

Poverty: At Home in the Suburbs

Presented by

United Community Services of Johnson County

www.ucsjoco.org

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United Community Services of
Johnson County

United Community Services is
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National Study

**“The Suburbanization of Poverty:
Trends in Metropolitan America, 2000 to 2008.”**

**Brookings Institution
Metropolitan Policy Program**



United Community Services of
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Study Findings

	Total Population Percent Change 2000-2008	Population in Poverty Percent Change 2000-2008
Nation	8.1%	15.4%
Primary Cities	3.9%	5.6%
Suburbs	12.5%	25.0%
Small Metro Areas	8.1%	19.5%
Non-Metro Areas	2.4%	12.1%



Study Findings

	Total Population 2008	Population in Poverty 2008
Nation	296M	39M
Primary Cities	60M	11M
Suburbs	132M	12.5M
Small Metro Areas	56M	8M
Non-Metro Areas	48M	8M



Why is poverty in the suburbs growing?

- ❖ More people moving to the suburbs.
- ❖ Downward mobility of the middle class over the past decade.
- ❖ Recession-related fiscal challenges – job loss, unemployment and underemployment and foreclosure crisis.



Poverty Indicators

Federal Poverty Guidelines

- Data source: US Census Bureau; ACS 1-year estimates

Family of 1 = \$10,890

\$5.24 Hr. for full-time, full-year work

Family of 3 = \$18,530

\$8.90 Hr. for full-time, full-year work

SNAP Enrollment (Food Stamps)

