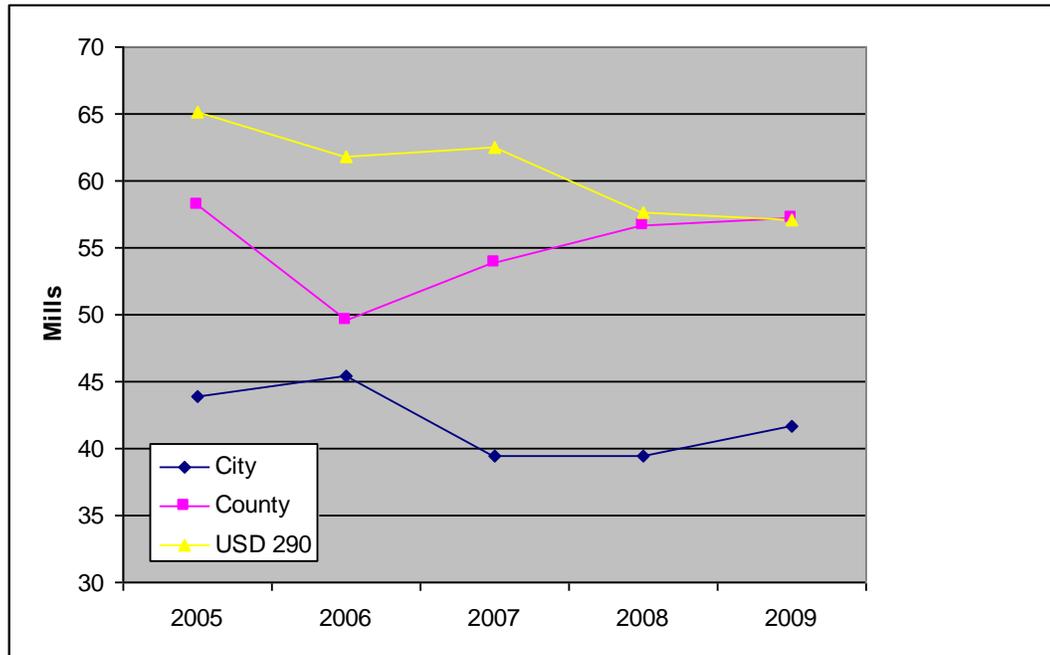
Source: City of Ottawa

Figure 2.15: Ottawa Annual Mill Levy (1995-2004)



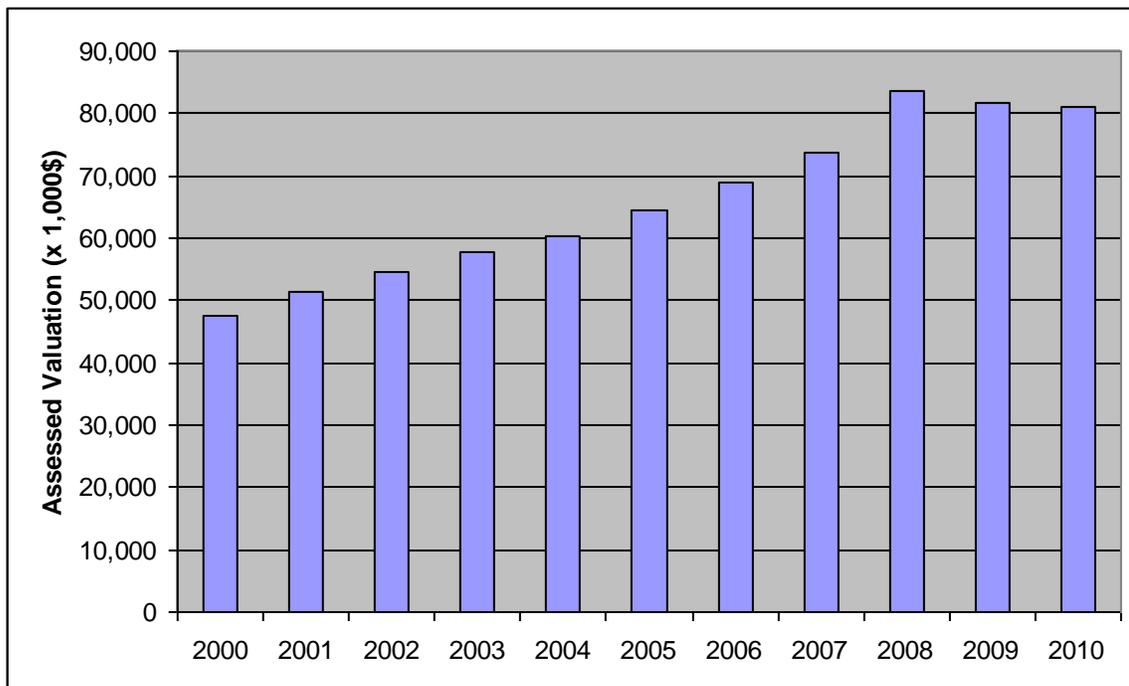
Source: City of Ottawa

Figure 2.16: Annual Mill Levy for City, School District and, State and County (2005-2009)



Source: City of Ottawa

Figure 2.17: Assessed Valuation and Total Taxes (1994-2004)



Source: City of Ottawa

