Land Use Forecast Adoption

Adopting the update to Connected KC 2050 also means adopting the growth and development forecasts that underpin the travel demand forecasts.



Overseen by the Technical Forecast Committee

Primarily city and county planners from a wide variety of jurisdictions.

They provided input on local land use plans, development pipeline, and area expected to be served by sewers.

They reviewed output for reasonableness and suggested corrections.

Technical Forecast Committee Membership

Basehor, KS	Leawood, KS
Belton, MO	Lenexa, KS
Bonner Springs, KS	Liberty, MO
De Soto, KS	Merriam, KS
Excelsior Springs, MO	Miami County, KS
Gardner, KS	Mid-America Regional Council
Grain Valley, MO	Mission, KS
Grandview, MO	Missouri Department of Transportation
Harrisonville, MO	North Kansas City, MO
ndependence, MO	Overland Park, KS
Johnson County, KS	Parkville, MO
Kansas City, MO	Platte County, MO
Kansas Department of	Richardson Brothers
Transportation (KDOT)	Development
Kearney, MO	Roeland Park, KS
_and Advisors	Tonganoxie, KS
_ansing, KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
_eavenworth County, KS	Westwood, KS
_eavenworth, KS	

Moderate and slowing growth

The Kansas City region is expected to grow to nearly 2.5 million people, more than 1.25 million jobs, and over 1 million households by the year 2050.

These forecasts were adopted by the MARC Board in September 2024.

MARC Region Population, Employment and Household Forecast, 2020-2050



A rebound decade, then a downshift

But even the 2020s growth is about 2/3 of the average over the prior 30 years.

MARC Region Population, Employment and Household Change by Decade, 2020-2050







Smaller households

Declining fertility, an aging population and lower immigration are all combining to create region where growth is slowing and household size is declining.

MARC Region Persons per Household, 2020-2050



A future of shared prosperity

We continue to forecast a region where all share in the region's growth.

Household Change, 2020-2050



Shrinking household sizes produce small losses in stable areas

But, in an era where the average number of people in the household is declining, household growth is a much better indicator of community health than population growth.

Population Change, 2020-2050



https://gis2.marc2.org/forecast/

Employment growth is even more widespread than household growth

This is mainly due to the rapid growth in industrial space, combined with new areas of attractiveness along the extended streetcar line.

Employment Change, 2020-2050



https://gis2.marc2.org/forecast/

County forecasts are derived from the bottom up

Summing the data from maps, Johnson County is forecast to add the most households, followed by Jackson, Clay and Cass counties.

Household Change, 2020-2050



This order holds for population change as well

However, Clay County's population growth is nearly the same as Jackson County's due to the former's larger average household size.

Population Change, 2020-2050



Job growth forecasts follow current concentrations of employment

Jackson County is forecast to add the most jobs, followed by Johnson, Clay, Platte and Wyandotte.

Job forecasts are the most uncertain since a single decision can suddenly affect thousands of jobs.

Employment Change, 2020-2050



City forecasts are also available

Forecasting from the bottom up allows us to produce city forecasts. These forecasts are based on boundaries as of the 2020 Census and do not include any annexations since then.

	Forecast 2020-2050	Change by C	ity and Count	у
	Sorted by H	lousehold Ch	ange	
County	City	Households	Population	Employment
Johnson	Overland Park	24,286	43,910	16,373
Jackson	Kansas City	23,572	27,635	48,341
Clay	Kansas City	13,521	23,382	17,296
Johnson	Olathe	12,495	23,469	17,540
Jackson	Lee's Summit	10,842	21,316	6,319
Wyandotte	Kansas City	9,842	10,484	14,961
Johnson	Lenexa	6,532	12,648	4,953
Platte	Kansas City	6,221	9,756	19,415
Cass	Raymore	5,803	12,960	2,739
Johnson	Unincorporated	5,658	13,839	12,515
Johnson	Gardner	5,280	11,580	654
Jackson	Independence	4,924	2,909	11,869
Platte	Unincorporated	4,766	11,035	1,587
Clay	Unincorporated	4,686	11,001	2,721
Johnson	Leawood	4,594	8,361	5,486
Johnson	Shawnee	4,472	6,138	5,250
Leavenworth	Unincorporated	3,723	8,150	501
Clay	Liberty	3,600	6,898	13,649
Clay	Kearney	3,395	7,919	862
Johnson	Spring Hill	3,253	6,535	245
Jackson	Blue Springs	3,067	3,753	3,225
Jackson	Grandview	2,951	4,941	1,838
Cass	Belton	2,691	4,780	4,123
Cass	Unincorporated	2,417	4,022	4,385
Clay	Smithville	2,146	4,776	697
Jackson	Oak Grove	1,871	3,956	701
Platte	Parkville	1,622	3,819	1,325
Cass	Harrisonville	1,608	2,909	868

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MARC Regional Data Tool – Population and Employment Forecast



Interactive map and downloadable data: https://gis2.marc2.org/forecast/



MARC Connected KC 2050 Forecasts

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More information in the Story Map on the Connected KC 2050 website https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6972f3ccdf2e458f9d98d9d87325fed2

New model allows for more frequent updates

This set of forecasts implemented a new model, UrbanSim, to forecast future growth patterns.

MARC developed tools to automate the collection of input from the Technical Forecast Committee.

We will work to improve both of these to keep the forecast current and new plans and trends become clear.

Questions???

Frank Lenk Director, Office of Economic Research flenk@marc.org