- Data source: KS Dept. of SRS; MO Div. of Family Services

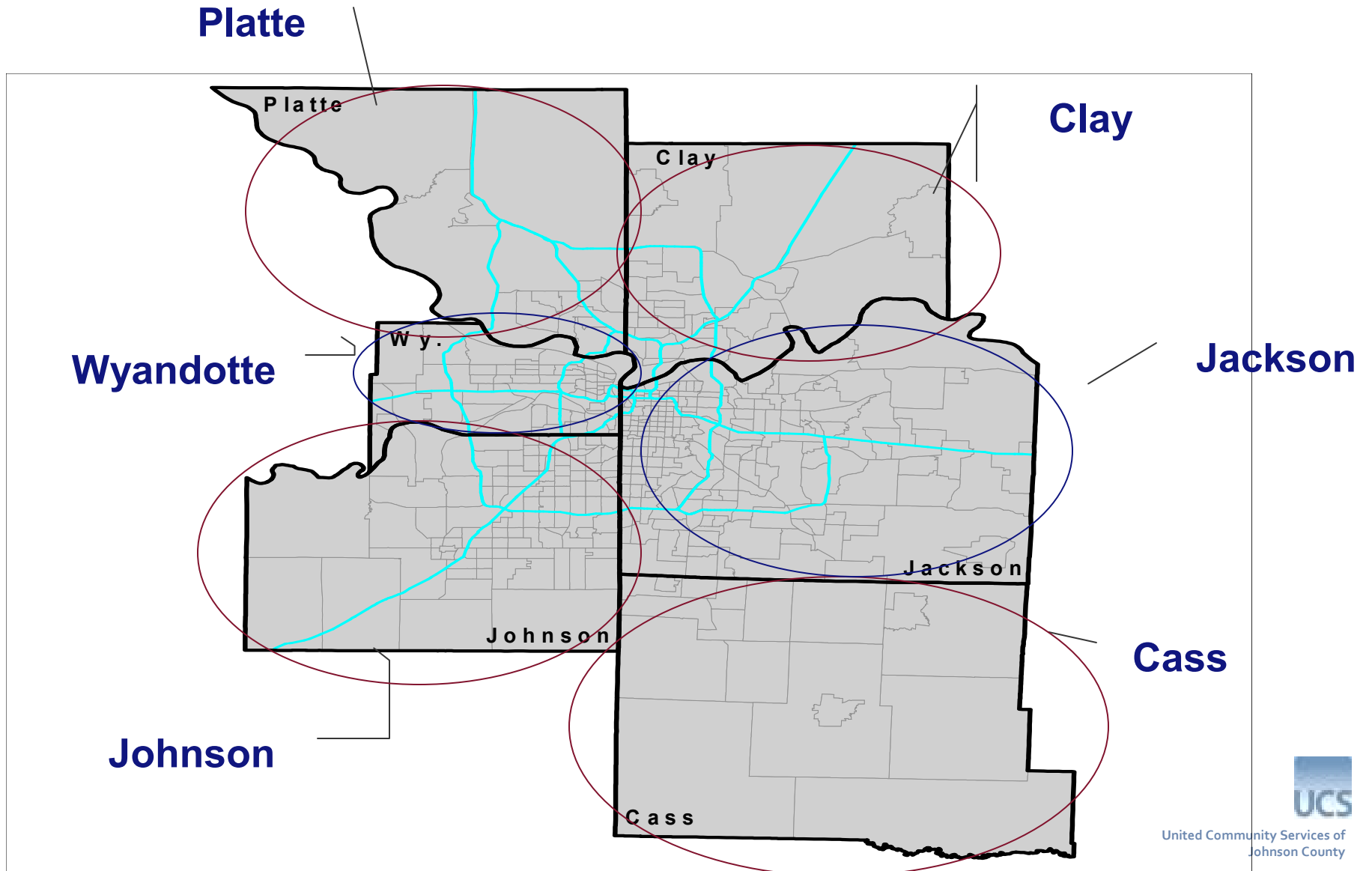
Free and Reduced School Lunch Program

- Data source: KS Dept. of Education; MO Dept. of Education



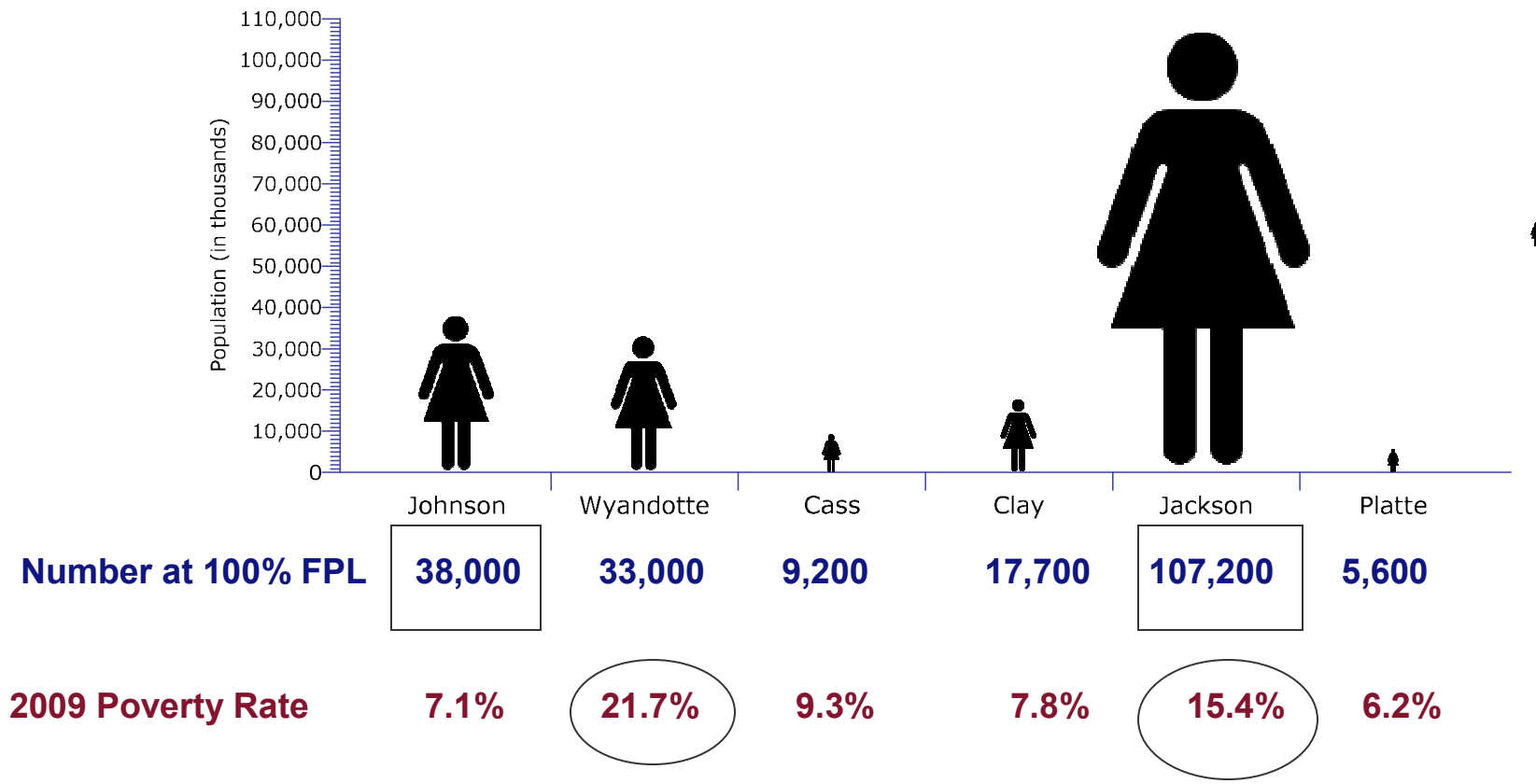
Urban: Wyandotte and Jackson

Suburban: Johnson, Cass, Clay, Platte



Poverty in the Kansas City Area

Population Below Poverty Level by County in 2009



Poverty Rate by County

	2000	2008	2009
Johnson	3.4	4.4	7.1
Wyandotte	16.5	19.8	21.7
Cass	5.8	5.0	9.3
Clay	5.5	7.1	7.8
Jackson	11.9	14.5	15.4
Platte	4.8	8.0	6.2
6 county total	8.6	10.1	11.7
U.S.	12.3	13.2	14.3



