

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE KANSAS FUTURES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carlos Mayans at 1:30 p.m. on March 5, 2001 in Room 526-S of the State Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Laura McClure - excused
Representative Gene O'Brien - excused
Representative Mike O'Neal - excused

Committee staff present: Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
Amy Kramer, Legislative Research Department
Lois Hedrick, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Ann Durkes, State Demographer, Kansas Division of the Budget

Others attending: See attached list

The Chairman welcomed Representative Brenda Landwehr as a new member of the committee. Representative Frank Miller has been reassigned to the Health and Human Services Committee. He then welcomed Ann Durkes as a conferee.

The State's Forecast

Mainly following the data in the Governor's Demographic Report (pages 47-52 of *The Governor's Economic and Demographic Report 2000-2001*, available through the Legislative Research Department), Ms. Durkes first described K.S.A. 11-201 and its mandate that the Kansas Division of the Budget certify each July 1 the population figures of the state that are included in the July 1 report of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. She noted for the past ten years, national population estimates have used the 1990 decennial census data as a benchmark and incorporated administrative data from federal agencies.

Each year the benchmark is statistically adjusted using numerous variable and a national estimate is reached. Estimates help identify population shifts as trends and potential changes in some federal grants-in-aid formulas. Some formulas are used to calculate federal grant-in-aid program allotments, including the Social Services Block Grant and the annual state private activity bond limitations. Most grant-in-aid program allocations are not affected by changes in population.

Annual population estimates change because of two factors: migration (the net effect of migration to and from each state); and natural growth (such as vital statistics of births and deaths, school statistics from state and parochial school systems, and data from federal income tax returns). Beginning in 1997, the estimates pertaining to housing permits issued, certificates of occupancy, and utility hookups were also incorporated.

Each decennial census yields data that is important to a diversified user-group. New 2000 census results will be released to the public on March 31, 2001. Prior to that date, the Reapportionment File (which includes state population totals that are used to reapportion the U.S. House of Representatives) and the Census 2000 Redistricting File (which contains the information required for local redistricting and data on 63 race categories, ethnicity, and voting age) will have been released.

Besides the determination of the apportionment of Congressional districts, the decennial census assists in determining how much money states will receive in a number of federal grant programs because several of the programs include population count as a component of their distribution formulas. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled sampling techniques are prohibited for reapportioning seats in the House; but does not mean that sampling cannot be used to allocate funds for federal formula grant programs. States have concerns with the outcome of the 2000 Census, the primary one is the adverse effect of an inaccurate count.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE KANSAS FUTURES COMMITTEE at 1:30 p.m. on March 5, 2001 in Room 526-S of the State Capitol.

Historically, lower-income groups (such as the homeless and immigrants) are more likely to be missed in the traditional headcount. Many grant programs are targeted to them, including most public assistance and many education programs. There are 22 large formula grant programs that rely in part on the decennial census. Medicaid is the largest. Three large formula grant programs do not use census data: special education; the administrative portion of the nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC); and low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP).

Demographics are the components included in the population: age, race, gender, and ethnicity. In 2000, the demographic make up of Kansas was predominantly of the White and non-Hispanic races; however, the proportions of other races display a definite upward trend, especially in the Hispanic population. Five age categories are identified: 5 years of age (pre-school children); 5 to 19 years of age (school age children); 20 to 64 years of age (working/taxpayers); 65 years and older (retired); and 85 years of age and older—a subcategory of 65 years (frail elderly).

Analysis indicates the population of Kansas is aging, but at a slower pace than the rest of the U.S. The Kansas proportion was 13.3 percent. The frail elderly represented 1.9 percent of the total state population. The data indicates there were more males than females from birth through middle age, but by age 65 the number of females was greater than the number of males, with the ratio increasing as the population ages. With respect to race, the population data of pre-schoolers of both the Black and White races has declined; the American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian and Pacific Islander race categories have increased. The number of school age children has continued to increase since 1990.

As a general rule, population projections are produced every three to five years, but Kansas had not produced an official set of population projections since 1992. In 1999, the Kansas Division of the Budget and the Kansas Water Office combined resources to present both accurate and timely population projections. The most advantageous aspect of the cooperative effort among state agencies is that the data is used not only to project populations, but also as an integral part of accurately forecasting water use. Another advantage of the effort is that Kansas now has an independent method of forecasting population which is based on an additional data set specific to Kansas.

Ms. Durkes stated some conclusions can be drawn from the data:

- The demographic makeup of Kansas is becoming more diverse. This trend will continue through 2010.
- The proportion of aged will continue its upward trend, especially for Hispanics.
- The trends will affect the application of public grants.

Because of migration from foreign countries, Kansas is in the top 25%. Most immigrants are in Cloud, Ford, Finney and Seward counties. Questions were raised about the data comparing various proportions of ethnicity, race and age. Ms. Durkes was asked to provide geographical charts to display the projections. She noted it is difficult to capture statistics about illegal immigrants. Even though INS has been asked to release data, it declines to do so. Mary Galligan, Legislative Researcher, stated there were several counties (mostly urban) in the 1990 decennial census that were undercounted by relatively large numbers: Wyandotte, Shawnee, Sedgwick and some southwestern Kansas counties.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2001.