Number of People in Poverty by County

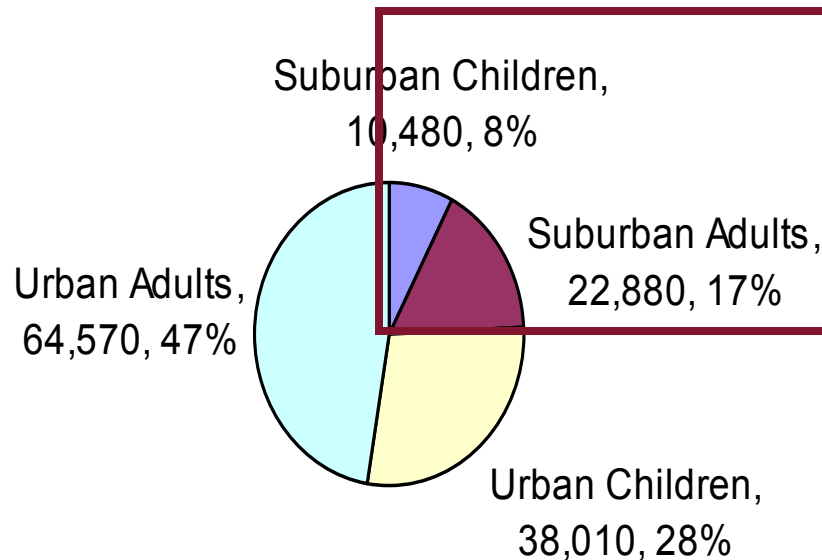
	2000	2008	2009
Johnson	15,300	23,200	38,000
Wyandotte	25,800	30,100	33,000
Cass	4,700	4,900	9,200
Clay	9,900	15,200	17,700
Jackson	76,800	95,900	107,200
Platte	3,500	6,800	5,600
6 county total	136,000	176,000	210,600

Rounded to nearest 100

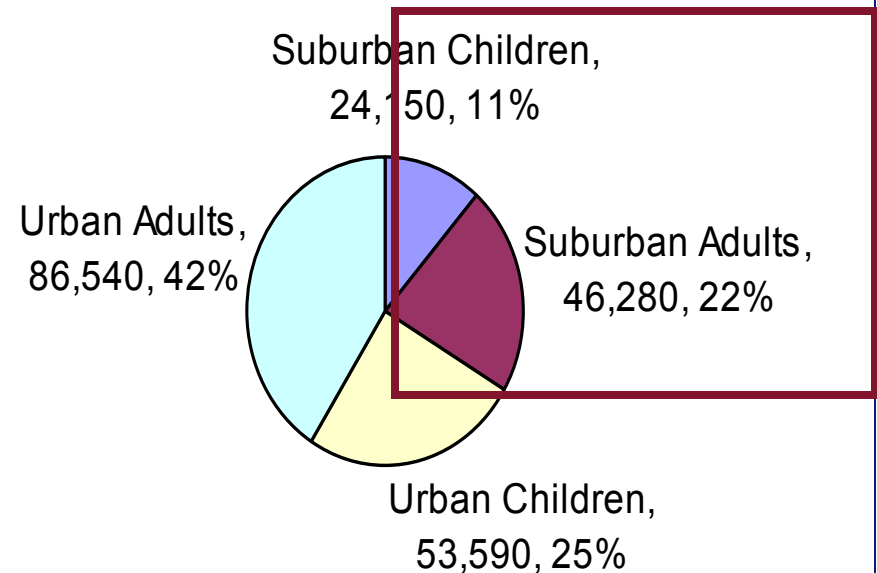


In 2000, the suburbs accounted for 49% of total population. By 2009, suburbs accounted for 53% of the population. The poverty population share grew at a more dramatic pace.

2000 – Suburban poor accounted for 25% of area poverty



2009 – Suburban poor accounted for 33% of area poverty



Growth in Total Population and Population in Poverty

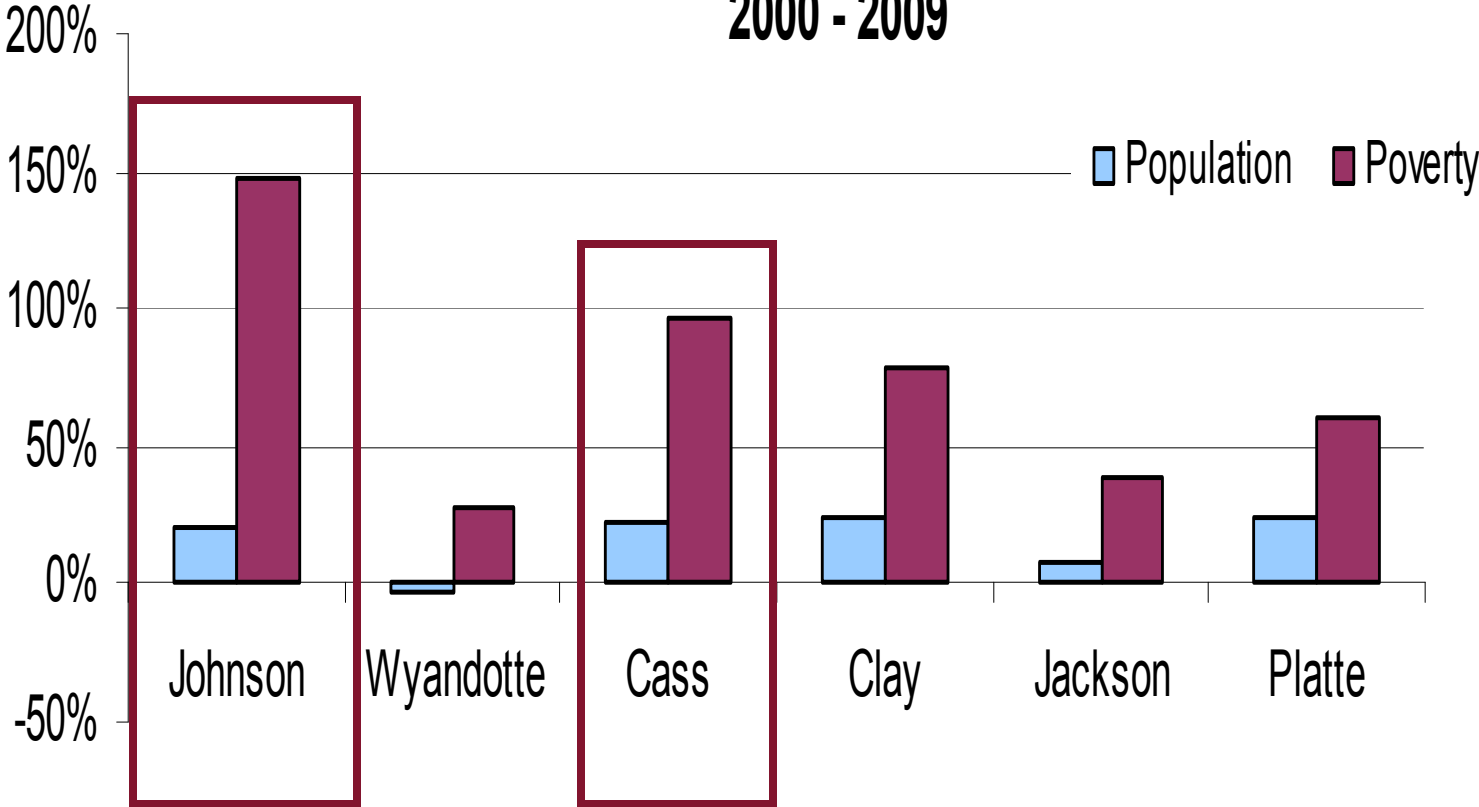
	Total Population Percent Change 2000-2009	Population in Poverty Percent Change 2000-2009
U.S.	9%	26%
Kansas	5%	42%
Missouri	7%	33%
Wyandotte/Jackson	6%	37%
Johnson, Cass, Clay, Platte	22%	111%

37,500 people

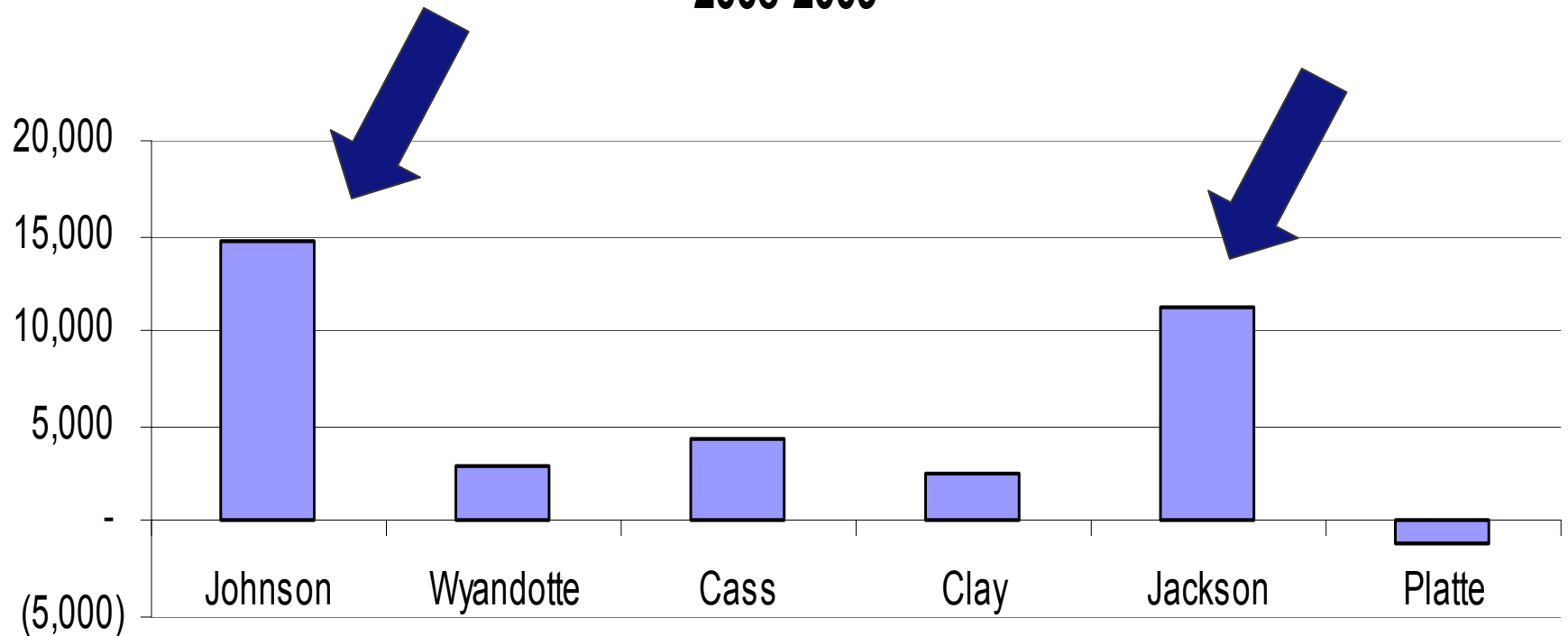
37,000 people

Percentage Increase in Total Population and Percentage Increase in Population at 100% FPL

2000 - 2009



One-year Increase in People at Poverty Level 2008-2009



Percentage Increase

64%

10%

90%

16%

12%

-12%



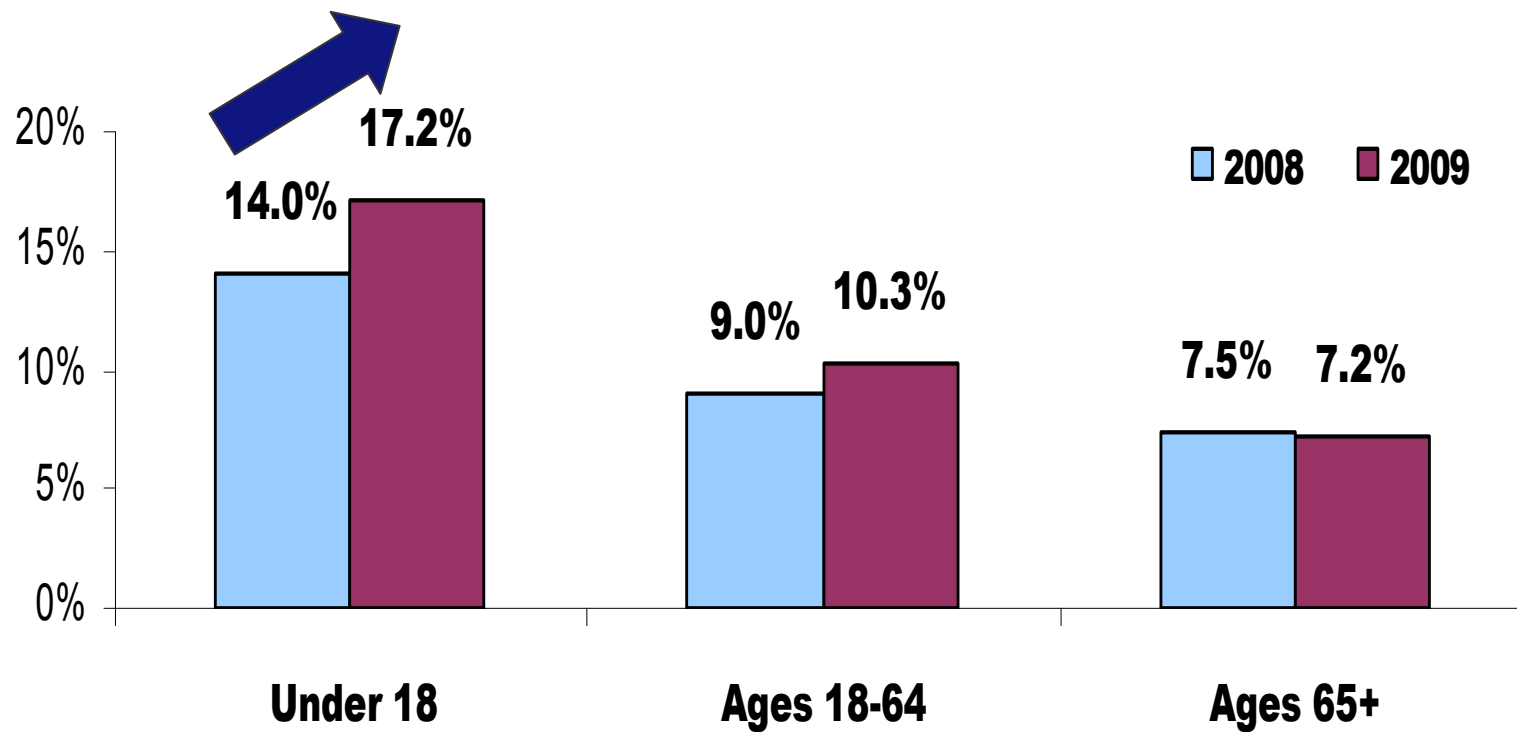
Factors that influence poverty

- **Gender**
- **Race/Ethnicity**
- **Education level**
- **Presence of disability**
- **Citizenship status**
- **Family structure**
- **Age**



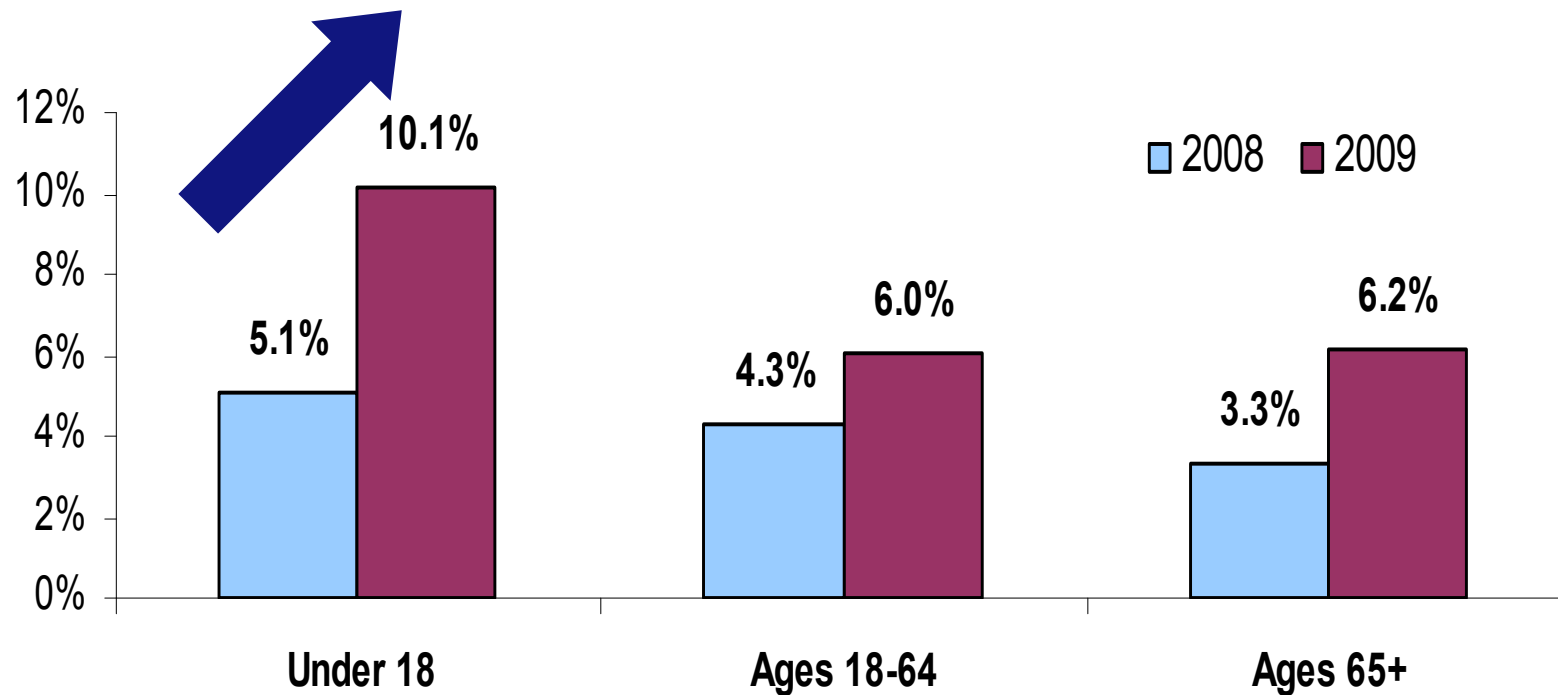
Across the region children have highest poverty rate

Poverty Rate by Age



In Johnson County the child poverty rate doubled between 2008 and 2009

Poverty Rate by Age



2009 Number **13,800**

20,800

3,400



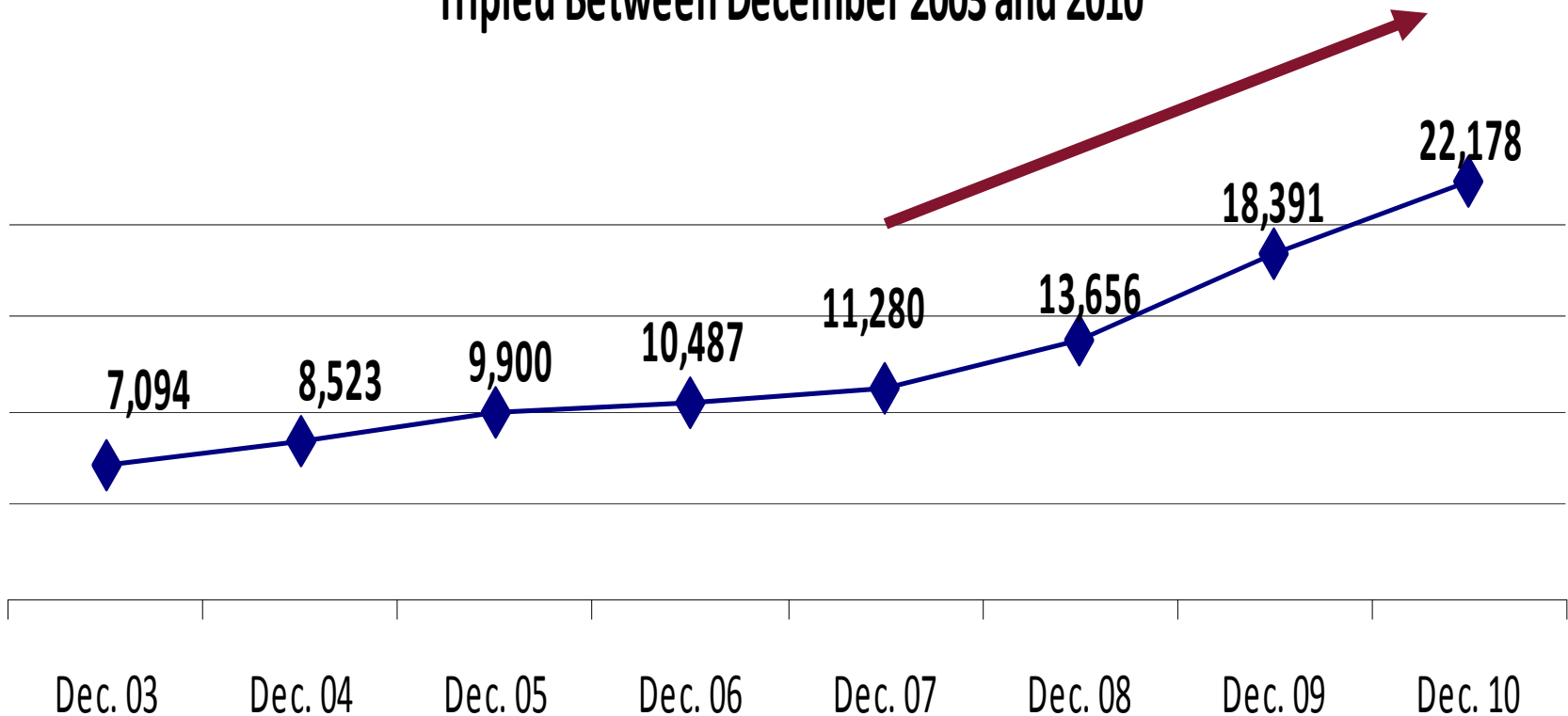
Food Stamp Enrollment

	January 2011	1 year increase
Johnson	22,379	20%
Wyandotte	32,193	13%
Cass	11,500	9%
Clay	21,854	6%
Jackson	123,838	6%
Platte	6,067	11%
6 county total	217,831	9%



Johnson County Food Stamp Enrollment

Food Stamp Enrollment in Johnson County
Tripled Between December 2003 and 2010

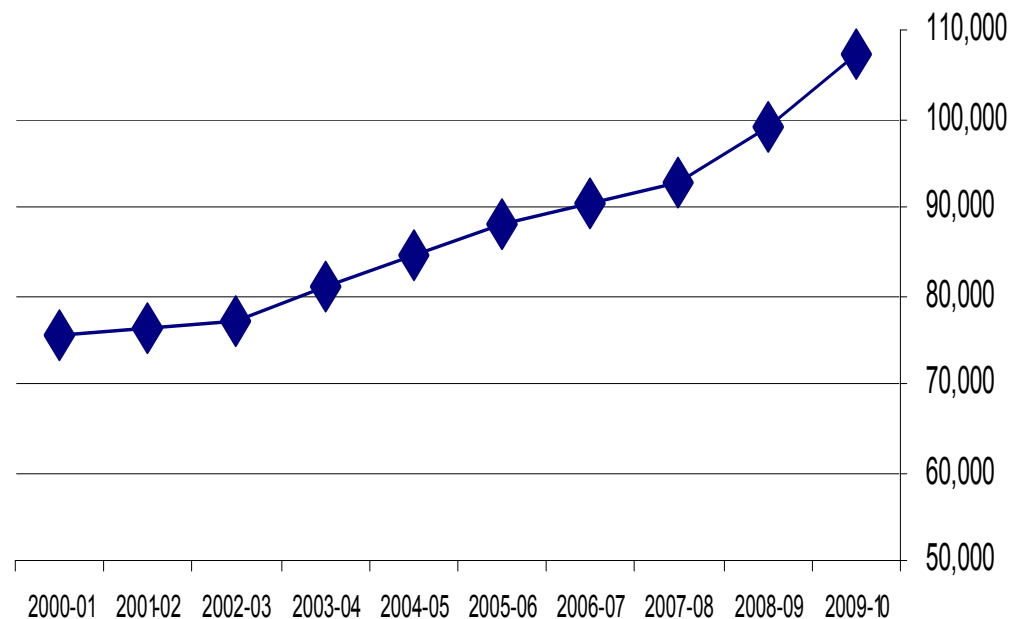


Enrollment in Free/Reduced School Lunch program

Almost **4 in 10 public school children** in the region participate in the free and reduced school lunch program.

This represents a **43% increase** since the 2000-01 school year. During the same period, school enrollment increased by 6%.

Free and Reduced School Lunch Program
Number of Students Participating



Source: KS Dept. of Education and MO Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education



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School Lunch Enrollment 2009-10 School Year

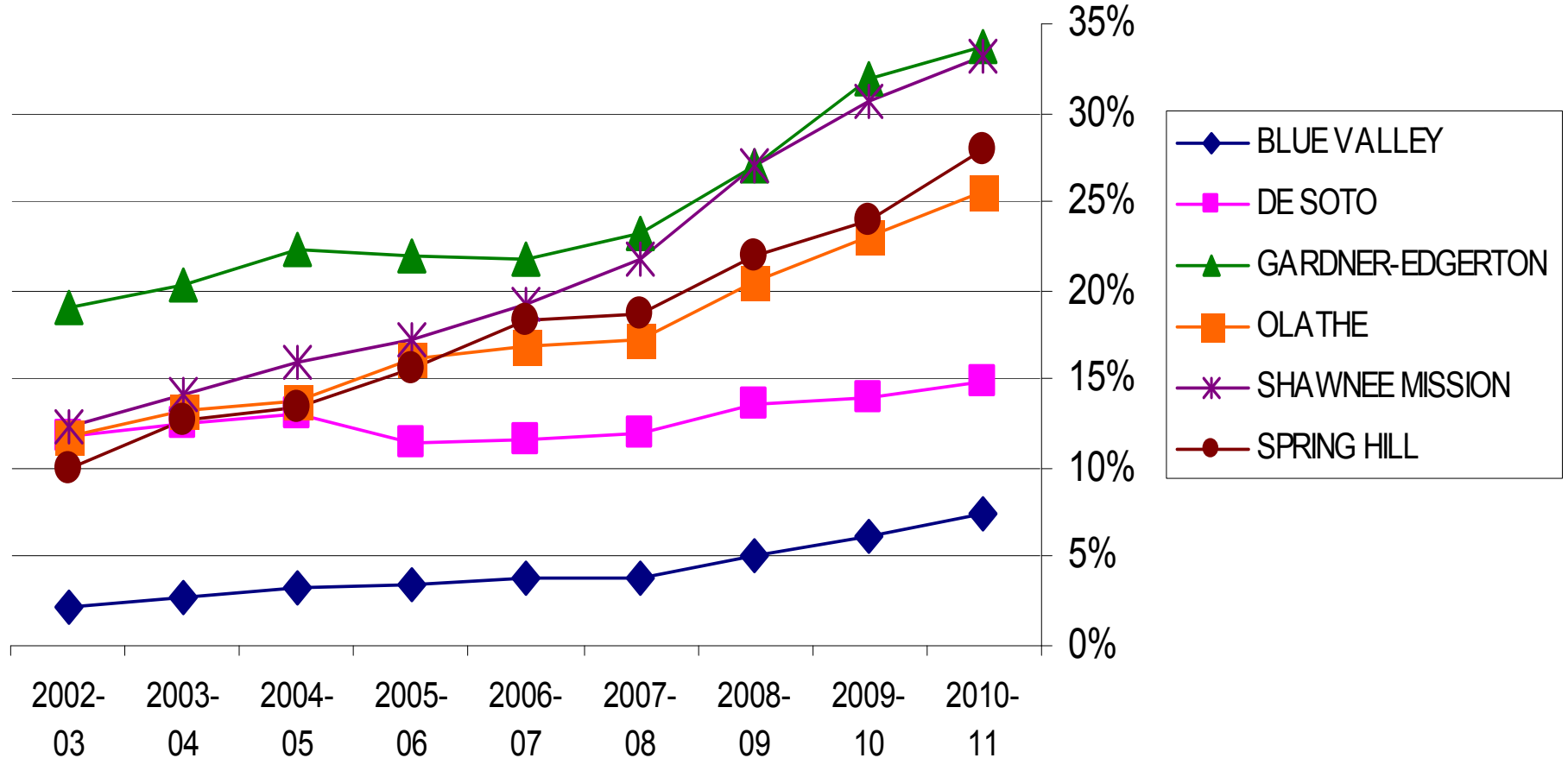
	Number of Students	Participation Rate	5 Year Participation Rate Increase
Johnson	18,947	21.0%	56.6%
Wyandotte	21,653	76.5%	21.4%
Cass	6,298	34.9%	37.7%
Clay	11,816	31.6%	32.0%
Jackson	45,222	48.4%	8.0%
Platte	3,397	23.1%	25.6%
6-County Total	107,333	38.0%	18.8%

Suburbs = 40,500



Johnson County School Lunch Enrollment

Johnson County Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch Participation Rate Through 2010-2011 School Year





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Impact on Suburban Safety Net

- ❖ Relatively few services, spread across larger geographic areas
- ❖ Demand is up significantly; more first time clients
- ❖ Loss in key revenue resulting in reduced services and fewer staff



UCS Human Service Summit

Save the Date

June 14, 2011

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Ritz Charles Conference Center

\$25 Registration Fee

Keynote Speaker

Elizabeth Kneebone, Senior Research Associate
Brookings Institution, Metropolitan Policy Program

Registration form available April 18 at www.ucsjoco.org



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For More Information

Data Sources:

U.S. Census Bureau

- 1990 and 2000 Census
- 2008 and 2009 American Community Survey

KS. Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, MO. Division of Family Services

KS. Department of Education; MO. Department of Education

References:

Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings

- The Suburbanization of Poverty, Trends in Metropolitan America, 2000 to 2008, Jan. 2010
- Strained Suburbs: The Social Service Challenges of Rising Suburban Poverty, Oct. 2010

Center for American Progress

- Trouble in the Suburbs, Poverty Rises in Areas Outside Cities, Oct. 27, 2010

Governing.com

- Poverty Comes to the Suburbs, May 1, 2010
- Poverty's New Population, Oct. 12, 2010

This presentation is available at

www.ucsjoco.org / Community Data / Poverty & Homelessness



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